



Introduction and
Separation of Plasma and Serum
from Whole Blood

Hematology lecture

Danil Hammoudi.MD

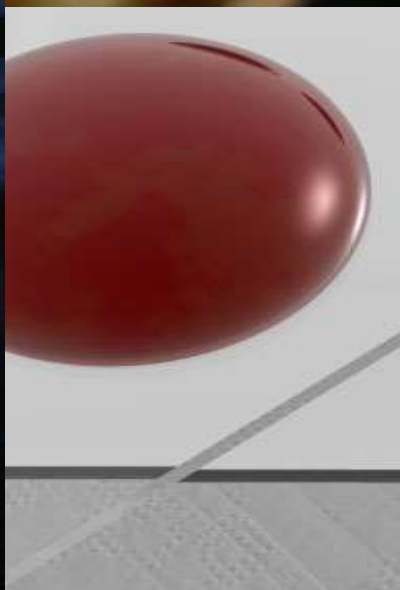


Table 18.1

**Physical Characteristics
of Blood**

Characteristics

Normal Values

Color

Scarlet (oxygen-rich) to dark red (oxygen-poor)

Volume

4–5 L (females)
5–6 L (males)

Viscosity (relative
to water)

4.5–5.5 \times (whole blood)

Plasma
concentration

0.09%

Temperature

38°C (100.4°F)

pH

7.35–7.45



- PFC stands for perflourocarbons.

Perflourocarbons are a type of synthetic blood that helps carry dissolved gases in the blood.

They are mixed with an emulsifier to create a liquid suspension that can be mixed with blood.

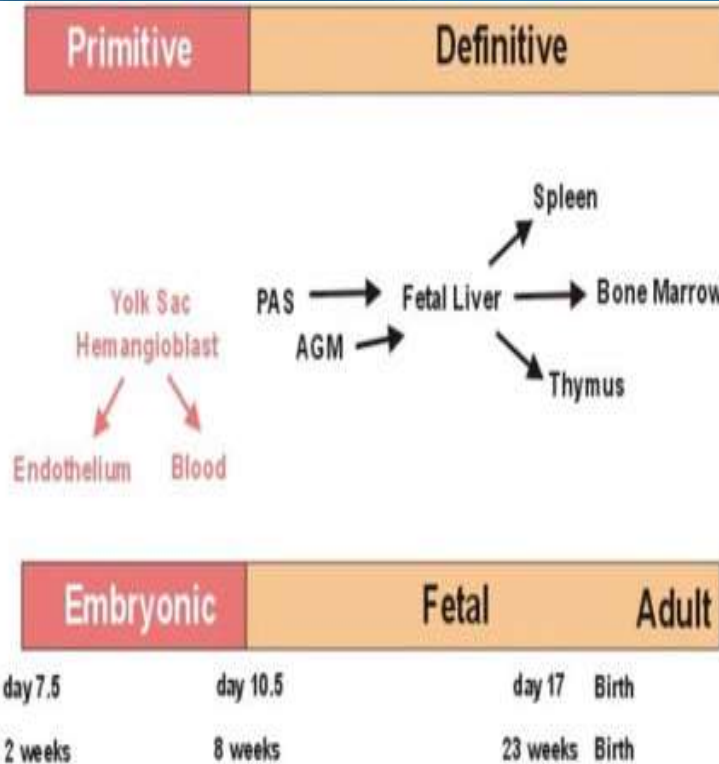
PFCs can carry about 20 percent more gas than blood plasma.

PFCs may be especially helpful in these areas:

- Restoring the delivery of oxygen in the body
- Treating traumatic brain injury
- Treating anemia
- Increasing the effectiveness of chemotherapy
- Preventing the need for surgical blood transfusion

HEMOPOIESIS

- **Hemo**: Referring to blood cells
- **Poiesis**: “The development or production of”
- The word Hemopoiesis refers to the production & development of all the blood cells:
 - Erythrocytes: **Erythropoiesis**
 - Leucocytes: **Leucopoiesis**
 - Thrombocytes: **Thrombopoiesis**.
- Begins in the 2th week of life, embryo.
 - in the fetal liver & spleen
 - continues in the bone marrow till young adulthood & beyond!



SITES OF HEMOPOIESIS

- Active Hemopoietic marrow is found, in **children** throughout the:

- **Axial** skeleton:

- Cranium
- Ribs.
- Sternum
- Vertebrae
- Pelvis

- Before birth, blood cell formation takes place in

- The fetal yolk sac,
- Liver,
- Spleen

- By the seventh month, red bone marrow is the primary hematopoietic area

- Blood cells develop from *mesenchymal cells called blood islands*

- The fetus forms HbF, which has a higher affinity for oxygen than adult hemoglobin

- Appendicular skeleton:

- Bones of the Upper & Lower limbs

- In Adults active hemopoietic marrow is found only in:

- The **axial** skeleton
- The proximal ends of the **appendicular** skeleton.

- Fetal erythrocytes are produced in different locations throughout the life of the fetus.

- **Yolk sac (3-8 weeks) during organogenesis**
- **Liver (6-30 weeks)**
- **Spleen (9-28 weeks)**
- **Bone marrow (28 weeks-adult)**

- HEMOGLOBIN

- Fetal hemoglobin consists of two alpha subunits and two gamma subunits (alpha₂ and gamma₂)-

HEMOPOIESIS

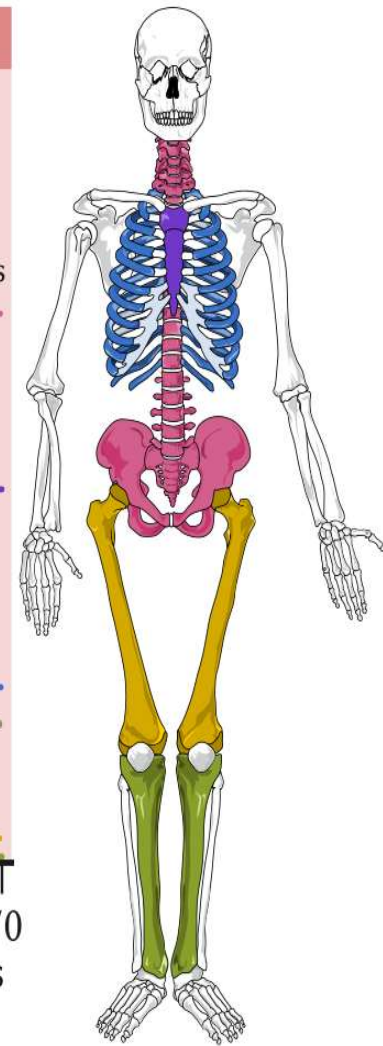
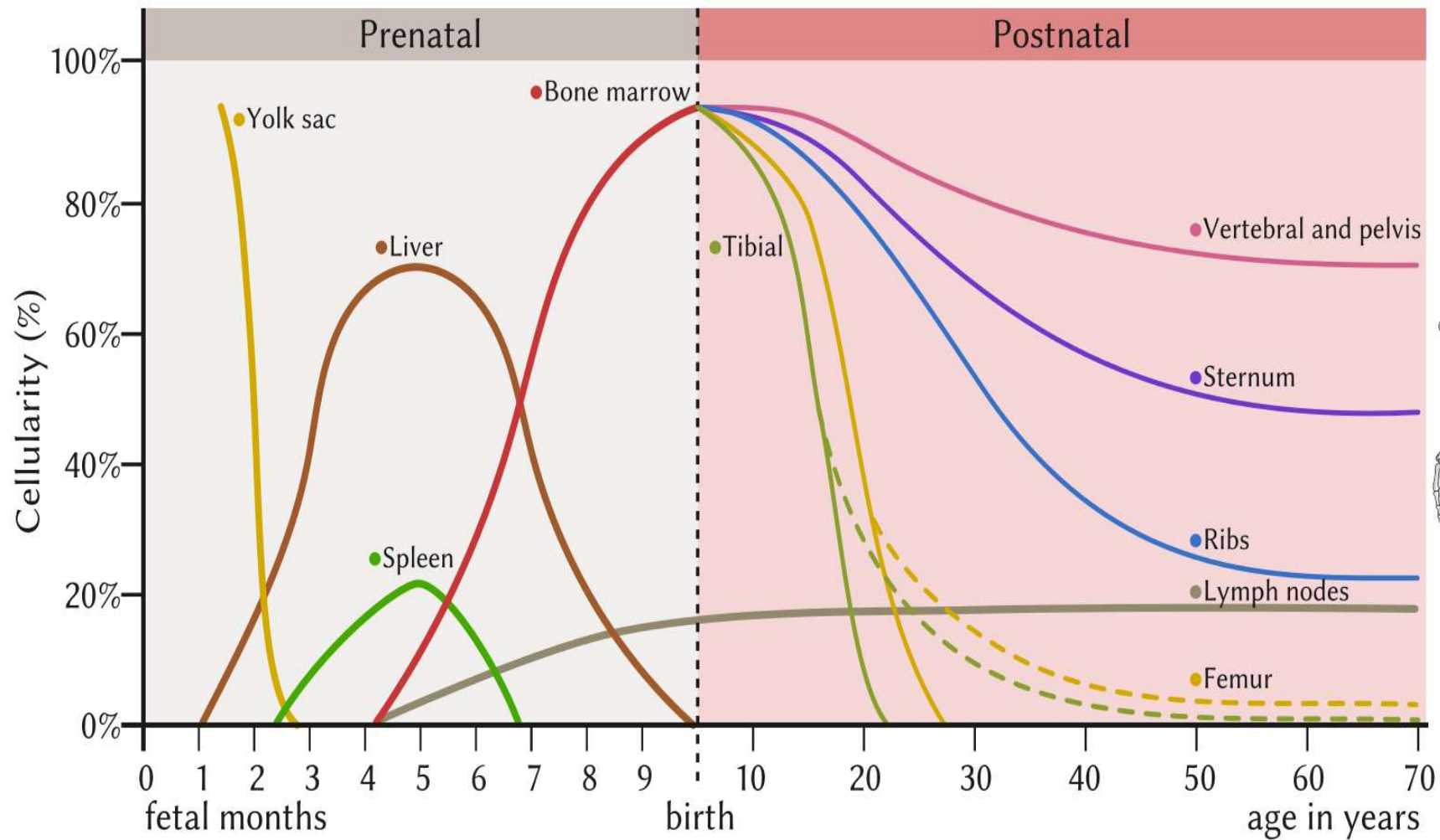
- **Location**
 - **Fetal Life:**
 - *Yolk sac*: early embryonic stage.
 - *Liver and spleen*: main sites during mid-gestation.
 - **After Birth:**
 - *Red bone marrow*: primary site in adults (especially in flat bones like sternum, ribs, pelvis, and vertebrae).
- **Types of Hemopoiesis**
 - **Erythropoiesis** – formation of red blood cells (RBCs).
 - **Leukopoiesis** – formation of white blood cells (WBCs), including:
 - *Granulopoiesis*: neutrophils, eosinophils, basophils.
 - *Monocytopoiesis*: monocytes/macrophages.
 - *Lymphopoiesis*: B and T lymphocytes.
 - **Thrombopoiesis** – formation of platelets from megakaryocytes.

- Hemopoietic cells (those which produce blood) first appear in the yolk sac of the 2-week embryo.
- By 8 weeks, blood making has become established in the liver of the embryo,
 -
- By 12-16 weeks the liver has become the major site of blood cell formation.
- It remains an active hemopoietic site until a few weeks before birth.
- The spleen is also active during this period, particularly in the production of lymphoid cells, and the fetal thymus is a transient site for some lymphocytes.

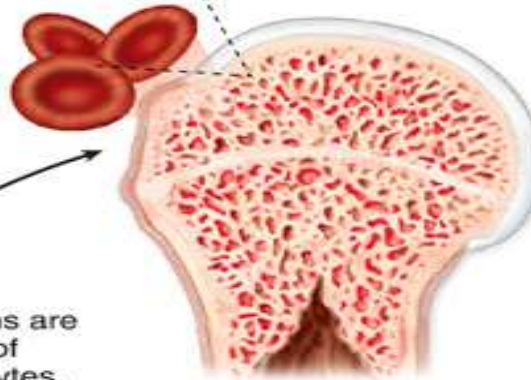
At birth, active blood making red marrow occupies the entire capacity of the bones and continues to do so for the first 2-3 years after birth.

- The red marrow is then very gradually replaced by inactive, fatty, yellow, lymphoid marrow.
- The latter begins to develop in the shafts of the long bones and continues until, by 20-22 years, red marrow is present only in the upper ends of the femur and humerus and in the flat bones of the sternum, ribs, cranium, pelvis and vertebra.
- However, because of the growth in body and bone size that has occurred during this period, the total amount of active red marrow (approximately 1000-1500 g) is nearly identical in the child and the adult.

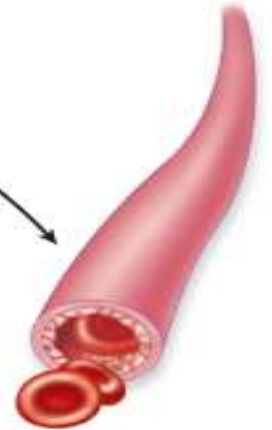
HEMATOPOIESIS



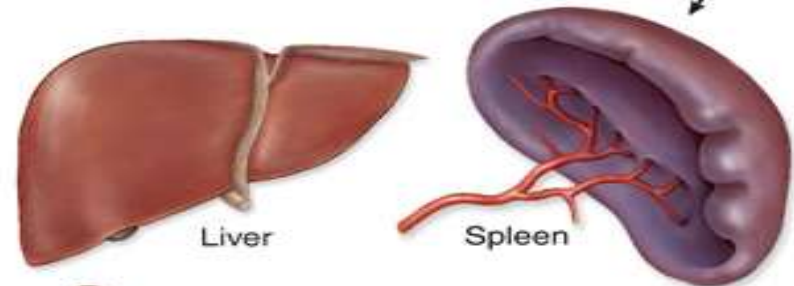
① Erythrocytes form in red bone marrow.



② Erythrocytes circulate in bloodstream for 120 days.



③ Aged erythrocytes are phagocytized in the liver and spleen.



⑤ Membrane proteins and globin proteins are broken down into amino acids, some of which are used to make new erythrocytes.

④ Heme components of blood are recycled.

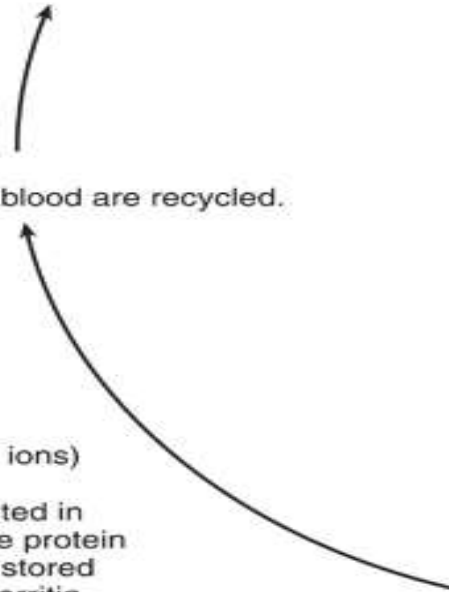
Heme

(minus iron)

Heme is converted into biliverdin and then to bilirubin, which is secreted in bile from the liver.

Fe Fe (iron ions)

Iron is transported in the blood by the protein transferrin and stored by the protein ferritin in the liver.



- **Pluripotent stem cells:** are mesenchymal cells representing less than .
- 1% of Red Bone Marrow cells having the ability to develop into several other kinds of cells.
- These further lead to 2 other stem cells known as **Myeloid and lymphoid stem cells.**

Myeloid Stem Cells lead to development of:

- ***RBCs (erythrocytes) (CFU-E)***
- ***Platelets (thrombocytes)***
- ***Eosinophils***
- ***Neutrophils (CFU-GM)***
- ***Basophils***

Of the cell types listed above, all **except eosinophils and basophils are produced by intermediate or Progenitor cells before fully developing.**

• **Lymphoid Stem Cells** lead to the development of T and B lymphocytes (T/B cells).

• **HGFs (Hemopoietic Growth factors)** control the production of progenitor cells. Examples include

- ***erythropoietin (EPO)***
- ***Thrombopoietin (TPO).***

• **EPO cells are produced in the kidneys**, therefore, renal failure contributes to insufficient production of RBCs.

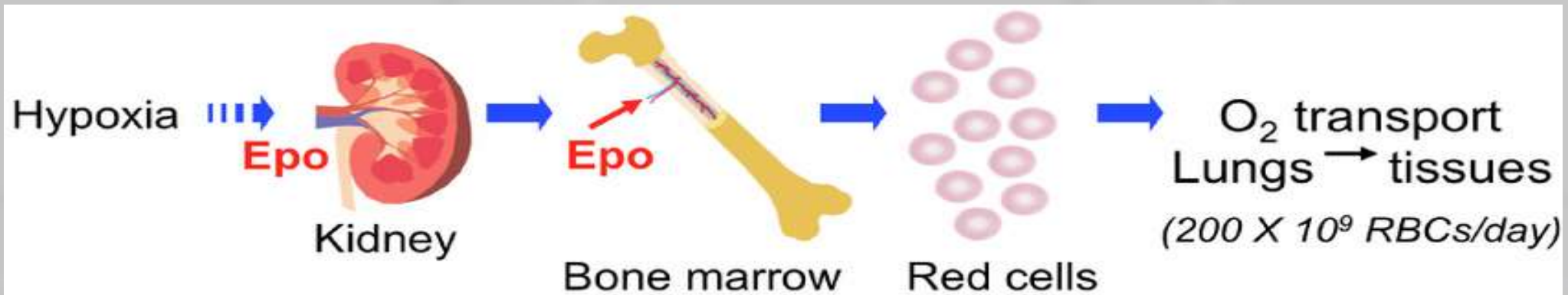
• **TPO originates in the liver to promote the synthesis of platelets from Megakaryocytes**

• **Cytokines** - Typically acting as autocrines/paracrines,

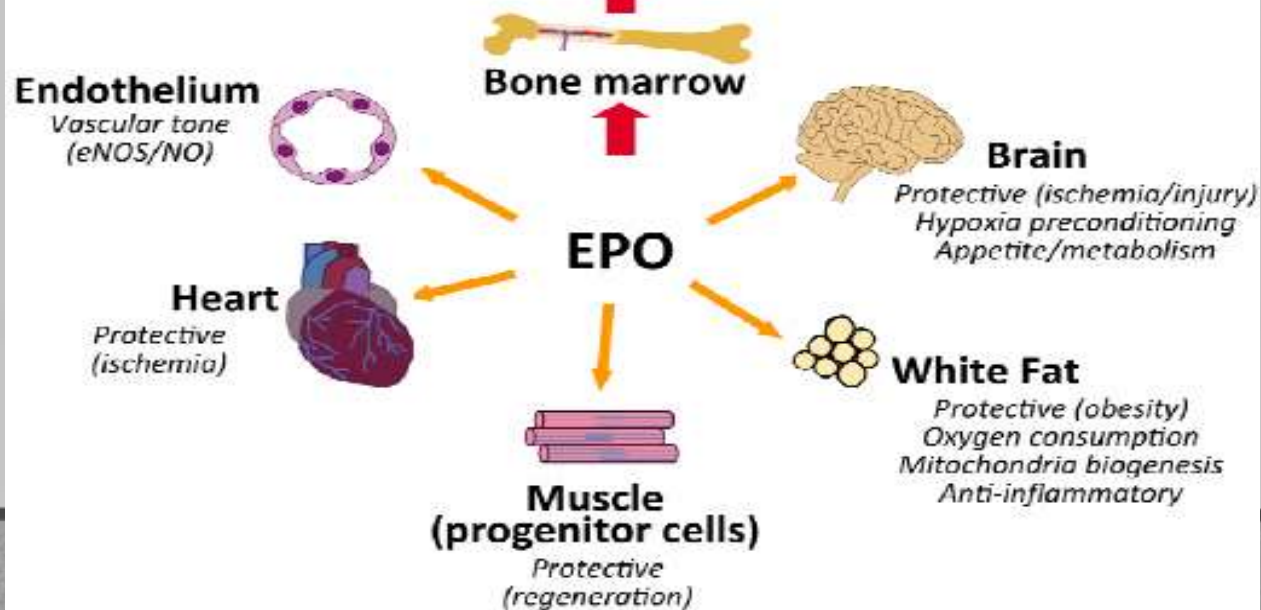
- cytokines are glycoproteins synthesized by RBM cells, **leukocytes, macrophages, fibroblasts and endothelial cells.**
- They promote the spread of progenitor cells.

• 2 Cytokine Families that stimulate production of WBCs:

- ***CSFs (Colony-Stimulating Factors)***
- ***Interleukins***



Red blood cells
Erythropoiesis



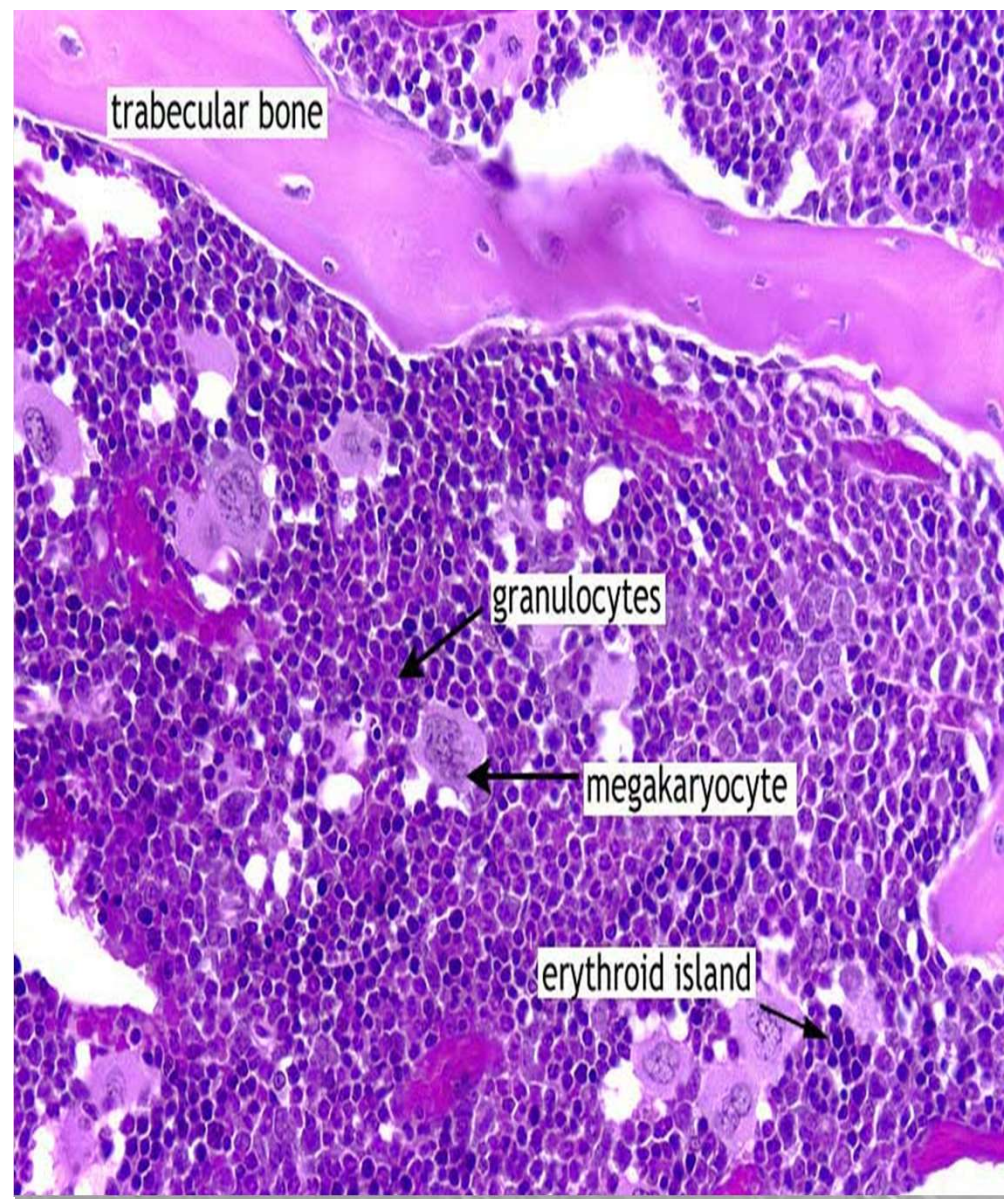
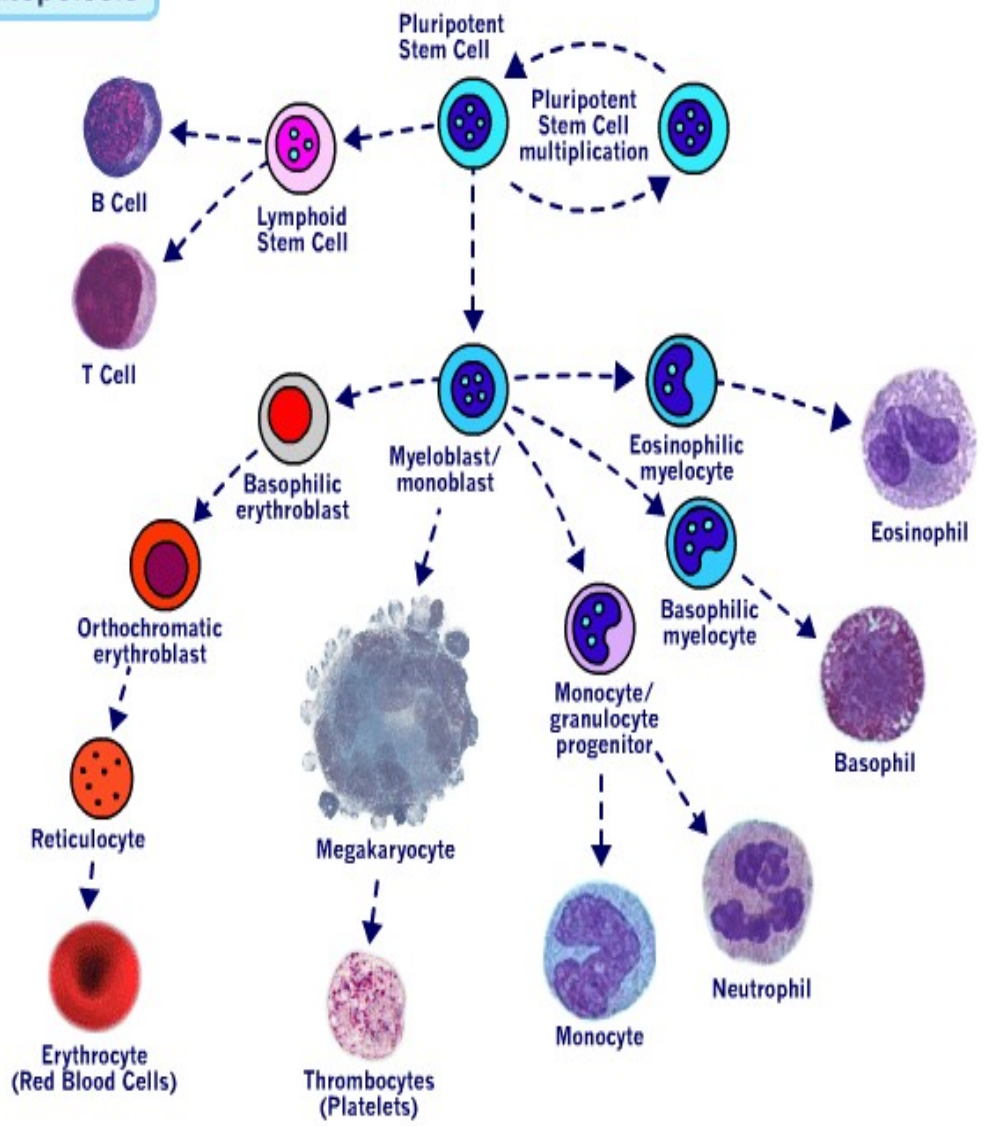
Erythropoietin PRODUCED BY THE KIDNEY , also known as *Epoetin alfa*, to treat

- Low RBC concentration during end-stage kidney disease.

- Patients going through chemotherapy are treated with Granulocytic-Macrophage CSF and Granulocyte CSFs to treat low WBC concentration.

- Thrombopoietin** also produced by the kidneys is used to treat platelet depletion.

Hematopoiesis



Stem Cell Origin

- All blood cells arise from **hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs)**, which are:
 - **Multipotent** (can give rise to all blood cell types).
 - Found in the bone marrow.

Differentiation Pathways

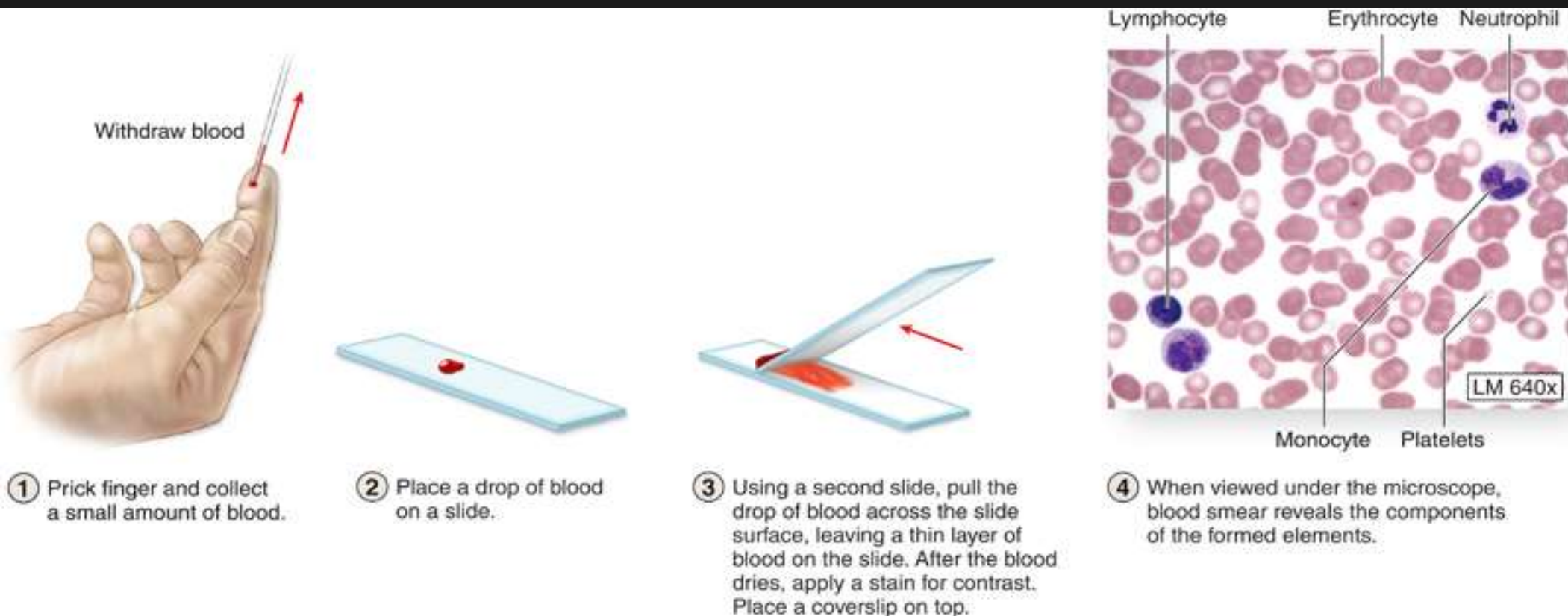
HSCs differentiate into:

- **Myeloid stem cells** → RBCs, platelets, monocytes, granulocytes.
- **Lymphoid stem cells** → B-cells, T-cells, NK cells.

Regulation

- **Controlled by growth factors and cytokines, such as:**
 - **Erythropoietin (EPO)** – stimulates RBC production.
 - **Thrombopoietin** – stimulates platelet production.
 - **Colony-stimulating factors (CSFs)** – stimulate WBC production.

