



ANSWER

Diagnosis:

Refractory anemia with excess blasts-I (RAEB-I) with del(5q)

This case shows several features associated with “MDS with isolated del(5q)” or “5q- syndrome”, including thrombocytosis, increased number of megakaryocytes with non-lobated and hypolobated nuclei. Cytogenetic studies identified del(5)(q22q33) as the sole abnormality. However, due to the increase of blasts (5% by manual count and 5-9% by CD34 immunostaining), this case is best subclassified as RAEB-1, based on 2008 WHO criteria.

Clinical follow-up:

The patient became transfusion dependent. Because of the deteriorating COPD, he was transferred to palliative care and passed away about 6 months after this bone marrow biopsy.