

**MANIFESTAZIONI CARDIOVASCOLARI  
E METABOLICHE IN REUMATOLOGIA**

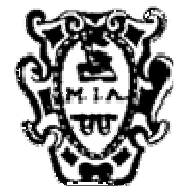
TORINO, 4-5 aprile 2014



# **Sindrome Antifosfolipidi**



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## I. E. nata 20-8-65

Dicembre 1983 (18 a)

Poliartralgie con artrite alle mani

Segno di vasculite a mani e piedi

Corticosteridi x 7 gg con beneficio

Aprile 1984 (19 a)

Diagnosi di RAA

Borsite poplitea Dx

Tromboflebite Sin

Corticosteroidi x 7 gg con beneficio

Luglio 84 dopo esposizione al sole

Eritema malare, lesioni mucocutanee estese

Febbre e astenia

Nausea, vomito

Mialgie con CPK 1120, LDH 1170

Creatinina 1.5, azotemia 59, proteinuria

500mg/24h

GB 2000, Hb 10, PP 117000

ANA, anti ds-DNA positivi alto titolo

CH50 indosabile

Anti ENA pos (PCNA)

Anticardiolipina negativi

3 boli 800 mg metiprednisolone seguito da prednisone 60 mg /die (in progressiva riduzione dopo 3 mesi) e azatioprina.

## I. E. nata 20-8-65

1987 sospende azatioprina x gastralgie  
Viene introdotta idrossiclorochina  
(con prednisone attorno a 7.5 mg/die)

1989 sospende Idrossiclorochina x scarsa compliance

1990 viene sospeso definitivamente il prednisone

1994 ripresa di lesioni mucocutanee e di poliartralgie

Anti ds-DNA positivi

CH50 C3 e C4 ridotti

Anti ENA PCNA

aCL negativi

GB 3130 PP 125000

Creatinina 0.8

Prednisone 15 mg/dì, Azatioprina, Plaquenil, Carioaspirin

1996 sospende il prednisone

tra gli esami di controllo

LA positivo

aCL e anti Beta2GPI negativi

1998 sospende idrossiclorochina  
(CV apparentemente alterato)

Riduce e sospende  
progressivamente i trattamenti  
Da 2010 nessun farmaco

**Nel Gennaio 2012:**

**IgG aCL pos**

**IgG anti Beta2 pos**

**LAC pos**

**I. E. nata 20-8-65**

**Nel Gennaio 2012**

**IgG aCL pos**

**IgG anti Beta2 pos**

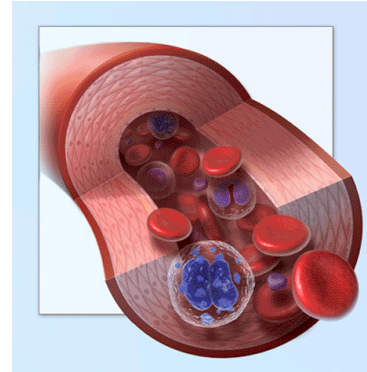
**LAC pos**

Novembre 2012

Asportazione mioma uterino in  
laparoscopia

Dopo 2 settimane comparsa di dolore  
toracico con febbricola e profonda  
astenia.

Varie terapie antibiotiche senza  
successo



**Gennaio 2013 ritorna presso il  
nostro centro:**

- Trombosi venosa profonda arto inf. Dx  
(v. femorale sup., v. poplitea, vv tibiali posteriori, v femorale  
comune, v. femorale profonda);
- trombosi vena giugulare int.sin;
- embolia polmonare segmentaria  
e subsegmentaria  
(lingula e segmento basale laterale lobo inf. Dx);
- infarto polmonare del segmento  
basale laterale del lobo inferiore  
dx.

## R.I. nata 21-9-64

1995 ci consulta dopo una gravidanza complicata da preeclampsia a 28 settimane esitata nella nascita di un bimbo di 850 g morto in seconda giornata.

Riferisce disturbi visivi nei giorni che precedono il ciclo mestruale e spiccata fotosensibilità; nulla di oggettivo PAO normalizzata.

ANA pos (basso titolo)

IgG aCL pos

IgG anti Beta2 pos

LAC pos

1996 prima gravidanza in LDA e basse dosi di corticosteroidi, non complicata. TC a 38.3 settimane per PROM. Bimbo di 3100.

1998 accusa qualche giramento di testa e rari episodi di diplopia.

Idrossiclorochina e LDA.

Nel 1999 seconda gravidanza in LDA, basse dosi di corticosteroidi e idrossiclorochina (sospesa a 17 settimane per prurito). A 36settimane (**28-1-2000**) TC per rialzo pressorio. Bimba 2510, senza problemi.

4-2-2000

Disartria, alessia, emiparesi dx. PAO 140-100.

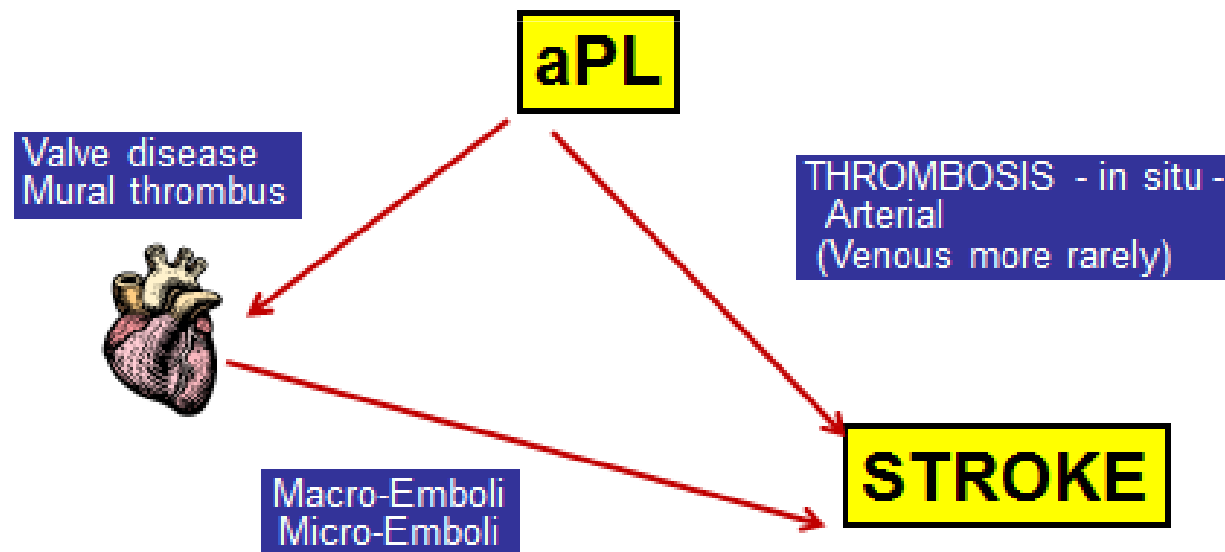
Al mom

TAC cere

nucleo d

sinistra.

