

Coagulation Disorders

Basic Definitions

- Ecchymosis
 - Bruise
 - Most common complication during blood collection
 - Leakage of small amount of fluid around tissue
 - Prevented by direct pressure
- Syncope
 - Fainting
 - 2nd most common complication
- Hematoma
 - Leakage of large amount of fluid around puncture site
 - Swelling
- Petechiae
 - Small red spots
 - Pinpoint size
 - Indicate small amount of blood escape into epithelium
- Purpura
 - Purple skin discoloration
 - 1 cm or greater in diameter
 - seen with mucocutaneous bleeding
- Telangiectasia
 - Permanent dilation of small blood vessels
 - Focused red lesions in skin or mucous membrane
 - fragile
 - Telangiectasis
 - Cherry-red hemangiomas
 - Louis-Bar
- Angioma
 - tumor made up of blood vessels or lymph vessels
 - 2-6 mm
 - usually seen on trunk
- Hematuria
 - Blood in urine
- Epistaxis
 - Nose bleed

Hemorrhagic Coagulation Disorders

- Bleeding from multiple sites, recurring and spontaneous, or bleeding which requires intervention is evidence of a disorder or primary or secondary hemostasis
- Soft Tissue Hemorrhage: acquired or congenital plasma procoagulant deficiencies
 - Anatomic bleeding
 - Most are internal with few visible signs
- Hemarthroses: joint bleeds
 - Swelling and acute pain
 - Can cause permanent cartilage damage
- Mucocutaneous hemorrhage:
 - Purpura
 - Petechiae
 - Ecchymoses
 - Menorrhagia
 - Bleeding from gums
 - Epistaxis
 - Tends to be associated with:
 - thrombocytopenia
 - qualitative platelet disorders
 - vWD
 - scurvy
 - telangiectasia

Acquired Hemorrhagic Disorders

- Most are secondary to chronic disease
1. Trauma-Induced Coagulopathy
 - Accounts for most instances of fatal hemorrhage
 - Triggered by the combination of injury-related acute inflammation, hypothermia, acidosis and hypoperfusion (systemic shock)
 - A. Massive Transfusion
 - a. Massive hemorrhage defined as:
 - i. Blood loss exceeding total blood volume within 24 hours
 - ii. Loss of 50% of blood volume within a 3-hour period
 - iii. Blood loss exceeding 150mL/min
 - iv. Blood loss that necessitates plasma and platelet transfusion
 - B. Plasma donation
 - a. New term is FP-24, moving away from previous term of FFP
 - C. Platelet Concentration
 - a. Usually only when platelet count falls below 50,000/uL
 - D. Concentrates

2. Liver Disease

- Produces nearly all plasma coagulation factors and regulatory proteins
- Causes of suppression
 - Hepatitis
 - Cirrhosis
 - Obstructive jaundice
 - Disorder of bilirubin metabolism
- Suppression of hepatocytes which will reduce concentrations or function of plasma coagulation factors to less than hemostatic levels (<40 units/dL)
- Affects production of vitamin K dependent factors (II, VII, IX, X, C, S, Z)
 - VII first to show decreased activity
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ life = 6 hours
- *Declining factor V is specific marker of liver disease*
 - Differentiates vitamin K deficiency from liver disease (FV is not Vit. K Dependent)
- Decrease of fibrinogen < 100 mg/dL is a mark of liver failure
- Dysfibrinogenemia is seen in moderate liver disease
 - Prolonged PT and RT
- vWF, VIII, XIII can be normal or elevated
- *Thrombocytopenia occurs in 1/3 of the cases of liver disease*
- *Alcohol toxicity suppresses platelet production*
- DIC in Liver Disease
 - Significant complication of liver disease
 - *Decreased production of AT, protein C, or protein S and release of procoagulants*
 - Liver does not clear these procoagulants
 - Acute
 - PT, PTT, TT prolonged
 - Fibrinogen < 100 mg/dL
 - Increased FDPs
 - Chronic and compensated
 - Abnormal D-dimer
- Laboratory Testing
 - Factor V and VII assays
 - Differentiate vitamin K deficiency and liver disease
 - Confirmation of systemic fibrinolysis
 - Plasminogen deficiency
 - Increased D-dimer / FDPs
 - Reptilase time
 - Confirms dysfibrinogenemia (significantly prolonged)

