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ЕЖЕМЕСЯЧНЫЙ НАУЧНЫЙ ЖУРНАЛ

Медицинские новости Грузии
საქართველოს სამედიცინო სიახლენი

GEORGIAN MEDICAL NEWS

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GMN: Georgian Medical News is peer-reviewed, published monthly journal committed to promoting the science and art of medicine and the betterment of public health, published by the GMN Editorial Board since 1994. GMN carries original scientific articles on medicine, biology and pharmacy, which are of experimental, theoretical and practical character; publishes original research, reviews, commentaries, editorials, essays, medical news, and correspondence in English and Russian.

GMN is indexed in MEDLINE, SCOPUS, PubMed and VINITI Russian Academy of Sciences. The full text content is available through EBSCO databases.

GMN: Медицинские новости Грузии - ежемесячный рецензируемый научный журнал, издаётся Редакционной коллегией с 1994 года на русском и английском языках в целях поддержки медицинской науки и улучшения здравоохранения. В журнале публикуются оригинальные научные статьи в области медицины, биологии и фармации, статьи обзорного характера, научные сообщения, новости медицины и здравоохранения. Журнал индексируется в MEDLINE, отражён в базе данных SCOPUS, PubMed и ВИНТИ РАН. Полнотекстовые статьи журнала доступны через БД EBSCO.

GMN: Georgian Medical News – საქართველოს სამედიცინო სიახლენი – არის ყოველთვიური სამეცნიერო სამედიცინო რეცენზირებადი ჟურნალი, გამოიცემა 1994 წლიდან, წარმოადგენს სარედაქციო კოლეგიისა და აშშ-ის მეცნიერების, განათლების, ინდუსტრიის, ხელოვნებისა და ბუნებისმეტყველების საერთაშორისო აკადემიის ერთობლივ გამოცემას. GMN-ში რუსულ და ინგლისურ ენებზე ქვეყნდება ექსპერიმენტული, თეორიული და პრაქტიკული ხასიათის ორიგინალური სამეცნიერო სტატიები მედიცინის, ბიოლოგიისა და ფარმაციის სფეროში, მიმოხილვითი ხასიათის სტატიები.

ჟურნალი ინდექსირებულია MEDLINE-ის საერთაშორისო სისტემაში, ასახულია SCOPUS-ის, PubMed-ის და ВИНТИ РАН-ის მონაცემთა ბაზებში. სტატიების სრული ტექსტი ხელმისაწვდომია EBSCO-ს მონაცემთა ბაზებიდან.

WEBSITE

www.geomednews.com

К СВЕДЕНИЮ АВТОРОВ!

При направлении статьи в редакцию необходимо соблюдать следующие правила:

1. Статья должна быть представлена в двух экземплярах, на русском или английском языках, напечатанная через **полтора интервала на одной стороне стандартного листа с шириной левого поля в три сантиметра**. Используемый компьютерный шрифт для текста на русском и английском языках - **Times New Roman (Кириллица)**, для текста на грузинском языке следует использовать **AcadNusx**. Размер шрифта - **12**. К рукописи, напечатанной на компьютере, должен быть приложен CD со статьей.

2. Размер статьи должен быть не менее десяти и не более двадцати страниц машинописи, включая указатель литературы и резюме на английском, русском и грузинском языках.

3. В статье должны быть освещены актуальность данного материала, методы и результаты исследования и их обсуждение.

При представлении в печать научных экспериментальных работ авторы должны указывать вид и количество экспериментальных животных, применявшиеся методы обезболивания и усыпления (в ходе острых опытов).

4. К статье должны быть приложены краткое (на полстраницы) резюме на английском, русском и грузинском языках (включающее следующие разделы: цель исследования, материал и методы, результаты и заключение) и список ключевых слов (key words).

5. Таблицы необходимо представлять в печатной форме. Фотокопии не принимаются. **Все цифровые, итоговые и процентные данные в таблицах должны соответствовать таковым в тексте статьи**. Таблицы и графики должны быть озаглавлены.

6. Фотографии должны быть контрастными, фотокопии с рентгенограмм - в позитивном изображении. Рисунки, чертежи и диаграммы следует озаглавить, пронумеровать и вставить в соответствующее место текста **в tiff формате**.

В подписях к микрофотографиям следует указывать степень увеличения через окуляр или объектив и метод окраски или импрегнации срезов.

7. Фамилии отечественных авторов приводятся в оригинальной транскрипции.

8. При оформлении и направлении статей в журнал МНГ просим авторов соблюдать правила, изложенные в «Единых требованиях к рукописям, представляемым в биомедицинские журналы», принятых Международным комитетом редакторов медицинских журналов - <http://www.spinesurgery.ru/files/publish.pdf> и http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html В конце каждой оригинальной статьи приводится библиографический список. В список литературы включаются все материалы, на которые имеются ссылки в тексте. Список составляется в алфавитном порядке и нумеруется. Литературный источник приводится на языке оригинала. В списке литературы сначала приводятся работы, написанные знаками грузинского алфавита, затем кириллицей и латиницей. Ссылки на цитируемые работы в тексте статьи даются в квадратных скобках в виде номера, соответствующего номеру данной работы в списке литературы. Большинство цитированных источников должны быть за последние 5-7 лет.

