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cofactors in DNA synthesis, the deficiency of which leads to harmful anemia. In what specific biochemical pathways do they participate in? 16. What neurological defects are observed in long-term pernicious anemia? 17. What symptoms of pernicious anaemia tend to be relatively mild? 18. Are changes in peripheral blood smear needed for the neurological effects of vitamin B12 deficiency? WHITE CELL DISORDERS 1. Malignant disorders The most important anomalies of white blood cells are malignant disorders of leukemia and lymphoma. They are discussed in Chapter 5. 2. Cyclic neutropenia Absolute neutropenia, characterized by the number of neutrophils less than 1500-2000/µl (zgtc: 20 below the average level in norms), is a widely encountered problem in medicine and can be caused by a large number of diseases (table 6-5). Cyclic neutropenia, however, is rare. This is of interest because it provides an understanding of the normal production of neutrophils and function. It is characterized by a lifelong history of neutrophil counts that decline to zero or near zero for 3-5 days at a time, every 3 weeks, and then rebound. Interestingly, the peripheral blood neutrophil counts and monocytes expect to fluctuate in opposite phases on this 3-week cycle. Etiology Classic, childhood onset of cyclic neutropenia as a result of heterozygous germ mutations in the gene ELANE (ELA2ase, neutrophil expressed), formerly known as ELA2, which encodes for a single enzyme, neutrophil elastase (NE). NE is found in the primary azurophilic pellets of neutrophils and monocytes. There are about 100 copies in the cytoplasm of neutrophils and monocytes and about 10 copies in the nucleus. The enzyme is stable in the bone marrow. Bone marrow stock exceeds the circulating pool of neutrophils by 5-10 times. This large pool is necessary because it takes almost 2 weeks for the full development of neutrophil from the early stem cell in the bone marrow, but the average lifespan of mature neutrophil in the blood is less than 12 hours. In cyclic neutropenia, the repository is not adequate. Daily measurements of the number of neutrophils in the blood show striking differences in their number. Studies of neutrophil kinetics in affected patients show that the defect is in abnormal production, and not in the abnormal location of neutrophils. The production of neutrophils occurs in discrete waves even in normal individuals. As neutrophils differentiate from the earlier progenitor cells, they produce neutrophils which is thought to inhibit myeloblasts differentiation in a negative feedback loop. This leads to an oscillator wave with peaks and troughs produced by neutrophils. How neutrophil neutrophil increasing bone marrow, the peak is reached where enough neutrophil elastase causes a drop in neutrophil differentiation. Then, as the number of neutrophils drops again to nadir, the production of neutrophil elastase also decreases, allowing for a rise in the number of neutrophils again. In cyclic neutropenia, it is assumed that mutant neutrophil elastase may have an excessive inhibitory effect, causing long periods of trough and inadequate pools to maintain a normal peripheral neutrophil count. However, once they are extruded from the bone marrow, neutrophils appear to have a normal lifespan (Figure 6-10). FIGURE 6-10 Feedback loops the hypothesis to explain hematoepoietic cycling. Neutrophil elastase (NE) is postulated to inhibit further myeloblastoma differentiation. The gray sinusoid wave denotes fluctuations in neutrophil countdown. In this model, NE produced a terminally differentiation of a cohort of neutrophils and eventually fed back to inhibit further production of neutrophils, resulting in the loss of the inhibitory cycle, at least for a while, until the production of neutrophils resumes and then again inhibiting the effect of NE in a cyclical manner. (Reprint of Horwitz MS et al. Neutrophil Elastase in cyclical and severe congenital neutropenia. Myeloid progenitor neutrophil can also produce monocytes. Thus, during neutrophil nadir, myeloid precursor cell can predominantly differentiate to the monocyte line, giving opposite oscillating waves of neutrophils and monocytes seen in these patients (see Figure 6-11). FIGURE 6-11 Regular cyclical changes in monocytes, cytocytes and neutrophils in a patient with cyclic neutropenia. Note that monocytes and cytocytes tend to grow when neutrophils fall. (Reprinting with permission, from Dale D et al. Cyclic Neutropenia. Clinical Review. Waves are surprisingly constant in their frequency. Almost every patient has a cycle of 19 to 22 days, and each patient's cycle duration is constant during his or her lifetime. Neutrophils and monocytes are not the only bone marrow elements that cycle. The number of platelets and cytocytes also cycle with the same cycle length, but unlike the amount of blood cytocytes, clinically significant