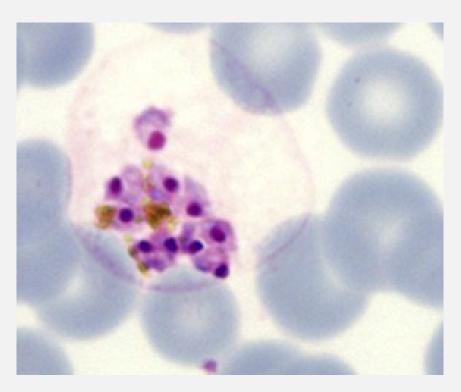
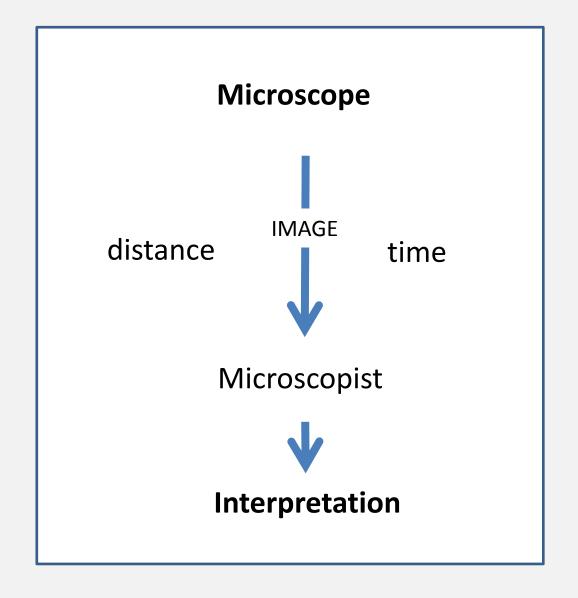
Quality Assuring Telepathology



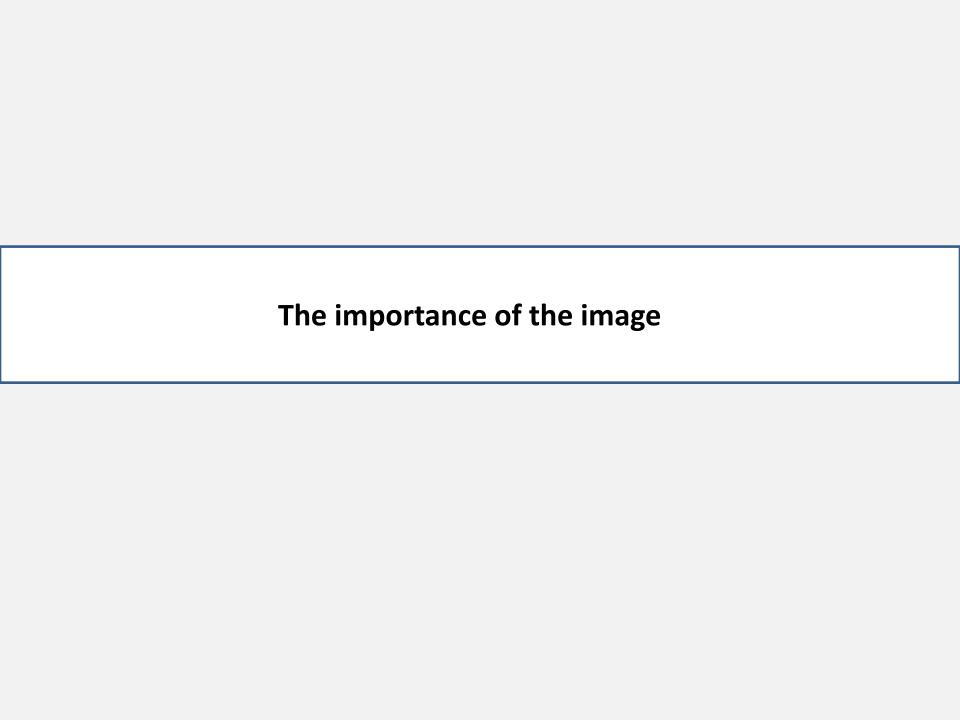


John Burthem

What is telepathology?

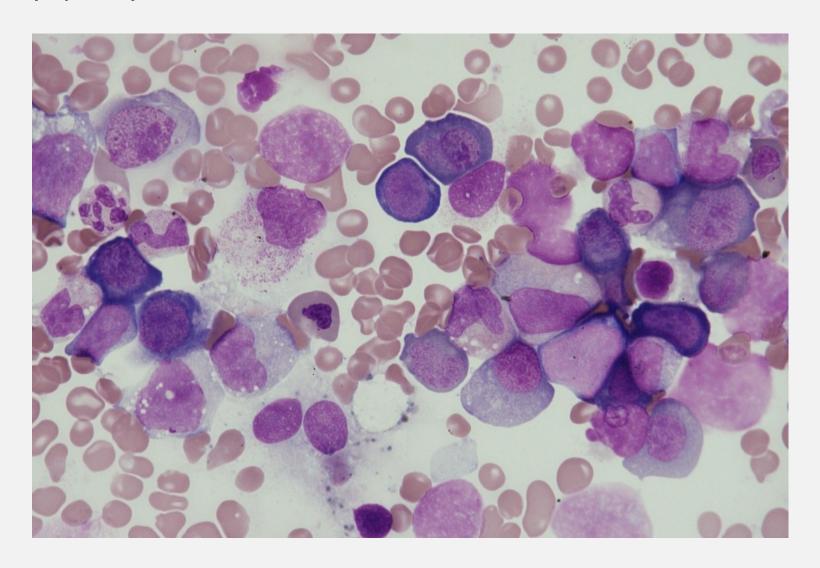


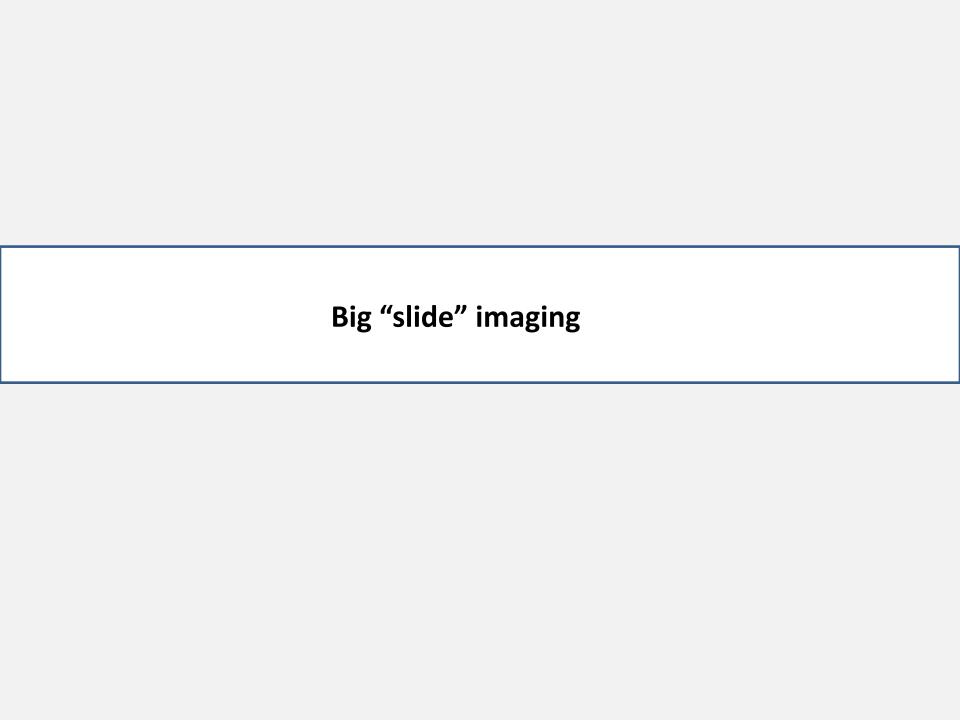
Hematology has been slow to take up this process: many IT issues are solved



In praise of the single image – underestimated resource: "easy".