3. Renal Failure and Hemorrhage

- Chronic renal failure associations
 - Platelet dysfunction
 - Mucocutaneous bleeding
 - Acute GI bleeding
 - Decreased PLT adhesion/aggregation
 - Decreased RBC mass and thrombocytopenia

- Hemostasis Activation Syndromes
 - Deposits fibrin into renal microvasculature which reduces glomerular filtration
 - DIC
 - HUS
 - TTP
 - Cause thrombocytopenia → bleeding
 - PT and PTT are expected to be normal
 - Bleeding time may be prolonged
- Nephrotic Syndrome
 - Increased glomerular permeability
 - Associations
 - Amyloidosis
 - Diabetic glomerulosclerosis
 - SLE
 - Glomerulonephritis
 - Renal vein thrombosis
 - LMW proteins and procoagulants found in urine
 - Coagulation factors II, VII, IX, X, XII, antithrombin and protein C been found in the urine

4. Vitamin K Deficiency

- γ -carboxylation cycle is interrupted
- Causes
 - Biliary duct obstruction
 - Fat malabsorption
 - Chronic diarrhea
 - Broad spectrum antibiotics that disrupt gut flora
- Hemorrhagic Disease of Newborn
 - Breast feeding prolongs deficiency
- Antagonists
 - Warfarin
 - Coumadin
 - Disrupt vitamin K epoxide reductase and quinone reductase reactions → release of dysfunctional *des-gamma-carboxyl prothrombin* (VII, IX, X, C, S)
 - These inactive forms are called PIVKA factors
 - *Proteins Induced by Vit. K Antagonists*
- Lab Findings
 - Prolonged PT
 - PTT can be normal or prolonged
 - Mixing study yields normal results
 - Decreased factor VII (followed by IX, X and II)

5. Acquired Anti-VIII Inhibitor and Hemophilia

- Anti-VIII is most common acquired autoantibody
 - Highest risk when > 60 years of age or women 2-5 months pregnant
- Lab findings in acquired hemophilia
 - Prolonged PTT w/likely normal PT, TT

- Mixing study
 - Corrects on initial
 - Can be prolonged with incubation at 37 C
 - IgG isotype (time and temp dependent)
- Type I kinetics: linear in vitro neutralization over 1-2 hours
 - complete inactivation
- Type II kinetics: early rapid loss with residual activity
 - Intermediate equilibrium
- Quantified by Bethesda titer
- Treated with DDAVP or rFVIIIa

6. Acquired vWD

- Manifests w/moderate to severe mucocutaneous bleeding and no family history of bleeding
- Associations
 - Hypothyroidism
 - Lymphoproliferative or myeloproliferative disorders
 - Wilms tumor (nephroblastoma)
 - Congenital heart disease
 - HUS
 - Pesticide exposure
- Prolonged PTT is severe (\downarrow VWF and FVIII)
- Diminished ristocetin cofactor/VWF activity/VWF antigen

Congenital Hemorrhagic Disorders

1. vWD

- mucocutaneous bleeding disorder
- caused by quantitative or qualitative abnormality of vWF
 - vWF basics
 - Main function is platelet adhesion to subendothelial collagen in high shear stress
 - Synthesized in ER and stored in weibel-palade bodies of endothelial cells and platelet α -granules
 - abnormality causes \downarrow platelet adhesion impaired primary hemostasis
- *most prevalent congenital bleeding disorder!*
- normal plasma level 0.5 – 1 mg/dL
 - levels are normally lowest in O and highest in AB blood types
- Domain A
 - binding site for GP Ib/V/IX and supports collagen receptor site
- Domain C
 - provides a site that binds platelet receptor GPIIb/IIIa
- Domain D
 - binds factor VIII

2. Hemophilia A (classic)

- Congenital single factor deficiency marked by anatomic soft tissue bleeding
- 85% of all hemophiliacs
- Factor VIII deficiency
 - Factor VIII deteriorates \sim 5% per hour at RT in vitro

