



An example of an algorithm using laboratory parameters to guide the management of bleeding after cardiac surgery

Treatment with blood products is not indicated unless the patient is bleeding

* Second line agents to be used after consultation with a senior haematologist

§ Anti-platelet agents taken within 7 days of surgery. Specific platelet function test may be indicated

PT - prothrombin time

APTT - activated partial thromboplastin time

PCC - prothrombin complex concentrate

TEG - thromboelastography (R time to initial fibrin formation)

MA - maximum amplitude, reflecting clot strength and the interaction between platelets (number and function) and fibrin

LY30 - the rate of amplitude reduction 30 minutes after MA, an indication of the stability of the clot and thrombolysis.