Understanding the Health Literacy in Patients With Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura

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Abstract
Following an acute thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP) episode, patients are at risk for relapse, and a careful long-term follow-up is needed. Adherence to the follow-up by patients implies a good understanding of the disease. However, TTP literacy in patients is currently unknown. To explore the TTP literacy in patients and identify factors associated with poor disease understanding, a questionnaire was developed focusing on patient’s characteristics, knowledge about TTP and patients’ actions in an emergency. The questionnaire was presented to 120 TTP patients in remission from the French National Registry for Thrombotic Microangiopathies. TTP literacy was low in 24%, intermediate in 43% and high in 33% of the patients. Low TTP literacy was associated with older age and low education level. Among the knowledge gaps identified, few patients knew that plasma exchange in acute phase is mandatory and has to be done daily (39%), 47% of participants did not consider themselves at risk for relapse, and 30% of women did not know that pregnancy exposes them to a greater risk of relapse. Importantly, few patients responded about life-saving actions in an emergency. Hence, the design of educational material should pay special attention to the age and education level of the target population focusing on the events leading to TTP, the importance of the emergency treatment, controllable predisposing factors for TTP development and patient attitude in an emergency.

Introduction
Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP) is a life-threatening disease characterized by microangiopathic hemolytic anemia, a profound thrombocytopenia and organ failure of variable severity. TTP results from a severe deficiency in the Von Willebrand factor (VWF)-cleaving protease ADAMTS13 (A Disintegrin And Metalloprotease with Thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13), either...
due to mutations in the ADAMTS13 gene (congenital TTP, cTTP), or due to circulating anti-ADAMTS13 autoantibodies (immune-mediated TTP, iTTP). The annual incidence rate of cTTP is estimated at 1 case per million people, while iTTP incidence is estimated 4 to 10 cases per million people. In the absence of treatment, TTP is almost always fatal (mortality rate >90%); however, when treated on time with plasma infusion (cTTP) or plasma exchange and immunosuppressive agent (iTTP), the mortality decreases to 10% to 15%. Even with optimal management, neurological and physical sequelae may persist. A persistent, severe ADAMTS13 deficiency following the acute phase exposes patients to a high risk of relapse within a variable period of time ranging from weeks to years, and patients may develop additional autoimmune diseases. Consequently, a long term follow-up is recommended for all patients.

The rarity of TTP leads to misdiagnosis, which may obscure the prognosis of the disease and if left untreated can lead to death, especially in the most severe cases with cardiac or cerebral involvement. Therefore, campaigns to raise awareness in the medical community are mandatory. Regarding creating TTP awareness for patients, several TTP patient support groups (www.ttpprogram.org.uk and www.ouhsc.edu/platelets) exist and offer pedagogic material about TTP, testimonies from other patients to patients regarding how many episodes of TTP the patient had, and if there were a central nervous system involvement (neurologic symptoms, confusion, convulsion, coma, Glasgow score, and focal neurologic deficit) in the last acute episode of the disease. The next questions were divided into three groups. The first group consisted of 10 questions and were (i) related to the characteristics of the participants such as age, gender, geographic origin, profession, languages spoken fluently, education level, or (ii) to the disease such as when the participant started feeling sick, date of TTP diagnosis, being a member of a patient association, and use of Orphanet. The second group of questions consisted of 21 questions that were designed to get insight into the patient knowledge about the disease (TTP literacy). The 21 questions were either related to “what type of disease is TTP?” (Q1–Q14), “to which abnormalities in the body cause TTP?” (Q15–Q21), “what is the treatment for the disease?” (Q22–Q25), and “what is the risk of relapse and what triggers TTP?” (Q26–Q32).

The third group contained three questions where the patients were asked what they would do when they thought they had a relapse or when they felt numbness, if anything was unclear related to their disease, and if they had any additional questions.

The questionnaire was designed by LCVP, BE, KK under the supervision of PC and KV, and was next sent to all clinicians involved in this study for review. Based on the feedback, the questionnaire was slightly adapted. All clinicians involved in the study approved the final version of the questionnaire.

