Clinical picture, diagnostics and condition of the immune system in patients with reactive arthritis against the background of Epstein-Barr virus infection

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Relevance: The problem of reactive arthritis (ReA) is related to its prevalence, diagnostic difficulties, involvement of many organs and systems in the pathological process, insufficiently effective treatment.

Objective: To study the clinical and immunological features of the course and diagnostics of ReA against the background of Epstein-Barr virus infection.

Materials and methods: 24 patients with clinical manifestations of arthritis have been examined. General laboratory, immunological, serological and molecular genetic studies to determine EBV-infection has been conducted for the patients.

Results and discussion: Clinically, all patients experienced arthralgic. In addition, 6 (25%) people have been diagnosed with long-lasting subfertility, 16 (66.67%) - chronic fatigue syndrome, 7 (29.1%) - respiratory immunodeficiency. According to the research results 5 (20.8%) patients had positive rheumatoid factor, 6 (25.0%) - increased ESR, 10 (41.7%) - increased AS(L)O level, and 5 (20.8%) - increased concentrations of CRP. High titers of specific antibodies of class IgM, IgG to capsid and nuclear antigens EBV and EBV-DNA have been found in saliva, mucous membrane scraping and blood of the patients by the method of polymerase chain reaction. The immunogram analysis more often pointed to the presence of immunodeficiency by the combined lymphocytic-phagocytic type in 18 (75%) of the examined, among whom lymphocytosis was observed in 7 (29.1%) patients. What is more, the increased number of natural killer cells was determined in 9 (37.5%) patients, and in 13 (54.1%) - changes of CD8+-lymphocytes. 13 (40.6%) patients had increased levels of T-helper cells, which can be interpreted as a prerequisite for the formation of auto aggression. Patients were treated with antiviral, immunotropic, symptomatic therapy, specific immunoglobulins.

Conclusions: ReA of EBV-origin was most often found in women (70.8%) aged 18-35, and was characterized by an increase rheumatoid factor (20.8%), CRP (20.8%), AS(L)O (41.7%), ESR (25%) against the background of the absence of autoantibodies specific for rheumatoid arthritis.

Biography:
My name is Marta Lomikovska, from 1996 to 2002. I studied at the medical faculty of Danylo Halytskyy Lviv National Medical University, successfully passed exams and I got qualification Doctor. After finishing University from 2002 to 2003 I studied in the internship on speciality "Therapy" in Lviv National Medical University and Lviv Regional Clinical Hospital. From 2003 to 2008 worked at the Sokilnyky Medical Clinic as a therapist. From 2011 till 2013 I worked at the Clinical Immunology and Allergology Department as a senior laboratory in Lviv National Medical University. From 2014 and till now I am working as assistant professor at the same Department. I am an active participant of national congresses and conferences with international participation, which regularly held in Ukraine, Spain and Austria. I am an author of 15 scientific publications in national and international journals in this area of work.

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