Many quality issues, but accessible and flexible

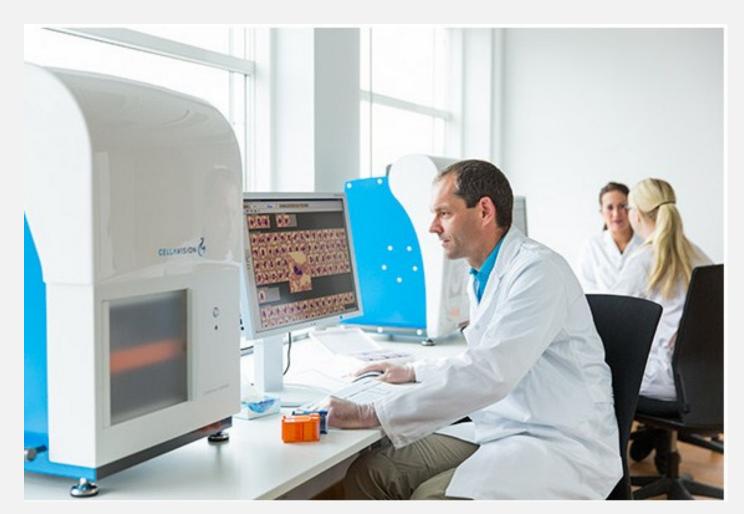




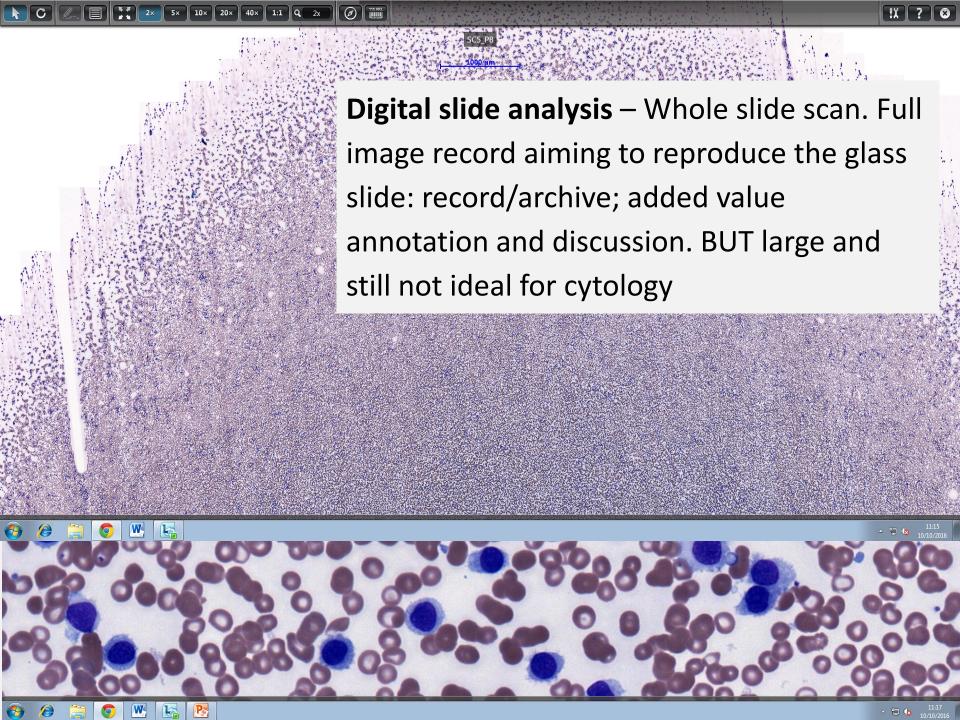
Remote driven microscope – attractive as a remote viewer and if equipped with chat and feedback; tagged and remembered. Added value: decision support and contact.



Digital slide analysis – Sampling options: added value search and select and preliminary interpretation; record/archive; excellent image quality/time



Cellavision



DRIVERS

Who is interested in telepathology?

Patient: speed, improved accuracy

Provider: Also considers cost : benefit = staff costs vs. setup

Manufacturer: cost: benefit market size vs. multi-use technology

Deliverer make all this a reality: most affected by quality

QUALITY

There are two definitions of quality that are important to telepathology:

- 1. "The standard of something as measured against other things of a similar kind; the degree of excellence of something:"
- **2.** "A distinctive attribute or characteristic possessed by someone or something (positive)"

QUALITY

- Does telepathology offer an equivalent experience to existing techniques and services? The glass slide
- 2. Are there unique attributes to be realised and developed that will improve diagnosis? **Other stuff**

