## Hematology RBC morphology

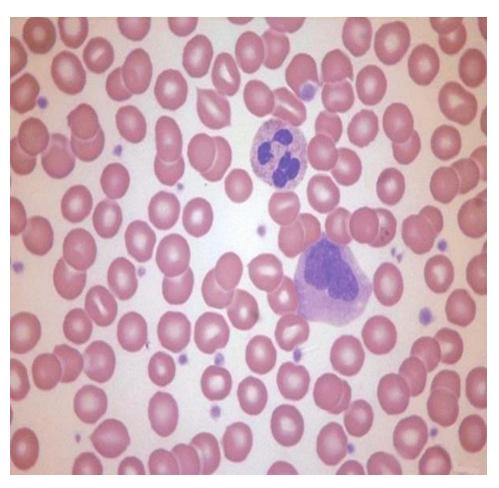




#### Dr. Mohamed kamel kudi

# Normal RBCs

- Size: Diameter of 7-8 um
- Shape: Appear round with smooth contour
- Color: Pink cytoplasm with an area of central pallor



# Normal morphology of RBCs Is biconcave disc with various degre e of central pallor

-7.5 μm



## **Red blood cells**

Erythrocytes (mature RBCs) : \*Lifespan 120 days \*Normal range: Male: 4.7 to 6.1 million cells per microliter Female: 4.2 to 5.4 million cells per microliter \* Biconcave shape , not nucleated Contain millions of molecules of hemoglobin.

Abnormal erythrocyte morphology is found in pathological states that may be:

- Variation in size
- Variation in shape
- Abnormal Hemoglobin content
- Inclusions bodies in erythrocyte.

## **Changes in the Morphology of RBCS**

- Abnormalities in size (Anisocytosis)
- Abnormalities in shape (Poikilocytosis)
- Abnormal Hemoglobin content (Hypochromatic, Normochromatic, Hyperchromatic)
- The appearance of erythrocyte inclusions

# Variation in RBC size (Anisocytosis)

## Variation in RBC size

• Microcytic (MCV < 80 fl; diameter < 7 um)

• Normocytic (MCV= 80-100 fl; diameter 7-8 um)

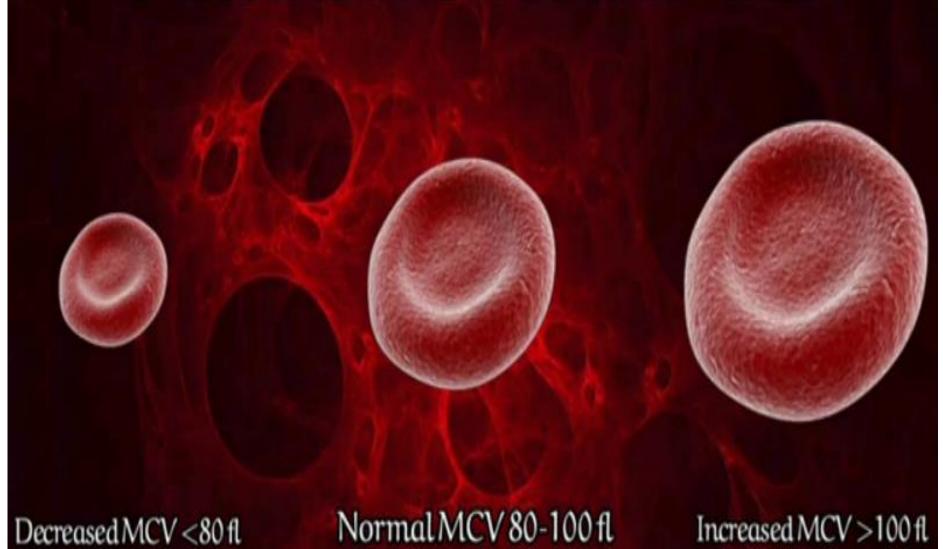
• Macrocytic (MCV > 100 fl; diameter > 8.5-9 um.)

