





Diagnostic work-up of patients with Increased Bleeding Tendency

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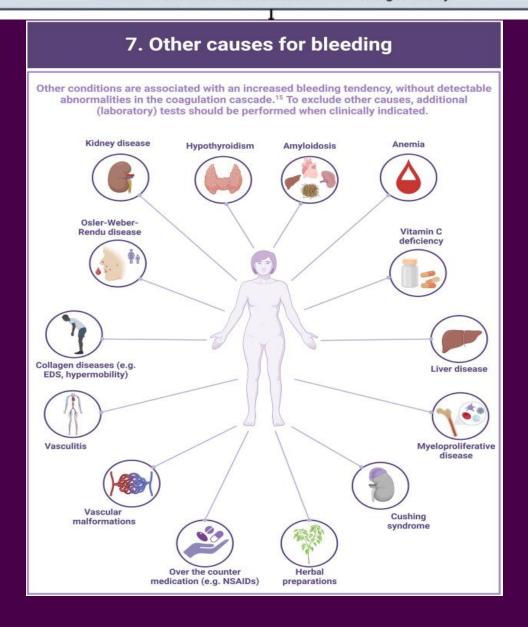
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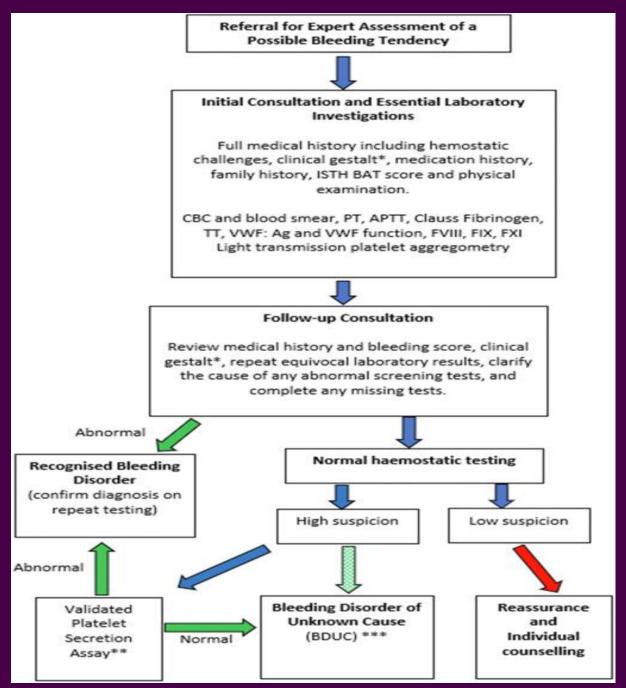
5. Assessment of bleeding phenotype Phenotypic assessment of bleeding is central to the diagnosis of BDUC How to quantify the bleeding symptoms? (2) **Bleeding Assessment Tool** Clinical gestalt assessed by (BAT) medical specialist BATs provide a standardized and objective approach for the assessment of bleeding symptoms. The International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) BAT is currently the most applied BAT and the recommended assessment tool by the ISTH SSC.2,11 Reference ranges ISTH-BAT Adjusted reference ranges have been recommended based on age.2,14 BATs have limitations including: 2, 12 · Lack of sensitivity in persons without hemostatic challenges · Recall bias Score saturation with recurrent symptoms · Inability to differentiate between different types of MBD. Moreover, low BAT scores do not always exclude mild bleeding disorders.13 As BATs have several limitations, BAT scores need to be considered on an individual basis together with the clinical gestalt by the treating physician.

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Exclusion of non-hemostatic causes for a bleeding tendency*



- 1. CBC
- 2. PT
- 3. aPTT
- 4. TT
- 5. VWF:Ag
- 6. VWF:activity
- 7. F VIII, IX, and
- 8. Platelet LTA

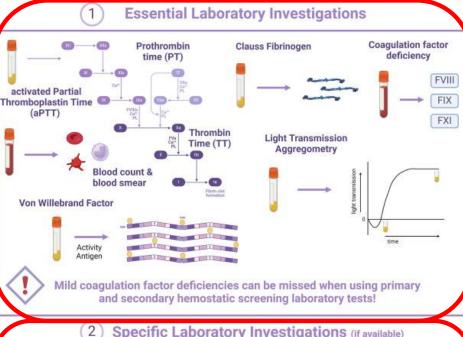


Standardization of definition and management for bleeding disorder of unknown cause: communication from the SSC of the ISTH

