



11

# Platelet Structure & Function



GIT

# Objectives

- 🔴 Understand platelet normal ultrastructure
- 🔴 Understand the functions of different platelets organelles and surface receptors
- 🔴 Understand the mechanisms of platelet functions
- 🔴 Relate membrane receptors and granule content to normal function in hemostasis and bleeding (platelet) disorders

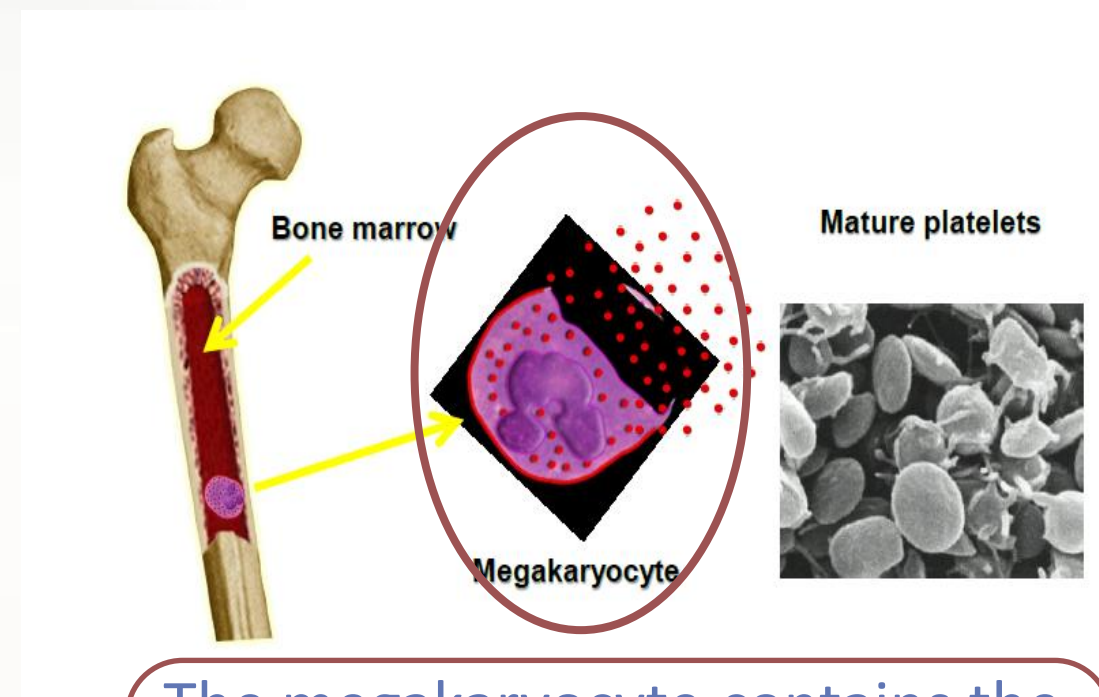
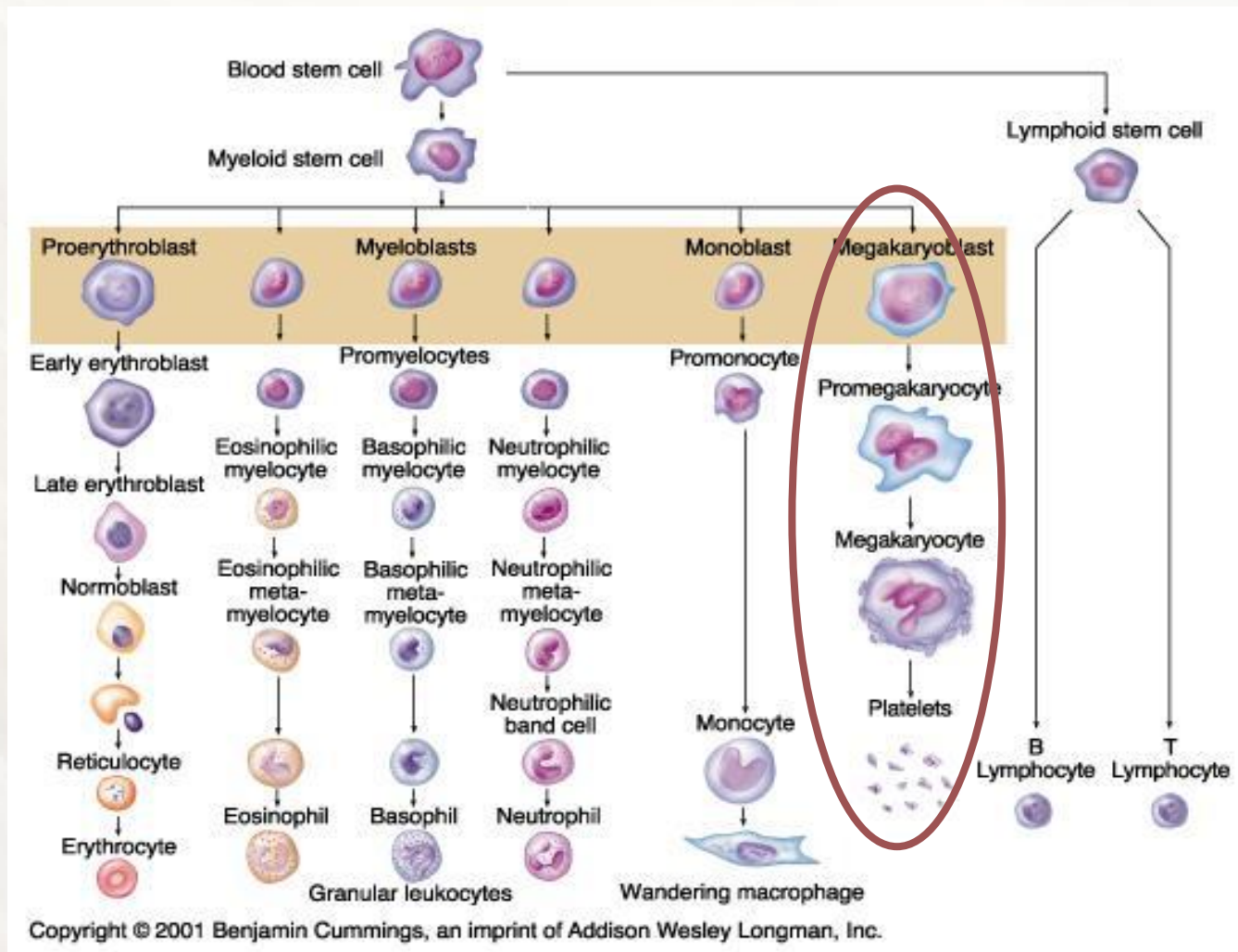
## New terms :

- 🔴 GP = glyco protein
- 🔴 vW factor = von Willebrand factor
- 🔴 TXA2 = Thromboxane A2

- Remember to differentiate between:**
- 🔴 Haemostasis = stoppage of bleeding
  - 🔴 Homeostasis = balance

# Site of formation :

in the bone marrow by the stem cell → megakaryoblast → megakaryocyte ( the hugest cell )  
→ platelets



The megakaryocyte contains the platelet → it will break down and release the platelets into the circulation

The formation of the platelets called **Thrombopoiesis** and it is regulated by **Thrombopoietin** ( from the liver )



# Platelet ultr-structure:

-It is anuclear ( no nucleus ) and discoid cell in when it isn't active → spherical shape when it is activated

-OCS : \* increases the surface area during the bleeding .

\* passage of the platelet secretion .

-Alpha granule = like bags in side the cell which contains :

- ❖ von Willebrand Factor
- ❖ Fibrinogen

-The Dense tubular system responsible for changing the shape of the platelets when they become active

•Sequestered in the spleen;