#### C B C - Tested on Fully automated 5 Part Hematological analyser, USA

	A	NALYSED VALUE	UNITS	NORMAL RANGE	HISTOGRAM
Hemoglobin	1	12.6	g/dL	13.5 - 17.0	
White Blood Cells Count					
Total WBCs Count	1	12780	Cells/Cu.mm	4000 - 10500	LAS DIFF
Neutrophils	N	69.3	%	40 - 75	the second second
Lymphocytes	N	23.5	%	20 - 45	
Eosinophils	N	2.2	%	1.00 - 6.00	
Monocytes	N	4.9	%	1.00 - 10.00	
Basophils	N	0.1	%	0.00 - 2.00	
Abs.Neutro in #	1	8870	Cells/Cu.mm	2000 - 7500	RAA
Abs.Lymp in #	N	3000	Cells/Cu.mm	1000 - 4000	Neut Lymp
Abs.Eosin in #	N	280	Cells/Cu.mm	0 - 500	Eosn Mono
Abs.Mono in #	N	620	Cells/Cu.mm	200 - 1000	Baso N-RBCs
Abs.Baso in #	N	10	Cells/Cu.mm	0 - 200	- 19-18-19-25
Red Blood Cell Count					
Total RBCs Count	L	4.08	million/Cu.m	4.50 - 5.50	SSC
HCT (P.C.V)	1	31.7	%	40 - 50	
MCV	J	77.7	n.	83 - 101	
MCH	N	30.8	PS	27 - 32	
MCHC	1	39.6	g/dL	32 - 35	
RDWc	N	0.129	%	0.11 - 0.16	0 100 200 500
RDWs	1	40.5	n.	0.00 - 0.00	0 100 200 300
Platelet Count					
Platelets Count	N	2.27	Lakhs/Cu.m	1.50 - 4.00	POT :
MPV	1	8.3	n.	9.50 - 12.7	
P-LCR	N	1.89	%	0.01 - 9.99	
PDWc	N	15.9	%	1 - 99	0 10 20 20 40

Interpretation : Leukocytosis, Leukopenia, Lymphocytosis, Lymphopenia, Neutrophilia, Neutropenia, Eosinophilia, Myelemia, Large Immature Cells, Atypic Lymphocytes, Nucleated Red Blood Cells, Monocytosis, Basophilia, Blasts, Anemia, Anisocytosis level 1,

Lab Incharge



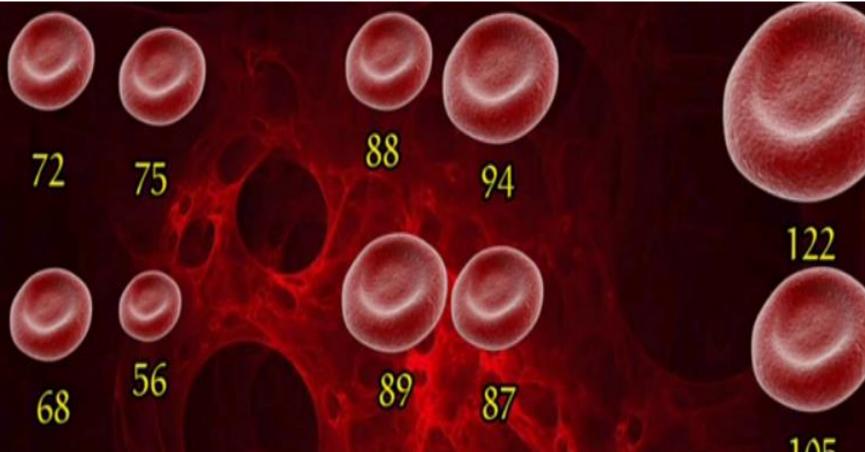
Microcytosis

Normal MCV 80-1001 Normocytosis

Macrocytosis

88 72 75 94 56 89 87 68 Normal MCV 80-100 fl Decreased MCV < 80 fl Microcytosis Normocytosis Normocytic Microcytic

