

## Chondrocalcinosis in Geriatrics

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### ABSTRACT

**Introduction :** Chondrocalcinosis (CC) is arthritis caused by calcium pyrophosphate (CPP) crystal deposition in joints ,which is commonly associated with aging as well as a handful of metabolic syndromes. The purpose of our study was to describe the epidemiological, clinical and paraclinical characteristics of subjects with CC older than 65 years.

**Materials and methods:** It is a monocentric and retrospective study of 75 cases of CC older than 65 years, collected at the Rheumatology Department of Fattouma Bourguiba University Hospital in Monastir over a period from 1998 to 2015.

**Results:** There are 49 women and 26 men (sex ratio = 0.53), with a mean age of 74 years [65-87 years].

The circumstances of discovery were arthritis in 61% of cases (mono in 27%, poly in 24% and oligoarthritis in 10% of cases), arthralgia in 19% and accidental discovery on the occasion of conventional radiography in 20% of cases The most commonly involved joint was the knee (13%), followed by the wrist (7%). CC was idiopathic in 80%, secondary to hyperparathyroidism in 17%. Articular puncture was performed in 37% and revealed microcrystals of calcium pyrophosphate dihydrate (PPCD) in 21% of cases. The majority of patients were diagnosed with CC based on the presence of radiographic chondrocalcinosis; a calcification was found in 97%, especially in the knee, in 93% of cases.

**Conclusion:** Our study revealed the diversity of the CC clinical picture, but the mono and polyarticular forms, especially at the knee level, was the most common.