



“ A rare thing may be just like any other but it is also paradoxically nothing like any of them.”

**A RARE ANEMIA WHERE
THERE IS PAUCITY AMIDST
PLENTY.**

Dr.Rena,
DNB Pediatrics Resident,
Dr.Mehta's Children Hospital.

CLINICAL PRESENTATION



HISTORY



- Master V.
- 7month old male infant.
- 2nd born to non-consanguineous parents.

HISTORY(contd..)



H/O progressive pallor and increased pre-cordial activity noted by the mother for the past one month.

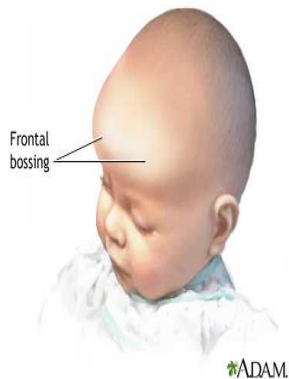
No H/O

- Jaundice
- Fever
- Bleeding episodes
- Blood transfusions
- Family history

EXAMINATION



- ✓ Severe pallor
- ✓ Frontal bossing
- ✓ Liver- 3cm below right costal margin, spleen tipped.



NO Icterus
Cyanosis
Lymphadenopathy


Milestones normal for age
CVS,RS – Normal.





A 7-month old boy + Anemia



Iron deficiency anemia



**Thalassemia/ other
hemolytic anemias**



Hb (g/dl)	6.3
Total leucocyte count (cells/cumm)	14000
Platelet count (lakh/cumm)	3.41
PCV (%)	21.1
MCV(fl)	55
MCH (pg)	16.3
MCHC (g/dl)	29.7
Reticulocyte count (%)	2.3
Serum iron (ug/dl)	24
Serum ferritin (ng/ml)	1391
TIBC (ug/dl)	299