105 Increased MCV > 100 ft Macrocytosis Macrocytic

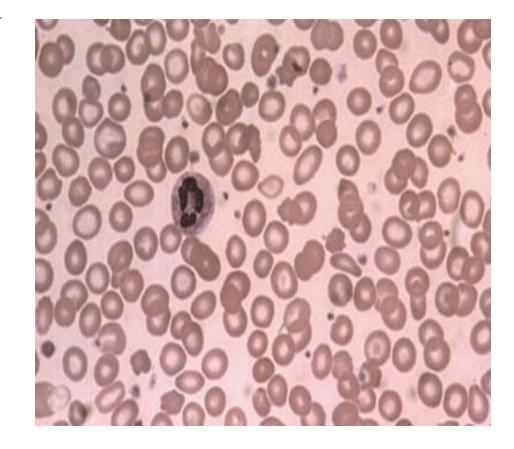


#### Microcytosis:

#### Morphology:

Decrease in the red cell size. Red cells are smaller than  $7\mu$ m in diameter. The nucleus of a small lymphocyte (8, $\mu$ m) is a useful guide to the size of a red blood cell.

- Iron deficiency anemia.
- Thalassemia.
- Sideroblastic anemia.
- Lead poisoning.
- Anemia of chronic disease.

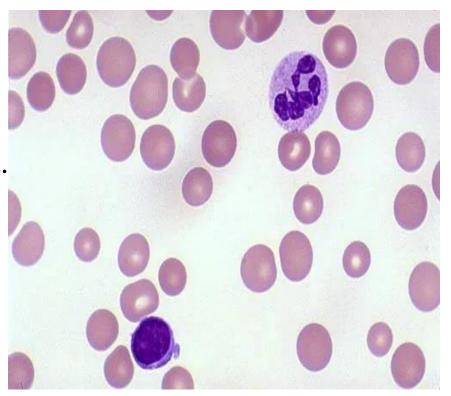


#### Macrocytosis:

#### Morphology:

Increase in the size of a red cell. Red cells are larger than 9µm in diameter. May be round or oval in shape, the diagnostic significance being different.

- Folate and B12 deficiencies (oval)
- -Ethanol (round)
- Liver disease (round)
- Reticulocytosis (round)



## **Shape variation (Poikilocytosis)**

#### **1- Spherocytosis:**

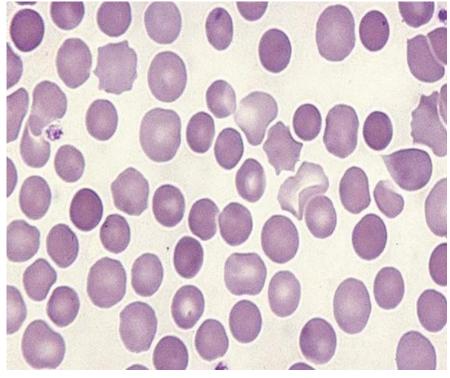
#### Morphology:

Red cells are more spherical. Lack

the central area of pallor on a stained

blood film.

- -Hereditary spherocytosis
- -Immune haemolytic anemia
- -Zieve's syndrome
- -Microangiopathic haemolytic
- anemia



#### **2- Target Cells:**

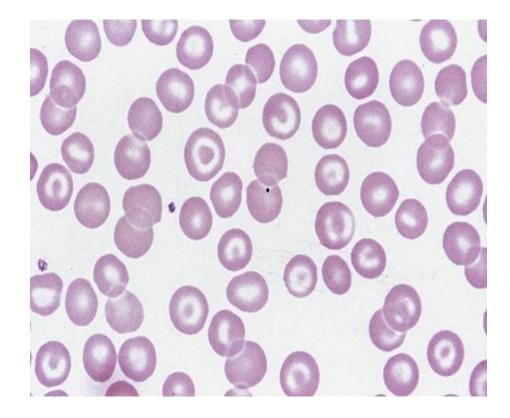
#### Morphology:

Red cells have an area of

increased staining which appears

in the area of central pallor.

