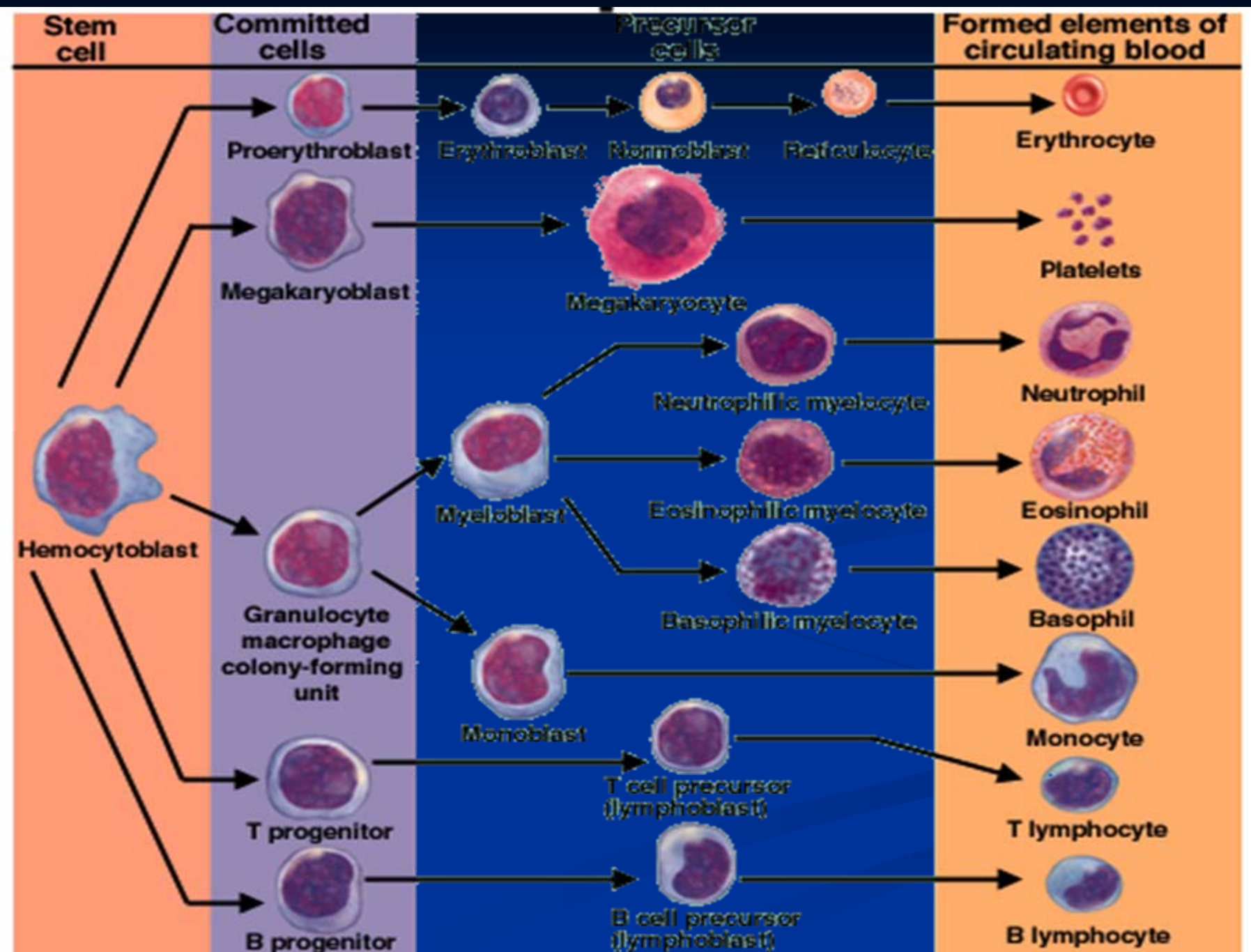
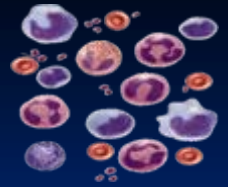


# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

Dr Adel M Abuzenadah



# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS



## ■ Quantitative

- Change in number

- Terminology

- Cytosis / philia

- Increase in number

- Cytopenia

- Decrease in number

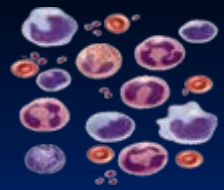
## ■ Qualitative

- Morphologic changes

- Functional changes

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes

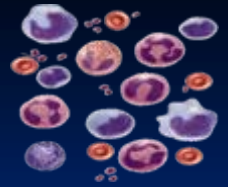


### Relative vs Absolute values

- Total white blood cell count
- Differential count
- Absolute count
- Differential gives the relative percentage of each WBC
- Absolute value gives the actual number of each WBC/mm<sup>3</sup> of blood
  - Calculation: absolute count = Total WBC x percent

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

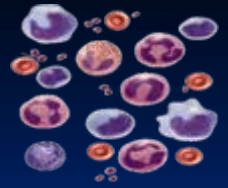
## Quantitative changes



- Regulation of cell production
  - Regulatory mechanisms must operate in close controlled way
- Haemopoietic growth factors
- The control of cell death
- Inhibitors of cell proliferation
- Stromal cell factors (cell-cell and cell-matrix interaction)

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (LEUCOCYTOSIS)



### ■ Leucocytes

#### ■ Phagocytes

##### ■ Granulocytes

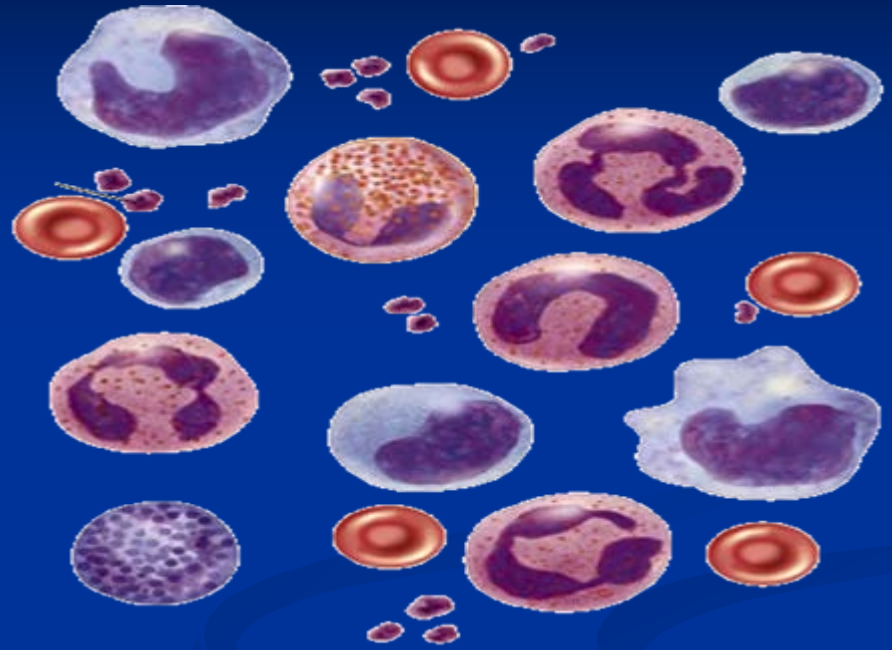
- Neutrophils
- Eosinophils
- Basophils

##### ■ Mononuclear phagocytic cells

- Monocytes
- Macrophage and dendritic cells

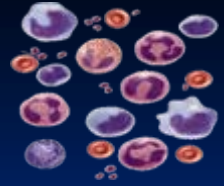
#### ■ Lymphocytes

- B-cells
- T-cells



# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (LEUCOCYTOSIS)



### ■ Definition

Raised TWBC due to elevation of any of a single lineage.

