positive ANA (titer > 1/100) before the anti-TNF-α therapy were excluded. Because specific criteria for the diagnosis of DILE have not been established, we considered the diagnosis in case of a temporal relationship between clinical manifestations and anti-TNF-α treatment and fulfillment of ACR/EULAR 2019 classification criteria for SLE. In patients with DILE, clinical features, laboratory findings, systemic therapies and outcome after discontinuation of medication were collected from reuma.pt and medical records. For the clinical and demographic predictors, continuous variables were analyzed using a two-sided t-test and categorical variables using a Fisher’s exact test. P-value <0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results: In the spondyloarthropathies group, 290 patients were included (44.8% females, mean age at diagnosis of 33.3 ± 11.5 years and mean disease duration of 15.1 ± 10.4 years) and in the psoriatic arthritis group, 116 patients were included (50.0% females, mean age at diagnosis of 40.1 ± 11.0 years and mean disease duration of 13.1 ± 6.8 years). In our study, we observed high serology conversion rates (positive ANA in 67.9% and 58.6% of patients with Spondyloarthropathies and Psoriatic Arthritis, respectively), with similar conversion rates between different anti-TNF drugs. Three patients with spondyloarthropathies (1.0%) and 1 patient with psoriatic arthritis (0.9%) developed DILE. Eutercept was the causative agent in 2 cases, infliximab and adalimumab in 1 case, each. Peripheral arthritis (new onset or abrupt worsening) occurred in 2 patients, serositis in 1 patient, constitutional symptoms in 2 patients, subnephrotic proteinuria in 1 patient, lymphopenia in 2 patients and hypocomplementemia in 1 patient. Specific treatment was prescribed to the 4 patients (oral corticosteroids) and they achieved complete recovery. After anti-TNF-α treatment interruption, no patient had recurrent disease. We observed that patients with DILE had a significantly longer disease duration (> 8.4 years; p=0.04) and a significantly longer duration of therapy with anti-TNF-α (> 4.0 years; p=0.04) when compared to patients without DILE.

Conclusion: Despite the frequent induction of autoantibodies, the development of DILE secondary to anti-TNF-α agents is rare. Our study demonstrates an incidence rate similar to other studies reported before. The clinical and laboratory characteristics of our patients with DILE attributable to anti-TNF-α agents differ significantly from DILE due to more traditional agents, as is described in literature. Overall, patients in this study had mild disease that improved after therapy discontinuation, without recurrence of the disease. It seems that a longer disease duration and a longer period under anti-TNF-α therapy may increase the risk of DILE development.

Disclosure of Interests: None declared

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AB0328 CLINICAL AND SEROLOGICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRIMARY SJÖGREN'S SYNDROME PHENOTYPES

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Background: Primary Sjögren’s Syndrome (PSS) is an autoimmune and lymphoproliferative disease with a heterogeneous presentation. It has been postulated that there may be different phenotypes, in some cases presenting a more aggressive disease with systemic manifestations and a higher risk of developing complications. This phenotype has been associated with a higher autoimmune load and an earlier age of presentation. Furthermore, the presence of anti La + has been related to an increased risk of developing Lymphoma.

Objectives: To describe the phenotypic characteristics of seronegative PSS in a sample of patients from our practice. To compare the clinical and laboratory characteristics between patients with Ro + / La + and Ro + / La- antibodies. To Analyze if there are differences in patients diagnosed at an early age, compared to a later age.

Methods: Clinical and serological characteristics of patients with the diagnosis of PSS were collected from the Rheumatology database of León’s Hospital between 2014-2020. All patients who met the ACR / EULAR 2016 criteria were classified as seronegative Sjögren.

In the group of patients with positive autoimmunity, anti-Ro + / La + were compared with the anti-Ro + / La- patients and by age, stratifying them into the following groups: 0-49; 50-69 and> 70 years. The clinical variables analyzed were: glandular inflammation, Raynaud’s phenomenon (RP), pulmonary and neurological involvement, presence of Lymphoma and other tumours. The serological variables were: positivity of ANA, Rheumatoid Factor (RF), hypocomplementemia, hypergammaglobulinemia and B2 microglobulin.

Results: 72 patients were analysed, 9 were excluded because didn’t meet the criteria. Of the remaining: 90.4% were women, with a mean age of 58.7±15.8 years, 12.6% (8) were seronegative. In the seronegative group 25% presented lung involvement (Lymphoid Interstitial Pneumonia), 50% presented with glandular inflammation and only one patient had RF. As complications, 1 patient presented Lymphoma and 1 Breast Carcinoma. 58.7% (37) Ro + / La + and 28.5% (18) Ro + / La- patients were included. No statistically significant differences were found between the two groups when comparing: glandular inflammation (8/37 vs 2/18, p = >0.05), pulmonary involvement (5/37 vs. 6/18, p = >0.05), neurological involvement (2/37 vs. 1/18, p = >0.05), presence of Lymphoma (2/37 vs. 0/18, p = >0.05), other tumours (2/37 vs 3/18, p = >0.05), ANA positivity (36/37 vs 16/18, p = >0.05), hypocomplementemia (4/37 vs 3/18, p = >0.05) and Hypergammaglobulinemia (20/37 vs 10/18, p = >0.05). But a higher frequency of positive RF linked to anti La positivity (29/37 vs 6 / 18p = 0.002) was found.

When comparing by age groups, the association between RF + and La + remained in the group of 50-69 years (15/18 vs 3/18, p = 0.002) while in the other age groups there were no statistically significant differences. We also observed an increasing trend of the levels of B2microglobulin in La+ patients and later age (p=0,04).

Conclusion: The presence of anti La + seems to be associated with other components of autoimmunity such as RF in patients with PSS, although this study did not show a relation with a higher frequency of complications or systemic disease. Also, the presence of La+ at older ages was associated with higher levels of B2 microglobulin. We didn’t find differences with the other described markers of B cell reactivation. Findings differ from those found in the literature, which may be largely due to sample size.

REFERENCES:

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AB0329 HIGHER PREVALENCE OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC ABNORMALITIES IN PATIENTS WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS


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Background: Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is a chronic, inflammatory, and autoimmune disease that damages vital organs such as the heart. Patients with SLE have a higher risk of developing a cardiovascular (CV) disease than the general population (1).

Objectives: The aim of this study was to compare the echocardiographic findings in patients with SLE and controls.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional, observational, and comparative study. A total of 38 patients with SLE according to the 2019 EULAR/ACR classification criteria, ≥18 years old and 38 matched controls by age (±5 years) and gender, were recruited for this study. Exclusion criteria were a poor echocardiographic window, patients with a previous CV event, such as myocardial infarction, cerebrovascular event or peripheral arterial disease, and pregnant women. A transthoracic echocardiogram, including speckle tracking technique, critically examined. The outcome of interest was the presence of a CV abnormality compared to normal controls. Statistical analyses were performed using the Fisher’s exact test and t-test.

Results: The prevalence of echocardiographic abnormalities in patients with SLE was significantly higher compared to controls (p-value <0.05). The most common findings were left ventricular hypertrophy (26.3% vs. 15.8%), mitral regurgitation (21.1% vs. 10.5%), and mild aortic regurgitation (15.8% vs. 5.2%). The prevalence of left atrial enlargement (10.5% vs. 2.6%), mitral annulus calcium (5.2% vs. 2.6%), and left atrial thrombus (2.6% vs. 2.6%) was also significantly higher in patients with SLE compared to controls.

Conclusion: Patients with SLE have a higher prevalence of echocardiographic abnormalities compared to controls, highlighting the need for routine echocardiographic evaluation in this population.