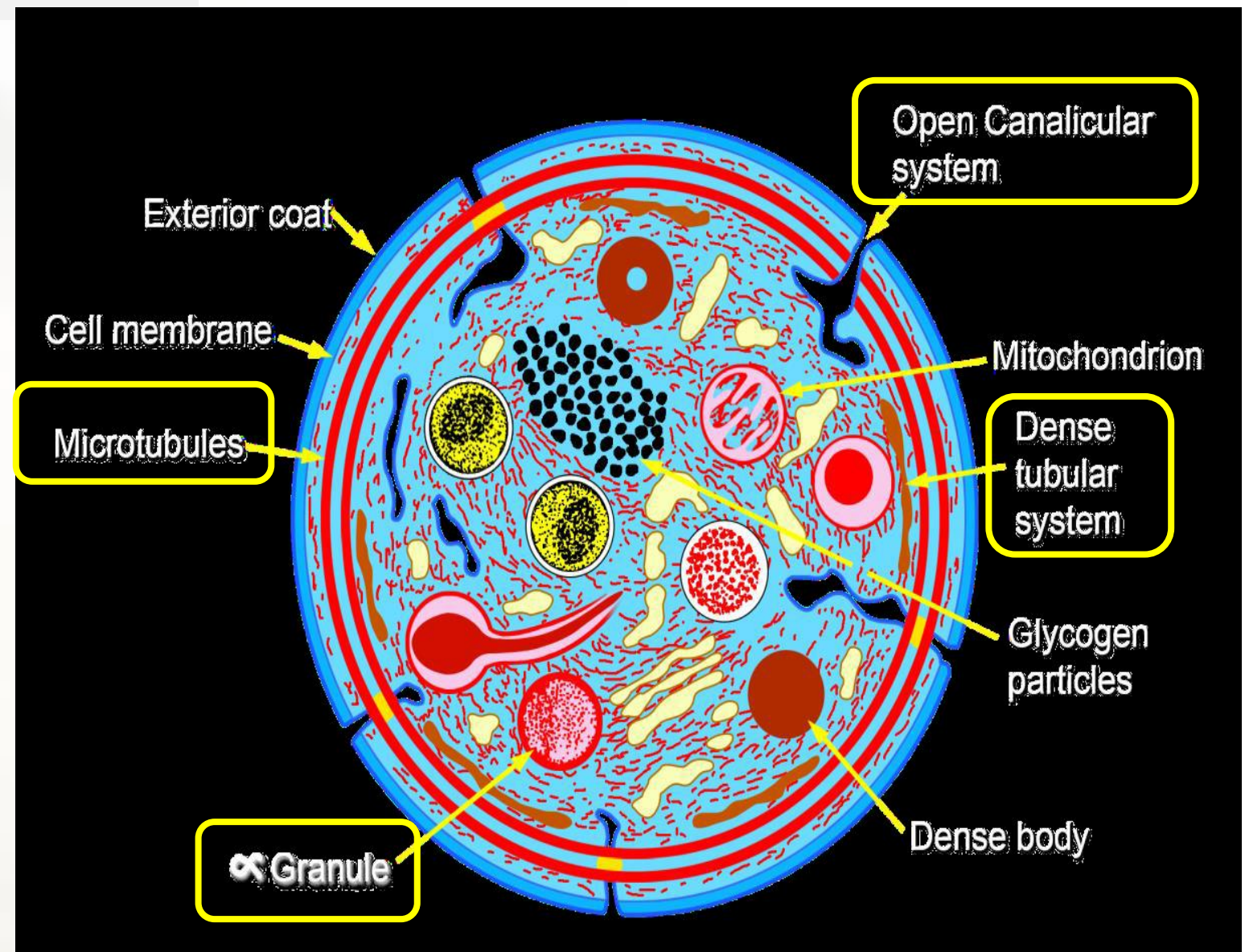
hypersplenism may lead to low platelet

counts لأنه تتم إزالة الصفائح الدموية عن طريق الطحال

وهذا الخلل في عمل الطحال يؤدي الى ازالة الصفائح

الصالحه والفاسته من الدم مما قد يسبب نزيف لعدم وجود

مايكفي من الصائح لوقف النزوي



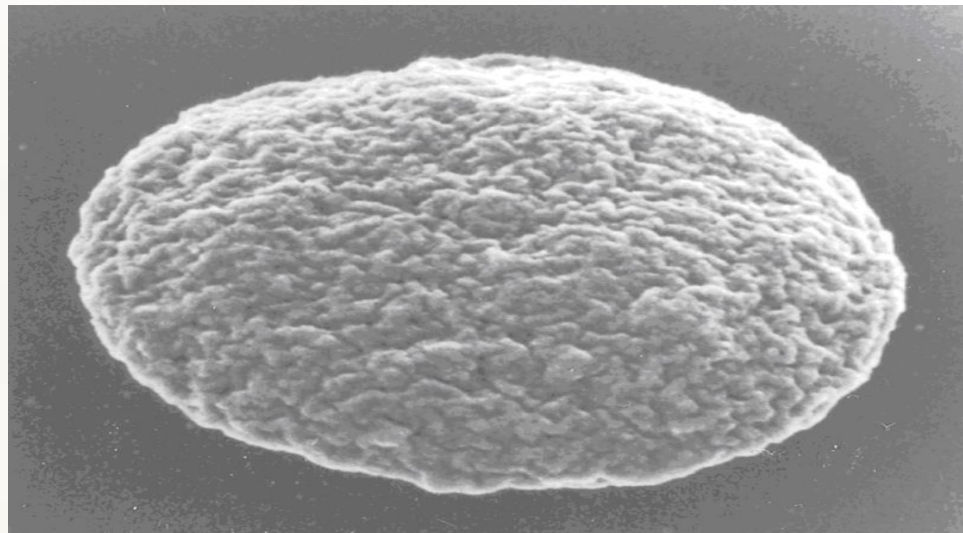
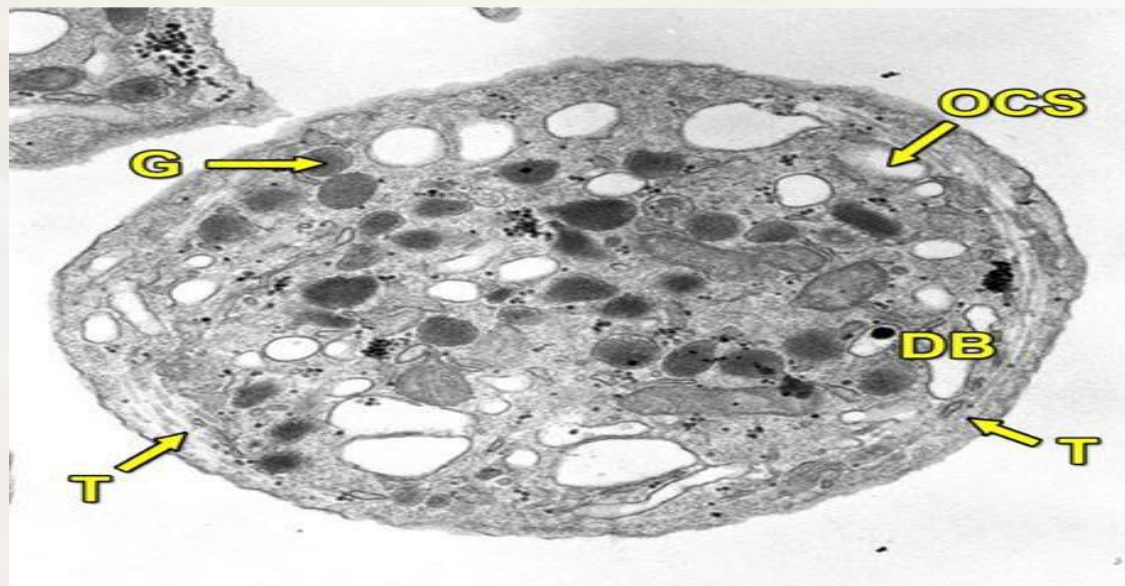
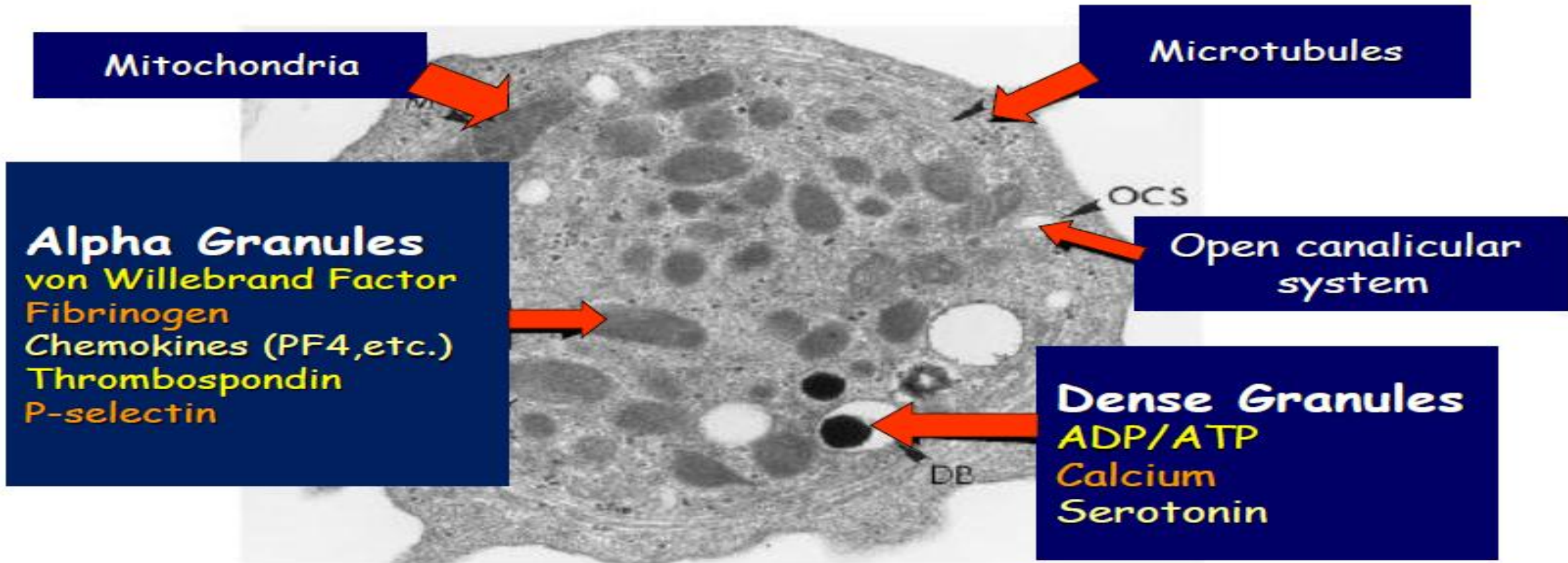
•Platelet count =  $150 \times 10^3$ - $300 \times 10^3$ /ml

