

# Case 3

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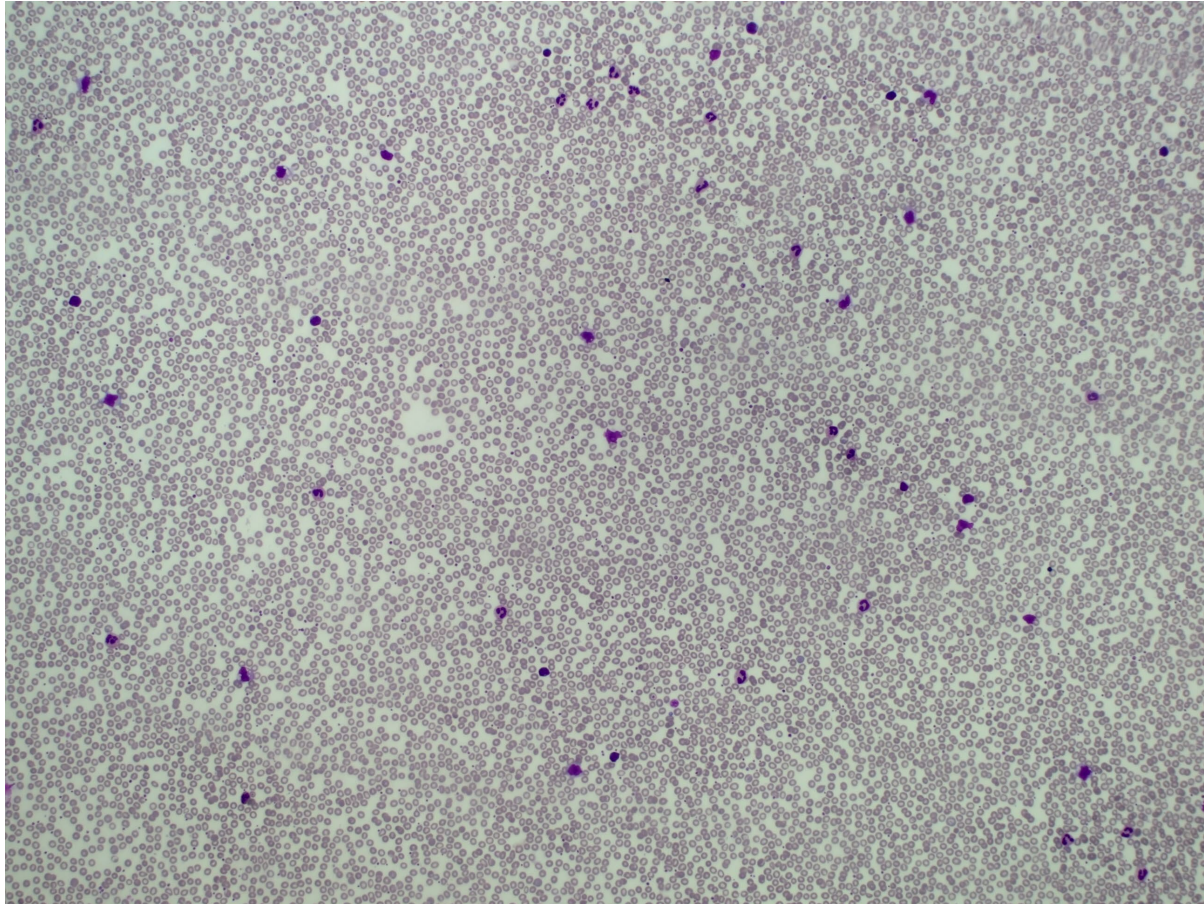
**Presented by Dr James Wilson  
Consultant Haematologist  
Harrogate and District Foundation  
Trust**

