

# ITP primaria: patogenesi immunitaria e difetto trombopoietico

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# THE MEGAKARYOCYTES IN IDIOPATHIC THROMBOCYTOPENIC PURPURA, A FORM OF HYPERSPLENISM

By WILLIAM DAMESHEK, M.D., AND CAPTAIN EDWARD B. MILLER, A.U.S.

1. The number of megakaryocytes per million nucleated blood cells ranged from 450 to 1565—far above the normal average of 183.
2. A third or less of the megakaryocytes showed evidence of platelet production.
3. Megakaryoblasts were increased.
4. Promegakaryocytes were much less plentiful than in the normal, but non-granular platelet production was frequently seen.
5. There was very little platelet production from adult megakaryocytes.
6. Degenerated forms were slightly increased over normal.

# THE MEGAKARYOCYTES IN IDIOPATHIC THROMBOCYTOPENIC PURPURA, A FORM OF HYPERSPLENISM

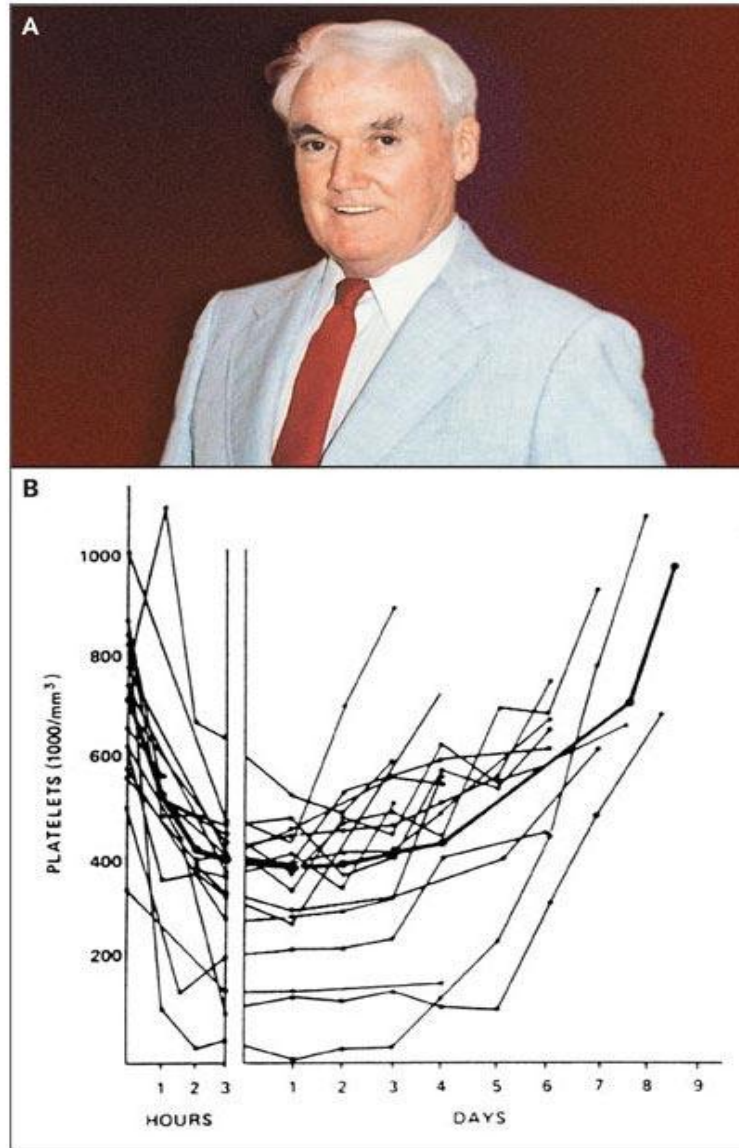
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## *Conclusioni*

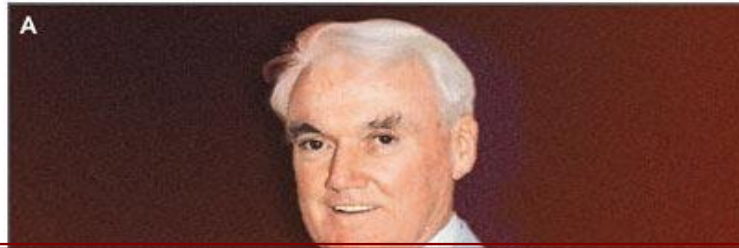
la piastrinopenia in corso di ITP è probabilmente causata da una ridotta produzione megacariocitaria di piastrine

4. Promegakaryocytes were much less plentiful than in the normal, but non-granular platelet production was frequently seen.
5. There was very little platelet production from adult megakaryocytes.
6. Degenerated forms were slightly increased over normal.

# The Harrington-Hollingsworth Experiment

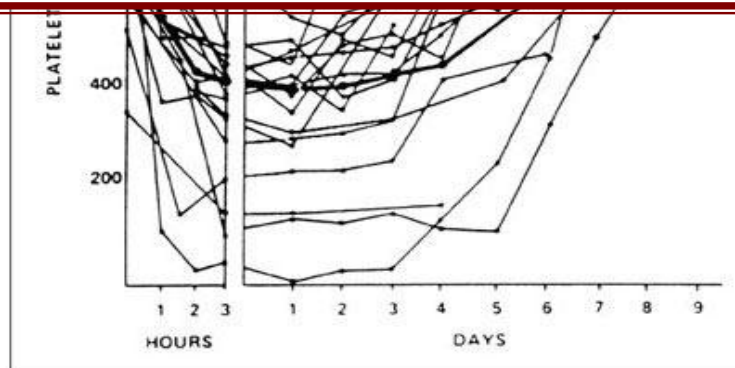


# The Harrington-Hollingsworth Experiment



## *Conclusioni*

la piastrinopenia in corso di ITP è associata a ridotta sopravvivenza piastrinica, attribuibile alla presenza di un fattore nel siero dei pazienti (in seguito identificato come anticorpo diretto contro glicoproteine di membrana)



