

# Veterinærdagene 2024

13.-15. mars, Bergen



Seksjonen er sponset av



Torsdag 14. mars

## Program for Smådyr

# Coagulation abnormalities–Diagnostic approach

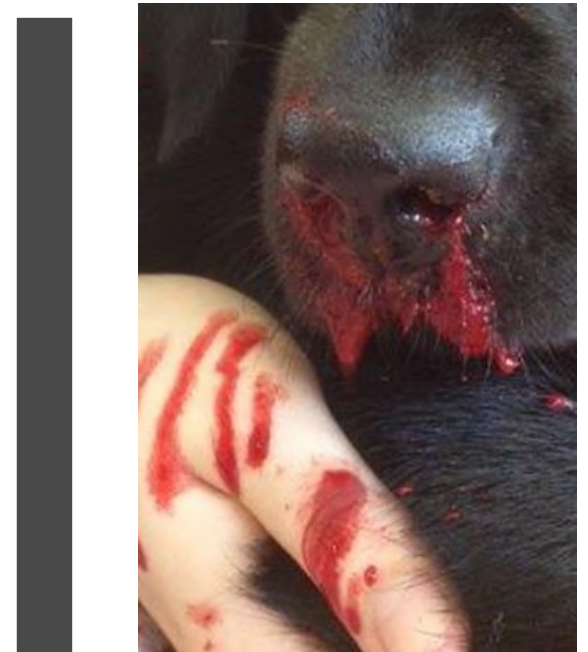
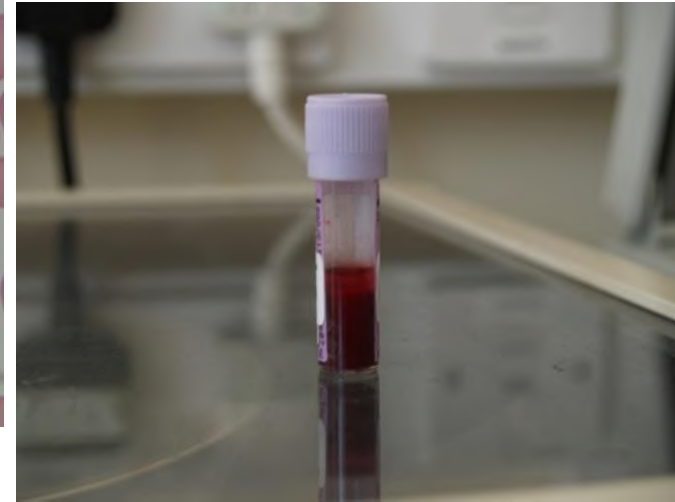
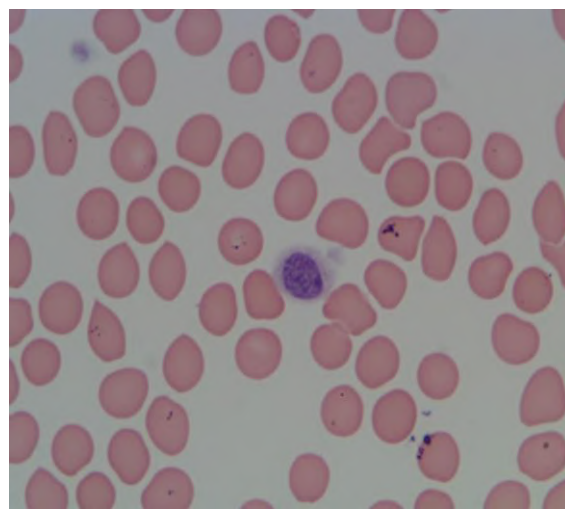
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## Content

- Clotting – Some definitions
- Clinical aspects - Why do we do test?
- The In-clinic Laboratory – Diagnostics
- Coagulation abnormalities - Causes
- Summary - Quiz

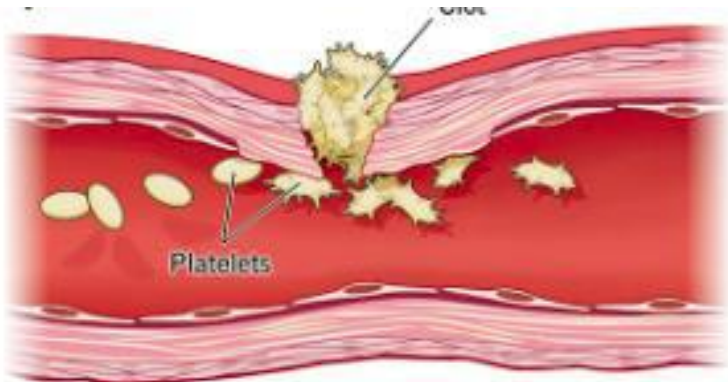
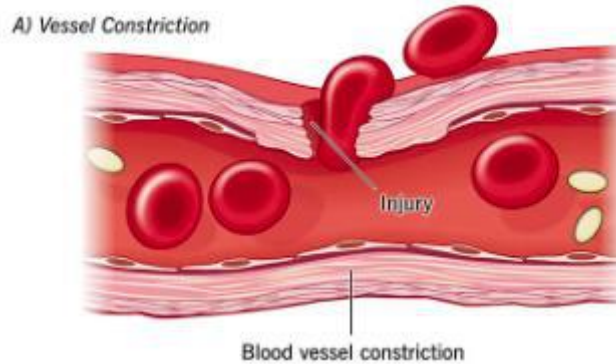
# CLOTTING (HAEMOSTASIS) -DEFINITIONS

- Haemostasis is a complex process involving the vessel wall, platelets and coagulation proteins (= clotting factors; synthesised in the liver).
- Injury to vessel wall leads to two main events
  - involving the vessel wall, platelets (**PRIMARY Haemostasis**)
  - the coagulation proteins (**SECONDARY Haemostasis**).
- The end product of haemostasis is a solid clot composed of **fused activated platelets** surrounded **by a mesh of fibrin strands**.
- Excessive clot formation is prevented by FIBRINOLYSIS
  - is the breakdown of fibrin within the blood clots (**TERTIARY Haemostasis**)

