

# “Flow across borders”

Interactive case studies across the borders of gating, entities, diseases and classifications

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[PollEv.com/keesmeijer731](https://PollEv.com/keesmeijer731)



< Activities



Visual settings



Edit



Which classification is used in your center

 0

WHO-HAEM4 (2016)

WHO-HAEM5 (2022)

ICC

WHO-HAEM5 and ICC

Another combination

None of the above

I don't know

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# Case 1

- M 56 yr
  - Persistent peripheral eosinophilia
  - Increased IgE levels
  - Skin abnormalities
- 
- Is flow cytometry indicated?



## Is flow cytometry indicated at this moment?

0

A) yes, panel for abnormal eosinophiles

B) yes, mastocytosis panel on bone marrow

C) yes, lymphocytic screening panel on peripheral blood

D) Not indicated, molecular and parasitic testing first

*Gate: WBC*

SSC

*Gate: Lympho*

CD19/TCR-GD

*Gate: CD19+*

CD19/TCR-GD

CD45

*Gate: CD3+*

CD8

CD3

*Gate: CD3+*

CD8

Lambda

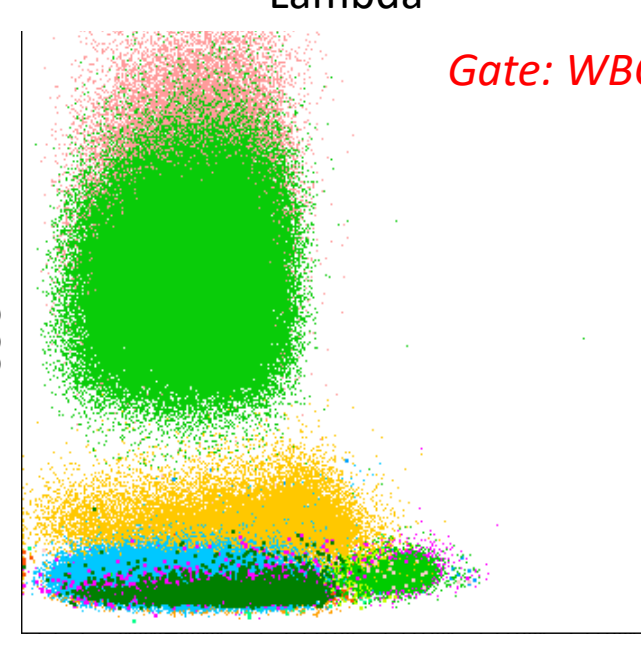
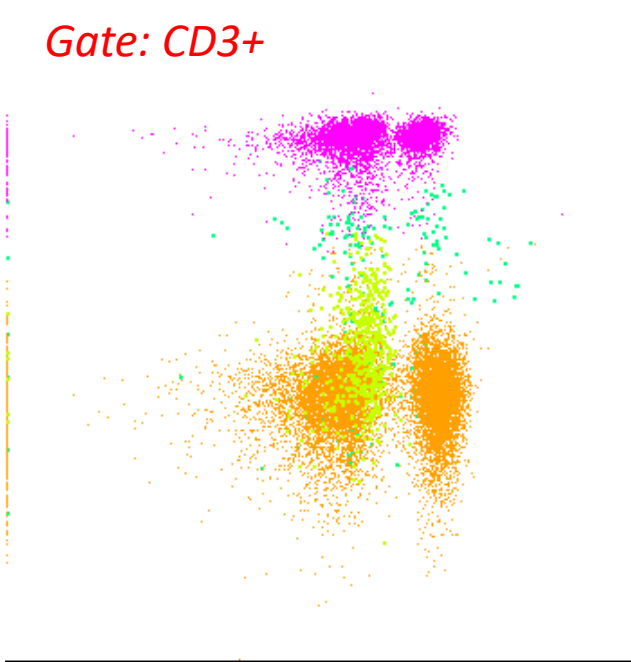
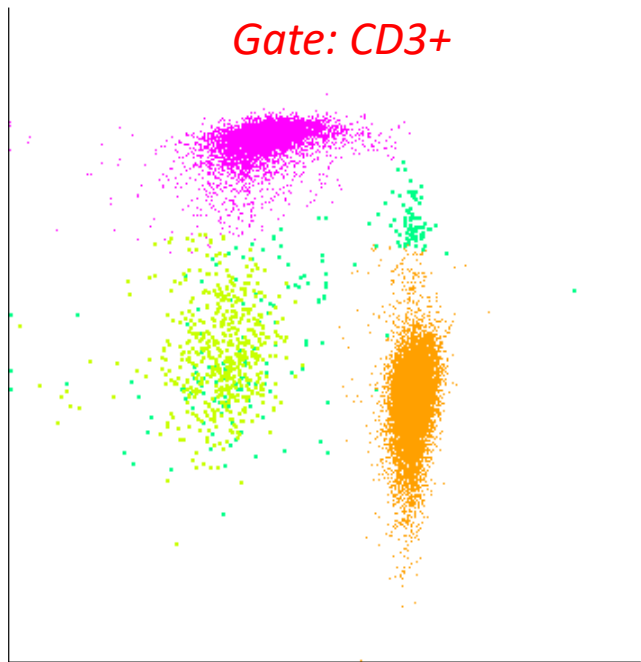
*Gate: WBC*

SSC

CD4

TRBC1

CD56





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Visual settings

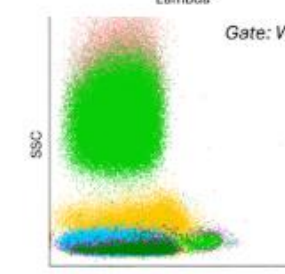
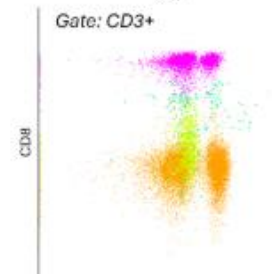
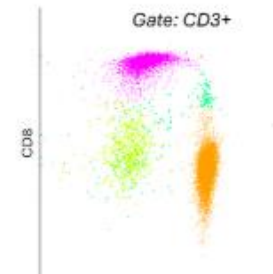
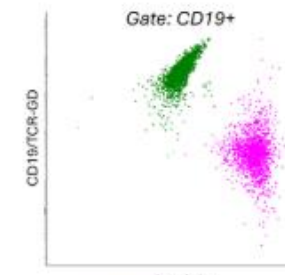
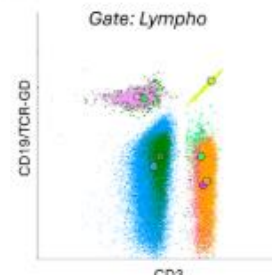
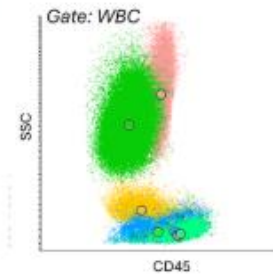


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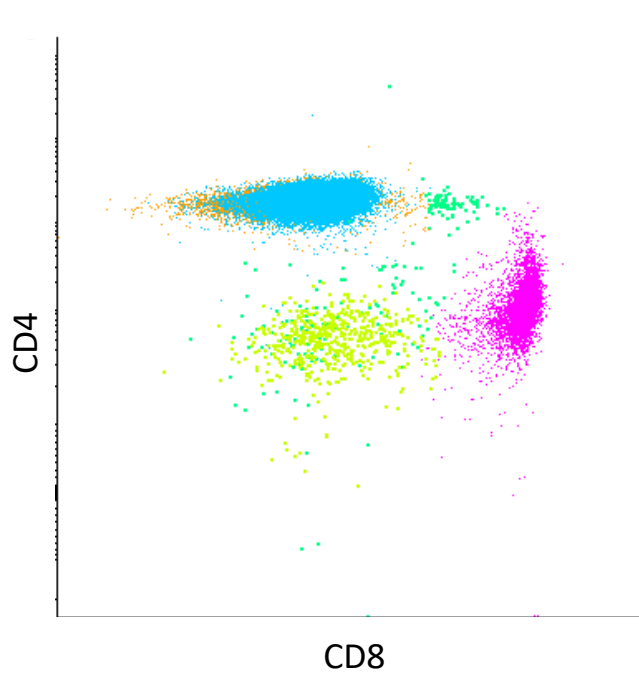
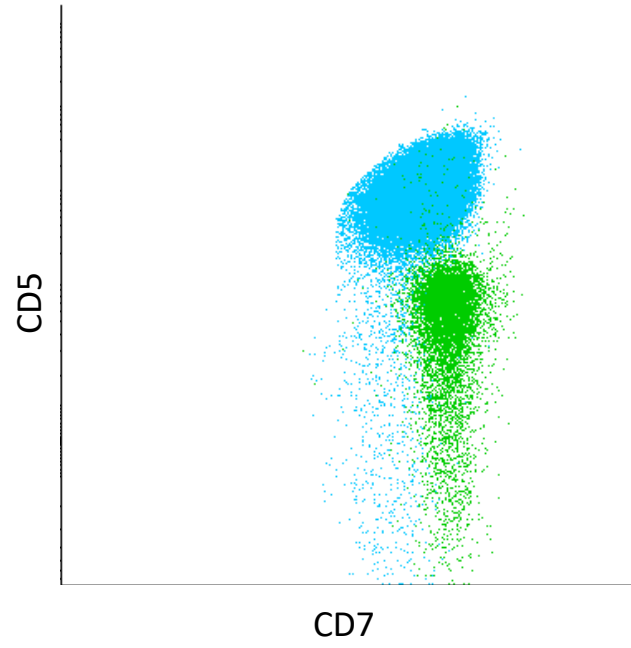
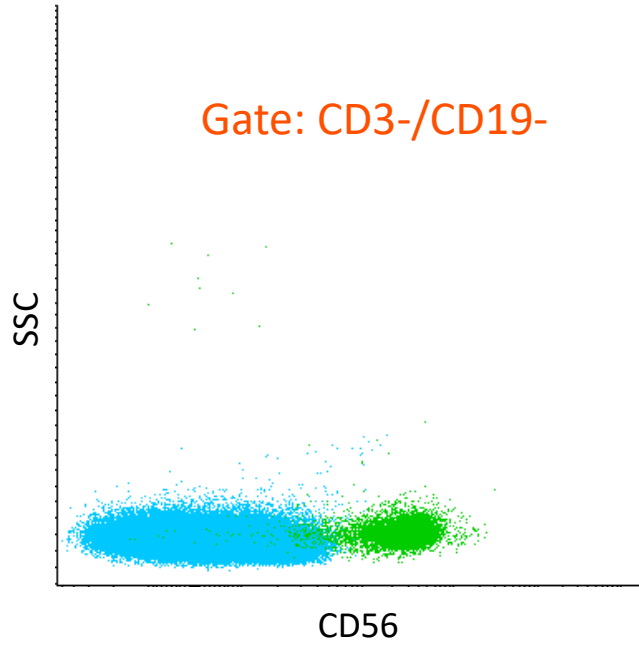


## Where is the aberrant population?

0



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# Lymphocytic variant Hypereosinophilic syndrome (L-HES)

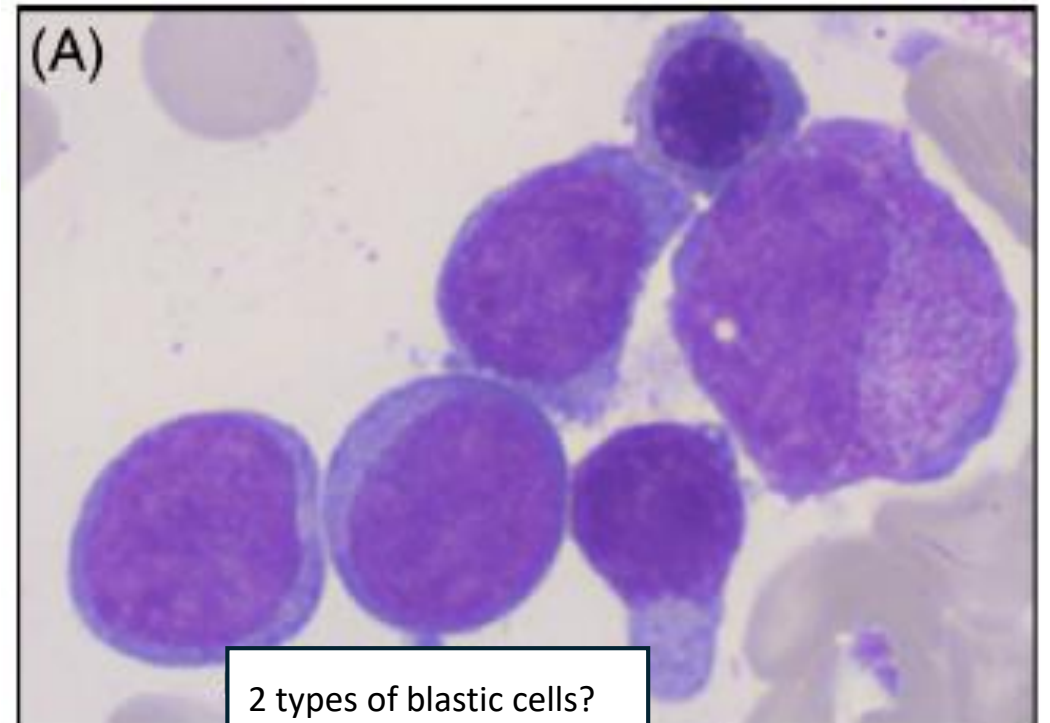
- Non-clonal eosinophilia secondary to abnormal IL-5 producing T-cells
  - Often T-cell clonality, but not required
  - Mostly **CD3-/CD4+**, but CD3+/CD4-/CD8- and CD3+CD4+CD7- is possible
- Indolent disease, but increased risk of progression to overt T-cell lymphoma
- CD3-/CD4+ T-cells also in TFH (AITL) and PTCL

### Take home message:

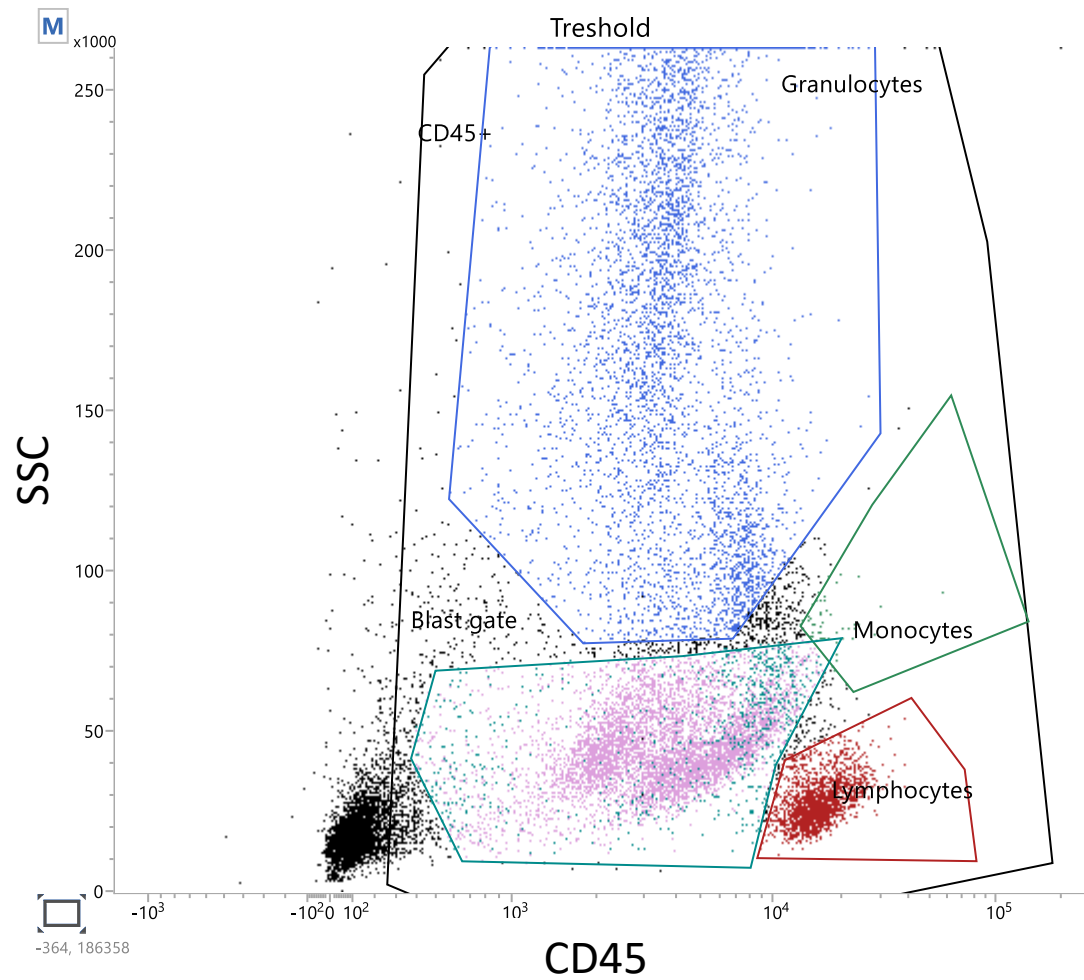
- Unexplained eosinophilia warrants screening for CD3-/CD4+ T-cells
- Be aware of loss of CD3 in mature T-cell malignancies
  - Don't fully rely on fixed gates

# Case 2

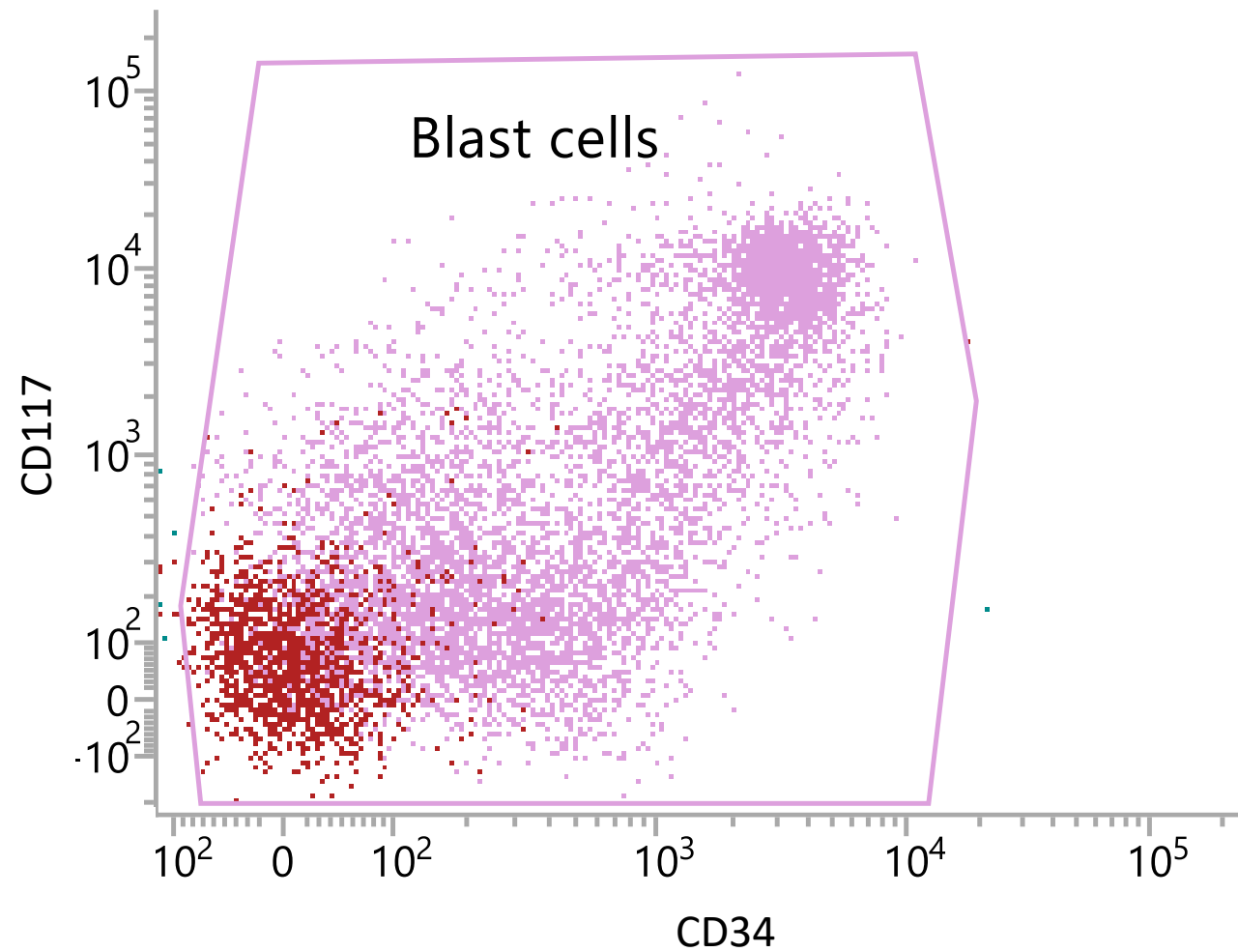
- Man, 72y
- Medical history: known ET (JAK2+), treated
- Presentation: dizziness, night sweats & loss of body weight (>10kg).
- PB: Pancytopenia  
10% blasts
- BM: 41% blastic cells