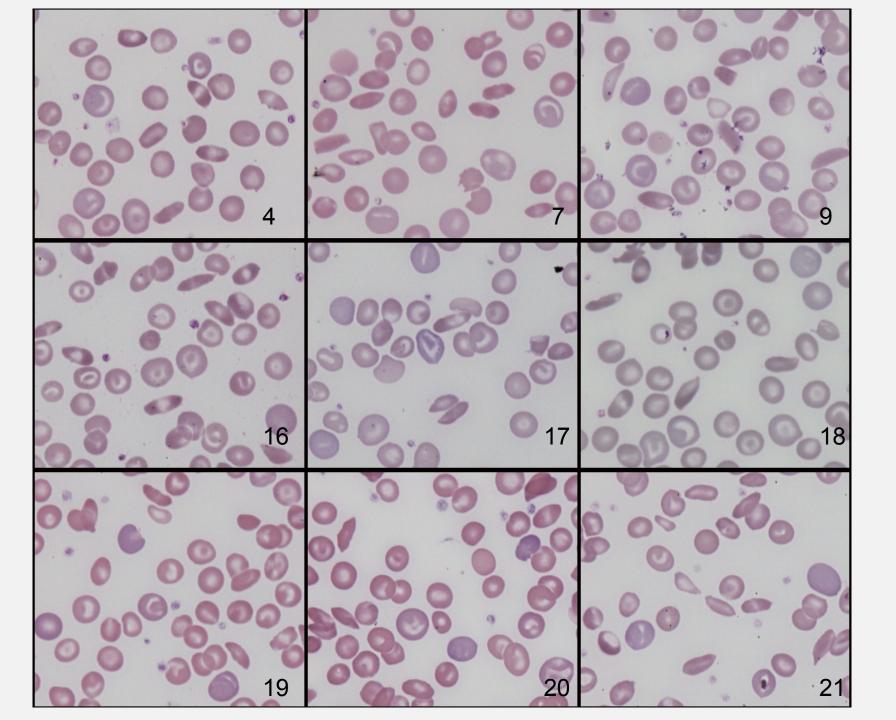
4. THE IMAGE

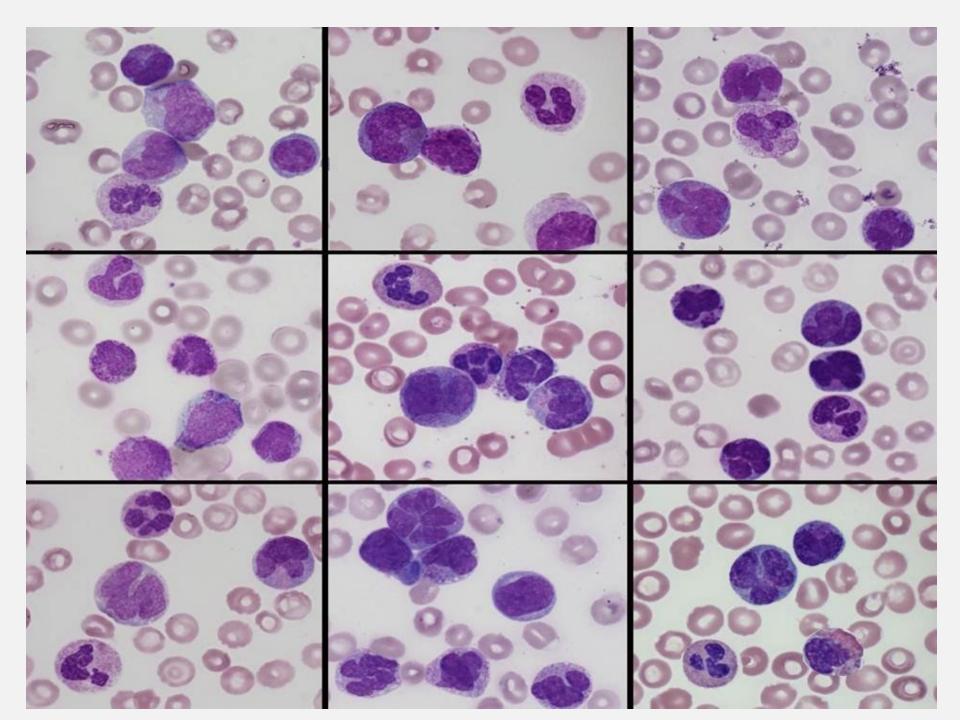
The heart of the issue

The importance of getting the starting material right

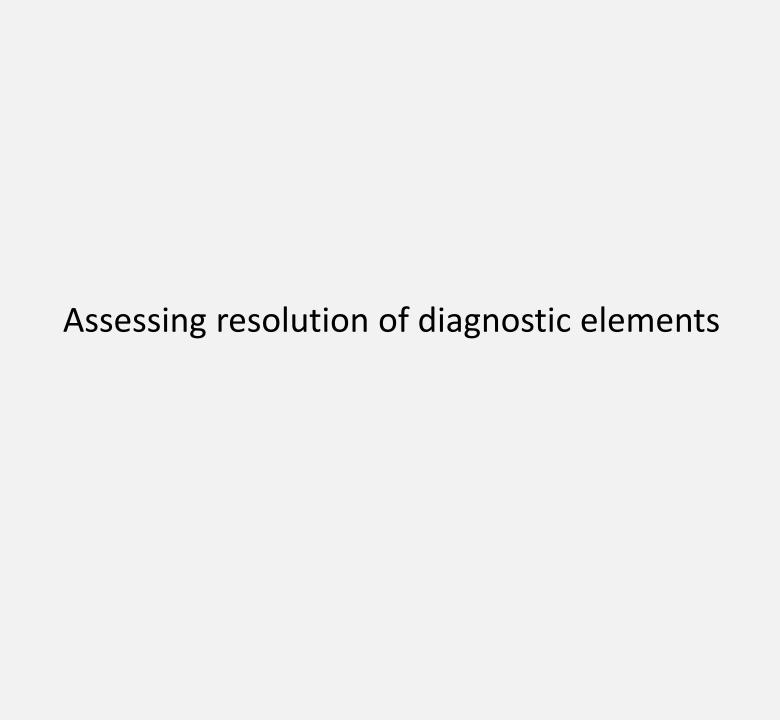
"Rubbish in"

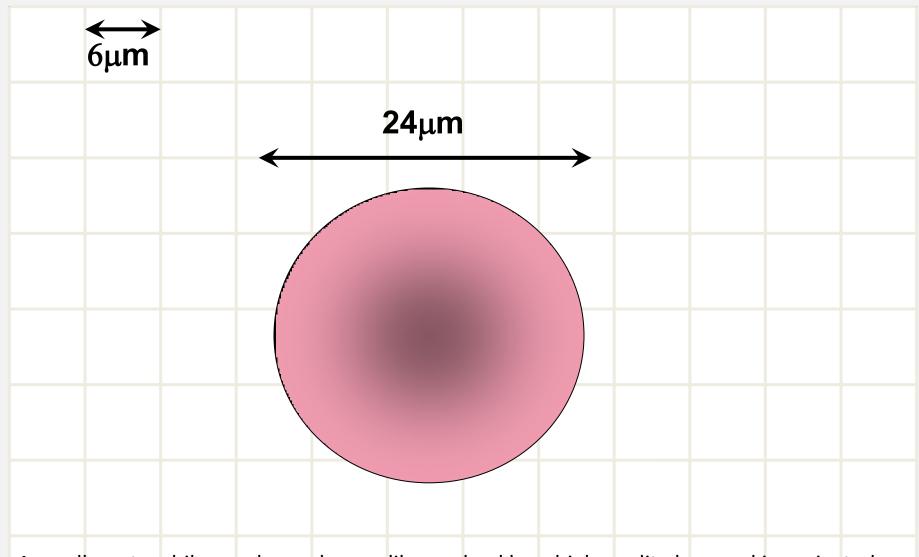
A lesson from DM scheme – people are much more critical of an image than a glass slide – this starts with the sample. Practically this is important.



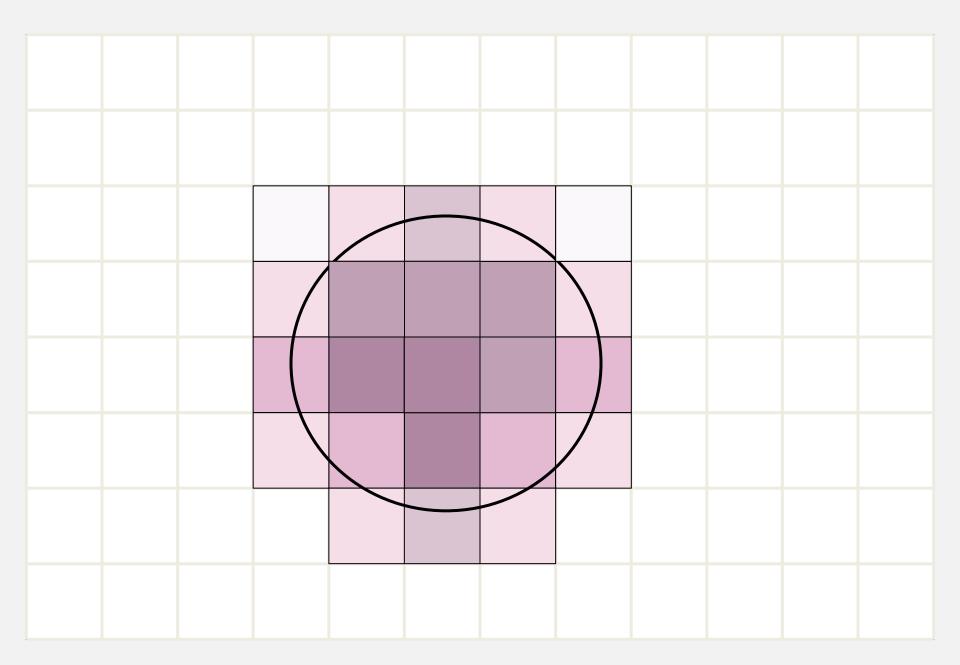


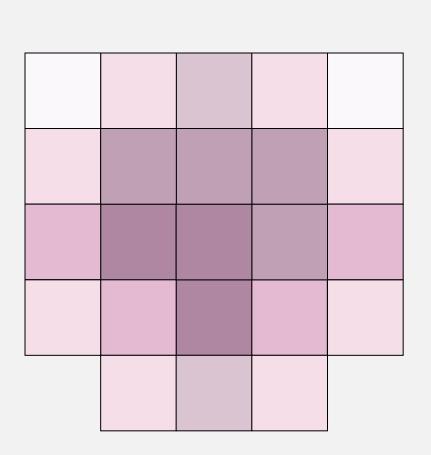
Digital imaging as an analytical tool for sample quality improvement

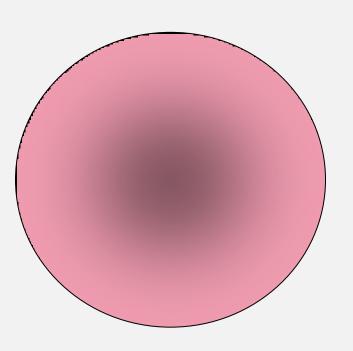




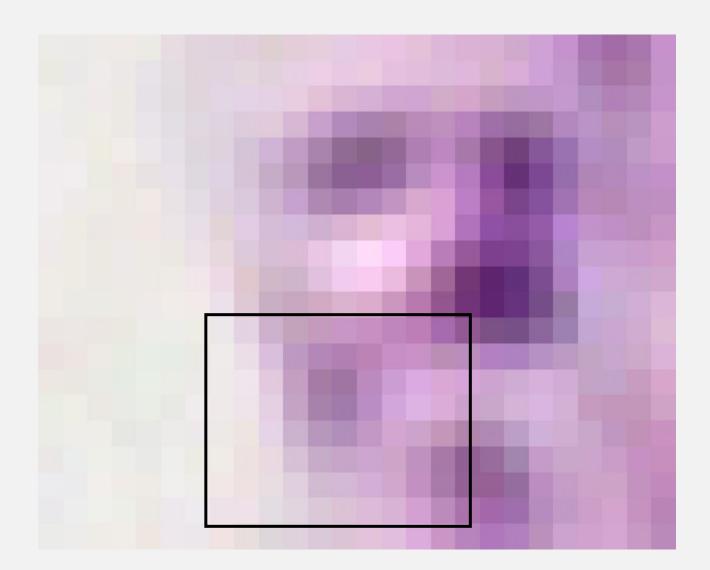
A small neutrophil granule can be readily resolved by a high quality lens and is projected across 16-25 pixels on a CCD chip



