

18th Summer Academy of Dermatopathology
Graz, July 6 – 10, 2026



*You want' see this in adults:
selected cases in neonates, children and teen-agers*

*Lorenzo Cerroni
(with some help from Antonio Torrelo)*



Eyelids and mouth
turned inside out

Ears fused to head

Plates of hard
thick skin

Fissures

Swollen hands
and feet

Flat nose

Harlequin ichthyosis

Genetic mutation in the *ABCA12* gene, transmitted in an autosomal recessive manner, causing very low level or absence of the ABCA12 protein.

The ABCA12 protein has an important role in transporting lipids to the epidermis, and is crucial for the formation of the epidermal barrier.



Article

Defining Histological Patterns in Inherited Ichthyoses: Toward a Diagnostic Algorithm Based on 66 Confirmed Cases

Kira Süßmuth ^{1,*}, Vinzenz Oji ², Jacqueline Bodes ², Isabelle Jochum ¹, Florian Muhs ², Katalin Komlosi ³, Ingrid Hausser ⁴, Matthias Schmuth ⁵, Heiko Traupe ², Judith Fischer ³ and Dieter Metze ²

Patient ID	Sex	Age	Biopsy Site	Diagnosis (Gene); (Mutation); (Diagnostic Method)	Cutaneous and Extracutaneous Symptoms	Histology							Pattern(s)
						SC	SG	Acanthosis	Inflammation	FHK	AHK	Other Findings	
36	m	15	upper limb	harlequin ichthyosis, overlap lamellar ichthyosis (ABCA12) (c.2140C>T(Arg714*); 2341T>A(Cys781Ser)); (ABCA12, Exon 17: c.2140C>T, p.(Arg714*) (Class 5); ABCA12, Exon 18: c.2341T>A, p.(Cys781Ser) (Class 4)); (NGS)	severe erythroderma and scaling; clinical overlap of lamellar ichthyosis with harlequin ichthyosis	+, OK, focal PK, compact	+	++/+++ regular	++	n.a.	normal	neutrophils in SC; BV: dilated, kissing vessels	II
37	m	20	upper limb	harlequin ichthyosis (ABCA12) (c.3829+3A>G, Spleiß-Mutation, Intron 26); c6722_6723delGA (p.Arg224Ilefs*4)) (NGS)	severe erythroderma and scaling	+, OK, focal PK, compact	--	++, regular	++	n.a.	n.a.	neutrophils in SC; BV: dilated, kissing vessels, suprapapillary thinning, papillomatosis	I

Keywords: cornification disorders; whit poxes; epidermis; dermatoglyphology; histological patterns; diagnostic algorithms

5. **Pyrimidine**[illegible]

† The data are based on the 1990 Census of the population living in the United States and the 1990 Census of the population living in the United States.

1. Orthohyperkeratosis with a reduced or absent stratum granulosum

2. Orthohyperkeratosis and a well-developed stratum granulosum

3. Hyperkeratosis with ortho- and parakeratosis with preserved or prominent stratum granulosum

4. Epidermolytic hyperkeratosis

5. Perinuclear vacuoles and binucleated keratinocytes

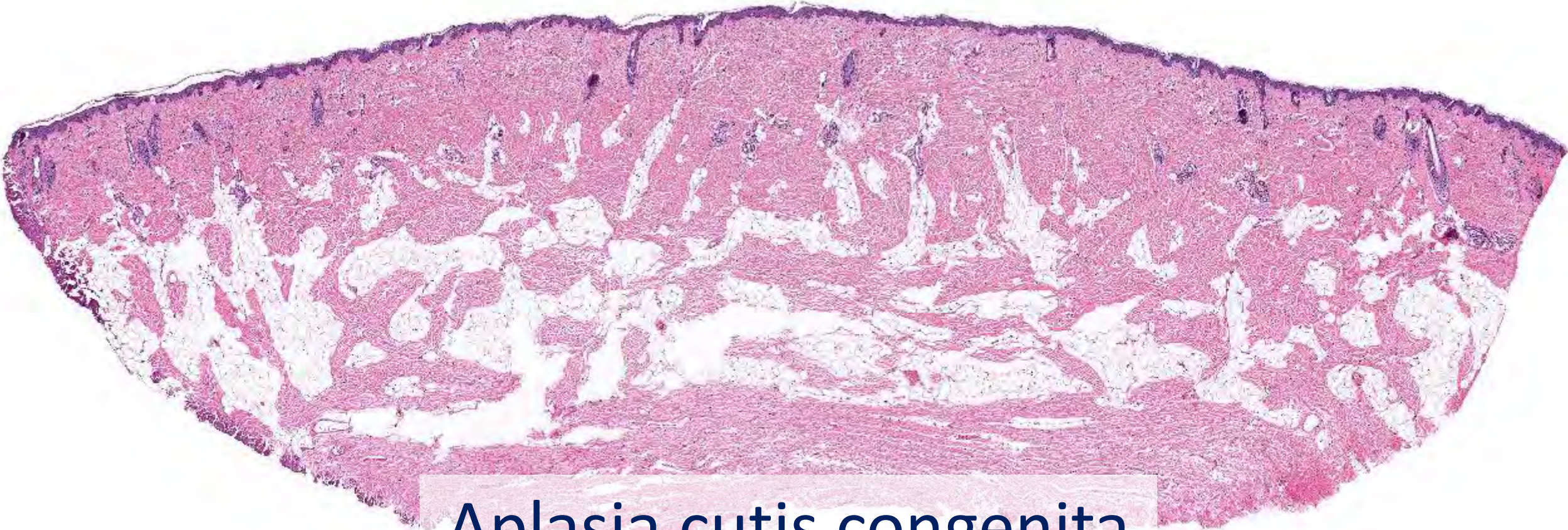
6. Psoriasis-like features



M, 1

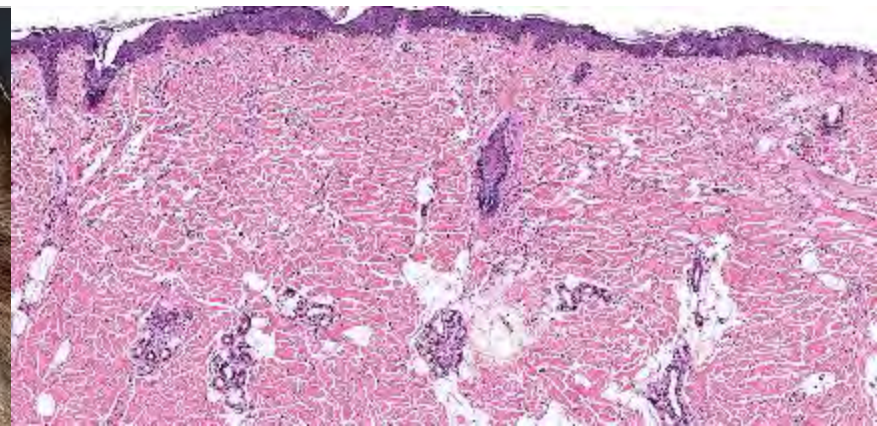
An area without hairs is present on the scalp since birth; no other symptoms.

Pediatric surgeons plan to excise the area in 2 sessions; the first biopsy is taken.



Aplasia cutis congenita

without other anomalies





Developmental Anomalies 64

Richard J. Antaya and Julie V. Schaffer

Histologic features of membranous aplasia cutis include an atrophic flattened epidermis, replacement of the dermis by loose connective tissue, and an absence of adnexal structures.

Findings in other types of ACC vary but lesions that have healed generally show scarring, a lack of adnexa, and in some cases fragmented elastic tissue.

Although histologic examination may occasionally be helpful, the diagnosis of ACC is primarily clinical.

CLASSIFICATION SCHEME FOR APLASIA CUTIS CONGENITA (ACC)			
	Inheritance (Gene)	Features	Associated abnormalities
Group 1: Scalp ACC without multiple anomalies	Sporadic > AD	Usually at the vertex	No associated abnormalities Isolated abnormalities (most often associated with membranous ACC): cleft lip and/or palate, tracheoesophageal fistula, high myopia and cone-rod dysfunction, patent ductus arteriosus, intestinal lymphangiectasia, omphalocele, polycystic kidneys, double cervix and uterus, intellectual disability, temporal triangular alopecia
	Often AD (BMST)	Usually at the vertex Irregular and scar-like	
Group 2: Scalp ACC associated with Adams-Oliver syndrome	AD (ATHGAT31, NBPJ, NOTCH1, DUE4, AR, IDCKE, ECGT)	Midline scalp Often large, irregular lesions Skull defect Dilated scalp veins	Adams-Oliver syndrome: terminal transverse limb defects (e.g. reductions, syndactyly, nail dystrophy), cutis marmorata telangiectatica congenita, cardiac malformations, CNS abnormalities
Group 3: Scalp ACC associated with epidermal and sebaceous nevi (and, occasionally, congenital melanocytic nevi)	Sporadic due to mosaic RASopathy (e.g. HRAS, KRAS)	Scalp, often unilateral Membranous	Epidermal nevus or nevus sebaceus , usually in proximity to the ACC Large congenital melanocytic nevus: in a few reports Ipsilateral ophthalmologic abnormalities: corneal opacities, scleral dermoids, eyelid colobomas, retinal dystrophy CNS abnormalities: intellectual disability, seizures
Group 4: ACC overlying embryologic malformations	Variable	Scalp, often with a hair collar if overlying a neural tube defect Lumbosacral Chest/abdomen	Cranial malformations: cephalocele, heterotopic brain or meningeal tissue, congenital midline porencephaly, holocranioschisis, cranio-synostosis, vascular malformation/aplasia/arteriovenous fistula Spinal malformations: occult dysraphism, myelomeningocele Thoracic malformations: sternal cleft Abdominal malformations: omphalocele, gastroschisis Multiple malformations associated with generalized, lethal ACC ("systemic" ACC): corneal opacities, choanal atresia, hypoplastic lungs, absent greater omentum, intestinal malrotation & atresias, hepatosplenomegaly, skull defects, syndactyly, anonychia
Group 5: ACC associated with fetus papyraceus, placental infarcts, or other ischemic events	Sporadic	Scalp, chest, flanks, axillae and/or extremities (see Fig. 64.19) Multiple, symmetric Stellate/angulated configuration	Associated fetus papyraceus due to second-trimester death of twin/ triplet or fetal reduction of higher-order pregnancies Placental infarction: single umbilical artery Duodenal, ileal, and/or biliary atresias with intestinal infarction Intracranial hemorrhage/CNS abnormalities
Group 6: ACC associated with epidermolysis bullosa (EB)	AD or AR, depending on EB type	Lower extremities ("Bart syndrome") or large areas of the extremities, trunk, and scalp	EB simplex (EBS; especially KLHL24-related), junctional EB (JEB), and dystrophic EB: blistering of skin and/or mucous membranes, skin fragility, nail dystrophy If more widespread (most often in JEB or EBS with pyloric atresia): ureters stenosis, renal abnormalities, arthrogryposis, abnormal ears and nose; may have intrauterine/neonatal death (UGB4, PLEC)
Group 7: Localized ACC, presumably due to prenatal physical insult	Sporadic	Extremities, e.g. forearm, pretibial area	Volkman contracture or radial dysplasia (with ACC on the forearm) Amniotic band sequence (see text)
Group 8: ACC caused by specific teratogens, maternal conditions, or intrauterine infections	Sporadic	Scalp with drugs Any site with congenital infections	Methimazole (thiamazole), carbimazole: imperforate anus, urachal malformations Misoprostol Low-molecular-weight heparin Valproic acid Maternal antiphospholipid syndrome Intrauterine varicella, herpes simplex or rubella infection: signs of these infections
Group 9: ACC associated with malformation syndromes	Variable	Variable	See Table 64.A

*Referred to as "SCAP" syndrome (sebaceous nevus, QIS malformations, ACC, limb dermoid, pigmented nevus).

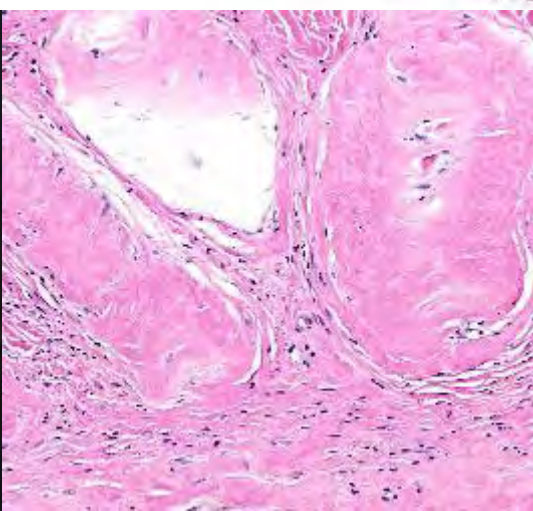
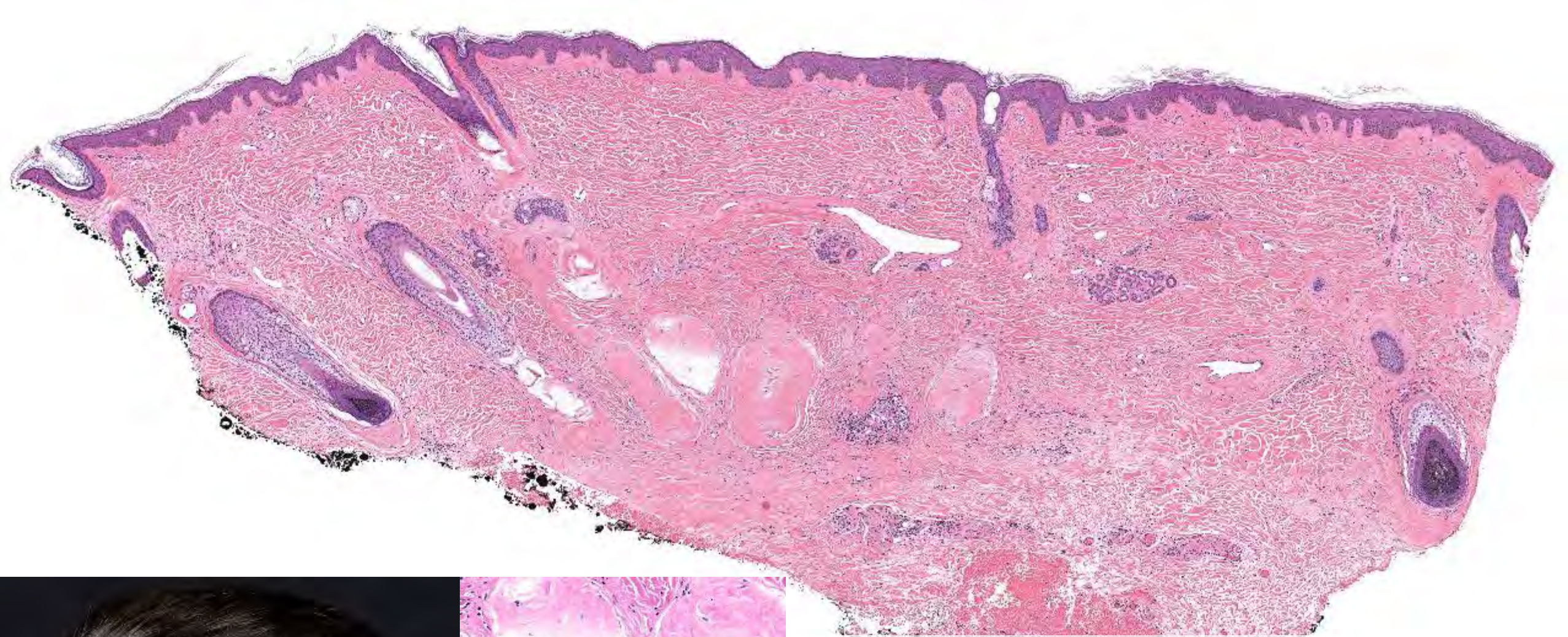


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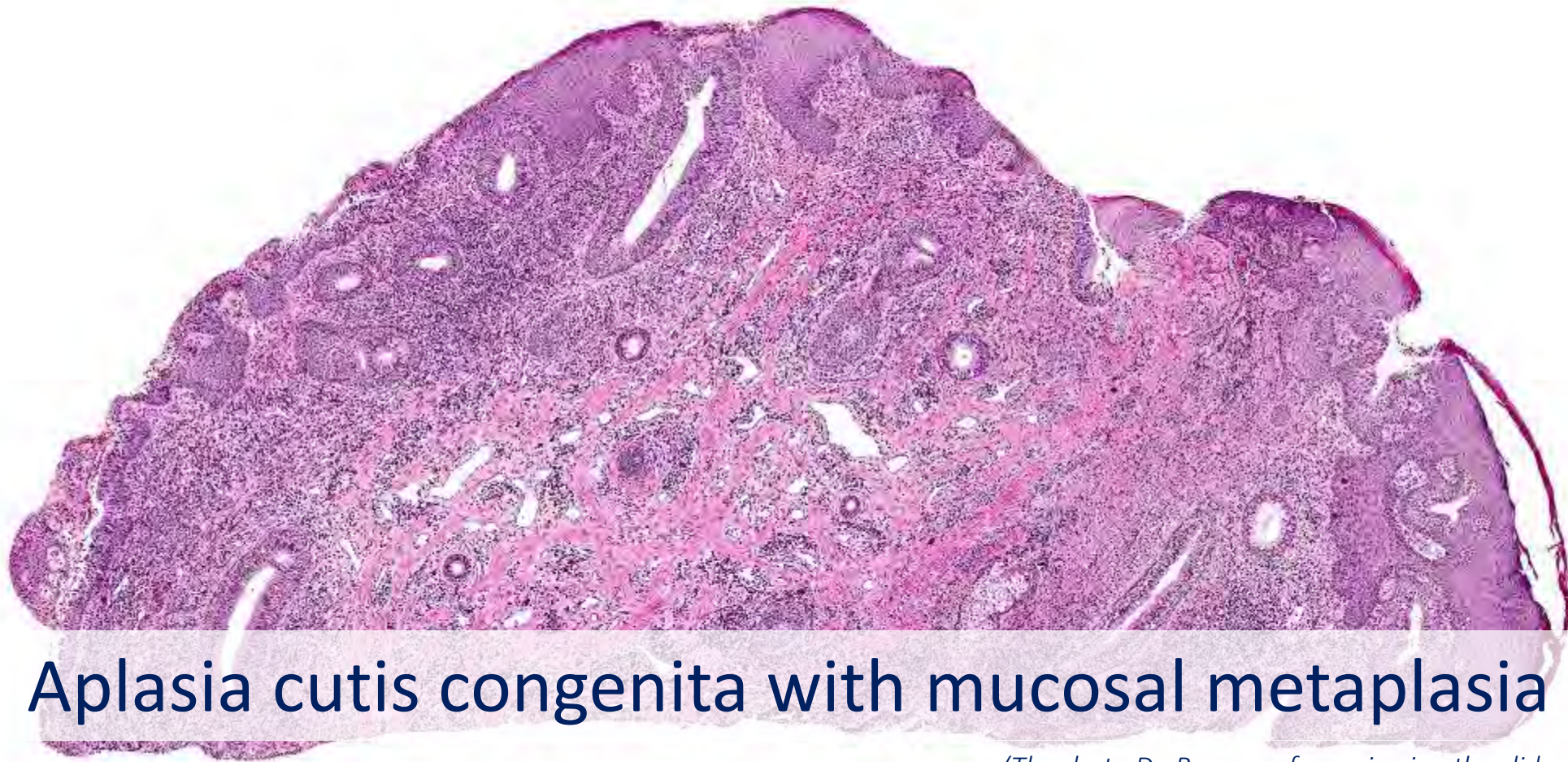
According to the parents scalp lesion for approximately 1 year.

