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COMMENTARY



Effectiveness of the new inflammatory parameters in patients with chronic spontaneous urticaria

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio and platelet-lymphocyte ratio have been studied in many dermatological diseases as various parameters indicating inflammation, and found to be associated with disease activity, prognosis and spread of disease^{2,3}. In the present study, authors found a significant decrease in the neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio, platelet-lymphocyte ratio and C-Reactive Protein after omalizumab treatment. However, a limited number of patients had C-Reactive Protein levels. Since no correlation analysis was performed in the study, the significance of these results remains weak. Moreover, it was not specified whether there were any other drugs used by the patients. In spontaneous urticaria, disease activity is assessed by a robust and simple scoring system named as Urticaria Activity Score⁴. In the present study, Urticaria Activity Score was not mentioned, and no information was given about the severity of the disease in these population. The post-treatment change in Urticaria Activity Score will be more valuable for both to evaluate the response to treatment and to demonstrate the usefulness of these parameters. Future studies should focus on randomized trials with more detailed information, with greater emphasis on clinical endpoints.

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KEYWORDS

urticaria; inflammation;
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I have read the article entitled as “The Effect of Omalizumab on Hematological and Inflammatory Parameters in Patients with Chronic Spontaneous Urticaria” by Acer et al. with great interest¹. They found that omalizumab treatment significantly reduced neutrophil- lymphocyte ratio and platelet-lymphocyte ratio. However, I have some comments regarding this study.

In recent years, neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio and platelet-lymphocyte ratio have been studied in many dermatological diseases as various parameters indicating inflammation, and found to be associated with disease activity, prognosis and spread of disease^{2,3}. In the present study, authors found a significant decrease in the neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio, Platelet-lymphocyte ratio and C-Reactive Protein after omalizumab treatment. However, a limited number of patients had C-Reactive Protein levels. Since no correlation analysis was performed in the study, the significance of these results remains weak. Moreover, it was not specified whether there were any other drugs used by the patients. In spontaneous urticaria, disease activity is assessed by a robust and simple scoring system named as Urticaria Activity Score⁴. In the present study, Urticaria Activity Score was not mentioned, and no information was given about the severity of the disease in these population. The post-treatment change in Urticaria Activity Score will be more valuable for both to evaluate the

response to treatment and to demonstrate the usefulness of these parameters. Future studies should focus on randomised trials with more detailed information, with greater emphasis on clinical endpoints.

Disclosure statement

The authors report no conflicts of interest. The authors alone are responsible for the content and writing of this article.

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