



มหาวิทยาลัยราชภัฏนครปฐม  
Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University

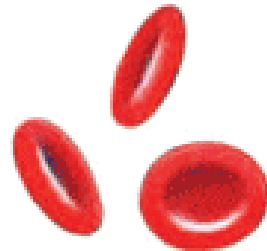
# Nursing care of patients with hematologic and lymphatic disorders

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# Learning Objectives

1. Explain the principles of nursing for patients with hematologic and lymphatic disorders
2. Apply nursing care plan to patients with hematologic and lymphatic disorders.

RED BLOOD CELLS (ERYTHROCYTES)



PLATELETS (THROMBOCYTES)

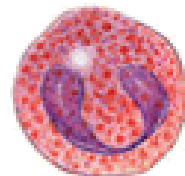


WHITE BLOOD CELLS (LEUKOCYTES)

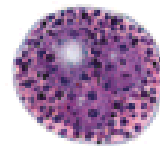
Granular leukocytes



Neutrophil

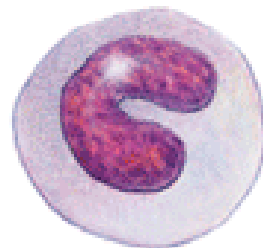


Eosinophil

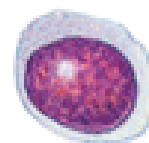


Basophil

Agranular leukocytes



Monocyte



Lymphocyte



← Plasma (54%)

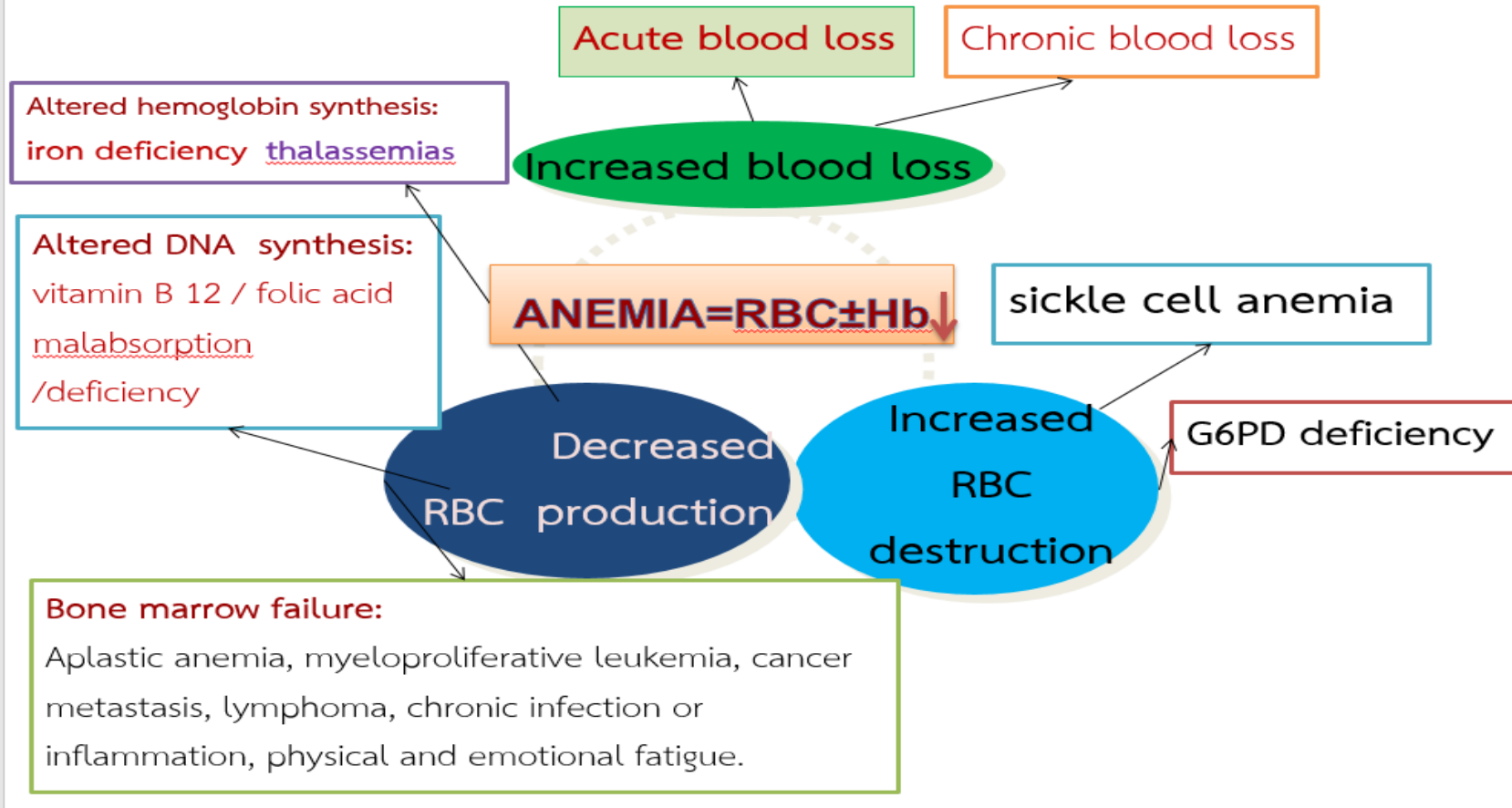
← Leukocytes and  
platelets (1%)

