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**EVOLIUCINĖ MEDICINA:
ŽMOGAUS RAIDOS PERSPEKTYVOS IR SVEIKATA
BESIKEIČIANČIOJE APLINKOJE**

**EVOLUTIONARY MEDICINE:
PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH
CONSEQUENCES IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT**

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Vilniaus universiteto Medicinos ir sveikatos mokslų
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CLONAL MAST CELL DISORDERS IN HYMENOPTERA VENOM ALLERGIC PATIENTS: DIAGNOSTIC DILEMMAS AND SAFETY OF IMMUNOTHERAPY

Kestutis CERNIAUSKAS^{1,2}, Kotryna LINAUSKIENE^{1,2}, Anzelika CHOMICIENE^{1,2}, Linas GRIGUOLA^{1,2}, Laura MALINAUSKIENE^{1,2}

¹Clinic of Chest Diseases, Immunology and Allergology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania

²Pulmonology and allergology center, Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos, Vilnius, Lithuania

Contact e-mail: kestutis.cerniauskas@santa.lt

Background and Aim: Systemic mastocytosis (SM) and other clonal mast cell disorders (CMDs) are disproportionately common among patients with severe anaphylaxis following hymenoptera stings. The aim of this study was to determine how frequently this condition is confirmed in the study population, what diagnostic challenges the clinician may face, and what impact CMD have on the safety of venom-specific immunotherapy (VIT).

Materials and Methods: This retrospective, single-center study was conducted at the Vilnius University hospital Santaros clinics (Lithuania). Ethical approval was obtained from Vilnius Regional Bioethics Committee. Descriptive statistics were used to summarise patient characteristics, diagnostic parameters, occurrence of systemic reactions during VIT.

Study population: 168 patients (n = 168, median age 44 years (±12,9, 18 - 74 years) who underwent VIT from January 2013 to December 2025

Results: CMD was confirmed in 13,9% patients (n = 22/169). The exhaustive haematological work- was performed in 29 of 49 suspected cases. REMA score was ≥ 2 in 56 patients. In 26 patients with REMA ≥ 2, CMD was confirmed in 76,9 % (n = 20/26) cases by bone marrow examination. 6 patients (30 %) with CMD had tryptase 20 ng/ml, ant 20 % had less than 8,4 ng/ml. cKIT mutation evaluation from peripheral blood was performed in 19 cases. In 8 indolent SM patients this test was positive in 2 cases. During VIT, a systemic reaction occurred in 25% of patients with CMD (vs. 3,4% of nonCDM patients). All reactions were caused by bee venom.

Conclusions: Identification of CMD is of biggest importance in HVA patient but requires thorough diagnostic work up. Decision to perform hematological evaluation rely on comprehensive clinical evaluation (REMA score) rather than laboratory testing. Bee VIT is related with systemic reaction risk in this group of patients.

Keywords: anaphylaxis, clonal mast cell disorder, mastocytosis, venom immunotherapy