**Scoring of the questions**

TTP literacy was analyzed by scoring only the second group of questions (Q12–Q32), using open-ended questions (Q15 and Q22), and closed-ended questions with two-options (Q12–13, Q19–Q20, Q26–27, Q29) and multiple-choice answers (Q14, Q16–Q18, Q21, Q23–Q25, Q28, Q30–Q32; Supplemental Table 2, http://links.lww.com/HS/A95). The correct answer for the open-ended question inquiring which protein is missing in TTP (Q15) as well as the correct response to the questions with two-option answers (Q12–13, Q19–Q20, Q26–27, Q29), obtained 1 point; an incorrect answer, no answer, or not knowing the answer received 0 points (Supplemental Table 1, http://links.lww.com/HS/A95). The question Q22, “what is the main treatment for TTP?” was scored as 1 when “plasma exchange with or without another treatment” was the answer while 0.5 points were given when only “rituximab” or “corticosteroids” (without mentioning plasma exchange) were given as an answer. The reason behind this scoring was that although rituximab and corticosteroids are not the main treatment for TTP, they are used to treat TTP. The questions with multiple-choice answers and only one correct option (Q16–Q18, Q23, Q28, and Q30–Q31) provided 1 point. While for Q21, Q24 and Q25, where the correct answer consisted of two
answers, the correct answer received 1 point, and 0.5 points were given for the individual correct answers. In addition, for Q32 where the correct answer was composed of three possible answers (received 1 point), 0.3 points were given for each individual correct answer. The distribution of points was different for Q14, “Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura is,” 1 point was given to the selection of either “an autoimmune condition,” “a genetic condition,” or selection of both responses. The rationale behind this was that the participants of the study had iTTP; thus, it was expected that the vast majority of them would reply that TTP is an autoimmune condition.

Scoring TTP literacy

To score TTP literacy on “what type of disease is TTP?” (Q12–Q14), all points of Q12–Q14 were added up, multiplied by 5, and divided by 3 (the number of “what type of disease is TTP?” questions). The same calculation was applied for the questions related to “which abnormalities in the body cause TTP?” (Q15–Q21), “what is the treatment for the disease?” (Q22–Q25), and “what is the risk of relapse and what triggers TTP?” (Q26–Q32) to score the TTP literacy related to each question group. This scoring system led to scores ranging from 0 to 5. The scores were arbitrarily defined as low (scores <3); intermediate (scores ≥3 . . . <4) and high (scores ≥4 . . . 5). Finally, to score the overall TTP literacy, all points from the second group of questions were added up, multiplied by 5 and divided by 21.

Identifying the specific aspects of TTP that are well or poorly understood

To identify the specific aspects of TTP that are well or poorly understood by the patients, the percentage of patients giving a correct (1 point; Supplemental Table 1, http://links.lww.com/HS/A95), partially correct (>0 but <1 points; Supplemental Table 1, http://links.lww.com/HS/A95), wrong (0 points; Supplemental Table 1, http://links.lww.com/HS/A95), not knowing the answer (0 points; Supplemental Table 1, http://links.lww.com/HS/A95) or no answer (0 points; Supplemental Table 1, http://links.lww.com/HS/A95) to Q12–Q32, were calculated. The knowledge about each question was classified as low when less than 60% of the participants correctly answered the question, intermediate between 60% and 80% of patients with a correct answer, and high when more than 80% of the participants had a correct answer.

Statistical analysis

EPIDAT 4.0 was used to calculate the sample size for the present study considering the prevalence of TTP in France, 13 cases per million people, with a confidence level of 95% and 8% margin of error. IBM SPSS statistics for Windows, version 19.0 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY, USA) was used for statistical analyses. Time since TTP diagnosis was calculated from the date of TTP diagnosis (Q9) to the date that the questionnaire was filled. Mean values with range or standard deviation, or median with the 10 to 90th percentile are provided for quantitative variables; for qualitative values, frequencies and percentages were calculated. To measure the differences in quantitative variables, Student’s t test was used, while categorical variables were analyzed using one-way ANOVA. The association of age with TTP literacy was measured using a Pearson correlation and a Spearman correlation was used to analyze the influence of time since TTP diagnosis and TTP literacy. Multivariate linear regression was applied for the analysis of the independent association of the variables that were found to be significant in the univariate analysis. A p value of <0.05 was considered statistically significant for all tests.

