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8.5 Predictors of long-term outcome of Juvenile Dermatomyositis (JDM): a Multicenter, Multinational Study of 490 patients

C Ferrari*¹, L Trail¹, C Pilkington², S Maillard², R Cuttica³, MM Katsicas⁴, R Russo⁴, M Bandeira⁵, V Ferriani⁶, S Oliveira⁷, C Saad-Magalhaes⁸, CA Silva⁹, V Baca¹⁰, R Burgos-Vargas¹¹, E Solis-Vallejo¹², M Alessio¹, MG Alpigiani¹, F Corona¹, F Falcini¹, V Gerloni¹, L Lepore¹, S Magni-Manzoni¹, F Zulian¹, N Ruperto¹, A Pistorio¹, E Felici¹, F Rossi¹, E Sala¹, A Martini¹ and A Ravelli¹

Address: ¹Italian Pediatric Rheumatology Study Group, Italy, ¹Italy, ²Great Hormond Street Hospital, London, UK, ³Hospital General de Ninos Pedro de Elizalde, Buenos Aires, Argentina, ⁴Hospital Garrahan, Buenos Aires, Argentina, ⁵Hospital Pequeno Principe, Curitiba, Brazil, ⁶Hospital da Universidade, Riberao Preto, Brazil, ⁷Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Rio da Janeiro, Brazil, ⁸Hospital das Clínicas UNESP, Botucatu, Brazil, ⁹Hospital das Clínicas, Sao Paulo, Brazil, ¹⁰CMN Siglo XXI, Mexico City, Mexico, ¹¹Hospital General de México, Mexico City, Mexico and ¹²CMN La Raza, Mexico City, Mexico

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Background and objective

Little information exists on long-term outcome of JDM. Furthermore, most studies have been conducted in single centres or have involved a few patients. Objective of the study is to identify predictors of a poorer long-term outcome of JDM in a multicenter cohort of patients.

Methods

490 patients with JDM and disease duration > 2 years seen in 27 centers in 5 countries (Italy, UK, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico) after 1980 were identified. Outcomes included muscle weakness (MMT), continued activity (DAS),

cumulative damage (MDI), calcinosis, lipodystrophy, functional impairment (CHAQ), and health-related quality of life (HRQL) impairment (CHQ). Predictors included: continent (Europe vs. Latin America), gender, year of onset, onset age, onset type (acute vs. insidious), onset manifestations, severity of muscle/skin manifestations at onset, and course type (monocyclic, polycyclic, chronic continuous).

Results

Table 1 shows significant predictors for each outcome.

Table I:

(*At onset)	M. weak'ss	Cont'd activity	Damage	Funct. Impairm'nt	HRQL Impairm'nt
Female sex	+		-	+	-
Onset after 2000	+	-	-	-	-
Onset age < 5 yrs	-	-	-	-	-
Onset type	-	+	-	-	+
Dysphonia*	+	-	-	-	-
Mm/skin severity*	-	-	-	-	+
Chronic Course	+	+	+	+	+

^{*} Corresponding author

Conclusion

The chronic continuous course predicted all outcomes, which highlights the critical need for treatments and treatment strategies that have the ability to better control disease activity over time.

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