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Title: Use of interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β) and interleukin-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1Ra) contents in alveolar macrophages for estimation of inflammation activity in patients with different levels of asthma control

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Body: The aim of the study was to estimate contents of IL-1β and IL-1Ra and IL-1Ra/ IL-1β ratio in alveolar macrophages of induced sputum in patients with different levels of asthma control according to GINA. 43 patients were included in the study: 10 with uncontrolled asthma, 12 with partially controlled and 21 - with well-controlled asthma. Results of immunocytochemical staining with IL-1β and IL-1Ra monoclonal antibodies of cell centriphugates obtained using liquid-based cytology method were eval-uated via Histology Score method (HScore). Contents of IL-1β were 243,8±9,3, 102,8±18,7 and 29,4±6,4 Hscore in patients with uncontrolled, partially controlled and well-controlled asthma, respectively (p<0,05 in all comparisons). Contents of IL-1Ra were 107,9±11,9, 75,6±21,1 and 92,7±17,1 Hscore in patients with uncontrolled, partially controlled and well-controlled asthma, respectively (p>0,05). IL-1Ra/ IL-1β ratio comprised 0,5±0,1, 1,8±1,1 and 6,1±1,7 in patients with uncontrolled, partially controlled and well-controlled asthma, respectively (p<0,05 in all comparisons). Our study has revealed statistically significant decrease of content of IL-1β and increase of IL-1Ra/ IL-1β ratio in alveolar macrophages of induced sputum samples as level of asthma control increased. These data indicates that estimation of IL-1β content and calculation of IL-1Ra/ IL-1β ratio can be considered to be impartial index of inflammation activity and used for estimation of inflammation activity in airways of patients with different levels of asthma control.