

# Human Blood Coagulation, Haemostasis and Thrombosis

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edited by  
Rosemary Biggs

Second edition

# Human Blood Coagulation, Haemostasis and Thrombosis

EDITED BY

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## Preface to Second Edition

In 1972 the First Edition of *Human Blood Coagulation, Haemostasis and Thrombosis* was published. By the summer of 1973 this edition was sold. The authors contributing to the book were then asked to revise their chapters and many of them felt that scientific advances in their specialities had been so rapid that their chapters needed to be re-written. The revised chapters were received and transmitted to the Publishers by November 1973. Unfortunately, because of production difficulties, it is two years later that the book is finally published. In a rapidly developing field this delay is very sad. Some updating has been possible in the proof stage, but any major advances of 1974 to 1975 have not received due consideration. Of course, in a book of this size the main substance of the book is a review of well-established data and theories. These are not changed in 2 years and I very much hope that our colleagues will find this new edition to be helpful.

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October 1975

Rosemary Biggs

## Preface to First Edition

Three editions of *Human Blood Coagulation and Its Disorders*, written by myself and Professor R.G. Macfarlane, appeared in 1953, 1957 and 1962 respectively. These editions represented our personal experience in research on blood coagulation and our local experience in treating patients, together with our own selection from the steadily growing literature on haemostasis and thrombosis. By 1969 the literature had expanded massively and we no longer felt capable to write from our own knowledge about the whole field. We thus decided that the time had come to replace the original book by a volume contributed to by many experts. Since Professor Macfarlane has retired, the task of Editing has fallen to me.

The present volume has attempted to cover much the same subject matter as the original volume and some of the material from the last edition of *Human Blood Coagulation and Its Disorders* has been retained. Since the sections have been written by different people there is necessarily some overlap of material from one chapter to another. There is also variation in emphasis and opinion in the different chapters. There are, naturally, also differences in the way various authors have approached their subjects. Some may hold the view that it is an Editor's job to eliminate these differences to produce a uniform point of view, a standard length of chapter and a limitation on the number of references quoted. I have not taken this view. All of those contributing to the book are acknowledged experts in their own subjects and, with very minor alterations, I have accepted their contributions as written. I should like to acknowledge my personal indebtedness to all of them for the considerable effort that they have made and to say that I think they have written an authoritative and most interesting book and I hope that our readers will find it as useful as I do.

The Technical Appendix contains many standard methods included in *Human Blood Coagulation and Its Disorders* and some additional methods provided by contributors to the book.

April 1972

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# Contents

## Chapter 1: The Theory of Blood Coagulation by R.G.Macfarlane 1

The theory of Seegers 23  
References 26

## Chapter 2: The Thrombin-Fibrinogen Reaction and the Stabilization of Fibrin by M.P.Esnouf 32

Fibrinogen 32  
Preparation and measurement of fibrinogen 34  
Thrombin 35  
Thrombin-fibrinogen reaction 36  
Factor XIII 38  
Fibrin 39  
References 39

## Chapter 3: Prothrombin by M.P.Esnouf 42

Preparation of prothrombin 43  
The conversion of prothrombin 45  
The measurement of prothrombin 47  
Units of prothrombin 52  
References 52

## Chapter 4: Extrinsic Activation of Prothrombin by M.P.Esnouf 55

Tissue factor 55  
Factor VII 56  
Interaction of tissue factor and factor VII 57  
Factor X 57  
Factor V 59  
Phospholipids 60  
The measurement of factors V, VII and X 60  
The extrinsic clotting system 61  
References 63

## Chapter 5: Intrinsic Prothrombin Activation by Rosemary Biggs 66

- The factors required for intrinsic prothrombin activation 68
  - Factors XII and XI 68
  - Factor IX 68
    - The measurement of factor IX 68
  - Factor VIII 69
    - The measurement of factor VIII activity 69
  - Factor X 69
  - Factor V 70
  - Phospholipid 70
- The interaction of factors XII, XI and IX 70
- The interaction of factors VIII and IX 71
- The interaction of factors VIII, IX and X 73
- The intrinsic prothrombin converting activity 75
- The interaction between the intrinsic and extrinsic clotting systems 75
- Conclusion 77
- References 79

