




Acute leukemia

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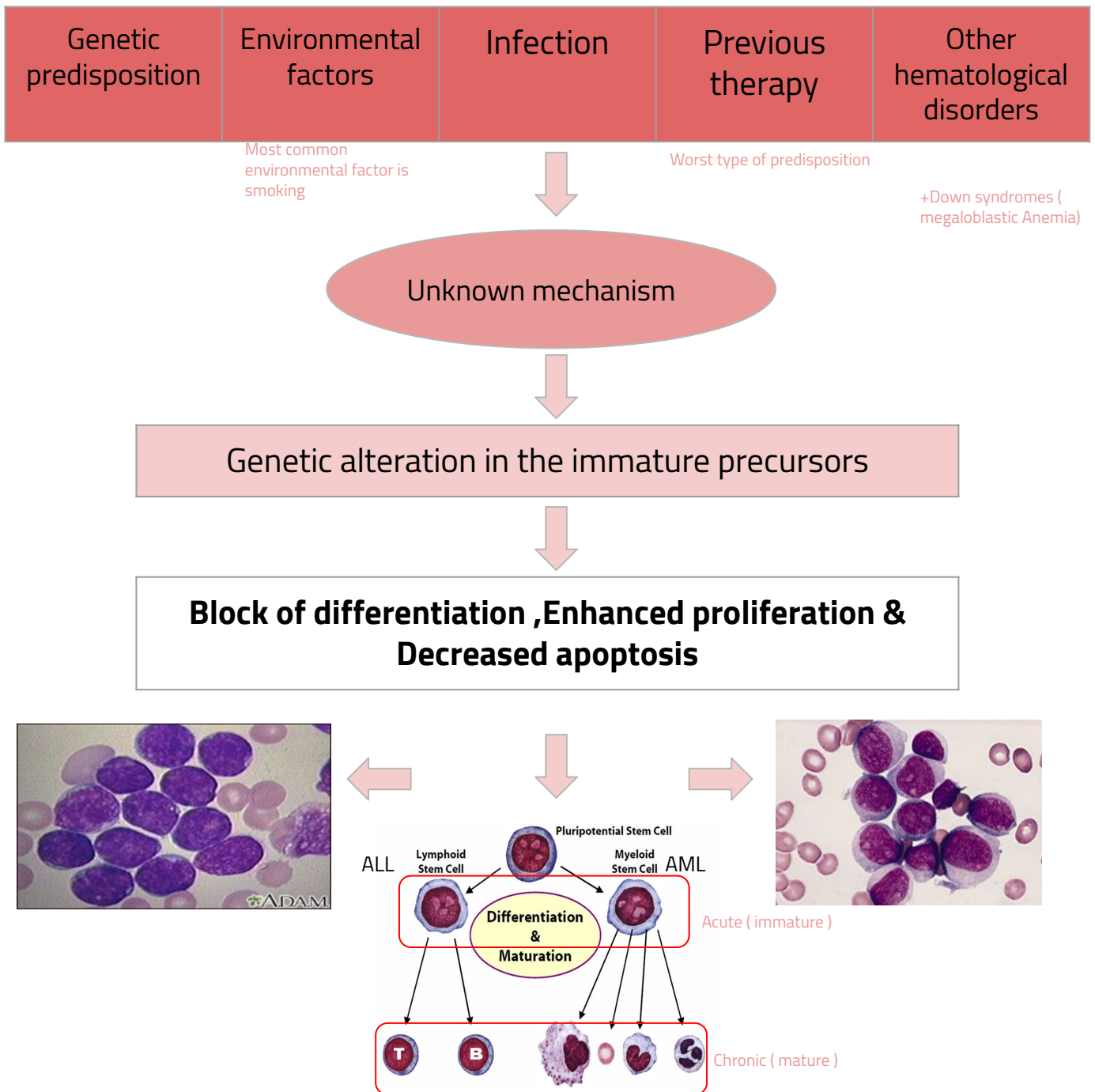
-  Impotent
-  Notes
-  Doctor's slides

Acute leukemia

Aggressive malignant hematopoietic disorders which characterized by **accumulation of abnormal blasts** (Immature precursors of WBC) in **bone marrow** and blood leading to:

1. Bone marrow failure (anemia ,neutropenia & thrombocytopenia).
2. Organ infiltration (hepatosplenomegaly ,lymphadenopathy).
Organ infiltration of blasts interferes with their functions

Pathogenesis of acute leukemia



Epidemiology

- AL represent about 8% of neoplastic disease & cause about 4% of malignancy related deaths !
- AML (in adults) has an incidence of 2 – 3 per 100 000 per year in children, rising to 15 per 100 000 in adults.
- ALL (in children) has an incidence of 30 per million & represent about 76% of childhood leukemia.

