

Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia

Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) is a complication of heparin or LMWH therapy, characterized by a decrease in the number of platelets by 50% of the initial value. We distinguish two forms of HIT:

- **HIT I** is a less severe form with a decrease in platelets in the first days after starting therapy, which is corrected spontaneously. It is usually asymptomatic.
- **HIT II** is formed by the formation of IgG complexes with platelet factor 4 (PF4), which leads to the elimination of platelets and their simultaneous activation. It appears 5-10 days after starting treatment and is often accompanied by **thrombosis**. It is necessary to immediately discontinue heparin and replace it with pentasaccharide or lepirudin due to the hypercoagulable state.^[1]

Links

Related Articles

- Thrombocytopenia
- Heparin
- Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia

References

1. KESSLER, Petr. Nízkomolekulární hepariny v ambulantní praxi. *Interní medicína pro praxi* [online]. 2010, vol. 7, p. 361–365, Available from <<https://www.internimedica.cz/pdfs/int/2010/07/05.pdf>>. ISSN 1803-5256.