9. Для получения права на публикацию статья должна иметь от руководителя работы или учреждения визу и сопроводительное отношение, написанные или напечатанные на бланке и заверенные подписью и печатью.

10. В конце статьи должны быть подписи всех авторов, полностью приведены их фамилии, имена и отчества, указаны служебный и домашний номера телефонов и адреса или иные координаты. Количество авторов (соавторов) не должно превышать пяти человек.

11. Редакция оставляет за собой право сокращать и исправлять статьи. Корректур авторам не высылаются, вся работа и сверка проводится по авторскому оригиналу.

12. Недопустимо направление в редакцию работ, представленных к печати в иных издательствах или опубликованных в других изданиях.

При нарушении указанных правил статьи не рассматриваются.

REQUIREMENTS

Please note, materials submitted to the Editorial Office Staff are supposed to meet the following requirements:

1. Articles must be provided with a double copy, in English or Russian languages and typed or computer-printed on a single side of standard typing paper, with the left margin of 3 centimeters width, and 1.5 spacing between the lines, typeface - **Times New Roman (Cyrillic)**, print size - 12 (referring to Georgian and Russian materials). With computer-printed texts please enclose a CD carrying the same file titled with Latin symbols.

2. Size of the article, including index and resume in English, Russian and Georgian languages must be at least 10 pages and not exceed the limit of 20 pages of typed or computer-printed text.

3. Submitted material must include a coverage of a topical subject, research methods, results, and review.

Authors of the scientific-research works must indicate the number of experimental biological species drawn in, list the employed methods of anesthetization and soporific means used during acute tests.

4. Articles must have a short (half page) abstract in English, Russian and Georgian (including the following sections: aim of study, material and methods, results and conclusions) and a list of key words.

5. Tables must be presented in an original typed or computer-printed form, instead of a photocopied version. **Numbers, totals, percentile data on the tables must coincide with those in the texts of the articles.** Tables and graphs must be headed.

6. Photographs are required to be contrasted and must be submitted with doubles. Please number each photograph with a pencil on its back, indicate author's name, title of the article (short version), and mark out its top and bottom parts. Drawings must be accurate, drafts and diagrams drawn in Indian ink (or black ink). Photocopies of the X-ray photographs must be presented in a positive image in **tiff format**.

Accurately numbered subtitles for each illustration must be listed on a separate sheet of paper. In the subtitles for the microphotographs please indicate the ocular and objective lens magnification power, method of coloring or impregnation of the microscopic sections (preparations).

7. Please indicate last names, first and middle initials of the native authors, present names and initials of the foreign authors in the transcription of the original language, enclose in parenthesis corresponding number under which the author is listed in the reference materials.

8. Please follow guidance offered to authors by The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors guidance in its Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals publication available online at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html
http://www.icmje.org/urm_full.pdf

In GMN style for each work cited in the text, a bibliographic reference is given, and this is located at the end of the article under the title "References". All references cited in the text must be listed. The list of references should be arranged alphabetically and then numbered. References are numbered in the text [numbers in square brackets] and in the reference list and numbers are repeated throughout the text as needed. The bibliographic description is given in the language of publication (citations in Georgian script are followed by Cyrillic and Latin).

9. To obtain the rights of publication articles must be accompanied by a visa from the project instructor or the establishment, where the work has been performed, and a reference letter, both written or typed on a special signed form, certified by a stamp or a seal.

10. Articles must be signed by all of the authors at the end, and they must be provided with a list of full names, office and home phone numbers and addresses or other non-office locations where the authors could be reached. The number of the authors (co-authors) must not exceed the limit of 5 people.

11. Editorial Staff reserves the rights to cut down in size and correct the articles. Proof-sheets are not sent out to the authors. The entire editorial and collation work is performed according to the author's original text.

12. Sending in the works that have already been assigned to the press by other Editorial Staffs or have been printed by other publishers is not permissible.

**Articles that Fail to Meet the Aforementioned
Requirements are not Assigned to be Reviewed.**

ავტორთა საქურაღებოლ!

რედაქციაში სტატიის წარმოდგენისას საჭიროა დაიცვათ შემდეგი წესები:

1. სტატია უნდა წარმოადგინოთ 2 ცალად, რუსულ ან ინგლისურ ენებზე დაბეჭდილი სტანდარტული ფურცლის 1 გვერდზე, 3 სმ სიგანის მარცხენა ველისა და სტრიქონებს შორის 1,5 ინტერვალის დაცვით. გამოყენებული კომპიუტერული შრიფტი რუსულ და ინგლისურენოვან ტექსტებში - **Times New Roman (Кириллица)**, ხოლო ქართულენოვან ტექსტში საჭიროა გამოვიყენოთ **AcadNusx**. შრიფტის ზომა – 12. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს CD სტატიით.