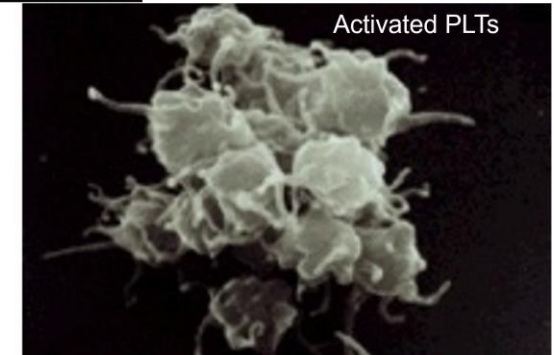
# Haemostasis

- **Primary haemostasis**

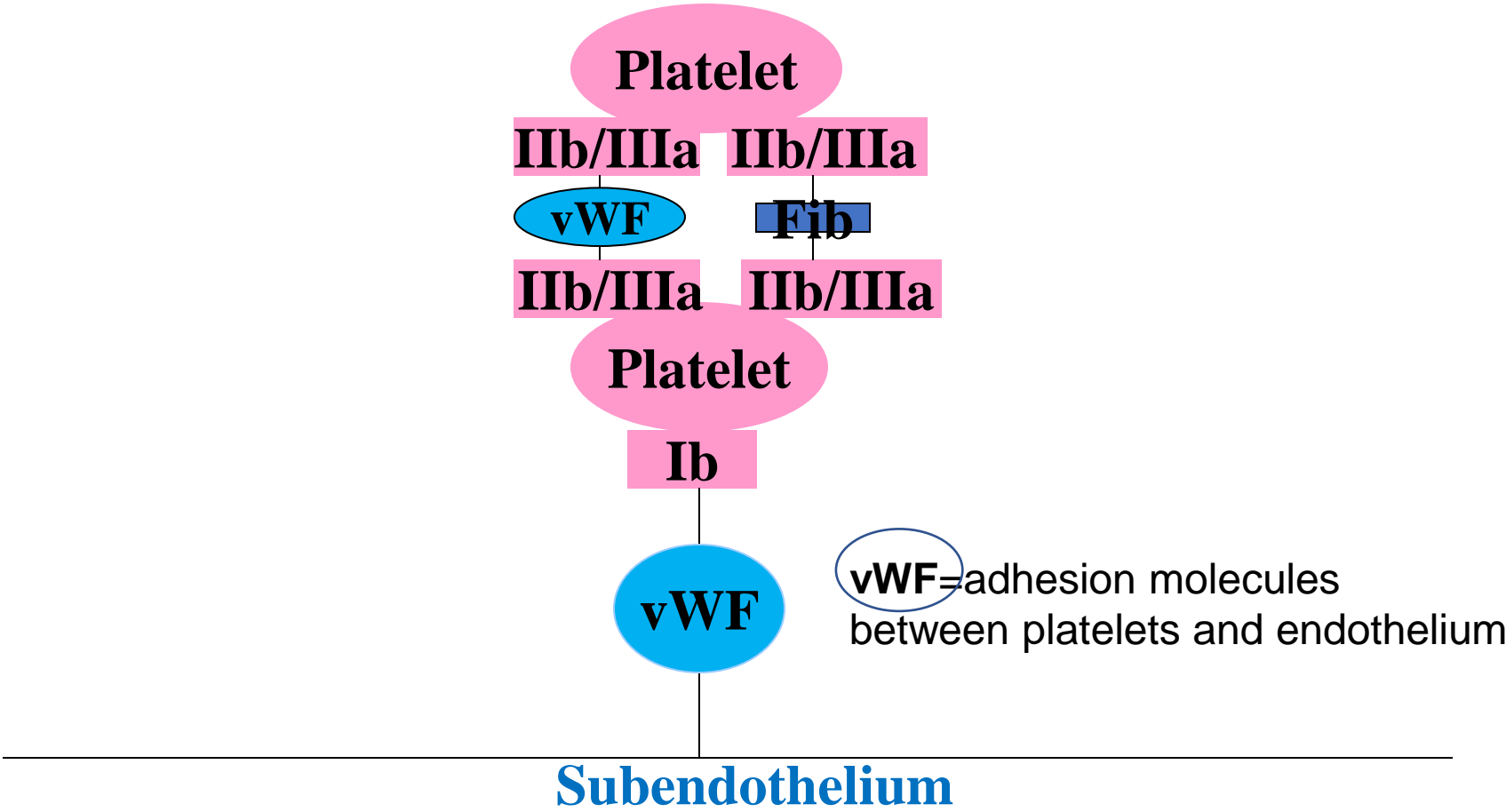
- Vasoconstriction
- Platelet activation
- Formation of platelet plug



Exposure of pseudopods on the outer platelet membrane provides the surface for coagulation factor assembly



Activated platelets adhere to each other and on the endothelium with vWF molecules

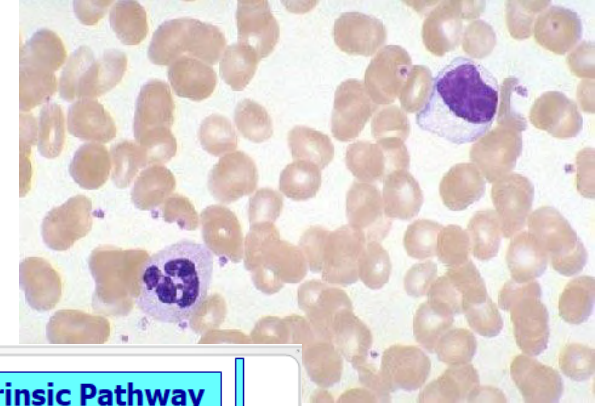




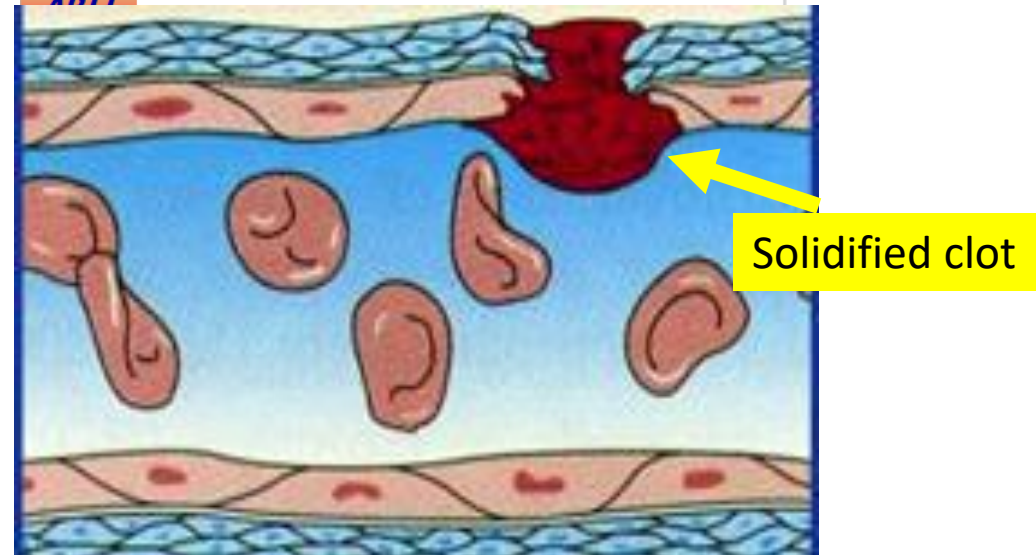
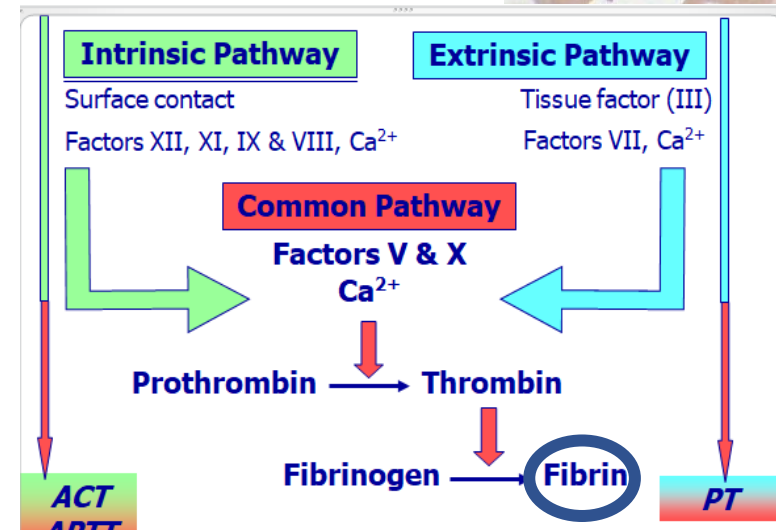
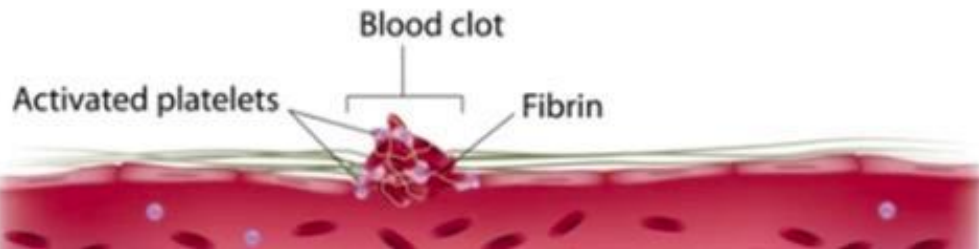
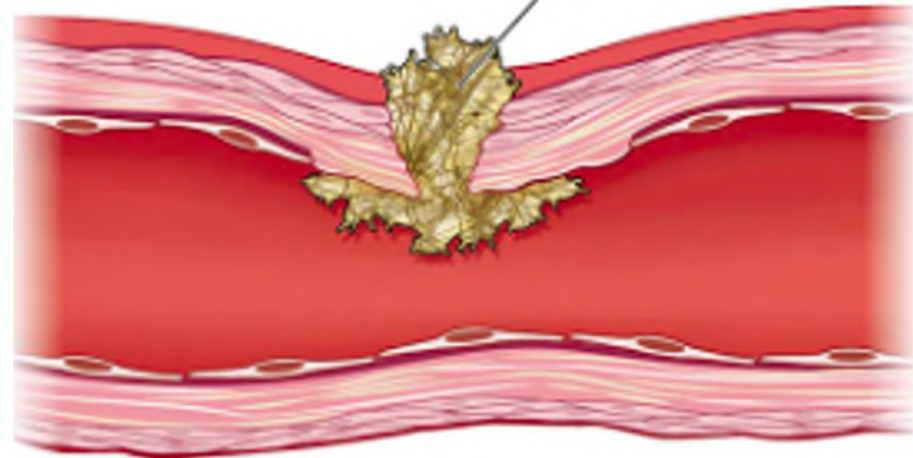
# Haemostasis