## Case 3

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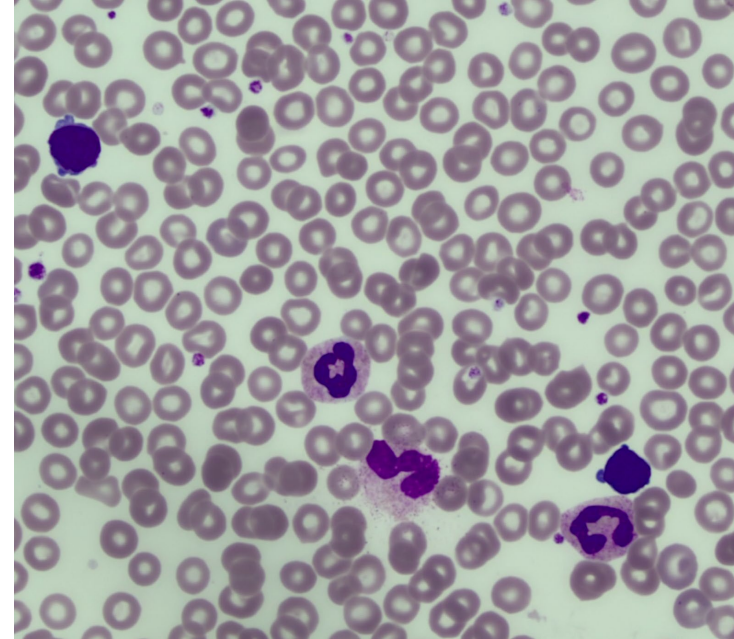
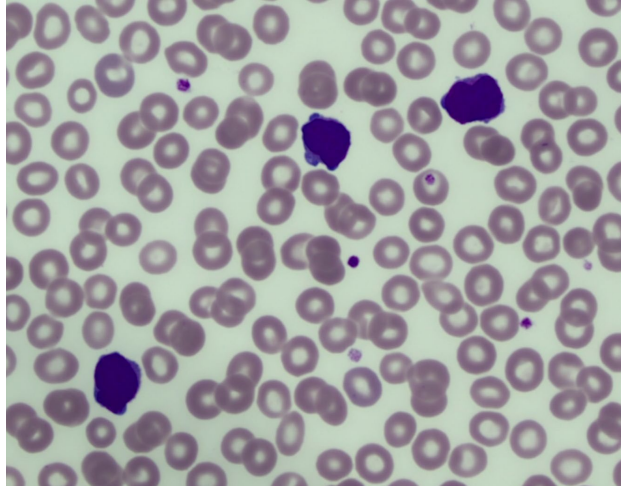
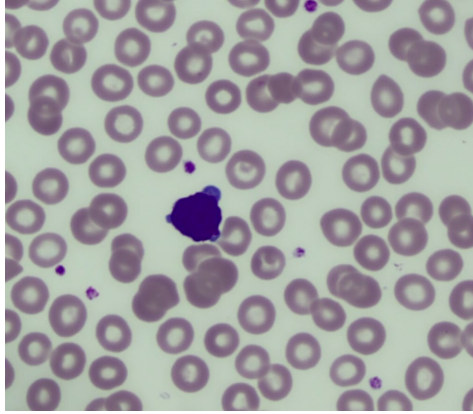
- 56 year old male presented to his GP with severe fatigue and night sweats
- PMH: Normally F+W
- FBC: Hb 110, PLT 100, WBC 20
- Slido code BSH2025

