

Blood diseases

OF INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD

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THIRD EDITION

With 175 illustrations
including three color plates

THE C. V. MOSBY COMPANY

SAINT LOUIS 1972

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Previous editions copyrighted 1960, 1966

Printed in the United States of America

International Standard Book Number 0-8016-4690-1

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 70-189079

Distributed in Great Britain by
Henry Kimpton, London

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SPECIAL MESSAGE

When the manuscript was completed for this edition, Dr. Carl H. Smith arranged for his associate, Dr. Denis R. Miller, to assist with the remaining details of preparation. Since Dr. Smith's death, Dr. Miller has devoted much time and effort to follow through on the completion of this work. It is with a deep sense of gratitude that especial thanks are expressed to Dr. Miller not only for his untiring work, but for the kind spirit, deep understanding and humility he has displayed.

It is with profound gratitude that acknowledgment is made to Dr. Virginia C. Canale, whose gracious and generous assistance and cooperation expedited the completion of this book. Special thanks and sincere appreciation are expressed to Dr. Canale.

Deep appreciation and thanks are expressed to Mrs. Marvin Tishcoff for her sincere and unwavering dedication to the various tasks involved in the completion of this edition.

Margaret B. Smith

Preface

In this third edition of *Blood Diseases of Infancy and Childhood* the objectives stated in the Preface of the preceding edition remain unchanged. They are to provide an opportunity to introduce newer developments in pediatric hematology, to revise much of the text in the light of newer concepts, and to review current knowledge in this field. New tables and figures have been added to illustrate these advances. The flood of research data and literature in pediatric hematology and related fields has grown to such proportions that only those contributions were chosen that are relevant to the needs of the medical student, pediatrician, family physician, house staff officer, laboratory technologist, and, in many instances, the pathologist. In recent years the introduction of sophisticated investigational techniques and equipment has resulted in a massive proliferation of knowledge concerning biochemical, physiologic, immunologic, and genetic aspects of blood diseases. To facilitate description and formulation of various entities, their pathogenesis and clinical manifestations, as well as management, the technical complexities of the original publications have been minimized without sacrificing essential information. The bibliography has been greatly expanded to aid the student engaged in an investigative problem and includes over 1200 new references. While recent contributions have been incorporated in the present text, some deletions have been made, and several chapters have been thoroughly revised and reorganized.

Among the topics discussed are the recent studies of 2,3-diphosphoglycerate (2,3-DPG) and its role in determining the

affinity of hemoglobin for oxygen. The use of phenobarbital as a means of lowering bilirubin in the management of jaundice of the newborn is described, as well as phototherapy as another measure to prevent the damage of hyperbilirubinemia. In the management of hemolytic anemia resulting from Rh incompatibility, the value of amniocentesis and intrauterine blood transfusion is presented. The injection of Rh antibody in the form of Rh immune globulin into unsensitized Rh-negative postpartum women has been proven to be effective in preventing Rh immunization. Amniocentesis is not only a guide in the management of Rh-hemolytic disease, but also can serve as a diagnostic aid in the prenatal detection and management of certain congenital defects.

The differential diagnosis and etiologic factors in the early and late neonatal periods have been further explored in the light of recent investigations dealing with pigments resulting from hemolysis such as hemopexin.

Since the infant's diet is usually deficient in iron, iron-fortified milk has been recommended for routine use, together with other carefully selected foods to insure adequate iron intake.

The immunologic implications of blood disorders have their impact in almost every aspect of hematology, including those pertaining to allergic disorders, to the autoimmune hemolytic diseases, to viral interactions, to disorders of immunoglobulin metabolism, in transfusion, and in transplantation procedures.

Transfusion therapy has employed the value of essential blood components, of

packed red cells rather than whole blood, the use of frozen-thawed prepared red blood cells, obviating the use of unnecessary plasma infusions. With the use of frozen-thawed prepared red blood cells for transfusion, previous febrile and allergic reactions have been eliminated. In intra-uterine transfusions there is the possibility of developing host-versus-graft reaction from the incidental introduction of white blood cells.

The hemolytic anemias have been discussed from the standpoint of three main components of the cell—the membrane, the hemoglobin molecule, and the intracellular enzymes and intermediates of intracellular metabolism—congenital defects of which may have a profoundly adverse effect upon cell function metabolism and survival. Disease is manifested by severe anemia often requiring transfusions. An ever increasing number of red cell enzyme deficiencies have been characterized. These defects result in metabolically abnormal cells and in premature cell death. Recent investigations have demonstrated that the ability of the red cell to perform its various functions is critically dependent upon cell metabolism and that a most important regulator of hemoglobin function (oxygen affinity) and glycolysis (energy production) is 2,3-DPG. It is now possible to pinpoint the large number of enzymopathies and to determine their genetic background and in some instances to determine which will benefit by splenectomy.

The hemoglobinopathies have been dealt with to include investigations of erythrocyte metabolism, survival, organ sequestration, and membrane function. Studies of thalassemia include investigations of the many thalassemia syndromes resulting from deficient alpha, beta, delta, or gamma chain synthesis, as well as an inquiry of the most advantageous treatment with regard to amounts and frequency of blood administration and hemoglobin levels to be achieved. An important group of hemoglobinopathies, the unstable hemoglobin hemolytic anemias or congenital Heinz

body anemias have been identified and are caused by amino acid substitutions that alter heme-globin or interchain contacts. Other recently discovered hemoglobinopathies include those associated with increased or decreased oxygen affinity.

Knowledge of the biochemistry and immunology of the leukocyte has been advanced and previously poorly understood diseases associated with increased susceptibility to bacterial diseases have now been related to aberrations of the intricate processes of opsonization, ingestion, and digestion of potentially pathogenic bacteria. One of these, chronic granulomatous disease of childhood, has been related to deficiencies of intracellular enzymes that destroy ingested bacteria.