## Chapter 6: The Contact System by H.L.Nossel 81

- Activators of the Hageman factor 82
- Surface activation of coagulation other than via Hageman factor 88
- Effects of surfaces on platelets 88
- Hageman factor (factor XII) 92
  - Measurement 92
  - Purification 93
  - The nature of Hageman factor 94
  - Structure of Hageman factor 95
  - Enzymatic properties of Hageman factor 96
- PTA factor (factor XI) 97
  - Measurement 97
  - Purification 99
  - Biochemical characteristics 99
  - Enzymatic properties 100
  - Biological activity 100
  - Anti-activated PTA (Anti-XIa) 100
- Interaction of the surface, Hageman and PTA factors 102
  - Sequence of the reactions 102
  - Kinetics of the reactions 104
  - Consumption of PTA factor 104
- Inhibitory effect of Hageman-deficient plasma 105
- Change in the physical properties of Hageman factor during activation 105
- The activation of factor IX 106
- Hageman factor in man 107
  - Diagnosis of Hageman-factor deficiency 108
  - Physiologic variation 108
  - Variations in disease 108
- Hageman factor in other species 109
- PTA factor in man 110
  - Diagnosis of PTA factor deficiency 110
  - Results of plasma infusion 111
  - Physiological variations 112
  - Variations in disease 112

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Fletcher factor  | 113 |
| Hageman factor and haemostasis                                     | 113 |
| The contact phase of coagulation and thrombosis                    | 117 |
| Biological activity of Hageman factor other than blood coagulation | 120 |
| Hageman factor and fibrinolysis                                    | 121 |
| Hageman factor and kinin release                                   | 122 |
| References   | 126 |

## Chapter 7: Natural and Pathological Inhibitors of Blood Coagulation by Rosemary Biggs and K.W.E.Denson 143

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Anticoagulants  | 143 |
| Neutral salts   | 143 |
| Ion exchange resins   | 145 |
| Miscellaneous anticoagulants  | 145 |
| Sequestrene   | 145 |
| Liquoid   | 145 |
| Anticoagulant dyes  | 145 |
| Soya-bean and pancreatic trypsin-inhibitors   | 146 |
| Cobra-venom   | 146 |
| Hirudin   | 146 |
| Natural inhibitors for activated clotting factors   | 147 |
| Antithrombin (anti-IIa)   | 147 |
| Antithrombin I  | 148 |
| Antithrombin II   | 149 |
| Antithrombin III  | 149 |
| Antithrombin IV   | 150 |
| Antithrombin V  | 150 |
| Antithrombin VI   | 151 |
| Anti-factor Xa (Anti-Xa)  | 151 |
| Anti-factor IXa   | 152 |
| The inactivation of factor XIa  | 152 |
| Heparin   | 152 |
| The isolation of heparin and its chemical composition   | 152 |
| The properties and site of origin of heparin  | 153 |
| The mode of action of heparin   | 153 |
| The measurement of heparin  | 156 |
| The inhibitory phenomenon of undiluted plasma   | 157 |
| Irreversible inhibitors which destroy coagulation factors in their natural state                                      | 157 |
| Naturally occurring human antibodies which destroy factor VIII  | 157 |
| The demonstration and measurement of factor VIII antibodies   | 160 |
| Antibodies which neutralize factor IX   | 160 |
| Inhibitors to other clotting factors  | 160 |
| Reversible inhibitors which are associated with disseminated lupus erythematosus (DLE) and other auto-immune diseases | 160 |
| The haemostatic defect in macroglobulinaemia and myeloma  | 161 |
| Inhibition in the defibrination syndrome  | 162 |
| Inhibitory phenomena  | 162 |
| References  | 163 |

