Fibromyalgia and Rheumatic Diseases

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rheumatologic diseases, with the exception of SLE and FMF, disease activity scores were significantly higher in patients with FMS than in those without [8].

Fibromyalgia syndrome and Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)

Little is known about the course of FMS and the effects of pain and inflammation on FMS risk among inflammatory arthritis patients. In other states of pain a 'window of opportunity' is suggested, during which aggressive pain management may prevent the development of chronic pain [10]. It is not clear whether this concept may apply to secondary FMS among inflammatory arthritis patients. It has been hypothesized that the transition between acute peripheral pain and chronic central pain may be mediated by prolonged exposure to inflammation and pain [11].

The link between inflammation and alterations in central pain

be taken into consideration in the treatment algorithm to avoid unnecessary upgrading of treatment [44]. Coexistent FMS in SpA might impact the patient reported outcome indices for disease activity and function, and the retention rate of anti-tumor necrosis factor (anti-TNF) treatment [45].

Fibromyalgia syndrome and Sjogren's syndrome (SS)

Fibromyalgia was present in 14.6% of patients with primary Sjögren's syndrome (pSS). FMS-pSS patients signi f cantly showed more constitutional, fatigue and arthralgia symptoms, splenomegaly, genital, skin and ear involvement and dyslipidaemia, as well as higher SS activity. Several symptomatic treatments were more frequently used in FMS-pSS patients [46].

Fibromyalgia syndrome and Osteoporosis

Fibromyalgia syndrome is associated with low level of physical activity and exercise, which may lead to an increased risk of osteoporosis [47]. In clinical practice, the co-expression of FMS and a rheumatologic disease deserves special attention. First, the development of FMS may go unrecognized, especially when it develops a f er a rheumatologic disease. More commonly, FMS is misdiagnosed as an autoimmune disorder. In the clinical setting, it is important to di f erentiate

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