

A microscopic view of numerous red blood cells (erythrocytes) against a dark background. The cells are biconcave discs, appearing as reddish-orange or yellowish-orange rings with a central indentation. The lighting creates a sense of depth, highlighting the edges and the concave center of the cells. The text 'RBC' is overlaid in large, bold, red letters across the center of the image.

RBC

DISORDERS

ANEMIA

Ancient greek “anaimia” = ‘lack of blood’

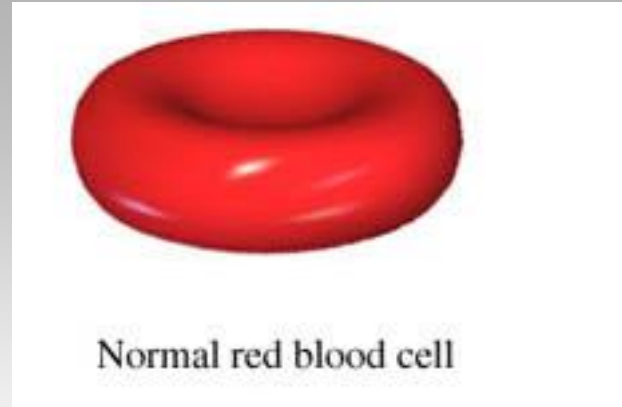
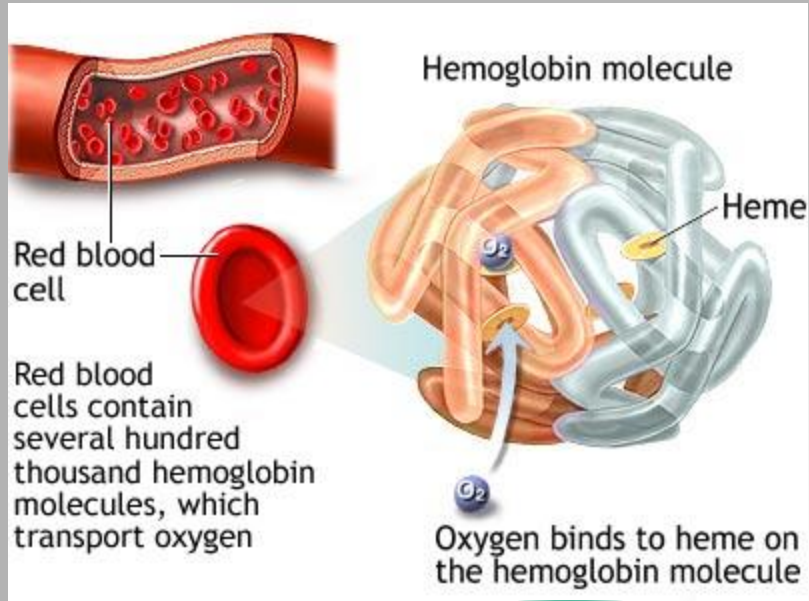
Blood hemoglobin level is below the normal range for the patient’s age and sex

decrease in normal number of red blood cells (RBCs) or less than the normal quantity of hemoglobin in the blood.