2. სტატიის მოცულობა არ უნდა შეადგენდეს 10 გვერდზე ნაკლებს და 20 გვერდზე მეტს ლიტერატურის სიის და რეზიუმეების (ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე) ჩათვლით.

3. სტატიაში საჭიროა გაშუქდეს: საკითხის აქტუალობა; კვლევის მიზანი; საკვლევი მასალა და გამოყენებული მეთოდები; მიღებული შედეგები და მათი განსჯა. ექსპერიმენტული ხასიათის სტატიების წარმოდგენისას ავტორებმა უნდა მიუთითონ საექსპერიმენტო ცხოველების სახეობა და რაოდენობა; გაუტკივარებისა და დაძინების მეთოდები (მწვავე ცდების პირობებში).

4. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს რეზიუმე ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე არანაკლებ ნახევარი გვერდის მოცულობისა (სათაურის, ავტორების, დაწესებულების მითითებით და უნდა შეიცავდეს შემდეგ განყოფილებებს: მიზანი, მასალა და მეთოდები, შედეგები და დასკვნები; ტექსტუალური ნაწილი არ უნდა იყოს 15 სტრიქონზე ნაკლები) და საკვანძო სიტყვების ჩამონათვალი (key words).

5. ცხრილები საჭიროა წარმოადგინოთ ნაბეჭდი სახით. ყველა ციფრული, შემაჯამებელი და პროცენტული მონაცემები უნდა შეესაბამებოდეს ტექსტში მოყვანილს.

6. ფოტოსურათები უნდა იყოს კონტრასტული; სურათები, ნახაზები, დიაგრამები - დასათაურებული, დანომრილი და სათანადო ადგილას ჩასმული. რენტგენოგრაფიების ფოტოასლები წარმოადგინეთ პოზიტიური გამოსახულებით **tiff** ფორმატში. მიკროფოტოსურათების წარწერებში საჭიროა მიუთითოთ ოკულარის ან ობიექტივის საშუალებით გადიდების ხარისხი, ანათალების შედეგების ან იმპრეგნაციის მეთოდი და აღნიშნოთ სურათის ზედა და ქვედა ნაწილები.

7. სამამულო ავტორების გვარები სტატიაში აღინიშნება ინიციალების თანდართვით, უცხოურისა – უცხოური ტრანსკრიპციით.

8. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს ავტორის მიერ გამოყენებული სამამულო და უცხოური შრომების ბიბლიოგრაფიული სია (ბოლო 5-8 წლის სიღრმით). ანბანური წყობით წარმოდგენილ ბიბლიოგრაფიულ სიაში მიუთითეთ ჯერ სამამულო, შემდეგ უცხოელი ავტორები (გვარი, ინიციალები, სტატიის სათაური, ჟურნალის დასახელება, გამოცემის ადგილი, წელი, ჟურნალის №, პირველი და ბოლო გვერდები). მონოგრაფიის შემთხვევაში მიუთითეთ გამოცემის წელი, ადგილი და გვერდების საერთო რაოდენობა. ტექსტში კვადრატულ ფხიხლებში უნდა მიუთითოთ ავტორის შესაბამისი N ლიტერატურის სიის მიხედვით. მიზანშეწონილია, რომ ციტირებული წყაროების უმეტესი ნაწილი იყოს 5-6 წლის სიღრმის.

9. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს: ა) დაწესებულების ან სამეცნიერო ხელმძღვანელის წარდგინება, დამოწმებული ხელმოწერითა და ბეჭდით; ბ) დარგის სპეციალისტის დამოწმებული რეცენზია, რომელშიც მითითებული იქნება საკითხის აქტუალობა, მასალის საკმაობა, მეთოდის სანდოობა, შედეგების სამეცნიერო-პრაქტიკული მნიშვნელობა.

10. სტატიის ბოლოს საჭიროა ყველა ავტორის ხელმოწერა, რომელთა რაოდენობა არ უნდა აღემატებოდეს 5-ს.

11. რედაქცია იტოვებს უფლებას შეასწოროს სტატია. ტექსტზე მუშაობა და შეჯერება ხდება საავტორო ორიგინალის მიხედვით.

12. დაუშვებელია რედაქციაში ისეთი სტატიის წარდგენა, რომელიც დასაბეჭდად წარდგენილი იყო სხვა რედაქციაში ან გამოქვეყნებული იყო სხვა გამოცემებში.

აღნიშნული წესების დარღვევის შემთხვევაში სტატიები არ განიხილება.

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BIOLOGICAL TREATMENTS AND CARDIOVASCULAR CHANGES IN THE GEORGIAN PATIENT WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

N. Tavberidze, N. Sharashidze, T. Bochorishvili.

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia.

Abstract.

