

Le plasma de patients COVID : impact sur les cellules endothéliales

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Hémostase et Transfusion

Inserm U1011, CHU Lille



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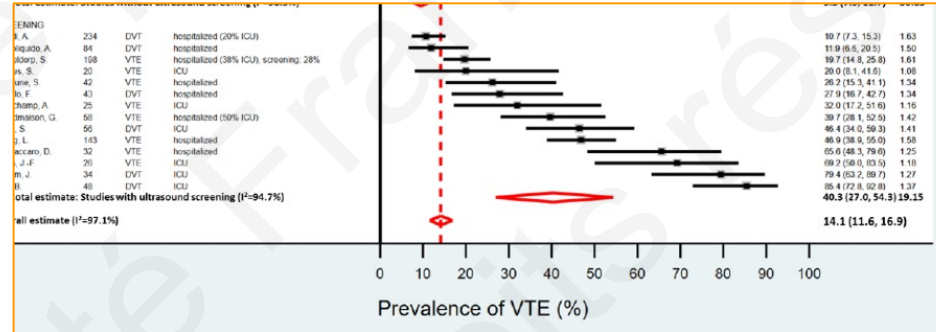
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Major Stockholder	Laelaps Therapeutics (Co-owner/founder)
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All fees go to Lille University

COVID-19 and coagulopathy : high prevalence of venous thromboembolism events

Up to 40% (95%CI 27-54)

DVT screening



Despite the use of thromboprophylaxis

Nopp S et al Res Pract Thromb Haemost. 2020

Circulation

RESEARCH LETTER

Pulmonary Embolism in Patients With COVID-19

Awareness of an Increased Prevalence

J Poissy, J Goutay, M Caplan, E Parmentier, T Duburcq, F Lassalle, E Jeanpierre, A Rauch, J Labreuche, S Susen, For the Lille Haemostasis COVID-19 Group



American Heart Association

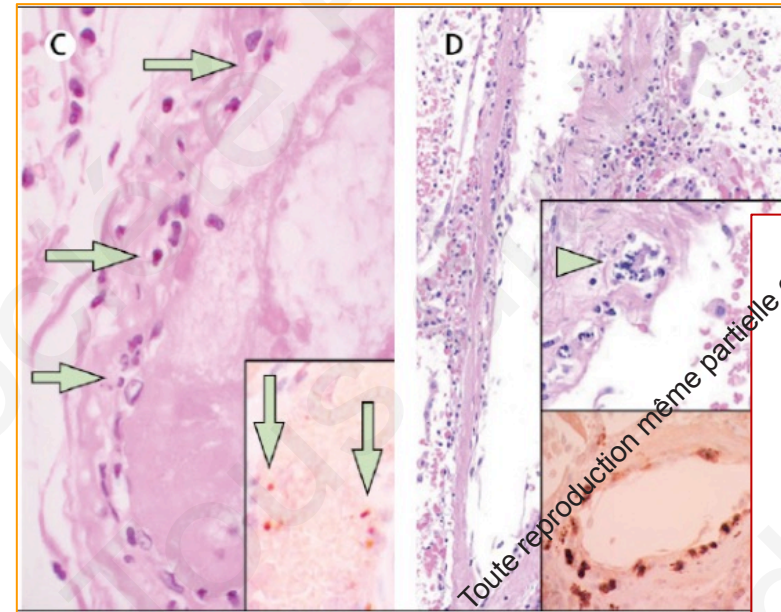
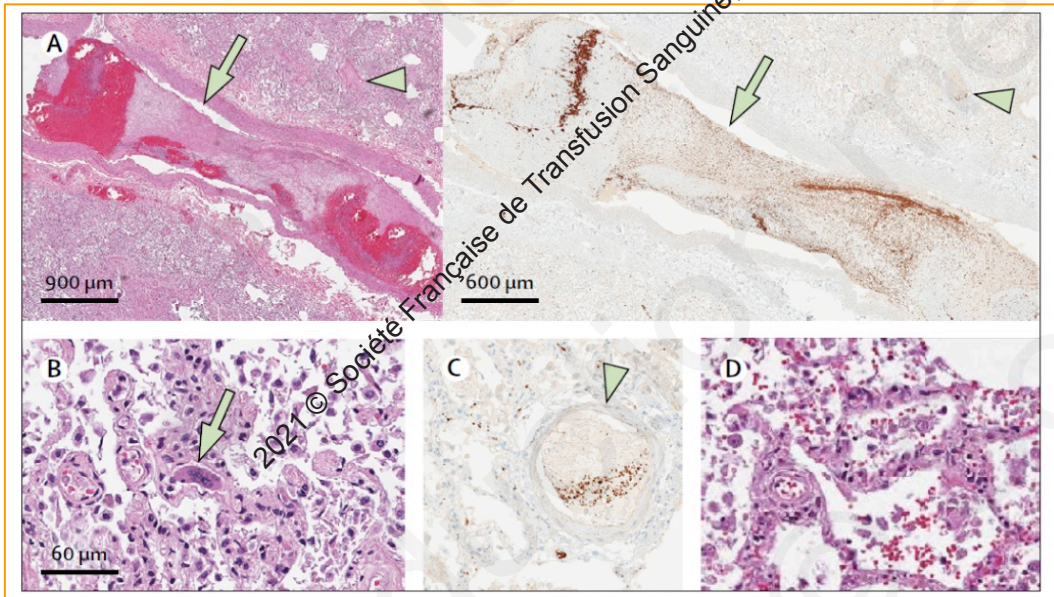
Thrombotic risk in intensive care unit COVID-19/ non COVID-19 \approx x 3

COVID-19 coagulopathy: autopsy studies

Large vessels

Microcirculation

Severe endothelial cell damages



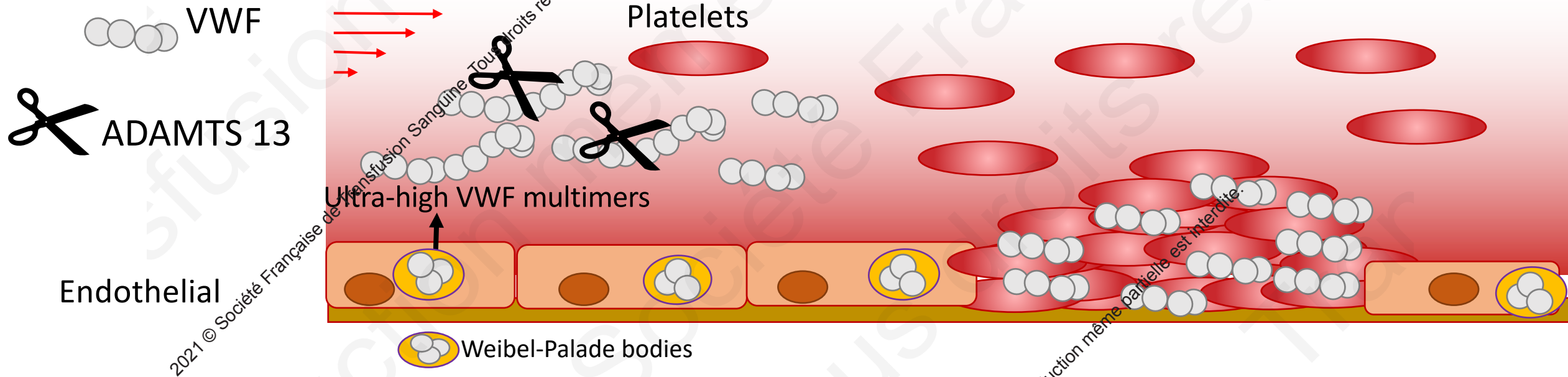
- Apoptosis
- Loss of tight junctions
- Separation from basement membranes

Varga Z et al, *Lancet*, 2020

Fox SE et al, *Lancet respir med.* 2020,
Ackermann M et al, *N Engl J Med.* 2020,
Nicolai, L et al *J Thromb Haemost.* 2020

Diffuse endotheliopathy
Trigger thrombi formation

Von Willebrand factor (VWF)



➤ Important role in haemostasis, particularly within microvasculature



Contribution to COVID-19-associated thrombi formation ?

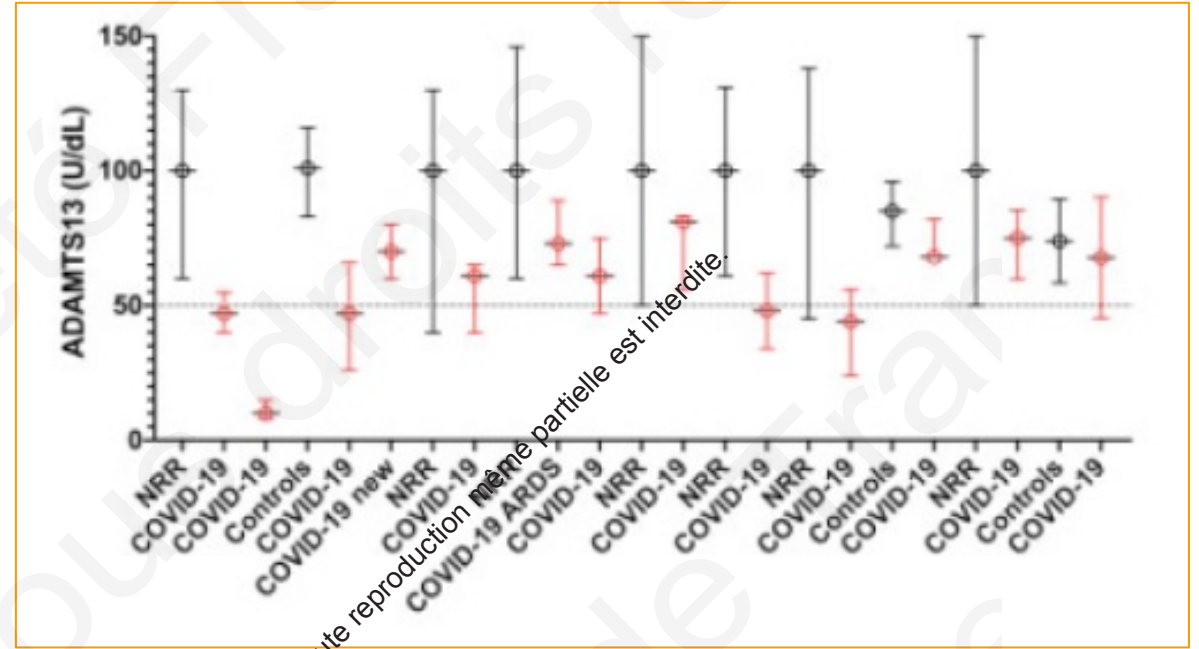
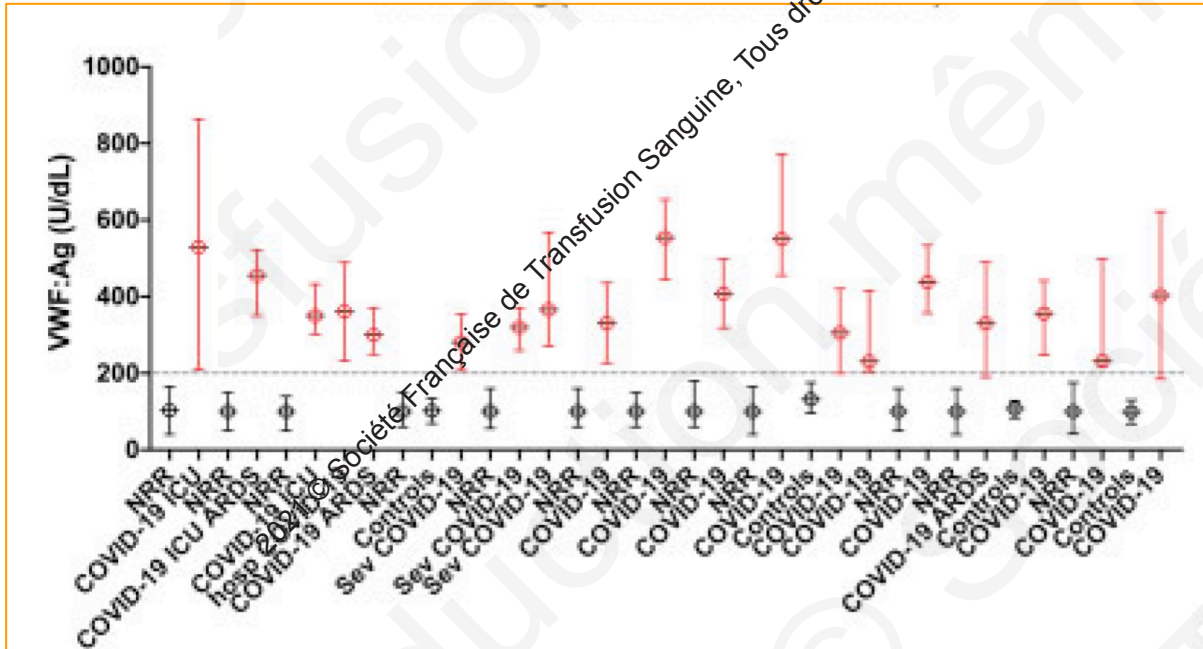
COVID-19 : high VWF/ADAMTS 13 ratio