reductions are not observed. Presumably, this is due to the fact that the lifespan of these elements in the blood is much longer than the lifespan of neutrophils. Since several cell lines are seen to cycle, it is believed that mutations of neutrophil elastase accelerate the process of apoptosis (programmed cell death) in the early progenitor cells, as well as if they are not saved by G-CSF. Clinically, introductions G-CSF (filgrastim) doses for affected individuals have three interesting effects that partially overcome the condition. First, while cycling continues, the average number of neutrophils increases at each point of the cycle, cycle, that patients are rarely neutropenic. Secondly, the frequency of cycling decreases from 21 days to 14 days. Third, other fluctuations in the cell line change in parallel; their cycle frequency also decreases to 14 days, suggesting that the early progenitor cell is indeed at the center of the disease. However, the fact that cycling does not disappear shows that there are other anomalies that have yet to be discovered. It also suggests that cycling may be the inherent of all stem cells in normal people who are modulated by several cytokines in the bone marrow. Pathology Pathological features of cyclic neutropenia are visible mainly in the laboratory. Peripheral blood smears seem normal, except for a lack of neutrophils - mature or immature - during the nadir of each cycle. Individual neutrophils seem normal. The bone marrow, however, shows striking differences depending on the day of the cycle on which it is examined. During the nadir of each cycle, there are an increase in the number of early myeloid precursors, such as promyelocytes and myelocytes, and mature neutrophils are rare. This picture is similar to what is observed in acute leukemia, but 10 days later, as circulating neutrophil numbers grow, a perfectly normal brain appears is typical. Clinical manifestations In general, neutropenia from any cause places patients at risk of severe bacterial infections, usually from intestinal organisms, due to changes in host defense in the gastrointestinal tract. This is especially true when neutropenia is due to the introduction of chemotherapy agents, because chemotherapy also affects the lining of the gastrointestinal tract. Neutrophils, with their ability to absorb bacteria and deliver toxic enzymes and oxidization free radicals to the sites of infection, tend to serve as a first-line receiving protection against the bacteria that inhabit the intestines. Such patients are also at risk of fungal infections if neutropenia lasts more than a few days; This is because it takes longer for the fungo to reproduce and invade the bloodstream. Untreated infections of any type can be quickly fatal, especially if the number of neutrophils is less than about 250/L. In cyclic neutropenia, then, recurrent infections should be expected, and deaths from infections with intestinal organisms have been reported. Each cycle is characterized by malaise and the fever coincides with the time neutrophil counts fall. Cervical lymphadenopathy is almost always present, as are oral ulcers. These symptoms usually last about 5 days and then subside until the next cycle. When infections occur, the site is usually predominant. Skin infections, in particular small superficial pyogenic abscesses (furunculosis) or bacterial invasion of dermis or epidermis (cellulite), are the most common and react to with a few sequels. The next most common place of infection is usually the gums, and chronic gingivitis occurs in about half of patients. In addition, the problem has improved markedly when patients receive therapy with filgrastomy. Other infections are unusual, but any neutropenic patient is at risk of infection by organisms that are in the GI system. In a few patients who need abdominal surgery during their neutropenia, ulcers similar to those seen in the mouth have been noted; this destruction of the normal mucous barrier presumably facilitates the entry of intestinal bacteria into the bloodstream. Since the period of greatest susceptibility to infection is only a few days in each cycle, most patients grow and develop normally. CONTROL 19. How long does it take for neutrophil to develop from stem cells in the bone marrow? Once fully mature, what is its life expectancy? 20. At what level of neutropenia is the incidence of infection increasing dramatically? 21. What are the most common places and types of infections observed in neutropenic patients? 