

SAA1 A/A GENOTYPE IS A RISK FACTOR OF SECONDARY AMYLOIDOSIS IN BELORUSIAN PATIENS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

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Background: It is well known, that secondary (AA) amyloidosis development in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) mostly depends on genetic factors. In number of studies SAA γ/γ genotype as well as γ haplotype stimulate renal amyloidosis in Asian (including Japanese) RA patients. The -13T allele of SAA1 gene (-13T/C polymorphism) was also performed as a risk factor of secondary amyloidosis.

Objectives: In presented study we compared the influence of the SAA1 gene allele polymorphisms in AA-positive RA patients with those in AA-negative RA. All patients are Belarusian citizens.

Methods: Native DNA was extracted from leucocytes of blood samples obtained from 45 AA-positive RA patients (1st group) and 59 AA-negative RA patients (2nd group). Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) with subsequent restriction enzyme digest analysis was conducted to analyze SAA1 gene polymorphisms. Statistical analyses of genotype and allele frequency comparisons between groups were performed using the chi-square test and odds ratio.

Results: Genetic polymorphism of the SAA1 gene in Belarusian AA-positive RA patients (1st group) and AA-negative RA patients (2nd group) was determined. Comparison of groups on genotype and three allele frequencies showed statistically significant differences. The most notable differences were observed in α/α genotype - $\chi^2=31.1$; $P<0.001$. 43 of 45 AA-positive RA patients had α/α genotype while only 32.2% AA-negative RA patients presented this genotype. The similar tendency was observed on allele α frequency: $\chi^2=47.01$ ($P<0,001$). It's remarkable, that γ/γ genotype wasn't revealed in both groups. An odds-ratio (OR) calculated for the α/α genotype was 45.26, and the 95% confidence interval was - 95%CI (9.9-206.8).

So, according to obtained data SAA1 α/α (allele variants 2995T and 3010C) is the genetic risk factor of secondary amyloidosis in Belarusian patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

-13T allele of SAA1 gene (-13T/C locus) presented in 10.2% AA-positive and in 11.1% in AA-negative RA patients ($P=0.5$). There were no homozygotic -13T/T patients in both groups. Thus, -13T allele has no influence on the manifestation of AA-amyloidosis in Belarusian patients with RA.

Conclusions: Relative risk of secondary amyloidosis in RA patients significantly increases in α/α genotype. In contrast to Japanese data, our results revealed that in Belarusian citizens (Caucasians) SAA1 α/α isotype was the most amyloidogenic. Presence of the -13T allele in SAA1 gene allele had no influence on the risk of AA-amyloidosis development in Belarusian patients with RA.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

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