■ *Note: elevation of the minor cell populations can occur without a rise in the total white cell count.*

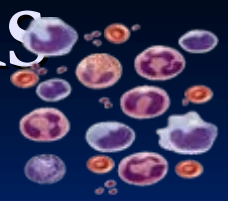
### ■ Normal reference range (adult 21 years)

■  $4.5 - 11.0 \times 10^9/L$



# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (LEUCOPENIA)



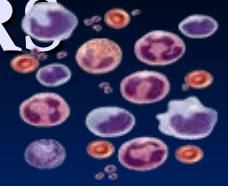
### ■ Definition

TWBC lower than the reference range for the age is defined as leucopenia

- Leucopenia may affect one or more lineages and it is possible to be severely neutropenic or lymphopenic without a reduction in total white cell count.



# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS



## Quantitative changes (contd.)

### ■ Granulocytosis

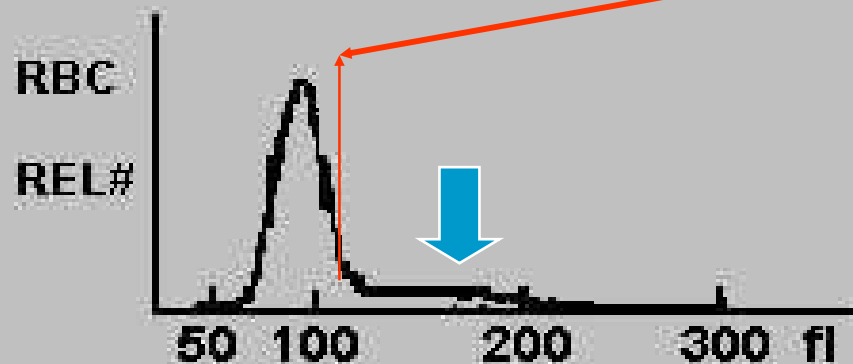
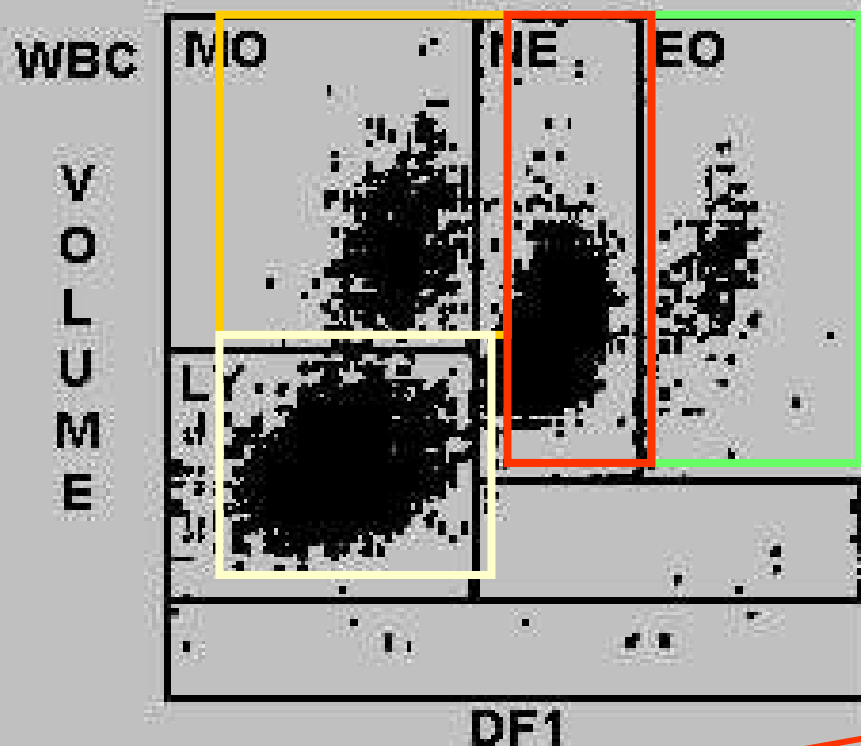
Increase in the count of all or one of the granulocytic component

- Neutrophils
- Basophils
- Eosinophils

### ■ Agranulocytosis

Decrease in the count of all or one granulocytic component

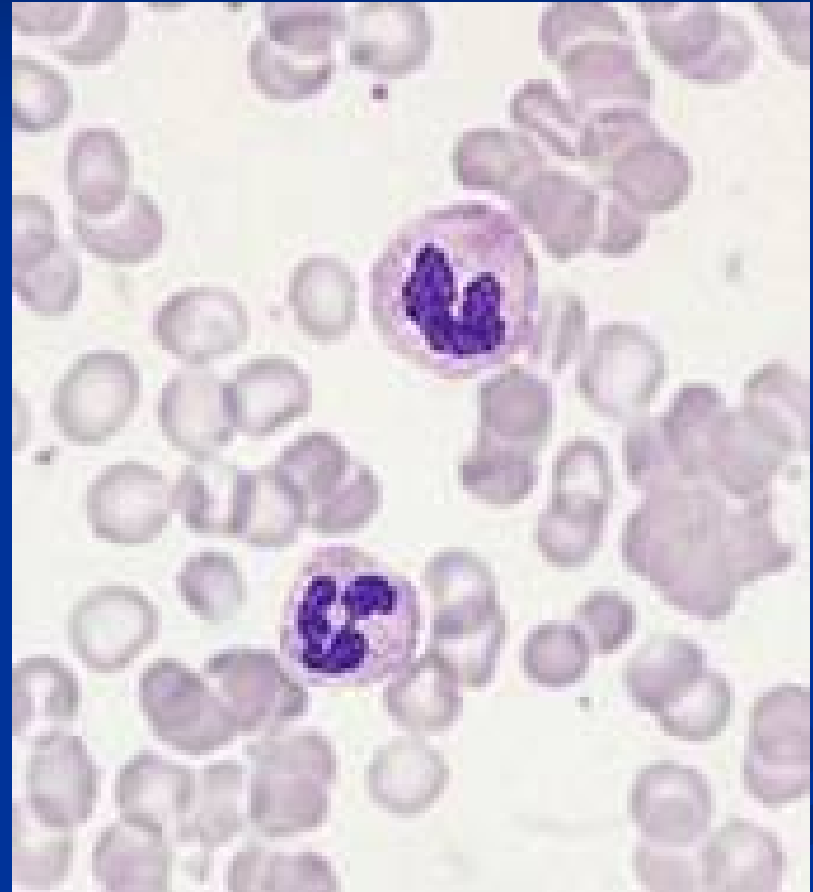
# WBC Histogram:



|      |      |     |
|------|------|-----|
| WBC  | 6.8  |     |
|      | %    | #   |
| NE   | 52.6 | 3.6 |
| LY   | 36.7 | 2.5 |
| MO   | 7.8  | 0.5 |
| EO   | 2.5  | 0.2 |
| BA   | 0.4  | 0.0 |
| RBC  | 5.29 |     |
| HGB  | 16.2 |     |
| HCT  | 47.0 |     |
| MCV  | 88.8 |     |
| MCH  | 30.7 |     |
| MCHC | 34.5 |     |
| RDW  | 12.5 |     |
| PLT  | 179  |     |
| MPV  | 8.4  |     |

