JUVENILE AND ADULT-ONSET SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY IN A COHORT OF TUNISIAN PATIENTS

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Background Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) occurs in 10% to 20% of cases before the age of 18. The aim of this study was to describe clinical, biological and immunological features of juvenile-onset SLE and to compare them to adult-onset SLE.

Patients and methods It is a retrospective study including 246 patients with SLE (ACR criteria). Patients were divided into two groups: juvenile-onset SLE (onset age <18 years) and adult-onset (age was between 18 and 50 years). Data were analysed and compared. P value was considered significant if <0.05.

Results Juvenile-onset SLE (jSLE) was diagnosed in 23 women and 12 men. Adult-onset disease (aSLE) was seen in 167 women and 12 men (no difference in sex-ratio).

Mean age at disease onset was 14.35±2.85 years in jSLE group and mean age at diagnosis was 16.25±4.38 years. Mean delay from SLE onset to diagnosis was 18 months in jSLE (similar to aSLE).

At disease onset, malar rash (88% vs 65.7%; p=0.025) and Raynaud’s phenomenon (57.1% vs 34.3%; p=0.044) were significantly more frequent in young patients whereas lupus nephritis (36% vs 34.6%) and neurological involvements (12.5% vs 12.9%) were as frequent as in jSLE than in aSLE.

During follow up of patients with jSLE, frequencies of clinical manifestations were as follow: cutaneous manifestations (92%), lupus nephritis (56%), pericarditis (39%) and neurological involvements (25%) and had no statistical differences from aSLE.

Anaemia was noted in 82.6%, leucopenia in 52.2% of jSLE patients without statistical differences whereas thrombocytopenia was significantly more frequent (39.1% vs 20.6%; p=0.046).

Antinuclear antibodies, anti-DNA and anti-ENA were positive in 100%, 81% and 76.7% of jSLE respectively (no differences with aSLE). Anti-Sm antibodies were significantly more frequent in jSLE (92.3% vs 62%; p=0.033). Infections were diagnosed in 25% of jSLE (vs 25.9%).

Corticosteroids and immunosuppressive therapy prescription was comparable in both groups. Mortality rate was higher in jSLE (23.8% vs 9.4%; p=0.065).

Conclusion Mortality rate was higher in young SLE patients although severe manifestations and infections weren’t more frequent in this group.

LATEN-ONSET SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS: CHARACTERISTICS AND COMPARISON WITH ADULT-ONSET DISEASE

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Background Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is uncommon after the age of 50. The aim of this study was to determine clinical, biological and immunological characteristics of late-onset SLE.

Patients and methods We retrospectively analysed 246 files of SLE patients (ACR criteria). Two groups were defined according to age: late-onset SLE (age over 50 years) and adult-onset (between 18 and 50 years). Characteristics of SLE were compared in the two groups. P value was considered significant if <0.05.

Results Thirty four patients with late-onset SLE were studied; 29 women and five men. Adult-onset group included 173 women and 12 men (no difference in sex-ratio between the 2 groups). In late-onset SLE, mean age at disease onset was 56.9±6.4 years) and mean age at SLE diagnosis was 58±6.7 years. Mean delay from SLE onset to diagnosis was 18.64 months in late-onset group (similar to adult-onset SLE).

At time of SLE diagnosis, malar rash (25.8% vs 65.6%; p<0.0001) and Raynaud’s phenomenon (13% vs 35.5%; p=0.033) were significantly less frequent in late-onset group. Renal failure was more frequent in old patients (33.3% vs 10.5%, p=0.005) without difference in lupus nephritis frequencies.

During follow up, cutaneous manifestations (36.4 vs 82%; p<0.0001), lupus nephritis (25% vs 45.6%; p=0.03) were significantly less frequent in late-onset SLE.

Arthralgia was seen in 84.8% of patients (less frequent than adult-onset group without significant difference). Central neurologic involvements (18.2%), pericarditis (48.4%) and pleural effusion (33.3%) were more frequent in late-onset SLE without significant differences.

In late-onset SLE, anaemia was found in 67.5%, leucopenia in 40.6% and thrombocytopenia in 26.5% of patients (no differences with adult-onset group).

Antinuclear antibodies were positive in all patients with late-onset disease and anti-DNA antibodies were positive in 69% of patients (similar to other group).

Anti-ENA antibodies were significantly less frequent in late-onset SLE (66.7% vs 87.5%, p=0.017).

