

Serologic classification of AIHA

Table 41-1 Characteristics of Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia (AIHA)

Characteristic	(~80%) Warm Reactive	Type of AIHA	(~20%) Cold Agglutinin Disease	rare Paroxysmal Cold Hemoglobinuria
Antibody isotype	IgG, Rare IgA, IgM		IgM	IgG
Direct antiglobulin test (DAT) result	IgG, Rare C3		C3	C3
Antigen specificity	Multiple, primarily Rh		i/I, Pr	P
Hemolysis	Primarily extravascular		Primarily extravascular	Intravascular
Common disease associations	B-cell neoplasia lymphoproliferative, collagen-vascular		Viral, neoplasia	Syphilis, viral

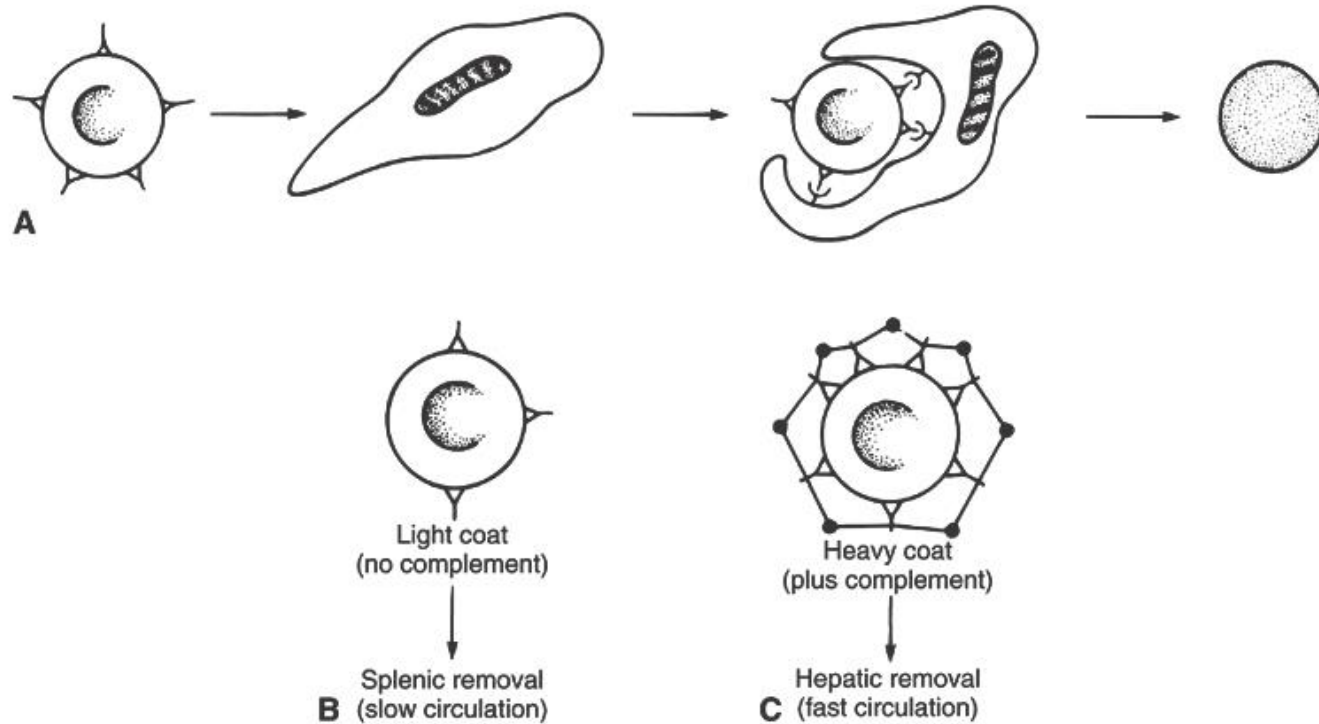
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↓
Acute onset
Gradual onset

