

# TERZO MEETING DI EMATOLOGIA NON ONCOLOGICA

Boscolo Hotel Astoria  
Firenze 26-27 gennaio 2017

GLI INIBITORI DELL'EMOSTASI NELLE MGUS

*Augusto B. FEDERICI*

# Disclosures:

## *Augusto B. Federici*

Employment	NONE
Research support	NONE
Scientific advisory board	BAXTER, CSL-BEHRING, GRIFOLS, KEDRION-LFB, OCTAPHARMA, WERFEN-IL
Consultancy	NONE
Speakers bureau	BAXTER, CSL-BEHRING, GRIFOLS, KEDRION-LFB, OCTAPHARMA, WERFEN-IL
Major stockholder	NONE
Patents	NONE
Honoraria	BAXTER, CSL-BEHRING, GRIFOLS, KEDRION-LFB, OCTAPHARMA, WERFEN-IL
Travel support	NONE
Other	NONE

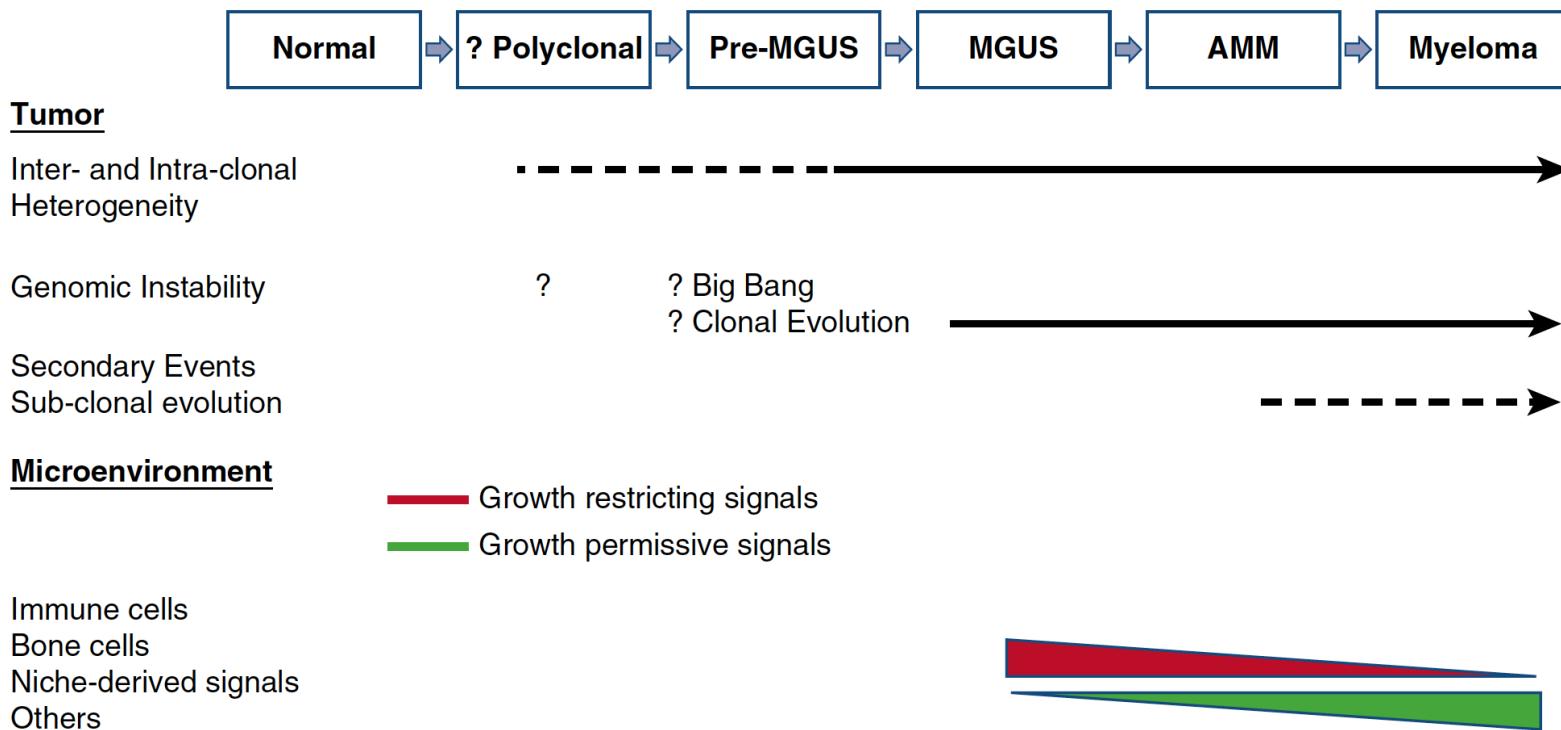
# Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance

## *MGUS: General Definitions (1)*

- MGUS is a frequent finding in the older adult population, affecting 3% of whites age 50 or older and with prevalence increasing with age.
- Prevalence varies among different races, being 2-fold higher in black population and less frequent in Asian compared with whites.
- MGUS is a premalignant plasma cell dyscrasia, carrying a lifelong risk of transformation to hematologic malignancy, mainly MM, at a fixed but unremitting rate of approximately 1% per year.

# MGUS to myeloma: a mysterious gammopathy of underexplored significance

Madhav V. Dhodapkar



*Blood. 2016;128(23):2599-2606.*

# Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance

## *MGUS: General Definitions (2)*

- Because MM remains an incurable disease with significant associated morbidity from skeletal and renal events, close monitoring of MGUS patients has been recommended to **diagnose malignant transformation before the onset of serious complications.**
- Current guidelines recommend that newly diagnosed MGUS patients should undergo a **general physical examination and routine laboratory screen (complete blood count, creatinine, calcium)** with a repeated serum protein electrophoresis in 6 months, and, if stable, **yearly thereafter (optimal MGUS follow-up)**

# ***MGUS and Acquired Haemostatic Inhibitors (AHI) General Definitions and Frequency (3)***

- There are **no data about the prevalence of AHI in MGUS** because no prospective observational studies are available in a large number of individuals with MGUS
- The most **frequent haemostatic lab abnormality** shown in MGUS is the **prolonged PTT due to reduced levels of FVIII (acquired HA)** associated with VWF defects (AVWS)
- Among the 456 cases of MGUS followed up **for the last 6 years at the Division of Hematology and Transfusion Medicine of L. Sacco University Hospital** **12/456 (2.5%) developed a prolonged PTT (defects of FVIII and VWF) with bleeding symptoms**

# Acquired Haemostatic Inhibitors (AHI)

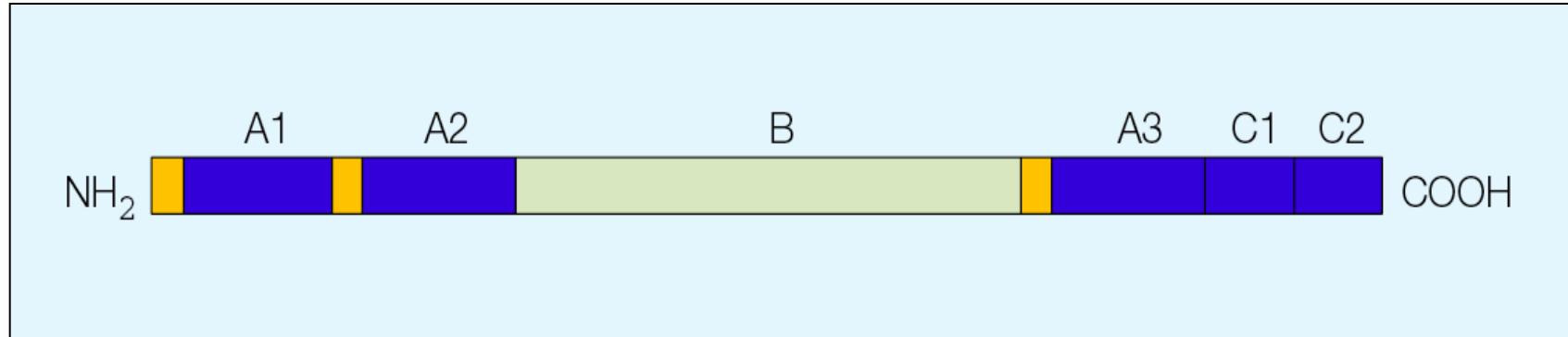
## *General Classification (4)*

The acquired defects of the complex FVIII/VWF are known as **Acquired Hemophilia A (AHA)** and **Acquired von Willebrand Syndrome (AVWS)**.