22. What is the likely underlying anomaly in cyclical neutropenia? PLATELET DISORDERS 1. Drug-associated immune thrombocytopenia etiology thrombocytopenia, defined as platelet levels below normal laboratory range, is a commonly occurring anomaly. Although there are many causes (table 6-7), the possibility of a drug induced by immune thrombocytopenia should always be considered. Many drugs have been linked to this phenomenon, and the most common ones are listed in table 6-9. In practice, the link between a drug and thrombocytopenia is usually done clinically, rather than with specific tests. Thrombocytopenia usually occurs at least 5-7 days after exposure to the drug if given for the first time. The suspected drug stops and the platelet expects to rebound within days. Rechallenge with a drug that is rarely done, almost always reproduces thrombocytopenia. TABLE 6-9 Common drugs that can cause thrombocytopenia. Heparin is the most important cause of thrombocytopenia due to its frequent use in hospitalized patients; Its use also carries the potential to cause life-threatening thrombotic syndrome. The pathophysiology of thrombocytopenia caused by heparin is also the most fully described. Pathogenesis Although the phenomenon of drug-induced thrombocytopenia has been known for decades to be immune in nature, specific mechanisms have long been controversial. The connection of antibodies with platelets leads to their destruction through the spleen. The spleen acts as the main blood filter and recognizes platelets associated with antibodies as abnormal and thus removes them. The removal of the spleen also occurs in autoimmune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenia, which is relatively common and difficult to distinguish clinically from drug-induced thrombocytopenia, various mechanisms underlying the drug induced by immune thrombocytopenia. The quinine- or NSAID-induced thrombocytopenia involves the rigid binding of antibodies to normal thrombocytes only in the presence of sensitization drugs. Antibody Antibodies epitopes on Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa or IbIX complexes, the main platelet receptors for fibrinogen and vWF, respectively. Penicillin and cephalosporin antibiotics are thought to lead to the destruction of platelets through lactate-dependent antibodies. The drug acts as a hapten, a small molecule that only causes an immunological reaction when it is associated with a large carrier molecule or protein. Some drugs (golden salts, procainamide and possibly sulfonamides) can cause autoantibodies, which are able to bind to platelets and destroy them even in the absence of sensitizing drug. Finally, antithrombotic agents that block the binding of fibrinogen to glypIIIIa receptors (abciximab, troyphaban or eptifibatide) can cause acute immunomediated thrombocytopenia, where patients develop severe thrombocytopenia within hours of exposure. The mechanism includes either natural antibodies that recognize the murine component of abciximab or structural changes in the glypIIIIa receptor caused by binding troyphaban or eptifibatate. For heparin there are clear signs of binding with platelet protein, platelet factor 4 (PF4). PF4s found in alpha platelet pellets and released when activated. It binds back to the platelet surface through a specific PF4 receptor molecule, which further increases platelet activation. It also binds to a high affinity for heparin and heparin-like glycosamine glycominoglycan molecules present on vascular endothelium. This nonimmunical-based adhesion to PF4 can lead to mild thrombocytopenia by promoting platelets binding to fibrinogen and subsequent aggregation. Known as heparin-induced Thrombocytopenia (HIT) type I. This can occur in 30% of patients exposed to heparins without clinical sequels. However, the combination of heparin with PF4 can also act as an antigenic stimulus that triggers the production of immunoglobulin G (IgG) against the combination. This immunological response is known as heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) type II. About 10-20% of these patients with heparin-PF4 antibodies will develop a serious clinical syndrome, HIT (T) (heparin-induced thrombocytopenia and thrombosis), which paradoxically includes both thrombocytopenia 5-10 days after exposure to the drug and protrombotic state through increased thrombosis activation. There is a 10-fold increased risk of HIT infection in patients receiving non-fractional heparin (UFH) compared to those who receive low molecular-weight heparins. Patients with cardio or orthopedic surgery have a higher risk of clinical HIT (1-5%) (0.1-1%) when receiving UFH. Women are twice as likely to have a hit risk than men. Thrombocytopenia occurs in TYPE II HIT after a series of steps. First, PF4 is released from the or heparin itself or other stimuli. Heparin then binds to PF4, forming an antigenic complex that leads to the production of IgG antibodies that can bind directly to this compound. New complex binds to platelets through the Fc platelet receptor, through its end of IgG. The platelets associated with this antibody complex then destroy the spleen. Despite the resulting thrombocytopenia, type II HIT leads to prothrombotic condition through additional binding of the part of heparin-PF4 to the PF4 receptor on platelets, cross-contributing platelet compounds, activation