# **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

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# Association of neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio and D-dimer with functional outcome in patients with cerebral venous sinus thrombosis



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#### Abstract

**Background** Investigations on the risk factors for the prognosis of cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) are limited. This study aimed to explore whether specific inflammatory factors and coagulation indictors are associated with functional outcome in patients treated for CVST.

**Methods** This retrospective study included 137 patients admitted to our hospital between January 2010 and October 2021. The functional outcome was assessed with the modified Rankin Scale (mRS) score at discharge. Patients were divided into two groups, 102 patients with favorable outcomes (mRS 0-1) and 35 patients with poor outcomes (mRS 2-6). The clinical indexes were compared between two groups. Multivariable logistic regression was performed to identify the independent influencing factors for poor outcomes of CVST patients. The prognostic indicators were analyzed using the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve.

**Results** Compared with the favorable outcome group, the incidence of impaired consciousness and brain lesion, the levels of D-dimer, RDW, neutrophil count, neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio (NLR) and red blood cell distribution width to platelet ratio (%) on admission were significantly higher in the poor outcome group, while the level of lymphocyte count was significantly lower. After multivariable logistic regression analysis, baseline D-dimer level (odds ratio (OR), 1.180; 95% confidence interval (CI), 1.019-1.366, P = 0.027) and NLR (OR, 1.903; 95%CI, 1.232-2.938, P = 0.004) were significantly associated with unfavorable outcome at discharge. The ROC curve analysis showed that the areas under the curve of D-dimer, NLR and their combined detection for predicting worse outcome were 0.719, 0.707 and 0.786, respectively.

**Conclusions** Elevated D-dimer level and NLR on admission were associated with an increased risk of poor functional outcome in patients with CVST.

Keywords Neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio (NLR), D-dimer, Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, Outcome

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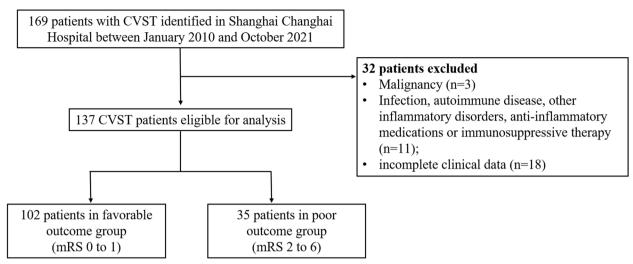


Fig. 1 Flow chart of the study

#### Introduction

Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) is an uncommon manifestation of thrombosis that occurs mainly in younger individuals aged 20 to 50 years [1, 2]. Although earlier diagnosis and advances made in the therapeutic management of CVST have improved its prognosis, many patients still suffer from chronic residual symptoms such as headache, motor deficits, impaired vision or cognitive impairment, while some patients retain severe dependency or die [3, 4]. A multicenter study with 1144 patients indicated that 78.4% presented with complete recovery (defined as the modified Rankin Scale (mRS) 0 to 1) and 10.0% presented with death or dependency (defined as mRS 3 to 6) [5]. Therefore, it is essential to explore convenient and reliable predictive indicators for functional outcomes and provide potential therapeutic targets to improve the prognosis.

Previous studies on thrombotic diseases support the role of inflammation in the pathophysiology of thrombosis, particularly in initiation and amplification of coagulation [6]. In experimental models of cerebral venous thrombosis, inflammatory cellular infiltration has been noted at the sites of thrombosis [7]. Monocytes and neutrophils were reported to provide the initiating stimulus for the development of venous thrombosis [7, 8]. Recently, inflammatory biomarkers like neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio (NLR), lymphocyte to monocyte ratio (LMR), platelet to lymphocyte ratio (PLR) and red blood cell distribution width to platelet ratio (RPR) have been confirmed to be related to the outcomes of various inflammatory or vascular diseases, such as stroke, sepsis and myocardial infarction [9–13]. Nonetheless, research focused on the role of these inflammatory factors in predicting the prognosis of CVST remains limited.

