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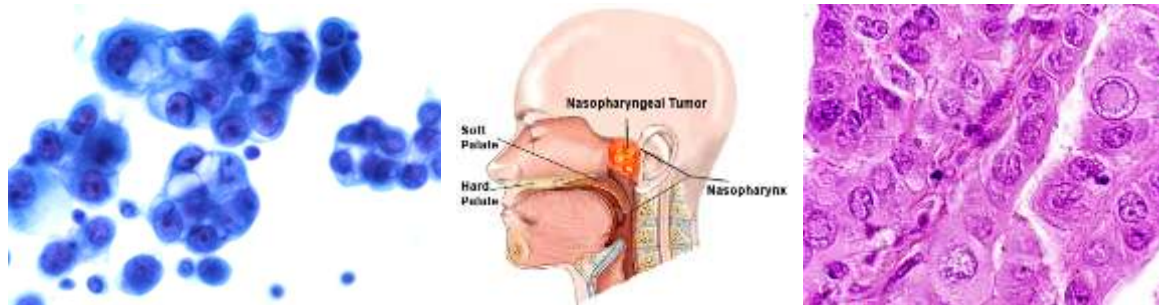
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## **Preoperativana i intraoperativna dijagnostika u hiruskoj patologiji glave i vrata, pljuvacnih zlezda i tiroide.**



**Preoperative and intraoperative diagnostic in surgical pathology of the head & neck, salivary glands and thyroid.**



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## **Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) (oral cavity, pharynx & larynx)**

- **ranks as 6<sup>th</sup> most common malignancy,**
- **500,000 new cases/year (*up to 40% of the Indian subcontinent*)**
- **males at 6th and 7th decades of life,**
- **increase in incidence: younger males (30%) and females (18%)**
- **HPV group of patients at risk and cancer biological behavior seem to be different, presenting an increasing public health issue.**
- **the five-year survival rate of patients is about 40-50%.**

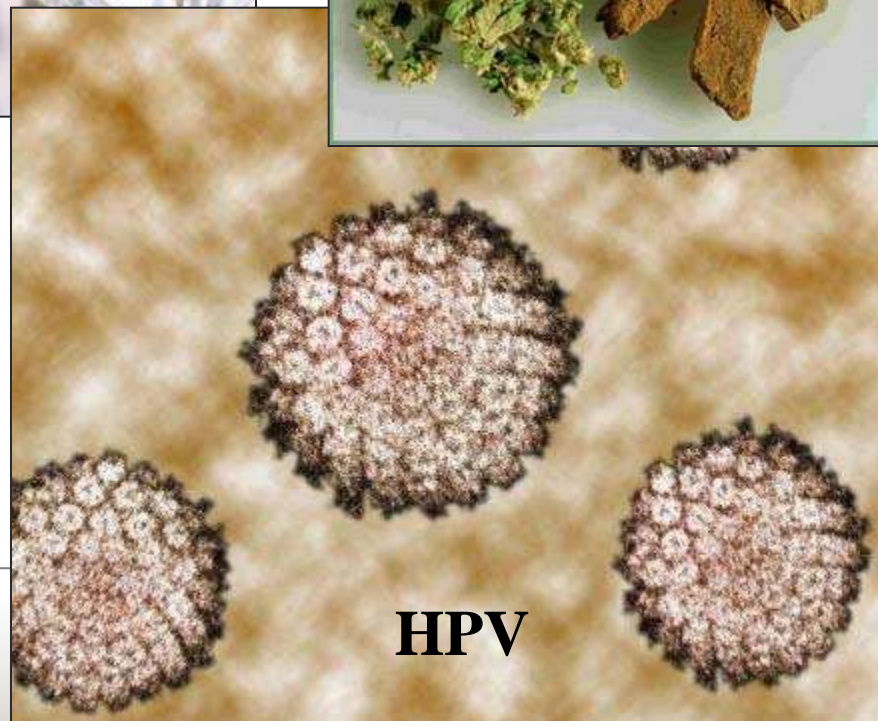


# *Risk factors....*

...alcohol consumption & tobacco



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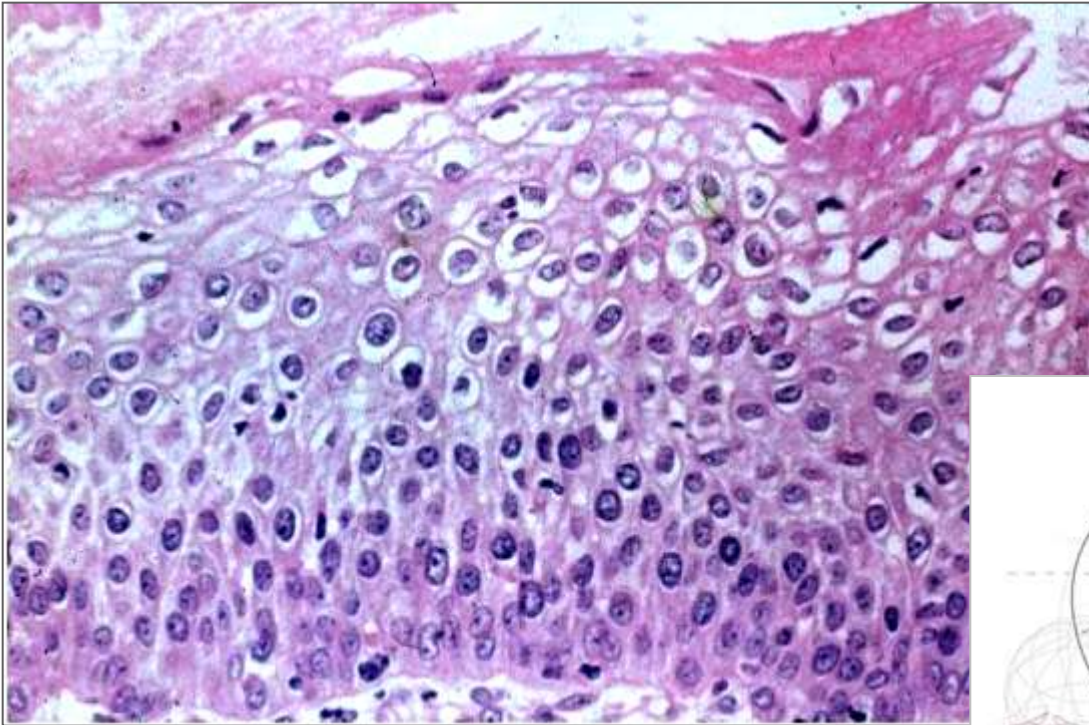
**HPV**

**HPV infection (16 & 18)**

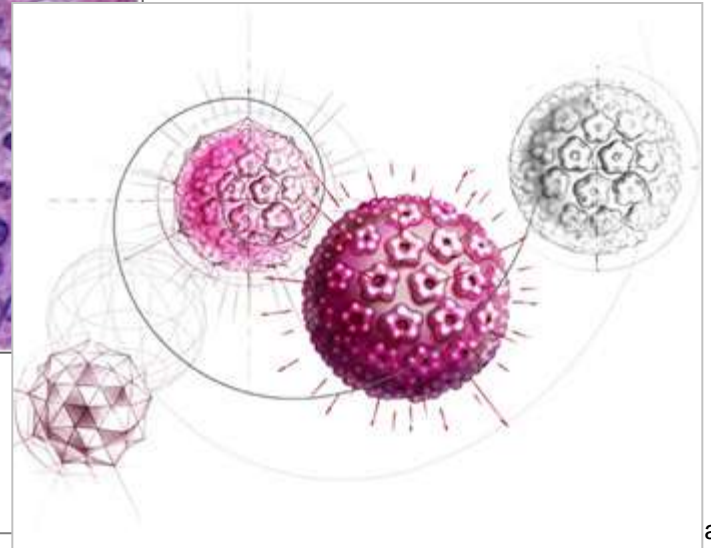




HPV status is an important prognostic factor (associated with a favourable outcome in HN SCC.)



**HPV 16, 18, 30, 33**



al

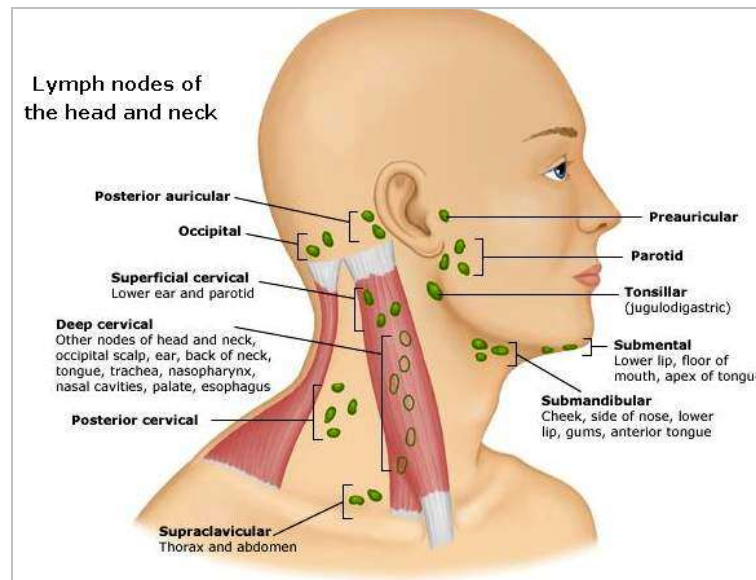
# *Content:*



- 1) Diagnostic approach and management of carcinoma of unknown primary (CUP) in the head and neck**
- 2) A thyroid nodule: Diagnostic challenge en cytology & histology**
- 3) Pitfalls and unusual cases of « squamous proliferation » in head & neck, thyroid and salivary gland pathology**
- 4) Teaching cases**



# 1.Diagnostic approach and management of carcinoma of unknown primary (CUP) in the head and neck



... among **500** lymph nodes in the body, **200** are in the head and neck....

...**60%** of the neck masses in patients older than 40 years are caused by **malignant tumors**, and **85%** of them are from primary tumors in the **head and neck area (SCC)**.....

## *CUP: History & Controversy.....*

**1882 Volkmann:** described **three cases** of latero-cervical lymph node metastasis in **level II** w/o a primary tumor, «typical» for lateral cysts of the neck, defined as “*deep branchiogenic carcinoma of the neck*”

Until the **1940s** several authors reported cervical lymph node metastasis of unknown primary being caused by *branchiogenic carcinomas* of the neck.

**1950 Martin:** Histologic and clinical criteria of so-called **branchiogenic carcinoma:**

- 1) *Location of a cystic lesion in the area of the carotid triangle.*
- 2) *Remains of branchiogenic structures.*
- 3) *No appearance of primary tumor in the **five** years after initial diagnosis.*
- 4) *Histological detection of neoplastic cells in the wall of the cyst.....*

DD with cervical cystic LN metastasis of CUP has create a great deal of skepticism regarding the existence of branchiogenic carcinoma...

**1957 Commes et al.** described a cervical lymph node metastasis without diagnosis of a primary tumor and defined the malignant disease as **CUP**

**Today many author consider branchiogenic carcinoma as misinterpreted cervical cystic LN metastasis of occult primary (in the area of the Waldeyer's tonsillar ring.)**



*The most used system of nodal mapping anatomically classifies lymph nodes into levels (Sakorafas et al., 2010).*

## Lymph nodes (Level I-VI)



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**Level I:** Oral cavity, lip, gingival mucosa, vocal cords

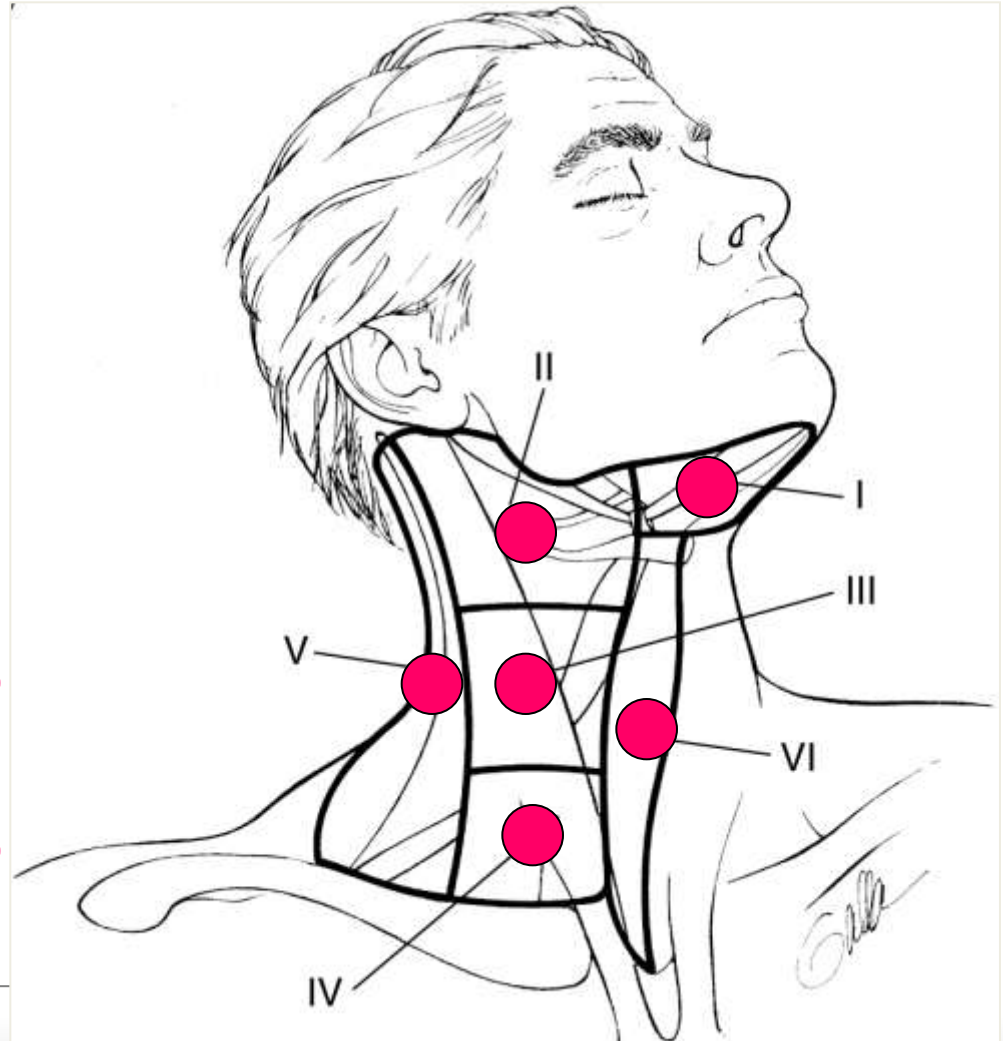
**Level II:** Oral cavity, retro-molar space, oro- naso- hypopharynx, base of the tongue, larynx (supra-glottis).

**Level III:** Base of the tongue, hypopharynx, larynx, thyroid

**Level IV:** Hypopharynx, larynx, thyroid, esophagus.

**Level V:** Nasopharynx, thyroid, esophagus, lung.

**Level VI:** Thyroid, trachea.



# CUP: Definition & Epidemiology



The **CUP** is defined as the **histological diagnosis** of metastasis without the emergence of a primary tumor (tumor presented **initially with metastases**).

The **source** of the primary cancer **remains unknown** after complete investigation.

It constitutes **5–15%** of all human malignancies (*7th most common malignancy*).

**40-60%** of **CUP** includes **cervical lymph node metastases**.

Median **age 55- 65 years**, slight **male** predominance.

No primary site of origin can be identified in **3 to 5%** of patients.

**Overall 5-year survival rate 15-20%.**



# CUP (Lymph node level I-VI)



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**Level I:** Oral cavity, lip, gingival mucosa, vocal cords

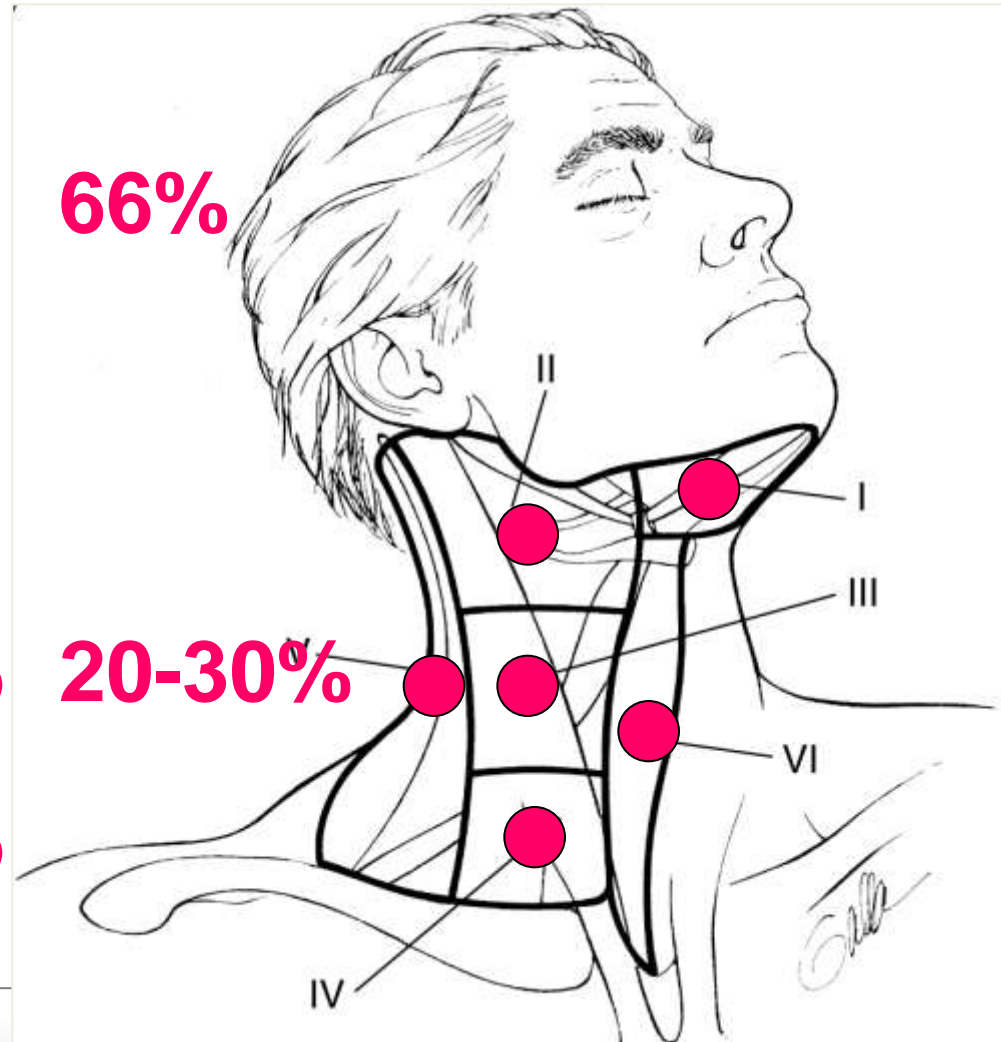
**Level II:** Oral cavity, retro-molar space, oro- naso- hypopharynx, base of the tongue, larynx (supra-glottis).

**Level III:** Base of the tongue, **tonsil**, hypopharynx, larynx, thyroid

**Level IV:** Hypopharynx, larynx, thyroid, esophagus.

**Level V:** Nasopharynx, thyroid, esophagus, lung.

**Level VI:** Thyroid, trachea.



4%= unknown....



# CUP: Incidence & localization



## Lymph node metastasis in **Groups I-II-III:**

- **66%** SCC of the upper aero-digestive tract (UAT).

## Lymph node metastasis in **Groups IV-V-VI:**

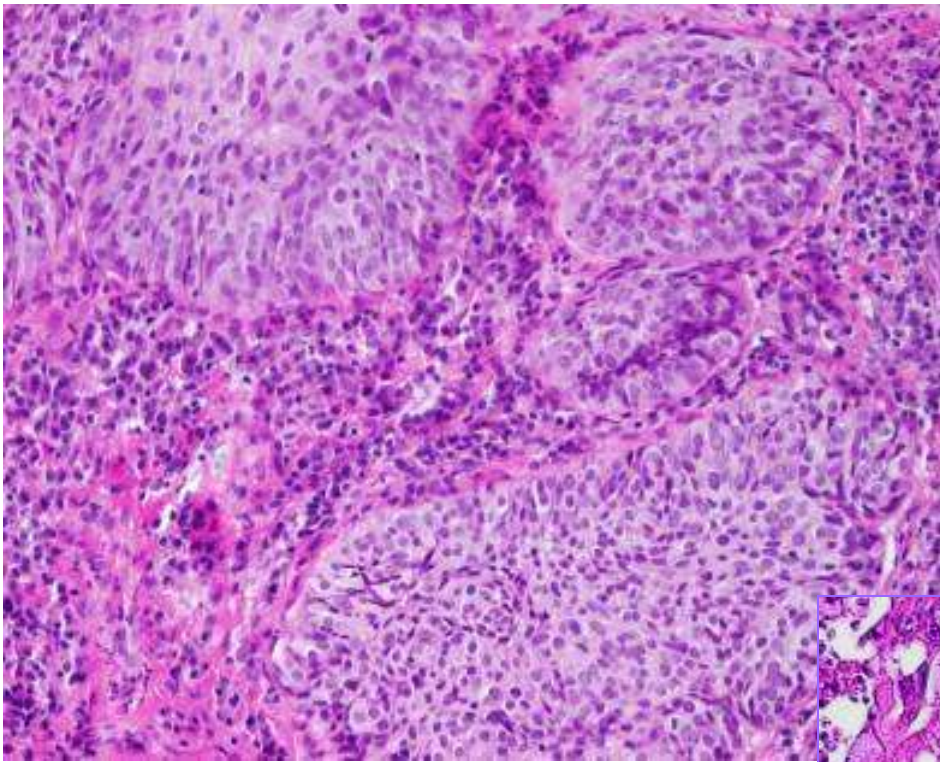
- **30%** adenocarcinomas, (*lung, stomach, breast, kidney, prostate*).
- **25%** poorly differentiated or undifferentiated carcinomas of rhynopharynx (*eliminate lymphoma!*).
- **20%** thyroid carcinomas.
- less than **15%** SCCs of the UAP.



