

PRESS RELEASE

First report in China using emapalumab to treat refractory lupus with recurrent macrophage activation syndrome

(Hong Kong, 21 October 2025) – **A medical team at a hospital in Shanghai successfully treated a patient with refractory systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) complicated by recurrent macrophage activation syndrome (MAS) using emapalumab, a targeted interferon-gamma inhibitor. This is the first documented case in China applying emapalumab for SLE-MAS. The case report has been published in the *Hong Kong Medical Journal*.**

The 30-year-old female patient had experienced multiple MAS episodes despite intensive immunosuppressive treatments. Advanced immune profiling revealed type II interferon pathway activation. After standard therapies failed, emapalumab was introduced by Renji Hospital in Shanghai, resulting in rapid clinical and immunological improvement within 24 hours, enabling steroid tapering and early discharge. No recurrence was observed during a 9-month follow-up.

This case suggests that emapalumab is effective in treating the rare disease. It also shows that a subset of SLE-MAS may be interferon-driven, rather than purely reactive. It highlights the importance of immunophenotyping in guiding individualised therapy for complex autoimmune diseases.

The article “Recurrent macrophage activation syndrome in patients with refractory systemic lupus erythematosus treated with emapalumab: a case report” was published in the *Hong Kong Medical Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.12809/hkmj2512876>

新聞稿

中國首宗使用依馬利尤單抗治療反覆性巨噬細胞活化綜合症合併難治性紅斑狼瘡的 病例報告

（香港，2025 年 10 月 21 日） — 上海一所醫院的醫療團隊成功診治一名反覆發作的系統性紅斑狼瘡合併巨噬細胞活化綜合症患者，並在國內率先使用干擾素 γ 抑制劑依馬利尤單抗 (emapalumab) 進行治療，獲得良好療效。該病例報告已刊登於《香港醫學雜誌》。

該患者為 30 歲女性，確診系統性紅斑狼瘡多年，長期依賴多種免疫抑制劑用作治療，但病情反覆。進階免疫分析法顯示其 II 型干擾素通路呈活化狀態。在傳統免疫抑制治療成效有限的情況下，上海交通大學醫學院附屬仁濟醫院安排患者接受依馬利尤單抗治療，使其臨床及免疫指標於 24 小時內顯著改善，能逐步減用類固醇並提早出院。患者在 9 個月的隨訪期間病情穩定。

本病例是中國內地首宗成功應用依馬利尤單抗治療罕見且難治的系統性紅斑狼瘡合併巨噬細胞活化綜合症個案，亦顯示部分病例可能屬於干擾素驅動的特異性亞型，而非單純的併發症。此病例反映，處理複雜自體免疫疾病時，免疫表型分析對制訂個人化治療的重要性。

詳細內容可參閱原文《使用依馬利尤單抗治療反覆發作的系統性紅斑狼瘡合併巨噬細胞活化綜合症患者：病例報告》。

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Source: R Guo, S Ye, L Gu. Recurrent macrophage activation syndrome in patients with refractory systemic lupus erythematosus treated with emapalumab: a case report. Hong Kong Med J 2025;31:387-90. <https://doi.org/10.12809/hkmj2512876>.

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