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ҚАДРЛИ ҲАМКАСБЛАР!

Маълумки, Ўзбекистонда ёшларга оид сиёсатга катта эътибор қаратилмоқда, айниқса, сўнги йилларда Президентимиз ва ҳукуратимизнинг қатор меъёрий-ҳуқуқий ҳужжатлари қабул қилиниб, ёшларнинг илм-маърифат эгаллаши, меҳнат фаолияти ва бўш вақтини мазмунли ўтказиши учун кўпгина шарт-шароит яратишга хизмат қилмоқда.

Таклиф этилаётган «**MedUnion**» илмий-амалий журнали ёш олимлар, магистрлар, клиник ординаторлар, докторантлар, мустақил изланувчилар ва талабалар учун профессионал мулоқот майдони бўлиб хизмат қилади. Журнал электрон шаклда нашр этилади, чунки ушбу формат бир қатор афзалликларга эга: нашр этилган материаллар ҳажмига чекловлар олиб ташланади, муаллифдан ўқувчига бўлган йўл сезиларли даражада қисқаради, бу бизнинг динамик замонамизда жуда аҳамиятли, шунингдек ҳаражатлар ҳам анча камайтиради. Ҳар бир мақолага оригинал ДОИ рақами берилади.

Ушбу электрон илмий журналнинг мақсадлари:

- стоматология, умумий клиник, фундаментал фанлар, шунингдек, тиббиётда педагогика ва психология соҳасидаги замонавий тадқиқотларни ёритиш.
- ёш олимларнинг интеграциялашуви ва ушбу фанларнинг илмий ва амалиётчи мутахассислари ўртасидаги яқин ҳамкорлик.
- академик анъаналар давомийлигини сақлаш, илмий-педагогик кадрларни тарбиялаш.

Журналда ўзбек, рус ва инглиз тилларида ёш олимлар диссертацияларининг оригинал эмпирик тадқиқотлари ва умумий илмий-назарий мақолалар чоп этилади. Ишонаманки, ушбу журнал ҳақиқий мунозара майдонига айланади, илмий мулоқотни таъминлашга ёрдам беради, шунингдек, тиббиёт соҳасида янги илмий ва педагогик кадрларни тарбиялашга ўз хиссасини қўшади. Сизни ушбу лойиҳада турли материаллар муаллифи ва шарҳловчи сифатида иштирок этишга таклиф қиламиз.

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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BIOMARKERS IN JOINT DAMAGE IN PATIENTS WITH REACTIVE ARTHRITIS

*Axmedov Kh.S., Khalmetova F.I.
Tashkent Medical Academy
Tashkent, Uzbekistan*

Annotation

The study enrolled 120 patients in the age of $36,9 \pm 12,3$ classified into three groups according to the trigger factors and 20 healthy subjects. On the basis of the obtained data about early stages of reactive arthritis (ReA) with *Chlamydia trachomatis* etiology, long-lasting progression, and particularly rise of cartilage oligomer matrix protein (COMP) in women we can make a conclusion about the initiation of early cartilage destruction in the structure of a joint. Besides that, it indicates activation of alteration in the articulate structure and development of secondary osteoarthritis in early stages of the disease.

Key words: reactive arthritis, cartilage oligomer matrix protein (COMP), joints syndrome destruction, *Chlamydia trachomatis*

Аннотация

В исследование включено 120 пациентов в возрасте $36,9 \pm 12,3$ лет, разделенных на три группы в зависимости от триггерных факторов, и 20 здоровых лиц. На основании полученных данных о ранних стадиях РеА хламидийной этиологии, длительном течении и особенно повышении содержания хрящевого олигомерного матриксного белка (COMP) у женщин можно сделать вывод об инициации ранней деструкции хряща в структуре сустава. Кроме того, это указывает на активизацию изменений в структуре суставов и развитие вторичного остеоартроза на ранних стадиях заболевания.