- -Obstructive liver disease
- Severe iron deficiency
- Thalassaemia
- Haemoglobinopathies (S and C)
- Post splenectomy



#### **3-Ovalocytes and Elliptocytes:**

#### Morphology:

oval shape red blood cell, Hb

appears to be concentrated at the

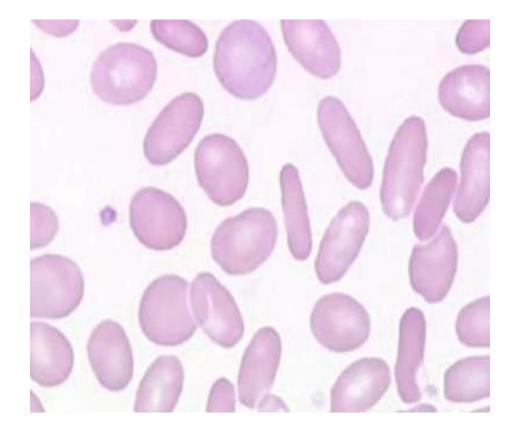
two ends of the cell, leaving a

normal central area of pallor.

#### Found in:

-Thalassaemia major.

- Hereditary ovalocytosis.
- Sickle cell anemia
- Iron deficiency



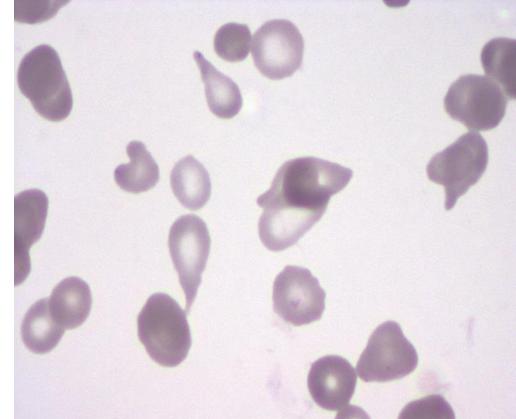
#### **4- Tear Drop Cells:**

#### Morphology:

Red cells shaped like a tear drop

or pear

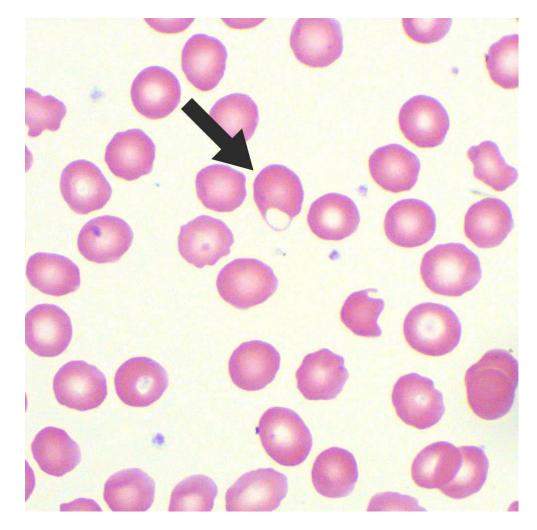
- Bone marrow fibrosis
- Megaloblastic anemia
- Iron deficiency
- Thalassaemia



#### **5- Blister cell:**

#### Morphology:

Have accentric hallow area. **Found in:** Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia

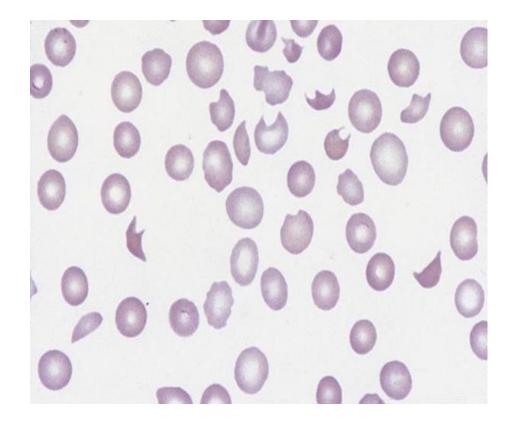


#### 6- Schistocytosis:

#### Morphology:

Fragmentation of the red cells.

