

also cause bleeding. Kaposi's sarcoma, seen in advanced acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, is very vascular and can develop anywhere along the respiratory tract, from the bronchi to the oral cavity.

Mechanical and Other Causes In addition to infection, vascular disease, and malignancy, other insults to the pulmonary system can cause hemoptysis. Pulmonary endometriosis causes cyclical bleeding known as catamenial hemoptysis. Foreign body aspiration can lead to airway irritation and bleeding. Diagnostic and therapeutic procedures are also potential offenders: pulmonary vein stenosis can result from left atrial procedures, such as pulmonary vein isolation, and pulmonary artery catheters can lead to rupture of the pulmonary artery if the distal balloon is kept inflated. Finally, in the setting of thrombocytopenia, coagulopathy, anticoagulation, or antiplatelet therapy, even minor insults can cause hemoptysis.

■ EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT

History The amount or severity of bleeding is the first step in assessing a patient with hemoptysis. A patient's description of the sputum (e.g., flecks of blood, pink-tinged, or frank blood or clot) is helpful if you cannot examine it. An approach to management of hemoptysis is outlined in [Fig. 39-1](#).