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FEASIBILITY OF EXTRARENAL SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS DISEASE MODIFICATION IN GLADEL 2.0, A LATIN AMERICAN COHORT

Julián E. Barahona-Correa*, Santiago Bernal-Macias, Daniel Fernández-Ávila, Óscar Muñoz, Lucía Hernández, Erika Susana Palacios Santillan, Laura Maurelli, Paula Alba, Verónica Saurit, Lucila García, María Emilia Sattler, María Constanza Bertolaccini, Marina Laura Micelli, Graciela Noemí Gómez, Micaela A. Cosatti, Ana Carolina Ralle, Joaquín Martínez Serventi, Ana Carolina O. S. Montandon, Odilrei Andre Monticelo, Ángela Luzia Branco Pinto Duarte, Laíssa Cristina Alves Alvinho, Eduardo F. Borba, Eloisa Bonfa, Edgard Torres dos Reis-Neto, Iris Guerra Herrera, Milena Mimica, Gustavo Aroca Martínez, Lorena Gómez Escorcía, Carlos A. Cañas, Gerardo Quintana-Lopez, Carlos Enrique Toro Gutiérrez, José Maximiliano Martínez Pérez, Reyna Elizabeth Sánchez-Briones, Mario Pérez Cristóbal, Eduardo Martín-Nares, Yaneli Juárez-Vicuña, Ignacio García-Valladares, Rodrigo Ortiz Hernández, Jorge A. Esquivel Valerio, Isabel Acosta Colman, Astrid Paats, Jorge Cieza Calderón, Manuel F. Ugarte-Gil, Armando Calvo Quiroz, Rodamin Alvarez, Analía Cánepa, Carina Pizarrossa, Federico Zazzetti, Ashley Orillon, Cristina Drenkard, on behalf of Grupo Latino Americano De Estudio de Lupus (GLADEL), Study Group of PANLAR.

*Presenting author

BACKGROUND

→ The concept of disease modification (DM) has been recently introduced to improve the long-term care of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE).

→ DM is defined as 'the minimization of disease activity with the fewest treatment-associated toxicities and slowing/preventing organ damage progression'.

» To claim DM ultimately requires delayed or prevented progression of organ damage beyond 5 years.

→ The concept of DM is valuable for assessing 'whether an intervention is on track for achieving DM at the 5-year mark,' based on interim evaluations during the first 5 years.

→ Latin American patients with SLE are prone to poorer outcomes, which are associated with both disease severity and social determinants of health (SDH).

OBJECTIVE

→ This preliminary study evaluates the prevalence of extrarenal DM in Latin American patients with SLE and examines differences in SDH and treatment between those who did and did not achieve extrarenal DM.

METHODS

→ GLADEL 2.0 is a longitudinal cohort assessing the incidence and prevalence of SLE.

→ Forty-three centers from 10 Latin-American countries enrolled patients ≥18 years of age who fulfilled the 1982/1997 ACR and/or the 2012 Systemic Lupus International Collaborating Clinics (SLICC) classification criteria for SLE.

→ The composite definition of DM for extrarenal SLE included: (i) a significant reduction in SLE Disease Activity Index (SLEDAI; >3 points), (ii) no severe flares, and (iii) ≤10 mg/day of prednisone for months 0–12 and ≤5 mg/day prednisone-equivalent for years 2–5.

→ Patients with complete data at baseline, 12, 24, 36, 48, and 60 months were analyzed.

→ We compared baseline SDH and exposure to medications between patients who did and did not achieve DM criteria over time.

RESULTS

→ Among 1,083 patients who entered the GLADEL 2.0 cohort, 709 had the baseline data needed to fulfill DM criteria. Table 1 shows differences in demographic and SDH data by extrarenal DM achievement groups over time.

» Data from month 60 were not analyzed as data were available for only 64 patients.

→ Although educational attainment varied between groups and genders at each time point, a higher proportion of patients achieved DM among men compared to women at the 36 and 48-month marks.

→ Overall, the proportion of patients achieving DM criteria ranged between 16–20% across time points (Figure 1A).

→ Figure 1B shows DM trajectories during follow-up.

→ Medication exposure is depicted in Figure 2.

» A higher number of patients achieving extrarenal DM at months 36 and 48 received cyclophosphamide.

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DISCLOSURES

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TABLE 1. Baseline Socio-demographics and their Differences among SLE patients who did and did not achieve Extra Renal Disease Modification over Time.