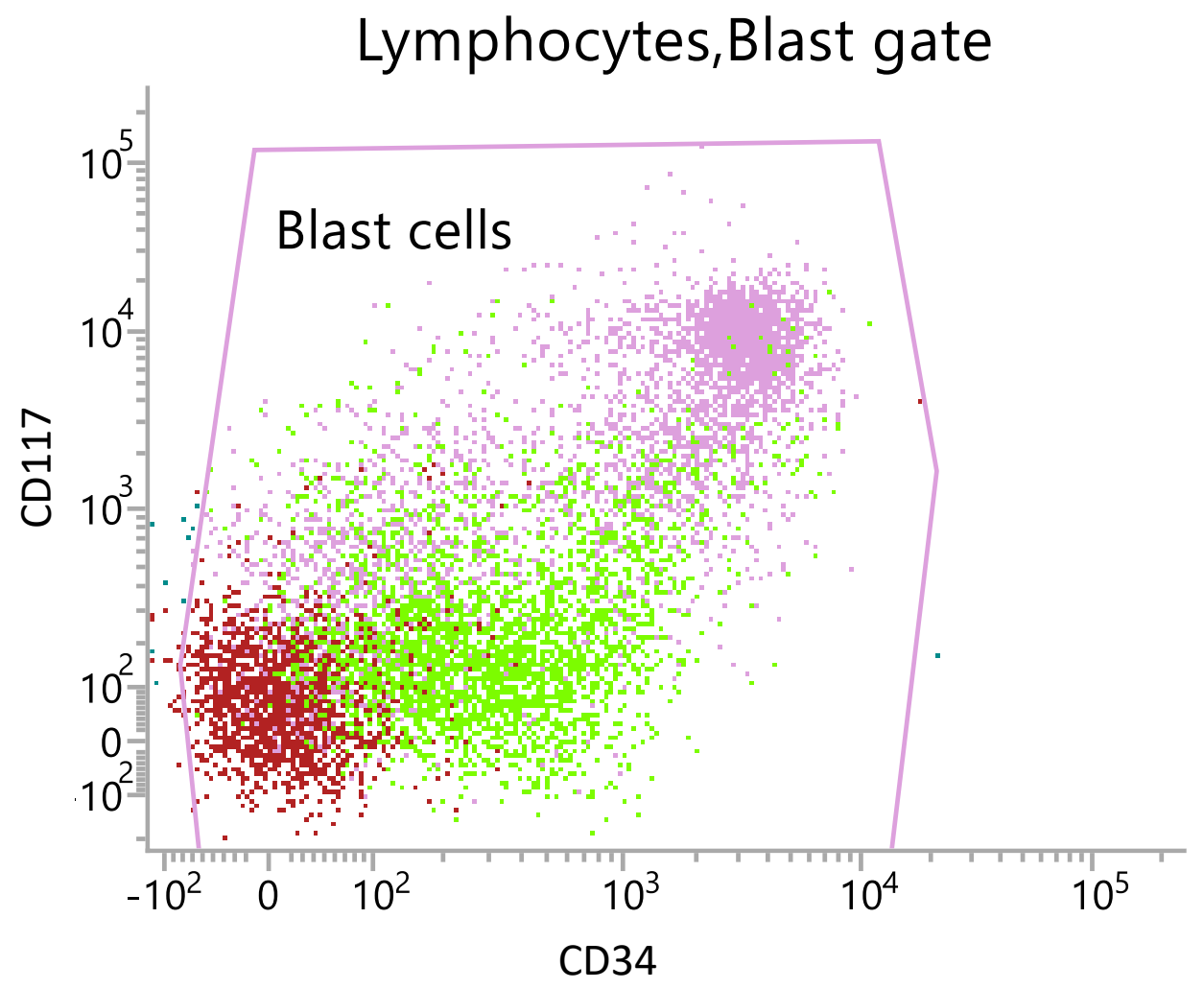
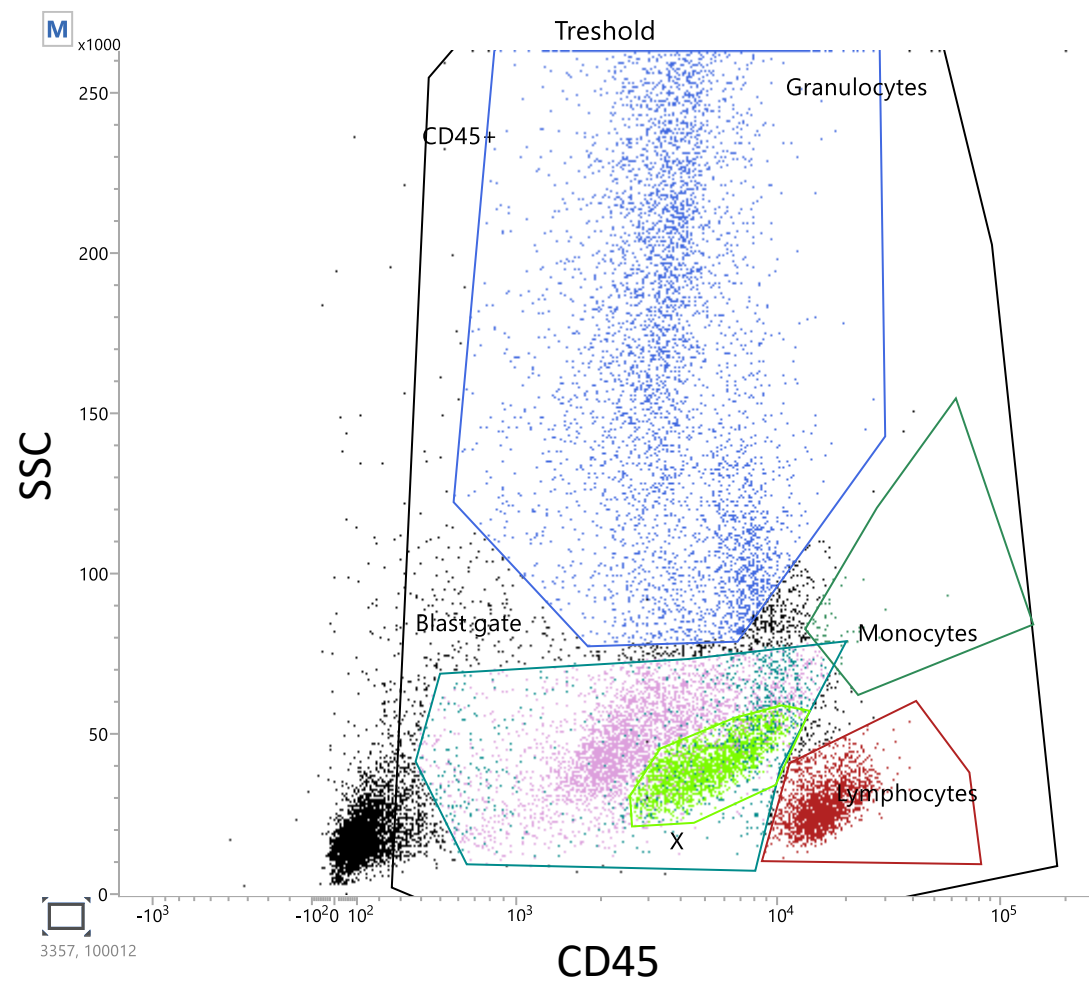
# Case 2



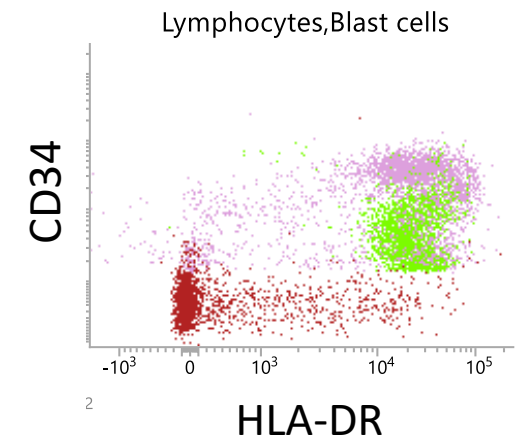
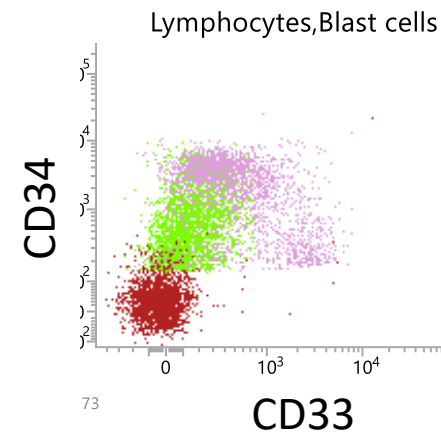
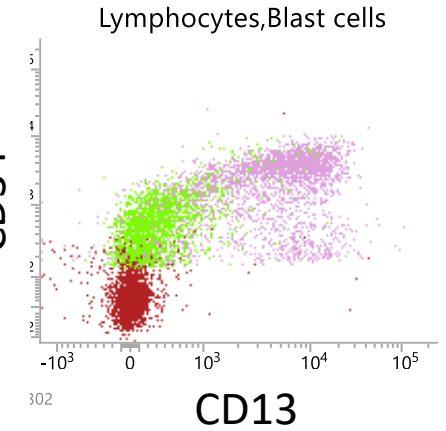
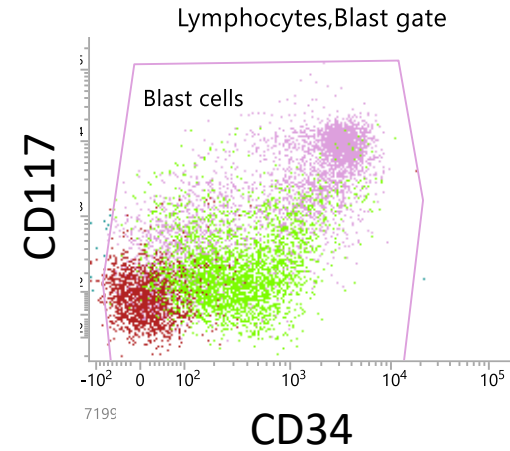
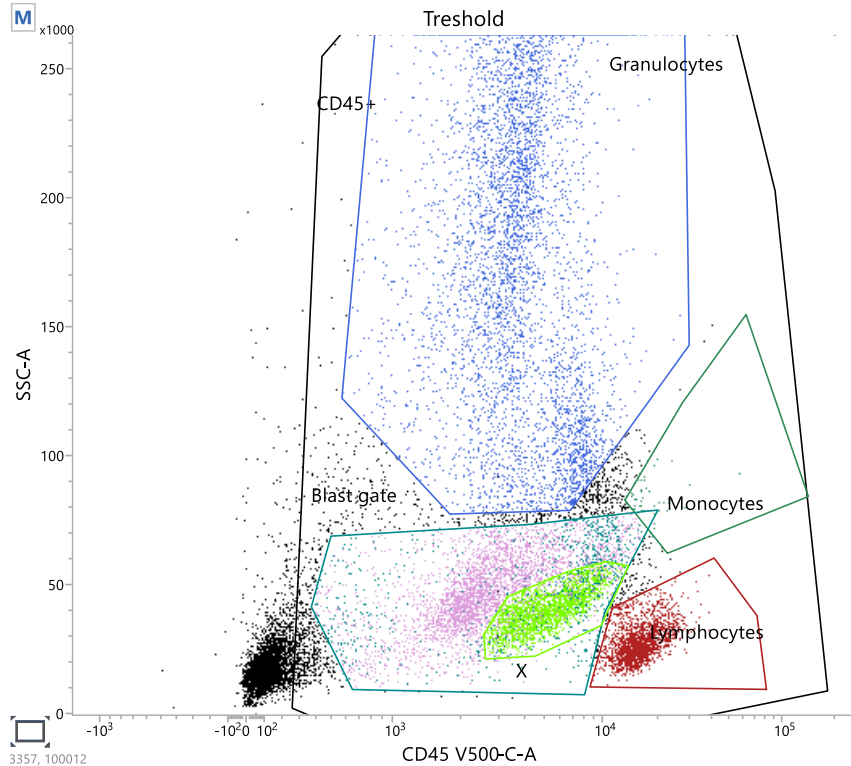
## Lymphocytes, Blast gate



# Case 2



# Case 2



## Lineage defining markers:

**Pink:** cyCD3-/sCD3-/CD13+/CD19-/CD22-/CD33-(+weak?)  
/CD41CD61-/CD79a-/CD117+/MPO-

**Green:** cyCD3-/sCD3-/CD13-/CD19-/CD22-/CD33-  
/CD41CD61-/CD79a-/CD117-/MPO-

How would you define the pink population?

- Undifferentiated
- Myeloid
- B-lymphoid
- T-lymphoid
- One can't tell



< Activities



Visual settings



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How would you define the pink population?

✔ 0

A) Undifferentiated

B) Myeloid

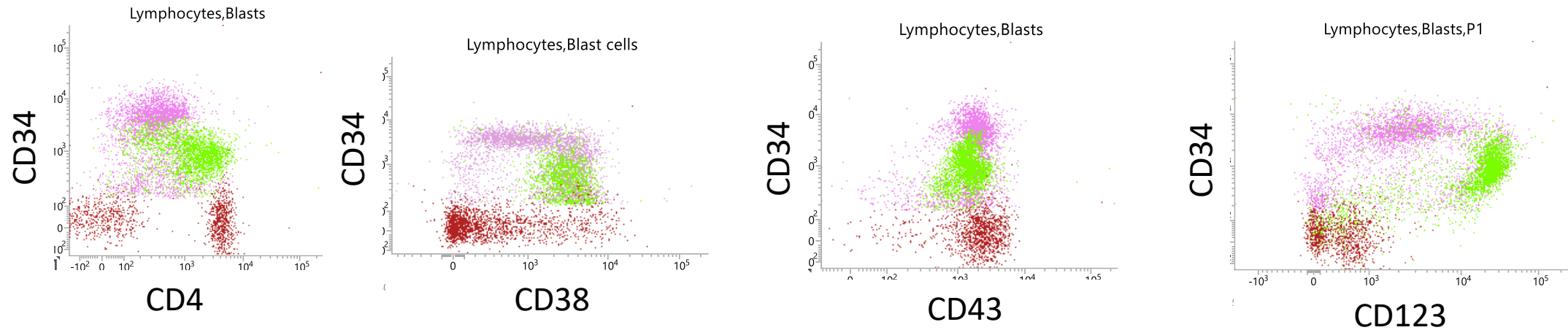
C) B-lymphoid

D) T-lymphoid

E) One can't tell

# Case 2

Green: CD4+/CD38+/CD43+/CD123+



With these markers, could the green population be a BPDCN?

- Yes
- No



CD34dim/CD4+/CD38+/CD43+/CD123+

Activities

Visual settings Edit

With these markers, could the green population be a BPDCN?

No

Yes

0

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The image shows a mobile application interface for a poll. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a back arrow, the text 'Activities', and buttons for 'Visual settings' and 'Edit'. Below this is a poll question: 'With these markers, could the green population be a BPDCN?'. The question is displayed in a white rounded rectangle with a purple border. To the right of the question is a '0' next to a checkmark icon. Below the question are two answer options: 'No' and 'Yes', each in a light blue rounded rectangle. At the bottom of the poll area, there is a footer that says 'Powered by Poll Everywhere' with the Poll Everywhere logo.

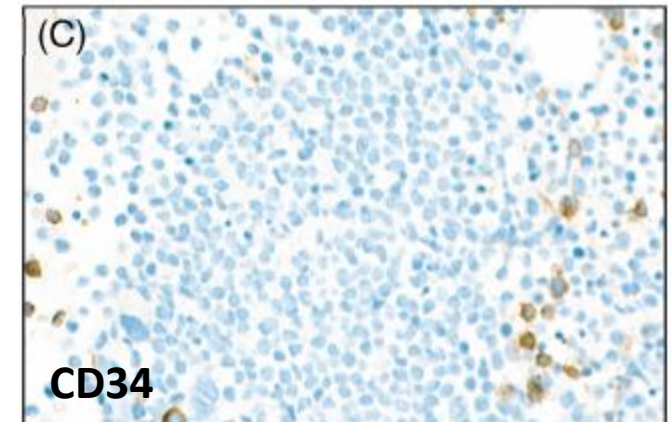
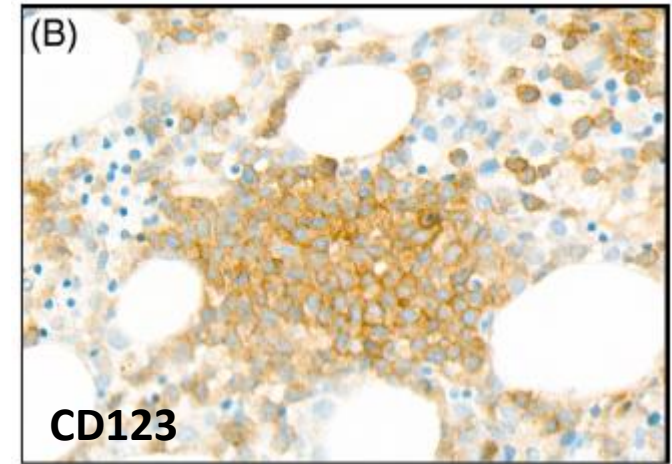
# Case 2

**Green:**

**IF:** all other tested markers negative, including CD56-/cyTCL1-, so BPDCN is unlikely

**Molecular biology:** RUNX1 mutation

**IH:**



pDC-AML

# Case 2: pDC-AML

- pDC-AML is no separate entity in either WHO or ICC

- **WHO-HAEM5:**

- Part of MPDCP
- pDC: >2% on NEC
- pDC: CD123+/CD303+/CD304+. Possible aberrant loss (CD303, TCL1) or gain (CD34, CD56, TdT) of markers
- pDC-CMML: mature pDC
- pDC-AML: spectrum of pDC maturity: from (CD34+/303-) to (CD34-/CD303+)
- up to 5% of AML cases

## Mature plasmacytoid dendritic cell proliferation associated with myeloid neoplasm

### Definition

Mature plasmacytoid dendritic cell proliferation (MPDCP) associated with myeloid neoplasm is a clonal proliferation of plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDCs) with low-grade morphology identified in the context of a defined myeloid neoplasm.

