



## Mitosis in peripheral blood in prematurity

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Peripheral blood smears showing erythroblast mitosis in different phases from a premature 32-week gestation neonate from a triplet gestation after ovulation induction and *in vitro* fertilization, with extremely low birth weight (590 g).

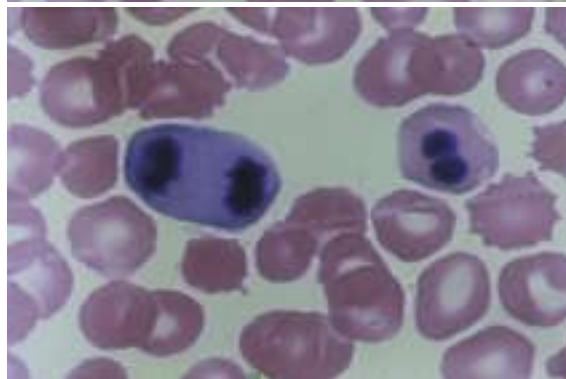
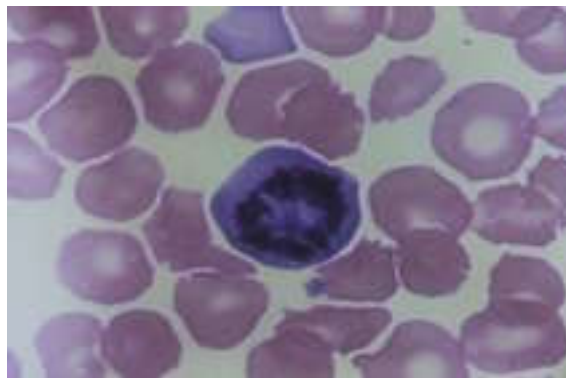
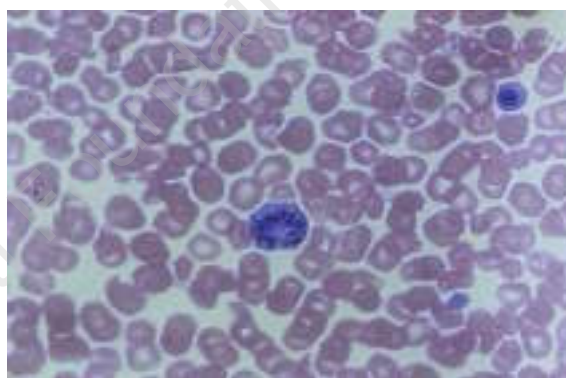
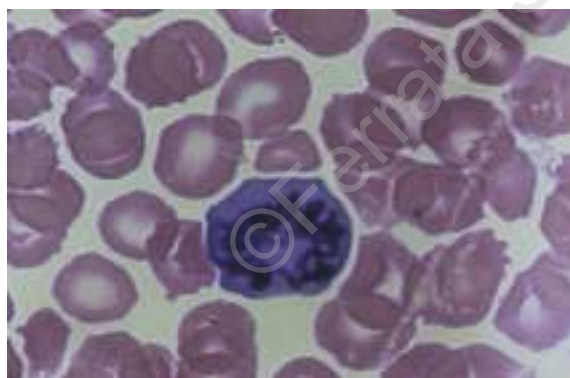
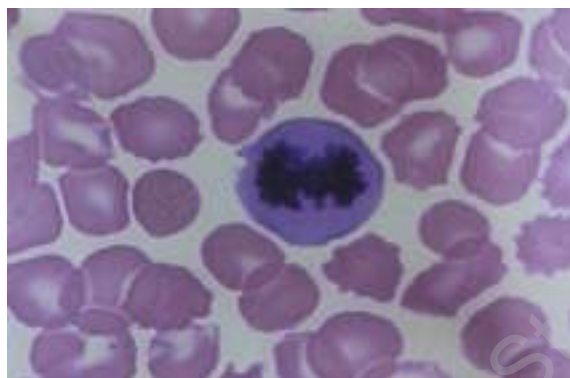
Hemogram's relevant scores: WBC  $34.8 \times 10^9/L$  and RBC  $3.5 \times 10^{12}/L$ . Erythroblasts, 47% of the nucleated cells, were observed in different maturative stages.

Artificial fertilization techniques result in a major increase in multifetal gestations<sup>1</sup>, with an increased

risk of prematurity, extremely low birth weight and physiologic erythroblastosis.

### References

1. Pregnancy and child outcome after assisted reproduction techniques. Tarlatzis BC, Grimbizis G. Hum Reprod 1999; 14(Suppl 1):231-42.



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