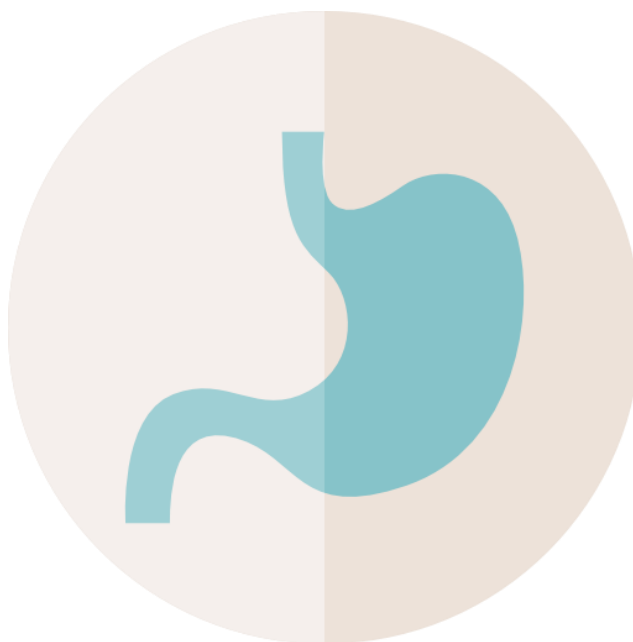




HAEMATOLOGY 436



MEDICINE
KING SAUD UNIVERSITY



Acute leukemia I&II

Objectives:

- To understand the definition of acute leukemia and recognize the general features of leukemia
- To understand the general concepts of leukemia pathogenesis.
- To understand the clinical presentation and recognize the importance of early diagnosis of acute leukemia
- To understand the general themes of classification and the basic tool of diagnosis
- To recognize the most common presenting features of acute myeloid leukemia and their significance in therapeutic approaches
- To know the most important indicators implicated in prognosis of acute myeloid leukemia.
- To emphasize on the general aspects of leukemia including definition, common feature and general classification and the basic diagnostic tool for acute leukemia
- To understand the clinical features of acute lymphoblastic leukemia
- To understand the difference between T-ALL and B-ALL in term of clinical and pathological features
- To recognize the most important prognostic factor for ALL.

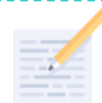
References:

436 girls & boys' slides

435 teamwork slides

Important. Extra. **Doctor's Notes**

[Editing file](#)



Do you have any suggestions? Please contact us!



@haematology436

E-mail: Haematology436@gmail.com

or simply use this [form](#)

