



GEN90 – Characterization of Endothelial Exosomes in Aortopathies

OBJECTIVE: Aim 1 is to quantify total plasma and endothelial specific exosome populations in patients with aneurysmal Marfan Syndrome compared with age matched controls. Aim 2 is the purification and characterization of the proteomic and RNA cargos of an enriched endothelial exosome subpopulation in Marfan patients compared with age matched controls.

ORGANIZATION

Lead Investigator: Prashanth Vallabhajosyula MD

Co-Investigators: Rita Karianna Milewski MD, Jose

Funding Source: University of Pennsylvania

- Inclusion criteria:*
- Marfan Syndrome
 - Male
 - 18 – 39 years of age
- Samples:*
- Plasma

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

There is a critical need for monitoring aortopathies in a fashion that is not currently possible. There is no such molecular biomarker that a research group has recently discovered that transplant tissue profiles from the patient's plasma can serve as a novel platform for monitoring transplant rejection. We propose that exosome profiling from the patient's plasma has the novel biomarker platform to monitor for aortic disease. There is no report investigating endothelial exosome profiles in Marfan patient versus those with aortopathies. In addition, understanding the functional roles of exosomes, we believe our ability to identify endothelial specific exosomes opens the window towards investigating the therapeutic manipulation of endothelial exosomes in aortopathies.

DESIGN

- Method:*
- Quantification and purification of endothelial specific exosomes from plasma using NanoSight nanoparticle detector technology and affinity antibody bead-based exosome purification.

