

Updates of the WHO classification 2017: impact on the diagnosis of acute myeloid leukemia

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Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and related neoplasms

AML with recurrent genetic abnormalities

AML with t(8;21)(q22;q22.1);*RUNX1-RUNX1T1*

AML with inv(16)(p13.1q22) or t(16;16)(p13.1;q22);*CBFB-MYH11*

APL with *PML-RARA*

AML with t(9;11)(p21.3;q23.3);*MLLT3-KMT2A*

AML with t(6;9)(p23;q34.1);*DEK-NUP214*

AML with inv(3)(q21.3q26.2) or t(3;3)(q21.3;q26.2); *GATA2, MECOM*

AML (megakaryoblastic) with t(1;22)(p13.3;q13.3);*RBM15-MKL1*

Provisional entity: AML with BCR-ABL1

AML with mutated *NPM1*

AML with biallelic mutations of *CEBPA*

Provisional entity: AML with mutated RUNX1

AML with myelodysplasia-related changes

Therapy-related myeloid neoplasms

AML, NOS

AML with minimal differentiation

AML without maturation

AML with maturation

Acute myelomonocytic leukemia

Acute monoblastic/monocytic leukemia

Pure erythroid leukemia

Acute megakaryoblastic leukemia

Acute basophilic leukemia

Acute panmyelosis with myelofibrosis

Myeloid sarcoma

Myeloid proliferations related to Down syndrome

Transient abnormal myelopoiesis (TAM)

Myeloid leukemia associated with Down syndrome

Blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm

Acute leukemias of ambiguous lineage

Acute undifferentiated leukemia

Mixed phenotype acute leukemia (MPAL) with t(9;22)(q34.1;q11.2); *BCR-ABL1*

MPAL with t(v;11q23.3); *KMT2A* rearranged

MPAL, B/myeloid, NOS

MPAL, T/myeloid, NOS

**WHO classification
AML and related
neoplasms
(4th edition, 2017)**

AML with recurrent cytogenetic abnormalities

WHO classification AML and related neoplasms (3th edition, 2008)

•AML with recurrent genetic abnormalities

AML with t(8;21) (q22;q22) (*RUNX1-RUNX1T1*)

AML with inv(16)(p13.1q22) or t(16,16) (p13.1;q22) (*CBFB-MYH11*)

Acute promyelocytic leukemia with t(15;17)(q24.1;q21.1) (*PML-RARA*)

AML with t(9;11)(p22;q23) (*MLLT3-MLL*)

AML with t(6;9)(p23;q34) (*DEK-NUP214*)

AML with inv(3)(q21q26.2) or t(3;3) (q21;q26.2) (*RPN1-EVI1*)

AML (megakaryoblastic) with t(1;22) (p13;q13) (*RBM15-MKL1*)

Provisional entity: AML with mutated *NPM1*

Provisional entity: AML with mutated *CEBPA*

•AML with myelodysplasia-related changes

•Therapy-related myeloid neoplasms

•AML, not otherwise specified

AML minimally differentiated

AML without maturation

AML with maturation

Acute myelomonocytic leukemia

Acute monoblastic and monocytic leukemia

Acute erythroid leukemia

Acute megakaryocytic leukemia

Acute basophilic leukemia

Acute panmyelosis with myelofibrosis

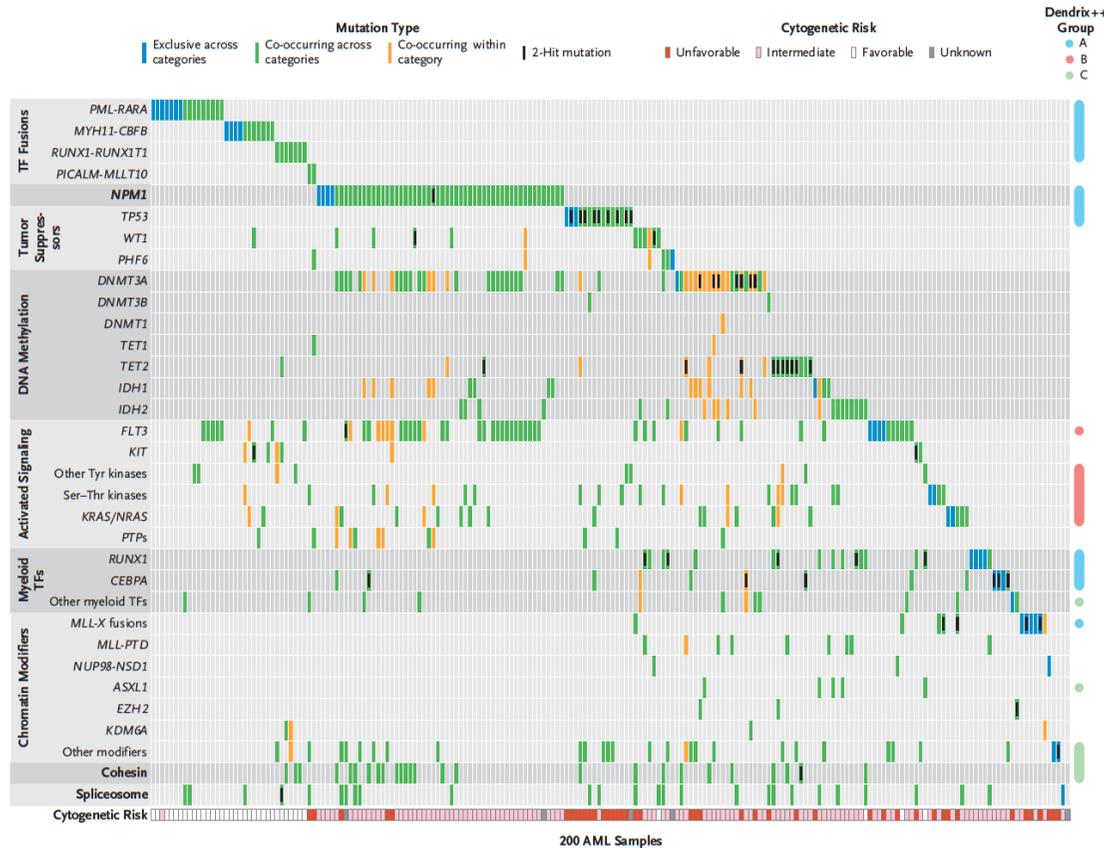
•Myeloid sarcoma

•Myeloid proliferations related to Down syndrome

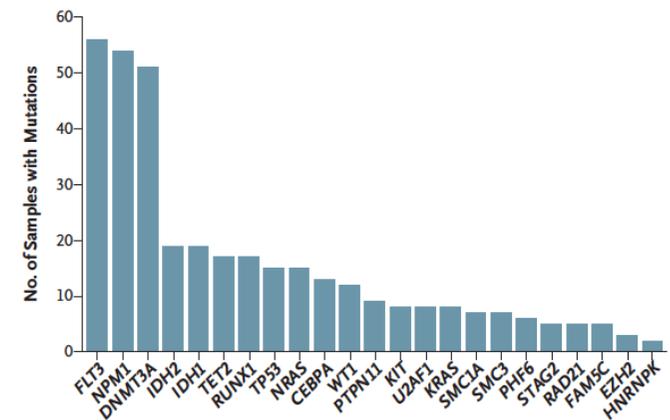
•Blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm

Genomic and Epigenomic Landscapes of Adult De Novo Acute Myeloid Leukemia

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network



B Significantly Mutated Genes



- AML genomes have fewer mutations than others adult cancers (average of 13 mut./AML case)
- at least 23 recurrent mutations identified

From Swerdlow et al WHO 2017.

At least 8 distinct categories of mutations in AML

	Before 2008: Cytogenetic and molecular genetic analysis	2008-12: NGS approaches	From 2013: The Cancer Genome Atlas project
Functional groups	Class I Activated signalling e.g. FLT3, KIT, RAS mutations	Class I Activated signalling e.g. FLT3, KIT, RAS mutations	Class 1: transcription factor fusions e.g. t(8;212, and t(15;17)
			Class 2: Nucleophosmin1 <i>NPM1</i> mutations
			Class 3: tumour suppressor genes e.g. <i>TP53</i> , <i>PHF6</i> mutations
	Class II Transcription and differentiation e.g. e.g. t(8;212, and t(15;17) <i>CEBPA</i> mutations	Class II Transcription and differentiation e.g. e.g. t(8;212, and t(15;17) <i>CEBPA</i> mutations	Class 4: DNA methylation related genes e.g. <i>TET2</i> , <i>IDH2</i> , <i>IDH1</i> , <i>DNMT3A</i>
			Class 5: Activating signalling genes e.g. <i>FLT3</i> , <i>KIT</i> , <i>RAS</i> mutations
		Class 6: Chromatin modifying genes e.g. <i>ASXL1</i> , <i>EZH2</i> , <i>KMT2A</i> fusions, <i>KMT2A-PTD</i>	
		Class 7: Myeloid transcription factor genes e.g. <i>CEBPA</i> , <i>RUNX</i> mutations	
		Class 8: Cohesin complex genes e.g. <i>STAG2</i> , <i>RAD21</i> , <i>SMC1</i> , <i>SMC2</i> mutations	
		Class 9: Spliceosome-complex genes e.g. <i>SRSF2</i> , <i>U2AF1</i> , <i>ZRSR2</i> mutations	
Epigenetic modifiers (so called Class III) e.g. <i>TET2</i> , <i>DNMT3A</i> and <i>AsXL1</i>			

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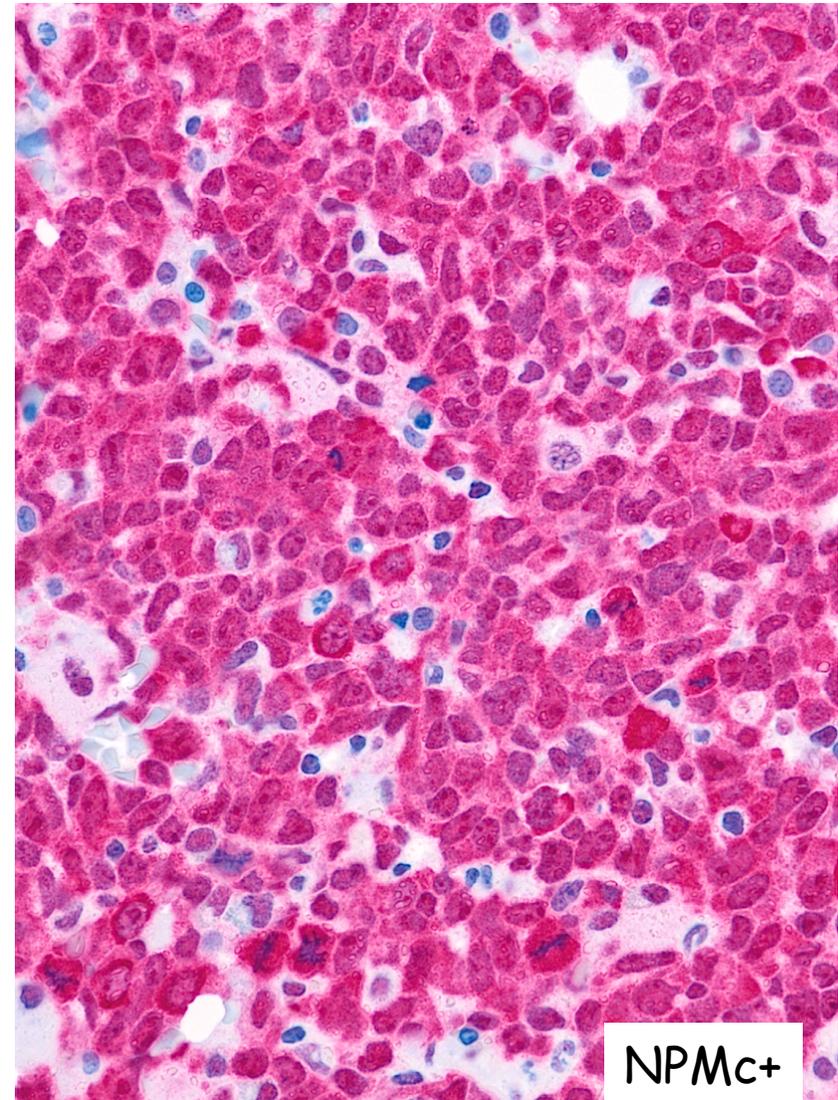
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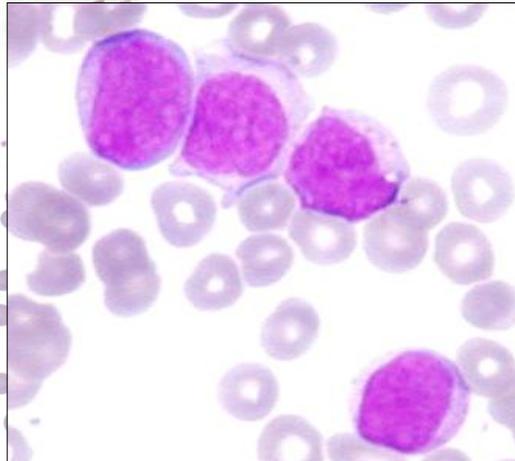
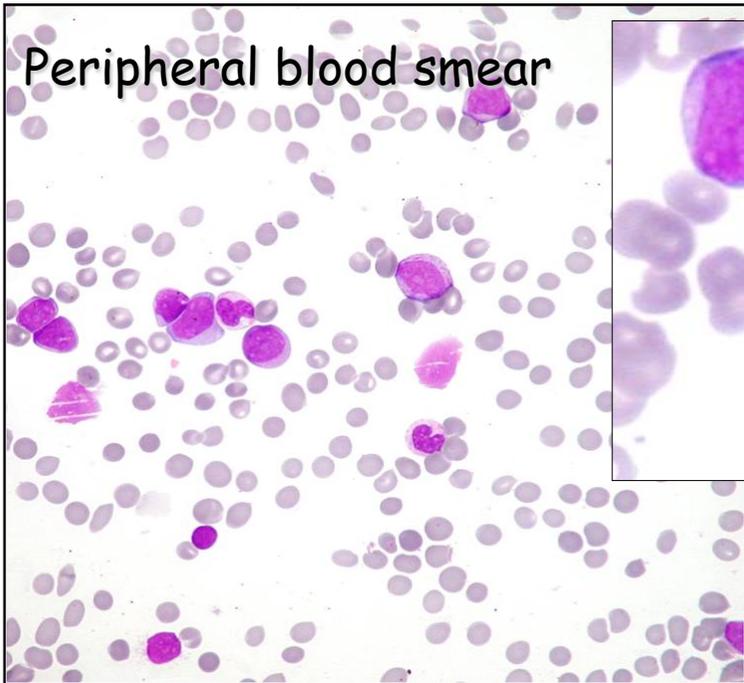
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AML with mutated NPM1

