

# DRUG ALLERGY

*Ngatidjan*

Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics

Faculty of Medicine UGM

# DRUG ALLERGY

➤ Type-B ADR caused by drug involves immunological mechanism,

➤ Type-B ADR

- patient`s abnormality,
- unpredictable,
- dose independent,
- low morbidity,
- high mortality.

Type-A ADR

- related to pharmacological effect
- predictable,
- dose dependent,
- high morbidity,
- low mortality.

# TYPE – A ADR

## Primary pharmacology



- Augmentation of known action



- $\beta$ -blockers induced bradycardia  
prazosin induces hypotension

## Secondary pharmacology



- Often involves different organ system but rationalizable from the known pharmacology



- $\beta$ -blockers induced bronchospasm,  
 $\alpha_1$ -blockers induces tachycardia,  
NSAIDs induced bronchospasm,

# TYPE – B ADR → mechanism

## Mechanism

- Pharmaceutical variation
- Receptor abnormality
- Abnormal biological system unmasked by drug
- Abnormal drug metabolism
- Immunological involvement
- Drug-drug interaction
- Multifactorial

## Example

- eosinophilia-myalgia syndrome with L-tryptophan
- malignant hyperthermia with general anaesthetics
- primaquine induced haemolysis with G6PD deficiency
- INH induced neuropathy in slow acetylators
- penicillin induced anaphylactic shock.
- INH induced hepatitis in concomitant administration of rifampin,
- halothane hepatitis

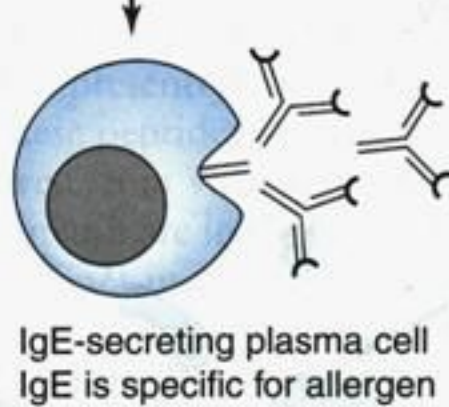
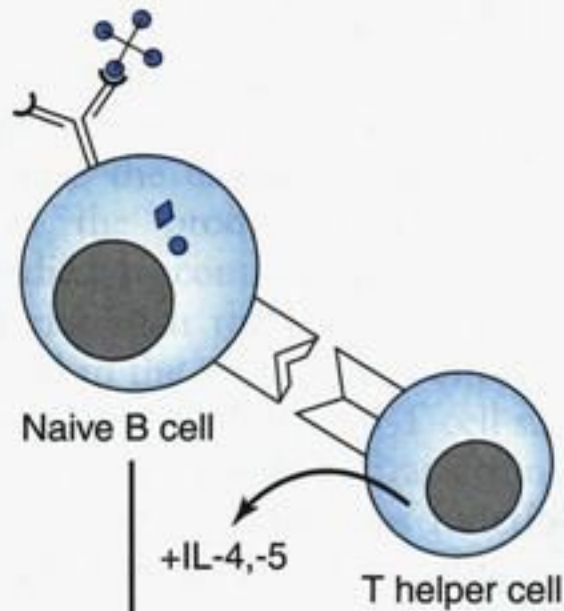
# TYPE – B ADR → organ system

Organ system	Type of reaction	Drug example
- Generalized reaction	- Anaphylaxis	- Penicillins
	- Hypersensitivity	- Temafloxacin
- Skin	- TEN	- NSAIDs
	- SJS	- Sulfonamide
- Liver	- Hepatitis	- Halothane
- Haematological system	- Aplastic anemia	- Remoxipride
	- Agranulocytosis	- Clozapine
	- Maelolysis	- Nomifensine
- Central nervous system	- Guillain-Barre syndrome	- Zimeldine
- Kidney	- Interstitial nephritis	- penicillins
- Lung	- Pneumonitis	- Dapsone
- Heart	- Cardiomyopathy	- Tacrolimus

