# Symptoms, Causes and Treatment Options in Thrombocythemia: An Overview

## Nicoline Rosa<sup>\*</sup>

Department of Oncology, Ambrosiana University, Milan, Italy

# **DESCRIPTION**

Thrombocythemia is a medical condition characterized by the overproduction of platelets in the bone marrow, leading to an excessive number of platelets in the blood. This condition can lead to blood clotting and a range of other complications. In this article, we will discuss the symptoms, causes, and treatment options for thrombocythemia.

#### **Symptoms**

The symptoms of thrombocythemia can vary depending on the severity of the condition. Many people with thrombocythemia do not experience any symptoms, and the condition is only discovered during routine blood tests. However, some people may experience the following symptoms:

- Headaches
- Dizziness or lightheadedness
- Chest pain
- Weakness or numbness in the extremities
- Easy bruising or bleeding
- Redness or warmth in the hands or feet
- Vision changes

If you experience any of these symptoms, it is important to see a doctor for an evaluation.

### Causes

The exact cause of thrombocythemia is not fully understood. However, it is believed to be caused by mutations in the JAK2, CALR, or MPL genes, which are involved in the production of blood cells in the bone marrow. These mutations can cause the bone marrow to produce too many platelets, leading to thrombocythemia.

Thrombocythemia can also be caused by other underlying medical conditions, such as leukemia, lymphoma, or myelofibrosis. In some cases, thrombocythemia may be a secondary condition caused by other factors, such as iron deficiency, infection, or inflammation.

#### Treatment options

The treatment options for thrombocythemia depend on the severity of the condition and the underlying cause. In many cases, treatment is not necessary, and people with thrombocythemia can lead normal, healthy lives.

However, if the condition is causing symptoms or increasing the risk of blood clots, treatment may be necessary. Treatment options may include:

**Aspirin:** Aspirin is a blood thinner that can help reduce the risk of blood clots. It is often prescribed to people with thrombocythemia who have a high risk of blood clots.

**Phlebotomy:** Phlebotomy is a procedure in which blood is removed from the body to reduce the number of platelets in the blood. This can help reduce the risk of blood clots and other complications.

**Medications:** Medications that suppress the production of platelets may be prescribed to people with thrombocythemia. These medications can help reduce the risk of blood clots and other complications.

Radiation therapy: In rare cases, radiation therapy may be used to treat thrombocythemia. This treatment is typically reserved for people with severe or life-threatening symptoms.

## **CONCLUSION**

Thrombocythemia is a medical condition that can lead to a range of complications, including blood clots and other health issues. While the exact cause of thrombocythemia is not fully understood, it is believed to be caused by genetic mutations and other underlying medical conditions. Treatment options depend on the severity of the condition and may include aspirin, phlebotomy, medications, and radiation therapy. If you are experiencing symptoms of thrombocythemia, it is important to see a doctor for an evaluation and to discuss your treatment options. With proper care and management, many people with thrombocythemia can lead normal, healthy lives.

Correspondence to: Nicoline Rosa, Department of Hemato Oncology, Ambrosiana University, Milan, Italy, E-mail: Rosanico.line@ca

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