Pathogenesis of RP The pathogenesis of RP involves a complex interplay between genetic, neural, vascular and intravascular factors.Although a detailed review of the pathogenesis of RP is beyond the scope of this review, an overview of the key pathogenetic mechanisms informs a systematic approach to both the assessment and management of RP. We will highlight the main pathogenic mechanisms that have been implicated in PRP and/or SSc–RP to date. Contributory mechanisms which have been implicated in the pathogenesis of RP include (but are not limited to) platelet and white cell activation, red cell structural deformity and defective fibrinolysis.2

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