

# **Bleeding and Coagulopathies in Critical Care unit**

*Essay*

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of Master Degree  
in Intensive Care Medicine

*Presented by*

**Mostafa Mahmoud Meselhy**

M.B., B.Ch. Faculty of Medicine, Banha University

*Supervised by*

**Prof. Dr. Sherif Farouk Ibrahim**

*Professor of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care Medicine*

*& Pain Management*

*Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University*

**Prof. Dr. Karim Youssef Kamal**

*Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care Medicine*

*& Pain Management*

*Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University*

**Dr. Mohammed Mahmoud Maarouf**

*Lecturer of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care Medicine*


*& Pain Management*

*Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University*

**Faculty of Medicine**

**Ain Shams University**

**2017**



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَيُعَلِّمُكُمُ اللَّهُ  
وَاللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ

صدق الله العظيم  
سورة البقرة - آية ٢٨٢



## Acknowledgement

First, I feel always indebted to **Allah**, the Most Kind and the Most Merciful.

I would like also to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to **Prof. Dr. Sherif Farouk Ibrahim**, Professor of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care Medicine, & Pain Management, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his unlimited help, great efforts and time he has devoted to accomplish this work. I really have the honor to complete this work under his supervision.

I am deeply grateful to **Prof. Dr. Karim Youssef Kamal**, Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care Medicine & Pain Management, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his unlimited help and giving me the privilege to work under his supervision. His care and support are really valuable and precious.

I would like also to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to **Dr. Mohammed Mahmoud Maarouf**, Lecturer of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care Medicine, & Pain Management, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his care and support, also for the efforts and time he has devoted to accomplish this work.

Finally, I wish to extend my thanks to my **Family** for their care and support.

 **Mostafa Mahmoud Meselhy**

## **List of Contents**

<i><b>Subject</b></i>	<i><b>Page No.</b></i>
<b>List of Abbreviations .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>List of Tables.....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>List of Figures .....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Aim of the Work.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Chapter (1): Physiology of Hemostasis and Coagulation Cascade .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Chapter (2): Etiology and pathophysiology of disorders of hemostasis .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Chapter (3): Management of Bleeding and Coagulopathies in Critical Care Unit .....</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Summary.....</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>References.....</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Arabic Summary .....</b>	<b>—</b>

---

## List of Abbreviations

<i>Abbr.</i>	<i>Full-term</i>
<b>ABCDE</b>	: Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability and Exposure
<b>APC</b>	: Activated Protein C
<b>aPTT</b>	: Activated partial thromboplastin time
<b>AST</b>	: Aspartate aminotransferase
<b>ATC</b>	: Acute traumatic coagulopathy :
<b>AXR</b>	: Abdominal radiograph
<b>BUN</b>	: Blood urea nitrogen
<b>CBC</b>	: Complete Blood Count
<b>CNS</b>	: Central nervous system
<b>COPD</b>	: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
<b>CT</b>	: Computed Tomography
<b>CXR</b>	: Chest radiography
<b>DDAVP</b>	: Desmopressin
<b>DIC</b>	: Disseminated intravascular coagulation
<b>ECG</b>	: An Electrocardiogram
<b>ESR</b>	: Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate
<b>FFP</b>	: Fresh frozen plasma
<b>Fp</b>	: Fibrinopeptides
<b>GI</b>	: Gastrointestinal
<b>gla</b>	: $\gamma$ -carboxyl glutamic acid
<b>GP</b>	: Glycoprotein
<b>HITTS</b>	: Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia and thrombosis syndrome
<b>HIV</b>	: Human immunodeficiency virus
<b>HUS</b>	: Hemolytic-Uremic Syndrome
<b>INR</b>	: international normalized ratio
<b>ITP</b>	: Immune thrombocytopenic purpura

<b>IU</b>	: International units
<b>IVIG</b>	: Intravenous immunoglobulin .
<b>LMW</b>	: Low molecular weight
<b>MAHA</b>	: Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia
<b>MDS</b>	: Myelodysplastic syndrome
<b>MRI</b>	: Magnetic Resonance Imaging
<b>NAPs</b>	: Nematode family of anticoagulant proteins
<b>PAI</b>	: Plasminogen activator inhibitor
<b>PAR-1</b>	: protease-activated receptor 1 ,
<b>PCC</b>	: Prothrombin complex concentrates
<b>PGI<sub>2</sub></b>	: Prostacyclin
<b>PT</b>	: Prothrombin time
<b>PTT</b>	: Partial thromboplastin time;
<b>RBCs</b>	: Red blood cells
<b>rFVIIa</b>	: Recombinant activated factor VII
<b>rTM</b>	: Recombinant thrombomodulin
<b>SIRS</b>	: Systemic inflammatory response syndrom
<b>TAFI</b>	: Thrombin Activatable Fibrinolytic Inhibitor
<b>TF</b>	: Tissue factor
<b>TFPI</b>	: Tissue Factor Pathway Inhibitor
<b>tPA</b>	: Tissue Plasminogen Activator
<b>TTP</b>	: Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura
<b>TXA</b>	: Tranexamic acid
<b>vWD</b>	: Von Willebrand's disease
<b>vWF</b>	: von Willebrand Factor
<b>WBC</b>	: white blood cell