### ICD-O coding

9727/1 Mature plasmacytoid dendritic cell proliferation associated with myeloid neoplasm

### ICD-11 coding

2B31.Y Other specified histiocytic or dendritic cell neoplasms

### Related terminology

*Acceptable:* mature plasmacytoid dendritic cell proliferation.

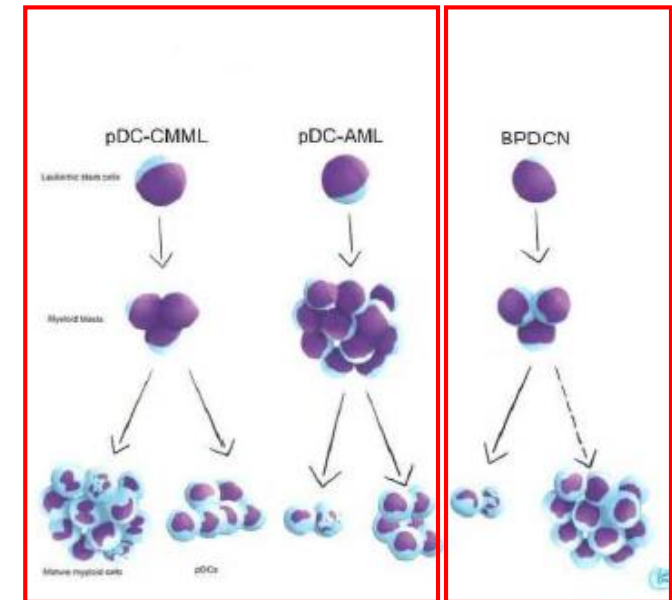
### Subtype(s)

None

### Localization

MPDCP

BPDCN



**Fig. 3.04** Clonal plasmacytoid dendritic cell proliferations. Proposed scheme outlining the relationships between mature plasmacytoid dendritic cell proliferations, associated with myeloid neoplasms, and blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm [1864].

# Case 2: pDC-AML

- pDC-AML is no separate entity in either WHO or ICC
- ICC:
  - Only small note under BPDCN:

The distinction of BPDCN from pDCs hyperplasia or clonal proliferations of mature pDCs associated with CMML is mainly based on morphology (blastoid vs mature cells) and immunophenotype: in contrast to mature pDCs, BPDCN cells strongly express BCL2, CD56, and SOX4 (Table 38.1).<sup>3,10</sup> BPDCN must also be distinguished from AML associated with increased pDCs (AML-pDCs) in the bone marrow and peripheral blood, where pDCs can express CD34 and are typically CD56 and TCL1 negative. Notably, 75% of cases of AML-pDCs are characterized by *RUNX1* mutations, which are rarely detected in BPDCN<sup>11</sup>

# Case 2: pDC-AML

	Benign pDC	BPDCN	pDC-CMML	pDC-AML	
				WHO	ICC
Populations		1	2	2	2
CD4	+	+			
CD34	-	-	-	+(-)	+
CD56	-	+	-(+)	-(+)	-
CD123	+	+	+	+	
CD303/304	+	+	+(-)	+(-)	
TCL1	+	+	+(-)	+(-)	-
TdT	-	+-		-(+)	

WHO: min 3

ICC: min 2

## WHO: BPDCN

**Box 3.01** Immunophenotypic diagnostic criteria for blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell (pDC) neoplasm

**Expected positive markers**

*pDC markers:*

CD123  
TCF4  
TCL1  
CD303  
CD304

*Other markers:*

CD4  
CD56

**Expected negative markers**

CD3  
CD14  
CD19  
CD34  
Lysozyme  
Myeloperoxidase

**Immunophenotypic diagnostic criteria**

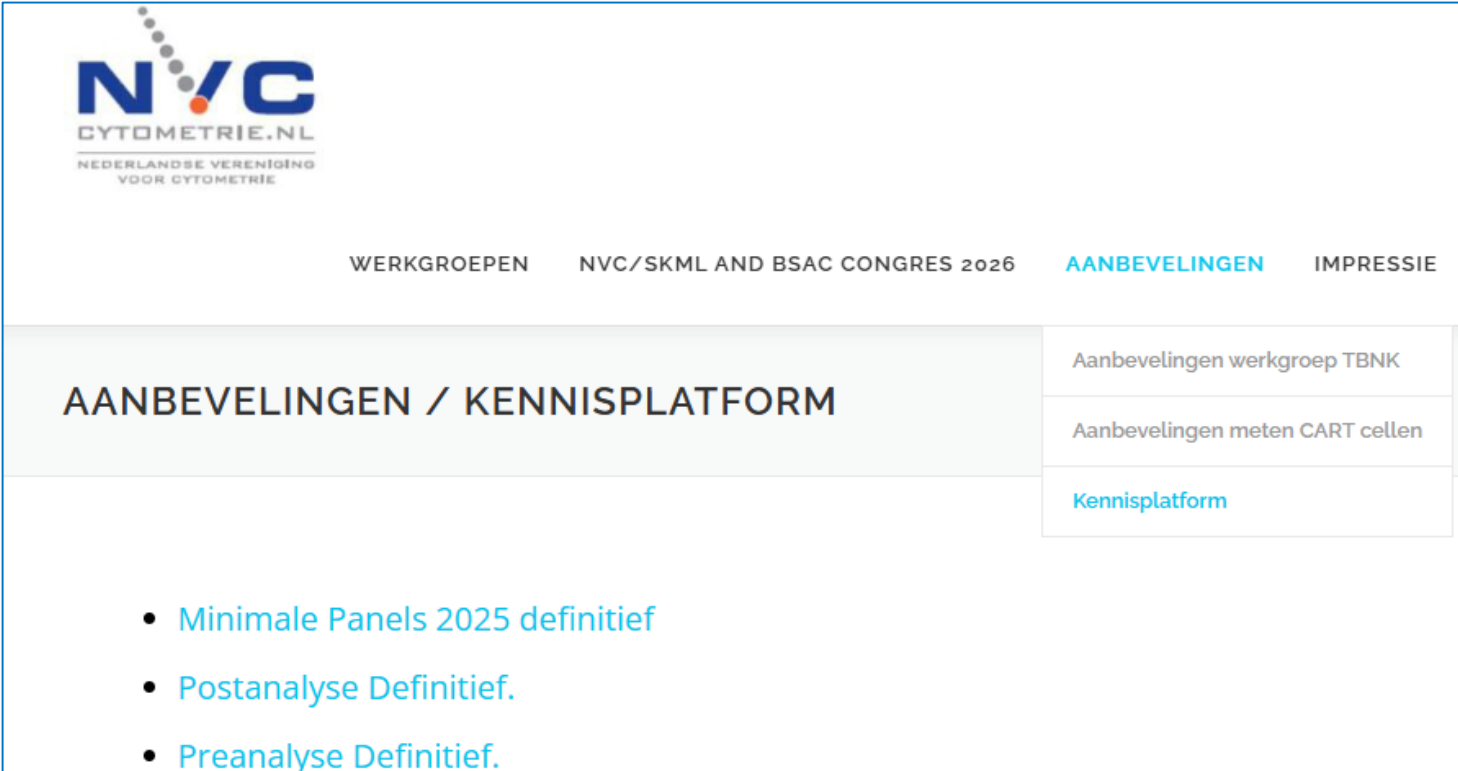
Expression of CD123 and one other pDC marker in addition to CD4 and/or CD56

**OR**

Expression of any three pDC markers and absent expression of all expected negative markers

# Case 2: pDC-AML

- [www.cytometrie.nl](http://www.cytometrie.nl)
- Aanbevelingen/Kennisplatform/Minimale panels 2025 definitief



The screenshot displays the website for the Nederlandse Vereniging voor Cytometrie (NVC). The logo at the top left features the letters 'NVC' in blue with a stylized dot pattern above them, and the text 'CYTOMETRIE.NL' and 'NEDERLANDSE VERENIGING VOOR CYTOMETRIE' below. The navigation menu includes 'WERKGROEPEN', 'NVC/SKML AND BSAC CONGRES 2026', 'AANBEVELINGEN' (highlighted in blue), and 'IMPRESSIE'. The main content area is titled 'AANBEVELINGEN / KENNISPLATFORM' and contains a list of links: 'Aanbevelingen werkgroep TBNK', 'Aanbevelingen meten CART cellen', and 'Kennisplatform' (highlighted in blue). Below this, a list of bullet points includes 'Minimale Panels 2025 definitief', 'Postanalyse Definitief.', and 'Preanalyse Definitief.'.

# Case 2: pDC-AML

## BLASTAIR PLASMACYTOID DENDRITISCHE CEL NEOPLASMA (BPDCN)

Tabel 6. Minimale panel BPDCN.

	Minimale panel 2024	Verwachte expressie
CD45	Verplicht	+
CD4	Verplicht	+
CD34	Verplicht	-
CD56	Verplicht	+
CD123	Verplicht	+
CD303	Sterk aanbevolen	+
CD304	Sterk aanbevolen	+
cTCL1	Sterk aanbevolen	+

### Diagnostische criteria WHO 2022:

- Expressie van CD123 en eventueel 1 andere plasmacytoïde dendritische marker\* (cTCL1, CD303, CD304), naast CD4 en/of CD56  
*of*
- Expressie van drie plasmacytoïde dendritische markers\* (CD123, cTCL1, CD303, CD304) en afwezige expressie van alle verwachte negatieve markers (CD3, CD14, CD19, CD34, cMPO).

### Voetnoten:

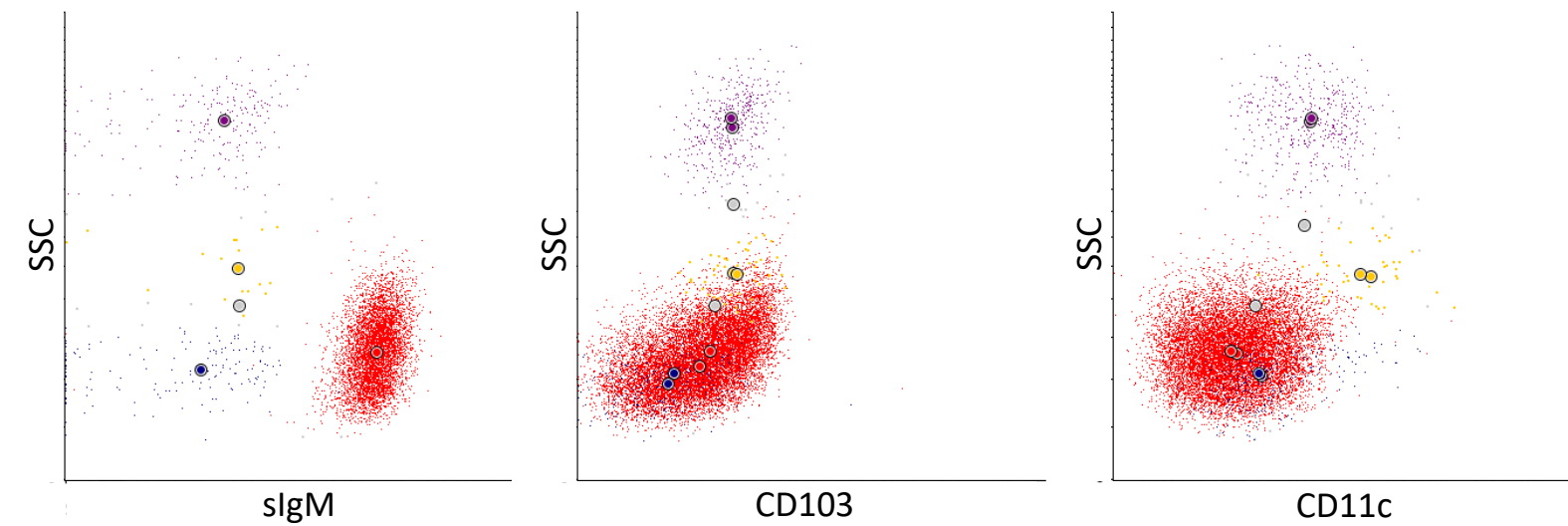
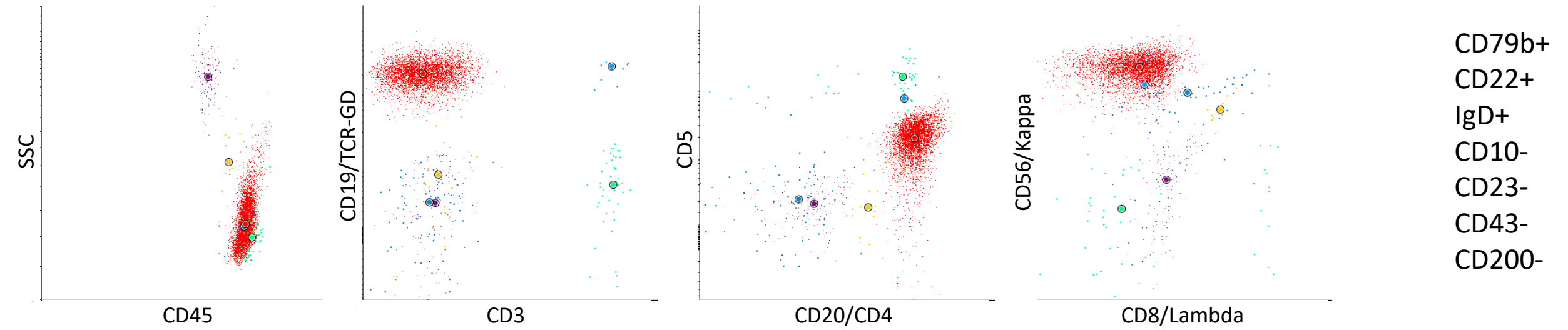
- Positiviteit van CD34 maakt dat voorkeur moet worden gegeven aan AML met pDC-uitrijping boven BPDCN (zie hiervoor het WHO-hoofdstuk over Mature plasmacytoïde dendritic cell proliferation associated with myeloid neoplasm MPDCP)
- In de differentiaaldiagnose van BPDCN staan onder andere rijpe pDC afwijkingen, deze worden voorlopig buiten beschouwing gelaten (zie MPDCP).
- TCF4 wordt door WHO 2022 als pDC-marker genoemd, omdat de beschikbaarheid zeer beperkt en het gebruik door experts onduidelijk is, wordt deze marker voorlopig buiten beschouwing gelaten.

# Case 2

## Take home message:

- MPDCP exist, but they are rare
- Distinction with BPDCN: 2 populations, CD34+/-/CD56-/TCL1-

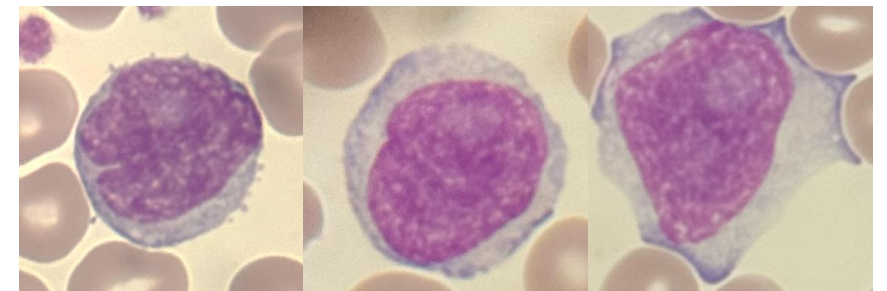
# Case 3



Male 60y  
 Accidentally discovered leukocytosis  
 L:  $88 \times 10^9/L$   
 Hb: 9,4 mmol/L  
 T:  $197 \times 10^9/L$

No lymphadenopathy  
 No splenomegaly

How would you classify this disease?





< Activities



Visual settings



Edit



How would you classify this disease?

Nobody has responded yet.

Loading...

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

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# Additional diagnostic information

## Cytogenetics:

46,XY,i(8)(q10),-17,+r[4]/46,XY[22] → gain of MYC (on 8q) and loss of one TP53 copy (on 17p)

## NGS:

Gene	Transcript	cNomen	pNomen	VAF (%)	ID
TP53	NM_000546	c.524G>A	p.(Arg175His)	42	COSM10648

## Pathology:

No alterations in cyclin D1/D2/D3 or SOX11 – MCL unlikely

What's your preferred diagnosis?



< Activities

Visual settings

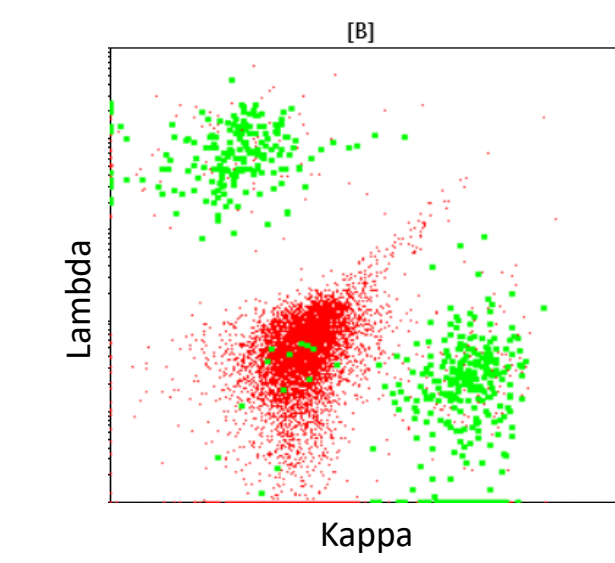
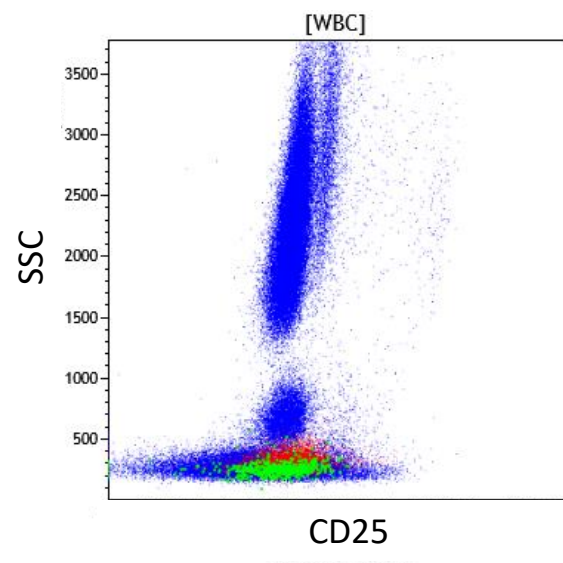
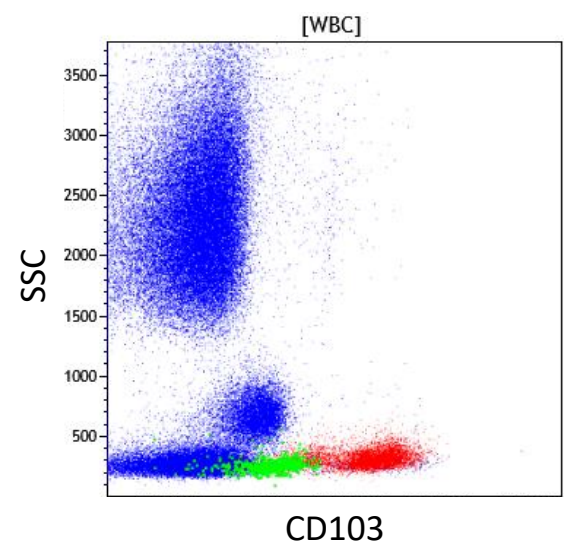
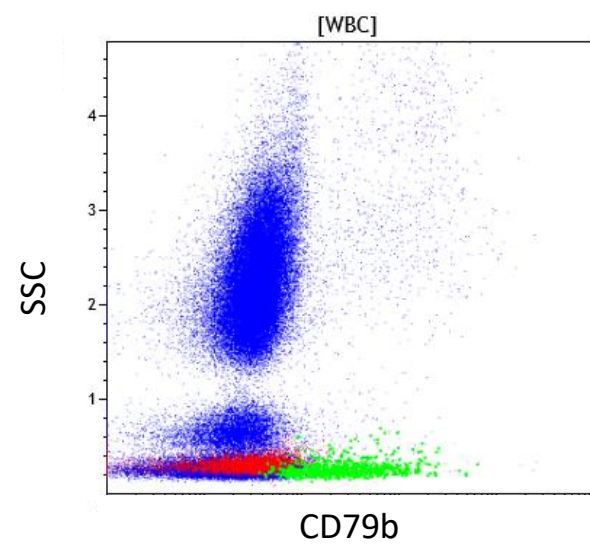
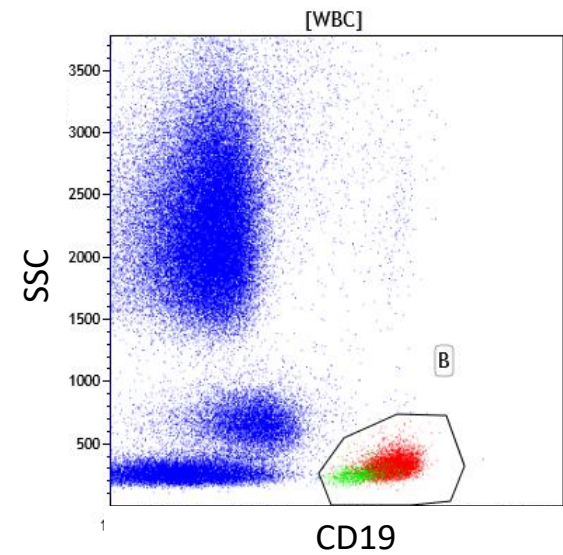
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What's your preferred diagnosis? You can vote on the diagnoses submitted.