Recent studies have uncovered a relationship between the Epstein-Barr virus and infectious mononucleosis and Burkitt's lymphoma.

A vast knowledge has proliferated during the past five years in the field of acute leukemia of childhood. Aided by a greater awareness of the kinetics of leukemic cell proliferation and cell biochemistry, new drugs such as L-asparaginase and cytosine arabinoside and the use of multiple drug combinations have resulted in improved remission rates and prolonged survival in this disease, which less than a quarter of a century ago, before the chemotherapy era, carried a median survival of about four months. Aggressive chemotherapy has effectively decreased the leukemic cell burden. Localized disease, particularly in the central nervous system, has been identified and successfully treated; and supportive therapy, including the use of allopurinol to prevent hyperuricemia, newer antibiotics, and platelet concentrates have in concert prolonged the duration and improved the quality of remission in this disease. The importance of comprehensive support, including the emotional needs of the child, cannot be gainsaid. The eventual complete control, successful treatment, and, hopefully, prevention of leukemia must await further painstaking research efforts.

Improved diagnostic studies, including lymphangiography, the introduction of splenectomy, advanced radiotherapeutic techniques, and new combinations of drugs have improved remission rates and survival in such disorders as Hodgkin's disease. The importance of accurate clinical and pathological staging in determining prognosis has been reviewed. The recognition of an association between immunologic deficiency diseases and lymphoproliferative malignancies has stimulated investigators to redefine the contributions of the reticuloendothelial stimulation and aberrations of lymphoid proliferation and differentiation in these disorders.

The treatment of hemophilia has been aided immensely by the introduction of such new products as cryoprecipitate and amino acid precipitates of purified factor VIII, which when used appropriately have decreased morbidity and permitted children with this disorder to undergo extensive surgery without complications. A modern coagulation scheme, constantly undergoing revision, has been updated to bring into focus the intrinsic and extrinsic systems of coagulation.

The mechanism and etiology of disseminated intravascular coagulation and the laboratory diagnosis and management of this disorder are discussed, as is the fibrinolytic system.

The purpuras are discussed in light of recent advances in platelet metabolism and

function. The physiology of the platelet, including platelet adhesiveness, aggregation, and release of thromboplastic materials that initiate clotting are reviewed, and such entities as thrombasthenia and the thrombocytopathy have been given clearer definition and understanding.

Those who have helped immensely in revising and updating this third edition include Drs. Alexander Wiener, Leon Sussman, Julian Schorr, James German, Philip Lanzkowsky, Denis Miller, Virginia Canale, Margaret Hilgartner, Herbert Horowitz, Theo Vats, Richard Silver, George Wantz, Frederick Battaglia, Julius Rutzky, and many others whose generous contributions, photographs, and tables are acknowledged in the text. Mr. Percy W. Brooks, Director of Medical Illustration at Cornell University Medical College, skillfully prepared many of the new illustrations. Miss Denise Berman and Mrs. Bella Mellenhoff provided secretarial assistance, and special praise goes to Mrs. Marvin Tishcoff who typed and retyped much of the manuscript.

Once again, I am particularly grateful to my wife, Margaret, for her encouragement in undertaking another edition. I owe her an enormous debt for her untiring efforts and patience in the multitude of the tasks required in revising the text and index.

Carl H. Smith
April, 1971

Contents

CHAPTER 1

Origin and development of blood cells, 1

- Blood formation in the fetus, 1
- Theories of blood formation, 2
- Embryonic hemoglobin, 2
- Fetal hemoglobin, 3
- Swallowed blood syndrome, 5
- Fetal myoglobin, 9
- Bone marrow at birth, infancy, and childhood, 9

CHAPTER 2

Blood changes during growth—postnatal period, infancy, and childhood, 13

- Blood changes in the newborn infant, 13
- Physiologic anemia of the newborn infant, 14
- Bone marrow changes, 14
- Blood volume, 15
- Hemoglobin concentration, 15
- Erythrocyte count, 16
- Twin-to-twin transfusion, 17
- Hematocrit percentage (volume of packed red cells), 18
- Size of red cells (MCV) and hemoglobin concentration (MCHC), 18
- Reticulocytes, 18
- Normoblasts, 18
- Platelets, 18
- White blood cells, 19
- Blood of premature infants, 20

CHAPTER 3

Blood dyscrasias in relation to maternal-fetal interaction, 23

- Hereditary basis of blood diseases—genetic and environmental influences, 23
- Biochemical and genetic aspects, 23
- Blood dyscrasias in relation to congenital anomalies—general principles, 24
- Hematologic aspects of maternal and fetal interaction—placental physiology and defects, 25
- Fetal hemorrhage into the maternal circulation (blood loss from fetal-maternal transfusion), 26
- Bleeding from the placental surface, 27
- Maternal-fetal passage of leukocytes and platelets, 28

- Placental transmission of antibodies and isoagglutinins, 28
- Placental transmission of the L.E. factor, 29
- The gamma globulins, 29
- Plasma proteins in the fetus and newborn infant (immunoglobulin synthesis by the human fetus), 29
- Immunologic relationships, 31
- Transplacental passage of drugs affecting blood elements in the newborn infant, 32

CHAPTER 4

Erythrocytes—general considerations, 37

- Properties of the erythrocyte, 37
- Hemoglobin components, 41
- Iron content and oxygen capacity, 42
- Heme-heme interaction, 43
- Porphyrins and blood disorders, 44
- Glycogen, 44
- Rouleaux formation and sedimentation, 44
- Electrolyte considerations, 45
- Erythrocyte production, 47
- Normal destruction of erythrocytes, 53
- Fragmentation, 53

CHAPTER 5

Erythrocytes—morphologic abnormalities, 63

- General considerations, 63
- Abnormalities in size, 63
- Abnormalities in shape, 64
- Miscellaneous changes, 66

