Comprehensive Research Experience for Medical Students
Summer Research Program 2020

Supervisor/Project Information Form
Due February 6, 2020 by email to crems.programs@utoronto.ca

Supervisor Name: Kevin Kuo / Jameel Abdulrehman

Project Title: Direct oral anticoagulants in single positivity antiphospholipid antibody syndrome without arterial disease: a case series

Hospital/Research Institution: Toronto General Hospital

Email: Kevin.Kuo@uhn.ca / Jameel.Abdulrehman@uhn.ca

Field of Research (2 keywords): Venous thromboembolism, anticoagulation

Department: Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology

School of Graduate Studies Appointment (IMS, LMP, IHPME etc)? Yes/No: No

Brief Project Description (<300 words):

With their lower risk of bleeding, no need for routine monitoring, and lack of food-drug interactions the direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) are increasingly replacing warfarin as the oral anticoagulant of choice. It is controversial if direct oral anticoagulants are safe and effective in those with antiphospholipid antibody syndrome (APS). While strong evidence exists to suggest DOACs should not be used in APS patients with high risk serology or a
history of arterial thrombosis, there is a subgroup of APS patients with low risk serology and no previous history of arterial thrombosis in whom DOACs may be safe and effective.

This research project will be a retrospective case series to describe our experience at the Toronto General Hospital Thrombosis Clinic from 2010 to 2020 with DOAC use in APS patients with low risk serology and no previous history of arterial thrombosis. Eligible patients to be included in the case series will be screened for through cross referencing a list of patients with positive APS serology from the Laboratory Information System with a list of patients who have been seen at the Toronto General Hospital Thrombosis clinic. The Electronic Patient Record will be used to confirm eligibility. Using the Electronic patient record, baseline demographics, APS serology, the choice of DOAC, the duration of anticoagulation with the DOAC, and the potential outcomes of venous thrombosis, arterial thrombosis, and bleeding will be recorded. The baseline demographics and outcomes will be summarized using descriptive statistics.

Upon completion of the project, the medical student, as the primary author, would submit an abstract of the study to a research conference for potential poster presentation.