

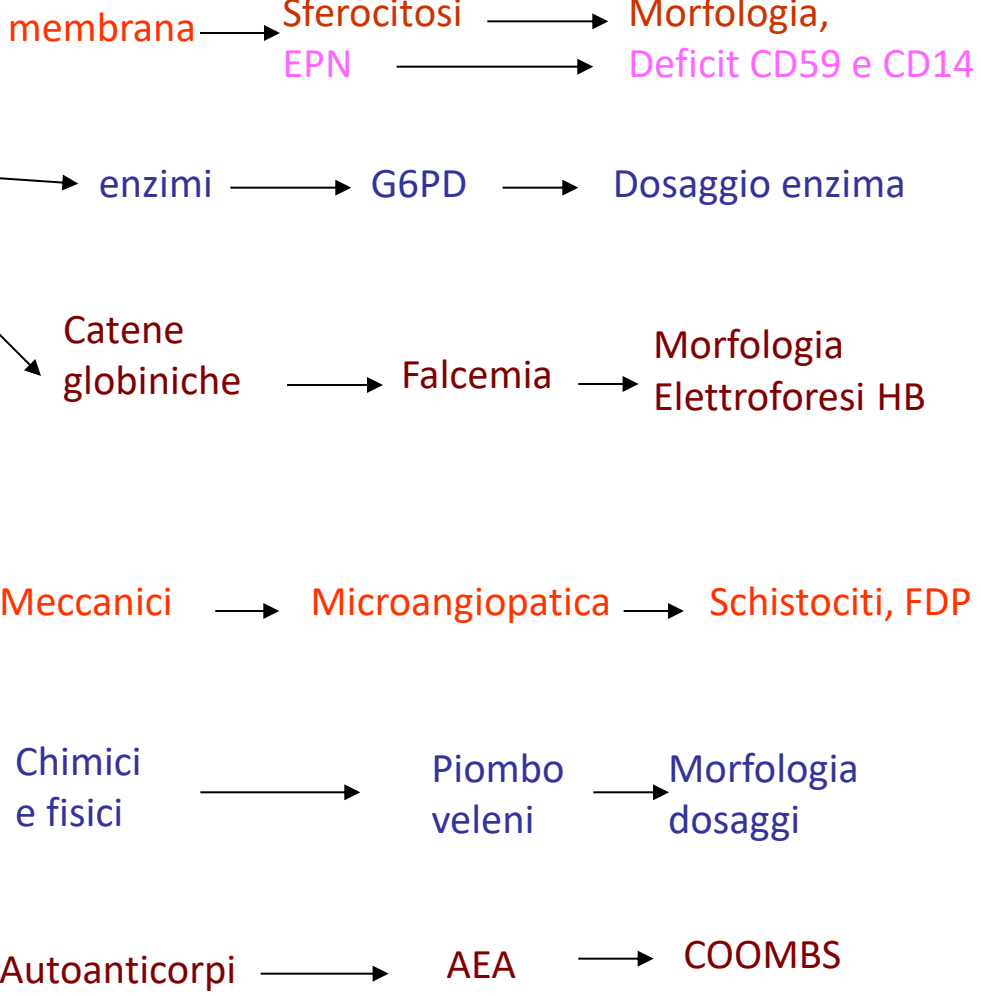
**Ridotta sopravvivenza GR**

Indici emolisi

**-Reticolociti  
-Bilirubina indiretta  
-LDH, sideremia  
-Aptoglobina**

**intraglobulari**

**extraglobulari**



DIAGNOSI → clinica  
DIAGNOSI → Test specifici



# Classification of autoimmune hemolytic anemia

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## *Warm-antibody type (75% of the cases)*

- Primary
- Secondary
  - drugs
  - lymphoproliferative disease
  - infectious disease
  - autoimmune
  - neoplastic disease

## Cold-antibody type (25% of the cases)

- Primary chronic cold agglutinin disease (clonal B-lymphoproliferative disease, most often non-progressive and clinically non-malignant)
- Secondary cold agglutinin syndrome
  - Associated with malignant disease
  - Acute, infection-associated

