

A high-magnification scanning electron micrograph of numerous red blood cells. The cells are biconcave discs, appearing as reddish-brown, rounded structures with a distinct indentation in the center. They are densely packed and overlap, creating a textured, three-dimensional appearance.

MPN DIAGNOSIS

Dr Renee Eslick
Clinical and Laboratory Haematologist,
Liverpool & Bankstown Hospitals

MYELOPROLIFERATIVE NEOPLASMS

- Polycythemia vera
- Essential thrombocythemia
- Primary myelofibrosis
 - PMF, prefibrotic / early stage
 - PMF, overt fibrotic stage
- Chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML)
- Chronic neutrophilic leukaemia
- Chronic eosinophilic leukaemia, NOS
- MPN, unclassifiable



POLYCYTHAEMIA VERA

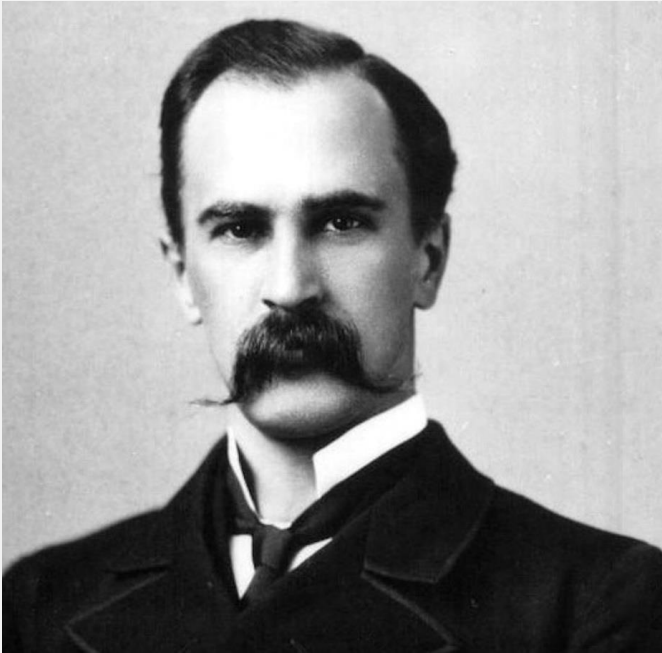
POLYCYTHAEMIA VERA



L. H. Vaquez

- First described in 1892 by Louis Henri Vaquez
- Reported a 40 year old man with chronic cyanosis, distended veins, vertigo, dyspnoea, hepatosplenomegaly, palpitations
- Markedly elevated red cell count

POLYCYTHAEMIA VERA



- William Osler, 1903
- Recognised three types of polycythemia:
 1. “True polycythemia” (polycythemia vera)
 2. Polycythemia secondary to some other cause
 3. Relative polycythemia – red cells appear increased due to a fall in the plasma volume

PV SYMPTOMS

- Incidental finding
- Itchiness, particularly following a bath or shower
- Burning pain in the hands or feet with discolouration
- Visual disturbances
- Gastrointestinal symptoms
- Increased risk of blood clots

CURRENT DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

THE UPDATED WHO CLASSIFICATION OF HEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES

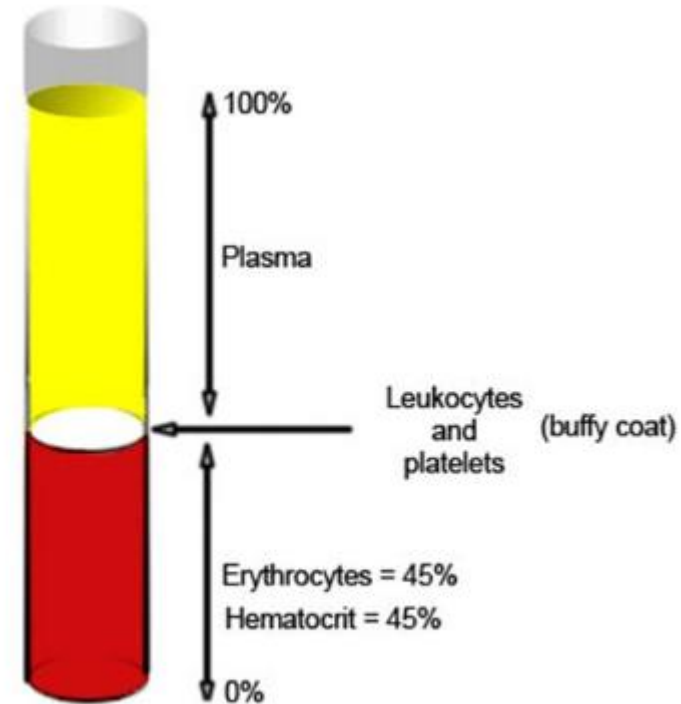
The 2016 revision to the World Health Organization classification of myeloid neoplasms and acute leukemia

Daniel A. Arber,¹ Attilio Orazi,² Robert Hasserjian,³ Jürgen Thiele,⁴ Michael J. Borowitz,⁵ Michelle M. Le Beau,⁶ Clara D. Bloomfield,⁷ Mario Cazzola,⁸ and James W. Vardiman⁹

2016 WHO CRITERIA

MAJOR CRITERIA

- Haemoglobin >165g/L in men
- Haemoglobin >160g/L in women
- Or
- Haematocrit >49% in men
- Haematocrit >45% in women
- Or
- Increased red cell mass



RED CELL MASS MEASUREMENTS

- Rarely done
- Nuclear medicine scan
- “Label” the red cells and plasma with a radioactive marker

2016 WHO CRITERIA

MAJOR CRITERIA

- 2. Bone marrow biopsy:
 - Increase in all types of blood cells (“panmyelosis”)
 - Increased number of blood cells (“hypercellular”)
 - Platelet precursors (“megakaryocytes”) are differently sized

2016 WHO CRITERIA

MAJOR CRITERIA

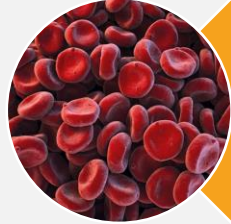
- 3. Presence of JAK2V617F
- Or presence of JAK2 exon 12 mutation

MINOR CRITERIA

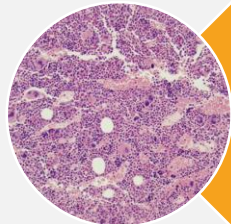
- Subnormal serum erythropoietin level



I. ALL THREE MAJOR CRITERIA



Haemoglobin >165g/L (men) or >160g/L (women)
Haematocrit >49% (men) or >48% (women)

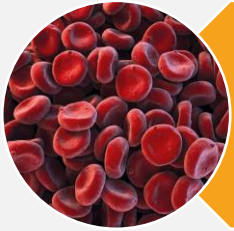


Bone marrow biopsy

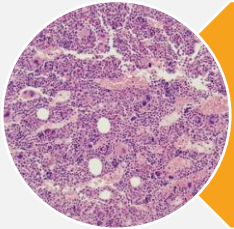


JAK2V617F or JAK2 exon 12

2. FIRST TWO MAJOR & MINOR CRITERION



Haemoglobin >165g/L (men)
or >160g/L (women)
Haematocrit >49% (men) or
>48% (women)



Bone marrow biopsy

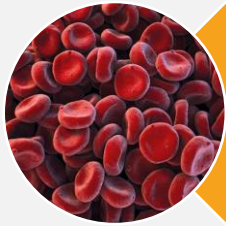


JAK2 V617F or JAK2 exon 12



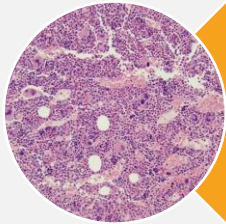
Reduced serum
erythropoietin level

3. DIAGNOSIS WITHOUT A BONE MARROW



Haemoglobin **>185g/L** (men)
or **>165g/L** (women)

