2015 diagnostic criteria for TAFRO (Thrombocytopenia-anasarca-fever-renal insufficiency-organomegaly) syndrome


A. Major categories
(1) Anasarca, including pleural effusion, ascites and general edema
(2) Thrombocytopenia; defined as a pre-treatment platelet count ≤100,000/μl
(3) Systemic inflammation, defined as fever of unknown etiology above 37.5 °C and/or serum C-reactive protein concentration ≥2 mg/dl

B. Minor categories
(1) Castleman’s disease-like features on lymph node biopsy
(2) Reticulin myelofibrosis and/or increased number of megakaryocytes in bone marrow
(3) Mild organomegaly, including hepatomegaly, splenomegaly and lymphadenopathy
(4) Progressive renal insufficiency

C. Diseases to be excluded
(1) Malignancies, including lymphoma, myeloma, mesothelioma, etc.
(2) Autoimmune disorders, including systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), ANCA-associated vasculitis, etc.
(3) Infectious disorders, including acid fast bacterial infection, rickettsial disease, lyme disease, severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome (SFTS), etc.
(4) POEMS syndrome
(5) IgG4-related disease
(6) Hepatic cirrhosis
(7) Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP)/hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS)

D. Points to consider
Marked polyclonal hypergammopathy is rare in TAFRO patients, with serum IgG concentrations remaining below 3000 mg/dl
Obvious monoclonal protein should not be present
Few patients show elevated serum LDH
Most patients show elevated level of serum ALP
Hepatosplenomegaly in this disease is usually mild and only confirmed by CT-scan, whereas presence of huge hepatosplenomegaly may indicate lymphoma and other diseases
Lymphadenopathy in this disease is usually smaller than 1.5 cm in diameter, whereas huge lymphadenopathy may indicate lymphoma and other diseases
Exclusion criteria for Castleman’s disease and immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) have not been determined, so these diseases may not be excluded at present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis of TAFRO syndrome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All of the 3 major categories</td>
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<td>AND</td>
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<td>At least 2 minor categories</td>
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As it is very important to exclude malignancies, including lymphoma, lymph node biopsy, if applicable, is strongly recommended