

## Appendix 1: Key points in the history for thrombocytopenia

### Presenting symptoms

Symptoms suggestive of bleeding tendency (recent and long term):

- Menorrhagia
- Epistaxis
- Haematuria
- Abnormal bruising
- Bleeding from gums or GI tract
- Petechiae or purpura

### Symptoms/risk factors of underlying conditions:

- Pregnancy
- Recent drugs or vaccinations ([Table 2](#))
- Travel abroad (malaria, dengue fever, rickettsiosis)
- Alcohol intake
- Ingestion of tonic water (quinine)
- Recent transfusion or organ transplantation
- Risk factors for viral hepatitis and HIV
- Dyspepsia (*H Pylori* can cause thrombocytopenia)
- Weight loss, fever or night sweats (possible malignancy)
- Rashes, arthralgia (connective tissue disease)

### Family history

Family history of thrombocytopenia- congenital thrombocytopenia is often diagnosed in adults

### Past Medical History

- Chronic liver disease
- Connective tissue disease
- Hypothyroidism
- Past history of thrombocytopenia

## Appendix 2: Some common drugs causing thrombocytopenia<sup>4,9,14,</sup>

### Common drugs causing thrombocytopenia

- Bendrofluazide
- Carbamazepine
- Ceftriaxone
- Erythromycin
- Fluoroquinolones (e.g. levofloxacin, ofloxacin)
- Heparin\*
- Herbal and dietary supplements (e.g. ginkgo biloba, ginseng)
- Hydroxychloroquine
- Ibuprofen
- Phenytoin
- Quinine (including tonic water)
- Rifampicin
- Sulphamethoxazole-Trimethoprim
- Vaccines (MMR, Pneumococcal, Hep B, Influenza, Astra-Zeneca Covid-19 vaccine)
- Valproate Sodium
- Vancomycin

\*Heparin induced thrombocytopenia is rare but carries a significant risk of thrombosis. Contact on call Haematology for patients whose platelet count is low, or has dropped by more than 50%, and have had heparin