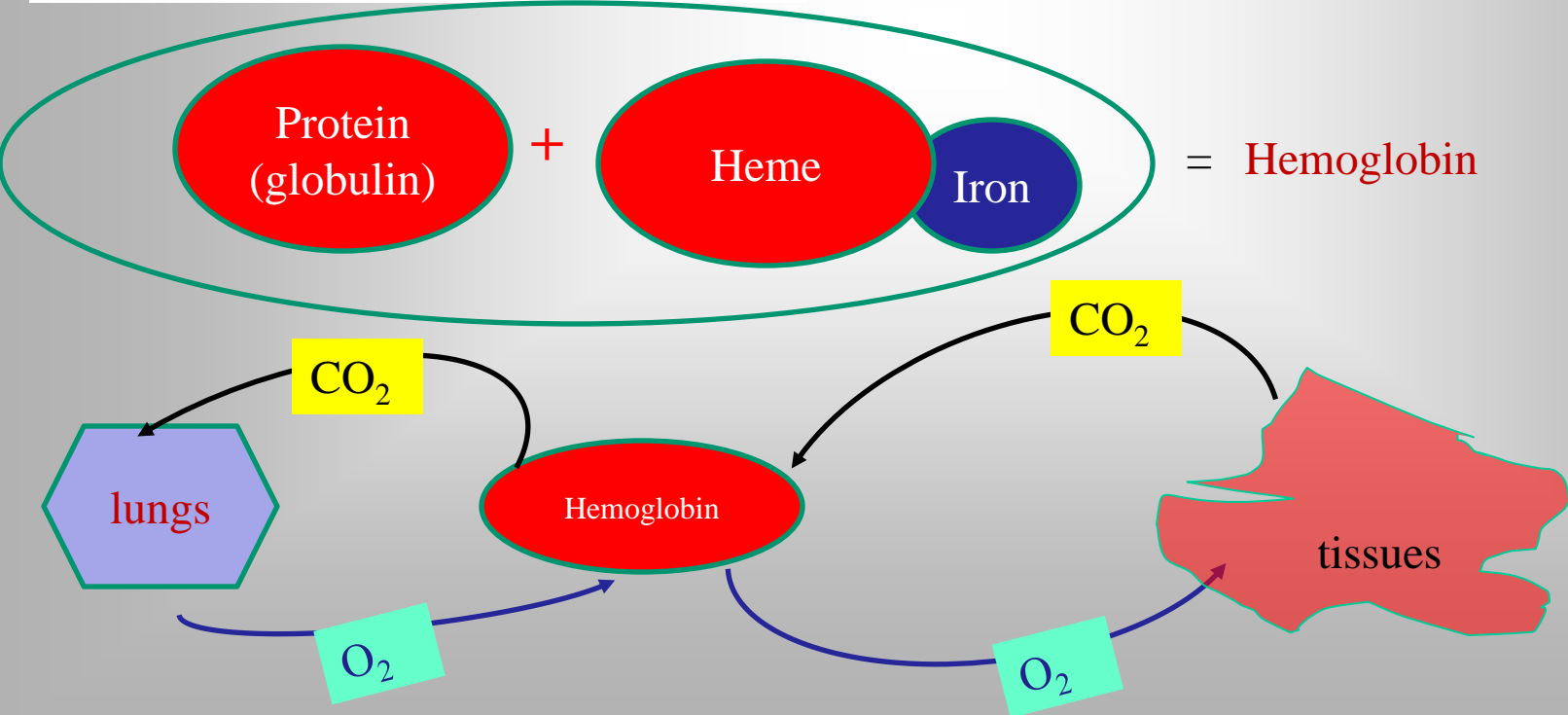


Decrease in the concentration of red blood cells or Hb in the peripheral blood

HEMOGLOBIN

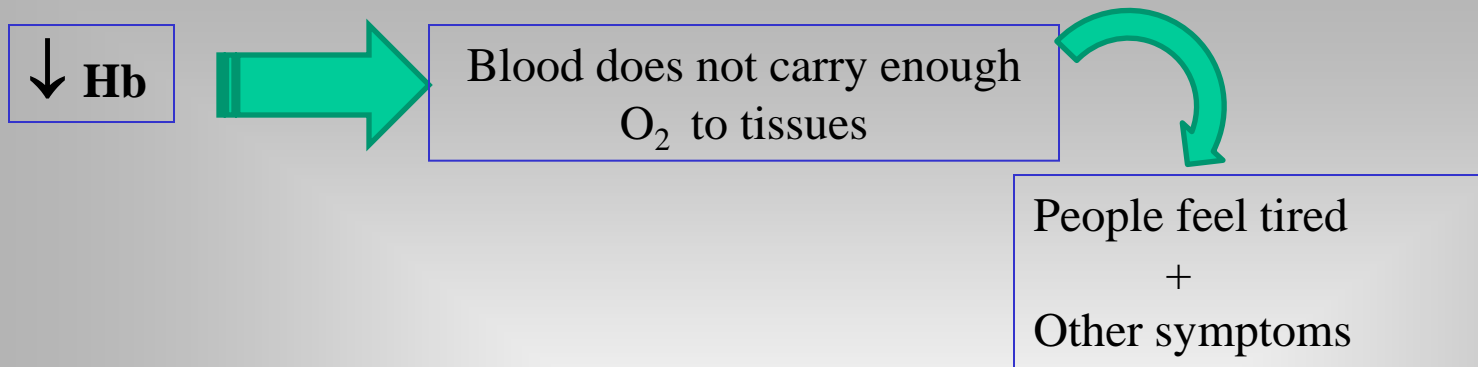


About 280 million Hb molecules



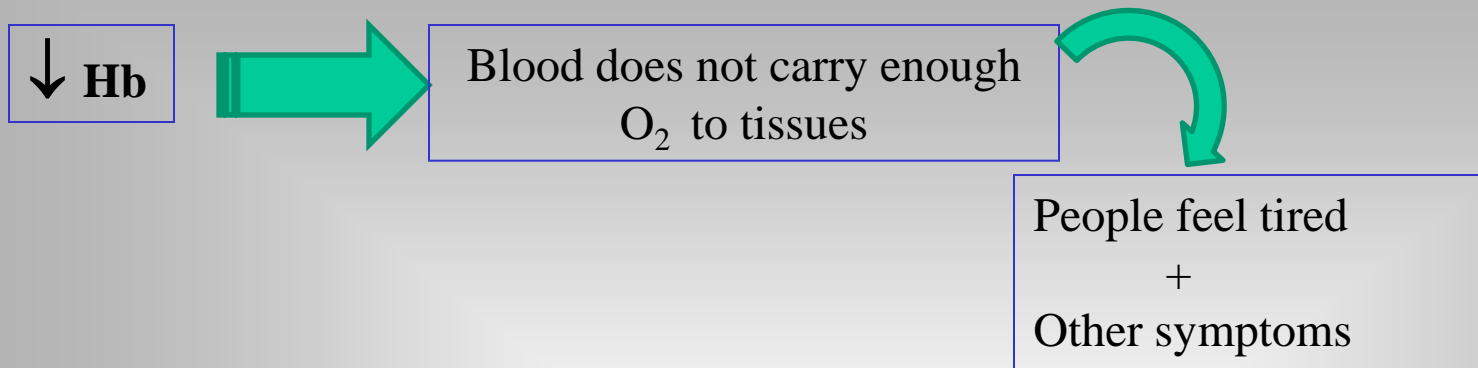
Adult Reference Ranges for Red Blood Cells

Measurement (units)	Men	Women
Hemoglobin (gm/dL)	13.6–17.2	12.0–15.0
Hematocrit (%)	39–49	33–43
Red cell count ($10^6 / \mu\text{L}$)	4.3–5.9	3.5–5.0
Reticulocyte count (%)	0.5–1.5	
Mean cell volume (μm^3)	82–96	
Mean corpuscular hemoglobin (pg)	27–33	
Mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration (gm/dL)	33–37	



