

# Gastrointestinal Mesenchymal Lesions – Some Favorites

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# Disclosures

- Consultation for Olympus
- Consultant for Johnson and Johnson
- Consultant for Merck
- Received honorarium and travel expense money from ARUP Laboratories



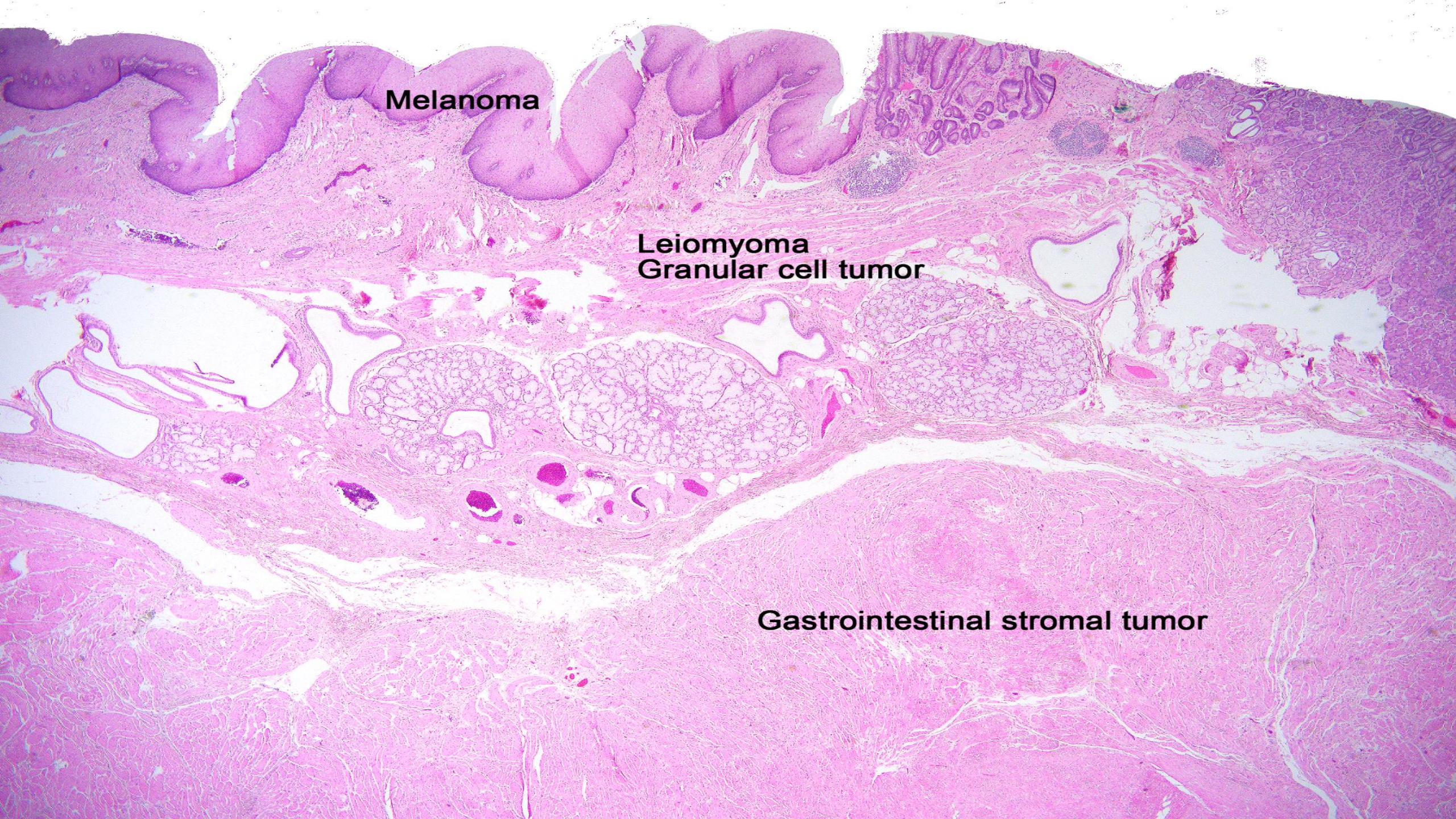
# Objectives

- To discuss the layers of the GI tract in which GI mesenchymal tumors tend to arise.
- To discuss several types of GI mesenchymal tumors, with emphasis on their location and depth in the GI tract.
- To comment on some “exotic” lesions that may be encountered

# The Secret

- Diagnosing GIT mesenchymal tumors is really about knowing which tumors live in which layers
- For example, inflammatory fibroid polyp (with *PDGFRA* mutations) is in the submucosa whereas GIST (also with *PDGFRA* mutations) is in the muscularis propria



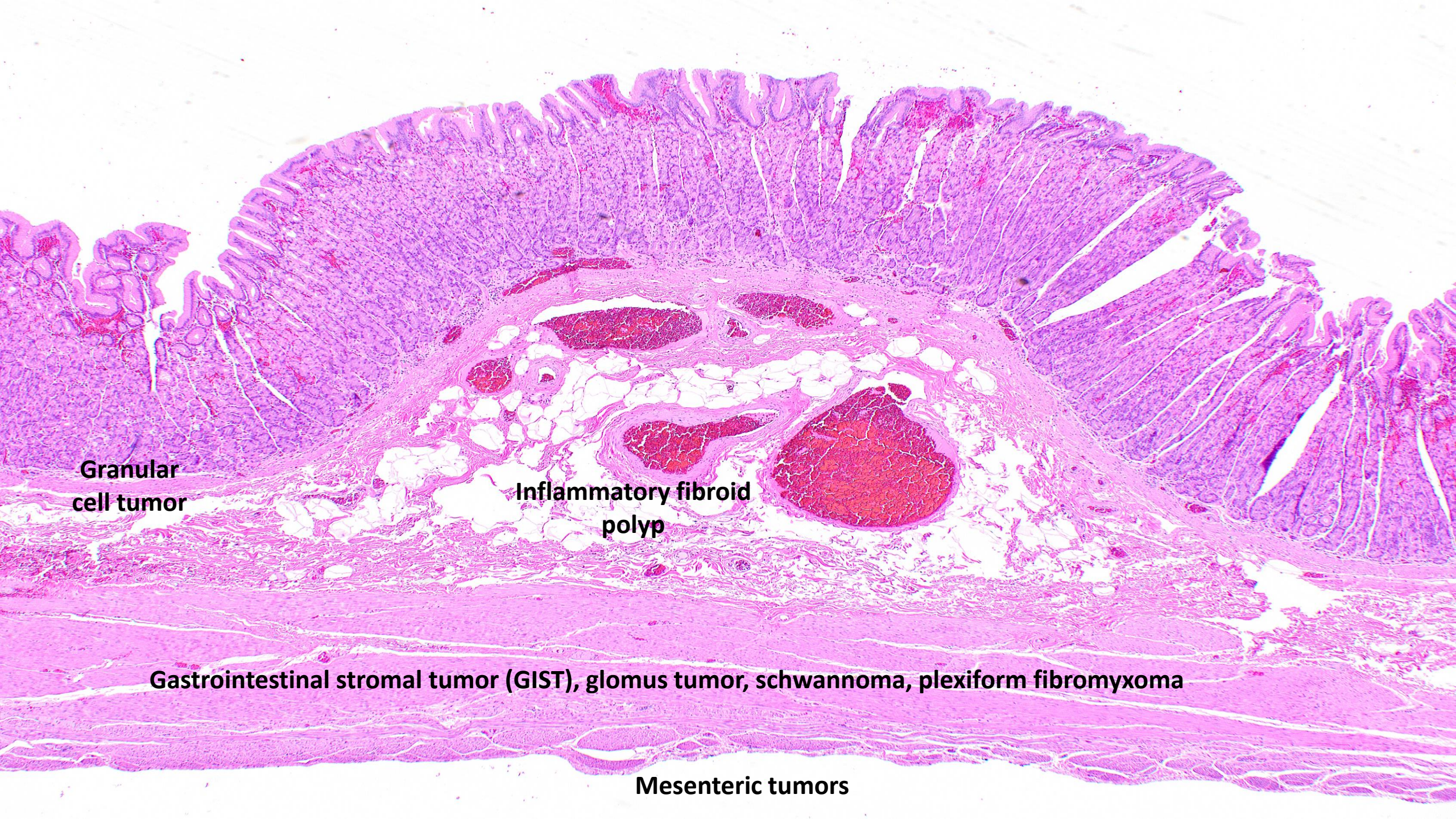


**Melanoma**

**Leiomyoma**  
**Granular cell tumor**

**Gastrointestinal stromal tumor**





**Granular  
cell tumor**

**Inflammatory fibroid  
polyp**

**Gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST), glomus tumor, schwannoma, plexiform fibromyxoma**

**Mesenteric tumors**



A histological section of the gastrointestinal tract, likely the colon, stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E). The image shows several cross-sections of colonic crypts. The crypts are lined by a simple columnar epithelium with goblet cells. The lamina propria is visible between the crypts. There are several areas of abnormality: 1) A large, irregular polypoid lesion on the left side, which is an inflammatory fibroid polyp. 2) A large, irregular polypoid lesion in the center, which is a ganglioneuroma or ganglionic paraganglioma. 3) A large, irregular polypoid lesion on the right side, which is a gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST) or malignant gastrointestinal neuroectodermal tumor (clear cell sarcoma-like tumor). 4) A large, irregular polypoid lesion at the bottom, which is a ganglioneuromatosis or follicular dendritic cell sarcoma. The text labels are overlaid on the image: "Ganglioneuroma, ganglionic paraganglioma" is centered over the central lesion, "Inflammatory fibroid polyp" is centered over the left lesion, and "Gastrointestinal stromal tumour, malignant gastrointestinal neuroectodermal tumour (clear cell sarcoma-like tumour), ganglioneuromatosis, follicular dendritic cell sarcoma" is centered over the bottom lesion.

**Ganglioneuroma, ganglionic paraganglioma**

**Inflammatory fibroid polyp**

**Gastrointestinal stromal tumour, malignant gastrointestinal neuroectodermal tumour (clear cell sarcoma-like tumour), ganglioneuromatosis, follicular dendritic cell sarcoma**





This histological section shows the wall of the gastrointestinal tract with several distinct lesions. At the top, there are polypoid growths of the mucosa. Below these, a thickened layer of smooth muscle is visible. The central part of the image shows a large, pale, fibrous area. At the bottom, there is a dense, cellular area with many small, dark-staining nuclei.

Schwann cell hamartoma, perineurioma  
Ganglioneuroma

Leiomyoma  
(muscularis mucosae)

Inflammatory fibroid polyp

Gastrointestinal stromal tumor  
Leiomyosarcoma  
Ganglioneuromatosis

Mesenteric fibromatosis, sclerosing mesenteritis, inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor



Mesentery

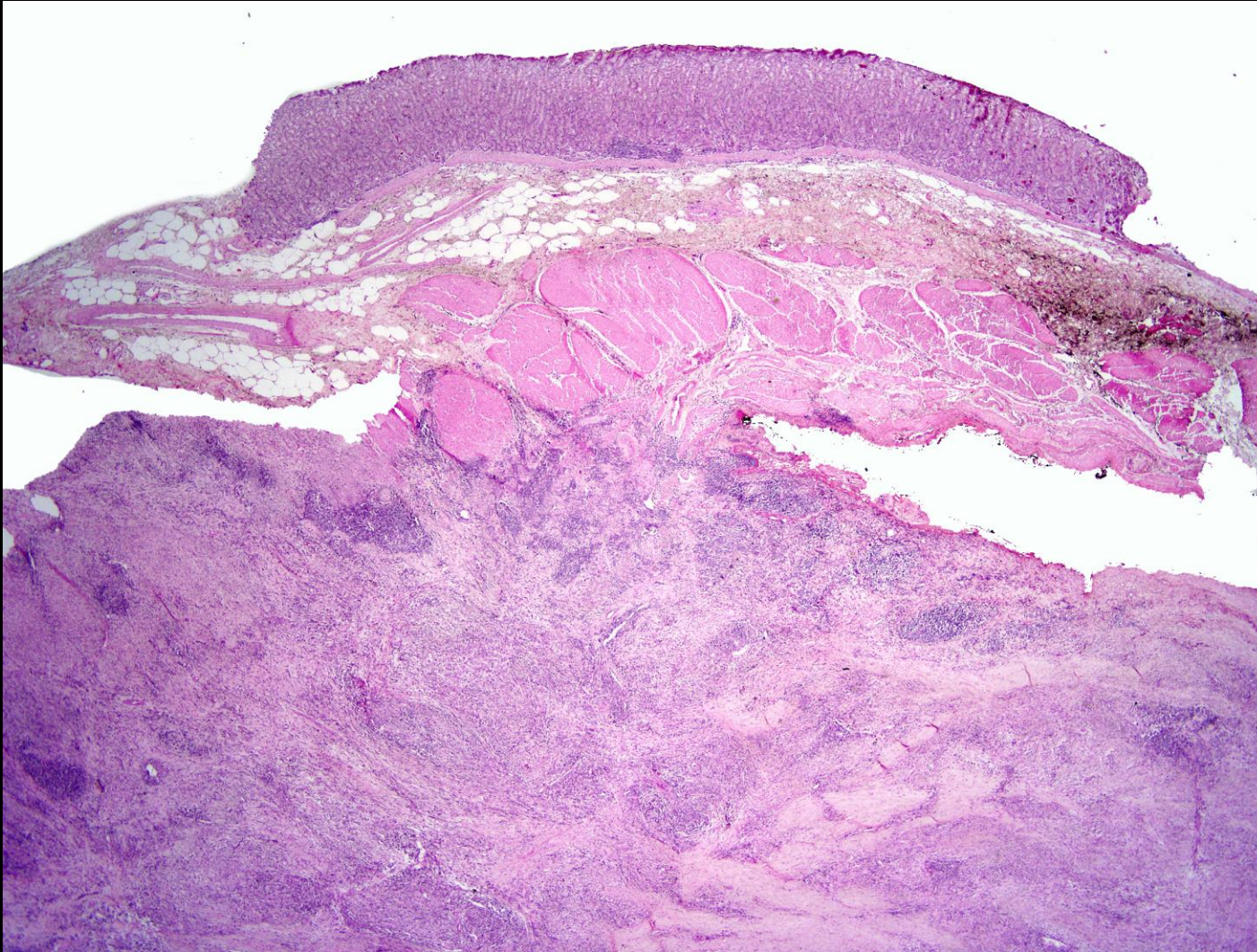
# Inflammatory Myofibroblastic Tumor (IMT)

- Pulmonary lesions called “inflammatory pseudotumor” have been recognized for many years and regarded as part of a spectrum of lesions called “plasma cell granulomas”
- Subsequently, similar tumors were described in the abdomen and other soft tissue sites.



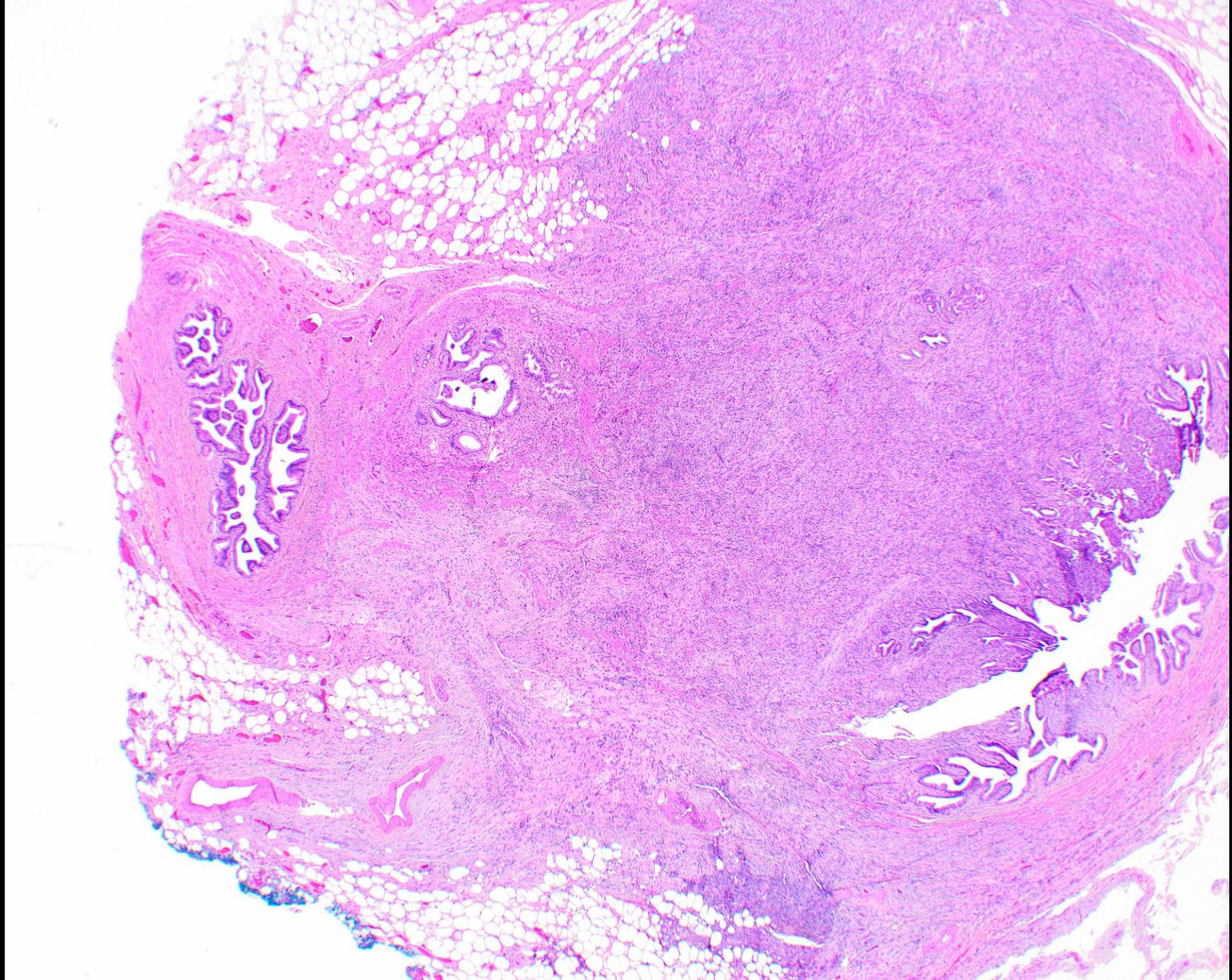




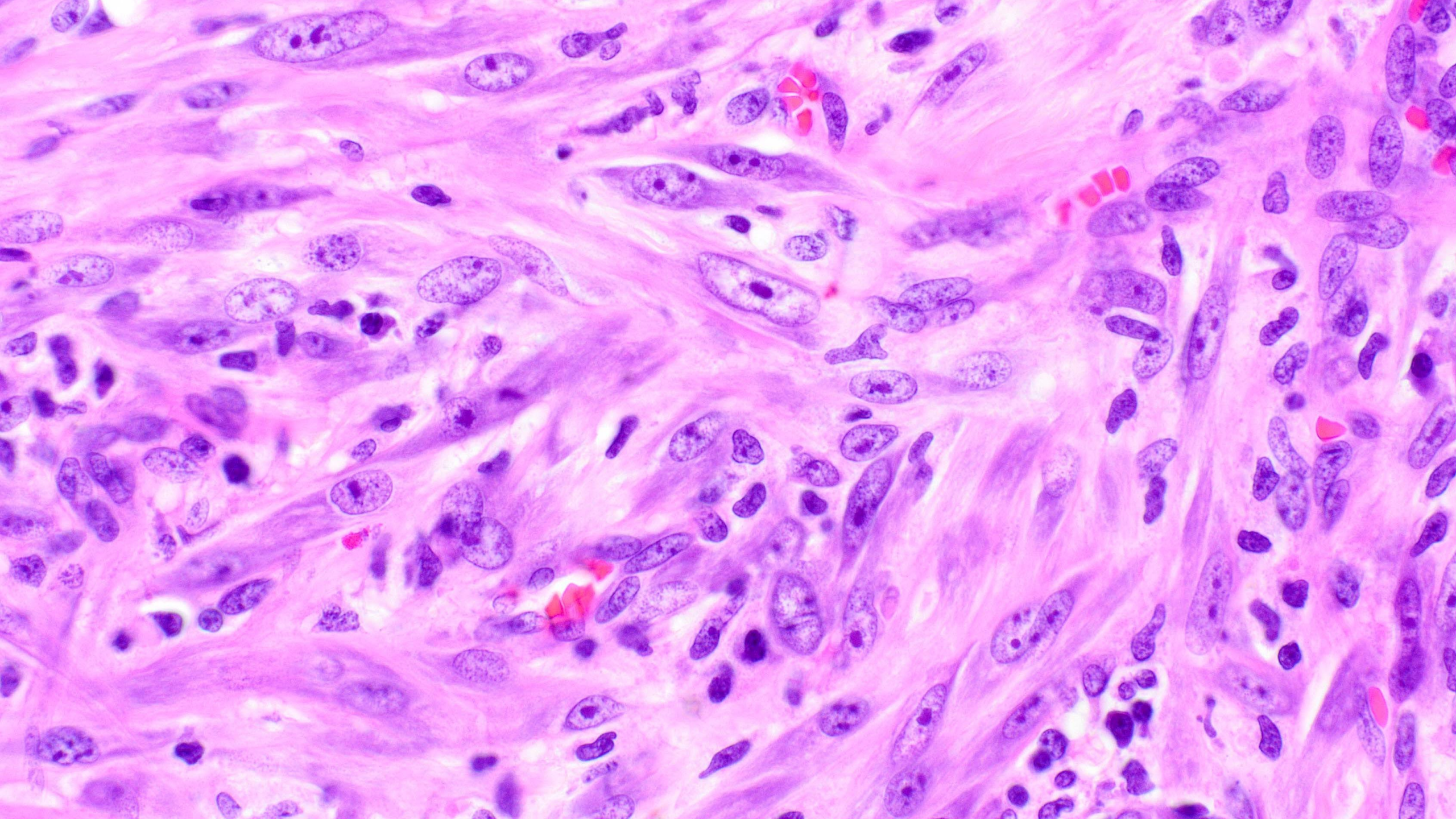


Inflammatory  
Myofibroblastic  
Tumor  
[Extrapulmonary









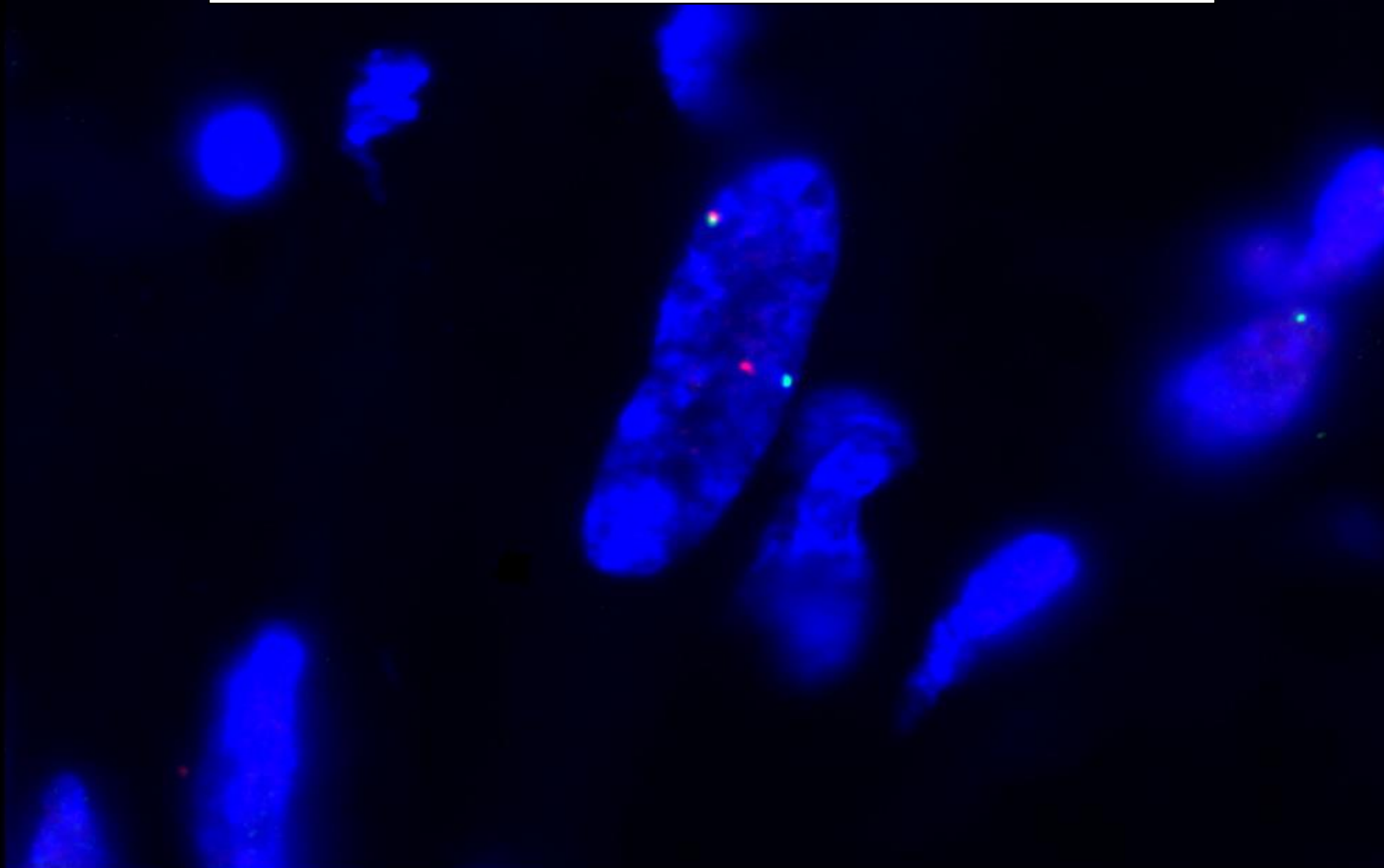


# IMT; Important Discovery

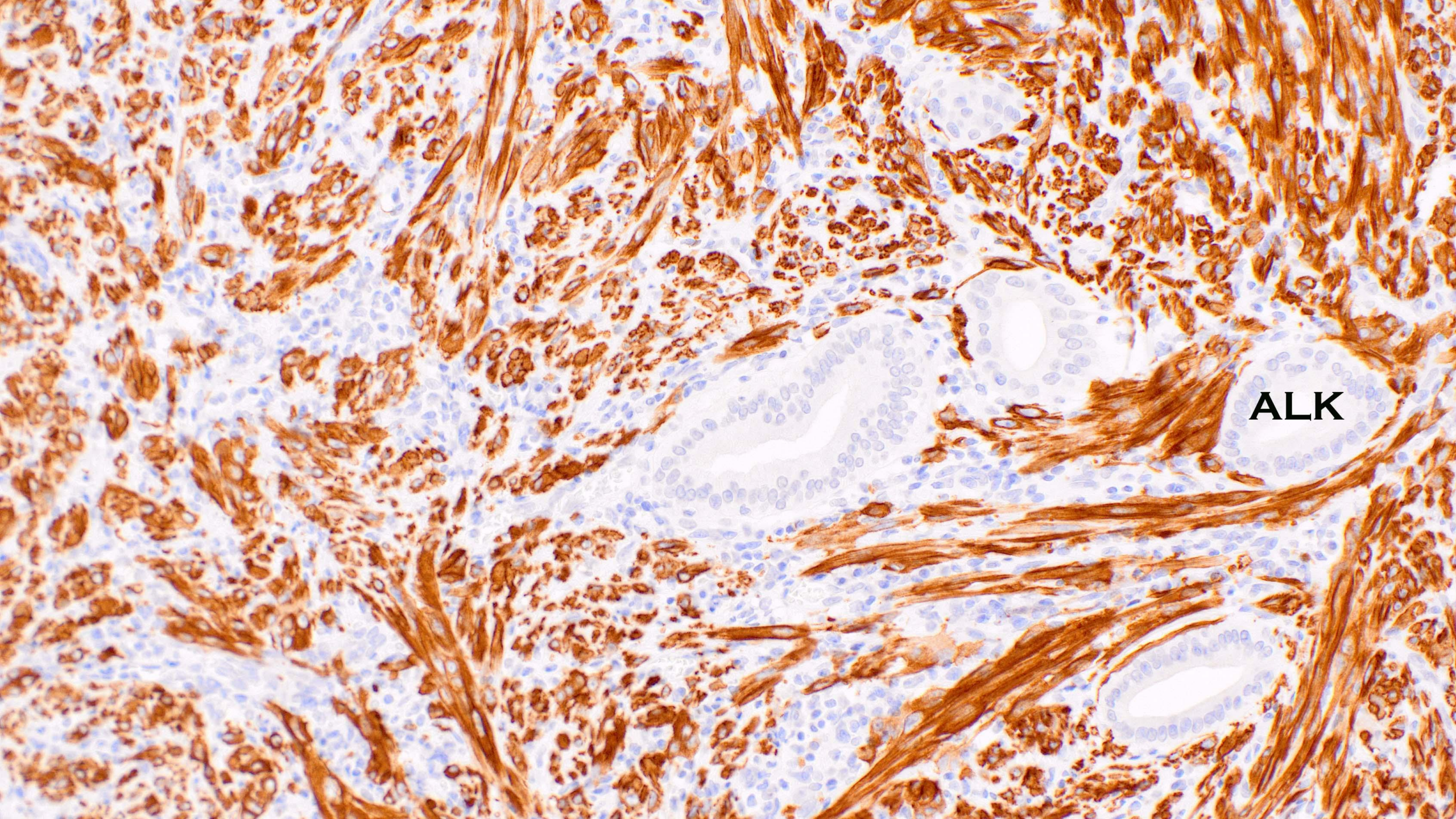
- Griffin et al [1999] reported 3 IMT with rearrangements at 2p23 involving *ALK* gene
- Subsequently, *ALK* shown to be rearranged in a subset of IMTs from many sites
- Identified partners including *CLTC*, *RANBP2*, *TPM3*, *TPM4*, *CARS*, *ATIC*, and



ALK rearrangement in an Inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor





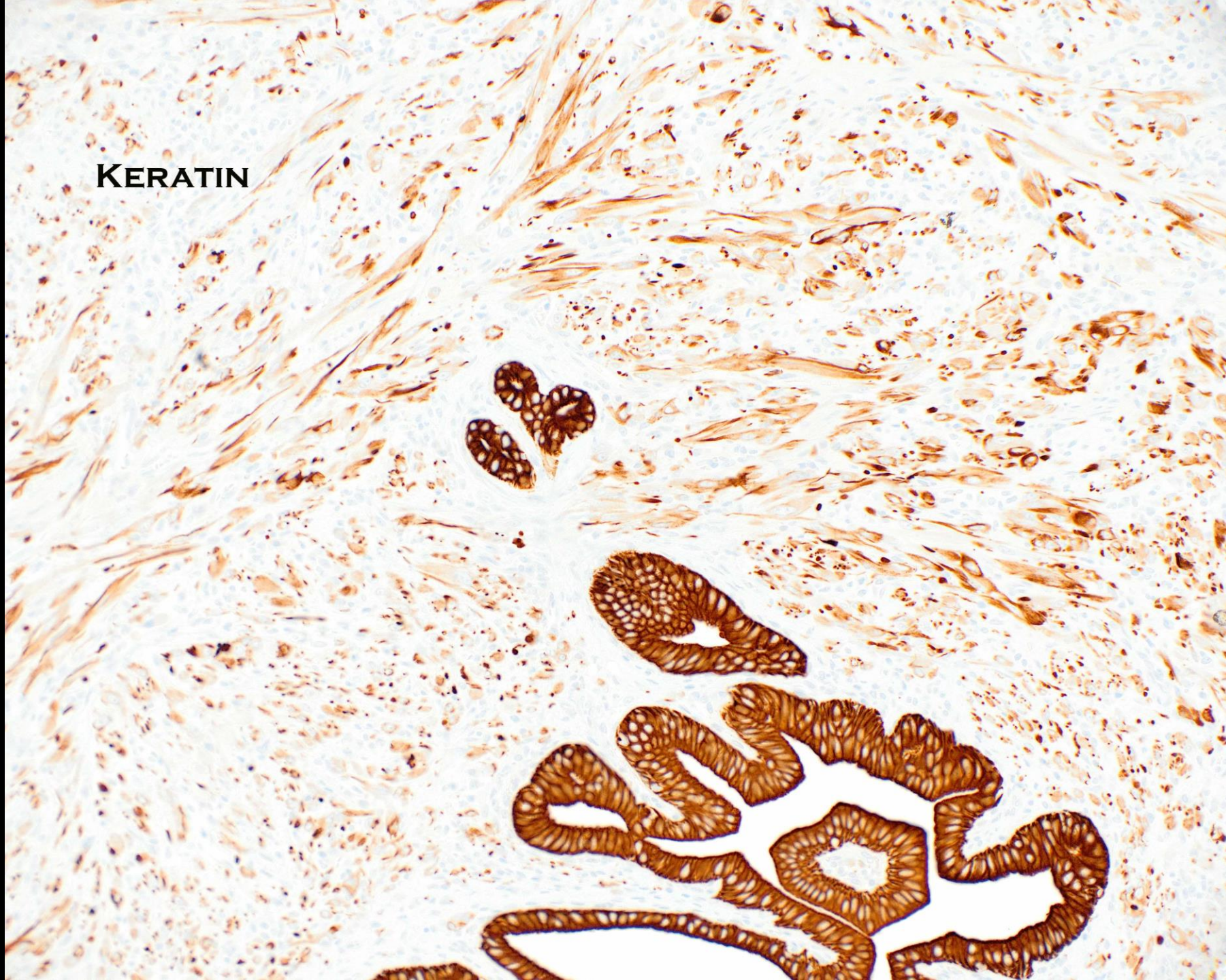


**ALK**



**KERATIN**

IMT –  
Pitfall  
alert





# Targeted Therapy

- Crizotinib (PF-02341066, Pfizer) - orally bioavailable, ATP-competitive, small-molecule inhibitor of the receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs) c-Met (also known as hepatocyte growth factor receptor) and anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK)
- Used in lung cancer (about 5% of lung cancers have *ALK* rearrangements) and now IMT!!!
- Butrynski JE, D'Adamo DR, Hornick JL, Dal Cin P, Antonescu CR, Jhanwar SC, Ladanyi M, Capelletti M, Rodig SJ, Ramaiya N, Kwak EL, Clark JW, Wilner KD, Christensen JG, Jänne PA, Maki RG, Demetri GD, Shapiro GI. Crizotinib in ALK-rearranged inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor. *N Engl J Med*. 2010 Oct 28;363(18):1727-33.
- Ceritinib, Alectinib are newer agents

# More Targets for IMT

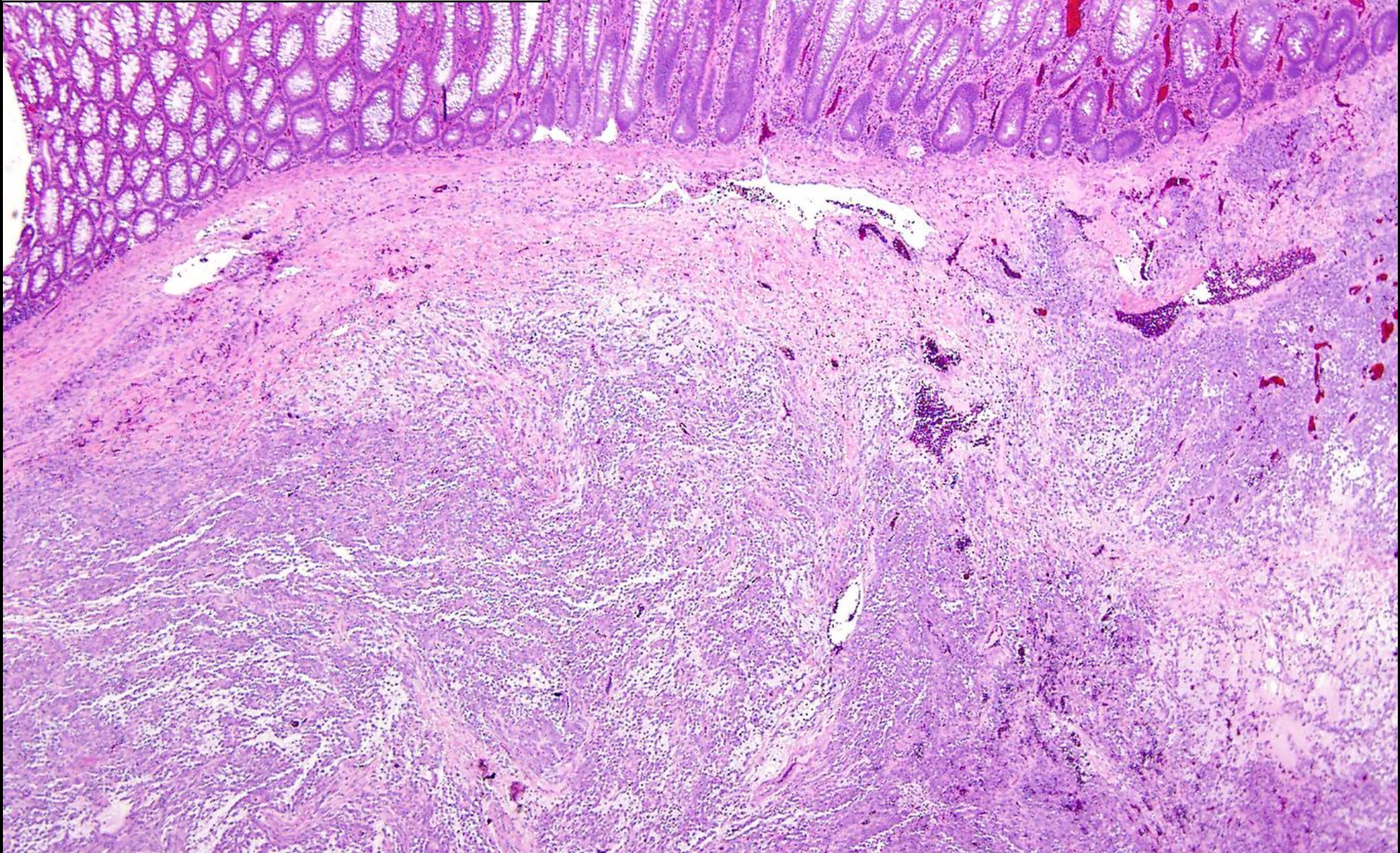
- There are *ROS1* rearrangements as well as *ALK* ones.
- *ROS1* more likely in children (also targetable with the same compounds as *ALK*)
- *ETV6::NTRK3* in some *ALK* negative IMTs – also targetable

# High grade form of IMT

- Termed epithelioid inflammatory myofibroblastic sarcoma
- Appears similar to epithelioid leiomyosarcoma (and probably some old “epithelioid leiomyosarcomas” are these)
- Can have an unusual ALK pattern on immunolabeling
- Some response to targeted therapy then the tumor loses responsiveness
- Mariño-Enríquez A, Wang WL, Roy A, Lopez-Terrada D, Lazar AJ, Fletcher CD, Coffin CM, Hornick JL. Epithelioid inflammatory myofibroblastic sarcoma: An aggressive intra-abdominal variant of inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor with nuclear membrane or perinuclear ALK. Am J Surg Pathol. 2011 Jan;35(1):135-44.

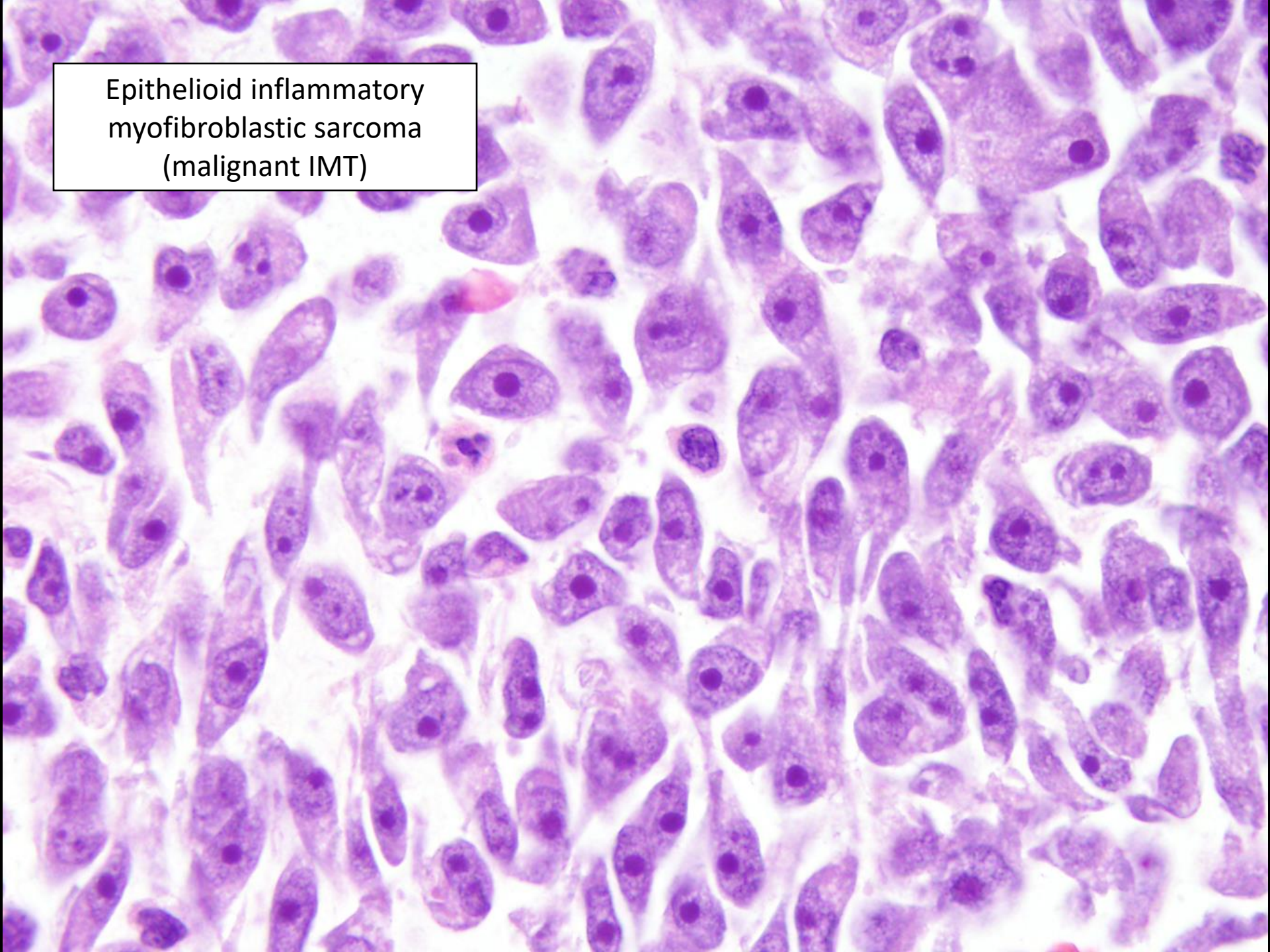


Epithelioid inflammatory  
myofibroblastic sarcoma (malignant  
IMT) – colon mesentery and colon



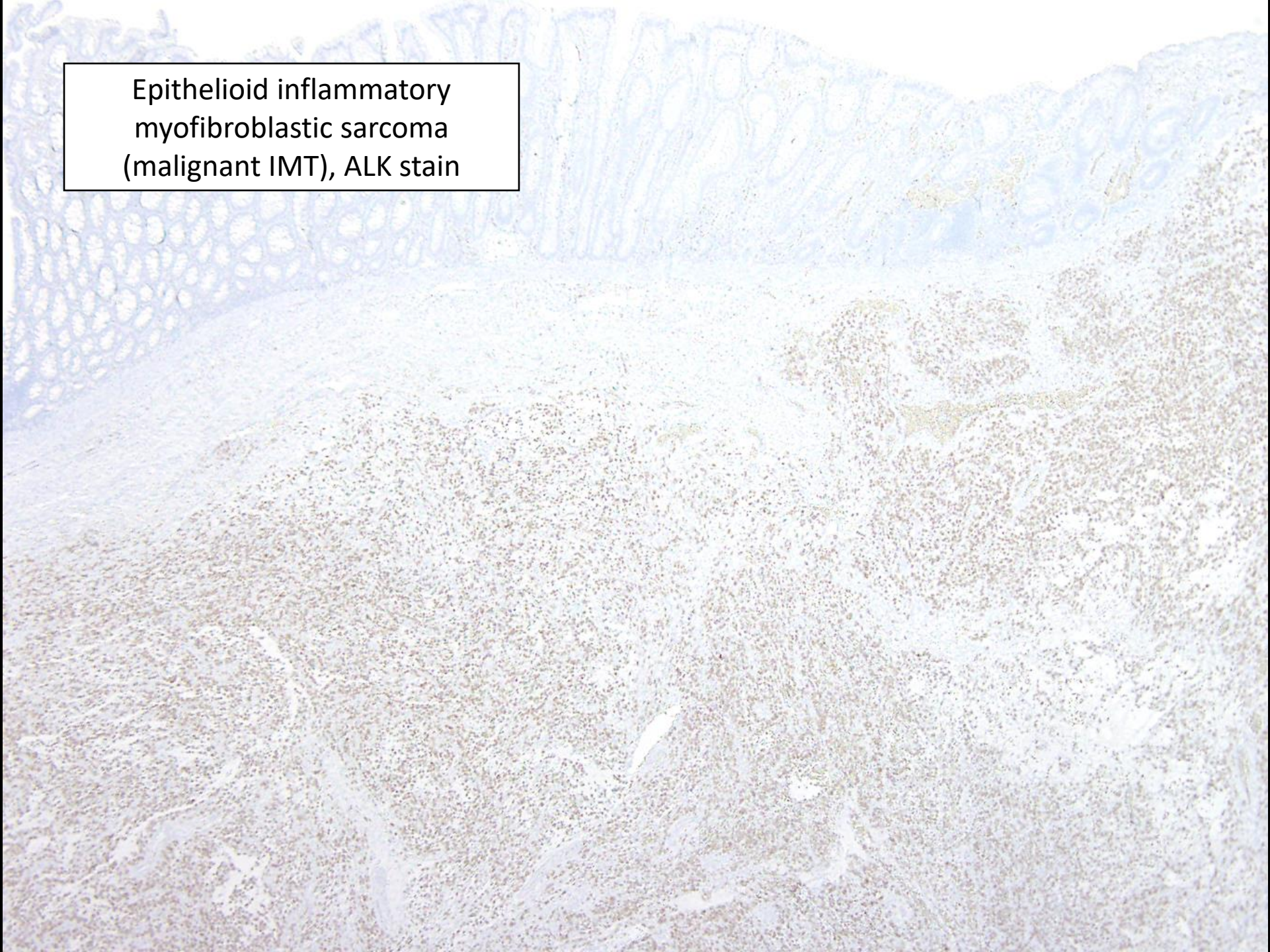


Epithelioid inflammatory  
myofibroblastic sarcoma  
(malignant IMT)



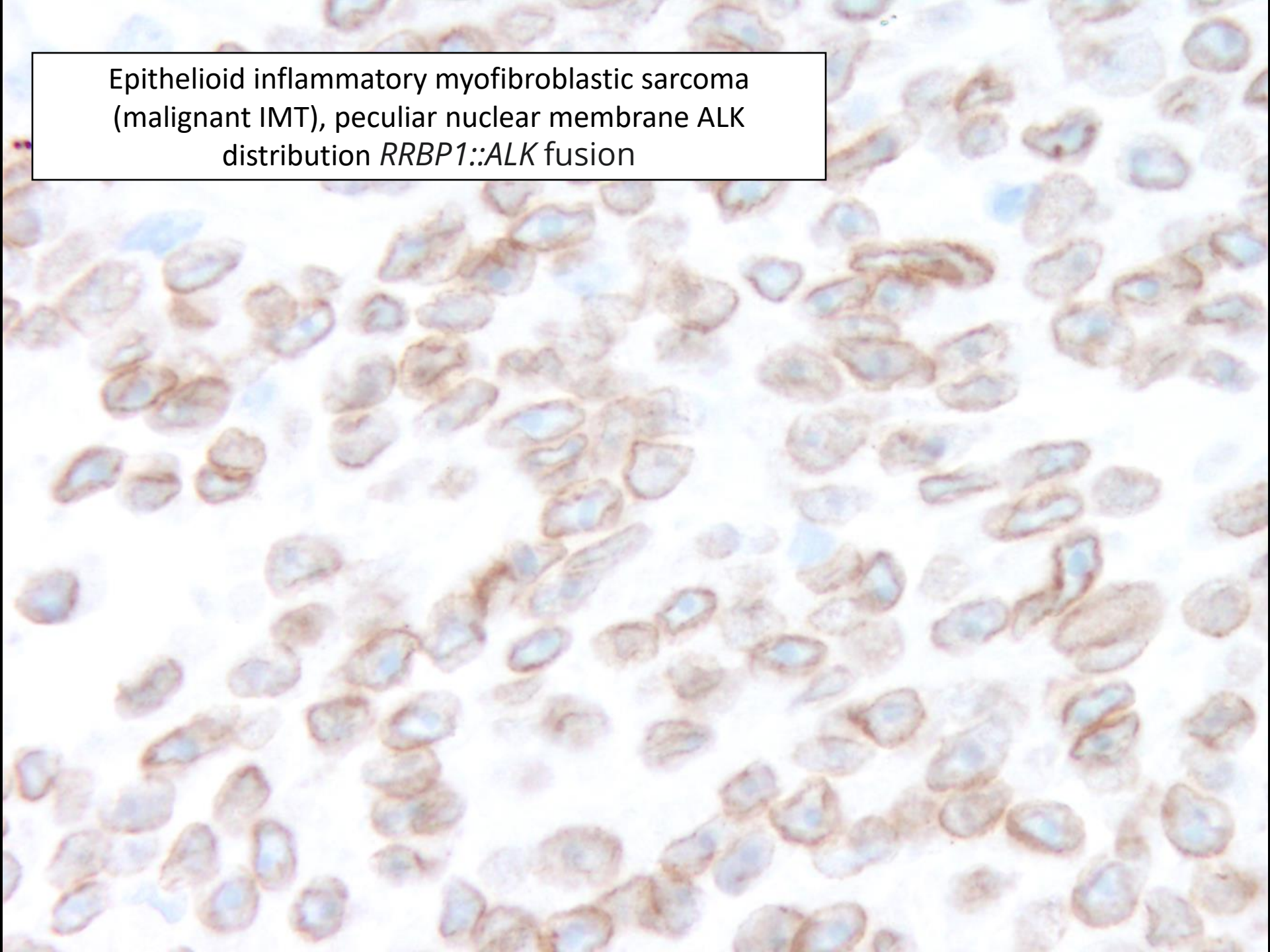


Epithelioid inflammatory  
myofibroblastic sarcoma  
(malignant IMT), ALK stain

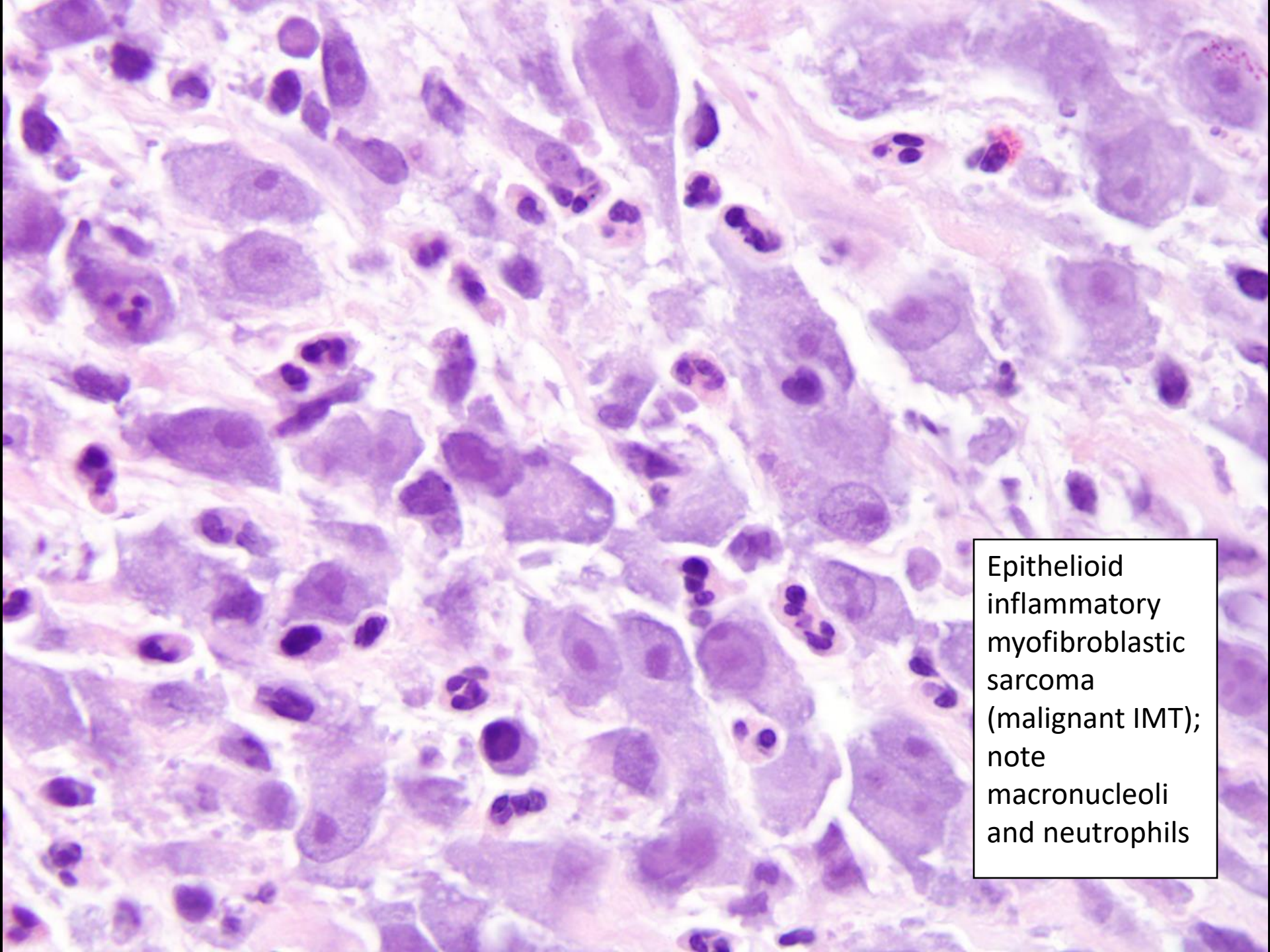




Epithelioid inflammatory myofibroblastic sarcoma  
(malignant IMT), peculiar nuclear membrane ALK  
distribution *RRBP1::ALK* fusion

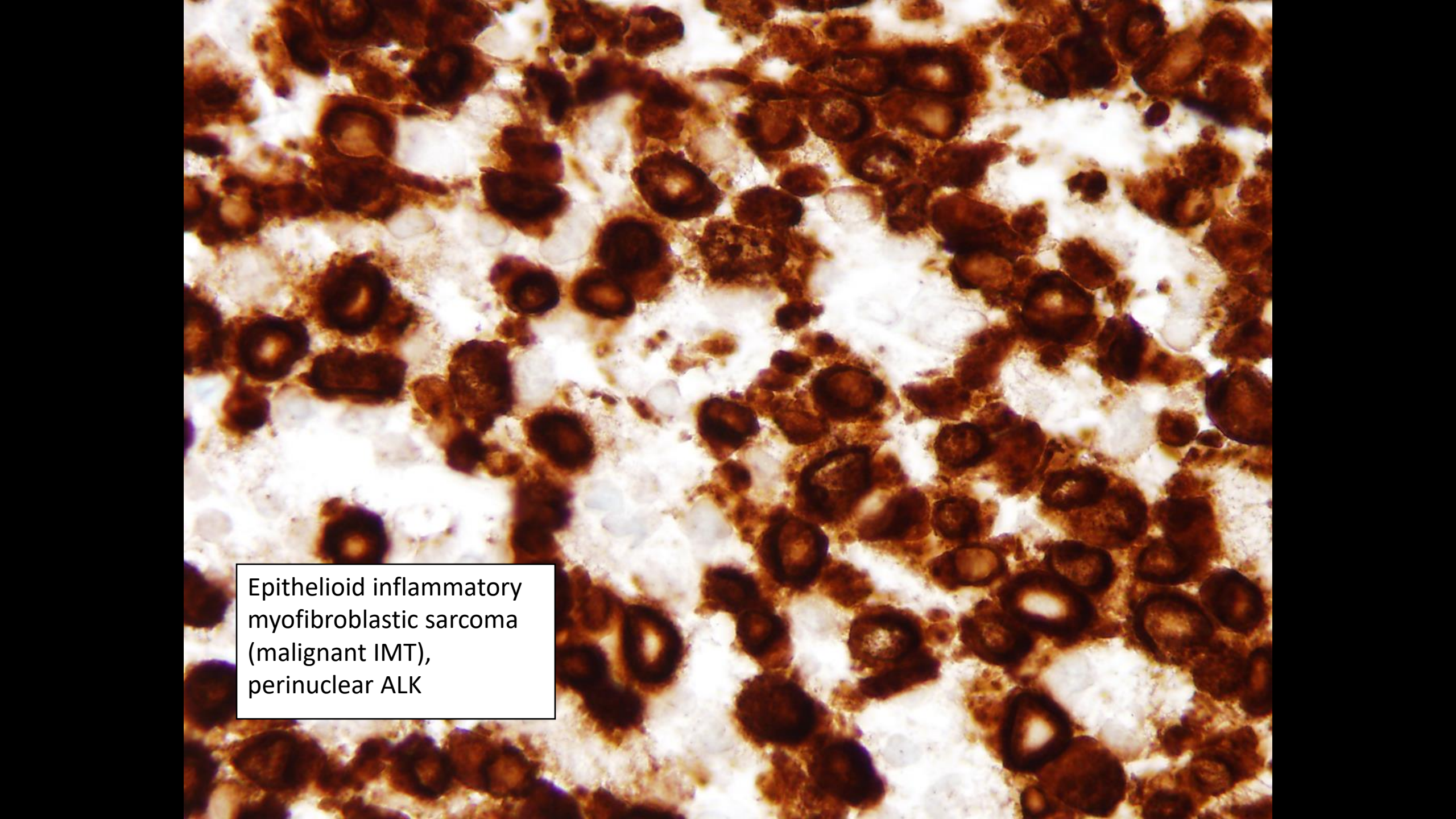






Epithelioid  
inflammatory  
myofibroblastic  
sarcoma  
(malignant IMT);  
note  
macronucleoli  
and neutrophils





Epithelioid inflammatory  
myofibroblastic sarcoma  
(malignant IMT),  
perinuclear ALK

This is a high-magnification immunohistochemistry (IHC) image of a tissue section. The image displays numerous cells with prominent, dark brown, perinuclear staining, which is characteristic of ALK (Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase) expression. The staining is localized around the nuclei of the cells, creating a halo-like effect. The background tissue is stained a lighter, more uniform brown, providing contrast for the darkly stained cells. The overall appearance is consistent with the diagnosis of epithelioid inflammatory myofibroblastic sarcoma (malignant IMT) as indicated by the text overlay.