# Blood Film x 10



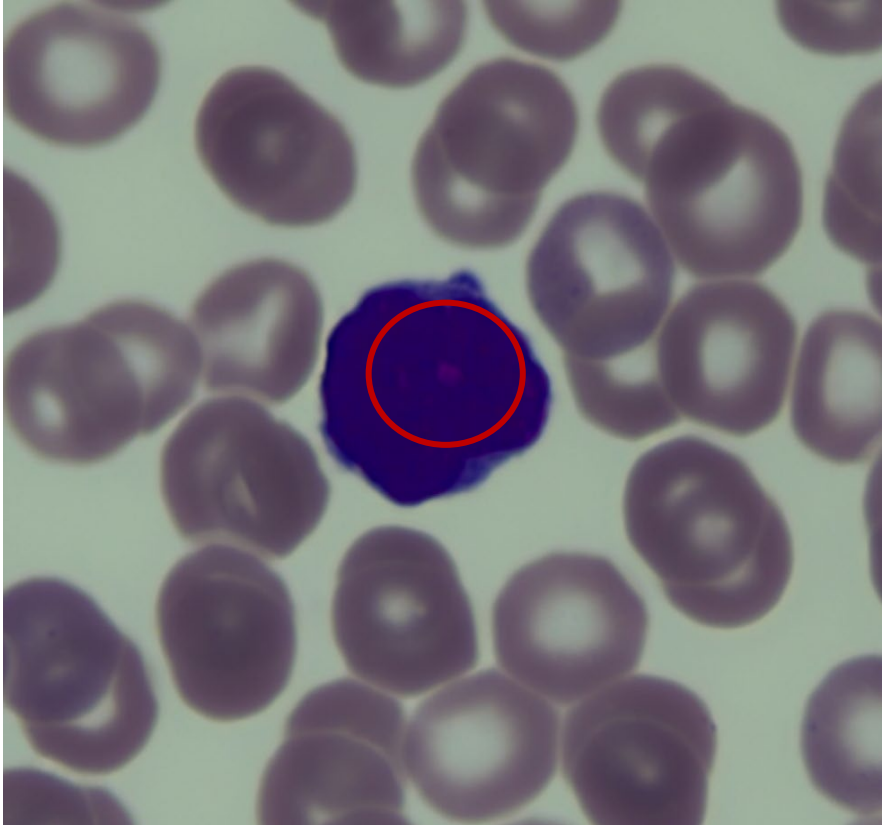
# Blood Film x 50

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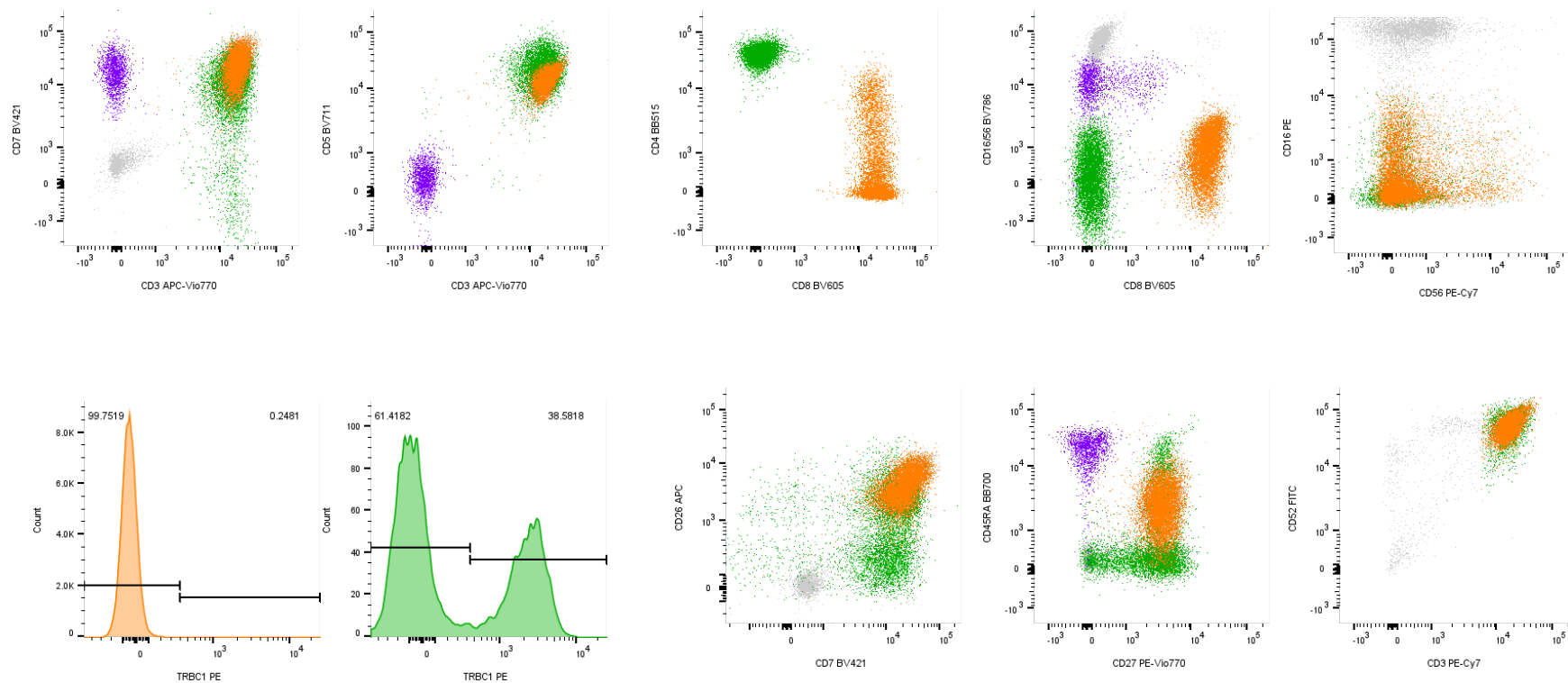
# Blood Film x 100



- Lymphocytes
- Very small (similar to a RBC)
- Indistinct central nucleolus
- Basophilic cytoplasm
- Multiple small blebs
- No smear cells

# PB Flow Cytometry

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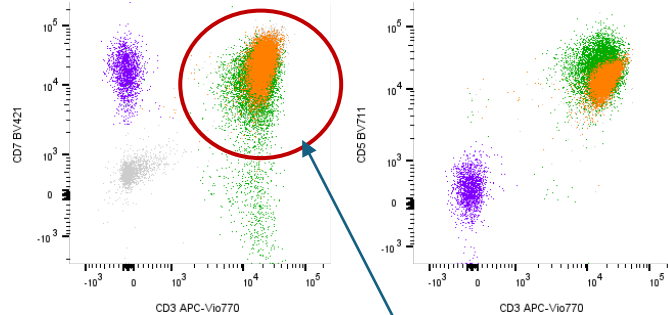
Courtesy of Richard Leach, HMDS

# What do people think?

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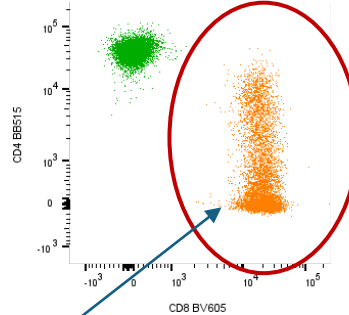
- a) Acute T-cell Leukaemia/Lymphoma
- b) T-cell Prolymphocytic Leukaemia
- c) Sezary syndrome
- d) Large Granular Lymphocytic Leukaemia



