

# WHAT IS MDS?

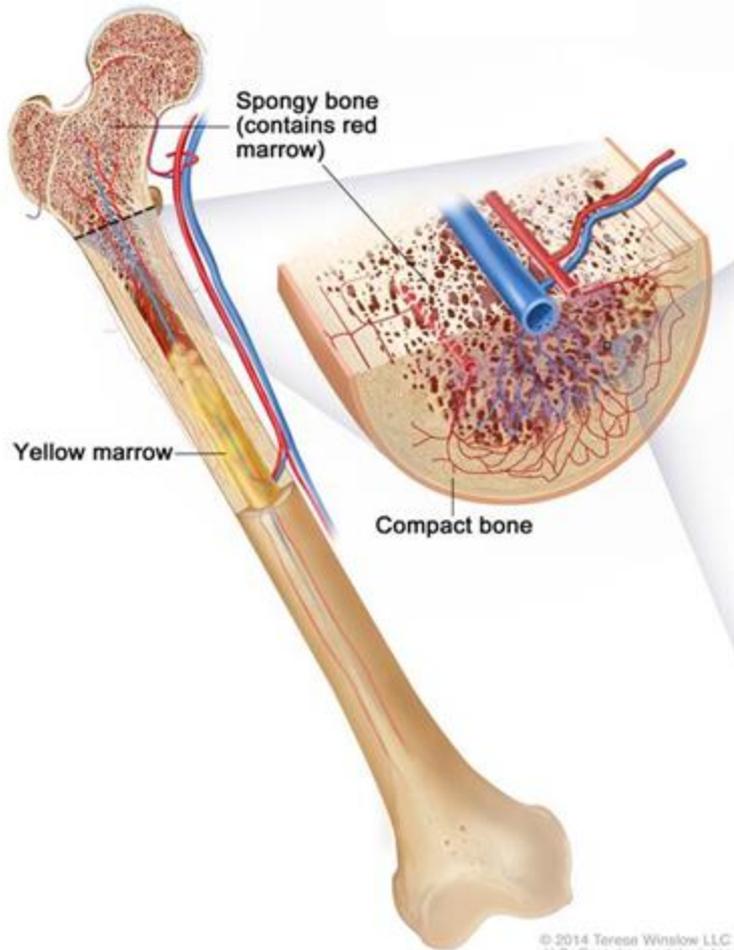
Kimo Bachiashvili MD

Associate Professor

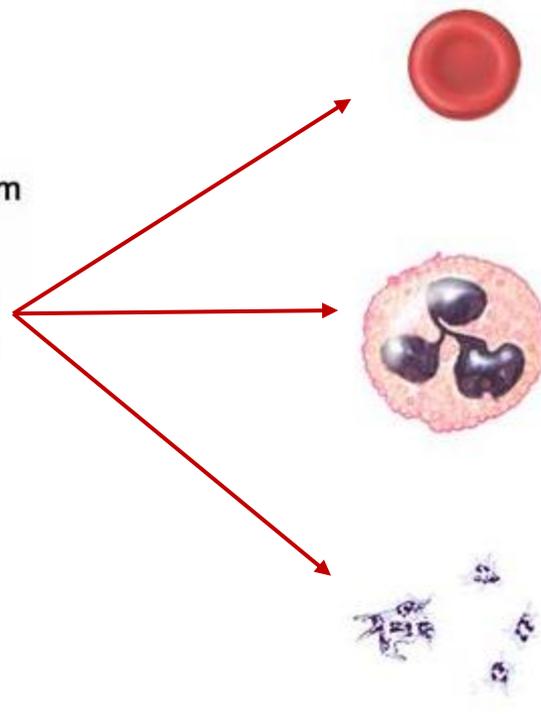
Division of Hematology and Oncology

O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UAB

# BLOOD AND ITS PRODUCTION



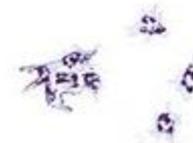
Blood stem cell



**Red cells**  
Carry oxygen

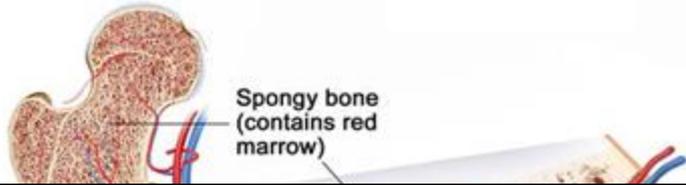


**White cells**  
Fight with infection



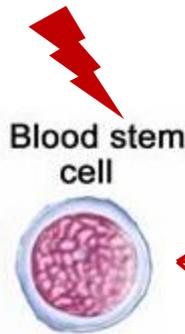
**Platelets**  
Help stopping bleeding

# WHAT IS MDS?



- Most often we don't know what caused mutations
- Sometimes mutations are caused by chemotherapy or other chemicals
- Very rarely people are born with mutations that cause MDS

