



# ΑΝΤΙΦΩΣΦΟΛΙΠΙΔΙΚΟ ΣΥΝΔΡΟΜΟ

**Μαρία Γ. Τεκτονίδου**

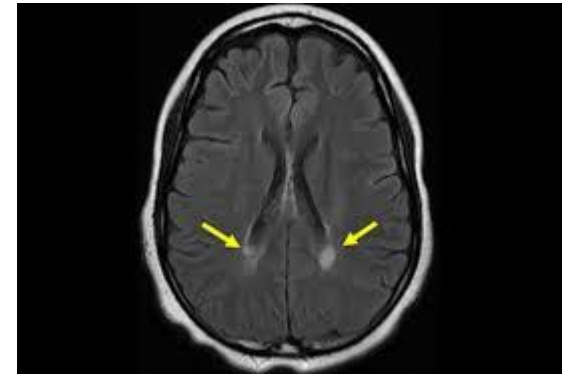
Καθηγήτρια Παθολογίας-Ρευματολογίας

Υπεύθυνη Ρευματολογικής Μονάδας

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# Περίγραμμα ομιλίας

- ΠΑΘΟΓΕΝΕΙΑ
- ΕΠΙΔΗΜΙΟΛΟΓΙΑ
- ΔΙΑΓΝΩΣΗ
- ΚΛΙΝΙΚΗ ΕΙΚΟΝΑ
- ΘΕΡΑΠΕΙΑ

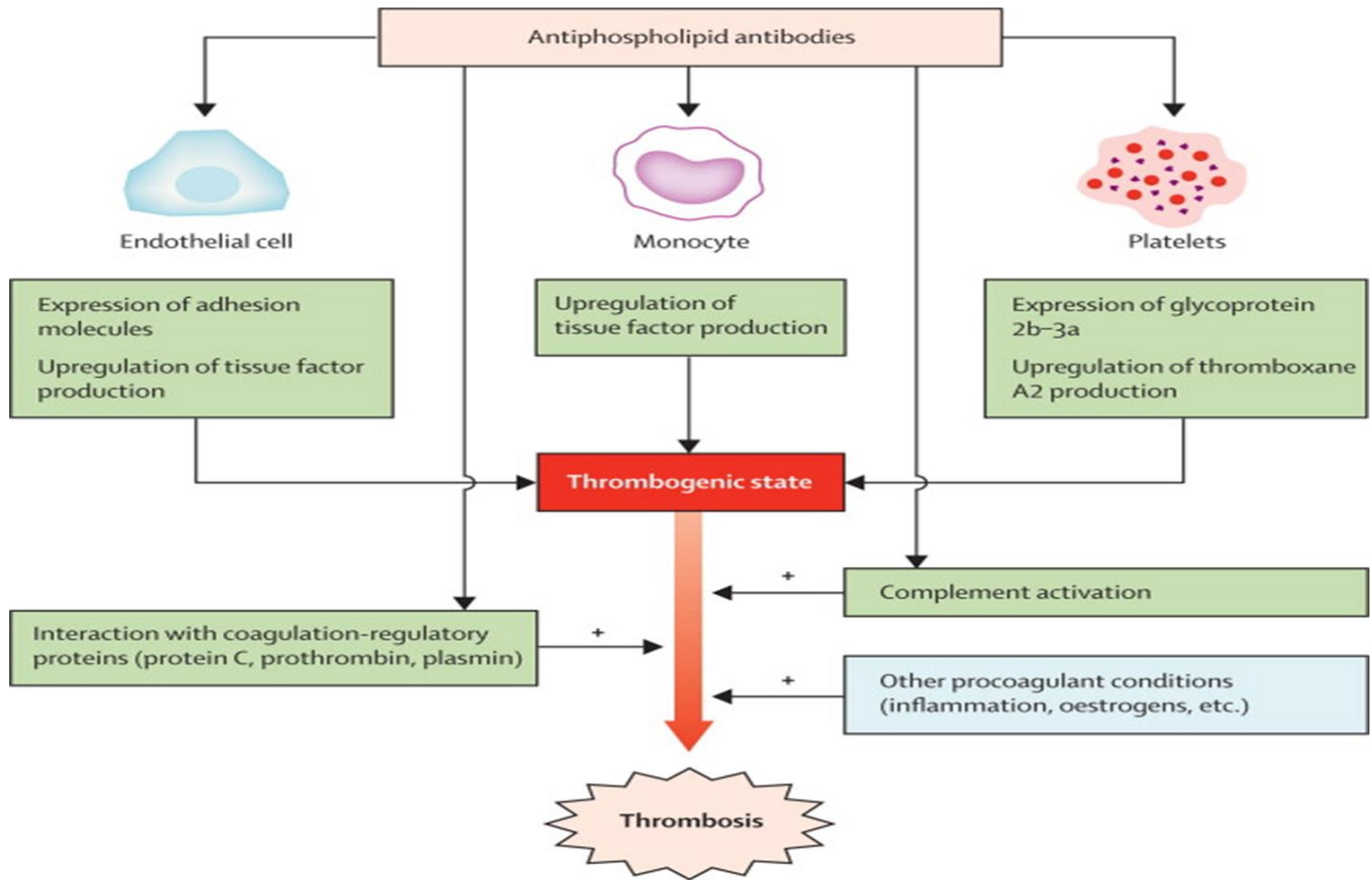


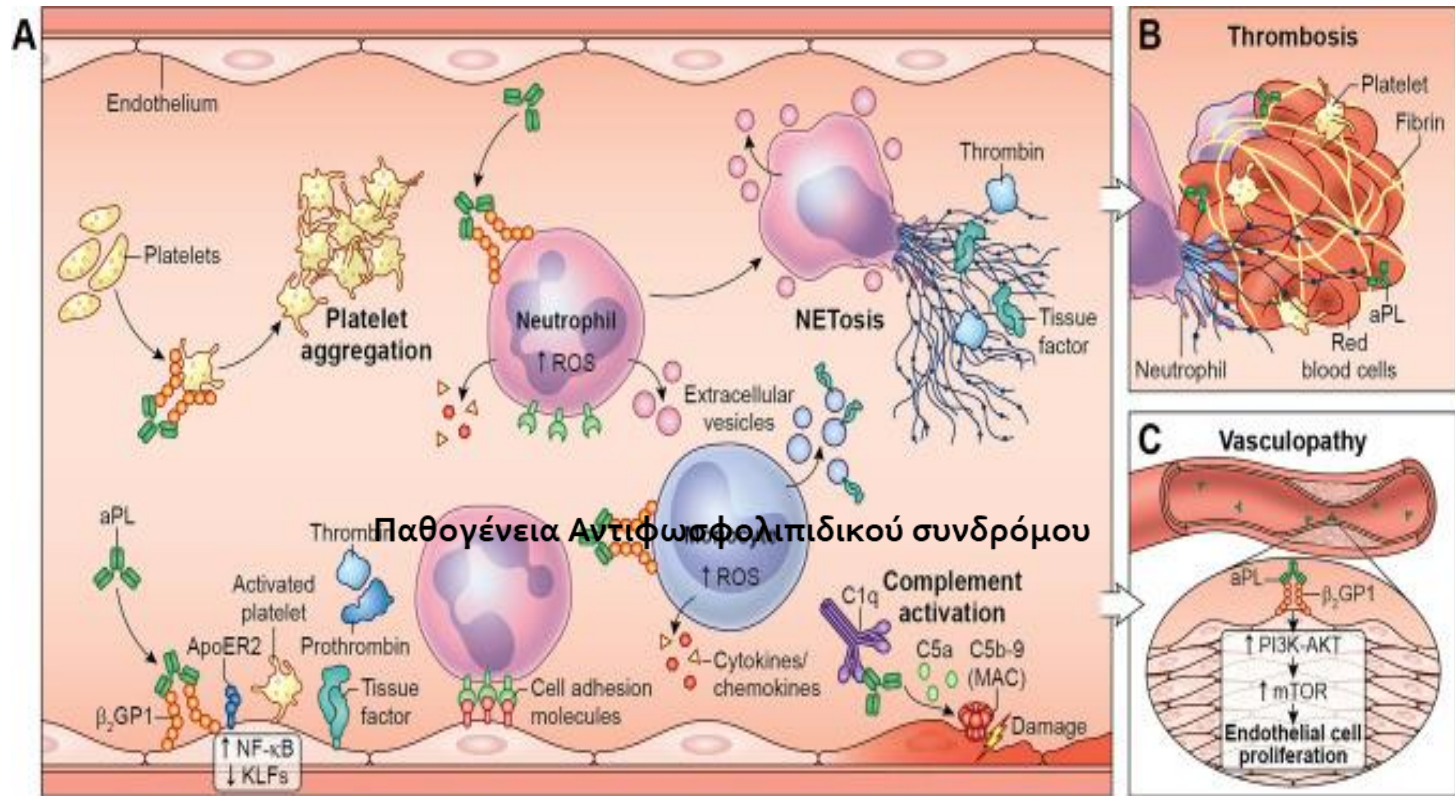
## ΑΝΤΙΦΩΣΦΟΛΙΠΙΔΙΚΟ ΣΥΝΔΡΟΜΟ (APS)

Χρόνια αγγειοαποφρακτική νόσος με επεισόδια αρτηριακής ή/και φλεβικής θρόμβωσης, εμβρυϊκό θάνατο και θετικά αντιφωσφολιπιδικά αντισώματα (aPL)”

*Hughes G, Br Med J 287:1088-1089, 1983*

# Παθογένεια Αντιφωσfolιπιδικού συνδρόμου





A. Endothelial cells increase expression of tissue factor (TF) and adhesion molecules. Complement damages the endothelium via the membrane attack complex (MAC) and acts as a chemoattractant via C5a. Monocytes express TF and cytokines such as tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α), interleukin-1 beta (IL-1β), and type I interferons (IFNs), and release microparticles. Neutrophils produce reactive oxygen species and release neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs).

B. NETs form an intravascular scaffold that promotes thrombus accretion.

C. Chronic activation of the endothelium by aPL can result in progressively occlusive vasculopathy



## Cardiovascular disease risk in antiphospholipid syndrome: Thrombo-inflammation and atherothrombosis

Maria G. Tektonidou<sup>\*</sup>

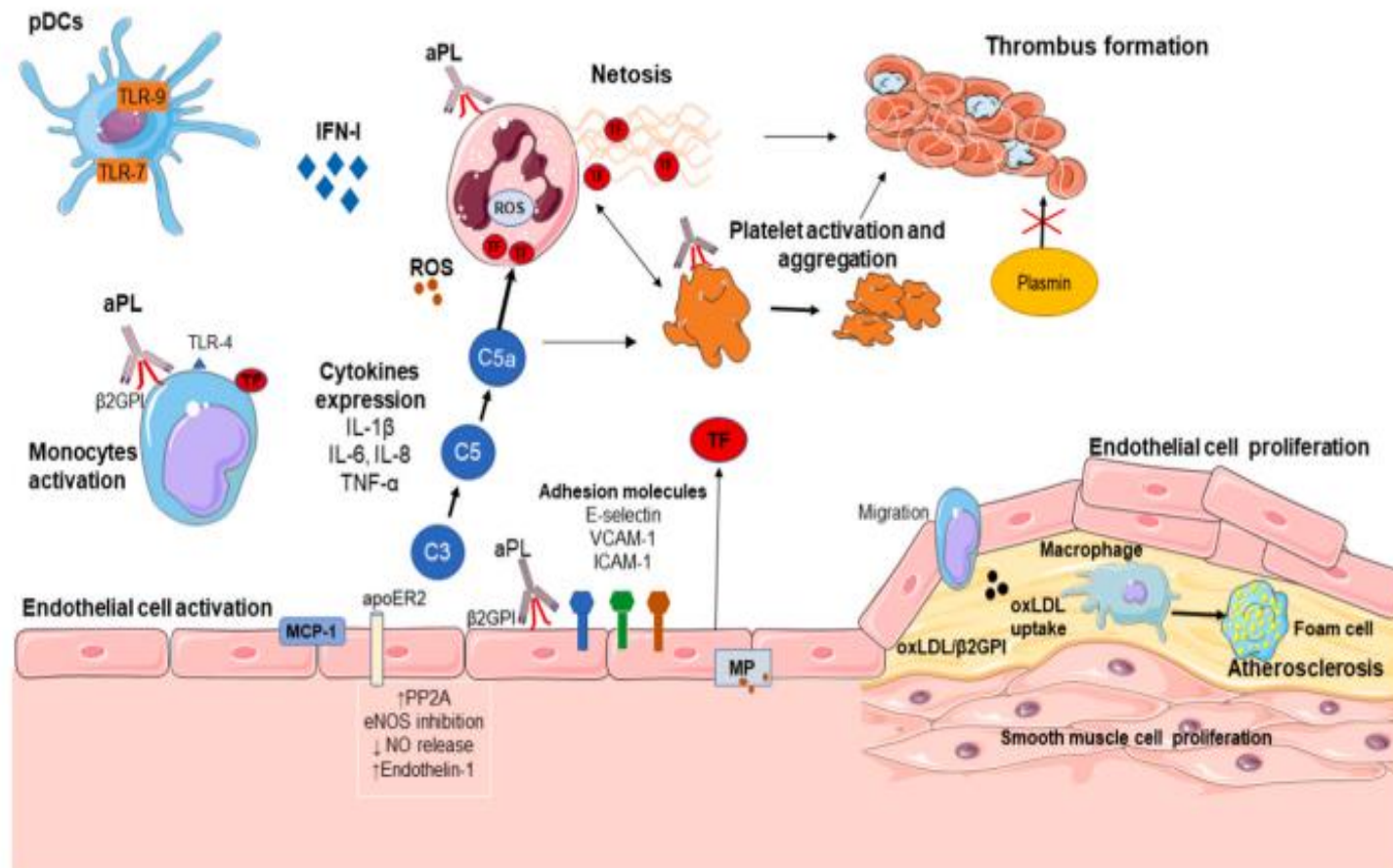


Fig. 1. Immuno-thrombo-atherogenic pathogenic pathway in Antiphospholipid syndrome.

