

Platelet Indices in Pregnancy Induced Hypertension

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Abstract

Preeclampsia is a syndrome with both maternal and fetal manifestations. Haematological abnormalities such as thrombocytopenia and decrease in some plasma clotting factors may develop in pre-eclamptic women. The platelet count has an association at prediction of increasing grade of pregnancy induced hypertension (PIH). There is an inverse relationship between the severity of PIH and platelet count. The platelet indices of Mean Platelet Volume (MPV) and platelet distribution width (PDW) too are in consistent relationship with PIH. The greater MPV values suggest the increase grade of PIH of preeclampsia, severe preeclampsia and eclampsia. PDW too can suggest the PIH for its severity especially in the groups of preeclampsia, severe preeclampsia and eclampsia and the risk of consumptive coagulopathy. Thus, investigations with baseline complete blood cell count including platelet count and platelet indices is necessary in patients with a hypertensive disorder of pregnancy.