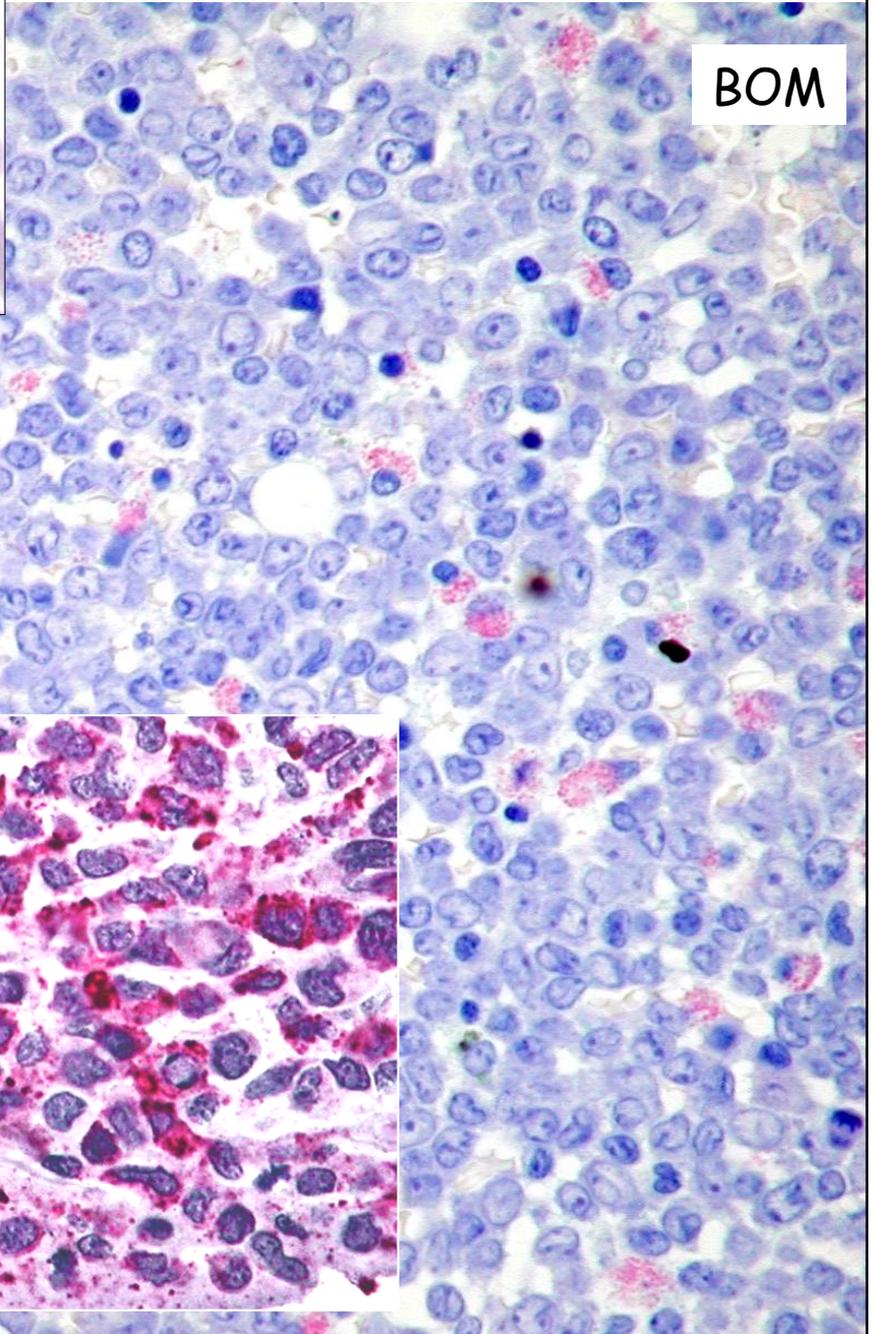
- NPM1^m usually in exon 12
- One of most common recurrent genetic lesion in AML:
27-35% of adult AML,
2-8% of childhood AML
45-64% of AML with normal karyotype
- Abnormal karyotype identified in 5-15% of NPM1 mutated AML cases: +8, +4, -Y, del(9q) and +21 most frequent
- Distinct GEP with up *HOX* genes
- Association with myelomonocytic and monocytic leukaemia
(80% of monocytic AML NPM1^m)