and aggregation (Figure 6-12). FIGURE 6-12 Pathogenesis thrombocytopenia caused by heparin (HIT). IgG is an autoantibod against the heparin-PF4 complex. Platelets can bind to each other and be activated through the interaction of IgG-Fc receptors or the interaction of PF4-PF4 receptors or both. Thus, the formation of aggregation and blood clot may occur. In addition, IgG can bind to endothelial cells linked to the heparan-PF4 build and cause vascular damage, which can also trigger the formation of a blood clot. Since each end of this IgG-heparin-PF4 molecule can bind to platelets, it is possible that platelets can become a cross-single molecule. Many platelets can actually interact in this way, leading to further platelet aggregation and activation. Clinically, it reduces the number of circulating platelets, but it can also lead to a blood clot at the activation site. Thus, despite the fact that heparin is the most commonly used anticoagulant, in this case it can actually provoke coagulation. In addition, the activation of platelets using this mechanism leads to an increase in the number of circulating PF4, which can bind to more heparin and continue the cycle. Excess PF4 can also bind to the endothelial surface through glycerin-like glycosamine glycosamines described earlier. Thus, it is possible that antibodies to the heparin-PF4 design may bind to endothelial cells as well, which can lead to endothelial cell injury, further increasing the risk of local thrombosis by releasing TF and eventually thrombin. Finally, there is some evidence that macrophages can release TF in response to these antibodies, further stimulating coagulation. The pathology of the peripheral blood smear is not startlingly abnormal if the number of platelets is less than about 75,000/L, and then it is usually abnormal just because relatively few platelets are seen. Platelet morphology, however, is usually normal, although large platelets can be seen. These large platelets are less mature and are bone marrow compensation for low amounts of peripheral platelets, with the production of platelets from megakariocytes increasing. Although drugs, particularly heparin, can cause platelet aggregation in vivo and in vitro, this usually does not manifest itself when considering a blood smear. Bone marrow usually seems normal, although the number of megakariocytes can be relatively increased, presumably reflecting an attempt to increase platelets (fragments of megakariocytes) in circulation. In some cases, immune-mediated thrombocytopenia, however, can be reduced the number of megakariocytes. There are many hypothesis hypotheses why this might happen, but it most likely means that an antigenic combination of the drug-platelet protein also occurs on megakariocytes, so that they as well as platelets in peripheral circulation are being immunologically destroyed. This destruction will not involve the spleen, of course, but will require antibody-dependent killing cells. Patients who develop thrombocytopenia and thrombosis, there is thrombosis, which is relatively rich in platelets compared to typical thrombocytopenia, which can be seen in other situations. They are described as white clots. Blood clots can be both arterial and venous. Clinical manifestations Despite the fact that the number of platelets in the immune medial thrombocytopenia can be extremely low (lt; 10,000/L, compared to the normal value of more than 150,000/L), severe bleeding is unusual. Most often there are mild bruises with minimal injuries. When platelets are counted at less than 5000/L, point hemorrhages (petehai) can spontaneously occur in the skin or mucous membranes. They are self-mutilated because plasma clotting factors are still intact, and only a small number of aggregated platelets are needed to provide an adequate PL for clotting. The relationship between the likelihood of bleeding and the number of platelets is not linear. Bleeding time, a test used clinically to assess platelet function, does not even begin to be abnormally long, until the number of platelets is less than 90,000/L. Spontaneous bleeding is unlikely until the number of platelets is less than 20,000/L, but still rare until the number is less than about 5,000/L, assuming that patients have no other hemostasis abnormalities. For example, aspirin inhibits platelet aggregation and increases the likelihood of bleeding. When bleeding from thrombocytopenia occurs, is most commonly mucosa or superficial in the skin. It is most commonly seen as nosebleed (epistaxis), but bleeding of the gums, gastrointestinal tract, or lining of the bladder can be seen. As mentioned, however, when immune thrombocytopenia occurs as a result of heparin, paradoxical clotting can occur instead of bleeding. This can cause a very confusing picture because heparin may have been given therapeutically for another thrombosis. It can be difficult to determine whether the new thrombosis is an