Aim: The aim of the study is to determine the effect of anti-inflammatory biological drugs (adalimumab, infliximab and rituximab) on the cardiovascular system during the treatment of patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

Methods: Involved in research 70 women aged 18 to 60 years with a confirmed diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis (diagnosis confirmed by the American College of Rheumatology 2010 (ACR) and European League of Rheumatology (EULAR) classification criteria). Patients on standard treatment and biological drugs were divided into 3 groups, and the third group was divided into two subgroups. The study lasted for 30 weeks. Studies were conducted before and after treatment.

Results: After 30 weeks of treatment with biological drugs, the following changes were observed in all groups: DAS28-ESR and HAQ score values, RF, CRP, and ESR concentrations were significantly lower compared to the control group. A significant increase in TC and HDL-C, without significant changes in LDL-C and TG, was observed in all groups against the background of treatment with biological drugs, as a result of which the atherogenicity index decreased. Decreases in CRP levels at 30 weeks were inversely correlated with increases in HDL-cholesterol. Insignificant changes were observed in fasting blood glucose SBP, DBP and BMI data compared to the control group. Combined therapy with biological drugs led to a significant improvement in the elastic properties of arterial walls.

Conclusion: Before starting the treatment of biological drugs in patients with rheumatoid arthritis, the risk of cardiovascular evaluation is full and according to this we need to choose biological drugs and this way we can increase the side effects of drugs.

Key words. Rheumatoid arthritis, cardiovascular system, biological drugs, atherosclerosis.

Introduction.

Rheumatoid arthritis is a complex autoimmune inflammatory condition that significantly increases the risk of cardiovascular disease. The inflammatory processes associated with this condition can severely affect blood vessels, leading to their narrowing and potential blockage, which heightens the risk of developing heart-related complications. Research indicates that rheumatoid arthritis primarily affects women between the ages of 35 and 65, with ischemic heart disease and heart failure occurring 1.5 to 2 times more frequently in individuals with this condition. The principal complications associated with rheumatoid arthritis, which are significant contributors to mortality, include myocardial infarction (MI) and stroke, both of which result from atherosclerotic changes. Additionally, numerous studies have identified traditional risk factors for

cardiovascular diseases, such as smoking, a sedentary lifestyle, obesity, hypertension, impaired glucose tolerance, diabetes, and dyslipidemia. These insights emphasize the importance of recognizing and managing the cardiovascular risks associated with rheumatoid arthritis.

Rheumatoid arthritis may be regarded as a "natural experiment" that elucidates the relationship between inflammation and cardiovascular diseases. It reveals fundamental similarities between the inflammatory mechanisms underlying the development of atherosclerosis and other cardiovascular conditions, as well as the immune processes involved in these diseases. Consequently, acknowledging the shared mechanisms in the pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis and cardiovascular diseases is essential. This understanding could enhance treatment strategies for rheumatoid arthritis and, in turn, contribute to reducing and preventing the onset of cardiovascular diseases.

The primary categories of medications utilized in the management of rheumatoid arthritis include nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), immunomodulators (commonly known as disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs), corticosteroids, and immunosuppressive agents. Recent biological agents: leflunomide, anakinra (an interleukin-1 receptor antagonist), tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors, and additional drugs that enhance the modulation of the immune response. In general, the more powerful the drug, the more potentially serious side effects it has, which must be detected in the treatment process. The selection of these medications and their combinations with different medication is informed by form, and activity level of the disease.

The introduction of biological therapy has significantly improved the prognosis of patients with rheumatoid arthritis [1,2]. Biological medications have demonstrated their beneficial effects by achieving therapeutic goals (e.g., inducing disease remission, slowing disease progression), improving quality of life, and reducing disease signs and symptoms [3-8]. With the improvement of preventive and therapeutic measures, the life expectancy of patients suffering from chronic autoimmune diseases has increased significantly, but the rates of mortality and disability due to vascular atherosclerotic lesions have also increased [9,10]. Understanding and updating knowledge about the pathophysiological mechanisms of biological therapy has led to the hypothesis that it can reduce cardiovascular risk by ameliorating inflammation and thus slowing the progression of atherosclerosis [6,11].

Therefore, optimal management of patients with rheumatoid arthritis also requires control of inflammation and cardiovascular risk factors. Since the risk of myocardial infarction in patients with rheumatoid arthritis is 70% higher and sudden death is more common among them than in the general population, atherosclerosis should be the target of therapy aimed not only

at achieving remission, but also at reducing cardiovascular risk. Cardiovascular risk reduction in this patient population is still an unmet need, although both beneficial and adverse effects of widely used therapies are known. Early initiation of biologic therapy, with long-term and continuous use, has been shown to reduce cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. However, whether biologic therapy has cardioprotective and anti-atherosclerotic effects beyond reducing inflammation remains to be determined. The effects of various biological drugs on blood pressure control, metabolic syndrome or BMI, endothelial function and arterial stiffness or atherosclerotic plaques are unclear and open new research perspectives [11-13].