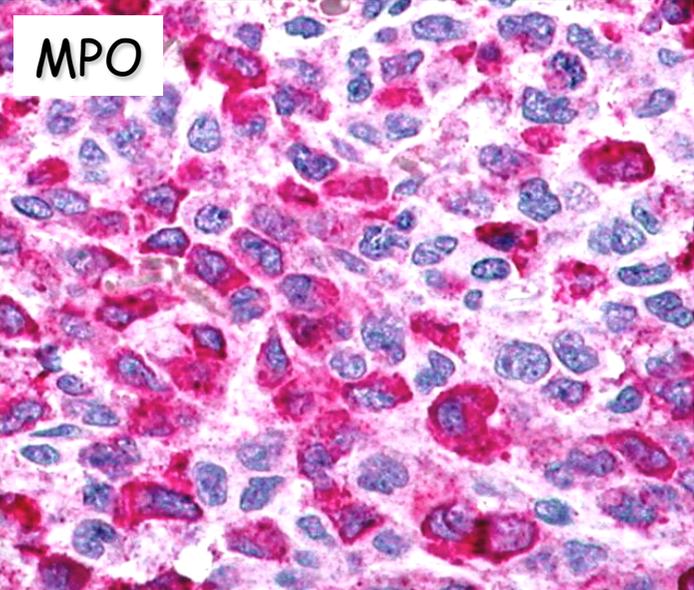
Peripheral blood smear



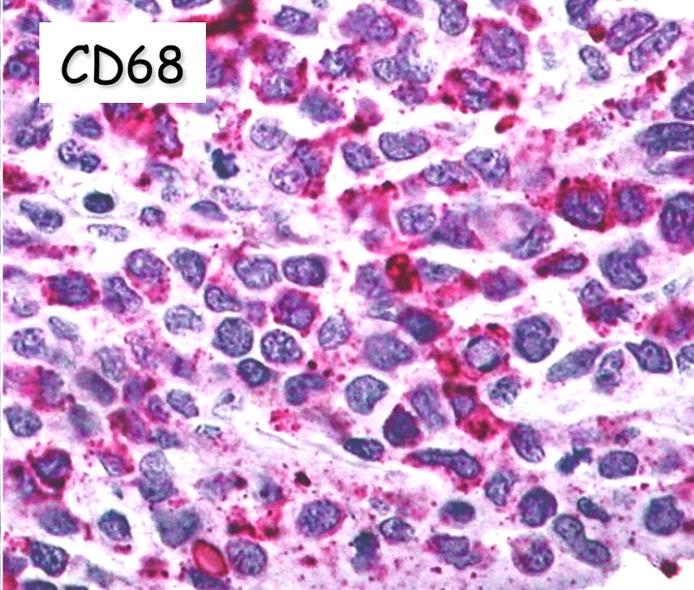
Myelomonocytic differentiation



BOM

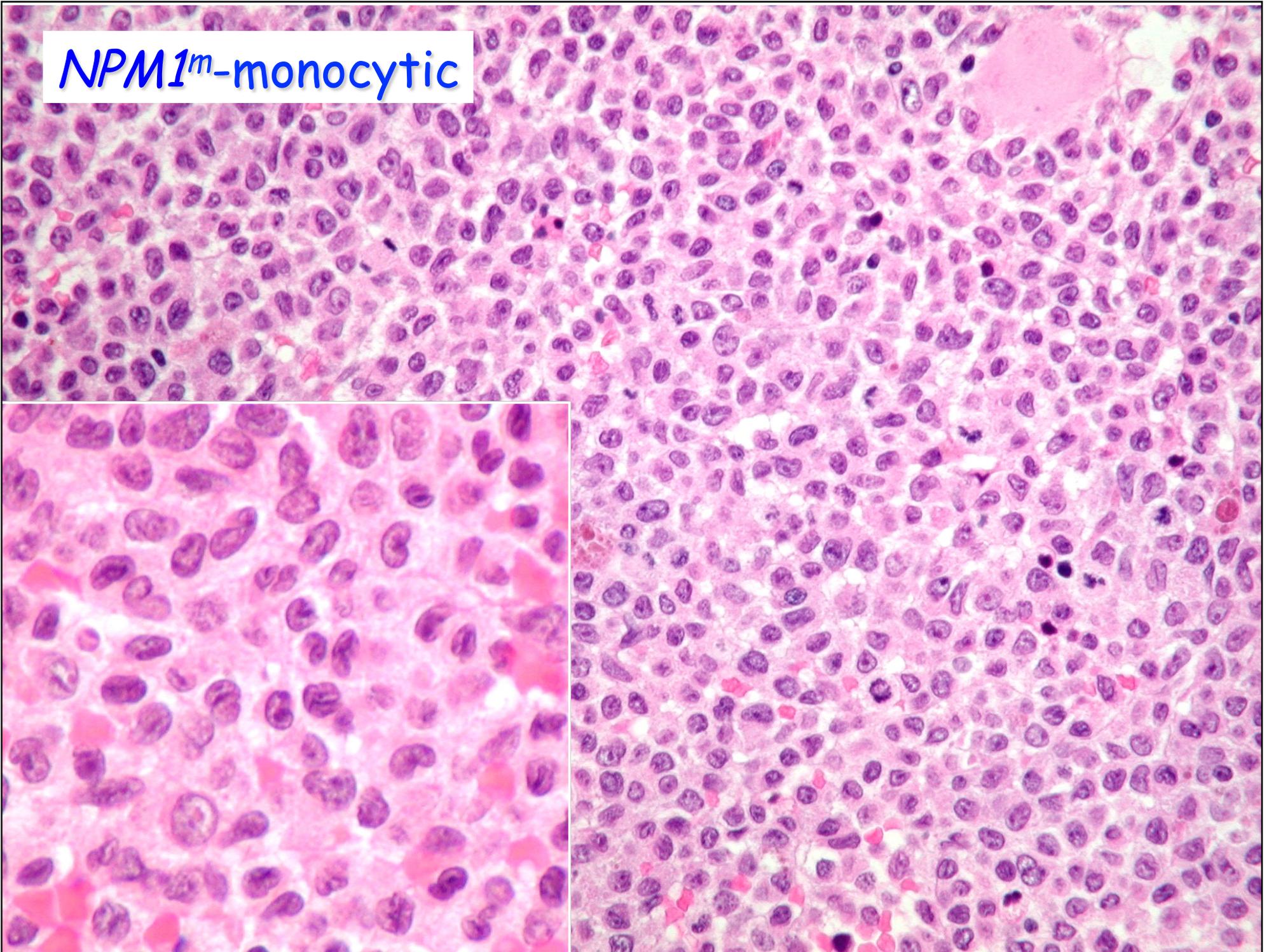


MPO

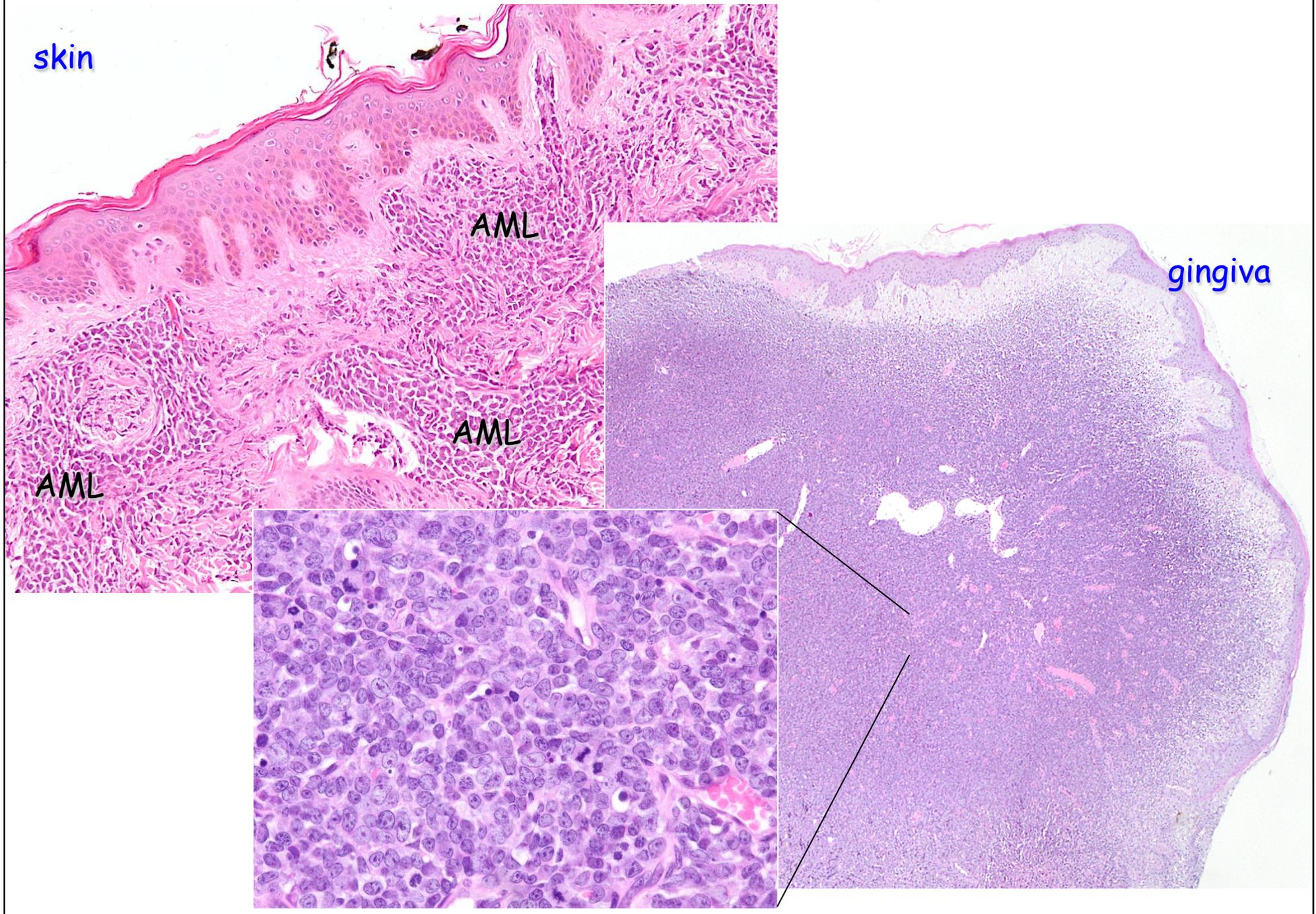


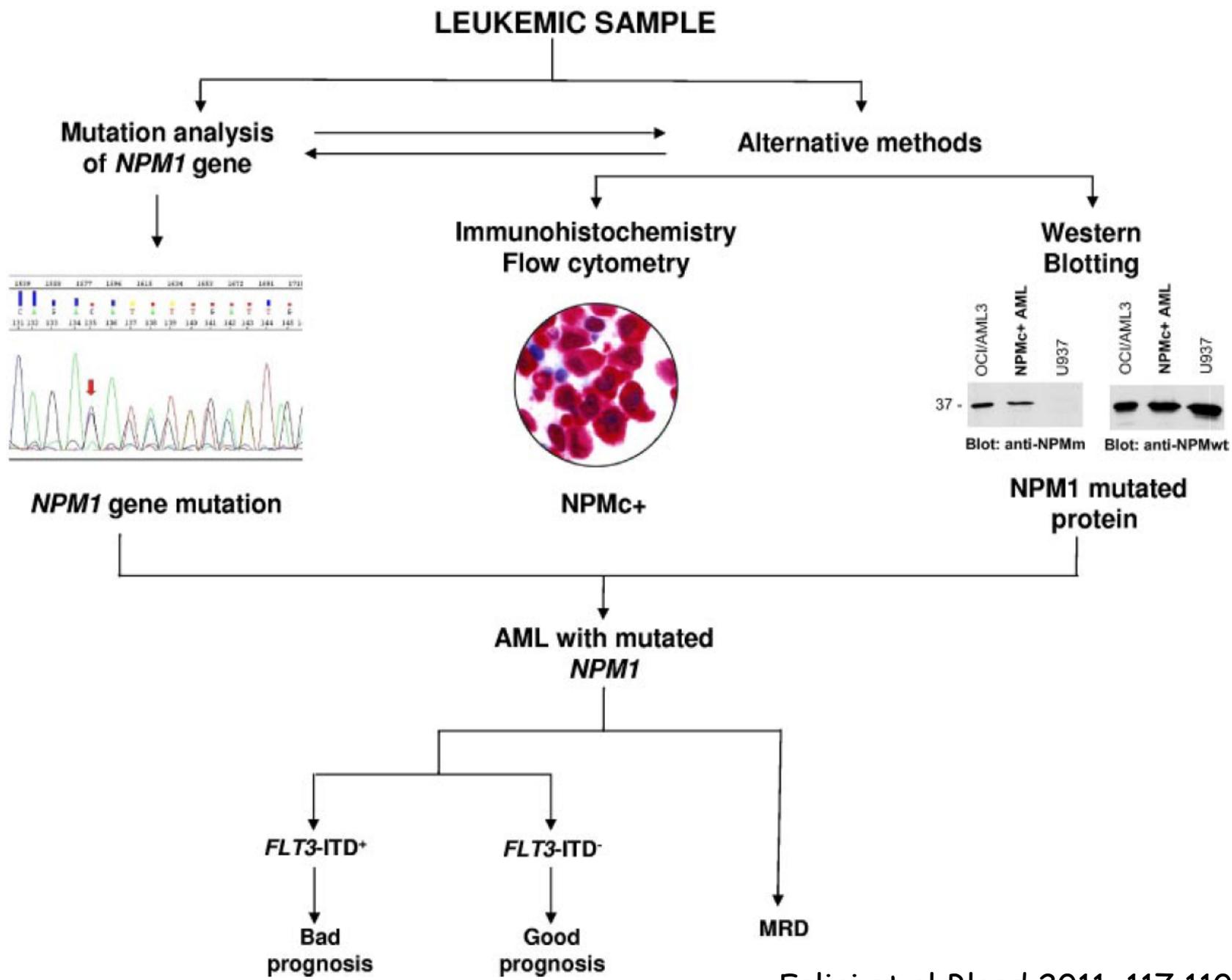
CD68

NPM1^m-monocytic

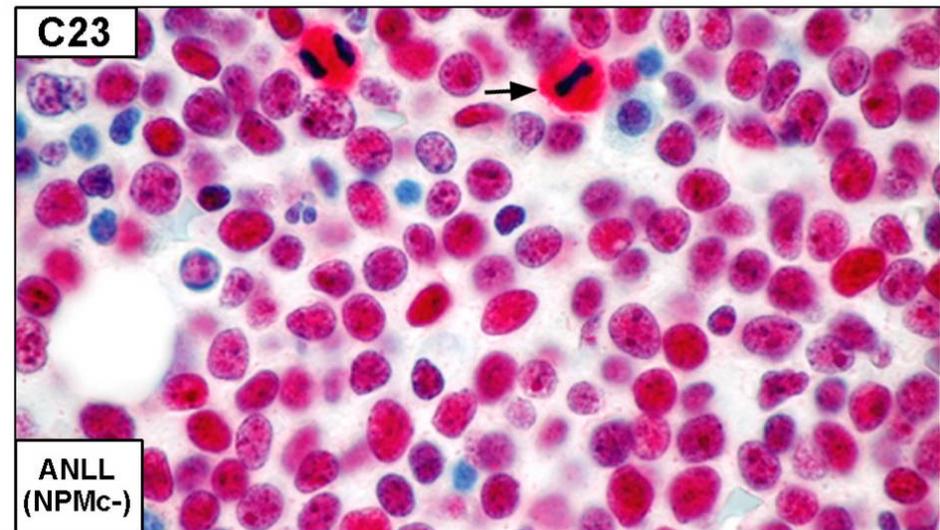
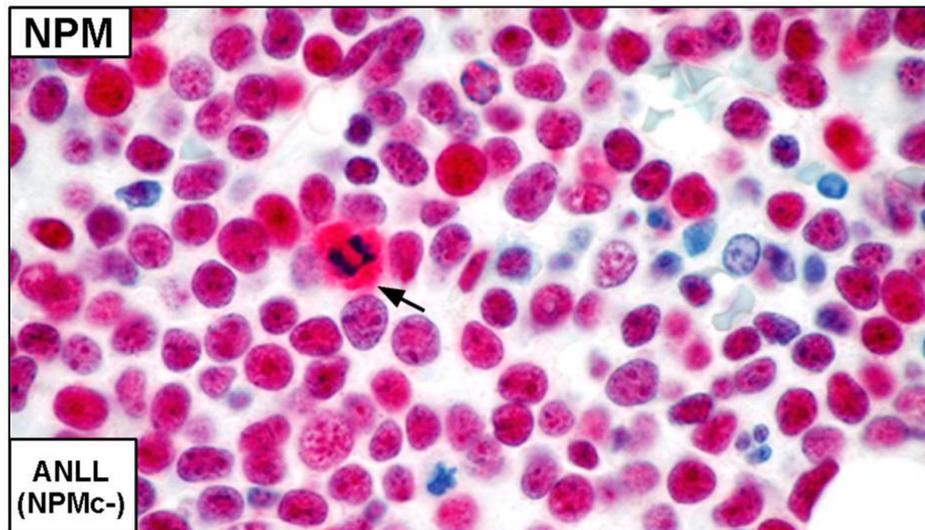
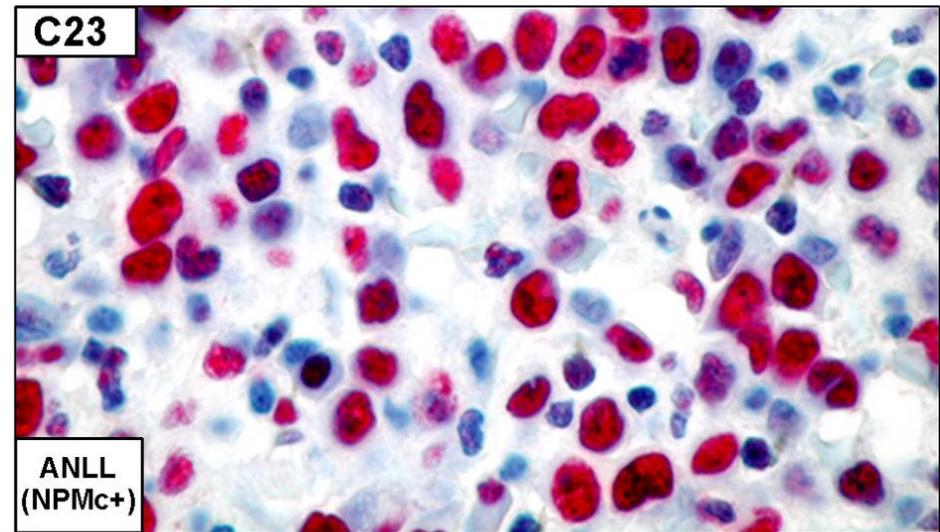
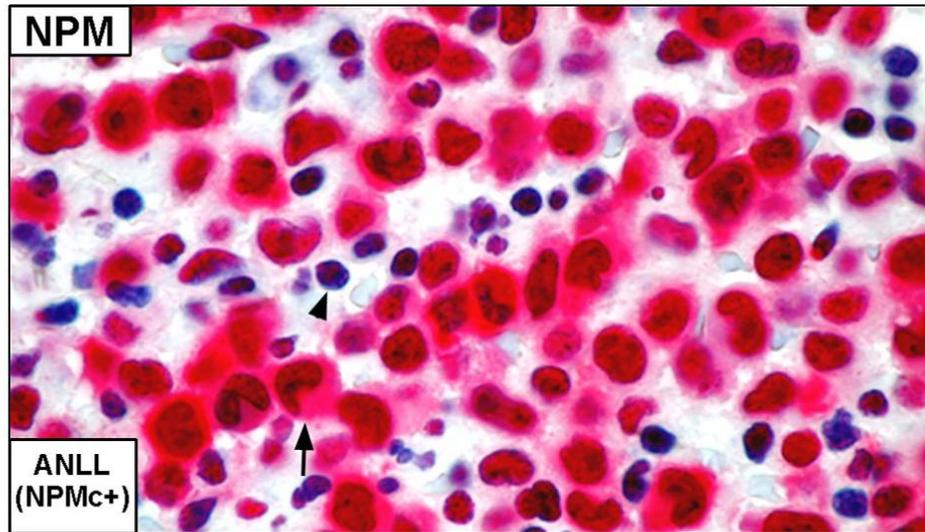


Many cases shows extramedullary involvement



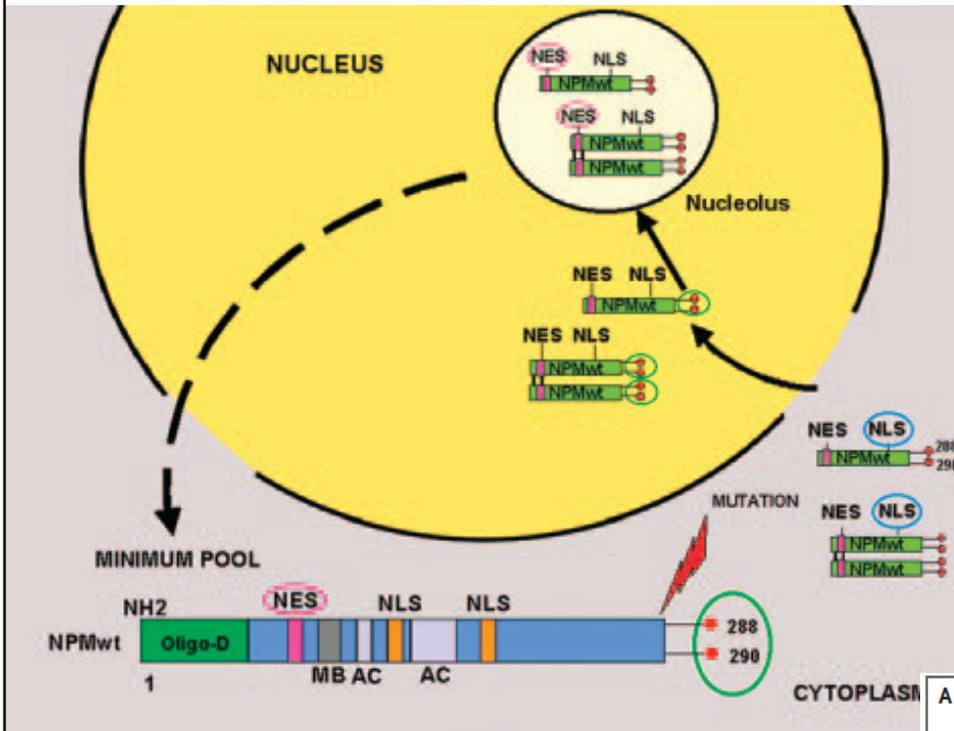


ABERRANT CYTOPLASMIC EXPRESSION OF NPM IN AML (NPMc+ AML)



Falini et al NEJM 2005 Jan 20;352(3):254-66.