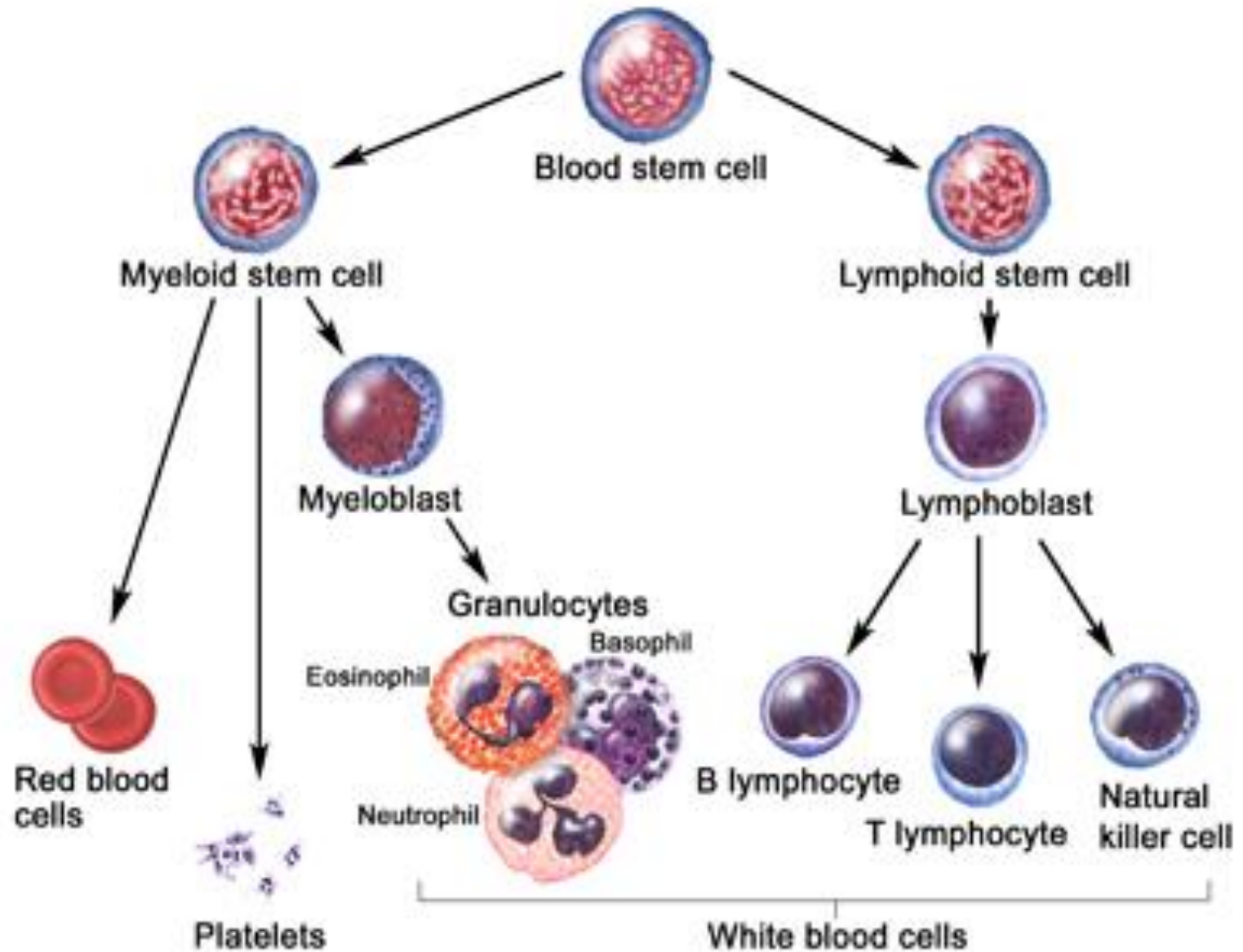
Hematocrit - The hematocrit level measures **how much** of the blood is made up of RBCs. The normal range for hematocrit levels for the general population is 32–43 percent. **A low** hematocrit level is another **sign** of **anemia**.

The number of RBCs - **Too few RBCs** means a person has anemia. A low number of RBCs is usually seen with either a low hemoglobin or a low hematocrit level, or both



The mean cell volume - measures the **average size** (volume) of RBCs. In iron-deficiency anemia, the RBCs are usually smaller than normal. This is called **microcytosis**.

Reticulocyte count - Reticulocytes are young RBCs. This test measures the number of new RBCs in your blood. The reticulocyte test is used to determine whether your bone marrow is producing RBCs at the proper rate. A higher than average count usually indicates **either blood loss or destruction of RBCs earlier** than their normal life of 120 days. A **lower than average count indicates a decreased production of RBCs** by the bone marrow. People with pernicious anemia have low reticulocyte levels.



SOURCE



Erythroid stem cell



Early normoblast



Intermediate normoblast



Late normoblast

(still a nucleated cell)

Extruded into circulation

Reticulocyte

*(no nucleus, but
ribosomes +
mitochondria present)*



Erythrocyte

~~Normal R.B.C~~

Normal size – 7 – 7.2 μ



Biconcave, disc like
non-nucleated cell

Normal life 120 days

Flexible cell membrane,
destroyed in spleen, when it
no longer has the ability to be
flexible

Classification of anemia

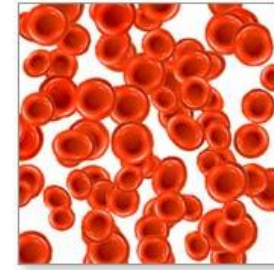
- I
1. Due to blood loss, acute/chronic
 2. Inadequate production of normal RBC's by bone marrow (hypoplasia, aplasia)
 3. Excessive destruction of RBC's

II

On basis of morphology of RBC

1. Normocytic
2. Microcytic
3. macrocytic

Normal amount of red blood cells

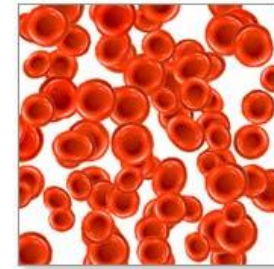


Anemic amount of red blood cells

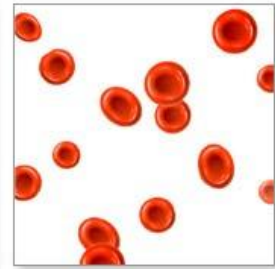


Classification of anemia

Normal amount of
red blood cells



Anemic amount of
red blood cells



III

a. Due to deficiency of factors essential for normal blood formation

1. Iron

2. Cyanocobalamin (Vit B12) and folic acid

b. Anemia due to excessive blood destruction (hemolytic anemia)