## List of Tables

<i>Table No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
<b>Table (1):</b>	Possible factors contributing to haemostatic failure following massive blood transfusion .....	31
<b>Table (2):</b>	Main features of disseminated intravascular coagulation .....	38
<b>Table (3):</b>	Treatment of thrombocytopenia in critically ill patients .....	66
<b>Table (4):</b>	The imaging modalities used in the investigation of sepsis.....	70
<b>Table (5):</b>	Coagulation parameters in acute and chronic disseminated intravascular coagulation.....	78

## List of Figures

<i>Figure No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
<b>Figure (1):</b>	Basic representation of the elements of hemostasis .....	4
<b>Figure (2):</b>	A stylized view of endothelial functions related to procoagulation and anticoagulation .....	5
<b>Figure (3):</b>	Coagulation pathway .....	14
<b>Figure (4):</b>	A representation of the original extrinsic pathway proposed in 1905 .....	15
<b>Figure (5):</b>	A model of the classic extrinsic and intrinsic coagulation pathways .....	17
<b>Figure (6):</b>	A newer model of the coagulation pathway. ....	19
<b>Figure (7):</b>	Fibrinogen as an abundant plasma protein that is a dimer of the A $\alpha$ , B $\beta$ , and $\gamma$ chains connected by disulfide bonds.T .....	21
<b>Figure (8):</b>	Algorithm illustrating the fundamental operation of the coagulation pathway .....	24
<b>Figure (9):</b>	Examination of the peripheral smears in immune thrombo-cytopenic purpura often shows giant platelets .....	49
<b>Figure (10):</b>	Bone marrow in immune thrombo-cytopenic purpura. Bone marrow examination reveals an increased number of megakaryocytes.....	50



<b>Figure (11):</b>	Spurious thrombocytopenia. Peripheral smear of a patient reported to have platelet counts of 10,000-150,000/ $\mu$ L on various occasions.....	51
<b>Figure (12):</b>	Peripheral blood smear: patient with thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura.....	52
<b>Figure (13):</b>	Clinical and laboratory evaluation of sepsis .....	72
<b>Figure (14):</b>	Peripheral smear in microangiopathic hemolytic anemia showing presence of schistocytes.....	78
<b>Figure (15):</b>	Five-step algorithm for the diagnosis of DIC .....	80
<b>Figure (16):</b>	Strategy for the management of acute traumatic coagulopathy.....	91

## **Abstract**

**Introduction:** Bleeding is the second leading cause of death after trauma. Initial care of the patient with hemorrhage focuses on restoring circulating blood volume and reversing coagulopathy. Trauma and injury can initiate the coagulation cascade. Patients with massive bleeding should be resuscitated with goal-directed therapy, applying recent recommendations of goal-directed therapy, massive transfusion protocols, fixed ratios, markedly impact the outcome.

**Objectives:** This review aims to study the physiology of hemostasis and coagulation cascade, causes, pathophysiology and management of disorders of hemostasis in critical care unit.

**Data sources:** Medline databases (PubMed, Medscape, Science Direct) and all materials available in the Internet till 2017.

**Study Selection:** This search presented 150 articles. The articles studied the causes, pathophysiology and management of disorders of hemostasis in critical care unit.

**Data extraction:** If the studies did not fulfill the inclusion criteria, they were excluded. Study quality assessment included whether ethical approval was gained, eligibility criteria specified, appropriate controls, and adequate information and defined assessment measures.

**Conclusion:** Massive bleeding with coagulopathy and hemorrhagic shock poses a potential threat to life in numerous clinical settings. Optimal treatment including the prevention of exsanguination necessitates a standardized and interdisciplinary approach. Several studies have shown the importance of massive transfusion protocols and standardized coagulation algorithms to improve survival of severely bleeding patients and to avoid secondary complications.

**Key words:** coagulopathies ICU, hemorrhagic shock

## Introduction

The definition of coagulopathy is “a condition in which the blood ability to clot is impaired.” However, for some clinicians, the term also covers thrombotic states, and because of the complexity of the hemostatic pathways, the two conditions can exist simultaneously. Such states are common in patients in the intensive care unit and require a clinicopathological approach to ensure that the correct diagnosis is made and the appropriate treatment administered (*Orfanakis and Deloughery, 2013*).

Hemostasis is the process that maintains the integrity of a closed, high-pressure circulatory system after vascular damage. Vessel-wall injury and the extravasation of blood from the circulation rapidly initiate events in the vessel wall and in blood that seal the breach. Circulating platelets are recruited to the site of injury, where they become a major component of the developing thrombus; blood coagulation, initiated by tissue factor, culminates in the generation of thrombin and fibrin (*White and Newton, 2015*).

Bleeding is the second leading cause of death after trauma. Initial care of the patient with hemorrhage focuses on restoring circulating blood volume and reversing coagulopathy. Trauma and injury can initiate the coagulation cascade. Patients with massive bleeding should be resuscitated with goal-directed

therapy, applying recent recommendations of goal-directed therapy, massive transfusion protocols, fixed ratios, markedly impact the outcome (*Paterson and Stein, 2014*).