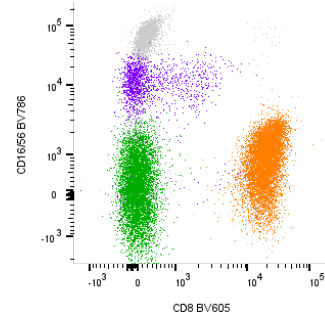


**Strong CD7  
expression**

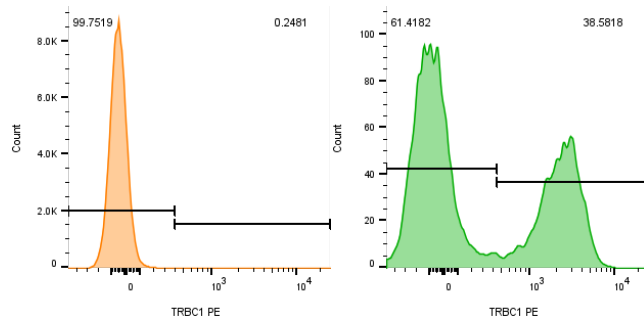
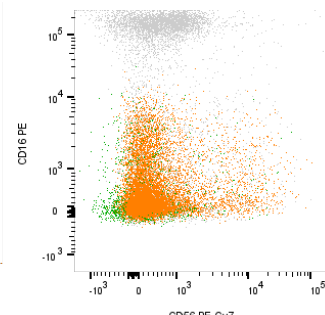
**Double positive  
CD4 / CD8**



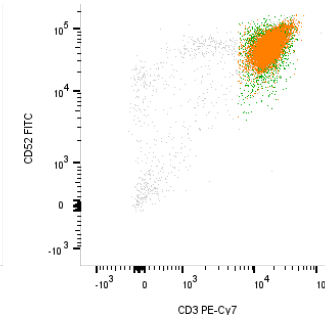
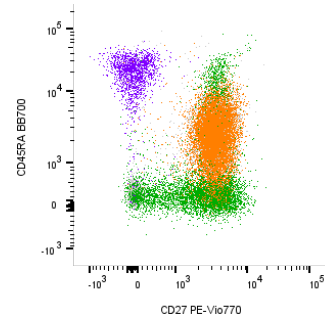
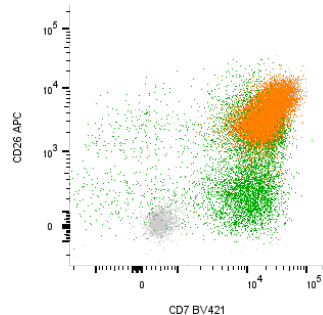
T-cells are divided into CD4+ and CD8+ subsets. The CD8+ T-cells show some weak CD4 expression



CD16 and CD56 are used to identify NK cells (purple) and any potential NK-T cell populations.



TRBC1 expression is assessed on both the CD4+ and CD8+ T-cell subsets. CD8+ T-cells show TRBC1 restriction indicating a clonal expansion.



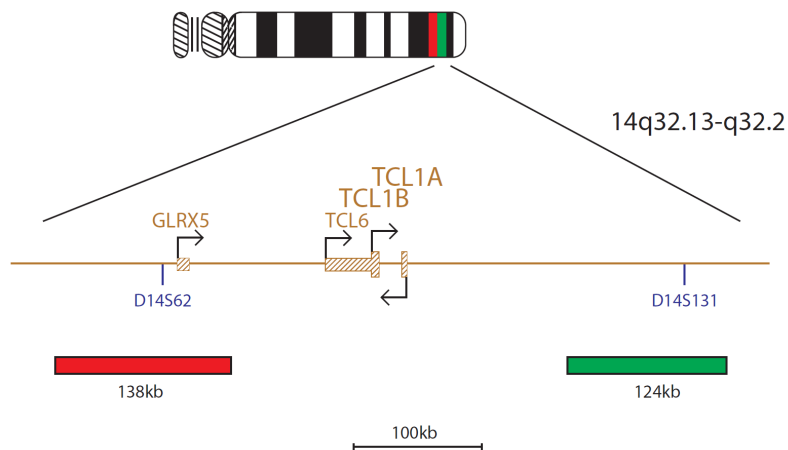
All T-cells show strong CD52 expression. CD52 is the target for campath.

Flow results:

Neoplastic T-cells =  $8.9 \times 10^9/L$ , phenotype CD3+CD4+(wk)CD8+ CD2+CD5+CD7+ CD16+(wk)CD56-CD57- TCRab+gd-TRBC1- CD52+CD25-HLADR-CD45RA+(wk)CD26+CD27+ CD1a-CD10-CD30-.

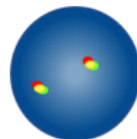
Normal CD3+ T-cells =  $0.41 \times 10^9/L$  (low), predominantly CD4+ helper T-cells =  $0.36 \times 10^9/L$  (low). NK-cells =  $0.089 \times 10^9/L$  (low).

