

The OMERACT Giant cell arteritis Ultrasonography Score: a potential predictive outcome to assess the risk of relapse during follow-up

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Objective

- To determine whether the OMERACT giant cell arteritis (GCA) Ultrasonography (US) Score (OGUS) response after treatment is a predictive outcome for relapse.

Methods

- Multicenter retrospective observational study
- Inclusion criteria: GCA patients referred to two US GCA fast-track clinics over 2 years.
- Patients underwent US evaluation at basal, 3 and 6 months.
- EULAR definitions for remission and relapse were checked at 3 and 6 months.
- Variations in OGUS scores at 0-3 months and 0-6 months were compared among patients with and without relapse during follow-up, as well as those with and without remission at 6 months.

Results

- 76 GCA patients
- Mean age 77.2 years
- 55.3% females
- 26% relapsed at 6-months of follow-up
- 43.8% achieved EULAR remission at 6 months

Parameter	All patients n = 76	Relapse at 6- months follow-up n = 19	No relapse at 6- months follow-up n = 54	p	EULAR remission at 6-months n=32*	No EULAR remission at 6-months n=41*	p
Baseline OGUS, mean (SD)	1.18 (0.32)	1.17	1.18	0.902	1.23	1.14	0.255
3-months OGUS, mean (SD)	1.1 (0.34)	1.17	1.08	0.439	1.07	1.14	0.415
6-months OGUS, mean (SD)	1.06 (0.27)	1.21	0.99	0.01	0.98	1.13	0.061
0-3-months OGUS variations, mean (SD)	0.07 (0.48)	0.05 (0.48)	0.07 (0.50)	0.854	0.12 (0.41)	0.01 (0.57)	0.439
0-6-months OGUS variations, mean (SD)	0.08 (0.39)	-0.1 (0.38)	0.16 (0.38)	0.037	0.28 (0.32)	-0.07 (0.39)	0.001
3-6-months OGUS variations, mean (SD)	0.08 (0.34)	-0.08 (0.51)	0.15 (0.23)	0.071	0.15 (0.19)	0.01 (0.46)	0.09

Table 1. Baseline, 3- and 6-months OGUS, and 0-3- and 0-6-months OGUS variations in patients with and without relapse during follow-up and with and without achievement of remission at 6 months.

