



DERMATOPATHOLOGY

ROLE OF TNF- β IN PSORIASIS AND HIDRADENITIS SUPPURATIVA.

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Introduction: Pathogenic role of TNF- α was widely studied in psoriasis and hidradenitis suppurativa (HS), until it becomes a key target of an important class of biologic drugs. Several genetic studies showed that genes encoding both TNF- α and TNF- β proteins are strongly linked, with several polymorphisms in the promoter that may affect cytokine. TNF- β has similar activities to TNF- α and acts on the same receptor, although profound difference continue to emerge on mode of production, transcription rates, mRNA half-lives, DNA regulatory sequences. Few studies evaluated a possible pathogenetic role of TNF- β in psoriasis: in 2000 Vasku V et al. concluded that "polymorphisms in proinflammatory TNF- β genes were associated with plaque psoriasis and a positive family history of psoriasis"; in 2003 Kim TG et al. concluded that "polymorphisms of the TNF- β gene may contribute to a predisposition to psoriasis in Korean population". At date, no studies are available on the role of TNF- β in HS to our knowledge.

Objective: To evaluate the expression of TNF- β in biopsy specimen derived from patients with psoriasis and HS by immunostaining.

Materials and Methods: Retrieve 30 each of psoriasis and HS patients codes from previous biopsies not treated with biologic drugs and 15 controls; obtain original blocks of these cases; prepare unstained new slides; stain with TNF- β immunostaining, evaluate the slides for the staining – positive vs negative (Positive and negative controls will be maintained, Negative controls: excision tissue)

Results: Preliminary data shows higher levels of TNF- β in HS and psoriasis patient but statistic analysis is ongoing

Conclusions: If it will be revealed that levels of TNF β is statistically significant compared to controls in the biopsies of psoriasis and HS patients, it can be suggested and further investigated that drugs that target both TNF- α and TNF- β , may be more effective in managing of the diseases.

