



# HEMATOPOIETIC & LYMPHATIC SYSTEM

SUBJECT : **Pharma. Summary**

LEC NO. : **Lecture(1+2)**

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رمضان كريم

نسأل الله في هذه الايام المباركة الفرج  
والفتح القريب المبين لغزة العزة  
نضع بين ايديكم تلخيص شامل لمحاضرة  
(2+1) بنسبة 95.98877%

## DRUG THERAPY OF IRON-DEFICIENCY ANEMIA (Microcytic Hypochromic Anemia)

**Anemia:** is defined as a **low hemoglobin (Hb) concentration** due to reduced production or increased loss of RBC. The WHO defines anemia as **in male (Hb < 13)**, **female (Hb < 12)**

### Types of anemia:

#### 1. Deficiency Anemia

A-Iron deficiency anemia: due to iron deficiency  
 B-Megaloblastic anemia: due to vitamin B12, intrinsic factor, or folic acid deficiency.

**2. Aplastic anemia:** due to damage of bone marrow

**3. Hemolytic anemia:** due to destruction of red cells

### Iron Absorption

• **Iron intake:** from plant-derived foods, in the form of non-heme iron ( $Fe^{3+}$  ferric), and from animal-derived foods, in the form of heme iron ( $Fe^{2+}$  ferrous)

• **Absorption site:** in the duodenum and in the first portion of the jejunum (acid medium ↑ solubility)

**Factors Enhancing Iron Absorption:** 1-Infancy, adolescence and in iron-deficiency anemia (↑ demand)

2- Ascorbic acid, HCl & succinic acid (↑ absorption ferric → ferrous).

**Factors Reducing Iron Absorption:** 1-Pathological: Gastric resection and malabsorption syndrome

2-Medications: Desferrioxamine (chelates iron)/ Tetracyclines & iron bind together (↓ absorption of both).

3-Nutritions: Antacids/ Tannic acid (precipitates iron) /Ca in dairy food (↓ iron absorption)/ Phosphates & oxalates (form insoluble iron complexes).

**Iron Transport:** The Function of Hcpidin? (a protein synthesized by the liver) 1-regulates iron release from enterocytes and 2-iron recycling by macrophages, and it may contribute to the anemia of chronic diseases

↑ **Demand:** premature infants/children/ adolescence/ pregnant and lactating women.

↓ **Decrease Absorption:** after gastrectomy & in malabsorption syndrome.

**Drain (Chronic) blood loss:** occult GIT bleeding/heavy menstrual bleeding/ during hemodialysis/ancylostomiasis.

↑ **in blood formation:** during treatment of severe pernicious anemia with vitamin B12 (depletion of iron stores), during treatment with erythropoietin {renal failure} (formation of RBCs at a high rate).

**((Treatment of the cause is essential))**

**Prophylactic** of the occurrence of iron-deficiency anemia (IDA):

30-60 mg/day elemental iron (↑ **Demand:** premature infants/children/ adolescence/ pregnant and lactating women)

**Treatment of IDA:** 200-400 mg/d elemental iron in 2-3 divided doses/d

{In Healthy individuals **10%** of Iron intake is absorbed, While in Iron Deficiency patients (IDA) **25%** of Iron intake is absorbed}

|                          | Acute Iron Toxicity   | Chronic Iron Toxicity  |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Mostly Occures in</b> | <b>(CHILDREN)</b><br>1. <b>GIT (up to 1h):</b> Abdominal pain- nausea- vomiting- bloody diarrhea.<br>2. <b>Shock &amp; lethargy (up to 6h):</b> dyspnea- cardiovascular collapse<br>3. <b>Improvement (up to 6-12h):</b> as iron is absorbed into blood.<br>4. <b>Systemic (up to 12-60h):</b> metabolic acidosis- convulsions- coma & death  | 1. Patients <b>receiving many red cell</b> transfusions. (haemolytic anemia)<br>2. Patients with <b>hemochromatosis</b> ; an inherited disorder characterized by increase Fe absorption hemosiderosis ( $Fe^{3+}$ precipitation in vital organs) |
| <b>Treatment</b>         | <b>Raw egg or milk :</b> bind & precipitate iron as <u>albuminate or caseinate</u> until a chelating agent is available (Urgent temporarily procedure)<br><b>Deferoxamine (1-2 g IM or IV):</b> chelates iron promoting its excretion in urine<br><b>Gastric lavage with bicarbonate solution</b> form <u>insoluble</u> iron salts. Then, <b>deferoxamine (5 g in 100 ml water)</b> swallowed or through stomach tube<br><b>IV infusion of saline, dextrose or bicarbonate:</b> correct water & electrolyte disturbance | 1. <b>Venesection</b> (if <b>NO</b> anemia) :repeated weekly (a single <b>venesection of 500 ml blood removes 200 mg iron</b> )<br>2. <b>Deferoxamine IM or SC.</b><br>3. Large intake of <b>tea : tannins bind</b> iron.                        |