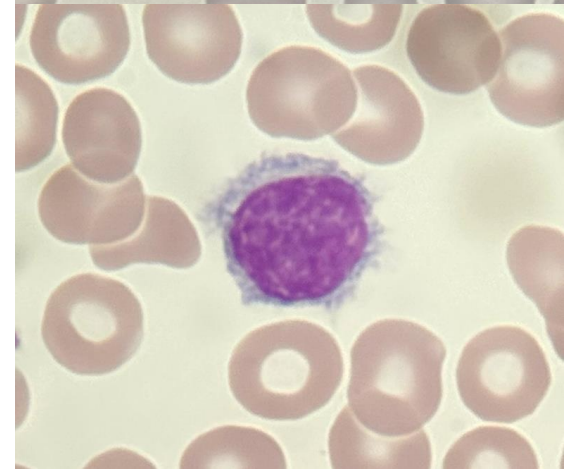
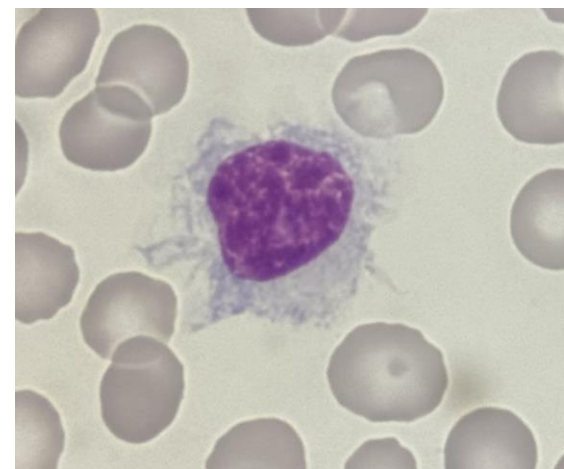
0

Nobody has responded yet.  
Hang tight! Responses are coming in.



CD5-  
 CD11c+  
 CD22++  
 CD20++  
 CD200 wk  
 CD43-  
  
 BRAF negative

What's your preferred diagnosis?





< Activities

Visual settings

Edit



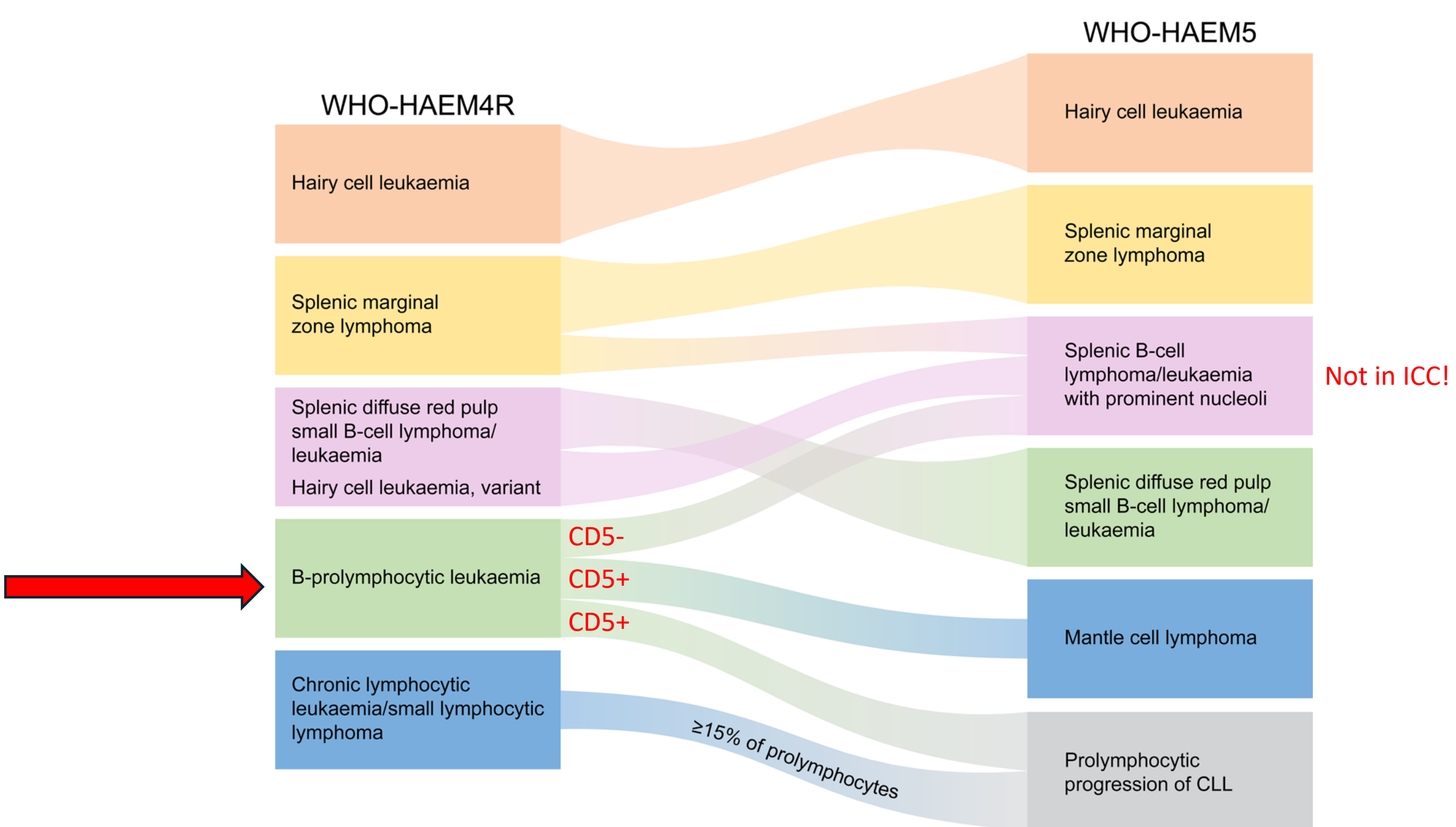
And how would you classify this disease?

Nobody has responded yet.

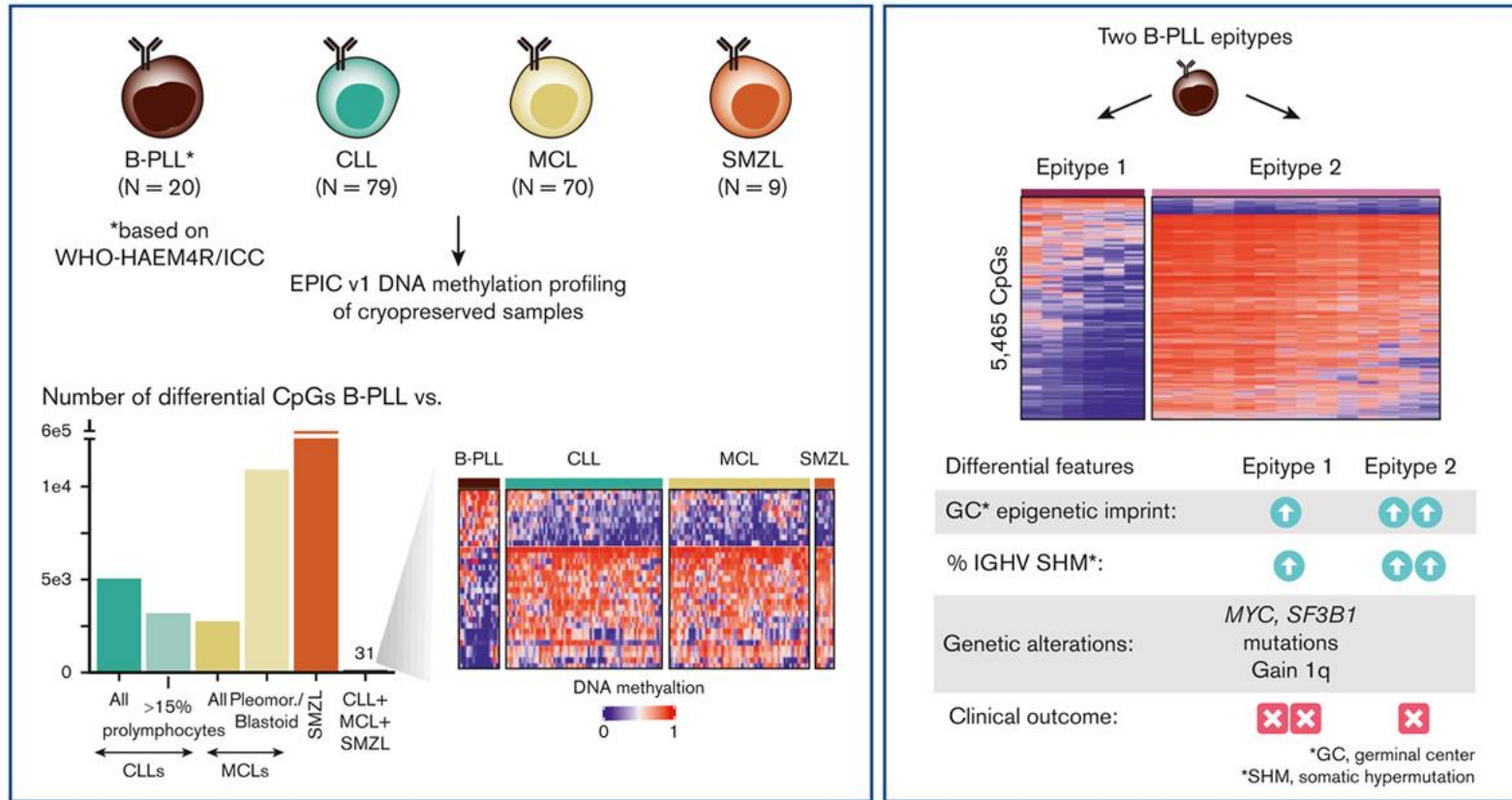
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Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

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# Epigenetic features support the diagnosis of B-cell prolymphocytic leukemia and identify two clinico-biological subtypes



**Conclusions:** 1) B-PLL diagnosed with WHO-HAEM4R guidelines shows a different DNA methylome from CLL, MCL and SMZL. 2) Two B-PLL epitypes with different biological and clinical features can be identified.

Charalampopoulou et al. DOI: 10.1182/blooda.2024013327

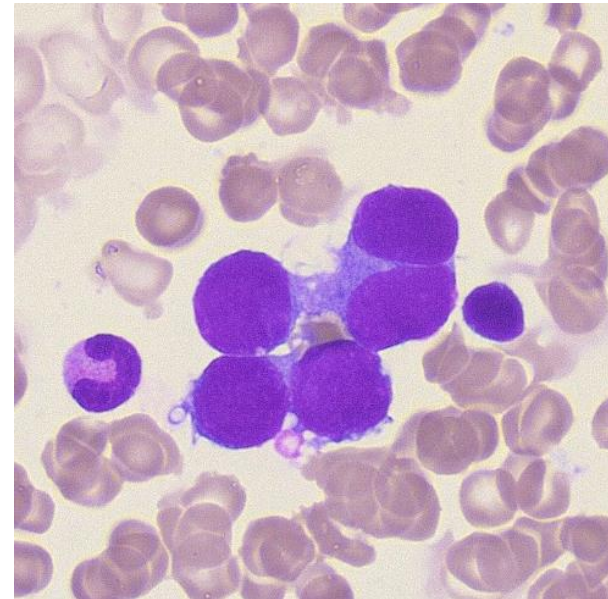
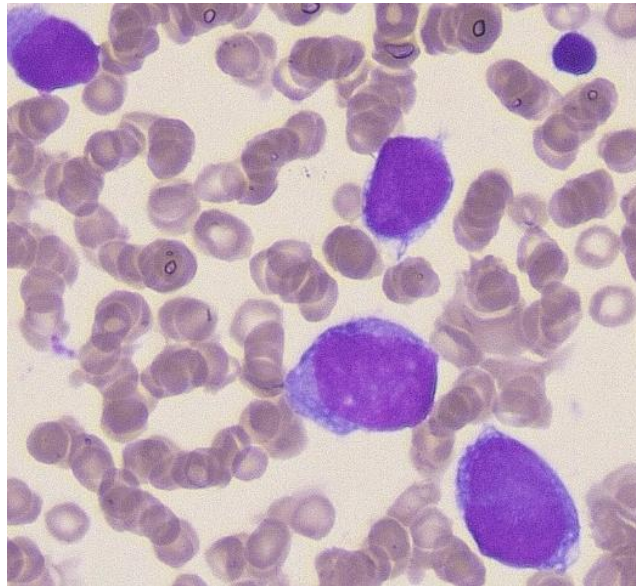
- Be careful with assigning B-PLL to another entity (CLL, MCL, etc):
  - Interdisciplinary diagnosis
- CD5- B-PLL ≠ HCL-variant?
  - WHO criteria not clear
- Polymphocytic progression of CLL is continuous with indolent CLL, but distinct from B-PLL
- More research needed: probably a spectrum of B-cell disorders, not as black and white as our classification systems

Take home message:

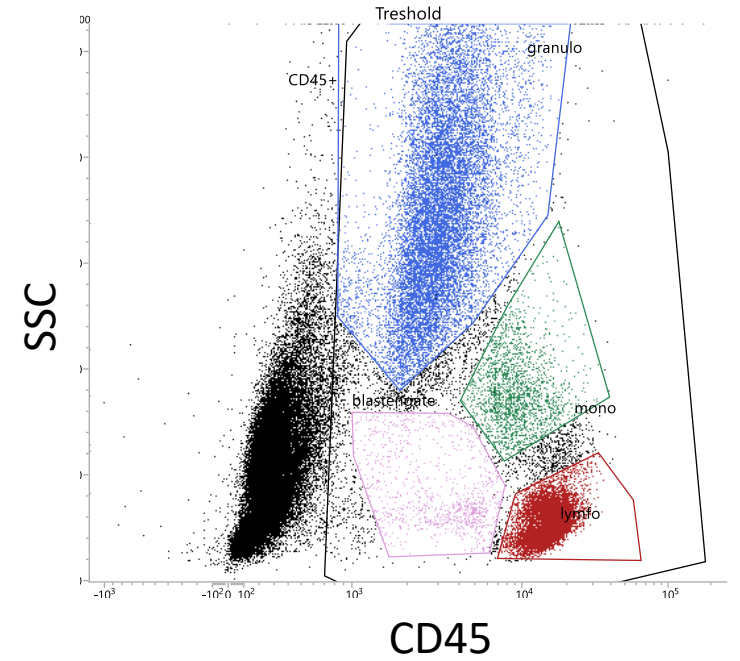
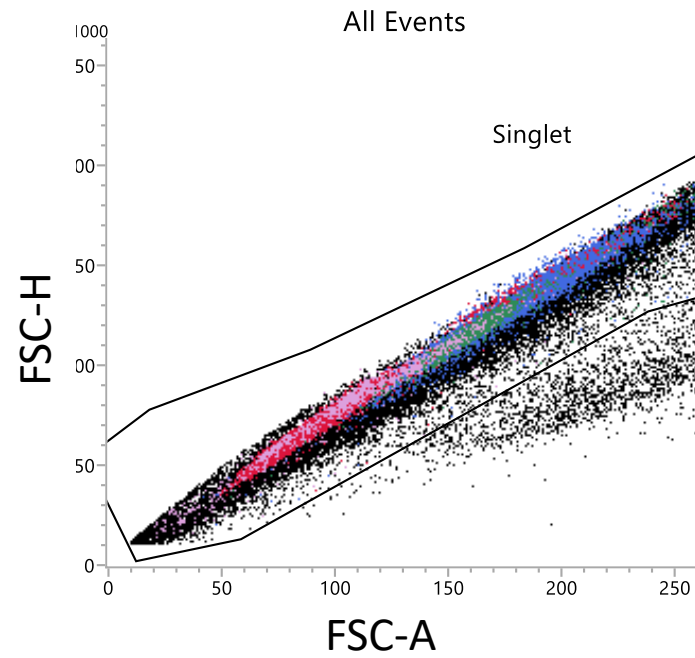
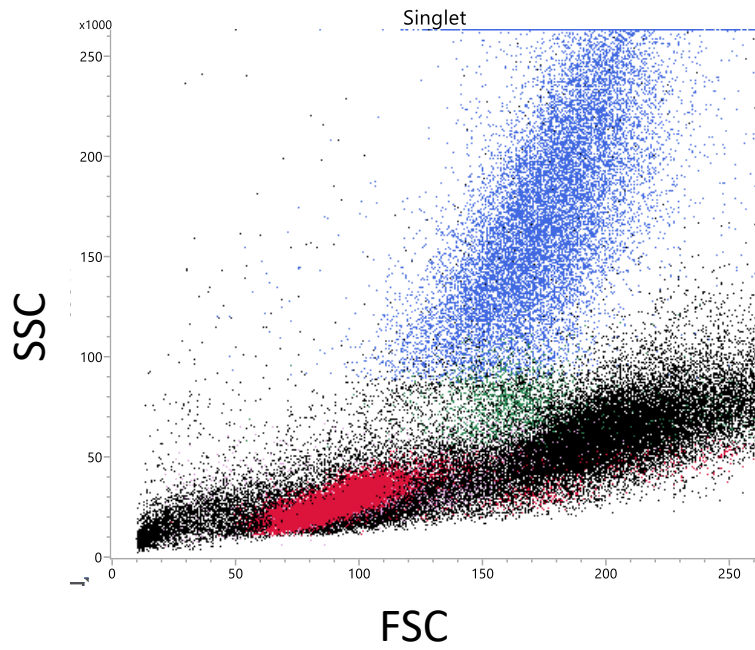
- Cases formerly known as B-PLL need careful, interdisciplinary classification
- Probably partly overlapping with CLL, MCL and HCL-v (SBLPN), but also distinct features