↓
Acute form (mycoplasma pneumoniae)
Chronic form (LNH)

Thermic range IgM (0-37 °C)
Thermic range complement (25-40 °C)
Overlap around 25°C

Mechanism of extravascular hemolysis in autoimmune hemolytic anemia



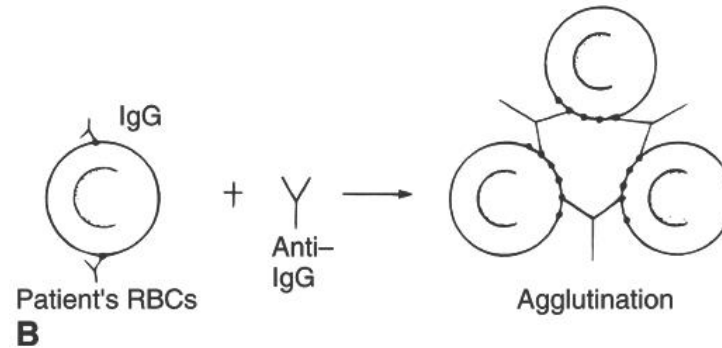
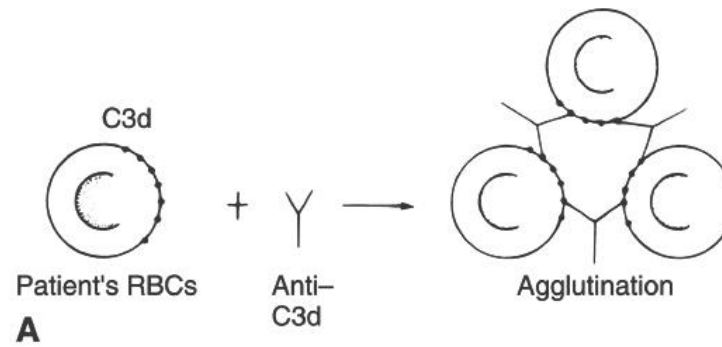
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- (A) Macrophage encounters an IgG-coated erythrocyte and binds to it via its Fc receptors. Thus entrapped, the RBC loses bits of its membrane as a result of digestion by the macrophage's ectoenzymes. The discoid erythrocyte transforms into a sphere.
- (B) RBC lightly coated with IgG (and therefore incapable of activating the complement cascade) is preferentially removed in the sluggish circulation of the spleen.
- (C) RBC with a heavy coat of IgG; C3b (black circles) can be removed both by the spleen and the liver.

Table 41-2 Diseases Rarely Associated with Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia

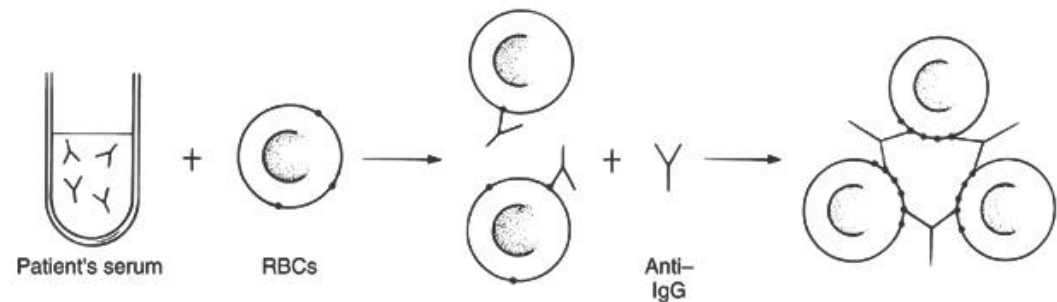
- Collagen vascular disease
 - Rheumatoid arthritis
 - Scleroderma
 - Polyarteritis nodosa
 - Serum sickness
 - Sjögren's syndrome
- Lymphoreticular malignancy
 - Macroglobulinemia
 - Hodgkin's disease
 - Multiple myeloma
 - Mycosis fungoides
- Other malignancy
 - Acute leukemia
 - Thymoma
 - Carcinoma: colon, kidney, lung, ovary
- Miscellaneous diseases
 - Myelofibrosis with myeloid metaplasia
 - Ulcerative colitis
 - Pernicious anemia
 - Thyroid disease
 - Ovarian cysts
 - Mucocutaneous lymph node syndrome (Kawasaki disease)
 - Evans' syndrome (thrombocytopenia and hemolytic anemia)
 - Congenital immunodeficiency syndromes
 - Guillain-Barré syndrome
 - Primary biliary cirrhosis
 - Multiply transfused patients with hemoglobinopathies

