



Dear Doctor

Re:

**General Paediatrician Consultant:**

Your patient has been diagnosed with immune thrombocytopenia (ITP).

ITP in children is usually a self-limiting condition. Serious bleeding is rare and 80% of cases will resolve spontaneously within 6-8 weeks so the majority of children can be managed conservatively. The extent of bleeding rather than the platelet count is used to determine if a patient requires treatment.

Your patient will have a follow-up examination and full blood count (FBC) with film at Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) in the next two weeks. Outpatient follow-up with FBC and film will also occur at 3 and 6 months. If the ITP persists beyond 6 months, they will be referred to paediatric haematology for further investigation and management.

We would like you to be involved in the outpatient management plan. We would be grateful if you would kindly review your patient, initially weekly, then intermittently based on clinical status and parental concerns between the PCH appointments. This is to ensure he/she is well with no signs such as pallor, bone pain, hepatosplenomegaly or lymphadenopathy to suggest another diagnosis. Further FBCs should not be necessary unless you are considering another diagnosis, or the symptoms have resolved (to confirm that the patient has recovered).

Your patient will need to be referred back to the Emergency Department in the following situations:

1. Epistaxis: repeated, continuous or profuse with need to apply pressure for more than 15 mins.
2. Oral bleeding; continuous from gums, buccal mucosa, posterior oropharynx that requires immediate medical attention or intervention.
3. Suspected internal haemorrhage at any site (brain, lung, muscle, joint) that requires immediate medical attention or intervention.

Your patient's family are aware that you will be involved. We have enclosed the parent information sheet, so you are aware of the information they have been provided.

If you have any concerns, please contact Perth Children's Hospital Emergency Department on 6456 2222 and speak to one of our Consultants.

Kind regards

Perth Children's Hospital Emergency Department

Compassion

Collaboration

Equity

Respect

Excellence

Accountability