- X chromosome abnormality
- Male hemizygotes experience anatomic bleeding
 - Females are carriers
- All sons of hemophiliac men are normal if non-carrier mom
 - Daughters are carriers
- 30% arise from spontaneous germline mutations (no family history)
- Rare symptomatic females
 - True homozygosity or double heterozygosity
 - Extreme lyonization
 - Disproportional inactivation of X chromosome with normal gene
- Factor VIII inhibitor in about ~30% of severe hemophilia cases (3% in moderate cases)
- Clinical manifestations
 - Deep muscle and joint hemorrhage
 - Hematomas
 - Wound oozing
 - Bleeding into CNS, GI, kidneys
 - Inflammation with chronic joint bleeds
 - Cranial bleeds → neurological symptoms
- Severity is *inversely* proportional to factor VIII activity
 - <1% activity: severe
 - 1-5%: moderate
 - 5-40%: mild
 - hemorrhage follows significant trauma
- 70% cases treated before 1984 were HIV (+) or died from AIDS
- Lab Findings
 - Prolonged PTT
 - 90% of female carriers are detected using the ratio of factor VIII activity to vWF antigen (VWF unaffected by ↓ FVIII)
 - ratio below normal lower limit → carrier
 - If FVIII level is >30%, no inhibitor is likely
 - If FVIII level is <30%, mixing study is needed
 - Bethesda Assay (Nijmegen-Bethesda)
 - If inhibitor is suggested
 - Normal plasma providing 100 units/dL factor activity mixed at increasing dilutions (decreasing conc.) in a series of tubes with full-strength patient plasma
 - The FVIII assays are performed and the results of the dilutions are expressed as titer (BU)

3. Hemophilia B-Factor IX deficiency

- Christmas disease
- ~14% hemophilia
- PTT prolonged
- Inhibitors present in ~3%

4. Hemophilia C (Rosenthal Syndrome)

- Factor IX Deficiency

5. Factor V deficiency

- Prolonged bleeding
- PT and PTT prolonged
- DRVVT prolonged

6. Factor X deficiency

- PT and PTT prolonged
- DRVVT prolonged

7. Factor XIII deficiency

- Weak clot; dissolves ~2 hours in 5 M urea
- Normal PT, PTT, TT

Vascular Disorders

Hereditary Vascular Disorders

1. *Telangiectasis/Rendu-Weber-Osler syndrome*

- *Thin walled blood vessels* with discontinuous endothelium
- Inadequate smooth muscle and elastin
- Telangiectasia on face, lips, tongue, nasal mucosa, fingers, toes, trunk
- Lesions blanch with pressure
- Manifests at puberty
- *Epistaxis* is universal finding
- Symptoms worsen with age
- Normal bleeding time
- Diagnosis: characteristic skin/mucous lesions

2. *Kasabach-Merritt/hemangioma thrombocytopenia*

- Present at birth
- Visceral or subcutaneous hemangiomas
 - May become engorged with blood
- DIC
- Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia

3. *Ehlers-Danlos*

- Hyperextensible skin
- Hypermobile joints
- Joint laxity
- Fragile tissues
- Bleeding tendency
- *Defects in collagen*
 - Structure
 - Production
 - Cross-linking

→ inadequate connective tissue
- (+) tourniquet test and prolonged bleed time

Acquired Vascular Disorders

1. *Allergic Purpura/Henoch-Schonlein*

- Characterized by skin rash and edema
- Transient arthralgia
- Nephritis
- Abdominal pain
- *Palpable purpura*
 - Feet
 - Elbows
 - Knees
 - Buttocks

- Chest
- *Children 2-7 years*
 - Predominates in *boys*
- Sudden onset following *upper respiratory infection*
- Proteinuria and hematuria
- Elevated WBC and ESR
- Normal hemostasis testing

2. *Amyloidosis*

- Deposition of abnormal quantities of amyloid in tissues
- Clinical presentation
 - Purpura
 - Hemorrhage
 - Thrombosis

3. *Senile purpura*

- Elderly males
- Lack of collagen
- Flat dark blotches

4. *Drug induced purpura*

- Warfarin
- Barbiturates
- Diuretics
- Sulfonamides
- Iodides
- Massive generalize petechial eruptions

