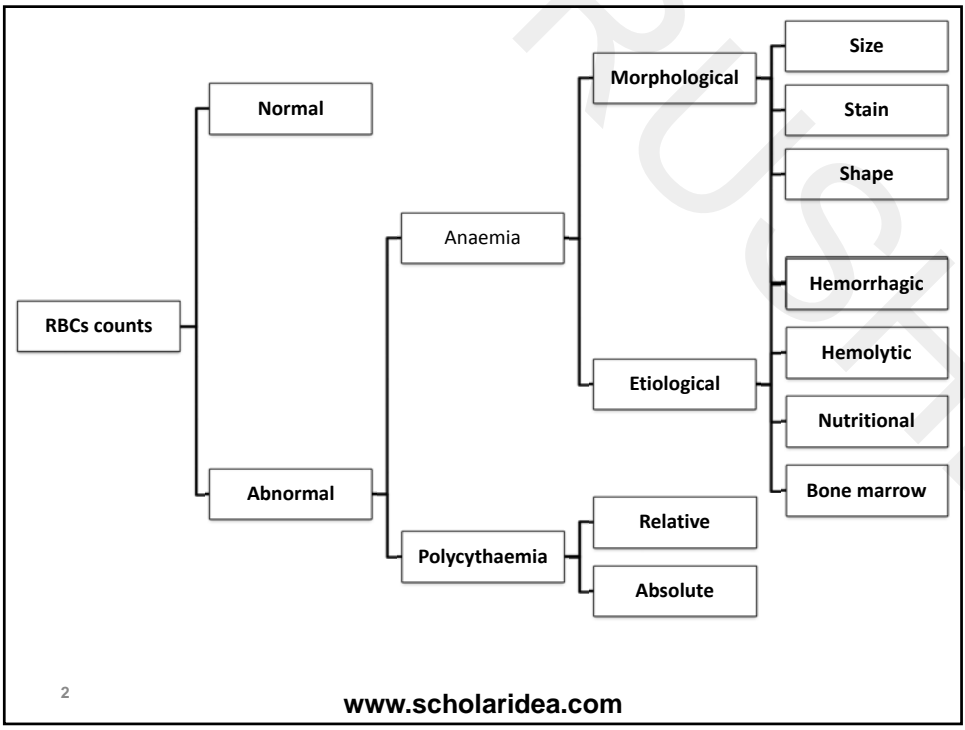


# INTERPRETATION OF RBCS COUNT

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# ANEMIA

Anaemia is a reduction below normal in the number of erythrocytes or hemoglobin concentration or both in the circulating blood per unit volume of blood.

