**Abstracts**

**PREGNANCY INTENTION AMONG WOMEN WITH SLE AND OTHER RHEUMATIC DISEASES**

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**Background**

An estimated half of all pregnancies in the US are unplanned. In general, unplanned pregnancies are at higher risk for pregnancy loss and birth defects; an estimated 1/3 are electively terminated. Among women with rheumatic disease, the risks of unplanned pregnancy are even higher due to the frequent use of teratogenic medications and complications from active disease at conception. We sought to determine the frequency of unplanned pregnancy and the demographic differences between planned and unplanned pregnancies in a university-based pregnancy and rheumatology clinic.

**Methods**

At enrollment into a prospective rheumatology pregnancy cohort, each woman completed the London Measure of Unplanned Pregnancy (LMUP), a validated 6-question survey that assesses a woman’s intentions for conception. Demographic and historical rheumatologic data were collected. A higher LMUP score indicated a higher degree of pregnancy planning; a planned pregnancy has a score of 10–12.

**Results**

Eighty-two pregnant women completed the survey between January and December 2018. The majority of women were white (68%), well-educated (77% at least college educated), married (77%), and had private insurance (77%); the average age was 30.7. The most common diagnosis was SLE (26%), followed by RA (21%) and UCTD (18%).

The median LMUP score was 11 with 71% of women having a planned pregnancy. Of the women with an unplanned pregnancy, only 37% reported contraceptive use, including progesterone-only pill (8%), IUD (4%), and barrier methods (25%). No differences in contraception use between women with and without SLE were observed.

In comparison to women without SLE, those with SLE were more likely to have an unplanned pregnancy (25% without SLE vs 43% with SLE, p=0.02). The LMUP score was significantly lower for women with SLE (mean 10.3 non-SLE vs 9.0 SLE, p=0.07; median 12.0 non-SLE vs 10.0 SLE, p=0.01). Only 43% of women with SLE reported that they had intended to get pregnant, compared to 75% of non-SLE women (p=0.02) and 48% of women with SLE reported taking folic acid or a prenatal vitamin compared to 72% of non-SLE women (p=0.06).

**Conclusions**

Among this largely upper-middle and middle class population, most pregnancies were planned and most women took steps pre-conception to prepare; this data may not reflect the typical rheumatology clinic. Among women with SLE, however, a higher proportion of pregnancies were unplanned. Our next steps will be to correlate pregnancy intention with outcomes and implement approaches to limit unplanned pregnancies among women with SLE.

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**FEATURES OF NEUROPSYCHIATRIC LUPUS IN NBA2 MOUSE MODEL**

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**Background**

Neuropsychiatric lupus (NPSLE) is a common but poorly understood manifestation of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), affecting up to 80% of SLE patients. Current treatment models of NPSLE were developed by selective inbreeding until a complex genetic background resulted in spontaneous development of SLE. However, these models are not easily manipulated by genetic tools, which prevents elucidation of a more specific mechanism. We propose to establish the neurobehavioral phenotype of the B6.Nba2 spontaneous mouse model of SLE, known to depend on interferon (IFN)-γ. Interestingly, recent studies suggested that IFN-γ contributes to NPSLE by stimulating microglia, making it a promising potential drug target.

**Methods**

Age- and sex-matched B6.Nba2 and B6 mice were tested (n=3–5). We used open field testing as a general measure of movement and anxiety-like behavior and elevated plus maze as a more specific measure of anxiety. A novel object placement test assessed spatial memory. Rotarod testing was used to characterize motor coordination, and the forced swim test assessed for depression-like behavior. Students t-test with Welch’s correction was used for statistical analysis.

**Results**

B6.Nba2 mice moved less distance and at a slower velocity and spent less time in the center of the open field than B6 mice (p=0.0005). To determine whether this was truly from anxiety or if it was a result of motor deficits, we ran elevated plus maze and rotarod tests. In the elevated plus maze, B6.Nba2 mice spent more time in the closed arms than