No history of previous trauma.

A biopsy is taken.

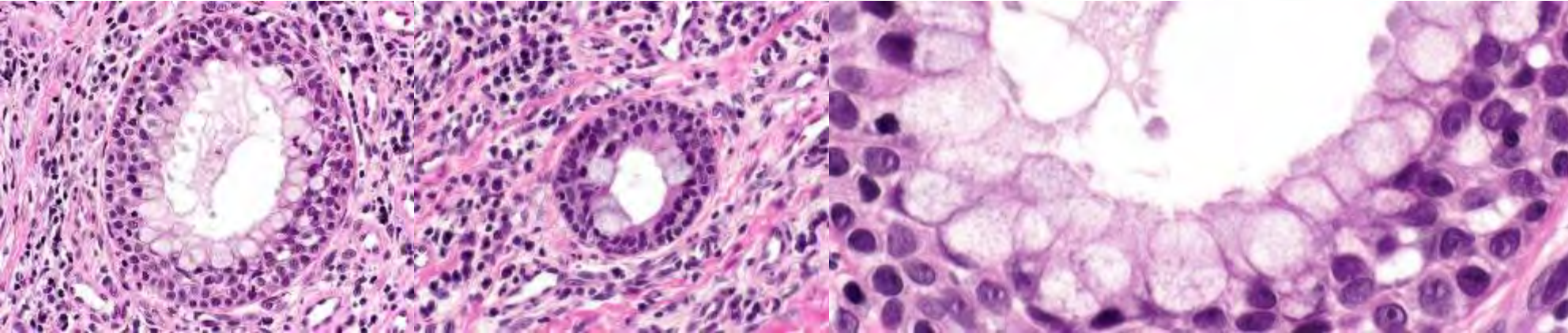
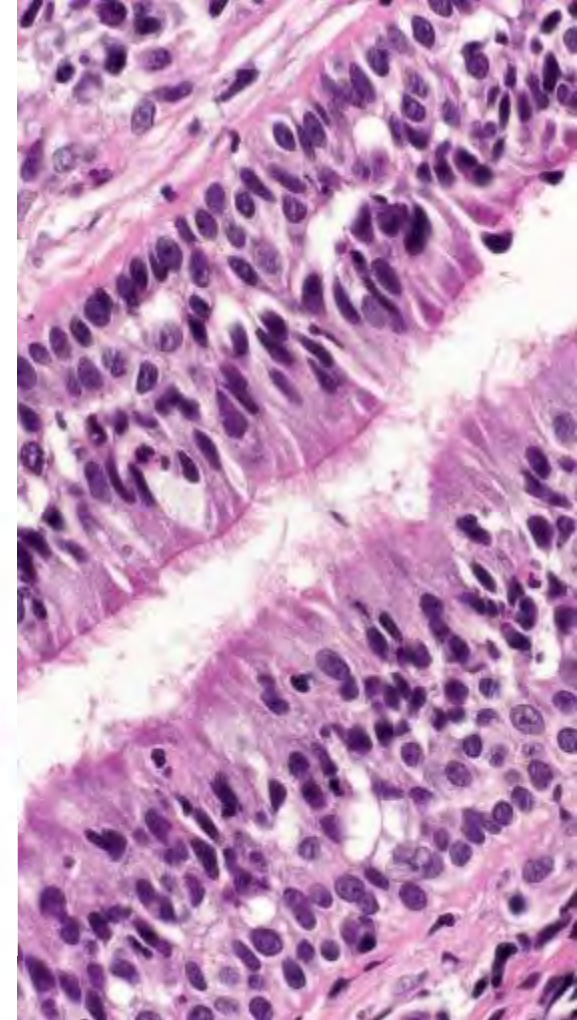


Early linear scleroderma
(en coupe de sabre)
ANA: 1:320



Aplasia cutis congenita with mucosal metaplasia

(Thanks to Dr. Requena for reviewing the slides)



F, 1

Congenital "wound" on the right lower leg.

A biopsy is taken.

A Case of Aplasia Cutis Congenita, Type VII

Imagawa T, MD, Sato H, MD, Matsuda M, MD, Sato M, MD,
Saito H, MD, Young Ho Won, MD, Saito Chul Lee, MD

Department of Dermatology, Chonnam National University Medical School, Gwangju, Korea

Aplasia cutis congenita (ACC) is a rare congenital defect in which localized or widespread areas of the skin are absent at birth. In the majority of cases, it is limited to the scalp especially on the vertex although other areas of the body may also be involved. Other congenital malformations can be associated with ACC. We present herein the case of a new born male with unilateral absence of skin on the extensor surface of the right lower leg. There was no associated malformation or skin disease such as blistering or nail abnormality. According to the classification outlined by Frieden, the condition was diagnosed as type VII aplasia cutis congenita. The treatment of this large ulcer was conservative, wet dressing and prophylactic topical antibiotics. On follow up after 2 years showed that the patient was nearly cured of the ulcer and had only minimal scar formation.

(Ann Dermatol (Seoul) 2002; 10: 70-73, 2002)

Key Words: Aplasia cutis congenita, Leg, Unilateral

INTRODUCTION

Aplasia cutis congenita (ACC) is defined as a localized or widespread absence of skin at birth. As it was first described by Condon in 1961, the lesions are typically apertures as circular, oval, sharply outlined ulcer which result in scarring after they are healed. Almost 80% of aplasia cutis appears in the scalp regions, and only about 10-15% of ACC involve other areas of the body. In some cases, the lesions can be a sign of embryonic malformation, chromosomal abnormalities, or perinatal dysplasia. Moreover, association with epidermolysis bullosa, intrauterine infection, or specific teratogens has been described. Defects of the skin found in the lower limbs are very rare. The lesions are usually presented as ulcerations, membranous lesions, or areas of atrophic scarring.

We report an unusual case of ACC with full thickness skin defect located only on the right lower leg.

CASE REPORT

A newborn male presented with a large ulcer on the right leg which had been present since birth. There was no significant anomaly or family history. The mother had no specific disease or drug history prior to or during the pregnancy. He was born through normal vaginal delivery at 38 weeks' gestation with a weight of 3.4 kg. On physical examination, a large ulcer was found with a length of about 20 cm on the right leg from the knee area to the medial malleolus (Fig. 1). The umbilicus, mouth and anus of the newborn were not affected, and there was no blistering anywhere on the body. The routine laboratory results were within normal limits and the serologic analysis for TORCH yield negative results. A punch biopsy taken from the ulceration on the thigh 5 days after birth showed the absence of epidermis and adnexary structures as well as proliferation of blood vessels in the dermis (Fig. 2). There was no evidence of a hemangioma.



Fig. 1. Large ulcer about 20 cm length along the right leg without nail dystrophy. On the day of birth. Arrow indicates biopsy site.



Fig. 3. Clinical features 15 days after birth. New hyper-proliferative granulation tissue has appeared and blood clots were observed.

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Reprint request to Saito Chul Lee, MD, Department of Dermatology, Chonnam National University Medical School, 8, Huk-1-dong, Gwangju 501-757, Korea. Tel: 82-62-273-6682. Fax: 82-62-273-4308. E-mail: sclee@chonnam.ac.kr

Aplasia cutis congenita: A clinical review and proposal for classification

Dana J. Brident, M.D., Oakland and San Francisco, CA

Aplasia cutis congenita is a grouping of congenital or widespread areas of skin absence at birth. Several distinct clinical entities occur, characterized by the location and pattern of skin absence, the presence of associated malformations, and the mode of inheritance. The disorder is seen most frequently on the scalp, often as a solitary lesion without other anomalies. Scalp lesions can be seen in association with limb reduction defects and in association with epidermal and orofacial clefts. Lesions may overlie areas of neural embryologic malformation. A form of aplasia cutis congenita occurs in association with placental infarcts or the union of skin of a twin fetus. The condition may be associated with epidermolysis bullosa, specific congenital or hereditary infections, or it may occur in the presence of chromosomal abnormalities, congenital dysplasias, or other syndromes of malformation. A classification for aplasia cutis congenita is proposed. (*J Am Acad Dermatol* 14:646-650, 1986.)

Aplasia cutis congenita, or congenital absence of skin, is a heterogeneous group of disorders in which localized or widespread areas of the skin are absent at birth. More than 200 cases have been described since the entity was first reported by Gordon¹ in 1767.

Diagnosis is primarily clinical. The histologic appearance varies. At birth, ulcerated lesions may show complete absence of all layers of skin, occasionally extending to the bone or dura. Healed lesions often demonstrate flattened epidermis, proliferation of fibroblasts in the loose connective tissue stroma, newly formed capillaries, and complete absence of adnexal structures.^{2,3} Most cases of aplasia cutis congenita have not been studied his-

tologically. In Dermatis's review⁴ of 15 cases, only forty-eight had histologic examinations. The heterogeneous appearance of lesions, including the in vivo healing of some lesions,² further contributes to the difficulty of defining aplasia cutis congenita. In some instances, obstetric trauma or fetal scalp electrodes are erroneously believed to cause areas of aplasia cutis congenita, further delaying the diagnosis.^{4,5} At present, the diagnosis rests with the clinician who, observing modest, absent, or scarred areas of skin at birth, recognizes the condition. In many cases, especially familial, diagnosis is retrospective when characteristic scarring is observed later in life.^{6,7}

Many authors have speculated about the cause of aplasia cutis congenita. The amniotic theory, the theory proposed that amniotic adhesions to the fetal skin might tear off, leaving absent areas of skin,¹ evidence against this as a unifying theory was the finding of normal placentas in most examined cases.¹ Intrauterine trauma was also proposed as a cause of aplasia cutis congenita, but there is a history of trauma in only a minority of cases.^{1,2} Ingulf^{8,9} observed that in many cases of aplasia cutis congenita in which cutaneous defects ap-

Table 1. Proposed classification for aplasia cutis congenita

Category	Body area affected	Associated abnormalities	Inheritance
Group 1: scalp ACC without anatomic anomalies	Scalp, usually vertex	Cleft lip and palate; tracheo-esophageal fistula; double cervix and uterus; patent ductus arteriosus; omphalocele; polycystic kidney; mental retardation; cleft nostrils; telangiectases congenita	Autosomal dominant, or sporadic
Group 2: scalp ACC with associated limb abnormalities	Midline scalp	Limb reduction abnormalities: 2-2 syndactyly; clubfoot; nail absence or dysplasia; skin tags on feet; persistent cutis marmorata; encephalocele; widely hairy hemangiomas; heart disease; cryptorchidism; postaxial polydactyly (1 limb)	Autosomal dominant
Group 3: Scalp ACC with associated epidermal and orofacial clefts	Scalp, may be asymmetric	Corned specimens; scarred dermoids; eyelid cleft; blindness; psychomotor retardation; seizures	Sporadic
Group 4: ACC overlying embryologic malformations	Abdomen, flanks, skin, scalp, any site	Meningocele; spinal dysraphism; crania bifida; congenital malformations; paraneoplasia; hepatomegaly; angiodysplasia; scoliosis of spine; craniofacial; gastroesophageal	Depends on underlying condition
Group 5: ACC with associated fetus papyraceus or placental infarcts	Multiple, symmetric areas, often stellate or linear, on scalp, chest, flanks, axillae, and extremities	Single umbilical artery; developmental delay; spastic paralysis; nail dystrophy; clubbed hands and feet; amniotic bands	Sporadic

ACC: Aplasia cutis congenita; EB: epidermolysis bullosa.

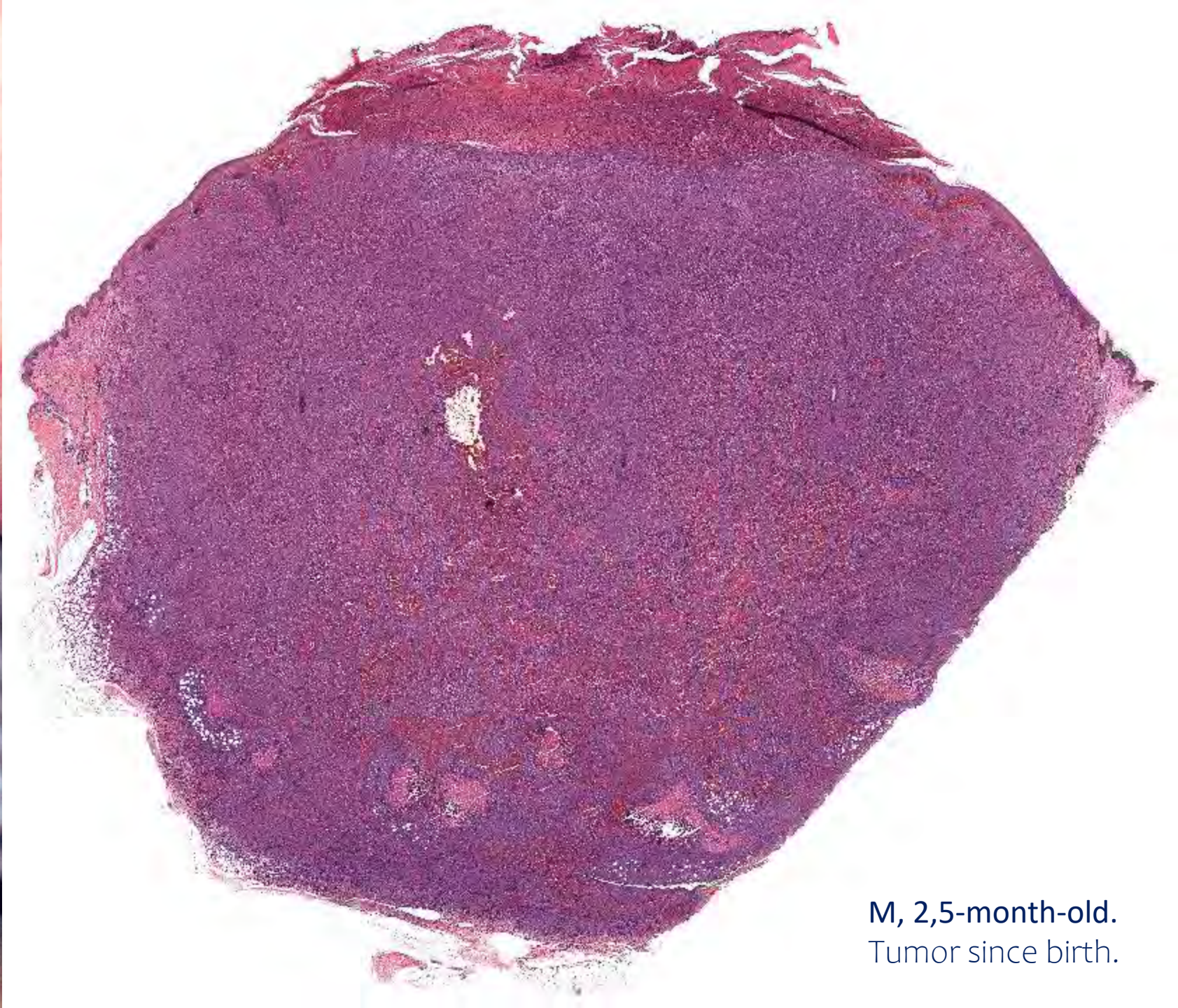
Group 6: ACC associated with epidermolysis bullosa (EB)	Extremities	Blistering, usually localized, without multiple congenital anomalies	Depends on EB type; may be autosomal dominant or recessive
Whitfield's skin tag with congenital staphylococci	Large areas on extremities and torso	Pyloric or duodenal atresia; abnormal ears and nose; ectodermal dysplasia; renal abnormalities; atresia coli; atresia biliary; amniotic bands; nail dystrophy	Autosomal recessive
Group 7: ACC localized to extremities without blistering	Extremities	None	Autosomal dominant or recessive
Group 8: ACC caused by specific infections	Scalp (with methicillin); any area (with varicella and herpes simplex infections)	Imperforate anus (methicillin); signs of intrauterine infection with varicella and herpes simplex infections	Not inherited
Group 9: ACC associated with malformation syndromes	Scalp; any location	Tadpole (13-4p- syndrome); any ectodermal dysplasia; Johanson-Bloxer syndrome; facial dermal hypoplasia; amniotic band disruption complex; XY gonadal dysgenesis	Varies, depending on specific syndrome

from the "Department of Dermatology, University of California, San Francisco, Oakland, and the Department of Dermatology, University of California Medical Center, San Francisco.

