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ABSTRACT

Juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) has three major onset types with widely varying clinical features. We assessed the natural killer T (NKT) cell function in patients with different JIA subtypes, and found systemic patients exhibited lower NKT cell counts, perforin and granzyme B expression, while the pauciarticular and polyarticular patients displayed higher perforin and granzyme B expression as compared with the controls. The synovial fluid had more NKT cells with higher levels of perforin, granzyme B, and tumour necrosis factor (TNF)- α than peripheral cells. The

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