# DRUG ALLERGY

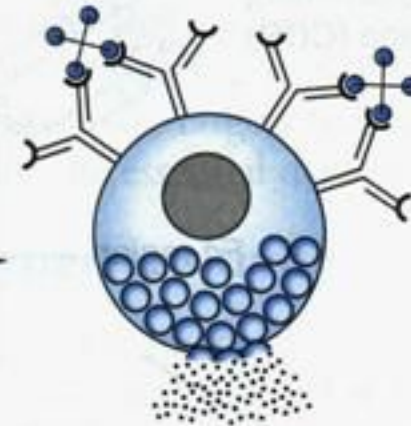
- Lack of correlation with known pharmacological effects,
- Lack of linear relation with the dose,  
(very small dose may cause very severe effect)
- Rash, angioedema, serum sickness syndrome, asthma or anaphylactic shock – allergic reaction.
- There is induction period on primary exposure but not on re-exposure,
- Disappearance on cessation of administration and reappearance on re-exposure to the drug,
- Occurs in a minority of patients receiving the drug (low morbidity),
- Possible response to desensitisation.

## Sensitization phase



IgE binds IgE Fc receptors on mast cells or basophils

## Effector phase



Allergen cross-links IgE on mast cell (or basophil) and triggers degranulation and release of pharmacologic mediators

### Mediators

Histamine  
Serotonin  
Leukotrienes  
Prostaglandins  
Bradykinins  
Proteases  
Eosinophil chemotactic factor  
Neutrophil chemotactic factor

### Effects

Smooth muscle contraction  
Vasodilation  
Increased vascular permeability  
Platelet aggregation  
Complement activation  
Mucus secretion

### Clinical symptoms

Asthma  
Hay fever  
Skin rashes  
Local anaphylaxis  
Systemic anaphylaxis

# TYPE – I DRUG ALLERGY

- Immediately → occurs in minutes and last in 1 – 2 hours,
- IgE mediated in response to a drug hapten conjugated to protein,
- IgE and antigen interaction cause mast and basophylic cells release histamine and other chemical mediators (PGs, LTs and PAF)
- Severe anaphylactic reaction (shock) occur in 1 among 200 patients,
- Atopic patients are at increased risk,
- Urticaria, pruritus, bronchospasm, hypotension, shock,
- Penicillins and cephalosporins.