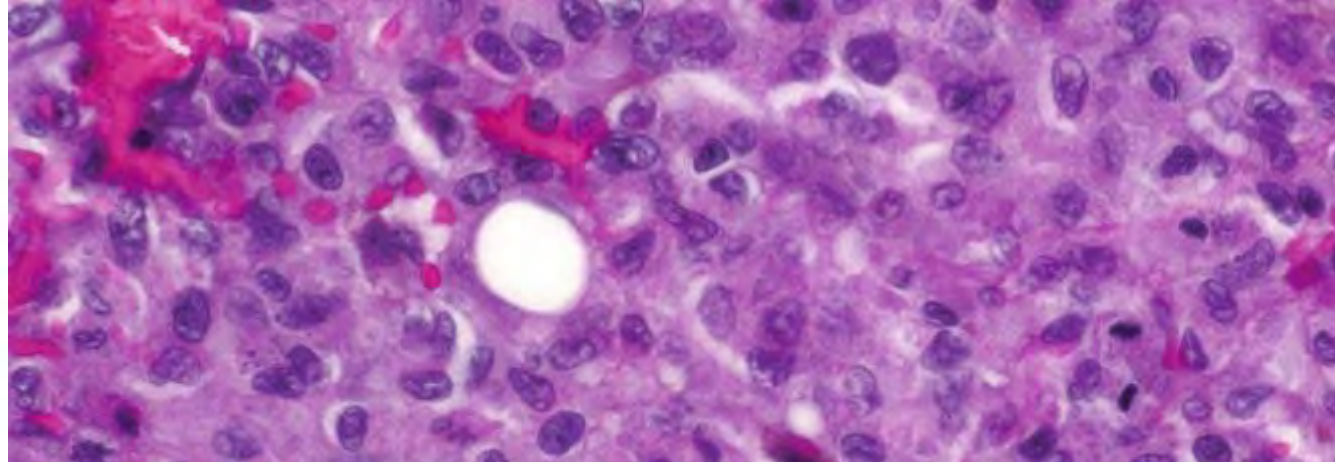
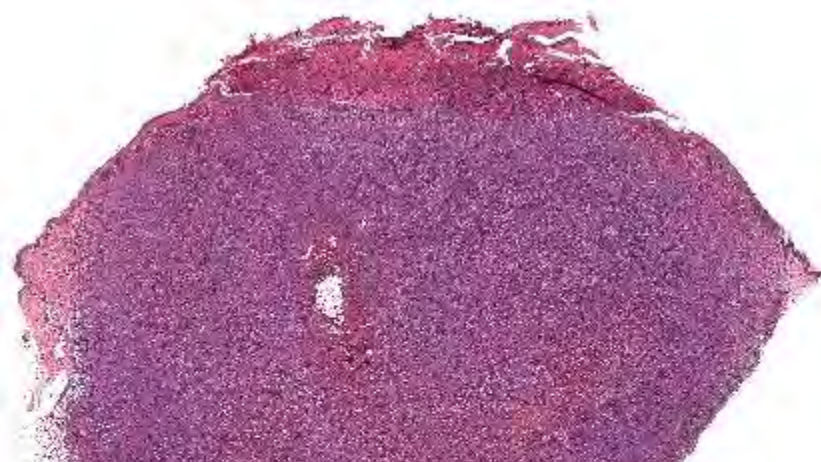
Received for publication the 4th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology, Washington, D.C., Dec. 1-6, 1985.

Reprints from: Dr. Dana J. Brident, Department of Dermatology, San Francisco Medical Center, 280 W. Mission St., Oakland, CA 94612.

*Dana J. Brident, M.D., is a staff dermatologist, San Francisco Medical Center, 280 W. Mission St., Oakland, CA 94612.

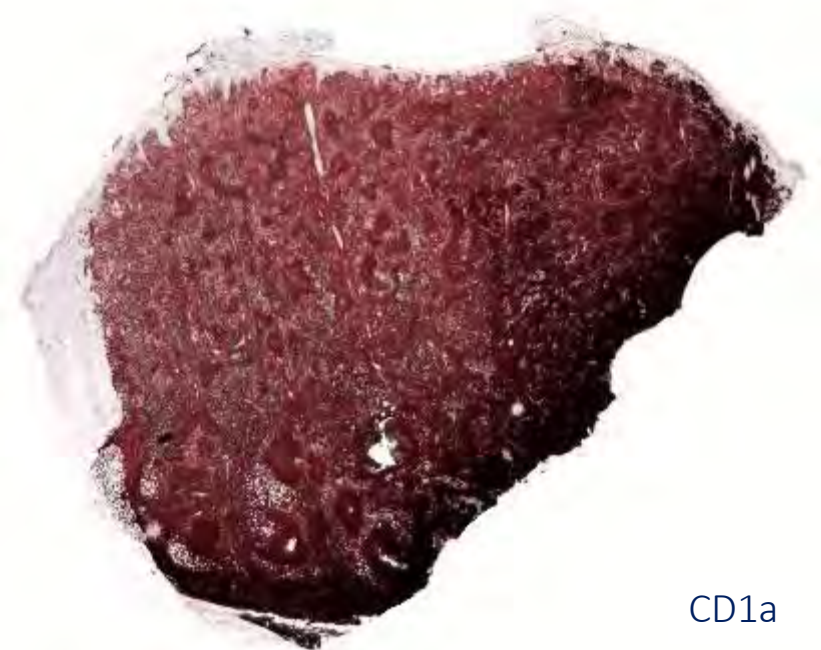


M, 2,5-month-old.
Tumor since birth.

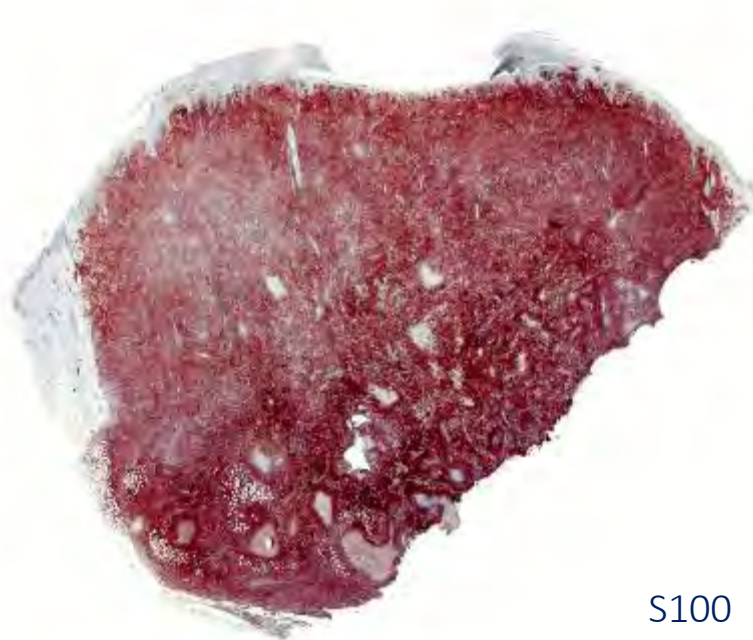


Solitary congenital Langerhans cell histiocytosis

(Solitary Hashimoto-Pritzker disease)



CD1a



S100



CD68



Female newborn

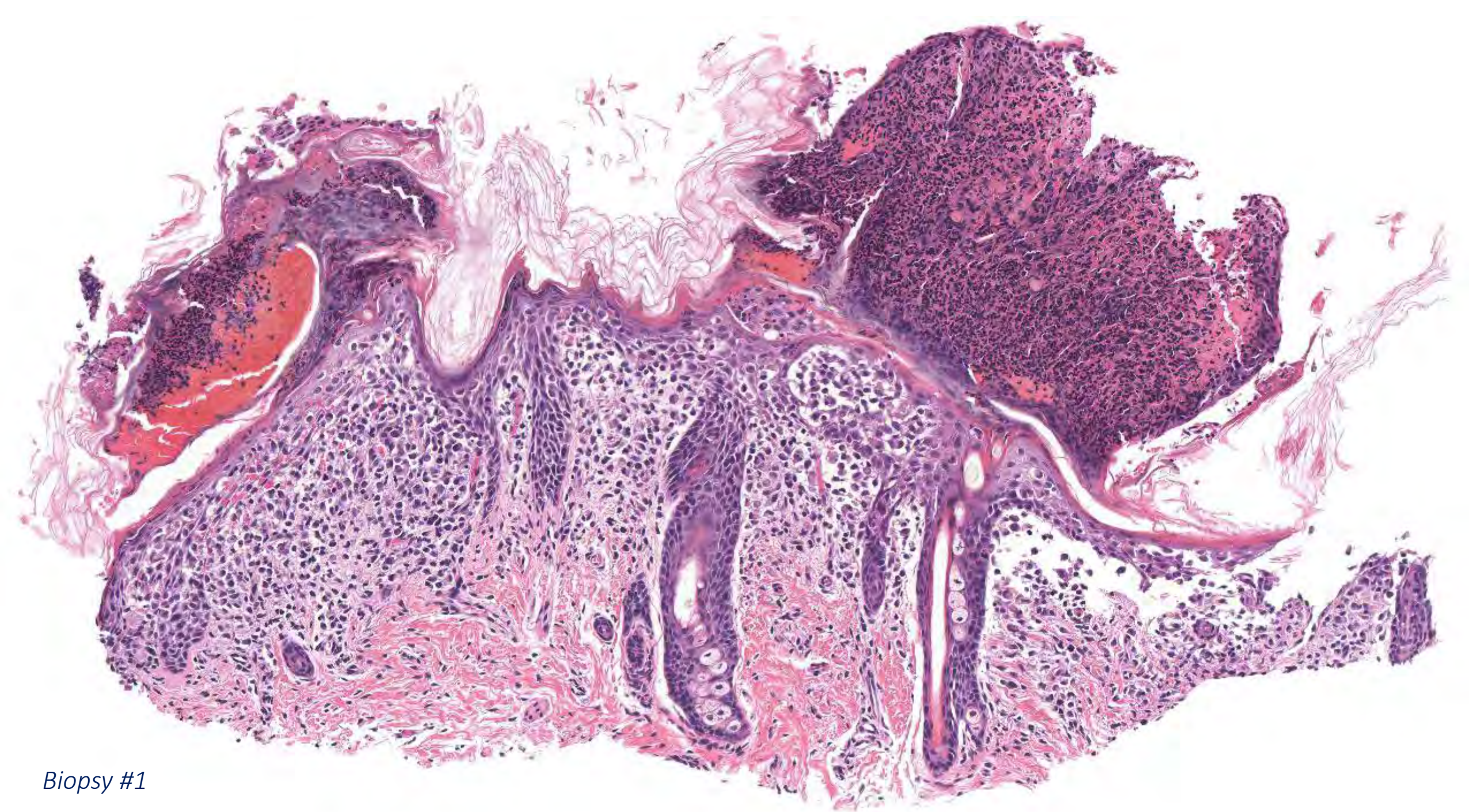
3th pregnancy of a 27-year-old woman (previously 2 healthy children).

Premature delivery (34th week; 48 cm; 2348 g).

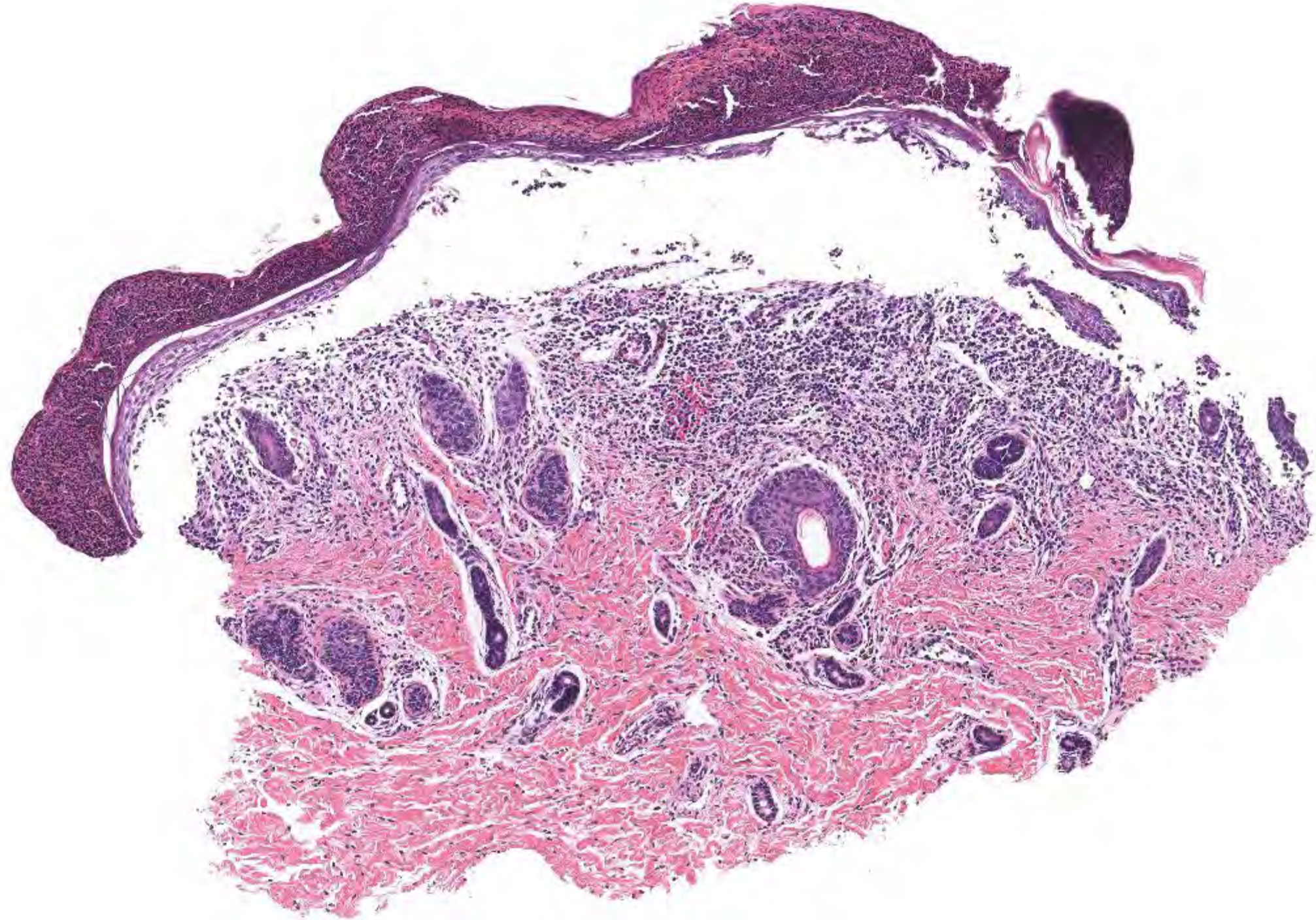
Ascites, hepatomegaly, splenomegaly; mild anemia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia (41.000).

Two biopsies are taken.