Besides AVWS and AHA other very rare AHI have been reported against Factor V, VII, IX, X, XI, XII and XIII.

**The management of patients** with AVWS, AHA and other AHI is **difficult and costly**: the attention of an experienced hematologist consultant is always required.

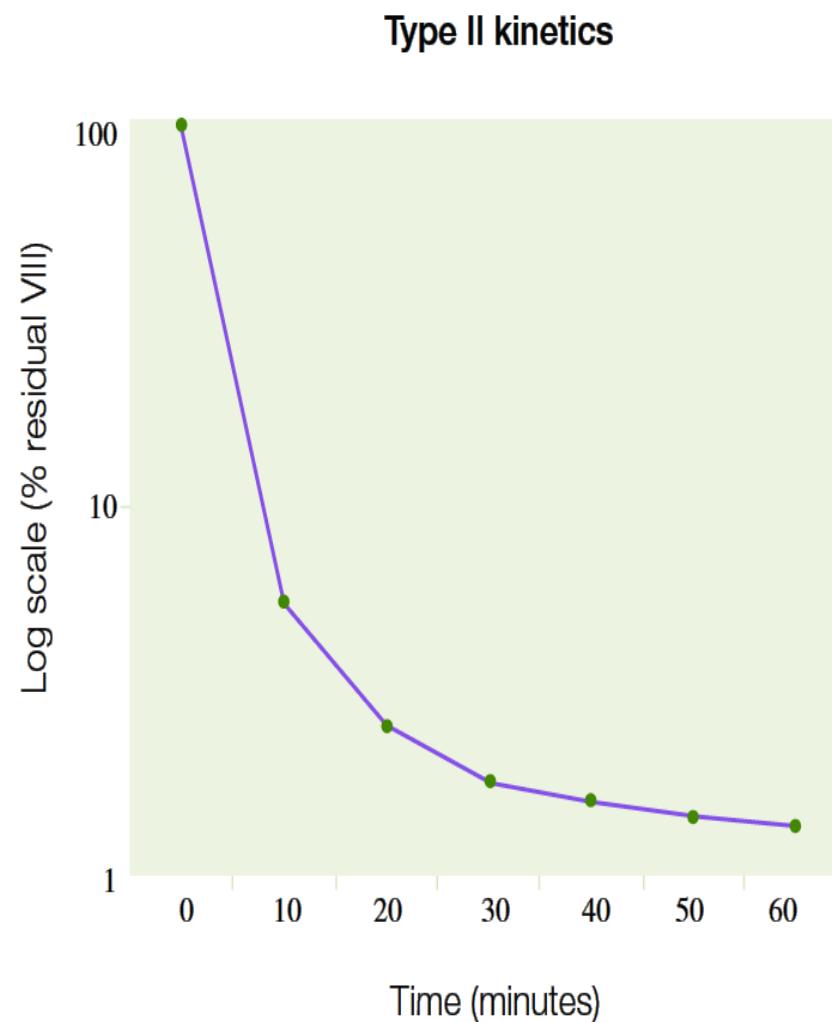
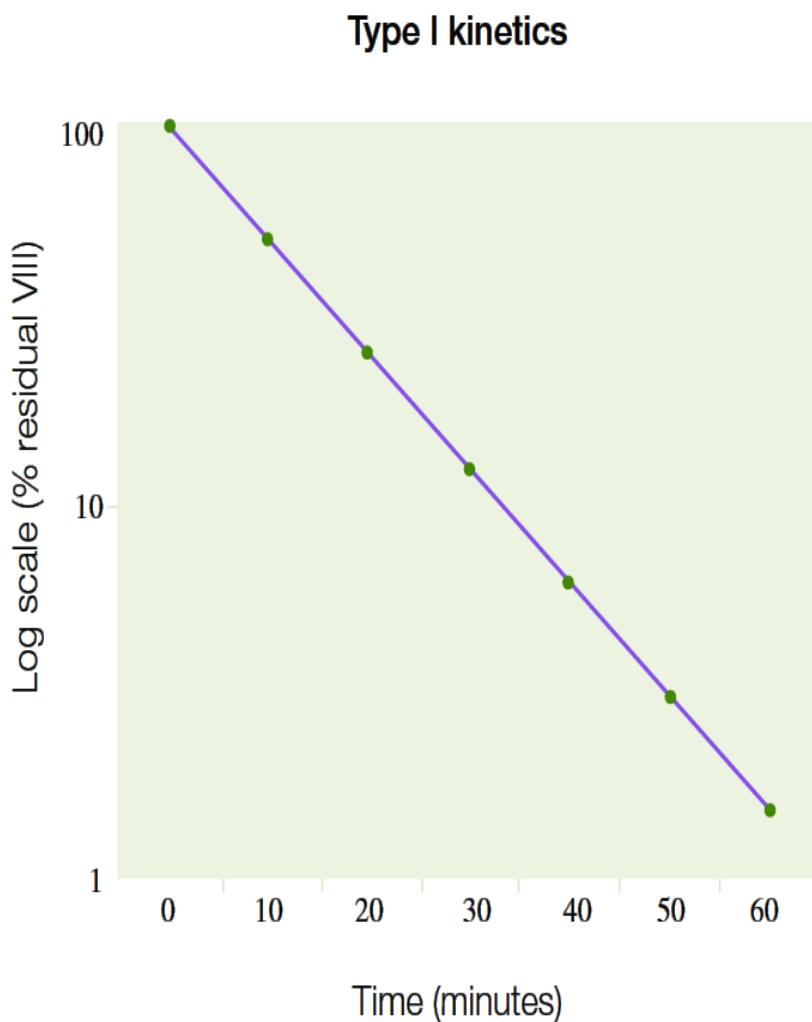
# Domains of FVIII: anti-FVIII auto-antibodies



A2-A3 domains  
C2 domain

- binding sites for activated Factor IX
- binding to VWF
- binding to the phospholipid membrane

# Kinetics of anti-FVIII inhibitors



# Acquired VW Syndrome

## *Definitions*

**Acquired Von Willebrand Syndrome (AVWS)** is a **rare** acquired bleeding disorder similar to inherited VWD in term of lab findings:

- prolonged BT, defects of VWF activities.

**But** differently from inherited VWD occurs:

- later in life in subjects without personal and familial history of bleeding.