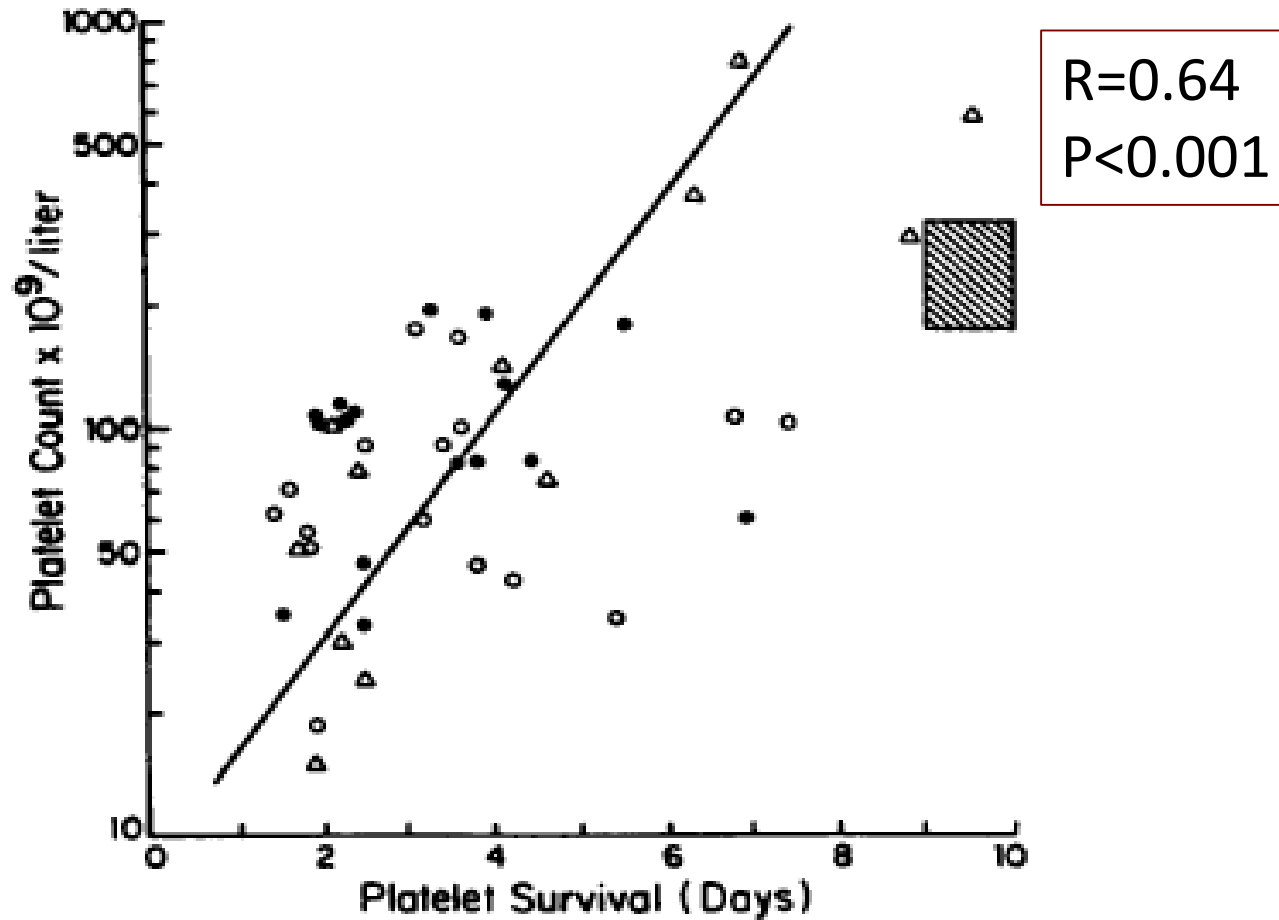
# **Mechanisms of Thrombocytopenia in Chronic Autoimmune Thrombocytopenic Purpura**

**Evidence of Both Impaired Platelet Production and Increased Platelet Clearance**

**Penny J. Ballem, Gerald M. Segal, John R. Stratton, Terry Gernsheimer, John W. Adamson, and Sherrill J. Slichter**  
*Puget Sound Blood Center, Divisions of Hematology and Cardiology, University of Washington School of Medicine,  
Veterans Administration Medical Center, Seattle, Washington 98104*

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# Correlation between log platelet count and autologous platelet survival



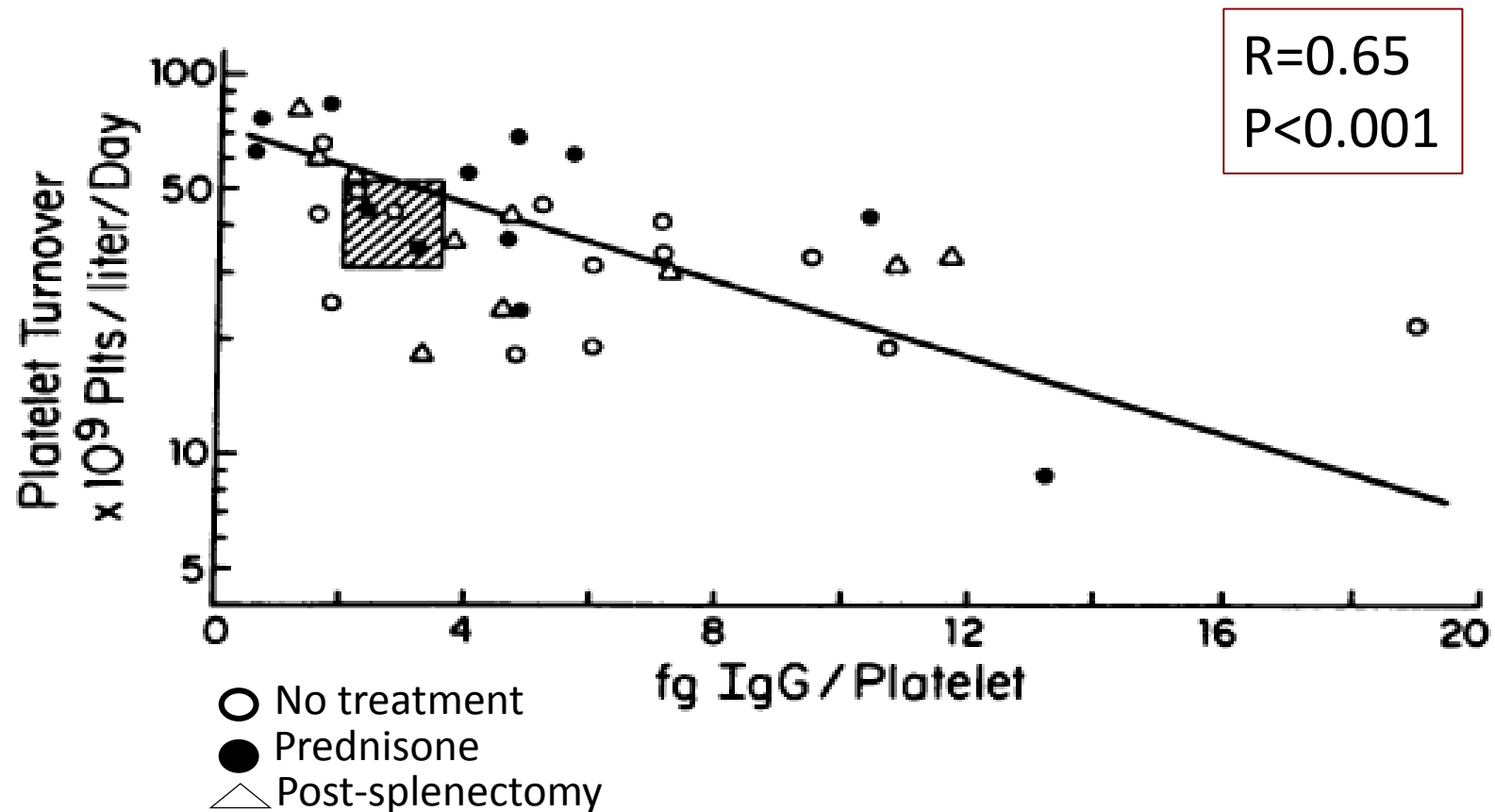
# Platelet turnover in ITP patients, according to their treatment