I. Due to intracorpuseular factors

i. Abnormal shape of erythrocytes

ii. Abnormal hemoglobins

iii. Erythrocyte enzyme deficiencies

II. Due to extracorpuseular factors

c. Anemia due to aplasia or hypoplasia of bone marrow

Signs & Symptoms

Symptoms

- Lassitude
- Fatigue
- breathlessness on exertion
- Palpitations
- Throbbing in head and ears
- Dizziness
- Tinnitus
- headache
- Dimness of vision
- insomnia
- Parasthesia in fingers and toes
- Angina

Signs

- Pallor of
 - a) Skin
 - b) Mucous membrane
 - c) palms of hands
 - d) conjunctiva
- Tachycardia
- Cardiac dilatation
- Systolic flow murmurs
- oedema



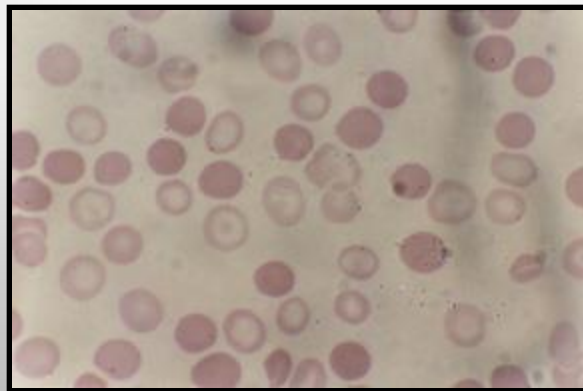
All of these signs and symptoms can occur because the heart has to work harder to pump more oxygen-rich blood through the body

Iron deficiency Anemia

1. Increased utilization- growth spurt
2. Physiologic iron loss- menstruation, pregnancy
3. Pathologic iron loss- GIT bleeding, genitourinary bleeding
4. Decreased iron intake

Consequence of deficiency

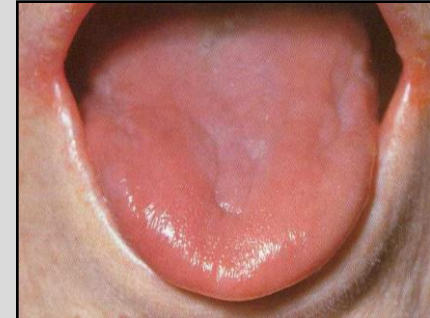
Cell growth & proliferation impaired by iron **deficiency**. Bone marrow cells have highest proliferative activity, especially **RBC** precursors, followed by **GIT** cells



Iron deficiency Anemia

Clinical features

1. General features- weakness, lassitude, palpitations, exertional dyspnoea
2. GIT
 - Glossitis- smooth, reddened, swollen, shiny and tender tongue
 - Angular stomatitis- erosion, tenderness at corners of mouth
 - Gastric atrophy- sometimes gastritis and gastric bleeding
3. Nails-
 - Initial drying and brittleness
 - Followed by flattening and brittleness
 - Finally concavity (koilonychia)



Iron deficiency Anemia

Clinical features

4. Menorrhagia in iron deficient woman
5. Pica- eating and craving for strange foods
 - Starch - amylophagia
 - Ice- pacophagia
 - Clay- geophagia
6. Plummer Vinson syndrome
 - Dry mouth
 - Angular stomatitis
 - Atrophic changes in mucosa of mouth, pharynx, upper esophagus



Pharyngeal and I.O Ca more common in these patients

Oral features of Fe def.-

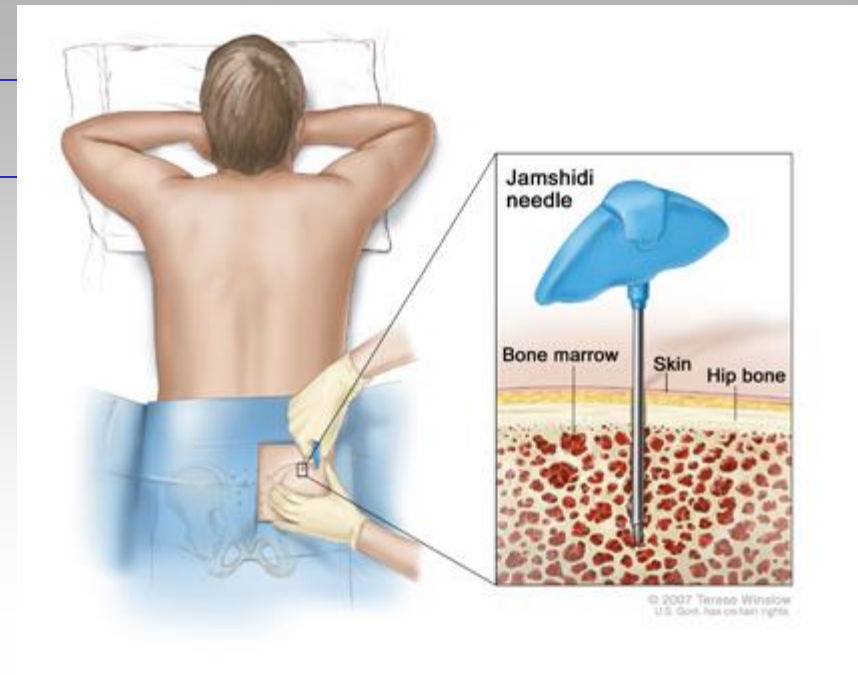
- glossitis, angular cheilitis,
- slow healing after oral surgical procedures,
- pallor of soft palate and tongue,
- papillary atrophy