# Case 4

- Man, 19y
- Medical history: /
- Presentation: nasopharyngeal swelling, blurred vision + exophthalmia, no B-symptoms
- CT-scan: mass in nasal cavity, slight hepatomegaly
- PB: anemia, thrombocytopenia, normal leukocytosis & differentiation.
- BM: 83% blastic cells:



# Case 4





< Activities



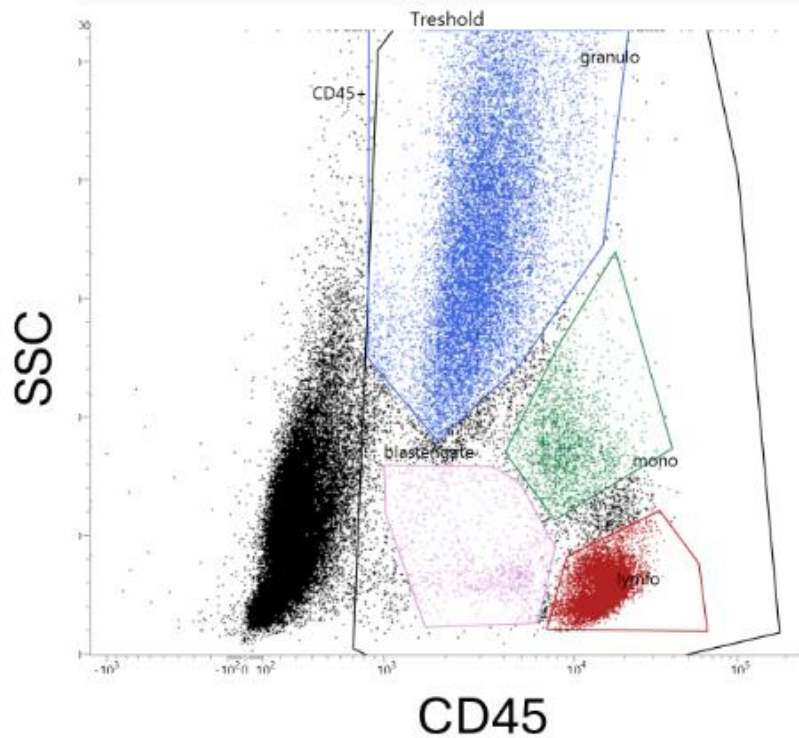
Visual settings



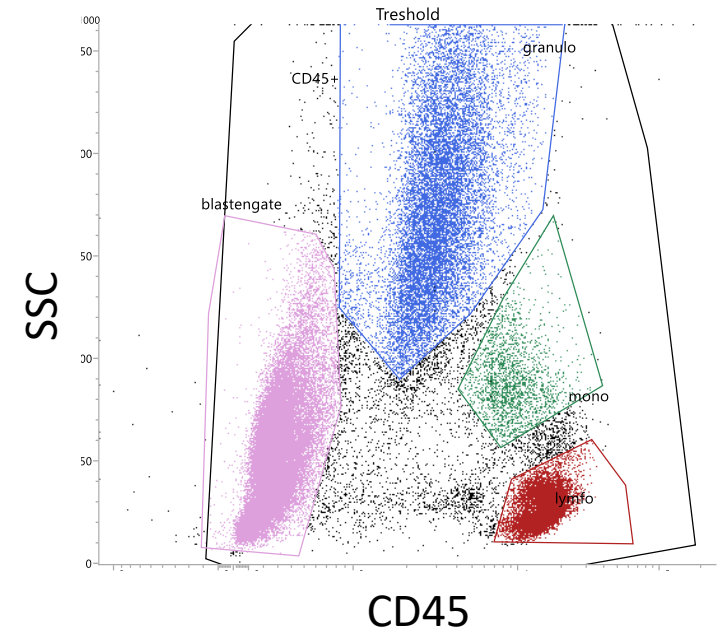
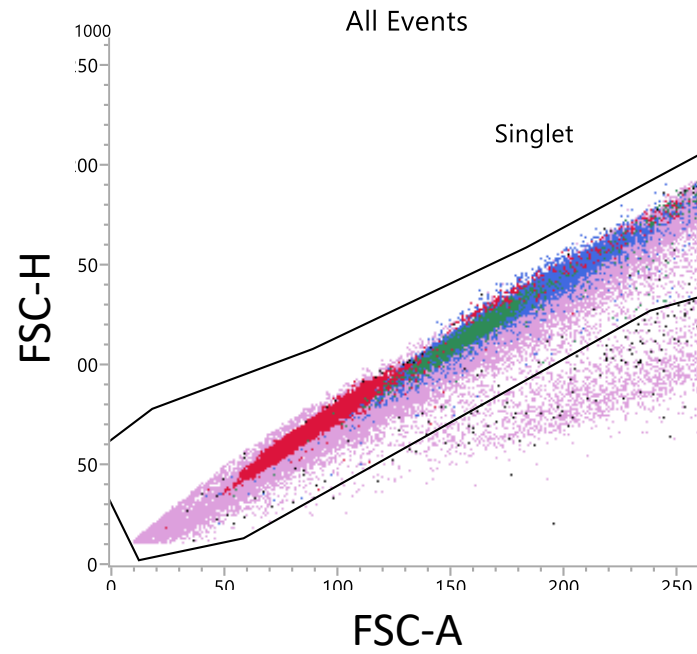
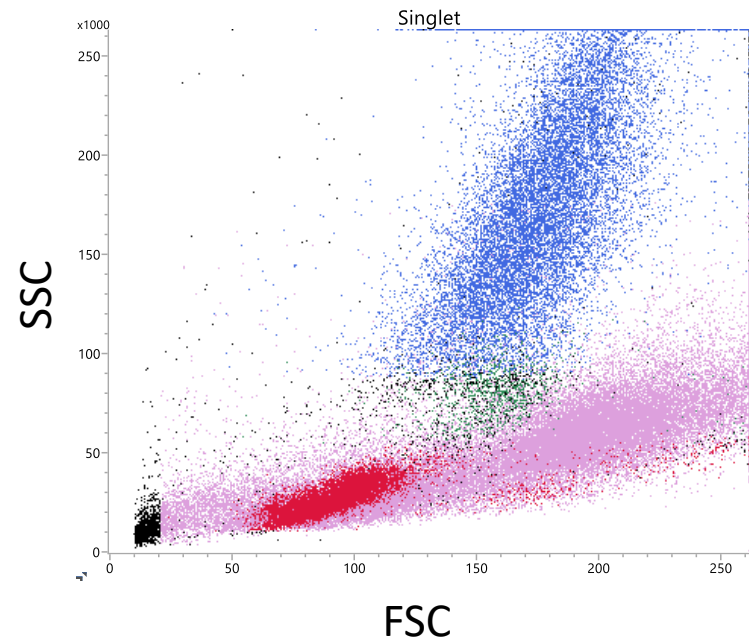
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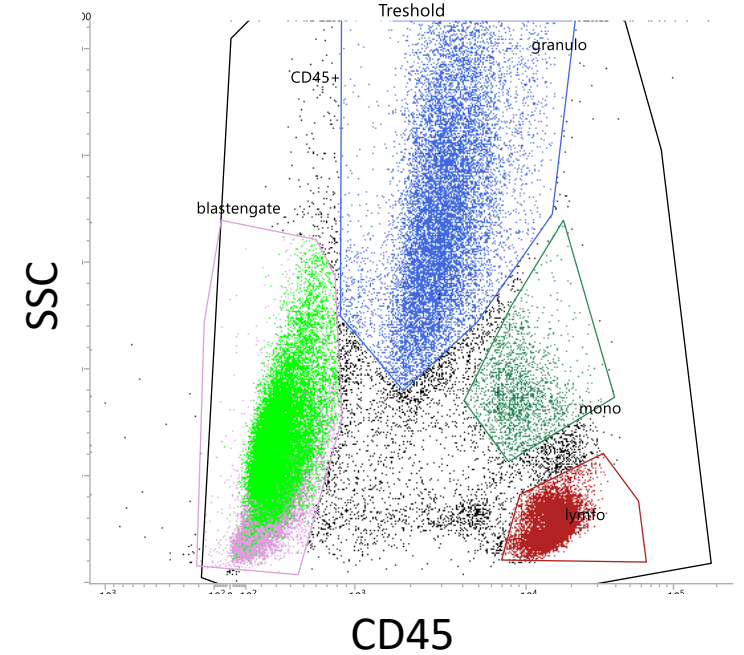
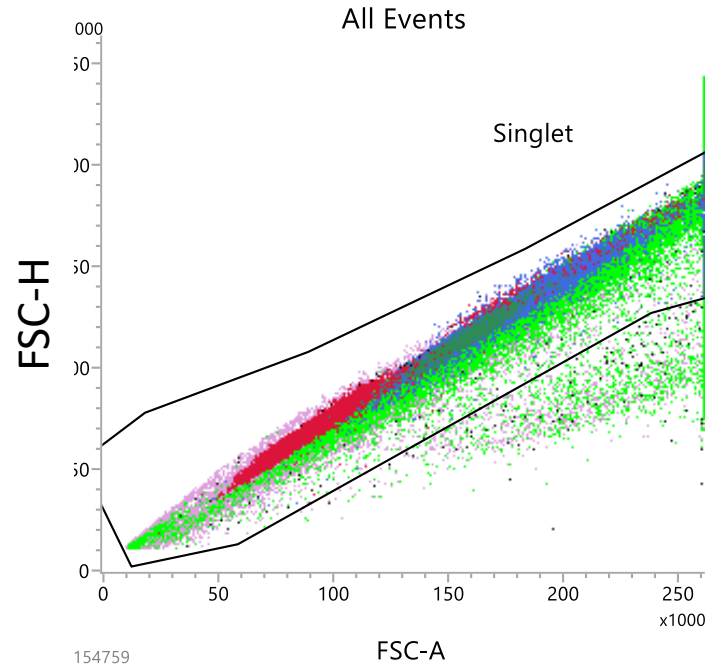
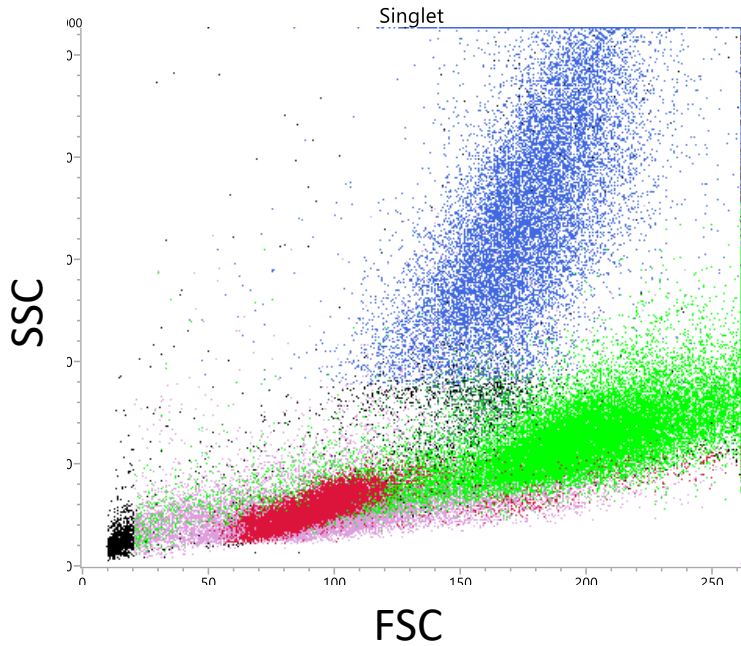
Click on the abnormal population



# Case 4

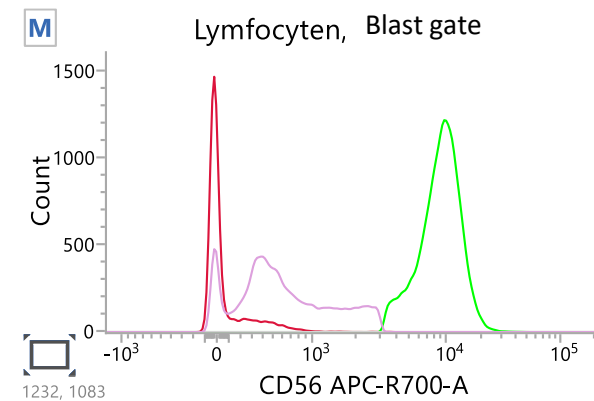
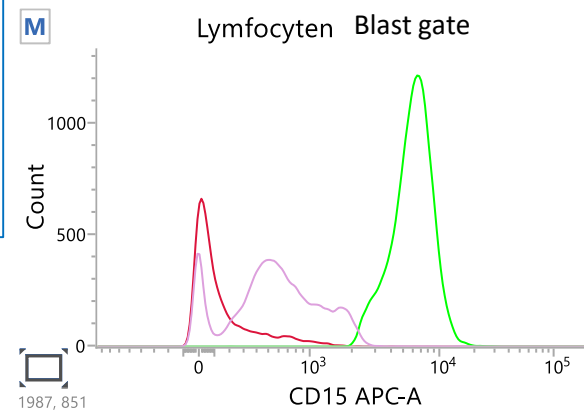


# Case 4

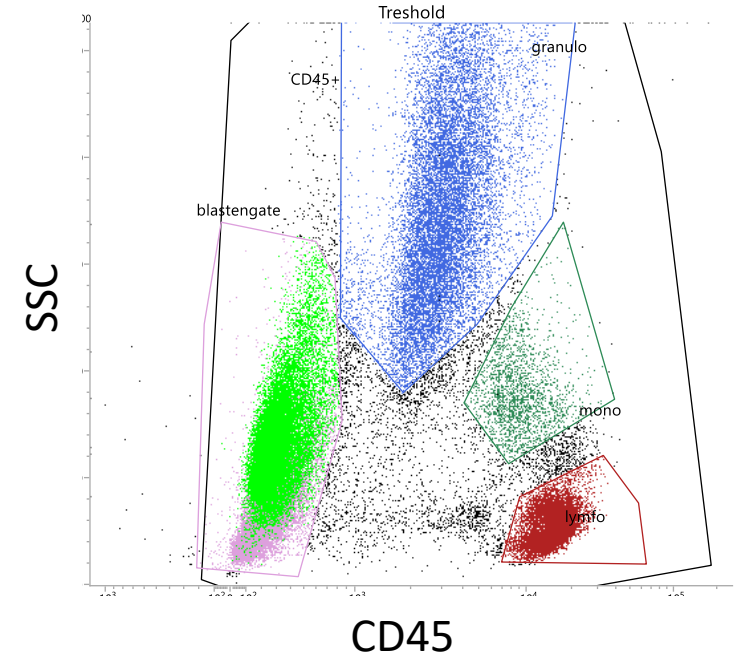
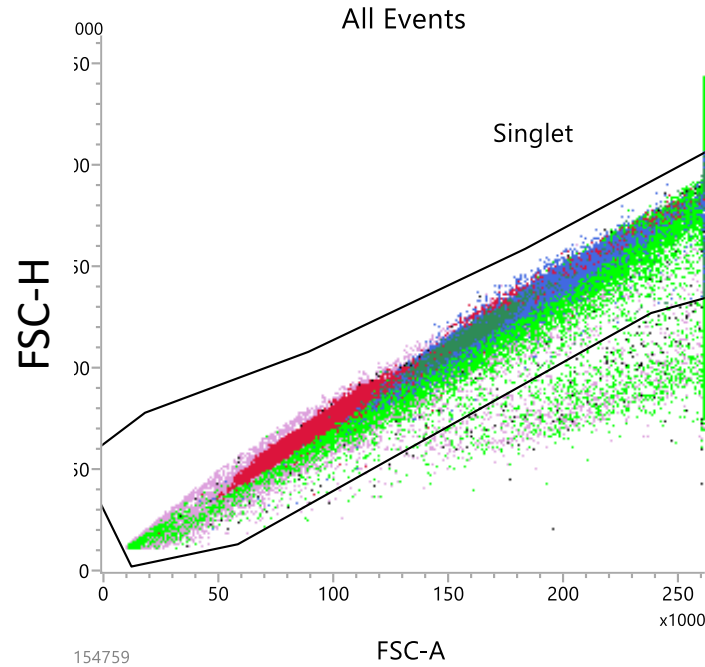
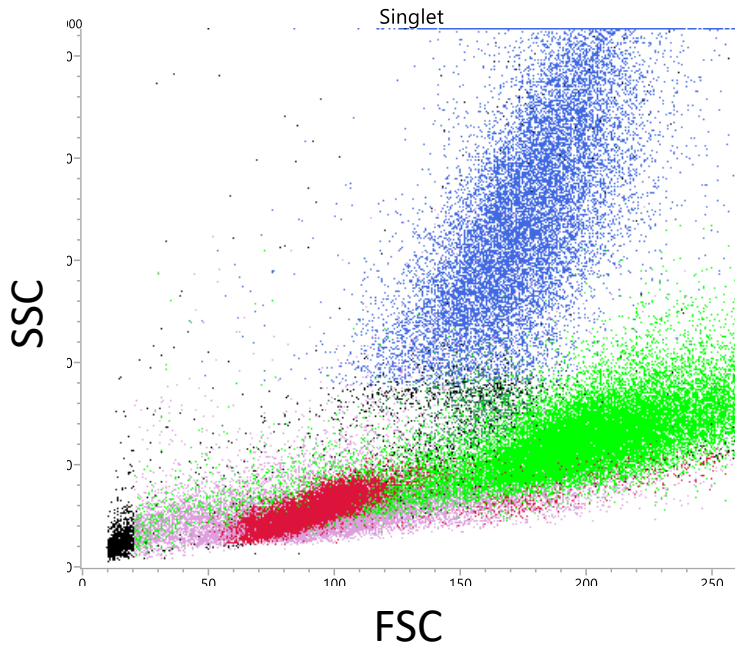


Markers evaluated:  
 cyCD3/sCD3/CD4/CD10/CD13/CD14/CD15/CD16/CD20/CD22  
 /CD30/CD34/CD35/CD41/CD61/CD64/CD43/CD45/  
 CD56/CD57/CD117/CD123/HLA-DR/TdT/cyTCL1/cyMPO

- **Pink:** all markers negative
- **Green:** all markers negative, except CD15 & CD56



# Case 4



Markers evaluated:  
cyCD3/sCD3/CD4/CD10/CD13/CD14/CD15/CD16/CD20/CD22  
/CD30/CD34/CD35/CD41/CD61/CD64/CD43/CD45/  
CD56/CD57/CD117/CD123/HLA-DR/TdT/cyTCL1/cyMPO

What is the most likely origin of the green population?

- **Pink:** all markers negative
- **Green:** all markers negative, except CD15 & CD56

## CD15 & CD56 positive

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for a poll. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a bar chart icon, a back arrow, the text "Activities", and buttons for "Visual settings", "Edit", and navigation arrows. Below the navigation bar is a vertical sidebar with three icons: a bar chart, a list, and a share icon. The main content area is a rounded rectangle with a purple and blue border. It contains a question, a response count, a status message, and a footer.

Activities

Visual settings Edit

What is the likely origin of the abnormal population?

0

Nobody has responded yet.