# Serologic classification of AIHA

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

Characteristic	(~75%) Warm Reactive	Type of AIHA	(~25%) 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

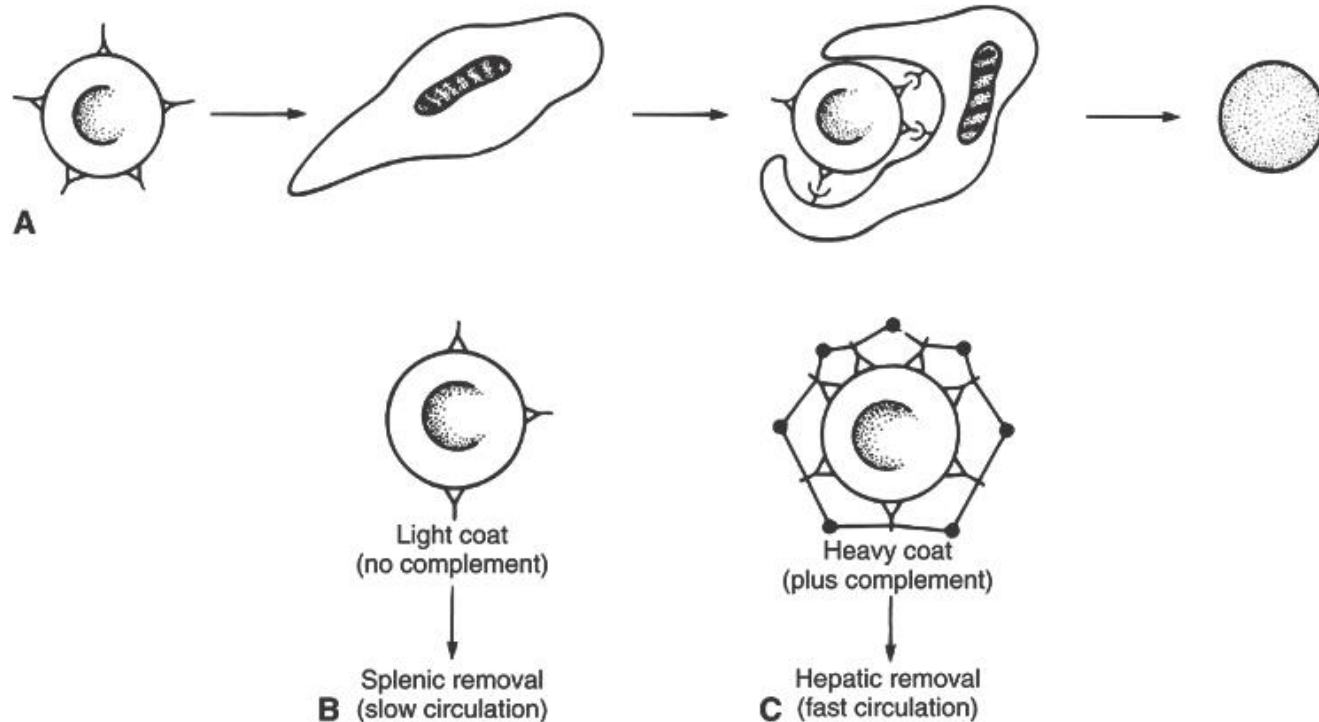
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↓  
Acute onset  
Gradual onset

