[Interdisciplinary management of pregnant women with connective tissue diseases]

Connective tissue diseases affect frequently women during the childbearing period. As fertility is not considerably reduced in these patients, monitoring and treatment of a pregnant patient is a complex clinical setting that requires an intensive cooperation between gynecologists, rheumatologists and pediatricians. In this article, a 4-point-program for the clinical management of these patients is presented that addresses specifically the problems inherent with the identification of patients with connective tissue diseases, preconceptional diagnostics as well as monitoring and treatment during pregnancy and the postpartal period. Clinical aspects that are intensively discussed include immunosuppressive therapy during pregnancy, the management of antiphospholipid antibody-dependent problems and the prophylaxis and treatment options for congenital heart block.