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NLM ID: 94314269
Ruggeri M; Castaman G; Rodeghiero F;
Is ticlopidine a safe alternative to aspirin for management of myeloproliferative disorders?
Haematologica 1993 Nov-Dec;78(6 Suppl 2):18-21
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Abstract: BACKGROUND. Bleeding and thrombosis are frequent complications in patients with chronic myeloproliferative disorders (cMPD). Antiplatelet therapy is extensively used by many physicians for primary prophylaxis of thrombotic events, even though there have been no prospective trials that demonstrate clinical benefit. The use of aspirin has been associated with a heavy incidence of serious hemorrhages, particularly of gastrointestinal origin. This evidence is mainly based on data from patients treated with dosages far higher than those presently recommended. Moreover, patients with bleeding symptoms or prolonged bleeding time (BT) had not usually been excluded from treatment. METHODS. In this study 58 patients with cMPD and thrombocytosis were treated with aspirin (325-500 mg/day, 31 patients) or with ticlopidine (500 mg/day 27 patients). Only patients with negative bleeding histories and normal BT were considered. Ticlopidine, a drug not extensively investigated in cMPD, was reserved only for patients with histories of gastritis, gastric discomfort, peptic ulcer

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