Information

Iron-Deficiency Anemia due to

Indications of Iron Therapy

Iron Toxicity

# DRUG THERAPY OF IRON-DEFICIENCY ANEMIA

## Oral Iron Therapy

## Parenteral Iron Therapy

|                                  |   |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Indications</b>               | <b>First</b> Treatment of choice  | (Causes of failure of oral iron therapy) 1. <b>Noncompliance</b> to oral therapy (severe GIT disturbance or ulceration) 2. <b>Malabsorption syndrome</b> causes failure of iron absorption 3. <b>Severe anemia</b> in malignancy 4. <b>Renal failure</b>   |
| <b>Preparations</b>              | Ferrous sulfate(20%), Ferrous gluconate(12%) and Ferrous fumarate(33%) • New agents: polysaccharide-iron complex, carbonyl iron(100%), Heme iron polypeptide ( <u>Sustainable Release effect, low Adverse effect, High dosage, more expensive</u> )<br>• <b>Different Fe salts provide different amounts of elemental (Iron salts are usually used as ferrous iron is efficiently absorbed.)</b>  | 1-Iron dextran<br>2-Iron sucrose complex & Iron sodium gluconate complex.<br>3-Newer preparations: Ferric carboxymaltose & Ferumoxytol (Low allergistic effect, Low adverse effect)<br>• <b>Given by deep IMI or by IV infusion</b> (as a <u>total dose infusion, TDI</u> ).   |
| <b>Therapeutic (Period DOSE)</b> | Continue iron till <b>Hb is normal</b> (1-2 months) & for an extra (2-4 months) to <b>replenish stores</b>  | <b>Calculation of Parenteral Iron</b> (to correct anemia & replenish stores)<br><b>Total iron deficit (mg)</b> =[ Body weight (kg) x [Target Hb - Actual Hb] (g/l)x2.4+ 500 (mg)] {Parenteral therapy involves administering the <b>total dose to replenish iron stores initially</b> , Then gradually the body starts to <b>restore Fe from the stores</b> to correct anemia} |
| <b>Advantages</b>                | Effective & cheap   | <b>Advantages of TDI</b> :1-Avoids <b>non-compliance</b> of the patient. 2- Avoids <b>unpleasant effects of IMI</b> . 3) Allows delivery of the entire dose of iron necessary to correct iron deficiency at one time. ❖ <b>The initial 25 ml should be infused slowly</b> (as a test dose) and the patient should be <b>observed for allergic reaction { Allergic Test}</b>    |
| <b>Adverse Effects</b>           | <b>GIT disturbances</b> : nausea, epigastric pain, constipation ( <u>given after meals - start with small dose then gradually increase</u> ).<br><b>Black stools</b> (mask diagnosis of GI bleeding).<br><b>Black staining of teeth</b> (iron sulfide in mouth)   | IM: <b>local pain</b> - tissue staining.<br>• IV: headache, fever, urticaria, lymphadenopathy & <b>anaphylactic shock</b>  |
| <b>Monitoring iron therapy</b>   | A. <b>Clinically</b> : improve the patient's symptoms and signs. B. <b>Lab</b> . Investigations: 1. Reticulocyte counts: ↑ (1 week) 2. Hb: ↑ (1 gm/10-15 days) 3. Serum ferritin: > 50 ug/dl (stores) ( <b>after 4-6 months</b> ) { <u>The Therapeutic Period is SAME</u> to Both routes of administration, However in <b>ORAL</b> administration <u>initial clinical improvement</u> takes place, while <b>PARENTERAL</b> administration initiates an <b>increase in Serum ferritin levels</b> } |  |

Iron Therapy (Oral Parenteral (IV, IM))

## Aplastic Anemia

- 1- **Blood transfusion** to replace lacking components
- 2- **Treatment** according to **cause** (if known).
- 3- **Corticosteroids**: reduce bleeding caused by **thrombocytopenia**.
- 4- **Broad-spectrum antibiotics**, e.g. penicillins to treat infections.
- 5- **Bone marrow transplantation (Treatment of Choice)** followed by immunosuppression to **prevent graft** rejection.
- 6- **Erythropoietin**. (IV or SC)
  - **Regulator** of erythropoiesis (acts on stem cells).
  - **Used** in anemia of (chronic renal failure & severe anemia of cancer & AIDS).
  - It **decreases** the need for **transfusion** as it **elevates red blood cell** level.