CHAPTER 6

Blood groups, 74

- Blood group antigens, 74
- Definitions of terms in relation to blood groups, 74
- A-B-O blood group system, 76
- Rh-Hr blood group system, 79
- M-N-Ss and P blood group systems, 82
- Other blood group systems, 83
- The sex-linked Xg^a system, 84
- Gm system—hereditary gamma globulins in man, 84

CHAPTER 7

Transfusions in pediatric practice, 89

- Introduction, 89
- Significant factors in transfusion therapy, 89
- Indications for transfusion, 90
- Blood volume—plasma, total circulating hemoglobin, and erythrocyte mass, 90
- Hemoglobin and hematocrit levels in acute and chronic anemias, 90
- Choice and dosage of whole blood, packed erythrocytes, and plasma, 91
- Platelet transfusion, 92
- Leukocyte transfusion, 94
- Transfusions in premature infants, 94
- Limitations and hazards of transfusions, 95
- Transfusion therapy in hemorrhagic disorders, 100
- Intraperitoneal transfusion, 100
- Notes on technique and preservation of blood, 100

CHAPTER 8

Jaundice—differential diagnosis in the neonatal period, 104

- Types of bilirubin, 104
- Enzymatic conversion of indirect to direct bilirubin, 104
- Jaundice in early neonatal period, 107
 - Physiologic jaundice (icterus neonatorum), 107
 - Hyperbilirubinemia of the newborn infant unrelated to isoimmunization, 108
 - Phenobarbital therapy in neonatal jaundice, 109
 - Hyperbilirubinemia in breast-fed infants, 110
 - Transient familial neonatal hyperbilirubinemia (Lucey-Driscoll syndrome), 111
 - Phototherapy for hyperbilirubinemia, 111
 - Relation of vitamin K to hyperbilirubinemia, kernicterus, and hemolytic anemia, 112
 - Hereditary spherocytosis, 113
 - Hereditary nonspherocytic hemolytic disease, 113
 - Elliptocytic (ovalocytic) hemolytic anemia, 114
 - Heinz body anemia in newborn infant, 114
 - Acute hemolytic anemia related to naphthalene, 114
 - Infections in newborn infants, 114
 - Cytomegalic inclusion disease, 115
 - Congenital toxoplasmosis, 115
 - Chronic idiopathic jaundice (Dubin-Johnson type, Dubin-Sprinz disease), 116
- Jaundice in later neonatal period, 116
 - Prolonged obstructive jaundice, 116
 - Obstructive jaundice complicating erythroblastosis—inspissated bile syndrome, 117
 - Atresia of bile ducts (congenital obliteration of bile ducts), 118
 - Neonatal hepatitis (giant cell hepatitis), 119
 - Management of prolonged obstructive jaundice, 120

Galactosemia, 122

Congenital familial nonhemolytic jaundice with kernicterus (Crigler-Najjar syndrome), 122

Familial nonhemolytic jaundice (Gilbert's disease), 123

Jaundice and carotenemia, 123

Jaundice due to pyloric stenosis, 124

Jaundice and hypothyroidism, 124

Hematomas, 124

Miscellaneous, 124

CHAPTER 9

Erythroblastosis fetalis (hemolytic anemia of the newborn infant)—general considerations, 131

- Definition, 131
- Pathogenesis, 131
- Clinical features, 132
- Detection of early jaundice of the newborn infant, 133
- Kernicterus, 133
- Pathology, 136
- Maternal antibodies—prenatal testing, 136
- Maternal anti-Rh₀ titer, 136
- Effect of previous transfusions on the mother, 137
- Immunization in the Rh-positive mother and infant, 137
- Heterozygous and homozygous status of the husband, 137
- Different types of antibodies, 138
- Transmission of antibodies, 138
- Coombs test (antiglobulin test), 138
- Tests with trypsinized cells, 139
- Elution, 139
- Frequency of blood group factors causing erythroblastosis, 140
- Prognostic considerations and family patterns of severity, 141
- Laboratory findings—blood, 141
- Amniocentesis, 143
- Examination of amniotic fluid for genetic defects, 145

CHAPTER 10

Erythroblastosis fetalis (hemolytic anemia of the newborn infant)—treatment, 151

- Objectives of treatment, 151
- Treatment, 151
- Prevention, 161
- Overall results of treatment of erythroblastosis fetalis, 163
- Anemia in the previously treated infant, 163
- Anemia in the previously untreated infant, 164
- Rupture of the spleen, 164
- Management of the infant with erythroblastosis, 164
- Treatment of the infant in cardiac failure, 165
- Intraperitoneal transfusion of the fetus, 166

- Exchange transfusion in physiologic hyperbilirubinemia of the full-term and premature infant, 167
- Exchange transfusions as a treatment of poisonings, 169
- A-B-O erythroblastosis, 169
- Differential diagnosis, 173

CHAPTER 11

Anemias—general considerations, 179

- Classification, 179
- Orientation, 179
- Diagnosis, 180
- Ferrokinetics and erythrokinetics, 188
- General considerations, 188
- In the diagnosis of anemias, 189
- Principles of treatment, 199
- Immunoallergic implications of blood disorders, 199
- DNA autosensitivity, 201
- Graft-versus-host reaction (runt disease), 201

CHAPTER 12

Iron-deficiency anemia, 205

- Etiology, 205
- Relation of physiologic anemia of the newborn infant to iron-deficiency anemia, 208
- Clinical features, 209
- Laboratory data, 209
- Diagnosis, 211
- Treatment, 214
- Anemia of the premature infant, 219
- Iron transport-serum iron and iron-binding capacity, 220
- Iron absorption, 221
- Gastroferrin, 224
- Iron-binding capacity of plasma in various clinical conditions, 224
- Hemosiderosis and hemochromatosis, 227
- Transient dysproteinemia (copper deficiency in infants), 229
- Exudative enteropathy, 229
- Acute iron intoxication, 231
- Iron-deficiency anemia in patients with cyanotic congenital heart disease, 232
- Refractory hypochromic anemia (sideroachrestic anemia, sideroblastic anemia, hypochromic iron-loading anemia), 232