Some mechanistic highlights of APS pathophysiology

<b>Cell or pathway</b>	<b>In vitro, aPL...</b>	<b>In patients, we can find...</b>
Endothelial cells	Increase expression of tissue factor and adhesion molecules [33, 34]	More endothelium-derived microparticles [35, 36]
Platelets	Induce activation under shear stress [37]	Increased platelet-leukocyte aggregates [38]
Monocytes	Trigger expression of tissue factor [39-42] and pro-inflammatory cytokines [43-45]	Increased tissue factor-expressing monocytes [46-48]
Neutrophils	Promote release of prothrombotic neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs) [49]	High levels of circulating NETs [49] and anti-NET antibodies [50]
Complement	Trigger cell lysis as measured by modified Ham test [51]	High levels of complement split products [52-54]
Coagulation	Interfere with coagulation inhibitors, especially protein C and antithrombin [55, 56]	High levels of the active free thiol form of factor XI [57]
Fibrinolysis	Interfere with activity of tissue plasminogen activator [58]	High levels of plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) [59-61]

*Knight S, Semin Immunopathol. 2022*

# Type I IFN pathway

## ✓ *Type I interferon signature* in primary APS patients

*Grenn RC, ARD 2017*

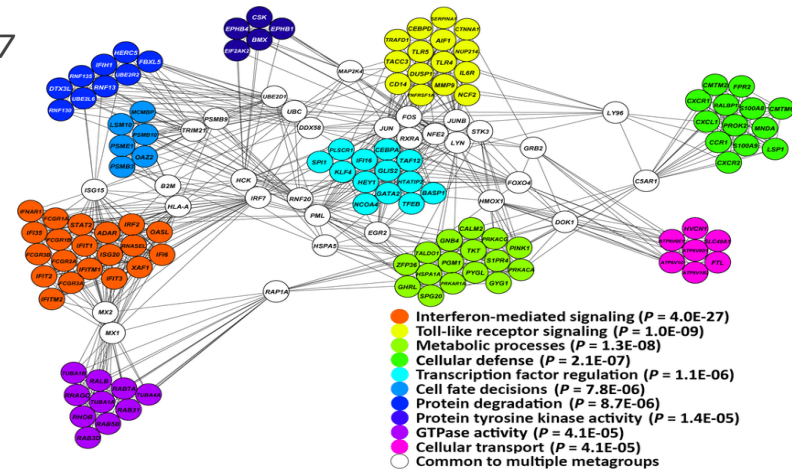
*van den Hoogen LL, ARD 2017*

## ✓ ↑Galectin-9 levels in patients with SLE, SLE+APS and PAPS (p<0.05) correlated with IFN-score, disease activity and tissue factor expression

*van den Hoogen LL, ARD 2018*

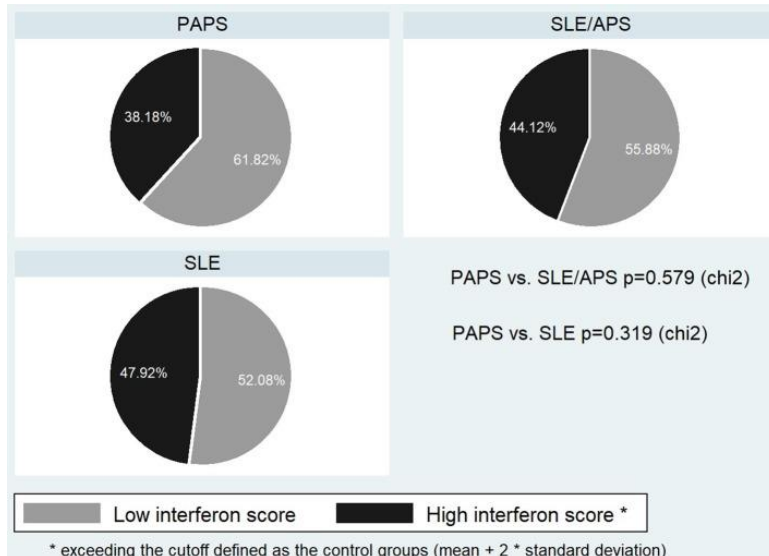
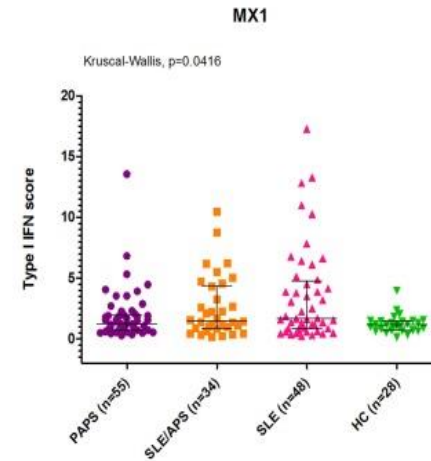
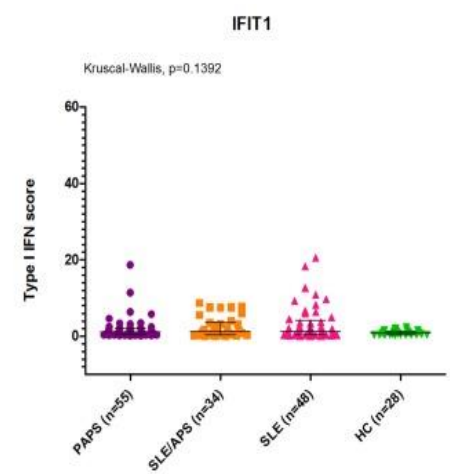
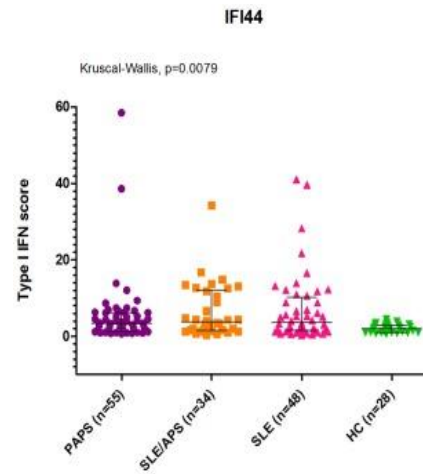
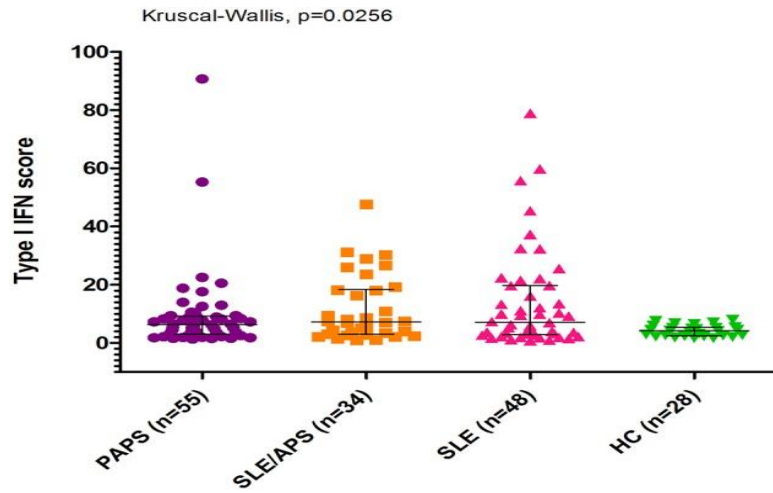
## ✓ *Transcriptome analysis of neutrophils* from 9 PAPS patients: overexpression of genes relevant to IFN signaling

*Knight J, JCI insight 2017*





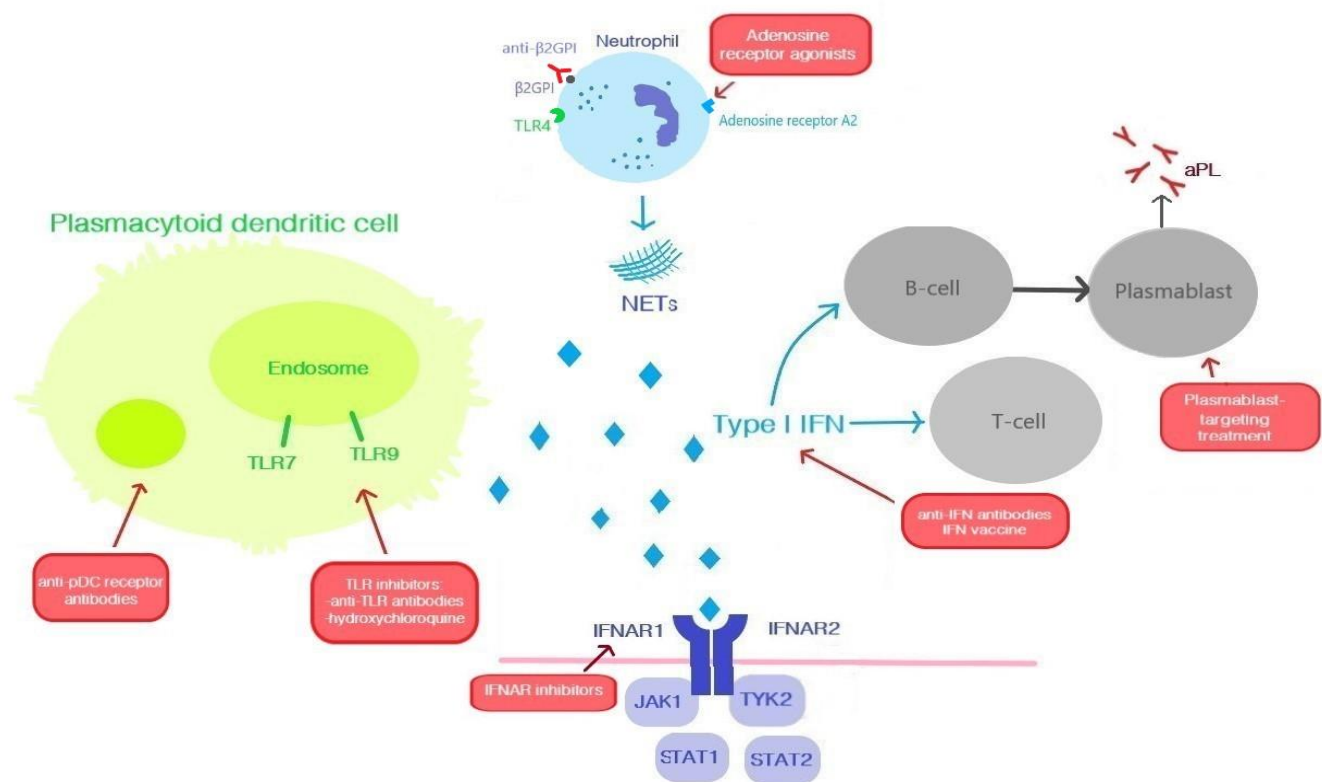
# Type I IFN pathway





## Type I interferon gene expression in antiphospholipid syndrome: Pathogenetic, clinical and therapeutic implications

Eleni Xourgia, Maria G. Tektonidou\*



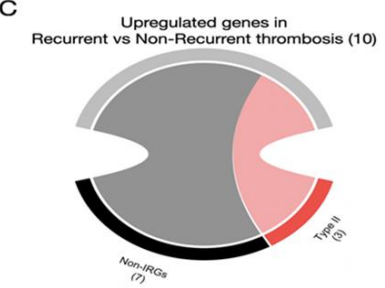
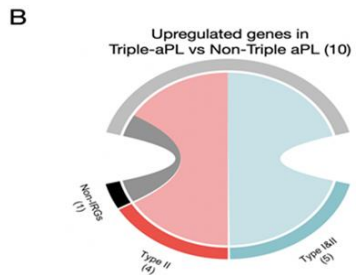
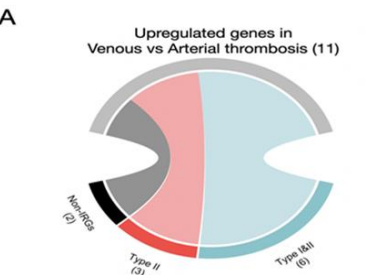
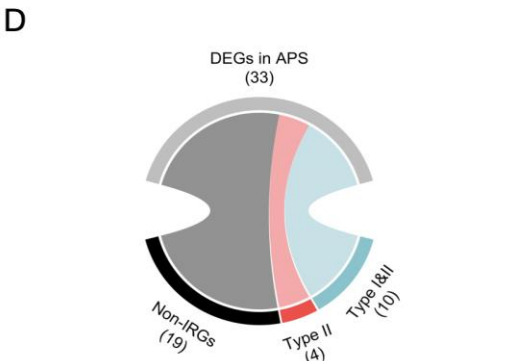
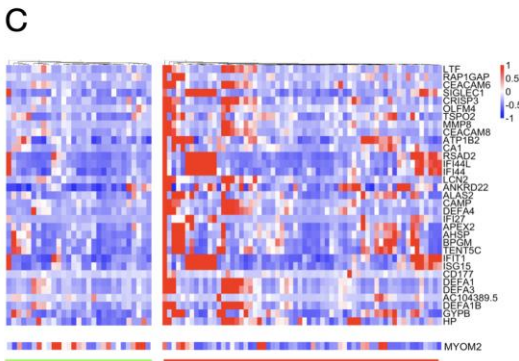
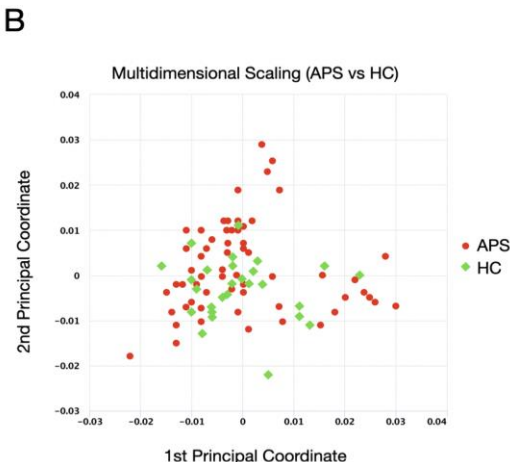
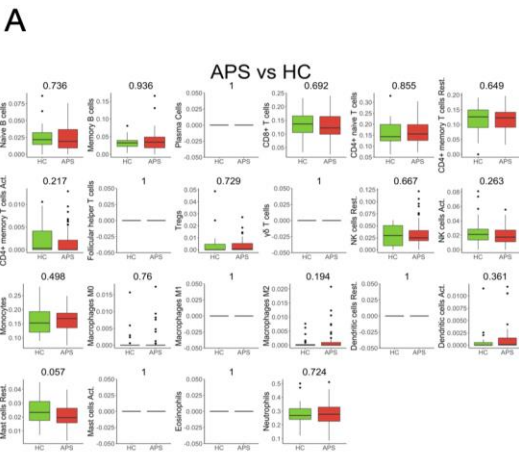
# ThrPAPS vs HCs