Qualitative Platelet Disorders

Disorders of Adhesion Receptors

1. Bernard Soulier

- *Giant platelets Syndrome*
- Manifested in infancy or childhood
- Characteristics
 - Ecchymoses
 - Epistaxis
 - Gingival bleeding
 - *Prolonged bleeding*
 - Thrombocytopenia
 - Decreased platelet survival
 - Inability to adhere to subendothelium
- *GP Ib/IX/V is missing or dysfunctional (Autosomal recessive)*
 - Most frequently involves defect in Ib synthesis or expression
 - Contains binding sites for vWF and thrombin
 - In contrast to VWD, this abnormality cannot be corrected by the addition of normal plasma or cryoprecipitate (defect resides in the platelets)
- No aggregation with ristocetin
 - Normal response to ADP, EPI, collagen, and arachidonic acid

2. Von Willebrand Disease

3. Acquired defects of platelet adhesion

- *Myeloproliferative and lymphoproliferative disorders*
- *Antiplatelet antibodies*
- *Cardiopulmonary bypass surgery*
- *Chronic Liver Disease*
- *Drug-induced membrane modification*

Disorders of Platelet Aggregation

1. Glanzmann Thrombasthenia

- Heterozygotes are normal
- Homozygotes
 - Severe bleeding problems
- Neonatal or infancy
- Manifestations
 - Epistaxis
 - Gingival bleeding
 - Disabling hemorrhage
 - Petechiae
 - Purpura
 - Menorrhagia
 - GI bleeding
 - Hematuria
- *Deficiency or abnormality of GP IIb/IIIa (no fibrinogen binding)*
 - defect in platelet plug formation

- Lab findings
 - Normal platelet count and morphology
 - Markedly prolongs bleeding time
 - Lack of aggregation with all platelet activating agents
 - Ristocetin induced binding to vWF is normal

2. *Hereditary afibrinogenemia*

3. *Acquired defects of platelet aggregation*

- *acquired von Willebrand disease*
- *acquired uremia*

Disorders of Platelet Secretion

1. *Storage Pool diseases*

a. *Dense Granule Deficiency*

- Non-albinos
 - Normal levels of granules
 - Defect in ability to package → serotonin accumulation
- Albinism
 - Easy bruising
 - Mild bleeding
- Lack of aggregation caused by lack of ADP secretion
 - Hermansky-Pudlak
 - Chediak-Higashi
 - Wiskott Alderich
 - TAR (Thrombocytopenia with Absent Radii Syndrome)

b. *Alpha Granule Deficiency*

i. *Gray platelet syndrome*

- Mild bleeding tendency
- Prolonged bleeding time
- Moderate thrombocytopenia
- Fibrosis of marrow
- Large platelets
- ATP release in response to thrombin is reduced

2. *Thromboxane Pathway Disorder*

- Hereditary absence or abnormalities of components of thromboxane pathway
 - Series of phospholipases catalyze the release of arachidonic acid and other compounds from membrane phospholipids
 - Arachidonic acid is converted to intermediate prostaglandins by cyclooxygenase
 - Those intermediate prostaglandins are converted to thromboxane A₂ by thromboxane synthase
 - Thromboxane A₂ (with other compounds) mobilizes calcium from internal stores into the cytoplasm initiating events leading to secretion and aggregation of platelets
- Aspirin like defects

3. *Inherited disorders of receptors and signaling pathways*

- Collagen Receptors defects (GP Ia/IIa or GP VI)
- ADP Receptors defects (P2X₁, P2Y₁ and P2Y₁₂)
- Epinephrine Receptor (α_2 -adrenergic receptor) defects
- Scott syndrome
 - Platelets do not transport phospholipids to outer membrane
 - Platelet plug is not stabilized due to lack of fibrin
- Stomorken syndrome
 - Platelets always in activated state

Thrombocytopenia and Thrombocytosis (Quantitative)