## Chapter 8: Platelets by G.V.R.Born and R.M.Hardisty 168

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Functional physiology of platelets by G.V.R.Born | 168 |
| Platelets in the contraction of injured vessel   | 168 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Contraction of small injured vessels                         | 169 |
| The effect of 5-hydroxytryptamine on the bleeding time       | 169 |
| Platelets in the formation of a haemostatic plug             | 170 |
| Platelet adhesion  | 170 |
| Platelet aggregation   | 175 |
| Aggregating agents   | 175 |
| Effects of ADP   | 176 |
| Change in shape  | 176 |
| First phase of aggregation                                   | 179 |
| Disaggregation   | 179 |
| Specificity for ADP  | 180 |
| Essential co-factors   | 180 |
| Fibrinogen   | 180 |
| Potentiating agents  | 181 |
| Second phase of aggregation and the release reaction         | 181 |
| Inhibition of platelet aggregation                           | 182 |
| Reversible inhibition  | 183 |
| Temperature  | 183 |
| pH   | 183 |
| Plasma co-factor deficiencies                                | 183 |
| Elimination of ADP and of other aggregating agents           | 184 |
| Specific inhibitors  | 184 |
| Platelets in the coagulation of plasma                       | 185 |
| Platelet factor 3  | 186 |
| Other platelet factors                                       | 186 |
| Platelets in clot retraction                                 | 187 |
| Disorders of platelet function by R.M.Hardisty               | 187 |
| Bleeding disorders due to abnormalities of platelet function | 189 |
| Hereditary disorders of platelet function                    | 190 |
| Thrombasthenia (Glanzmann's disease)                         | 190 |
| Hereditary abnormalities affecting the release reaction      | 191 |
| Bernard-Soulier Syndrome                                     | 192 |
| Congenital afibrinogenaemia                                  | 192 |
| Acquired disorders of platelet function                      | 192 |
| Uraemia  | 193 |
| Liver disease  | 193 |
| Myeloproliferative disorders                                 | 194 |
| Essential thrombocythaemia                                   | 194 |
| Other myeloproliferative states                              | 194 |
| Other conditions   | 195 |
| Scurvy   | 195 |
| Glycogen storage disease, type I                             | 195 |
| The effect of drugs  | 195 |
| References   | 195 |
| Functional physiology of platelets                           | 195 |
| Disorders of platelet function                               | 199 |
| Chapter 9: Abnormal Clotting Factors by K.W.E.Denson         | 202 |
| Abnormal forms of factor IX                                  | 202 |
| Hypoprothrombinaemia and rare variants of prothrombin        | 207 |
| Hypoprothrombinaemia   | 207 |
| Genetic variants of prothrombin                              | 207 |
| Rare variants of factor VII                                  | 208 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Abnormal forms of factor VIII   | 208 |
| Results using immunoprecipitation tests for factor VIII-related protein   | 213 |
| The detection of carriers of haemophilia  | 217 |
| Abnormal forms of factor X  | 217 |
| Abnormal forms of fibrinogen  | 222 |
| Observations on the inheritance of structurally defective clotting factors  | 225 |
| The relationship between the development of antibodies to factors VIII or IX and the type of haemophilia A or haemophilia B | 226 |
| References  | 227 |

## Chapter 10: The Clinical Features of Clotting Factor Deficiencies

by C.R.Rizza 231

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Haemorrhagic disorders due to blood coagulation factor deficiencies                  | 232 |
| Congenital factor I (fibrinogen) deficiency  | 233 |
| Congenital factor II (prothrombin) deficiency  | 233 |
| Congenital deficiency of factor V  | 234 |
| Congenital deficiency of factor VII  | 234 |
| Congenital factor X deficiency   | 234 |
| Congenital deficiency of factor XI   | 235 |
| Congenital deficiency of factor XII (Hageman factor)                                 | 235 |
| Congenital factor XIII deficiency (fibrin stabilizing factor)                        | 236 |
| Congenital deficiency of factor VIII (haemophilia) and factor IX (Christmas disease) | 236 |
| Incidence  | 236 |
| Inheritance  | 236 |
| Bleeding manifestations  | 238 |
| Haematuria   | 239 |
| Gastrointestinal bleeding  | 239 |
| Haemorrhage into the central nervous system  | 241 |
| Diagnosis  | 242 |
| Combined congenital deficiency of factor V and factor VIII                           | 242 |
| von Willebrand's Disease   | 242 |
| Diagnosis  | 244 |
| Acquired deficiency of blood coagulation factors                                     | 244 |
| Acquired haemophilia   | 245 |
| Defibrination syndrome   | 245 |
| References   | 246 |

