



Bite Cells



Erythrocytes that have the appearance of having a "bite" taken out of one side are seen in hemolytic disorders whose pathology reflects in vivo precipitation of hemoglobin attached to the inner membrane of the erythrocyte (Heinz bodies). When the cells pass through the spleen, the precipitated hemoglobin is removed along with the portion of the cell membrane. The most common cause is G6PD deficiency.