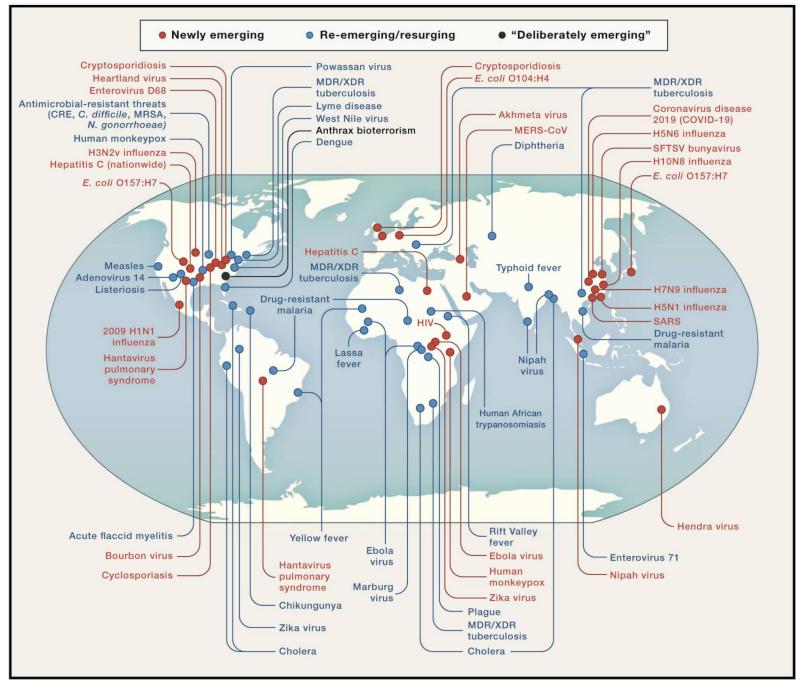


## No Disclosures

# Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases

- Emerging: Infections that have newly appeared in a population (ex. COVID-19)
- **Re-emerging**: infections that are resurging in incidence or geographic range (ex. measles).

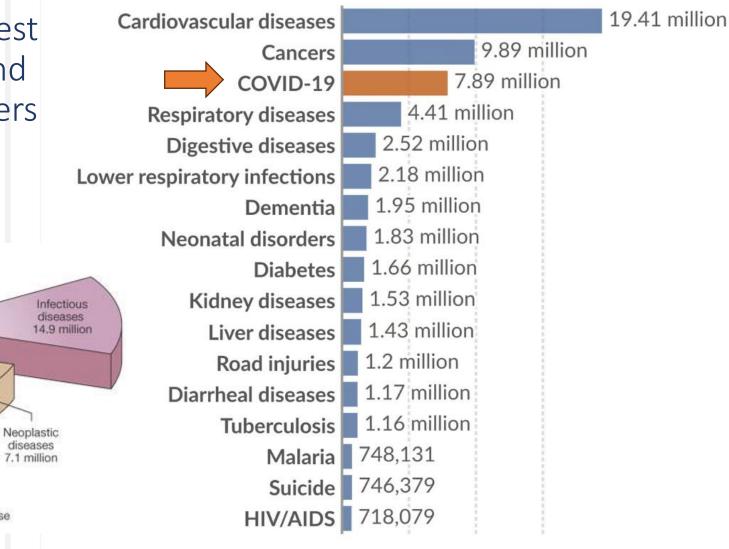


### Global causes of death



COVID-19 was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest cause of death in 2021 and infections surpassed cancers

Cardiovascular conditions 16.7 million



Asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease 3.0 million

Data source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease (2024) OurWorldInData.org/causes-of-death | CC BY

All other

causes of death

# Objectives In 3 clinical cases...

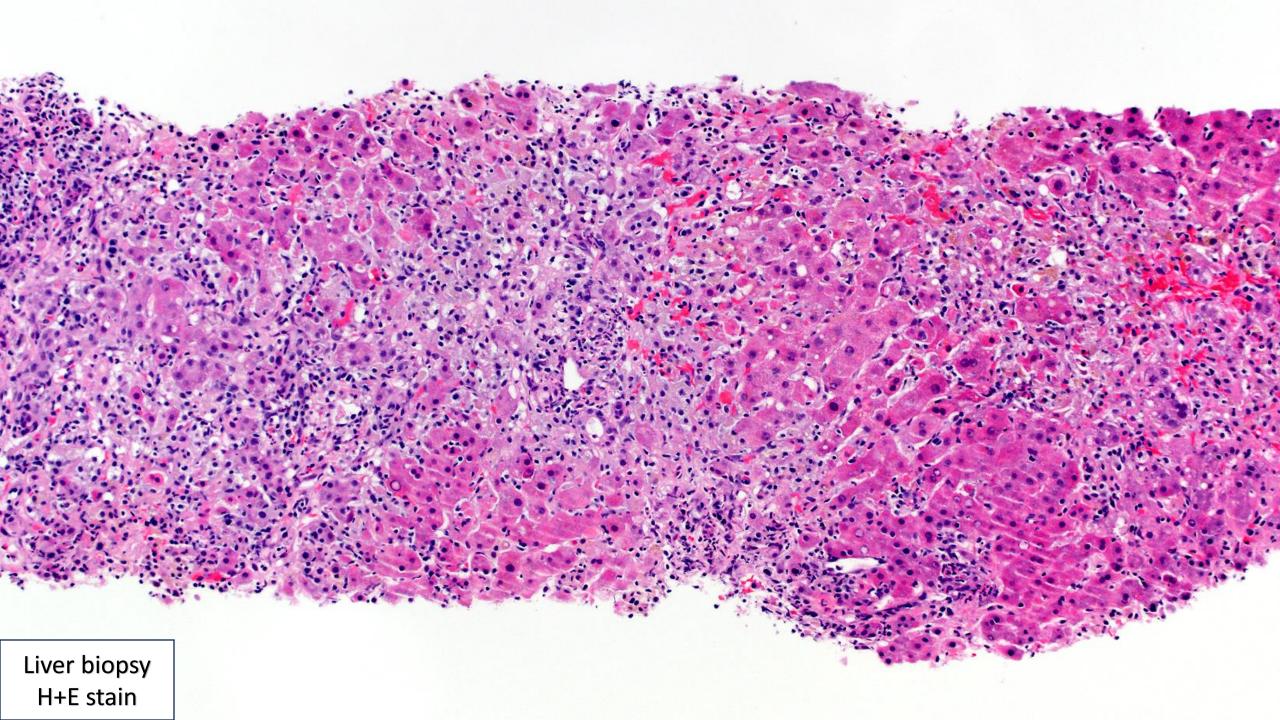
- Recognize patterns of inflammation in the liver that aid in the diagnosis of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases
- Synthesize clinical and laboratory data to narrow the differential diagnosis and help determine the etiology of hepatitis
- Utilize and interpret special and immunohistochemical stains in the diagnosis of liver infections in tissue sections

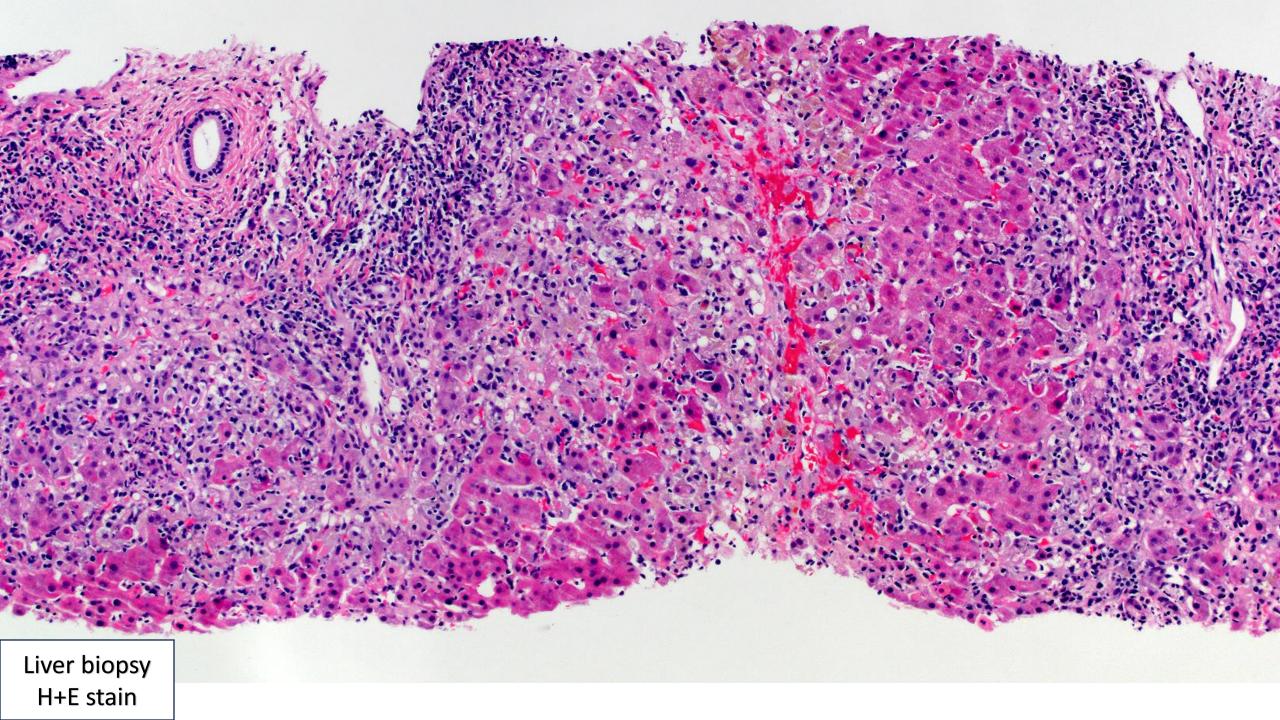
### Case 1

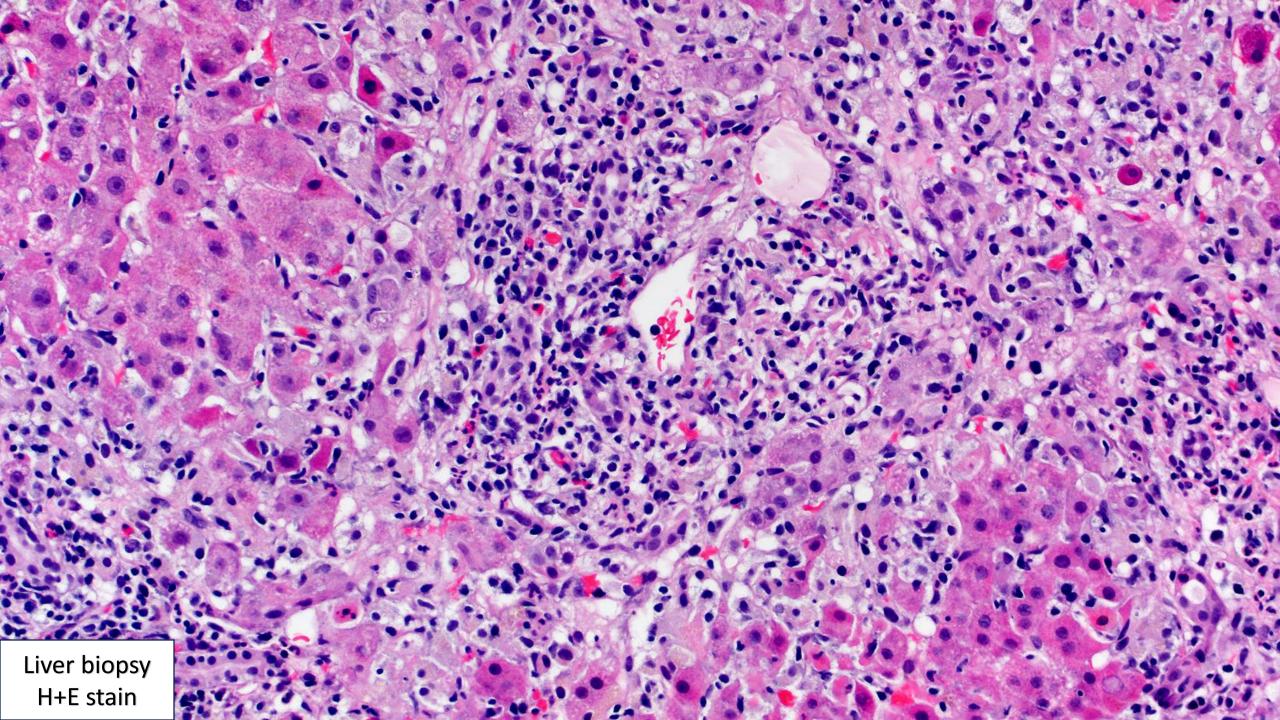
- 67-year-old male worked as a truck driver and had a history of coronary artery disease and type 2 diabetes mellitus, developed nausea and vomiting while driving in WY
- Hospitalized for diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), treated with IV antibiotics and discharged from hospital
- On follow-up with primary care provider 4 days later AST and ALT were in the 3000s, ALK 302, bilirubin 8.4
- He reported jaundice and dark urine; denies abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, alcohol or acetaminophen use