## Chapter 11: Therapeutic Materials by E.Bidwell, G.W.R.Dike and

T.J.Snape 249

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| General considerations  | 249 |
| Hepatitis   | 252 |
| Factor VIII   | 253 |
| Biochemistry  | 253 |
| Materials for the treatment of patients with deficiency of factor VIII    | 257 |
| (i) Plasma  | 258 |
| (ii) Cryoprecipitate  | 259 |
| Method using plastic bags throughout                                      | 259 |
| Using glass bottles for plasma  | 260 |
| (iii) Human antihaemophilic factor prepared by fractionation laboratories | 262 |
| Alcohol precipitation   | 262 |
| (a) Cohn fraction I   | 262 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| (b) Blombäck procedure   | 262 |
| Ether precipitation  | 264 |
| Cryoprecipitation  | 264 |
| (a) Crude  | 264 |
| (b) Partially purified   | 266 |
| Polyethylene glycol  | 267 |
| Amino acids  | 268 |
| Tannic acid  | 270 |
| Agarose  | 272 |
| Other methods  | 272 |
| Summary  | 272 |
| (iv) Animal AHG  | 273 |
| Fibrinogen for clinical use  | 274 |
| Factor IX-prothrombin complex  | 275 |
| Properties   | 275 |
| Materials for the treatment of patients with deficiency of one of the coagulation factors of the prothrombin complex | 278 |
| (i) Plasma   | 278 |
| (ii) Cryoprecipitate supernatant   | 279 |
| (iii) Concentrates of the prothrombin group prepared by fractionation laboratories                                   | 279 |
| A: Adsorption from plasma on to an inorganic adsorbent   | 279 |
| B: Adsorption from the residue of a large-scale fractionation  | 280 |
| C: Chromatography on ion-exchange media  | 281 |
| A:1, Paris method (Soulier <i>et al.</i> )   | 283 |
| A:2, Method of Bruning & Loeliger  | 285 |
| B:1, Oxford method, type C   | 286 |
| B:2, Method of Gilchrist <i>et al.</i>   | 289 |
| C:1, Method of Casillas <i>et al.</i>  | 290 |
| C:2, Method of Dike <i>et al.</i>  | 291 |
| C:3, Method of Middleton <i>et al.</i>   | 293 |
| C:4, Method of Hoag <i>et al.</i>  | 293 |
| C:5, Method of Suomela & Myllylä   | 295 |
| C:6, Method of Heystek <i>et al.</i>   | 297 |
| D:1, Method of Johnson <i>et al.</i>   | 298 |
| Summary  | 300 |
| References   | 300 |

## Chapter 12: Laboratory Diagnosis, Tests of Clotting Function and their Standardization by K.W.E.Denson and Rosemary Biggs 310

