European Respiratory Society
Annual Congress 2013

Abstract Number: 850

Publication Number: P5128

Abstract Group: 1.5. Diffuse Parenchymal Lung Disease

Keyword 1: Interstitial lung disease (connective tissue disease) **Keyword 2:** No keyword **Keyword 3:** No keyword

Title: Clinical manifestations of systemic sclerosis (SS) accompanied with pulmonary involvement

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Body: The objective is to study clinical manifestations of systemic sclerosis (SS) accompanied with pulmonary involvement. Materials and methods: Retrospective study of 64 patients with SS was held. Inclusion criteria: patients at the age of 17-70 with SS. Exclusion criteria: concomitant oncologic and broncho-pulmonary pathology, functional systems disorder in terminal stage. Patients were split in 2 groups: 1) with roentgenological signs of interstitial pulmonary affection (IPA) (n=34) and 2) without roentgenological signs of IPA (n=30). Age and gender of patients and severity of SS in groups didn't vary significantly. Results: The Raynaud's and Sjogrens syndrome, skeletal, joints, neuropsychiatric, gastrointestinal and endocrine manifestations in both groups didn't vary significantly. In patients from the 1st group were more frequent atrophic changes of facial skin - 73,5% against 43,3% from 2nd group (p=0,03), affection of skeletal muscles presented by myalgia, myastenia and muscular hypotrophy - 79,4% against 50,0% from 2nd group (p=0,03), involvement of cardiovascular system - 76,5% against 46,7% from 2nd group (p=0,01) presented by arterial hypertension syndrome (p=0,01) and mitral sclerosis (p=0,02). Laboratory examination of patients from 1st group is evidence of more frequent decreased level of hemoglobin (p=0,04), hypergammaglobulinemia (p=0,01) abnormalities of IgA level and (p=0,04) and leykocyturia (p=0,03). Conclusion: SS with roentgenological signs of IPA is more often accompanied by atrophic changes of facial skin, affection of skeletal muscles and cardiovascular system, decreased level of hemoglobin, hypergammaglobulinemia, abnormalities of IgA level and leykocyturia.