36th ANNUAL PARK CITY ANATOMIC PATHOLOGY UPDATE The Lodges at Deer Valley February 5-9, 2023

Friend or Foe: Are "benign lymphadenopathies" still benign?



Anton Rets, MD, PhD Assistant Professor, University of Utah School of Medicine Medical Director, Hematopathology and Immunohistochemistry, ARUP Laboratories







Agenda

- Discuss the WHO-HAEM5 updates on "tumor-like lesions" of lymphoid tissue
- Review the most current diagnostic and therapeutic considerations for Castleman disease and IgG4-related disease
- Propose a practical approach to the diagnosis of key tumor-like lesions

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Disclosures

None













• The new WHO classification will be mentioned only once; ICC – not at all

• No "hardcore" flow or molecular

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B- AND T- CELL PROLIFERATIONS WHO, 5th Edition

- Tumor-like lesions with B-cell predominance
- Reactive B-cell-rich LPs that can mimic lymphoma
- IgG4-related disease
- Castleman disease (CD)
 - » Unicentric CD

AR PLABORATORIES

- » Idiopathic multicentric CD
- » KSHV/HHV8-associated multicentric CD

Tumor-like lesions with T-cell predominance

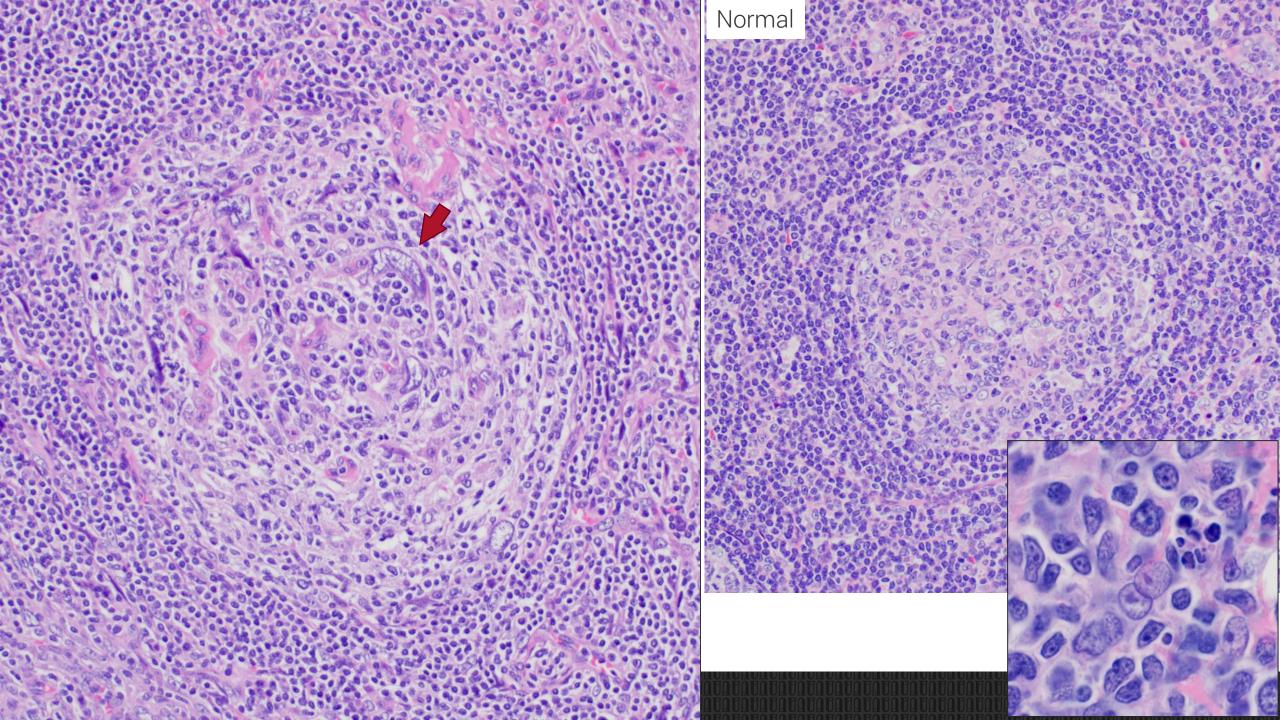
- Kikuchi-Fujimoto disease
- Autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome
- Indolent T-lymphoblastic proliferations

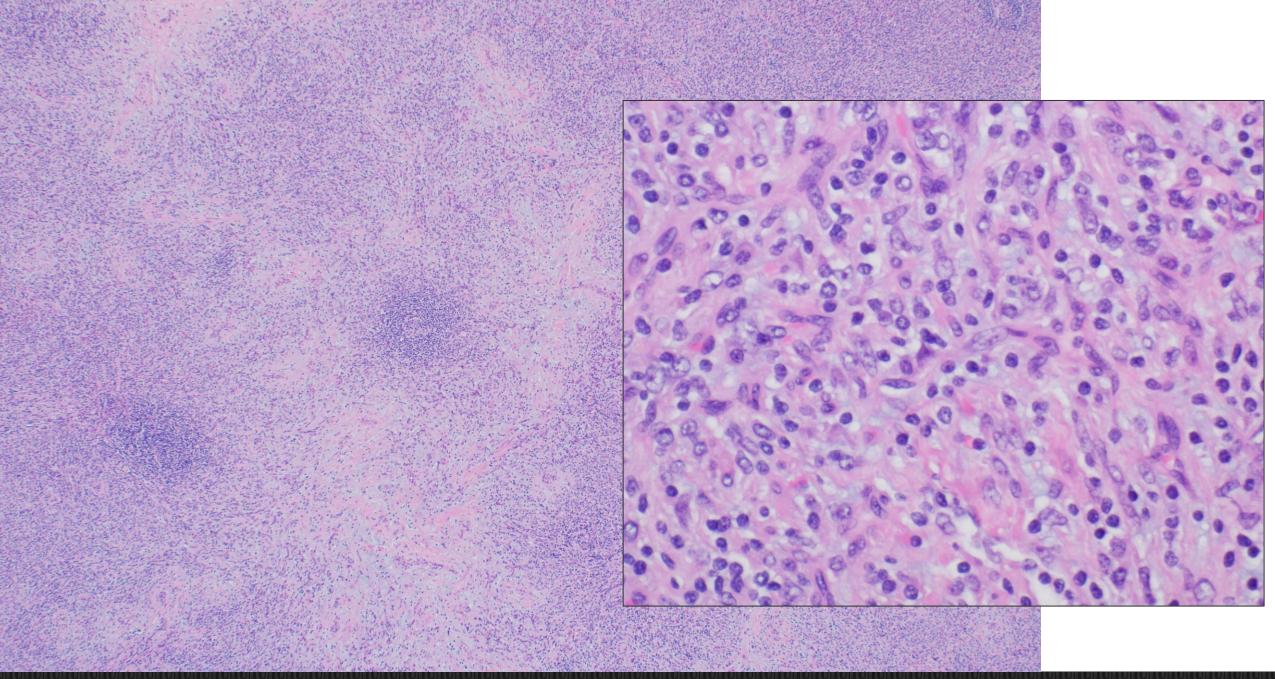
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A male in his 30s with an isolated 12 cm suprarenal retroperitoneal mass on imaging

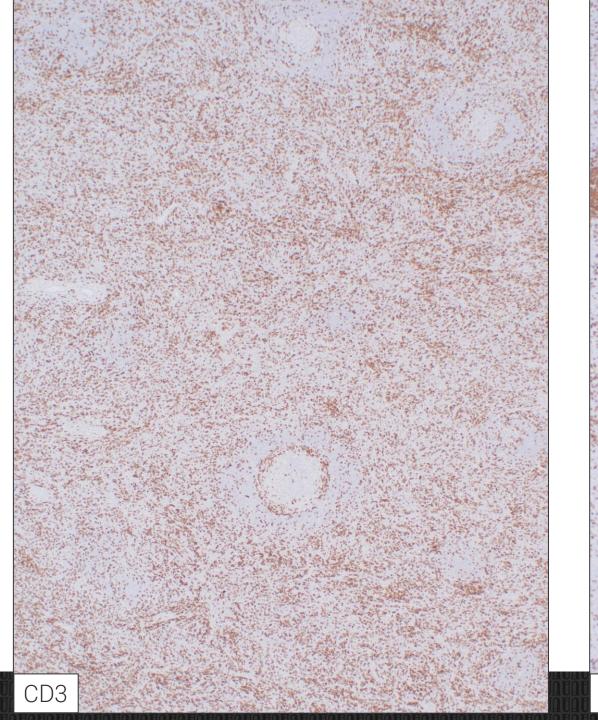


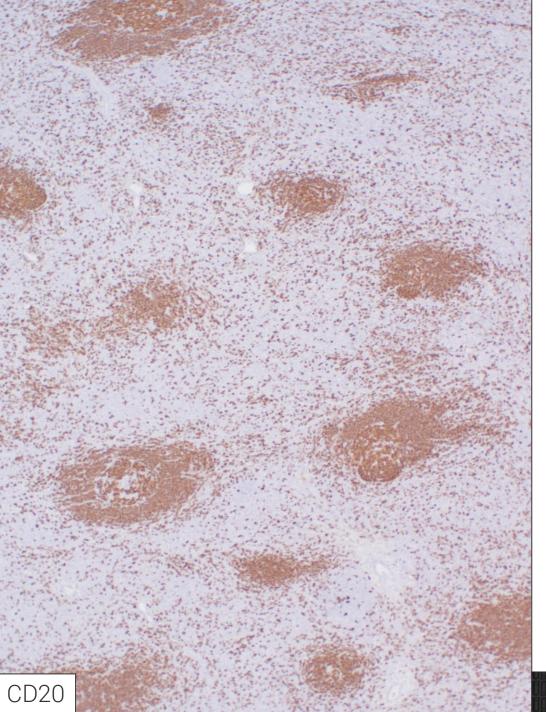












Flow cytometry:

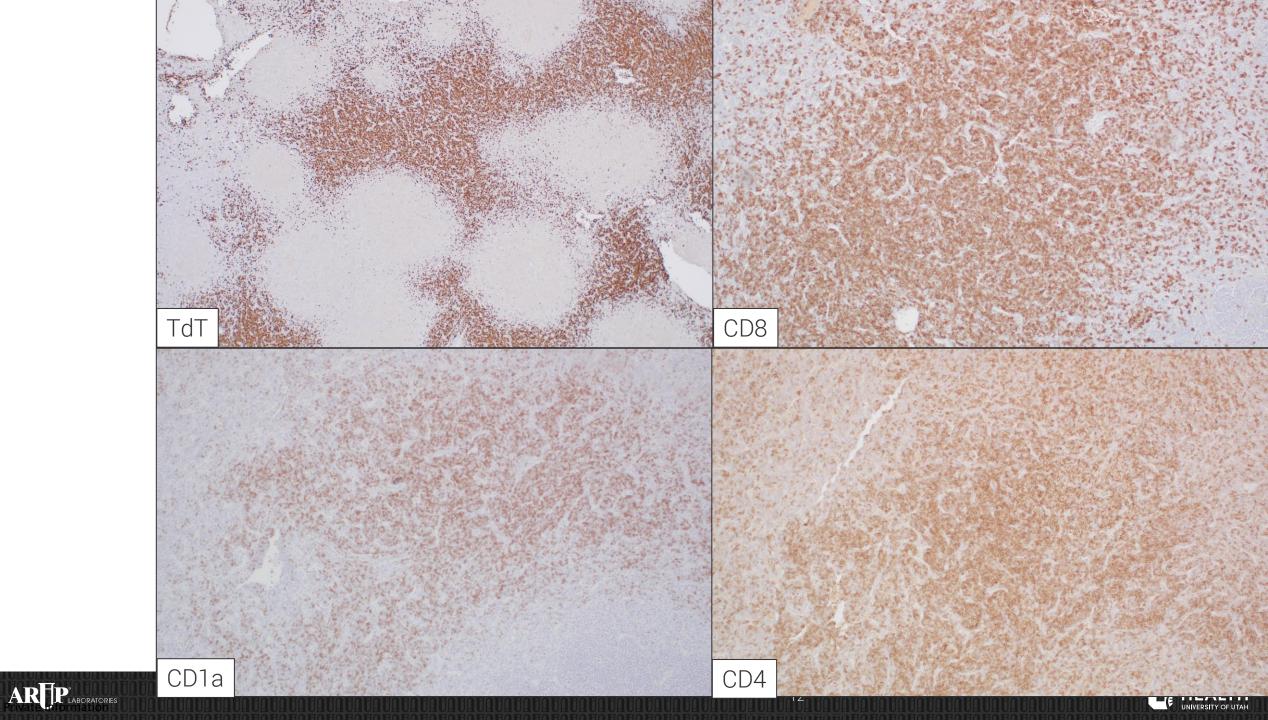
T-cell precursors, 25% of leukocytes

Positive for CD3, CD4, CD8, CD1a, TdT









Differential Diagnosis

Overall appearance

- Castleman disease
- Infection
- Lymphoma
- Castleman-like changes, nonspecific

Immature T-cells

- T-ALL?
- T-lymphoblastic something else



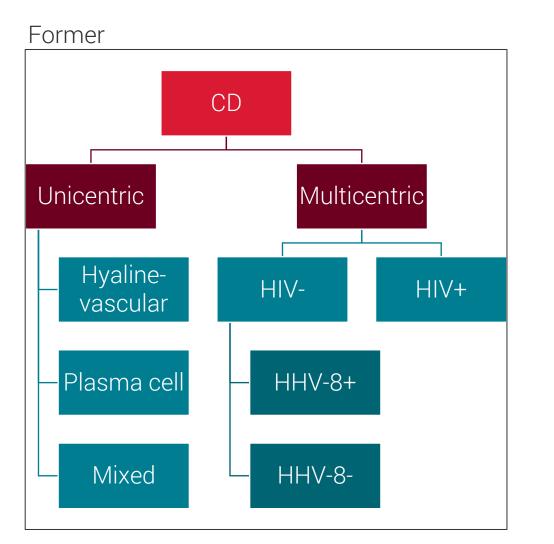


Castleman Disease

- Several (at least 4) different clinicopathologic entities
 » Share spectrum of characteristic histopathologic features
 » Wide range of etiologies, presentations, treatments, and outcomes
- 1950s initial description by Benjamin Castleman in 1950s
- 1960s Flendrig subcategorized "plasma cell", "hyalinized", and "intermediate" forms
- 1980s unicentric CD and multicentric CD
- 1980s-1990s association with HIV, POEMS, and HHV8

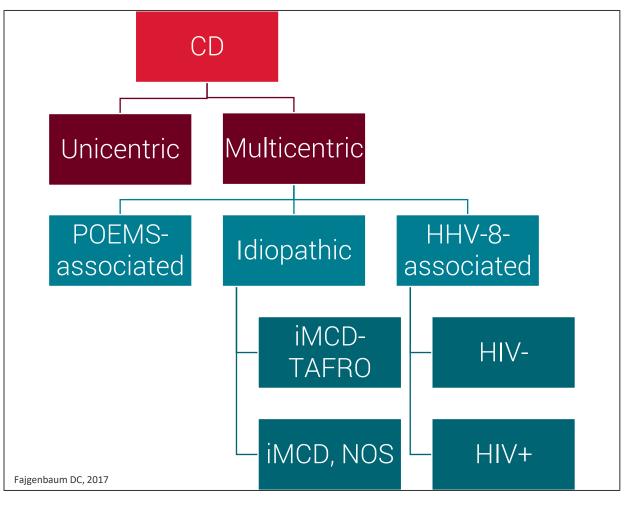


Classification





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Epidemiology

| | UCD | MCD | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| M:F | No predilection | M slightly > F | |
| Age | Age Any, usually younger (40s) Any, usually older (60s) | | |
| Risk factors | No known | Immunosuppression (for HIV and HHV-8) | |
| Annual incidence in USA | 4,300 | 5,200 | |



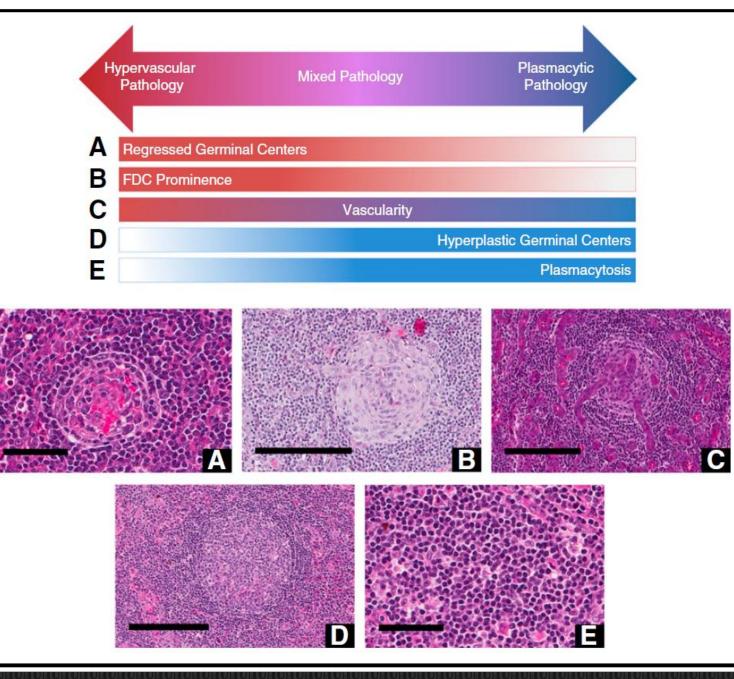


Morphology

Hypervascular/hyaline-vascular – regressed GCs and FDC prominence

Plasmacytic – hyperplastic GC and profound plasmacytosis

Mixed - combination







UNICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE

Important points

- Involves single LN region
- Demonstrates characteristic "Castleman" histopathologic changes
- Systemic manifestations are usually mild

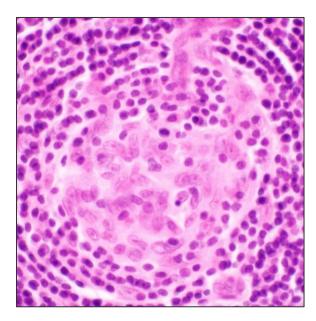


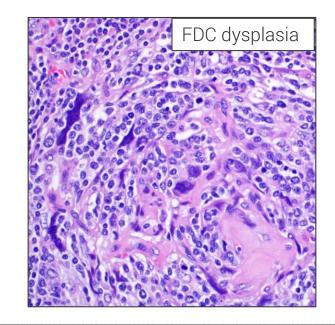


Pathogenesis

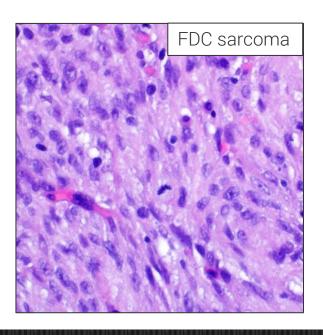
Clonal/neoplastic transformation of follicular dendritic cells (FDC) 20% cases have mutated *PDGFRB* - gain of function mutation FDC dysplasia