↓  
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



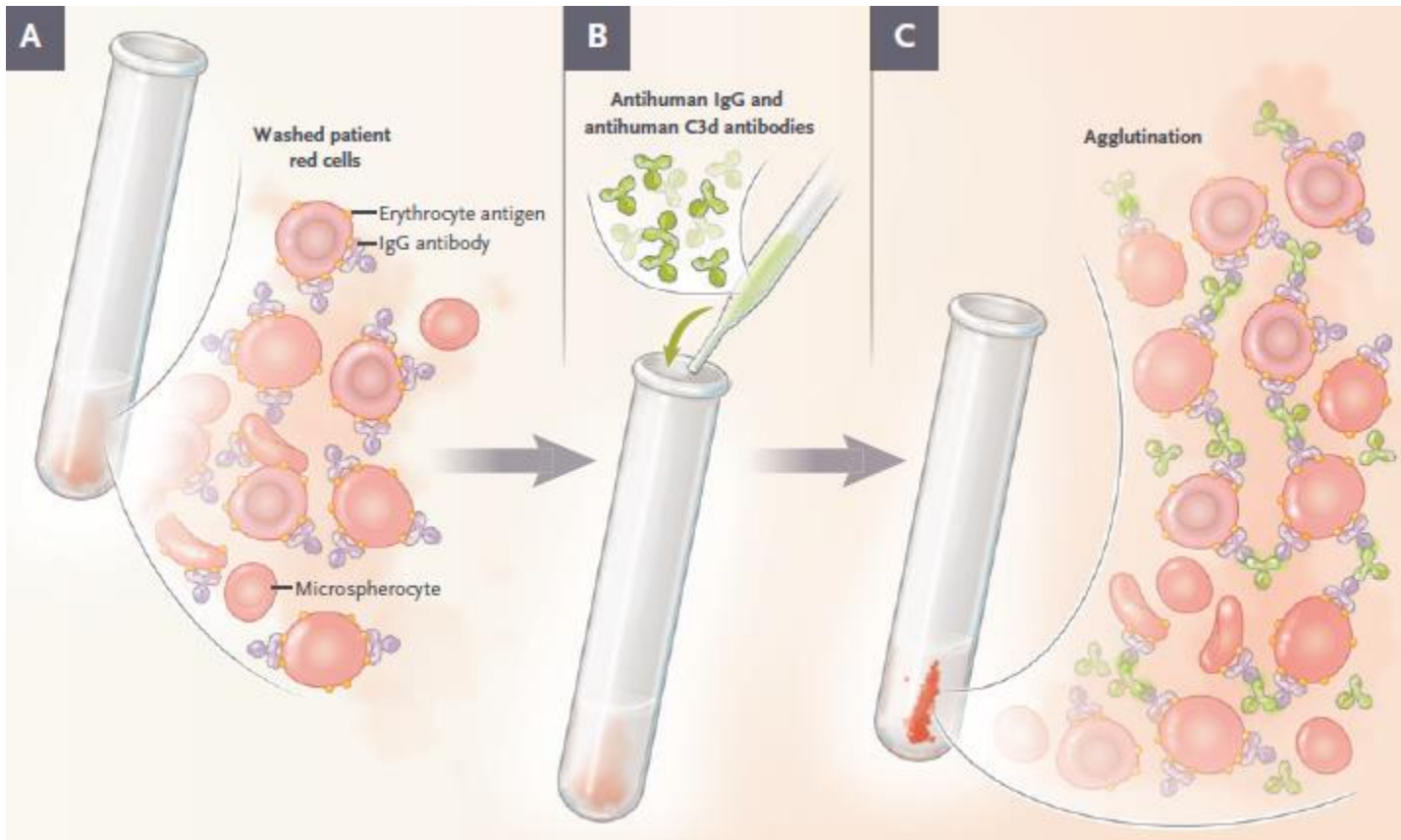
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- (A) Macrophage encounters an IgG-coated erythrocyte and binds to it via its Fc receptors. Thus entrapped, the RBC loses bits of its membrane as a result of digestion by the macrophage's ectoenzymes. The discoid erythrocyte transforms into a sphere.
- (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.