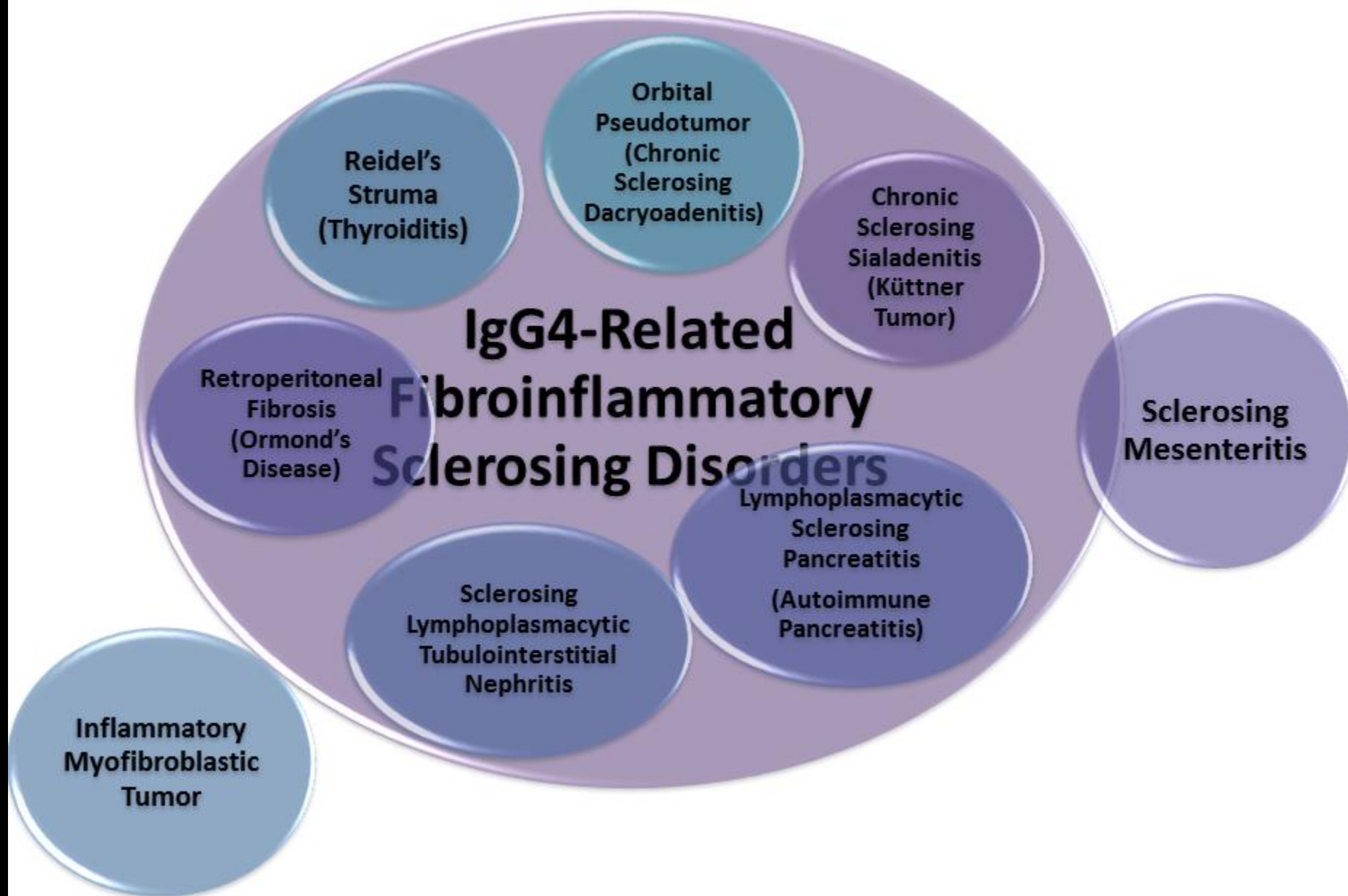
So let's all get ready to target  
these lesions!

An Aside

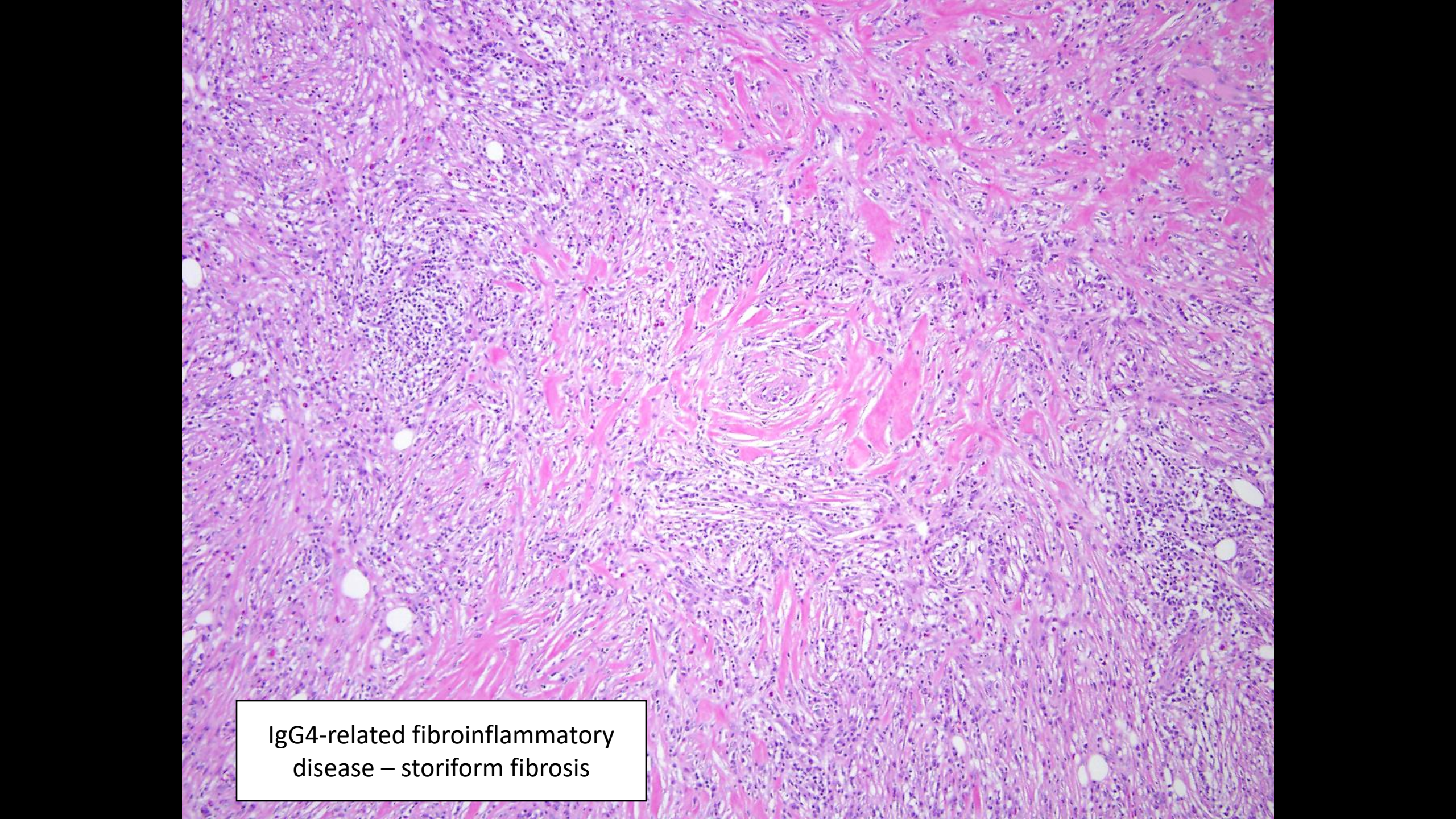
# IgG4-related disease

- Remains poorly understood
- Steroid-responsive
- Overlap with other immune disease
- IgG4 can also be found associated with other conditions that are malignant or infectious so important to insist on the histology criteria before managing with steroids
- Ref; Wallace ZS, Naden RP, Chari S, et al. The 2019 American College of Rheumatology/European League Against Rheumatism Classification Criteria for IgG4-Related Disease. *Arthritis Rheumatol.* 2020;72(1):7-19.



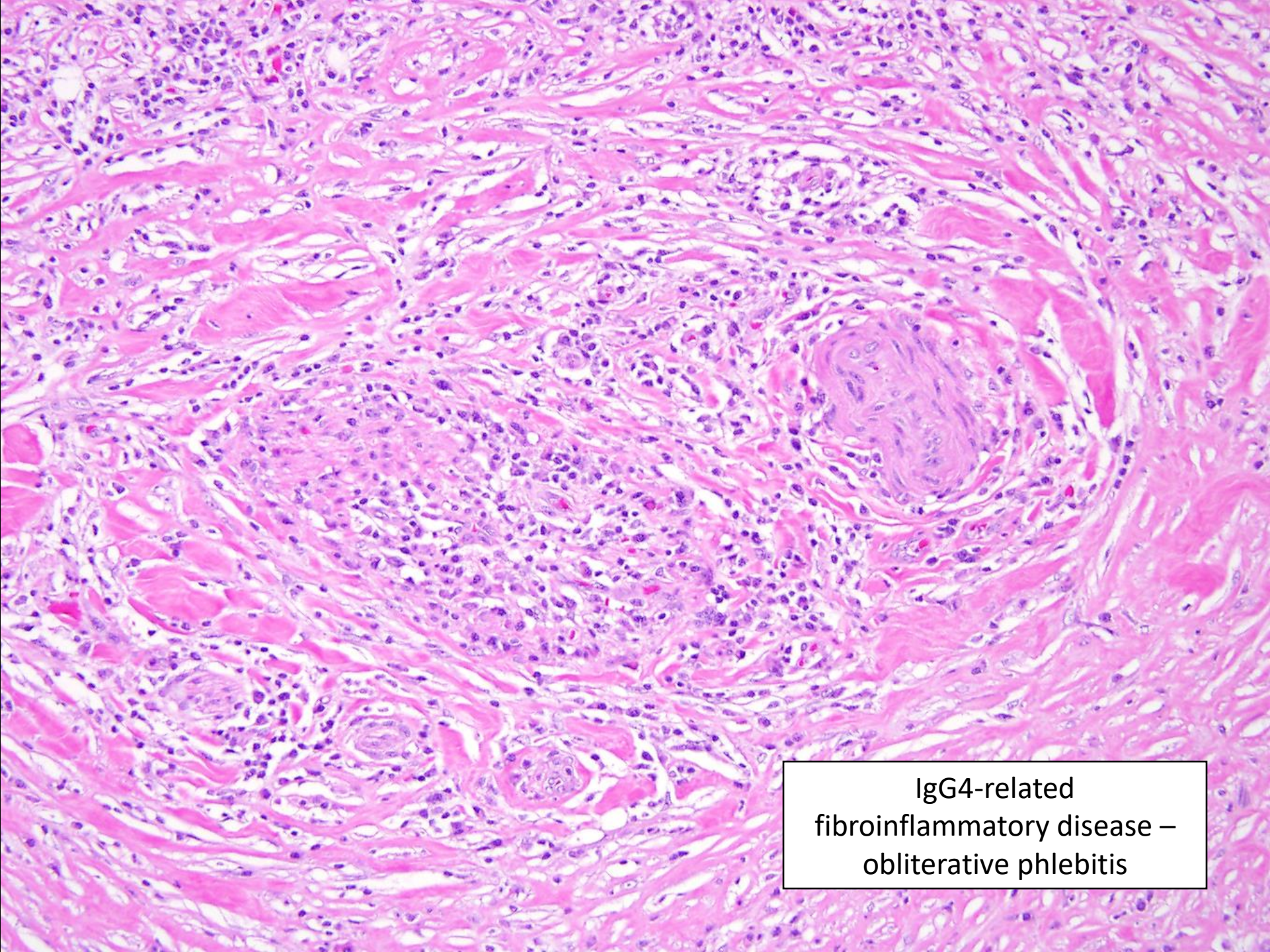




A high-magnification histological image of a tissue section stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E). The image displays a dense, swirling pattern of pink-stained collagen fibers, characteristic of storiform fibrosis. Interspersed among these fibers are numerous small, dark purple nuclei of inflammatory cells. The overall architecture is disorganized, with the fibrous bands creating a complex, interlacing network. In the bottom left corner, there is a white rectangular box containing black text.

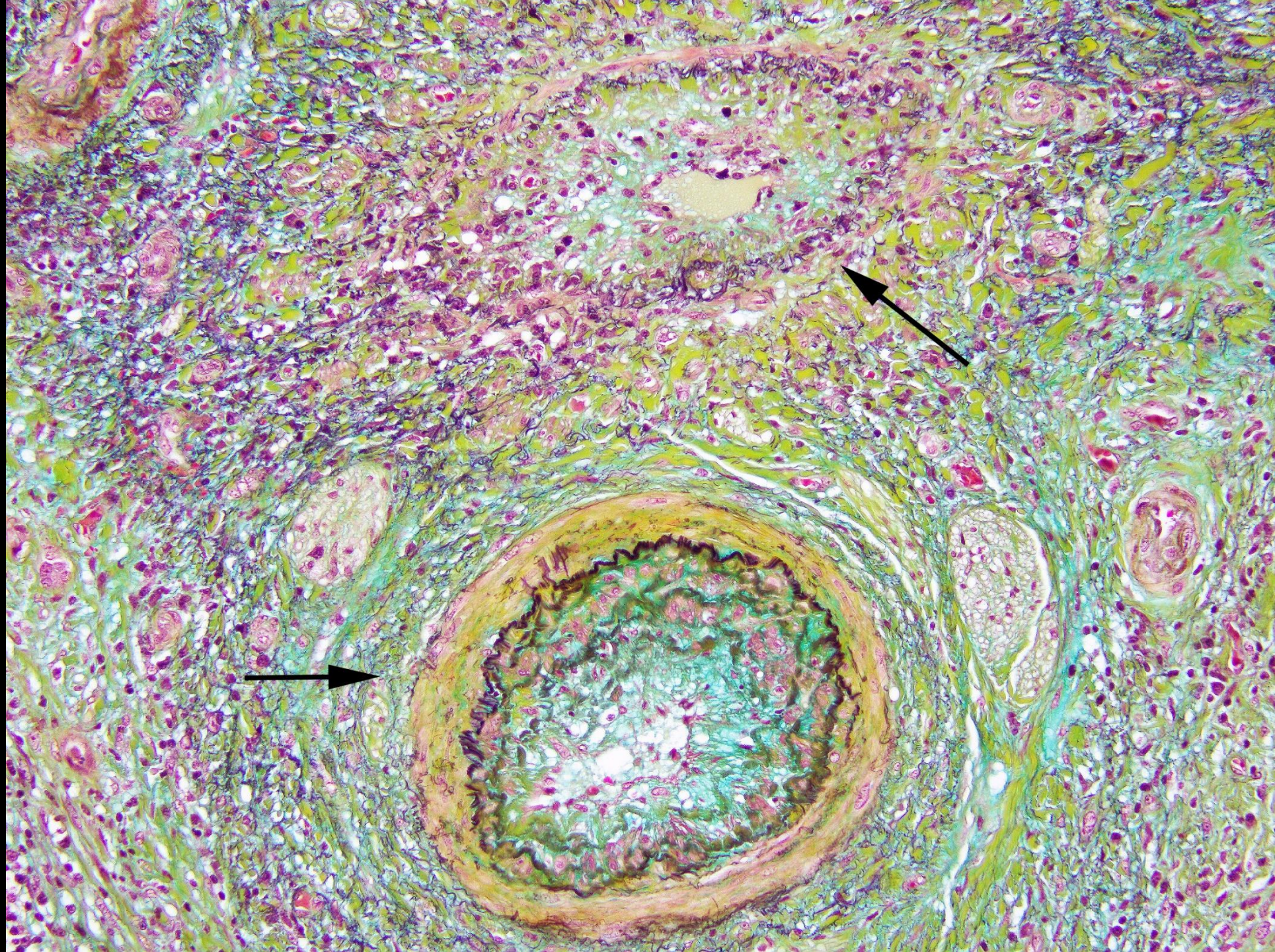
IgG4-related fibroinflammatory  
disease – storiform fibrosis





IgG4-related  
fibroinflammatory disease –  
obliterative phlebitis







# What causes it?

- No one knows
- Presumably a peculiar immune condition – trigger unknown
- Studies currently strictly observations
  - ? Link to H. pylori - Frulloni L, Lunardi C, Simone R, Dolcino M, Scattolini C, Falconi M, Benini L, Vantini I, Corrocher R, Puccetti A. Identification of a novel antibody associated with autoimmune pancreatitis. N Engl J Med. 2009 Nov 26;361(22):2135-42. )
  - ?Laminin - Shiokawa M, Kodama Y, Sekiguchi K, Kuwada T, Tomono T, Kuriyama K, Yamazaki H, Morita T, Marui S, Sogabe Y, Kakiuchi N, Matsumori T, Mima A, Nishikawa Y, Ueda T, Tsuda M, Yamauchi Y, Sakuma Y, Maruno T, Uza N, Tsuruyama T, Mimori T, Seno H, Chiba T. Laminin 511 is a target antigen in autoimmune pancreatitis. Sci Transl Med. 2018 Aug 8;10(453). PubMed PMID: 30089633.



Disease that have lots of IgG4+ plasma cells in tissue that seem unrelated to IgG4-related sclerosing disease

- Peritumoral cells around cancers
- LYMPHOMAS – especially low-grade and plasmacytic ones (extranodal MALT, follicular)\*
- Wegener's granulomatosis
- Parasitic infestations
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Rosai-Dorfman disease
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- AUTOIMMUNE GASTRITIS
- Inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor (a neoplasm)

\* now there are a number of reports of lymphomas arising in association with IgG4-related sclerosing disease – they tend to be MALT lymphomas



A 15 cm mass was excised  
from the jejunal wall and  
mesentery of a 33 year  
old woman.

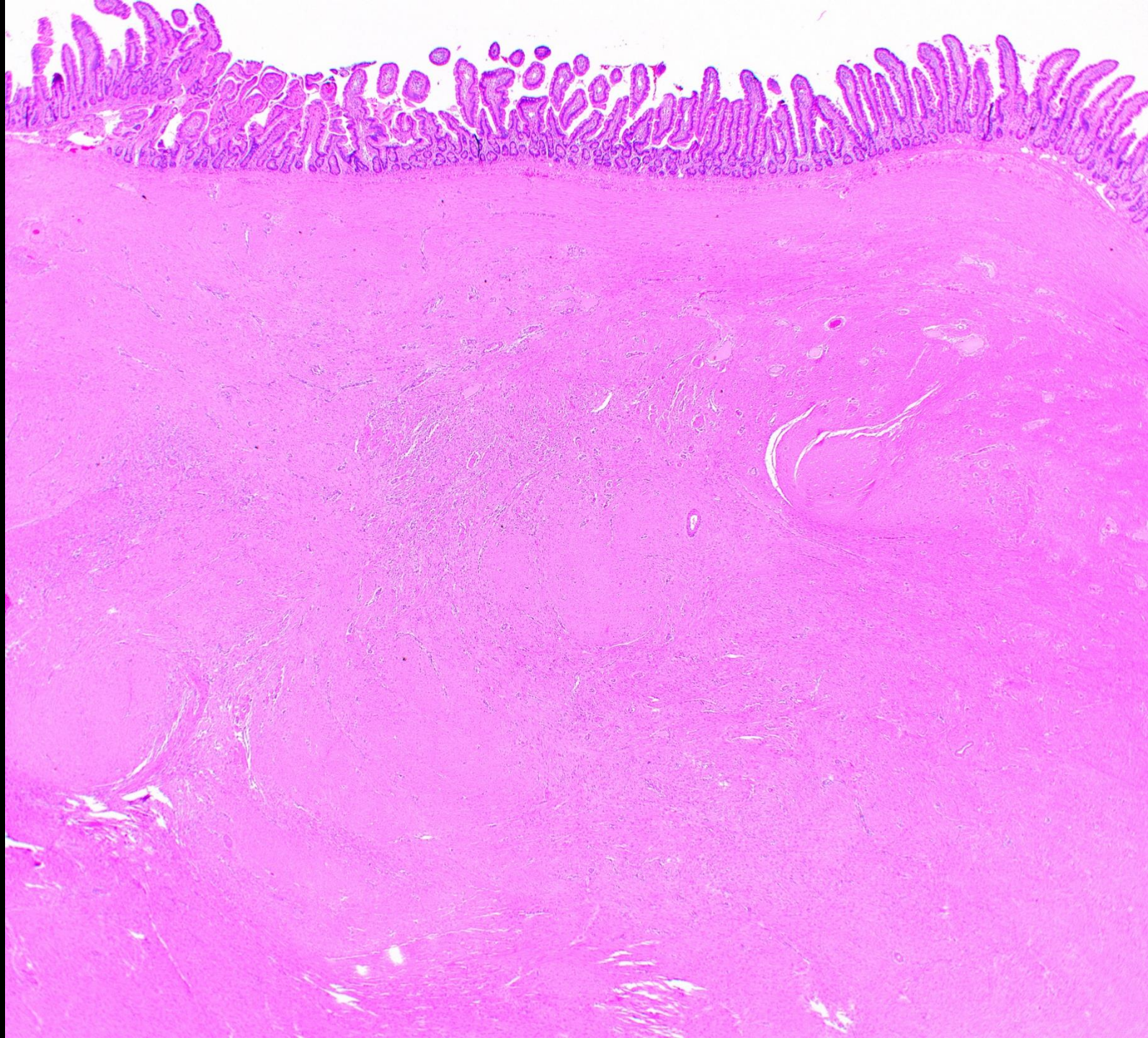


# Gross specimen



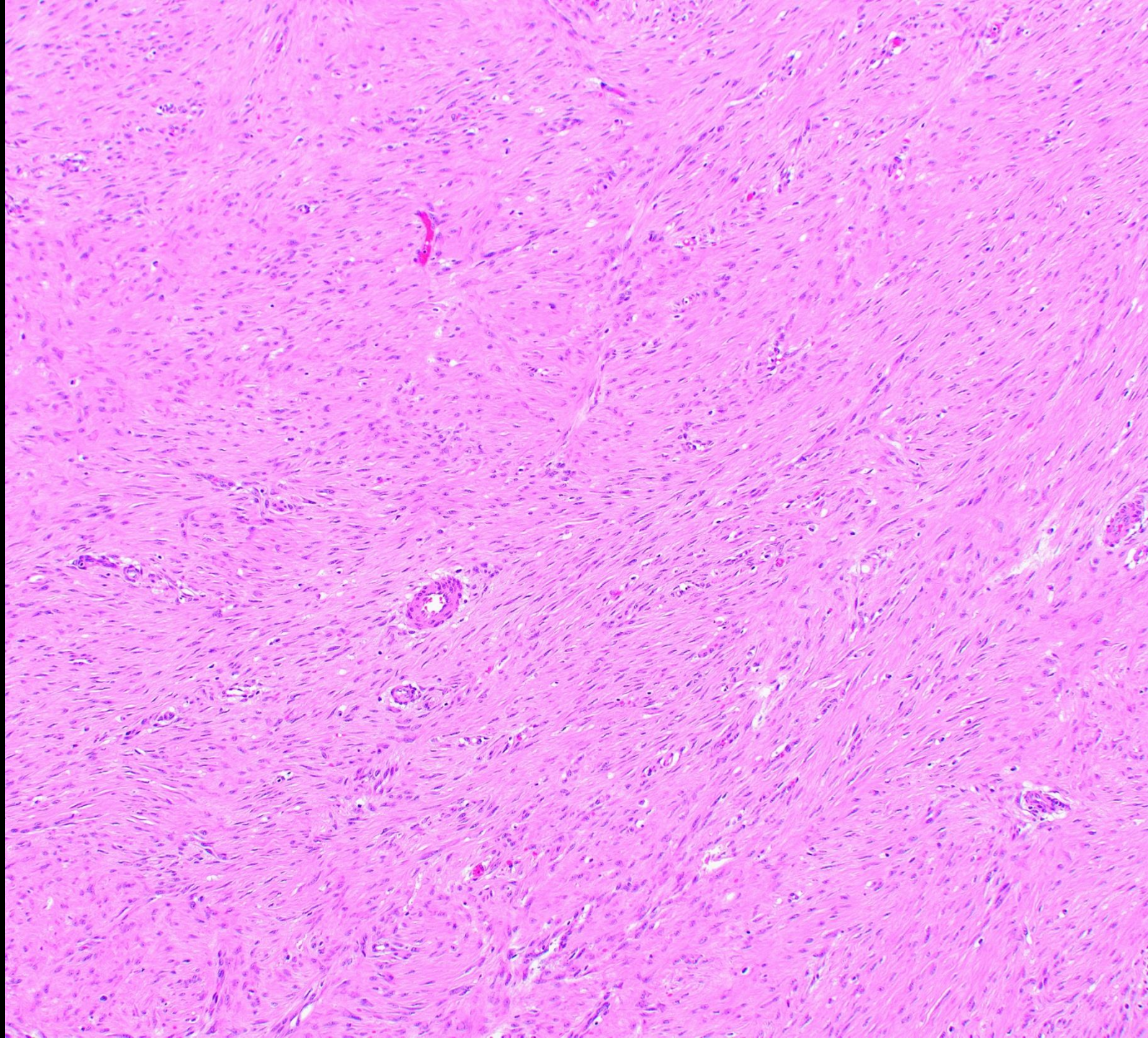


Low  
magnification



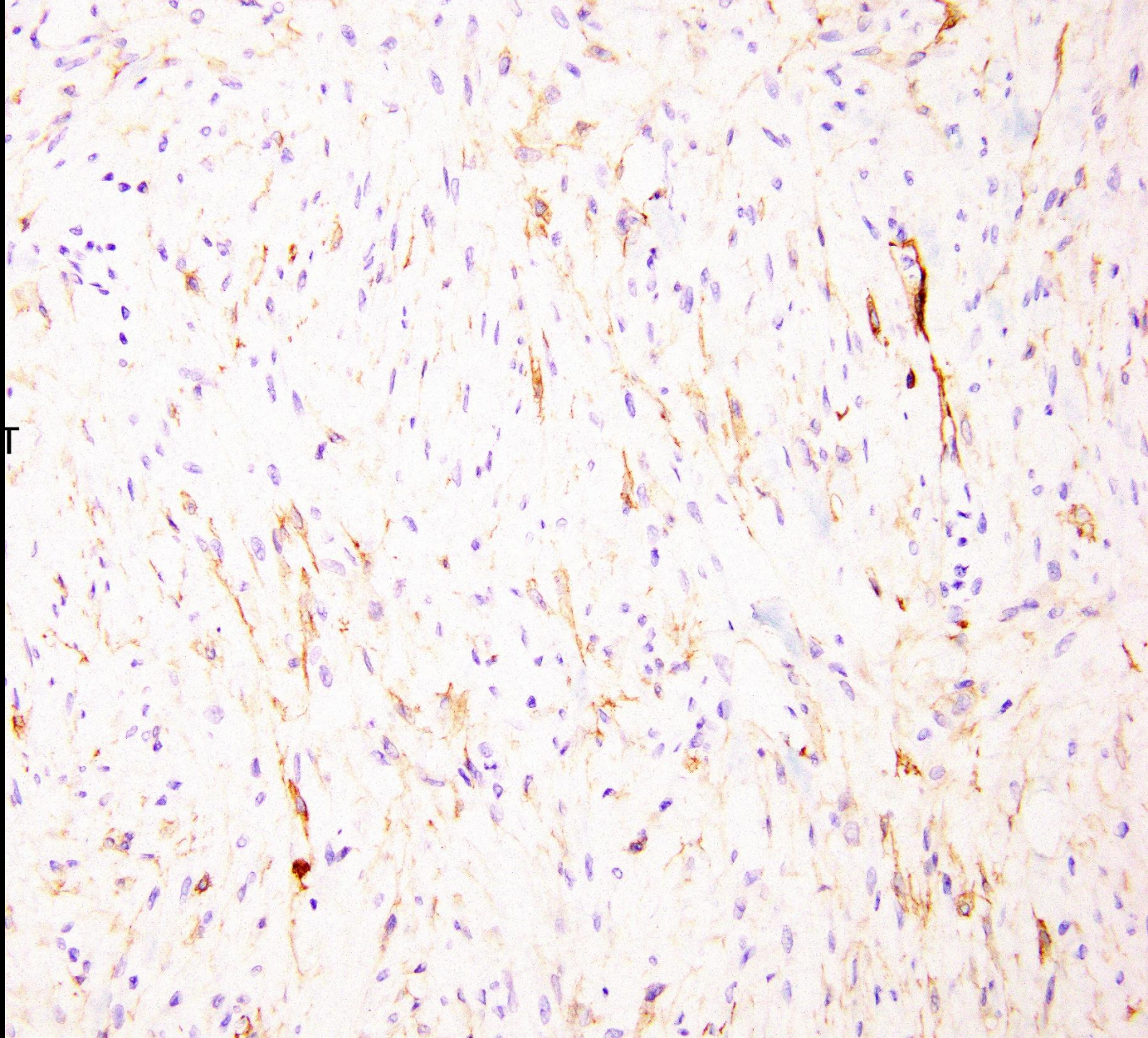


Medium power





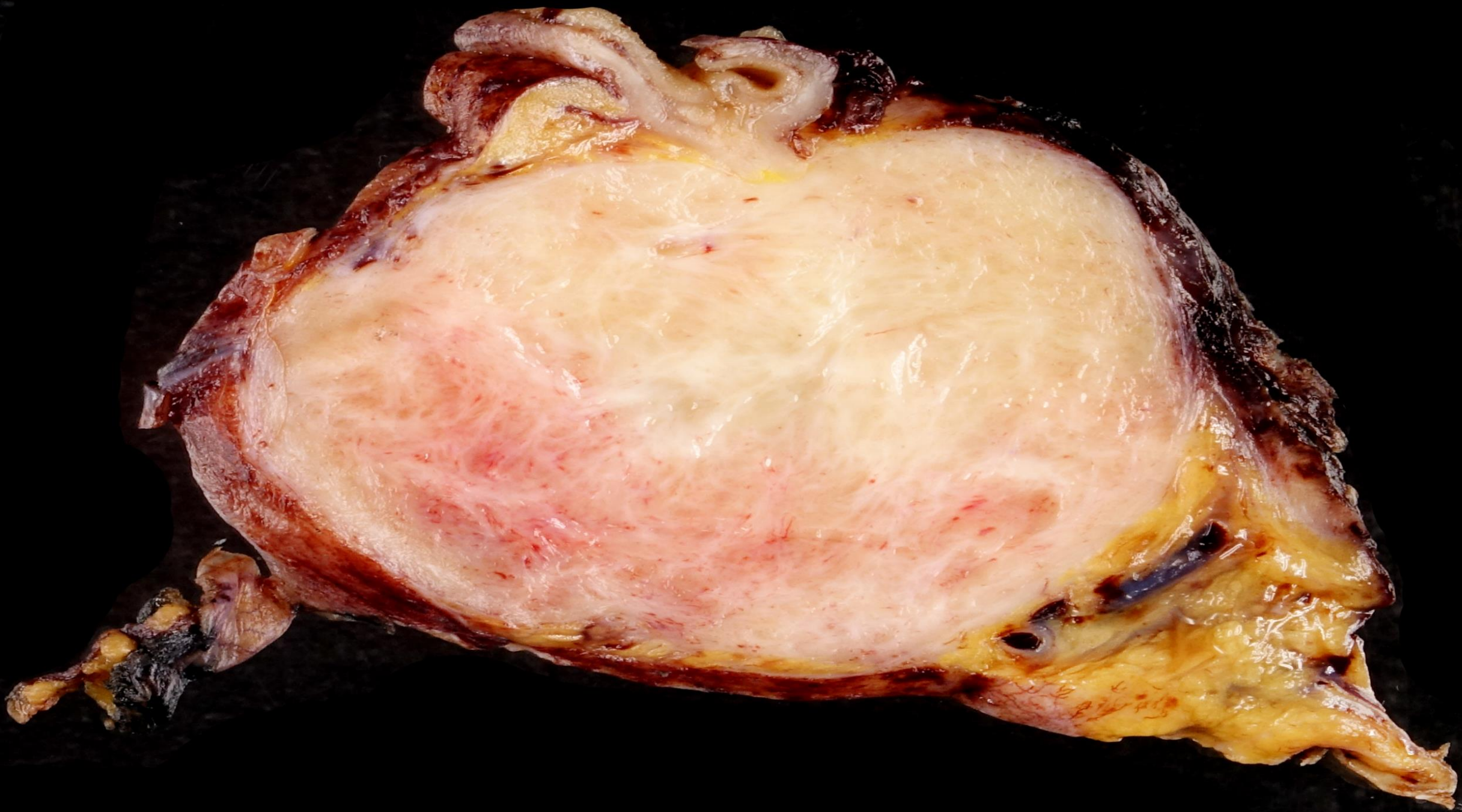
KIT/CD117



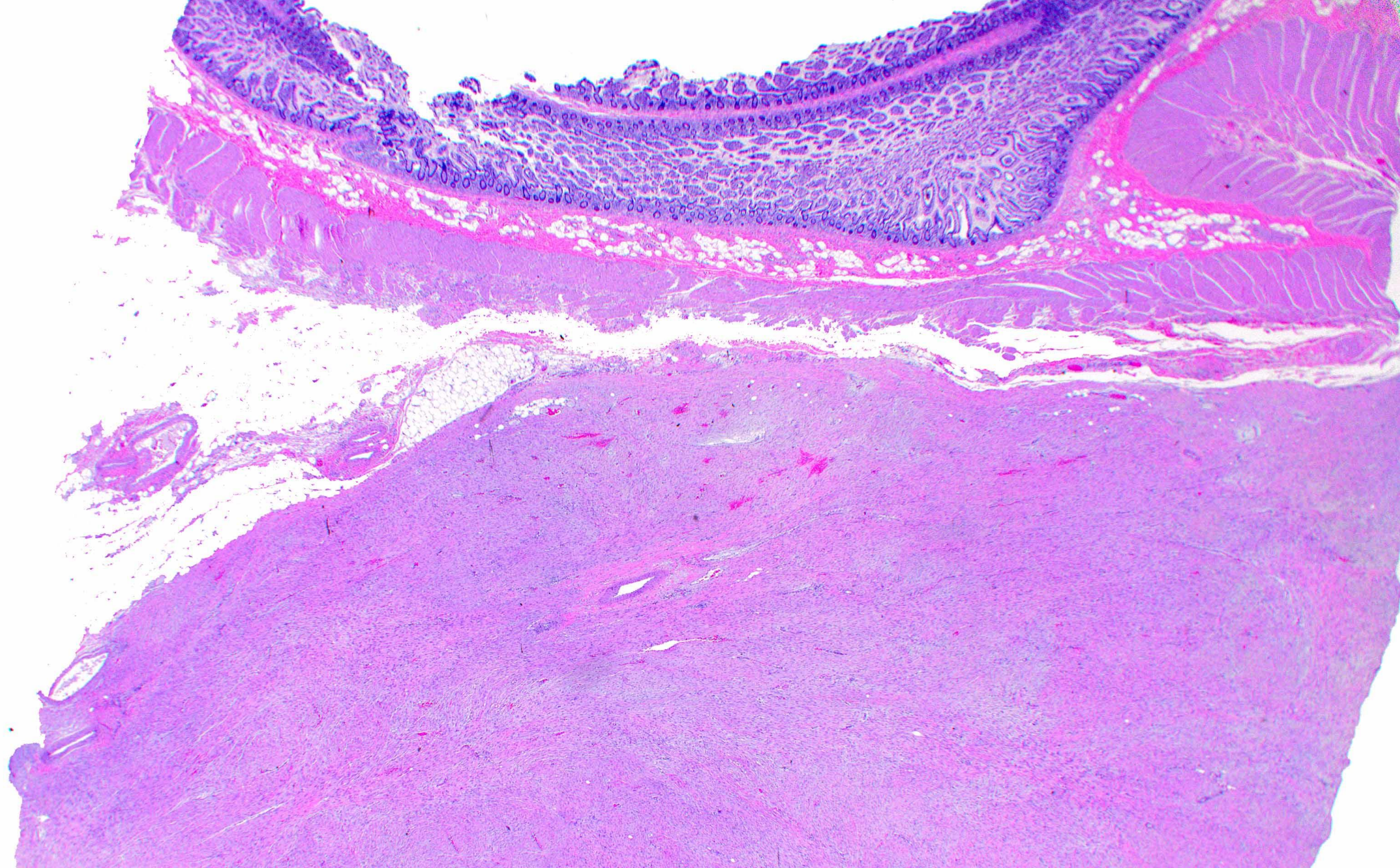


Diagnosis: Mesenteric  
Fibromatosis











# Mesenteric Fibromatoses

- May be a component of Gardner syndrome (FAP)
- Virtually all familial fibromatoses have associated *APC* gene mutations
- Sporadic ones have *CTNNB1* mutations



# Fibromatoses - Clinical

- 2-4 individuals per million per year.
- In children, equal gender incidence, mostly extra-abdominal.
- Puberty – age 40 usually in females [estrogen driven] and in abdominal wall.
- Older adults – mostly extra-abdominal – equal gender incidence.



# Features of Fibromatoses

- Sweeping Fascicles of Fibroblasts/myofibroblasts
- Infiltrative Growth Pattern
- Characteristic Vascular Pattern

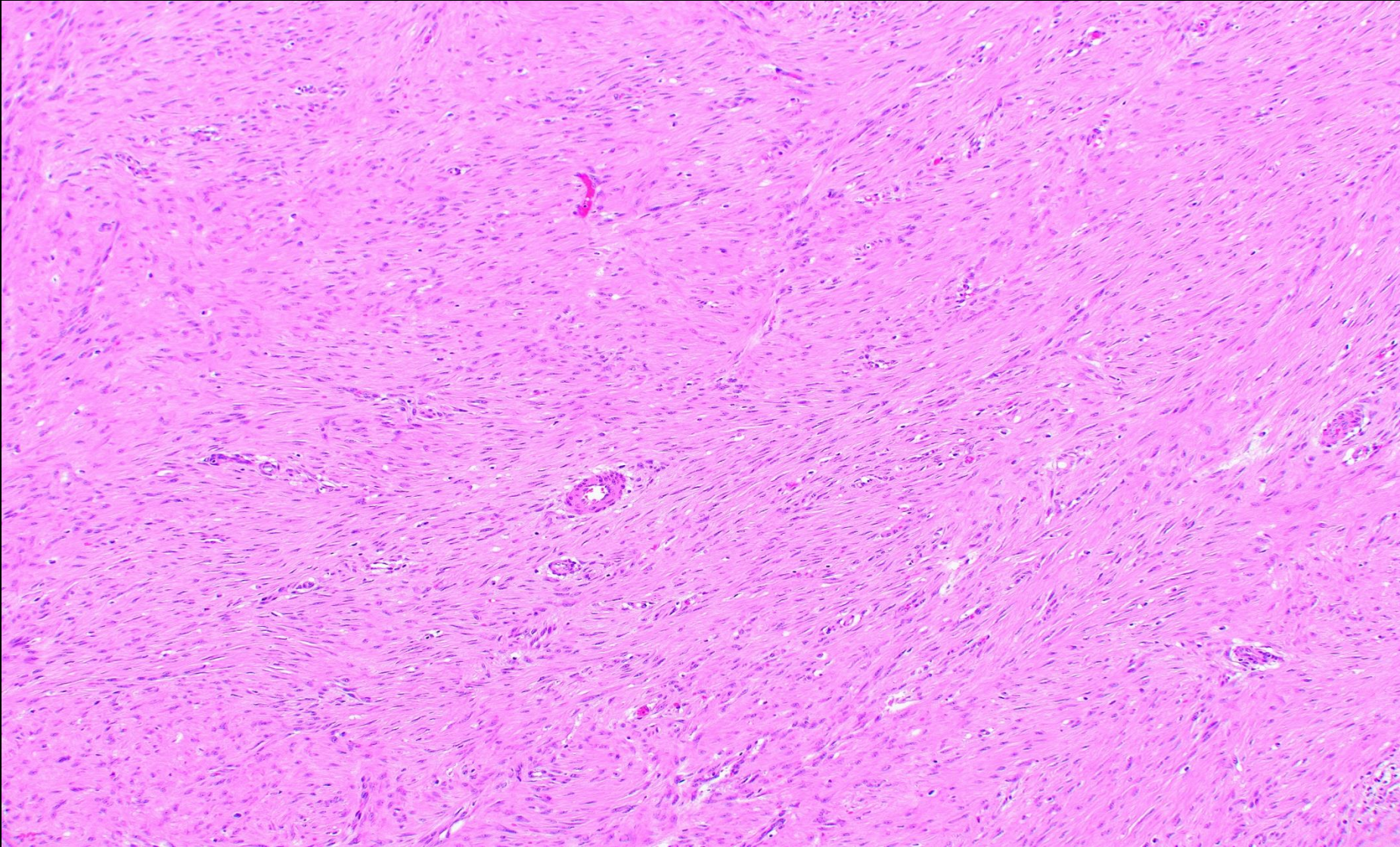


# $\beta$ catenin in Fibromatoses

- Accumulates in nucleus
- NOT detected in GISTs

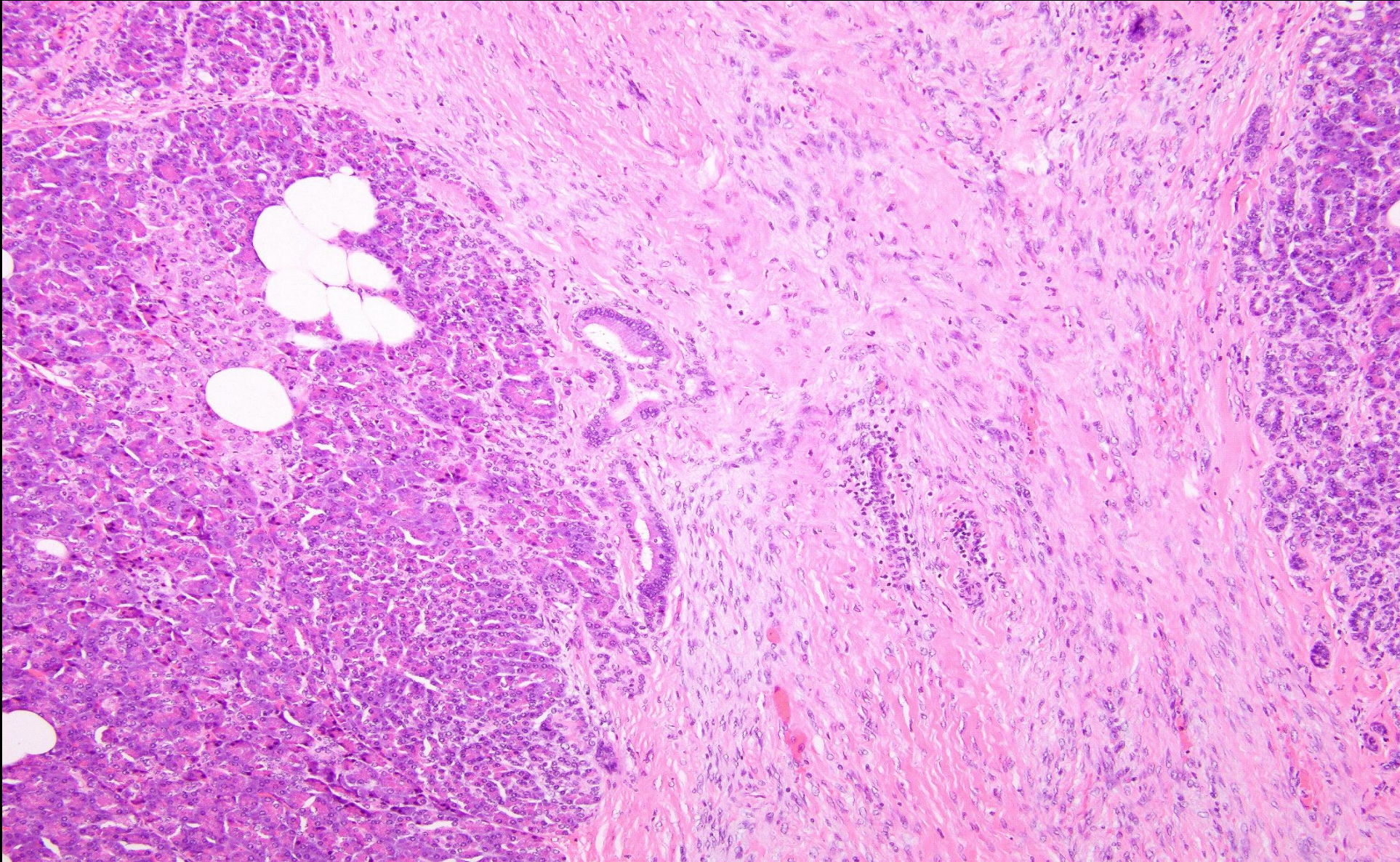


# Sweeping fascicles of myofibroblastic cells





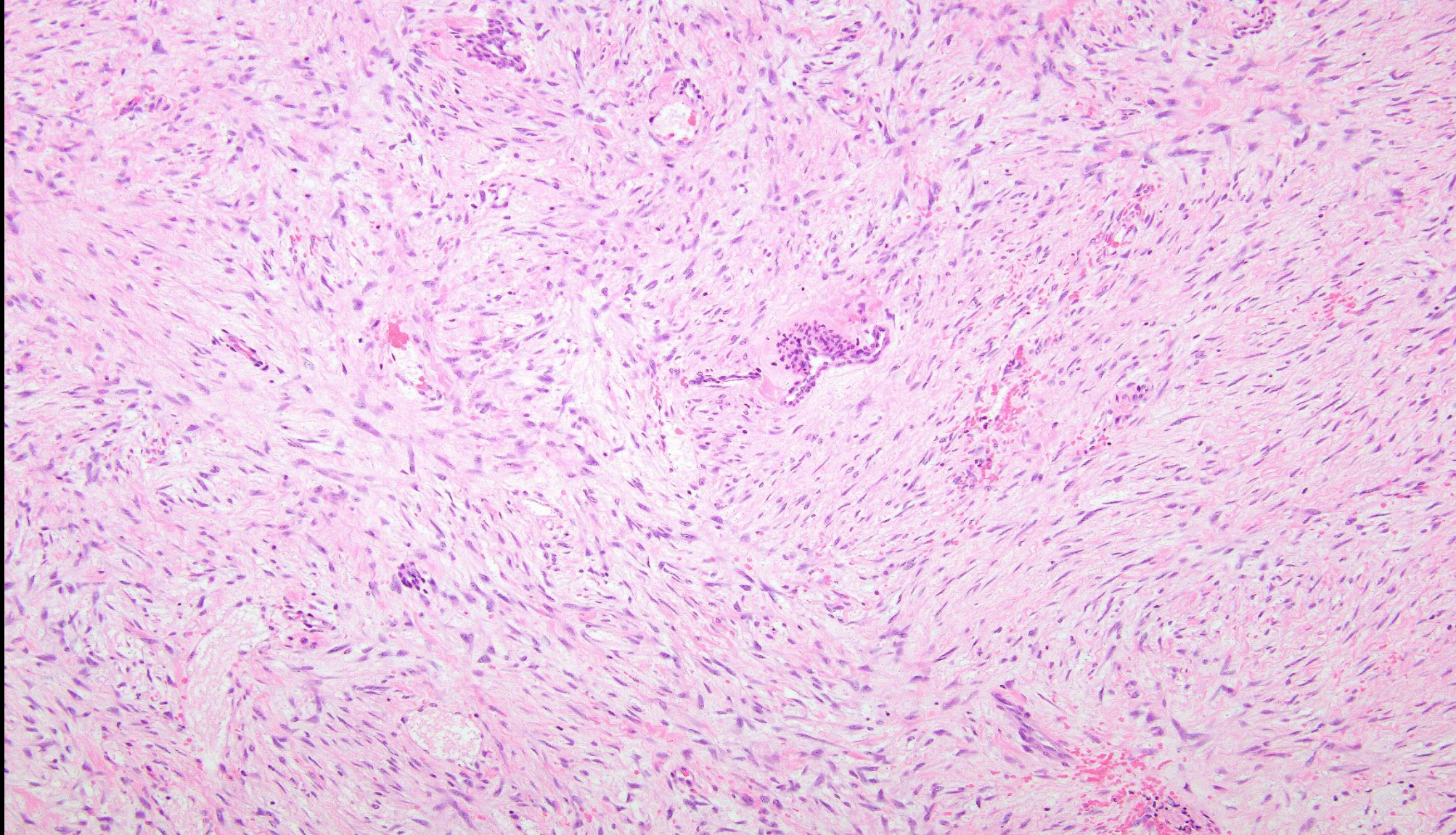
# Infiltrative growth



Hello,  
Pancreas!