## Cerebrovascular Disease and aPL



# ESTIMATED OVERALL PREVALENCE OF aPL IN PATIENTS WITH THROMBOEMBOLIC DISORDERS AND PREGNANCY LOSS



	aPL Confirmation (-) (Mean, Median, Range)	aPL Confirmation (+) (Mean, Median, Range)	Average (Median)
PREGNANCY LOSS (n=59)	12, 9 (0-48) (n=50)	14, 14 (0-25) (n=9)	12%
STROKE/TIA (n=48)	23, 21 (0-49) (n=38)	10, 6 (0-53) (n=10)	14%
MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION/ANGINA (n=20)	14, 8 (3-39) (n=16)	17, 17 (14-21) (n=4)	13%
DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS & THROMBOEMBOLISM (n=27)	14, 11 (0-35) (n=20)	10, 9 (5-19) (n=7)	10%



# The cardiac involvement in APS

- Heart valve lesions
- Coronary heart disease
- Cardiac thromboembolism



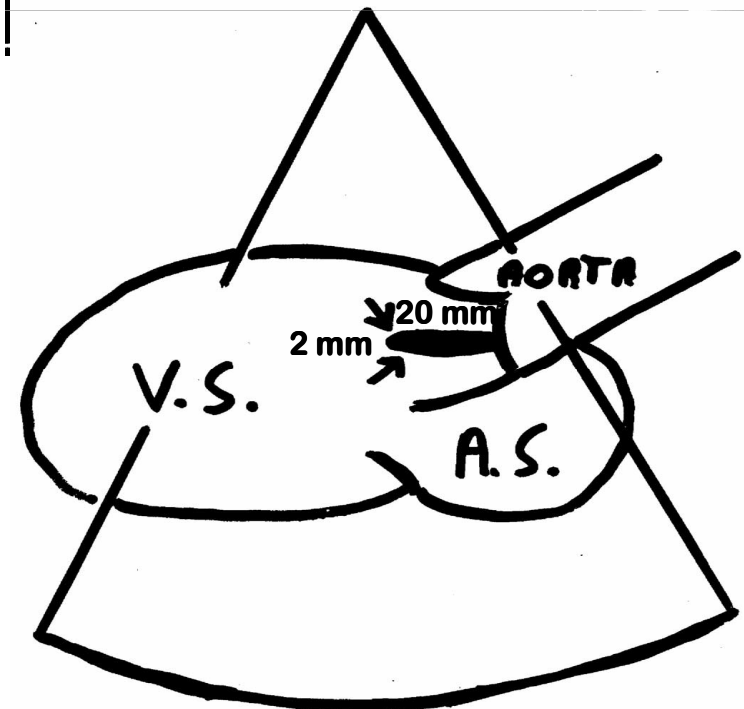
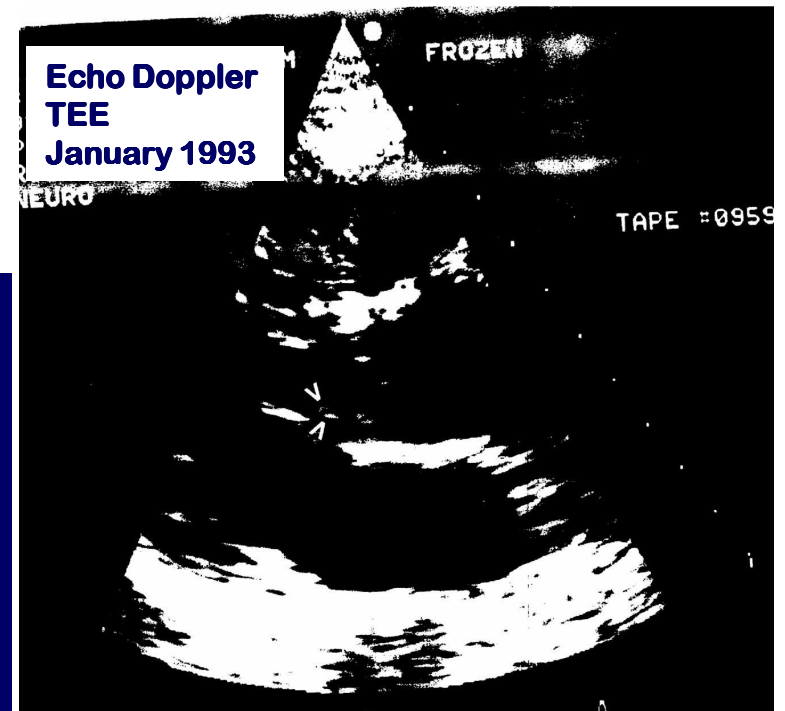
**LF N, 30 years old housewife  
in 1992**

**Referred because of persistent headache,  
dizziness, transient amaurosis episode and  
paresthesias, in the presence of aPL (LA  
and IgG aCL).**

**In her recent hystory, a cesarean section at  
30 weeks of gestation, because of severe  
preeclampsia. The baby died ( 7th day)  
because of important IUGR.**

**No particular problems in the past.  
In 1986 an uncomplicated pregnancy.  
No symptoms or serological signs of SLE.**

*The patient was started with coumadin. The  
vegetation was found first reduced and than  
(May 1993) completely absent.*