← Erythrocytes (45%)

# Normal laboratory values for red blood cells

| Lab test                                    | Normal range                    | definition                                       |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| RBC count                                   |                                 |  |
| Men   | 4.2-5.4 million/mm <sup>3</sup> |  |
| Women                                       | 3.6-5.0 million/mm <sup>3</sup> |  |
| Reticulocytes                               | 1.0-1.5% of total RBC           | Immature RBCs                                    |
| Hemoglobin                                  |                                 |  |
| Men   | 14-16.5 g/dL                    |  |
| Women                                       | 12-15 g/dL                      |  |
| Hematocrit                                  |                                 | Packed volume of RBCs in 100                     |
| Men   | 40-50%                          | ml of blood expressed as a                       |
| Women                                       | 37-47%                          | percentage                                       |
| Mean corpus volume (MCV)                    | 85-100 femtolitre/cell          | Average vol. of individual RBCs                  |
| Mean corpus hemoglobin concentration (MCHC) | 31-35 g/dL                      | Average concentration / percentage of Hb per RBC |
| Mean corpus hemoglobin (MCH)                | 27-34 pg/ cell                  | Calculated average weight of Hb per RBC          |

# Etiology



## Signs and symptoms

Mild; Hb=10-14 g/dl; headache, palpitation, dyspnea

moderate; Hb=6-10 g/dl;pallor,fatigue,dizziness, faintness

Severe; sensitivity to cold, blurred vision,pallor, pruritis, glossitis, smooth tongue,tachycardia, widened pulse pressure, CHF, tachypnea, orthopnea, anorexia, enlarged liver&spleen,bone pain, headache, dizziness, impaired thinking, depression, fatigue

# Acute blood loss

10% none

20% slight postural hypotension

40% below normal blood pressure,

rapid pulse, cold clammy skin

50% shock

## Chronic blood loss

- ▶ depletes iron stores as RBCs production attempts to maintain the RBC supply. The resulting RBCs are microcytic (small) and hypochromic (pale)



# Iron deficiency anemia

- ▶ It develops when the supply of iron is inadequate for optimal RBC formation.
- ▶ The body cannot synthesize hemoglobin without iron.
- ▶ It results in fewer numbers of RBCs, microcytic and hypochromic RBCs, as well as malformed RBCs (poikilocytosis)

## Causes of iron deficiency anemia

- ▶ Dietary deficiency
- ▶ Decreased absorption: partial or total gastrectomy, chronic diarrhea, malabsorption syndrome.
- ▶ Increased metabolic requirements: pregnancy, lactation.
- ▶ Blood loss: gastrointestinal bleeding, menstrual losses.
- ▶ Chronic hemoglobinuria.

