



POSTER PRESENTATION

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# PReS-FINAL-2311: Rituximab in paediatric ANCA-associated vasculitis

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## Introduction

Rituximab is an anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody that has proven to be effective in the treatment of ANCA-associated vasculitis (AAV) in adults. Standard treatments rely on corticosteroids and cyclophosphamide. Only isolated case reports of pediatric AAV treated by rituximab have been reported so far.

## Objectives

Our objective was to collect clinical data and outcomes of children with AAV treated with rituximab in a multicenter retrospective study.

## Methods

We conducted a retrospective study within the French paediatric rheumatology society (SOFREMIP) in 2011-2012.

## Results

We identified 6 children with AAV treated with rituximab (microscopic polyangeitis, n = 2, granulomatosis with polyangeitis, n = 2, unspecified vasculitis, n = 2). The age at onset ranged from 4 to 16 yrs. Treatment with rituximab consisted in 4 infusions of 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup>; one patient received only 3 infusions. Mean duration of follow-up was 2.65 yrs. All patients achieved clinical remission after 12 months. One patient presented several relapses associated with B cell increase and was dependent on rituximab infusions. No severe adverse event had been reported.

## Conclusion

From this multicenter retrospective series, short-term safety and efficacy of rituximab in pediatric AAV is

promising so that B cell depleting agents may represent an alternative to conventional treatment with cyclophosphamide but larger prospective studies are mandatory.

## Disclosure of interest

None declared.

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