As a soluble fibrin degradation product caused by the breakdown of thrombus, D-dimer has been reported to work as a diagnostic factor in CVST [14, 15]. Recent studies have shown that D-dimer levels are independently associated with the risk of intracranial hemorrhage after CVST [16]. However, whether D-dimer could be a valuable prognostic indicator for CVST remains unclear.

The present study aimed to identify the association between inflammatory indicators and D-dimer with short-term functional outcome in patients with CVST to estimate their predictive value as prognostic factors.

#### **Methods**

#### Study design

We retrospectively included patients with the diagnosis of CVST admitted to our hospital between January 2010 and October 2021. The inclusion criteria were diagnosed CVST patients based on magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and magnetic resonance venography (MRV), or computed tomographic venography (CTV), or digital subtraction angiography (DSA) [17]. Patients were excluded if they were diagnosed with the following conditions: hepatic or renal failure, malignancy, infection at admission, autoimmune disease, other inflammatory disorders, anti-inflammatory medications or immunosuppressive therapy (Fig. 1). This study was approved by the Ethics Committee of Changhai Hospital, Shanghai, China.

#### **Data collection**

Medical records of all patients were reviewed, including demographic data and clinical characteristics, radiological evaluations, laboratory indicators, and functional outcomes. Type of onset was defined as acute (duration

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of symptoms less than 2 days on admission), subacute (duration of symptoms between 2 days and 30 days), and chronic (duration of symptoms longer than 30 days) [5]. The number of involved sinuses, localizations of thrombus and lesions in CT or MRI were identified by two experienced radiologists. The blood samples were routinely obtained on admission and NLR, LMR, PLR, and RPR were calculated. The calculation formulas of these indexes were as follows: NLR = neutrophil count/lymphocyte count; LMR = lymphocyte count; RPR (%) = red blood cell distribution width/platelet count × 100%. Clinical outcome was evaluated by the mRS at discharge: mRS 0-1 classified as favorable outcome, mRS 2-6 classified as poor outcome [18, 19].

#### Statistical analysis

Quantitative data were described as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation or median with interquartile range (IQR), and analyzed by independent Student's t test or Mann-Whitney *U* test. Categorical data were described as frequency and percentage (%), and analyzed by  $\chi^2$  test or Fisher's exact test. Variables with P value < 0.05 in the comparison between two groups were subjected to collinearity test, and variables with variance inflation factor (VIF) < 10 and tolerance > 0.1 were extracted by multivariable logistic regression analysis (Supplemental Table 1). Multivariable logistic regression analysis was applied to identify possible risk factors associated with the outcome of CVST. The correlations between the mRS score and significant variables were analyzed by the Pearson correlation test. The receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve was used to assess the sensitivity and specificity of significant indicators and the optimal cut-off values for predicting the outcome. P value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant. All statistical analysis were performed with SPSS statistical package (Version 22.0, Armonk, NY, USA).

#### Results

#### Baseline Characteristics of the two cohorts

A total of 137 patients with CVST were included in the analysis. The demographic and clinical characteristics of the patients are shown in Table 1. The patients were divided into two groups: a 'favorable outcome' group (n = 102, mean age:  $38.27 \pm 15.07$  years, female: 45.1%) and a 'poor outcome' group (n = 35, mean age:  $43.57 \pm 14.98$  years, female: 54.3%). In the favorable outcome group, 4.9% of patients were in the acute stage, 65.7% in the subacute stage, and 29.4% in the chronic stage; in the poor outcome group, 17.1% of patients were in the acute stage, 60.0% in the subacute stage, and 22.9% in the chronic stage.

Compared with the favorable outcome group, impaired consciousness was significantly more common among patients in the poor outcome group (22.9% vs. 4.9%, P = 0.005). Brain parenchymal lesion was also significantly more frequent in the poor outcome group (94.3% vs. 67.6%, P < 0.001). There were no significant differences in other clinical symptoms (headache, visual disturbance, seizure, focal deficits and mental disturbance), etiology and risk factors, number of sinuses involved, and localization of thrombus.