- **Secondary haemostasis**

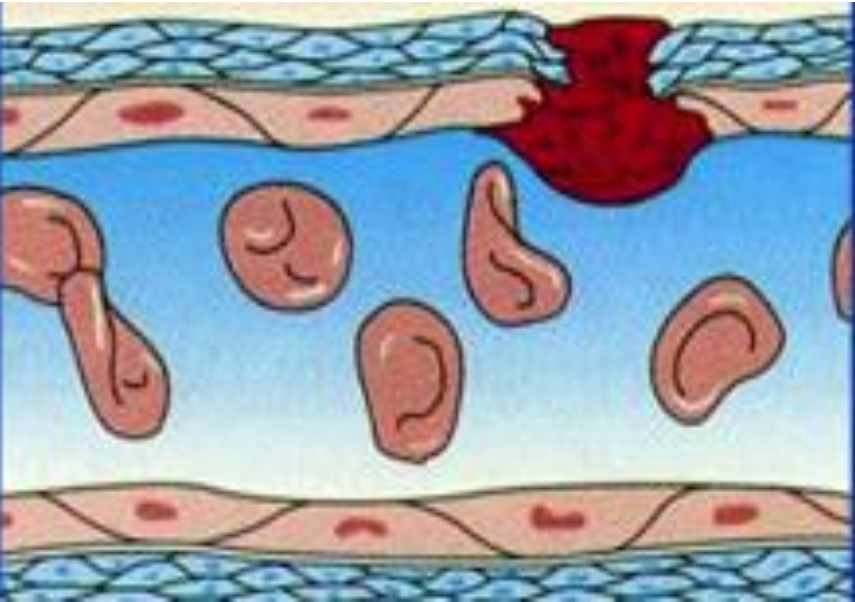
- Coagulation cascade results in FIBRIN SOLUBLE clot



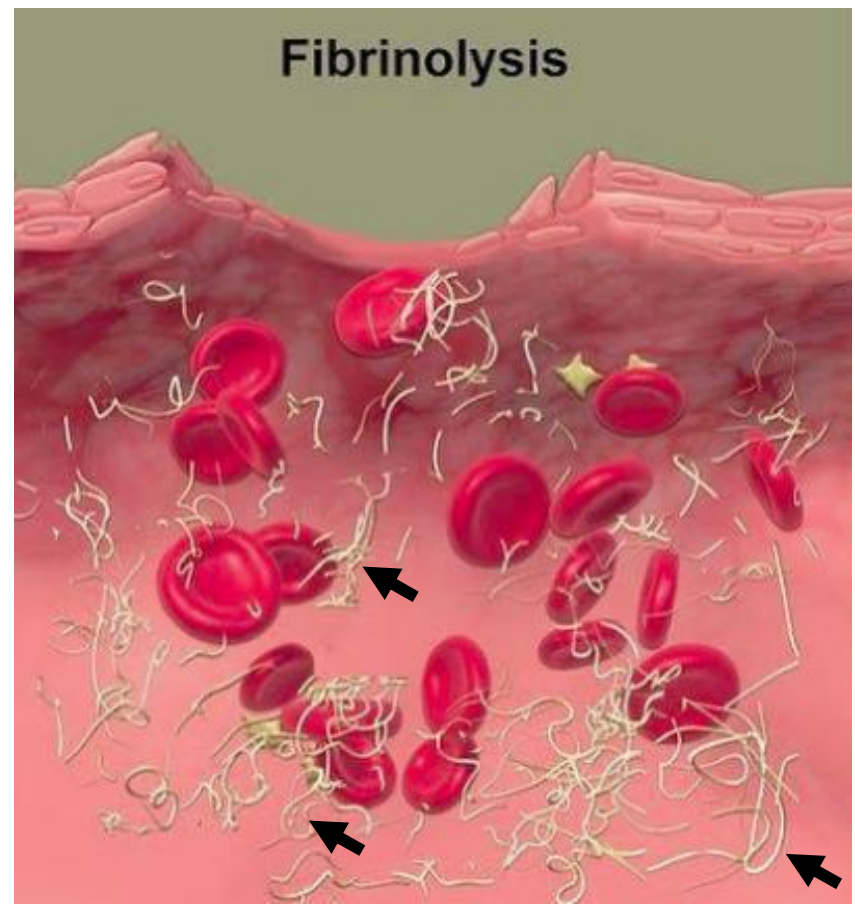
FIBRIN



Once injured endothelium is repaired



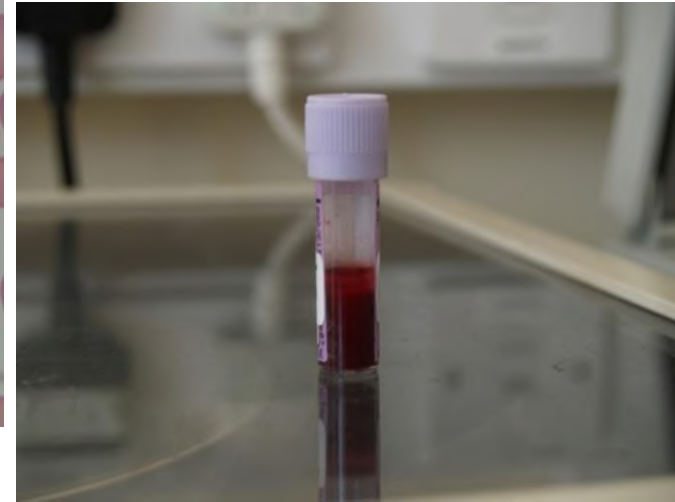
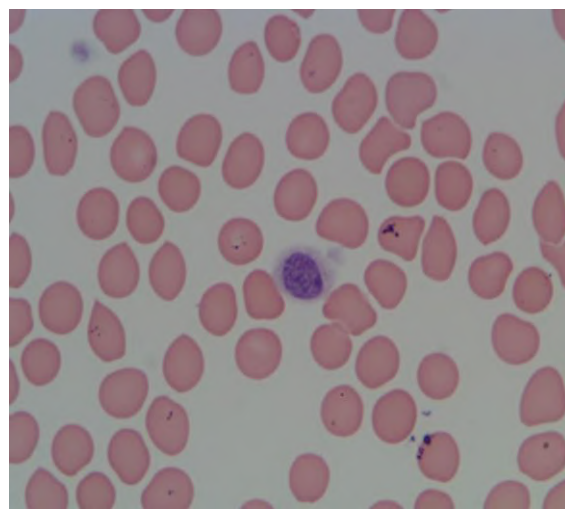
Clot retraction



