



# Developmental hemostasis: consequences for the laboratory

Heleen van Ommen

Pediatric Hematology

Sophia Children's Hospital ErasmusMC



## Development of the Human Coagulation System in the Full-Term Infant

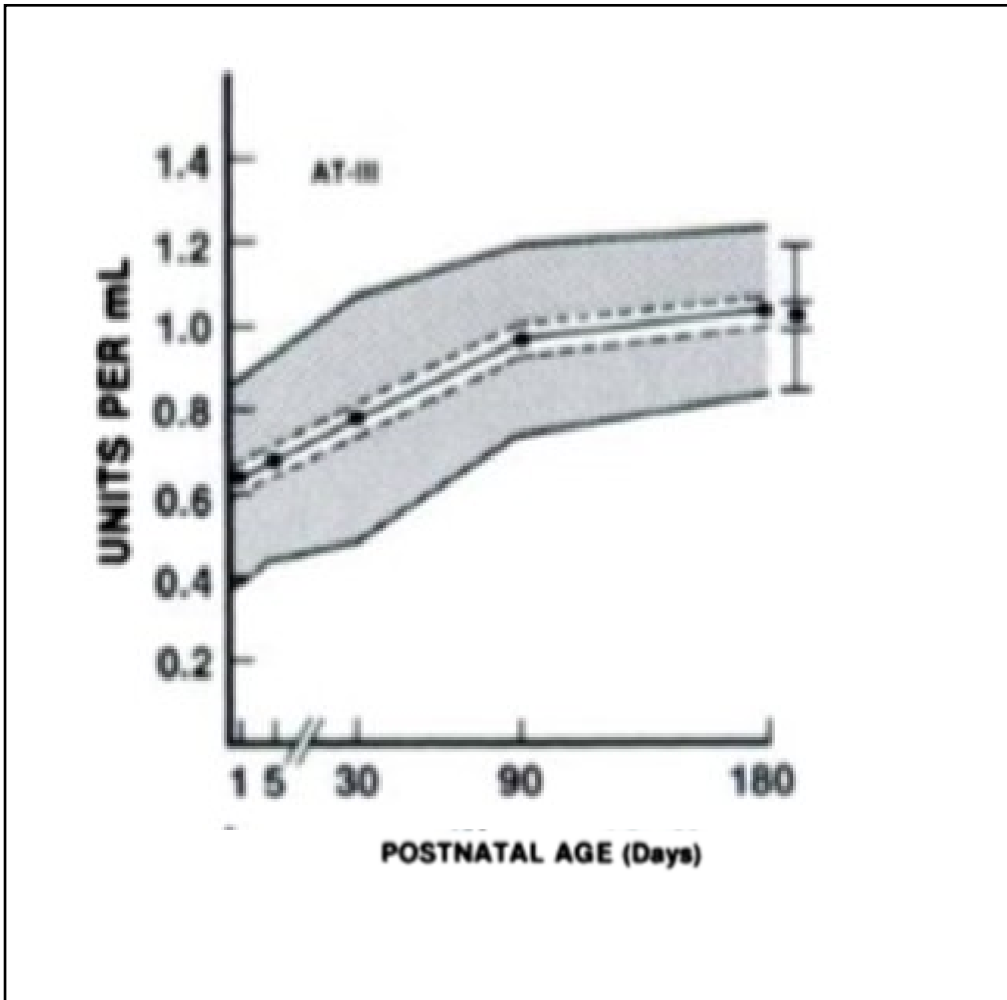
By Maureen Andrew, Bosco Paes, Ruth Milner, Marilyn Johnston, Lesley Mitchell,  
Douglas M. Tollefsen, and Peter Powers

The investigation of many hemostatic defects in the newborn is limited by the lack of normal reference values. This study was designed to determine the postnatal development of the human coagulation system in the healthy full-term infant. Consecutive mothers of healthy full-term infants born at St Joseph's Hospital in the city of Hamilton were approached for consent. One hundred eighteen full-term infants (37 to 42 weeks' gestational age) were entered into the study. Demographic information and a 2-mL blood sample were obtained in the postnatal period on days 1, 5, 30, 90, and 180. Between 40 and 79 full-term infants were studied on each day for each of the coagulation tests. Plasma was fractionated and stored at  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$  for batch assaying of the following tests: prothrombin time, activated partial thromboplastin time, thrombin clotting time, and factor assays (biologic): fibrinogen, II, V, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, and high-molecular weight kininogen. Factor

XIII subunits A and S, von Willebrand factor, and the inhibitors antithrombin III,  $\alpha_2$ -antiplasmin,  $\alpha_2$ -macroglobulin,  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin, C1 esterase inhibitor, protein C, and protein S were measured immunologically. Plasminogen, prekallikrein, and heparin cofactor II were measured by using chromogenic substrates. The large number of infants studied at each time point allowed us to determine the following: (a) the range of normal for each test at five time points in the postnatal period; (b) that most coagulation factors show maturation; and (d) that nearly all components mature by 6 months of age. The large cohort of infants studied during this postnatal period allowed us to determine the normal range of the human coagulation system. © 1987 by Grune & Stratton



# Developmental hemostasis



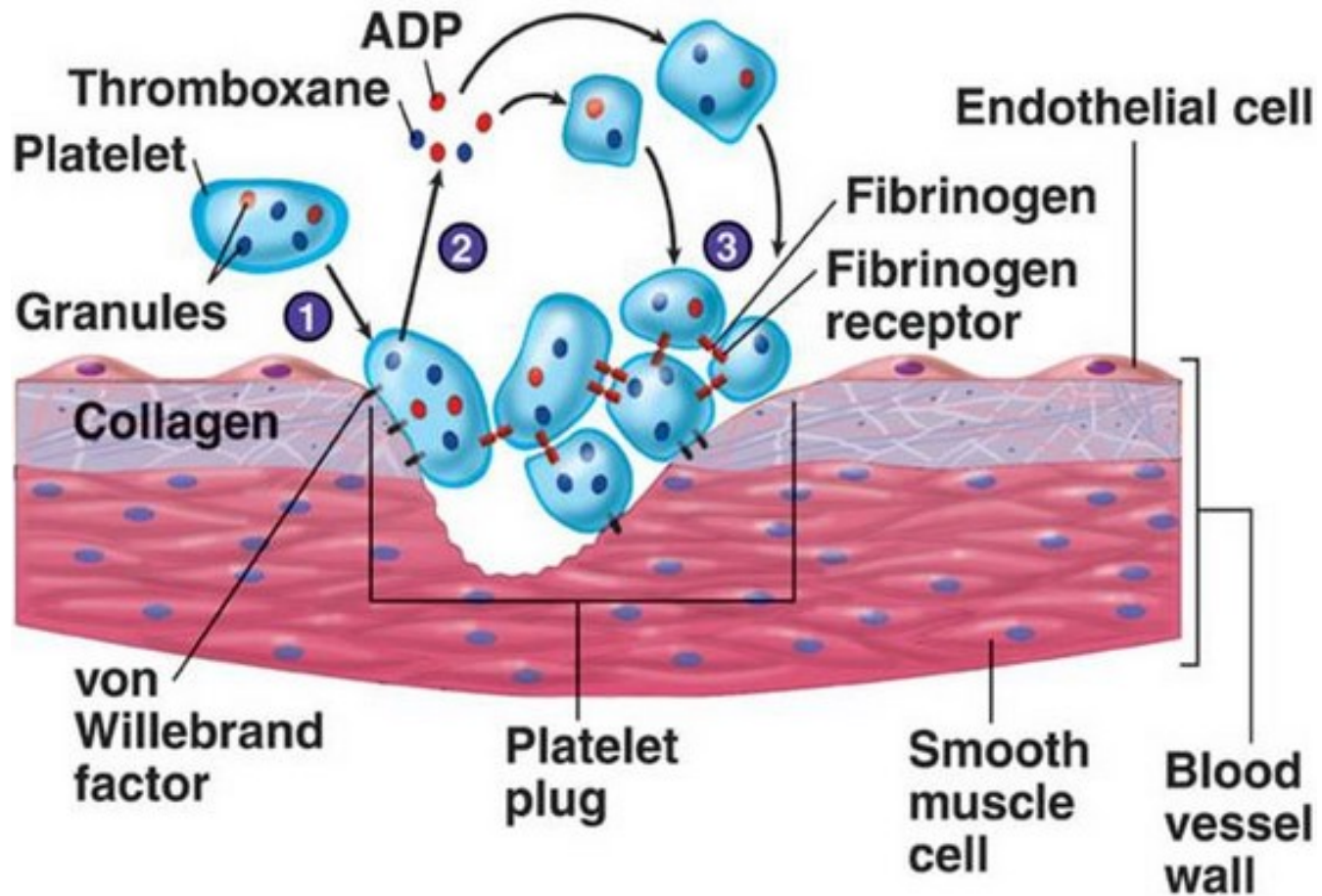
Other functions of coagulation proteins: anti-angiogenic function of antithrombin