VWF

■ COVID-19

■ Controls

ADAMTS 13



Favaloro EJ et al, *Semin Thromb Hemost*, 2021

Markedly ↗ ↗ VWF and mild to moderate ADAMTS 13 deficiency

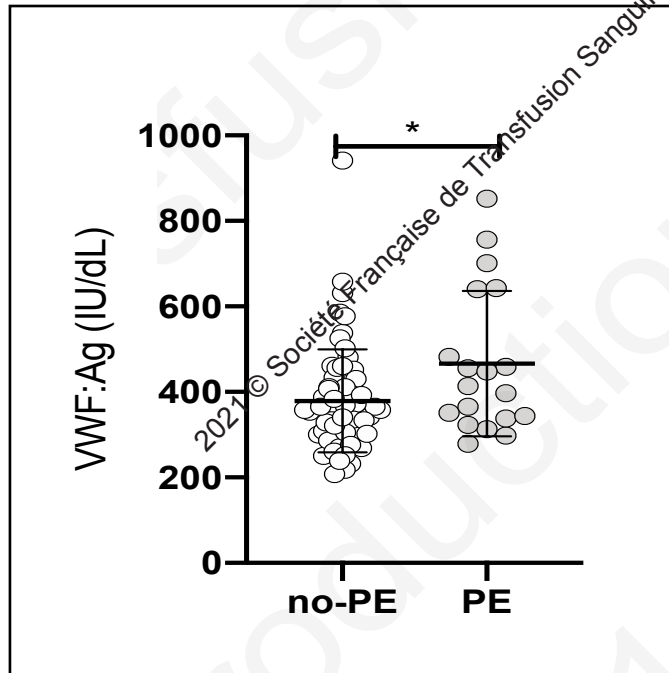
Hypercoagulable state – high risk of thrombus formation



VWF levels and severity of COVID-19

Pulmonary embolism (PE)

107 intensive care unit COVID-19 patients

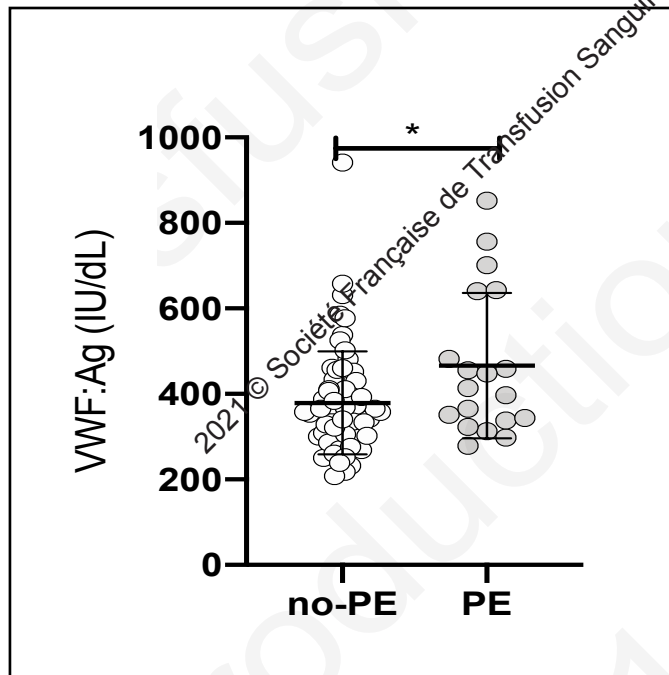


Poissy J et al, *Circulation*, 2020

VWF levels and severity of COVID-19

Pulmonary embolism (PE)

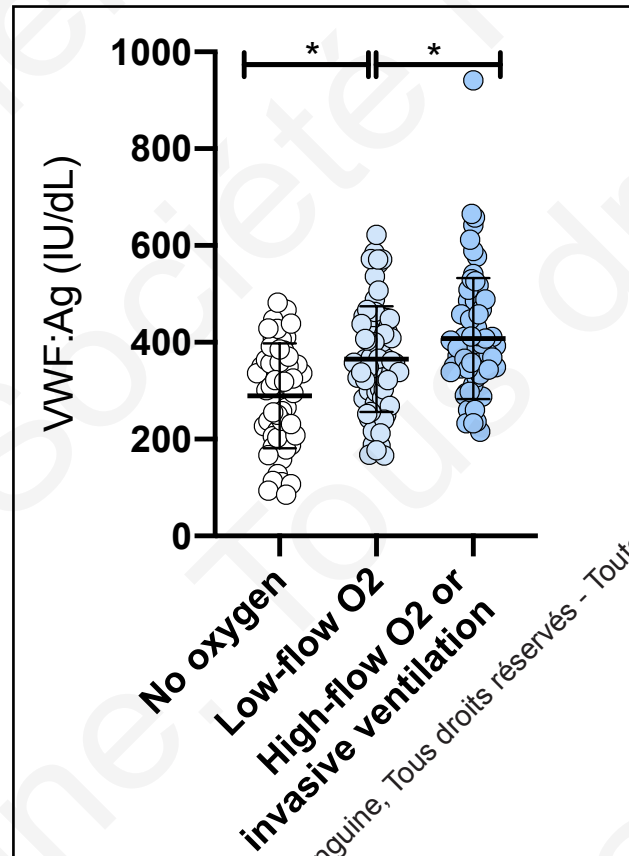
107 intensive care unit COVID-19 patients



