

In this issue

The second issue of *Bleeding, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology* (BTVB) 2026 opens with an editorial,¹ that is linked to one of the first articles of our journal, published in the first issue of 2022 and concerns the use of statistics in biomedical research.² The main message of the editorial signed by the undersigned together with Augusto Di Castelnuovo is that biomedical research should move beyond the mechanical use of the p-value. p-Value is still often treated as a gatekeeper. A p-value does not tell us the probability that the null hypothesis is true. It does not tell us the probability that chance alone produced the observed association. It does not measure the size, importance, credibility, or clinical relevance of an effect. It is a measure of how incompatible the observed data are with a given statistical model, under a set of assumptions. We encourage our readers to carefully read the 8 main suggestions presented to avoid common mistakes and to perform meaningful statistical analyses. BTVB Editors and Reviewers will take into account these suggestions and give great attention, in this respect, to the future manuscripts submitted to the journal.

A comprehensive review has been prepared by Francesco Marongiu on bleeding complications of oral anticoagulant therapy and dedicated to the memory of Gualtiero Palareti, a colleague and a friend passed away last year, a remarkable figure in hemostasis and thrombosis and an invaluable teacher to many of us.^{3,4} This review provides a brief history of anticoagulants that underpinned Gualtiero's work, along with a general overview of the field, including the studies conducted by IS-COAT and the START Register, in which Gualtiero Palareti played a pivotal role.

The first of three original articles is by Pooja Mishra *et al.*^{5,6} reports the results of an experimental study in mice on nutritional interventions in ischemic brain injury. Cerebral ischemia/reperfusion (I/R) injury is marked by oxidative stress, inflammation, and neuronal loss. Natural antioxidants might have potential neuroprotective properties. The results show that combined fish oil and *Nigella sativa* oil therapy provides enhanced neuroprotection against cerebral I/R injury and may represent a supportive strategy for reducing ischemic brain damage.

The second original article has been written by Giovanni Di Minno *et al.*⁷ and deals with Shared Decision-making (SDM) that is a collaborative process allowing patients and clinicians to weigh the risks and benefits of complex treatment options such as gene therapy, with a focus on the specific needs of Italian persons with hemophilia A. An Expert Advisory Board developed an SDM tool to determine the suitability of gene therapy for hemophilia A, including three components: Role Definition, Agenda Alignment, and Intention Setting. Waiting for confirmation by further studies, this SDM tool may represent a useful component of patient-centered care for hemophilia A in the Italian healthcare setting.

The third original article comes from the Italian Federation of Centers for the Diagnosis of Thrombotic Disorders and the Surveillance of the Antithrombotic Therapies. Daniela Poli *et al.*,⁸ started from a previous survey conducted among the affiliated Italian Centers showing that only few Centers provided DOACs testing. A second survey performed in 2025 observed a

rapid increase in the number of Centers providing DOAC testing, from 31.0% in 2022 to 59.0% in 2025; Centers not providing DOAC testing claimed to have no funding for testing. In 97.2% of Centers, DOAC testing was limited to selected conditions, such as thrombotic or hemorrhagic complications. The Authors conclude that adequate anticoagulation stewardship programs should be developed, in relation to a progressive increasing clinical request.

An interesting brief report by Anna Mazzetto and Alessandro Camerotto examines the potential role of Artificial Intelligence in improving prescription appropriateness in laboratory medicine, with a focus on coagulation diagnostics, and proposes a novel AI-based system to support physicians at the point of decision-making through the use of curated, expert-annotated data.⁹

Silvia Linari *et al.*¹⁰ describe the management and clinical outcomes of 3 patients with hemophilia A/B with inhibitors (HAPwI/HBPwI) treated with concizumab (in the phase 3 Explorer 7 trial). During 5 years of follow-up, all three patients had both a drastic reduction in bleeding events and of treatment with rFVIIa and a significant improvement in quality of life. No side effect was observed.

A second case report by A. Lapostolle *et al.*¹¹ on a patient with acute delirium and amnesia, revealing a venous infarction caused by cerebral venous thrombosis of the rectus sinus. Laboratory testing revealed severe hypertriglyceridemia. The patient improved significantly with heparin, dietary modifications, and ciprofibrate, suggesting that severe hypertriglyceridemia should be a potential trigger of cerebral venous thrombosis.

An unusual contribution is provided by Raffaele Landolfi,¹² who discusses why medical fiction (across novels, television series, and cinema) privileges certain disease manifestations, including skin manifestations linked to thrombo-hemorrhagic or inflammatory processes, while *invisible* diseases - hypertension, insomnia, chronic fatigue, neurochemical imbalances - remain more complex and less thrilling to represent. The Author had already published in BTVB an article on a TV fiction presenting a case of TTP.¹³ Both articles contribute to a better understanding of the cultural lens through which the public (but perhaps also some medical staff) understands diseases, physicians, hospitals, and the practice of medicine.

The present issue is sadly closed by two contributions to the memory of Gian Franco Gensini, a prominent colleague and an old friend who recently passed away.

His colleagues and fellows of the Department of Experimental and Clinical Medicine, University of Florence, Italy, remember their Maestro with great and delicate admiration and recall one of his last phrases, a citation by Abraham Lincoln "*The best way to predict the future is to create it*".¹⁴

Pasquale Strazzullo, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Naples, Italy, on behalf of the Italian Society of Human Nutrition, retains a strong and heartfelt memory of the long-lasting scientific collaboration between that Society and the Italian Stroke Organization, founded by Prof. Gensini to produce, for nearly 20 years, the Italian Guidelines for stroke, SPREAD (Stroke Prevention and Educational Awareness Diffusion).¹⁵

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