

10 A 26-year-old pregnant woman was noted to have thrombocytopenia when she presented as an emergency with dysuria because of a urinary tract infection. She was at 32 weeks gestation and, apart from one other urine infection, had had no problems. She was a vegetarian and believed in natural remedies; she had originally tried cranberry juice but this produced no symptomatic relief. On examination she appeared flushed. Her temperature was 37.4°C, her pulse was 82 beats per minute and her blood pressure was 108/76 mmHg. The uterus was enlarged and compatible with dates, and there were fetal movements.

Investigations:

haemoglobin	109 g/l (115–165)
MCV	102 fl (80–96)
white cell count	$12.1 \times 10^9/l$ (4–11)
neutrophil count	$10.6 \times 10^9/l$ (1.5–7.0)
platelet count	$98 \times 10^9/l$ (150–400)

What is the most likely cause of the thrombocytopenia?

- (a) HELPP syndrome
- (b) gram-negative bacteraemia
- (c) folate deficiency
- (d) adverse reaction to cranberry juice
- (e) normal pregnancy-related change

CME Neurology medicine SAQs

Answers to the CME SAQs published in *Clinical Medicine* February 2013

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
(d)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(d)	(d)	(a)	(a)	(b)	(e)