中文題目: 類風濕性關節炎病人使用疾病修飾抗風濕藥物與失智症的關係

英文題目: The relationship of DMARD use and risk of dementia in patients with Rheumatoid arthritis

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Background: Patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) exhibit an increased risk of dementia.

Disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) are commonly used to slow RA progression, but studies investigating the effect of DMARDs on dementia in patients with RA are lacking. We investigated the relationship between DMARDs and dementia in patients with RA.

Methods: We identified the patients aged ≥20 years newly diagnosed with RA between 2000 and 2011. Patients with RA who had dementia comprised the dementia group, and patients with RA who did not have dementia comprised the control group. The groups were matched at a 1:1 ratio by the propensity score. DMARDs were categorized into conventional synthetic DMARDs (csDMARDs) and biological DMARDs (bDMARDs). Logistic regression models were used to calculate the odds ratio and 95% confidence interval (CI) to evaluate the effect of DMARD use on the risk of dementia in patients with RA.

**Results**: A total of 957 patients with RA and dementia, and 957 patients with RA but not dementia, were enrolled. The risk of dementia was determined to be 1.63-fold higher in patients with RA with csDMARD use than in those without csDMARD use (95% CI = 1.33–2.00). No significant risk of dementia was observed in patients with RA who used bDMARDs compared with their counterparts. However, patients with RA who used hydroxychloroquine, methotrexate, and sulfasalazine exhibited significant risks of dementia, irrespective of cumulative exposure days.

**Conclusions**: Patients with RA who used csDMARDs exhibit significantly increased risks of dementia.

**Keywords**: Rheumatoid arthritis; dementia; conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs; biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs