



Normal
colon



Sessile
polyp



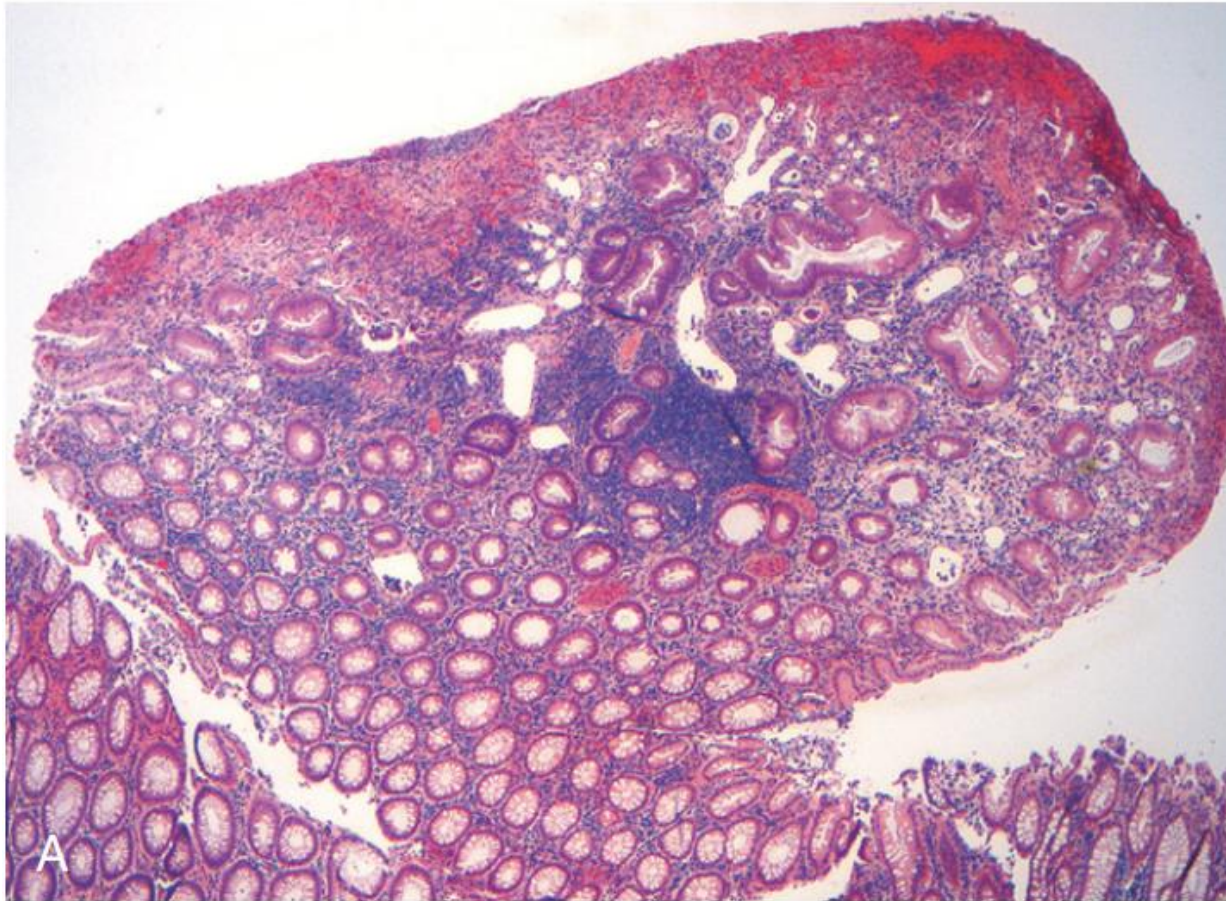
Pedunculated
polyp

Intestinal Polyps

Most common in the colon

- Sessile
- Pedunculated
- Inflammatory
- Hamartomatous
- Hyperplastic
- Neoplastic

**pedunculated, smooth surfaced,
reddish lesions <3cm**



**surface erosion
cystically dilated crypts
filled with mucus, neutrophils,
and debris**

Hamartomatous Polyps

Juvenile Polyps

Most common
hamartomatous

Sporadic (typically single)
or syndromic (multiple)

Juvenile polyposis (AD)

Age <5yrs

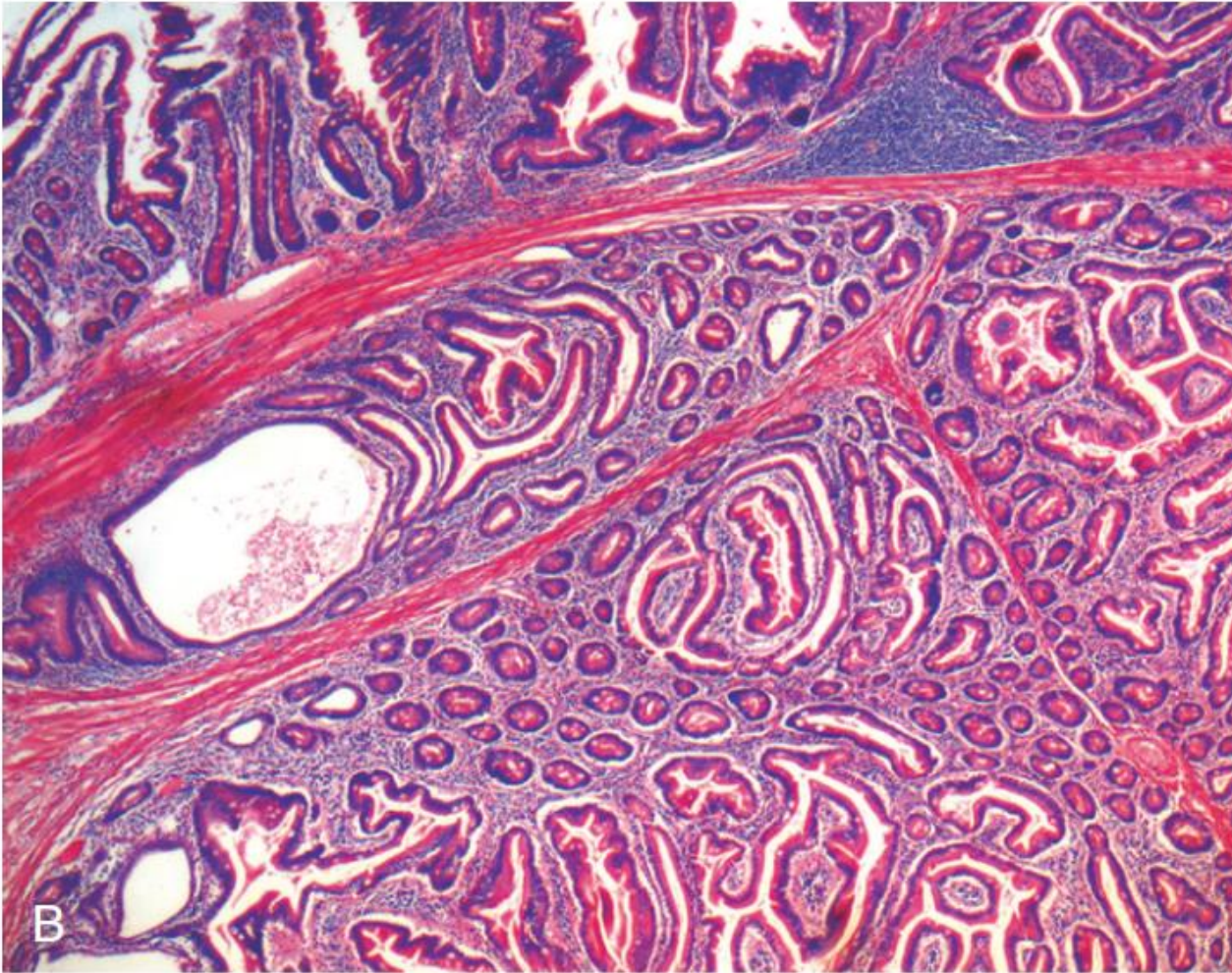
Location: Rectum

Presentation

- Bleeding
- Prolapse

↑ adenocarcinoma risk

Large, pedunculated with
a lobulated contour



Complex glandular architecture and
bundles of smooth muscle

Hamartomatous Polyps

Peutz-Jeghers Syndrome (AD)

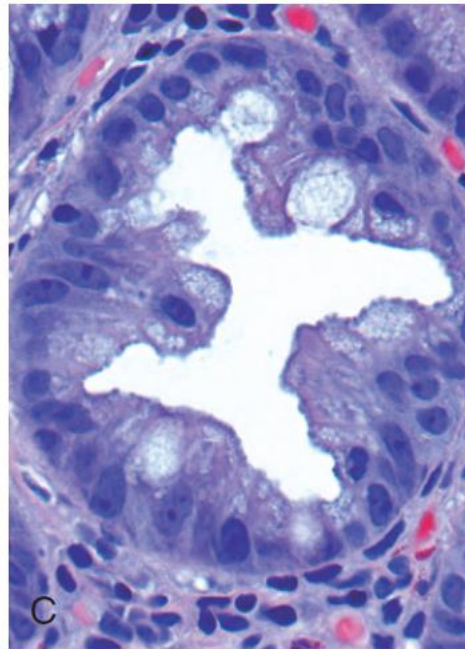
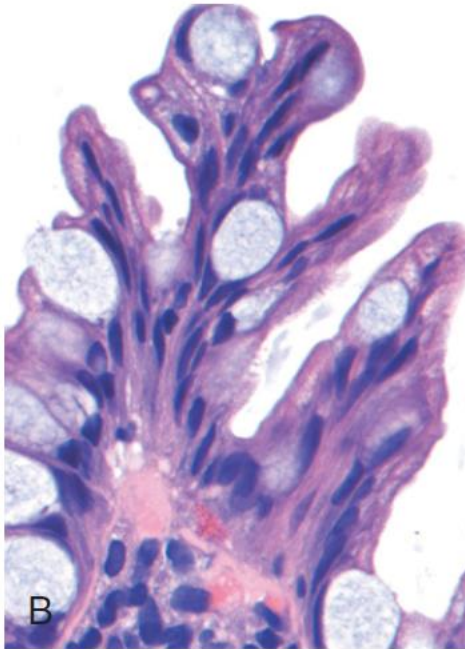
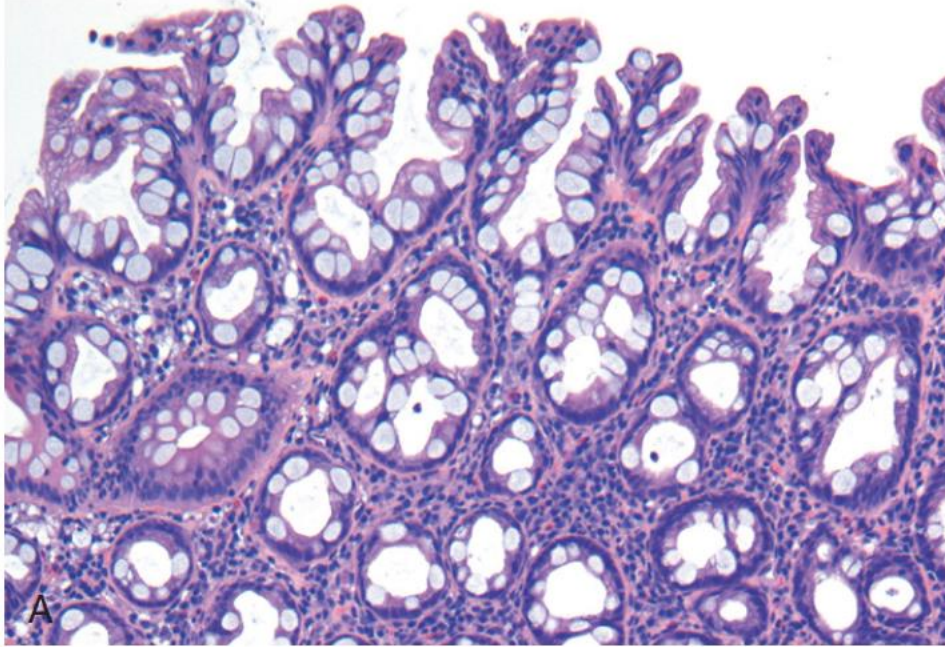
STK11/LKB1 mutation

- Multiple GI hamartomatous polyps
- Mucocutaneous hyperpigmentation
- ↑ malignancy risk

Common in SI, can also occur in stomach, colon, bladder, lungs

Smooth, nodular protrusions
of the mucosa, often on the
crests of mucosal folds

Delayed shedding of mature
goblet and absorptive cells
creates a serrated surface



Hyperplastic Polyps

6-7th decade of life

No malignant potential

Frequently multiple

Typically left colon
<0.5cm

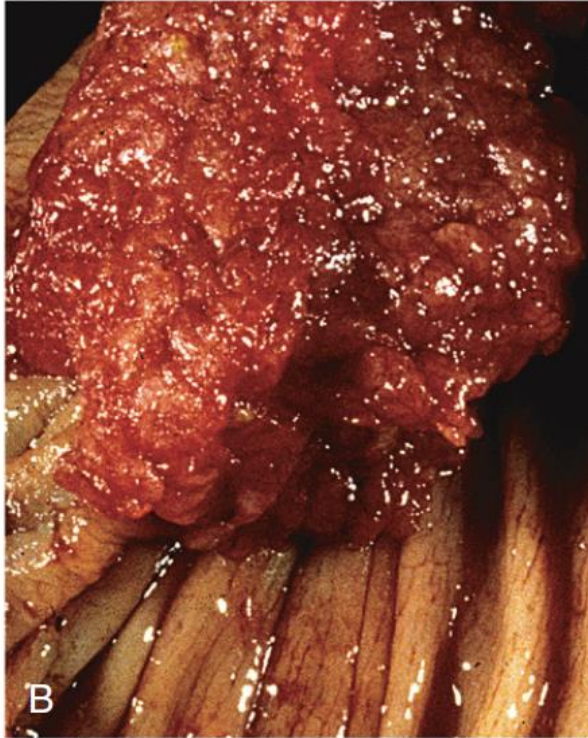
decreased epithelial cell
turnover and delayed
shedding (over-crowding)

DDx of sessile serrated
adenomas that do have
malignant potential

Pedunculated



Sessile



Adenomas

Most common neoplastic

Epithelial dysplasia is characteristic

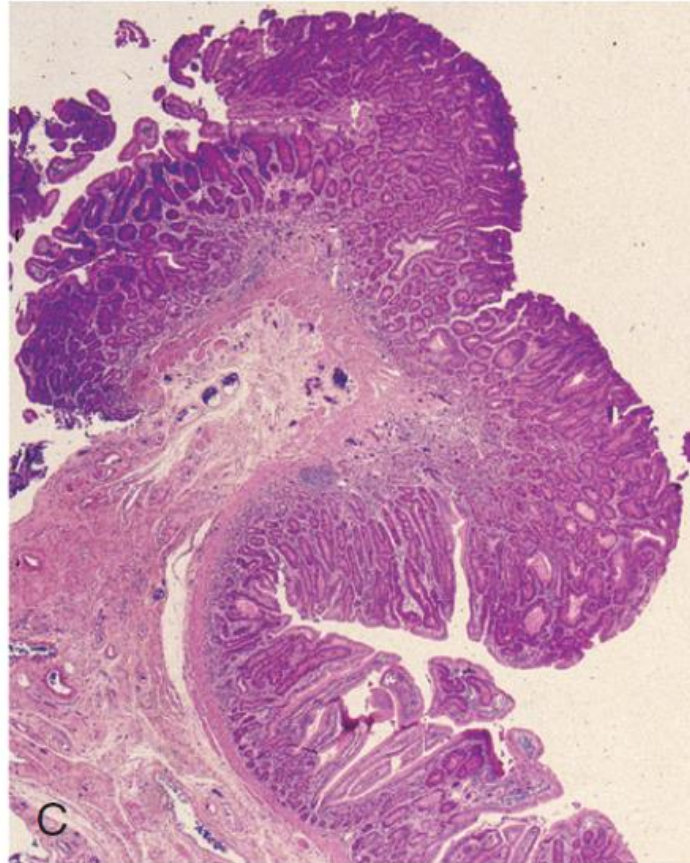
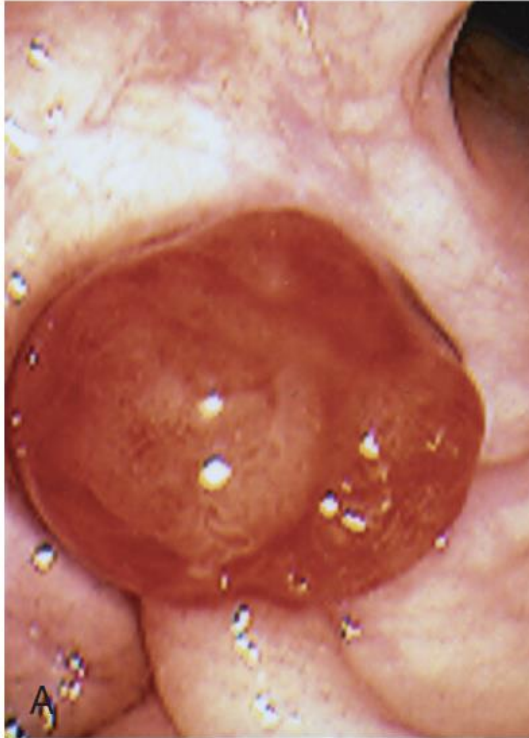
Give rise to a majority of colorectal adenocarcinomas

Most adenomas do not progress to adenocarcinoma

surface texture of both types resemble velvet or a raspberry



Pedunculated



surface texture of both types resemble velvet
or a raspberry

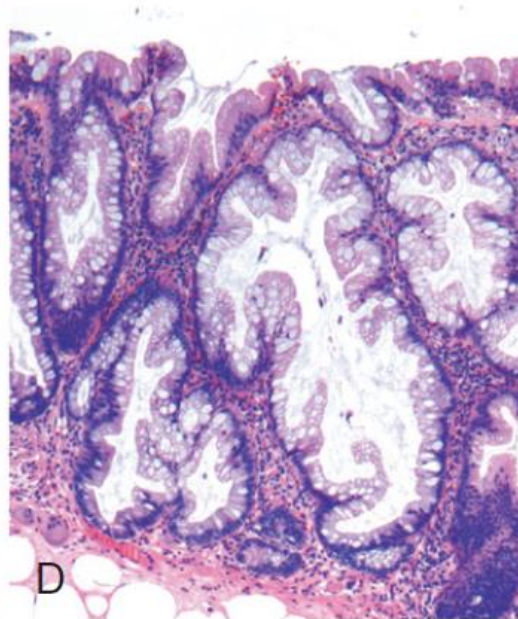
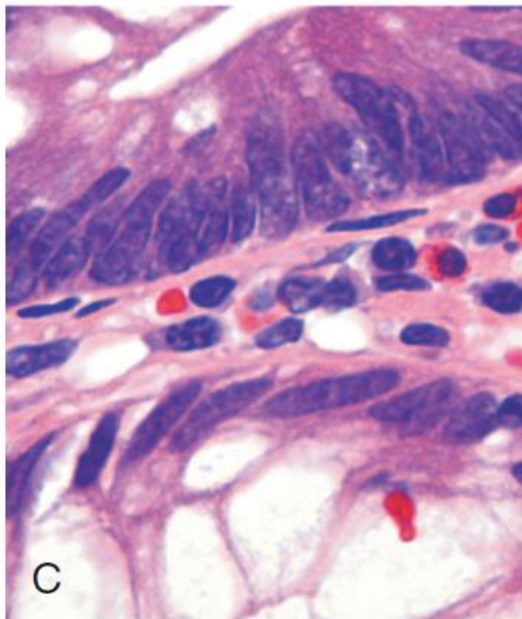
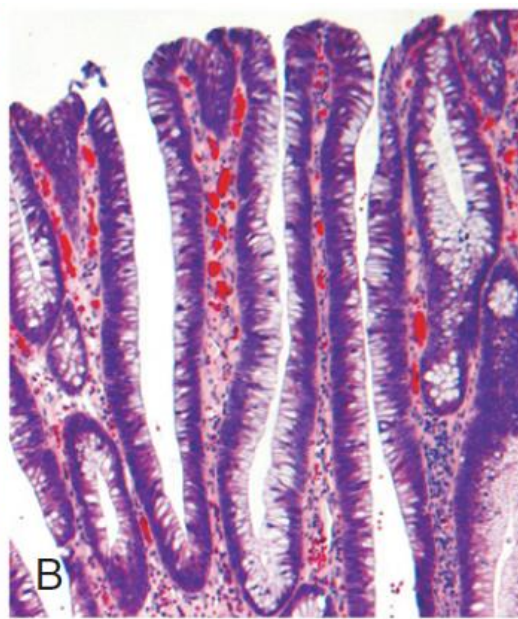
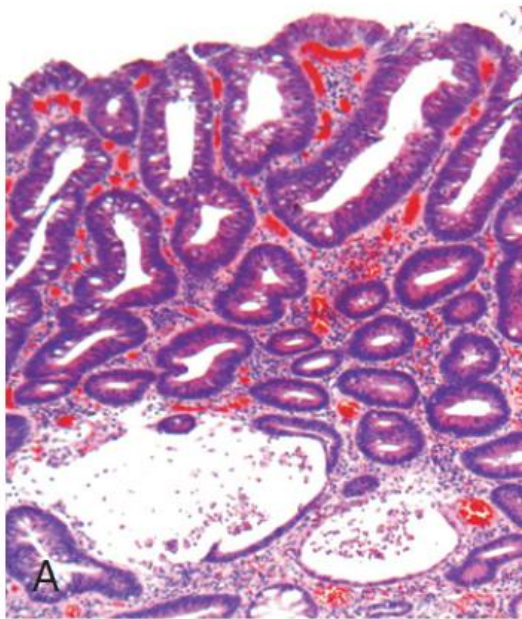
Adenomas

Most common neoplastic

Epithelial dysplasia is
characteristic

Give rise to a majority
of colorectal
adenocarcinomas

Most adenomas
do not progress to
adenocarcinoma



Adenomas

Architecture

- Tubular (A) small
- Tubulovillous
- Villous (B) Large

Epithelial dysplasia (C)
(nuclear hyperchromasia, elongation, & stratification TOP)

Sessile serrated adenoma (D) similar to hyperplastic polyps but in right colon, no dysplasia, serration is present all the way down to the crypt

SIZE

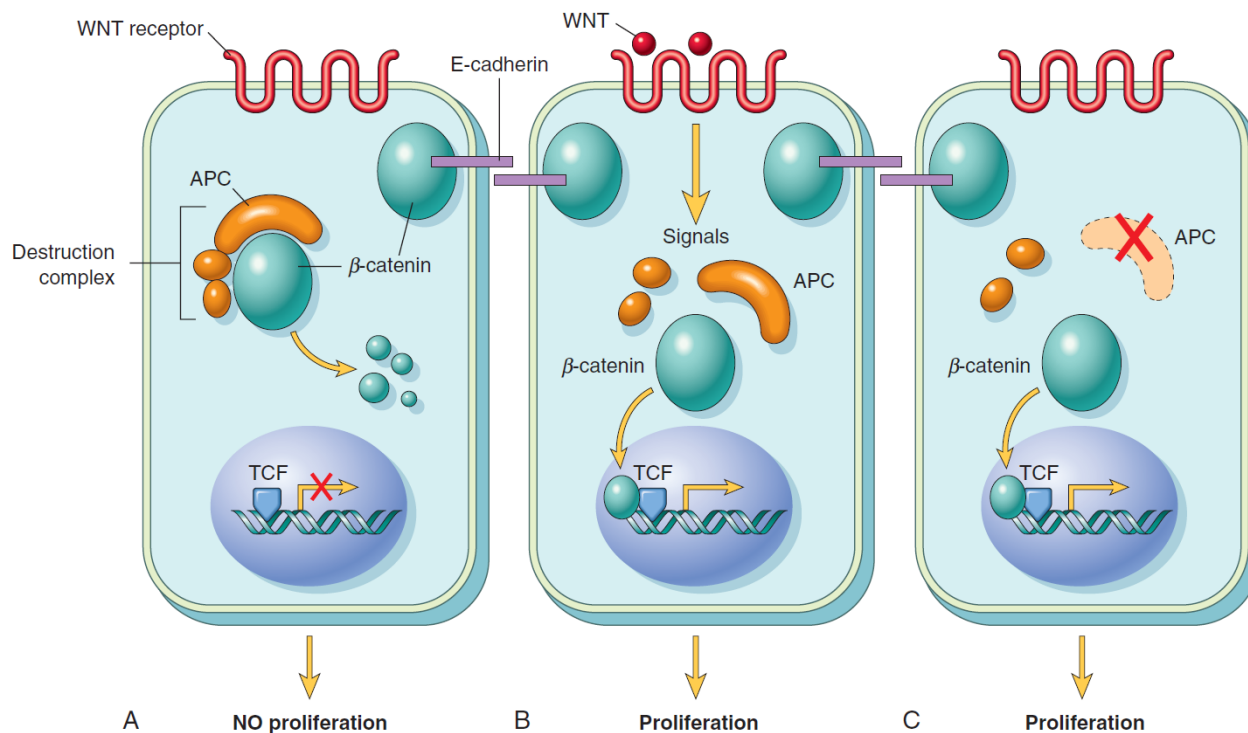
Familial Syndromes (FAP)

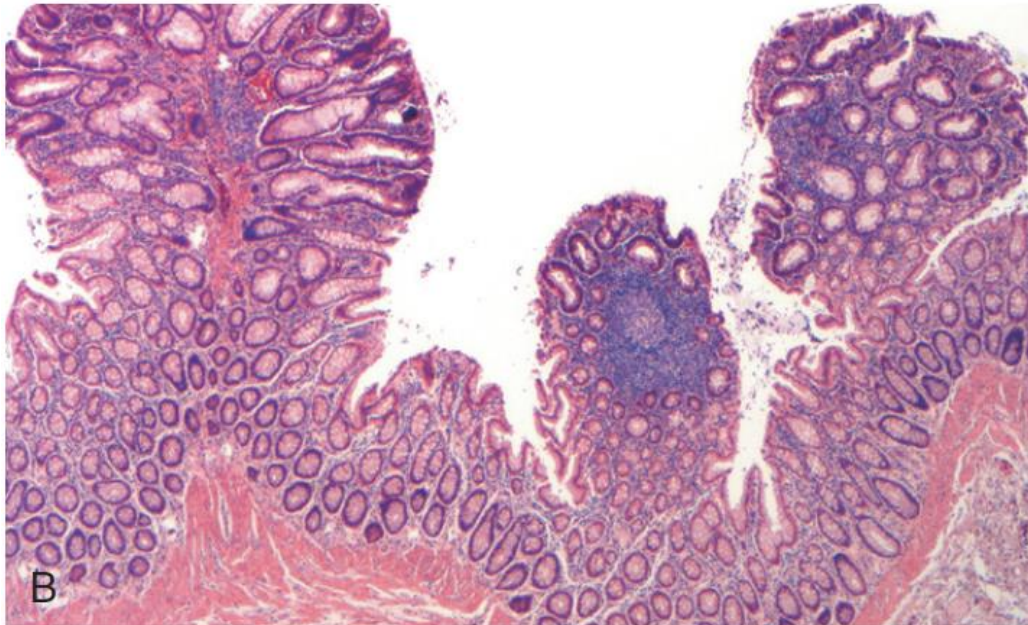
AD

APC or less common
MUTYH (base excision repair)

Variants

- Gardner syndrome
Osteomas, desmoids, skin cysts, thyroid neoplasia...
- Turcot syndrome
CNS tumors, medulloblastoma vs glioblastoma





Familial Syndromes (FAP)

Hundreds to thousands but morphologically indistinguishable from sporadic adenomas

Colorectal adenocarcinoma develops in 100% of patients with untreated FAP, often before age 30

Tx: prophylactic colectomy

Hereditary Nonpolyposis Colorectal Cancer

HNPCC/Lynch syndrome

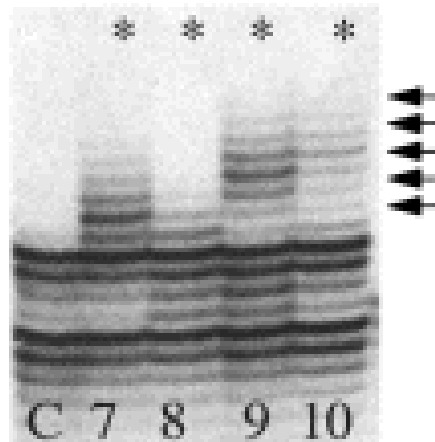
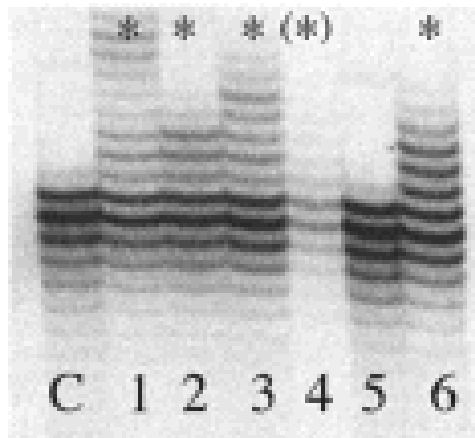
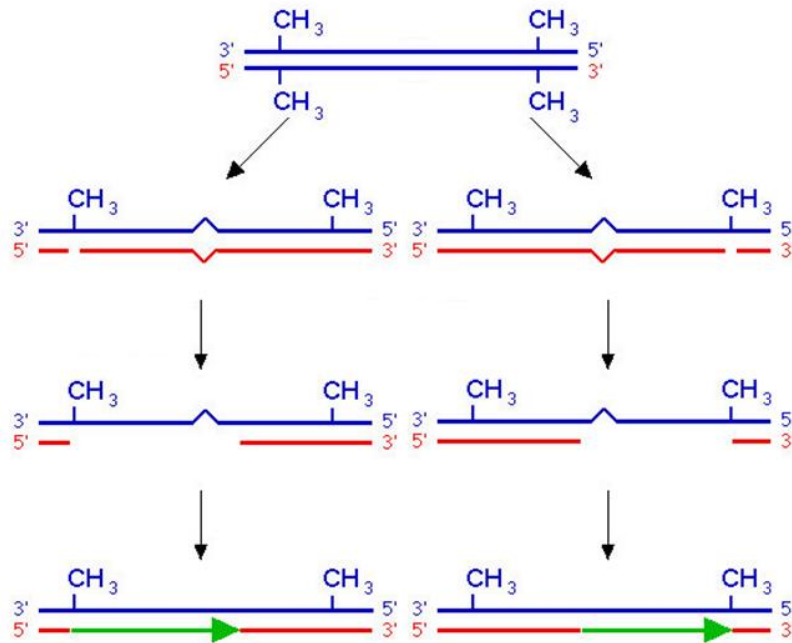
AD

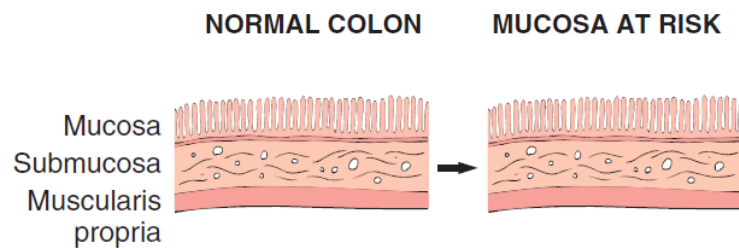
DNA mismatch repair
gene defects mostly
MSH2 or *MLH1*

Right colon predilection
and at younger ages

Mutator phenotype (e.g.
TGF β type II receptors,
BAX)

Microsatellite instability





Germline (inherited)
or somatic (acquired)
mutations of cancer
suppressor genes
("first hit")

APC at 5q21

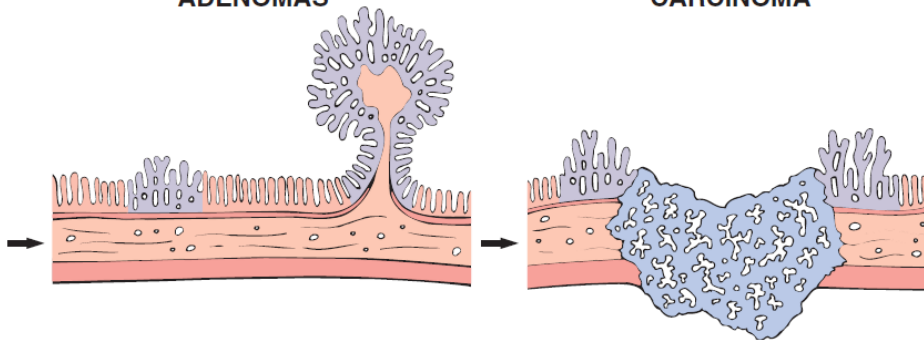
Methylation
abnormalities
Inactivation of
normal alleles
("second hit")

APC
β-catenin

Remember Knudson

ADENOMAS

CARCINOMA



Proto-oncogene
mutations

KRAS at 12p12

Homozygous loss of
additional cancer
suppressor genes
Overexpression of
COX-2

p53 at 17p13
LOH at 18q21
(*SMAD 2* and *4*)

Additional mutations
Gross chromosomal
alterations

Telomerase,
many genes

Adenocarcinoma

Most common GIT
malignancy is Colon
adenocarcinoma

Peak incidence 60-70yrs

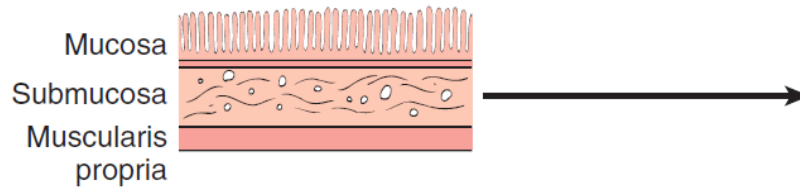
Diet effect (high fat/low
fiber)

NSAID protective
COX-2 over-expression
90%

Adenoma-Carcinoma
sequence (*APC*/Wnt)

80% of sporadic colon
tumors

NORMAL COLON



Germline (inherited)
or somatic (acquired)
mutations of mismatch
repair genes

Alteration of second
allele by LOH,
mutation, or
promoter methylation

MLH1, MSH2
(*MSH6, PMS1, PMS2*)

Adenocarcinoma

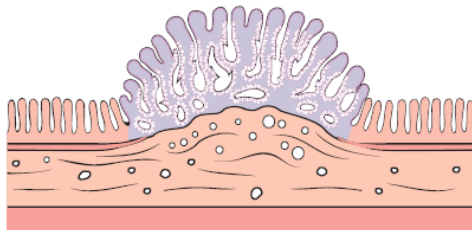
The microsatellite
instability pathway

DNA mismatch repair
deficiency

Microsatellite instability

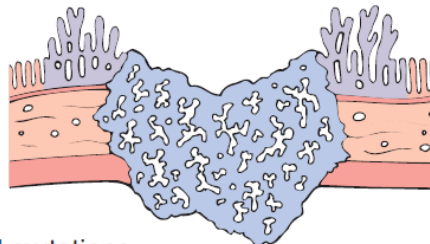
Mutator phenotype

SESSILE SERRATED ADENOMA



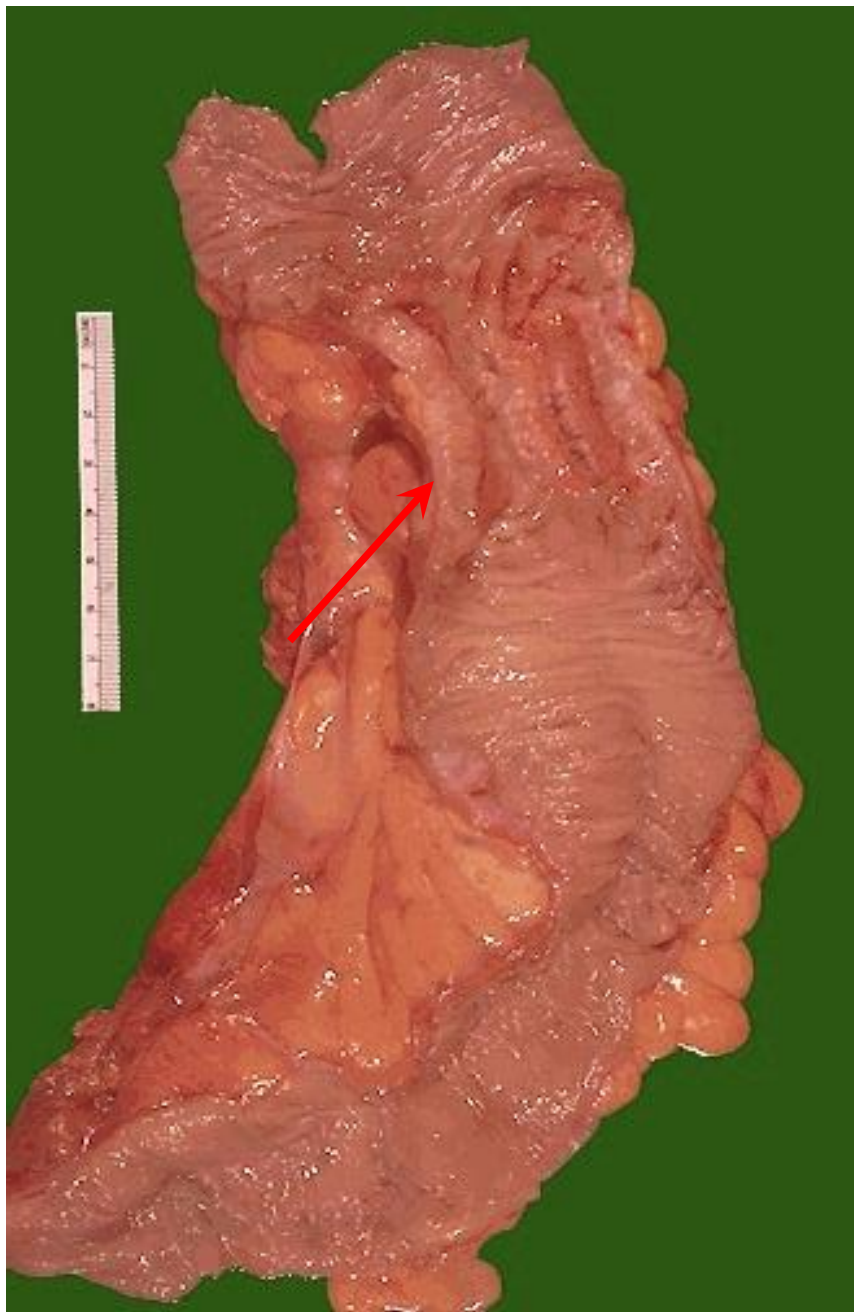
Microsatellite
instability/
"mutator
phenotype"

CARCINOMA



Accumulated mutations
in genes that regulate
growth, differentiation,
and/or apoptosis

TGF β RII, BAX, BRAF,
TCF-4, IGF2R, others



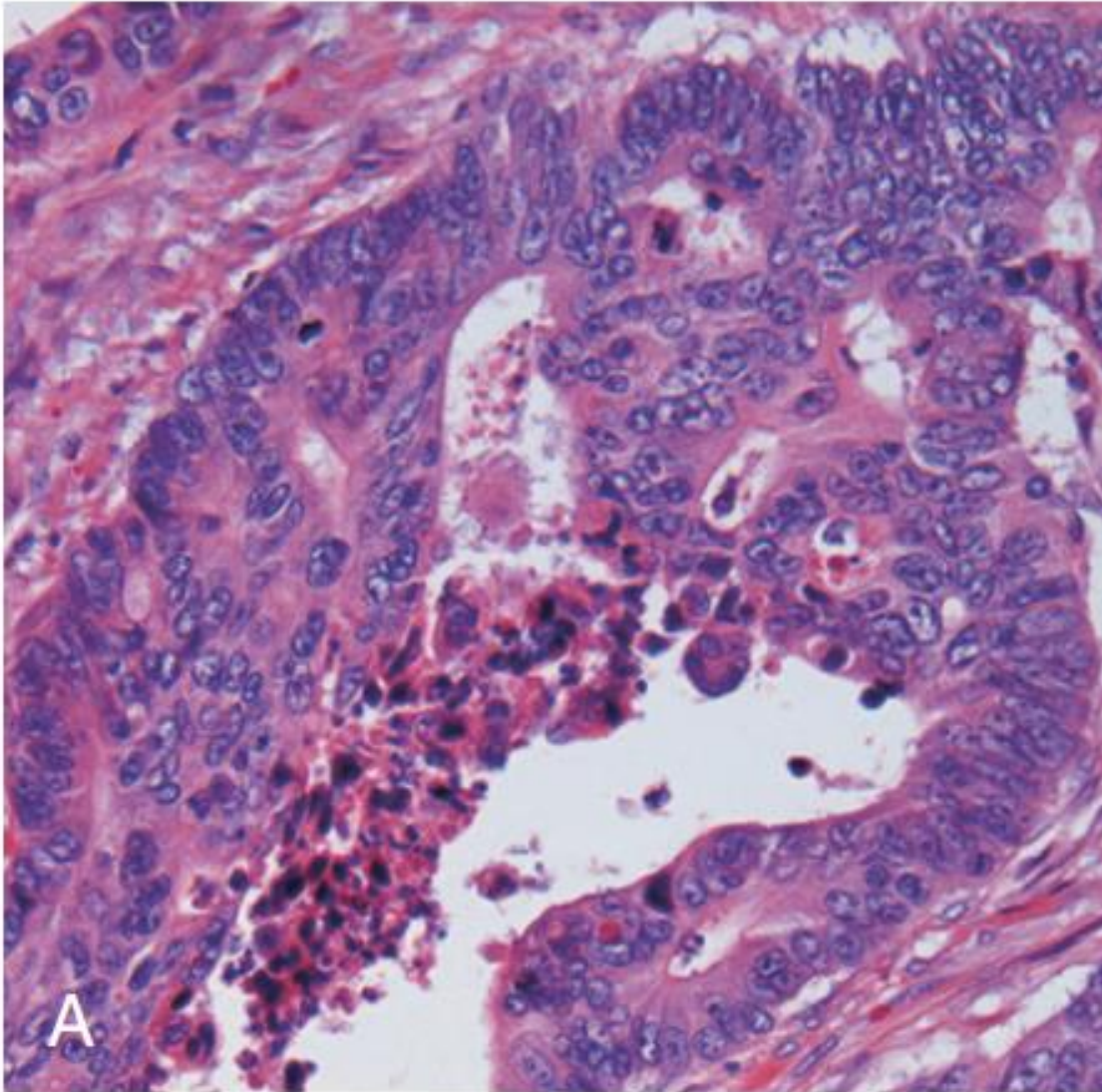
Adenocarcinoma

Morphology

Proximal colon: polypoid, exophytic, extend along one wall (rarely cause obstruction)

Distal colon: annular lesions “napkin ring” constrictions (more likely to cause obstruction)

Both forms grow into the bowel wall, become palpable as firm masses (desmoplastic response)