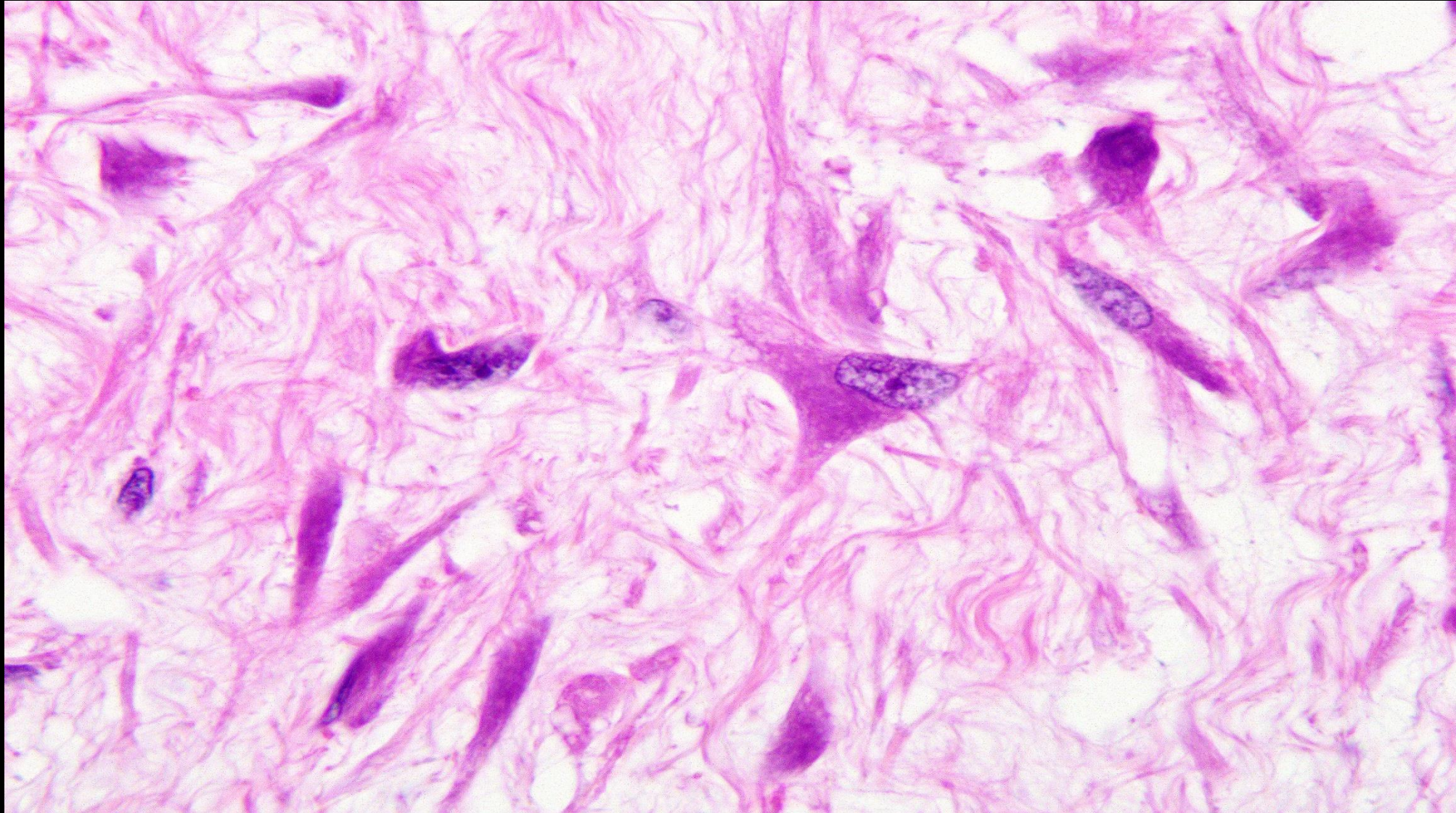


# Vascular pattern





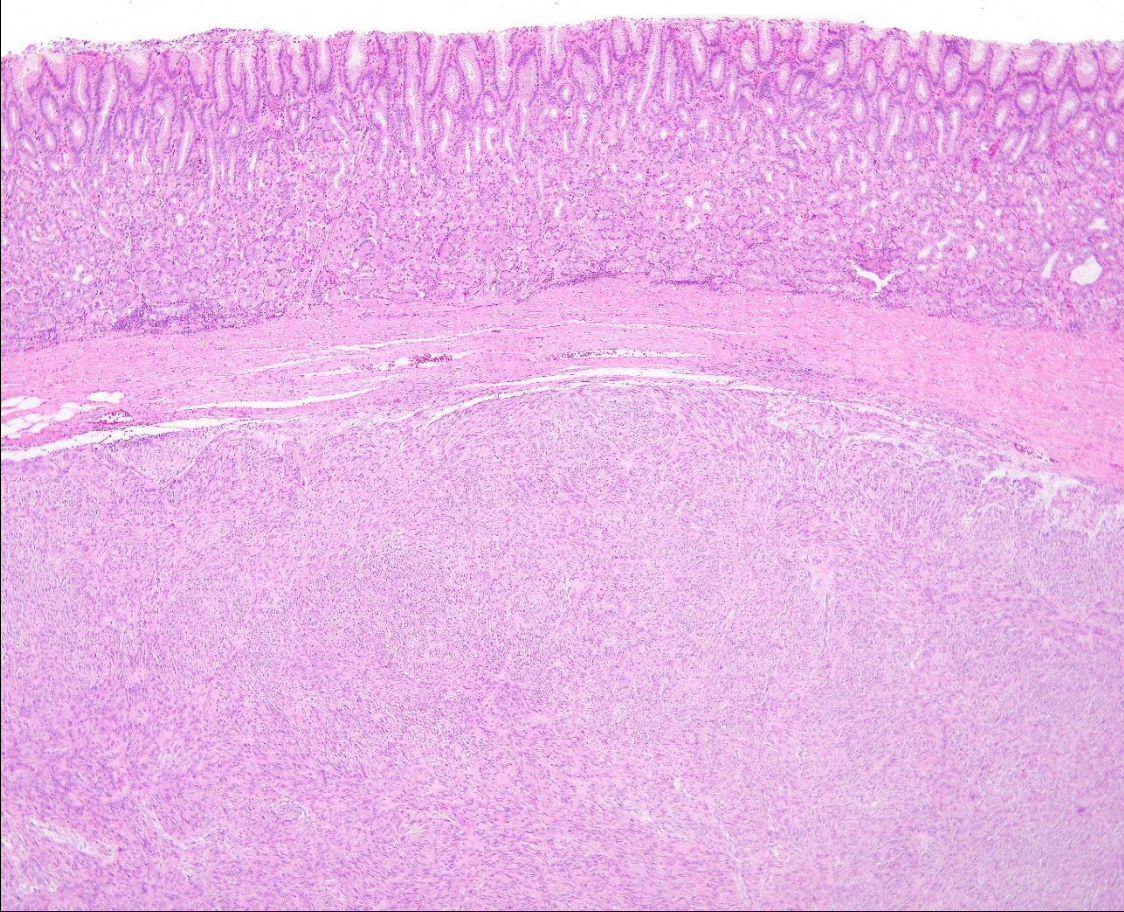
# Characteristic cytologic features



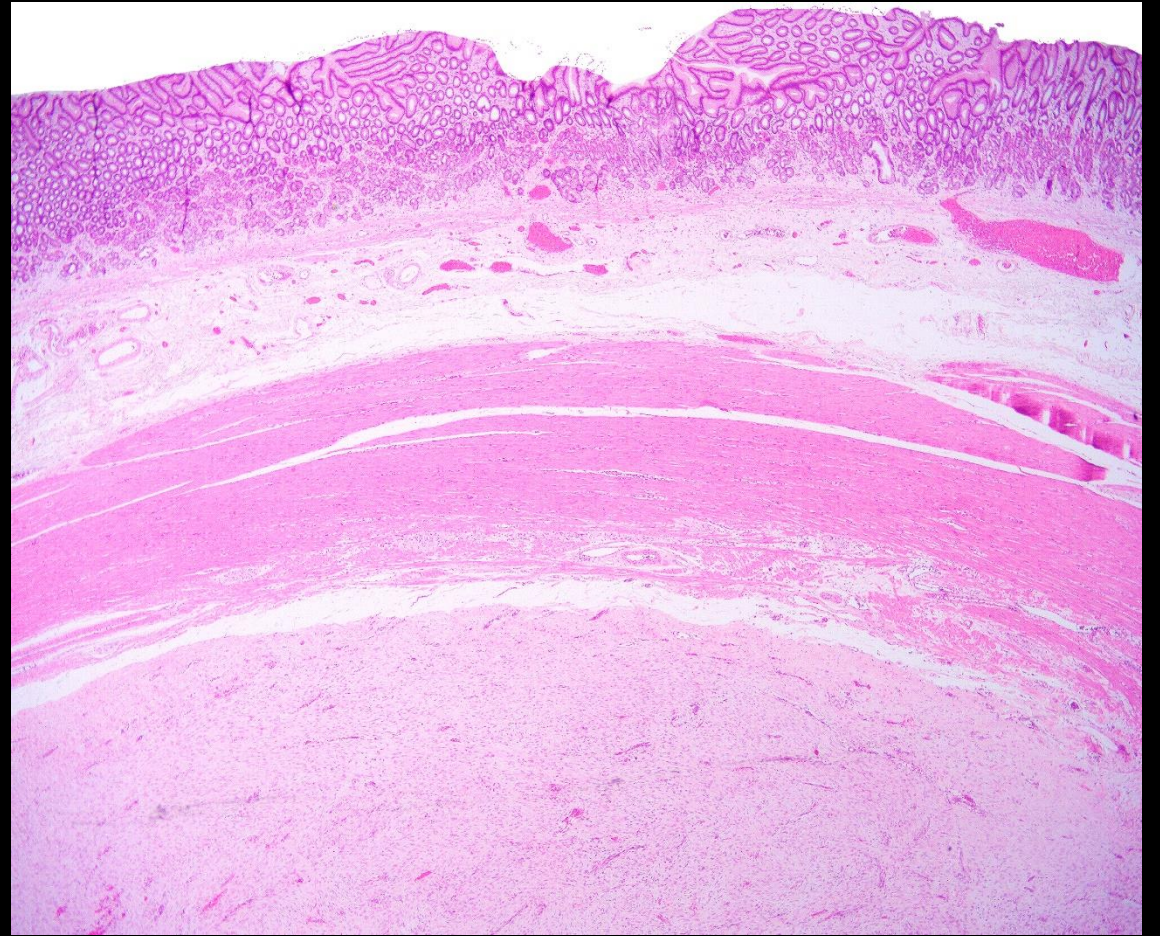


# Beauty Contest

GIST



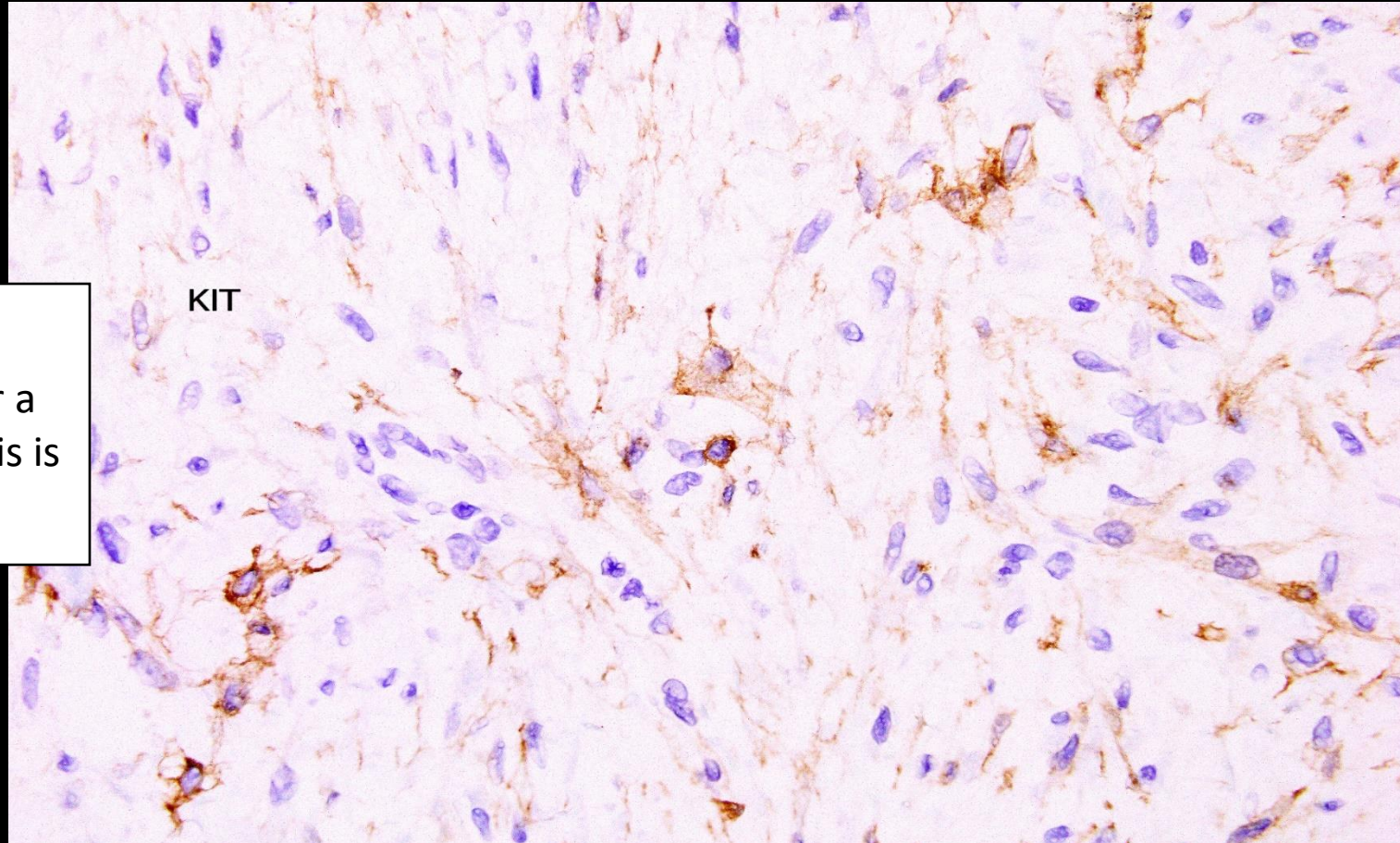
Fibromatosis





# Pitfall alert – KIT in fibromatosis

Too much antigen  
retrieval – no longer a  
common issue but this is  
a 2020 case!





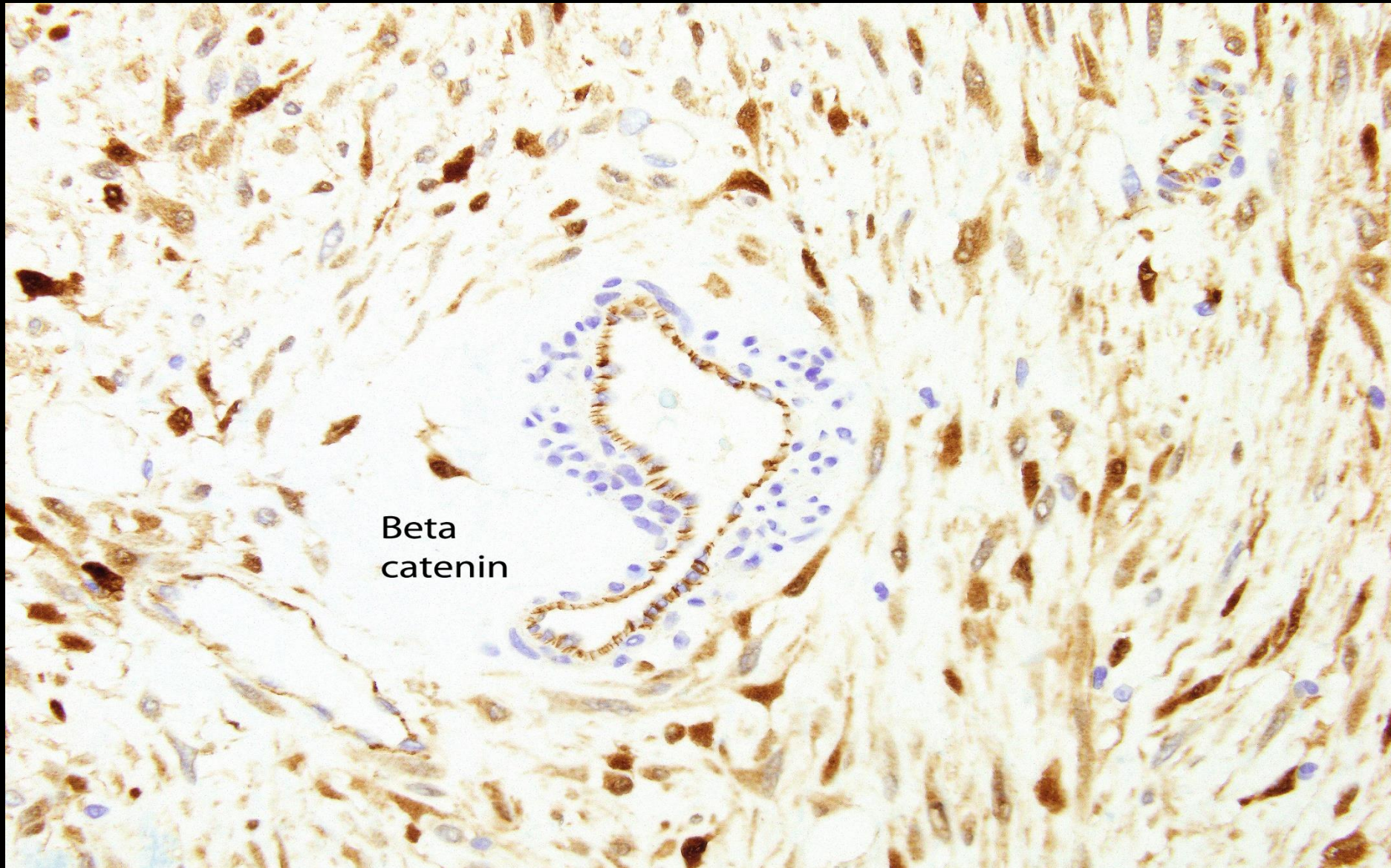
# $\beta$ catenin in Fibromatoses

- Accumulates in nucleus
- NOT detected in GISTs

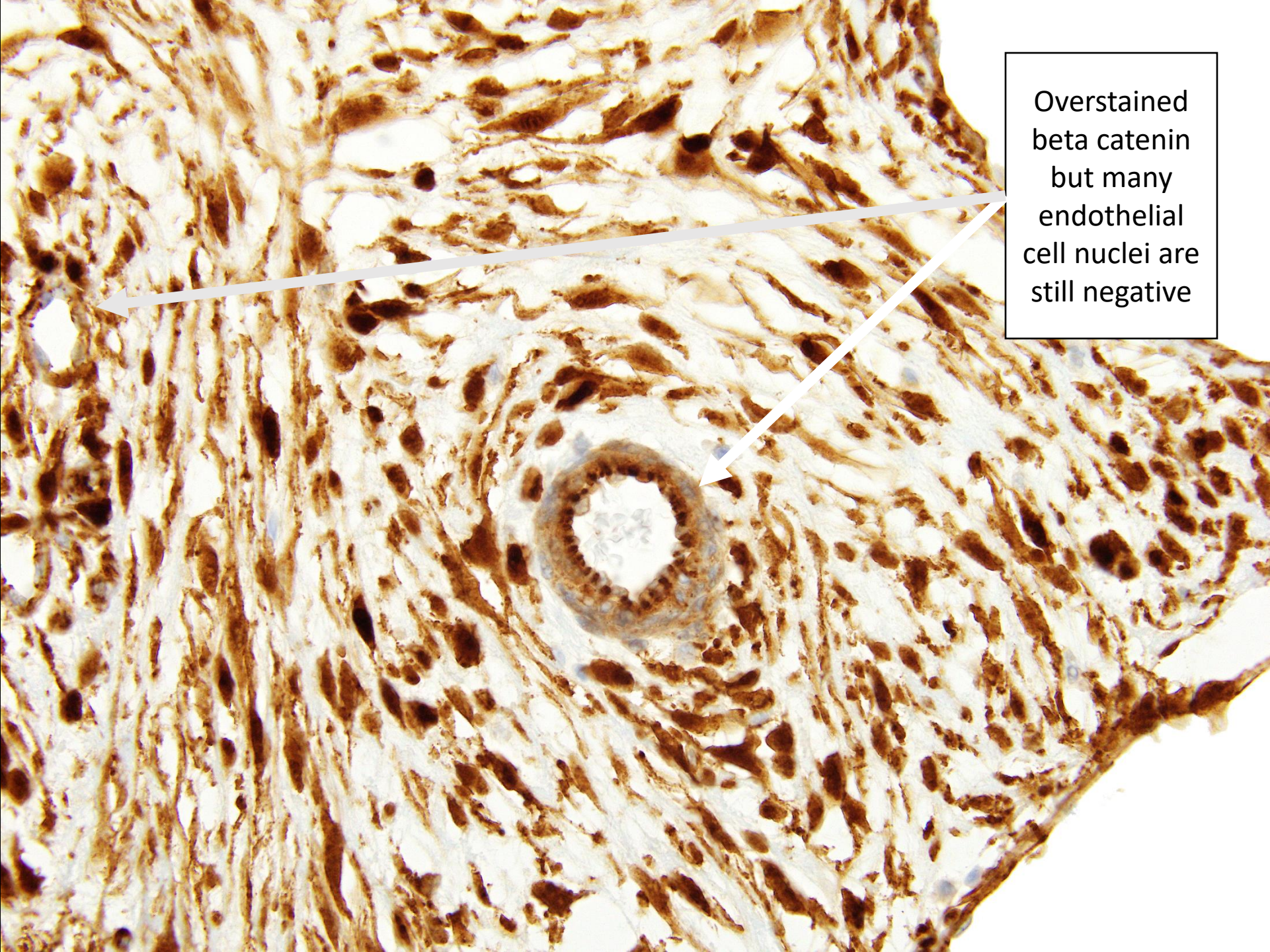
- 1: Montgomery E, Torbenson MS, Kaushal M, Fisher C, Abraham SC. Beta-catenin immunohistochemistry separates mesenteric fibromatosis from gastrointestinal stromal tumor and sclerosing mesenteritis. *Am J Surg Pathol*. 2002 Oct;26(10):1296-301. PMID: 12360044.
- 2: Bhattacharya B, Dilworth HP, Iacobuzio-Donahue C, Ricci F, Weber K, Furlong MA, Fisher C, Montgomery E. Nuclear beta-catenin expression distinguishes deep fibromatosis from other benign and malignant fibroblastic and myofibroblastic lesions. *Am J Surg Pathol*. 2005 May;29(5):653-9. PMID: 15832090.



# A perfect beta catenin preparation







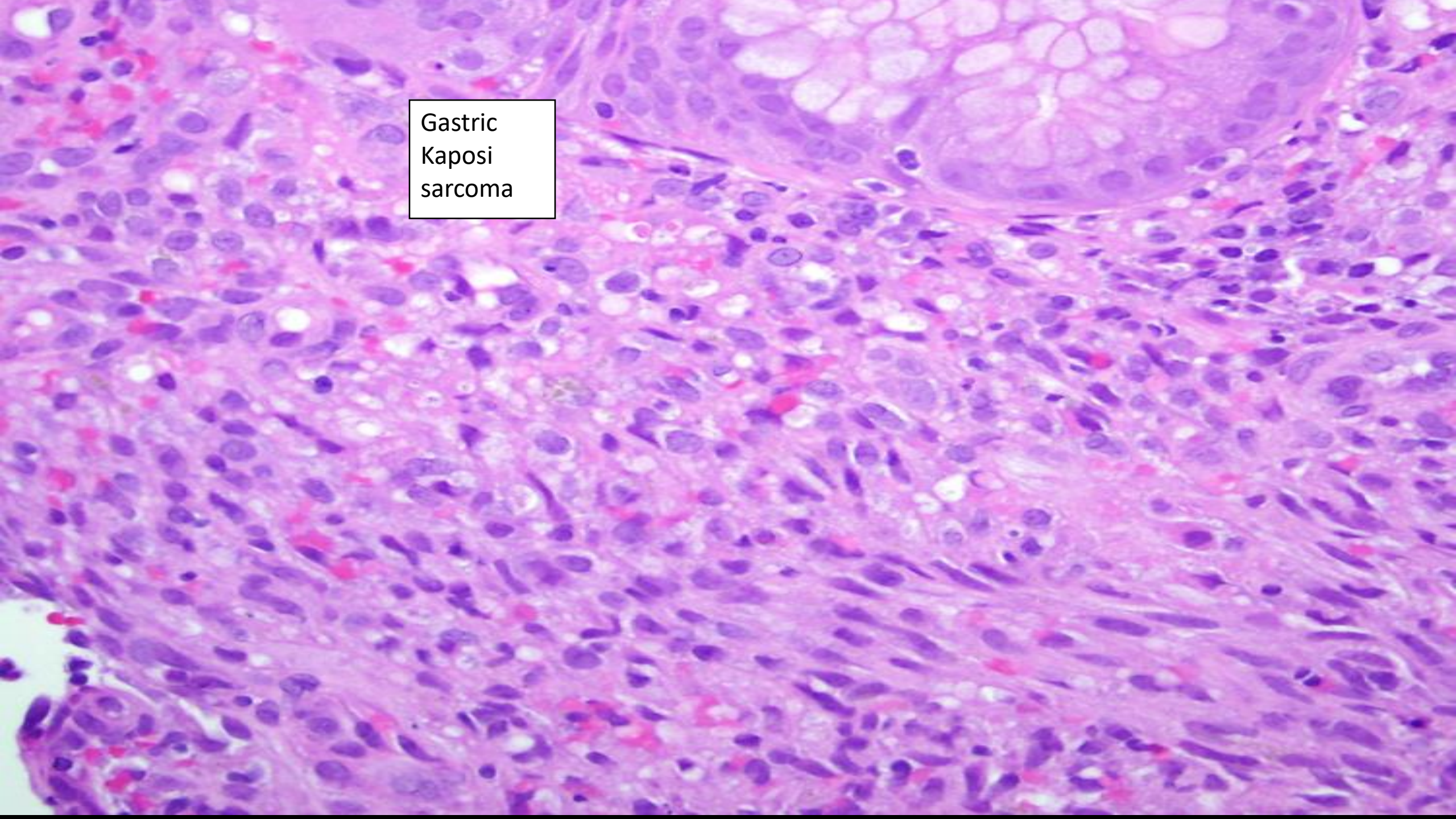
Overstained  
beta catenin  
but many  
endothelial  
cell nuclei are  
still negative



Another immunostaining pitfall

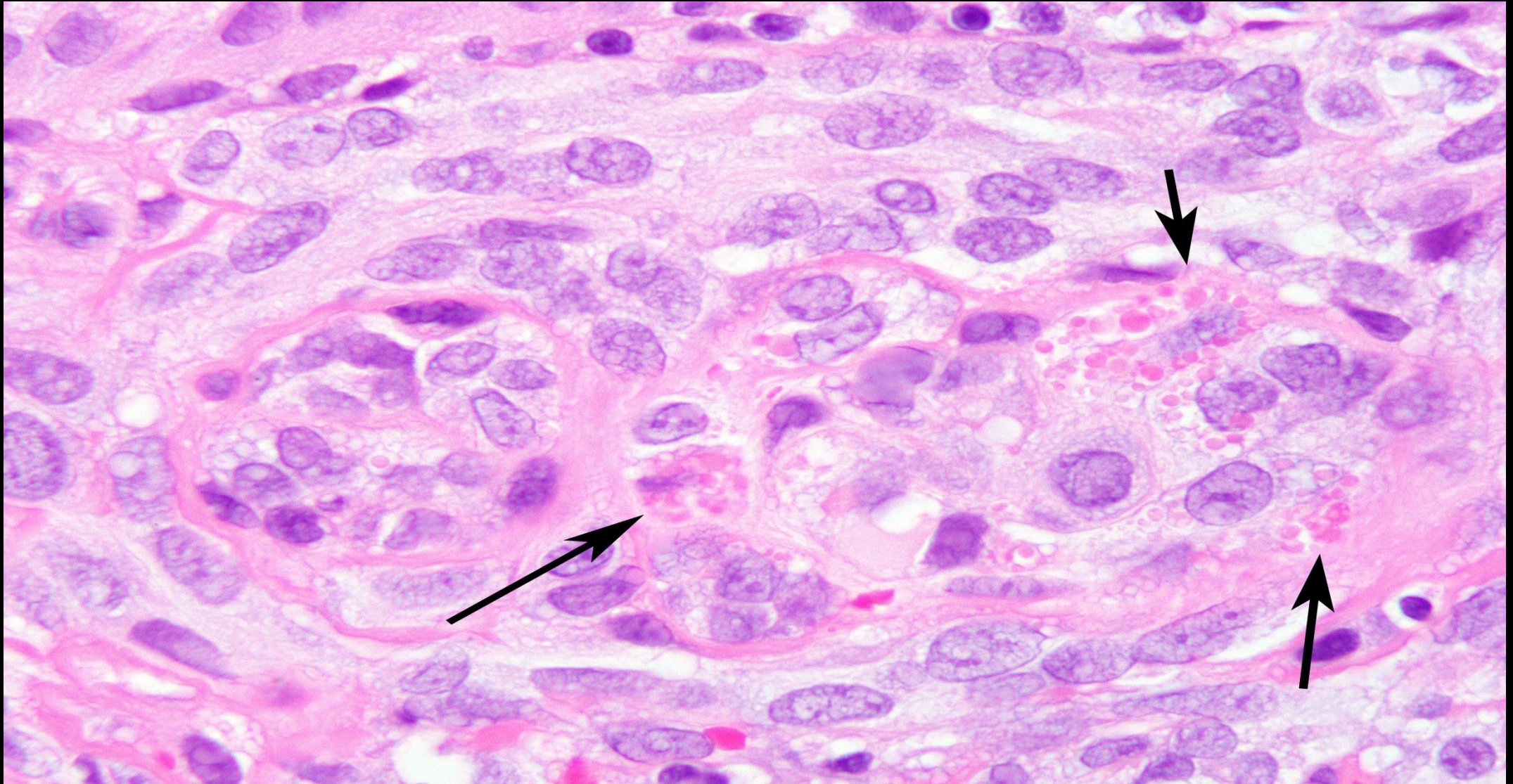


Gastric  
Kaposi  
sarcoma

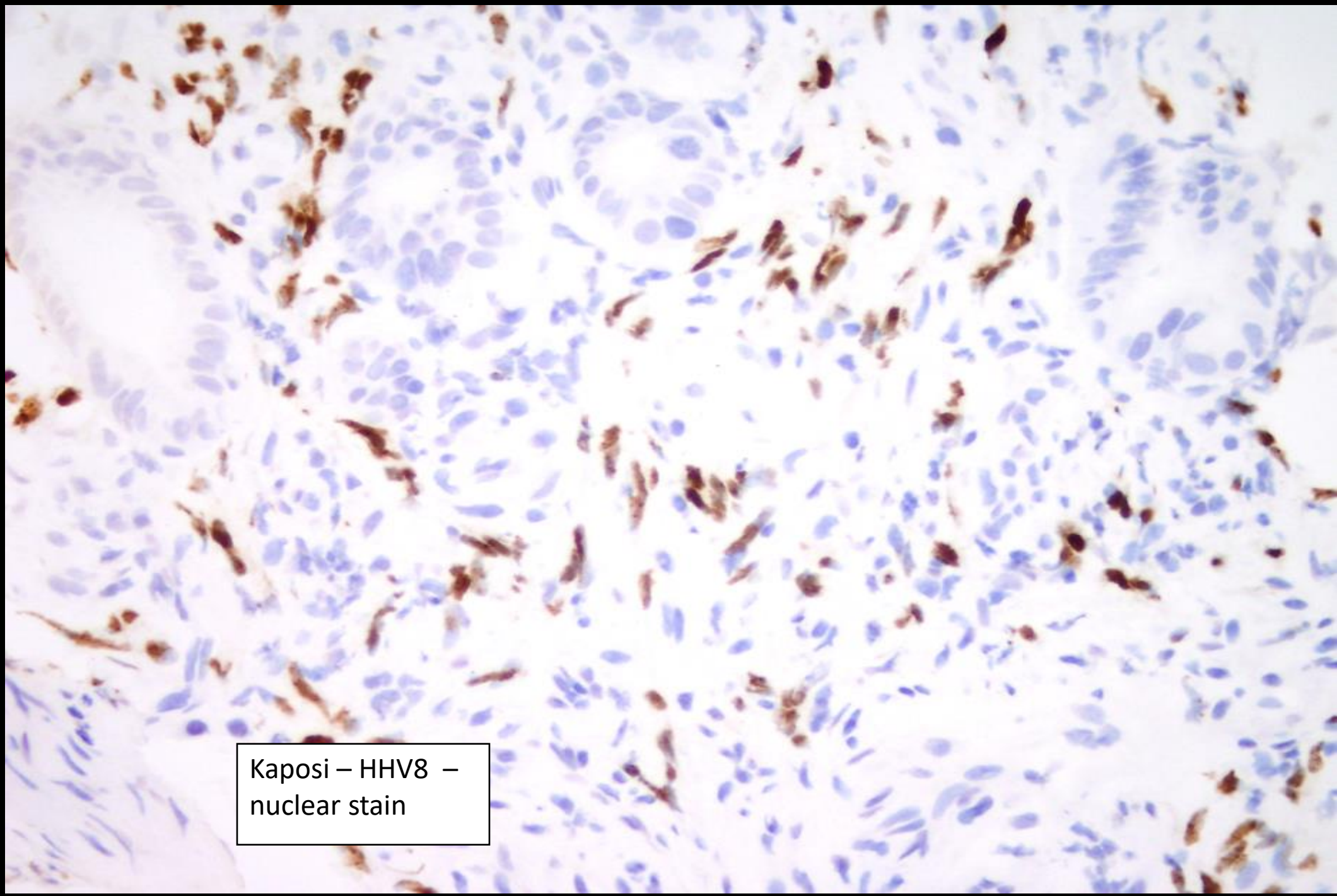




# Kaposi sarcoma – hyaline globules

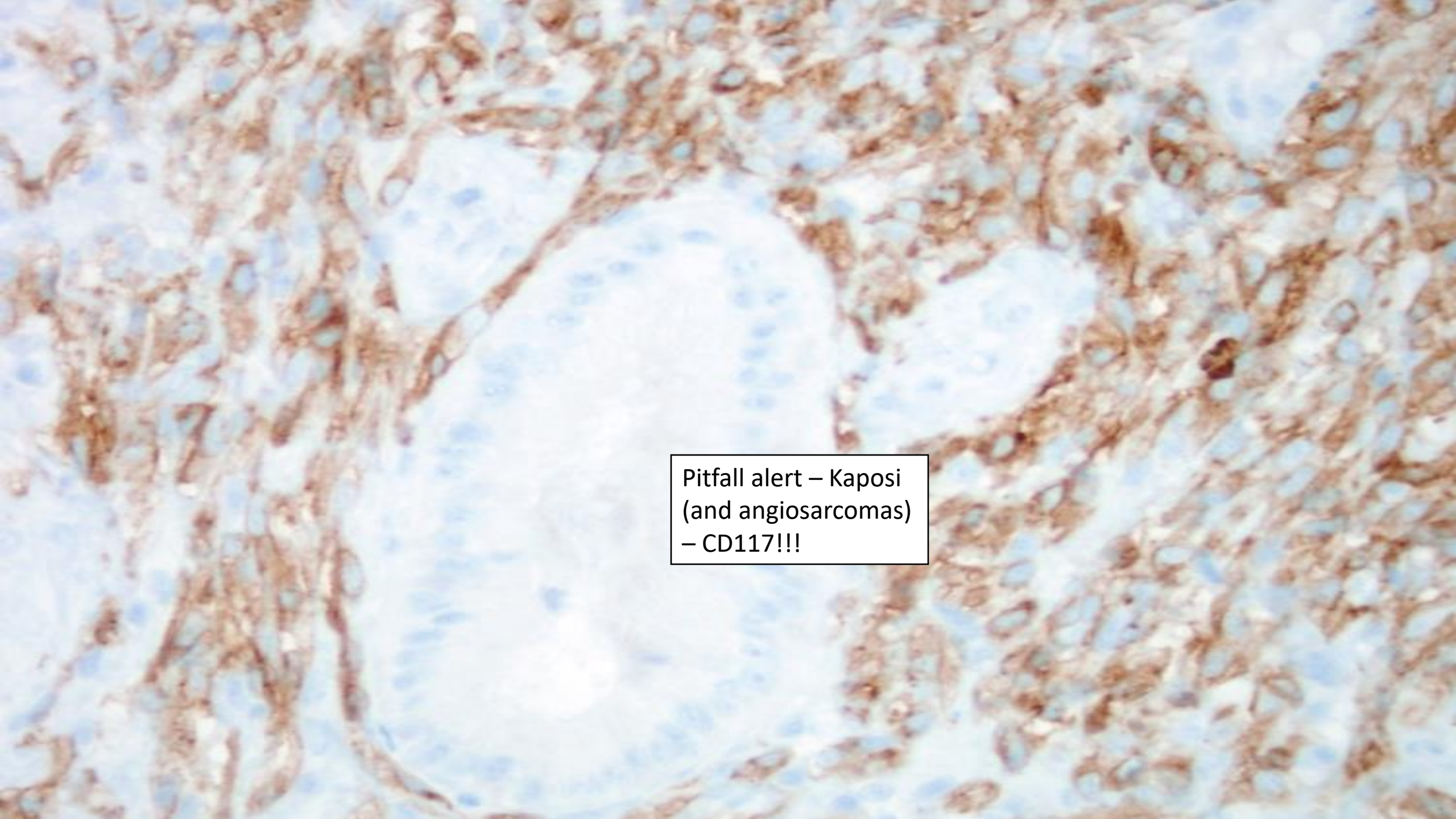






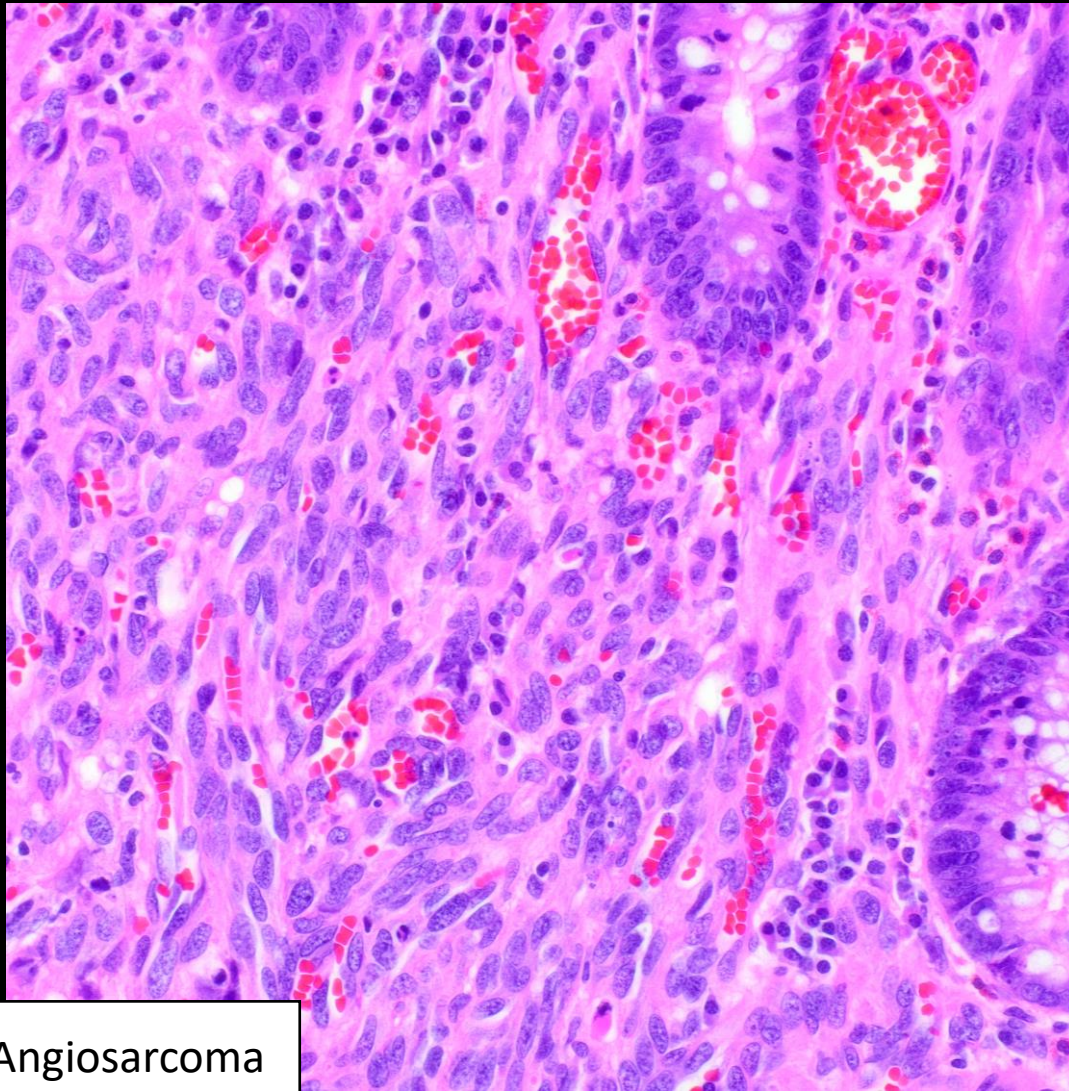
Kaposi – HHV8 –  
nuclear stain





Pitfall alert – Kaposi  
(and angiosarcomas)  
– CD117!!!



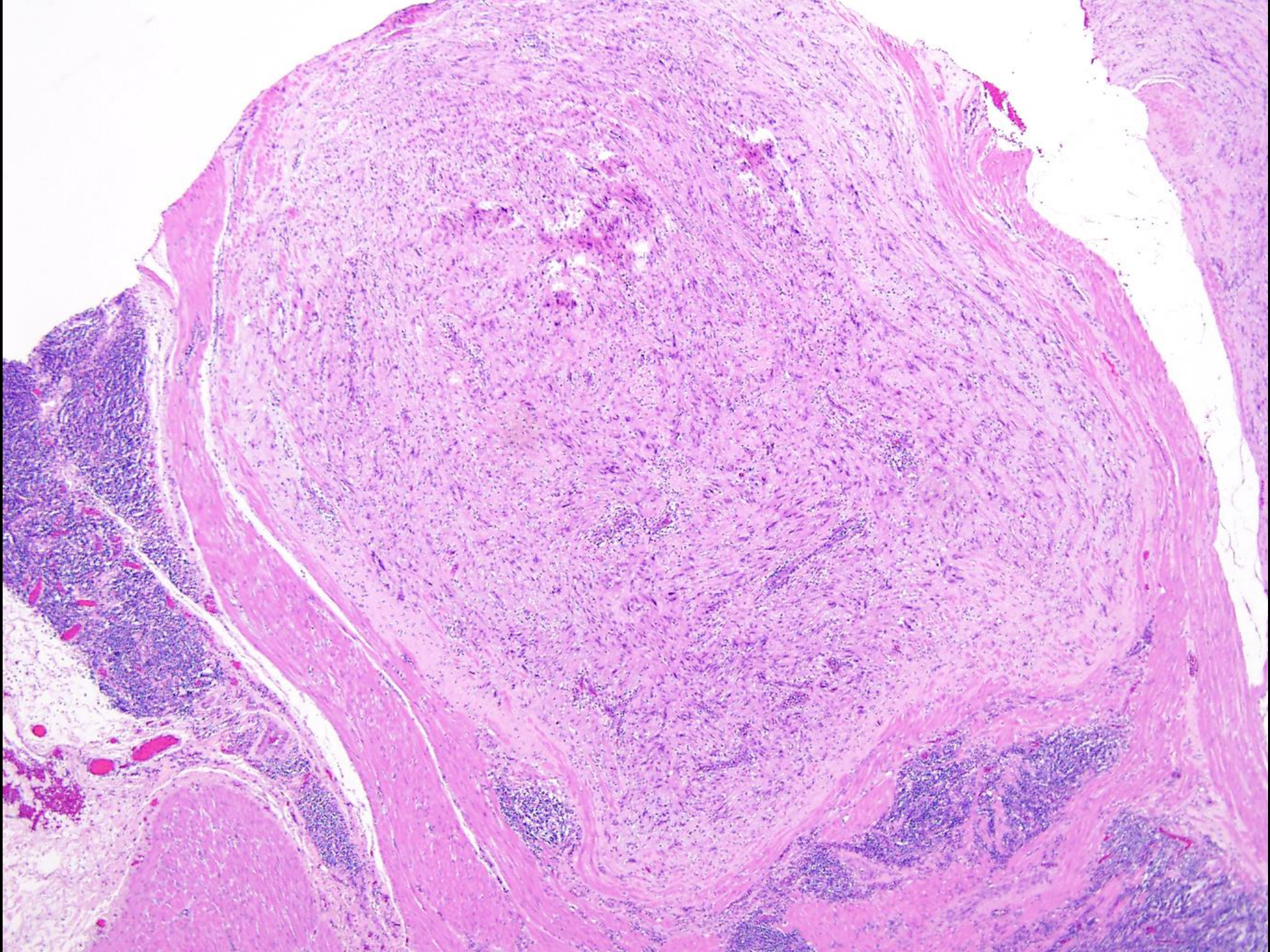


Angiosarcoma

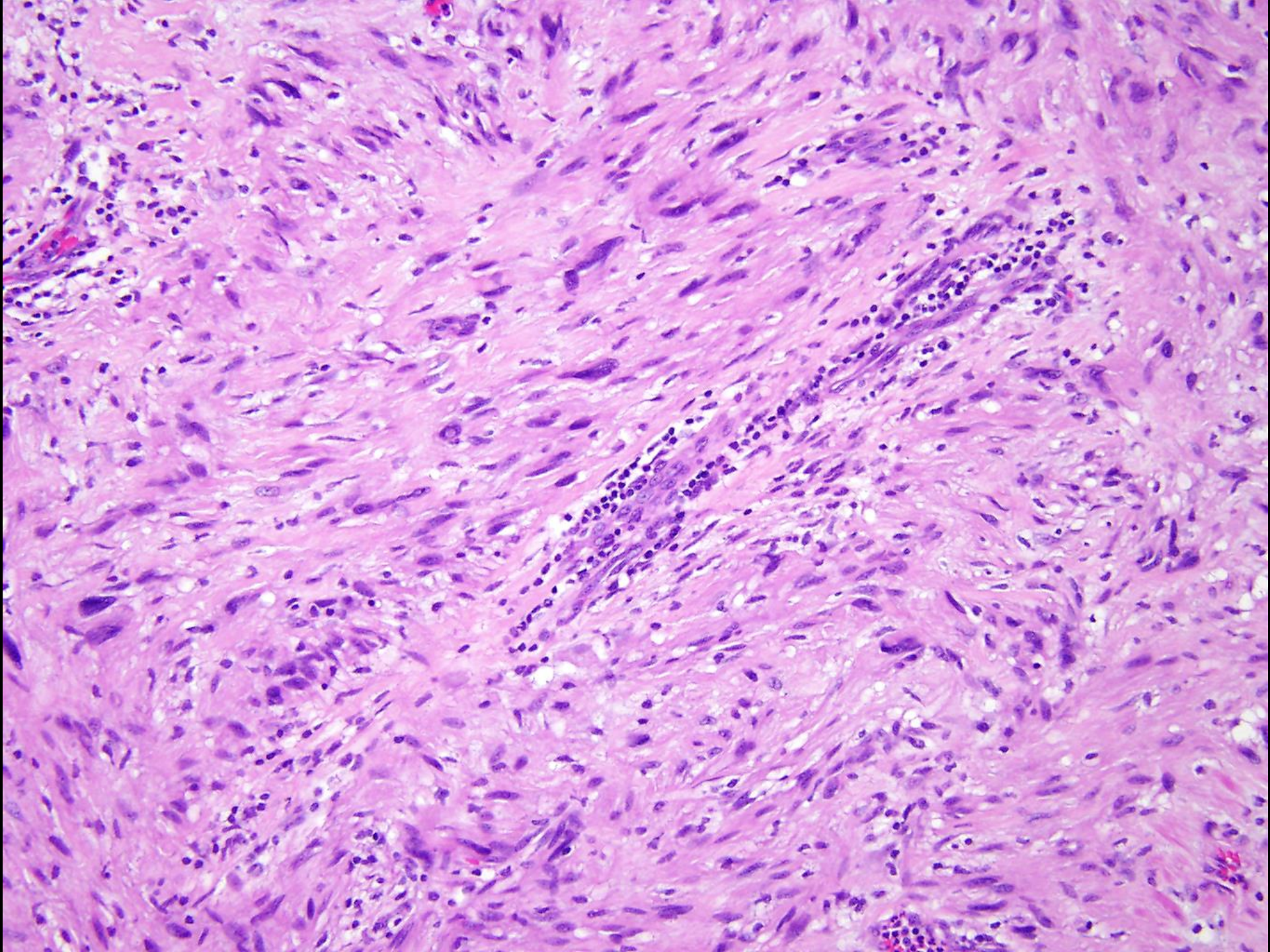


This gastric mass was resected from a 57 year old woman. The surgeon requested *KIT* mutational testing at the time of the operation.

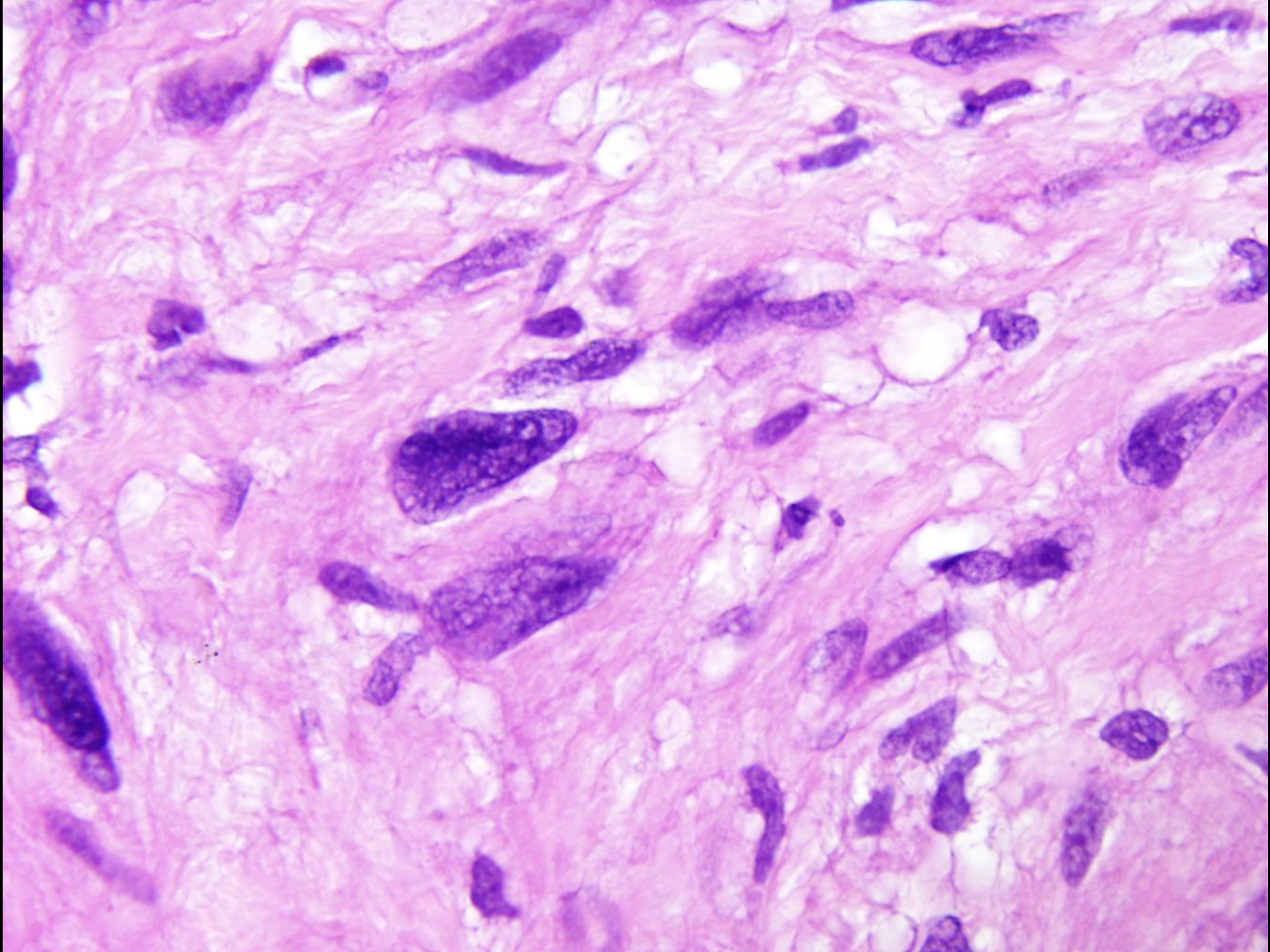














# Gastric schwannoma – Arises in Muscularis Propria





# GIT “Schwannomas”

- Most schwannomas occur in the stomach involving submucosa and muscularis propria. They rarely arise in the esophagus or colon.
- Lesions classified as GI schwannomas differ from the conventional somatic soft tissue schwannomas histologically by having peripheral lymphoid cuffs, lacking fibrous capsules or vascular hyalinization, and rarely showing degenerative changes.

- Voltaggio L, Murray R, Lasota J, Miettinen M. Gastric schwannoma: a clinicopathologic study of 51 cases and critical review of the literature. *Hum Pathol*. 2012 May;43(5):650-9. PMID: 22137423; PMCID: PMC3305846.