General Classification

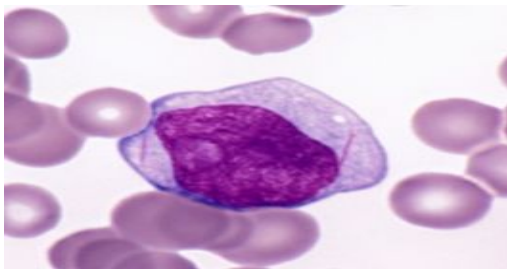
- Acute Myeloid Leukemia "AML".
- Acute Lymphoid Leukemia "ALL"
- Acute Leukemia of Ambiguous Lineage (very rare)

Basis of Classification

1. Clinical history (**Previous therapy**)
2. Morphology .
3. Flow cytometry.
4. Chromosomal Karyotyping.
5. Molecular study .

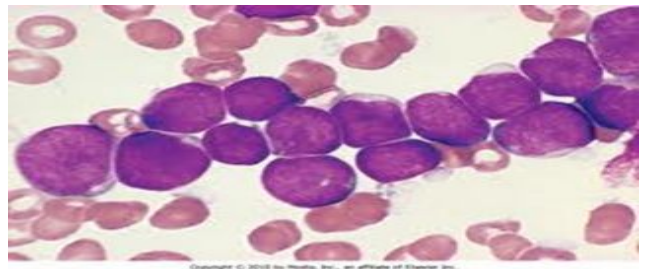
Light microscopy

- **Blast count** : it should be **>20%** out of the total cells Below 20% count in Light microscopy doesn't exclude AML
- Blast morphology :



Myeloblast

Size: **medium-Large**
Nucleus: round, oval or irregular
Nucleolus: **prominent**
Cytoplasm: abundant, granular
Auer rods is characteristic



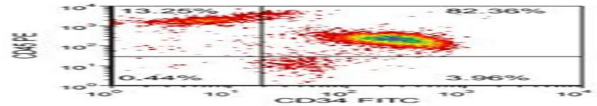
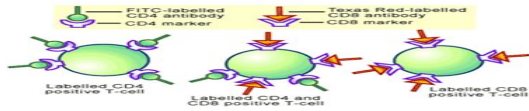
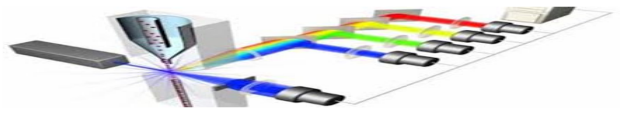
Lymphoblast

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

Flow cytometry:

CD34 result in flow cytometry always indicates Stem cells while CD45 is the leukocyte common origin

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.



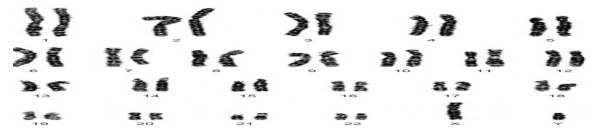
Stem Cell Markers: (CD34 & TDT)

If these positive → blast

Myeloid	B-Lymphoid	T-Lymphoid
MPO	CD10	CD3
CD13	CD19	CD4
CD33	CD22	CD5
CD14	CD79a	CD7
CD64		CD8
CD41		
CD235a		

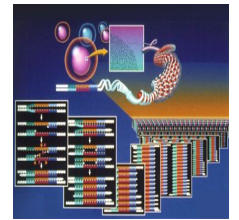
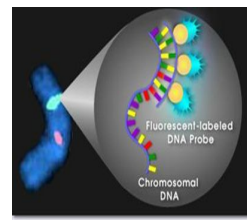
Chromosomal Karyotype

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



Molecular studies:

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



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)	MLL1-MLL

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

Absence of MPO does not exclude Myeloid origin of leukemia, however, we have to have 2 markers in order for it to be proven. -CD13 and 33 are myeloid while CD14 and 64 are monocytes -CD19 is the strongest B-lymphoid marker -Without CD3 it can not be T-Lymphoid

