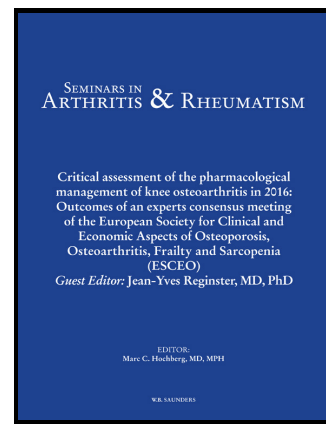


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Concordance of autoimmune disease in a nationwide Danish systemic lupus erythematosus twin cohort

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Abstract

Objective: To determine the concordance of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and co-aggregating autoimmune diseases among Danish twins.

Methods: SLE-affected twins were ascertained by record linkage between the National Patient Register (NPR) and the Danish Twin Registry (DTR). Registered SLE codes were validated through medical chart review and information from the treating physicians. Twin pairs with at least one chart-validated SLE proband were invited to participate in a personal interview and clinical validation of the SLE diagnoses.

Results: Twenty-two twins fulfilled the ACR criteria for SLE. The age- and sex-adjusted point SLE prevalence in the Danish twin cohort was 30.3 per 100,000 persons (95% confidence interval (CI) 19.2-46.5). Among seven monozygotic (MZ), eight same-sex dizygotic (DZss) and five opposite-sex dizygotic (DZos) twin pairs, one MZ and one DZss were concordant for SLE. This corresponded to probandwise concordance rates of 25.0% (95% CI 7.15-59.1) and 7.7% (95% CI 1.37-33.3), and pairwise concordance rates of 14.3% (95% CI 2.57-51.3) and 7.7% (95% CI 1.37-

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