

Lecture 9: White blood cells



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Objectives:

At the end of this session, the students should be able to:

- ✓ Formation of WBC.
- ✓ Types of WBC.
- ✓ Genesis, sites of formation and life span of WBC.
- ✓ Neutrophils formation, maturation and function.
- ✓ Phagocytosis.







White blood cells called by another name which is (Leukocytes)



Types of WBC's (According to cell morphology and cytoplasmic staining (hematoxylin and eosin) :

1. Granular (polymorphnuclear PMN) محببة

type	Neutrophil	Eosinophil	Basophil
size	10-16um	12-18um	10 -14um
shape	lobulated nucleus 2 lobe nucleus, 2-5, purple coarse red granules		rarely segmented nucleus, nucleus hidden by large round <mark>bluish</mark> cytoplasmic granules.
Percentage of total WBC	62%	2.3%	0.4%

غير محببة 2. Agranular

type	Monocytes	Lymphocyte
size	15-20 um	– small size(5-8um) – large size(9-15um)
shape	kidney shape nucleus.	round nucleus.
Percentage of total WBC	5.3%	30%



Function and important notes about WBC's :

1- Neutrophils

Main function is phagocytosis

2- Eosinophils

High eosinophil count (eosinophilia):

- Parasitic (hook worm, ascaris, bilharzia) infection.
- Allergy (asthma, rhinitis, drug reaction).
- Allergic skin diseases

Eosinophils attach themselves to the parasites by way of special surface molecules and release substances that kill many of the parasites (by releasing hydrolytic enzymes from their granules)

3- Basophil

- They are very similar functionally to mast cell.
- Release histamine → inflammation (redness, swelling, and pain)
- Release heparin → anticoagulant (prevent clotting)

4- Monocyte

These cells are the largest of all WBCs

5- Lymphocyte

These cells are the smallest of all WBCs



Genesis of White blood cells



Genesis of Lymphocytes

Figure 33-1

Genesis of white blood cells. The different cells of the myelocyte series are 1, myeloblast; 2, promyelocyte; 3, megakaryocyte; 4, neutrophil myelocyte; 5, young neutrophil metamyelocyte; 6. "band" neutrophil metamyelocyte; 7, polymorphonuclear neutrophil; eosinophil myelocyte; 9, 8. eosinophil metamyelocyte; 10. polymorphonuclear eosinophil; 11, basophil myelocyte; 12, polymorphonuclear basophil; 13-16, stages of monocyte formation.

Two major lineage of WBC







Life Span of WBC's

Granulocyte

- 4 to 8 hrs (transit time) in blood circulation.
- 4-5 days in tissues, During infection life span only few hours,
- Because they die after ingesting bacteria.

Monocyte

10-20- hours then they leave blood to tissues transform into macrophage, its life span goes up to months.

Lymphocyte

Weeks to months according to its type



NEUTROPHILLS

Formation and Maturation of Neutrohils : Formed in Bone Marrow



Neutrophil Function:

Defense against infection:

Neutrophil has the ability of engulfing (ابتلاع) bacteria or organism by a process of phagocytosis (البلعمة).

Steps of Phagocytosis:





Chemotaxis: The attraction of the neutrophils to inflamed area following chemotactic substances release from infected site.



Margination & Diapedesis:

- 1- WBC marginate along the wall of blood capillaries.
- 2- WBC squeezes itself through endothelial holes leaving blood capillaries (Diapedesis).
- 3- WBC move by amoeboid motion towards inflammation area following chemotactic Substance released from site of infection.
- 4- Upon reaching the site of infection neutrophils start to engulf infecting organism.



Phagocytosis:



Neutrophils encircled the bacteria with pseudopodia الاقدام العاذبة , and engulf it inside into a vacuole (phagosome), takes 3-20 bacteria.



Microbial killing:

- Digestion of organism inside the phagosom.
- Fusion of intracellular lysosomes with phagosome vacuole.

•Lysosomes discharge its proteolytic enzymes such as myeloperoxidase, catalase into the vacuole, killing and digesting the engulfed bacteria. And/ or (outside)

•Release of bactericidal such as superoxide, hydrogen peroxide to kill the bacteria.

فيه منه نوعين : نوع يتم داخل الخلية بعد ما تمم عملية الـ Phagocytosis وتحصل في phagocytic وتدصل ف ells . و النوع الاخر خارج الخلية عن طريق افراز الانزيمات القاتلة مثل الـ Eosinophil .





Eosinophils and **Basophils**

(granular WBC)

Formation and Maturation: Formed in Bone Marrow.





Function of Eosinophils

Phagocytosis: attach themselves to parasites and releases substances (hydrolytic enzymes, Superoxide) to kill it.

High eosinophil count:

Parasitic(طفيليات) (hook worm, ascaris, bilharzia). Allergic(حساسية) (asthma, rhinitis, drug reaction).

Function of Basophils

Similar to mast cells both secrets:

- 1- Heparin to prevent clotting.
- 2- Histamine , bradykinin & serotonin
- to inflammation response.

The release of those substances cause local and vascular reactions characteristic of allergic manifestation.



