

# Platelet Function Testing – Results from Proficiency Challenges

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# Disclosures: K. Moffat

Relevant Financial Relationship(s)

None

Off Label Usage

None

# Session Outline

- Discuss external proficiency challenges developed for two tests used for the investigation of platelet disorders

# External Proficiency Challenges

- Laboratory participation is important for quality monitoring
- Few organizations have applied proficiency challenges to tests used for the investigation of platelet disorders
- In 2008, NASCOLA began offering challenges for platelet disorder investigations



# NASCOLA Platelet External Proficiency Challenges

1. Post analytical challenges on the interpretation of light transmission aggregometry (LTA)  
Distributed to both NASCOLA and ECAT members
2. Whole mount electron microscopy (EM) assays for dense granule deficiency (DGD)  
Distributed to NASCOLA members

# Post Analytical Challenges on the Interpretation of Light Transmission Aggregometry



# Post Analytical Challenges on Interpretation of LTA

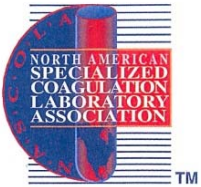
- 2 challenges per year
- Each consist of 5 patient cases, distributed electronically, that include:
  - Reason for testing
  - Complete blood counts
  - Tested sample platelet count
  - Platelet aggregation tracings
  - % maximal aggregation (MA) data with reference intervals
  - Reference aggregation tracings for healthy controls

# Methods

- Results reported electronically
  - made anonymous prior to scoring
  - SurveyMonkey® tool – 2008, 2009
  - NASCOLA website - 2010
- Consensus on acceptable interpretations for each case prior to scoring as:
  - Correct
  - Incorrect
  - Non-ideal



# Example of Distributed Material



## NASCOLA LTA EQA Pilot Survey

### Case 1

Reason for referral: 49 year old female with increased bruising for 2 years.

#### Complete Blood Count

Test	Result	Flag	Reference
**LKCS**	8.3		4.0-11.0 X10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ERCS	4.36		3.8-5.8 x10 <sup>12</sup> /L
**HB**	143		115-165 g/L
**HCT**	0.412		0.370-0.470
MCV	94.5		82-99 fL
MCH	32.9	H	27-32 pg
MCHC	348		300-350 g/L
RDW	13.3		11.5-15.0
**PLT**	280		150-400 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
MPV	8.3		7.4-10.4 fL
RELATIVE LYMPHS	0.39		
RELATIVE MONOS	0.07		
RELATIVE GRANS	0.52		
RELATIVE EOS	0.02		
RELATIVE BASOS	0.01		
ABSOLUTE LYMPHS	3.2		1.5-4.0 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ABSOLUTE MONOS	0.6		0.2-0.8 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ABSOLUTE GRANS	4.3		2.0-7.5 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ABSOLUTE EOS	0.2		0.0-0.4 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ABSOLUTE BASOS	0.0		0.0-0.1 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
BANDS	0.03		
SEG NEUT	0.44		
LYMPHOCYTES	0.41		
MONOCYTES	0.09		
EOSINOPHILS	0.03		
SMEAR SCAN	COMPLETE		
LKCS COMMENT	MORPHOLOGY NORMAL		
ABSOLUTE BANDS	0.2		x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ABSOLUTE NEUTS	3.7		2.0-7.5 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ABSOLUTE LYMPHS	3.4		1.5-4.0 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ABSOLUTE MONOS	0.7		0.2-0.8 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
ABSOLUTE EOS	0.2		0.0-0.4 x10 <sup>9</sup> /L
POLYCHROMASIA	MILD		
PLT COMMENT	NORMAL IN NUMBER		

DRAFT

Version: 2.0

Version Date: 7/17/2007  
Effective Date: 7/17/2007

Section: Special Hematology  
Sub-Section: Special Coagulation

Title: 08-340-102-F2 Platelet Aggregation Worksheet

Approvers: Director, Laboratory Medicine, Discipline Director, Special Hematology, Manager, Special Hematology

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Year		Case 1		Patient CBC				Control CBC			
Patient ID#				Pit	MPV	Hgb	WBC	Pit	MPV	Hgb	WBC
Hematologist				Patient PRP				Control PRP			
Control Name (first and last)				Pit	RBC	WBC		Pit	RBC	WBC	
Technologist perform testing				Adjusted PRP Platelet Count							
				Patient				Control			
				250							

STIMULUS	Initial Conc	Final Conc	Reference Interval %	Patient				Control			
				MAX%	SLP1	SLP2	LAG	MAX%	SLP1	SLP2	LAG
ADP	25 µM	2.5 µM	>24	89							
	50 µM	5.0 µM	>43	89							
Collagen	12.5 µg/mL	1.25 µg/mL	>51	90							
	50 µg/mL	5 µg/mL	>85	94							
Epinephrine	60 µM	6 µM	9 - 100	93							
	1000 µM	100 µM	11 - 101	91							
Arachidonic Acid	16 mM	1.6 mM	>77	95							
U46619	10 µM	1 µM	>70	92							
Ristocetin	5 mg/mL	0.5 mg/mL	<7	2							
	12.5 mg/mL	1.25 mg/mL	>75	99							

Comment:

# Example of Distributed Material



# Participants

	2008	2009	*2010-I
Total # of Participants	56	52	83 registered 55% completed (n=46)
NASCOLA Participants	22	20	30 registered 63% completed (n=19)
ECAT Participants	34	32	53 registered 51% completed (n=27)

\*2010-I

- First challenge using NASCOLA website
- Closing date extended to allow participants time to complete the challenge