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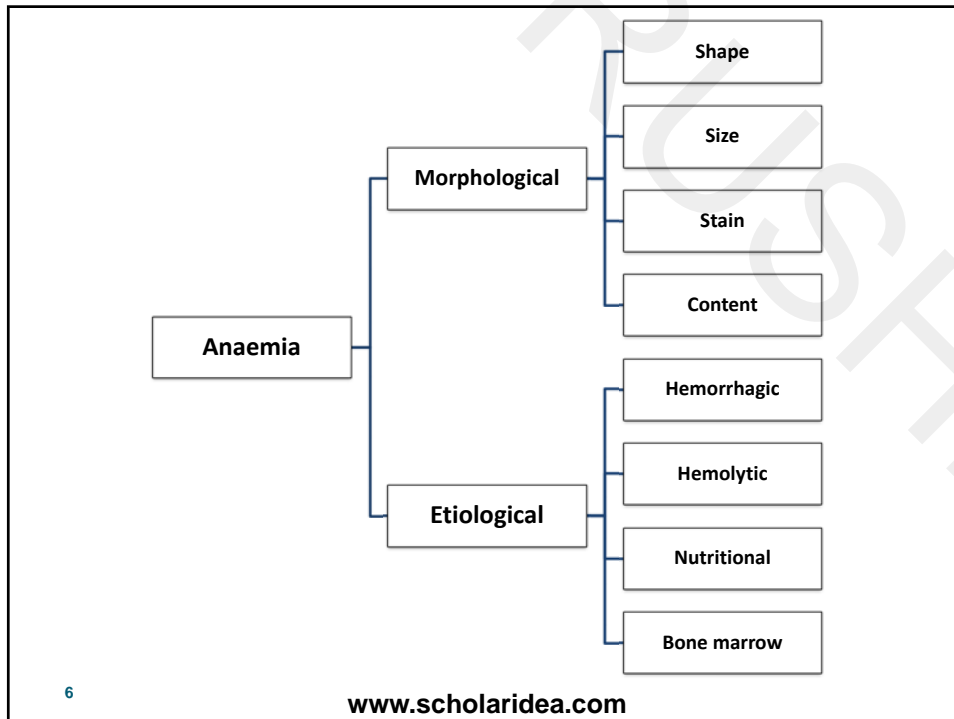
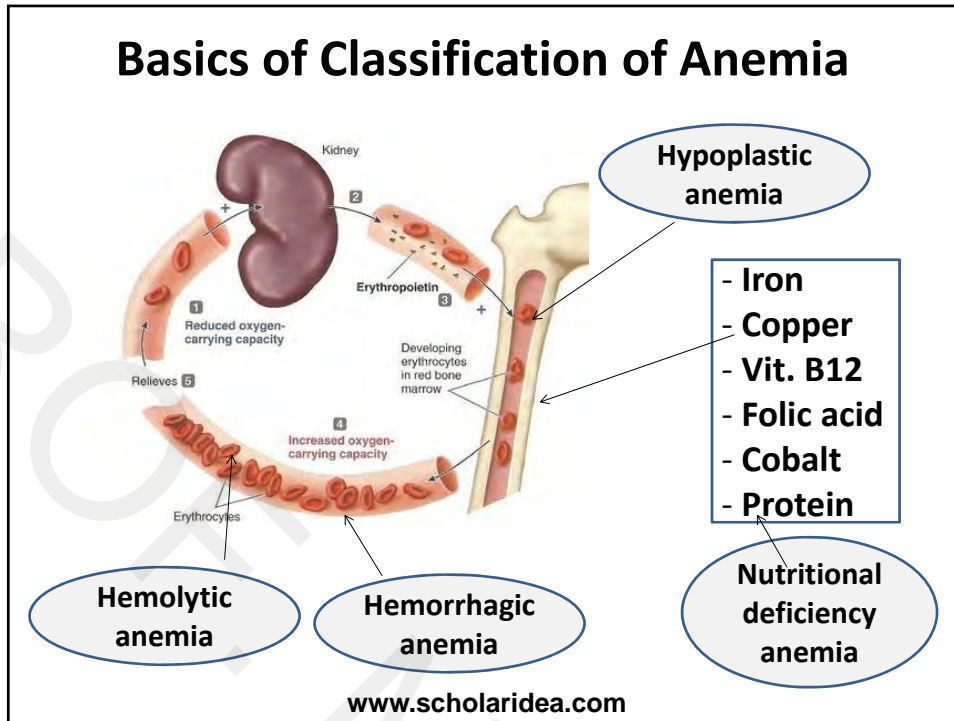
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## Diagnosis of anemia

- Red blood cells count.
- Hemoglobin concentration.
- Packed cell volume.
- Mean corpuscular values.
- Stained blood smear.

