

Pharmacology HLS

Lecture 2+3

By farah al hasanat

# Iron

## Treatment

| Elemental iron per tablet | Tablet size (mg) | Preparation              |
|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 65                        | 325              | Ferrous sulfate hydrated |
| 36                        | 325              | Ferrous gluconate        |
| 106                       | 325              | Ferrous fumarate         |

Oral Iron Preparations

and about 25% of iron given as ferrous sulfate can be absorbed.  
200- 400 mg of elemental iron should be given daily for

3-6 months after correction

to correct the anemia and replenish iron stores.

- Nausea,
- epigastric discomfort
- abdominal pain
- constipation
- diarrhea
- Black stools

Adverse effects:

Most common than diarrhea  
bleeding هاي لازم تعالج بالاول اذا في عشان ما نخربط هو من اعراض الدواء ولا هو السبب بنقص الحديد

These effects are dose-related and can be : 1) reduced by lowering the dose  
2) giving it with meals or immediately after meals.

2. Parenteral iron therapy:

Should be reserved for patients:

- 1) Unable to tolerate oral iron.
- 2) Unable to absorb oral iron.
- 3) With extensive chronic blood loss not acute blood loss because we give patients blood transfusion

Malabsorption syndromes

What are foods that hinder absorption of iron?

- 1-Calcium as supplement or any dairy product
  - 2-The whole grains , tea
  - 3-metals such as zinc they compete with the transport of iron so we don't give metal supplements at the same time with iron supplements
  - 4-drugs that reduce acidity of the stomach which is need for reduction of iron to Fe+2.
- drugs such tetracycline it forms complex with the ion thus decrease absorption, they both decrease absorption of each other(iron & tetracycline).

- omeprazole
- lansoprazole
- esomeprazole

small bowel resection

colon cancer patient so we resect part of the colon which is responsible for iron absorption.

Form

Iron dextran:

ferric hydroxide  
low- molecular-weight  
containing 50 mg elemental iron/mL of solution

Given by:

- iv
- im

- causes hypersensitivity reactions
- headache
- fever
- arthralgia
- backpain
- flushing
- bronchospasmand
- rarely anaphylaxis and death
- causes local pain and

tissue staining

Iron sodium gluconate.

Given only IV  
less likely to cause hypersensitivity.

Iron-sucrose complex.

General:

Usually results from accidental ingestion by children as well as parenteral iron  
Patients may improve but may proceed to metabolic acidosis, coma and death.

Causes necrotizing gastroenteritis

vomiting, pain, bloody diarrhea, shock, lethargy and dyspnea صعوبة في التنفس

10 tablets can be lethal in children

Acute Iron Toxicity:

Treatment of Acute Iron Toxicity:

Deferoxamine

: is a potent iron- chelating compound

which binds already absorbed iron

promotes its excretion in urine and feces

Whole Bowel Irrigation

to flush out unabsorbed pills

Activated charcoal is ineffective

Activated charcoal can be used to absorb the drugs form the stomach and intestine but in iron toxicity it's ineffective

Supportive therapy is also necessary.

Supportive therapy means to correct other symptoms suchas acidosis,pHimbalance

Chronic Iron Toxicity= Hemochromatosis:

General

Excess iron can deposit in

- heart
- Liver
- Pancreas

Usually occurs in:

1. Inherited Hemochromatosis
- Patients with frequent transfusions

excessive iron absorption.  
in patients with hemolytic anemias

Intermittent phlebotomy

Donating blood from time to time or more frequently for patients with inherited diseases like inherited hemochromatosis

Deferoxamine

is much less efficient than phlebotomy.

Deferasirox

oral, more convenient than deferoxamine.

