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**Juvenile dermatomyositis: clinical, immunological and evolutionary aspects**

**Introduction:**Dermatomyositis is a rare disease. In children the incidence is 2 to 3 per million inhabitants. It is a potentially serious disease whose mortality is less than 5%, but whose complications and long-term prognosis remain pejorative for some children.

**Objectives:**To study the characteristics and particularities of a retrospective series of juvenile dermatomyositis**.**

**Materials and methods:** We report the epidemiological, clinical, therapeutic and evolutionary characteristics of a retrospective series . Including 19 cases of juvenile dermatomyositis.

**Results:** The mean age of onset is 6.5 years (32 months-15.5 years), The sex ratio (M / F) was 0.26 ; The delay between the onset of symptoms and diagnosis averaged 4 months ; At diagnosis 95 % had rash, 85% of of eyelid telangiectasia, 80 % of nodules Gottron , 90% muscle weakness, 30% arthritis, 35% fever, and 15 % a dysphagia with a case of pericarditis revealing the pathology. The dosage of muscle enzymes was pathological in 18 cases ; Anti-nuclear antibodies (ANA) positive in 8 cases,Native Anti DNA were positive in a single patient with overlapping myositis.The electromyogram is of the myogenic type for our 19 patients; Muscle biopsy was carried out for 10 patients returning non-specific with interstitial and parenchymal myositis. The treatment regimens were variable; they depended on the severity of the initial picture. However, all of the children were treated with corticosteroids as first intention (100%); Methotrexate (MTX) was prescribed in 15 cases (95%); Mycophenolate mofetil (MMF) and Rituximab in two patients. Bisphosphonates in a single child with extensive calcinosis.Polyvalent immunoglobulins for 6 cases who showed swallowing disorders and calcinosis (31.5%); calcinosis complicated only 6 patients (31.5%), One child died following aspiration pneumonia.

**Conclusion:** Juvenile dermatomysitis is a rare, serious and chronic condition requiring multidisciplinary care.