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Ross I. Baker^{1,2,3,4} \odot | Philip Choi^{5,6} | Nicola Curry^{7,8} | Johanna Gebhart^9 | Keith Gomez^{10} | Yvonne Henskens^{11,12} | Floor Heubel-Moenen^{13} | Paula James^{14} | Rezan Abdul Kadir^{15,16} | Peter Kouides^{17} | Michelle Lavin^{4,18,19} | Marie Lordkipanidze^{20,21} | Gillian Lowe^{22} | Andrew Mumford^{23} | Nicola Mutch^{24,25} | Michael Nagler^{26,27} | Maha Othman^{28,29,30} | Ingrid Pabinger^9 | Robert Sidonio^{31} | Will Thomas^{32} | James S. O'Donnell ^{4,18,19} | on behalf of the ISTH SSC Von Willebrand Factor, Platelet Physiology, and Women's Health Issues in Thrombosis and Haemostasis
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6. Laboratory tests

Laboratory testing is indispensable in the diagnostic process of bleeding disorders. Various diagnostic algorithms for laboratory testing leading to BDUC diagnosis have been described. Recently, the ISTH SSC recommended a stepwise approach.2 In addition, other causes for bleeding symptoms should be excluded. 15 In case of a clinically relevant bleeding tendency without any abnormal laboratory test results, BDUC may be diagnosed.

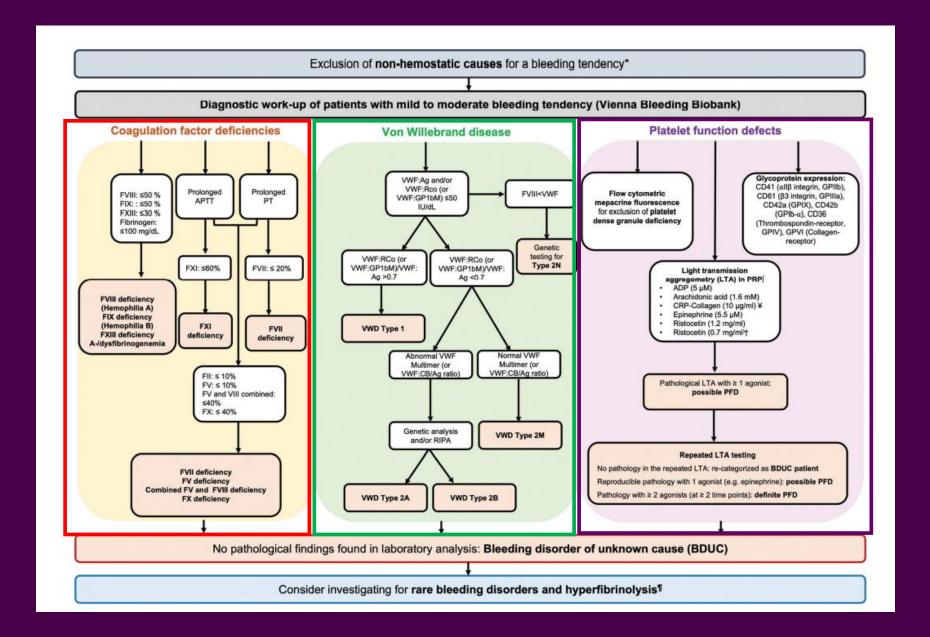


2) Specific Laboratory Investigations (if available)

Additional laboratory tests can be performed if available. These investigations can include platelet assays, fibrinolysis assays, rare clotting factor deficiencies and other specialized assays.2



Platelet LTA should be performed as a minimum assessment of platelet function and, if possible, plateletdense granule assessment. Further specialized platelet investigations in expert laboratories will identify additional rare IPFD in some MBD patients.

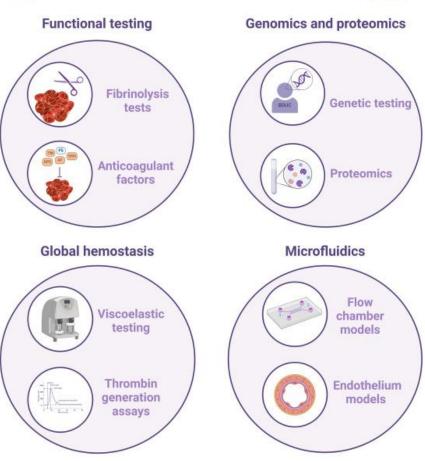


11. Advanced hemostatic laboratory testing

Besides the broadly available hemostatic laboratory tests, additionally more advanced hemostatic laboratory tests can be used to investigate underlying pathophysiological mechanisms.