Def and Generality



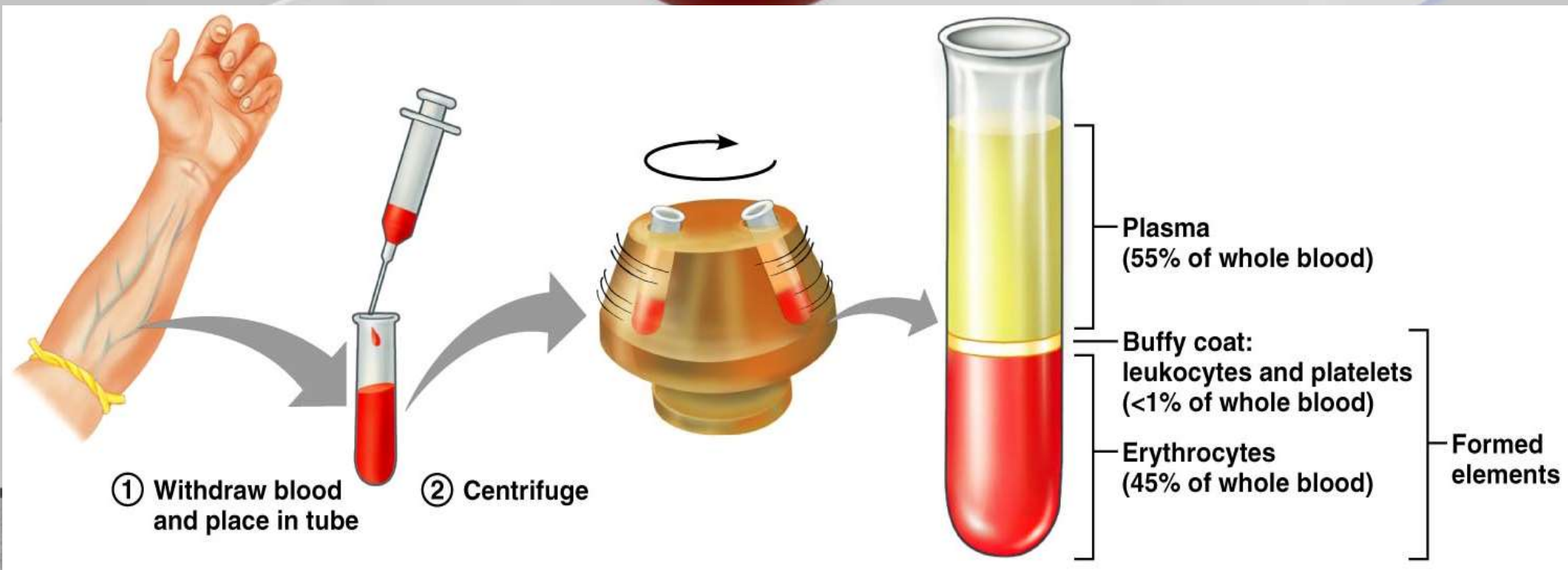
- **Blood is a connective tissue whose matrix is fluid.**
- **It is composed of:**
 - red corpuscles,
 - white cells,
 - platelets,
 - blood plasma.
- **It is transported throughout the body within blood vessels veins arteries and white cells within lymphatics and arteries, veins.**

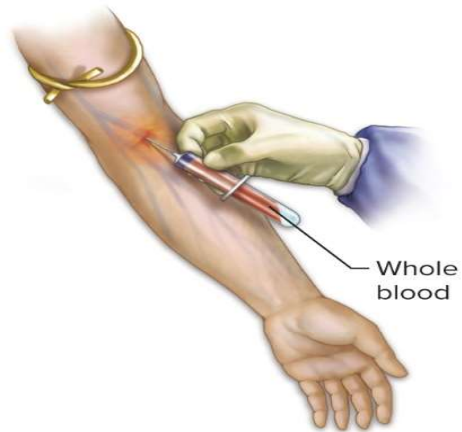
- In human adults about 5 liter of blood contribute 7-8 % to the body weight of the individual.
- The contribution of red blood cells (erythrocytes) to the total volume of the blood (hematocrit) is about 43%.
- Erythrocytes are the dominant (99%) but not the only type of cells in the blood.
- Erythrocytes, leukocytes and blood platelets = formed elements of the blood.
- Erythrocytes and blood platelets perform their functions exclusively in the blood stream.
- In contrast, leukocytes reside only temporarily in the blood.
- Leukocytes can leave the blood stream through the walls of capillaries and venules and enter either connective or lymphoid tissues.

Components of Whole Blood

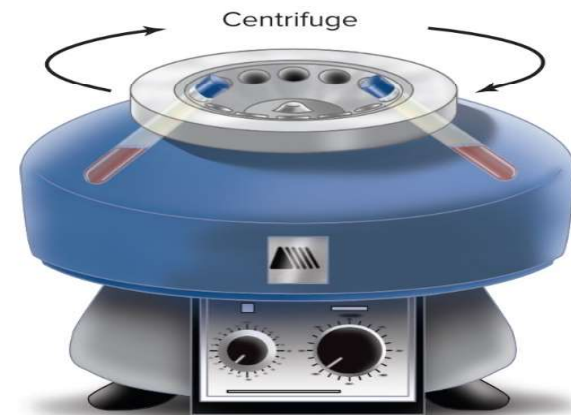
Whole blood is a living tissue that circulates through the heart, arteries, veins, and capillaries carrying nourishment, electrolytes, hormones, vitamins, antibodies, heat, and oxygen to the body's tissues.

Whole blood contains red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets suspended in a fluid called plasma.





- ① Withdraw blood into a syringe and place it into a glass centrifuge tube.



- ② Place the tube into a centrifuge and spin for about 10 minutes.





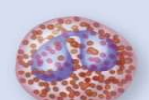
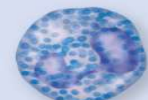


55%


<1%

44%

Plasma (55% of whole blood)		
Water 92% by weight	Proteins 7% by weight Albumins 58% Globulins 37% Fibrinogen 4% Regulatory proteins <1%	Other solutes 1% by weight Electrolytes Nutrients Respiratory gases Waste products

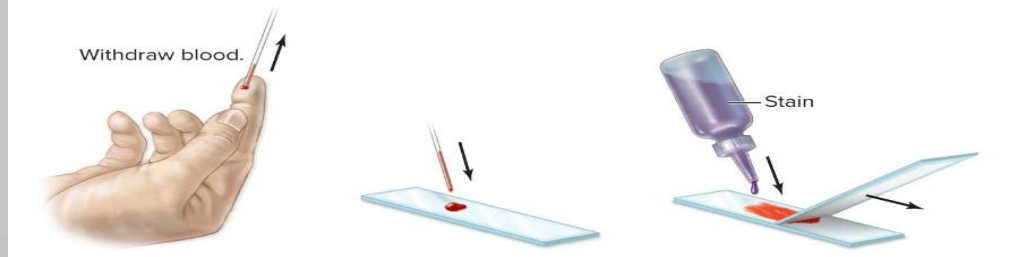
Buffy coat (<1% of whole blood)	
Platelets 150–400 thousand per cubic mm 	Leukocytes 4.5–11 thousand per cubic mm  Neutrophils 50–70%  Lymphocytes 20–40%  Monocytes 2–8%  Eosinophils 1–4%  Basophils 0.5–1%

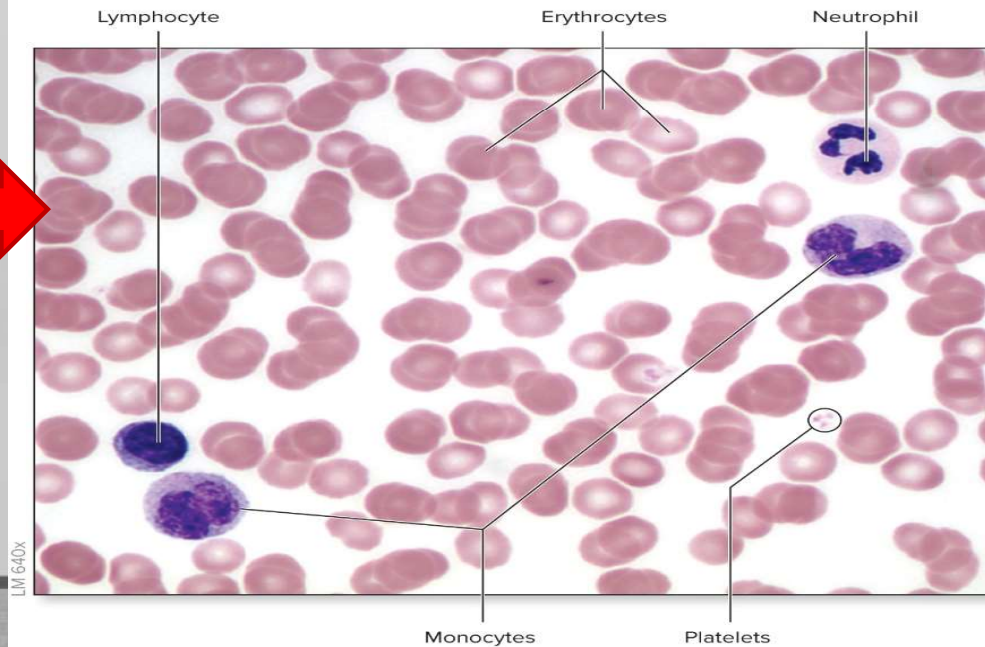
Formed elements

Erythrocytes (44% of whole blood)
Erythrocytes 4.2–6.2 million per cubic mm 

- ③ Components of blood separate during centrifugation to reveal plasma, buffy coat, and erythrocytes.

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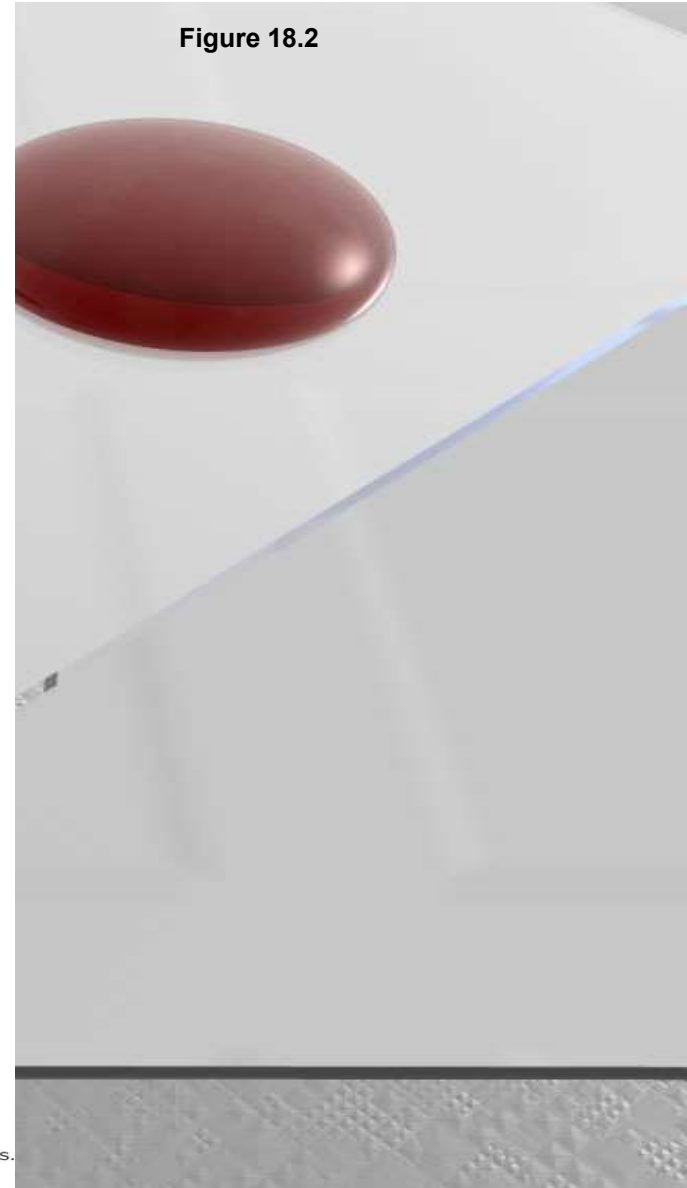
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- The diagram illustrates the first three steps of preparing a blood smear. Step 1 shows a hand being pricked with a microcapillary tube to collect a drop of blood. Step 2 shows the drop of blood being placed on a glass slide. Step 3a shows a second slide being used to spread the blood into a thin layer. Step 3b shows a drop of stain being added to the spread blood.
- 1 Prick finger and collect a small amount of blood using a microcapillary tube.
 - 2 Place a drop of blood on a slide.
 - 3a Using a second slide, pull the drop of blood across the first slide's surface, leaving a thin layer of blood on the slide.
 - 3b After the blood dries, apply a stain for contrast. Place a coverslip on top.



- 4 When viewed under the microscope, blood smear reveals the components of the formed elements.

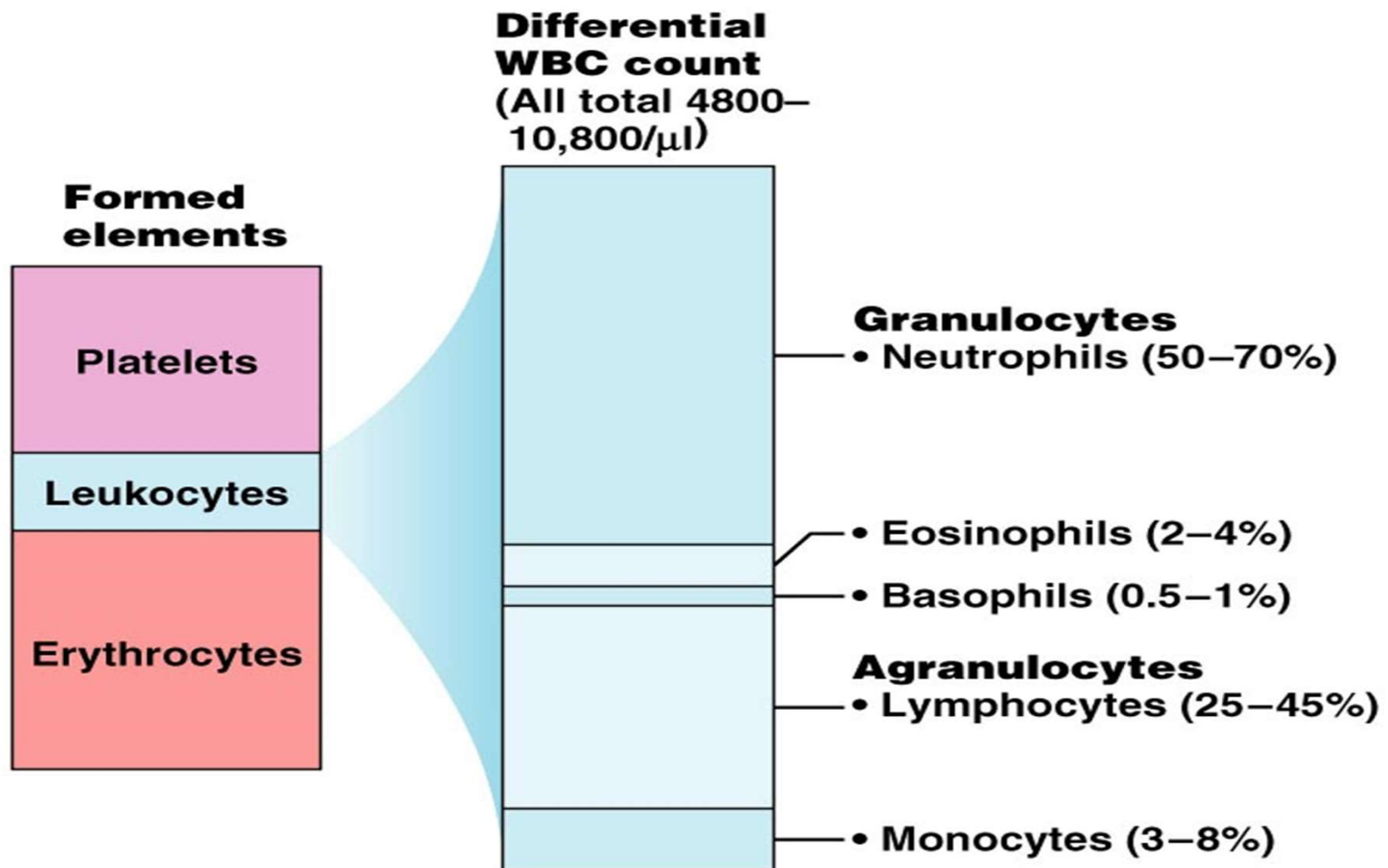
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Figure 18.2



Blood smear



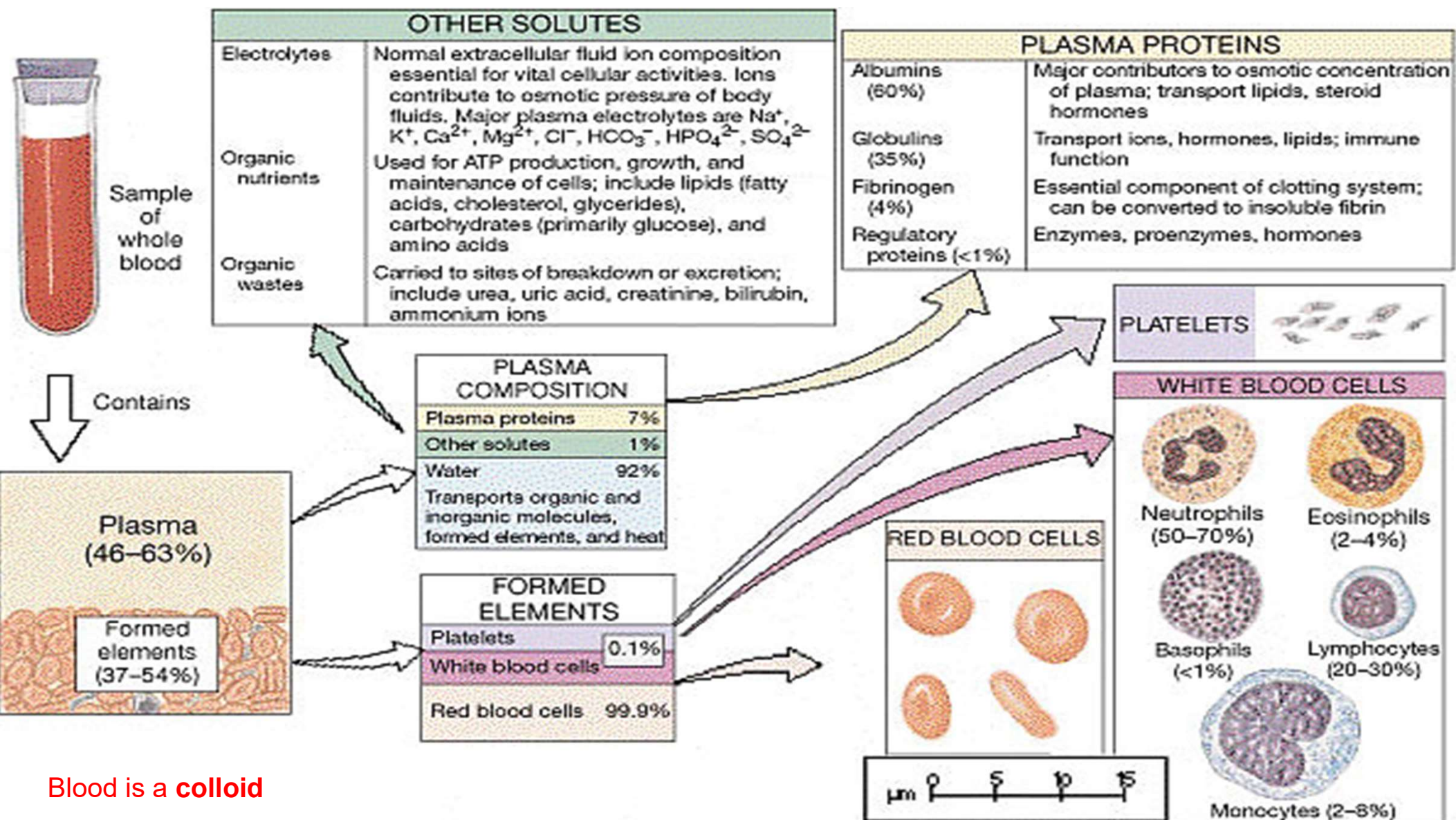


Blood Plasma

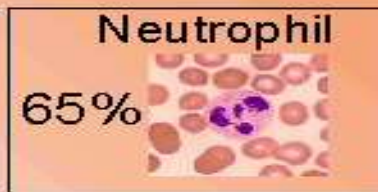
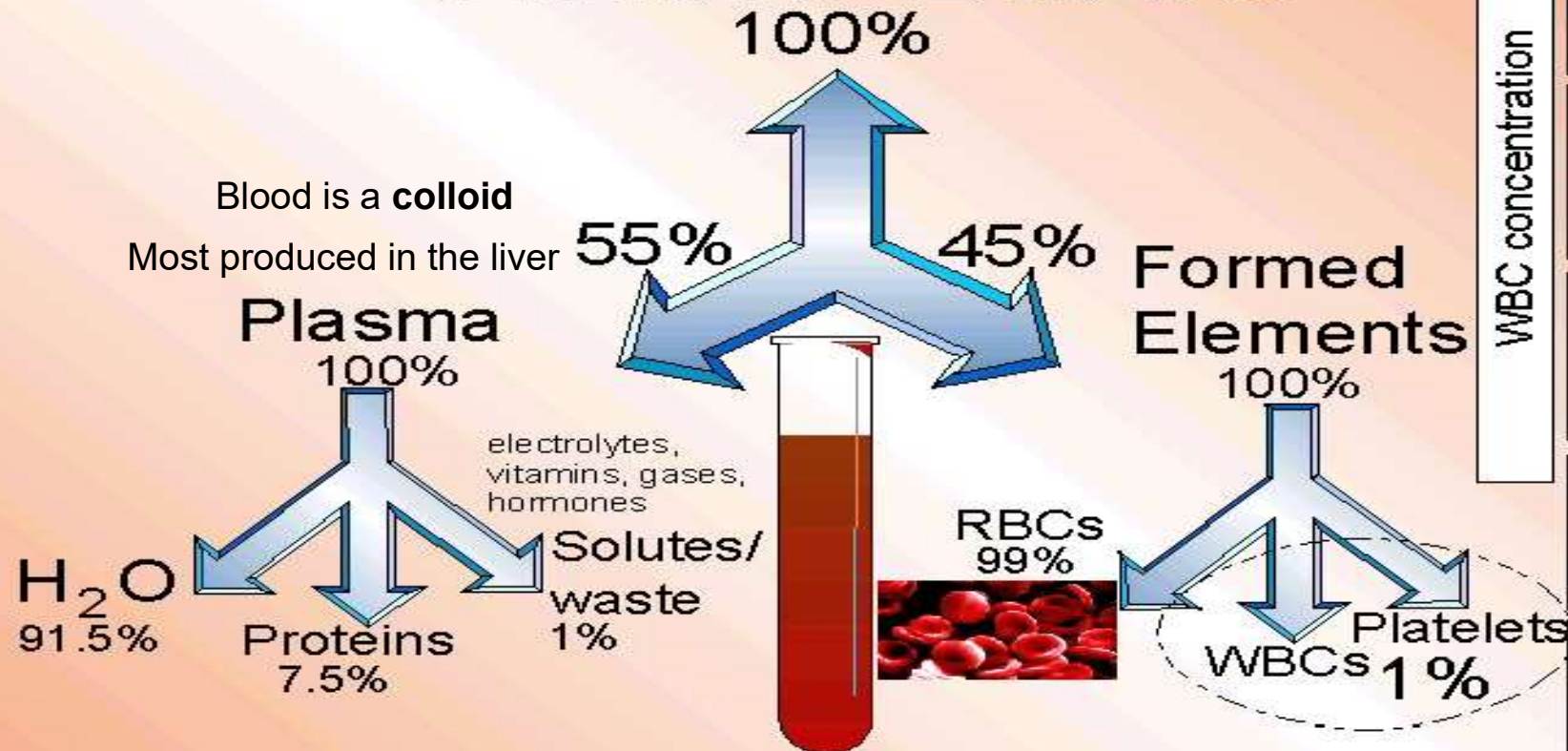
- Blood Plasma - Representing 55% of whole blood
- Of plasma, water makes up 91.5%, while 7.5% makes up proteins
- 1% is a mix of other solutes including electrolytes, enzymes, hormones and waste products.

- Blood plasma contains over 100 solutes, including:
 - **Proteins** – albumin, globulins, clotting proteins, and others
 - **Lactic acid, urea, creatinine**
 - **Organic nutrients** – glucose, carbohydrates, amino acids
 - **Electrolytes** – sodium, potassium, calcium, chloride, bicarbonate
 - **Respiratory gases** – oxygen and carbon dioxide

- There are 3 basic types of plasma proteins synthesized by hepatocytes (liver cells):
 - **Albumins (54%)**
 - **Globulins (38%)**
 - **Fibrinogen (7%)**
- Gamma globulins are also known as **immunoglobulins or antibodies**.
- bacterial or viral invasion prompts the production of millions of antibodies, which bind to an **antigen** (invader).



Whole Blood



fibrinogen- 7%, made by liver

Plasma Protein composition

Albumins 54% smallest, most abundant, transport fatty acids	Globulins 38% from plasma & liver cells; 38% Gamma Globulins Immunoglobulins	Fibrinogen 7% + trace substances
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Table 18.2 The Composition of Blood Plasma	
Plasma Component (Percentage of Plasma)	Functions
Water (~92% of plasma)	The solvent in which formed elements are suspended and proteins and solutes are dissolved
PLASMA PROTEINS (~7% OF PLASMA): All proteins buffer against pH changes.	
Albumin (~58% of plasma proteins)	Exerts osmotic force to retain fluid within the blood Contributes to blood's viscosity Responsible for transport of some ions, lipids (e.g., fatty acids), and hormones
Globulins (~37% of plasma proteins)	Alpha-globulins transport lipids and some metal ions (e.g., copper) Beta-globulins transport iron ions and lipids in blood Gamma-globulins are antibodies that immobilize pathogens
Fibrinogen (~4% of plasma proteins)	Participates in blood coagulation (clotting)
Regulatory proteins (<1% of plasma proteins)	Consists of enzymes and hormones
OTHER SOLUTES (~1% OF BLOOD PLASMA)	
Electrolytes (e.g., sodium, potassium, calcium, chloride, iron, bicarbonate, hydrogen)	Help establish, maintain, and change membrane potentials, maintain pH balance, and regulate osmosis
Nutrients (e.g., amino acids, glucose, cholesterol, vitamins, fatty acids)	Energy source; precursor for synthesizing other molecules
Respiratory gases (oxygen: <2% dissolved in plasma, 98% bound to hemoglobin within erythrocytes, and carbon dioxide: ~7% dissolved in plasma, ~23% bound to hemoglobin within erythrocytes, ~70% converted to HCO_3^-)	Oxygen is needed for aerobic cellular respiration; carbon dioxide is a waste product produced by cells during this process
Wastes (breakdown products of metabolism, such as lactate, creatinine, urea, bilirubin, ammonia)	Waste products serve no function in the blood plasma; rather, they merely are being transported to the liver and kidneys, where they can be removed from the blood

Table 18.3 Common Electrolytes in Arterial Plasma			
Electrolytes (Ions)	Normal Ranges (Values)	Function(s)	Substances and Structures That Regulate Electrolyte Blood Level
CATIONS			
Sodium (Na^+)	135–145 milliequivalents per liter (mEq/L)	Neuron and muscle function; fluid balance; cotransporter	Aldosterone, atrial natriuretic peptide (ANP), estrogen, progesterone, glucocorticoids
Potassium (K^+)	3.5–5.0 mEq/L	Neuron and muscle function	Aldosterone, ANP
Calcium (Ca^{2+})	8.4–10.2 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL)	Hardens bone; release of neurotransmitter; muscle contraction; blood clotting; second messenger	Parathyroid hormone, calcitriol, calcitonin
Hydrogen (H^+)	pH 7.35–7.45	pH balance	Buffering systems—chemicals in blood, kidney, respiratory system
ANIONS			
Chloride (Cl^-)	96–106 mEq/L	Anion bound to sodium; component of gastric acid (HCl); chloride shift	Regulated indirectly through sodium
Bicarbonate (HCO_3^-)	23.1–26.7 mEq/L	pH balance	Dependent upon carbon dioxide and H^+ blood levels
Phosphate (PO_4^{3-})	2.5–4.1 mEq/L	Binds with calcium and deposited in bone	Parathyroid hormone

Table 18.4 Common Molecules Found in Blood Plasma		
Molecule	Normal Ranges (Values)	Function
Glucose	Fasting: 70–100 mg/dL; 2 hours after a meal: <145 mg/dL	Fuel molecule for cellular respiration (primary energy source for nervous tissue); tightly regulated by a number of hormones, including insulin and glucagon
Amino acids	Varies, based on specific amino acid being measured	Monomers for synthesizing protein; also regulated by some of the same hormones as glucose
Lactate	4.5–14.4 mg/dL	By-product of glycolysis
Lipids		Molecules that generally do not dissolve in water
Cholesterol	100–200 mg/dL	Plasma membrane component; synthesis of steroid hormones; bile salts
HDL	40–80 mg/dL	Transports lipids to the liver
VLDL/LDL	10–100 mg/dL	Transport lipids from the liver
Triglycerides	30–149 mg/dL	Fuel molecules
Phospholipids	6–12 mg/dL	Molecules that form plasma membrane bilayer

Table 18.5 Characteristics of the Formed Elements				
Formed Element	Size (Diameter)	Function	Life Span	Density (Average Number per mm ³ of Blood = μ L)
Erythrocytes	7.5 μ m	Transport oxygen and carbon dioxide	~120 days	Females: ~4.8 million Males: ~5.4 million
Leukocytes (e.g., neutrophils, eosinophils, basophils, monocytes, and lymphocytes)	1.5 to 3 times larger than an erythrocyte; 11.25–22.5 μ m	Initiate immune response; defend against potentially harmful substances	Varies from 12 hours (neutrophils) to years (lymphocytes)	4500–11,000
Platelets	<1/4 the size of an erythrocyte; ~2 μ m	Participate in hemostasis	~8–10 days	150,000–400,000

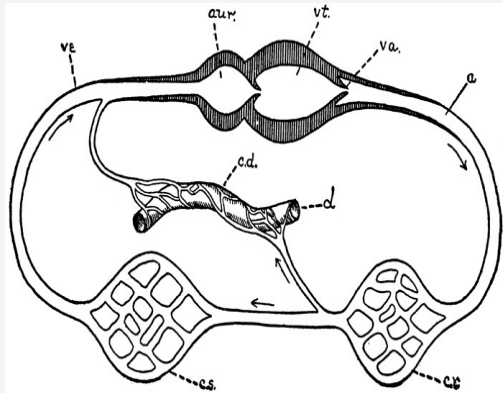
Physical characteristics

- **Viscosity** 4.5 - 5.5 (where $H_2O = 1.0$)
- **Temperature** 100.4F [38 degree Celsius]
- **pH** 7.35 - 7.45
- **Salinity** . 85% - .90%
- **Volume** 5 - 6 liters in males
4 - 5 liters in females
- **Blood accounts for approximately 7-8% of body weight**

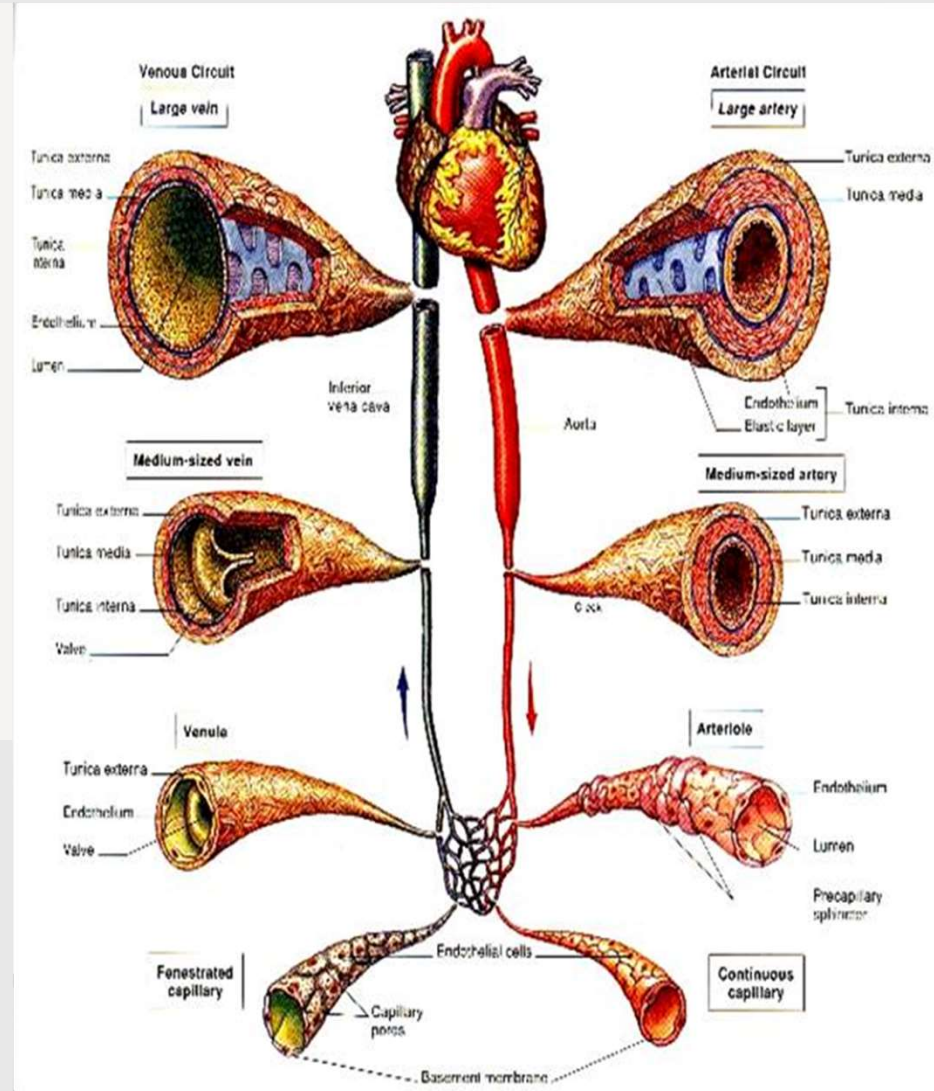
**Blood is a sticky, opaque fluid with a metallic taste (iron)
Color varies from scarlet to dark red**

