Blood Clotting

Life-saving device continuously checks a patient’s blood clotting status during and after surgery

UCF researchers have developed a breakthrough early-detection system that helps detect life-threatening blood clots during and after a medical procedure. Conventional laboratory blood coagulation tests are time-intensive, requiring blood to be drawn, processed and analyzed. The UCF real-time blood coagulation monitor continuously monitors a patient's blood coagulation status and eliminates the need for blood withdrawal and sample processing. By enabling real-time assessment, the technology avoids operational delays and could facilitate timely diagnosis and early clinical intervention. The technology has been tested in several clinical settings, most recently at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children.

Blood clots (venous thromboembolisms or VTEs) are a major risk for hospitalized patients and are one of the leading causes of preventable hospital deaths. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, blood clots kill up to 100,000 Americans each year and affect as many as 900,000 people.

The coagulation monitor consists of a sample probe containing an optical fiber, an optical detector, and a dynamic light signal analyzer. The probe transmits low-coherence light through the optical fiber into the blood. Light scatter signals generated by the circulating red blood cells (in vivo) or blood sample (in vitro) are received by the optical fiber, detected by the optical detector, and analyzed by the dynamic light signal analyzer. The analyzer compares the light scatter signals to a predetermined coagulation value or range and then reports the coagulation status of the blood and/or clotting time. The system also accommodates multiplexing with other optical assays.

Benefits

- Real-time feedback and analysis
- No sample preparation or manipulation
- Non-invasive and requires only a small volume of blood
- Integrates with existing blood access devices for continuous in-line assessment

Applications

For more information, contact:
John Miner | 407.882.0342 | john.miner@ucf.edu | Tech ID #31064
UCF Office of Technology Transfer | 12201 Research Parkway, Suite 501, Orlando, FL 32826
• Operating rooms, emergency rooms, intensive care units
• Medical procedures that require constant blood monitoring, such as kidney dialysis and cardiovascular surgery

Additional tech IDs: 30734-30076

Technology #31064

Inventors
Aristide Dogariu, Ph.D.

For more information, contact:
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