Test di Coombs diretto



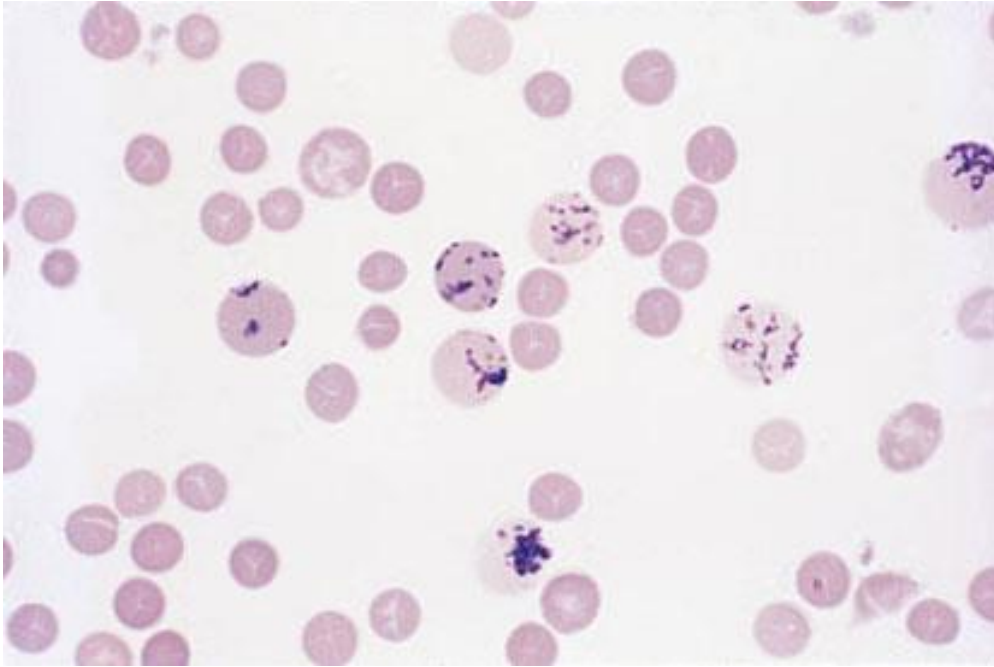
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Test di Coombs indiretto