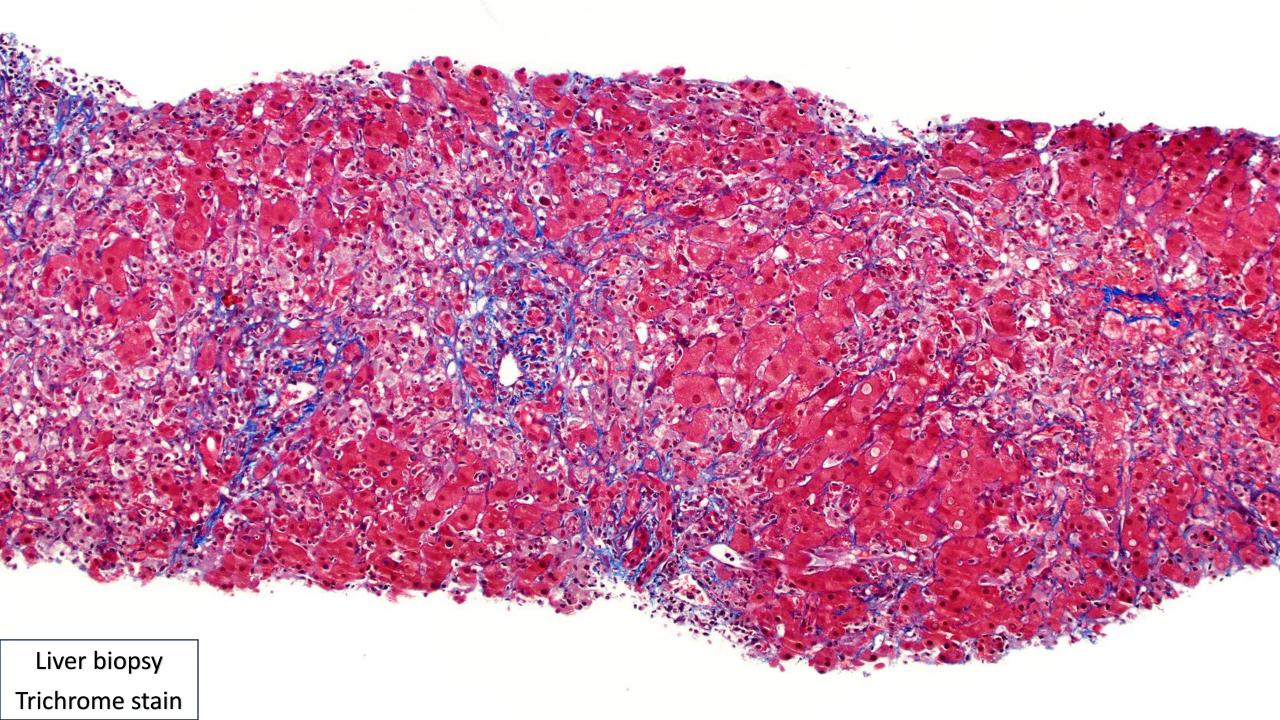
- ALT rose from 3000 to 4800 and AST went from 3700 to 6000; he was transferred to U
- Viral hepatitis panel (A, B, C) was negative,
   ANA screen for autoimmune hepatitis and
   HIV testing were negative
- Abdominal imaging ruled out portal vein thrombosis, hepatic vein thrombosis, and biliary duct obstruction
- Suspected drug-induced liver injury from prior antimicrobial therapy for DKA

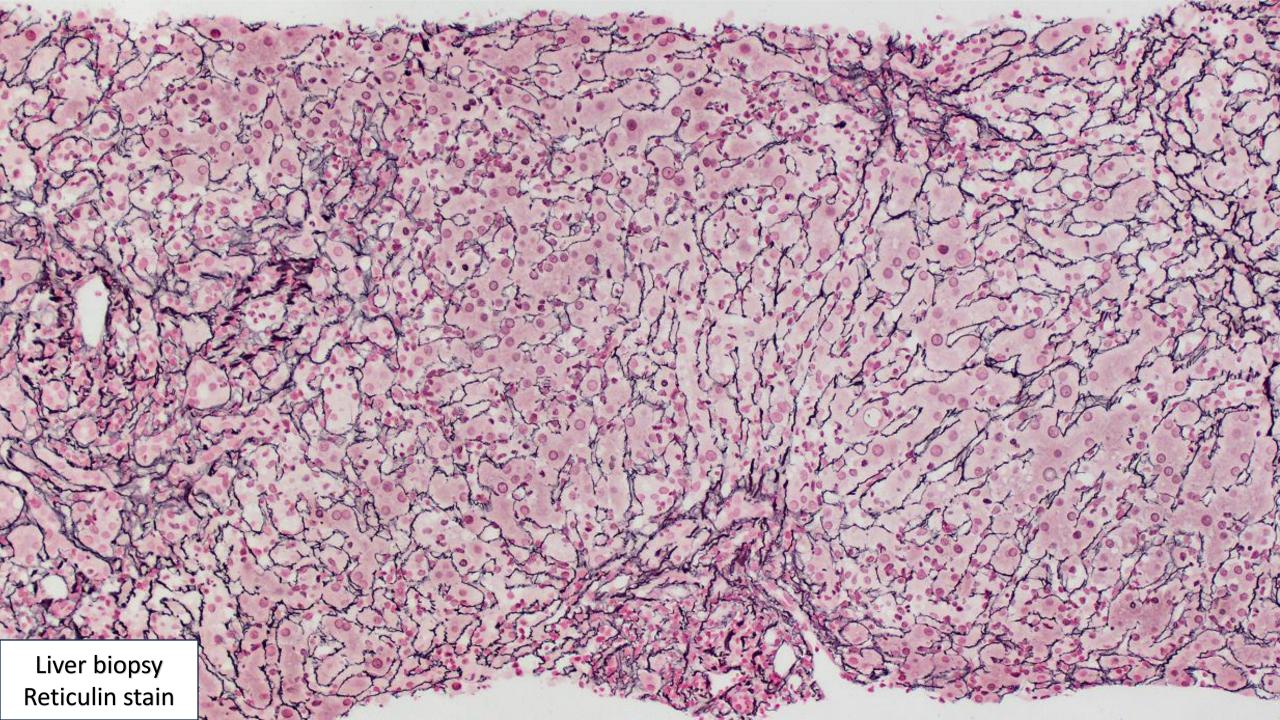
Liver biopsy H+E stain













What is your differential diagnosis for active hepatitis with bridging necrosis?

## Case continued...

- Liver biopsy indicates severe active hepatitis with bridging necrosis:
   AIH versus infection versus drug?
- No evidence of HSV 1/2 or adenovirus, Hepatitis A, B, C were clinically excluded, ANA was negative
- Clinical c/f drug-induced liver injury recent use of piperacillin-tazobactam for a week during admission for DKA
- Patient acutely worsens with chest pain, abdominal pain, encephalopathy, and asterixis

- Liver enzymes: AST 9813, ALT 7057
- Transplantation considered, but after decompensation, patient was transitioned to comfort care and passed away
- Autopsy was performed and showed fulminant hepatic failure...

And then some additional test results became available

## Per Hepatitis E Virus by Quantitative PCR

Status: Final result Visible to patient: No (not released) Dx: Acute hepatitis

### 0 Result Notes

	Ref Range & Units	5 mo ago
Hepatitis E Quant by PCR, Source		Plasma
Hepatitis E Quant by PCR, IU/mL		4,560,000
Hepatitis E Quant by PCR, Log IU/mL		6.7
Hepatitis E Quant by PCR, Interp	Not Detected	Detected !

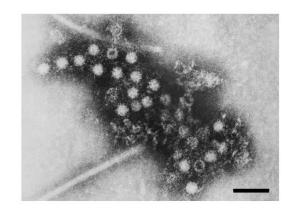
Comment: INTERPRETIVE INFORMATION: Hepatitis E Virus by Quantitative PCR

## Further testing revealed Genotype 3



# Which of the following statements is TRUE about HEV?

- A. Limited to developing countries
- B. Humans are the only known reservoir
- C. Easily transmitted by casual contact
- D. Travelers have the highest risk of acquiring HEV



## Hepatitis E Virus



- Small RNA virus in family *Hepeviridae*
- Worldwide 20 million annual infections and 3.3 million symptomatic cases, 6% seroprevalence in U.S.
- First described in mid-1950's outbreak in Delhi with 30,000 cases of jaundice
- Not identified until 1980's by self-inoculated Russian virologist, Mikhail Balayan, from pooled fecal samples of Soviet troops in Afghanistan
- Variable incubation period, 15-60 days
- Most patients are asymptomatic with mild elevations in liver enzymes

- Serology (enzyme immunoassay) IgM, IgG not reliable in immune suppression
- HEV RNA nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) detect conserved domains of genome
- Male gender, diabetes and heavy alcohol use associated with increased risk of symptomatic infections
- Chronic HEV infection persistence of HEV RNA in blood or stool for at least 3 months
- Chronic infections in 20-50% of transplant patients exposed to HEV & can progress to cirrhosis
- Treatment: Ribavirin

#### https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/hepatitis-e

Pisano MB, et al. Hepatitis E virus infection in the United States: Seroprevalence, risk factors and the influence of immunological assays. PLoS One. 2022 Aug 5;17(8):e0272809.

Lemon SM, Walker CM. Enterically Transmitted Non-A, Non-B Hepatitis and the Discovery of Hepatitis E Virus. Cold Spring Harb Perspect Med. 2019 Aug 1;9(8):a033449.

Dalton HR et al. Host risk factors and autochthonous hepatitis E infection. Eur J Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2011 Nov;23(12):1200-5

Songtanin B et al. Hepatitis E Virus Infections: Epidemiology, Genetic Diversity, and Clinical Considerations. Viruses. 2023 Jun 17;15(6):1389.



## Hepatitis E Viral Genotypes

4 mammalian genotypes 1 serotype

### Genotypes 1 and 2 (humans)

- Humans are the reservoir
- Fecal-oral transmission
- Endemic to and epidemics in Asia, Africa, Central America
- Waterborne outbreaks associated with heavy flooding
- Infrequent person-to-person transmission (unlike HAV)
- HEV-1 is associated with high maternal morbidity and mortality

### **Genotypes 3 and 4 (zoonotic infections)**

- Animals are the reservoir: pigs, wild boars, goats, sheep, deer
- Worldwide, North and South America
- Fecal contamination of water and consumption of contaminated meat





Aslan AT, Balaban HY. Hepatitis E virus: Epidemiology, diagnosis, clinical manifestations, and treatment. World J Gastroenterol. 2020 Oct 7;26(37):5543-5560. PMID: 33071523.

# Case 1 The Clinical Team Asks Questions...What's the Exposure?

- The patient's wife mentioned they ate bison at home in late July
- The bison was bought at a store and cooked thoroughly per her report

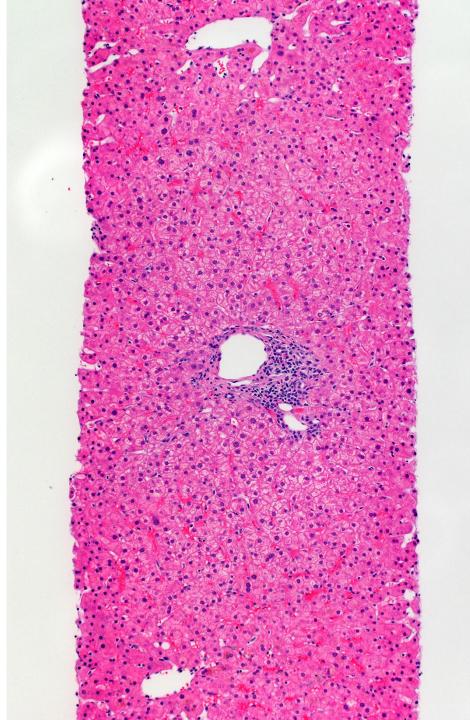
 There was still another package of bison in her freezer and she was asked to keep it until further notice...