•Size: 1.5–3.0  $\mu$ m

•Life span: 7–10 days

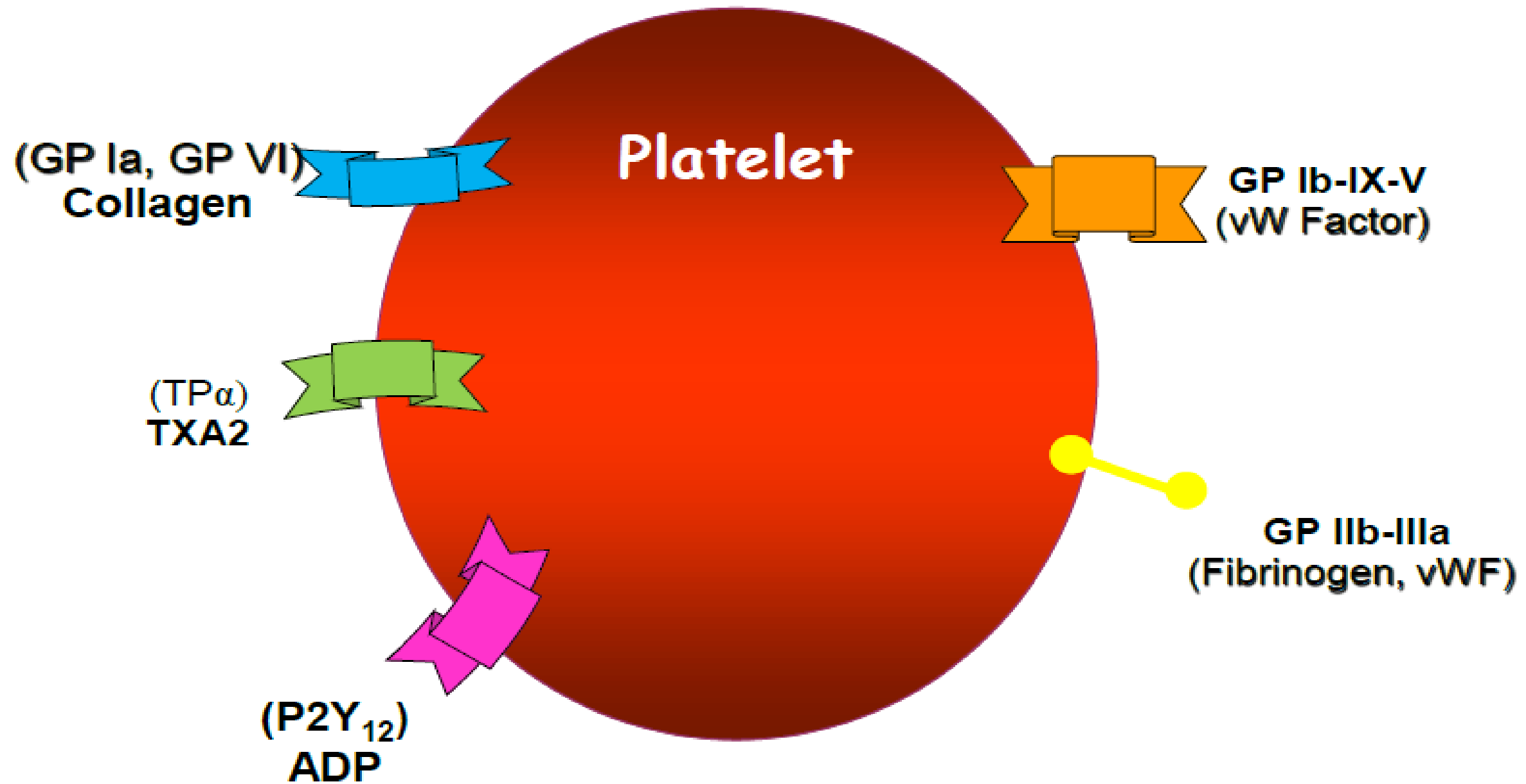


# Platelet Ultrastructure



It looks like the brain

# Platelet receptors:



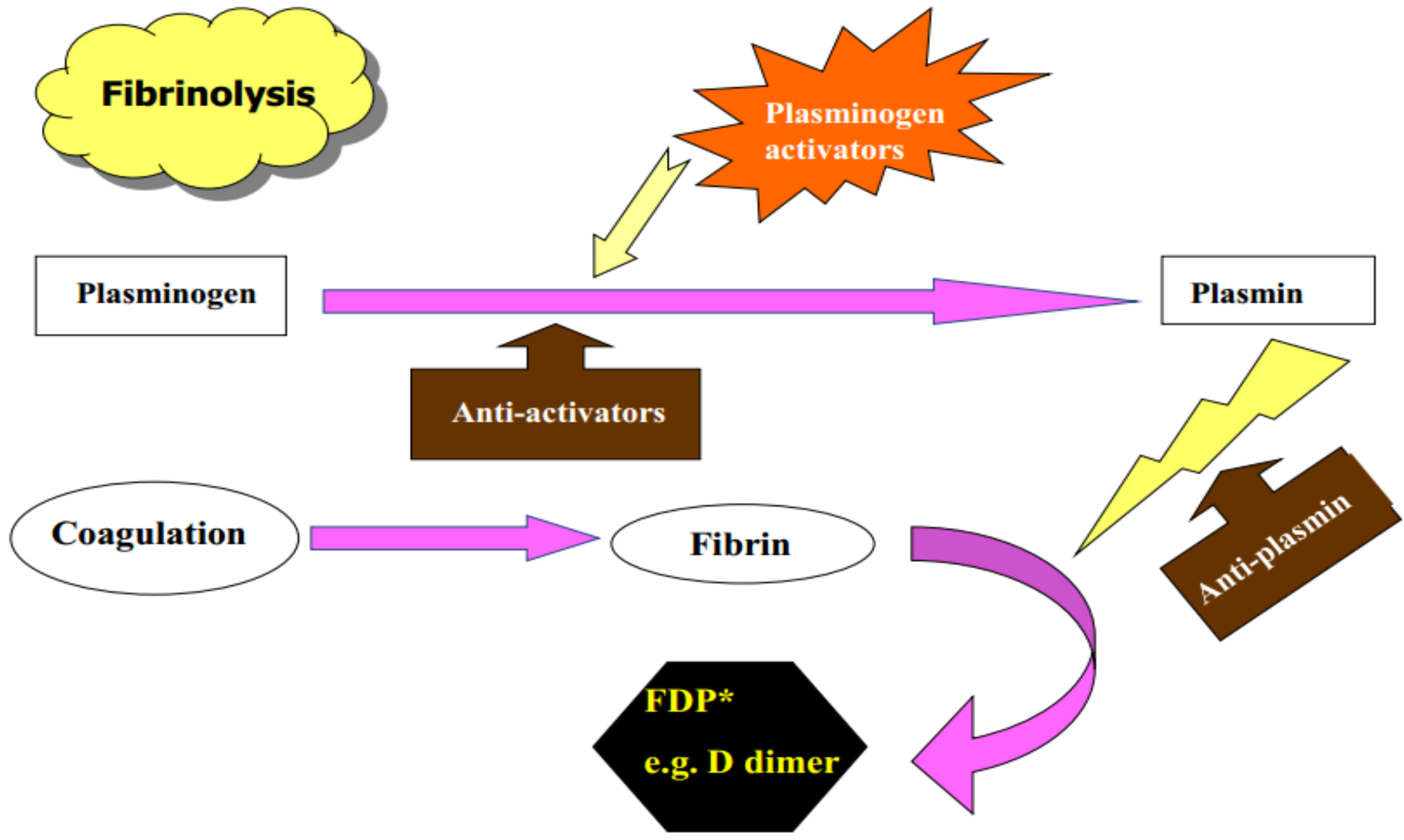
# General functions of the platelets :

1. Initial arrest of bleeding by platelet plug formation ( haemostasis )
2. Platelets and blood coagulation

## 1. Initial arrest of bleeding by platelet plug formation ( haemostasis )

Vascular phase	Platelet phase	Coagulation phase	Firbrinolytic phase
Vasoconstriction of the injured vessel and reflex constriction of the adjacent small arteries and arterioles → to decrease blood flow	Platelets activation : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ adhesion</li><li>❖ shape change</li><li>❖ aggregation</li><li>❖ release reaction</li><li>❖ clot retraction</li></ul>	-A series of biochemical reactions leading to the formation of a blood clot → eads to the activation of thrombin enzyme from inactive form Prothrombin → Thrombin will change fibrinogen (plasma protein) to fibrin (insoluble protein) → formation of secondary haemostatic plug	-Break down of fibrin by naturally occurring enzyme plasmin therefore prevent intravascular blocking . -There is balance between clotting and fibrinolysis . *Excess clotting → blocking of Blood Vessels *Excess fibrinolysis → tendency for Bleeding