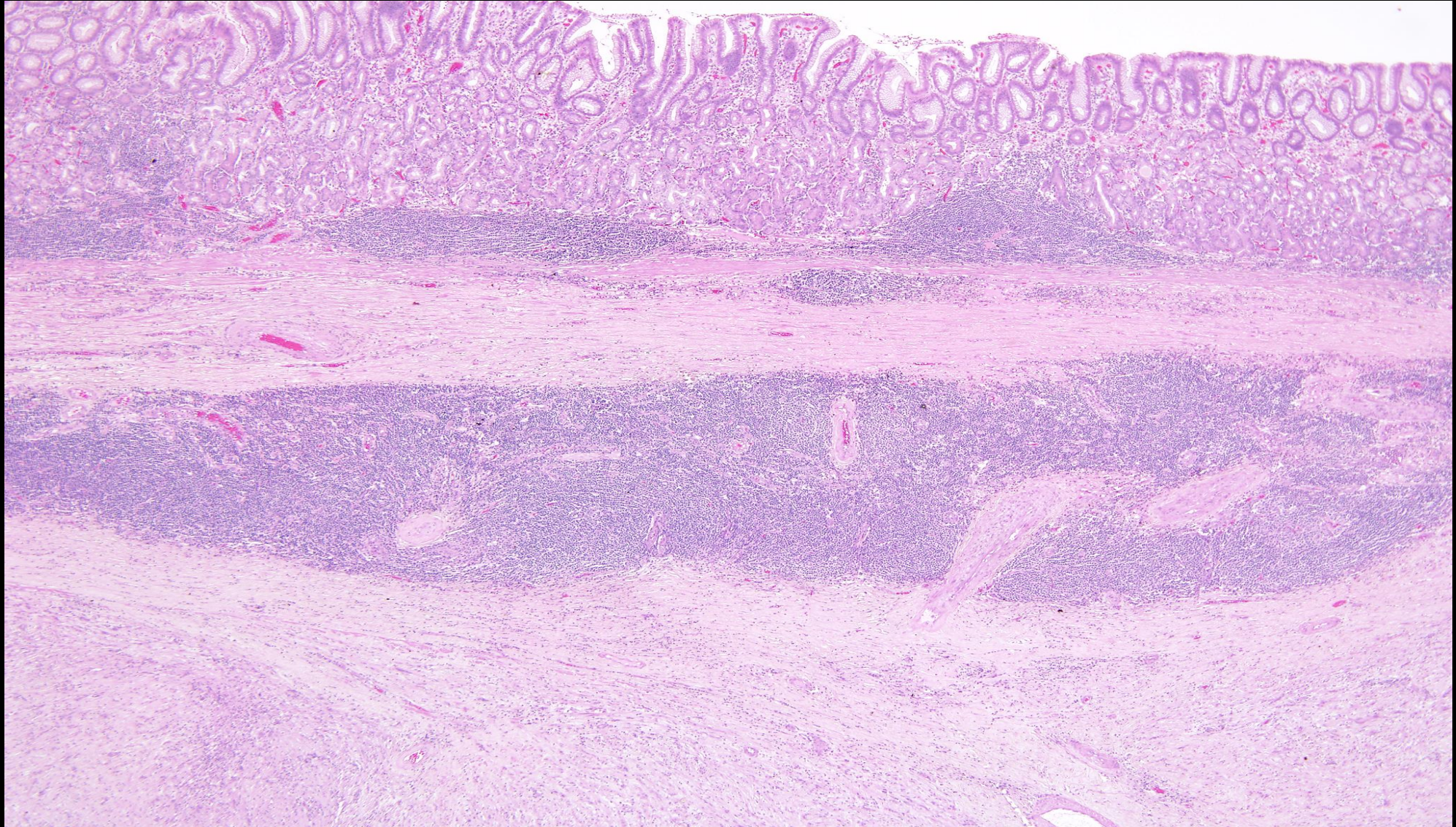


# GIT “Schwannomas”

- GI “schwannomas” lack alterations in the *NF2* gene found in many sporadic, conventional schwannomas from other sites.
- Most schwannomas express calretinin – GI “schwannomas” do not

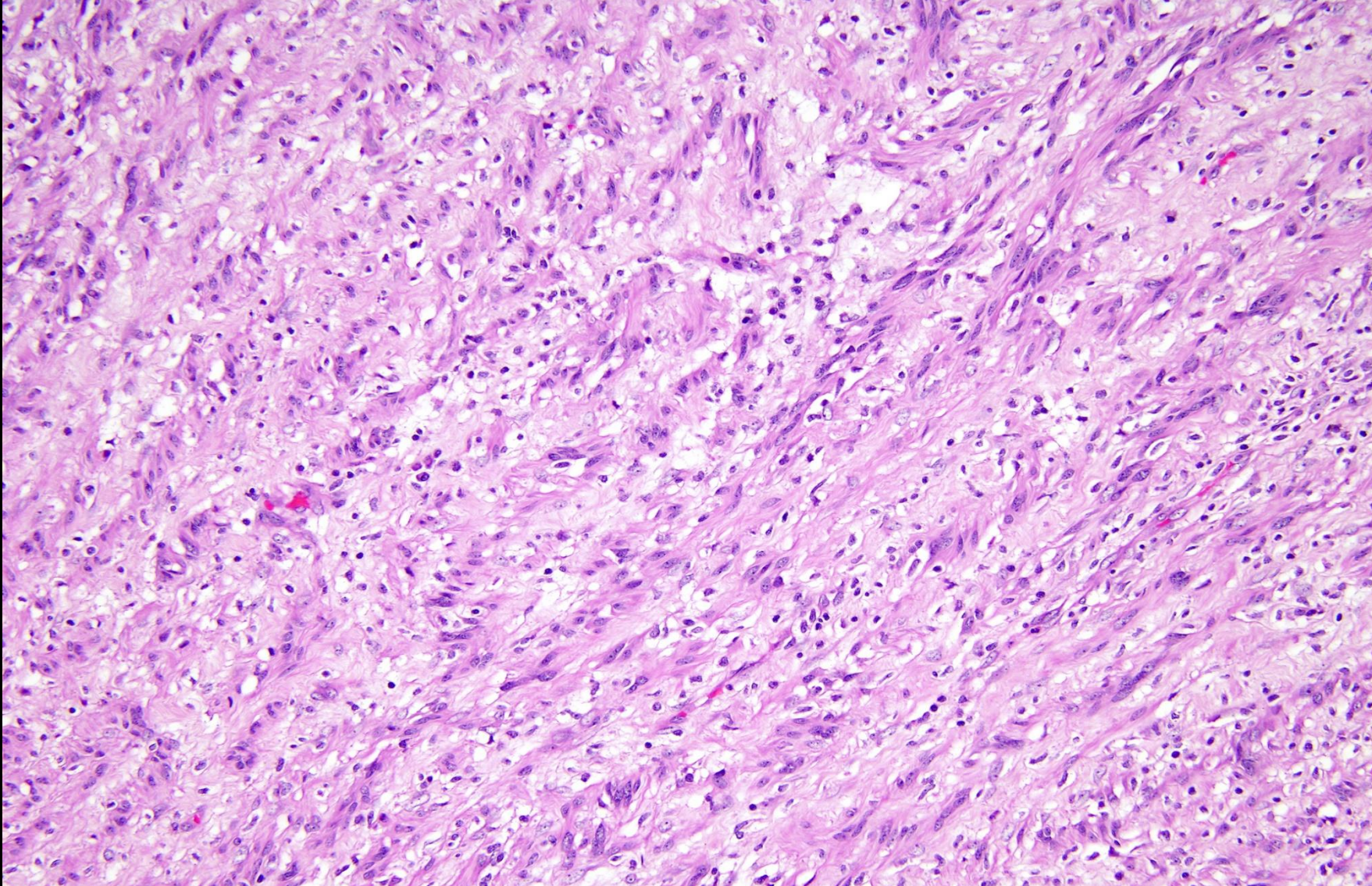


## Gastric schwannoma - Thick lymphoid cuff



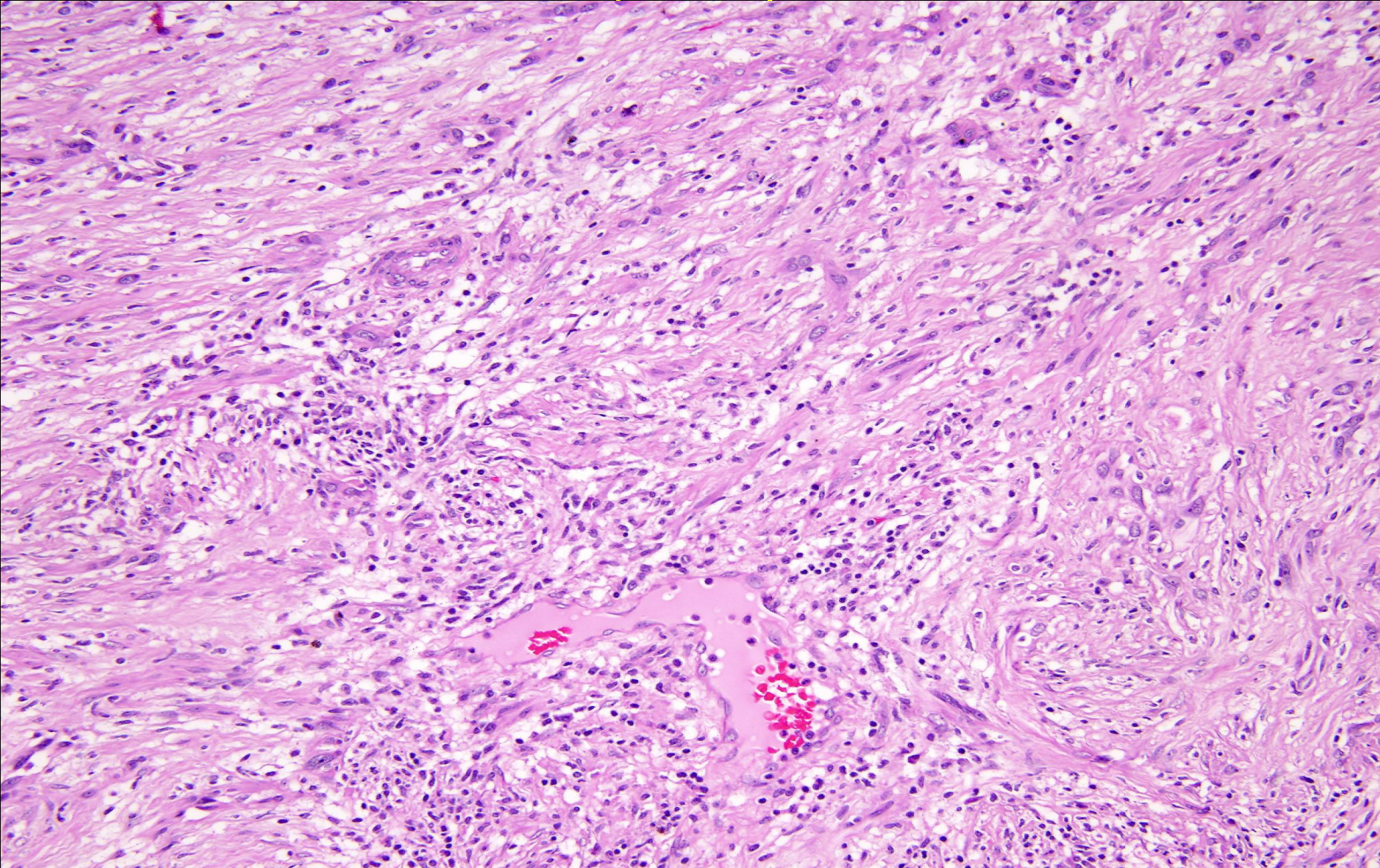


# Gastric schwannoma - Sort of palisading



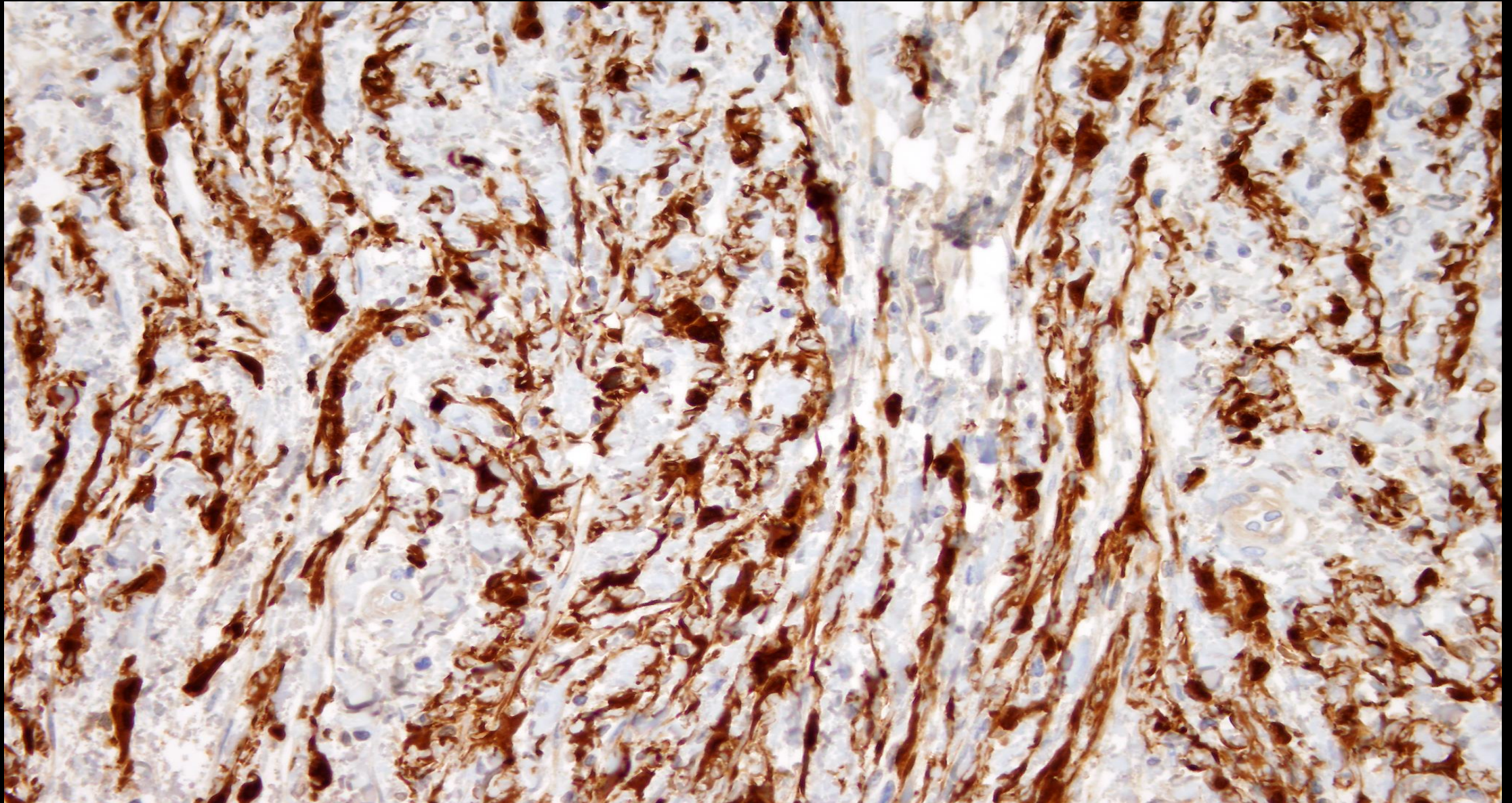


## Gastric schwannoma – plenty of inflammation





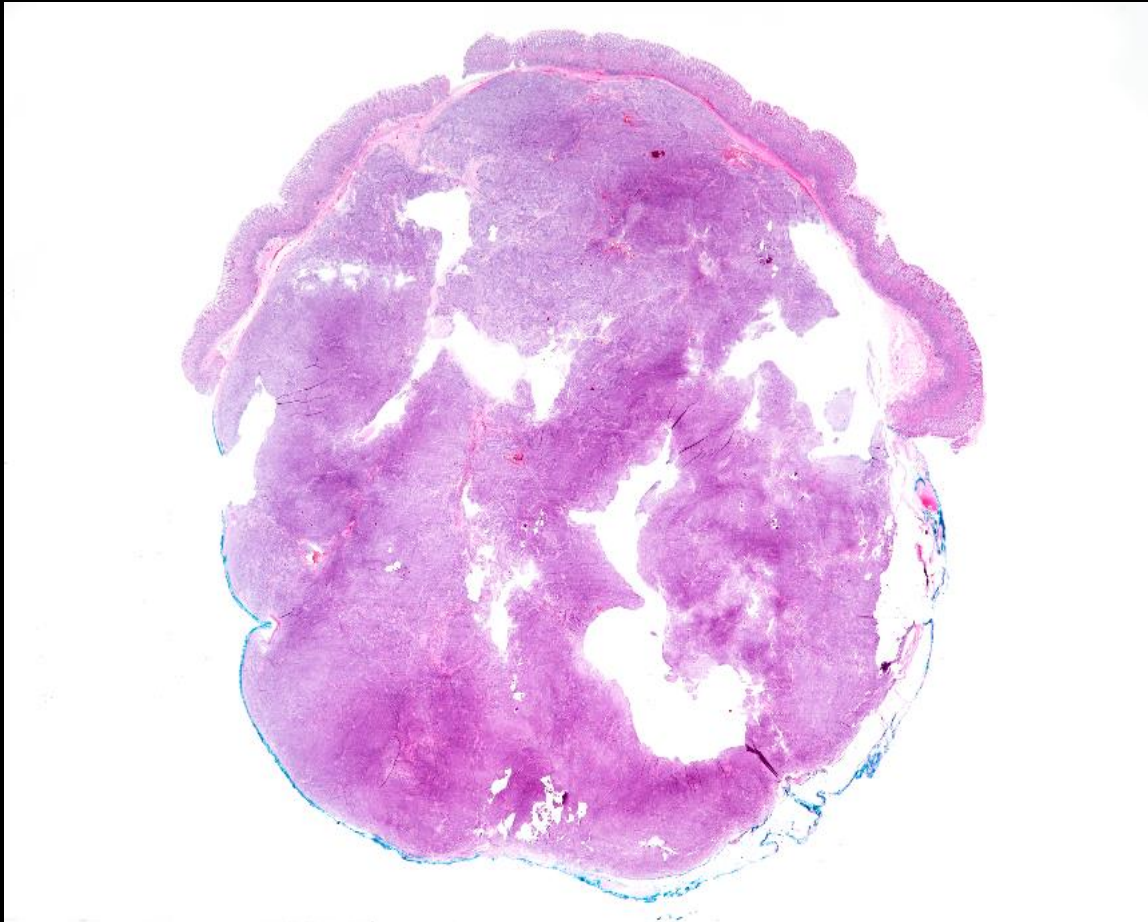
## Gastric schwannoma – S100 protein for nervous souls



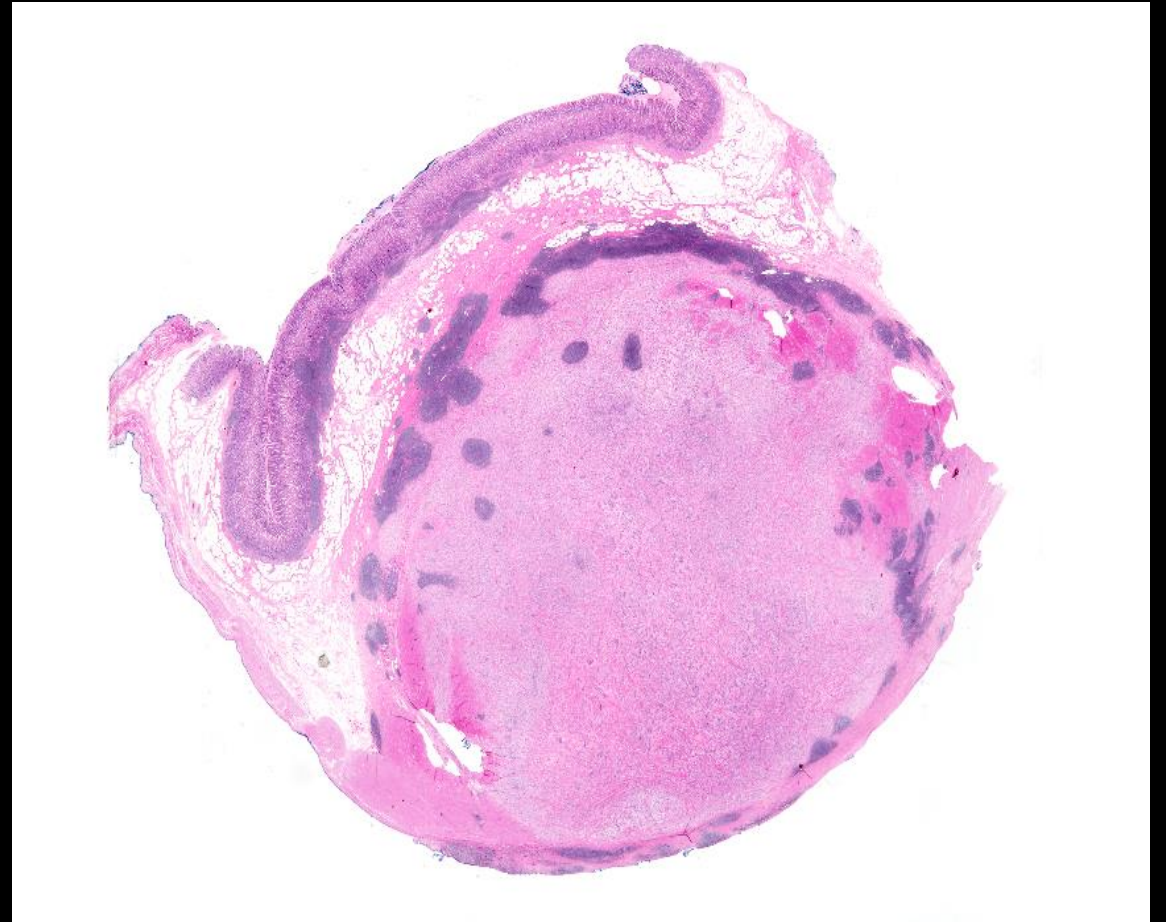


# Gastric Beauty Contest

GIST



Schwannoma



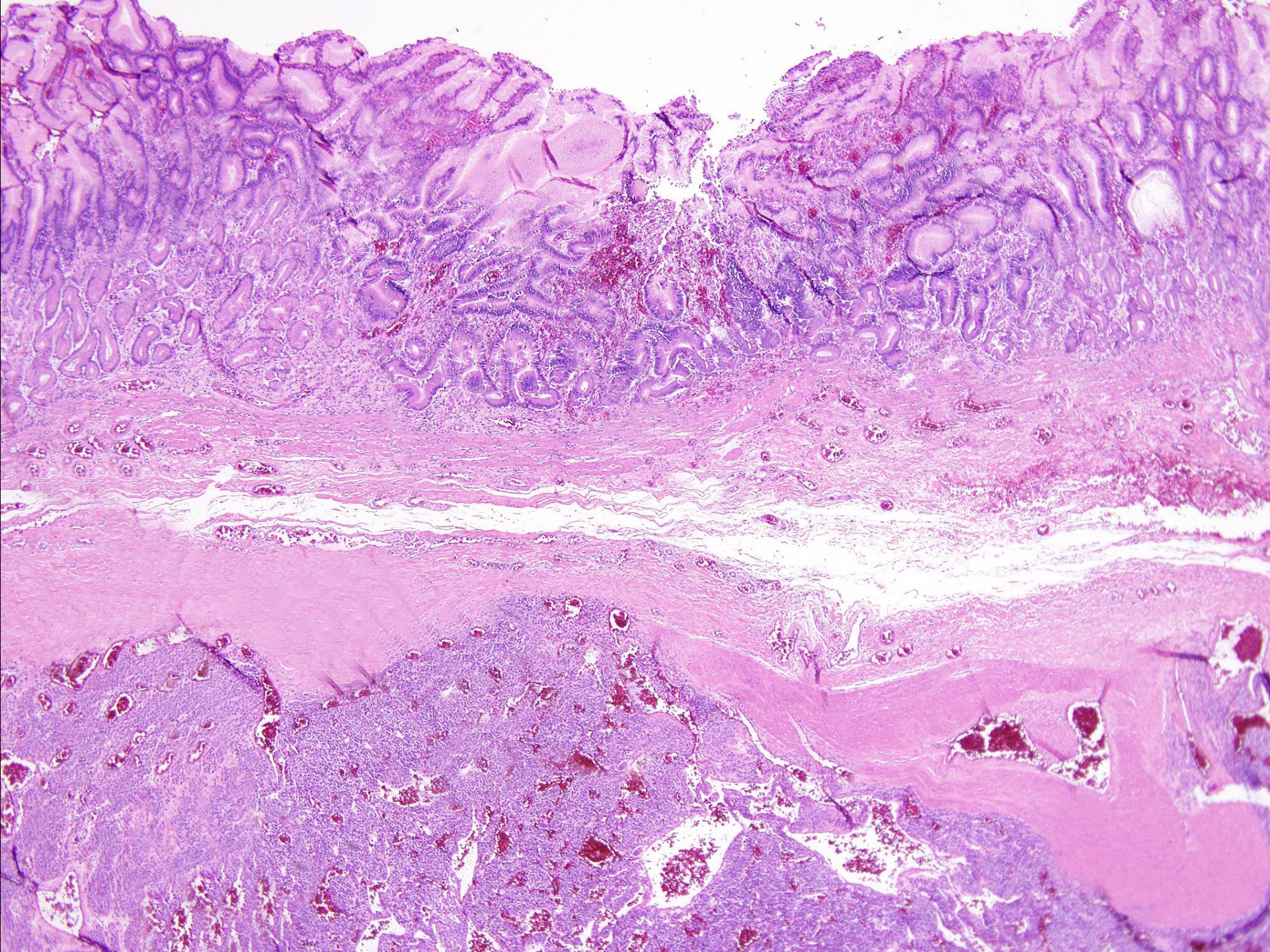


# GI Glomus Tumors

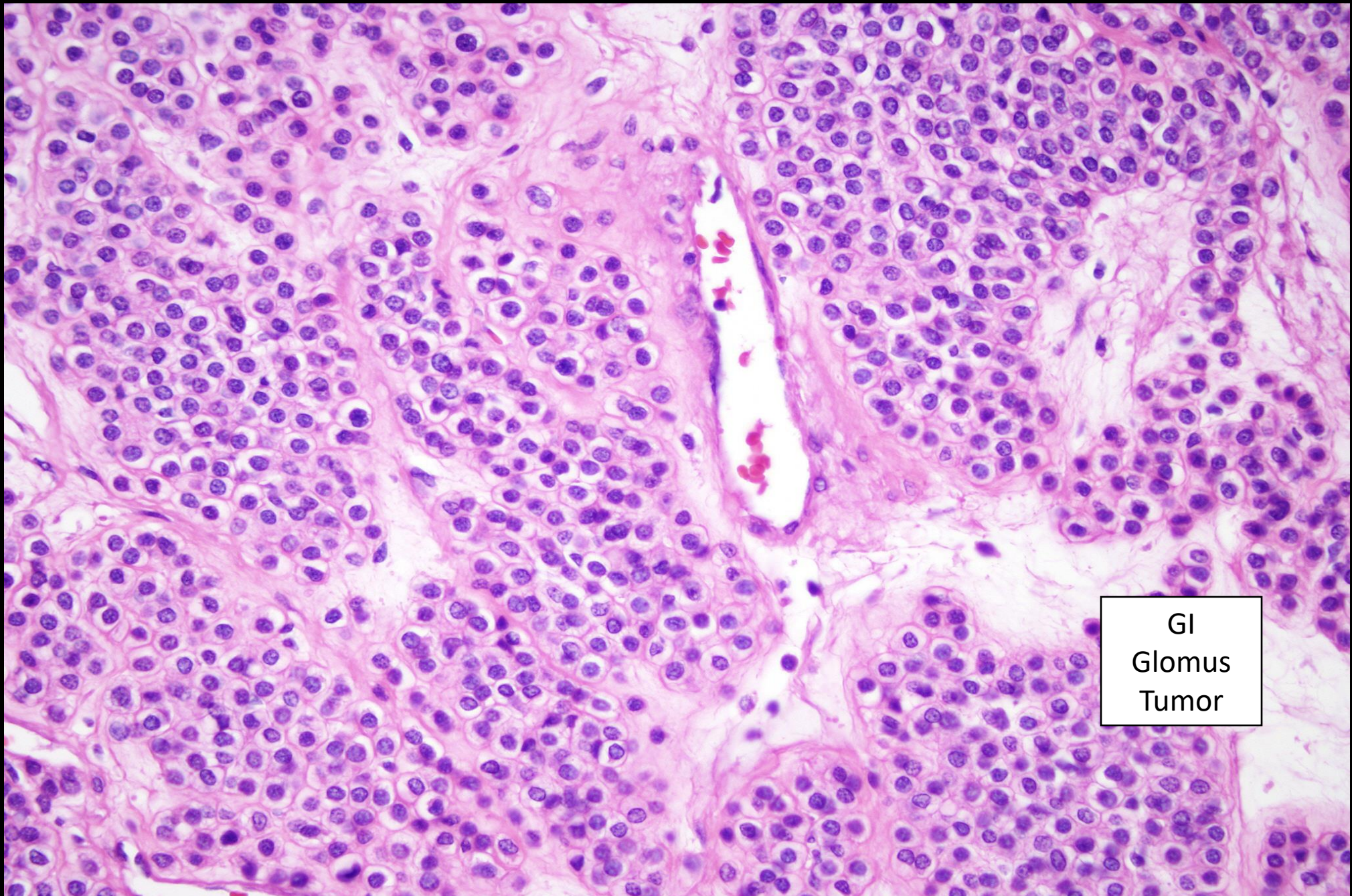
- Rare in the GI tract.
- Largest series (AFIP); female predominance, median age at presentation of 55 years.
- Majority in stomach
- May present with severe bleeding producing melena.
- The vast majority behaves in a benign fashion.
- However, some examples are lethal with metastases.
- *Difficult to predict which will have an unfavorable outcome – proposal of  $\geq 5\text{cm}$  with  $\geq 2$  mitoses/10 hpf as malignant.*
- **Esophageal examples (rare) seem to be aggressive**
- Birkness-Gartman JE, Wangsiricharoen S, Lazar AJ, Gross JM. Oesophageal glomus tumours: rare neoplasms with aggressive clinical behaviour. Histopathology. 2023 Jun;82(7):1048-1055. PMID: 36788021.)
- Papke DJ Jr, Sholl LM, Doyle LA, Fletcher CDM, Hornick JL. Gastroesophageal Glomus Tumors: Clinicopathologic and Molecular Genetic Analysis of 26 Cases With a Proposal for Malignancy Criteria. Am J Surg Pathol. 2022 Oct 1;46(10):1436-1446. PMID: 35703141.



GI Glomus  
Tumors  
Denizens of  
muscularis  
propria







GI  
Glomus  
Tumor

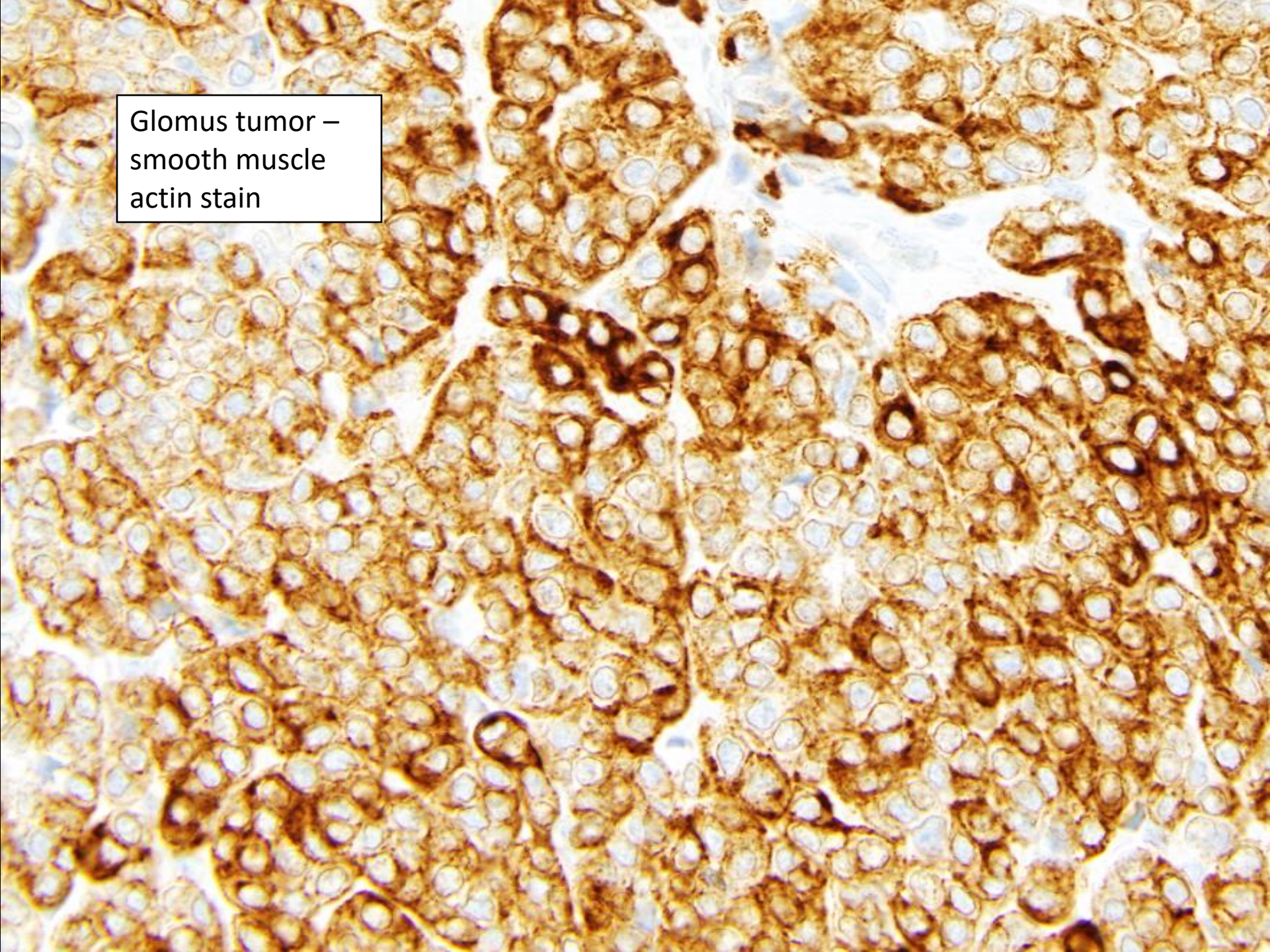


# GI Glomus Tumors, Ancillary Studies

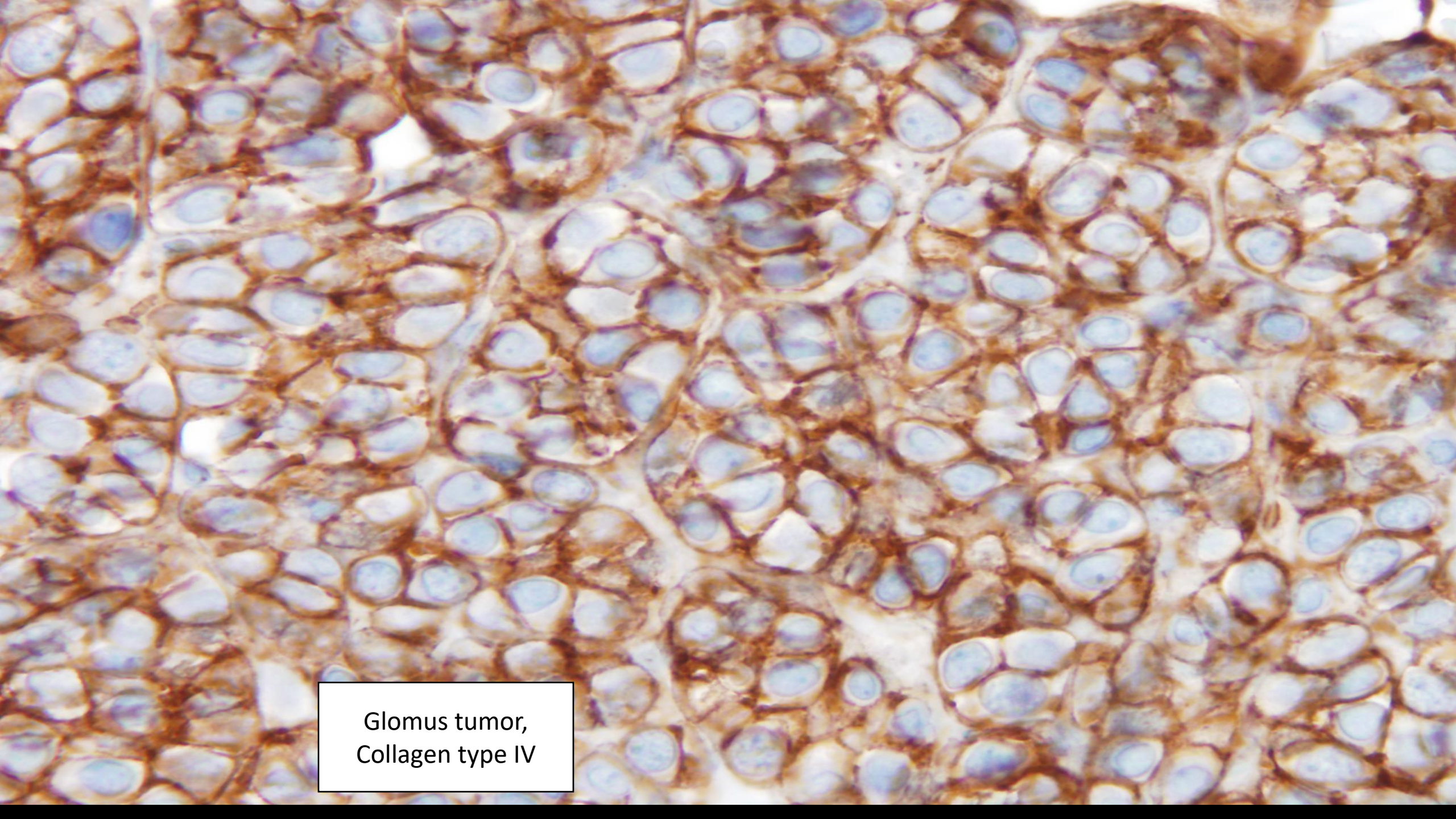
- Express smooth muscle actin, calponin, and h-caldesmon but lack desmin.
- Pericellular net-like positivity is seen with basement membrane proteins (laminin and collagen type IV).
- Some cases have focal CD34.
- No CD117/kit expression – No *KIT* mutations.
- Some cases express synaptophysin but these tumors lack chromogranin and they lack keratin.
- *MIR143::NOTCH* fusion Genes Chromosomes and Cancer 2013; 52:1075



Glomus tumor –  
smooth muscle  
actin stain

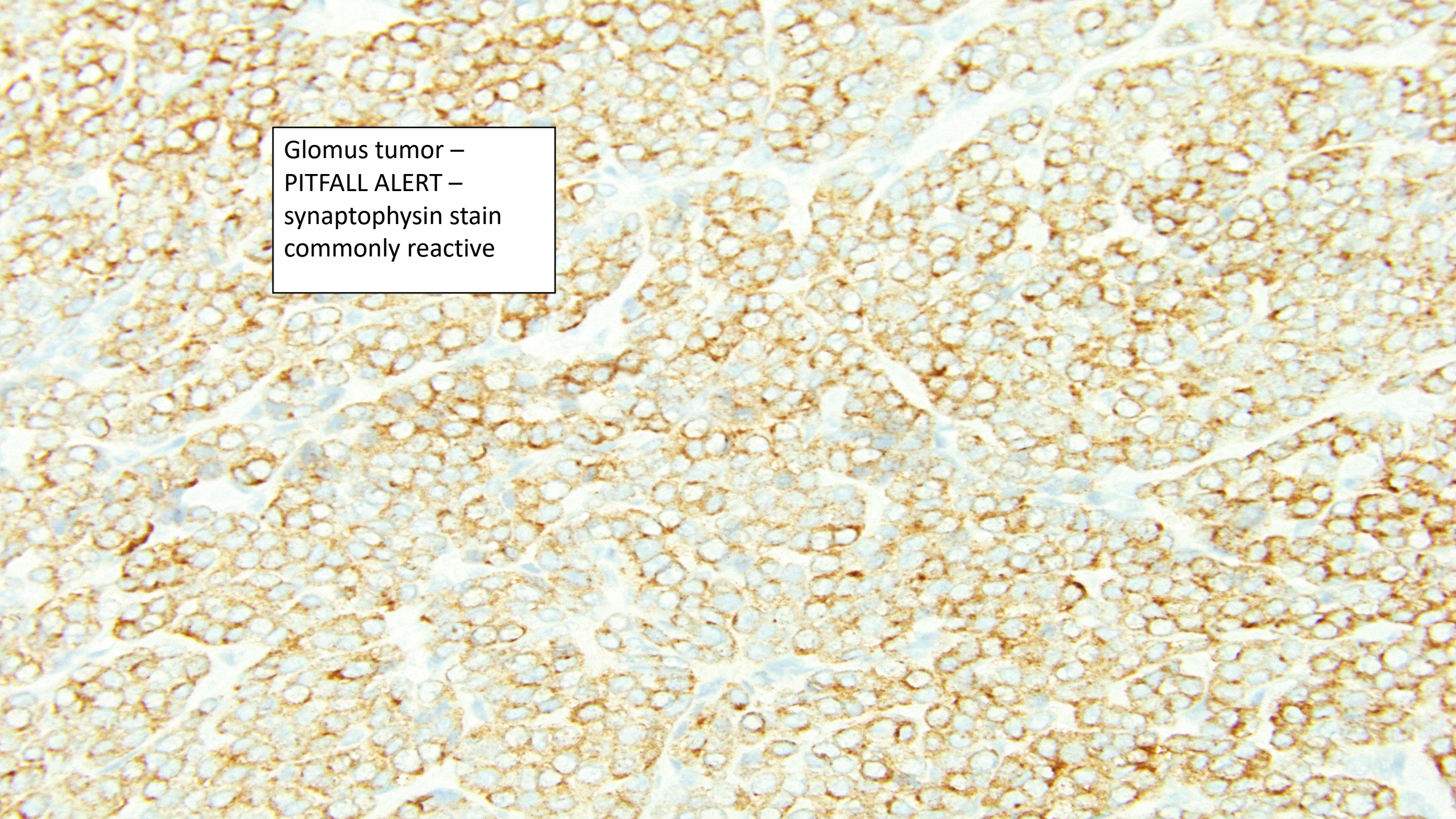






Glomus tumor,  
Collagen type IV



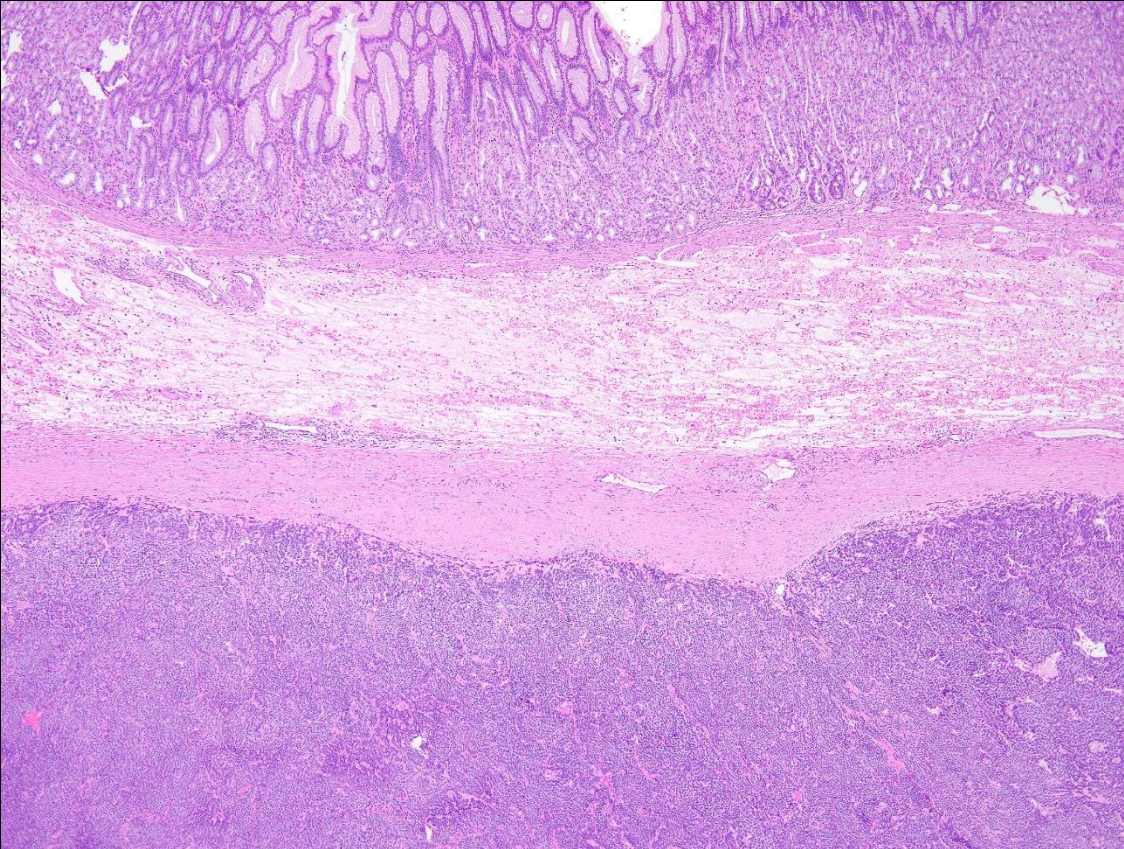


Glomus tumor –  
PITFALL ALERT –  
synaptophysin stain  
commonly reactive

This histological image shows a glomus tumor, characterized by nests of cells. The cells are stained with synaptophysin, which appears as brown granules within the cytoplasm of the cells. The background tissue is stained with hematoxylin, showing blue nuclei. The overall pattern is a dense collection of these brown-stained cell nests separated by thin layers of connective tissue.



# Glomus Tumor (L) versus NET (R)



Well differentiated neuroendocrine (carcinoid tumor – lives at the junction of the mucosa and submucosa – this is an endoscopic mucosal resection specimen



# Emperor of The Muscularis Propria



# GIST –

Stromal tumors of GI tract  
of spindle or epithelioid morphology, which are  
typically immunohistochemically positive for  
KIT (CD117)

Identical tumors arise in  
omentum, mesentery, retroperitoneum  
bladder, gall bladder

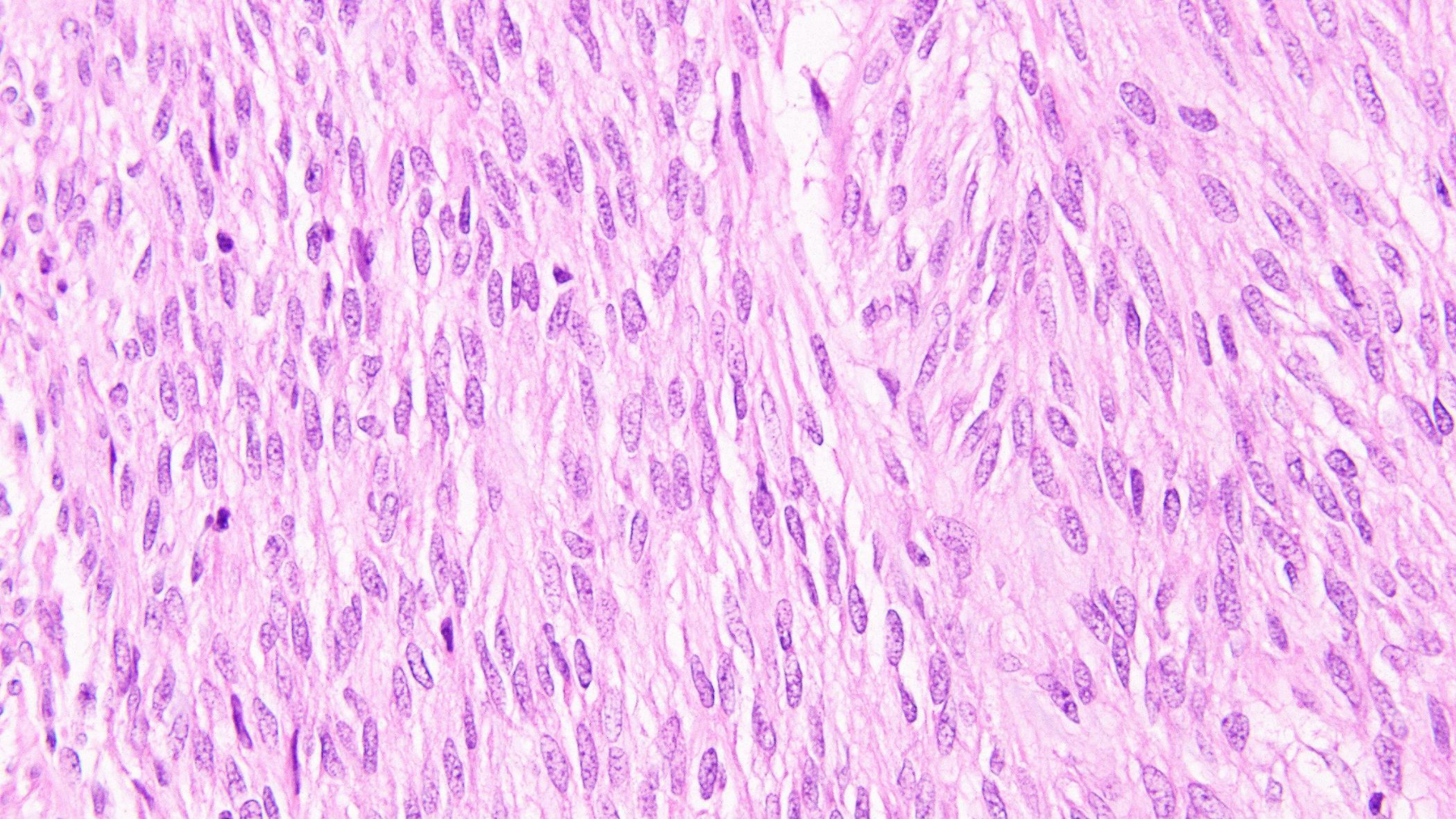


# GIST

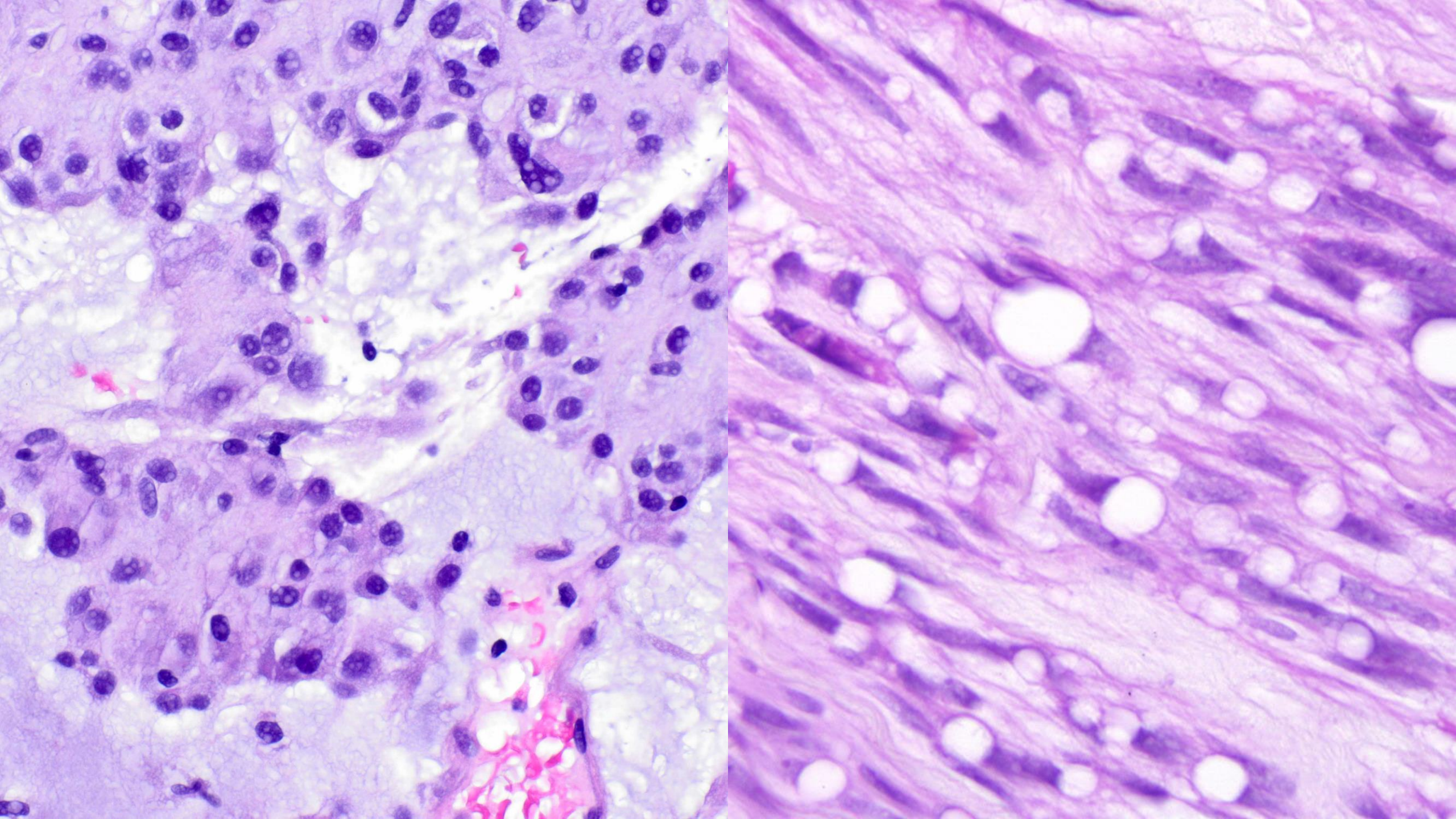
- 5-10% of all sarcomas
- 5,000/yr. in US
- 1% of GI malignancy
- M > F >50 yrs.
- Pain, bleeding, mass
- Incidental
- Metastasis