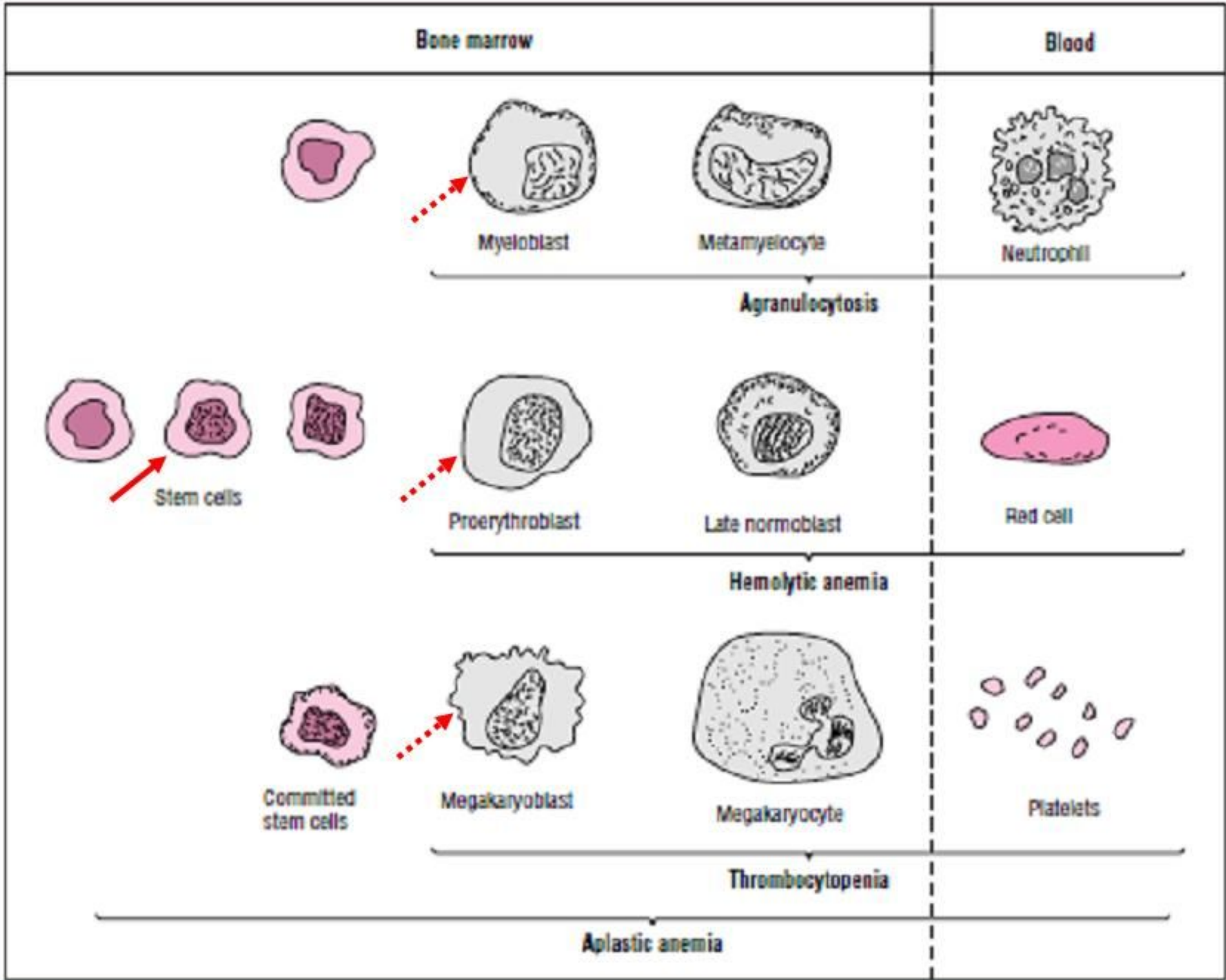


# TYPE – II DRUG ALLERGY

- Antibody dependent cytotoxic type,
- IgG and IgM mediated,
- Reaction of drug as hapten and IgG or IgM activates complement → cells damage → ,
- Hemolytic anemia (methyldopa, penicillins, quinidine), aplastic anemia (sulfonamide – OAD, allopurinol), thrombocytopenia (rifampin, quinidine, thiazides) or neutropenia (clozapine, carbamazepine, sulfonamide – OAD etc.),
- Occurs in days, weeks or years after exposure,

# Drug induced aplastic anemia

- Immune or non-immunologic ADR,
- Most serious drug induced blood dyscrasia,
- Mortality rate > 50%,
- Aplastic anemia established if there are 2 signs of WBC < 3.500 / mm<sup>3</sup>, thrombocytes < 55.000 / mm<sup>3</sup>, Hb < 10 g%, reticulocytes < 30.000 / mm<sup>3</sup>,
- Severe aplastic anemia established if there are 2 signs of : neutrophyl < 500 / mm<sup>3</sup>, thrombocytes < 20.000 / mm<sup>3</sup>, anemia corrected index < 1%,
- Onset vary but often 6 – 7 weeks after drug exposure
- Clinical symptoms palor, malaise, fever, chilling, pharyngitis sore throat, petechiae, bruisability and bleeding.



# TYPE – III DRUG ALLERGY

- IgM or IgG mediated,
- Immune complexes activate complement system and cells, → cause release chemical mediators,
- Serum sickness, fever, rash, urticaria, arthralgia, vasculitis, lymphadenopathy, proteinuria,
- Occurs 1 – 3 weeks after drug exposure,
- Heterologous serum, monoclonal antibody etc.

# TYPE – III DRUG ALLERGY





Vasculitis caused by furosemide (Lichtman *et al.*, 2007)



quinidine purpura (Lichtman *et al.*, 2007)

# TYPE – IV DRUG ALLERGY

- Delayed and cell mediated,
- Eczema, rashes, other contact dermatitis, SJS or TEN,
- Flu like symptoms → variable severity of mucous membrane and cutaneous involvement.
- SJS and TEN manifestation 0,5 – 2 per 1.000.000 patients per-year, mortality rate 5% (SJS) and 30% (TEN).  
(but some evidence are not immune mediated reactions)
- Occures 48 hrs – 7 days after drug exposure,
- Type-IVa reaction involves a TH<sub>1</sub> response, type-IVb involves a TH<sub>2</sub> response.