CHAPTER 13

Megaloblastic anemia and related anemias, 242

- Vitamin B₁₂, 242
- Folic acid, 242
- Interrelationship of folic acid and vitamin B₁₂, 244
- Gastrointestinal absorption of folic acid and vitamin B₁₂, 244
- Diagnosis of the megaloblastic anemias, 245
- Megaloblastic anemia of infancy, 246
- Etiology, 246

Clinical features, 247

Laboratory findings, 247

Treatment, 248

Prognosis, 248

Juvenile pernicious anemia, 248

Etiology, 248

Clinical manifestations, 250

Laboratory findings, 250

Diagnosis, 251

Course and prognosis, 252

Treatment, 252

Nutritional megaloblastic anemia, 253

Miscellaneous megaloblastic anemias, 254

Megaloblastic anemia with hemolytic anemias, 254

Megaloblastic anemia with malignancies, 254

Megaloblastic anemia of pregnancy, 254

Megaloblastic anemia with hemochromatosis, 254

Megaloblastic anemia with fish tapeworm, 254

Megaloblastic anemia caused by anticonvulsant therapy, 255

Malabsorption syndromes—sprue (tropical), idiopathic steatorrhea (nontropical sprue), and celiac disease, 255

Normoblastic macrocytic anemias, 256

CHAPTER 14

Hypoplastic and aplastic anemias, 261

General considerations, 261

Classification, 261

Hypoplastic anemias, 262

Pure red cell anemia, 262

Definition, 262

Pathogenesis, 262

Clinical features, 263

Laboratory findings, 264

Pathologic findings, 264

Diagnosis, 264

Treatment, 265

Prognosis, 266

Acquired hypoplastic anemias, 267

Anemia due to infections, drugs, chemicals, toxins, and autoimmune and allergic states, 267

Aplastic crisis, 267

Anemia resulting from suppressive effect of multiple transfusions on erythropoiesis, 267

Miscellaneous, 267

Aplastic anemia (bone marrow failure, refractory anemia), 267

Definition, 267

Etiology, 268

Congenital or constitutional aplastic anemia, 268

Congenital aplastic anemia with multiple congenital anomalies (Fanconi type), 268

Congenital hypoplastic anemia without associated anomalies, 270

Acquired (secondary) aplastic anemia, 270

Anemia due to antimicrobial and other chemotherapeutic agents, 270

Anemia due to industrial and household chemicals, 271

- Anemia due to irradiation, 272
- Aplastic anemia following hepatitis, 272
- Miscellaneous causes, 273
- Features common to congenital and acquired types of aplastic anemia, 273
- Pathology, 273
- Clinical features, 273
- Laboratory findings, 274
- Differential diagnosis, 276
- Management, 276
- Course and prognosis, 283

CHAPTER 15

The hemolytic anemias, 290

- Definition—general considerations of pathogenesis, 290
- Classification, 290
- Principal features of increased hemolysis, 291
- Folic acid deficiency, 294
- Evidence of increased marrow activity, 295
- The porphyrias, 296
- Additional tests for detecting abnormal hemolysis, 299
- Congenital hemolytic syndromes, 302
 - Hereditary spherocytosis (congenital hemolytic jaundice, congenital hemolytic anemia, spherocytic anemia, chronic acholuric jaundice, chronic familial jaundice), 303
 - Definition, 303
 - Inheritance and race, 303
 - Etiology and pathogenesis, 303
 - Clinical features, 305
 - Growth, 306
 - Laboratory data, 306
 - Diagnosis, 307
 - Treatment, 308
 - Sporadic congenital spherocytosis associated with congenital hypoplastic thrombocytopenia and malformations, 309
 - Hereditary nonspherocytic hemolytic anemia (atypical familial hemolytic anemia, congenital nonspherocytic anemia), 310
 - Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency (G-6-PD deficiency), 311
 - Pyruvate kinase (PK) deficiency, 313
 - 6-Phosphogluconate dehydrogenase (6-PGD) deficiency, 315
 - Glutathione reductase (GSSG-R) deficiency, 315
 - Glutathione (GSH) deficiency, 315
 - Triosephosphate isomerase (TPI) deficiency, 315
 - Adenosine triphosphatase (ATPase) deficiency, 315
 - Hexokinase (HK) deficiency, 315
 - Glucosephosphate isomerase (GPI) deficiency, 315
 - Phosphoglycerate kinase (PCK) deficiency, 316
 - 2-3-Diphosphoglycerate mutase (2,3-DPGM) deficiency, 316
 - Hereditary nonspherocytic hemolytic anemia with an altered phospholipid composition of the erythrocytes, 316
 - Summary, 316

- Hereditary elliptocytosis with hemolytic anemia, 317
 - Clinical and blood findings, 317
 - Treatment, 319
- Hemolytic anemia due to enzyme deficiency following administration of drugs and other agents, 319
- Nonhereditary hemolytic anemia—paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH, Marchiafava-Micheli syndrome), 321
- Acquired hemolytic anemias, 325
 - Autoimmune hemolytic anemia (chronic idiopathic autoimmune hemolytic disease, chronic acquired hemolytic anemia), 328
 - Clinical features, 328
 - Blood findings, 329
 - Serologic findings, 329
 - Pathogenesis, 331
 - Diagnosis, 332
 - Treatment, 332
 - Prognosis, 334
 - Paroxysmal cold hemoglobinuria, 334
 - Dysproteinemias, 335
 - Cryoglobulinemia, 335
 - Cryofibrinogenemia, 335
 - Acute acquired hemolytic anemia (Lederer's anemia), 336
 - Idiopathic paroxysmal myoglobinuria, 336
 - March hemoglobinuria, 337
 - Intravascular hemolysis following open heart surgery, 337