## Whole blood RNA Sequencing

- Differential gene expression analysis (DEGA) of 12.306 genes --34 deregulated genes
- 33 were upregulated by at least 2-fold

>40% were type I and II interferon-regulated genes (IRGs)

**Machine learning:** 79% accuracy to discriminate thrPAPS from HCs, 82% when only IRGs were analyzed



Verrou K, Sfrikakis PP, Tektonidou MG. Journal of Autoimmunity (in press)

# ΤΑΞΙΝΟΜΗΣΗ ΤΟΥ APS

- APS χωρίς υποκείμενο ρευματικό νόσημα (πρωτοπαθές)
- APS σχετιζόμενο με υποκείμενο ρευματικό νόσημα (κυρίως ΣΕΛ)
- Καταστροφικό APS (πολυοργανική ανεπάρκεια εξαιτίας πολλαπλών αποφρακτικών συμβαμμάτων των αγγείων)

## Κατηγορίες APS/aPL

- - Θρομβωτικό APS
- - Μαιευτικό APS
- - Θρομβωτικό+Μαιευτικό APS
- - Εκτός κριτηρίων APS εκδηλώσεις

### aPL+/non APS

- ΣΕΛ/aPL+
- Ασυμπτωματικοί aPL+ ασθενείς

# Επιπολασμός των Αντιφωσφολιπιδικών αντισωμάτων (aPL)

## Υγιή άτομα (< 2%)

### Λοιμώξεις

- Σύφιλη
- Νόσος Lyme
- TB
- Λοιμώδης ενδοκαρδίτιδα
- Ελονοσία
- HAV, HBV, HCV
- HTLV-I, CMV, VZV, HIV
- Λεπτοσπείρωση, λεισμανίαση

### Φάρμακα

- Φαινοθειαζίδες
- Φαινυντοίνη
- Υδραλαζίνη
- Προκαϊναμίδη
- Κινιδίνη
- Προπρανολόνη

### Νεοπλασίες

# Επιπολασμός των aPL

## Αυτοάνοσα ρευματικά νοσήματα

- Συστηματικός ερυθηματώδης λύκος (SLE)
- Ρευματοειδής αρθρίτιδα
- Σύνδρομο Sjogren
- Σκληρόδερμα

# Επιπολασμός των aPL

## Ασθενείς με SLE

- **20-40%** των ασθενών με SLE έχουν θετικά αντιφωσφολιπιδικά αντισώματα

*Mok C, Arthritis Rheum 2005; 2774,  
Kaiser L, Ann Rheum Dis 2009;68:238*

*Ποιοι θα εμφανίσουν τελικά σύνδρομο?*



## Risk of thrombosis in patients with antiphospholipid antibodies(aPL)

- Underlying autoimmune disorders (mainly SLE)
- aPL profile
- Traditional risk factors for thrombosis
- Genetic factors
- Other hypercoagulable states (protein C and protein S deficiency, factor V Leiden/prothrombin20210 gene mutation)

## 'High risk' aPL profile

- **Lupus Anticoagulant (LA) test:** strongest risk factor for thrombosis and pregnancy morbidity

*Ruffatti A, Ann Rheum Dis. 2011;70:1083-6*

*Buyon J, Ann Intern Med 2015*

- **Persistently positive aPL at medium/high titres**

*Martinez-Berriotxo A, Lupus. 2007;16:810-6*

*Tektonidou M, Arthritis Rheum 2009;61:29-36*

- **IgG isotype of aCL and anti- $\beta$ 2GPI ( more specific than IgM isotype)**

*Ottomo K, Arthritis Rheum. 2012 ;64:504-12*

- **Triple positivity (LA and aCL και anti- $\beta$ 2GPI):** ↑ risk of arterial /venous thrombosis and pregnancy morbidity, 30% recurrent thrombotic events

*Pengo R, J Thromb Haemost 2010;8:237-42*

*Bazzan M, Autoimmun Rev 2013 ;12:826-31*

# aPL profile

- Anti-phosphatidylserine/prothrombin abs(anti-PS/PT):  
significant association with LA test/dRVVT ( $p < 0.0001$ ) and arterial/venous thromboses in SLE
- **Systematic review:** aPS/PT: higher risk than anti-PT for arterial and/or venous thrombosis (**OR 5.11**; 95%CI 4.2-6.3 and OR 1.82; 95%CI 1.44-2.75, respectively).
- 62% sensitivity και 97% specificity for APS (in-house assay)

*Sciascia S, Thromb Haemost. 2014;111:354-64*

## aPL Score

- **aPL-Score** (according to aPL **type**, **isotype** (IgG, IgM) and **titre**): higher in patients with thrombosis/pregnancy morbidity ( $P < 0.00001$ )
- **aPL-Score of  $\geq 30$** : independent risk factor for thrombosis in SLE (**HR 3.14** [95% CI 1.383-7.150],  $P = 0.006$ ) .

*Ottomo K, Arthritis Rheum. 2012 ;64:504-12*

- **Global Anti-Phospholipid Syndrome Score**: (aPL, **HT**, **lipidemia**) : higher in patients with history of thrombosis vs those without [**GAPSS 9.5 vs 3.9 respectively,  $P < 0.001$** ]
- **GAPSS > 16**: the only significant predictor of thrombosis [**HR = 6.17** (95% CI 1.70, 22.40)].

*Sciascia S, Arthritis Care Res 2014 ;66:1915*

*Zuily S, Rheumatology 2015*

# Thrombosis risk in patients with positive aPL

## Traditional risk factors

- Hypertension (mainly arterial thrombosis)

*Zuily S, Thromb Res. 2013;132:e1-7*

- Hyperlipidemia

*Matyja-Bednarczyk A, Thromb Res. 2014;133:173-6*

- Diabetes, obesity, estrogens, family history (recurrent thrombosis)

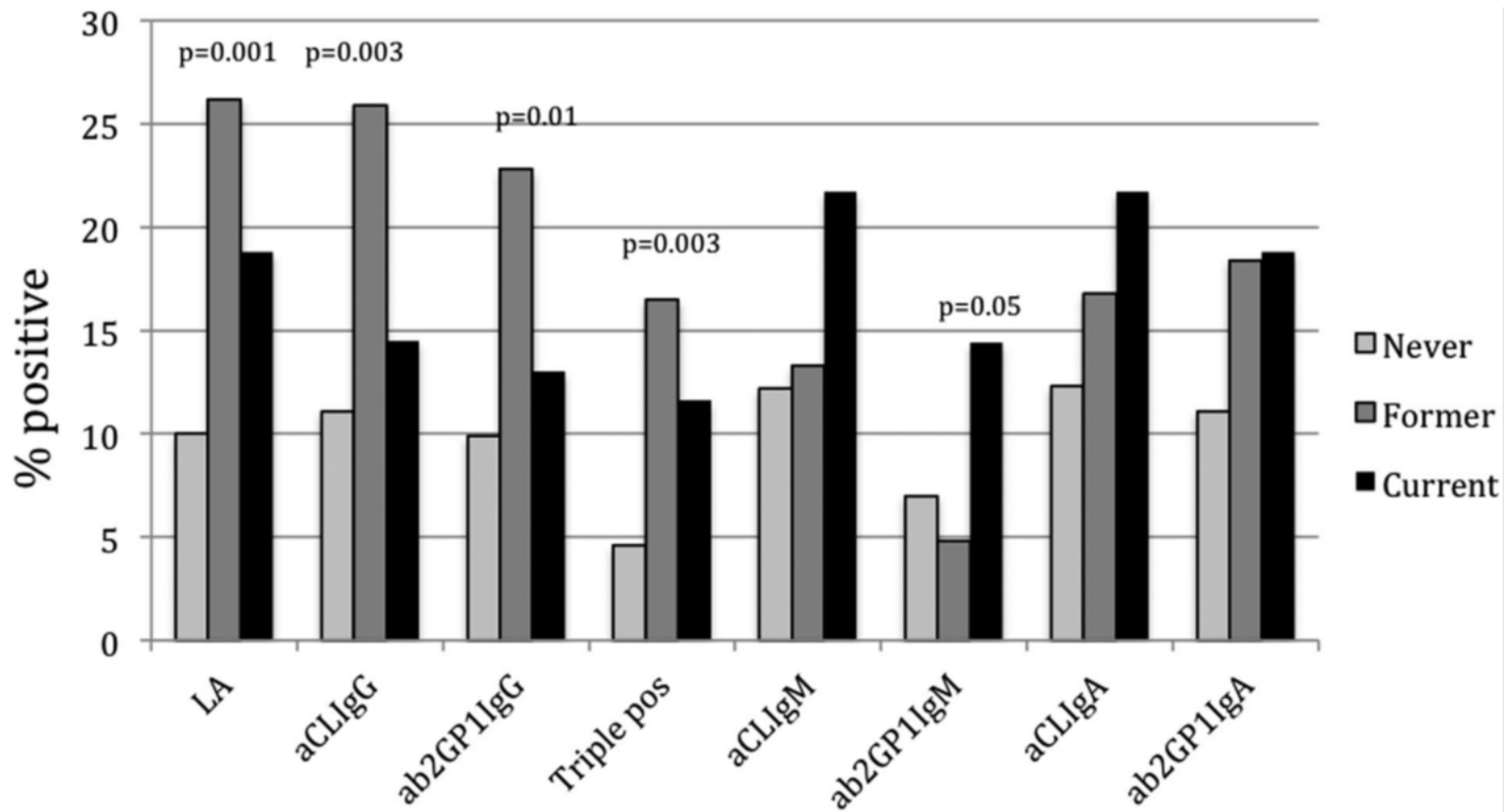
*Bazzan M, Autoimmun Rev. 2013;12:826-31*

- Smoking

*Gustaffson J, Ann Rheum Dis 2014*

## Cigarette smoking, antiphospholipid antibodies and vascular events in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus.

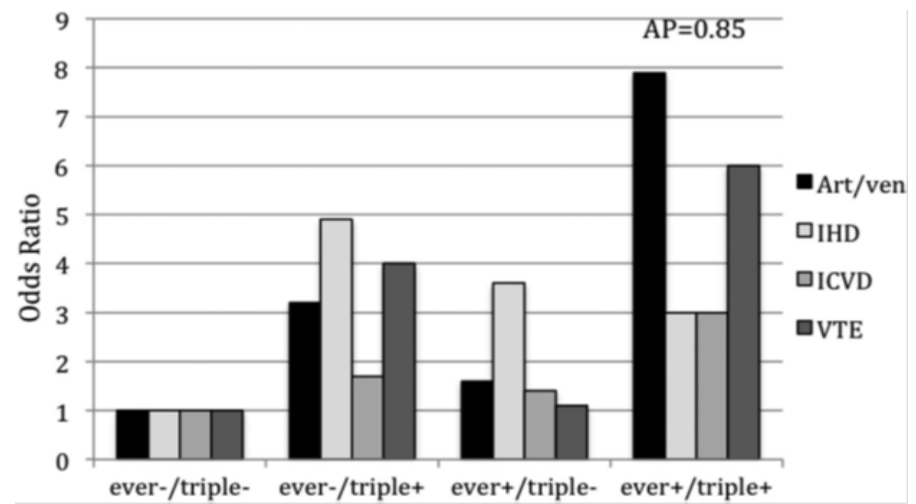
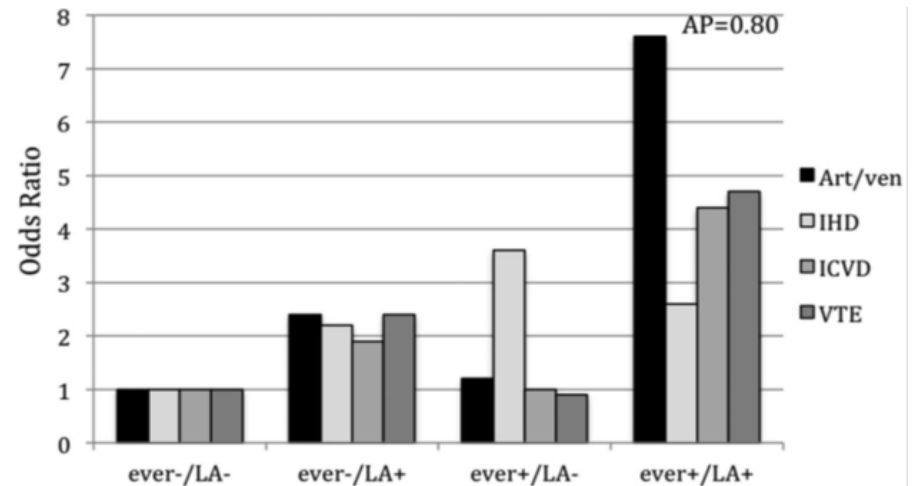
Gustafsson JT, Gunnarsson I, Källberg H, Pettersson S, Zickert A, Vikerfors A, Möller S, Rönnelid J, Elvin K, Svenungsson E. *Ann Rheum Dis.* 2014 Apr



## Cigarette smoking, antiphospholipid antibodies and vascular events in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus.

