

Anaemias

Anemia is a condition in which the O₂-carrying capacity of blood is reduced. Most of anemia are characterized by either reduced numbers of RBCs or decreased amount of hemoglobin in the blood.

- The classification of anaemia is based on the cause:

Impaired erythrocyte production

- – Iron deficiency
- – Megaloblastic anaemias
- – Hypoplastic anaemia

Increased erythrocyte loss

- – Haemolytic anaemias
- – Normocytic anaemia.

Term	Definition
Normochromic	Cell colour normal
Normocytic	Cells normal sized
Microcytic	Cells smaller than normal
Macrocytic	Cells bigger than normal
Hypochromic	Cells paler than normal
Haemolytic	Rate of cell destruction rai
Megaloblastic	Cells large and immature

Anaemia can cause abnormal changes in red cell size or colour, detectable microscopically. Characteristic changes are listed in the above Table