

Al-Rasheed University College Pharmacy Department

2nd Stage / 1st Semester

2021-2022



Platelets

Physiology lab #3

Done by:

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Platelets

- They are <u>disc-shaped cells</u> that are found in the <u>blood</u>, spleen.
- Platelets (Thrombocytes) are formed in the <u>bone marrow</u> by a precursor cells megakaryocytes.
- Platelets contains <u>endoplasmic reticulum</u>, <u>lysosomes and Golgi complex</u> that possess a variety of factors that contribute to <u>platelet's function</u>.
- Platelets flows <u>inactively</u> in the blood.
- In term of injury the following occurs:

Platelets is activated >> Changes its Shape into <u>amoeboid figure</u> with <u>multiple</u> <u>pseudopods</u> to enhance its <u>function</u>.

Platelet's functions

1- They secrete growth factors that stimulate mitosis in fibroblasts and smooth muscles, help to maintain the lining of blood vessels.

2- They form temporary platelet plugs to stop bleeding.

3- They secrete chemicals that attract neutrophils and monocytes to sites of inflammation.

4- They are capable of <u>phagocytosis</u> and <u>destroy bacteria</u>

5- They dissolve <u>blood clots</u> that have out-lasted their usefulness.

6- They secrete vasoconstrictors that cause vascular spasm in injured vessels.

Hemostasis

- It's a process of arresting bleeding, preventing potential blood loss.
- Hemostasis is a multi-steps process which it includes;
- 1-Vascular spasm
- 2-Platelet plug formation
- 3-Clot retraction
- 4-Clot dissolution
- 5- Formation of fibrous tissue into the blood clot to close the whole vessel permanently

Vascular spasm

- Vascular spasm is an <u>initial (primary), rapid</u> body's response to injuries.
- Blood vessels constrict <u>rapidly</u> to prevent blood loss constructed by: <u>mediation of reflex neurogenic mechanism</u> >> <u>Local secretion of a</u> <u>potent vasoconstrictor (endothelin)</u>.

Effect is transient and bleeding might resume if not for activation of platelets and the coagulation cascade.







(a) Vasoconstriction

(b) Platelet aggregation

(c) Clot formation

Platelet Plug Formation

- It's a multi-step process which possess events that occurs <u>simultaneously;</u>
- <u>1-Platelet adhesion</u>
- <u>2-Platelet activation</u>
- <u>3-Platelet aggregation</u>
- <u>4-Expression of platelet factor III,</u> <u>coagulation factor V</u>



Platelets Adhesion

- Platelets Adhesion is initiated when exposed collagen is contacted by platelets through a key protein (Von Willebrand factor).
- VWF is secreted by megakaryocytes, platelets, blood vessel.
- VWF contributes by binding to platelet's surface receptors and to collagen >> Promoting platelets adherence to collagen.

Platelets Activation

- <u>Platelet-collagen adherence</u> by VWF stimulate platelets to secrete:
- 1- Adenosine diphosphate (ADP).
- 2- thromboxane.
- 3- vasoconstriction substances (serotonin, epinephrine).

Platelets Aggregation

- Platelet's aggregation is initiated when;
- <u>ADP</u> stimulation causes morphological changes to the platelets >> <u>Expression of</u> receptors on their surfaces >> binds to fibrinogen.
- <u>Fibrinogen</u> forms a bridge between platelets >> formation of platelet plug (Fibrin).
- ADP stimulates the production of thromboxane A2 (TXA2) which supports further platelets aggregation.
- Activated platelets express phospholipids (platelet factor III) and coagulation factor V which are <u>important part of clot formation</u>.



Clot Formation (Coagulation)

- **Blood clot**: it's a gel-like clumps of proteins, network of threadlike protein fibers known as <u>thrombus</u> that arrest blood cells, platelets leakage.
- **Coagulation** has 2 distinguished pathways;

Intrinsic pathway: Initiated with chemicals inside the blood. It starts when plasma factor XII is activated by contacting the collagen layer of a damaged blood vessel.

Extrinsic pathway: initiated with chemicals outside the blood. It starts with tissue factor III (<u>thromboplastin</u>) which is <u>released from damaged tissues</u> (outside plasma).

Control of clot formation

- Control over clot formation is a <u>critical step</u>. It <u>prevents coagulation</u> from spreading from site of initiation to the entire circulatory system.
- Blood contains several <u>anticoagulants</u> to prevent unwanted events of clotting;

Anti-Thrombin (Produced by the liver)

<u>Heparin</u> (Produced by basophiles)

Clot retraction

- the process by which a <u>blood clot</u> becomes <u>smaller</u> and draws the <u>edges of a broken blood vessel together</u>. which involves the <u>shortening</u> of fibrin threads and the squeezing out of excess serum.
- 5- Clot Dissolution
- 6- Formation of fibrous tissue

Clotting enhancing factor

- Contact with a foreign body >> Application of gauze aids very considerably in the speedy formation of a clot and arrest of hemorrhage.
- Temperature at site of injury is slightly higher than that of body.
 WHY?

Clotting retarding factor

- Storing blood in a sodium OR potassium citrate solution >> reduce clotting risk.
- Local application of cold bandage.

Determination of Bleeding Time & Clotting Time

- Bleeding time: Is the time it takes to stop bleeding.
- It measures the <u>primary phase of hemostasis</u>; (The interaction of platelets with the blood vessel wall and the formation of a hemostatic plug).
- The normal value for bleeding time is 1-5 min.
- Duration of bleeding time depends on <u>quantity and quality of</u> <u>platelets</u> and <u>ability of blood vessels to constrict</u>.

Bleeding time procedure

1- Clean the tip of your finger with 70% alcohol, and then dry it with a piece of cotton.

2- Puncture the finger with sterile lancet and record the time.

3-At 15 sec intervals wipe the blood drop away completely with filter paper.

4- Continue this procedure until no more blood stains appear on the filter paper.

5-Count the number of blood spots and divide it on 4 to obtain bleeding time in minutes

Clotting time

- It is the time required to form a fibrin clot from the beginning of shedding of blood.
- In the normal case, clotting time is 5-12 min.

Procedure

1- clean the tip of your finger with 70% alcohol, and then dry it with a piece of cotton

2- Puncture the finger with sterile lancet and obtain large drop of blood (Note the time when the drop appears)

3- Rapidly draw **blood** into a <u>non-heparinized capillary</u> by holding the tube in a horizontal position >> Allow blood to rise at least half the tube

4- Wait 3 min from the starting of filling and break of a small piece of the capillary tube. Repeat every 30 sec until you notice that the <u>blood has clotted</u> (clotting has occurred when a <u>fine fibrin thread is visible</u> between the two pieces of tubing)

5- Note the time when clotting first is seen. Divide the number of pieces on 2 to obtain clotting time in min.

6- do not forget the addition of waiting time to the results



SPIDERMAN SAVS PERFECT