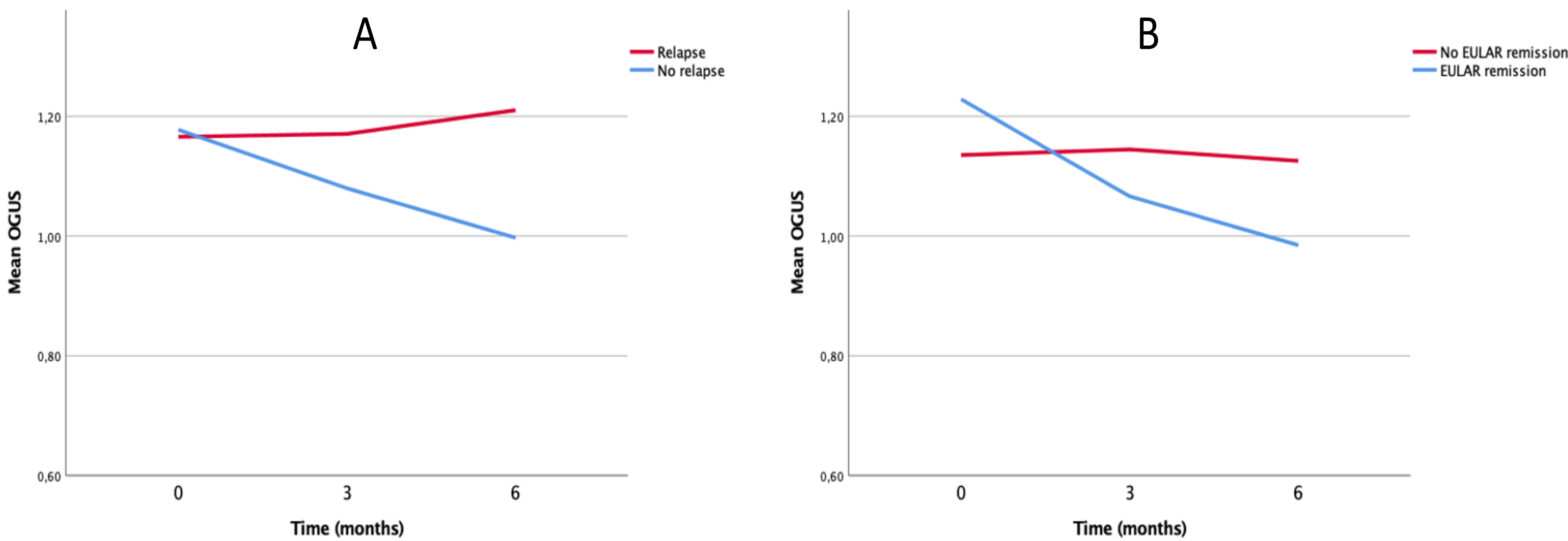


Figure 1. Sensitivity to change of OGUS in patients with GCA. A) Mean OGUS at diagnosis, at 3 and 6 months in patients with and without relapse at 6 months. B) Mean OGUS at diagnosis, at 3 and 6 months in patients with and without EULAR remission criteria at 6 months.

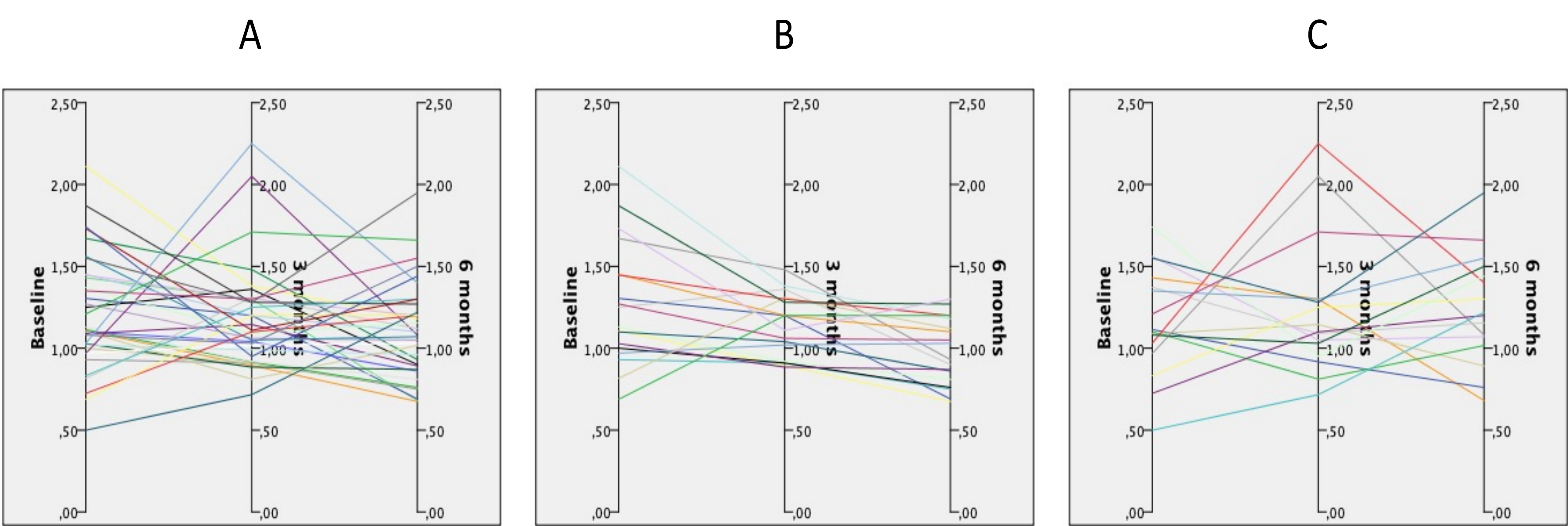


Figure 2. Variations among baseline, 3-month and 6-month OGUS in A) all GCA patients, B) patients achieving EULAR remission at 6 months and C) not achieving EULAR remission at 6 months.

Conclusion

- The absence of OGUS improvement during follow-up in GCA may predict the risk of relapse and the absence of remission at 6 months.

