A 33-year-old woman with anorexia nervosa was referred to our hospital because of pancytopenia. Her weight was 31.6 kg (BMI, 12.3), and the laboratory results were as follows: a hemoglobin level of 5.9 g/dL, a red-cell count of 1,620,000/mm$^3$, a white-cell count of 1,200/mm$^3$, and a platelet count of 78,000/mm$^3$. An examination of the bone marrow aspirates revealed severe hypoplasia of the hematopoietic and fat cells along with a deposition of amorphous eosinophilic fluffy substances (Picture A-C). These distinct findings were described as gelatinous transformation, and were presumed to be a consequence of her severe malnutrition (1). The gelatinous material was composed of mucopolysaccharides, which were rich in hyaluronic acid (2). Trilineage hematopoietic maturation without apparent dysplasia or neoplasm was sparsely noted (Picture D). Her peripheral blood counts recovered following the administration of cautious nutritional therapy.

The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).

Department of Hepatology, Japanese Red Cross Society Himeji Hospital, Japan
Received for publication May 7, 2013; Accepted for publication May 19, 2013
Correspondence to Dr. Kazuhiko Morii, moriikazuhiko@gmail.com
References


© 2013 The Japanese Society of Internal Medicine
http://www.naika.or.jp/imonline/index.html