Thrombocytopenia

- Platelet count < 100,000/uL (reference range 150,000 – 450,000/uL)
- Most common cause of clinically significant bleeding
- Impaired/Decreased Production
 - Megakaryocyte hypoplasia in BM
 - Congenital
 - Lack of adequate megakaryocytes or decreased thrombopoiesis
 - Fanconi anemia
 - pancytopenia
 - TAR syndrome
 - Rare autosomal recessive disorder
 - Neonatal thrombocytopenia (platelet count actually increases with age)
 - Hypoplasia of radial bones of forearms
 - Elevated WBC
 - Wiskott-Alderich
 - X linked
 - Bernard-Soulier
 - MYH9-Related Diseases (nonmuscle myosin heavy chain gene) –abnormal platelet size
 - May Hegglin anomaly
 - Autosomal dominant
 - Large platelets and thrombocytopenia (normal platelet activating agent responses)
 - Dohle-bodies in neutrophils
 - More rare: Sebastian syndrome, Fechtner syndrome and Epstein syndrome
 - Amegakaryocytic thrombocytopenia
 - autosomal recessive reflecting BM failure
 - Infants < 20,000 platelets at birth
 - Petichiae
 - Likely develop aplastic anemia before 1 year old
 - Reduced megakaryocyte progenitors and ↑ TPO (TPO receptor function is lost)
 - Neonatal Thrombocytopenia
 - Many types
 - Causes:
 - TORCH (**t**oxoplasmosis, **o**ther (*Treponema pallidum*, varicella-zoster virus, parvovirus B19), **r**ubella, **c**ytomegalovirus [CMV], **h**erpes)
 - Drug exposure in utero (sulfonamides)
 - Decrease or absence of megakaryocytes in neonates
 - Acquired
 - Drugs
 - Chemotherapeutic agents
 - Ethanol ingestion (months to years of excessive use)
 - Interferon therapy

- Ineffective thrombosis
 - Megaloblastic anemias
 - Thrombocytopenia caused by impaired DNA synthesis
 - Deformed megakaryocytes in BM
 - Large platelets in PB that have shortened survival time and abnormal function
- Viruses
- Bacteria
- Malignancy
- Increased Platelet Destruction
 - Immunologic responses
 - ITP
 - Idiopathic; no etiology
 - Acute
 - Children 2-5 years
 - Abrupt bruising, petechiae, mucosal bleeding
 - 1-3 weeks after infection (upper respiratory or GI virus)
 - self-limited
 - 3-4% considered severe with $<10,000$ platelets
 - binding of antibodies from previous infections to platelets
 - Chronic
 - Most prevalent in women 20-50 years
 - Mucocutaneous bleeding, menorrhagia, epistaxis, ecchymoses
 - Caused by autoantibodies attached to platelets → shortened platelet lifespan
 - Increased platelet volume
 - Both chronic and acute will show abnormal platelet function test results
 - Drug induced
 - Quinidine/quinine/sulfonamide derivatives
 - Abrupt onset of bleeding symptoms
 - Drug combines with antibody and binds platelets by Fab regions
 - Fc regions of immunoglobulin still available to bind to Fc receptors of phagocytic cells
 - Platelet count drops rapidly and often may be $<10,000/\mu\text{L}$
 - Hapten- dependent
 - Drug combines with a carrier molecule (usually plasma protein) to then act as a complete antigen
 - Penicillin and penicillin derivatives
 - Platelet count rapidly declines and can be as low as $<1,000/\mu\text{L}$
 - Drug induced autoantibodies
 - Drugs stimulate formation of autoantibody that binds platelet in absence of drug
 - HIT (Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia)
 - Binding of therapeutic heparin to platelet factor 4 (PF4) or binding of PF4 to the platelet membrane causes conformational change in PF4
 - This creates exposed neoepitopes
 - The Fab portion of an IgG binds to the PF4 neoepitope
 - The Fc portion of the IgG binds with the platelet FcγIIa receptor, leading to platelet activation and aggregation