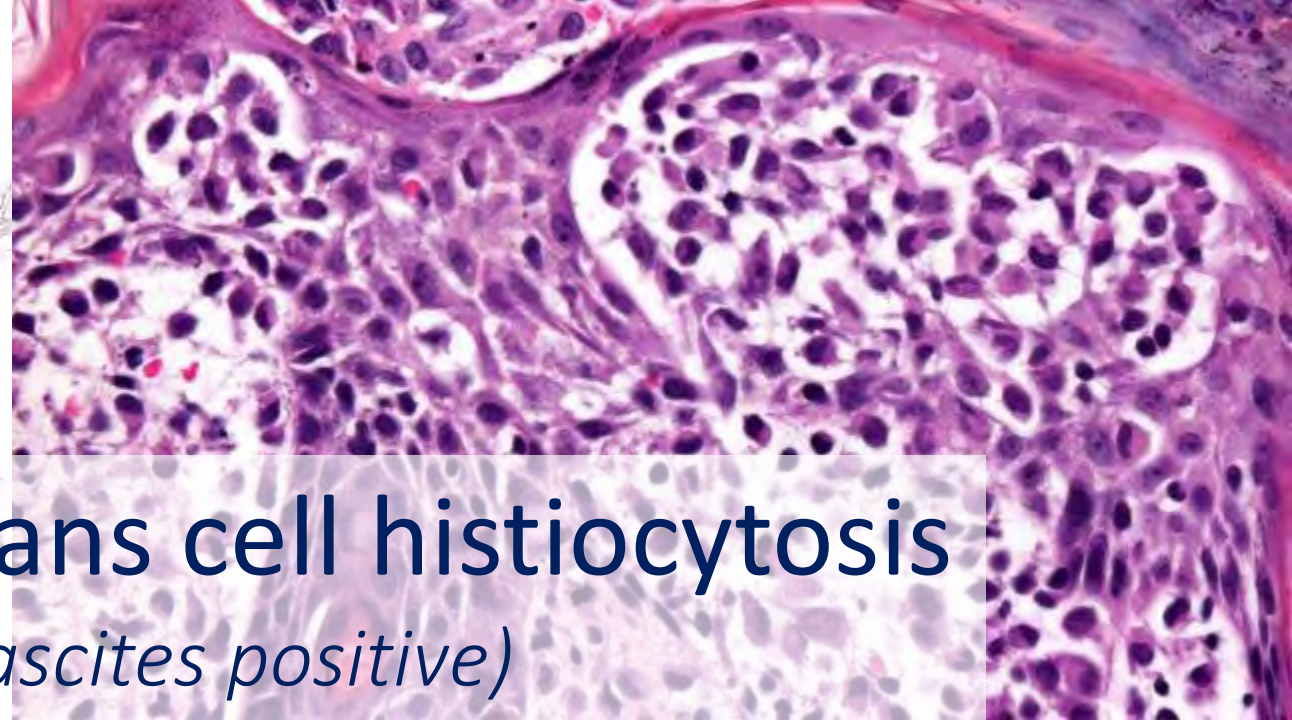




Biopsy #1

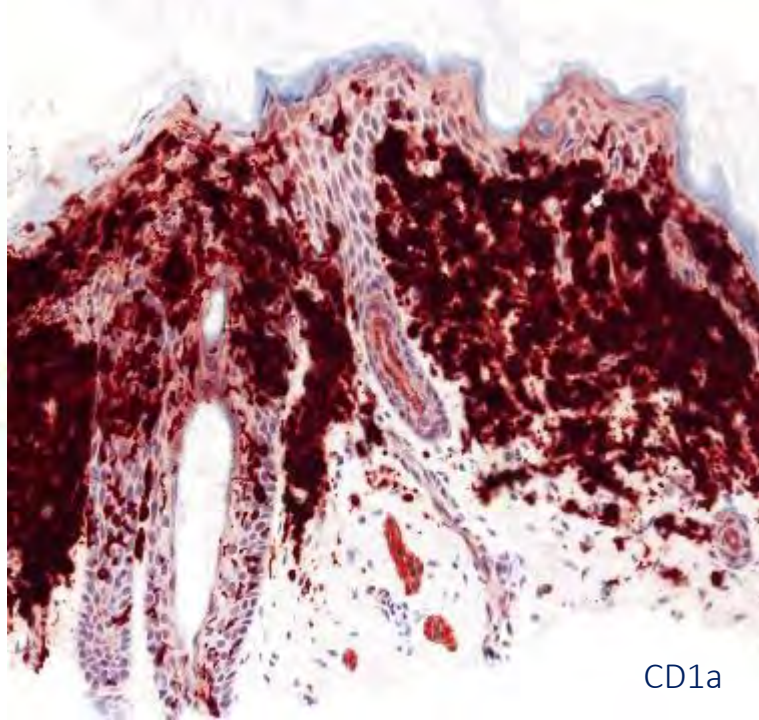
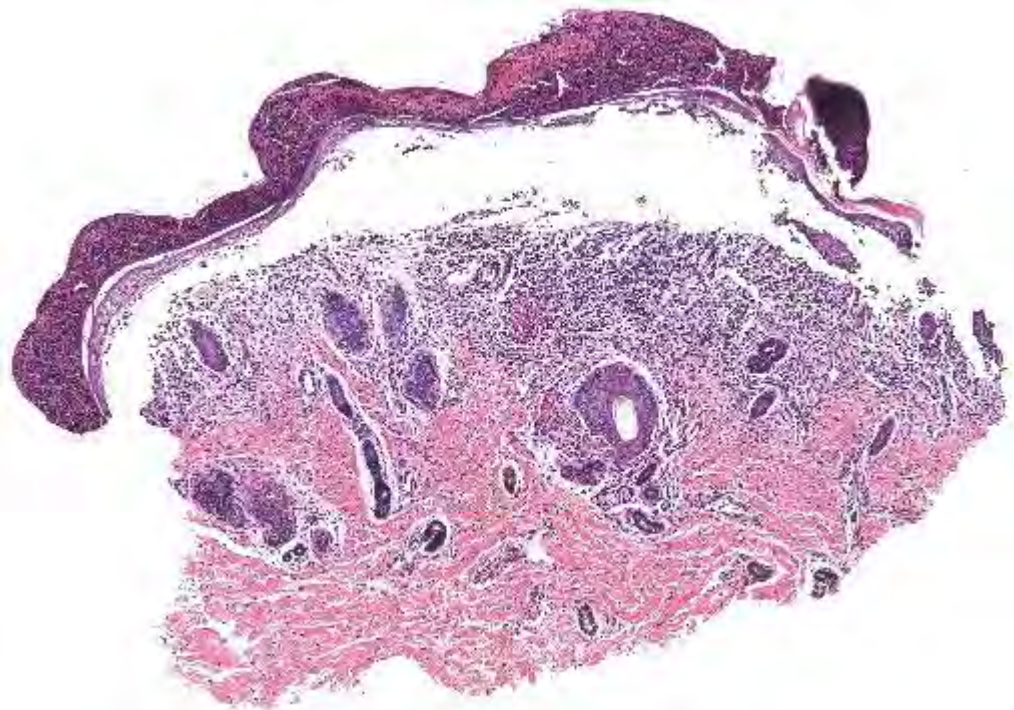


Biopsy #2



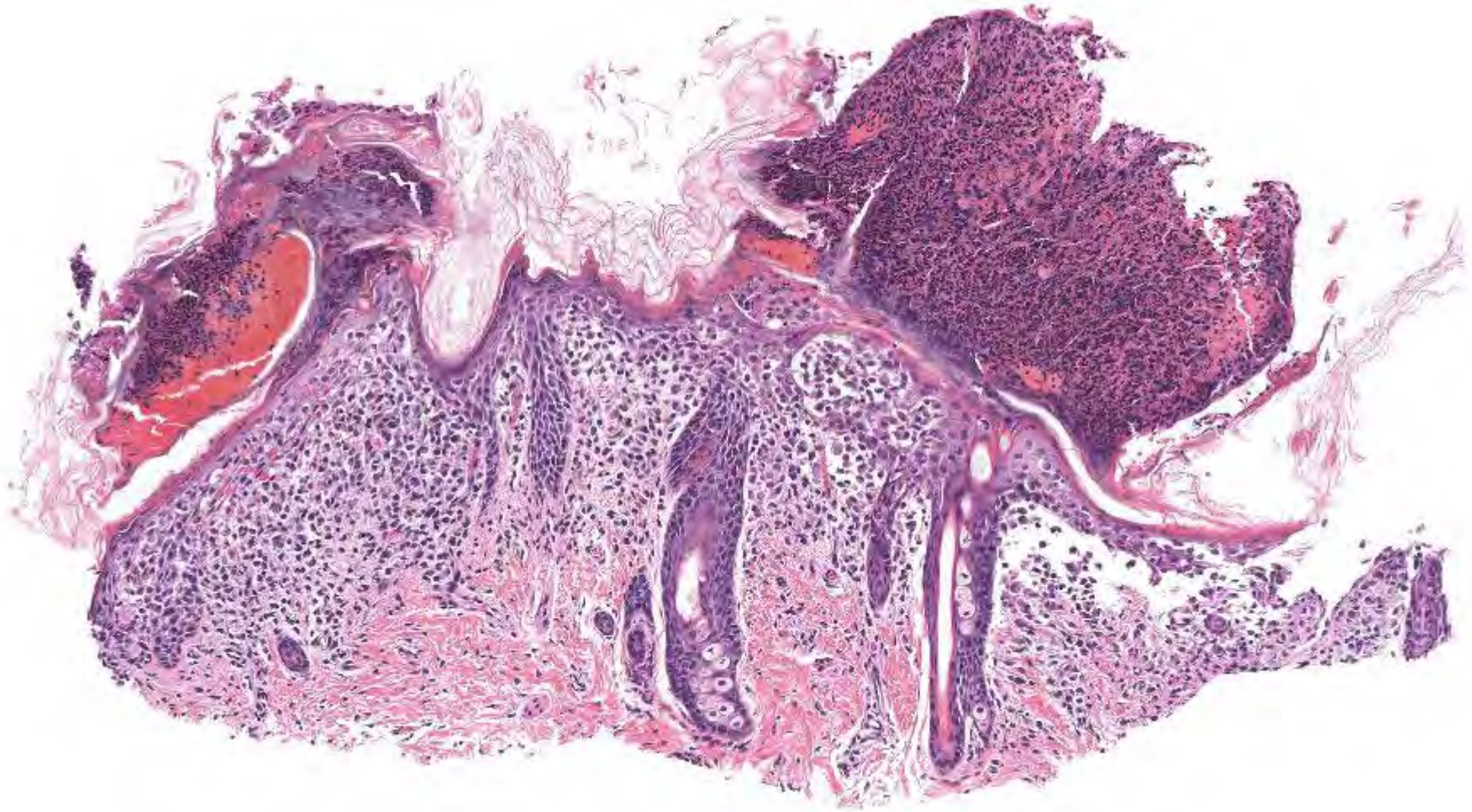
Congenital Langerhans cell histiocytosis

(BM positive; ascites positive)



CD1a





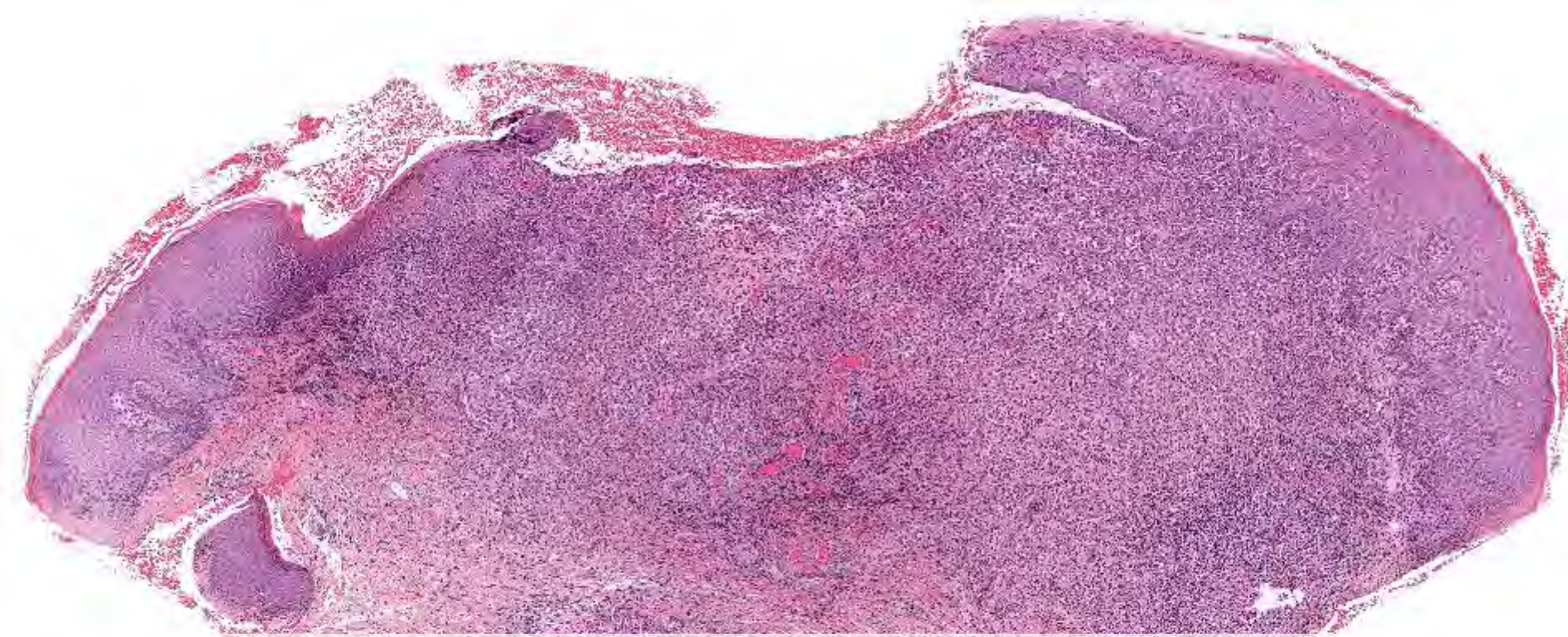
Chemotherapy (LCH III protocol: prednisolone, vinblastine). Marked reduction of the ascites and hepatomegaly, almost complete resolution of all skin lesions with post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation already after the 1st cycle. Further management with mercaptopurine, prednisolone and vinblastine for a total of 12 months.



M, 15

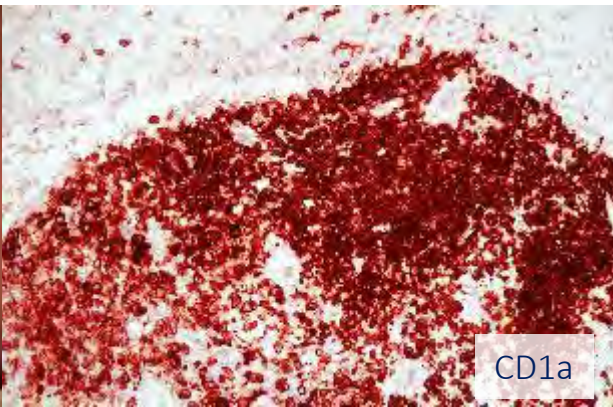
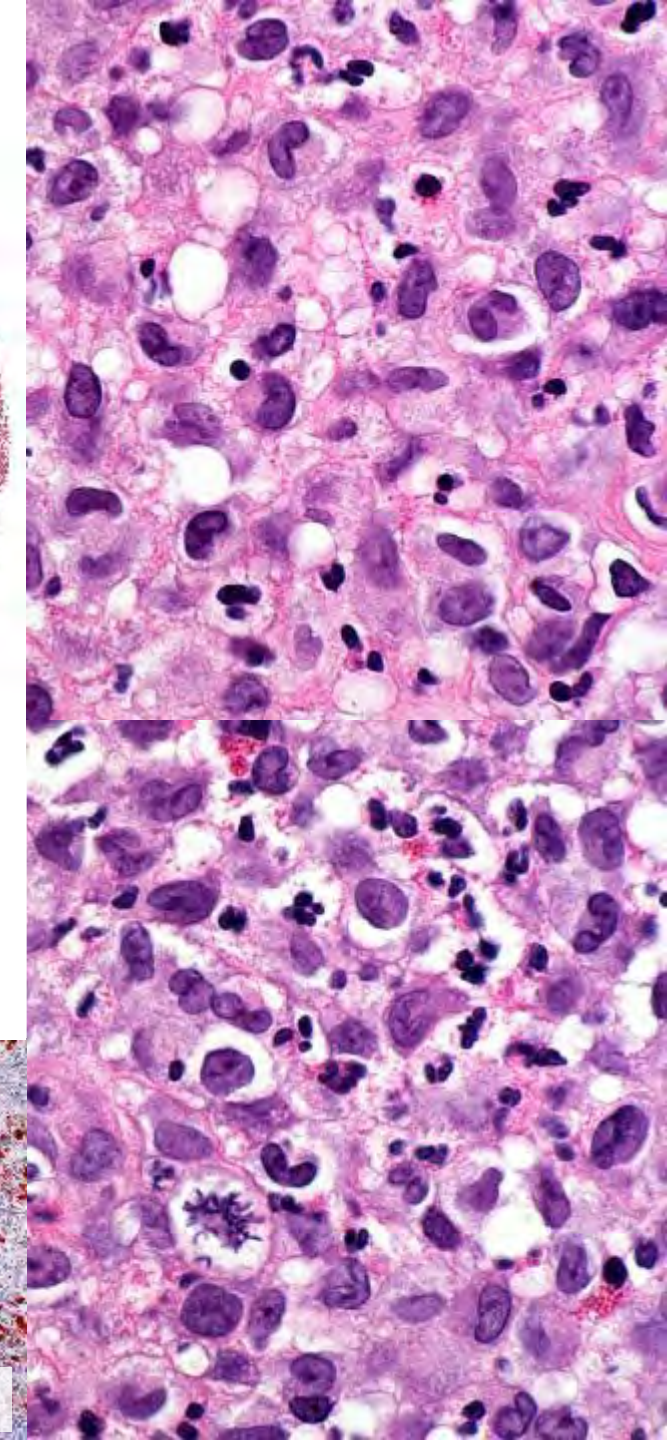
According to the patient eroded papules and small vesicles on the glans penis and preputium for a few weeks.

A biopsy is taken.

