

accelerated atherosclerosis. However, studies on the prevalence and impact on the peripheral vascular beds remain scarce.

The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of vascular affection in SLE patients, defined as an altered ankle-brachial index (ABI), carotid intima-media thickness (IMT), doppler-duplex interrogation and clinical evaluation by a vascular surgeon, as well as its relationship to clinical and serological variables.

Methods Eighty consecutive SLE patients (≥ 4 ACR criteria) from an inception cohort were studied. Each patient had a vascular clinical evaluation and was screened for ankle-brachial index (ABI) and carotid intima-media thickness (IMT) after 12.1 (3.8) yrs of follow-up. In patients with a history of deep vein thrombosis (DVT), a doppler-duplex ultrasound interrogation was added to the evaluation.

Results The mean age of the patients was 39 years (SD 9). Of the 80 patients studied, 4% had an abnormal ABI, 8.7% had a history of DVT, and 15% had an altered carotid IMT. The global prevalence of any-kind vascular disease was 21.2%. Variables strongly correlated to vascular disease were current age, age at diagnosis and IgM anticardiolipin (aCL IgM) antibody.

Conclusions The increased prevalence of a diverse range of vascular diseases in this young population of patients with SLE justifies a vascular evaluation in every patient to identify, follow and potentially treat them in a timely fashion.

175 D-DIMER AS AN EARLY MARKER IN PATIENTS WITH LUPUS MESENTERIC VASCULITIS

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Background and aims No early serum marker contributes to the diagnosis of lupus mesenteric vasculitis (LMV). The aim of this study was to investigate clinical significance of serum d-dimer level as an early diagnosis marker of LMV patients.

Methods The 57 systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patients were retrospectively analysed and classified into LMV group (n=19) and Non-LMV group (n=38) between May 2010 and January 2016. The serum d-dimer level was measured on the

first day after SLE patients presented acute abdomen as well as imaging, other laboratory-testing parameters, and SLEDAI during the same period. The maximum and mean d-dimer values were analysed and compared with other potential markers for diagnosis of LMV. The correlation of d-dimer level with other potential severity markers and inflammation parameters were also studied.

Results Both maximum and mean d-dimer level on the first day of presentation of acute abdomen were significantly higher in LMV patients. The d-dimer level was correlated well with l-lactate and SLEDAI. In addition, d-dimer level was detected poor correlation with white blood cell count and C-reactive protein level.

Conclusions d-dimer level could be an effective and early serum diagnosis marker of LMV.

176 ACCRUAL OF DISEASE COMORBIDITIES OVER 8 YEARS IN A MULTICENTRE INCEPTION SLE COHORT

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Background and aims The annual accrual of comorbidities in patients with SLE is not well described. We report the annual occurrence of these features in an inception cohort of patients with SLE.

Methods An international research network comprised of 33 centres from 11 countries has followed an inception cohort of SLE patients 2 yearly according to a standardised protocol between 2000 and 2016. Of these, 717 patients followed for a minimum of 8 years constitute the study population. Comorbidities including atherosclerotic vascular events (AVEs), osteoporosis, osteonecrosis and diabetes are assessed using the SLICC/ACR Damage Index (SLICC/DI). AVEs are described and attributed on a specialised form. Diagnosis of an event is confirmed using standard clinical criteria, relevant laboratory data and imaging where appropriate. Descriptive statistics were used.

Abstract 176 Table 1 Cumulative SDI, AVEs, steoporosis, osteonecrosis and diabetes in the first 8 years of follow-up (n=17).

Follow-up	SDI (mean±std)	AVE	Osteoporosis	Osteonecrosis	Diabetes
1	0.3±0.7	4 (0.5%)	3 (0.4)	3 (0.4%)	13 (1.8%)
2	0.5±1.0	5 (0.7%)	5 (0.7%)	10 (1.4%)	17 (2.4%)
3	0.6±1.2	10 (1.4%)	7 (1.0%)	15 (2.1%)	17 (2.4%)
4	0.7±1.2	13 (1.8%)	10 (1.4%)	18 (2.5%)	19 (2.7%)
5	0.8±1.3	18 (2.5%)	11 (1.5%)	21 (2.9%)	19 (2.7%)
6	1.0±1.4	20 (2.8%)	15 (2.1%)	25 (3.5%)	21 (2.9%)
7	1.0±1.4	21 (2.9%)	17 (2.4%)	27 (3.8%)	22 (3.1%)
8	1.1±1.5	25 (3.5%)	19 (2.7%)	31 (4.3%)	25 (3.5%)