ABSTRACT AND KEYWORDS

TITLE OF THE ABSTRACT : STUDY OF THE PROFILE OF MUCOCUTANEOUS LESIONS IN PAEDIATRIC ONSET SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS, THE EXPRESSION OF INTERLEUKIN – 17 IN CUTANEOUS LESIONS OF LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS AND THE ASSOCIATION WITH DISEASE ACTIVITY (SLEDAI SCORE)

DEPARTMENT : Department Of Dermatology, Venereology and Leprosy

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KEYWORDS: paediatric SLE, mucocutaneous manifestations, SLEDAI, interleukin-17 expression.

OBJECTIVES: Describe the objectives of your study (maximum 30 words)

Primary objective: To study the profile of mucocutaneous lesions in pSLE
Secondary objectives: To the study of the association of skin lesions and IL-17 in skin biopsies with SLEDAI score

METHODS: Explain the clinical and statistical methods used (maximum 100 words)

A hospital based cross-sectional study was conducted over a period of 27 months on patients with onset of SLE ≤ 16 years. Demographic and clinical data including mucocutaneous features were recorded and disease activity was calculated using SLEDAI-2K. Immunohistochemistry staining with anti-IL-17 antibody was done on lesional skin biopsies of patients with active LE-related skin lesions who were willing for biopsy. Data on skin lesions was expressed in numbers and percentages. Association of SLEDAI score with mucocutaneous lesions was studied using *t*-test and Kendall's tau statistics. Correlation between IL-17 expression and SLEDAI score was done using Spearman's Rho correlation coefficient.

RESULTS: Summarise the findings and conclusions of your study (maximum 90 words)

Over 27 months, 140 patients with pSLE were seen and 77.9% of them had mucocutaneous lesions. Non-scarring alopecia, oral ulcers, ACLE and cutaneous vascular disease were among

the most frequent mucocutaneous features noted. Mucocutaneous lesions in SLE were found to have a prognostic significance and the presence of LE-related lesions was associated with higher disease activity ($p<0.001$). A linear correlation was found to exist between IL-17 expression in lupus non-specific lesions with SLEDAI score ($R=0.487$) but no such correlation existed in case of lupus specific lesions.