

Media release

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Basic information

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Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Knud Kragballe

Title of dissertation: Evaluation of coronary artery disease, arterial inflammation and the effect of biologic agents on coronary artery disease progression in patients with psoriasis

Date for defence: 23.01.2017 at (time of day): 14.00 Place: Auditorium I, Hud- og kønssygdomme, Aarhus Universitetshospital, P.P. Ørumsgade 11, bygning 12A, 8000 Aarhus

Media release (Danish)

Ny viden: Effektiv behandling med biologiske lægemidler bremser fremskyndet hjertekarsygdom hos psoriasispatienter

Nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health viser, at der er en øget grad af åreforkalkningssygdom hos psoriasispatienter, og at den accelererede åreforkalkningsproces hos disse patienter kan bremses ved effektiv behandling af psoriasis med biologiske lægemidler. Projektet er gennemført af Læge Kasper Fjellhaugen Hjuler, der forsvare det d. 23 januar 2017.

I de kliniske studier har Læge Kasper Hjuler og resten af forskergruppen undersøgt patienter med moderat til svær psoriasis med hjerte-CT og PET scanninger. Resultaterne af undersøgelserne viser, at der er en øget forekomst af åreforkalkningssygdom i hjertet hos psoriasispatienter, hvilket bekræfter tidligere observationer fra registerstudier. Sammenhængen mellem psoriasis og hjertekarsygdom skyldes højst sandsynligt den vedvarende betændelsestilstand, der hersker i kroppen hos personer med den kroniske hudsygdom. Resultaterne af ph.d.-projektet bekræfter denne hypotese, idet der er påvist en målbar forøget betændelsesaktivitet i både fedtvæv og hovedpulsåren hos patienter med psoriasis. Som noget nyt påviser studiet, at patienter med svær psoriasis, der påbegynder biologisk behandling af deres sygdom, efter et års behandling udviser en opbremsning af åreforkalkningssygdommen i hjertet, hvorimod åreforkalkningen skrider målbart frem hos samme type ubehandlede psoriasis-patienter.

Resultaterne af studiet tyder på, at biologiske lægemidler udover at være effektive i behandlingen af bl.a. hud- og gigtsygdomme, også har en gavnlig effekt på risikoen for udvikling af hjertekarsygdomme hos patienter med inflammatoriske sygdomme.

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 23 januar kl. 14.00 i auditorium I, Hudklinikken, Aarhus Universitetshospital, P.P. Ørumsgade 11, bygning 12A, 8000 Aarhus C. Titlen på projektet er "Evaluation of coronary artery disease, arterial inflammation and the effect of biologic agents on coronary artery disease progression in patients with psoriasis". Yderligere oplysninger: Læge Kasper Hjuler, e-mail: kasped@rm.dk, tlf. 5137 7401.

Media release (English)

New knowledge: Reduced progression of premature coronary artery disease in psoriasis patients treated with biologic agents

A new PhD project from Health, Aarhus University, shows an increased prevalence of coronary artery disease and increased levels of vascular inflammation in patients with moderate-to-severe psoriasis. Furthermore, treatment with biologic agents was associated with reduced coronary artery disease progression in patients with psoriasis. The project was carried out by M.D. Kasper Hjuler, who is defending his dissertation on January 23, 2017.

Dr. Hjuler and colleagues conducted a series of clinical studies investigating coronary artery disease, vascular and adipose tissue inflammation, and the effect of biologic agents on coronary artery disease progression in patients with moderate-to-severe psoriasis. The results of the PhD project shows that the prevalence of coronary artery disease was increased despite the absence of symptoms or a history of cardiovascular disease in patients with psoriasis. The data provide pathophysiological evidence that anti-inflammatory biologic treatment may prevent coronary atherosclerosis progression in patients with moderate-to-severe psoriasis. The finding of subcutaneous adipose tissue inflammation supports a potential link between skin inflammation, obesity, vascular inflammation, systemic inflammation and cardiovascular comorbidities.

The defence is public and takes place on January 23, 2017 at Auditorium I, Department of Dermatology, Aarhus University Hospital, P.P. Orums Gade 11 building 12A, Aarhus, Denmark. The title of the project is "Evaluation of coronary artery disease, arterial inflammation and the effect of biologic agents on coronary artery disease progression in patients with psoriasis". For more information, please contact M.D. Kasper Hjuler, email: kasped@rm.dk, telephone +45 5137 7401.

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