

Morphologic and Immunohistochemical Features of Anorectal Tumors

- Review the histologic and immunophenotypic features of malignancies that
  present in the anorectum
- Update the therapeutic implications of diagnoses in the anorectum
- Explore and understand unexpected findings that may present in routine specimens from the anorectum

- Implications range from curious to critical



#### Epithelium in anus

3 zones

- Upper third above anal columns is rectal columnar mucosa
- Anal transition zone
  - Spans distance from anal columns to dentate line
  - Transitional mucosa- multilayered cuboidal cells that are neither columnar or squamous, but have a basal cell layer Occasional goblet cells may be present

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- Distal to dentate line is non-keratinizing stratified squamous epithelium · Becomes keratinizing and contains skin adnexal structures at the anal verge

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# Anorectal lesions

- Wide variety of primary lesions with vastly different treatment considerations
- Prognosis for each category of lesions is very different
- How to approach anorectal lesions to ensure best diagnosis and treatment for the patient

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- 54 year old woman presents for screening colonoscopy
   Incidental change in bowel habits noted, with occasional hematoche
- PMH included history of cervical dysplasia
- Colonoscopy revealed a fungating, partially obstructing large mass in the distal rectum.
   Located approximately 5-7cm from the anal verge, measuring approximately 4cm in length.

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#### Squamous cell carcinoma

## Diagnosis:

#### - Histologic clues

- Keratinization, overlying in situ squamous dysplasia, intercellular bridges
- Immunostains
- Positive for keratin 5/6, p63 Negative CDX2
- Exclude the possibility of poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma
- Diagnostic categories/descriptors such as cloacogenic, transitional, keratinizing, and basaloid no longer used WHO recommends not subtyping histologic variants, and instead can include degree of keratinization, basaloid features, presence of mucinous microcysts, small cell (anaplastic) carcinoma

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#### Squamous cell carcinoma

- Predominantly occur in anus, but distal rectal cases do occur
- Treatment

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- In the past, squamous cell carcinoma of the anus treated surgically with APR
- Now treated with chemotherapy and radiation
  - · If good response to treatment, surgery can be avoided
  - · APR leads to permanent colostomy

#### Case 2

- 52 year old male with intermittent hematochezia for 5 years - Worsening recently
- Colonoscopy revealed fungating tumor in rectum

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# Adenocarcinoma, poorly differentiated

#### Diagnosis

- Epithelial dysplasia
- Mucin production
- Keratin positivity, CDX2
- Exclude the possibility of neuroendocrine carcinoma
- Adenocarcinoma can show patchy positive staining for neuroendocrine markers
- Morphology should be key to diagnosing NE carcinoma

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# Adenocarcinoma

- Treatment (for T3/T4 or node positive tumors) - Neoadjuvant chemotherapy and radiation treatment - Followed by transabdominal resection

- 63 year old male with polypoid mass in anterior rectum
- Underwent transanal excision

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#### Anorectal mucosal melanoma

#### Diagnosis

- In situ precursor lesion
- Melanin pigment can be clue
- S100, HMB45, Mel-A, Sox10
- CD117 (C-kit) can be positive in a significant proportion of melanomas
   Be careful diagnosing GIST with a limited immunohistochemical work-up

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#### Anorectal mucosal melanoma

- Uncommon disease representing approximately 1% of lower gastrointestinal malignancies and 1% of primary melanomas
- Poor prognosis, with 5-year survival of approximately 20%
- Wide local excision is preferred treatment
- APR reserved for tumors not amenable to resection or with obstructive complications
- Lesions proximal to dentate line present with more advanced disease, likely due to delay in diagnosis

- Lesions are typically amelanotic, and may be confused with hemorrhoids

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- 47 year old female presents with 2 weeks of a painful hemorrhoid
- Firm mass noted at anal verge extending 6 cm proximally











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# Poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma

- Diagnosis based on morphology and immunophenotype
  - May be confused with poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma with basaloid features, melanoma, lymphoma

