



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Rheumatology

STUDY OF RHEUMATOID FACTOR TITRES IN EXTRA ARTICULAR MANIFESTATIONS OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

KEY WORDS:

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Background

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is a systemic inflammatory disease characterized by chronic and erosive polyarthritis with irreversible joint disability.

extra-articular manifestations when compared to articular manifestations with most common extra articular manifestation being anemia.

OBJECTIVES

To assess the titres of rheumatoid factor in extra articular manifestation of rheumatoid arthritis.

METHODS

A comparative study was conducted from JUNE 2019 to AUGUST 2021 involving 50 patients with symptoms suggestive of RA who met the EULAR CRITERIA presenting to general medicine OPD and inpatients were included.

RESULTS

In this study, consisting of 50 patients, incidence of disease was 20% between the ages 21-30yrs, 56% among 31-40 yrs and 12% between 41-50 yrs.

76% were females and males were 24%, female : male ratio was 4:1.

100% had symptom of pain, 92% had morning stiffness, 88% had symmetrical involvement of the joints.

34% with constitutional symptoms, 48% with deformities of the joint, 66% and 62% with swelling of the joints and restriction of movements of the joints respectively.

Dryness of mouth and eyes in 4%, sub cutaneous nodules in 2 %.

86% presented with pallor, lymphadenopathy in 20%, edema in 20%, corneal opacity 14%, scleritis 8%. 86% & 84% had involvement of PIP & DIP respectively.

- Wrist joint involvement in 60% MCP in (76%).
- Other joint involvement contributing to <15%.
- Extra-articular manifestations were seen in about 72%.
- Systemic involvement was observed in 30% of the patients.

Analyzing various biochemical parameters it was observed that ESR was abnormal in 76%.

About 39 patients About 88 % turned out to be seropositive & 11 patients (32%) were seronegative. Out of which 29 patients were rheumatoid arthritis with extra-articular manifestations & 10 with only rheumatoid arthritis. ANA positive in 8% and CRP in 44%.

Rheumatoid factor was found to be positive in 78%, negative in only about 12%.

Analyzing the titres of the RA positive patients (39 of 50 cases) it was observed that 13% had titres between 1:16; 22% had 1:32; 27% with 1:64; 34%, had 1:128 was more in patients with extra articular manifestation of rheumatoid arthritis.

CONCLUSION

This study shows the superiority of RA factor in patients with