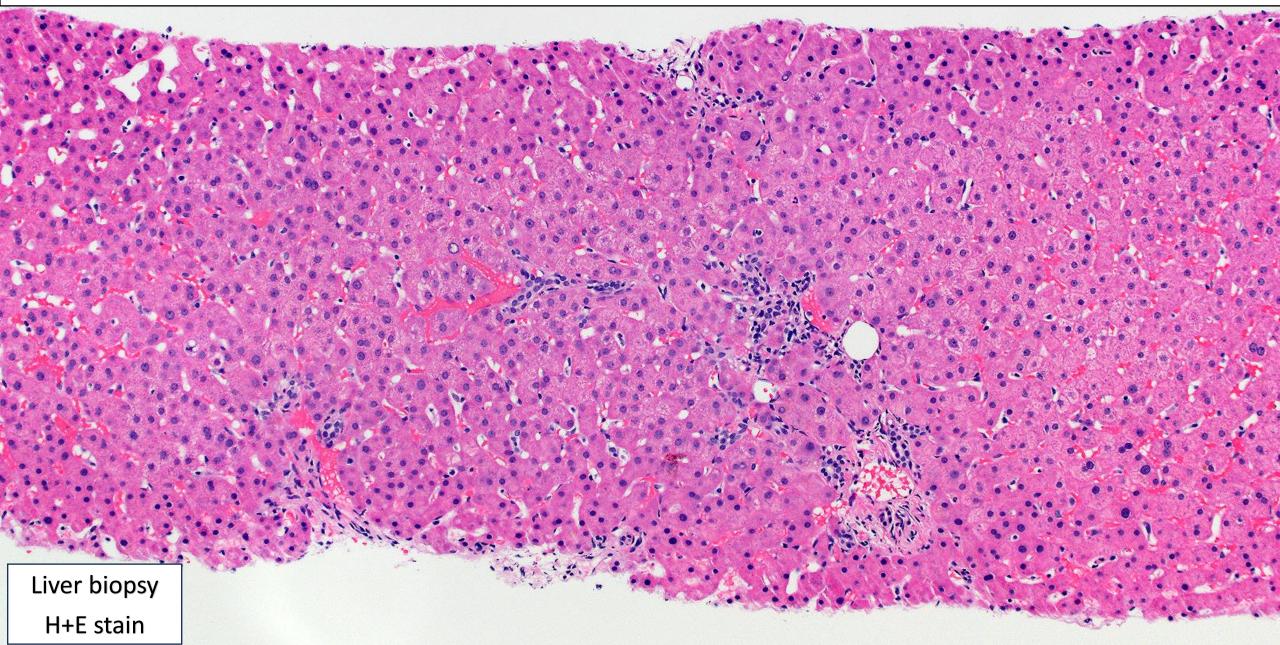


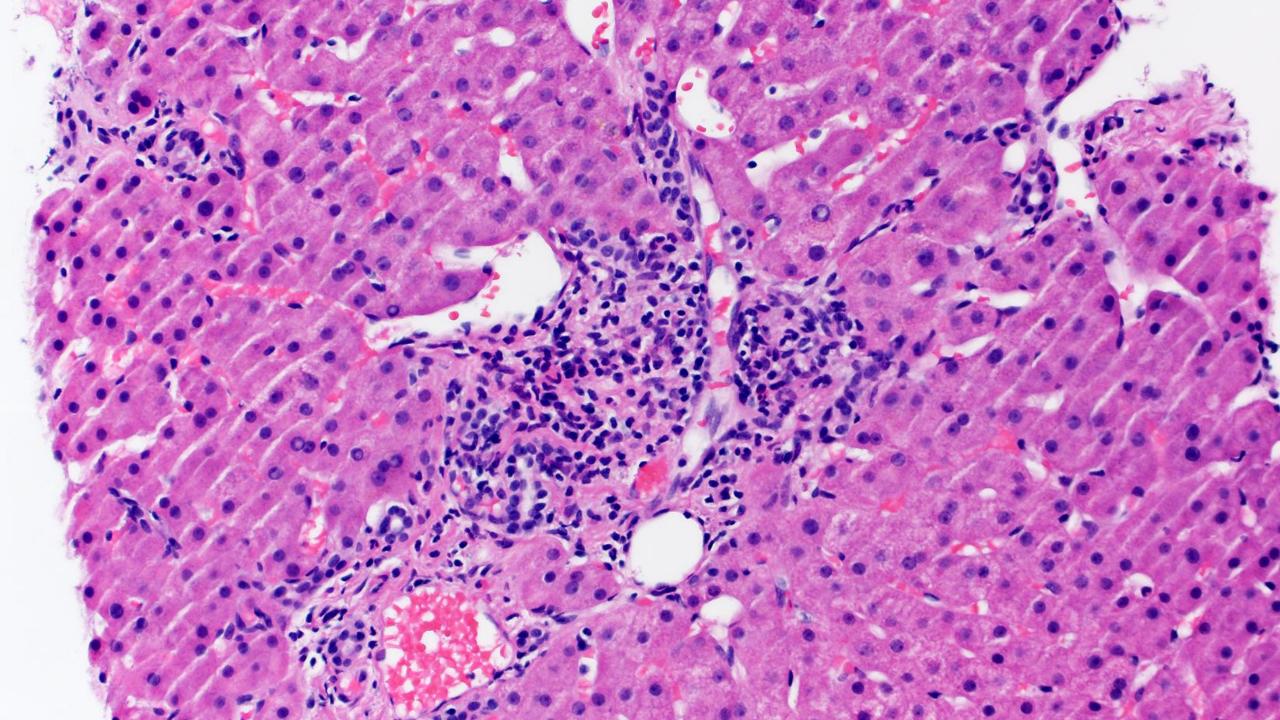
A Second Case of Hepatitis E Virus!

- 47-year-old male with obesity and type 2 diabetes status post liver transplant for cirrhosis due to steatohepatitis
- 3-months post transplant has elevated LFTs: AST 92, ALT 240, ALK 150
- Treated with prednisone for presumed acute cellular rejection
- After an initial response to treatment, ALT increased: **AST 69**, **ALT 311**, **ALK 107**



Enzymes continue to rise after this 2<sup>nd</sup> liver biopsy over 2 weeks AST 186, ALT 559, ALK 174, total bili 1.8





## THE PATITIS E VIRUS BY QUANTITATIVE PCR

Status: Final result Visible to patient: Yes (seen) Dx: Immunosuppression (HCC); Liver transp...

Component Ref Range & Units	1 mo ago (12/16/24)	1 mo ago (12/2/24)	2 mo ago (10/28/24)	3 mo ago (10/14/24)	3 mo ago (9/27/24)		
Hepatitis E Quant by PCR, Log IU/mL log IU/mL	Not Quantified	Not Quantified <sup>CM</sup>	3.7	4.8	6.7		
Comment: Not Quantified - Hepatitis E Virus RNA was detected, but at a level below 3.3 log IU/mL (1,800 IU/mL). Virus detected							

a level below 3.3 log IU/mL (1,800 IU/mL). Virus detected at a level below 3.3 log IU/mL cannot be accurately quantified by this assay.

Hepatitis E Quant by PCR, Detected! Detected! CM Detected! CM Detected! CM Detected! CM Detected! CM

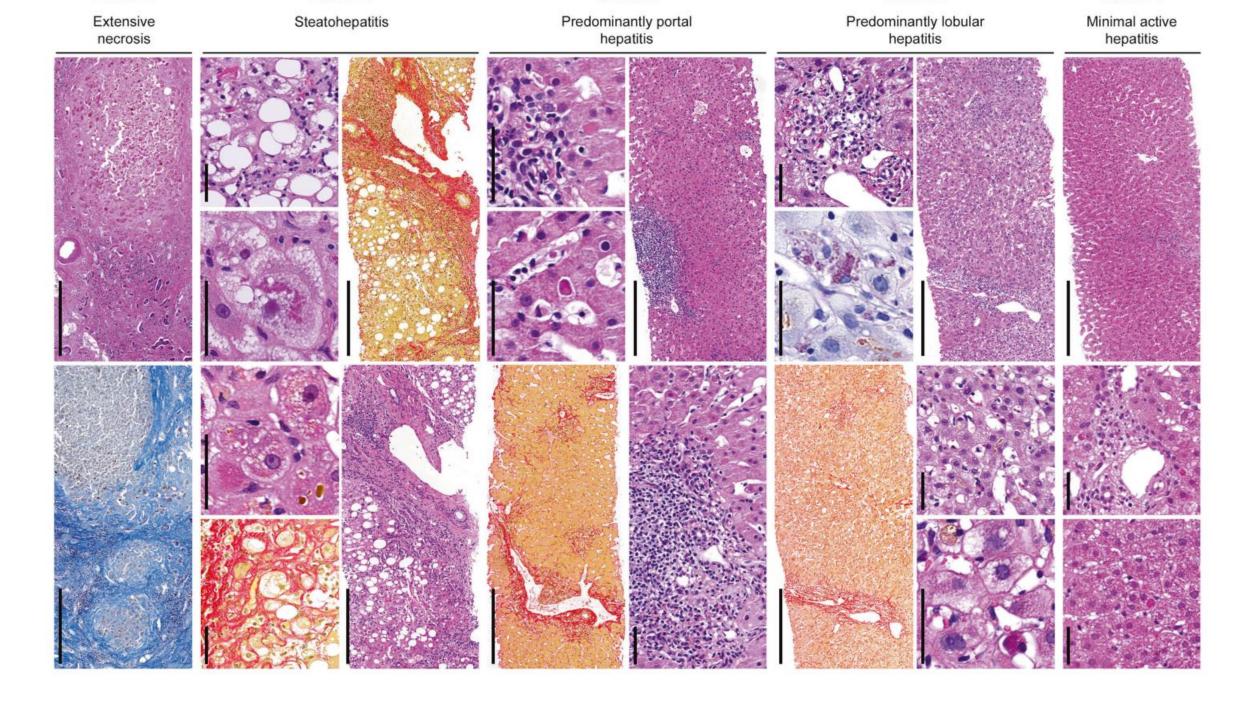
Not Detected

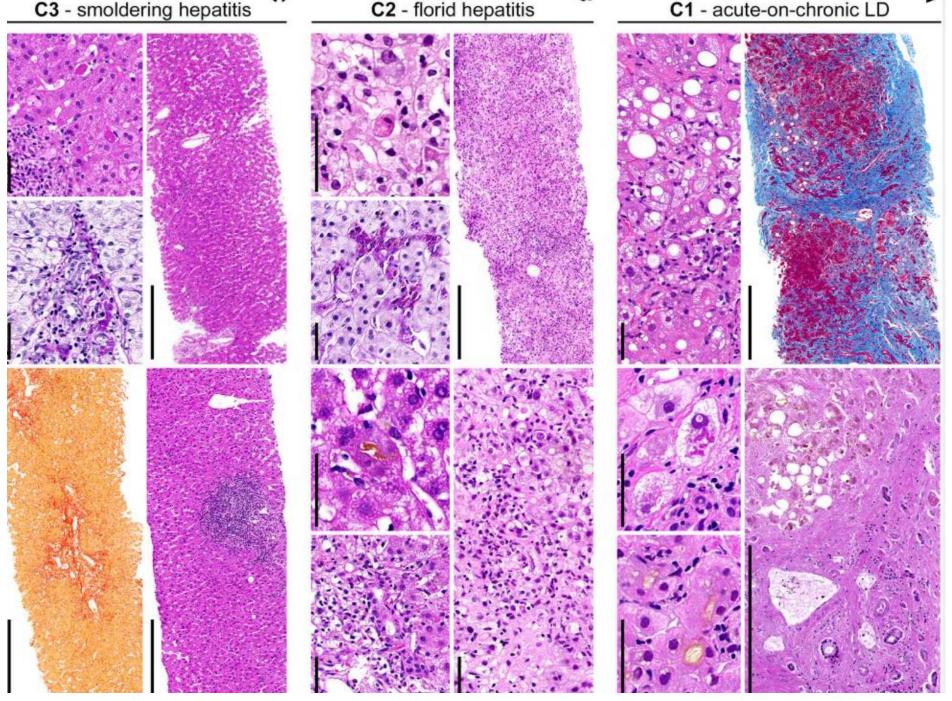
Comment: INTERPRETIVE INFORMATION: Hepatitis E Virus by Quantitative PCR

The quantitative range of this assay is  $3.3-8.3 \log IU/mL$  (1,800-180,000,000 IU/mL). One IU/mL of HEV RNA is approximately 2.25 copies/mL.



What accounts for the drastically different presentations of HEV?

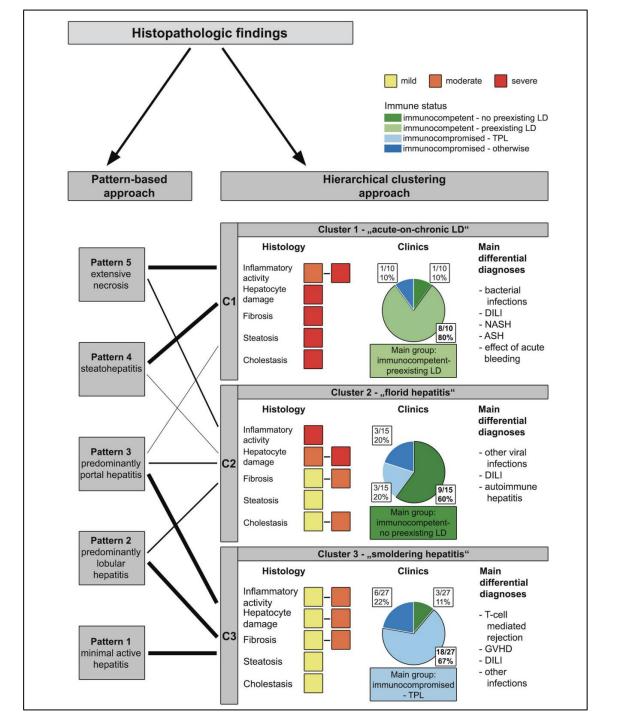




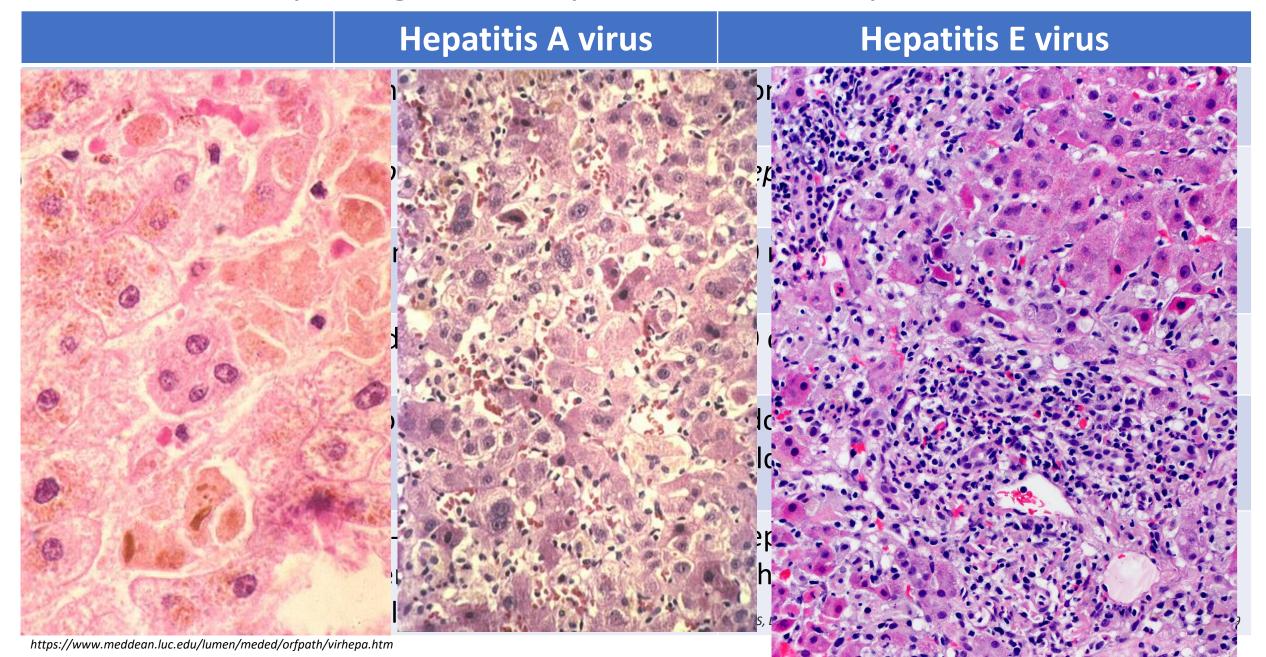
Lenggenhager D, et al. The histologic presentation of hepatitis E reflects patients' immune status and pre-existing liver condition. Mod Pathol. 2021 Jan;34(1):233-248

# Heterogeneous Manifestations of HEV in Liver Biopsy

- Acute on chronic infection
  - Extensive necrosis and steatohepatitis
- Immunocompetent
  - Florid hepatitis
- Immunosuppressed
  - Minimal active hepatitis