CHAPTER 16

The hereditary hemoglobinopathies, 353

- Methods for determining the hemoglobin types, 353
- Designation of hemoglobin types, 356
- Structure of the hemoglobin molecule: polypeptide content of globin, 356
- Electrophoretic mobility of the individual hemoglobins, 357
- Fetal hemoglobin, 359
- Hereditary persistence of fetal hemoglobin (the high fetal gene), 359
- Primitive hemoglobin (P), 361
- Cord blood hemoglobinopathies, 361
- Hereditary aspects, 362
- Relation of genetic composition to clinical-hematologic variations, 362
- Target cells, 363
- Syndromes associated with the abnormal hemoglobins, 364
- Geographic distribution of the abnormal hemoglobins, 364
- Factors involving alteration of oxygen affinity (heme-heme interaction, Bohr effect, and 2,3-diphosphoglycerate), 365
- Sickle cell disease, 365
 - Sickling phenomenon, 366
 - Pathogenesis, 368
- Sickle cell trait, 369
 - Incidence and geographic distribution, 369
 - Clinical and laboratory features, 369
 - Sickling and malaria, 370

IMMUNOHAEMATOLOGY SECTION 4**31. General approach to blood transfusion and immunohaematology 403**

- Apparatus 403
- Red cell serology 403
- Pretransfusion testing of recipients 405
- ABO typing 406
- Rh(D) typing 406
- Antibody screening at 37°C 406
- Antibody identification 407
- Compatibility test or crossmatch 407
- Investigation of a suspected haemolytic transfusion reaction 408
- Serological tests in pregnancy 408
- Serological investigation of suspected immune haemolytic anaemia 409

32. Red blood cell serology 411

- Technique 1. Washing cells and making red cell suspensions 411
- Technique 2. Slide (tile) technique 411
- Technique 3. Immediate spin (IS) technique 412
- Technique 4. Agglutination of saline suspended cells at 20°C 412
- Technique 5. Agglutination of saline suspended cells at 30 or 37°C 412
- Technique 6. Albumin addition technique used for Rh(D) typing 412
- Enzyme techniques 413
- Technique 7A. Two-stage papain technique or use of papain premodified cells 413
- Technique 7B. Bromelain suspension technique 413
- Antiglobulin techniques 414
- Technique 8. IAT using saline-suspended RBCs 414
- Technique 9. Low tonic strength indirect antiglobulin technique (LISS/IAT) 415
- Technique 9A. LISS-suspension method 415
- Technique 9B. LISS-addition method 416
- Technique 10. Two stage-antiglobulin technique 416
- Technique 11. Direct antiglobulin test (DAT) 416
- Technique 12. Preparation of control cells for the antiglobulin test 417
- Technique 12A. IgG-coated red cells 417
- Technique 12B. C3-coated red cells 417
- Technique 13. Titration 417
- Technique 14. Manual polybrene technique (MPT) 418
- Technique 15. Antibody elution 419
- Technique 15A. Heat elution 419
- Technique 15B. Freeze-thaw (LUI) elution 419

- Technique 15C. Ether/heat elution 419
- Technique 15D. Chloroform elution technique 420
- Technique 16. Dissociation of IgG from RBCs with a positive DAT using ZZAP 420
- Technique 17A. Auto-absorption using papain-treated cells 420
- Technique 17B. Auto-absorption of cold-reacting antibodies 421
- Technique 18. Inactivation of the agglutinating activity of IgM antibodies using dithiothreitol (DDT) 421
- Technique 18A. Standard technique for IgM inactivation 421
- Technique 18B. Rapid technique for IgM inactivation used in detecting maternal IgC anti-A, B 421
- Technique 19. Rosette technique for the detection of a minor red cell population 422
- Technique 20. Neutralisation/inhibition technique 422
- Technique 21. The use of microplates 423
- Technique 21A. ABO and Rh(D) typing using U-well microplates 423
- Technique 21B. Use of enzyme premodified cells in microplates 424
- Technique 21C. Indirect antiglobulin tests (IAT) using microplates 424
- Technique 22. Solid-phase blood grouping 424
- Technique 23. Preparation and use of lectins: application to blood group serology 425
- Technique 24. Methods for the investigation of a suspected drug-induced immune haemolytic anaemia 426
- Technique 24A. Drug-absorption mechanism 426
- Technique 24B. Immune complex mechanism 427
- Technique 25. Donath-Landsteiner (D-L) antibody test 427
- Technique 26. Cold agglutinin titre 428
- Technique 27. Preservation of reagent RBCs 428
- Technique 27A. Storage in the liquid state at 4°C 428
- Technique 27B. Storage in the frozen state using Glycigel 429
- Technique 28. Conversion of plasma to serum 429
- Technique 28A. Heat treatment 429
- Technique 28B. Neutralisation of heparin 429
- Quality control in blood group serology 430
- Composition of solutions used in red blood cell serology 431