DNA damage



Red cells  
Carry oxygen



White cells  
Fight with infection

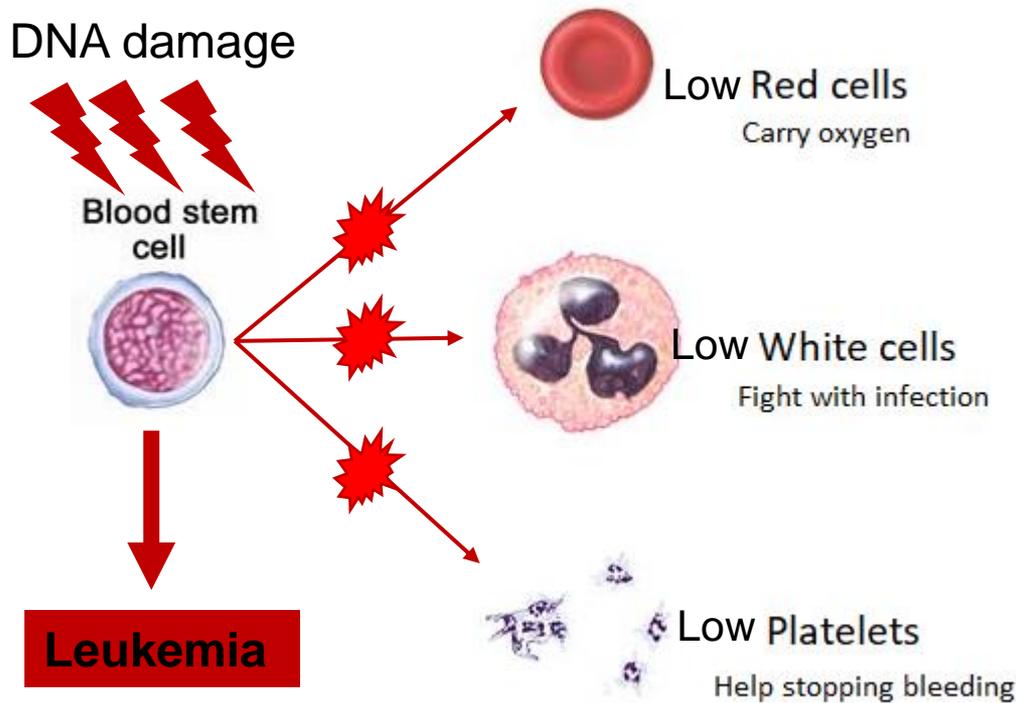


Platelets  
Help stopping bleeding



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# LOW BLOOD COUNTS

