

**Report of the WAA apheresis registry Working Group Nov. 2021**

During the year 2019/2020 we have focused on analyses of data from the World Apheresis Association registry. First, in regard to overall apheresis activities and, secondly, with a specific analysis of extracorporeal photopheresis therapy.

Apheresis seems to help improve renal function in MPO and especially in PR-3 ANCA.(ref 3 below).

A total of 117000 apheresis procedures have been registered. Many of these have been performed in children. Adverse events have been described to decrease over the years. One patient so far died (of myocardial infarction) during apheresis- It was a severely ill patient suffering from TTP – this was an episode that could not be excluded to be related to apheresis. (See ref 4 below).

During 2020 apheresis procedures on patients with covid-19 disease have also been performed. Participation in planning a controlled study of covid patients has been on-going this spring. It has been launched by the Copenhagen University.

We published a paper recommending attempts with apheresis in the rare antibody mediated vaccine induced thrombocytopenia. Data of AEs in TTP within the frame of the WAA apheresis are included. (ref 5 below).

A poster with this topic was accepted November 2021 at the Swedish Society of Physician congress of Covid-19 disease.

Published or accepted manuscripts during the latest 2 years related to WAA registry studies are: 1,2-5

1. Goto J, Newman E, Witt V, et al. Evaluation of health and quality of life in apheresis patients - data from the WAA register. *Transfus Apher Sci* 2019; 58: 641-644. 2019/09/15. DOI: 10.1016/j.transci.2019.08.024.

2. Blaha M, Gasova Z, Berlin G, et al. Analysis of extracorporeal photopheresis within the frame of the WAA register. *Transfus Apher Sci* 2021; 60: 103172. 2021/06/02. DOI: 10.1016/j.transci.2021.103172.

3. Mortzell Henriksson M, Weiner M, Sperker W, et al. Analyses of registry data of patients with anti-GBM and antineutrophil cytoplasmatic antibody-associated (ANCA) vasculitis treated with or without therapeutic apheresis. *Transfus Apher Sci* 2021: 103227. 2021/08/14. DOI: 10.1016/j.transci.2021.103227.

4. Stegmayr B, Newman E, Witt V, et al. Using the World Apheresis Association Registry Helps to Improve the Treatment Quality of Therapeutic Apheresis. *Transfus Med Hemother* 2021; 48: 234-239. 2021/09/21. DOI: 10.1159/000513123.

5. Rock G, Weber V and Stegmayr B. Therapeutic plasma exchange (TPE) as a plausible rescue therapy in severe vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia. *Transfus Apher Sci* 2021; 60: 103174. 2021/06/06. DOI: 10.1016/j.transci.2021.103174.

For the WAA Apheresis working group

On behalf of Bernd Stegmayr

Umea, Nov 6, 2021