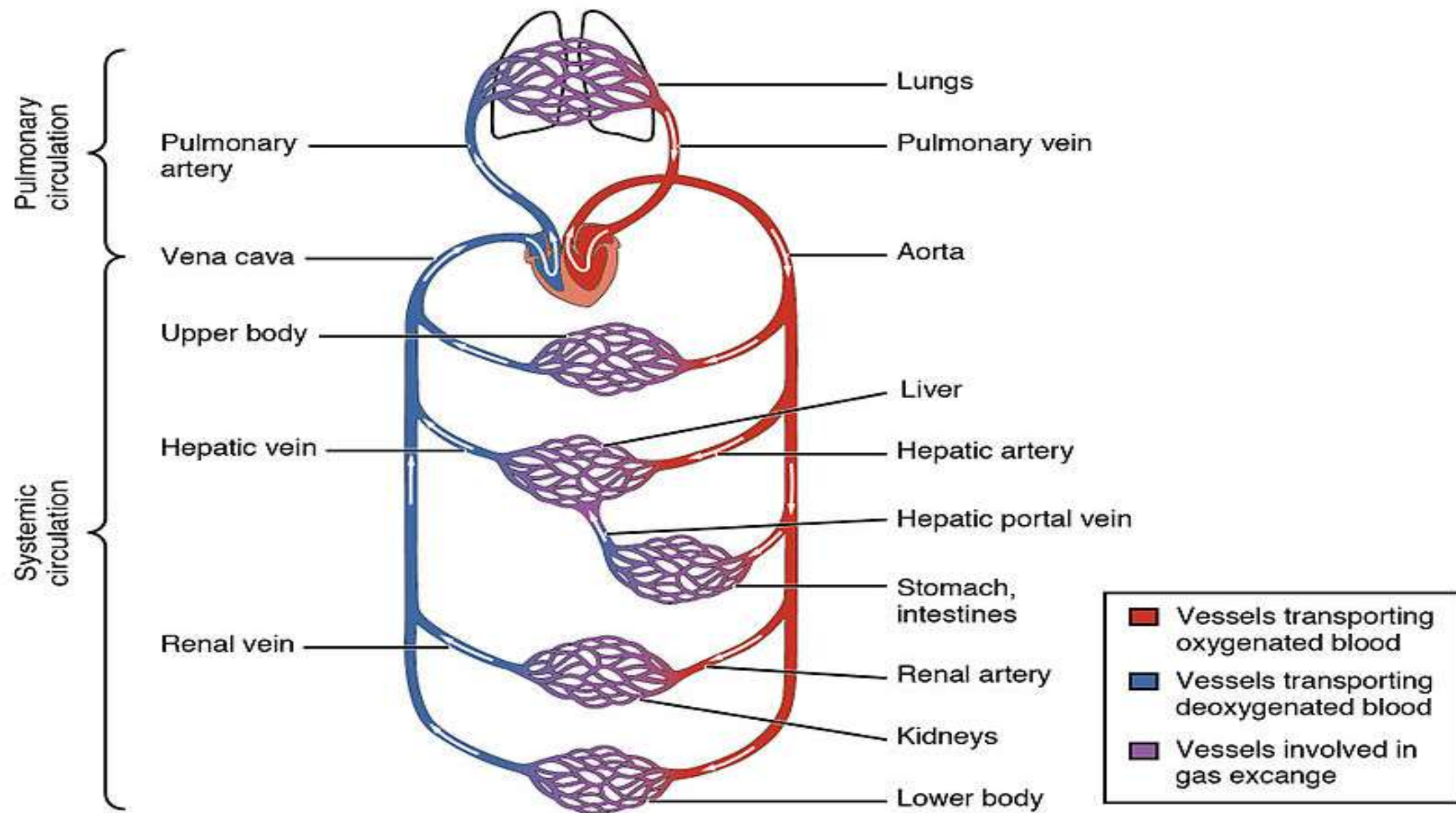
Overview of Blood Circulation

- Blood leaves the heart via arteries that branch repeatedly until they become capillaries
- Oxygen (O_2) and nutrients diffuse across capillary walls and enter tissues
- Carbon dioxide (CO_2) and wastes move from tissues into the blood



- **Oxygen-deficient blood leaves the capillaries and flows in veins to the heart**
- **This blood flows to the lungs where it releases CO_2 and picks up O_2**
- **The oxygen-rich blood returns to the heart**





The volume of blood in an average-sized person (70 kg; 154 lbs) is approximately 5.5 L.

If we take the hematocrit to be 45 percent, then

$$\text{Erythrocyte volume} = 0.45 \times 5.5 \text{ L} = 2.5 \text{ L}$$

"Erythrocyte volume" can refer to different but related measurements concerning red blood cells (RBCs), especially in the context of laboratory tests and clinical evaluation.

Since the volume occupied by the leukocytes and platelets is normally negligible, the plasma volume equals the difference between blood volume and erythrocyte volume; therefore, in our average person

$$\text{Plasma volume} = 5.5 \text{ L} - 2.5 \text{ L} = 3.0 \text{ L}$$



Erythrocyte Volume (Red Blood Cell Volume)

1. Mean Corpuscular Volume (MCV)

• **Definition:** The average volume of a single red blood cell.

• **Normal range:**

- **80–100 femtoliters (fL)** per RBC.

• **Clinical Use:**

- Helps classify **anemias**:
 - **Microcytic** (<80 fL): e.g., iron-deficiency anemia, thalassemia.
 - **Normocytic** (80–100 fL): e.g., acute blood loss, chronic disease.
 - **Macrocytic** (>100 fL): e.g., B12 or folate deficiency.

2. Packed Cell Volume (PCV) / Hematocrit (Hct)

• **Definition:** The proportion of blood volume that is occupied by red blood cells.

• **Normal values:**

- **Men:** 40–54%
- **Women:** 36–48%

• Indicates the **overall volume** taken up by erythrocytes in a given blood sample.

3. Total Red Blood Cell Volume

• Total RBC volume in the body depends on:

- **Total blood volume** (~5 liters in adults)
- **Hematocrit level**

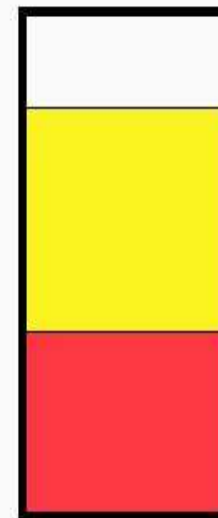
• For example:

If Hct = 45% → Total RBC volume $\approx 0.45 \times 5 \text{ L} = \mathbf{2.25 \text{ liters}}$

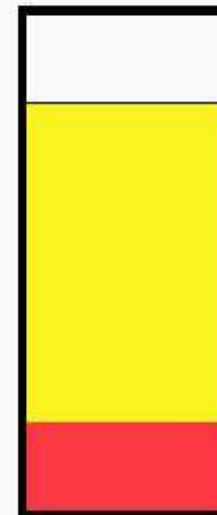
Blood Volume

blood volume refers to the **total amount of blood circulating within the body**, including **plasma** and **formed elements** (red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets).

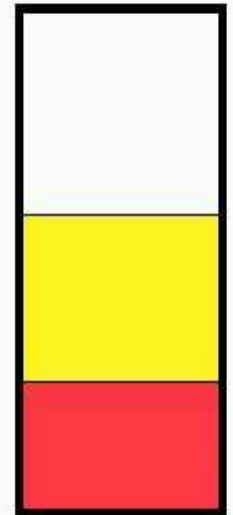
- Blood volume is about **8%** of body weight.
- **1 kg of blood \approx 1 L of blood**
- **$70 \text{ kg} \times 0.08 = 5.6 \text{ Kg} = 5.6 \text{ L}$**
- **Blood volume (mL) = Body weight (kg) \times 70 mL/kg**
- **A 70 kg adult $\rightarrow 70 \times 70 = 4,900 \text{ mL}$ (\approx 5 liters)**
- **45 % is formed elements**
- **55% plasma**



Normal
Hematocrit 42%



Anemia
Hematocrit 20%



Low Blood volume
Hematocrit 42%

Population	Blood Volume
Adult male	~5–6 liters
Adult female	~4–5 liters
Newborn	~80–100 mL/kg
Child	~75–80 mL/kg
Adult (average)	~70 mL/kg body weight

Clinical Importance

- Hypovolemia**: Decreased blood volume (e.g., bleeding, dehydration)
- Hypervolemia**: Increased blood volume (e.g., fluid overload, heart failure)
- Shock**: May result from severe hypovolemia
- Transfusion medicine**: Requires careful estimation of blood volume

Blood Volume versus Plasma Volume

- Blood volume represents the plasma volume plus the volume of RBCs, which is usually expressed as hematocrit (fractional concentration of RBCs).
 - The following formula can be utilized to convert plasma volume to blood volume:
 - **Blood volume = $\frac{\text{plasma volume}}{1 - \text{hematocrit}}$**
- Plasma Volume = Total Blood Volume \times (1 - Hematocrit)**
- For example, if the hematocrit is 50% (0.50) and plasma volume = 3 L, then:
 - **Blood volume = $\frac{3\text{L}}{1 - 0.5} = 6\text{ L}$**
 - If the hematocrit is 0.5 (or 50%), the blood is half RBCs and half plasma.
 - Therefore, blood volume is double the plasma volume.
 - **Blood volume can be estimated by taking 7% of the body weight in kgs. For example, a 70 kg individual has an approximate blood volume of 5.0 L.**

- Blood volume = 5 liters

- Hematocrit = 45% (0.45)

Plasma Volume= $5\text{ L} \times (1 - 0.45) = 2.75\text{ L}$

Normal Plasma Volume

Population	Plasma Volume Estimate
Adult males	~3.0–3.5 liters
Adult females	~2.5–3.0 liters
General estimate	~55% of total blood volume

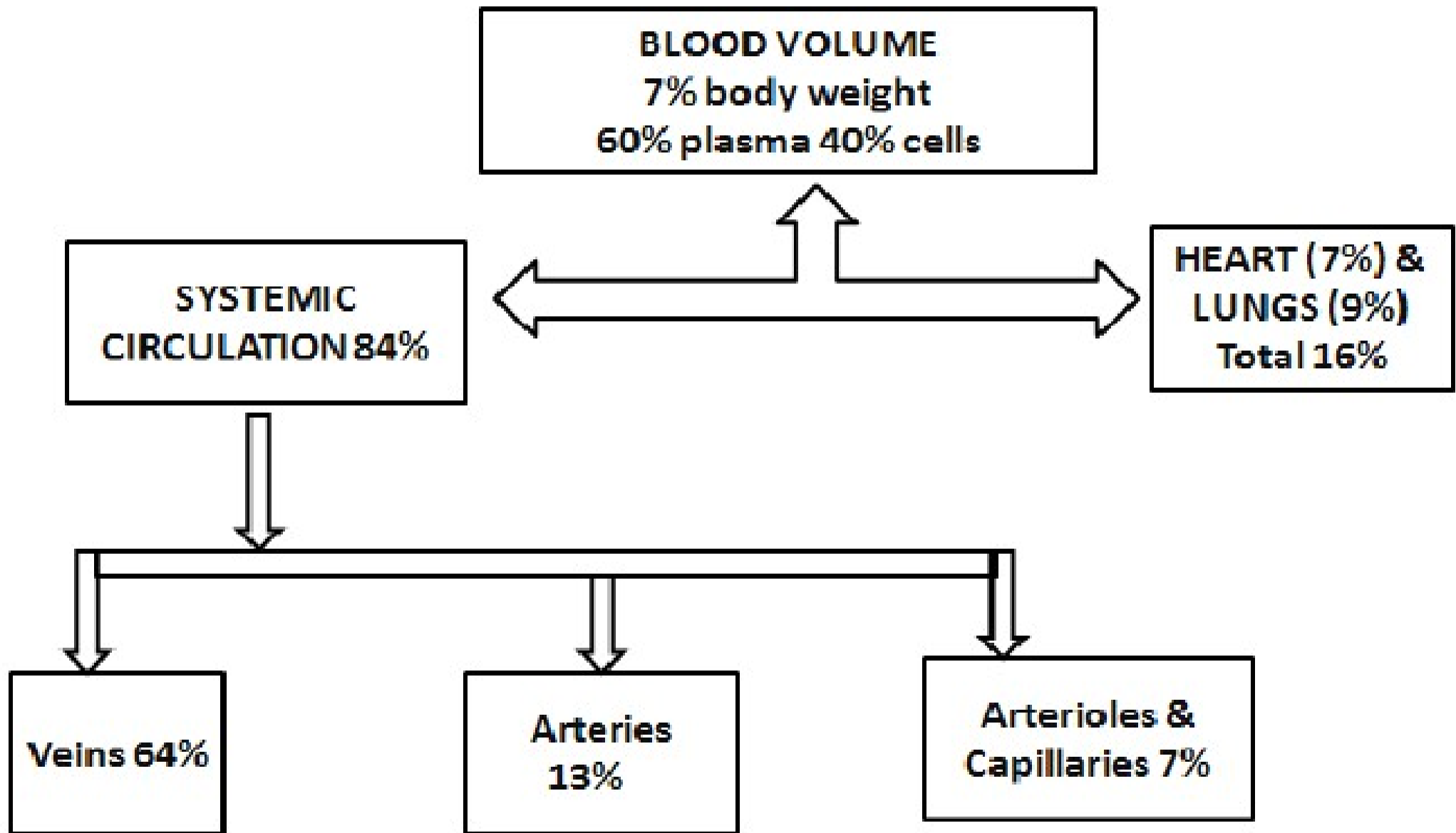
Functions of Plasma

- Transports **hormones**, **nutrients**, and **waste**
- Regulates **pH** and **osmolarity**
- Maintains **blood pressure** and **volume**
- Plays a role in **immunity** and **coagulation**

Composition of Plasma

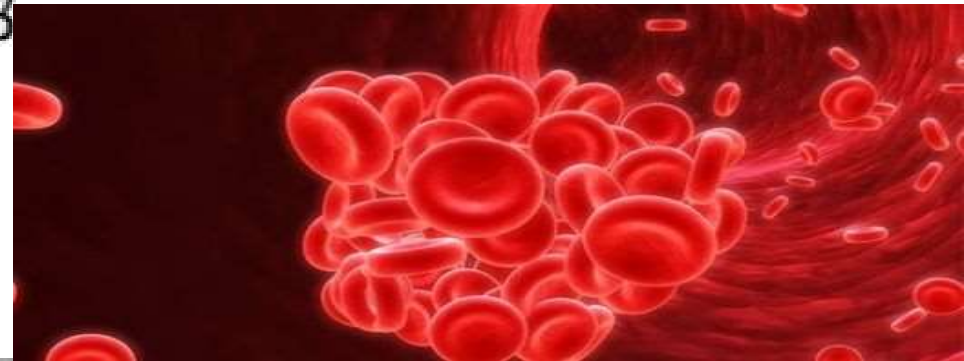
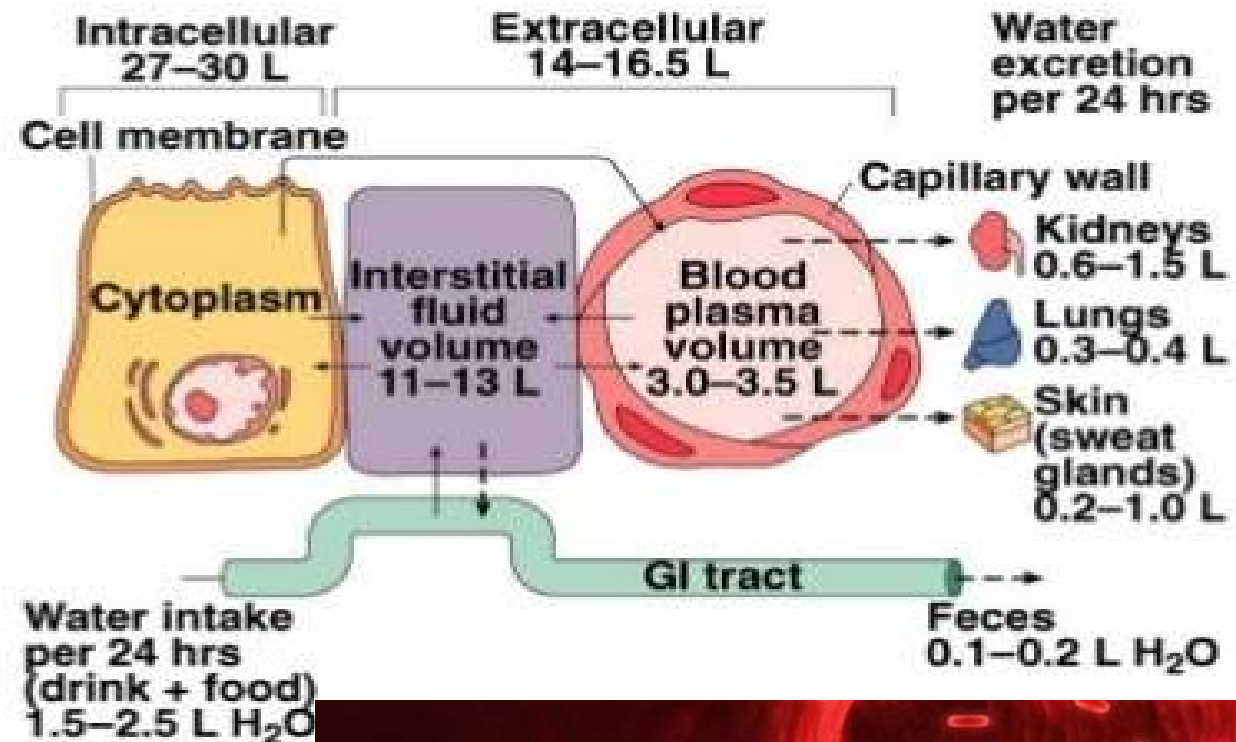
Plasma is about **90–92% water** and contains:

- **Proteins** (6–8%):
 - **Albumin**: maintains oncotic pressure
 - **Globulins**: immune function
 - **Fibrinogen**: blood clotting
- **Electrolytes** (Na^+ , K^+ , Cl^- , HCO_3^-)
- **Hormones**
- **Nutrients** (glucose, lipids, amino acids)
- **Waste products** (urea, creatinine, bilirubin)



Blood Volume

- Constitutes small fraction of total body fluid
- 2/3 of body H_2O is inside cells (intracellular compartment)
- 1/3 total body H_2O is in extracellular compartment
 - 80% of this is interstitial fluid; 20% is blood plasma



Total Body Water (TBW) Distribution

Total body water = ~60% of body weight

For a **70 kg adult**:

•**Total Body Water** ≈ 42 liters

Plasma is part of the **ECF**, but **RBCs/WBCs/platelets** are not — they are **cellular**.

Major Fluid Compartments

Compartment	% of Body Weight	Volume (70 kg)
Intracellular Fluid (ICF)	~40%	~28 liters
Extracellular Fluid (ECF)	~20%	~14 liters

Extracellular Fluid (ECF) Subdivisions

Subcompartment	% of ECF	Volume	Notes
Interstitial fluid	~75%	~10.5 L	Fluid between tissue cells
Plasma (intravascular)	~25%	~3.5 L	Fluid component of blood

- RBC cytoplasm → **ICF**
- Plasma → **ECF**
- Whole blood = **ICF (in RBCs) + ECF (plasma)**

Where Do Blood Cells Fit In?

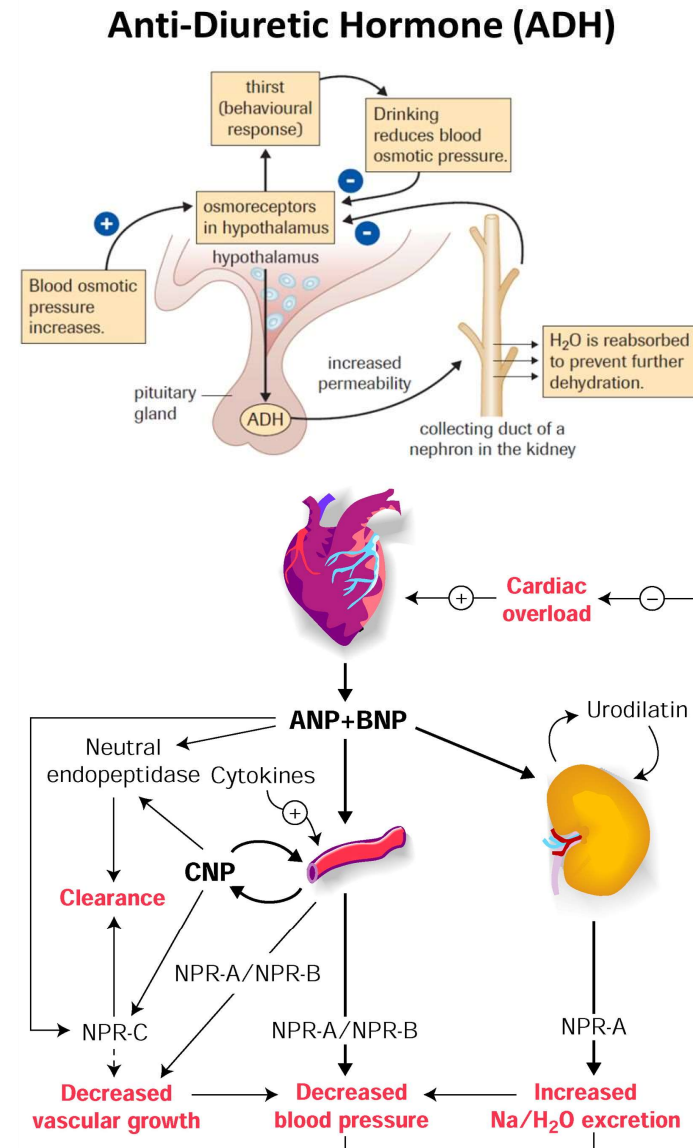
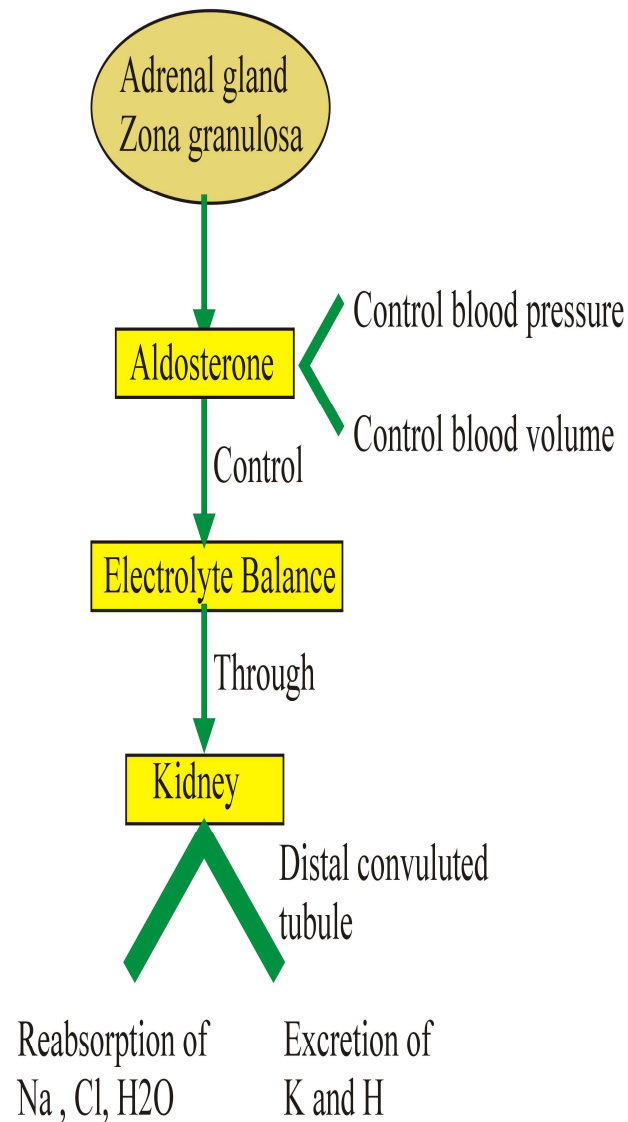
Component	Category
Plasma	Extracellular fluid
RBCs, WBCs, platelets	Neither ICF nor ECF (they're cells within the blood)
Inside RBCs	Intracellular fluid (within the RBC membrane)

Example: 5L Blood Volume Breakdown

Component	Category	Approx. Volume	Fluid Type
Plasma	ECF	~3.0 L	Extracellular
RBCs (cytoplasm)	ICF	~2.0–2.5 L	Intracellular
WBCs/Platelets	Mixed	<100 mL	Negligible

Body Water Compartment	Fluid Type	Includes
Intracellular (ICF)	Cytoplasmic	RBCs, all body cells
Extracellular (ECF)	Interstitial + Plasma	Blood plasma, CSF, lymph, GI fluids
Blood Plasma	ECF	Carries hormones, electrolytes, nutrients
Blood Cells	Cellular (ICF inside)	RBCs, WBCs, platelets

- Blood volume and osmotic pressure are regulated by several negative feedback mechanisms.
- Those mechanisms of specific interest involve
 - aldosterone,
 - ADH
 - atrial natriuretic peptide (ANP)
 - Kidneys (via RAAS system)



Regulation of Blood Volume

Blood volume is tightly regulated by various physiological mechanisms to ensure adequate perfusion of tissues and organs.

Key factors and systems involved include:

1. Renal Regulation:

- 1. Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System (RAAS):** Activated in response to decreased blood volume or blood pressure. Renin is released by the kidneys, leading to the production of angiotensin II, which constricts blood vessels and stimulates aldosterone release from the adrenal glands. Aldosterone increases sodium and water reabsorption by the kidneys, expanding blood volume.
- 2. Antidiuretic Hormone (ADH):** Also known as vasopressin, ADH is released from the posterior pituitary gland in response to increased plasma osmolality or decreased blood volume. It promotes water reabsorption in the kidneys, increasing blood volume.
- 3. Natriuretic Peptides:** Atrial natriuretic peptide (ANP) and brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) are released by the heart in response to increased blood volume and pressure. **They promote sodium and water excretion by the kidneys, reducing blood volume.**

2. Neural Regulation:

- **Sympathetic Nervous System:** Activation of the sympathetic nervous system **in response to stress, exercise, or blood loss increases heart rate and constricts blood vessels, maintaining blood pressure and directing blood flow to vital organs.**

3. Capillary Exchange:

- **Starling Forces:** These include **hydrostatic pressure** (pushing fluid out of capillaries) and **oncotic pressure** (pulling fluid into capillaries). Proper balance between these forces ensures appropriate fluid exchange between blood vessels and tissues, maintaining blood volume.

Clinical Relevance

1. Hypovolemia:

- A decrease in blood volume, which can result from
 - **hemorrhage,**
 - **dehydration,**
 - **severe burns.**
- Symptoms include
 - **low blood pressure,**
 - **tachycardia,**
 - **reduced organ perfusion.**
- Treatment involves fluid resuscitation and addressing the underlying cause.

2. Hypervolemia: An increase in blood volume, often due to

- **heart failure,**
- **kidney disease,**
- **excessive fluid intake.**
- Symptoms include high blood pressure, edema, and dyspnea.
- Treatment involves diuretics and managing the underlying condition.

Blood Volume Measurement

1. Indicator Dilution Method: A known amount of a tracer (**such as a dye or radioactive substance**) is injected, and its dilution in the blood is measured to estimate blood volume.

2. Hemoglobin and Hematocrit: Blood tests to measure red blood cell concentration, providing an indirect assessment of blood volume.


colloid osmotic pressure

- known as oncotic pressure.
- Colloid osmotic pressure is the pressure exerted by proteins, mainly albumin, in a blood vessel's plasma that tends to pull water into the circulatory system.
- It is a vital part of the body's regulation of fluid balance between blood vessels and surrounding tissues.
- Plasma proteins exert **colloid osmotic pressure**
 - Prevents loss of fluid from blood as it moves through capillaries
 - Helps maintain blood volume and blood pressure
 - Can be decreased with diseases, resulting in fluid loss from blood and tissue swelling
 - E.g., liver diseases that decrease production of plasma proteins
 - E.g., kidney diseases that increase elimination of plasma proteins

Hematocrit

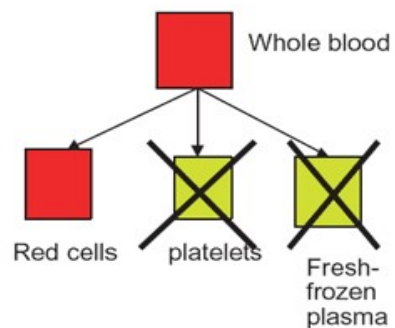
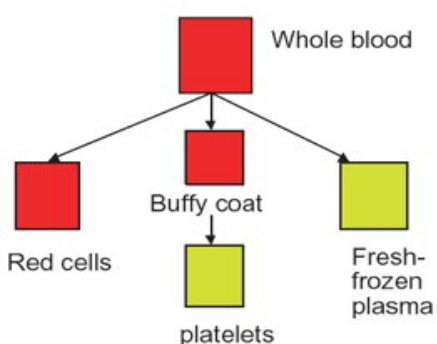
- The hematocrit (Ht or HCT) or packed cell volume (PCV) or erythrocyte volume fraction (EVF) is the proportion of blood volume that is occupied by red blood cells.
 - The volume of RBCs refers to the amount of space that the RBCs occupy within the blood.
 - **Males** the average is slightly higher at 47% (40-54%) due to higher levels of **testosterone in males. females 38–46%**
 - **Testosterone promotes synthesis of EPO (*erythropoietin*)**, which contributes to a higher RBC count.
-
- **At sea level, the hematocrit of a normal adult male averages about 47**
 - **which means that 47% of the blood volume is RBCs**
 - **while that of a normal adult female is 42.**
-
- **Ht=Hbx3**



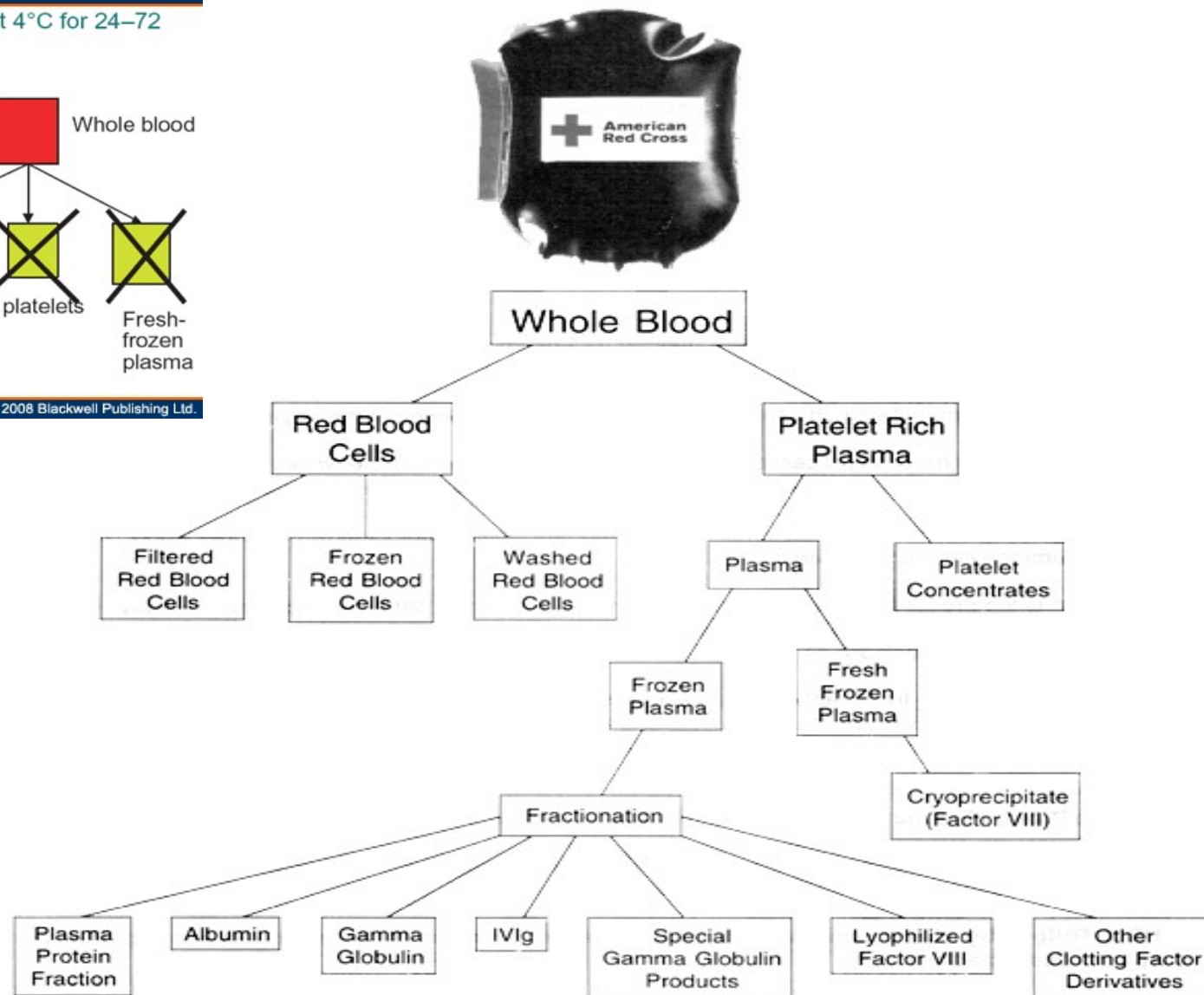
- 
- A large, smooth, red, spherical object, likely representing a red blood cell, is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the slide. The background is a light gray with a subtle geometric pattern.
- The normal ranges for hematocrit are dependent on age and, after adolescence, the sex of the individual.
 - The normal ranges are:
 - Newborns: 55%-68%
 - One (1) week of age: 47%-65%
 - One (1) month of age: 37%-49%
 - Three (3) months of age: 30%-36%
 - One (1) year of age: 29%-41%
 - Ten (10) years of age: 36%-40%
 - **Adult males: 42%-54%**
 - **Adult women: 38%-46%**

Day of blood collection <8 hours
or after 24 hours at 22°C

After storage at 4°C for 24–72
hours



Source: Transfusion All Transfusion Med © 2008 Blackwell Publishing Ltd.