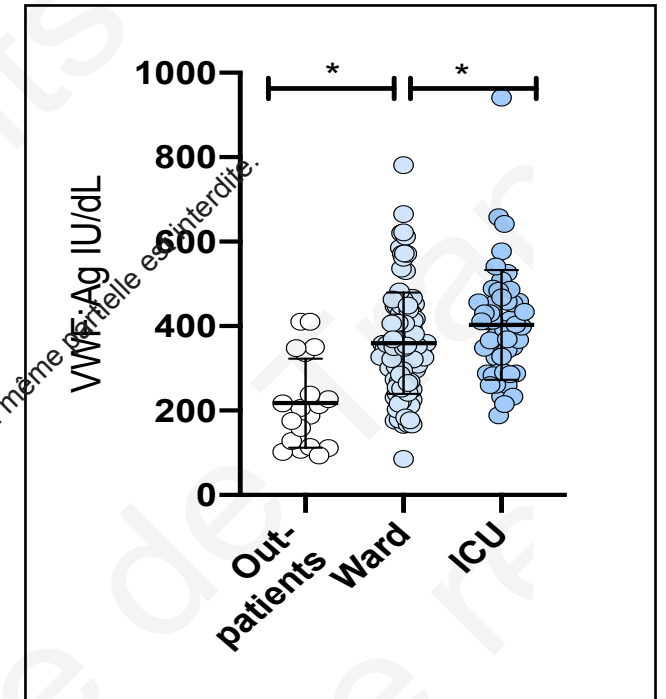
Poissy J et al, *Circulation*, 2020

Oxygen requirements

243 COVID-19 patients



Care intensity



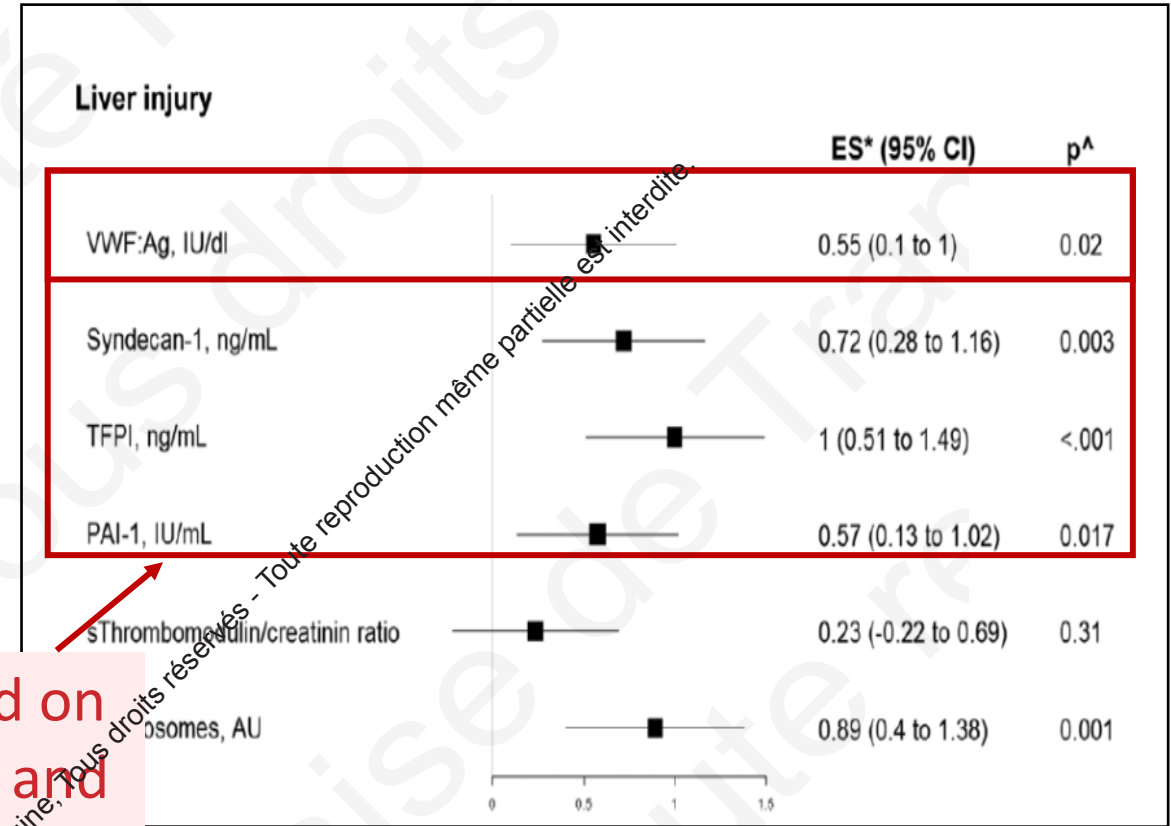
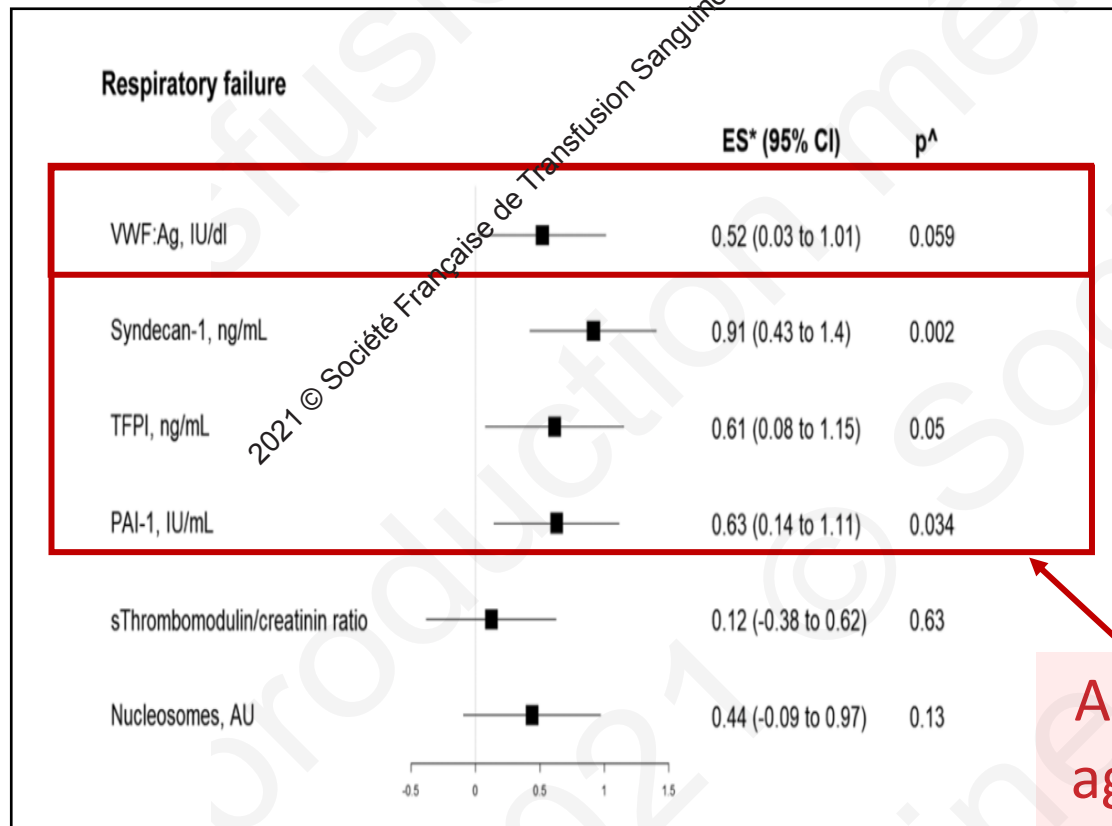
Rauch A et al, *J Thromb Haemost*, 2020

VWF levels and severity of COVID-19

Respiratory failure

Liver injury

82 ICU COVID-19 patients – occurrence within 14 day of ICU admission



Adjusted on age, sex and BMI

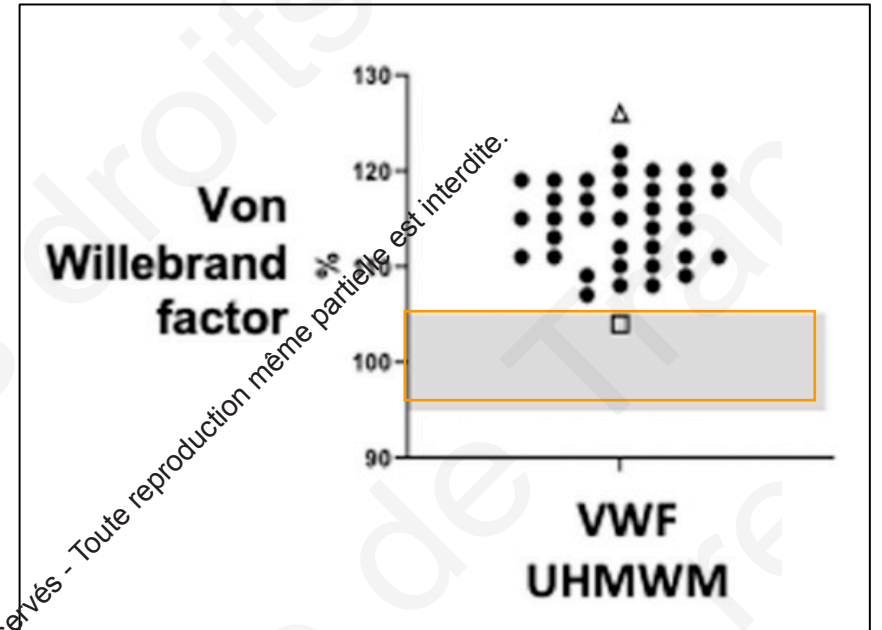
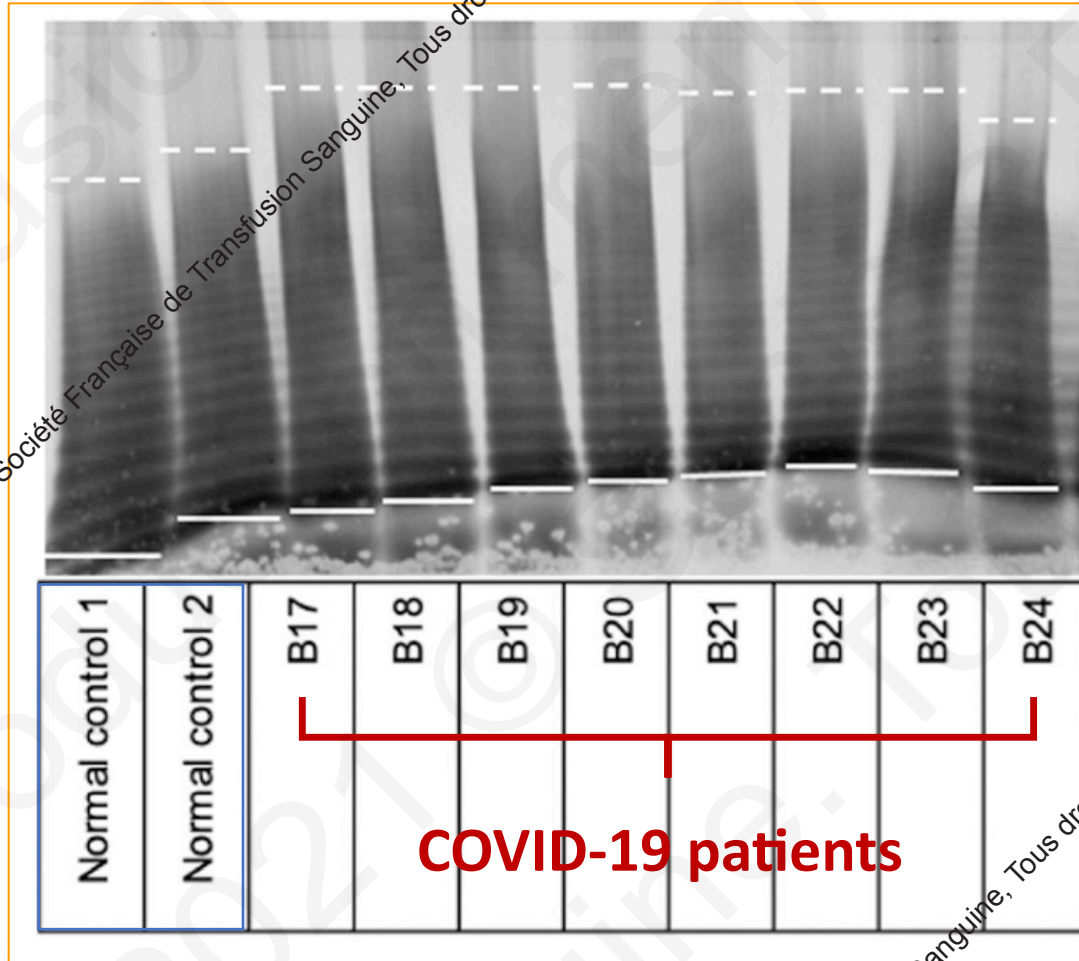
Presence of ultra-high molecular weight VWF multimers in COVID-19 patients plasma