# AVWS Reported in the Literature (1968-2016)

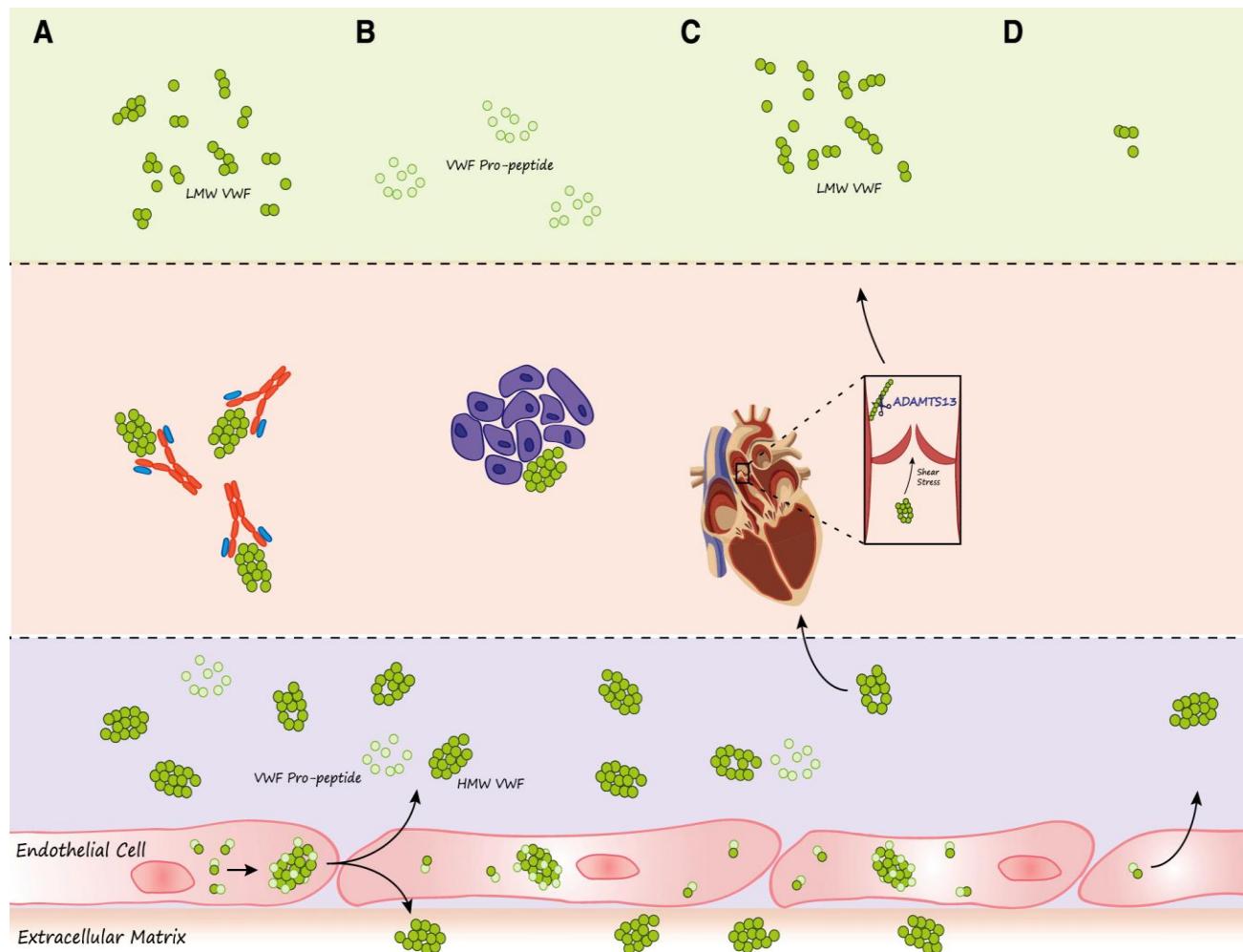
**1060 Pub Med citations** up to Dec 2016.

**622 scientific reports** including:

- 7 national or expert recommendations
- 1 prospective + 4 retrospective studies
- 2 “How I treat” in Blood

**Cochrane library: no reports**

# Main Mechanisms Causing AVWS: not only Auto-Antibodies to VWF



**Callaghan MU et al, Blood 2013**

# Acquired VW Syndrome

## *Prevalence of AVWS*

- No large prospective studies available
- Only one single institution study:  
***25/260 patients*** with hematological disorders showed a form of AVWS

*Mohri et al, Blood 1998*

# Retrospective Studies on AVWS (1968-2000)

Scientific and Standardization Committee Communication

## Acquired von Willebrand Syndrome: Data from an International Registry

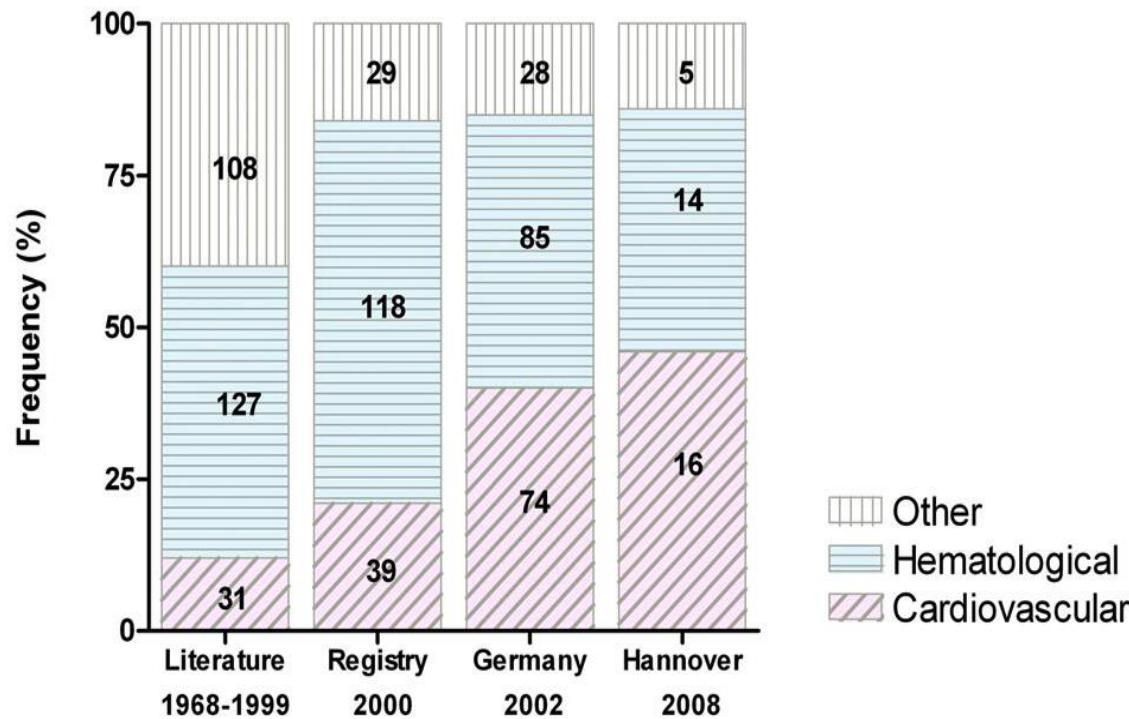
On behalf of the Subcommittee on von Willebrand Factor

Augusto B. Federici<sup>1\*</sup>, Jacob H. Rand<sup>2</sup>, Paolo Bucciarelli<sup>1</sup>, Ulrich Budde<sup>3</sup>, Perry J. J. van Genderen<sup>4</sup>, Hiroshi Mohri<sup>5</sup>, Dominique Meyer<sup>6</sup>, Francesco Rodeghiero<sup>7</sup>, J. Evan Sadler<sup>8</sup>

- **266 cases of AVWS in the literature (1968-1999)**
- **186 cases reported by the ISTH-SSC Registry**

*Thromb Haemost 2000*

# The Current Changing Spectrum of AVWS-Associated Disorders



*Tiede A et al, Blood 2011*

# Differential Diagnosis Between AVWS and VWD

Aspect	In favor of AVWS	In favor of VWD	Limitations
Personal history	Late onset of bleeding	Early onset of bleeding	Variable penetrance of VWD
	Uneventful surgery before onset of bleeding	No uneventful surgery or no previous high risk situations	
Family history	Negative	Positive	Variable penetrance of VWD
AVWS-associated disorder	Present	Absent	Coincidental presence of highly prevalent disorders, e.g. MGUS in the elderly
Laboratory evaluation	Presence of inhibitor or VWF-binding antibodies	VWF gene mutation	Low frequency of detectable inhibitors in AVWS
			Alloantibodies in rare cases of VWD type 3
Treatment response	Remission after treatment of underlying disorder	Normal recovery and half-life of VWF-containing concentrate	Cannot be assessed before treatment
	Response to IVIG (in IgG MGUS associated AVWS)	Sustained response to desmopressin	
	Short-lived response to VWF containing concentrates or desmopressin		

# **Auto-Antibodies in AVWS**

## **Neutralizing vs Non-Neutralizing Abs**

**Neutralizing auto-antibodies interact with the functional portions of VWF: they are associated with loss of specific VWF activities**

**Non Neutralizing auto-antibodies can remove VWF from circulation without interaction with functional portions of VWF**

# Methods Used to Identify Anti-VWF Auto-Antibodies

- Mix experiments with VWF/FVIII activities tested after 1-4 hour incubation at 37° C.