BLOOD PRODUCTS

- Blood-cells products

- whole blood
- packed red blood cells
- leukocyte-poor (reduced) red cells
- washed red blood cells
- random-donor platelets concentrates
- single-donor platelets concentrates [human leukocyte antigens(HLA)-matched platelets]
- irradiated blood products (red blood cells and platelets concentrates)- after exposure 20 to 40 Gy
- leukocyte (granulocyte) concentrates

- Plasma products

- fresh-frozen plasma (FFP)
- cryoprecipitate
- factor concentrates (VIII, IX)
- albumin
- immune globulins

Functions of Blood

- **Primary**
 - Transportation
 - Exchange
- **Secondary**
 - Immunity
 - Thermoregulation
 - Fluid volume balance
 - pH balance



Distribution

- **Blood transports:**

- **Oxygen (co₂)** from the lungs and nutrients from the digestive tract
- **Metabolic wastes** from cells to the lungs and kidneys for elimination
- **Hormones** from endocrine glands to target organs

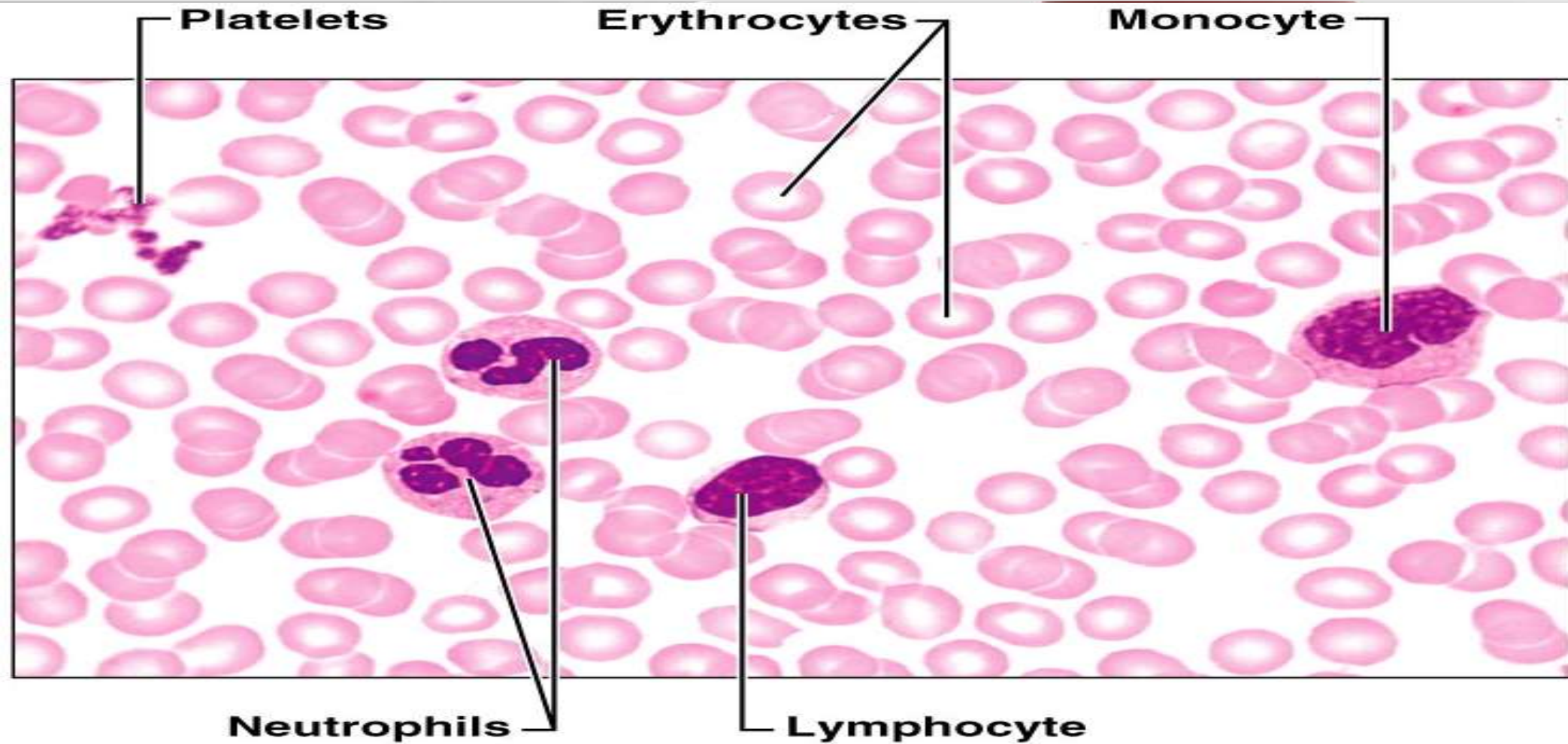
Regulation

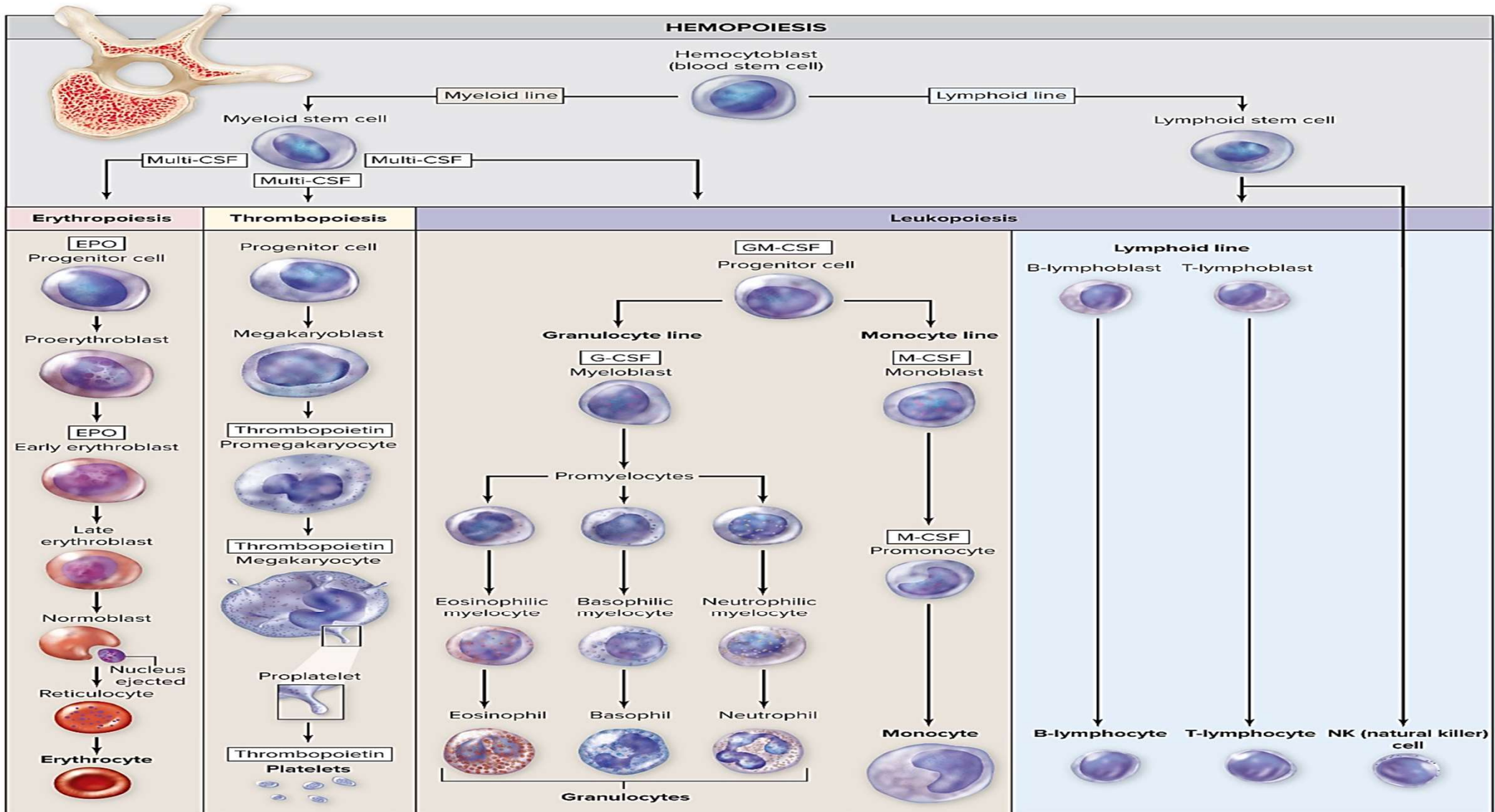
- Blood maintains:
 - Appropriate **body temperature** by absorbing and distributing heat
 - **Normal pH** in body tissues using buffer systems
 - **Adequate fluid volume** in the circulatory system

Protection

- **Blood prevents blood loss by:**
 - Activating plasma proteins and platelets
 - Initiating clot formation when a vessel is broken
- **Blood prevents infection by:**
 - Synthesizing and utilizing antibodies
 - Activating complement proteins
 - Activating WBCs to defend the body against foreign invaders

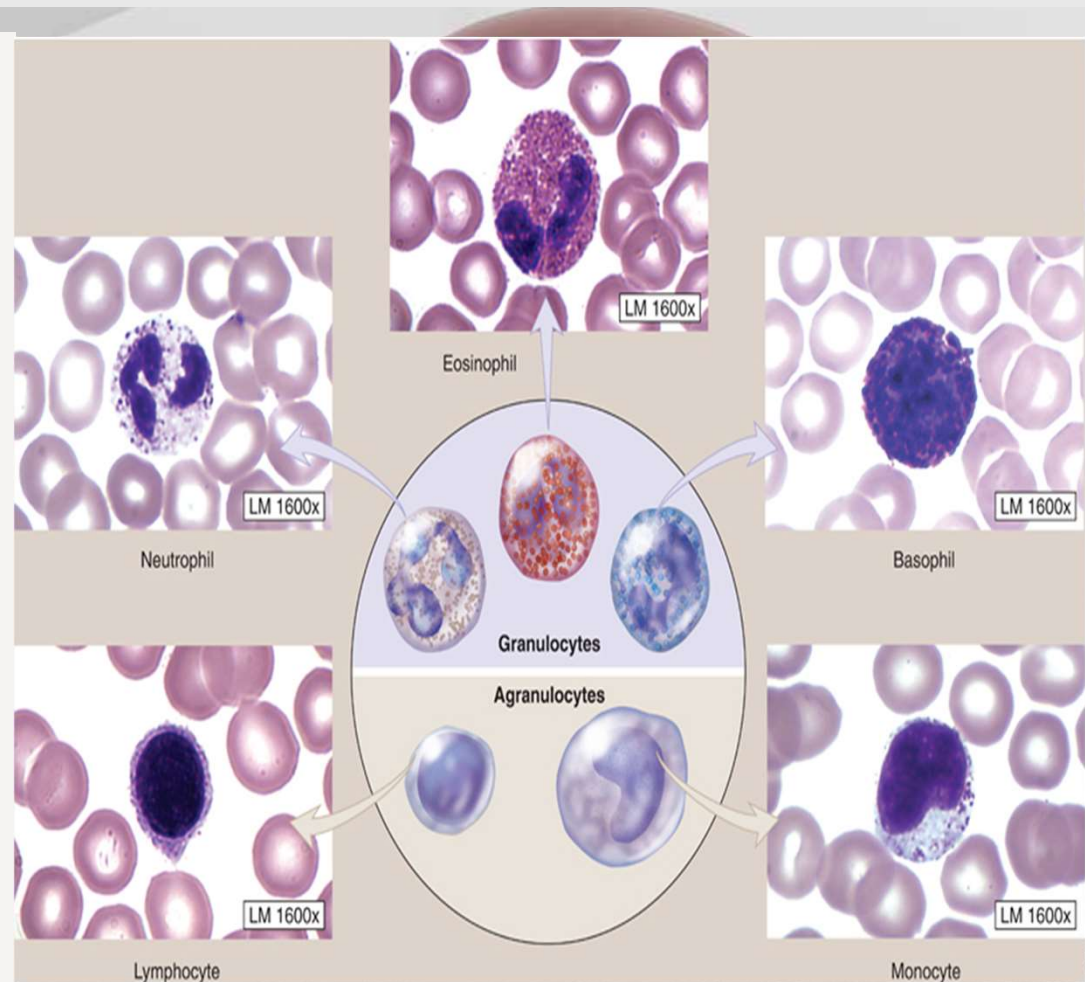
Components of Whole Blood

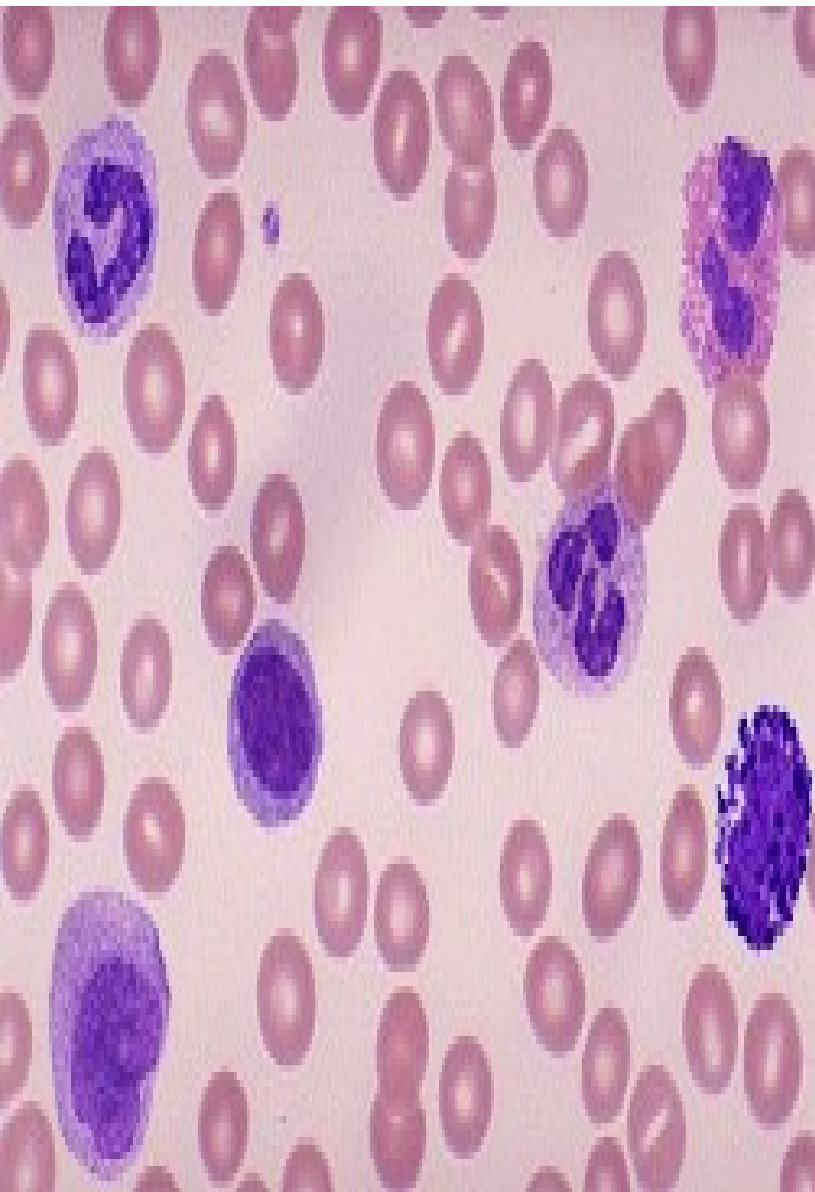




Formed Elements


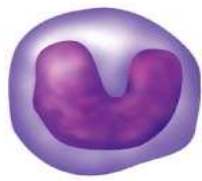
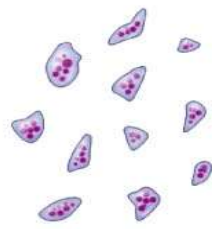
- Erythrocytes, leukocytes, and platelets make up the formed elements
 - Only WBCs are complete cells
 - RBCs have no nuclei or organelles, and platelets are just cell fragments
- Most formed elements survive in the bloodstream for only a few days
- Most blood cells do not divide but are renewed by cells in bone marrow





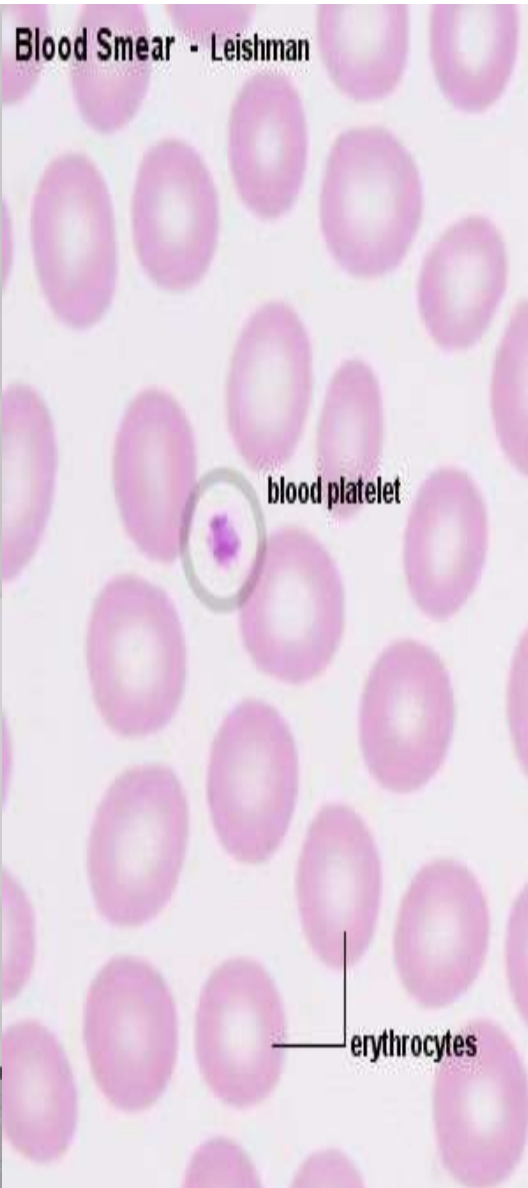
Name	Concentration	Characteristics	Functions
Erythrocytes (RBCs)	4.8 Million/microliter in females 5.4 Million/microliter in males	Biconcave disc no nucleus 120 day lifespan	Transports oxygen and carbon dioxide
Neutrophils	60% - 70% WBC concentration	Has 2-5 lobes joined by chromatin with a fine, pale granular cytoplasm	Phagocytosis. Uses lysozyme, super oxides and peroxides to destroy antigens.
Eosinophils	2% - 4% WBC concentration	has 2 - 3 lobes with large red/orange granules.	Responds to histamine in allergic reactions. Phagocytosis. destroys parasitic worms.
Basophils	0.5% - 1% WBC concentration	2 lobes with large, deep blue/purple granules	Intensify inflammatory response by liberating heparin, histamine and serotonin
Lymphocytes	20% - 25% WBC concentration	T/B cells. Cytoplasm forms ring around nucleus	Mediates immune response. B cells become plasma cells that form antibodies. T cells attack viruses, cancer cells and transplanted tissue cells.
Monocytes	3% - 8% WBC concentration	kidney-shaped nucleus with blue/gray cytoplasm	Becomes macrophage before phagocytosis
Thrombocytes (Platelets)	150,000 - 400,000/microliter	cells fragments, no nucleus	Forms platelet plug in hemostasis, and releases chemicals to promote vascular spasms and blood clotting.

TABLE 17.2 Summary of Formed Elements of the Blood *(continued)*

CELL TYPE	ILLUSTRATION	DESCRIPTION*	CELLS/ μl (mm^3) OF BLOOD	DURATION OF DEVELOPMENT (D) AND LIFE SPAN (LS)	FUNCTION
Leukocytes (white blood cells, WBCs)		Spherical, nucleated cells	4800–10,800		
Agranulocytes					
▪ Lymphocyte		Nucleus spherical or indented; pale blue cytoplasm; diameter 5–17 μm	1500–3000	D: days to weeks LS: hours to years	Mount immune response by direct cell attack or via antibodies
▪ Monocyte		Nucleus U or kidney shaped; gray-blue cytoplasm; diameter 14–24 μm	100–700	D: 2–3 days LS: months	Phagocytosis; develop into macrophages in the tissues
Platelets		Discoid cytoplasmic fragments containing granules; stain deep purple; diameter 2–4 μm	150,000–400,000	D: 4–5 days LS: 5–10 days	Seal small tears in blood vessels; instrumental in blood clotting

*Appearance when stained with Wright's stain.

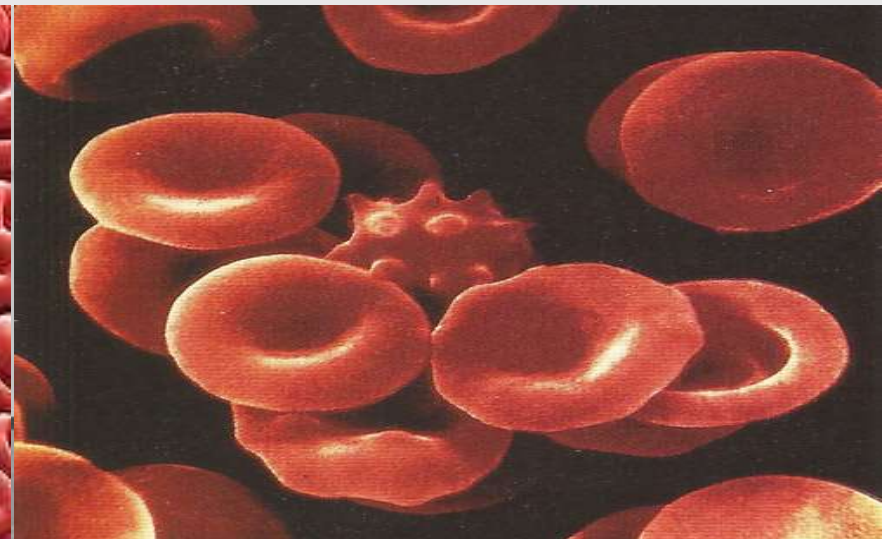
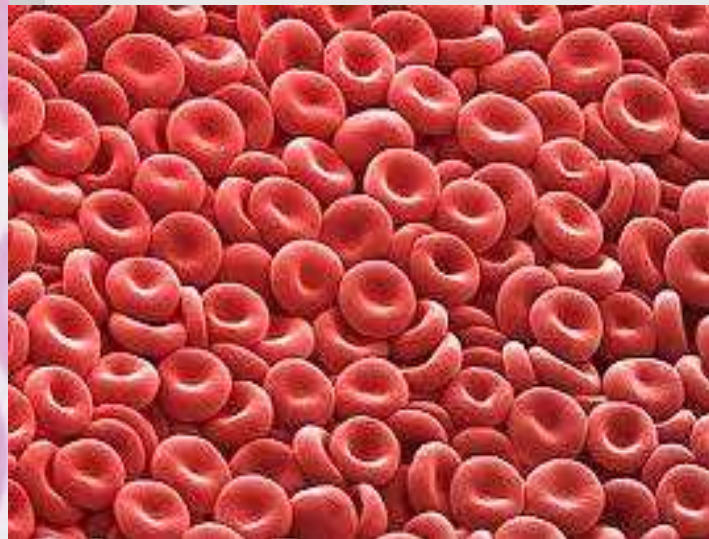
Blood Smear - Leishman



Erythrocytes

Life cycle

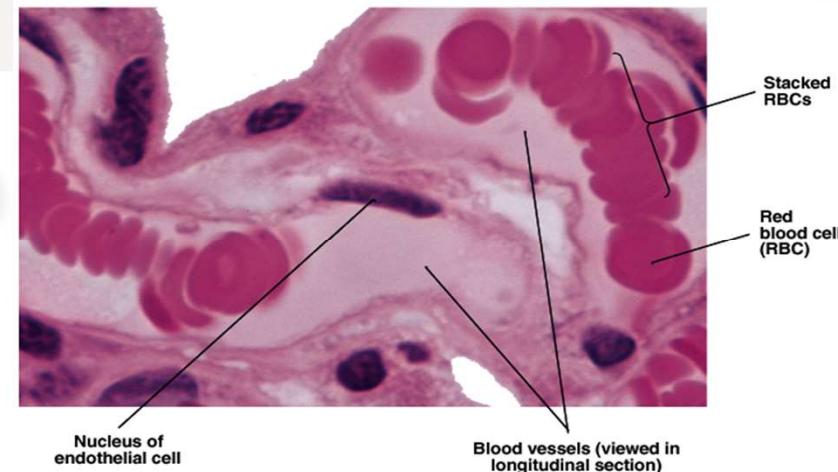
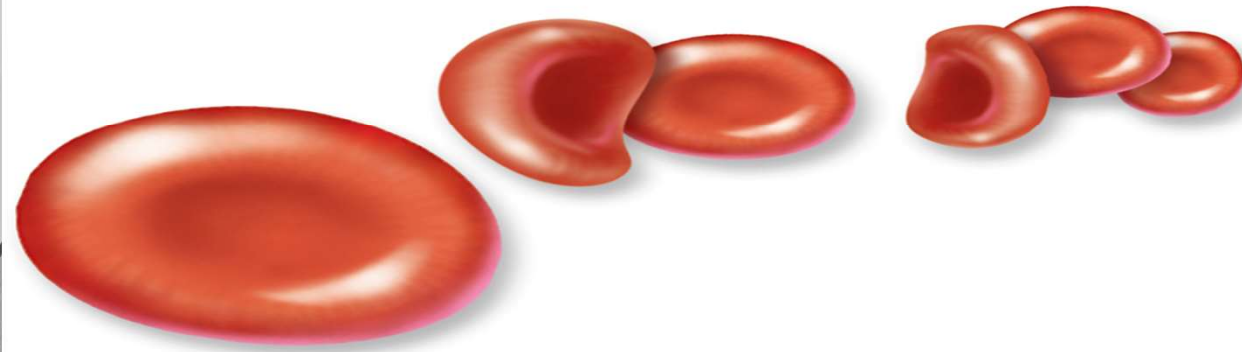
1. Erythropoiesis
 - a. negative - feedback regulation
 1. erythropoietin
2. 120 days ---> destruction
3. recycling bilirubin; jaundice



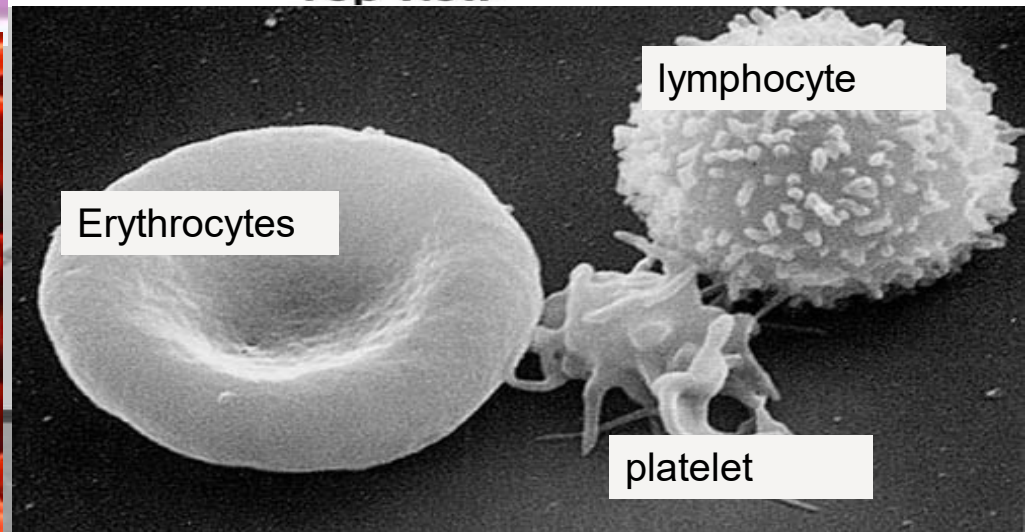
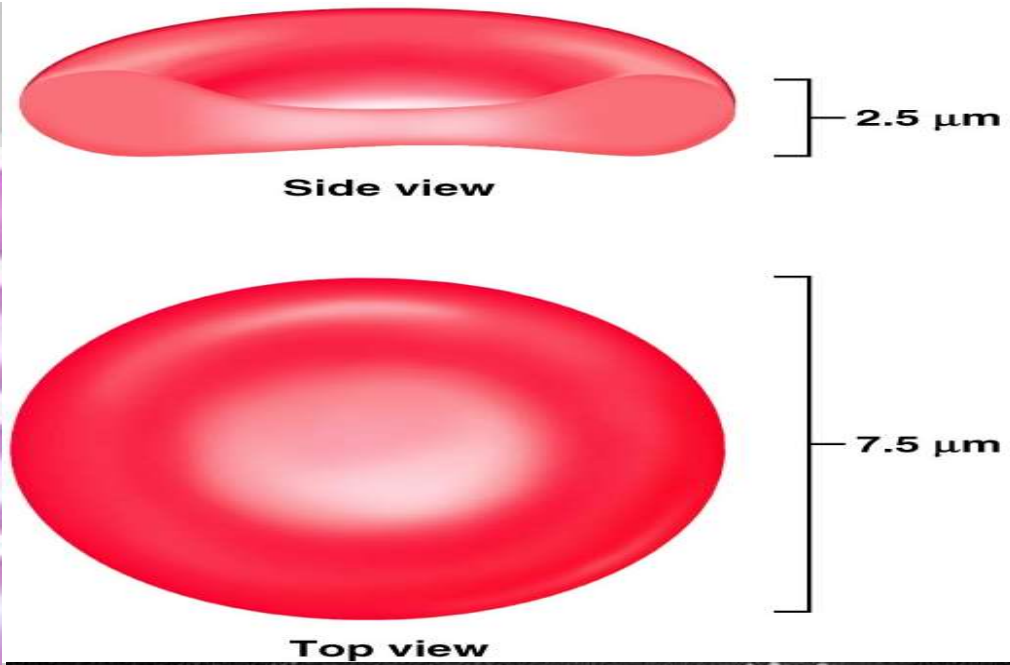
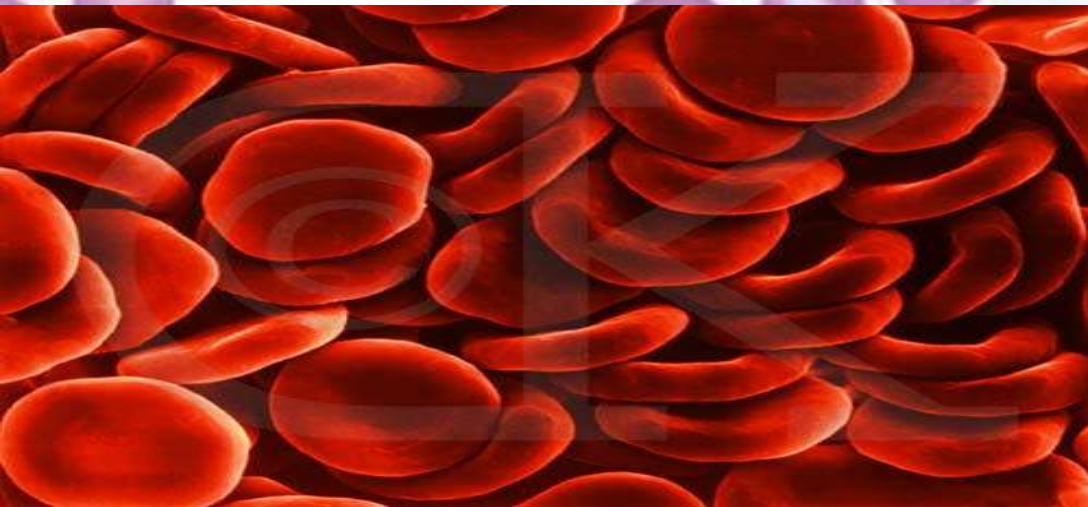
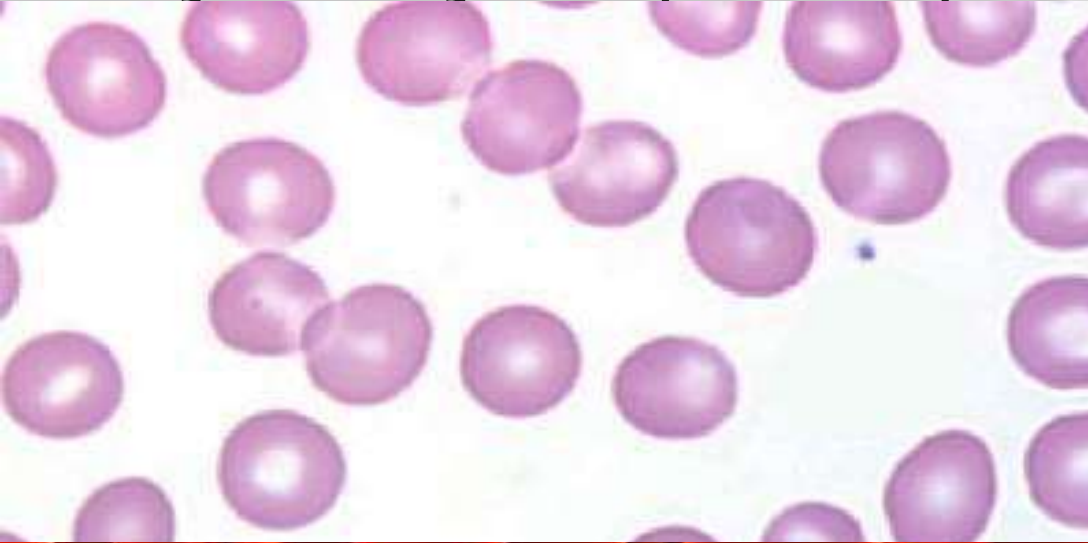
Erythrocytes (RBCs)

- Erythrocytes are an example of the complementarity of structure and function
- **Structural characteristics contribute to its gas transport function**
 - **Biconcave** shape has a huge surface area relative to volume
 - Erythrocytes are more **than 97% hemoglobin**
 - **ATP is generated anaerobically**, so the erythrocytes do not consume the oxygen they transport
- **Biconcave discs**
- **anucleate**
- **essentially no organelles**
- **Filled with hemoglobin (Hb)**, a protein that functions in gas transport
- Contain the plasma membrane protein **spectrin** and other proteins that:
 - Give erythrocytes their flexibility
 - Allow them to change shape as necessary

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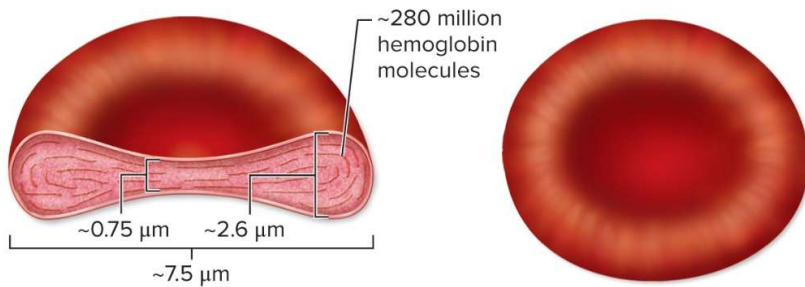


Erythrocytes (RBCs)



Sectional view

Superior view



(a) Erythrocyte structure



(b) Erythrocyte rouleau in a blood vessel

Spectrin is a **cytoskeletal protein** critical for maintaining **the shape, flexibility, and integrity** of red blood cells (RBCs).

