

# Classification and Diagnosis of Anemia in Children

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# defintion

Anemia can be defined as a reduction in hemoglobin concentration, or number of red blood cells per cubic millimeter.

The lower limit of the normal range is set at two standard deviations below the mean for age and sex for the normal population.

Birth	16/5	13/5
2 weeks	16/5	12/5
2 week_3 months	11/5_16/5	9(Term) 7(Preterm)
3-6 months	11/5	9/5
6 month_2 years	12	10/5
2-12 years	13/5	11/5
12-18 years Female	14	12
12_18 years Male	14/5	13

# Classification

The best approach for providing an understanding of the multiple disorders capable of producing anemia is to separate the causes of anemia into two categories

# Classification

Disorders of effective red cell production, in which the net rate of red cell production is depressed. This can be due to disorders of erythrocyte maturation, in which erythropoiesis is largely ineffectual.

# Classification

Disorders in which rapid erythrocyte destruction or red cell loss is primarily responsible for the anemia.

# DISORDERS OF RED CELL PRODUCTION

- 1. Marrow failure
- 2. Impaired erythropoietin production or Erythroid maturation

# Marrow failure

- a. **Aplastic anemia**(Congenital,Acquired)
- b. **Pure red cell aplasia**(Congenital DBA,Acquired TEC)
- c. **Marrow replacement**(Malignancies,Non Malignant)



# Impaired erythropoietin production

Chronic renal disease

Hypothyroidism

Chronic inflammation

Protein malnutrition

# DISORDERS OF ERYTHROID MATURATION

Iron deficiency

Sideroblastic anemias

Vitamin B<sup>12</sup> & Folic acid deficiency

# Hemolytic or Blood loss

١. **Congenital hemolytic anemia**(Hemoglobin ,enzyme ,membrane)
٢. **Acquired hemolytic anemias**
  - a. Antibody mediated
  - b. Microangiopathic hemolytic anemias
  - c. Secondary to acute infections
٣. **Acute blood loss**
٤. **Splenic pooling**

# Classification

Anemias may also be classified on the basis of red cell size and then further subdivided according RBC morphology.

# Classification

classification anemias are subdivided  
microcytic, normocytic, macrocytic

# MICROCYTIC ANEMIAS

Iron deficiency

Thalassemia syndromes

Sideroblastic anemias

congenital hemolytic anemias with  
unstable hemoglobin (E, C)

lead poisoning

# MACROCYTIC ANEMIAS

## megaloblastic bone marrow

- a. Vitamin B12 deficiency
- b. Folic acid deficiency

# MACROCYTIC ANEMIAS

## Non megaloblastic bone marrow

- a. Aplastic anemia
- b. Diamond-Blackfan syndrom
- c. Hypothyroidism
- d. Liver disease
- f. Dyserythropoietic anemias



# NORMOCYTIC ANEMIA

Congenital hemolytic anemia (Hemoglobin, enzyme , membrane)

Acquired hemolytic anemia (Antibody mediated, Microangiopathic)

Acute blood loss

Splenic pooling

Infection

Connective tissue disorder

Bone marrow infiltration

Aplastic anemia

# Evaluation

The first step in diagnosis of anemia is to establish whether the abnormality is isolated to a single cell line (red blood cells only) or whether it is part of a multiple cell line abnormality

# Abnormalities of other lines

- 1-bone marrow involvement
- 2-an immunologic disorder
- 3-sequestration( hypersplenism)

# Usual initial studies

- Hemoglobin and hematocrit determination
- Erythrocyte count and red cell indices, including MCV and RDW
- Reticulocyte count
- Study of peripheral blood smear(PBS)

# Mean corpuscular volume (MCV)

Average volume of red cells

# Mean corpuscular volume (MCV)

HCT/RBC

# Mean corpuscular hemoglobin (MCH)

The test used to determine the quantity of hemoglobin in the blood .This test is used to determine the average amount of hemoglobin per red blood cell in the body.