Baseline Descriptor	Extra Renal Disease Modification at each Time Point							
	Month 12 (N=709)		Month 24 (N=663)		Month 36 (N=460)		Month 48 (N=379)	
	Yes (N=111)	No (N=598)	Yes (N=115)	No (N=548)	Yes (N=92)	No (N=368)	Yes (N=73)	No (N=306)
Age at diagnosis, median (IQR)	26 (19-33.5)	27 (20-36)	27 (20-36)	26 (20-34)	27 (21-37)	26 (20-33)	29 (21-38)	27 (20-35)
Age at enrollment, median (IQR)	33 (25.5-42)	36 (27-45)	33 (27-42)	36 (28-45)	34.5 (27.8-44)	36 (28-46)	35 (29-45)	38 (29-47)
Sex at birth, n (%)								
Female	104 (93.7%)	534 (89.3%)	101 (87.8%)	496 (90.5%)	76 (81.5%)	339 (92.1%)	59 (80.8%)	280 (91.5%)
Male	7 (6.3%)	64 (10.7%)	14 (12.2%)	52 (9.5%)	17 (18.5%)	29 (7.9%)	14 (19.2%)	26 (8.5%)
Ethnicity, n (%)								
White	30 (27.3%)	183 (30.8%)	37 (32.5%)	153 (28.1%)	24 (26)	108 (29.7%)	23 (31.5%)	94 (31.1%)
Mixed	68 (61.8%)	363 (61.1%)	71 (62.3%)	344 (63.2%)	56 (61.5%)	228 (62.6%)	43 (58.9%)	183 (60.8%)
African Latin American	12 (10.9%)	47 (7.9%)	6 (5.3%)	47 (8.6%)	11 (12.1%)	28 (7.7%)	7 (9.6%)	25 (8.3%)
Other	-	1 (0.2%)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Country of birth, n (%)								
Argentina	35 (31.5%)	193 (32.3%)	36 (31.3%)	151 (27.6%)	30 (32.6%)	107 (29.1%)	21 (28.8%)	89 (29.1%)
Brazil	21 (18.9%)	128 (21.4%)	26 (22.6%)	125 (22.8%)	29 (31.5%)	72 (19.6%)	20 (27.4%)	64 (20.9%)
Chile	2 (1.8%)	23 (3.8%)	2 (1.7%)	22 (4%)	-	14 (3.8%)	-	5 (1.6%)
Colombia	18 (16.2%)	40 (6.7%)	6 (5.2%)	31 (5.7%)	2 (2.2%)	16 (4.3%)	4 (5.5%)	21 (6.9%)
Dominican Republic	4 (3.6%)	15 (2.5%)	2 (1.7%)	12 (2.2%)	3 (3.3%)	9 (2.4%)	2 (2.7%)	8 (2.6%)
Ecuador	2 (1.8%)	12 (2%)	1 (0.9%)	8 (1.5%)	-	8 (2.2%)	-	4 (1.3%)
Honduras	-	1 (0.2%)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	15 (13.5%)	81 (13.5%)	15 (13%)	88 (16.1%)	15 (16.3%)	55 (14.9%)	19 (26%)	52 (17%)
Paraguay	4 (3.6%)	43 (7.2%)	8 (7%)	34 (6.2%)	7 (7.6%)	29 (7.7%)	1 (1.4%)	18 (5.2%)
Peru	7 (6.3%)	27 (4.5%)	11 (9.6%)	44 (8%)	3 (3.3%)	34 (9.2%)	3 (4.1%)	30 (9.8%)
