

Table. Causes of acquired low protein C levels

1. Warfarin (Coumadin®, Jantoven®) therapy
2. Liver failure (such as liver cirrhosis)
3. Vitamin K deficiency
4. Fresh blood clots
5. Surgical removal of the small bowel
6. Prolonged antibiotic therapy in a person with little food intake over several days
7. Widespread (metastatic) tumors
8. DIC (= disseminated intravascular coagulation)*
9. Severe bacterial infections in the young, without overt DIC

* a generalized clotting and bleeding disorder that is often associated with infection in the blood stream (sepsis)