Acute leukemia

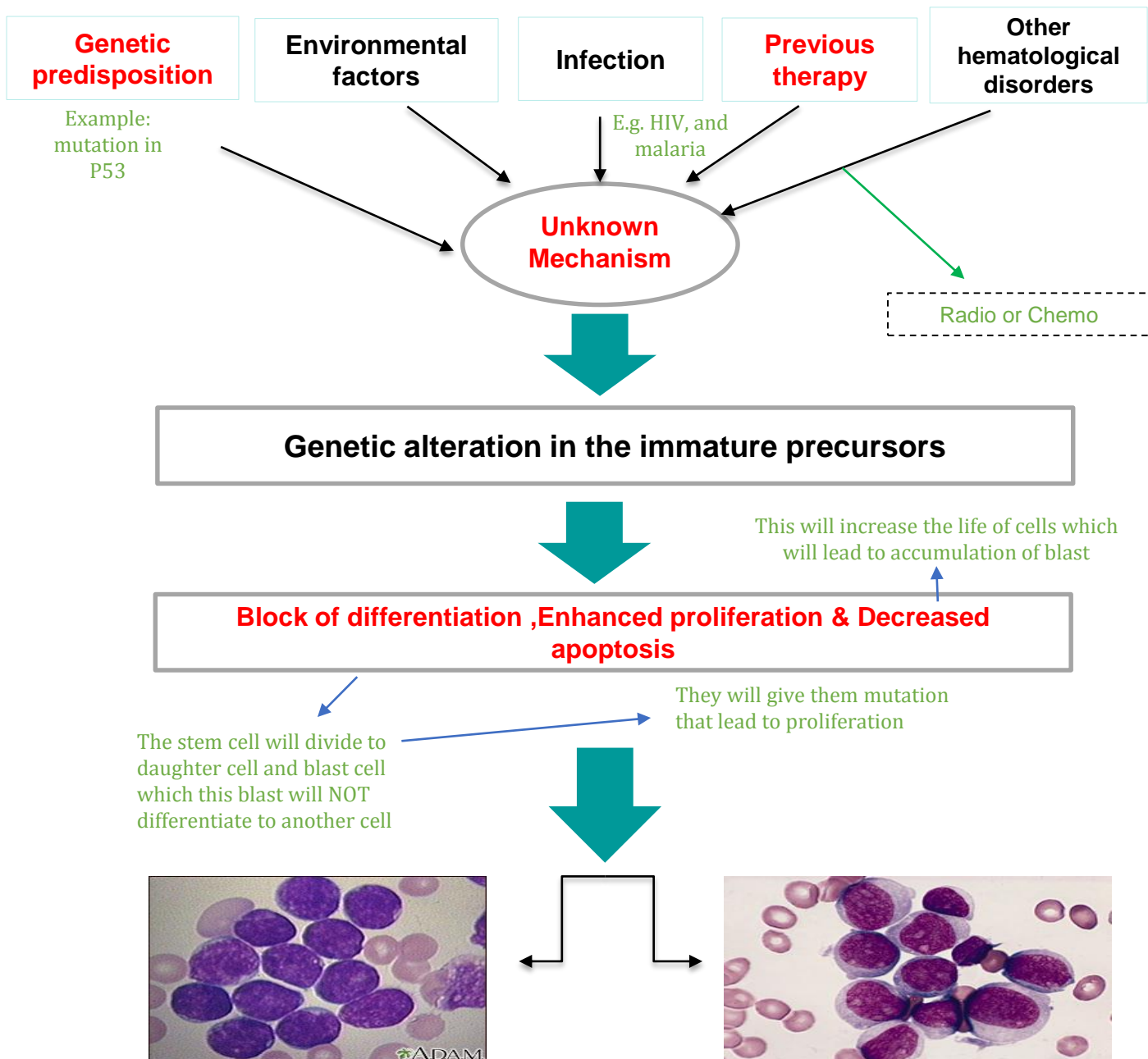


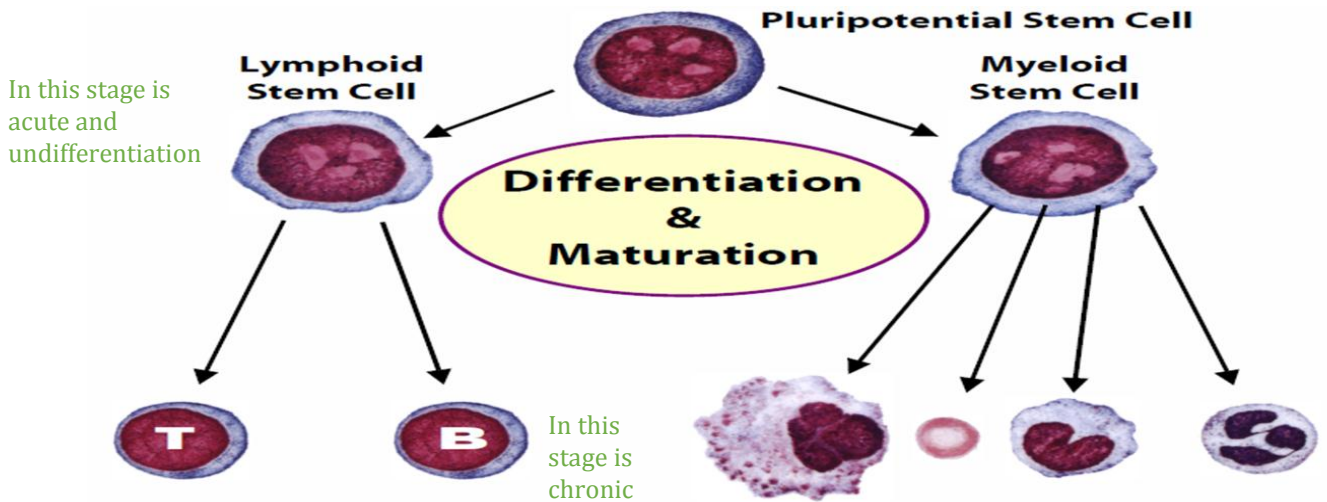
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we recommend you to watch the video first