Low antithrombin levels

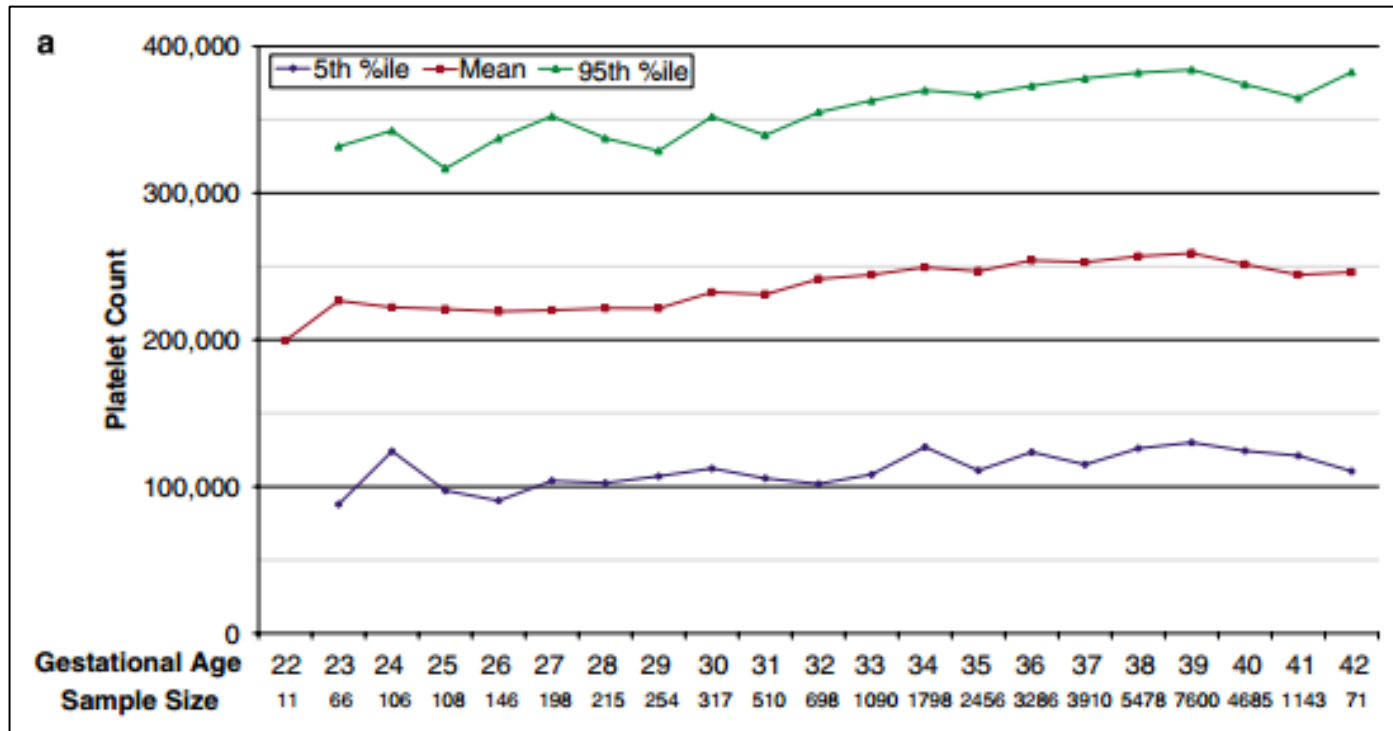


Less inhibition of angiogenesis

# Primary hemostasis

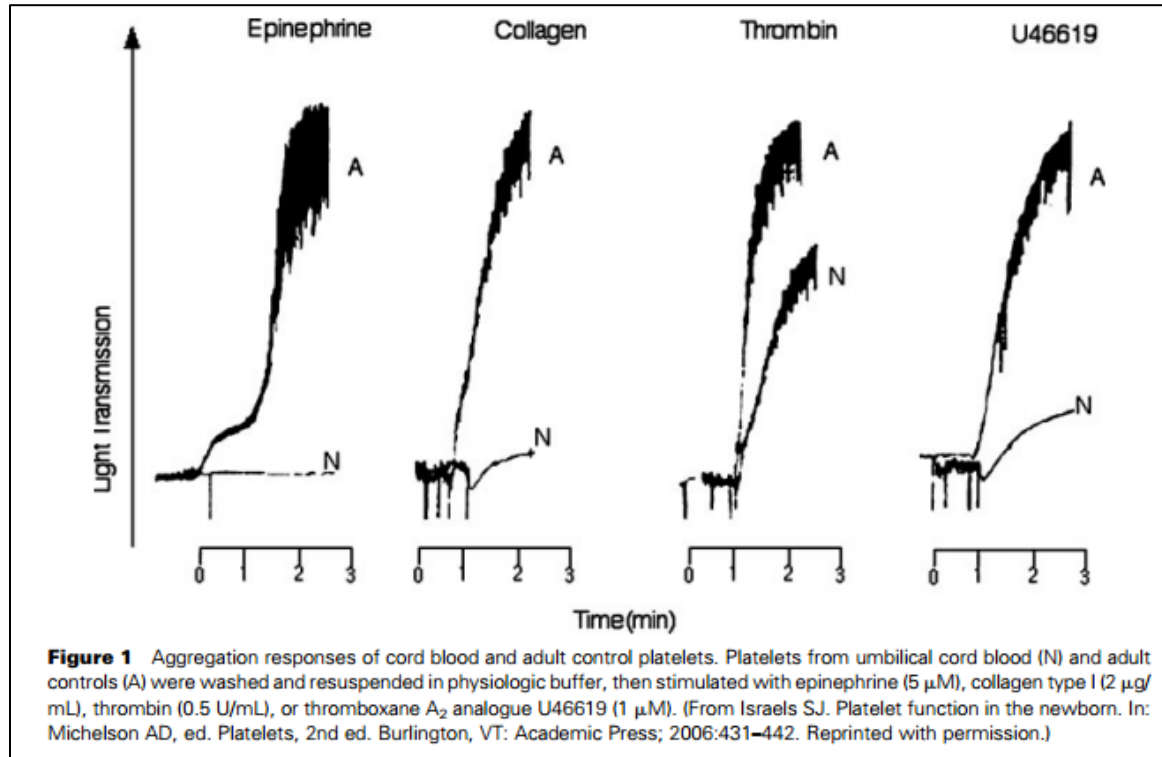


# Number of neonatal platelets



Platelet count increases with gestational age

# Platelet aggregation



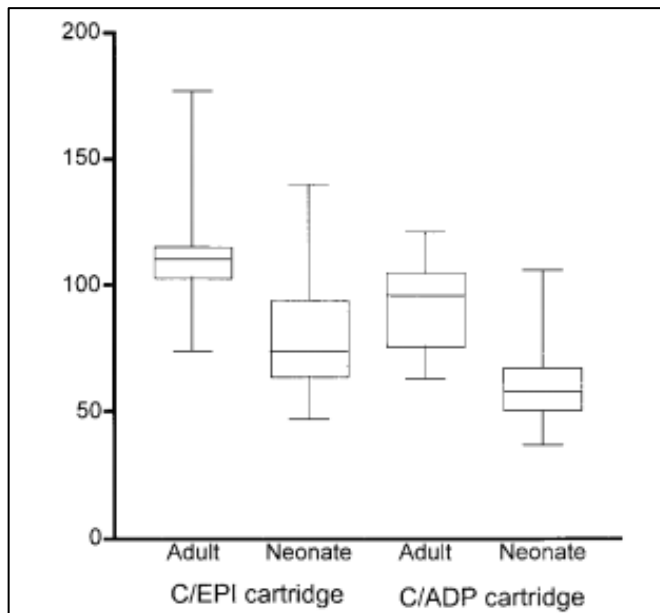
- Hypo-responsiveness persists for 2 to 4 weeks
- More pronounced in preterm neonates
- Different mechanisms