# Vitamin B12

**General**

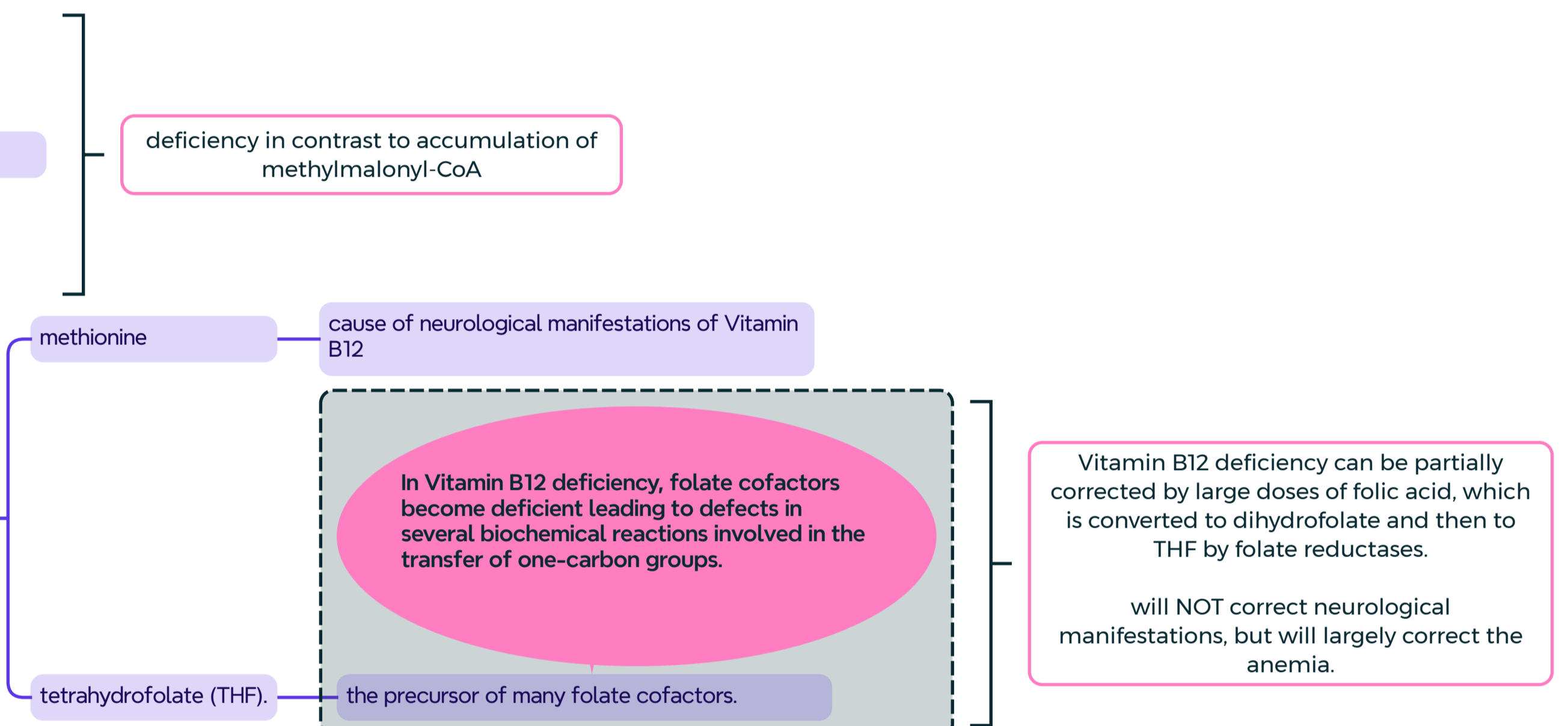
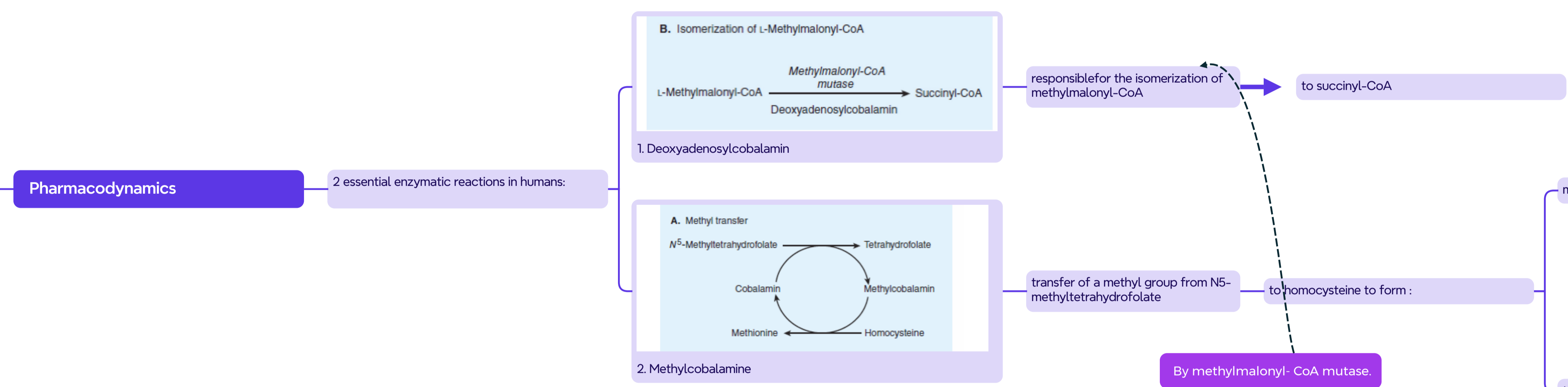
- Its deficiency leads to
  - gastrointestinal symptoms
  - neurological abnormalities
  - anemia
- It consists
  - porphyrin-like ring
  - central cobalt atom — attached to the nucleotide