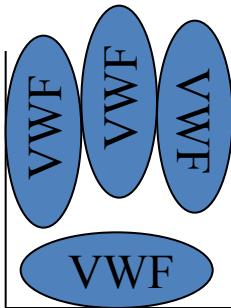
*Mannucci PM et al, Blood 1984*

- Some solid phase tests proposed by different authors
- More recently, an assay to test anti-VWF antibodies by using a sandwich ELISA (Ex-VWF-Plasma-HRP goat anti-human IgG-IgM) has been published.

*Siaka C et al, Haemophilia. 2003*

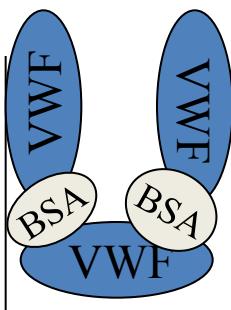
# Method (1)

## *ELISA Test for Auto-Antibodies Against VWF*



**Coating:** of  $\gamma$ -irradiated polystyrene plates (Nunc Maxisorp) with 100  $\mu$ l of purified VWF solution (Wilfactin, LFB) at final concentration of 0.35 UI VWF:RCo/mL.

**Incubation:** One night at 2-8 °C



**Washing:** Unbound VWF removed by 5 washes with PBS pH 7.4

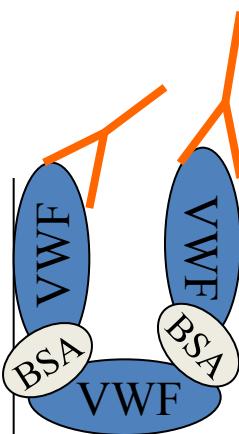
**Saturation:** of the wells with PBS-1% BSA 2 hours at 20-22 °C

**Aspiration:** Then, PBS aspiration

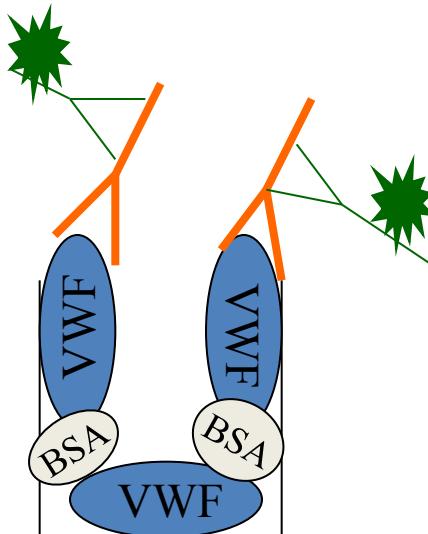
*Siaka C et al, Haemophilia 2003*

# Method (2)

## *ELISA Test for Auto-Antibodies Against VWF*



**Addition of plasma samples:** at 1:10 or 1:50. In PBS-0.05% Tween20, in VWF-coated and control-uncoated wells



**Incubation:** 2 hours at 20-22 ° C. Washes (5)

**Addition of the immuno-conjugated:**

Either HRP-goat antihuman IgG Or HRP- goat antihuman IgM

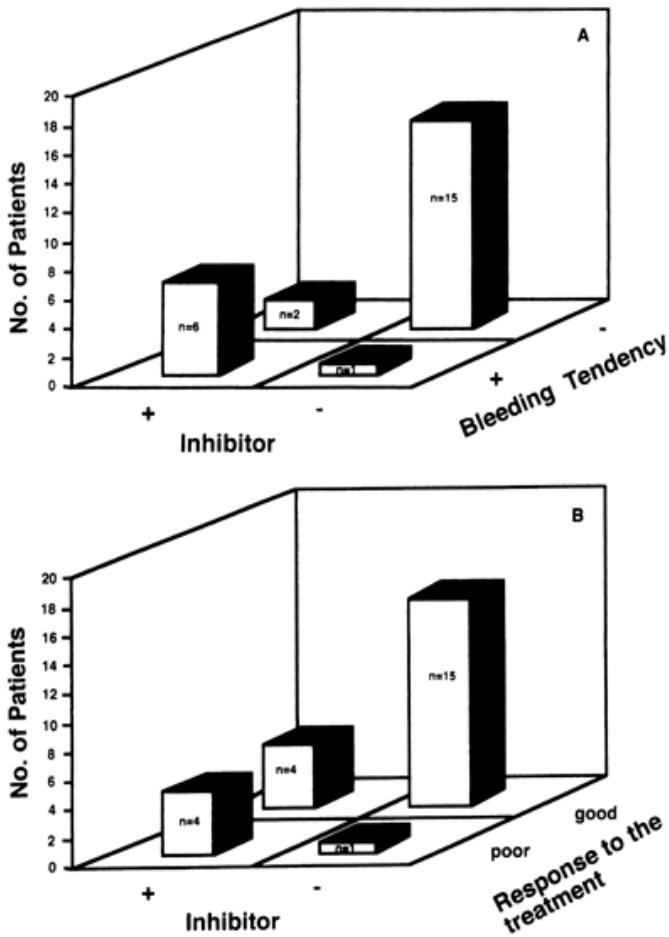
**Incubation:** 2 hours at 20-22 °C. Washes (5)

**Addition of the substrate (OPD):**  
**Coloration development (5 min)**

**Measurement of the absorbance:** at 490 nm

**Result expression:** OD coated-OD uncoated

# Clinical Significance of the Presence of Auto-Antibodies Against VWF



***Mohri H et al, Blood 1998***

# VWF Propeptide is this a Useful Parameter in AVWS?

**Acquired von Willebrand syndrome: von Willebrand factor propeptide to von Willebrand factor antigen ratio predicts remission status**

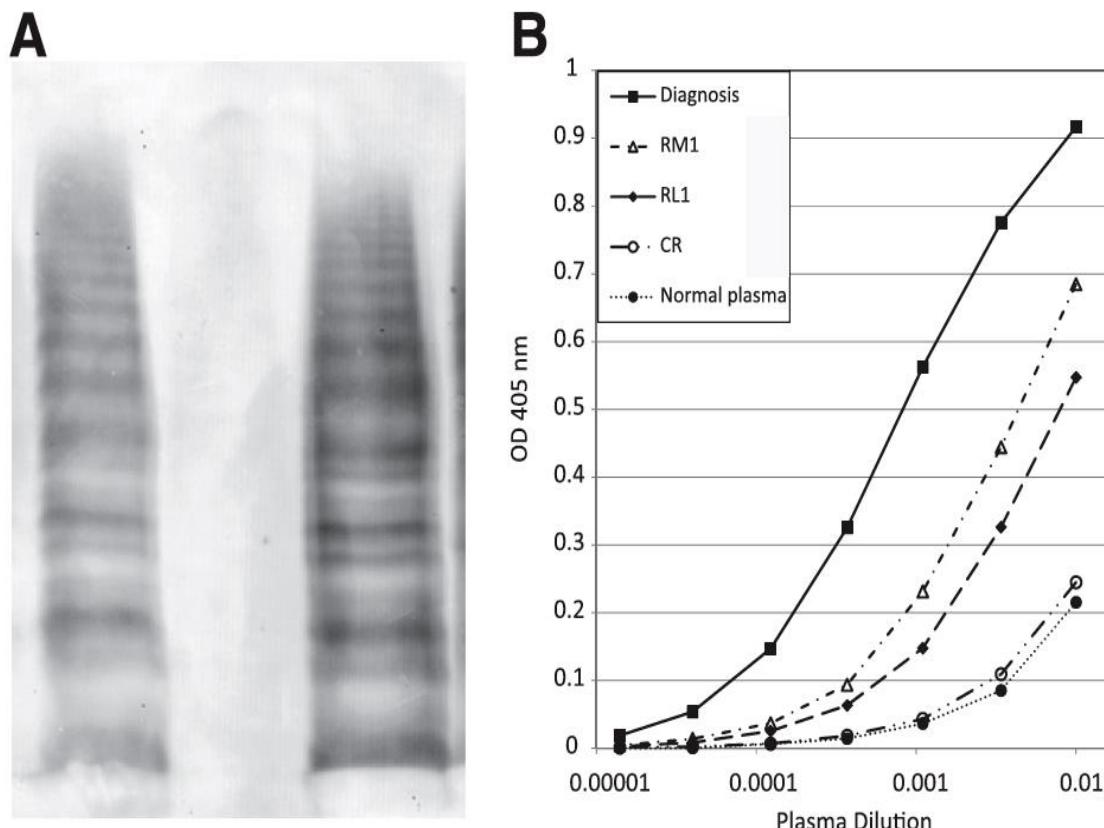
Adrienne Lee,<sup>1</sup> Gary Sinclair,<sup>2,3</sup> Karen Valentine,<sup>1</sup> Paula James,<sup>4</sup> and Man-Chiu Poon<sup>1,3</sup>