Agarose gel electrophoresis + anti VWF antibody

36 severe COVID-19 patients

Migration

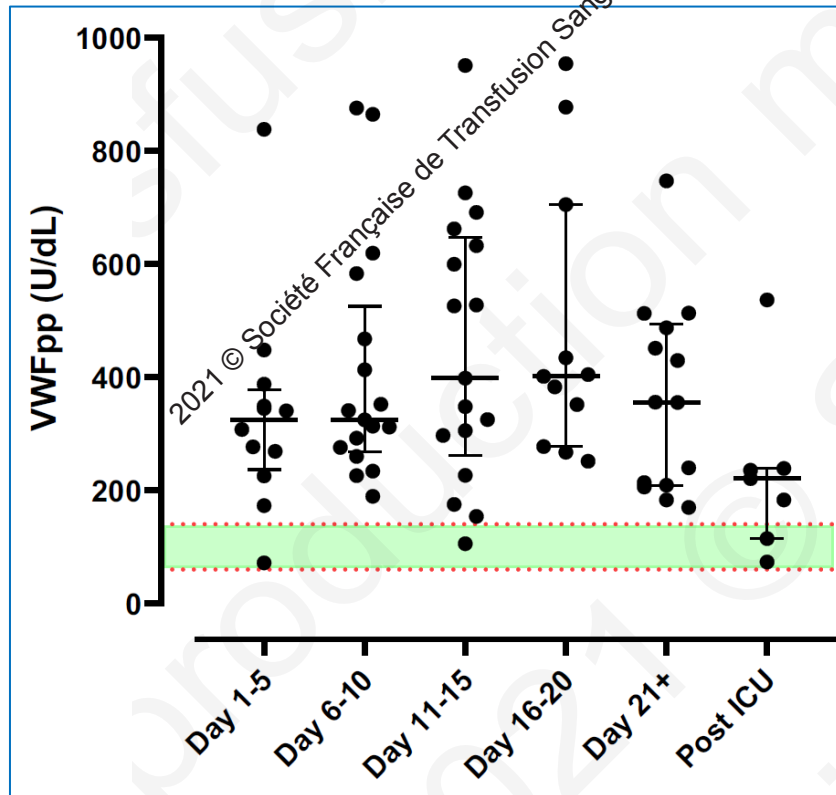
multimers



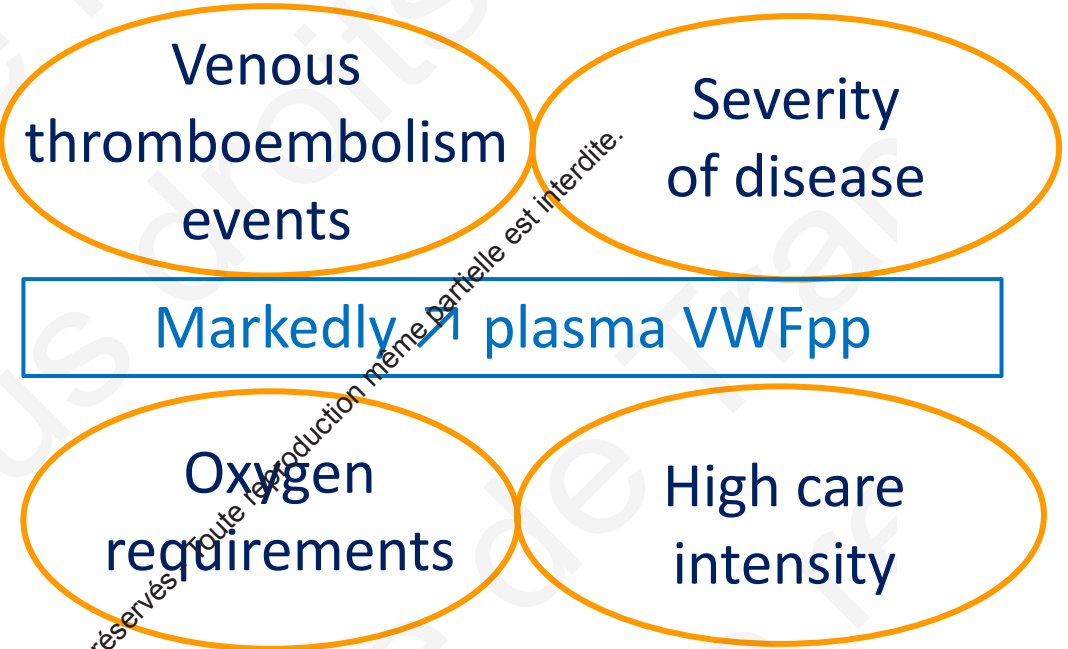
VWF propeptide (VWFpp) and severity of COVID-19

Propeptide (pp)

VWF



Normal range



Ward SE et al, *Br J Haematol*, 2021, Mancini I et al, *J Thromb Haemost*, 2021

VWF propeptide (VWFpp) and severity of COVID-19

Presence of UHMW VWF multimers in plasma

Markedly \uparrow plasma VWFpp

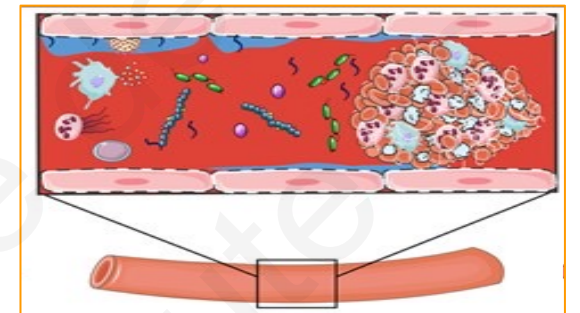


Substantial endothelial cell damages

High plasma VWF levels

Hypercoagulable state

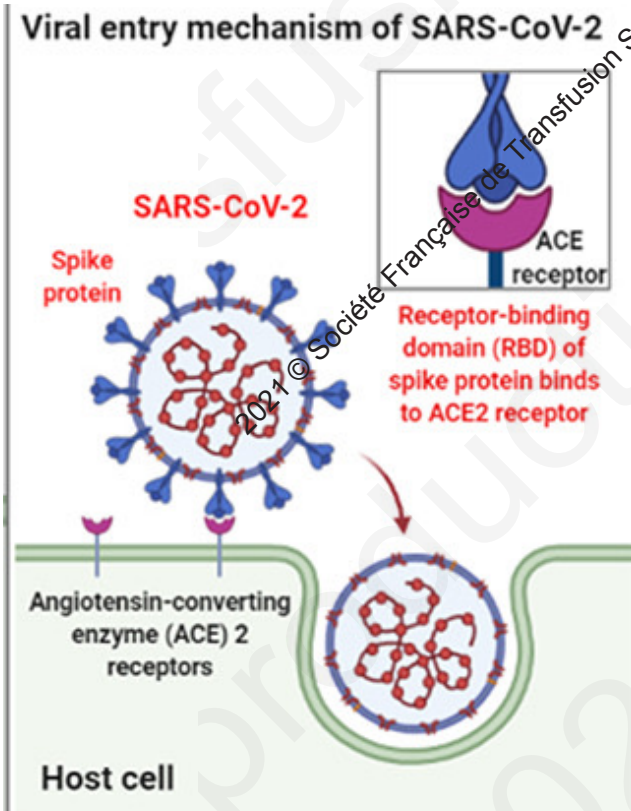
Thrombosis



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Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19

Direct viral infection ?

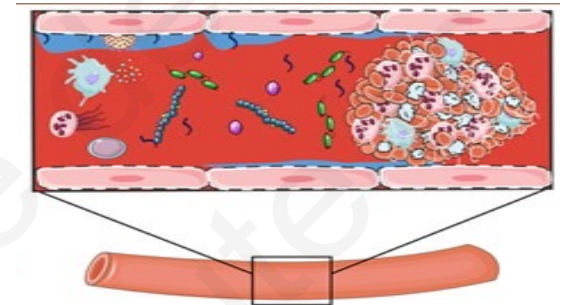


Substantial endothelial cell damages

High plasma VWF levels

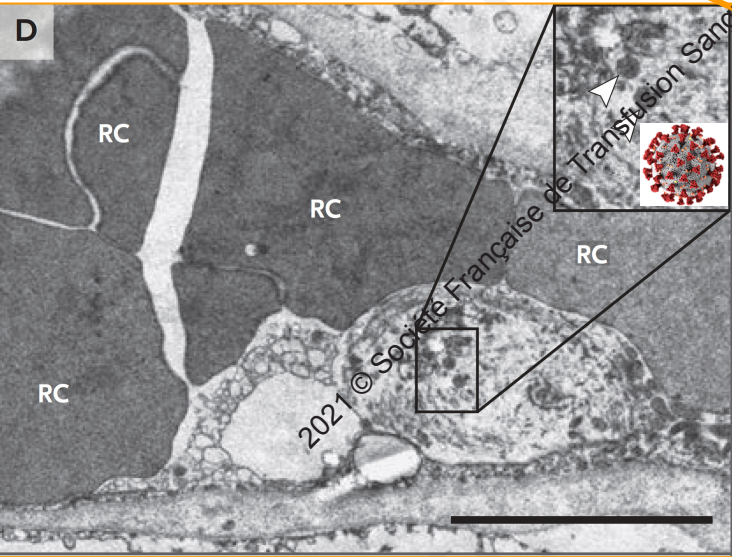
Hypercoagulable state

Thrombosis



Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19

Direct viral infection ?