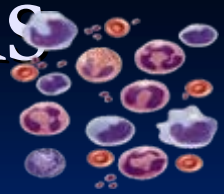
# Neutrophils

- Count  $2.5 - 7.5 \times 10^9/l$
- Granular cytoplasm
- Transient stay in blood
- Major phagocytic role
- Bacterial killing
- 3-5 lobes of nucleus



# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (NEUTROPHILIA)

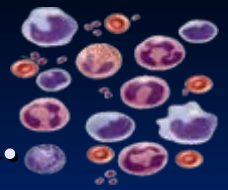


### ■ Definition

- Increase in the number of neutrophils and / or its precursors
- In adults count  $>7.5 \times 10^9/L$  but the counts are age dependent
- Increase may results from alteration in the normal steady state of
  - Production
    - Increased progenitor cell proliferation
    - Increased frequency of cell division of committed neutrophil precursors
  - Transit
    - Impaired transit to tissue
  - Migration
  - Destruction

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

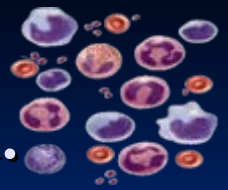
## Quantitative changes (NEUTROPHILIA) contd.



### ■ Causes of Neutrophilia

- Infection
  - Bacterial
- Inflammatory conditions
  - Autoimmune disorders
  - Gout
- Neoplasia
- Metabolic conditions
  - Uraemia
  - Acidosis
  - Haemorrhage
- Corticosteroids
- Marrow infiltration/fibrosis
- Myeloproliferative disorders

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS



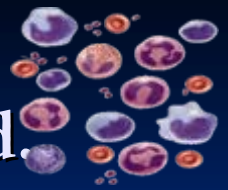
## Quantitative changes (NEUTROPHILIA) contd.

### ■ Acute Neutrophilia

- Mobilized rapidly by stress, suggested by adrenaline stress test; due to reduced neutrophil adhesion
  - Bacterial infection
  - Stress
  - Exercise
- Slower rise when cells are released from the bone marrow storage pool
  - Steroid
  - Infections (reactive changes; left shift, toxic granulation, high NAP score and Dohle bodies.
- Steroids also reduces the passage to the tissues

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (NEUTROPHILIA) contd.



### ■ Chronic neutrophilia

- Long term corticosteroid therapy
- Chronic inflammatory reactions
- Infections or chronic blood loss
- Infections

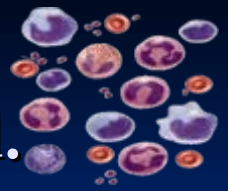
■ Less common organisms e.g poliomyelitis

### ■ Leukemoid reactions

- Applied to chronic neutrophilia with marked leucocytosis ( $>20 \times 10^9/L$ )
- The usual feature is the shift to the left of myeloid cells
- Causes include
  - Infections
  - Marrow infiltration
  - Systemic disease (Acute liver failure)



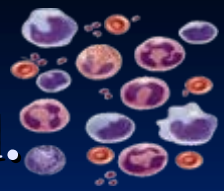
# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS



## Quantitative changes (NEUTROPENIA) contd.

- Neutropenia is an absolute reduction in the number of circulating neutrophils
  - Mild ( $1 - 1.5 \times 10^9/L$ )
  - Moderate ( $0.5 - 1 \times 10^9/L$ )
  - Severe ( $<0.5 \times 10^9/L$ )
- Symptoms are rare with the neutrophil count above  $1 \times 10^9/L$
- Bacterial infections are the commonest
- Fungal, viral and parasitic infection are relatively uncommon

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

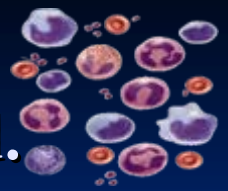


## Quantitative changes (NEUTROPENIA) contd.

### ■ Causes of Neutropenia

- Racial
- Congenital
- Cyclical neutropenia
- Marrow aplasia
- Marrow infiltration
- Megaloblastic anemia
- Acute infections
  - Typhoid, Miliary TB, viral hepatitis
- Drugs
- Irradiation exposure
- Immune disorders
  - HIV
  - SLE
  - Felty's syndrome
  - Neonatal isoimmune and autoimmune neutropenia
- Hypersplenism

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS



## Quantitative changes (NEUTROPENIA) contd.

### ■ Management of Neutropenia

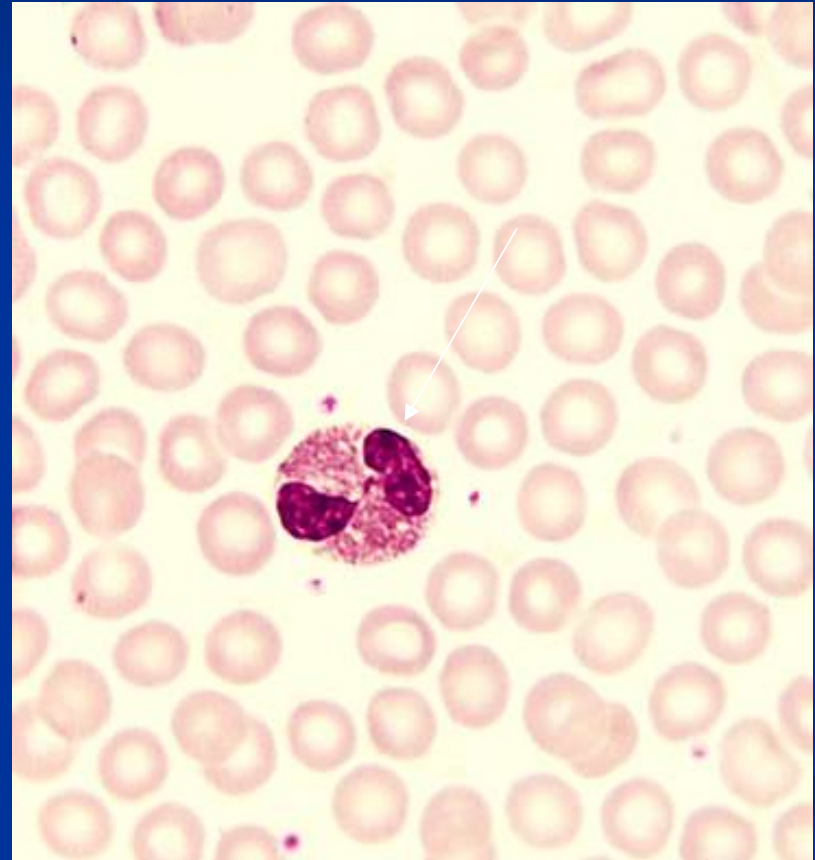
- Remove the cause if possible
- Treat any infection aggressively
- Role of
  - Growth factors
  - Splenectomy

### ■ Cyclical neutropenia

- Regular recurring episodes of severe neutropenia ( $<0.2 \times 10^9/L$ ) usually lasting for 3-6 days
- Can be familial & inherited with maturation arrest
- Three suggested mechanisms for cyclical neutropenia
  - Stem cell defect & altered response to growth factors
  - Defect in humoral or cellular stem cell control
  - Periodic accumulation of an inhibitor

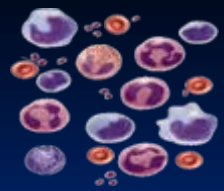
# Eosinophils

- Count  $0.2 - 0.8 \times 10^9/l$
- Bilobed nucleus
- Phagocytic activity is low
- Modulation of hypersensitivity and allergic reactions



# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

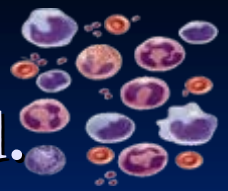
## Quantitative changes (EOSINOPHILIA)



- Increase in the eosinophil count must prompt for further investigation ( $>0.6 \times 10^9/L$ )
- The causes of eosinophilia can be considered under following headings
  - Allergy
    - Atopic, drug sensitivity and pulmonary eosinophilia
  - Infection
    - Parasites, recovery from infections
  - Malignancy
    - Hodgkin's disease, NHL and myeloproliferative disorders
  - Drugs
  - Skin disorders
  - Gastrointestinal disorders
  - Hypereosinophilic syndrome

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (EOSINOPHILIA) Contd.



