

MEDICINE AND SURGERY

Course: Dermatology and Clinical Immunology

Year: 4th

Period: 2nd semester

Credits: 4

DERMATOLOGY

Faculty: Antonio Costanzo (Coordinator), Riccardo Borroni,

Tutors for practical activities: Antonio Costanzo, Riccardo Borroni, Mario Valenti

RHEUMATOLOGY and CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY

Faculty: Carlo Selmi, Maria De Santis, Angela Ceribelli

Tutors for practical activities: Carlo Selmi, Maria De Santis, Angela Ceribelli, Nicoletta

Luciano, Francesca Motta

Objectives

This course addresses the specific and shared areas within the fields of Dermatology, Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology. This combined course will provide the essential core knowledge that is fundamental to understand dermatologic and rheumatologic disease and their interconnections with the human system.

At the end of the course should be able to recognize common dermatologic and rheumatological/immunological disease and provide general and specific indications on the pathogenesis and the diagnostic and therapeutic approaches.

Prerequisites

An adequate knowledge of Anatomy, Histology, Physiology and General Pathology particularly related to the skin, to the immune system and musculoskeletal apparatus is required.





RHEUMATOLOGY AND CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY

Academic year 2023-2024

1. Introduction to Rheumatology: approach to the patient with rheumatic diseases

Identify the major features of patients attending a rheumatology clinic;

Formulate possible differential diagnoses;

Determine the best areas for specific diagnostic tests (lab and imaging)

Describe the major symptoms/syndromes leading to the suspect of arthritis, vasculitis, connective tissue disease;

Discriminate between diagnostic and classification criteria

Identify the major serum patterns and lab abnormalities of patients attending a rheumatology clinic;

Formulate possible differential diagnoses based on lab results;

Determine the ideal lab tests based on the clinics;

Describe the established associations between autoantibodies and disease

Identify the major characteristics of the treatments used in the rheumatology setting;

Describe the indications and contraindications of steroids and NSAIDs;

Describe the mechanisms of action, indications and contraindications of DMARDs;

Describe the mechanisms of action, indications and contraindications of biologics and small molecules;

Describe the impact of comorbidities on treatment choices

Identify the gender-specific differences and patterns of disease in each rheumatological condition, including the use of medications and disease activity changes in pregnancy and menopause

2a. Connective tissue diseases: systemic lupus erythematosus

Describe the groups of connective tissue disease (i.e. systemic lupus, systemic sclerosis/scleroderma, inflammatory myositis, Sjogren syndrome, undifferentiated and mixed connective tissue disease) and their peculiar features:

Understand the epidemiology, pathogenesis, and differential diagnosis of systemic lupus erythematosus;

Understand the differential diagnosis of systemic lupus erythematosus;



Understand the major imaging (X ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound), invasive (arthrocentesis, etc), and laboratory (autoantibody, CRP) findings that are helpful in the diagnosis and management of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus;

Understand the cardiovascular, neoplastic, obstetric, and thrombotic complications of systemic lupus erythematosus

Understand the therapeutic approach to systemic lupus erythematosus;

2b. Connective tissue diseases: polymyositis / dermatomyositis (Dermatology + Rheumatology)

Understand the epidemiology, pathogenesis, and differential diagnosis of inflammatory myositis;

Understand the therapeutic approach to inflammatory myositis;

Understand the differential diagnosis of inflammatory myositis;

Understand the major imaging (X ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound), invasive (arthrocentesis, etc), and laboratory (autoantibody, CRP) findings that are helpful in the diagnosis and management of patients with inflammatory myositis;

Understand the cardiovascular, neoplastic, obstetric, and thrombotic complications of inflammatory myositis

3. The mechanisms of localized and generalized pain

Understand the mechanisms and pathways leading to pain sensitivity;

Describe the diagnostic and therapeutic approach to localized and generalized pain syndromes;

Understand the features of fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue syndrome with particular attention to the differential diagnosis and therapeutic approaches;

4. Vasculitidies (Dermatology + Rheumatology)

Describe the major symptoms/syndromes leading to the suspect of vasculitis;

Understand the new classification of vasculitidies:

Understand the epidemiology, pathogenesis, and differential diagnosis of vasculitidies;

Understand the therapeutic approach to vasculitidies, including non-pharmacological treatments;

Understand the major imaging (X ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound), invasive (vascular biopsy, etc), and laboratory (autoantibody, CRP) findings that are helpful in the diagnosis and management of patients with vasculitidies;

Understand the systemic complications and sequelae of vasculitidies



7b. Connective tissue dis