Anemia

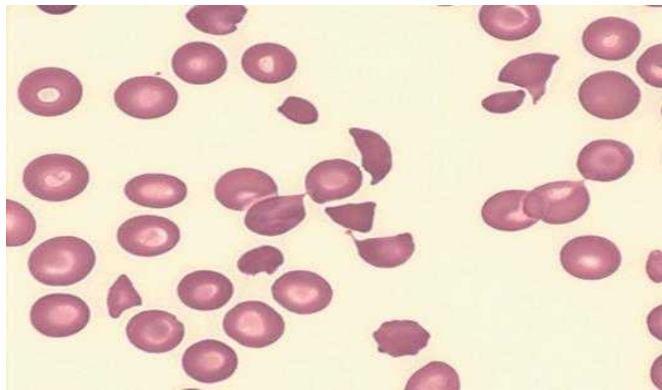
+

Normal serum Iron
Normal TIBC

IRON DEFICIENCY ANEMIA

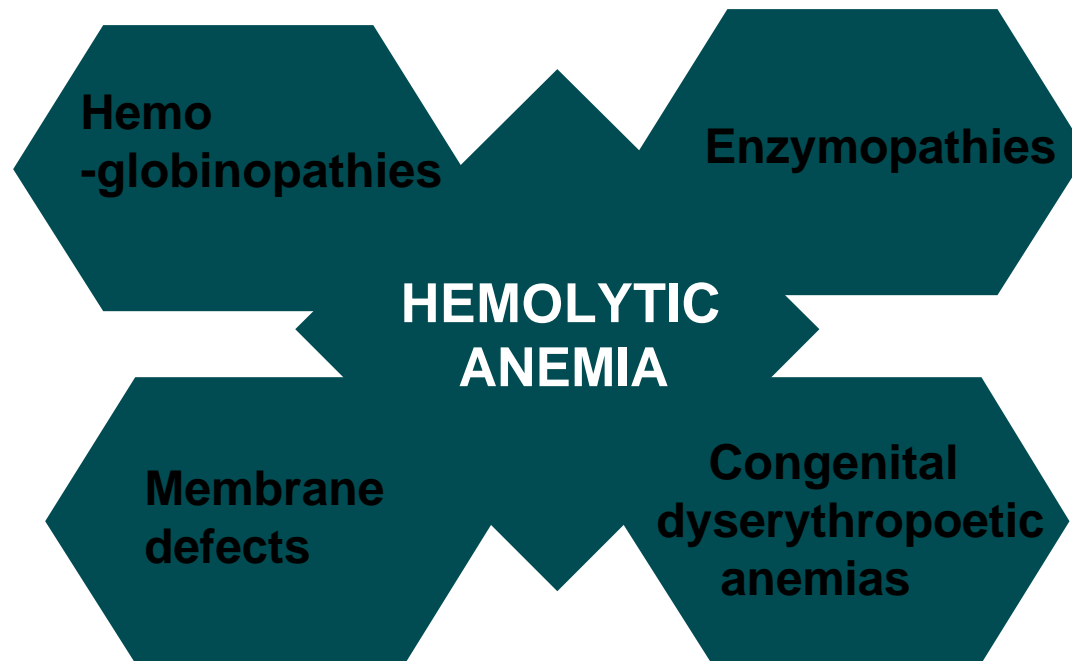


PERIPHERAL SMEAR



- Hypochromic, microcytic RBCs.
- Anisopoikilocytosis, polychromasia.
- Occasional normoblasts.
- Target cells, schistocytes.
- Lymphocytic response.
- Mild thrombocytosis.

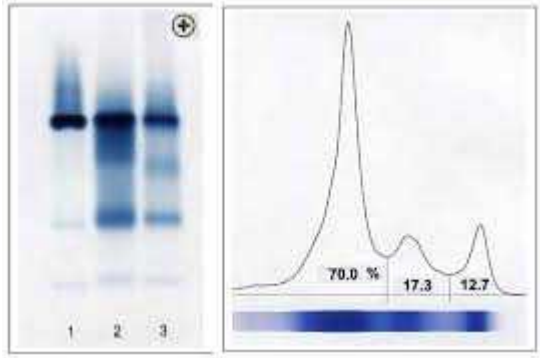
HEMOLYSIS



Hb electrophoresis



NORMAL



Thalassemia ~~X~~ sickle-cell anemia

OTHER POSSIBILITIES

Other hemolytic anemias:

- Membrane defects. ❌
- ? Enzymopathies. ✅
- ? Congenital dyserythropoetic anemia. ✅

WHAT NEXT?

Hb (g/dl)	6.3
Total leucocyte count (cells/cumm)	14000
Platelet count (lakh/cumm)	3.41
PCV (%)	21.1
MCV(fl)	55
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Anemia + Hemolysis + Hyperferritinemia