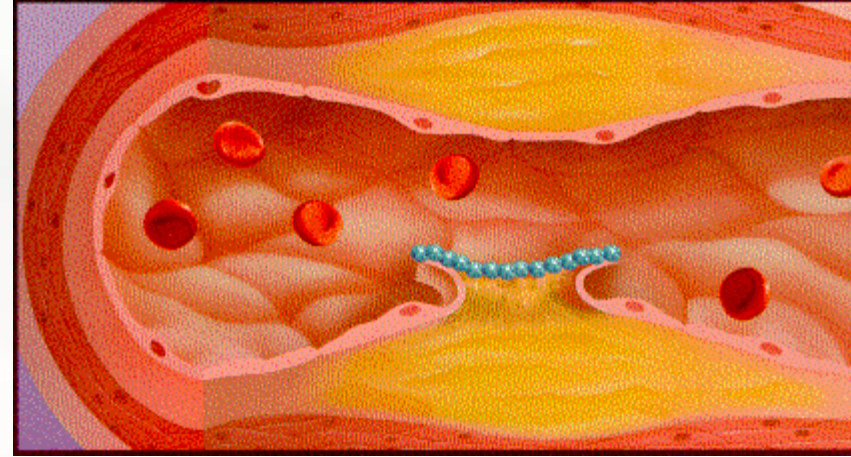


**The fibrinolytic System**

**FDP\*: Fibrin Degradation Products**



# Adhesion :



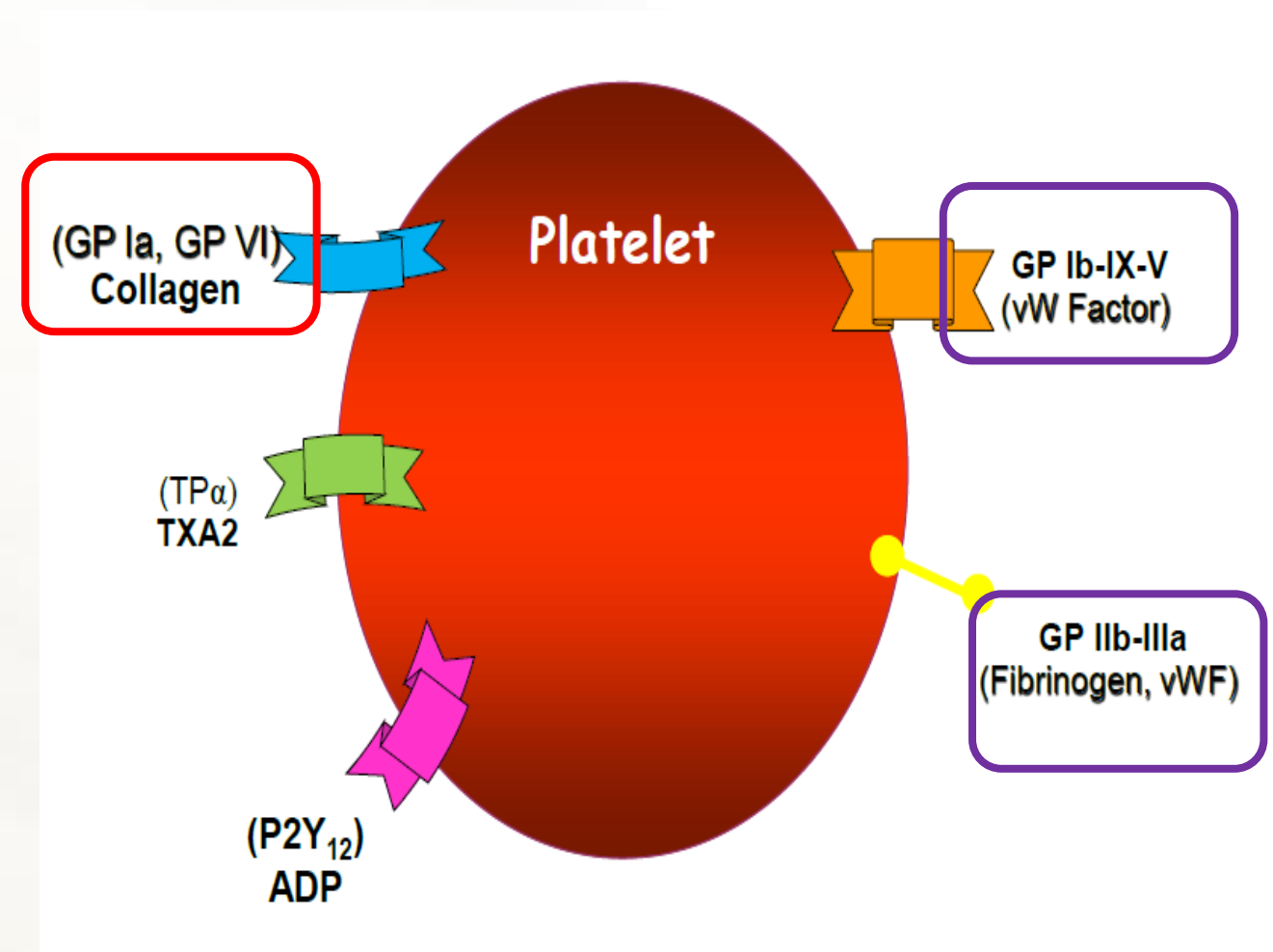
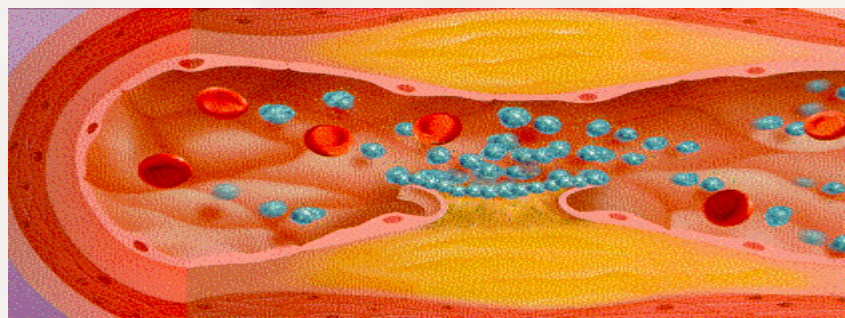
Platelets stick to exposed collagen underlying damaged endothelial cells in vessel wall

By two ways :

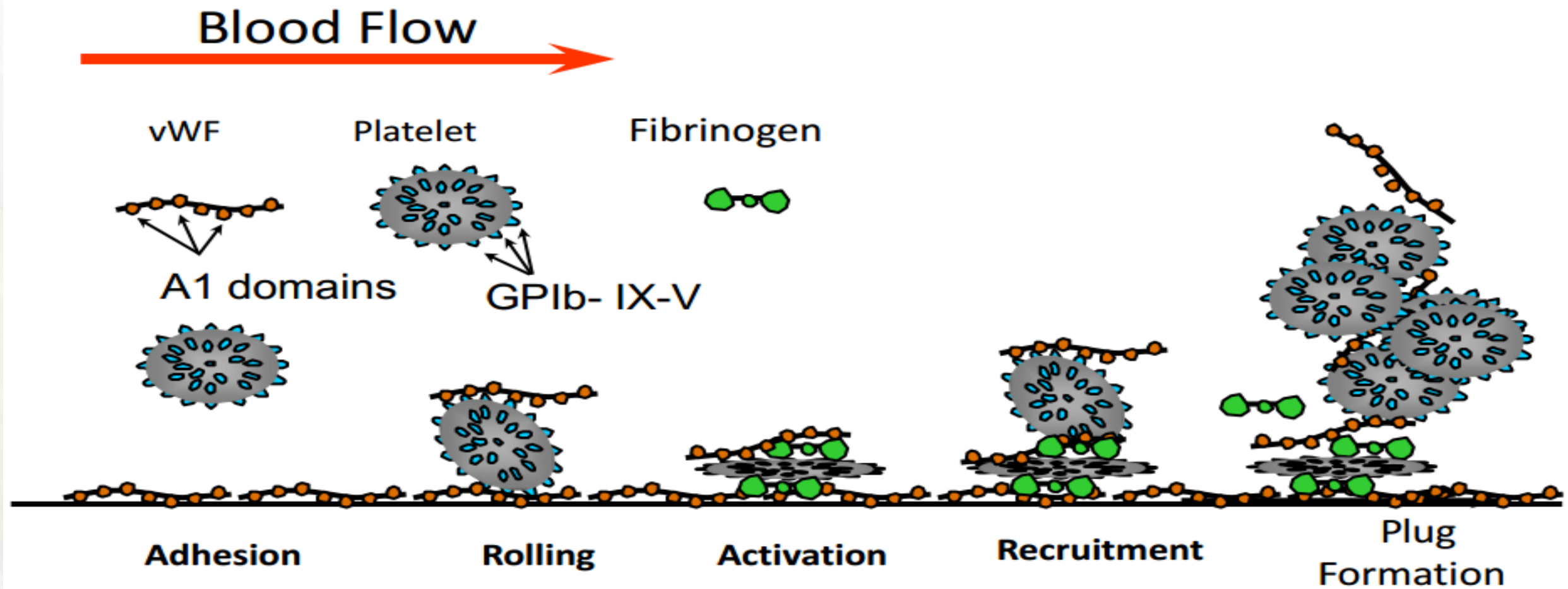
**\*Direct way through ( GP Ia,GP VI )  
receptor**

**\* indirect through vW factor**

After that the platelets will be activated and release its contents and also activate platelets prostaglandin synthesis leading to the formation of TXA<sub>2</sub> ( will be discussed in further slide )



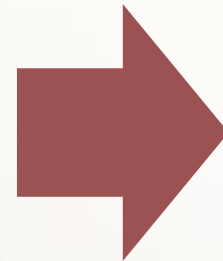
# von Willebrand factor (vWF) and Platelet Adhesion :



# Platelets aggregation :

1. Activation of the platelets will lead to secret its contents one this contents is ADP which causes platelets swelling and aggregation ( sickness) .
2. Also TXA2 causes platelets aggregation

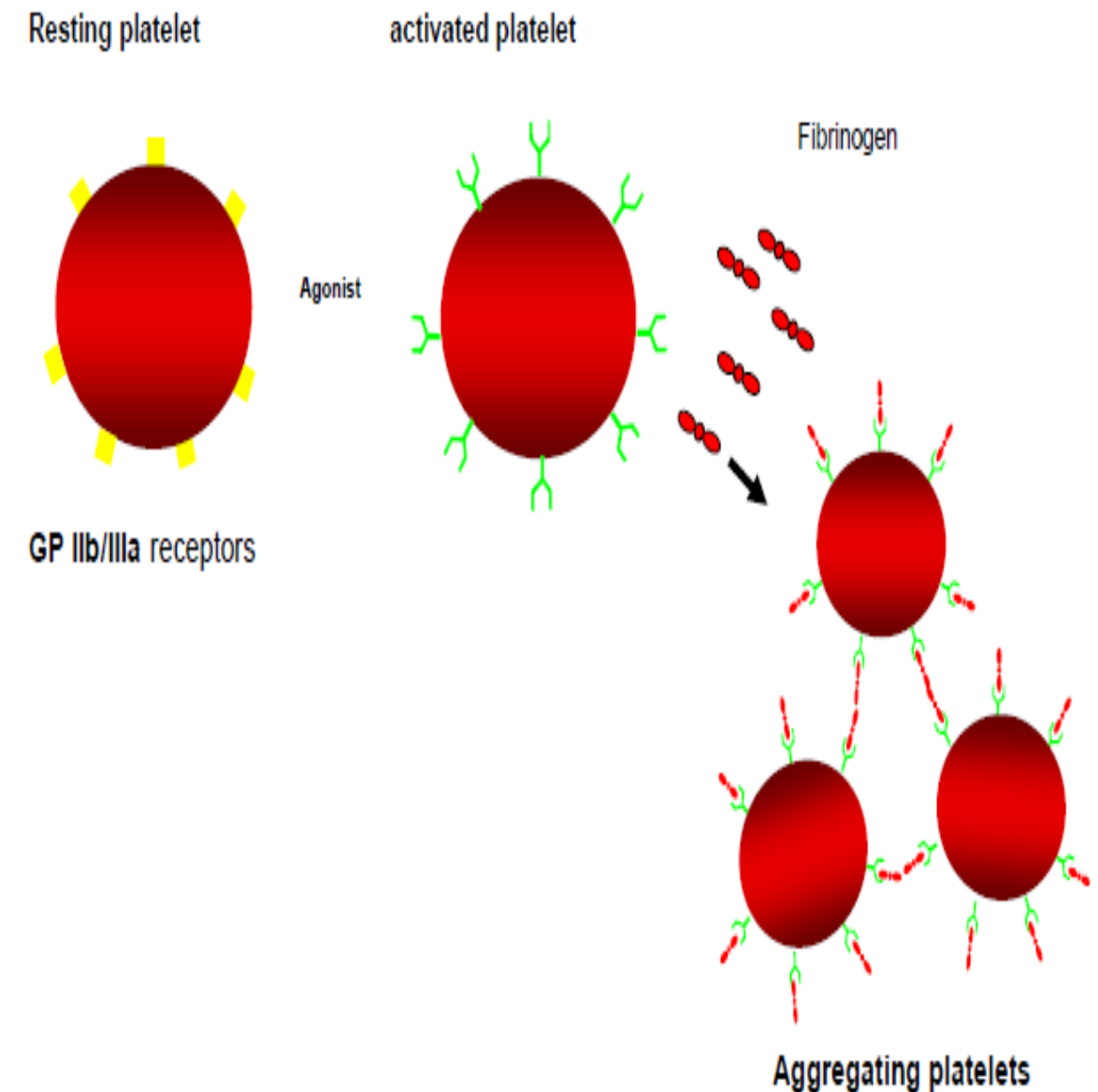
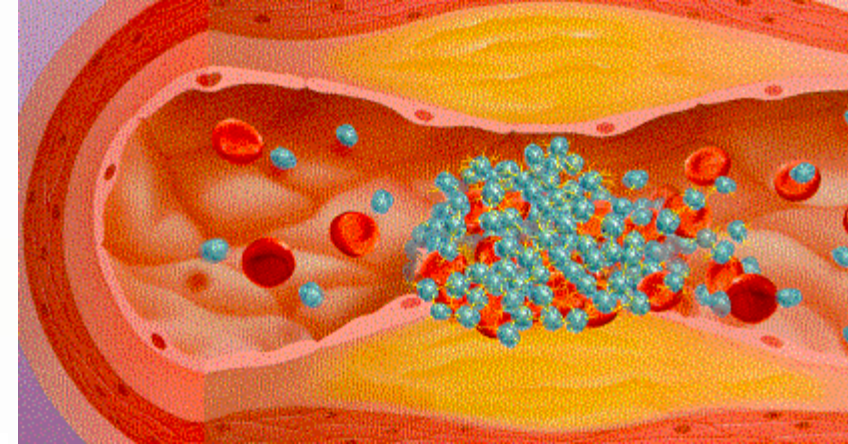
**Fibrinogen is needed to join platelets to each other via platelet fibrinogen receptors**