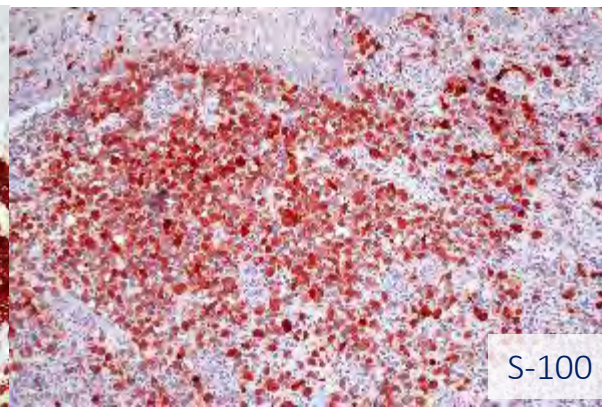


Localized Langerhans cell histiocytosis

(Staging investigations negative; subsequently developed lung involvement; managed with systemic steroids, mercaptopurine and methotrexate for 4 years: alive and well 16 years after first diagnosis)



CD1a

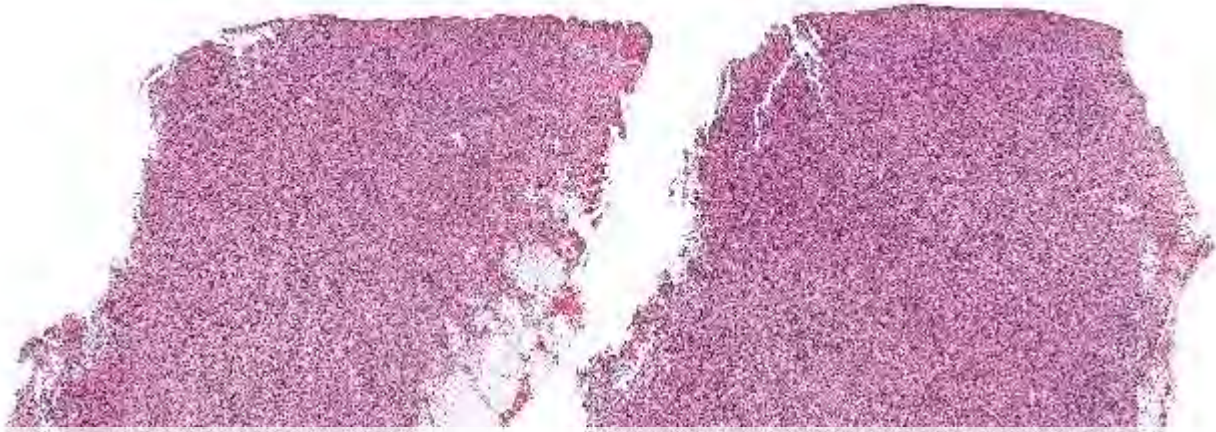


S-100



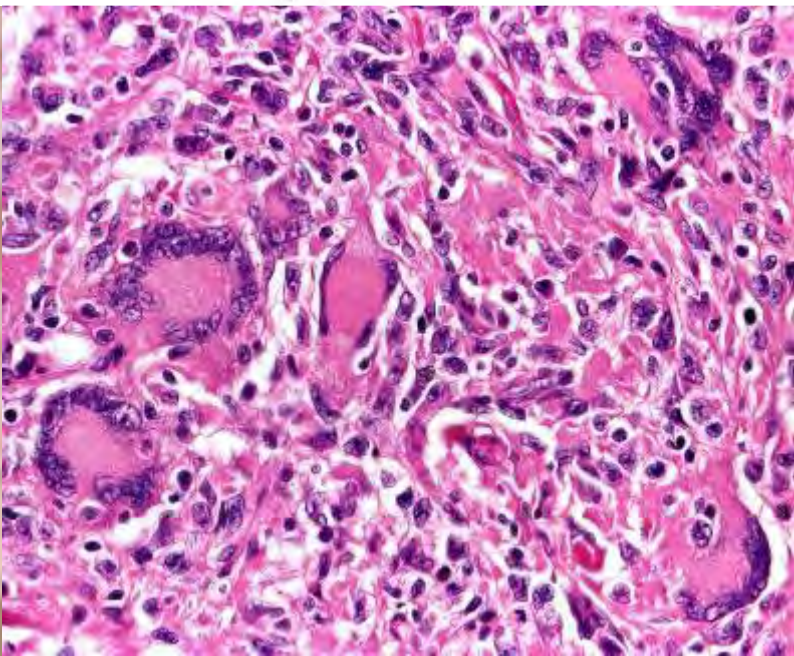
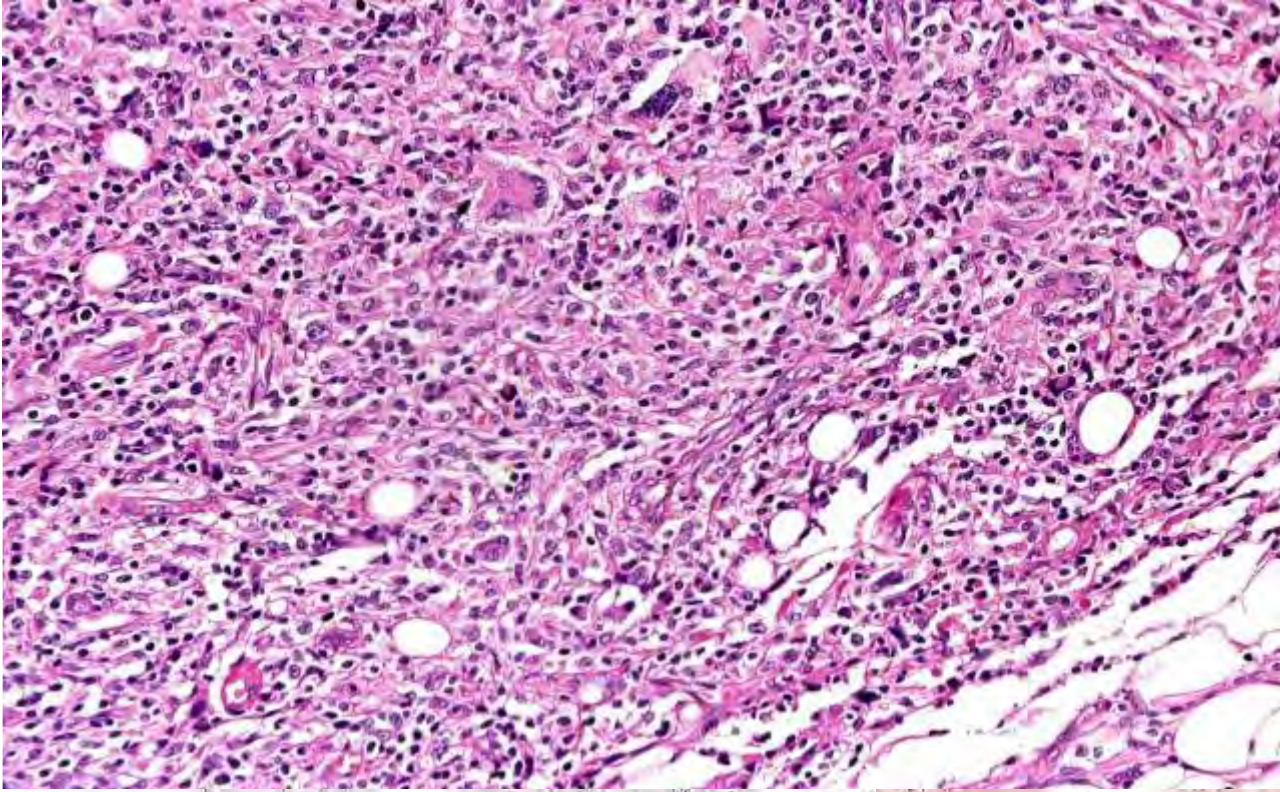
F, 12-month-old

A 4 mm large papule was present at birth on the right cheek. A punch biopsy at the age of 7 months was interpreted as juvenile xanthogranuloma. Continuous growth over the following months. Complete excision at the age of 12 months.



Rapid growing congenital juvenile xanthogranuloma

No evidence of extracutaneous disease at follow-up



CD68



S100



CD14



Female newborn

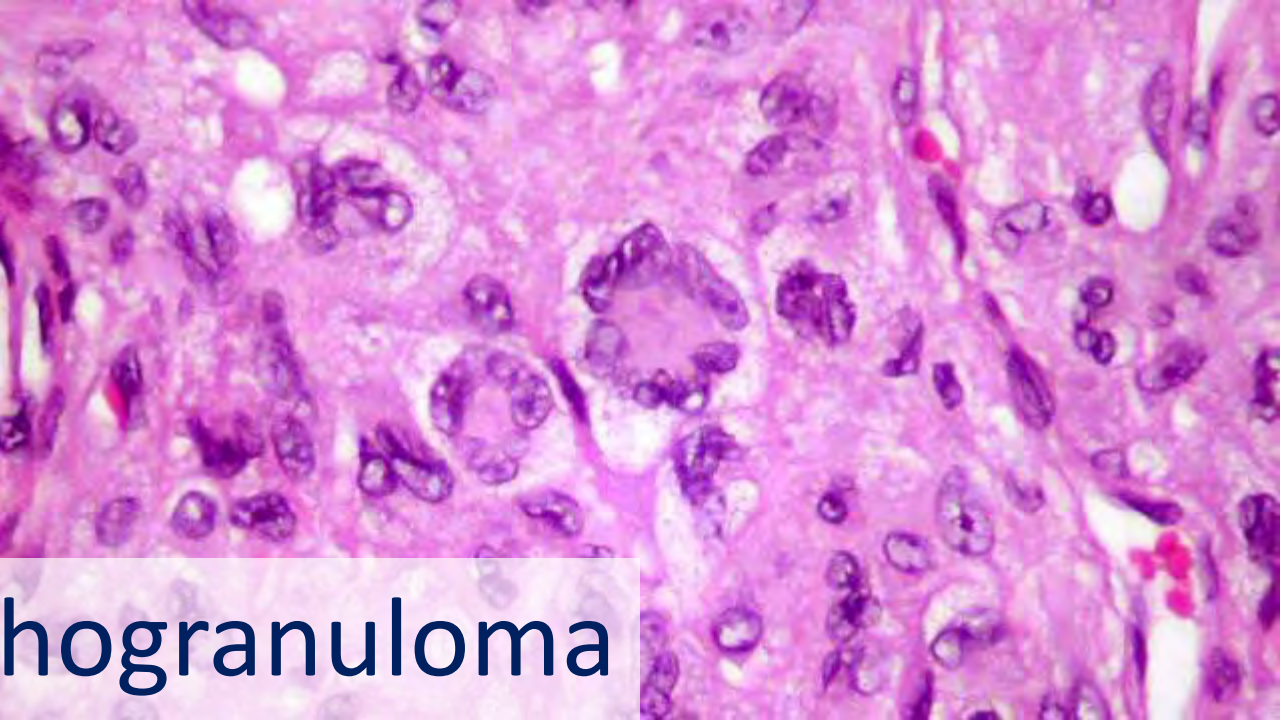
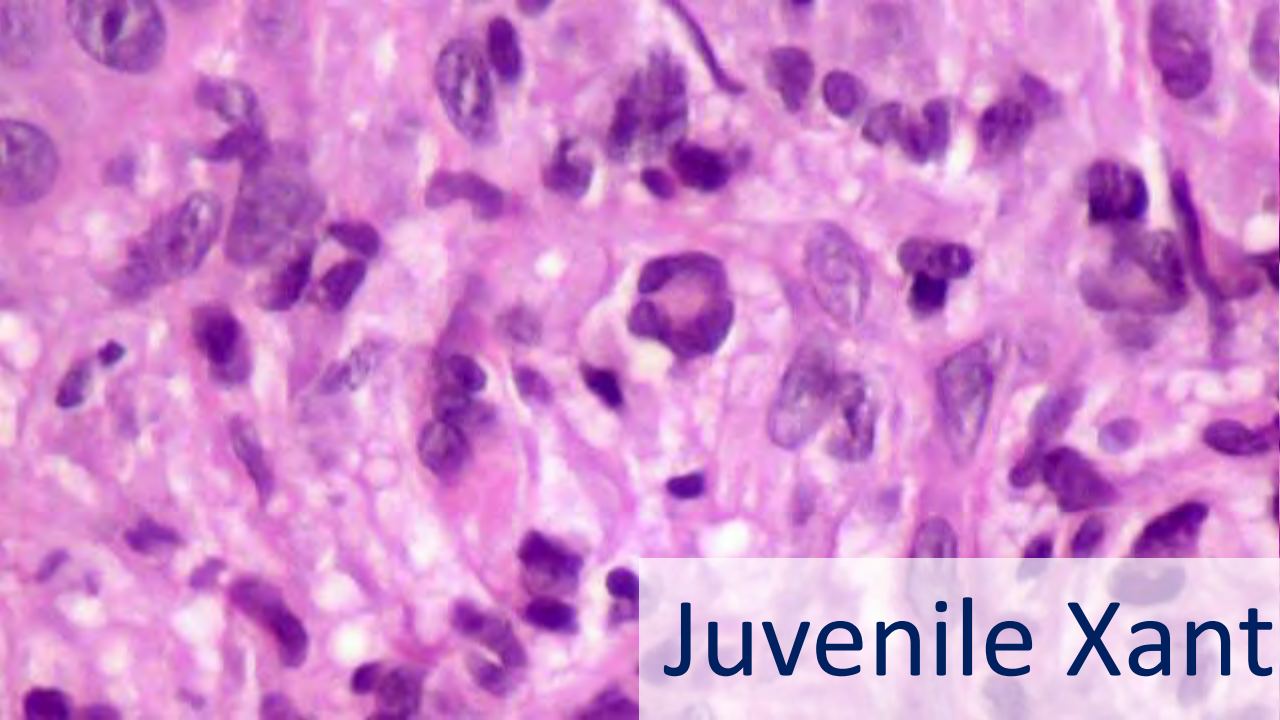
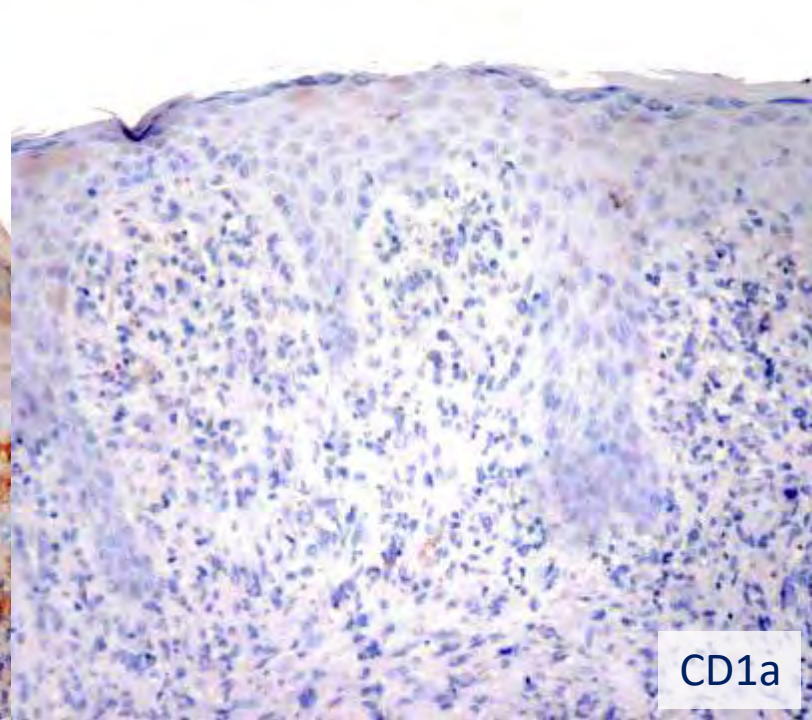
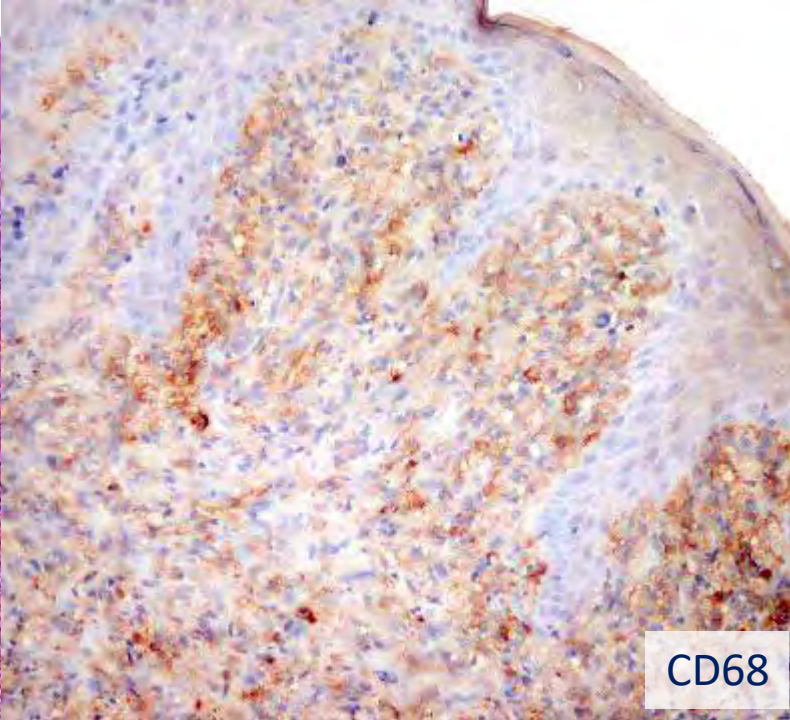
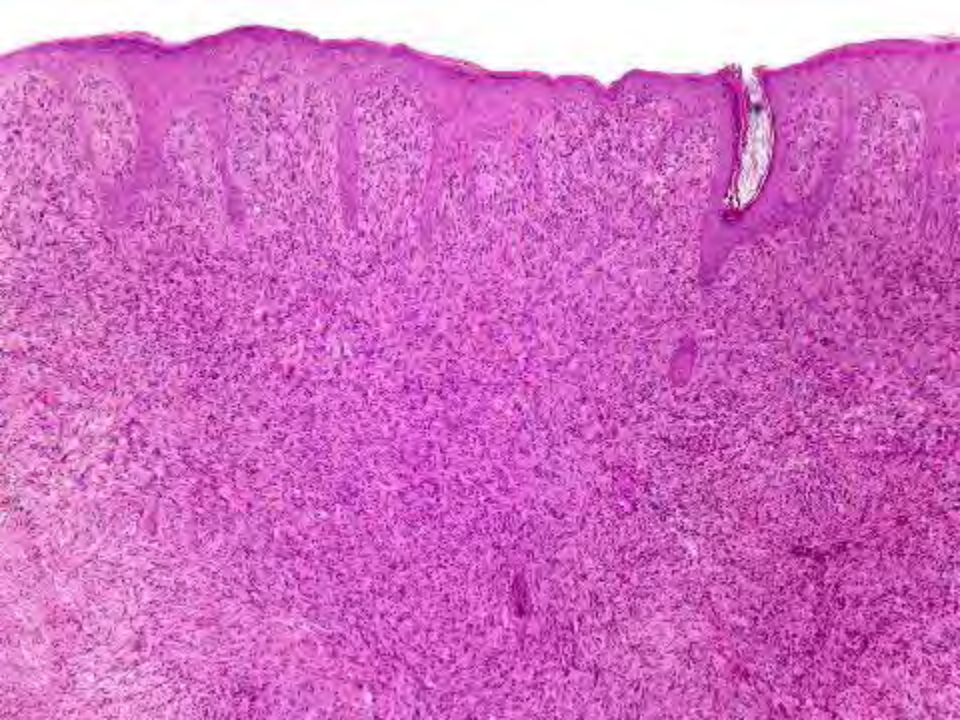
Normal pregnancy and labor; no remarkable familial history.

