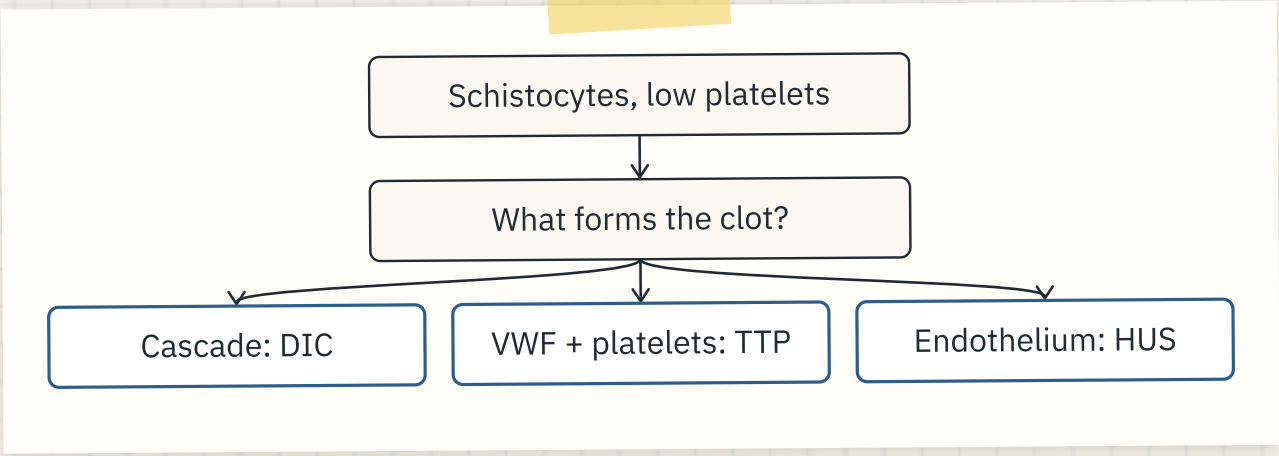
DIC vs TTP vs HUS

Same film, three clots: what forms the clot decides the labs



Step by step

1. Schistocytes and low platelets: small-vessel clots
2. Check PT, PTT, fibrinogen: typically abnormal in DIC
3. Normal screen: check ADAMTS13
4. Below 10 percent means TTP; normal points to HUS

	DIC	TTP	HUS
Clot made by	Cascade	VWF + platelets	Endothelium
PT and PTT	Prolonged	Normal	Normal
ADAMTS13	Not defining	Below 10%	Normal
Treatment	Fix cause	Plasma exchange + immunosuppression	Supportive

Mechanism and labs

Rule of thumb

DIC = consumption
TTP = ADAMTS13 below 10%
HUS = endothelial injury

Exam traps

- The film cannot separate the three
- TTP and HUS have a normal PT and PTT
- Atypical HUS has no Shiga toxin: complement

DIC vs TTP vs HUS: mechanism and the PT/PTT

Video, written lesson, practice question and sources: medservatory.com/usmle-step-1/haematology-oncology/dic-vs-ttp-vs-hus

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