VWF and FVIII levels and VWFpp results

	VWF:Ag (IU/dL)	VWF:Act (IU/dL)	FVIII:C (IU/dL)	GTi VWF:Ag (IU/dL)	GTi VWFpp (IU/dL)	GTi VWFpp:Ag†	CRP (mg/L)
Diagnosis	4	7	2	<1	202	>202	31
RM1	147	135	92	116	227	1.96	6.9
RL1	<10	<10	3	<1	105	>105	27
Pre-DDAVP*	<10	<10	5	<1	129	>129	—
1 hour post-DDAVP*	<10	<10	7	<1	172	>172	—
CR	97	129	128	90	118	1.3	3.0
NPP	—	—	—	119	100	0.8	—

**Blood 2014**

# VWF Propeptide + Anti-VWF Auto-ABS to Evaluate Remission or Relapse of AVWS



*Lee A et al, Blood 2014*

# Acquired VW Syndrome

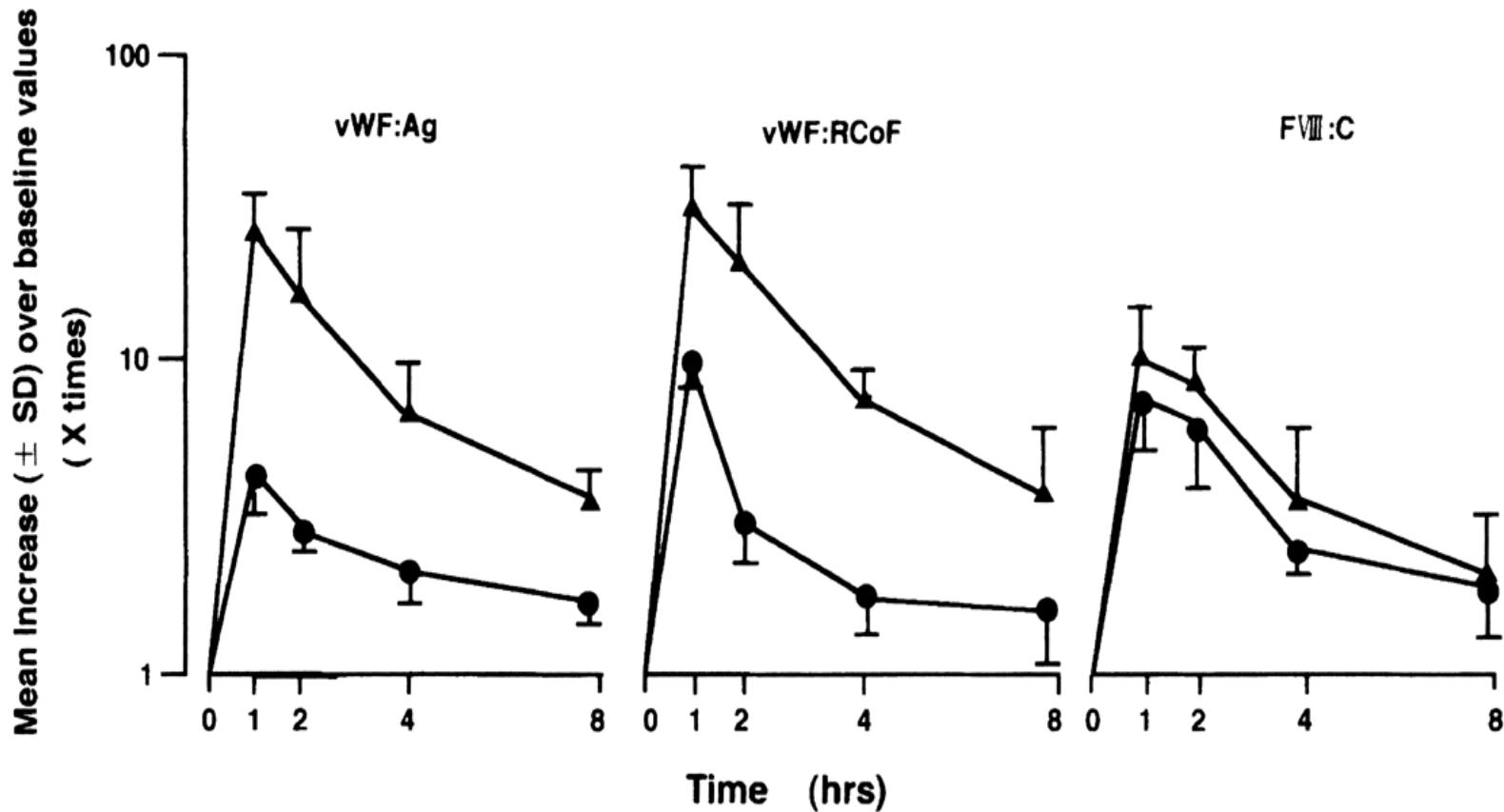
## *Aims of Treatment*

- ***Treat the Underlying Disorder:***  
**CHT, RT or Surgery**
- ***Management of Acute Bleeding***

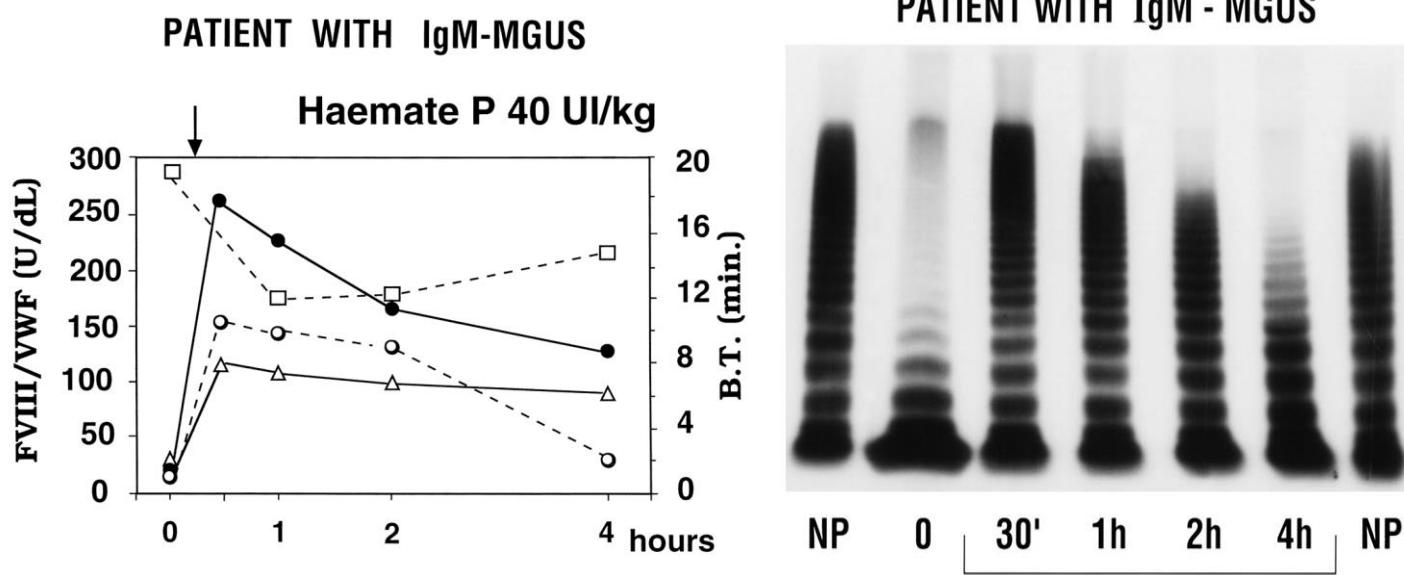
# Therapeutic Options in AVWS According to Underlying Disorder