### ■ Hypereosinophilic syndrome

#### ■ Criteria of diagnosis

- Peripheral blood eosinophil  $>1.5 \times 10^9/L$
- Persistence of counts more than 6 months
- End organ damage
- Absence of any obvious cause for eosinophilia

#### ■ Organ most commonly involved

- Heart
- Lung
- Skin
- Neurological

# Monocytes

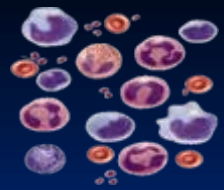
- Count is  $0.2-0.8 \times 10^9/l$
- Functions
  - Antigen presentation
  - Cytokine production
  - Phagocytosis





# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

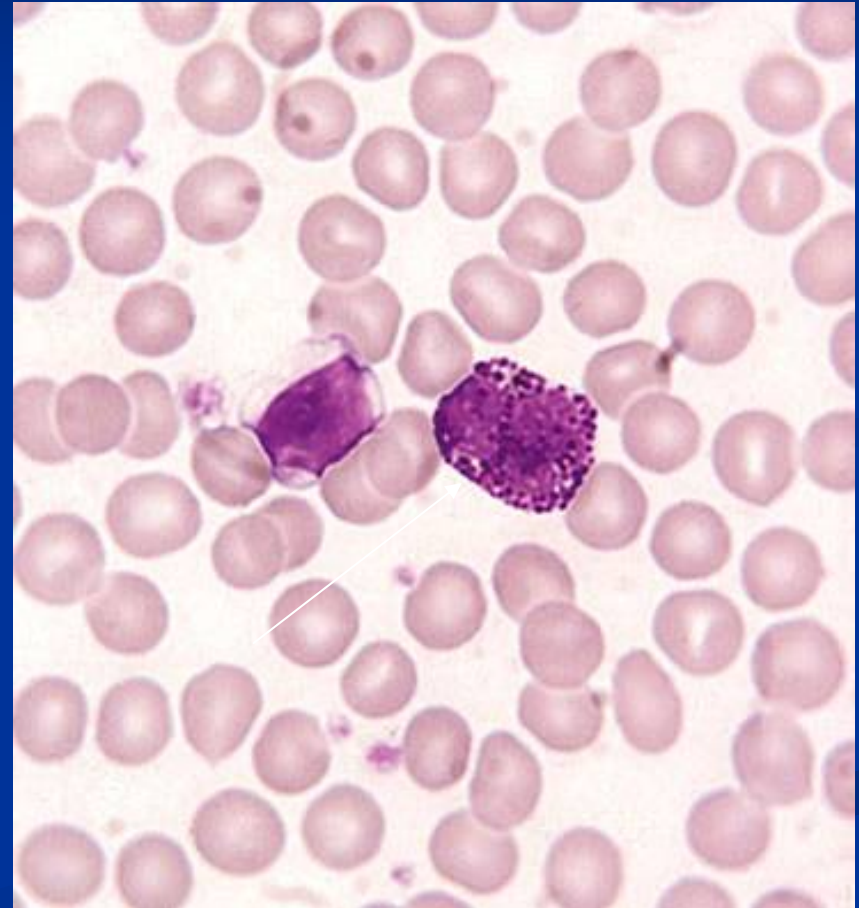
## Quantitative changes (MONOCYTOSIS)



- Absolute monocyte count is age dependent
- Count rarely exceeds  $>1.0 \times 10^9/L$
- Have no marrow reserves
- Useful harbinger of engraftment
- Causes of monocytosis can be grouped as
  - Infections
    - Chronic infection (TB, typhoid fever, infective endocarditis)
    - Recovery from acute infection
  - Malignant disease
    - MDS, AML, HD, NHL
  - Connective tissue disorders
    - Ulcerative colitis, Sarcoidosis, Crohn's disease
  - Post splenectomy

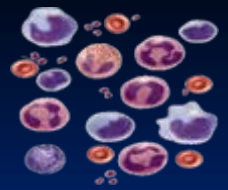
# Basophils

- Count  $0.1 - 0.2 \times 10^9/l$
- Bilobed nucleus
- Nucleus is hidden behind the granules
- Inflammatory response
- Basophilia is seen in Myeloproliferative disorders (CML)



# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (BASOPHILIA)



- Basophils are least common of the granulocytes
- Reference range for adult is  $0 - 0.2 \times 10^9/L$
- Most commonly associated with hypersensitivity reactions to drugs or food
- Inflammatory conditions e.g RA, ulcerative colitis are also sometime associated with basophilia
- Myeloproliferative disorders
- Chronic myeloid leukemia

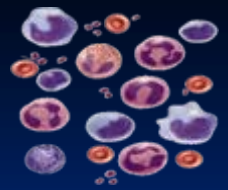
# Lymphocytes

- Count varies with age  
 $1.5 - 3.5 \times 10^9/l$
- The subset cells are
  - B-cells
    - Antibody mediated immunity
  - T-cells
    - Cell mediated immunity
  - NK cells



# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

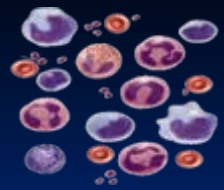
## Quantitative changes (LYMPHOCYTOSIS)



- The blood contain only few percent of total body lymphocytes
- The most consistent variation is seen with age
- Alteration of lymphocyte counts can result from
  - The redistribution of lymphocytes
    - Results in variation in count in serial measurements
  - Absolute increase of lymphocyte number
  - Loss of lymphocytes
  - Combination of these

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (LYMPHOCYTOSIS)



### ■ Non-malignant causes of lymphocytosis

#### ■ Infections

##### ■ Viral infections

- Infectious mononucleosis
- CMV
- Rubella, hepatitis, adenoviruses, chicken pox, dengue