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## Basics of Classification of Anemia



## Morphological classification of anemia

Abnormalities in shape

Abnormalities in size

Abnormalities in stain

Inclusion bodies of erythrocytes

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## Abnormalities in shape of the erythrocytes (Poikilocytosis)

**1. Elliptocytes**

**2. Spherocytes**

**3. Ovalocytes**

**4. Target cell**

**5. Nucleated**

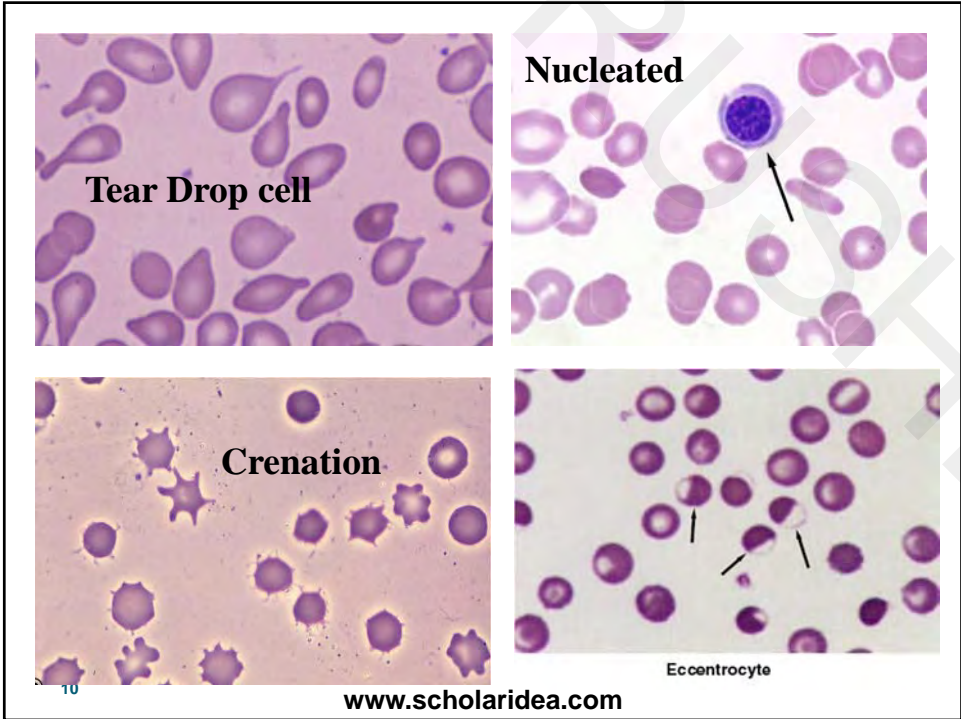
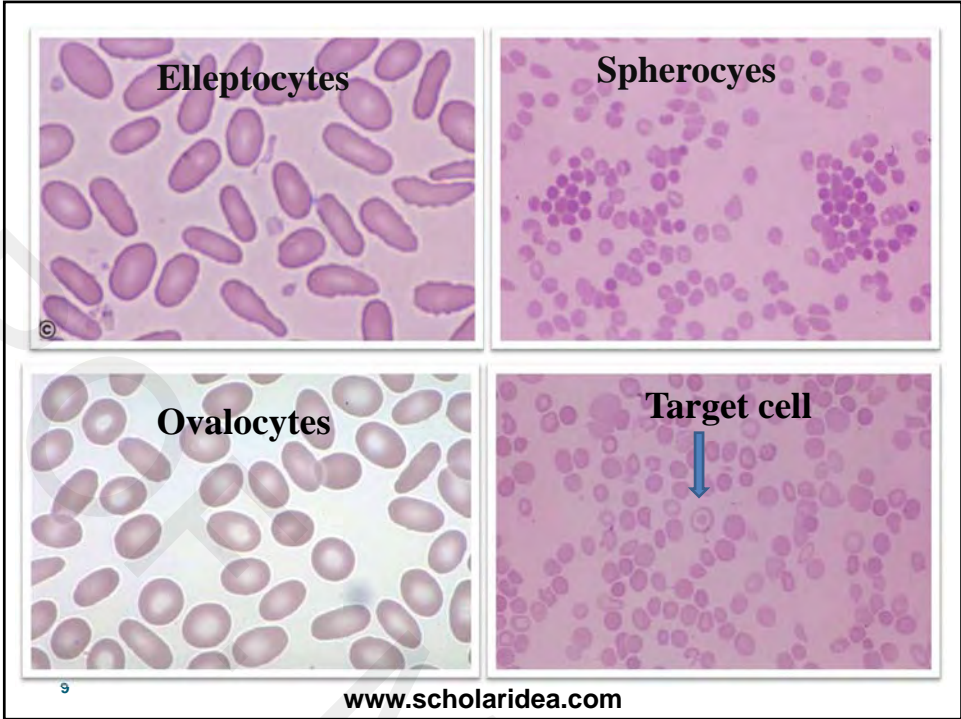
**6. Tear Drop cell**

