

A study of musculoskeletal manifestations in 12 patients with SAPHO syndrome

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Synovium and synovial fluid findings in SAPHO (synovitis, acne, pustulosis, hyperostosis, and osteitis) syndrome have not been well characterized, and only a few patients have been described in the Americas. We describe clinical, pathologic, and synovial fluid findings in 12 patients with the SAPHO syndrome: hidradenitis suppurativa (7), acne fulminans or conglobata (3), acneiform folliculitis (1) and palmoplantar pustulosis (1). Routine synovial fluid studies were performed in 6 patients, and light and transmission electron microscopic studies were performed in synovium in 2 patients and in bone in 1. The most common musculoskeletal manifestations included erosive or nonerosive oligoarthritis involving metacarpal phalangeal (MCP) and metatarsal phalangeal (MTP) joints as seen in 9 patients, sclerosis of the sacroiliac joints as seen in 5 patients, and osteitis pubis as seen in 1. Three patients had signs of skeletal hyperostosis. The patients with acne fulminans and acneiform follicul