- Clinical and laboratory features, 459
 - Treatment, 460
 - Vitamin deficiencies and anemia, 460
 - Vitamin A, 460
 - Riboflavin (B_2), 460
 - Nicotinic acid (niacin), 460
 - Pyridoxine (vitamin B_6), 460
 - Vitamin C and the anemia of scurvy, 461
 - Vitamin E deficiency, 462
 - Anemia of hypothyroidism, 462
 - Blood changes in lead poisoning, 462
- CHAPTER 18**
- Leukocytes—cell types, 469**
- Growth and multiplication, 469
 - Chemotactic factors, 469
 - Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase in leukocytes, 470
 - Functions—phagocytosis and antibody formation, 470
 - Chemotaxis and opsonins, 471
 - Chronic granulomatous disease of childhood, 472
 - Rebuck skin-window study of leukocytic functions in vivo, 473
 - Autophagic vacuoles, 474
 - Muramidase (lysozyme), 474
 - Erythrophagocytosis, 474
 - L.E. phenomenon, 475
 - Life-span of leukocytes, 477
 - Leukoagglutinins, 478
- Types of white cells, 479
- Granulocytic or myeloid series, 479
 - Granulopoiesis—maturation compartments, 479
 - Myeloblast—differentiation from lymphoblast, 480
 - Promyelocytes (progranulocytes) and myelocytes, 481
 - Metamyelocyte of juvenile form, 482
 - Polymorphonuclear granulocytes, 482
 - Lymphocytes, 487
 - Small lymphocytes, 488
 - Phytohemagglutinin, 488
 - Large lymphocytes, 489
 - Young lymphocytes (prolymphocytes), 489
 - Lymphoblasts, 489
 - Monocytes, 489
 - Young monocyte (promonocyte), 490
 - Monoblasts, 490
 - Monocytosis, 491
 - Miscellaneous, 491
 - Histiocytes, 491
 - Plasma cell (plasmacyte), 492
 - Türk's cell (Türk irritation cell), 493
 - Reider cells, 493
 - Auer bodies, 493
 - Degenerative and toxic cytoplasmic changes, 493
 - Amato bodies, 493
 - Toxic granules, 495
 - Pelger-Huët phenomenon of granulocytes, 495
 - Nuclear projections, 496
 - Russell bodies, 496
 - Hematogones, 496

- Miscellaneous inclusion bodies, 496
 - Other lipidoses and related diseases, 500
- Cell stains, 500
- Romanowsky stains, 500
 - Supravital staining, 500
 - Peroxidase stain, 501
 - Miscellaneous stains, 501
 - Phase contrast microscopy, 501

CHAPTER 19

Leukopenia and leukopenic syndromes, 511

- Pathogenesis, 511
- Tests for bone marrow function, 512
- Causes, 512
- Treatment, 520

CHAPTER 20

Leukocytosis, leukemoid reactions, and lymphocytosis, 524

- Leukocytosis, 524
 - Physiologic leukocytosis, 524
 - Pathologic leukocytosis, 524
- Leukemoid reactions, 525
- Lymphocytosis, 526
 - Acute infectious lymphocytosis, 527
 - Definition, 527
 - Age, 528
 - Etiology, 528
 - Epidemiology, 528
 - Pathology, 528
 - Clinical features, 528
 - Incubation period, 529
 - Laboratory findings, 529
 - Differential diagnosis, 529
 - Treatment and prognosis, 532
 - Chronic nonspecific infectious lymphocytosis (low-grade fever syndrome), 532
 - Clinical picture, 532
 - Blood, 533
 - Differential diagnosis, 533
 - Treatment and prognosis, 534

CHAPTER 21

Infectious mononucleosis, 536

- Definition, 536
- Historical, 536
- Pathology, 537
- Clinical features, 537
- Laboratory findings, 540
- Differential diagnosis, 545
- Prognosis, 546
- Treatment, 546
- Recurrences, 547
- Febrile postcardiotomy syndromes with splenomegaly and atypical lymphocytes, 547

CHAPTER 22

Leukemia—general aspects and clinical features, 551

- Classification of leukemia in childhood, 551

- Muramidase (lysozyme) in leukemia, 560
- Incidence, age distribution, sex, and frequency of types, 560
- Epidemiology, 561
- Etiology, 562
- Chromosomes and leukemia, 566
- Glossary of chromosomal terminology, 567
- Preleukemic stage of leukemia, 569
- Leukemia in the newborn period (congenital leukemia), 570
- Spontaneous remissions, 571
- Clinical features, 572
- Differential diagnosis, 584

CHAPTER 23

Leukemia—treatment, 595

- Treatment, 595
- Remissions—criteria, 606
- Detailed program of treatment, 607
- Treatment of acute myeloblastic leukemia, 616
- Emotional support, 618
- Bone marrow transplantation, 619
- Laboratory determinations, 620
- Treatment of nervous system involvement, 620
- Results of treatment—prognosis for survival, 622

CHAPTER 24

Leukemia—allied disorders, 629

- Infrequent types of leukemia, 629
- Bone marrow replacement and leukoerythroblastosis, 630
- Myelofibrosis, 630
- Familial myeloproliferative disease, 631
- Osteopetrosis (marble-bone disease), Albers-Schönberg disease), 631
- Extramedullary megakaryocytosis and acute megakaryocytic leukemia, 633
- Thrombocythemia, 633
- Erythremic myelosis (Di Guglielmo's disease), 634
- Chloroma and chloroleukemia, 634
- Neoplasms of lymphoid tissue (malignant lymphomas), 635

CHAPTER 25

Disorders of the spleen and the reticulo-endothelial system, 652

- Role of the spleen in blood disorders, 652
- Structure of the spleen, 652
- Normal functions of the spleen, 652
- Splenic aspiration, 655
- Adrenaline test in diagnosis of hypersplenic syndromes, 655
- Indications for splenectomy, 655
- Disorders of the spleen, 656
- Splenomegaly, 656
- Hypersplenism, 656
- Congenital absence of the spleen, 657
- Primary splenic neutropenia, 658
- Felty's syndrome, 658
- Primary splenic panhematopenia, 658

- Chronic congestive splenomegaly (Banti's syndrome, portal hypertension, splenic anemia), 658
- Etiology and pathogenesis, 658
- Collateral circulation, 659
- Pathology, 659
- Clinical features, 659
- Laboratory data, 660
- Diagnosis, 660
- Course and prognosis, 660
- Treatment, 660

