

Authors: Schwartz T, Langevitz P, Zemer D, Gazit E, Pras M, Livneh A.

Title: Behçet's disease in Familial Mediterranean fever. Characterization of the association between the two diseases.

Semin Arthritis Rheum 2000; 29: 286-95.

In this study the researchers found that the prevalence of Behçet's disease was higher in FMF than in population known to be rich in BD. Patients with both diseases concomitantly do not differ clinically from those suffering from each of these diseases.

FMF amyloidosis

Authors: Ben-Chetrit E, Backenroth R.

Title: Amyloidosis induced, end-stage renal disease in patients with familial Mediterranean fever is highly associated with point mutations in the MEFV gene.

Ann Rheum Dis 2001; 60: 146-9.

Summary: Another study showing the association between the 694 alteration and amyloidosis in FMF patients in Israel.

Authors: Yalcinkaya F, Tekin M, Cakar N, Akar E, Akar N, Tumer N.

Title: Familial Mediterranean fever and systemic amyloidosis in untreated Turkish patients.

QJM 2000; 93: 68-4.

Summary: In this study a group of untreated Turkish FMF patients who did not develop amyloidosis was compared with a group of FMF Turkish patients with amyloidosis. The authors did not find any difference regarding their mutations frequencies including the M694V mutation.

Behçet's Disease - A Bird's Eye Review of the Recent Literature

edited by H. Yazici

Authors: Schirmer M, Calamia KT, Direskeneli H

Title: Ninth International Conference on Behçet's Disease, Seoul, Korea, May 27-29, 2000.

J Rheumatol 2001; 28: 636-9.

Summary: A comprehensive report on the latest get together of most of the current experts on BD.

Authors: Yazici H, Yurdakul S, Hamuryudan V

Title: Behçet's disease. (review)

Curr Opin Rheumatol 2001; 13: 18-22.

Summary: A commentary on the recent literature on BD

Clin Exp Rheumatol 2000; 18: 495-8.

Summary: Myeloperoxidase levels are increased in the sera and PMN leukocyte cultures of patients with BD, especially during active disease.

Authors: Dinc A, Karaayvaz M, Caliskaner AZ, Pay S, Erdem H, Turan M

Title: Dermographism and atopy in patients with Behçet's disease.

J Invest Allergol Clin Immunol 2000; 36: 8-71.

Summary: The authors report that dermographism is significantly increased among patients with BD while, despite the pathergy phenomenon, the results of skin testing for atopy are not different in patients with BD compared to healthy controls.

Authors: Soy M, Erken E, Konca K, Ozbek S

Title: Smoking and Behçet's disease.

Clin Rheumatol 2000; 19: 508-9.

Summary: In a prospective study among a sizeable group of BD patients, the authors report that cessation of smoking exacerbates mucocutaneous lesions.

Authors: Kawai M, Hirohata S

Title: Cerebrospinal fluid beta(2)-microglobulin in neuro-Behçet's syndrome.

J Neurol Sci 2000; 179 (Issues 1-2): 132-9.

Summary: Authors suggest that cerebrospinal fluid beta(2)-microglobulin levels are good indicators of disease activity in patients with Behçet's disease who have neurological disease.

Authors: Siva A, Kantarci OH, Saip S, Altintas A, Hamuryudan V, Islak C, Kocer N, Yazici H

Title: Behçet's disease: Diagnostic and prognostic aspects of neurological involvement.

J Neurol 2001; 248: 95-103.

Summary: A report on the clinical findings and the long-term prognosis of 164 patients with BD and CNS disease all followed at one center.

Behçet's Disease - Clinical

Authors: Zouboulis CC, Katsantonis J, Ketteler R, Treudler R, Kaklamani E S, Kaklamani P, Orfanos CE.

Title: Adamantiades-Behçet's disease: Interleukin-8 is increased in serum of patients with active oral and neurological manifestations, and is secreted by small vessel endothelial cells.

Arch Dermatol Res 2000; 292: 279-84.

Summary: In a large group of patients with BD the pro-inflammatory lymphokine IL-8 was found to be increased in BD. Microvascular endothelial cells might be the source of this increased IL-8.

Authors: Gul A, Inanc M, Ocal L, Aral O, Konice M

Title: Familial aggregation of Behçet's disease in Turkey.

Ann Rheum Dis 2000; 59: 622-5.