Breakdown of Fibrin

Fibrin fragments





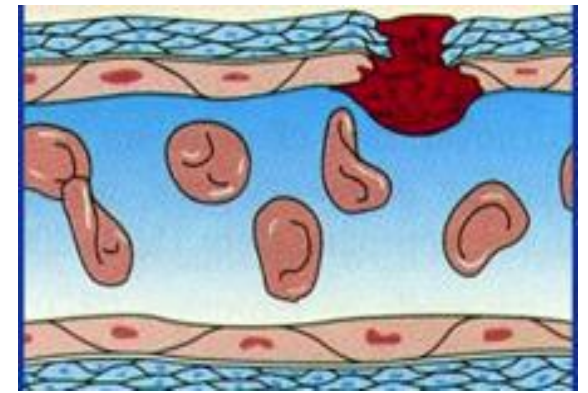
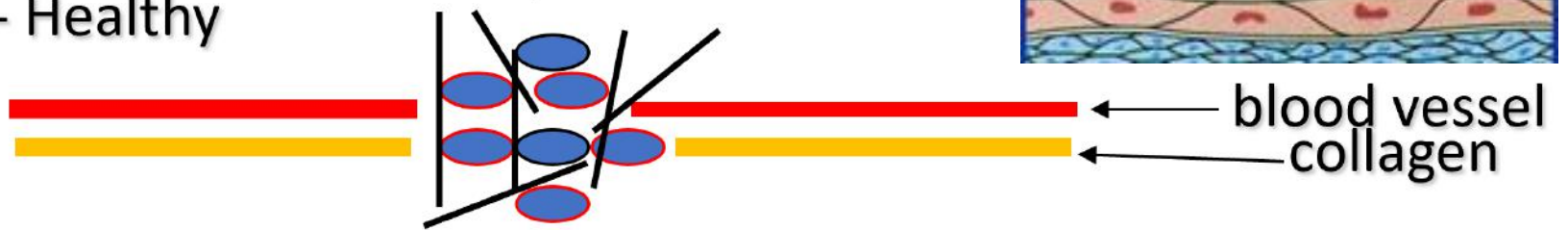
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- **Clinical aspects - Why do we do test?**
- The In-clinic Laboratory – Diagnostics
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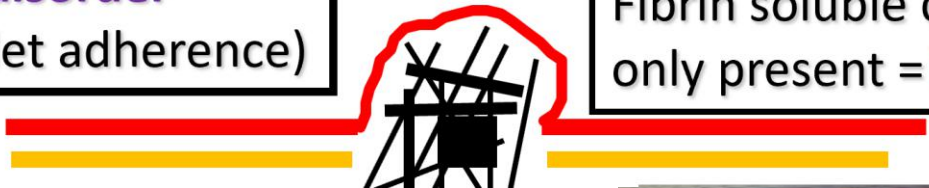
# Clinical presentation

NORMAL - Healthy



blood vessel  
collagen

**A. Primary haemostatic disorder**  
(No platelets or No platelet adherence)



Fibrin soluble clot/mesh of fibrin strands only present = **Petechia**



# Primary Haemostatic disorder = Petechiation-Ecchymosis





# Petechiation-Ecchymosis



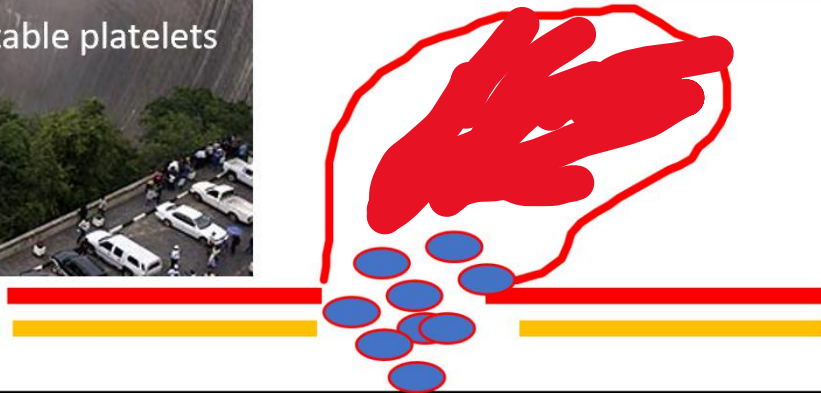


# Clinical presentation

NORMAL - Healthy



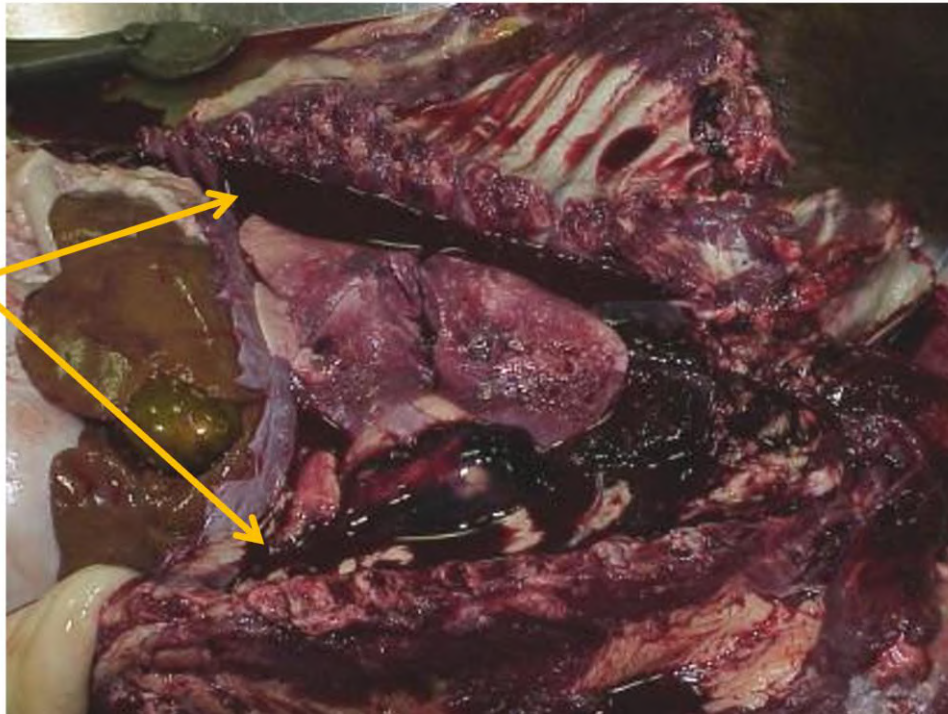
Broken unstable platelet plug leads to **Haematoma/Haemorrhage**



