

Heme Questions and Derivatives
for the USMLE Step One Exam

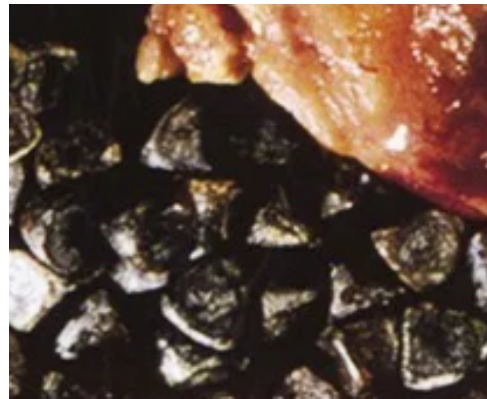


Winter Storm Skylar Edition

Howard J. Sachs, MD
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Patient presents with RUQ pain. HIDA scan fails to visualize gallbladder.
He is taken to OR for cholecystectomy. Specimen shown.

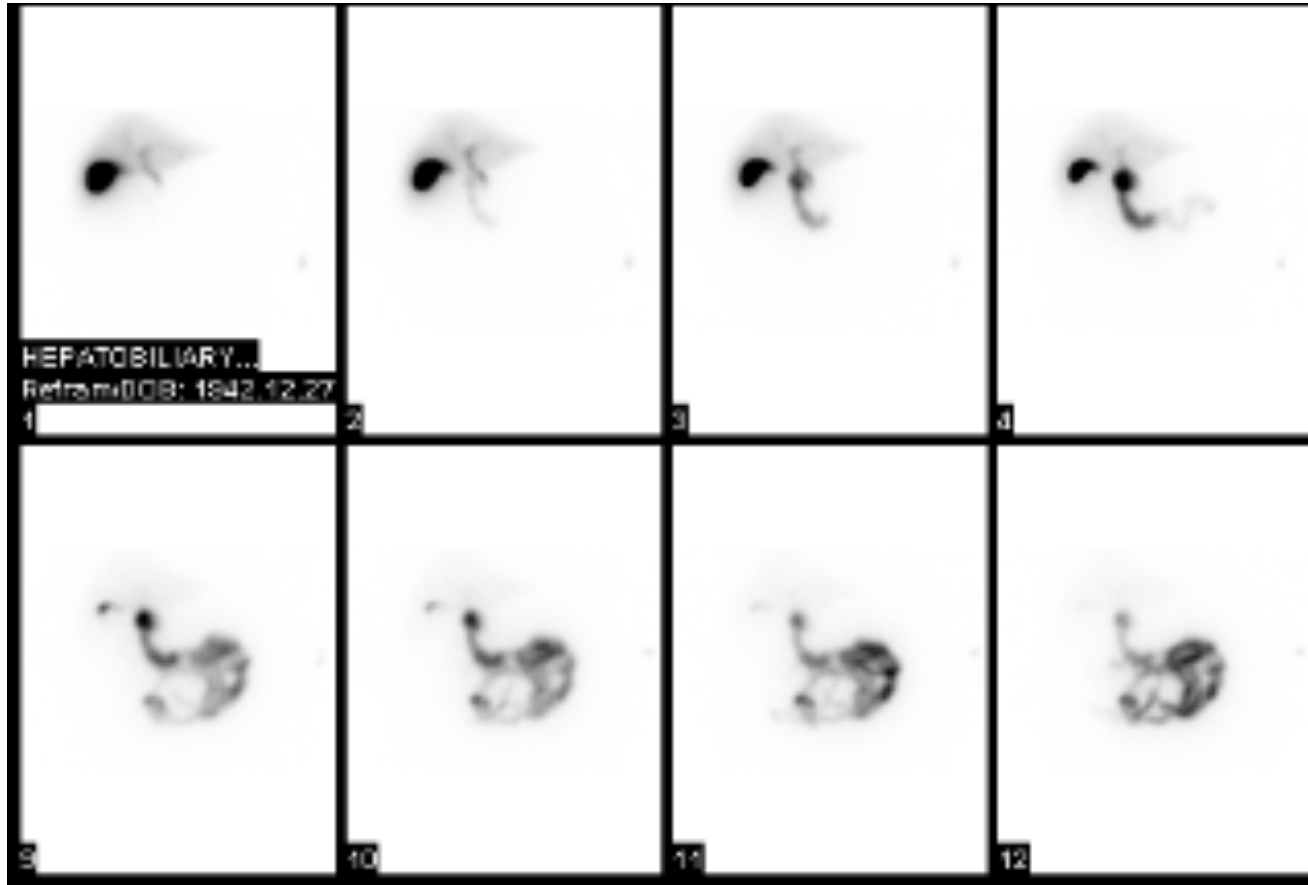
Which of the following patterns would be most suggestive of the predisposing condition?