# Pathogenesis of valves abnormalities in APS

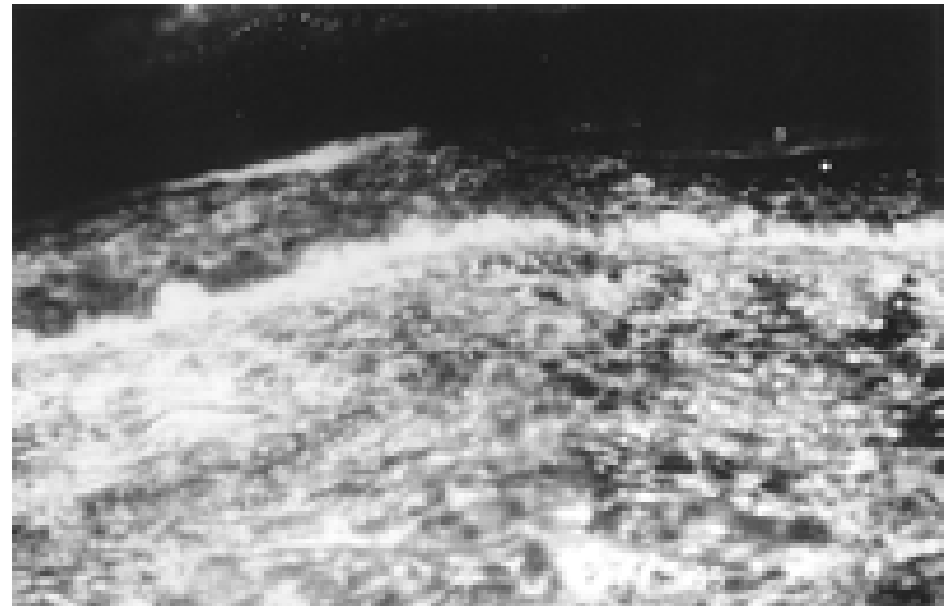
## Histopathology

Superficial or intravalvular fibrin deposition and subsequent organization: vascular proliferation, fibroblast influx, fibrosis and calcification

## Immunofluorescence or immunohistochemistry

Linear deposition of IgG (identified as aCL) at subendothelial level along the surface of leaflets and cusps. C1q, C3c, and C4 are shown in the same shape but more granular suggesting immune complexes deposition (probably “planted” antigens).

*..inflammatory changes..*



From Hojnik M et al,  
Circulation 1996;93:1579-1587



**Thickening, fusion, rigidity**



**Loss of function**

# Valves abnormalities in APS

## *Definition*

**Thickening of the leaflets with irregular nodular excrescences on the atrial face of the mitral valve and/or the vascular face of the aortic valve, often producing regurgitation, and varying from minimal thickening to severe valve distortion and dysfunction requiring surgical replacement.**

Ziporen L, et al Lupus 1996;5: 196-205.

## *Clinical association*

**Arterial thrombotic events.**

**Atherosclerosis risk factors**

**Livedo**

**Migrain**

Pardos-Gea J, et al, Lupus 2010, 19: 575-582

# Prevalence of valvular involvements in Primary APS

**1000 pts with APS**

**Not really different in primary or secundary APS.**

**✓ 11.6 % as clinical record**

**✓ 6.6 % appered in 10 years follow-up**

**Cervera R, et al ARD 2014**

**89 pts with primary APS investigated by TTE  
(not hemodynamically significant; no surgical indication)**

**69% as prevalence study**

**BS-Spedali Civili 1984-2002**

# Valves abnormalities in APS long term evolution

53 patients (1986-2007); transthoracic echocardiogram.

<i>Initial echo</i>	<i>Patients, n (%)</i> <i>n = 53</i>
<b>Valvulopathy<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>29 (54)</b>
Regurgitation	11 (20)
Mitral	6 (11)
Aortic	2 (3)
Tricuspid	1 (2)
Mitral + Aortic	2 (3)
Mild	9 (17)
Moderate	1 (2)
Severe	1 (2)
Stenosis	—
Thickening	25 (47)
Vegetation	4 (7)
<b>No valvulopathy</b>	<b>24 (45)</b>

<b>No valvulopathy</b>	<b>2 (3)</b>
<b>Valvulopathy</b>	<b>27 (51)</b>
Regurgitation	18 (34) <sup>c</sup>
Mitral	9 (17)
Aortic	3 (5)
Tricuspid	2 (3)
Mitral + Aortic	4 (7)
Mild	6 (11)
Moderate	10 (18) <sup>d</sup>
Severe	2 (3)
Stenosis	2 (3)
Thickening	24 (45)
Vegetation	3 (5)

<b>No valvulopathy</b>	<b>22 (41)</b>
<b>Valvulopathy</b>	<b>2 (3)</b>
Regurgitation	2 (3)
Mitral	2 (3)
Aortic	—
Tricuspid	—
Mitral + Aortic	—
Mild	2 (3)
Moderate	—
Severe	—
Stenosis	—
Thickening	2 (3)
Vegetations	—

# The cardiac involvement in APS

- Heart valve lesions
- Coronary heart disease
- Cardiac thromboembolism

## An aerial photograph of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The image shows the city's skyline, including the Vancouver Convention Centre and the Vancouver SkyTrain. The city is situated on a peninsula, with the Burrard Inlet to the north and False Creek to the south. The water is a deep blue, and the city is densely packed with buildings. The image is taken from a high angle, looking down on the city and the water.