<b>Underlying disorder</b>	<b>Causal treatment</b>	<b>Additional treatment options</b>	
<b>Autoimmune disorders</b>			
<i>Systemic lupus erythematosus</i>	Steroids, cyclophosphamide	IVIG (only IgG-MGUS or anti-VWF IgG), plasmapheresis or immunoabsorption, antifibrinolytics, VWF-containing concentrate, rFVIIa	
<b>Lymphoproliferative disorders</b>			
<i>MGUS</i>	Usually untreated		
<i>Lymphoma, multiple myeloma</i>	Chemotherapy according to entity		
<b>Cardiovascular</b>			
<i>Aortic valve stenosis and other anomalies with increased sheer stress</i>	Corrective surgery	VWF-containing concentrate, antifibrinolytic	
<i>Dysfunctional heart valve prosthesis, LVAD</i>	Corrective surgery if applicable	Reduce or withdraw anticoagulation, VWF-containing concentrate	
<b>Myeloproliferative neoplasia</b>			
<i>Essential Thrombocythemia</i>	Cytoreductive therapy, chemotherapy or stem cell transplantation in case of progression	Withdraw aspirin (if applicable), desmopressin, antifibrinolytics, VWF-containing concentrate	
<i>Polycythemia vera</i>	Phlebotomy, cytoreductive therapy chemotherapy or stem cell transplantation in case of progression		
<i>Chronic myeloid leukemia</i>	Tyrosine kinase inhibitors, stem cell transplantation		

# Biological Response to DDAVP in Inherited VWD *versus* AVWS



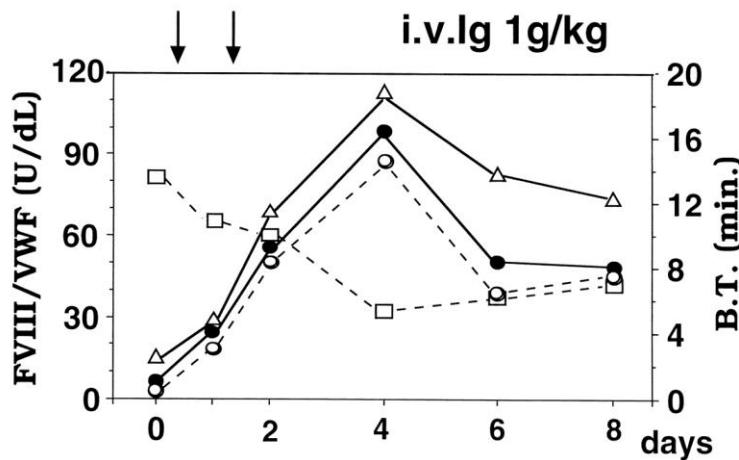
# VWF/FVIII Concentrates in AVWS Associated with IgM-MGUS



