ABSTRACT BOOK ABSTRACTS



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VASCULAR DISEASE, VASCULITIS

POSSIBLE ROLE OF PROGRANULIN IN BEHCET'S DISEASE

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Introduction: Behcet's Disease (BD), is a multisystemic, chronic vasculitis. Critical pathways in the yet unkown pathogenesis are TNF-alfa associated.PRGN is an endogeneous antagonist of TNF-alfa, which acts by competitively binding to TNFR.PRGN exerts potent anti-inflammatory effect.However,when degradaded by neutrophil proteases,an increase of IL-8 is seen,aggravating the neutrophilic inflammation.

Objective: We aimed to investigate a possible role of PRGN in Behcet's disease.

Materials and Methods: In our prospective study, 44 patients with Behcet's disease and 44 healthy controls were enrolled.Demographic data and disease characteristics (age of onset, number of systems involved, treatments) were recorded.Behcet's disease activity was assessed using Behcet's Disease Current Activity Form and Electronic Medical Recordbased Activity Index (EMRAI).Patients' CRP levels,ESR and neutrophil/lymphocyte(N/L) ratios were recorded.We compared PRGN levels in relation to presence of BD,neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio and disease activity.

Results: The PRGN levels and N/L ratios of the patients were statistically significantly higher than controls. There was no relationship with PRGN levels and disease activity. On the other hand, levels of PRGN showed a tendency to decrease when immunsuppresants were added to the therapy. The PRGN levels of the population with a N/L ratio above the median were 7,21±4,66, while with a N/L ratio below the median of 2.11 were 4,41±4,18, showing a statistical significance (p= 0.001).

Conclusions: Recently, PRGN has been identified as a key player in autoimmune diseases.PRGN inhibits disease progression in rheumatoid arthritis, shows antiinflammatory effect in psoriasis and inflammatory bowel disease.In systemic lupus erythematosus,it correlates with disease severity and levels are reduced with treatment.There's an ongoing search for finding an inflammatory marker to monitor disease activity, reflect treatment success, and predict potential complications.Our study is the first to investigate PRGN levels in Behcet disease.And it may be one of the missing pieces of the pathogenesis puzzle, enabling better disease monitoring and new treatment modalities in the











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