Results

Characteristics of the study cohort

One hundred thirty-eight TTP patients were approached during the 3-year recruitment period; 120 of these agreed to participate, and 18 (13%) did not participate in the study. All 18 patients were contacted by phone by our study nurse (Sandrine Malot, SM) a first time, and then a second time some weeks later as no response was obtained. Hence, patients who did not respond after two solicitations were not further considered for the study. Analysis of the clinical record from the non-participants showed that all 18 patients have recovered from iTTP for years, and all have a spaced follow-up. Additionally, none of the non-participants had a relevant background characteristic that could influence the participation in the study, i.e. refugee, homeless or had a language barrier. Patients agreeing to take part prospectively in the study were interviewed either by their clinician or by the study nurse (SM) of the CNR-MAT, during a follow-up appointment or by phone. Characteristics of the study cohort are summarized in Table 1. The mean age of the study population was 44 years (18–85 years). The majority of participants were females (75%). Most of the participants were from Europe (76%) and spoke French fluently (97%). The highest education level of the majority of the study participants was high school (47%). Moreover, the median time since the participants had been diagnosed with TTP was 5 years (1–

| Table 1 | Characteristics of the Study Participants. |
|---------|--------------------------------------------|
|          | n=120 (%)                                   |
| Age (years) | 44 (18–85)                              |
| Gender |                                           |
| Female | 90 (75)                                    |
| Geographic origin |                                     |
| Europe | 91 (76)                                    |
| North Africa | 9 (7)                                    |
| Sub-Sahara | 14 (11)                                   |
| West-Indies | 4 (3)                                     |
| Middle East | 2 (3)                                     |
| Language spoken fluently |                                 |
| French | 116 (97)                                   |
| Other | 4 (3)                                      |
| Education level |                                           |
| None | 2 (2)                                      |
| Primary school | 17 (14)                                  |
| High school | 56 (47)                                   |
| Higher education | 45 (37)                                |
| Time since TTP diagnosis (years) | 5 (1–14)                                |
| Member of patient association |                                 |
| Yes | 3 (2)                                      |
| No | 117 (98)                                   |
| Orphanet use |                                           |
| Yes | 9 (7)                                      |
| No | 111 (93)                                   |
| Episodes of TTP |                                           |
| 1 | 87 (73)                                    |
| >1 | 33 (27)                                    |

Data are represented as mean (range) for age; median (10–90th percentiles) for time since TTP diagnosis while for the other parameters, the number of patients (percentage) is provided.
The majority of patients (73%) had high knowledge about what type of disease is TTP? what triggers TTP? sure about the date of their timely diagnosis on TTP literacy. However, patients were not possible to con records. Therefore, this question was excluded from the analysis. 

The question “profession” was included in the questionnaire (not shown) to know whether any patient had a biomedical background as this might influence the outcome of the TTP literacy. However, only three patients had a biomedical background. Question about when the patient started feeling sick was included (not shown) to evaluate the influence of the timely diagnosis on TTP literacy. However, patients were not sure about the date of their first symptoms of the disease, and it was not possible to confirm that information in the clinical records. Therefore, this question was excluded from the analysis.

TTP literacy score

TTP literacy was evaluated by scoring the second group of questions that investigated the knowledge on “what type of disease is TTP?” (Q12–Q14), “which abnormalities in the body cause TTP?” (Q15–Q21), “what is the treatment for the disease?” (Q22–Q25), and “what is the risk of relapse and what triggers TTP?” (Q26–Q32). The resulting scores show that the majority of patients (73%) had high knowledge about “what type of disease is TTP?” (score ≥4 . . . 5), low knowledge (score <3) about “which abnormalities in the body cause TTP?” (40% of the patients), and intermediate knowledge (score ≥3 . . . <4) regarding “what is the treatment for the disease?” (46% of the patients), and “what is the risk of relapse and what triggers TTP?” (40% of patients). The overall TTP literacy score was intermediate in 43% of the patients, high in 33% of the patients and low in 24% of the patients (Table 2). No statistically significant differences were observed between the center of recruitment of the patients and TTP literacy score as determined by one-way ANOVA (f(8,104) = 1.55, p value=0.15). Moreover, the comparison of the literacy score between centers according to the number of patients revealed no statistical difference either (r=0.2641, p=0.3832) (ie, the literacy score of the centers was not correlated to their volume of patients).