**7. Crenation**

**8. Eccentrocytes**

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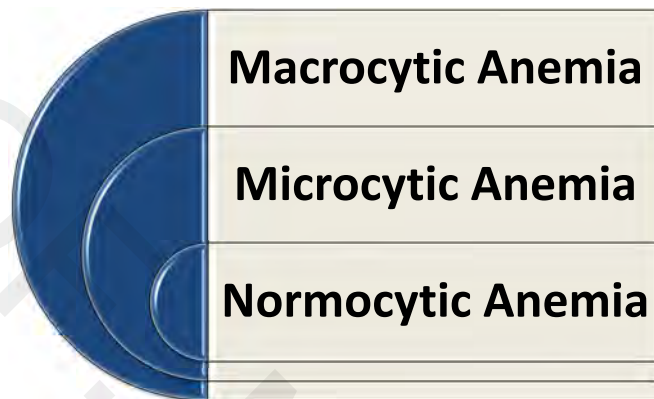
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## Abnormalities in size and stain

### Abnormalities in size (anisocytosis)

#### Mean Corpuscular Volume (MCV)



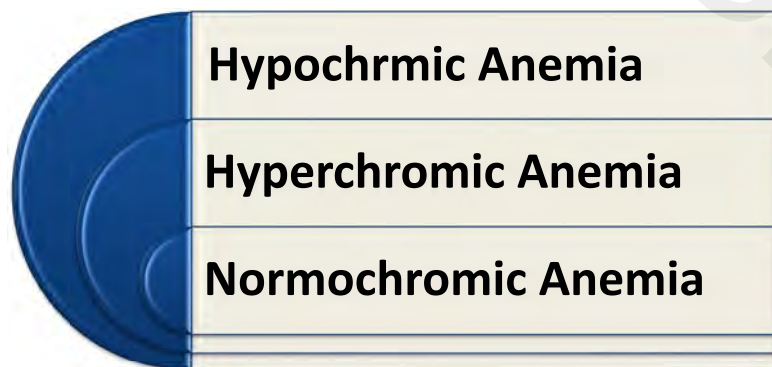
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## Abnormalities in stain

### Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin (MCH)

#### Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin concentration (MCHC)



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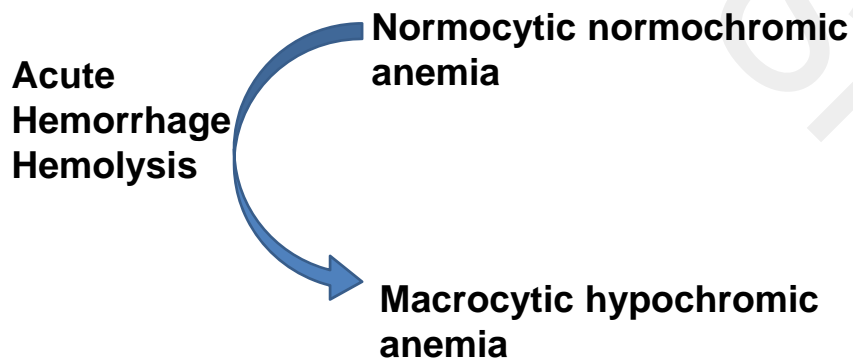
## Microcytic Hypochromic anemia

- Deficiency of Iron.
- Deficiency of Copper.
- Molybdenum Poisoning.
- Chronic Blood Loss.