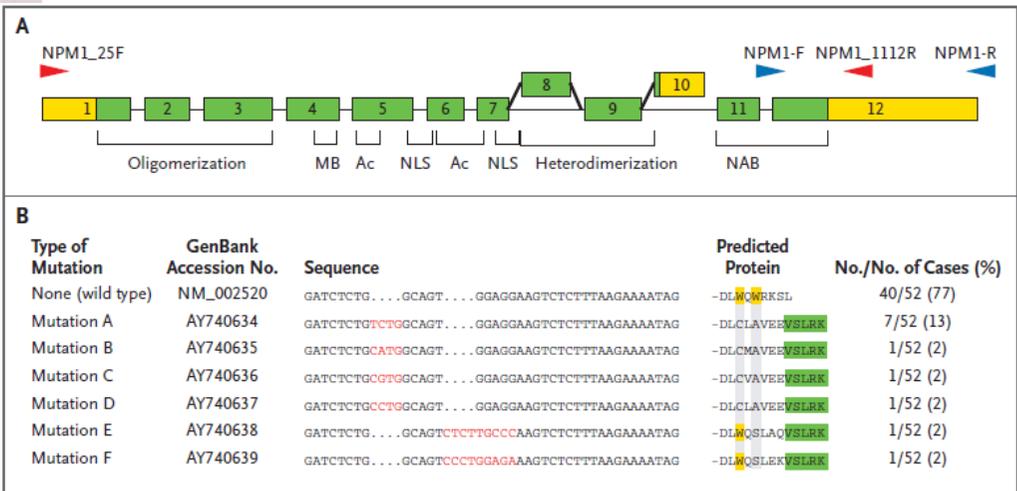
Mutations results in common changes in C-terminus of the protein that consists in the creation of a new nuclear export signal



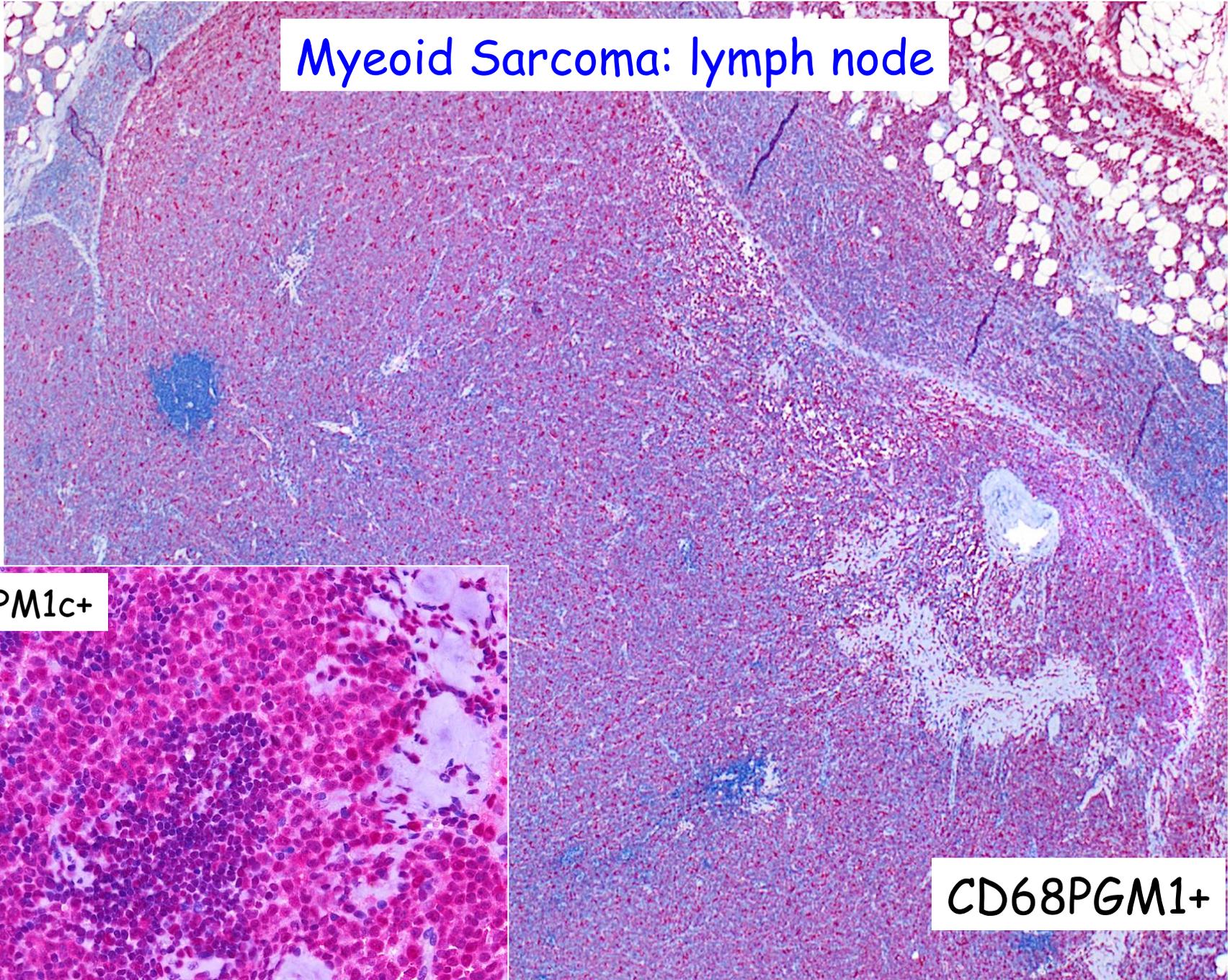
NPMc+ usefull tool:

- diagnosis in BOM
- differential diagnosis: MDS, MDS/MPN (CMML)
- detection of MRD in tissues
- NPM1^m in Myeloid sarcoma

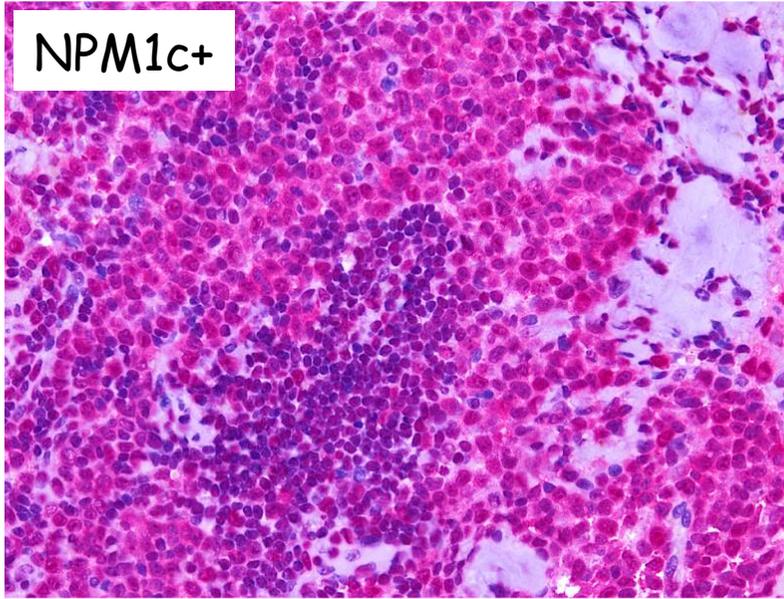
Falini et al Blood 2011
 Falini et al NEJM 2005
 Falini et al Blood 2006



Myeoid Sarcoma: lymph node



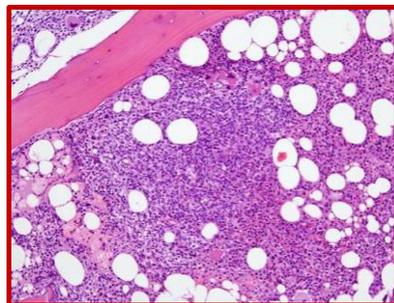
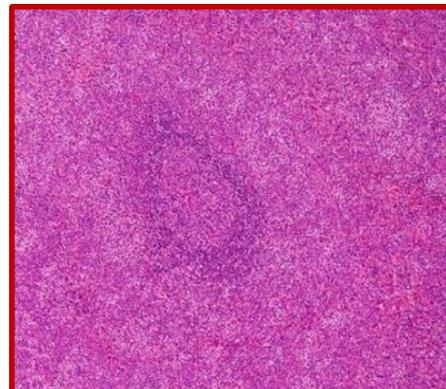
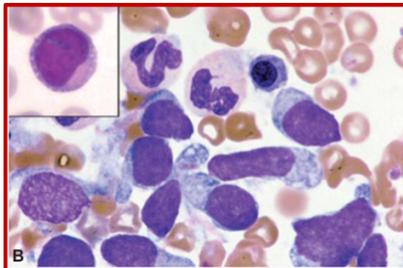
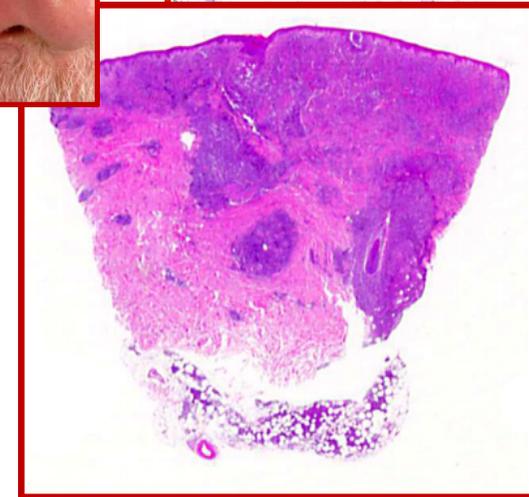
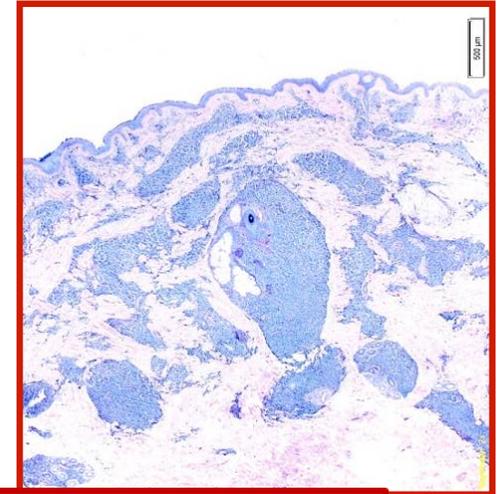
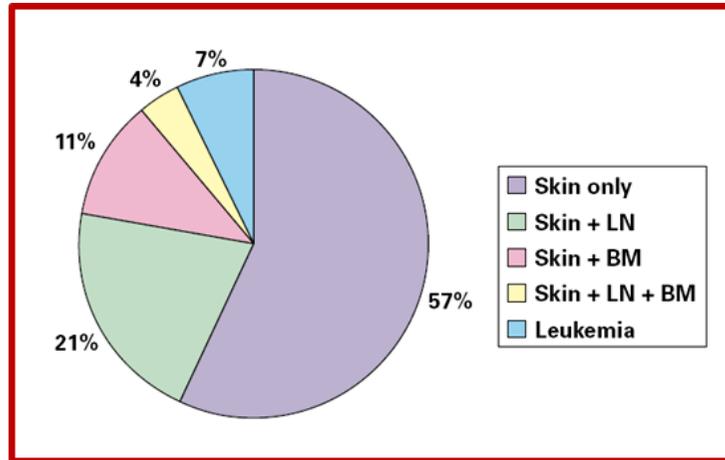
NPM1c+



CD68PGM1+



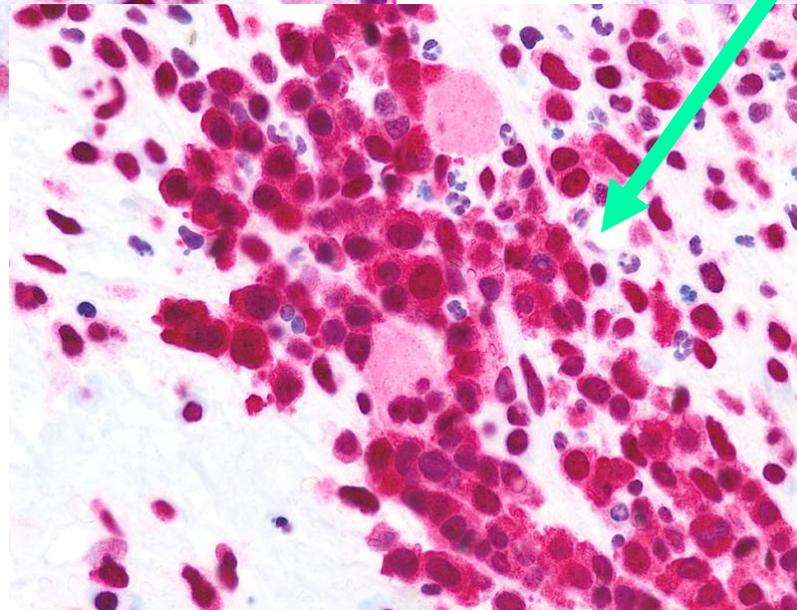
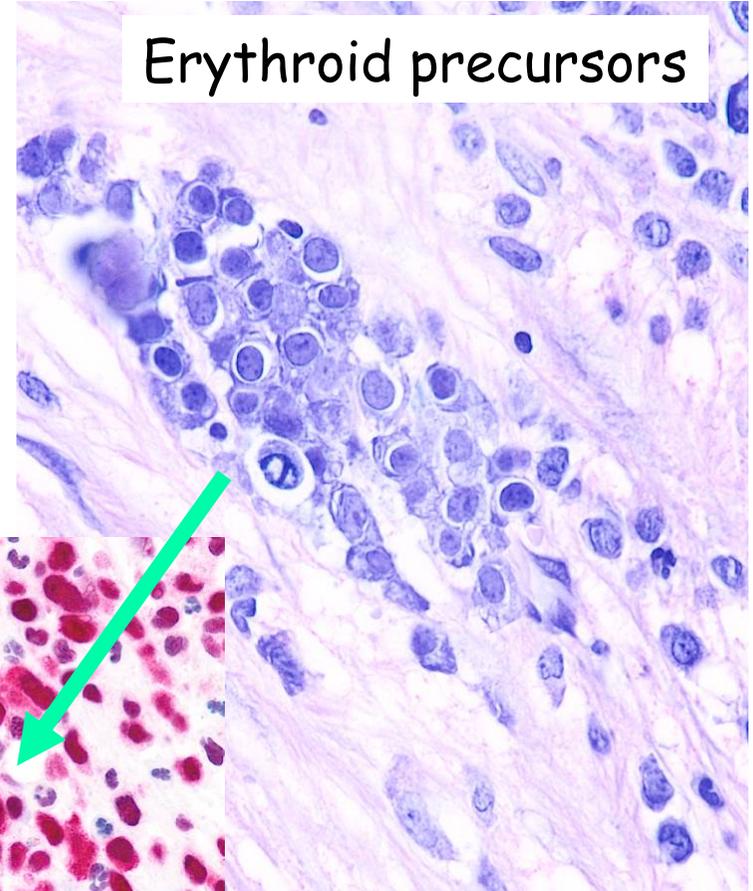
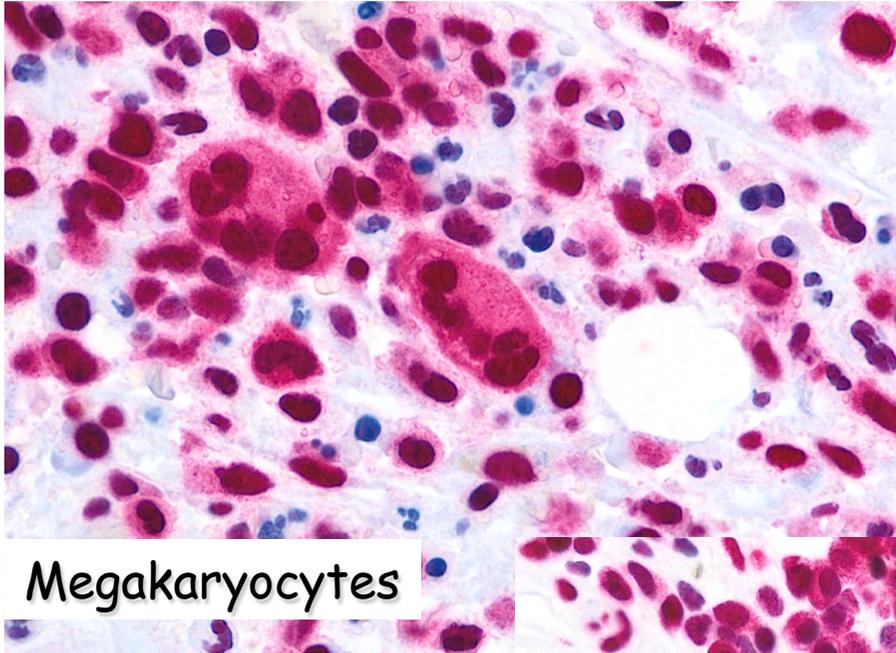
Blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm



Cytoplasmic nucleophosmin is not detected in blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm

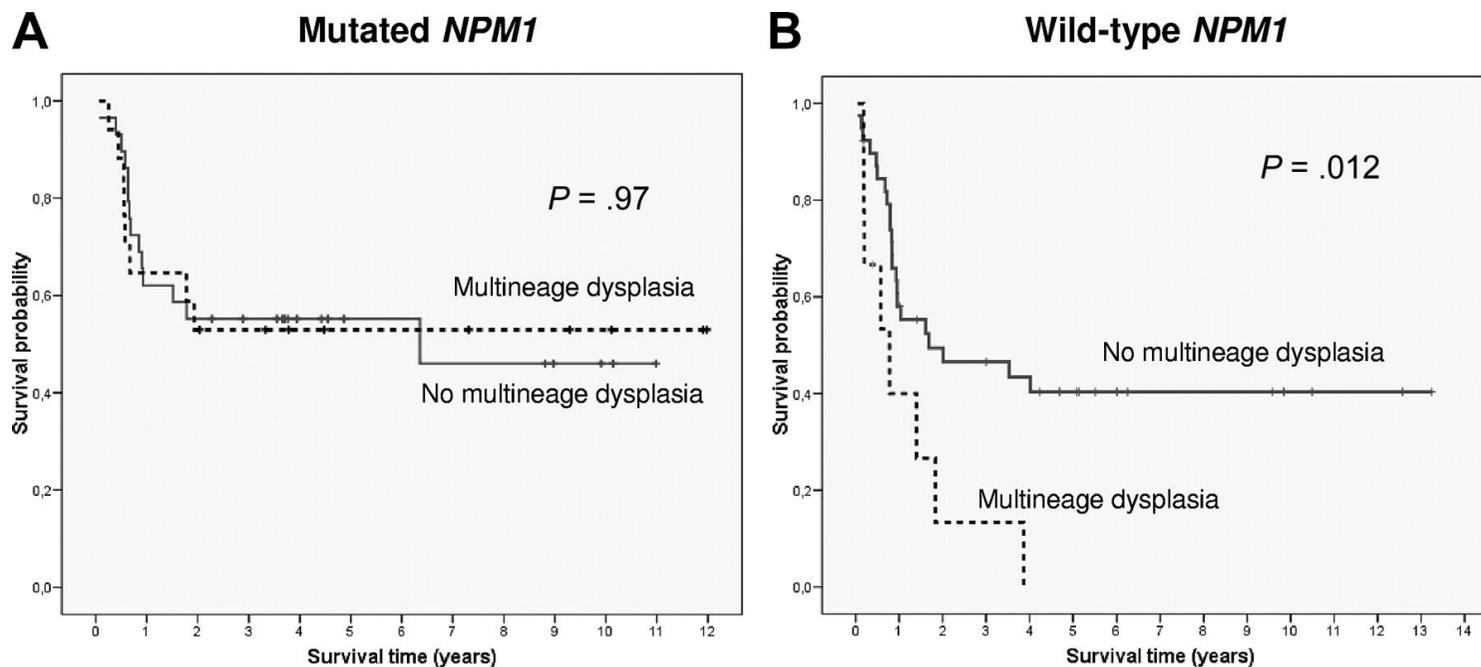
Fabio Facchetti,¹ Stefano A. Pileri,² Claudio Agostinelli,² Maria Paola Martelli,³ Marco Paulli,⁴ Adriano Venditti,⁵ Massimo F Martelli,³ and Brunangelo Falini³

NPM1c+ in two or more lineages



Multilineage dysplasia in the presence of *NPM1* mutation

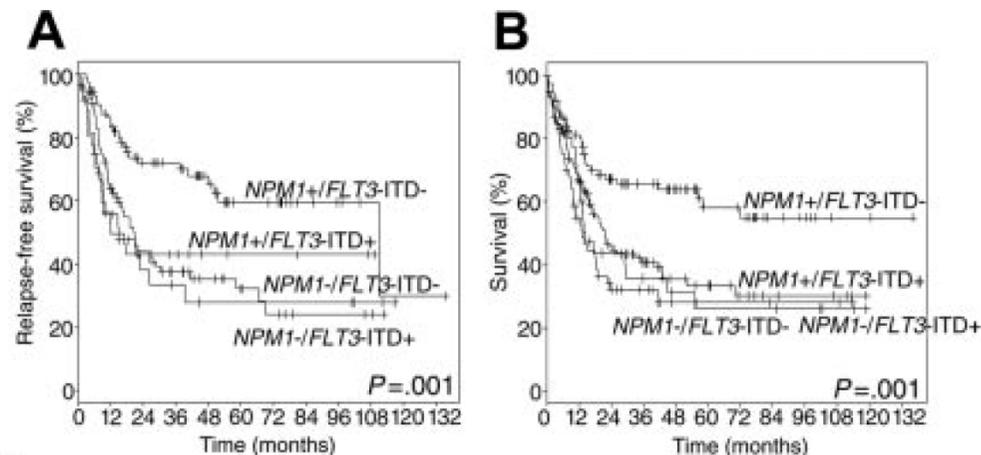
- 25% de novo AML *NPM1*^m
- Usually cases with normal karyotype
- blasts usually CD34-
- do not result in a worse prognosis



Díaz-Beyá M et al. Blood 2010;116:6147-6148

Mutant nucleophosmin (*NPM1*) predicts favorable prognosis in younger adults with acute myeloid leukemia and normal cytogenetics: interaction with other gene mutations

Konstanze Döhner, Richard F. Schlenk, Marianne Habdank, Claudia Scholl, Frank G. Rücker, Andrea Corbacioglu, Lars Bullinger, Stefan Fröhling, and Hartmut Döhner, for the AML Study Group (AMLSG)



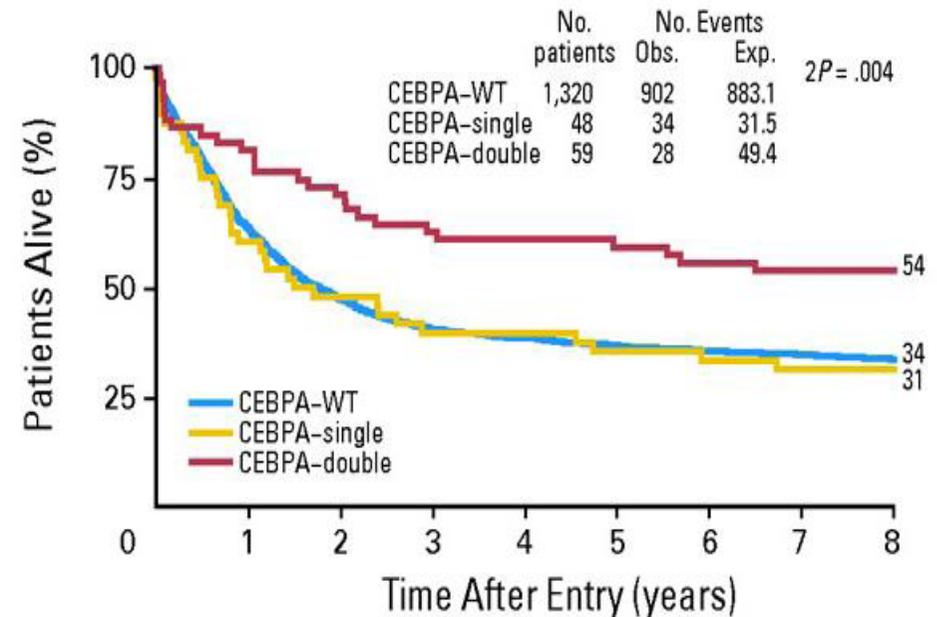
Coexistence of FLT3-ITD is associated to a poorer prognosis at least in younger patients

Favorable outcome of patients with acute myeloid leukemia harboring a low-allelic burden *FLT3*-ITD mutation and concomitant *NPM1* mutation: relevance to post-remission therapy

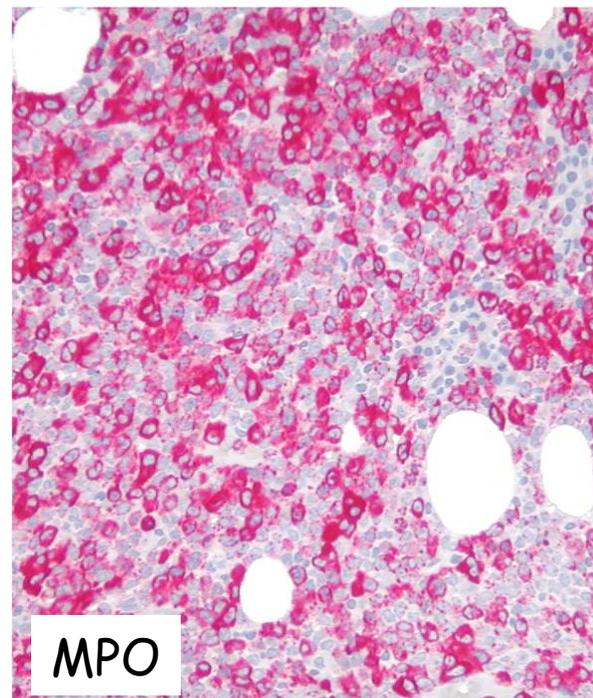
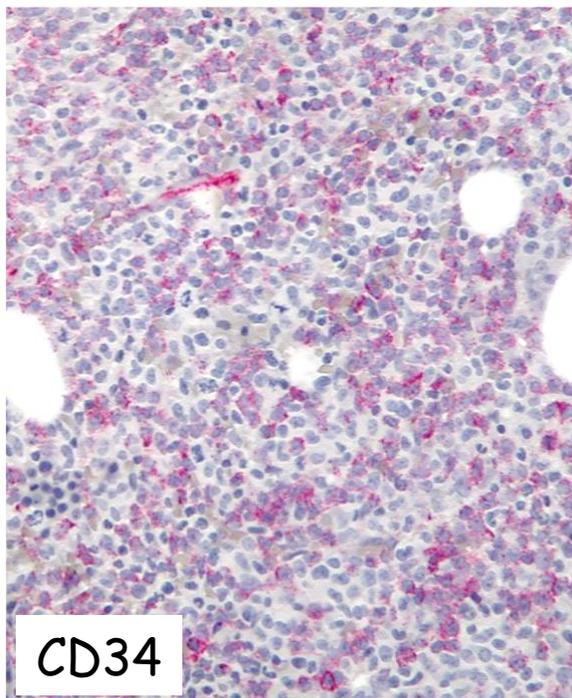
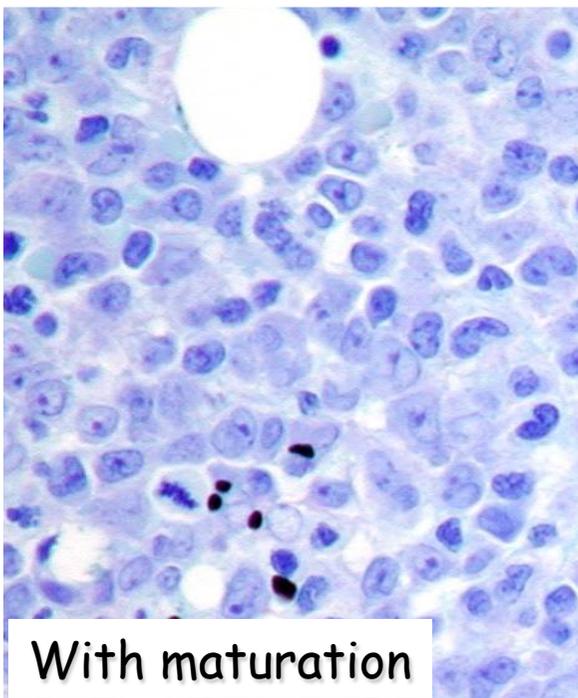
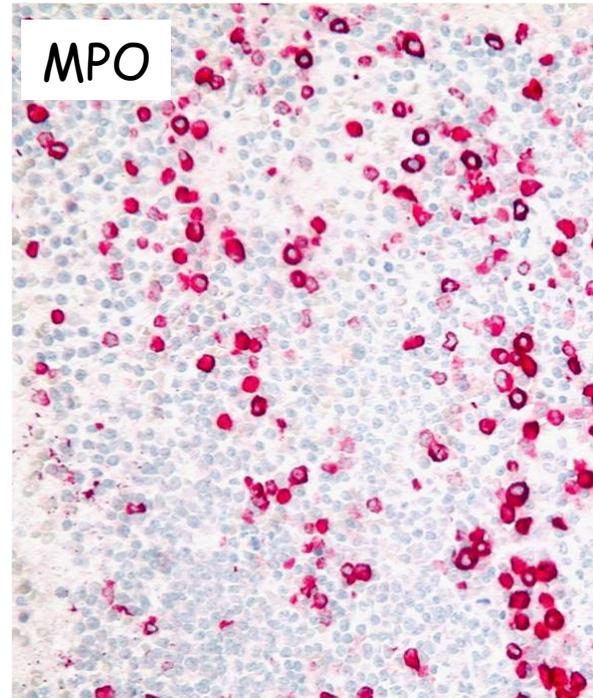
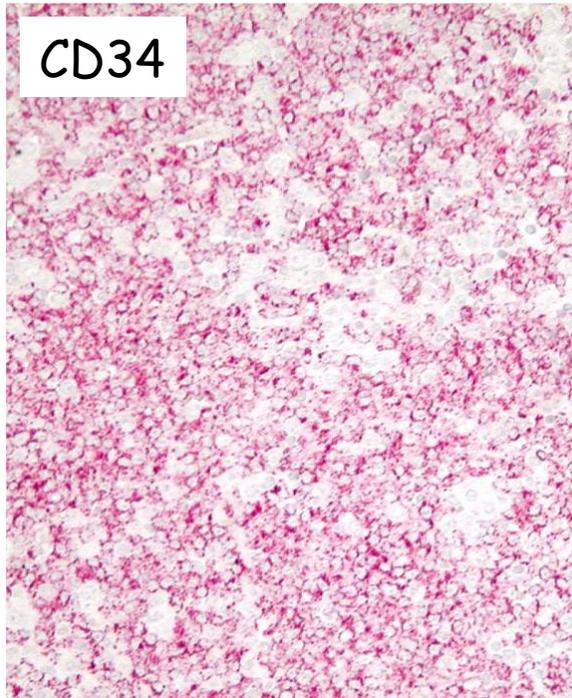
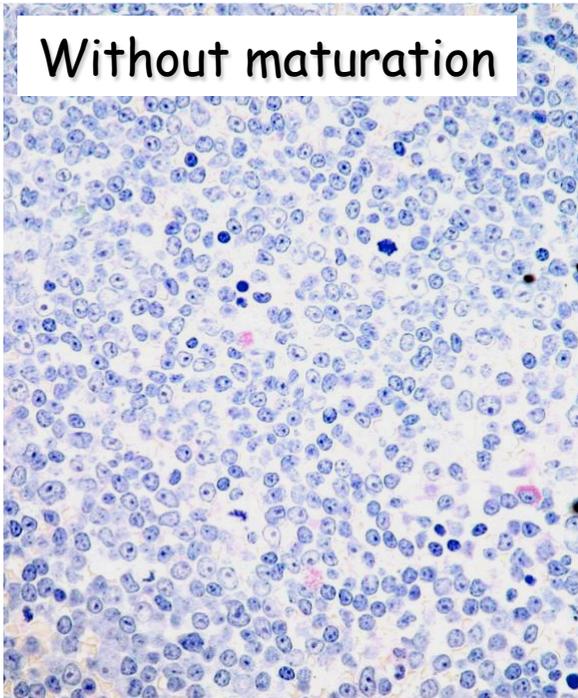
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AML with biallelic mutation of *CEBPA*