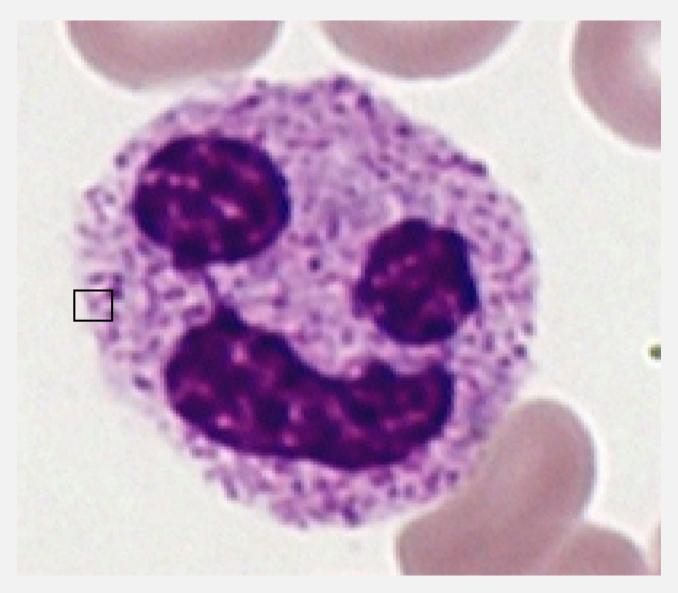






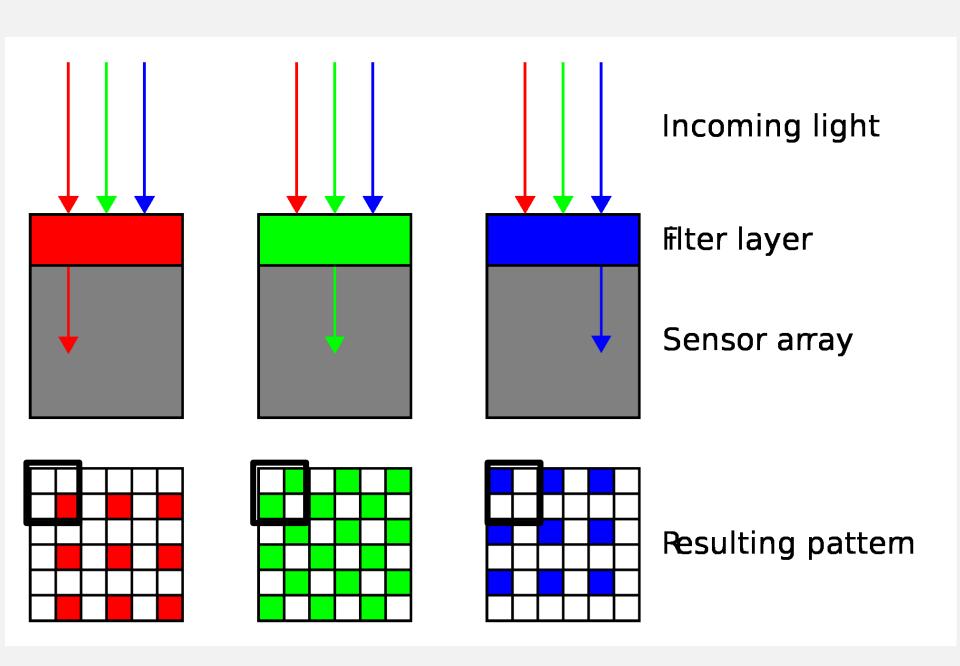


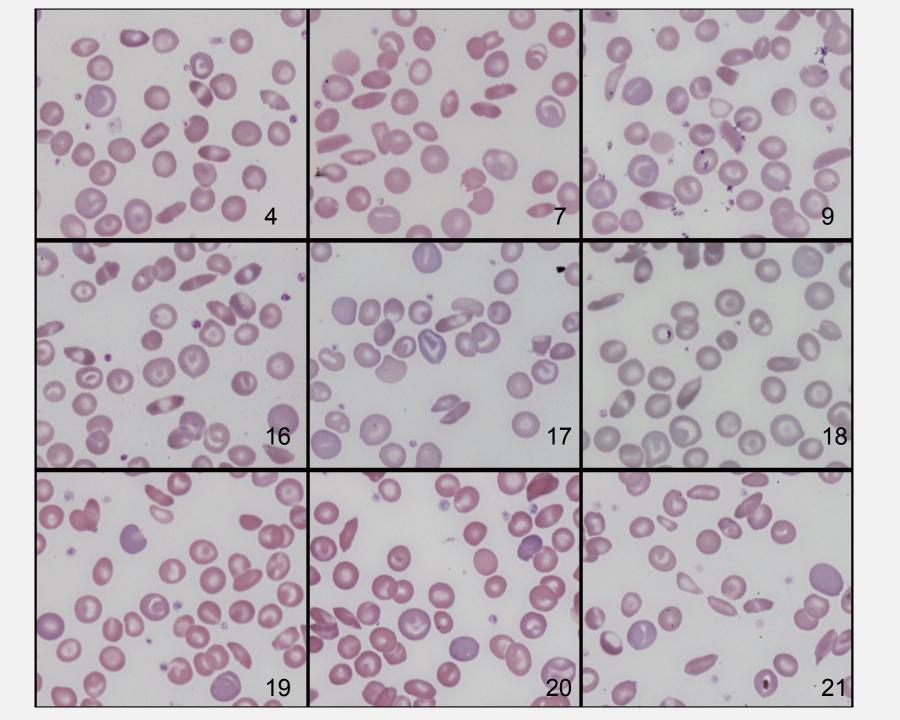


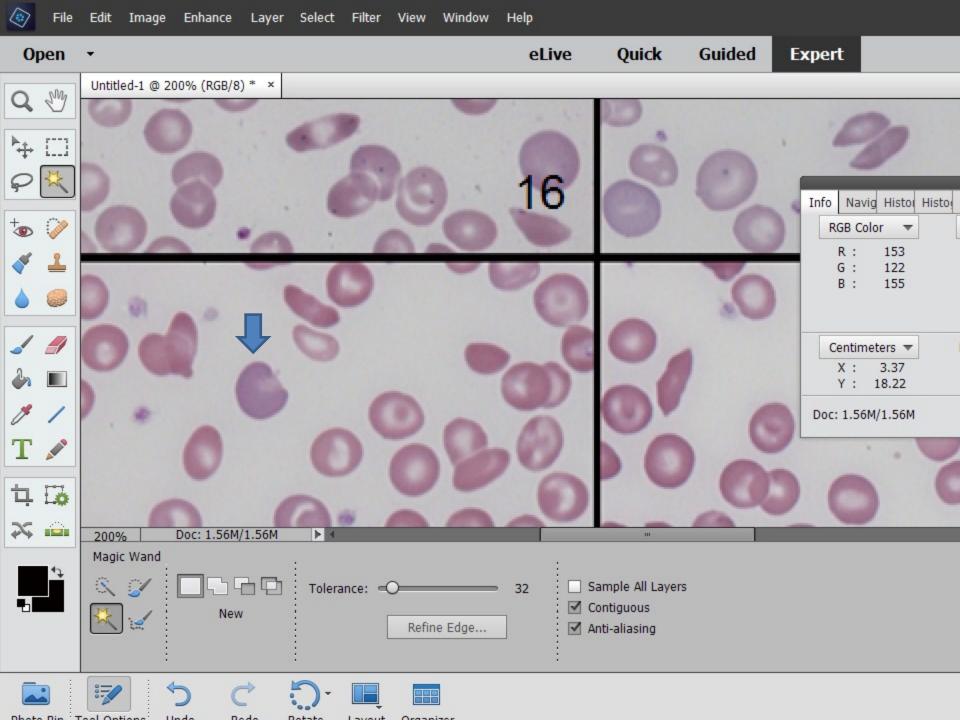


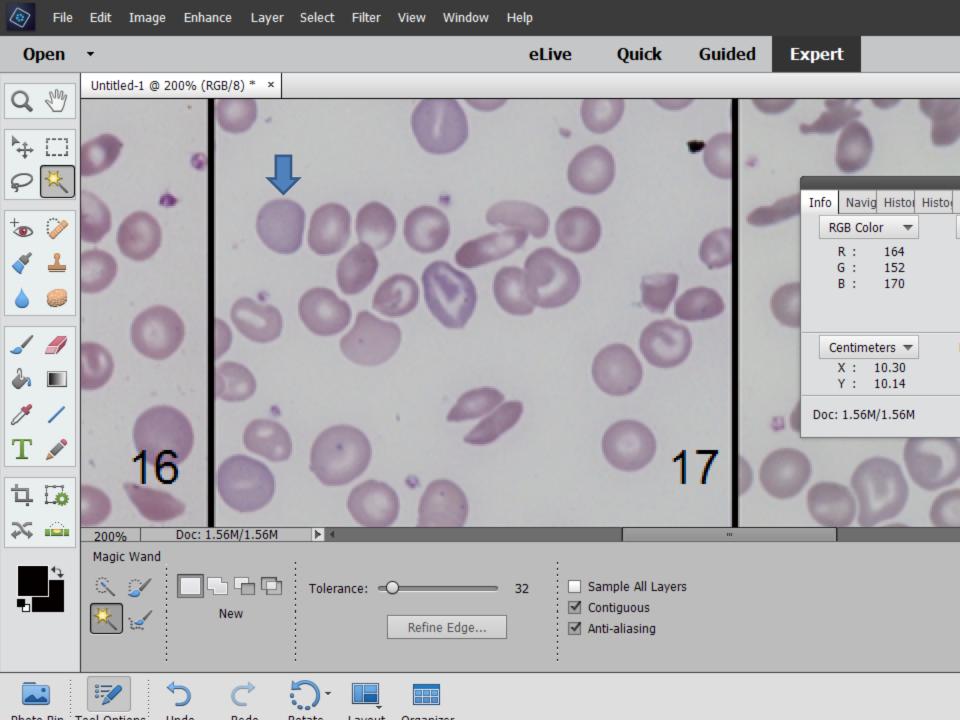
Your stain (photographed appropriately) should resolve small neutrophil granules as distinct structures: standard materials should allow you to ask the question is my stain adequate