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## Macrocytic Hypochromic anemia



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## Macrocytic normochromic anemia

Pernicious Anemia

Deficiency of Cobalt

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## Abnormalities in content of the red blood cell

### Inclusion bodies of erythrocytes:

1. Reticulocytes.
2. Basophilic stippling.
3. Howell Jolly body.
4. Heinz bodies.
5. Distemper inclusion bodies.
6. Protozoal parasites.

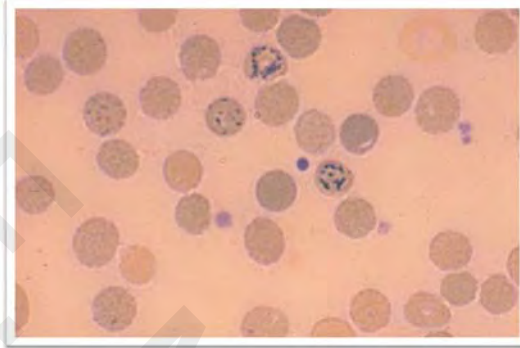
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## 1. Reticulocytes

Reticulocyte is a non-nucleated cell of the erythrocytic series, which when stained with brilliant cresyl blue, present one or more granules or diffuse network of fibrils.



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The reticulocytes differ from erythrocytes in:

- A. Larger in size
- B. More resistant to crenation.
- C. Has a lower specific gravity.
- D. More resistant to hypotonic saline solution.
- E. Reticulocytes don't participate in Rouleux formation.

**Reticulocytosis: Occur in cases of acute hemorrhage or hemolytic anaemia.**

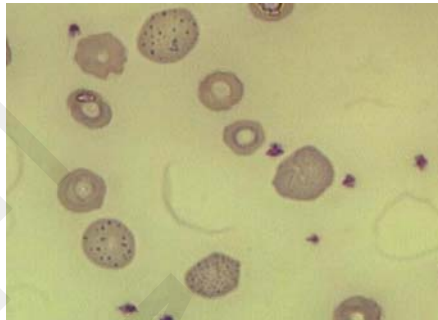
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## 2. Basophilic stippling

A condition of the erythrocyte in which blue staining basophilic granules are scattered over the cell.

- Punctuate basophilic granules.
- Diffuse basophilic granules



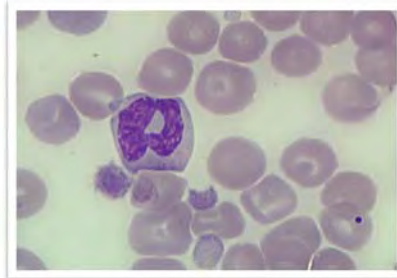
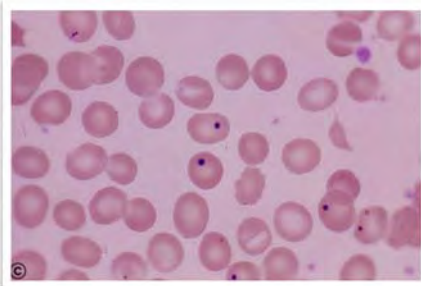
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## 3. Howell Jolly body

This is a nuclear remnant of 1-2 microns in diameter.

In Giemsa stained smear, Howell jolly bodies appear as single and at times double spherical bluish bodies within red blood cells.



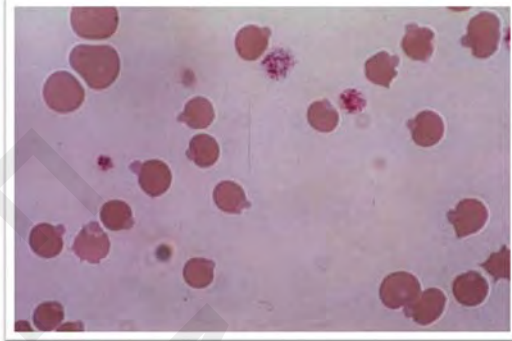
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## 4. Heinz bodies

Heinz bodies are small, round to irregularly shaped inclusion bodies.