Ключевые слова: реактивный артрит, олигомерный матриксный белок хряща (COMP), суставной синдром, деструкция, *Chlamydia trachomatis*

Xulosa

Tadqiqotga trigger omillarga ko'ra uch guruxga ajratilgan reaktiv artrit (ReA) chalingan 120 nafar $36,9$ yo $12,3$ yoshdagi bemorlar va nazorat guruxi sifatida 20 nafar sog'lom kishilar jalb qilingan. Olingan natijalar asosida ReAning ilk davrlaridan *Chlamydia trachomatis* etiologiyali, cho'ziluvchi kechishi va ayniqsa ayollarda tog'ay oligomer matriks oqsili (COMP) ortib borishi bo'g'im strukturasiida tog'ayning erta destruksiyasi boshlanishi haqida xulosa qilish mumkin. Qolaversa, bu bo'g'imlarda strukturali o'zgarishlar avjlanishi va kasallikning erta davrlaridan ikkilamchi osteoartrit shakllanishidan dalolat beradi.

Kalit so'zlar: reaktiv artrit, tog'ay oligomer matriks oqsili (COMP), bo'g'im sindromi, destruksiya, *Chlamydia trachomatis*

Nowadays rheumatic diseases attract attention in all spheres of medicine. According to its prevalence reactive arthritis (ReA) occupies one of the leading places and according to various references it takes 4-40%. Moreover, it is characterized by progression accompanied by articular syndrome and damage of major joints. It leads to invalidation of young and middle-age patients, which has social significance and urgency.

According to recent data and various opinions, pathogenesis of ReA is based on immunologic disorders, and in 88-96% of the cases inadequate immune response to HLA-B27- antigen, in other words T-cellular cytostatic immune response. According to modern data, development of the progress is triggered by infectious foci in intestinal or urogenital tracts. In relation to that it should be mentioned, that it was proven that ReA is initiated by *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Yersinia enterocolitica*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Shigella flexneri* and *Campylobacter jejuni* infections acting as trigger factors and it indicates complex etiopathogenesis of the disease. That is why it attracts attention of specialists from different spheres of medicine. In its turn, according to the criteria of The Assessment of SpondyloArthritis international Society (ASAS) diagnostic check-up should be initiated in case of articular syndrome, enthesistis, and pain in spine. Diagnostics includes polymerase chain reaction or microbiological test for the detection of the infection causing ReA, considered to be a "golden standard".

It is known that, clinical presentation and articular syndrome of many rheumatologic diseases differ by specific morphologic alterations and inflammatory process. Rheumatic diseases, undoubtedly, cause certain alterations due to different progression and variety of

underlying mechanisms. According to various opinions, the factors vary from unfavorable environmental effects to profile of cytokines with negative effect on joints (TNF- α , IL-17, IL-23, IL-1, and IL-6). Moreover, ReA is considered to be a disease with different progression, which means it has different clinical and x-ray alterations, and functionally heterogeneous pathology. According to the results of the performed study, articular lesions in ReA depend on its trigger factors. Especially urogenital ReA differs by active structural alterations and in 33.3% of the cases secondary osteoarthritis develops within the first year of the disease. In its turn, it causes activation of structural alterations, which leads to deterioration of patients' life quality. That is why, detection of early cartilage destruction in ReA has a practical importance.

Recently, according to the available data in literature, osseous erosions caused by proinflammatory cytokines in ReA immune response (IL-1, IL-6 and TNF- α) can serve the basis for degenerative alterations in cartilages. That process causes intensification of synthesis of collagenase and matrix metalloproteinase leading to splitting of 2 type of collagen. Results of the last scientific researches showed, that cartilage oligomere matrix protein (COMP) provides important information about metabolic changes occurring in cartilage matrix under the influence of the aforesaid enzymes. Consequently, rise of COMP in blood serum can serve as a biomarker of early cartilage destruction in ReA. That is why, study of change of COMP in blood serum dependently on the clinical progression of the disease in patients with ReA has scientific and practical value.

The objective: Study of dynamic changes of cartilage oligomere matrix

protein (COMP) level in patients with ReA dependent on its clinical presentation for the definition of early cartilage destruction.

Materials and research methods.