# DRUG ALLERGY (Gell & Coomb classification)

Type-I	Type-II	Type-III	Type-IV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IgE mediated,</li> <li>- immediate type,</li> <li>- urticaria, pruritus, vomiting, diarrhea, brnchospasm, hypotension, shock.</li> <li>- minutes – hours, after drug expos.</li> <li>- penicilline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IgG and IgM</li> <li>- cytotoxic,</li> <li>- hemolytic anemia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia,</li> <li>- vary</li> <li>- penicilline, methyldopa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- immune complex,</li> <li>- serum sickness, rash, fever, lymphadenopathy, glomerulonephritis.</li> <li>- 1 – 3 weeks after drug exposure,</li> <li>- globuline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- cell mediated, CT.</li> <li>- delayed,</li> <li>- dermatitis, SJS, TEN</li> <li>- 2 – 7 days after cutaneous expos.</li> <li>- antihistamine top., sulfonamide<sup>*)</sup></li> </ul>

# Management of Drug Allergy

- Consider desensitization (IgE) graded challenge (non-IgE) before administration, as appropriate
- Prompt emergency treatment for anaphylactic reactions
- Avoid drug if possible,
- Consider prophylactic regimen before administration of drug,
- Prudent use of drugs in the future,
- Patient education,

# DIAGNOSTIC TEST

## Immune reaction

- Type-I (IgE mediated)
- Type-II (cytotoxic)
- Type III (immune complex)
- Type IV (delayed, cell mediated)

## Laboratory tests

- skin testing, RAST (radioallergosorbent test), serum tryptase
- direct or indirect Coombs test
- ESR (erythrocyte sedimentation rate), immune complex, complement studies, antinuclear antibody, tissue biopsy for IF etc.
- patch test, lymphocyte proliferation assay

# TREATMENT OF DRUG ALLERGY

## Immune reaction

- Type-I (IgE mediated)
- Type-II (cytotoxic)
- Type III (immune complex)
- Type IV (delayed, cell mediated)

## Therapeutic considerations

- discontinue drug, adrenaline, antihistamines?, systemic corticosteroids, bronchodilators, inpatients.
- discontinue drug, consider systemic corticosteroids, transfusion.
- discontinue drug, consider NSAIDs, antihistamines, or systemic corticosteroids, plasmapheresis.
- discontinue drug, topical corticosteroids, antihistamines, systemic corticosteroids if necessary .

# Therapy of drug induced aplastic anemia

- Remove suspected drug from exposure,
- Supportive care, including treat the infection, erythrocyte and platelet support transfusion,
- Antithymocyte globulin (polyclonal immunoglobulin,
- Corticosteroids, methylprednisolon,
- Cyclosporin to block lymphocyte-T proliferation and function may block IL-2 production

Medical history  
Physical examination  
Clinical laboratory data

is a drug reaction likely?

yes

no

Is there suspicion of

- drug induced hypersensitivity?
- immunologic reaction?

other etiology likely

evaluate and treat other causes of symptoms

yes

no

immune mechanism

- IgE mediated
- cytotoxic
- immune complex
- delayed cell-mediated
- other immune mechanisms

non-immune mechanism

- pharmacologic side effects
- drug toxicity
- drug interactions
- drug overdose
- pseudoallergy
- idiosyncratic

### immune mechanism

- IgE mediated
- cytotoxic
- immune complex
- delayed cell-mediated
- other immune mechanisms

### non-immune mechanism

- pharmacologic side effects
- drug toxicity
- drug interactions
- drug overdose
- pseudoallergy
- idiosyncratic

evaluate with appropriate confirmatory tests

are tests supportive of immune drug reaction?

yes

no

diagnosis of drug hypersensitivity / immunologic reaction confirmed

dose test have high negative predictive value?

yes

continue drug with closed observation

no

management

### management

- modify dose
- try drug substitution
- treat side effects
- consider graded doses
- patient education

A scenic view of a traditional Danish lakeside building complex. The buildings feature red and white facades with orange tiled roofs. A sign above the entrance reads "Sjællandskøbenhavn". The buildings are situated on a calm lake, with several ducks and swans swimming in the water. A Danish flag flies on a tall pole in the foreground. The background is filled with lush green trees, including weeping willows.

**Thanks for your attention**