# Global coagulation tests

Subjects	<i>n</i>	Closure time	
		Col/Epi (s)	Col/ADP (s)
Adult controls	25	106 (84–150)	83 (64–98)
Cord blood	70	75 (50–112)	58 (43–98)

Data are median values (ranges).

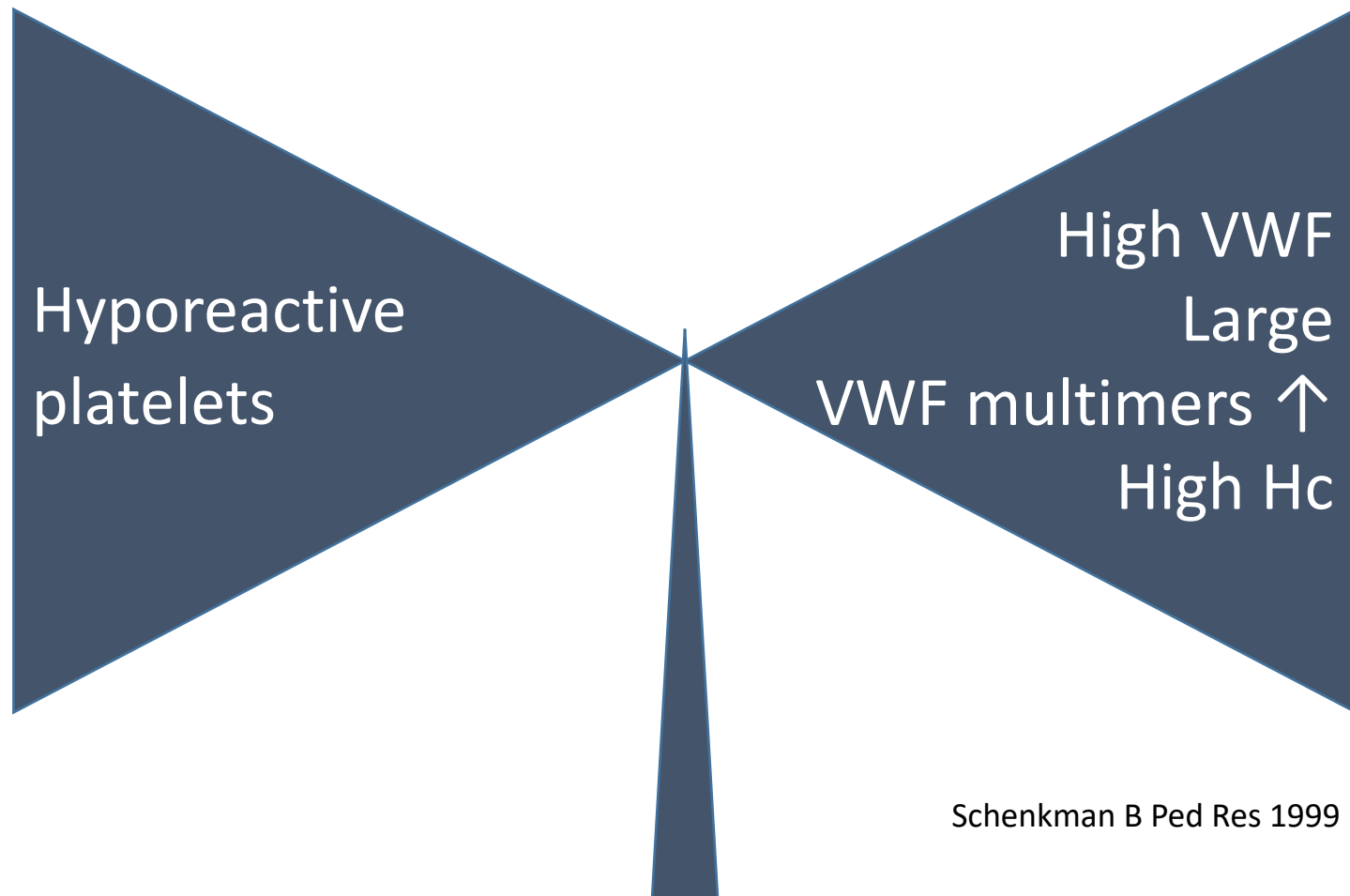
Roschitz et al 2001



Israels et al. J Pediatr 2001



# Balanced primary hemostasis in healthy neonates



# Reaction on thrombocytopenia in BM

Sola-Visner MC et al. Pediatr Res 2007

Adults:

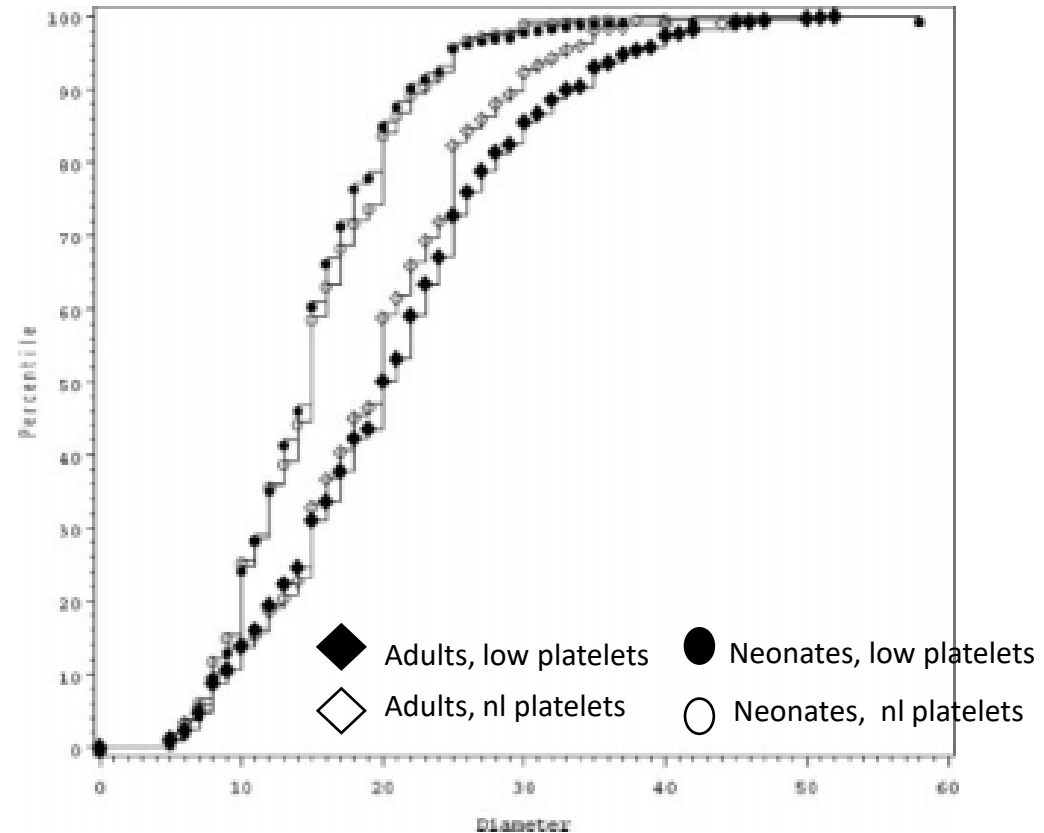
Increase MK mass:

- MK number
- MK size and ploidy

Neonates:

Increase MK mass:

- MK number



*Neonatal primary hemostasis: Lack of reserve capacity*

# Thrombocytopenia in neonates

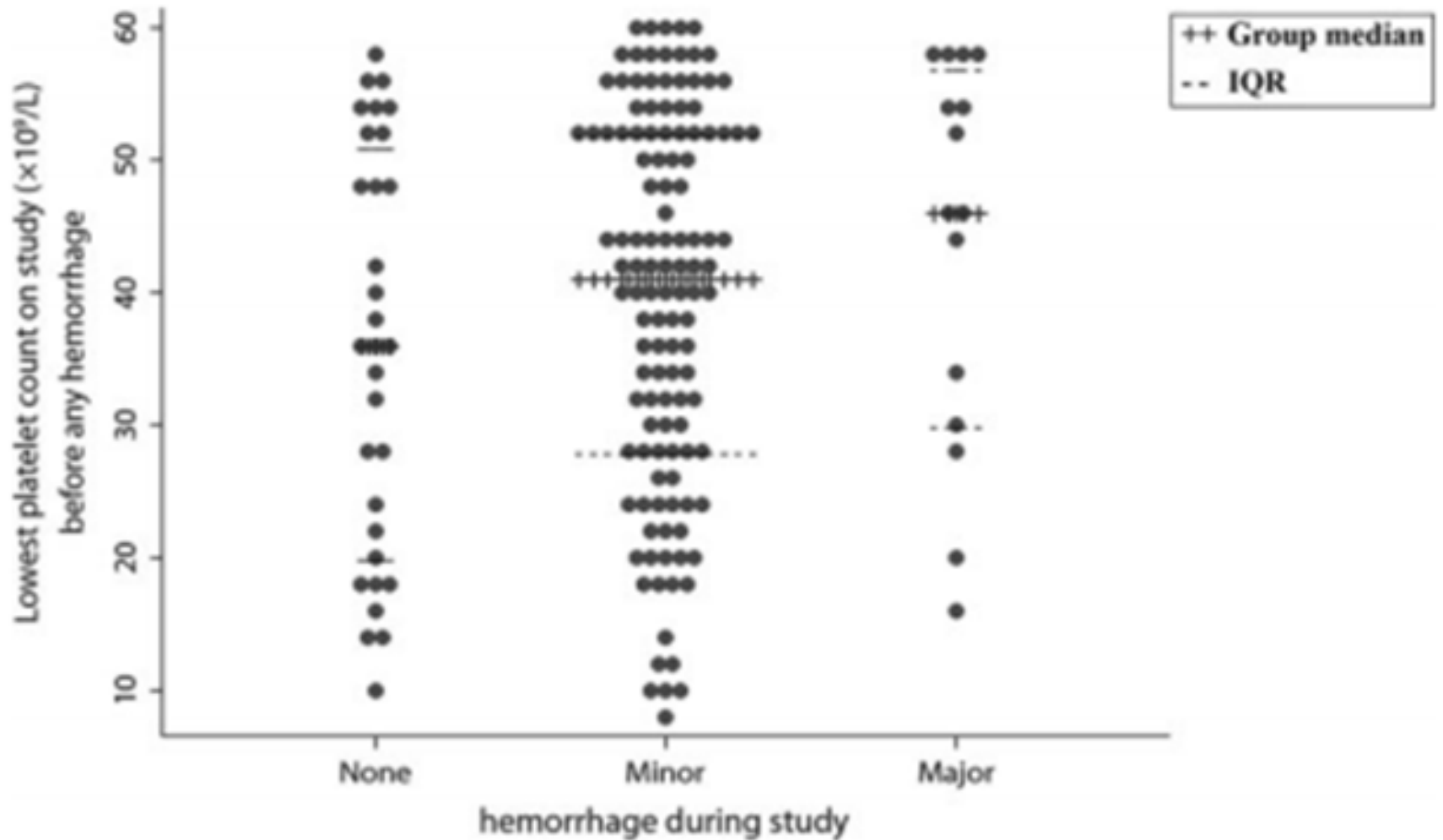
- Major concern: major bleeding
- Platelet transfusions only specific treatment
- Stanworth et al 2009:



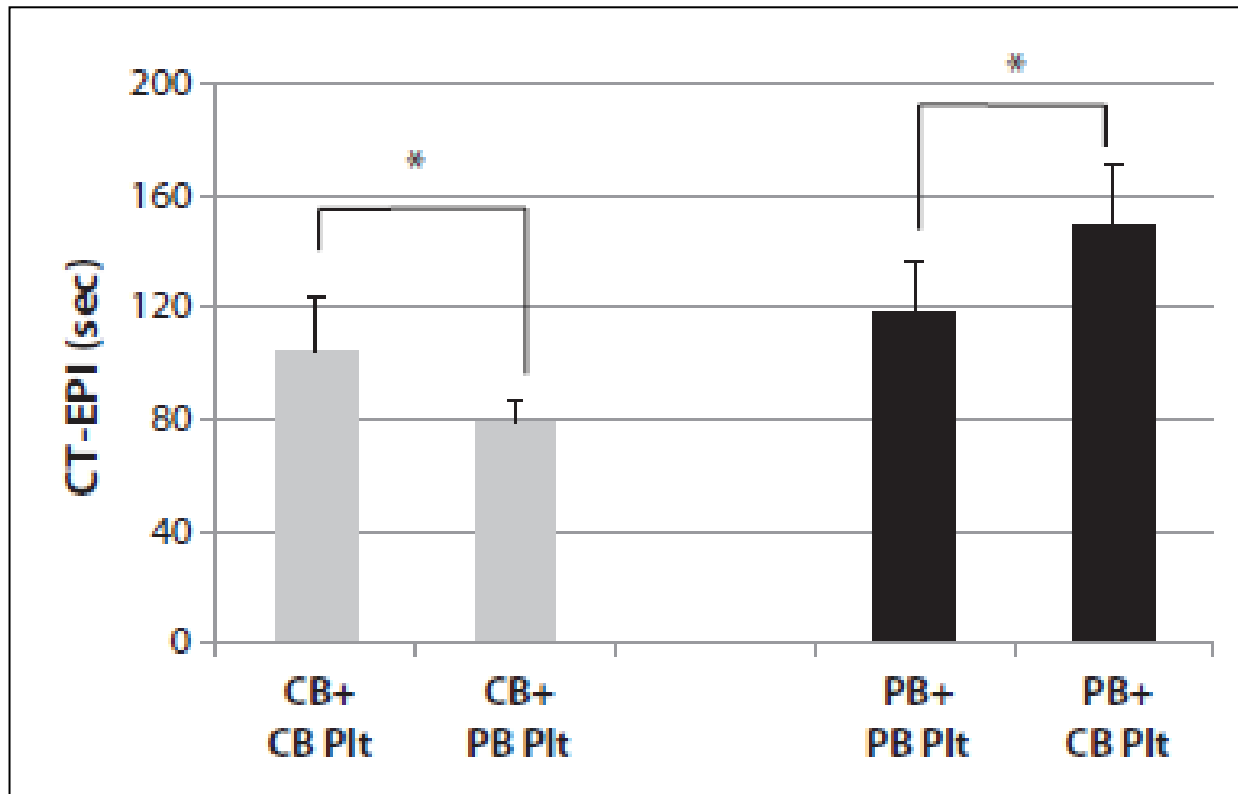
Platelet Tx: 70% of neonates with platelets  $< 60 \times 10^9/L$

- No evidence of efficacy of prophylactic transfusions
- No relationship between platelet count and bleeding

# RISK OF BLEEDING



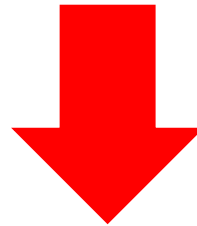
# Transfusion risk



No evidence of efficacy of prophylactic platelet transfusions

No correlation between platelet count and bleeding

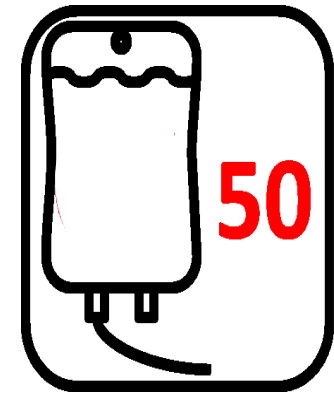
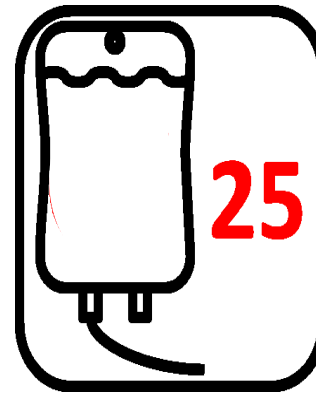
Potential risks of transfusion



Various platelets transfusion thresholds

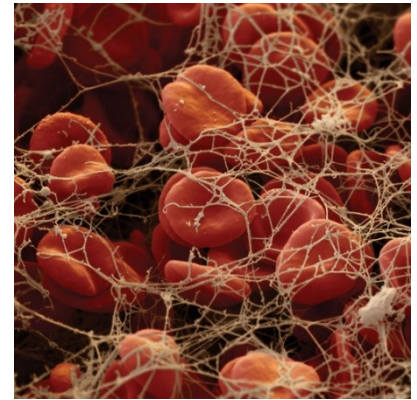
# RCT TRANSFUSION THRESHOLDS

PRETERM BABIES < 34 WEEKS



# Secondary hemostasis

## Qualitative differences



- Plasminogen, VWF, fibrinogen
- Fetal fibrinogen:

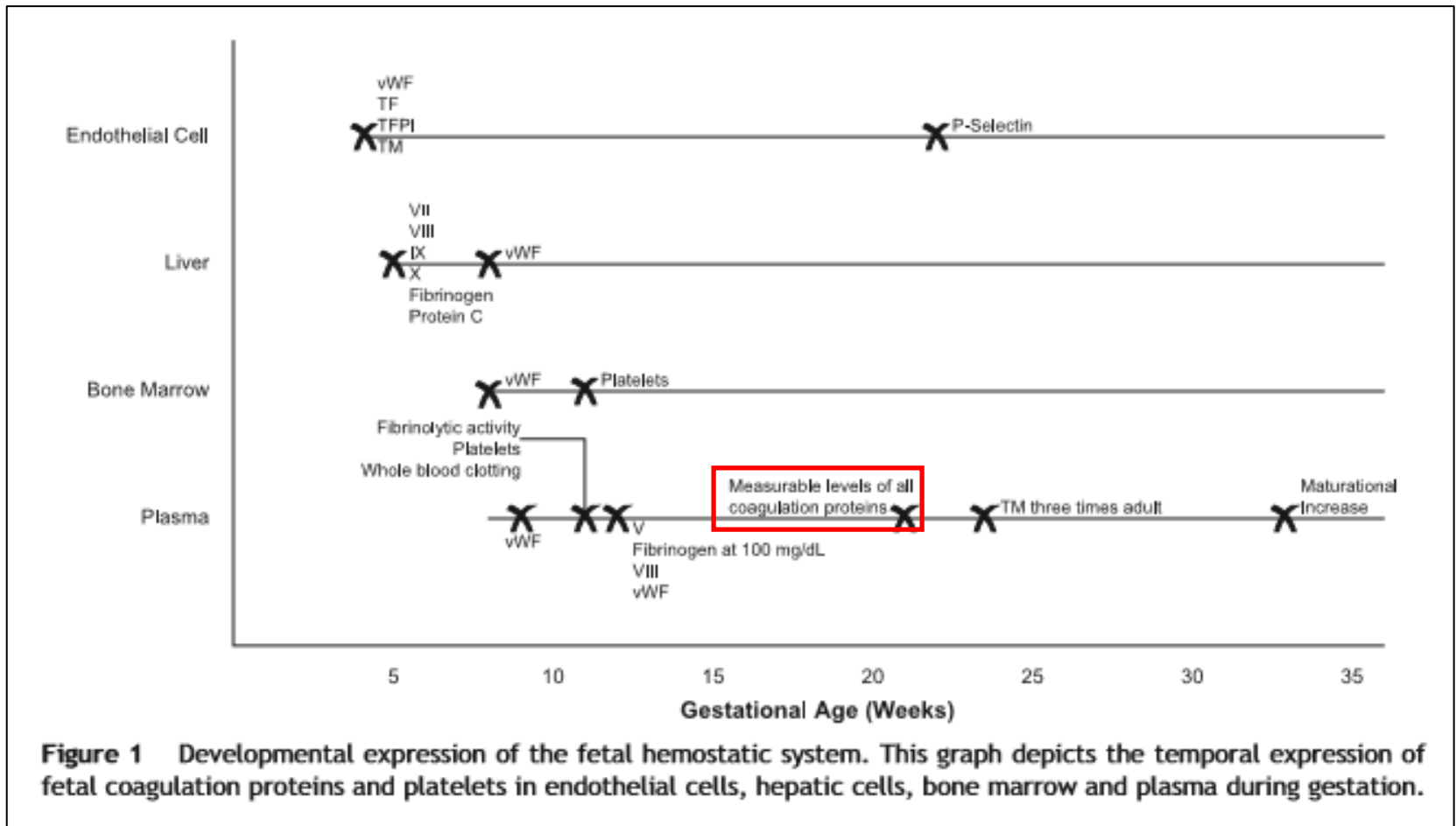
More sialic acid →

Delayed fibrin polymerization

Increased thrombin clotting times



# Hemostatic system in de fetus

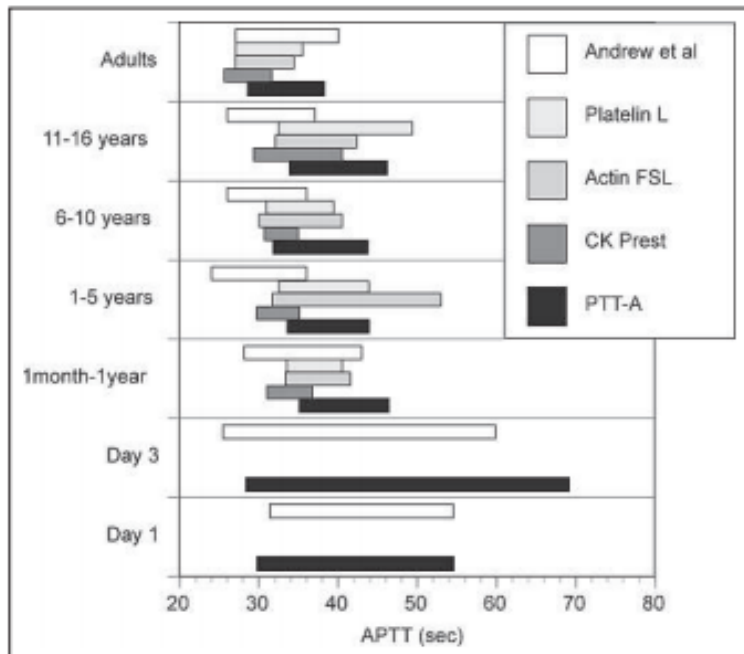


# Maturation coagulation proteins

	Neonatal age	Age adult values
	Decreased	
	Increased	
<b>Procoagulants</b>		
FII, FVII, FIX, FX	Decreased	16 yr
FXI, FXII	Decreased	1 yr, 16 yr
FV, FVIII, fibrinogen, FXIII	Increased	
<b>Anticoagulants</b>		
AT, PS, PC	Decreased	3 mo, 1 mo, 16 yr
$\alpha$ 2macroglobulin	Increased	adult
<b>Fibrinolysis</b>		
Plasminogen	Decreased	6 mo

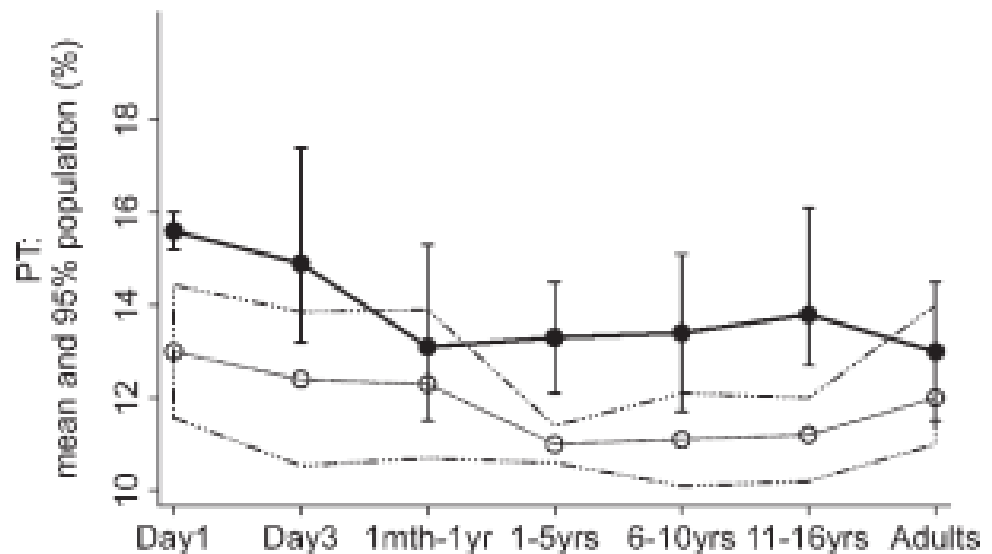
# Global coagulation tests

APTT



**Figure 1: Age-specific APTT reference ranges for healthy neonates and children using the STA analyser and four different commercially available APTT reagents.** Reference ranges are compared to those published by Andrew et al. Day 3 results for Andrew et al are actually day 5.

PT



**No increased bleeding tendency !**

# Interpretation of laboratory results

- No age-related reference ranges specific to reagents and instruments used

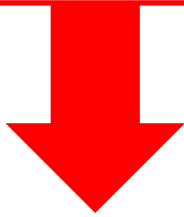
## **Developmental hemostasis: recommendations for laboratories reporting pediatric samples**

V. IGNJATOVIC,\*† G. KENET‡§ and P. MONAGLE\*†¶ ON BEHALF OF THE PERINATAL AND PAEDIATRIC HAEMOSTASIS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND STANDARDIZATION COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY ON THROMBOSIS AND HAEMOSTASIS

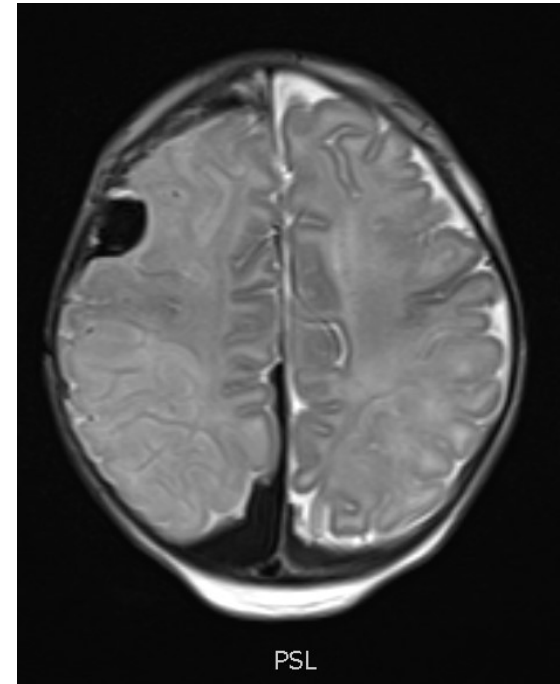
*\*Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Royal Childrens Hospital, Parkville, Victoria; †Department of Paediatrics, Royal Childrens Hospital, The University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria, Australia; ‡Thrombosis Unit, National Hemophilia Center, Sheba Medical Center, Tel-Hashomer; §The Sackler Medical School, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel; and¶Department of Clinical Haematology, Royal Childrens Hospital, Parkville, Victoria, Australia*