	HCT	MCV	Splenomegaly	MCHC	Transferrin Saturation (%)
1	35	76	No	32	8
2	35	76	Yes	38	24
3	35	105	Yes	36	24
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MCHC, normal 33-36 g/dL

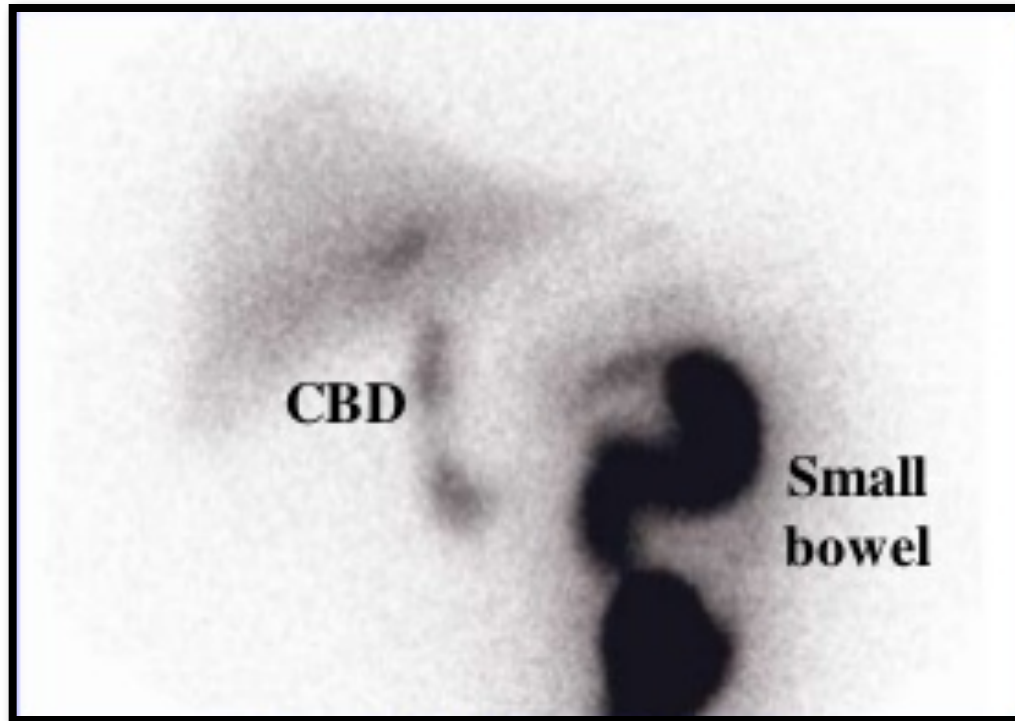
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HIDA: Hepatobiliary Iminodiacetic Acid

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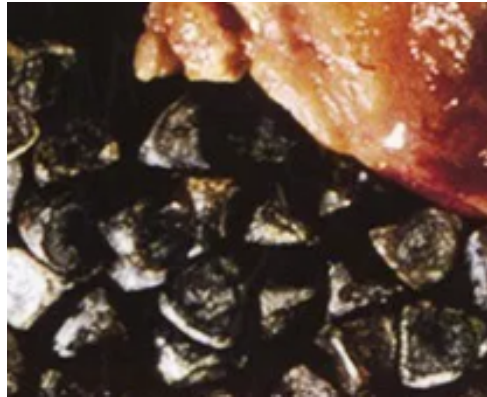
Radionuclide biliary scan



Gallbladder not visualized.
Cystic duct is obstructed.
Acute Cholecystitis

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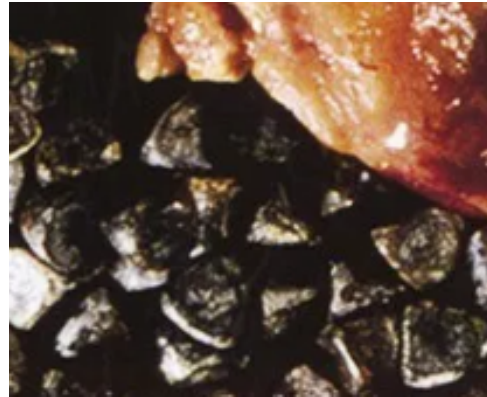


Pigment stones is the language of Hemolysis

Pigment (calcium bilirubinate) = Increased bilirubin in the bile

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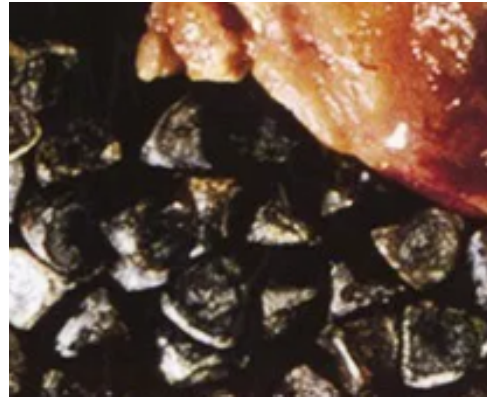


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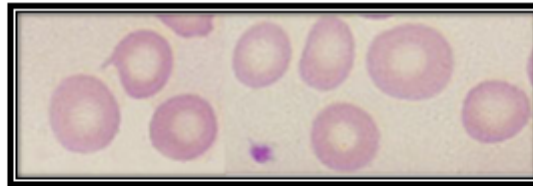
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Microcytic Anemia: Iron Deficiency (IDA) and ACD*