Iron deficiency Anemia

Diagnosis

1. Blood investigations
 - ↓ Hb
 - Microcytic , hypochromic cells
 - ↓ MCV, ↓ MCH, ↓ MCHC
2. Serum studies
 - Low serum ferritin
 - Increased TIBC
3. Bone marrow- absence of stainable iron
4. Investigation for source of bleeding



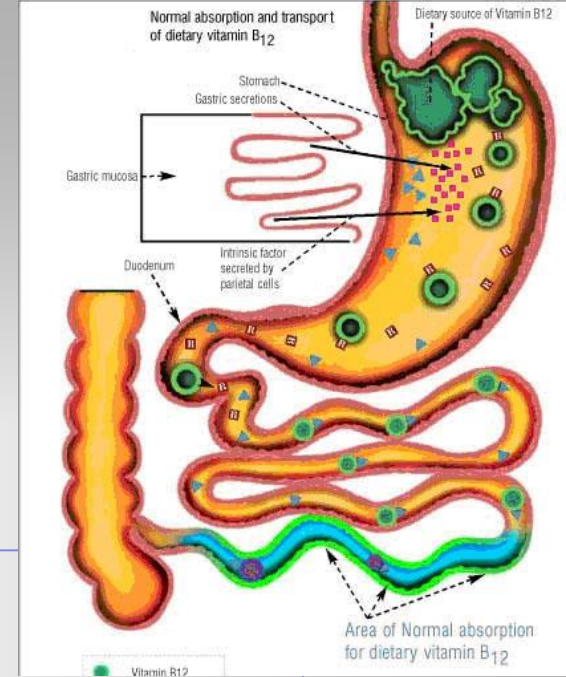
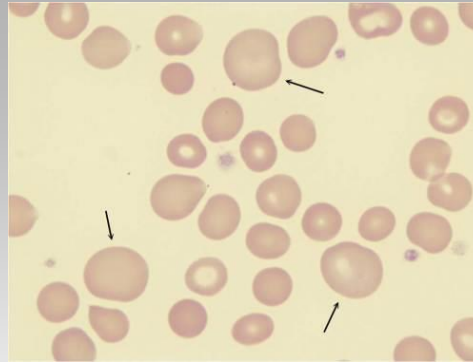
Treatment of Fe def.-

- Oral iron tablets- 325 FeSO_4 , 3 times daily, Fe gluconate or lactate
- Parenteral iron
 - a) Iron –sorbitol given 1.5 mg/ kg body wt given I.M
 - b) Iron dextran given I.V route

Megaloblastic Anemia

Megaloblasts- correspond to normoblasts of normal erythropoiesis

↓
Macrocyte



Why are megaloblasts formed ?

- Both Vit B₁₂ and folic acid are essential for DNA synthesis
- When DNA synthesis is impaired time between cell divisions increases
- When time between divisions increases, more cell growth occurs and the cell becomes larger
- the synthesis of Hb is unimpaired
- Hb production appears to be a factor limiting proliferation.
- Once a certain Hb level has stopped , cell division stops.

Megaloblastic Anemia

- B₁₂ - exclusively from animal foods. Daily requirement 2.5 µg.
- For B₁₂ absorption from GIT, "Castle's intrinsic factor" secreted by gastric parietal cells (IF)
- If no **IF** present - no entry of B₁₂ into ileum → def of B₁₂
- Def of B₁₂ due to lack of IF called Addisonian or **PERNICIOUS** anemia



- B12 – 2 mg stored in liver, 2 mg elsewhere, daily requirement 2.5 µg, 3 yrs supply present in liver
- Folic acid -5-20mg stored in liver, daily requirement 400 µg

Megaloblastic Anemia



Pernicious anemia

- Mostly females between 45 and 65 yrs of age
- Mostly due to autoimmune reaction against parietal cells

Clinical features – affecting 1. blood 2. GIT 3. nervous system

- a) Due to anemia- weakness, lightheadedness, palpitation, tinnitus
- b) GIT- sore tongue (smooth and beefy red). Anorexia with moderate wt. loss, diarrhoea and constipation
- c) Neurologic changes- due to neuronal death. Numbness, parasthesia in extremities, weakness, ataxia, reflexes \uparrow or \downarrow

Megaloblastic Anemia



Pernicious anemia

Oral manifestations

- Painful glossitis and **glossopyrosis**
- Glossitis- fiery red color of tongue with distribution to tip and margins, with papillary atrophy of tongue
- Advanced cases- loss of normal muscle tone, loss of taste sensation
- Difficulty in wearing dentures- mucosa cannot tolerate



Megaloblastic Anemia

Diagnosis of pernicious anemia

- Blood smear- ↑ed MCV, ↑ed MCH, MCHC normal
- Bone marrow examination- megaloblastic marrow changes

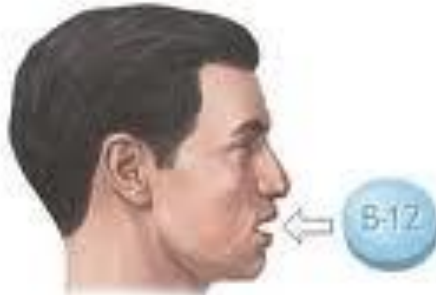
Common to both B12 and folic acid def.