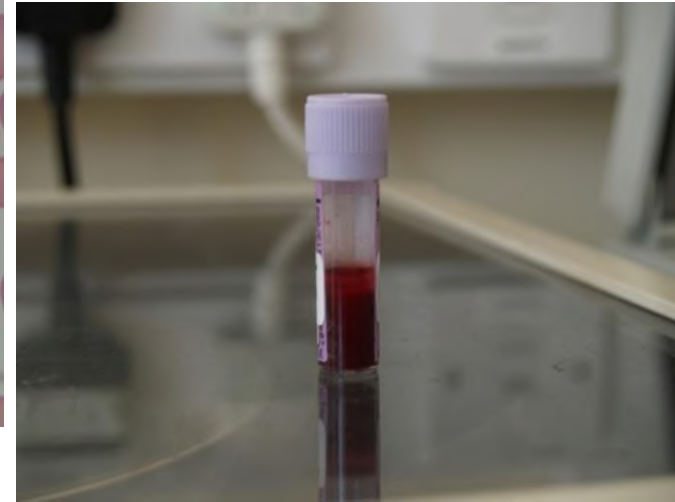
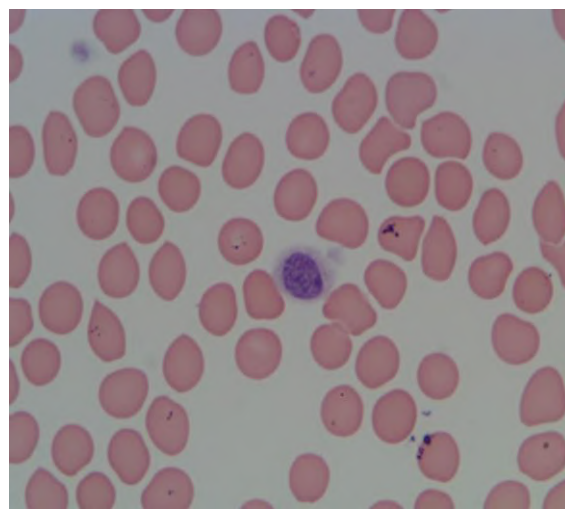
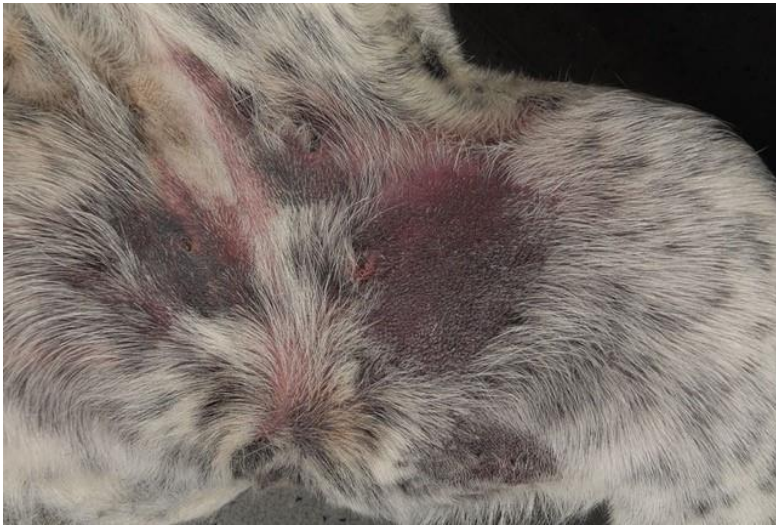
**B. Secondary haemostatic disorder** >> **No clotting factors** >> **No fibrin** >> **Unstable clot**

# Secondary haemostatic disorders = Large cavity bleeds/Re-bleeding /Haematomas /Haemorrhage

Haemothorax







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**A. Primary haemostatic disorder**  
**(No platelets or No platelet adherence)**



Fibrin soluble clot/mesh of fibrin strands only present = **Petechia**

**Thrombocytopenia**

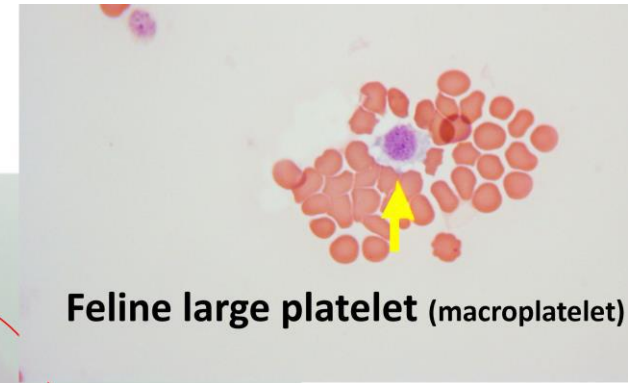
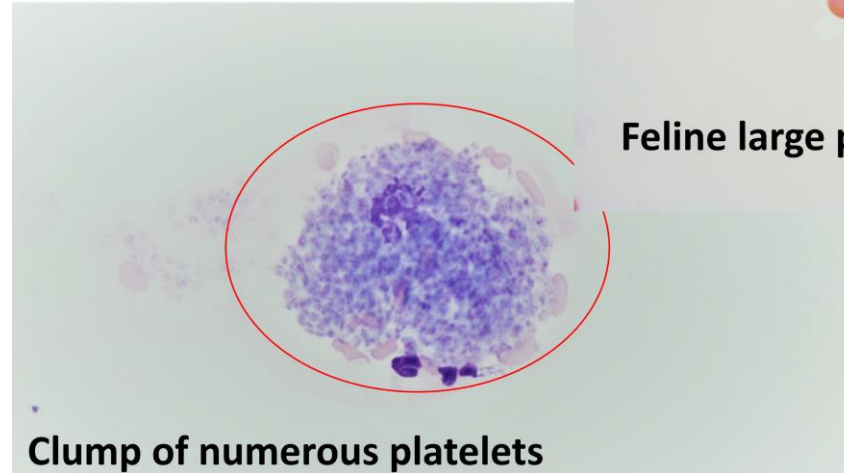


# Thrombocytopenia

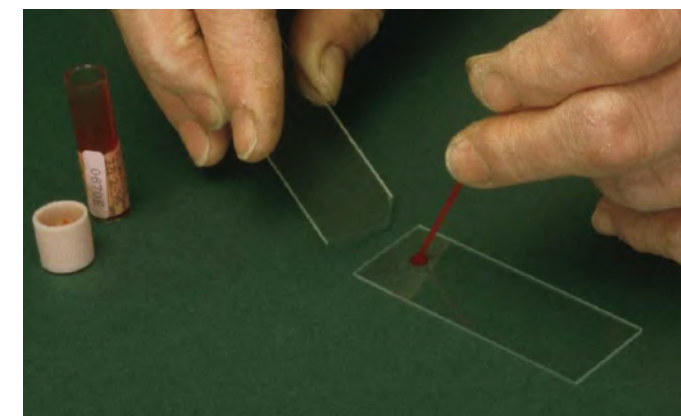
- Platelet count can be determined:
  - *In-clinic haematology analysers*

SmpID	1375		
PatiD	E82973E		
Name			
Mode	Dog		
Sex	---		
Doctor			
Test date	11.02.2021 01:49 PM		
Report date	11.02.2021 01:49 PM		
S/N	250623		
WBC	7.29 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	5.3	20
LYM	1.23 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	0.5	4.8
MON	0.01 - 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	0.1	1.5
NEU	5.98 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	2.7	11.9
EOS	0.07 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	0	1
BAS	0.01 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	0	0.2
LY%	16.9 %	16.6	35.6
MD%	0.2 - %	2	4
NE%	82.0 + %	53.4	73.5
EO%	0.9 - %	1	18
BA%	0.1 - %	0.1	2
RBC	5.51 10 <sup>12</sup> /l	5.3	7.9
HGB	11.1 - g/dl	12.4	21.1
HCT	33.12 - %	37.5	58.9
MCV	60 - fl	62.2	77
MCH	28.2 - pg	22.8	28.3
MCHC	33.5 g/dl	33.5	39
RDWc	19.8 %		
PLT	88 - 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	200	500
PCT	0.11 %		
MPV	12.2 - fl	3.9	11.1
PDWc	42.4 %		

