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HEMATURIA IN SPONDYLOARTHRITIS: PREVALENCE AND RISK FACTORS

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INTRODUCTION

Renal involvement is a rare extra-articular manifestation in spondyloarthritis (SpA) with unclear mechanisms.

OBJECTIVE

The aim of our study was to determine the prevalence of hematuria in SpA and to investigate associated risk factors.

METHODS

This was a cross-sectional study including patients with SpA meeting the ASAS 2009 or Amor 1990 criteria. Sociodemographic, clinical, and biological data, as well as treatment received, were collected.

Patients were divided into two groups based on the presence or absence of hematuria in urine cytobacteriological examination: absence of hematuria (G1) and presence of hematuria (G2).

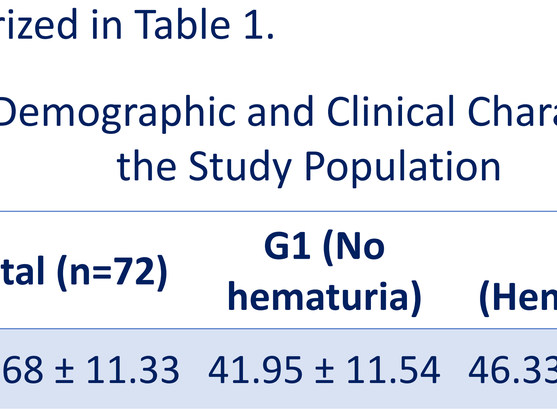
RESULTS

- Seventy-two patients were included (M/F ratio = 3).
- Hematuria was detected in 27 patients (37.5%), with a mean count of 18.88 erythrocytes/mm³ ± 36.68 (range 0–195).
- The demographic and clinical characteristics of the patients are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Demographic and Clinical Characteristics of the Study Population

Parameter	Total (n=72)	G1 (No hematuria)	G2 (Hematuria)	p-value
Age (years)	43.68 ± 11.33	41.95 ± 11.54	46.33 ± 10.83	0.301
Age at disease onset	36.50 ± 11.56	34.28 ± 11.69	40.29 ± 10.71	0.740
Female (%)	–	15.90%	40.74%	**0.020**
BMI (kg/m²)	26.15 ± 5.59	26.46 ± 4.60	25.71 ± 7.01	**0.039**

- The prevalence of hematuria in the cohort is illustrated in the figure below.



Prevalence of Hematuria in the Study Population

- Table 2 presents the comparison of disease activity indices and inflammatory markers between the two groups.

Table 2. Disease Activity and Inflammatory Markers by Group

Parameter	G1 (No hematuria)	G2 (Hematuria)	p-value
CRP (mg/L)	4.09 ± 9.65	28.21 ± 41.67	0.110
ESR (mm/h)	24.12 ± 20.87	40.93 ± 31.70	**0.027**
ASDAS-ESR	2.16 ± 1.10	3.09 ± 1.40	**0.019**

- BASDAI and ASDAS-CRP scores did not differ significantly.
- Significant correlations between hematuria levels and inflammatory markers are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3. Correlations Between Hematuria and Inflammatory Markers

	Correlation coefficient (r)	p-value
Hematuria vs ASDAS-CRP	0.267	**0.029**
Hematuria vs ASDAS-VS	0.312	**0.029**
Hematuria vs CRP	0.408	**<0.001**

- No significant correlation was observed with age, disease duration, or BASDAI.
- Similarly, no significant association was found with NSAID or biologic use.

Conclusion

Hematuria was associated with elevated inflammatory markers and higher disease activity in our study. These findings suggest that hematuria may be an additional indicator of SpA activity.