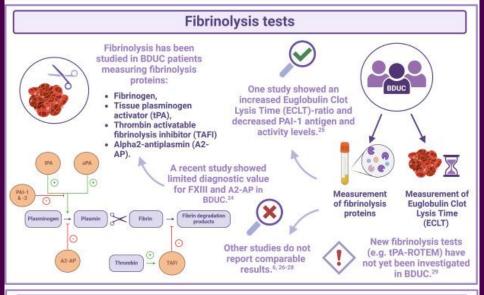
These tests are currently mainly used in research settings and their diagnostic value in the BDUC population is unclear.

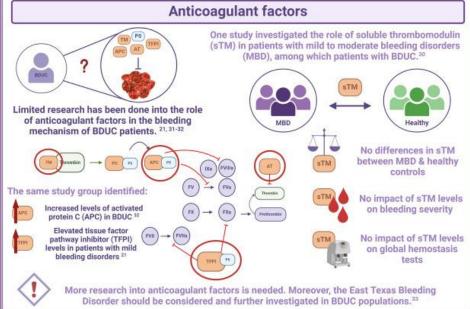


In the next four capsules current research and knowledge gaps on advanced hemostatic laboratory testing in BDUC are highlighted.

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12. Functional testing

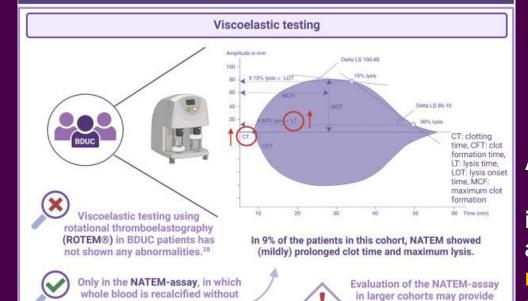




Abnormalities in the fibrinolytic pathway may be identified in some BDUC patients, but the clinical utility for diagnosis remains unclear and not routinely recommended for diagnosis of BDUC

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13. Global hemostasis



Thrombin generation assays

300

Lag time
Time to peak
Peak height
Peak height
Area under the curve (ETP)

insight in the value of the

previously found abnormalities.

Time (minutes)

Discrepancies in test results may be explained by the heterogeneity of test methods. Novel TG assays specifically

designed for bleeding evaluation need to

be investigated in BDUC.

addition of other activators, mild

deviations were seen in a small part of

the study population.5

Some studies on thrombin generation (TG) in BDUC show a

prolonged lag time and time to peak and/or a diminished maximal thrombin generation. 5,6,28

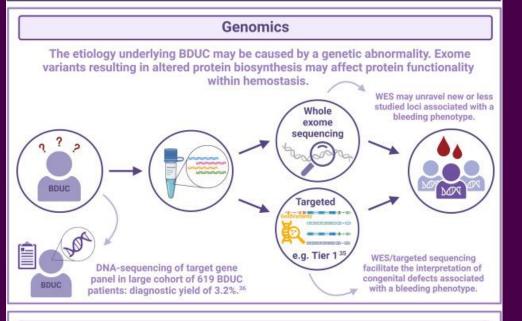
However, other studies do not

confirm these findings.26,34

Although global hemostatic tests may demonstrate variable abnormalit in

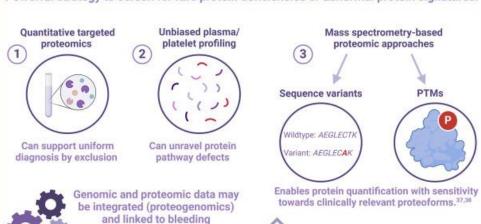
a minority of BDUC patients, they are recommended for routine diagnosis of management

14. Genomics & proteomics





Powerful strategy to screen for rare protein deficiencies or abnormal protein signatures.



This has not been studied in persons with BDUC yet.39

phenotypes.

- Routine genetic testing is not indicated for BDUC
- Patients should be considered for enrolment in research studies that enable more expansive phenotypic and genomic testing.

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ISTH SSC COMMUNICATION



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Bleeding Disorder of Unknown Cause (BDUC)

• We recommend:

"Bleeding disorder of unknown cause" be used

- 1- in preference to other terminology for classification f
- 2- patients with a bleeding phenotype in whom hemostatic investigations are normal