Remember this interaction is between the platelets only

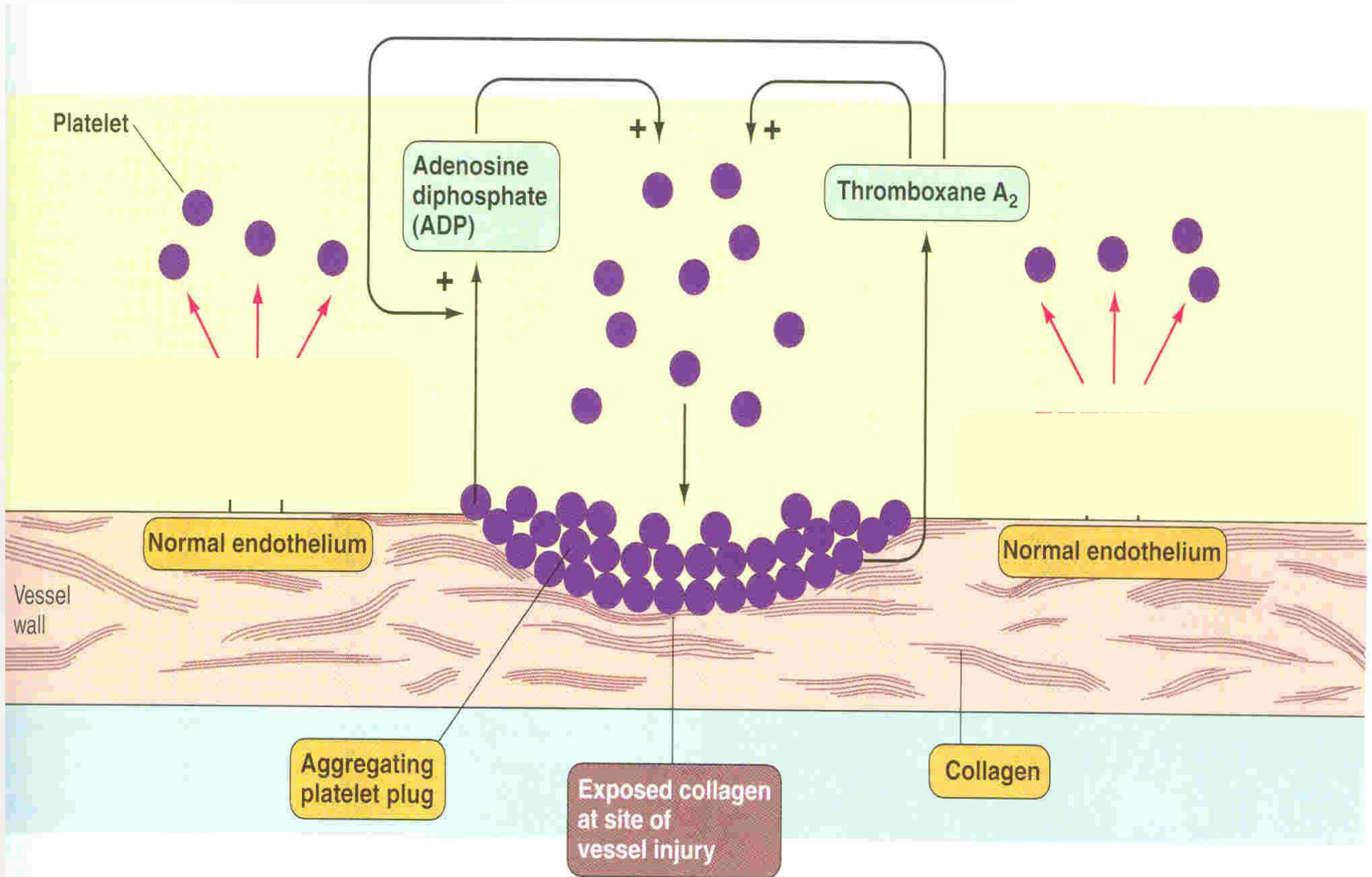
**You Tube**

<http://youtu.be/0pnpoEy0eYE>





# Platelets aggregation :



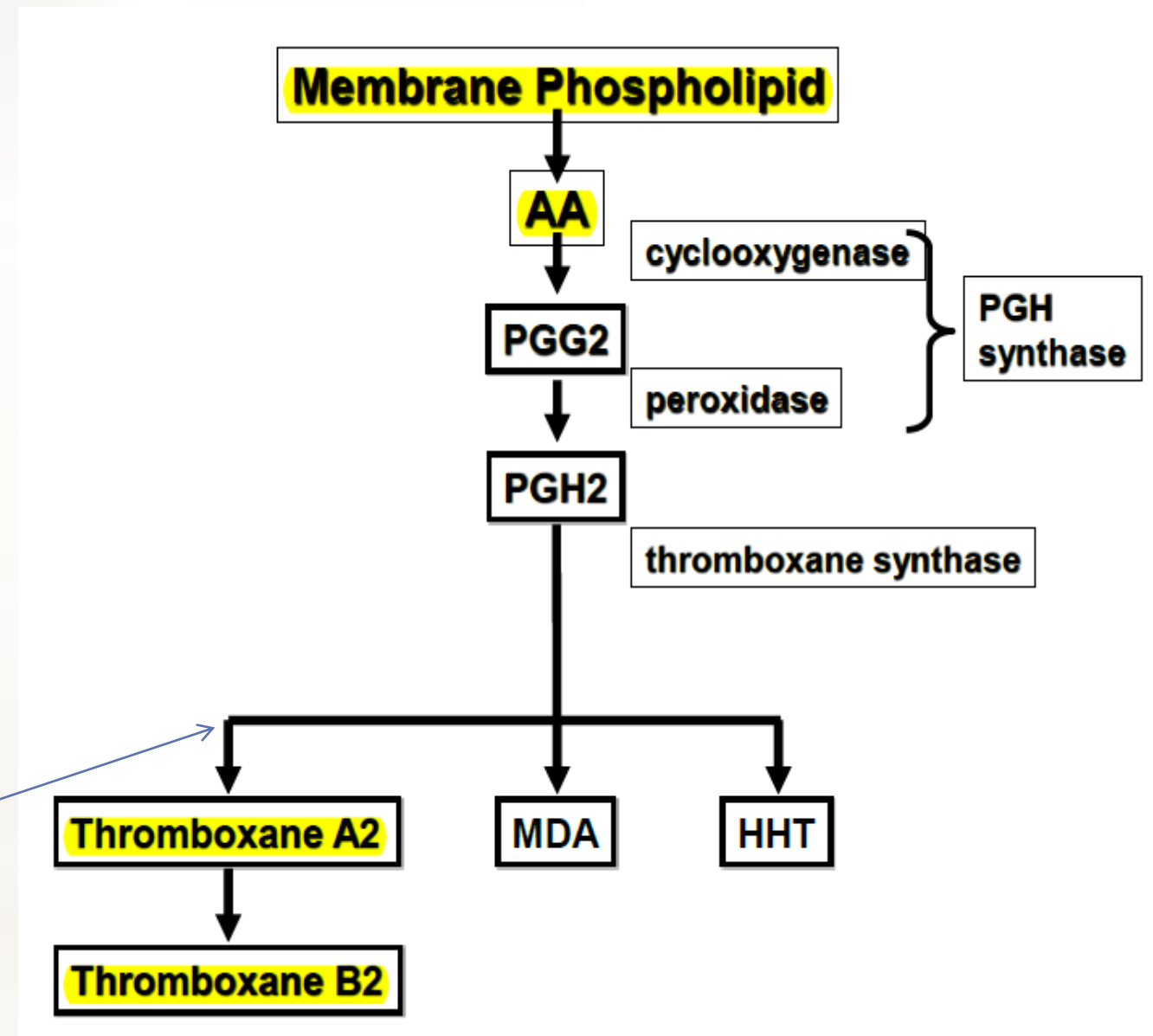
# platelets secretions :

Platelets activated by adhesion, Extend projections to make contact with each other , and release :

1. ADP
2. 5HT → vasoconstriction
3. Platelet phospholipid (PF3) → clot formation
4. Thromboxane A2 (TXA2) is a prostaglandin formed from arachidonic acid (AA) Function:
  - Vasoconstriction
  - Platelet aggregation

(TXA2 inhibited by aspirin)

Because aspirin decrease the synthesis of TXA2 so this will decrease the aggregation and thrombus formation use as prophylactic in heart disease