# Further tests – TCL1 FISH



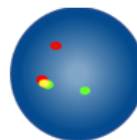
## Expected Results

### Expected Normal Signal Pattern

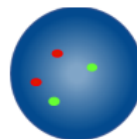


In a normal cell, two red/green fusion signals are expected (2F).

### Expected Abnormal Signal Patterns

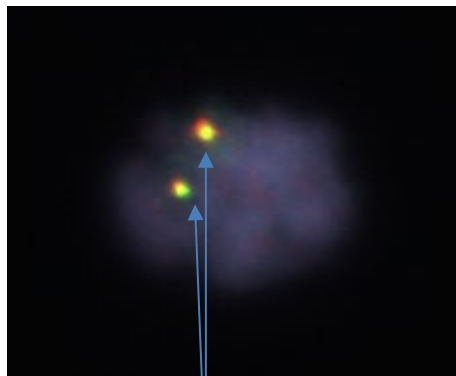


In a cell with monoallelic TCL1 translocation or inversion, the expected signal pattern will be one red, one green and one fusion (1R, 1G, 1F).

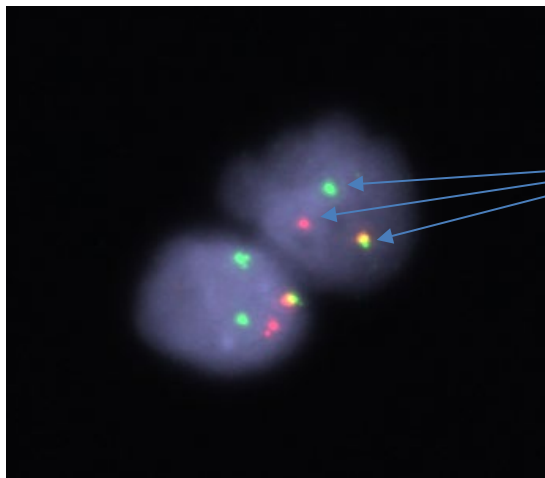


In the event of a biallelic translocation the expected signal pattern will be no fusion, but two red and two green signals (2R, 2G).

# Further tests – TCL1 FISH



2 fusion (yellow) signals  
= normal pattern



1 red, 1 green, 1 fusion  
= monoallelic TCL1  
rearrangement

Images courtesy of Amy Foster, HMDS



# Further Tests – T-cell Clonality

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T-cell clonality = TCR gamma<sup>clonal</sup>

# What do people think now?

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- a) Acute T-cell Leukaemia/Lymphoma
- b) T-cell Prolymphocytic Leukaemia
- c) Sezary syndrome
- d) Large Granular Lymphocytic Leukaemia



# Diagnosis

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## Diagnostic criteria for T-PLL

### Major criteria

$\geq 5 \times 10^9/L$  cells of with a T-PLL phenotype in the peripheral blood or bone marrow

Evidence of T-cell clonality

Abnormalities of 14q32 or Xq28 or expression of TCL1A, TCL1B or MTCP1

### Minor criteria

Abnormalities involving the chromosome 11 (11q22.3; ATM)

Abnormalities in chromosome 8: idic (8)(p11), t(8:8), trisomy 8q

Abnormalities in chromosome 5, del12p, 13, 22 or a complex karyotype

Involvement of a T-PLL specific site (splenomegaly, effusions, skin and CNS)