- Expression of neuroendocrine markers is common but may be focal Synaptophysin, chromogranin, CD56
- TTF-1 may be positive
- · Similar to small cell carcinomas of other sites, does not imply pulmonary origin - Scattered nests of cells with squamous differentiation can be seen
- Can stain positive for p63
- Typically less than 5% of tumor volume

#### Poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma

#### Treatment

- Resection and chemotherapy
  - · Small cell regimen such as cisplatin/etoposide or carboplatin/etoposide
- Radiation therapy if necessary
- Poor vs. well-differentiated morphology imparts prognosis and treatment considerations
  - Poorly differentiated histology or very high Ki-67 treated with small cell regimen
  - Well-differentiated tumors with intermediate Ki-67 proliferation index may not respond as well to
    platinum/etoposide
  - Recommend clinical judgement

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#### Case 5

- 28 year old male with 3-4 months of rectal pain
- Seen in ED multiple times
  - Presumed to be a rectal abscess
  - Lanced and prescribed antibiotics
- CT scan demonstrated 12 cm perianal mass with extension into pelvic sidewall
- Excisional biopsy performed



























#### Plasmablastic Lymphoma

- Rare neoplasm typically seen in association with immunodeficiency
- Commonly associated with oral cavity
- Diffuse sheets of large immunoblastic cells with abundant cytoplasm, vesicular chromatin, and prominent nucleoli
- Can be difficult to diagnose with immunostains
  - Tumor lacks expression of CD45 and pan B-cell antigens
  - Carcinomas with plasmacytoid morphology can express CD138
    - Especially plasmacytoid variant of urothelial carcinoma
       Keratin immunostain would be heloful to differentiate a carcinoma with plasmacytoid features from
    - Keratin immunostain would be helpful to differentiate a carcinoma with plasmacytoid features from plasmablastic lymphoma

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# Plasmablastic lymphoma

#### Treatment

- Chemotherapy

- Treatment used for DLBCL typically thought to be inadequate, and more intensive regimens are
   used for PBL
- If they express CD20, Rituximab may be used
- Prognosis
  - · Aggressive neoplasm with a dismal outcome
  - Overall median survival of 8 months

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- 70 year old make who presents with anal pruritus
- Treated for presumed fungal infection without relief
- Colonoscopy showed tubular adenoma in anus, hyperplastic polyps.















#### Colorectal Adenocarcinoma with Pagetoid Extension

- Epidermal hyperplasia, hyperkeratosis, parakeratosis frequently identified
   May be helpful at time of frozen section
- Primary Paget's disease is a disease that originates from the epidermis or squamous epithelium
- Secondary Paget's disease
  - Often associated with underlying visceral malignancy
  - Secondary anal Paget's disease most often seen with primary colorectal type adenocarcinoma
     Others include gynecologic, urologic

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#### Colorectal Adenocarcinoma with Pagetoid Extension

- Primary Paget's disease
  - CK7+, CK20-, GCDFP15+
  - Some reports that GATA3 is more sensitive than GCDFP15
- Secondary Paget's
  - Depends on the phenotype of the underlying malignancy
  - Colon CK7+, CK20+, CDX2+, GCDFP15-
- Melanoma
  - HMB45, Melan A
  - S100 may be expressed by Paget cells

# Colorectal Adenocarcinoma with Pagetoid Extension

- Treated with resection of the primary malignancy and wide local resection of diseased skin
   Frequent local recurrences
- Chemotherapy dictated by primary lesion as well as aggressiveness of disease

АПРЕлеология интерессионалоги

- 62 year old male with a two year history of mass in the perineal region
- Started as a small lesion on medial thigh, now involving entire perineum from posterior scrotum to anus (10 x 10 cm)
- Biopsy show condyloma accuminatum

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# Verrucous Carcinoma/Giant Condyloma of Buschke-Lowenstein

· Cauliflower appearance on clinical/gross examination

- Compared with typical condyloma, has a combination of exophytic and endophytic growth
  - Acanthotic epithelium with orderly arrangement of epithelial layers
  - Intact but irregular base with blunt downward projections
  - Some keratin filled cysts may occur
  - Typically show minimal cytologic atypia Mitoses limited to basal areas
- Endophytic growth thought to represent pushing type invasion
- If evidence of severe cytologic atypia or convincing infiltrative/jagged invasion, consider a diagnosis of squamous cell carcinoma