- Leukemia is named by pathologist Virchow in 1845 which means white cells because PCV shows high white cells and low Red cells which is abnormal .
- Aggressive malignant hematopoietic disorders.
- Accumulation of abnormal blasts (Immature precursors of WBCs) in bone marrow and blood leading to:
 - 1- **Bone marrow failure** (anemia , neutropenia , thrombocytopenia)
 - 2- **Organ infiltration** (hepatosplenomegy , lymphadenopathy)

Pathogenesis : Note: one single factor can NOT lead to cancer





Epidemiology :

AL represent about 8% of neoplastic disease & cause about 4% of malignancy related deaths ! (cure rate is very high)

- Acute myeloid leukemia is more common in adults > 15 per 100.000/year.
- Acute lymphoid leukemia is usually affecting children 76% of childhood leukemia.

Acute Leukemia Classification:

- 1- Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). **In Adults**
- 2- Acute Lymphoid Leukemia (ALL). **In children**
- 3- Acute Leukemia of Ambiguous Lineage.

Basis of Classification

- 1- Clinical history. (previous therapy)
- 2- Morphology.
- 3- Flow cytometry. (BM or Periphery)
- 4- Chromosomal typing.
- 5- Molecular study.

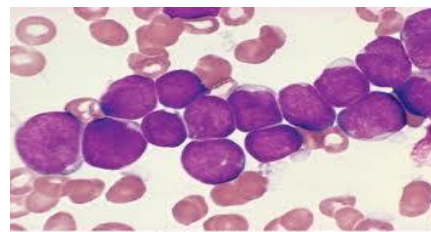
1- Light microscopy: (Microscopy in malignancies is important)

(blood smear to see blasts, bone marrow aspirate & biopsy)

- **Blast count** : it should be >20% (more than or equal 20) out of the total cells
- **Blast morphology** :



Auer rods



• **Myeloblast:**

- Size: medium-Large
- Nucleous: round, oval or irregular
- Nucleolus: prominent
- Cytoplasm: abundant, granular

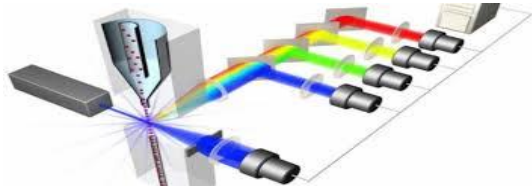
• **Lymphoblast:**

- Size: small- medium
- Nucleous: round
- Nucleolus: not prominent
- Cytoplasm: scanty ,agranular and may be vacuolated

Auer rods is an important characteristic!

•2-Flow cytometry: a very important technique

• Laser based technology allows for cells counting & detection of their surface & cytoplasmic markers by suspending them in a stream of fluid followed by analysis through electronic system. (CD; cluster of differentiation)



Stem Cell Markers: (CD34& TDT)

When CD34 or/and TDT positive means acute leukemia

Myeloid	B-Lymphoid	T-Lymphoid
<p>enough to diagnose AML ← MPO</p> <p>CD13 CD33 CD14 CD64 CD41 CD235a</p>	<p>CD10 CD19 CD22 CD79a</p> <p>To diagnose B-ALL We need at least two markers, usually one is CD19 and the other could be anyone from the list.</p>	<p>enough to diagnose T-ALL ← CD3</p> <p>CD4 CD5 CD7 CD8</p>

