

# HOLY C.O.W.!

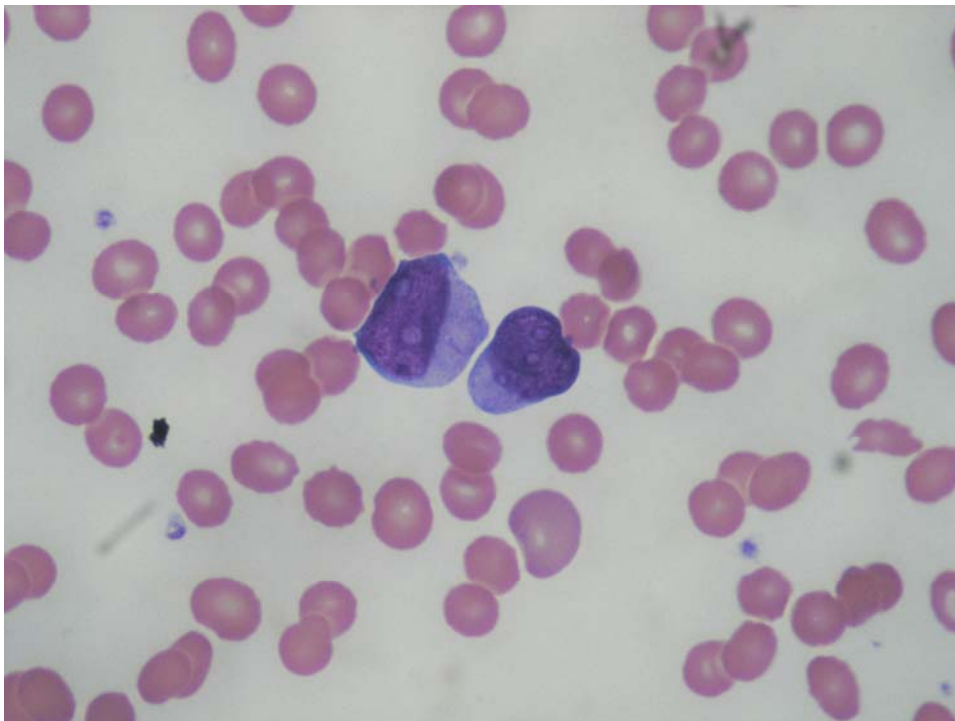
## IT'S...

Clinical Question of the Week #13  
September 22nd, 2008 through  
September 29th, 2008

Please e-mail your answers to Kuo, Tim, Wendy, and Kevin ([klian@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:klian@mednet.ucla.edu); [tprovias@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:tprovias@mednet.ucla.edu); [wsimon@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:wsimon@mednet.ucla.edu); [kbreger@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:kbreger@mednet.ucla.edu)) by 0800 on Monday, September 29th, 2008. The resident or intern with the most correct answers at the end of each month will receive a prize!

**Case:** A 25-year-old man presents to clinic for evaluation of fatigue and dyspnea. Over the past several weeks, the patient notes insidious onset of fatigue and generalized malaise, followed by the gradual onset of increased shortness of breath when he tries to exercise. He has not had any fevers, chills, night sweats, chest pain, or edema, but he notes that on a couple of occasions, he's had bleeding while brushing his teeth. Examination reveals slightly pale and thin man, normal cardiopulmonary exam, and palpable spleen tip. Laboratory data is pending, but the peripheral blood smear is shown below.

\*\*This case was provided by Dr. Carl Schulze (UCLA IM '07), now practicing in Alice Springs in the Northern Territory of Australia – who made the diagnosis on the smear below.



**Questions:**

- 1. What is the diagnosis?**
- 2. What are the requirements for diagnosing this condition?**
- 3. What is the key finding shown in the image?**
- 4. Name two adverse prognostic factors for this condition.**