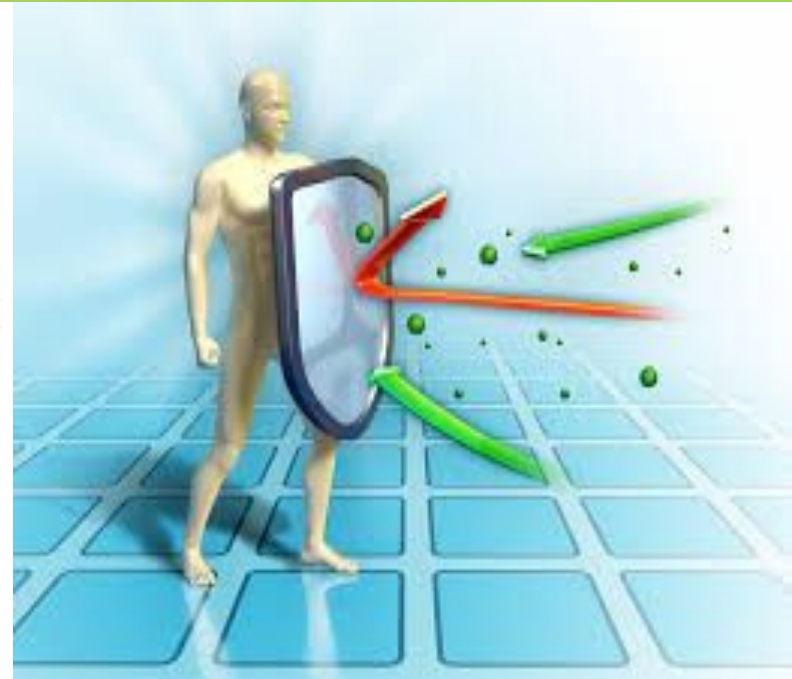


# INFECTION IN THE IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST



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-Lecture-3 •

# Overview

**Recognizing common atypical presentations of various infections and their complications (Everything is possible!!!)**

**In the immunocompromised patient, infection can be particularly challenging because symptoms are sometime quite subtle and atypical & sooner will be complicated. Prompt & aggressive treatment should be initiated as soon as possible without waiting the isolation of possible pathogens. Prophylactic measures are essential in many cases .to avoid institution of the infection**

# Infections in the Immunocompromised Host

## INTRODUCTION

- An immunocompromised host is a patient who does not have the ability to respond normally to an infection due to an impaired or weakened immune system. This inability to fight infection can be caused by a number of conditions including illness (cancer and its treatment) and disease (Diabetes, HIV), malnutrition, and drugs.



## Infections in Immunocompromised Patients:

- Infections usually chronic, severe and recurrent
- Partially responsive
- Organisms are often unusual (**opportunistic** or unusual)

**Opportunistic organism:** usually low virulence but become invasive in immunodeficient states e.g. atypical mycobacteria, Pneumocystis Jiroveci, staphylococcus epidermis

# Components of immune system

## Two types of immunity

**Innate immunity(natural):-** ( already present in **-1** the body, not antigen-specific)

**Anatomical barriers**

**Mechanical**

**Biochemical**

**Non-specific (e.g. Gastric acidity, natural killer • cells,etc )**

**Adaptive-2**

**immunity(antigen-specific):Acquired**

**Pre-existing clones programmed to make a specific immune response (humeral/cellular)**



# The immune system

## Pathogens: Intimate Enemies



Viruses



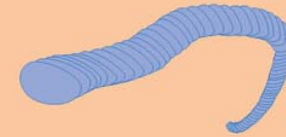
Bacteria



Fungi



Protozoa



Parasitic worms



Prions

## How Your Body Defends Itself

### The Skin

- Break in skin must be penetrated.

### Body Secretions

- Sweat and oil glands kill or repel invaders.
- Secretions such as
  - wax (ears)
  - tears (eyes)
  - mucus (nose)include enzymes that destroy invaders at body entrances.
- Body temperature (fever) kills invaders.

### Mucous Membranes

- They trap and engulf invaders.
- Cilia function to sweep invaders toward body openings.
- Enzymes prevent or slow reproduction of invaders.