Fig. 9 - Eosinophil



fig. 10 - Basophil



MONOCYTES AND MACROPHAGES: (A granular WBC)

Formation: Formed in Bone Marrow.



Function of monocytes and Macrophages

Macrophages are powerful phagocytic cells, first line of defense.

- Ingest up to 100 bacteria.
- Ingest larger particles as old RBC.
- Get rid of waste and survive.

Functions: anti-inflammatory.

- 1. Directly: phagocytosis of bacteria, dead cells.
- 2. Indirectly: cooperating with lymphocytes by recognizing foreign body (take in foreign body process it and present it to lymphocytes).



Reticuloendothelial system(RES):

(عبارة عن خلايا موجودة في أنحاء الجسم تؤدي نفس الوظيفة)



CONSIST OF:

- 1. Monocytes. 2. Macrophage.
- 3. Endothelial cells تبطن الأوعية الدموية (bone marrow, spleen, lymph node).

Located in all tissues especially; skin(histocytes), liver (kupffer), spleen, bone marrow, lymph nodes, lung.

FUNCTIONS OF (RES) :

- ✓ Phagocytosis: Bacterial, dead cells foreign particles.
- ✓ breakdown of Hb.
- ✓ immune function: processing antigen and antibodies production (indirest).
- ✓ storage of iron.



LYMPHOCYTES:

Formation:

Formed in Bone Marrow, thymus and lymphoid tissues.



Function of lymphocytes is Immunity.

Types of lymphocytes:

- 1. thymus dependent(T- lymphocytes).
- 2. thymus independent(B- lymphocytes).

B- lymphocyte (shorter life span).

T- lymphocyte (longer life span).

First discovered in bird bursa.



1. T- lymphocytes:

- ✓ Formed in bone marrow or lymphoid tissue, migrate to thymus for maturation.
- ✓ Life spans 100-130 days.
- ✓ Circulate between blood, tissues and lymph.
- ✓ Types of **T- lymphocytes**:
 - T-helper.
 - T- cytotoxic.
 - Natural killer.
- ✓ Functions :
 - Cellular immunity (graft rejection delyed hypersensitivity).
 - Role in antibody secretion.

2. B- lymphocytes:

B- lymphocyte + antigen=plasma cell

- ✓ Formed in: Bone marrow, germinal layer of lymph node, red pulp of spleen.
- ✓ Life span 2-7 days.
- ✓ It transforms into large plasma cell (produce antibody).
- ✓ Function: Humoral immunity.
- ✓ Stimulated by antigen transforming.

	T- lymphocytes	B- lymphocytes
formation	Bone marrow or lymphoid tissue, migrate to thymus for maturation.	Bone marrow, germinal layer of lymph node, red pulp of spleen.
life span	100-130 days	2-7 days





Leukocytosis: Increased WBC.

- ✓ Physiological (normal):
- Diurnal \downarrow morning \uparrow evening.
- After physical exercise.
- Stress or Adrenaline injection.
 - ✓ Disease:
- Bacterial infection (tonsillitis، التهاب اللوزتين, Appendicitis التهاب الزائدة
- Worm infection.

Leukopenia: decreased WBC.

Causes:

- 1. Malnutrition.
- 2. typhoid fever.
- 3. drugs.
- 4. Deficient vit B12 & folic acid.
- 5. Radiation.

Leukaemia: Cancer of white cells due to chromosomal abnormality caused by chemicals, radiation, and viruses.

- \checkmark WBC more than 50x10³.
- ✓ Types of leukaemia:
 - Myeloblast leukaemia \rightarrow myeloid cells.
 - Lymphoblast leukaemia \rightarrow lymphocytic cells.
- ✓ Acute or chronic onset.
- ✓ Accompanied with anemia, bleeding.



Summary

- WBC's Classified into Granular and Agranular leukocytes
- The normal count of WBC's is $4000 11000 / \text{mm}^3$
- Steps of Dfeense of neutrophils are (Chemotaxis, Margination, Diapadsis, Amobied movement and phagocytosis)

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How White Blood Cells Are Formed?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDTLC2swhlQ

How White blood cells Works?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0TvTyj5FAaQ



Multiple Choice Questions

Q1: Which of the following is granular leukocyte?

- A- Lymphocyte
- B- Basophil
- C- Neutrophil
- D- Both B + C

Q2: The least abundant leukocyte is?

- A- Monocyte
- B- Basophil
- C- Eosinophil
- **D-** Neutrophil

Q3: Which of the following has a similar function of mast cells?

- A- Lymphocyte
- **B-** Basophil
- C- Eosinophil
- D- None of them

Q4: The Largest L Smallest leukocytes are?

- A- Neutrophil/basophil
- B- Lymphocyte/Monocyte
- C- Monocyte/Lymphocyte
- **D- Basophil/Neutrophil**

Q5: The site of monocyte formation is?

- A- Thymes
- **B- Lymphoid tissue**
- C- Bone morrow
- D- All of them

Q6: The first event of neutrophil to defense is?

- **A- Chemotaxis**
- **B- Diapedesis**
- **C- Phagocytosis**
- **D-** Margination