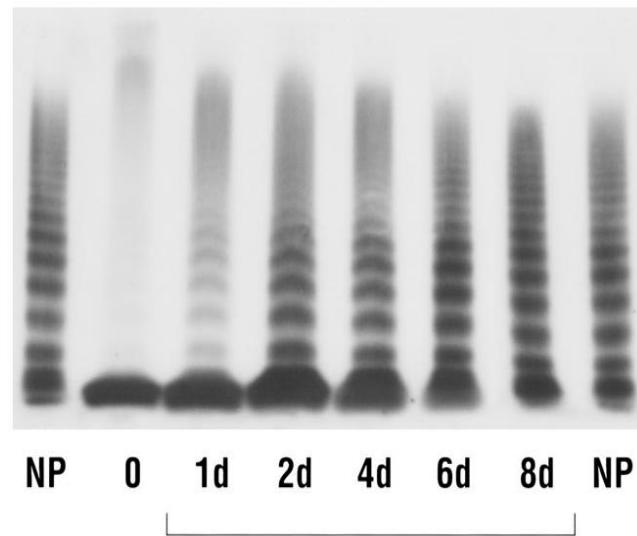
*Federici AB et al, Blood 1998*

# High Dose IV Immunoglobulin in AVWS Associated with IgG-MGUS

PATIENT WITH IgG-MGUS

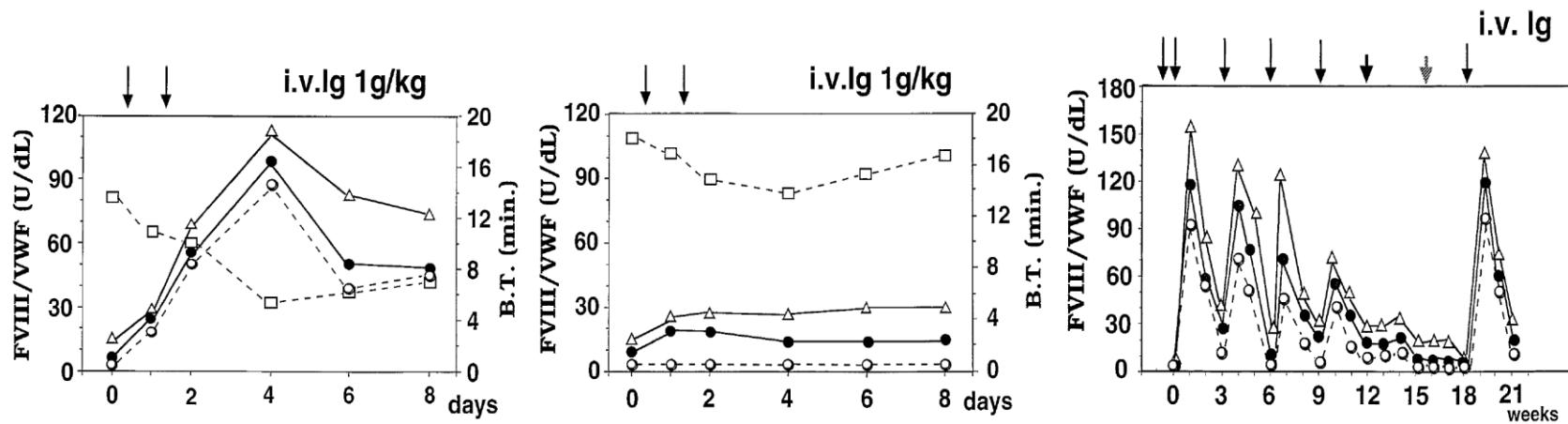


PATIENT WITH IgG-MGUS



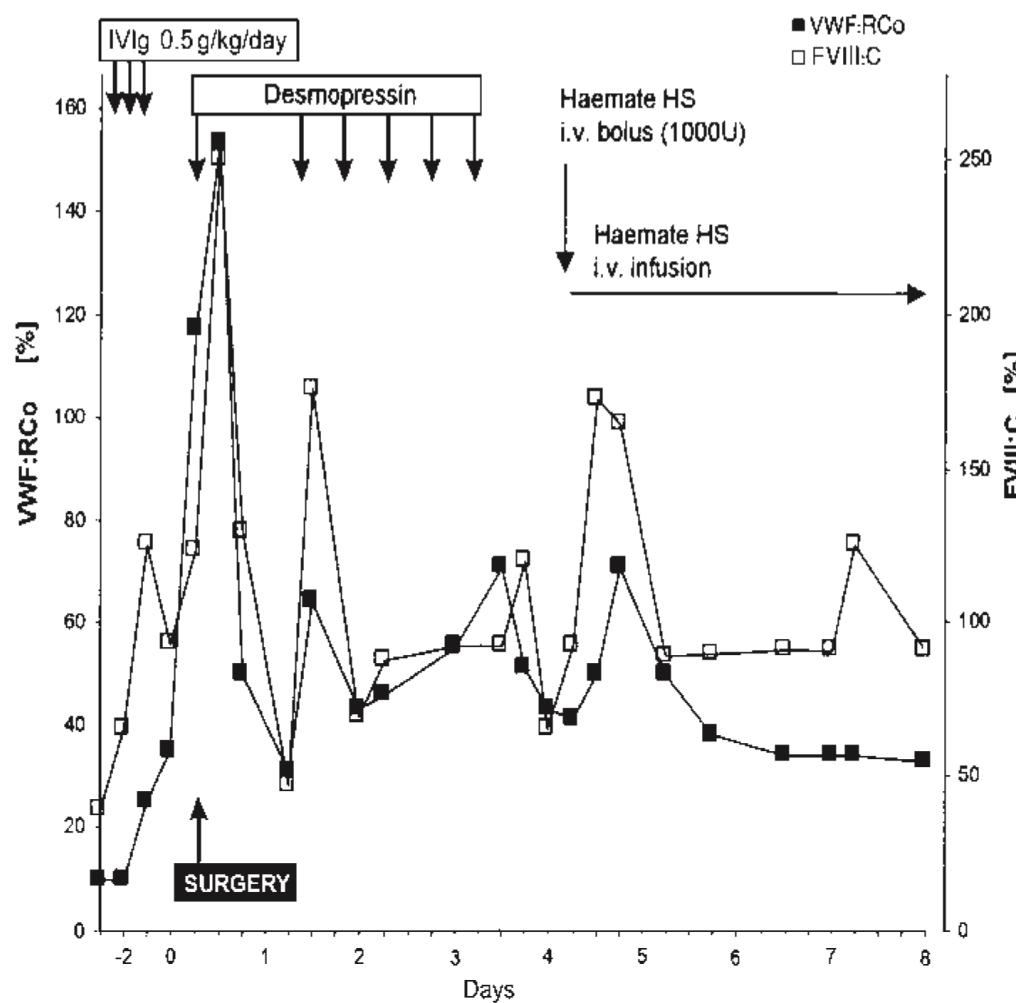
*Federici AB et al, Blood 1998*

# High Dose IV Immunoglobulin: not Always Effective in AVWS



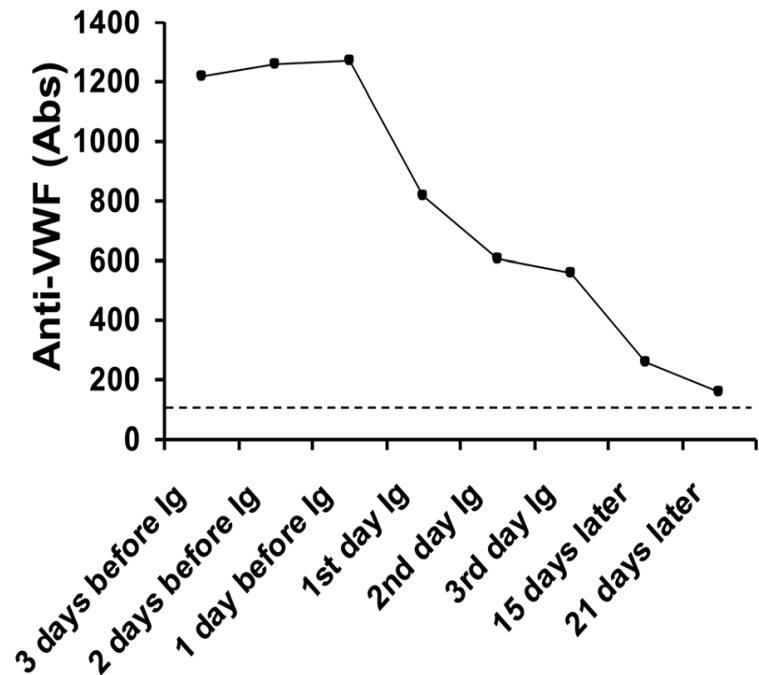
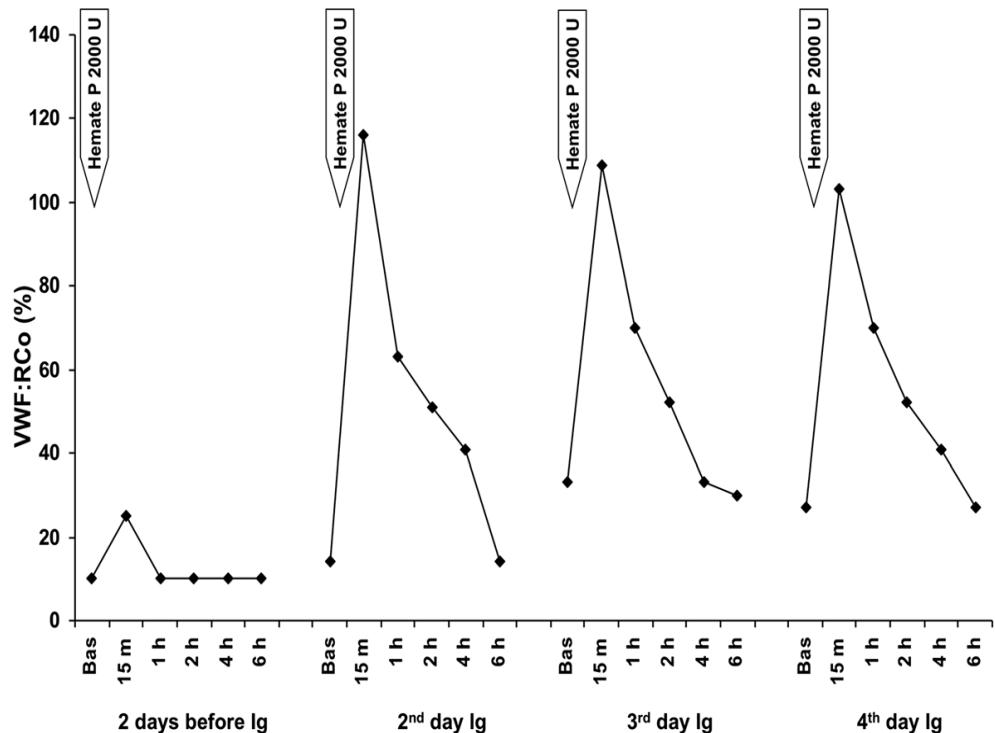
*Federici AB et al, Blood 1998*