Association with FDC sarcoma





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UNICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE

LN enlargement

Distorted architecture, but no effacement

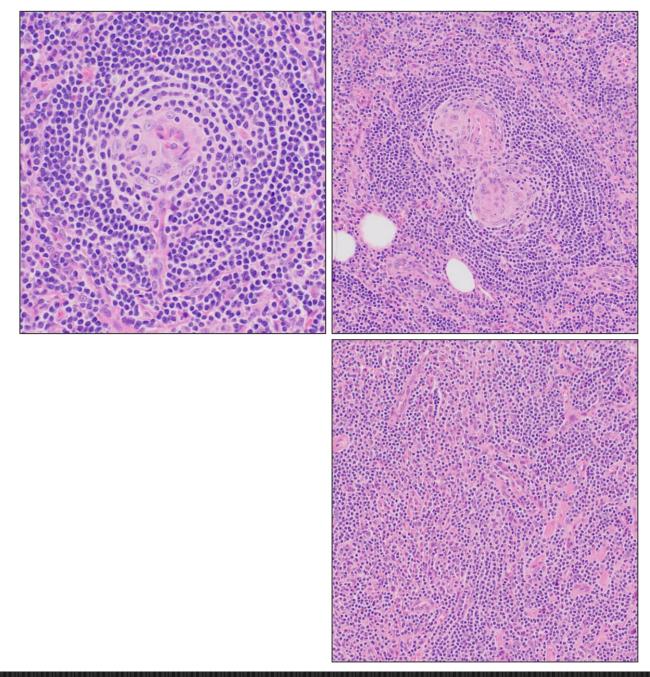
Depleted and hyalinized GCs

Penetrating vessels – "lollipop"

Concentric mantle zones – "onion skin"

Interfollicular vascular proliferation

Usually, rare plasma cells





UNICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE

Stroma-rich variant

Relatively newly identified variant of UCD

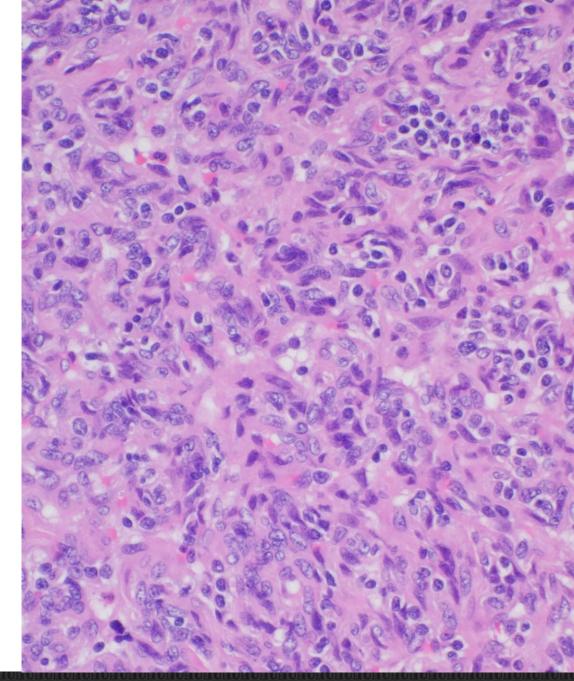
Vague nodularity and prominent expansion of interfollicular areas by various stromal cells

Positive for desmin

Negative for CD34, F VIII, S100, CD21, and CD68 No prognostic differences

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Izumi M et al.. Angiomyoid proliferative lesion: an unusual stroma-rich variant of Castleman's disease of hyaline-vascular type. Virchows Arch. 2002 Oct;441 (4):400-5.





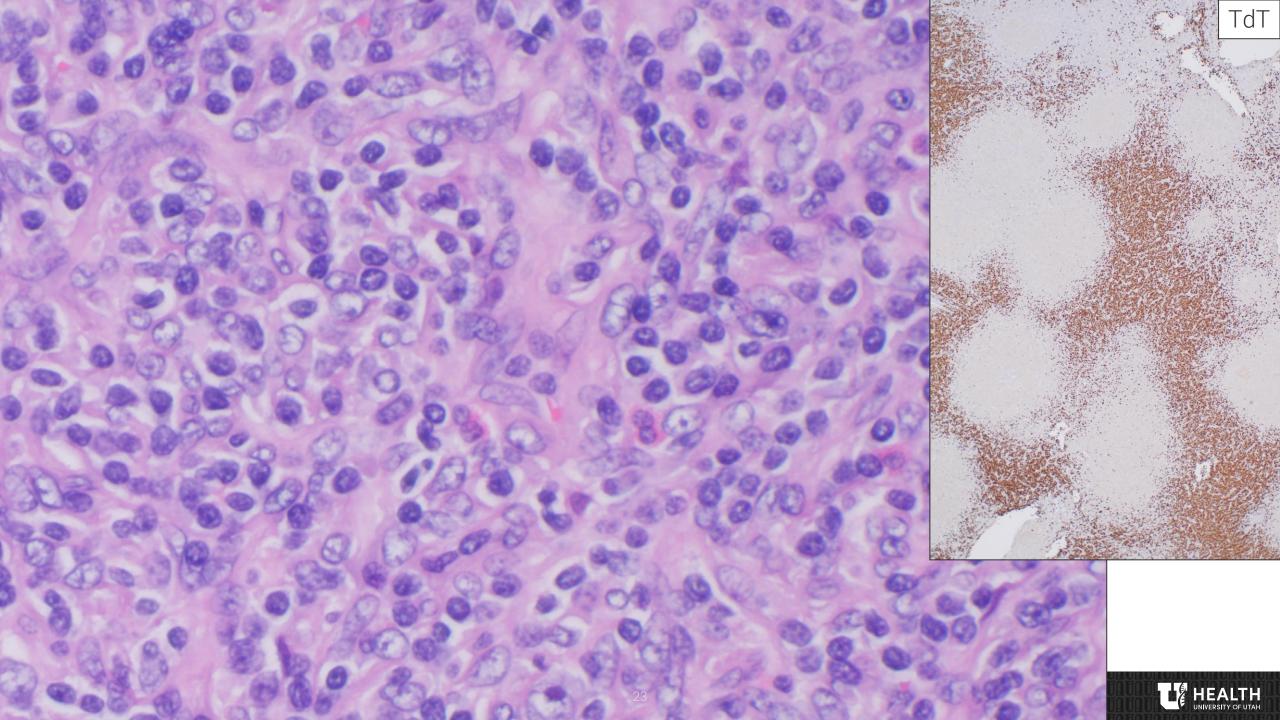
T-lymphoblastic proliferations

- Rare but a well described finding
- Non-clonal
- Involve lymph nodes but not bone marrow or blood
- Interfollicular localization without architectural effacement
- Frequent mitoses, high proliferative rate by MIB1 Associations: thymoma, myasthenia gravis, hepatocellular carcinoma, acinic cell carcinoma, CD

Voo CG, Huh J. TdT+ T-Lymphoblastic Proliferation in Castleman Disease. J Pathol Transl Med. 2015 Jan;49(1):1-4.







Our diagnosis

Unicentric Castleman disease

- hyaline-vascular/hypervascular pattern
- stroma-rich variant
- indolent T-lymphoblastic proliferation

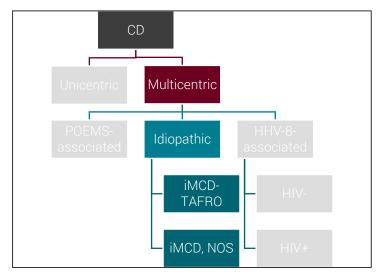




MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE

Idiopathic Multicentric CD

- Involves many LN regions
- Poorly understood entity with no nonspecific biomarkers
- Unknown etiology
- Systemic symptoms, polyclonal lymphoid proliferation, and wide spectrum of symptoms, e.g., night sweats, LAD, hepatosplenomegaly, hypoalbuminemia, anemia, etc.
- Poor prognosis: 35% die within 5 years, 60% die within 10 years; increased prevalence of malignancy







Pathogenesis

- IL-6 is a critical driver
 - many patients respond to anti-IL-6 or anti-IL-6R treatment
- Some iMCD cases are associated with other cytokines, e.g., mTOR pathway activators
- Autoantibodies are seen in 1/3 iMCD patients
- Paraneoplastic (?) higher association with CHL and myelofibrosis





Regular Article

CLINICAL TRIALS AND OBSERVATIONS

International, evidence-based consensus diagnostic criteria for HHV-8–negative/idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease

David C. Fajgenbaum,¹ Thomas S. Uldrick,² Adam Bagg,³ Dale Frank,³ David Wu,⁴ Gordan Srkalovic,⁵ David Simpson,⁶ Amy Y. Liu,¹ David Menke,⁷ Shanmuganathan Chandrakasan,⁸ Mary Jo Lechowicz,⁸ Raymond S. M. Wong,⁹ Sheila Pierson,¹ Michele Paessler,¹⁰ Jean-François Rossi,¹¹ Makoto Ide,¹² Jason Ruth,¹³ Michael Croglio,¹⁴ Alexander Suarez,¹ Vera Krymskaya,¹⁵ Amy Chadburn,¹⁶ Gisele Colleoni,¹⁷ Sunita Nasta,¹⁸ Raj Jayanthan,¹⁹ Christopher S. Nabel,²⁰ Corey Casper,²¹ Angela Dispenzieri,²² Alexander Fosså,²³ Dermot Kelleher,²⁴ Razelle Kurzrock,²⁵ Peter Voorhees,²⁶ Ahmet Dogan,²⁷ Kazuyuki Yoshizaki,²⁸ Frits van Rhee,²⁹ Eric Oksenhendler,³⁰ Elaine S. Jaffe,² Kojo S. J. Elenitoba-Johnson,³ and Megan S. Lim³

CD Collaborative Network Scientific Advisory Board: 34 physicians from 8 countries on 5 continents

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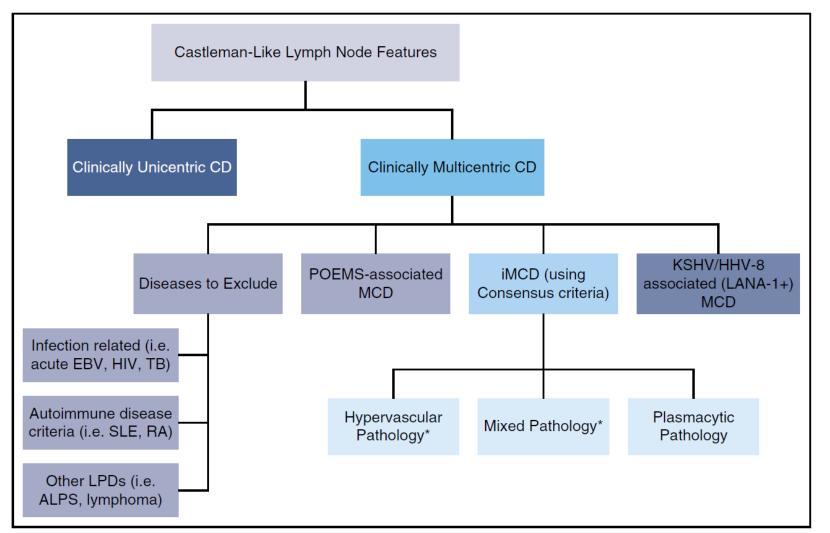
- Data derived from 244 iMCD patients
- 88 LN biopsies
- Literature reviews

van Rhee F, et al. International, evidence-based consensus treatment guidelines for idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease. Blood. 2018 Nov 15;132(20):2115-2124.

(S) blood



Proposed diagnostic algorithm



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Steps:

- Evaluation for sites of involvement: one vs. multiple
- 2. If MCD, exclude other diseases
- 3. Evaluate for HHV-8
- 4. Consider iMCD use proposed criteria



Consensus Diagnostic Criteria

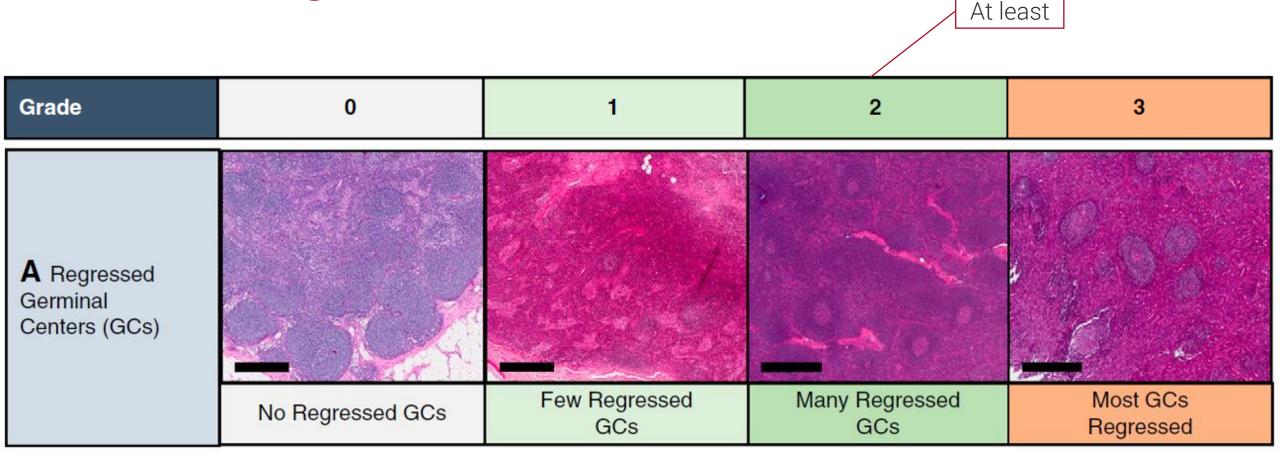
| Inclusion criteria | Exclusion criteria | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| I. Major criteria (need both) | Infection-related disorders | | |
| 1. Histopathologic lymph node | 1. HHV8 | | |
| 2. Enlarged lymph nodes in \geq 2 lymph node stations | 2. EBV LPD | | |
| II. Minor criteria (need ≥2 of 11 with ≥1 laboratory criterion) | 3. Inflammation and adenopathy by other infection | | |
| Laboratory | Autoimmune/inflammatory disease | | |
| 1. Elevated ESR or CRP | 1. SLE | | |
| 2. Anemia | 2. Rheumatoid arthritis | | |
| 3. Thrombocytopenia/tosis | 3. Adult-onset Still disease | | |
| 4. Renal dysfunction or proteinuria | 4. Juvenile idiopathic arthritis | | |
| 5. Polyclonal hypergammaglobulinemia | 5. Autoimmune LPS | | |
| 6. Hypoalbuminemia | Malignant LPD | | |
| Clinical | 1. Lymphoma | | |
| 1. Constitutional symptoms | 2. Multiple myeloma | | |
| 2. Large spleen and/or liver | 3. Primary lymph node plasmacytoma | | |
| 3. Fluid accumulation | 4. FDC sarcoma | | |
| 4. Eruptive cherry angiomata or violaceous papules | 5. POEMS syndrome | | |
| 5. Lymphocytic interstitial pneumonitis | | | |

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Dispenzieri A, Fajgenbaum DC. Overview of Castleman disease. Blood. 2020 Apr 16;135(16):1353-1364.



Pathologic features







Pathologic features

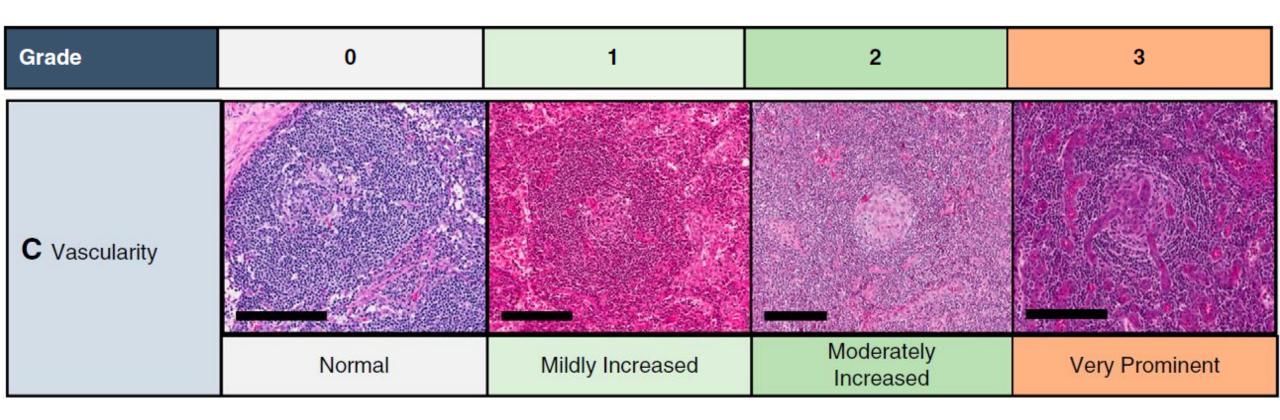
| Grade | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| B Follicular Dendritic Cell (FDC) Prominence | | | | |
| | No FDC Prominence | Mild FDC Prominence | Moderate FDC Prominence | Very Prominent FDCs |

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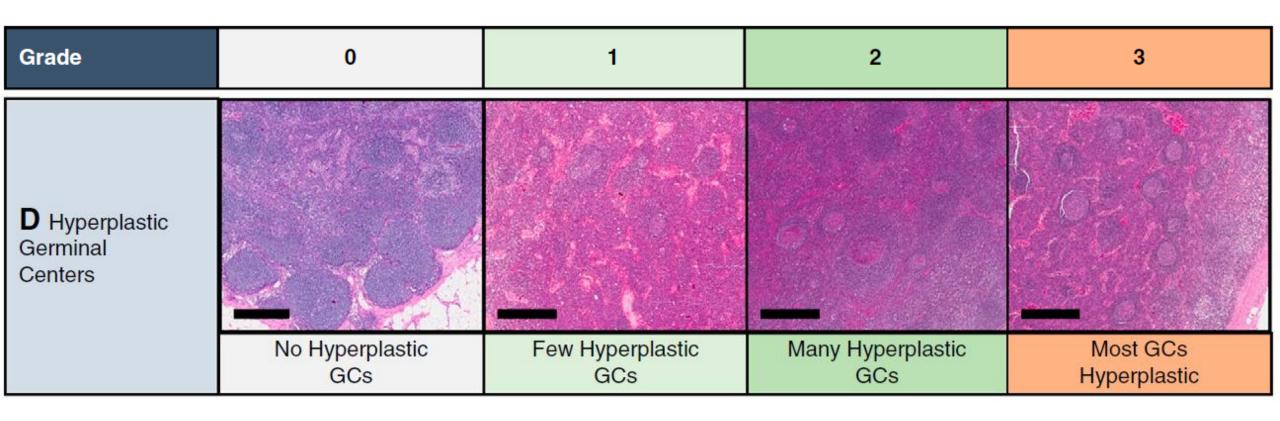
Pathologic features





