

To ASLO or not to ASLO – The utility of ASLO test in dermatology

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BACKGROUND

Group A streptococcus (GAS) causes a wide spectrum of acute infections and immune-related diseases, most of which include a dermatological presentation.

Even though, dermatological findings have a wide range of other possible etiologies. The diagnosis of GAS-related disease requires an indication of preceding GAS infection by direct culture or measuring antistreptolysin O (ASLO) titer.

AIM

we aimed to explore the correlation between ASLO titer levels and the dermatological condition that has been diagnosed by the physicians.

METHODS

All patients consecutively tested for ASLO in the Dermatology Department at Rambam Health Care Campus were included in the study. Files of all patients were reviewed for the diagnosis and the relevance of ASLO test.

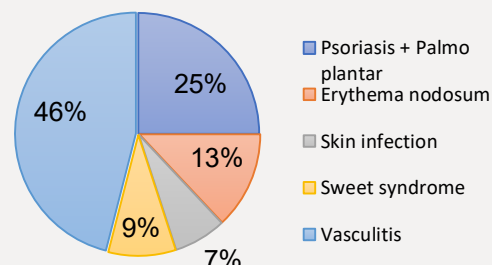
The laboratory lower limit of ASLO titer is 1:200. negative ASLO was considered when the titer was lower than 1:200, and positive if ASLO \geq 1:200.

CONCLUSIONS

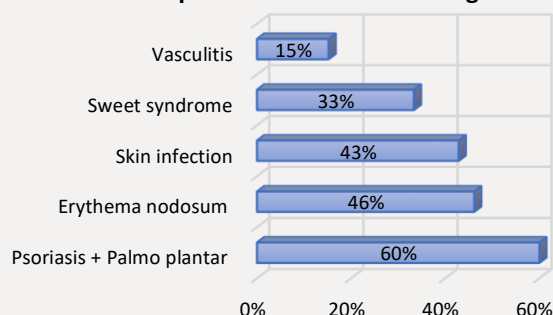
Compared to previous reports our cohort showed a **higher ratio of positive ASLO in psoriasis patients** (60% versus 33%, respectively). Notably, ASLO was positive in **all psoriasis subtypes**. Additionally, lower rates of positive ASLO were recorded in vasculitis cases (15% versus 52.1%, respectively).

RESULTS

ASLO patients divided according to their diagnosis

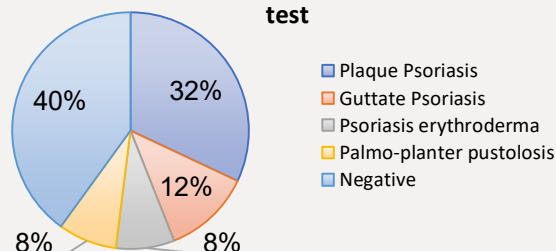


The rate of positive ASLO for each diagnosis



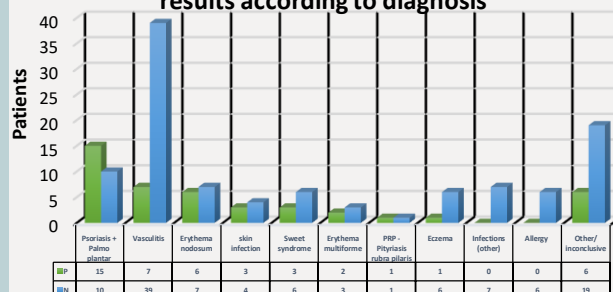
Psoriasis was the diagnosis most commonly associated with positive ASLO. Only 15% of vasculitis patients had a positive ASLO test.

Types of psoriasis and relative rates of positive ASLO test



Distribution of ASLO results among psoriasis patients. Plaque psoriasis was the most common positive result. Notably, ASLO was positive in all psoriasis subtypes.

The distribution of total positive and negative ASLO results according to diagnosis



Out of 152 adult patients, 100 had a diagnosis with a possible relation to streptococcal infection. positive and negative results are presented for each diagnosis