

# VERTEBRAL DEFORMITIES IN PATIENTS WITH PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS

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## VERTEBRAL DEFORMITIES IN PATIENTS WITH PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS

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**Keywords:** *osteoporosis, psoriasis, vertebra*

**Objectives.** Information about the prevalence of osteoporosis among patients with psoriasis is controversial.

**Aim.** The aim of the study was to assess BMD, bone quality and the prevalence of vertebral deformities in patients with psoriatic arthritis.

**Materials and methods.** We examined 37 patients with psoriatic arthritis (21 males, 16 females, mean age  $47,8 \pm 2,4$  years). The control group consisted of 20 health age- and BMD-matched persons (12 males, 8 females). BMD was measured with DXA at spine (L1-L4) and at femoral neck. Vertebrae were assessed with lateral vertebral assessment (LVA) at the thoracic and lumbar spine. We used the Genant's classification

to evaluate a grade of vertebral deformity. Spiral deformity index (SDI) proposed as surrogate marker of bone quality, was calculated by summing the severity and the number of the vertebral fractures.

**Results.** BMD was lower in patients with psoriatic arthritis either at spine (BMD  $0,987 \pm 0,17$  g/cm<sup>2</sup>  $p=0,041$  and at femoral neck (BMD  $0,892 \pm 0,21$  g/cm<sup>2</sup>  $p=0,035$ ) in comparison with controls.

24 % of patients with psoriatic arthritis had vertebral deformities (n=13), that was statistically higher than in control group (5, 0% n=1  $p=0,04$ ).

**Conclusions.** Psoriatic arthritis showed an increased prevalence of vertebral deformities, regardless of BMD. A subsequent study has to be performed to confirm