*In stu  
strong*

- RT

RT

**aPL = fattori di rischio**

**Non tutti i pazienti con aPL hanno CVD**

**Molti soggetti con DVD non hanno aPL**

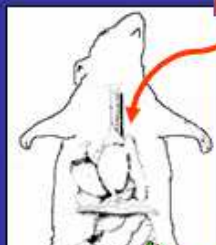


# ANIMAL MODELS of THROMBOSIS

## Thrombogenic properties of aPL *in vivo* (Pierangeli et al 1999)

CD1 mice

72 hrs after Ig injection surgical preparation of the femoral vein, pinch application



aPL<sup>+</sup> IgG



COMPUTER

## ANTIPHOSPHOLIPID SYNDROME: thrombophilic condition: the “*second hit*” hypothesis

MICE



and

MEN



•Pinch on the femoral vein

•Lipopolysaccharide

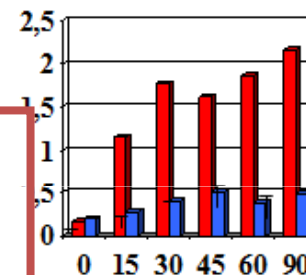
•pregnancy  
•puerperium  
•Infections  
•oral contraceptives  
•hormone therapy  
•hypertension  
•smoke



## THROMBOSIS IN LPS-TREATED RATS RECEIVING $\beta$ 2GPI-dependent aPL<sup>+</sup> & aPL<sup>-</sup> IgG

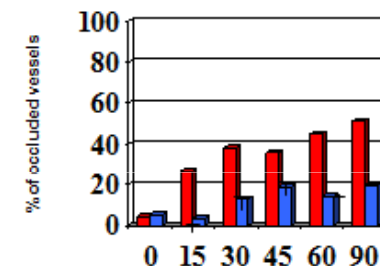
### Thrombus formation

aPL<sup>+</sup> aPL<sup>-</sup>



### Vessel occlusion

aPL<sup>+</sup> aPL<sup>-</sup>

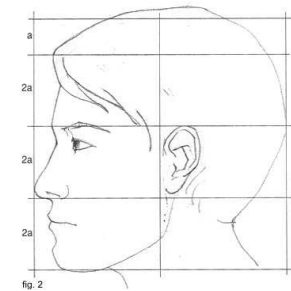


minutes after start of infusion

Fischetti F et al, Blood 05

Come si fa a  
sapere il peso degli  
aPL nel danno CV  
????????????

# ANTIPHOSPHOLIPID ANTIBODY PROFILE



	Anti-cardiolipin antibody	Anti-B2GPI Antibody	Lupus Anticoagulant
Isotype	IgG, IgM (IgA)	IgG, IgM (IgA)	/
Titre	>40 GPL/MPL	low, medium, high	?+/-
Interpretation of isolated positivity	+	++	+++

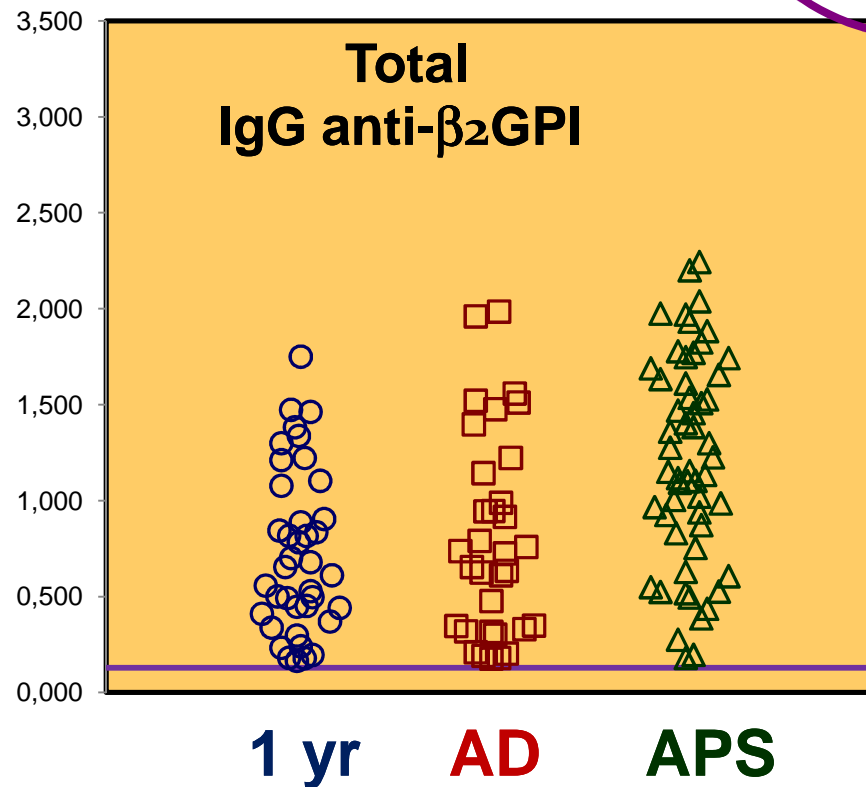
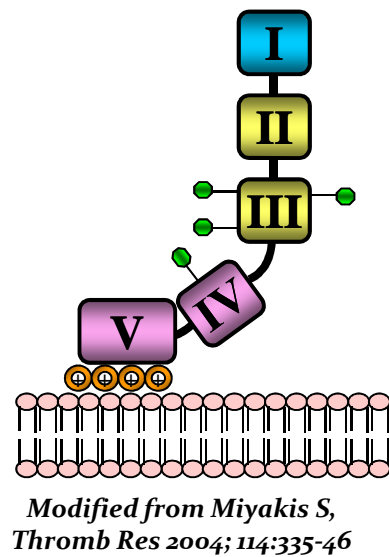
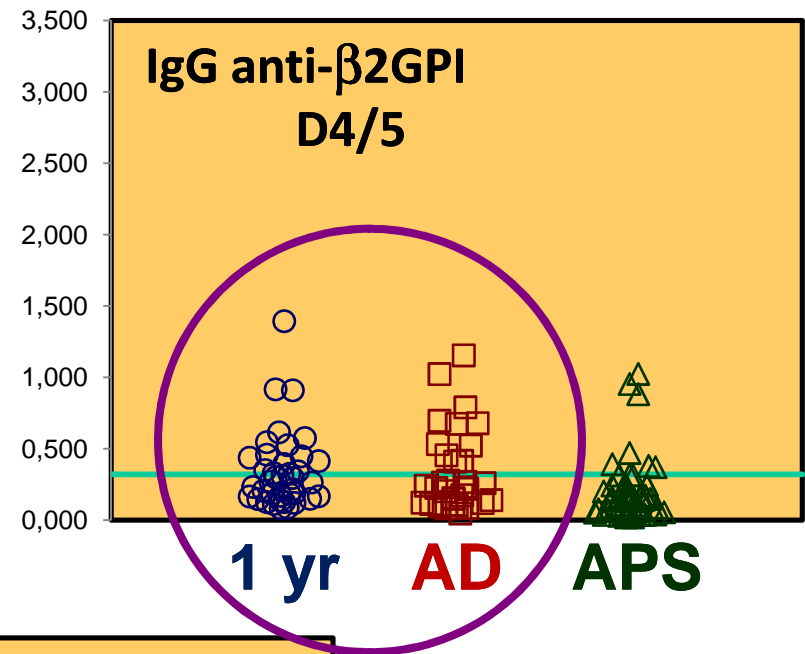
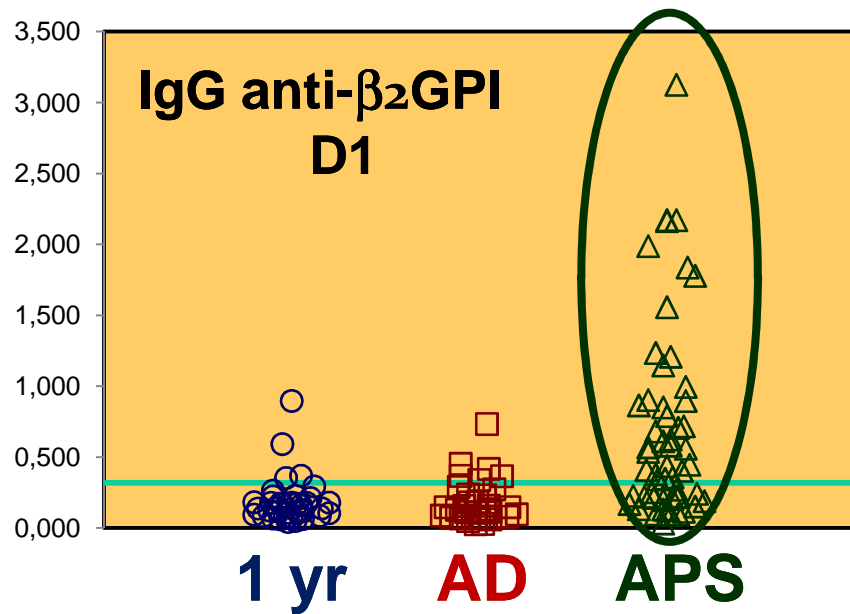
Le caratteristiche del profilo ad alto rischio sono state definite come:

**1) positività del LA considerato il maggior predittore indipendente delle manifestazioni cliniche di APS;**

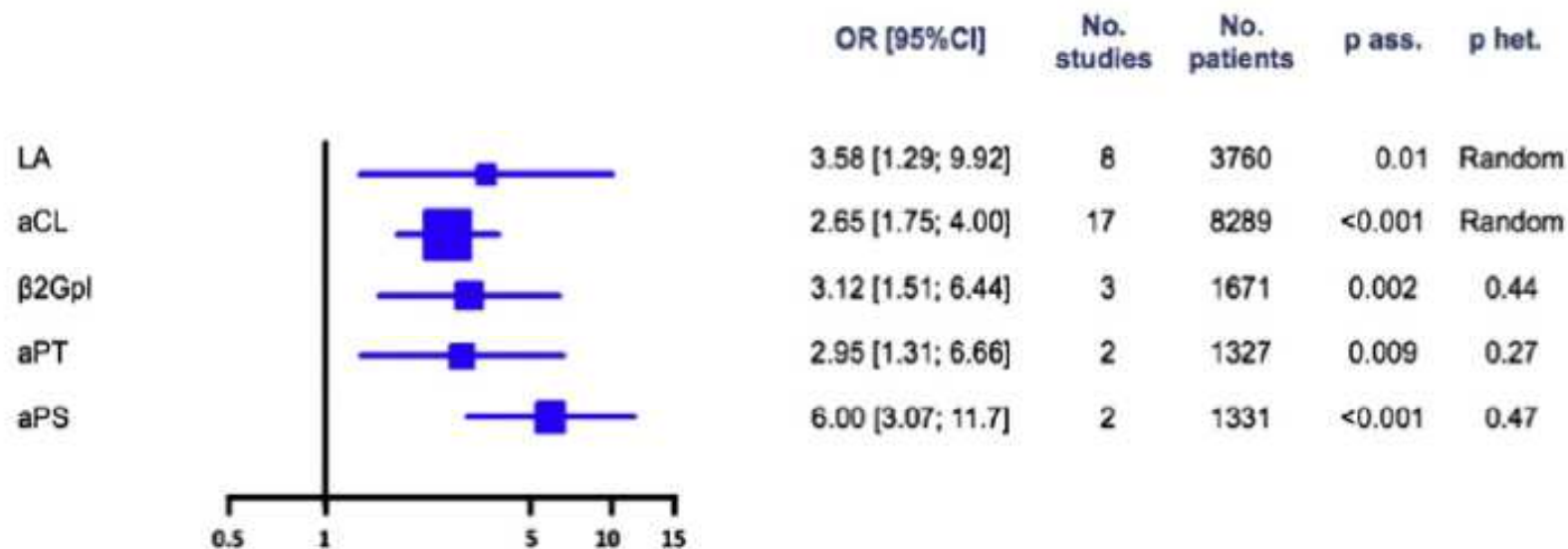
**2) nell'ambito del test immunometrici (aCL e anti-B2GPI), titoli elevati e isotipo IgG sono associati a un rischio maggiore rispetto a bassi titoli e a isotipo IgM;**

**3) la triplice positività è associata ad un rischio maggiore rispetto alla positività singola o a quella di due test soltanto;**