- Biallelic mutation confer good prognosis
- GEP $CBPA^{bm} \neq CBPA^{sm}$
- 4-9% of AML
- Usually de novo AML
- AML with or without maturation
- Subset abnormal karyotype: del(9q) do not influences prognosis:
- 25% multylineage dysplasia
no prognostic impact
- 70% normal karyotype

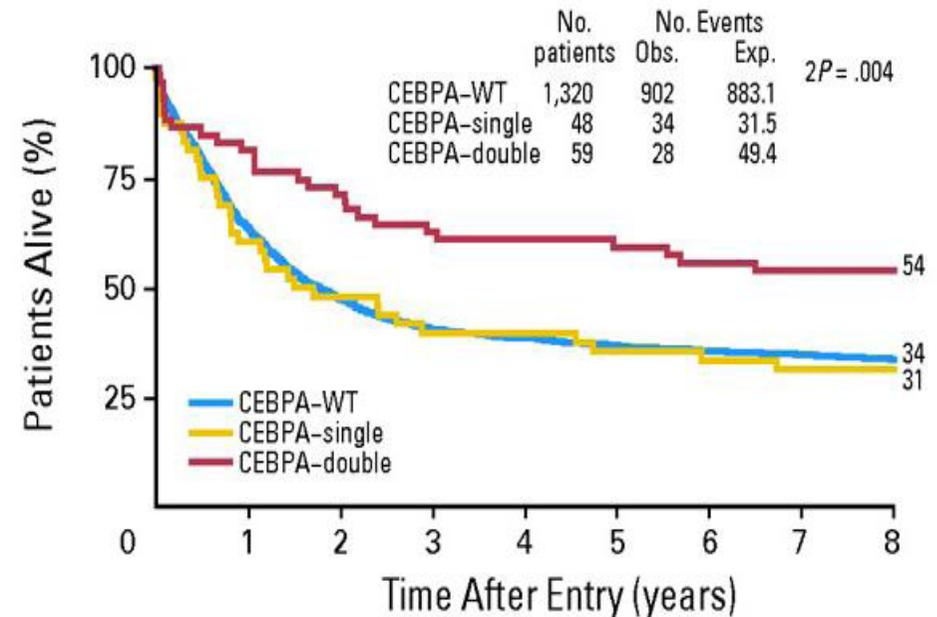


Green CL, et al. J Clin Oncol 28:2739, 2010



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AML with mutated *RUNX1* (provisional entity)

- Gene located at 21q22
- Encodes the alpha subunit of the core binding factor
- Mutation in 4-16% of AML
- More frequent in older male patients
- *RUNX1*^m frequent in prior history of MDS, MDS/MPN; or prior exposure to RT or alkylating agents: excluded diagnosis
- cases associated with *CEBPA*^{bm} or *NPM1* mutations: AML with *CEBPA*^{bm} or AML with *NPM1*^m
- variable morphology and phenotype
- Frequent associated *KMT2A-PTD*, or *ASXL1* mutations
- Poor response to therapy with shortened survival

AML with recurrent cytogenetic abnormalities (translocations)

- AML with recurrent cytogenetic abnormalities
 - many balanced transl. and inv. recognized but not represent new disease category (uncommon, >paediatric pts)
- Refine APL with PML-RARA fusion
- AML with *BCR-ABL1* (provisional entity)

Translocation	Gene Fusions	Frequency in Children / Frequency in Adults	Age Group Predilection	Comments/ Prognosis
t(1;22)(p13.3;q13.1)	<i>RBM15(OTT)-MKL1(MAL)</i>	0.8%/0%	Infants	AMKL – FAB M7/ Intermediate
t(7;12)(q36.3;p13.2)	<i>MNX1-ETV6</i>	0.8%/<0.5%	Infants	+19 seen as secondary abnormality Adverse
t(8;16)(p11.2;p13.3)	<i>KAT6A-CREBBP</i>	0.5%/<0.5%	Infants and children	Can spontaneously remit in infancy; intermediate prognosis in later childhood
t(6;9)(p23;q34.1)	<i>DEK-NUP214</i>	1.7%/1%	Older children; rare in infants	Adverse; 65% with <i>FLT3</i> -ITD
11q23.3	<i>KMT2A (MLL)</i> translocated	25%/5-10%	Infant 50%	Prognosis dependent on the partner gene
t(9;11)(p21.3;q23.3)	<i>KMT2A-MLLT3</i>	9.5%/2%	Children	Intermediate

Chromosomal Translocations with Higher Prevalence in Pediatric AML than in Adult AML (Swerdlow et Blood 2016)

t(10;11)(p12;q23.3)	<i>KMT2A-MLLT10</i>	3.5%/1%	Children	Include subtle and cryptic <i>KMT2A</i> rearrangements/ Adverse
t(6;11)(q27;q23.3)	<i>KMT2A-MLLT4</i>	2%/<0.5%	Children	Adverse
t(1;11)(q21;q23.3)	<i>KMT2A-MLLT11</i>	1%/<0.5%	Children	Favorable
Cryptic Chromosomal Translocations				
t(5;11)(q35.3;p15.5)	<i>NUP98-NSD1</i>	7%/3% 16% of <i>FLT3</i> -ITD patients	Older children and young adults	Adverse; 80% with <i>FLT3</i> -ITD. In combination associated with induction failure
inv(16)(p13.3q24.3)	<i>CBFA2T3-GLIS2</i>	3%/0%	10% of Infants, 20% of FAB M7	Adverse
t(11;12)(p15.5;p13.5)	<i>NUP98-KDM5A</i>	3%/0%	Children <5 years 10% of FAB M7	Intermediate

AML with recurrent cytogenetic abnormalities

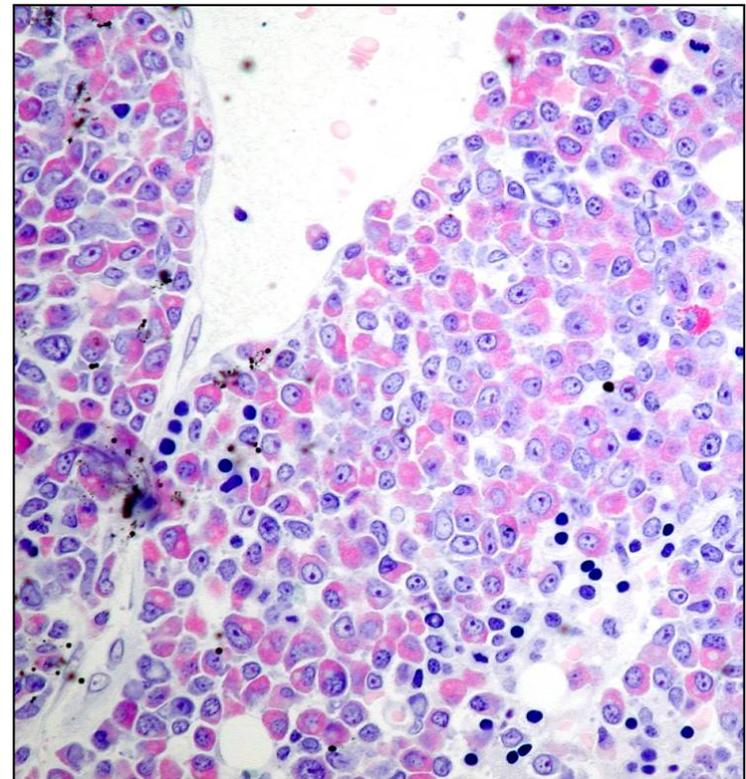
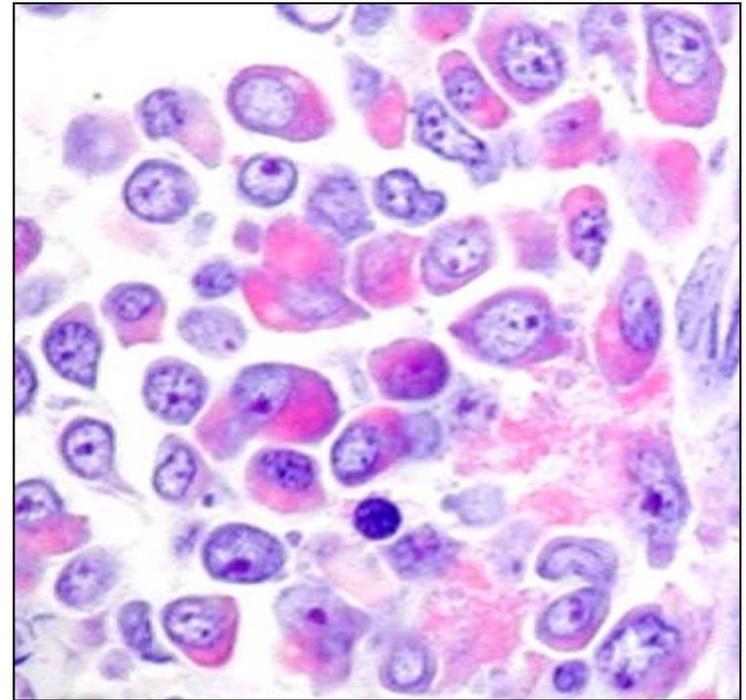
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APL PML-RARA

- Rare cases lacking classic $t(15;17)(q24.1;q21.2)$ with *PML-RARA* transcripts
 - complex cytogenetic rearrangements involving chr 15,17 and additional chr
 - submicroscopic insertion of *RARA* in *PML*

included in *APL PML-RARA* as cryptic or masked $t(15;17)(q24.1;q21.2)$

No morphological differences →



AML with recurrent cytogenetic abnormalities

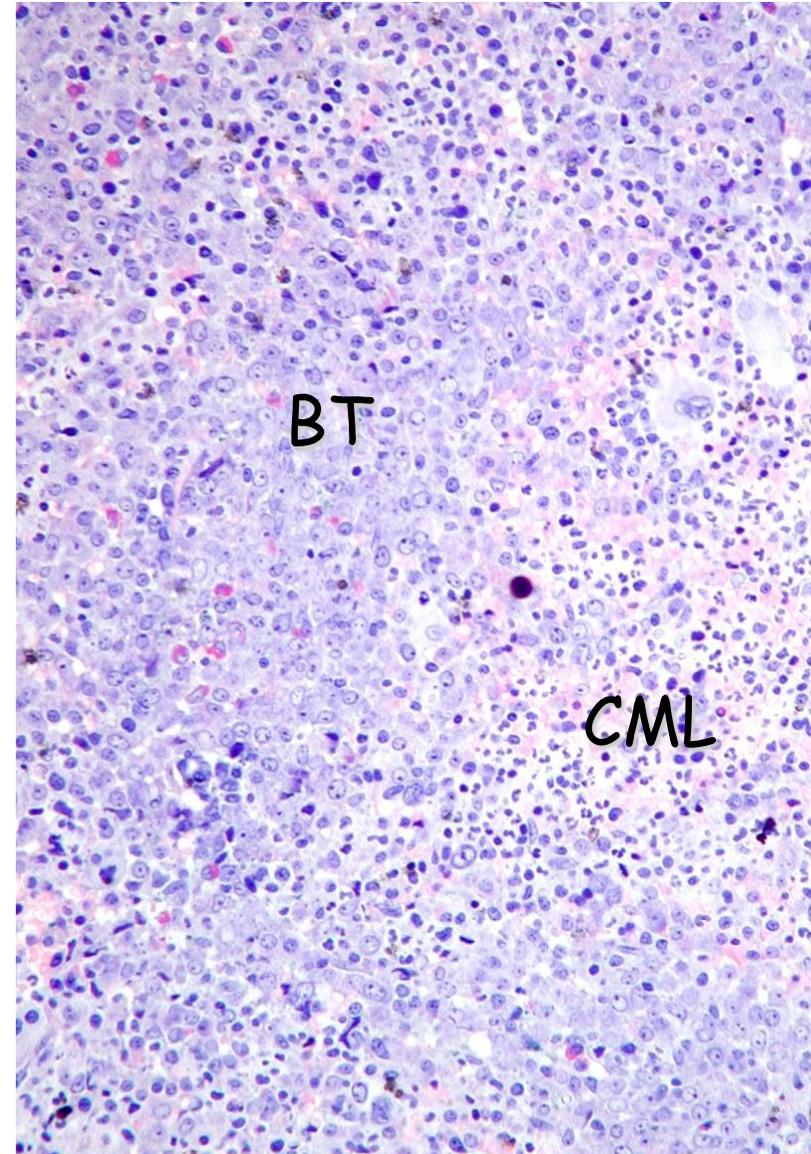
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AML with *BCR-ABL1*