### Enzymes and Compounds in Blood

- They kill invader by
  - causing it to burst
  - destroying its cell membrane
  - preventing/slowing reproductive cycle

### Immune System

- It provides antigen/antibody response (humoral immunity).
- It triggers white blood cell action (cell-mediated immunity).
- It attempts to repel, destroy, or wall off foreign substances or invaders.

### Interferon and Natural Substances

- When virus invades, a protein is produced that protects “healthy” cells.
- *Properdin* is a large protein that destroys gram-negative bacterial forms.
- *Polypeptides* have the same action as properdin.
- *Lysozyme* is a substance that kills bacteria.

# PHAGOCYTES

They include neutrophils, monocytes and macrophages, and are crucial for defense against bacterial and fungal infections. •

Phagocytes express a wide range of surface receptors that allow them to identify microorganisms' -reactive protein (CRP), antibodies and complement bind both to the pathogen and to phagocyte receptors, acting as a bridge between the two and facilitating phagocytosis. If there is defect in phagocytosis , the patient more susceptible to infection **with**

***Staphylococcus aureus*** •

***Pseudomonas aeruginosa***

**Atypical mycobacteria**

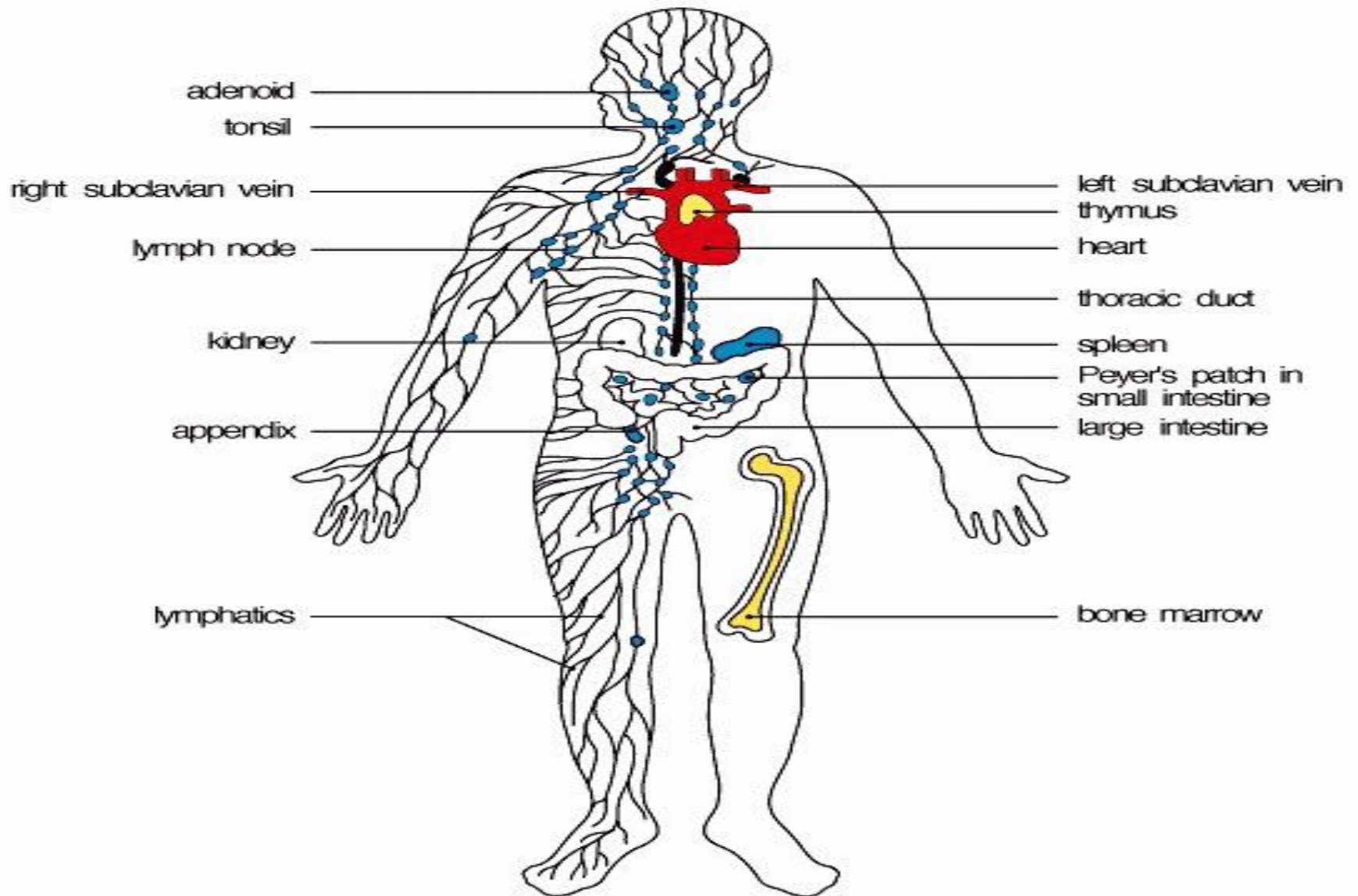
***Neisseria meningitidis*** •

***Neisseria gonorrhoeae***

***Haemophilus influenzae***

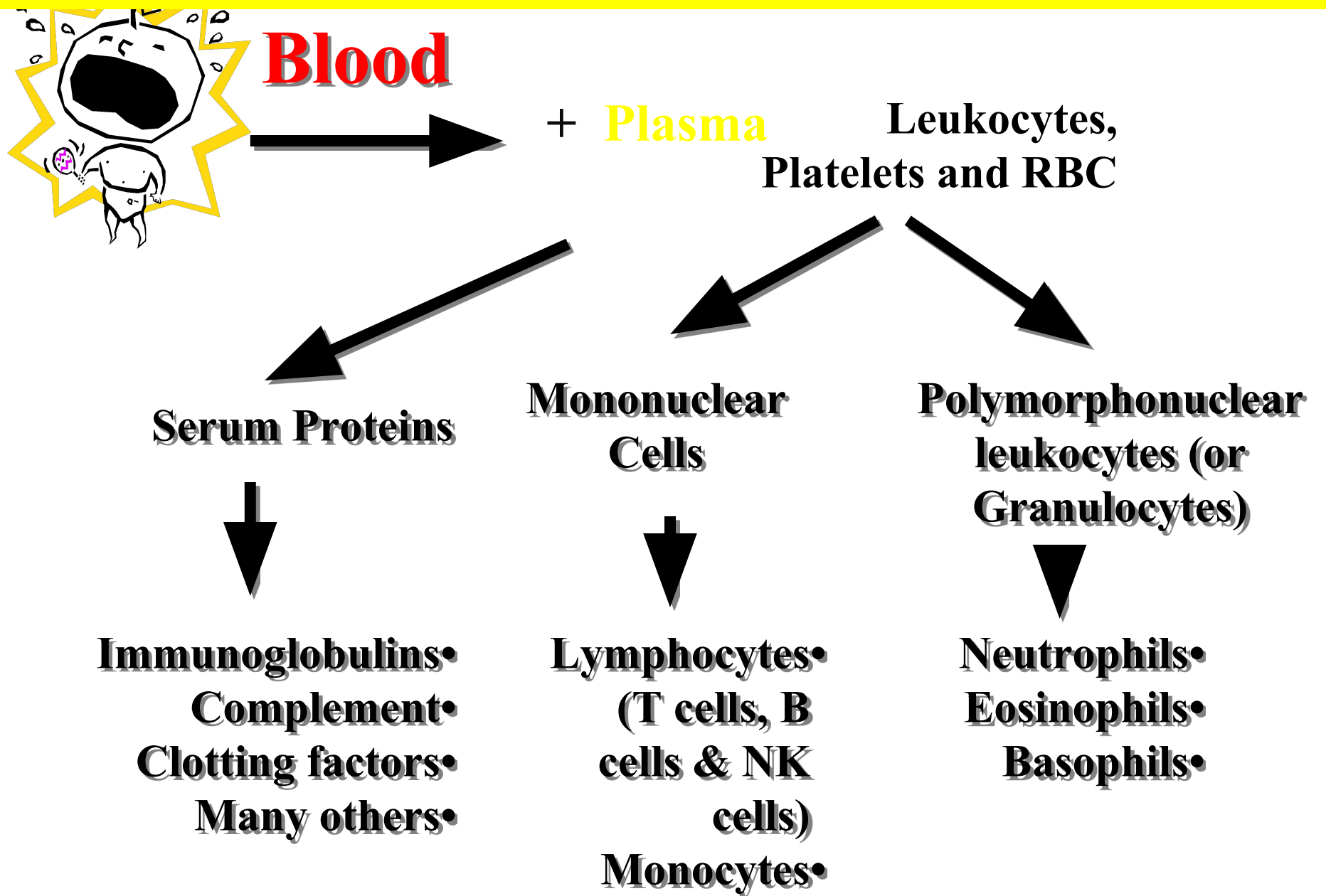