Understanding of specific aspects of TTP

Next, we analyzed per individual question the percentage of patients that gave a correct (1 point), partially correct (>0 but <1 points), wrong (0 points), not knowing the answer (0 points) or no answer (0 points) (Fig. 1, Supplemental Table 1, http://links.lww.com/HS/A95), to identify which specific aspects of TTP are well or poorly understood by the patients on “what type of disease is TTP?” (Q12–Q14), “which abnormalities in the body cause TTP?” (Q15–Q21), “what is the treatment for the
disease?” (Q22–Q25), and “what is the risk of relapse and what triggers TTP?” (Q26–Q32). This analysis shows that the understanding of questions related to “what type of disease is TTP?” (Q12–Q14; Fig. 1) was relatively high as more than 79% of the patients answered the questions correctly (Fig. 1).

Analyzing the answers to the questions assessing the level of knowledge on “which abnormalities in the body cause TTP?” (Q15–Q21; Fig. 1) shows that the participants understood well that platelet and red blood cell counts are decreased in TTP (Q17, Q18; Fig. 1). On the other hand, comprehension of the role of ADAMTS13 in TTP was mostly intermediate since between 56% and 80% of the patients could answer these questions correctly (Q15, Q16, Q19, Q20; Fig. 1). The role of VWF in TTP was the least well known (Q21), as only 23% of the patients gave a correct or partially correct answer (Fig. 1). The analysis of the knowledge on “what is the treatment for the disease?” (Q22–Q25; Fig. 1) shows that 70% of the participants knew that plasma exchange is the main treatment for TTP (Q22). However, why plasma exchange is efficient as a treatment and when it is needed, was less clear since less than 60% of the patients gave a correct answer (Fig. 1). Analyzing the comprehension of “what is the risk of relapse and what triggers TTP?” (Q26–Q32; Fig. 1) clearly shows that more than 78% of the patients knew that a regular medical follow up is needed to prevent relapse and that this is linked with ADAMTS13 activity (Q29–Q31). Moreover, 73% of the patients knew rituximab reduces the risk of relapse (Q27), and 48% of the patients knew the function of rituximab as a modulator of the immune response (Q28). Patients perception of how frequent relapses occur in TTP is relative to previous patient experience with the disease. However, only 40% of the patients knew that relapses frequently occur in the absence of regular follow-up and preemptive strategy (Q26). Finally, only 20% of the patients were aware that TTP is triggered by pregnancy, that it is more common in females, and that it is a rare disease (Q32). However, 44% of the female participants answered that TTP is more common in women, and 71% of the women younger than 40-year-old considered pregnancy as a precipitating factor for TTP in the answer, providing evidence that correct answers are more frequently provided when the issue directly impacts patients.

Age and education level are associated with TTP literacy

Analysis of possible factors associated with poor comprehension of the disease by TTP patients was done by exploring characteristics of the participants that are related to age, gender, geographic origin, spoken languages, education level, time since TTP diagnosis and the number of TTP episodes (Table 3). Although the socio-economic status (income) can also influence health literacy, this variable could not be provided here. Nevertheless, inspection from the clinical record from the participants showed that all of them had social insurance, and none of the participants was refugee nor homeless. Here, education level was therefore used as a reliable and feasible feature to address the socio-economic status. After performing a univariate analysis, a statistically significant association was found with age, geographic origin, spoken languages, education level and the number of TTP episodes (p value <0.05). We found a negative linear relationship between age and TTP literacy: for one year aged, TTP score would be reduced by 0.3 points (p value <0.05). Participants from the Sub-Sahara and Middle East regions had the lowest literacy score. Additionally, high education level and >1 episode of TTP contributed positively to the literacy score. Finally, the influence of central nervous system involvement (neurolgic symptoms, confusion, convulsion, coma, Glasgow score, and focal neurologic deficit) in the last episode of TTP and TTP literacy was analyzed using the information available for 78 patients. However, no statistically significant differences were detected after multivariate analysis (t (5, 72)=1.37, p value = 0.24, \( R^2 = 0.09 \)).

Next, to confirm that age, geographic origin, education level and the number of TTP episodes were independently associated with TTP literacy, multivariate linear regression models were performed (Table 4). The analysis of the variables together in the regression model showed that the geographic origin and the number of TTP episodes were no longer statistically significant. Taken together, these results indicate that age and education level are the main factors that affect TTP literacy.