#### Laboratory indicators of the two groups

Compared to patients with favorable outcomes, D-dimer level (2.16 [1.27-8.88] vs. 0.78 [0.40-1.93], P < 0.001), neutrophil count (6.04 [4.70-9.67] vs. 4.90 [3.42-7.32], P = 0.011), red cell distribution (RDW) (%) (13.40 [12.70-14.70] vs. 12.80 [12.08-13.60], P = 0.012), NLR (4.09 [2.45-6.92] vs. 2.76 [1.97-3.64], P < 0.001) and RPR (%) (7.16 [5.97-10.00] vs. 6.15 [4.45-7.28], P = 0.001) was significantly higher in patients with poor outcomes, while lymphocyte count was significantly lower in patients with poor outcomes (1.41 [0.93-2.10] vs. 1.92 [1.44-2.19], P = 0.011). No significant differences were observed in the other laboratory indicators obtained (Table 2).

# The correlation between clinical indicators and short-term outcome

The correlation between the functional outcome evaluated by mRS score and significant clinical indicators is described in Table 3. The results of the analysis showed that impaired consciousness (rho=0.267, P=0.002), D-dimer level (rho=0.388, P<0.001), neutrophil count (rho=0.219, P=0.010), NLR (rho=0.419, P<0.001) and RPR (%) (rho=0.308, P<0.001) were positively associated with mRS score at discharge, among which NLR had the closest correlation.

# Independent risk factors for poor outcome in patients with CVST

Potentially significant variables in Table 1 and Table 2 were extracted as follows: impaired consciousness (P = 0.005), brain lesion (P < 0.001), D-dimer (P < 0.001), RDW (P = 0.012), neutrophil count (P = 0.011), lymphocyte count (P = 0.011), NLR (P < 0.001), RPR (%) (P = 0.001). These potentially significant variables were assessed for collinearity however none was found for these variables (Supplementary Table 1). Following, we conducted multivariable logistic regression analysis to assess the associations between these factors and the functional outcome at discharge. The results demonstrated that D-dimer level (odds ratio (OR), 1.180; 95%

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**Table 1** Baseline characteristics of the two cohorts

Variable	Favorable outcome	Poor outcome	$t/\chi^2/Z$	P value	
	<i>n</i> =102	n=35			
Age (years; mean ± SD)	38.27 ± 15.07	43.57 ± 14.98	-1.797	0.075	
Gender (n,%)			0.882	0.433	
Male	56 (54.9%)	16 (45.7%)			
Female	46 (45.1%)	19 (54.3%)			
Onset (n,%)			5.398	0.067	
Acute	5 (4.9%)	6 (17.1%)			
Subacute	67 (65.7%)	21 (60.0%)			
Chronic	30 (29.4%)	8 (22.9%)			
Etiology and risk factors (n,%)					
Oral contraceptives	10 (9.8%)	0 (0.0%)	2.394	0.122	
Pregnancy, abortion or puerperium	12 (11.8%)	7 (20.0%)	0.870	0.351	
Thrombophilia	12 (11.8%)	3 (8.6%)	0.043	0.835	
Hematological diseases	7 (6.9%)	2 (5.7%)	< 0.001	1.000	
Physical factors	2 (2.0%)	1 (2.9%)	< 0.001	1.000	
Clinical manifestation (n,%)					
Headache	85 (83.3%)	24 (68.6%)	3.492	0.062	
Visual disturbance	16 (15.7%)	4 (11.4%)	0.379	0.596	
Seizure	20 (19.6%)	12 (34.3%)	3.136	0.104	
Sensory disorder	3 (2.9%)	2 (5.7%)	0.570	0.602	
Motor deficit	14 (13.7%)	8 (22.9%)	1.612	0.204	
Aphasia	3 (2.9%)	1 (2.9%)	_	1.000 <sup>a</sup>	
Mental disturbance	3 (2.9%)	2 (5.7%)	_	0.602 <sup>a</sup>	
Impaired consciousness	5 (4.9%)	8 (22.9%)	7.803	0.005*	
Brain lesion (n,%)				<0.001**	
Cerebral hemorrhage	29 (28.4%)	12 (34.3%)			
Subarachnoid hemorrhage	12 (11.8%)	2 (5.7%)			
Cerebral infarction	26 (25.4%)	12 (34.3%)			
Hemorrhagic infarction	2 (2.0%)	7 (20.0%)			
No lesion	33 (32.4%)	2 (5.7%)			
Number of sinuses involved (n,%)	,	, ,	1.996	0.591	
1 sinus	32 (31.4%)	10 (28.6%)			
2 sinuses	33 (32.4%)	12 (34.3%)			
3 sinuses	25 (24.5%)	6 (17.1%)			
More than 3 sinuses	12 (11.8%)	7 (20.0%)			
Localization of thrombus (n,%)	. = ( ,	. (====,			
Superior sagittal sinus	47 (46.1%)	22 (62.9%)	2.935	0.117	
Inferior sagittal sinus	7 (6.9%)	5 (14.3%)	0.988	0.320	
Transverse sinus	74 (72.5%)	23 (65.9%)	0.589	0.519	
Sigmoid sinus	61 (59.8%)	19 (54.3%)	0.327	0.691	
Straight sinus	13 (12.7%)	9 (25.7%)	3.252	0.107	
Jugular vein	2 (2.0%)	1 (2.9%)		1.000 <sup>a</sup>	
Cortical veins	1 (1.0%)	1 (2.9%)	_	0.447 <sup>a</sup>	