It's **part of the membrane skeleton** beneath the plasma membrane, especially important in **erythrocytes**, which undergo constant mechanical stress in circulation.

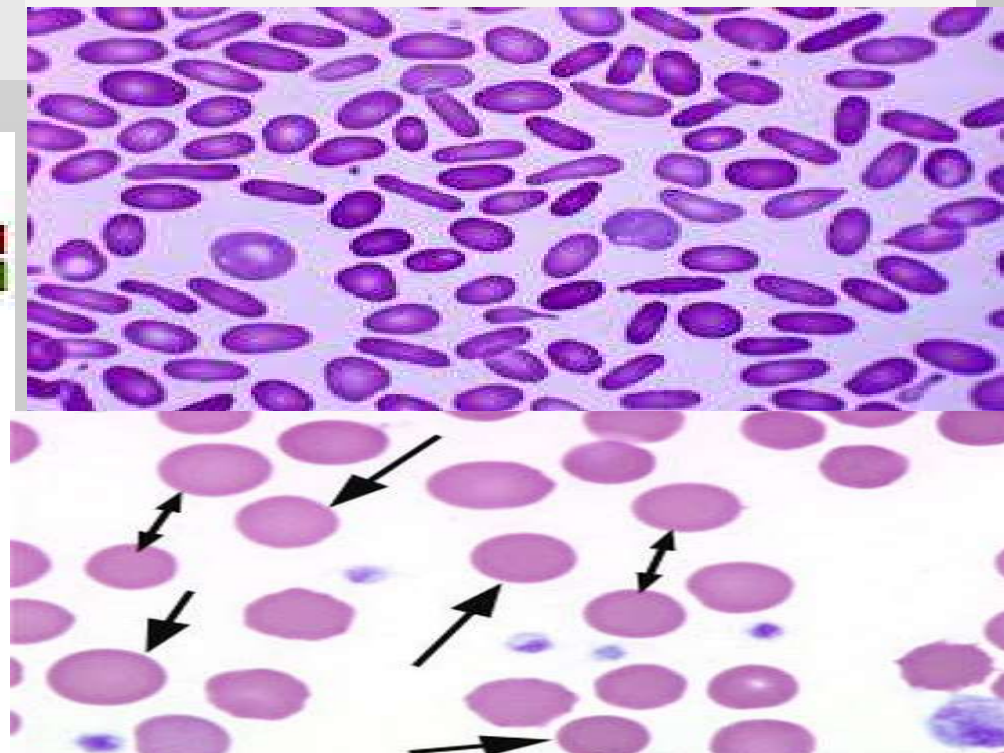
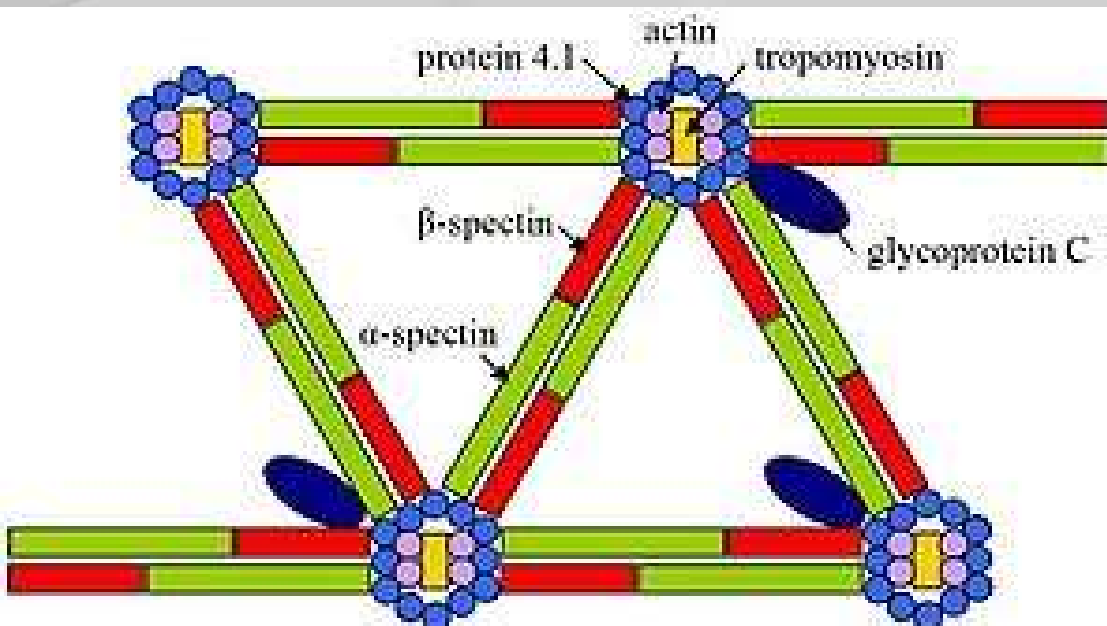
Function in Red Blood Cells

Function	Importance
Maintains biconcave shape	Allows high surface area for gas exchange
Provides elasticity	Enables RBCs to squeeze through capillaries
Anchors membrane proteins	Stabilizes the plasma membrane
Prevents hemolysis	Maintains membrane cohesion under stress

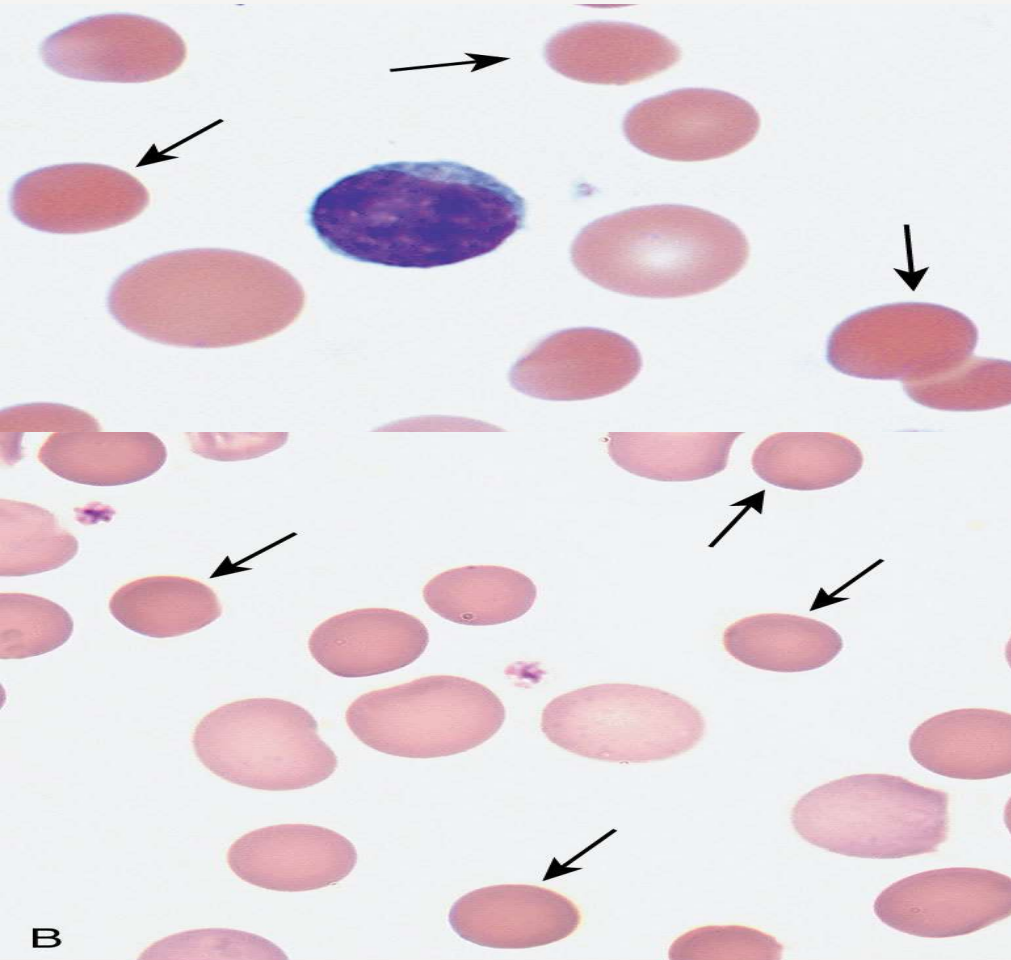
A schematic diagram of spectrin and other cytoskeletal molecules

The erythrocyte model demonstrates the importance of the spectrin cytoskeleton in that mutations in spectrin commonly cause hereditary defects of the erythrocyte, including

- hereditary elliptocytosis
- Hereditary spherocytosis



Spherocytes



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hereditary elliptocytosis



Hemopoiesis₁

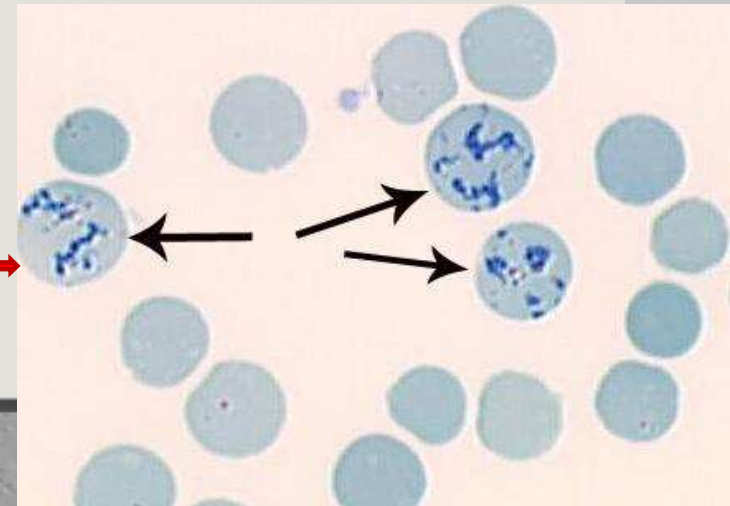
Hemopoiesis: production of formed elements

- Occurs in **red bone marrow** of certain bones
- **Hemocytoblasts:** stem cells
 - Pluripotent: can differentiate into many types of cells
 - Produce two different lines: myeloid line and lymphoid line
 - **Myeloid line** forms erythrocytes, all leukocytes except lymphocytes, and megakaryocytes (cells that produce platelets)
 - **Lymphoid line** forms only lymphocytes

Colony-stimulating factors (CSFs) stimulate hemopoiesis

Erythropoiesis-Brief

- Bone marrow
 - Pluripotent stem cells
 - Chemical regulation
 - Cytokines
 - Erythroid specific growth factor
 - **Erythropoietin (EPO)**
 - Life span
 - Reticulocyte- 4 days
 - RBC –120 days



Production of Erythrocytes

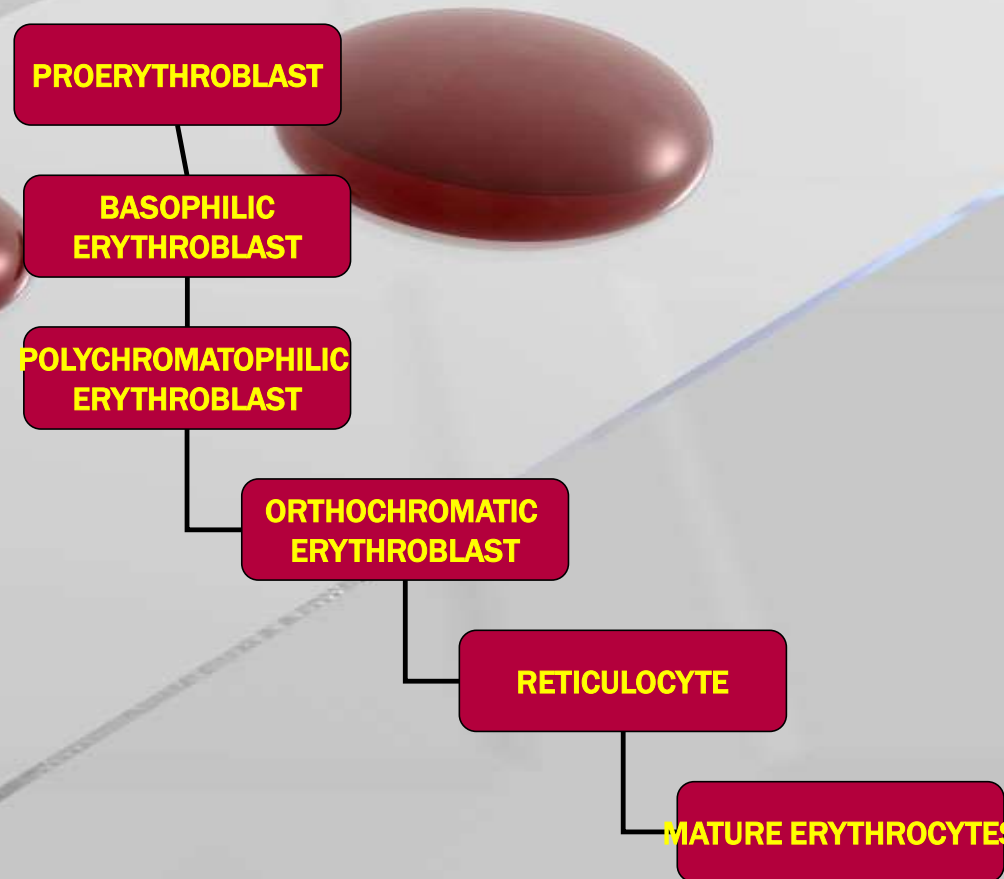
- **Hematopoiesis** – blood cell formation
- Hematopoiesis occurs in the red bone marrow of the:
 - Axial skeleton and girdles
 - Epiphyses of the humerus and femur
- **Hemocytoblasts** give rise to all formed elements

ERYTHROPOIESIS: SITES/PHASES

- **INTRAUTERINE LIFE:**
 - **INTRAVASCULAR PHASE:** Upto 3rd month of Intra Uterine Life.
 - Endothelial cells = = = RBCs
 - **HEPATIC PHASE:** 3rd to 5th month IUL
 - Liver & Spleen
 - nRBCs from Mesenchymal cells.
 - **MYELOID PHASE:** From 5th month of IUL onwards.
- **POST NATAL LIFE:**
 - **CHILDREN:**
 - Predominantly Red Bone Marrow of skeleton:
 - Axial &
 - Appendicular.
 - **ADULTS:**
 - Red Bone Marrow of Axial Skeleton.

Production of Erythrocytes: Erythropoiesis

- A hemocytoblast is transformed into a proerythroblast
- Proerythroblasts develop into early erythroblasts
- The developmental pathway consists of three phases
 - 1 – ribosome synthesis in early erythroblasts
 - 2 – Hb accumulation in late erythroblasts and normoblasts
 - 3 – ejection of the nucleus from normoblasts and formation of reticulocytes
- Reticulocytes then become mature erythrocytes



Yolksac or Fetal Liver in Fetus
Bone Marrow in Adults

Blood
Circulation

Phase - I : Generation of Erythroid
committed blast cells

Phase - II : Division and Differentiation of
Erythroid Progenitors

Phase - III :
Terminal Maturation

Stem cell

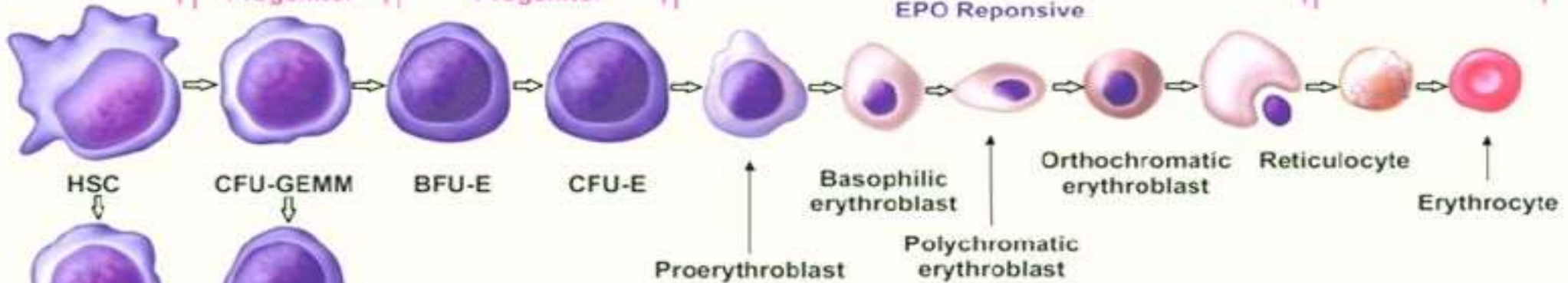
Multi Potential
Progenitor

Committed
Progenitor

Precursor Cells

End Cells

EPO Responsive



Lymphoid
Stem cell
↓
Lymphocytes
& NK Cells

CFU-GEMM
↓
Platelets &
White Cells

Basophilic erythroblast = Early normoblast

Polychromatophilic erythroblast = Intermediate
normoblast

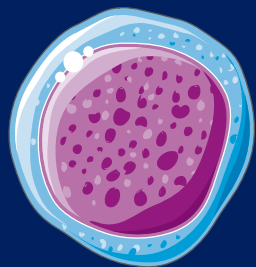
Orthochromatic erythroblast = Late normoblast

Reticulocyte = Polychromatophilic erythrocyte

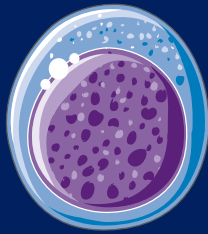
Ribosome = Basophilic (Blue)
Hemoglobin = Acidophilic (Pink)

Stage of erythropoiesis	Important event
Proerythroblast	Synthesis of hemoglobin starts
Early normoblast	Nucleoli disappear
Intermediate normoblast	Hemoglobin starts appearing
Late normoblast	Nucleus disappears
Reticulocyte	Reticulum is formed. Cell enters capillary from site of production
Matured RBC	Reticulum disappears Cell attains biconcavity

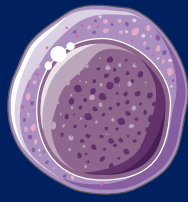
Erythropoiesis



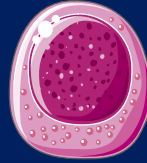
Proerythroblast



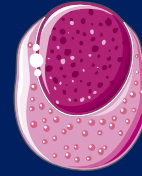
Basophilic erythroblast



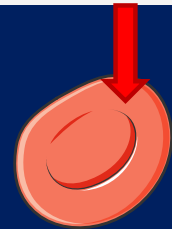
Polychromatic erythroblast



Acidophil erythroblast



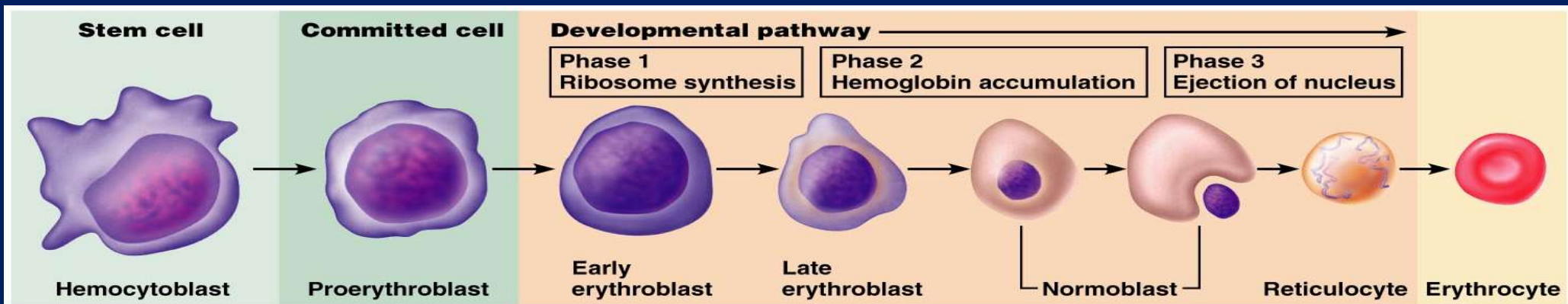
Reticulocyte



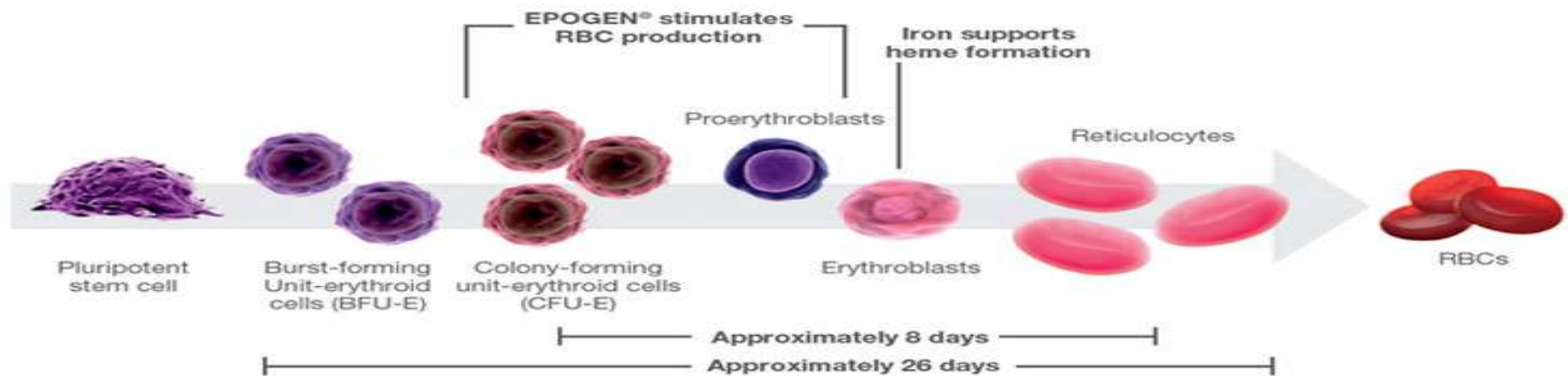
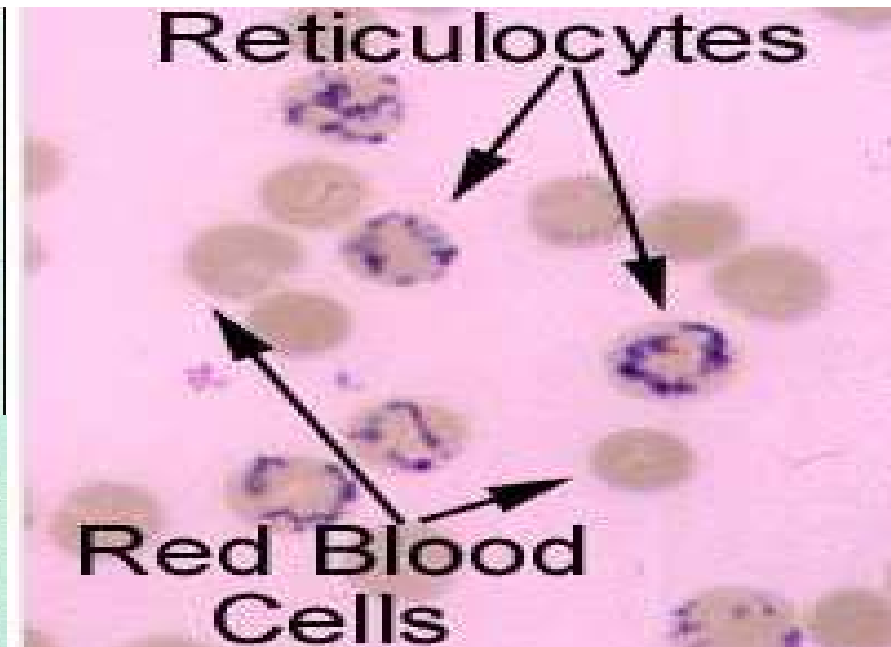
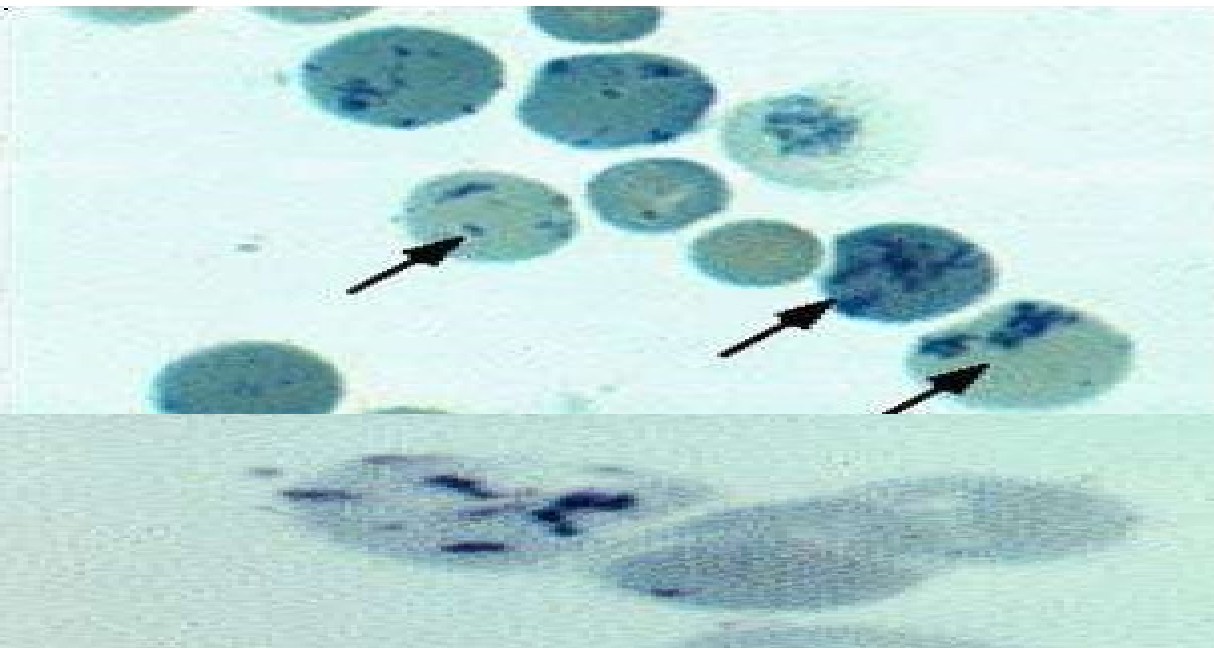
Erythrocyte

ribosomes have degenerated

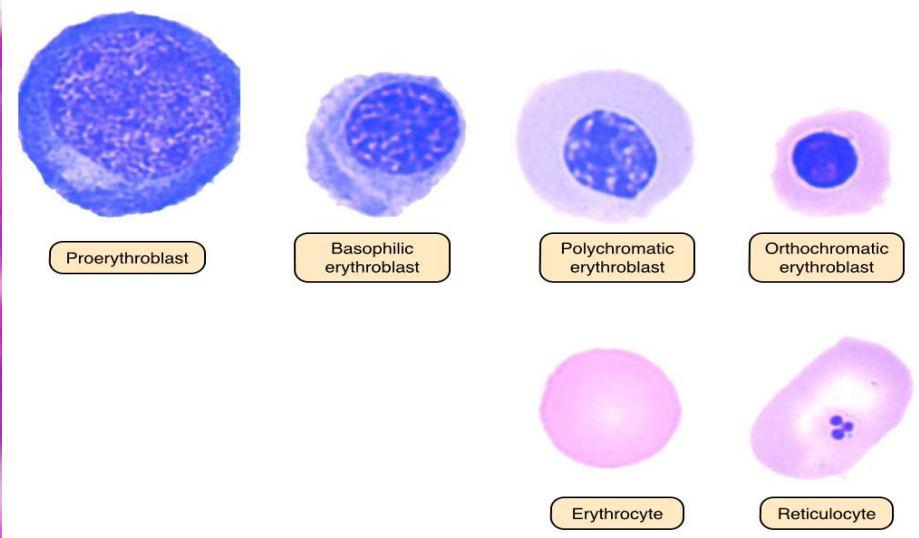
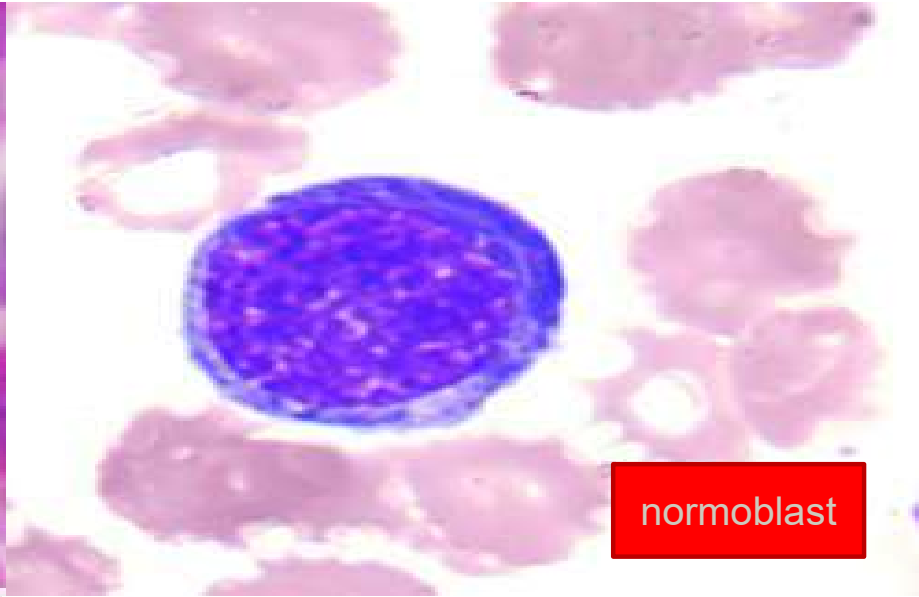
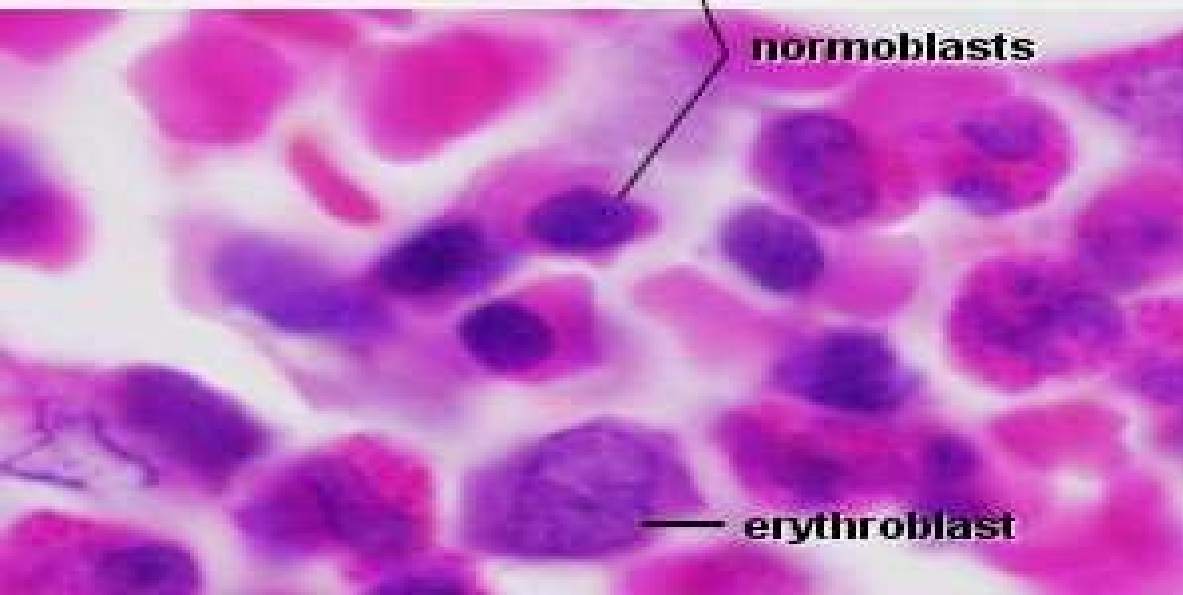
lacks organelles except ribosomes that make hemoglobin