##### ■ Bacterial infections

- Pertussis
- Healing TB, typhoid fever

##### ■ Protozoal infections

- Toxoplasmosis

#### ■ Allergic drug reactions

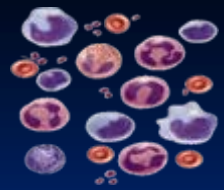
#### ■ Hyperthyroidism

#### ■ Splenectomy

#### ■ Serum sickness

# LEUCOCYTES BENIGN DISORDERS

## Quantitative changes (LYMPHOCYTOSIS)



### ■ Infectious Mononucleosis

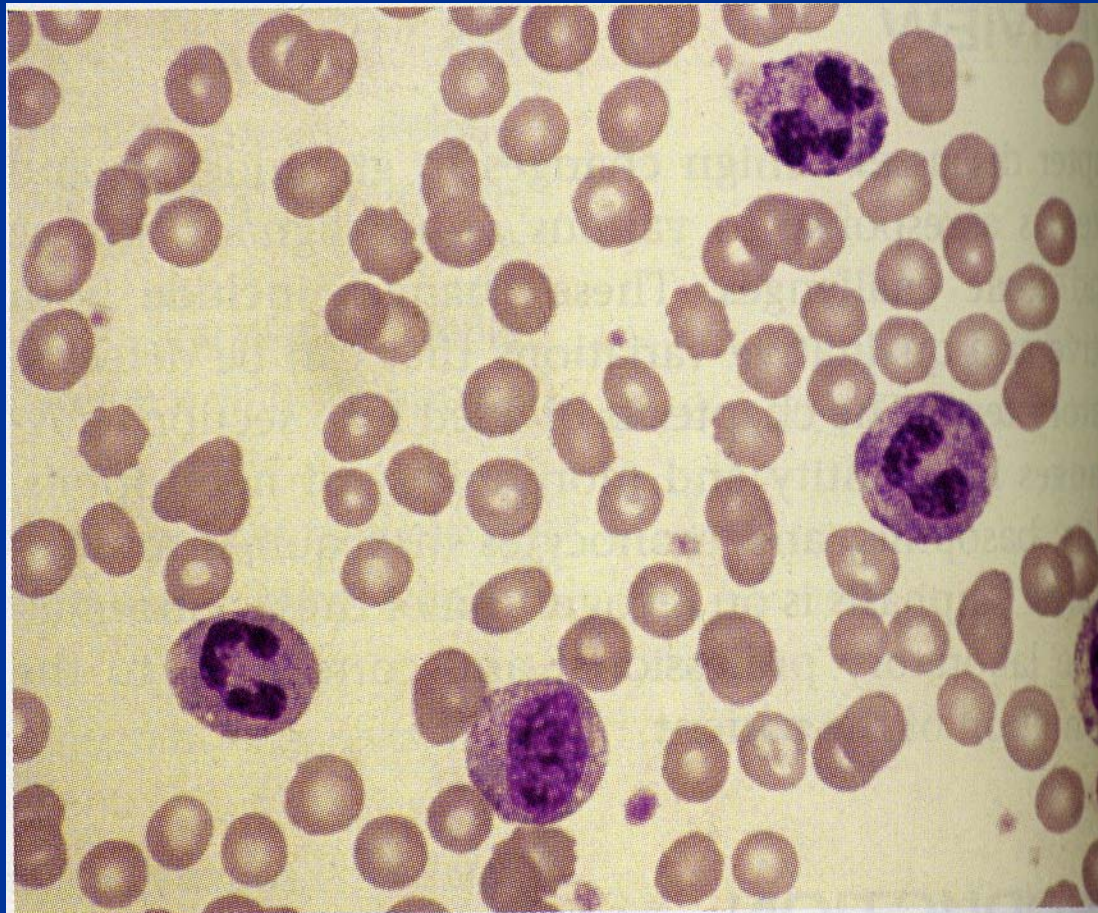
- Epstein-Barr virus
- Saliva from infected person is the main contagion
- Virus infect epithelial cells and B cells
- Autocrine growth stimulation
- Infection in children under the age of 10 does not cause illness and result in life long immunity
- Clinical features
  - Fever, malaise, fatigue, sore throat, diagnostic red spots at the junction of soft and hard palate, splenomegaly
  - Blood picture shows leucocytosis (  $10 - 20 \times 10^9/L$  ) due to absolute increase in the number of lymphocytes
  - Diagnosis is by serological tests
  - There is no specific treatment



# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

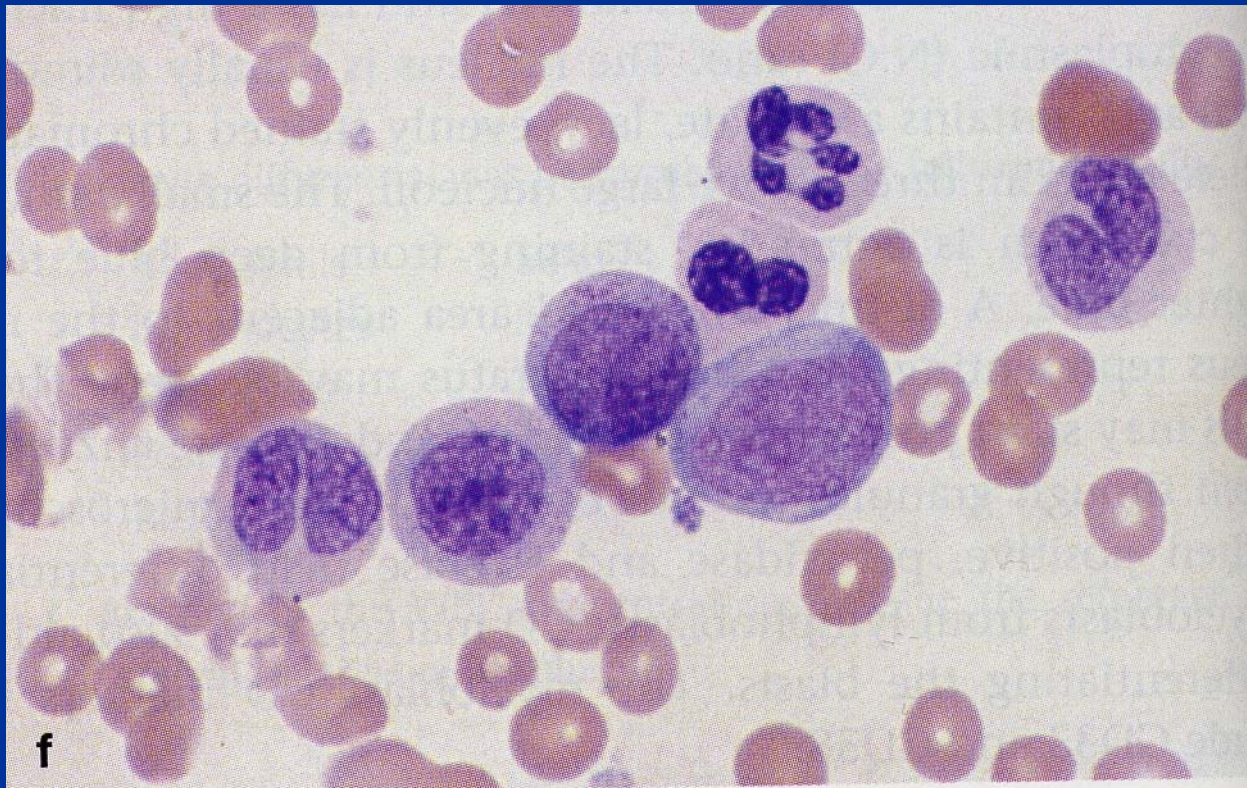
- **Leukemoid reaction** – this is an extreme neutrophilia with a WBC count  $> 30 \times 10^9/L$ 
  - Many bands, metamyelocytes, and myelocytes are seen
  - Occasional promyelocytes and myeloblasts may be seen.
  - This condition resembles a chronic myelocytic leukemia (CML), but can be differentiated from CML based on the fact that in leukemoid reactions:
    - There is no Philadelphia chromosome
    - The condition is transient
    - There is an increased leukocyte alkaline phosphatase score (more on this later)
  - Leukemoid reactions may be seen in tuberculosis, chronic infections, malignant tumors, etc.