Thus, patients with rheumatoid arthritis are complex patient who require a multidisciplinary approach, especially because the interaction between traditional cardiovascular risk factors and disease-specific inflammation increases cardiovascular risk. Caution should be exercised when prescribing medications that contribute to cardiovascular risk (e.g., COX-2 inhibitors, glucocorticoids, leflunomide); It is necessary to manage cardiovascular risk factors (i.e., antihypertensive and hypolipidemic treatment should be performed according to current guidelines), induction of disease remission and optimal control of systemic inflammation, quantitative assessment of cardiovascular risk and early detection of atherosclerosis, early appointment of targeted biological drugs in selected patients [14].

The aim of the study is to determine the effect of anti-inflammatory biological drugs (adalimumab, infliximab and rituximab) on the cardiovascular system during the treatment of Georgian patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

Materials and Methods.

Involved in research 70 women aged 18 to 60 years with a confirmed diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis (diagnosis confirmed by the American College of Rheumatology 2010 (ACR) and European League of Rheumatology (EULAR) classification criteria). The patients were divided into 3 groups:

I group - contain patients (n=10) the age varied 19 to 60, (average age 45,2±9,3), who were on standard rheumatoid arthritis therapy (patients get 10-25 mg of methotrexate per week. If the disease gets worthier, we add non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs to reduce pain, in some conditions, we also add corticosteroids).

II group - patients (n=20), age 25 to 57 (average age 48,4±6,3) Patients received medical immune-biological treatment via monoclonal antibodies, specifically rituximab, in conjunction with standard therapy. Rituximab treatment was carried out

at 1000 mg, i.e. by infusion, followed by a second 1000 mg infusion two weeks later, and the next infusion 16 weeks later.

Group III - made up of patients who received TNF- α inhibitors along with standard therapy, this group was divided into 2 subgroups:

Subgroup IIIa - (n=20), age ranged from 20 to 60 years (mean 50.1±2.1 years), who were treated with infliximab according to the following regimen: 3 mg/kg at the start of treatment, 2nd, 6, 14, 22, 30 weeks.

Subgroup III b - composed of patients (n=20), ages 27 to 60 years (mean 44.3±5.4 years), refractory to infliximab receiving adalimumab. Patients were given adalimumab 40 mg every other week by subcutaneous injection.

The study was conducted for 30 weeks. In addition to the basic studies of rheumatoid arthritis, the patients underwent the following clinical laboratory tests: electrocardiographic study, blood pressure measurement, duplex scan of the carotid arteries, measurement of the anatomical-morphological and mechanical characteristics of the vascular wall (intima-media thickness, compliance, stretch ability, remodeling index), Doppler-Echocardiography, blood lipid profile (total cholesterol, HDL-Chol, LDL-Chol, TG, atherogenicity index), elastic properties of the arterial wall, CRP, RF, vitamin D, Ca in blood and clinical analysis of blood. These studies were conducted before the start of the study and after 30 weeks.

Statistical analysis:

The Statistical analysis was performed with the SPSS 15.0 program. All of the parameters were tested with the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. Normally distributed data were represented in $M \pm m$. The difference between nonparametric variables was tested by the Mann-Whitney U test. Matched samples were analyzed Wilcoxon Z test. Different between percentages were checked by the chi-squared test. Differences between groups are statistically certain $P < 0.05$.

Results.

Clinical descriptions (such as inflammatory markers, DAS-28-ESR, and HAQ) are given for all four groups in the table 1. This description is similar, and statistical differences between them do not exist, and it gives us the ability to estimate drugs and their side effects correctly. In patients with standard therapy – Group I- we need to add COX-2 inhibitors and glucocorticoids to reduce pain and clinical exacerbation. In another group such as group II, group IIIa, and group IIIb we don't need to add these drugs, which is a positive side of biological medication.

Group II, where patients received rituximab along with standard therapy, the following changes were revealed after 30

Table 1. Clinical descriptions (such as inflammatory markers, DAS-28-ESR, and HAQ) are given for all four groups.

Parameters	Group I (n = 10)	Group II (n = 20)	Group III a (n = 20)	Group III b (n = 20)
	Before test	before test	before test	before test
DAS 28-ESR	6.2 ± 0.3	6.3 ± 0.12	6.0 ± 0.11	5,6 ± 0.11
HAQ	1,80 ± 0,1	1,78 ± 0,09	1,72 ± 0,06	1,48 ± 0,06
RF, U/mL	392 ± 179	488 ± 138	450 ± 138	400 ± 138
Anti-CCP, U/mL	64 ± 12	70 ± 6	60 ± 4,1	68± 4,1
CRP, mg/l	28 ± 7	46 ± 6	50 ± 6	58 ± 6
ESR	60 ± 7	53 ± 3	72 ± 4	90 ± 4

weeks of treatment: DAS28-ESR and HAQ score values, RF, CRP, and ESR concentrations were significantly lower in group II compared to group I. Also, in subgroups III a and III b, where patients received TNF- α inhibitors (infliximab and adalimumab) along with standard therapy, significant differences in DAS28-ESR and HAQ score values, RF, CRP, and ESR concentrations were observed after 30 weeks of treatment and questionnaire assessments. Reduction, compared to group I patients (Figures 1 and 2).

