

QUICK SEARCH: [advanced]

Author: Keyword(s):

Go ITP purpura

Year: Vol: Page:

PEDIATRICS Vol. 111 No. 1 January 2003, pp. 87-90

Response to Intravenous Immunoglobulin Predicts Splenectomy Response in Children With Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura

Derick Holt, BS^{||}, Justin Brown, MPH^{§¶},
 Kelly Terrill, PharmD^{*}, Robert Goldsby, MD^{*},
 Rebecka L. Meyers, MD[†], Jody Heximer, RN^{*},
 Beth Nordfors, RN^{*} and William B. Slayton, MD^{*}

^{*} Department of Pediatrics, Divisions of Hematology/Oncology

[†] Surgery

[§] Department of Family and Preventive Medicine

^{||} Department of Oncological Sciences, University of Utah School of Medicine

[¶] Thrasher Research Fund, Salt Lake City Utah

Objective. Response to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) has been shown to predict response to splenectomy in adults with immune thrombocytopenic **purpura (ITP)**. However, reports in children have been inconsistent. We sought to determine whether response to IVIG is predictive of response to splenectomy in children.

Methods. Thirty-two assessable children were identified by a retrospective chart review. Response was graded according to previously published criteria as follows: "excellent" (platelets >150 000 within 1 week), "good" (platelets between 50 000 and 150 000), and "poor" (platelets <50 000). "Response" refers to both splenectomy and IVIG, and response to splenectomy was counted only when it was durable.

Results. Twenty-one of 23 patients who had a good or excellent response to IVIG also had an excellent response to splenectomy. Six of 9 patients who had a poor response to IVIG also had a poor response to splenectomy. Response to IVIG was a sensitive predictor of response to splenectomy in 88% of patients. Response to IVIG had a specificity of 75%, a positive predictive value of 91%, and a negative predictive value of 67%. Response to prednisone and length of time to splenectomy were not correlated with splenectomy response.

- ▶ [Full Text of this Article](#)
 - ▶ [PDF Version of this Article](#)
 - ▶ [E-mail this article to a friend](#)
 - ▶ **P³Rs: [Submit a response](#) to this article**
 - ▶ **Similar articles found in:**
 - [Pediatrics Online](#)
 - [ISI Web of Science](#)
 - [PubMed](#)
 - ▶ [PubMed Citation](#)
 - ▶ **[An erratum has been published for this Article](#)**
 - ▶ Search PubMed for articles by:
 - [Holt, D.](#) || [Slayton, W. B.](#)
 - ▶ Search for citing articles in:
 - [ISI Web of Science \(2\)](#)
 - ▶ Alert me when:
 - [new articles cite this article](#)
 - ▶ [Download to Citation Manager](#)
-
- ▶ Collections under which this article appears:
[Blood](#)

Conclusions. These results suggest that response to IVIG is predictive of response to splenectomy in children with chronic **ITP**. This correlation may be of value in deciding whether a splenectomy should be performed in children with chronic **ITP**.

Key Words: **ITP** • splenectomy • intravenous immunoglobulin

Abbreviations: **ITP**, immune thrombocytopenic **purpura** • IVIG, intravenous immunoglobulin • ANA, antinuclear antibodies • SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus

Received for publication Jan 4, 2002; accepted May 9, 2002.

[Copyright © 2003 by the American Academy of Pediatrics. \[Disclaimer\]](#)