HYPERHOMOCYSTEINEMIA AS A RISK FACTOR FOR VENOUS THROMBOSIS

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Classical homocystinuria is associated with arterial vascular diseases and venous thrombosis. In the last decade, many studies have been published indicating that also moderate hyperhomocysteinemia is a risk factor for venous thrombosis. The 677C>T mutation in the methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) gene is an important cause of mild hyperhomocysteinemia. Recent meta-analyses show an elevated risk for subjects with the TT-genotype. This observation supports the hypothesis that hyperhomocysteinemia is indeed a risk factor for venous thrombosis.

In the presentation I will present an overview of the available studies on homocysteine, MTHFR-genotype and venous thrombosis, including the results of the VITRO-trial – a secondary prevention trial with B-vitamins in subjects with venous thrombosis.

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