RCH - Platelet Transfusion Indications



Prophylactic		
Platelet threshold	Clinical Indication	
< 10 x 10 ⁹ /L	Platelet transfusion indicated	
< 20 x 10 ⁹ /L and Oncology patient with risk factors	Mucositis	
	Fever	
	Infection	
	DIC	
	APML	
	Minor bleeding	
<50 x 10 ⁹ /L and High risk oncology	Brain tumour	
	Bladder tumour	
< 75 – 100 x 10 ⁹ /L and ECLS	Platelet transfusion often indicated	

Therapeutic		
Platelet threshold	Clinical Indication	
< 30 x 10 ⁹ /L	Minimal bleeding	
< 50 x 10 ⁹ /L	Moderate bleeding	
< 75 x 10 ⁹ /L	Severe bleeding	
< 100 x 10 ⁹ /L	ICH or retinal haemorrhage	
	Post cardiopulmonary bypass	

Pre-procedure	
Platelet threshold	Clinical Indication
< 20 x 10 ⁹ /L	IM injection
	CVC insertion (non-tunnelled)
30 x 10 ⁹ /L	NG insertion
	LP (surveillance)
50 x 10 ⁹ /L	LP (initial diagnostic for malignancy)
	CVC insertion (tunnelled)
	Major surgery
100 x 10 ⁹ /L	High risk surgery (e.g., neurosurgery or ophthalmology)

Neonatal platelet transfusion		
Platelet threshold	Clinical Indication	
< 25 x 10 ⁹ /L	Platelet transfusion indicated	
< 50 x 10 ⁹ /L	Bleeding	
	Coagulopathy (including DIC)	
	Surgery	
	LP	
	NAIT	
< 100 x 10 ⁹ /L	Major bleeding (e.g., ICH)	
	High risk surgery (e.g., neuro, ophthalmology or cardiac)	

Platelet transfusion are not indicated for:

- Immune mediated thrombocytopenia (e.g., ITP, HIT, TTP/HUS)
- Bone marrow aspirate or trephine biopsy
- Peripheral IV insertion

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