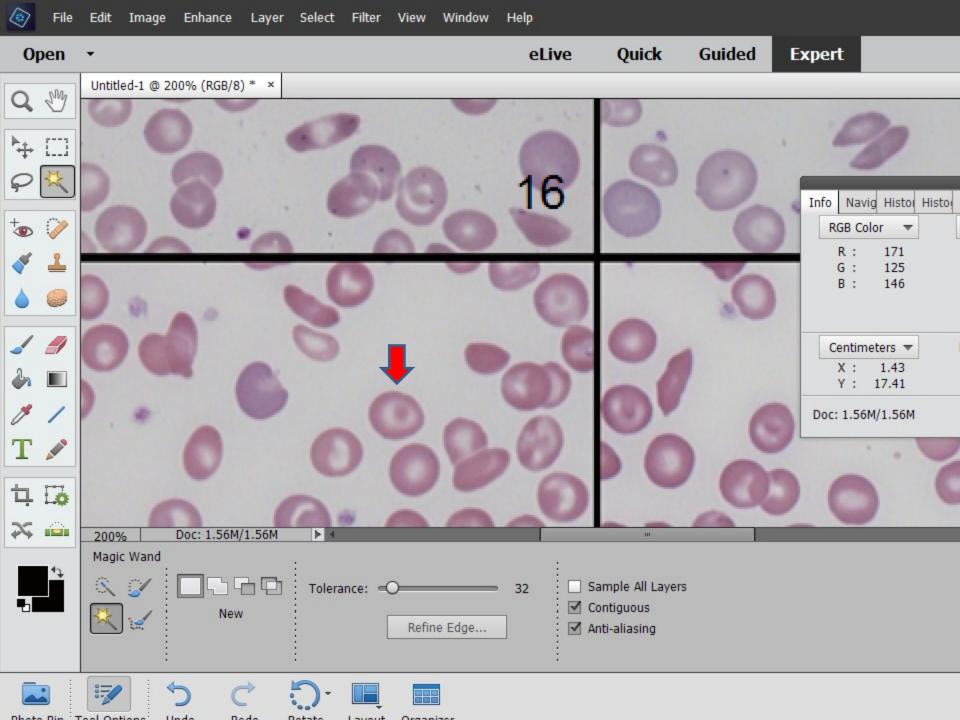
Assessing stain colour

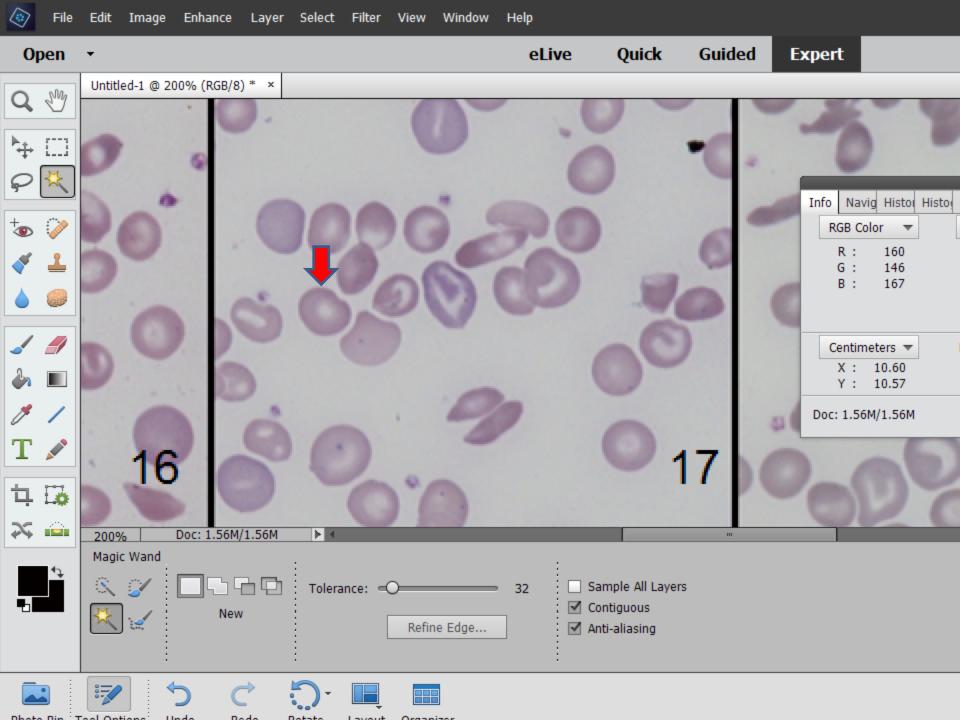






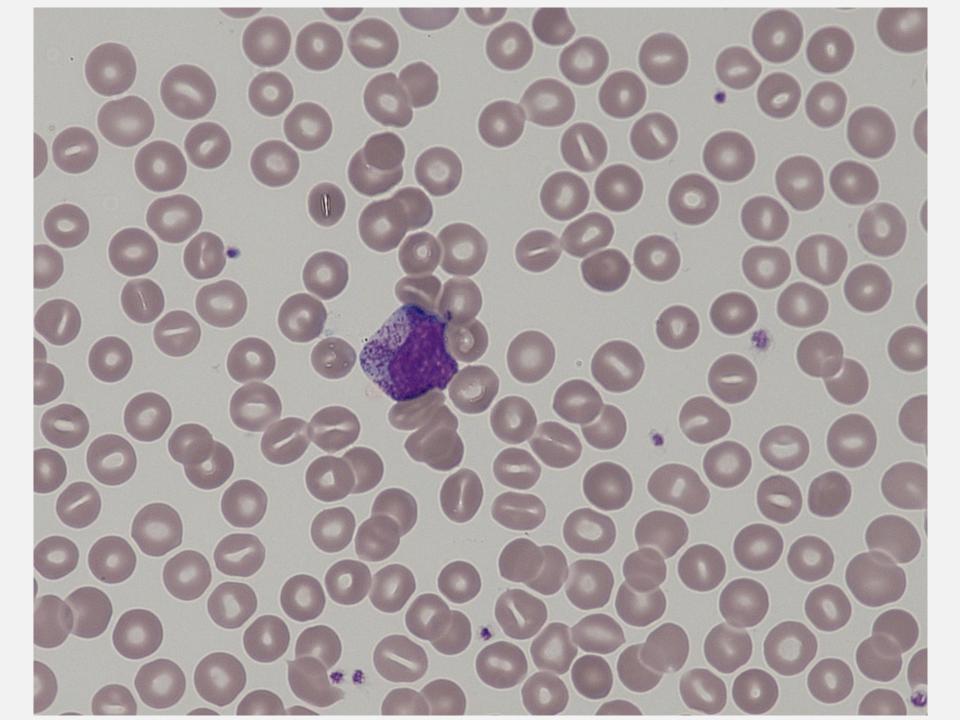


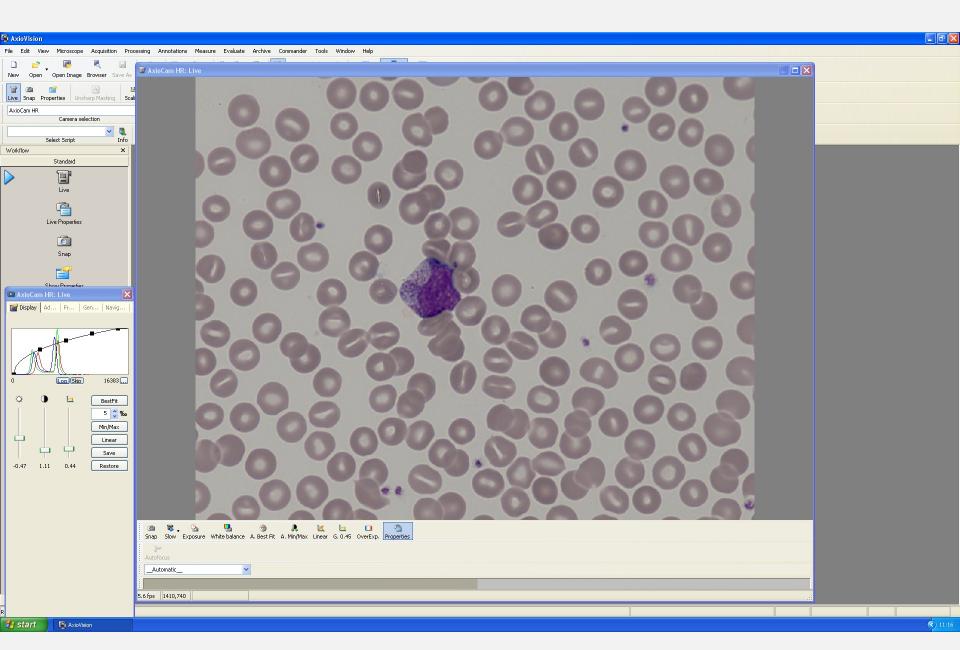


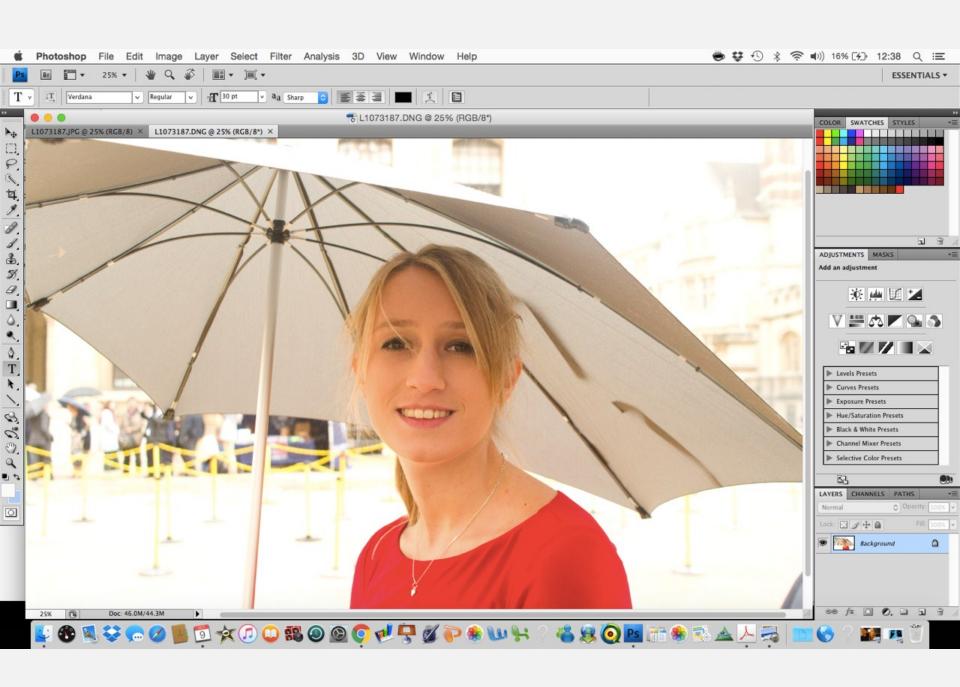


