

## **A multicentric descriptive study of 360 cases of Sarcoidosis in Karnataka, South India: A Rheumatologists' perspective**

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I thank Dr Dhruv Chowdhary (Prof and HOD, Dept. Of Pulmonary and critical care Medicine, Rohtak) and Dr Vikas Agarwal (Prof Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology, SGPGIMS, Lucknow) who introduced and promoted me to work in the field of research. It was sowed in my mind by them that we have enough data but the only caveat was its not published. If there is no publication, then it infers as no data. Some Rheumatological conditions are unique to India and needs to be recognised. I had worked on rare disease like Infectious diseases presenting to Rheumatology mimicking arthritis/ Autoimmune diseases (Leprosy and Tuberculosis). As I started my practice I got interested in Sarcoidosis and started collecting data. The initial experience of the cases was very different from the Institutional cases and that made me more interested and started publishing the same. I had collected good numbers as a single centre. But at around 2017-18 where collaboration work from Karnataka Rheumatology Association (KRA) on RA was started and I was a part of it. I was very much impressed by the interest shown by all my seniors and colleagues. I had presented my single centre data in Lucknow IRACON 2017 and at the same time I proposed to carry on Multicentric collaboration on sarcoidosis involving all the Rheumatologists from Karnataka.

Difficulties I faced

1. Data from all the centres were not sent at timelines specified
2. Needs repeated communication to get data.
3. Data entry will not be complete in retrospective data and there will be lack of data
4. Data entry will not be uniform. Although glossary and personal communication was done, there was no uniformity in entry. We had to correct it again
- 5.

With all the difficulties and differences of entry, I had a very good response from all my colleagues. I thank all the KRA members who supported me for the study. Although we were late for our own set timelines, but still we had good numbers and different kind of cases.

Personally, I had a good experience and rapport being developed with my colleagues. I would like to continue my work in collaboration with all my colleagues and I think it's going to give us as IRA family huge boost in having our own data.

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