

\* **Leukemia**: neoplastic disease  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  WBCs

## Neutropenia ( agranulocytosis )

- The absolute neutrophil count is less than (1200-1500 cells/uL).
- $\uparrow$  bacterial & fungal infection.
- If neutrophil count drops below 500 cells/uL  $\rightarrow$  spontaneous infections by the normal flora or by any bypassing bacteria.

## Reactive leukocytosis

- **Neutrophilia**: in infection (liquefactive necrosis) & inflammation (coagulative necrosis due to ischemia).
- **Lymphocytosis**: in viral infections, chronic infections (TB, brucellosis) & infection by bordetella pertussis.
- **Monocytosis**: in acute & chronic infections, more predominant in chronic infection (rheumatologic diseases) & inflammatory bowel diseases.
- **Eosinophilia**: in asthma, allergic diseases, drug hyper-sensitivity, parasitic infections, hodgkin lymphoma.
- **Basophilia**: in myeloproliferative neoplasms.

## Reactive lymphadenitis

- Benign inflammation of LN  $\rightarrow$  lymphadenopathy (enlargement of LN).

### Acute non-specific lymphadenitis

- Painful LN
- Overlying skin is red
- May develop a sinus tract
- The germinal centers in LN are infiltrated by neutrophils.
- With severe infection  $\rightarrow$  liquefactive necrosis & abscess

### Chronic non-specific lymphadenitis

- Painless LN

1. **Follicular hyperplasia**: proliferation of B-lymph. <sup>seen</sup> in rheumatologic diseases, toxoplasmosis & HIV infection.
2. **Paracortical hyperplasia**: proliferation of T-lymph. <sup>seen</sup> in viral infections, after vaccination & drug reaction.
3. **Sinus histiocytosis**: proliferation of macrophages in LN sinuses, seen in adjacent cancer.



## Cat-Scratch disease

- Caused by *Bartonella henselae*, transmitted from cats → acute lymphadenitis in neck/axilla, liquefactive necrosis & necrotizing granulomas in LN. Self-limited in 2-4 months.

## Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)

- Defective genes related to cytotoxic T-cells & NKCs →  
↑ interferon- $\gamma$  → severe activation of macrophages (histiocytes) to engulf normal blood cells
- ↑ TNF & IL-6 → systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS)
- Symptoms: fever, splenomegaly & pancytopenia.  
↑ ferritin, ↑ triglyceridemia, ↑ serum IL-2,  
↓ blood cytotoxic T-cells & NKCs

Type-1	Type-2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Infants &amp; young children</li><li>- Homozygous defects in gene PRF1 "encodes perforin" (essential in cytotoxic T-cells &amp; NKCs)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Adolescents &amp; adults</li><li>- X-linked (males)</li><li>- Defective SLAM associated protein → inefficient killing of EBV infected B-lymphocyte.</li></ul>
Type-3	Type-4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Heterozygous genetic defects in genes required for cytotoxic T-cells.</li><li>- Associated with systemic inflammatory disorders (rheumatologic diseases)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- T-cell lymphomas</li><li>- Malignant T-cells → abnormal cytokines → dysregulation of normal cytotoxic T-cells.</li></ul>