T-CELL DERIVED CYTOKINE IN PATIENTS WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

Thesis

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Presented by
Dr. Hanaa Hassan Mahmoud
M.B.B.Ch.
Cairo University

Supervisors

Dr. Iman A. Ehsan Abd El – Meguid
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Faculty of Medicine
Cairo University

Dr . Heba M.Maged
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Faculty of Medicine
Cairo University

Dr . Hoda M.Abd El- Ghaney
Lecturer of Clinical Pathology
Faculty of Medicine
Cairo University

Faculty of Medicine
Cairo University
2001

Abstract

IL-16 is a novel cytokine previously characterized as a lymphocyte chemoattractant factor that induces chemotaxis for CD^{+}_{4} T cells, monocytes and eosinophils, and act as an immunomodulatory cytokine that contributes to the regulatory process of CD^{+}_{4} cell recruitment and activation at sites of inflammation in association with several autoimmune diseases.

The aim of this study is to investigate the role of IL-16 in the pathogenesis of SLE and its relation to different clinical manifestations and disease activity. The results showed a significant increase in IL-16 level in patients group compared with control group. It was also found that its level increases with the disease activity measured by SLEDAI.

From this study it is concluded that IL-16 a proinflammatory cytokine that plays an important role in the pathogenesis of SLE, and can be taken as a useful indicator for disease activity together with the previous known measures for assessment of disease activity.

Keywords:-

SLE: Systemic Lupus Erythematosus.

SLEDAI: SLE Disease activity Index.