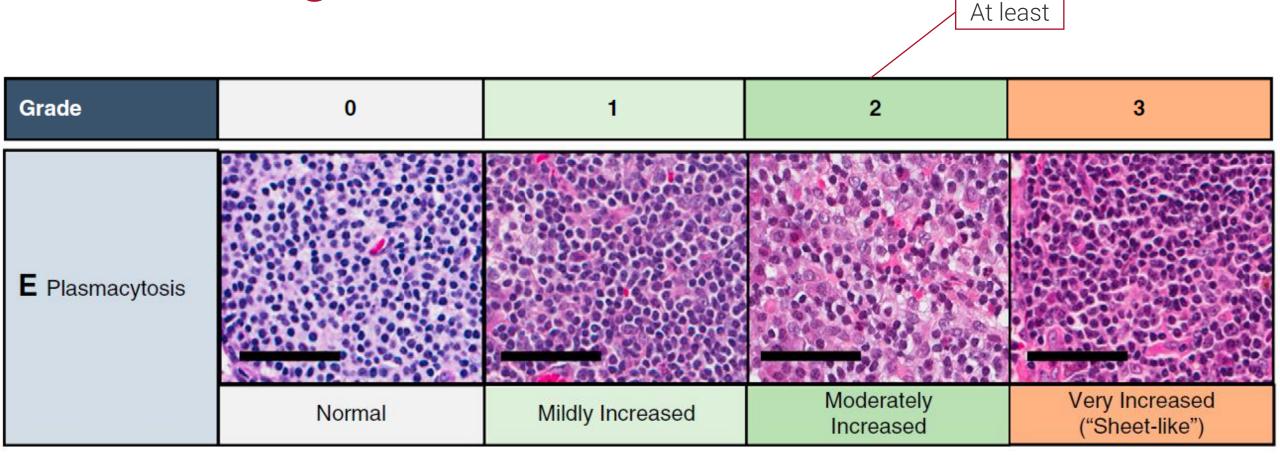


Pathologic features





Pathologic features







IDIOPATHIC MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE

TAFRO-IMCD

Clinical findings

- Thrombocytopenia
- Anasarca/ascites
- Fever
- Organomegaly (LAD, splenomegaly, hepatomegaly)
- + Additional findings (at least 1)
 - Bone marrow reticulin fibrosis
 - Renal insufficiency
- + Histopathology consistent with iMCD

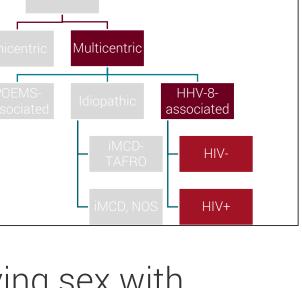




HHV-8 ASSOCIATED MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE

- Occurs in patients with and without HIV infection
- Populations with high risk of HHV-8 infection, e.g., men having sex with men
- Inflammatory flares, fever, LAD, hepatosplenomegaly, cytopenia, etc.
- If not treated, rapid evolution to organ failure and hemophagocytic syndrome







HHV-8 ASSCOSIATED MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE

Pathogenesis

- HHV-8 infects naïve κ and λ B-cells
- It reinduces Rag-mediated V(D)J recombination in both but preferentially IgM- λ B-cells
- Infected cells undergo "immunoblastic" transformation and proliferation
- Infected cells acquire marginal zone-like phenotype
- Replication is associated with transcription of viral analog of IL-6

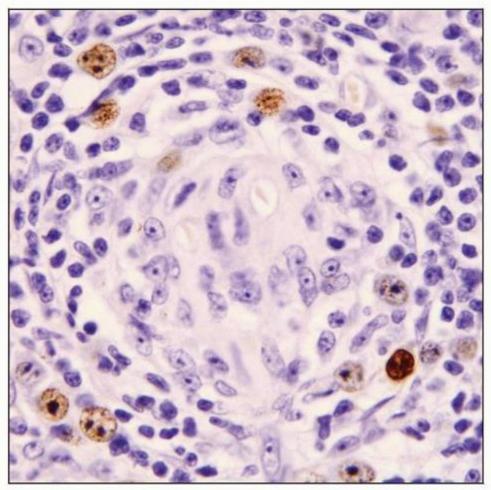




HHV-8 ASSCOSIATED MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE

HHV-8 detection

- HHV-8 PCR
- HHV-8 LANA-1 (latent nuclear antigen)
 - Infected cells are in the mantle zones
 - EBV coinfection is possible, although rare
 - Infected cells have plasmablastic appearance
 - IgM- λ restricted, but no clonal
 - CD38+, MUM1/IRF4+, CD20-, PAX5-, CD30-, CD138-



HHV-8 LANA-1 https://basicmedicalkey.com/multicentric-castleman-disease/





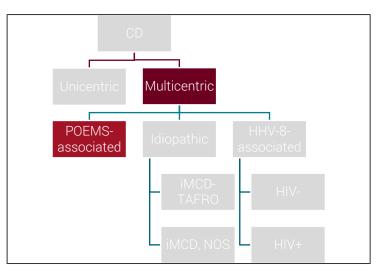
POEMS-MCD

POEMS-associated MCD

Paraneoplastic syndrome associated with a plasma cell neoplasm

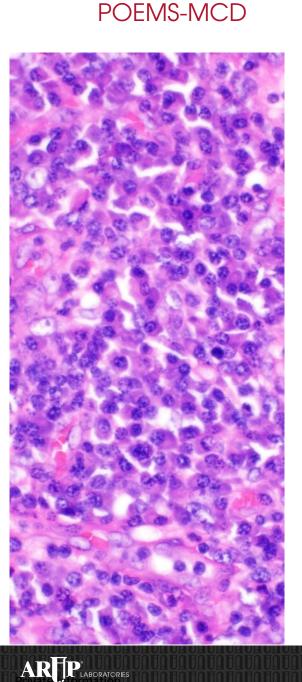
- Polyneuropathy
- Organomegaly
- Endocrinopathy
- Monoclonal gammopathy
- Skin changes

VEGF is elevated (diagnostic criterion)









Morphology

LN with distorted architecture Obliterated sinuses Prominent interfollicular plasma cells, λ-restricted "Castleman" follicles Negative for EBV and HHV-8



POEMS-MCD

Diagnostic criteria (WHO, 2022)

- Mandatory major criteria (both are required)
 - Polyneuropathy
 - Monoclonal plasma cells (almost always λ-restricted)
- Major criteria (CD + one more)
 - Castleman disease
 - Sclerotic bone lesions
 - VEGF elevation

Minor criteria (at least one)

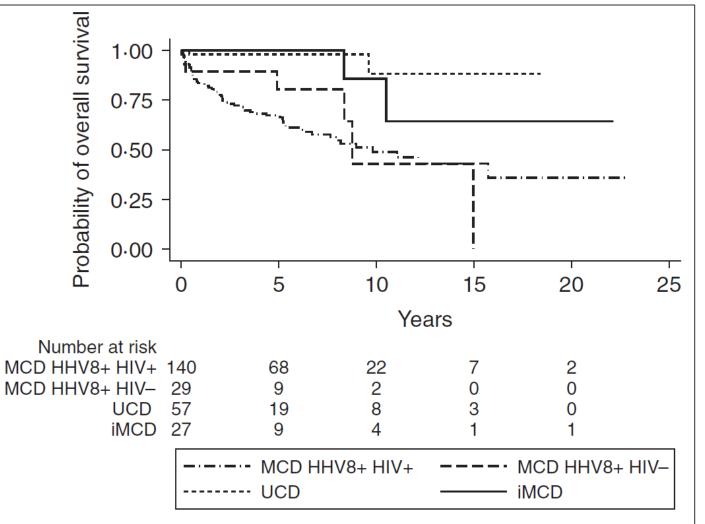
- Organomegaly
- Extravascular volume overload
- Endocrinopathy
- Skin changes
- Papilledema
- Thrombocytosis/polycythemia





CASTLEMAN DISEASE

Prognosis



Secondary malignancy

UCD, uncommon but higher risk for - FDC sarcoma - Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphoma

iMCD

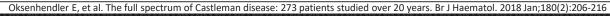
- Lymphoma (3 times more likely)

HHV-8+/HIV-

- Lymphoma (15%) - Kaposi sarcoma (50%)