Summary: For the first time, a sibling recurrence rate (4.2%) and a lambda-s value (11.2 - 52.5%) have been described in a study of 170 patients with BD and their relatives in Turkey.

Authors: Accardo-Palumbo A, Triolo G, Carbone MC, Ferrante A, Ciccio F, Giardina E, Triolo G.

Title: Polymorphonuclear leukocyte myeloperoxidase levels in patients with Behçet's disease.

Authors: Melikoglu M, Altiparmak MR, Fresko I, Tunc R, Yurdakul S, Hamuryudan V, Yazici H

Title: A reappraisal of amyloidosis in Behçet's syndrome. *Rheumatology (Oxford)* 2001; 40: 212-5.

Summary: This is a retrospective survey of amyloidosis among 4000 patients with BD followed at one center. Amyloidosis in BD has a 50% mortality rate an average of 3.5 years after its diagnosis.

Authors: Tokay S, Direskeneli H, Yurdakul S, Akoglu T

Title: Anticardiolipin antibodies in Behçet's disease: A reassessment. *Rheumatology (Oxford)* 2001; 40: 192-5.

Summary: This study confirms that anticardiolipin antibodies are not common among patients with BD. They may have an even lower frequency among Turkish patients with BD.

Behçet's Disease - Pathology

Authors: Kim B, LeBoit PE

Title: Histopathologic features of erythema nodosum-like lesions in Behçet's disease: A comparison with erythema nodosum focusing on the role of vasculitis. *Am J Dermatopathol* 2000; 22: 379-90.

Summary: Among a small number of specimens the authors describe the more prevalent features of vasculitis in the erythema nodosum-like lesions in patients with BD compared to the findings in classical erythema nodosum.

Behçet's Disease - Basic Science

Authors: Touitou I, Magne X, Molinari N, Navarro A, Quéllec AL, Picco P, Seri M, Ozen S, Bakkaloglu A, Karaduman A, Garnier JM, Demaille J, Kone-Paut I

Title: MEFV mutations in Behçet's disease. *Hum Mutat* 2000; 16: 271-2.

Summary: Some of the FMF-associated mutations of MEFV are found in patients with BD, albeit with a low prevalence. The authors suggest that the mutations might confer additional disease susceptibility in BD.

Authors: Gul A, Hajeer AH, Worthington J, Barrett JH, Ollier WE, Silman AJ

Title: Evidence for linkage of the HLA-B locus in Behçet's disease, obtained using the transmission disequilibrium test. *Arthritis Rheum* 2001; 44: 239-40.

Summary: The authors apply a powerful genetic tool, the transmission disequilibrium test, to BD for the first time. The only linkage that was found was with the HLA-B locus.

Authors: Matsui T, Otsuka M, Maenaka K, Furukawa H, Yabe T, Yamamoto K, Nishioka K, Kato T

Title: Detection of autoantibodies to killer immunoglobulin-like receptors using recombinant fusion proteins for two killer immunoglobulin-like receptors in patients with systemic autoimmune diseases. *Arthritis Rheum* 2001; 44: 384-8.

Summary: The authors report for the first time autoantibodies to killer immunoglobulin-like receptors in patients with SLE, RA and BD, suggesting the presence of similar pathogenetic mechanisms.

Authors: Sohn S, Lee ES, Kwon HJ, Lee SI, Bang D, Lee S

Title: Expression of Th2 cytokines decreases the development of and improves Behçet's disease-like symptoms induced by herpes simplex virus in mice. *J Infect Dis* 2001; 183: 1180-6.

Summary: The authors first cause a BD-like condition by injecting herpes simplex virus into ICR mice, saying that this is associated with Th2 cytokine downregulation. They then show that these mice do clinically better when the Th2 system is stimulated.

Behçet's Disease - Treatment

Authors: Hensel M, Breitbart A, Ho AD

Title: Autologous hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation for Behçet's disease with pulmonary involvement. *N Engl J Med.* 2001; 344: 69.

Summary: The authors describe two severe cases of BD with hemeoptysis, resistant to conventional therapy. Both patients responded well to immunoablation with high dose cyclophosphamide followed by stem cell transplantation.

Authors: Hassard PV, Binder SW, Nelson V, Vasiliauskas EA

Title: Anti-tumor necrosis factor monoclonal antibody therapy for gastrointestinal Behçet's disease: a case report. *Gastroenterology* 2001; 120: 995-9.

Summary: A case report describing the successful treatment of a patient with BD and GI disease with infliximab.