## Vitamin B 12 deficiency anemia

- ▶ impair cell division and maturation.
- ▶ As a result, macrocytic, misshapen (oval rather than concave)
- ▶ RBCs with thin membrane are produce.
- ▶ Great numbers of these large, immature RBCs enter the circulation.
- ▶ These cells are, fragile, incapable of carrying adequate amounts of oxygen, and have a shorten life span.
- ▶ Failure to absorb dietary vitamin B12 is called pernicious anemia. It develops due to lack of *intrinsic factor*

## Causes of vitamin B 12 deficiency anemia

- ▶ Inadequate vitamin B12 intake; usually occurring only among strict vegetarians.
- ▶ Poorly absorption; resection of the stomach or ileum, loss of pancreatic secretion, chronic gastritis

## Folic acid deficiency anemia

- ▶ Like vitamin B12, folic acid is required for DNA synthesis and normal maturation of RBCs.
- ▶ Folic acid deficiency anemia is characterized by fragile, megaloblastic cells.

## Causes of folic acid deficiency anemia

- ▶ **Inadequate dietary intake** at risk: older adults, alcoholics, clients receiving total parenteral nutrition.
- ▶ **Increased metabolic requirement** at risk: pregnant women, infants and teenagers, clients undergoing hemodialysis, clients with forms of hemolytic anemia.
- ▶ **Folic acid malabsorption and impaired metabolism:** chemotherapeutic agents, folate antagonists (methotrexate, pentamidine) or anticonvulsants, alcoholism.

## Dietary sources

- Iron= meat, egg yolk, oysters, dried beans, dried fruits, brown rice, greens. *[enhance by V.C, inhibited by tea&coffee ]*
- Folic acid= green leafy vegetables, broccoli, organ meat, eggs, wheat germ, asparagus, liver, milk, yeast, fruits, cereals, and meats,
- B12=liver, fresh shrimp&oysters, eggs, milk, kidney, meats, cheese and dairy products.

# Aplastic anemia

- ▶ The bone marrow fails to produce all three types of blood cells; leading to *pancytopenia*.

50% = *idiopathic aplastic anemia*

50%=follow stem cell damage; radiation, chemical substance [benzene, arsenic, nitrogen mustard, certain antibiotics, chloramphenicol], chemotherapeutic drugs, viral infections [mononucleosis, hepatitis C, and HIV disease]



# Aplastic anemia

## Signs & symptoms

- ▶ fatigue
- ▶ Pallor
- ▶ progressive weakness
- ▶ exertional dyspnea
  - ▶ headache
  - ▶ Tachycardia
  - ▶ heart failure
- ▶ bleeding problems
- ▶ increases the risk of infection.

## Diagnostic tests

- ▶ *Complete blood count=scan*
- ▶ *Iron levels and total iron-binding capacity= iron deficiency*
- ▶ *Serum ferritin= iron deficiency*
  - ▶ *Schilling test=B12 def*
  - ▶ *Bone marrow examination*

## Treatment

Inadequate RBC  
production

Oral  
supplements,  
medication

Blood loss  
Collecting the  
underlying  
problem,  
blood  
transfusion

Increase RBC  
destruction  
Underlying  
found&corrected,  
blood transfusion

# Nursing diagnoses and intervention

## 1. Activity intolerance

### intervention

- identify way to conserve energy when performing
- assist to develop a schedule of activity and rest periods.
- 8-10 hr. to sleep at night.
- monitor vital signs before and after activity.
- discontinue activity if; chest pain, breathlessness, vertigo, palpation, bradycardia, tachypnea, dyspnea, decrease SBP.
- do not smoke.