Serum assay for Vit B12 and folic acid

Schilling test



Injection of nonradioactive vitamin B12 given



Radioactive B12 ingested



Urine samples are collected

Small amount rad. act B12 by mouth
↓ *Followed by*
Large amt. non r.a parenteral B12

Normal pt. will excrete 7-30% of r.a B12 in 24 hrs, pernicious pt. will excrete only 3% in 24 hrs *

If **pernicious** pt. given r.a B12 + **IF** orally, then normal absorption & urinary excretion

Megaloblastic Anemia

Folic acid anemia

- in pts. with diet inadequate in leafy vegetables
- pts with ↑ed requirement, e.g pregnant, called “Anemia of pregnancy”

Clinical features

- GIT- diarrhoea, glossitis, cheilitis
- Hematological changes
- No specific neurologic symptoms- difference with **pernicious**

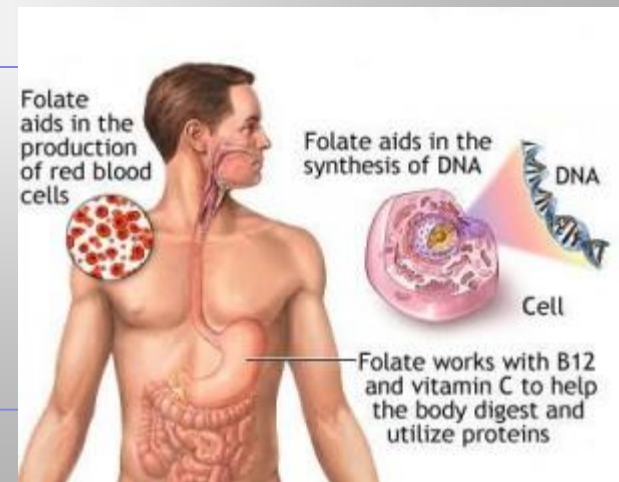


Oral manifestations

- angular cheilitis, severe ulcerative stomatitis, pharyngitis

Diagnosis

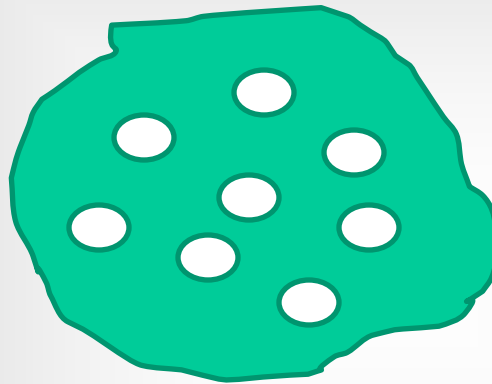
- Dietary history
- Intestinal biopsy
- Normal Schilling and B12 serum assay
- low serum assay of folic acid



Hemolytic Anemia

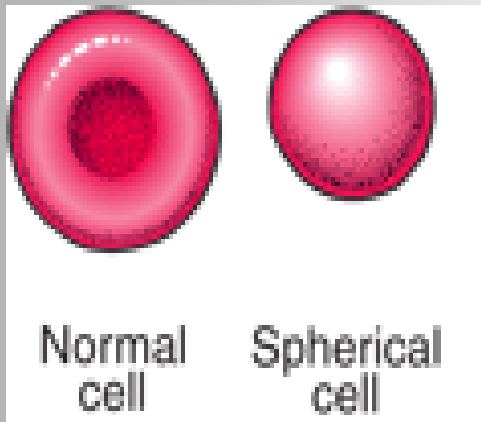
Excessive destruction of erythrocytes caused by either

- intracorpuseular defects in erythrocyte
- extracorpuseular factors



Fine filtering system of spleen

Hereditary spherocytosis

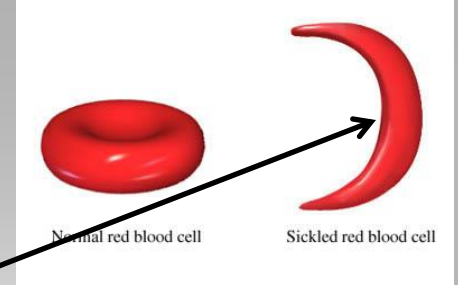


Clinical features

- episodic jaundice, splenomegaly
- Diagnosis- spherocytes in blood smear
- Management- splenectomy

Hemolytic Anemia

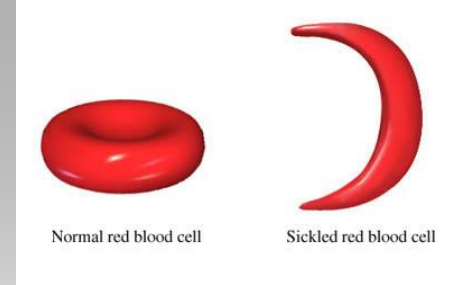
Abnormal hemoglobins - Hemoglobinopathies



- Normal hemoglobin - Hb A - $\alpha_2 \beta_2$ (alpha 2, beta 2)
- In sickle cell disease- Hb S instead of Hb A
- Hb S has one protein different in β chain
- HbS as it releases oxygen, polymerizes and aggregates with other HbS molecules, making the red cell stiff and distorted
- These distorted, sickle-shaped red cells , get destroyed in the spleen → hemolytic anemia
- Clump together, especially in small vessels, ischemic tissue damage

Hemolytic Anemia

Abnormal hemoglobins - Hemoglobinopathies



$\alpha_2 \beta_2$ (alpha 2, beta 2)

- Sickle cell anemia (homozygous) – both beta chains abnormal
- Sickle cell trait (heterozygous) – only one one beta chain abnormal

Clinical features- related to

- **chronic anemia, due to reduced erythrocyte survival**
- tissue infarction following stasis of blood

- **jaundice, pallor, fatigue, reduced exercise tolerance**
- splenic infarction , chronic leg ulcers, painful attacks of bone and abdominal pain

Hemolytic Anemia

Abnormal hemoglobins - Hemoglobinopathies

Oral manifestations

- jaundice & pallor of oral mucosa
- delayed eruption and hypoplasia of dentition *
- ↑ed radiolucency seen in jaws on dental rg
- skull “hair on end” appearance

