



# PRIMARY THROMBOPHILIA IN MEXICO XVIII: INCREASED RATE OF THROMBOSIS IN PERSONS WITH THE STICKY PLATELET SYNDROME IN THE COVID-19 ERA

Sticky platelet syndrome (SPS) is an inherited thrombophilic condition that causes an abnormal increase in platelet aggregation and favors both arterial and venous thrombotic events<sup>1-4</sup>. Between January 2020 and August 2023, 11 persons with SPS were diagnosed and treated at the Center for Hematology and Internal Medicine of Puebla (Centro de Hematología y Medicina Interna de Puebla), Mexico. All patients were instructed to take aspirin, 100 mg/day, after the diagnosis of SPS. Five persons were infected with SARS-CoV-2. Two patients had a thrombotic episode in the period of observation; one patient did not have COVID-19 but she developed right iliofemoral thrombophlebitis a year after starting treatment with aspirin (Table 1). We have previously shown that the treatment with aspirin of persons with SPS significantly reduces the rate of re-thrombosis to 4%<sup>5</sup>.

In this group of 11 persons with SPS, we have observed the following: (1) the re-thrombosis rate was very high: 2 out of 11, 36%; and (2) in one case, thrombosis was triggered by the SARS-CoV-2 infection in the setting of withdrawal of the antiplatelet treatment.

The rate of thrombosis in patients with COVID-19 is around 13%<sup>6</sup>. In this small cohort of persons with COVID-19 and SPS (5 patients), the thrombosis rate was 20%, a figure higher than that observed in the general population infected with SARS-CoV-2<sup>6</sup>.

We can assume that the rate of thrombosis in patients with previous prethrombotic states may increase with SARS-CoV-2 infection. More studies are needed to further explore the rate of thrombosis in persons with COVID-19 and SPS.

Table 1. Salient features of the two patients with the sticky platelet syndrome who developed a vaso-occlusive episode

Characteristics	No SARS-CoV-2	With SARS-CoV-2
Female	1	1
Age	51	37
Treatment start date	May 27, 2020	January 14, 2022
COVID-19 diagnosis date	NA	July 04, 2023
Thrombotic event date	January 15, 2021	July 01, 2023
Thrombotic event	Right iliofemoral thrombophlebitis	Ischemic colitis
Interruption of treatment	No	Yes

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