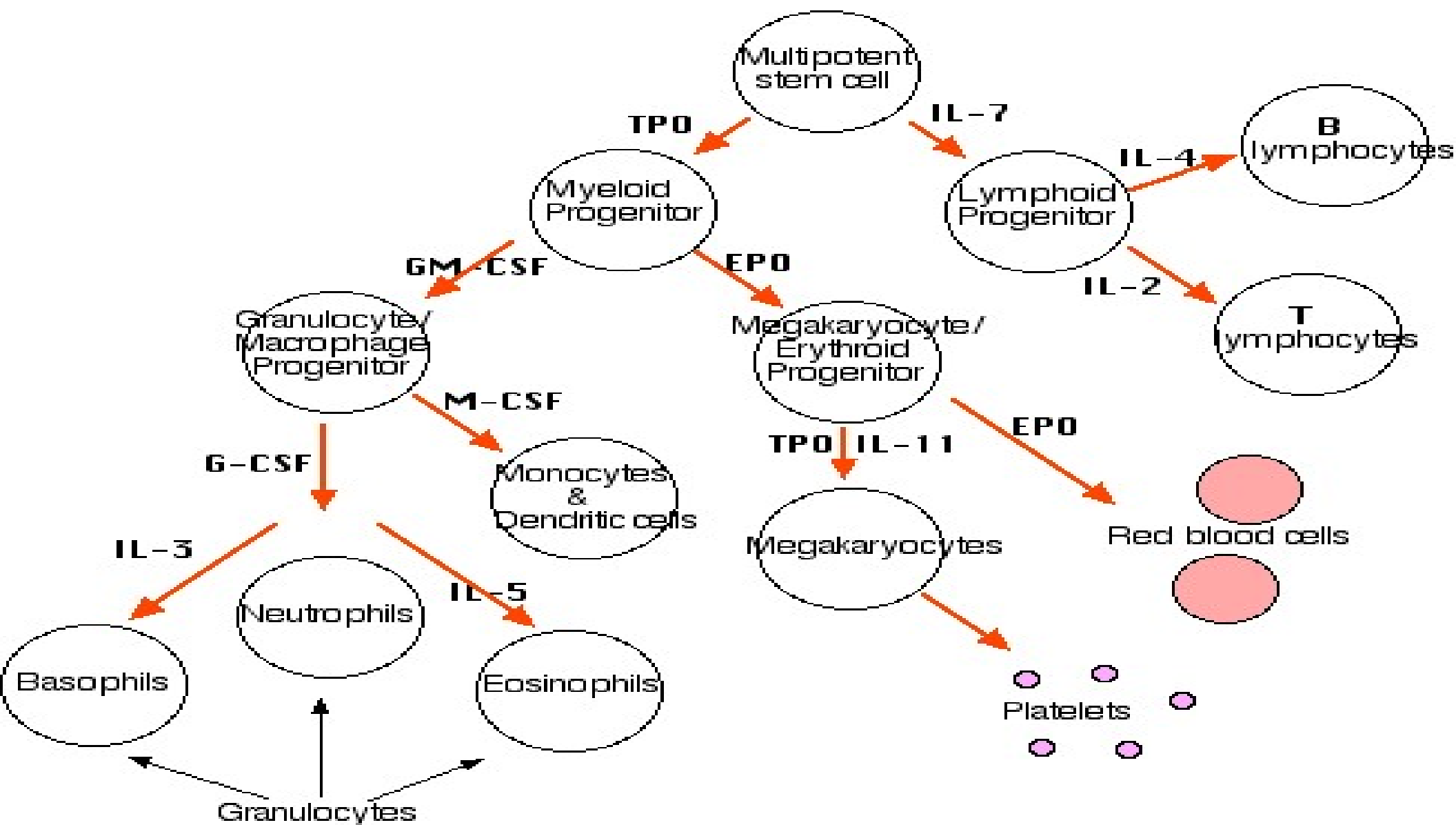
- **Erythropoiesis:** red blood cell production
 - Process requires iron, B vitamins, amino acids
 - Begins with **myeloid stem cell**—responds to multi-CSF
 - Forms progenitor cell
 - Forms **proerythroblast**—a large nucleated cell
 - Becomes **erythroblast**—smaller, produces hemoglobin
 - Becomes **normoblast**—still smaller, more hemoglobin, anucleate
 - Becomes **reticulocyte**—lacks organelles except ribosomes that make hemoglobin
 - Becomes erythrocyte—ribosomes have degenerated



Red Bone Marrow - H&E



<div> <div>Table 18.6</div> <div>Substances That Influence Hemopoiesis</div> </div>		
Substance	Growth Factor or Hormone	Function
Multi-colony-stimulating factor (multi-CSF)	Growth factor	Increases the formation of erythrocytes, granulocytes, monocytes, and platelets from myeloid stem cells
Granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF)	Growth factor	Accelerates the formation of all granulocytes and monocytes from their progenitor cells
Granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF)	Growth factor	Stimulates the formation of granulocytes from myeloblast cells
Macrophage colony-stimulating factor (M-CSF)	Growth factor	Stimulates the production of monocytes from monoblasts
Thrombopoietin	Growth factor	Stimulates both the production of megakaryocytes in the bone marrow and the subsequent formation of platelets
Erythropoietin (EPO)	Hormone (produced primarily by the kidneys)	Increases the rate of production and maturation of erythrocyte progenitor and erythroblast cells



FACTORS REGULATING ERYTHROPOIESIS

- SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT REGULATOR: "TISSUE OXYGENATION"
- BURST PROMOTING ACTIVITY
- ERYTHROPOIETIN
- IRON
- VITAMINS:
 - Vitamin B₁₂
 - Folic Acid
- MISCELLANEOUS
 - **Circulating erythrocytes** – the number remains constant and reflects a balance between RBC production and destruction
 - Too few RBCs leads to tissue hypoxia
 - Too many RBCs causes undesirable blood viscosity
 - Erythropoiesis is hormonally controlled and depends on adequate supplies of **iron, amino acids, and B vitamins**

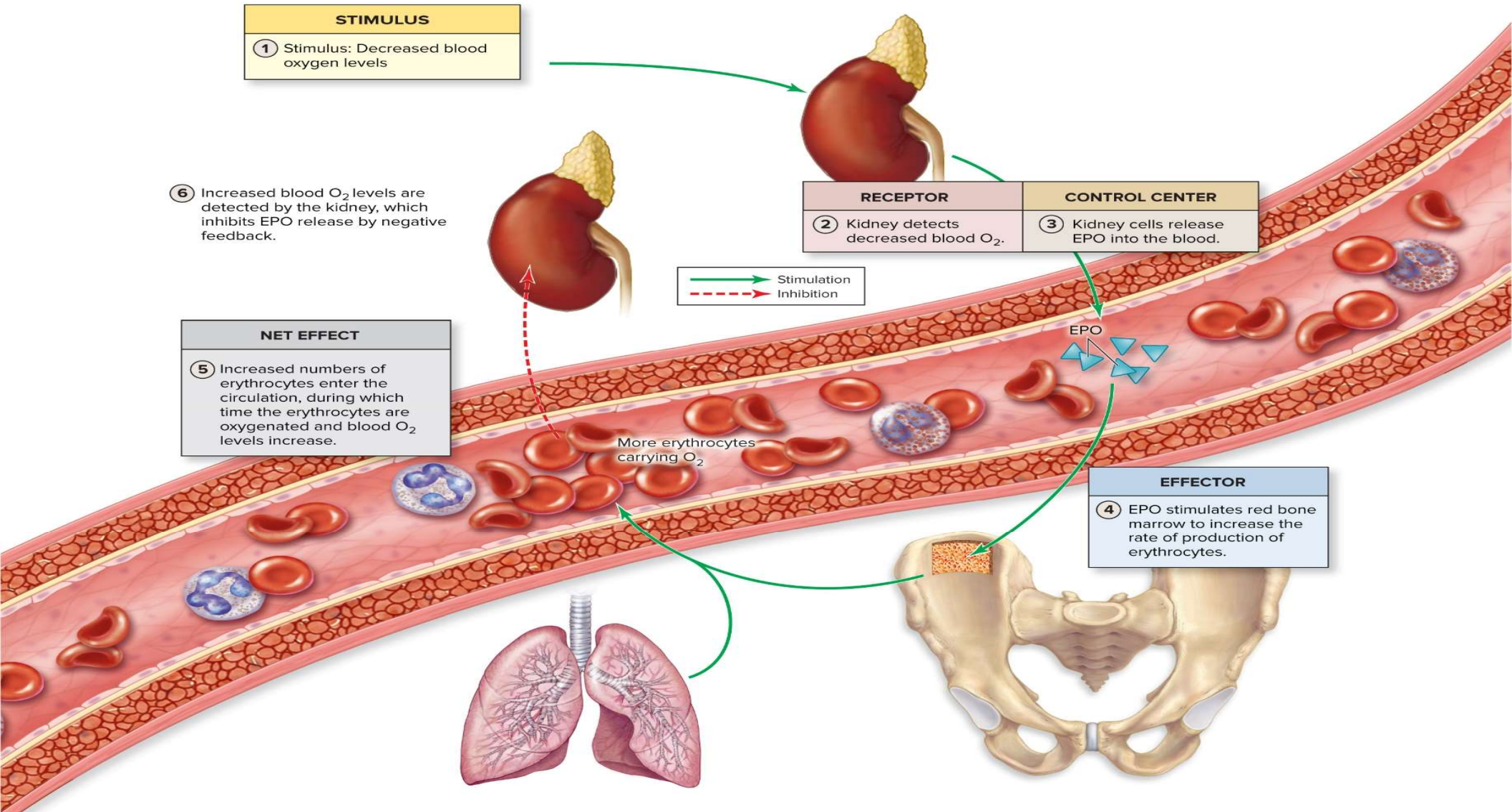
Hormonal Control of Erythropoiesis

- **Erythropoietin (EPO) release by the kidneys is triggered by:**
 - Hypoxia due to decreased RBCs
 - Decreased oxygen availability
 - Increased tissue demand for oxygen
- **Enhanced erythropoiesis increases the:**
 - RBC count in circulating blood
 - Oxygen carrying ability of the blood

Erythrocytes₄

Erythropoietin (EPO) controls erythropoiesis Acts mainly on CFU – E.

- **Hormone produced primarily in the kidneys (a little in liver)**
- **Secretion is stimulated by a decrease in blood oxygen**
 - Red marrow myeloid cells respond to EPO by making more erythrocytes and releasing them into circulation
- **The erythrocytes increase blood's oxygen carrying capacity**
 - **The increase in blood oxygen inhibits EPO release (negative feedback)**
- **Testosterone stimulates EPO production in kidney**
 - Therefore males have higher erythrocyte count, higher hematocrit
- **Environmental factors such as altitude influence EPO levels**
 - Low oxygen levels at high altitude stimulate EPO production



Erythropoietin Mechanism

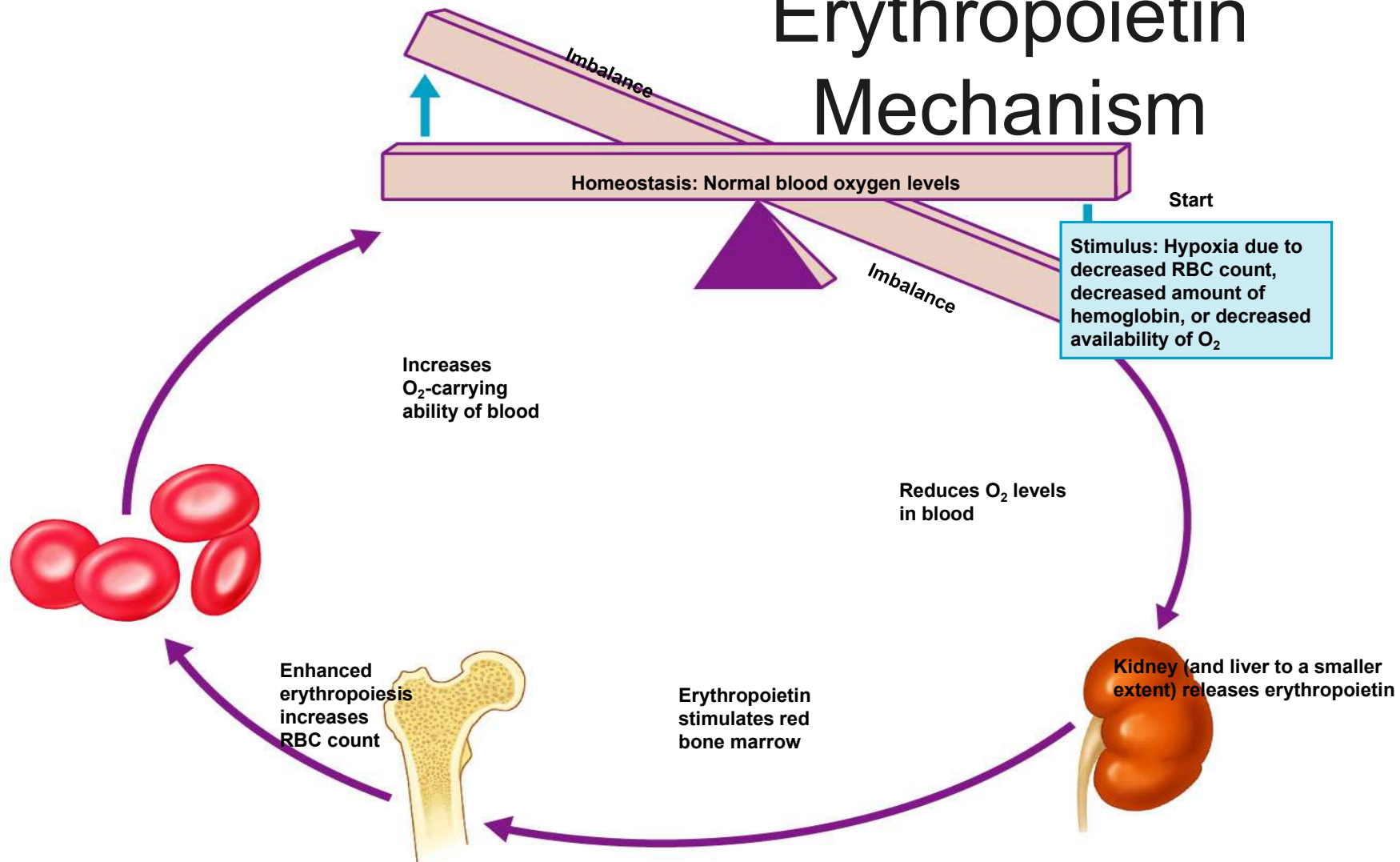


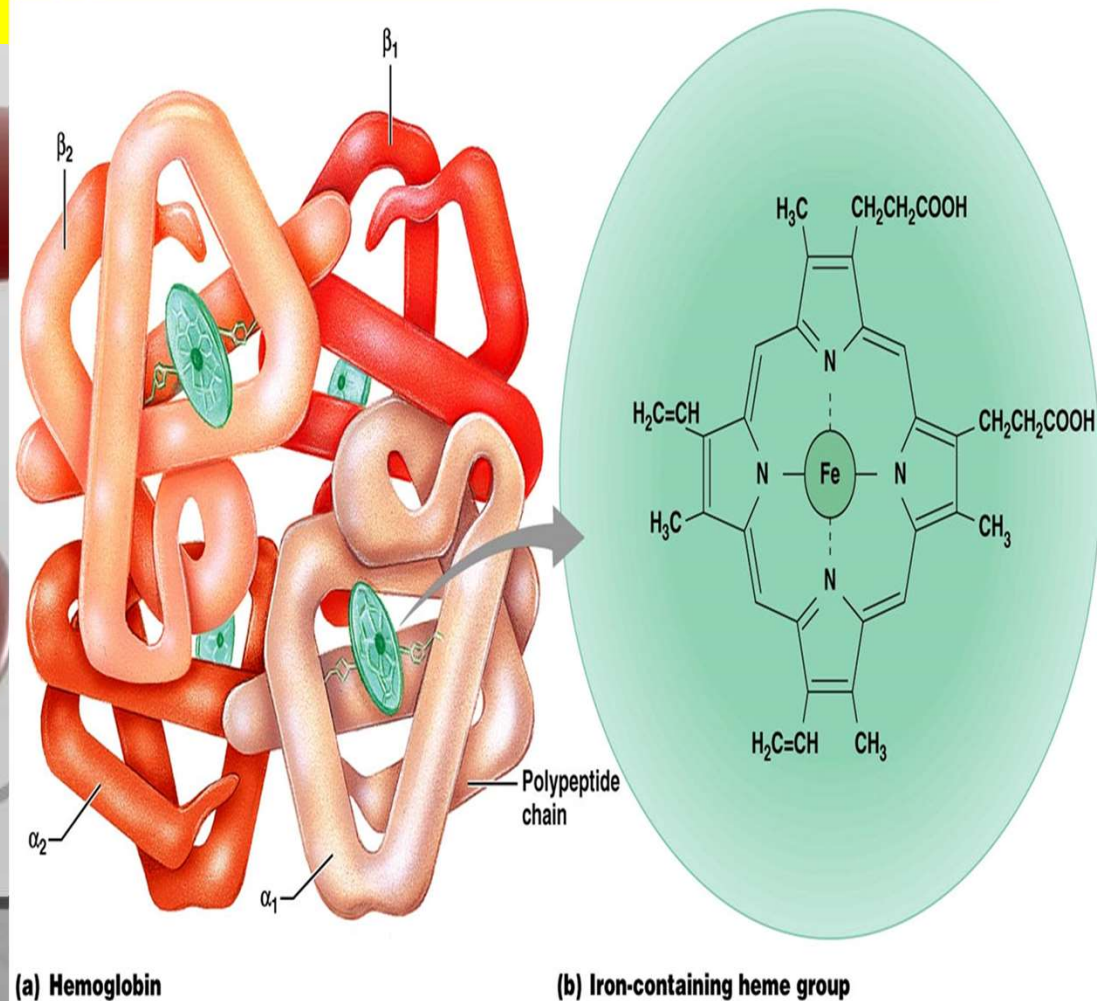
Figure 17.6

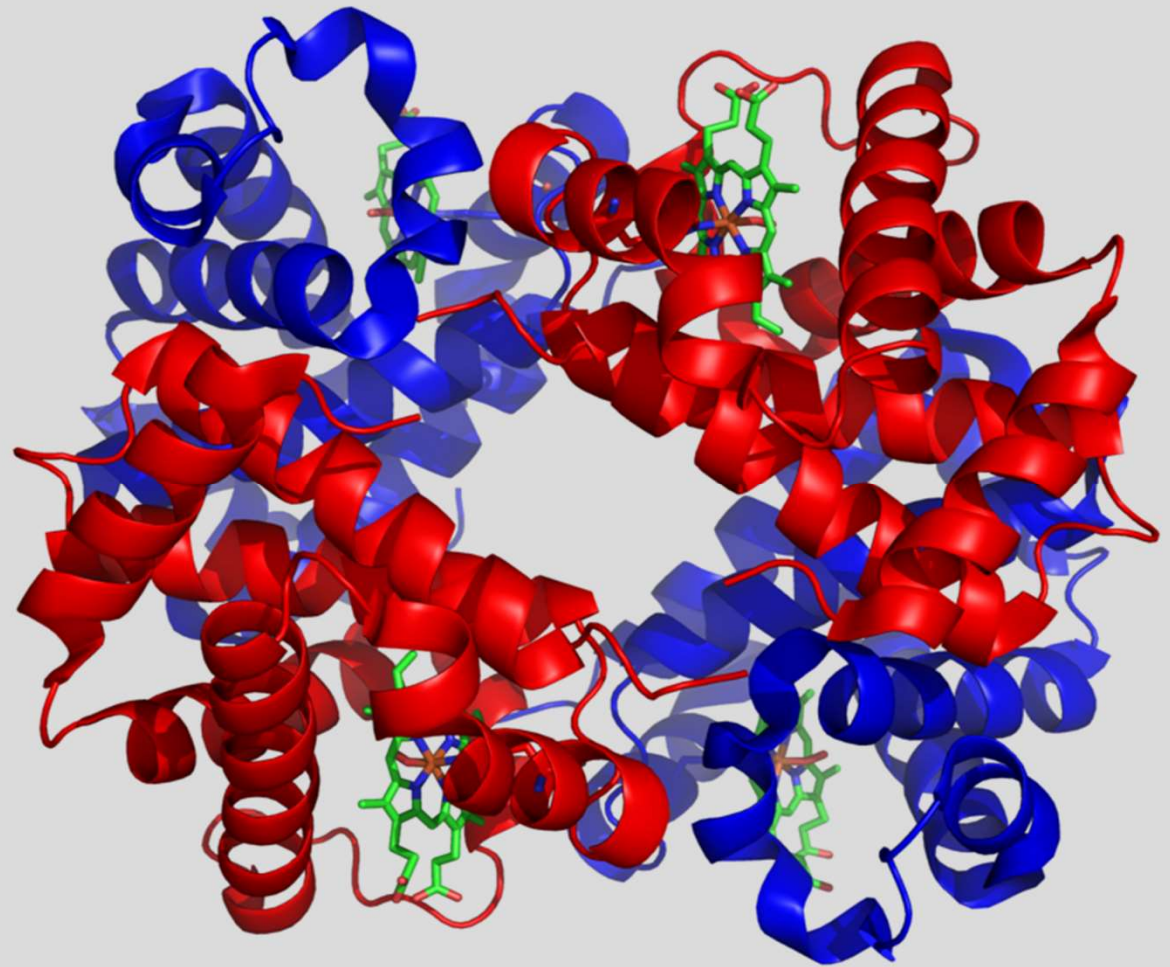
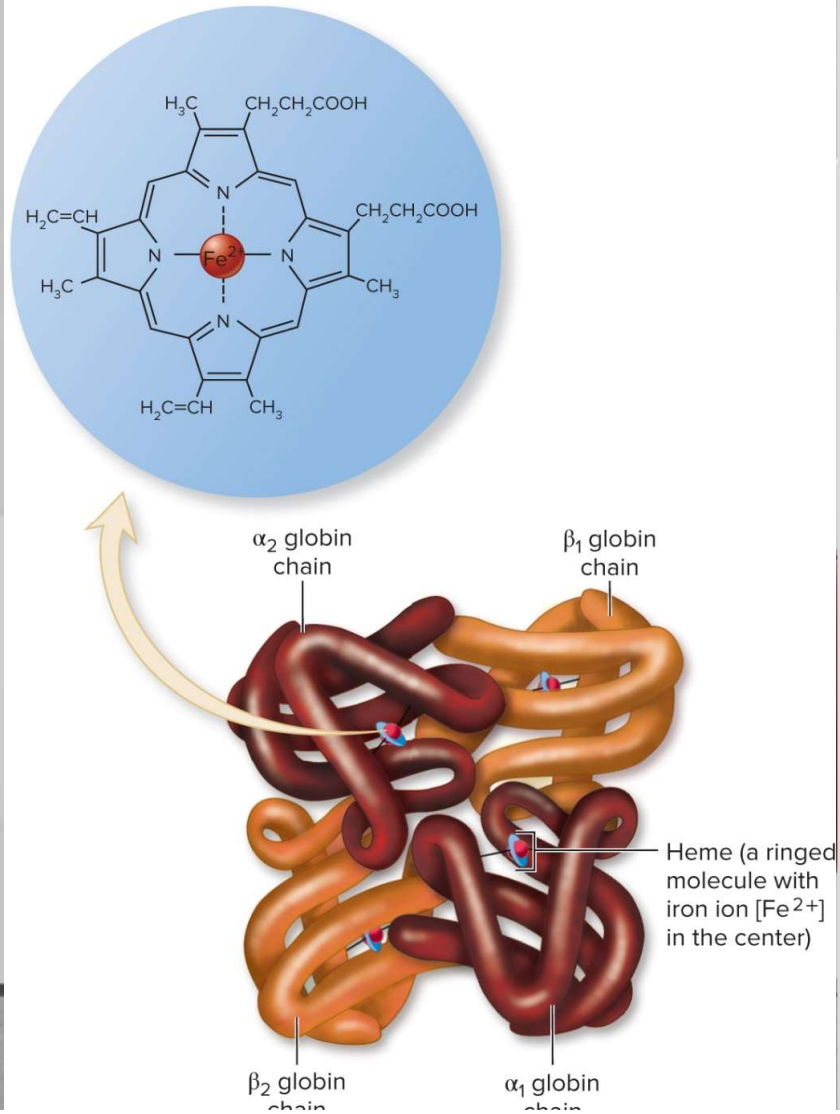
Hemoglobin

- Type:** Tetrameric protein (4 subunits)
- Subunits:** 2 alpha (α) and 2 beta (β) chains in adult hemoglobin (HbA)
- Heme group:** Each subunit contains one heme group with an iron (Fe^{2+}) ion that binds oxygen
- Binding Capacity:** One hemoglobin molecule can carry up to **4 oxygen molecules (O_2)**

Types of Hemoglobin

- HbA (Adult):** $\alpha_2\beta_2$ – most common in adults
- HbF (Fetal):** $\alpha_2\gamma_2$ – higher oxygen affinity, predominant in fetuses
- HbA2:** $\alpha_2\delta_2$ – minor adult component
- Abnormal forms:** e.g., **HbS** in sickle cell disease, **HbC**, **HbE**

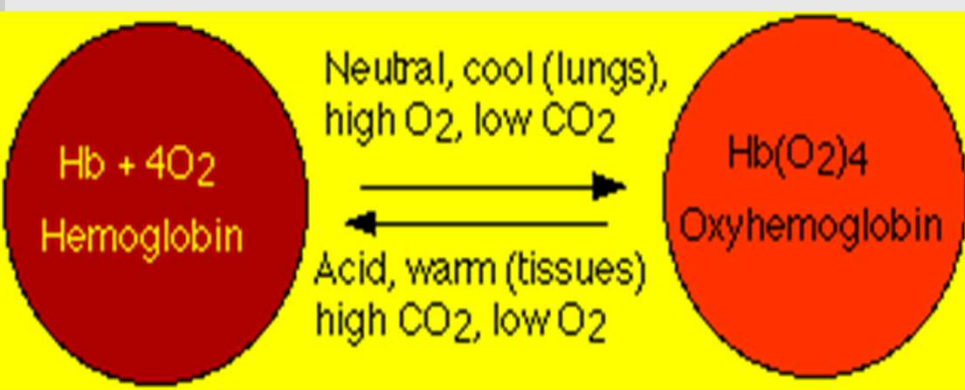




Hemoglobin (Hb)

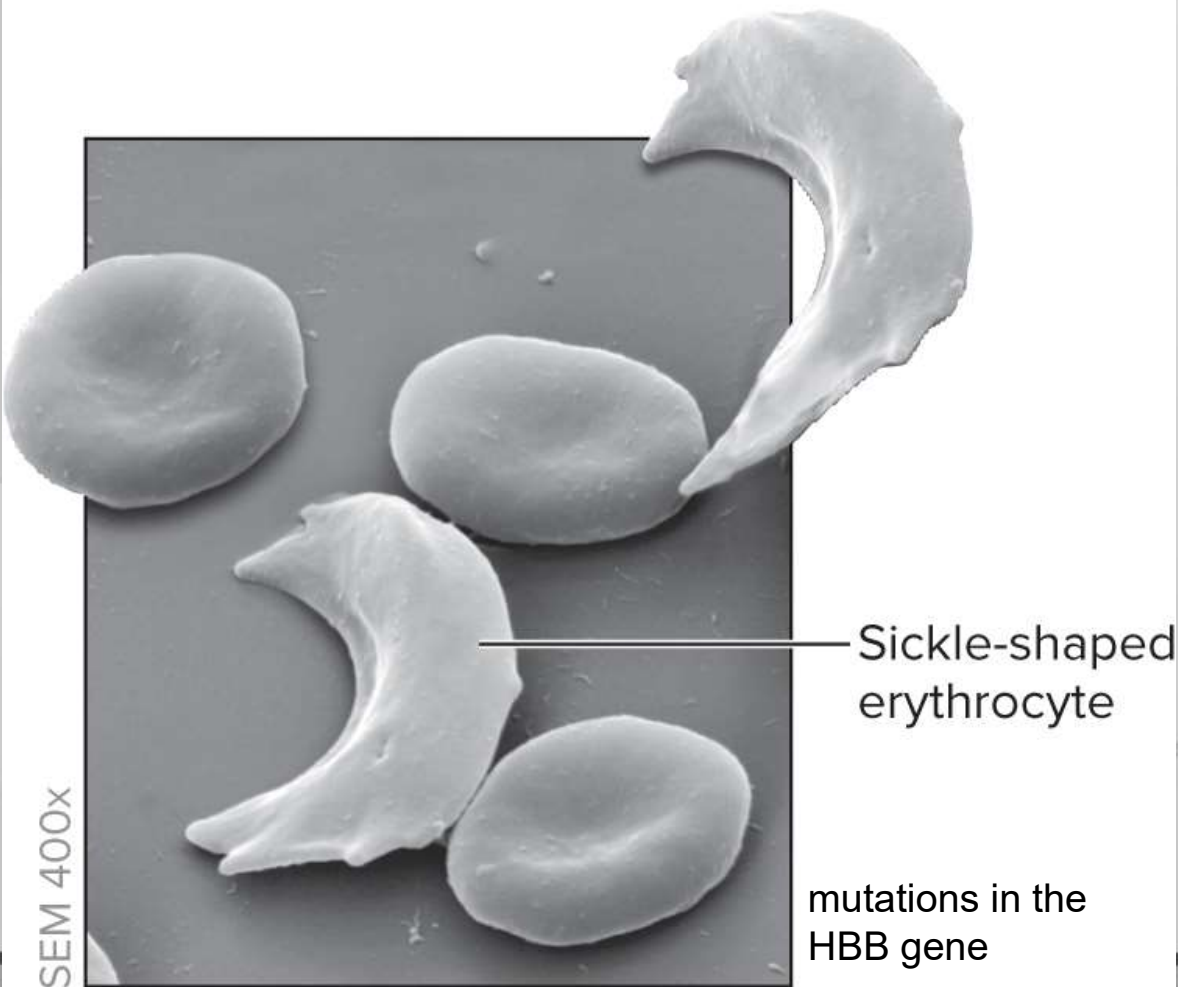
- ☐ **Men: 13.5 to 16.5 g/dl**
- ☐ **Women: 12.1 to 15.1 g/dl**
- ☐ **Children: 11 to 16 g/dl**
- ☐ **Pregnant women: 11 to 12 g/dl**

- **Oxyhemoglobin** – Hb bound to oxygen
 - Oxygen loading takes place in the lungs
- **Deoxyhemoglobin** – Hb after oxygen diffuses into tissues (reduced Hb)
- **Carbaminohemoglobin** – Hb bound to carbon dioxide
 - Carbon dioxide loading takes place in the tissues



Name of Hemoglobin	Subunit Structure	Time of Expression
Hemoglobin Portland	$\zeta_2\gamma_2$	Embryonic
Hemoglobin Gower I	$\zeta_2\varepsilon_2$	Embryonic
Hemoglobin Gower II	$\alpha_2\varepsilon_2$	Embryonic
Hemoglobin F	$\alpha_2\gamma_2$	Fetal
Hemoglobin Barts	γ_4	Fetal (pathologic Hb secondary to absence of all 4 α globulin genes; fatal in utero)
Hemoglobin A₂	$\alpha_2\delta_2$	Minor adult hemoglobin
Hemoglobin A	$\alpha_2\beta_2$	Major adult hemoglobin

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- The specific mutation results in the production of an abnormal form of hemoglobin known as **hemoglobin S**.
- This abnormal hemoglobin can cause red blood cells to become rigid and shaped like a crescent or sickle, leading to various health complications.