Post-mortem studies

Varga Z et al, *Lancet*, 2020

Ackermann M et al, *N Engl J Med*, 2020,

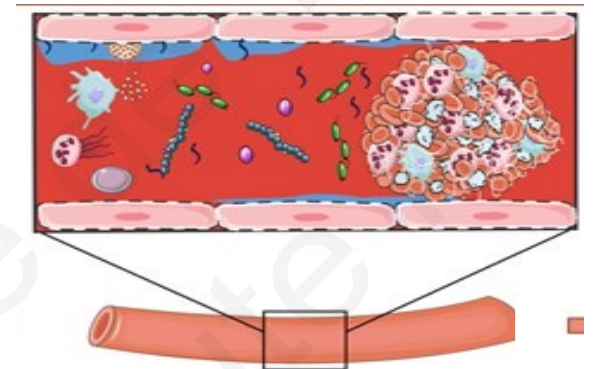
Fox SE et al, *Lancet respir med*, 2020

Substantial endothelial cell damages

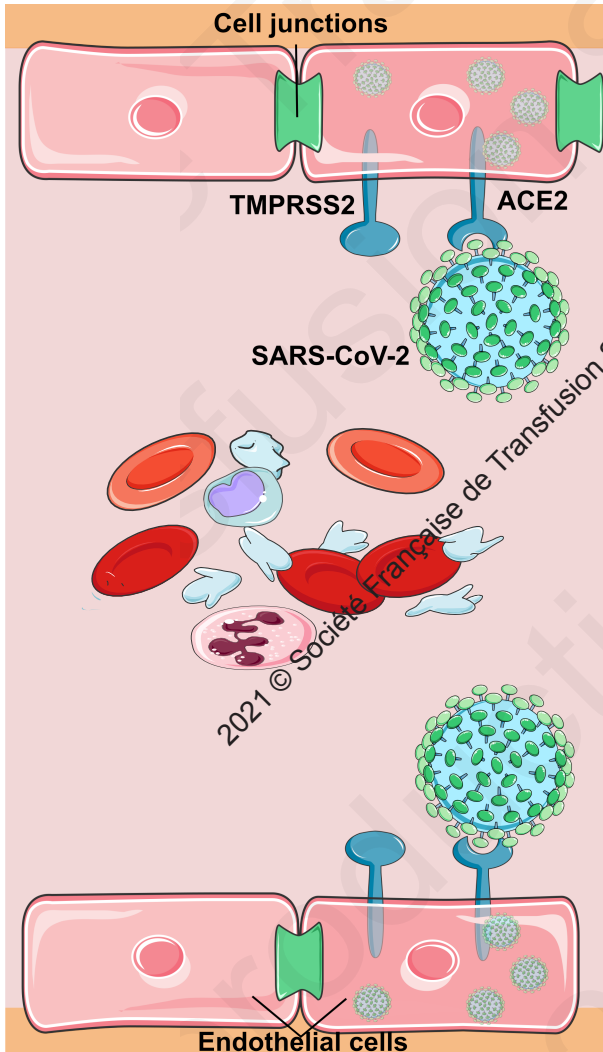
High plasma VWF levels

Hypercoagulable state

Thrombosis

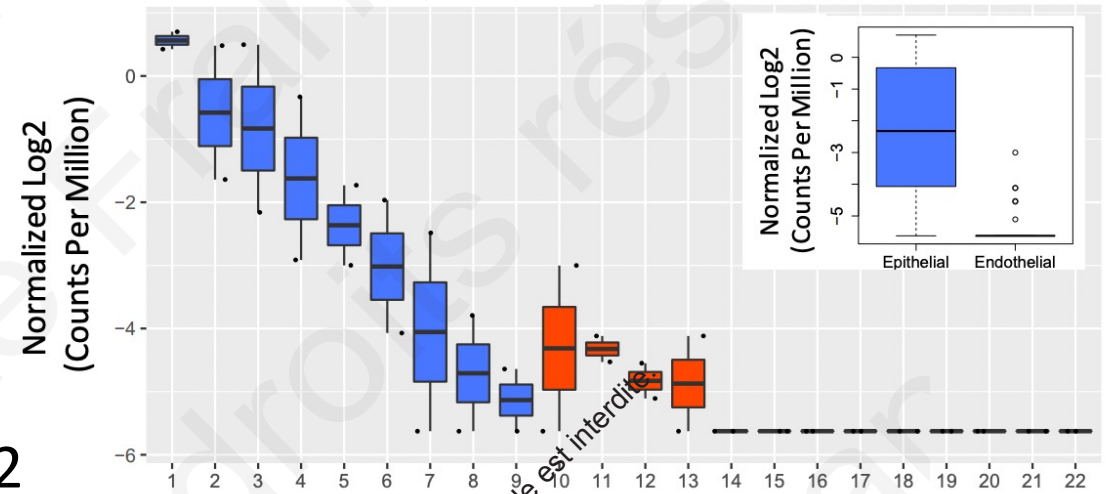


COVID-19 endotheliopathy : 1/No direct viral infection

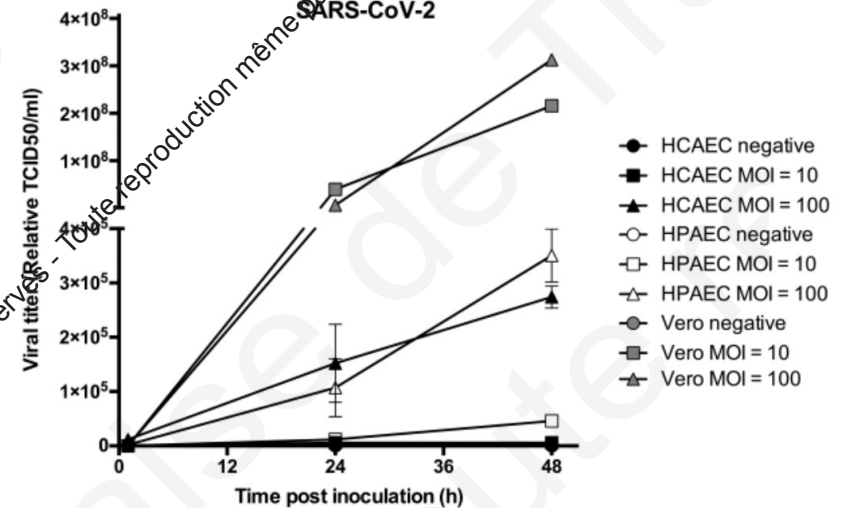


Lack of Evidence of ACE2
Expression and
Replicative Infection by
SARSCoV-2 in Human
Endothelial Cells

ACE2 Expression, ENCODE

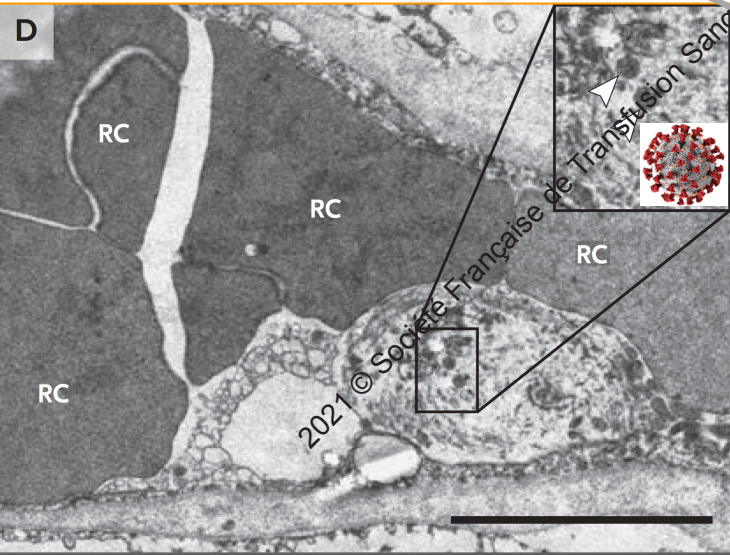


SARS-CoV-2



Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19

Direct viral infection ?



Post-mortem studies

Varga Z et al, *Lancet*, 2020

Ackermann M et al, *N Engl J Med*, 2020,

Fox SE et al, *Lancet respir med*, 2020

Circulation

RESEARCH LETTER

Lack of Evidence of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme 2 Expression and Replicative Infection by SARS-CoV-2 in Human Endothelial Cells

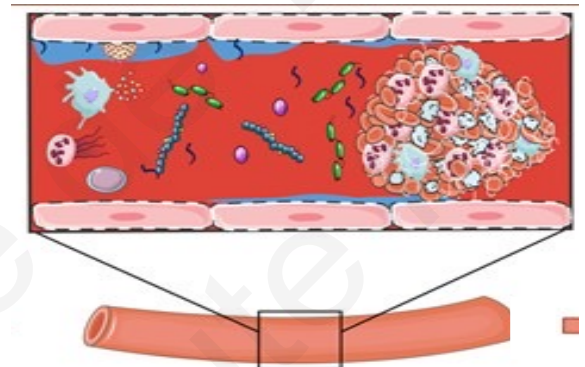
McCracken IR, *Circulation*, 2021

Substantial endothelial cell damages

High plasma VWF levels

Hypercoagulable state

Thrombosis



Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19

Direct viral infection ?

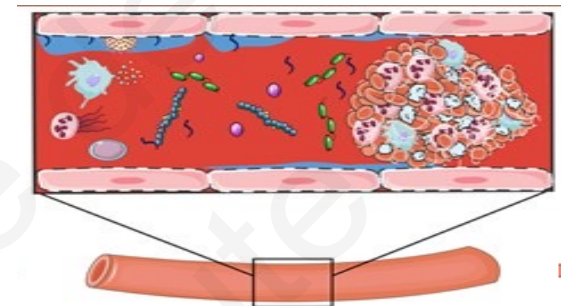
Indirect via circulating mediators ?

