DIAGNOSTIC PRINCIPLES OF IDIOPATHIC PULMONARY FIBROSIS

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Abstract

Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) doesn't belong to a category of rare lung diseases. The incidence of IPF is comparable to the incidence of tuberculosis in Western Europe. At the same time the practicing physicians and radiologists do not have sufficient knowledge about clinical and radiological signs of this disease.

Main diagnostic criterion for IPS is the presence of morphological pattern of usual interstitial pneumonia (UIP). UIP pattern is not specific for IPF, it may be found in other conditions, for instance in diffuse connective tissue diseases with lung involvement. Thus, UIP pattern is not necessarily indicates IPF, but its presence in all IPF cases is obligatory.

The article presents a detailed characteristics of histopathological and radiological UIP patterns according to the guidelines for diagnosis and management of IPF, approved by American Thoracic Society, European Respiratory Society, Japan Respiratory Society and Latin American Thoracic Society — An Official ATS/ERS/JRS/ALAT Statement: Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis: Evidence-based Guidelines for Diagnosis and Management (2011).

Key words: idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, diagnosis, usual interstitial pneumonia, histopathological and radiological patterns.

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