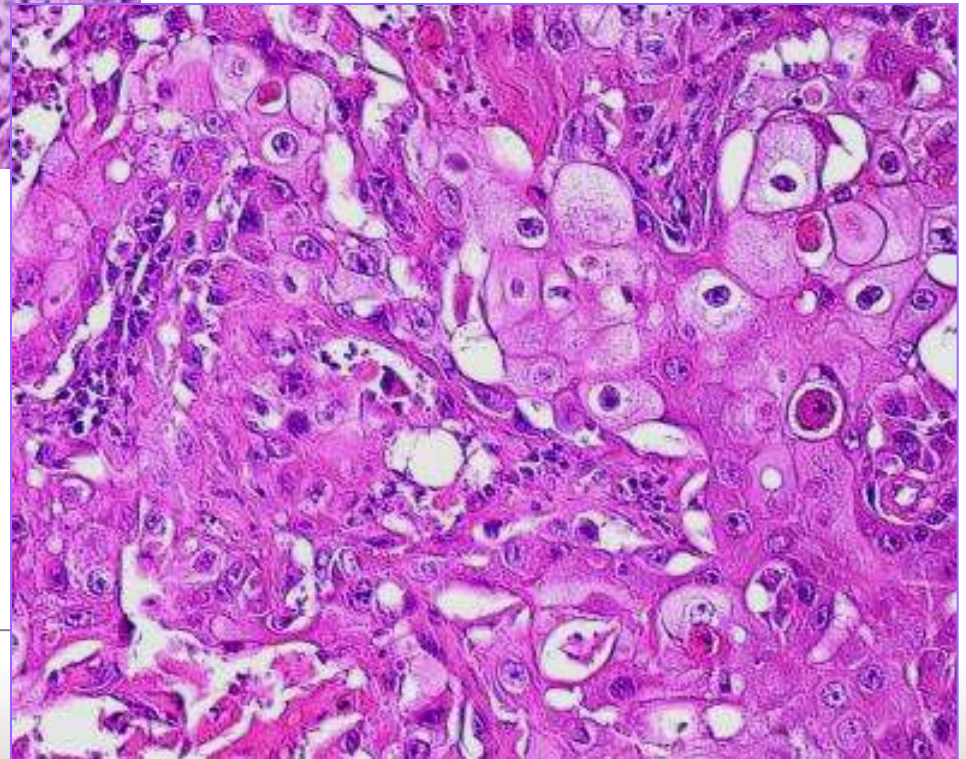




**Unilabs**



**66%**



**HNSCC**



**HPV status**



**30%**

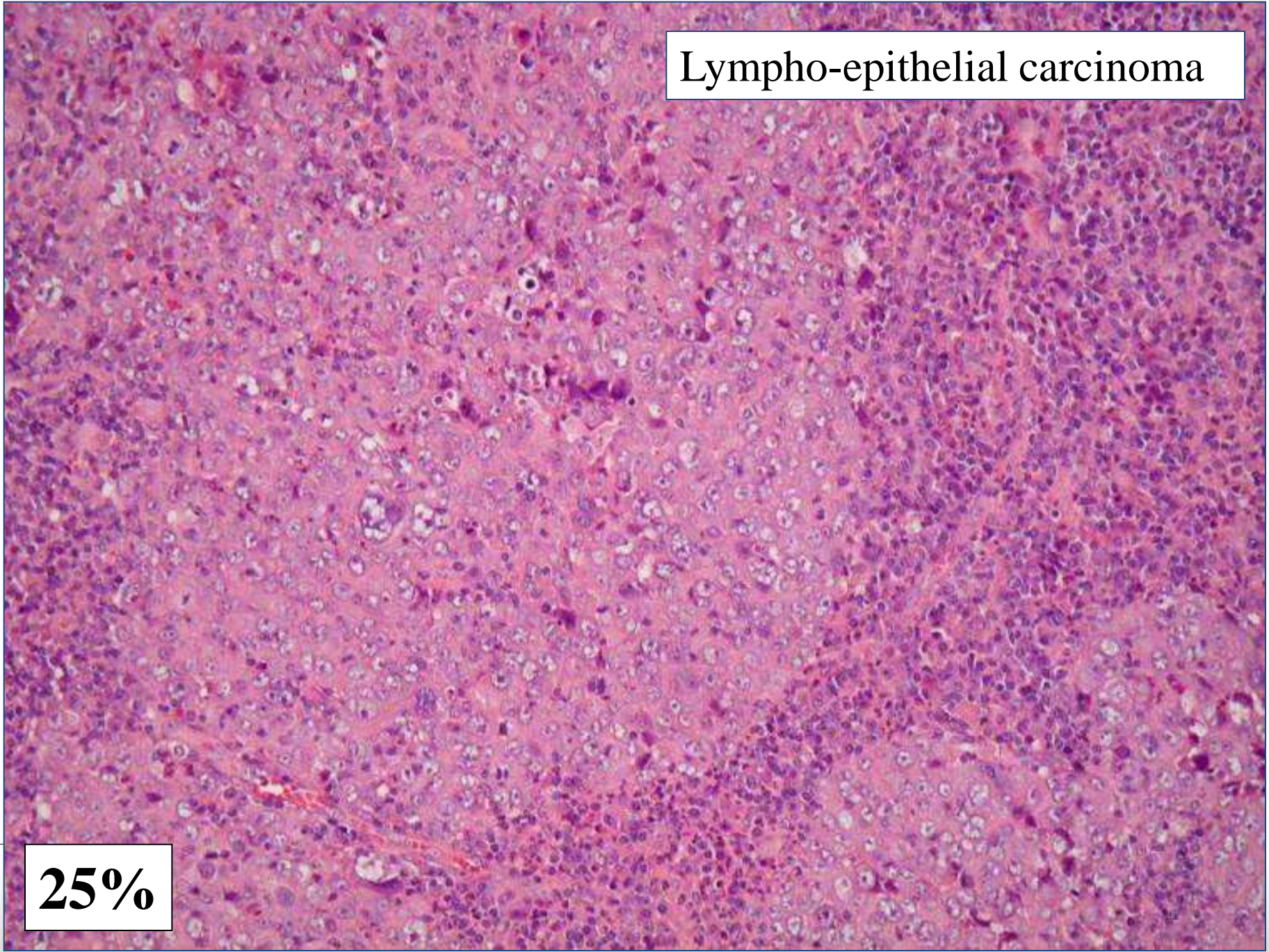
**Adenocarcinoma (clear cell)**

ential



Lympho-epithelial carcinoma

25%

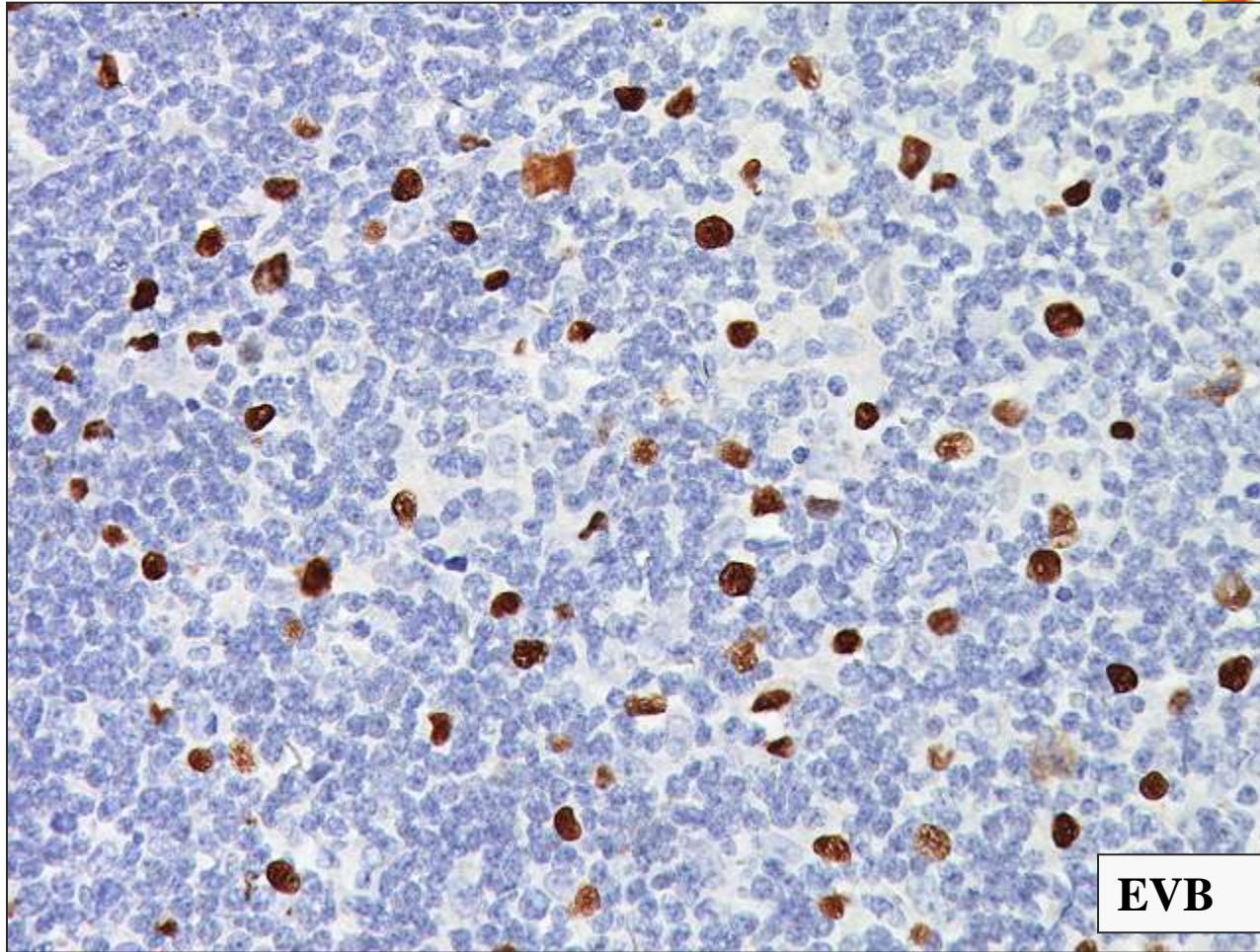




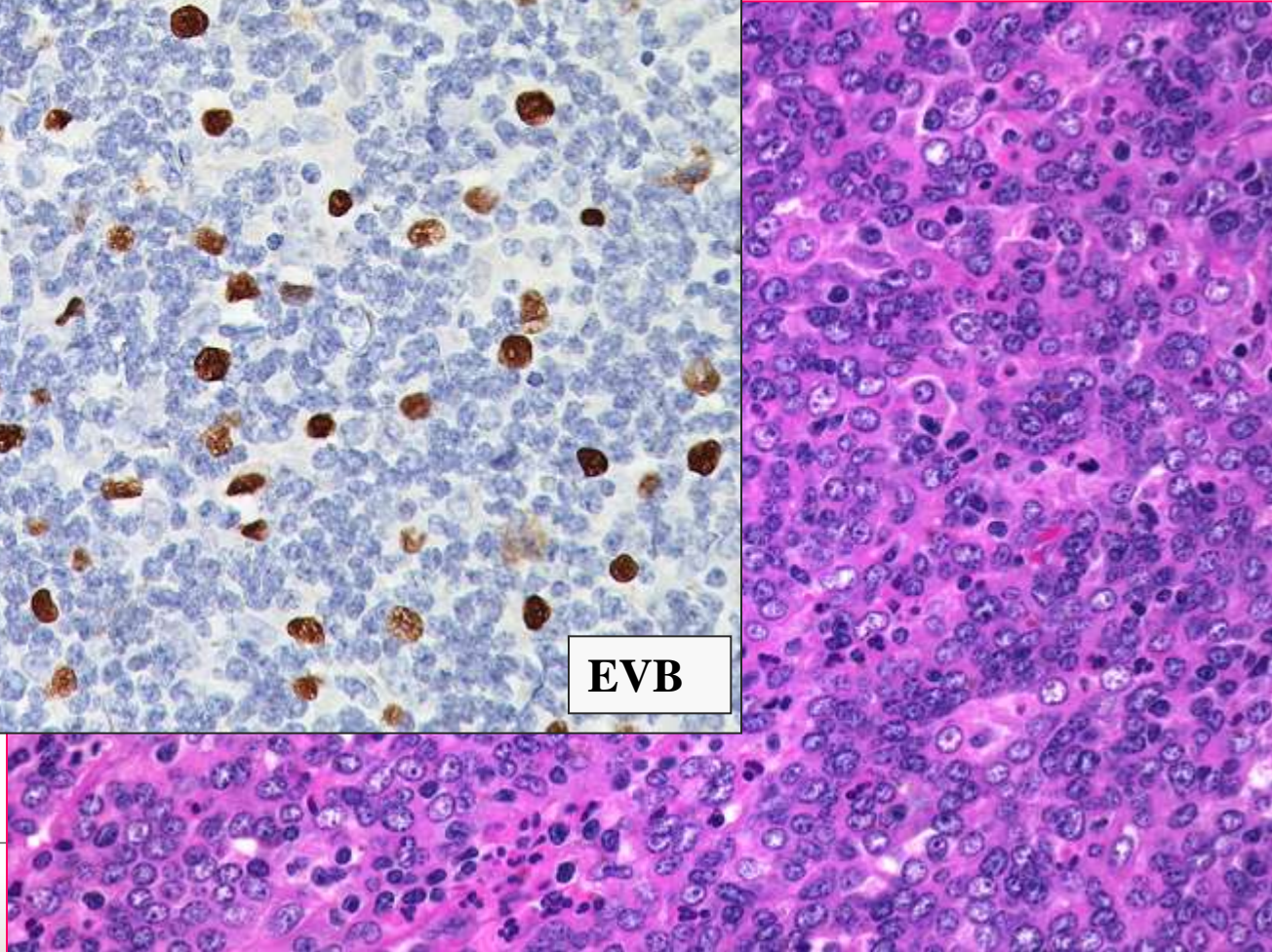
# SCC (lympho-epithelial type)



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EVB





# *Thyroid carcinomas*

5%

MTC

20%

FTC

10%

PTC



## CUP/SCC: Incidence & localization

- 4-5% of all head and neck and UAT SCC,
- up to 30% of occult tonsil SCC
- 60 % of cases unique adenopathy
- 30% multiples homo-lateral adenopathy
- 10 % multiples bilateral adenopathy.
- 90% of cases, primary tumor of UAT is detected



## Non invasive diagnostic tools: FNA & Radiology



- **FNA** in **98%** of cases lymph node *metastasis of SCC*
- If poorly or undifferentiated carcinoma consider **rhinopharynx** as primary site.
- detection of **EBV** genome by *in situ* hybridization,
- **HPV status in younger patients\***
- **Rx thorax**
- **CT-Scan/US**: capsular effraction in lymph node and distant metastasis
- **MRI**: w/o contrast
- **PET-CT**: occult lesion.



\*Cystic cervical LN metastasis associated with HPV-related tonsillar SCC (D. Goldenberg 2008)



## Invasive diagnostic tools: Panendoscopy, Tonsillectomy, Adenectomy

### Panendoscopy with multiples sites biopsies:

- UAT (bronchi & esophagus)
- rhinopharynx, hypopharynx,
- base of the tongue

### Diagnostic routine tonsillectomy (uni/bilat)

*The most common sites of primary lesion*

### Diagnostic adenectomy: allow IHC study (typisation)

***CAVE: Never BX of lymph node, high risk of dissemination!!!  
No intraoperative frozen section!!!(take your time...)***

## Invasive diagnostic tools: Routine tonsillectomy

Enlarged, bilateral (also on site after previous tonsillectomy)

Inclusion and analysis in 5 µm paraffin serial sections (whole tonsil)

Small cryptic SCC found in up to 30% of cases

Complementary study: IHC, HPV status

**IMPORTANT:**

Impact on therapeutic approach: *RTH = primary site + LN « boost »*

## Invasive diagnostic tools: Diagnostic Adenectomy

**After several non conclusive/ non contributive FNA**

**Diagnostic intent**

**Allows...**

- **to study morphology,**
- **other prognostic criteria** (ex extracapsular extension, vascular invasion)
- **extensive IHC analysis,**
- **complementary** molecular assays (FISH, PCR)

EBV genome: nasopharyngeal SCC

HPV high risk phenotype: oropharyngeal cancer

Microsatellite mutation analysis of metastatic nodal tissue and

« normal » mucosa (*J. Califano et al 1999*)

## *Diagnostic of CUP....*

*...It is mandatory and strongly recommended that clinicians, radiologists and expert ENT pathologists (Tumor Board) confront their opinions **before** and **after** final diagnosis (according to institutional SOP)...*



# Diagnostic algorithm of TUMOR of the unknown primary

## Anatomopathological analysis

### Adenocarcinoma

### Undifferentiated malignant tumor

### Squamous cell carcinoma

CK	+
CD45	+
S-100	+

CK	+
CD45	-
S-100	-

CK	-
CD45	+
S-100	-

CK	-
CD45	-
S-100	+

CK	-
CD45	-
S-100	-

**Problem!!**  
**Artifacts?**  
**Repeat IHC!!**

**Lymphoma**  
B & T phenotype  
EMA, CD30, ALK  
(large cell)

**Melanoma**  
(*Melan-A*, *HMB-45*)  
**Liposarcoma**  
**PMNST**

**Sarcoma**  
(*SML*, *DES*, *CD31*,  
*CD34*, *CD99*, *CD117*)

**Germinal tumor**  
(*PLAP*,  $\beta$ *HCG*,  $\alpha$ *AFP*)  
Embryonal-CA  
Chorio-CA,  
Yolk sac tumor

**Malignant mesothelioma**  
(*CK5/6*, *WT-1*, *Calret*)  
**Synovial sarcoma**  
**Epithelioid sarcoma**

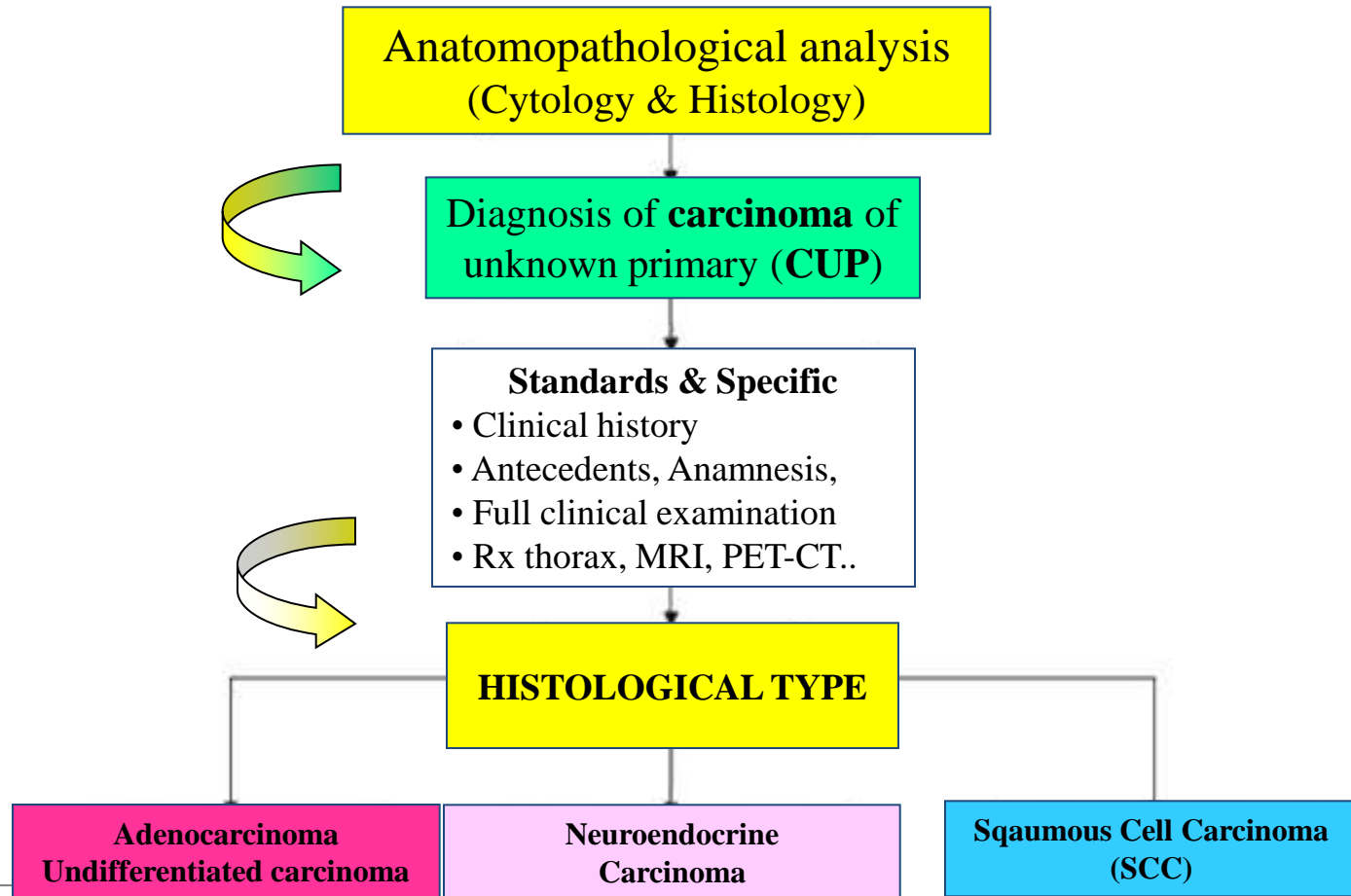
**Undifferentiated carcinoma**

Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012





*Diagnostic algorithm of carcinoma of unknown primary (CUP)....*





**The main goal of treatment is to offer the **local control** of:**

- **metastatic LN cervical disease,**
- **occult contralateral LN cervical disease,**
- **occult primary lesion.**

### **Therapeutic options:**

#### **1) Surgery alone:**

unilateral or bilateral neck dissection (levels I-V)

#### **2) RTH therapy alone :**

unilateral or bilateral neck irradiation (levels I-V-III & pharynx)

#### **3) Surgery + RTH (unilat and/or bilat & pharynx)**

#### **4) RTH/CTH follow by salvage surgery**

## CUP: Therapeutic approach



Clinical stage <b>cN1</b> or <b>cN2a</b> , w/o extra capsular extension, or $\leq 3$ LNs	<b>Surgery alone</b>
Clinical stage <b>cN1</b> or <b>cN2a</b> with <b>extra capsular</b> extension, <b>cN2b, cN2c</b> or $> 3$ LNs	<b>RTH uni/ bilateral <math>\pm</math> Surgery (?)</b>
Clinical stage <b>cN3</b>	<b>Radical neck dissection + RTH <math>\pm</math> CTH</b> <b>Neo-adjuvant CTH + Surgery + RTH</b> <b>RTH/CTH <math>\pm</math> Surgery</b>

## Inclusion and serial section analysis of all LNs

- precise ...
  - total number**, and **topography** of LN (by level)
  - mean size**
  - size of **biggest** LN (if more than **3cm**, additional section 1/cm)
  - consistence**, and mobility,  
(*relation with skin, muscle, jugular vein, carotid artery*)
- looking for extra-capsular extension, LVI, Pn1....

**N stage:** ..... Tx, **pN2a**, Mx.... and level...



## Chromosomal Abnormalities

Aneuploidy in **70%–90%**

*(without any relationship to patterns of metastatic involvement or survival).*

## Tumor Suppressor Genes and Proteins

**p53** overexpression

**KiSS-1** metastasis-suppressor gene was correlated with poor prognosis

## Angiogenesis

no prognostic value of a microvessel density marker (**CD34** and **VEGF-A**)

**Microarray technology** should be used to compare expression profiles between CUP and known primary tumors, as well as for assigning CUP cases to sites of origin leading to elucidate **what is really missing in CUP: the primary or the biology?**

## CUP: Prognosis



- The **nodal status** is considered as the **most important** prognostic factor (*prognosis equivalent to that observed in patients with known primary and similar nodal stage*)
- For patients **treated with neck dissection**, prognostic factors include (*N-stage, number of nodes, grading, extracapsular extension*)
- EBV genome: nasopharyngeal SCC (worst prognosis)

**The overall 5-year survival rate 15-20%.**



## Head & Neck CUP: *Take home message....*



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- **Thinking at the beginning...**(cystic metastasis, tonsil, HVP...)
- Anatomico-clinical confrontation **BEFORE & AFTER** diagnostic is mandatory (*expert team agreement*).
- Multicentric approach  
(*biopsies, tonsillectomy, lymph node adenectomy*)
- Particular technical approach during FNA or histological analysis.
- Extensive complementary analysis:
  - IHC according to histological type,
  - Topography of LN (levels I-VI),
  - Molecular biology (EBV, HPV).

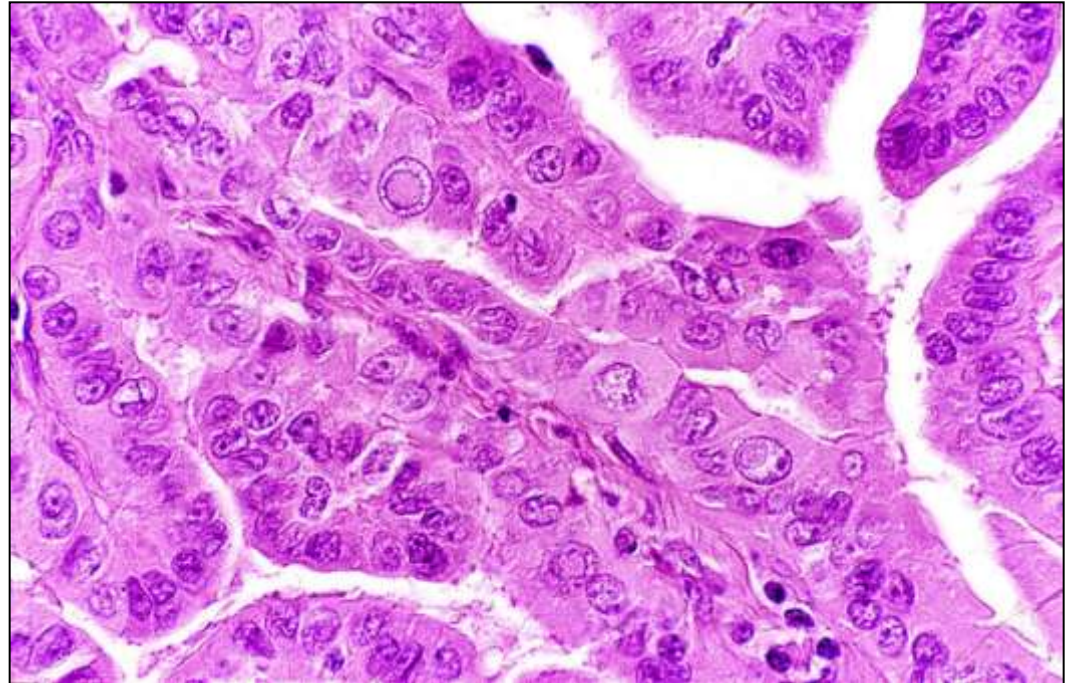
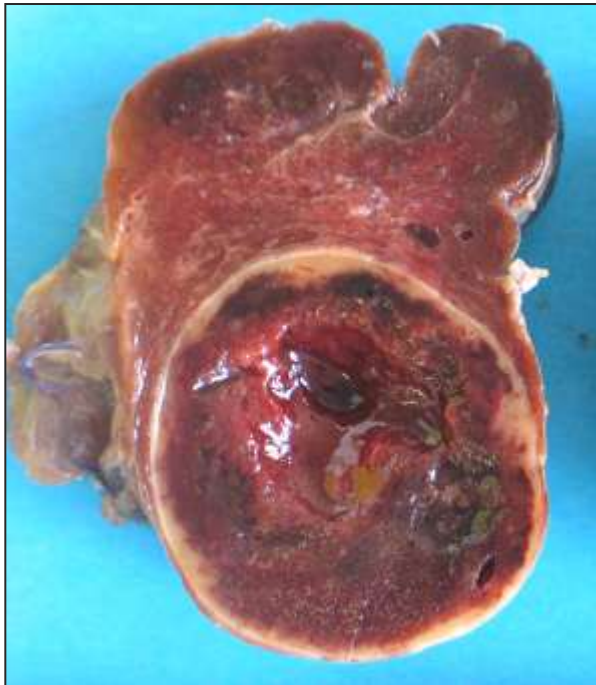


**Pre-therapeutic assessment & TTT Approach**



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## 2. A thyroid nodule: *Diagnostic challenge in cytology & histology*



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# FNA- Cytology



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**Benignant 50-75%**

Nodule

Cyst

Thyroiditis:

Lymphocytic

Subacute granulomatous (*de Quervain*)

**Malignant 5-10%**

**Carcinomas:**

papillary

medullary

undifferentiated

**Insufficient 2-15%**

(< 5-6 groups of thyreocytes)

**Suspect 15-30%**

**Proliferations:**

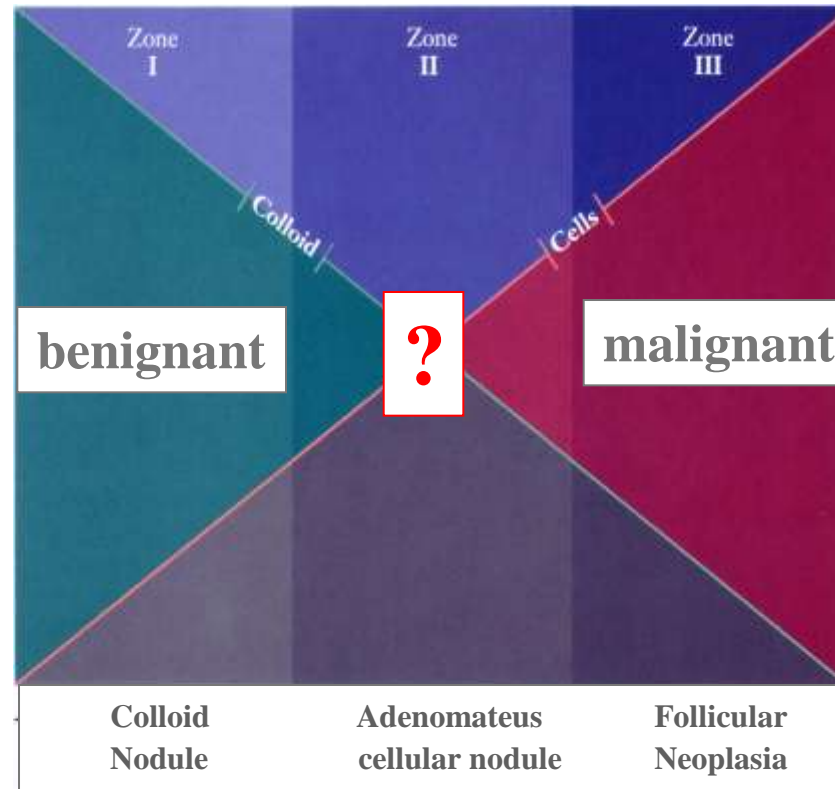
– follicular

– oncocytic



# Cytology: suspect/indeterminate

**15-30%** of follicular/oncocytic proliferation



increasing of cellularity  
decreasing of colloid

*Blant, Oct 2012*

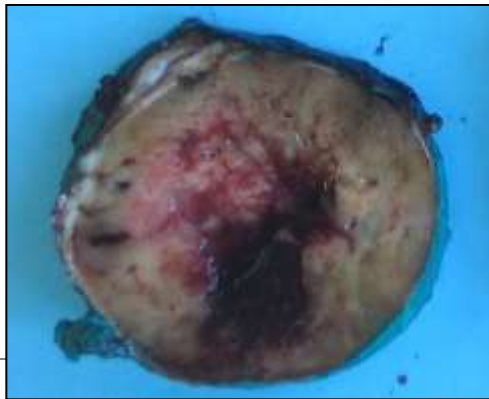
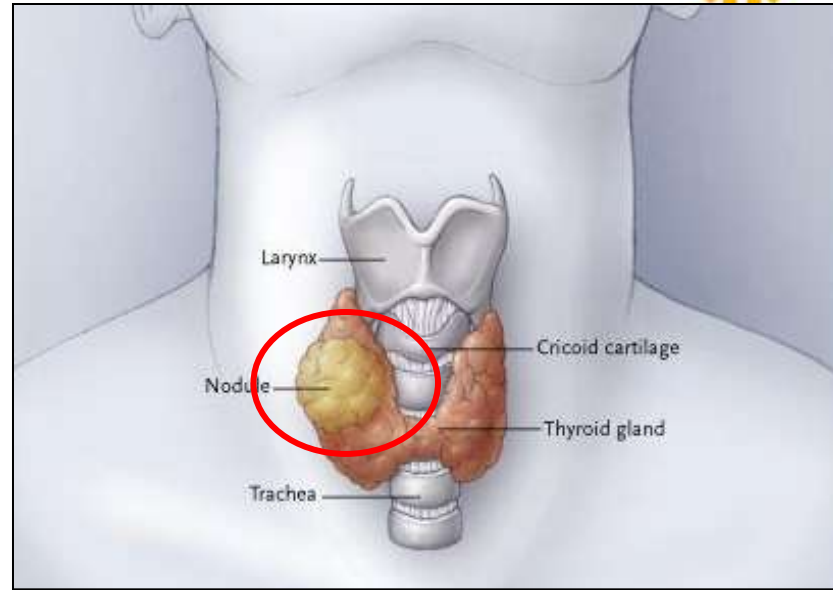




# Thyroid nodule-histology



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**Benignant (95%)**

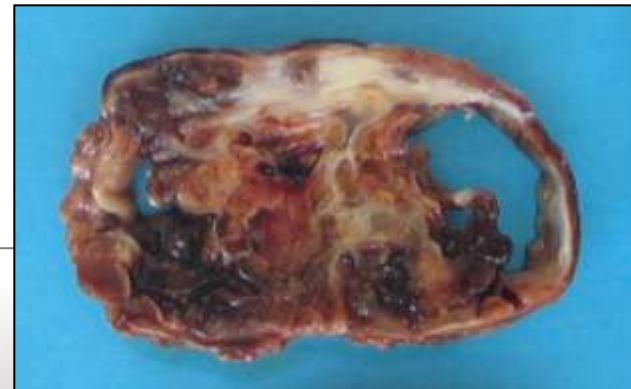
**Hyperplasia (85%)**

**Adenoma (14%)**

**Cyst (1%)**

**Malignant (5%)**

.....



Oct 2012



# Thyroid nodule-histology



Unilabs

**Follicular adenoma**

**Carcinomas**

*Derivates from follicular cells*

**Papillary** (75-85%)

**Follicular** (10-20%)

**Poorly differentiated** (> 5%)

**Undifferentiated** (> 5%)

*Derivates from C cells cellules (parafollicular)*

**Medullary** (> 5%)

**Well differentiated tumor of uncertain malignant potential**

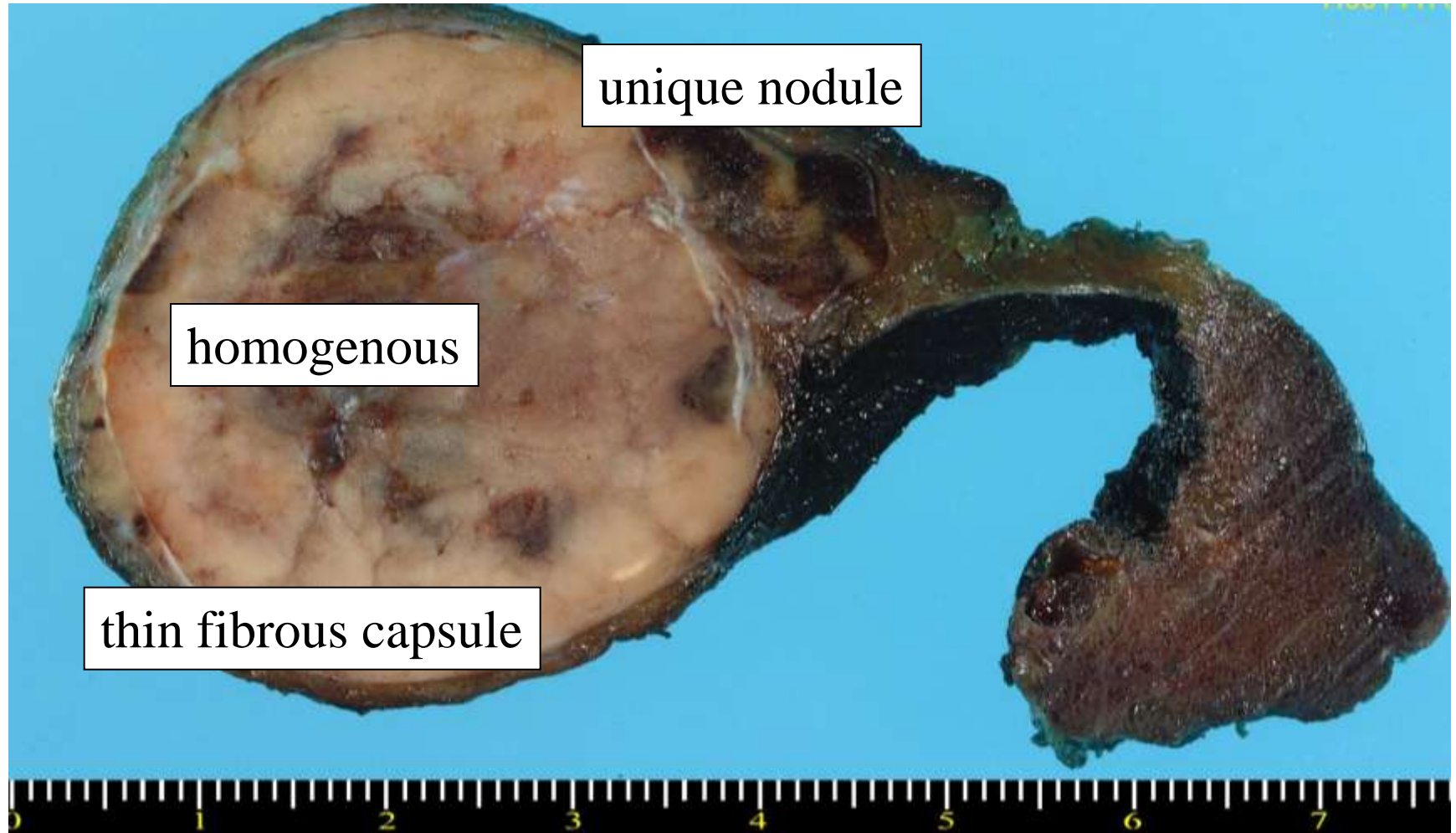
**Spindle cell tumor with « thymus-like » differentiation**