extension of the original clot or a new one due to exposure to heparin. However, the occurrence of simultaneous thrombocytopenia gives a clue. When heparin-induced thrombocytopenia and thrombosis occur, the clinical manifestations of the new thrombosis will depend on the location of the clot. Most studies of this disorder show that when thrombosis occurs, it is in place of a previous vascular injury or abnormality. For example, patients with atherosclerotic vascular disease thrombosis is much more common than venous clots. Patients have a rapid onset of severe pain, usually in the limb, with a cool, pale limb. There are no impulses. It could be (5-10% mortality) or at least limbs are threatened because the flow of oxygen to the affected area is cut off, and emergency removal of a clot or vascular bypass may be necessary. Venous clots also occur in the same way as typical venous clots (see later discussion). In addition to stopping heparin, patients with type II HIT need anticoagulation to prevent and treat thrombosis. Direct thrombin inhibitors (argatroban, lepirudin or bivalirudin) provide a direct means of blocking the effects of thrombin, the main mediator of the coagulation system. CONTROL 23. What is the most common category of thrombocytopenia? 24. What are the antibodies to which the platelet protein is implicated in the pathogenesis of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia? 25. With what mechanism can heparin-induced thrombocytopenia actually increase the formation of a blood clot? 26. Why are large bleeding unusual in thrombocytopenia caused by drugs? COAGULATION DISORDERS 1. Inherited Hypercoagulable State Etiology The formation of blood clots otherwise normal blood vessels are clearly abnormal, because the coagulation system in mammalian species is positively and negatively balanced by so many factors. However, there are a number of diseases that lead to abnormal blood clotting (thrombosis). Abnormal blood clotting states can be either primary, in that the anomalies are caused by genetic predisposition associated with the coagulation factors themselves, or secondary (i.e. acquired) due to changes in clotting factors, blood vessels or blood flow. As virchow's pathologist first noted more than 150 years ago, the blood comes back in circulation is blocked in these high-capacity vessels, the superficial accompanying veins only under the skin can be resectable and enlarged. The tumor is mechanical because normal arterial blood flow continues to the limb, while the venous return is compromised, leading to engorgement. Pain occurs primarily as a result of swelling alone, but can also occur from the accumulation of lactic acid in the leg muscles. This occurs when the pressure in the legs increases to such an extent that it jeopardizes the arterial blood flow and adequate oxygen delivery to these muscles. Pulmonary embolisms, the main source of morbidity and mortality after DVT of the lower extremities, are usually present with acute onset of shortness of breath, hypoxemia, and history suggesting the initial DVT, which has now broken down and migrated through the right side of the heart into the pulmonary arterial system. The presence of a blood clot blocks blood flow from the heart to part of the lungs, leading to hypoxemia, which can be exacerbated by any major lung disease. Clinical presentations of all hypercoagulable states are similar, but there are some interesting differences. DVT tends to occur (whether hypercoag or not) in patients with a history of trauma, pregnancy, use of oral contraceptives, or immobility, but rarely in adolescents or young adults. Hereditary hypercoagulating conditions are suspected in patients who are present with a thromboembolic event, usually because they are young or have recurrent clots. Events that occur without any specific risks are particularly suspicious. Because of the dominant pattern of inheritance, suspicion is aroused when other family members have been winding down the problem, emphasizing the importance of adopting family history. Despite various anomalies in coagulation, most thrombosis still occur in normal places (i.e. deep veins of the legs with or without pulmonary embolism). Other unusual areas (specific sinuses of the skull or mesenteric veins in the abdominal cavity) are more likely to be found in patients with concomitant coagulation disorders than those who do not. However, arterial thrombosis is extremely rare. Interestingly, only a minority of patients with hereditary hypercoagulation develop symptomatic thrombosis; this is especially true for heterozygote. Each disorder is slightly different, presumably due to redundancy factors in the coagulation cascade, and the performance of each condition varies in individual patients due to factors that we do not yet understand. Heterozygates, which develop thrombosis, are usually present in conditions of typical risk factor: trauma maintenance, immobilization