# Leukemoid reaction





# Leukemoid reaction



# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

- Morphologic and functional abnormalities of neutrophils
  - **Acquired, morphologic** – these are reactive, transient changes accompanying infectious states. They include
    - Toxic granulation
    - Dohle bodies
    - Cytoplasmic vacuoles

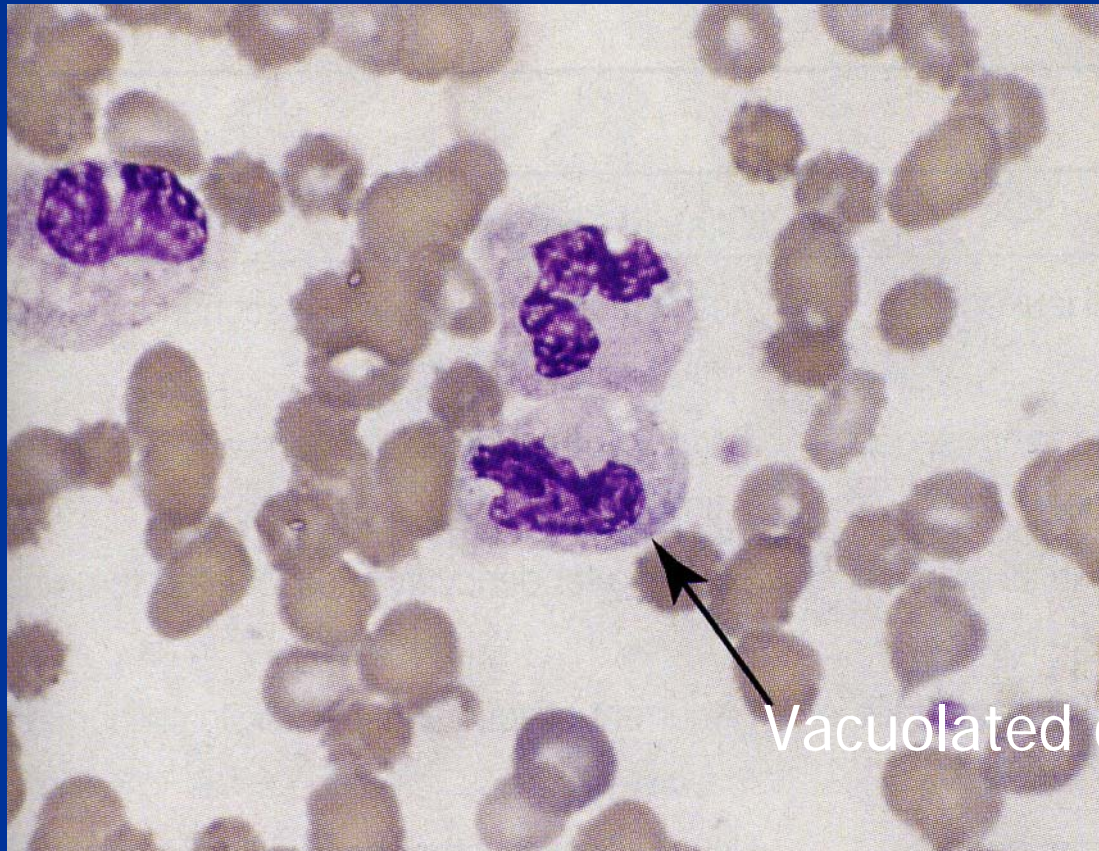


# Dohle bodies



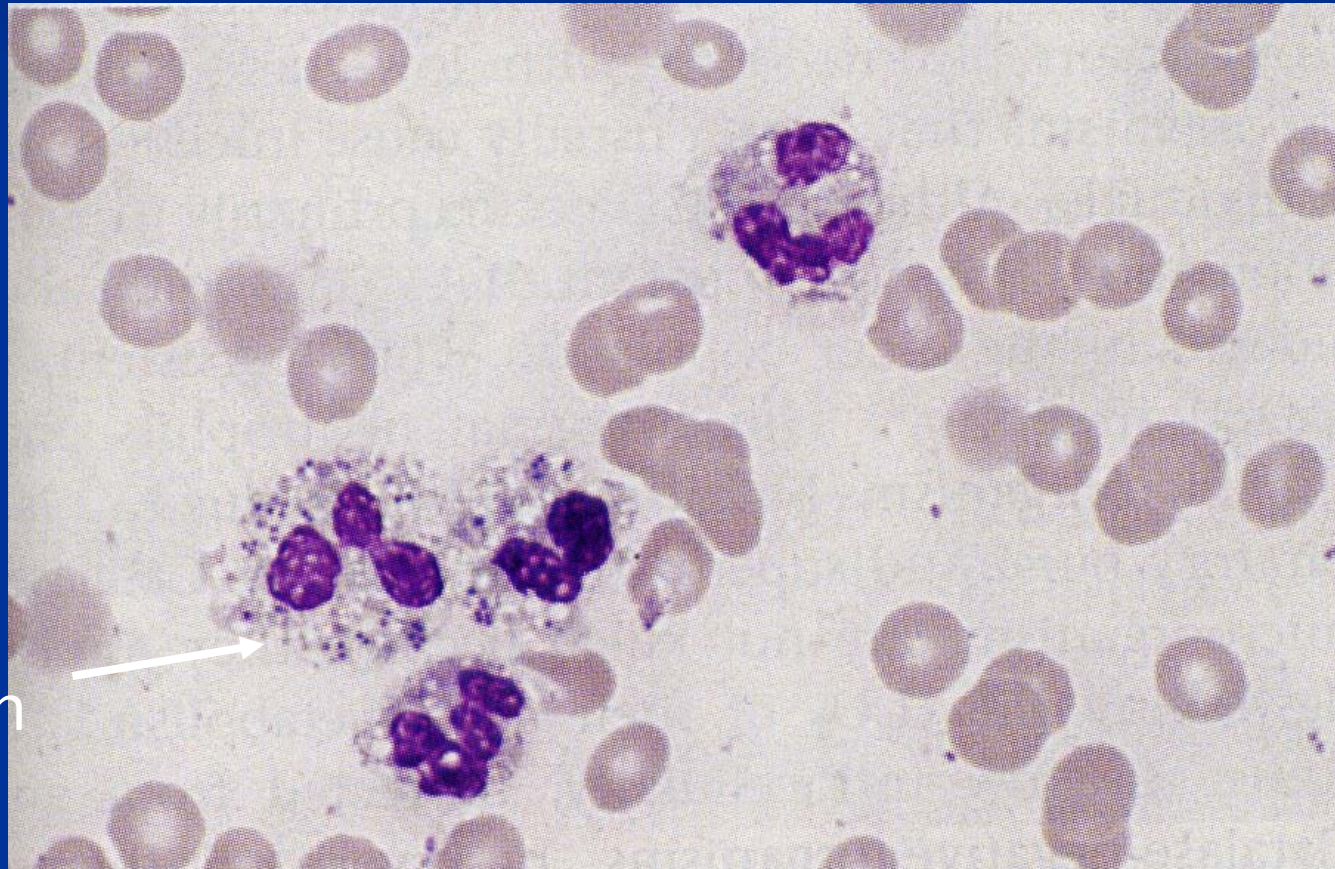


# Morphologic neutrophil changes



Vacuolated cell

# Morphologic neutrophil changes



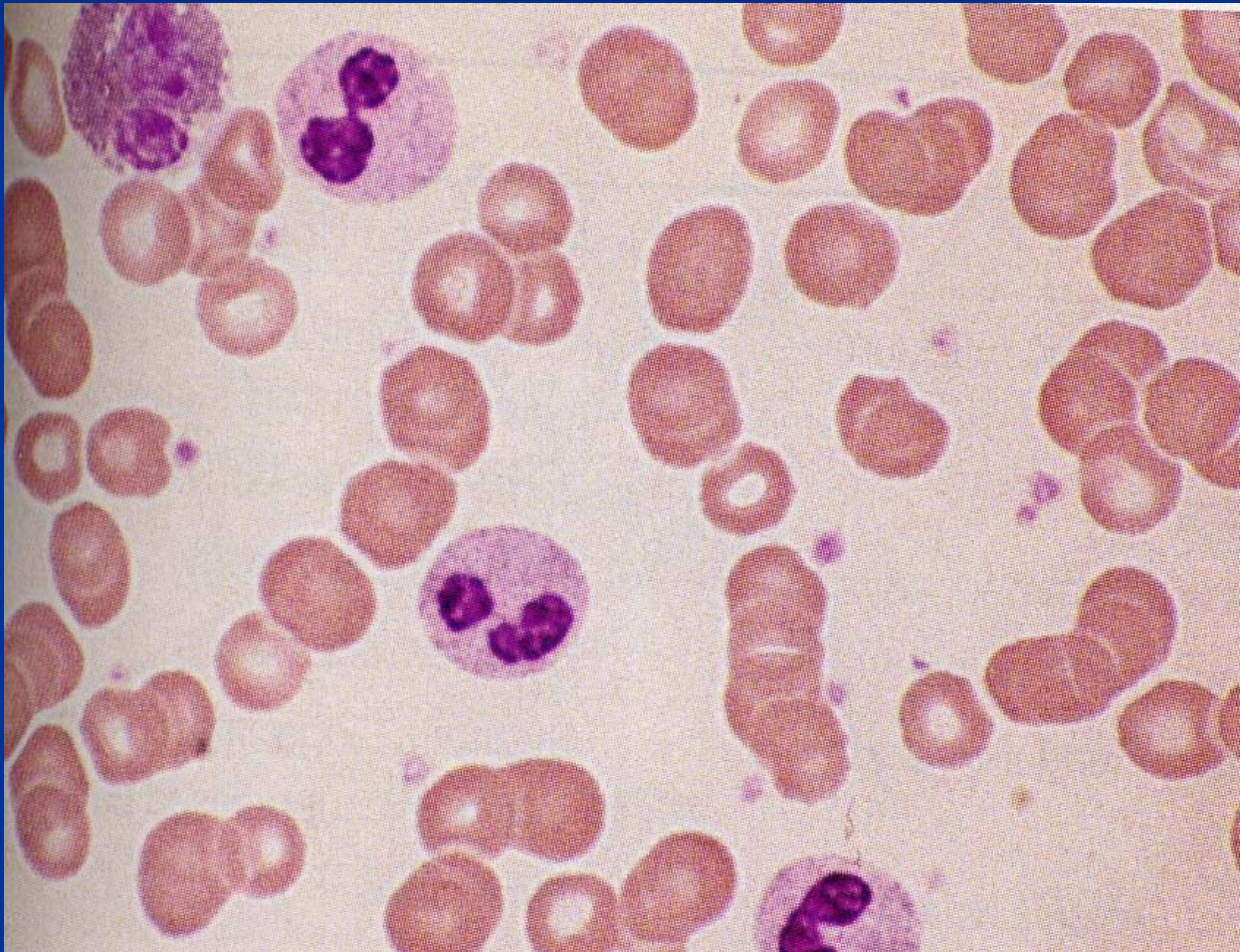
Toxic  