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- Need extensive sampling to rule out conventional SCC

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#### Verrucous Carcinoma/Giant Condyloma of Buschke-Lowenstein

- Thought to be HPV 6/11 related
  - Some recent reports debate whether these lesions are HPV related
- Intermediate clinical behavior between condyloma and squamous cell carcinoma
- Local destructive invasion and recurrence without metastasis
- Treatment
  - Local resection
  - Chemotherapy, radiation therapy for SCC and for refractory cases

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#### Case 8

- 45 year old female with long history of hemorrhoids
- Increased prolapse and bleeding recently

















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#### High Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesion

- Encompasses anal intraepithelial neoplasia 2-3 (AIN II-III)
- High risk HPV related (HPV 16/18)
- Diagnosis
  - Lack of orderly maturation of squamous cells towards surface of epithelium
  - Increased nuclear to cytoplasmic ratios
  - Mitotic figures in upper 2/3 of epithelium
  - p16 immunohistochemistry
    - Helps to distinguish high grade dysplasia from hyperplasia and reactive atypia
    - Requires strong diffuse staining, full thickness
    - Nucleus and cytoplasm typically stain

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#### High Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesion

#### Treatment

- Topical therapy
- Trichloroacetic acid
- Topical immunomodulators
- Imiquimod
- Local infrared coagulation
- Electrocautery ablation
- Observation
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## Case 9

- 74 year old female with recent diarrhea and hematochezia
- Possible hemorrhoid seen and removed by surgeon















# Histoplasmosis

- Patient had a distant history of a positive skin test
- Imaging showed spleen with multiple calcified nodules consistent with granulomatous disease
- Lymphohistiocytic infiltrates with granulomas
   Intracellular yeast forms within histiocytes (2-5 microns)
- Important to use special stains when background warrants
- 5% of immunocompetent persons may be infected with histoplasmosis
- Disseminated disease treated with Amphotericin B

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#### Case 10

- 33 year old who recently noted a mass protruding from anus
- Anoscopy demonstrated a 4.0 x 3.0 cm pedunculated polyp near the anal verge
- Patient recently emigrated from Sudan
- Also noted incidental abdominal pain

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#### Schistosomiasis

- Intestinal schistosomiasis can be caused by multiple species
  - S. mansoni, S. japonicum, S. mekongi, S. intercalatum, S. guineensis
  - Cause abdominal pain, diarrhea, hematochezia
  - Adult worms live in blood vessels, females lay eggs
  - Has been reported in colon and anal polyps
- Travel through intestines retrograde through portal veins into mesenteric venules
   May also involve liver with associated portal hypertension
- S. hematobium causes urogenital schistosomiasis

Blood in urine

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#### Schistosomiasis

- Typically diagnosed by eggs in stool (ova and parasite examination)
- Treatment
  - Praziquantel
    - Inexpensive and effective

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59 year old with rectal polyp	













# Dysplasia in rectal tonsil

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- Rectal tonsil
- Localize lymphoid hyperplasia in rectumDysplastic epithelium herniates into submucosa
- Epithelium surrounded by lamina propria
   No desmoplastic stromal response to indicate submucosal invasion
- Transanal excision margins negative

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# Case 12

- 54 year old woman with screening colonoscopy
- Endoscopist noted 2 cm lesion in anus
  - Told patient that she had anal cancer, referred to U of U to see colorectal surgeon
- Transanal excision of lesion was performed



















# Anogenital Mammary-Like Glands

- · Originally considered to represent ectopic breast tissue, milk line remnant
- Now thought to be a normal constituent of the anogenital area
- Lesions bear a striking resemblance to breast tissue
- Hidradenoma papilliferum is thought to belong to this group of lesions, and is the most common presentation
- Any type of breast lesion (benign or malignant) may be recapitulated in the MLGs
   Sclerosing lesions, ductal carcinoma, fibroepithelial lesions, etc.

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