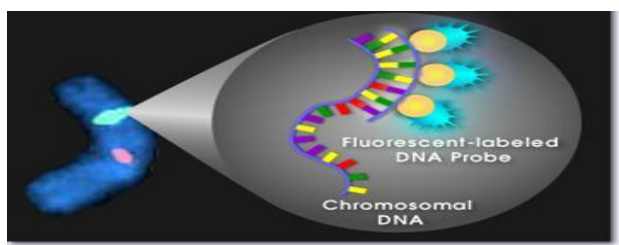
•3-Chromosomal Karyotype

• Set of the chromosomes from one cell during metaphase to study the numerical (deletion & trisomy) and structural (translocation & inversion) abnormality.

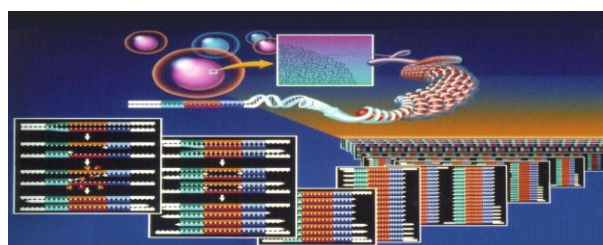


4- Molecular studies:

Several techniques used to detect and localize the presence or absence of specific DNA sequences on chromosomes .



Fluorescent In-Situ Hybridization
(FISH)



Polymerase Chain Reaction
(PCR)

Recurrent genetic abnormalities:

AML

Karyotype	Molecular
t (8;21)	AML1-ETO
t (16;16) or inv(16)	CBFB-MYH11
t (15;17)	PML-RARA
t (9;11)	MLLT1-MLL

ALL

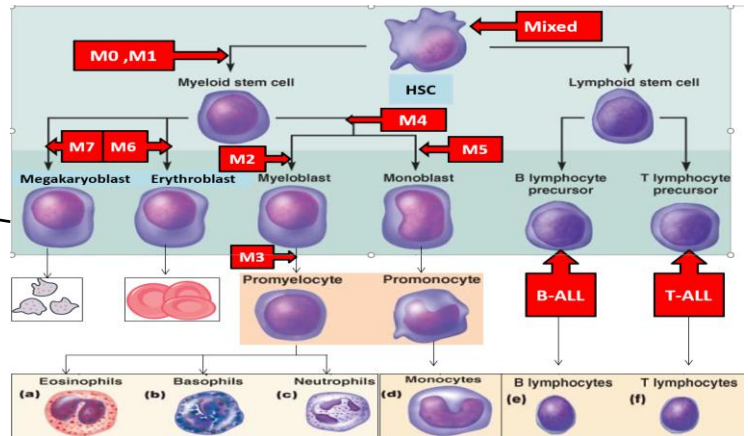
Karyotype	Molecular
t (9;22)	BCR-ABL1
t (4;11)	AF4-MLL
t (12;21)	ETV6-RUNX1
t (5;14)	IL3-IGH

Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML):

- Group of hematopoietic neoplasms caused by proliferation of malignant myeloid blasts in bone marrow and blood.
- The blast $\geq 20\%$ or $t(8;21)$ $t(16;16)$ or $t(15;17)$.
- More in Adults (do occur in infants!).
- Worse than ALL.