IDA: iron deficiency anemia

*ACD: anemia of chronic disease



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✘

✘

✘

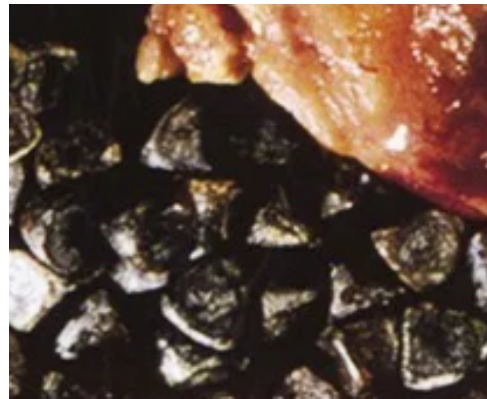
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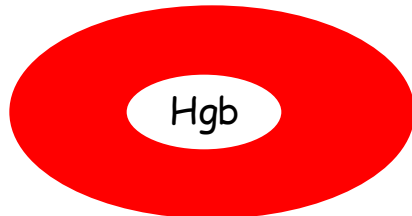
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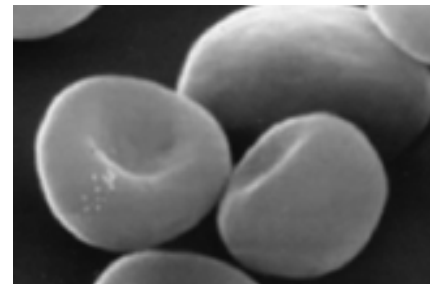
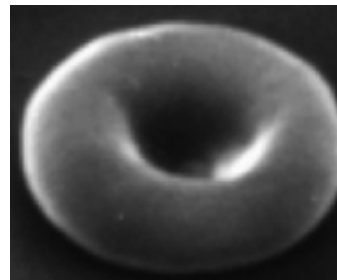
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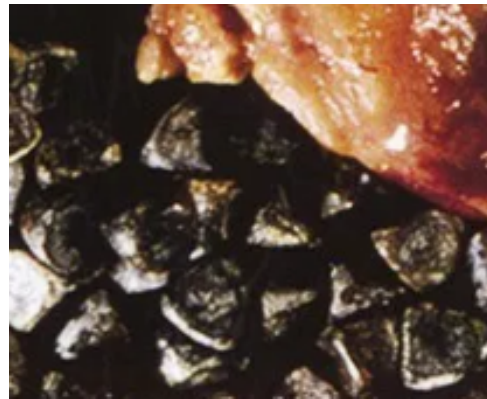
Normal membrane
 Normal MCH(C)



Membrane loss
 MCH(C) ↑↑

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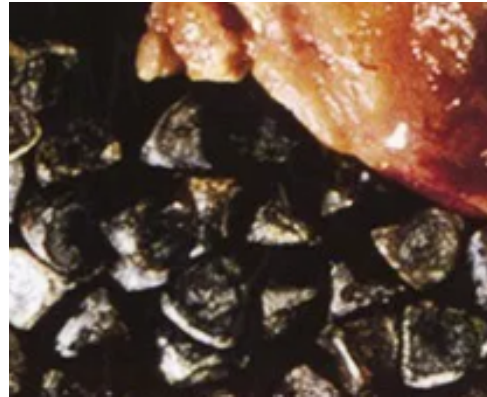
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B-12 or Folate Deficiency secondary to defective DNA synthesis					
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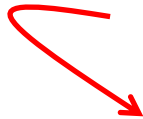
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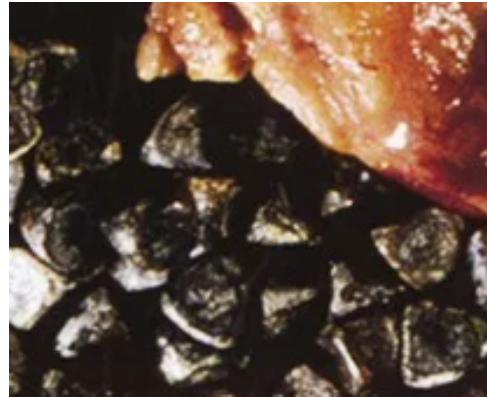
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Chronic liver disease with Portal HTN (and splenomegaly).					
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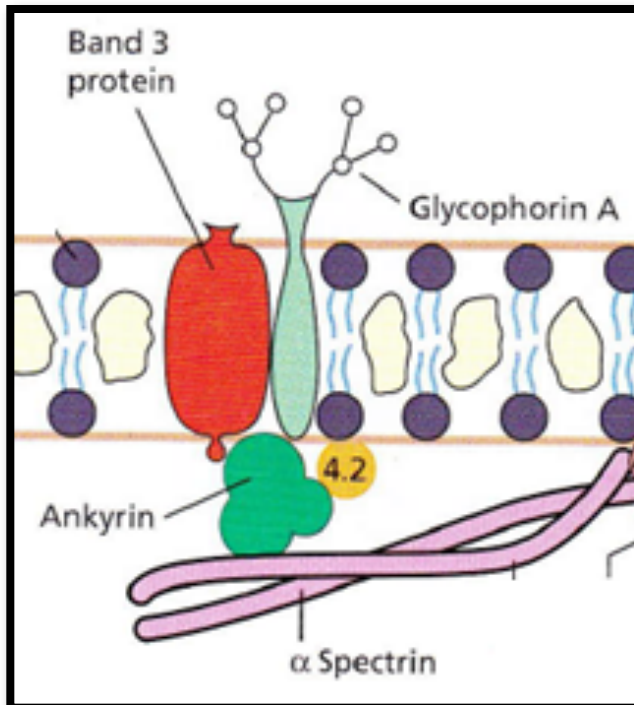
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Hereditary Spherocytosis