- Diagnosis of congenital factor deficiencies is not possible in the neonatal period

Low vitamin K dependent factors  
Poor vitamin K transfer across placenta  
Little vitamin K in breast milk



Vitamin K deficient  
bleeding



# Antithrombotic treatment

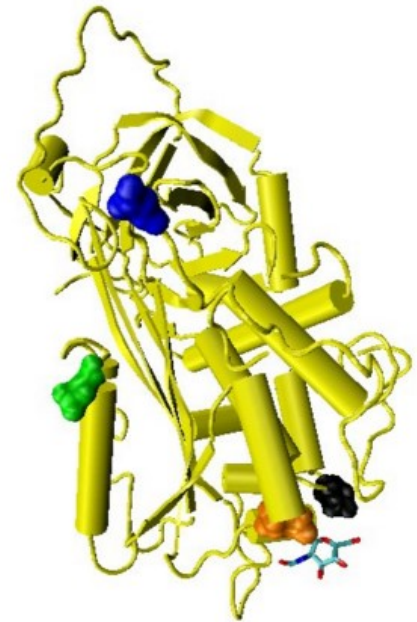
Heparin: potentiates inhibitory effects of AT

Neonates:

- Low levels AT, and FII, FX
- Increased volume of distribution
- Increased clearance rate

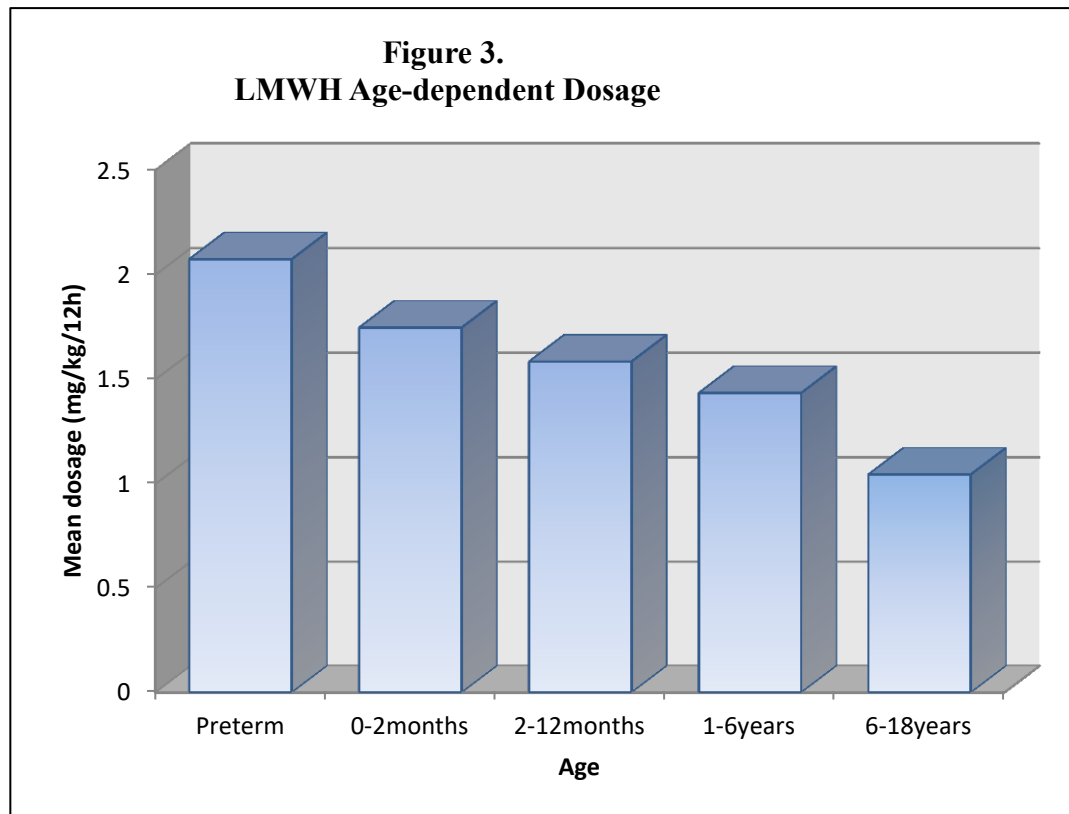


Higher dosages of UFH and LMWH



# Literature review dosages LMWH

- Search until Oct 2015
- A total of 18 studies with 1095 children treated with enoxaparin, anti Xa 0.5-1.0 U/mL