## 2. Impaired oral mucous membrane [def. iron, B12]

### intervention

- monitor condition of lips and tongue daily.
- mouthwash of saline, saltwater, half-strength peroxide every 2-4 hr.
- frequent oral hygiene with soft bristle toothbrush/ sponge.
- apply a petroleum-based lubricating ointment/ jelly.
- Avoid spicy, hot, acidic foods.
- soft, cool, bland foods.
- 4-6 small meals dairy with high protein & vitamin.

## 3. Risk of decreased cardiac output

- monitor vital signs.
- assess for pallor, cyanosis, dependent edema from right ventricular failure.

## 4. Self -care deficit

- assist with ADLs.

# Thrombocytopenia

=platelet count  $< 100,000 / \text{mm}^3$

Platelet count =  $150,000 - 400,000 / \text{mm}^3$

Risk of bleeding disorder

- ▶  $50,000 - 100,000 / \text{mm}^3$  mild
  - ▶  $20,000 - 50,000 / \text{mm}^3$
  - ▶ below  $20,000 / \text{mm}^3$

## Causes

- ▶ Leukemia, Aplastic anemia,
- ▶ Chemotherapy, Radiation therapy
- ▶ Heparin, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Furosemide



# Treatment

- ▶ Oral glucocorticoids [prednisolone]
- ▶ Immunosuppressive drugs [azathioprine, cyclophosphamide, cyclosporine]
- ▶ Platelet transfusion
- ▶ Plasmapheresis
- ▶ Splenectomy

# Nursing diagnoses and interventions

## ▶ Ineffective protection

### interventions

- monitor vital signs and bleeding.
- apply pressure to puncture sites 3-5 minutes.
- instruct to avoid activities that increase external and internal bleeding.

# Nursing diagnoses and interventions

## ▶ Impaired oral mucous membranes

### interventions

- assess the mouth for bleeding.
- soft-bristle toothbrush.
- rinse the mouth with saline every 2-4 hr.
- apply petroleum jelly to lips.
- avoid alcohol-based mouthwash.

# Nursing diagnoses and interventions

## Fear

- Encourage the client and family to verbalize concerns.
- Answer questions truthfully.
- Provide emotional support.
- Respond promptly when the client calls for help.
- Teach relaxation techniques.

# leukemia

| classification                              | characteristics                        | manifestations   | treatment  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <u>Acute</u><br>lymphoblastic<br>leukemia   | Children,<br>young adults              | Infection, bleeding, pallor, bone pain,<br>weight loss, sore throat, fatigue, night<br>sweat, weakness           | Chemotherapy,<br>BMT, stem cell<br>transplant [SCT]        |
| <u>Chronic</u><br>lymphoblastic<br>leukemia | adults                                 | fatigue, exercise intolerance,<br>splenomegaly, infection, edema,<br>thrombophlebitis                            | Chemotherapy, BMT  |
| <u>Acute</u><br>myelocytic<br>leukemia      | Older adults                           | fatigue, fever, anemia, headache,<br>bone & joint pain, abn.<br>bleeding, hepatosplenomegaly,<br>lymphadenopathy | Chemotherapy, stem<br>cell transplant                      |
| <u>Chronic</u><br>myelocytic<br>leukemia    | Adults<br>[Philadelphia<br>chromosome] | Early; Fatigue, weakness, dyspnea on<br>exertion, splenomegaly, later; fever,<br>weight loss, night sweat        | Interferon-alpha,<br>Chemotherapy, stem<br>cell transplant |