Group II showed a significant increase in TC (9%) and HDL-C (23%) without significant changes in LDL-C and TG, resulting in a 14% reduction in the atherogenicity index. In group II, there were no statistically significant differences in fasting blood glucose and SBP, DBP BMI data compared to group I.

In subgroup IIIa, after 30 weeks of infliximab therapy, mean total cholesterol increased by 25% ($p < 0.001$), LDL-cholesterol by 24% ($p < 0.001$), and HDL-cholesterol by 30% ($p < 0.001$). The decrease in CRP level at 30 weeks was inversely correlated with the increase in HDL-cholesterol ($r = -0.47$, $p = 0.005$). In group IIIa, there was a slight increase in fasting blood glucose and SBP, DBP BMI data compared to group I (Figures 3 and 4).

In subgroup III b, following 30 weeks of adalimumab therapy, observed changes included increases in total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, and HDL cholesterol; however, no significant alterations were noted in LDL and HDL measurements specifically. Triglyceride levels remained unchanged ($P = 0.55$). Notably, disease activity exhibited a significant reduction from baseline after the 30 weeks. There were no significant changes in fasting blood glucose or SBP, DBP BMI metrics when compared to group I (Figures 3 and 4).

Rituximab therapy led to an improvement in the elastic properties of arterial walls in group II: the stiffness index (SI) of the main arteries decreased by 57% and the reflection index of arterioles (RI) decreased by 24%, and the frequency of "very stiff" arteries decreased by 3.5 times, and in group I - no significant changes in arterial stiffness parameters were observed. Finally, significant changes in intima-media thickness (IMT) were noted in group II during 30 weeks: average IMT decreased by 11% and maximum IMT - by 9%. There was a correlation between IMT and RF reduction ($r = 0.49$, $P < 0.001$). No significant changes in IMT were observed in group I.

After 30 weeks, pulse wave velocity and arterial stiffness were significantly reduced in the standard therapy plus infliximab therapy group (subgroup IIIa), compared to standard therapy treatment (group I), accompanied by a reduction in both subjective complaints of the patient and CRP, DAS28 and Significant reduction of joint swelling in subgroup IIIa. Patients treated with infliximab after 30 weeks showed a significant worsening of atherosclerosis with an increase in the thickness of the intima-media and the presence of subsequent atherosclerotic plaques compared to patients treated with standard therapy, in this I group there was a slight increase in the same parameters. During the study, no statistically significant deviation of the blood pressure numbers was observed, which is important because it affects the pulse wave speed.

Carotid artery intima-media studies found no statistically significant differences between baseline and standard therapy plus adalimumab after 30 weeks of treatment. Therefore,

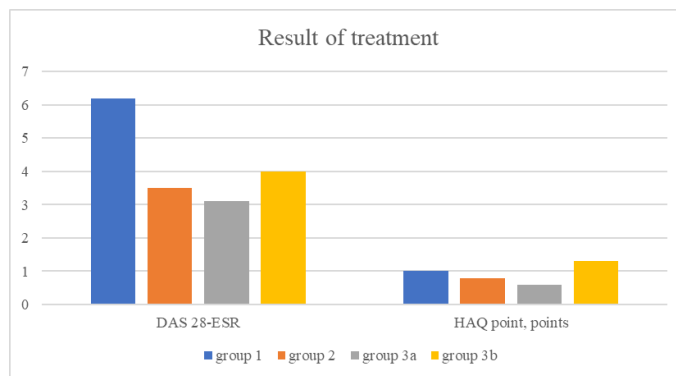


Figure 1. Clinical descriptions (such as inflammatory markers, DAS-28-ESR, and HAQ) are given for all four groups.

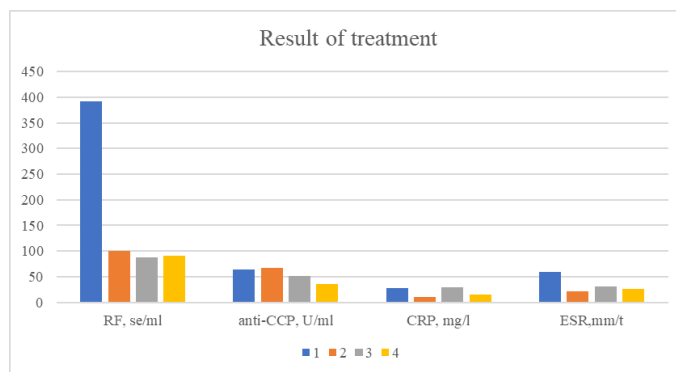


Figure 2. Significant differences in DAS28-ESR and HAQ score values, RF, CRP, and ESR concentrations were observed after 30 weeks of treatment and questionnaire assessments.