Haematocrit **>55.5%** (men)
or **>49.5%** (women)



Bone marrow biopsy



Reduced serum
erythropoietin level



JAK2 V617F or JAK2 exon 12



ESSENTIAL THROMBOCYTHAEMIA

HISTORY



- Described in 1924 by Austrian pathologists Epstein and Goedel
- Patient with extremely elevated platelet count, minimal change in the red cells, and mucocutaneous bleeding
- Primary (essential thrombocythemia) and secondary (due to other causes) described in 1954

ET SYMPTOMS

- Incidental finding
- “Vasomotor symptoms”
 - Headache
 - Dizziness / fainting
 - Numbness of fingertips and toes
 - Burning pain in hands and feet with redness and warmth
 - Transient visual changes

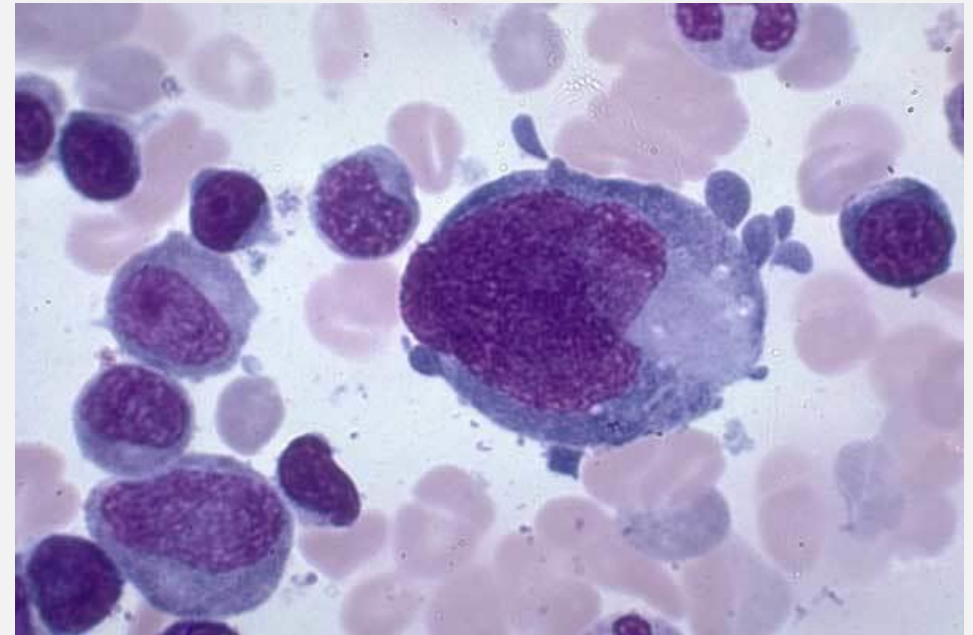
ET SYMPTOMS

- Blood clot – venous or arterial
- Bleeding symptoms

2016 WHO CRITERIA

MAJOR CRITERIA

- 1. Platelet count $\geq 450 \times 10^9/L$
- 2. Bone marrow biopsy
 - Increased megakaryocytes (platelet precursors)
 - Enlarged, mature, hyperlobated
 - No increase in the white or red blood cell precursors
 - No fibrosis / scarring of bone marrow (or only very minor)



2016 WHO CRITERIA

MAJOR CRITERIA

- 3. Not meeting WHO criteria for CML, PV, PMF, MDS or other myeloid neoplasms
 - Makes this a 'diagnosis of exclusion'
 - Essentially, rule out other conditions first

2016 WHO CRITERIA

MAJOR CRITERIA

- 4. Presence of JAK2, CALR or MPL
 - JAK2 – 60-65%
 - CALR – 20-25%
 - MPL – 5%
 - “Triple negative” – 10-15%