Substantial endothelial cell damages

High plasma VWF levels

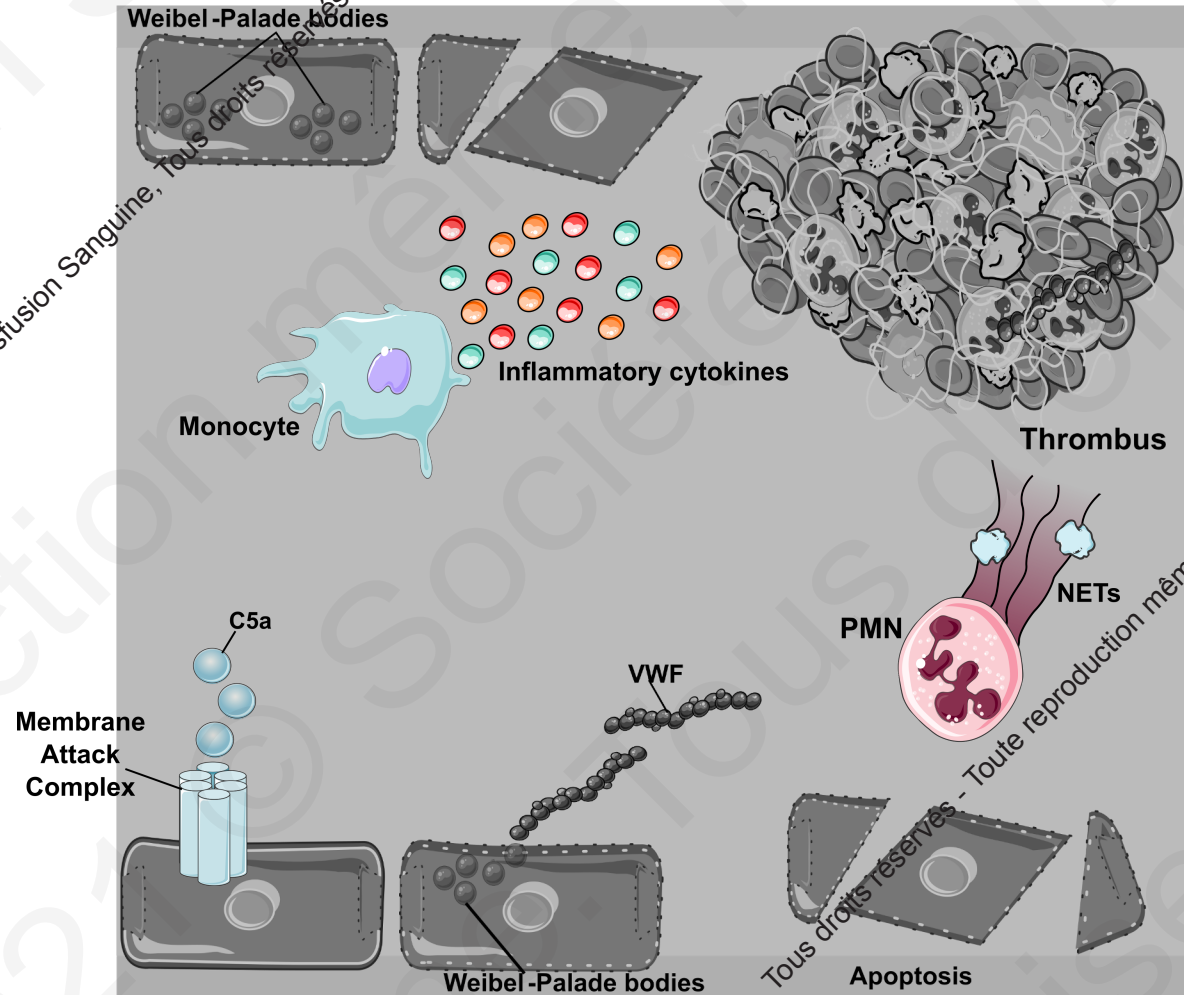
Hypercoagulable state

Thrombosis



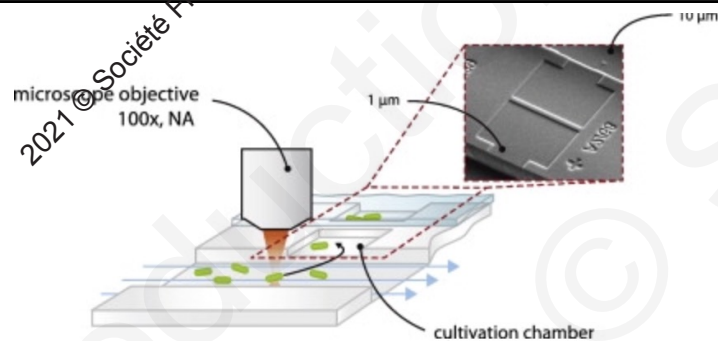
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Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19: Direct inflammatory cytotoxicity?



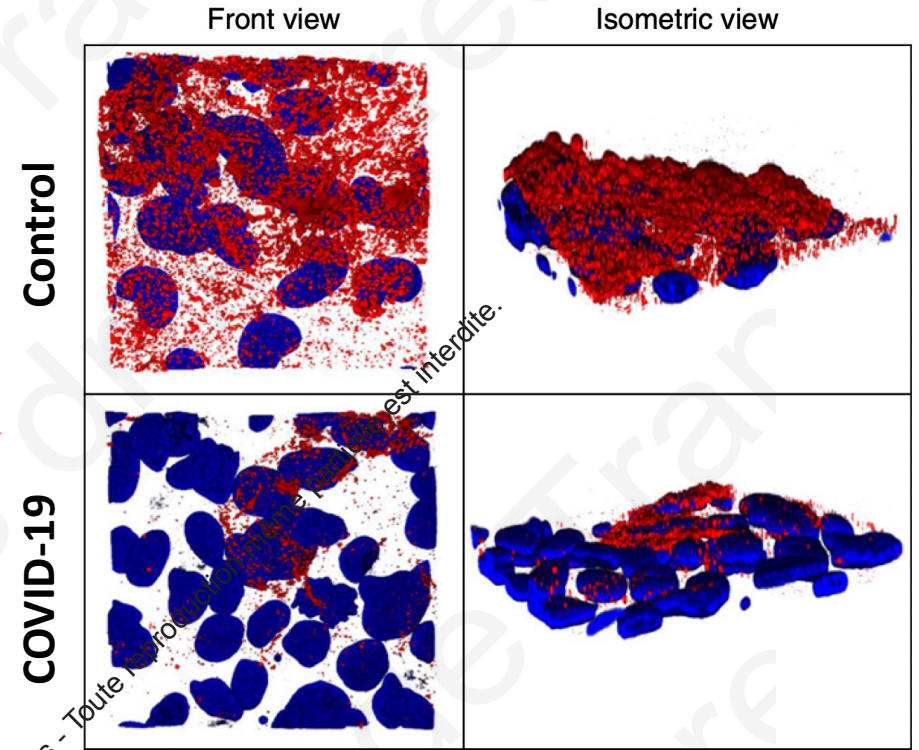
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Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19: Direct inflammatory cytotoxicity?



Microfluidic chamber with cultured endothelial cells
perfusion with serum

Injury to glycocalyx in severe COVID-19



Heparan Sulfate
DAPI

Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19: role of plasma

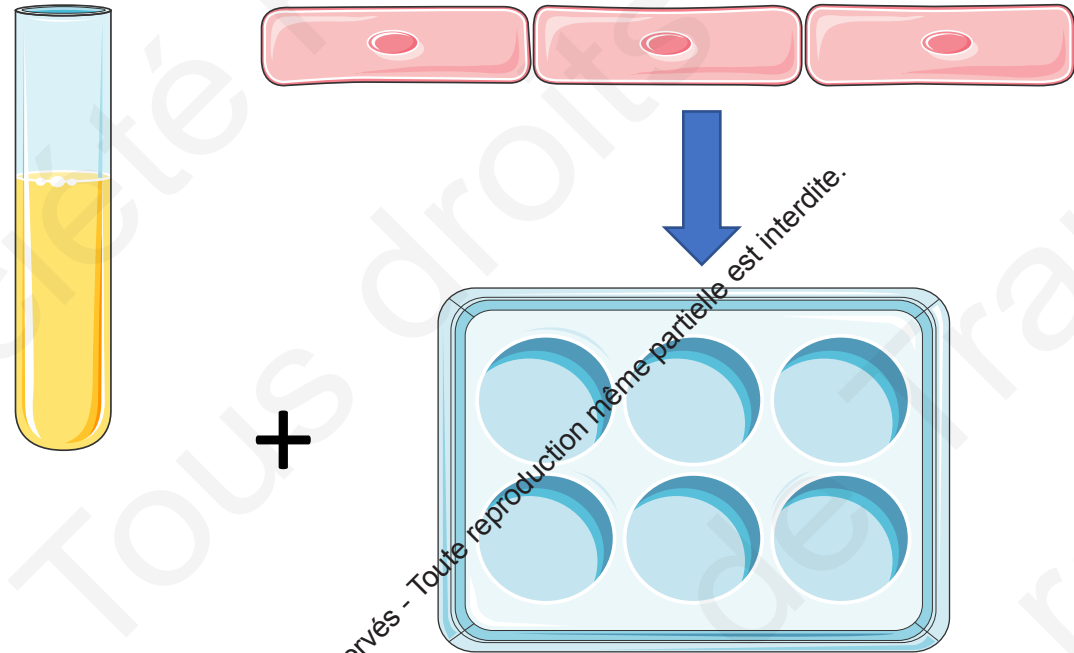
- Plasma sampled on admission from 28 consecutive patients (non-ICU, n=16; ICU, n=12)
- In convalescent patients (n=6 from the 12 patients in the ICU) sampled after ICU discharge (mean±SD, 21±7 days)
- Control healthy donors (n=8)
- Positive control = shigatoxin



Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19: role of plasma

- Plasma sampled on admission from 28 consecutive patients (non-ICU, n=16; ICU, n=12)
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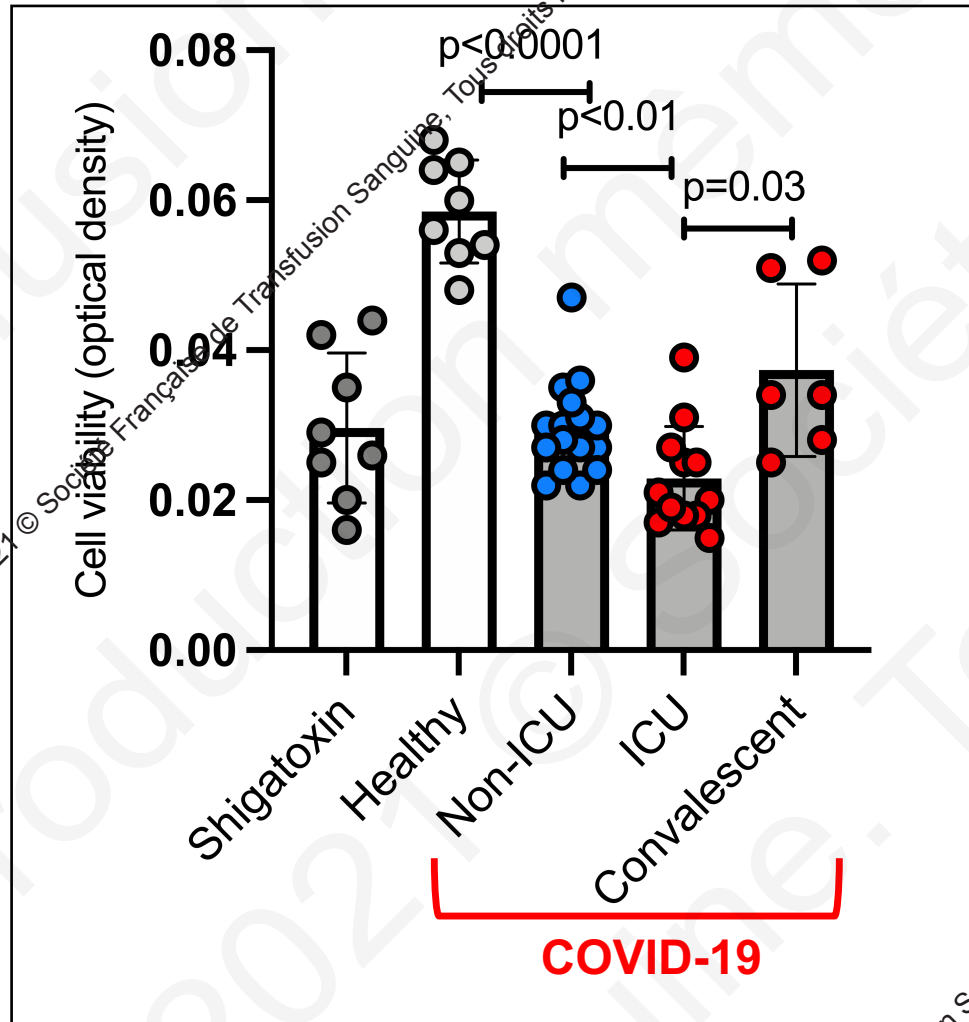
Human pulmonary microvascular endothelial cells



mitochondrial activity (WST-1 test)
1 hour after incubation of cells with plasma

Endothelial cell damages and COVID-19: role of plasma

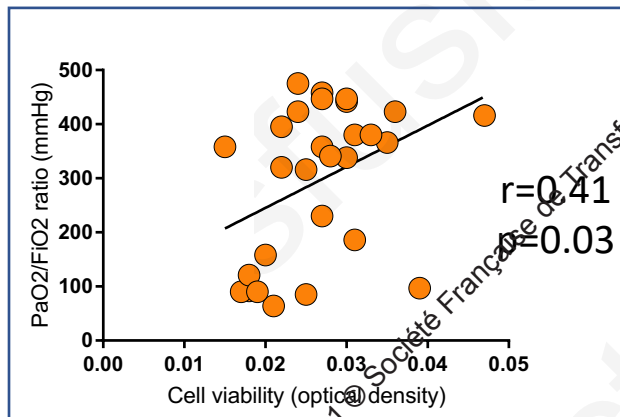
Human pulmonary microvascular endothelial cells viability after exposure to plasma (1 hour)