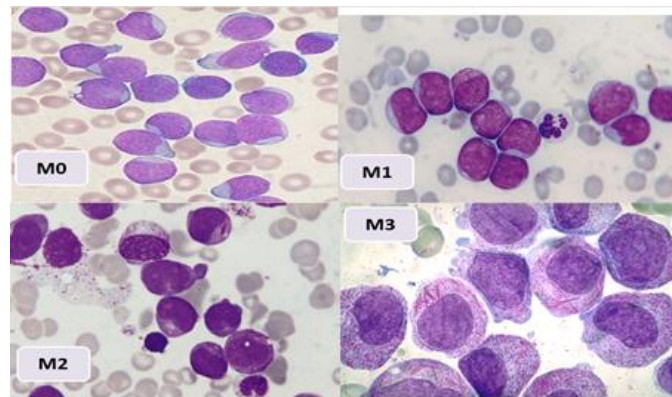
FBA Classification:-

الجدول الأخضر هو المهم



Type	Block differentiation of (lead to accumulation of)	Genes	Notes
M2 (Acute myeloblastic leukemia with maturation)	Myeloblast	$t(8;21)$	-
M3 (Acute promyelocytic leukemia)	promyelocyte	$t(15;17)$	Associated with DIC
M4 (Acute myelomonocytic leukemia)	Both Myeloblast & Monoblasts	t or $inv(16;16)$	Associated with Gum Hypertrophy
M5 (Acute monocytic leukemia)	Monocytes	$t(9;11)$	

Subtype	Features	Genetics in WHO	Notes
M0	Minimal differentiation		
M1	Without maturation		
M2	With maturation	$t(8;21)$	
M3	Promyelocytic	$t(15;17)$	DIC
M4	Granulocytic and monocytic	t or $inv(16;16)$	Gum hypertrophy
M5	Monoblastic (M5a) Monocytic (M5b)	$t(9;11)$	
M6	Erythroid		
M7	Megakaryocytic		
M8	Basophilic		



*This classification is based on morphology and flow cytometry.

*Important to know the notes about M3, M4 and M5.

- M6 is very rare .

- WHO Classification:

AML with recurrent genetic abnormalities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1- t(8;21) • 2- t(16;16) • 3- t(15;17), • Prognosis: good
Myelodysplasia related AML:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blasts \geq 20% • significant dysplasia, • Prognosis: Poor
Therapy related AML:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blasts \geq 20% • Previous chemotherapy • Prognosis: Poor
AML not otherwise specified (FAB):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blasts \geq 20% • Genetic: N • No dysplasia • Prognosis: Standard

Clinical features of AML:

1. Pancytopenia: (deficiency in the mature cells of all blood components) **acute onset:**

- \downarrow WBC \rightarrow infection (fever, septic shock)
- \downarrow Hb (because the BM is shut down, BM does not produce mature cells) \rightarrow anemia (fatigue, headache, pallor, SOB....)
- \downarrow platelets \rightarrow bleeding (bruises, epistaxis, menorrhagia...)

2. Organ infiltration:

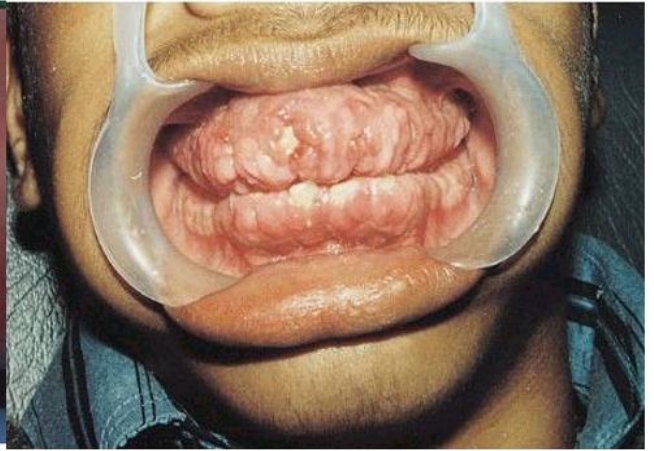
- Hepatosplenomegaly Why? because these two are extramedullary hematopoiesis (neonatal life)
 - Lymphadenopathy (rare)
 - Myeloid sarcoma (solid tumor composed of immature RBCs)
 - **gum hypertrophy**
 - CNS disease
- } \rightarrow More with Acute Monoblastic Leukemia (M4&M5)