The study enrolled randomly selected 120 patients with average term of ReA equal to 3.8 ± 1.7 years aged 18-50 (36.9 ± 12.3) years old. The major part of these patients were women, 70 (58.3%). For the study patients were classified to three groups according to etiological factors. The I group (n=60) had *Chlamydia trachomatis* etiology; the II group (n=30) had *Sinia enterocolitica*, and the III group (n=30) had *Campylobacter jejune* as an etiological factor. The control group involved 20 healthy subjects (average age 37.5 ± 6.2 years old) with age and sex approximately compatible to patients with ReA (Table 1).

For the detection of trigger infections we used immunologic (detection of antibodies to infectious antigen in blood

serum), molecular-biological (polymerase chain reaction), and bacteriological tests. We had detection of infections causing ReA in all patients, after which they were examined by urologist, gynecologist (taking smear from urethra and vagina), and oculist.

For the assessment of the progression and activity of ReA we applied visual analogue scale (VAS), DAS and parameters of the acute stage of inflammation. Functional capabilities of the patients were assessed according to functional classes (FC), Health Assessment Questionnaire (HAQ) and Ritchie index. Laboratory tests included common blood analysis and biochemical blood tests. All patients had x-ray imaging of the joints. Cartilage oligomer matrix protein (COMP) and female sexual hormones were detected using enzyme immunoassay (ELISA, Russia).

Table 1

Clinical characteristics of patients with ReA (n = 120)

Groups		Sex		Average age	Average term of the disease (years)
		Male	Female		
I group (n =60)	abs.	25	35	32.9 ± 11.1	2.9 ± 1.8
	%	41.7	58.3		
II group (n=30)	abs.	13	17	36.4 ± 6.8	3.1 ± 1.9
	%	43.3	56.7		
III group (n =30)	abs.	12	18	34.1 ± 7.3	2.8 ± 1.9
	%	40	60		

Exclusion criteria were as follows:

- 1) Patients with no confirmed diagnosis of ReA according to EULAR/ACR;
- 2) Patients under 18;
- 3) No surgical treatment of ReA within and before the period of study;

4) Severe concomitant pathology (renal, hepatic, cardiac failure, high uncontrolable AH, decompensated diabetes mellitus, etc.); injures;

5) Dangerous tumors, drinking of alcohol, psychic diseases, such as dementia and mental impairments;

6) Tpatients with BMI below 29.

Statistical processing of the results was performed using Microsoft Office Excel 2013 software and standard statistical method.

Results and discussion. Majority of the patients were 30-40 years old (69.1%)

and women (58.3%). On the basis of the analysis of anamnesis morbid the average age of patients at the moment of appearance of initial symptoms of ReA was 30.1 ± 4.5 years old. Average time from the moment of appearance of initial symptoms till the diagnosis was 3.7 months.

Table 2

Clinical presentation of patients with ReA

Symptoms	I group (n=60)		II group (n=30)		III group (n=30)	
	abs.	%	abs.	%	abs.	%
According to progression						
Acute	7	11.7	19	63.3	16	53.3
Long-lasting	24	40	5	16.7	3	10
Chronic	10	16.7	3	10	7	23.3
Recurrent	19	31.6	3	10	4	13.4
Articular syndrome						
Monoarthritis	4	6.6	16	53.3	14	46.7
Oligoarthritis	34	56.7	10	33.4	13	43.3
Polyarthritis	22	36.7	4	13.3	3	10
Sacroiliitis	53	88.3	26	86.7	4	13.3
Spondylitis	40	66.7	4	13.3	13	43.3
Dactylitis	6	10	5	16.7	6	20
Dysfunction of joints						
I class	12	20	18	60	15	50
II class	29	48.3	8	26.7	11	36.7
III class	19	31.7	4	13.3	4	13.3
Articular index and laboratory results						
Duration of morning stiffness, minutes	31.3±5.9		19.1±6.1		17.3±8.5	
Pain, VAS, mm	79.5±12.8		67.5±12.8		53.5±11.4	
Number of painful joints	8.2±3.7		4.1±0.7		4.1±0.7	
Number of swelling joints	5.6±0.6		2.5±2.6		2.1±0.9	
C-reactive protein, mg/L	19.8±3.9		12.8±1.9		11.8±1.7	
Erythrocyte sedimentation rate, mm/s	25.3±3.9		18.3±3.6		19.3±5.5	

The data in Table 1 show that, according to the form of the disease and etiological factors clinical presentation of ReA differs in three groups. There is reliable ($p < 0.05$) difference of long-lasting progression of the

pathology among the patients of the I group compared to other forms (Table 1). At the same time, in 31.6% of the cases we could observe recurrent progression of urogenital ReA.