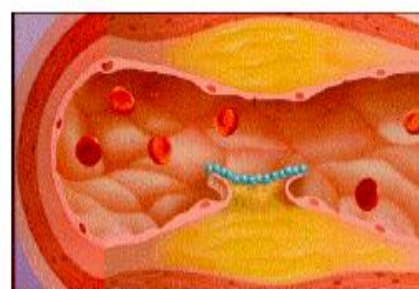


You have to know the highlighted words

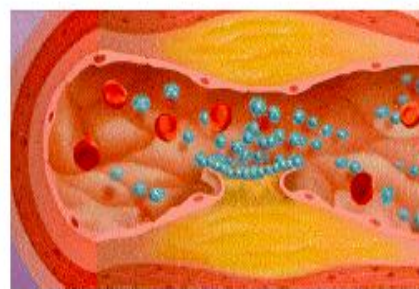


# Clot retraction :

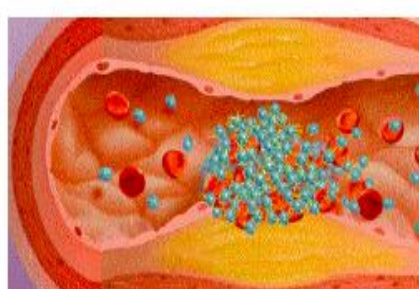
Myosin and actin filaments in platelets are stimulated to contract during aggregation further reinforcing the plug and help release of granule contents



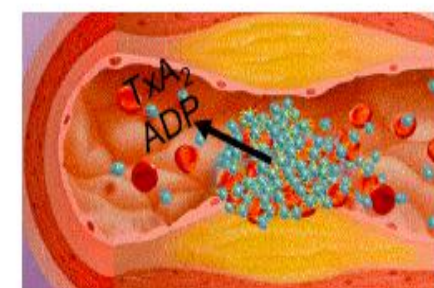
Adhesion



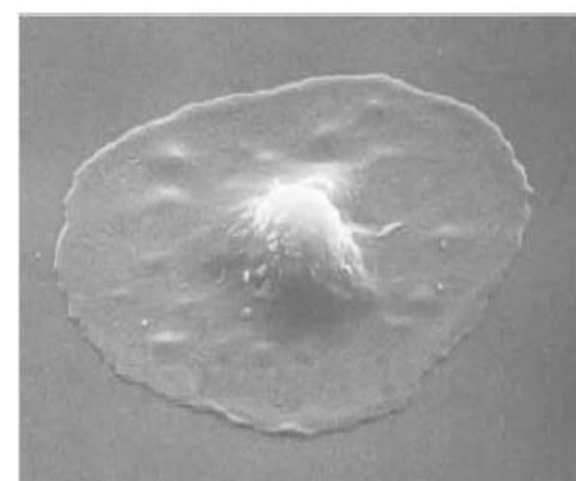
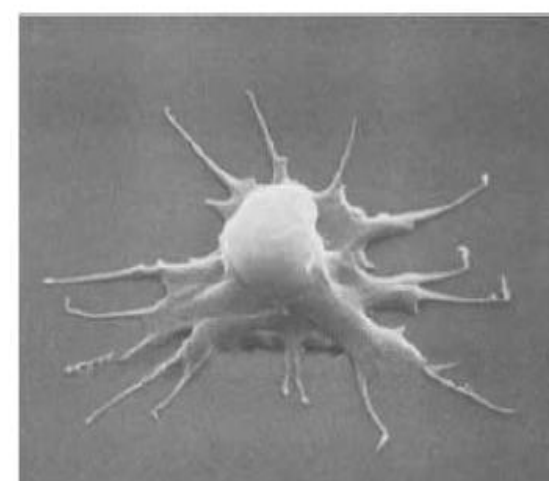
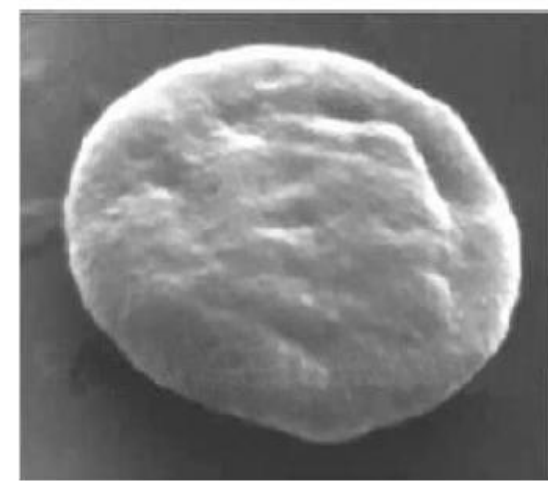
Activation



Aggregation



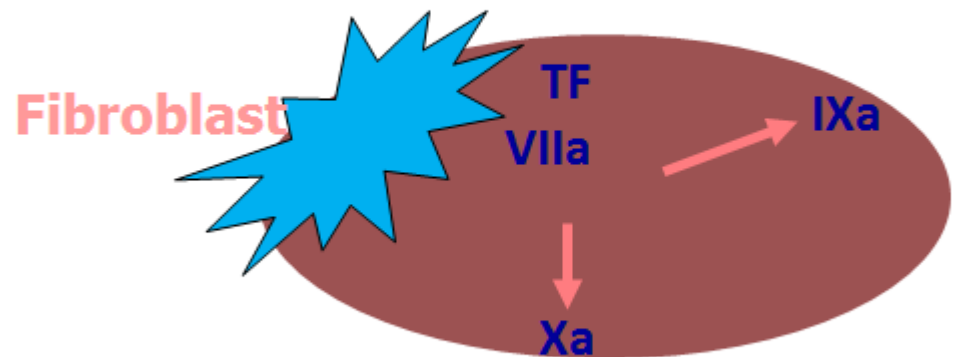
Secretion





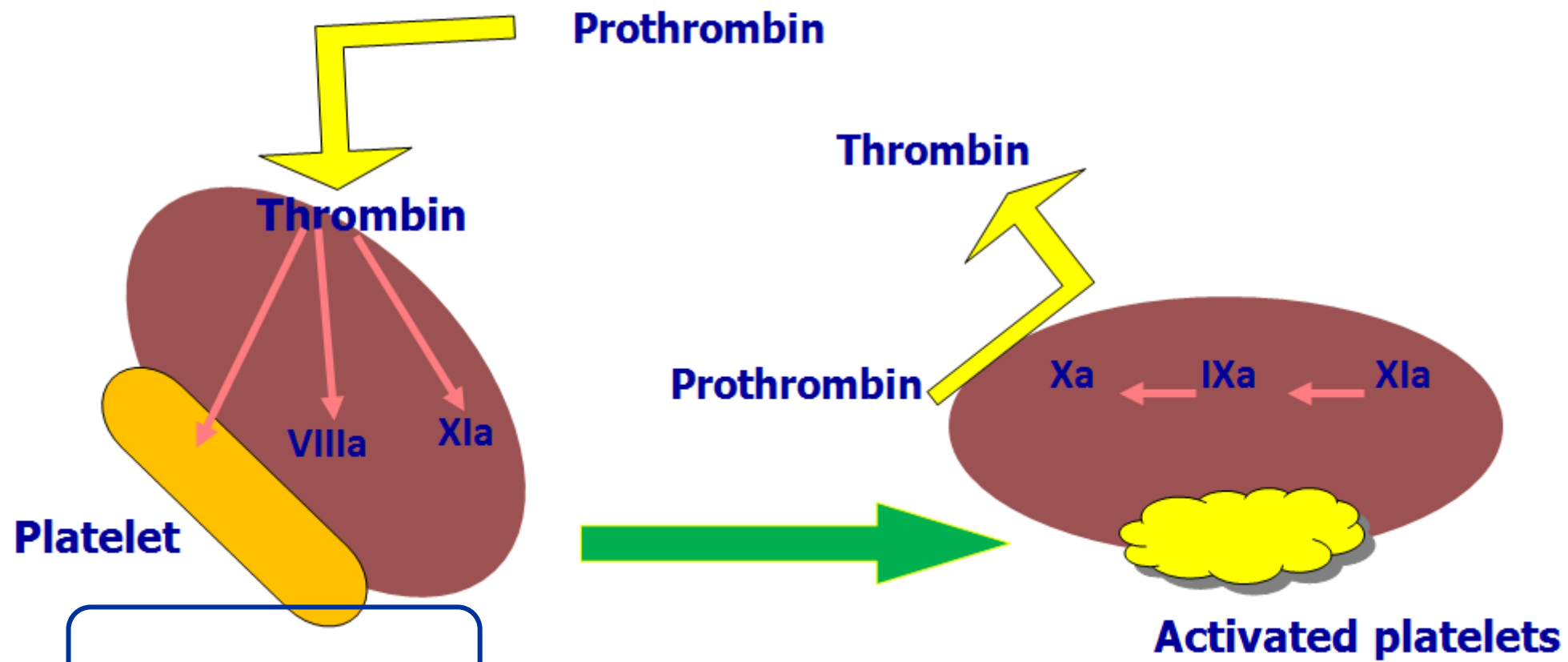
# Role of platelet in blood coagulation (The cell based model of blood coagulation) :