3. Leucostasis: (increased blood viscosity)

4. Disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC): Widespread activation of coagulation system leading to intravascular fibrin deposition & consumption of platelet and coagulation factors which can be manifested as bleeding (85%) or thrombosis (15%) \rightarrow **more with acute promyelocytic leukemia (M3)** (Why? Abnormal promyelocytes contain numerous primary granules that increase the risk for DIC so M3 within 24h either cure (95%) or kill)



Myeloid sarcoma



Gum hypertrophy

Prognosis

Better Prognosis:-

- **Genetics:** $t(8;21)$, $inv(16;16)$ or $t(15;17)$ (if you discover and treat them early)
- **Age:** < 60 years
- **Primary better than secondary** (as chemotherapy either transplantation or death)

Treatment

- Chemotherapy:
 - AML: M0-M8 but **not** M3 (same protocol)
 - AML: M3 with target therapy (**ATRA or arsenic**) (Treatment is with all-trans-retinoic acid (ATRA, a vitamin A derivative), which binds the altered receptor and causes the blasts to mature)
- Stem cell transplantation.

Case Study:-

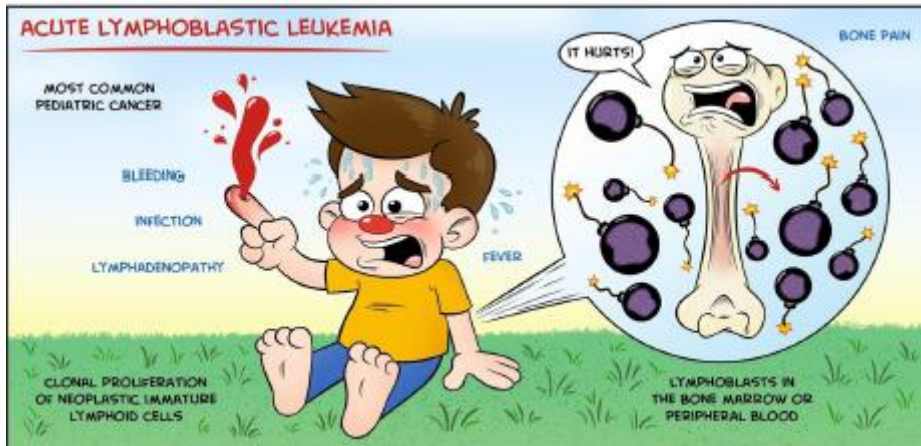
- 65 years old male presented to ER with fatigue ,fever and nose bleeding for 2 weeks.
- **On Examination** : moderate hepatosplenomegaly & multiple bruises.
- **CBC** : WBC :40 x10⁹/L HB: 7g/dL PLT: 51 x10⁹/L
- **Flow cytometry** :
 - The blast are positive for **CD34** (indicate Acute Leukemia),CD13,CD33,CD117 and **MPO**
 - They are negative for CD3 (-ve for B-ALL), CD10,CD19&CD79a (-ve for T-ALL).
- **Karyotype:** $t(8;21)$.
- **Diagnosis:**
 - AML with maturation (M2) (FAB classification)
 - AML with $t(8;21)$ (WHO classification)

Indicate AML



Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL):

- Acute leukemia characterized by proliferation of **malignant lymphoid blasts** (immature lymphocytes) in bone marrow , blood and Lymph nodes .
- Subclassified into B lymphocyte ALL (most common) and T lymphocyte ALL.
- More common in Children (80% of childhood leukemia).
- **Better than AML.**

