

INTRODUCTION

- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus affects females at far greater rates than males, in a proportion of 6:1 to 14:1
- Gender disparities include clinical, immunological, and prognostic features
- Males → **lupus nephritis (LN) is more frequent and severe** → independent risk factor for chronic kidney disease

AIMS

Describe and compare clinical, immunological, and therapeutic features between male and female patients with LN.

METHODS

- Retrospective, cross-sectional study. Follow-up Dec 2015: 111±55 months
- All patients with biopsy proven LN followed in a specialized LN program
- Demographic, clinical and histological data at diagnosis and follow-up

COMPLETE REMISSION

- 24 hour proteinuria <0.5g
- Normalization of renal function
- Inactive urinary sediment

PARTIAL REMISSION

- 24 hour proteinuria = 0.5 – 1.5g
- Improved renal function

FLARE

- *De novo* active urinary sediment
- 24 hour proteinuria >1.5g
- 25% increase in creatinine

RESULTS

133 patients including 18 males: 115 females (1:6)

	MALES	FEMALES	p
Clinical features			
Age at diagnosis (years)	36.8 ± 16	27.9 ± 11.9	0.02
Months to NL diagnosis	9.8 ± 17	33.4 ± 58	<0.01
Number of SLE criteria (ACR)	5	7	NS
Most frequent clinical feature	Acute Kidney Injury (39%)	Sub nephrotic proteinuria (41%)	-
Blood and urine analysis at presentation			
Low C3/C4	11%/44%	60%/57%	0.03
dsDNA (IU/mL)	91.7 ± 21	157.1 ± 14.6	NS
Mean serum creatinine (mg/dL)	1.43 ± 0.5	1.04 ± 0.78	0.03
24 hour proteinuria (g)	3.5 ± 3.0	3.7 ± 4.1	NS
Histological features at presentation			
LN class	IV (61%)	IV (54%)	NS
Crescents	44%	17%	0.01
Sclerosis	50%	21%	<0.01
CKD progression			
	33%	21%	0.24

INDUCTION THERAPY ♂

Class II	1	Prednisone
Class III	2	Cyclophosphamide
	1	Prednisone
Class IV	11	Cyclophosphamide
Class V	2	Prednisone

TERAPÊUTICA MANUTENÇÃO ♂

Classe III	2	MMF
	1	Azathioprine
Classe IV	6	Azathioprine
	5	MMF
Classe V	2	Prednisone

MMF – mycophenolate mofetil

THERAPEUTIC RESPONSE ♂

- ▶ **COMPLETE**
 - N=14, 78%
- ▶ **FLARE**
 - N=6, 33%
- ▶ **CKD PROGRESSION**
 - N=6, 33%
 - 2 patients on dialysis

CONCLUSION

- Our study suggests that there are clinical, immunological and histological differences between gender in NL
- CKD progression seems to be more aggressive in males
- Different approach?