Diseases of the reticuloendothelial system, 661

- Gaucher's disease, 662
 - Pathology and pathogenesis, 662
 - Clinical features, 663
 - Blood, 666
 - Heredity, 666
 - Course and treatment, 666
- Niemann-Pick disease, 667
 - Clinical features, 667
 - Pathology and pathogenesis, 667
 - Blood, 668
 - Heredity, 668
 - Treatment, 668
- Generalized gangliosidosis, 668
- Wolman's disease, 668
- Letterer-Siwe disease, Hand-Schüller-Christian disease, and eosinophilic granuloma (histiocytosis X), 669
- Letterer-Siwe disease (nonlipid reticuloendotheliosis), 669
 - Pathology, 670
 - Diagnosis, 670
 - Blood, 671
 - Treatment and course, 671
- Hand-Schüller-Christian disease, 672
 - Clinical features, 672
 - Pathology, 672
 - Diagnosis, 672
 - Course, 672
 - Treatment, 673
- Eosinophilic granuloma, 673
- Histiocytic medullary reticulosis, 673

CHAPTER 26

Blood coagulation, 681

- Normal hemostatic mechanisms, 681
 - Role of vascular factors, 681
 - Role of platelets, 681
 - The blood platelet, 682
 - Blood coagulation mechanism, 684
 - Dynamics of coagulation, 691
 - Natural inhibitors of coagulation, 691
- Disorders due to a deficiency of factors required for thromboplastin formation (phase I of coagulation), 692
 - General consideration of the hemophilias, 692
 - Classic hemophilia (hemophilia A, factor VIII [AHG] deficiency), 692
 - Hereditary aspects, 692
 - Clinical aspects, 694
 - Hemarthrosis, 694
 - Management, 695
 - Treatment of bleeding, 695

- Treatment of hematuria, 703
 - Dental extractions, 704
 - Treatment of hemarthroses, 704
 - Mild hemophilia, 705
 - Diagnosis, 705
 - Roentgenographic findings, 706
 - Prognosis, 706
 - Von Willebrand's disease (pseudohemophilia, vascular hemophilia), 706
 - Christmas disease (factor IX deficiency, hemophilia B, plasma thromboplastin component deficiency, PTC deficiency), 709
 - Clinical and laboratory features, 710
 - Treatment, 710
 - Hemophilia prophylaxis, 711
 - Plasma thromboplastin antecedent deficiency (factor XI deficiency, PTA deficiency, hemophilia C), 711
 - Clinical and laboratory features, 711
 - Treatment, 712
 - Disorders due to a deficiency of factors required for conversion of prothrombin to thrombin (phase 2 of coagulation), 712
 - General considerations, 712
 - Vitamin K-dependent clotting factors, 713
 - Vitamin K deficiency, 713
 - Congenital deficiencies, 714
 - Idiopathic (congenital) hypoprothrombinemia, 714
 - Congenital deficiency of factor V (parahemophilia, Owren's disease, labile factor deficiency), 714
 - Congenital factor VII deficiency (stable factor deficiency, proconvertin deficiency, congenital hypoconvertinemia), 715
 - Bleeding in the newborn, 716
 - Hemorrhagic disease of the newborn infant (hypoprothrombinemia in the newborn infant), 717
 - Clinical and laboratory features, 718
 - Differential diagnosis, 718
 - Treatment, 719
 - Factor X deficiency (Stuart-Prower factor deficiency), 720
 - Factor XII deficiency (Hageman factor deficiency), 720
 - Multiple defects, 721
 - Capillary and single coagulation factor deficiency, 721
 - Multiple factor deficiencies, 721
 - Disorders due to a deficiency of fibrinogen (phase 3 of coagulation), 721
 - Congenital afibrinogenemia, 721
 - Congenital hypofibrinogenemia, 722
 - Acquired fibrinogen deficiency, 722
 - Dysfibrinogenemias, 722
 - Hypofibrinogenemia and other coagulation defects in patients with congenital heart disease: open-heart surgery, 722
 - Fibrinolysis (fibrinolytic purpura), 723
 - Laboratory findings in fibrinogen deficiencies, 725
 - Treatment of the fibrinogen deficiencies, 725
 - Circulating anticoagulants, 726
 - Naturally occurring anticoagulants, 726
 - Acquired anticoagulants, 726
 - Disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC, defibrination syndrome, consumption coagulopathy), 727
 - Tests for anticoagulants, 729
 - Treatment, 729
 - Summary of replacement therapy of coagulation disorders, 730
 - Epistaxis, 731
 - Procedure for screening potential bleeders, 731
 - Laboratory investigation of coagulation disorders, 732
 - General considerations, 732
 - Screening tests, 733
 - Significance of routine coagulation tests, 735
 - Tests for phase 1 of coagulation, 735
 - Thromboplastin generation test, 736
 - Mutual correction tests, 739
 - Comparative value of laboratory tests in detecting thromboplastin deficiency, 739
 - Prothrombin consumption test, 740
 - Hageman factor (factor XII) deficiency, 740
 - Platelet adhesiveness, 741
 - Aspirin and platelet function, 742
 - Platelet factor 3 deficiency, 742
 - Tests for phase 2 of coagulation, 743
 - Prothrombin complex deficiencies, 743
 - Prothrombin time (plasma prothrombin time), 743
 - Combined prothrombin and factor VII (stable factor) deficiency, 744
 - Stuart-Prower factor (factor X), 744
 - Tests for phase 3 of coagulation, 744
 - Fibrinogen deficiencies, 744
 - FI TEST, 745
- CHAPTER 27**
- The purpuras, 760**
- Classification of purpura, 760
 - Platelet counts in normal full-term and premature infants, 761
 - Thrombocytopenia in the newborn, 761
 - Thrombocytopenic purpuras, 762
 - Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP, Werlhof's disease, purpura hemorrhagica), 762
 - Pathogenesis, 762
 - Pathology, 764
 - Clinical manifestations, 765
 - Laboratory data, 768
 - Diagnosis, 769
 - Course and prognosis, 770
 - Treatment, 770
 - Hereditary thrombocytopenic purpura, 776
 - Congenital thrombocytopenic purpura, 777
 - Etiology, 777
 - Prognosis, 779
 - Treatment, 779
 - Thrombocytopenia in fetal rubella, 779
 - Thrombocytopenia in miscellaneous infections, 780
 - Thrombocytopenia with renal vein thrombosis, 780
 - Thrombocytopenia induced by drugs, 780
 - Aplastic anemia with onset as congenital thrombocytopenic purpura, 782