# Diagnostic findings

| test         | AML           | CML                  | ALL           | CLL       |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------|
| RBC count    | low           | Low                  | Low           | Low       |
| Hb           | Low           | Low                  | Low           | Low       |
| Hct          | Low           | Low                  | Low           | Low       |
| Plt. count   | Very low      | High early, low late | Low           | Low       |
| WBC count    | Varies        | Increased            | Varies        | Increased |
| myeloblasts  | Present       |                      |               |           |
| neutrophils  | Decreased     | Increased            | Decreased     | Normal    |
| lymphocytes  |               | Normal               |               | Increased |
| monocytes    |               | Normal/ low          |               |           |
| blasts       | Present       | Present [crisis]     | Present       |           |
| Bone marrow  | Hypercellular |                      | Hypercellular |           |
| myeloblasts  | present       |                      |               |           |
| lymphoblasts |               |                      | present       |           |
| lymphocytes  |               |                      |               | present   |

## Treatment

- ▶ Chemotherapy
- ▶ Radiation therapy
- ▶ Bone marrow transplantation
- ▶ Leukapheresis
- ▶ Splenectomy

# Nursing diagnoses and intervention

## ▶ Risk for infection

### interventions

-promptly report manifestations of infection.

-infection protection: isolation as indicated, handwashing, hygiene, restriction of visitors with colds/ flu, and avoidance of invasive procedures.

-vital signs.

-monitor neutrophils > 2,000-2,500 =no risk

>1,000-2,000 minimal risk

>500-1,000 moderate risk

>below 500 severe risk



## Nursing diagnoses and intervention

▶ Imbalance nutrition: less than body requirement

### interventions

-weigh regularly.

-address factors to inadequate food & fluid; mouth care, increase liquid, clean & free odor, antiemetic, supplement.

# Nursing diagnoses and intervention

## ▶ Impaired oral mucous membrane

### interventions

-inspect.

-culture.

-mouth care [saline, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 1:1/ 1:3]

-soft bristle.

-medication.

-avoid alcohol-base mouthwash/ hot/ spicy/ crusty/ very cool foods.

## Nursing diagnoses and intervention

### ▶ Anticipatory grieving

#### interventions

-assess coping in the past.

-provide information; self-help group.

# Lymphoma

- Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Non Hodgkin's lymphoma
  - Multiple myeloma

| Feature of manifestation        | Hodgkin's disease  | Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma  |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| age                             | 15-35, over 50   | Older adult   |
| gender                          | Men>women  | Men>women   |
| Reed-Sternberg cells            | ✓  | -   |
| lymphadenopathy                 | Localized to a single, painlessly often cervical, subclavicular, mediastinal | Multiple peripheral nodes, nodes of the mesentery often involved                |
| spread                          | Orderly and continuous   | Diffuse and unpredictable   |
| Extranodal involvement          | rare   | Early and common  |
| Bone marrow involvement         | uncommon   | common  |
| Fever, Night sweat, weight loss | common   | Uncommon until disease is extensive   |
| Other manifestation             | fatigue, pruritis, splenomegaly, malaise, anemia, neutrophilia               | Abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, dyspnea, cough, CNS symptoms, lymphocytopenia |

# Diagnostic tests



Hodgkin's disease; normochromic, normocytic anemia, high neutrophil&eosinophil, elevated sed rate.

Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; remain normal until late in the disease pancytopenia.

Chest X-ray; identify enlarged mediastinal LN and pulmonary involvement

Chest or abdominal CT scan; identify abnormal or enlarge LN

Bipedal lymphangiography; identify the extent of iliac, para-aortic, and abdominal LN involvement

Biopsy of the largest, most central enlarged LN; the presence of Reed-Sternberg cells confirms “Hodgkin's disease”

# Treatment

- Chemotherapy
- Radiation therapy

# Nursing diagnoses and intervention

## ▶ Nausea

### Interventions

- -assess precipitating factors.
- Avoid unpleasant odor.
- Small feedings high-kcal, protein, fluid.
- Oral care.
- Prefer food.



# Nursing diagnoses and intervention

- ▶ Disturbed body image

## Interventions

- assess perception of body image.
- cope with alopecia .

- ▶ Risk for impaired skin integrity

## Interventions

- assess skin
- promote comfort and release itching.

# References

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