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Otolaryngological findings in a group of patients with Rheumatic diseases

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Introduction: Otorhinolaryngological manifestations of rheumatologic diseases represent a great challenge not only to the generalist physician but also to the ENT doctor and rheumatologist. They often represent early manifestations of an autoimmune disorder which requires prompt and aggressive immunosuppressive treatment. Auditory, nasal, laryngeal and eye symptoms can be the first manifestation of rheumatic diseases and their proper assessment helps the doctor to identify signs of disease activity. The objective of this study is to identify the ENT manifestations in patients with rheumatic diseases in a referential center hospital, regarding facilitating an early diagnosis and treatment.

Methods: Clinical and complete otorhinolaryngological evaluations in patients selected from the outpatient rheumatology in a standardized manner by the use of a standardized form filling during the second half of 2010 was performed.

Results: In the study group, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patients had predominantly laryngeal manifestations, while patients with Sjögren's syndrome showed a higher prevalence of otologic manifestations. Changes in audiometric tests were found in 53% of Wegener's granulomatosis (WG) patients, 80% of relapsing polychondritis (RP), 33% of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and 50% of Churg-Strauss syndrome (SCS). Regarding nasal alterations, these were found so prevalent in all conditions, especially Churg-Strauss syndrome.

Discussion and conclusion: This study demonstrated that most patients treated in our hospital has the ENT signs and symptoms commonly associated in previous studies on rheumatic diseases, but further studies with a larger number of patients must be made to establish such relations.

Biography

Henrique Furlan Pauna is an ENT Resident at University of Campinas - UNICAMP and has graduated in 2010. He has completed an internship at House Ear Institute and Sunnybrook Health Science Centre in 2014 and has published 8 papers in reputed journals. He also participated as a speaker during the XLIII Brazilian Congress of Otolaryngology with the correlated theme: "The HiRes 90K Helix Cochlear Implant: Surgical Approach and Benefits".

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