- de novo AML <1% of AML
- genetic profile: t(9;22)(q34.1;q11.2) or BCR-ABL1 fusion
- no evidence before or after therapy of CML
- **excluded cases** of: mixed phenotype AL, therapy related myeloid neoplasms, AML with other recurrent abnormalities, late acquisition of BCR-ABL1 fusion in pre-existing AML
- Clinics: adults, M>F
leukocytosis with blast predominance
anaemia and thrombocytopenia
< splenomegaly and PB basophilia compared to blasts crisis of CML

AML with *BCR-ABL1*

- Difficult to distinguish from myeloid blast crisis of chronic myelogenous leukaemia
- Frequent loss of *CDKN2A* and/or *IKZF1* (*ICAROS*) (absent in *CML* blast crisis)
- Deletion of antigen receptors, particularly *IGH* and *TRG*, specific for de novo disease (reported in *B-ALL* but not in *CML* blast crisis)
- Important to recognize due to presence of targeted (TKI) therapy



AML with myelodysplasia-related changes

Diagnostic criteria:

1) $\geq 20\%$ blood or BM blasts

2) one of the following:

-history of MDS, MDS/MPN,

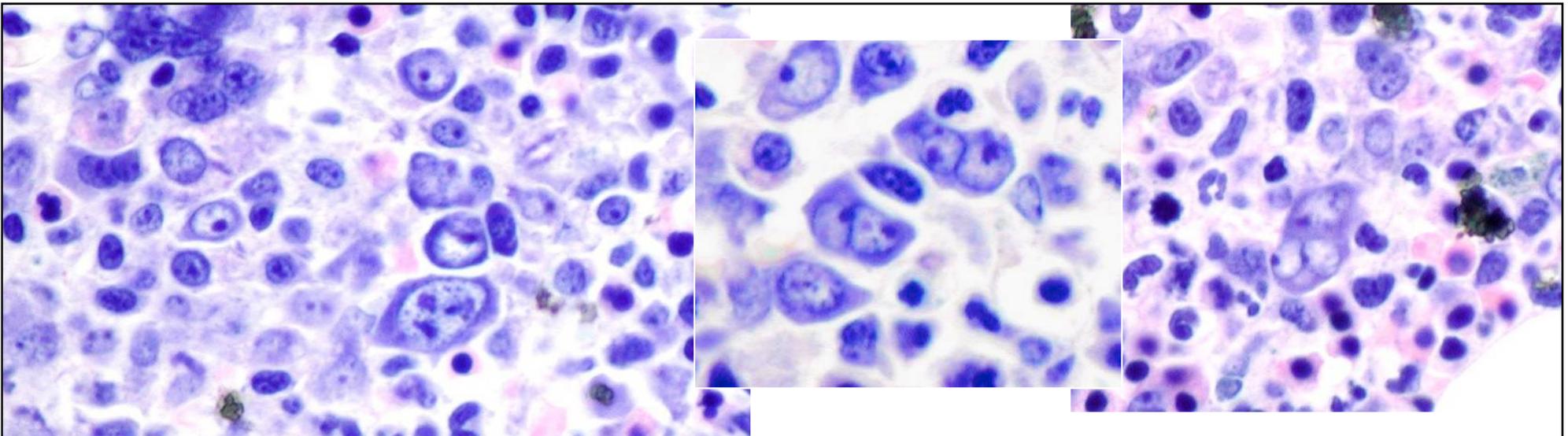
-MDS-related cytogenetic changes

-multilineage dysplasia ($\geq 50\%$ dysplastic cells in 2 or more lineages)

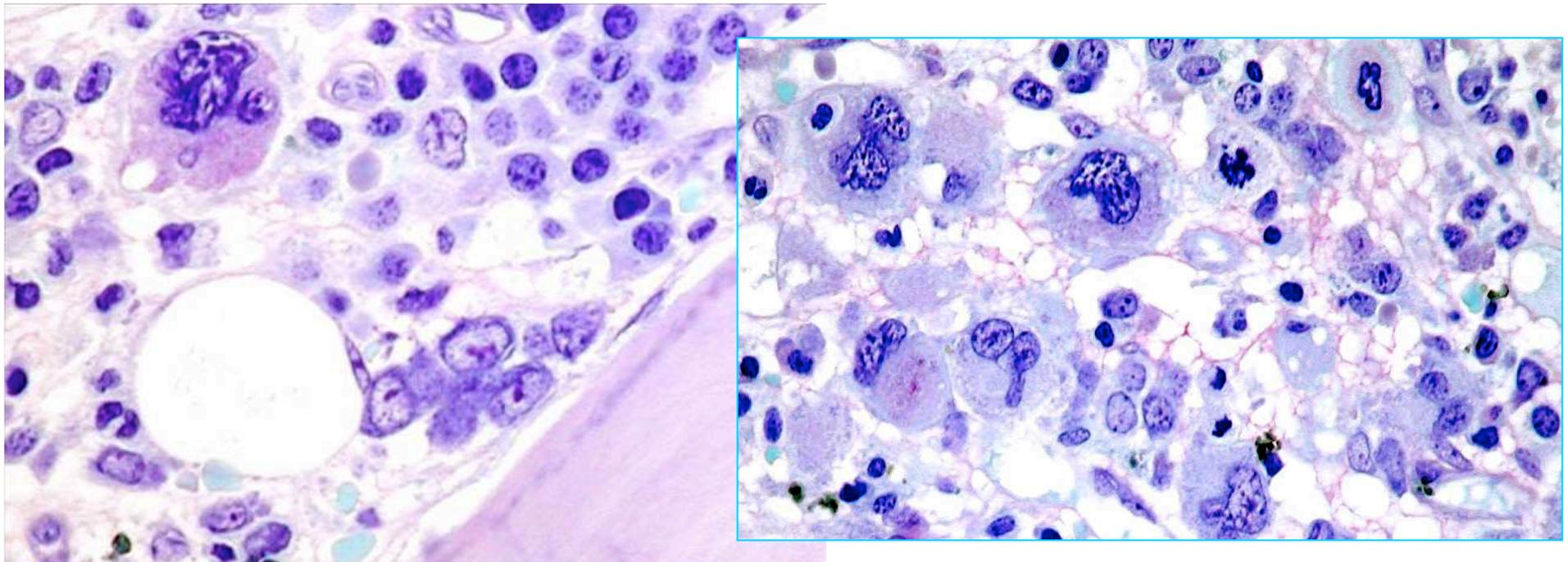
3) absence of both the following:

-prior cytotoxic or RT therapy for unrelated disease

-recurrent cytogenetic abnormalities described in AML



*multineage dysplasia
≥50% dysplastic cells in 2 or more lineages*



AML with myelodysplasia-related changes

Diagnostic criteria:

1) $\geq 20\%$ blood or BM blasts

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-history of MDS, MDS/MPN,

-MDS-related cytogenetic changes

-multilineage dysplasia ($\geq 50\%$ dysplastic cells in 2 or more lineages)

3) absence of both the following:

-prior cytotoxic or RT therapy for unrelated disease

-recurrent cytogenetic abnormalities described in AML

AML with myelodysplasia related changes

Revised criteria for AML with myelodysplasia related changes:

- Excluded cases with *NPM1* mutated or *CEBPA* biallelic mutation in absence of MDS-related cytogenetic abnormalities (no prognostic impact of multilineage dysplasia)
- MDS-related cytogenetic abnormalities: del(9q) alone in cases with *NPM1*^m and *CEBPA*^{bm}, in absence of MDS-related cytogenetic abnormalities, has no prognostic impact

MDS-related cytogenetic abnormalities

- **Complex caryotype** (≥ 3 abnormalities)
- Unbalanced abnormalities
 - loss of chr 7 or del(7q)**
 - del(5q) or t(5q)**
 - isochr. (17q) or t(17p)
 - loss of chr. 13 or del(13q)
 - del(11q)
 - del(12p)/t(12p)
 - idic(X)(q13)
- Balanced abnormalities
 - t(11;16)(q23.3;p13.3)
 - t(3;21)(q26.2;q22.1)
 - t(1;3)(p36.3;q21.2)
 - t(2;11)(p21;q23.3)
 - t(5;12)(q32;p13.2)
 - t(5;7)(q32;q11.2)
 - t(5;17)(q32;p13.2)
 - t(5;10)(q32;q21.2)
 - t(3;5)(q25.3;q35.1)

AML not otherwise specified

AML with minimal differentiation

AML without maturation

AML with maturation

Acute myelomonocytic leukemia

Acute monoblastic/monocytic leukemia

Pure erythroid leukemia

Acute megakaryoblastic leukemia

Acute basophilic leukemia

Acute panmyelosis with myelofibrosis

- Only a single change:
move erythroid/myeloid type of acute erythroid leukemia to the MDS section or other AML types

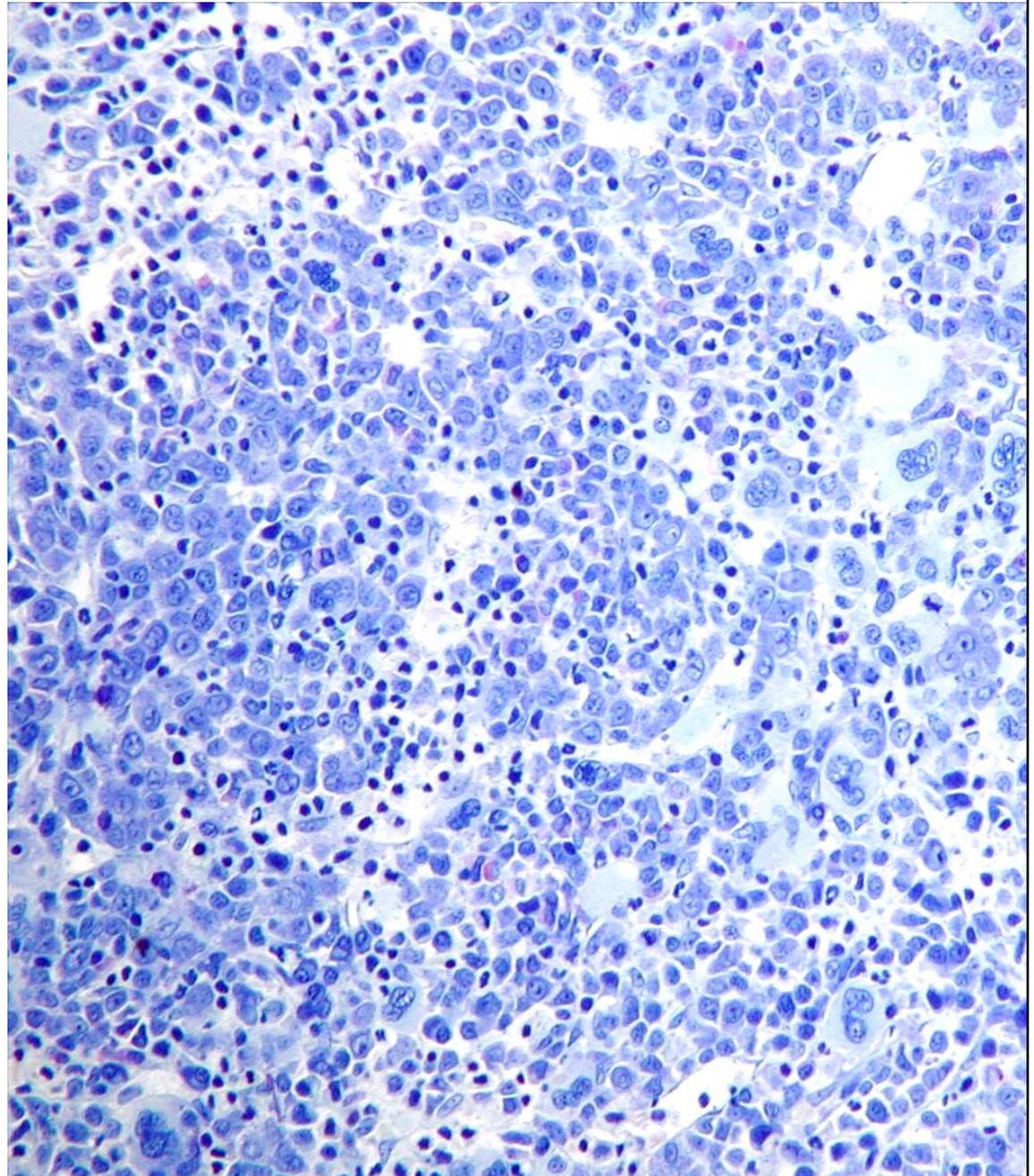
Acute erythroid leukaemia (WHO 2008)

predominant erythroid population.