HHV-8+/HIV+

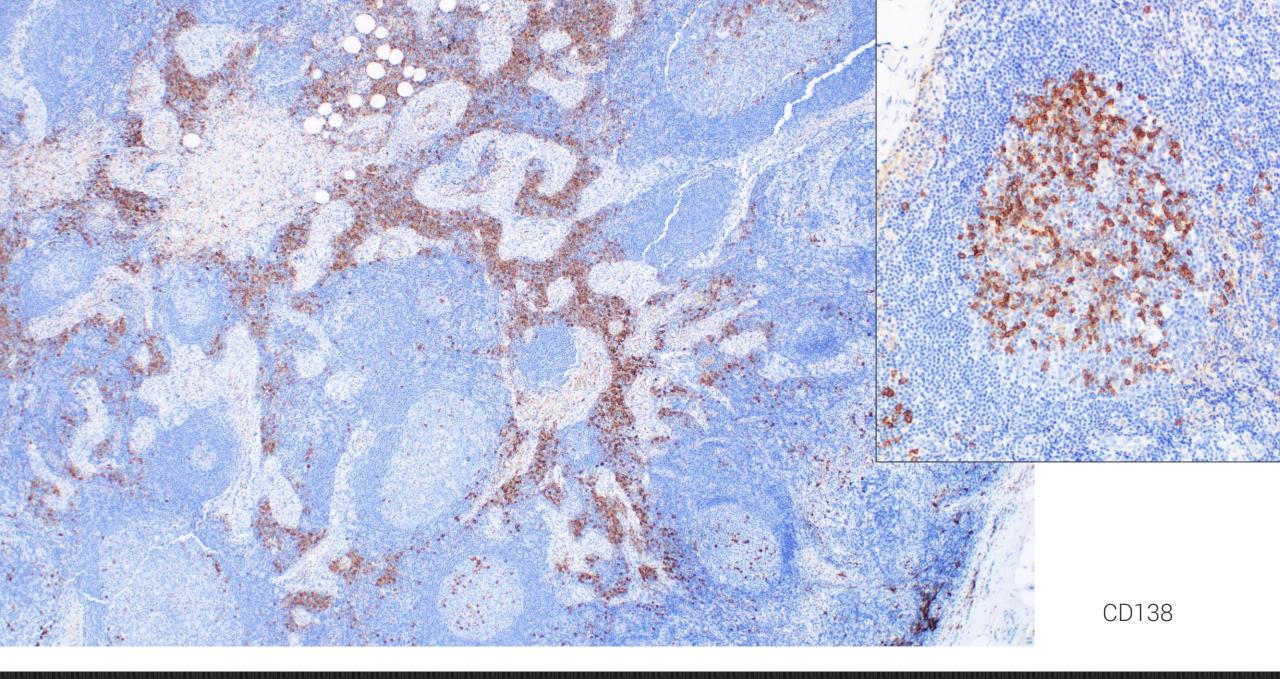
- Lymphoma (15 times more likely compared to HIV+ and no CD)





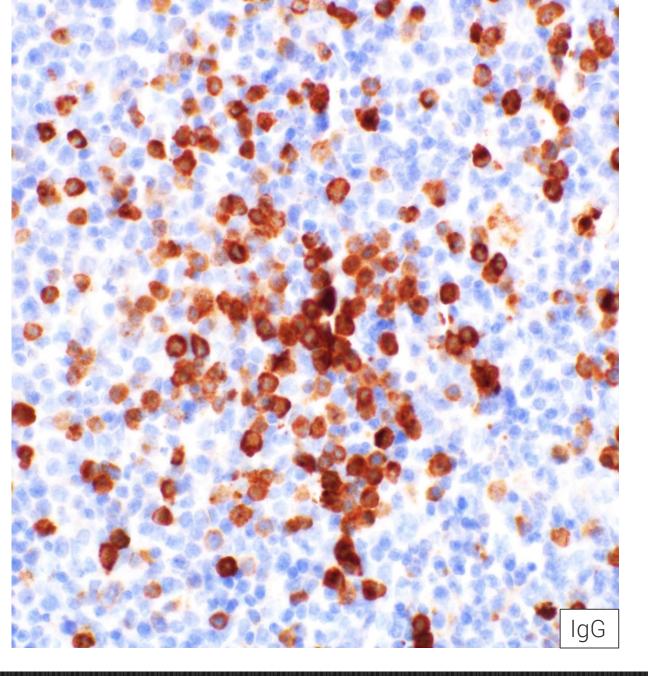
An elderly male with retroperitoneal LAD and thickening of the proximal ureter

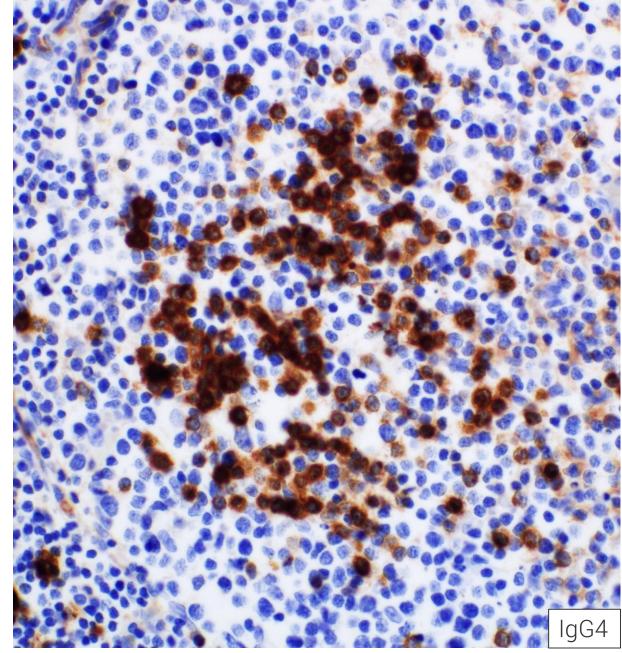
















Important points

- Multisystem fibroinflammatory disorder
 - » Mass-forming lesion
 - » Characteristic clinicopathologic features
 - » Sensitivity to treatment with steroids
- Pancreas, salivary glands, hepatobiliary system, lung, kidney, retroperitoneum
- Lymph node involvement is common and may be the only manifestation or may precede other sites
- Early diagnosis is beneficial to prevent end-stage damage





Clinical Features

- Usually, <2 cm but can be up to 5 cm
- Painless
- Common locations: cervical, supraclavicular, mediastinal, pulmonary/hilar, abdominal, axillary, inguinal
- Systemic symptoms are uncommon
- LDH is not significantly elevated





General morphologic features

Characteristic morphologic appearance

- 1. Dense lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate
- 2. Fibrosis with at least focal storiform pattern*
- 3. Obliterative phlebitis*

Other common findings:

- phlebitis without obliteration of the lumen
- tissue eosinophilia

* commonly absent in LNs

Elevated number of IgG4+ PCs

Variability of absolute IgG4+ PCs numbers depends on the organ

IgG4+/IgG+ ratio >40% is a comprehensive number of any organ

Three 40X fields are recommended

V Deshpande et al. Consensus statement on the pathology of IgG4-related disease. Mod Pathol, 2012





Key Findings

Common findings

- Tissue eosinophilia
- Elevated IgG4 > 135 mg/dL
 - » helpful but not essential
 - » may be useful to assess disease extent and activity
 - » Not specific: also elevated in atopic dermatitis, parasitic infections, etc.

Elevated number of IgG4+ PCs

IgG4+ PCs >100 per HPF

lgG4+/lgG+ ratio >40%

- Essential but not sufficient for Dx
- Distribution can be patchy and uneven
- Count in "hot spots"





Histologic Patterns

| Туре | I. Multicentric Castleman disease- like | II. Reactive follicular hyperplasia-like | III. Interfollicular expansion and immunoblastosis | IV. Progressive transformation of GCs-like | V. Inflammatory pseudotumor-like |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| Key morphology | Retained architecture Hyperplastic and/or regressed GCs Increased PCs Vascular proliferation EOS | Preserved architecture Reactive GCs with discrete mantle zones Paracortex with rare transformed cells and scattered EOS | Distorted architecture with paracortical expansion Spectrum of cells in paracortex Numerous immunoblasts Scattered EOS | Preserved architecture Transformed follicles IgG4+ PCs localized in preserved but not in progressive GCs Granulomas forming rings around GCs (rare) | Fibrosis with hyalinization Scattered PCs and EOS Hyperplastic GCs in residual nodal tissue |
| Differential Dx | MCD Nonspecific LAD with Castleman-like features | Nonspecific FH RA-associated LAD | Viral LAD Dilantin-associated LAD AITCL | Nonspecific PTGC NLPHL | Inflammatory pseudotumor Syphilis |

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UNIVERSITY OF UTAH



Histologic Patterns

Other patterns described in patients with known IgG4-RD

- 1. Rosai-Dorfman-like changes
- 2. Infectious mononucleosis-like features
- 3. Crescent-shaped or wreath-like perifollicular granulomas





Approach to testing and diagnosis

VEC

| YES | NU |
|--|---|
| 1. LAD in patient with documented IgG4-RD | 1. Limited to a single LN/region, AND no clinical suspicion for |
| 2. Persistent and/or systemic LAD without | lgG4-RD |
| a known underlying cause (lymphoma, autoimmune, medication, infection) | 2. Patients with known infection, autoimmune disorders, medication |
| 3. LAD with increased PCs in CGs and/or interfollicular areas | 3. LAD associated with a malignancy or surgical procedure in vicinity |
| 4. LAD with PTGC and excluded NLPHL | 4. Small inactive LN |
| | 5. Reactive LAD with known etiology |
| | |
| | If evetomic and pareistant LAD or Hy of IgCA disease "race |

Exclude specific entities that may have increased IgG4 PCs: multicentric Castleman, RA, RDD, etc.