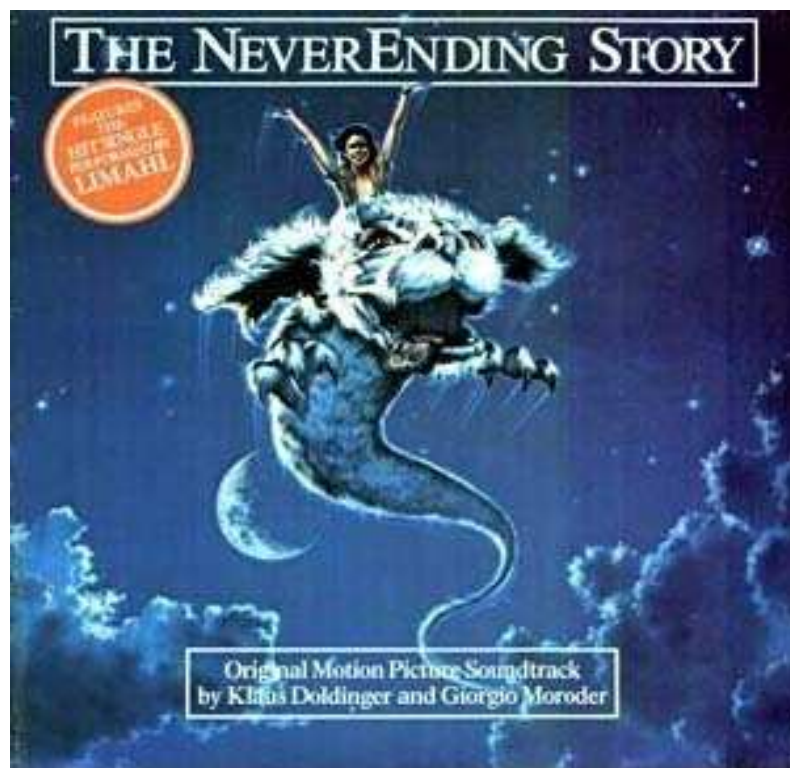
**4) la persistenza è una caratteristica fondamentale degli aPL "autoimmuni" legati allo sviluppo di patologia, mentre valori positivi transitori sono comuni durante le infezioni.**



# Risk of arterial thrombosis according to type of antiphospholipid antibodies in adults without systemic lupus erythematosus: A systematic review and meta-analysis



aCL: anti-cardiolipin, aPE: anti-phosphatidyl ethanolamine, aPS: anti-phosphatidyl serine, aPT: anti-prothrombin, LA: lupus anticoagulant, No.: number of, OR (95%CI): odds ratio and 95% confidence interval, p ass: p-value for association, p het: p-value for heterogeneity, β2Gpl: anti-β2 Glycoprotein I



Contrasting data have been reported on the association between the presence of anti-phospholipid antibodies and arterial thrombotic events, particularly those in coronary arteries.

This discrepancy is perhaps related to the confounding effect of traditional risk factors.

## ***APL and arterial events.***

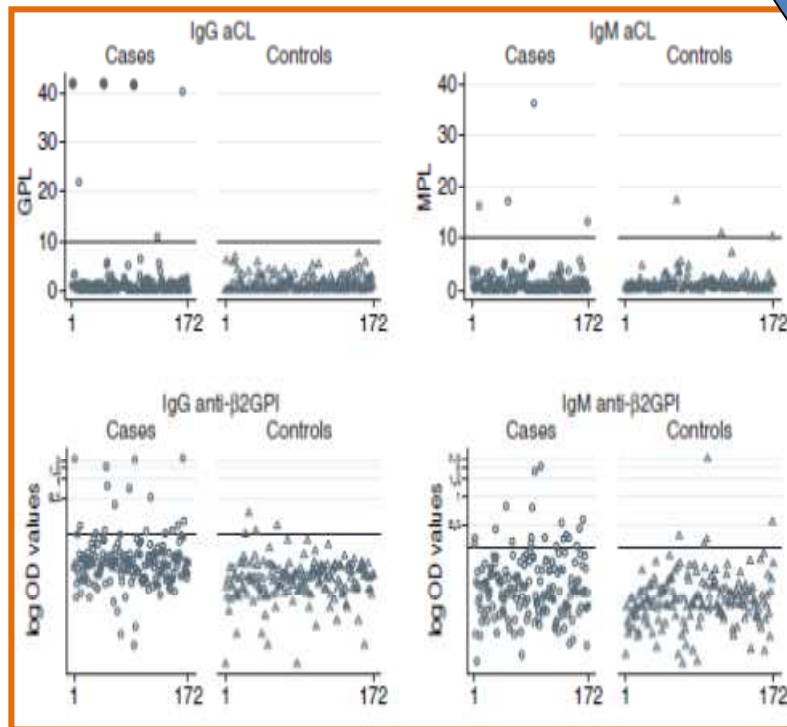
### ***The confounding role of comorbidities***



# Anti-beta 2 glycoprotein I antibodies and the risk of myocardial infarction in young premenopausal women

172 cases hospitalized for MI < 45 years and 172 controls individually matched for sex and geographical origin. 50 unselected patients with rheumatoid arthritis (men; mean age + SD, 53 + 11 years)

Adjusted for smoking and hypertension



**Table 3** Association of ANA and anti-β2GPI antibodies with MI

	Unadjusted OR (95% CI)	<i>P</i>	Adjusted OR* (95% CI)	<i>P</i>
<b>ANA – Antiβ2GPI</b>				
ANA 1:40	0.94 (0.59–1.51)	0.811	1.31 (0.74–2.31)	0.357
ANA 1:160	0.6 (0.26–1.37)	0.236	0.58 (0.23–1.47)	0.252
Anti-β2GPI – IgG <sup>†</sup>	2.36 (1.81–3.07)	<0.0001	2.47 (1.81–3.38)	<0.0001
<b>Anti-β2GPI – IgM OD</b>				
<0.0595	1.0 (ref)		1.0 (ref)	
0.0595–0.087	0.66 (0.33–1.32)	0.243	0.64 (0.29–1.42)	0.27
0.087–0.1395	1.46 (0.76–2.79)	0.253	1.40 (0.67–2.95)	0.37
>0.1395	3.96 (1.93–8.14)	<0.0001	3.68 (1.69–8.02)	0.001

ANA, anti-nuclear antibodies; MI, myocardial infarction; anti-β2GPI, anti-beta2 glycoprotein I.

\*ORs adjusted for smoking and hypertension.

<sup>†</sup>Quartile of anti-β2GPI antibodies treated as a continuous variable.