Hemostatic disorder is common in critical ill patient and may be complex and multifactorial in pathogenesis. As disorder of hemostasis may complicate a wide range of medical, surgical and obstetric disorders, definitive diagnosis and specific therapy can significantly impact the outcome (*Hart and Spannagl, 2014*).

Massive bleeding with coagulopathy and hemorrhagic shock poses a potential threat to life in numerous clinical settings. Optimal treatment including the prevention of exsanguination necessitates a standardized and interdisciplinary approach. Several studies have shown the importance of massive transfusion protocols and standardized coagulation algorithms to improve survival of severely bleeding patients and to avoid secondary complications (*Grottke et al., 2013*).

## **Aim of the Work**

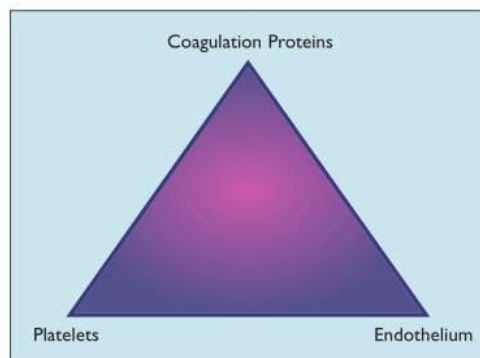
**T**he aim of this essay is to study the physiology of hemostasis and coagulation cascade, causes, pathophysiology and management of disorders of hemostasis in critical care unit.

## Chapter (1)

# Physiology of Hemostasis and Coagulation Cascade

**W**ith the evolution of vertebrates and their pressurized circulatory system, there had to arise some method to seal the system if injured; hence, the hemostatic system. Interestingly, there is nothing quite comparable to the vertebrate hemostatic system in invertebrate species. In all vertebrates studied, the basic constituents of the hemostatic system appear to be conserved.

Each element of the hemostatic system occupies a site at the vertex of an equilateral triangle. This representation implies that each system constituent interacts with and influences all other constituents. In the normal resting state, these interactions conspire to maintain the fluidity of the blood to ensure survival of the organism. Normally, only at the site of an injury will the fluidity of the blood be altered and a blood clot form (figure 1) (*Colman et al., 2006*).

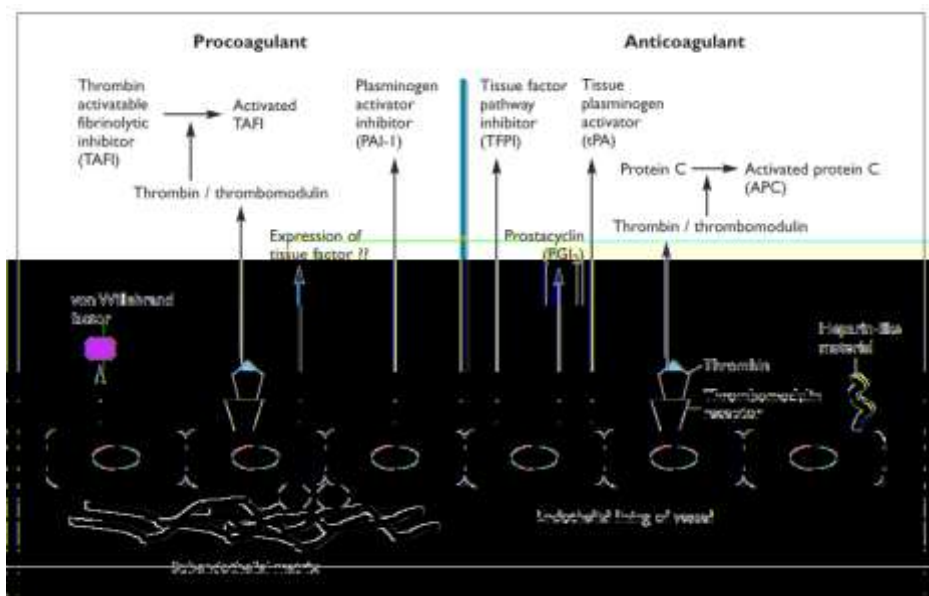


**Figure (1):** Basic representation of the elements of hemostasis  
(*Colman et al., 2006*)

## *Constituents of the hemostatic system:*

### **1 - Endothelium:**

The endothelium normally promotes blood fluidity, unless there is an injury. With damage, the normal response is to promote coagulation at the wound site while containing the coagulation response and not allowing it to propagate beyond this site (figure 2) (*Aird, 2005*).



**Figure (2):** A stylized view of endothelial functions related to procoagulation and anticoagulation. The subendothelial matrix, represented by the purple interlocking lines, is a complex of many materials. The most important constituents of the subendothelial matrix related to coagulation function are collagen and vonWillebrand factor (*Aird, 2005*).

Until recently, the dogma of blood clotting suggested that the single, major procoagulant function of the endothelium is to make and express tissue factor with injury.