- %-14 days after exposure to heparin, platelet counts rarely dip below 15,000/uL
 - Mild thrombocytopenia is more common
- NAIT
 - Neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia
 - Mother lacks platelet specific antigen that fetus inherits from father
 - She makes antibodies to that fetal antigen
 - Scattered petechiae and purpuric hemorrhage soon after birth
- Neonatal autoimmune
 - Passive transplacental transfer of antibodies from mother with ITP or systemic lupus erythematosus
- PTP
 - Post transfusion purpura
 - Plasma from recipient contain alloantibodies to antigens on platelets of transfused product
 - Multiparous middle aged women
- Nonimmunologic Responses
 - Mechanical damage
 - platelet interaction to nonendothelial surfaces
 - Thrombocytopenia in pregnancy and preclampsia
 - Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn
 - TTP (Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura)
 - *Moscowitz syndrome*
 - Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia
 - Thrombocytopenia
 - Neurologic abnormalities
 - Hemolysis usually sever (less than 10 mg/dL Hgb)
 - Directly related to accumulation of ultralarge von Willebrand factor (UL-VWF) multimers in the plasma
 - In normal plasma the UL-VWF multimers are rapidly cleaved into smaller VWF multimers by the VWF-cleaving protease ADAMTS13
 - Treatment: Therapeutic plasma exchange (TPE) with FFP
 - 1st: some of UL-VWF removed by apheresis
 - 2nd: plasma supplies the deficient ADAMTS13 protease
 - HUS (Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome)
 - Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia
 - more common than TTP
 - 90% of cases caused by *Shigella dysenteriae* serotypes or enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* OH serotypes (*E. coli* O157)
 - Toxins enter the bloodstream and attach to renal glomerular capillary endothelial cells
 - become damaged/swollen and release UL-VWF
 - can also be caused by certain drugs
 - Cardinal signs of HUS:
 - Hemolytic anemia, renal failure, and thrombocytopenia
 - Thrombocytopenia more mild in comparison to TTP

- DIC (Disseminated intravascular coagulation)
 - activation of coagulation cascade (many causes) resulting in a consumptive coagulopathy that entraps platelets in intravascular fibrin clots
 - similar to TTP including MAHA and deposition of thrombi in arterial circulation of most organs
 - DIC = red clots whereas TTP = white clots

Acute DIC

- Severe thrombocytopenia with decreased FV, FVIII and fibrinogen
- D-dimer is positive

Chronic DIC

- clotting factors may be slightly reduced or normal and compensatory thrombocytopoiesis results in lower to normal platelet counts
- D-dimer not usually elevated but can be slightly increased

- Purpura Fulminans
 - devastating thrombotic disorder (often acute and fatal)
 - mirror symptoms of DIC
 - can be presenting feature of acute sepsis from bacterial infection
 - inflammatory response where coagulation and complement pathways are on overdrive which leads to increased bleeding

Thrombocytosis

- Defined as abnormally high platelet count, typically $>450,000/\mu\text{L}$
- Reactive thrombocytosis used to describe elevation of platelet count secondary to inflammation
- Marked and persistent elevation in platelet count is hallmark of myeloproliferative disorders
- Reactive Thrombocytosis
 - Platelet counts between 450,000 to 800,000/ μL with no change in platelet function
 - Reactive Thrombocytosis Associated with Hemorrhage or Surgery
 - Platelet count can be low for 2-6 days but rebounds to slightly elevated levels
 - Normal levels by 10-16 days after the blood loss
 - Postsplenectomy Thrombocytosis
 - Platelet count can exceed 1 million/ μL
 - Spleen normally sequesters 1/3 of circulating platelets at any given time
 - Thrombocytosis Associated with Iron Deficiency Anemia
 - Believed iron plays a role in regulating thrombopoiesis
 - Platelet count as high as 2 million have been seen in IDA with return to normal when iron treatment is administered
 - Thrombocytosis Associated with Inflammation and Disease
 - Similar to elevation in C-reactive protein, fibrinogen and VWF and other acute phase reactants
 - *Kawasaki disease*
 - Disorder caused by inflammation of the walls of small and medium-sized arteries throughout the body
 - Exercise-Induced Thrombocytosis
 - Rebound Thrombocytosis
- Thrombocytosis Associated with Myeloproliferative Disorders
 - Common finding in four chronic myeloproliferative disorders including:
 - Polycythemia vera
 - Chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML)
 - Myelofibrosis with myeloid metaplasia (primary myelofibrosis)
 - Essential thrombocythemia (ET)
 - ET is a chronic myeloproliferative neoplasm
 - Most common cause of thrombocytosis when reactive thrombocytosis can be excluded
 - Platelets of 1 million/ μL and proliferation of marrow megakaryocytes
 - Persistent elevation of platelet count is an absolute requirement for diagnosis
 - ET presents with hemorrhage, platelet dysfunction and thrombosis
 - Thrombosis in microvasculature or larger vasculature can occur
 - Lab Findings:
 - Platelet size is heterogeneous and platelets may be notable clumped on smears
 - Platelets may look agranular or hypogranular
 - Giant or misshapen platelets is common finding
 - Aggregation usually absent in response to EPI and ADP; Normal