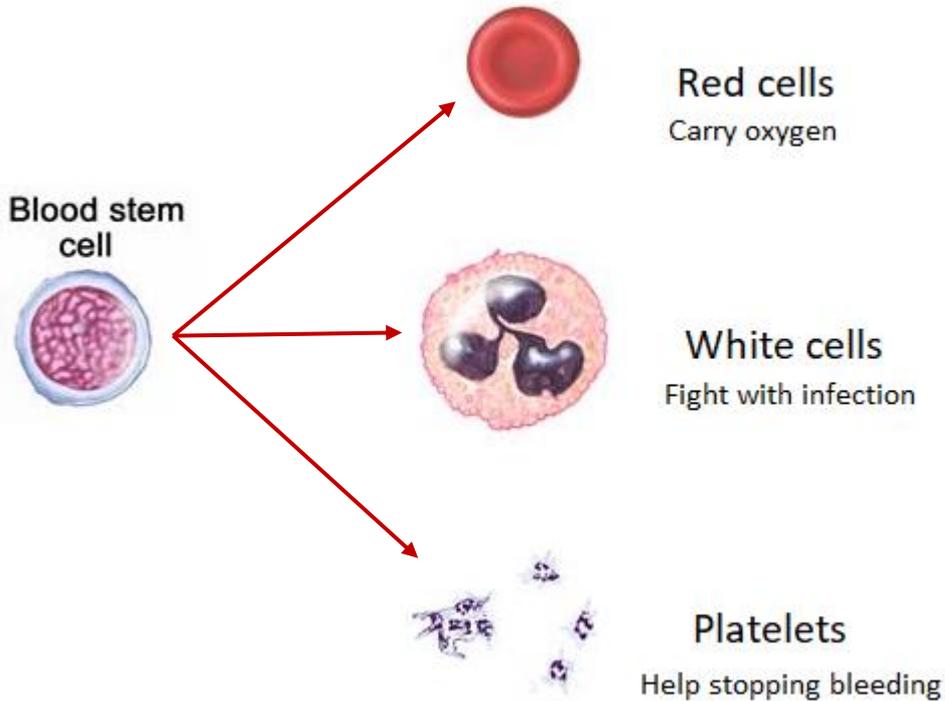


**Anemia:** Tiredness, dizziness, shortness of breath and chest pain

**Neutropenia:** predisposition to infections

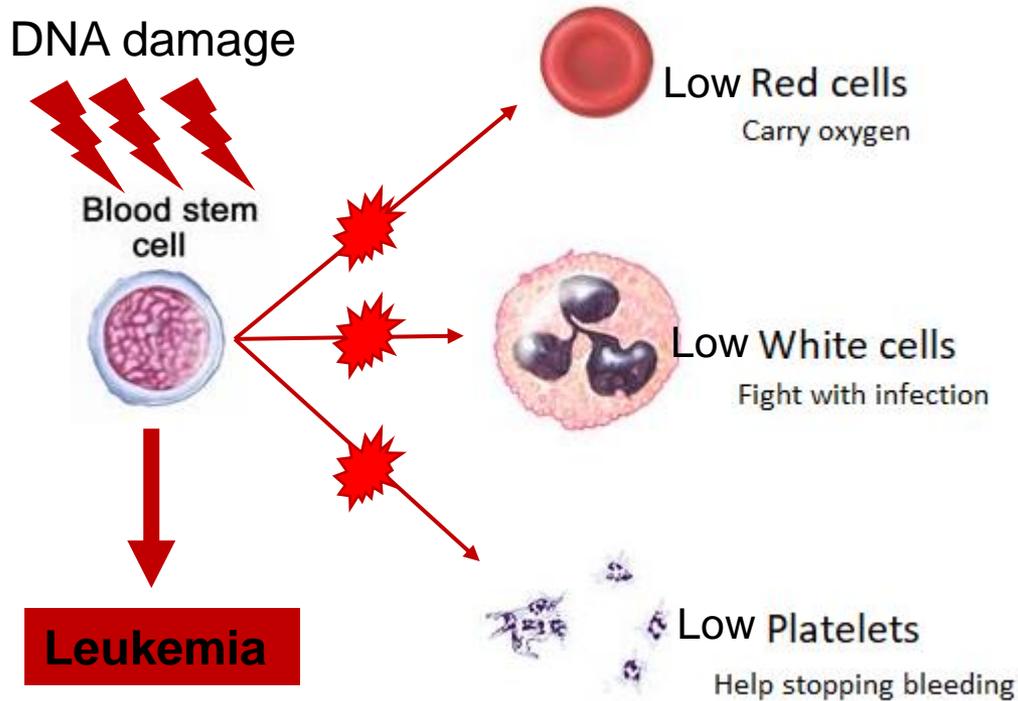
**Thrombocytopenia:** predisposition to easy bruising and bleeding