Dysfunction of joints can be linked with certain alterations relevant to inflammatory process. Indicators of acute stage, duration of morning stiffness and the number of inflamed joints in the patients of the I group (Table 1) caused limitation of functional capabilities of the joints. In their turn, patients of the II and III groups

suffered monoarthritis, while the patients of the I group there were more cases of oligoarthritis and polyarthritis. It should be noted that, 100% of all patients in all three groups had synovitis, which was mostly singular and sometimes accompanied peri-arthritis manifested by tendinitis or bursitis.

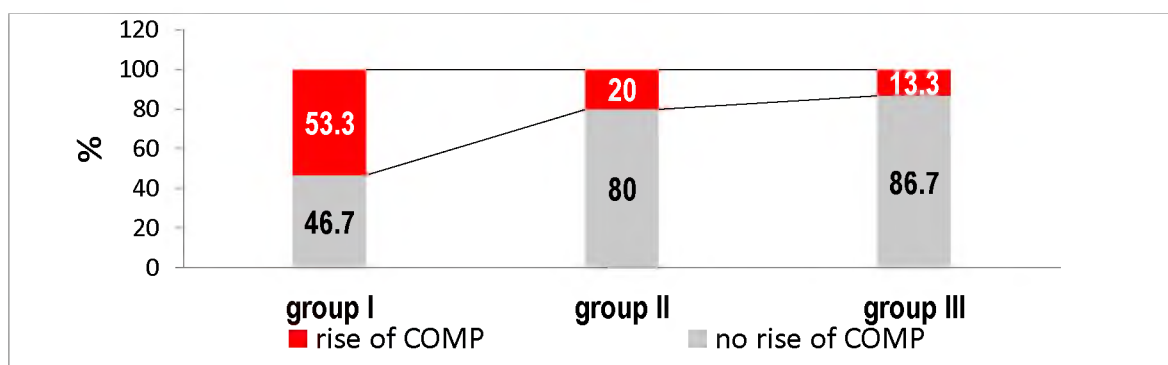


Figure 1. COMP rise among the patients with ReA

It is known that, diseases proceeding with arthritis are characterized by certain alterations in joint structure. Immunologic alterations in ReA are based on synovial inflammation, disorders in its structure and development of fibrosis [5]. The aforesaid processes proceed with various alterations providing the possibility of bone erosion and articular surface discongruence. Perhaps, these transformations are linked with change in characteristics of cartilage morphologic substrate. So, rise of COMP in blood serum of the patients with ReA indicate metabolic changes in cartilage [9]. It should be noted that, changes of COMP

level among the patients enrolled in the study varied greatly. As it is seen in Table 2, when compared to the control group, all male and female patients had a tendency for the rise of COMP, but the values were not statistically significant ($p > 0.05$). however, in the I group the part of those who had rise of COMP reference values ($1000 \text{ ng/mL} >$) was equal to 53.3% (Fig. 1).

Thus, in some cases of ReA we can observe activation of structural alterations. The results show reliable difference in etiological factors, progression, and duration of the disease.

Table 3
Parameters of cartilage oligomere matrix protein (COMP) in patients with ReA

Groups	COMP ng/mL		p
	Male	Female	
Control (n=20)	814.7±52.2	912.2±112.2	-

I group (n=60)	2746.2±393.5	3051.2±165.5	p [♂] <0.02; p [♀] <0.001
II group (n=30)	1003.7±119.1	1132.5±302.7	p [♂] >0.05; p [♀] >0.05
III group (n=30)	987.2±715.2	1089.9±955.7	p [♂] >0.05; p [♀] >0.05
Total (n=120)	1343.2±1101.2	1359.2±1002.8	p [♂] >0.05; p [♀] >0.05

Note: p[♂] – male and p[♀] – female reliable parameters compared to the control group.

