

IRACON 2024  
23 NOV 2024  
HALL A  
Forenoon

1. Fibroblast- is central node for intra cellular communication and regulation in SSc
2. There are multiple sub populations of fibroblasts involved in diverse functions
3. Snail - as a transcription factor is over expressed in fibrosis
4. Snail keratinocytes secreting mindin mediates fibrosis
5. Though TGF  $\beta$  is central to pathophysiology, treatment based on TGF  $\beta$  blockade have been ineffective
6. Early SSc phase is an immuno-inflammatory disease
7. Antibody profile rather than the extent of skin involvement predicts the organ involvement
8. HRCT should be mandatory in all the patients of systemic sclerosis
9. In systemic sclerosis patients with normal PFT but raised acute phase reactants, aggressive targeting of IL-6 pathway with tocilizumab, should be considered
10. Potential patients for anti-CD19 targeting CAR T treatment are, young with early disease and with progressive skin & lung disease

11. Early Screening in SARD-ILD is essential not to miss the sub clinical disease, especially in SSC, MCTD, IIM, RA, and sjogrens
12. No definite guidelines for ILD screening but they are emerging in SARD-ILD
13. HRCT combined with PFT is better than PFT or clinical examination alone
14. Lung USG had high NPV and is being evaluated to be used as emerging diagnostic and prognostic modality
15. Development of newer anti biotics are not keeping pace with newer drug therapies in rheumatic diseases
16. CMV is a great mimicker but important to distinguish between CMV infective status versus disease
17. practical approach to monitoring and preventing of infections
  - Infection risk assessment
  - Drug specific infection prophylaxis
18. Good old TMP-SMX still holds good in number of infections
19. TB IGRA and Mantoux are discordant in almost 40% cases
20. TB IGRA can be falsely negative in children, immunosuppressed patients and active TB
21. Screen for disseminated Strongyloides stercoralis hyper infection in patients on long term oral glucocorticoids and IVERMECTIN is prophylactic
22. Infections have been implicated in the induction of auto immunity in genetically predisposed patients
23. Infections can modify the clinical expression of auto-immune disease & can also suppress the autoimmune disorder
24. Anti cytokine auto anti bodies are an emerging cause of aquired adult onset immuno deficiency and have to be managed like auto immune disease with immunomodulatory medication (eg: Anti IFN Ab- MSMD like phenotype)
25. 1/3rd or more patients initially diagnosed with sepsis turn out to have non infectious conditions

26. Important to send appropriate sample and volumes at right time, requesting appropriate test.
27. Newer modalities like MALDI-TOFF and respiratory viral panel, GI panel, encephalitis and meningitis panel help us to decrease the way time for identifying the causative pathogen.
28. Metagenomic NGS are upcoming tools for diagnosis of infection which has already been validated for sepsis and CSF
29. Community work is a choice and not a compulsion.
30. Kawasaki Disease Incidence is rising in India.
31. KD is the commonest cause of acquired heart disease in childhood
32. Myocarditis is almost universal in KD

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