Hereditary Spherocytosis

- Background
 - Hemolytic anemia 2° to **membrane defect**; shortened RBC lifespan due to **loss of deformability** and **sequestration** within **spleen**
 - AD inheritance with failure to produce **tethering** proteins

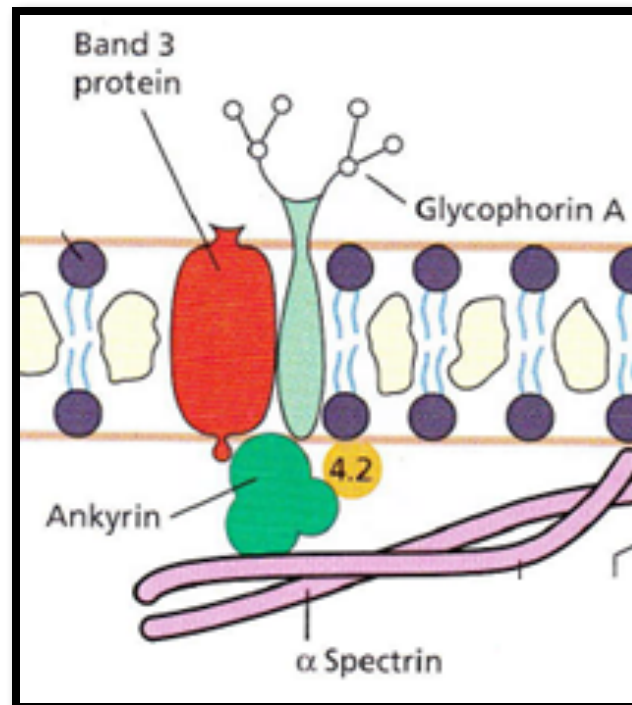
Be familiar with those proteins



Hereditary Spherocytosis

- Pathogenesis

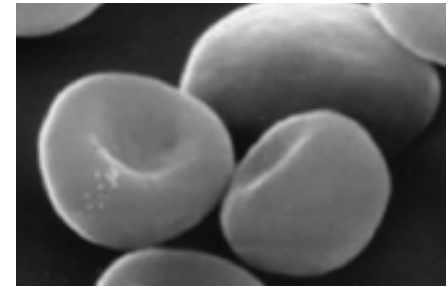
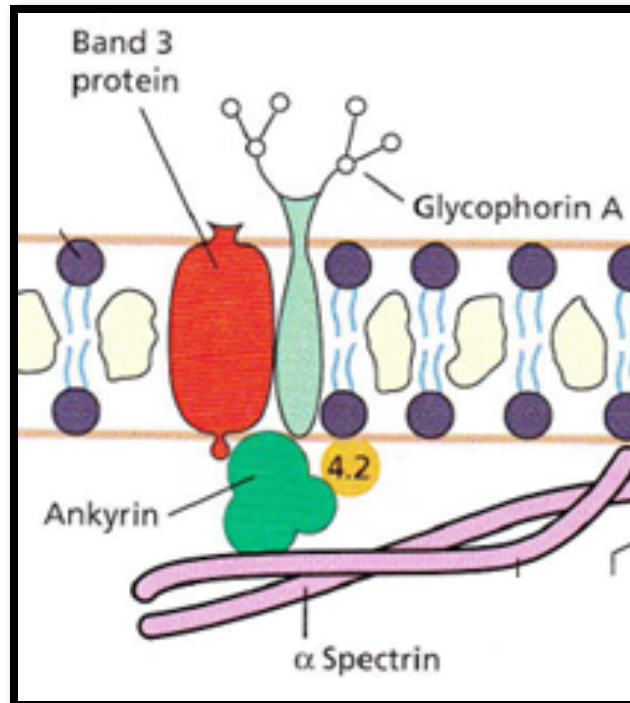
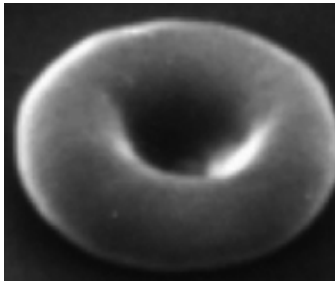
- Defects in the **vertical** interactions of the **cytoskeleton** and the **lipid bilayer**.
- Marrow produces 'normal' cells. They become abnormal circulating through the spleen (2° to ↓ **deformability**)