<sup>\*</sup> P < 0.05; <sup>a</sup> Fisher's exact probability test

confidence interval (*CI*), 1.019-1.366, P=0.027) and NLR (*OR*, 1.903; 95%*CI*, 1.232-2.938, P=0.004) were independent risk factors for poor functional outcome in CVST patients (Table 4).

# ROC curve analysis of single and combined detection of baseline D-dimer and NLR

The ROC curve showed that D-dimer level and NLR on admission could statistically predict the short-term

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**Table 2** Laboratory indicators of the two groups

Variable	Favorable outcome	Poor outcome	t/Z	P value
	<i>n</i> =102	n=35		
D-dimer (mg/L; M, IQR)	0.78 (0.40-1.93)	2.16 (1.27-8.88)	-3.865	<0.001*
PT (s; M, IQR)	13.60 (13.08-14.43)	13.80 (13.00-14.90)	-0.499	0.618
APTT (s; M, IQR)	37.15 (34.60-39.43)	36.30 (31.70-41.50)	-0.624	0.532
TT (s; M, IQR)	16.25 (15.48-17.50)	16.50 (15.20-18.30)	-0.632	0.527
Fibrinogen (g/L; M, IQR)	3.31 (2.89-4.14)	3.07 (2.81-3.98)	-0.859	0.390
TC (mmol/L; mean $\pm$ SD)	$4.54 \pm 1.26$	$4.93 \pm 1.33$	-1.532	0.128
TG (mmol/L; M, IQR)	1.36 (1.05-1.82)	1.36 (0.94-1.83)	-0.38	0.704
LDL-C (mmol/L; M, IQR)	2.69 (2.14-3.08)	2.94 (2.19-3.75)	-1.291	0.197
HDL-C (mmol/L; mean $\pm$ SD)	1.16 (1.01-1.38)	1.27 (1.16-1.63)	-1.893	0.058
Neutrophil ( $\times$ 10 $^{9}$ /L; M, IQR)	4.90 (3.42-7.32)	6.04 (4.70-9.67)	-2.539	0.011*
Lymphocyte ( $\times 10^9/L$ ; M, IQR)	1.92 (1.44-2.19)	1.41 (0.93-2.10)	-2.537	0.011*
Monocyte ( $\times$ 10 $^{9}$ /L; M, IQR)	0.59 (0.44-0.78)	0.50 (0.38-0.81)	-0.849	0.396
PLT ( $\times$ 10 $^{9}$ /L; M, IQR)	225.00 (182.75-289.25)	202.00 (141.00-280.00)	-1.668	0.095
Hb (g/L; M, IQR)	138.00 (124.00-154.25)	132.00 (111.00-154.00)	-1.007	0.314
MCV (fL; M, IQR)	88.90 (85.48-91.20)	88.70 (84.30-92.10)	-0.284	0.777
MPV (fL; M, IQR)	10.20 (9.50-10.90)	10.50 (9.40-11.00)	-0.61	0.542
MCHC (g/L; mean $\pm$ SD)	$336.08 \pm 16.23$	$333.74 \pm 16.45$	0.732	0.465
RDW (%; M, IQR)	12.80 (12.08-13.60)	13.40 (12.70-14.70)	-2.526	0.012*
NLR (M, IQR)	2.76 (1.97-3.64)	4.09 (2.45-6.92)	-3.65	<0.001*
LMR (M, IQR)	3.26 (2.43-4.34)	3.00 (1.66-4.63)	-0.548	0.584
PLR (M, IQR)	125.32 (91.92-162.13)	152.38 (74.89-261.54)	-0.819	0.413
RPR (%; M, IQR)	6.15 (4.45-7.28)	7.16 (5.97-10.00)	-3.361	0.001*
* <i>P</i> < 0.05				