Some forms of SCD (sickle cell disease) include:

- Hemoglobin SS (HbSS)
- Hemoglobin SC (HbSC)
- Hemoglobin S β^0 thalassemia (HbS-beta 0 thalassemia)
- Hemoglobin S β^+ thalassemia (HbS-beta $^+$ thalassemia)
- Hemoglobin SD (HbSD)
- Hemoglobin SE (HbSE)

Clinical Significance

▼ Low Hemoglobin (Anemia):

- **Causes:** Iron deficiency, chronic disease, bone marrow disorders, bleeding, hemolysis
- **Symptoms:** Fatigue, pallor, shortness of breath, tachycardia

▲ High Hemoglobin (Polycythemia):

- **Causes:** Dehydration, smoking, high altitude, polycythemia vera
- **Risks:** Clot formation, stroke, hypertension

Diagnostic Tests

- **Complete Blood Count (CBC)** – measures hemoglobin, hematocrit, and RBCs
- **Hemoglobin electrophoresis** – identifies abnormal types (e.g., HbS, HbC)
- **Pulse oximetry** – indirect measure of oxygen saturation

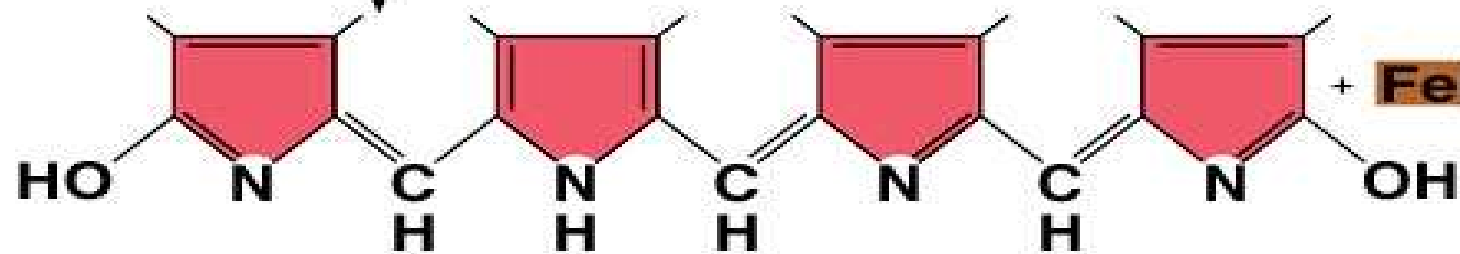
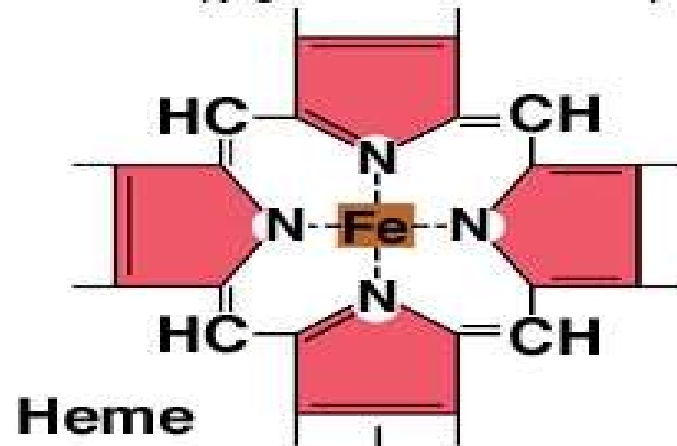


Erythrocyte Function

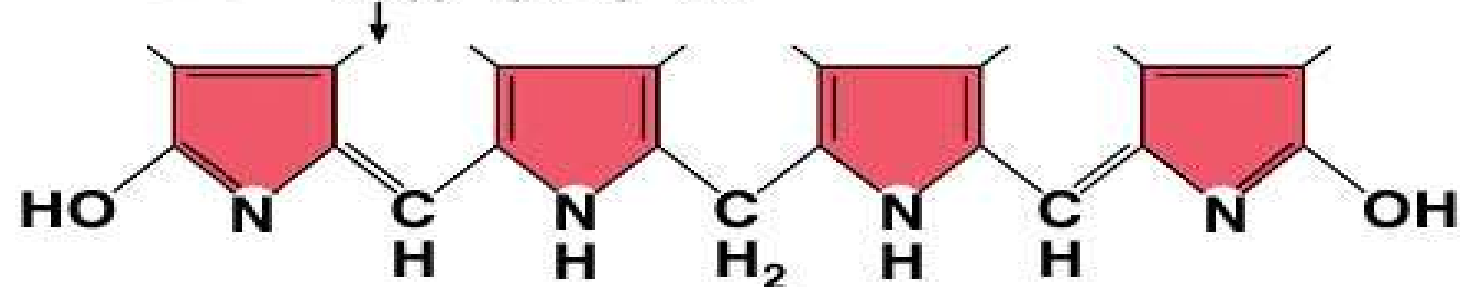
- RBCs are dedicated to respiratory gas transport
- Hb reversibly binds with oxygen and most oxygen in the blood is bound to Hb
- Hb is composed of the protein globin, made up of two alpha and two beta chains, each bound to a heme group
- Each heme group bears an atom of iron, which can bind to one oxygen molecule
- Each Hb molecule can transport four molecules of oxygen

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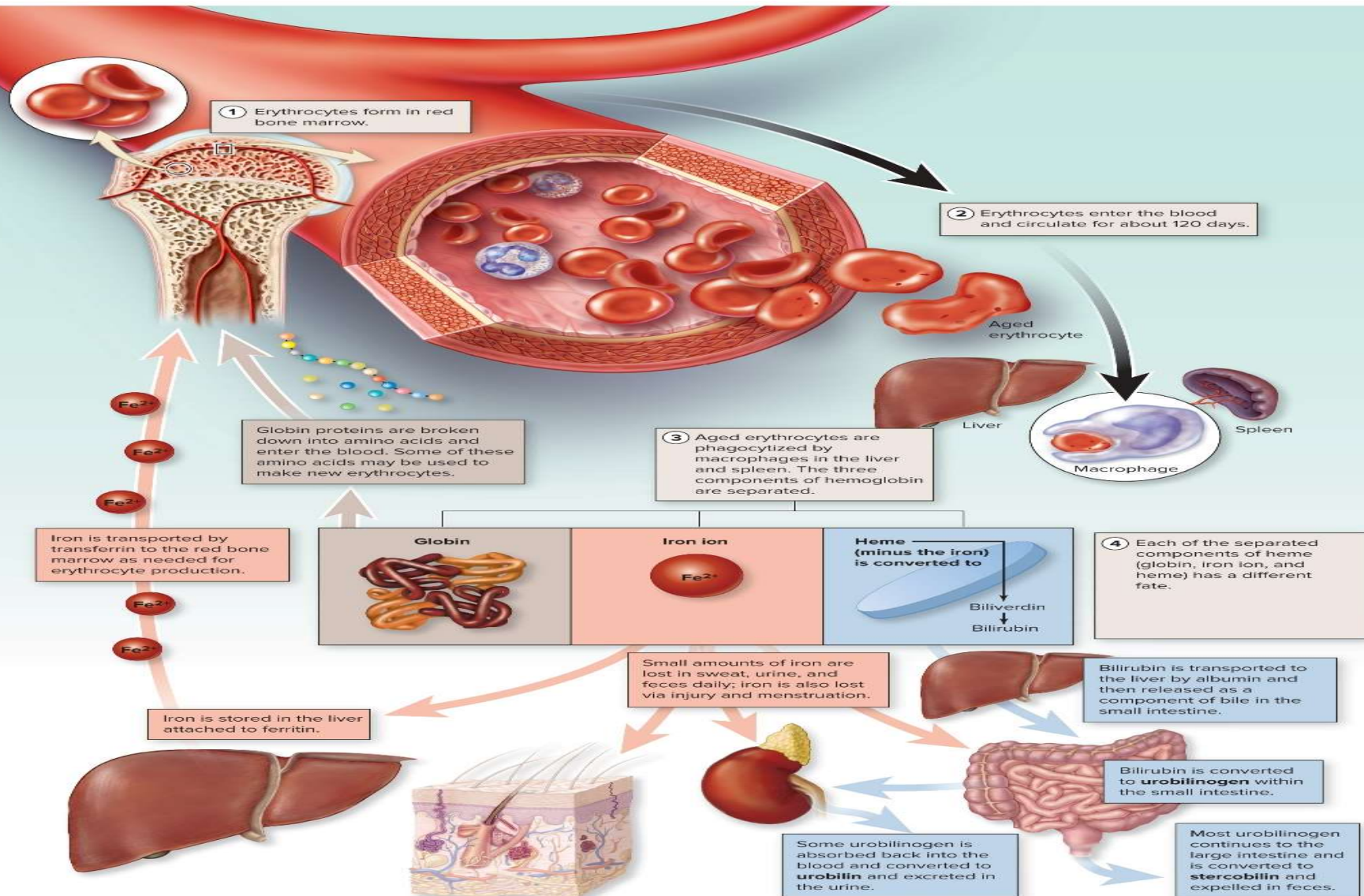
Decomposition of Hemoglobin Molecule



Biliverdin (C₃₃H₃₄O₆N₄)



Bilirubin (C₃₃H₃₆O₆N₄)



Mean Corpuscular Volume (MCV)

- The MCV is the average or mean volume of a single red blood cell expressed in cubic micrometers (μm^3 or femtoliters).

- *Formula*
$$MCV = \frac{Hct \times 10}{[RBC]}$$
- *For example*

The common causes of microcytic and hypochromic anemia (decreased MCV and MCH) like thalassemia, iron deficiency

- $PCV = 45\%$ RBC count = 5.0 million/ mm^3 = Packed cell volume (PCV) in 100 ml blood = hematocrit
- $MCV = 45 \div 5 = 90 \mu\text{m}^3$
- Normal range = 74 – 95 μm^3

Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin (MCH)

- Both mean corpuscular hemoglobin (MCH) and mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration (MCHC) reflect the average hemoglobin content of red blood cells

$$\text{MCH} = \frac{\text{Hb (g/dL)} \times 10}{\text{RBC count (millions/mm}^3\text{)}}$$

labpedia.net

$$\text{MCHC} = \frac{\text{Hb (g/dL)} \times 100}{\text{Hct}}$$

labpedia.net

Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin
Concentration (MCHC)

The MCHC represents the relationship between the red cell volume and its degree or percentage saturation with hemoglobin, that is, how many parts or volumes of a red cell are occupied by Hb.

BLOOD INDICES

MCV

Mean corpuscular volume

is a measure of the average volume of a single red blood corpuscle

$$\text{MCV} = \frac{\text{HCT}}{\text{RBC count}} \times 10 = \dots\dots \text{FL}$$

76 : 95

MCH

Mean Hemoglobin volume

The average amount of hemoglobin per red blood cell by the red blood cell count

$$\text{MCH} = \frac{\text{Hb}}{\text{RBC count}} \times 10 = \dots\dots \text{Pg.}$$

27 : 34

MCHC

Mean Hemoglobin Concentration

The average concentration of hemoglobin per unit volume of red blood cells

$$\text{MCHC} = \frac{\text{Hb}}{\text{HCT}} \times 100 = \dots\dots \%$$

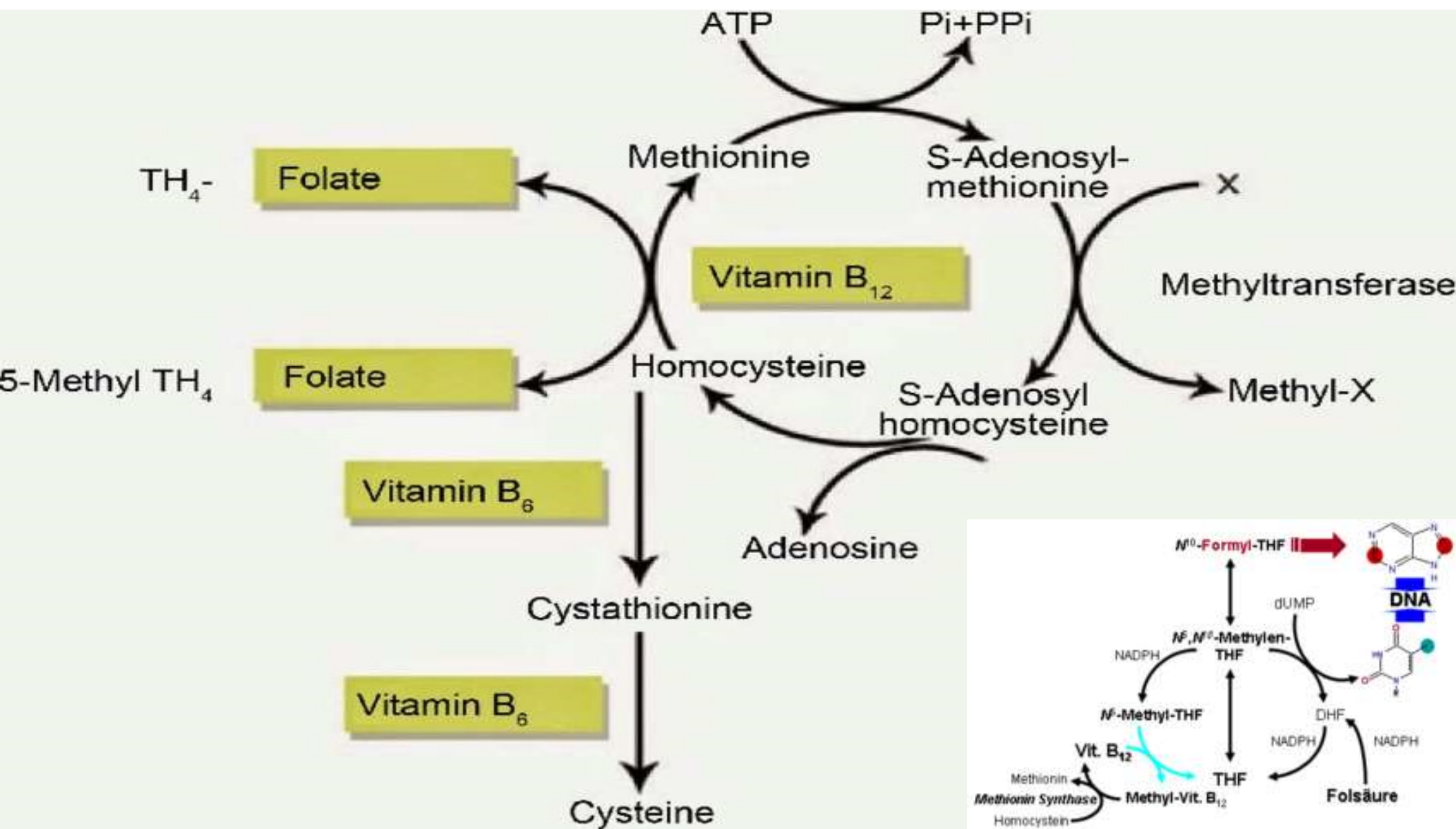
32 : 39

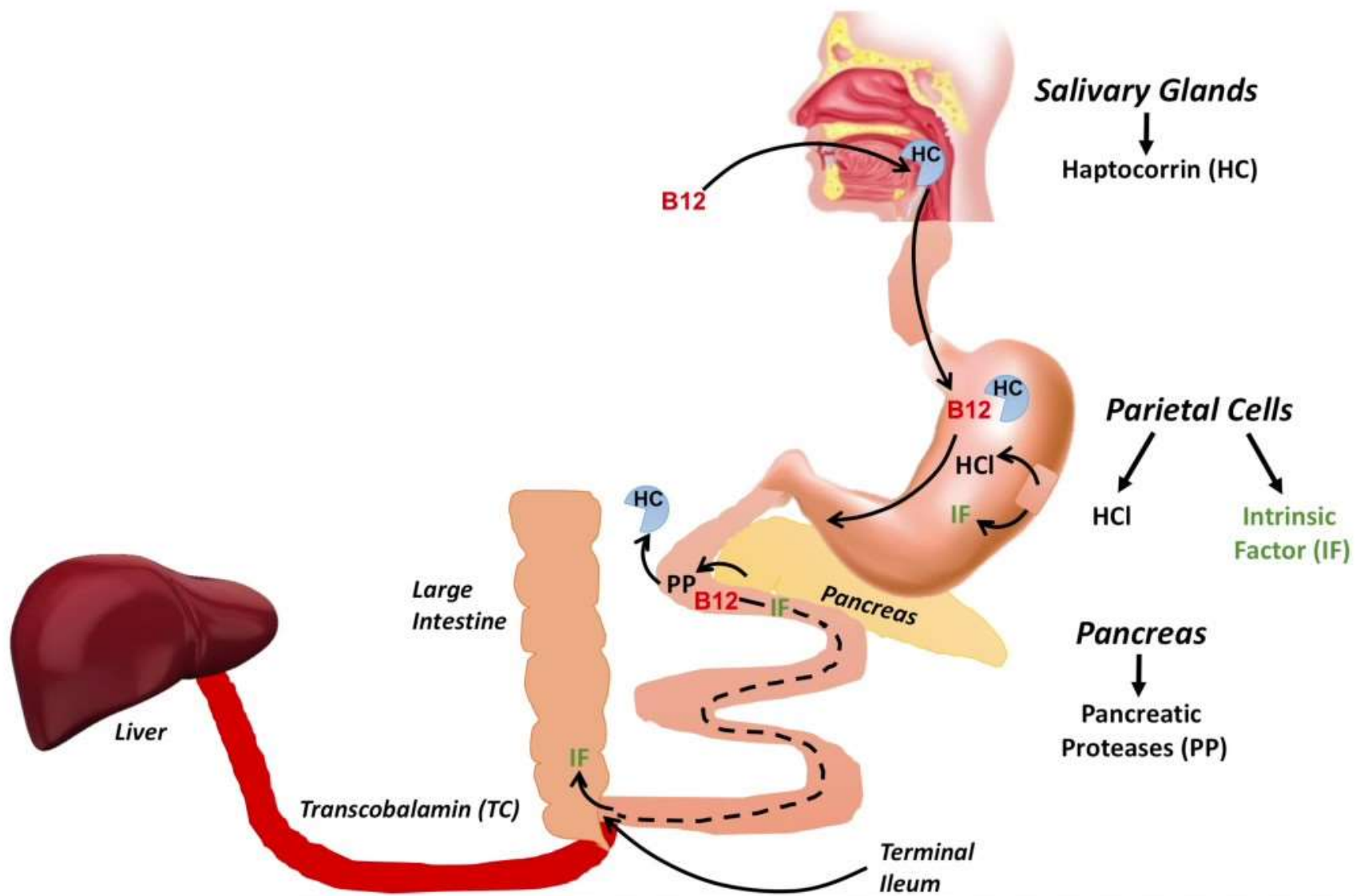
VITAMINS

- **B₁₂: Cyanocobalamine & Folic Acid:[dna formation]**
 - Is also called **Extrinsic Factor of Castle**.
 - Needs the **Intrinsic Factor** from the Gastric juice for absorption from Small Intestine.
 - Deficiency causes **Pernicious** (When IF is missing) or Megaloblastic Anemia.
 - Stimulates Erythropoiesis
 - Is found in meat & diary products.

Iron functions

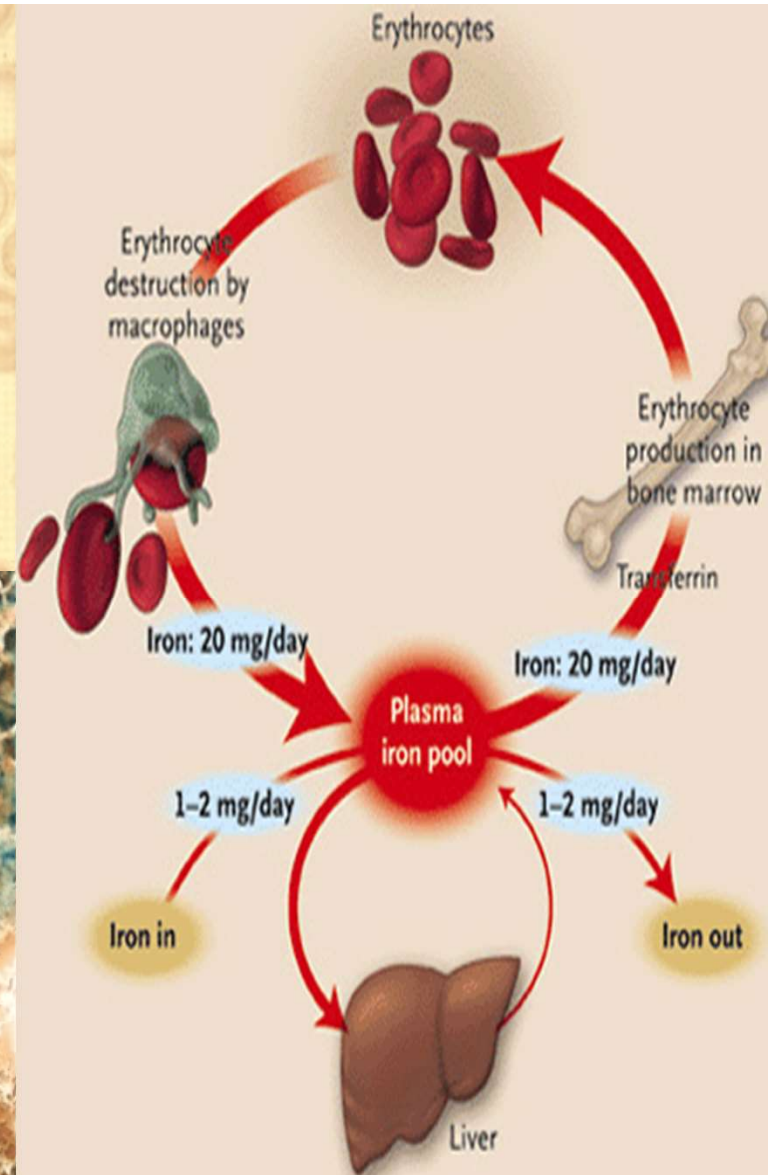
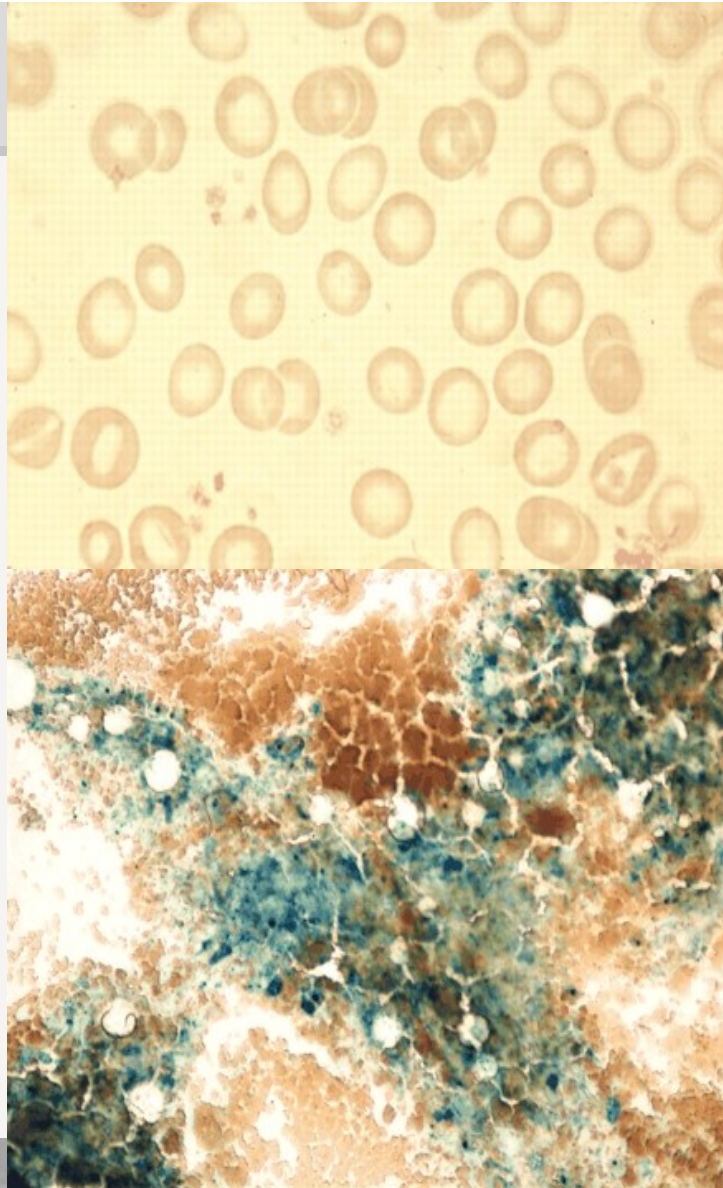
- **Oxygen carriers**
 - hemoglobin
- **Oxygen storage**
 - Myoglobin
- **Energy Production**
 - Cytochromes (oxidative phosphorylation)
 - Krebs cycle enzymes
- **Other**
 - Liver detoxification (cytochrome p450)





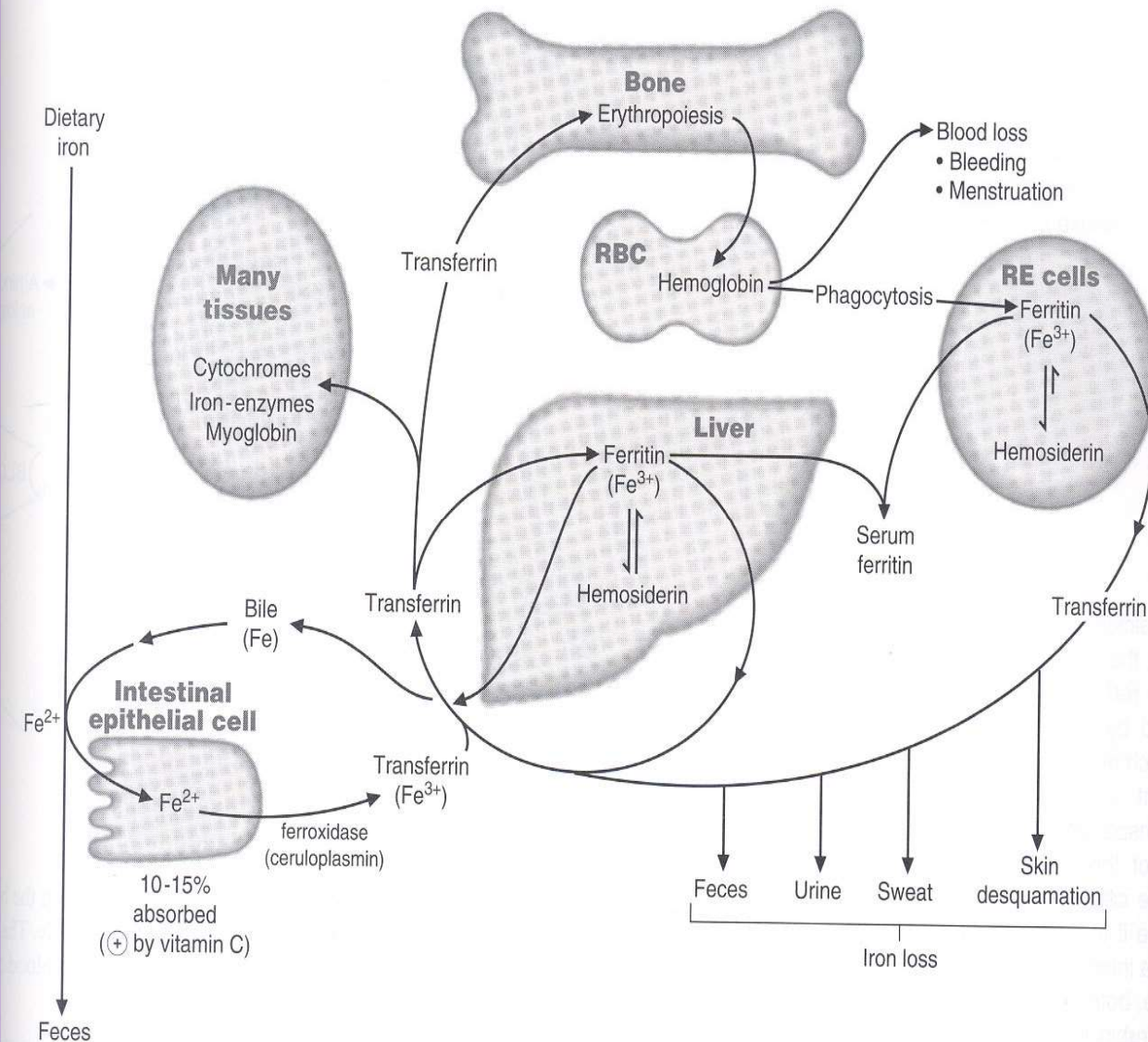
IRON

- Essential for the synthesis of **Hemoglobin**.
- Deficiency causes **Microcytic, Hypochromic Anemia**.
- The **MCV, Color Index & MCH** are low.