Uruguay	3 (2.7%)	33 (5.5%)	7 (6.1%)	32 (5.8%)	3 (3.3%)	27 (7.3%)	3 (4.1%)	17 (5.6%)
Venezuela	-	2 (0.3%)	1 (0.9%)	1 (0.2%)	-	-	-	-
Marital status, n (%)								
Married-Concubine	45 (40.5%)	247 (43%)	55 (48.7%)	233 (43.3%)	41 (45.6%)	154 (42.7%)	31 (44.9%)	133 (44.9%)
Separated-Divorced	4 (3.6%)	38 (6.4%)	7 (6.2%)	37 (6.9%)	7 (7.6%)	28 (7.8%)	6 (8.7%)	20 (6.8%)
Single	60 (54.1%)	281 (49%)	49 (43.4%)	260 (48.3%)	40 (44.3%)	175 (48.5%)	30 (43.5%)	139 (47%)
Widow	2 (1.8%)	8 (1.4%)	2 (1.8%)	8 (1.5%)	2 (2.2%)	4 (1.1%)	2 (2.9%)	4 (1.4%)
Education (years), median (IQR)	14 (11-16)	13 (11-16)	14 (11-16)	13 (11-16)	12.5 (11-16)	13 (11-16)	12 (11-16)	13 (11-16)
Employment status, n (%)								
Full/Partial Work	52 (49.5%)	323 (56.9%)	61 (55%)	283 (54.7%)	41 (46.1%)	207 (58%)	38 (53.5%)	165 (55.7%)
Retired	2 (1.9%)	33 (5.8%)	3 (2.7%)	23 (4.4%)	4 (4.5%)	20 (5.6%)	6 (8.5%)	19 (6.4%)
Student	18 (17%)	55 (9.7%)	13 (11.7%)	52 (10.1%)	12 (13.5%)	29 (8.1%)	4 (5.6%)	24 (8.1%)
Unemployed	33 (31.4%)	156 (27.6%)	34 (30.6%)	159 (30.8%)	32 (36%)	101 (28.3%)	23 (32.4%)	88 (29.3%)
Socioeconomic status, n (%)								
High	2 (1.9%)	16 (2.7%)	4 (3.5%)	13 (2.4%)	5 (5.5%)	9 (2.4%)	4 (5.6%)	11 (3.6%)
Middle high	18 (16.7%)	131 (22.3%)	21 (18.6%)	119 (22.1%)	11 (12.1%)	87 (23.6%)	10 (14.1%)	64 (20.9%)
Middle	43 (39.8%)	200 (34%)	48 (42.5%)	178 (33.1%)	31 (34.1%)	130 (35.3%)	27 (38%)	124 (40.5%)
Middle low	31 (28.7%)	175 (29.8%)	24 (21.2%)	170 (31.6%)	23 (25.3%)	107 (29.1%)	20 (28.2%)	84 (27.5%)
Low	14 (13%)	66 (11.2%)	16 (14.2%)	58 (10.8%)	16 (17.6%)	35 (9.5%)	10 (14.1%)	23 (7.5%)
Medical coverage, n (%)								
Full coverage	66 (60%)	299 (50.7%)	64 (57.7%)	297 (54.6%)	44 (49.4%)	215 (59.1%)	38 (53.5%)	186 (61.4%)
Partial coverage	14 (12.7%)	85 (14.4%)	11 (9.7%)	75 (13.8%)	8 (9%)	56 (15.4%)	13 (18.3%)	45 (14.9%)
Without coverage	30 (27.3%)	206 (34.9%)	36 (32.4%)	172 (31.6%)	37 (41.6%)	93 (25.5%)	19 (26.8%)	72 (23.8%)

