

Safety, efficacy, and persistence of Rituximab therapy in Sjögren Disease: a PORTRESS – the Portuguese registry of Sjögren Syndrome- based study.

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Abstract

Sjögren's Disease (SD) is an inflammatory immune-mediated disease caused by lymphoplasmacytic infiltration of the exocrine glands. Due to the involvement of salivary and lacrimal glands, the main clinical manifestations are xerostomia and xerophthalmia. However, more than half of the affected patients may have systemic disease due to extraglandular involvement. The therapeutic management of SD is still based on the symptomatic treatment of sicca symptoms and the use of immunosuppressants for systemic disease. There is poor information on the efficacy and safety of these therapeutic options in SD, no guidelines regarding the treat-to-target approach in SD, and no specific recommendations for induction or maintenance therapies in patients with systemic active disease. We will conduct an observational, retrospective, longitudinal, multicenter study of SD patients treated with Rituximab (actual or previous). Our main goal is to evaluate the effectiveness of therapy with RTX, the prevalence of adverse events, and the retention rates at 12 and 36 months, after 1st RTX cycle.