EDTA tube

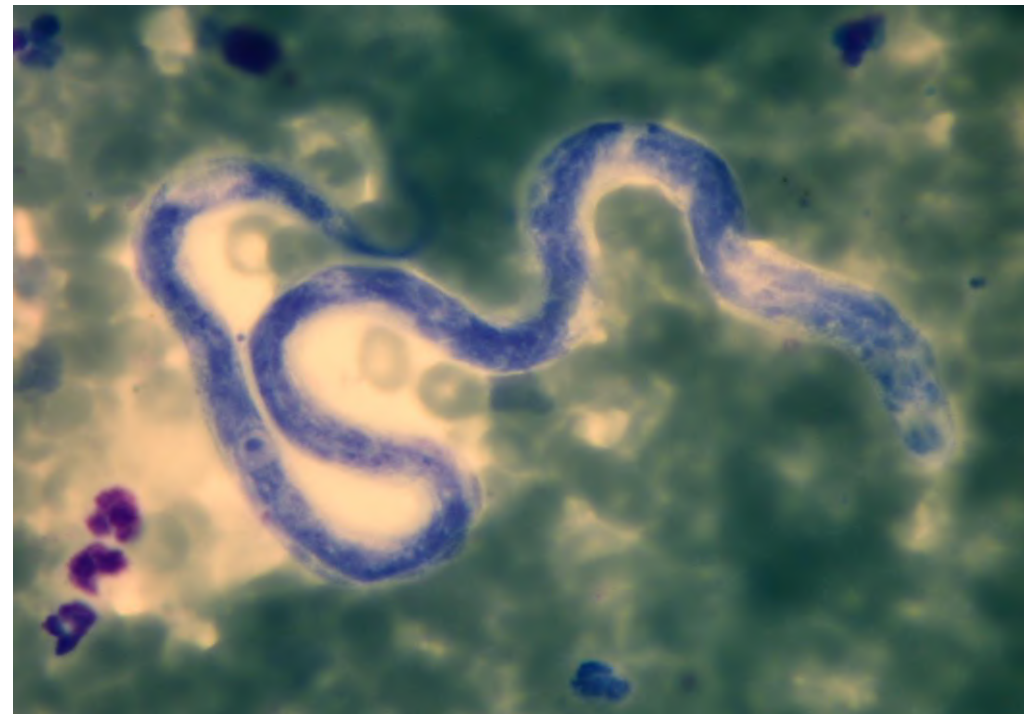
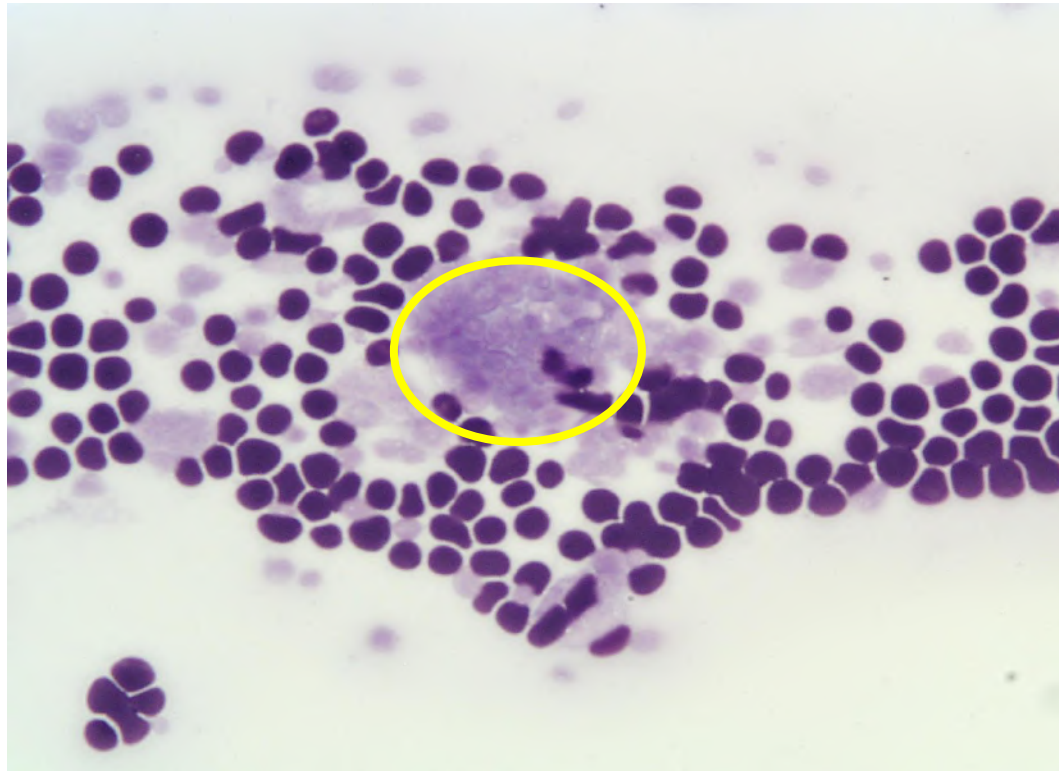


- *The analysers commonly report thrombocytopenia which is “false”*
  - **Platelet clumping** – clumps are counted as white blood cells or not counted at all
  - **Platelet size overlap with RBC size** in the cat and platelets can be counted as erythrocytes



# Manual platelet count estimation: Step 1

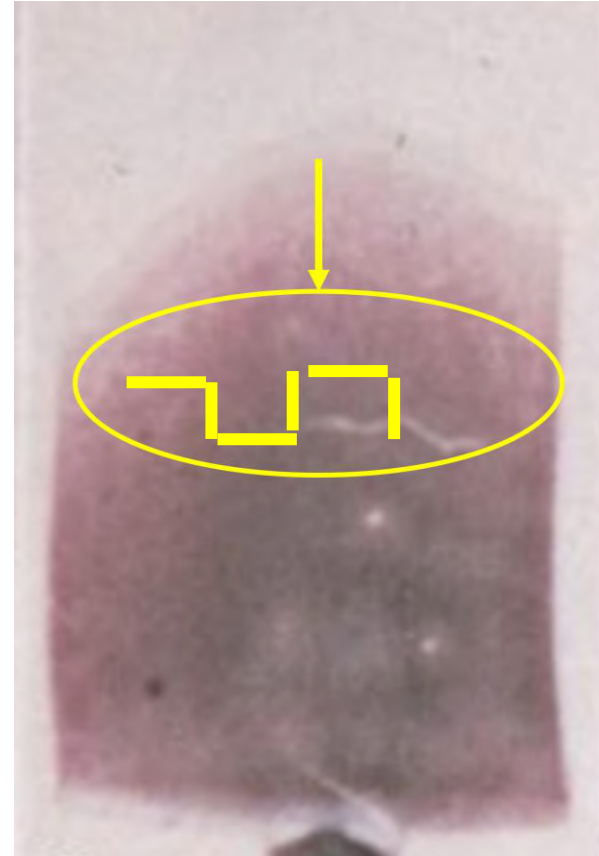
- Examine the **feathered edge** on x20 lens
  - Platelet clumps ? (if present, likely false thrombocytopenia)
  - *Dirofilaria* ? (Bonus finding if there 😊)





## Step 2

- MONOLAYER
- x1000 magnification (x100 oil lens)
- Count platelets in 10-20 fields
- Calculate the **mean number of platelets**

