Infectious Thromboembolism related to prolonged reduced motility in ill acute patients

F. Dodi*

U.O.S. Patologia Infettivologica, A.O.U. San Martino, Largo R. Benzi 10, 16132 Genoa, Italy * ferdinando.dodi@Hsanmartino.liguria.it

KEY WORDS: Infections, immobility, thromboembolism.

Abstract

Update in new clinic complications related to infectious diseases reveals emergent, at present, the thromboembolic risk. Clinicians must examine carefully thromboembolism related to prolonged reduced motility during acute invalidating infectious diseases because it represents major risk during clinical conditions involving enzimatic procoagulant activity, fibronectine production, procoagulant autoimmunitary damage. Recent experimental data show that pathogenesis of thromboembolic lesions involves clinical risk factors, vascular anatomic features and bacterial genetic properties.

Prolonged immobility for acute infectious diseases (ID) produces same thromboembolic risk as in internal medical patients. So, infections represent a veritable cause of thromboembolic disease. Disease caused by infectious thromboembolism (TE), related to prolonged reduced motility, is an highly specialist clinic problem in ID.At present, this risk is similar to the internal medicine (IM), mostly in acute ID [I]. If ID pathogenesis does not imply the TE risk only a general risk exists, but if ID is characterized by TE, a greater risk occurs, both general and specific of the disease itself.

According to experimental data, pathogenesis shares: endothelial damage, stagnation or disturbance of haematic flow, blood hypercoagulability. In the five major studies about thromboprophilaxis in IM (MEDENOX, PREVENT, ARTEMIS, EXCLAIM, ENDSORGE) produced in 1999-2010 years, TE related risk was 39.5%-63% [2-6]. In other two outpatients studies, the same datum was included between 1.1% and 3.1% [7]. In these experimental studies, patients with ID were numerous and well represented. According to the scientific literature, endothelial damage caused by clinical devices (central vascular catheter or pace-maker) resulted an emerging risk factor. Strains of Staphylococcus aureus and Bacteroides fragilis which produce, respectively, intrinsic enzimatic procoagulant activity, endocellular internalization through fibronectine and

production of eparinase can have a pathogenetic role in TE. S. aureus is involved also in a mechanism of endotelial flogosis, production of fibronectine binding proteins and interaction with thrombocytic integrins. Candida albicans can produce septic flebitis. High levels of soluble fibrine (SF) or D-Dimer are considered markers of TE risk, with secure diagnosis in more than 50% (statistical significance) [8]. Antiphospholipidic antibodies (APA) indicate statistically significant (65%) thromboembolic risk in endocarditis [9]. Therefore, critical patients for severe ID with various thromboembolic risk factors generate TE in high percentage. Prophylaxis with eparin is helpful and can reduce this risk until 73% [10].

Personalization of the protocol for age, reduced mobilization, gastric or cerebral bleeding is mandatory. Patients can continue a long term prophylaxis, also at home [5, 10].

Microbiological thrombotic characterization of described bacteria and APA monitoring, as D-Dimer and SF represent an alert condition in the ID with greater thrombotic risk.

References

- [1] Turpie A.G., Leizorovicz A. 2006. Prevention of venous thromboembolism in medically ill patients: a clinical update. Postgrad. Med. J., 82: 806-809.
- [2] Samana M.M., Cohen A.T., Darmon J.Y., Desjardins L., Eldor A., Janbon C., Leizorovicz A., Nguyen H., Olsson C.G., Turpie A.G., Weisslinger N.1999. A comparison of enoxaparin with placebo for the prevention of venous thromboembolism in acutely ill medical patients. Prophylaxis in medical patients with Enoxaparin Study Group. N. Engl. J. Med., 341: 793-800.
- [3] Leizorovicz A., Cohen A.T., Turpie A., Olsson C.G., Vaitkus P.T., Goldhaber S.Z., Prevent Medical Thromboprophylaxis Study Group. 2004. Randomized, placebo-controlled trial of dalteparin for the prevention of venous thromboembolism in acutely ill medical patient. Circulation, 110: 874-879.
- [4] Cohen A.T., Davidson B.L., Gallus A.S., Lassen M.R., Prins M.H., Tomkowski W., Turpie A.G., Egberts J.F., Lensing A.W., Artemis Investigators. 2006. Efficacy and safety of fondaparinux for the prevention of venous thromboembolism in older acute medical patients: randomized placebo controlled trial. Brit. Med. J., 332: 325-329.
- [5] Hull R.D., Schellong S.M., Tapson V.F., Monreal M., Samana M.M., Turpie A.G., Wildgoose P., Yusen R.D. 2006. Extended-duration thromboprophylaxis in acutely ill medical patients with recent reduced mobility: methodology for the EXCLAIM study. J. Thromb. Thrombolysis, 22: 31-38.

F. Dodi

- [6] Bergmann J.F., Cohen A.T., Tapson V.F., Goldhaber S.Z., Kakkar A.K., Deslanders B., Huang B., Anderson F.A. jr., for ENDORSE Investigators. 2010. Venous thromboembolism risk and prophylaxis in hospitalized medically ill patients. The ENDORSE Global Survey. Thromb. Haemost., 103: 736-748.
- [7] Bosson J.L., Puochain D., Bergmann J.F., for the ETAPE Study Group. 2006. A prospective observational study of a cohort of outpatients with an acute medical event and reduced mobility: incidence of symptomatic thromboembolism and description of thromboprophylaxis practices. J. Intern. Med., 260(2):168-176.
- [8] Wada H., Kobayashi T., Abe Y., Hatada T., Yamada N., Sudo A., Uchida A., Norobi T. 2006. Elevated levels of soluble fibrin or D-dimer indicate high risk of thrombosis. J. Thromb. Haemost. 4: 1253-1258.
- [9] Kupferwasser L.I., Hafner G., Mohr-Kahaly S., Erbel R., Meyer J., Darius H.1999. The presence of infection-related antiphospholipid antibodies in infective endocarditis determines a major risk factor for embolic events. J. Am. Coll. Cardiol., 33: 1365.
- [10] Francis W. 2007. Clinical practice. Prophylaxis for thromboembolism in hospitalized medical patients. N. Engl. J. Med., 356: 1438.