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ASSESSMENT OF THE MAIN INDICATORS OF THE HEMOSTASIS SYSTEM IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

K. V. Zhigulina¹, S. S. Spitsina²

¹City Clinical Emergency Hospital 25, ²Federal State Budgetary Institution "Research Institute of Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology A.B. Zborovsky"; Volgograd State Medical University, Volgograd, Russia

Objective: To assess the main indicators of blood coagulogram in patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), to determine their relationship with the degree of activity, duration and systemic manifestations of the disease.

Methods: 100 patients with RA were examined. The state of the blood coagulation system was determined according to the following indicators: prothrombin index (PTI) according to Quick (%), fibrinogen (g/I), activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT, s), international normalized ratio (INR).

Results: Among the surveyed there were 76% of women and 24% of men. The average age of the patients was 53.7±12.25 y, the duration of the disease was 6.13±3.69 y. Seropositive RA was detected in 63%. All patients had moderate to high RA activity (32% and 68%). Pathology of the cardiovascular system was detected in 84% of patients. More significant changes in the coagulogram were recorded in patients with systemic manifestations and concomitant cardiac pathology compared with the articular form: increased PTI (107.20±1.26% and 103.68±3.21%, respectively) and fibrinogen (6.4±0.8 g/l and 5.1±0.76 g/l); decrease in INR (0.83±0.06 and 0.96±0.14) and APTT (27.5±1.21 s and 34.1±2.4 s). The same trend persisted in the group of patients with a disease duration of >7 y. Correlation analysis between coagulogram parameters and disease activity showed a direct positive relationship between IPT and ESR (r=+0.23), fibringen and ESR (r=+0.34), fibrinogen and CRP (r=+0.32). Also, inverse correlations were obtained between INR and ESR (r=-0.24), APTT and ESR (r=-0.22), APTT and CRP (r=-0.26).

Conclusion: In RA patients, an increase in PTI and fibrinogen level, a decrease in INR, and a shortening of APTT were found, which indicates activation of the blood coagulation system, hypercoagulation. The revealed disorders correlate with RA activity, disease duration, presence of systemic manifestations and concomitant cardiovascular pathology.

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CARBOHYDRATE IMBALANCE IN PATIENTS WITH GOUTY ARTHRITIS

K. V. Zhigulina¹, S. S. Spitsina²

¹City Clinical Emergency Hospital 25, ²Federal State Budgetary Institution "Research Institute of Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology A.B. Zborovsky"; Volgograd State Medical University, Volgograd, Russia

Objective: To study the incidence of carbohydrate metabolism disorders in patients with gouty arthritis (GA).

Methods: The study included 40 patients with primary chronic GA, diagnosed on the basis of S. Walles criteria and with impaired carbohydrate metabolism. Among the examined men prevailed (65%), the average age of the patients was 52 y. A family history of gouty arthritis was observed in 25 patients. The average duration of the disease was 8.2±3.5 y. All patients underwent daily fasting measurements of blood sugar levels with a glucometer, and a study of glycosylated hemoglobin was carried out.

Results: All patients were hospitalized in the rheumatology department. The onset of GA was observed on average at 35.6±10.0 y. Tofus form was diagnosed in 26 (65%) patients, 14 (35%) did not have tophus. The average level of fasting blood glucose is 8.4±2.8 mmol/l. Type 2 diabetes mellitus had 10 (25%) patients. In 25 (62.5%), impaired glucose tolerance was noted. Impaired fasting glucose was observed in 5 (12.5%) patients. The average level of glycosylated hemoglobin was 7.0±1.5%. At the time of examination, 8 (20%) were receiving hypoglycemic therapy. In the course of the study, complications of diabetes mellitus were identified. Diabetic retinopathy was most often detected in 6 (15%) patients; nephropathy at the stage of microalbuminuria was detected in 5 (12.5%) patients.

Conclusion: The study revealed a fairly high prevalence of carbohydrate metabolism disorders in patients with gouty arthritis. Careful monitoring of both the course of gout and its inherent comorbid pathology is necessary due to the numerous complications and concomitant disorders.