**Other** (rare): Lymphomas, metastasis (*kidney, breast, melanoma, lung...*)

# Follicular adenoma



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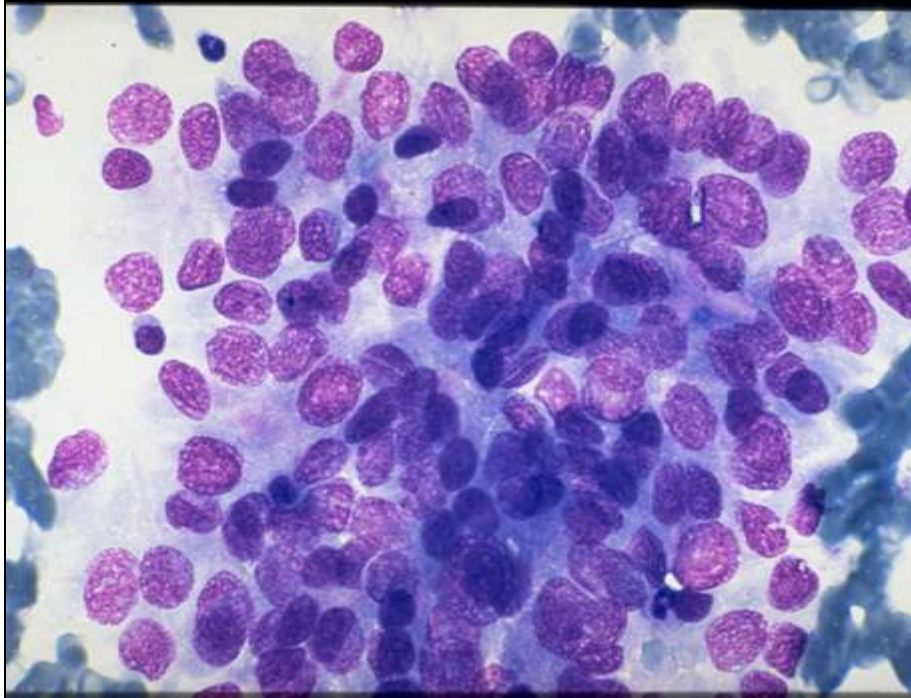
*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*



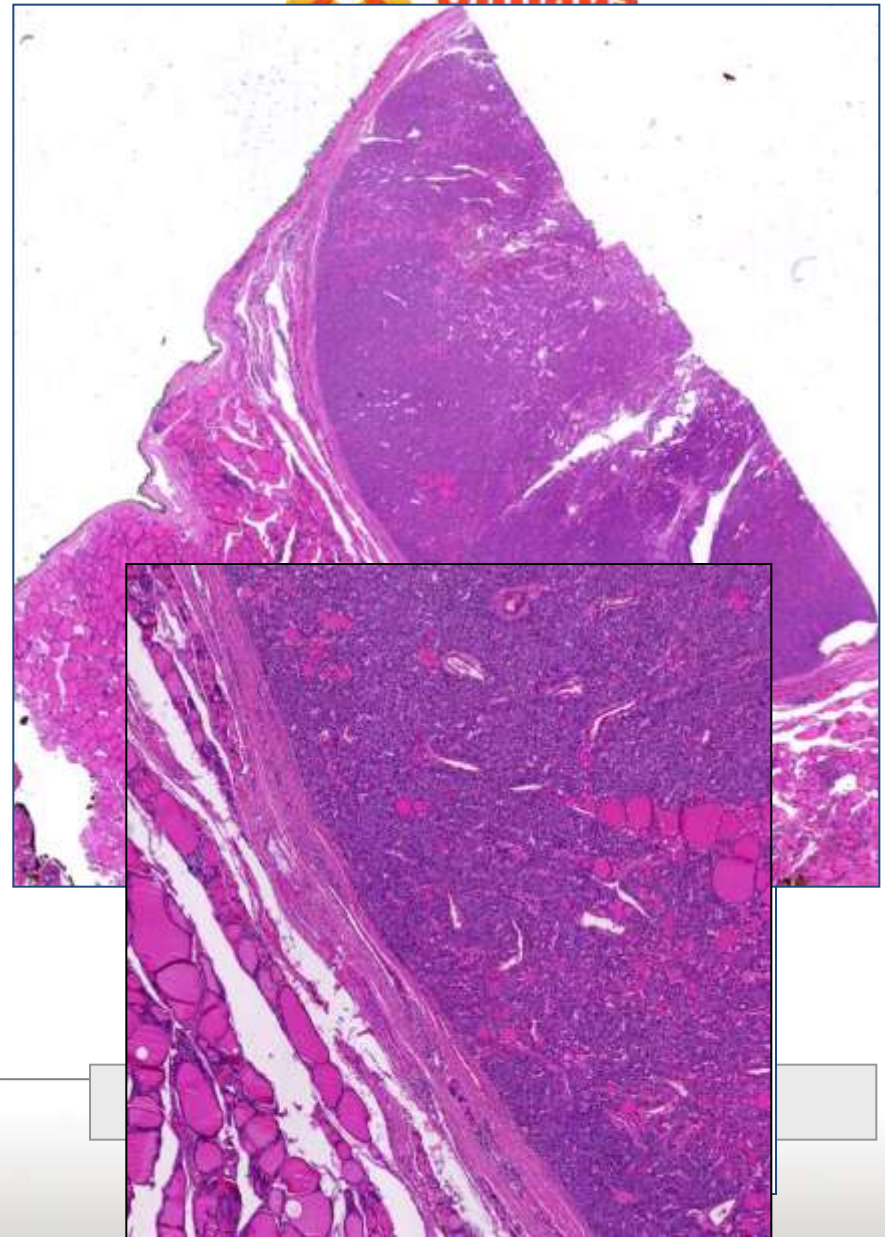


*FNA diagnosis NOT possible (no information about capsule...)*

## Follicular adenoma

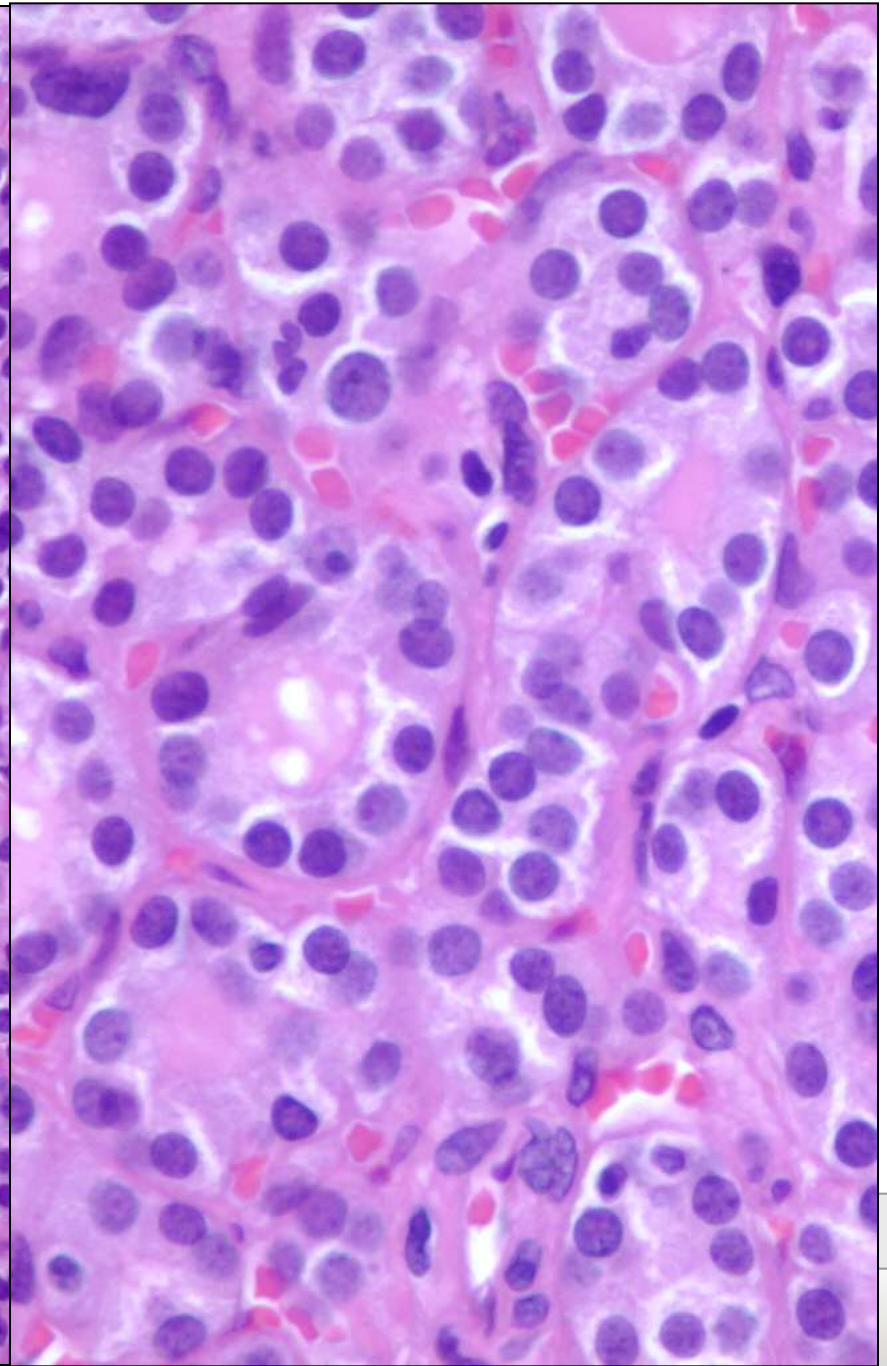
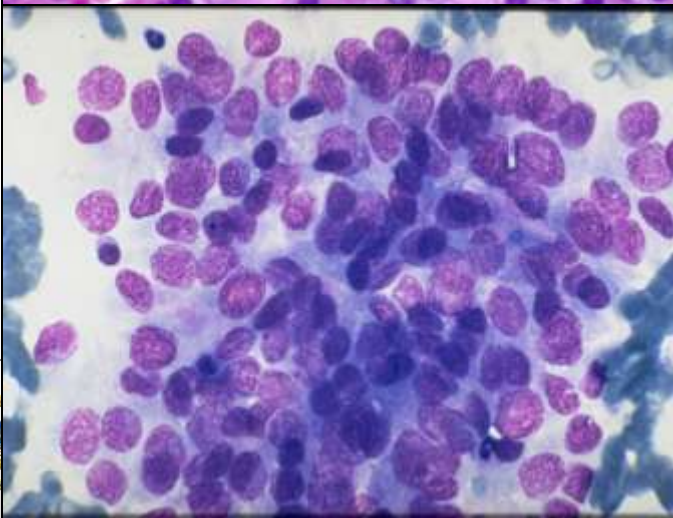
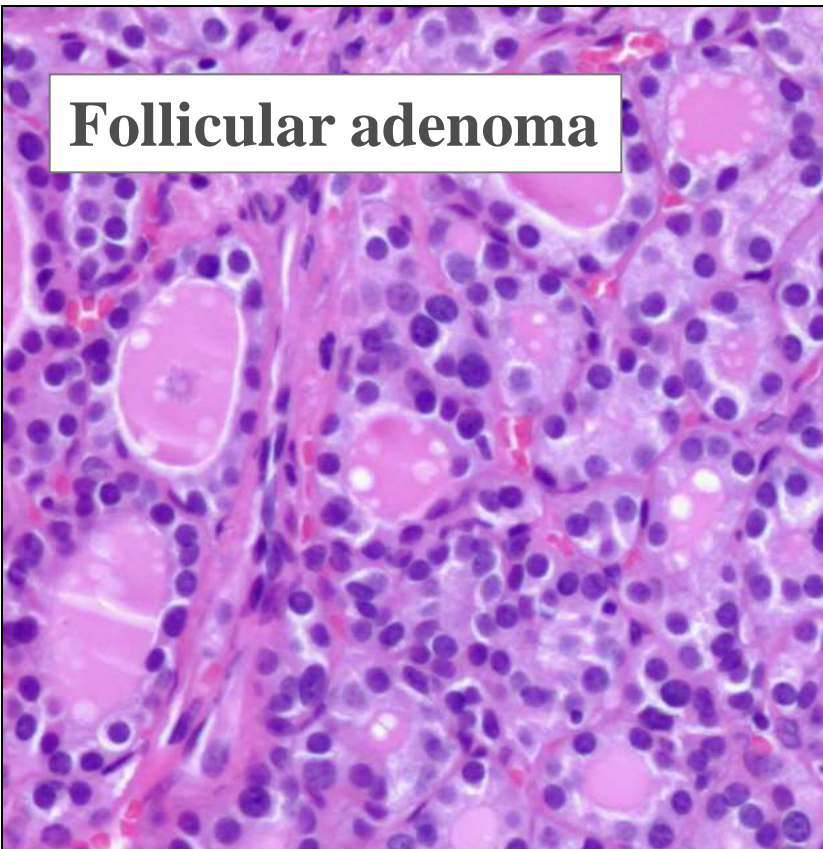


*Follicular proliferation ...*





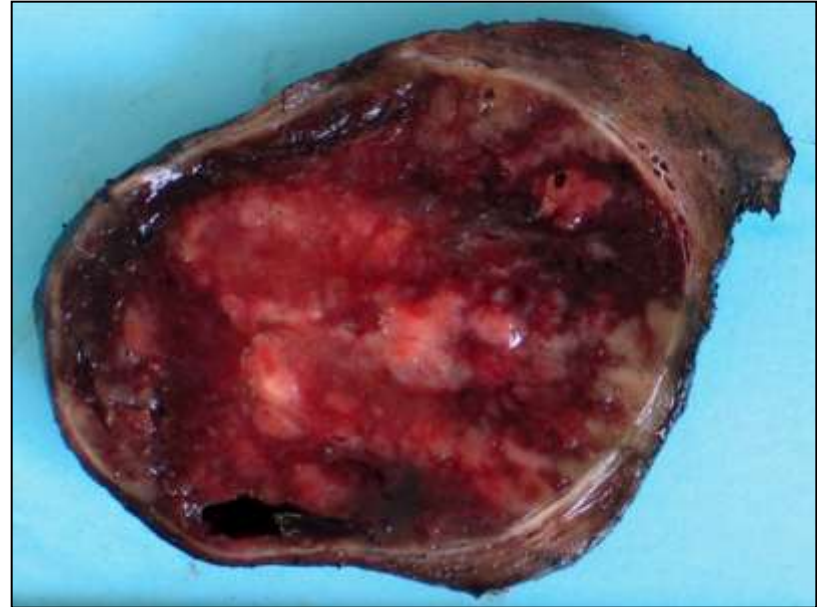
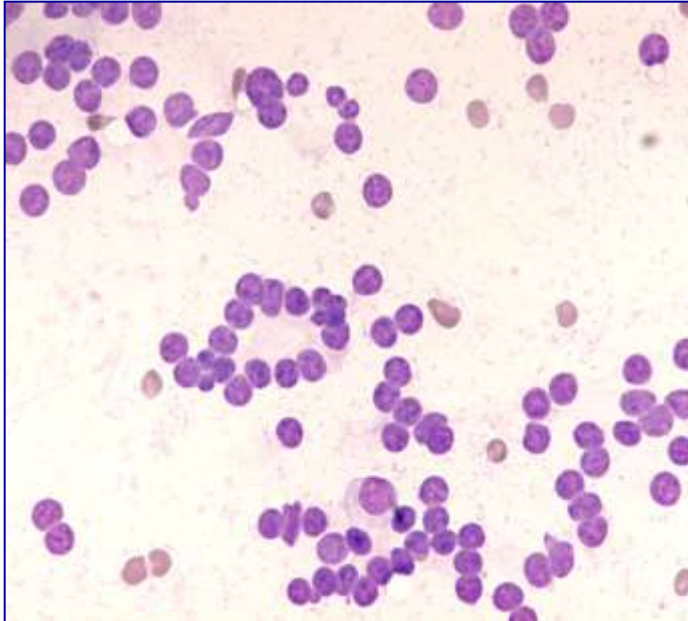
## Follicular adenoma



*FNA diagnosis NOT possible (no information about capsule...)*



## Follicular carcinoma



**Follicular proliferation ...**

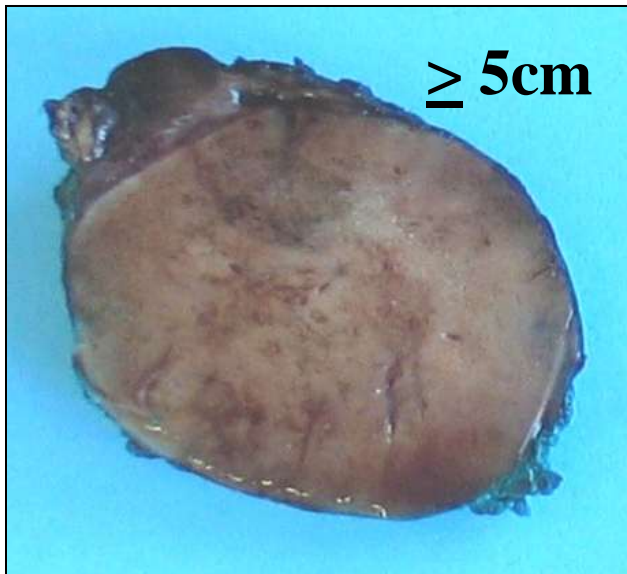
*Two variants:*

Minimally invasive (capsular/vascular)

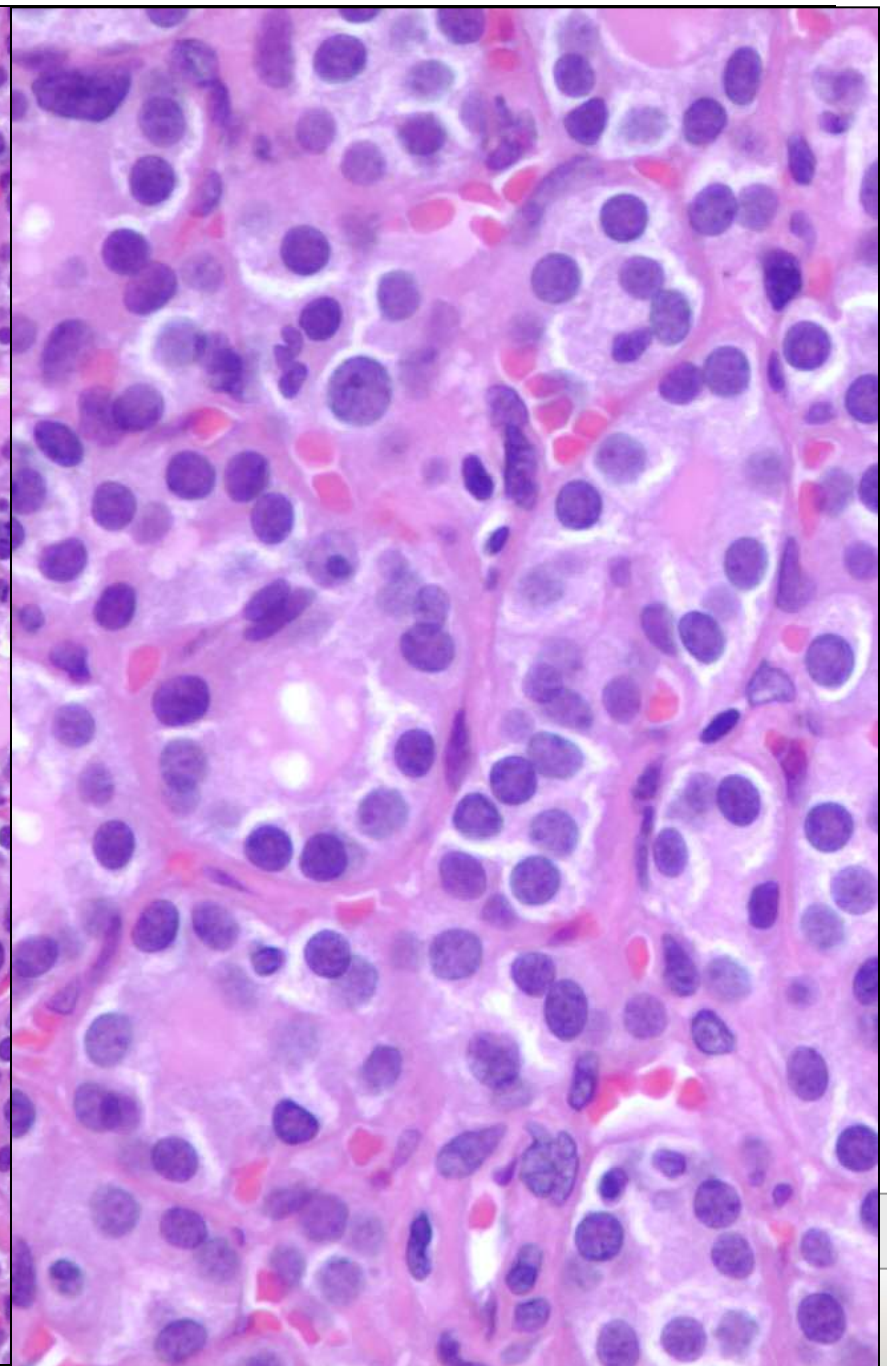
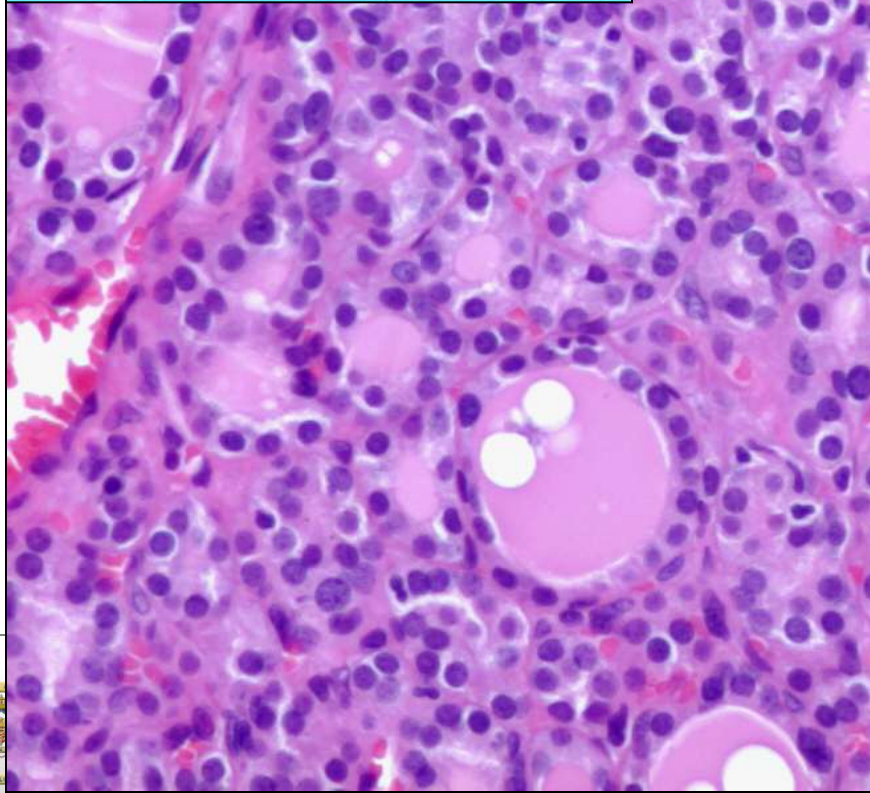
Invasive (extra-capsular extension)





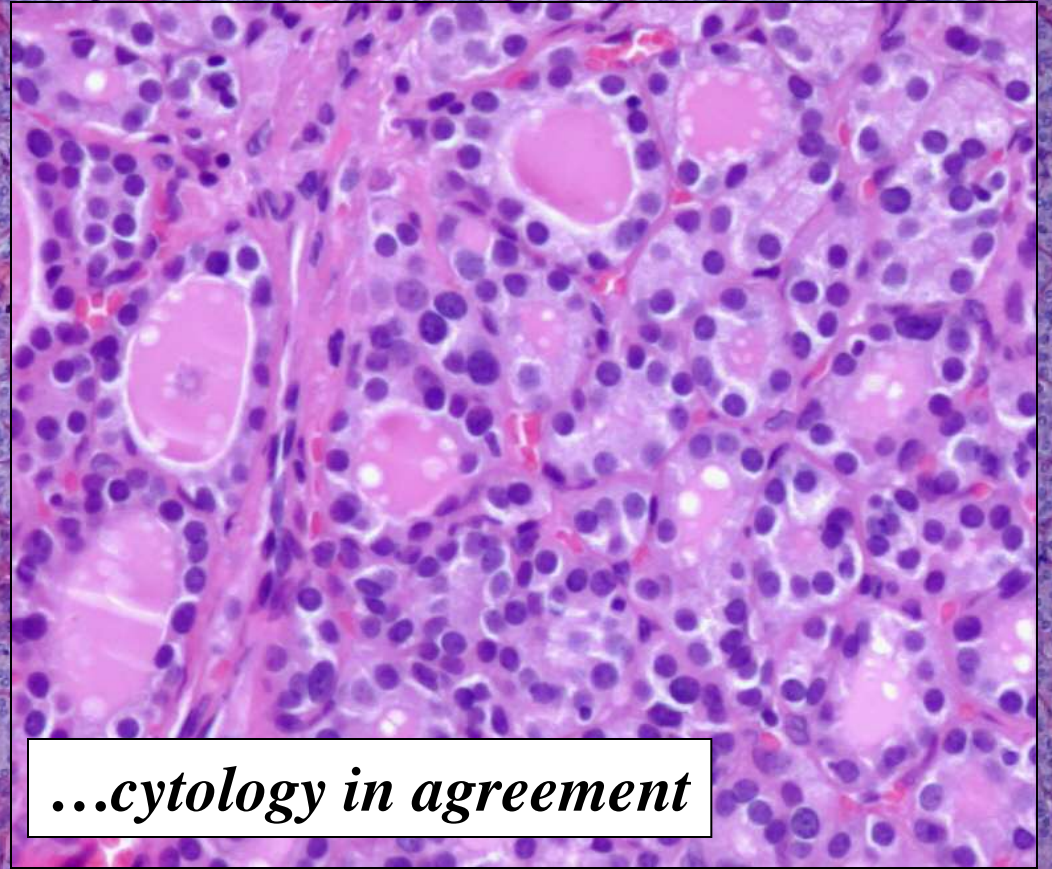


$\geq 5\text{cm}$



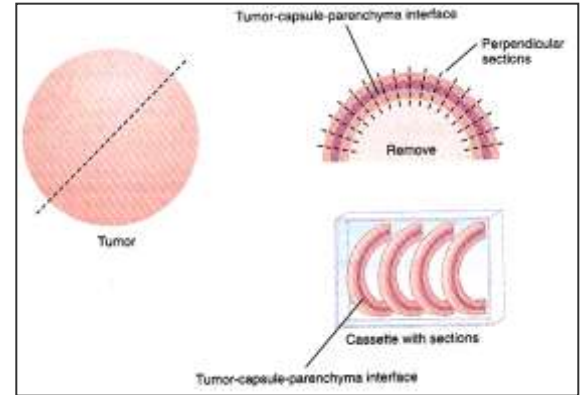
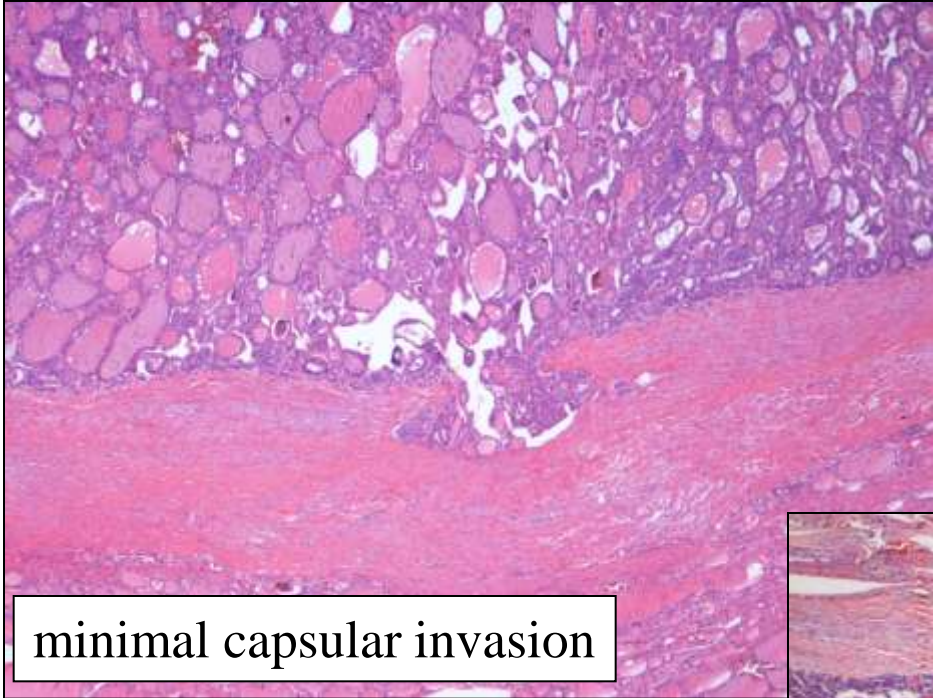