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| The evolution of a clotting factor                 | 310 |
| The theory of blood coagulation                    | 314 |
| Tests of clotting efficiency                       | 317 |
| The frequency of various coagulation defects       | 317 |
| The clinical history and screening tests           | 317 |
| General tests of clotting function                 | 319 |
| The whole blood clotting time                      | 319 |
| The recalcification time                           | 320 |
| The partial thromboplastin time                    | 320 |
| The kaolin cephalin clotting time (KCCT)           | 320 |
| Mixture experiments as an aid to diagnosis         | 321 |
| The thrombelastograph                              | 321 |
| The thrombin generation test                       | 322 |
| Tests of intrinsic prothrombin activator formation | 322 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| The prothrombin consumption index (PCI)  | 322 |
| The thromboplastin generation test   | 323 |
| The assay of factors VIII and IX   | 325 |
| Standard of normality for the factor VIII assay  | 327 |
| International and national reference preparations of factor VIII   | 328 |
| The unit of factor VIII  | 329 |
| The assay of factor IX   | 329 |
| The assay of factors XI and XII  | 330 |
| Tests based on the formation of extrinsic prothrombin activator  | 330 |
| One-stage 'prothrombin' time test  | 330 |
| Modifications of the one-stage prothrombin time tests and the laboratory control of anticoagulant therapy  | 330 |
| The prothrombin and proconvertin method (P and P method)   | 331 |
| Thrombotest and two-seven-ten reagents   | 331 |
| Standardization of control of anticoagulant therapy  | 332 |
| International and national standardization of control of anticoagulant therapy in patients receiving Coumarin and Indanedione drugs using calibrated thromboplastin preparations | 334 |
| Clotting time ratio as an index of measurement   | 334 |
| Collection of fresh normal plasma samples and plasma from patients stabilized on anticoagulant therapy   | 334 |
| Standardization procedure  | 335 |
| Experimental comparison of test and normal plasma samples  | 335 |
| Calculation  | 335 |
| Practical application of a calibrated thromboplastin reference preparation   | 338 |
| Transfer of a patient from one hospital to another inside one country  | 338 |
| Transfer of a patient from one hospital to another in a different country  | 338 |
| Commercial preparations  | 338 |
| Therapeutic range  | 338 |
| Clinical trials  | 338 |
| Modification of the one-stage prothrombin time for the measurement of factors V, VII and X   | 339 |
| The measurement of prothrombin: one-stage methods  | 340 |
| The two-stage method for the measurement of prothrombin  | 341 |
| The detection of coagulation inhibitors  | 349 |
| Factor VIII antibodies   | 351 |
| Reversible inhibitors of the type found in DLE and macroglobulinaemia  | 351 |
| Factor IX inhibitors   | 352 |
| Natural inhibitors   | 352 |
| Antibody neutralization tests  | 352 |
| Factor VIII antibody neutralization test   | 353 |
| Factor IX antibody neutralization  | 356 |
| Antibody neutralization techniques for factors II, VII and X   | 358 |
| The use of snake venoms in tests of clotting function  | 358 |
| Empirical nature of tests of clotting function   | 359 |
| Rationale for their use  | 359 |
| The role of calcium in clotting  | 360 |
| References   | 361 |

## Chapter 13: The Management of Patients with Coagulation Factor Deficiencies by C.R.Rizza 365

The principles of replacement therapy in the management of haemorrhage due to clotting factor deficiency 365

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| The unit of factor VIII   | 367 |
| The relationships between haemostasis and the level of factor VIII in the blood         | 367 |
| 1. The patient's lesion and the factor VIII level required for its treatment            | 368 |
| 2. The choice of therapeutic material   | 369 |
| Whole blood   | 369 |
| Plasma  | 370 |
| Cryoprecipitate   | 370 |
| Lyophilized human AHG   | 371 |
| Lyophilized animal AHG  | 371 |
| 3. How much material must be given  | 373 |
| 4. Duration of therapy  | 375 |
| The management of haemophilia complicated by factor VIII antibodies                     | 376 |
| Replacement therapy in the treatment of Christmas disease                               | 379 |
| Plasma in the treatment of Christmas disease  | 380 |
| Factor IX concentrates in treatment of Christmas disease                                | 380 |
| Home treatment  | 381 |
| Transfusion hepatitis   | 384 |
| Some other measures used in the management of haemophilia and Christmas disease         | 386 |
| Epsilon-aminocaproic acid (EACA)  | 386 |
| Peanuts   | 388 |
| Corticosteroids   | 389 |
| Female sex hormones   | 389 |
| von Willebrand's disease  | 390 |
| The management of congenital deficiencies of factors I, II, V, VII, X, XI, XII and XIII | 391 |
| Fibrinogen (factor I)   | 391 |
| Factors II (prothrombin), VII and X   | 391 |
| Factor XI   | 391 |
| Factor V  | 392 |
| Factor XII  | 392 |
| Factor XIII   | 392 |
| Treatment of acquired deficiencies of factors II, VII, IX and X                         | 392 |
| Treatment of acquired haemophilia   | 393 |
| Treatment of defibrination syndrome   | 394 |
| References  | 394 |