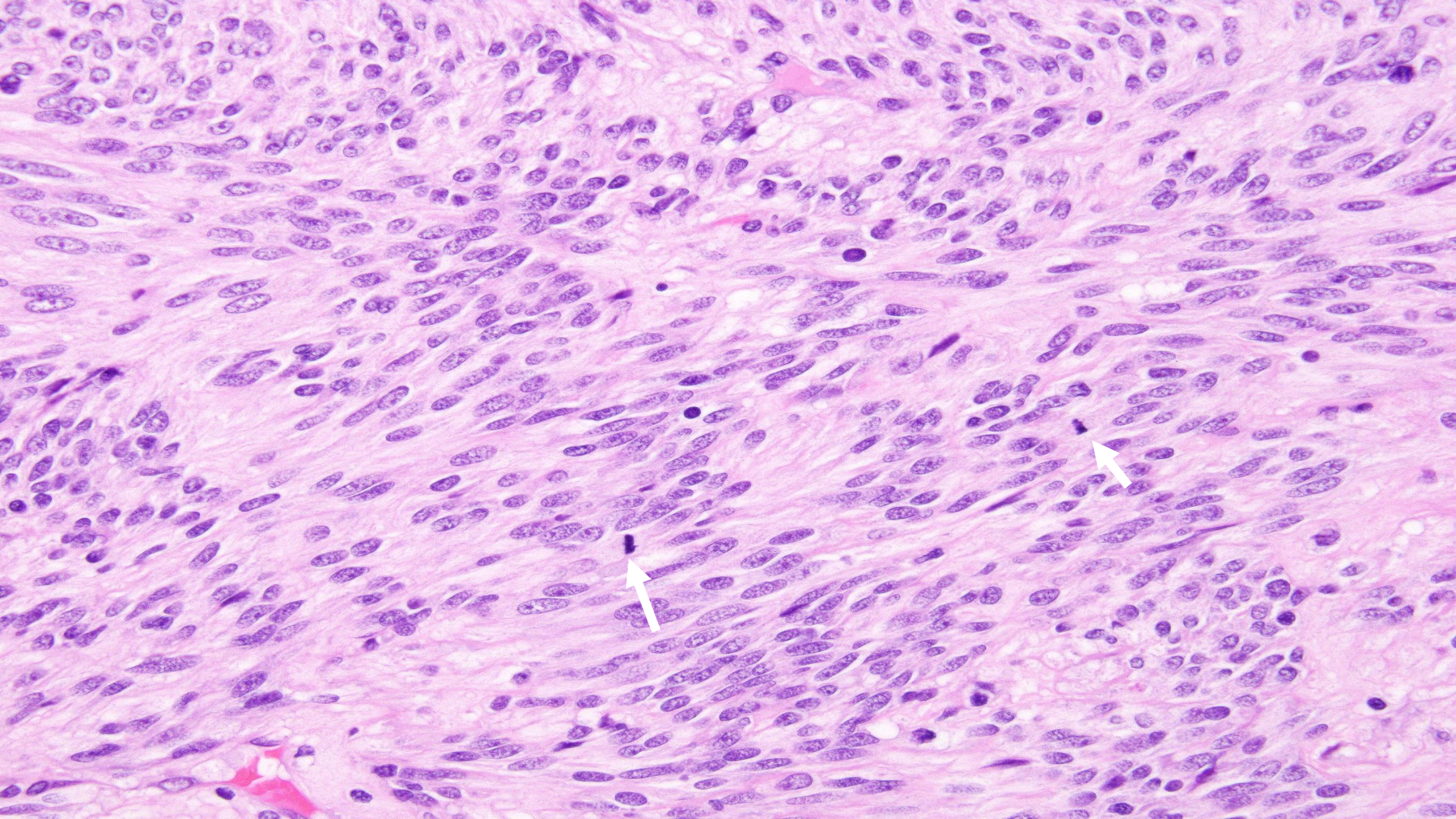




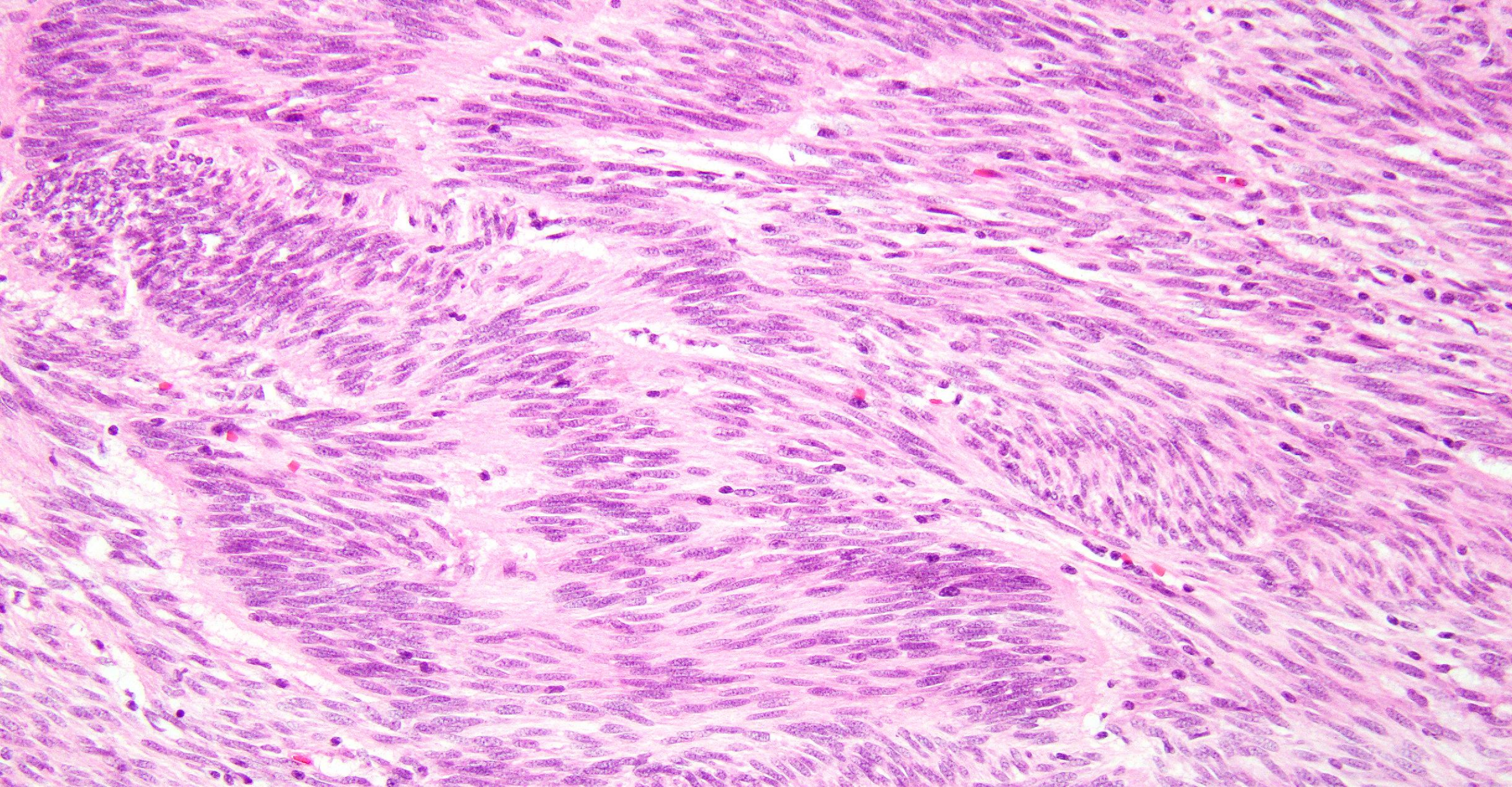




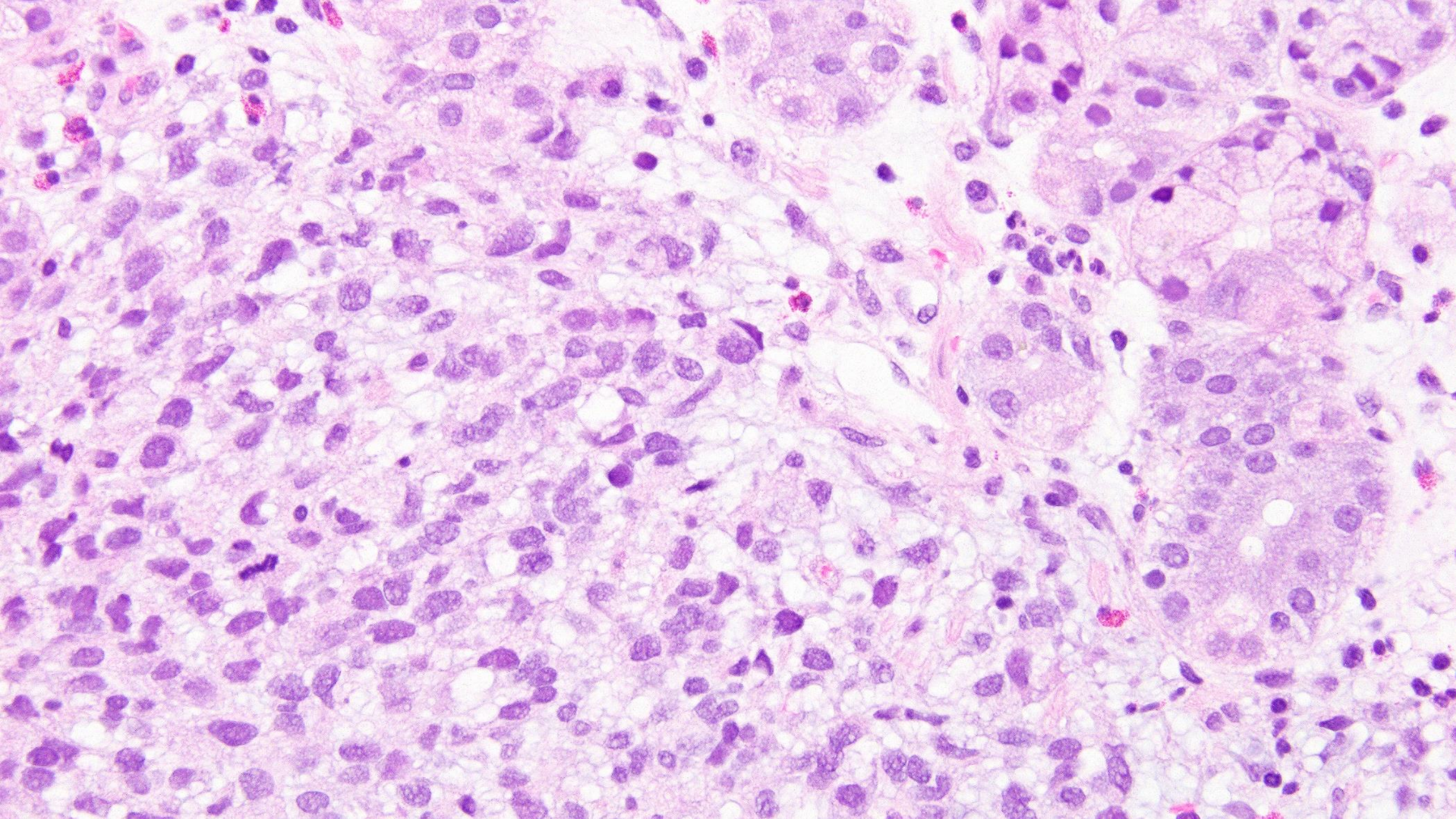






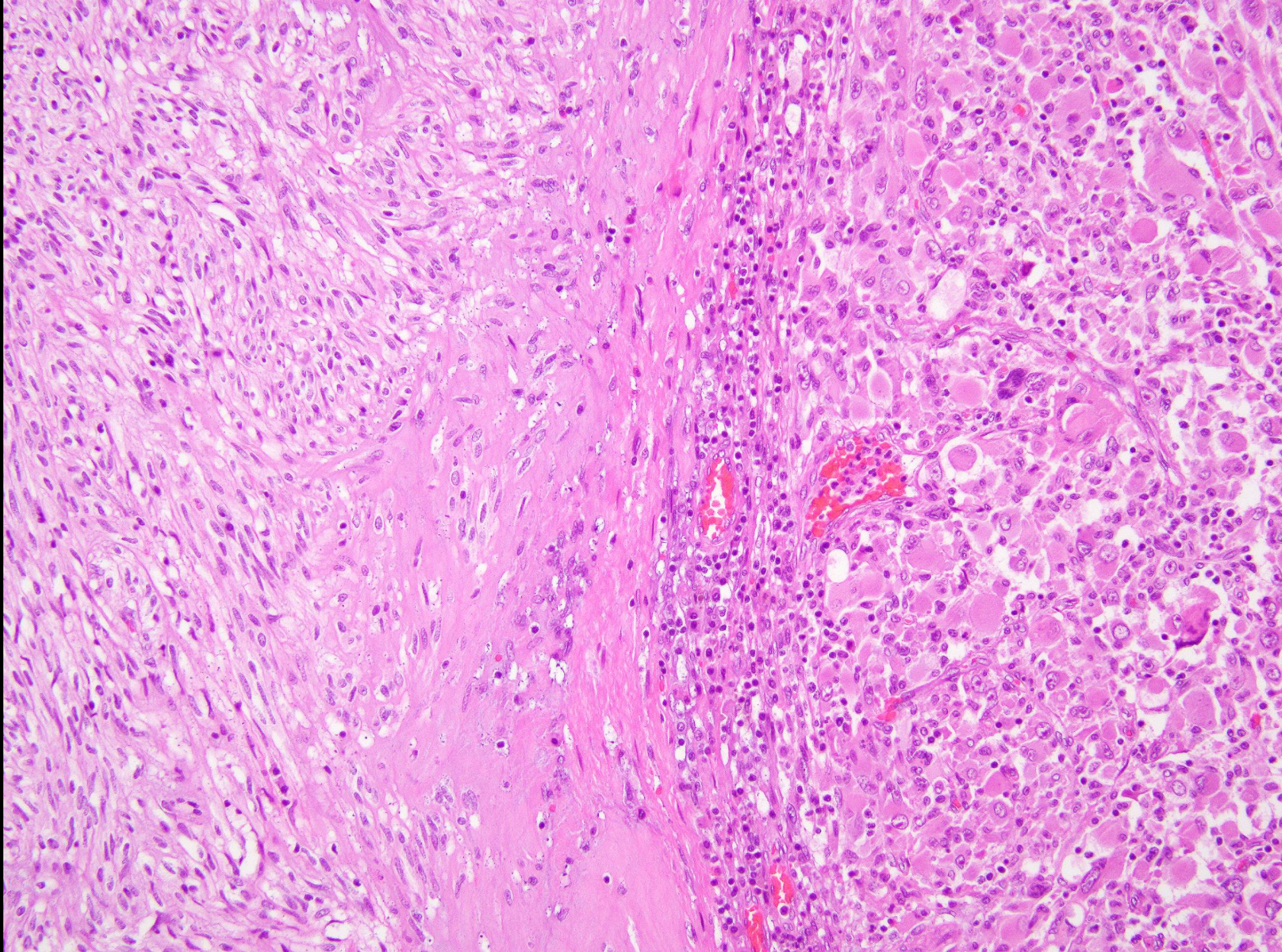








Dedifferentiated  
GIST





# GIST: Associations

- Familial, multiple germline *KIT* mutation (11) or *PDGFRA* mutation
- NF-1  
NF-1 product/c-kit interaction [lack *KIT* mutations but stain with kit antibodies]
- Carney's triad:  
epithelioid GIST  
paraganglioma  
pulmonary chondroma



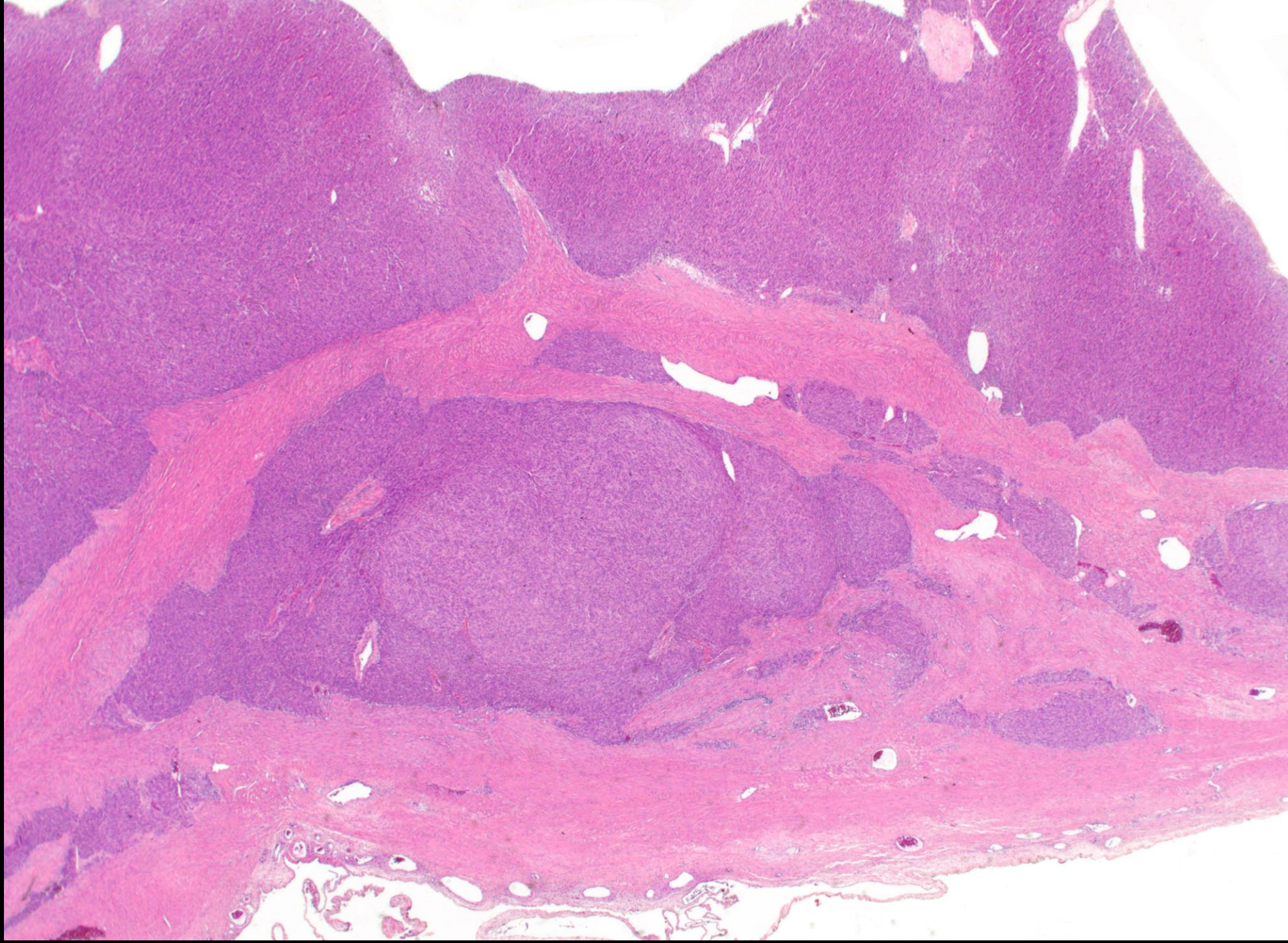


# Family of *KIT* wild type GISTS – All Stain With KIT/DOG1 Immunostains

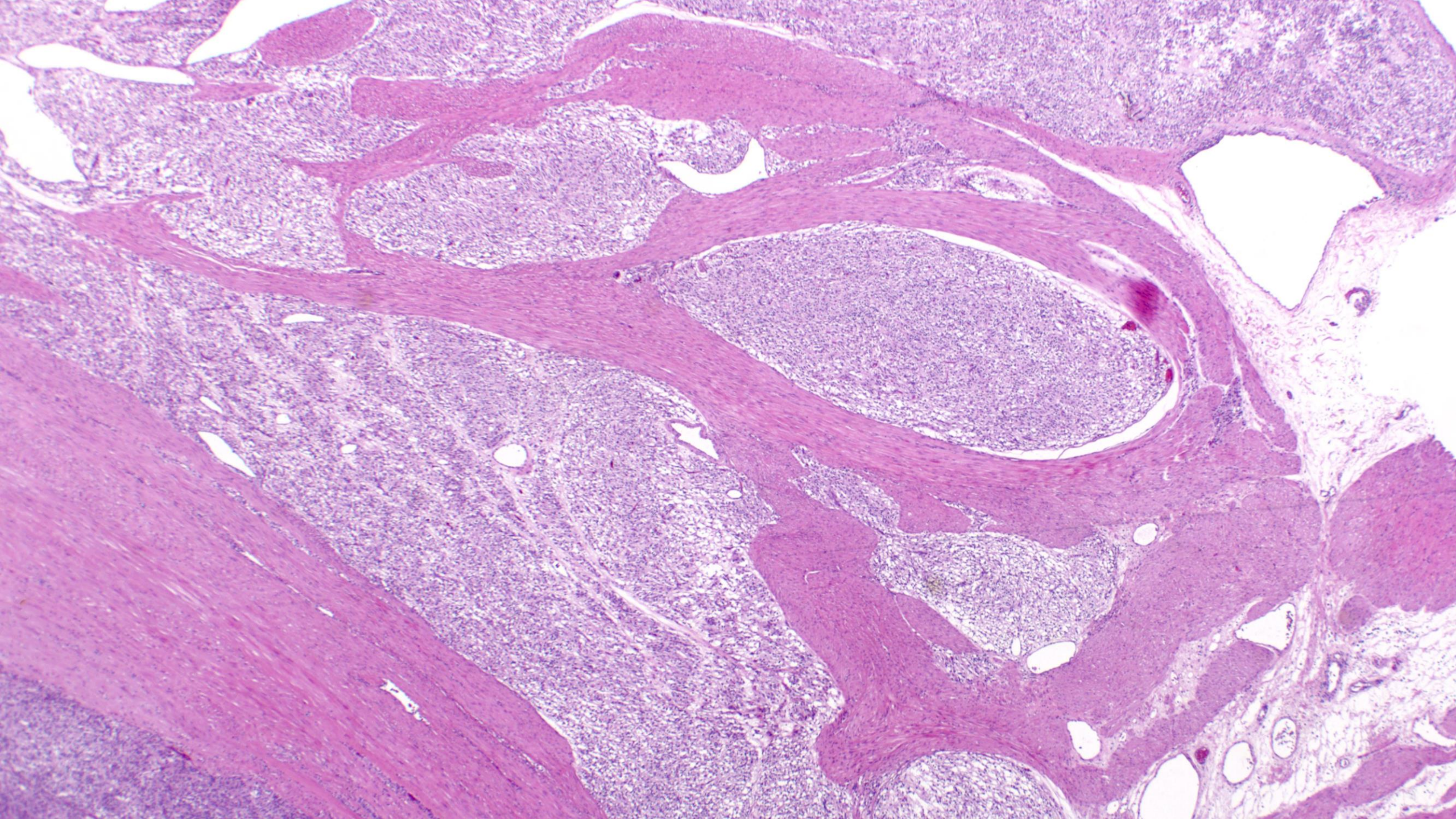
- NF1-associated
- Succinate dehydrogenase deficient ones:
  - About 7% of all GISTS (one study says 15% - referral bias)
  - Most pediatric cases
  - Gastric location
  - Often epithelioid with plexiform growth; LN mets; indolent course; no response to imatinib
  - Associated with Carney triad (GIST, paraganglioma, pulmonary chondroma – promotor methylation of *SDH* genes), Carney-Stratakis syndrome (GISTs and paraganglioma; affected families with germline mutations in either *SDHB*, *SDHC* or *SDHD*)



Succinate  
dehydrogenase  
deficient  
GIST  
Plexiform pattern

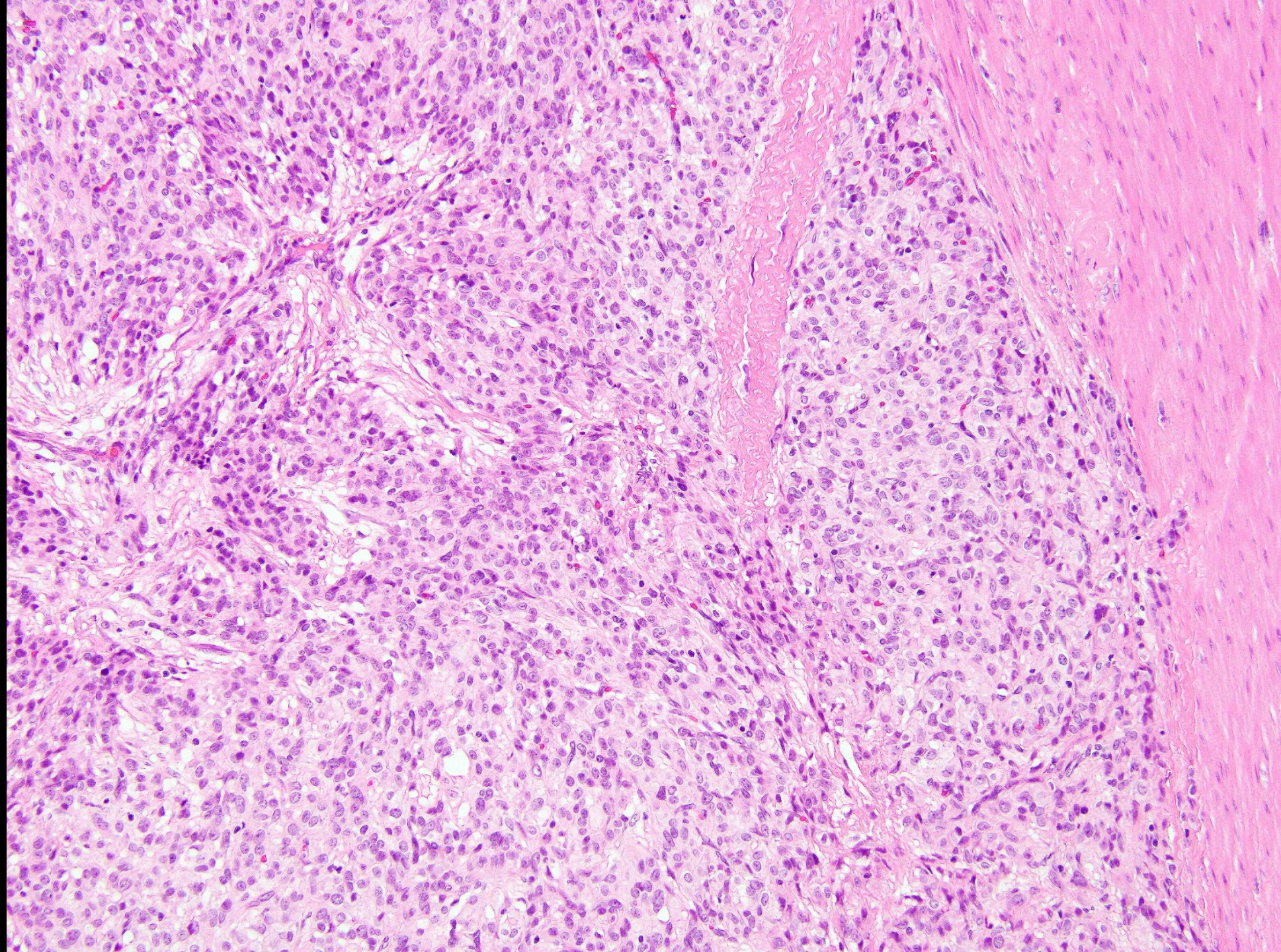




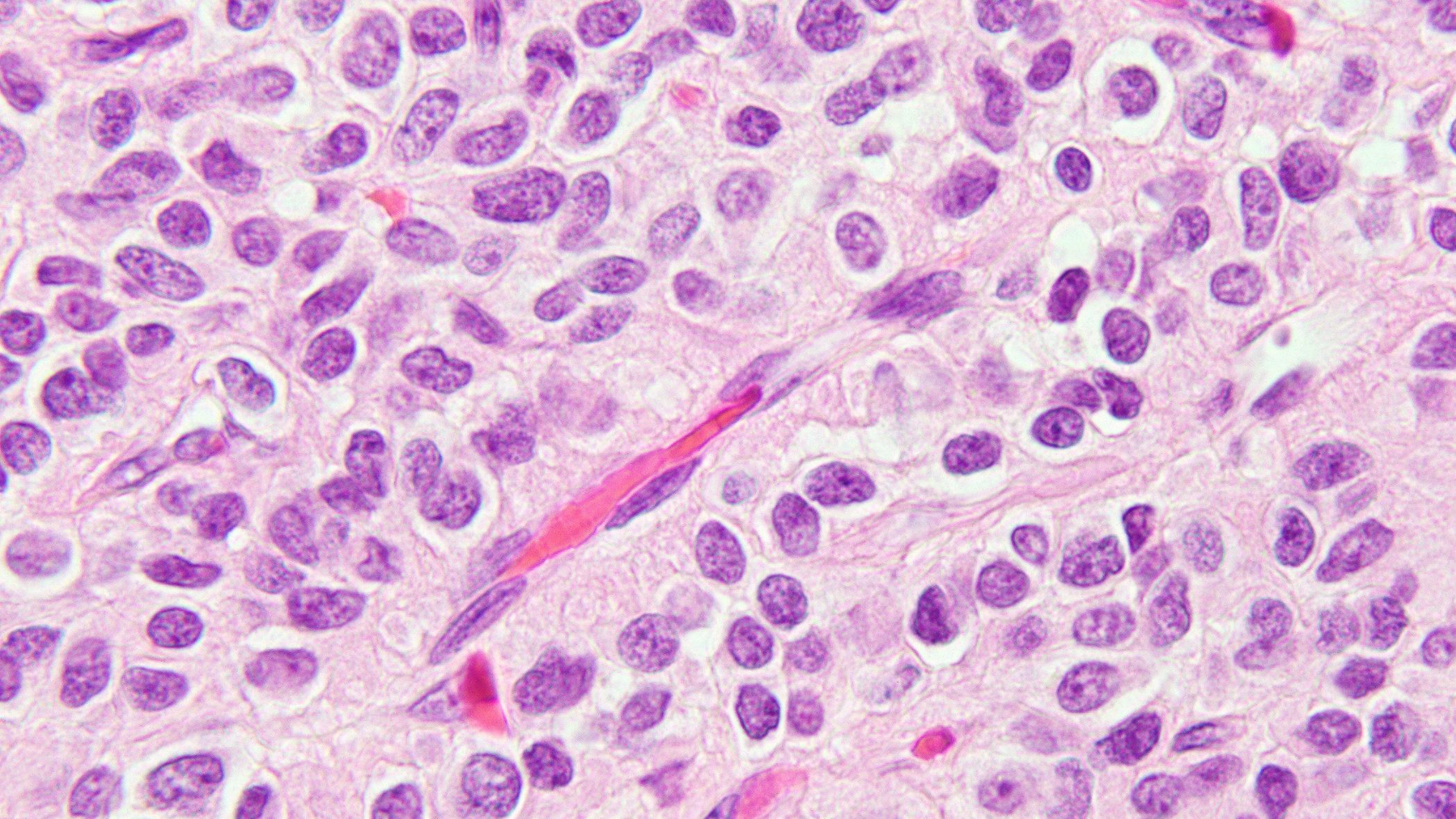




Succinate  
dehydrogenase  
deficient GIST;  
Epithelioid  
morphology

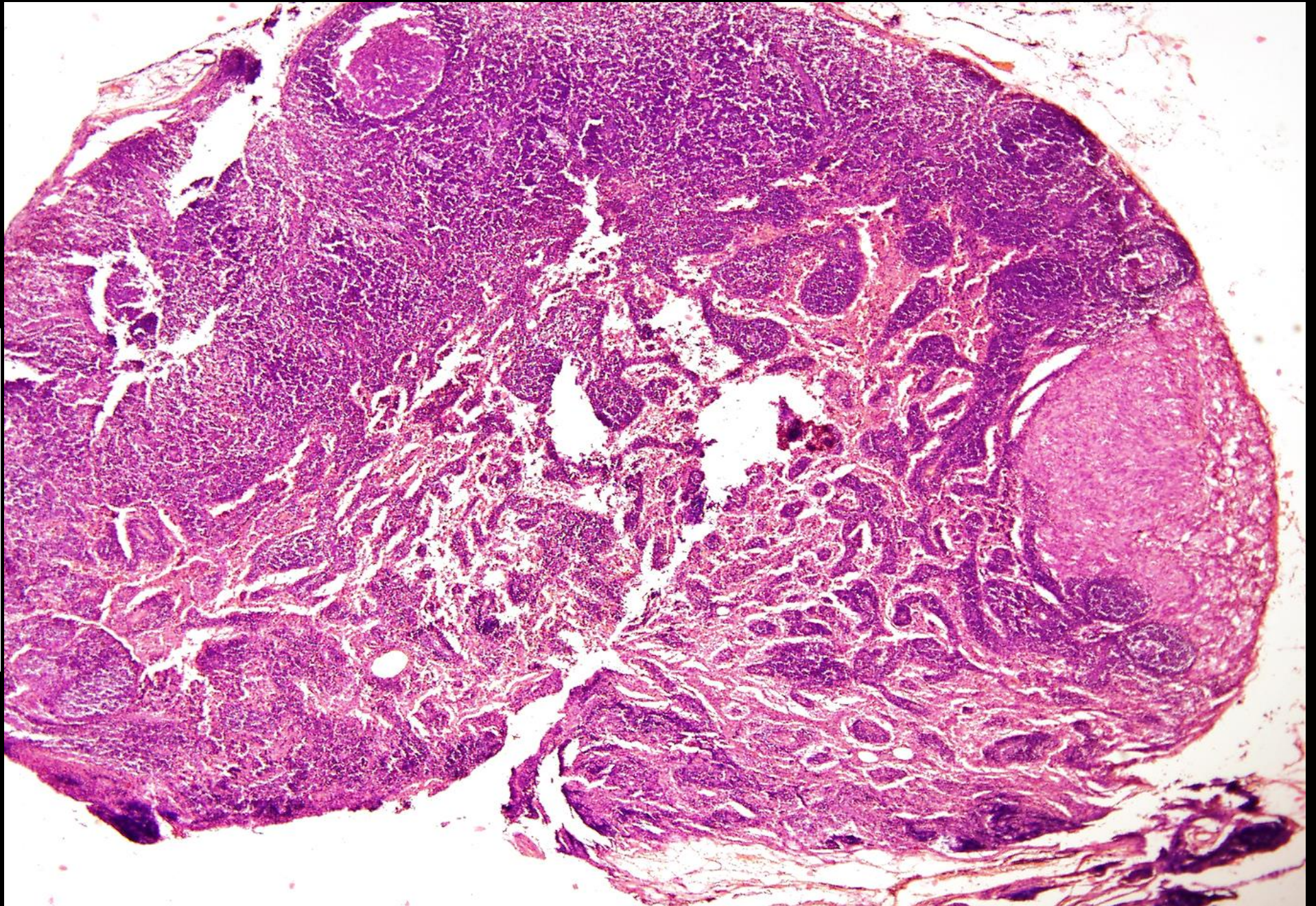






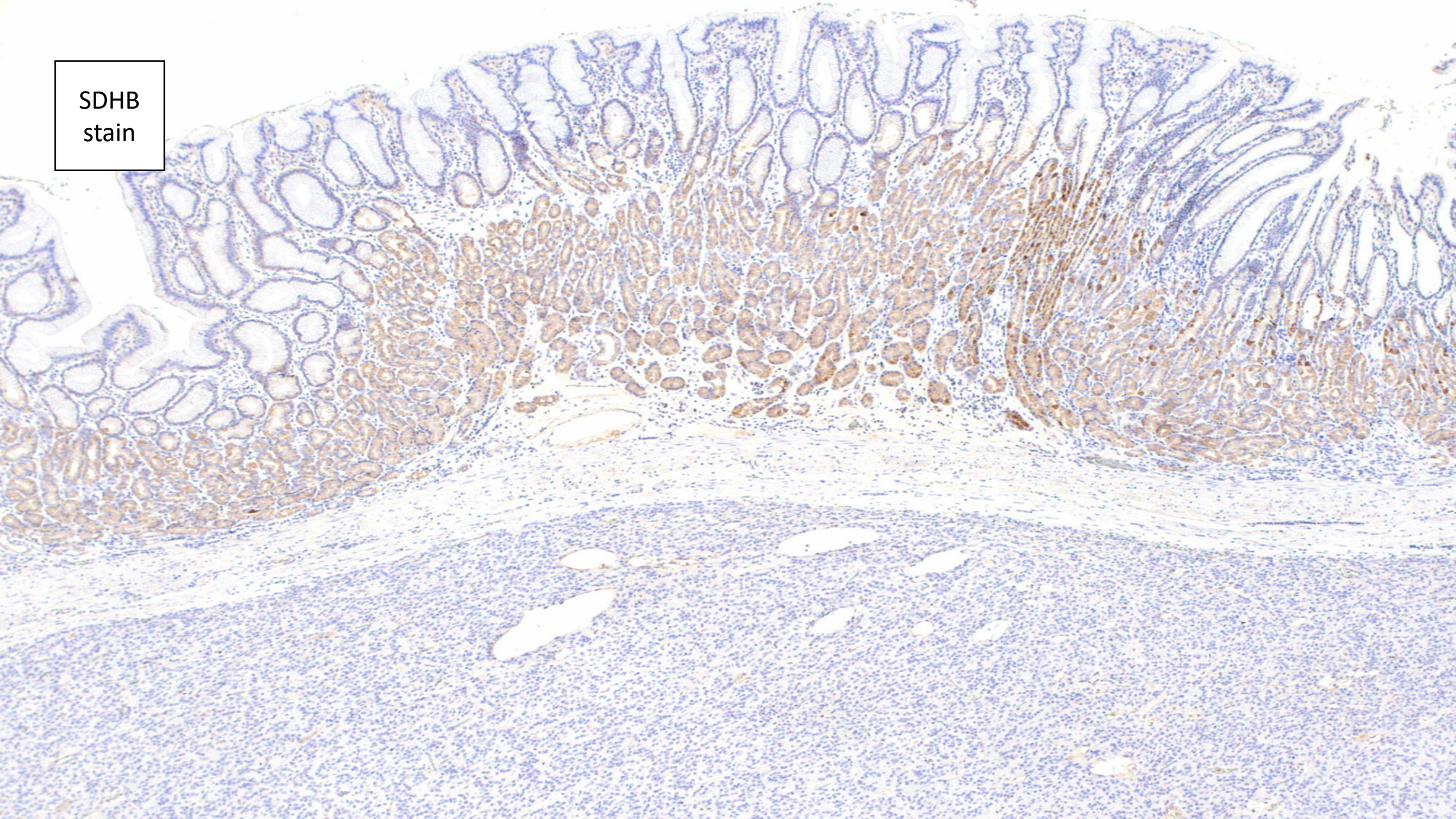


Succinate  
dehydrogenase  
deficient GIST –  
spread to lymph  
nodes but  
indolent  
behavior

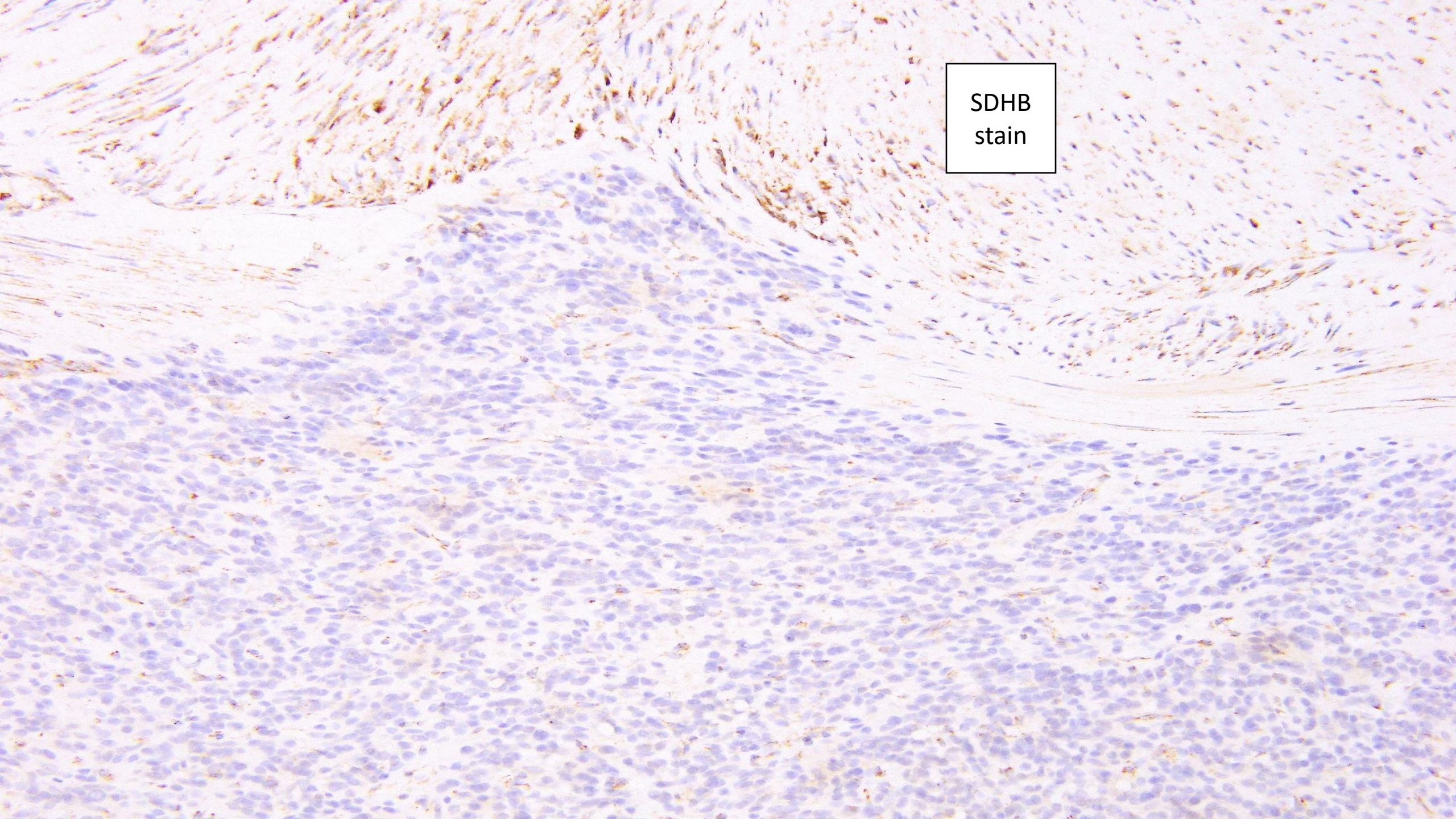




SDHB  
stain





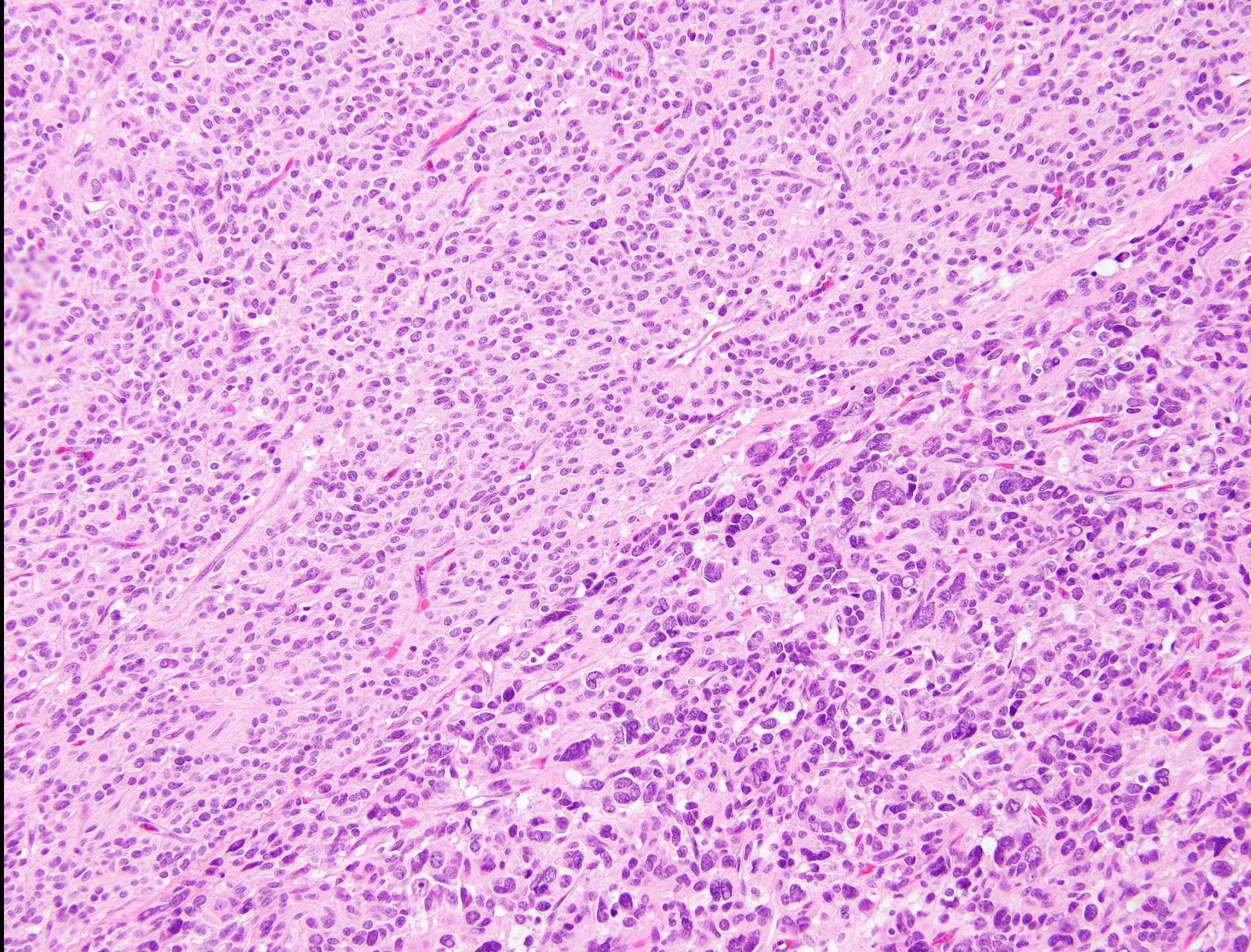


SDHB  
stain

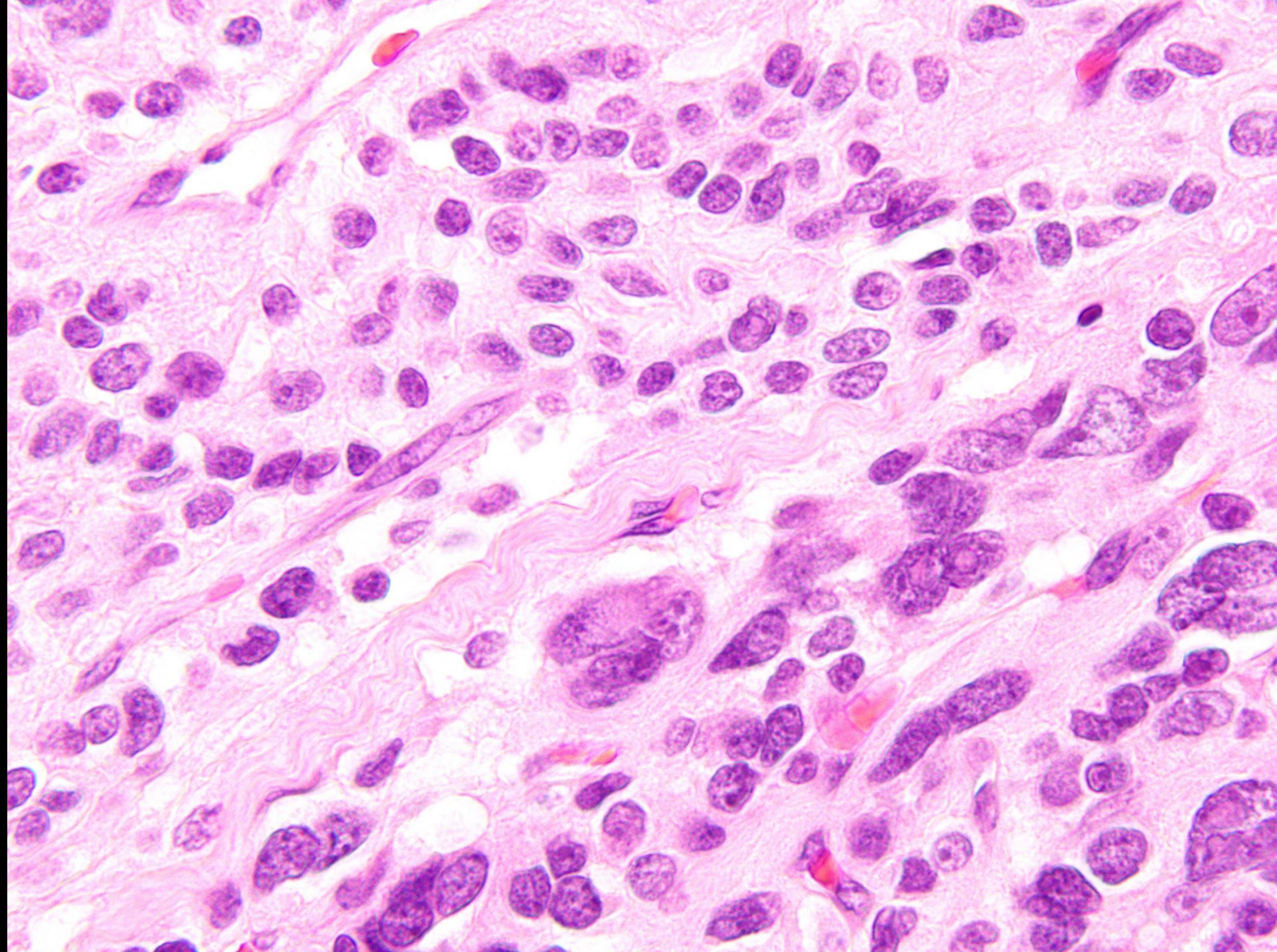
This histological image shows a tissue section stained with SDHB (brown) and hematoxylin (blue). The tissue exhibits a dense population of cells with blue nuclei. There are prominent areas of brown staining, particularly in the upper left and right regions, indicating SDHB immunoreactivity. The overall architecture shows a transition from a more cellular area at the bottom to a more fibrous or necrotic area at the top.



Succinate  
dehydrogenase  
deficient GIST –  
some have  
bizarre nuclei or  
plasmacytoid  
features









# More SDH deficient tumors

- Renal cell carcinoma with characteristic morphology (weird flocculent cytoplasmic inclusions)
- Pheochromocytoma/ paraganglioma



Something submucosal



# Inflammatory Fibroid Polyp (IFP)

- First described by J Vaněk
- 6 lesions, all in stomach (antrum/pylorus-5)

Vaněk J. Gastric submucosal granuloma with eosinophilic infiltration. *Am J Pathol* 1949;25;397-411.



# IFP

- Present term coined in early 1950's

Helwig E, Ranier A. Inflammatory fibroid polyps of the stomach. *Surg Gynecol Obstets* 1953;96;355-67.



# IFP Location

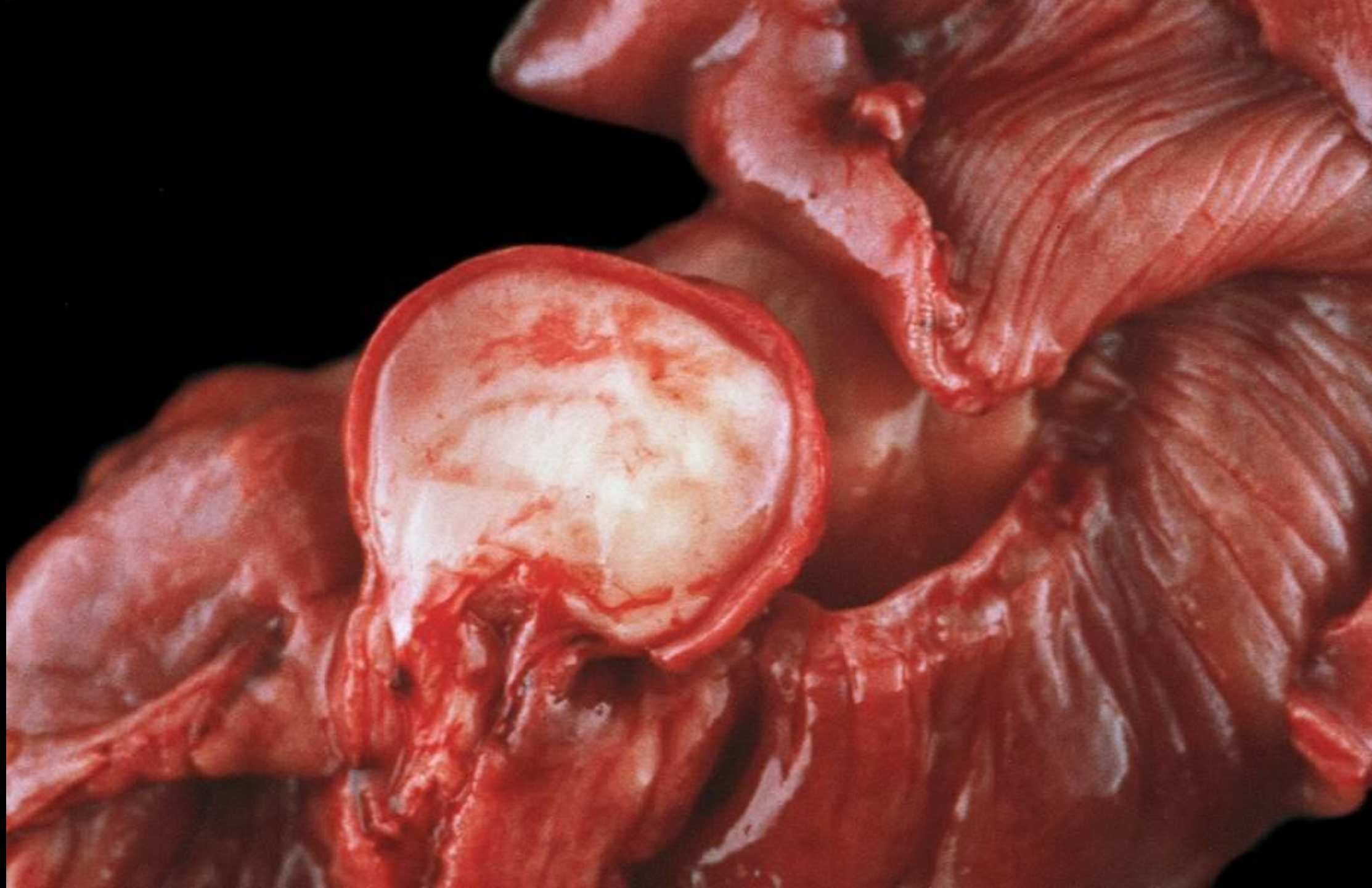
- Vast majority in stomach
- @1% of all gastric polyps (once fundic gland polyps removed from the mix)
- Nearly always in adults (60-80yrs)



# IFP- Endoscopic Appearance

- Smooth submucosal lesions
- Surface ulceration/erosion in about 1/3 of cases
- Presentation is site specific



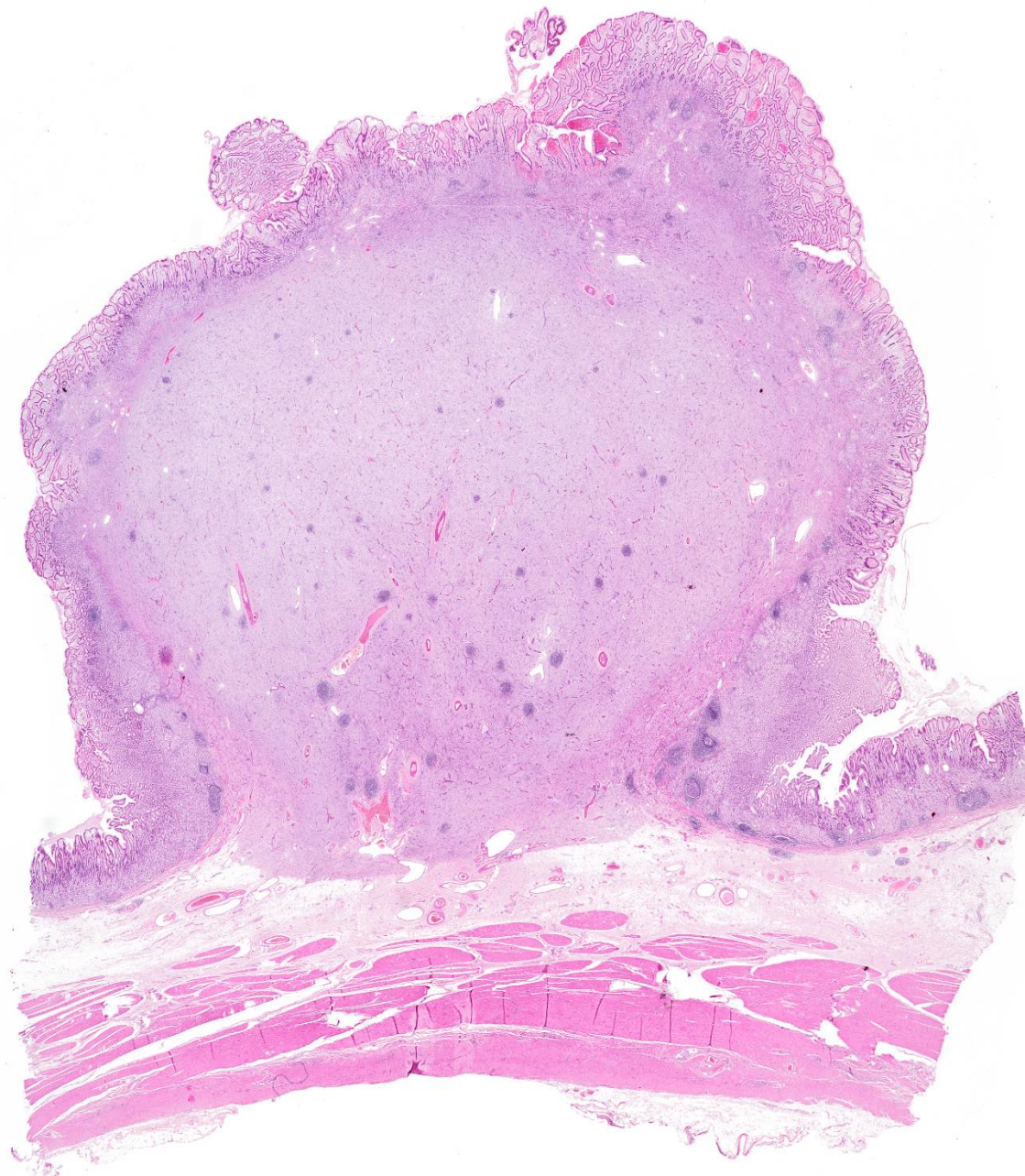






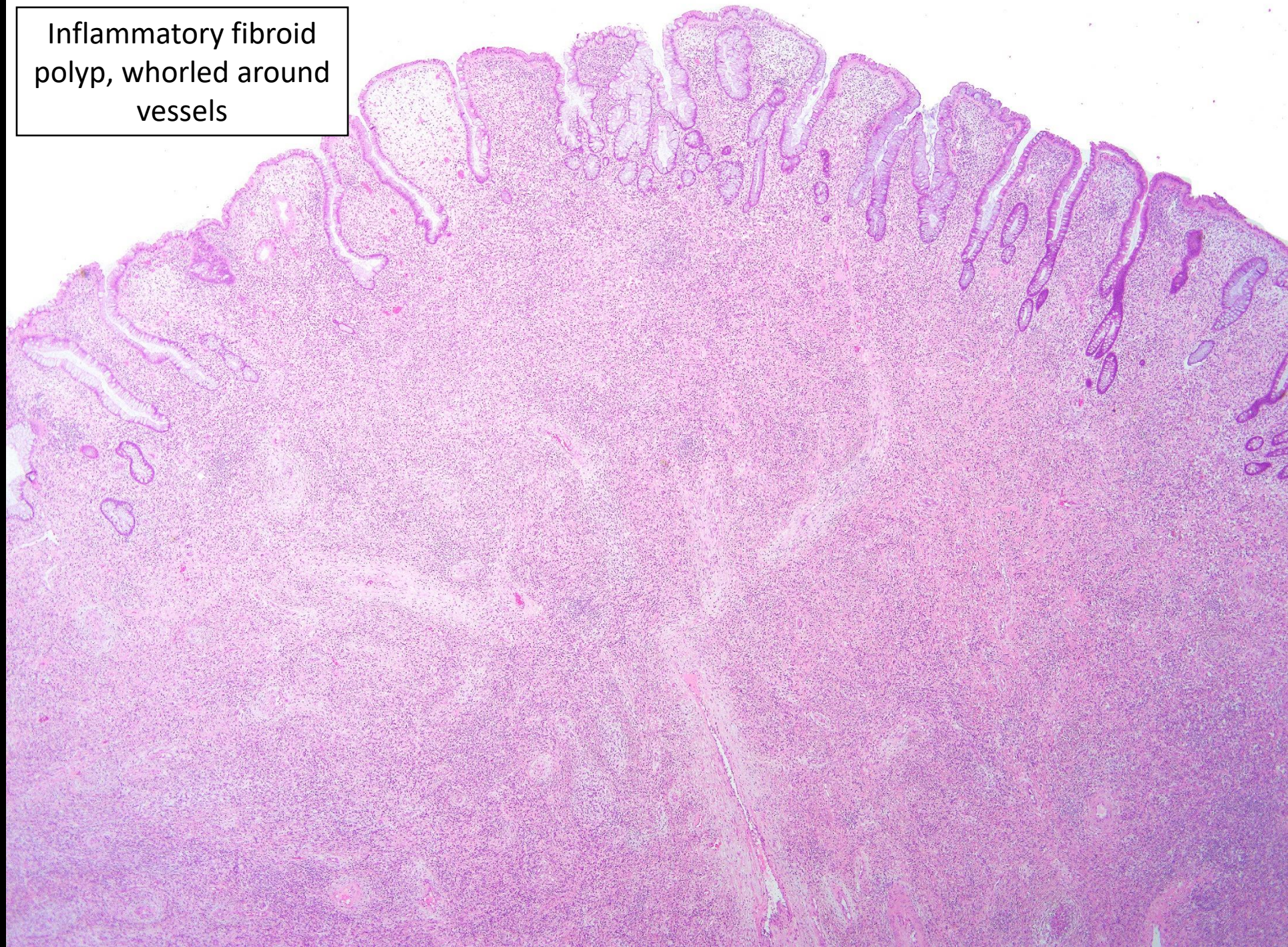


Gastric  
inflammatory  
fibroid polyp –  
note the  
characteristic  
submucosal  
location