PT, prothrombin time, APTT, activated partial thromboplastin time, TT, thrombin time, TC, total cholesterol, TG, triglyceride, LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol, HDL-C, high density lipoprotein cholesterol, Hb, hemoglobin, MCV, mean corpuscular volume, MPV, mean platelet volume, MCHC, mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration, RDW, red cell distribution width, PLT, platelet, NLR, neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio, LMR, lymphocyte to monocyte ratio, PLR, platelet to lymphocyte ratio, RPR, red blood cell distribution width to platelet ratio

**Table 3** The correlation between clinical indicators and the functional outcome

Variable	rho value	P value	
Impaired consciousness	0.267	0.002*	
Brain lesion	-0.116	0.178	
D-dimer	0.388	<0.001*	
RDW	-0.021	0.806	
Neutrophil	0.219	0.010*	
Lymphocyte	-0.142	0.099	
NLR	0.419	<0.001*	
RPR (%)	0.308	<0.001*	

*RDW*, red cell distribution width, *NLR*, neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio, *RPR*, red blood cell distribution width to platelet ratio

outcome of CVST (Fig. 2). The area under the curve (AUC) of D-dimer was 0.719 and the optimal cut-off value was 1.335 (sensitivity 74.3%, specificity 61.8%, YI 0.361). The AUC of NLR was 0.707 and the optimal

**Table 4** Multivariable logistic regression analysis for poor outcomes of CVST patients

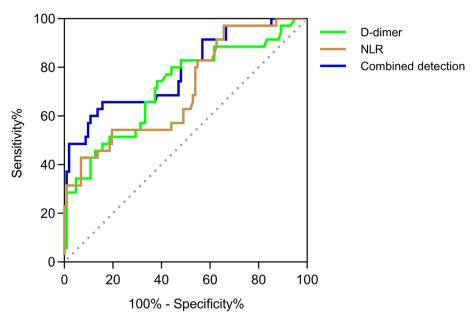
A.Variable	OR	95%CI	P value
Impaired consciousness	0.302	0.068-1.333	0.114
Brain lesion	0.835	0.600-1.163	0.286
D-dimer	1.180	1.019-1.366	0.027*
RDW	0.978	0.927-1.032	0.422
Neutrophil	0.805	0.613-1.057	0.118
Lymphocyte	1.885	0.816-4.352	0.138
NLR	1.903	1.232-2.938	0.004*
RPR (%)	1.222	0.996-1.500	0.054

*RDW*, red cell distribution width, *NLR*, neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio, *RPR*, red blood cell distribution width to platelet ratio, *OR*, odds ratio, *CI*, confidence interval \*P < 0.05

cut-off value was 5.170 (sensitivity 42.9%, specificity 93.1%, YI 0.360). In addition, the combined detection of two indexes showed higher predictive power, with an AUC of was 0.786. The optimal cut-off value was

<sup>\*</sup> *P* < 0.05

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**Fig. 2** Receiver operating characteristic curve of single and combined detection of D-dimer and NLR on predicting the functional outcome of CVST. NLR, neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio; CVST, cerebral venous sinus thrombosis

9.650 (sensitivity 65.7%, specificity 84.3%, YI 0.500) (Table 5).

