

**Abstract LL-08 Table 1** Effect Sizes and means (SD) for overall effectiveness of WWE from baseline and follow-up

Outcome measures	Baseline mean(SD)	Follow-up mean(SD)	Effect size
FACIT Fatigue	24.1 (29.4)	19.8 (30.4)	0.14
VAS Fatigue	49.26 (71.19)	33.53 (71.16)	0.22
VAS Pain	31.58 (54.11)	28.98 (53.27)	0.05
VAS Stiffness	40.25 (65.79)	33.33 (63.74)	0.11

**Conclusions** WWE is a feasible, low-cost program that may decrease SLE-related fatigue and stiffness, improve activity and promote long-term lifestyle changes.

**Trial registration** ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02631005.

### LL-09 CHILDHOOD ARTHRITIS AND RHEUMATOLOGY RESEARCH ALLIANCE/LUPUS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA CHILDHOOD ONSET SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS RESEARCH PRIORITIZATION SURVEY

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**Background** Compared to adult-onset SLE, childhood onset SLE (cSLE) tends to present with more severe disease and more widespread organ involvement. Additionally, cSLE associated with higher mortality and damage accrual. However, despite the severity of the disease few commonly used SLE medications have been rigorously studied in children, and important knowledge gaps remain concerning the epidemiology, natural history, pathophysiology, genetics and optimal treatment of cSLE. In order to identify high priority areas for future research in cSLE, the Lupus Foundation of America (LFA) and the Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance (CARRA) partnered to perform and cSLE research prioritization survey.

**Methods** Using information from the 2013 CARRA Lupus Group Research Prioritization Exercise and the most recent LFA Parent and Caregiver Survey, we identified areas of clinical and research need in cSLE. A work group was assembled to develop and refine survey questions which ask clinicians and researchers to rank research topics that are most urgent advance patient outcomes. The survey was programmed using Qualtrics software. The survey was beta tested by a separate group of clinicians and researchers. The proposed survey administration was deemed not to be human subjects research by the University of Utah and Nationwide Children's Institutional Review Boards. Descriptive statistics will be used to analyze survey responses.

**Results** The survey will be administered to members of CARRA and also to collaborators in the inflammatory skin disease interest group of the Pediatric Dermatology Research Association (PeDRA) and the glomerulonephritis interest group of the Midwestern Pediatric Nephrology Consortium (MWPNC). Together, these organizations include over 800 clinicians and researchers.

**Conclusions** The results of the CARRA/LFA Research Prioritization Survey will be used to guide funding programs for

cSLE within the Lupus Foundation of America, to share with potential donors, and to use in advocacy efforts promoting state and federal funding for cSLE.

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## Tissue Damage

### TD-01 NOVEL IL-16/MIR-125 AXIS CONTROLS NEUTROPHIL RECRUITMENT IN PRISTANE-INDUCED LUNG INFLAMMATION

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**Background** Severe lung inflammation and alveolar hemorrhage can be life threatening in lupus patients. Neutrophil influx is the key driver of this pathology. MiR-125a expression is decreased in patients with lupus pneumonitis. IL-16 is a novel target for mir-125a.

**Methods** Sera and monocytes from 42 SLE patients, 16 with pulmonary involvement was obtained. Gene expression profiles of monocytes from healthy controls and SLE patients were analyzed by qPCR and correlated with disease activity and organ involvement. Monocytes were transfected with mir-125a mimics and antagomirs and effects on IL-16 mRNA determined by qPCR. Biotin-labelled mir-125a mimics were immunoprecipitated from monocytes and IL-16 confirmed as a direct target by qPCR. Autoimmune lung inflammation was measured following intraperitoneal injection of pristane followed by FACs and qPCR analysis of cell populations in the lung.

**Results** Reduced miR-125a and enhanced IL-16 expression in SLE patient monocytes was observed and found to correlate with lung involvement. Furthermore, in the pristane model of acute 'SLE-like' lung inflammation, and alveolar hemorrhage, we observe reduced pulmonary miR-125a and enhanced IL-16 expression. Neutrophil infiltration was markedly reduced in the peritoneal lavage of pristane-treated IL-16 deficient mice and elevated following intranasal delivery of IL-16. Moreover, a miR-125a mimic reduces pristane-induced IL-16 expression and neutrophil recruitment, and rescues lung pathology. Mechanistically, IL-16 acts directly on the pulmonary epithelium and markedly enhances neutrophil chemoattractant expression both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, whilst the miR-125a mimic can prevent this.

**Conclusions** A miR-125a mimic reduces pristane-induced IL-16 expression and neutrophil recruitment, and rescues lung pathology. Mechanistically, IL-16 acts directly on the pulmonary epithelium and markedly enhances neutrophil chemoattractant expression both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, while the miR-125a mimic can prevent this. A novel role for miR-125a/IL-16 in regulating lung inflammation suggests that this axis may be a therapeutic target for management of acute lung injury in SLE.

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