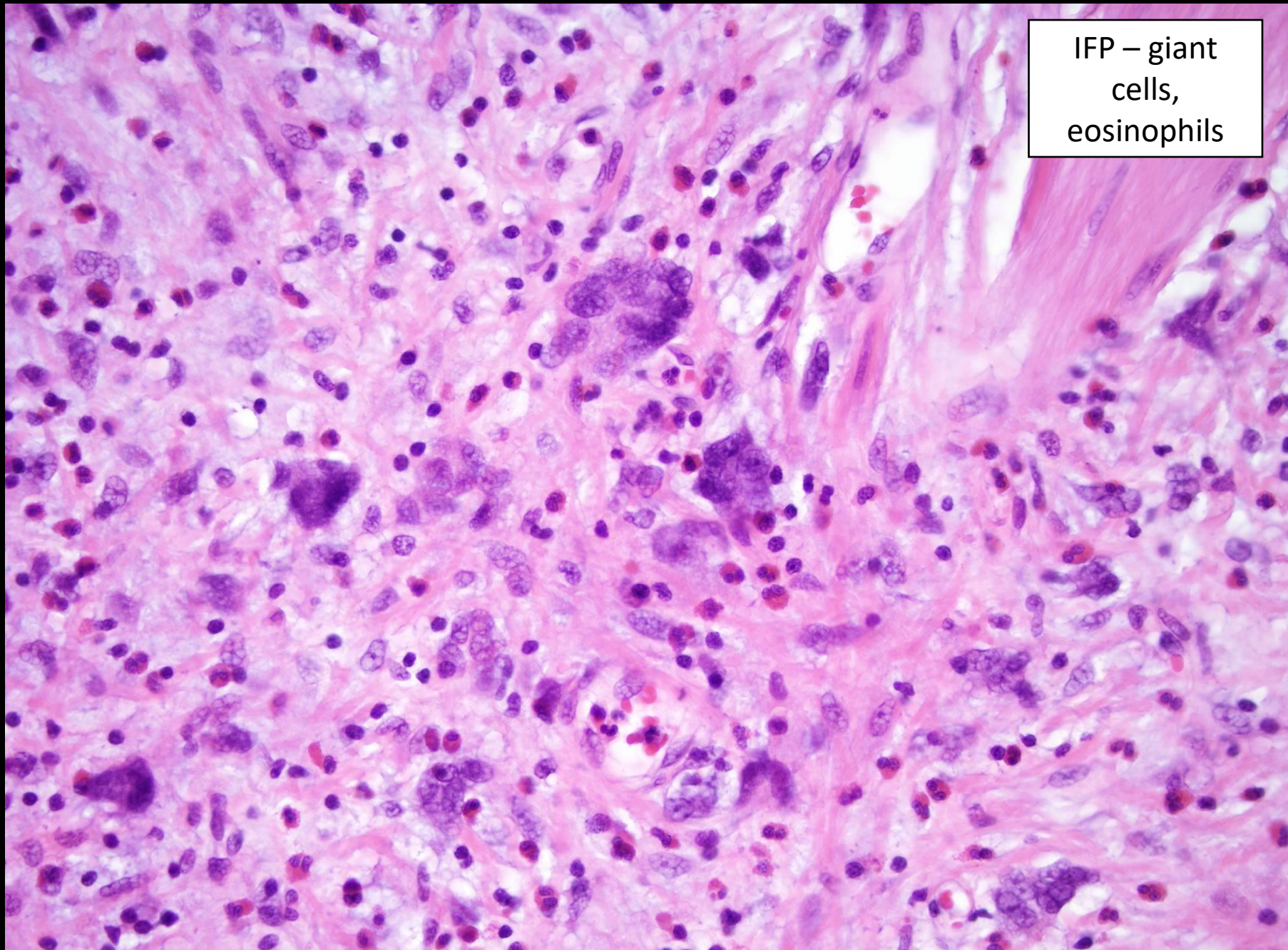


Inflammatory fibroid  
polyp, whorled around  
vessels

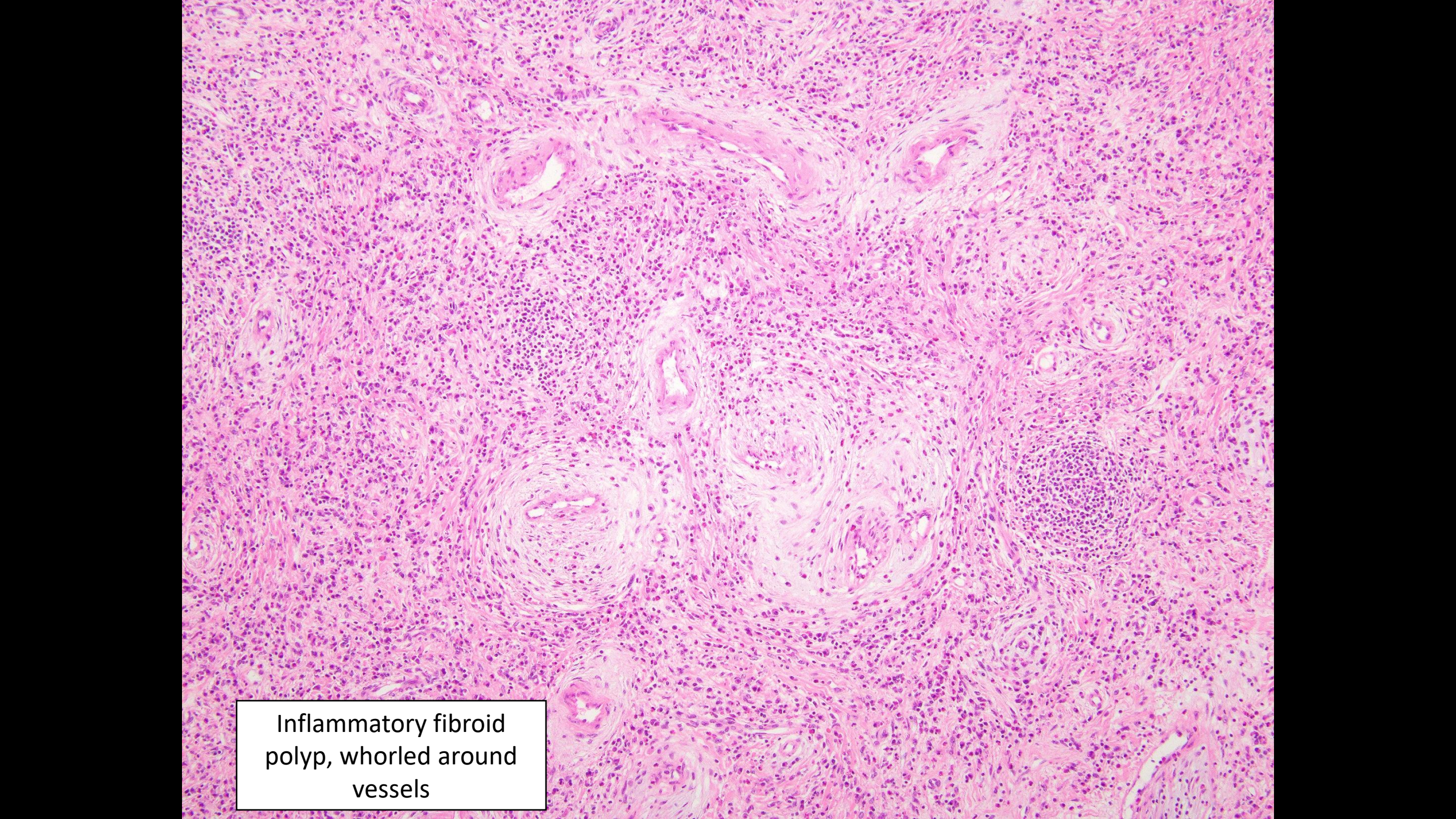




IFP – giant  
cells,  
eosinophils







This histological image shows a tissue section stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E). The tissue is characterized by a dense population of spindle-shaped cells arranged in a whorled pattern. These whorls are centered around small, irregular blood vessels. The overall appearance is consistent with an inflammatory fibroid polyp, a benign lesion often found in the gastrointestinal tract. The whorled arrangement of the spindle cells is a key diagnostic feature.

Inflammatory fibroid  
polyp, whorled around  
vessels



# IFP- Pathogenesis

- Believed reactive in past – now known to have *PDGFRA* mutations (just like some GISTs – but ALWAYS benign)



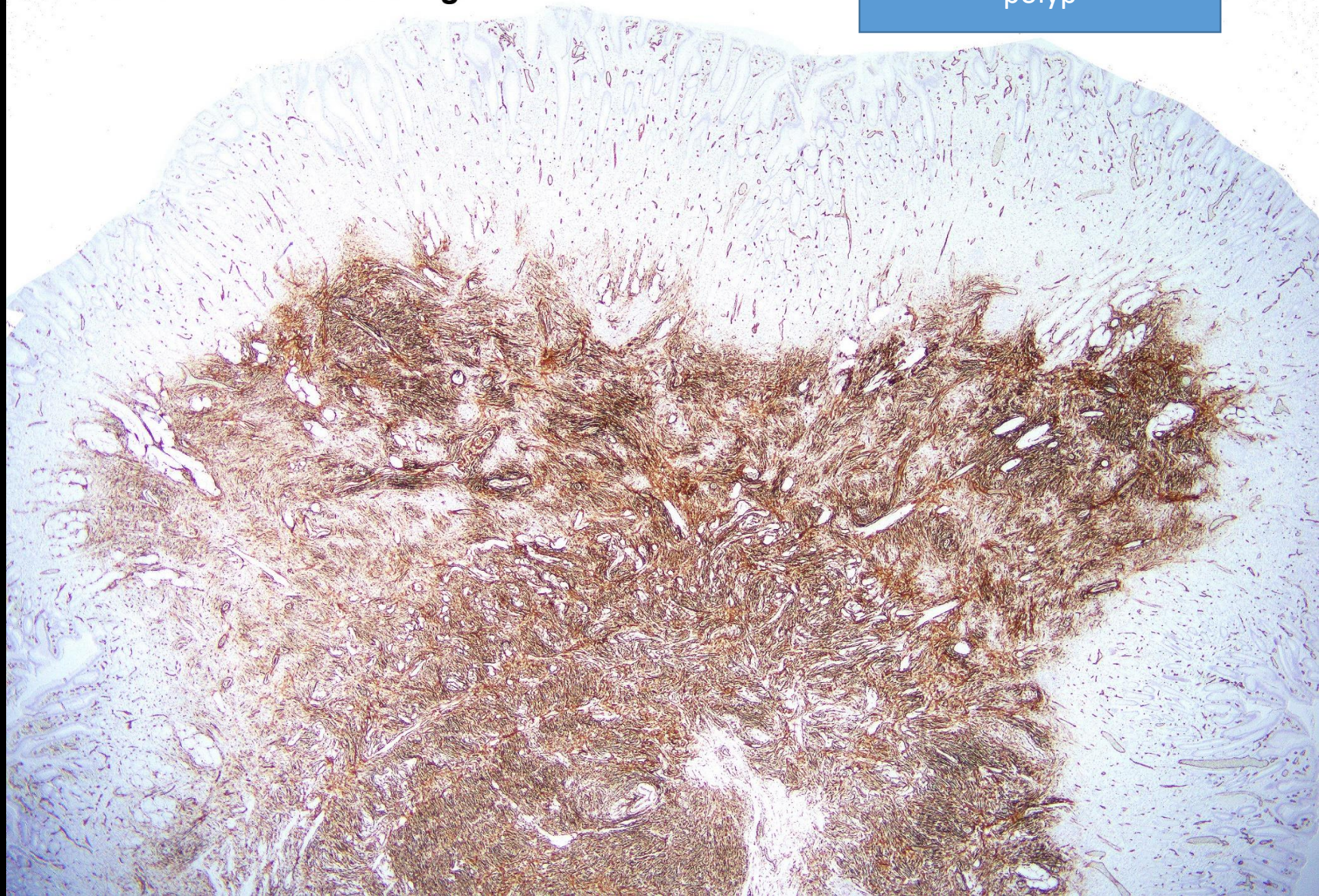
# IFP- Immunohistochemistry

- Fibroblastic/myofibroblastic
- Variable actin, negative S100
- Consistent CD34 (less striking in large tumors)
- NO CD117/KIT or DOG1



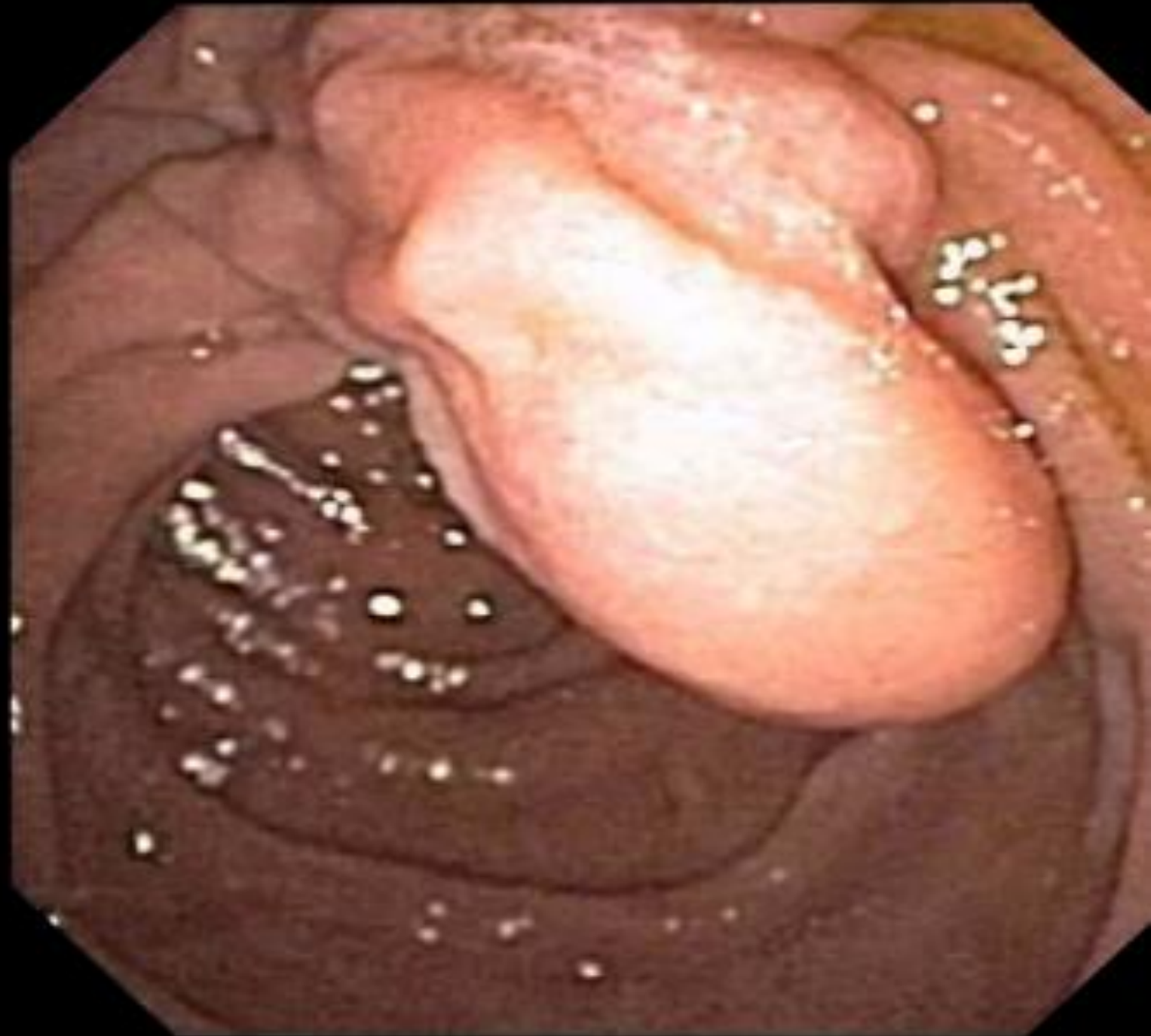
CD34 immunolabeling

Inflammatory fibroid  
polyp





Gangliocytic  
Paraganglioma



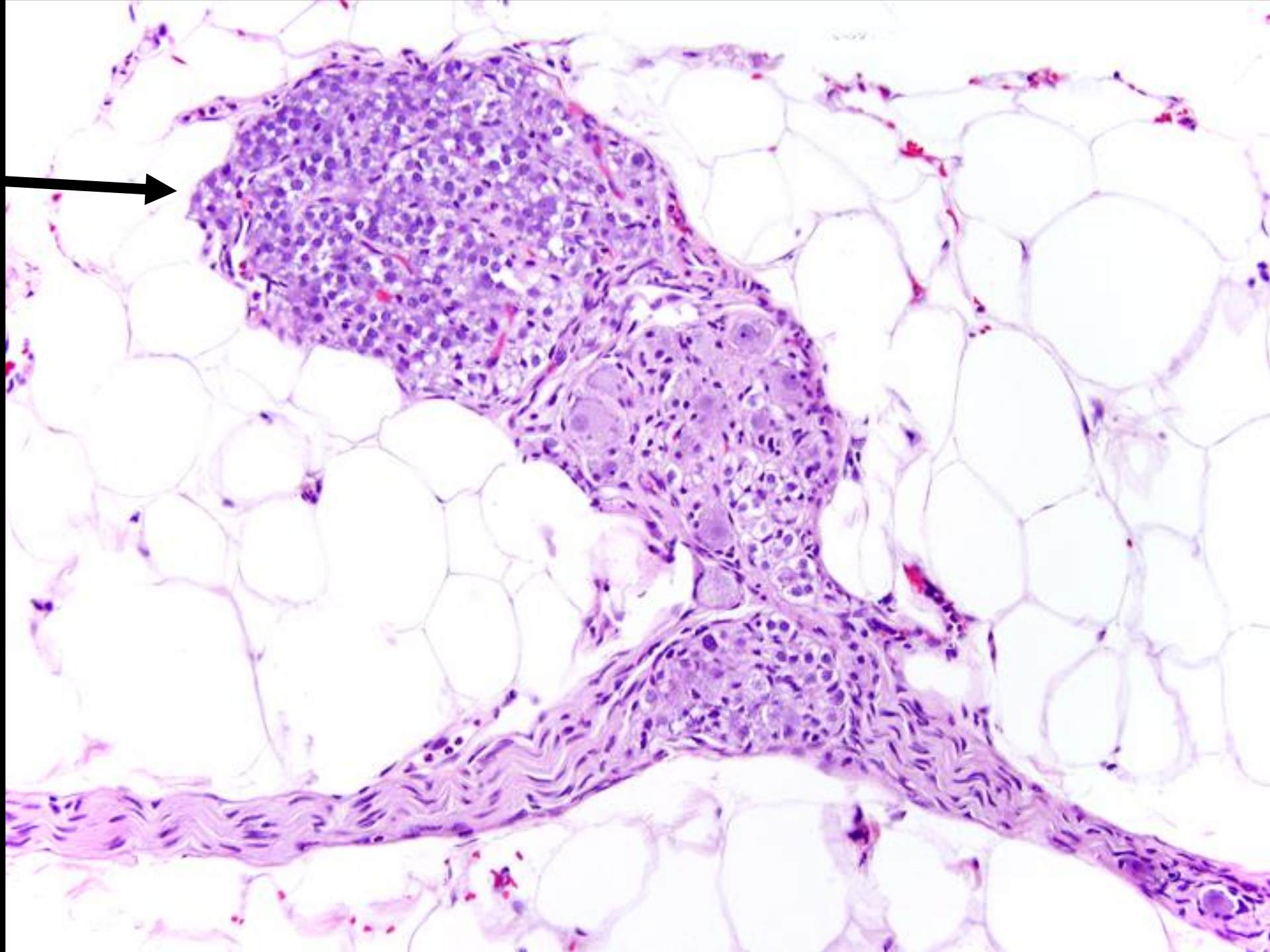


# Gangliocytic Paraganglioma, Histology

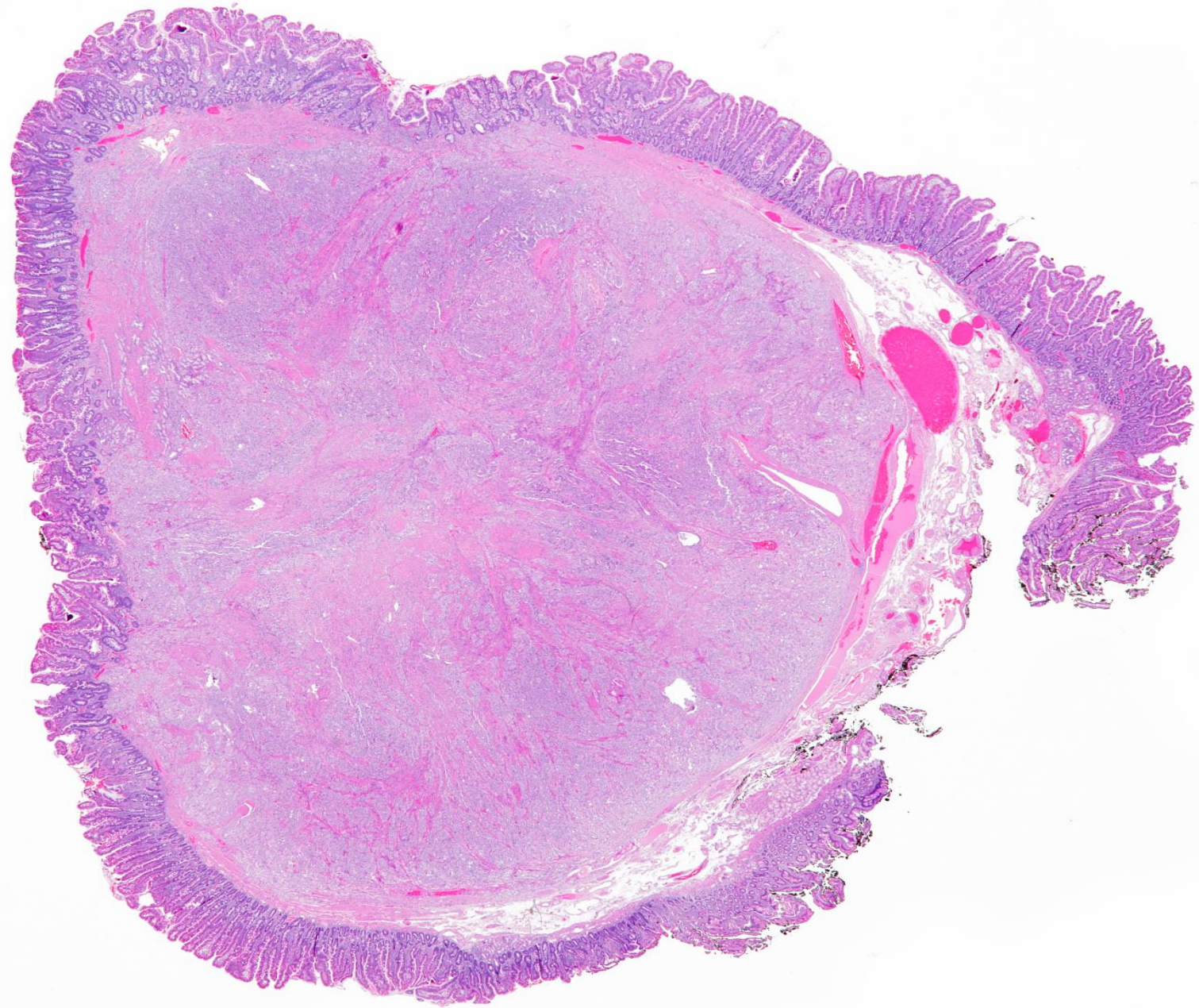
- Triphasic (in variable proportions)
- 1) spindle cells with the appearance of nerve sheath cells
- 2) ganglion-like cells
- 3) epithelioid cells arranged in nests (“endocrine” pattern), trabeculae or papillary structures.



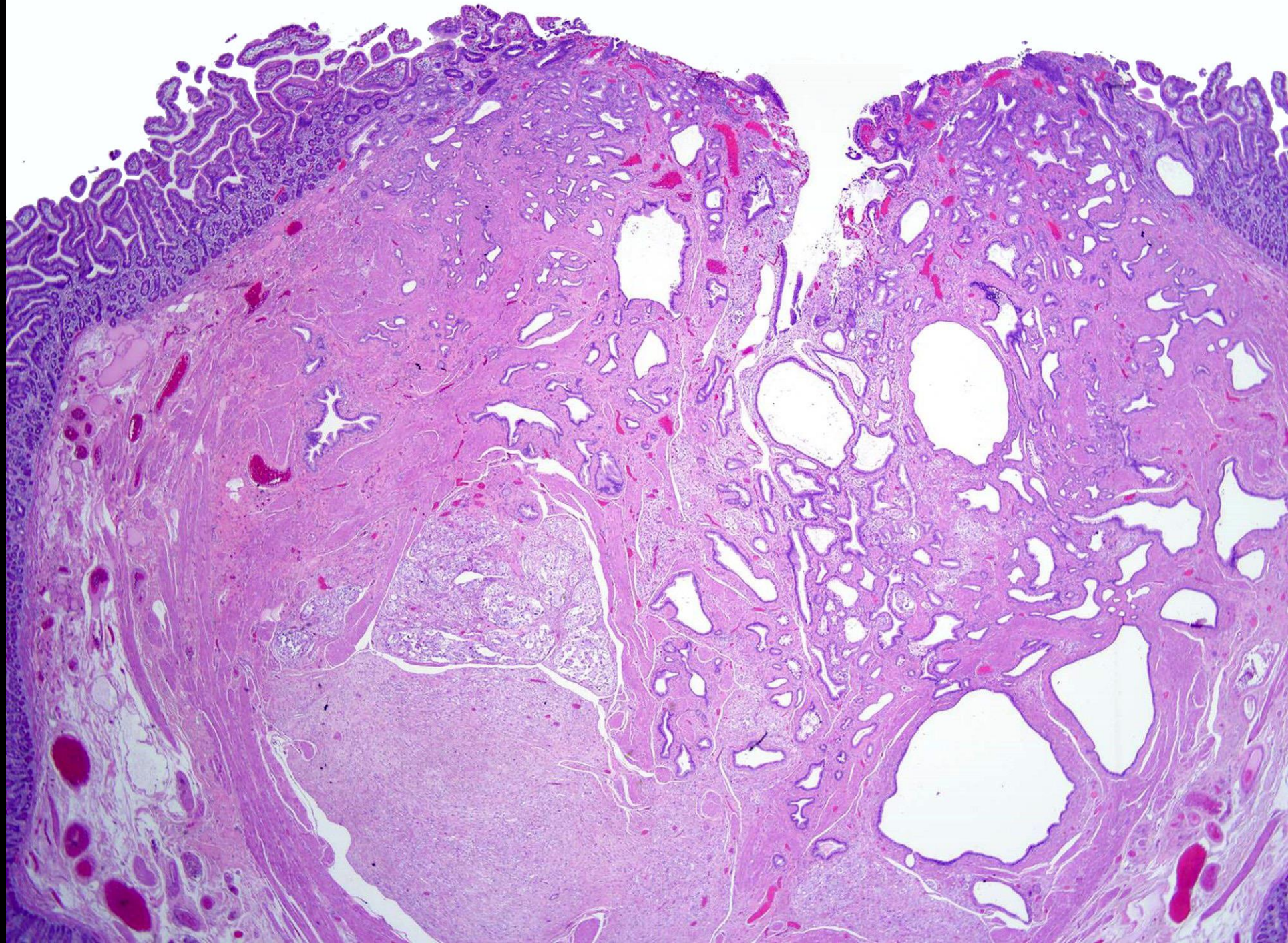
This is a  
paraganglion



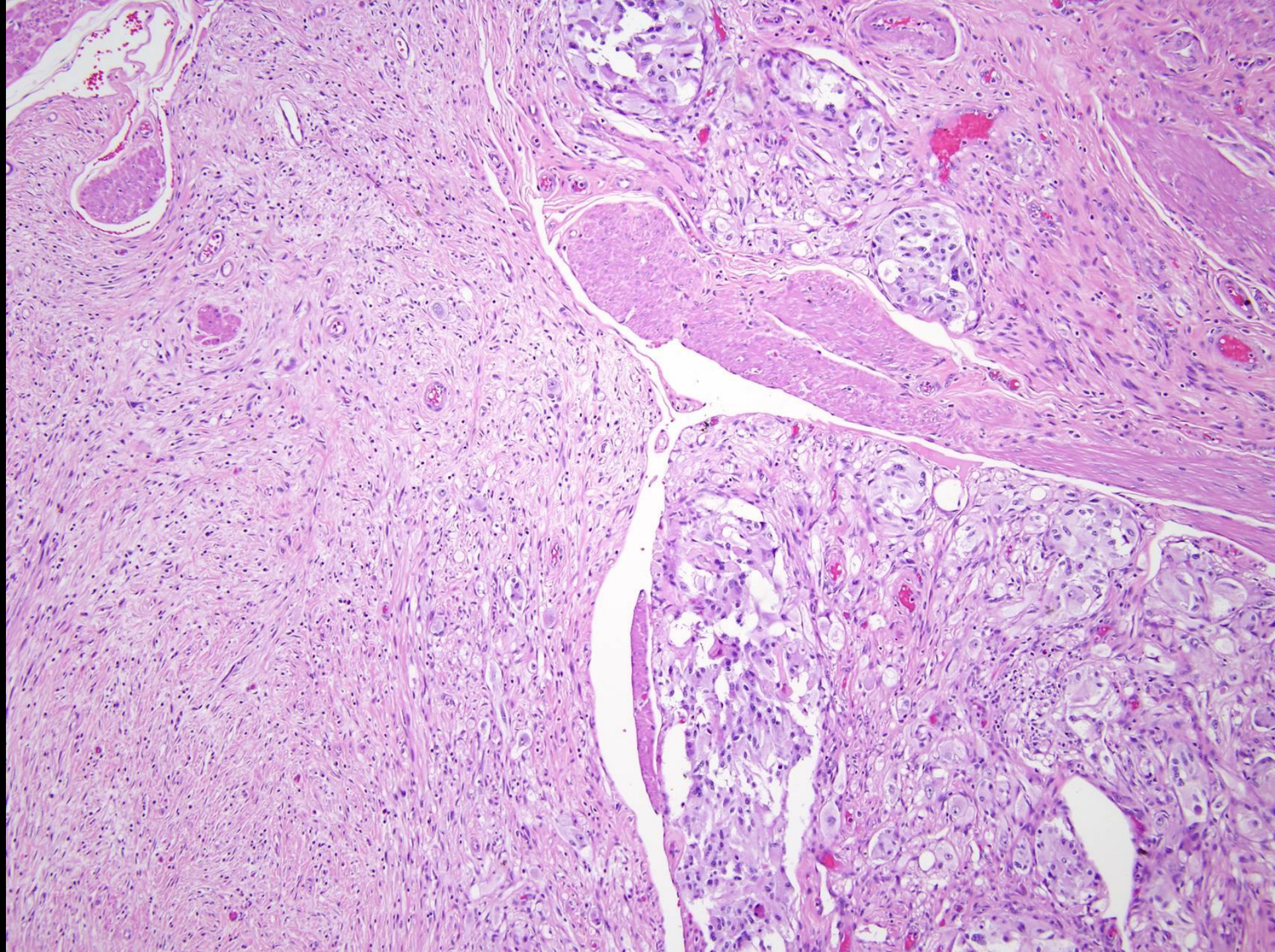




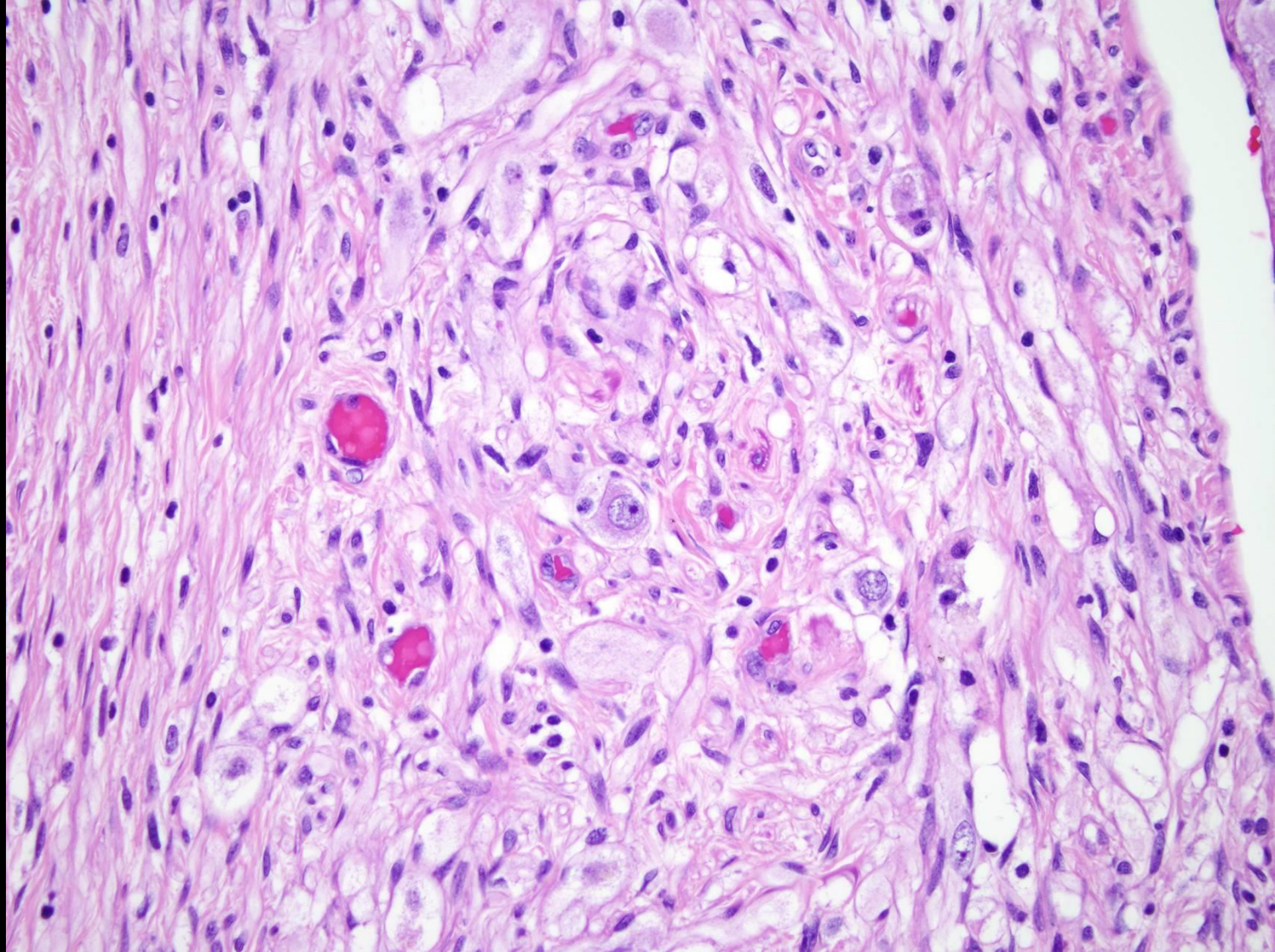




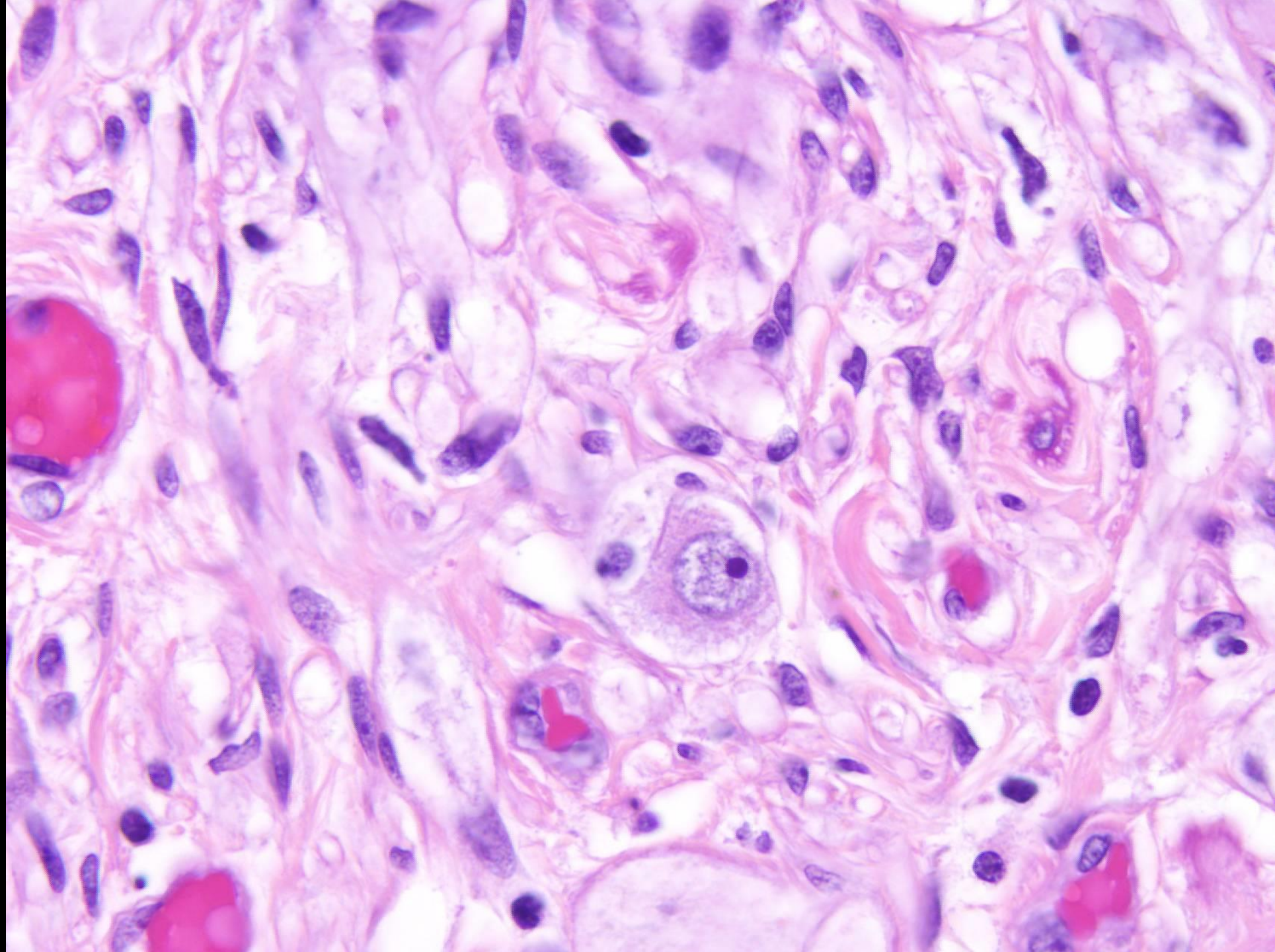




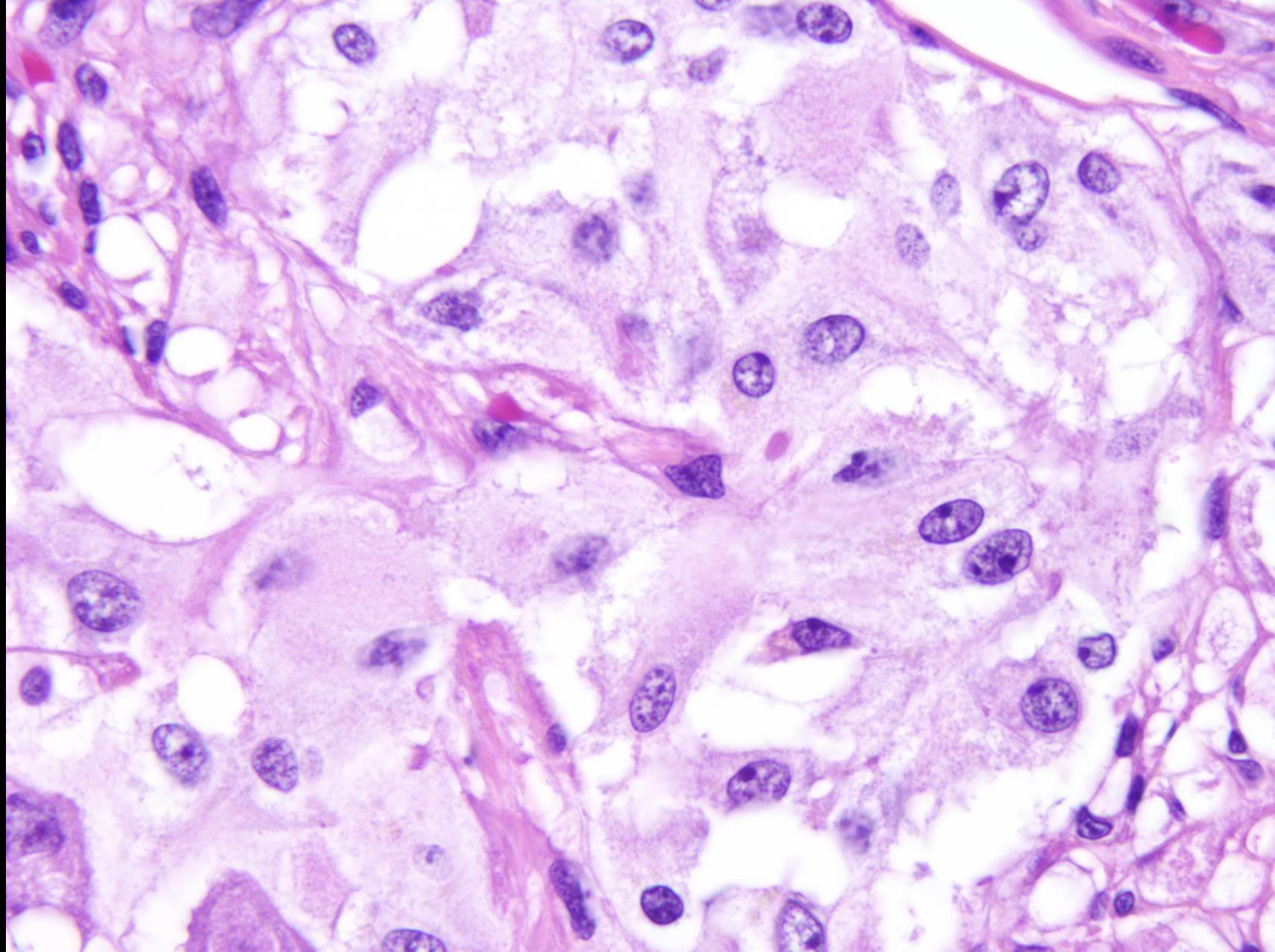














# Gangliocytic Paraganglioma, Immunohistochemistry

- S100 protein in spindle and “supporting/ sustentacular” cells.
- About half of cases display keratin in the epithelioid cells.
- Synaptophysin in ganglion-like cells
- Neuron specific enolase staining in all three cell types.
- A variety of hormones demonstrated in various fractions of gangliocytic paragangliomas (somatostatin, human pancreatic polypeptide, serotonin, gastrin, glucagon, insulin, and vasoactive intestinal peptide).

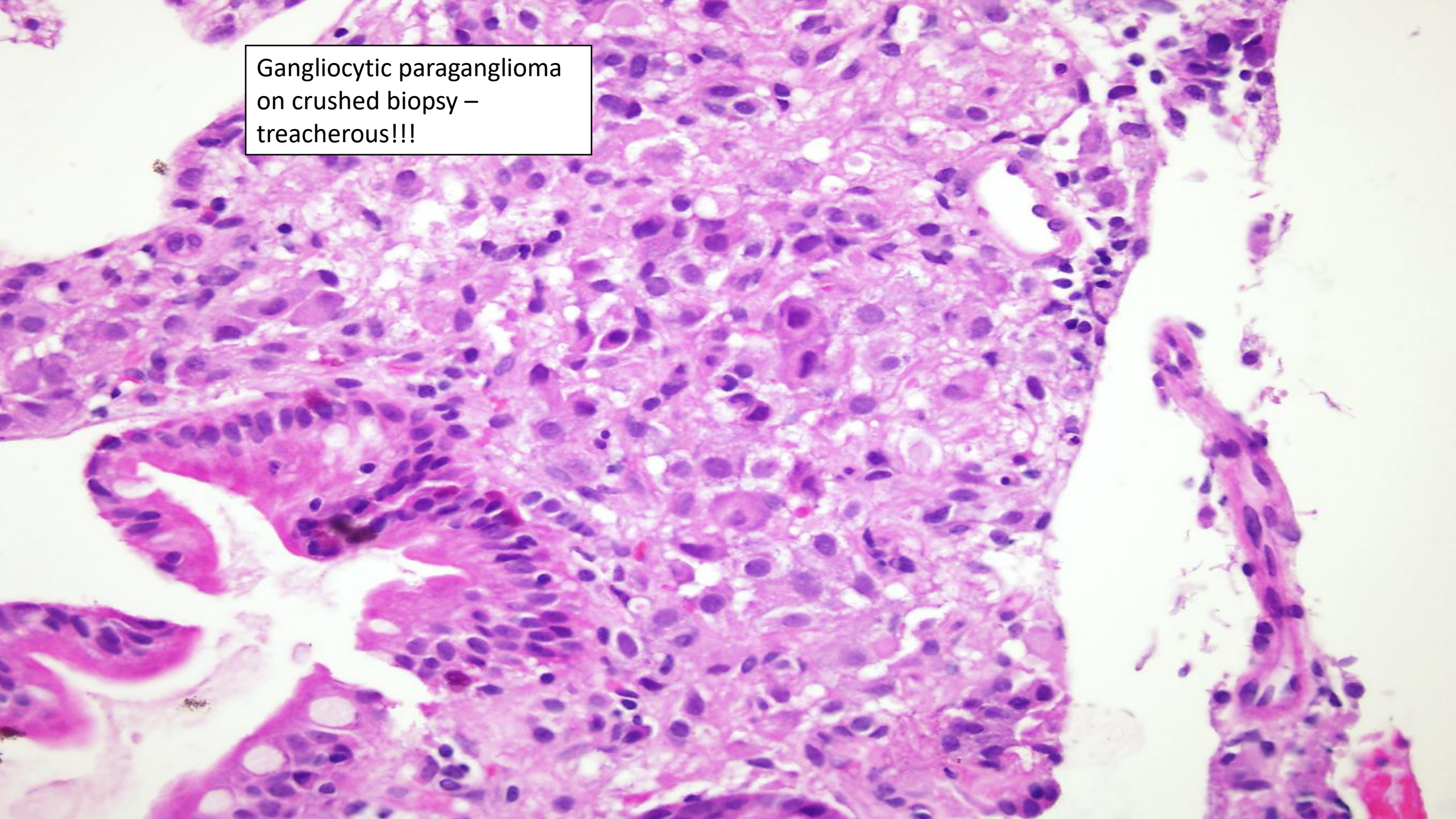


# Gangliocytic Paraganglioma

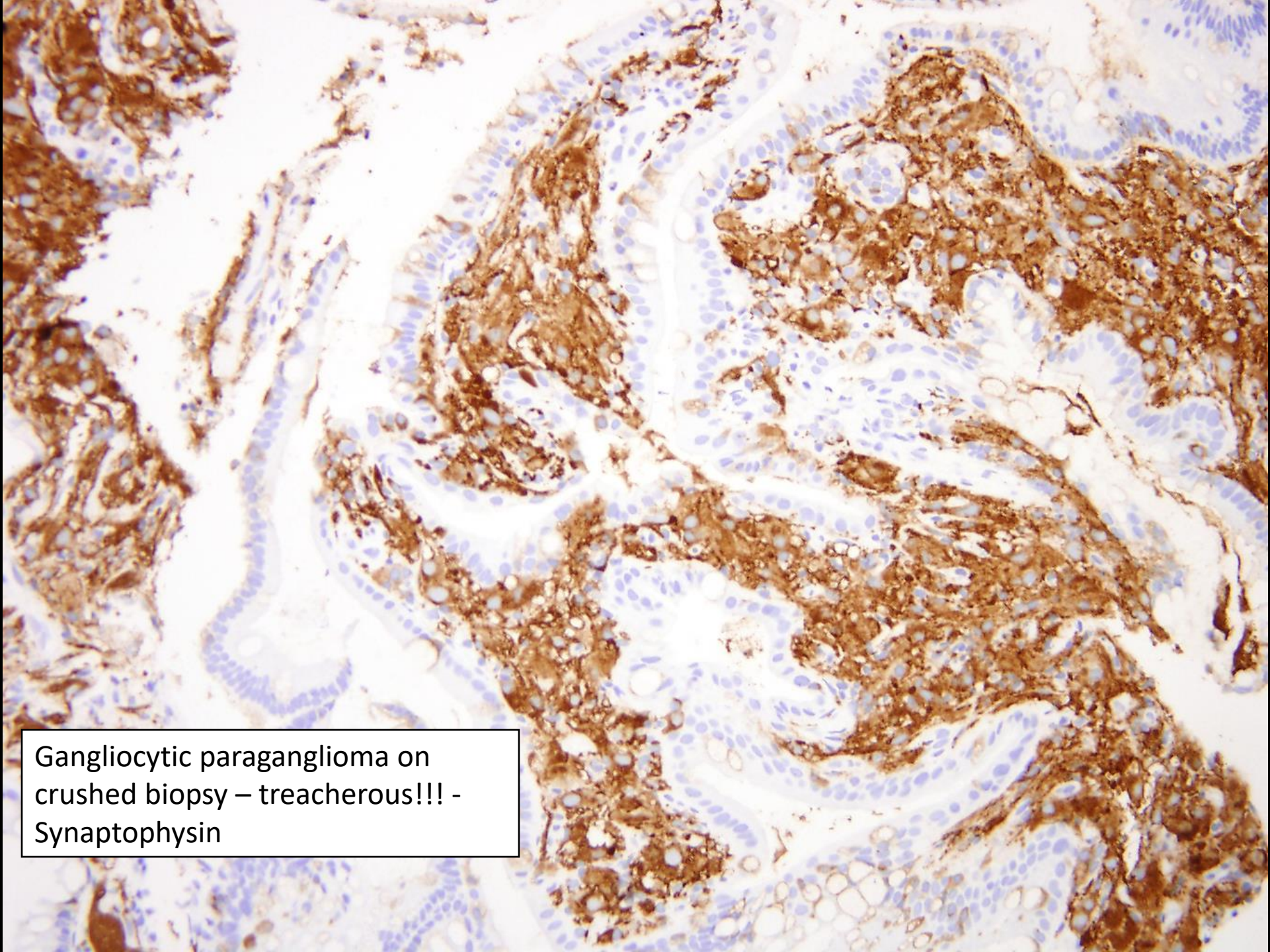
- Vast majority in duodenum in adult patients (average age, about 54 years).
- Rare examples in jejunum or even the pylorus.
- The typical presentation - abdominal pain, gastric outlet obstruction, or bleeding.
- Most sporadic; reported association with neurofibromatosis.
- Typically centered in the submucosa with minor extensions into the mucosa, 3-4 cm with a soft yellowish cut surface, infiltrative borders.
- Benign in the majority of cases.
- Rare reports of regional metastases – single reported tumor-associated death



Gangliocytic paraganglioma  
on crushed biopsy –  
treacherous!!!