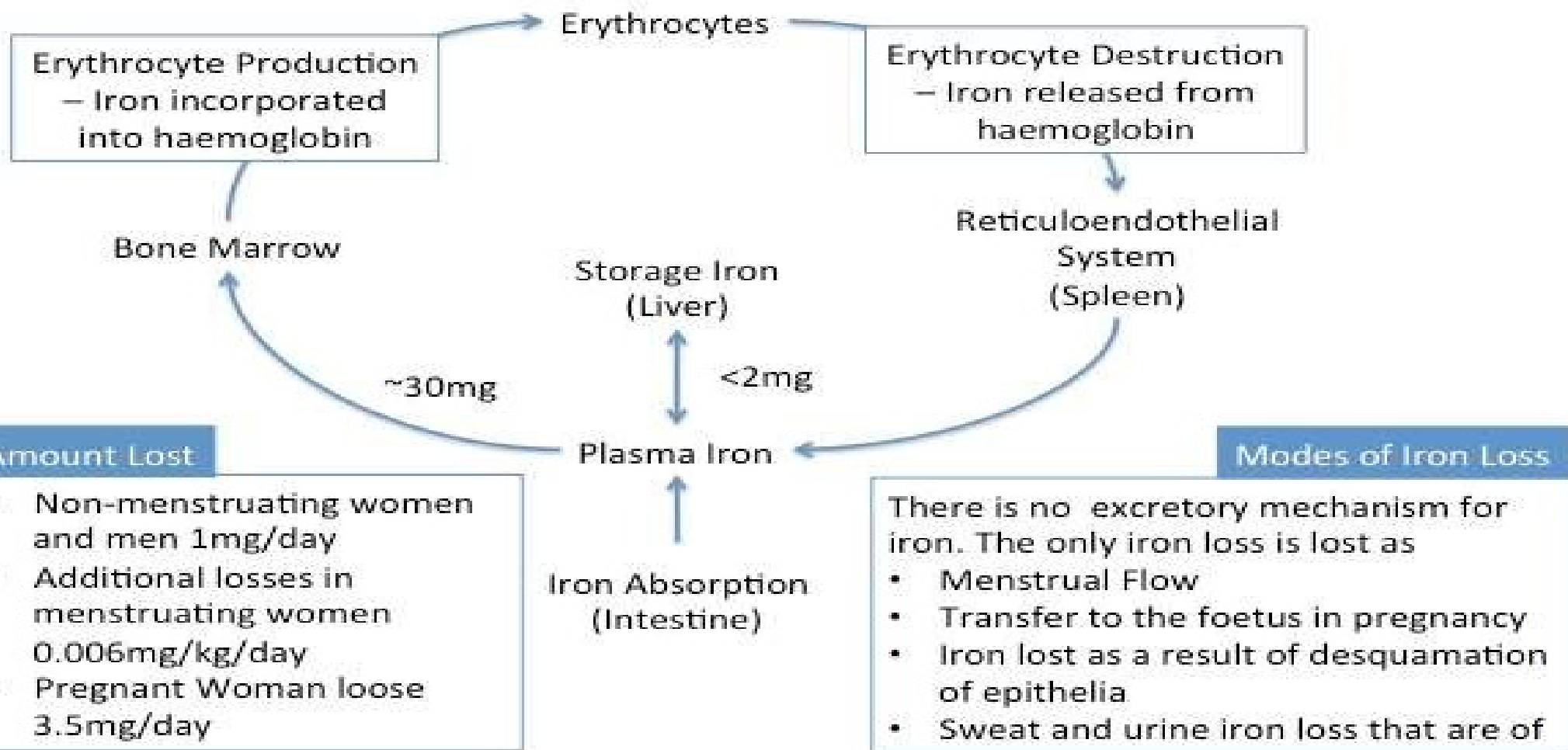


Iron Distribution

- **35 – 45 mg / kg iron in adult male body**
- **Total approx 4 g**
 - **Red cell mass as hemoglobin - 50%**
 - **Muscles as myoglobin - 7%**
 - **Storage as ferritin - 30%**
 - **Bone marrow (7%)**
 - **Reticulo-endothelial cells (7%)**
 - **Liver (25%)**
 - **Other Heme proteins - 5%**
 - **Cytochromes, myoglobin, others**
 - **In Serum - 0.1%**

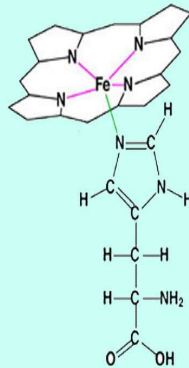


The Iron Cycle



Iron Absorption

Heme



Tf-Fe³⁺

Tf

Enterocyte

Heme

Hemoglobin
Myoglobin

Stomach

Duodenum

Iron absorbed as Heme-Iron

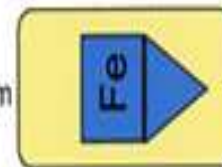
Iron Metabolism

Dietary Fe



Stomach

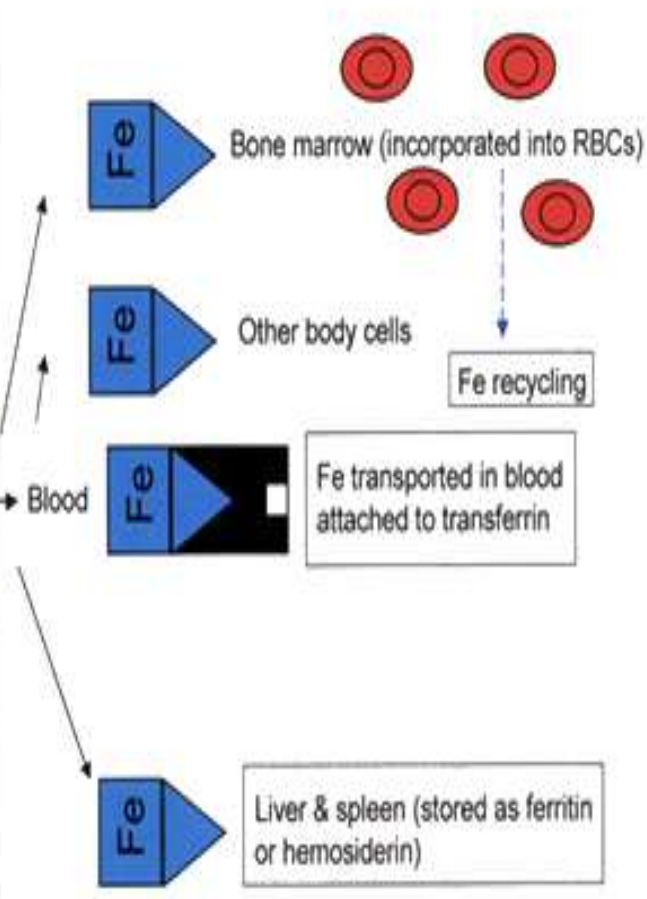
Duodenum



10% - 15%
absorption by
mucosal cells

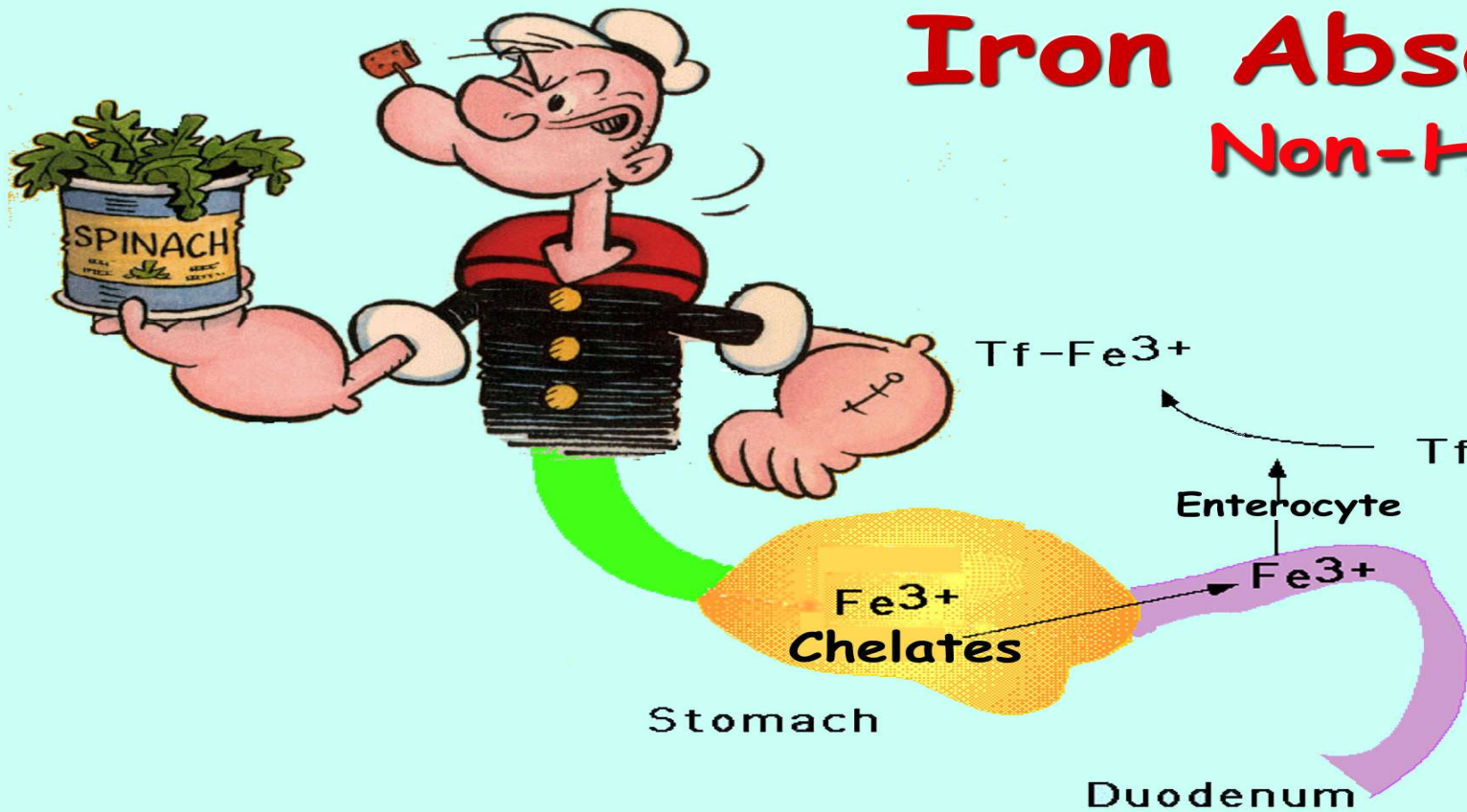


85% - 90% excreted
in feces, urine, sweat



Iron Absorption

Non-Heme



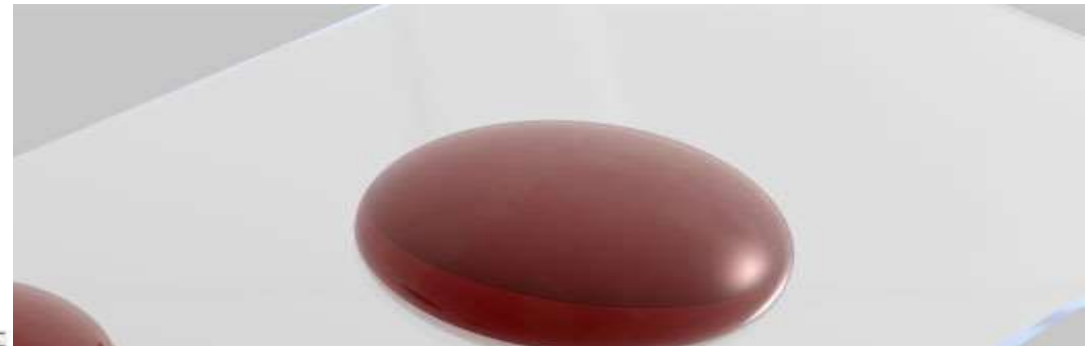
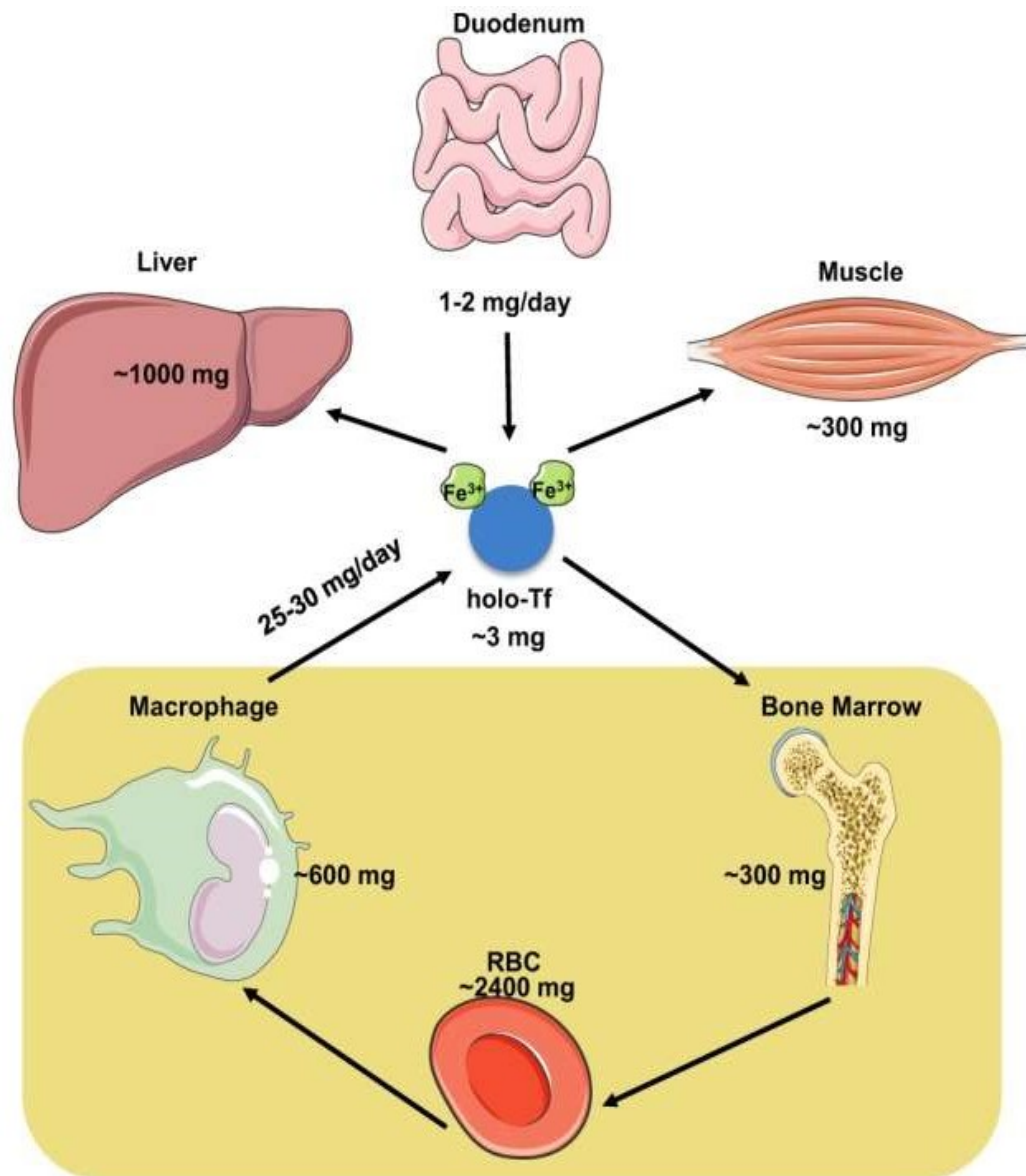
Factors That Influence Iron Absorption

Physical State (bioavailability): $\text{heme} > \text{Fe}^{2+} > \text{Fe}^{3+}$

Inhibitors: phytates, tannins, soil clay, antacids, iron overload

Competitors: cobalt, lead, strontium, manganese, zinc

Facilitators: ascorbate, citrate, amino acids, iron deficiency



- Iron from hemoglobin transported by **transferrin** protein to liver
 - Bound to storage proteins: **ferritin**, **hemosiderin**
 - Most is bound to ferritin and stored in liver and spleen
 - Transported to red bone marrow as needed for erythrocyte production

Iron Transport in Blood

- **Red cells**
 - As hemoglobin
 - Cannot be exchanged
- **Plasma**
 - Bound to Transferrin
 - Carries iron between body locations
 - eg between gut, liver, bone marrow, macrophages
 - Iron taken up into cells by transferrin receptors

Transferrin

- **Synthesised in the liver.**
- Each molecule binds can bind two Fe^{3+} molecules (oxidised)
- Contains 95% of serum Fe.
- Usually about 30% saturated with Fe.
- **Production decreased in iron overload.**
- **Production increased in iron deficiency.**
- **Measured in blood as a marker of iron status.**

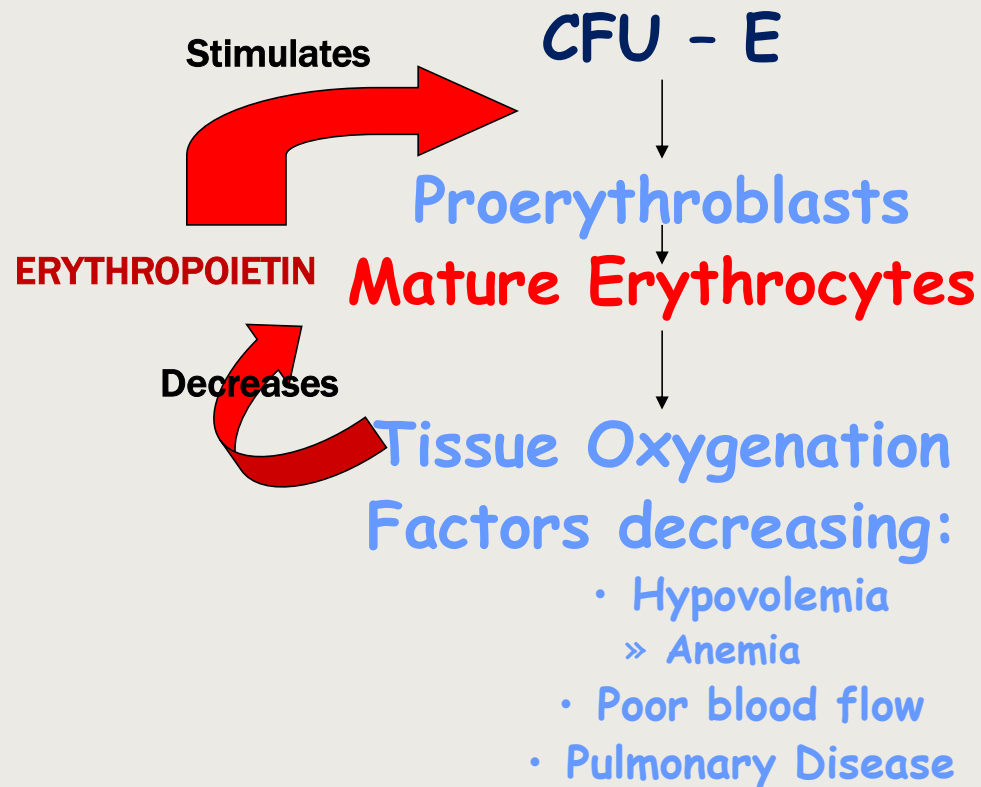
Transferrin Testing

- A routine blood test used for iron status
- Also known as TIBC (total iron binding capacity)
- *High levels:*
 - Low body iron stores.
- *Low levels:*
 - High body iron stores.
- *Other conditions*
 - Increase: high oestrogen states (pregnancy, OCP)
 - Decrease: malnutrition, chronic liver disease, chronic disease (eg malignancy), protein-losing states, congenital deficiency, neonates, acute phase (negative reactant).

Dietary Requirements of Erythropoiesis

- **Erythropoiesis requires:**
 - Proteins, lipids, and carbohydrates
 - Iron, vitamin B₁₂, and folic acid
- The body stores iron in Hb (65%), **the liver, spleen, and bone marrow**
- Intracellular iron is stored in protein-iron complexes such as **ferritin and hemosiderin**
- Circulating iron is loosely bound to the transport protein transferrin

REGULATION OF ERYTHROPOIESIS

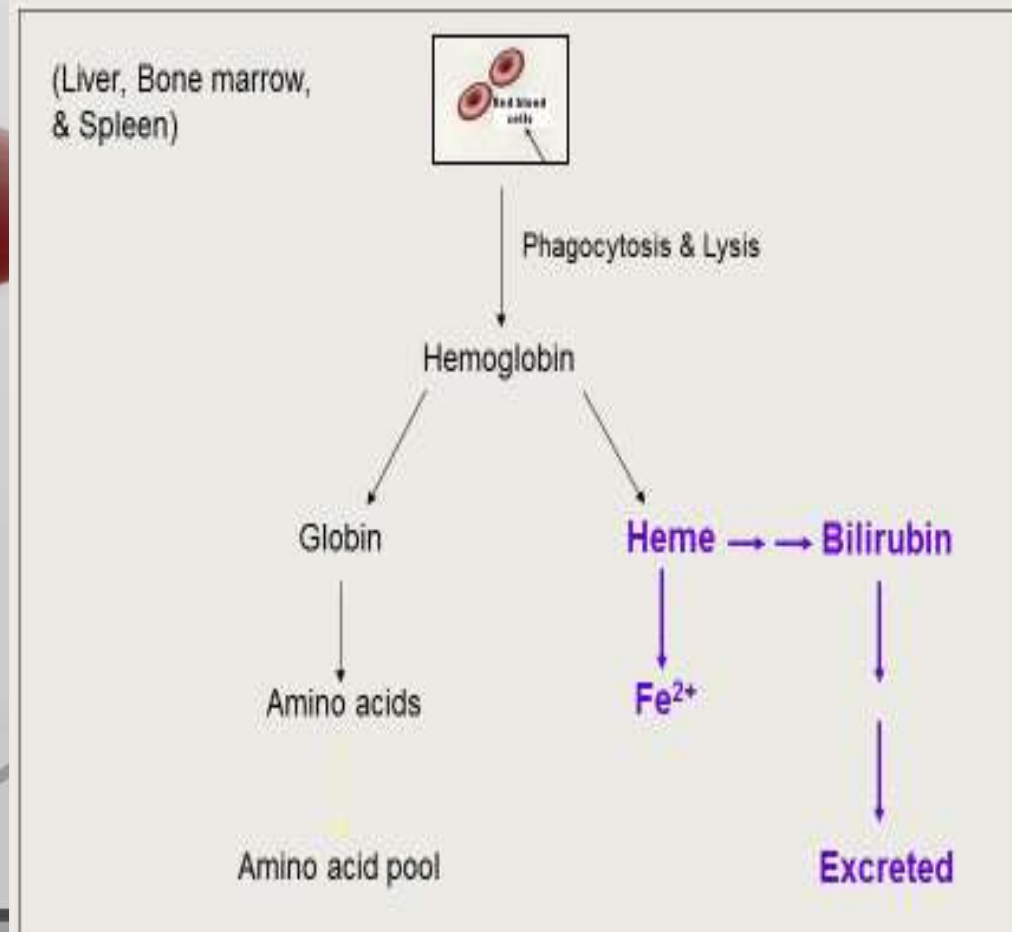


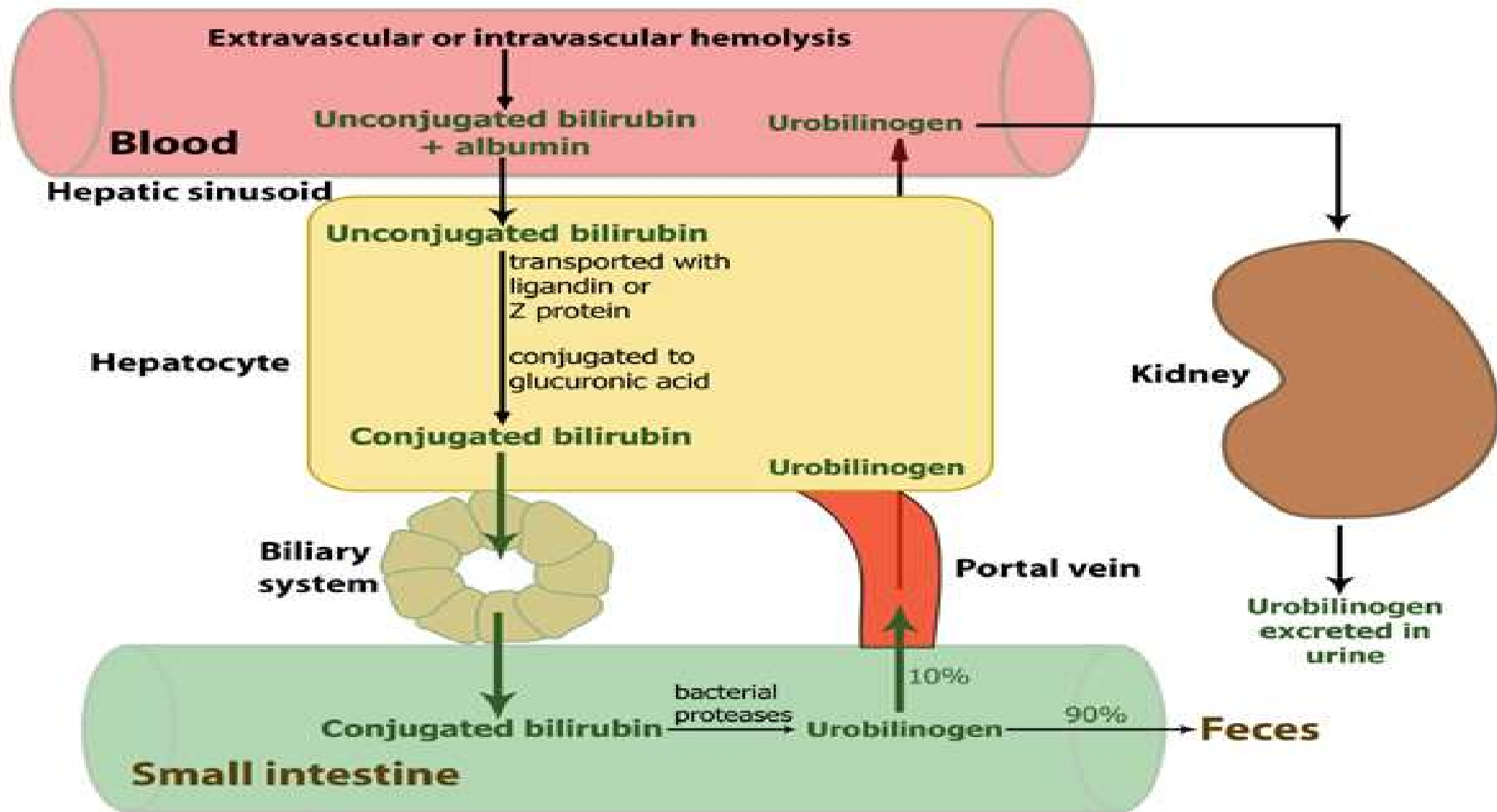
An example of a
Negative feed back
mechanism

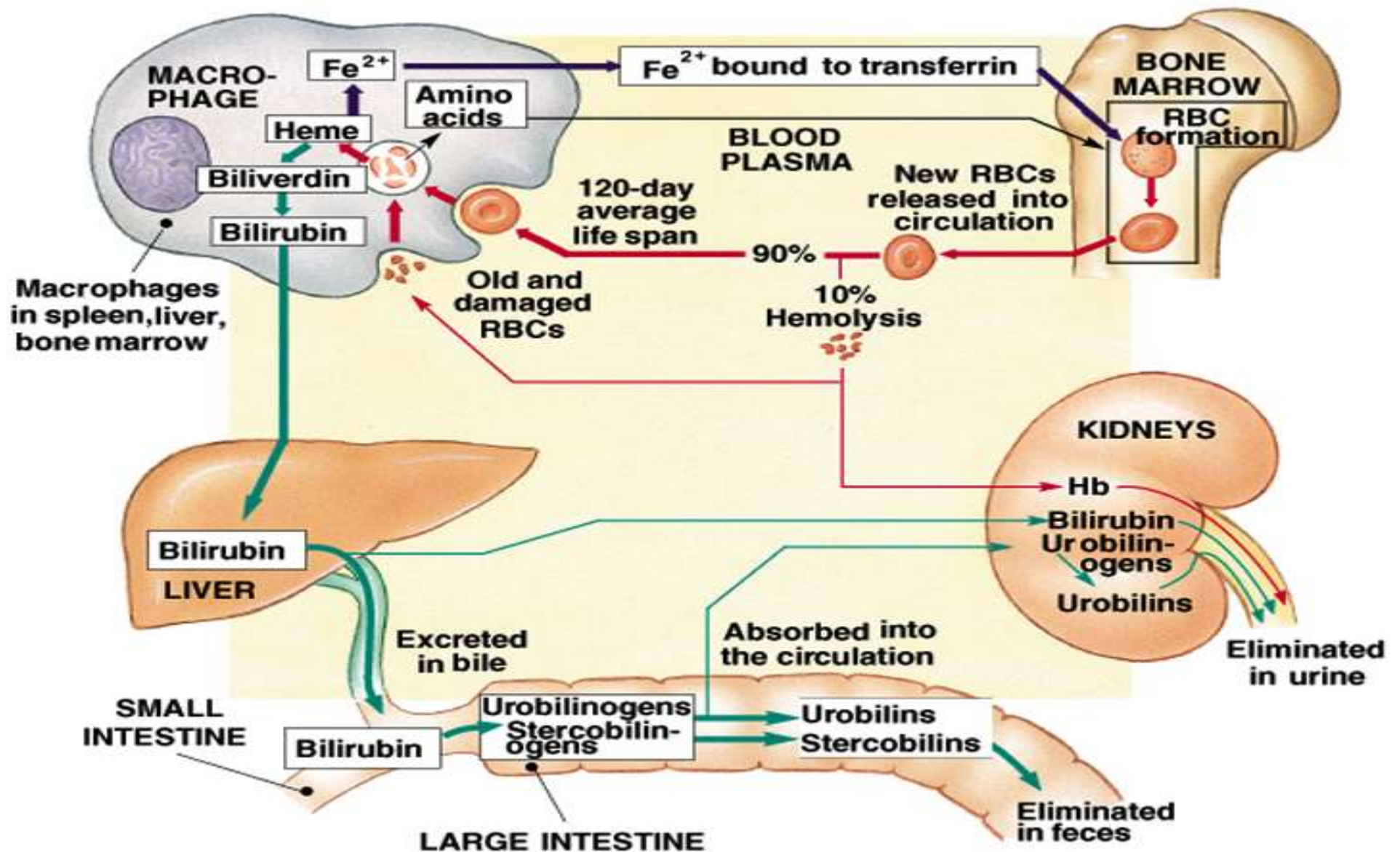
Fate and Destruction of Erythrocytes

- The life span of an erythrocyte is **100–120 days**
- Old RBCs become rigid and fragile, and their Hb begins to degenerate
- Dying RBCs are engulfed by macrophages
- Heme and globin are separated and the iron is salvaged for reuse
- Heme is degraded to a yellow pigment called bilirubin
- The liver secretes bilirubin into the intestines as bile
- The intestines metabolize it into urobilinogen
- This degraded pigment leaves the body in feces, in a pigment called stercobilin
- 75% is derived from RBCs
- In normal adults this results in a daily load of 250-300 mg of bilirubin
- Normal plasma concentrations are less than 1 mg/dL
- Hydrophobic – transported by albumin to the liver for further metabolism prior to its excretion

Extravascular Pathway for RBC Destruction







Handling of Free (Intravascular) Hemoglobin

- Purposes:**
1. Scavenge iron
 2. Prevent major iron losses
 3. Complex free heme (very toxic)
- **Haptoglobin:** hemoglobin-haptoglobin complex is readily metabolized in the liver and spleen forming an iron-globin complex and bilirubin. Prevents loss of iron in urine.
 - **Hemopexin:** binds free heme. The heme-hemopexin complex is taken up by the liver and the iron is stored bound to ferritin.
 - **Methemalbumin:** complex of oxidized heme and albumin.

Clinical View: Blood Doping

Used by some athletes to enhance performance

One method, self donation of erythrocytes

- Blood removal prior to competition increases EPO production
- Erythrocytes transfused back prior to competition

Second method: pharmaceutical EPO

Dangers

- ***Increased blood viscosity***
- ***Heart required to work harder***
- ***May cause permanent cardiovascular damage***
- ***Banned from athletic competition***

Clinical View: Anemia

Either the percentage of erythrocytes is lower than normal or the oxygen-carrying capacity is reduced

- Symptoms: lethargy, shortness of breath, pallor, palpitations
- Types:
 - **Aplastic anemia** – defective red marrow due to poisons, toxins, radiation
 - **Congenital hemolytic anemia** – genetic defect; erythrocytes destroyed
 - **Erythroblastic anemia** – large numbers of immature cells due to abnormal accelerated cell maturation
 - **Hemorrhagic anemia** – due to blood loss
 - **Pernicious anemia** – failure to absorb vitamin B12 due to lack of intrinsic factor
 - **Sickle-cell disease** – genetic defect; abnormal hemoglobin
- Some cases can be treated by pharmaceutical EPO

Development and Aging of Blood₂

Aging and blood

- Older red bone marrow replaced with fat as individuals age
- Older individuals more likely to become anemic
- May produce fewer and less active leukocytes
- Certain types of leukemia more prevalent in elderly

Role of Metabolic Pathways

Pathway	Enzymes	Role	Problems
EMP Embden–Meyerhof–Parnas most common type of glycolysis	<u>Phosphofructokinase</u> <u>Pyruvate kinase (PK)</u>	Produce ATP RBC Shape (ion pumps)	Hemolytic Anemia PK Deficiency
HMS hexose monophosphate shunt metabolic pathway parallel to glycolysis	<u>Glutathione Reductase</u> <u>G6PD</u>	NADPH Production OXY-METH HB Balance	Hemolytic Anemias
RLB	<u>DPG Synthetase</u>	2,3-DPG Production HB Oxygen Affinity	Hypoxia
MHBR Methemoglobin Reductase	<u>Methemoglobin</u> <u>reductase</u>	Protects HB from Oxidation via NADH	Hemolytic Anemia Hypoxia