# HOW WE DIAGNOSE MDS



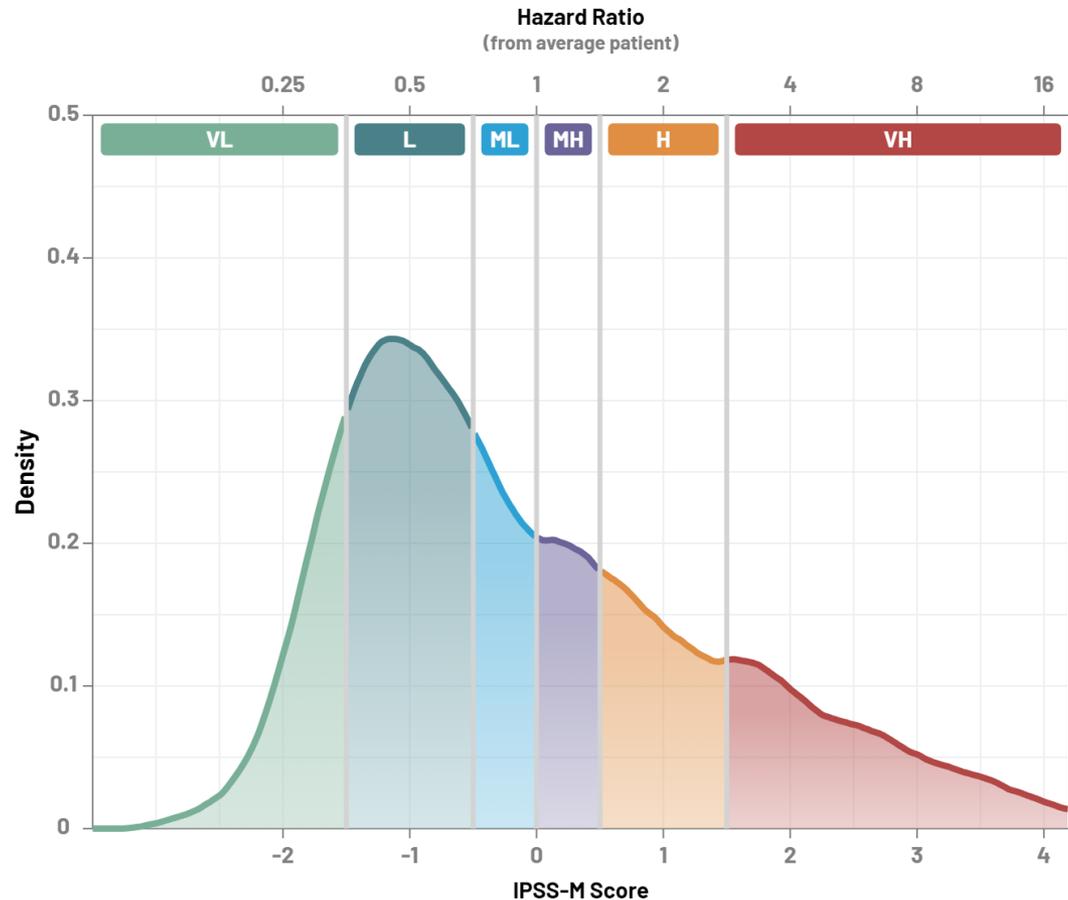
- Low blood cell counts
  1. Rule out other causes of low counts
  2. Blood tests and Bone marrow biopsy to look for any of below:
    - Abnormal cells in the marrow
      - dysplastic cells
      - sideroblasts
      - leukemia
    - cells(blasts) <20%
  - Genetic mutations