of limbs, surgery or pregnancy. The homozygous protein C or protein S flaws have the highest probability of causing the disease. Both conditions usually lead to thrombosis, which deady at an early age (neonatal purple fulminans), although some patients may not be present until adolescence. Age. Protein C deficiency is unlikely to develop thrombosis throughout life, although they are about 4-6 times more likely to do so than the general population. Heterozygates for protein deficiency S have a 1 to 10 times increased relative risk of thrombosis. At DEFICIENCY is another significant defect in terms of the likelihood of thrombosis. In these patients, a lifelong 5-10-fold increased relative risk of thrombosis. The situation is complicated in the case of APC resistance. Heterozygates for APC resistance are likely to account for more than one third of all patients with family thrombosis. Although there is a 3 to 5 times increased relative risk of thrombosis for heterozygous of this mutation, heterozygousness rarely leads to thrombosis unless there is an additional risk factor for hypercoagulation. In heterozygous, proteins C and S can still break down the Villa factor, and the V factor is a relative, not an absolute insensitivity to APC. There is still a negative control of the cascade winding down on the X step TPFI factor as well. Even the homoisogatic factor V Leiden does not inevitably cause thrombosis. Families in which homoisogatic women are repeatedly pregnant have been easily described. This is somewhat surprising because pregnancy, a hypercoagulated condition in itself, leads to a decrease in the concentration of protein S, which is expected to increase resistance to protein C. However, there is at least a 20 to 50 times increased risk of thrombosis compared to the general population for homoigote for factor V Leiden. Individuals with prothrombin 20210 AG mutations are almost all heterozygates, with approximately 2-3 times higher risk of thrombosis than the general population. CONTROL 27. What is the Virginia triad of factors that predispose to the formation of intravascular blood clots? 28. The disadvantages are which proteins can lead to clinically significant thrombosis? 29. What is the basis for activating protein C resistance? CASE STUDIES Yeong Kwok. MD (see chapter 25, page 705 for answers) CASE 23 A 65-year-old formerly a good person presents to the clinic complaining of fatigue from a 3-month period. The survey shows diffuse weakness and a sense of wind when walking uphill or climbing more than one floor of stairs. All symptoms gradually increase over time. There are no other complaints, and the review of the systems is otherwise negative. The patient has no significant medical history, social history or family history. On physical examination, he looks somewhat pale, with normal life signs. The physical examination is unremarkable, except for its rectal examination, which reveals a brown, guayak-positive stool (suggests the presence of blood in the stool). A blood test revealed anemia. A. What is the most likely form of anemia in this person? What is the probable root cause? B. What is the mechanism by which this disorder leads to anemia? C. What could have been seen in the peripheral blood smear? D. What other tests can be ordered to confirm the diagnosis? E. What is the pathophysiological mechanism of fatigue, weakness and shortness of breath of this patient? Why is he pale? CASE 24 58-year-old black woman poses in the emergency room complaining of progressive fatigue and weakness over the past 6 months. She was short of breath after walking a few blocks. When reviewing systems, she mentions mild diarrhea. She noticed intermittent numbness and tingling of the lower limbs and loss of color (whether hypercoag or not) in patients with a history of trauma, pregnancy, use of oral contraceptives, or immobility, but rarely in adolescents or young adults. 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A blood test revealed anemia. A. What is the most likely form of anemia in this person? What is the probable root cause? B. What is the mechanism by which this disorder leads to anemia? C. What could have been seen in the peripheral blood smear? D. What other tests can be ordered to confirm the diagnosis? E. What is the pathophysiological mechanism of fatigue, weakness and shortness of breath of this patient? Why is he pale? CASE 24 58-year-old black woman poses in the emergency room complaining of progressive fatigue and weakness over the past 6 months. She was short of breath after walking a few blocks. When reviewing systems, she mentions mild diarrhea. She noticed intermittent numbness and tingling of the lower limbs and loss of color (whether hypercoag or not) in patients with a history of trauma, pregnancy, use of oral contraceptives, or immobility, but rarely in adolescents or young adults. 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