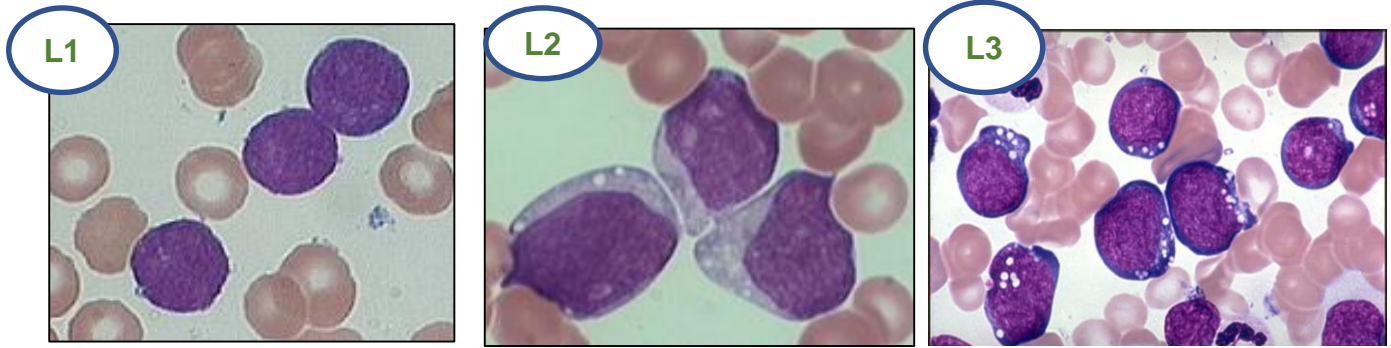


Clinical Features of ALL:

- 1. Pancytopenia** : (deficiency in the mature cells of all blood components) acute onset:
 - ↓WBC→ infection (fever ,septic shock)
 - ↓Hb (because the BM is shut down, BM is not produce mature cells)→ anemia (fatigue ,headache , pallor ,SOB....)
 - ↓platelets →bleeding (bruises , epistaxis ,menorrhagia...)
- 2. Organ infiltration:**
 - **Lymphadenopathy** (very common). Why ? because lymphocyte accumulate within lymph nodes
 - Hepatosplenomegaly.
 - **Testicles involvement.** (unilateral painless testicular enlargement)
 - CNS disease. (headache, vomiting, lethargy and nuchal rigidity)
 - **Mediastinal mass (characteristic of T-ALL)**

Note: there is NO gum hypertrophy

Morphological subtypes (FAB)



	L1	L2	L3 Burkitt's
Morphology	Homogenous	Heterogeneous	Homogenous
Size	Small	Variable	Small
Cytoplasm	Little	More	Vacuolated
Nucleoli	Not prominent	Prominent	Prominent
Genetics	Variable	Variable	t(8;14) c-Myc

L3 (Burkitt's) represents mature lymphoid neoplasms so it is a type of lymphoma not Acute lymphoblastic leukaemia

CD34 and TDT negative

Immunophenotypic Subtypes (WHO):

Prognosis:

	B cell	T cell
Markers	CD19, CD10, CD79a	CD3
Percentage	80%	20%
Age	Younger	Older
Clinical	-	Mediastinal mass CNS Relapse
WBC count	Less	Higher
Prognosis	Better	Worse
Genetics	t(9;22), t(4;11), t(12;21)	-

	Better	Worse
Age	2 - 10 yrs	<2 - >10 yrs
Gender	Female	Male
WBC count	Low	High
Cell type	B cell	T cell
B-ALL phenotype	Common They mean positive CD10	Others
B-ALL genetics	Hyperdiploidy t(12;21)	Hypodiploidy t(9;22)
CNS involvement	No	Yes

Treatment:

- Chemotherapy (high cure rate)
- Stem cell transplantation

THIS SLIDE IS: IMPORTANT X (10⁹)**Remember :**

- **Acute leukaemia is a fatal neoplastic condition.**
- **20% or more blasts = Acute leukaemia.**
- **Diagnosis requires special investigations.**
- **Auer rods = AML.**
- **AML M3 = DIC & target therapy.**
- **Gum hypertrophy = mostly M4 or M5.**
- **Mediastinal = T-ALL.**
- **Subtypes of AML (M0-M8) + cytogenetic abnormalities.**
- **Subtypes of ALL (T or B cell).**
- **Main lineages markers are MPO , CD19 and CD3.**
- **Stem cell markers are CD34,TDT.**
- **FAB classification based mainly on morphology.**
- **WHO classification focused more on genetics.**