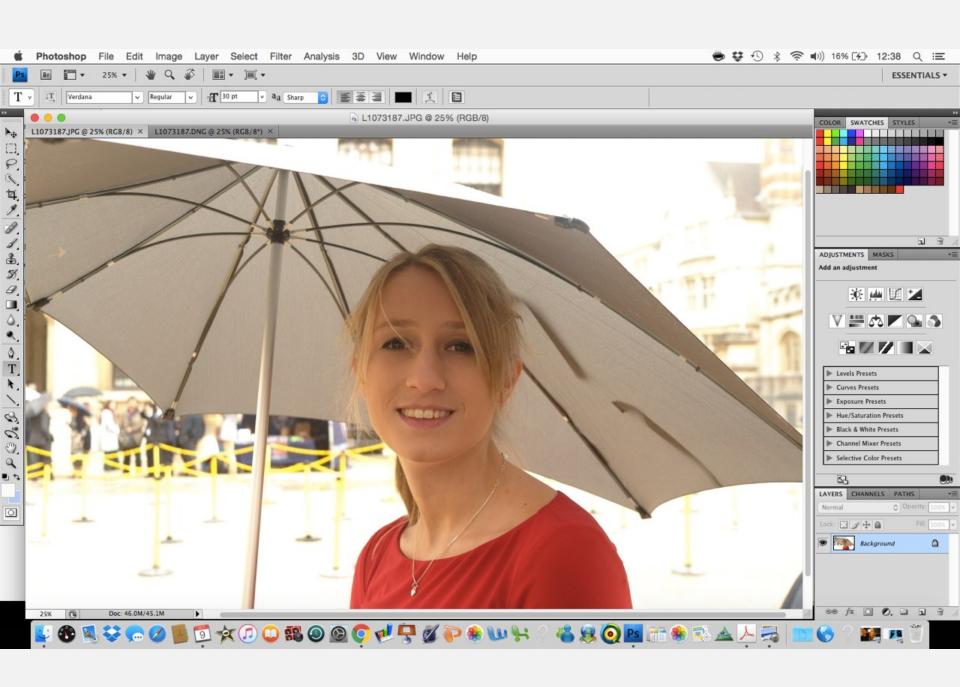


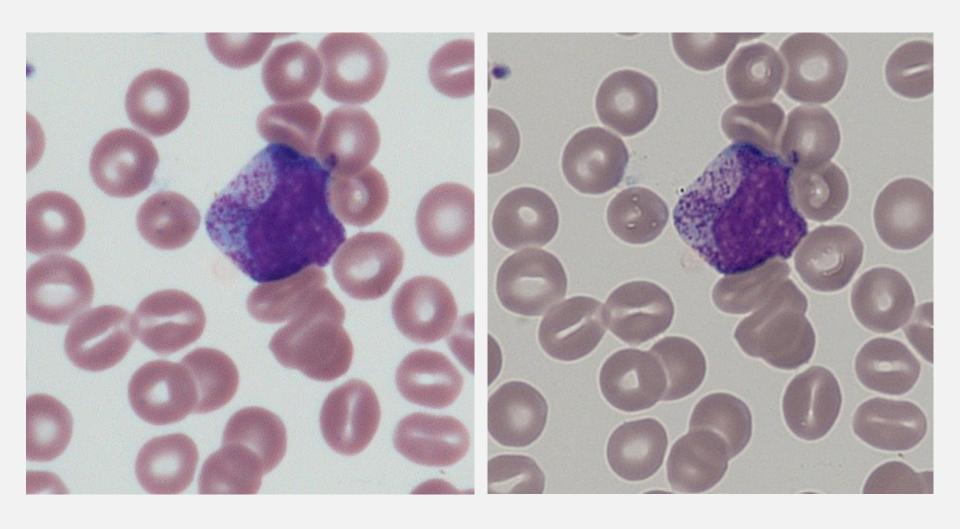
Assessing the microscope and monitor











Provision of a standard – well fixed preparation allows assessment of imaging quality – lens, camera, monitor: MINIMUM STANDARDS