Acute Myeloid Leukemia

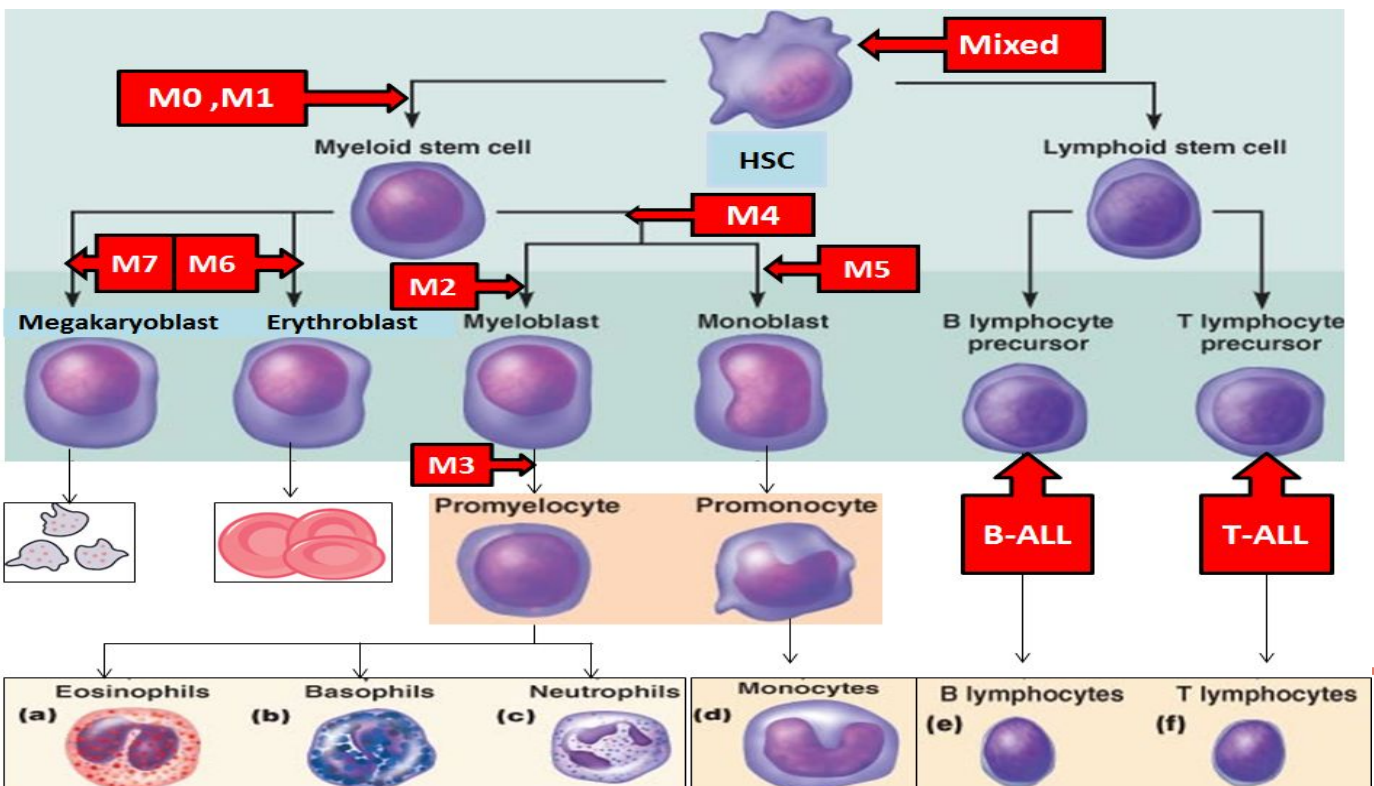
- Group of hematopoietic neoplasms caused by proliferation of malignant myeloid blasts in bone marrow and blood.
- **The blast $\geq 20\%$ or $t(8;21)$ $t(16;16)$ or $t(15;17)$.**
- More in Adults (do occur in infants)
- Worse than ALL

FAB Classification

Promyelocytic Leukemia is the most dangerous type of AML and it involves consumption of platelets

Based on **morphology & flow cytometry.**

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)	$t(9;11)$	CD235a CD41
M6	Erythroid		
M7	Megakaryocytic		
M8	Basophilic		



AML Classification (WHO) :

New classification based on genetic.

