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Introduction:

Development of new microbial load biomarkers proceeds, but still - there is no perfect one. Procalcitonin (PCT) is commonly used and its level correlates with the extent of microbial invasion. Earlier it was found that aromatic microbial metabolites (AMM) - are associated with the severity and mortality of ICU patients [1, 2]. Also the effectiveness of the treatment can be evaluated by the AMM level [1]. Experimental studies have shown their biological activity [3,4]. The aim of this work is to analyze different criteria of bacterial load in ICU patients with nosocomial pneumonia.

Methods:

In prospective study 46 patients with nosocomial pneumonia admitted to ICUs were observed in the first day. After liquid-liquid extraction from serum samples 9 phenylcarboxylic acids (benzoic (BA), phenylpropionic, cinnamic, phenyllactic (PhLA), p-hydroxybenzoic, p-hydroxyphenyllactic, p-hydroxyphenylacetic (HPhAA), p-hydroxyphenylpropionic and homovanillic (HVA)) were measured using GC-MS (Trace1310-ISQ, Thermo). DNA was extracted from bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) samples from 5 of 46 patients for the quantitative detection of nosocomial bacteria by the PCR-real time (IQ5, BIORAD), PCT and presepsin were measured on the 1, 3, 7-9 days after the diagnosis of pneumonia. Spearman's correlation coefficient was found, data presented as medians with interquartile range (IR, 25-75%) using STATISTICA 10.

Results:

In serum samples of 46 patients the total concentration of 9 AMM was 3.4 (2.2-17.4) μ M that was higher ($p < 0.05$) than in healthy donors - 1.59 (1.46-1.85) μ M ($n=20$). It correlated with APACHE II - 10 (6-18), SOFA - 3 (1-8) scores and mortality (41%): $r_s = 0.645, 0.666$ and 0.717 respectively, $p < 0.01$. A closer analysis of 5 patient samples revealed the following correlations: the total concentration of 9 AMM correlated with PCT - 0.580, HVA with PCT and presepsin - 0.810 and 0.709, respectively, PhLA with presepsin-0.770, p-HPhAA with total DNA of bacteria and DNA Enterobactereacea in BAL- 0.635 and 0.724, $p < 0.01$.

Conclusions:

The level of aromatic microbial metabolites in blood serum of ICU patients with nosocomial pneumonia reflects the microbial load as well as the quantity of bacterial DNA, PCT and presepsin.

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References:

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