# Mean corpuscular hemoglobin (MCH)

Hb/RBC



# mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration (MCHC)

Hb/Hct (a measure of cellular hydration status)  
Hemoglobin concentration

# Red Cell Distribution width (RDW)

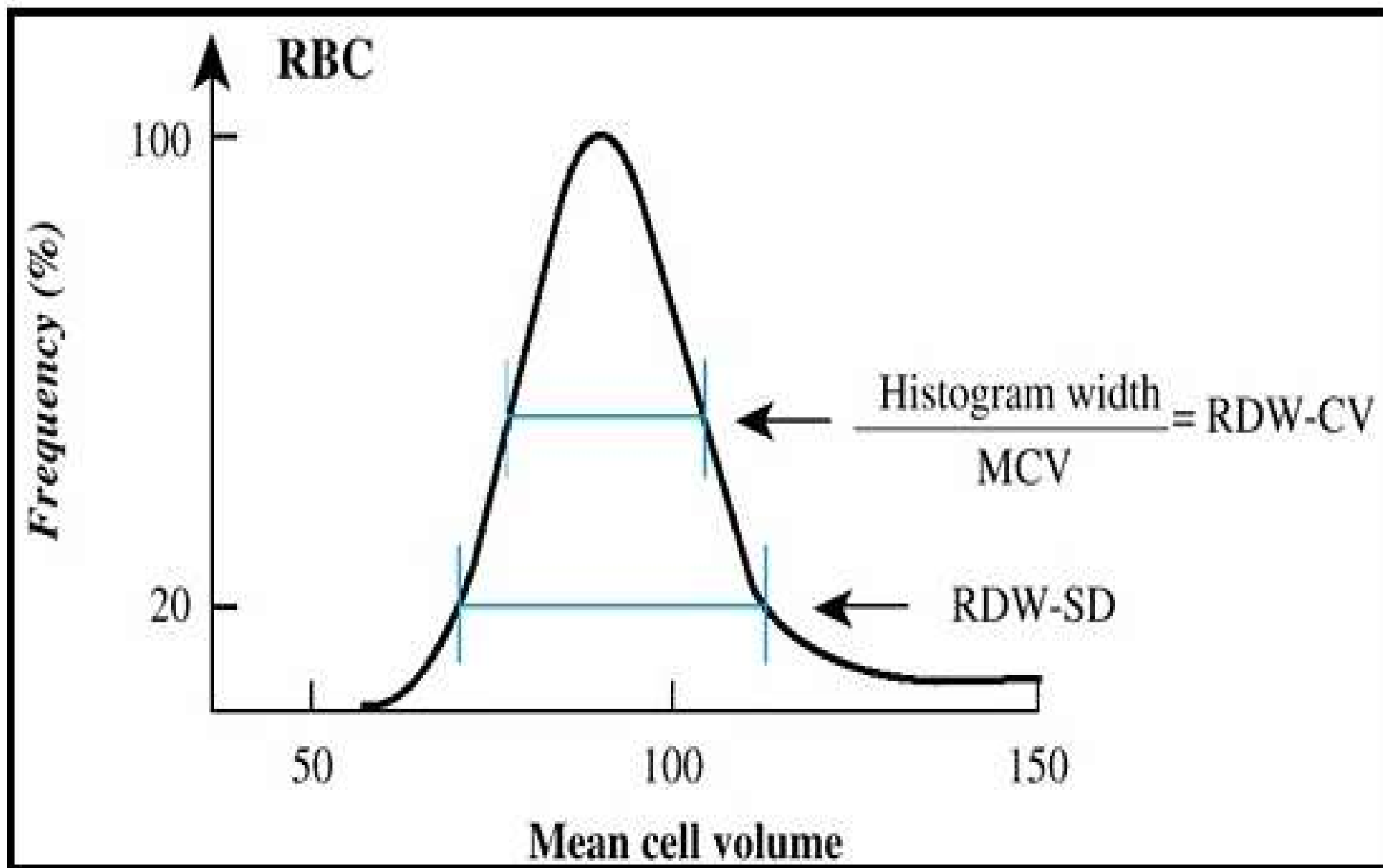
$RDW = SD/MCV \times 100$ . The RDW is an index of the variation in red cell size and thus can be used to detect anisocytosis.

# Red Cell Distribution width (RDW)

The RDW-SD is an actual measure of size. It is derived by finding the width in fluid Liters at the 20% height of the distribution histogram.

# Red Cell Distribution width (RDW)

The RDW-CV is determined by taking the standard deviation of RDW-SD and the mean corpuscular volume (MCV) number.