#### **Discussion**

The results of our study indicated that baseline NLR and D-dimer level may be independently associated with the functional outcome at the point of discharge for patients with CVST. We also observed that the combined application of these two indexes had high predictive value for the neurological recovery after CVST.

Although the mortality rate associated with CVST has dramatically decreased in recent years, local brain lesions followed by herniation or seizures can be fatal [1]. Intracranial hemorrhage on neuroimaging was reported to be a marker for worse prognosis of CVST [2]. Moreover, it was observed that in patients with CVST, altered consciousness at admission was an independent predictor of poor functional outcome [20, 21]. Both intracranial hemorrhage and GCS score < 9 on admission were associated with death and dependency [22]. In the present study, it

was also observed that increased local brain lesions and impaired consciousness were associated with unfavorable outcome, consistent with previous findings [22–24].

Data from preclinical and clinical studies on CVST have suggested that the increase in venous and capillary pressure after local venous occlusion could lead to the disruption of the blood brain barrier and vasogenic edema [25]. The increased intravenous pressure may finally result in decreased cerebral blood flow, failure of cellular metabolism, and cytotoxic edema [25]. The reduction of oxygen and failure of energy metabolism consequently triggers a local inflammatory immune response [26, 27]. Inflammation has been reported to closely correlate with venous thrombosis, which participates in the amplification of coagulation and shifts the hemostatic balance towards a prothrombotic state [6, 28]. During the inflammatory process, the release of plasminogen activators is increased with subsequent plasmin generation [6], which may suggest the relationship between extension of thrombosis and increased inflammatory markers. In

**Table 5** ROC curve analysis of single and combined detection of D-dimer and NLR

Index	AUC	Cut-off value	95% <i>CI</i>	Sensitivity(%)	Specificity(%)	ΥI
D-dimer	0.719	1.335	0.616~0.823	74.3	61.8	0.361
NLR	0.707	5.170	0.605~0.809	42.9	93.1	0.360
Combination	0.786	9.650	0.693~0.879	65.7	84.3	0.500

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the acute phase, neutrophil counts elevate and lymphocyte counts decrease, which could be the primary nonspecific reaction of the immune system [29]. It was also reported that after the initiating stimuli of neutrophil, platelets aggregate in the core of the thrombus, produce proinflammatory molecules, and lead to the formation and progression of pathological thrombosis [30, 31]. As a measurement of the size variation of circulating red blood cells, RDW was also associated with vein thrombosis, ischemic stroke and intracranial hemorrhage after CVST [16, 32]. Consistent with these findings, our results also demonstrated significantly higher levels of neutrophil count and RDW, and lower levels of lymphocyte counts in patients with poor outcome.

The NLR, PLR, LMR and RPR are calculated ratios from the lymphocyte, neutrophil, platelet counts and RDW, which are conveniently obtained from standard blood samples. Previous studies have indicated associations between NLR, LMR and PLR with CVST, suggesting these inflammatory factors may have predictive value for the presence of CVST [30, 33, 34]. In addition, RPR, a novel potential indicator of inflammatory processes, has been shown to independently predict poor prognosis after spontaneous intracerebral hemorrhage [35]. However, studies investigating the role of these indicators in relation to the clinical outcome of CVST patients remain limited. Recently, Wang et al. reported that higher NLR in CVST patients was significantly related to poor short-term outcome [19]. Our findings also demonstrated a significant positive correlation between NLR, RPR and the short-term outcome after CVST, suggesting a more common inflammatory state in patients with poor outcome. To our knowledge, this is the first study to propose that elevated RPR may correlate with unfavorable prognosis in CVST patients. Since the multivariable logistic regression analysis found no statistical significance, further investigations on the potential association of RPR with the outcome of CVST are required. In addition, we verified that elevated NLR was an independent prognostic indicator. The ROC curve showed that baseline NLR was statistically predictive of the functional outcome of CVST, with an AUC of 0.707 and an optimal cut-off value of 5.170.

