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Pulmonary Involvement Correlated with Rheumatic Diseases

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Despite improvements in the care of patients suffering from rheumatic diseases, interstitial lung diseases (ILD) and cardiovascular involvement remain major determinants of morbidity and mortality in this population. Therefore, the early detection of these complications and the precise assessment of their severity are crucial for the appropriate management of rheumatic patients. In this context, high-resolution computed tomography (HRCT) plays a major role in diagnosing rheumatic disease-related ILD, identifying the pattern of lung involvement, and assessing the improvement, stability, or progression of the pulmonary alterations during follow-up. Moreover, chest CT scans can identify direct and indirect signs of cardiovascular involvement, including prognostically significant diseases, such as pulmonary hypertension. Therefore, clinicians and radiologists involved in the care of rheumatic patients must be aware of the possible pulmonary and cardiovascular complications that may occur, their diagnostic assessment, and their therapeutic options.





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