

9. Platelet Count
(Thrombocytes)

Methods of counting

1. Direct method
 - a. Haemocytometer.
 - b. Automatic blood cell counter.
2. Indirect method: blood film.

The platelets per oil immersion field on a stained blood smear are counted and compared with the number of red or white cells. For example, the number of platelets per 100 white blood cells multiplied by the total white count is an estimate of the platelet count. Another method is to simply count the number of platelets per oil immersion field where one oil is equivalent to 15,000/ul.

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