

# Secondary polyglobulia

**Secondary polyglobulia** is mostly compensatory in *chronic hypoxia* (leads to ↑ EPO) when staying at high altitude, chronic lung disease, right-to-left shunts, methemoglobinaemia.

Less often, the cause of ↑ EPO is unclear/a manifestation of a disease (kidney tumors, uterine myomatosis, polycystic kidney disease, etc.).

## The clinical picture

- mainly symptoms of underlying lung/heart disease,
- plethoric appearance, cyanosis,
- headaches, dizziness, visual disturbances.

## Laboratory Tests

- ↑ erythrocytes, HtK > 48%, oxygen saturation <92%, ↑ EPO (dif. dg. Polycythaemia vera).

## Therapy

- Th. of underlying disease, venipuncture (↓ blood viscosity + reduces the risk of complications).<sup>[1]</sup>

## Links

### Related Articles

- Erythrocytosis
- Polycythaemia vera

### References

1. KLENER, P. *Vnitřní lékařství*. 3. edition. Galén, 2006. ISBN 80-7262-430-X.