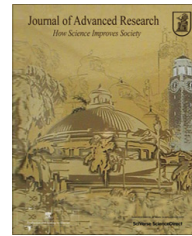




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REVIEW

Aromatase inhibitors induced autoimmune disorders in patients with breast cancer: A review

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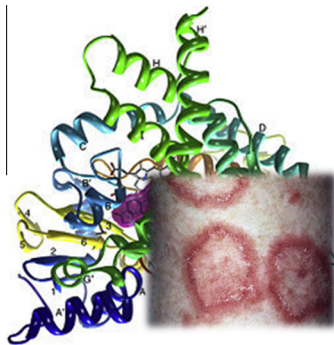
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GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



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ABSTRACT

Subacute cutaneous lupus erythematosus (SCLE) is characterized by particular cutaneous manifestations such as non-scarring plaques mainly in sunlight exposed parts of the body along with specific serum autoantibodies (i.e. antinuclear antibodies (ANA), Ro/SSa, La/SSb). It is consid-

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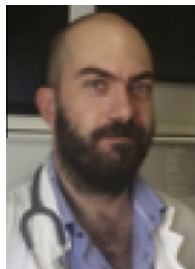
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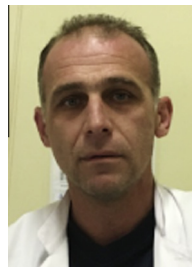
Subacute cutaneous lupus erythematosus
Systemic lupus erythematosus
Rheumatoid arthritis
Arthralgias
Breast cancer
Aromatase inhibitors

ered either idiopathic or drug induced. The role of chemotherapeutic agents in causing SCLE has been investigated with the taxanes being the most common anticancer agents. However, recent data emerging point toward antiestrogen therapies as a causative factor not only for SCLE but also for a variety of autoimmune disorders. This is a report of a case of a 42 year old woman who developed clinical manifestations of SCLE after letrozole treatment in whom remission of the cutaneous manifestations was noticed upon discontinuation of the drug. In addition, an extensive review of the English literature has been performed regarding the association of antiestrogen therapy with autoimmune disorders. In conclusion, Oncologists should be aware of the potential development of autoimmune reactions in breast cancer patients treated with aromatase inhibitors.

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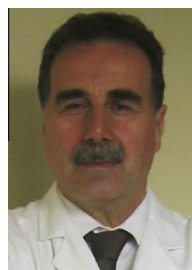
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