

PATHOLOGY OF HEMATOLYMPHOID SYSTEM NON-NEOPLASTIC WBC DISORDERS



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WHITE BLOOD CELL DISORDERS

- Disorders include deficiency (leukopenia) and proliferation (leukocytosis)
- Leukocytosis: increased number of WBC in peripheral blood (any cause). If benign, it is called reactive leukocytosis
 - Leukemia: increased number of WBC in peripheral blood secondary to neoplastic disease
 - ↳ Secondary to a stimulus as a reaction/ Idiopathic
 - Leukocytosis is more common than leukopenia
 - Reactive leukocytosis is more common than leukemia

RBCs Disorders: Anemia more common than polycythemia



NEUTROPENIA / AGRANULOCYTOSIS

(Low Neutrophil Count
more serious than Neutrophilia

- Patients become susceptible to infections (namely bacterial and fungal)
- If neutrophil count drops below 500 cells/uL → spontaneous infection *by the normal bacteria in the body*.
- Decreased production: aplastic anemia, myelophthisic anemia, myelodysplastic syndrome, advanced megaloblastic anemia, chemotherapy, drugs (anti-epileptic, anti-hyperthyroidism)
 - ↳ patients with these medicines should routinely check their WBC count.
- Increased destruction: *immune mediated*, splenomegaly, *systemic lupus erythematosus*, overwhelming bacterial, fungal or rickettsial infections
 - ↳ The organism destroy the neutrophils
 - In case of hemolytic anemia when it's severe it will lead to destruction of leukocytes.



REACTIVE LEUKOCYTOSIS

Neutrophilia leads to leukocytosis / it's has the greatest ratio in WBCs

1st Most common cause of leukocytosis

- Neutrophilia: infections, inflammation (necrosis)

2nd

- Lymphocytosis: viral infections, Bordetella pertussis infection, chronic infections (TB, brucellosis) → In children more common than neutrophilia.

3rd

- Non-specific acute chronic more common
- Monocytosis: chronic infections, rheumatologic diseases, inflammatory bowel disease

→ specific diseases not general

- Eosinophilia: asthma, allergic diseases, drug sensitivity, parasitic infections, Hodgkin lymphoma (neoplastic)
G worms
- Basophilia: rare, seen in myeloproliferative neoplasms

→ like P.Vera.



REACTIVE LYMPHADENITIS

↳ benign
↳ Antigenic

- Antigenic stimulation in lymph nodes
- Causes lymph node enlargement (lymphadenopathy)
- Can be localized or generalized
 - ↳ in certain area of lymph nodes

↳ Can either be benign or malignant



ACUTE NON-SPECIFIC LYMPHADENITIS

↳ usually follows an acute infection

- Swollen, enlarged and painful lymph nodes

↳ Rapid enlargement → stretch the nerves around the lymph nodes

- Overlying skin is red and may develop a sinus tract

↳ In very severe cases

↳ tract of inflammatory cells from the lymph node to skin.

- The germinal centers in the lymph node are enlarged, ^{and} crowded infiltrated by neutrophils. With severe infection, liquefactive necrosis develop and may enlarge to form an abscess.

↳ Not common in lymph nodes

↳ liquid like tissue due to necrosis.
↳ Histological term

↳ Medical term

↳ formation at a mass of tissue.



