**Glossary**

**Coagulation Factors**
Plasma proteins that participate in a cascade of enzymatic activity resulting in the activation of thrombin and the proteolysis of fibrinogen to fibrin.

**Collagen**
Triple helical sub-endothelial matrix protein that contains binding sites for platelets.

**Endothelial cells**
Layer of cells lining blood vessels. They prevent blood from escaping into the extracellular matrix.

**Fibrin**
Protein formed from the polymerisation of fibrinogen following thrombin proteolysis. Forms a meshwork that entraps platelets.

**Fibrinogen**
Plasma protein that is proteolysed by thrombin to form a fibrin meshwork.

**Glycoprotein VI**
Platelet membrane receptor that adheres to collagen. Engagement of this receptor results in platelet activation.

**GpIb/V/IX**
Platelet membrane receptor that binds to VWF at sites of vascular injury.

**Haemostasis**
The process of stopping blood loss from damaged blood vessels.

**Integrin αIIbβ3**
Platelet membrane receptor that binds to fibrinogen and crosslinks platelets forming a thrombus. Also binds to VWF.

**Lumen of blood vessel**
The open space inside the tubule.

**Nitric oxide**
Signalling molecule that is released from healthy endothelial cells and inhibits platelet activation.

**Open Canaliculcular system**
System of channels within platelets that acts as a repository for membrane and membrane proteins. It is externalised upon platelet activation.
**Platelets**
Small discoid blood cells that adhere to sites of vascular injury and mediate haemostasis.

**Prostacyclin**
Signalling molecule that is released from healthy endothelial cells and inhibits platelet activation.

**Protease Activated Receptors**
Signalling receptors on platelets that are activated by thrombin.

**Thrombin**
Serine protease that proteolyses fibrinogen to form fibrin.

**Thrombus**
Blood clot that forms at a site of vascular injury and prevents further blood loss.

**Vasoconstriction**
Narrowing of blood vessels as a result of vascular injury.

**Von Willebrand Factor**
Large plasma protein that is involved in platelet adhesion to exposed sub-endothelial matrix following vascular injury.