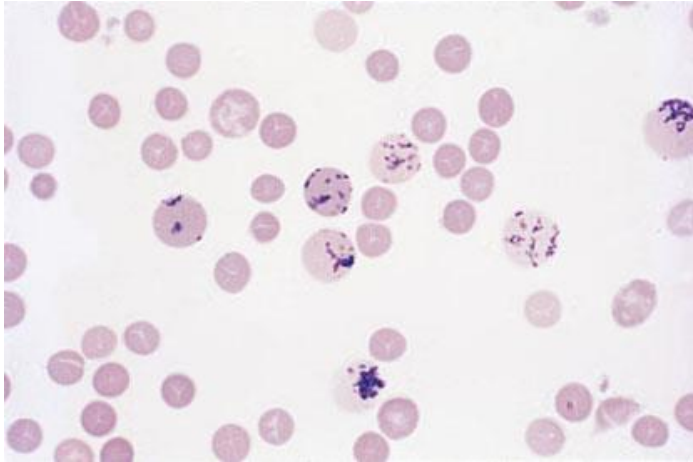
## Table 41-2 Diseases Rarely Associated with Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia

- 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

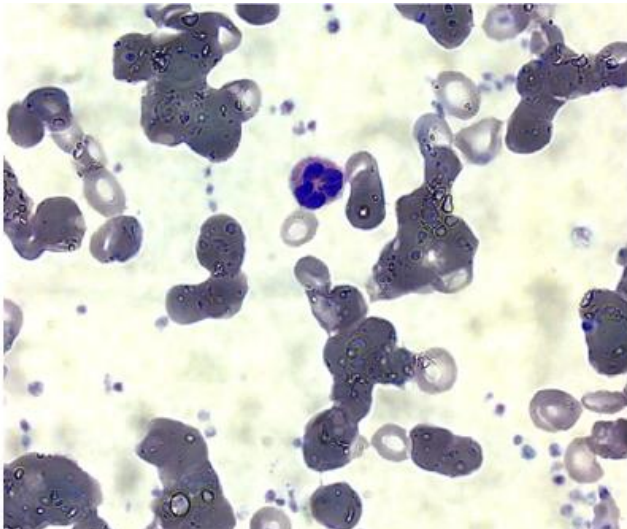
## Direct Antiglobulin Test (Direct Coombs' Test).



## DIAGNOSI



Anemia emolitica: sferociti, macrociti e reticolocitosi.  
Nelle cellule più grandi si vede materiale reticolare  
(RNA precipitato).