Diagnosis

- Demonstration of sickling
- hemoglobin electrophoresis



Normal red blood cell



Sickled red blood cell

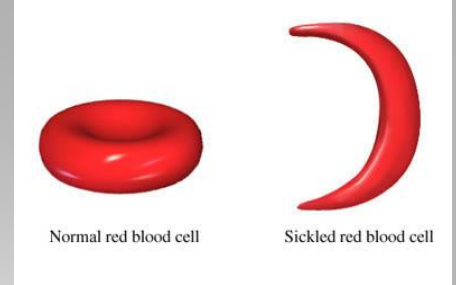


Hemolytic Anemia

Abnormal hemoglobins - Hemoglobinopathies

$\alpha_2 \beta_2$ (alpha 2, beta 2)

- Sickle cell anemia (homozygous) – both beta chains abnormal
- Sickle cell trait (heterozygous) – only one beta chain abnormal



Dental considerations

- Chronic anemia and slow healing, so minimal tissue manipulation
- Keep dentition healthy, as infection might precipitate aplastic crisis
- Avoid using G.A

Hemolytic Anemia

Abnormal hemoglobins - Hemoglobinopathies

Thalassemia

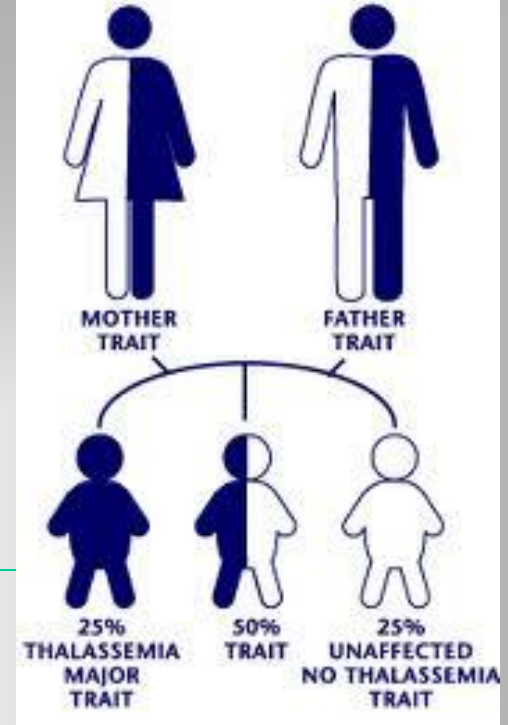
$\alpha_2 \beta_2$ (alpha 2, beta 2)

Defect in the synthesis of either α or β chain of Hb

- α thalassemia- impaired production of α chain
- β thalassemia- impaired production of β chain

β thalassemia- heterozygous or homozygous

- intra medullary erythroid destruction
- shortening of the life span of circulating rbc's



β thalassemia major- Cooley's anemia

Clinical manifestations after 4 to 6 months

- Pt severely anemic and have short life expectancy
- pt appears wasted and malnourished
- peculiar skin color due to combination -icterus, pallor & \uparrow ed melanin
- cardiomegaly with signs of CCF
- radiographs show osteoporosis



Hemolytic Anemia

Abnormal hemoglobins - Hemoglobinopathies

Thalassemia

$\epsilon_2 \beta_2$ (alpha 2, beta 2)

Defect in the synthesis of either ϵ or β chain of Hb

- ϵ thalassemia- impaired production of ϵ chain
- β thalassemia- impaired production of β chain



Oral manifestations

- by 2nd yr, mongoloid appearance, frontal and parietal bossing
- overdevelopment of maxilla, malocclusion, open bite, spacing
- pale oral mucosa
- Skull radiographs, “hair on end”, ↑ed size of maxilla



Chipmunk facies



Hemolytic Anemia

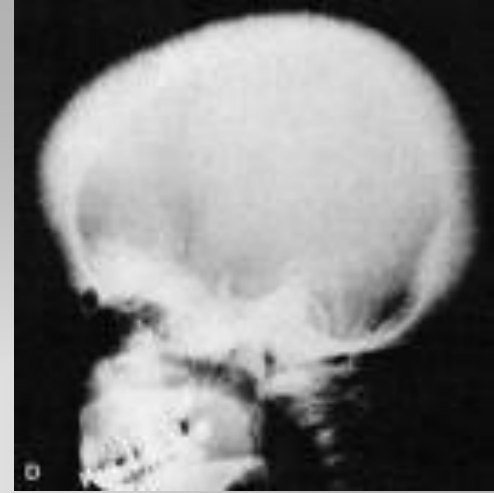
Abnormal hemoglobins - Hemoglobinopathies

Thalassemia

$\alpha_2 \beta_2$ (alpha 2, beta 2)

Defect in the synthesis of either α or β chain of Hb

- α thalassemia- impaired production of α chain
- β thalassemia- impaired production of β chain



Diagnosis

- Family history
- clinical signs
- blood smear- hypochromic, microcytic anemia
- Hb F upto 90%

Dental consideration- remember poor wound healing after dental procedure

Treatment

- Life long transfusion
- folic acid supplements

Aplastic Anemia

Normocytic, normochromic anemia

All the cellular elements
of blood involved

Primary aplasia	Secondary aplasia
Unknown etiology	Idiosyncrasy to certain drugs
	Cancer chemotherapy
	Exposure to radiation
	Viral infections
	Severe def. of folate or B12