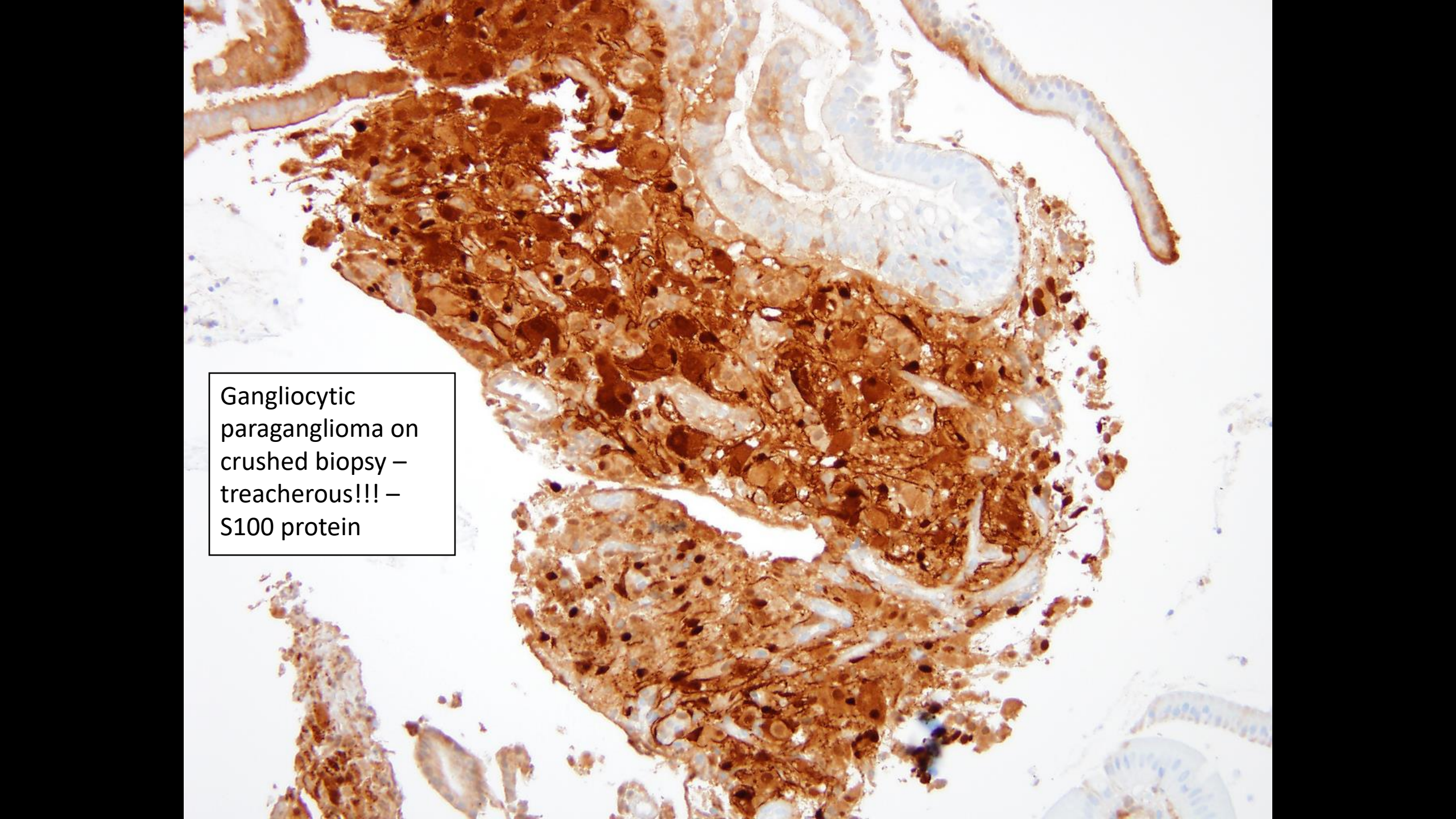






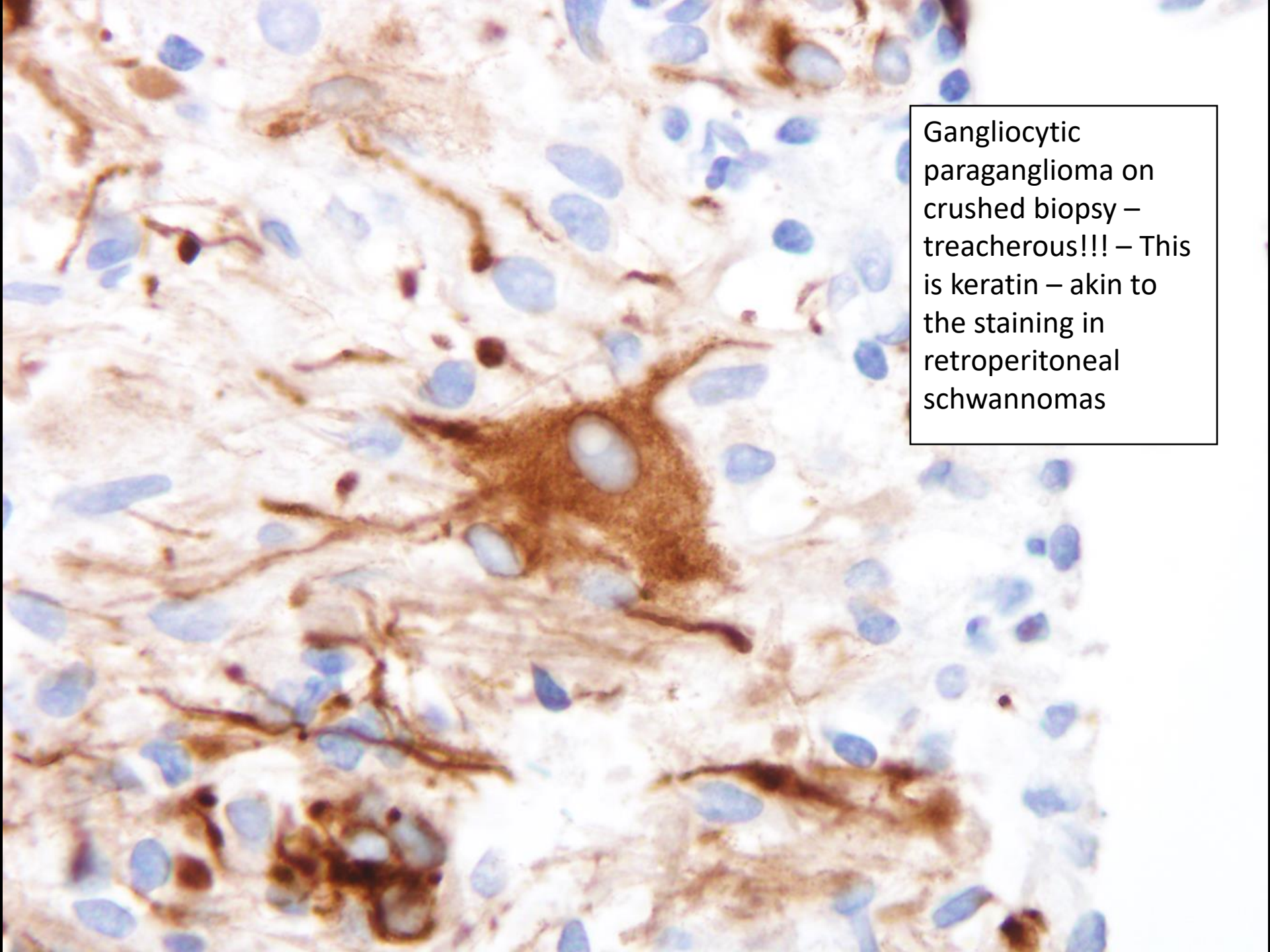
Gangliocytic paraganglioma on crushed biopsy – treacherous!!! - Synaptophysin





Gangliocytic  
paraganglioma on  
crushed biopsy –  
treacherous!!! –  
S100 protein





Gangliocytic  
paraganglioma on  
crushed biopsy –  
treacherous!!! – This  
is keratin – akin to  
the staining in  
retroperitoneal  
schwannomas

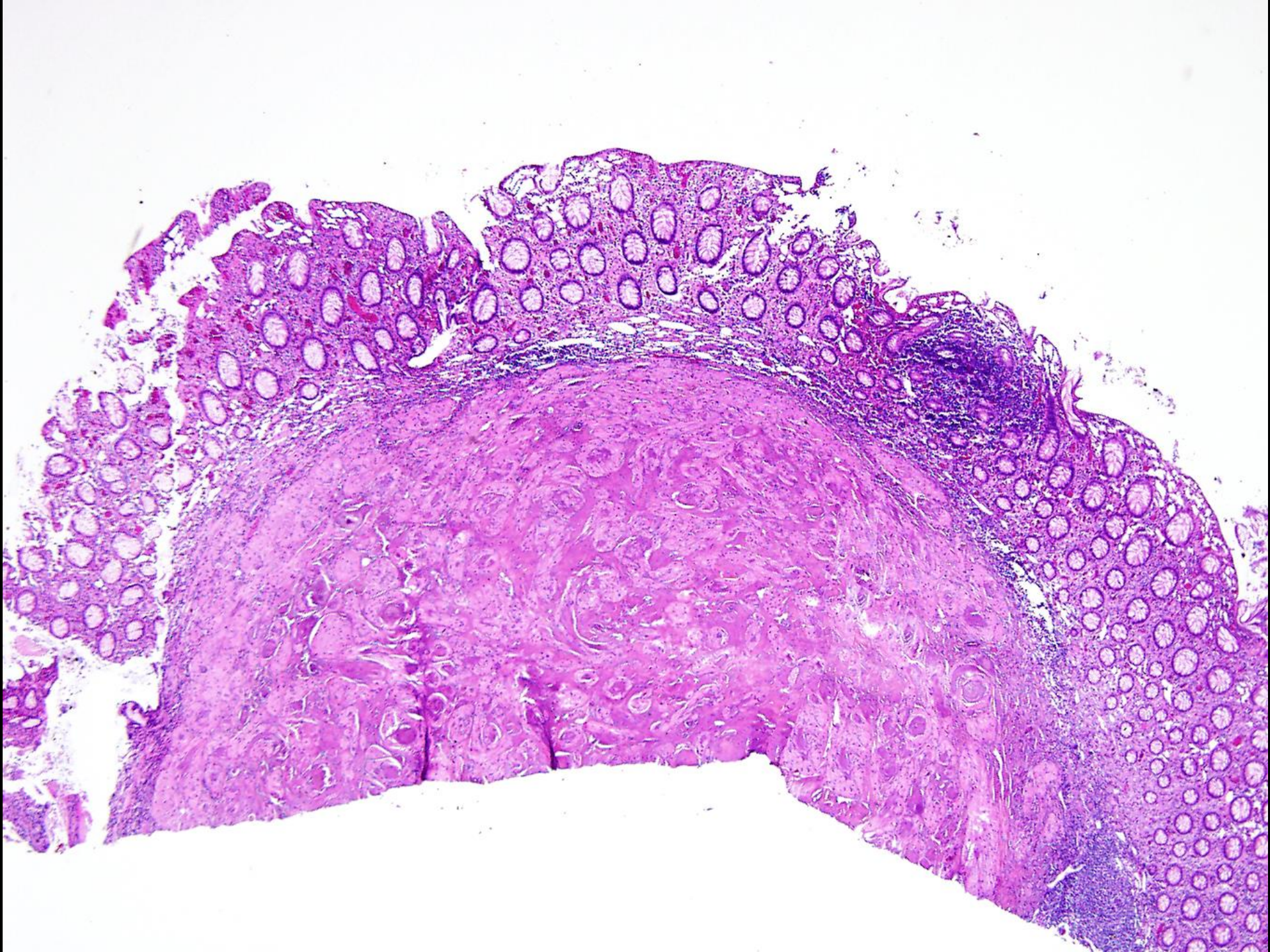


Some mucosal nerve sheath  
tumors

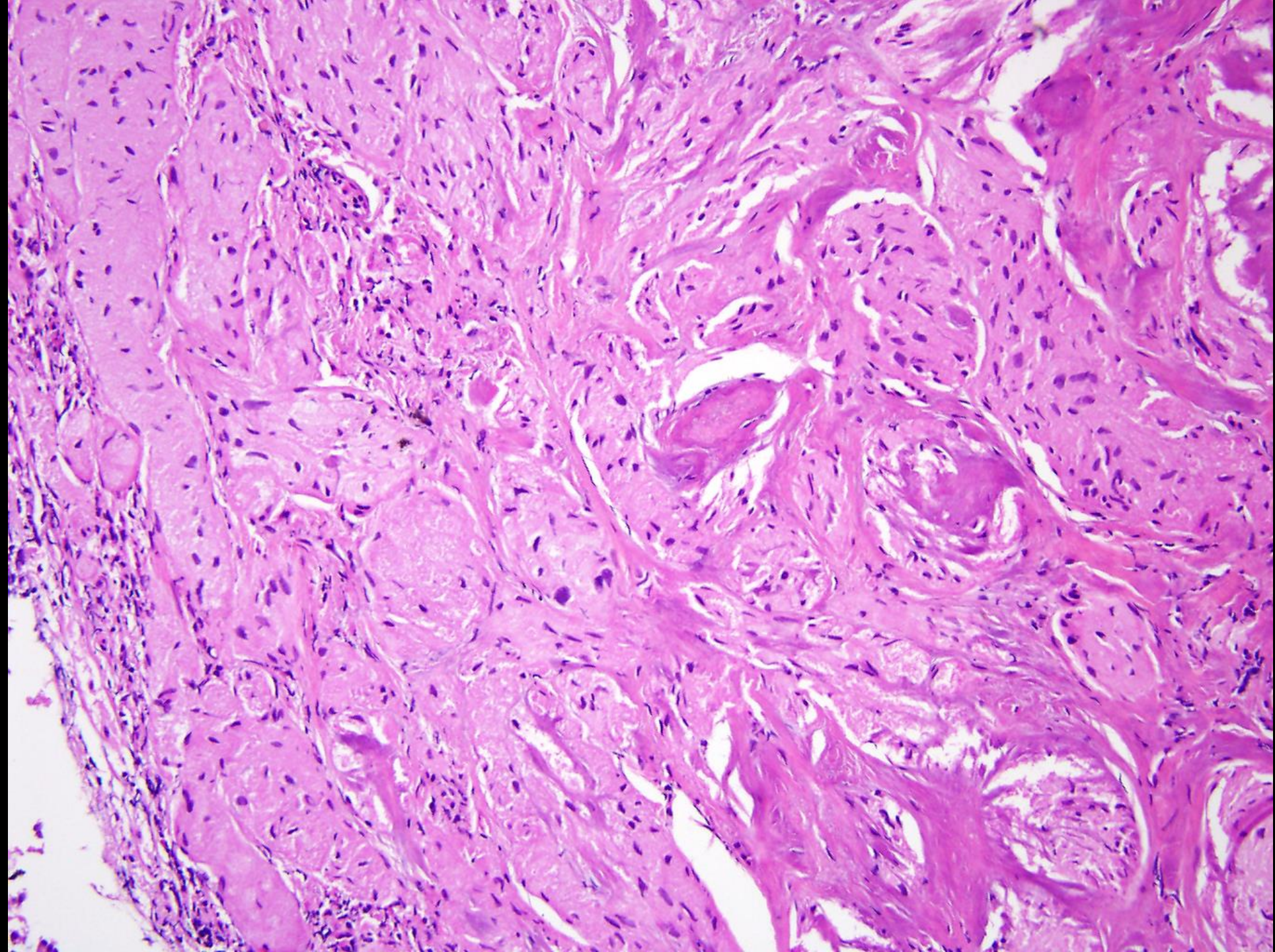


A cecal polyp found at  
the time of screening  
colonoscopy.

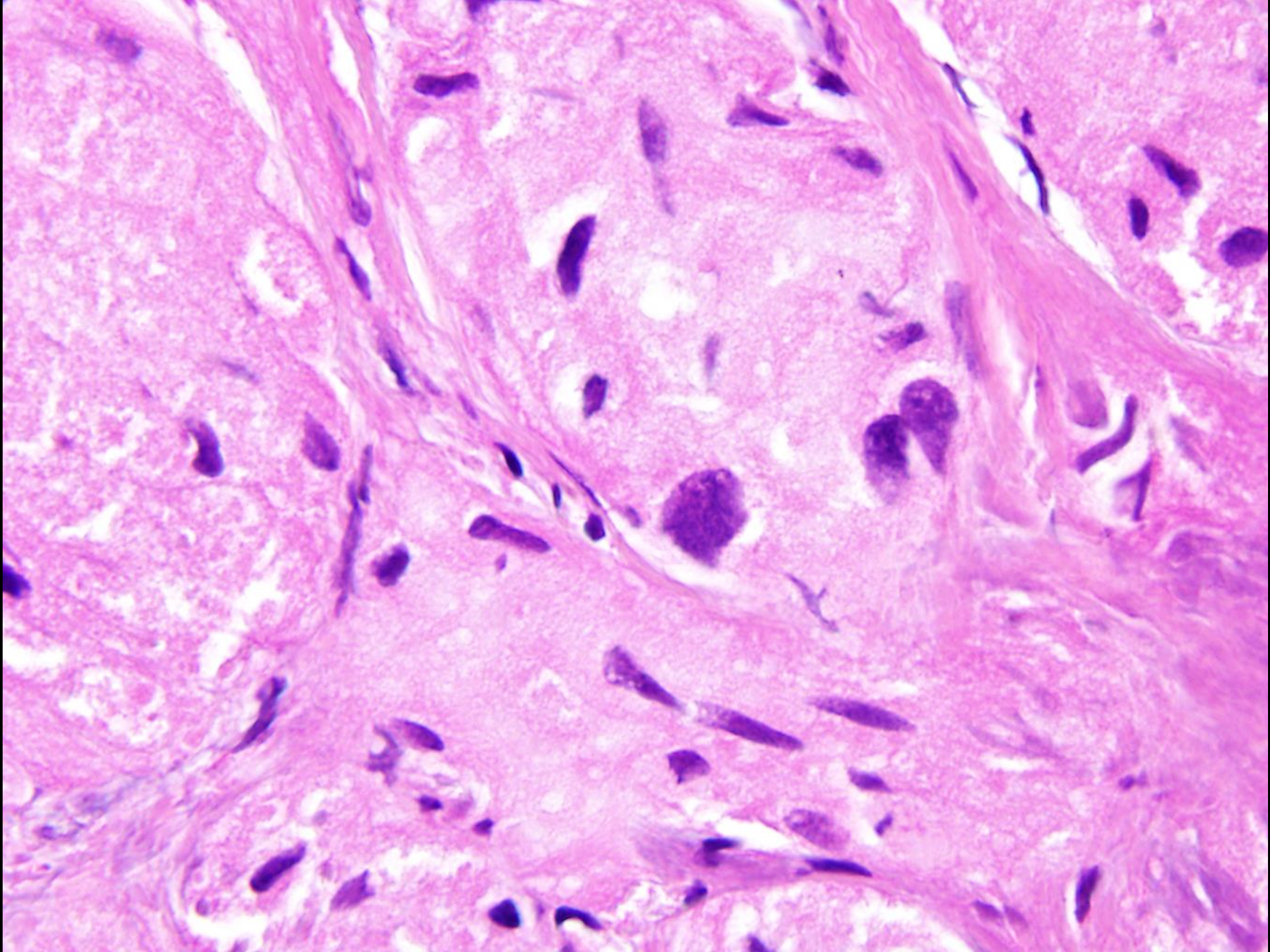




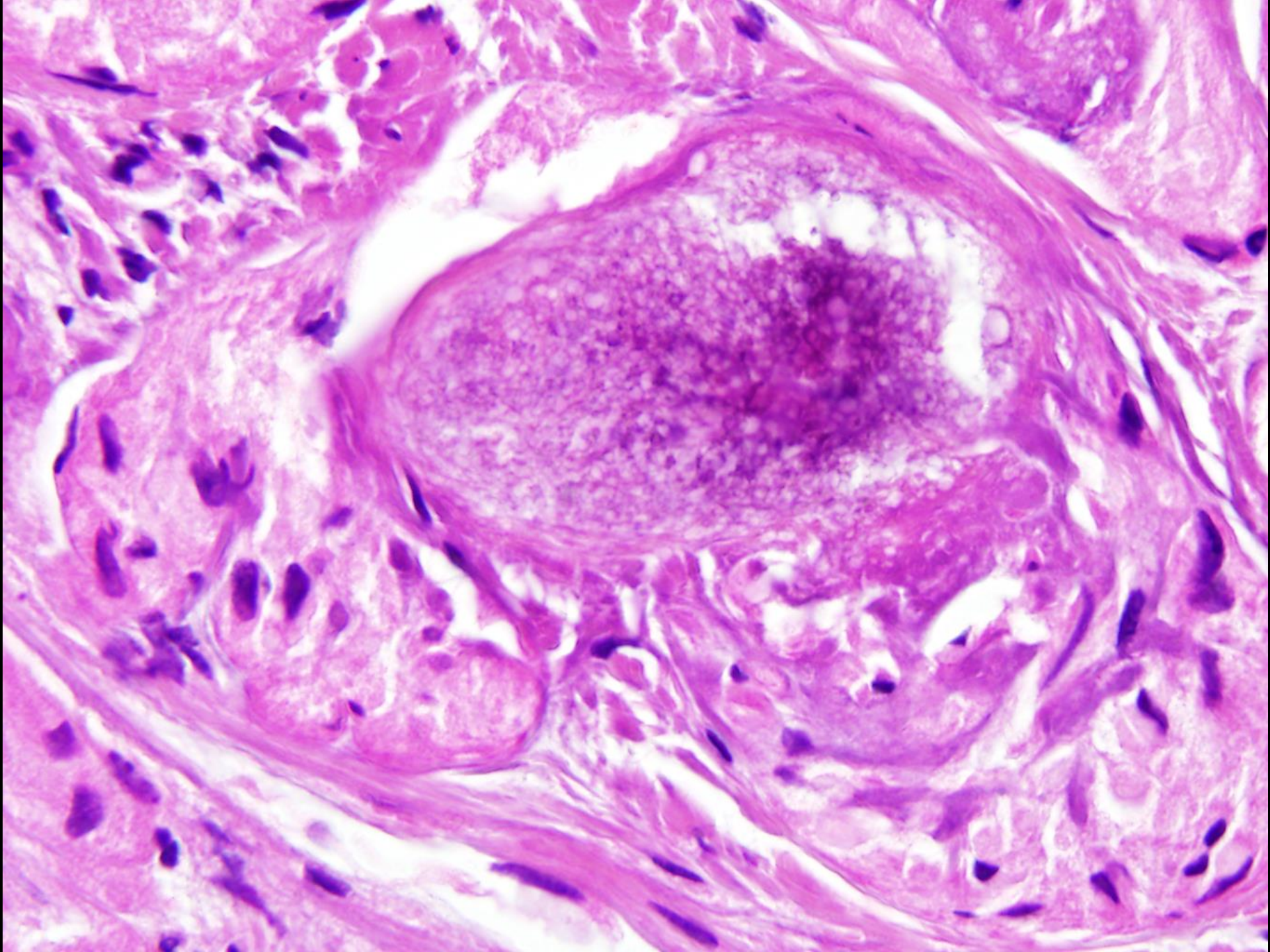












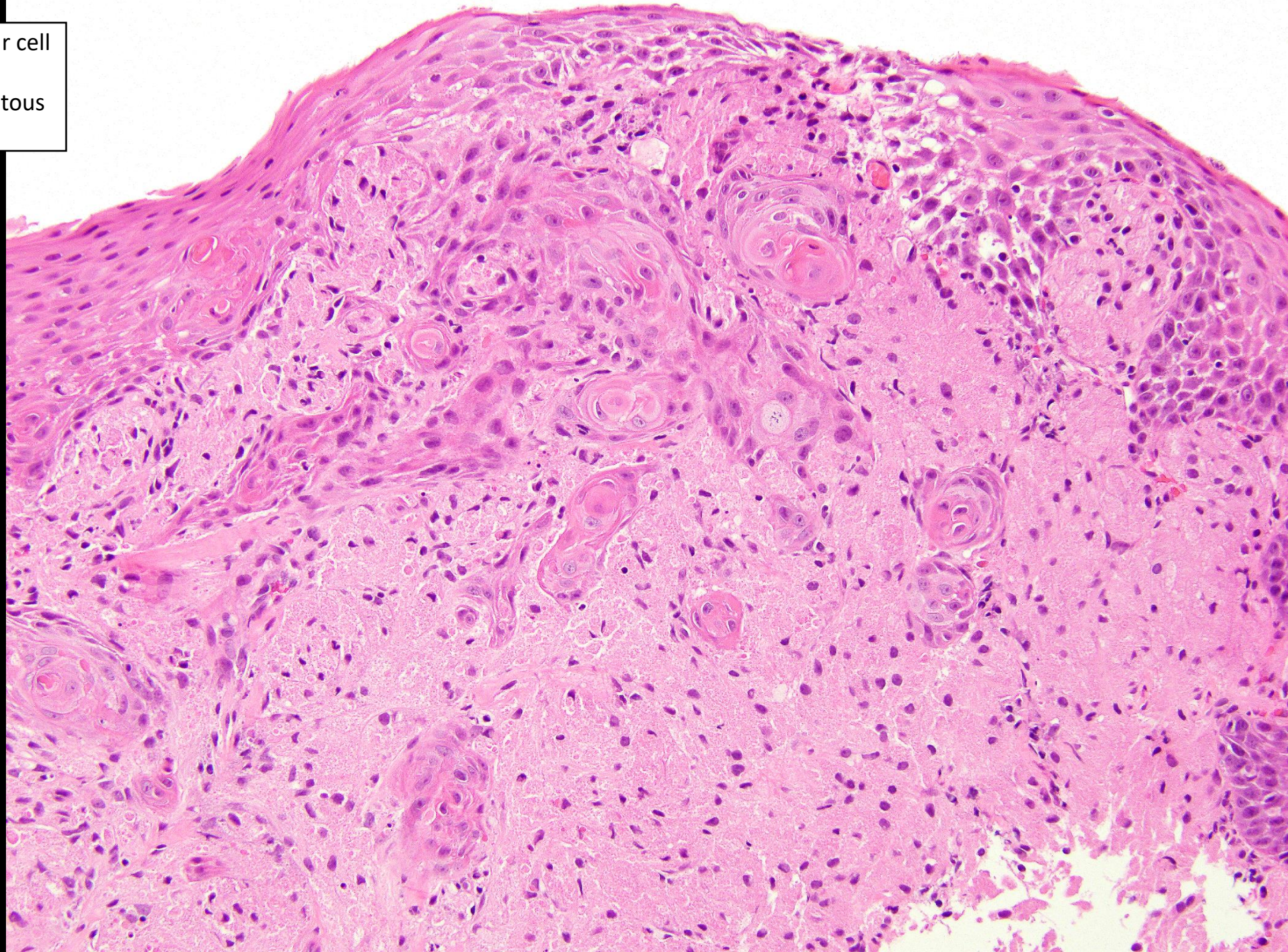


# Colon Granular Cell Tumor

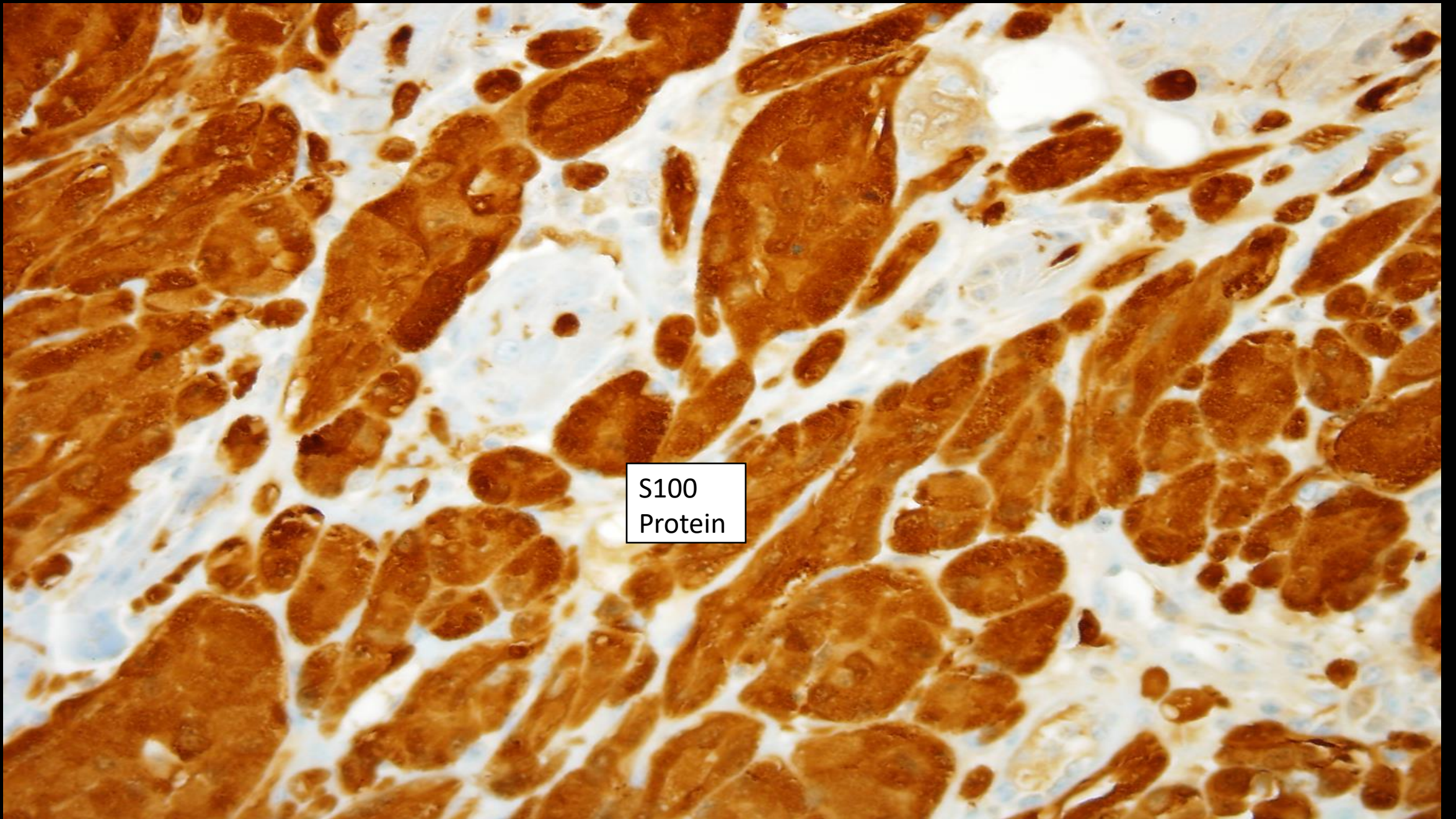
- Most GI tract granular cell tumors are in esophagus (or anus)
- Rare colon examples
- Tend to be on right side and often have large nuclei, mineralization, can recur as difficult to totally remove
- No CONVINCING malignant examples reported to date in colon – rare in esophagus



Esophageal granular cell tumor with striking pseudoepitheliomatous hyperplasia







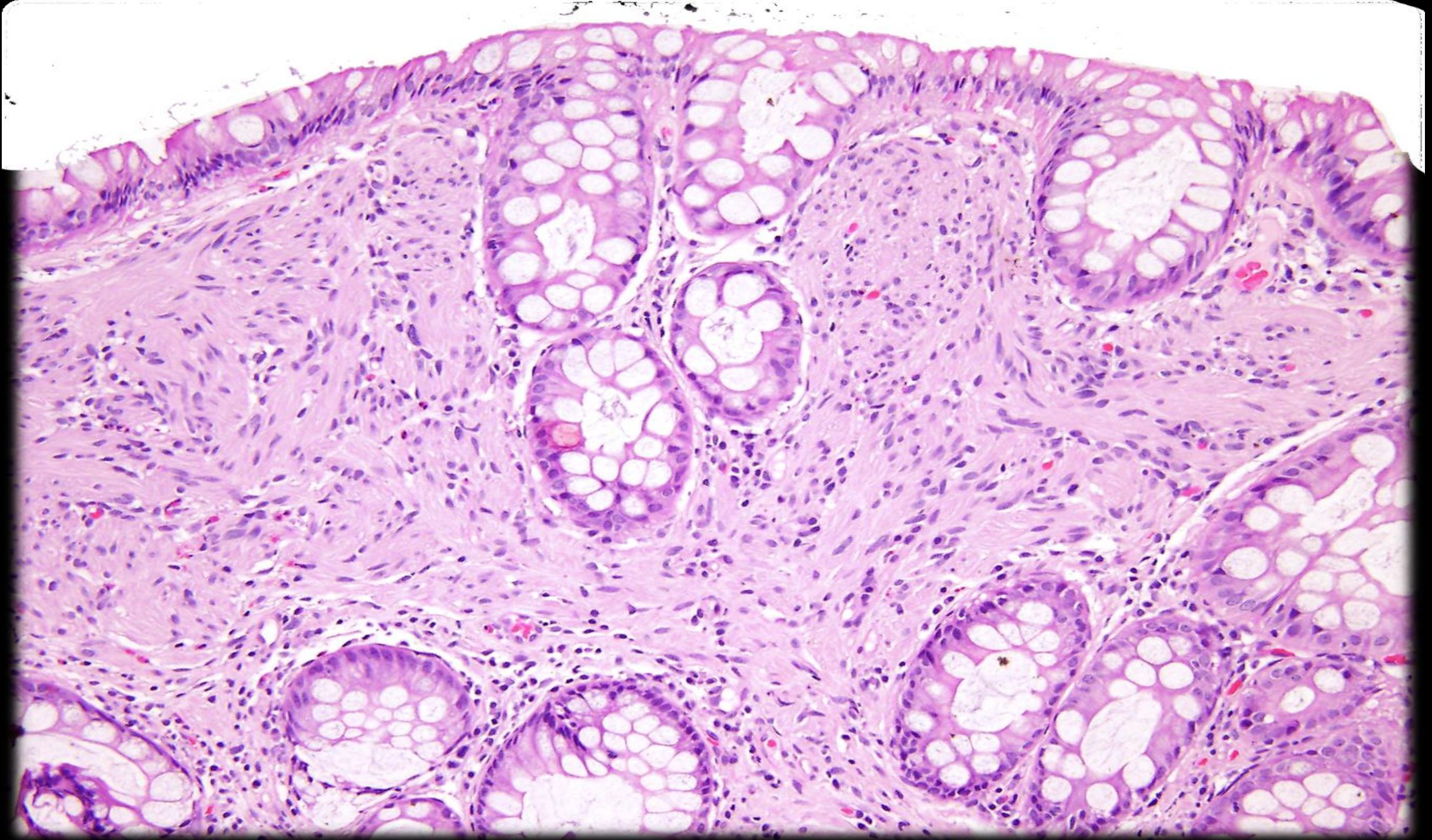
S100  
Protein



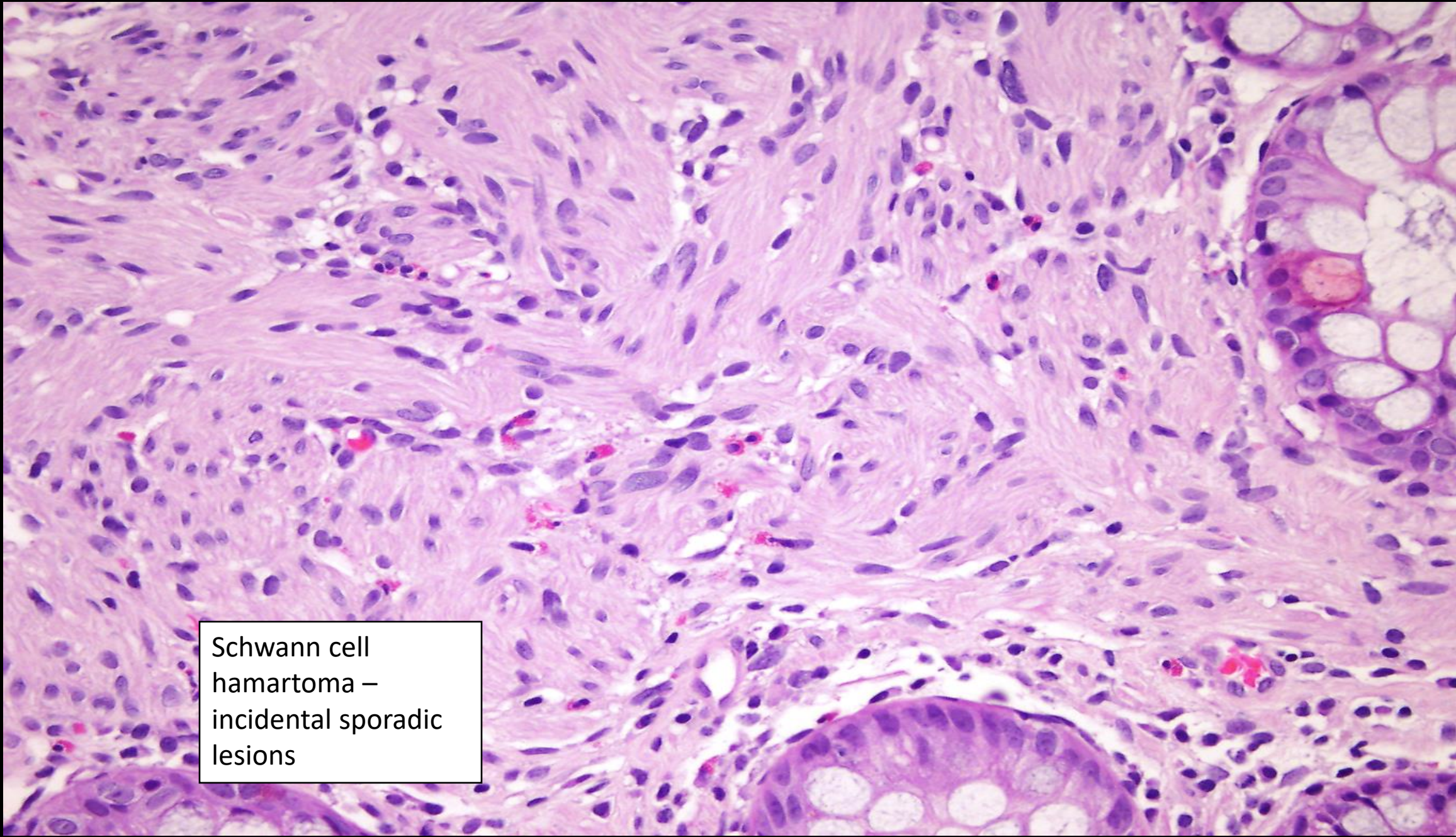
# “Schwann Cell Hamartoma”

Gibson JA, Hornick JL. Mucosal Schwann cell "hamartoma": clinicopathologic study of 26 neural colorectal polyps distinct from neurofibromas and mucosal neuromas. Am J Surg Pathol. 2009 May;33(5):781-7.





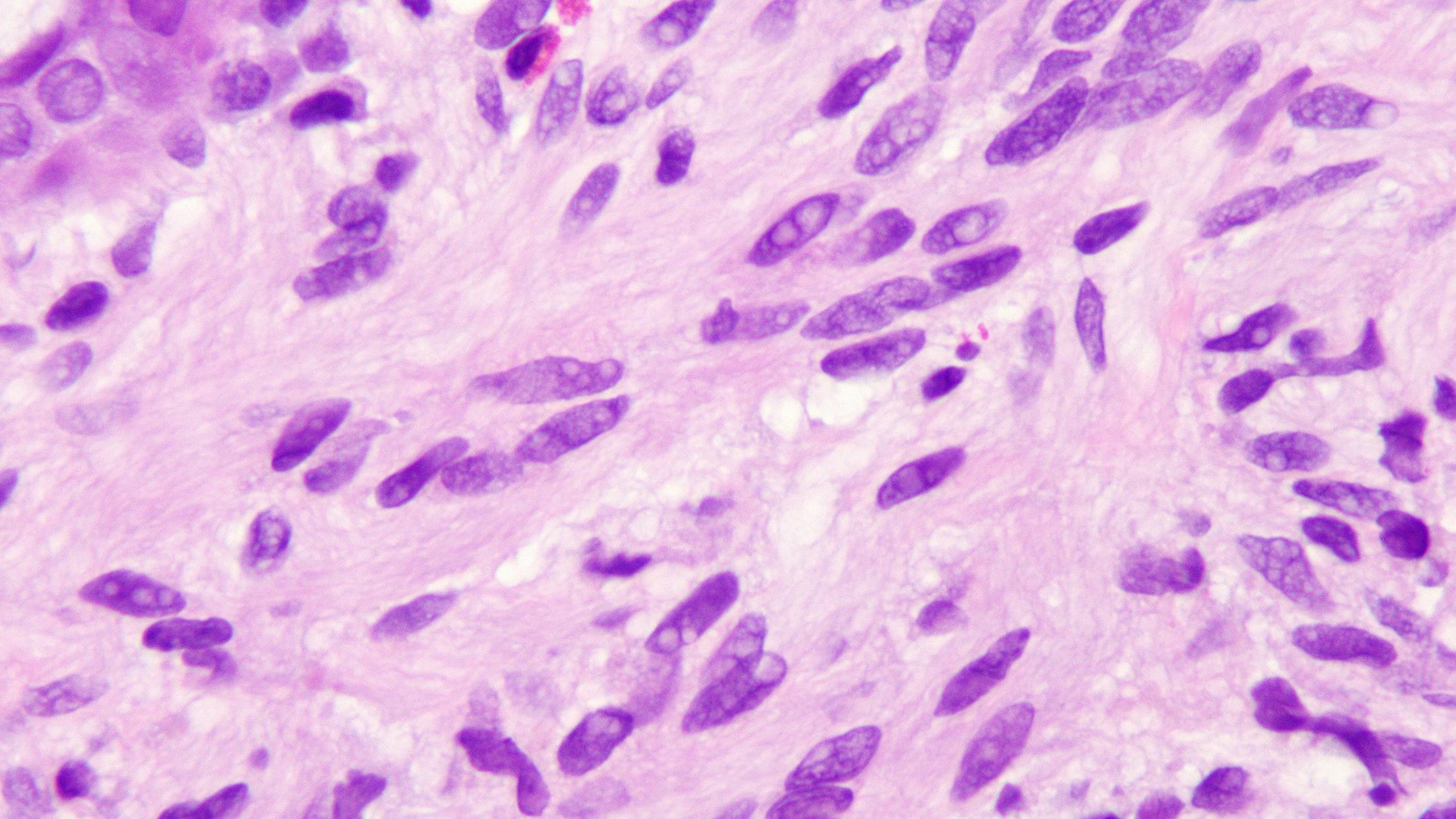




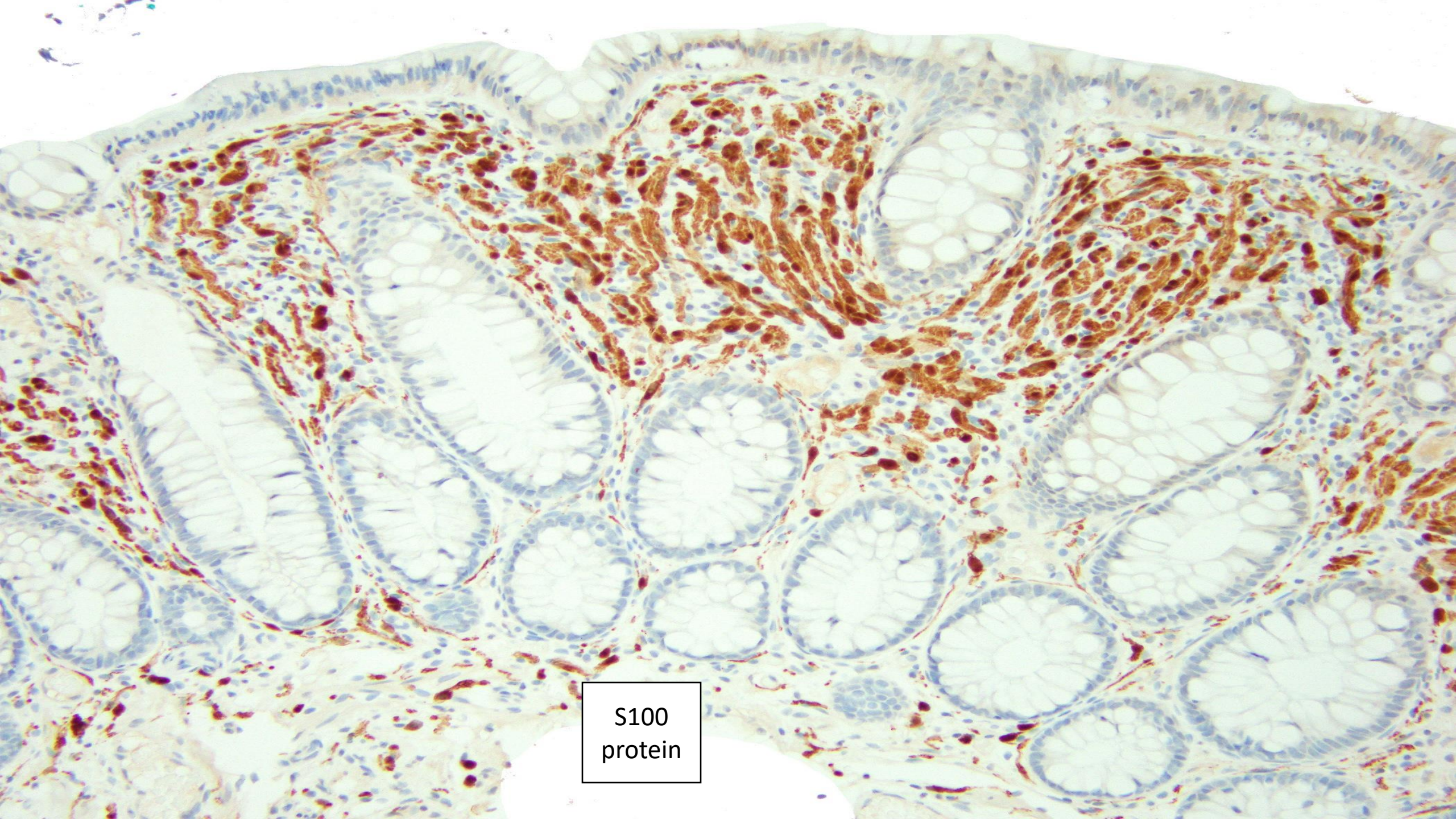
This histological image shows a dense proliferation of spindle-shaped cells with elongated, dark purple nuclei, characteristic of Schwann cells. The cells are arranged in a disorganized, haphazard pattern within a pink-stained fibrous stroma. Several small, bright red clusters are visible, representing areas of hemorrhage. On the right side of the image, there are cross-sections of mammary gland ducts, which appear as circular or oval structures with clear lumens and surrounding epithelial layers. The overall appearance is consistent with a Schwann cell hamartoma, a benign lesion often found incidentally in breast tissue.

Schwann cell  
hamartoma –  
incidental sporadic  
lesions



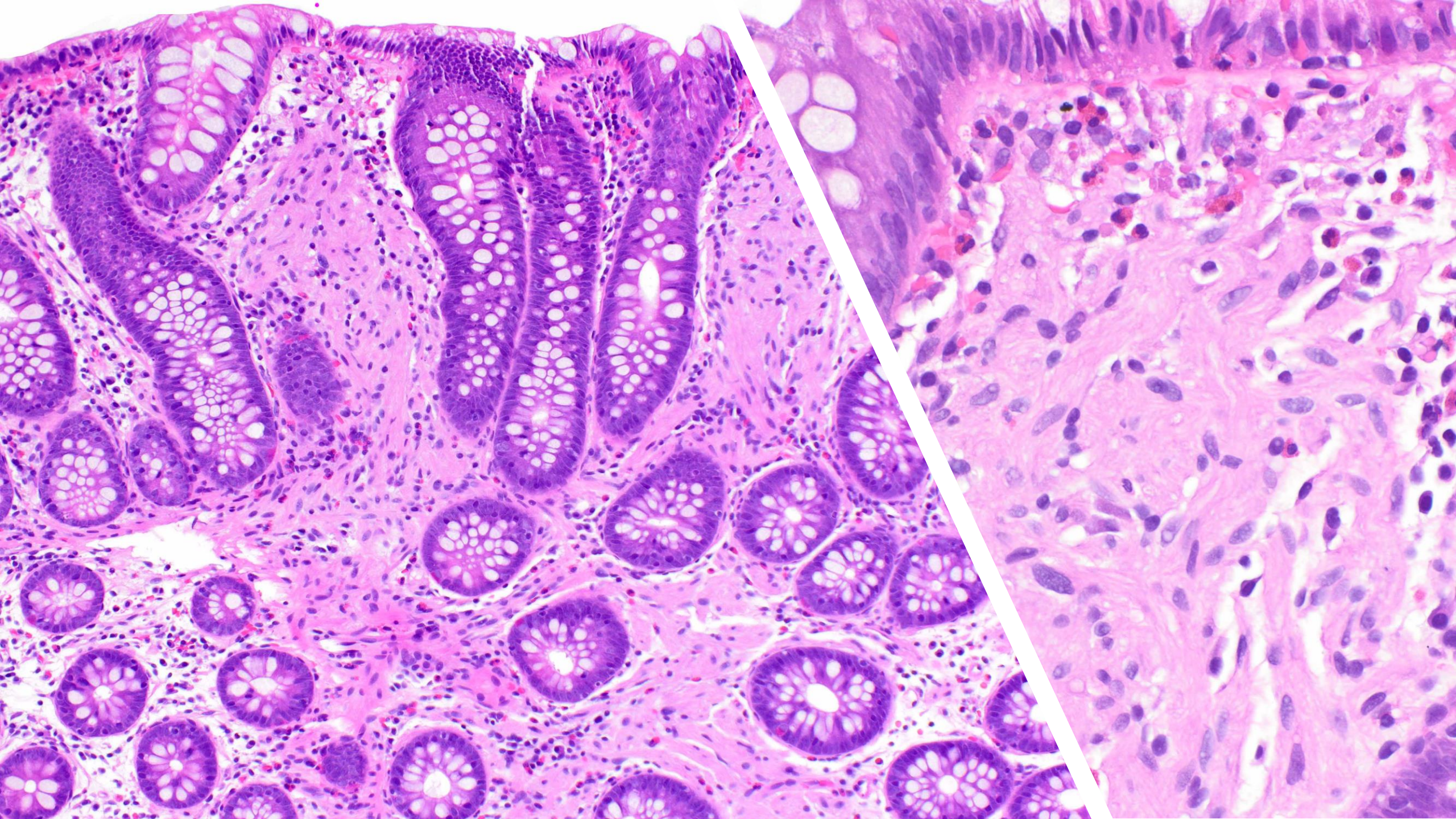






S100  
protein







# Cowden/PTEN Hamartoma Syndrome

World Health Organization criteria for Cowden syndrome. One or more pathognomonic criteria or two or more major or minor criteria.