Gustafsson JT, Gunnarsson I, Källberg H, Pettersson S, Zickert A, Vikerfors A, Möller S, Rönnelid J, Elvin K, Svenungsson E. *Ann Rheum Dis.* 2014 Apr

- Combination of smoking (ever regular) and aPL (LA/triple positivity): strongly associated with vascular events



# Thrombosis risk in patients with positive aPL

## Genetic factors

- **HLA-DRB1\*04**: more frequently in SLE patients with ischemic cerebrovascular events /associated with all specificities of aPL
- **HLA-DRB1\*13** : associated with any vascular event in SLE and with IgG aPL
- **Combined HLA-DRB1\*04/\*13**: significant additive interaction for any vascular events.

	Meta-analyses		
	N (%)	OR (95% CI)	p Value
<b>DRB1*04</b>			
aβ <sub>2</sub> GP1 IgG	67 (46.5)	2.66 (1.81 to 3.91)	<0.00001
aCL IgG	60 (41.4)	1.99 (1.35 to 2.93)	0.0005
aCL IgM	59 (39.1)	1.76 (1.20 to 2.58)	0.004
aPT IgG†	32 (40.0)	1.69 (1.04 to 2.76)	0.03
≥2aPL‡	63 (44.4)	2.33 (1.58 to 3.44)	<0.00001
LAC§	40 (47.1)	2.57 (1.53 to 4.32)	0.0003
<b>DRB1*13</b>			
aβ <sub>2</sub> GP1 IgG	48 (33.3)	1.69 (1.13 to 2.52)	0.01
aCL IgG	47 (32.4)	1.60 (1.07 to 2.40)	0.02
aCL IgM	43 (28.5)	1.25 (0.83 to 1.88)	0.28
aPT IgG†	28 (35.0)	1.66 (1.01 to 2.75)	0.05
≥2aPL‡	45 (31.7)	1.51 (1.00 to 2.28)	0.05
LAC§	28 (32.9)	1.65 (0.96 to 2.86)	0.06



## ΕΠΙΠΤΩΣΗ ΚΑΙ ΕΠΙΠΟΛΑΣΜΟΣ

Data on APS incidence and prevalence around the world

Author	Country/geographical area	Study period	Case definition	Sample	Number of cases	Incidence per 100,000 (F/M)	Prevalence per 100,000 (F/M)	Incidence peak age (F/M)
Duarte-Garcia [6••]	USA/Midwestern Olmsted county	2000–2015	Sydney 2006 criteria	Population-based Record-linkage system	33	2.1 (2.1/2.0)	50 (51/48)	75+/55–64
Hwang [8]	South Korea	2008–2017	Diagnostic and utilization codes combination	Nationwide claims database	3088	0.75 (0.91/0.59)	6.19 (7.62/4.76)	30–39 and 70–79/70–79
Luisi [7]	Argentina	2000–2015	Sydney 2006 criteria	Health management organization	53 (50 definite)	2.6 (2.9/2.0)	40.5 (NA/NA)	30–39/60–69
Radin [9]	Northwest Italy (Piedmont and Aosta Valley)	2010–2019	Definite APS diagnoses	Regional rare disease registry	740	1.1 (NA/NA)	16.8 (NA/NA)	NA
Rodziewicz	UK	1990–	Diagnostic	Nationwide	2606	1.8	43	35–

# Revised Sapporo (Sydney) classification criteria (2016)

Definite APS: 1 clinical + laboratory

## 1. Vascular thrombosis

One or more clinical episodes of arterial, venous, or small-vessel thrombosis in any tissue or organ confirmed by imaging, Doppler studies, or histopathology, with the exception of superficial venous thrombosis.

For histopathologic confirmation, thrombosis should be present without significant evidence of inflammation of the vessel wall.

## 2. Pregnancy morbidity

(a) ≥3 unexplained consecutive spontaneous abortions <10th week of gestation, with maternal anatomic or hormonal abnormalities and paternal and maternal chromosomal causes excluded,

or

(b) ≥ 1 unexplained deaths of a morphologically normal fetus ≥10th week of gestation, with normal fetal morphology documented by ultrasound or by direct examination of the fetus,

or

(c) ≥ 1 premature births of a morphologically normal neonate <34th week of gestation because of severe preeclampsia or eclampsia or severe placental insufficiency

## Laboratory criteria - Antiphospholipid antibodies

	<b>Sapporo criteria</b>	<b>Sydney criteria</b>
<b>Lupus Anticoagulant (LA)</b>	Screening, mixing, and confirmation tests ( <a href="#">ISTH guidelines</a> )	Screening, mixing, and confirmation tests (ISTH guidelines)
	Two or more occasions at least <b>6 weeks</b> apart	Two or more occasions at least <b>12 weeks</b> apart
<b>Anticardiolipin (aCL) antibodies</b>	Detected by standardized $\beta$ 2GPI-dependent ELISA	Detected by standardized ELISA
	IgG and/or IgM	IgG and/or IgM
	Medium or high titer	Medium or high <b>titer (&gt;40 units IgG or IgM antiphospholipid antibody titer or &gt;99th percentile)</b>
	Two or more occasions at least 6 weeks apart	Two or more occasions at least <b>12 weeks</b> apart
<b>Anti-<math>\beta</math>2GPI antibodies</b>	–	<b>IgG and/or IgM</b>
		<b>Titer &gt;99th percentile</b>
		Two or more occasions at least 12 weeks apart

## Κλινικές εκδηλώσεις στην έναρξη της νόσου (Ευρωπαϊκό Registry)

Εν τω βάθει φλεβοθρόμβωση	32%
Θρομβοπενία	22%
Livedo reticularis	20%
A.E.E	13%
Πνευμονική εμβολή	9%
Εμβρυϊκός θάνατος	8%
Παροδικό ισχαιμικό A.E.E	7%
Αιμολυτική αναιμία	7 %

# Revised Sapporo (Sydney) classification criteria (2016)

Κάποιες εκδηλώσεις σχετιζόμενες με το APS είναι αδιαμφισβήτητα συχνές αλλά όχι ειδικές για τους ασθενείς με APS (**non-criteria APS manifestations**):

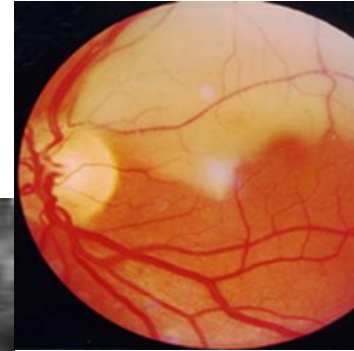
- Νεφροπάθεια σχετιζόμενη με APS
- Βλάβες των βαλβίδων της καρδιάς
- Θρομβοπενία
- Livedo reticularis
- Νευρολογικές εκδηλώσεις (επιληψία, γνωσιακές διαταραχές)

# Αρτηριακή ή/και φλεβική θρόμβωση στο APS

- Η θρόμβωση μπορεί να συμβεί σε οποιοδήποτε αγγείο, οποιουδήποτε μεγέθους (μεγάλου, μέσου ή μικρού μεγέθους)
- Φλεβική θρόμβωση= συχνότερη από την αρτηριακή
- Εν τω βάθει φλεβοθρόμβωση (DVT)=πιο συχνή θρομβωτική εκδήλωση
- 1/3 ασθενών με DVT → πνευμονική εμβολή
- Υποτροπιάζουσες πνευμονικές εμβολές → πνευμονική υπέρταση (σπάνια).

# Αρτηριακή ή/και φλεβική θρόμβωση στο APS

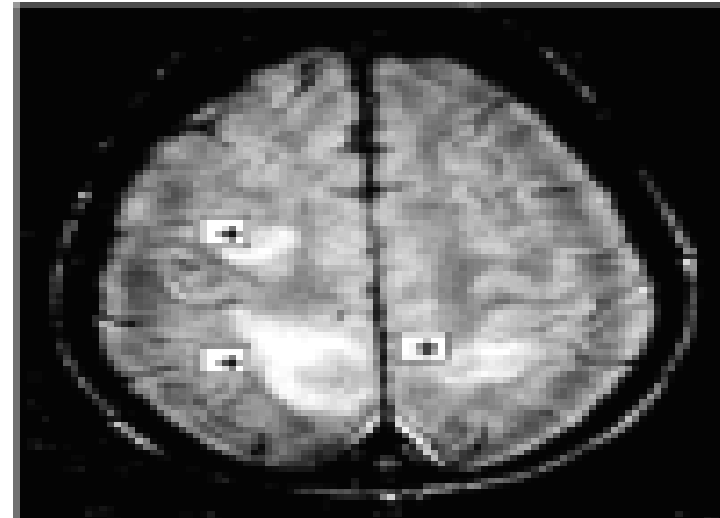
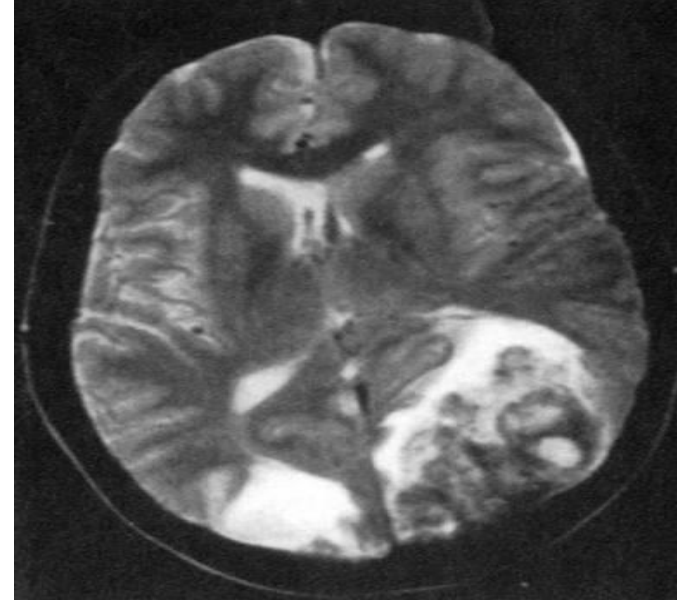
- Α.Ε.Ε και ΤΙΑ: η πιο συχνή αρτηριακή θρομβωτική εκδήλωση
- Άλλες εντοπίσεις αρτηριακής θρόμβωσης: αμφιβληστροειδική, στεφανιαία, βραχιόνιες, μεσεντέριες, νεφρικά αρτηριόλια
- Υψηλή υποψία σε νέους ασθενείς χωρίς προδιαθεσικούς παράγοντες για αθηροσκλήρυνση



# Νευρολογικές εκδηλώσεις

- Α.Ε.Ε και ΤΙΑ= οι πιο συχνές νευρολογικές επιπλοκές

→ εκδηλώσεις in situ θρόμβωσης ή εμβόλων από βαλβιδική καρδιακή νόσο.





## The estimated frequency of antiphospholipid antibodies in young adults with cerebrovascular events: a systematic review.