## Initiation



## Cell based model

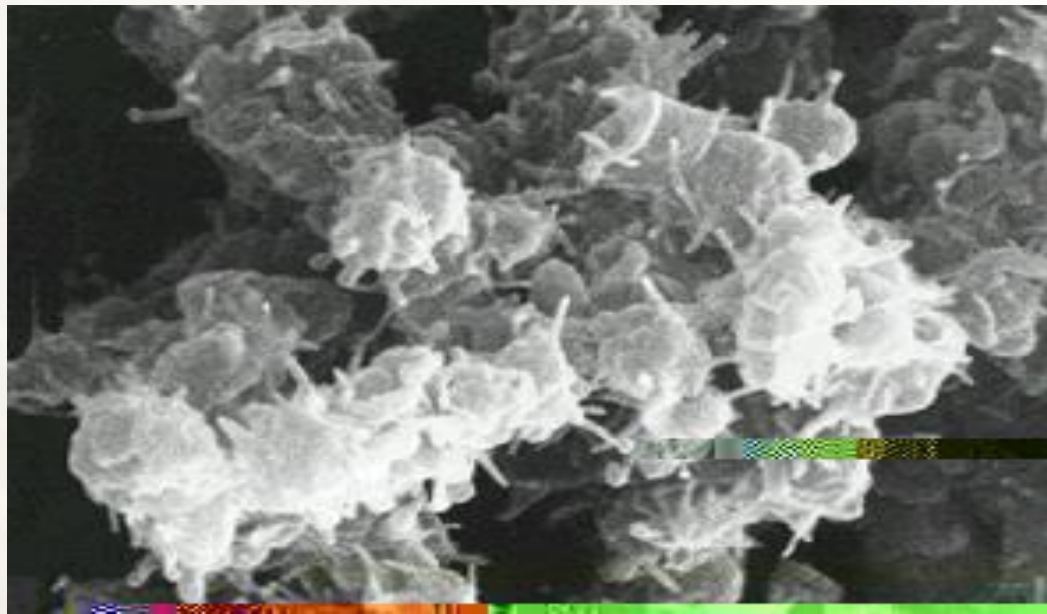
## Propagation



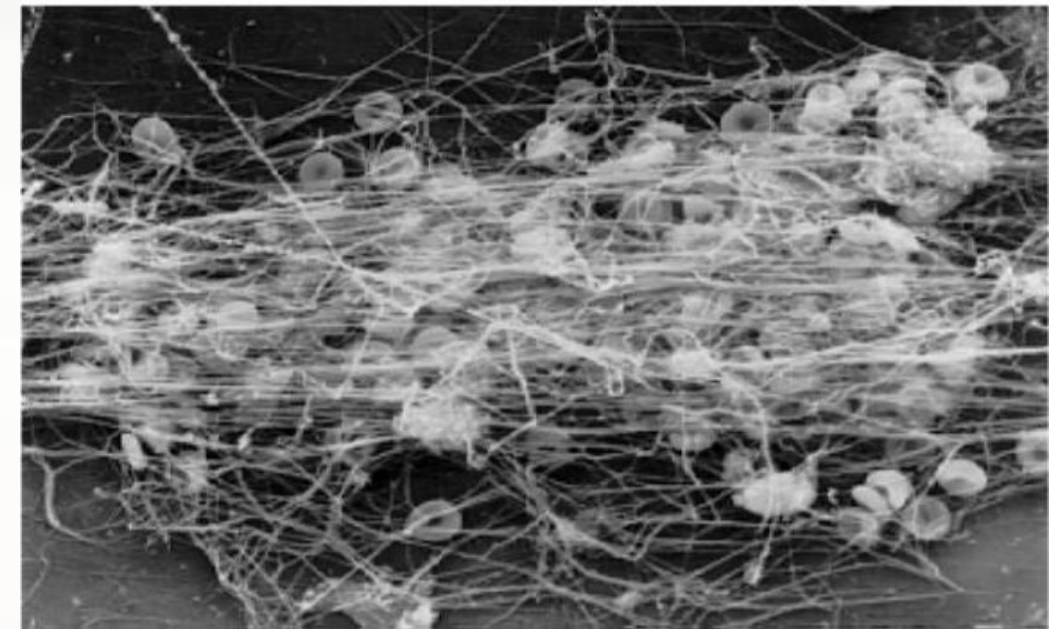
## Amplification

# Maintenance of vascular integrity :

Adequate number and function of platelet is essential to participate optimally in haemostasis by :



Initial arrest of bleeding by platelet plug formation

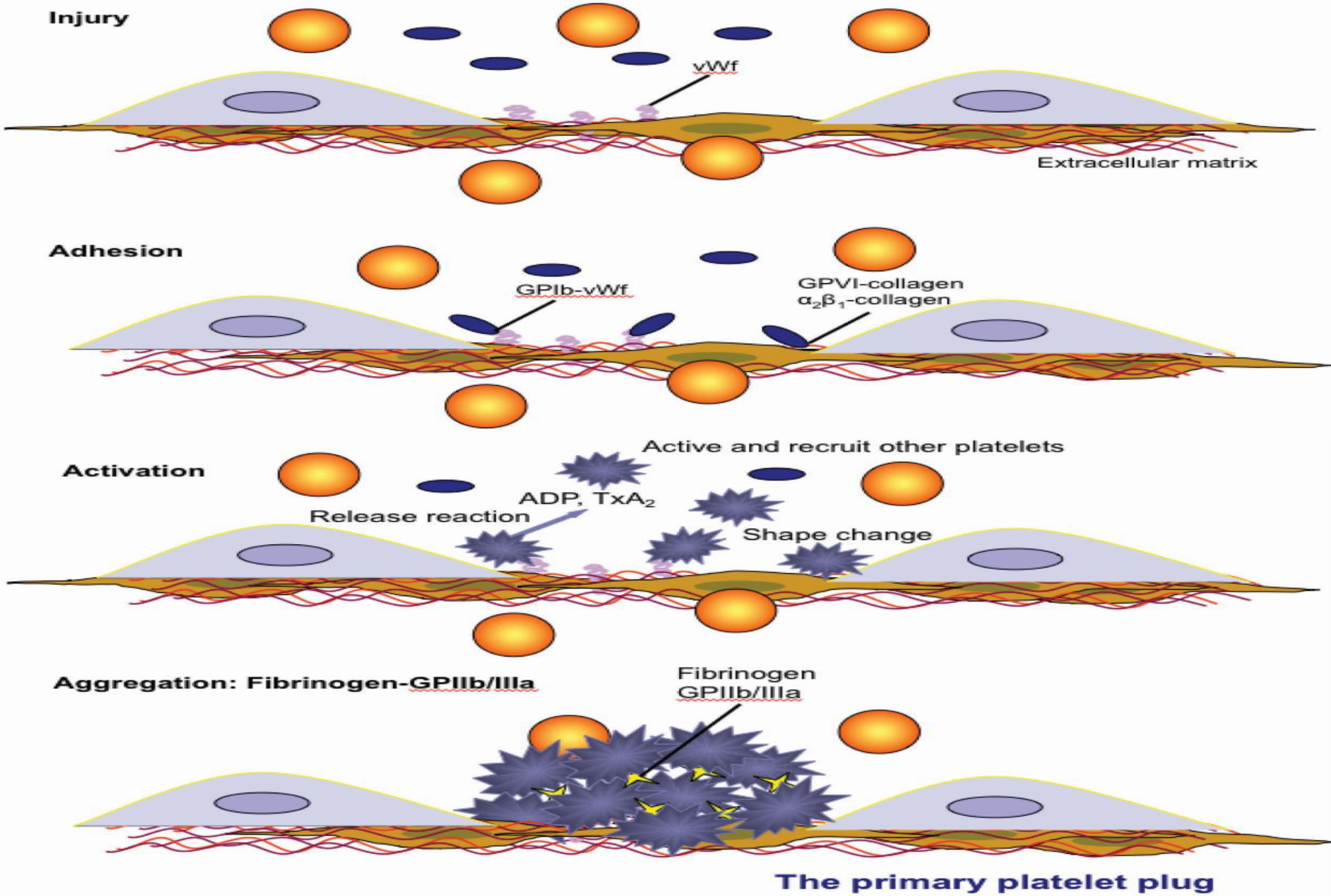


Stabilization of hemostatic plug by contributing to fibrin formation ( provide the surface area for formation of fibrin) with help of Platelet phospholipid (PF3)



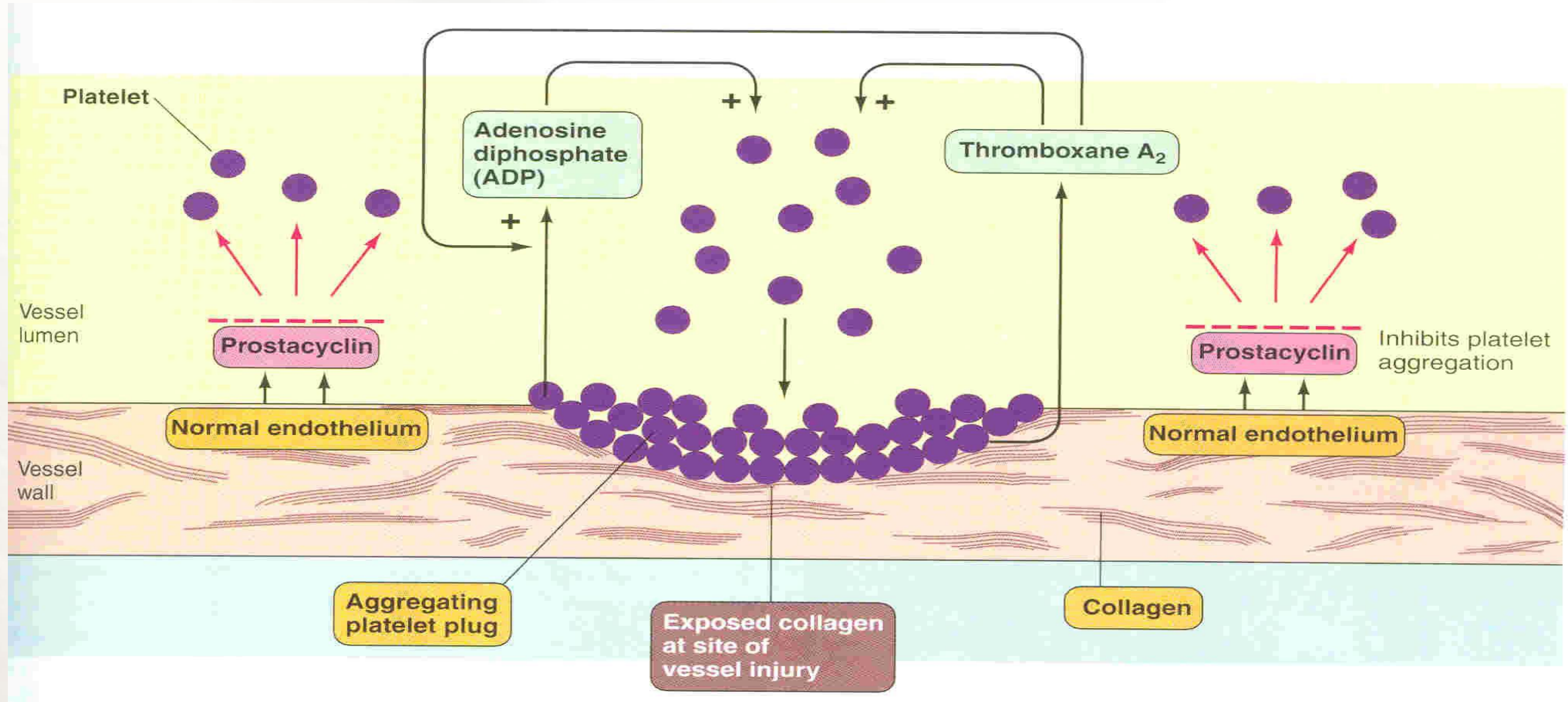
<http://youtu.be/9QVTHDM90io>







# Platelets aggregation :



The presence of ADB in the blood vessel stimulate the healthy endothelial to produce **prostacyclin & nitric-oxide** to inhibit platelets aggregation and relax the muscles all over the uninjured blood vessels