	Turnover*	Untreated	Prednisone	Postsplenectomy	Total
	<i>platelets/liter per d</i>				
Decreased	$<31 \times 10^9$	7 (41%) <sup>‡</sup>	2 (13%)	4 (33%)	13 (30%)
Normal	$31-51 \times 10^9$	9 (53%)	6 (40%)	4 (33%)	19 (43%)
Increased	$>51 \times 10^9$	1 (6%)	7 (47%)	4 (33%)	12 (27%)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>44</b>

Normal subjects (n=15):  $41 \pm 5 \times 10^9$  platelets/liter per day



# Correlation between log platelet turnover and IgG/platelet in ITP patients



# **Mechanisms of Thrombocytopenia in Chronic Autoimmune Thrombocytopenic Purpura**

**Evidence of Both Impaired Platelet Production and Increased Platelet Clearance**

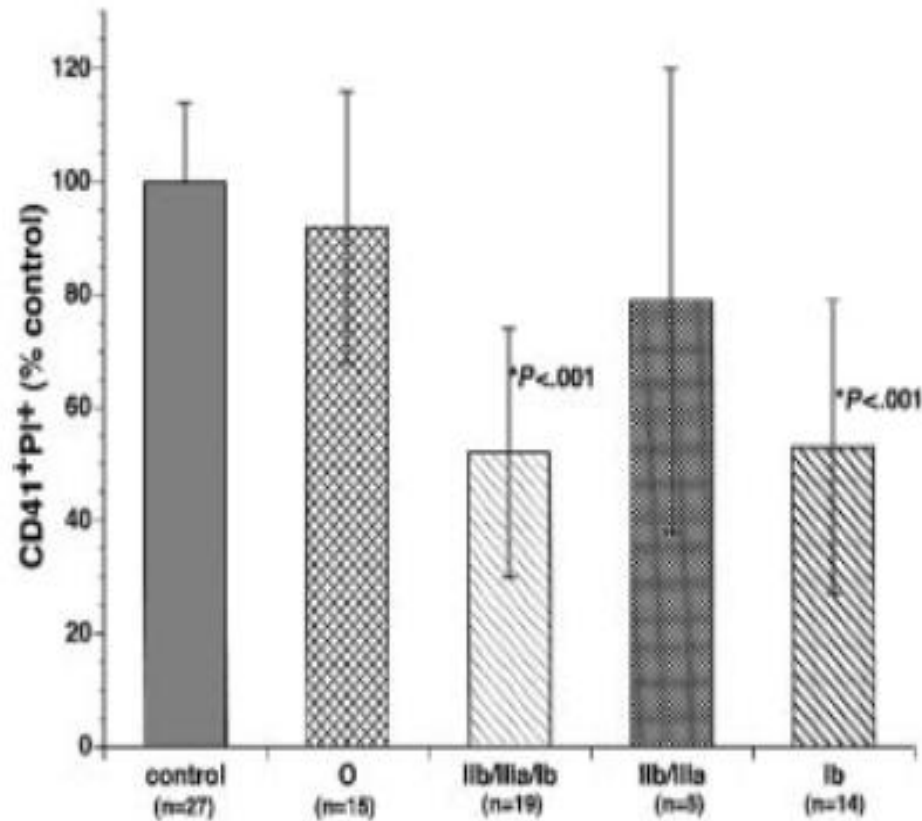
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## *Conclusioni*

sia una ridotta produzione piastrinica midollare, sia una aumentata eliminazione piastrinica contribuiscono alla patogenesi della piastrinopenia in corso di ITP

I TP plasma containing antibodies against GPIb inhibit megakaryocytopoiesis *in vitro*, in the presence of TPO



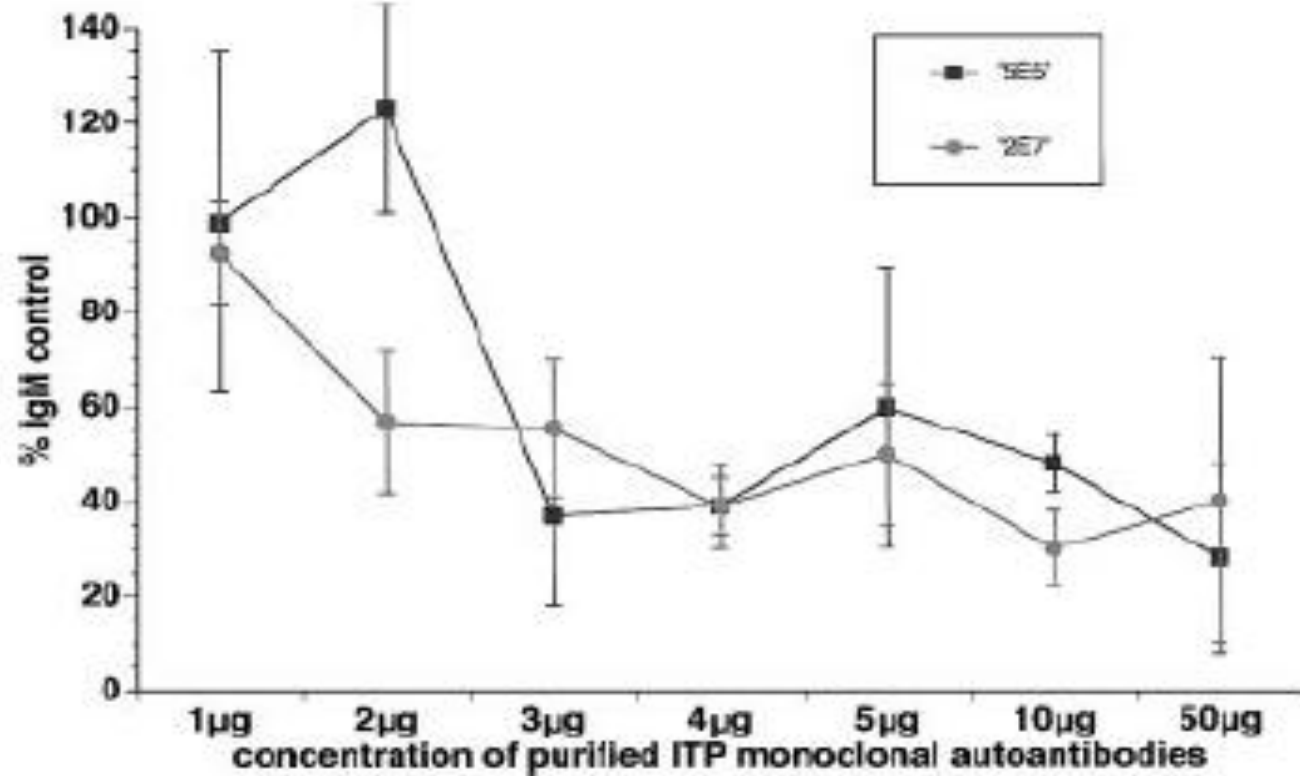
Reduction of plasma autoantibodies against GPIb/IX is associated with increased yield of CD41<sup>+</sup> PI<sup>+</sup> cells *in vitro*, in the presence of TPO