# MICROCYTIC ANEMIAS

Iron deficiency

Thalassemia syndromes

Chronic lead poisoning

Sideroblastic anemias

Chronic inflammation

Some congenital hemolytic anemias with unstable hemoglobin

# MCV Low RDW Normal

Heterozygous thalassemia  
Chronic disease

# MCV Low RDW High

Iron deficiency



# Differentiation of Thalassemia from IDA

MCV/RBC  
>13

<13

(MCV)  $\times$  MCH  
>153.

<153.

MCV - RBC  $-(\Delta \times \text{Hb}) - \wedge/4$     Negative  
Positive

# Suspected iron deficiency

Serum ferritin levels

# Suspected Thalassemia

Hemoglobin electrophoresis

# MACROCYTIC ANEMIA

**megaloblastic bone marrow**

- a. Vitamin B12 deficiency
- b. Folic acid deficiency

# MACROCYTIC ANEMIA

## **Non megaloblastic bone marrow**

- a. Aplastic anemia
- b. Diamond-Blackfan syndrom
- c. Hypothyroidism
- d. Liver disease
- f. Dyserythropoietic anemias

# MCV High RDW Normal

- a. Aplastic anemia
- b. Diamond-Blackfan syndrom
- c. Hypothyroidism
- d. Liver disease
- f. Dyserythropoietic anemias

# MCV High RDW High

Folate deficiency

Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> deficiency

# Suspected vitamin B<sub>12</sub> or folic acid deficiency

Bone marrow

Serum vitamin B<sub>12</sub> level

Serum folate level



# Normocytic

High Retic

Low or Normal Retic

# Normocytic(High Retic)

Acute blood loss  
Hemolysis

# Normocytic(High Retic)

Acute blood loss(Normal Bil,LDH)

Hemolysis(High Bil,LDH)

# Suspected hemolytic anemia

Blood smear (schistocytes, spherocytes, target cells)

Serum bilirubin level

Urinary urobilinogen, Hemoglobinuria

# Intravascular Hemolysis

Hemoglobin defects

Membrane defects

Enzymes defect

# Evidence of corpuscular hemolytic anemia (Hemoglobin defects)

Blood smear: sickle cells, target cells

Sickling test

Hemoglobin electrophoresis

# Evidence of corpuscular hemolytic anemia (Membrane defects)

Blood smear: spherocytes, ovalocytes, pyknocytes, stomatocytes

Osmotic fragility test (fresh and incubated)

Autohemolysis test

# Evidence of corpuscular hemolytic anemia (Enzymes defect)

Heinz-body preparation

Specific enzyme assay

PBS (Blister cells, Schistocytes, Bite Cell)



# Markers of Intravascular Hemolysis

١. Increased unconjugated bilirubin
٢. Increased lactic acid dehydrogenase
٣. Hemoglobinuria

# Extravascular Hemolysis

Immune

Nonimmune

# Immune

**Idiopathic**(WarmAb,Coldantibody)

**Secondary**(Infection,Drugs,Tumors, Immunologic disorders)

# Nonimmune

Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia (TTP, HUS, burns, march Hemoglobinuria)

Miscellaneous: Wilson disease, osteopetrosis, hypersplenismia:

# Markers of Extravascular Hemolysis

١. Increased unconjugated bilirubin
٢. Increased lactic acid dehydrogenase
٣. Increased urinary urobilinogen

# Evidence of type of extracorpuseular hemolytic anemia

Direct antiglobulin test: IgG (gamma), C<sub>3</sub>  
(complement)

ANA, Anti ds, RF, Viral serology

# Normocytic(Low Retic)

Infection

Connective tissue disorder

Bone marrow infiltration

Hypersplenism

Aplastic anemia

# Normocytic(Low Retic) (Low PLT,WBC)

- Bone marrow depression(Malignant, nonMalignant)
- Aplastic anemia(Congenital,Acquired)



# Normocytic(Low Retic) (Normal PLT,WBC)

- Pure red cell aplasia
- Transient erythroblastopenia of childhood (TEC)
- Infection

# Normocytic(Low Retic) (HighWBC)

Infection

# Suspected aplastic anemia or leukemia

Bone marrow (aspiration and biopsy)  
immunologic markers  
chromosome analysis  
Viral serology