# High Dose IV Ig + DDAVP or Concentrates in AVWS with Urgent Bleeds/Surgery



**Michiels JJ et al, Semin Thromb Hemost 2006**

# High Dose IV Ig + VWF Concentrates in Acute Patients with AVWS



*Cugno M et al, Exp Hematol Oncol 2014*

# Recombinant FVIIa in AVWS *Unresponsive to Standard Drugs*

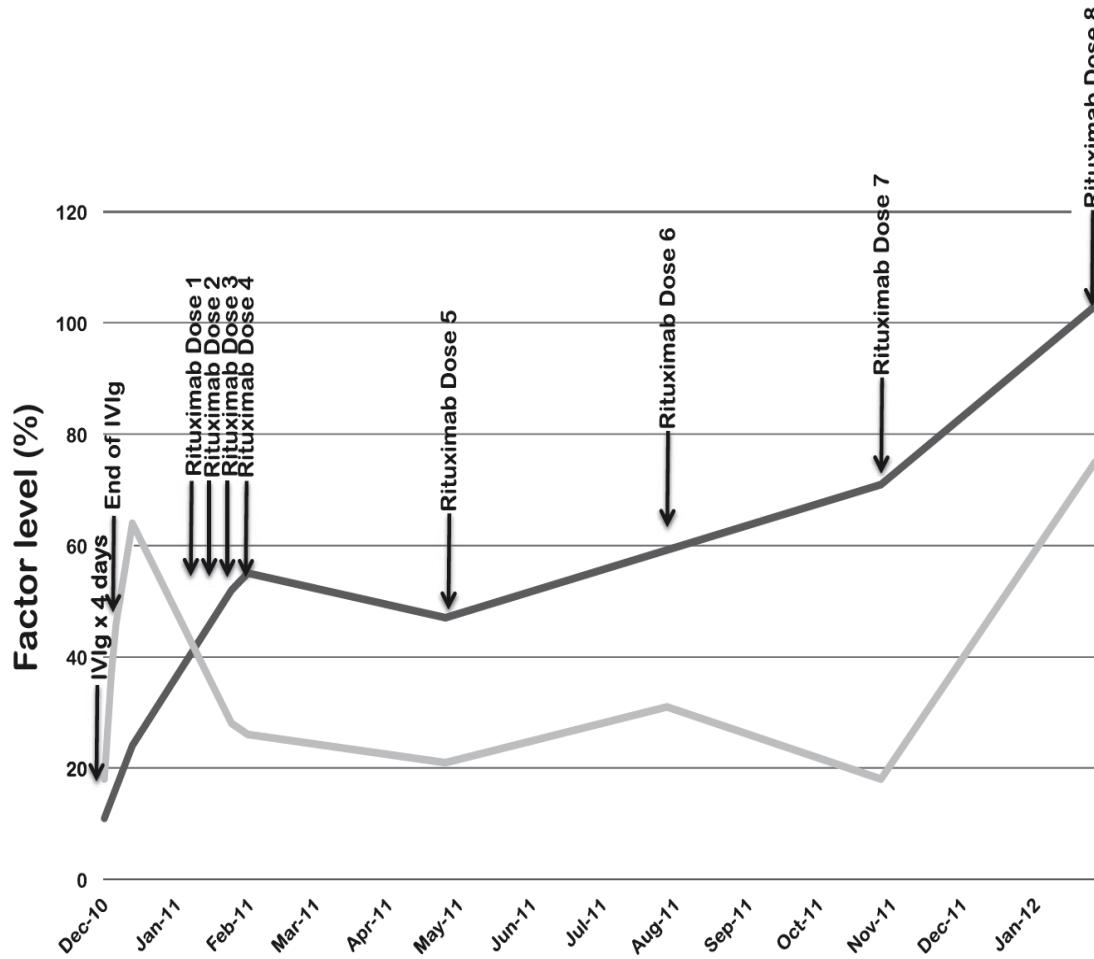
**Successful *treatment with rFVIIa* in a patient with AVWS associated with MGUS and severe bleeding resistant to standard therapy:**

***90 ug/kg (bolus) + 17.5 ug/Kg/h for 6 days of rFVIIa***

***Friederich PW et al, Am J Hematol 2001***

# High Dose IV Ig + RETUXIMAB

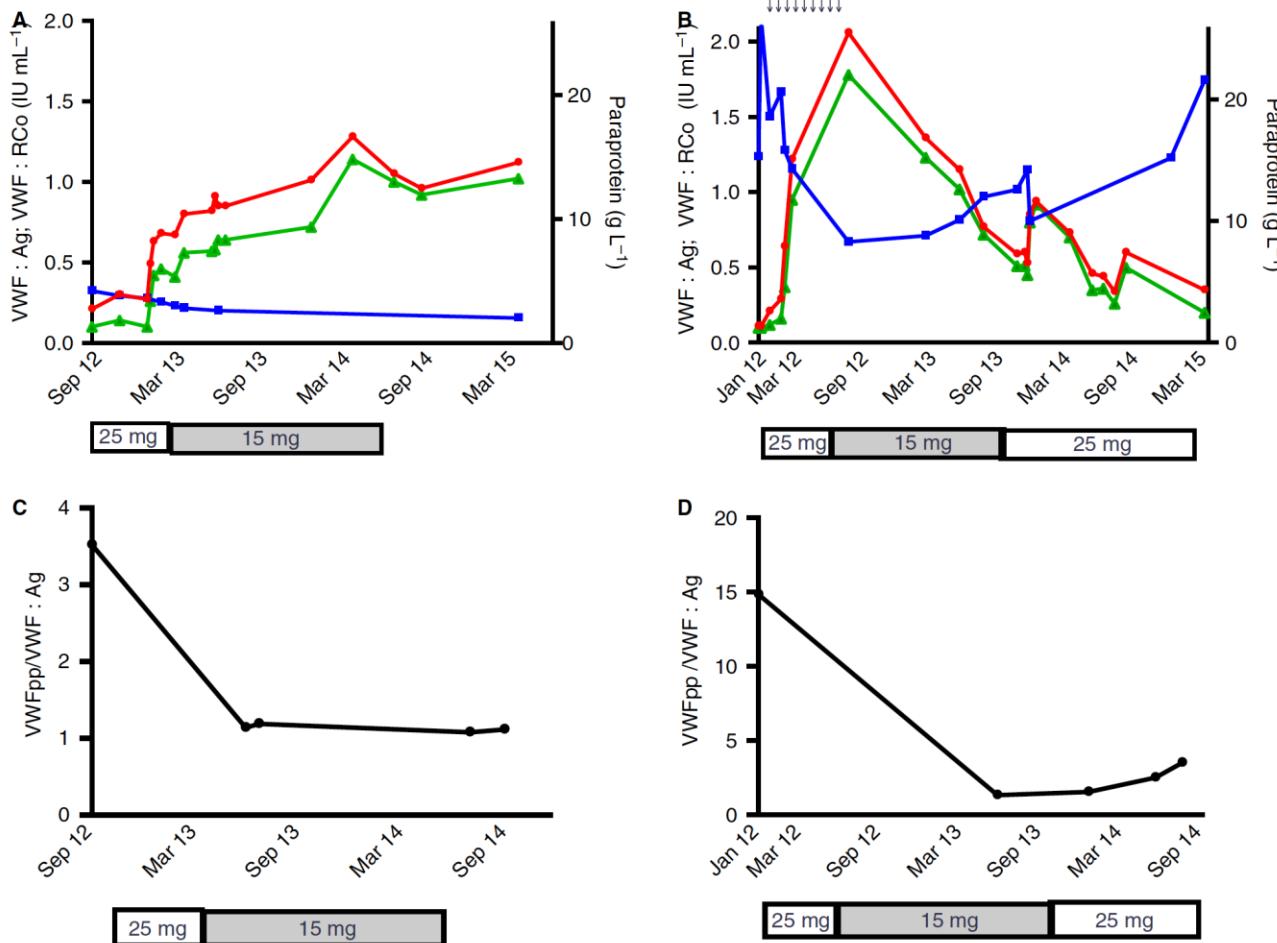
## Case Report



**Kanakry JA & Gladstone DE, Transfusion 2013**

# Lenalidomide as a novel treatment for refractory acquired von Willebrand syndrome associated with monoclonal gammopathy

M. LAVIN,\*† T. M. BROPHY,† O. RAWLEY,† J. M. O'SULLIVAN,† P. J. HAYDEN,‡ P. V. BROWNE,‡ K. RYAN,\* N. O'CONNELL\* and J. S. O'DONNELL\*†



*J Thromb Haemost. 2016;14:1200-5.*

# **Management of AVWS in 2017**

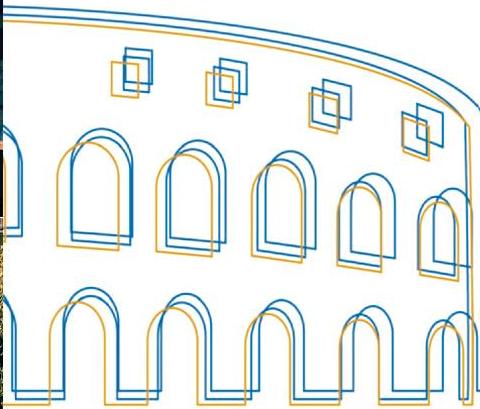
## ***Discussion***

**Despite many reports and recommendations, the diagnosis of AVWS remains difficult in most cases and therapeutic approaches are not standardized**

**Clinical prospective studies are required in large number of patients with centralized diagnosis of AVWS to assess specific therapies according to the actual mechanisms causing AVWS**



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**ROME, ITALY | 15/17 SEPTEMBER 2017**



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

P.M. Mannucci, F. Peyvandi, A.B. Federici, N. Ciavarella

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