



ANTI-CYCLIC CITRULLINATED PEPTIDE (ANTI-CCP) ANTIBODIES IN PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY IN BRAZILIAN PATIENTS

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BACKGROUND

Background: Anti-CCP (cyclic citrullinated peptide antibody) is considered the hallmark of rheumatoid arthritis. However, these antibodies may be found in other rheumatic diseases such as psoriatic arthritis (PsA).

Aim: This study aims to verify the presence of anti-CCP in a cohort of Brazilian patients with psoriasis with and without arthritis and to analyze if there is any association of anti-CCP (presence) with clinical, serological and treatment data in PsA.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Methods: This is a cross-sectional study including 91 psoriatic patients (41 with arthritis and 48 without) and 100 controls. Anti-CCP was searched using a commercial ELISA kit (Anti-CCP hs /high sensitive). Data on clinical, serological and treatment profile was obtained retrospectively through chart review. Quality of life and articular inflammatory activity were studied by SF-12 (Short Form Health Survey-12) questionnaire, ASDAS (Ankylosing Spondylitis Disease Activity Score)-ESR (erythrocyte sedimentation rate) and ASDAS-CRP (C reactive protein) respectively. Skin disease was evaluated by PASI (Psoriasis Area Severity Index) and BSA (body surface area). Patients with PsA with and without anti-CCP were compared.

RESULTS

Results: Anti-CCP was present in 1% of controls and in 17.5% in of the psoriasis group ($p < 0.001$). In patients with PsA, they were found in 20.9% and in those without joint disease in 14.5% ($p = 0.58$). Patients with the polyarticular forms of PsA had more anti-CCP positivity than patients with merely skin disease ($p = 0.009$). Within the group of PsA, those with anti-CCP had more polyarticular forms but no differences were found when quality of life, joint disease activity, degree of skin involvement and treatment requirements were analyzed (all with $p = ns$).

CONCLUSION

Conclusions: We conclude that the anti-CCP is positive in 17.5% of psoriasis patients and in 20.5 % of the sample with PsA. These autoantibodies are more common in those with the polyarticular forms of arthritis.