Hereditary Spherocytosis

- Pathogenesis

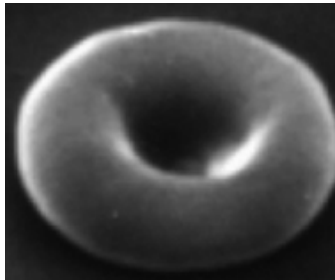
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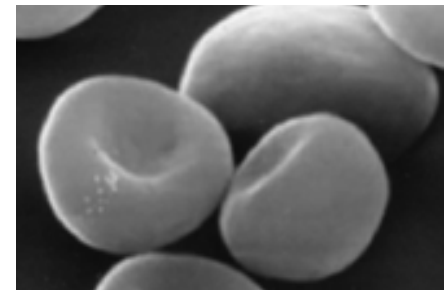
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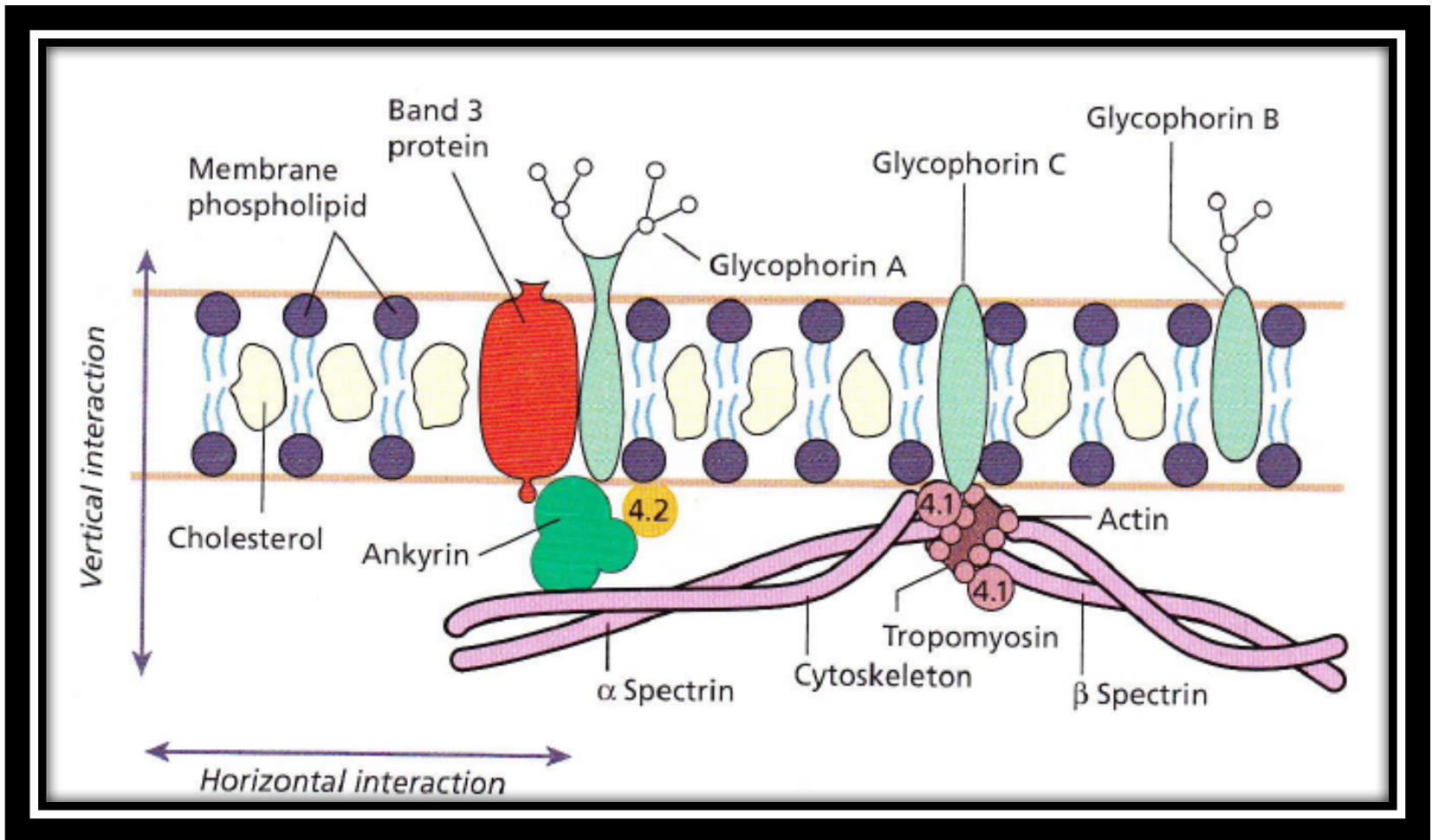
- Defects in the vertical interactions of the cytoskeleton and the lipid bilayer.
- Marrow produces 'normal' cells. They become abnormal circulating through the spleen (2° to ↓ deformability)