## Chapter 14: The Fibrinolytic Enzyme System by G.P. McNicol and A.S. Douglas 399

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Development of knowledge of fibrinolysis      | 399 |
| Fibrinolytic activity induced <i>in vitro</i> | 400 |
| Streptococcal fibrinolysis                    | 400 |
| The Plasminogen-Plasmin System                | 401 |
| Plasminogen                                   | 401 |
| Activation of plasminogen                     | 401 |
| Activators of plasminogen                     | 402 |
| Blood activator                               | 402 |
| Tissue activator                              | 403 |
| Activator in secretions                       | 403 |
| Fibrinolysis and repair processes             | 403 |
| Fibrinolytic activity of urine                | 404 |
| Bacterial activators                          | 405 |
| Streptokinase                                 | 406 |
| Antigenicity of streptokinase                 | 406 |



|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Dose/lysis-time relationships with streptokinase           | 407 |
| Autocatalytic activation                                   | 407 |
| Hageman factor   | 407 |
| Non-enzymatic agents                                       | 408 |
| 1. Steroid hormones and oral hypoglycaemic drugs           | 408 |
| 2. Vaso-active substances                                  | 408 |
| 3. Bacterial pyrogen                                       | 408 |
| 4. Other substances inducing fibrinolysis                  | 409 |
| Plasmin  | 409 |
| Influence of fibrin-stabilizing factor on clot lysis rates | 409 |
| Inhibitors of the plasminogen-plasmin system               | 409 |
| Plasma anti-activator                                      | 410 |
| Other anti-activators                                      | 410 |
| Plasma anti-plasmin  | 410 |
| Antifibrinolytic effect of lipids                          | 411 |
| Other antiplasmins   | 411 |
| The fibrinolytic mechanism <i>in vivo</i>                  | 411 |
| The Sherry hypothesis                                      | 412 |
| The plasminogen-inhibitor complex mechanism                | 413 |
| Physiological variations in fibrinolytic activity          | 413 |
| Anoxia and fibrinolysis                                    | 414 |
| Racial differences   | 414 |
| Fibrinolysis in pregnancy                                  | 414 |
| Oral contraceptives  | 415 |
| Systemic hyperplasminaemic states                          | 415 |
| Causes of hyperplasminaemia                                | 417 |
| Secondary fibrinolysis                                     | 417 |
| Fibrinolysis and complication of pregnancy                 | 418 |
| Fibrinolysis in renal disease                              | 419 |
| The biological role of the plasminogen-plasmin system      | 419 |
| Interactions between clotting and lysis                    | 421 |
| References   | 422 |

## Chapter 15: Thrombolytic Therapy and Fibrinolytic Inhibitors by G.P.McNicol and A.S.Douglas 436

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Thrombolytic therapy                                | 436 |
| Activator or plasmin?                               | 436 |
| The target of thrombolytic therapy                  | 437 |
| Conceptual basis for fibrinolytic therapy           | 438 |
| Plasminogen activators                              | 438 |
| Streptokinase                                       | 438 |
| The streptokinase-induced coagulation defect        | 438 |
| Duration of streptokinase effect                    | 438 |
| Streptokinase dosage schedules                      | 439 |
| Use of anticoagulants                               | 440 |
| Toxicity of streptokinase                           | 440 |
| Urokinase   | 441 |
| Thromboplastic or coagulative activity of urokinase | 441 |
| Feasibility of thrombolytic therapy                 | 442 |
| Pulmonary embolism                                  | 443 |
| Deep leg vein thrombosis                            | 445 |
| Myocardial infarction                               | 446 |
| Peripheral arterial occlusion                       | 448 |