Macopharma Press Release

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Methylene Blue-Treated Plasma versus Quarantine Fresh Frozen Plasma, for Acute Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP) treatment

Macopharma is pleased to inform about the outcome of a recent publication concerning a retrospective study1 comparing the 13-year experience of using quarantine plasma (QP) and Methylene Blue plasma (MBP) to treat patients with acute Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP).

In total, 193 Therapeutic Plasma Exchange (TPE) processes in the QP and 122 in the MBP took place during the period of evaluation in two Centres in Spain.

When comparing the TPE processes, there was no difference between the QP and the MBP groups in the transfused plasma volume, platelet count and LDH levels.

At the end of the evaluation period, of the 22 patients, 19 were alive and free of disease with no disability (among them, three patients had suffered a successfully treated relapse), and three patients had died. All deaths occurred in the QP group, although the difference with the MBP group was not significant.

From the analysis of surviving patients, 60% of episodes treated with QP took longer than 27 days to recover, while none in the MBP group exceeded 27 days.

The time to recovery of TTP patients treated with MB-Plasma was around half the time needed when QP was used. Thus, the MBP patients required almost 21 litres less plasma volume on average.

This study proves that the THERAFLEX MB-plasma is effective and safe when therapeutic plasma exchange is required for patients suffering TTP episodes. The discussion consistently dismantles with arguments the conclusions obtained in previous studies that question the usefulness of the MBP to treat TTP patients.

[1] ***Methylene Blue-Treated Plasma, versus Quarantine Fresh Frozen Plasma, for Acute Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura treatment: comparison between centres and critical review on Longitudinal Data***. Arroyo Rodríguez JL, Martínez Revuelta E, Amunárriz Águeda C, Muñoz Turrillas C, Romón Alonso I, Álvarez I, García Gala JM. Transfus Apher Sci 2020; doi.org/10.1016/j.transci.2020.102771