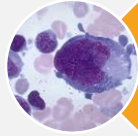
MINOR CRITERIA

- Presence of another clonal marker (eg ASXL1, EZH2, TET2, IDH1/IDH2, SRSF2, SR3B1)
- OR no other cause for raised platelet count found

I. FIRST FOUR MAJOR CRITERIA



Platelets ≥ 450



Bone marrow biopsy



Not meeting WHO criteria for other conditions

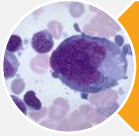


Presence of JAK2, CALR or MPL

2. FIRST THREE MAJOR CRITERIA & MINOR CRITERION



Platelets ≥ 450



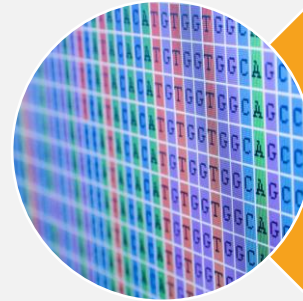
Bone marrow biopsy



Not meeting WHO criteria
for other conditions



Presence of ~~MPL2~~, CALR or



Another clonal
marker
Or
No other cause of
raised platelets found

The background of the slide is a histological micrograph of a bone marrow biopsy specimen. It shows extensive replacement of normal hematopoietic tissue by a dense, fibrous stroma (reticulin staining). There are numerous small, dark-staining cells (likely lymphocytes or small B-cells) scattered throughout the fibrous tissue. Some larger, pale-staining areas are visible, possibly representing residual fat or areas of less dense fibrosis. The overall appearance is characteristic of advanced myelofibrosis.

MYELOFIBROSIS

MYELOFIBROSIS

- First described in 1879 by Gustav Heuck
 - Noticed bone marrow scarring coupled with blood cell production outside of the bone marrow
- Recognised as related to the other myeloproliferative conditions in 1951

PMF SYMPTOMS

- Fatigue
- Scarring of the bone marrow → leads to blood cells being made elsewhere, causing enlargement of the spleen and/or liver
- Spleen related symptoms
- Low grade fever, night sweats, weight loss
- Bony tenderness / joint pain
- Blood clots

WHO CRITERIA

- Two entities recognised:
- 1. Pre-fibrotic primary myelofibrosis
 - *Important to distinguish from essential thrombocythaemia*
- 2. Overt primary myelofibrosis

PRE-FIBROTIC PMF

MAJOR CRITERIA

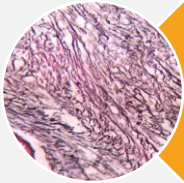
- 1. Bone marrow: Increased abnormal platelet precursors (megakaryocytes)
 - Increased cellularity with increased white blood cell precursors
 - Red cell precursors might be reduced
 - NO significant fibrosis (MF grade I or less)
- 2. Not meeting WHO criteria for other condition (eg PV, ET)
- 3. Presence of JAK2, CALR, MPL, **or** another clonal marker, **or** no other cause of minor fibrosis found

PRE-FIBROTIC PMF

MINOR CRITERIA

- At least 1 of:
- Anaemia
- Raised white cell count ≥ 11
- Palpable enlarged spleen
- Raised LDH

ALL 3 MAJOR & 1 MINOR CRITERIA



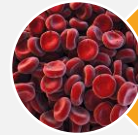
Typical bone marrow findings



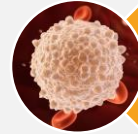
Not meeting other WHO diagnoses



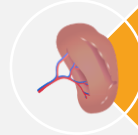
Clonal marker
Or no other cause of fibrosis found