	Before absorption		After absorption
	Process 1*	Process 2†	
Acute ITP no. 1; Plt, $2 \times 10^3/\mu\text{L}$			
IgM titer	>160	>160	80
CD41+PI+, % of control	25	25	50
Acute ITP no. 2; Plt, $18 \times 10^3/\mu\text{L}$			
IgM titer	>20	>20	Undetectable
CD41+PI+, % of control	82	66	120
Healthy control no. 1; Plt, control			
IgM titer	Undetectable	Undetectable	Undetectable
CD41+PI+, % of control	100	94	100
Healthy control no. 2; Plt, control			
IgM titer	Undetectable	Undetectable	Undetectable
CD41+PI+, % of control	100	108	100

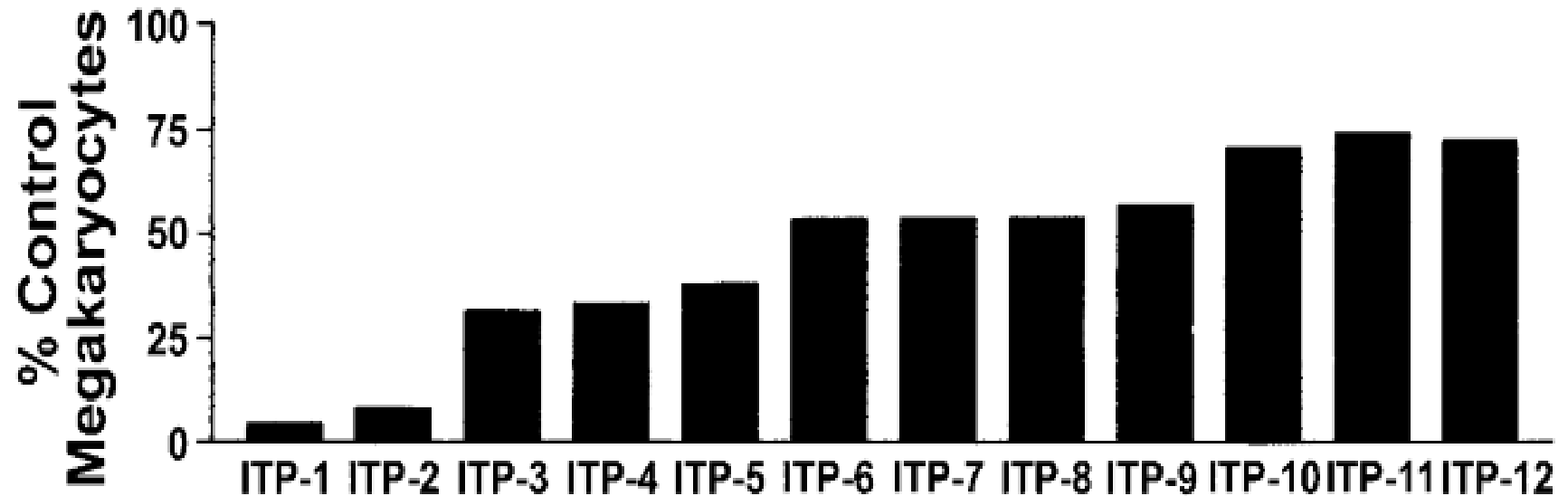
\*Frozen plasma samples were defrosted in ice, and analyzed immediately in culture for their effect on *in vitro* megakaryocytopoiesis.

†Frozen plasma samples were defrosted in ice, processed same as absorbed plasma samples except that no platelets were added to the plasma, and then analyzed in culture.

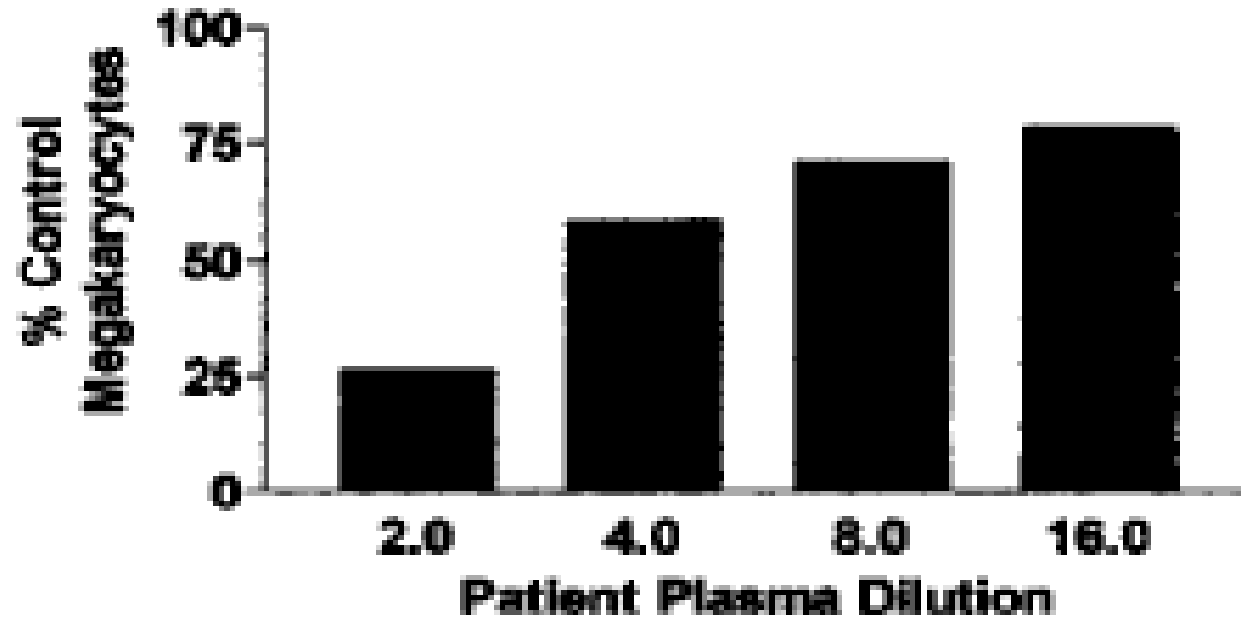
Dose response inhibition of CD41<sup>+</sup>PI<sup>+</sup> growth *in vitro* by purified human antiplatelet GPIIb and GPIIIa monoclonal antibodies



