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Radiculomyelopathy Involvement in Ankylosing Spondylitis THESIS

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master degree in Rheumatology and Rehabilitation

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$

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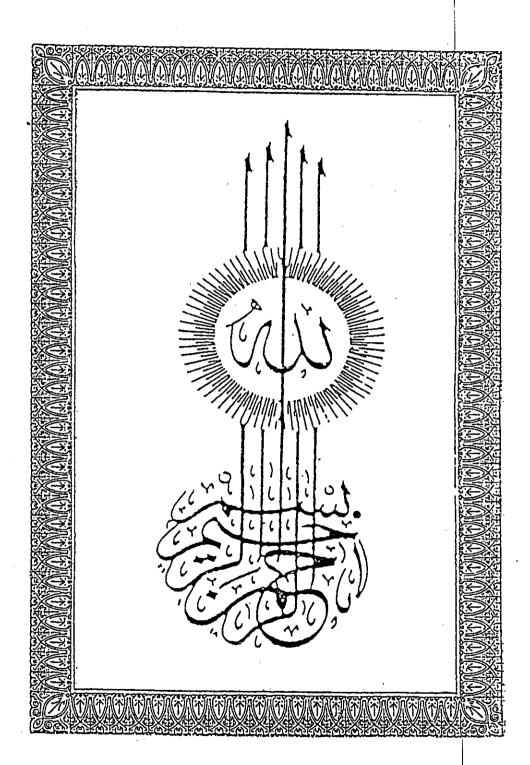
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List of abbreviations

- 1. AAS = Atlanto-Axial Subluxation
- 2. **AIMS** = Arthritis Impact Measurement Scales
- 3. ALP = Alkaline Phosphatase
- 4. **ALT** = Alanine aminotransferase
- 5. AS = Ankylosing Spondylitis
- 6. **AST** = Aspartate aminotransferase
- 7. BASDAI = Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Disease Activity Index
- 8. BASFI = Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Functional Index
- 9. BASMI = Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Metrology Index
- 10. **BASRI** = Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Radiology Index
- 11. **C7** = Cervical spine number 7
- 12. **CBP** = Complete Blood Picture
- 13. CES = Cauda Equina Syndrome
- 14. **CK** = Creatine Kinase
- 15. **CL** = Cortical Latency
- 16. cm = centimeter
- 17. **CMAP** = Compound Motor Action Potential
- 18. **CMCT** = Central Motor Conduction Time
- 19. **CNAP** = Compound Nerve Action Potential
- 20. CNS = Central Nervous System
- 21. Cort L = Cortical Latency
- 22. **CR** = Cervical Rotation
- 23. **CRP** = C-reactive Protein
- 24. CSF = Cerebro-Spinal Fluid
- 25. **CT**= Computed Tomography
- 26. Cx L = Cervical Latency

- 27. **EMG** = Electromyography
- 28. EP = Erb's Potential
- 29. **ESR** = Erythrocytic Sedimentation Rate
- 30. **ESSG** = European Spondyloarthropathy Study Group
- 31. HAQ = Health Assessment Questionnaire
- 32. HAQ-S = Health Assessment Questionnaire modified for Spondyloarthropathies
- 33. **HLA** = Human Leukocytic antigen
- 34. Hz = Hertz
- 35. Ig = Immunoglobulines
- 36. **IMD** = Inter-Malleolar Distance
- 37. LL = Lower limb
- 38. **LSF** = Lateral Spinal Flexion
- 39. $m \sec = millisecond$
- 40. **MEP** = Magnetic Evoked Potential
- 41. MMEP = Motor Magnetic Evoked Potential
- 42. MRI= Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- 43. **NSAIDs** = Non Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs
- 44. OALL= Ossification of Anterior Longitudinal Ligament
- 45. **OPLL** = Ossification of Posterior Longitudinal Ligament
- 46. **RBCs** = Red Blood Cells
- 47. **Rh** $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{Rheumatoid Factor}$
- 48. RL = Root Latency
- 49. S.I.J = Sacro-iliac Joint
- 50. SASSS = Stock Ankylosing Spondylitis Spine Score
- 51. SpA = Spondyloarthropathies
- 52. **SSEP** = Somato-Sensory Evoked Potential
- 53. **TLF** = Thorac-Lumbar Flexion
- 54. **TWD** = Tragus to Wall Distance

- 55. **UL** = Upper Limb
- 56. $\mathbf{uV} = \text{micro-Volt}$
- 57. **VAS** = Visual Analog Scale

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INTRODUCTION AND AIMS OF THE WORK

Introduction and

Aims of the work

Ankylosing spondylitis (AS) is a chronic inflammatory disease characterized by involvement of the sacroiliac and spinal joints, peripheral arthritis and enthesopathy. Extra-articular manifestations may be seen (Batlle-Gualda & Pascual, 1997).

It is the main representative of the group spondyloarthropathies, which share a number of clinical features and probably have similar pathogenic mechanisms (Khan, &van der Linden, 1990).

Ankylosing spondylitis has affected mankind for several millennia, but there is now increasing information about the genetic back ground of the condition, and in recent years, there is a greater understanding of the factors affecting the prognosis (Calin, 1993).

Back complaints are the first clinical manifestation in approximately 75% of patients with adult onset AS. No system in the body escapes the ravages of AS-cardiac, lung and neurological involvement all occur. Ankylosing spondylitis dose not burn out, but continues to be active more or less continuously (Calin, 1999).

Several studies were done in order to clarify different causes of musculoskeletal and neurological manifestations affecting the region of the back. Different investigatory tools have been used for that purpose including clinical, laboratory, radiological and recently electromyography (EMG) methods.

Ankylosing spondylitis is a frequent cause of disability in young men and women. Early recognition and referral is mandatory. Neurophysiological studies became an integral part of the modern era of diagnostic tools of most of neurological disease and recently it began to be introduced in diagnostic work up of some rheumatological diseases, such as AS (Pillay & Hunter, 1986). Some of these pilot studies have been done on neurophysiological changes in AS, few literatures found no definite correlation between EMG changes and clinical