Mortality rates was higher in older patients without statistical difference (20.9% vs 9%; p=0.14).

Conclusion Late onset SLE patients had less cutaneous manifestations and lupus nephritis but had higher rates of renal insufficiency and mortality; these can be related to co-morbidities.

EXTENDED T2-TIMES IN CARDIOVASCULAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE (CMR) IN PATIENTS WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS (SLE) AND PERSISTED DYSPNOEA: IS SLE-ASSOCIATED MYOCARDITIS AN UNDERESTIMATED PROBLEM?

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Background To investigate the value of cardiovascular magnetic resonance (CMR) and T2-mapping in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and persistent dyspnoea without sings for pulmonary involvement (conventional X-rays and pulmonary function testing) as a possible sign for myocardial involvement.

Methods 11 women fulfilling the ACR criteria for SLE (mean age 37±14.81 years, mean disease duration 13.75±8.47 years, mean SLEDAI 6.82±3) with persistent dyspnoea (at least
NYHA II) but absence of pathological findings in electrocardiogram (ECG), echocardiography and lung function were investigated by CMR. CMR was conducted with a 1.5 Tesla MRI-System (Achieva, Philips, Best, Netherlands) using a 32-channel coil. T2 mapping was done using a navigator gated Gradient and Spin-Echo sequence (GRASE, 15 T2 echoes separated by 10 ms, res: 1 × 1 × 10 mm², 3 short axis slices). Images were post-processed using software based on the LabView environment for local T2 value generation (T2 mapping). Strain analysis was conducted entering cine-images into myocardial feature tracking (FTI) analysis software (TomTec Imaging Systems, Unterschleißheim, Germany). A cohort eleven of age and gender matched healthy controls (HC) served as controls.

**Results** All SLE patients showed significantly extended T2 times as a sign of local inflammation compared with age matched healthy controls (p<0.05). Moreover, the global systolic longitudinal strain (GLS) as means by systolic function was significantly decreased. In addition, global early diastolic strain rate displayed diastolic dysfunction in comparison to controls.

**Conclusions** SLE patients with persistent dyspnoea in absence of pathological findings in ECG and echocardiography showed significantly extended T2-times in MRI as a sign of local fluid content as a part of myocardial inflammation, reduced GLS and diastolic dysfunction, which would be missed by using conventional technics. CMR and T2-mapping is a possible tool for the investigation of a cardiac involvement in SLE patients and should be investigated in clinical studies.

**Table 1** Comparing the frequency of received ACR classification criteria for CLE identified in two database, CLD (disease specific) and NMEDW (EHR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>CLD</th>
<th>NMEDW</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malar/Discoil Rash</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photosensitivity/Oral Ulcers</td>
<td>62.3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthritis/Serositis</td>
<td>82.9%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal/Neurologic Disorder</td>
<td>39.7%</td>
<td>50.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunologic Disorder</td>
<td>71.9%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Nuclear Antibody</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hematologic Disorder</td>
<td>54.8%</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Results** Data from 515/783 patients in CLD and the NMEDW EHR were included. When using ICD 9 codes only 8.8% of patients from CLD/NMEDW were identified. With the addition of lab results to the query concordance increased to 54.7%, and a simple text string query to search physician notes for additional lab results increased identification to 57.5%.

**Conclusion** Using ICD codes plus laboratory data from NMEDW increased fulfillment of classification criteria but is still not optimal for patient identification. Additional strategies such as using natural language processing (NLP) or examining fulfillment of SLICC classification criteria for SLE which includes more lab results than ACR may yield an improved rule-based algorithm for the identification of SLE patients in EHR data.

**Abstract PS6:124**

**ALGORITHMS TO IDENTIFY SLE FROM EHR DATA**

**Aim** Build a rule-based algorithm for each revised 1982/1997 ACR classification criteria for SLE using EHR data.

**Methods** We included patients from the Chicago Lupus Database (CLD) fulfilling 4 or more of the ACR classification criteria for SLE who also had records in the Northwestern Medicine Electronic Data Warehouse (NMEDW) EHR. ICD-9 codes and lab test results for each ACR SLE criterion were ascertained. We queried patient diagnoses, lab results and used a simple chart string for lab test results from physician notes.

**Results** For these manifestations in males, since various frequent diseases are suspected in females. Therefore, SLE diagnosis is earlier in males compared to females.