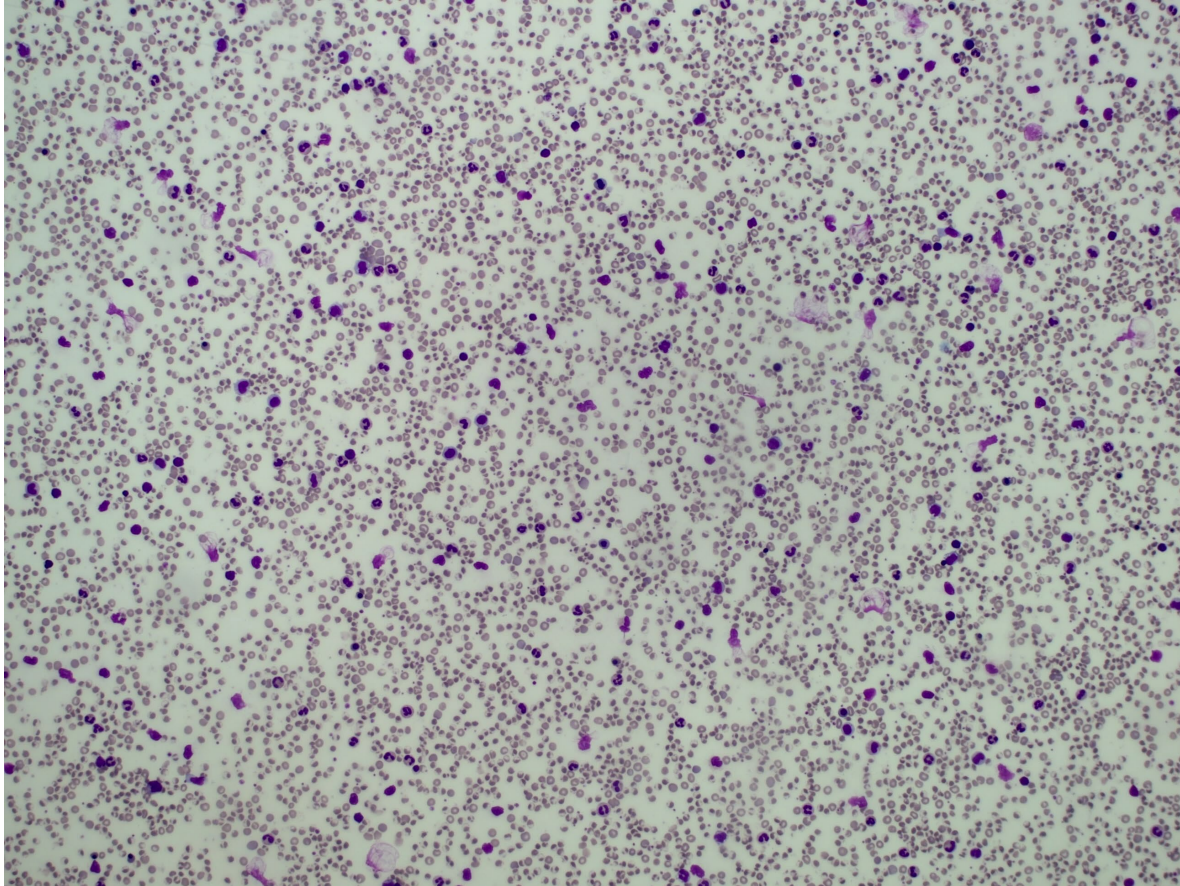




# Treatment

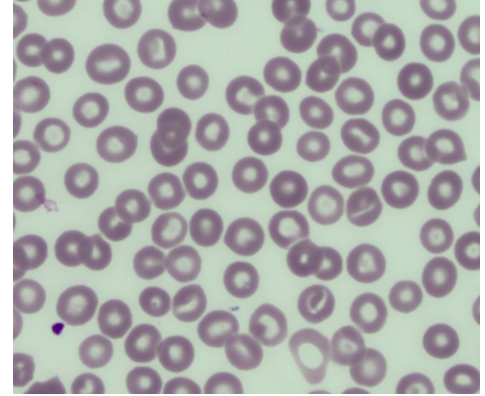
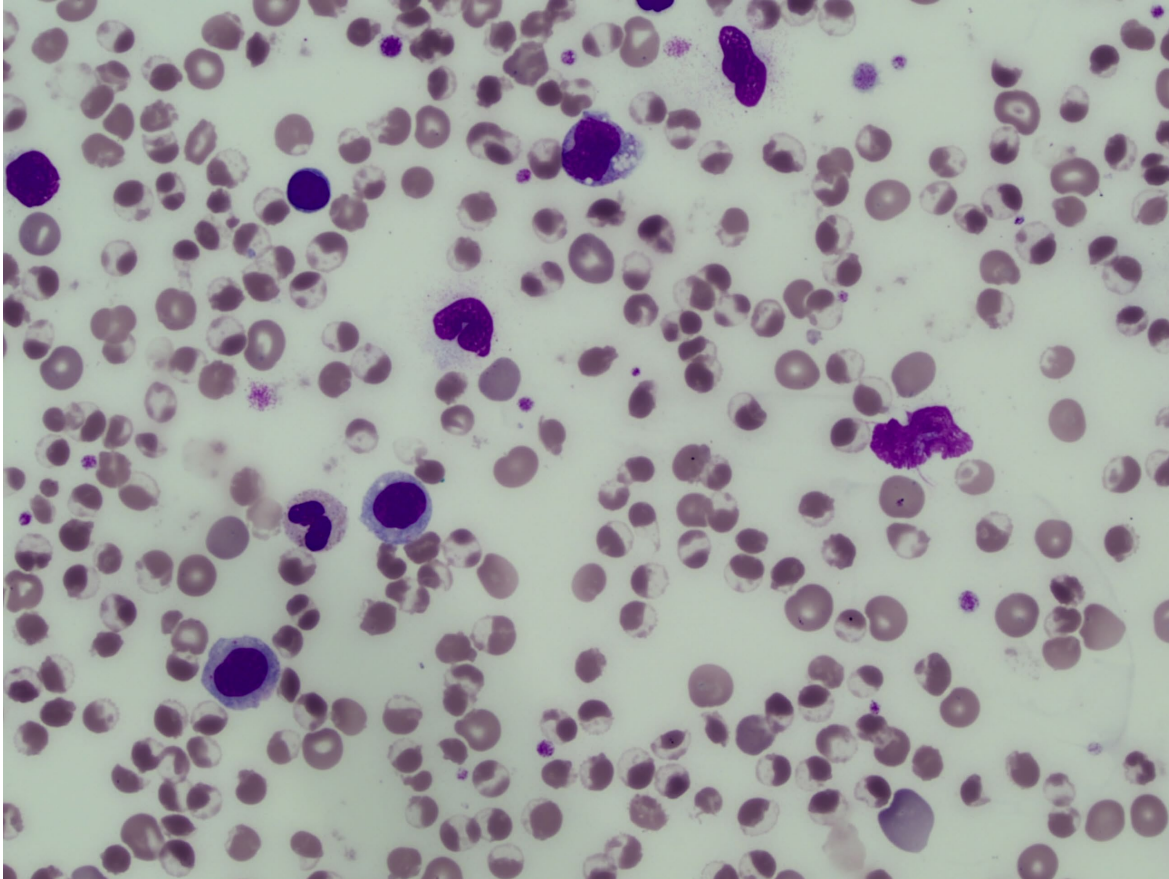
- Started treatment with IV Alemtuzumab.
- Plan to consolidate first remission with ALLO transplant.