- Μετα-ανάλυση -Medline 1970-2013
- Θετικά aPL σε νέους ασθενείς <50 ετών με θρομβωτικά εγκεφαλικά επεισόδια κάθε τύπου : 17%
- 22% για ΑΕΕ.
- Θετικά aPL: **5 –πλάσιο κίνδυνο εκδήλωσης ΑΕΕ, ΤΙΑ**
- Σημαντικά μεθοδολογικά προβλήματα (ορισμός φυσιολογικών ορίων /αναπαραγωγή αποτελεσμάτων)

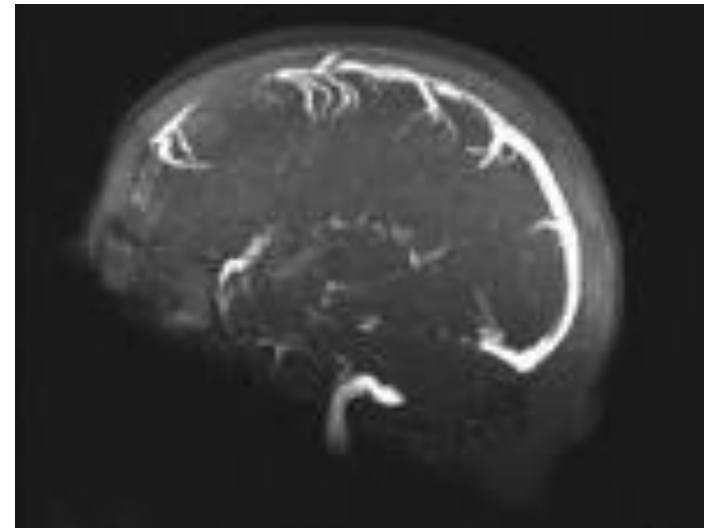
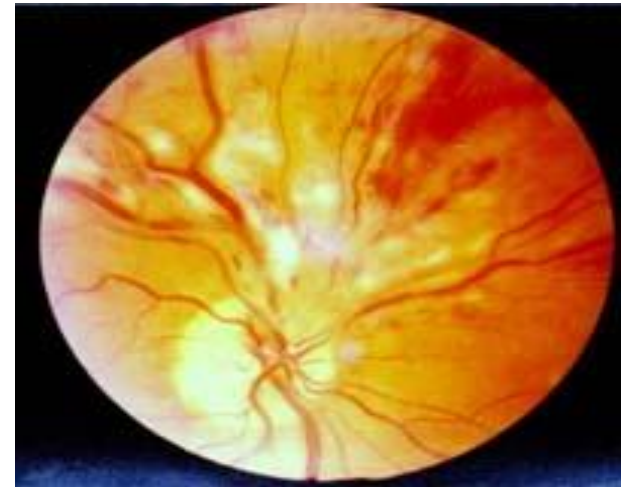
# Νευρολογικές εκδηλώσεις εκτός των Α.Ε.Ε?

- Επιληψία
- Ψύχωση
- Χορεία
- Ημικρανία
- MS-like βλάβες ΚΝΣ

*Rodrigues CE, Carvalho JF, Shoenfeld Y. Eur J Clin Invest. 2010 ;40:350-9.  
Hughes GRV. Lupus 2010;19:343*

# Νευρολογικές εκδηλώσεις εκτός των Α.Ε.Ε?

- Θρόμβωση αμφιβληστροειδικής αρτηρίας ή φλέβας
- Θρόμβωση φλεβικών κόλπων
- Νευροαισθητηριακή απώλεια ακοής
- Εγκάρσια μυελίτιδα
- Γνωσιακές διαταραχές



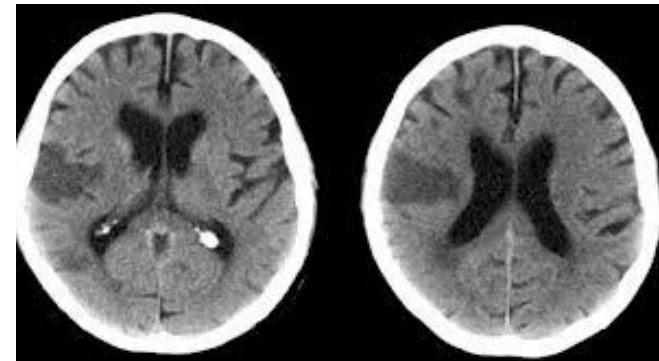
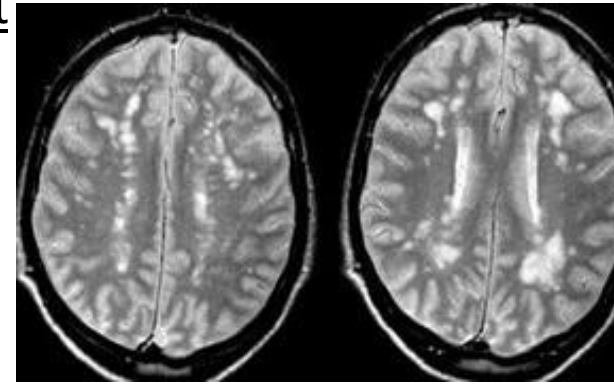
[EULAR recommendations for the management of systemic lupus erythematosus with neuropsychiatric manifestations: report of a task force of the EULAR standing committee for clinical affairs.](#)

Bertsias GK, Ioannidis J, Aringer M, Bollen E, Bombardieri S, Bruce IN, Cervera R, Dalakas M, Doria A, Hanly JG, Huizinga TW, Isenberg D, Kallenberg C, Piette JC, Schneider M, Scolding N, Smolen J, Stara A, Tassiulas I, Tektonidou M, Tincani A, van Buchem MA, van Vollenhoven R, Ward M, Gordon C, Boumpas DT. *Ann Rheum Dis.* 2010 ;69(12):2074-82

NPSLE syndrome	Risk factor- aPL antibodies	Evidence level
<b>Seizure disorder</b>	OR 3.7–6.1 (aCL-IgG), 2.9; 95% CI 1.0–8.5 (aCL-IgM), 6.2; 95% CI 1.7–22.5 (LA)	<b>1</b>
<b>Cognitive dysfunction</b>	OR 1.9–4.9 (for severe cognitive dysfunction)	<b>2</b>
<b>Myelopathy</b>	OR 9.6; 95% CI 1.8–50.7 (LAC)	<b>2</b>
<b>Cranial neuropathy</b>	OR 1.07; 95% CI 1.00–1.14 (aCL-IgG)	<b>3</b>

# Μαγνητική τομογραφία εγκεφάλου

- Συχνότερα σε ασθενείς με SLE/APS vs SLE/non APS:  
Κενοτοπιώδη έμφρακτα (lacunar infarcts) εν τω βάθει λευκής ουσίας
- Φλοϊϊκά έμφρακτα κατανομής μέσης εγκεφαλικής αρτηρίας
- Έμφρακτα μεταβατικής ζώνης
- Βλάβες πρόσθιων βασικών γαγγλίων



# Καρδιακές εκδηλώσεις-βαλβιδική νόσος

- Βαλβιδική νόσος: 20-30% των ασθενών με APS σε Doppler U/S καρδιάς (συνήθως ασυμπτωματικοί)
- Η μιτροειδής προσβάλλεται πιο συχνά, ακολουθούμενη από την αορτική.
- Βαλβιδική ανεπάρκεια= η πιο συχνή αιμοδυναμική ανωμαλία
- Libman-Sacks

# Myocardial dysfunction

Ann Rheum Dis 2001;60:43-48

43

## Right ventricular diastolic dysfunction in patients with anticardiolipin antibodies and antiphospholipid syndrome

M G Tektonidou, J P A Ioannidis, I Moysakis, K A Boki, V Vassiliou, P G Vlachoyiannopoulos, M K Kyriakidis, H M Moutsopoulos



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Seminars in Arthritis and Rheumatism

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/semarthrit](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/semarthrit)



### Evolution of cardiac dysfunction in patients with antiphospholipid antibodies and/or antiphospholipid syndrome: A 10-year follow-up study

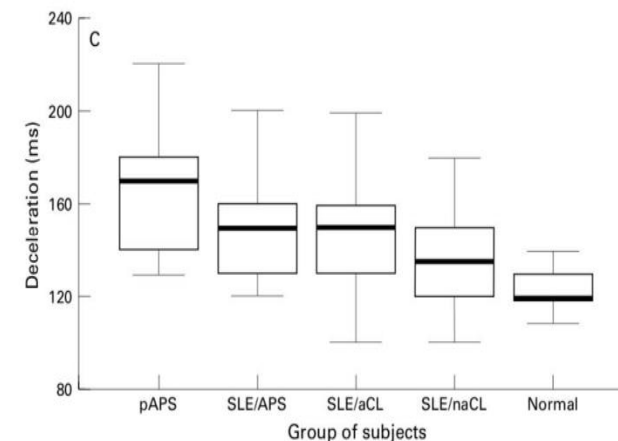
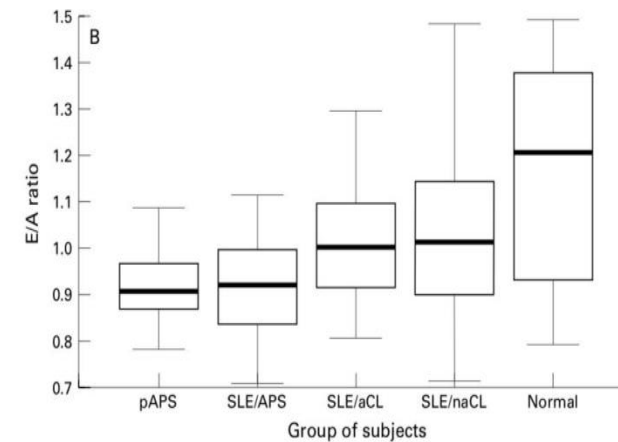
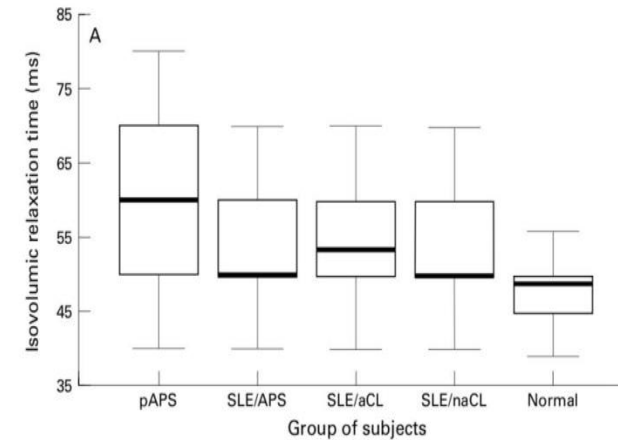
Christos Kampolis, MD<sup>a,1</sup>, Maria Tektonidou, MD<sup>b,1</sup>, Ioannis Moysakis, MD<sup>c</sup>, George E. Tzelepis, MD<sup>a</sup>, Haralampos Moutsopoulos, MD, FACP, FRCP<sup>a</sup>, Panayiotis G. Vlachoyiannopoulos, MD<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Pathophysiology, University of Athens Medical School, 75 Mikras Asias St, Athens 11527, Greece

<sup>b</sup> First Department of Internal Medicine, University of Athens Medical School, Laiko Hospital, Athens, Greece

<sup>c</sup> Laiko Hospital, Athens, Greece

- Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction similarly progresses in PAPS, SLE/APS, SLE/aPL(+)/non APS and SLE/non aPL patients.
- Right ventricular diastolic dysfunction progresses mainly in the SLE/APS group.



# Silent myocardial ischemic disease

ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATISM  
Vol. 62, No.7, July 2010, pp 2093-2100  
DOI 10.1002/art.27488  
© 2010, American College of Rheumatology

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## Asymptomatic Myocardial Ischemic Disease in Antiphospholipid Syndrome

A Controlled Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging Study

Karim Sacré,<sup>1</sup> Benoit Brihaye,<sup>1</sup> Fabien Hyafil,<sup>1</sup> Jean-Michel Serfaty,<sup>1</sup> Brigitte Escoubet,<sup>2</sup> Maria-Christina Zennaro,<sup>3</sup> Olivier Lidove,<sup>1</sup> Jean-Pierre Laissy,<sup>1</sup> and Thomas Papo<sup>1</sup>

### CMR study

27 APS patients vs 81 HC:

- higher prevalence of late gadolinium enhancement, *consistent with subclinical coronary microvascular dysfunction*

## ORIGINAL PAPERS

Adv Clin Exp Med 2016, 25, 6, 1199-1205  
DOI: 10.17219/acem/63753

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ISSN 1899-5276

AGNIESZKA PADJAS<sup>1, A, B, D, F</sup>, WOJCIECH PŁAZAK<sup>2, B-D, F</sup>,  
MAGDALENA CELIŃSKA-LOWENHOFF<sup>1, B</sup>, ADAM MAZUREK<sup>2, B</sup>,  
CARLO PERRICONE<sup>3, E</sup>, PIOTR PODOLEC<sup>2, E</sup>, JACEK MUSIAŁ<sup>1, A, E, F</sup>

### Myocardial Ischaemia, Coronary Atherosclerosis and Pulmonary Pressure Elevation in Antiphospholipid Syndrome Patients\*

<sup>1</sup> Department of Internal Medicine, Allergy and Immunology, Jagiellonian University Medical College, Kraków, Poland

<sup>2</sup> Department of Cardiac and Vascular Diseases, John Paul II Hospital, Jagiellonian University Medical College, Kraków, Poland

<sup>3</sup> Rheumatology Unit, Department of Medicine, Sapienza University, Rome, Italy

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### PET study





Article

## Silent Myocardial Perfusion Abnormalities Detected by Stress Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance in Antiphospholipid Syndrome: A Case-Control Study

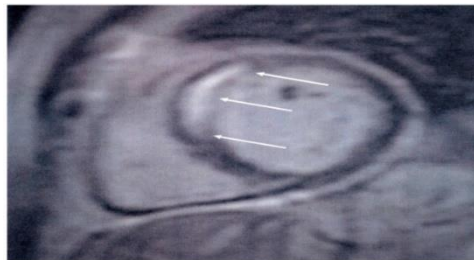
Sophie I. Mavrogeni <sup>1</sup>, George Markousis-Mavrogenis <sup>1</sup>, Olga Karapanagiotou <sup>1</sup>, Konstantinos Toutouzas <sup>2</sup>, Panagiotis Argyriou <sup>3</sup>, Stella Velitsista <sup>3</sup>, George Kanoupakis <sup>3</sup>, Dimitrios Apostolou <sup>3</sup>, David Hautemann <sup>4</sup>, Petros P. Sfikakis <sup>5</sup> and Maria G. Tektonidou <sup>5,\*</sup>

**Late gadolinium enhancement (LGE):** 16 (36%) of 44 asymptomatic APS patients (*mean age=44, 64% women*) vs none of 44 age/sex-matched HC ( $p<0.001$ ). Only 2/16 abnormal coronary angiography

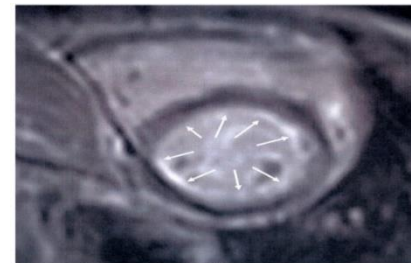
**Myocardial perfusion reserve index (MPRI):** significantly lower in APS vs HC [1.5 (0.9-1.9) vs. 2.7 (2.2-3.2),  $p<0.001$ ] independently of any LGE presence

Mult. Analysis: no associations with APS-related or classic CVD risk factors, hs-CRP and hs-TnT {*trend for LDA for MPRI, no of CVD events for LGE in univ. analysis*}.