If systemic and persistent LAD or Hx of IgG4-disease "*reactive* lymphoid hyperplasia with increased IgG4 PCs; suggestive of IgG4related LAD in an appropriate clinical and laboratory setting"

Otherwise "reactive lymphoid hyperplasia with increased IgG4 PCs, uncertain clinical significance"





More problems

- Increasing recognition of IgG4-RD
 - » Samples from more locations are evaluated for IgG4-RD
 - » Broadly available IHCs



- Morphologic criteria are relatively non-specific
- Uncertain significance of elevated IgG4 PCs in LN
 MCD Resai Derfman disc
 - » MCD, Rosai-Dorfman disease, RA, CHL, etc.
- A small proportion of IgG4-RD patients do not have increased IgG4 PCs



ARTPLABORATORIES

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

IgG4-related Lymphadenopathy A Comparative Study of 41 Cases Reveals Distinctive Histopathologic Features

Jacob R. Bledsoe, MD,* Judith A. Ferry, MD,† Azfar Neyaz, MD,† Leonardo Boiocchi, MD,† Cara Strock, MS,* Karen Dresser, BS,* Lawrence Zukerberg, MD,† and Vikram Deshpande, MD†

Study design

- 41 patients with established IgG4-RD
- Control: 60 patients with unexplained LAD and not IgG4-LAD

- Is the work-up for IgG4-RD justified?
- Any specific morphologic features?
- Develop diagnostic approach for pathologists



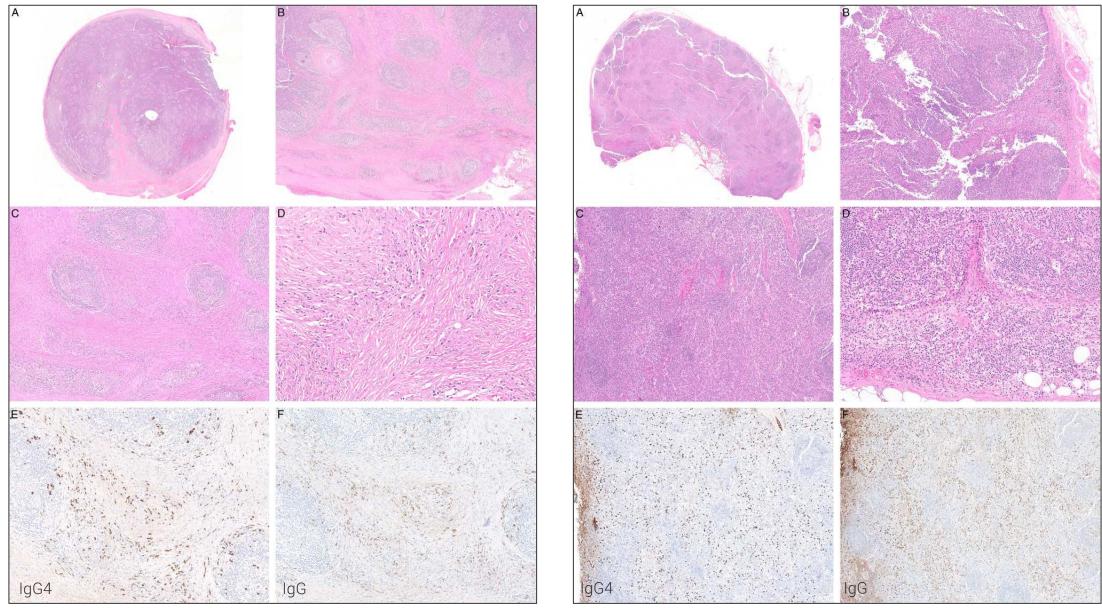
Specific Morphologic Findings

- Increased in EXTRAfollicular IgG4-positive plasma cells and IgG4/IgG ratio
- Two major morphologic patterns:
 - 1. Nodal fibrosis with increased IgG4+ PCs specifically within the areas of fibrosis
 - 2. Marked interfollicular expansion associated with increased interfollicular IgG4+ PCs
- Of the 5 "classic" patterns, "Inflammatory pseudotumor-like" and "Interfollicular expansion"





IgG4-RD, capsular and IPT-like fibrosis



Bledsoe JR, et al. IgG4-related disease: review of the histopathologic features, differential diagnosis, and therapeutic approach. APMIS. 2018 Jun;126(6):459-476.





IgG4-RD, paracortical expansion

Non-specific Morphologic Findings

- Three "classic" patterns, other than IPT-like and interfollicular expansion
- Increased IgG4+ PCs and increased IgG4/IgG within the reactive follicles
- But increased both inter- and intra-follicular IgG4+ PCs is more suggestive of IgG4-RD





Reporting

| Recommended reporting | Pattern | IgG4 and IgG4/IgG |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Highly suspicious for IgG4-related | - Capsular/parenchymal fibrosis and admixed eosinophils | IgG4>100 HPF and IgG4/IgG>40% |
| LAD | - Interfollicular expansion | INTERfollicular IgG4>100 HPF and IgG4/IgG>40% |
| Suspicions but not diagnostic | Absence of marked interfollicular expansion | IgG4>100 HPF and IgG4/IgG>40% within extrafollicular regions but not within fibrosis |
| Atypical but unclear significance | Submandibular/neck LAD with PTGC | INTRAfollicular IgG4>100 HPF and IgG4/IgG>40% |
| | Perifollicular granulomas | No increased IgG4/IgG |
| Noncocific | Other patterns | INTRAfollicular IgG4>100 HPF and IgG4/IgG>40% |
| Nonspecific | Any pattern | Either but not both increased IgG4 or IgG4/IgG |

Adopted from Bledsoe JR, et al. IgG4-related disease: review of the histopathologic features, differential diagnosis, and therapeutic approach. APMIS. 2018 Jun;126(6):459-476.





An elderly male with retroperitoneal LAD and thickening of the proximal ureter

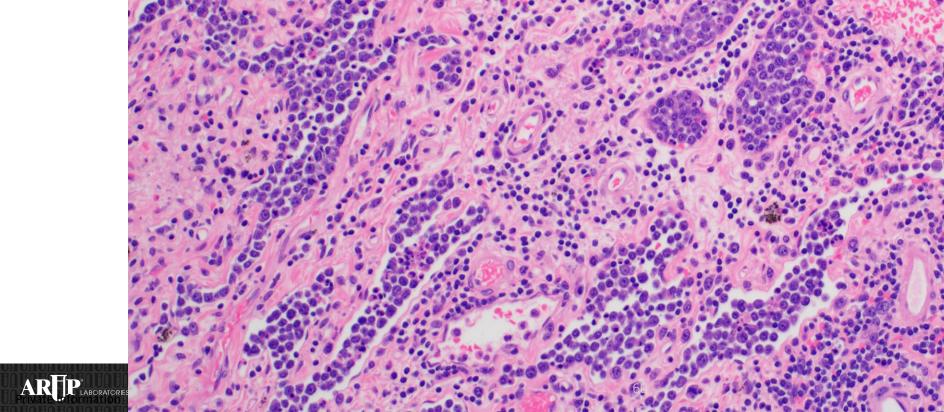
Diagnosis

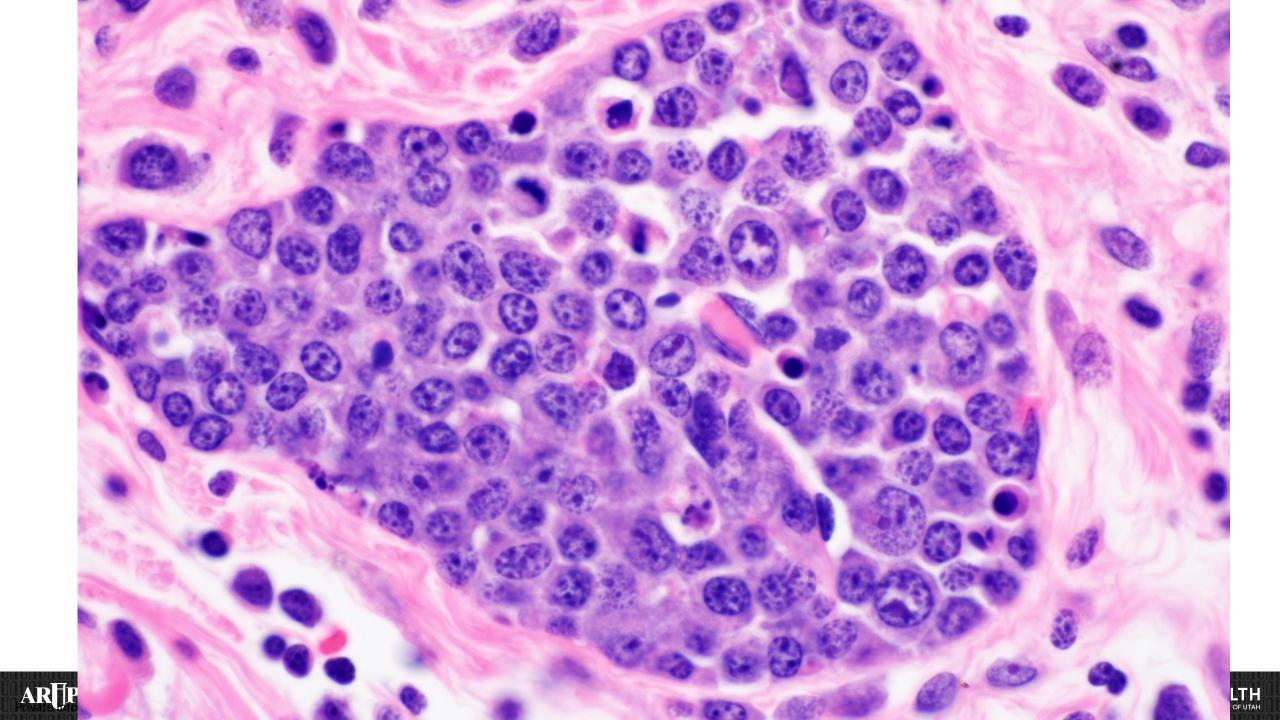
Histologically suspicious but not diagnostic of IgG4-related lymphadenopathy.