- Chronic hypoplastic thrombocytopenia with depression of megakaryocytes, 782
- Thrombocytopenia with absent radius (congenital hypoplastic thrombocytopenia, primary amegakaryocytic thrombocytopenia, phocomelia and congenital hypoplastic thrombocytopenia, myeloid leukemoid reaction, TAR), 782
- Thrombotic (thrombohemolytic) thrombocytopenic purpura, 783
 - Pathogenesis, 784
 - Clinical course and laboratory findings, 784
 - Treatment, 785
- Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome, 785
 - Immunological consideration, 786
- Thrombocytopenia following transfusions, 787
- Hemolytic-uremic syndrome, 787
 - Clinical features, 787
 - Pathogenesis, 789
 - Etiology, 790
 - Pathology, 790
 - Prognosis, 791
 - Treatment, 791
- Cyclic thrombocytopenic purpura related to the menstrual cycle, 792
- Hemangioma and thrombopenia (Kasabach-Merritt syndrome), 792
- Nonthrombocytopenic purpuras, 793
 - Allergic purpura (anaphylactoid purpura, Henoch-Schönlein or Schönlein-Henoch purpura), 793
 - Etiology and pathogenesis, 793
 - Clinical features, 794
 - Laboratory findings, 798
 - Diagnosis, 798
 - Course and prognosis, 798
 - Treatment, 799
 - Congenital vascular defects, 800
 - Von Willebrand's disease (pseudohemophilia), 800
 - Hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia (Rendu-Osler-Weber disease), 800
 - Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, 801
 - Purpura fulminans, 803
 - Treatment, 804
 - Waterhouse-Friderichsen syndrome, 804
 - Idiopathic pulmonary hemosiderosis, 804
 - Clinical course, 804
 - Prognosis, 806
 - Pathology, 806
 - Pathogenesis, 807
 - Treatment, 807
 - Miscellaneous purpuric disorders (nonthrombocytopenic), 807

Color plates

- PLATE 1** Twin-to-twin transfusion, 18
- PLATE 2** Atypical lymphocytes in infectious mononucleosis, 542
- PLATE 3** Diffuse hemorrhagic measles in leukemia, 606

1 ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF BLOOD CELLS

Blood formation in the fetus. A review of the essential features of prenatal blood development provides a basis for interpreting postnatal abnormalities of the circulating blood elements, their progenitors, and sites of formation. The designation of prenatal hematopoiesis imparts an implication of continuity to the events occurring in the embryo in the first 2 months and in the fetus in the remainder of gestation. Current emphasis on maternal-fetal relationships, which has shed so much light on other systems, conceivably may clarify the etiology of certain of the blood dyscrasias on the same basis. An understanding of the blood changes in the earlier months of life, furthermore, requires some knowledge of embryonic and fetal blood formation.

Sites of blood formation. Blood cells in the embryo arise from the mesenchyme. The first cells produced in the yolk sac become the primitive red corpuscles. Since the mesenchyme is wide-spread throughout the embryo, blood formation begins in multiple sites but eventually becomes specialized in certain organs. With some overlapping, definitive blood centers mainly involving red cell elements appear successively in the yolk sac at the fourth month of gestation.⁵ Although the bone marrow makes its appearance in the sixth week of development, it does not become a site of active hematopoiesis until the fourth to fifth month and does not become the exclusive site⁵ until 2 to 3 weeks after birth.²⁸ Until the middle of fetal life the liver is the most actively engaged organ participating in blood formation. It has been stated that the liver as opposed to the marrow represents the principal source of fetal erythrocytes. In this period of hepatic hematopoiesis, fetal hemoglobin is the sole type synthesized. As hematopoiesis wanes in this area, it is assumed by the bone marrow, which exercises this function for the remainder of fetal life. Coincidental activity

goes on in the spleen, the lymph nodes, and, to a lesser extent, the thymus.

The bone marrow and spleen provide ideal environments for red cell and hemoglobin formation. In both there are nonanastomosing arterial capillaries emptying into a rich plexus of venous sinusoids. By virtue of sluggish circulation and blood stasis, a relatively high carbon dioxide tension develops, a factor of primary importance in the elaboration of hemoglobin and in formation of the primordial cell.

Appearance of blood elements. The mesenchyme is regarded as the essential blood-forming tissue of the embryo, corresponding to fixed connective tissue cells in the adult organism. The hemocytoblast, a derivative of the mesenchyme, is the primitive totipotent cell, the main function of which is involved in hematopoiesis. This early cell, frequently amoeboid in embryos, represents the precursor of red blood cells, granular leukocytes, lymphocytes, and megakaryocytes.^{22,28}

There are fluctuations in blood cellular elements relative to placental size. The placenta is six times heavier than the fetus at 1 month and only one-seventh the fetal weight at birth.⁶ In the smallest fetus studied by Playfair and associates,⁴⁷ 1.9 cm. long, 99% of the red cells were nucleated. By 6 cm. (12 weeks) the nucleated counts varied from 10,000 to 100,000 per cubic millimeter and fell steadily thereafter. At term about 0.2% of the red cells were nucleated. Myelocytes were found in the 1.9 cm. fetus and mature granulocytes in a 4.2 cm. fetus. Eosinophils were found in a 6.4 cm. fetus and increased regularly with the size of the fetus (to 17 cm. at 20 weeks). In the 1.9 cm. fetus 57% of the white cells were lymphocytes, in no way distinguishable from normal adult small lymphocytes. They continued to rise with age until in a fetus of about 17 to 22 cm. (20 to 25 weeks) the highest counts were recorded in some over 10,000 per cubic millimeter. Monocytes were found in the smallest fetuses and at all subsequent ages. Proerythroblasts were seen frequently, as well as the bare nuclei suspicious of megakaryocytes.