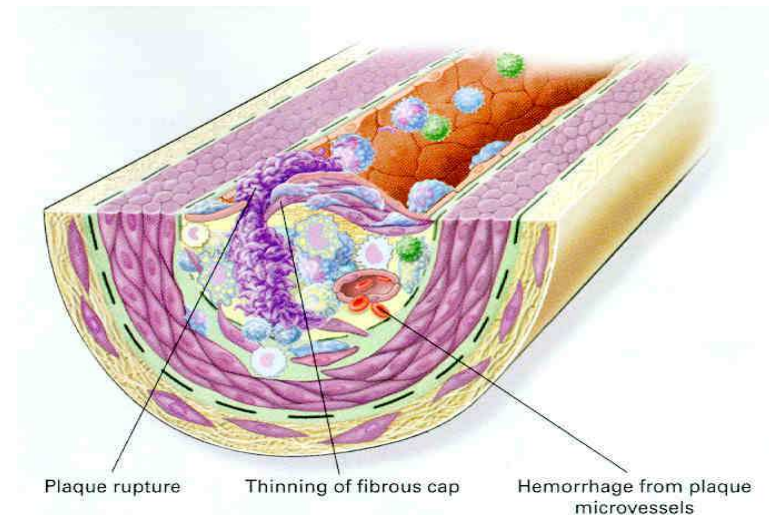
# aPL & Atherothrombosis: more thrombosis than athero...?

## Association of anti-b2GPI antibodies with MI was confirmed in pts without significant coronary stenosis

(anti-b2GPI IgG crude OR = 2.60, 95% CI 1.59–4.23,  $P < 0.0001$ ;  
adjusted OR 2.52 95%, CI 1.54–4.11,  $P < 0.0001$ ;  
anti-b2GPI IgM crude OR = 1.97, 95% CI 1.30–3.00,  $P = 0.001$ ;  
adjusted OR = 2.24, 95% CI 1.33–3.75,  $P = 0.002$ )

## and in those with significant stenosis

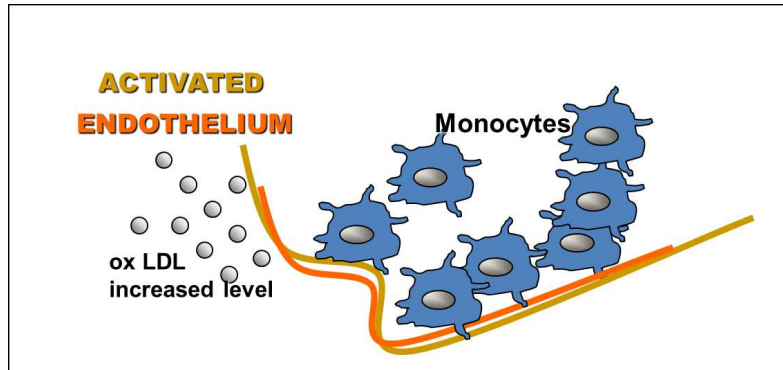
(anti-b2GPI IgG crude OR = 2.25, 95% CI 1.59–3.18,  $P < 0.0001$ ;  
adjusted OR 2.29 95%, CI 1.43–3.68,  $P = 0.001$ ;  
anti-b2GPI IgM crude OR = 1.38, 95% CI 1.04–1.85,  $P = 0.027$ ;  
adjusted OR = 1.88, 95% CI 1.18–3.01,  $P = 0.008$ ).



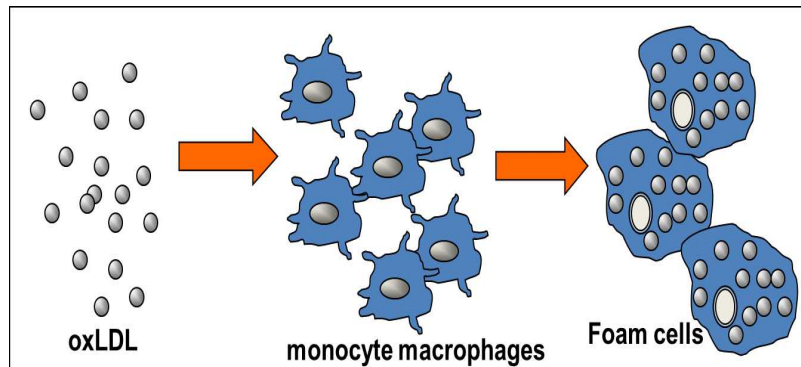
*b2GPI dependent aPL are independently associated with MI in premenopausal women, despite the absence, or small degree, of the atherosclerotic burden in coronary arteries.*



# The role of anti-beta 2GPI in atherosclerosis



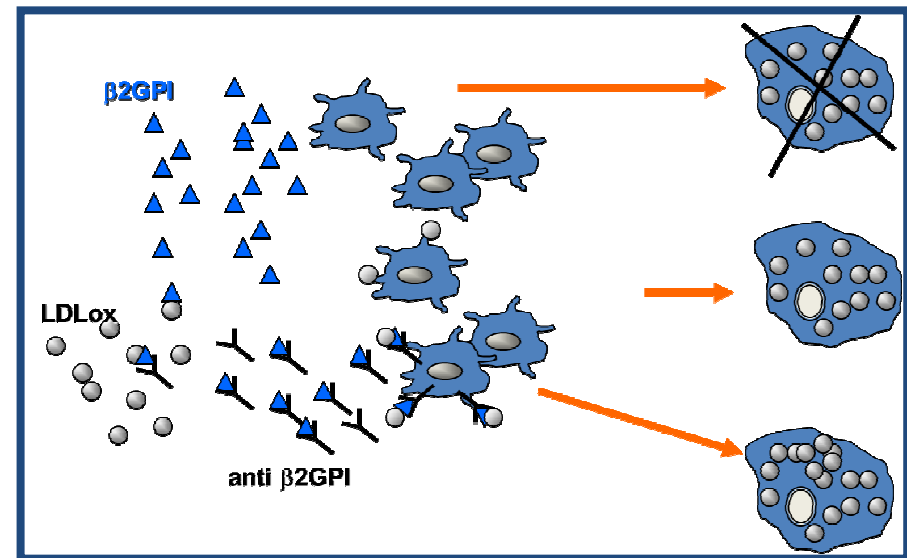
The plaque initiating process is the binding of circulating monocytes to arterial endothelial cells mediated by vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (VCAM-1) and intracellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1).