Three large, red-brownish nodules on the trunk and neck, present at birth.

Anemia (Hgb 7,7 g/dl), severe thrombocytopenia ($10.000/\text{mm}^3$) and leukopenia ($110/\text{mm}^3$).

Serum chemistry: increased AST (500 U/l), ALT (809 U/l), and bilirubin (24.20 mg/dl).

(Courtesy Dr. A. Torrelo, Madrid)



Juvenile Xanthogranuloma



Bone marrow biopsy:
almost absent stromal
tissue.

Liver biopsy: diffuse
infiltration by XG.

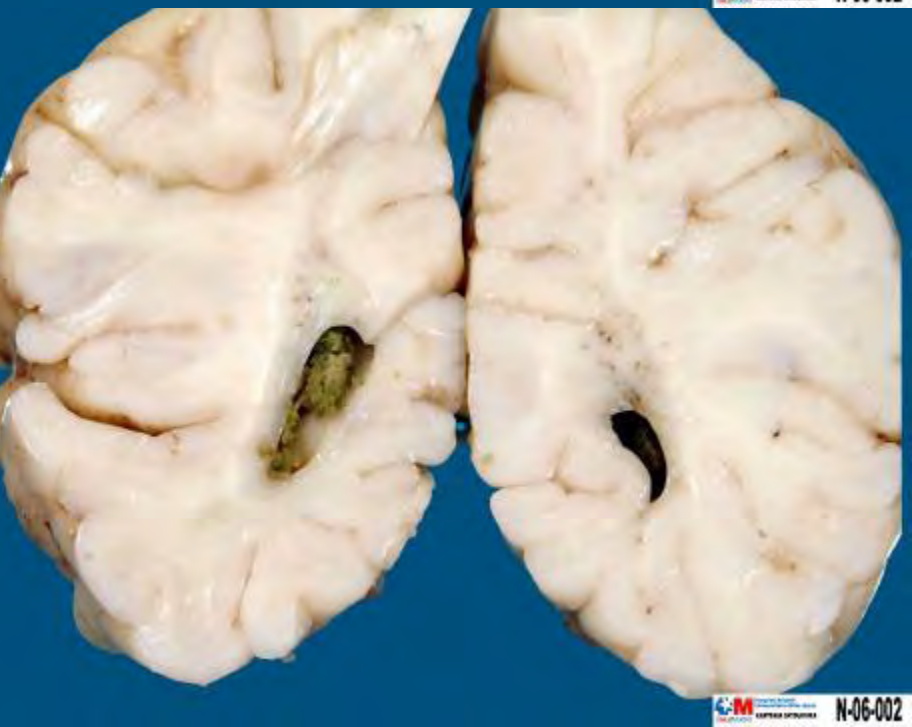
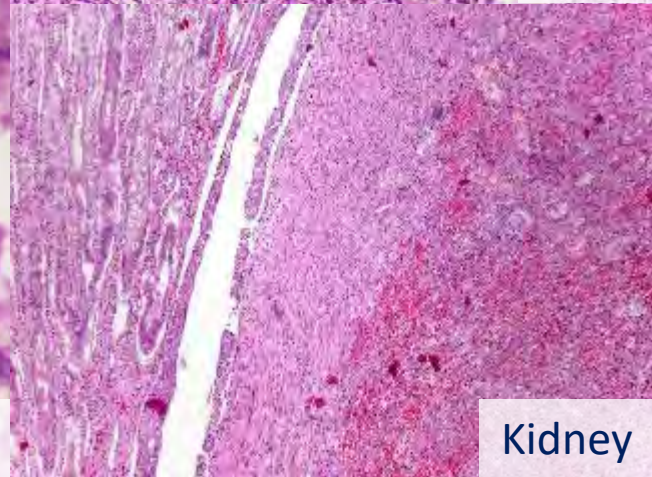
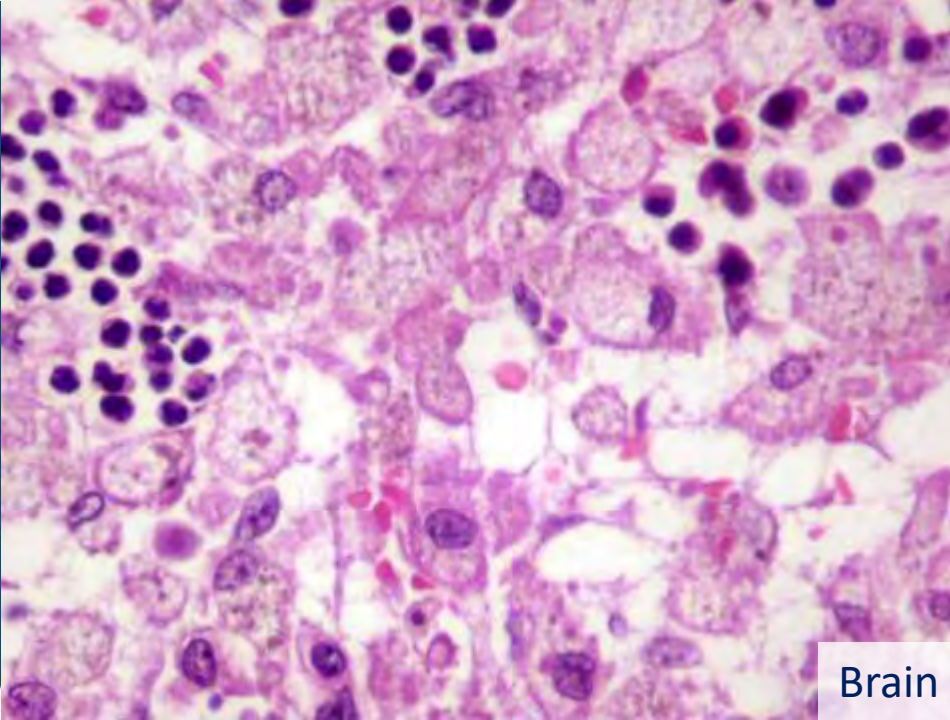
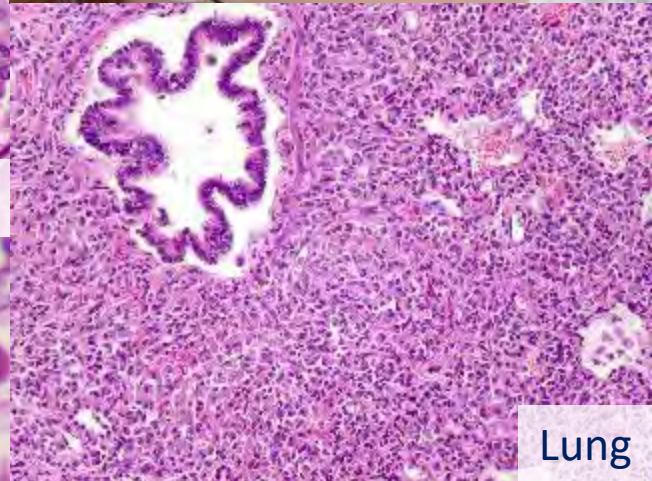
Rx survey, brain MR,
cytogenetic studies, studies
for leukemia translocations,
and complete serological
work-up: normal or
negative.

Therapy: prednisolone +
vinblastine.

Progressive hepatic failure;
cytarabine and
methotrexate added.

No response (skin, liver,
bone marrow aplasia).

Systemic juvenile xanthogranuloma with fatal outcome



Systemic Juvenile Xanthogranuloma with Fatal Outcome

Daniel Azorin, M.D.,* Antonio Torrelo, M.D.,† Alvaro Lassaletta, M.D.,‡
Immaculada de Prada, M.D.,* Isabel Colmenero, M.D.,* Trinidad Contra, M.D.,†
and Inelda González-Mediero, M.D.,*

Departments of *Pathology, †Dermatology, and ‡Oncology, Hospital del Niño Jesús, Madrid, Spain

Abstract: Juvenile xanthogranuloma is a benign and self-limited disease which usually appears in the skin of children. Visceral involvement has been rarely reported, as has fatal outcome in some affected individuals. We report a case of systemic juvenile xanthogranuloma in a female newborn with mainly skin, bone marrow, and liver involvement, leading to death at the age of 2 months.

Juvenile xanthogranuloma (JXG) is a common benign tumor which usually appears in the skin as a solitary cutaneous lesion, but sometimes may involve internal organs. We report a female newborn who had hyperbilirubinemia and pancytopenia from the first 48 hours of life along with large skin lesions as the initial presentation of systemic JXG. Subsequently, she developed hemitic failure and eventually died at 2 months of age.

CASE REPORT

A Caucasian newborn female was referred to our institution for evaluation of pancytopenia and skin lesions which were present at birth. She was the second child of healthy parents, weighing 2,800 g at full-term delivery after an uneventful pregnancy. At 5 hours of age, and her mother's were A positive. A previous 10-day treatment with gammaglobulin and corticosteroids had not improved her hematologic status.

On admission, the baby had three large yellowish-brown skin nodules on her right axilla, neck, and back (Fig. 1). Slight hepatomegaly was seen, but the rest of the

clinical examination was otherwise normal. A laboratory workup disclosed severe anemia (2.7 g/dL), thrombocytopenia (10,000/mm³), and leukopenia (10/mm³). Serum chemistry was remarkable for increased AST (509 U/L), ALT (369 U/L), and bilirubin (21.20 mg/dL); the rest of the parameters, including serum triglyceride, ferritin, and albumin levels, were normal. An extensive serological workup for neonatal disorders including TORCHES (Toxoplasma, Rubella, Cytomegalovirus, Herpes Simplex) was negative. A skin biopsy from the axillary lesion showed a dense cellular infiltrate extending from the dermis into the subcutaneous fat, composed of a mixed population of foamy macrophages, lymphocytes, and Touton giant cells (Fig. 2). Immunohistochemistry showed reactivity for CD68 and factor XIIIa, whereas the proliferating cells were negative for CD45 and S100 protein. Bone marrow (BM) biopsies were performed, but we were not able to collect sufficient amount of tissue for a diagnosis. Radiographs, abdomen ultrasound, and brain magnetic resonance imaging were normal. Cytogenetic and molecular biology studies were negative. A liver biopsy was carried

TABLE 1. Cases of Systemic Juvenile Xanthogranuloma with Mortal Outcome

Reference	Age	Sex	Sites of involvement	Outcome/follow-up
Freyer et al (1)	12 yrs	NA	Soft tissue, eye, oropharynx, CNS	DOD/8 yrs
Freyer et al (1)	7 mos	NA	Oropharynx, liver, CNS	DOD/NA
Dehner (2)	Birth	M	Liver, spleen, lungs	DOD/2 mos
Janssen and Harms (3)	Birth	F	Lung, heart, liver, spleen, kidney, intestine, bone marrow	DOD/34 days
Ito et al (8)	Birth	F	Liver, spleen, diaphragm, pancreas, lymph nodes	DOD/29 days
Present case	Birth	F	Liver, lungs, kidneys, bone marrow	DOD/78 days

NA, not available; F, female; M, male; CNS, central nervous system; DOD, died of disease.



Figure 1. Skin nodules on the axilla and neck.

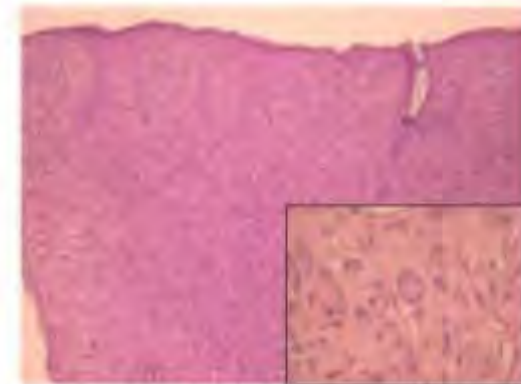


Figure 2. A histiocytic dermal infiltration. Inset: foamy histiocytes and Touton giant cells within the infiltrate.

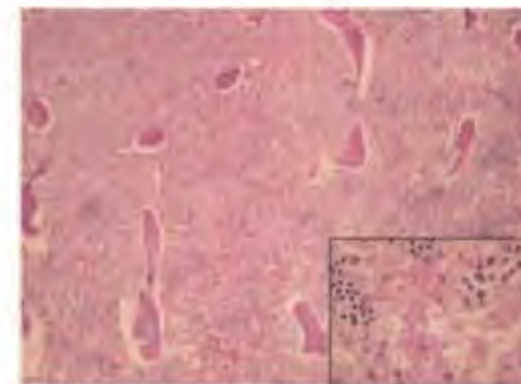


Figure 3. Bone marrow at autopsy showing massive infiltration by foamy histiocytes (see inset).

Address correspondence and reprint requests to Dr. Torrelo, M.D., Department of Dermatology, Hospital del Niño Jesús, C/Doña Juana de Paredes, 65, 28009 Madrid, Spain; e-mail: atorrelo@ninojesus.es

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Clinical features and outcomes of 17 children with systemic juvenile xanthogranuloma (sJXG) including five complicated with hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)

Yunze Zhao^{1,2,3}, Tong Zou^{1,2,3}, Ang Wei^{1,2,3}, Honghao Ma^{1,2,3}, Hongyun Lian^{1,2,3}, Dong Wang^{1,2,3},
Zhiqiang Li^{1,2,3}, Tianyou Wang^{1,2,3}, Rui Zhang^{1,2,3}

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Abstract

Paediatric sarcomatogenesis (DSG) is primarily limited to the soft, and skeletal (sDSG) is rarely reported. Regions of sDSG patients with hepatopulmonary lymphangioendotheliomatosis (HLEH) are particularly rare. Herein, we conducted a retrospective study of children diagnosed with sDSG in the Hematology Centre of Beijing Children's Hospital from Jan. 2016 to Dec. 2021. The clinical features, laboratory parameters, treatments and outcomes of 17 sDSG patients were investigated, including five complicated with HLEH. All sDSG-HLEH patients had intermittent fever, rash, hepatosplenomegaly, cytopenia and high levels of soluble IL25, and interferon- γ was almost normal. Patients with sDSG-HLEH and a younger diagnosis age ($P=0.033$) and were more likely to have severe liver and/or abnormal cement from those without HLEH ($P=0.029$, $P=0.003$, $P=0.003$, respectively). Corticosteroids and/or methotrexate could be used to control the hyperinflammatory status when HLEH was diagnosed. The treatment of sDSG varied, including linciclimine and ifosfamide (0.17)-based chemotherapy and large-volume therapy. The overall response rate of sDSG for first-line and second-line chemotherapy was 58.8% (5/10) and 50% (4/8), respectively. Patients with *BRAF* V600E mutation showed a response to dabrafenib. There was no significant difference in the overall survival and progression-free survival between sDSG patients with and without HLEH ($P=0.13$ and $P=0.45$, respectively). Therefore, DCE-based chemotherapy could serve as an effective treatment for sDSG patients, and dabrafenib to some extent showed efficacy in controlling sDSG in patients with *BRAF* V600E mutation. The prognosis of sDSG-HLEH patients seemed to be comparable to patients without HLEH.