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DIAGNOSI

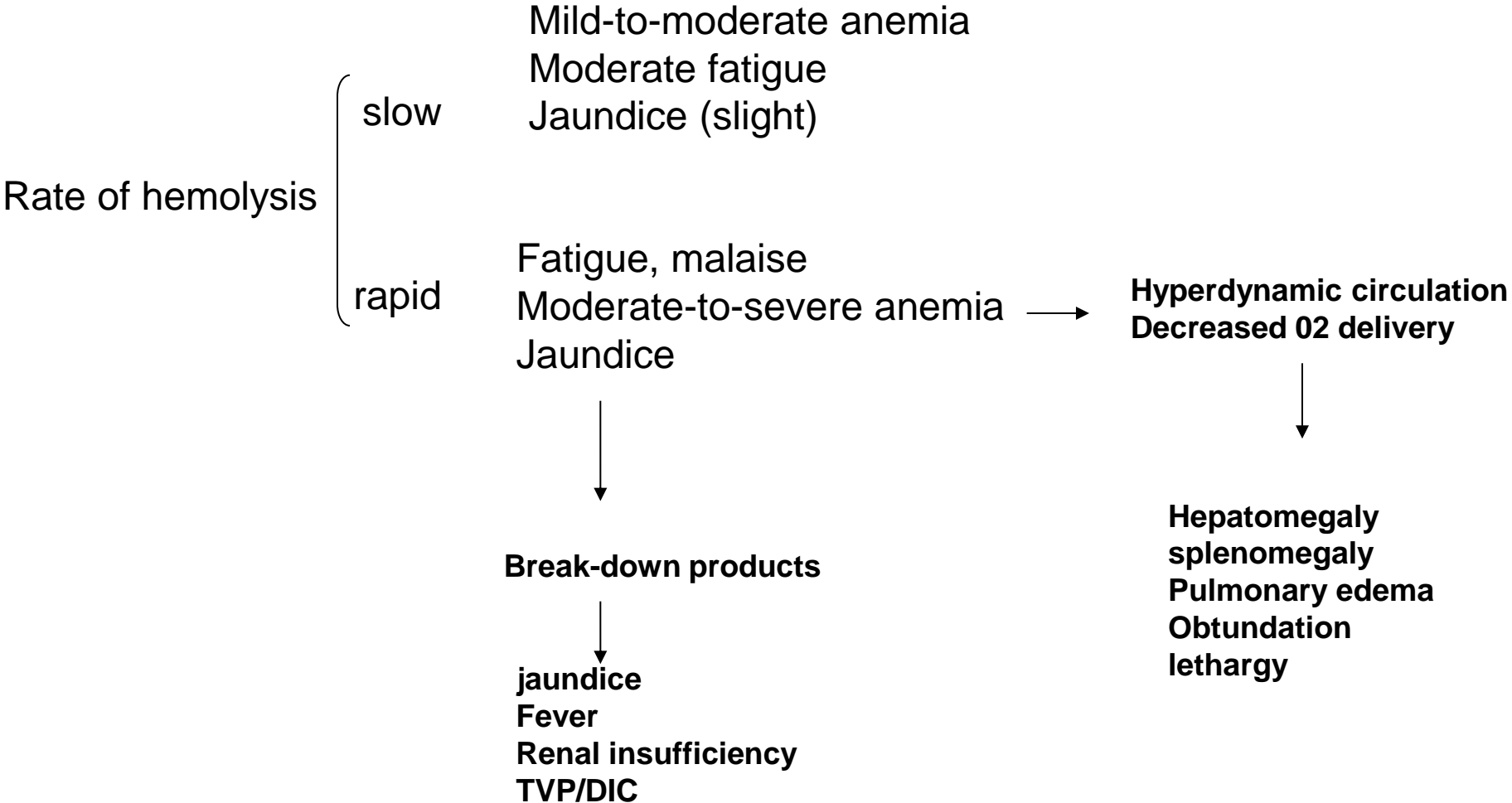


Anemia normocromica con sferociti
Bilirubina
Sideremia
aptoglobina
LDH
Urobilinuria
Bilirubinuria
Feci ipercromiche
Coombs (IgG / IgM / C3b, C3d)

Anemia emolitica: sferociti, macrociti e reticolocitosi.
Nelle cellule più grandi si vede materiale reticolare
(RNA precipitato).
Colorazione con blu di metilene.
(Controcolorazione con Giemsa)

Fegato
Milza
linfonodi
Pallore
ittero

SYMPTOMS



Terapia

Steroidi pdn 1mg/Kg/die per 4 settimane a scalare lungo 4 settimane
(inibizione fagocitosi da parte dei macrofagi + immunosoppressione)

Immunoglobuline (400 mg/kg/ die per 3 gg)
(saturazione recettore Fc macrofagico)

Splenectomia

Immunosopressori

Alchilanti (azatioprina, ciclofosfamide, anti CD20, ciclosporina)

Trasfusioni (anche se non perfettamente compatibili per gli autoanticorpi)