CHRONIC NON-SPECIFIC LYMPHADENITIS

3 types

most common

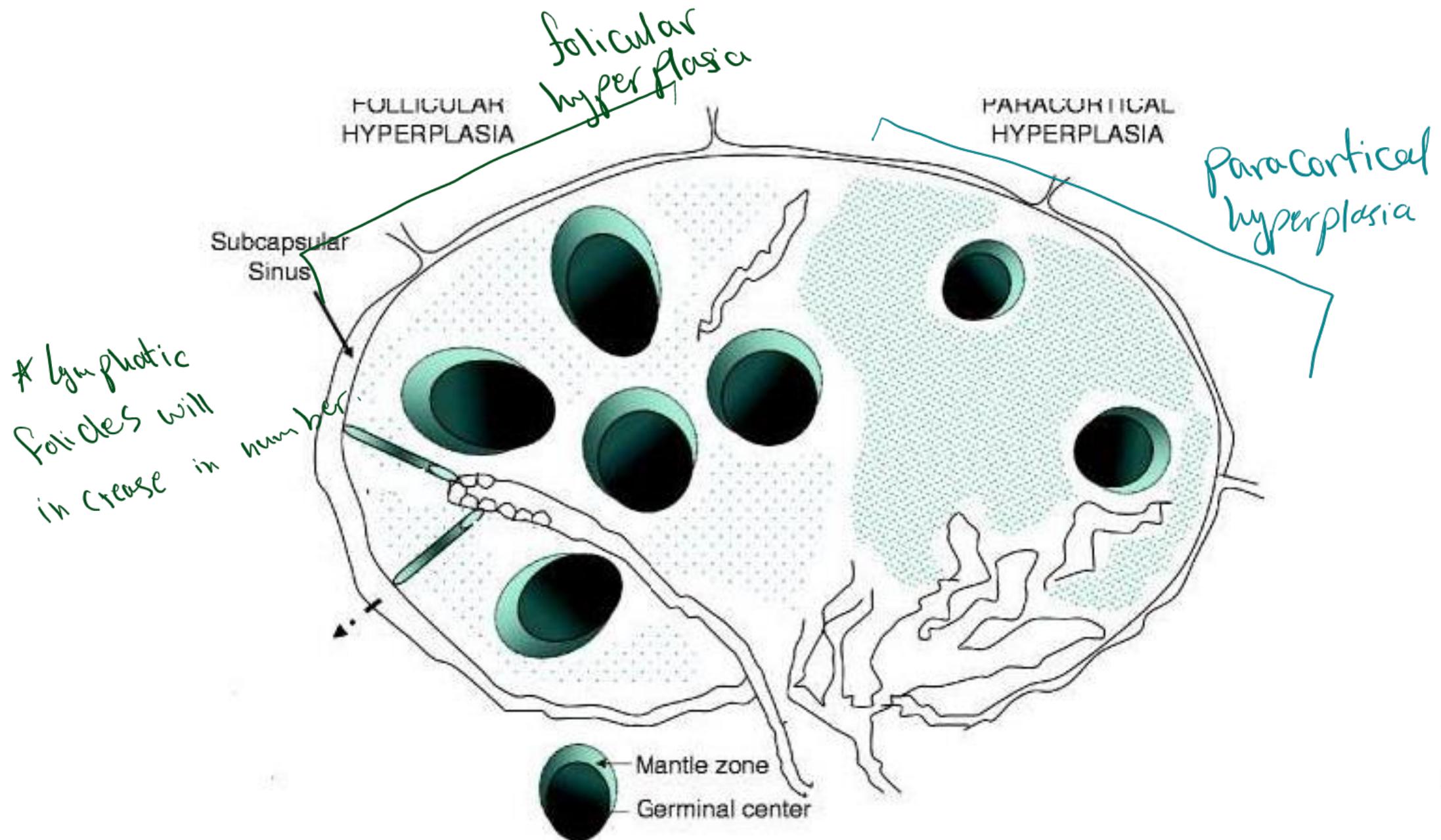
least common

- Chronic enlargement of lymph node, painless *Benign*
- Follicular hyperplasia: chronic proliferation of B-lymphocytes, seen in rheumatologic diseases, toxoplasmosis and HIV *Affects CD-4*
- Paracortical hyperplasia: proliferation of T-lymphocytes, seen in viral infections (example EBV), after vaccination and drug reaction + peripheral blood eosinophilia.
- Sinus histiocytosis: proliferation of macrophages in lymph node sinuses, seen in adjacent cancer

★ Breast carcinoma → large lymph nodes in the axilla.

(does not indicate metastasis)





CAT-SCRATCH DISEASE

- *Bartonella henselae*
 - Transmitted from ^{special young cats} cats (bite, scratch, infected saliva)
 - Most commonly in children ^{and young adults}
 - Causes acute lymphadenitis in neck/axilla area
 - ↳ ^{painful}
 - Symptoms appear after two weeks of infection ^{incubation period}
 - Bacteria causes liquefactive necrosis and necrotizing granulomas in lymph nodes
 - ↳ ^{seen in TB infection but not specific, can also be seen in fungal infections and in Cat scratch Disease.}
 - Mostly self-limited in 2-4 months, rarely can disseminate into visceral organs
 - ↳ ^{mild}
 - ↳ ^{can be treated by antibiotics}

The special about Cat scratch disease

Visceral infection → more severe



HEMOPHAGOCYTIC LYMPHOHISTIOCYTOSIS

(\rightarrow Phagocytosis of RBCs \rightarrow Anemia along with lymphohistiocytosis)

- HLH is uncommon disease *Life threatening*
- Viral infection or other inflammatory agents activate macrophages (histiocytes) throughout body to engulf normal blood cells and their precursors in bone marrow
- Patients have defective genes related to the function of cytotoxic T-cells and natural killer cells, thus they are engaged with their target (virus-infected cells) for a long period and release excess interferon- γ that activates macrophages
- Activated macrophages release TNF and IL-6 that causes systemic symptoms of inflammation (systemic inflammatory response syndrome "SIRS")

so they take longer time to kill the cells they engage with \rightarrow Severe Inflammation and response in the body.



HLH-TYPES

- 1) Infants and young children who are born with a
- Homozygous defects in gene PRF1 that encodes perforin
- An essential enzyme in cytotoxic T-lymphocytes and natural killer cells , perforates the cell membrane of the infected cell .



HLH-TYPES

- 2) Adolescents and adults
- X-linked lymphoproliferative disorder (males)
(most common in males)
- Defective Signaling lymphocyte activation molecule (SLAM)-associated protein
- Inefficient killing of EBV-infected B-lymphocyte



HLH-TYPES

- 3) May be associated with systemic inflammatory disorders such as rheumatologic diseases
No infection
- Patients have heterozygous genetic defects in genes required for cytotoxic T-cells
↳ unknown exactly what genes are they



HLH-TYPES

- 4) T-cell lymphomas
- Malignant T-cells produce aberrant cytokines leading to dysregulation of normal cytotoxic T-cells
 - Not functioning well → more engagement and activation of macrophages



SYMPTOMS

Rapid symptoms

- Fever, splenomegaly and pancytopenia
 - ↳ due to inflammation
 - ↳ And hepatomegaly
- High ferritin
 - ↳ as an inflammatory marker
- High triglyceridemia
 - ↳ unknown exactly how but thought to be secondary to liver dysfunction : hepatomegaly → Abnormal metabolism of lipids → more secretion of triglycerides in blood.
- High serum IL-2
- Low level of blood cytotoxic T-cells and natural killer cells
- BM: numerous macrophages engulfing RBCs, platelets and granulocytes

Diagnosis