- -Disseminated intravascular
- coagulation (DIC)
- -Micro angiopathic haemolytic anemia
- Mechanical haemolytic anemia

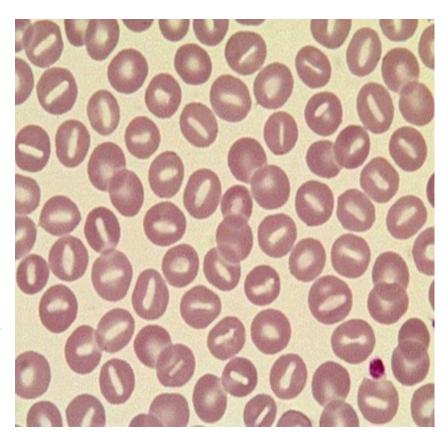


#### 7-Stomatocytosis:

#### Morphology:

Red cells with a central linear slit or stoma. Seen as mouth-shaped Results from a variety of membrane abnormalities but probably essentially from expansion of the inner leaflet of the lipid bilayer that comprises the red cell membrane

- Alcohol excess
- Alcoholic liver disease



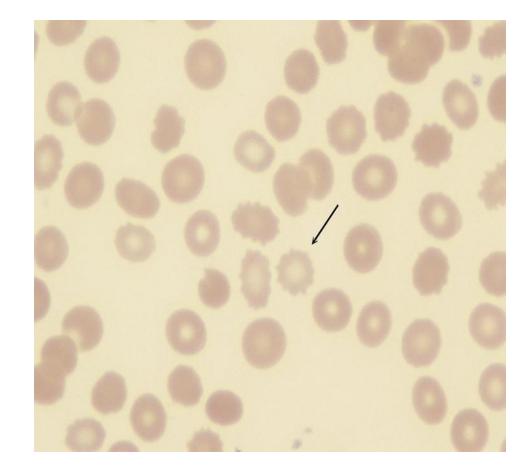
8-Burr (crenation ) cell:

#### Morphology:

- Red cell with uniformly spaced,
- pointed projections on their

surface.

- hemolytic anemia
- Uremia.
- Megaloblastic anemia



#### 9- Keratocytes (horn cell):

#### Morphology:

Part of the cell fuses back leaving

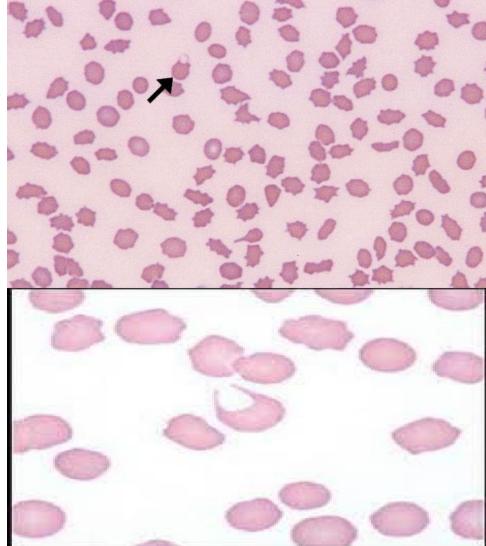
two or three horn-like projections.

The keratocyte is a fragile cell

and remains in circulation for

only a few hours.

- Uraemia
- Severe burns
- EDTA artifact
- Liver disease

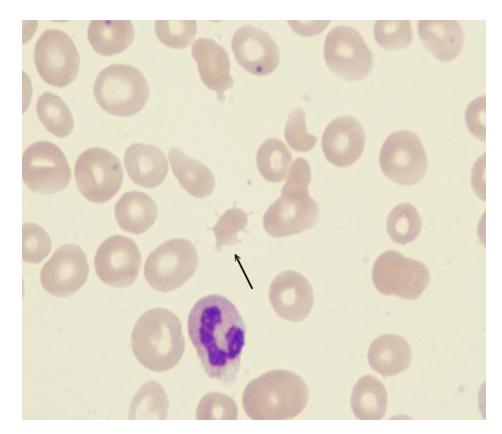


#### **10- Acanthocytosis:**

#### Morphology:

- are red blood cells with irregularly
- spaced projections, these
- projections very in width but
- usually contain a rounded end,
- Caused by changes in membrane lipids