*follicular architecture*



*...cytology in agreement*

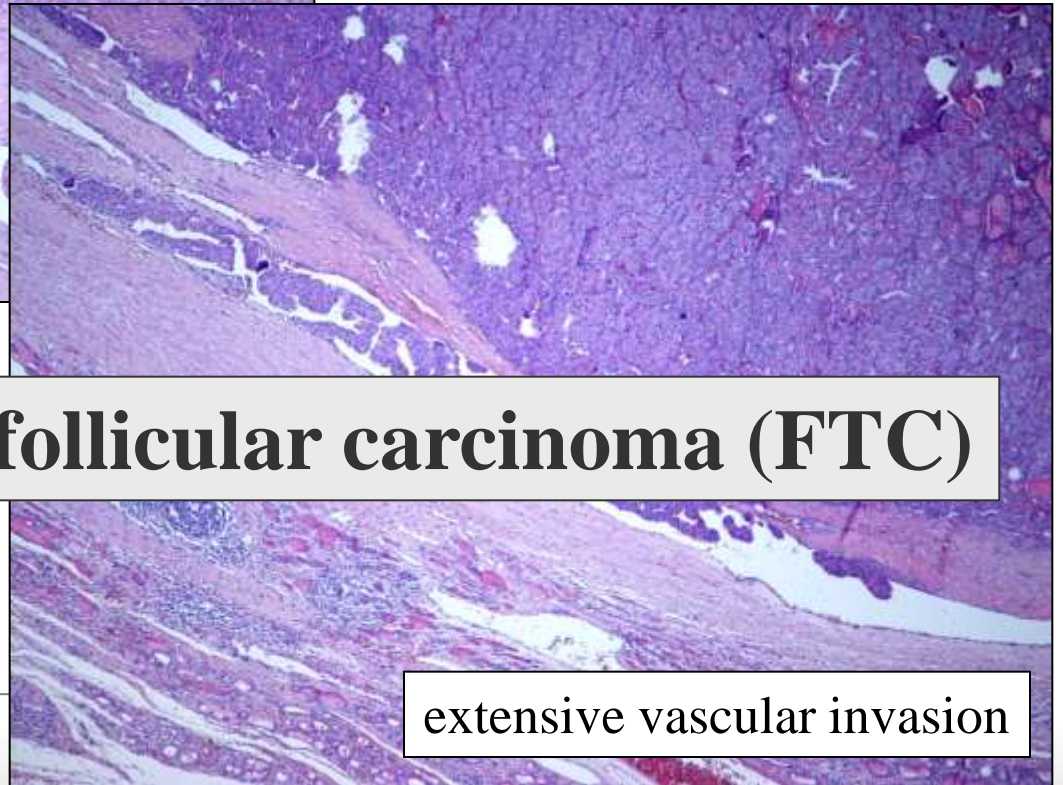
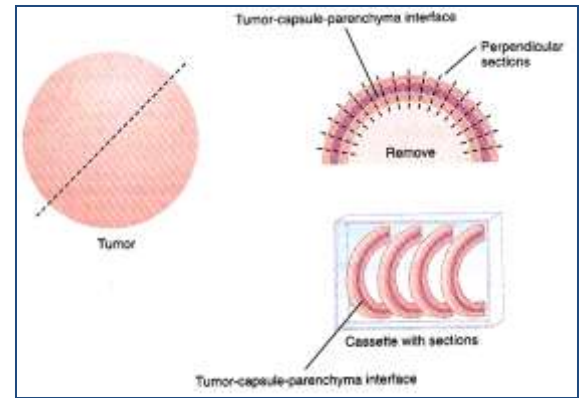
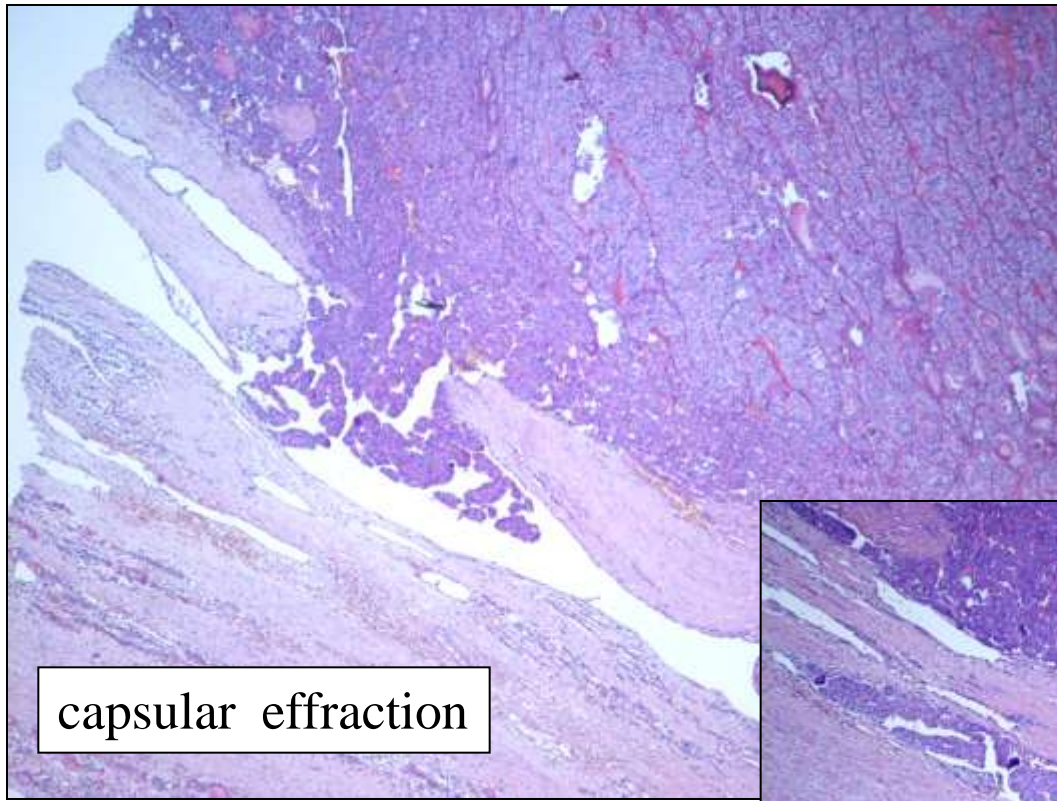




## Follicular carcinoma *minimally invasive*







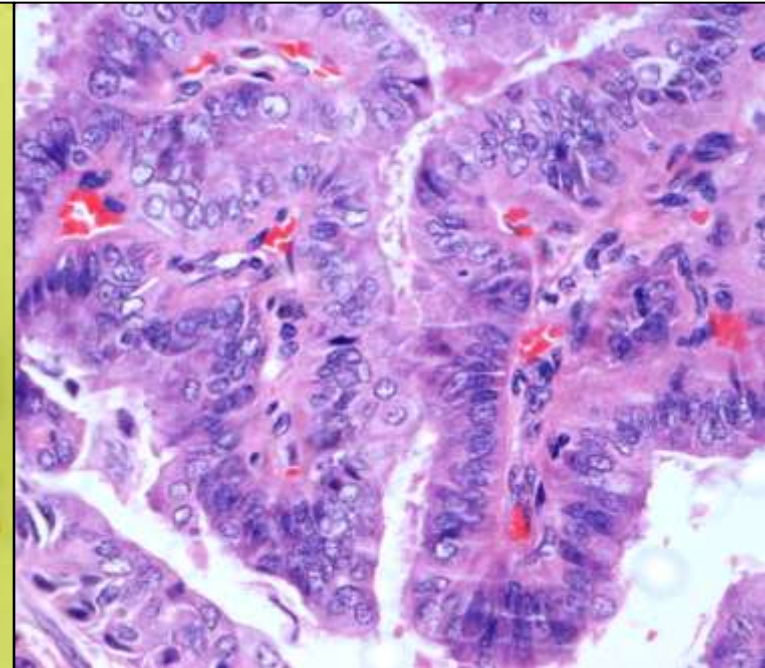
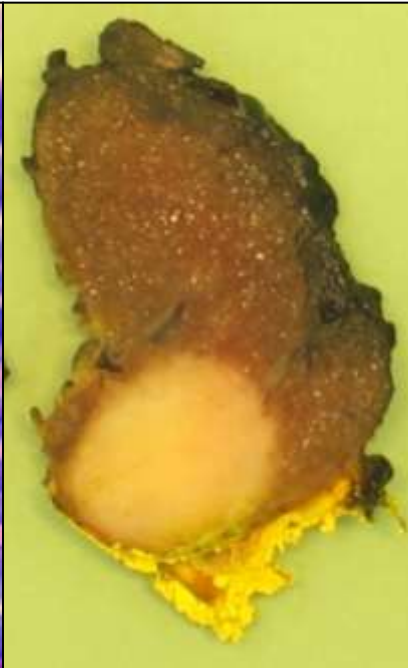
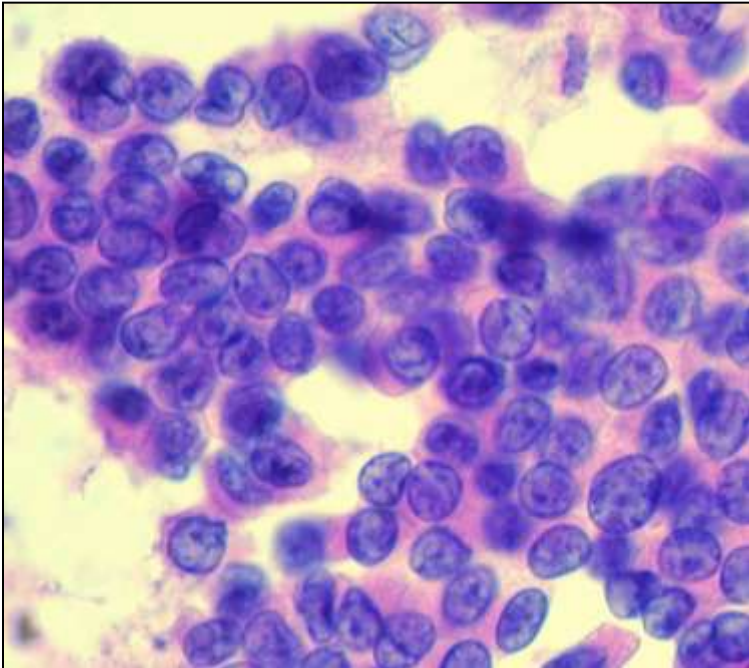
# Widely invasive follicular carcinoma (FTC)



*FNA diagnostic possible & reliable...*



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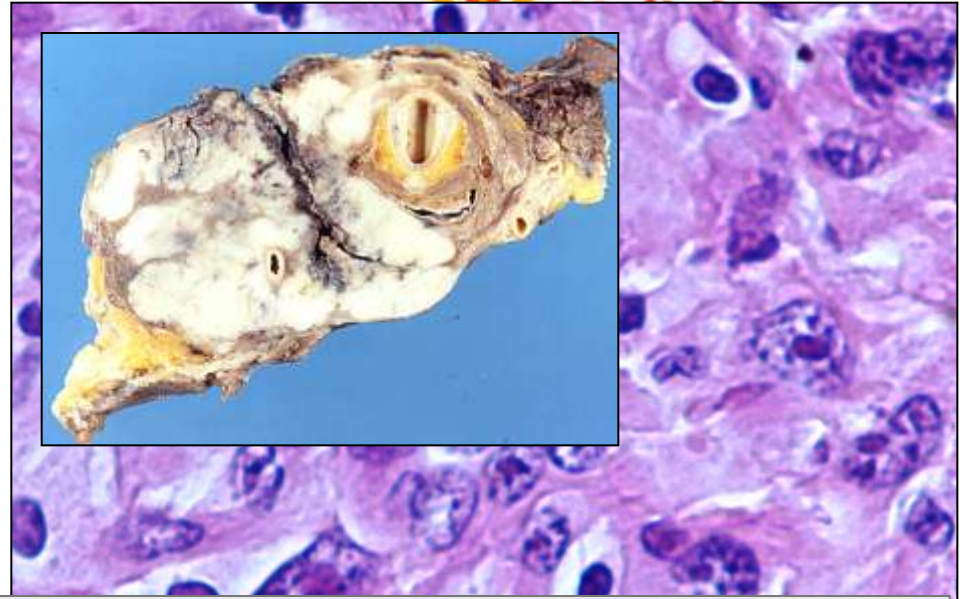
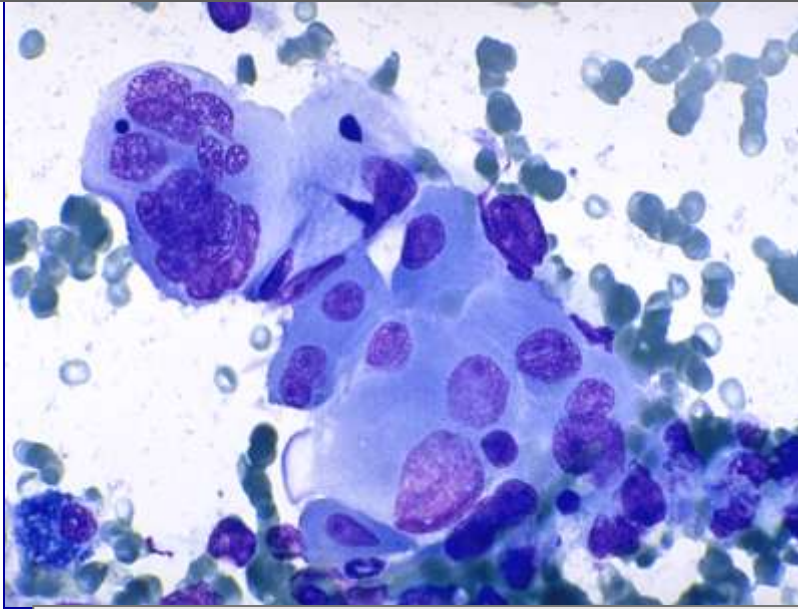


**Papillary carcinoma, conventional type (PTC)**

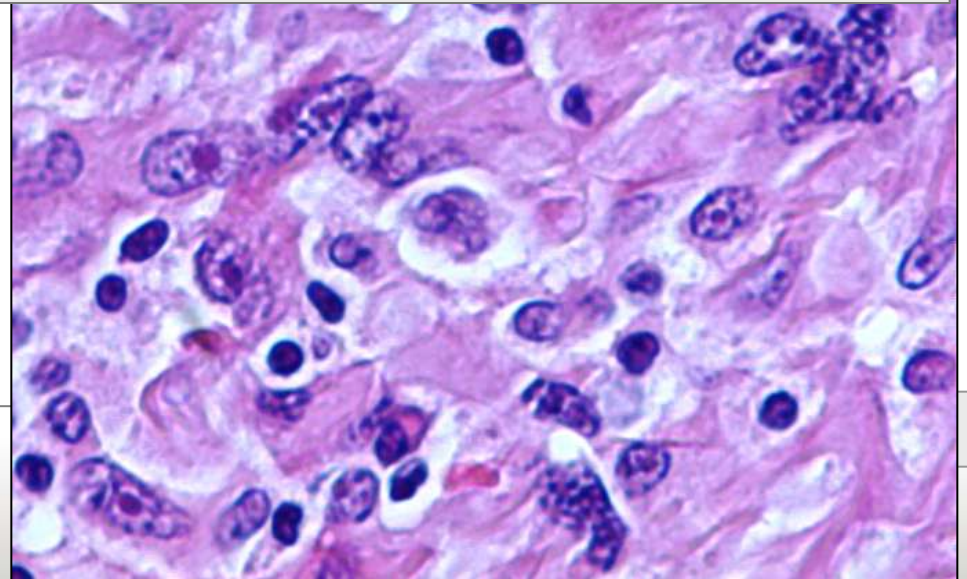
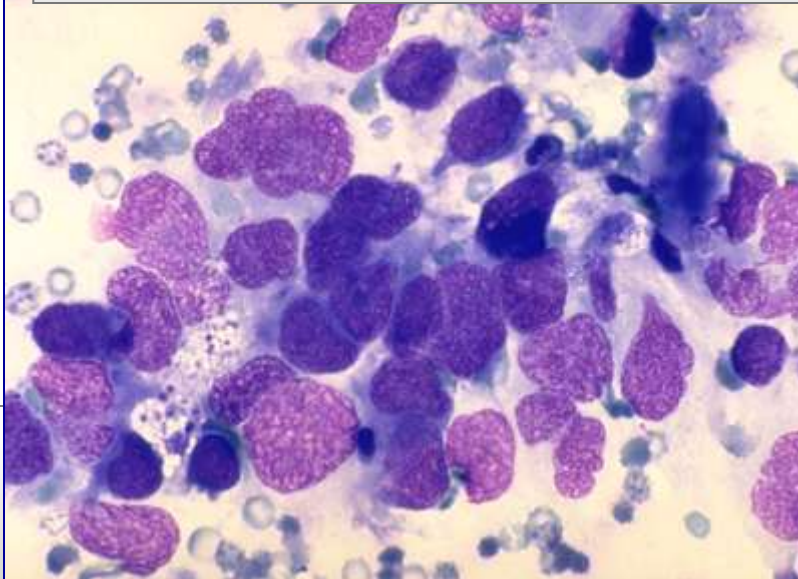




***FNA diagnostic possible & reliable.....***



**Undifferentiated/Anaplastic thyroid carcinoma (ATC)**

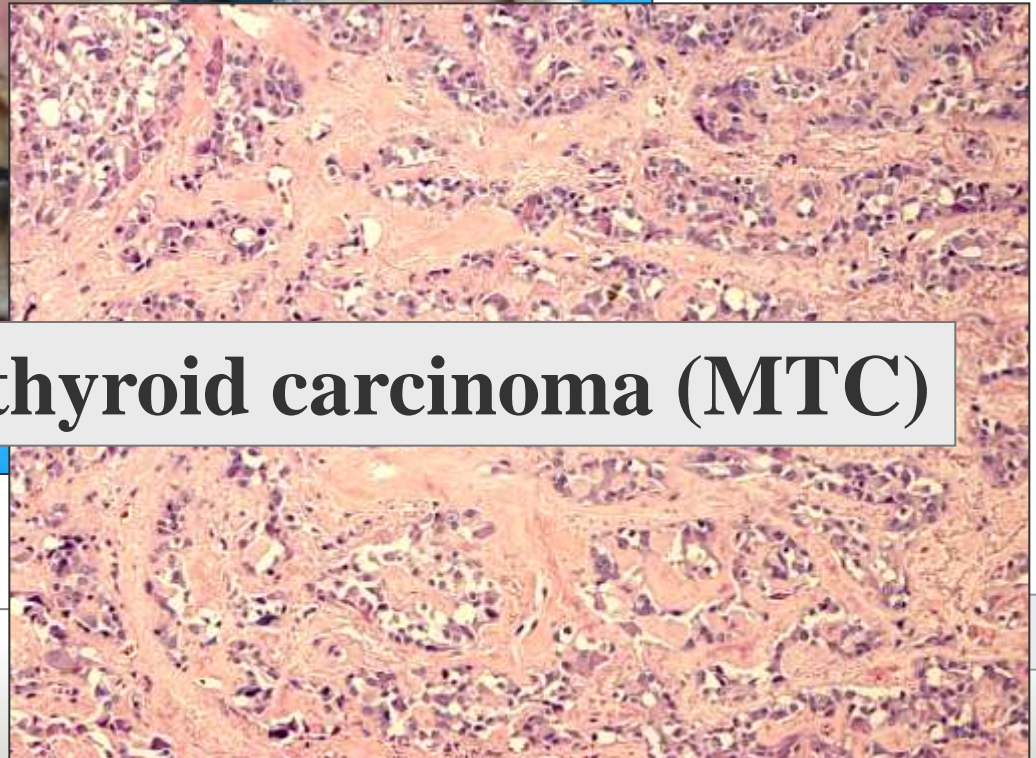
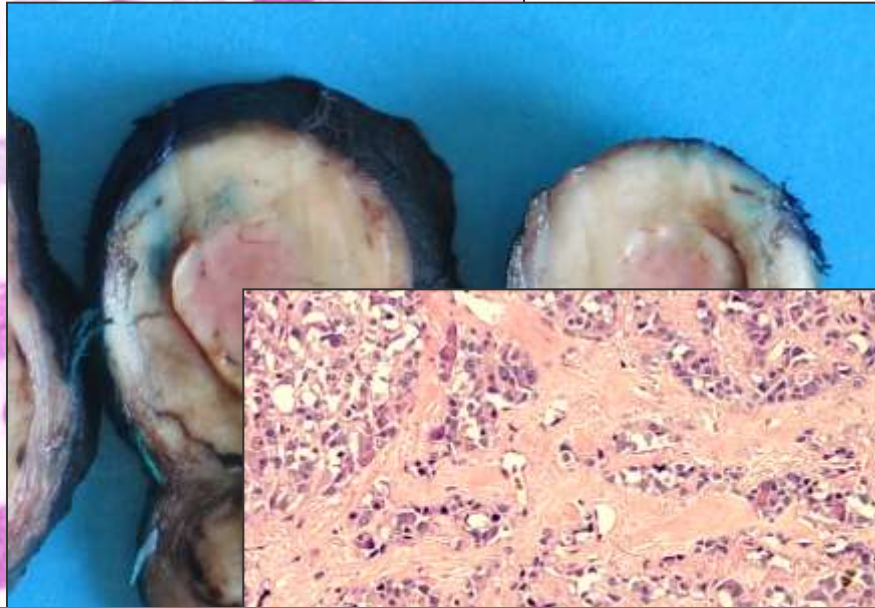
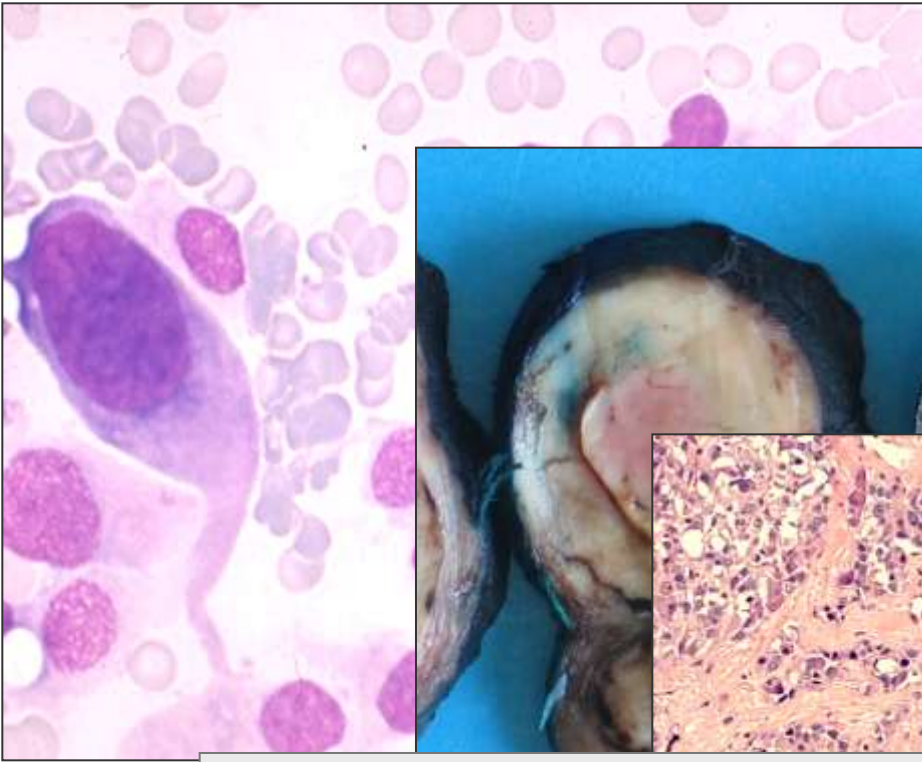




***FNA diagnostic possible & reliable...***



**Unilabs**



**Medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC)**

***FNA diagnosis difficult ... uncertain... impossible...***



### **Papillary carcinoma (variants)**

- **Follicular variant of papillary carcinoma (FVPTC)**
- **Oncocytic variant (*Hurthle cell carcinoma*)**
- **Tall cell variant**
- **Diffuse sclerosing variant**

### **Poorly differentiated carcinoma**

**Well differentiated tumor of uncertain malignant potential**

### **Spindle cell tumor with « thymus-like » differentiation**

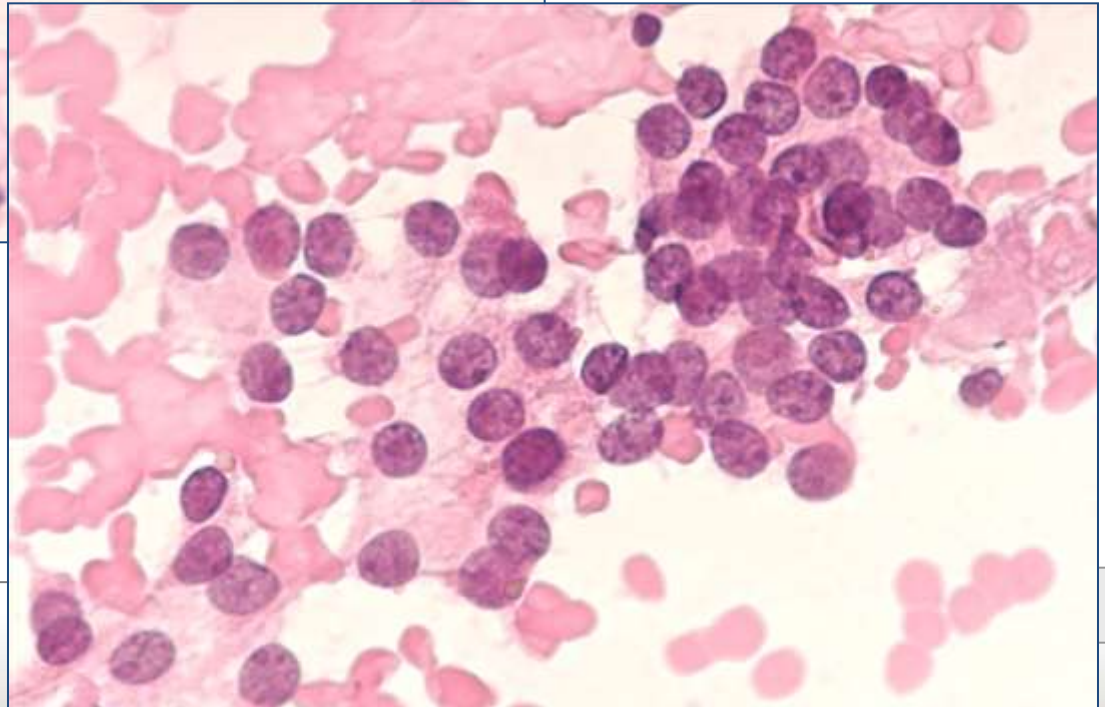
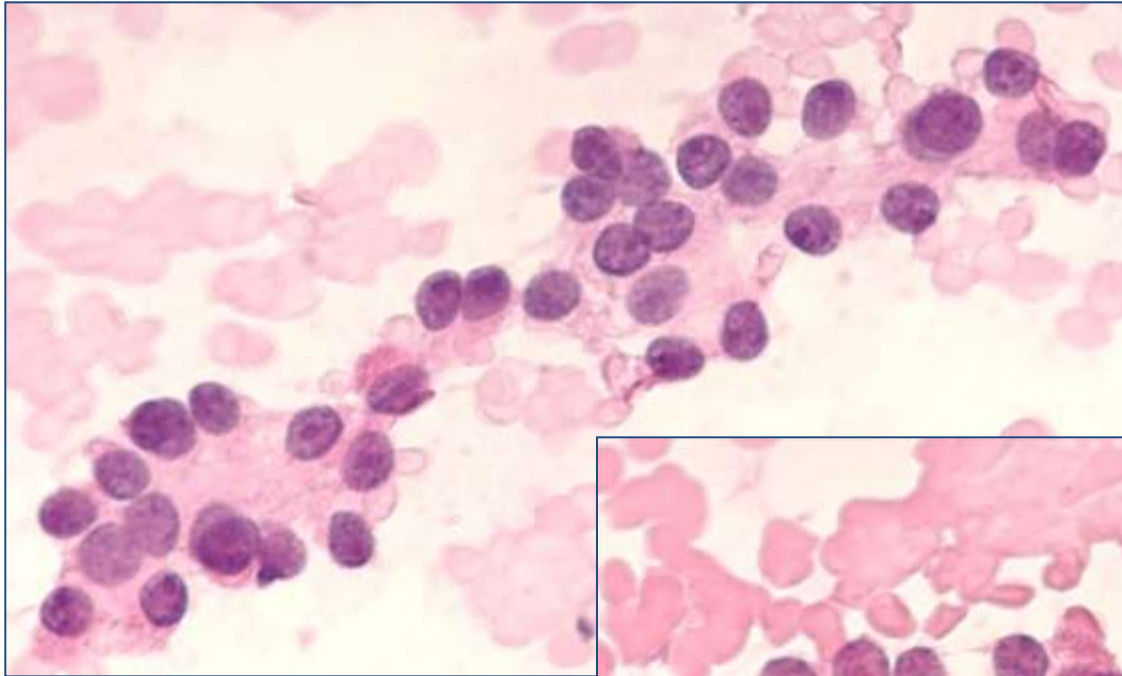
*(SETTLE- spinde cell tumor with thymus like differentiation & CASTLE - Carcinoma showing « thymus like » differentiation)*



# FNA: follicular proliferation ...



**Unilabs**





architecture is follicular ....

