

Having a platelets function test

Haematology

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Information for Patients

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What is a platelet function test?

A platelet function test checks if your platelets are working properly. Platelets are tiny blood cells that help your blood clot when you get hurt. Doctors ask for this test if they think your platelets might not be working right. Most often it is because you bruise or bleed easily. The test can find problems you were born with or ones that started later in life.

How is the test done?

We need to take some of your blood for the test. It is like a normal blood test, but we need more tubes of blood. Sometimes we might need to try more than once to get enough blood.

To help us, please drink plenty of water before you come.

Can I have this test during my normal clinic visit?

No, we need to set up a special time for this test. We will call you to make an appointment. Please let us know if you cannot come. Other people are waiting for this test too. We can give them your slot if you tell us early.

Where do I go for the test?

We'll tell you where to go when we make your appointment. It is usually at Leicester Haemophilia Centre, Haemostasis and Thrombosis Unit Level 2, Osborne Building, Leicester Royal Infirmary, Infirmary, Square Leicester LE1 5WW.

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

How should I get ready for the test?

Some things can change how your platelets work.

To get the best results, we need to avoid these things before the test. See the list below about medicines and foods.

For 2 weeks before the test make a list of all the medicines you take. You also need to include the ones you buy without a prescription. Bring this list with you.

Do not stop taking any of your medicines unless a doctor tells you to.

How will I get the results?

It might take a few weeks to get all the results. We will talk about them with you at your next appointment at the Haemophilia Centre.

Are there any risks?

Like all blood tests, there are a few small risks:

- You might bleed a bit or get a bruise. Pressing hard when the needle comes out can help stop this
- It might hurt a little for a few minutes
- Your arm might swell up. Tell the person taking your blood if your arm is already swollen
- You might feel dizzy. Tell someone if you feel wobbly or lightheaded
- You could get an infection, but this almost never happens

Medications that interfere with platelets function testing

Please do not stop taking them before talking to a healthcare professional

- Aspirin
- Ibuprofen
- Naproxen
- Indomethacin
- Mefenamic acid
- Abciximab
- Clopidogrel
- Tirofiban
- Prasugrel
- Clofibrate

- Guaifenesin
- Cangrelor
- Ticlopidine
- Ticagrelor
- Dipyridamole
- Heparinoids
- Vitamin K antagonists and direct thrombin inhibitors. B-adrenergic blockers (propranolol)
- Vasodilators (nitroprusside, nitroglycerin)
- Diuretics (furosemide)
- Calcium channel blockers
- B-lactams (penicillins, cephalosporins)
- Amphotericin (antifungal)
- Hydroxychloroquine (antimalarial)
- Nitrofurantoin
- Antidepressants
- Phenothiazines

Food and herbs products that interfere with platelets function testing (at high levels).

Please let us know if you think you consume any of this list at high levels.

- Alcohol
- Fish oil
- Caffeine
- Tamarind
- Cumin
- Turmeric
- Fenugreek
- Vitamins C and E
- Garlic, onion, ginger
- Black Tree Fungus
- Ginseng (“Chinese mushroom”)



Contact details

Leicester Haemophilia Centre, Haemostasis & Thrombosis Unit Level 2, Osborne Building,
Leicester Royal Infirmary, Infirmary, Square Leicester LE1 5WW.

Telephone: 0300 303 1573

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
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Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

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