In its turn, analysis of the etiological factor showed that, exactly in the I group (with *Chlamydia trachomatis* etiology) both male and female patients had reliable (p<0.02; p<0.001, respectively) rise COMP in blood serum compared to the control group. At the same time, we determined that, progression of the pathology in these patients was relevant to structural alterations in cartilages. Figure 2 demonstrates that, long-lasting progression of the disease was reliably (p<0.01) accompanied by the rise of COMP. It was particularly expressed in women, who had 3672.8±176.6 ng/mL, which was 2.5 fold (p<0.05) higher than in men (1421.8±412.3 ng/mL). These data certainly indicate presence of gender differences in the progression of the

disease and probable involvement of sexual hormones in its genesis.

The study of COMP level in blood serum of the patients suffering ReA showed characteristic dynamic changes occurring with the prolongation of the term of disease. Table 3 shows that, in the I group COMP started rising within initial stages of the disease (p<0.05) and intensified with the prolongation of the term of the disease. So, on the basis of the obtained results, we can make a conclusion about long-lasting progression and start of early destruction of cartilage in the structure of joint, especially in women, within initial stages of *Chlamydia trachomatis* ReA. Besides that, it can indicate intensification of structural changes in joints and development of secondary osteoarthritis in initial stages of the disease.

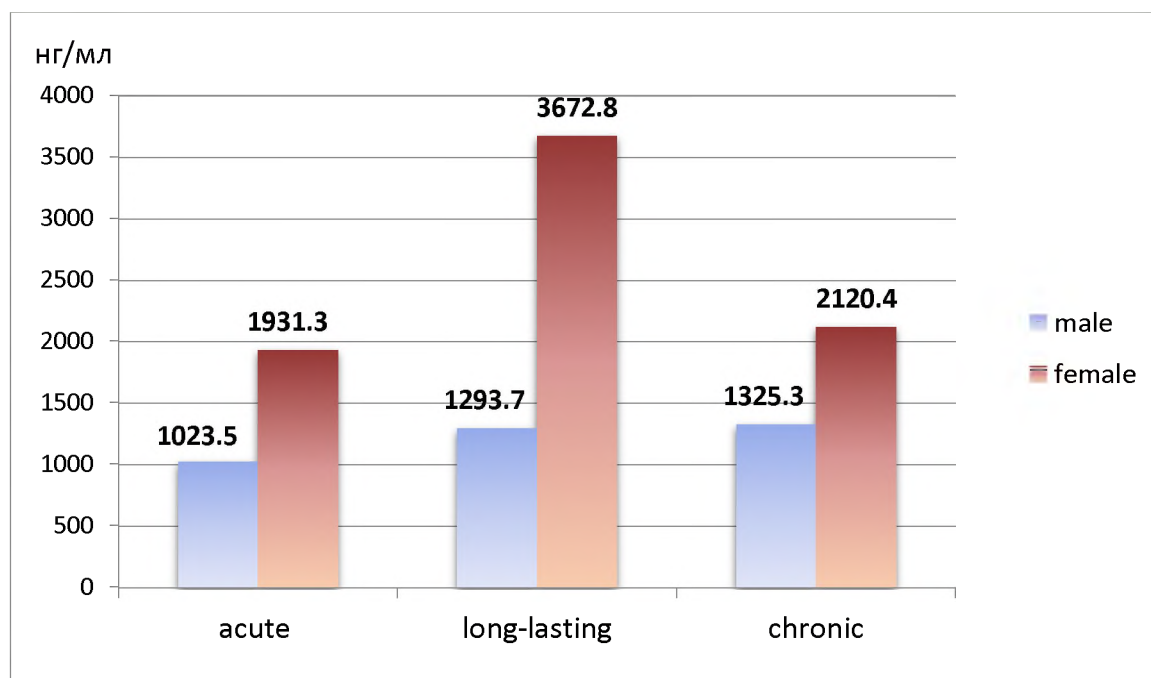


Figure 2. Change of COMP level in patients with ReA dependently on the progression of the disease.