## Comparing Viral Hepatitis A and Hepatitis E

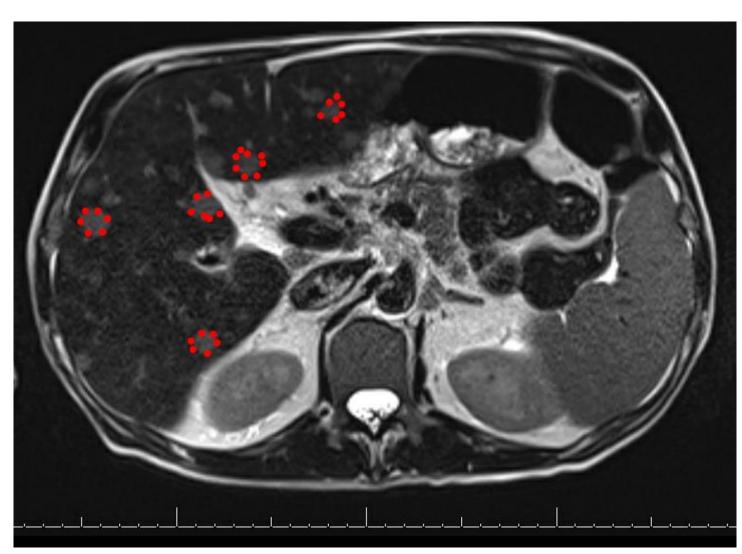


## Case 1 Summary

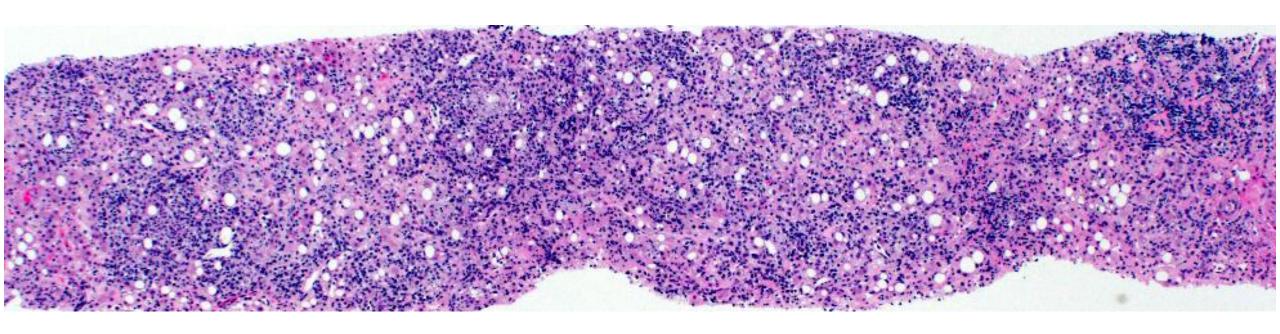
- The manifestations of HEV infection are heterogeneous and depend upon the immune status of the host
- HEV should be included in the differential diagnosis of active hepatitis in immunocompetent patients and mild portal & lobular hepatitis in immunosuppressed patients
- There is no widely available immunostain, so the infection could be included in the differential and HEV PCR testing recommended

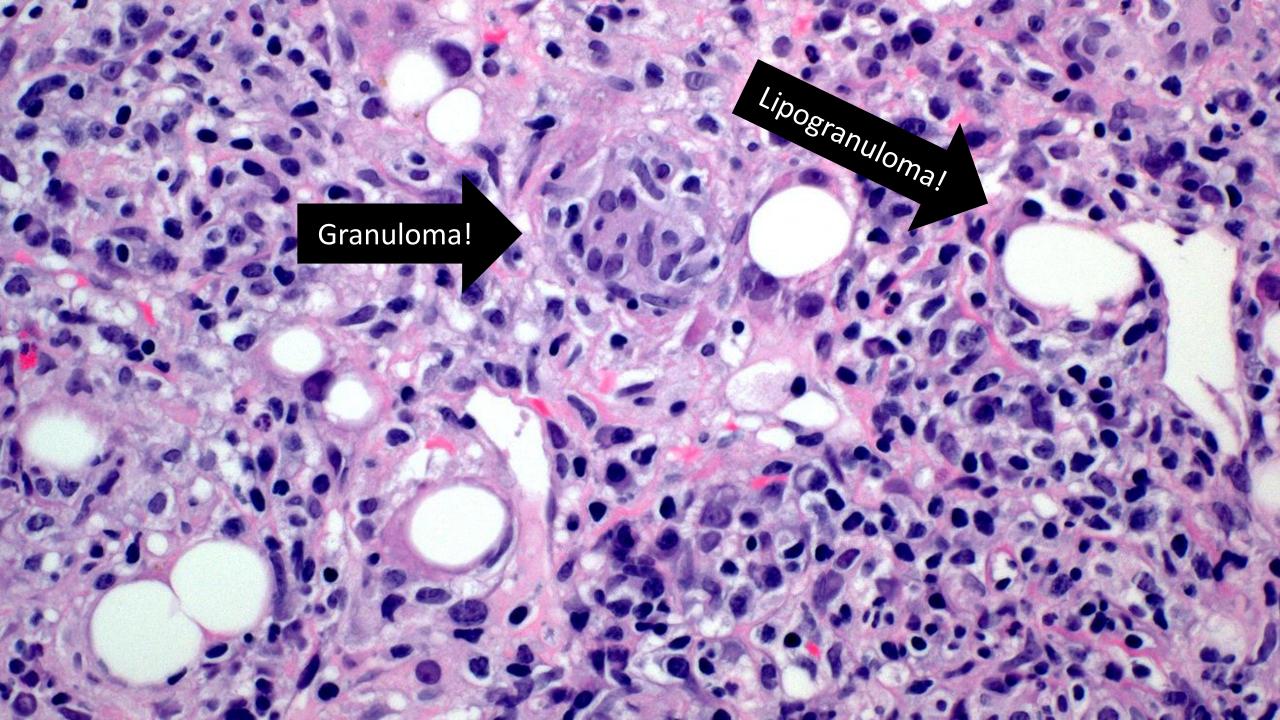
## Case 2: A 60-year-old male with failure to thrive

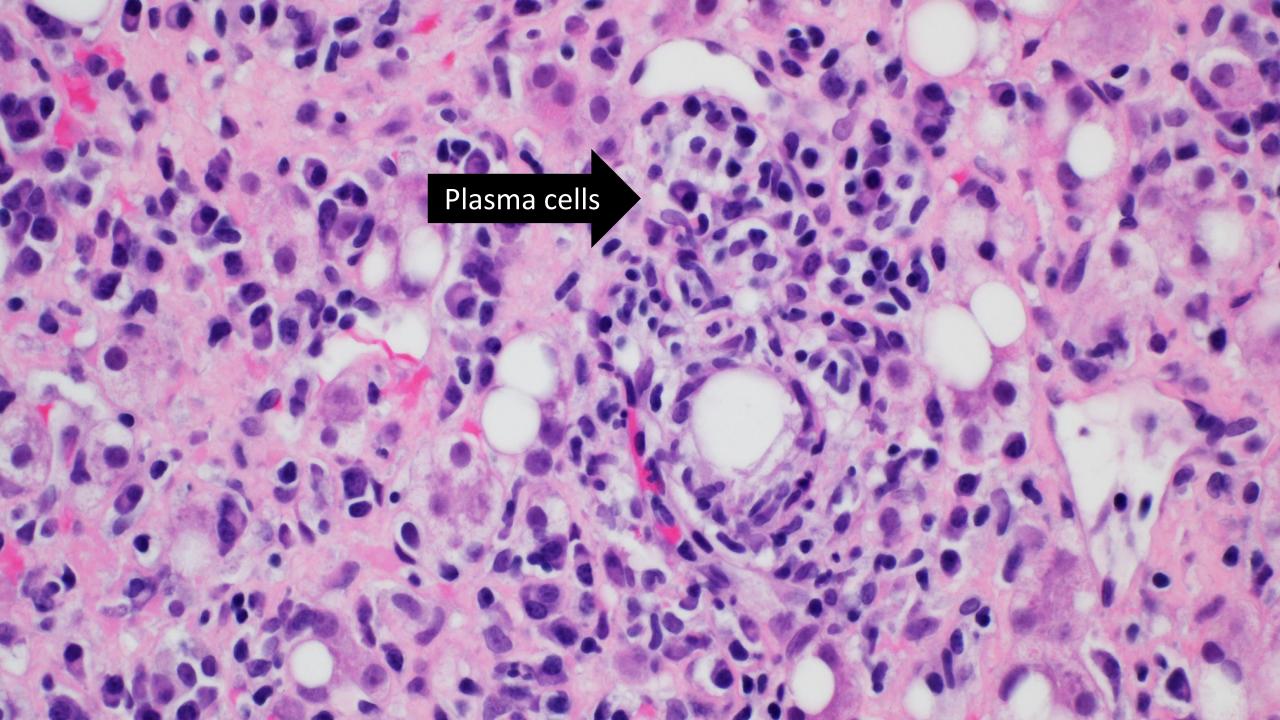
- 60 yo M undergoing workup for failure to thrive, & unintentional 45 lbs weight loss
- Liver Enzymes:
  - AST 37, ALT 36, **ALK 338**
- MRI shows <u>innumerable</u>, scattered, arterially enhancing liver lesions – concerning for metastatic disease
- 3 cm liver lesion targeted for tissue biopsy