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

Powered by Poll Everywhere

# Case 4

- IH: CD56+/vimentin+/desmin+/muscle-specific actin/myogenin
- FISH: FOXO1 rearrangement

## Non-hematological tumor: rhabdomyosarcoma

- A rare malignant soft tissue sarcoma made up of cells that normally develop into skeletal muscle tissue.
- Occurs most frequently in adolescents, but can affect all age groups.
- Most often presents in the head and neck region.
- Bone marrow involvement is found in 15% of patients.
- Difficult to distinguish from acute leukemia owing to the presence of cytopenia and BM infiltration by blast-like cells with a loosely arranged distribution.

Other rare non-hematological malignancies that have been reported to display an AL-like morphology in BM (and often CD56+):

- Neuroblastoma
- Medulloblastoma
- Anaplastic oligodendroglioma
- Small cell carcinoma
- Ewing's sarcoma
- Neuroendocrine tumors

# Case 4

ChatGPT 5.2

Is CD15 expressed on non-hematological cells?

Yes — CD15 is primarily expressed on hematological cells, but it can also be found on certain non-hematological cells.

## What is CD15?

CD15 (Lewis X antigen, SSEA-1) is a carbohydrate antigen mainly known for expression on:

- Neutrophils (strong expression)
- Other granulocytes
- Some monocytes
- Reed–Sternberg cells in classical Hodgkin lymphoma

## Expression on non-hematological cells

### 1 Normal tissues

CD15 can be expressed on certain non-hematopoietic cells, including:

- Some epithelial cells (e.g., gastrointestinal epithelium)
- Certain endothelial cells
- Embryonic cells (as SSEA-1)

Expression in normal non-hematologic tissues is usually weaker and context-dependent compared to granulocytes.

### 2 Non-hematological tumors

CD15 may be expressed in several epithelial malignancies, such as:

- Lung carcinomas

Is CD15 expressed on rhabdomyosarcoma?

Short answer: No — CD15 is not typically expressed in rhabdomyosarcoma.

## Immunophenotype of Rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS)

Rhabdomyosarcoma is a skeletal muscle–lineage tumor. The characteristic markers are:

- Desmin
- Myogenin
- MyoD1
- Often vimentin

CD15 is not part of the standard immunophenotypic profile of RMS.

## Can CD15 ever be positive?

- Rare cases may show focal or weak staining
- Staining may reflect background granulocytes
- Occasional nonspecific reactivity can occur

However:

- CD15 expression in RMS is not consistent
- It has no diagnostic utility for RMS
- Strong CD15 positivity should prompt consideration of other entities

## Bottom line

CD15 is not a typical marker for rhabdomyosarcoma.

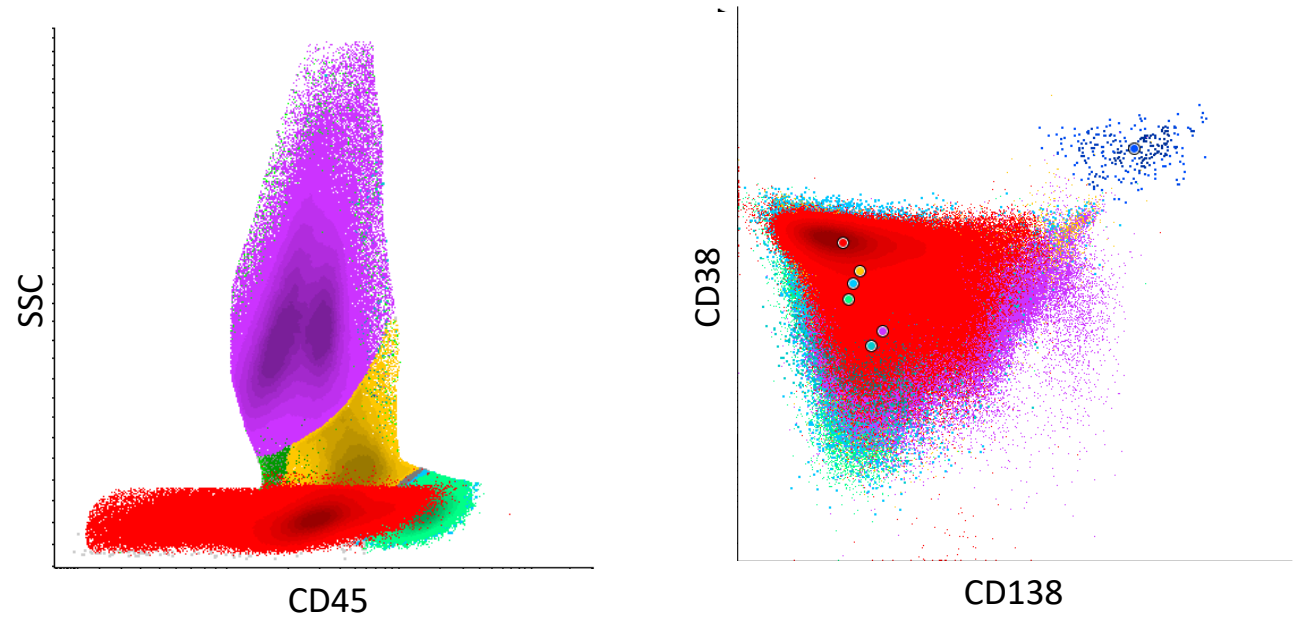
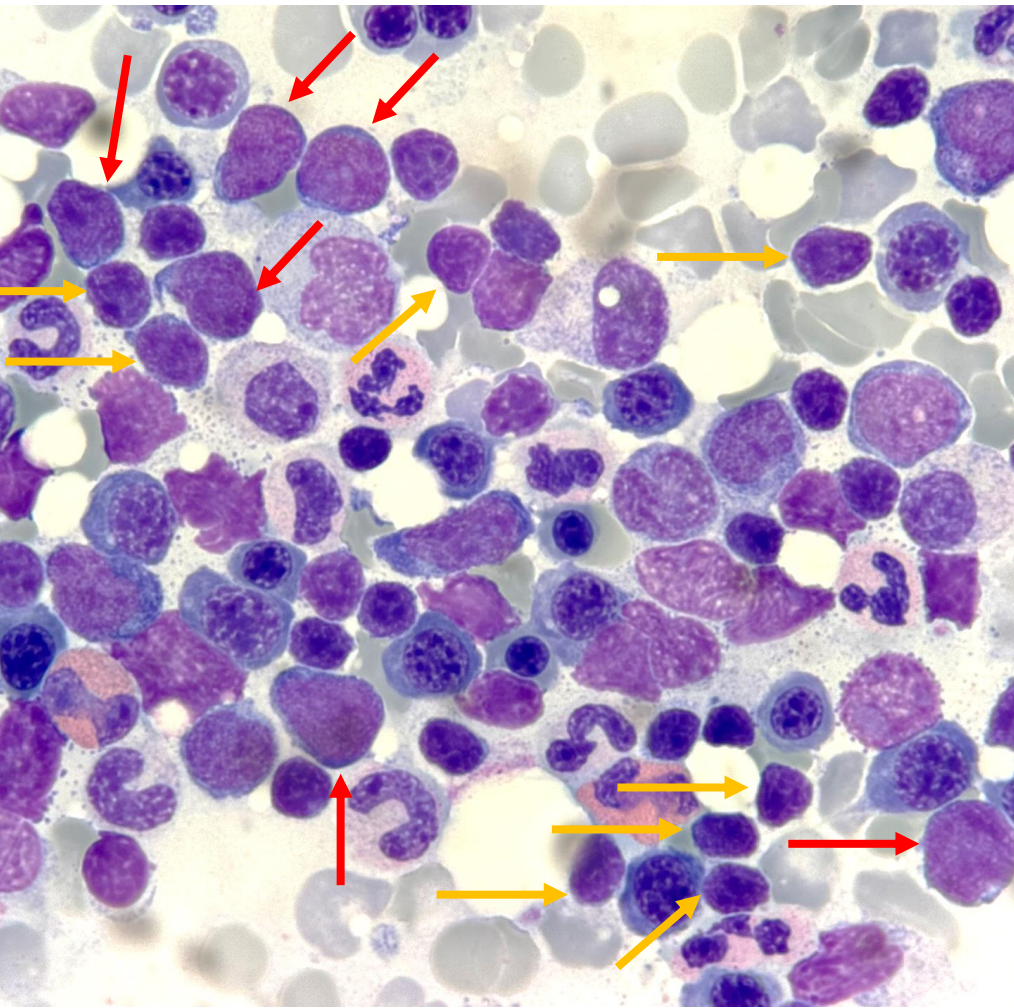
If a tumor suspected to be RMS shows strong CD15 expression, alternative diagnoses (e.g., Hodgkin

# Case 4

## Take home message:

- Exclude doublets
- Not all blastic cells are blasts!
- Not all hematological cells are CD45+

# Case 5



- Follow-up Multiple Myeloma
- Autologous stem cell transplantation
- Maintenance lenalidomide
- No MRD MM

What flow panel would you like to see next?



< Activities

Visual settings

Edit



What additional flow panel would you like to see next

0

AML

No additional  
flow needed

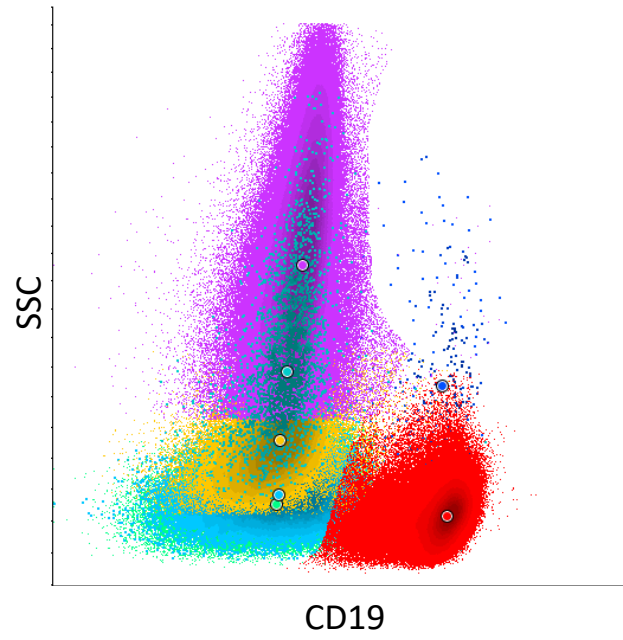
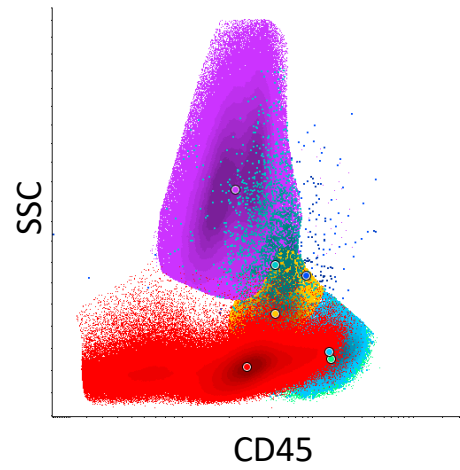
Lymphatic  
screening

Plasma cell

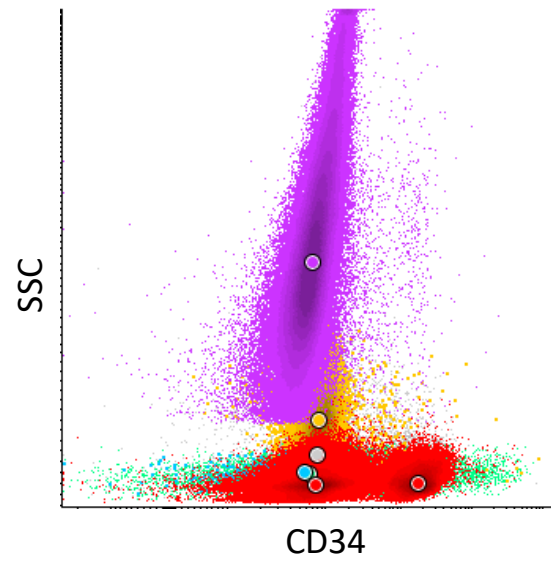
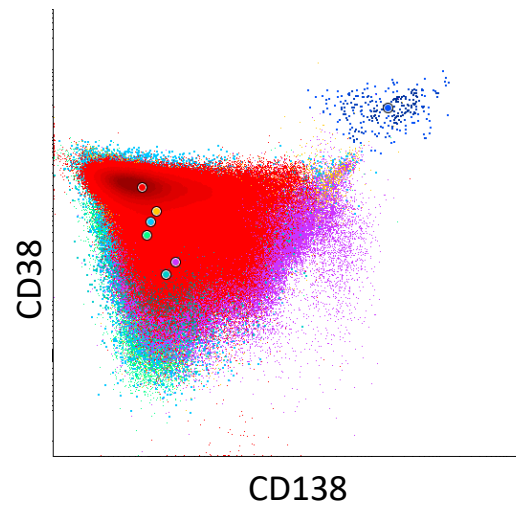
B-ALL

Acute  
Leukemia  
Screening

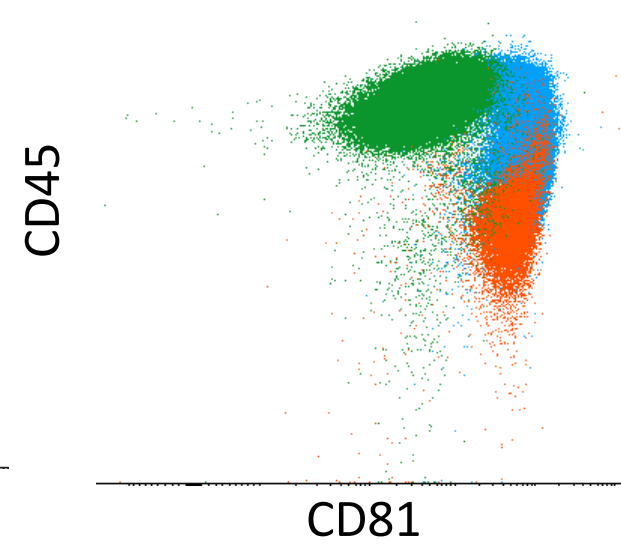
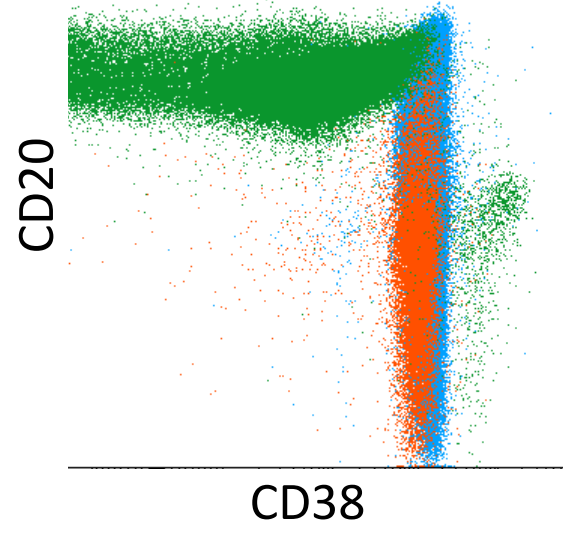
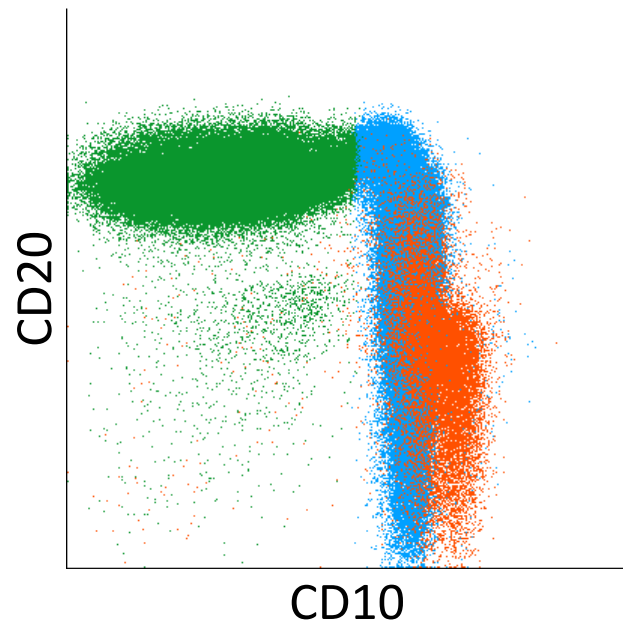
Powered by  Poll Everywhere



Red population: 50%

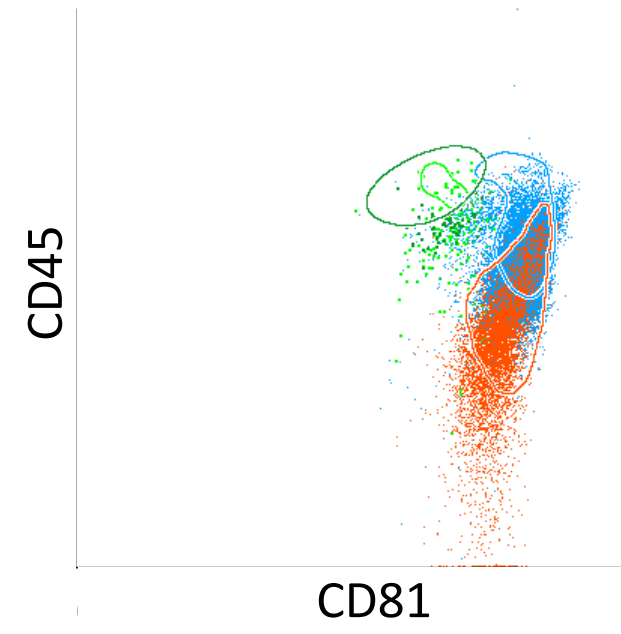
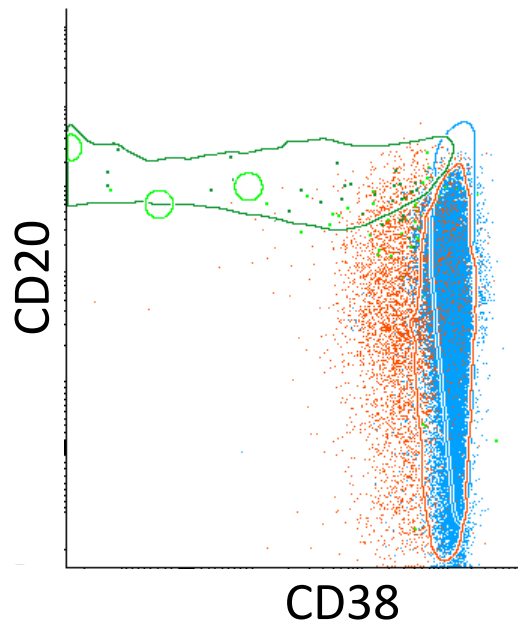
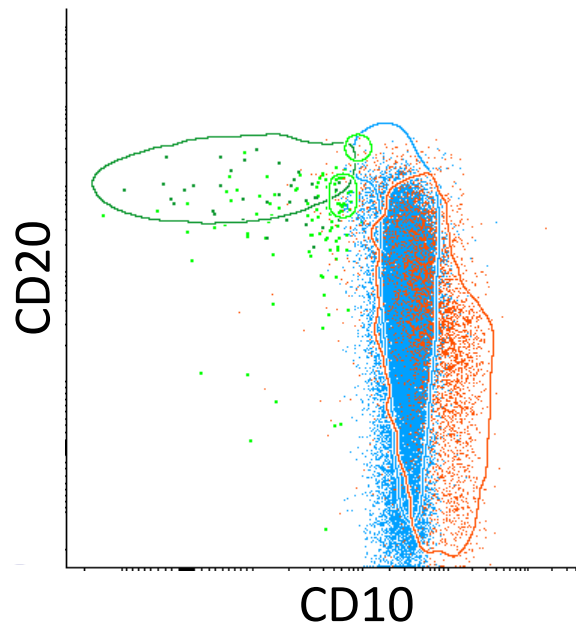


Normal BM



CD34+/CD10+/CD20-  
CD34-/CD10+/CD20-  
CD34-/CD10-/CD20+

Patient BM



What's your final verdict?