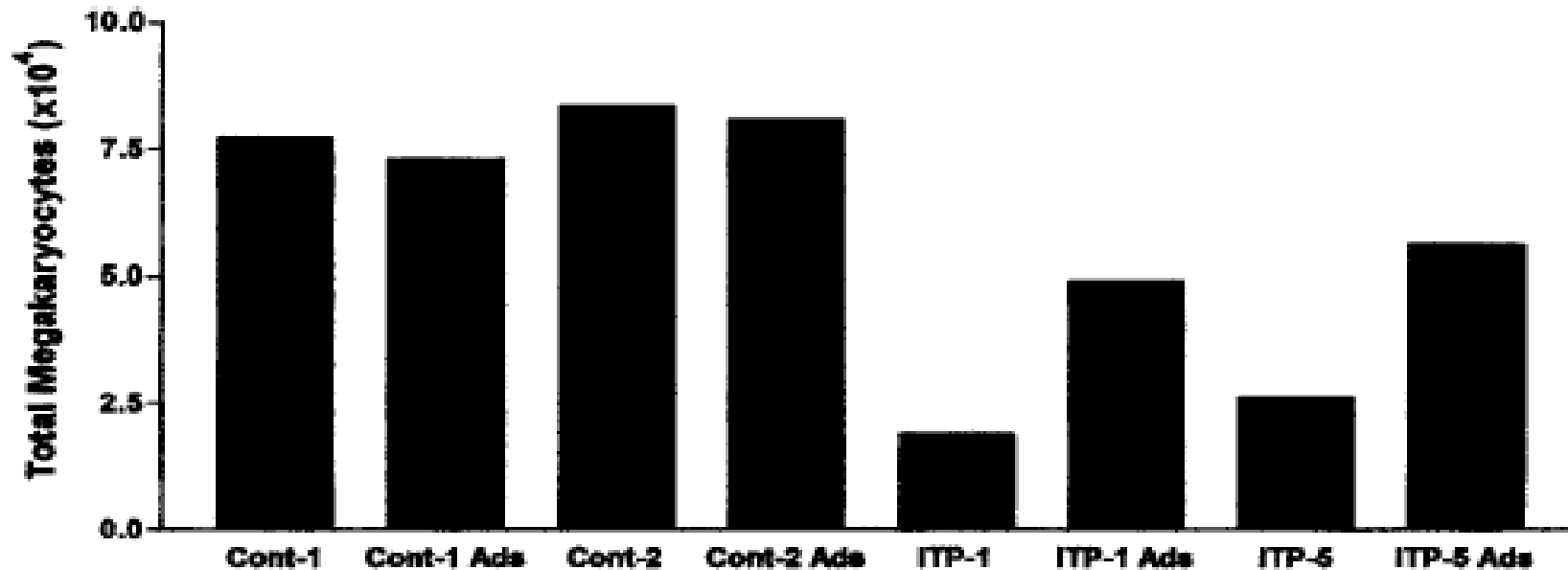
# Suppression of megakaryocytopoiesis *in vitro* by ITP plasma



# Suppression of megakaryocyte production by ITP plasma dilutions



Effect of autoantibody absorption with immobilized GPIIb/IIIa on megakaryocyte production *in vitro* in the presence of control or ITP plasma





# Ultrastructural study shows morphologic features of apoptosis and para-apoptosis in megakaryocytes from patients with idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura

Ewout J. Houwerzijl, Nel R. Blom, Johannes J. L. van der Want, Mariet T. Esselink, Jan J. Koornstra, Jan W. Smit, Henk Louwes, Edo Vellenga, and Joost Th. M. de Wolf

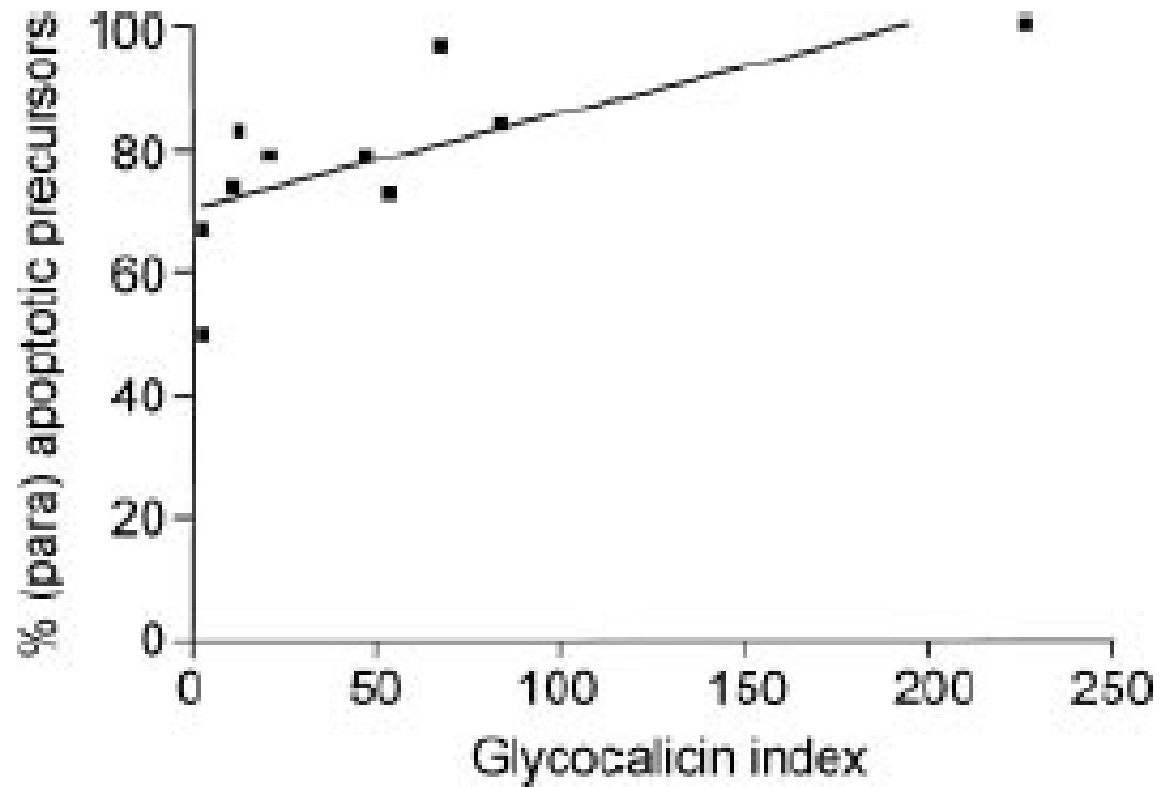
To investigate whether altered megakaryocyte morphology contributes to reduced platelet production in idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), ultrastructural analysis of megakaryocytes was performed in 11 ITP patients. Ultrastructural abnormalities compatible with (para-)apoptosis were present in  $78\% \pm 14\%$  of ITP megakaryocytes, which could be reversed by *in vivo* treatment with prednisone and intravenous immunoglobulin. Immunohistochemistry of bone marrow biopsies of ITP patients with extensive apoptosis showed an increased number of megakaryocytes with activated caspase-3 com-

pared with normal ( $28\% \pm 4\%$  versus  $0\%$ ). No difference, however, was observed in the number of bone marrow megakaryocyte colony-forming units (ITP,  $118 \pm 93/10^5$  bone marrow cells; versus controls,  $128 \pm 101/10^5$  bone marrow cells;  $P = .7$ ). To demonstrate that circulating antibodies might affect megakaryocytes, suspension cultures of CD34<sup>+</sup> cells were performed with ITP or normal plasma. Morphology compatible with (para-)apoptosis could be induced in cultured megakaryocytes with ITP plasma (2 of 10 samples positive for antiplatelet autoantibodies). Finally, the plasma glycolalcin