Unilabs

... but cytology is « papillary »

**Follicular variant of papillary carcinoma (FVPTC)**

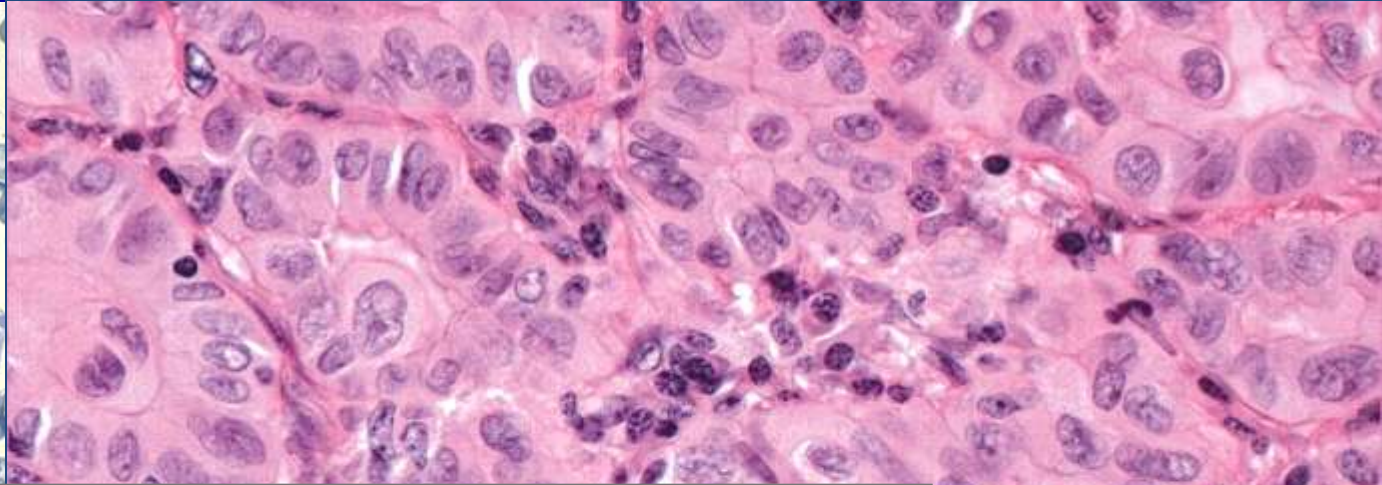
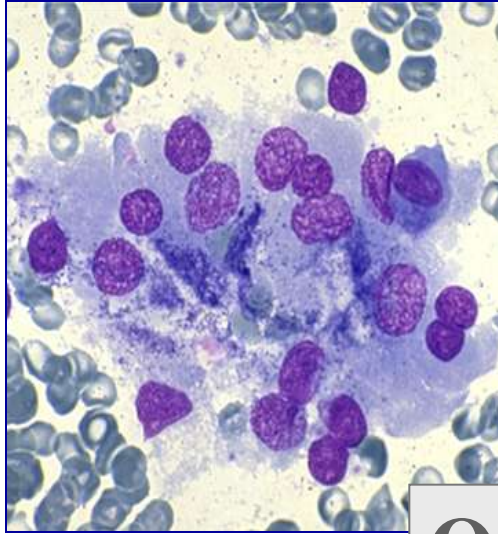




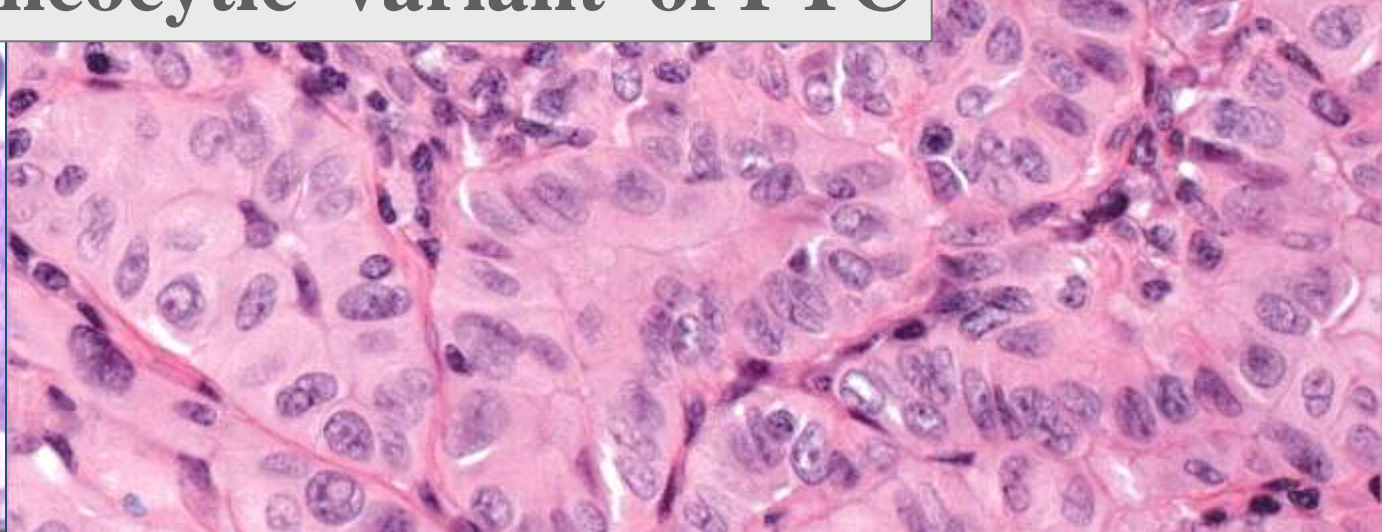
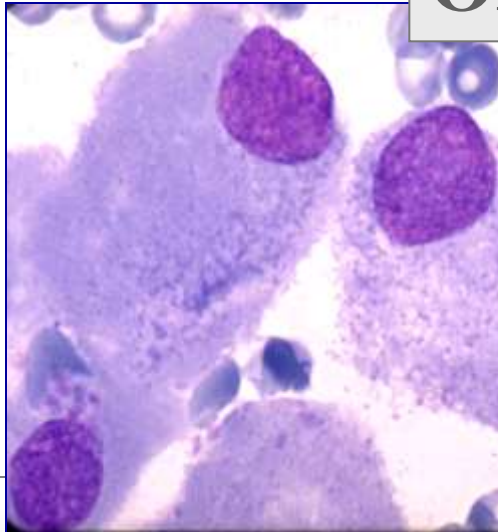
# *Oncocytic cells proliferation ...*



Unilabs

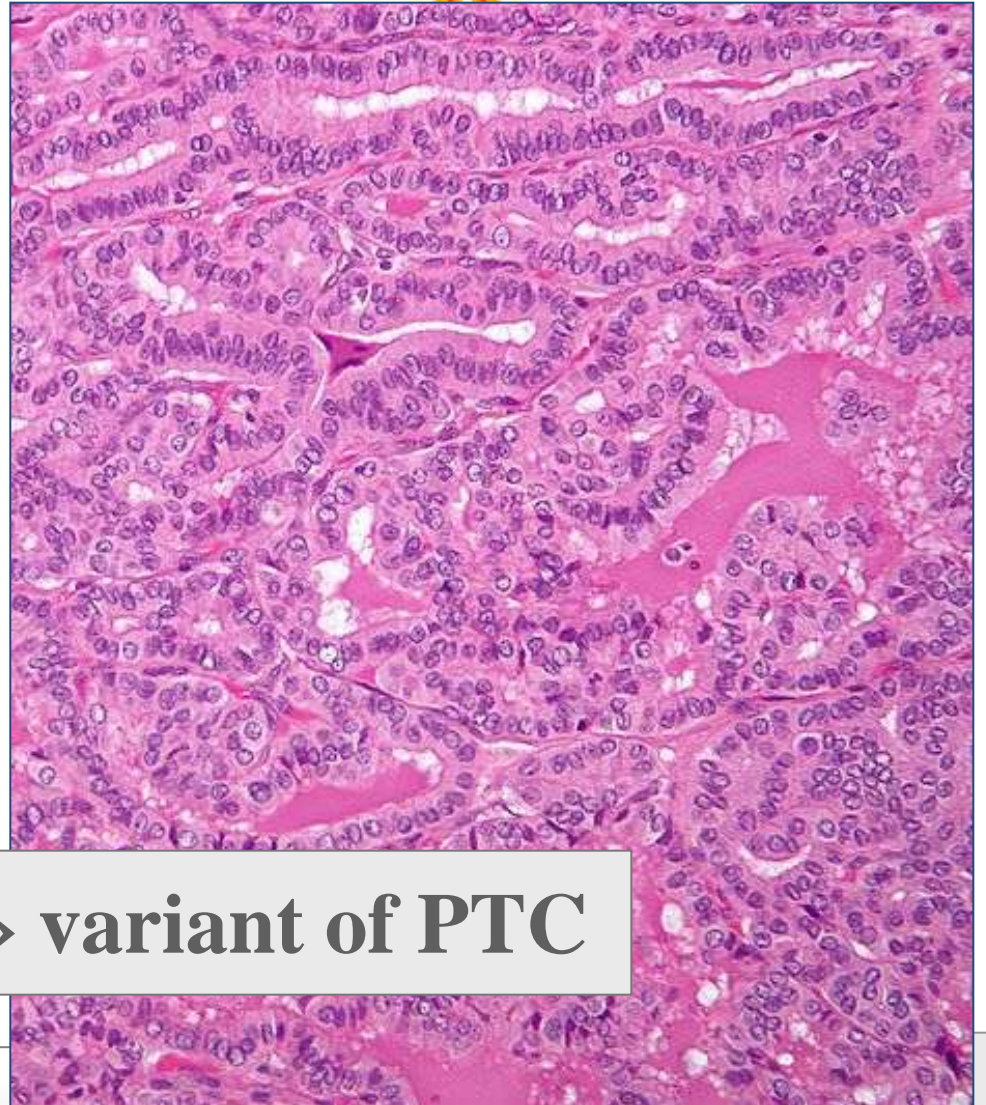
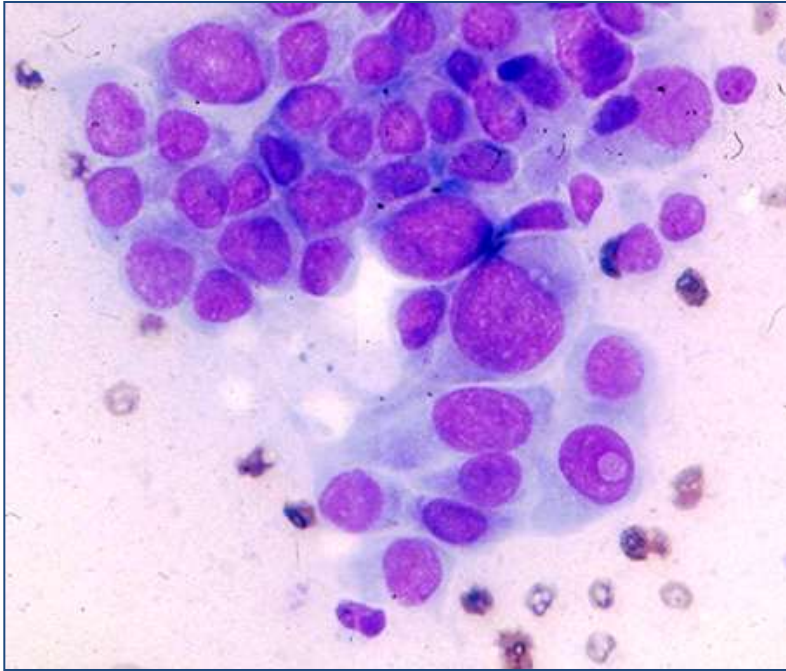


**Oncocytic variant of PTC**





# *Oncocytic cells proliferation ...*



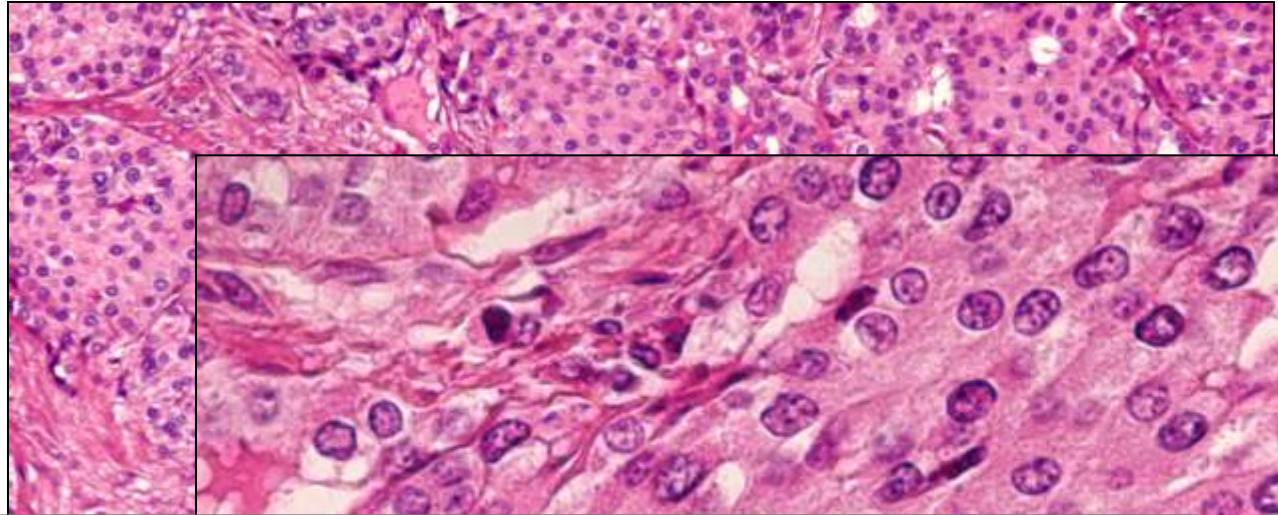
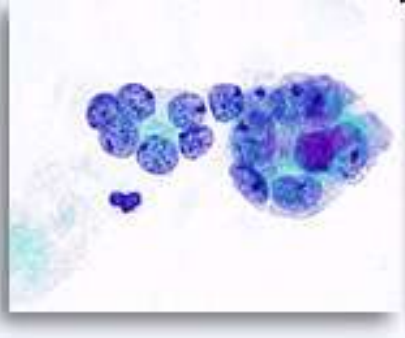
« Tall cell » variant of PTC



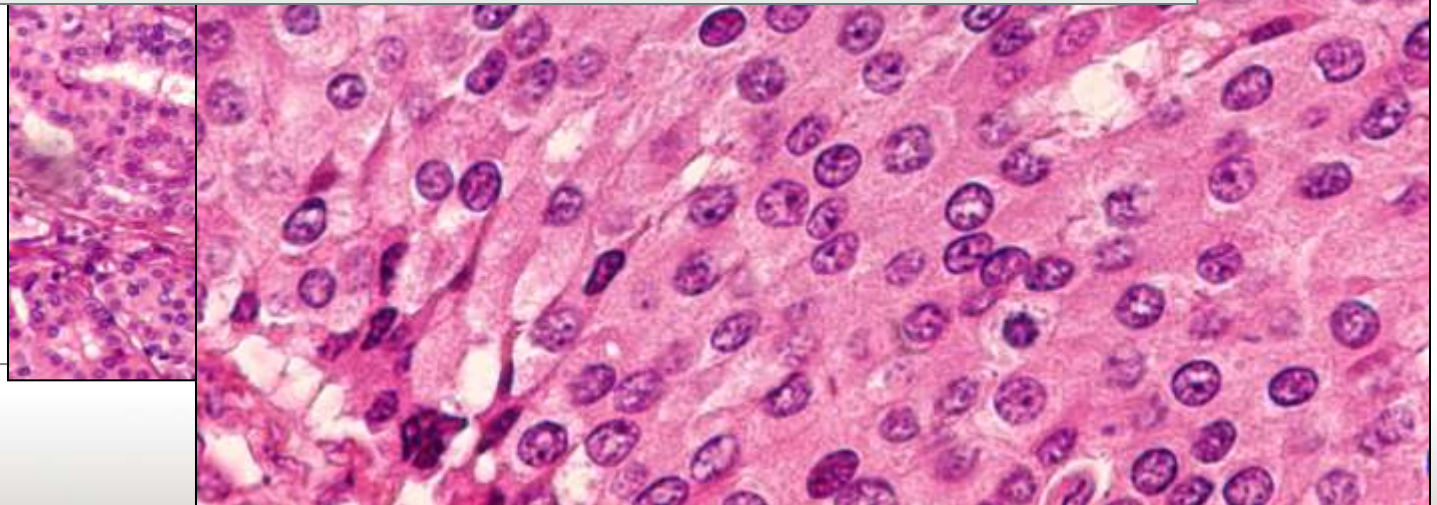
# « Atypical » proliferation



Unilabs



Poorly differentiated carcinoma



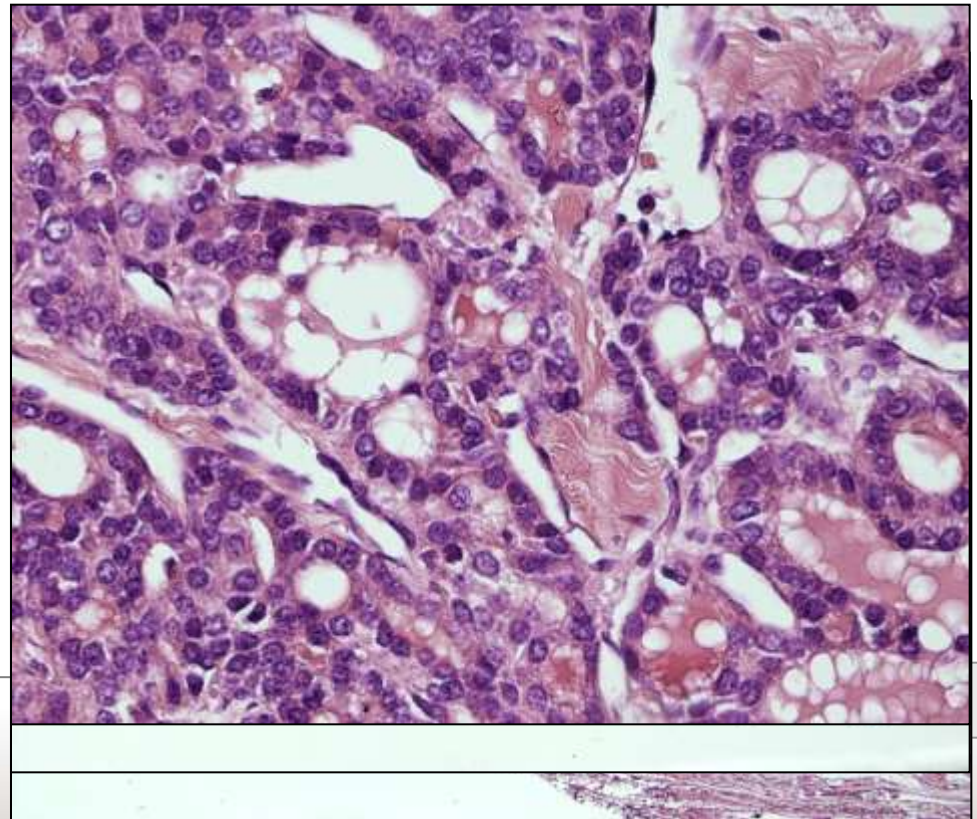
## Well differentiated tumor of uncertain malignant potential (WHO 2004)

Difficult interpretation...of **encapsulated thyroid tumor with follicular pattern.....**

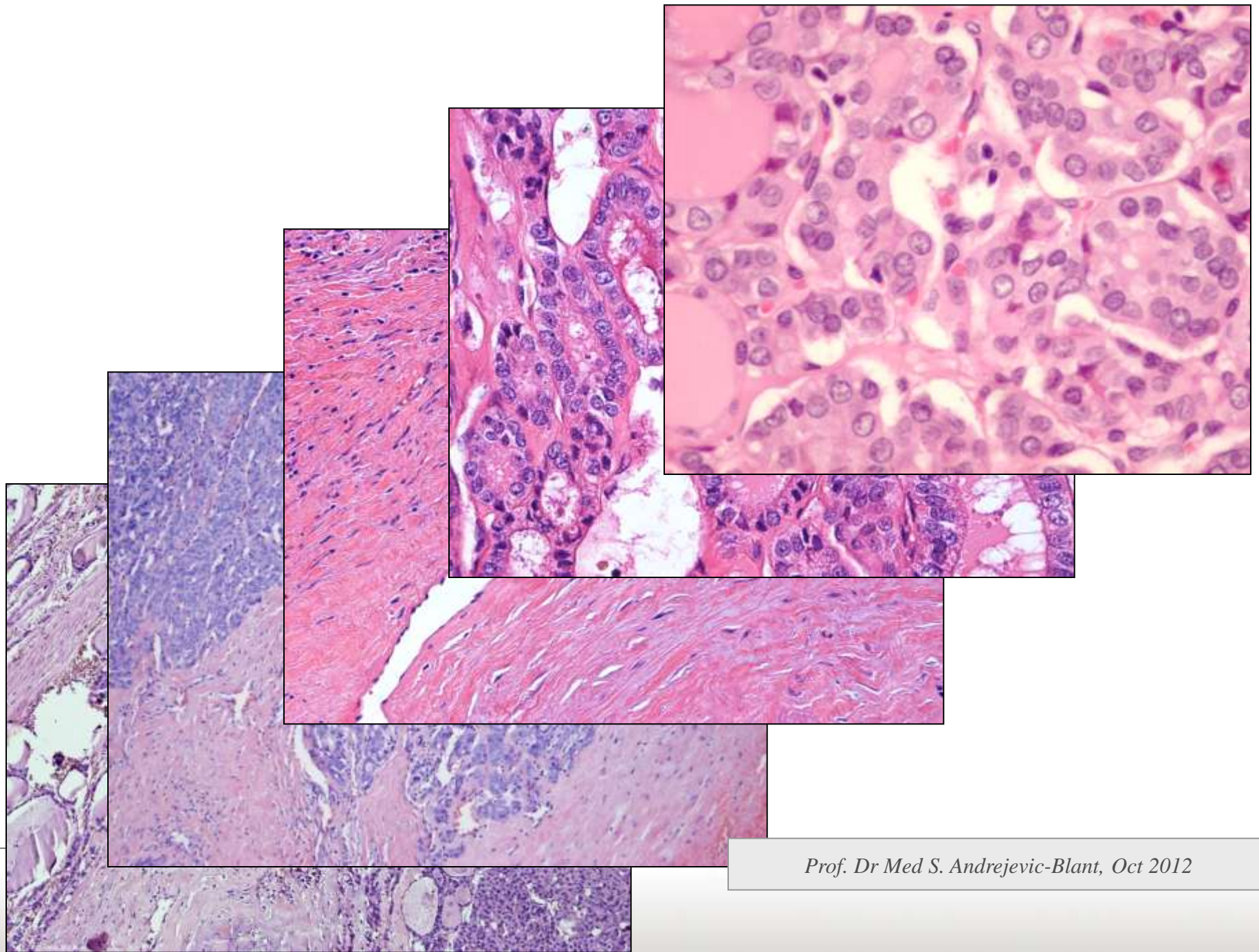
**DD: Follicular adenoma**

**Minimally invasive follicular carcinoma**

**Follicular variant of PTC**



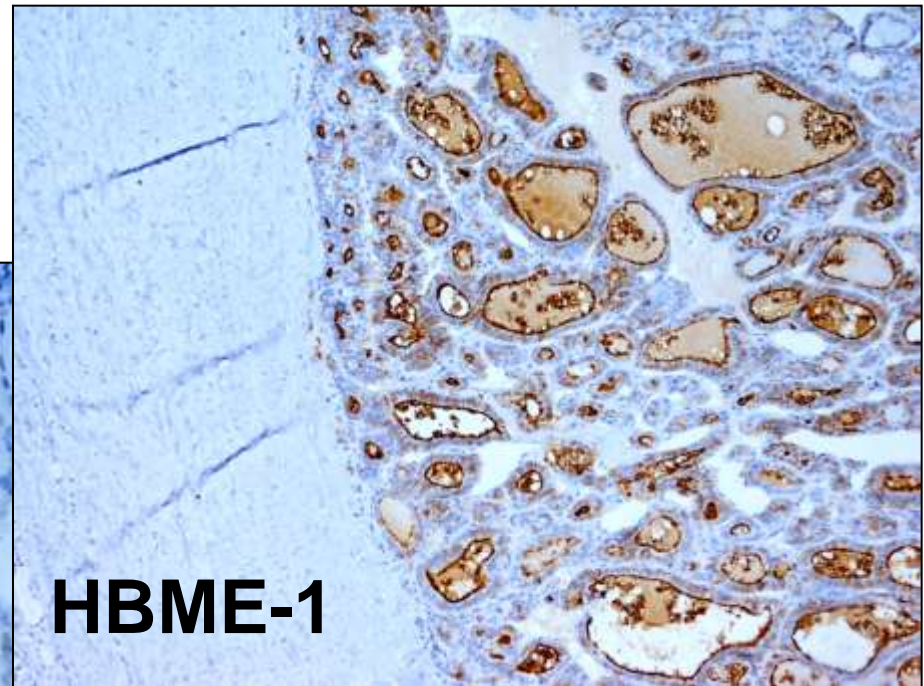




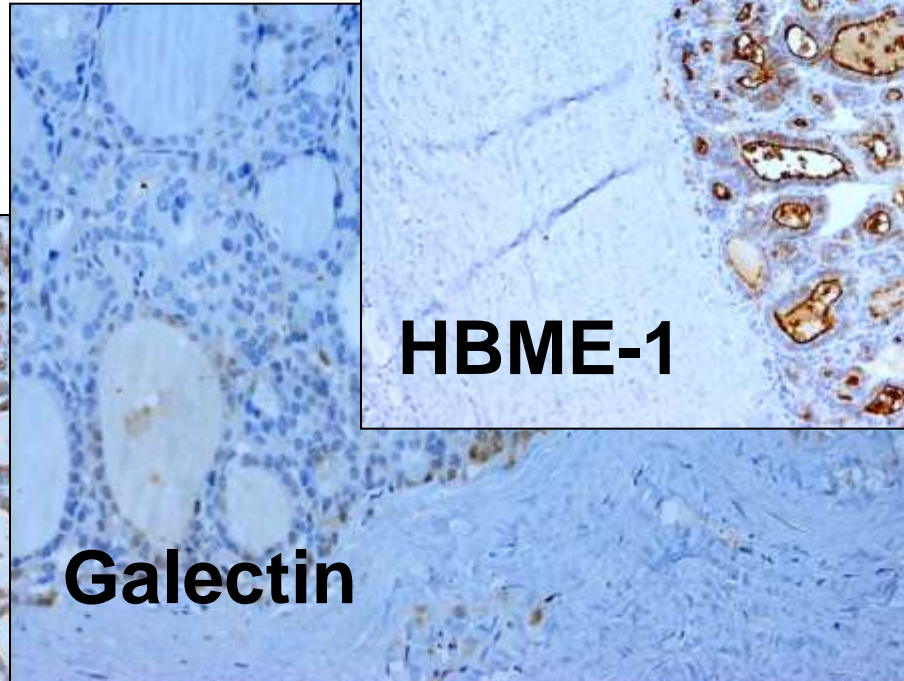
*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*



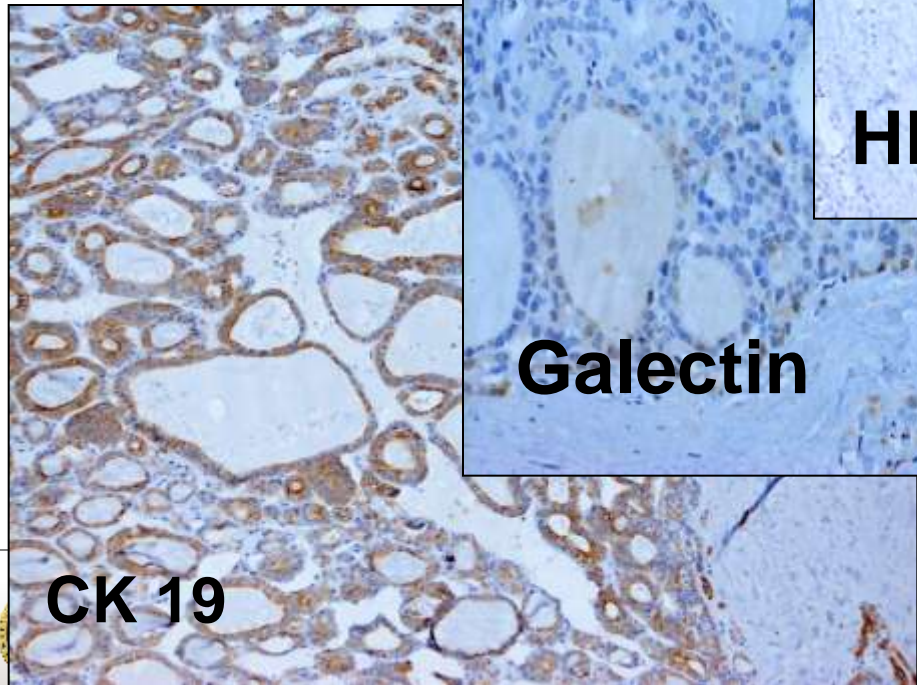
# Well differentiated tumor of uncertain malignant potential



**HBME-1**

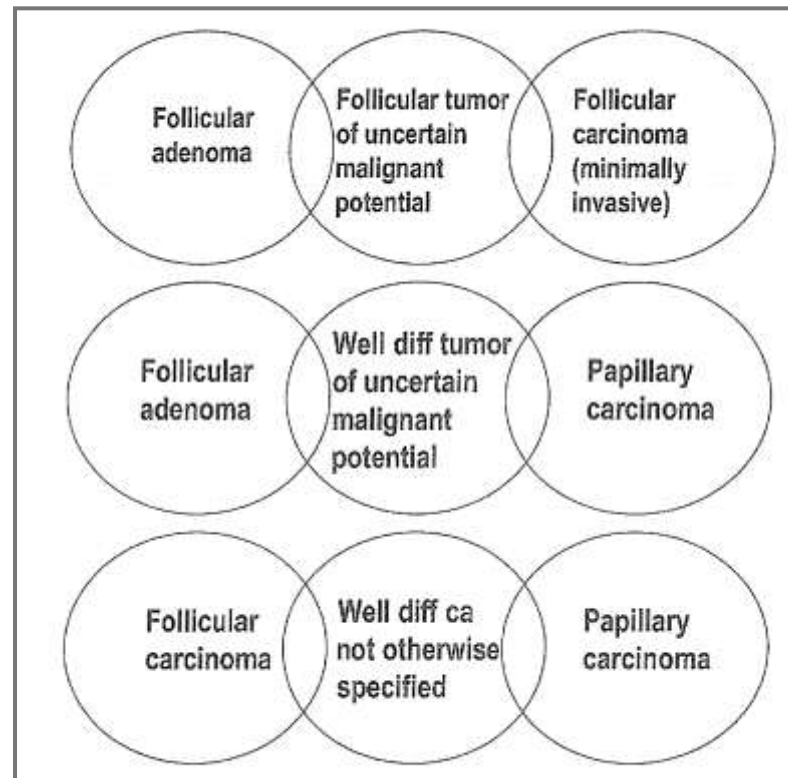


**Galectin**



**CK 19**

**Well differentiated tumor of uncertain malignant potential:  
differential diagnosis of encapsulated follicular-patterned tumors according  
to the **nuclear characteristics** and the **presence/absence of the capsular invasion****



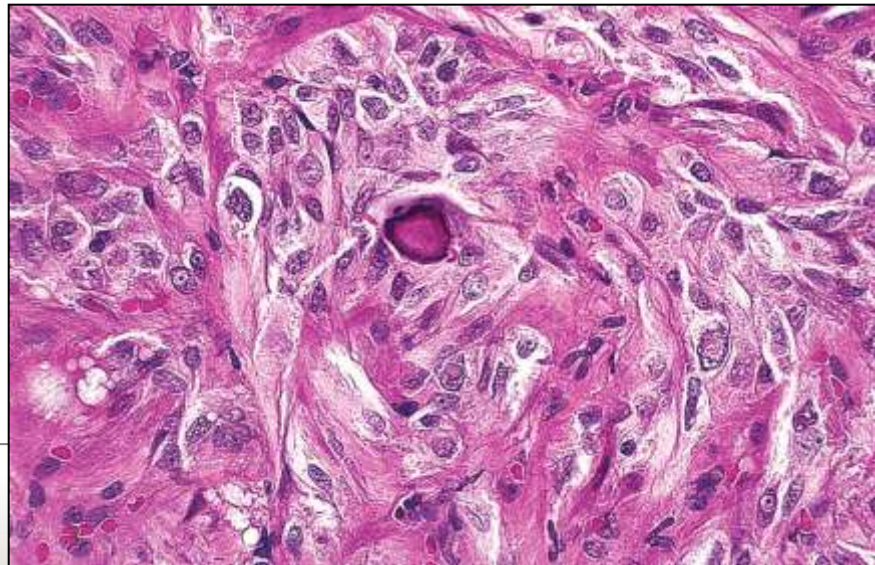
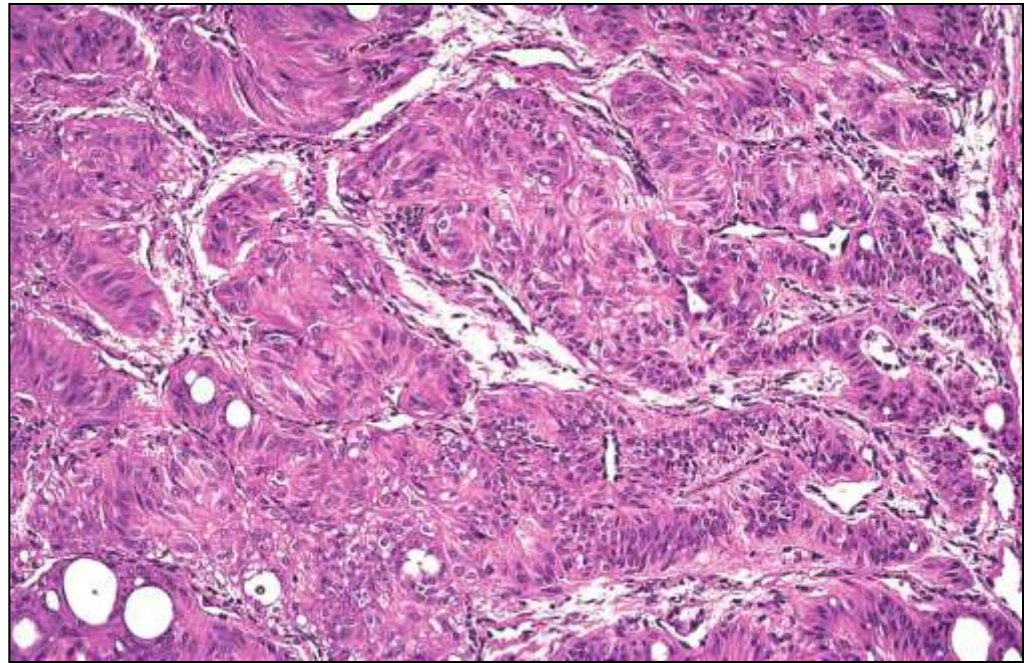
*Prof. M. Sobrinho-Simoes  
Endocrine Pathology Vol 17, 2006*

