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Summary

ACUTE PANCREATITIS ASSOCIATED WITH THROMBOTIC MICROANGIOPATHY, AN INFREQUENT RELATIONSHIP

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Pancreas

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A 46-year-old woman with severe acute pancreatitis was found to have thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura with 1% ADAMTS13 activity, representing a rare association between these two conditions.

KEY POINTS

- The patient presented with severe acute pancreatitis (lipase 11861 U/L) and subsequently developed hemolytic anemia with schistocytes on peripheral smear, thrombocytopenia, and worsening renal function.
- PLASMIC score of 6 points indicated 72% risk of severe ADAMTS13 deficiency; ADAMTS13 activity was confirmed at 1%, establishing TTP as the underlying diagnosis.
- Treatment with methylprednisolone and 5 plasma exchanges led to improvement; 3 hemodialysis sessions were required for renal dysfunction with subsequent remission.
- The association between TTP and pancreatitis is rarely reported in literature, occurring in approximately 2% of TTP cases, with the relationship described as either cause or consequence.
- This case would be relevant to gastroenterologists and hematologists managing patients with acute pancreatitis who develop unexplained hemolytic anemia and thrombocytopenia.

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