# Bleeding Disorders

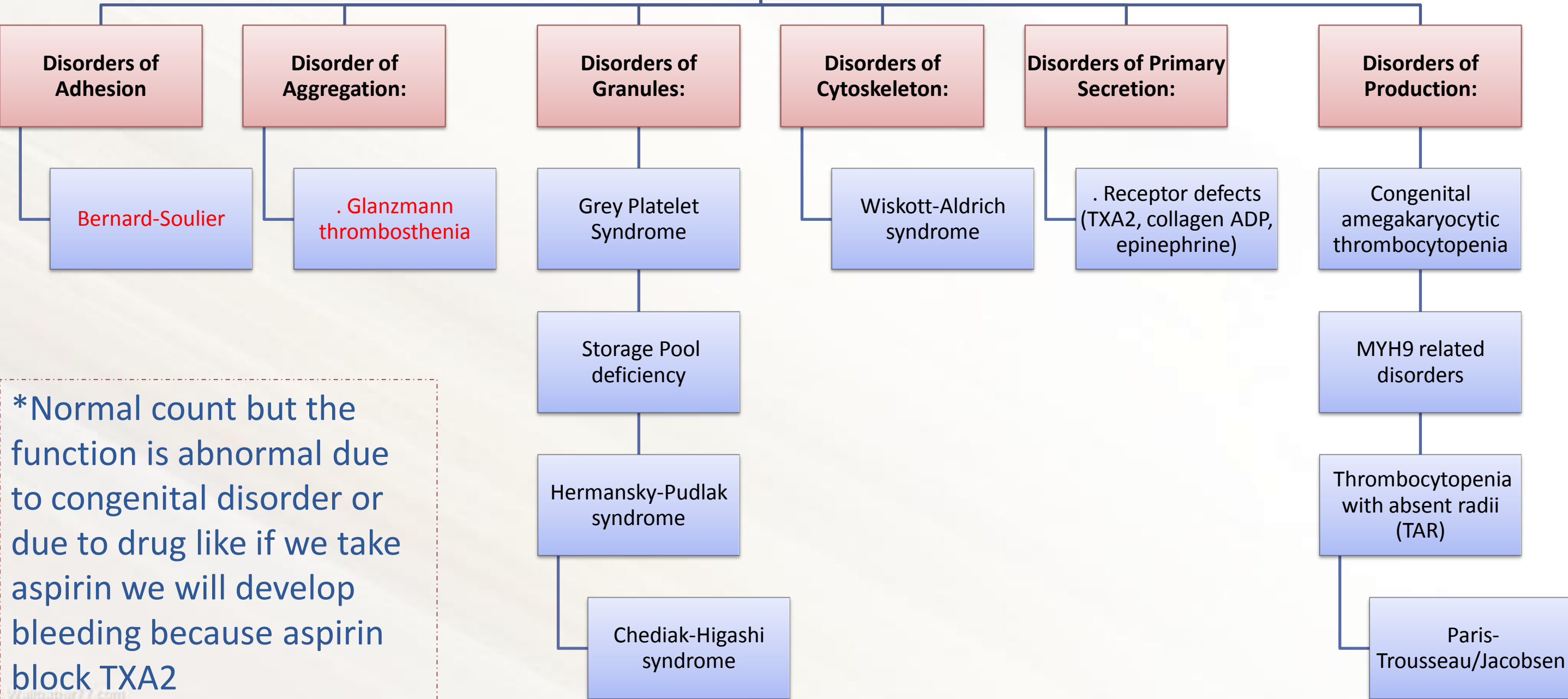
1) Bleeding can result

deficiency in number of the Platelet

Also called **thrombocytopenia**

defect in function of the Platelet \*

## 2) Congenital Platelet Disorders



\*Normal count but the function is abnormal due to congenital disorder or due to drug like if we take aspirin we will develop bleeding because aspirin block TXA2

# Bleeding Disorders

## 2) Congenital Platelet Disorders

### Disorders of Adhesion

Bernard-Soulier

### Disorder of Aggregation:

. Glanzmann thrombosthenia

hemorrhagic thrombocytopenic dystrophy, is a rare **autosomal recessive coagulopathy** (bleeding disorder)

that causes a **deficiency of glycoprotein 1b (Gp1b), the receptor for von Willebrand factor**, an important glycoprotein involved in hemostasis.

abnormality of platelets. in which the platelets contain defective or low levels of glycoprotein IIb/IIIa (GpIIb/IIIa), which is a receptor for fibrinogen. As a result, no fibrinogen bridging of platelets to other platelets can occur, and the **bleeding time is significantly prolonged**



# Laboratory Testing of Platelet

## Functions

Platelet Aggregation

Electron-microscopy

Platelet count & shape

Flow-cytometry

Platelet Function Analyzer

Bleeding time

Granule release products

The laboratory specialist will look at how the platelets spread out in the liquid part of the blood (plasma) and whether they form clumps after a certain chemical or drug is added. When platelets clump together, the blood sample is more clear. A machine measures the changes in cloudiness and prints a record of the results

in (PRP) Platelet rich plasma):

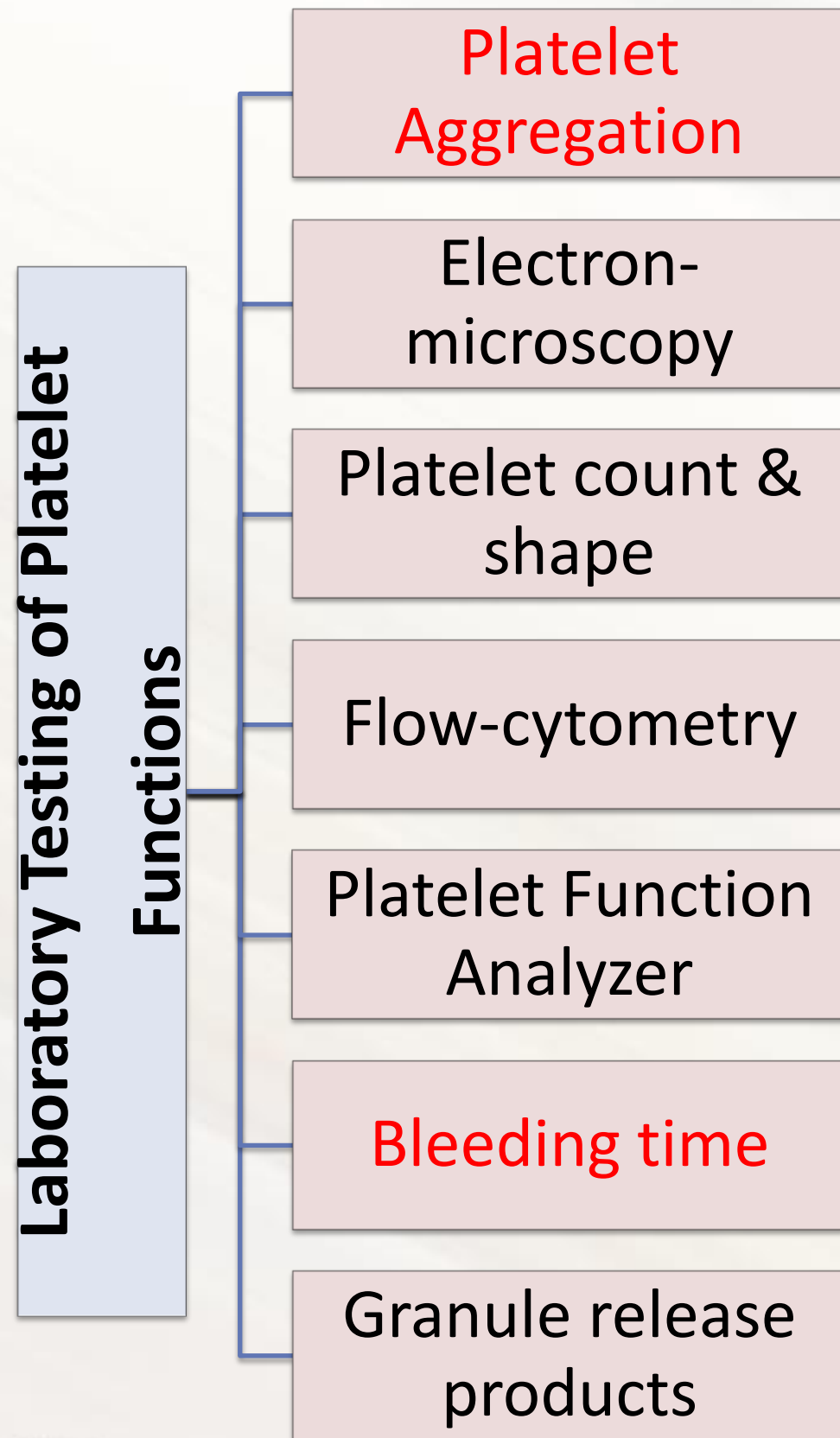
Provides information on time course of plat. activation.

### Agonists:

ADP  
Adrenaline  
Collagen  
Arachidonic acid  
Ristocetin  
Thrombin

These substance must be added to the plasma to stimulate aggregation

# platelet disorder investigation



Bleeding time is a medical test done on someone to assess their platelet function. It involves making a patient bleed then timing how long it takes for them to stop bleeding.

# Summary for platelet activation

- 🔴 Platelets are activated when brought into contact with collagen exposed when the endothelial blood vessel lining is damaged.
- 🔴 Activated platelets release a number of different coagulation and platelet activating factors.
- 🔴 Transport of negatively charged phospholipids to the platelet surface; provide a catalytic surface for coagulation cascade to occur.
- 🔴 Platelets adhesion receptors (integrins): Platelets adhere to each other via adhesion receptors forming a hemostatic plug with fibrin.
- 🔴 Myosin and actin filaments in platelets are stimulated to contract during aggregation further reinforcing the plug and help release of Granule contents.
- 🔴 GPIIb/IIIa: the most common platelet adhesion receptor for fibrinogen

## Platelets secretion

- 🔴 thromboxane A<sub>2</sub>, serotonin & ADP → activating other platelets
- 🔴 Serotonin & thromboxane A<sub>2</sub> are vasoconstrictors decreasing blood flow through the injured vessel
- 🔴 ADP causes stickiness and enhances aggregation





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**GOOD LUCK**

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