Composite definition of extrarenal SLE disease modification included: (i) a significant reduction in SLEDAI (>3 points), (ii) none severe flares, and (iii) ≤10 mg/day of prednisone for months 0–12 and ≤5 mg/day prednisone-equivalent for years 2–5. Values presented in bold represent significant differences of baseline descriptors between disease modification groups at the corresponding time point (p<0.05). The number of patients decreased at each time point due to either insufficient time in the cohort or loss of follow-up. Comparisons were performed using a Chi-squared test for qualitative variables or a non-parametric t-test for continuous variables. Abbreviations: IQR Interquartile Range

FIGURE 1. Percentage of patients achieving potential for extrarenal SLE disease modification (A) and disease modification trajectory (B).

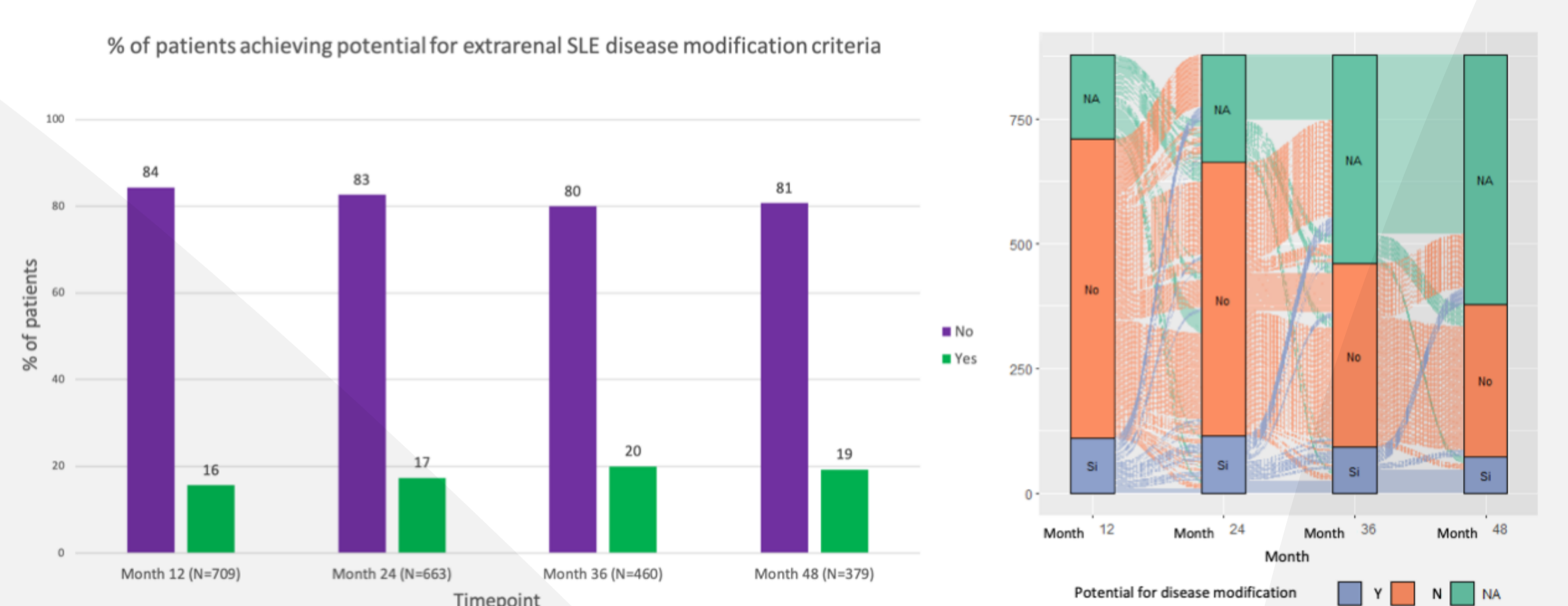
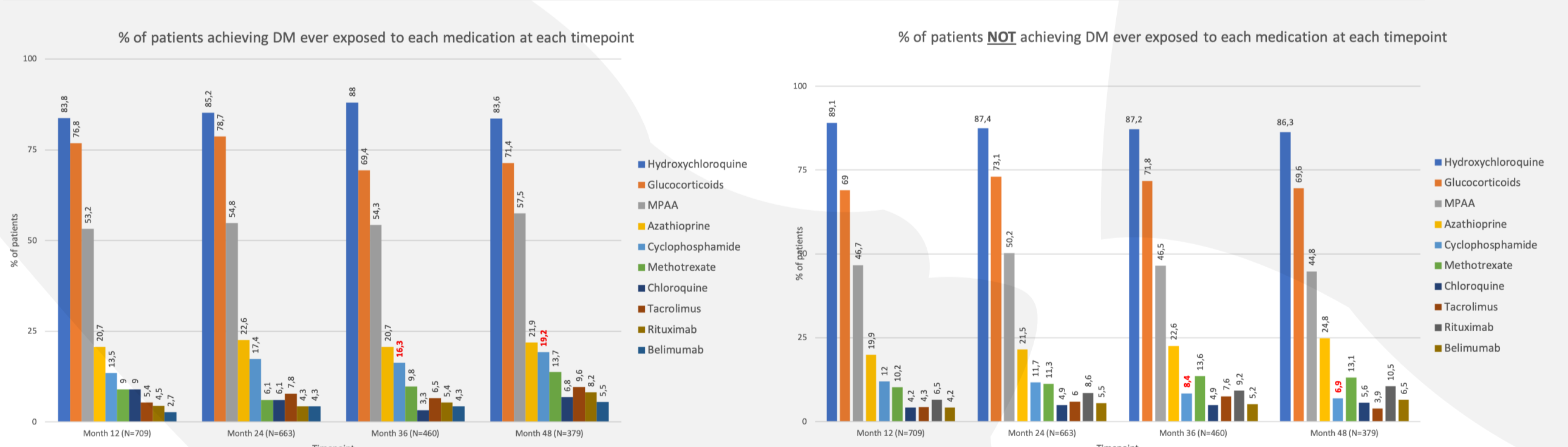


FIGURE 2. Medication exposure in patients who did (A) and (B) did not achieve DM.



CONCLUSIONS

→ In this preliminary investigation, up to 20% of Latin American patients with SLE achieved extrarenal DM.

→ The study highlights critical disparities, indicating that patients with lower educational attainment and women were less likely to achieve DM.

→ Our findings suggest that specific medication exposure may play a significant role in extrarenal DM achievement; further research may focus on the impact of cyclophosphamide given a higher percentage of patients achieving DM in that group.

→ These results underscore the importance of addressing SDH and tailoring treatment strategies to improve outcomes for marginalized groups within this population.

→ Continued research is essential to discern the independent contributions of SDH and different treatment modalities on achieving extrarenal DM, ultimately aiming to enhance long-term care and patient quality of life.