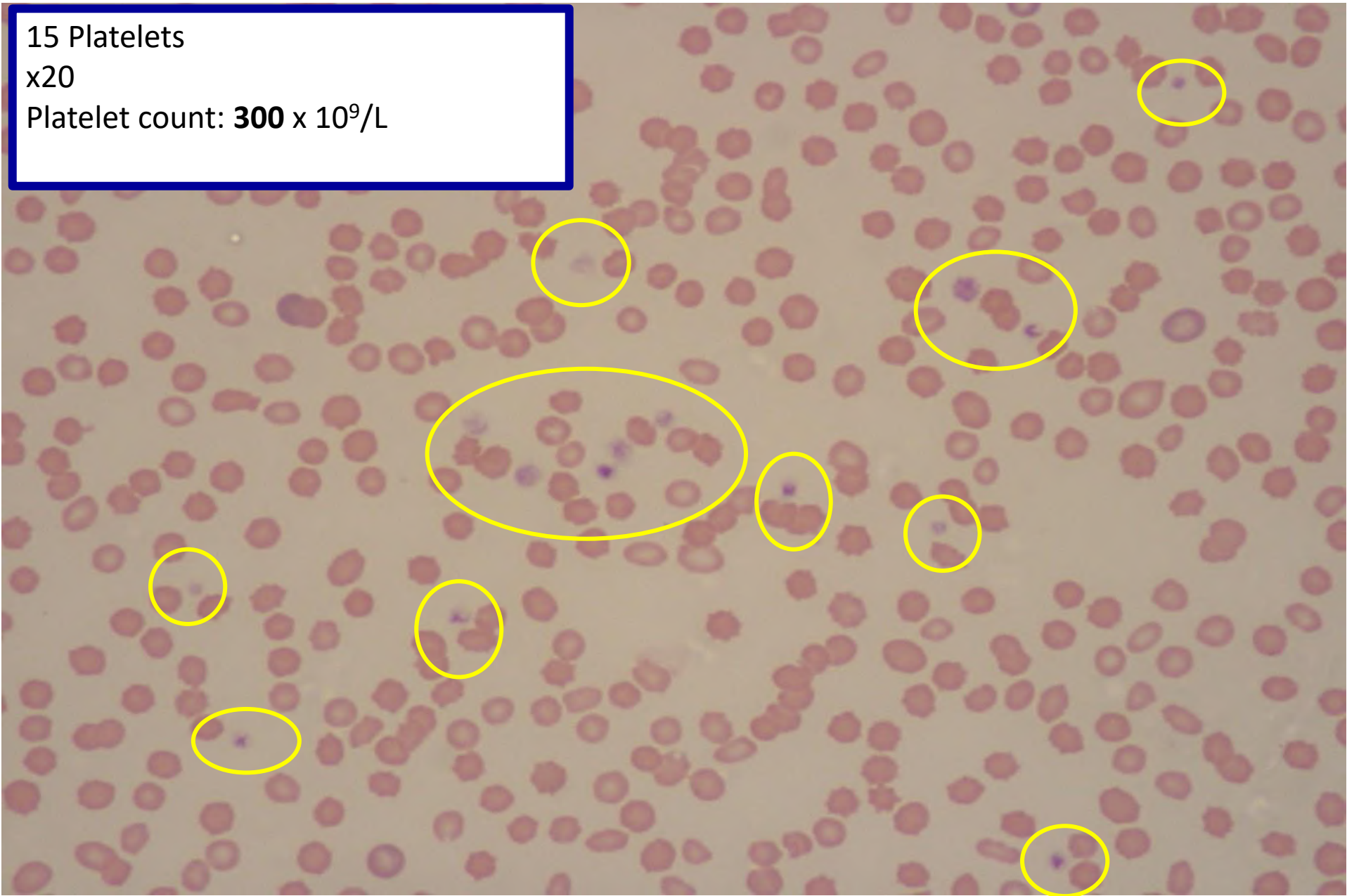


**CAT:** Multiply Mean number **x 20** = Total number ( $\times 10^9/L$ )

**DOG:** Multiply Mean number **x 15** = Total number ( $\times 10^9/L$ )

BSH, 7yo, "Gunner" (RI Platelets=200–700 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L)

15 Platelets  
x20  
Platelet count: **300** x 10<sup>9</sup>/L



**A. Primary haemostatic disorder**  
(**No** platelets or **No** platelet adherence)

Fibrin soluble clot/mesh of fibrin strands  
only present = **Petechia**



## Thrombocytopenia

- Decreased production
  - Bone marrow dz
  - Drugs, FeLV/FIV
- Loss/Sequestration
  - Blood loss
  - Sequestration in spleen
- **Increased utilization**
  - DIC, vasculitis
- **Destruction**
  - Immune mediated

**Most common causes**





**A. Primary haemostatic disorder**  
(**No** platelets or **No** platelet adherence)

Fibrin soluble clot/mesh of fibrin strands  
only present = **Petechia**



## Thrombocytopathy

- 1.No formation of stable platelet plug
- 2.No vW factor
- 3.Vessel wall abnormalities

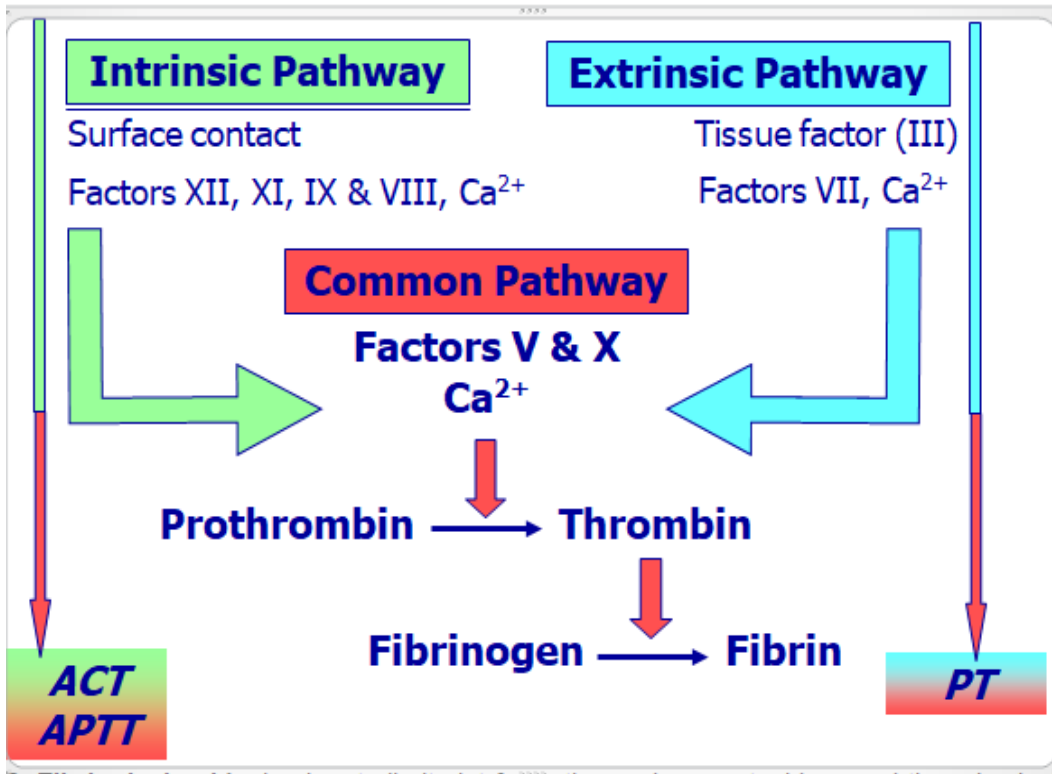


# 1. No formation of stable platelet plug = Buccal mucosal bleeding time (BMBT) (Platelet function test)

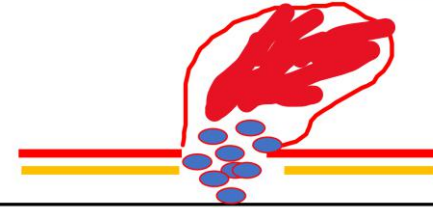


- Do NOT perform in cases with thrombocytopenia
- **Healthy dog: < 5 mins**
- **Healthy cat (sedated with ketamine/ACP): < 3.5 mins**
- Prolonged with
  - Thrombopathia
  - **vWD (<20% Ag)**
- Useful presurgical screen for breeds at risk of vWD





Broken unstable platelet plug leads to **Haematoma/Haemorrhage**



B. Secondary haemostatic disorder >> No clotting factors >> No fibrin >> Unstable clot



## 1. Lab tests to evaluate clotting factor activity

Activated clotting time (ACT)

