Lupus anticoagulant is frequent in patients with Covid-19

Inès Harzallah, Pharm D

Groupe Hospitalier de la région Mulhouse Sud Alsace

Laboratoire d'Hématologie, 20 rue Dr Laënnec, 68070 Mulhouse cedex, France

Phone: +33 389647785

E-mail: ines.harzallah@ghrmsa.fr

Agathe Debliquis, Pharm D

Groupe Hospitalier de la région Mulhouse Sud Alsace

Laboratoire d'Hématologie, 20 rue Dr Laënnec, 68070 Mulhouse cedex, France

Phone: +33 389647785

E-mail: debliquisa@ghrmsa.fr

Bernard Drénou, MD, PhD

Groupe Hospitalier de la région Mulhouse Sud Alsace

Département d'Hématologie, 20 rue Dr Laënnec, 68070 Mulhouse cedex, France

Phone: +33 389647785

E-mail: drenoub@ghrmsa.fr

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest

This article has been accepted for publication and undergone full peer review but has not been through the copyediting, typesetting, pagination and proofreading process, which may lead to differences between this version and the Version of Record. Please cite this article as doi: 10.1111/JTH.14867

To the editor:

Patients hospitalized for Covid-19 severe infection are more prone to excessive coagulation activation leading to thrombotic events. Tang et al.[1] discussed the importance of high D-dimer and Fibrin degradation product level to determine the patient prognostic and the risk of thrombosis. However they did not look at lupus anticoagulant (LAC). Zhang et al. described, three cases of thrombosis associated with antiphospholipid antibodies represented by anticardiolipin (aCL) and anti–β2-glycoprotein I (aβ2GPI)[2]. No lupus anticoagulant was detected in any of the patients. During the recent Covid19 outbreak in Mulhouse (France), we have studied 56 patients diagnosed for Covid 19 using PCR (n=50) or chest CT scan (n=6), for the presence of LAC with DRVVT and sensitive aPTT tests. Twenty-five cases (45%) were LAC positive while aCL or aβ2GPI were detected in only 5 out of 50 tested patients (10%, 3 associated to LAC) using IgG and IgM detection. Acute infections are known to be sometimes associated with transient LAC and anticoagulant therapy is usually not needed[3]. Detection of LAC with or without aCL or aβ2GPI, in these critically patients, which are characterized by many thrombosis risk factors, highlight the importance of an early anticoagulant therapy.

1. Tang N, Li D, Wang X, Sun Z. Abnormal coagulation parameters are associated with poor prognosis in patients with novel coronavirus pneumonia. J Thromb Haemost 2020;18(4):844–7.

2. Zhang Y, Xiao M, Zhang S, et al. Coagulopathy and Antiphospholipid Antibodies in Patients with Covid-19. N Engl J Med 2020;

3. Uthman IW, Gharavi AE. Viral infections and antiphospholipid antibodies. Semin Arthritis Rheum 2002;31(4):256–63.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS:
HARZALLAH I. and DRENOU B. collected the data and processed statistics. HARZALLAH I. wrote the manuscript and DRENOU B. and DEBLIQUIS A. revised the manuscript.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:
The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.