

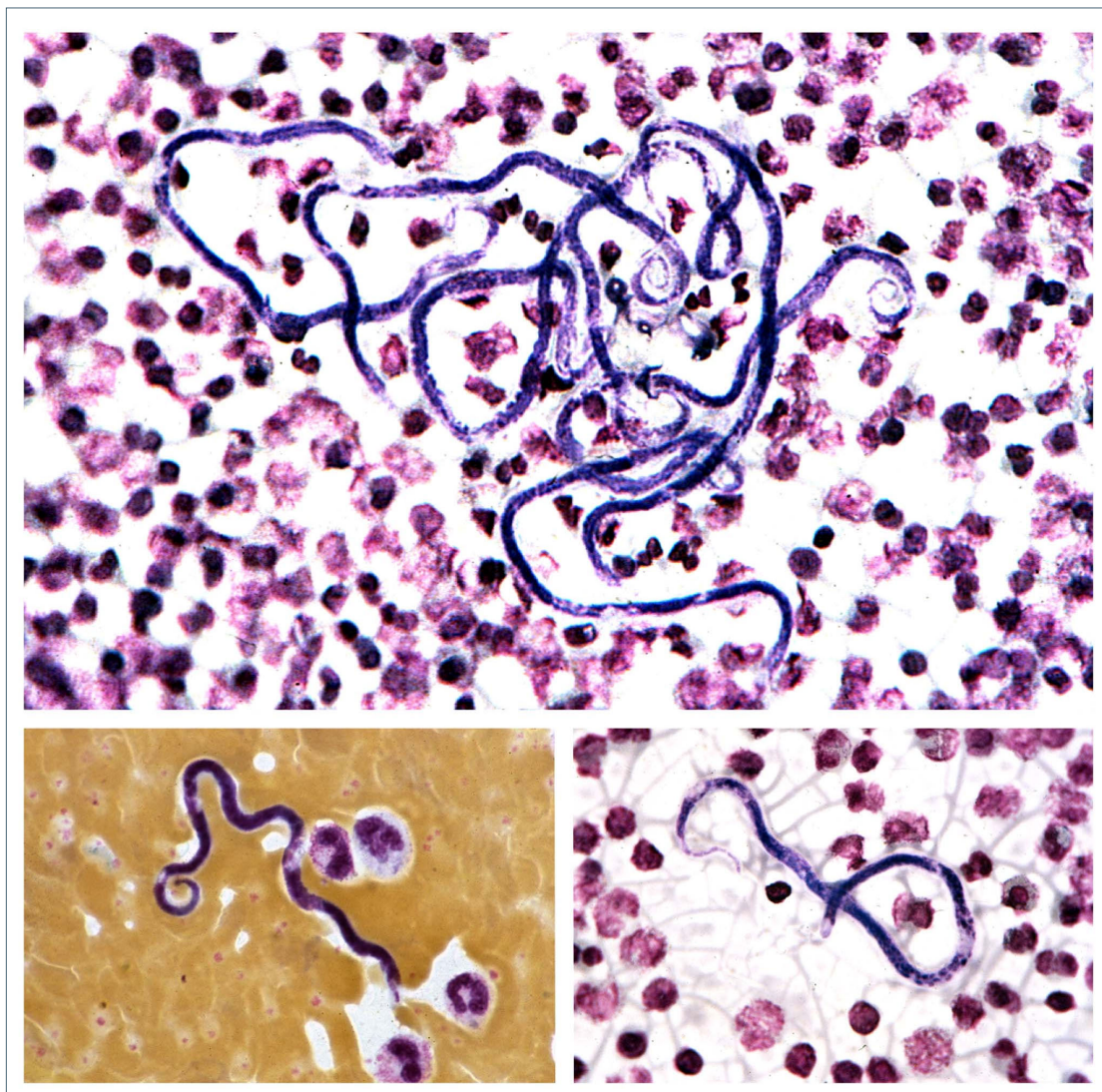
## Images from the Haematologica Atlas of Hematologic Cytology: filariasis

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doi:10.3324/haematol.2021.278713



*Microfilariae*, i.e. the larval stage of *Filaria* spp., may be found in the peripheral blood after white blood cell concentration by centrifugation and, occasionally, also in bone marrow preparations and other fine-needle aspirates. Morphological findings differ according to the species and form the basis for diagnosis. In buffy coat smears, *Loa loa microfilariae* appear as primitive serpentine-shaped organisms containing many nuclei with a head space, a sheath unstained with Giemsa and the tapering of the tail (top image). In the lower left image, a thick film shows the size of a *Loa loa microfilaria* in relation to white blood cells and the coiled tail; note also the row of nuclei through the whole body of the parasite right to the end of the tail (bottom right image).<sup>1</sup> Eosinophilia is often an associated feature.

### Reference

1. Malfitano A, Invernizzi R. Parasitic and fungal diseases. *Haematologica*. 2020; 105(Suppl. 1):29-39.