Questions related to actions to be taken in an emergency setting and patient concerns

In the last group of questions, only a quarter of participants (33/120) replied. Among the responders actions in an emergency setting are directed towards immediate contact with the physician or attendance at the hospital, and undergo a blood test. Regarding the additional comments from the patients, 9% of the patients consider TTP a complex disease and among the expressed concerns were “what causes TTP?” (37%), “why the disease has no definitive cure?,” “is it possible to cure the disease
definitely?" (15%), “can I get other diseases because of having TTP?“ (12%), “is there anything I can do to avoid getting sick again?“ (9%), “why me?“ (6%), and one participant asked “why did I receive treatment only when I am sick and not when I am healthy?” Additionally, one patient showed an intention to be involved in patient association groups, and another was interested to know the results from the current research. Only one participant expressed “the less I know the better.”

Discussion

In this pioneering study exploring the health literacy in TTP patients, we report that our patient cohort had substantial knowledge about TTP. Likewise, we identified older age and basic education level as critical factors associated with less comprehension about TTP. In line with this statement, age and education level have been reported to influence disease comprehension in patients from intensive care units and patients with chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes, congestive heart failure, hypertension and cancer.21,22 These observations may result from a limitation for communication due to the education level.21 In addition, the elderly are less likely to be actively involved in getting more information about the disease since they rely on the expertise of the health professionals.26 Moreover, elderly may have more limited access to the most modern information systems.26,27

For this study, we used a large sample size considering the low prevalence of TTP.2 Importantly, most patients from the participating centers agreed to participate in the study, rendering our patients highly representative of our TTP population by limiting recruitment bias. However, the TTP literacy in our cohort of patients could be overestimated compared to the general TTP population as our patients were recruited from health care providers belonging to the French Reference Center for thrombotic microangiopathies that usually recruits at least 10 TTP patients per year. This implies that these hospitals are trained to manage TTP, and TTP patients are informed about their condition. Moreover, all participants have been invariably enrolled in various observational studies. Hence, they all have received a minimal (although not standardized) set of informa-

| Regression Model | B       | p value | t (df) | p value | R²   |
|------------------|---------|---------|--------|---------|------|
| Model 1          | -0.01  | 0.04    | 11.71  | <0.0001 | 0.29 |
| Model 2          | -0.01  | 0.03    | 14.86  | <0.0001 | 0.28 |
| Model 3          | -0.01  | 0.03    | 20.39  | <0.0001 | 0.26 |

Multivariate linear regression models were built stepwise and the B, beta-coefficient; t, t-value; and R², adjusted r-squared are shown. (Model 1: statistically significant characteristics associated with TTP literacy in the univariate analysis, model 2: characteristics after excluding the least significant variable, and model 3: remaining characteristics after eliminating the characteristic with p value >0.05.) A p value lower than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Table 4

Factors Predicting Low Literacy Score by TTP Patients (Multivariate Analysis, n = 120)
considering educational interventions and local human resources assigned to TTP management (consultation especially assigned to TTP, educational nurse, duration of follow-up visit), will then reveal how patient education helps to improve adherence to follow-up and practitioners’ recommendations which is expected to decrease the associated morbidity and additional costs to the health system, and improve patients’ quality of life.

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LCVP, BE, KK, MJ, SM, PP, FP, CP, TK, AS, ND, EA do not have any conflict of interest to declare. LG and YB are consultants for Sanofi. KV is a member of the advisory board of Shire-Takeda and Ablynx-Sano. AV is a member of the Clinical Advisory Board for Ablynx-Sano and Shire-Takeda. PC is a member of the Clinical Advisory Board for Alexion, Ablynx-Sano, Shire-Takeda and Octapharma.

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Appendix

The members of the Reference Center for Thrombotic Microangiopathies (CNR-MAT) are:

Augusto Jean-François (Service de Néphrologie, dialyse et transplantation; CHU Larrey, Angers); Azoulay Elie (Service de Réanimation Médicale, Hôpital Saint-Louis, Paris); Barbay Virginie (Laboratoire d’Hématologie, CHU Charles Nicolle, Rouen); Benhamou Ygal (Service de Médecine Interne, CHU Charles Nicolle, Rouen); Bordessoule Dominique (Service d’Hématologie, Hôpital Dupuytren, Limoges); Charasse Christophe (Service de Néphrologie, Centre Hospitalier de Saint-Brieuc); Charvet-Rumpler Anne (Service d’Hématologie, CHU de Dijon); Chauveau Dominique (Service de Néphrologie et Immunologie Clinique, CHU Rangueil, Toulouse); Choukroun Gabriel (Service de Néphrologie, Hôpital Sud, Amiens); Coindre Jean-Philippe (Service de Néphrologie, CH Le Mans); Coppel Paul (Service d’Hématologie, Hôpital Saint-Antoine, Paris); Corbe Elise (Service d’Hématologie, Hôpital Saint-Antoine, Paris); Delmas Yahsou (Service de Néphrologie, CHU de Bordeaux, Bordeaux); Deschenes Georges (Service de Néphrologie Pédiatrique, Hôpital Robert Debré, Paris); Devidas Alain (Service d’Hématologie, Hôpital Sud-Francilien, Corbeil-Essonnes); Dossier Antoine (Service de Néphrologie, Hôpital Bichat, Paris); Fain Olivier (Service de Médecine Interne, Hôpital Bichat, Paris); Fakhouri Fadi (Service de Néphrologie, CHU Hôtel-Dieu, Nantes); Frémeaux-Bacchi Véronique (Laboratoire d’Immunologie, Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou, Paris); Galicier Lionel (Service d’Immunopathologie, Hôpital Saint-Louis, Paris); Grangé Steven (Service de Réanimation Médicale, CHU Charles Nicolle, Rouen); Halimi Jean-Michel (Service de Néphrologie Pédiatrique, Hôpital Bretonneau, Tours); Hamidou Mohamed (Service de Médecine Interne, Hôtel-Dieu, Nantes); Herbrecht Raoul (service d’Oncologie et d’Hématologie, Hôpital de Hauteville, Strasbourg); Hié Miguel (Service de Médecine Interne, Groupe Hospitalier Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris); Jacobs Frédéric (Service de Réanimation Médicale, Hôpital Antoine Béclère, Clamart); Joly Bérangère (Service d’Hématologie Biologique, Hôpital Lariboisière, Paris); Kanouni Tarik (Unité d’Hémaprèse, Service d’Hématologie, CHU de Montpellier); Kaplanski Gilles (Service de Médecine Interne, Hôpital la Conception, Marseille); Lautrette Alexandre (Hôpital Gabriel Montpied, Service de Réanimation médicale, Clermont-Ferrand); Le Guern Véronique (Unité d’Hémaprèse, Service de Médecine Interne, Hôpital Cochin, Paris); Loirat Chantal (Service de Néphrologie Pédiatrique, Hôpital Robert Debré, Paris); Moulin Bruno (Service de Néphrologie, Hôpital Civil, Strasbourg); Mousson Christiane (Service de Néphrologie, CHU de Dijon); Ojeda Uribe Mario (Service d’Hématologie, Hôpital Emile Muller, Mulhouse); Ouchenir Abdelkader (Service de Réanimation, Hôpital Louis Pasteur, Le Coudray); Parquet Nathalie (Unité de Clinique Transfusionnelle, Hôpital Cochin, Paris); Peltier Julie (Urgences Néphrologiques et Transplantation Rénale, Hôpital Tenon, Paris); Pène Frédéric (Service de Réanimation Médicale, Hôpital Cochin, Paris); Perez Pierre (Service de Réanimation polyvalente, CHU de Nancy); Poulin Pascale (Service d’hémaprèse et d’auto-transfusion, Hôpital la Conception, Marseille); Puget Francois (Service de Néphrologie, Hôpital Albert Calmette, Lille); Rondoud Eric (Urgences Néphrologiques et Transplantation Rénale, Hôpital Tenon, Paris); Saheb Samir (Unité d’Hémaprèse, Hôpital la Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris); Schlemmer Benoit (Service de Réanimation Médicale, Hôpital Saint-Louis, Paris); Seguin Amélie (Service de Réanimation Médicale, centre hospitalier de Vendée); Servais Aude (Service de Néphrologie, CHU Necker-Enfants Malades); Stéphanie Alain (Laboratoire d’Hématologie, Hôpital Lariboisière, Paris); Vernant Jean-Paul (Service d’Hématologie, Hôpital la Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris); Veyradier Agnès (Service d’Hématologie Biologique, Hôpital Lariboisière, Paris); Vigneau Cécile (Service de Néphrologie, Hôpital Pontchaillou, Rennes); Wynckel Alain (Service de Néphrologie, Hôpital Maison Blanche, Reims); Zunic Patricia (Service d’Hématologie, Groupe Hospitalier Sud-Réunion, la Réunion).