Birth



After a few passes through spleen

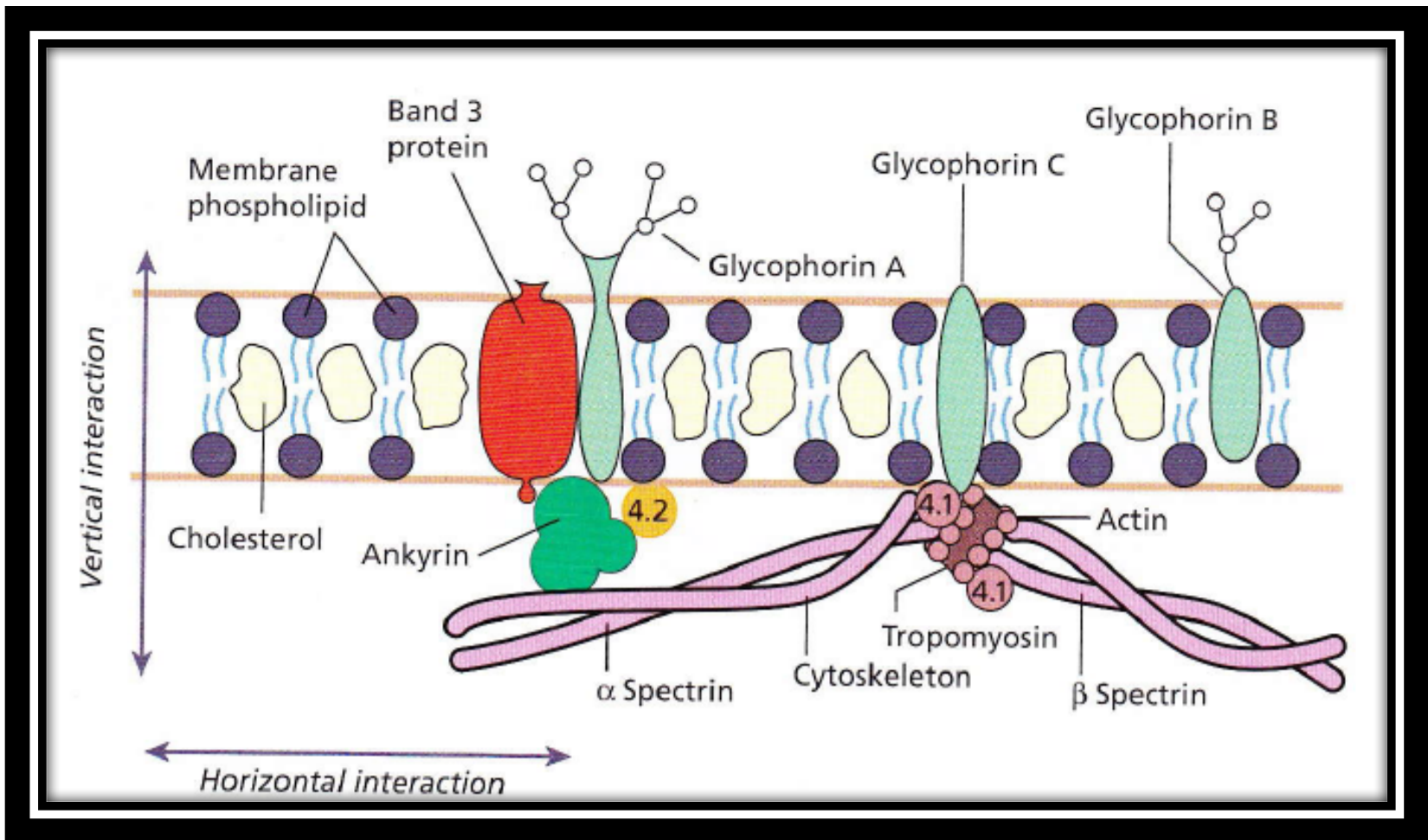


Defect in **Ankyrin** (vertical) and/or Spectrin (horizontal)