**Active forms are:**

1. Deoxyadenosylcobalamin
2. Methylcobalamin

**Pharmacokinetics:**

- Vitamin B12, in physiologic amounts is absorbed only after it complexes with the intrinsic factor
- The intrinsic factor-vitamin B12 complex is absorbed in the terminal ileum
- \* glycoprotein secreted by the parietal cells of the gastric mucosa
- by a highly specific receptor-mediated endocytosis
- Daily absorption ~ 1-5 µg
- Vitamin B12 is stored mainly in the liver with an average normal storage pool of 3-5 mg.
- Daily requirements are ~ 2 µg
- How long would it take for the storage pool to be depleted and symptoms of deficiency to appear?
  - If we have 4mg = 4000 micrograms so it needs nearly about 6 years to be depleted. But Vit B12 still common — because of the malabsorption (defect of intrinsic factor).
- Only trace amounts are lost in urine and stool
- Once absorbed it is transported in the body bound to a plasma glycoprotein, transcobalamin II.



**Causes of deficiency:**

**Malabsorption of Vitamin B12 due to:**

1. Lack of intrinsic factor
2. Loss or malfunction of the terminal ileum
3. Strict vegetarians (long-term):
  - The vitamin is NOT synthesized by animals or plants
  - The ultimate source is microbial synthesis
  - Mainly present in meat (liver), eggs and dairy products.
  - It has to be released from these sources before absorption.
4. Atrophic gastritis (from Helicobacter pylori)
5. Lack of gastric HCl (cobalamin is NOT released from protein)
- Drugs
  - PPI — decrease acidity in case of peptic ulcer and other condition which hinder Vit B12 absorption
  - Metformin

**Clinical Pharmacology: B12 supplements**

Clinical Pharmacology: B12 supplements

1. Treatment of pernicious anemia
2. Treatment of neurological manifestations of Vitamin B12 deficiency.

Drug

- cyanocobalamin
- Hydroxocobalamin — preferred because it is more highly protein-bound (high half-life) and remain longer in the circulation.

Used as parenteral injection of, both to replenish stores and maintenance, usually for life

Main Topic 7

# Folic Acid

## General

- Reduced forms of folic acid are required for synthesis of amino acids, purines and DNA.
- Forms
  - pteroylglutamic acid can exist in the form of
    - monoglutamate
    - triglutamate
    - polyglutamate
- undergoes reduction by folate reductase
  - dihydrofolate
  - tetrahydrofolate
- Normal tissue storage in liver and other tissues ~ 5-20 mg.
- Folic acid is absorbed in the proximal jejunum

can be transformed to folate cofactors possessing one-carbon inter-convertable and serve the donation of one-carbon units at various level of oxidation.

## The consequences of folate deficiency include:

- 1. Megaloblastic anemia
  - If folic acid absorption stops, megaloblastic anemia develops in 1-6 months
- 2. Congenital malformations
  - neural tube defects, such as spina bifida and anencephaly
- 1. Occlusive vascular
  - disease due to homocysteine accumulation

## Pharmacokinetics:

Food rich in folic acid include yeast, liver, kidney & green vegetables.

## Clinical pharmacology:

- 1. Megaloblastic anemia. Vitamin B12 deficiency must first be excluded
  - . Prevention of folic acid deficiency in high risk groups such as pregnancy, alcohol dependence, hemolytic anemia,
- Usually used orally until the cause is removed and stores are replenished.