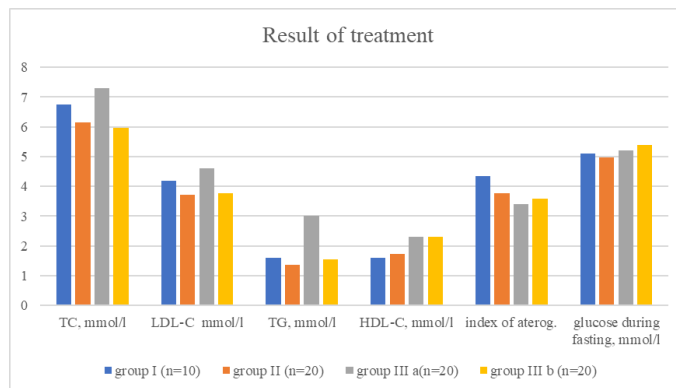


Figure 3. In group IIIa, there was a slight increase in fasting blood glucose and SBP, DBP BMI data compared to group I.

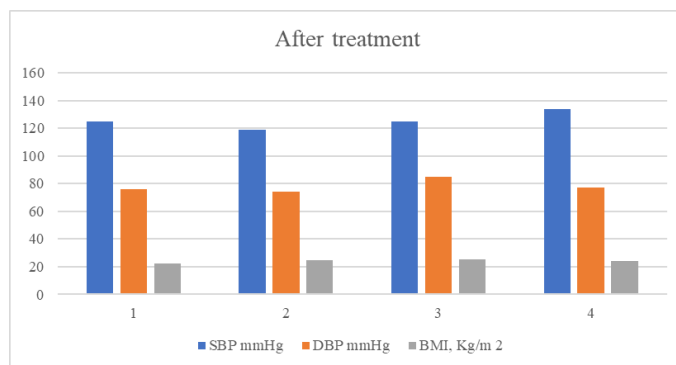


Figure 4. There were no significant changes in fasting blood glucose or SBP, DBP BMI metrics when compared to group I.

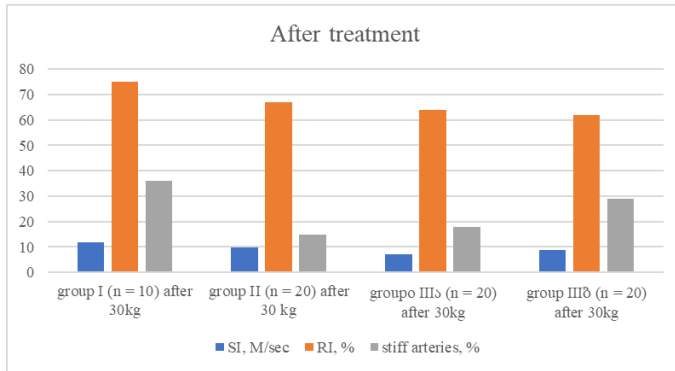


Figure 5. Rituximab therapy led to an improvement in the elastic properties of arterial walls in group II: the stiffness index (SI) of the main arteries decreased by 57% and the reflection index of arterioles (RI) decreased by 24%.

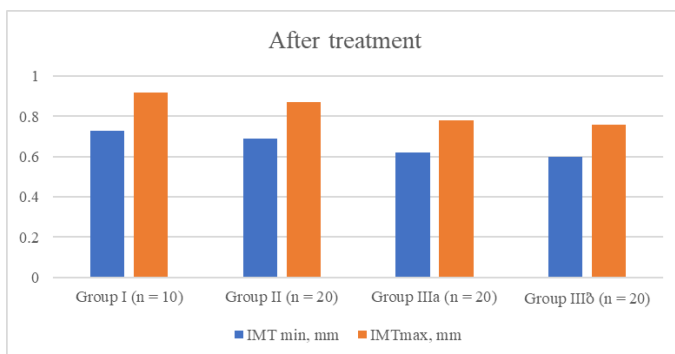


Figure 6. Finally, significant changes in intima-media thickness (IMT) were noted in group II during 30 weeks: average IMT decreased by 11% and maximum IMT - by 9%.

no significant morphologic progression of subclinical atherosclerosis was observed in patients with rheumatoid arthritis treated with adalimumab.

In patients from groups II and III (subgroups a and b), a slight decrease in ejection fraction was observed, alongside an increase in left ventricular size when compared to initial data. However, these findings were not statistically significant, and the functional class of heart failure remained unchanged relative to group I. This outcome may be attributed to the exclusion of patients with severe heart failure in the study (Figures 5 and 6).

All patients exhibited significantly reduced levels of blood calcium and vitamin D, with these deficiencies correlating directly with the severity of their disease. Notably, extra systolic arrhythmia was detected in only three patients in group III and two patients in group II during electrocardiographic examinations. While this required the consultation of a cardiologist and the introduction of antiarrhythmic medication, it did not serve as a criterion for exclusion from the study for any of the patients.

