



# e-Network Forum

## CALIFORNIA BLOOD BANK SOCIETY

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### *Handling platelet transfusions requests for patients with intracranial bleeds who are on Plavix®*

**A Blood Bank physician from northern New England** asks the following:

How are other colleagues handling platelet transfusions requests for patients with intracranial bleeds who are on Plavix®? The dilemma is that our **neurosurgery colleagues would like the platelet counts to be above 100,000** for intracranial bleeds or prior to an invasive neurosurgical procedure. With Plavix® in the background, the patient's platelet count is not meaningful, so **many doses of platelets are requested** (at least two does of apheresis platelets and frequently more). It is not clear what is a sufficient number of doses. Has anyone been successful in developing a transfusion strategy for this type of bleeding **without the use of platelet-aggregometry assays?**

There are **Plavix®-sensitive rapid platelet function assays** now available, has **anyone been successful** in using these assays in **developing an algorithm** that was found acceptable to their group?

Advice from other colleagues would be greatly appreciated.

Please submit comments to the [e-Network Forum](#).

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**Addenda:**

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