# RISK FACTORS OF CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE : A single-center preliminary study

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#### *Objective*: to setup rheopheresis (DFPP) to treat patients with refractory peripheral arteriopathy (early 2015)

### **Multidisciplinary approach**

- Refractory peripheral arteriopathy : how to manage the very severe patients?
- Multidisciplinary meetings on a monthly basis:
  - Vascular surgeon
  - Vascular physician
  - Nephrologist
  - Diabetologist/diabetic foot physician

- To discuss the medical files of patients with refractory peripheral arteriopathy:
  - Local prostacyclin infusion?
  - > Hyperbaric oxygen therapy?
  - > Amputation?
  - > Is there any other option?
    - Double-filtration plasmapheresis (DFPP)?

#### When do we use DFPP in our unit?

- Desensitization protocols for ABOi and/or HLAi kidneytransplant recipients
- Antibody-mediated rejection
- Refractory hypercholesterolemia
- Diabetic foot with severe ischemic lesions
- Stage IV distal arteriopathy in end-stage renal-disease patients
- Age-related macula degeneration

#### **Techniques and Disposables**

- Extracorporeal circuit: central venous catheter or arteriovenous fistula
- o 1<sup>st</sup> filter: plasma separation: plasma filtered with Plasmaflo OP-05W
- o 2<sup>nd</sup> filter ER 4000: plasma treatment
- PLASAUTO monitoring: management of the blood circuit and the plasma circuit
- Citrate anticoagulation (on an aspiration line) and CaCl<sub>2</sub> compensation on the return venous line
- ~1.5 plasmatic volumes
- Substitution: 20 g of albumin
- No compensation for coagulation factors
- Monitoring of clinical and biological parameters, including tPCO<sub>2</sub>

#### Circuit diagram



# Lipoprotein apheresis (LA) in patients with peripheral artery disease and hyperlipoproteinemia (a).

Poller WC, Dreger H, Morgera S, Berger A, Flessenkämper I, Enke-Melzer K.

Atheroscler Suppl. 2015 May;18:187-93.

# Abstract OBJECTIVE:

Hyperlipoproteinemia(a) [Lp(a)-HLP] is a major risk factor for severe atherosclerosis. The present investigation sought to assess the effect of lipoprotein apheresis (LA) in patients with peripheral artery disease (PAD) and Lp(a)-HLP. **CONCLUSION:** 

LA improves circulation, oxygen supply, level of pain and walking distance in patients with severe PAD and Lp(a)-HLP. The frequency of revascularization procedures is strongly reduced under LA treatment.

# **Objectives of rheopheresis**

• Means:

- To improve blood flow at the microcirculation level
- To improve viscosity
- To reduce high molecular-weight molecules

Results

- Improvement in tissue oxygenation
- To accelerate wound healing
- To reduce the need for amputation

#### Molecules that are removed

- Fibrinogen
- Alpha-2 macroglobulin
- Cholesterol/triglycerides
- o LDL, Lp(a)
- Fibronectin
- o IgM
- Orosomucoid

#### • .....

### **Patients**

#### • 6 patients with severe distal arteriopathy: of these

- > One chronic hemodialysis patient aged 67 with toes and fingers necrosis
- > One chronic hemodialysis patient aged 54 with ischemic toes on one foot
- One type I diabetic hemodialysis patient aged 49 with ischemic toes on 1 foot plus ischemic ulcer on Achille's heel on the other foot
- > One diabetic hemodialysis patient aged 48 with bilateral necrosis on the feet
- One diabetic non-dialyzed (eGFR = 40 mL/min) patient aged 65 with distal necrotic lesions on both feet
- One kidney transplant patient aged 52 with chronic kidney disease (eGFR= 30 mL/min) and a single necrotic toe

### Implementation of rheopheresis in our unit

- Support from HemaT with an onsite very efficient trainer for 3 weeks
- 100% of our nursing staff are now trained
- The nursing staff are very motivated (innovative techniques)
- Very close collaboration between nurses and physicians
- No rheopheresis conducted at weekends
- => scheduling is modulated

# 1<sup>st</sup> patient: Mr Delv....

- Age: 66 years
- Chronic hemodialysis since 1991; HCV (+)/ RNA (+)
- 1993 : 1<sup>st</sup> kidney transplantation
- **o** 2003 :
  - End-stage renal disease (chronic rejection)
  - Calciphylaxis (toes): daily hemodialysis, hyperbaric oxygen therapy: good outcome
  - Parathyroidectomy
- January 2006 :
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> kidney transplantation
  - Hyperparathyroidism recurrence (Cinacalcet)
- June 2014: arterio-venous fistula setup
- August 2014: return to hemodialysis
- Nov. 2014: ligation of arterio-venous fistula because of downstream finger necrosis

## **Vascular history**

#### Right arm:

• Nov. 2014: necrosis of fingers; ligation of humero-cephalic artereo-venous fistula; amputation of some fingers.

