

We promote excellence in research, education and public awareness of platelet biology in human health and disease.

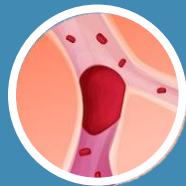
2 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE UK SUFFER FROM PLATELET RELATED COMPLICATIONS

- ✦ Blood platelets play a key role in the process of blood clotting
- ✦ Platelets maintain the health of our blood vessels
- ✦ However, these small cells have also been implicated in a range of different diseases and disorders including excess bleeding and thrombosis



THROMBOSIS

- ✦ Is the formation of an unwanted blood clot that can block an important blood vessel
- ✦ Can happen in arteries or veins
- ✦ Is the major cause of heart attacks and strokes
- ✦ Antiplatelet drugs can reduce the chance of a heart attack or stroke



 **100,000 people die in the UK**  per year as a result of a heart attack or stroke



BLEEDING can occur if:

- ✦ Our platelets do not work well
- ✦ There are insufficient numbers of platelets

6,000 people in the UK

currently diagnosed with a Platelet related bleeding disorder

- ✦ Platelets are also increasingly being recognised as major contributors to many other diseases, from cancers to arthritis

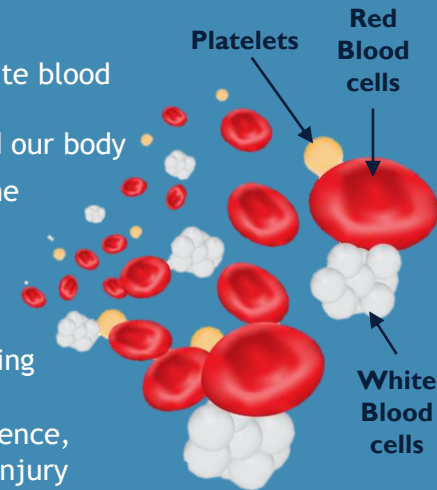
Medical research is absolutely vital to help develop better awareness of the role of platelets in disease

BLOOD

- ✦ Blood is made up of red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma
- ✦ Red blood cells transport oxygen around our body
- ✦ White blood cells are part of the immune system and act to fight off infection

PLATELETS

- ✦ Platelets are the smallest blood cells in blood & they play a crucial role in clotting
- ✦ Platelets are the body's first line of defence, preventing too much bleeding after an injury
- ✦ In response to blood vessel damage, platelets activate & stick together to form a blood clot
- ✦ Blood clots 'plug' holes in the blood vessel to prevent bleeding
- ✦ In addition, platelets have also been implicated in other diseases, such as cancer and autoimmune diseases.



RISK FACTORS

THROMBOSIS

- HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
- HIGH CHOLESTEROL
- DIABETES
- SMOKING
- BEING OVERWEIGHT
- NOT DOING ENOUGH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
- FAMILY HISTORY

BLEEDING

The majority of platelet related bleeding disorders are inherited or a consequence of other diseases



 THE PLATELET SOCIETY

OUR GOAL IS TO USE THE RESULTS OF OUR RESEARCH TO DEVELOP BETTER STRATEGIES AND MEDICINES TO PREVENT AND TREAT PLATELET RELATED COMPLICATIONS.

For further information visit: <https://plateletsociety.co.uk/>