D-dimer is a specific degradation product of the cross-linked fibrin after being degraded by plasmin, reflecting the activation of the coagulation system and fibrinolysis [31, 36]. Several studies have observed that D-dimer elevation was associated with diverse thrombotic vascular conditions and inflammatory conditions [37]. D-dimer has been widely used in the diagnosis of CVST [38]. Moreover, high D-dimer levels correlate with greater thrombus extension and risk of intracranial hemorrhage in patients with CVT [15, 16]. Our study further

confirms that elevated D-dimer level on admission is independently associated with poor recovery. In addition, D-dimer was found to have an AUC of 0.719, with a sensitivity of 74.3% and a specificity of 61.8%, which may be a valuable marker for predicting the short-term outcome.

Although D-dimer was reported to be sensitive in CVST, its specificity was moderate, and therefore could return false positive results in various conditions such as pregnancy or the postpartum state, malignancy or as result of other inflammatory process [39]. Furthermore, our result showed relatively low sensitivity for NLR compared to its high specificity. To further improve its predictive value, we combined these two indicators and found that the combined detection of NLR and D-dimer had an AUC of 0.786, a sensitivity of 65.7%, a specificity of 84.3%, and its efficacy was superior to that of a single detection. Therefore, we propose that NLR and D-dimer could be detected together to improve the accuracy of predicting poor prognosis in patients with CVST. In addition, these results suggest that anticoagulant therapy accompanied by anti-inflammatory drugs at an early stage in treatment may further improve the functional outcome of CVST, however further studies are needed to confirm this.

Our study has several limitations. Firstly, due to the retrospective and single-center nature of this study, the sample size was relatively small and some patients were missing data. Secondly, although relative strict inclusion and exclusion criteria were adopted, heterogeneity in the sample remained which may bias the results. Thirdly, the association between these indicators and the long-term functional outcome in patients treated for CVST needs to be further explored in longitudinal research.

## **Conclusions**

In CVST patients, high D-dimer level and NLR on admission were found to be associated with an increased risk of poor functional outcome at discharge. In addition, these two indicators might have predictive value for the short-term prognosis of CVST. Further research on the mechanisms underpinning these observations are required in order to identify the appropriate therapeutic strategies for these patients.

#### Abbreviations

APTT Activated partial thromboplastin time

Apo Apolipoprotein
AUC Area under the curve
CI Confidence interval

CVST Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis

Hb Hemoglobin

HDL-C High density lipoprotein cholesterol LDL-C Low density lipoprotein cholesterol LMR Lymphocyte to monocyte ratio

MCHC Mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration

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MCV	Mean corpuscular volume
MPV	Mean platelet volume
mRS	The modified Rankin Scale
MRV	Magnetic resonance venogram
NLR	Neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio
OR	Odds ratio

PI R Platelet to lymphocyte ratio

PLT Platelet

РΤ Prothrombin time RDW Red cell distribution width ROC Receiver operating characteristic

RPR Red blood cell distribution width to platelet ratio

TC Total cholesterol TG Triglyceride TT Thrombin time.

## **Supplementary Information**

The online version contains supplementary material available at https://doi. org/10.1186/s12883-022-03030-4.

Additional file 1: Supplementary Table 1. Collinearity test for clinical

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Not applicable.

#### Authors' contributions

XL, ML and CF designed and coordinated the study. RS, ZG, QD and CS collected the data. RS, WW and GY analyzed the data and drafted the manuscript. FH, ML and XB revised the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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### Availability of data and materials

The datasets used during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

#### **Declarations**

#### Ethics approval and consent to participate

The studies involving human participants were approved by the Ethics Committee of Changhai Hospital, Shanghai, China. The need for informed consent was waived by the committee. All methods were carried out in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki and the relevant guidelines and regulations.

## Consent for publication

Not applicable.

#### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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