They formed within the RBCs of man and animals exposed to toxic drugs and chemicals and often resulting in hemolytic anaemia.

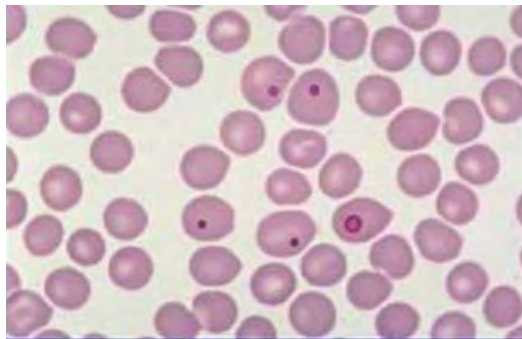


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## 5. Distemper inclusion bodies

❖ In Giemsa or Leishman stained blood film, the inclusion bodies take a pale blue stain and are larger than Howell-Jolly bodies.

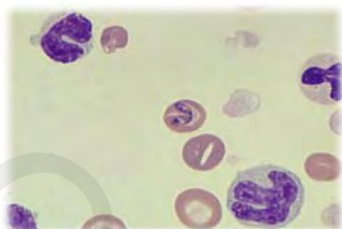


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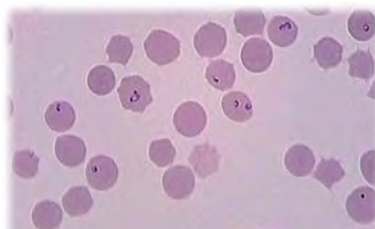
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## 6. Protozoal parasites

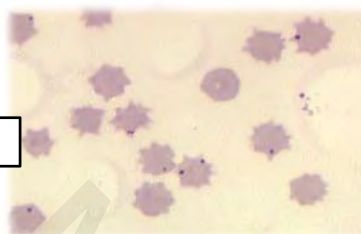
*Babasia Sp.*



*Theileria Sp.*



*Anaplasma Sp.*



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## Etiological Classification of Anemia

Hemorrhagic anemia

Hemolytic anemia

Nutritional Deficiency anemia

Pathological anemia

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## 1. Hemorrhagic anemia

a) Acute hemorrhagic anaemia

b) Chronic hemorrhagic anemia

### Acute hemorrhagic anaemia

The anaemia of acute blood loss occurs when large proportion generally 25 % of the circulating blood volume is lost in a period of several minutes to several hours.

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### Causes of acute hemorrhagic anaemia

- ❖ Trauma, cutting of major blood vessel or surgery.
- ❖ Hemorrhage from highly vascular malignant neoplasm especially hemangio-endotheliomas.
- ❖ Defect of coagulation mechanisms such that occur with:
  - ❖ Sweet clover poisoning.
  - ❖ Warfarin poisoning.
  - ❖ Bracken fern poisoning.

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### Laboratory findings of acute hemorrhagic anaemia:

- ❖ Signs of regeneration
- ❖ Reticulocytosis.
- ❖ Anisocytosis.
- ❖ Increase MCV.
- ❖ Decrease MCH.

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### b. Chronic hemorrhagic anaemia

#### Causes

1. Internal parasites such as stomach worm, hook worms, coccidia, and liver flukes, which produce anaemia by combination of blood loss and poor nutrition.
2. External parasites such as ticks, blood sucking lice and certain types of flea.

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## Chronic hemorrhagic anaemia

3. Hemorrhagic gastritis and enteritis.
4. Gastric ulcer.
5. Chronic hemorrhage in the genitourinary tract.
6. Hemorrhage into body cavities from neoplasm.

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**2- Haemolytic anaemia**

This type of anaemia is associated with excessive destruction of erythrocytes.