## *Pathognomonic criteria*

Adult L'hermitte-Duclos disease (cerebellar tumors)

Mucocutaneous lesions (facial trichilemmomas), acral keratoses, papillomatous papules)

Mucosal lesions

Autism spectrum disorder

## *Major criteria*

Breast cancer

Non-medullary thyroid cancer

Megalocephaly

Endometrial carcinoma

Mucocutaneous lesions (trichilemmoma- at least one biopsy proven, multiple palmoplantar keratoses, multifocal cutaneous facial papules, macular pigmentation of glans penis

Multiple gastrointestinal hamartomas or ganglioneuromas

## *Minor criteria*

Other thyroid lesions (follicular adenoma, multinodular goiter)

Single gastrointestinal hamartoma or ganglioneuroma

Fibrocystic breast disease

Lipomas

Fibromas

Genitourinary tumors – especially renal cell carcinoma

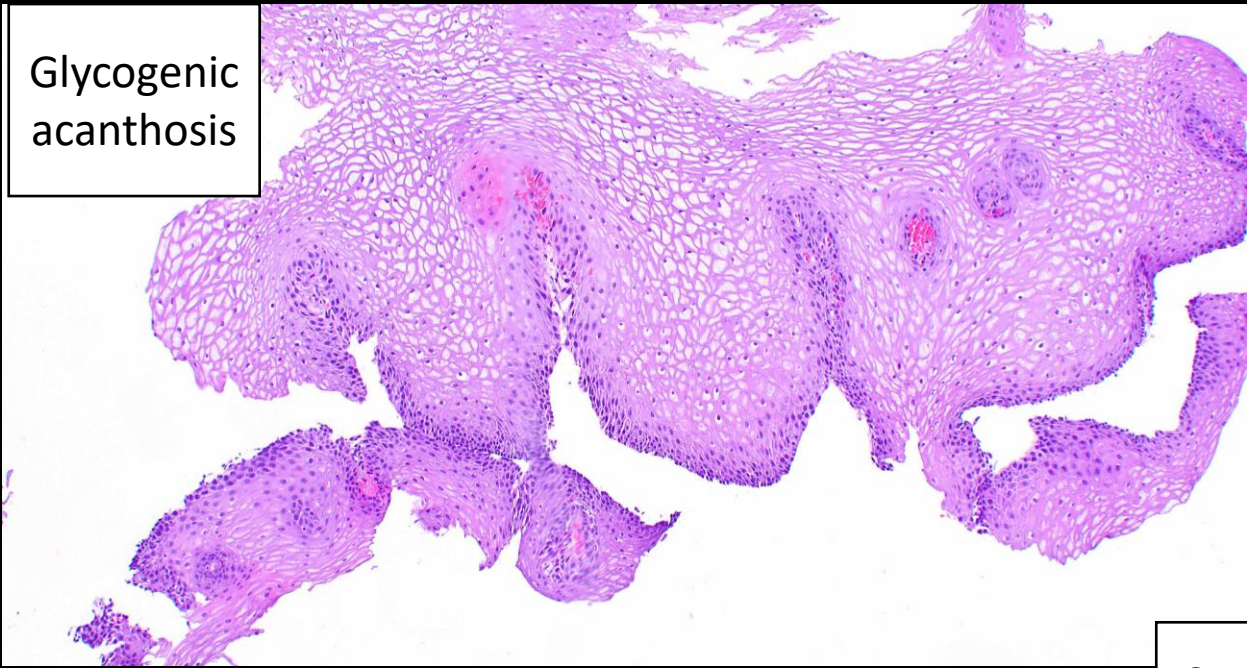
Genitourinary malformation

Uterine leiomyomas

Autism spectrum disorder



Glycogenic  
acanthosis



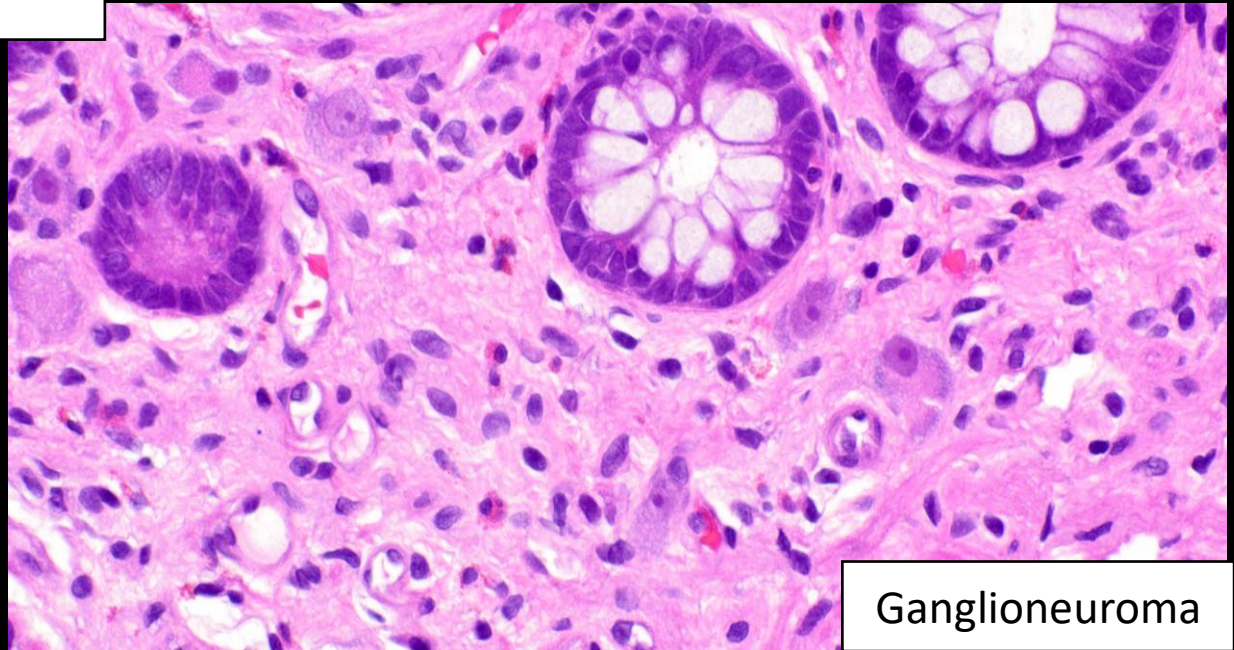
Glycogenic  
acanthosis



Cowden



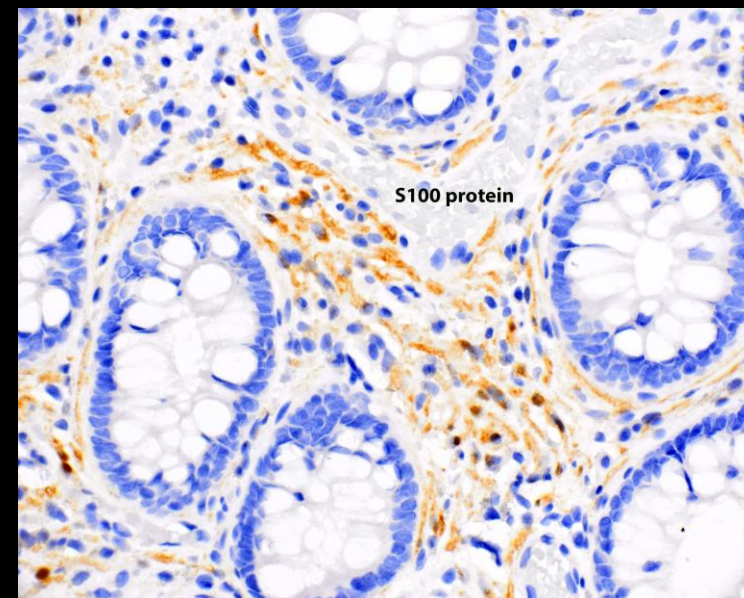
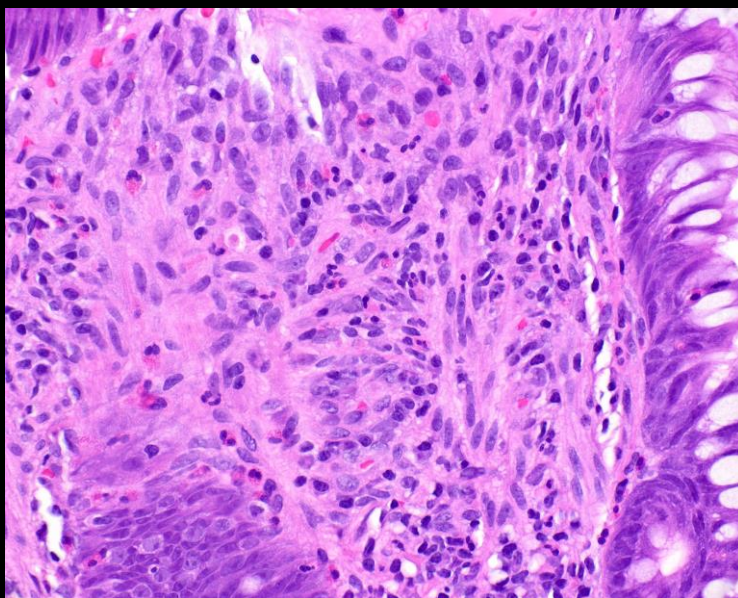
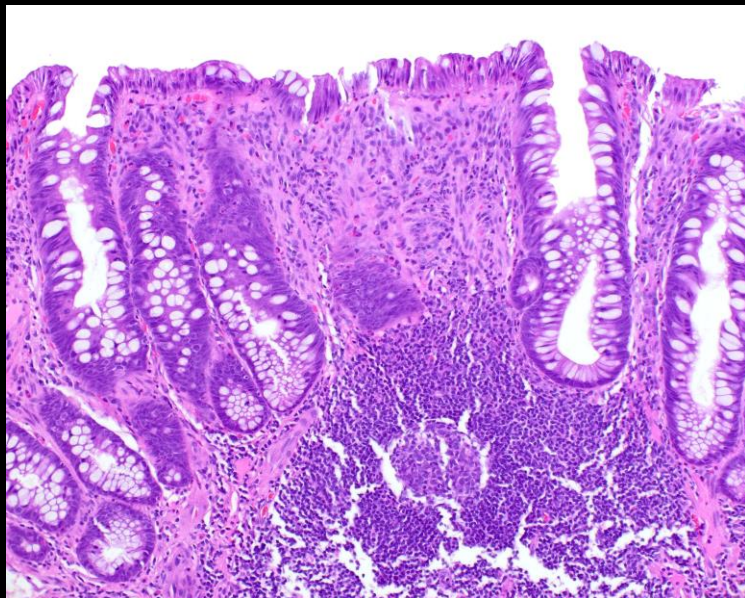
Schwann cell hamartoma-like lesion



Ganglioneuroma



## Cowden-Associated Neural Lesion

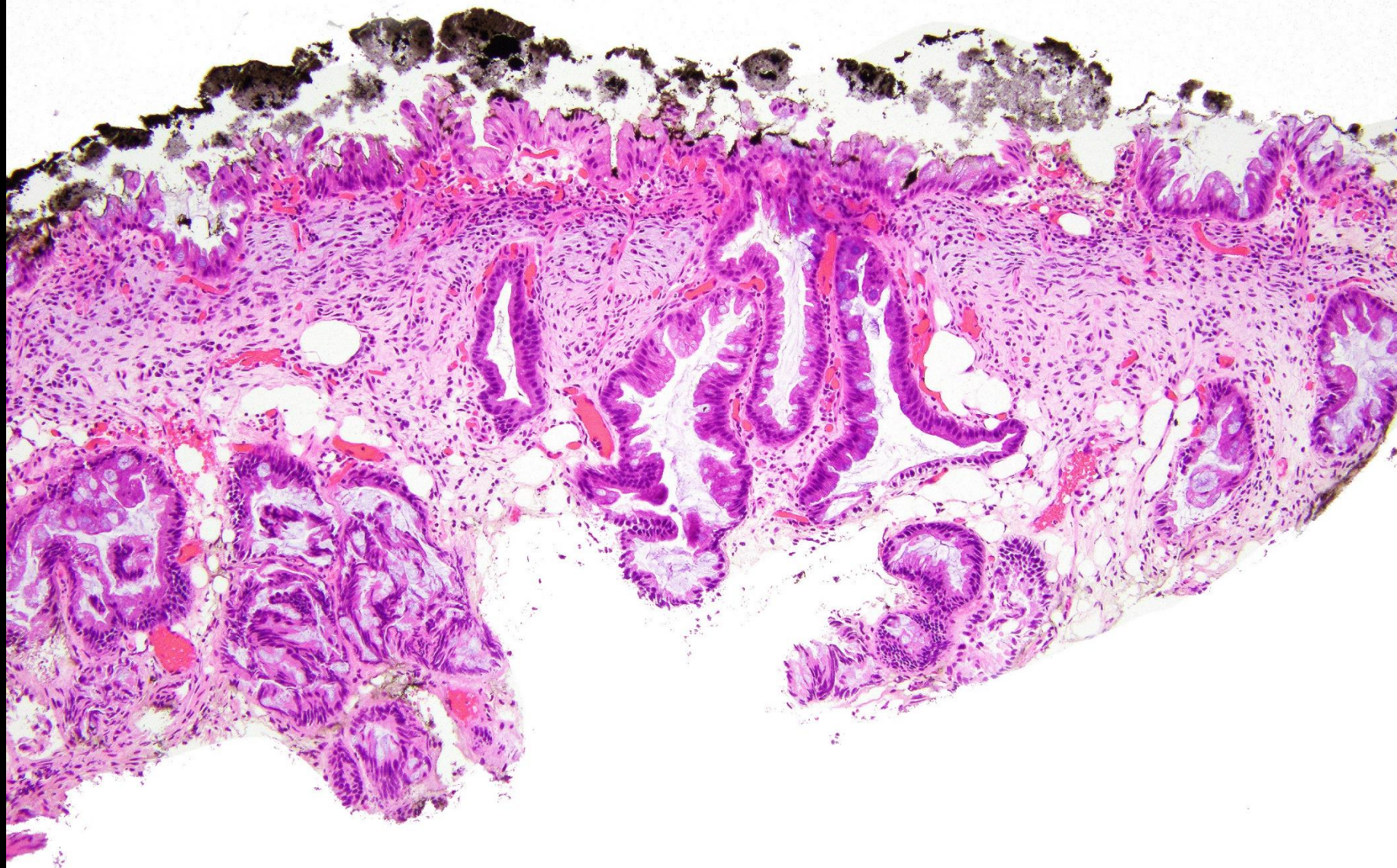




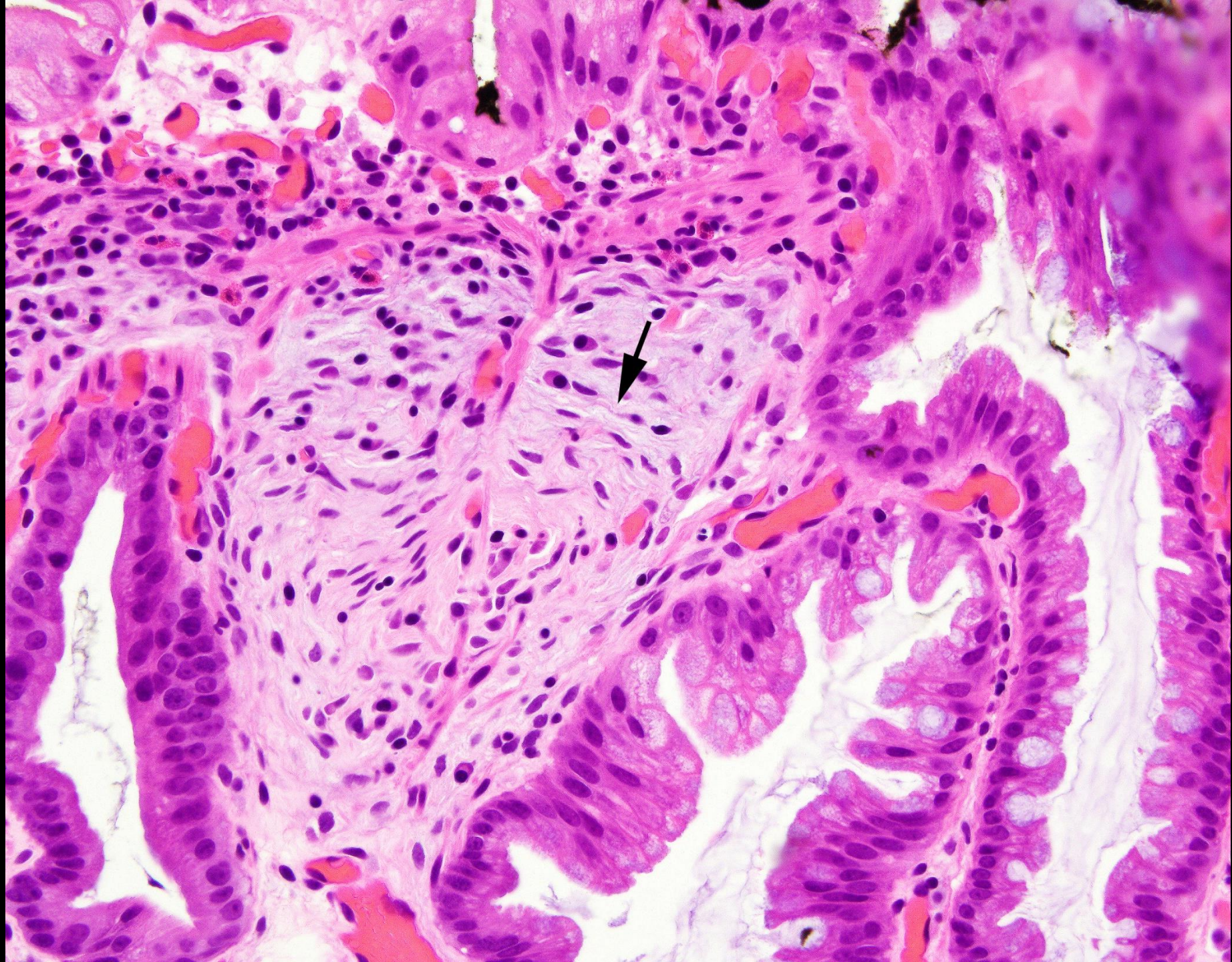
# Benign fibroblastic polyps of the colon/perineurioma

- Incidental -detected in adult patients undergoing screening colonoscopy.
- Lamina propria - Some intimately admixed with serrated polyps.
- Lack CD31, S-100, CD117/c-kit, Bcl-2, and desmin.
- A few have focal SMA and CD34.
- **Same lesions with EMA/ glut1/ claudin 1 can be regarded as “perineurioma”**

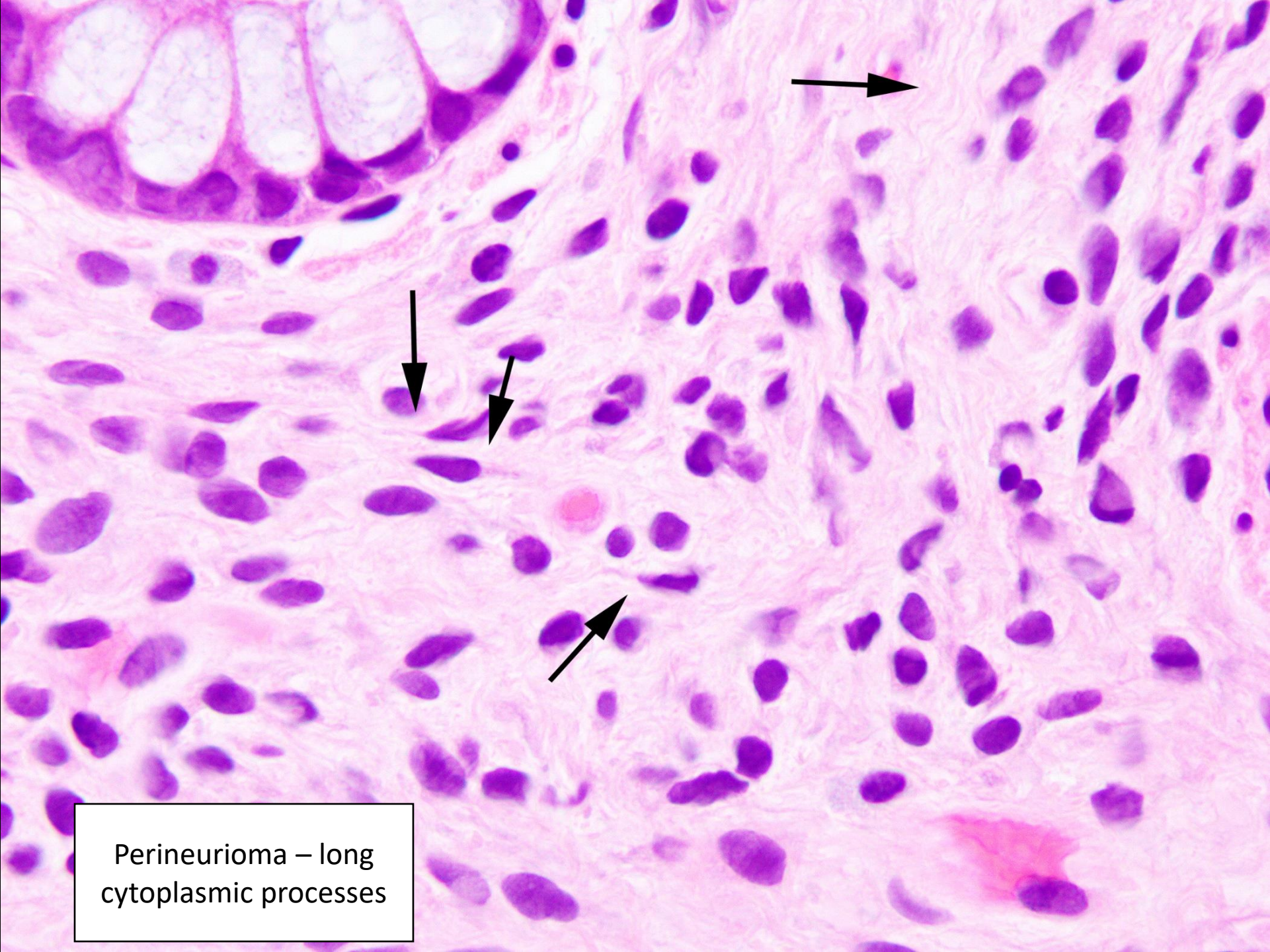








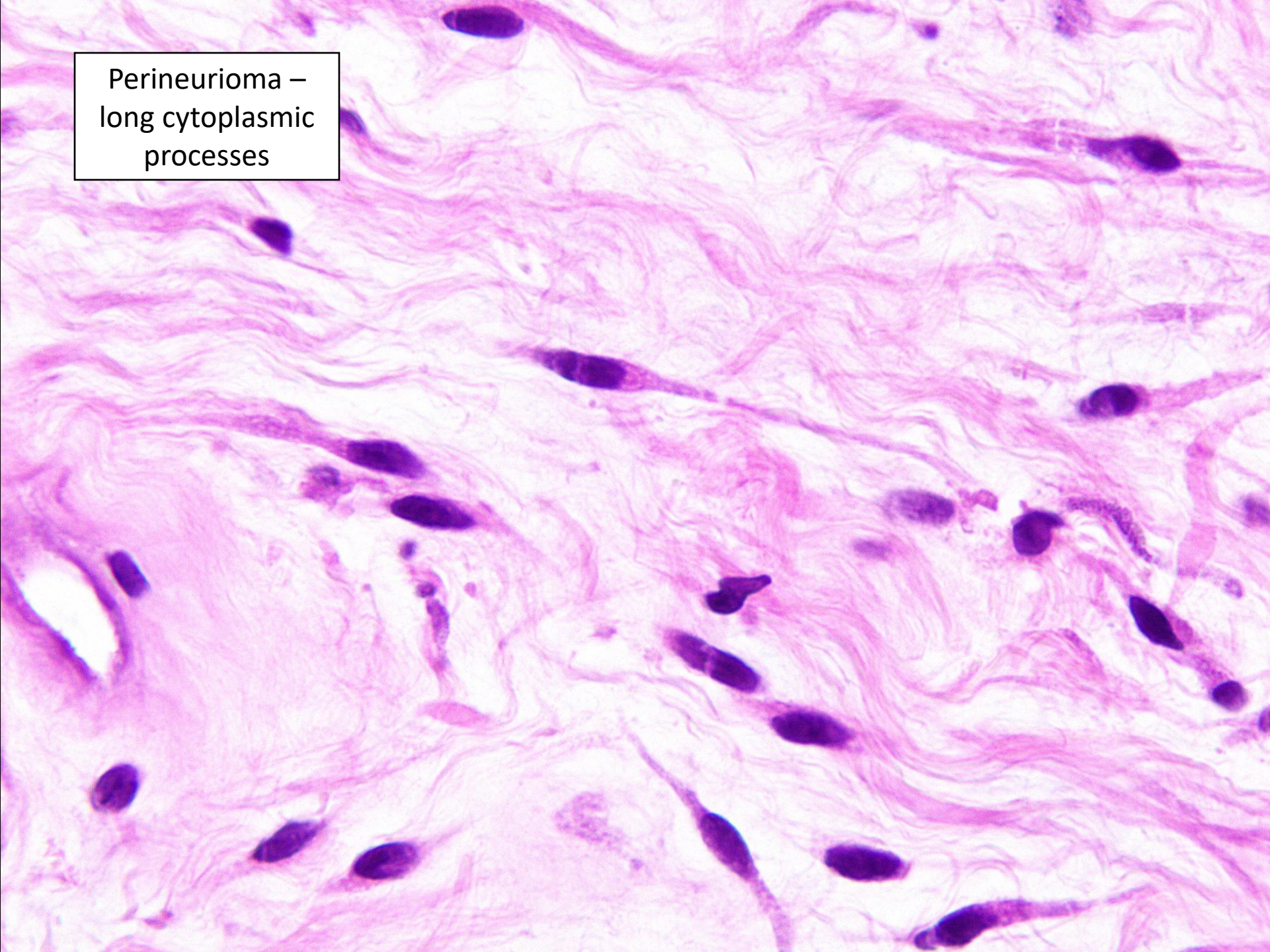




Perineurioma – long  
cytoplasmic processes

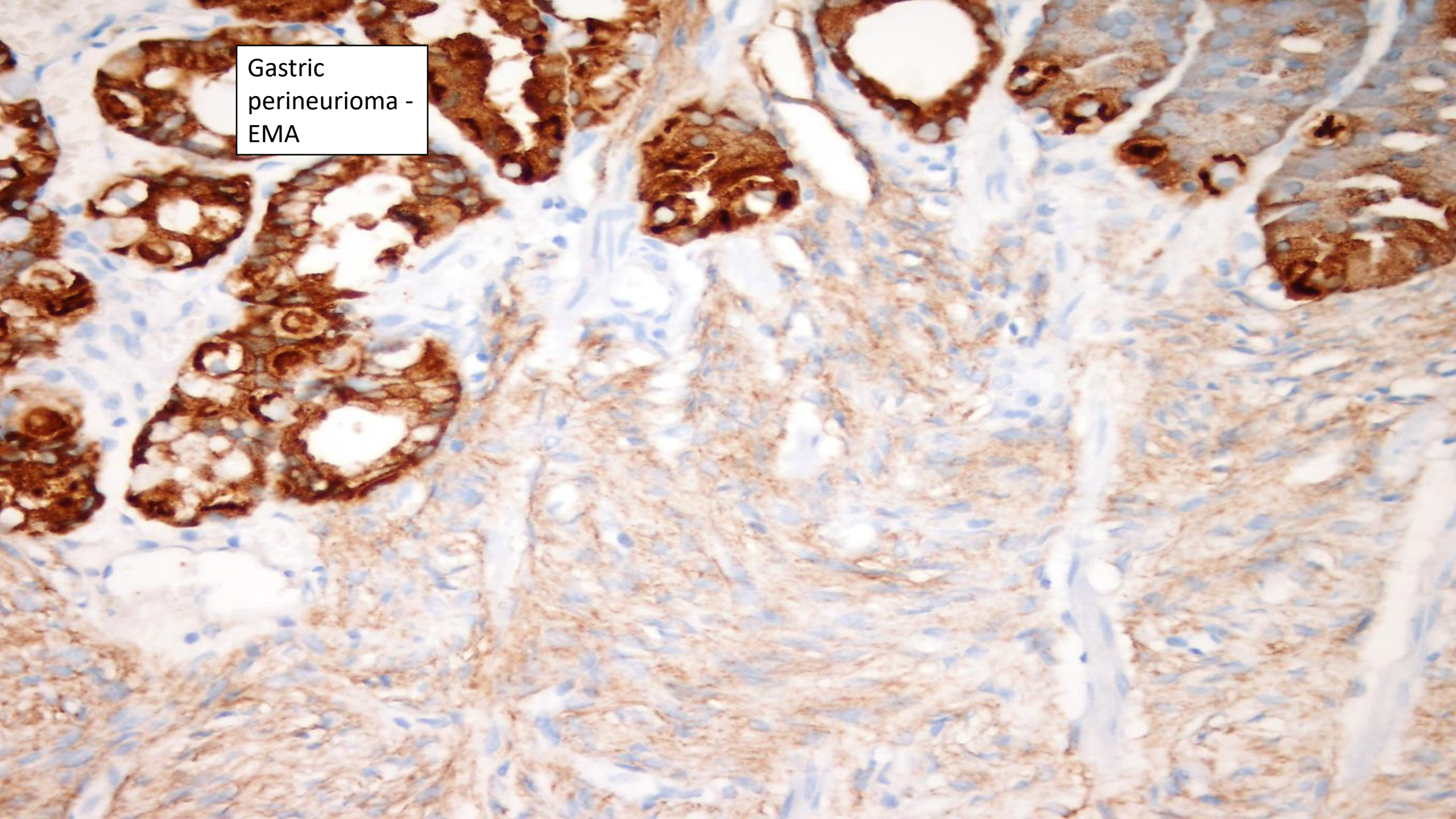


Perineurioma –  
long cytoplasmic  
processes



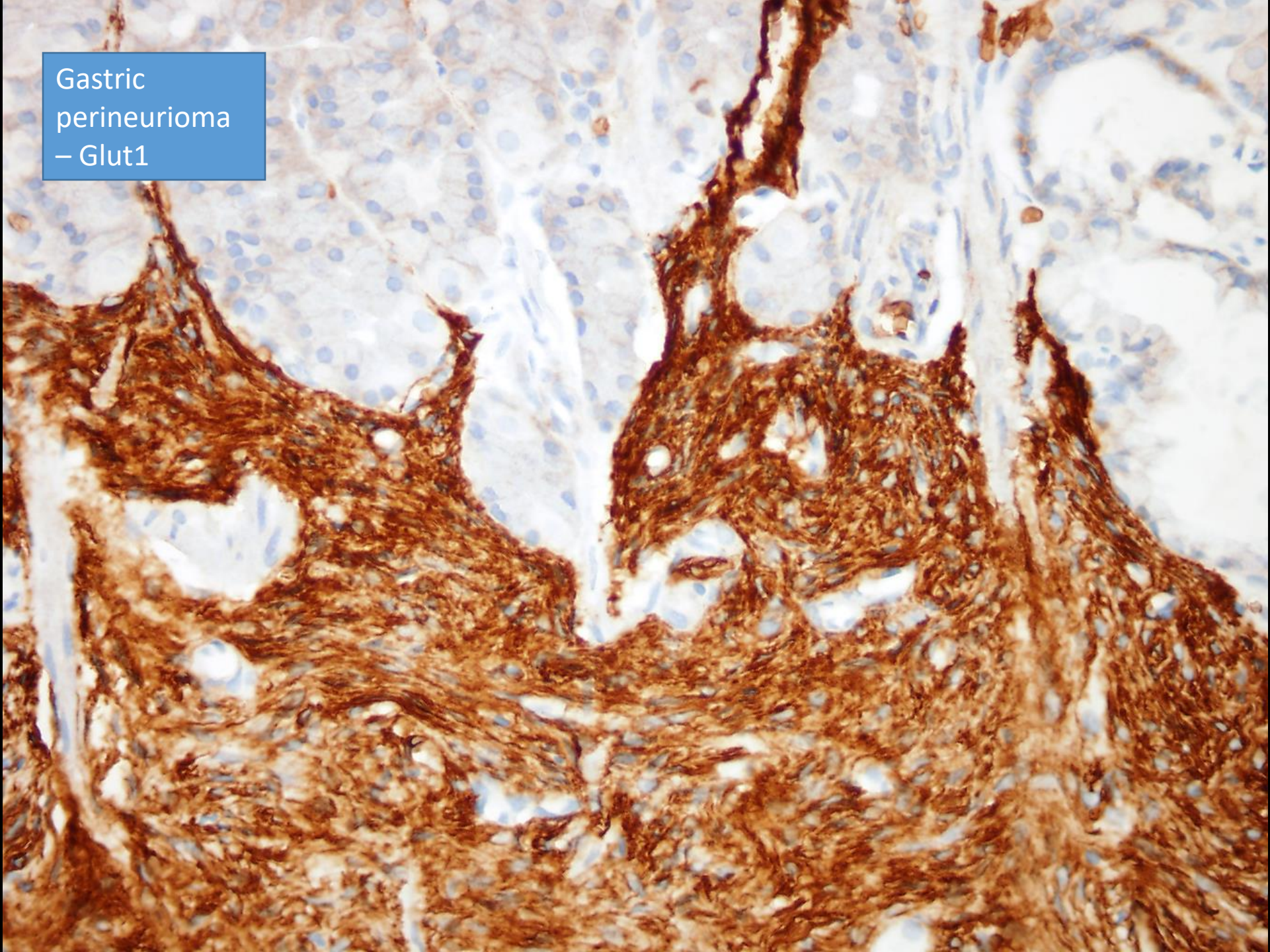


Gastric  
perineurioma -  
EMA

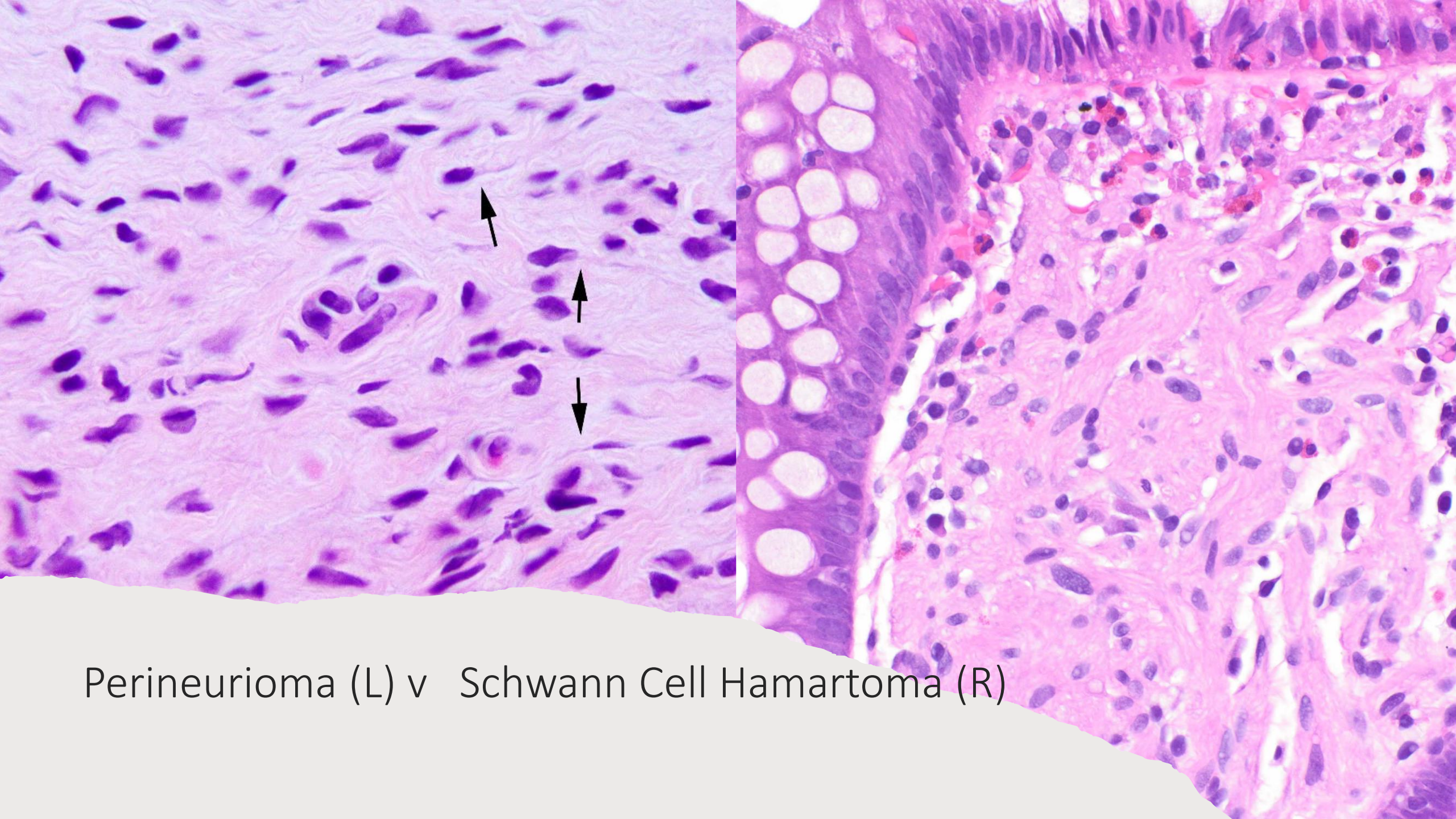




Gastric  
perineurioma  
– Glut1





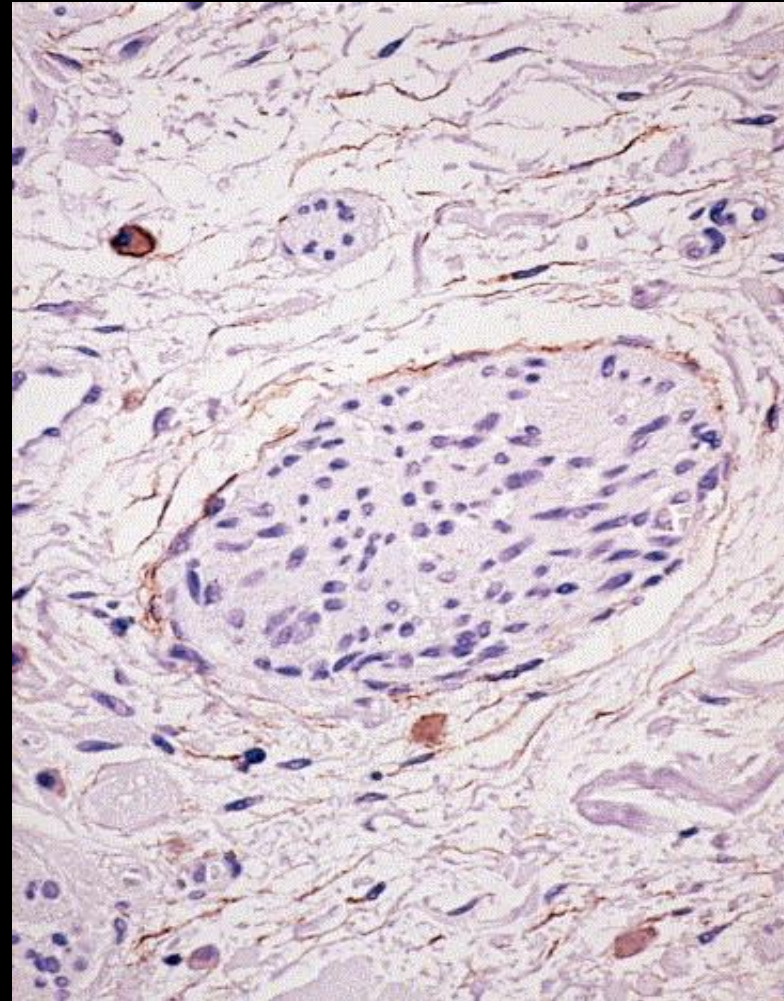


Perineurioma (L) v Schwann Cell Hamartoma (R)

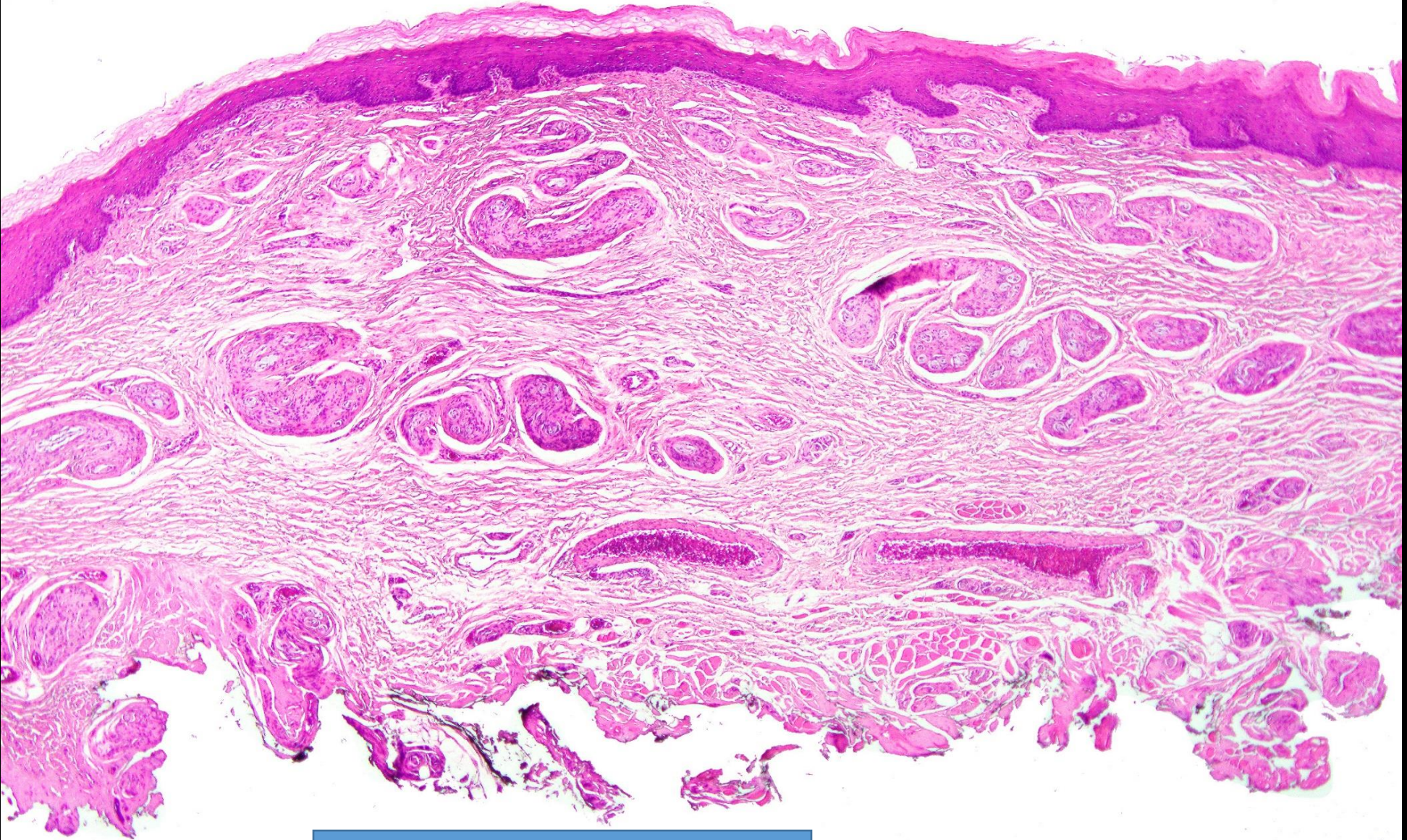


# Mucosal Nerve Sheath Lesions

- Benign
- No need to worry about GIST – if is extension from a GIST it will look ugly
- Differ from “Mucosal neuromas” of MEN2B — medullary thyroid carcinoma, pheochromocytoma, neuromas/ganglioneuromas

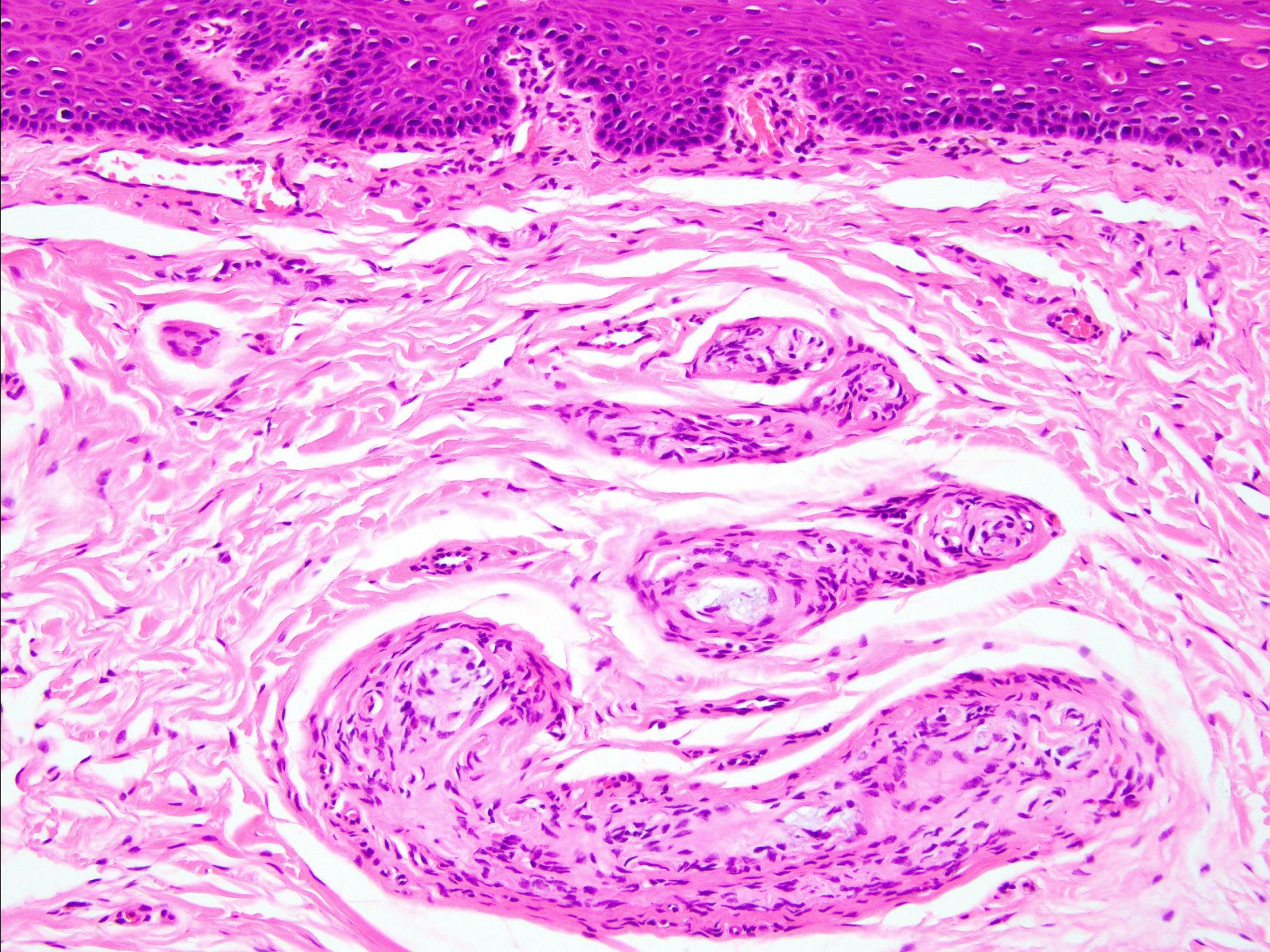




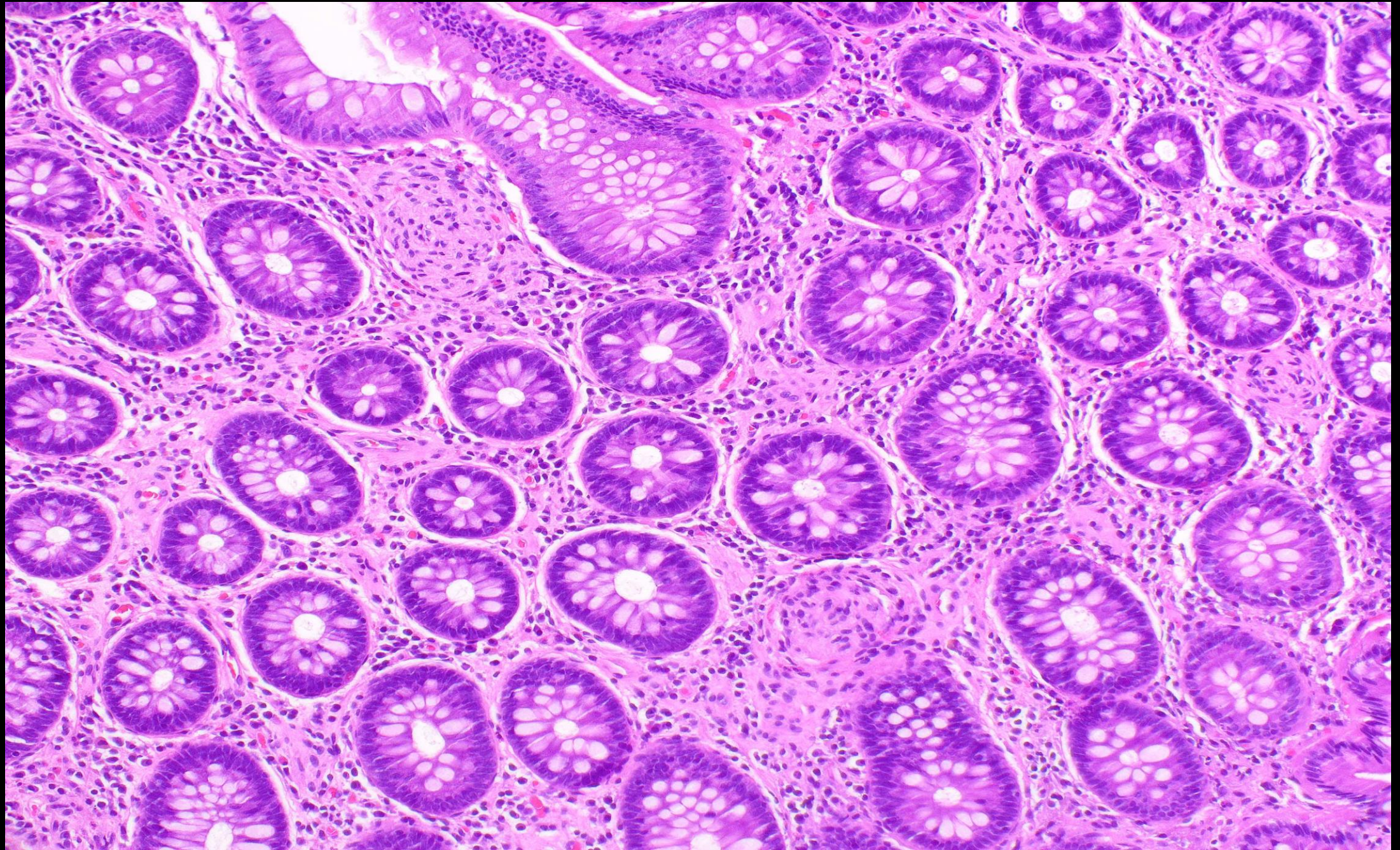


Mucosal neuroma

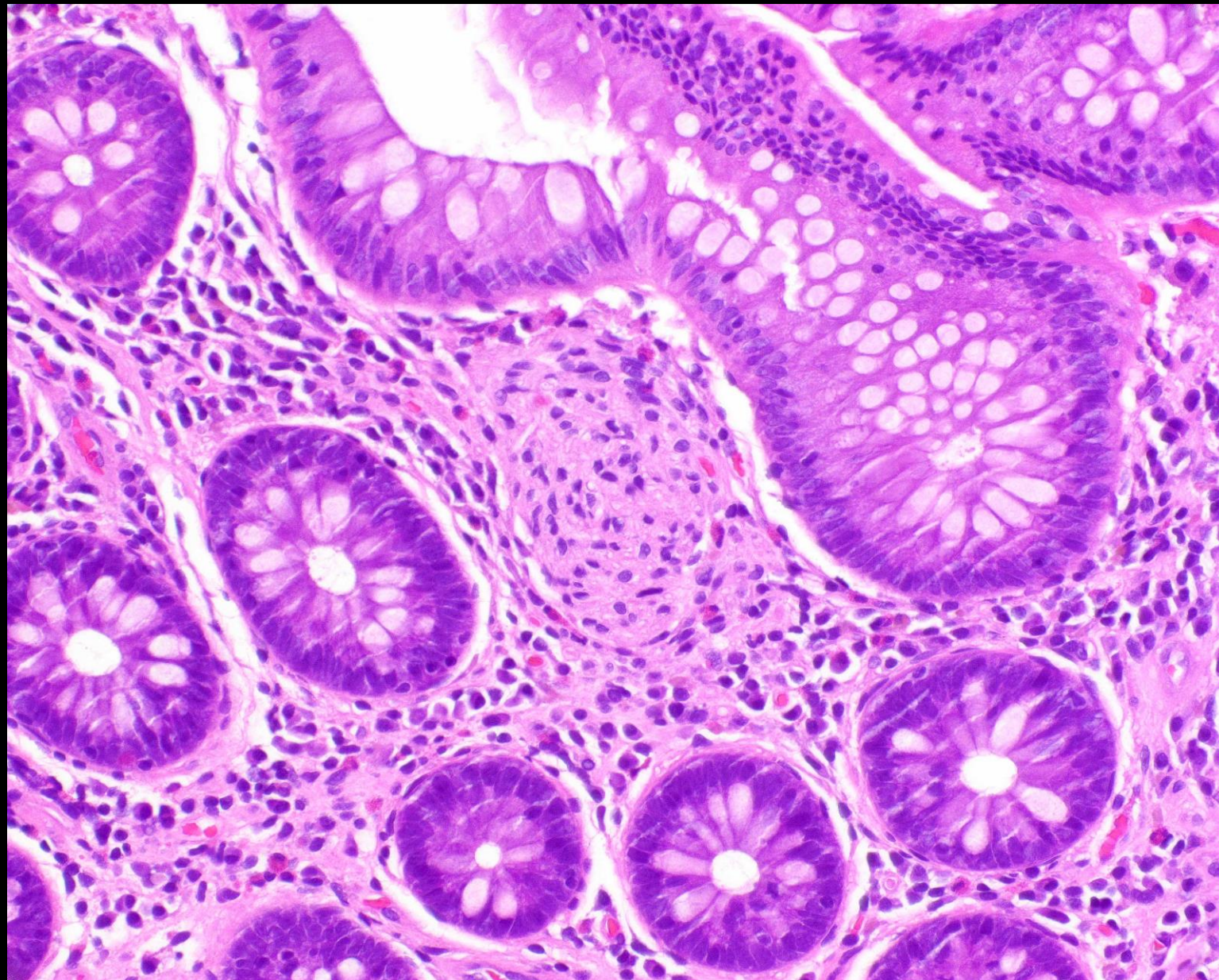






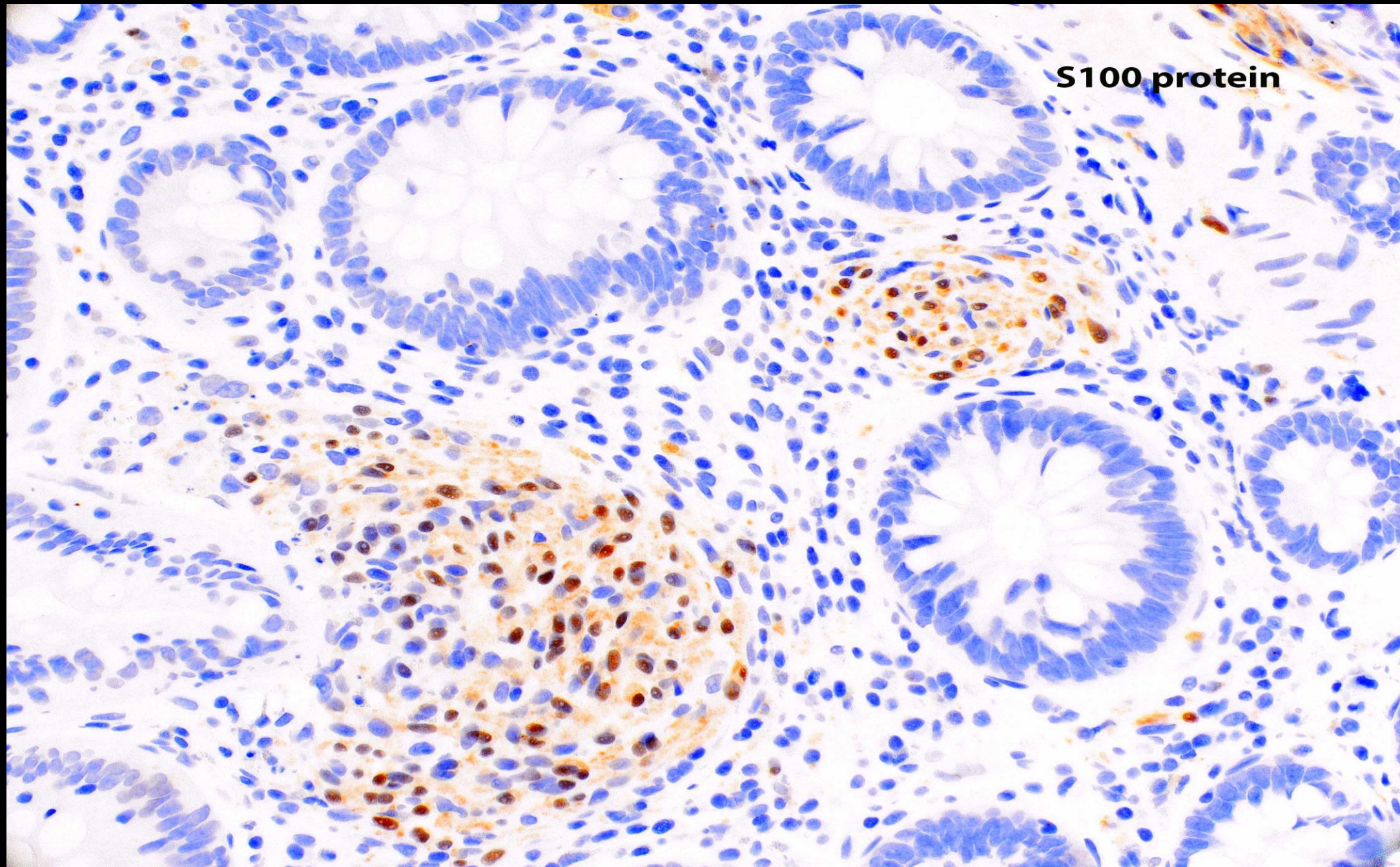






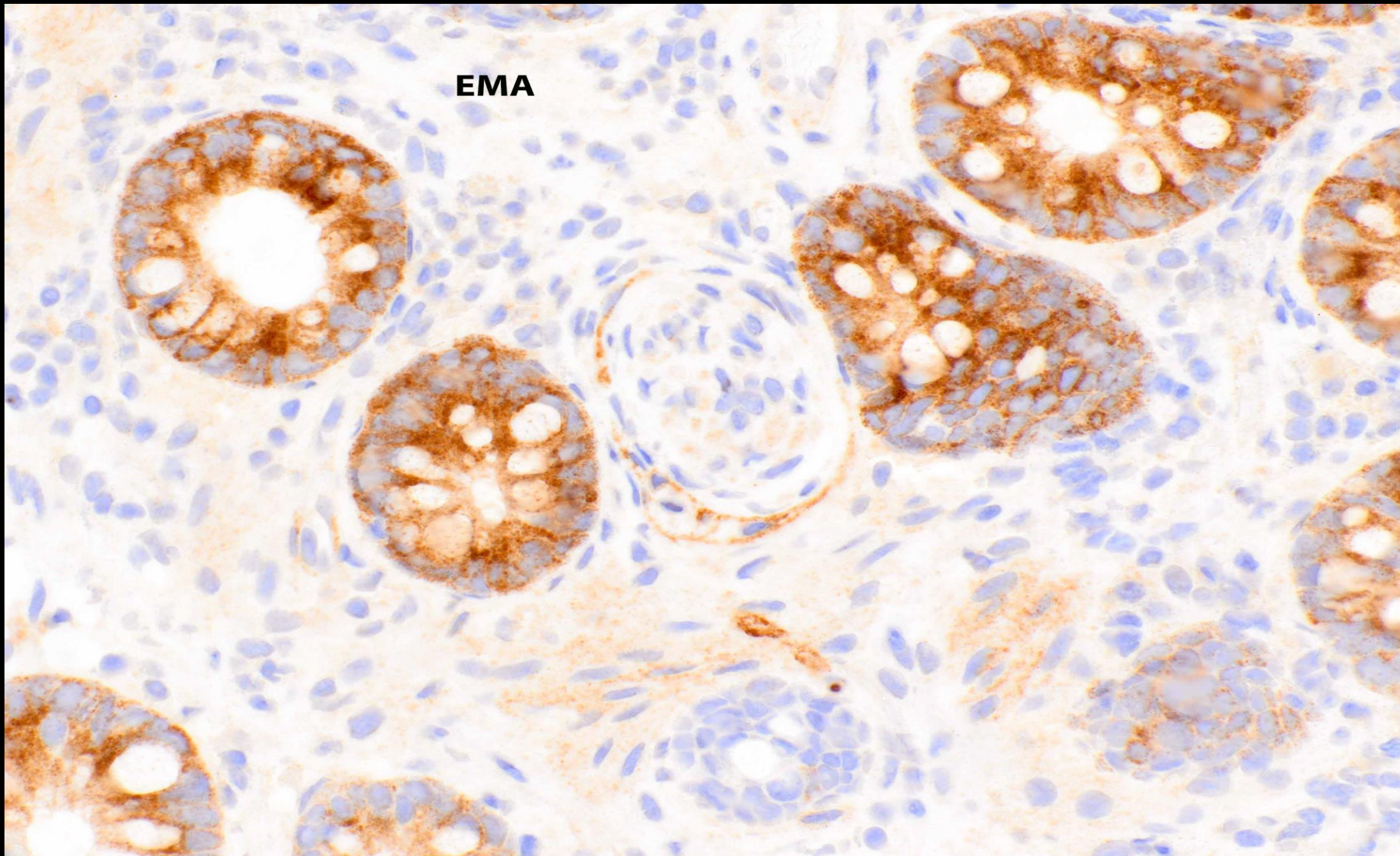


**S100 protein**





**EMA**





# GI Mesenchymal Tumors

- We have covered a lot
- Remember the importance of the layers in diagnosing GI mesenchymal neoplasms
- Most are “H&E diagnoses”
- Sometimes a little immunohistochemical staining can reassure us!



A photograph of a green street sign with white text that reads "GIST AVE.". The sign is mounted on two dark metal posts and is positioned on a grassy median strip between two asphalt road lanes. In the background, a red car and a dark car are visible on the road, along with several white streetlights and trees under a clear sky.

GIST AVE.