Ausência de associação entre os polimorfismos do gene interleucina-18 e artrite reumatoide.

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Resumo

Objetivo
Analisar a associação dos polimorfismos do gene interleucina-18 (IL-18) com artrite reumatoide (AR) e com fatores de risco de doenças cardiovasculares (DCV).

Métodos
A amostra foi constituída por 97 pacientes com AR e 151 controles saudáveis. Nos primeiros, foram analisados fatores de risco de DCV, tais como níveis do colesterol, entre outros.
O DNA foi extraído e foram analisados os polimorfismos de nucleotídeo único (SNP) nas posições −607C/A e −137G/C do gene IL-18 em ambos os grupos. O equilíbrio de Hardy-Weinberg (EHW) e o odds ratio (OR) foram realizados, considerando IC 95% e P < 0,05.

Resultados
As frequências do alelo −607A nos pacientes com AR e nos controles foram de 0,443 e 0,424 e do alelo −137C foram de 0,304 e 0,291, respectivamente. As frequências do genótipo estavam em EHW, exceto em controles no locus −137 (P = 0,006). Não foi encontrada associação dos polimorfismos do gene IL-18 com AR, nem com fatores de risco de DCV, incluindo o nível do colesterol e de CRP (P > 0,05). Além disso, observaram-se mais indivíduos fumantes entre pacientes com AR em comparação aos controles (OR = 1,691; P = 0,088), e os níveis de CRP eram ligeiramente mais elevados em pacientes fumantes quando comparados aos de pacientes não fumantes (OR = 2,673; P = 0,061).

Conclusões
Ao analisar uma amostra de pacientes com AR no sul do Brasil, não foi encontrada associação dos polimorfismos do gene IL-18 com AR, nem com os fatores de risco de DCV.

Abstract
Objective
To assess the association of the polymorphisms of the interleukin-18 (IL-18) gene with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and with risk factors for cardiovascular diseases (CVD).

Methods
This sample comprised 97 patients with RA and 151 healthy controls. In the patients, risk factors for CVD were analyzed, such as cholesterol levels, arterial hypertension, smoking habit, C-reactive protein (CRP) level, and rheumatoid factor. DNA was extracted and the single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP) at the −607C/A and −137G/C positions of the IL-18 gene were assessed in both groups. The Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) was calculated and the odds ratio (OR) test performed, considering a 95% CI and P < 0,05.

Results
The frequencies of the −607A allele in patients with RA and in controls were 0,443 and 0,424, respectively. The frequencies of the genotype were in EHW, except in controls at locus −137 (P = 0,006). No association was found between the polymorphisms of the IL-18 gene and RA, nor with risk factors of DCV, including cholesterol and CRP levels (P > 0,05). In addition, more smokers were observed among patients with RA in comparison to controls (OR = 1,691; P = 0,088), and CRP levels were slightly higher in smokers compared to non-smokers (OR = 2,673; P = 0,061).

Conclusions
Analyzing a sample of patients with RA in southern Brazil, no association was found between the polymorphisms of the IL-18 gene with RA, nor with the risk factors of DCV.
The frequencies of the −607A allele in patients with RA and in controls were 0.443 and 0.424, respectively, and of the −137C allele, 0.304 and 0.291, respectively. The genotype frequencies were in HWE, except for controls in the −137 locus ($P = 0.006$). Association of the polymorphisms of the IL-18 gene was found with neither RA nor risk factors for CVD, including cholesterol level and CRP ($P > 0.05$). In addition, more smokers were found among patients with RA as compared with controls (OR $= 1.691$; $P = 0.088$), and the CRP levels were slightly higher in patients who smoked than in patients who did not (OR $= 2.673$; $P = 0.061$).

Conclusions

In this sample of patients with RA in the South of Brazil, association of the polymorphisms of the IL-18 gene was observed with neither RA nor risk factors for CVD.

Palavras-chave
Interleucina-18; Artrite reumatoide; Doenças cardiovasculares; Polimorfismo genético; Brasil

Keywords
Interleukin-18; Rheumatoid arthritis; Cardiovascular diseases; Gene polymorphism; Brazil
Os autores contribuíram igualmente neste manuscrito.

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