AML with recurrent genetic abnormalities

- 1- t(8;21)
- 2- t(16;16)
- 3- t(15;17)

Prognosis:
Good

Myelodysplasia related AML

- Blasts \geq 20%
- Significant dysplasia

Prognosis:
poor

Therapy related AML

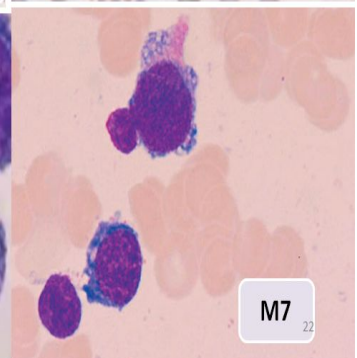
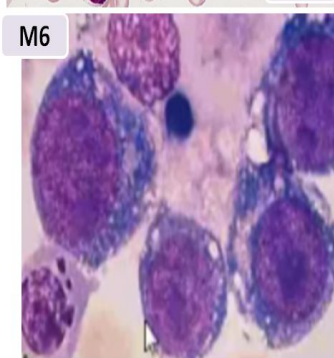
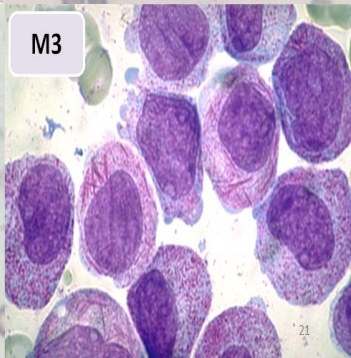
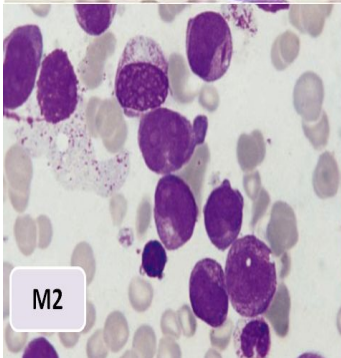
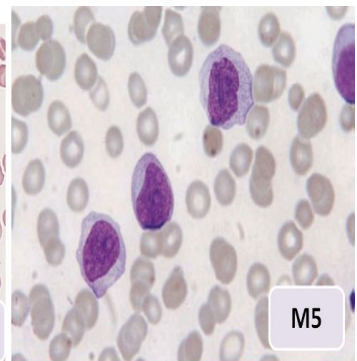
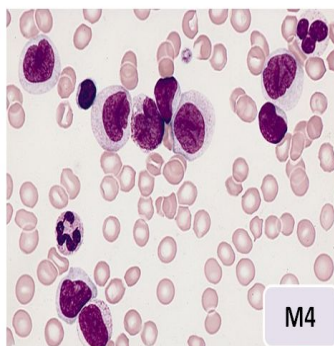
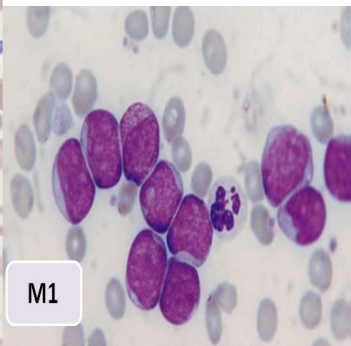
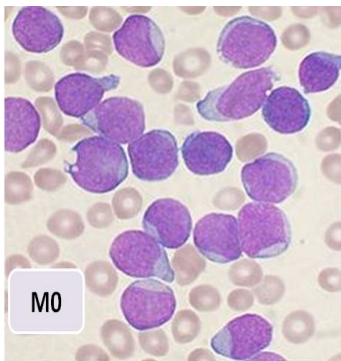
- Blasts \geq 20%
- Previous chemotherapy

Prognosis:
poor

AML, not otherwise specified (FAB)

