



POSTER PRESENTATION

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# Does childhood health assessment questionnaire can predict outcome of patients with juvenile idiopathic arthritis?

G Susic<sup>1\*</sup>, R Stojanovic<sup>1</sup>, I Soldatovic<sup>2</sup>, N Damjanov<sup>1</sup>, G Radunovic<sup>1</sup>

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## Aim

To assess the ability of Childhood Health Assessment Questionnaire (CHAQ) in predicting outcome of patients with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA).

## Method

87 pts. (f 69%, m 31%) average age 14,1 yrs. disease duration 5,2 yrs., were follow up for 3,7 (2-5) yrs. Parents/patients over 12 yrs. completed CHAQ at the beginning and at the end of study and disability index (DI) was calculated. CHAQ DI=0 was considered as normal, 0,125-0,5=mild,  $\geq 0,6$ =moderate/severe disability. Fifty nine (67,8%)pts. were treated with methotrexate, 42 (52,8%)pts. with etanercept. Outcome was defined as active disease or remission (Wallace criteria) [1]. We used regression models for the assessment predictive strength of CHAQ.

## Results

CHAQ DI at the baseline was 0,541, at the end of follow up 0,398 ( $p < 0,05$ ). Number of patients with moderate/severe disability decreased from 29 to 18 (33,3% vs. 20,7%,  $p < 0,01$ ). Number of patients in remission increased from 15 to 47 (17,2% vs. 54,0%,  $p < 0,001$ ). Seventy (80,6%)pts. with normal CHAQ DI at baseline, were in remission at the end of study, while 66 (75,9%) pts. with moderate/severe CHAQ DI at the beginning had active disease at the last visit. CHAQ showed good predictive ability for the disease outcome (71,3%). Odds ratio for having active disease for patients with mild CHAQ DI was high (OR 3,33, CI=1,034-10,746,  $p = 0,044$ ), for patients with moderate/severe CHAQ DI was very high (OR 13,095, CI=3,821-44,882,  $p < 0,001$ ),

compared to patients with normal CHAQ value. Patients with moderate/severe CHAQ DI had hazard ratio for the active disease 4,959 (CI=1,855-11,385,  $p < 0,001$ ).

## Conclusion

CHAQ demonstrated good ability in predicting outcome of the disease. Due to its simplicity and accessibility it is useful in everyday clinical practice for identifying patients with poor prognosis.

## Author details

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Rheumatology Belgrade, Serbia. <sup>2</sup>Medical Statistics, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Serbia.

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## Reference

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<sup>1</sup>Institute of Rheumatology Belgrade, Serbia  
Full list of author information is available at the end of the article