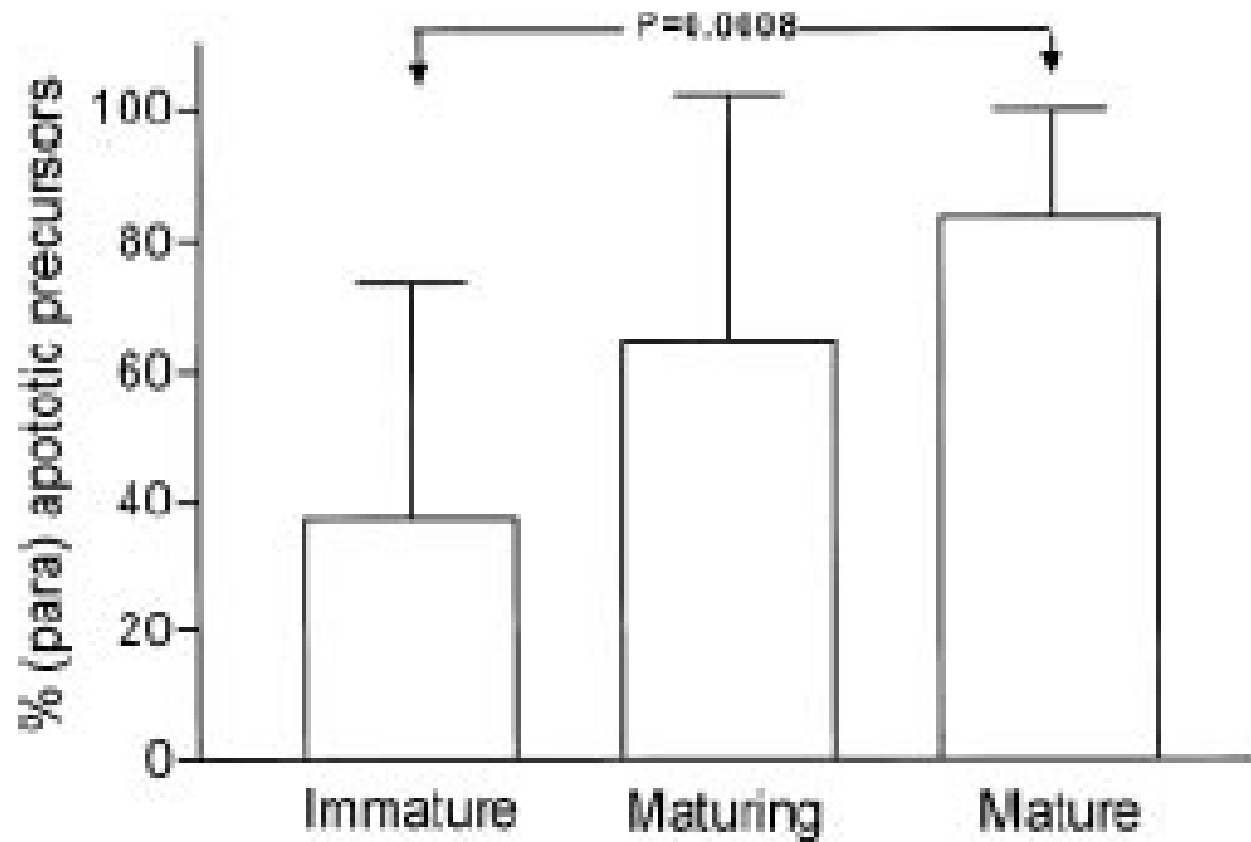
index, a parameter of platelet and megakaryocyte destruction, was increased in ITP ( $57 \pm 70$  versus  $0.7 \pm 0.2$ ;  $P = .009$ ) and correlated with the proportion of megakaryocytes showing (para-)apoptotic ultrastructure ( $P = .02$ ;  $r = 0.7$ ). In conclusion, most ITP megakaryocytes show ultrastructural features of (para-)apoptosis, probably due to action of factors present in ITP plasma. (Blood. 2004; 103:500-506)

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## Correlation between percentage of damaged megakaryocytes and glyco-calicin index



# Percentage of damaged ITP megakaryocytes in different stages of differentiation



# Ultrastructural study shows morphologic features of apoptosis and para-apoptosis in megakaryocytes from patients with idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura

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## *Conclusioni*

Molti megacariociti di pazienti ITP mostrano segni ultrastrutturali di (para)apoptosi, probabilmente causata da fattori plasmatici

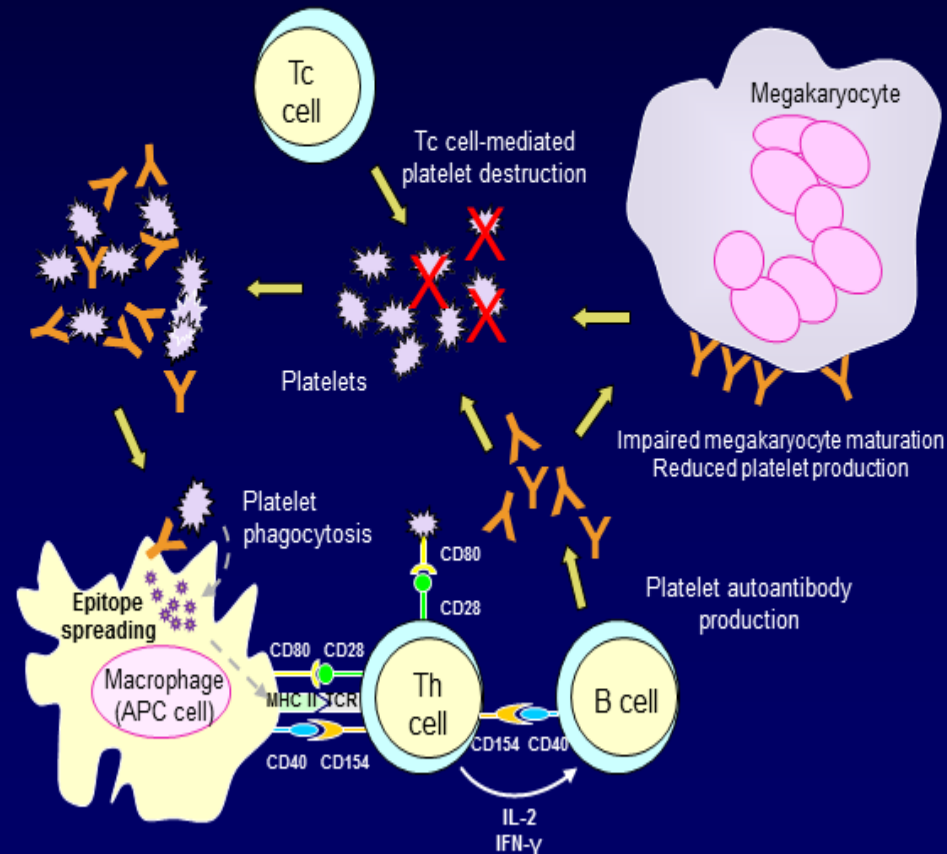
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# Understanding ITP pathophysiology will help us to find new therapeutic strategies



