

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY FEINBERG SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



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FAPESP (Fundação de Apoio à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo)  
R. Pio XI, 1500 - Alto da Lapa  
CEP 05468-901  
São Paulo/SP  
Brasil

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am pleased to write this letter to support the grant application of Dr. Eduardo Magalhaes Rego.

I am a hematologist/medical oncologist and have been engaged in both clinical and basic research in hemostasis and thrombosis as well as malignant disorders. One major subject of my work is on the relationship between bleeding and thrombotic complications in cancer. Among the malignant disorders, acute promyelocytic leukemia is associated with both bleeding and thrombosis as major cause of morbidity and mortality.

Since 2004, I have been collaborating with Dr. Rego in identifying the pathogenetic factors of the hypercoagulability in this disease. The preliminary findings have been published in Seminars in Thrombosis and Hemostasis 2010;36 (8)917-924; and was also presented at the XXIII Congress of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis. This on-going collaborative work deals with study of the role of microparticles in the pathogenesis of the bleeding and thrombotic complications in acute promyelocytic leukemia. Samples of patients' blood are collected at the time of diagnosis, after induction and after consolidation. The quantity of the microparticles, as well as the cellular origin of the microparticles, are being studied by FACS analysis. Functional activity of the tissue factor, and components of the fibrinolytic system, including tPA, PAI-1 and annexin A2, are being assayed. Preliminary findings thus far indicate and increase in these factors at the time of diagnosis, but the respective values return to normal after consolidation therapy. They suggest that they are playing a significant role in the pathogenesis of the abnormal hemostatic function in this disease. This information is clinically significant in formulating a strategy to combat the high rate of early death in this disease, which is mostly due to bleeding complications.

Dr. Rego's contribution to the study on the pathogenesis of acute promyelocytic leukemia is widely recognized. I enthusiastically write this letter for strong support of his application.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hau C. Kwaan".

Hau C. Kwaan, MD

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