



AUTOIMMUNE CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISEASES

EFFICACY OF HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE IN ANNULAR ERYTHEMA ASSOCIATED WITH SJÖGREN'S SYNDROME.

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Introduction: Annular erythema is one of the characteristic cutaneous manifestations associated with Sjögren's syndrome. It preferentially occurs in Asian patients and characterized by wide elevated border and central clearing. The efficacy of hydroxychloroquine(HCQ) in annular erythema associated with Sjögren's syndrome has been shown in a few case reports.

Objective: To evaluate the efficacy of HCQ in annular erythema associated with Sjögren's syndrome

Materials and Methods: This study included 15 patients(males:3, females:12, mean age:39) who presented annular erythema associated with Sjögren's syndrome treated by HCQ from 2009 to 2017 in Keio university hospital(Tokyo, Japan). We evaluated the response to HCQ in patients with annular erythema associated with Sjögren's syndrome by using activity scores of cutaneous lupus erythematosus disease area and severity index(CLASI). CLASI scores were evaluated in about 4, 8, 12 and 24 weeks after the HCQ treatment.

Results: For all 15 patients, reductions in CLASI scores were observed in each assessment. The average CLASI scores were reduced by approximately 70% and 85% in about 4 and 12 weeks respectively. In particular, CLASI scores of 7/15 patients reached to "0" point in about 4 weeks. All patient were well-tolerated with HCQ without any sever adverse event.

Conclusions: HCQ is effective for annular erythema associated with Sjögren's syndrome. The effects were observed within 4 weeks.