#### Left lower leg:

- Diffuse mediacalcosis; numerous lesions; dry necrosis of toes; trans-tibial amputation with delayed wound healing; pain ++++
- Right lower leg:
  - Necrotic cutaneous lesions of four toes, plus the above disorders.
  - May 2015: rapid onset of osteoarthritis of the 1st metatarsal; ineffective antibiotherapy;
    - At this point we started DFPP sessions

#### Finger necrosis, downstream of arterio-venous Steal syndrome



#### **Rheopheresis protocol**

- o 2.5--3 L of plasma
- o 9.5--11.5 L of treated blood
- Blood flow: 60--100 mL/min
- ACDA: 1/60, then decreasing to1/80
- CICa:  $4 \text{ cm}^3/\text{h}$ , then  $2 \text{ cm}^3/\text{h}$
- Substitution: 20 g of albumin during the session
- Tandem procedure with hemodialysis

#### **DFPP** program

- 1<sup>st</sup> week: 2 sessions = 2
- $2^{nd}$  and  $3^{rd}$  weeks: 3 sessions = 6
- $4^{\text{th}}$  and  $5^{\text{th}}$  weeks: 2 sessions = 4
- $6^{\text{th}}$  to  $23^{\text{rd}}$  week: 1 session = 16
- (1 week w/o DFPP)
- At the moment: 1 session every 2 weeks
- > Total : 29 sessions in 6 months

## Pain, general status

- Reduction of major analgesics
  - First 2 weeks:1 vial paracetamol/d +1 vial of nefopam chlorhydrate/d + oxycodone chlorhydrate 5 mg/d
  - > 3rd week: 1 vial of nefopam chlorhydrate/d + oxycodone chlorhydrate 5 mg/d
  - > 4th & 5th week: 1 nefopam chlorhydrate on demand +/paracetamol +/- oxycodone for cutaneous care (10 dfpp)
  - > 6th week: analgesics are very rarely taken (13 dfpp )
  - > At present NO analgesic, 29 dfpp
- Steady increase in dry weight; improvement of general status.

### **CRP at pre- and post-DFPP**



#### Hb at pre- and post-DFPP



#### Fibrinogen at pre- and post-DFPP



## Albumin at pre- and post-DFPP



#### Alpha 2 macrog at pre- and post



#### **Orosomucoid at pre- and post-DFPP**



#### **Total cholesterol at pre- and post-DFPP**



#### **Triglycerides at pre- and post-DFPP**



# 22nd May 2015 after 10 DFPP sessions





# **Before DFPP**



# June 16th 2015, 14 DFPP sessions



# tCPO<sub>2</sub> outcomes

	06/02/2015	Before DFPP	18/05/15	9 DFPP
	right	left	right	left
Foot	5	53	71	Amputed
1/3 distal leg	41	26	45	Amputed
1/3 proximal leg	43	45	57	ND
1/3 distal thigh	44	82	ND	ND

# Surgery

- Because of these improvements, surgery could be limited:
  - Trans-metatarsal amputation
  - Left hand finger amputation

#### 26/8/15, 24 DFPP sessions

#### 26/09/15, 28 DFPP sessions





### **29 DFPP sessions**

#### 5/10/15

#### 10/10/15





#### As of 23/10/15, DFPP every 2 weeks

#### 01/16 / healing

#### 23/10/15 dFPP tous les 15 jours





# **April 2016**

#### DEL....AVRIL 2016





# 2<sup>nd</sup> patient

- o Mr Len... aged 64 years
- Type II insulin-dependent diabetes
- Hypertension
- Ischemic cardiopathy (multiple stents)
- Renal artery stents
- Aorto-bifemoral bypass
- Distal arteriopathy (stage IV) with 3 months of hospitalization and vascular surgery

## Patient 2 (cont'd)

- January 2015: emergency arterial femoro-popliteal bypass due to toe necrosis (right foot)
- May 2015: thrombosis and an arterial femoro-popliteal bypass, delayed wound healing, major pain, super infections.
- May 2015: last-chance treatment: DFPP, using a central venous catheter
- July 2015: had to stop DFPP because of infection around the central venous catheter. Skin lesions were partially improved, but the patient had to undergo toe amputations on both feet

#### Patient 2 (cont'd)

- 19 May until 21 July: 16 DFPP sessions (3 L of plasma were treated each time)
  - 3 times/week for 2 weeks
  - 2 times/week for 2 weeks
  - 1 time/week for 5 weeks
- July: DFPP was stopped due to catheter tunnelitis
- End of July: toe amputation
- September 2015: the patient was doing well

# 3<sup>rd</sup> patient

- Mrs Gran...., aged 48 years
- Type 1 diabetes
- Chronic hemodialysis for 11 months
- Distal arteriopathy (stage IV); very low tPCO<sub>2</sub> in both legs
- May 2015: right arterial femoro-popliteal bypass + right iliac artery stenting
  - However, huge pain. Thus, we decided to implement DFPP
- o June 2015: rheopheresis: 7 DFPP sessions,
  - 3 times/week for 1 week
  - 2 times/week for 2 weeks

# Patient 3 (cont'd)

- <u>July 2015</u>: Severe sepsis + endocarditis + distal critical ischemia of the left lower limb: transfemoral amputation
- <u>September 2015</u>: necrosis of the right large toe; result: a favorable outcome
- October 2015: good general health; no skin lesions

# $3^{\text{RD}}$ patient



#### So far....

#### • We treated 6 patients

- Pt 1 : 29 sessions: alleviation of pain; limitation of amputation
- Pt 2: 16 sessions: alleviation of pain; limitation of amputation (stop because of catheter tunnelitis)
- Pt 3: 7 sessions : alleviation of pain; limitation of amputation (stop because of sepsis)
- Pt 4 : 9 sessions: alleviation of pain; limitation of amputation
- Pt 5: 19 sessions; still ongoing; no amputation; alleviation of pain
- Pt 6: 28 sessions; still ongoing; no<sup>42</sup> mputation; alleviation of pain

# Conclusion

- DFPP is well tolerated
- Problem with vascular access in non-dialysis patients
- Spectacular results with regards to pain (soon after 5 DFPP sessions)
- Multidisciplinary approach with the major aim of avoiding/reducing amputation
- tPCO<sub>2</sub> monitoring
- Earlier DFPP treatment could be valuable
- DFPP treatment could limit the extent of amputation: thus, help rehabilitation after amputation.