- Blasts \geq 20%
- Genetic: N
- No dysplasia

Prognosis:
Standard

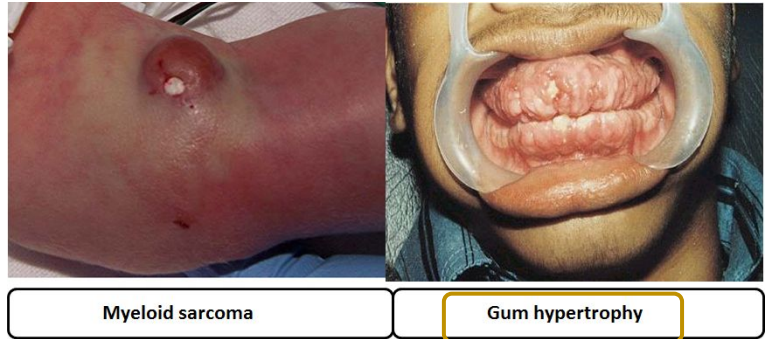


- During M0 we can not differentiate lymphoblast
- During M1 there is minimal differentiation
- During M2 there are many neutrophils + promyelocytes but we will see Aur rods
- During M3 we will see many Aur rods which raises Tissue factor and stimulates DIC , t(15, 17)
- During M6 we see erythroblasts
- During M7 we see megakaryoblasts

Clinical Features of AML:

1. Pancytopenia: *Acute Onset*
 - ↓ WBC → infection (fever ,septic shock).
 - ↓ Hb → anemia (fatigue , headache , pallor ,SOB....)
 - ↓ Platelets → bleeding (bruises , epistaxis ,menorrhagia...)

2. Organ infiltration:
 - Hepatosplenomegaly.
 - Lymphadenopathy (rare).
 - Myeloid sarcoma.
 - Gum hypertrophy .
 - CNS disease.



3. Leukostasis (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%) *More with Acute Promyelocytic leukemia (M3)*

Prognosis of AML:

Better prognosis if:

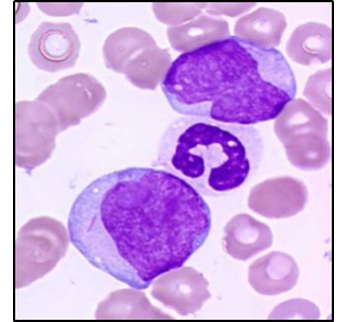
- Genetics: t(8;21), inv(16;16) or t(15;17) are involved.
- Age: < 60 years.
- Primary better than secondary.

Treatment of AML:

- Chemotherapy:
 1. AML: M0-M8 but **not M3** (same protocol)
 2. **AML: M3 (ATRA** *(works on t(15;17))* **or arsenic)**
- Stem cell transplantation

Case Study

- 65 years old male presented to ER with fatigue ,fever and nose bleeding for 2 weeks.
- O/E : moderate hepatosplenomegaly & multiple bruises.
- CBC :
WBC :40 x10⁹/L.
HB: 7g/dL.
PLT: 51 x10⁹/L.



- Blood smear & bone marrow:
- Flow cytometry :
The blast are positive for CD34 ,CD13,CD33,CD117 and MPO They are negative for CD3,CD10,CD19&CD79a.

Karyotype:



What is the final diagnosis?

AML with t(8;21)

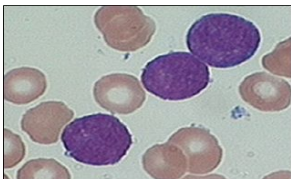
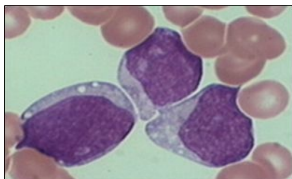
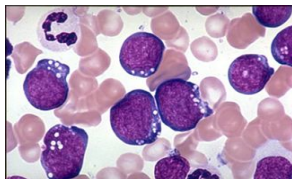
ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA

- Acute leukemia characterized by proliferation of malignant lymphoid blasts in bone marrow and blood.
- **B and T cells.**
- More common in Children.
- Better than AML.

Clinical Features of ALL:

1. Pancytopenia:
 - ↓ WBC → infection (fever ,septic shock).
 - ↓ Hb → anemia (fatigue , headache , pallor ,SOB....)
 - ↓ Platelets → **bleeding** (bruises , **epistaxis** ,menorrhagia...)
2. Organ infiltration:
 - **Lymphadenopathy (very common)** due to maturation of cells in them
 - Hepatosplenomegaly.
 - **testicles involvement**
 - CNS disease
 - **Mediastinal mass** which is characteristic of T-cell type because they mature in thymus

Morphological subtypes (FAB) of ALL: Important

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

Immunophenotypic Subtypes (WHO): Important

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

Notice that L3 (Burkitt's) represents mature lymphoid neoplasm so it is a type of lymphoma not Acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. it is negative for TDT or CD34 in flow cytometry

Prognosis:

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

- Hyperdiploidy is the presence of more than 46 chromosomes
- Hypodiploidy is the presence of less than 46 chromosomes and it is harder to treat because it is easier to limit a new function the compensate for a lost one.
- t(9;22) is harder to target well than rest of translocation because it is triphasic (it is seen in AML, CML, and ALL)

Treatment:

- Chemotherapy (high cure rate) .
- Stem cell transplantation.