Rapidity of the effect
excludes a direct cytopathic effect
by SARS-COV-2

HPMVEC viability and COVID-19

Partial pressure of oxygen / Fraction of inspired oxygen



r =Spearman correlation coefficient

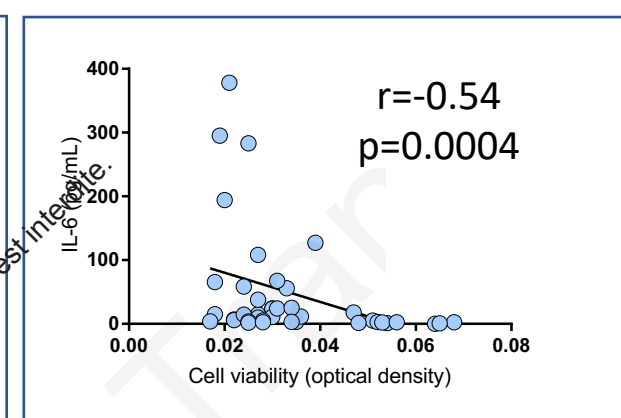
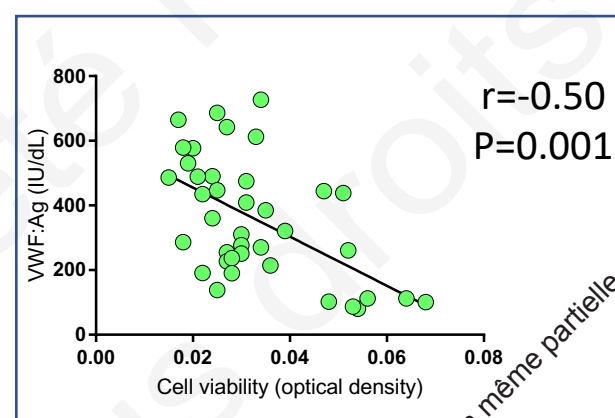
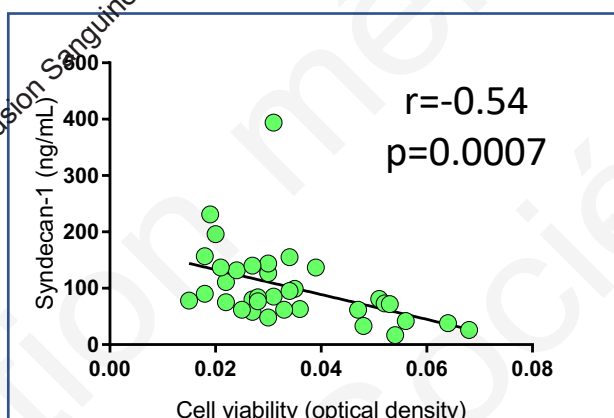
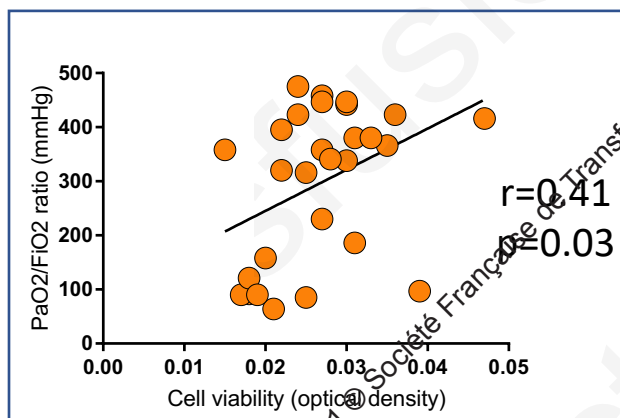
HPMVEC viability and COVID-19

PaO2/FiO2

Syndecan

VWF

IL-6



r =Spearman correlation coefficient

Cell viability (Human Pulmonary MicroVascular Endothelial Cells)

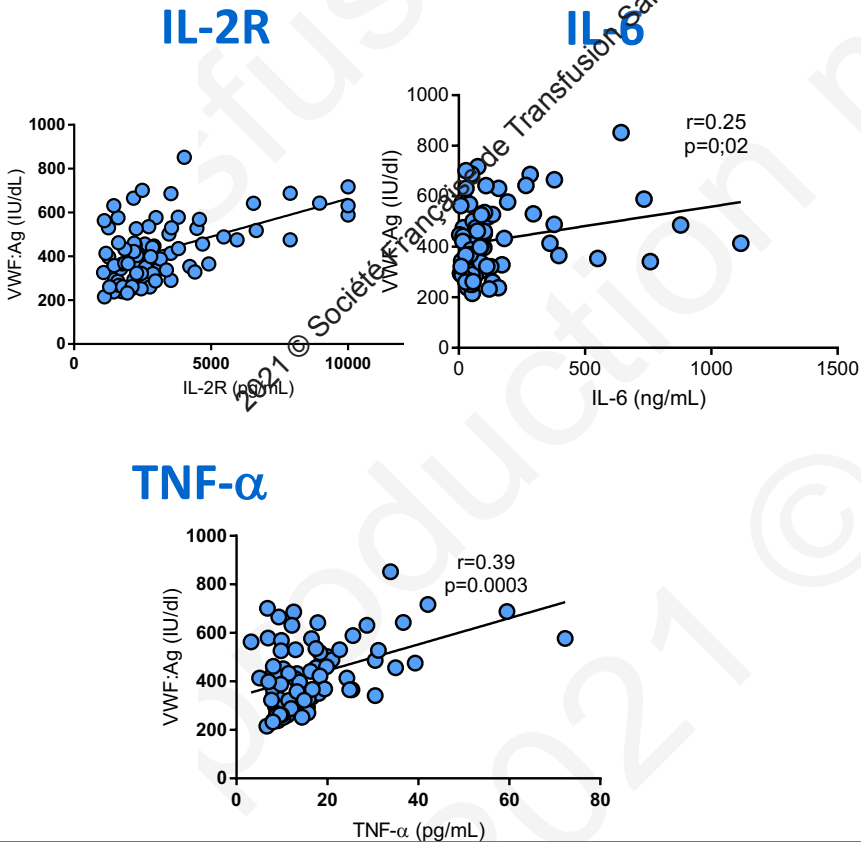
Rauch A, Dupont A et al, *Circulation*, 2020

Direct effect of dysregulation of immune response on endothelial damage

VWF, dysregulated immune response and COVID-19

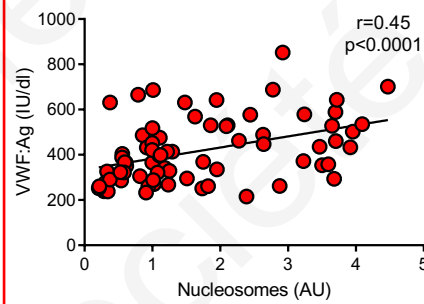
82 ICU COVID-19 patients

Inflammatory cytokines

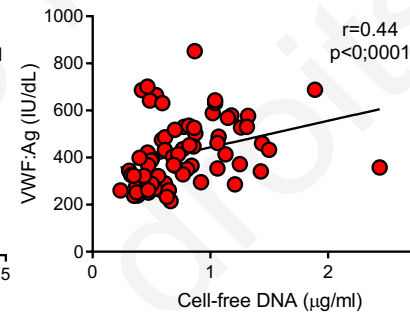


Neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs)

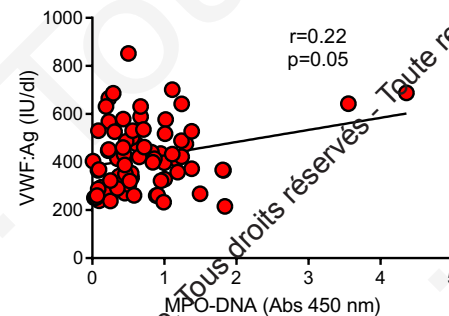
Nucleosomes



Cell-free DNA

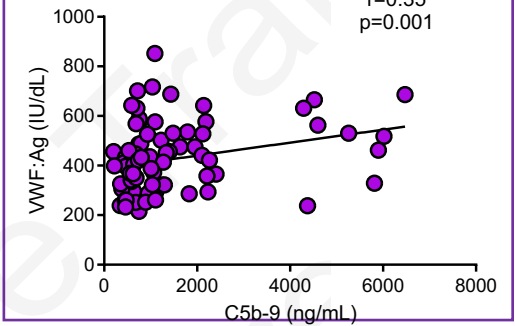


Myeloperoxidase-DNA



Complement

C5b-9



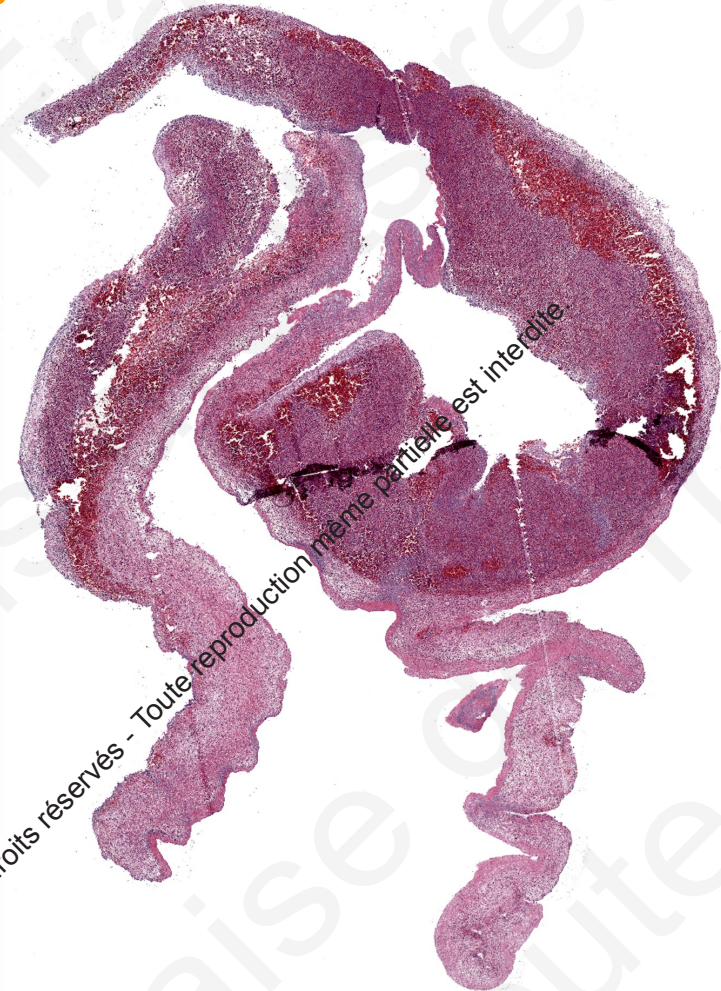
Analysis of Thrombi retrieved from venovenous ECMO circuits

