



POSTER PRESENTATION

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Organ-specific autoantibodies and autoimmune diseases in juvenile systemic lupus erythematosus and juvenile dermatomyositis patients

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Purpose

The purpose of this study was to evaluate organ-specific autoantibodies and autoimmune diseases in JSLE and JDM patients.

Methods

Forty-one JSLE and 41 JDM patients were investigated for serum autoantibodies associated with autoimmune hepatitis, primary biliary cirrhosis, type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM), autoimmune thyroiditis, autoimmune gastritis and celiac disease. Patients with positive organ-specific antibodies were assessed for the presence of the respective organ-specific autoimmune diseases.

Results

Mean age at diagnosis was significantly higher in JSLE compared to JDM patients (10.3 ± 3.4 vs. 7.3 ± 3.1 years, $p=0.0001$), whereas the mean disease duration was similar in both groups. The frequencies of organ-specific autoantibodies were similar between JSLE and JDM ($p>0.05$). Of note, a high prevalence of autoantibodies related to DM1 and autoimmune thyroiditis was observed in both groups (20% vs. 15%, $p=0.77$ and 24% vs. 15%, $p=0.41$; respectively). Higher frequencies of antinuclear antibody - ANA (93% vs. 59%, $p=0.0006$), anti-dsDNA (61% vs. 2%, $p<0.0001$), anti-Ro (35% vs. 0%, $p<0.0001$), anti-Sm ($p=0.01$), anti-RNP ($p=0.02$), anti-La ($p=0.03$) and IgG aCL ($p=0.001$) were observed in JSLE compared to JDM patients. Organ-specific autoimmune diseases were evidenced only in JSLE patients (24% vs. 0%, $p=0.13$). Two JSLE patients had T1DM associated with Hashimoto thyroiditis and another had subclinical thyroiditis. Other JSLE

patient had celiac disease diagnosis based on iron deficiency anaemia, presence of anti-endomysial antibody, duodenal biopsy compatible to celiac disease and response to a gluten-free diet.

Conclusion

Organ-specific diseases were observed solely in JSLE patients and required specific therapy. The presence of these antibodies recommends the evaluation of organ-specific diseases and a rigorous follow-up of these patients.

Disclosure

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