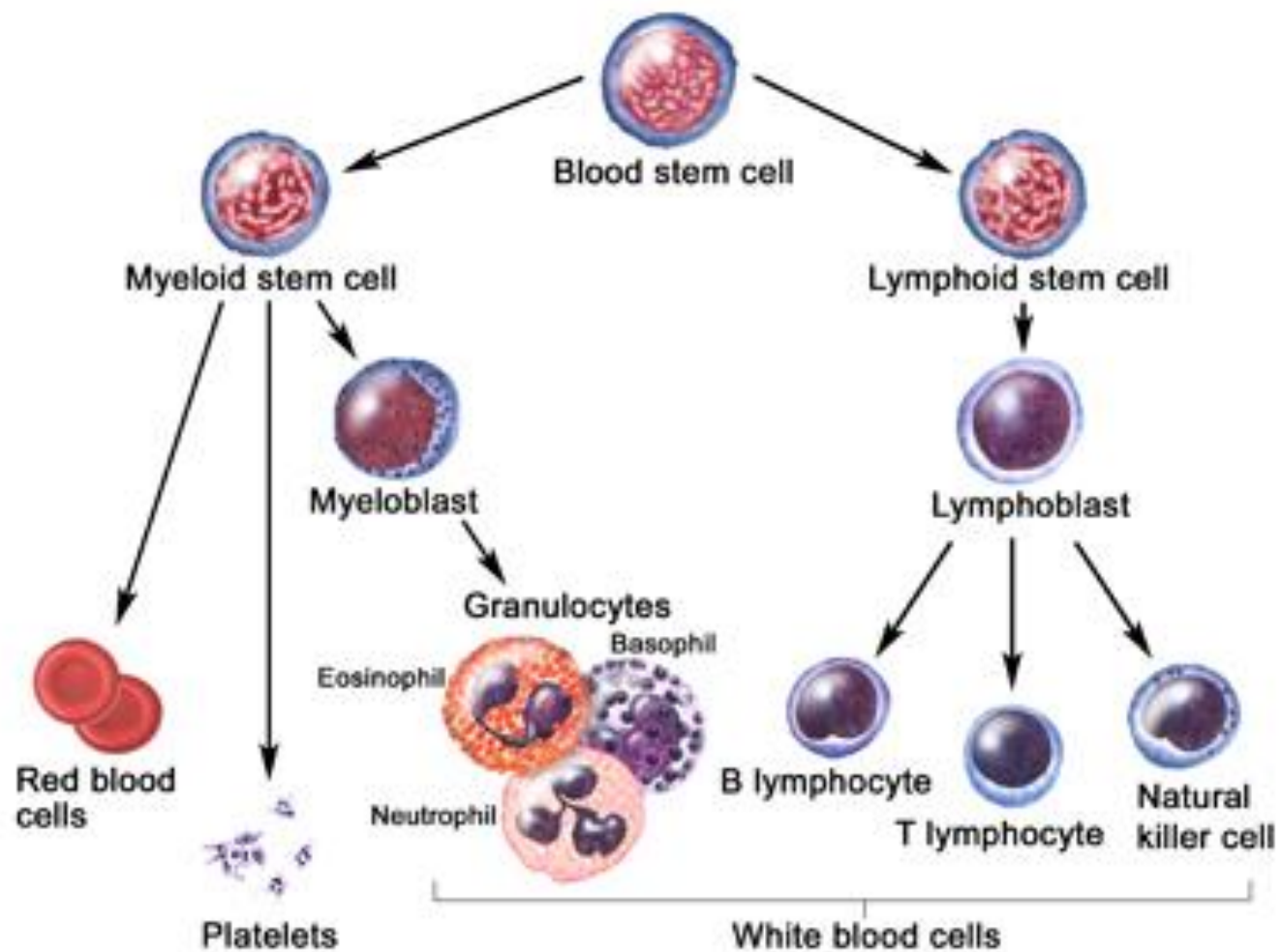
Oral manifestations

- Pallor of oral mucosa
- Petechiae and purpura of oral and pharyngeal tissue
- oral bleeding with no apparent cause
- ulcers having little or no surrounding erythema

Dental considerations

- prevent dental and oral infections and oral bleeding
- keep the number of dental procedures to minimum
- Beware of potential of any procedure to cause hemorrhage
- Eliminate potential sites of infection

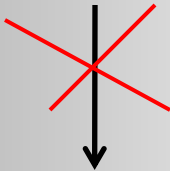
W B C Disorders



Myeloid stem cells



Myeloblasts (*leukemic cells*)



Healthy white blood cells

Build up in blood and bone marrow



Less room for normal WBC, rbc and platelets



Infection, anemia & easy bleeding



Can spread outside blood to CNS (*brain and spinal cord*), skin & gums

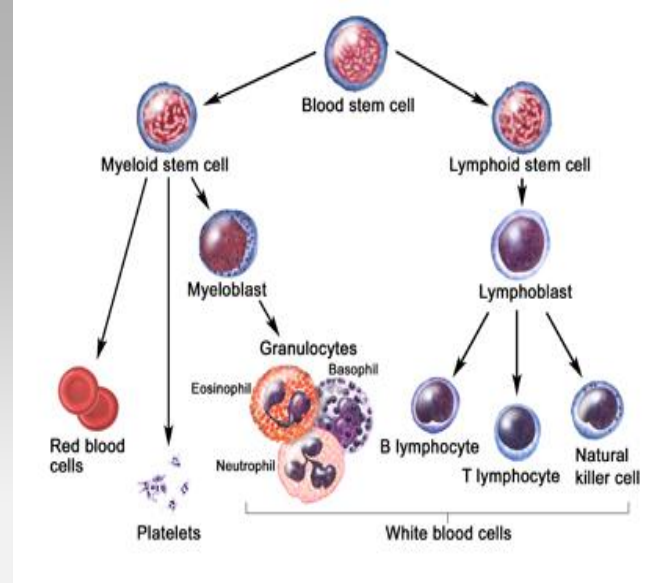
LEUKAEMIA

→ lymphoblastic

→ Non lymphoblastic

↙ acute

↘ chronic



ORAL MANIFESTATIONS OF LEUKEMIA

- spontaneous gingival bleeding or oozing
- petechiae formation
- oral soft tissue or gingival infection
- pharyngitis
- lymphadenopathy

DENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- prevention of infection
- prevention of bleeding

Always check whether gingival bleeding is proportional to local factors !!!