1-year f-up: 3 patients experienced CAD complications (*1 MI, 2 unstable angina*), notably those with the lowest MPRI



(A)



(B)

(A) Septal myocardial scar following the distribution of the left anterior descending artery

(B) Diffuse subendocardial scar

# Νεφρική προσβολή στο APS

- Θρόμβωση/στένωση της νεφρικής αρτηρίας
- Θρόμβωση της νεφρικής φλέβας
- Αυξημένη πιθανότητα θρόμβωσης νεφρικού μοσχεύματος
- Αγγειοαποφρακτική νεφροπάθεια των μικρών αγγείων (APS νεφροπάθεια)

*Tektonidou MG., Clin Rev Allergy Immunol 2009;36:131-40.*

*Alchi B, Nephrol Dial Transplant 2010;25:3147-54.*

# Νεφροπάθεια σχετιζόμενη με APS

Nochy D et al, *Am. Soc. Nephrol* 1999 (primary APS)

Daugas E et al, *J Am Soc Nephrol* 2002;13:42-52 (SLE/APS)

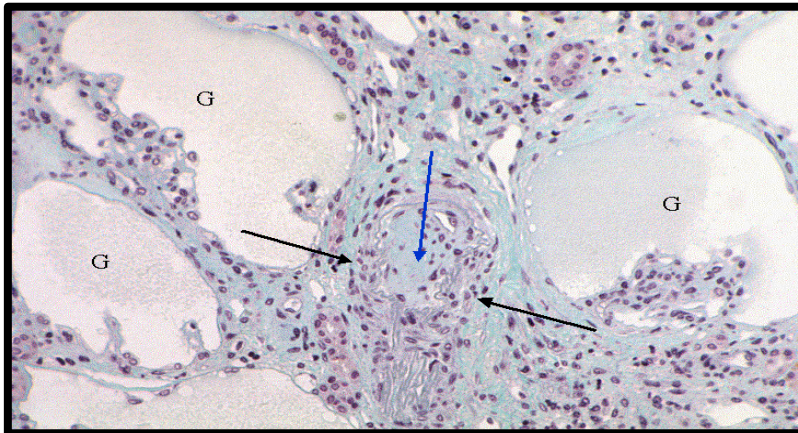
Tektonidou M, et al. *Arthritis Rheum* 2004;50:2567-79 (SLE/APS. SLE/aPL+)

Tektonidou M, et al. *J Rheumatology* 2008; 35:1983-8 (PAPS, SLE/APS, CAPS)

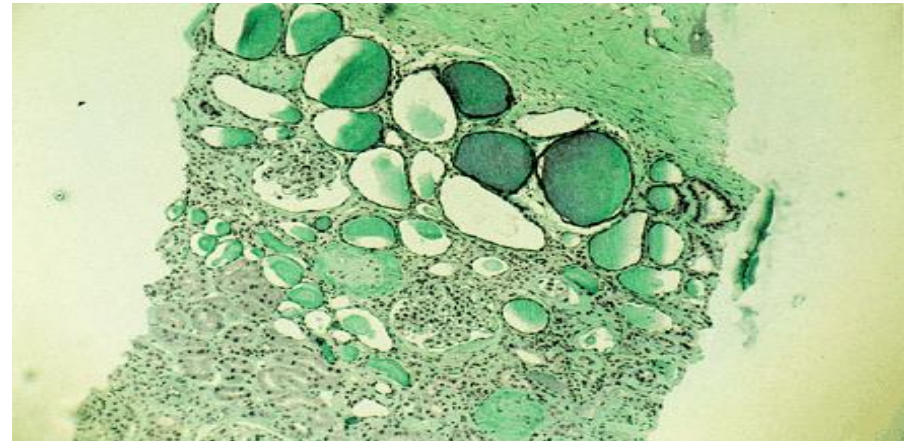
• Θρομβωτική μικροαγγειοπάθεια (TMA) οξεία βλάβη

- Ινώδης υπερπλασία της εσωτερικής στοιβάδας
- Οργανωμένοι θρόμβοι με επανασυρραγκοποίηση
- Ινώδης απόφραξη αρτηριών και αρτηριολίων
- Εστιακή ατροφία του φλοιού

χρόνιες  
βλάβες



Fibrous intimal hyperplasia



Focal cortical atrophy

# Νεφροπάθεια σχετιζόμενη με APS

- Ιστολογικές βλάβες–Νεφρικές εκδηλώσεις παρόμοιες σε:
  - \*Πρωτοπαθές APS
  - \*SLE/APS
  - \*SLE/aPL/non-APS
  - \*Καταστροφικό APS
- Εκδηλώνεται με:
  - Συστηματική υπέρταση (ήπια ως κακοήθη)
  - Πρωτεϊνουρία (ήπια μέχρι νεφρωσικού τύπου), μικροσκοπική αιματουρία
  - Νεφρική ανεπάρκεια (συνήθως ήπια)

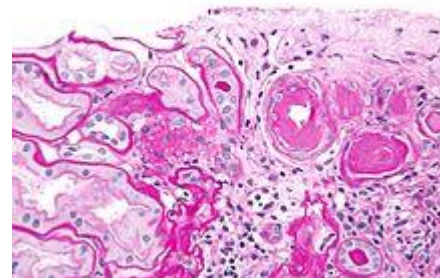
# Θρομβοπενία

- Από τις πιο συχνές εκδηλώσεις του APS: 30%- 46% των ασθενών με APS.
- Αριθμός αιμοπεταλίων: 50.000- 140.000/microL.
- Ισχυρή συσχέτιση μεταξύ aPL και θρομβοπενίας στους ασθενείς με ΣΕΛ
- Η θρομβοπενία δεν αποκλείει την εμφάνιση θρομβωτικών επιπλοκών στο APS

# Δερματικές εκδηλώσεις

- 30-50% των ασθενών με APS
- Livedo reticularis
- Livedo racemose
- Δερματικά Έλκη (μεταφλεβιδικά, αρτηριακό σκέλος- μικροαγγειοπάθεια)
- Ισχαιμία, νέκρωση, γάγγραινα
- Livedoid vasculitis

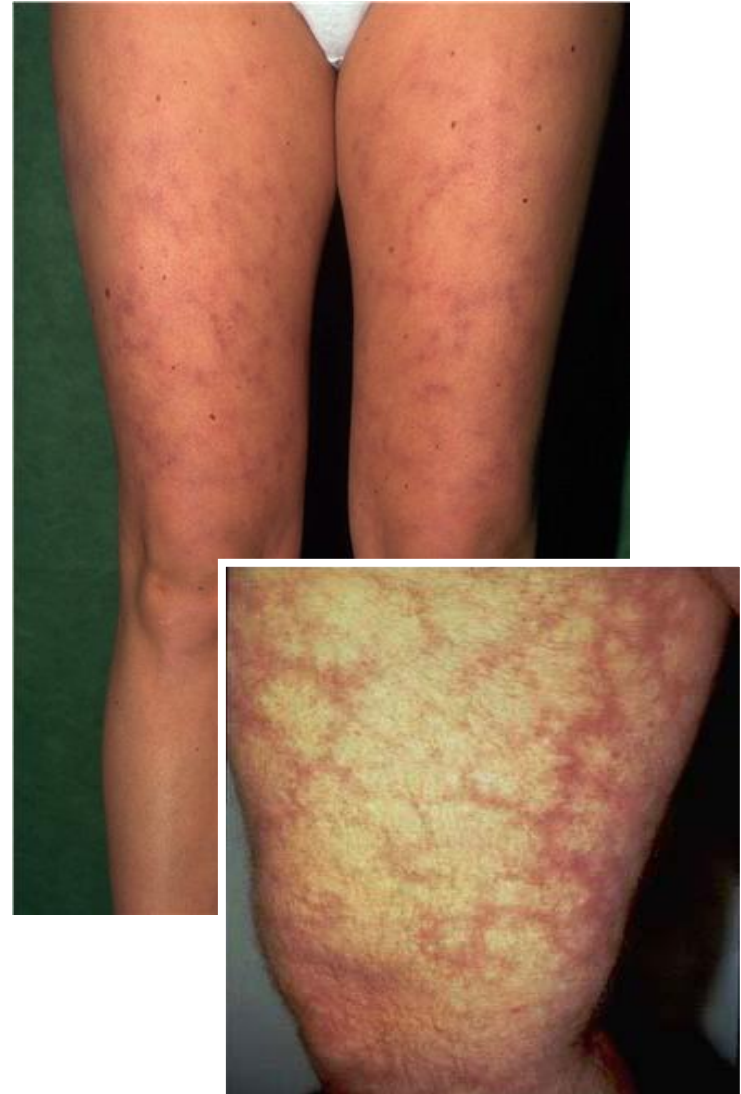
ιστολογική επιβεβαίωση: *intraluminal thrombosis, endothelial proliferation, and subintimal hyaline degeneration (smooth muscle is replaced by fibrous connective tissue)*



# Livedo reticularis και livedo racemosa

- μπορεί να αποτελείται από κανονικούς κλειστούς κύκλους ( livedo reticularis) ή από ακανόνιστους σπασμένους κύκλους (livedo racemosa).
- Livedo reticularis και livedo racemosa: αυξημένο κίνδυνο για αρτηριακή θρόμβωση, A.E.E και νοσηρότητα της κύησης.

*Task force for CAPS and non-criteria APS manifestations*



# CATASTROPHIC APS

## International consensus for classification criteria

1. Clinical evidence of vessel occlusions affecting 3 or more organs or systems.
2. Development of the manifestations simultaneously or in less than a week.
3. Confirmation by histopathology of small vessel occlusion in at least one organ.
4. Laboratory confirmation of the presence of aPL (LA, ACL, anti- $\beta$ 2GPI)

- Definite catastrophic APS: All 4 criteria.

- Probable catastrophic APS:

- 1, 2 & 4

- 1, 3 & 4 and the development of the third event in more than a week but less than a month, despite anticoagulation



**Morbidity and mortality in the antiphospholipid syndrome during a 10-year period: a multicentre prospective study of 1000 patients.**

Cervera R, Serrano R, Pons-Estel GJ, Cervera R, Shoenfeld Y, de Ramón E, Buonaiuto V, Jacobsen S, Zehner MM, Tarr T, Tincani A, Taglietti M, Theodossiadis G, Nomikou E, Galeazzi M, Bellisai F, Meroni PL, Derksen RH, de Groot PG, Baleva M, Mosca M, Bombardieri S, Houssiau F, Gris JC, Quéré I, Hachulla E, Vasconcelos C, Fernández-Nebro A, Haro M, Amoura Z, Miyara M, Tektonidou M, Espinosa G, Bertolaccini ML, Khamashta MA; on behalf of the Euro-Phospholipid Project Group (European Forum on Antiphospholipid Antibodies).  
Ann Rheum Dis. 2014 Jan 24.