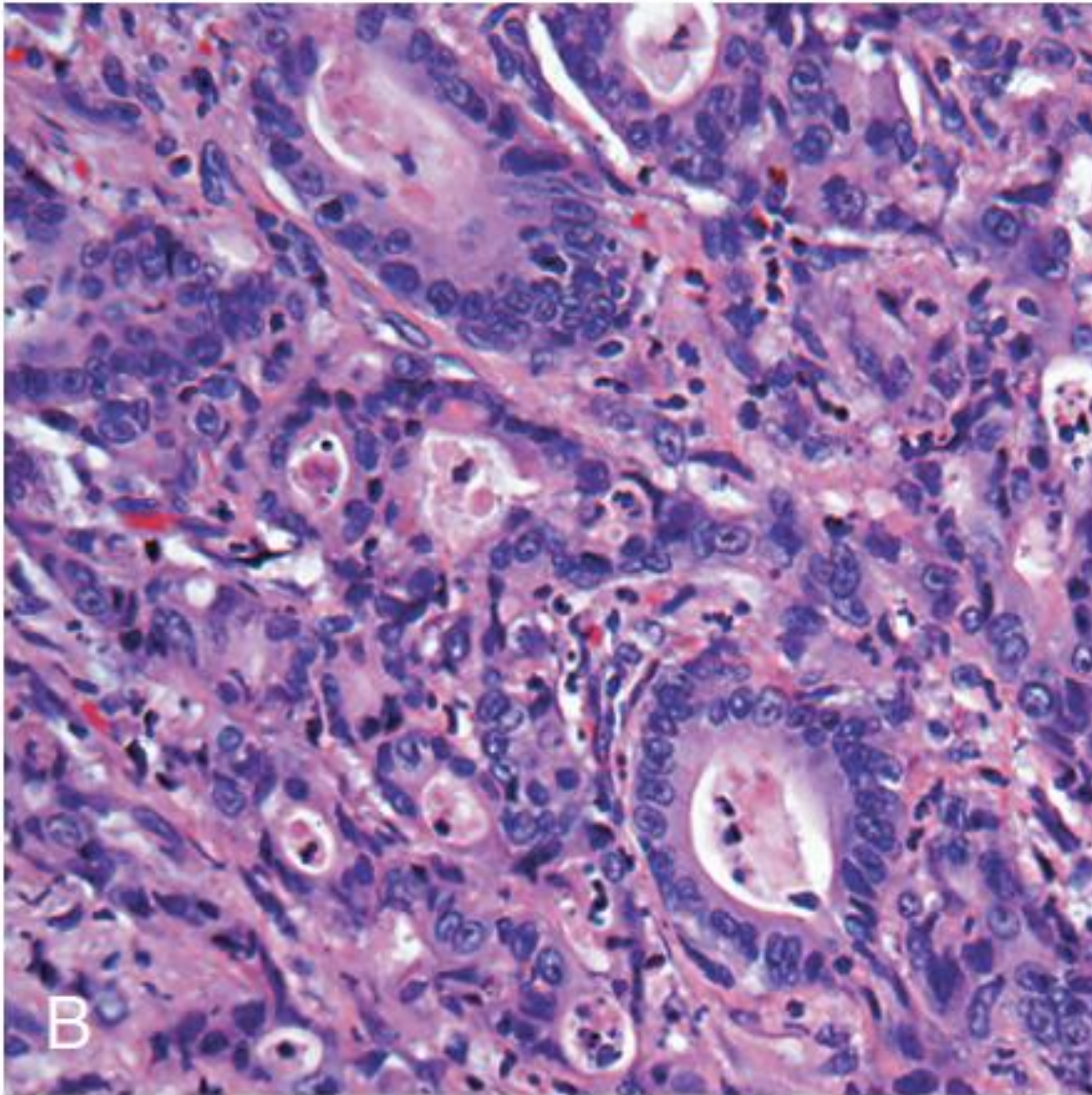


Well-differentiated adenocarcinoma

Adenocarcinoma

Morphology

Tall columnar cells that resemble dysplastic epithelium found in adenomas

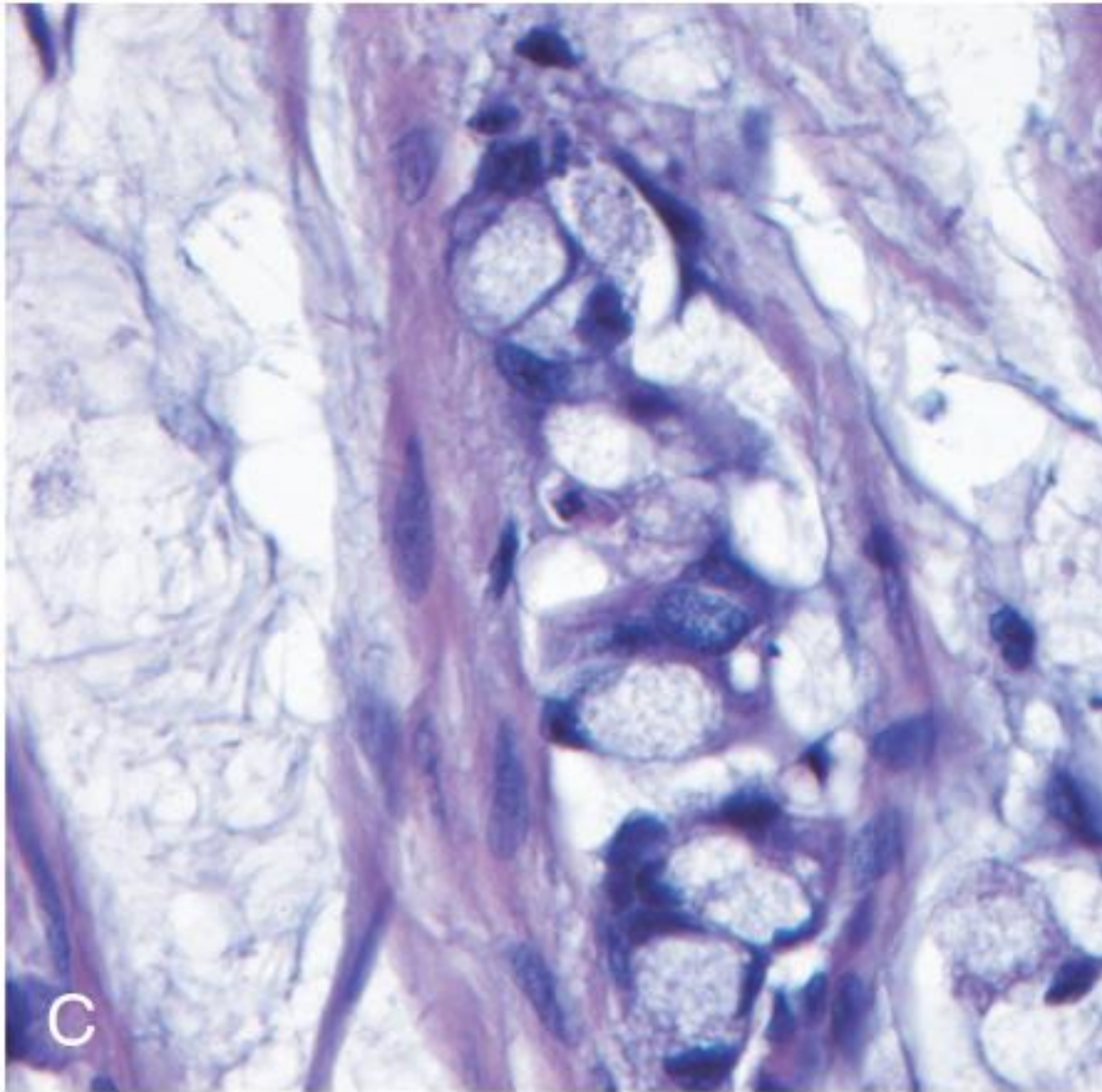


Poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma

Adenocarcinoma

Morphology

Poorly differentiated tumors form few glands



Mucinous adenocarcinoma

Adenocarcinoma

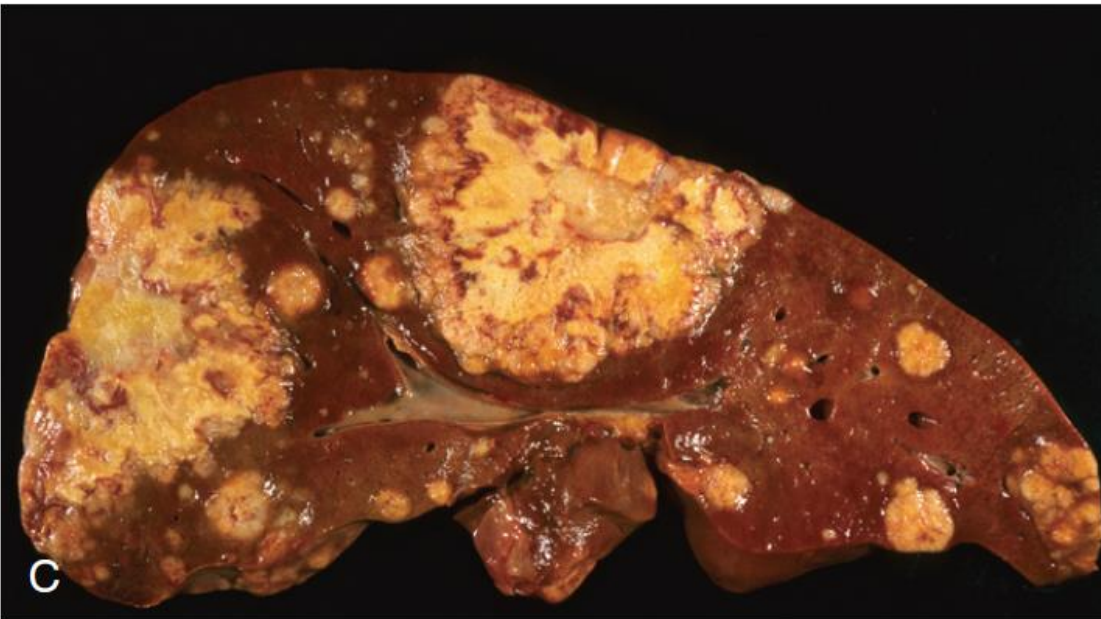
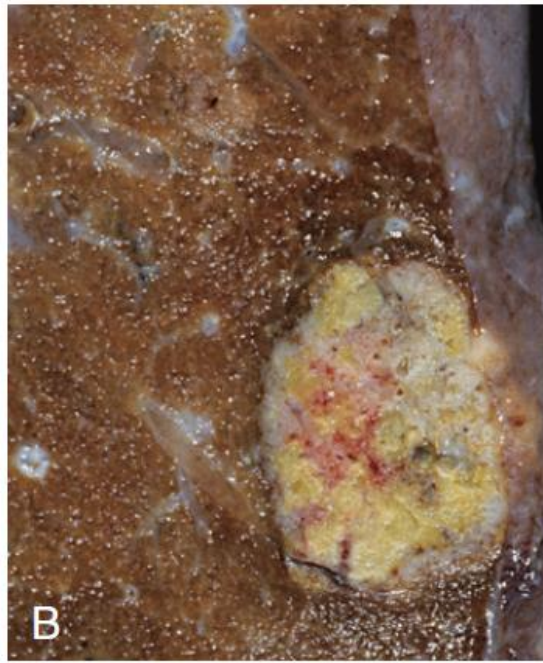
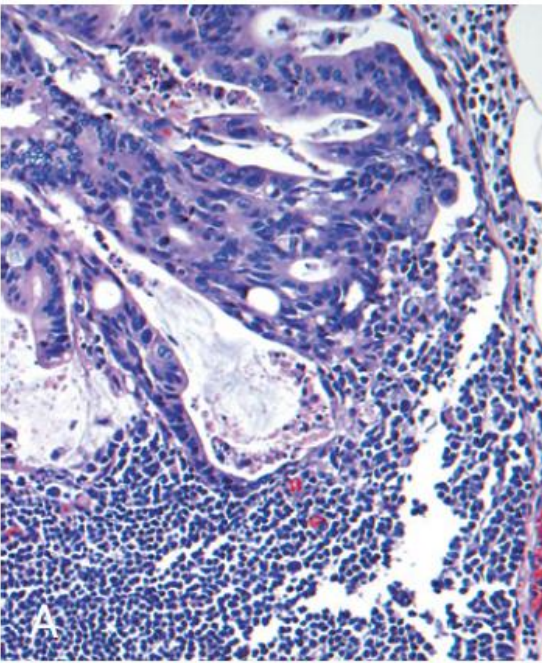
Morphology