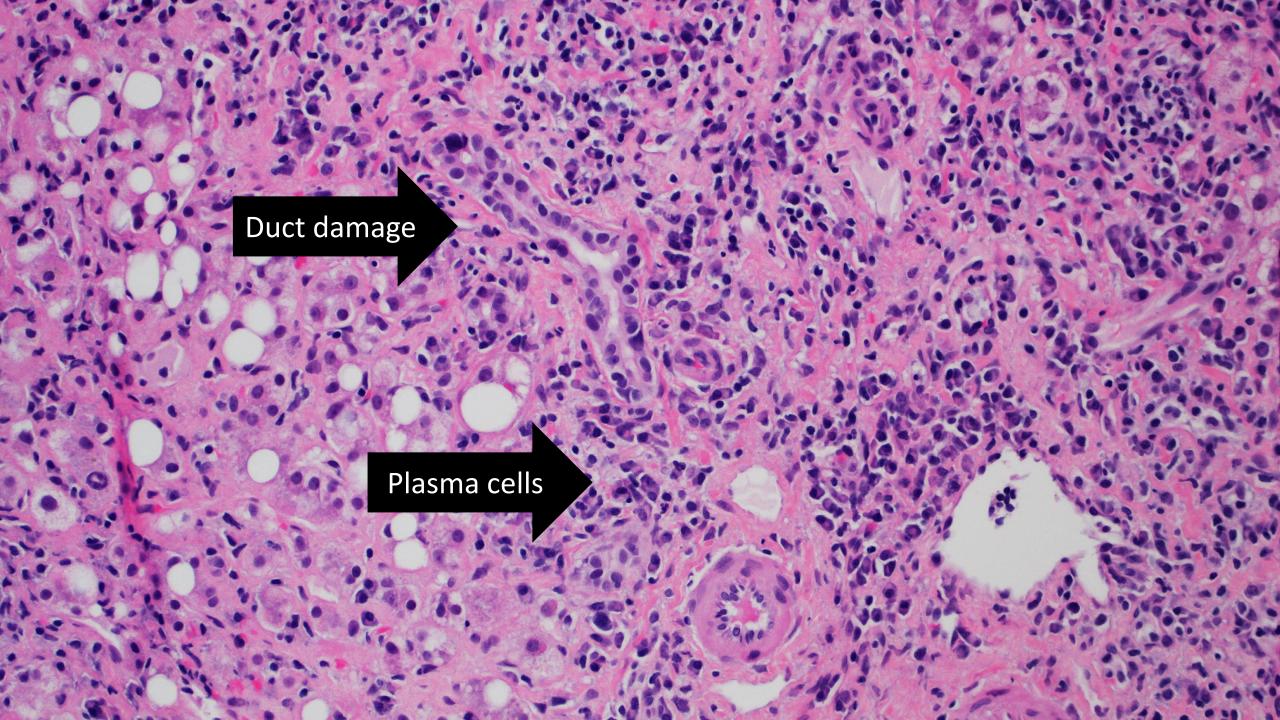


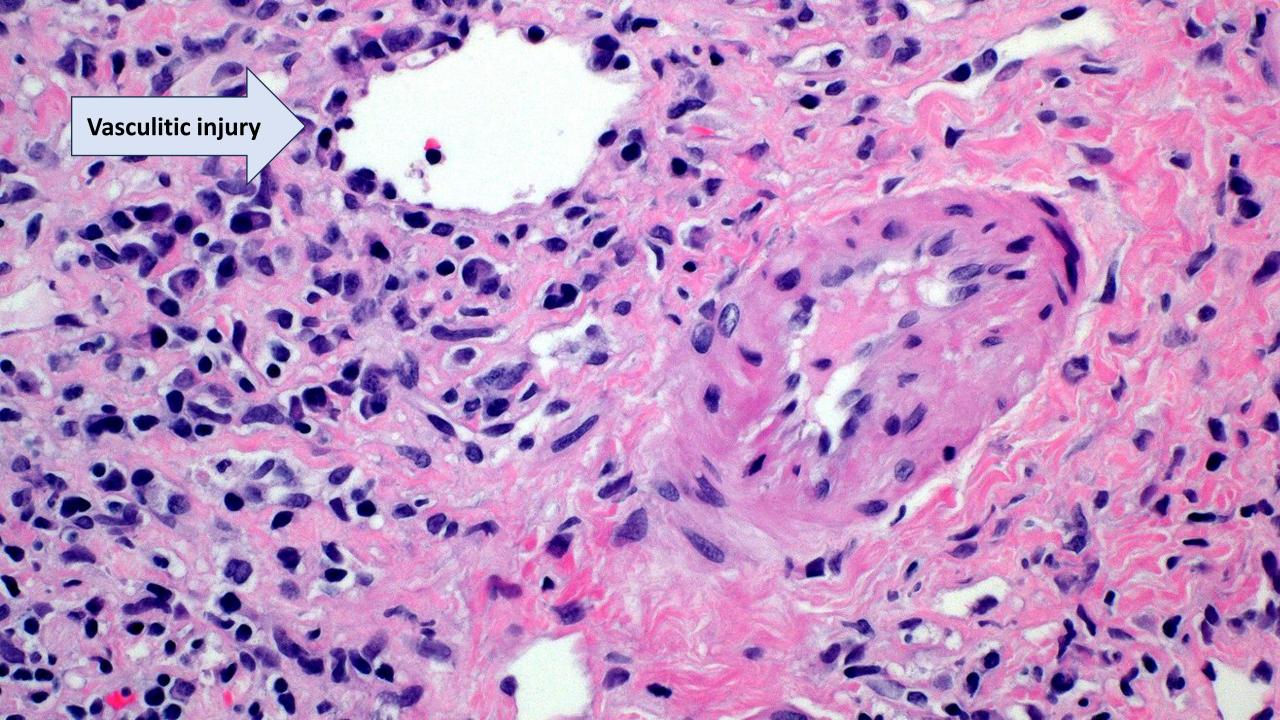
Liver H+E stain 0.7 cm core

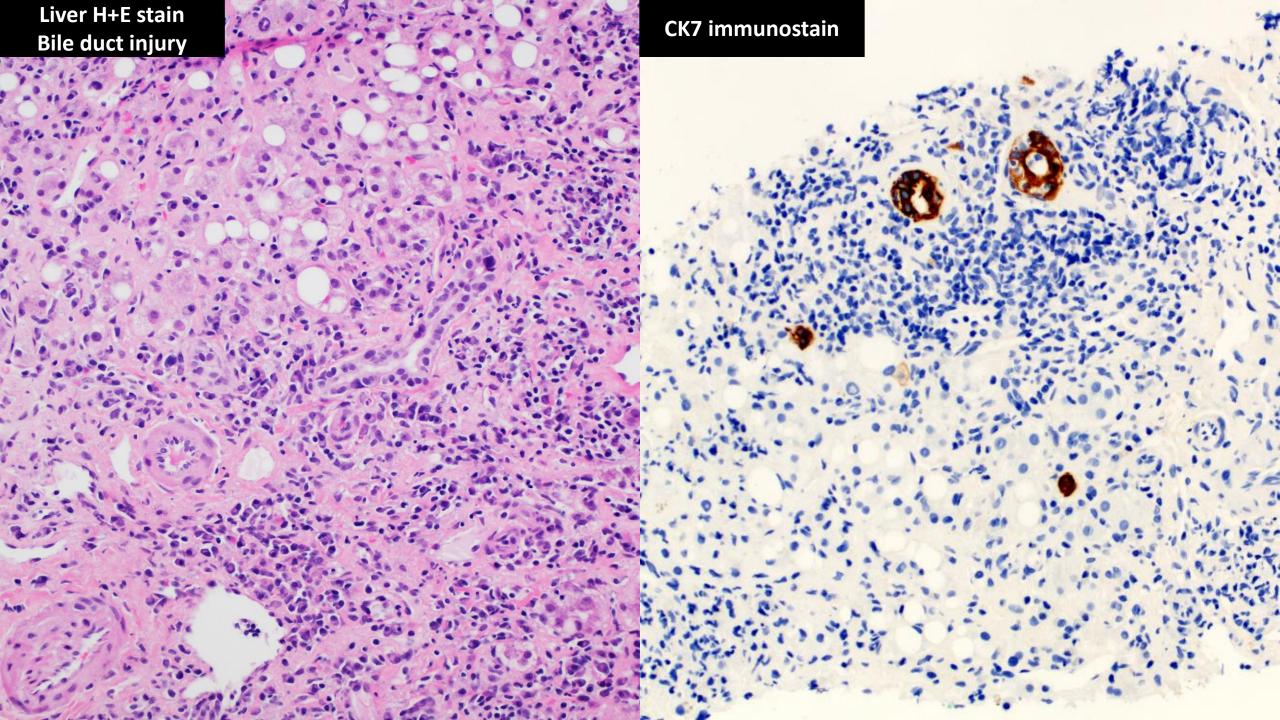










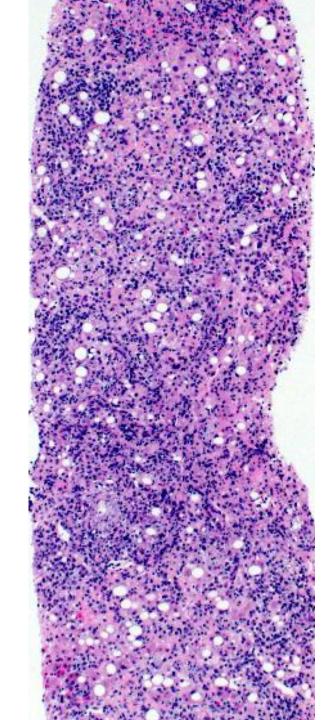


## Summarize the Morphologic changes

- Active hepatitis
- Lobular disarray
- Granulomatous inflammation
  - Lymphocytes, plasma cells, histiocytes
  - Non necrotizing lipogranulomas
- Vasculitic injury
- Bile duct injury

- Etiology?
  - Bacteria
  - Viral
  - Fungal

**Granulomatous hepatitis** 

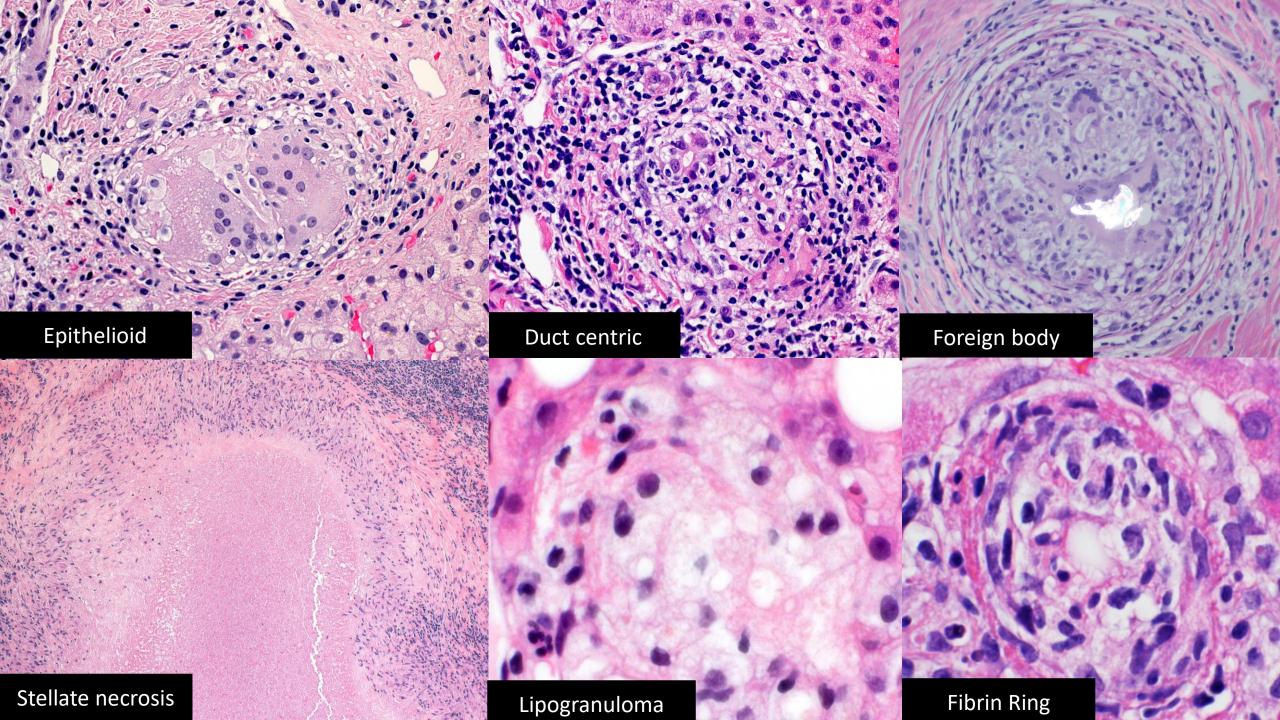


## Granulomatous Hepatitis

- Liver has largest proportion of resident tissue macrophages (Kupffer cells) & hepatic sinusoidal endothelial cells
  - Reticuloendothelial system
- Granulomas in 1-15% of liver biopsies performed for increasing LFTs or eval for systemic disease
- Broad differential diagnosis: drug, infection, autoimmune, foreign body, idiopathic
- Etiologies
  - Western world: idiopathic, sarcoid, primary biliary cholangitis (non-infectious)
  - Middle East and Asia: Infections, particularly tuberculosis
- Type & Location: Where are the granulomas and how are they characterized?

Innate

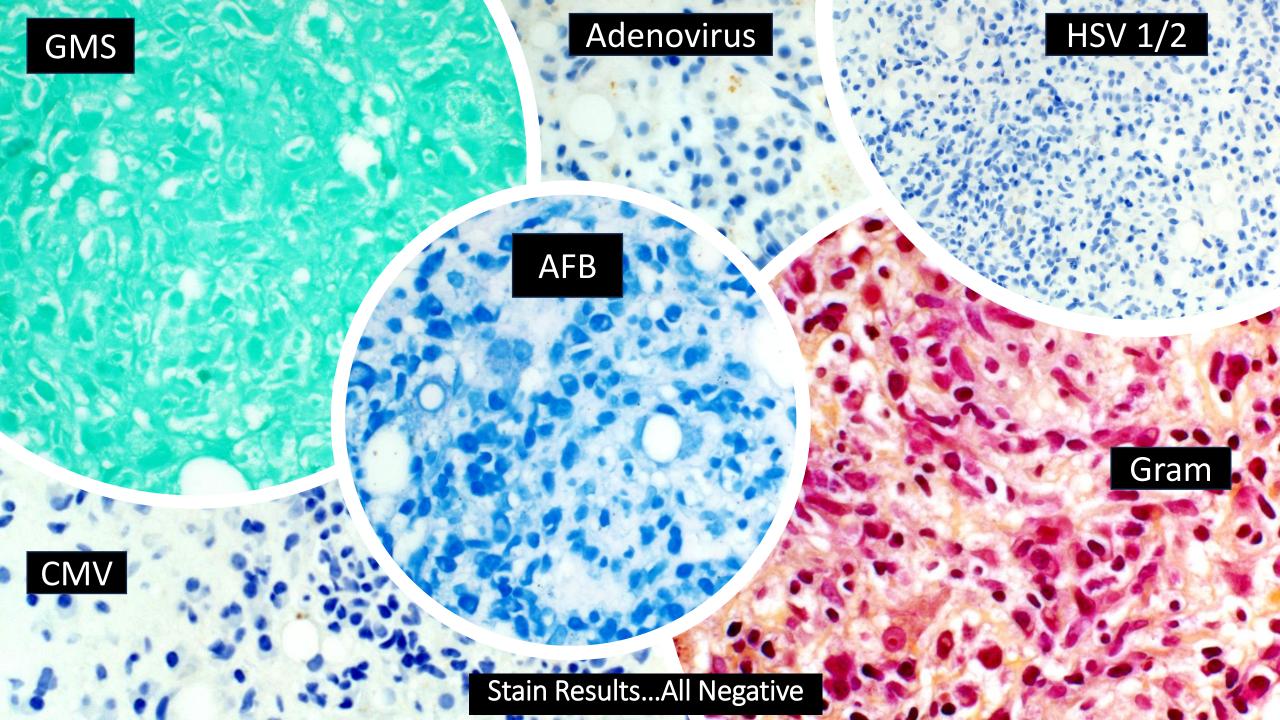
Mironova M, et al. Granulomatous liver diseases. Hepatol Commun. 2024 Mar 18;8(4):e0392. Sartin JS, Walker RC. Granulomatous hepatitis: a retrospective review of 88 cases at the Mayo Clinic. Mayo Clin Proc. 1991 Sep;66(9):914-8.





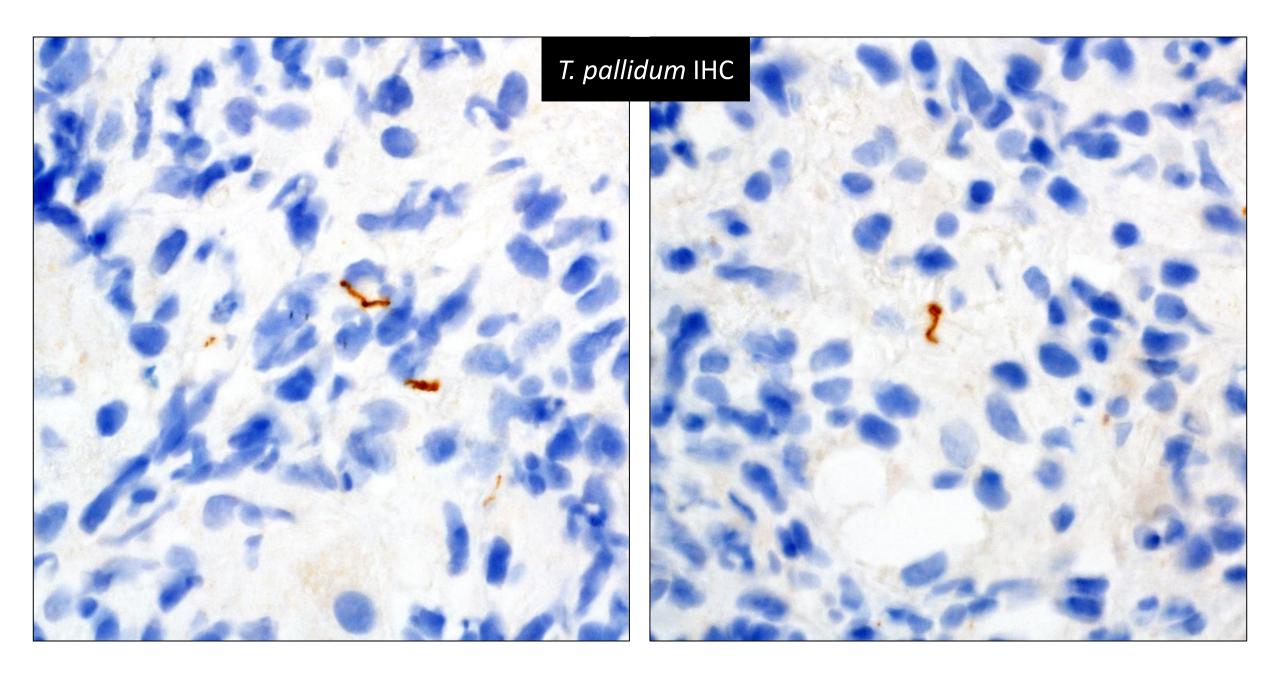
What stains do you want to order for the granulomatous inflammation in the liver?