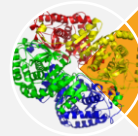
Anaemia



White cells > 11



Palpable spleen



LDH high

OVERT PMF

MAJOR CRITERIA

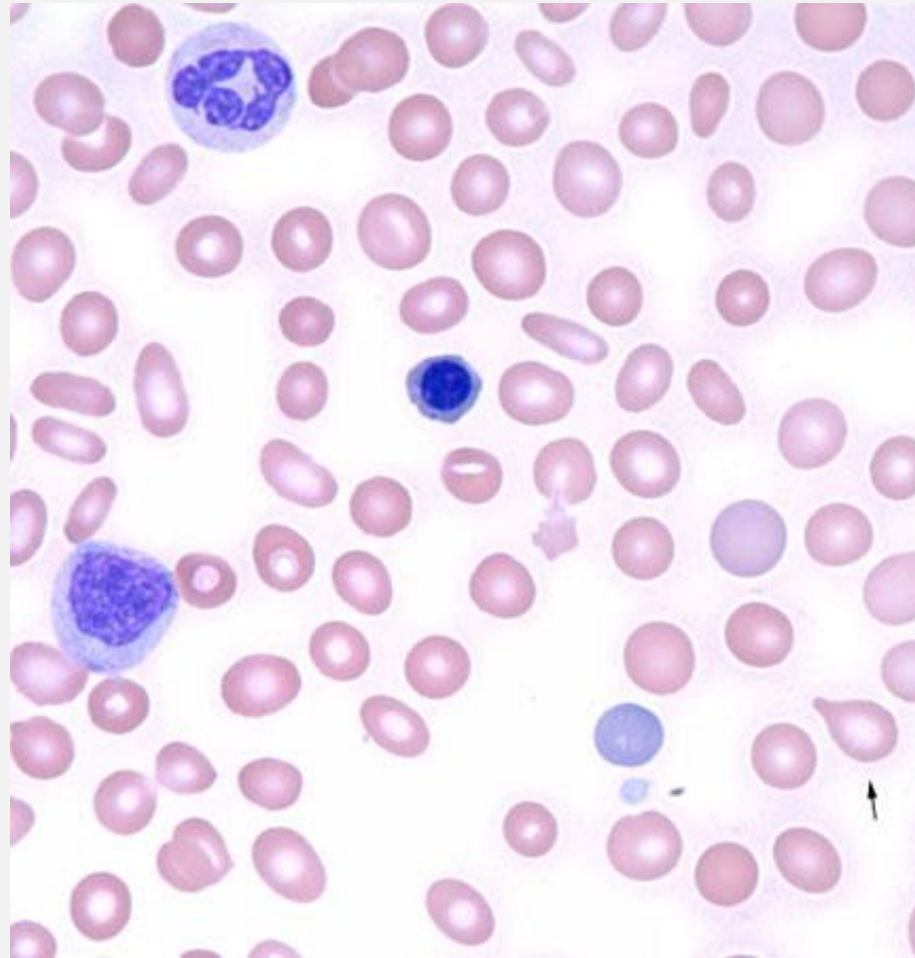
- 1. Increased platelet precursors (megakaryocytes) and/or atypia, plus significant fibrosis
- 2. Not meeting WHO criteria for other conditions
- 3. Presence of JAK2, CALR, MPL; **or** another clonal marker; **or** no other cause of fibrosis found
 - JAK2 – 65%
 - CALR – 15-30%
 - MPL – 8%

OVERT PMF

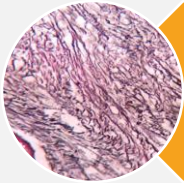
MINOR CRITERIA

- At least 1 of:
- Anaemia
- White cells ≥ 11
- Palpable enlarged spleen
- LDH above normal
- Leukoerythroblastosis (immature blood cells found in the blood)

LEUKOERYTHROBLASTOSIS



ALL 3 MAJOR & 1 MINOR CRITERIA



Typical bone marrow findings



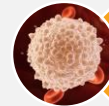
Not meeting other WHO diagnoses



Clonal marker
Or no other cause of fibrosis found



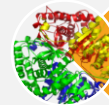
Anaemia



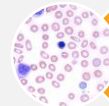
White cells > 11



Palpable spleen



LDH high



Leukoerythroblastosis

QUESTIONS?