Treatment of Anemia

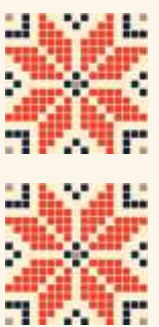
## The Cause of Anemia

- **Chronic infection and inflammation** with :  
↑ release of **cytokines** ⇒ **stimulate** the release of **hepcidin** from the liver ⇒ **prevent absorption & release** of iron from its storage sites (**sequestered anemia**).

## Differences from IDA

- It is a **functional iron deficiency anemia**
- **Differs** from iron deficiency anemia :there is **normal or high serum ferritin**.
- **Not treated with iron** but its treatment is to **treat infection & inflammation**

Anemia of Chronic Disease





## MEGALOBLASTIC ANEMIA (Vitamin B12+Pernicious Anemia)

### Informations

- **Cobalt-containing** compound **synthesized** by **bacterial flora** in colon.
- **Called extrinsic factor** to differentiate it from an **intrinsic factor** (a **glycoprotein** formed by parietal cells, necessary for vitamin **B12 absorption**).

#### Functions of Vitamin B12 (It is essential for):

- 1-Cell growth and replication (**DNA synthesis**), **Erythropoiesis** and cell maturation
- 2- **Neurological Function Maintenance** of normal **myelin sheath**
- 3- **Normal metabolic functions of folate**

### Causes of B12 deficiency

1. Decreased intake (**RARE** Why?)  
[If vitamin B12 absorption is stopped, it takes **5 years** for megaloblastic anemia to **develop** since its **daily requirement is 2 µg & body store is relatively high**]
2. Decreased absorption:
  - A- Decreased **intrinsic factor** (pernicious anemia) [congenital, autoimmune, after gastrectomy]
  - B- Drugs (Prevent the absorption of B12): Neomycin, colchicine and antiepileptics
  - C- Terminal ileum disease e.g. Crohn's disease.
3. Increased demands: pregnancy, chronic hemolysis
4. Increased consumption: Diphyllobothrium latum

### Pernicious Anemia

It is a **SEVERE form of Megaloblastic Anemia** due to **deficiency of intrinsic factor**  
**Characteristics:**

1. **Megaloblastic anemia** (large red cells highly susceptible to destruction). [Blood]
2. **Subacute** combined degeneration of brain, spinal cord & peripheral nerves. [Nervous System]
3. **Atrophic** gastritis [achlorhydria patients "Low levels of HCL"]

### Therapeutic uses of B12

- A. **MEGALOBASTIC Anemia** (plus Folic acid 5 mg/d) [Treatment of the cause]
    1. **Pernicious anemia:** vitamin B12 is given for life by IMI.
    - **Initial therapy:** 1000 µg/day for 1-2 week to replenish stores.
    - Then 1000 µg/week till normal blood count.
    - Then **Maintenance** therapy: 1000 µg/month for life.
  2. Megaloblastic anemia due to **diphyllobothriasis** (vitamin B12 + praziquantel).
  3. **Drug-induced** megaloblastic anemia
- B. NEUROLOGICAL Conditions**
- Peripheral neuritis in **diabetes** (B12 is Water-Soluble) & retrobulbar neuritis in **heavy smokers**.
- {NEVER give Folic acid ALONE in B12 deficiency as it ↑↑ the Neurological Complications}**

### Informations

- **Source:** liver, yeast and green vegetables.
- **Essential for DNA synthesis.**
- **{B12 is essential for activation of folic acid. So B12 deficiency is often associated with folic-acid-deficiency anemia}.**
- **No neurological abnormalities** are associated with folate deficiency

### Causes of Folic Acid Deficiency

1. Inadequate dietary supply (**common**)  
[**Folate deficiency** develops **more rapidly** than vitamin B12 deficiency since **daily requirement is high and body store of folate is low.**]
2. Increased demand: e.g. pregnancy, lactation.
3. Decreased absorption: **malabsorption syndrome**

### Drug-induced folic acid deficiency VIP

- A. Antiepileptics & oral contraceptives (**interfere** with folate **absorption**).
- b. Methotrexate, sulphonamides (**inhibit** dihydrofolate **reductase enzyme** leads to the **inhibition of folic acid activation**) [Treated by folinic acid].

### Therapeutic uses of folic Acid

1. Decreased intake (Nutritional megaloblastic anemia, Malabsorption syndrome).
2. increased demands (In alcoholics and pregnant women).
3. Patients with liver disease & with hemolytic anemia.
4. Patients on dialysis (as folic acid is removed each time).
5. With anticonvulsant drugs

## MEGALOBLASTIC ANEMIA Folic Acid (Pteroylglutamic Acid)

### Preparations of B12

- A. Cyanocobalamin
- B. Hydroxocobalamin (preparation of **choice**):
  1. More **Slowly absorbed**.
  2. **Slowly excreted**.
  3. More bound to **plasma proteins**.
  4. More sustained rise in serum cobalamin