- 10-ετής επιβίωση: 91% (παρόμοια σε πρωτοπαθές APS και SLE/APS)

Πιο συχνά αίτια θανάτου σε ασθενείς με APS:

- σοβαρά θρομβωτικά επεισόδια (ΟΕΜ, ΑΕΕ, Πν. εμβολή ( 36%)
- λοιμώξεις (27%)
- αιμορραγίες (10 %)
  
- Καταστροφικό APS=0.9%. Θάνατος: 55% ασθενών

# ΠΡΟΦΥΛΑΞΗ - ΘΕΡΑΠΕΙΑ

## Evidence-based recommendations for the prevention and long-term management of thrombosis in antiphospholipid antibody-positive patients: Report of a Task Force at the 13th International Congress on Antiphospholipid Antibodies

G Ruiz-Irastorza<sup>1</sup>, MJ Cuadrado<sup>2</sup>, I Ruiz-Arruza<sup>1</sup>, R Brey<sup>3</sup>, M Crowther<sup>4</sup>, R Derksen<sup>5</sup>, D Erkan<sup>6</sup>, S Krilis<sup>7</sup>, S Machin<sup>8</sup>, V Pengo<sup>9</sup>, S Pierangeli<sup>10</sup>, M Tektonidou<sup>11</sup> and M Khamashta<sup>2</sup>

### Recommendation

## EULAR recommendations for the management of antiphospholipid syndrome in adults

Maria G Tektonidou,<sup>1</sup> Laura Andreoli,<sup>2</sup> Marteen Limper,<sup>3</sup> Zahir Amoura,<sup>4</sup> Ricard Cervera,<sup>5</sup> Nathalie Costedoat-Chalumeau,<sup>6</sup> Maria Jose Cuadrado,<sup>7</sup> Thomas Dörner,<sup>8</sup> Raquel Ferrer-Oliveras,<sup>9</sup> Karen Hambly,<sup>10</sup> Munther A Khamashta,<sup>11</sup> Judith King,<sup>12</sup> Francesca Marchiori,<sup>13</sup> Pier Luigi Meroni,<sup>14</sup> Marta Mosca,<sup>15</sup> Vittorio Pengo,<sup>16</sup> Luigi Raio,<sup>17</sup> Guillermo Ruiz-Irastorza,<sup>18</sup> Yehuda Shoenfeld,<sup>19</sup> Ljudmila Stojanovich,<sup>20</sup> Elisabet Svenungsson,<sup>21</sup> Denis Wahl,<sup>22</sup> Angela Tincani,<sup>2</sup> Michael M Ward<sup>23</sup>

*Ann Rheum Dis.* 2019 Oct;78(10):1296-1304



REVIEW

## Management of thrombotic and obstetric antiphospholipid syndrome: a systematic literature review informing the EULAR recommendations for the management of antiphospholipid syndrome in adults

Maria G Tektonidou,<sup>1</sup> Laura Andreoli,<sup>2</sup> Marteen Limper,<sup>3</sup> Angela Tincani,<sup>2</sup> Michael M Ward<sup>4</sup>

## High-risk antiphospholipid antibody (aPL) profile

Lupus anticoagulant (x2 occasions 12 weeks apart, according to ISTH guidelines), or

Double aPL positivity, or

Triple aPL positivity, or

Persistently high aPL titres

## Low-risk aPL profile

Isolated aCL or antibeta2glycoprotein I antibodies at low-medium titres  
*particularly if transiently positive*

## Primary and secondary thrombosis prevention

### Risk modification

Management of cardiovascular and venous thrombosis risk factors

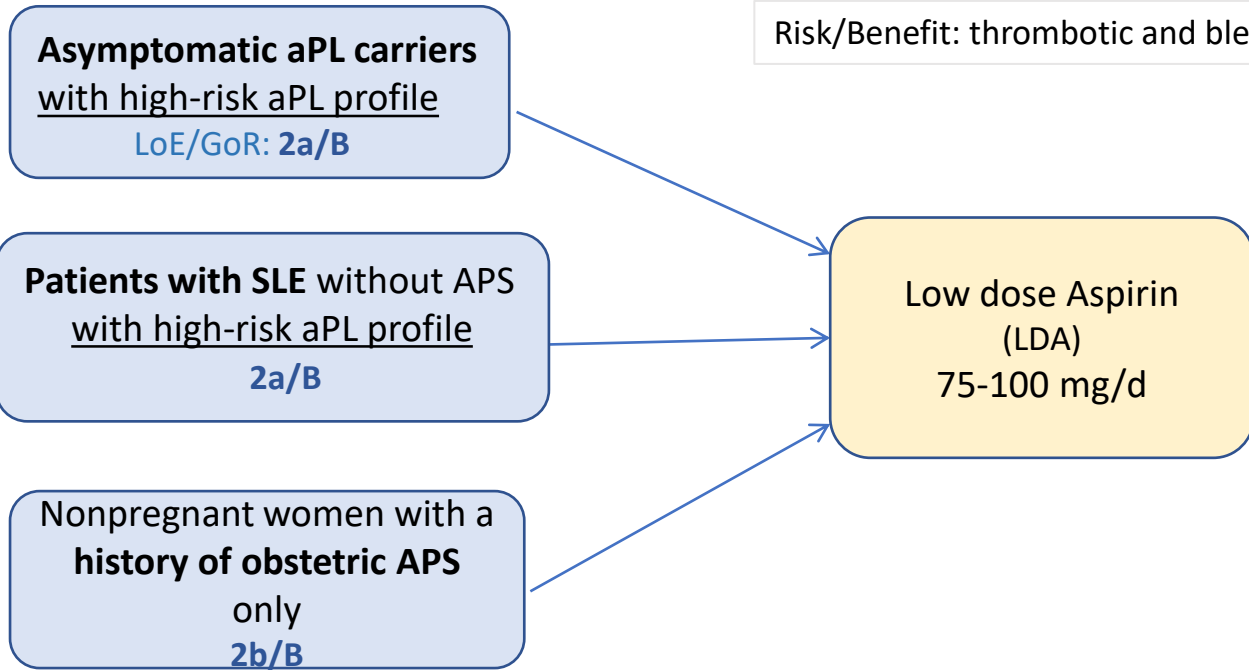
LMWH in high-risk situations

Patient education about treatment adherence, INR monitoring

Lifestyle recommendations (exercise, diet)

Recommendations

Primary thromboprophylaxis in aPL subjects



**Asymptomatic aPL carriers**  
with high-risk aPL profile

LoE/GoR: 2a/B

**Patients with SLE** without APS  
with high-risk aPL profile

2a/B

Nonpregnant women with a  
**history of obstetric APS**  
only

2b/B

Risk/Benefit: thrombotic and bleeding risk factors

Low dose Aspirin  
(LDA)  
75-100 mg/d

## Secondary Thromboprophylaxis

Venous  
thrombosi  
s

Vitamin K antagonists  
with target INR 2-3  
1b/B

For **unprovoked** venous  
thrombosis: long-term use  
2b/B

For **provoked** venous thrombosis:  
as in the general population  
5/D

## Secondary Thromboprophylaxis

### Arterial thrombosis

- Vitamin K antagonists over LDA alone **2b/C**
- INR 2-3 or 3-4 (bleeding/thrombosis risk) **1b/B**
- INR 2–3 plus LDA **4/C**

**Rivaroxaban**  
should not be used in APS patients  
with **triple aPL positivity**  
(based on TRAPS trial data)  
**1b/B**



## Secondary Thromboprophylaxis

Recurrent venous or  
arterial thrombosis  
*despite adequate treatment*

Rule-out other potential causes

- increase of INR target to 3-4, or
- addition of LDA, or
- switch to LMWH  
**4-5/D**

# Obstetric APS

High risk aPL profile but no APS history (with or without SLE)

- LDA (75-100 mg/d)  
5/D

≥3 spontaneous abortions <10th week of gestation

- LDA + prophylactic dose heparin  
2b/B

Fetal loss ≥10th week of gestation

- LDA + prophylactic dose heparin  
2b/B

Delivery <34 weeks due to severe pre-eclampsia or placental insufficiency

- LDA **or** LDA + prophylactic dose heparin  
2b/B

History of thrombotic APS

- LDA + therapeutic dose heparin  
4/C

LDA + heparin: continuation for **6 weeks** after delivery  
4/C

VKA switch to heparin: ideally before the 6<sup>th</sup> week of gestation

History of obstetric APS only (with/without SLE)

## Obstetric APS

Recurrent pregnancy complications despite LDA + prophylactic heparin treatment

- increase heparin to therapeutic dose (5/D)  
or
- addition of hydroxychloroquine (4/D)  
or
- addition of low-dose prednisolone in the 1st trimester (4/D)
- IVIG *only in highly selected cases* (5/D)

## Catastrophic APS

### Prevention

- Prompt treatment of infections
  - Minimization of anticoagulation interruption/ low INR levels
- 4/D

### 1<sup>st</sup> line treatment

- glucocorticoids
- heparin
- plasma exchange or
- IV immunoglobulins

### Refractory CAPS

- B-cell depletion or complement inhibition *may be considered*
- 4/D

# Adjunctive treatments

*Old drugs, new roles*

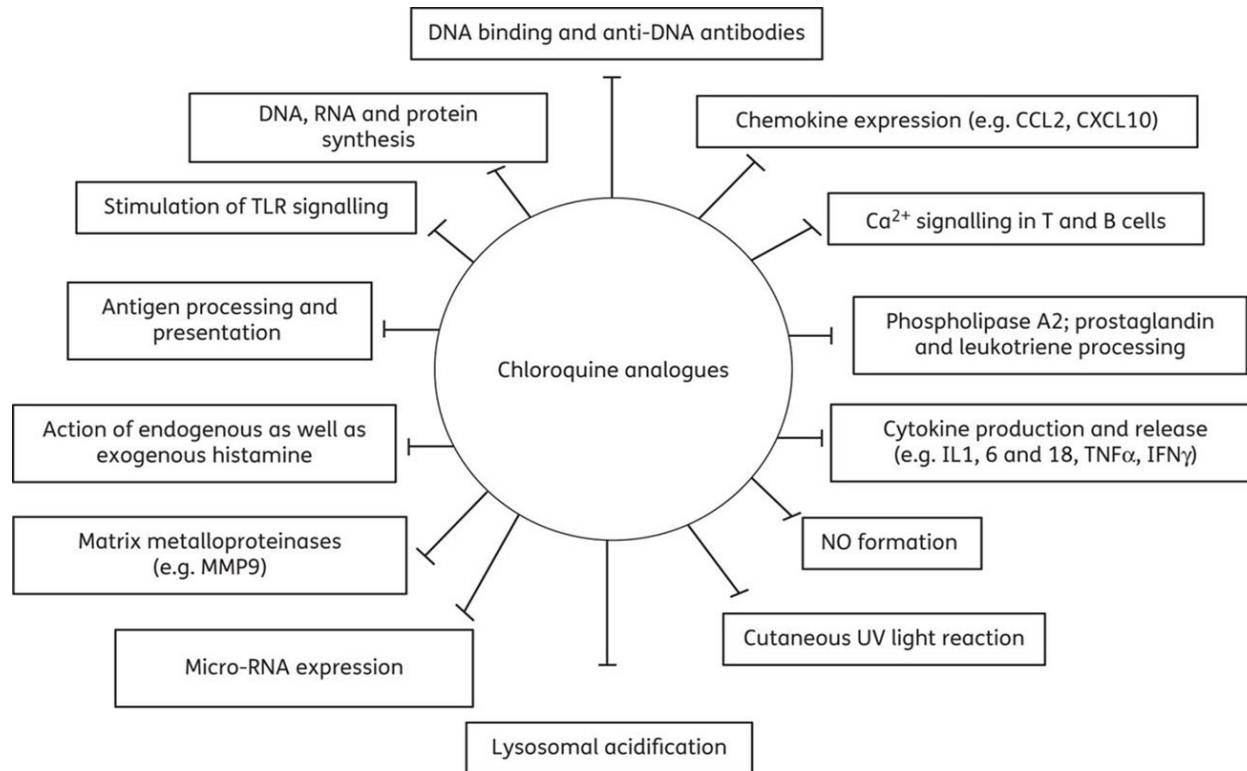
- Hydroxychloroquine
- Statins

Potential treatments for aPL/ APS patients

- in vitro and/or animal studies
- clinical studies

# Hydroxychloroquine

## Major anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory effects of chloroquine analogues.



—| Indicates inhibition

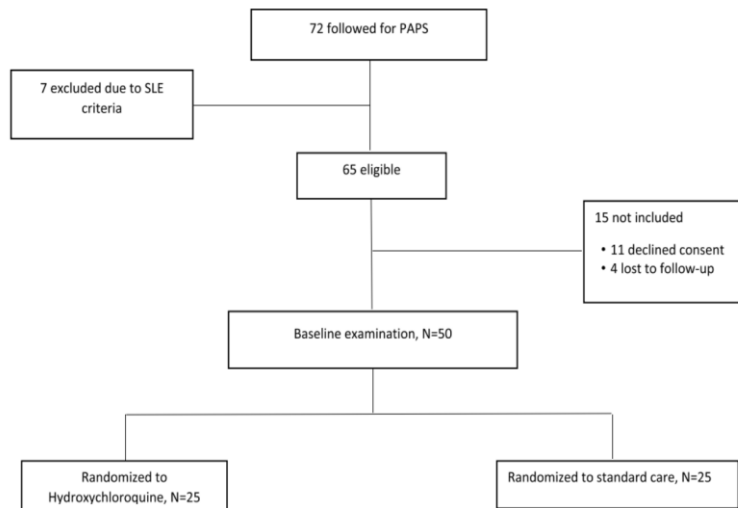
# The effect of hydroxychloroquine on thrombosis prevention and antiphospholipid antibody levels in primary antiphospholipid syndrome: A pilot open label randomized prospective study

Evrydiki Kravvariti<sup>a</sup>, Alexandra Koutsogianni<sup>a</sup>, Evangelia Samoli<sup>b</sup>, Petros P. Sfikakis<sup>a</sup>, Maria G. Tektonidou<sup>a,\*</sup>

Randomized Controlled Trial

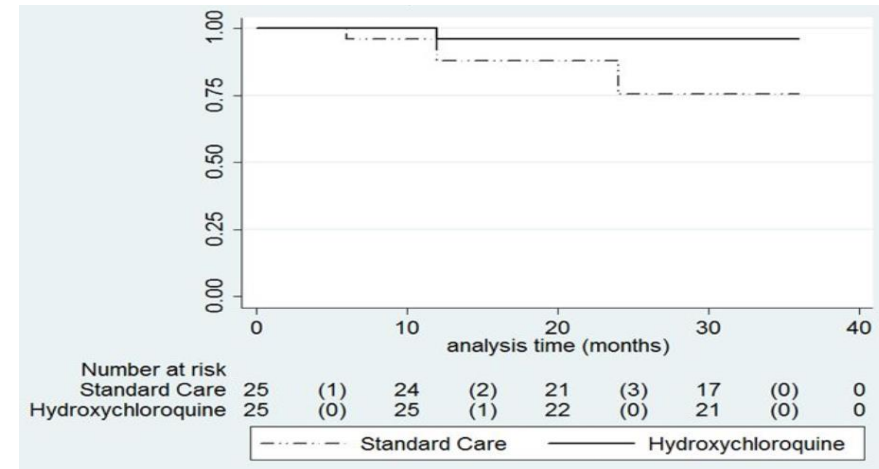
doi: 10.1016/j.autrev.2020.102491.