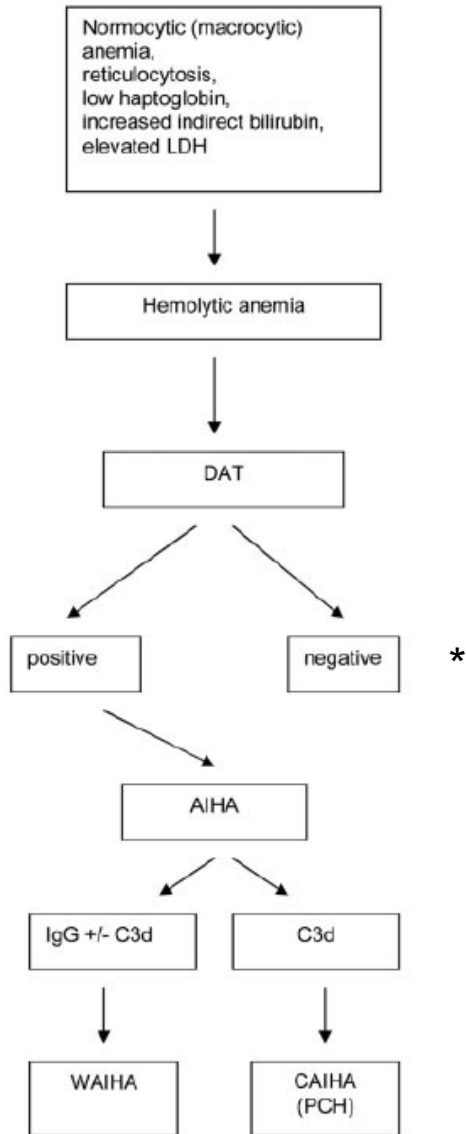


Anemia emolitica da anticorpi freddi:  
agglutinazione delle emazie su vetrino

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

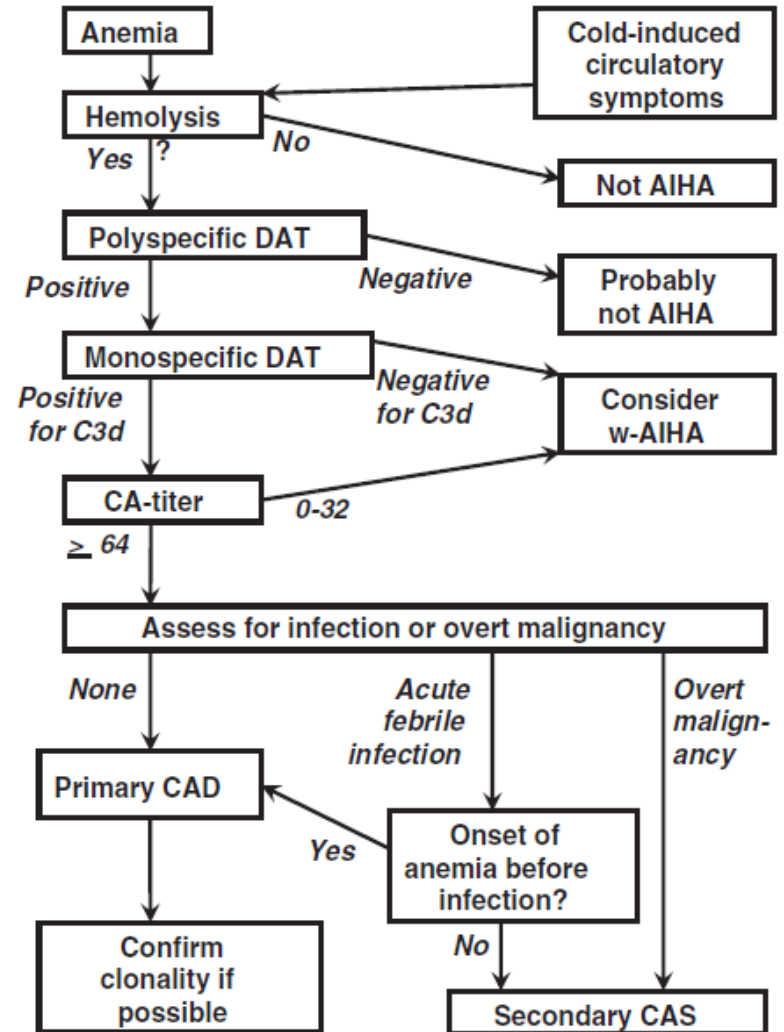


# Diagnostic algorithm of Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia



\*5% AHA may show DAT- due to pathogenic IgG autoantibodies below the sensitivity level of the test or low-affinity autoantibodies

