Hematology PBL CASE - 2

A 30-year old male was admitted to the intensive care unit after a road traffic accident. He was suffering from severe chest and abdominal injuries. He was diagnosed of having septicemia due to the severity of his injuries. Large doses of intravenous antibiotics were administered. Few hours later he developed bleeding from his gums and nostrils. His urine too was blood stained.

Lab investigations revealed:

| Test | Value | Normal range |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Platelets | 23 x 10 ⁹ cells/L | 150-400 x 10 ⁹ cells/L |
| Thrombin Time | 42 seconds | 10-15 seconds |
| Factor VIII level | < 20% | 50-200% ref |
| Hb | 7.8 g/dl | 11-15 gm/dl |

The serum fibrinogen level was markedly reduced and the serum fibrin degradation products (FDPs) were elevated.

Patient was immediately transfused with platelet concentrate and fresh frozen plasma (FFP).

Patient's relatives were very anxious and kept asking the doctors and the nursing staff about the possible outcome.