Discussion.

The administration of chimeric B-lymphocyte CD20 monoclonal antibody therapy for patients with rheumatoid arthritis resulted in significant suppression of systemic inflammation, an improvement in lipid profile and atherogenicity index, a reduction in carotid intima-media thickness (IMT), and enhanced properties of arterial wall elasticity, thereby decreasing the risk of cardiovascular diseases.

- The utilization of TNF- α antagonist in treating patients with rheumatoid arthritis has been shown to worsen atherosclerosis by improving the thickness of intima-media and appear atherosclerotic plaque. During this improved systemic inflammation profile and the number of exacerbations of rheumatoid arthritis decreased.

- The utilization of TNF- α antagonist in treating patients with rheumatoid arthritis has been shown to improve endothelial function. These are independent of lipid profile. Even though dyslipidemia has a connection with improving endothelial dysfunction and Atherosclerosis.

Conclusion.

Before starting the treatment of biological drugs in patients with rheumatoid arthritis, the risk of cardiovascular complications should be fully evaluated and the biological drugs should be selected accordingly, thereby reducing the side effects of the mentioned drugs and improving the prognosis of the disease.

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რევმატოიდული ართრიტი დაავადებულ ავადმყოფებში ბიოლოგიური პრეპარატებით მკურნალობა და კარდიო-ვასკულური ცვლილებები ქართულ პოპულაციაში

ნ. თავბერიძე, ნ. შარაშიძე, თ. ბოჭორიშვილი
ივ. ჯავახიშვილის სახ. თბილისის სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტი

საკვანძო სიტყვები: რევმატოიდული ართრიტი, გულ-სისხლძარღვთა სისტემა, ბიოლოგიური პრეპარატები, ათეროსკლეროზი.

კვლევის მიზანს წარმოადგენს დადგინდეს ანტიანთებითი ბიოლოგიური პრეპარატების (ადალიმუმაბის, ინფლიქსიმაბის და რითუქსიმაბის)

ეფექტი გულ-სისხლძარღვთა სისტემაზე რევმატოიდული ართრიტით დაავადებული ავადმყოფების მკურნალობის დროს.

კვლევაში ჩაერთო სულ 70 ქალი 18 წელიდან 60 წლამდე ასაკის, რომლებსაც დადასტურებული ჰქონდათ რევმატოიდული ართრიტის დიაგნოზით (დიაგნოზი დადასტურებულია ამერიკის რევმატოლოგიური კოლეჯის 2010 (ACR) და ევროპის რევმატოლოგიური ლიგის (EULAR) კლასიფიკაციის კრიტერიუმებით). პაციენტები სტანდარტული მკურნალობაზე და პლიუს ბიოლოგიური პრეპარატებით განაწილებული იქნა 3 ჯგუფში, ხოლო მესამე ჯგუფი დაიყო ორ ქვეჯგუფად. კვლევა გრძელდებოდა 30 კვირის განმავლობაში. კვლევები ტარდებოდა მკურნალობამდე და მკურნალობის შემდეგ.

შედეგები: ბიოლოგიური პრეპარატებით მკურნალობიდან 30 კვირის შემდეგ ყველა ჯგუფში გამოიკვეთა შემდეგი ცვლილებები: DAS28-ESR და HAQ ქულის მნიშვნელობები, RF, CRP და ESR კონცენტრაციები მნიშვნელოვნად დაბალი იყო საკონტროლო ჯგუფთან შედარებით. ბიოლოგიური პრეპარატებით მკურნალობის ფონზე ყველა ჯგუფში აღინიშნა TC და HDL-C მნიშვნელოვანი ზრდა, LDL-C და TG-ში მნიშვნელოვანი ცვლილებების გარეშე, რის შედეგადაც შემცირდა ათეროგენულობის ინდექსი. CRP დონის შემცირება 30 კვირაზე საპირისპირო კორელაციაში იყო HDL-ქოლესტერინის მატებასთან. უმნიშვნელო ცვლილებები დაფიქსირდა სისხლში უზმოზე გლუკოზაში, საწ, დაწ და BMI მონაცემების საკონტროლო ჯგუფთან შედარებით. ბიოლოგიური პრეპარატებით კომბინირებულმა თერაპიამ გამოიწვია არტერიული კედლების ელასტიური თვისებების მნიშვნელოვანი გაუმჯობესება.

დასკვნა: რევმატოიდული ართრიტით დაავადებულ პაციენტებში ბიოლოგიური მედიკამენტების მკურნალობის დაწყებამდე სრულყოფილად უნდა იქნას შეფასებული კარდიო-ვასკულური გართულებების რისკები და იმის მიხედვით უნდა იქნას შერჩეული ბიოლოგიური პრეპარატი, რითაც შევამცირებთ აღნიშნული მედიკამენტების გვერდით ეფექტებს და გავაუმჯობესებთ დაავადების პროგნოზს.