

Sunday, October 18, 2009: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Hall D (Pennsylvania Convention Center)

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Purpose:

Psoriatic arthritis (PsA) is a serious chronic condition that affects 10-35% of patients with skin psoriasis (PSO) and is associated with progressive joint damage and significant morbidity. Co-morbidities associated with PsA are still not fully defined specifically in early stages of the disease compared to the general population.

Method:

Data was collected from a rheumatology clinic specializing in patients with PSO and PsA diagnosed greater than 2 years (Established PsA) compared to cohort of PsA patients diagnosed less than 2 years (Early PsA) in Newfoundland. Data for controls with no history of PSO or PsA were collected from the Newfoundland and Labrador Center for Health Information (NLCHI). Controls were matched 3:1 to the Established PsA cohort. Co-morbidities associated with PsA will be compared to the general population using age adjusted standardization rates by gender.

Results:

148 patients with PsA were identified, of which 38 were in the Early PsA group. Mean (SD) age of the established group was 53 (11.0) and 48 (11.3) for the early group. Mean (SD) duration of PsA was 12.6 (9.4) months for the Early PsA cohort and 8.0 (9.1) years in the Established PsA cohort. There were more females in the Early PsA group compared to the Established PsA (60.5% vs. 42.6%) respectively. The table summarizes the prevalence rates of co-morbidities, showing that hypertension, obesity, diabetes and depression are more prevalent in the PsA population in comparison to the general population.

Gender	Co-morbidities	Early PsA Cohort			Established PsA Cohort		
		Observed (PsA cohort)	Expected (Control cohort)	Prevalence Rate	Observed (PsA cohort)	Expected (Control cohort)	Prevalence Rate
Males	Hypertension	5	0.6	8.2	17.5	3.6	4.9
	Coronary Heart Disease	0	0.6	0	6	3.7	1.6
	Diabetes	1	1	1	6	5.9	1
	Obesity	0	1	0	14	5.9	2.4
	Depression	1	0.2	5.1	3	0.6	4.9
Female	Hypertension	7	0.4	16.9	24	1.3	17.8
	Coronary Heart Disease	1.0	0.4	2.3	1	1.4	0.7
	Diabetes	5	1.1	4.4	6	3.6	1.7
	Obesity	7	0.4	18.2	18	1.3	14.1
	Depression	1	1.1	0.9	8	3.5	2.3

Conclusion:

Patients with PsA have a high prevalence of cardiovascular disease and metabolic abnormalities even when age is adjusted to the general population. These co-morbidities are present in patients with short disease duration suggesting that the predisposition of cardiovascular and metabolic abnormalities in PsA patients may precedes the development of joint disease.

Keywords: comorbidity and psoriatic arthritis

Disclosure: **M. M. Khraishi**, Abbott Laboratories, 2, Amgen, 2, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, 2 ; **N. Longo**, Nexus Clinical Research, 5 ; **A. Pellegrino**, Nexus Clinical Research, 5 ; **J. S. Sampalis**, Nexus Clinical Research, 5 .