granulation



# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

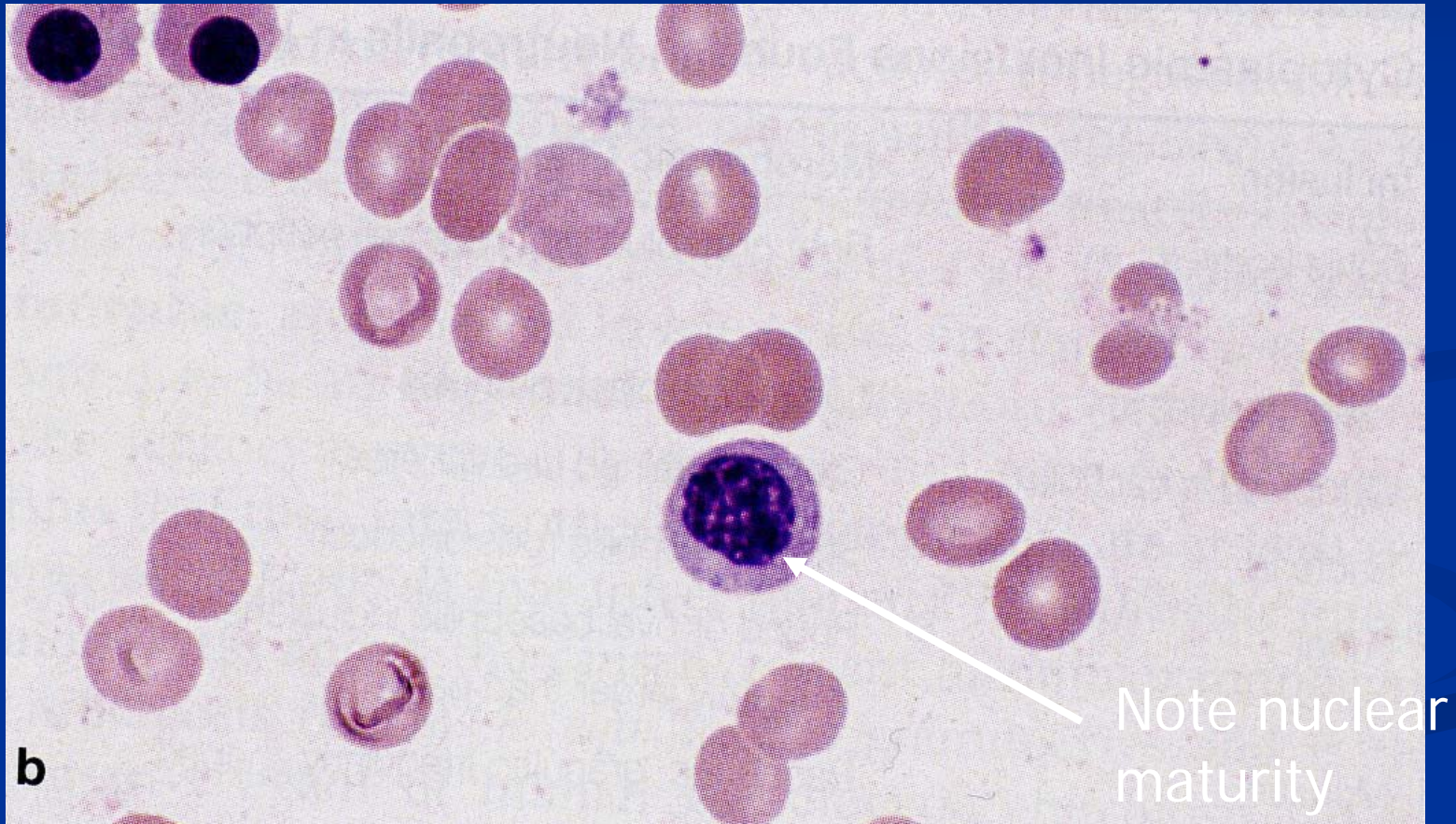
- Inherited functional and/or morphological abnormalities
  - **Pelger- Huet Anomaly** – this is a benign, inherited, autosomal dominant abnormality in which the neutrophil nucleus does not segment beyond the bilobular stage (“Prince-nez cells”).
    - The cells may sometimes resemble bands, but the chromatin is more condensed (mature).
    - The cells function normally.
    - Acquired or pseudo Pelger-Huet Anomaly is seen in myeloproliferative and myelodysplastic states