For radiology quality is simple – minimum electronic image and monitor standards

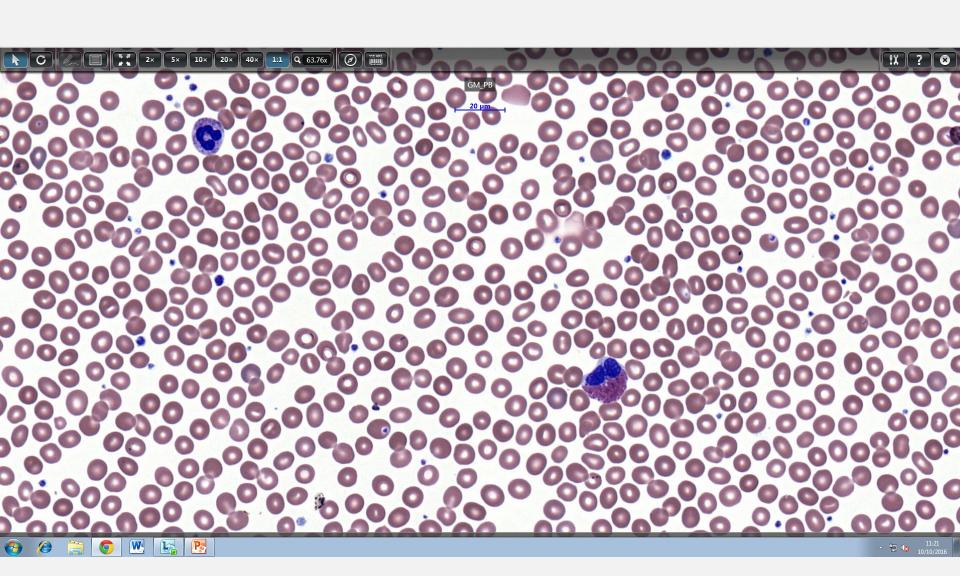
For haematology more is required – there are a range of largely uncontrolled factors out there – should we address them?

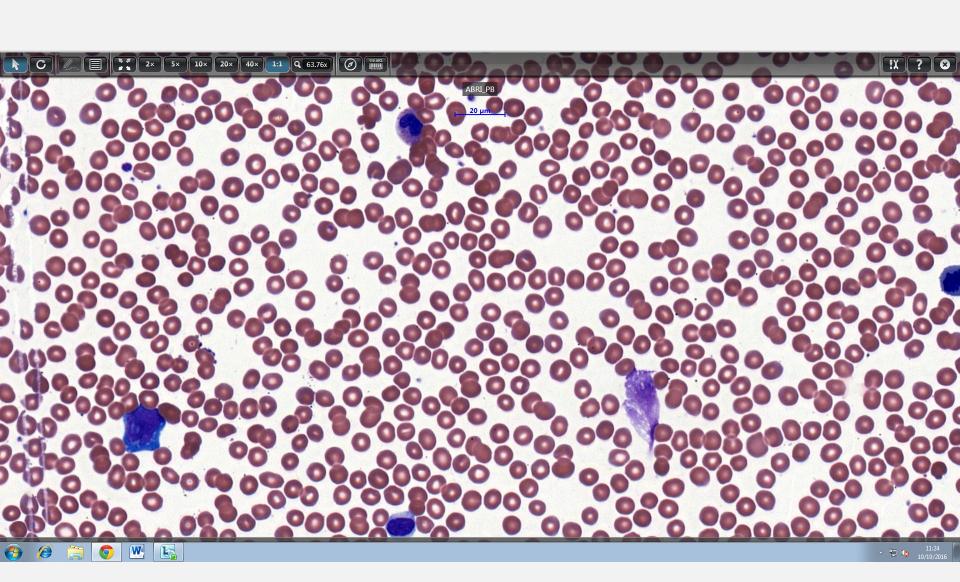
If asked why did you report that image – what do you say?

Looking at the bigger pictures



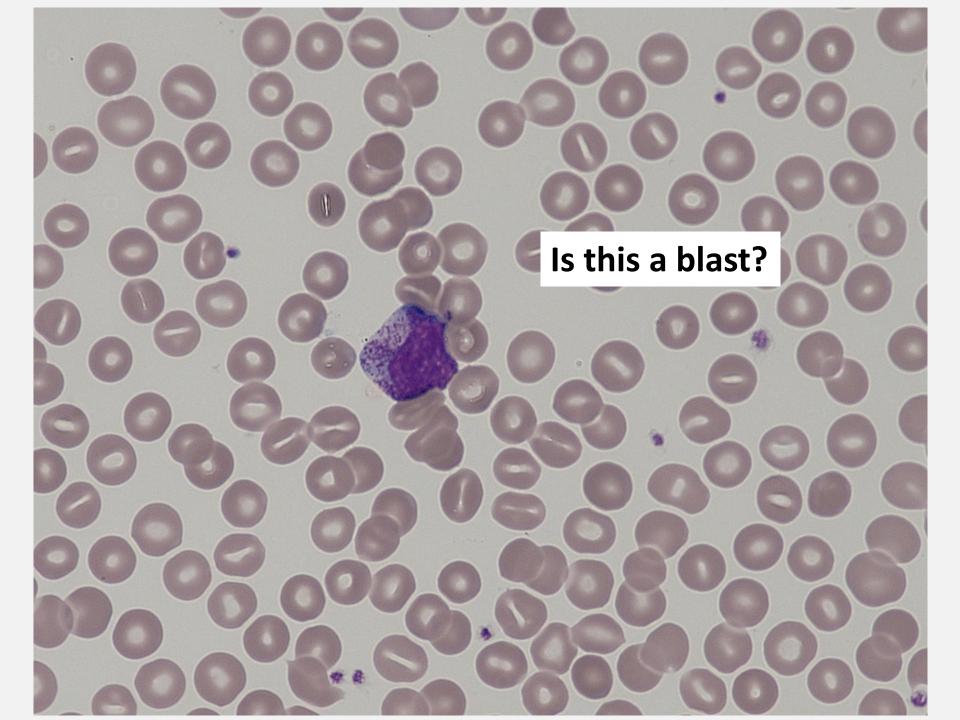
TRADE OFFS: Do we really need a whole slide? How much manipulation? Focus and plane?

