

Significant immune associations in chronic thyroiditis

Cătălina Poiană¹, Mara Carșote¹, Alexandrina Clodeanu², Cristina Daniela Staicu², Dan Perețianu¹

1. Inst. Endocrinology “Parhon”, 2. SCM “Povernei”; Bucharest – Romania

Objectives. To investigate how the immune associations (IA) may have significance for diagnosis or therapy in thyroiditis.

Material & Method. 1. Patients: A. “Classical” Hashimoto thyroiditis (hyper-ATPO-emia, HT) = 1196, B. thyroiditis with isolated hyper-ATG-emia, with normal ATPO (T-ATG) = 73, C. thyroiditis “sero-negative” (normal ATPO and ATG, pathology diagnosis) = 8, D. idiopathic myxedema (hypothyroidism, no A, B,C) = 69; E. control = 1130. 2. Statistic analysis: test X^2 .

Results. 1. Total Immune associations. TH = 220 (18,39%, $p \ll 0,001$); T-ATG = 20 (27,4%, $p=0,002$); “sero-negative” = 1 (12,5%); idiopathic mixedema = 9 (13,04%); control: 107 (9,47%).

2. Main Immune associations:

A. Graves-Basedow disease: TH: 155 (12,96%), T-TAG: 5 (6,85%);

B. Vitiligo: TH = 36, $p=0,0001$; T-ATG = 2; Control = 10. C. Dermatitis: TH = 26, $p<0,001$. D. Immune ovaritis with precocious menopause: TH = 16, $p=0,004$. E. Biermer anemia: HT = 13; $p<0,001$. F. Drug allergy: TH: 24, $p<0,001$. G. Rheumatoid arthritis: TH = 8, but in controls = 19 (NS); H. Thrombophilia: HT = 7, Control = 1 ($p=0,04$), I. Repetitive zona zoster: HT = 7, Control = 1 ($p=0,04$); J. Otosclerosis: HT = 7, Control = 2 ($p=13$).

3. Multiple associations – very frequent (no: 100) [examples]: Cerebral vasculitis with Sneddon sd, pulmonary fibrosis, cryoglobulinemia, virus C hepatitis (IFN), sicca sd; Sarcoidosis with multiple drug allergy, scleroderma, adenomegaly, arthritis; Asthma with postpartum thrombophilia and antiphospholipidic sd; Selective alopecia areata (no eyebrows), ferriprive anemia, miopia; Sharp disease, recidivant zona zoster, dyspepsia, alopecia areata, trombocytosis; Multiple sclerosis and Biermer anemia.

Conclusions

1. HT and T-ATG has immune associations with increased frequency. **2.** The most significant and prevalent association are: Graves-Basedow, vitiligo, Biermer anaemia, drug allergy, early menopause with immune ovaritis, thrombophilia.. **3.** HT, T-ATG and idiopathic mixedema are not significantly associated with other immune conditions: rheumatoid arthritis, IDDM, B/C hepatitis. **4.** Multiple immune associations are common.