



ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS, INCLUDING SJS, TEN

## THE EFFECT OF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS, CONCOMITANT METHOTREXATE USE AND HISTORY OF PHOTOTHERAPY ON ANTINUCLEAR ANTIBODY: A SINGLE- INSTITUTION BASED STUDY

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**Introduction:** Biologics are being used for psoriasis in dermatology. However, autoimmunity can develop after the use of these agents. Antinuclear antibody (ANA) changes during biological therapy can be affected by some factors such as presence of immunosuppression.

**Objective:** It is aimed to evaluate the effect of biologic agents on the ANA positivity; also other factors leading to ANA changes such as the history of phototherapy and methotrexate combination therapy are investigated.

**Material and methods:** A total of 25 patients with psoriasis were included in the study and their laboratory findings were evaluated. ANA status was recorded before the initiation of the drugs and during the treatment every 3 months. The patients who developed ANA positivity were detected. The data were analyzed SPSS 20 statistical package (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA).

**Results:** Twenty-five patients were included in this study. Eight patients (30.8%) developed ANA positivity during the treatment. Nevertheless, none of the patients developed drug-induced lupus or autoimmune disease. In the group of 15 patients receiving infliximab, 7 patients (40%) and etanercept 2 patients (40%) developed ANA positivity. In the groups of ustekinumab (4 patients) and adalimumab (1 patient), ANA positivity was not detected. No statistically significant difference was found between groups with positive and negative phototherapy history and concomitant use of methotrexate in terms of ANA positivity ( $p>0,05$ ).

**Conclusion:** The emergence of ANA positivity during infliximab therapy among all biologic





agents is common. ANA positivity had not caused any signs and symptoms of drug-induced lupus or autoimmune disease. Concomitant methotrexate use may reduce the risk of antinuclear autoantibody formation in patients receiving biologic agents. Furthermore, phototherapy history has been shown to have no effect on ANA status.