- Liver disease
- Post splenectomy
- Anorexia nervosa and starvation



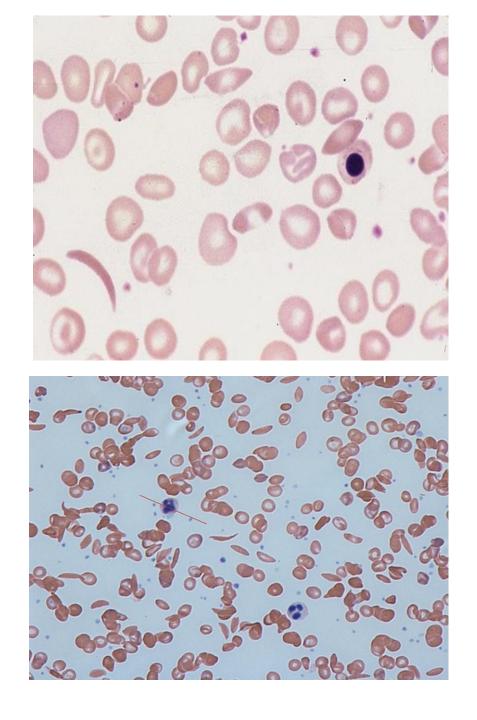
#### **11- Sickle Cells:**

Morphology:

Sickle shaped red cells

### Found in:

Hb-S disease



#### **12-Rouleaux Formation:**

#### Morphology:

Stacks of RBC's resembling a stack of coins.

- Hyperfibrinogenaemia
- Hyperglobulinaemia

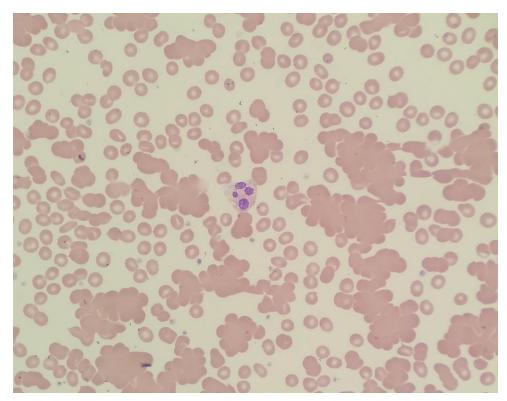


#### **13- Red cell-agglutination:**

Morphology:

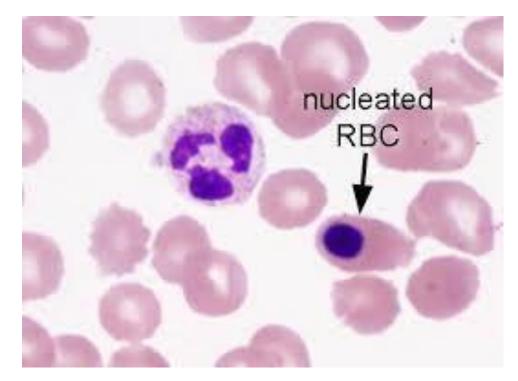
Irregular clumps of red cells

- Cold agglutinins
- Warm autoimmune hemolysis



#### 14- Nucleated red blood cells.

These red blood cells are released from the bone marrow early into the blood stream, due to the need for oxygen. Normal red blood cells do not contain a nucleus on a peripheral smear.



## Abnormal hemoglobin content

#### **1-Hypochromatic:**

#### Morphology:

Increase in the red cells' central

pallor which occupies more than the normal third of the red cell diameter.

