CHARACTERIZATION OF THE PATIENT PROFILE OF A VASCULITIS CLINIC IN A RHEUMATOLOGY SERVICE IN BOTUCATU, BRAZIL

Ana Débora Souza Aguiar^{1,*}, Matheus Zanata Brufatto¹, Sean Hideo Shirata Lanças¹, Sula Glaucia Lage Drumond Pacheco¹, Andrea de Almeida Peduti Batista¹, Laura Maria Silva de Siqueira¹, Douglas Squizzato Leite¹, Henrique Pereira Sampaio¹, Luiz Eduardo Valente¹, Daniela Esteves Temporim¹, João Flávio Gomes Faria¹

1.Universidade Estadual Paulista "Júlio de Mesquita Filho", Botucatu (SP), Brazil.

*Corresponding author: anadebora@outlook.com

BACKGROUND

Vasculitis are a large spectrum of illnesses characterized by inflammation of blood vessels' walls in different patterns. They are comprised of an array of rare diseases that possess marked clinical heterogeneity and a wide variety of possible differential diagnosis. As an entity, it can present itself differently according to ethnical and racial contexts that are directly related to its management and prognostics. We present the profile of patients under follow-up on the vasculitis clinics of a tertiary referral university hospital in the countryside of Brazil's São Paulo state.

METHODS

This study reviewed medical records of patients that attended the vasculitis clinic between 2017 and 2021. Data was collected regarding sociodemographic, clinical-phenotype and follow-up progression. The results are described as mean and standard deviation for normally distributed variables, and as median and percentiles for the non-normal. The cases with a nonvasculitis final diagnosis were excluded from analysis.

RESULTS

The vasculitis clinic was created in 2005 and follows cases from all over the Cuesta and Vale do Jurumirim regions of São Paulo. During the studied period there were 134 patients under follow-up; 39 of which were excluded from the analysis due to a final diagnosis not compatible with vasculitis. The sociodemographic characteristics are described in Table 1, the distribution according to vessel size and etiological diagnoses are described in Figures 1 and 2.

Table 1. Descriptive sociodemographic data of the patients under follow-up at the vasculitis clinics of a university tertiary referral hospital in Botucatu.

Parameters		N
Age (years)		49 (30–60.5)
Sex	Male	28 (29%)
	Female	67 (71%)
Skin color	White	94 (98.95%)
	Mixed	1 (1.05%)
Location	Botucatu	23 (24.2%)
	Polo Cuesta	24 (25.3%)
	Vale do Jurumirim	25 (26.3%)
	Jaú	7 (7.4%)
	Bauru	4 (4.2%)
	Other	12 (12.6%)
Cardiovascular comorbidities		31 (32.6%)
Follow-up time (years)		4 (2–8)

LVV: Large vessel vasculitis; MVV: Medium vessel vasculitis; SVV: Small vessel vasculitis; VVV: Variable vessel vasculitis.

Figure 1. Distribution of patients according to affected vessels' caliber size

Figure 2. Distribution of patients according to etiological diagnoses.

CONCLUSION

We presented the initial description of the population under follow-up at the Vasculitis clinics at a reference university hospital in the countryside of São Paulo state, emphasizing the local reality, its sociodemographic and phenotype profile. Such data will serve as a basis for future analysis and studies.

KEYWORDS

Vasculitis, Demographic profile, Systemic vasculitis.