- A. AFB
- B. Fungal stain (GMS or PAS)
- C. AFB and fungal stain (GMS or PAS)
- D. AFB, fungal and others



Any other ideas?





# Patient's history of syphilis infections

2012

- HIV diagnosed
- Incidental: Syphilis RPR 1:32, treated IM

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
RPR	Reactive	Reactive	Non-reactive	No data	Reactive
Titer	1:2	1:2	-	-	1:2048
Sx	Diffuse maculopapular rash	-	_	-	Failure to thrive



# What does the liver involvement signify in this case?

- A. Primary syphilis
- B. Secondary syphilis
- C. Tertiary syphilis ("gumma")
- D. Unusual manifestation of secondary syphilis

## Stages & Manifestations of Syphilis

#### Primary

- Painless chancre at site of contact
- 3-6 weeks, resolves

#### Secondary

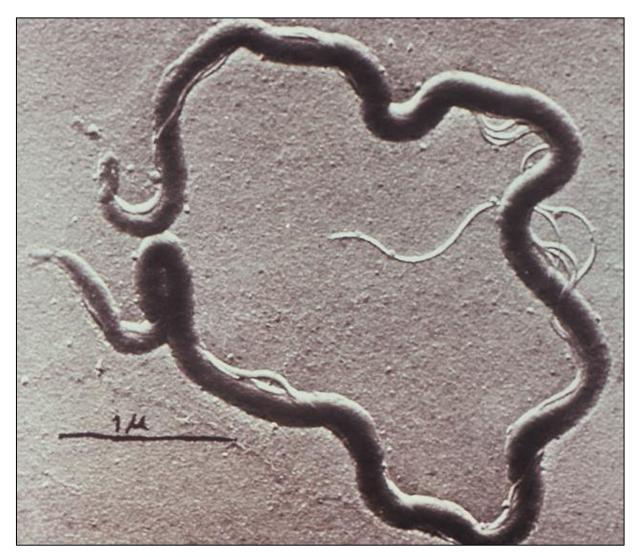
- Dissemination, including to liver –
   \*\*High Alk Phos is typical\*\*
- Maculopapular rash
- Mucosal ulcers
- \*\*Lues Maligna\*\*

#### Latent

No visible signs or symptoms

#### Tertiary

- Heart, blood vessels, brain
- 10-30 years post-infection



https://phil.cdc.gov/Details.aspx?pid=14966

## Lues Maligna: Extremely rare form of secondary syphilis

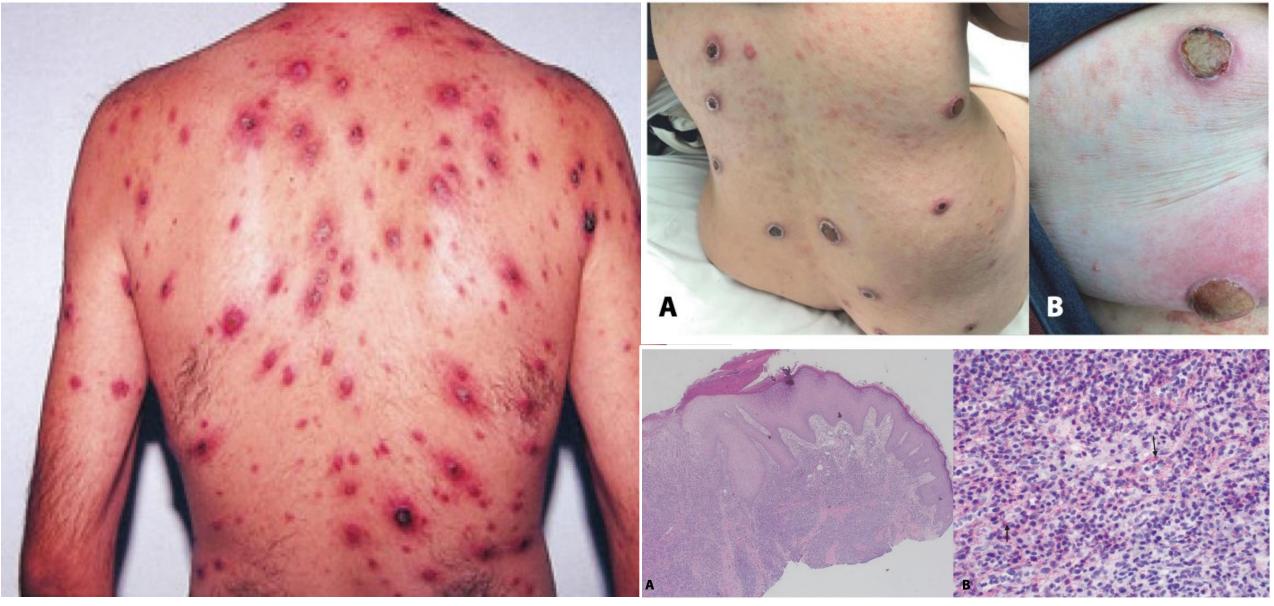
- Originally described as tertiary syphilis in 1859, but later reclassified as secondary syphilis
- 'Malignant' form of secondary syphilis associated with ulceronodular skin lesions
- Small series and case reports
- May be associated with immunosuppression
  - Chronic alcohol use
  - HIV/AIDs

- Can involve the mucosa, lymph node, liver and spleen
- Pathologic features of skin lesions
  - Epidermal ulceration
  - Plasma cell-rich inflammation
  - Perivascular inflammation
  - Obliteration of small venules
- Rapidly responds to penicillin

Don PC, Rubinstein R, Christie S. Malignant syphilis (lues maligna) and concurrent infection with HIV. Int J Dermatol. 1995 Jun;34(6):403-7.

Tucker JD, Shah S, Jarell AD, Tsai KY, Zembowicz A, Kroshinsky D. Lues maligna in early HIV infection case report and review of the literature. Sex Transm Dis. 2009 Aug;36(8):512-4.

## Dermatologic Manifestation of Lues Maligna





### Syphilitic Hepatitis - "luetic jaundice"

#### ~150 published cases in adults

- Largest systematic review (2018) 144 cases
- 1951 Earliest published case

#### **Epidemiology**

- 40 years old (mean age)
- 90% Male
- 61% Concurrent HIV infection

#### **Clinical features**

- 78% Rashes –maculopapular, soles, palms
- 57% Fatigue or poor appetite
- 35% Icterus
- 26% Fever

#### Laboratory data (mean values)

- ALT 314 AST 684
- ALK 684 GGT 561

#### **Exam**

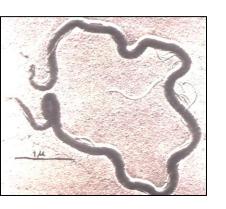
- 54% Hepatomegaly
- 31% Lymphadenopathy
- 14% Splenomegaly

#### **Histopathologic features**

- 35% (55/144) Patients had liver biopsy done
- 87% Portal and lobular inflammation
- 49% Cholestasis
- 20% Granuloma

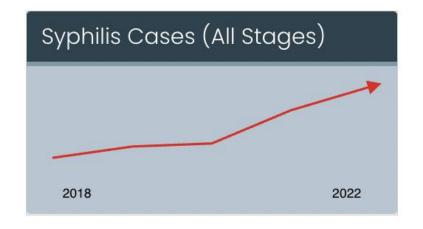
#### **Ancillary stains**

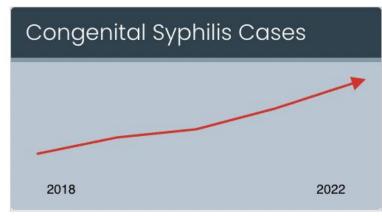
- Spirochetes identified in 19/28 (68%) of cases that were stained
- 15 by *T. pallidum* immunostain
- 4 by Warthin Starry



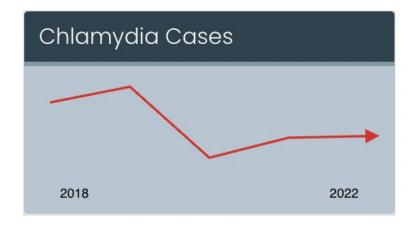
## Syphilis is still on the Rise!

Since 2018 syphilis cases have increased 80%





Over 207,000 cases of syphilis reported in 2022
- Highest number reported since 1950.

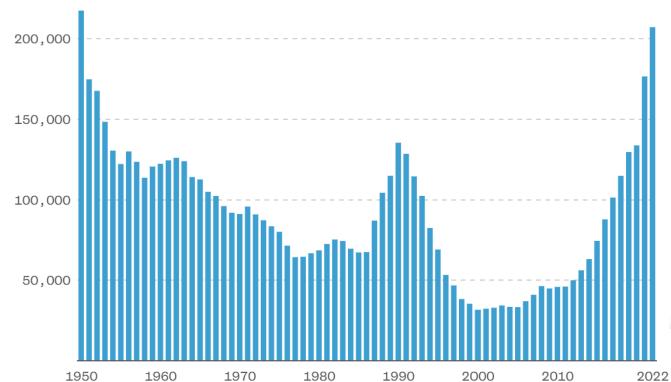




https://www.cdc.gov/std/statistics/2022/default.htm

#### Syphilis in the U.S.

More than 200,000 cases were reported in 2022, the most since 1950.



**Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Graphic: Joe Murphy / NBC News

#### The New york Times

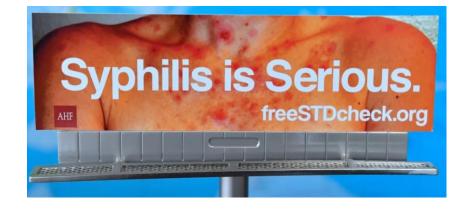
OPINION GUEST ESSAY

# How on Earth Is There a Syphilis Epidemic in 2024?

July 25, 2024

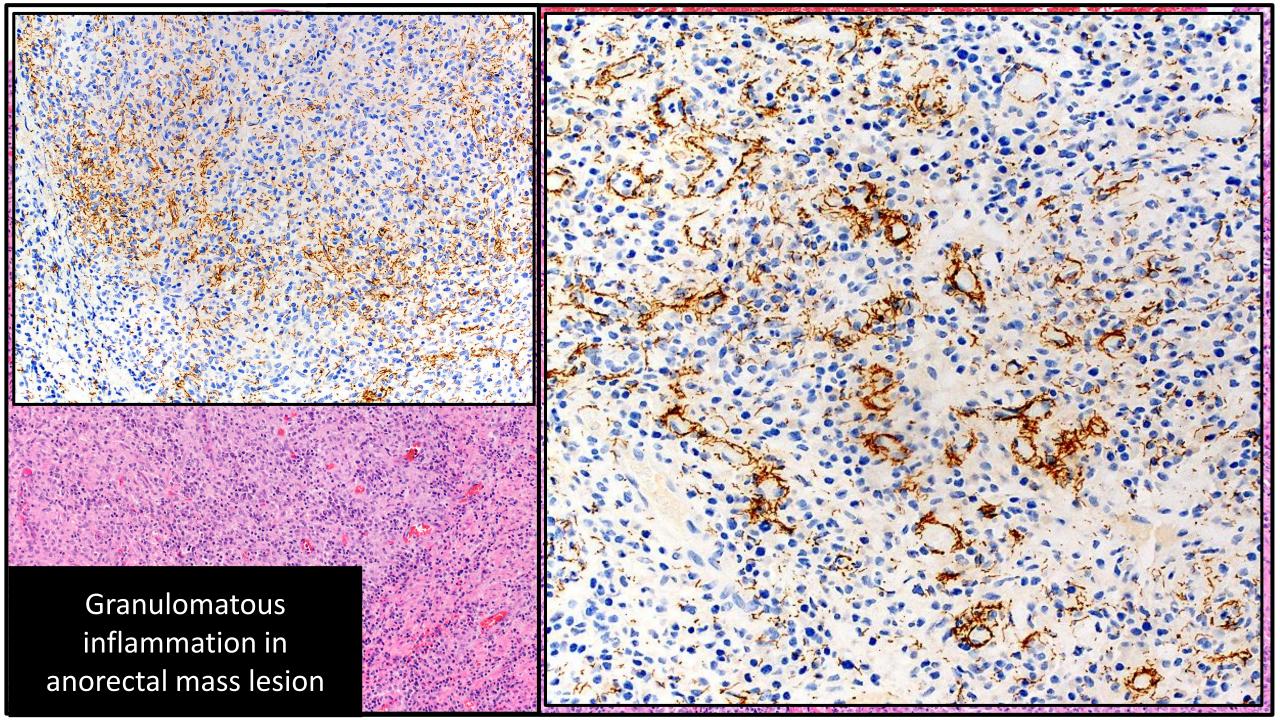




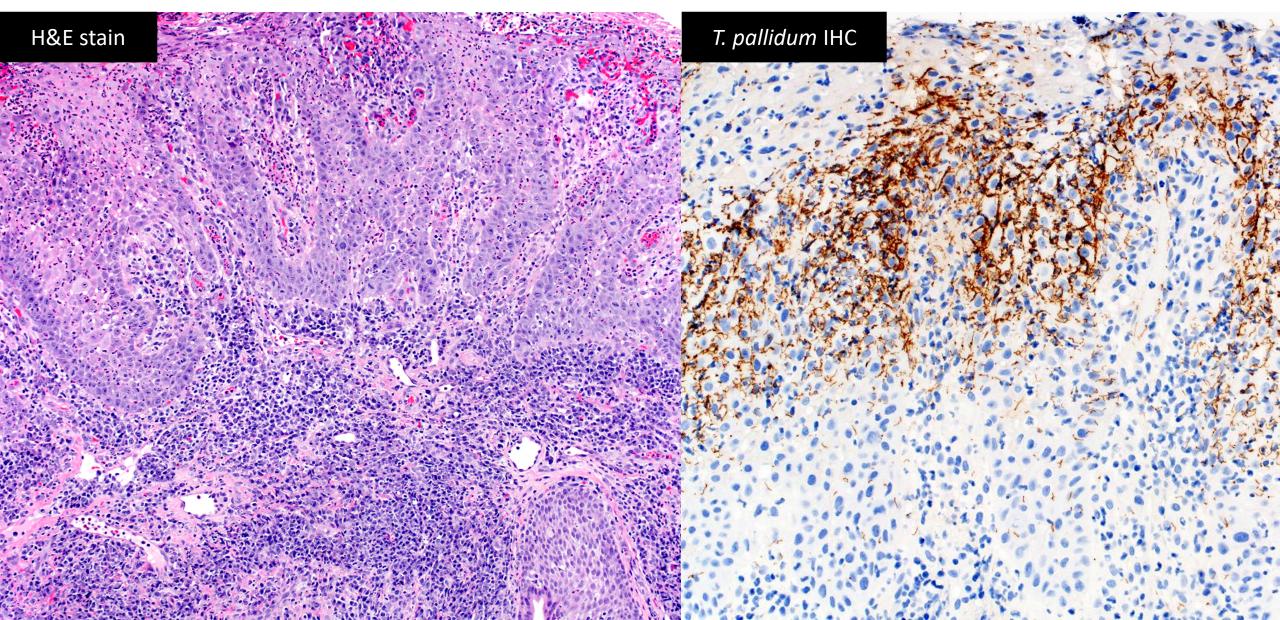


## Retrospective Search of University of Utah Syphilis Cases

Case	Gender	Age	Clinical features	Tissue, sample	Pathologic features	Clinically Suspected
1	M	55	Perianal skin lesion	Perianal mass, biopsy	Ulcerated skin with granulation tissue & lymphoplasmacytic inflammation	Yes, considered in differential diagnosis
2	M	31	Inguinal LAD Rectal mass	Rectum, biopsy	Mixed lymphocytes, plasma cells, eosinophils neutrophils	No
3	M	39	Multiple painful tongue lesions with weight loss	Left lateral tongue, biopsy	Band-like subepithelial lympho- plasmacytic infiltrate	No
4	M	41	HIV positive with rectal mass	Rectal mass, biopsy	Acute inflammation with a prominent lymphoid infiltrate	Yes, positive screening RPR before path review
5	M	53	Hemorrhoids, tenesmus, and ulcerated lesion	Anal lesion, excision	Florid lympho-plasmacytic inflammation	No
6	M	62	Multiple liver lesions, anemia, and weight loss	Liver, biopsy	Florid lympho-plasmacytic and histiocytic inflammation	Yes, found on routine screening
7	F	46	Tonsil/soft palate chancre. Classic skin rash	Tongue/soft palate, biopsy	Superficial neutrophils, marked plasma cells	No



# 46 yo F - Left tonsil biopsy



## Syphilis - The "Great Mimicker"

- 46 yo F with rash on her abdomen, spine, neck, back of head, proximal lower extremities; not itchy
- Multiple coin-sized lesions, almost completely faded.
- Swollen joints (elbows, shoulders, knees, ankles)
- Stiffness in wrists, MCPs, PIPs, elbows, shoulders, knees
- Tender LAD on the neck and axillae occasionally
- Change in voice and swollen tongue:
- Labs: negative ANA & RF, elevated ESR, CRP
- Prominent hair loss
- Photosensitivity w/ immediate sunburn on chest and face
- Painful mouth sores on inner lip for 2 months (biopsied)



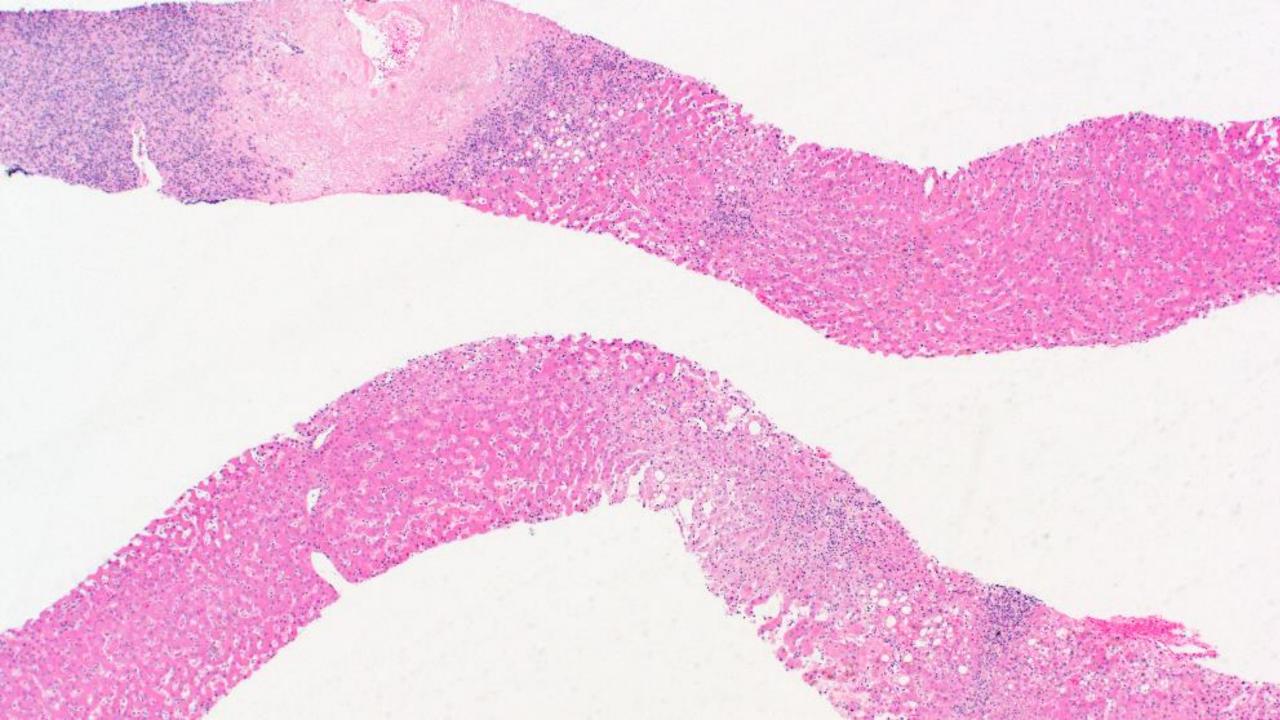
He (or she) who knows syphilis, knows medicine.

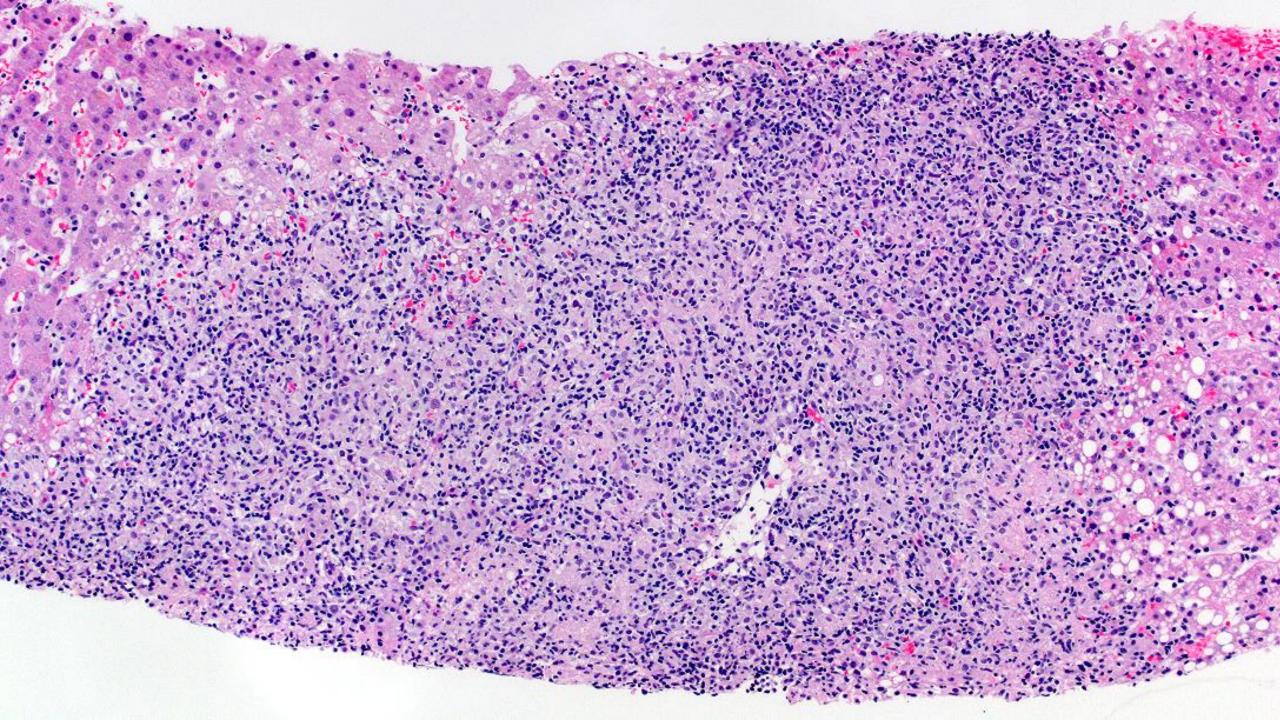
William Osler

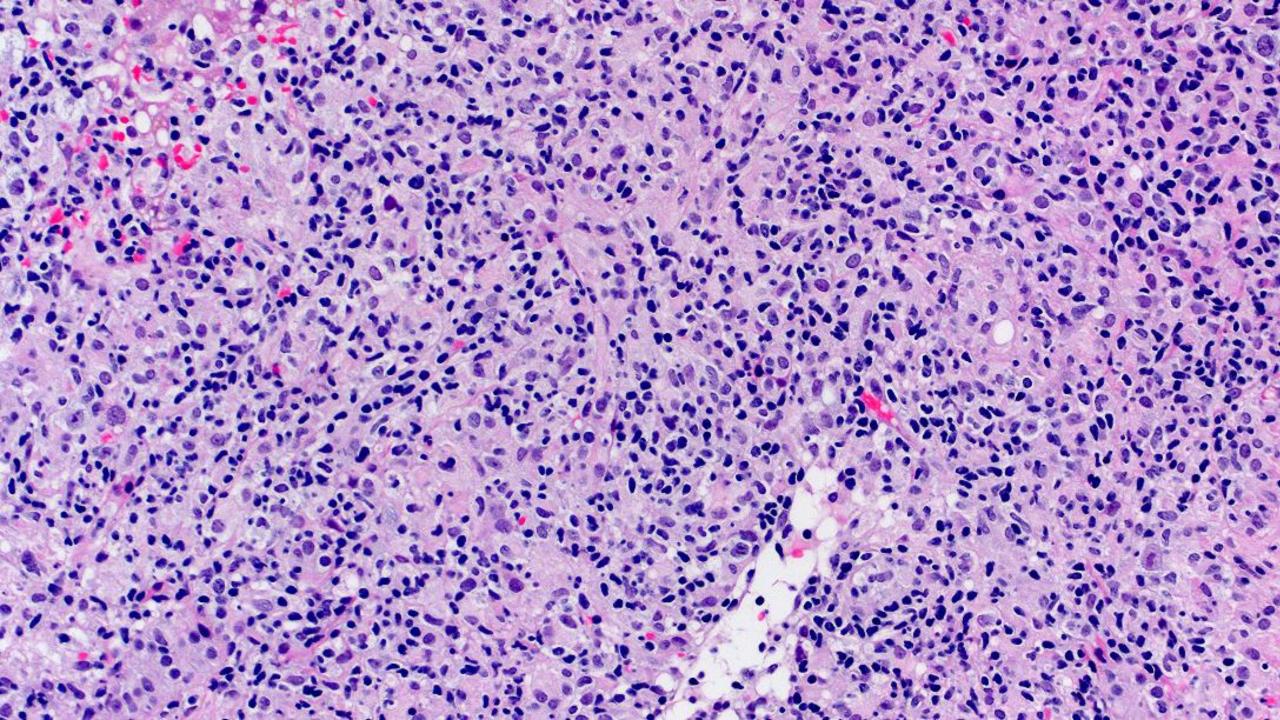
# Case 3: 56-year-old female with disseminated *Mycobacterium* haemophilum & LGL lymphoma

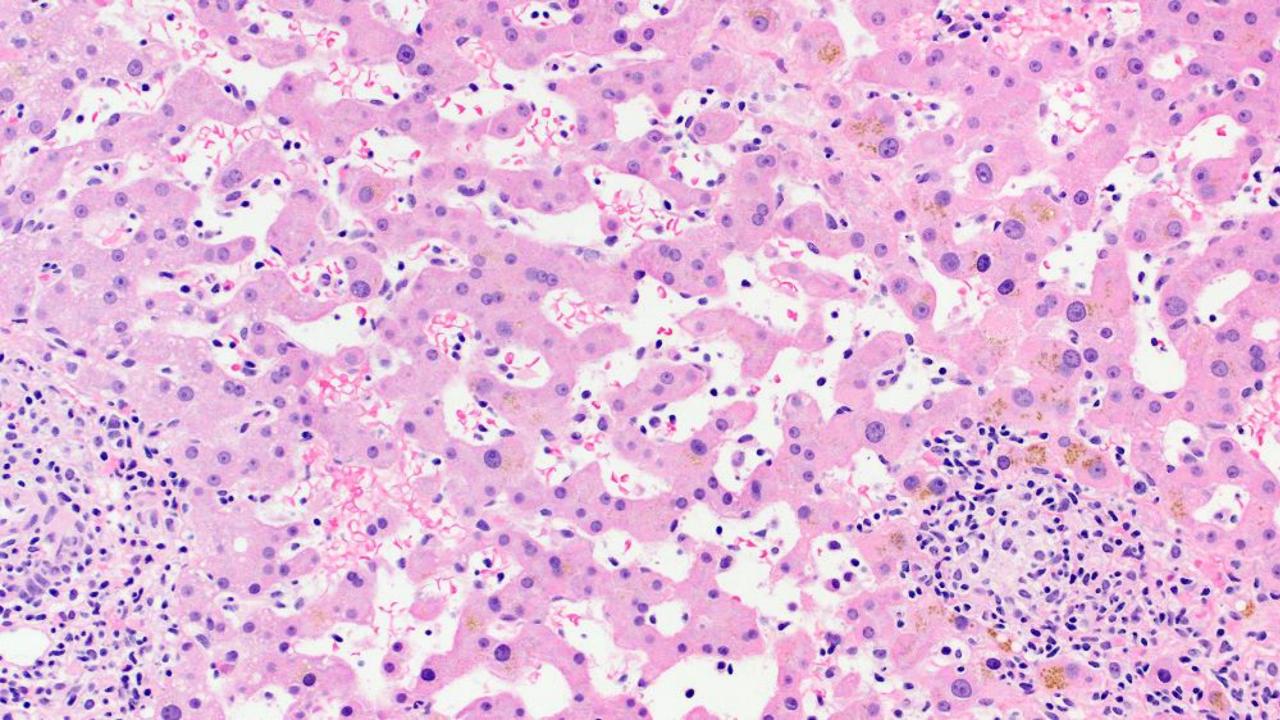
- **Disseminated** *Mycobacterium haemophilum* diagnosed 2021 now on azithromycin prophylaxis
- LGL lymphoma dx 2 years earlier, treated with methotrexate for 6 mos, not currently on therapy
- More recently, she developed persistent shortness of breath and cough, fever, weight loss, loss of appetite, and night sweats
- Presents to ED with similar symptoms and 2 days of confusion with short term memory loss