*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*





## *Spindle cell proliferation ...*



Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012







Unilabs

***Disease fact sheet:***

**Asymptomatic**

**solitary encapsulated tumor, incidentally found**

**Female (50-60 years)**

**Surgical treatment**

**Excellent prognosis**

**Rare metastatic disease (*relationship with PTC*)**

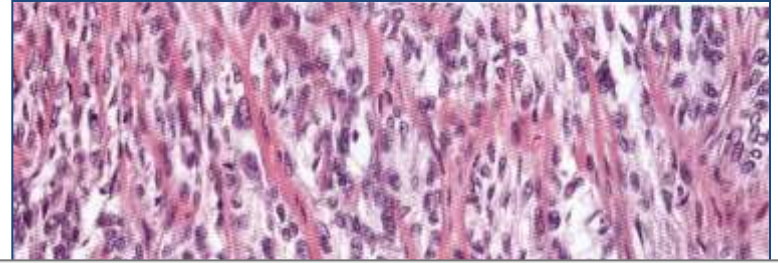
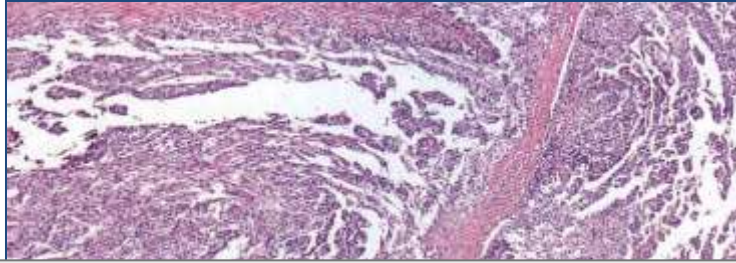
**Trabecular hyalinizing tumor**  
**(*paraganglioma-like adenoma*)**

<b>TG</b>	<b>+</b>
<b>TTF1</b>	<b>+</b>
<b>CK19</b>	<b>+</b>
<b>MIB-1*</b>	<b>+</b>

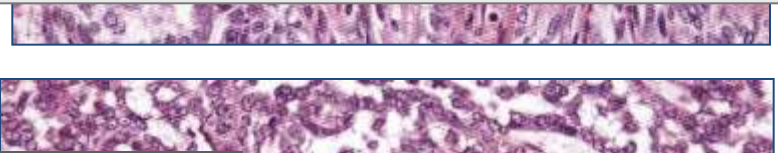
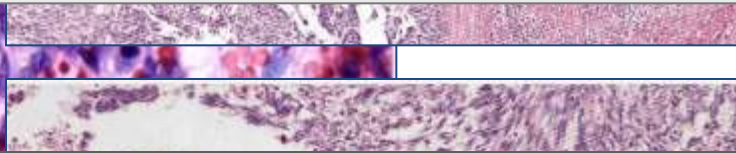
**\*cytoplasmic**



## Spindle cell proliferation ...



**Spindle cell tumor with « thymus-like » differentiation**  
(*SETTLE- spindle cell tumor with thymus like differentiation*  
*CASTLE - carcinoma showing « thymus like » differentiation*)



### ***Disease fact sheet:***

**Asymptomatic thyroid or neck mass**

**Young patients (15-20 years)**

**30% metastatic disease at presentation (CASTLE)**

**Surgery and RTH (CASTLE)**

**Indolent course**

### **Immunoprofil:**

**CK & CD5 +**

**TG, TTF1 -**

**S-100 -**

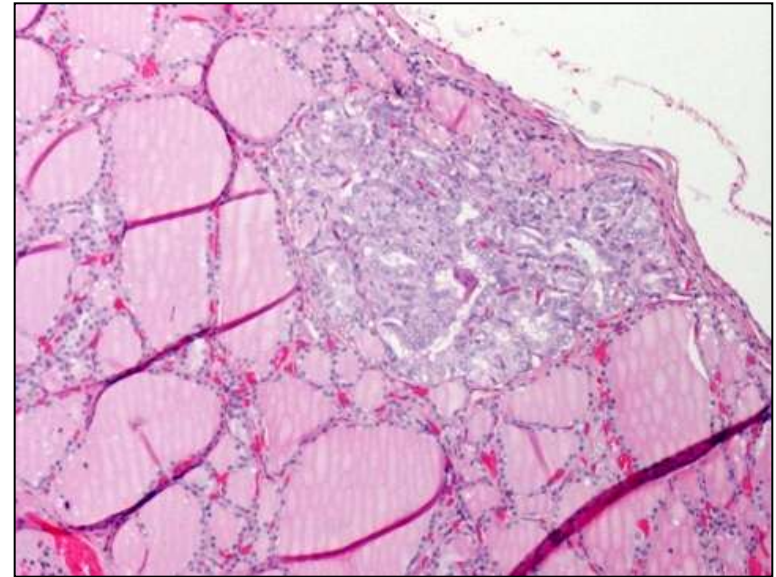
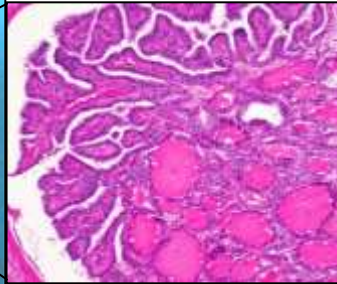
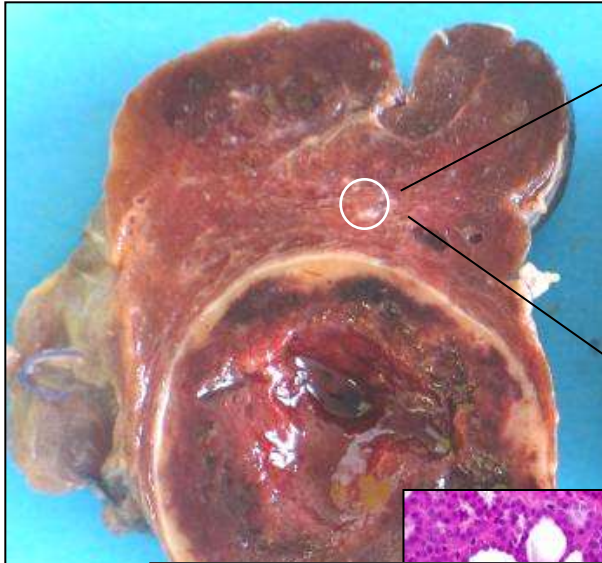




# Papillary micro-carcinoma (mPTC)



Unilabs



- $\geq 1\text{cm}$ , pT1(m), incidental finding, often multiple
- *WHO 2004* (incidence range 15-30% to 45-50%)
- 43% of surgical specimens (*Rego-Ireata et al. 2009*)
- incidence 100-1000 in autopsy (*Kovac et al 2005*)
- BRAF gene mutation 30-50% (*Frasca et al 2008*)

Oct 2012





# Papillary micro-carcinoma (mPTC)



Unilabs

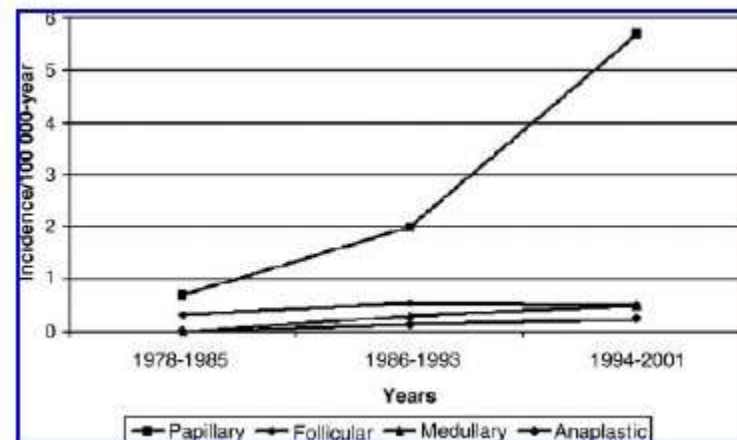
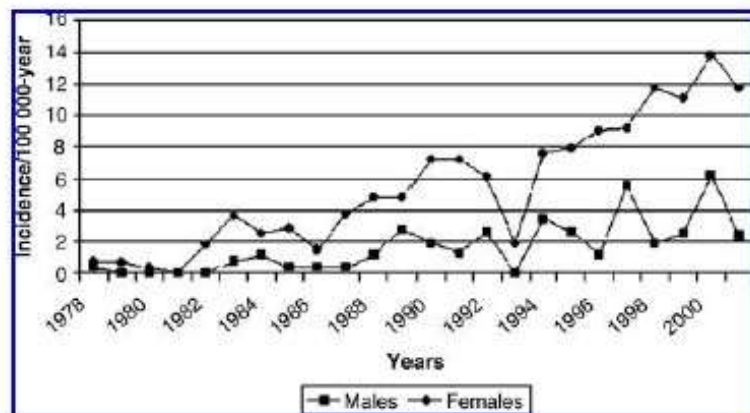


TABLE 3. TIME TREND OF PAPILLARY THYROID CARCINOMA CRUDE INCIDENCE RATES, BY SEX

Period	Females				Males			
	PTC non-MPTC incidence	95% CI	MPTC incidence	95% CI	PTC non-MPTC incidence	95% CI	MPTC incidence	95% CI
1978-1985	0.87	0.48-1.27	0.14	0.03-0.43	0.15	-0.02 to 0.32	0.10	-0.04 to 0.24
1986-1993	2.19	1.49-2.88	0.81	0.34-1.16	0.62	0.24-1.01	0.25	0.00-0.49
1994-2001	4.52	3.40-5.65	3.94	3.14-5.32	1.42	0.77-2.08	0.95	0.41-1.49

## Follicular adenoma:

- mutations RAS (20%)
- fusion transcript PAX8-PPAR $\gamma$ 1 (10%)



## Follicular carcinoma:

- oncogenes mutations RAS family (HRAS, NRAS, KRAS)
- fusion transcript PAX8-PPAR $\gamma$ 1
- translocation PAX8

# Molecular alterations



Unilabs

## Papillary Carcinoma (PTC & MPTC) :

BRAF mutation (45-50%)

fusion RET/PTC (20%)

## Trabecular hyalinizing tumor

fusion RET/PTC (60%)

## Poorly differentiated Carcinoma

RAS oncogenes mutations (35%)

BRAF mutation (20%)

p53 mutation (20%)

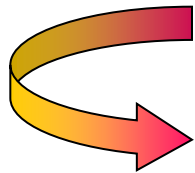
## Anaplastic Carcinoma

p53 mutation (70%)

## Medullary Carcinoma

germ-line RET mutation (95%)

sporadic RET mutation ( 5%)





# **BRAF gene mutation**

**(« molecular predictor » of tumor aggressivity)**

**PTC with more aggressive behavior and worst outcome...**

*extra thyroid extension*

*advanced stage*

*lymph node metastases*

**Rapid progression of mPTC**



# Intraoperative Consultation in thyroid pathology: Current practices in performing frozen sections...

In recent years, the number of **frozen sections** in thyroid surgery has been **steadily decreasing worldwide...**

Attributed to **two major factors**:

- the high diagnostic accuracy of FNA for PTC
- low sensitivity of frozen section diagnosis for follicular lesions.

Many institutions have **restricted the use** of thyroid frozen sections to thyroid nodules with a preoperative cytology diagnosis of “**atypical**” or “**suspicious**.”



# *FS absolutely not recommended...*



## **Encapsulated nodules with follicular pattern (follicular proliferation)**

- in 95% unable to diagnose follicular carcinomas (capsular and vascular invasion),
- post-FNA alterations in the tumor capsule can be mistaken for capsular and/or vascular invasion,
- impossible to recognize the follicular variant of PTC (*freezing artifact*).

## **Small lesions ( $\leq 1$ cm)**

- absolutely to **avoid freezing** of entire lesion,
- the tissue alterations make a diagnosis on permanent sections nearly impossible.

## **Multinodular goiter**

- should not be performed unless one nodule is worrisome or suspicious based on the gross appearance.
- time consuming

*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*







## *References*

**Fonseca E et al. *Endocrine Pathology* 2007: 109-118**

**Arora N et al. *World J Surg* 2008: 1237-1246.**

**Hofman V et al. *Virchows Arch.* 2009: 21-33.**

**Fischer S et al. *Arch. Pathol. Lab. Med.* 2008: 359-372.**

**Nikiforova et al. *Thyroid* 2009 1351-1361.**

**Frasca F et al. *Endocrine Related Cancers* 2008: 191-205**

**Rego-Ireata et al. *Thyroid* 2009: 333-341**

**Papotti et al. *Modern Pathology* 2005: 541-546.**

**Miller MC et al. *Thyroid* 2007 17:557–565**

**Makay O et al. *Endocr J* 2007 54:385–390**

**Masse E et al. *Endocr J* 2003 50:–170-173.**

**Huber GF, et al. *Arch Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg* 2007 133:874–881**



### **3. Pitfalls and unusual cases of « squamous proliferation » in head & neck, thyroid and salivary gland pathology**

*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*

# Case 1



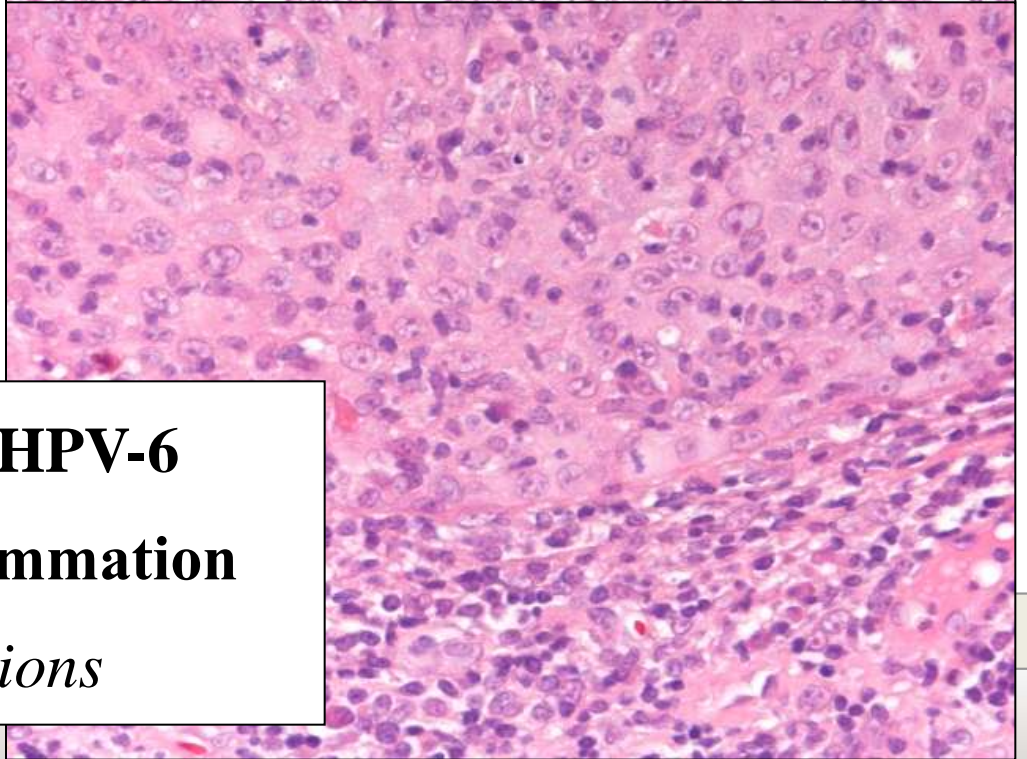
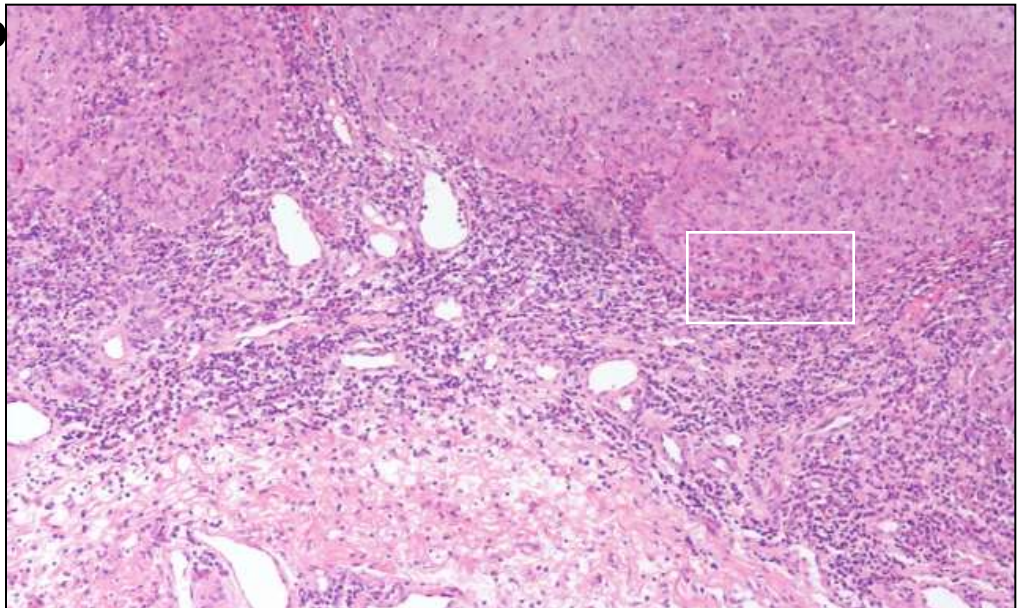
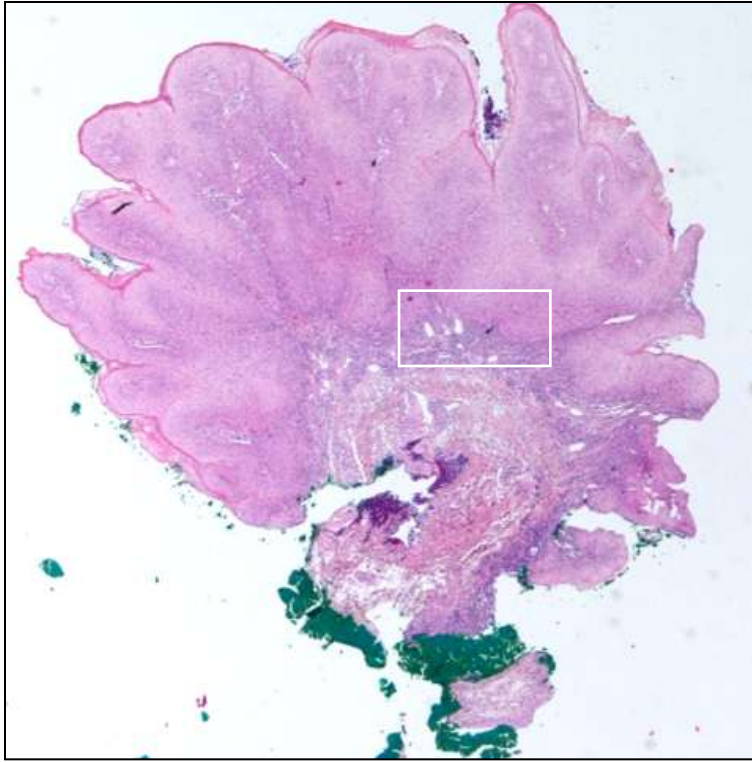
## Dentist Story: Lichen & papilloma

*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*



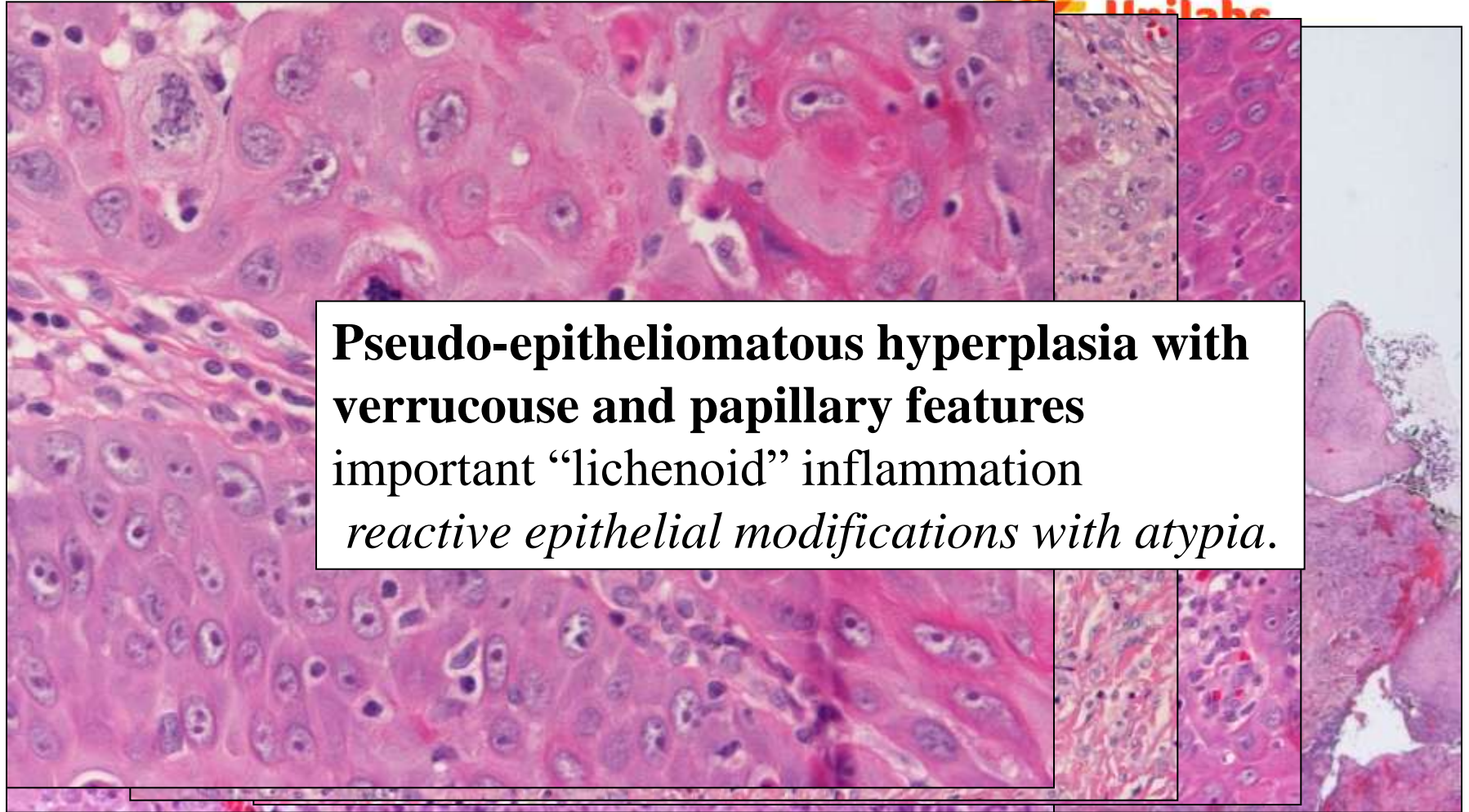


May 2008: 49-year old female p



- **oral squamous papilloma, HPV-6**
- important **“lichenoid”** inflammation
- *reactive epithelial modifications*





**Pseudo-epitheliomatous hyperplasia with verrucous and papillary features**  
important “lichenoid” inflammation  
*reactive epithelial modifications with atypia.*

**Comment:**

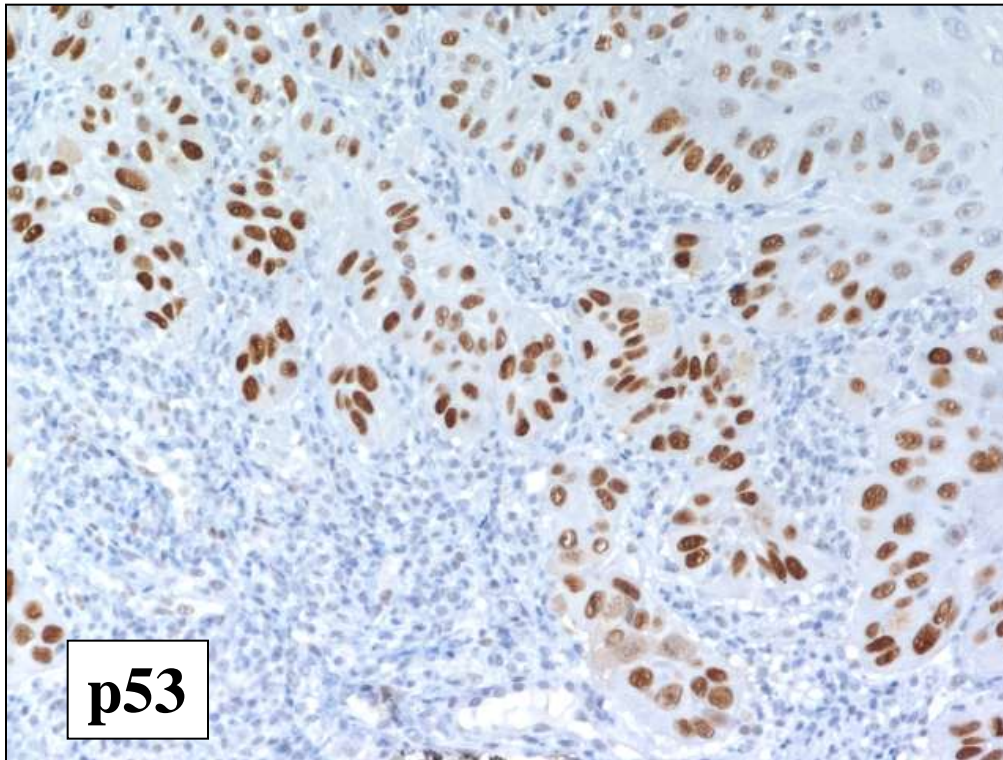
Differential diagnosis: **benignant vs. Tis . Observation!!**



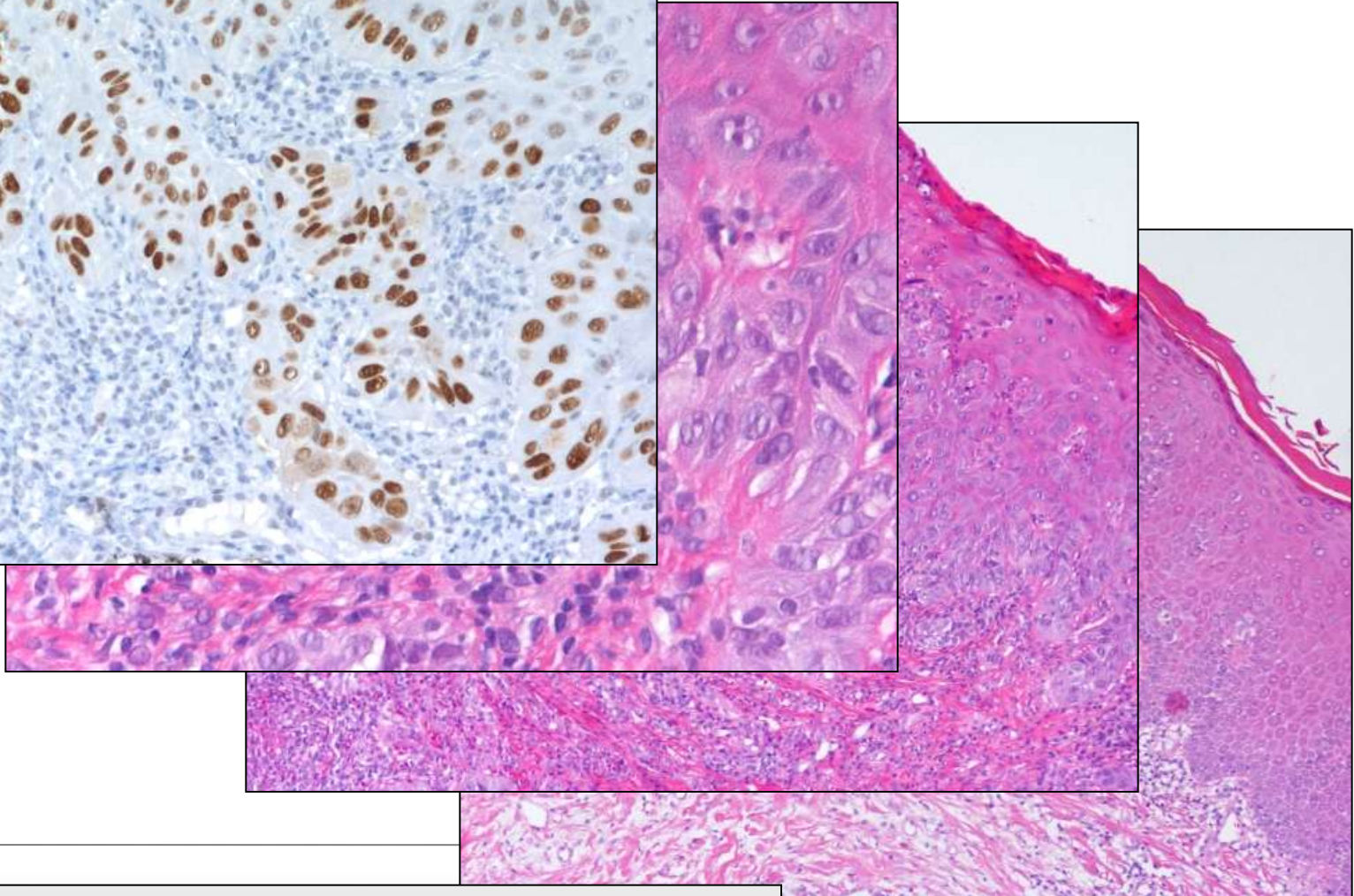
## December 2010: Excision retromolar trigone



