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Acquired thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura: Disease pathogenesis, laboratory monitoring and current treatment strategies

Acquired thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP) is a rare and potentially fatal disease that is due to platelet-von Willebrand Factor microthrombi in the circulation. The discovery of ADAMTS13, its role in cleaving unusually-large von Willebrand Factor multimers and the detection of auto antibodies/inhibitors directed against this essential enzyme have reinforced the important roles of plasma exchange and immunosuppression in patients with this critical illness. TTP disease pathogenesis, routine and novel laboratory markers for diagnosing and following patients with TTP and up-to-date treatment strategies will be covered in this lecture.

## **Biography**

Jay S Raval has received his Undergraduate and Medical degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, during which he was a Howard Holderness Distinguished Medical Research Scholar. He was trained at the University of Pittsburgh where he has completed a Surgical Internship followed by Residency Training in Clinical Pathology. He went on to complete Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine Fellowship Training in the joint program between the University of Pittsburgh and The Institute for Transfusion Medicine, where he has developed an interest in therapeutic apheresis and hematopoietic progenitor stem cell collection and processing. He stayed as Faculty at University of Pittsburgh and The Institute for Transfusion Medicine before joining the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he is the Medical Director of Therapeutic Apheresis, Associate Medical Director of Transfusion Medicine Services and Associate Medical Director of the Hematopoietic Progenitor Cell Laboratory. He has published over 50 peer reviewed articles, authored 8 book chapters and is on the Editorial Board of 7 journals. His research interests include: Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura; red blood cell storage lesion; evidence-based therapeutic apheresis and transfusion medicine practices; hematopoietic progenitor stem cell collection and processing and pathology education.

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