Prothrombin time (PT or OSPT)

Activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT)

**PROLONGATION OF TIMES >> DECREASED FACTOR ACTIVITY**

## 2. Lab tests to measure individual clotting factors



# Lab tests to evaluate clotting factor activity

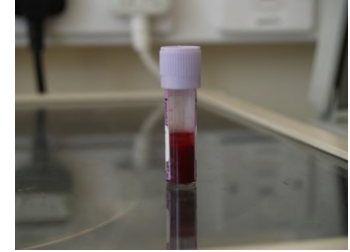
## Measurement of PT, APTT

### Activated clotting time test (ACT)

- Time taken for whole blood to clot
  - in-house test
  - In both cats and dogs, a **MAX-ACT result >85 seconds is considered abnormal**
- Further coagulation testing should be performed



- **Sodium citrate tube**
- **FILL TUBE UP TO THE LINE**
  - Crucial: no clots
- Use an External Lab
  - *Separated citrate plasma*
  - Transfer plasma into PLAIN tube – Label tube “Citrate plasma”
  - should arrive to lab not later than 24 hrs post collection
  - If not possible, FREEZE PLASMA(-20°C)
- Point-of-care (POC) analysers
  - Published clinical studies available



# Point-of-Care (POC) Coagulometers

## SCA2000™

Measures APTT and PT Studies only for dogs



	Normal results	Prolonged results
PT	Reliable	Reliable
APTT	Reliable	Inconsistent – Require confirmation with a reference method

## Coag Dx™

Measures APTT and PT Studies only for dogs



	Normal results	Prolonged results
PT	Reliable	Reliable
APTT	Reliable	Unreliable

## Amax Destiny Plus

Measures APTT and PT Study only for dogs



	Normal results	Prolonged results
PT	Reliable	Reliable
APTT	Reliable	Reliable

## CoaguChek-XS

Measures only PT Studies for dogs & cats



	Normal results	Prolonged results
PT	Reliable	Unreliable - Require confirmation with a reference method

# Causes for prolonged PT and/or APTT/ACT

- Prolongation of times more than 30% of normal control considered clinically significant BUT also needs comparing to reference interval.

- **Inherited factor deficiencies**

- e.g fVIII/IX def (Haemophilia A/B)
- Cats: fXII (Hageman) def (prolonged APTT/ACT but does not result in bleeding; no Tx required)

- **Acquired (most common)**

- **Vit K inactivation or deficiency**

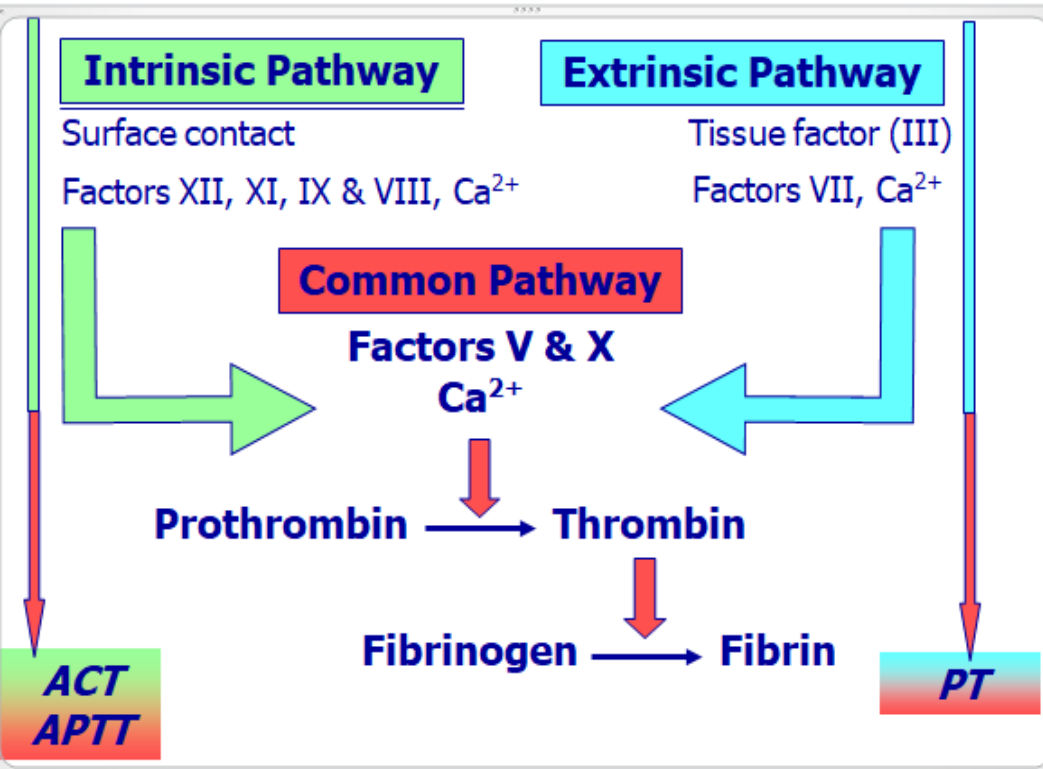
- Vit K activates f II, VII, IX, X
- Most common cause of Vit K deficiency

- **Rodenticides**

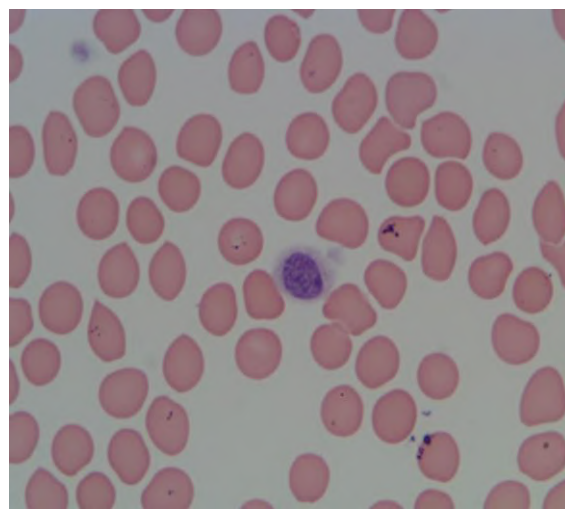
- Liver disease

- *Angiostrongylus infection*

- *FIV infection (prolonged APTT; unknown pathomechanism)*







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## • PRIMARY HAEMOSTATIC diseases

- Platelets, Blood vessel wall
- Thrombocytopenia, Thrombocytopathy/vWf, Blood vessel wall abnormalities
- Superficial, small haemorrhages-petechial, ecchymosis
- Laboratory diagnostics
  - Platelet count (EDTA blood sample, Blood smear, Haematology analyser)
  - If animal is not THROMBOCYTOPENIC then consider
    - Thrombocytopathy (*Buccal mucosal bleeding test*)

## • SECONDARY HAEMOSTATIC diseases

- Deficiency/No activation of one or more Clotting Factors (CF; coagulation proteins)
- Inherited CF deficiency, Liver failure, Vitamin K deficiency/antagonism (anticoagulant rodenticide toxicosis), Systemic diseases/infections causing DIC
- Large haemorrhages, Haematomas
- Laboratory diagnostics
  - ACT, PT, APTT (prolongation of times indicates secondary haemostatic disease)
  - External Veterinary Referral Lab (Separated Citrate Plasma, arrive within 24 hrs post collection) – **Reliable results**
  - Point-of-Care coagulometers (POC) (In-clinic Lab) (Citrate whole blood or Citrate Plasma)
    - PT/APTT results within normal limits overall reliable; **Prolonged results can be inaccurate**



Tusen takk!

**Har du noen spørsmål?**

Seksjonen er sponset av



Torsdag 14. mars

Program for Smådyr