? SIDEROBLASTIC ANEMIA

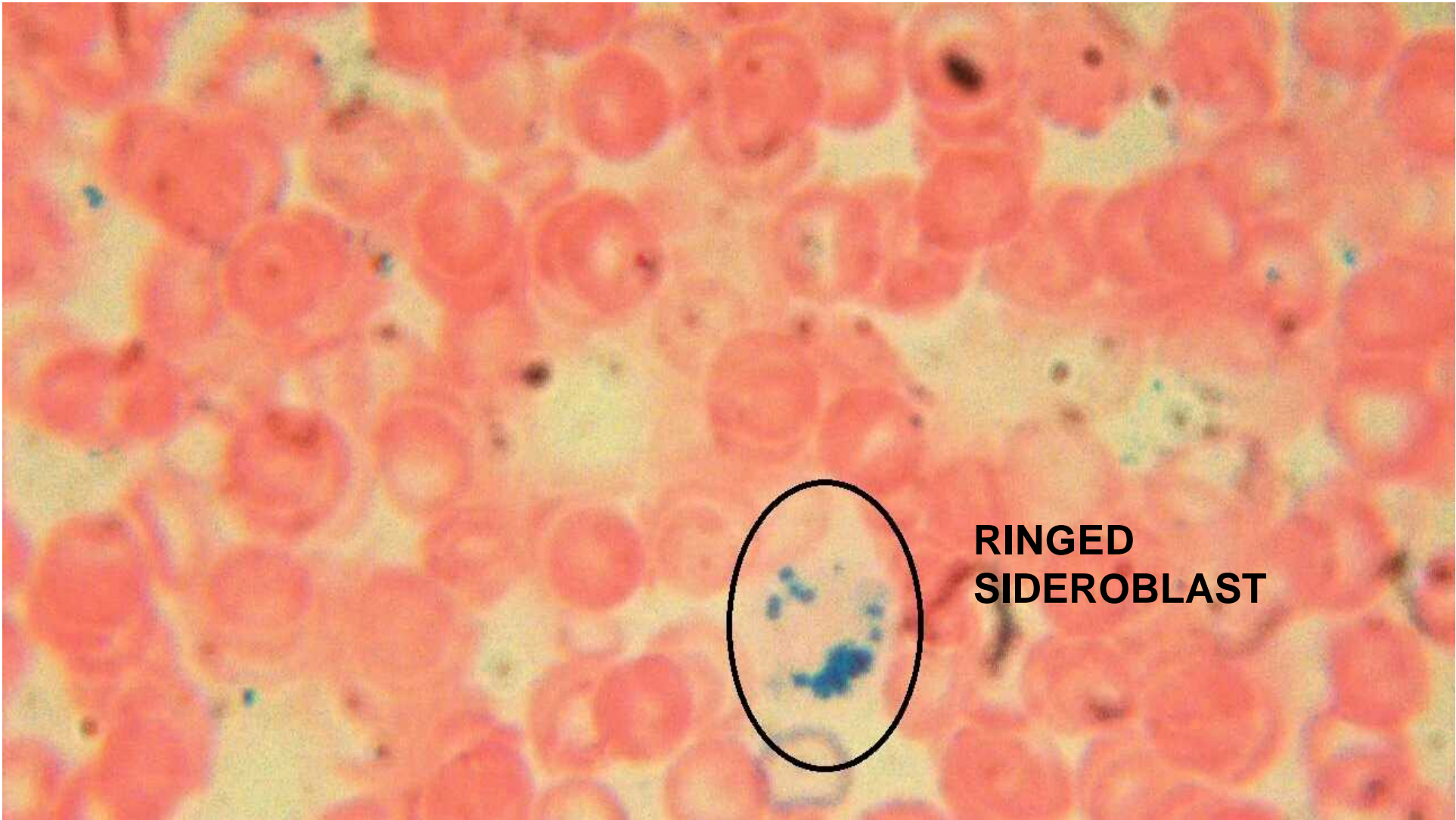
BONE MARROW EXAMINATION





- Normal cellularity.
- M:E ratio = 1:1
- Normoblastic erythroid maturation
- No significant dyserythropoiesis.
- Myeloid and megakaryocytic series within normal limits.

Prussian blue staining

- Increased iron stores.
- Presence of ringed sideroblasts in 10% of erythroid precursors.



**RINGED
SIDEROBLAST**

- 
- A molecular analysis or enzyme levels could not be done.
 - A final diagnosis of congenital sideroblastic anemia was suggested.
 - Child was started on 50mg oral pyridoxine per day.
- 

FOLLOW UP

	On admission	On follow-up
Hb (g/dl)	6.2	7.8

There was rise in hemoglobin in the first three weeks of treatment and child is still under follow-up.



DISCUSSION

WHEN TO SUSPECT SIDEROBLASTIC ANEMIA??

- a microcytic, hypochromic anemia with a large RDW and erythrocyte dimorphism.
- mild to moderate hemolysis due to peripheral RBC destruction of unknown etiology.
- ineffective erythropoiesis(i.e,erythroid hyperplasia in bone marrow despite anemia).
- an abundance of ringed sideroblasts, especially in late erythroid precursors (at least 10%).
- a clinical response to high doses of pyridoxine.

▪Nathan and Oski's *Hematology and Oncology of Infancy and Childhood*,8th edition.

▪Lanzkowsky's *Manual of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology*, 4th edition.



SIDEROBLASTIC ANEMIA

Congenital

Acquired

- Toxins
- Drugs
- Nutritional
- Neoplastic

CONGENITAL SIDEROBLASTIC ANEMIA

X-LINKED

- X-linked sideroblastic anemia.
- X-linked sideroblastic anemia with ataxia.



PROTOTYPE

AUTOSOMAL RECESSIVE

- Thiamine-responsive Megaloblastic anemia.
- Mitochondrial myopathy with lactic acidosis and Sideroblastic anemia-PUS1, YARS2.
- SLC25A38.
- GLRX5.
- SIFD.

