

[P-T-088] CURRENT PRACTICE IN THROMBOSIS AND HAEMOSTASIS: A SINGLE-CENTER RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

C.M. Lambert, C.R. Hermans. Haematology, Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium

Introduction: Over the last decades, haemostasis and thrombosis has evolved as an interdisciplinary practice involving an ever-widening array of diagnostic methods and therapeutics. The impact of these changes on the daily activity of specialized outpatient clinics has so far not been thoroughly evaluated. Such information appears critical to better define the areas of expertise required for the thrombosis and haemostasis specialists, optimise interaction with other disciplines and anticipate further developments.

Methods: We reviewed systematically the indications of consultation and final diagnosis of all adult out-patients referred over a 12 months period to the Haemostasis and Thrombosis Unit and Haemophilia Center, Division of Haematology of the Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium.

Results: In total, 2166 out-patients were examined. A majority of patients (69.1%) were referred for venous and/or arterial thrombo-embolic disease involving venous thrombosis (31.4%), thrombophilic work-up for obstetrical complications and monitoring of anticoagulation during pregnancy (12.5%), primary and secondary venous insufficiency (12.2%), arterial thrombosis (9.1%), family screening for thrombophilia (3.7%). A smaller group (23.8%) was referred for diagnostic work-up of bleeding symptoms (12.7%) and management of hereditary bleeding disorders (haemophilia A and B patients and carriers (7.3%) and Von Willebrand disease (2.9%)). The other consultations were general haematology (3.6%) and inappropriate referrals (3%). Interestingly, the diagnostic work-up was positive in 33% of the patients referred for thrombophilia screening and in 70% of patients referred for haemostatic assessment.

Conclusions: This study provides valuable information on the wide spectrum of outpatient activity of specialized haemostasis and thrombosis units and emphasizes the predominance of thrombotic disorders.

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