## 3 days later... Blood Film x 10



Something has  
certainly changed...

## 3 days later... Blood Film x 50



Dramatic red cell  
changes...

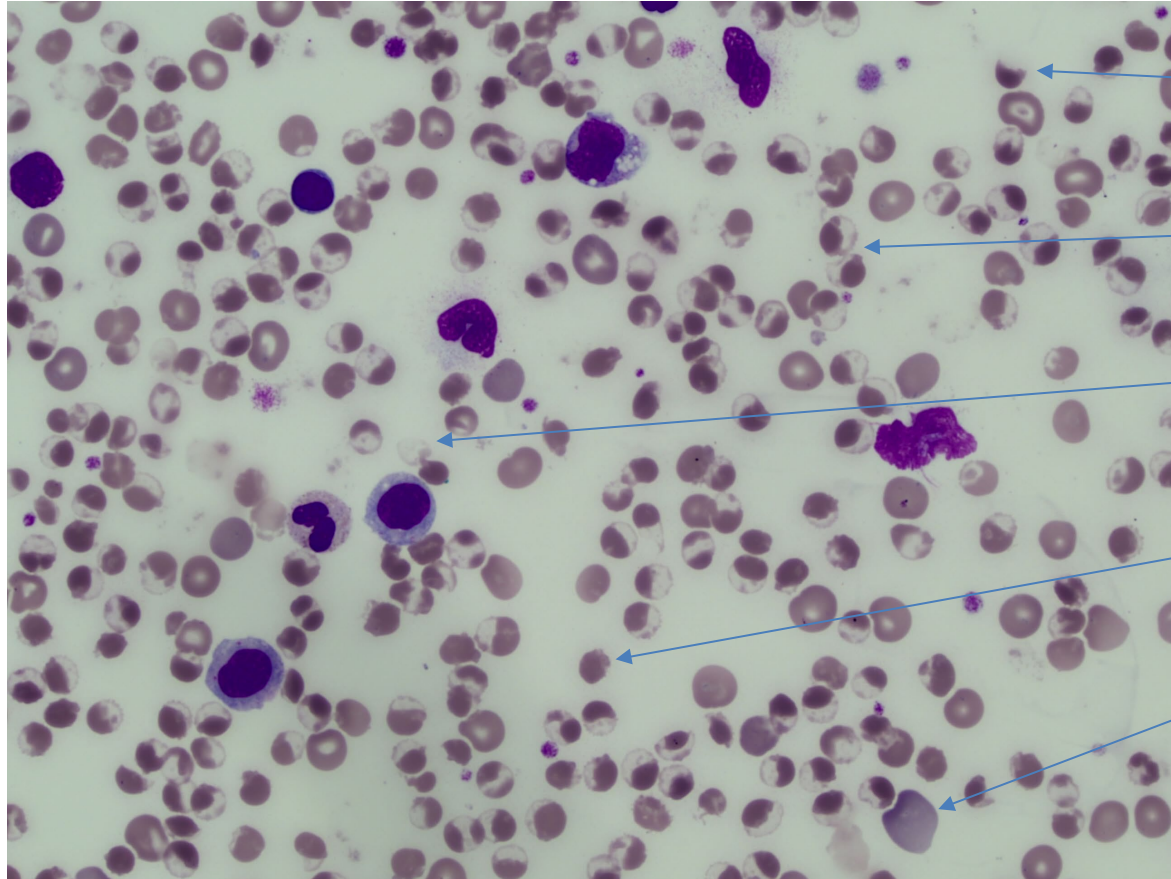
# What is going on here?