Table 4

Change of COMP level dependently on the term of disease

Groups	COMP ng/mL		
	Control (n=20)	865,5±82,2	
Term	I group (n=60)	II group (n=30)	III group (n=30)
0-12 mo	1348.1±97.9*	901.7±95.2	843±231.4
12-24 mo	2293.5±223.2*	913.3±118.8	909±219.2
24-36 mo	2870.2±191.3*	1055.8±342.1	891±105.8
36-48 mo	3012.6±234.2*	1456.5±201.2*	1132± 124.3
More than 48 mo	3144.1±301.5*	2011.4±121.9*	1897±100.8*

Note: * - p<0.05 reliability of the data compared to the control.

It is worth mentioning, that x-ray images of knee joint of the patients with Rea showed development of secondary osteoarthritis within initial years of the disease in 20% of the patients. Figure 3

demonstrates that, alterations develop with the progression of the disease. In 23.4% of the cases in thirty six months from the start of ReA we could observe III and IV stages of osteoarthritis, in other words there was need of endoprosthetics.

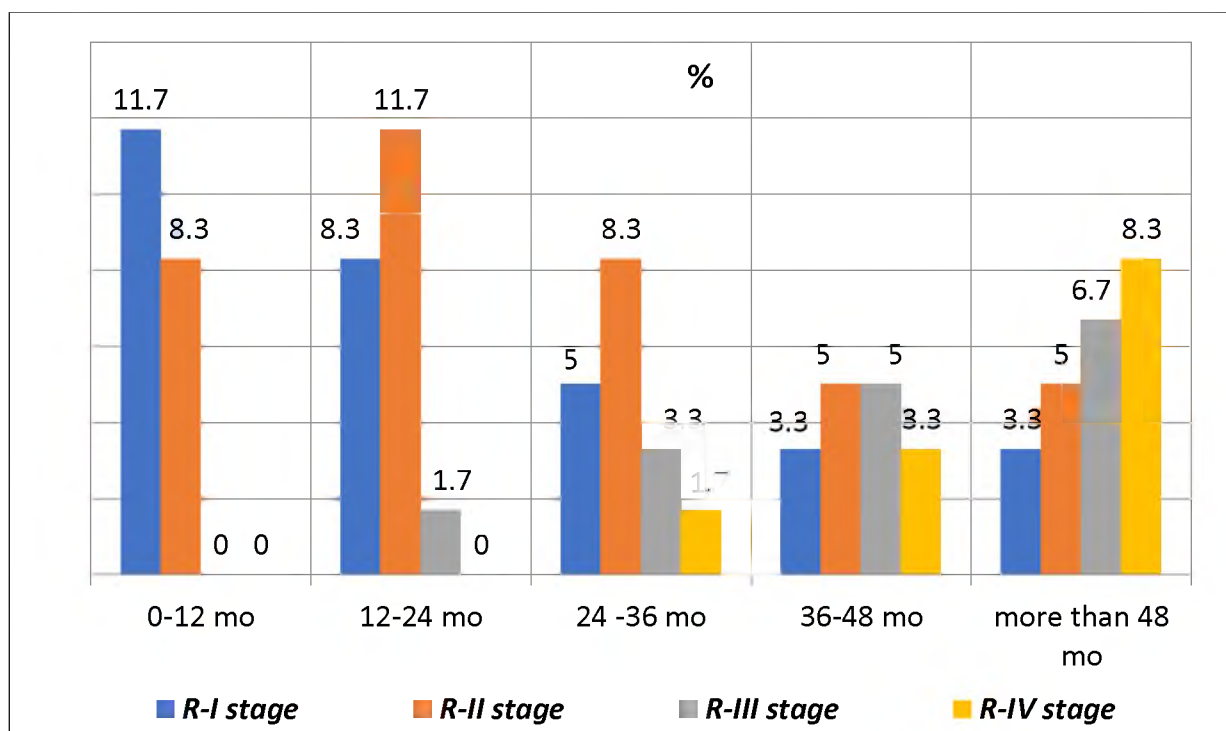


Figure 3. Development of secondary osteoarthritis in ReA patients of the I group (*Chlamydia trachomatis* etiology).

Conclusion. Thus, secondary osteoarthritis develops within initial stages of ReA and rise of cartilage oligomer matrix protein (COMP) indicates early destruction of cartilage. ReA with *Chlamydia*

trachomatis etiology and long-lasting progression is characterized by intensification of structural alterations in joints.

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