Oxidized LDL and other lipoproteins can be actively taken up by scavenger receptor mediated endocytosis, transforming macrophages into the so called foam cells.

**Anti-beta2 GPI can be responsible of the LDL oxidation.**

- IgG anti-HDL and IgG anti-b2GPI are associated with reduced paroxonase activity in SLE and APS.
- The physiological role of paroxonase is to prevent the oxidation of LDL.



Da Koike T, 1998

# Atherosclerosis & b2GPI:

## Clinical & Experimental Evidences



### Beta 2 glycoprotein I and atherosclerotic plaque

*studied in human carotid samples*

**Immunolocalization of  
 $\beta$ 2-glycoprotein I (apolipoprotein H)  
to human atherosclerotic plaques:  
Potential implications for lesion progression.**

$\beta$ 2GPI co-localized with T CD4+ lymphocytes

*George et al; Circulation, 99: 2227-2230; 1999*

### IMMUNIZATION WITH HUMAN $\beta$ 2 GLYCOPROTEIN I



In LDL-receptor-deficient mice or Apo-E knock-out, immunization with  $\beta$ 2GPI enhances atherosclerotic lesions (including CD4+ lymphocytes)

George J et al Circulation 1998;  
Afek A et al, Pathobiology 1999

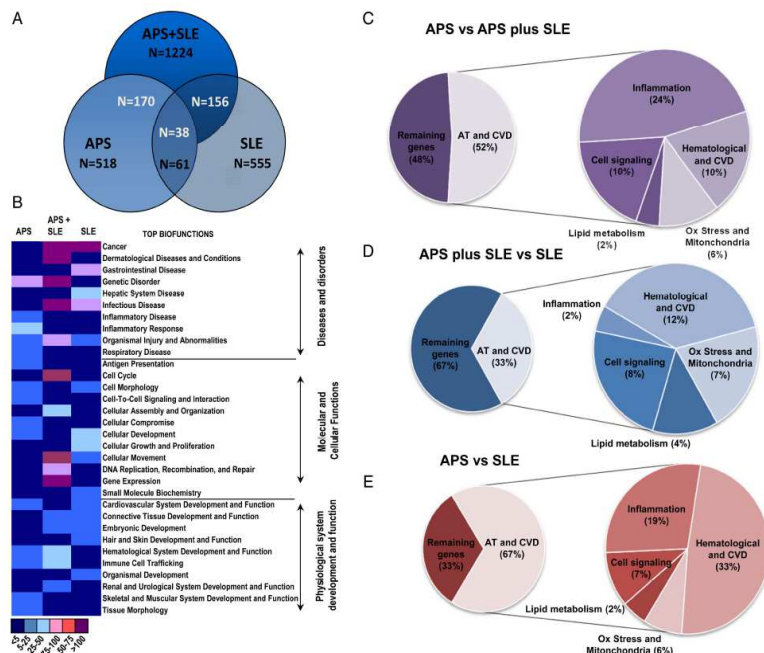
T cells depletion  
impairs the experimental model  
reproduction !!

The transfer of lymphocytes from mice immunized with  $\beta$ 2GPI to mice of similar genetic background, increases atherosclerotic lesions compared to those occurring in animals transferred with lymphocytes from mice immunized with ovalbumin.

# Gene profiling specific molecular pathways in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis and cardiovascular disease in APS, APS+SLE and SLE

126 patients, 41 with APS, 31 with APS plus SLE and 54 with SLE, 61 healthy donors

555 (SLE), 1224 (APS + SLE) and 518 (APS) genes were differentially expressed;  
25–30% of differentially expressed genes were related to AT and CVD



Microarray expression profiling was performed in monocytes.

**APS + SLE patients not only display a significantly different gene profile but also appear to be at greater risk of developing certain pathological features compared with those SLE patients who do not have aPL.**

**Our results indicate that aPL-positive lupus patients have an increase in both markers of early atherosclerosis development and thrombotic events.**

Carlos Perez-Sanchez et al. ARD March 2014

# Atherosclerosis

## Cause of death in APS

**Table 4** Causes of death during the 10 year follow-up (1999–2009) of the total cohort of 1000 patients

Causes of death*	0–5 year (n=53)	5–10 year (n=40)	0–10 year (n=93)
	No. (%)†	No. (%)†	No. (%)†
Bacterial infection	11 (20.8)	9 (22.5)	20 (21.5)
Myocardial infarction	10 (18.9)	3 (7.5)	13 (13.9)
Stroke	7 (13.2)	4 (10)	11 (11.8)
Haemorrhage	6 (11.3)	4 (10)	10 (10.7)
Malignancy	6 (11.3)	7 (17.4)	13 (13.9)
Catastrophic APS	5 (9.4)	0	5 (5.4)
Pulmonary embolism	5 (9.4)	0	5 (5.4)
SLE pulmonary involvement	3 (5.7)	0	3 (3.2)
SLE renal involvement	2 (3.8)	1 (2.5)	2 (2.5)
SLE central nervous system involvement	1 (1.9)	0	1 (1.1)
SLE haematological involvement	0	1 (2.5)	1 (1.1)
Chronic renal failure	0	2 (5)	2 (2.5)
Viral infection	0	4 (10)	4 (4.3)
Fungal infection	1 (1.9)	0	1 (1.1)
Trauma/accident	0	3 (7.5)	3 (3.2)
Unknown	0	3 (7.5)	3 (3.2)

\*Several patients had more than one cause of death.

†Percentage of death.

APS, antiphospholipid syndrome; SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus.

93 (9.3%) patients  
(72 female and 21 male)  
died.

Mean (SD) age at death was  
59 (14) years (range 19–94).

The mortality rate was  
similar in both periods:  
5.3% in the initial 5-year  
follow-up period and 4% in  
the ensuing 5 years.

# The cardiac involvement in APS

- Heart valve lesions
- **Coronary heart disease**
  - Significant aPL profile
  - Low concomitant morbidities (i.e. young age)
  - With and without atherosclerosis
  - High mortality rate
- Cardiac thromboembolism





# *Greetings from Brescia Rheumatology Unit*



*Thank you for  
your attention!*