Please correlate clinically.



An elderly male with history of rectal cancer presents with bowel obstruction





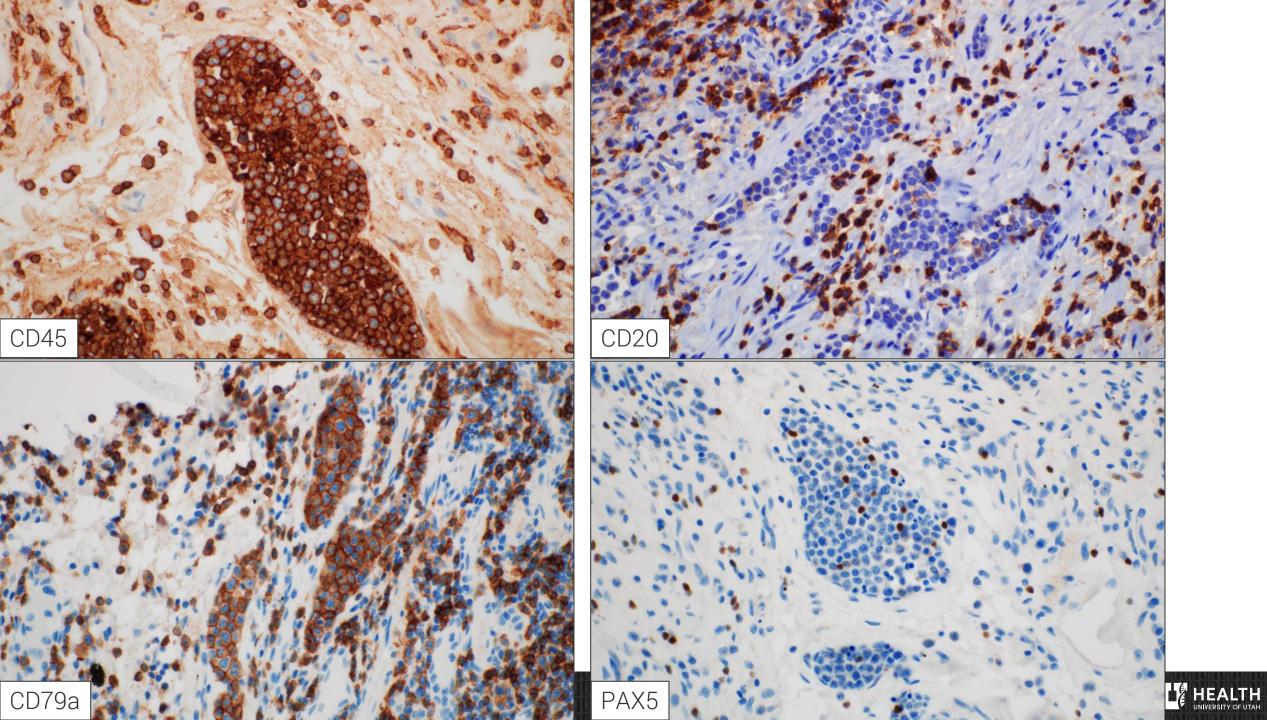
INTRAVASCULAR LYMPHOID PROLIFERATIONS

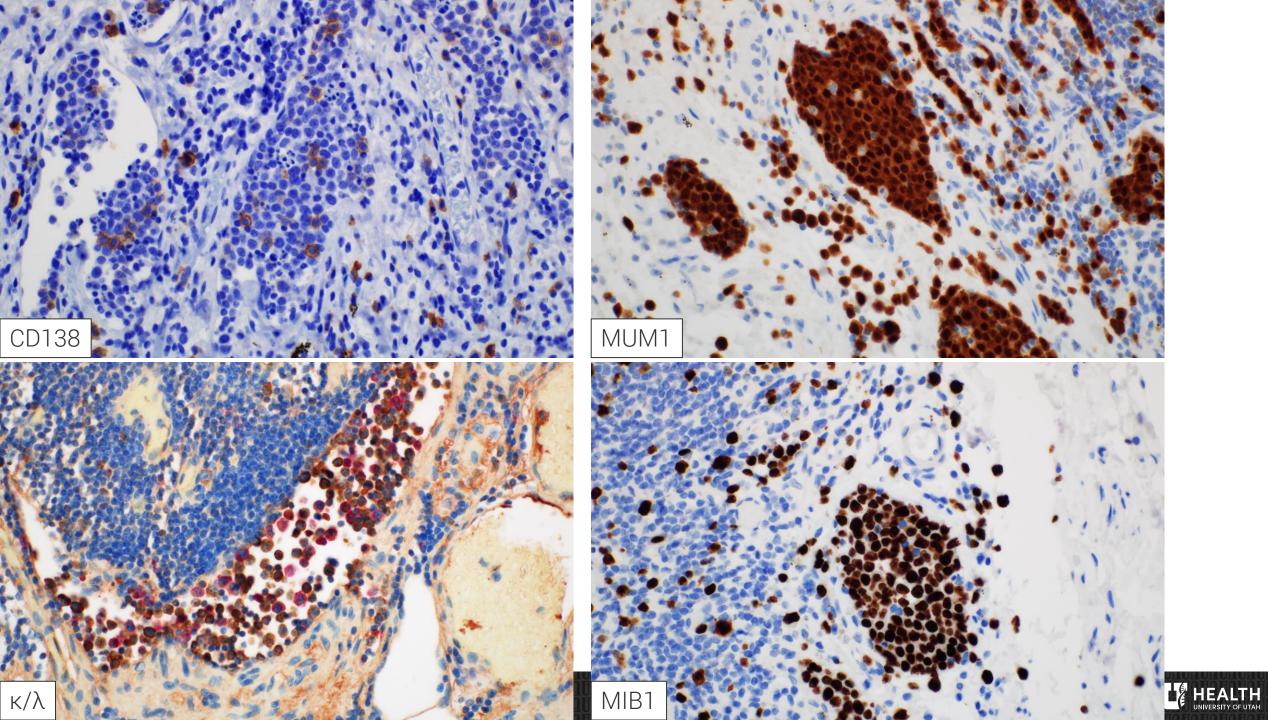
Differential Diagnosis

- Intravascular large B-cell lymphoma
- T-cell lymphoma
- NK-cell lymphoma
- Anaplastic large cell lymphoma
- Benign lesions, e.g., intravascular lymphocytosis
 » Common finding in appendectomy specimens
 » Resembles CLL/SLL
 - » Mixture of T- and B-cell with normal immunophenotype









INTRAVASCULAR LYMPHOID PROLIFERATIONS

Reactive intralymphovascular immunoblastic proliferation

- Rare finding seen mostly in GI surgical specimens
- Likely reactive response to infection/inflammation
- Large lymphoid cells within lymphovascular lumens
- Potential pathogenesis is decreased expression of surface adhesion molecules allowing the cells to bypass the LNs



INTRAVASCULAR LYMPHOID PROLIFERATIONS

Reactive intralymphovascular immunoblastic proliferation

B-cells of post-GC immunophenotype positive: CD38, CD79a, MUM1/IFR4 negative: Bcl-2, Bcl-6, CD138 also, positive for CD30 and/or PAX5 high proliferation index polytypic negative for *BCR* rearrangement

AR PLABORATORIES



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DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

RILVIP vs IV-LBCL

| | RILVIP | IV-LBCL |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Presentation | Incidental finding | Disseminated disease with common skin, liver, spleen involvement |
| Morphology | Large cells often intermixed with small lymphocytes | Uniformly large cells, exclusively intravascular |
| Key immunophenotype | CD20-/CD30+/CD10-/ Bcl2- | CD20+/CD30-/CD10+/Bcl2+ |
| Involved vessels | Lymphatics | Small/intermediate-sized arteries and veins |
| Clonality | Absent | Present |

Adopted from Fang H et al. Reactive Intralymphovascular Immunoblastic Proliferations Mimicking Aggressive Lymphomas. Am J Surg Pathol. 2022 Mar 1;46(3):326-335.

An elderly male with history of rectal cancer presents with bowel obstruction

Our diagnosis Reactive intralymphovascular immunoblastic proliferation (RILVIP)





Take home points

- "Benign" LADs may not be clinically benign » Idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease
- Some "benign" LADs may be associated with a clonal process » FDC clonality in unicentric Castleman disease
- Molecular and flow cytometric studies are useful but can be misleading
 - » Light chain restriction may not mean clonality
 - » Clonality may not mean malignancy
- Morphology and clinical context are key to accurate diagnosis





QUESTIONS?





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