

## INTRODUCTION

- SLE is a multisystemic autoimmune inflammatory disease which primarily affect women in their reproductive age group. Out of all SLE patients 90% are women. 90% of them are within 20-40 years of age.
- Pathogenesis of SLE involves auto antibody production due to overactive B lymphocytes, impaired T cell regulation & subsequent deposition of immune complexes which result in tissue & cellular damage.
- May affect any organ system, joints > skin > lungs > nervous system > kidneys > heart are mostly affected.
- Fertility is generally unaffected in SLE, except in women with active disease, significant impairment of renal function or high dose corticosteroid or cyclophosphamide therapy which can result in ovarian dysfunction.
- Steroids are usually safe & 1<sup>st</sup> line drugs during exacerbation or Lupus flares.
- Continuing HCQ in pregnancy appears to reduce the risk of lupus flares during & after pregnancy.

## CASE REPORT

A 28 yrs, G3P1LOA1 at GA 32 wks 3days with SLE with 2° APS with nephritis, severe Preeclampsia, hypothyroidism was admitted to LR on 09/08/23 with c/o Pain & swelling of b/l legs & hands, palmoplantar rash & bodyache for 15 days. Patient had anti Ro/SS A(+), ANA Hep 2-3+ patient was on Tab. prednisolone, Tab. HCQ, Tab. Thyroxine since 1<sup>st</sup> TM. On Admission pt was conscious, oriented, afebrile, BP-160/90, P+I-E+++, urine alb-3+. Her P/A showed Ut. 28-30 wk size, Cx long, soft, os closed, FHR-132/min on doppler. Pt. was kept on Inj. f/b oral antihypertensives (labetalol, nifedipine), Inj. Dexona, Inj. MgSO4 neuroprotection dose started, Tab. HCQ, tab. thyroxine continued, Inj. LMWH put on hold. LSCS decision was taken in view of Severe Preeclampsia with uncontrolled htn with BOH. LSCS/male/2kg/11.55AM/Vx.

Postoperatively pt. had uncontrolled HTN+ Inj. labetalol Infusion given along with Inj. Lasix. Daily Rheumatology review done with advice to start Inj. LMWH (0.4cc S/C) from POD-3 & SLE medications (Tab. HCQ & Inj. Hydrocortisone) continued as before. pt transferred to HRW after BP control, rest postoperative period was uneventful. Pt. discharge on POD-8 with advice to attend Rheumatology OPD for further management of SLE.

## DISCUSSION

### Diagnosis

#### CLINICAL:

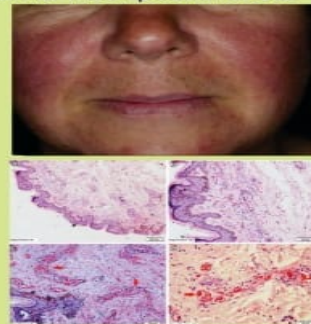
ACR (American College of rheumatology) diagnostic criteria for SLE-->

- D - Discoid Rash
- O - Oral ulcers
- P - Photosensitivity
- A - Arthritis (nonerosive)
- M - Malar Rash
- I - Immunological d/o
- N - Neurological-neuropathy, seizures, psychosis, myelitis
- E - elevated ESR
- R - Renal impairment-nephritis, proteinuria, casts
- A - ANA positive
- S - Serosal- pleural/pericardial effusion, Pericarditis
- H - Hematological - leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, autoimmune hemolysis

## SCREENING:

by detection of antibodies in SLE

- Antinuclear Ab.(ANA)-best screening test, found in almost all pts of SLE
- Anti DS DNA ab.-In a preg. SLE pt signifies increased chances of Nephritis, vasculitis
- Anti Smith Ab-most specific for SLE



## CONCLUSION

- No permanent cure of SLE.
- Only symptomatic t/t done
- Give low dose Aspirin throughout the pregnancy for preg with SLE & 2° APS with no BOH.
- If h/o RPL with APS Combination of Low dose Aspirin+ s/c UFH/LMWH in prophylactic doses
- MILD CASES If c/o arthralgia/serositis **DOC- NSAIDS** upto 32 wks (CAUTION- Don't use for prolonged period/large intermittent dose I/t Oligohydramnios/premature closure of Ductus arteriosclerosis in fetus)
- SEVERE CASES DOC-PREDNISOLONE** (dose-1-2mg/kg/day) S/E- may I/t **GESTATIONAL DIABETES**
- In pts resistant to steroids **Doc-AZATHIOPRINE**
- If pt was on antimalarial before preg. & her SLE was controlled with it continue antimalarial in pregnancy
- SLE can I/t Preterm Labor
- Timing of Delivery **Continue pregnancy till TERM unless PIH/IUGR/PTL**
- In certain cases of SLE which are resistant to Steroids & immunosuppressives Intravenous Immunoglobulins (IVIg) can be given

## REFERENCE

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- Yang H, Liu H, Xu D, et al. Pregnancy-related systemic lupus erythematosus: clinical features, outcome and risk factors of disease flares-a case control study. *PLoS One*. 2014;9(8):e104375. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0104375 [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]
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