

AN ANALYSIS OF THE RISK FACTORS FOR OSTEOPOROSIS IN THE AERONAUTICAL PERSONNEL

Glojeanu Remus Relu M.D., Dogaru Bombonica Gabriela M.D.

Summary

The present article focuses on two groups; one is made of 51 aeronautical individuals and the other consists of 34 non-aeronautical individuals. These groups have been compared and contrasted in order to undergo clinical and paraclinical investigations as stipulated in the study protocol. By using specific statistical methods, the research illustrates a comparative analysis of 23 risk factors that contribute to osteoporosis: biological risk factors (age and sex); anthropometric factors (weight and height); lifestyle and nutrition (consumption of tobacco, alcohol, coffee, dairy products, sweets, meat and meat products, and medication that can contribute to the development of osteoporosis), physical activities, endocrine disorders and a family history of osteoporosis. It has been proved that there are hardly any significant differences between the two groups. Also, three criteria that are specific to the aeronautical personnel have been taken into consideration: the number of flight hours, years of service devoted to the aeronautical activity, and the aircraft type involved in this process. Given the fact that the two groups are homogenous and comparable, we were able to use them both in the forthcoming research studies, where we analyze bone density performing osteodensitometry DXA. We also analyze bone metabolism by means of specific lab analysis and look into the efficiency of the program of kinesiotherapy that we have put forward.

Keywords: osteoporosis, aeronautical personnel, risk factors

THE CARDIOVASCULAR RISK IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Daniela Anghel M.D., Ph.D., Mihai Marius Muresan M.D., Cristian Anghel M.D., Ph.D., Ciobica Lucian M.D., Ph.D., Mirela Anghel M.D., Ph.D.

Summary

Objectives: to compare markers of cardiovascular disease risk (CVR) between patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in an active disease state and those with RA in remission and to compare with community controls.

Material and Methods: fifty patients with RA and sixty two community controls were assessed a panel of biomarkers for CVD. Biomarkers were compared between patients with active RA and those in remission and both group were compared with controls. RA in remission was definite as Clinical Activity Disease Index < 2,8. Biomarker levels were compared across subgroups based on anticyclic citrullinated peptide status (anti -CCP), level of joint destruction and presence of extra-articular manifestations.

Results and conclusion: patients with active RA had a higher level of brachial systolic pressure but low cholesterol than patients in remission and controls. Patients with active RA but not those in remission had a significantly increased level of CVD risk markers. These results link inflammatory activity to markers of CVD risk in patients with RA and support that remission in RA may indirectly confers diminished cardiovascular morbidity.

Keywords: rheumatoid arthritis, CVD risk, biomarkers, inflammation

CORRELATIONS BETWEEN ELECTROMYOGRAPHIC DATA AND CLINICAL AND BIOLOGICAL CHANGES ON A LOT OF PATIENTS WITH PAIN AND MUSCLE WEAKNESS - PROSPECTIVE STUDY

Maria-Magdalena Negru MD, Dana Anghel MD, PhD , Vasilia Iorgoveanu Res., Florian Berghea MD, PhD, Ruxandra Ionescu MD, PhD

Summary

Rheumatic diseases are primarily disorders of musculoskeletal system, but sometimes with significant extra skeletal events, being some of the causes of severe disability and reduced quality of life. Muscle damage is seen in idiopathic inflammatory myopathies (MII), a rare and heterogeneous group of autoimmune diseases, but also in both inflammatory and degenerative rheumatic diseases. Electromyography method of investigation of neuromuscular diseases is under 'tools' used by rheumatologists in sustaining a positive diagnosis.

Keywords: muscle damage, myopathy, electromyography, positive diagnosis

HEMATOLOGICAL CHANGES IN RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Citto Taisescu M.D.,Ph.D, Mihai-Marius Mureșan M.D.,Ph.D, Iovan Vlădaia M.D.,Ph.D, Daniela Anghel M.D.,Ph.D, Amelia Găman M.D.,Ph.D

Summary

Introduction: rheumatoid arthritis is a systemic autoimmune disease characterized by chronic inflammation of infiltrative-proliferative synovial joint with progressive evolution, multiple non-articular impairment and hematologic complications.

The aim of the study was to assess the prevalence of hematological manifestations in a group of patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

Material and Methods: we have studied 44 patients with rheumatoid arthritis broken down by age, gender, area of origin, stage of rheumatoid arthritis, the presence or absence of hematologic manifestations, which were followed specific biological rheumatoid arthritis and a number of hematological parameters.

Results and Conclusions: in our group of patients anemia was the most common hematological complication, being present in one third of patients with rheumatoid arthritis, most common being simple chronic anemia. Changes in platelet and leukocyte series were uncommon, occurring in mostly secondary to underlying disease specific therapy.

Keywords: rheumatoid arthritis, anemia, changes in platelet, leukocyte changes

PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT IN AERONAUTICAL ENVIRONMENT

Violeta Ionescu, psychologist, Ph.D.

Summary

Introduction: the term personality assessment refers to procedures designed to assess a person's characteristic modes of thinking and acting. The assessment of personality is not limited to the classification and measurement of types, traits, and temperaments, but also includes measures of interests, values, attitudes, perceptual and cognitive styles, and other internal dynamics and behaviors characterizing the uniqueness of an individual. One major application of personality theory and, in particular, trait measurement of personality, has been the world of work organizations and the application of personality assessment to assist in human resource decisions that are ultimately linked to performance at work.

Methods: this paper presents analyses of reliability and validity personality measures which are incorporated into computer-based PSYCOMP test battery. These tests were designed to measure self-confidence, sociability, team orientated, risk-taking, anxiety, emotional stability, impulsivity, locus of control, coping strategies, motivation.

The results indicate adequate psychometric characteristics, internal consistency and construct validity of methods of personality therefore investigated

Conclusions: personality assessment is useful in the pilot psychological selection.

Keywords: personality trait, test validity, pilot selection.

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Mirela Anghel, MD, PhD