- Iron deficiency
- Thalassaemia
- -any of the conditions leading to
- Microcytosis

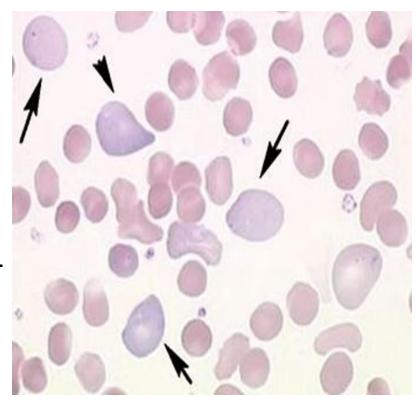


#### **2-hyperchromatic :**

#### Morphology:

Red cells stain shades of blue-gray as a consequence of uptake of both eosin (by hemoglobin) and basic dyes (by residual ribosomal RNA). Often slightly larger than normal red cells and round in shape round macrocytosis.

- Any situation with reticulocytosis, for
- example bleeding, hemolysis or response
- to haemostatic factor replacement.



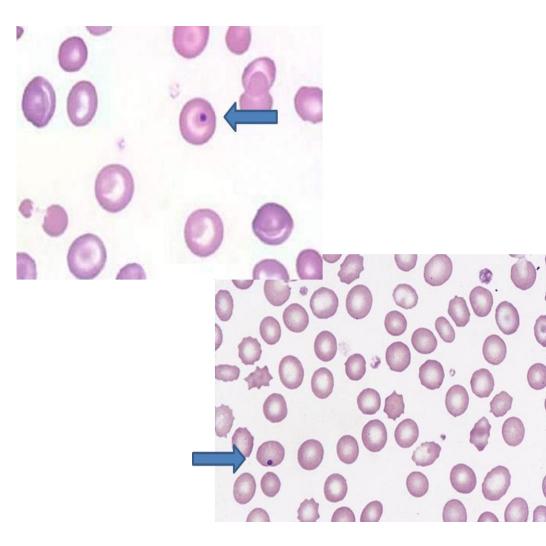
## **Inclusions bodies in erythrocyte.**

#### **1- Howell-Jolly Bodies:**

#### Morphology:

Small round cytoplasmic red cell inclusion with same staining characteristics as nuclei

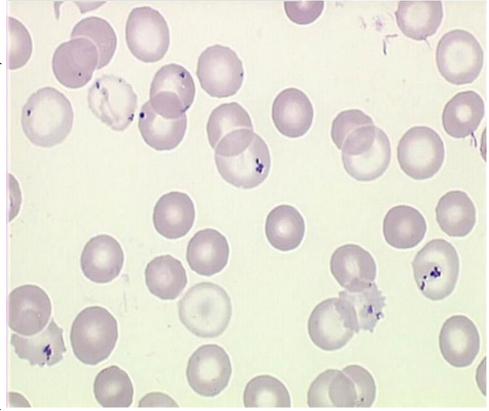
- Post splenectomy
- Megaloblastic anemia



#### **2- Siderotic Granules**

#### (Pappenheimer Bodies)

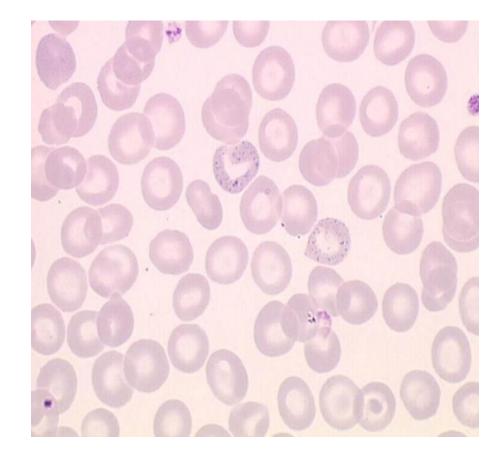
RBCs which contain hemoglobin iron granules. They appear as dense, blue-purple granules within the RBC and there are usually only one or two, located in the cell periphery in Wright stained. Pappenheimer bodies can be increased in hemolytic anemia, infections and post-splenectomyy.