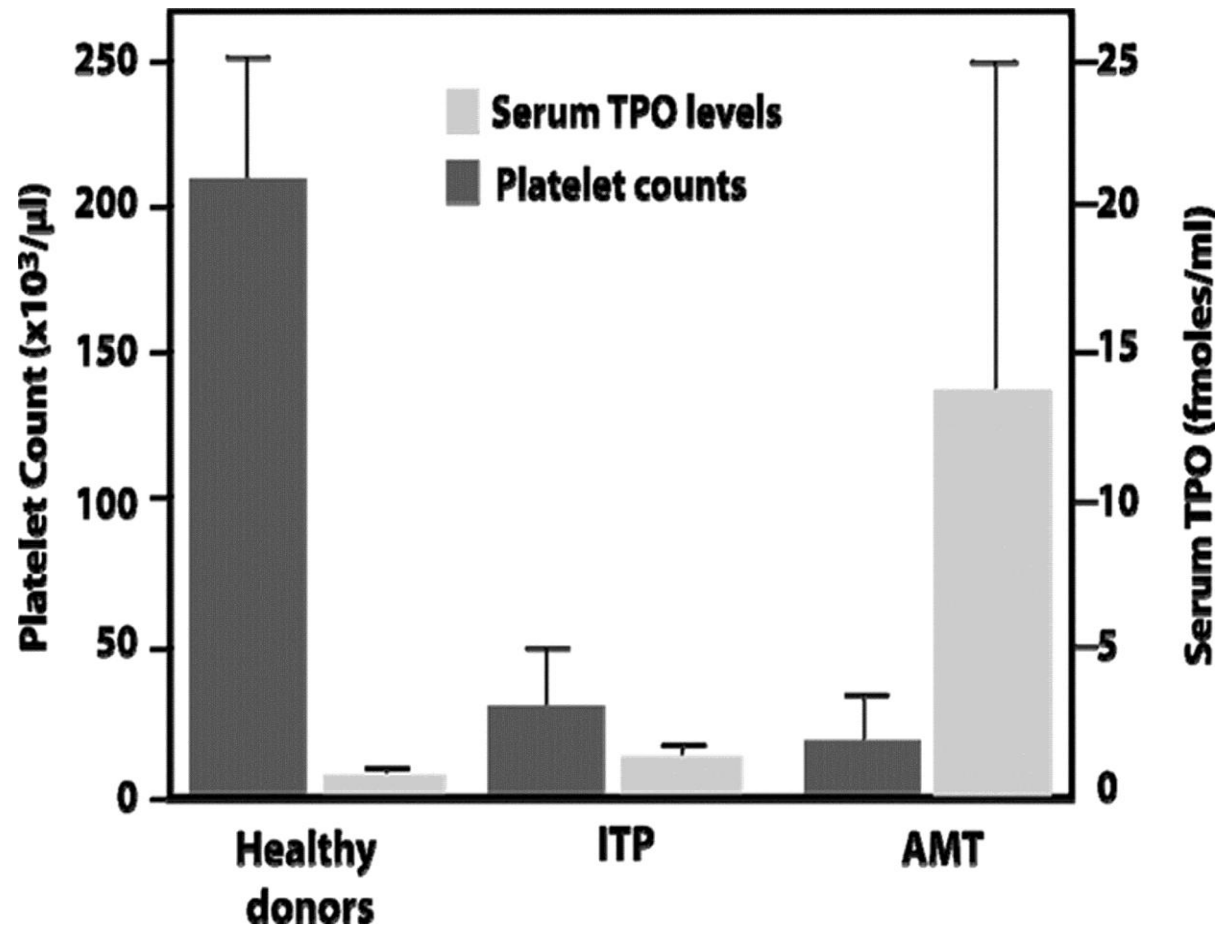
## Steps

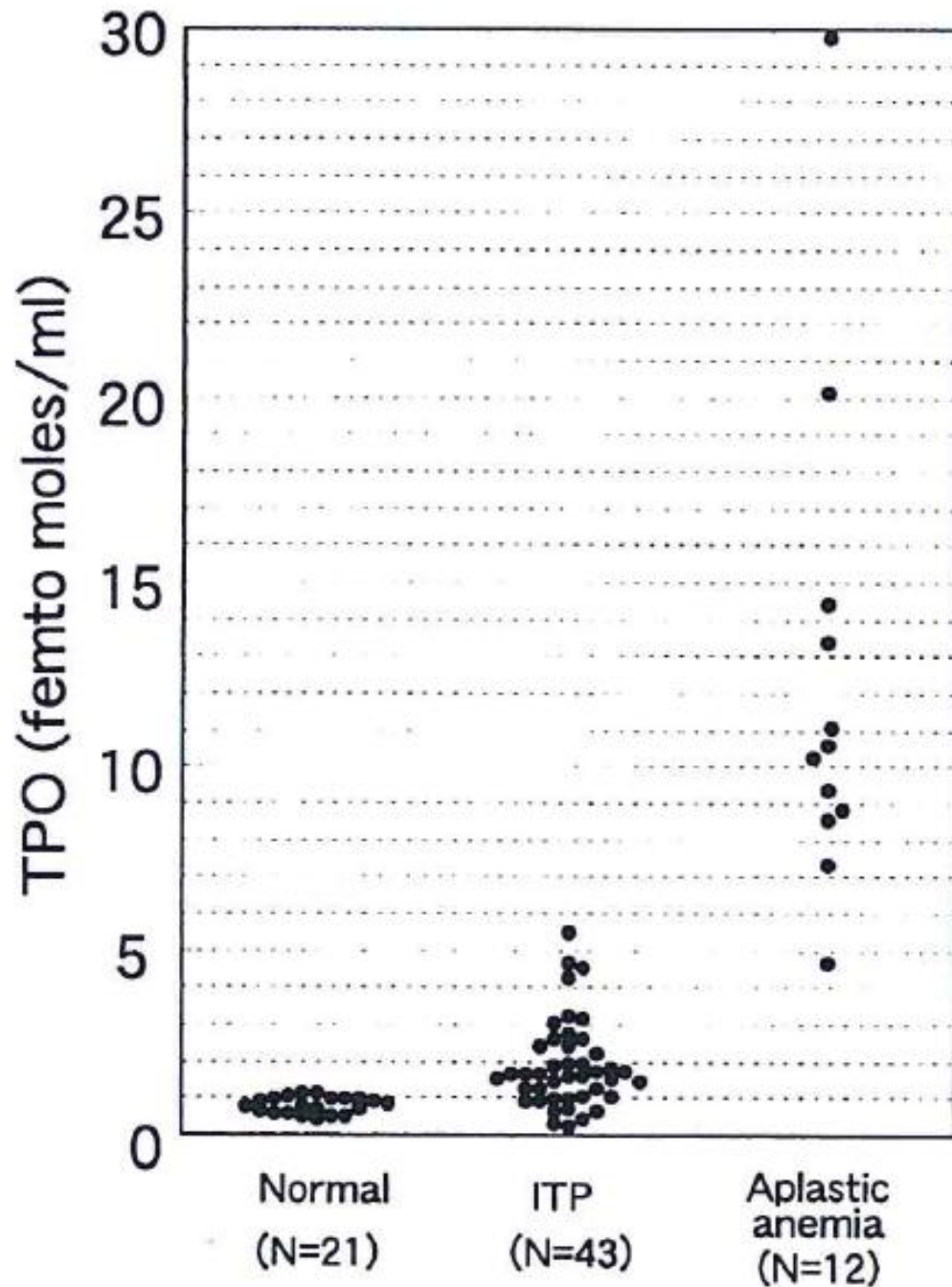
- Loss of tolerance
- Cleaving of platelet Ab by APC cell and express on APC cell
- APC–Th cell–B cell interactions
- B cell differentiation and Ab production
- Ab opsonize platelet: pathological loop

## Additional steps

- T-cell-mediated platelet destruction
- Impaired megakaryocyte production

# Differences in TPO plasma levels between patients with ITP or amegakaryocytic thrombocytopenia





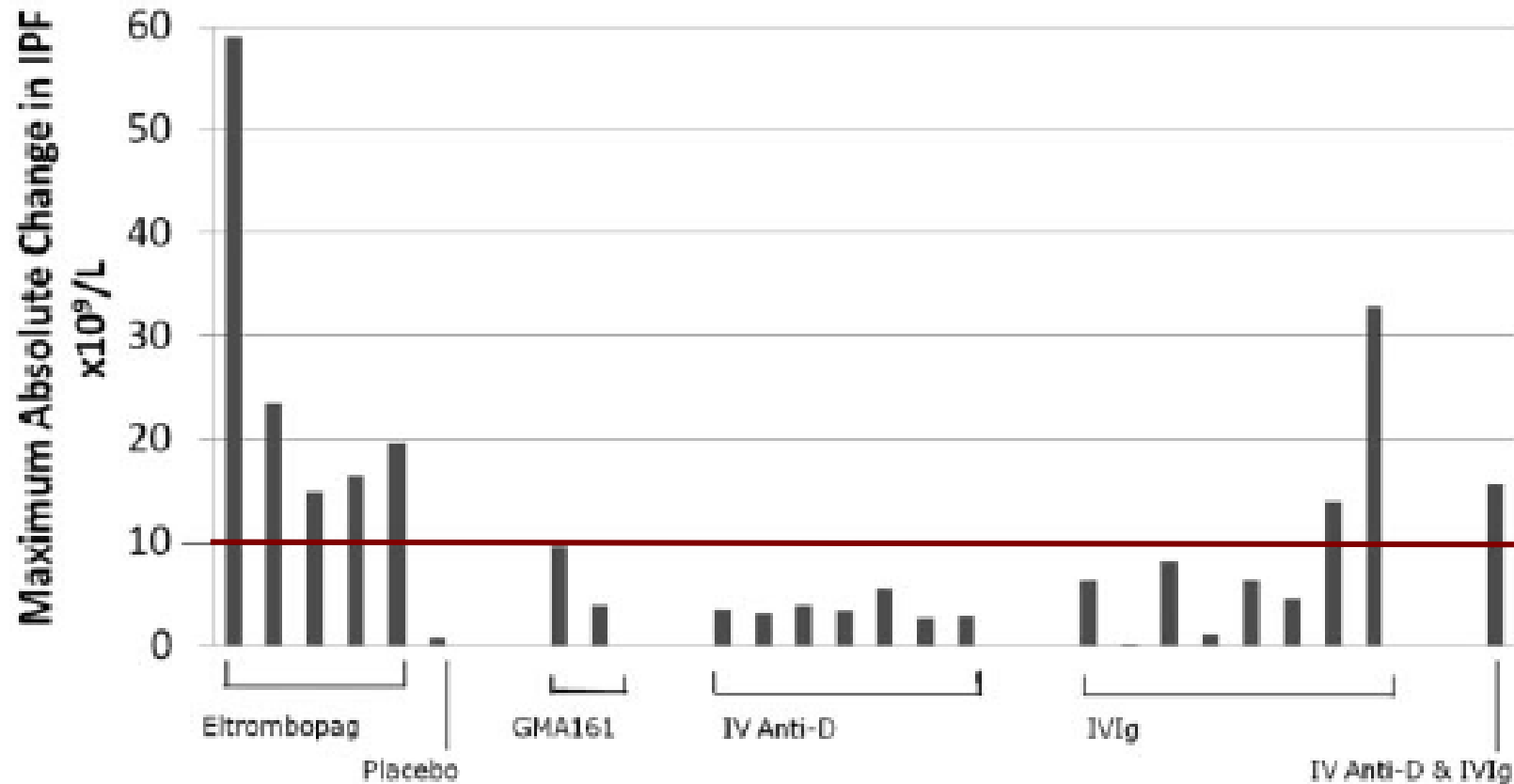
TPO plasma levels in normal subjects and patients with ITP or aplastic anemia

# ITP - Strategie terapeutiche

- Farmaci immunosoppressori/immunomodulanti
- Agonisti del recettore per la trombopoietina



Maximum observed change in Absolute Immature Platelet Fraction (A-IPF) within 10 days of successful treatment in ITP patients (n=24)



GMA161: anti-FcγRIII MoAb (*inhibits destruction of Ab-coated platelets*)

# Conclusioni

- La ITP primaria riconosce due meccanismi patogenetici
  - Aumentata distruzione piastrinica periferica
  - Ridotta megacariocitopoiesi e piastrinopoiesi midollare
- Terapie efficaci:
  - Riduzione della distruzione piastrinica immuno-mediata
  - Incremento della megacariocitopoiesi e piastrinopoiesi midollare