

Rego e colaboradores analisaram os subtipos linfocitários na medula óssea de 44 crianças de 2 meses a 15 anos sem doença auto-imune ou hematológica e compararam os resultados com 12 adultos hematologicamente saudáveis.<sup>4</sup> Posteriormente, publicaram uma comparação da densidade antigênica de CD10 e CD19 entre os precursores de célula B normais e linfoblastos.<sup>5</sup> Farahat e colaboradores,<sup>6</sup> utilizando citometria de fluxo quantitativa, demonstraram menor quantidade de moléculas de TdT e CD19 e maior quantidade de moléculas de CD10 em blastos leucêmicos comparados com as células linfóides B precursoras.

Nos últimos anos, o desenvolvimento da metodologia de imunofenotipagem por citometria de fluxo multiparamétrica tornou possível utilizar três a quatro cores simultaneamente. O conhecimento adquirido das expressões antigênicas na ontogênese da linhagem linfocitária B tem auxiliado na distinção entre as células linfóides B precursoras e os linfoblastos residuais leucêmicos, como pode ser lido nos artigos publicados por Wells DA,<sup>7</sup> Borowitz MJ<sup>8</sup> e Campana D.<sup>9</sup>

A população de hematogônias exibe um complexo espectro de expressão antigênica que define a evolução normal da linhagem precursora B; dependendo do estágio de maturação pode expressar CD10, CD19, CD34 ou TdT, CD10 e CD19 ou CD19 e CD22.

As hematogônias consistem em células B em estágio médio, baixa proporção em estágio mais precoce ou blastos e poucas células B mais maduras. Na imunofenotipagem se caracterizam por uma expressão variável do CD45, forte expressão do CD10 e CD19 e somente pouco dessas células expressam抗ígenos CD34, TdT ou marcadores CD20 e imunoglobulinas de superfície.<sup>10</sup>

A positividade das hematogônias para o CD10, CD19, HLA-DR, TdT e CD34 pode mimetizar as células leucêmicas residuais, mas a maturação incompleta, o imunofenótipo assincrônico, as expressões com marcadores de linhagem não B, as super ou subexpressões antigênicas auxiliam na caracterização definitiva da célula linfoblástica.

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*Médica hematologista responsável pelo Setor de Citometria de Fluxo do Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein e diretora do Centro de Hematologia de São Paulo.*

**Correspondência:** Nydia Strachman Bacal  
Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein  
Av. Albert Einstein, 627/701 - 4º andar Morumbi  
05652-901 – São Paulo-SP – Brasil  
Tel.: (55-11) 3747-2430 – Fax: (5511) 3747-2420  
E-mail: nsbacal@einstein.br

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## Plasma concentrations of D-Dimer predict mortality?

**Concentração plasmática de Dímero-D é um preditor de mortalidade?**

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Oswaldo T. Greco<sup>1</sup>  
Rafael L. Greco<sup>2</sup>

Atherosclerosis is characterized by a nonspecific local inflammatory process which is accompanied by a systemic response. Since such an inflammatory response is present at all stages of atherogenesis, a large number of emerging inflammatory biomarkers have been identified during the past

decade, which might aid in identifying individuals at high risk for coronary heart disease(CHD).

Fibrin D-Dimer is a major fibrin-specific degradation product that detects cross-linked fibrin resulting from endogenous fibrinolysis. D-Dimer can be considered as a global marker for the direct measurement of ongoing turnover of cross-linked fibrin and for an activation of the haemostatic system without reflecting the changes in fibrinogen and fibrin status. In addition, due to the introduction of ELISA, measurement of D-Dimer is well established in clinical practice as a screening marker of activated coagulation. D-Dimer plays an important role in the detection of hypercoagulable states such as acute symptomatic deep-vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism or disseminated intravascular coagulation (CVD) having a high negative predictive value.

Taking into account that thrombogenesis is one of the fundamental pathological processes underlying the major complications of atherosclerotic disease, measurement of D-dimer might be useful to identify patients at high risk for future CVD events .

Indeed, in the Physician's Health Study,<sup>1</sup> a strong association between increased D-Dimer concentrations and future myocardial infarction was found in multivariate analysis, after controlling for nonlipid risk factors and Lp(a). However, if total and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, as well as endogenous t-PA and its primary inhibitor, PAI-1, were included in the analysis, its association was attenuated and no longer statistically significant. Future ischemic events were predicted by D-Dimer levels in a study by Lowe *et al.*,<sup>2</sup> but not by other markers of procoagulant activity, such as prothrombin fragment F1+2 and thrombin-antithrombin complex (measures of thrombin generation), or by factor VII coagulant activity. Increased levels of D-Dimer also predicted future CHD events in apparently healthy middleaged participants of a large community-based prospective study.<sup>3</sup> Comparison of men in the top tertile with those in the bottom tertile of the baseline fibrin D-Dimer distribution resulted in an odds ratio for CHD of 1.79 (95% CL, 1.36-2.36) after adjustment for smoking, other classical risk factors, and indicators of socioeconomic status. Subsequent meta-analysis, including this and four other population-based cohorts and two studies in patients with stable CVD, yielded almost the same results: an odds ratio of 1.7 (95% CI, 1.3-2.2) was found for subjects with D-Dimer levels in the top tertile compared with those in the bottom. In the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities study, several haemostatic parameters (t-PA, PAI-1, plasminogen and prothrombin fragment F1+2, D-Dimer) were measured in 326 incident CHD cases during a follow-up of 4.3 years and in a randomly stratified referent cohort of 720 individuals. Among these biomarkers only- D-dimer showed a powerful predictive value for incident CHD with a RR of 4.21 (95% CI, 1.9-9.6).<sup>4</sup> Finally, in there more recently published reports the strength of the association between elevated levels of D-Dimer and cardiovascular events was similar to those preciously found in meta-analysis, revealing multivariate-adjusted risk estimates of 1.86(95% CI,1.24-2.80).<sup>5</sup>

We conclude that pulmonary embolism can be excluded in patients who have low clinical probability of pulmonary embolism and negative erythrocyte agglutination D-Dimer test results and that further diagnostic testing is not beneficial to this population. These findings are present in approximately 50% of outpatients and 20% of inpatients with suspected pulmonary embolism.

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<sup>1</sup>Diretor científico do Instituto de Moléstias Cardiovasculares de S. José do Rio Preto, SP.

<sup>2</sup>Médico assistente do IMC. S. José do Rio Preto, SP.

**Correspondência:** Oswaldo Tadeu Grecco

Rua Castelo D'água, 3030

15015-210 – São José do Rio Preto, SP – Brasil

Tel/Fax.: 17 3227-5206

E-mail: oswaldogreco@terra.com.br