**3- Basophilic stippling:** 

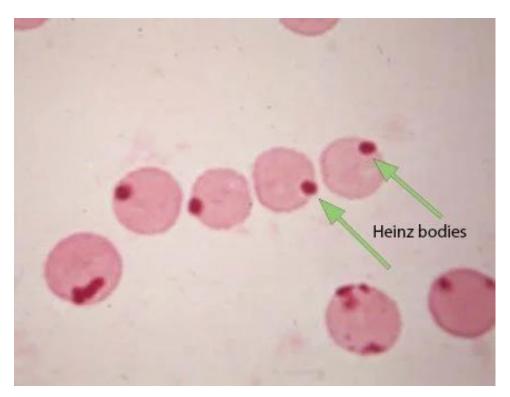
**Morphology:** Considerable numbers of small basophilic inclusions in red cells.

- Thalassaemia
- Megaloblastic anemia
- Hemolytic anemia
- Liver disease
- Heavy metal poisoning.



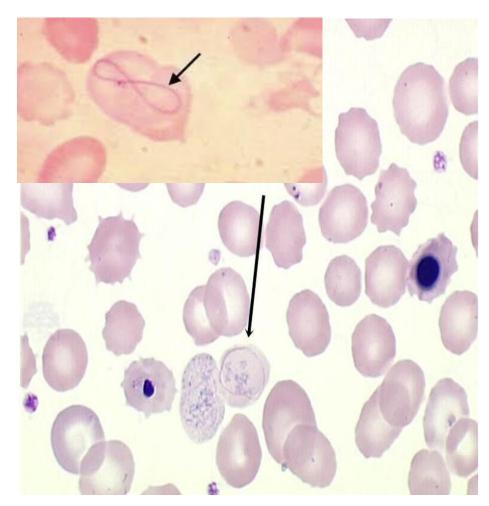
#### **4-Heinz Bodies:**

Represent denatured hemoglobin (methemoglobin - Fe  $^{+3}$ ) within a cell. With a supravital stain like crystal violet, Heinz bodies appear as round blue precipitates. Presence of Heinz bodies indicates red cell injury and is usually associated with G6PD-deficiency.



#### **5- Cabot Rings:**

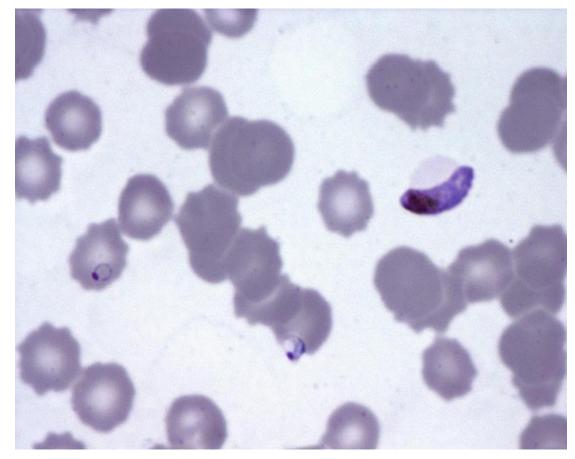
Reddish-blue thread like rings in RBCs of severe anemia's. These are remnants of the nuclear membrane and appear as a ring or figure 8 pattern. Very rare, finding in patients with Megaloblastic anemia, severe anemia's, lead poisoning, and dyserythropoiesis.



6- Parasites of Red Cell :

#### \* Malaria

are protozoan parasites which occur in many species of birds and are the cause of avian malaria. Transmitted by mosquitoes, infection with *Plasmodium* can be a cause of hemolytic anemia



Size variation	Hemoglobin distribution Hypochromia 1 <sup>+</sup>	Shape variation		Inclusions	Red cell distribution
Normal		Target cell	Acanthocyte	Pappenheimer bodies (siderotic granules)	Agglutination
Microcyte	0 <sup>2+</sup>	Spherocyte	Helmet cell (fragmented cell)	Cabot's ring	Q
Macrocyte	3+	Ovalocyte	Schistocyte (fragmented cell)	Basophilic stippling	Rouleaux
Oval macrocyte	4+	Stomatocyte	Tear drop	Howell-Jolly	6
Hypochromic macrocyte	Polychromasia (Reticulocyte)	Sickle cell	Burr cell		

