

## Estimation of Diagnostic markers in Rheumatoid Arthritis

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Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is one of the most common rheumatoid disease with a significant level of morbidity, which typically involves the small joints of feet and hands, often symmetrically. This autoimmune disease affects nearly 1% of population worldwide and can cause functional disability. Laboratory examination is of a great value to confirm diagnosis and estimate disease activity of Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA). The aim of the present study was to evaluate the diagnosis markers in patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA). This study was conducted among 103 patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis. The study patients with RA included 23 males (22.1%) and 81 females (77.9%) with average age of  $50.25 \pm 14.34$  years. Five ml blood samples were collected from all patients. Laboratory studies consisted of ESR and anti-CCP tests and also determination of the presence of RF and CRP in these patients. Finally statistical analysis was conducted using spss version 16.0. In these patients, 82.7% were RF positive and 17.3% were negative. Also, 49% were CRP positive and 51% were negative. The mean ESR in RA patients was  $27.76 \pm 20.17$  mm/h. The mean levels of anti-CCP were  $109.15 \pm 90.55$  IU/ml. RF is the widely test used in the diagnosis of RA and can be detected in 80% of patients. RF is still classified as one of the criterias for RA. Anti-CCP can accurately predict the progression and complications of RA in patients with undifferentiated arthritis and indicates a great improvement in diagnosis. Normal ESR and CRP probably indicate that the disease activity is relatively low. CRP is more reliable than ESR for RA disease activity. Early diagnosis of the Rheumatoid arthritis can help to prevent complications and its progression and can help patients to recover more quickly.