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Antiphospholipid antibody syndrome

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Antiphospholipid syndrome (APS) is the autoimmune disease characterized by vascular thromboses and/or pregnancy loss associated with persistently positive antiphospholipid antibodies (aPL; measured with lupus anticoagulant [LA] test, anticardiolipin antibody [aCL] enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay [ELISA], and/or anti-beta2-glycoprotein-I antibody [alfabeta2GPI] ELISA). Determining significant APS depends on: Persistent (at least 12 weeks apart) aPL positivity excluding transient aPL positivity which is common during infections; a positive LA test is a better predictor of aPL-related thrombotic events compared with other aPL tests; the specificity of aCL and alfabeta2GPI ELISA tests for aPL-related clinical events increases with higher titers; 50% of the APS patients with thrombosis present with at least one non-aPL thrombosis risk factor at the time of their vascular event; IgM isotype is less commonly associated with clinical events compared with IgG isotype; in patients with aPL-related clinical events and no other thrombosis risk factors and have IgAaCL and IgAalfabeta2GPI positivity; triple aPL positivity (LA, aCL, and alfabeta2GPI) can be clinically more significant than double or single aPL positivity. Clinical manifestation related to aPL represent a spectrum: aPL positivity without clinical events; aPL positivity solely with non – criteria manifestations (e.g. thrombocytopenia, hemolytic anemia, cardiac valve disease, aPL nephropathy); APL based on arterial/venous thrombosis and/or pregnancy morbidity; and catastrophic antiphospholipid syndrome.

Biography

Margaret Wislowska, Head of the Department of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology CSK MSW is a specialist in internal medicine, rheumatology, rehabilitation medicine, hypertension, and the author of over 190 scientific papers and books. She has participated in numerous scientific meetings and is a promoter of 10 PhD theses. She took trainings at Guy and St. Thomas' Hospitals in London, Charity Hospital in Berlin, Rheumatology Institutes in Prague and Moscow. In 2003, she started the Department of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology, and in 2010 Clinic of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology CSK MSW. She is a Professor at the Medical University of Warsaw.

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