MATERNAL INHERITANCE

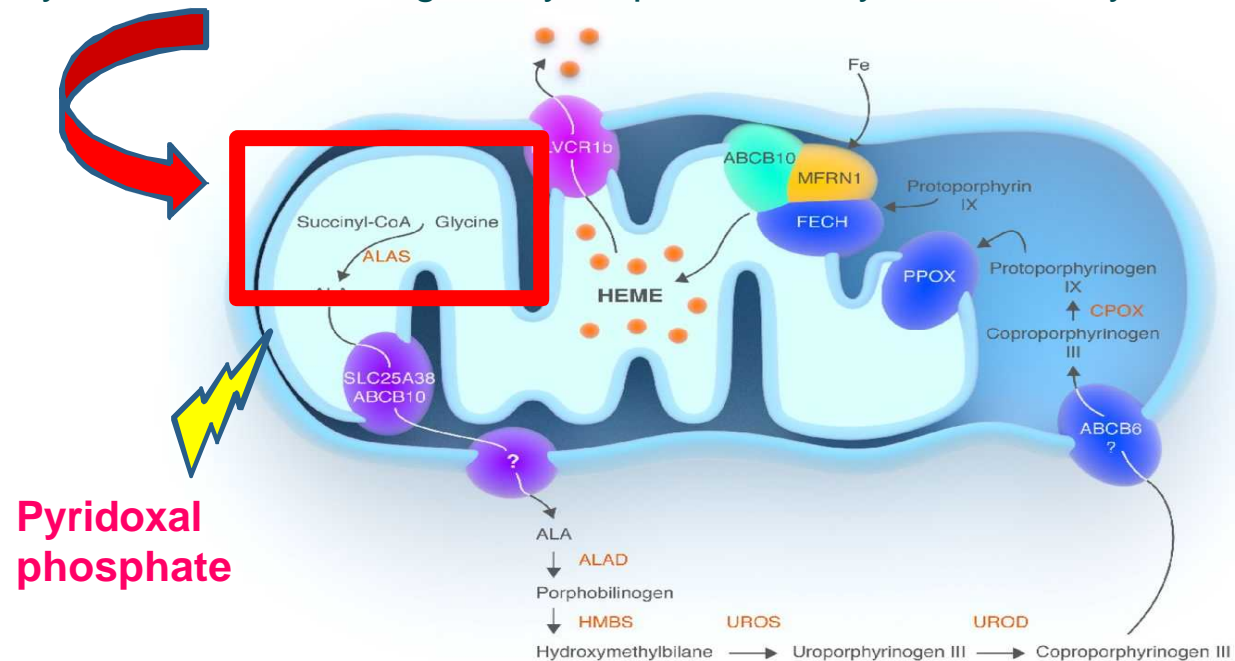
- Pearson Marrow-Pancreas Syndrome

▪ *Nathan and Oski's Hematology and Oncology of Infancy and Childhood, 8th edition.*

▪ *Mark D. Fleming. Congenital Sideroblastic Anemias : Iron and Heme Lost in Mitochondrial Translation. Hematol 2011; 525-531.*

X-LINKED SIDEROBLASTIC ANEMIA

Erythroid –specific isoform of the enzyme delta-aminolevulinic acid synthase (ALAS2) catalyses the first and regulatory step of heme synthesis in erythroid precursors.



X-LINKED SIDEROBLASTIC ANEMIA(contd..)

- Impaired heme production due to ALAS2 deficiency results in variable degrees of microcytic hypochromic anemia and excess mitochondrial iron manifests as ringed sideroblasts.
- The excess non-heme iron deposited in the cell may act as a toxin resulting in ineffective erythropoiesis.
- Local mitochondrial iron overload is present in all sideroblastic anemias, whereas systemic iron overload occurs only in primary or secondary deficiency of ALAS2.

X-LINKED SIDEROBLASTIC ANEMIA(contd..)

➤ Treatment:

- Standard treatment: Pyridoxine 50-100 mg/d with use of higher doses occasionally.
- Maintenance therapy with low dose pyridoxine is advocated for the responders to maintain an adequate pool of pyridoxal phosphate and prevent recurrence of anemia.
- Regular blood transfusion – partial response or not responding.
- Bone marrow transplantation – tried in few cases of severe sideroblastic anemia in children not responding to pyridoxine.

RINGED SIDEROBLASTS

**SIDEROBLASTIC
ANEMIA**

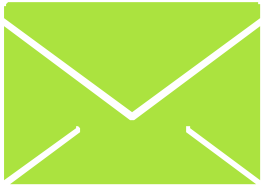
**MYELODYSPLASTIC
SYNDROMES**

- Porphyrin ring synthesis is unaffected.
- Possible mechanism: mitochondrial respiratory chain defect.
- Unlikely to respond to pyridoxine therapy.

▪ Gupta SK, Rao S, Kar R, Tyagi S, Pati HP. Congenital sideroblastic anemia: A report of two cases. *Indian J Pathol Microbiol* 2009; 52(3) : 424-426.
▪ Gazzola M, Invernizzi R. Ringed sideroblasts and sideroblastic anemias. *Haematol* 2011; 96(6) : 789-792.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Microcytic hypochromic anemia + non-contributory Hb electrophoresis, serum iron studies, bone marrow examination.



- **Bone marrow for iron stain.**
- **Screening for ringed sideroblasts.**

The early detection of these cases may lead to early institution of pyridoxine which may be therapeutic in many cases and prevent long-term complications of anemia.

CASE REPORTS

Case Report

Congenital sideroblastic anemia: A report of two cases

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Indian Pediatrics 1999;36: 1158-1161

Congenital Sideroblastic Anemia

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- Gupta SK, Rao S, Kar R, Tyagi S, Pati HP. Congenital sideroblastic anemia: A report of two cases. Indian J Pathol Microbiol 2009; 52(3) : 424-426.
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- Cazzola M, Invernizzi R. Ringed sideroblasts and sideroblastic anemias. Haematol 2011; 96(6) : 789-792.



THANK YOU!