which have a dynamic structure, are key to homeostasis. However, the failure of these mechanisms to work synchronously can lead to morbidity complicating the course of many chronic diseases.

Objectives: To evaluate the effect of anti-atherosclerotic liquid (AAL), anti-inflammatory capsules (AIC) and anti-oxidant liquid (AOL) supplementation on the flow-mediated dilatation (FMD), inflammatory, oxidative stress and endothelial dysfunction markers in patients with selected chronic diseases

Methods: We analyzed data of 178 patients from cohorts with selected chronic diseases (Rheumatoid arthritis, familial Mediterranean fever, DM type-2, Hypertension, Multiple sclerosis, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Alzheimer disease and Cancer) in this quasi-experimental study. Endothelial dysfunction was determined by FMD and serum asymmetric dimethylarginine (ADMA) levels. Serum ADMA, high sensitive C-reactive protein (hs-CRP), serum PTX3, malondialdehyde (MDA), Cu/Zn-superoxide dismutase (Cu/Zn-SOD), glutathione peroxidase (GSH-Px) levels and FMD were studied in baseline and after 12 weeks of Morinda citrifolia (AAL, 3ml once per day), omega-3 (AIC, 3 capsules once per day) and extract with Alaskan blueberry and 21 different red purple fruit vegetables (AOL, 30ml once per day). Stepwise multivariate regression analysis evaluated the association of FMD with clinical and serologic parameters.

Results: Serum ADMA, MDA, PTX3, hsCRP and albumin levels, and proteinuria were significantly decreased and CuZn-SOD, GSH-Px and FMD levels were significantly increased following AAL, AIC and AOL therapies. FMD was negatively correlated with serum ADMA, MDA, PTX3, hsCRP levels, SBP and DBP and positively correlated to CuZn-SOD and eGFR levels both at baseline and after the 12-weeks treatment period. Multivariate regression analysis revealed that ADMA and PTX3 levels were independently related to FMD both before and after AAL, AIC and AOL therapies (Table 1, Figure 1).

Conclusion: Our study shows that serum ADMA, MDA, PTX3 levels are associated with endothelial dysfunction in patients with selected chronic diseases. Short-term AAL, AIC and AOL therapies significantly improves FMD and normalizes ADMA, PTX3, hsCRP and MDA. This may have implications for adjunctive therapy in a number of chronic disorders.

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Table 1. Analysis of association between change (Δ) in FMD and relevant parameters by univariate and multivariate linear regression analysis.

	Univariate Rho (p)	Multivariate Beta (p)
Δ FMD (%) ($r^2=0.30$)		
Change		
ADMA ($\mu\text{mol/l}$)	-0.63 (<0.001)	-0.25 (0.01)
MDA (nmol/ml)	-0.58 (<0.001)	-0.18 (0.02)
SOD (U/ml)	0.48 (<0.001)	NS
GSH (U/ml)	0.02 (0.75)	NS
HOMA	-0.21 (0.001)	NS
eGFR (ml/min/ 1.73 m ²)	-0.03 (0.62)	NS
hsCRP (mg/l)	-0.45 (<0.001)	NS
PTX3 (ng/ml)	-0.49 (<0.001)	-0.21 (0.01)
SBP (mmHg)	-0.26 (<0.001)	NS
DBP (mmHg)	-0.11 (0.12)	NS
Hemoglobin (g/dl)	0.07 (0.32)	NS
Total Cholesterol (mg/dl)	-0.05 (0.49)	NS
Triglyceride (mg/dl)	-0.11 (0.12)	NS
LDL (mg/dl)	-0.12 (0.07)	NS
HDL (mg/dl)	0.02 (0.82)	NS
HbA1c (%)	-0.26 (<0.001)	NS

Figure 1. Scatter-plot graphs between FMD and ADMA, MDA, CuZn-SOD, PTX3.

and asymmetric dimethylarginine. *Am J Kidney Dis.* 2006;47(1):42-50. doi:10.1053/j.ajkd.2005.09.029.

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FRI0548

PREVALENCE AND THERAPY OF RHEUMATOLOGICAL ADVERSE EVENTS DUE TO IMMUNE CHECKPOINT INHIBITOR THERAPY

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Background: Immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs) have improved cancer therapy and especially clinical outcomes for patients with many malignancies [1]. ICIs lead to a higher immune system activity and subsequent attack of tumor cells. However, this effect can cause rheumatological immune related adverse events (rh-irAE), which have not yet been extensively studied.

Objectives: To determine the prevalence and type of rh-irAE in patients treated with ICIs. Additionally, our study focused on duration, severity and therapy of rh-irAE as well as the correlation between tumor response rate and patients with or without rh-irAE.

Methods: We analysed 437 patients between January 2014 and October 2019, treated with ipilimumab (anti-CTLA-4) and/ or nivolumab (anti-PD-1) or pembrolizumab (anti-PD-1) at the Department of Oncology, Hematology and Rheumatology at the University Hospital in Bonn, Germany.

Results: Of the 437 patients, 260 (60%) were males, 177 (40%) were females with a mean age of 64 years (SD $\pm$ 14) at the beginning of the ICI-therapy. 152 patients (34.8%) displayed at least one irAE.

We identified 20 patients (4.6%) with a minimum of one rh-irAE due to ICI-therapy, seven of those had a pre-existing rheumatological disease. Those 20 patients were initially treated for melanoma, lung cancer, head and neck tumor and gastrointestinal carcinoma. Rh-irAE occurred in one patient (2.6%) with ipilimumab, in nine patients (4.8%) with nivolumab, in nine patients (5.7%) with pembrolizumab and in one patient (1.9%) with a combination of ipilimumab and nivolumab.

Arthralgia developed most frequently in nine of the 20 patients (45%). Arthritis and myositis occurred with equal frequencies, in three cases each (3 patients, 15%). Furthermore, three of the 20 patients (15%) developed a psoriatic arthritis and one patient (5%) osteoarthritis. The time to the first rh-irAE after exposure to ICIs was in median 100 days (IQR 45 – 406 days). The first rh-irAE were classified as moderate severe (CTCAE [Common Terminology Criteria of Adverse Events] grade 2: 55%).

15 patients (75%) were treated with systemic corticosteroids. In three cases (15%) additional therapy with methotrexate and in one patient (5%) with tocilizumab was required. Other therapies including non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and opioids were also used in eight patients. Even though patients benefited from ICI treatment, therapy had to be discontinued in nine of them (45%).

Interestingly, patients with rh-irAE had a significantly higher tumor response rate compared to patients without any irAE (95% vs. 33%; $p < 0.0001$).

Conclusion: Our results show, that rh-irAE occur under ICI-therapy and in patients with higher tumor response. However, they are not the most frequent irAE after ICI exposure: 10.2% of all irAE were rheumatological (22 rh-irAE cases in 20 patients of a total of 216 irAE cases in 152 patients). As the use of ICIs is increasing for different malignancies the incidence of rh-irAE can be expected to increase.

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RISK OF INVASIVE FUNGAL INFECTION IN SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS: A NATIONWIDE POPULATION-BASED STUDY IN TAIWAN

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