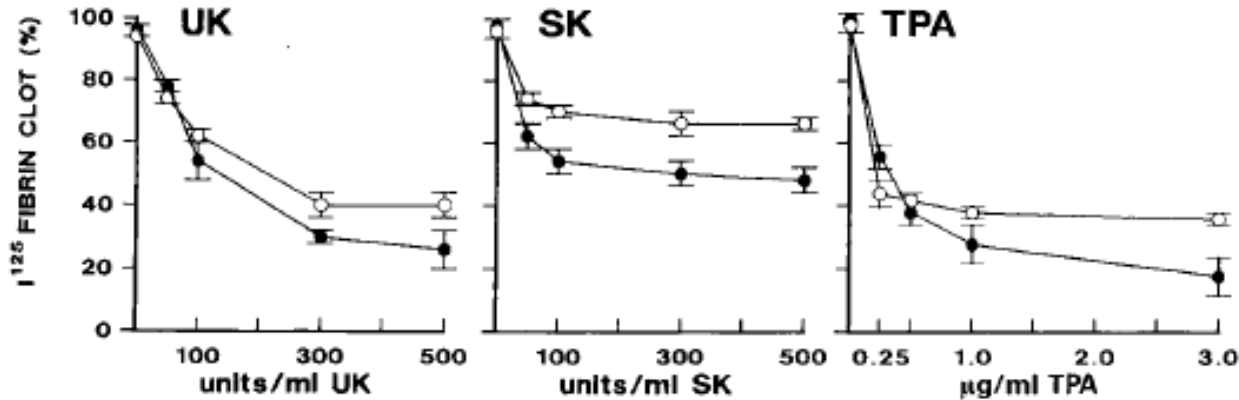
# Vitamin K antagonists

Tabel 1: Results

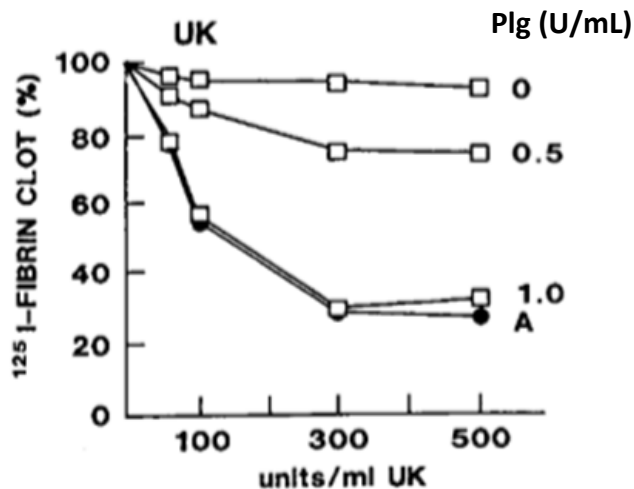
	Initial treatment		Maintenance treatment	
	Phenprocoumon (n=65)	Acenocoumarol (n=49)	Phenprocoumon (n=70)	Acenocoumarol (n=37)
<b>PHARMACODYNAMICS</b>				
<b>Dosages mg/kg, median (range)</b>				
<1 year	0.15 (0.11-0.58)	0.14 (0.06-0.41)	0.13 (0.04-0.31)	0.09 (0.06-0.22)
1-5 years	0.09 (0.07-0.16)	0.10 (0.06-0.13)	0.05 (0.04-0.08)	0.07 (0.02-0.13)
6-12 years	0.13 (0.06-0.28)	0.06 (0.06-0.08)	0.05 (0.02-0.07)	0.07 (0.04-0.22)
13-18 years	0.08 (0.02-0.17)	0.05 (0.01-0.09)	0.03 (0.02-0.07)	0.05 (0.01-0.09)
<i>p</i> -value <sup>1</sup>	0.002	<0.001	<0.001	0.026



# Thrombolytic therapy



In vitro: neonates: low plasma plasminogen levels limit the response to thrombolytic agents

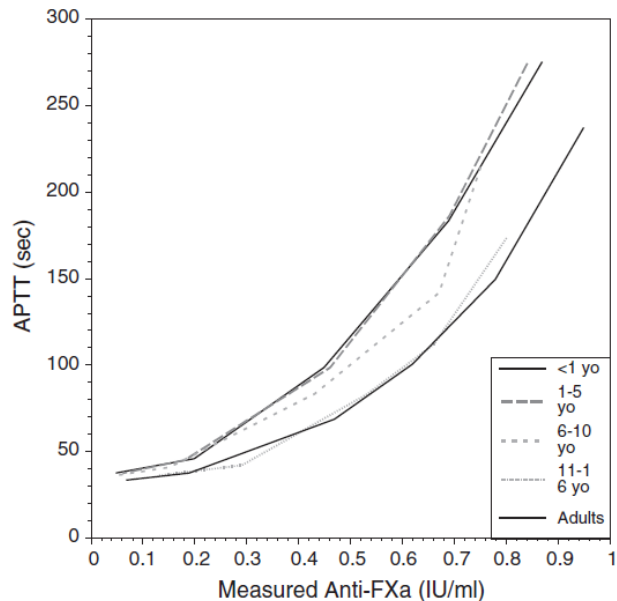


Addition of plasminogen increases clot lysis in neonatal plasma

# Monitoring anticoagulant therapy

**Table 1** Therapeutic ranges for APTT and Anti-FIIa that correlate with Anti-FXa of 0.35–0.70 IU/ml

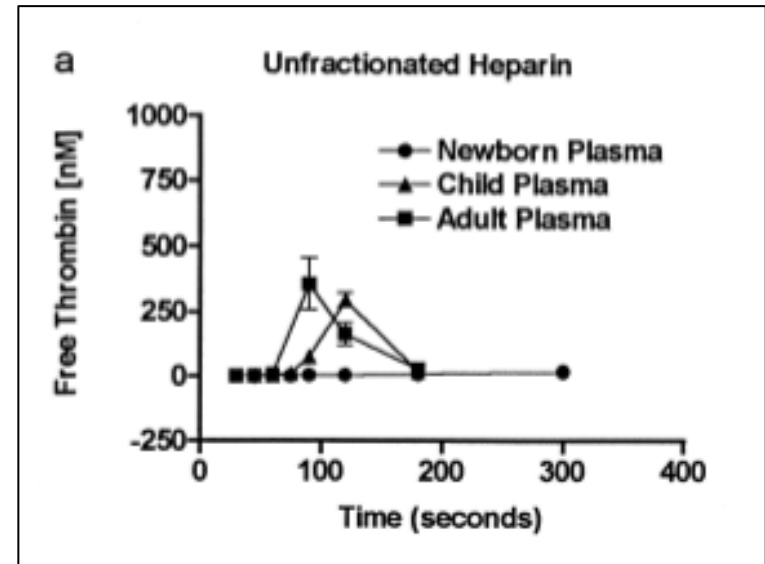
Assay	Therapeutic ranges corresponding to measured Anti-FXa of 0.35–0.70 IU/ml for specific age groups (mean and SD)				
	<1 year	1–5 years	6–10 years	11–16 years	Adults
APTT (s)	82–177 <sup>#</sup> (6) (15)	78–200 <sup>#</sup> (6) (25)	75–154 (16) (32)	54–142 (16) (38)	55–118 <sup>#</sup> (18) (35)



APTT ranges corresponding to therapeutic heparin levels are higher in children

# Therapeutic target ranges (TTR)

- Association between TTRs and clinical outcome not proven
- Studies: Neonates and infants: reduced concentrations heparin and warfarin required to inhibit thrombin generation



Chan et al TH 2002

Schechter JTH 2012:

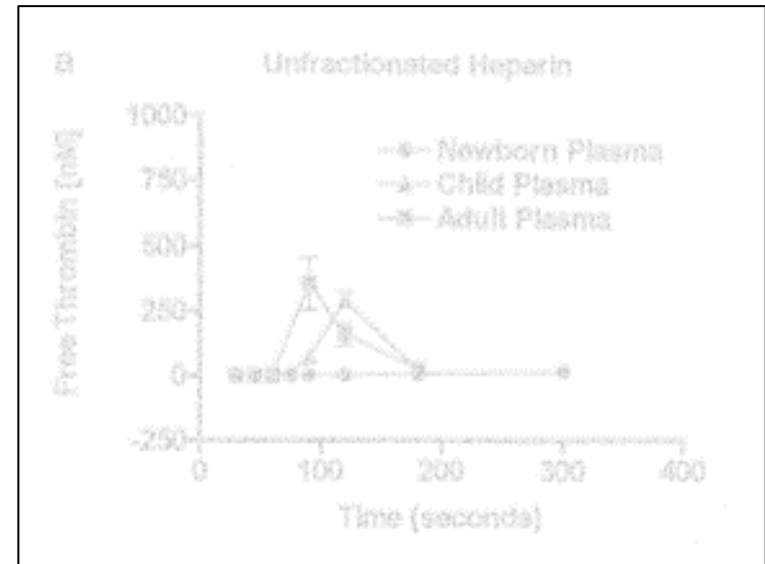
100 neonates and infants with UFH:

15% within TTR in 24 hrs, 17% never in TTR

Outcome: 70% response, 30% no change

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# Summary



- Developmental hemostasis: unique balance
- Lack of reserve capacity: bleeding and clotting in sick neonate
- Consequences for
  - Interpretation of laboratory results
  - Risk of vitamin K deficient bleeding
  - Platelet transfusions
  - Antithrombotic treatment
- New oral anticoagulants:  
pediatric specific PK and PD modeling, incorporating laboratory and clinical outcome measures