< Activities

Visual settings

Edit



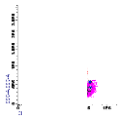
It's B-ALL!?

0

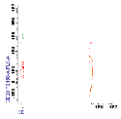
True

False

Powered by  Poll Everywhere

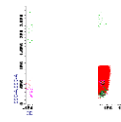


SSC

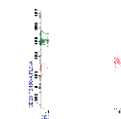


CD45

CD20

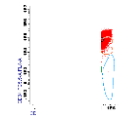


SSC



CD20

CD10

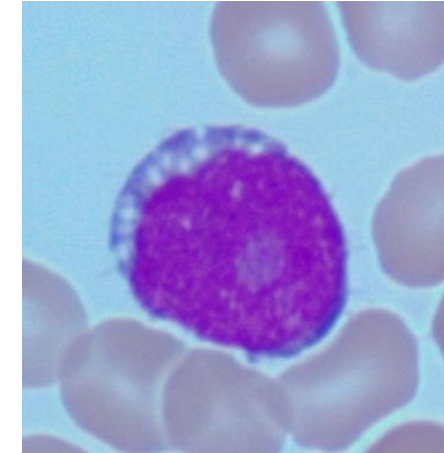
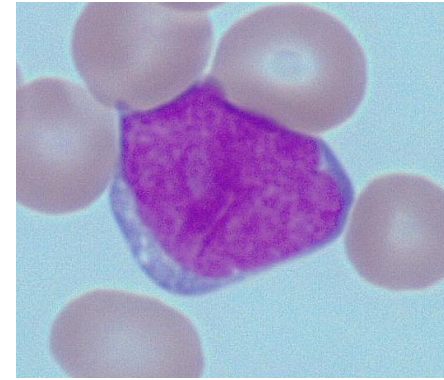


SSC

CD19

CD38

CD81



### Case 5B

- Follow-up Multiple Myeloma
- Autologous stem cell transplantation
- Maintenance lenalidomide
- No MRD MM
  
- TP53 mutated B-ALL

**So case 5A, is no B-ALL, 5B is**

5A: Transient increased number of normal hematogones after lenalidomide – typically with maturation block

Be aware of increased blasts in Multiple Myeloma

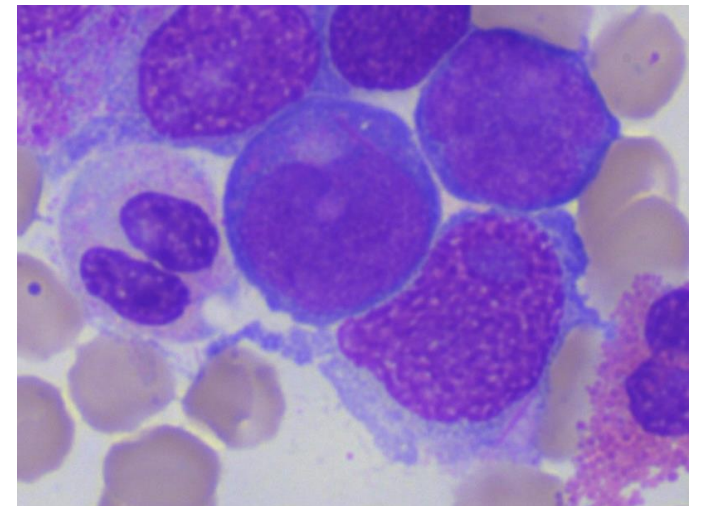
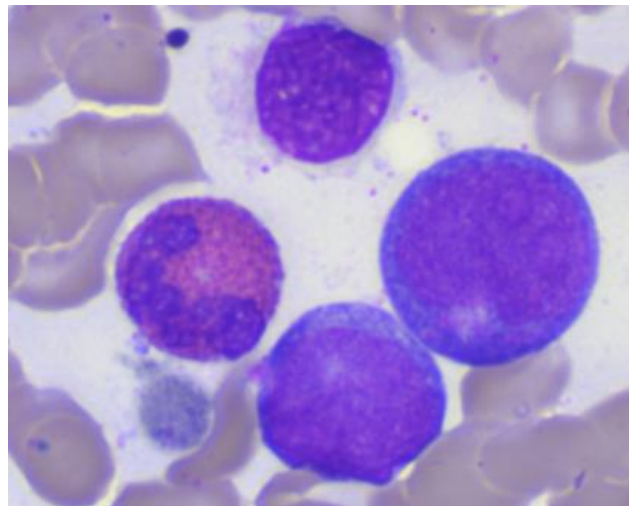
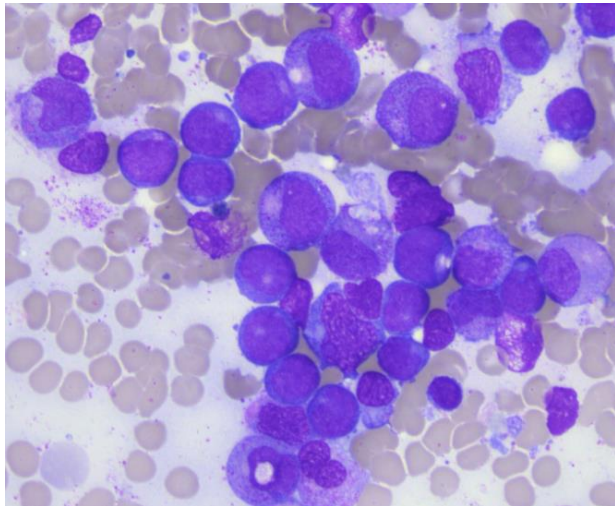
- Secondary MDS/AML can be seen in MM-patients
- Lenalidomide can induce B-ALL, many TP53, IKZF1 or IDH2 mutated (hypothetical due to pressure on B-cell genesis in the presence of CHIP-markers)

Take home message:

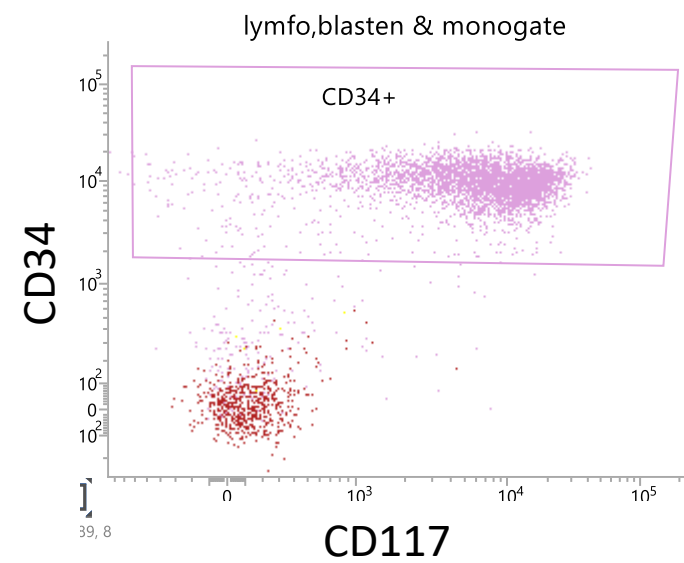
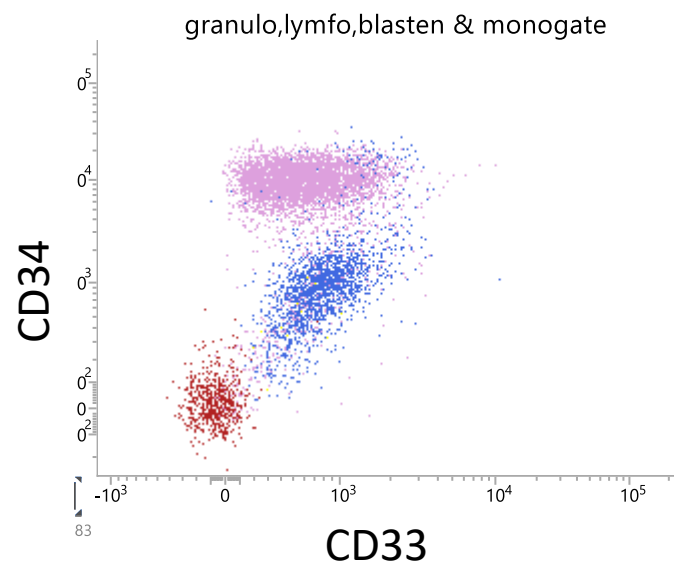
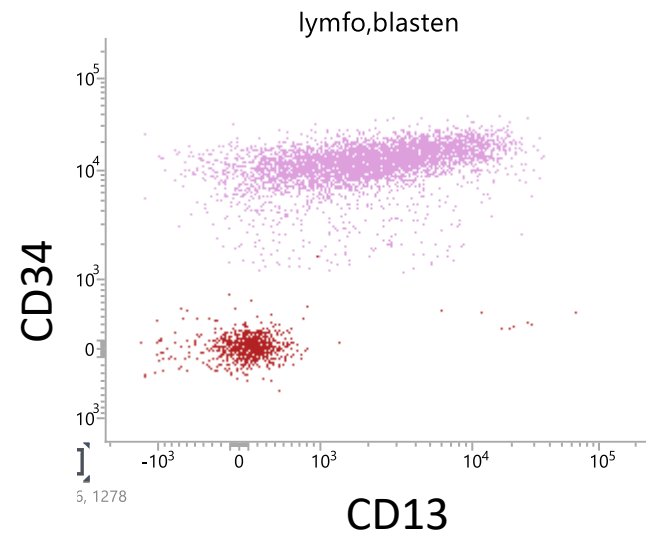
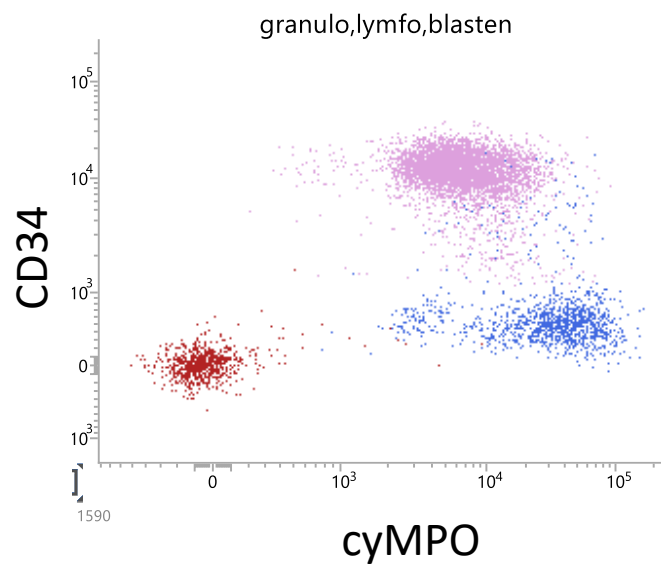
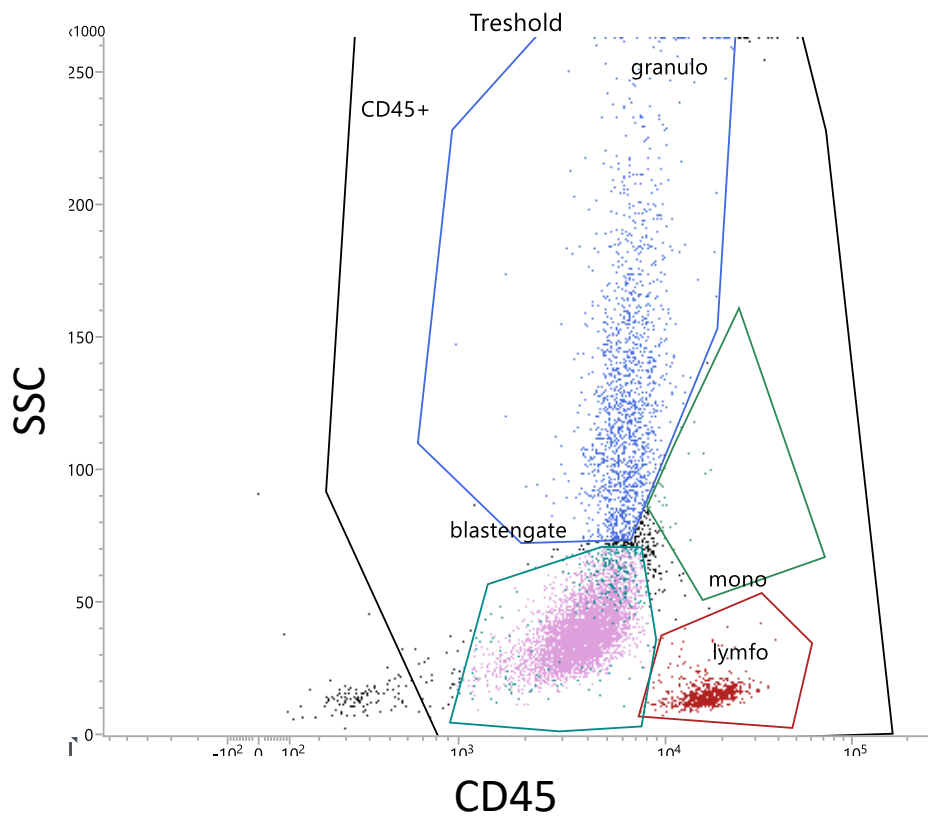
- Vast increase of normal B-cell precursors can be observed with lenalidomide (even up to 50%)
- Knowledge of normal B-cell maturation is essential in these cases

# Case 6

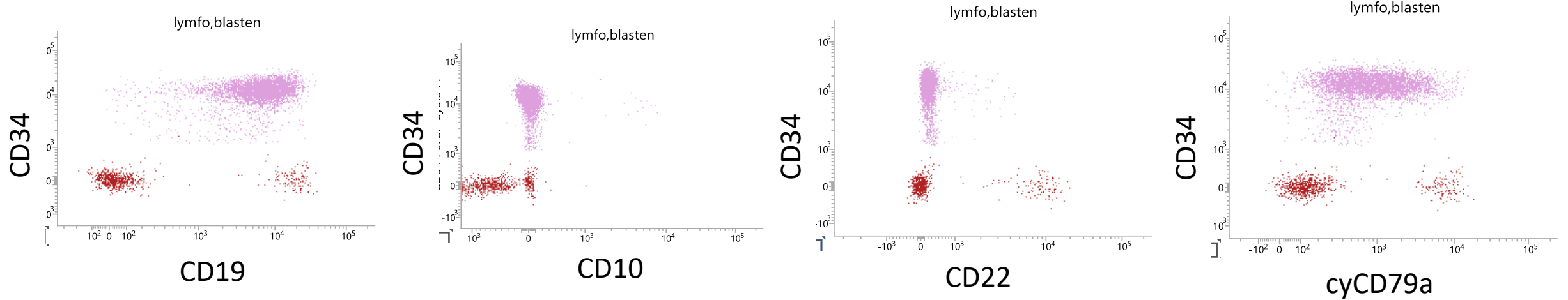
- Man, 46y
- Clinic: Fever, left flank pain: urologic inflammation?
- PB: anemia, thrombocytopenia, normal leukocytosis but 45% blasts
- BM: 74% blasts



# Case 6



# Case 6



**Table 2.25** Lineage assignment criteria for mixed-phenotype acute leukaemia

Lineage	Criterion
<b>B lineage</b>	
CD19 strong <sup>a</sup>	One or more of the following also strongly expressed: CD10, CD22, CD79a <sup>c</sup>
OR	
CD19 weak <sup>a</sup>	Two or more of the following also strongly expressed: CD10, CD22, CD79a <sup>c</sup>
<b>T lineage</b>	
CD3 (cytoplasmic or surface) <sup>d</sup>	Intensity in part exceeds 50% of that of mature T cells by flow cytometry OR Immunocytochemistry positive with non- $\zeta$ -chain reagent
<b>Myeloid lineage</b>	
Myeloperoxidase	Intensity in part exceeds 50% of mature neutrophil level
OR	
Monocytic differentiation	Two or more of the following expressed: nonspecific esterase, CD11c, CD14, CD64, lysozyme

<sup>a</sup>CD19 intensity in part exceeds 50% of that of normal B-cell progenitor by flow cytometry. <sup>b</sup>CD19 intensity does not exceed 50% of that of normal B-cell progenitor by flow cytometry. <sup>c</sup>Provided T lineage is not under consideration; if it is, CD79a cannot be used. <sup>d</sup>Using CD3 epsilon-chain antibody.

Which type of acute leukemia?

- Myeloid
- B-lymphoid
- MPAL
- To hell with flow cytometry, let's perform molecular biology!



< Activities



Visual settings



Edit



How would you classify this leukemia?

 0

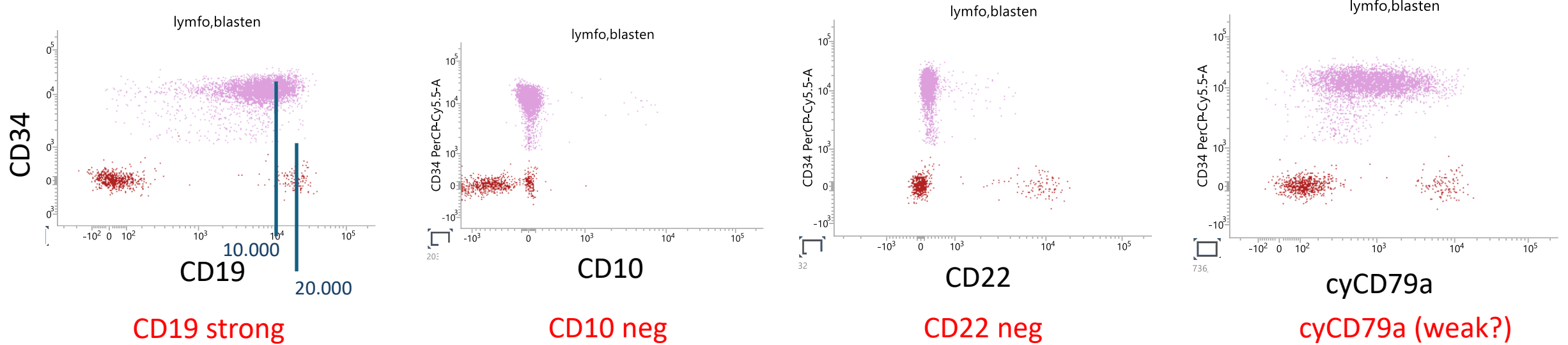
A) Myeloid

B) B-lymphoid

C) MPAL

D) To hell with flow cytometry,  
let's perform molecular biology!