***Streptococcus pneumoniae***

# Distribution of Lymphoid Tissues





# The role of blood in the immune system



# IMMUNODEFICIENCIES

## Definition

**Defects in any of the components of the immune system (congenital or acquired) can compromise host protection and lead to increased susceptibility for infections. patients with immune deficiencies also are prone to develop certain types of malignancies**

“There is no better way to thank God for your sight than by giving a helping hand to someone in the dark.” Helen Keller



# **WARNING SIGNS OF IMMUNE DEFICIENCY**

**respiratory tract infections/year in a child, 8 •  
or > 4 respiratory tract infections/year in an  
adult**

**infection requiring hospital admission or 1 < •  
intravenous antibiotics**

**Infections with unusual organisms •**

**Infections at unusual sites •**

**Chronic infection unresponsive to usual •  
treatment**

**Early end-organ damage (e.g. •  
bronchiectasis)**

**Family history of immune deficiency •**

# WHO Classification of immunodeficiency

## Primary Immunodeficiency-1

Inherited or genetics

Selective IgA deficiency\*

Disorders

Common variable\*

.immunodeficiency

X-linked agammaglobulinemia •

\* Immunodeficiency with normal serum globulins or

.hyperimmunoglobulinemia

Immunodeficiency with \* •  
thymoma

Chronic granulomatous disease •

## Secondary Immunodeficiency-2 •

Acquired •

Disorders •

:for example •

Corticosteroid therapy •

.Immunosuppressive drugs

Splenoectomy

Leukaemia •

.Diabetes mellitus •

Radiation(radiotherapy) •

AIDS •



# **Rare inherited immunodeficiency states**

**Di George syndrome, associated with T cell •  
defects ( CMV, mycobacteria)**

**Hypogammaglobulinaemia: B cell defects ( •  
pyogenic infections)**

**Phagocyte disorders: Chronic granulomatous •  
disorder (Staph aureus, fungal infections)**

**Complement deficiency states (encapsulated •  
bacteria)**