Keywords: Systemic juvenile xanthogranuloma · Hemophagocytosis lymphohistiocytosis · Hepatosplenomegaly · Leukemia

Yong Zhao and Tong Zhao submitted this article to the journal.

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□ Tanyee Wang
wangtanyee@holcon.com

✉ Eui Zang
rueh18@naver.com

Hematology Centre, National Key Clinical Discipline of
Pediatric Hematology, Peking University People's Hospital
(Capital Medical University), Beijing 100045, China

Key Laboratory of Minor Diseases in Children, Ministry of Education, 5 Jinshi Road No. 85, Sibei District, Heilongjiang, 100045, China

Beijing Children's Hospital, Capital Medical University,
National Centre for Children's Health in Beijing,
Beijing 100045, China

Abbreviations

TC3 juvenile's neurogenesis

non-LCH Non-antigenic cell histiocytosis

CNS Central nervous system

14.41 Leukophagocytic lymphocytosis

Upstein Bar virus

Factor VIIIc

Peripheral blood mononuclear cell

Green Fluorescent protein

NY: Nature killer

800 725 800 whole 725

PCR Polymerase chain reaction

V28 Vindesine

Pre	Intravenous injection
0.00	0.00

5- β -methylapoptopurine

17 children, all with systemic involvement; 9 with skin lesions

1 patient died

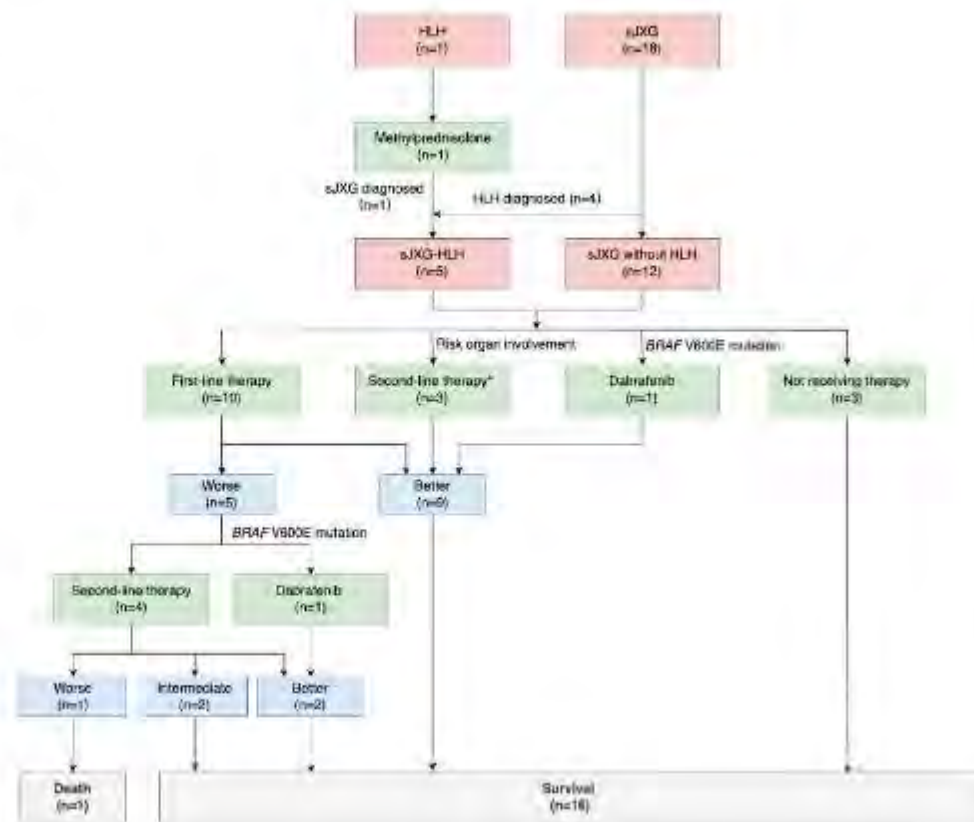
15 patients alive with disease (8 stable, 7 better)

Hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis: 5 cases

Juvenile myelomonocytic leukemia: 1 case

Histiocytic sarcoma: 1 case

Fig. 1 Treatment strategy and response of 17 JXG patients, including five complicated with hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis. *Patient 1 was initially treated with second-line therapy and then underwent liver transplantation for liver failure. This part was not shown in the figure



REVIEW

Systemic juvenile xanthogranuloma: A systematic review

Tong Zou¹ | Ang Wei¹ | Honghao Ma¹ | Hongyun Lian¹ | Yali Liu² |
Dong Wang¹ | Yunze Zhao⁴ | Lei Cui⁵ | Zhigang Li³ | Rui Zhang¹ |
Tianyou Wang¹

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*Center for Clinical Evidence (Jung and Eickenscheidt) and the Beijing Children's Hospital, Capital Medical University, National Center for Children's Health Care, China.

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Correspondence

Yi-Yang Li, Rui Zhang and Tian-Xiao Wang
Department of Microbiology, Beijing Children's
Hospital, Capital Medical University, 100045
Beijing, 16 Xichang Dajie St, Beijing 100045
China
Email: lyy@bjchildrens.com
liyiyang123@163.com
wangtx@bjchildrens.com

Funding information

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Abstract

Objective: To perform a systematic review to investigate the available literature regarding systemic juvenile xanthogranuloma (SJXG) and report the population characteristics, clinical manifestation, therapy and outcome.

Review methods: A search of PubMed, Embase, and Cochrane Library for all articles published between 1981 and 2022 was performed with variations and combinations of the following search terms: extracranial; visceral; systemic; and (acute or xanthogranuloma) (HSC). Data extracted included demographics, organ involvement, treatment outcomes, and permanent sequelae.

Results: A total of 100 articles encompassing 157 patients met the inclusion criteria. The median onset age was 7 months, with a male predominance (61%). The distribution of major involved organs varied by age, and younger onset age was associated with more organ involvement. The most commonly involved site was the central nervous system (CNS) (40.9%), followed by the liver (31.7%), the lung (18.9%), and the eye (18.2%). At the termination of follow-up, 93 patients (58.5%) were alive without disease, 36 (25.2%) were alive with disease, and 10 (6.3%) were dead of disease. There was a significant difference in outcome between patients with and without spleen involvement ($p = .0003$), and patients with spleen involvement suffered a higher risk of death. Permanent sequelae mainly comprised CNS dysfunction and ocular complications.

Conclusions: SJC/G can involve varying numbers and combinations of extracutaneous sites. There is no standard therapy for SJC/G and clinicians should choose individualized therapy modalities.

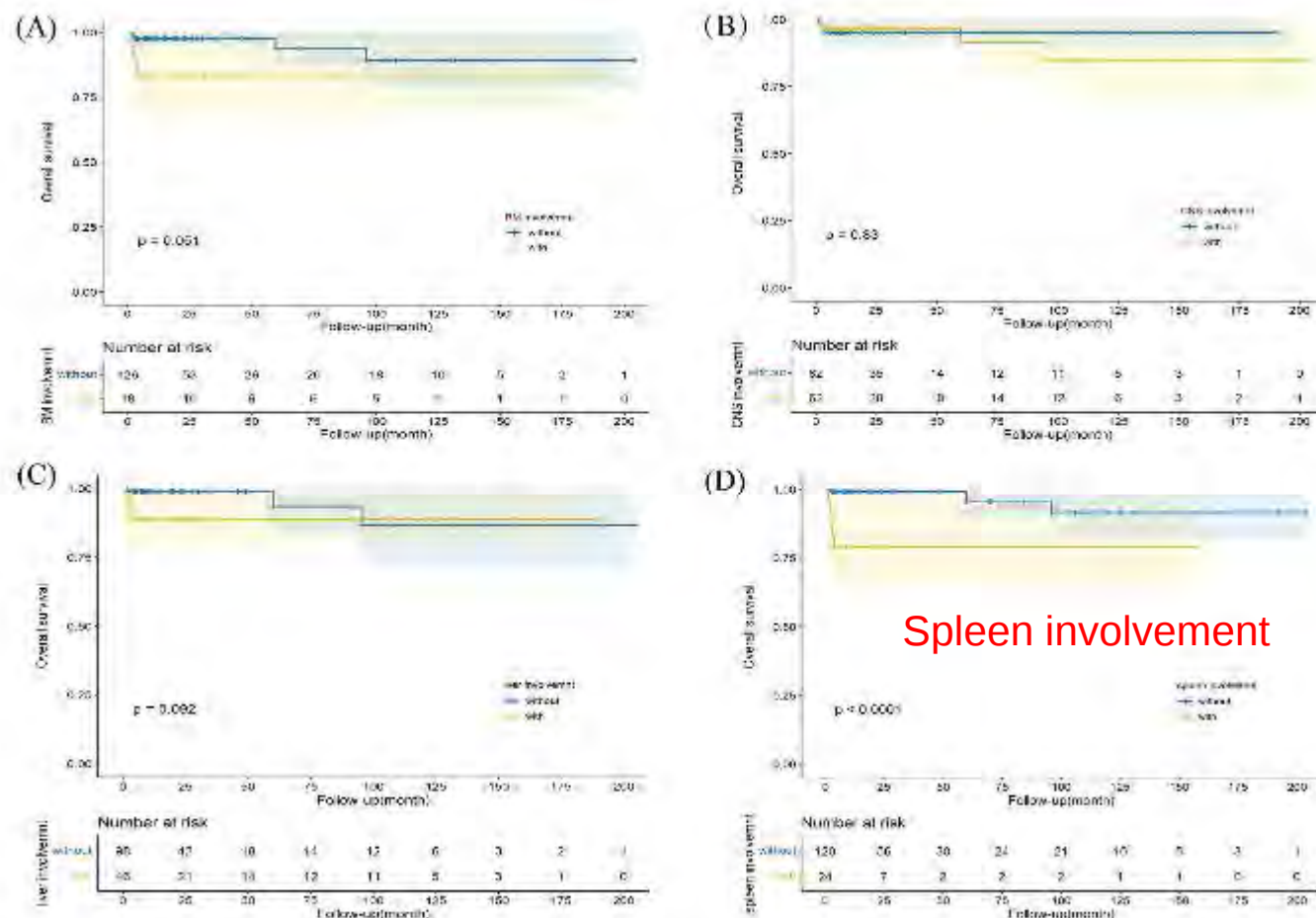
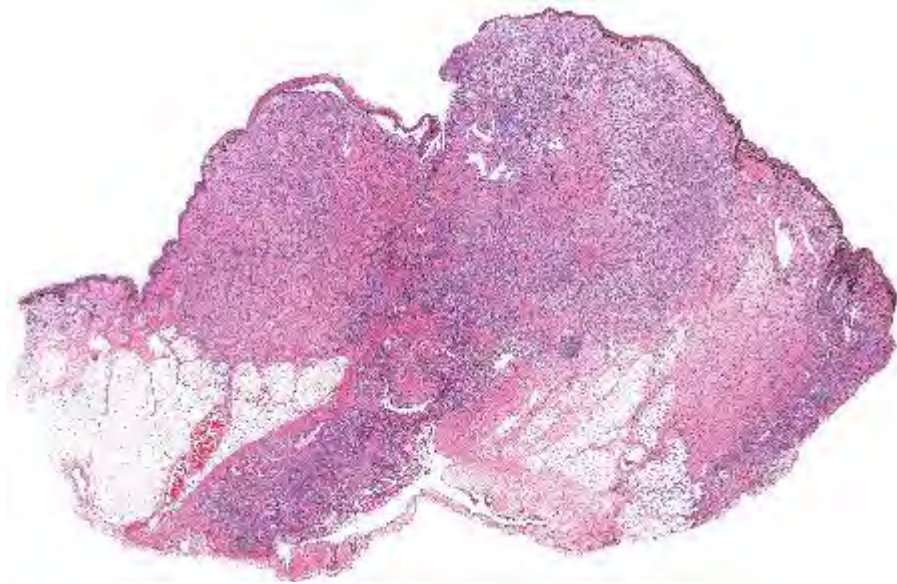
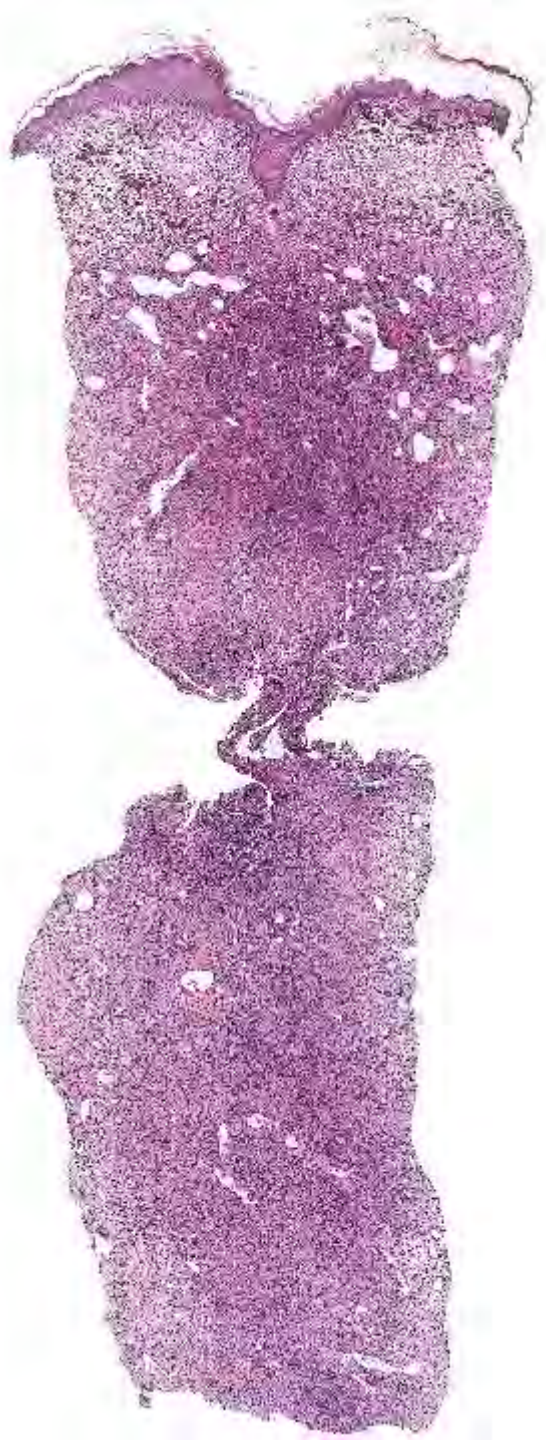
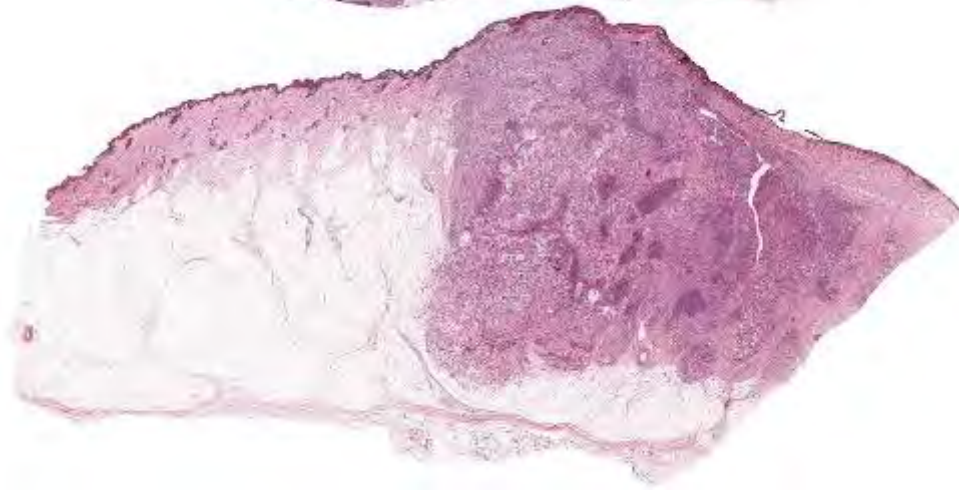
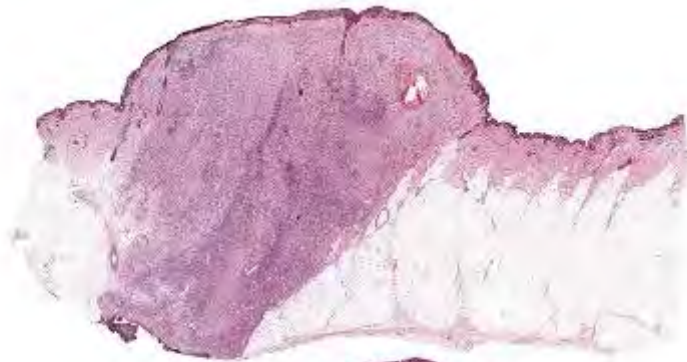