# Case 6



CD19 'strong':

- **WHO:** "CD19 intensity in part exceeds 50% of that of normal B-cell progenitors"
- **ICC:** "CD19 intensity as seen in stage 1 B-cell precursors or mature B cells"

No definition of 'strong' for CD10, CD22 or cyCD79a in either WHO or ICC

# Case 6

## WHO:

- Table:
- Text:

**Table 2.25** Lineage assignment criteria for mixed-phenotype acute leukaemia

Lineage	Criterion
<b>B lineage</b>	
CD19 strong <sup>a</sup>	One or more of the following also <b>strongly</b> expressed: CD10, CD22, CD79a <sup>e</sup>
OR	
CD19 weak <sup>b</sup>	Two or more of the following also strongly expressed: CD10, CD22, CD79a <sup>e</sup>
<b>T lineage</b>	
CD3 (cytoplasmic or surface) <sup>d</sup>	Intensity in part exceeds 50% of that of mature T cells by flow cytometry <b>OR</b> Immunocytochemistry positive with non- $\zeta$ -chain reagent
<b>Myeloid lineage</b>	
Myeloperoxidase	Intensity in part exceeds 50% of mature neutrophil level
OR	
Monocytic differentiation	Two or more of the following expressed: nonspecific esterase, CD11c, CD14, CD64, lysozyme

<sup>a</sup>CD19 intensity in part exceeds 50% of that of normal B-cell progenitor by flow cytometry. <sup>b</sup>CD19 intensity does not exceed 50% of that of normal B-cell progenitor by flow cytometry. <sup>c</sup>Provided T lineage is not under consideration; if it is, CD79a cannot be used. <sup>d</sup>Using CD3 epsilon-chain antibody. <sup>e</sup>Using CD3 epsilon-chain antibody.

### **B lineage**

No single antigen is entirely specific for B lineage, so it is the expression of multiple antigens in combination that provides specificity. Expression of CD19 approaching the level seen on normal B progenitors (exceeding 50% of the level seen on normal B progenitors on at least a portion of the leukaemia) has considerable specificity for B lineage, but it still should occur with **expression of one or more other B-lineage antigens** (CD10, CD22, or CD79a) to define B lineage. Lower CD19 expression is less specific for B lineage, and demonstration of at least two of the other B antigens listed above is required. When T lineage is

# Case 6

## ICC:


- Table:
- Text:

**Table 39.2** Criteria for diagnosis of mixed phenotype acute leukemia with a biphenotypic pattern

B lineage		
Strong CD19 and		1 or more marker expression of CD10, CD22, CD20, or CD79a
Weak CD19 and		2 more strongly expressed: CD10, CD22, CD20, or CD79a
Immunohistochemistry for B-lineage-associated markers		PAX5
T lineage		
CD3 cytoplasmic or surface		Other T-lineage markers possible but not required
Myeloid lineage		
MPO		
Monocytic differentiation		NSE, CD64, CD11c, CD14, or lysozyme

MPO, myeloperoxidase; NSE, non-specific esterase.

***B-cell component of MPAL:*** Following previously published criteria,<sup>1,2</sup> B-lineage designation in MPAL requires CD19 expression, but CD19 alone is not a sufficient criterion for assigning B-cell lineage. In cases with strong expression of CD19 (as seen in stage I B-cell precursors or mature B cells), at least one other B-cell-associated marker should be strongly expressed (cyt.CD79a, CD10, or cyt./sCD22). If CD19 expression is weak, two other B-lineage markers are needed. Of these, cyt.CD79a is probably the most sensitive, although it may occur in T-ALL and cannot be used alone in the diagnosis of B/T leukemia.



TO THE EDITOR:  
The International Consensus Classification of acute leukemias of ambiguous lineage

### Immunophenotype

Similar to the criteria published in the revised fourth edition of the World Health Organization classification of these disorders, B-lineage designation in MPAL requires strong expression of CD19, along with at least 1 other B-cell marker. If CD19

# Case 6

	WHO	ICC book	ICC article
Text	+	+strong	+
Table	+strong	+	+

According to the WHO-HEM5/ICC [1–3], leukemias of mixed phenotype that can be assigned to other clinically or genetically defined categories should not be diagnosed as MPAL despite meeting the lineage criteria, as described below (immunophenotypic section). These include acute myeloid leukemia (AML) with defining genetic abnormalities (such as *RUNX1::RUNX1T1* and *CBFB::MYH11* fusion), chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in blast crisis, myeloid/lymphoid neoplasms with eosinophilia and kinase gene fusions (such as *FGFR1*-rearranged myeloid/lymphoid neoplasms), therapy-related AML, and AML with myelodysplasia-related changes (AML-MR). Such cases should be classified by

## AML with t(8;21) (RUNX1::RUNX1T1)

### AML with t(8;21) (RUNX1::RUNX1T1)

- Large blasts with abundant basophilic cytoplasm, often containing numerous azurophilic granules and perinuclear clearing. Variable degree of dysplasia. Eosinophil precursors often increased.
- Often aberrant expression of CD19 and cyCD79a
- CD33 usually weak or negative

# Case 6

## Take home message:

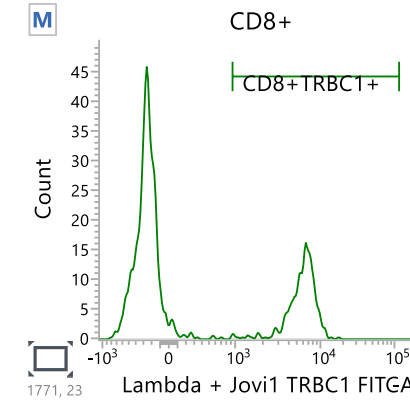
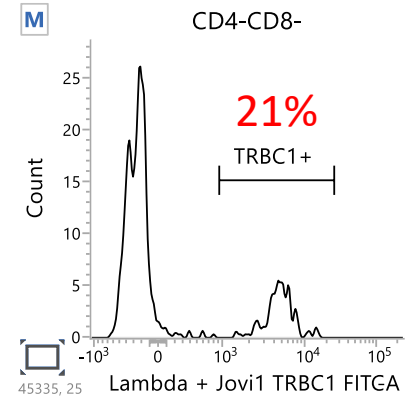
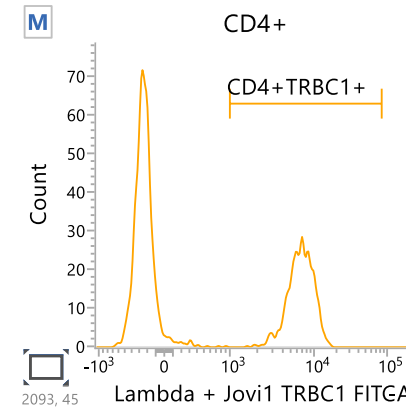
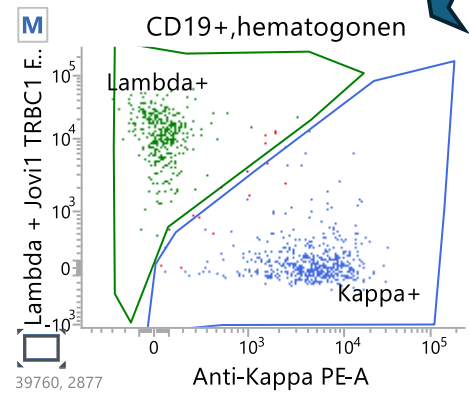
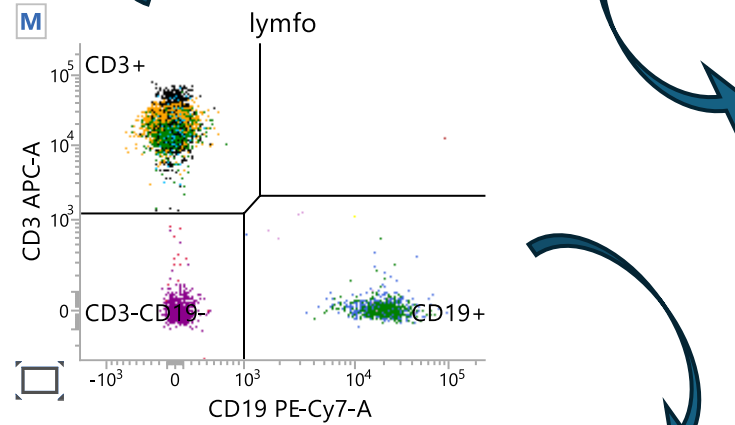
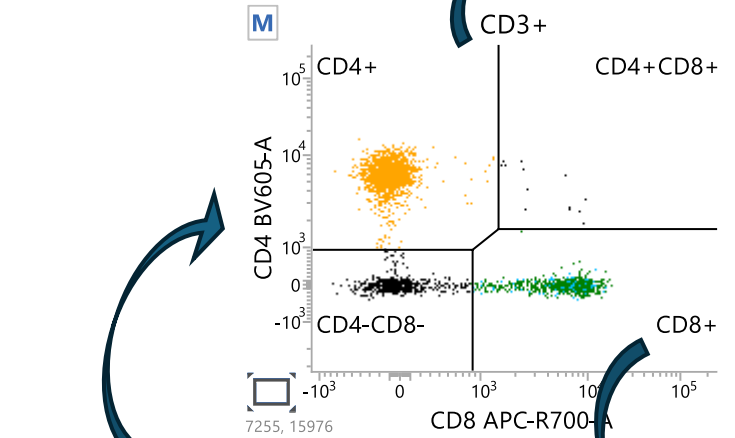
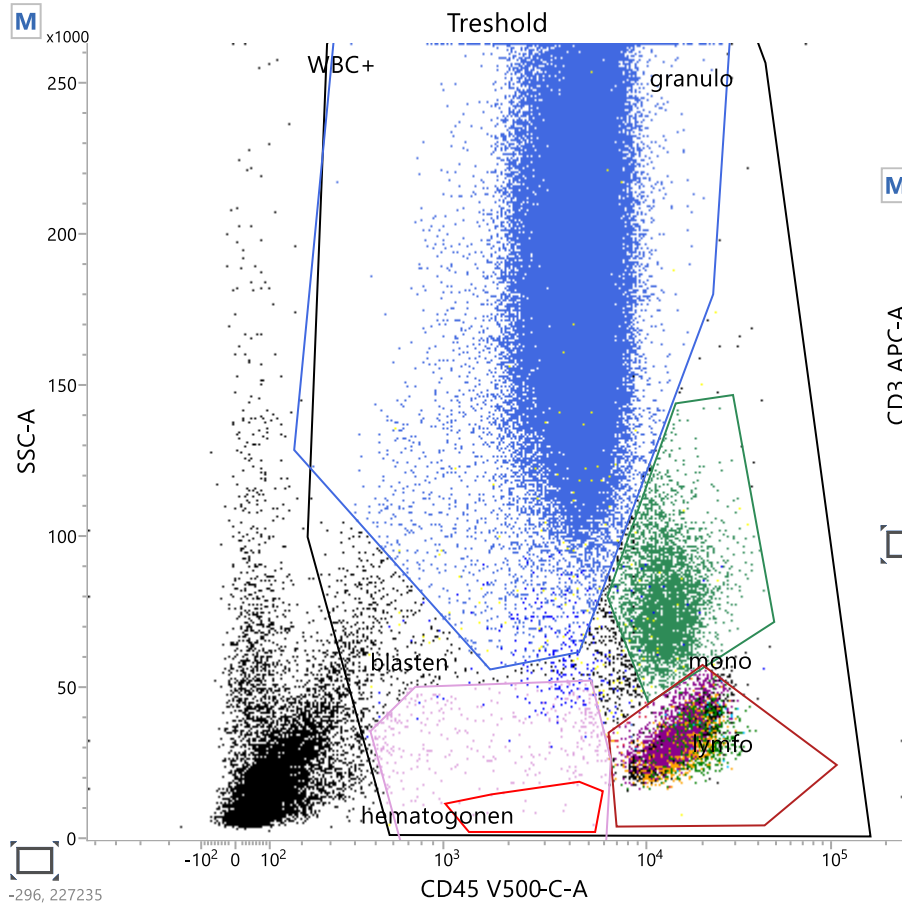
- Consider only strong expression of lineage defining markers for MPAL
- Always wait for molecular/cytogenetic results for definitive diagnosis

# Case 7

- Man, 56y
- Clinic: diffuse inflammatory syndrome, fever, synovitis, arthritis, oedema of lower limbs, multiple adenopathies but no hepatosplenomegaly.
- PET: hypercaptation of BM: inflammation? Malignancy?
- PB: anemia, thrombocytosis
- BM: no specific morphological findings, no vacuolisation (><VEXAS)  
flow: LST

# Case 7

- Flow:



The CD4-/CD8- population in healthy individuals is:

- TRBC1 < 15%
- TRBC1 15-85%
- TRBC1 > 85%



The TRBC1 percentage within CD4-/CD8- population in healthy individuals is:

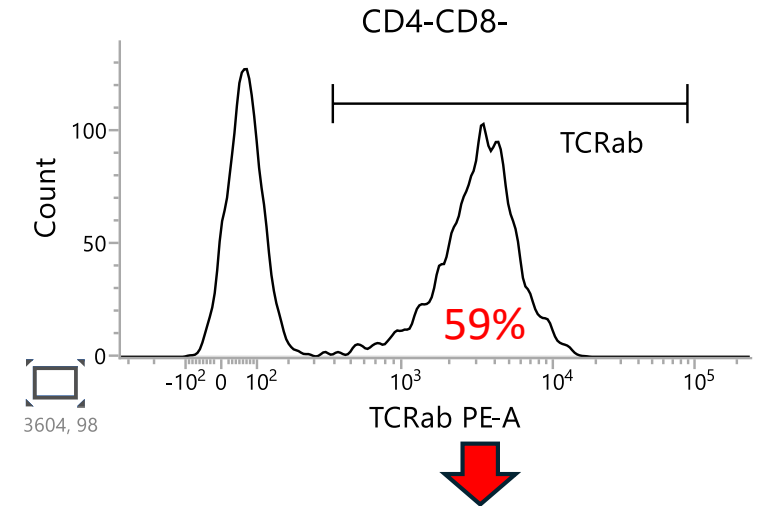
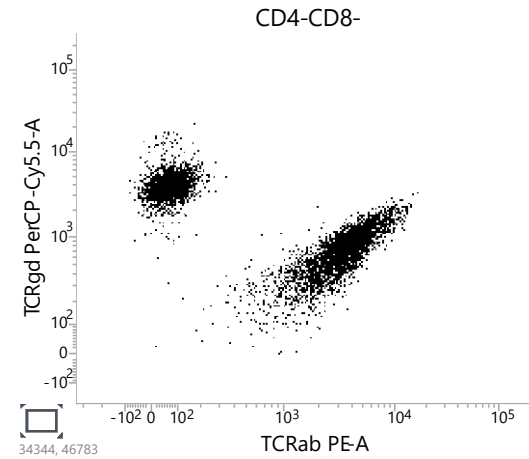
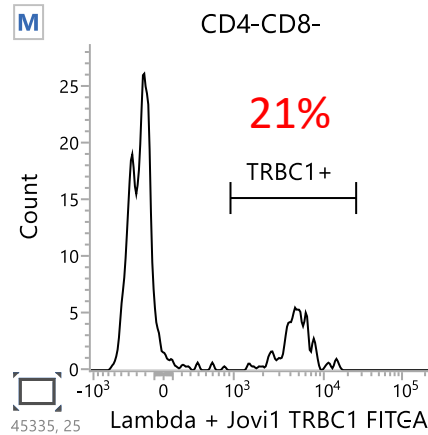
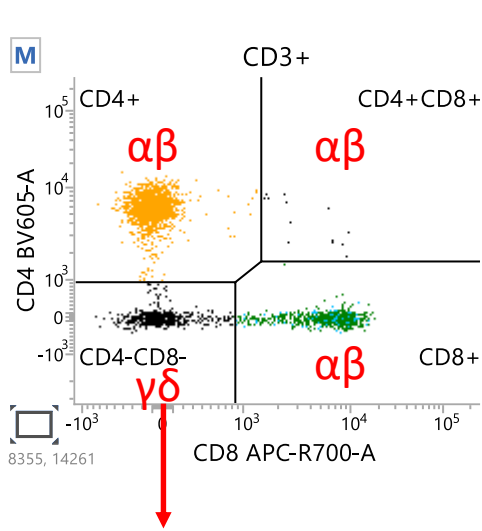
0

A) <15%

B) 15-85%

C) >85%

# Case 7



No  $\beta$ -chain, so no TRBC1 (nor TRBC2)

9% of all lympho's  
12% of all T-lympho's

## Auto-immune lymphoproliferative syndrome (ALPS)?

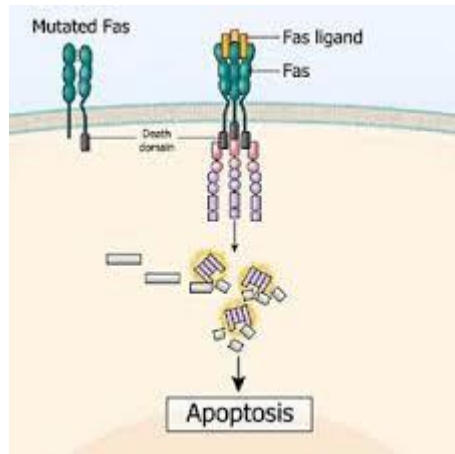
- Genetic (autosomal dominant), non-malignant auto-immune disorder
- Inborn error of immunity (IEI)
- Defect in apoptosis of lymphocytes
- Lymphadenopathy, splenomegaly, cytopenia, auto-immune manifestations
- Increase in CD3+/CD4-/CD8-/TCRab+:
  - >1,5% of all lymphocytes
  - >2,5% of T-lymphocytes

# Case 7

Additional testing for ALPS:

- **Flowcytometry:**

Investigation of FAS(CD95)-mediated apoptosis (*CHU Brugmann, Brussels*): neg



- **Molecular biology:**

Evaluation of mutations in FAS, FASL, CASP10: neg

<i>Immunophénotype</i>			
<b>Cellules T</b>			
CD3 absolu	↘ 336.0	/μL	605.0-2460.0
CD4 absolu	↘ 181.0	/μL	410.0-1590.0
CD8 absolu	↘ 102.0	/μL	190.0-1140.0
CD3/CD45	65.1	%	55.0-83.0
CD4/CD45	35.2	%	28.0-57.0
CD8/CD45	19.7	%	10.0-39.0
rapport CD4/CD8	1.8		0.6-2.8
CD3+CD4-CD8- (calcul)	↗ 16	%	0-5
CD3+CD4+CD95+	57.12	%	
	100% apres stimulation		
CD3+CD8+CD95+	40.40	%	
	100% apres stimulation		
C. apoptotiques (contrôle négatif)	20.61	%	
C. apoptotiques (anti-Fas inducteur)	88.8	%	
<b>Cellules B</b>			
CD19/CD45	11.0	%	8.0-24.0
CD19 absolu	↘ 57.0	/μL	100.0-500.0
<b>Cellules NK</b>			
CD16/CD56 (NK)	23.7	%	7.0-31.0
NK absolu	122.0	/μL	90.0-600.0
Conclusion	- Augmentation des lymphocytes T CD4-CD8-. Pas de deficit d'apoptose Fas-induite par un anticorps inducteur. L'expression du CD95 (Fas) est normale et bien upregulee apres la stimulation. En cas de suspicion d'ALPS, completer par l'evaluation des TCRab/gd et par le sFAS.		

# Case 7

- DD with VEXAS: clinic (absence of adenopathy&splenomegaly), morphology (vacuoles) & genetics (UBA1), no flowcytometric aberrencies
- DD with CD4-/CD8- lymphoma:

	ALPS	Hepatosplenic TCL	Gamma delta T-LGL
Hepato-splenomegaly	+	+	-
B-symptoms	+	+	-
CD4	-	-	-
CD8			
CD5			-
CD7			-
CD16		+/-	
CD56		+/-	-
CD57		-	+
TCR	ab	gd	gd

No ALPS, no VEXAS, no CLPD,  
diagnosis unclear

# Case 7

## Take home message:

- Don't forget CD4-/CD8-
- Most increases in CD4-/CD8- are inflammatory
- Most CD4-/CD8- cells express TCRgd . Do not consider TRBC1 & 2 on these cells!
- ALPS is an IEI with increased polyclonal CD4-/CD8- that express TCRab