**Causes**

1. Blood parasites.
2. Bacterial infection.
3. Viral infection.
4. Chemical agents
5. Some metabolic diseases
6. Poisonous plants.
7. Immune mediated diseases.

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## 1. Blood parasites

- **Babesia Sp.**

## 2. Bacterial infection

- There are two common bacterial infection in which anaemia occurs which are *leptospirosis* and *Clostridium haemolyticum* infection.

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## 3. Viral infection

- Equine infectious anaemia characterized by chronic illness, animal infected with the virus become carrier.
- Clinically the disease characterized by an intermittent fever, jaundice, oedema and petichial haemorrhages in the mucosa.

## 4. Chemical agents

**Copper**

**Phenothiazine**

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## 5. Some metabolic diseases

- **Post-parturient haemoglobinuria**
- **Cold haemoglobinuria**

## 6. Poisonous plants

**Caster bean**

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## 7. Immune mediated diseases

### **A. Autoimmune haemolytic anaemia:**

Where the body forms antibodies against its own RBCs.

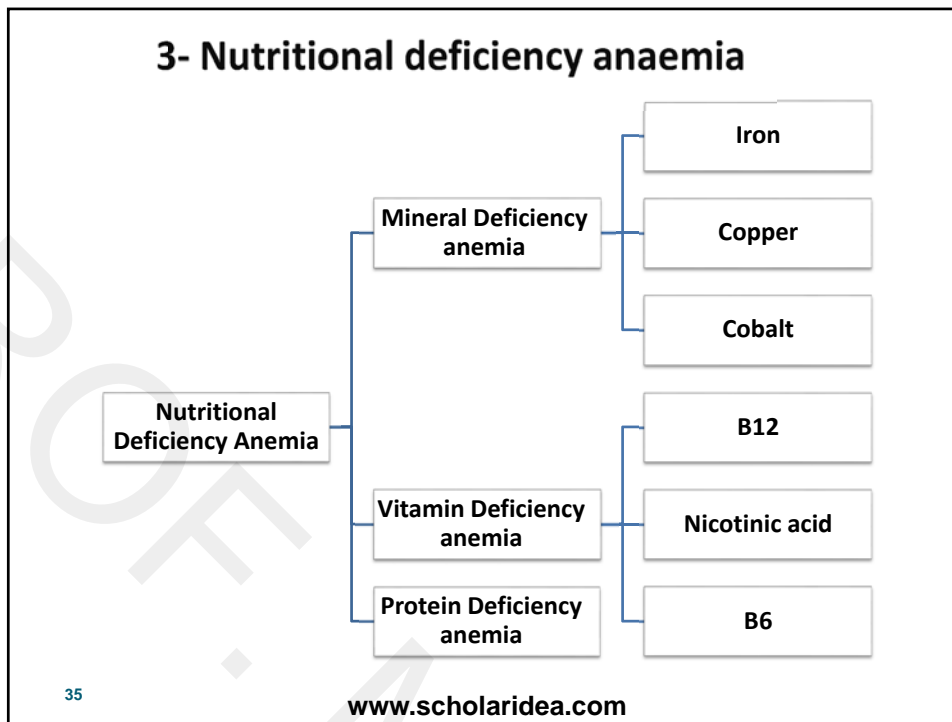
### **B. Isoimmune haemolytic anaemia:**

The antibodies against RBCs come from another individual which either:

- **Incompatible blood transfusion**
- **Neonatal isoerythrolysis.**

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## 4- Pathological Anemia

### A. Hypoplastic anaemia

The hemopoietic tissues fail to produce the required amount of erythrocytes to maintain the normal erythrocyte count in the circulating blood.

### B. Aplastic anaemia

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## **b. Aplastic anaemia**

Failure of the bone marrow to produce erythrocytes.

### **Causes**

1. Radiation (X ray).
2. Certain chemicals as sulphonamides, chloramphenicol, lead, copper, arsenic and mercury.
3. Exhaustion of the bone marrow may follow chronic blood loss.

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