PECULIARITIES OF DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PATIENTS WITH POST-COVID-19 INTERSTITIAL LUNG ANOMALY ON AN EXAMPLE OF CLINICAL CASES

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Abstract

According to scientific sources, in 30 % of patients with post-COVID-19 syndrome, additional examination reveals respiratory symptoms, namely a significant decrease in the diffusion capacity of the lungs (DLCO) and associated damage to the pulmonary interstitium. A comparison of interstital lung disease caused by SARS-CoV-2 virus and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis pathogenesis revealed several common mechanisms: excessive activation of the immune system, secretion of proinflammatory and profibrotic cytokines, damage to the epithelium and endothelium, excessive production of extracellular matrix components, and a decrease in the functional properties of the lungs.

Interstitial lung diseases (ILD) is a heterogeneous group characterized by various clinical, radiological, and pathological features that largely affect the lung parenchyma. Pulmonary fibrosis is a characteristic feature of various types of ILD, which are characterized by the presence of chronic inflammation and/or collagen deposition in the interalveolar space, which leads to insufficient passage of oxygen and carbon dioxide molecules through the alveolar epithelium.

The presented clinical cases demonstrate the diversity of the pulmonary interstitium lesions in long-COVID, which can be systematized by the correspondingly classified interstitial lung disease. Treatment of these diseases according to the accepted recommendations had a positive effect.

Key words: post-COVID-19 syndrome, long-COVID-19, pulmonary fibrosis, interstitial lung diseases, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, hypersensitivity pneumonitis.

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