

Abstract

An overlap syndrome represents a connective tissue disorder meeting the diagnostic criteria for at least two established autoimmune diseases.

Rhupus syndrome is an uncommon autoimmune condition that hasn't been fully characterized yet. In this condition a single patient experiences a succession of symptoms associated with both Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). Although these two diseases have distinct diagnostic criteria and laboratory tests, they share certain clinical features, making it challenging to correctly identify Rhupus syndrome. This phenomenon of overlapping symptoms is frequently observed in different autoimmune disorders, even when their initial presentations appear distinct.

We report an interesting case of middle-aged male patient who presented with Rhupus associated with secondary Sjogren syndrome as first presentation with psychotic symptoms which initially managed as somatoform disorder with brief dissociative episode. Following the diagnosis, we initiated treatment involving steroids and Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs (DMARDs), which led to a notable improvement in the patient's psychiatric symptoms as well as other associated symptoms.