# Immunodeficiencies and Chronic or Recurrent Infections

Organism	Immune Defect
<b>Encapsulated organisms:</b> <i>S.pneumoniae, H. influenza</i>	<b>Hypogammaglobulinemia</b> <b>neutropenia</b> <b>Complement deficiency</b> <b>Asplenia</b> <b>T-cell deficiency</b>
<b>Fungal infections</b> <b>Herpes zoster virus</b> <i>Pneumocystis pneumonia</i> <b>Mycobacterial infections even with atypical mycobacterium</b>	<b>T-cell deficiency</b>
<i>Neisseria</i> (N. meningidis)infections	<b>Asplenia</b> <b>Complement deficiencies</b>

# The spleen

The spleen is the largest of the secondary •  
.lymphoid organs

Note: Primary lymphoid tissue are bone marrow & •  
thymus, while secondary lymphoid tissue are  
.lymph nodes , payer patches & the spleen

:It is highly effective at filtering the blood •

Important site of phagocytosis of -1  
bacteria(particularly important for defense against  
encapsulated bacteria, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*  
. and *H. influenzae* infection

It is also a major site of antibody synthesis -2 •

# Splenectomy/hyposplenism

**:Auto splenectomy •**

**Sickle cell disease •**

**Splenic infarction •**

**Graft versus host disease(GVHD) •**

**Splenic irradiation •**

**Surgical removal:indicated in the following  
-:conditions**

**Traumatic injuries •**

**ITP(immune thrombocytopenic purpura) •**

**.Congenital spherocytosis •**

**.Mylefibrosis •**

# **Management of the splenectomised patient**

**Vaccination against Pneumococci, Haemophilus-1 • influenza, meningococci, influenza virus should be started 2 weeks prior to elective splenectomy or as soon as possible following urgent splenectomy (mostly traumatic )**