B-cell

Precursor B cell	Mature B cell
CD34& TDT	
	Surface Immunoglobulin
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">CD10</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">Common B-ALL</div>	
CD19,CD20 &CD79a	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;">B- ALL</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: 100px; margin: 0 auto;">Burkitt's</div>

T-cell

Precursor T- cell	Mature T- cell
cCD3	
	sCD3
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">- VE</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">(CD4&CD8)</div> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">+VE</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">(CD4&CD8)</div> </div> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">CD4 only</div>
	<div style="text-align: center;">CD8 only</div>
CD2,CD5&CD7	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: 100px; margin: 0 auto;">T-ALL</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: 150px; margin: 0 auto;">T- Cell Lymphoma</div>

Remember ! Important

- 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.

Doctors notes:

- Organ infiltration of blasts interferes with their functions
- Examples of genetic predispositions are trisomy 21 (down syndrome), and RAG gene mutation
- Most common environmental factor is smoking
- Examples of infectious predispositions to leukemia are malaria and EBV
- Worst type of predisposition is Previous chemotherapy
- There are two types of Acute leukemia of ambiguous lineage: 1) type expressing myeloid and lymphoid blast at the same time 2) type expressing stem cells markers without lymphoid or myeloid
- Patients who have previous chemotherapy should be treated with stem cell therapy immediately.
- Below 20% count in Light microscopy doesn't exclude AML
- Auer rods are made out of myeloid peroxidase??
- Flow cytometry reads the ID of cells
- CD34 result in flow cytometry always indicates Stem cells while CD45 is the leukocyte common origin (hematopoietic cells whether they are mature or not.
- Absence of MPO does not exclude Myeloid origin of leukemia, however, we have to have 2 markers in order for it to be proven.
- CD13 and 33 are myeloid while CD14 and 64 are monocytes
- CD19 is the strongest B-lymphoid marker
- Without CD3 it can not be T-Lymphoid
- Best example of translocation is 15,17
- From clinical information we need to obtain: 1) history 2) physical examination. From lab we obtain morphology. From karyotyping we know about number of chromosomes. And from molecular studies we need to know about genes
- Myeloid stem cells to megakaryocyte, erythrocyte, monocytes, myeloblast is controlled by growth factor
- Promyelocytic Leukemia is the most dangerous type of AML and it involves consumption of platelets
- During M0 we can not differentiate lymphoblast
- During M1 there is minimal differentiation
- During M2 there are many neutrophils + promyelocytes but we will see Auer rods
- During M3 we will see many Auer rods which raises Tissue factor and stimulates DIC
- During M6 we see erythroblasts
- During M7 we see megakaryoblasts
- leukostasis is caused by increased number of WBCs
- ATRA works on fixing t(15;17)

Doctors notes:

- B cell ALL is the most common and best prognosis type
- Clinical features of ALL are similar to AML except for lymphadenopathies commonality (due to maturation of cells in them) , testicle involvement, and mediastinal mass (which is characteristic of T-cell type because they mature in thymus)
- Myeloid cells mature in spleen and bone marrow
- Even though FAB classification classifies Burkitt's as leukemia it is a lymphoma
- Lymphadenopathies are more common in B cell type
- t(12;21) has the best type of prognosis
- L3(Burkitt's) is negative for TDT or CD34 in flow cytometry
- We must tell apart burkitt's from leukemia because treatment is massively different
- Hyperdiploidy is the presence of more than 46 chromosomes
- Hypodiploidy is the presence of less than 46 chromosomes and it is harder to treat because it is easier to limit a new function the compensate for a lost one.
- t(9;22) is the most common translocation
- t(9;22) os harder to target well than rest of translocation because it is triphasic (it is seen in AML, CML, and ALL)