

### Niacin

#### Coagulopathy: case report

Following admission for arrhythmias, laboratory testing revealed isolated clotting factor abnormalities in a 61-year-old man; there were no apparent signs of frank hepatic injury. Prothrombin time was 16.6s and his fibrinogen, factor V and factor VII levels were 162 mg/dL and 21% and 31%, respectively. His medical history was notable for hyperlipidaemia, coronary disease and Gilbert's syndrome, and his medications included sustained-release niacin 2000 mg/day (for 4 years), atorvastatin, aspirin, fish oil, amitriptyline, levothyroxine and multivitamins. Niacin was discontinued and 4 weeks later the results of repeated laboratory tests were normal.

**Author comment:** *"This case appears to show niacin induced synthetic inhibition of clotting factors of hepatic origin, without evidence of overt hepatic injury."*

Ahmed A, et al. Coagulopathy secondary to niacin therapy. 22nd Congress of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis : 544 abstr. PP-MO-661, 11 Jul 2009. Available from: URL: <http://www.isth2009.com> [abstract] - USA

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