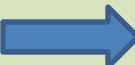
**Life-long antibiotic prophylactic either -2 • penicillin V 500mg twice daily or erythromycin if .the patient allergic to penicillin**



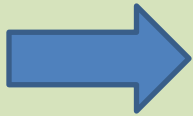
# *Opportunistic Infection*

*an infection by a microorganism that normally does not cause disease but pathogenic when the body's immune system is impaired and unable to fight off infection*

*Prolonged Neutropenia*  *disseminated Candidiasis*

*Common Variable Immunodeficiency*  *recurrent .bacterial infections*

*cortico-steroid use*  *disseminated Herpes zoster & .activation of latent tuberculosis*

*HIV/AIDS, Bone marrow/Solid organ transplants*  *CMV*

# Some examples of opportunistic pathogens

***Legionella pneumophila* (pneumonia)**

***Candida albicans*(disseminated) ○**

***Listeria monocytogenes* (meningitis) ○**

***Atypical myco.tuberculosis* (pneumonia, ○  
disseminated.)**

***Pneumocystis jirovecii* (pneumonia) ○**

***Crypto. neoformans* (meningitis) ○**

***Aspergillus fumigatus* (pneumonia. ○  
Disseminated.)**

***Toxoplasma gondii* (pneumonia. ○  
Encephalitis)**

# Febrile Neutropenia

## Definition •

A single oral temp  $\geq 38.3$  ° C •  
(F ° 101)

*or*

A temperature of  $\geq 38$  ° C •  
on **two occasions** (F 100.4)  
separated by 1 hour

# Definition of Neutropenia

**Normal ANC 1500 to 8000 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>**

**Severe Neutropenia : Absolute Neutrophilic Count (ANC  $\leq$  500/ mm<sup>3</sup> or**

**mm<sup>3</sup> and predicted decline to  $\leq$  500/ mm<sup>3</sup> /1000  $\geq$  .over the next 48hours**

**?HOW WOULD YOU CALCULATE ANC**

**Total number of WBC) x (% of Neutrophils) = ANC  
If WBC count 7000/ mm<sup>3</sup> & percentage of neutrophils is 60%**

**m<sup>3</sup>**

# **Clinical presentations of infections in neutropenic patient**

**Febrile neutropenia: fever greater than  $.38^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 hours or longer**

**There may be rigors, drop in blood pressure, septic shock**

**Herpes: mouth ulceration which may be complicated by bacteraemia by oral bacteria**

***Candida* sepsis; *Aspergillus* lung infiltrates**



# Febrile neutropenia

## Investigations

### **Complete Blood Count (with Differential) •**

**White cells, haemoglobin, platelets-**

### **Biochemistry •**

**Electrolytes, urea, creatinine, Liver function-**

### **Microbiology •**

**Blood cultures (peripheral and all central line lumens)-**

**Oral ulcers or sores –send swabs ( Viral Culture and-fungal culture )**

**Wound swabs-**

**Urine Cultures-**

**Stool Cultures and C . Difficile Toxin/PCR-**

### **Radiology •**

**Chest X ray +/- CT abdomen/pelvis-**

# Management of High Risk Patients on Admission

**:High risk patients require**

**IV fluids –**

**Regular pulse and BP monitoring –**

**Regular medical review –**

**Specialist Oncology/Heamatology review within –  
.24 hours of admission**

**prompt antibiotic therapy (Antibiotic therapy should •  
be given WITHIN 4 hours of the patient entering the  
hospital)**

**G-CSF ( granulocyte colony stimulating factor) has •  
no role in the acute management of uncomplicated  
neutropenic fever**

# **THREE approaches for IV EMPIRIC therapy**

**IV MONO THERAPY: one of the following**

**Ceftazidime (superior for ever)**

**Meropenem (Carbapenem)**

**Piperacillin**

**Tazobactam**

**IV DUAL THERAPY: aminoglycoside**

**plus one of the monotherapy drugs**

**COMBINATION THERAPY •**

**Mono or dual therapy + VANCOMYCIN**

What is the

**Opportunistic Infection**

1





2



3



4



Thank  
You

123BRF

Thank  
You

Thank  
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Thank  
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