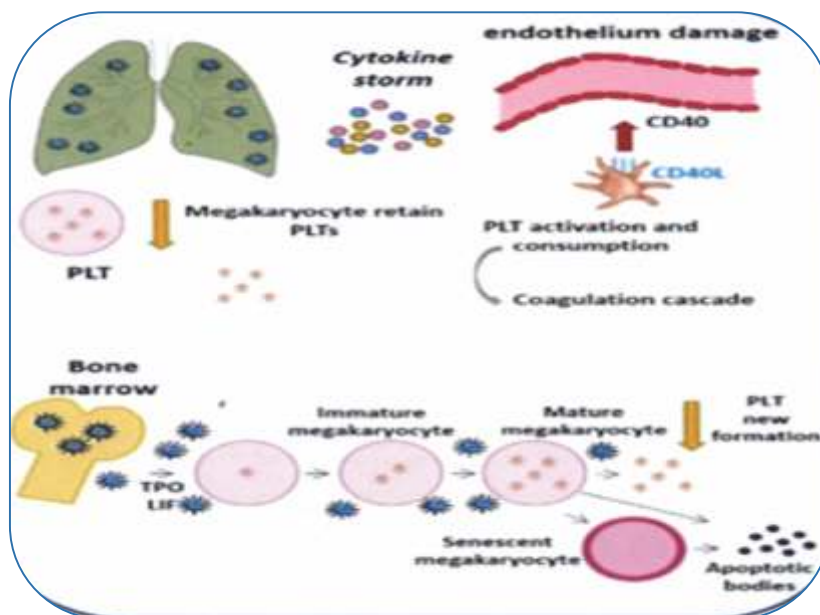


Investigation Corner

Can thrombocytopenia occur in COVID 19?

- Platelets play key roles in viral infections,
- The recent severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) pandemic has demonstrated how the interplay between hemostasis and the immune response is particularly evident.
- A key role in lung damage is played by thrombosis of the perialveolar capillaries, triggered by severe endothelial damage and enhanced by inflammation, a picture known as thromboinflammation.
- Since platelets play a significant role in thrombosis and inflammation, they may be key players in COVID-19.
- Indeed, typical hematological features of COVID-19 are thrombocytopenia, lymphopenia, and neutrophilia.

Schematic representation of platelets and SARS-CoV-2 interaction leading to thrombocytopenia (A) Thrombocytopenia



Reference - Platelets: 'multiple choice' effectors in the immune response and their implication in COVID-19 thromboinflammatory process March 2021 *International Journal of Laboratory Hematology* 43(1)DOI:10.1111/ijlh.13516