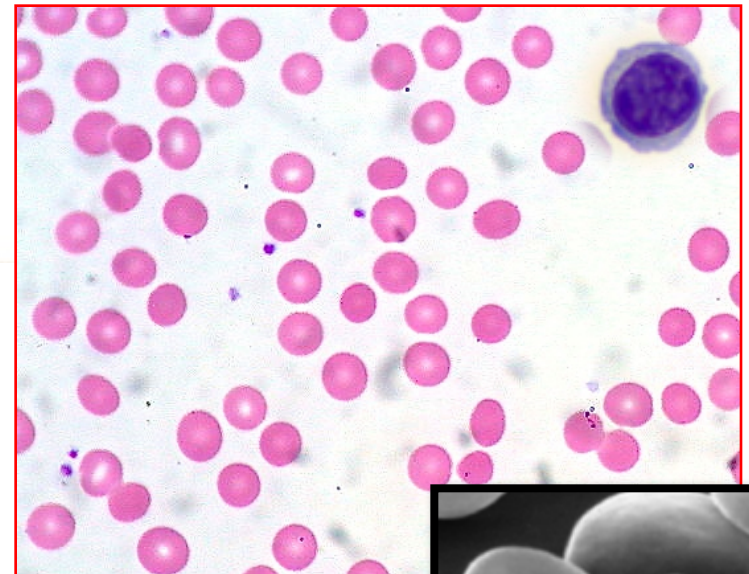
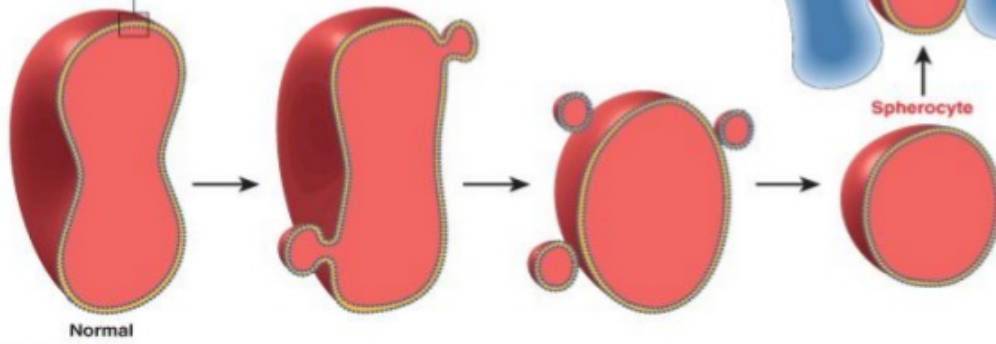
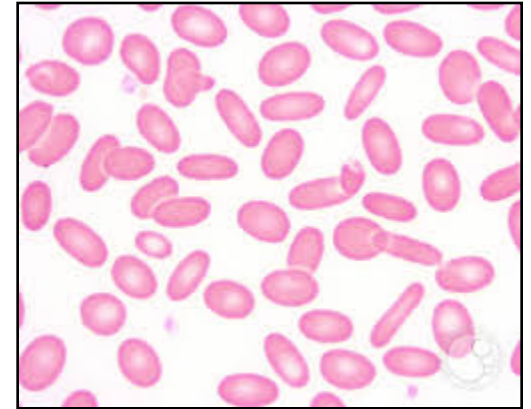
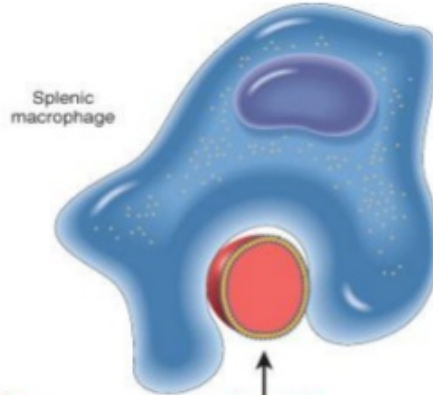
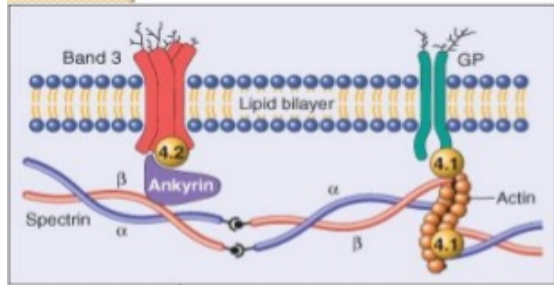
Spherocytes

Elliptocytes

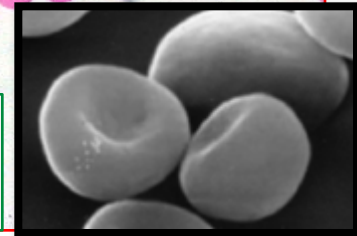




Cytoskeleton and Membrane Defect
 Mercifully, this is not a hemoglobinopathy.
 Less Headaches.



Where is the central pallor?



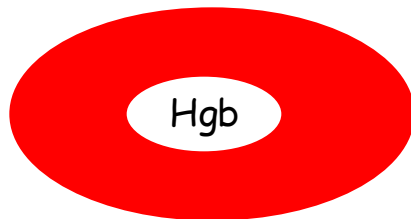
Hereditary Spherocytosis

- Clinical Presentation
 - Features of **anemia, hemolysis (intermittent jaundice), splenomegaly**
 - Complications of hemolysis: pigment stones (calcium bilirubinate)

Hereditary Spherocytosis

- Diagnosis

- **Smear**: spherocytes (microcytic, ≠ hypochromic ∴ ↑ **MCHC**)
- Hemolysis labs:
 - Reticulocytosis, LDH ↑/↓ haptoglobin/↑ bilirubin; Coombs (-)
- **Osmotic fragility test** (dilute saline → hemolysis)



Normal membrane
Normal MCH(C)