## Causes of deficiency

- 1. Inadequate dietary intake
  - 2. Liver disease and alcohol dependence because of diminished stores and poor diet.
  - 3. Increased requirements: pregnancy, hemolysis
  - 4. Malabsorption syndromes
  - 5. Renal dialysis. غسيل الكلى
  - 6. Drugs:
    - A. Methotrexate, trimethoprim, pyrimethamine
    - B. Long-term phenytoin therapy impair folate absorption ادوية الصرع
- inhibit dihydrofolate reductase

# Erythropoietin

## General

Formed by the kidney in response to tissue hypoxia (severe anemia)  
Recombinant human Erythropoietin is available for use (epoetin alpha).

## Pharmacodynamics

- 1.It stimulates erythroid proliferation and differentiation by interacting with specific receptors on red cell progenitors.
- 2.It induces release of reticulocytes from bone marrow
- deficiency, primary bone marrow disorders, or bone marrow suppression from drugs or chronic diseases).
- inverse relationship exists between the hematocrit and erythropoietin level. This is NOT true in anemia of chronic renal failure.

## Clinical Pharmacology

- Used for anemia of chronic renal failure,
  - NOT other types of anemia where endogenous erythropoietin is usually high
- Iron and folate supplementation may be required in cases of inadequate response
  - to accommodate the high synthesis of RBCs after giving EPO

## Adverse Effects:

- 1. Most common are those associated with rapid rise of
  - hematocrit
  - hemoglobin
  - Hemoglobin levels should not be increased > 11 g/dL because of risk of serious cardiovascular events, thromboembolic events, stroke, and mortality.
- 2. Infrequent and mild allergic reactions.
  - Before we were using EPO extracted from animals , that may cause allergic reaction. Now with recombinant form we don't have these allergic reactions.

hypertension and thromboembolic complications.

# Myeloid Growth Factors

**Granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF)**

Recombinant human G-CSF (rHuG-CSF):

Filgrastim

**granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF).**

Recombinant human GM-CSF (rHuGM-CSF):

Sargramostim

## Pharmacodynamics:

1.G-CSF

stimulates proliferation and differentiation of progenitors committed to the neutrophil lineage.

activates the phagocytic activity of mature neutrophils and prolongs their survival in the circulation

2. GM-CSF ( has broader biologic actions than G-CSF.)

It is a multipotential hematopoietic growth factor that stimulates proliferation and differentiation of early and late granulocytic, erythroid and megakaryocyte progenitors.

## Clinical Pharmacology:

1.Cancer Chemotherapy-Induced Neutropenia.

G-CSF and GM-CSF accelerate the rate of neutrophil recovery

and reduces the duration of neutropenia after dose-intensive myelosuppressive chemotherapy.

Adverse effects:

Bone pain.

Because we stimulate the production process in bone marrow

2.Fever, arthralgias, myalgias. الالم مفاصل و عضلات

3.Capillary leak syndrome characterized by

peripheral edema

pleural and pericardial effusions.

4.Allergic reactions.

5.Splenic rupture.In severe cases

Subtopic 2

# Megakaryocyte Growth Factors

## endogenous regulators of platelet production

interleukin-11 (IL-11)

Recombinant form of IL-11:

Oprelvekin

Adverse effects:

- 1.Fatigue,
- 2.Transient atrial arrhythmias.
- 3.Anemia (due to hemodilution).
- 4.Dyspnea (due to fluid accumulation in the lungs).
- 5.Hypokalemia.

Romiplostim

It is used for therapy of patients with chronic immune thrombocytopenia.

Adverse effects:

- 1.Portal vein thrombosis.
- 2.In patients with myelodysplastic syndromes
- 3.Bone marrow fibrosis.
- 4.Rebound thrombocytopenia.

it increases the blast count and risk of progression to acute myeloid leukemia.

Thrombopoietin

Thrombopoietin agonists

Eltrombopag.

It is an orally active small nonpeptide

therapy of patients with chronic immune thrombocytopenia

who have had an inadequate response to other therapies

- steroids
- immunoglobulins
- splenectomy

It is also used for treatment of thrombocytopenia in patients with hepatitis C to allow initiation of interferon therapy.

Adverse effects:

- 1.Hepatotoxicity.
- 2.Portal vein thrombosis.

Therapies for immune system first , then if it didn't work , we give them a growth factor recombinant.