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- a) He has developed *Clostridium perfringens* sepsis with haemolysis
- b) This is an adverse reaction to his chemotherapy
- c) This is oxidative haemolysis from a drug exposure
- d) He has developed autoimmune haemolytic anaemia



## 3 days later... Blood Film x 50



Bite cell

Blister cells AKA hemighost

Ghost cell

Irregularly contracted cell

Polychromasia

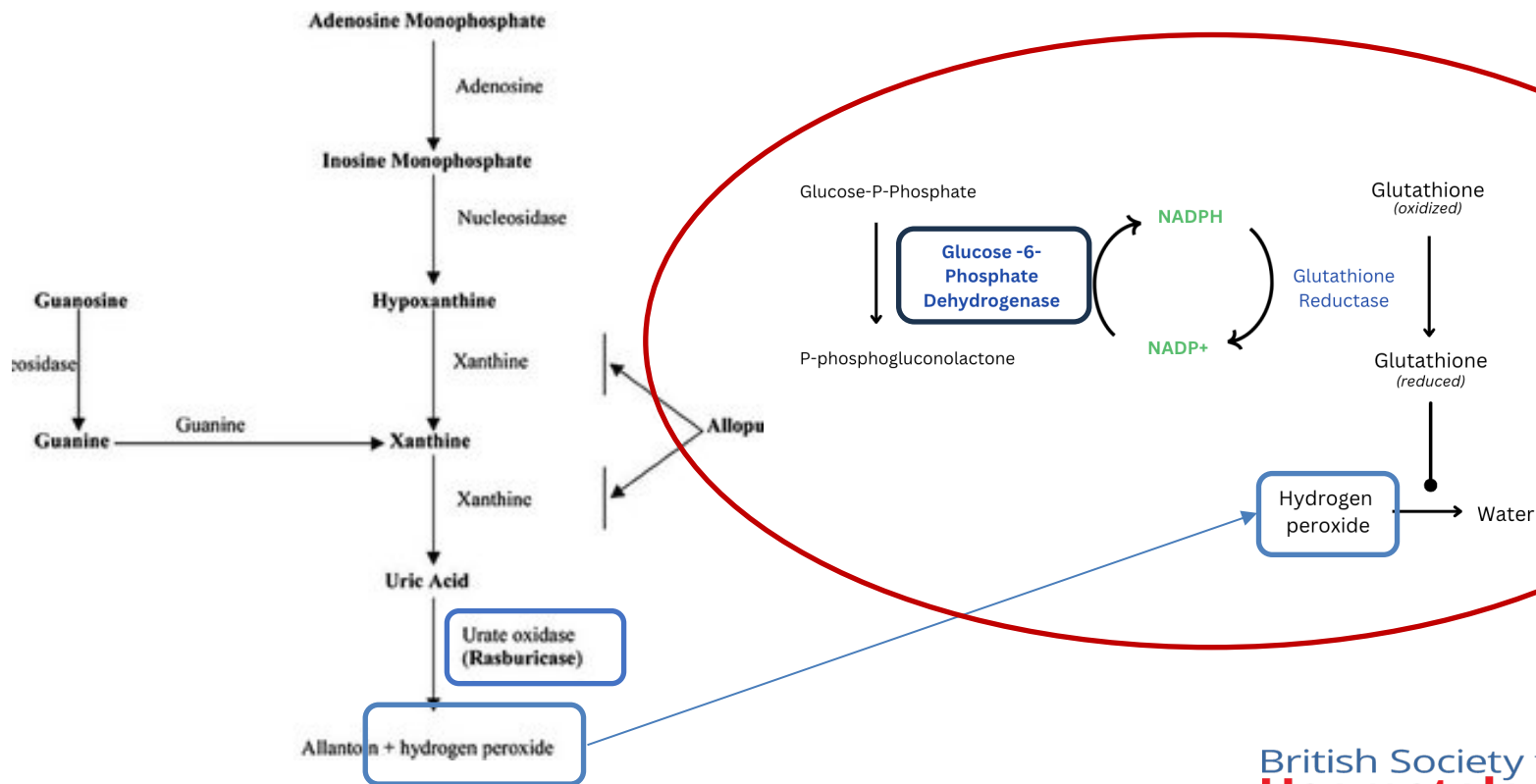


# What I didn't tell you...

- He was of Kurdish/Iraqi ancestry
- Prior to his chemotherapy he received Rasburicase !



# Biochemistry...



# Subsequent results...

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- G-6-PD confirmed to be low 2.9 iu/gHb

# Diagnosis

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- *T-PLL*
- *Previously undiagnosed G-6-PD deficiency*
- *Rasburicase induced oxidative haemolysis*

# Take home message...

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- Always consider the possibility of G-6-PD deficiency, especially in males from at risk ethnic groups and test prior to exposure to Rasburicase.

# Acknowledgments

- My thanks to Amy Foster and Richard Leach at HMDS.

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# Thank you