Autoimmun Rev. 2020 Apr;19(4):102491.



- Open-label pilot RCT, 3yr follow-up
- HCQ efficacy on 1. thrombosis prevention in 50 PAPS patients
- 2. aPL titers of 50 PAPS patients and 15 asymptomatic aPL carriers

Probability of thrombosis-free survival in PAPS patients on HCQ vs standard care alone



Lower incidence rate of thrombosis in HCQ + standard care vs standard care alone (0.001 vs. 0.007, log-rank p = 0.048)

# The effect of hydroxychloroquine on thrombosis prevention and antiphospholipid antibody levels in primary antiphospholipid syndrome: A pilot open label randomized prospective study

Evrydiki Kravvariti<sup>a</sup>, Alexandra Koutsogianni<sup>a</sup>, Evangelia Samoli<sup>b</sup>, Petros P. Sfikakis<sup>a</sup>, Maria G. Tektonidou<sup>a,\*</sup>

Randomized Controlled Trial

doi: 10.1016/j.autrev.2020.102491.

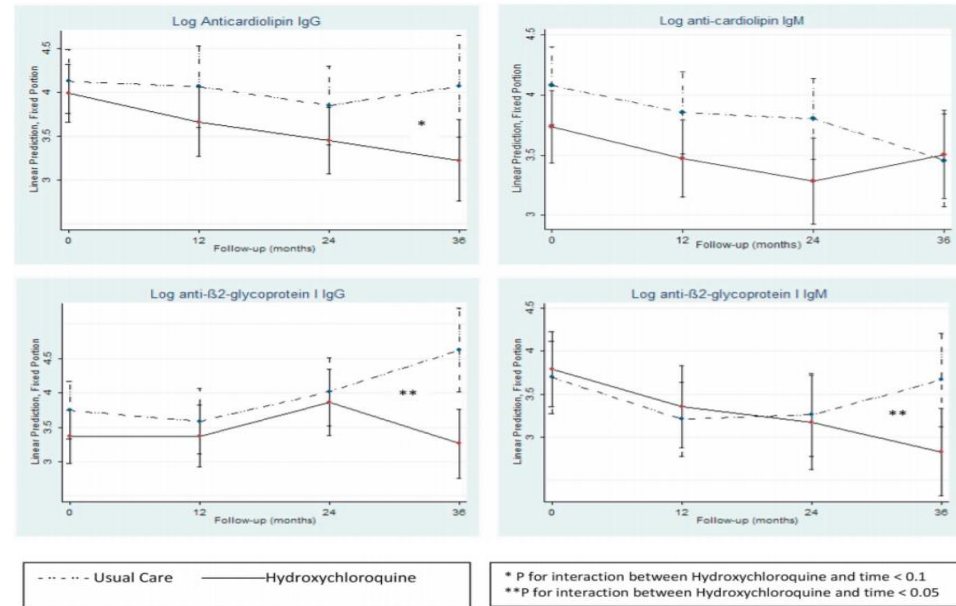
Autoimmun Rev. 2020 Apr;19(4):102491.

## Multivariate analysis and longitudinal antibody titers

- HCQ use and a history of recurrent thrombotic episodes were the most significant determinants of thrombotic risk
- aCL titers tended to decrease overtime in both patient groups ; **β2GPI titers tended to decrease in HCQ users**

### Stratified multivariate cox regression for the effect of hydroxychloroquine on thrombotic risk in patients with PAPS<sup>a</sup>

	Hazard ratio	95% CI	P value
<b>Hydroxychloroquine</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.01-1.26</b>	<b>0.074</b>
Age (per year)	0.98	0.90-1.06	0.571
Female sex	1.39	0.25-7.56	0.705
≥ 2 traditional cardiovascular risk factors at baseline	5.65	0.68-46.72	0.108
<b>Recurrent thrombotic episodes at baseline</b>	<b>6.31</b>	<b>0.90-44.03</b>	<b>0.063</b>
Quality of anticoagulation during follow-up	0.90	0.12-6.63	0.915





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Salmon J, Tektonidou MG, Williams D, Willis R, Woller S, Andrade D.

*Lupus 2020, 29(12): 1571–1593*

**Task force recommendations**

The addition of HCQ may be considered as adjunctive to antithrombotic treatment for anticoagulant-refractory thrombotic APS

# Statins

## In vitro/animal studies

- Inhibit aPL-induced endothelial cell activation
- Inhibit up-regulation of tissue factor
- Prevent expression of cellular adhesion molecules and IL-6
- Reduce thrombogenic effects of aPL in aPL-injected mice

*Meroni 2001, Ferrara 2004, Ferrara 2003, Redecha 2007,  
Martinez 2007, Redecha 2008*

# Statins

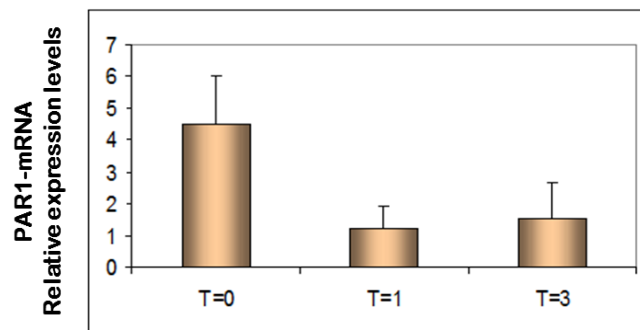
## Clinical studies in aPL positive patients

- Fluvastatin 20 mg for 1 month:  
decreased expression of TF, Protein activator receptor 1 and 2, Vascular endothelial factor, Annexin II

*López-Pedreira 2011*

- Fluvastatin 40 mg for 3 months:  
reduced levels of 6/12 proinflammatory and prothrombotic biomarkers (IL1 $\beta$  -IFN $\alpha$  -IL6 -IL8 -IP10 -TNF $\alpha$  -sCD40L -sTF -VCAM1 -ICAM1 -E-selectin)

*Erkan D 2013*



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Task force recommendations

Based on available data, statins cannot be recommended in patients with aPL/APS in the absence of hyperlipidaemia, in accordance with general population guidelines

Statins may be considered as adjunctive to antithrombotic treatment in anticoagulant-refractory thrombotic APS patients

*Immunosuppressives in APS?*

**Management of Non-criteria Manifestations in Antiphospholipid Syndrome**

Eleni Xourgia<sup>1</sup> · Maria G. Tektonidou<sup>2</sup>

**Table 2** Potential treatment approaches and the source of available evidence

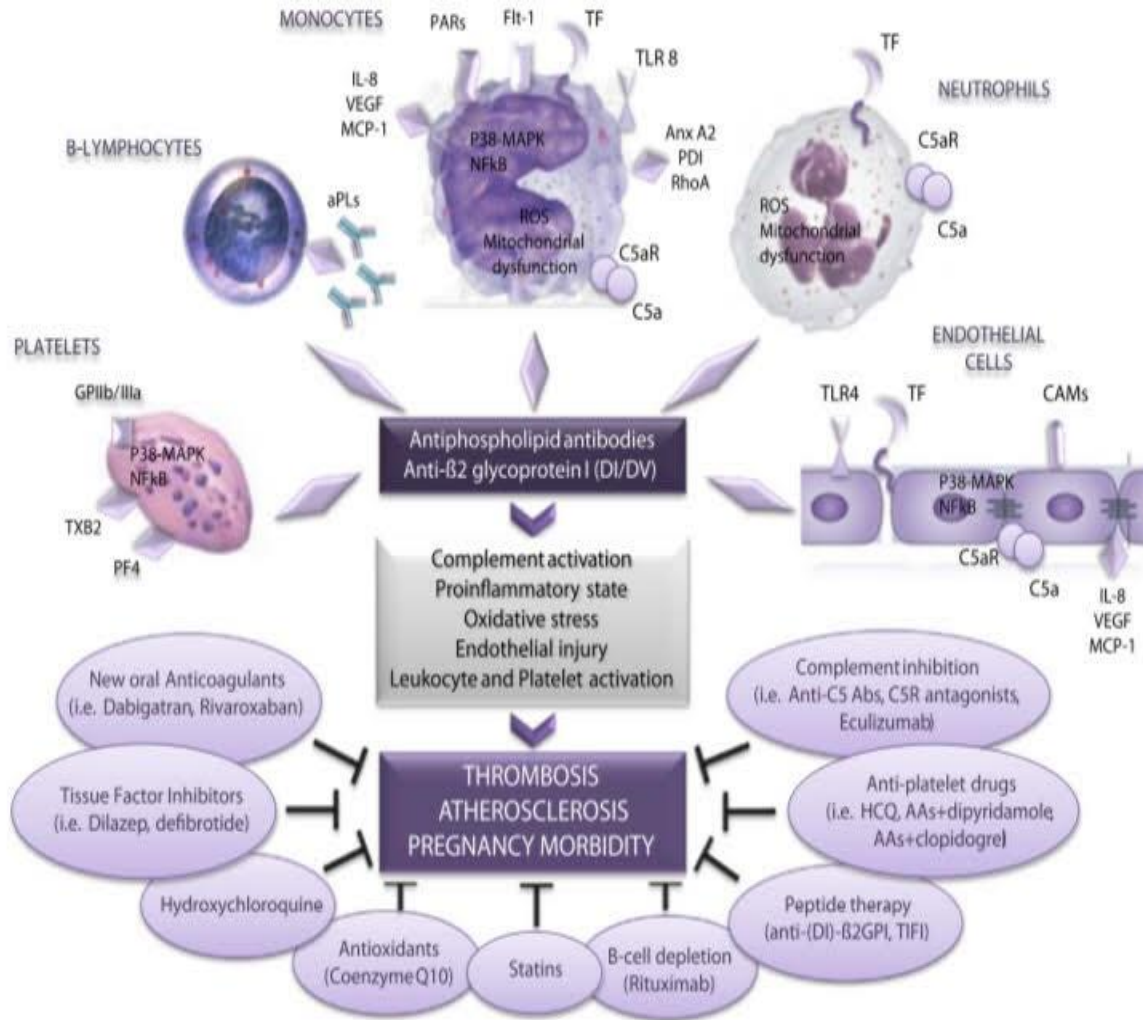
	Valvular heart disease	Diffuse alveolar hemorrhage	Severe thrombocytopenia	Hemolytic anemia	Antiphospholipid syndrome nephropathy	Livedoid vasculopathy	Skin ulceration	Cognitive dysfunction	Epilepsy
Antiplatelets	+ As prophylactic treatment*	– Not be used in the acute phase	– Not be used in severe thrombocytopenia (can be used in mild thrombocytopenia)		+*	+ *	+*	+*	+ post-stroke, as indicated <sup>#§</sup>
Anticoagulants	+In valve vegetation* + In valve vegetation with arterial embolization *§	– Not be used in the acute phase	– Not be used in severe thrombocytopenia		+ in thrombotic APS*· *** §	+*	+*	+*	+ post-stroke, as indicated <sup>#§</sup>
Corticosteroids	+* (Long-term use potential harmful)	+*	+ High iv doses as induction treatment */*/*/#	+ High iv doses as induction treatment */*/*/#	+ in co-existing lupus nephritis <sup>§§</sup>	+*			
Traditional immunomodulatory agents (CYC, MMF, AZA)		+ CYC, MMF*	+ *	+ 1st or 2nd line*/*/*/#	+ * or in co-existing lupus nephritis <sup>§</sup>	+*	+*	+*	
Rituximab	No effect***	+ 2nd line* or in CAPS* or in refractory CAPS <sup>§</sup>	+ In refractory severe thrombocytopenia, or in CAPS*/*/*/*/# or in refractory CAPS <sup>§</sup>	+2nd line*//#	+ */*/* or in CAPS *§		+***	+***	
Eculizumab		+ In refractory CAPS*	+ In CAPS*		+*				
Plasmapheresis		+2nd line* or in CAPS <sup>§</sup>	+ In CAPS <sup>§</sup>		+ 2nd line*		+*		
Intravenous immunoglobulin	+ 2nd line*	+ 2nd line* or in CAPS*§	+ 1st and 2nd line* or in CAPS*§	+*		+ *	+*		
Belimumab		+*			+*/*/*		+*		
Sirolimus									
Other	Replacement valve surgery in severe valvulopathy*		Splenectomy (2nd line) <sup>#</sup>	Splenectomy (2nd line in autoimmune hemolytic anemia)* <sup>#</sup>	Renin-angiotensin inhibitors for hypertension and proteinuria control*	Sildenafil, dipyridamole, pentoxifyline, hyperbaric oxygen *	Sildenafil, recombinant tissue plasminogen activator*		Anticonvulsants when ≥2 unprovoked seizures occur 24 h apart or epileptogenic foci appear on MRI <sup>***, #</sup>

+potential beneficial effect, –harmful effect

# Targeted treatments in APS

Immunotherapy in antiphospholipid syndrome  
 Ch. Lopez-Pedraza <sup>\*,\*</sup>, M.A. Aguirre <sup>\*</sup>, P. Ruiz-Limon <sup>\*</sup>, C. Pérez-Sánchez <sup>\*</sup>, Y. Jimenez-Gomez <sup>\*</sup>,  
 N. Barbarroja <sup>\*</sup>, M.J. Cuadrado <sup>\*,\*</sup>

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<sup>\*</sup> Center Research Unit, St. Thomas Hospital, London, UK



**Fig. 1.** Mechanisms involved in the aPL-mediated pathogenesis of antiphospholipid syndrome and new therapeutic approaches. Antiphospholipid antibodies (including anti-β2GPI-β2GPI