# ESTIMATING RISKS



# ESTIMATING RISK: IPSS-M

- IPSS-M needs following information
  - Number of blasts in the marrow
  - Types of mutations in the marrow cells
  - Blood count

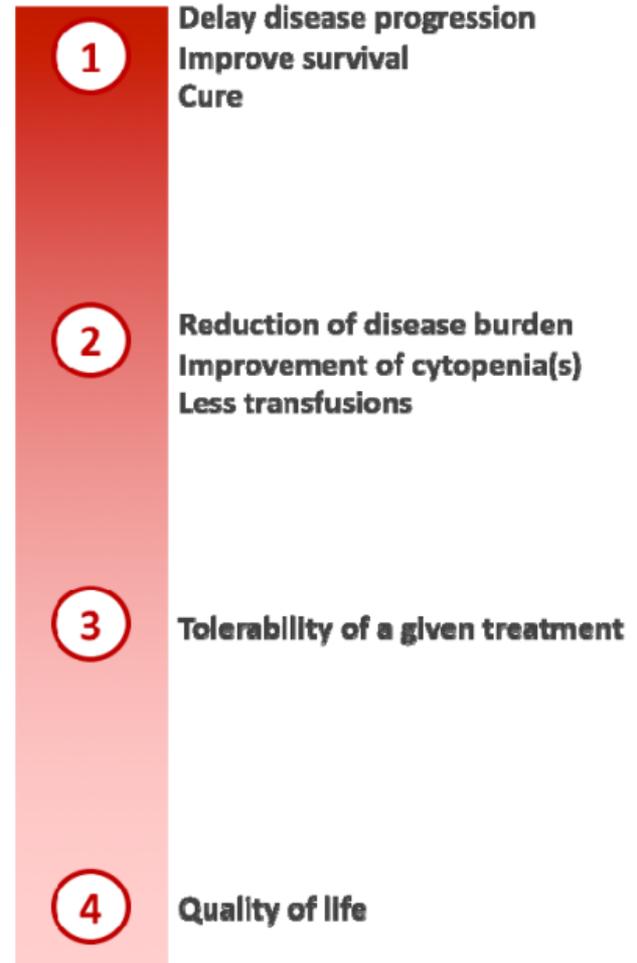


# PRIORITIES

## Priorities in low-risk MDS



## Priorities in high-risk MDS



# HOW TO READ CBC RESULTS



Red cells

Carry oxygen



Platelets

Help stopping bleeding



White cells

Fight with infection

*In the context of MDS, we usually pay attention to neutrophils reported as:*

- ANC
- Absolute neutrophils
- # neutrophils

## CBC AUTOMATED DIFF

### CBC

WBC	*	0.5	4.5-11.0	Th/cmm
RBC	*	3.15	4.30-5.90	Mil/cmm
HGB	*	10.1	13.9-16.3	g/dL
HCT	*	29.0	39-55	%
MCV		92	80-100	fL
RDW	*	16.2	11.5-14.5	%
MCH		32.1	25-35	pg
MCHC		34.8	31-37	g/dL
PLT	*	45	140-440	Th/cmm

### DIFFERENTIAL

METHOD		MAN		
% NEUT	*	15	40-76	%
% LYMPH	*	84	24-44	%
% EOS		1	0-5	%
# NEUT	*	0.1	1.73-7.13	Th/cmm
# LYMPH	*	0.4	1.15-4.75	Th/cmm
# EOS	*	0.0	0.05-0.43	Th/cmm

THANK YOU