

POSTER PRESENTATION

Open Access

The seroprevalence of several infections in urticaria

Lucia Dinu^{1*}, Corina Daniela Ene (Nicolae)², Mircea Tampa^{3,4}, Lucreția Dulgheru⁵, Dumitru Justin Diaconu^{3,4}

From The 10th Edition of the Scientific Days of the National Institute for Infectious Diseases "Prof Dr Matei Bals"

Bucharest, Romania. 15-17 October 2014

Background

Over the time, many infections were attributed to be the cause of urticaria. We proposed to assess the seroprevalence of hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV) and *Helicobacter pylori* infection in acute and chronic spontaneous urticaria patients.

Methods

We conducted a prospective study which included 236 acute spontaneous urticaria patients, 168 chronic spontaneous urticaria and 220 volunteers without urticaria. The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Hospital and all the patients gave their consent for the inclusion into the research protocol.

Results

Serology for hepatitis B was found to be positive in 8 patients (3.38%) in the acute spontaneous urticaria group, in 9 patients (5.35%) in the chronic spontaneous urticaria group and in 5 subjects (2.27%) in the control group. Antibodies to HCV were identified in 3 patients (1.27%) with acute spontaneous urticaria, in 4 patients with chronic spontaneous urticaria (2.38%) and in one subject (0.45%) in the control group. Antibodies to *Helicobacter pylori* were present in 139 acute spontaneous urticaria patients (58.89%), in 107 chronic spontaneous urticaria patients (63.69%) and in 124 (56.36%) controls.

Conclusion

Based on these results, we can conclude that the incidence of urticaria is higher in patients suffering from infections, but the analyzed pathogens in this study cannot be considered risk factors for the occurrence of urticaria, although

their presence may exacerbate the symptomatology and the evolution of this disease. The therapy of these infections may ameliorate urticaria and the efficacy of the H1 antihistamine treatment.

Authors' details

¹Department of Dermatology, MedLife Clinic, Bucharest, Romania.

²Department of Pharmacology, Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania. ³Department of Dermatology, Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania. ⁴Department of Dermatology, Clinical Hospital of Infectious and Tropical Diseases "Dr. Victor Babeș", Bucharest, Romania. ⁵"Dr. Victor Babeș" Diagnosis and Treatment Medical Center, Bucharest, Romania.

Published: 15 October 2014

doi:10.1186/1471-2334-14-S7-P72

Cite this article as: Dinu et al.: The seroprevalence of several infections in urticaria. *BMC Infectious Diseases* 2014 **14**(Suppl 7):P72.

Submit your next manuscript to BioMed Central and take full advantage of:

- Convenient online submission
- Thorough peer review
- No space constraints or color figure charges
- Immediate publication on acceptance
- Inclusion in PubMed, CAS, Scopus and Google Scholar
- Research which is freely available for redistribution

Submit your manuscript at
www.biomedcentral.com/submit

 **BioMed Central**

* Correspondence: luciapesca@yahoo.com

¹Department of Dermatology, MedLife Clinic, Bucharest, Romania
Full list of author information is available at the end of the article