Unilabs



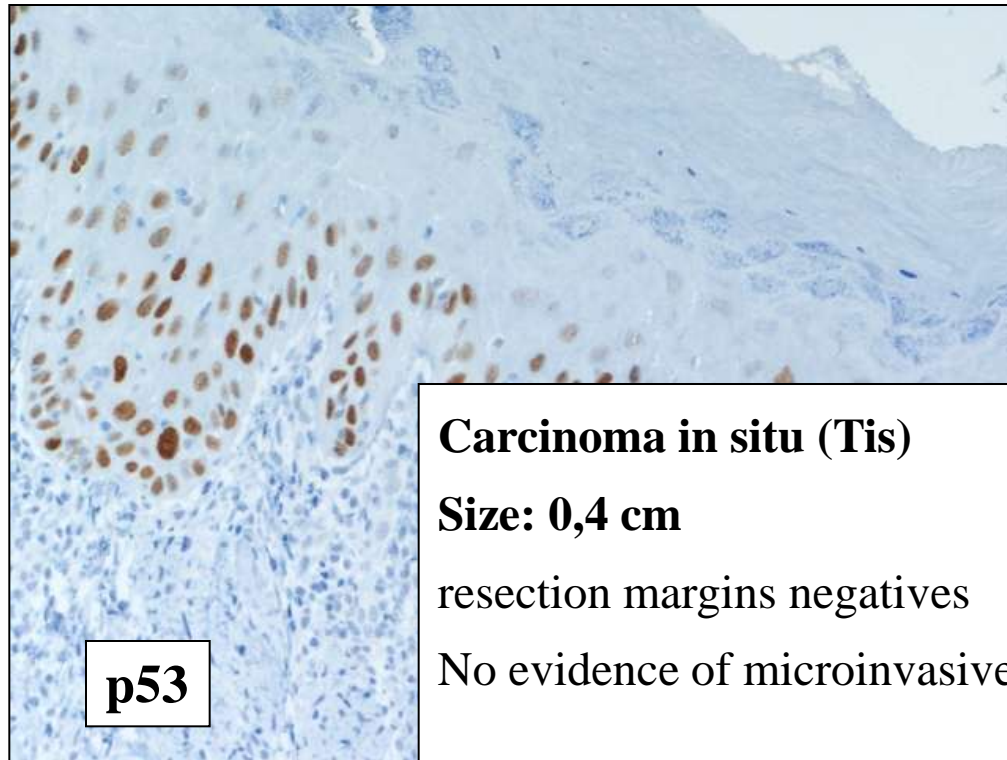
p53



Micro-invasive SCC (size 0,2 cm), marginas +







p53

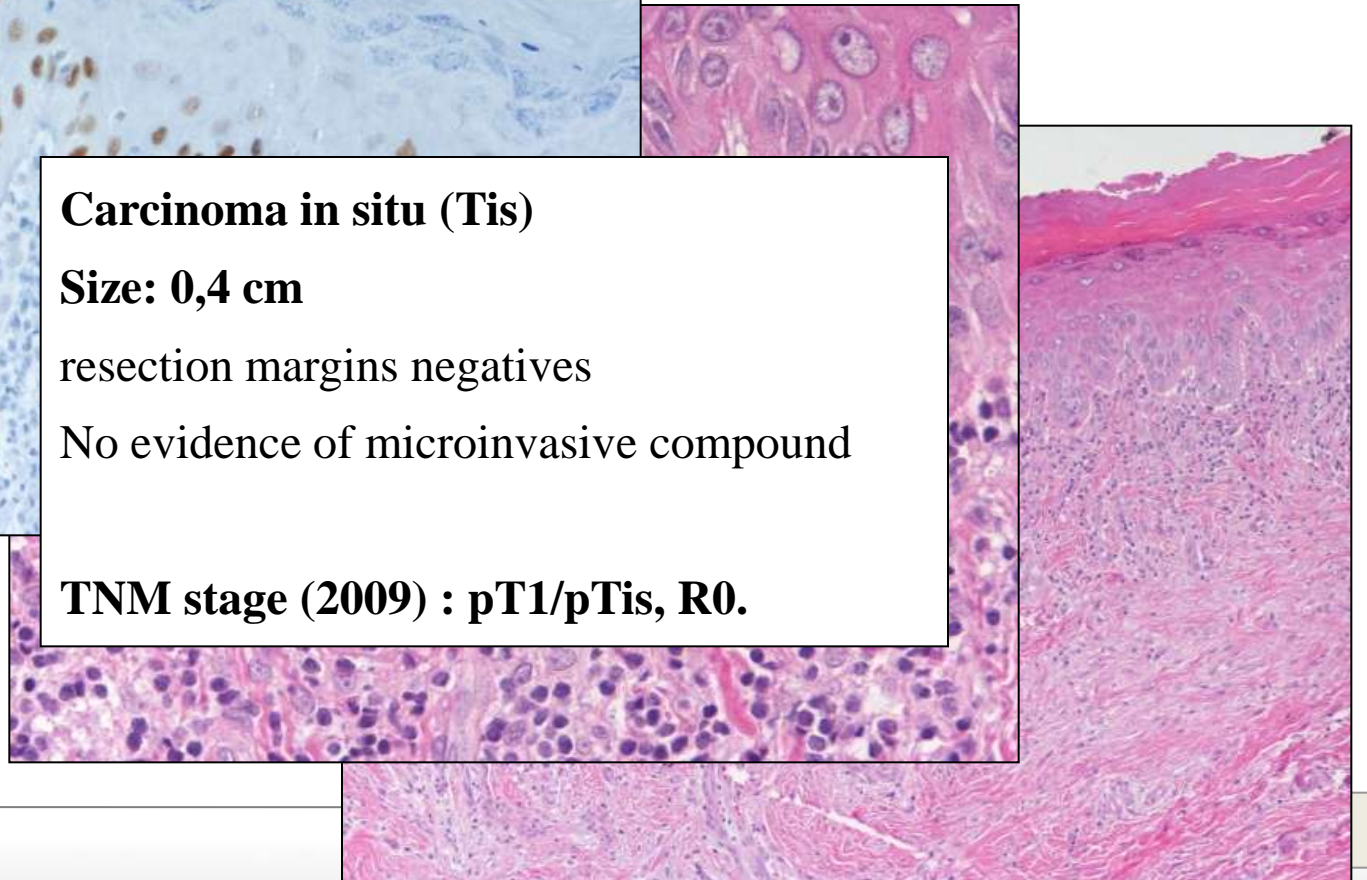
**Carcinoma in situ (Tis)**

**Size: 0,4 cm**

resection margins negatives

No evidence of microinvasive compound

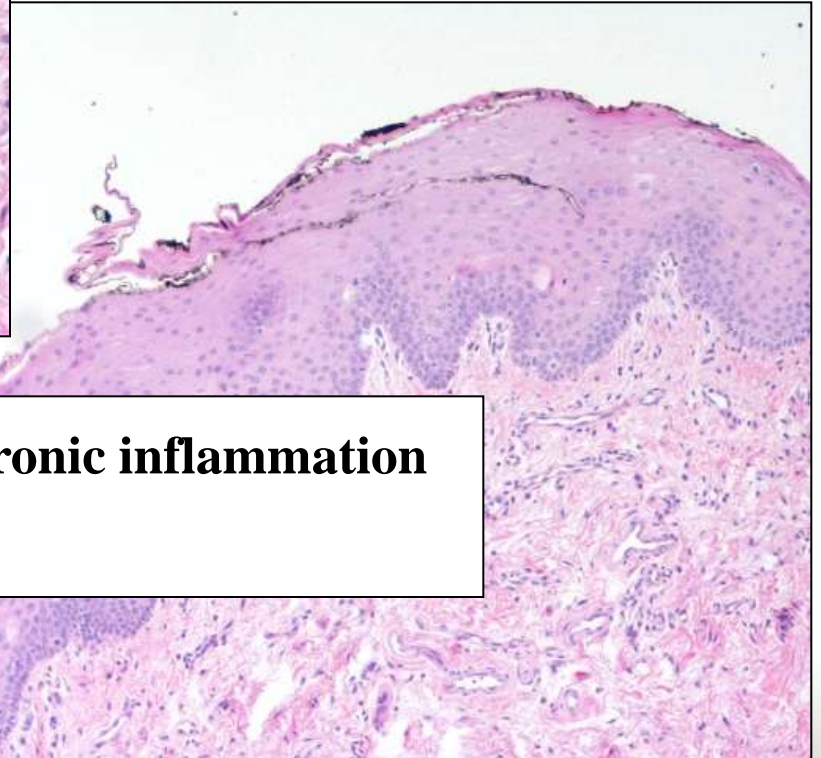
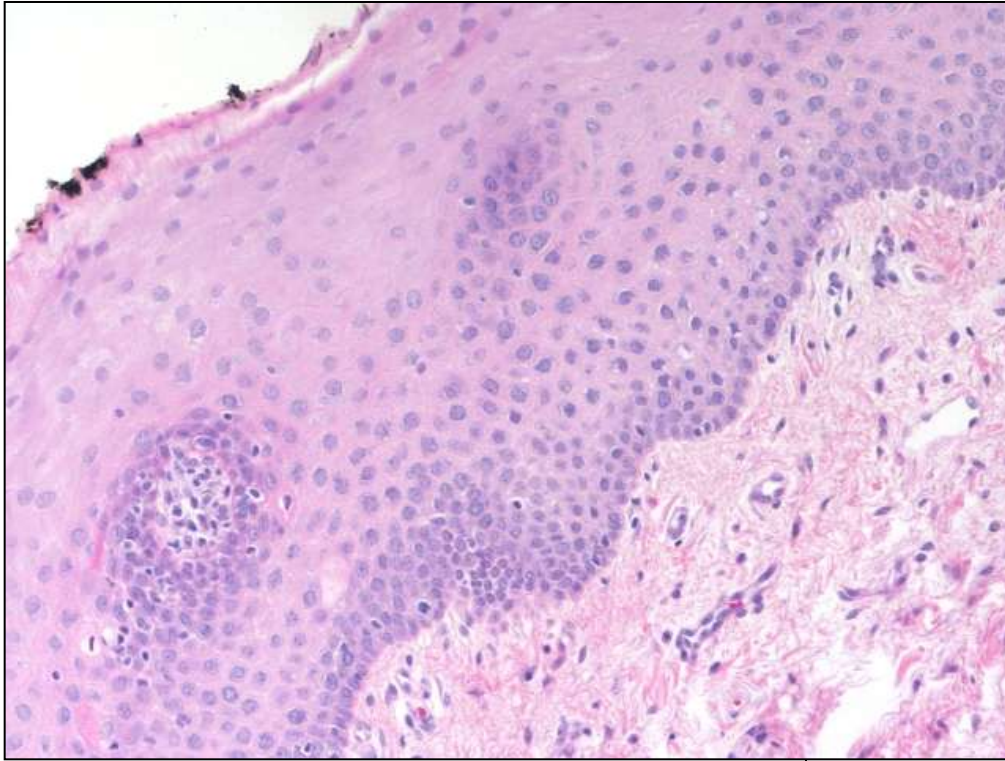
**TNM stage (2009) : pT1/pTis, R0.**



**2011, 2012 (3,6,9,12 months): follow up control bx**



**Unilabs**



**Hyperplasia, hyperkeratosis slight chronic inflammation**  
**No dysplasia, no carcinoma...**



## Case 2



# Cystic tumor with squamous differentiation in the thyroid gland

*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*





# Clinical history...



## Thyroid US

Important bilateral enlargement of the gland with **4,0 cm** inferior cyst of the left lobe.



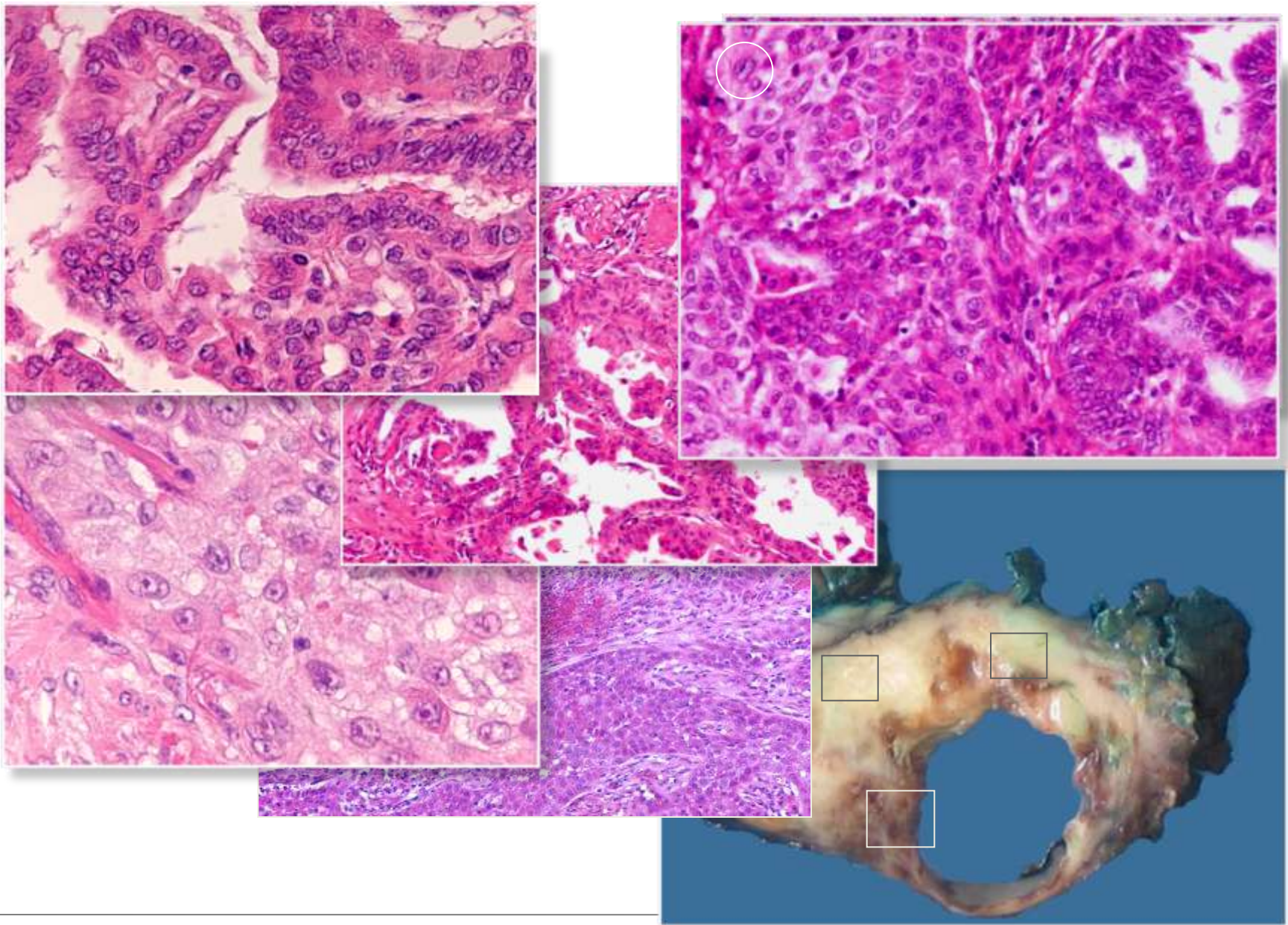
- **82-year old female**
- Left lateral neck swelling rapidly growing in 6 months
- **Clinical examination:**
  - 8,0 cm painless mass
  - Palpable adenopathies (size: 2 cm)
  - Compressing trachea and esophagus
  - Severe dyspnea
- **Panendoscopy (OGD): normal**

FNA



*Atypical squamous cell in the liquid  
SCC (metastasis?)  
« Branchial cyst cancerised » ?*

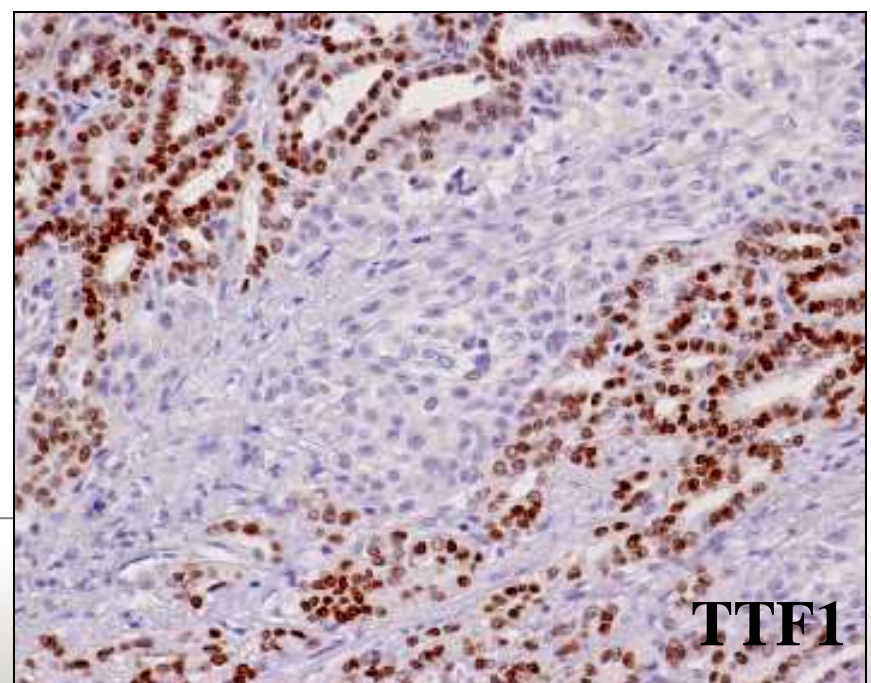
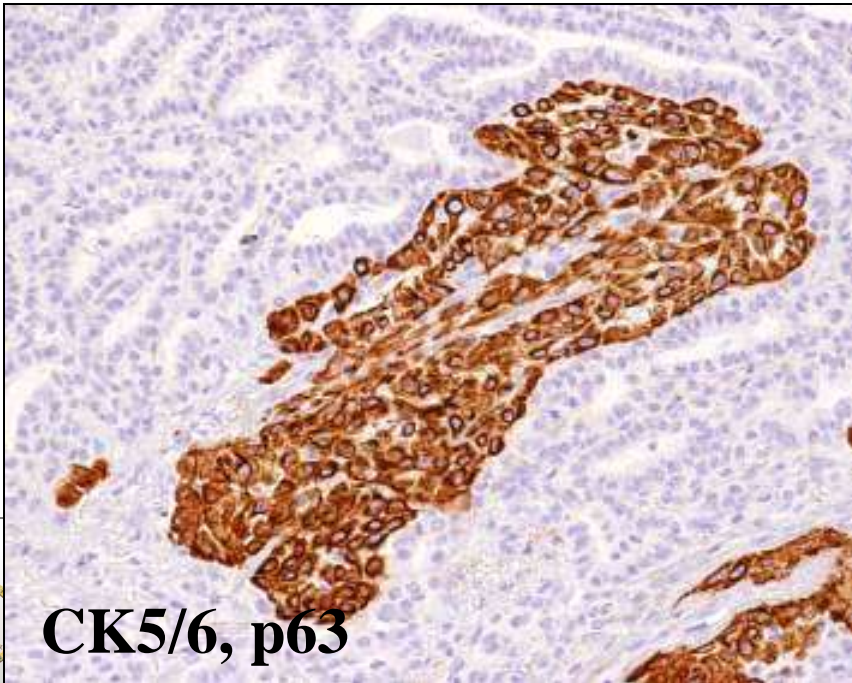
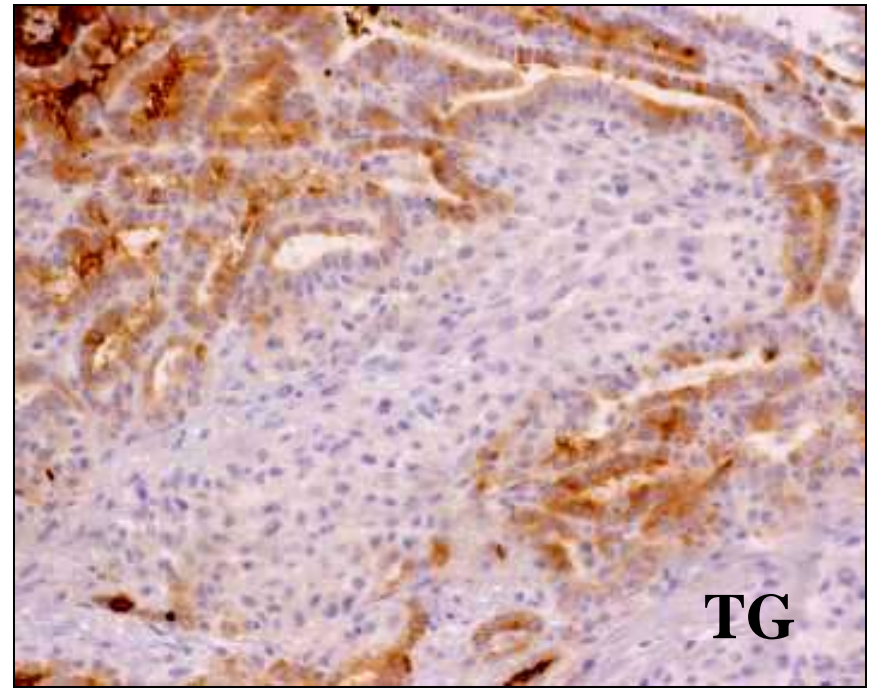
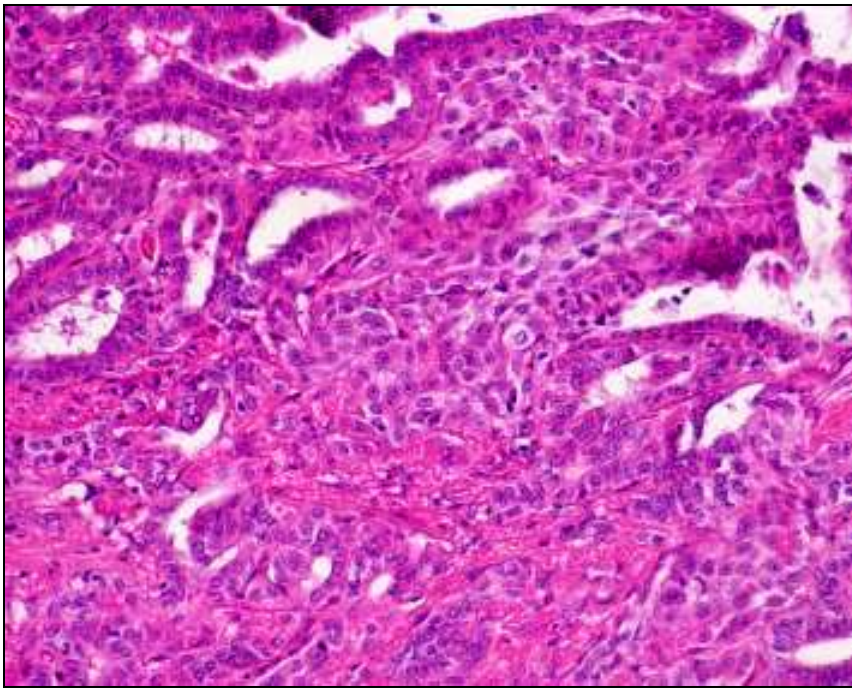




*Cervical monobloc resection involving trachea, left lobe of the thyroid & radical ipsilateral cervical dissection*



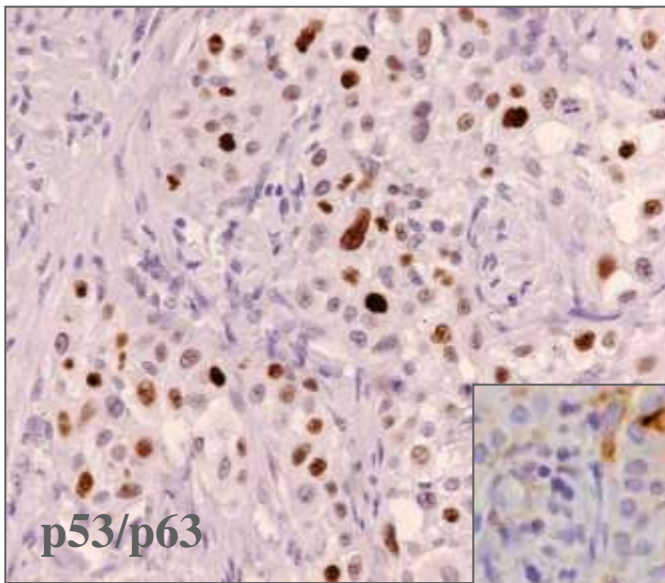




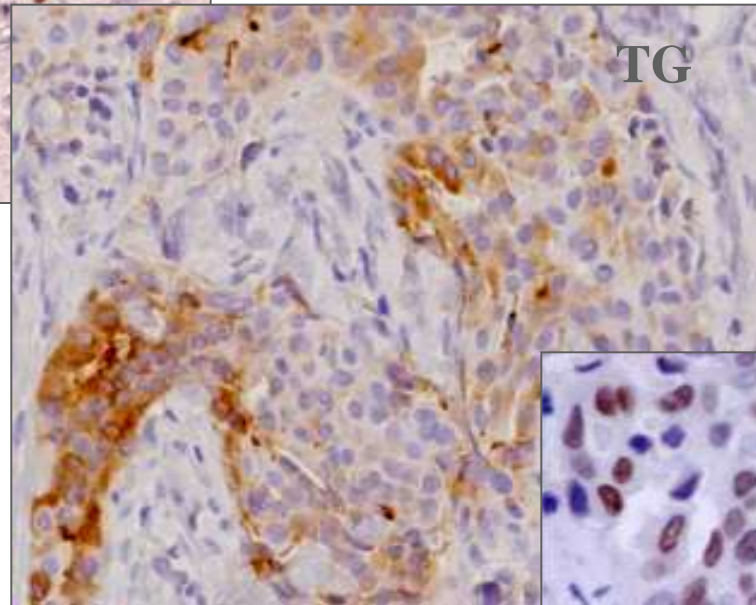




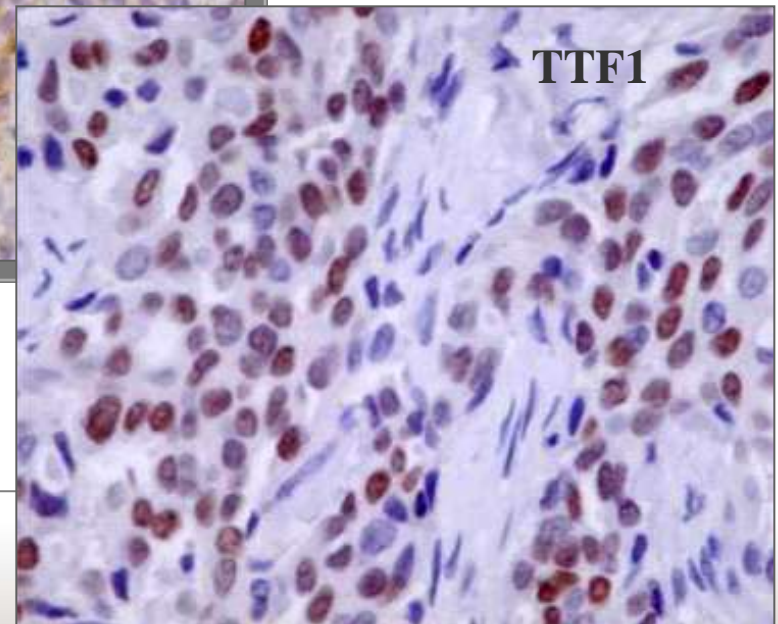
**Unilabs**



**p53/p63**



**TG**



**TTF1**

*Focal co-expression p53/p63 & TG, TTF1  
in the solid squamous counterpart of tumor*

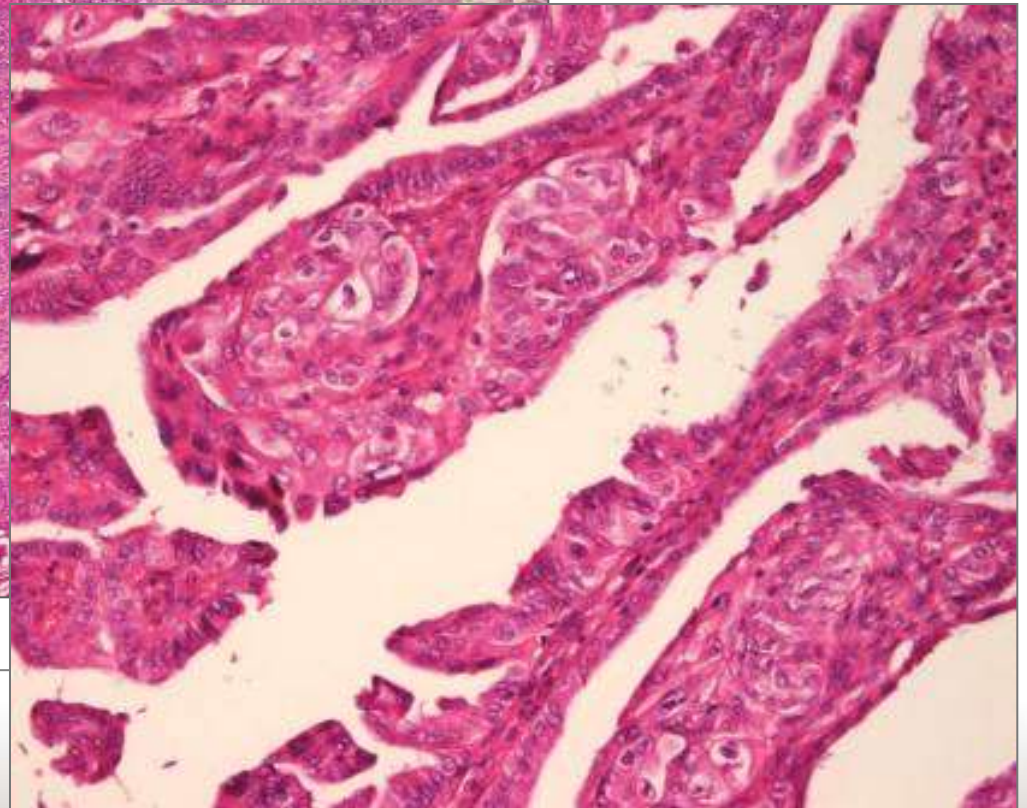
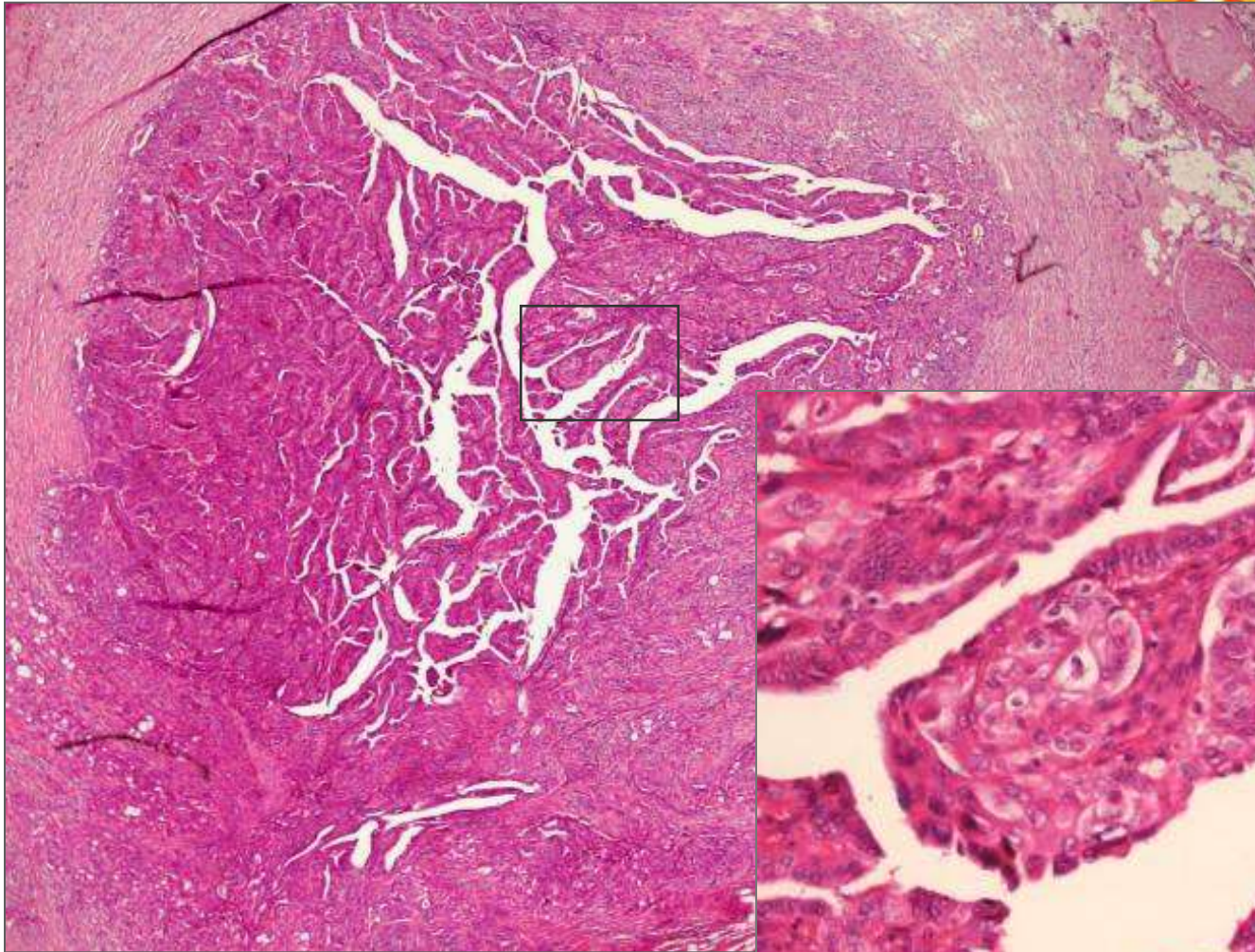




# *Lymphnode metastasis*



**Unilabs**



## Working hypothesis

- 1) Collision tumors phenomenon: PTC & metastasis of a SCC (?)
- 2) Branchial cleft cyst cancerisation (*branchiogenic carcinoma*) associated with papillary carcinoma in ectopic thyroid tissue
- 3) Papillary thyroid carcinoma with squamous differentiation



# Collision tumors phenomenon



Histologically distinct tumors in adjacent anatomic sites

## **Origin :**

- same or adjacent organ infiltration (tongue-larynx)
- Metastases (2% in the thyroid)

**Etiology:** accidental / micro-environnement event

*Diagnostic was not retained:*

*Metastasis and or malignant extension in the thyroid was excluded by exhaustive clinical examination (panendoscopy & RX)*



## Branchial cleft cyst cancerisation (*branchiogenic carcinoma*)

**Martin et al. criteria** (*Ann Surg* 1950;132(5):867-87.):

- arise in the wall of a branchial cyst,
- occur along the anterior border of the sternomastoid
- histology compatible with the branchial apparatus
- no other primary tumor within a 5-year follow-up
- premalignant changes found in the epithelium of the cyst

Diagnostic was not retained in the absence of the appropriate diagnostic criteria.