<b>Results based on Interpretation</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010-1 PRELIMINARY RESULTS ONLY</b>
Normal	94%	100%	-
Bernard Soulier Syndrome	85%	-	98%
Glanzmann thrombasthenia	-	100%	-
Non-diagnostic finding	22%	98%	-
Possible platelet secretion defect	38%	93%	88%
Potential false positive	60%	-	56%
Thromboxane generation defect	-	95%	-
Aspirin like defect	-	-	81%
Von Willebrand Disease	-	-	89%

# Whole Mount EM Proficiency Challenges for DGD



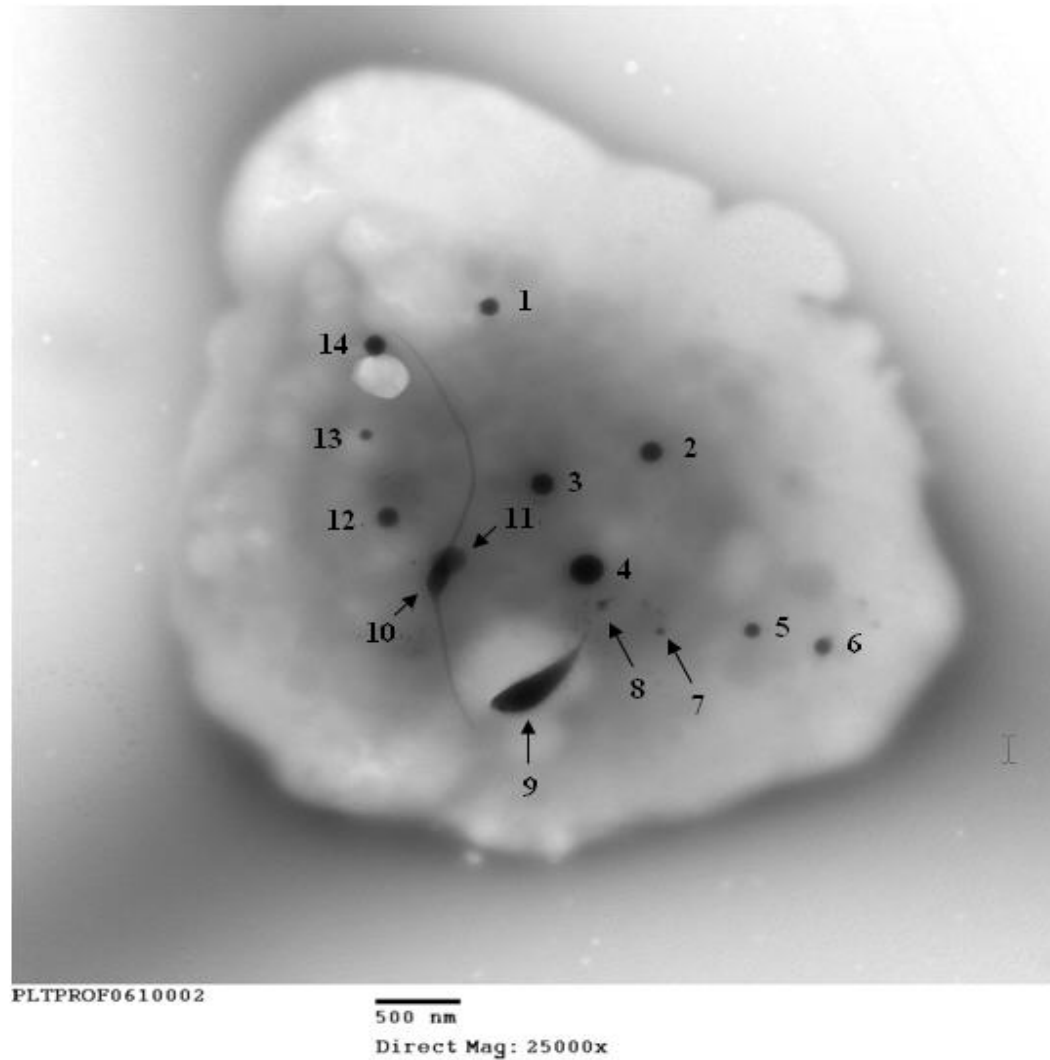


# EM Proficiency Challenges for DGD

- 2 components
- EM grid challenges
  - 1 normal patient volunteer
  - 1 patient with confirmed DGD
- EM DG image challenges
  - Numbered structures

# Example of Labeled EM Image - 2010-I Challenge

Image 1:



# Participants

	2008	2009-1	2009-3	2010-1
Total # of NASCOLA Participants	8	3	3	6



# Results

- All participants correctly identified the normal and DGD samples in each of the 4 grid challenge sets
- Good overall agreement for classifying structures in the labeled EM DG images

# Conclusions

- For LTA, there has been improvement in the number of correct interpretations over time, however there continues to be issues with interpretation of common platelet disorders
  - Platelet secretion defects
  - Aspirin like defects
- Published guidelines do not provide recommendations for LTA interpretation
- North American consensus guidelines for performance and interpretation of LTA – in press (AJCP)
  - Hayward CP, Moffat KA, Raby A, et al. Development of North American Consensus Guidelines for Medical Laboratories that Perform and Interpret Platelet Function Testing Using Light Transmission Aggregometry. AJCP – in press. [includes CME component]

# Conclusions

- DG proficiency challenge performance has been excellent
- Provides valuable peer comparisons for laboratories performing EM for DGD
- Both the LTA and EM external proficiency challenges are valued by participants

# Thank you for your attention

## Acknowledgments:

- NASCOLA and ECAT laboratories
- Members of the NASCOLA Platelet EQA working group
- HRLMP Special Coagulation and EM laboratory staff

