

## **Various Causes of Bleeding Tendency**

Thrombocytopenia is a kind of bleeding tendency, which will lead to unusual bleeding. This is due to a lack of platelets, which are cells in our body to stop bleeding. The usual amount of blood platelet is 1,500,000 to 4,000,000 in each 1µl (microlitre) of blood. If the amount is lower than 500,000, some red spots will be found under our skin. If the amount continues to drop, say down to 100,000, huge amount of bleeding will occur. The most serious consequence is death. There are three main causes of thrombocytopenia: drug abuse, problems in the immune system and blood cancer, such as leukaemia or lymphoma.

The other cause of bleeding tendency is lack of blood clotting proteins. The responsibility of blood clotting proteins is similar to blood platelet, though they are used to block larger amount of bleeding. There are about 13 blood clotting factors in our body. Lack of any one may cause a bleeding tendency.

The most typical illness is hemophilia, which is an inherited disease, mostly related to deficiency of clotting factors VIII or IX. If not well treated, patients will die early. Illnesses of liver will also cause a lack of blood clotting protein. Cases like hepatitis and cirrhosis will damage the function of liver, which is the main organ that produces clotting factors. Another factor is overuse of warfarin, which can affect the amount of blood clotting protein.