



Figure 1 The Coagulation Cascade was described in the early 1960's. It explains coagulation as a "cascade" of enzymatic interactions that produces insoluble fibrin, but it fails to explain how the cascade is initiated, regulated, and concluded. It assumes that the sole purpose of coagulation is hemostasis. Conventional "vasoconstriction" theory fails to explain capillary hemostasis, because capillaries lack the ability to contract. The cascade consists of an "intrinsic pathway" consisting of factors VIII and IX, and an "extrinsic pathway" consisting of factor VII and tissue factor. Both pathways interact with factor X in a "final common pathway" to generate thrombin, soluble fibrin, and insoluble fibrin. *By Joe D - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1983833>*