*Most cases described in literature were found to be metastasized lesions from occult primary SCC Lin YC Int J Oral Maxillofac Surg 2004;33(2):209-12*

# Squamous differentiation in PTC



## 1) *Squamous metaplasia (found in 20% of PTC)*

## 2) Solid cell nests ultimobranchial body

- remnants of the ultimobranchial body
- from the inferior part of the fourth pharyngeal pouch
- incidentally finding in 60% of adult % 89% of neonatal thyroid
- reservoir of cells from which PTC/SCC may arise in the thyroid
- **Stem cell phenotype**
  - self renewal (telomerase activity)
  - expression stem cell markers (**OCT4, GATA4, HNF $\alpha$ 4**)
  - differentiation (expression of **p63, Bcl2**)

## 3) *Other:*

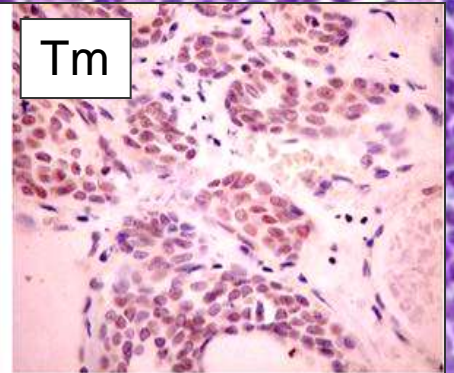
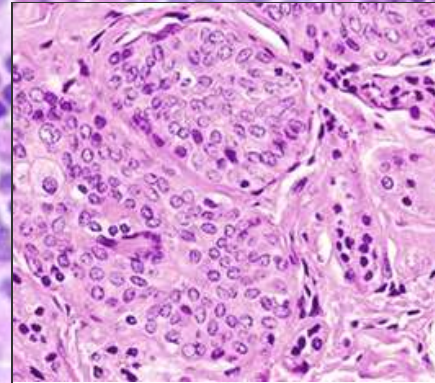
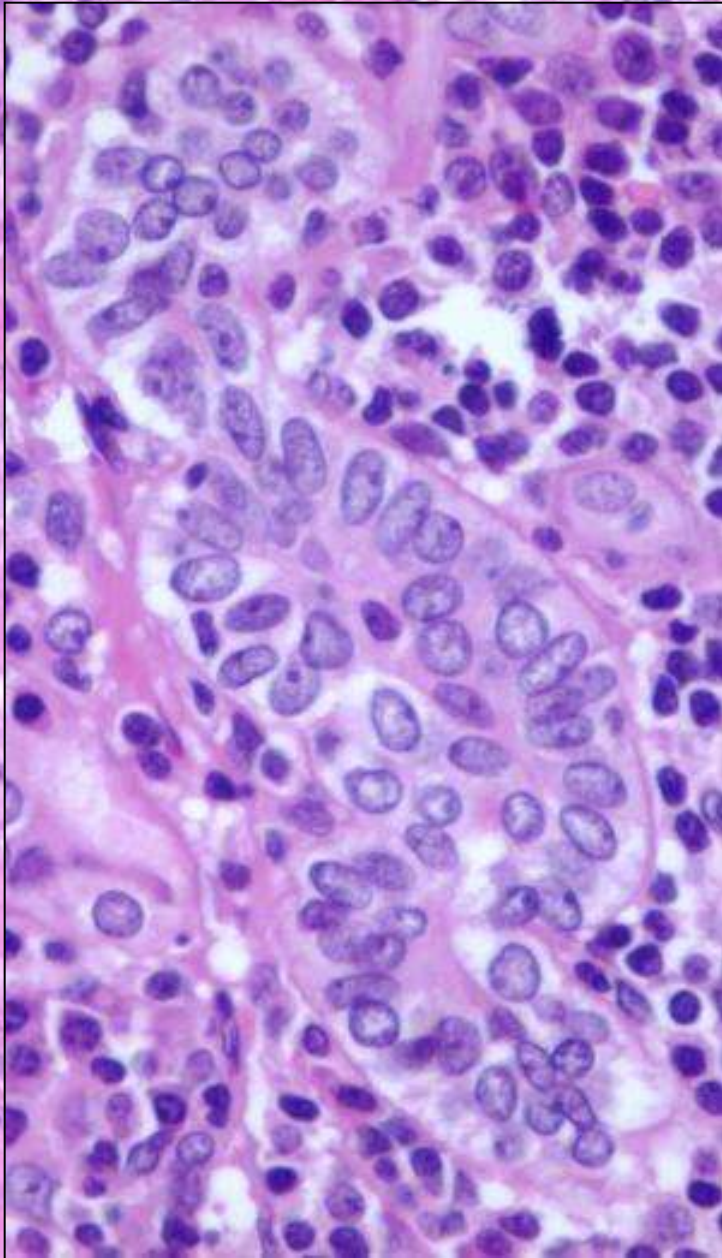
- primary/secondary SCC metastasis,
- thyroglossal cysts,
- MTC or PTC microcarcinoma.

*Refs: A. Preto, Modern Pathol, 2004, T. Thomas, Thyroid 2006;  
T. Hunt JL, Human Pathol. 2004; Reimann JD. Am J Surg Pathol 2006.*

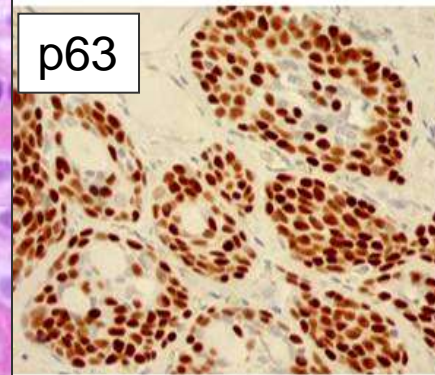




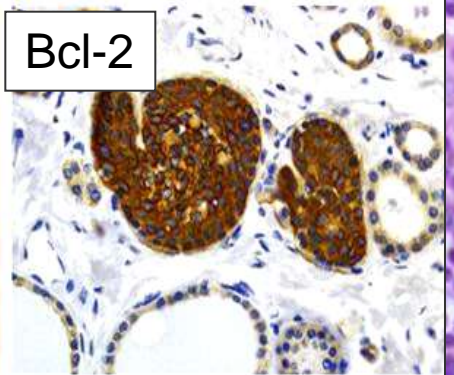
*Solid cell nests ultimobranchial body*



Tm



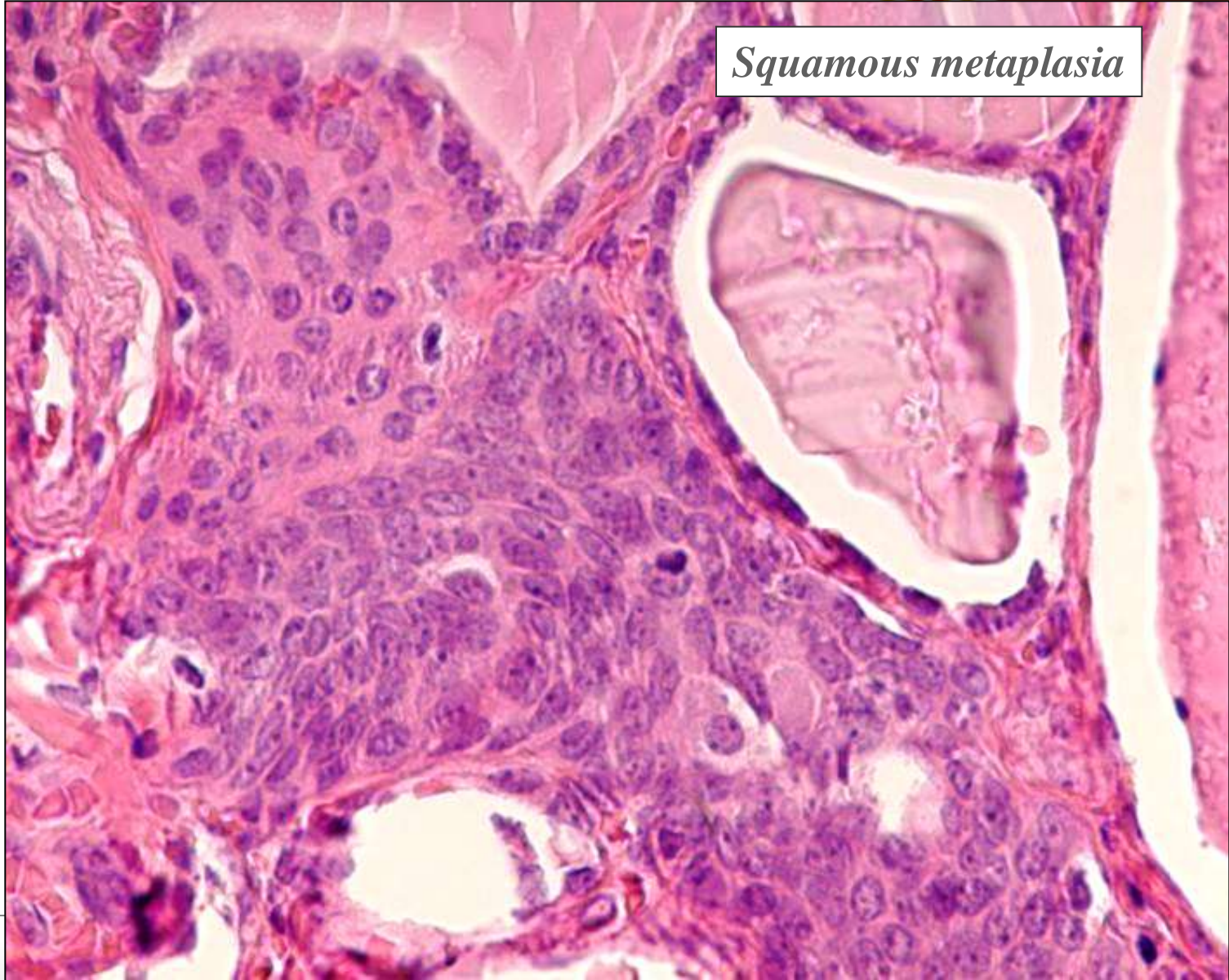
p63



Bcl-2



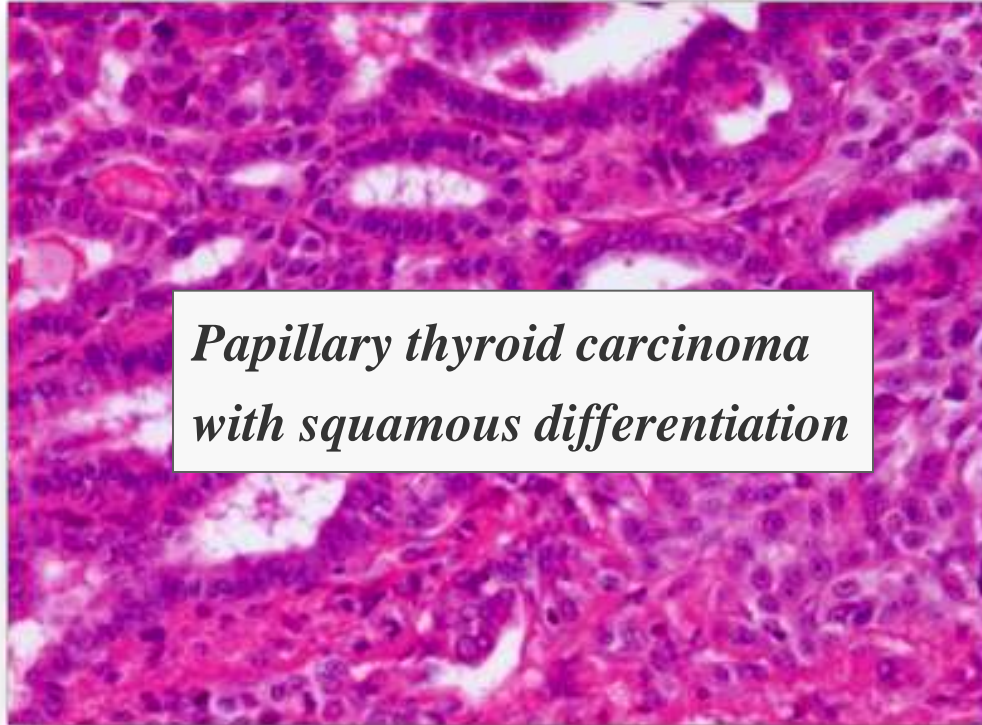
*Squamous metaplasia*





**Unilabs**

*Final diagnosis according to...  
clinical presentation, morphology, IHC phenotype, metastasis pattern*



Thyroid carcinoma with papillary and squamous features:  
Report of a case with histogenetic considerations  
Th. Rausch, J.Benhattar, M.Sutter and S.Andrejevic-Blant  
TEACHING CASE Pathology Research and Practice 2009





# Case 3



**....Second look: intraoperative lymph node analysis  
in patient with thyroid carcinoma....**

*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*



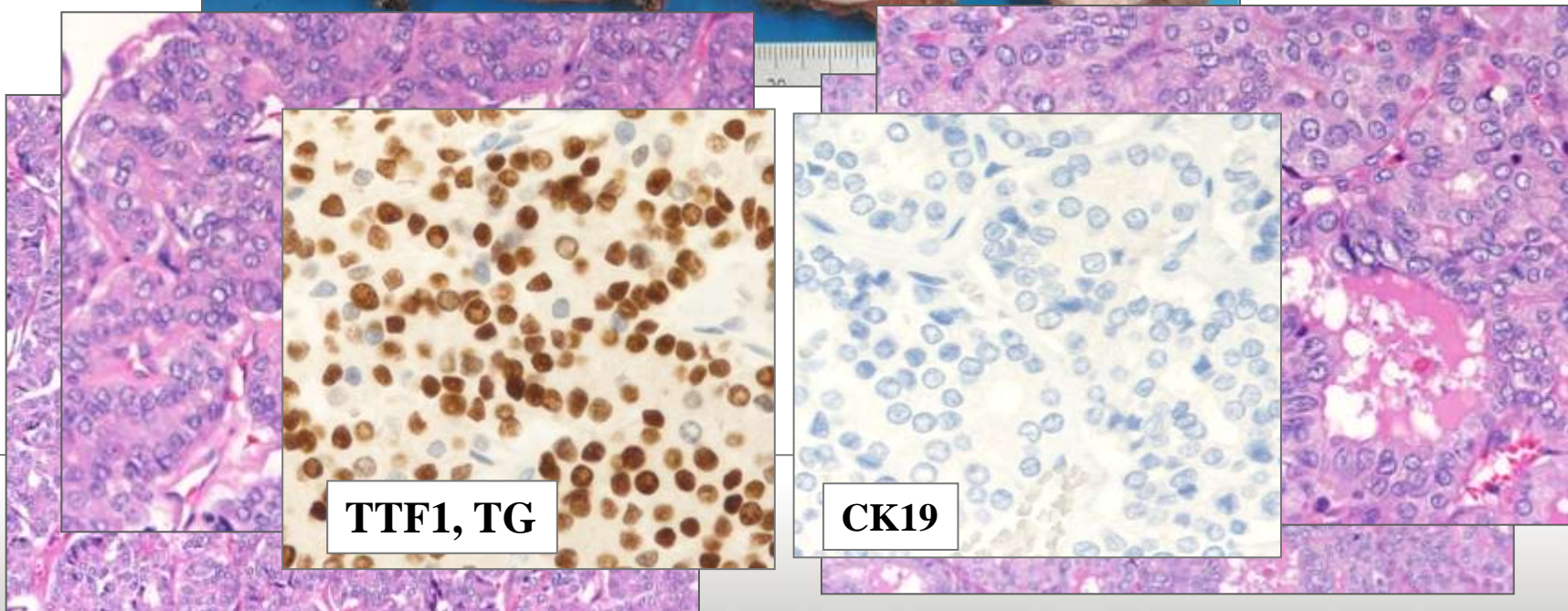
# Clinical history & 1st diagnosis



Unilabs

- 73-year old male, goiter
- Right thyroid nodule, increasing in size (5,0 cm)
- FNA: follicular proliferation
- **April 2012: Righ-thyroidectomy**

## Poorly differentiated thyroid carcinoma with FVPTC component (pT3, R0)



TTF1, TG

CK19

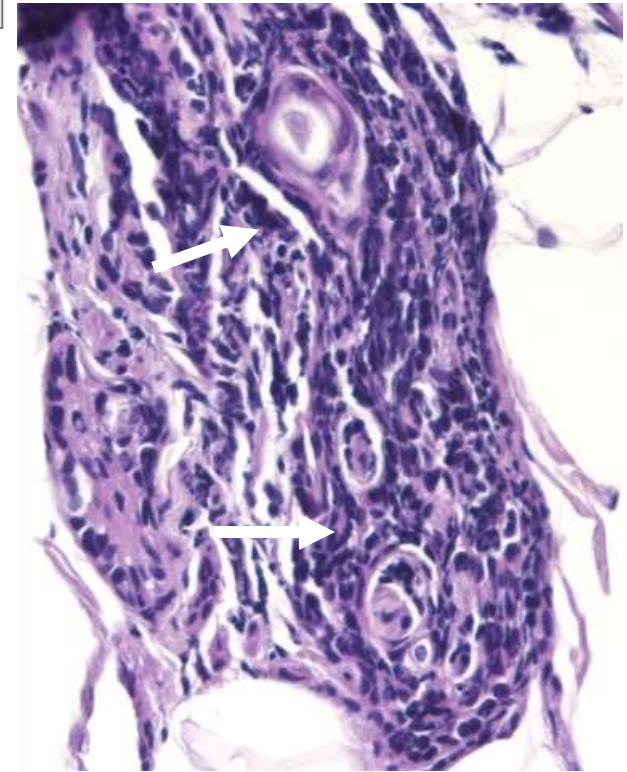
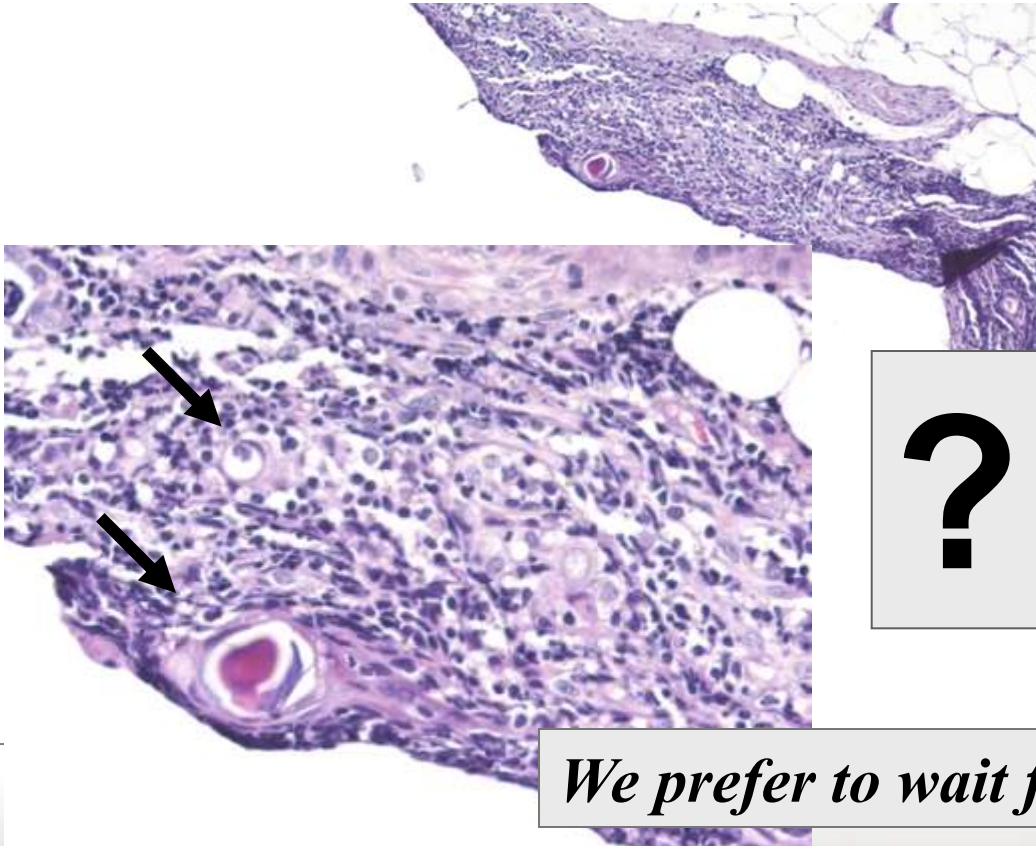
# Clinical history...



Unilabs

## May 2012: second look & complementary surgery

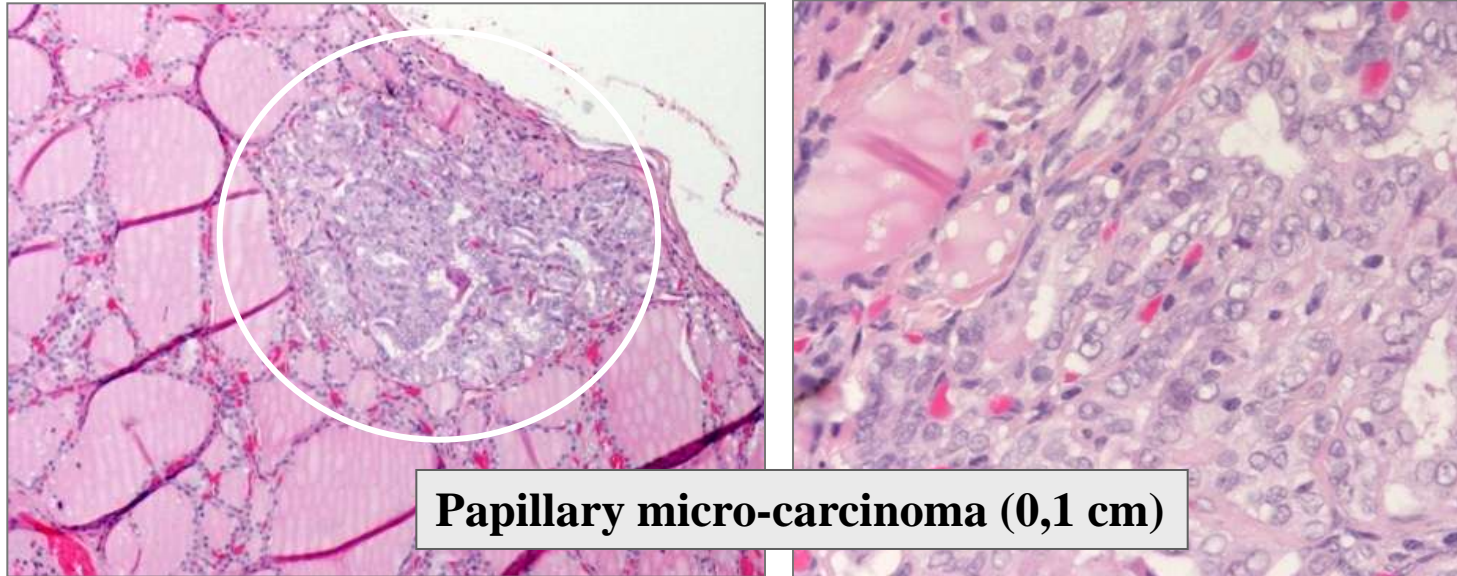
- Contralateral LN sampling level VI (FS)
- Left-thyroidectomy
- Homolateral radical neck dissection (III-VI)



*We prefer to wait for permanent section...*



## Left-thyroidectomy:



**Papillary micro-carcinoma (0,1 cm)**

**Homolateral radical neck dissection (III-VI): 15 LN w/o metastasis (0/15)**

***Contralateral LN sampling level VI: permanent section***

**Hassall's corpuscles**

**Ectopic cervical thymic tissue**

**TTF1- TG-**

**CK+**

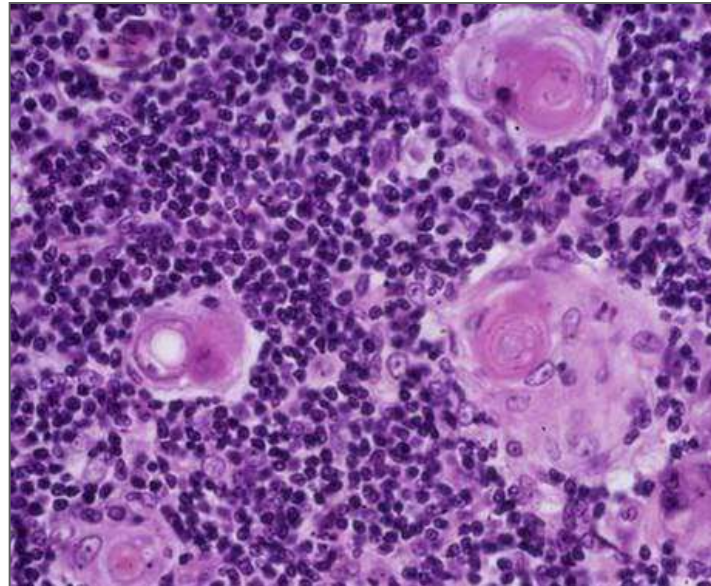




# Ectopic cervical thymic tissue



- Consequence of migrational defects during thymic embryogenesis.
- From 1900 only 90 cases have been reported in the literature
- 2/3 of all reported cases were identified in children younger than 10 years
- Rare in patients older than 20 years



*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*



*Nguyen Q et al. Laryngoscope, 1996. Loney DA et al. Arch Pathol Lab Med, 2001.  
Tunkel et al. Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngology, 1998. Millman B et al Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngology, 1999.*

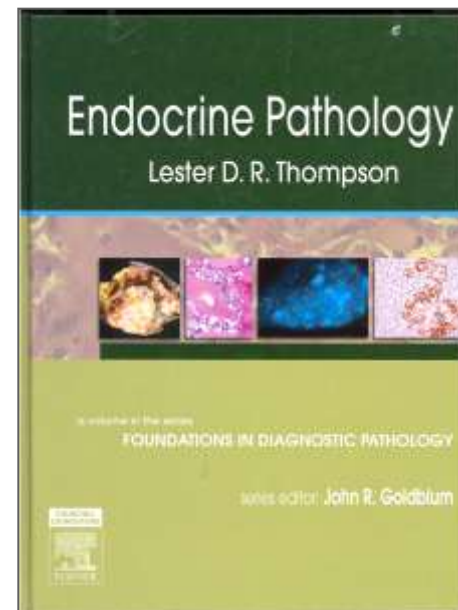
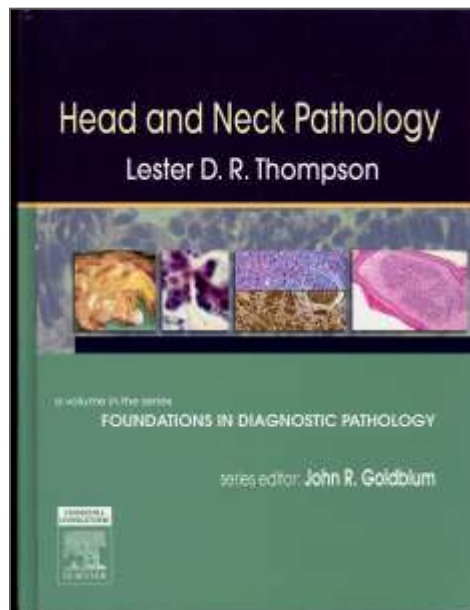


## *Take home message....*

.....A cervical **ectopic thymus** should be included in the **differential diagnosis** of a **neck mass in adults**, and should **not be misdiagnosed** as a **metastatic carcinoma** by frozen section....



**Unilabs**



*Prof. Dr Med S. Andrejevic-Blant, Oct 2012*



*Le Mont Cervin (4478 m)*



*Thank you very much for your attention!*