Non COVID



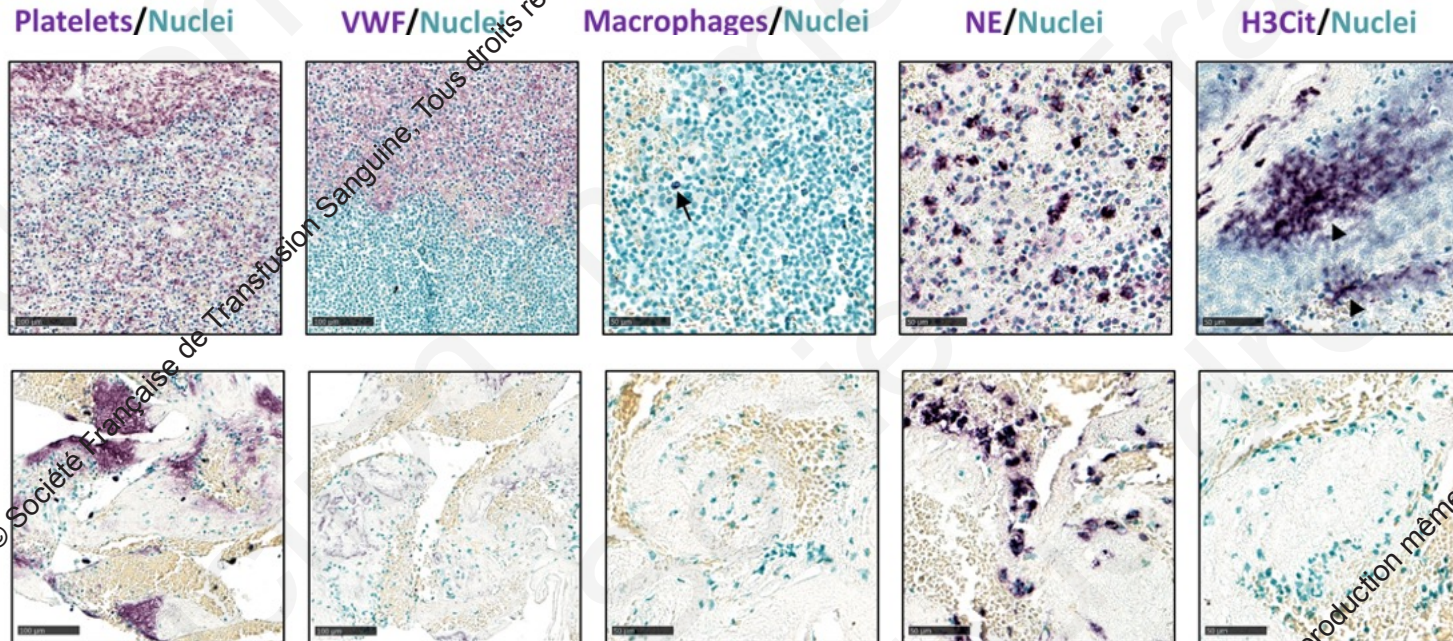
Red blood cells
Fibrin

COVID

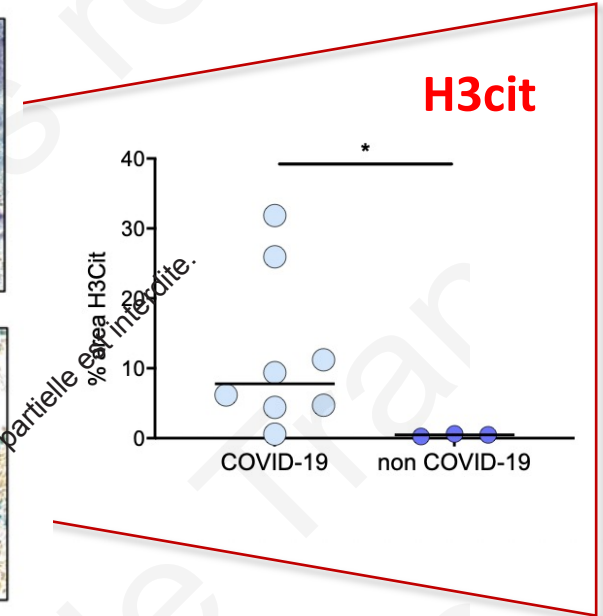


Analysis of thrombi collected in critically ill living patients on extracellular membrane oxygenation

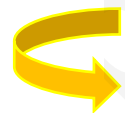
COVID-19



Non COVID-19

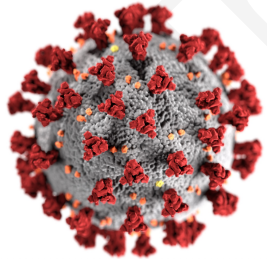


Accumulation of VWF, macrophages, neutrophils and NETs when compared to non-COVID-19 thrombi



Immune response and endotheliopathy promote immunothrombosis

Summary



SARS-CoV-2 infection



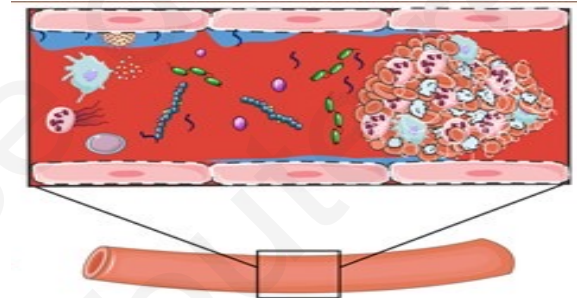
Dysregulation of immune response

Endothelial cell damages

↗ ↗ ↗ VWF plasma levels

Hypercoagulable state

High risk of immunothrombosis



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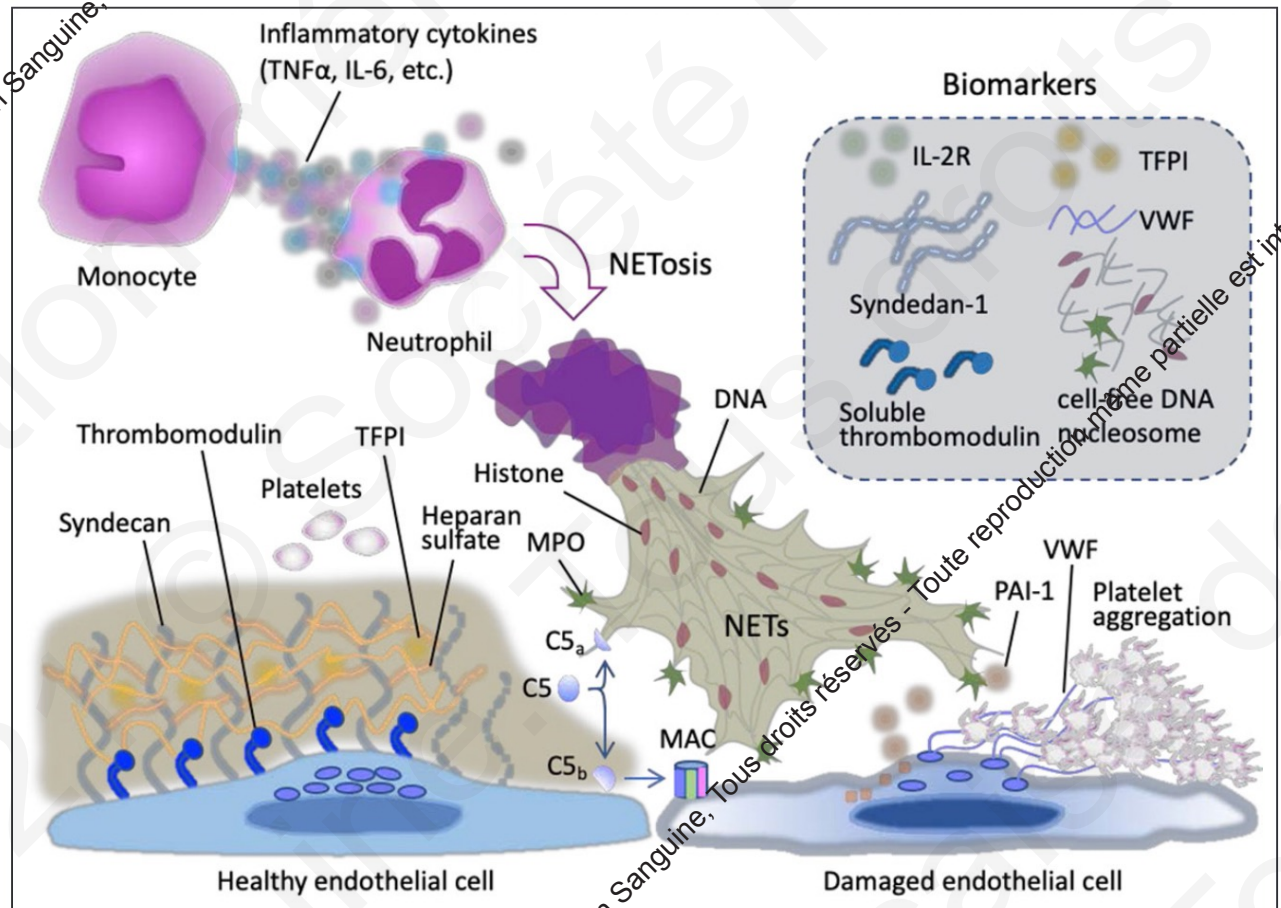
EDITORIAL

Endothelial Injury in COVID-19 and Acute Infections

Putting the Pieces of the Puzzle Together

See accompanying article on page 1750

Jerrold H. Levy , Toshiaki Iba , and Elizabeth E. Gardiner 



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Future investigations

- Evaluate in prospective studies the possibility of routinely measuring circulating levels of VWF as prognostic predictive markers of severe COVID-19
- Assess whether these mechanisms could be translated to pneumonia related to other viruses (Sars, Mers or Influenza),
- Determine whether therapeutic interventions targeting VWF may have an impact on patient's prognosis recombinant ADAMTS-13, caplacizumab
- Impact of viral mutations on endothelial damage

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Team 2 UMR Inserm 1011

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D Garrigue



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