- Labs on presentation:
  - AST 178, ALT 139, **Alk 495**, T bili 0.8
- CT shows diffusely enlarged liver with numerous ill-defined hypodense lesions throughout, the largest measuring up to 6.8 cm
  - Splenomegaly with splenic lesions
  - Retroperitoneal LAD
  - New bilateral solid and ground glass pulmonary nodules











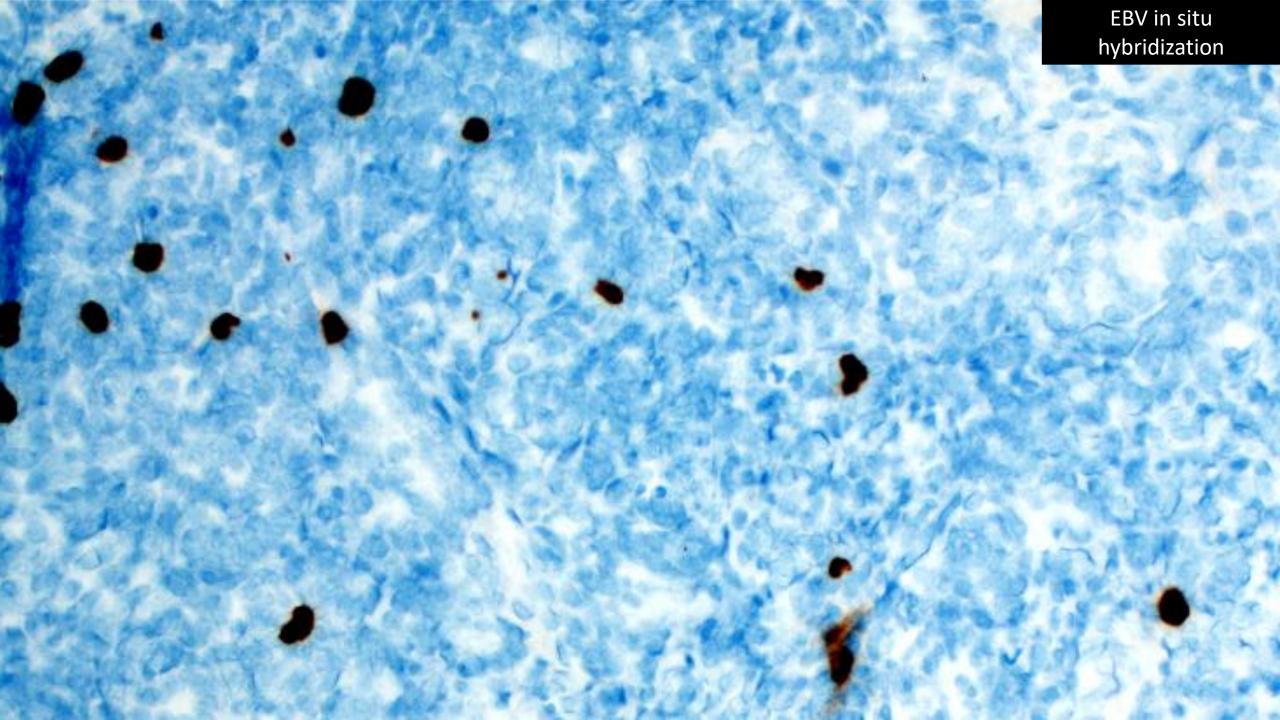
# What infectious disease stains should we get?

- A. AFB and GMS
- B. Full court press: AFB, GMS, Gram, HSV, CMV, Adenovirus...
- C. This is not infectious

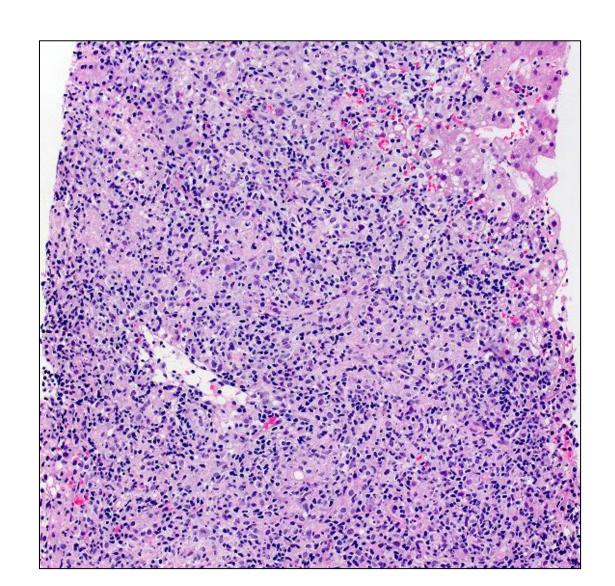
## These stains were negative

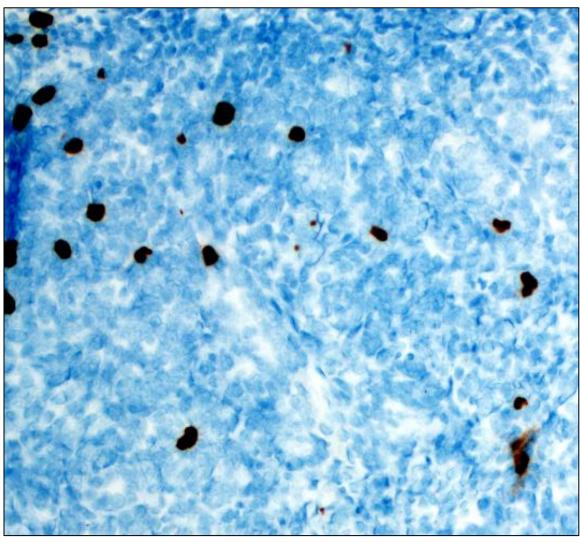
- AFB
- MTB IHC
- GMS
- T. pallidum
- CMV
- Adenovirus
- HSV 1/2

• But wait, there's one more...



# Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis





### (!) Epstein-Barr Virus by Quantitative NAAT, Plasma

EBV Quantitative by NAAT,

7050

Plasma IU/mL

IU/mL

Epstein-Barr Virus Antibody Panel I

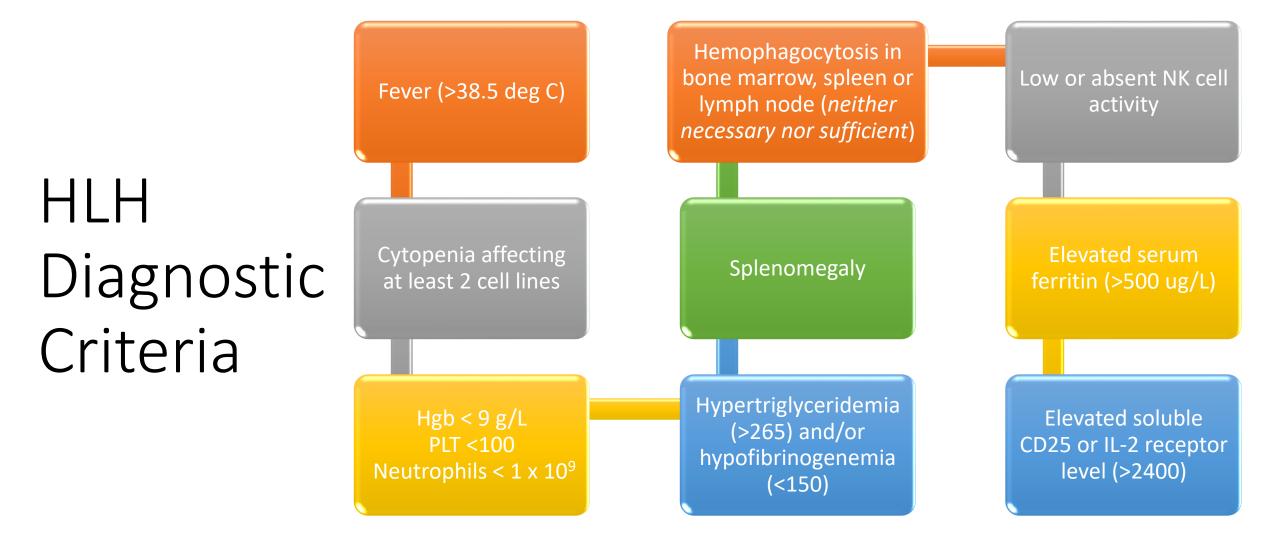
EBV Av To Early (D) Ag IgG >150.0 A

EBV VCA lgG Ag >750.0 A

EBV VCA IgM Ag 13.3

EBV Ab To Nuclear Ag IgG 21.2

Laboratory tests performed after the biopsy results identify EBV Viremia



## Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)

- Exuberant & sustained histiocytic proliferation, hemophagocytosis, cytokine-mediated life-threatening tissue injury and organ failure
- Different underlying mechanisms
  - Genetic occurs in first year of life for 70-80% of cases
    - Familial autosomal recessive due to mutations in NK/T-cell cytotoxic pathway (ie. perforin defects, genes in packaging, transport, release of cytotoxic granules)
    - Primary immunodeficiency syndrome (ex. X-linked proliferative syndrome)
  - Secondary/acquired
    - Infection, autoimmune conditions, immunosuppression
    - Underlying pathogenesis remains poorly understood
- High mortality up to 73% when associated with EBV

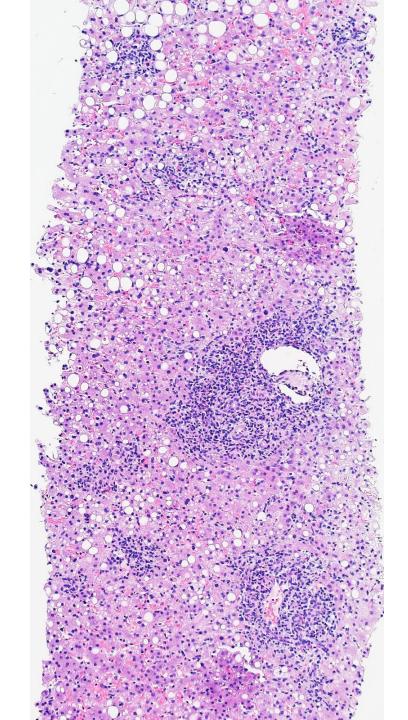
## Reported Pathologic Features of HLH in Liver

### Not specific

- Severe cholestasis
- Ductular reaction
- Hemophagocytosis
- Endothelialitis
- Sinusoidal dilatation
- Massive hepatic necrosis in acute liver failure

## EBV hepatitis

- Classic mononucleosis syndrome
  - Triad: fever, pharyngitis, cervical lymphadenopathy
- EBV is typically diagnosed clinically and with characteristic lab evidence
  - Lymphocytosis
  - Serologic testing
- Liver involvement is common (>90%), but typically self-limited with mildly elevated enzymes (2-3 times upper limit of normal)
  - Enzymes normalize over ~ 3 weeks



## Histopathologic Features of EBV Hepatitis

- 8 patients with acute EBV from 3 institutions
- Characteristic features
  - Portal inflammation (predominately lymphocytes) with few admixed plasma cells, neutrophils, eosinophils
  - Mild bile duct damage
  - Endophlebitis of portal veins
  - Beaded sinusoidal lymphocytic infiltration
  - Small epithelioid granulomas in 3/8 cases
  - Spotty necrosis; no confluent necrosis
  - Positive EBER ISH and PCR for EBV DNA

Advances in solid organ transplantation & immunosuppressive therapy Expansion of HOPE Act to all organs Change in Liver May 21, 2020 Allocation February 4, 2020 CMS removes transplant outcomes Change in Heart thresholds Allocation October September 30, Change to CMS 18, 2018 Simultaneous Liver 2019 Outcome Thresholds Kidney Allocation from a HR of 1.5 to Kidney Allocation in effect 1.85 for patient and CMS will look at System Implemented graft survival outcomes going August 10, 2017 December 4, 2014 Change to Lung forward not May 13, 2016 Allocation January backward 19, 2014 December 16, Belatacept 2016 June 2011 Organ Procurement and Transplantation FDA approved solid Network: FinalRule organ transplant IL2RAs, Implementation March immune monitoring 16, 2000 CMS Conditions of tacrolimus. tests 2008 Participation for Uniform Determination mycophenolate, Organ Transplant of Death Act mTOR Effective 1980-1981 Anti-thymocyte 1990's June 28, 2007 NationalTransplant Act globulins, (NOTA) cyclosporine 1st Heart 1963 October 19, 1984 1970's 1st Lung 1964 First successful 1st Pancreas 1966 human to human 1st Liver 1968 transplant December 23, 1954 Pilch NA, Bowman LJ, Taber DJ. Immunosuppression trends in solid organ transplantation: The future of individualization, monitoring, and management. Pharmacotherapy. 2021 Jan;41(1):119-131 Epub 2020 Dec 30. PMID: 33131123; PMCID: PMC8778961.

## Summary

- 3 cases of emerging or reemerging active hepatitis
  - Hepatitis E virus
  - Lues maligna (secondary syphilis)
  - EBV-associated Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)
- Syphilitic hepatitis and EBV-associated HLH have <u>granulomatous</u> <u>inflammation;</u> and also <u>elevations in ALK</u> which would initially suggest biliary or outflow obstructive process
- Pathology (histopathologic eval and ancillary stains) played an important role in determining the underlying etiology of each case