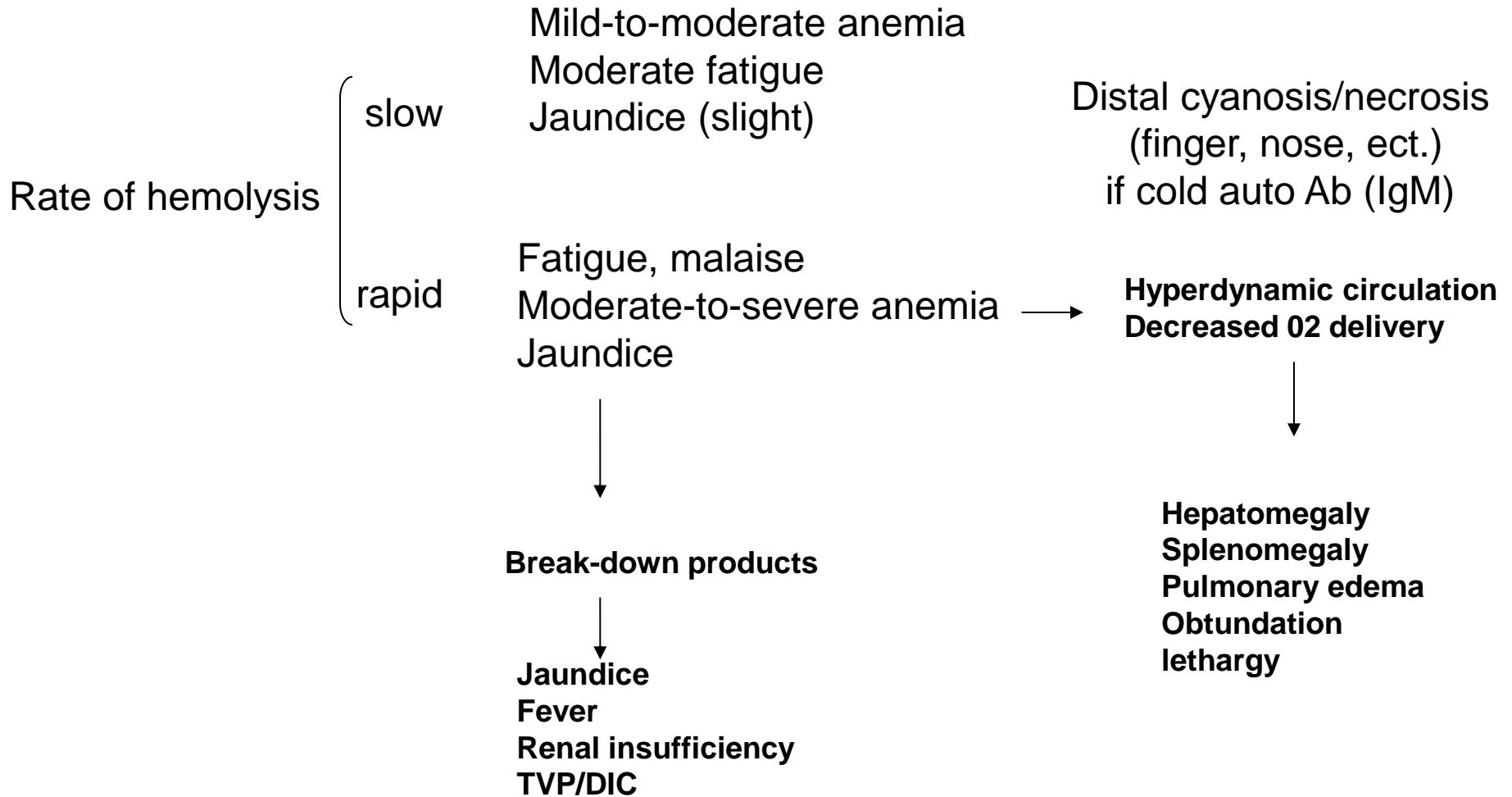
# Diagnostic algorithm of cold agglutinin disease





# SYMPTOMS

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# Terapia

## **Se da ATC caldi**

Steroidi: ad es prednisone 1-2mg/Kg/die per 4 settimane (o fino ad HB > 10 gr/dL a scalare lungo 4-6 mesi

(inibizione fagocitosi da parte dei macrofagi + immunosoppressione)

Rituximab; atc anti linfociti B (anti CD20)

Immunoglobuline (400 mg/kg/ die per 3 gg)

(saturazione recettore Fc macrofagico)

Splenectomia

## **Se da ATC freddi**

Steroidi poco efficaci

Terapia diretta contro il clone B-linfocitario: rituximab (eventualmente associato a fludarabina)

Immunosoppressori: Alchilanti (azatioprina, ciclofosfamide, ciclosporina)

**Trasfusioni se HB < 6 gr/dL, in rapporto al quadro clinico**

**(anche se non perfettamente compatibili per la presenza di autoanticorpi di tipo «panagglutinina»)**