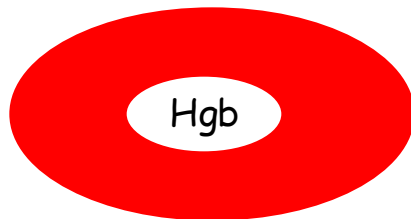


Membrane loss
MCH(C) ↑↑

Hereditary Spherocytosis

- Diagnosis

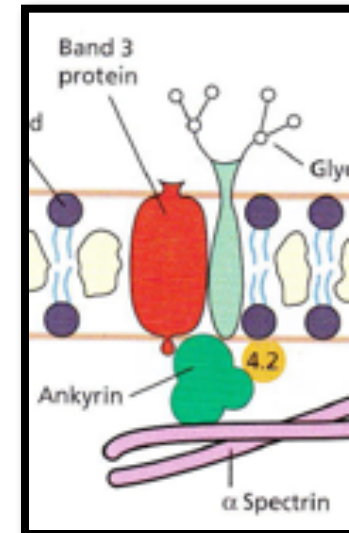
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- **Osmotic fragility test** (dilute saline → hemolysis)
- Eosin-5-maleimide binding test (EMA)
 - Flow cytometry: measures binding of dye (EMA) to band 3 protein
- Bone marrow: erythroid hyperplasia



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Normal MCH(C)



Membrane loss
MCH(C) ↑↑



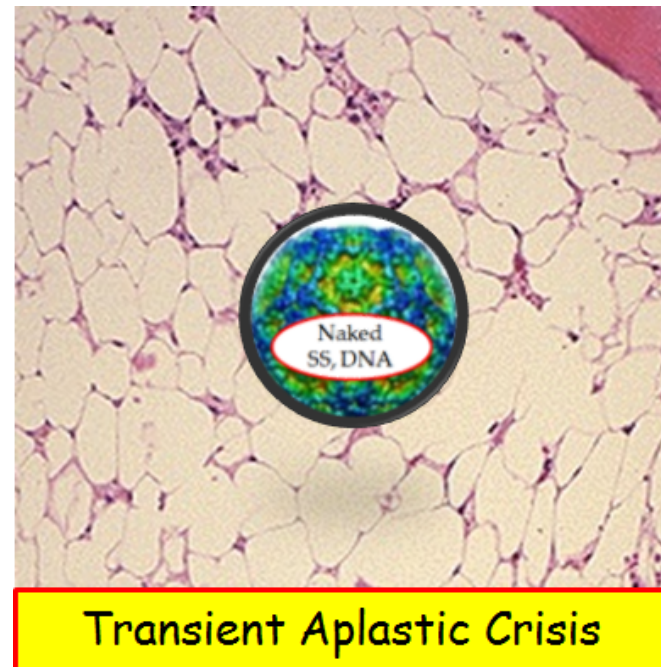
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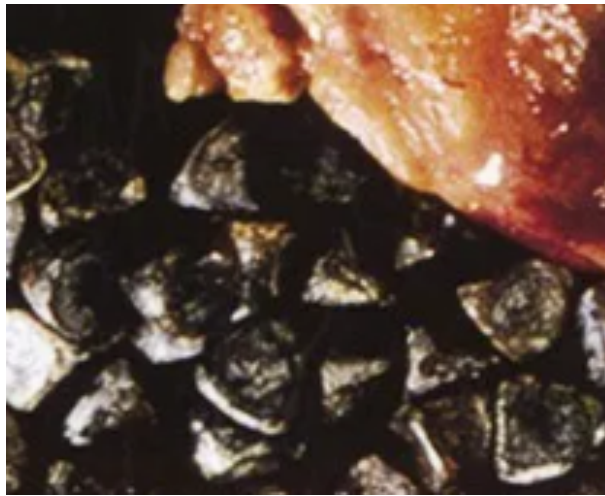
Which viral infection can shut down erythrocyte production in a jiffy?

- Bone marrow: erythroid hyperplasia

Hereditary Spherocytosis

- Special Notes:
 - Parvovirus: transient aplastic crisis
 - Rx: splenectomy when indicated





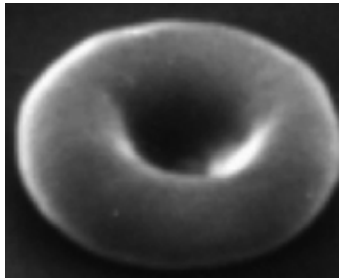
Pigment Stones:

A gateway condition to hemolytic anemia and associated derivatives.

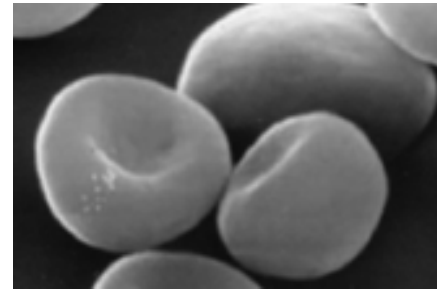
Spherocytosis Derivatives:

1. **Microcytosis with elevated MCHC/hyperchromic cells**
2. **Smear: loss of central pallor**
3. Abnormal anchoring protein: **Ankyrin** (Spectrin)
4. PE: big **spleen**, mild jaundice
5. Dx: **Osmotic Fragility Test**/Flow cytometry
6. Complication: TAC (Parvovirus), pigment stones
7. Rx: Splenectomy

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No Thank You.
I just ate!



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