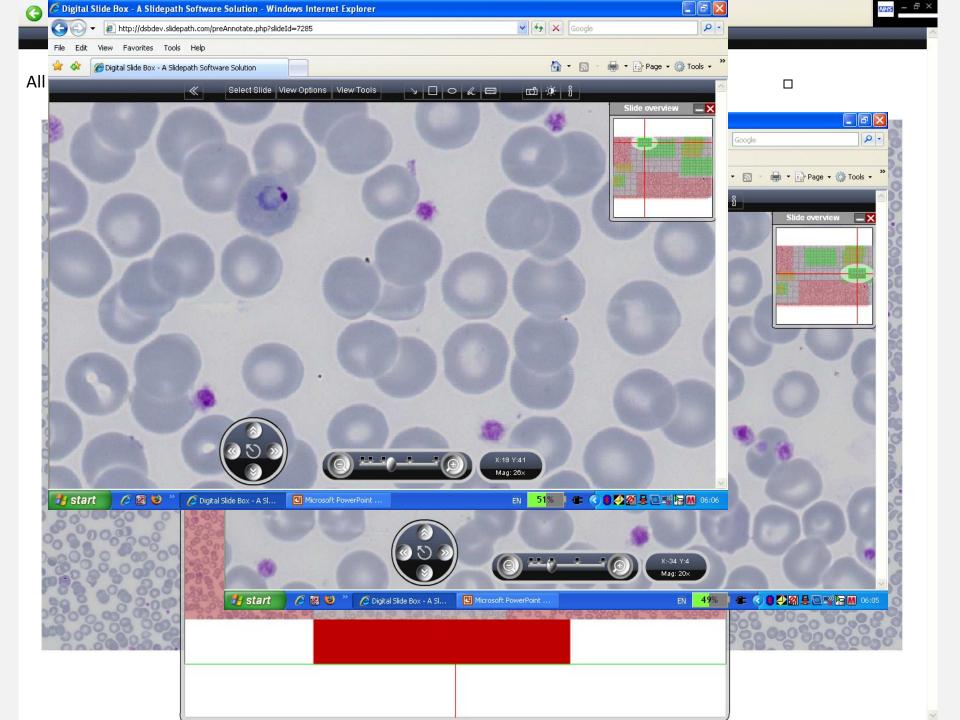




Added value

- 1. Am I right?
- 2. Where did I go wrong?
- 3. Can I get help?



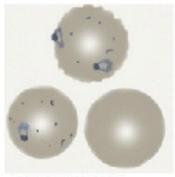




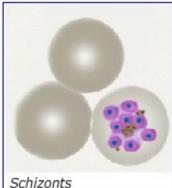
Plasmodium falciparum - Quick diagnosis guide







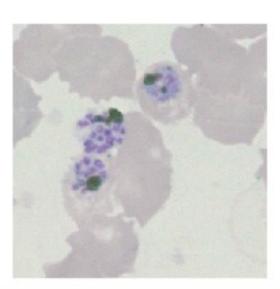
Late trophozoites





Gametocytes

Schizonts



CHARACTERISTICS

Erythrocytes: Not enlarged

Parasites: 8-16 loosely arranged merozoites

Added dots: Maurer's dots and clefts

Pigment: Clumped, may be central or peripheral

Notes: Rare in peripheral blood except in severe infection

ohn Burthem 2011

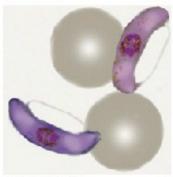
Blood Cell Gallery Homepage

Plasmodium fa



Early trophozoites

Welcome to the Peripheral Blood Gallery, a collaboration between Manchester Metropolitan University, The World Health Organization and the United Kingdom National External Quality Assessment Scheme for General Haematology (UKNEQAS (H))

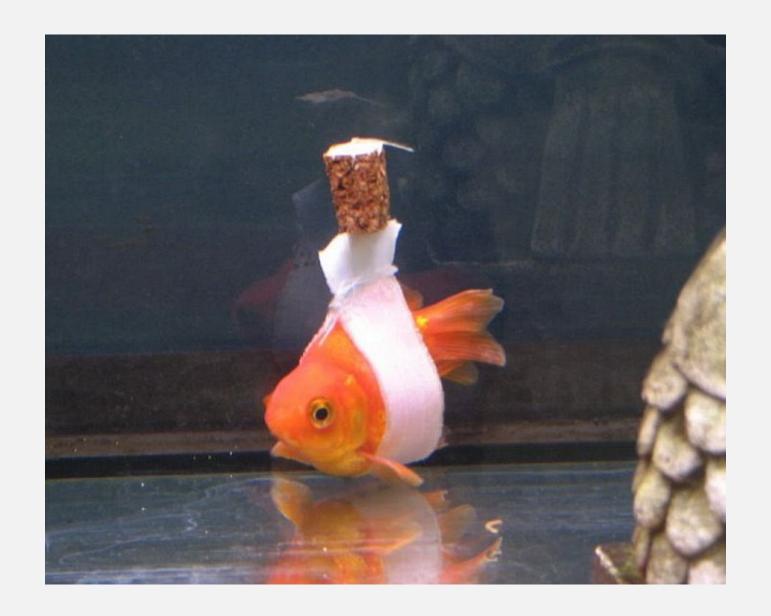


ohn Burthem 2011

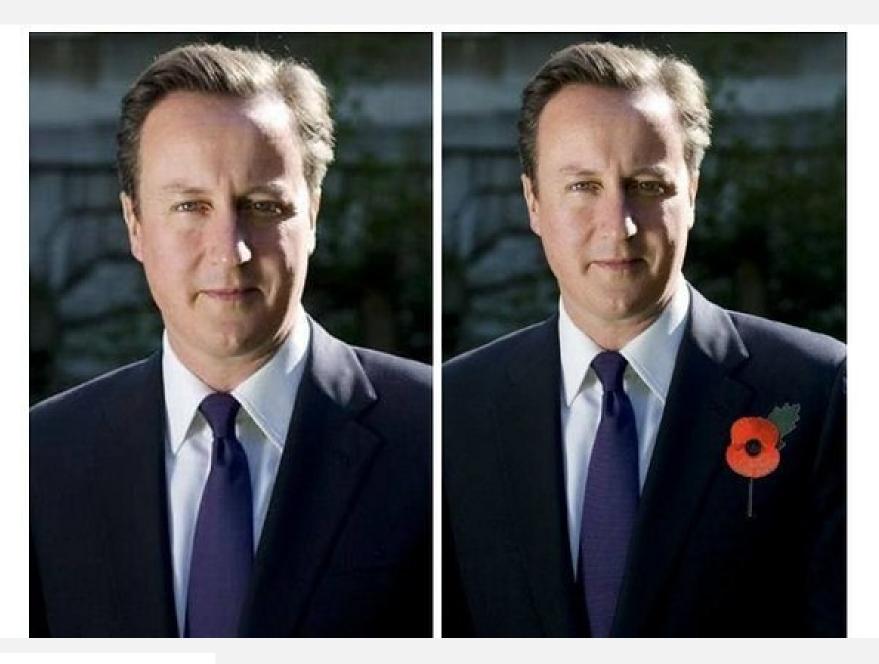
Gametocytes

Schiz **UK NEQAS** arged Haematology and Transfusion y dots nay be eral blood tion

Finally.....



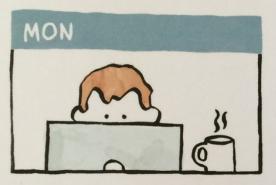
Not just because we can



The permanent record

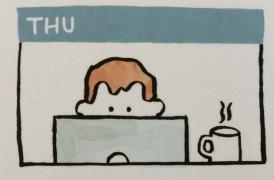


SOCIAL CALENDAR











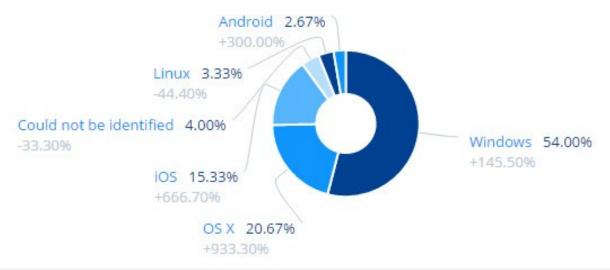




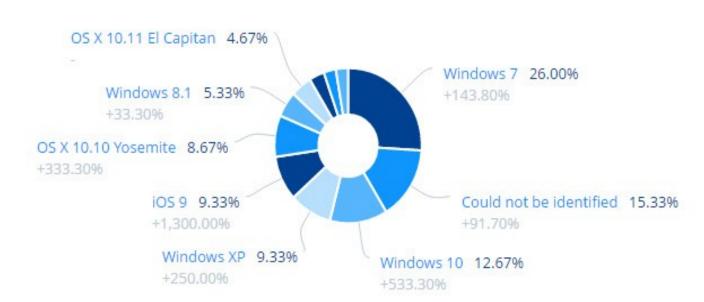


www.haematologyetc.org





Operating system versions (by impressions)



Summary

Quality is our responsibility and our friend - we can use DM to drive this:

- Sample quality
- Equipment quality
- Added features
- Decision support
- Personal audit

Note

- There is a patient at the end of the system
- A poor system is not your friend
- Quality can support you