Signet ring cells that are similar to those in gastric cancer

Produce abundant mucin that accumulates within the intestinal wall

Poor prognosis



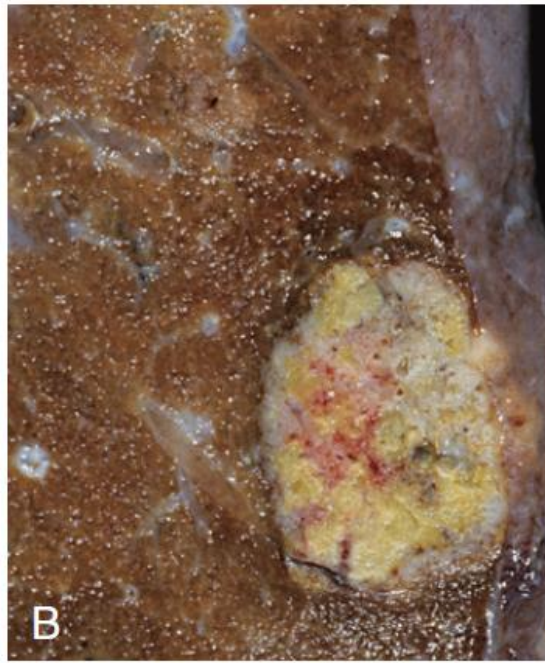
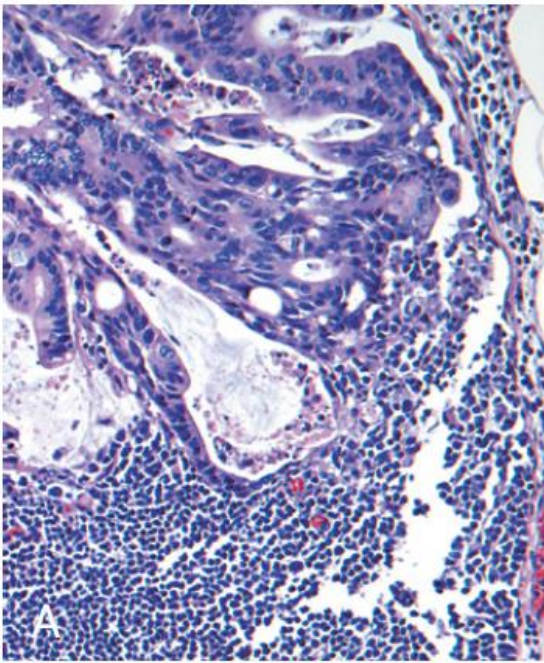


Adenocarcinoma

Clinical Features

Right-sided colon cancers most often present with fatigue and weakness due to iron deficiency anemia

Left-sided colorectal adenocarcinomas can present with occult bleeding, changes in bowel habits, or cramping



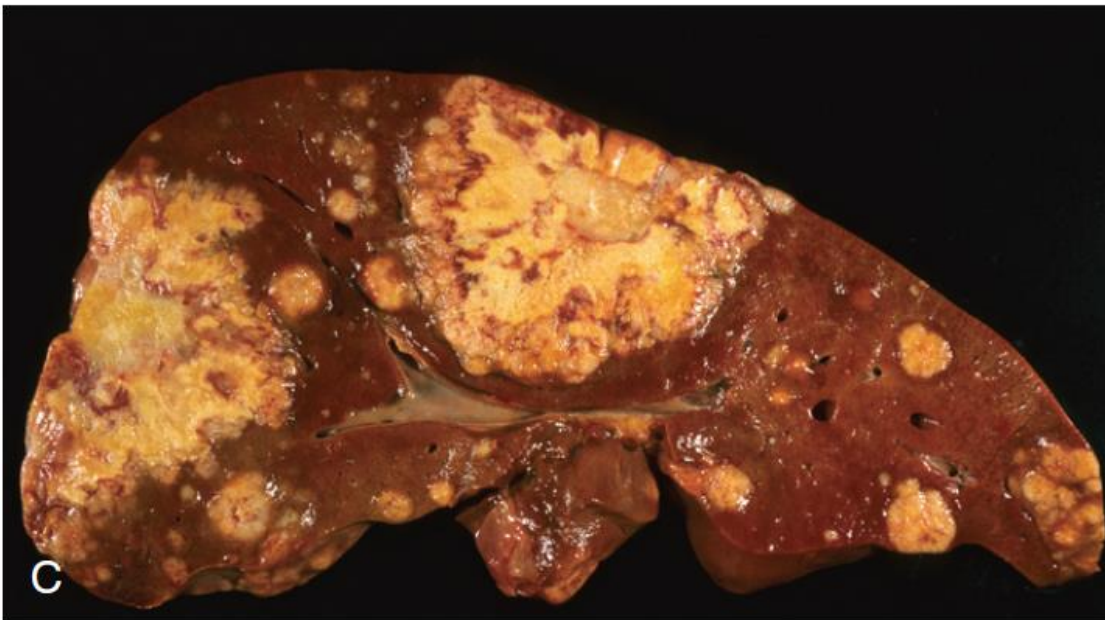
Adenocarcinoma

Prognosis

- Depth of invasion
- LN metastasis (A)

Lung (B)

Liver (C) the most common metastatic site except for rectum



Grading & Staging (colorectal cancer)

Designation	Description
Tumor	
Tis	In situ dysplasia or intramucosal carcinoma
T1	Tumor invades submucosa
T2	Tumor invades into, but not through, muscularis propria
T3	Tumor invades through muscularis propria
T4	Tumor invades adjacent organs or visceral peritoneum
Regional Lymph Nodes	
NX	Lymph nodes cannot be assessed
N0	No regional lymph node metastasis
N1	Metastasis in one to three regional lymph nodes
N2	Metastasis in four or more regional lymph nodes
Distant Metastasis	
MX	Distant metastasis cannot be assessed
M0	No distant metastasis
M1	Distant metastasis or seeding of abdominal organs

Stage*	Tumor-Node-Metastasis (TNM) Criteria			5-Year Survival (%)
	T	N	M	
I	T1, T2	N0	M0	74
II				
IIA	T3	N0	M0	67
IIB	T4	N0	M0	59
III				
IIIA	T1, T2	N1	M0	73
IIIB	T3, T4	N1	M0	46
IIIC	Any T	N2	M0	28
IV	Any T	Any N	M1	6