# Pelger-Huet Anomaly





# Pseudo Pelger-Huet Anomaly



# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

- Alder-Reilly Anomaly – in this disorder all leukocytes contain large, purplish granules (due to partially degraded protein-carbohydrates) in the cytoplasm, but the cells function normally.
  - This is seen in Hurler's and Hunter's syndromes in which there is an incomplete breakdown of mucopolysaccharides



# Hurler's Syndrome



Note the  
granules

# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

- Chediak-Higashi Anomaly –

- This is a rare autosomal recessive disorder in which **abnormal lysosomes** are formed by the fusion of primary granules. These are seen as grayish-green inclusions
- The **cells are ineffective in killing microorganisms** and affected individuals often die early in life from pyogenic infections.



# Chediak-Higashi Anomaly

Note abnormal lysosomes



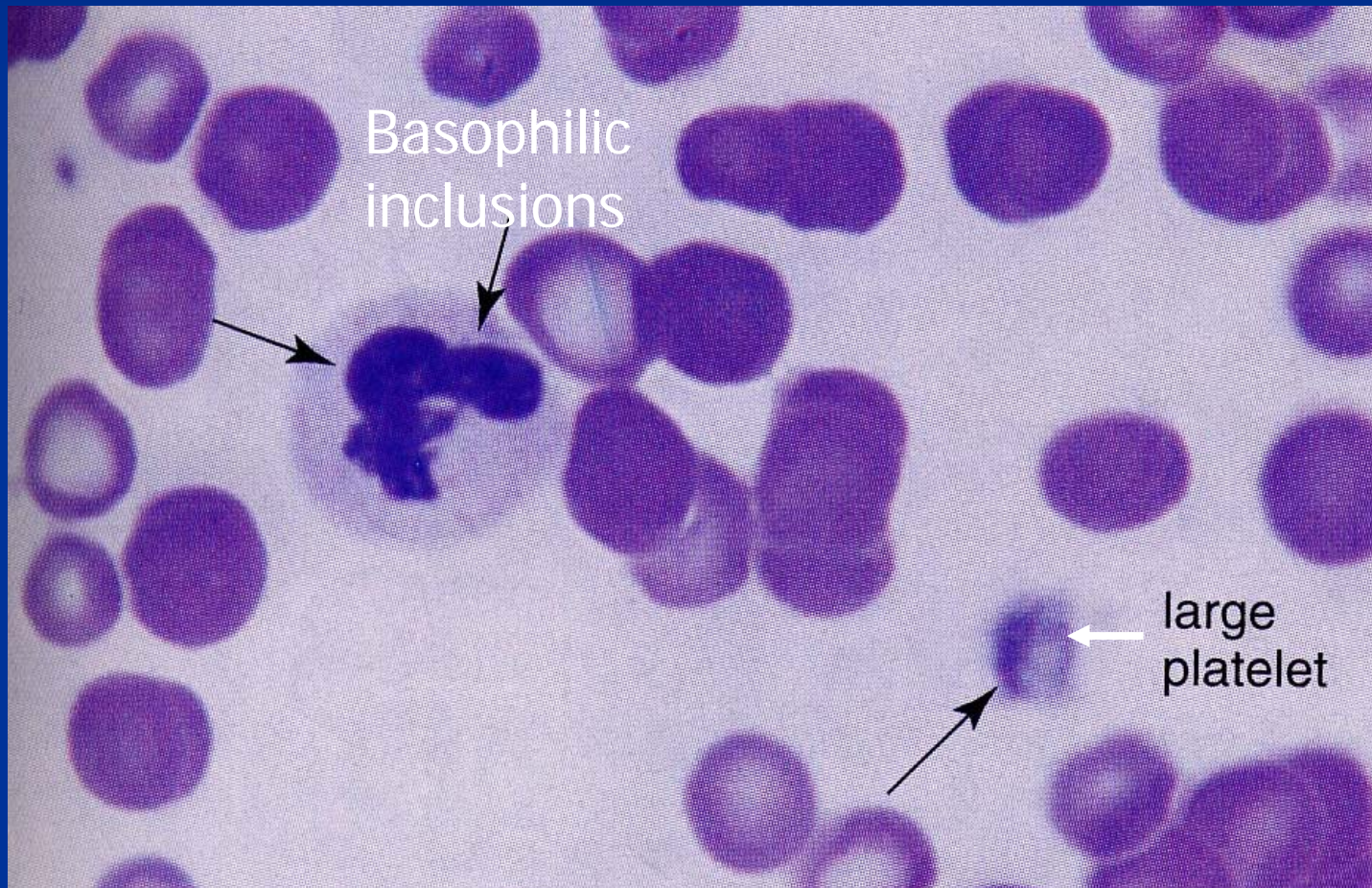
# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

## ■ May-Hegglin Anomaly

- This is a rare, autosomal dominant disorder in which the leukocytes contain **large basophilic inclusions** containing RNA that look similar to Dohle bodies.
- It can be differentiated from an infection because toxic granulation is not seen.
- The patients **also have giant platelets** that have a shortened survival time. Because of this, patients may have bleeding problems, but they usually have no other clinical symptoms



# May-Hegglin Anomaly



# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

## ■ Chronic granulomatous disease

- This is a lethal, sex-linked disorder affecting the function of the neutrophil
- The neutrophil can function in phagocytosis, but it cannot kill microorganisms because the cells have a **defect in the respiratory burst oxidase system**.
- Affected individuals have **chronic infections** with organisms that do not normally cause infections in normal individuals

## ■ Myeloperoxidase deficiency

- This is a **benign**, autosomal recessive disorder characterized by a lack of myeloperoxidase in the neutrophils

# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

- Affected individuals may have occasional problems with *Candida* infections, but usually they have no problems with infections because they have other mechanisms to kill microorganisms
- **Leukocyte adhesion deficiency**
  - This is a rare, autosomal recessive disorder characterized by the absence of leukocyte cell surface adhesion proteins
  - Because of the lack of the adhesion molecules, the **leukocytes have functional defects in:**
    - Chemotaxis
    - Phagocytosis
    - Respiratory burst activation
    - Degranulation
  - Affected individuals have frequent bacterial and fungal infections and mortality in childhood is high.

# Nonmalignant Leukocyte Disorders

- Inherited abnormalities of neutrophils are also seen in monocytes because they originate from a common stem cell:
  - Chronic granulomatous disease (defective respiratory burst)
  - Chediak Higashi (abnormal lysosomes caused by fusion of primary granules)
  - Alder Reilly Anomaly (large purple-blue granules)