

# **IMMUNE THROMBOCYTOPENIC PURPURA. RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE LAST 15 YEARS THERAPEUTICAL RESULTS**

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**Background.** The investigation and management of patients with Chronic immune thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP) varies widely.

**Aims.** To evaluate the treatment of ITP patients in Departament of Hematology, County Hospital, Timisoara.

**Methods.** A retrospective study for 350 ITP patients was performed. Patients demographics, medical history, current treatments and side effects , were abstracted from the patient's medical charts for the 12 months prior to their most recent visit.

**Results.** The mean age was 48.2 years, with 57% women and 42% men. Median time from the diagnosis of ITP to the start of the observational period was 25 months. Prior to the observational period, 37% of patients had been splenectomized and the most reported treatment was corticosteroids. During the observational period, 68% of all patients were treated. The most frequent reasons given for treatment were platelet count (61%), followed by bleeding symptoms (47%). Corticosteroids represented 65% of treatments, followed by IVIg (15%), azathioprine (10%) and rituximab. Splenectomies (5% of patients) and platelet transfusions (21% of patients) were performed during the observational period. For monitoring the platelet levels, 74% of patients visited their hematologist 1 to 8 times during the observation. Main reasons for a visit were a low platelet count (38% of visits) and bleeding (29% of visits). Overall, 35% of patients required hospitalization. Mean duration of hospitalization was 12,5 days.

**Conclusions.** The retrospective study of 350 patients provides the results of treatment practices in our country. It showed that bleeding symptoms remained quite frequent among patients with chronic ITP. Corticosteroids were the most widely used treatment.