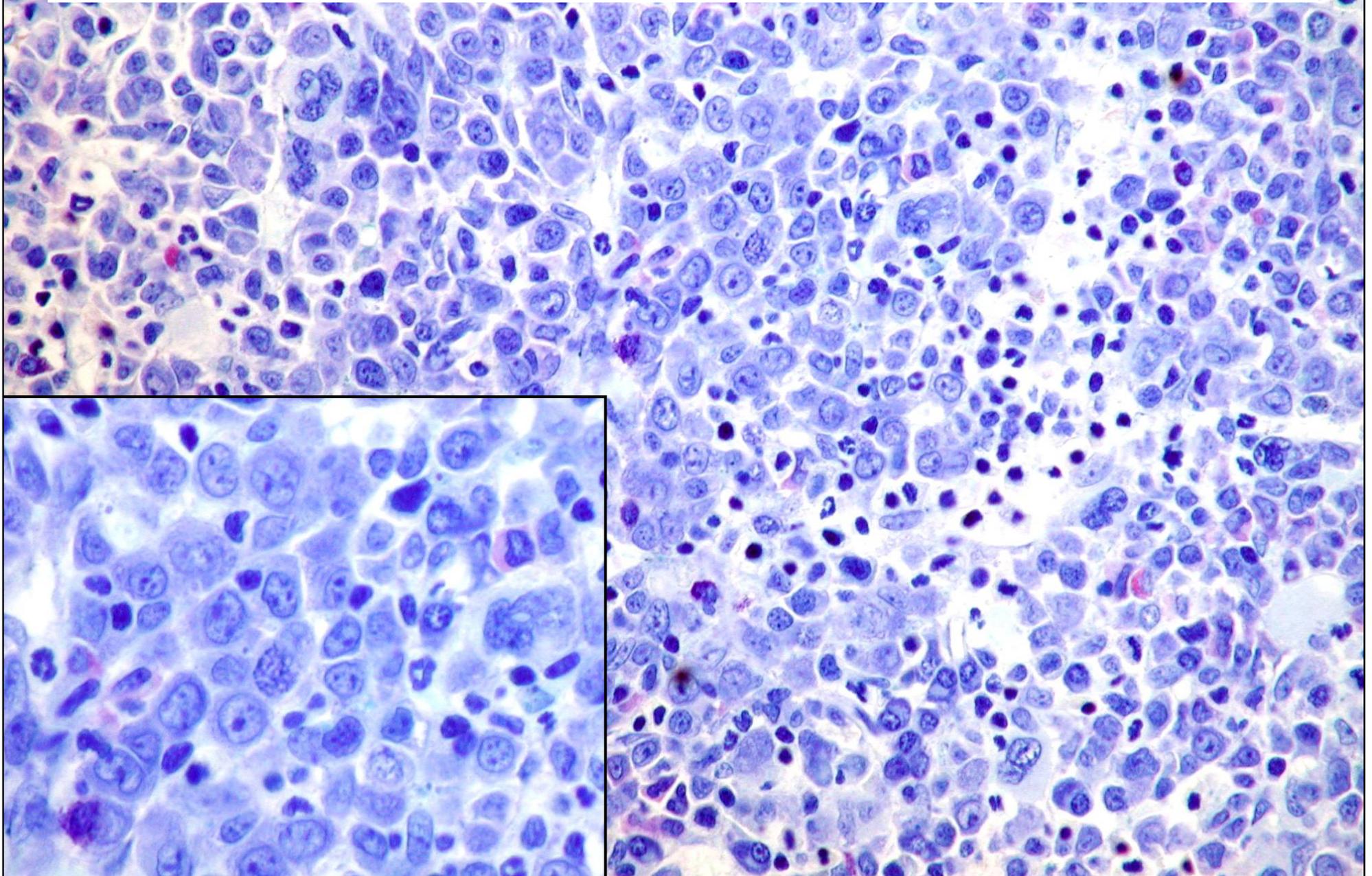
In WHO 2008 two subtypes based on the presence or absence of a myeloid component:

M6a: erythroleukaemia (erythroid/myeloid type)

M6b: pure erythroid leukemia



M6b: pure erythroid leukemia ≥ 80 of erythroid precursors in the entire nucleated cell population



AML-M6a erythroleukaemia (erythroid/myeloid type)

50% or more erythroid precursors in the entire nucleated cell population
+
20% or more myeloblasts in the non-erythroid cell population (the myeloblasts are calculated as a % of the non-erythroid BM cells)

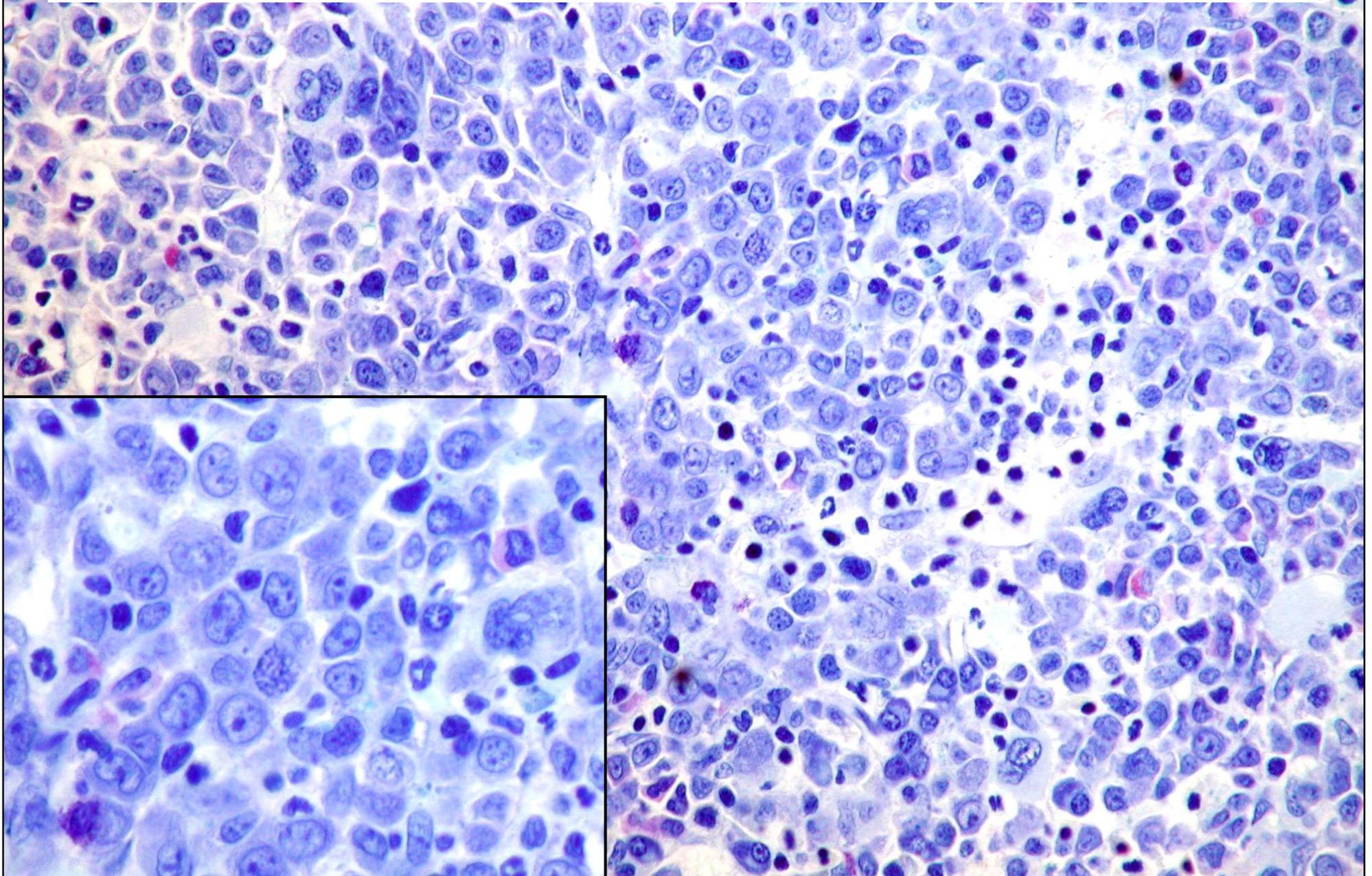
Glycoforin-C

MPO

Pure erythroid leukemia (Who 2017)

- "AML committed exclusively to the erythroid lineage (>80% of the bone marrow cells are erythroid with > 30% proerythroblasts) without significant myeloblastic component"
- Myeloblasts are counted as % total cells and M6a were moved to:
 - other AML categories , if $\geq 20\%$ (often AML-MRC)
 - MDS, if blasts $\leq 20\%$

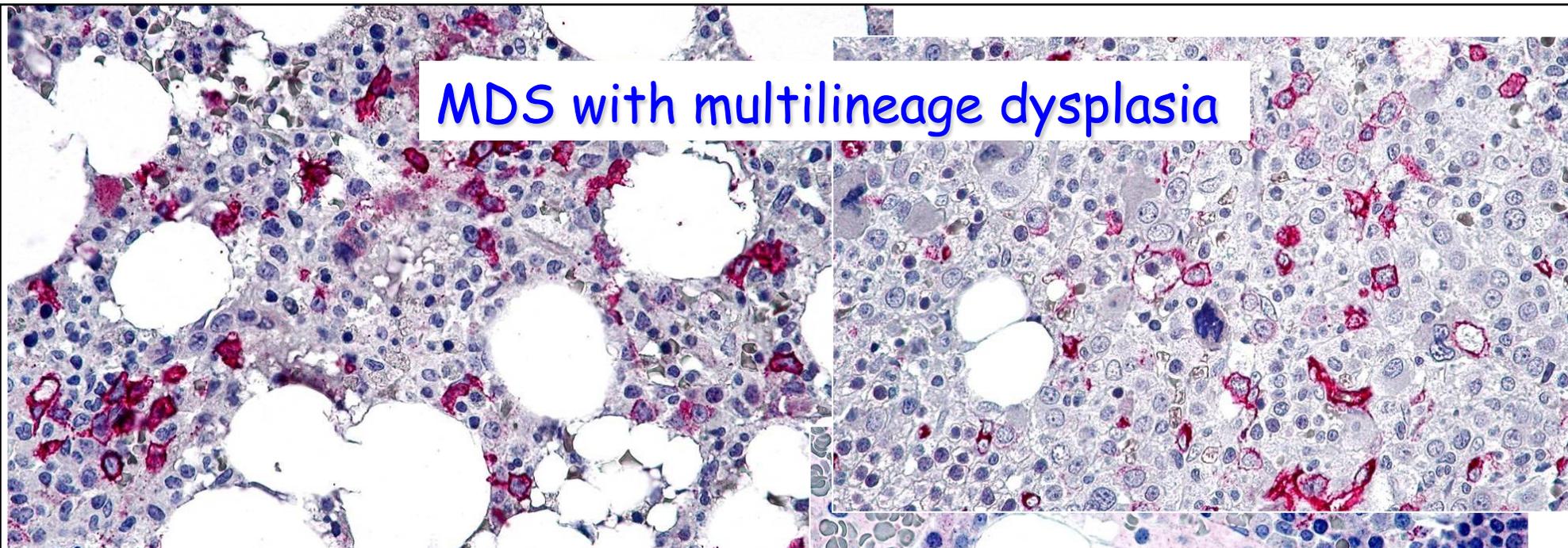
M6b: pure erythroid leukemia ≥ 80 of erythroid precursors in the entire nucleated cell population



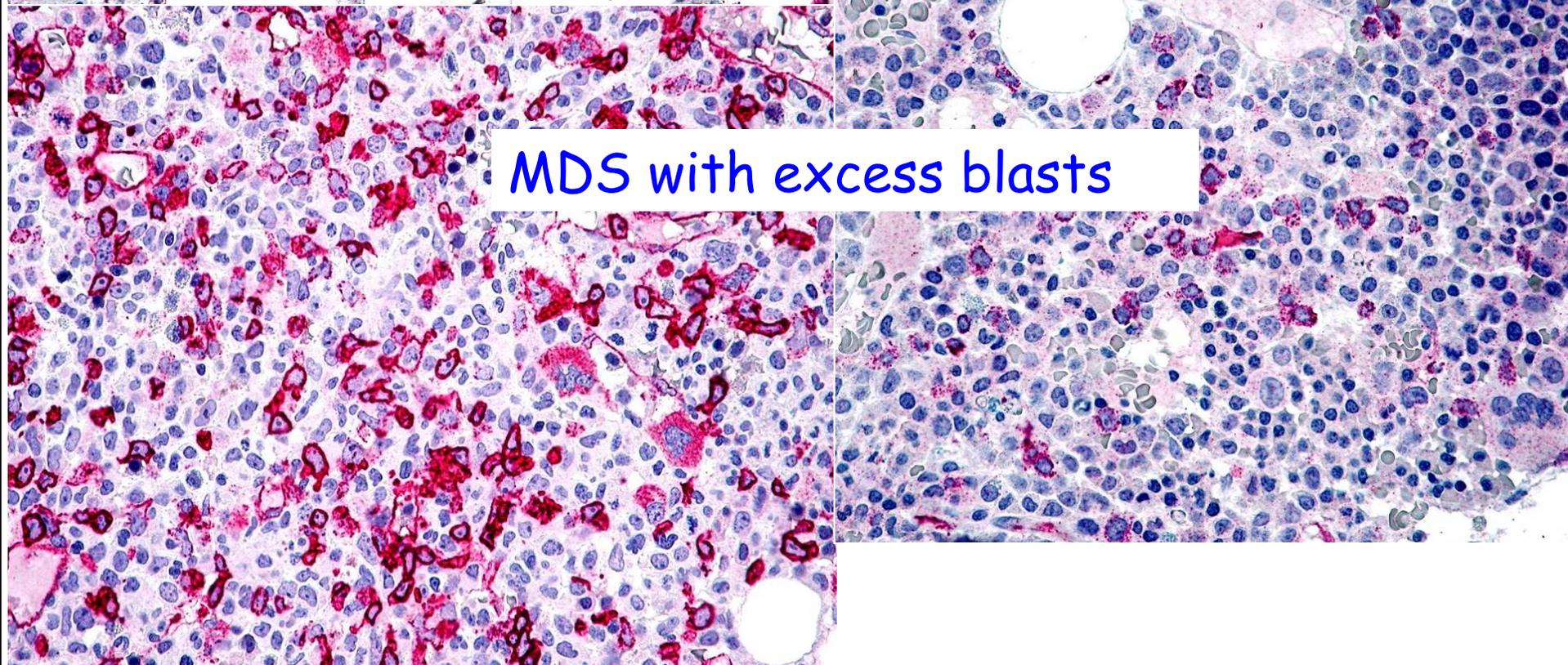
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MDS with multilineage dysplasia



MDS with excess blasts



Summary

- New cytogenetic subgroups
 - many rare balanced transl. and inv. recognized
 - AML with *BCR-ABL1*
 - Refine APL with *PML-RARA fusion*
- New and revised mutation subgroups
- Revised criteria AML-MRC
 - MLD in the setting of specific mutation
 - MDS-related cytogenetic abnormalities revised
- AML-NOS: erythroid/myeloid type removed