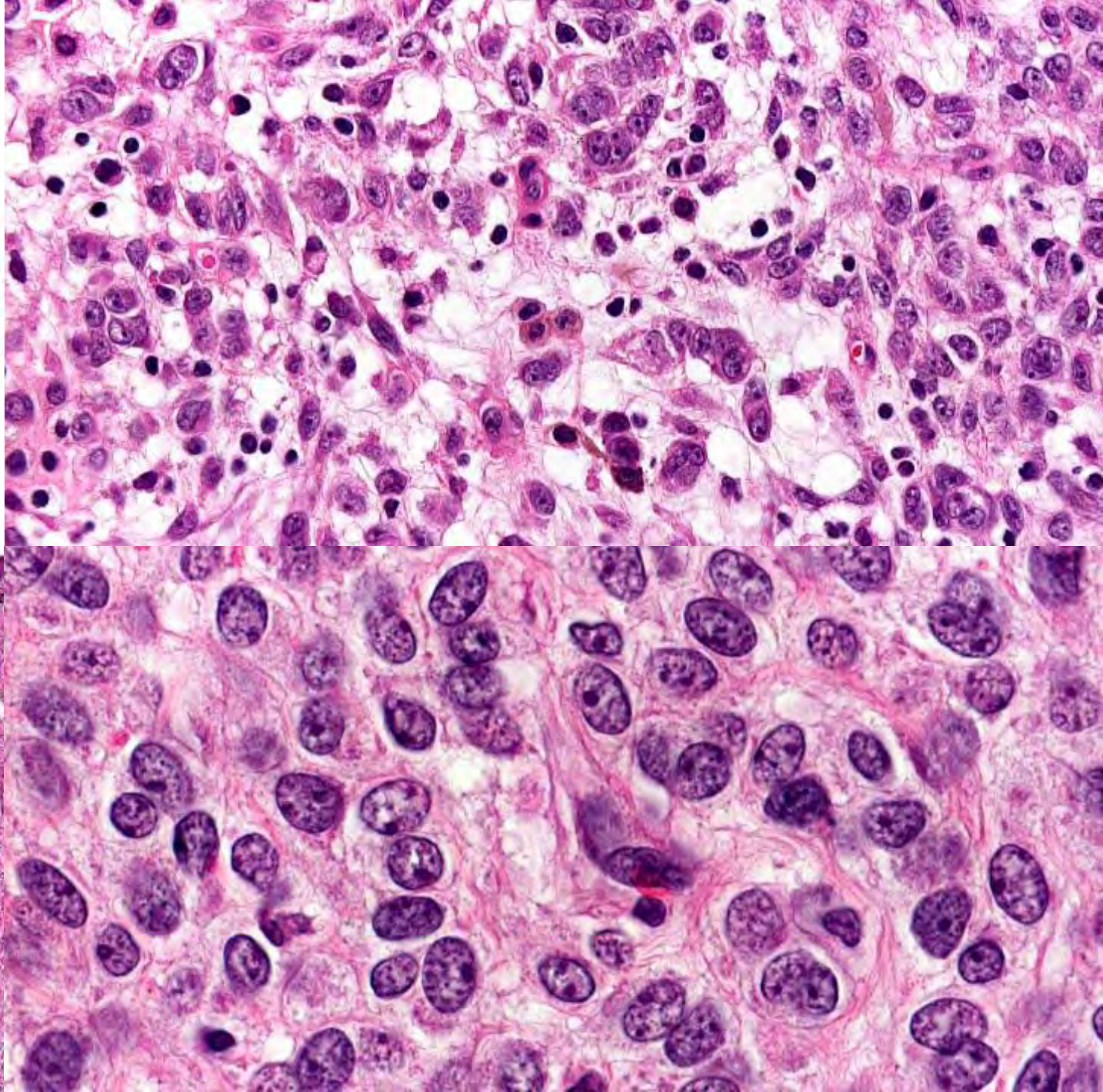
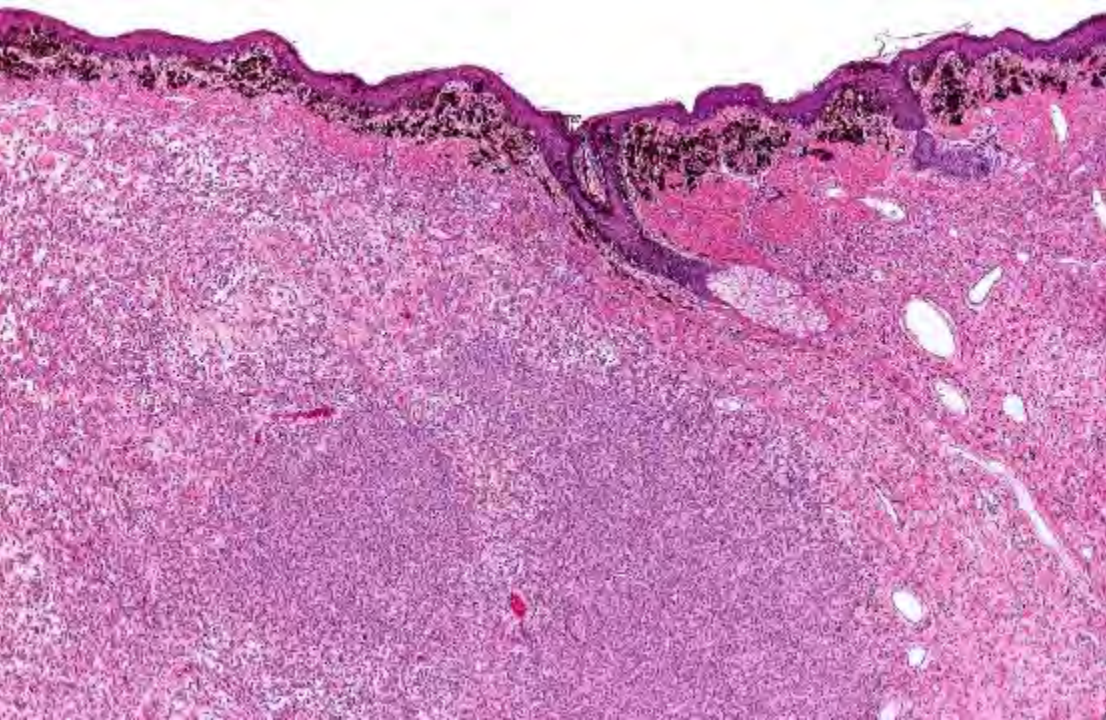
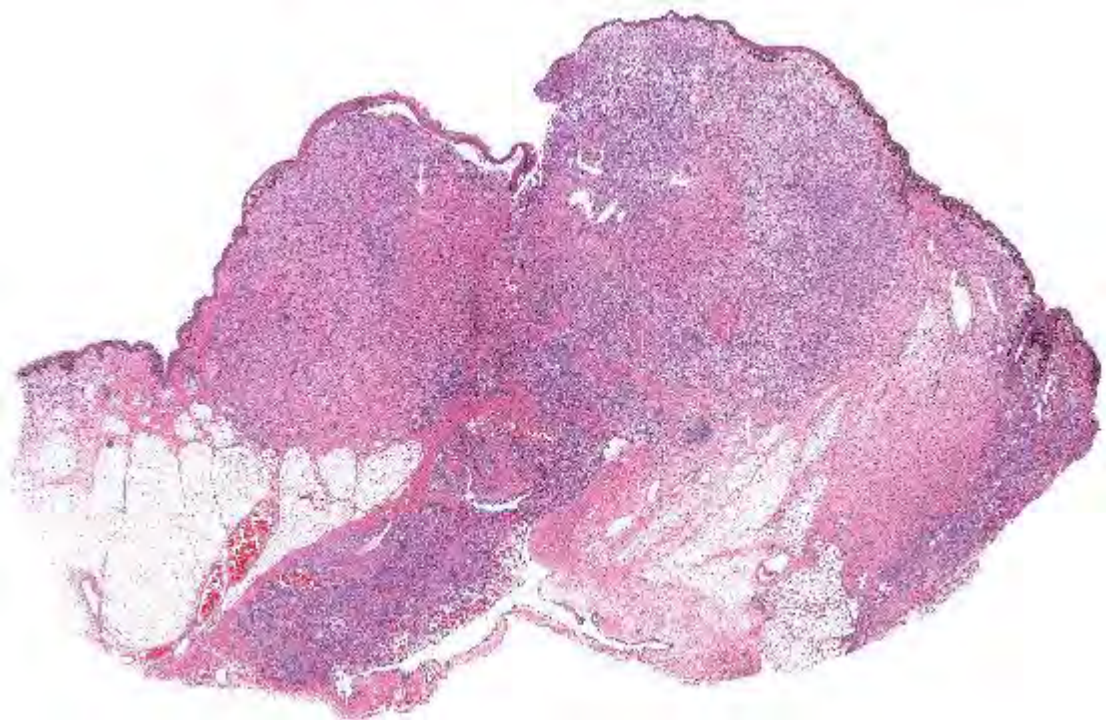
FIGURE 3 Kaplan–Meier survival curves regarding different visceral involvements. (A–C) There is no significant difference between BM/CNS/liver involvements and OS. (D) There is a significant correlation between spleen involvement and OS ($p < .0001$). Median survival is not reached.



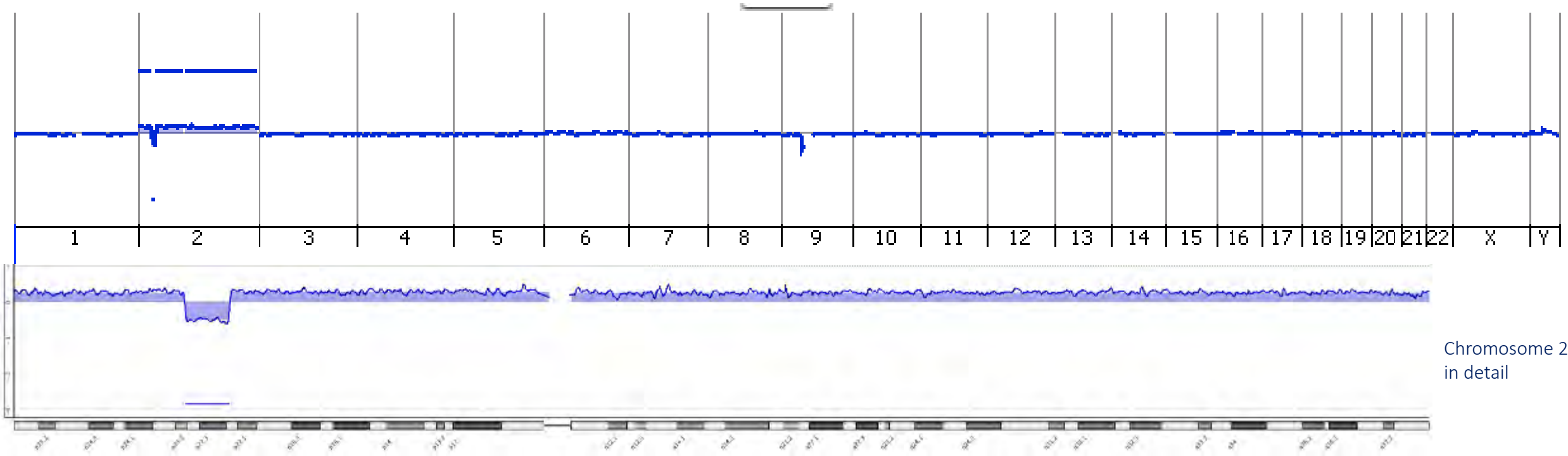
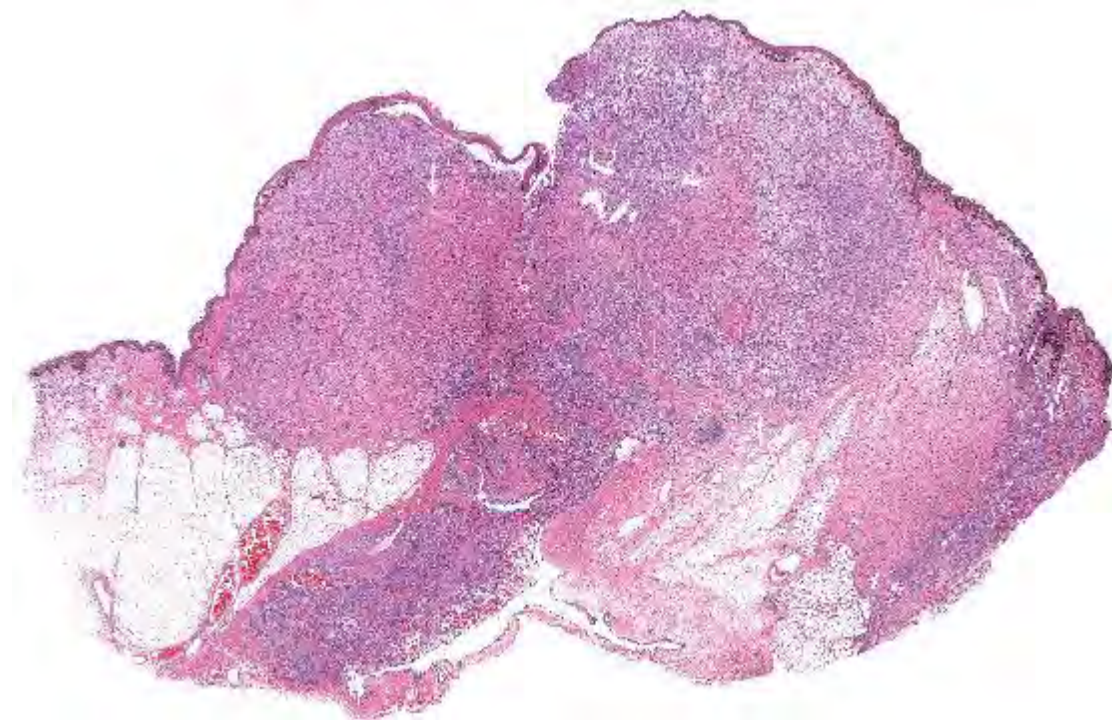
Male newborn.

Courtesy Dr. Boldrini (Napoli) and Dr. Ferrara (Benevento)





Lesion excised partially;
patient alive and well 7
years later

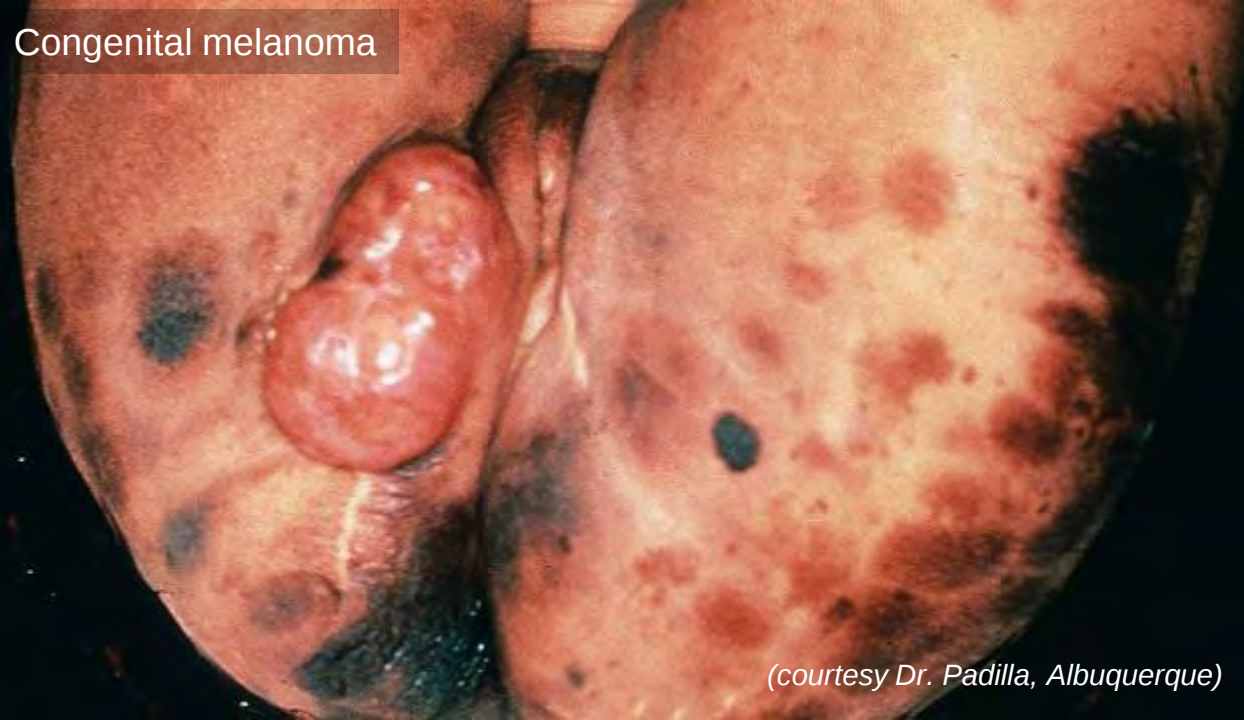


Chromosome 2
in detail

Cutaneous neonatal tumors

- Congenital myelogenous leukemia
- Metastatic congenital neuroblastoma (stage IV S)
- Congenital Langerhans cell histiocytosis (incl. Hashimoto-Pritzker)
- Blue rubber bleb nevus syndrome
- Diffuse neonatal hemangiomatosis
- Congenital xanthogranuloma
- Giant congenital melanocytic nevus (with or w/o proliferating nodule[s])
- Congenital melanoma
- Others

Congenital melanoma



(courtesy Dr. Padilla, Albuquerque)

Congenital AML



Congenital neuroblastoma stage IV S



Diffuse neonatal hemangiomatosis



Livia, 4-month-old



Metastatic neuroblastoma, stage IV S

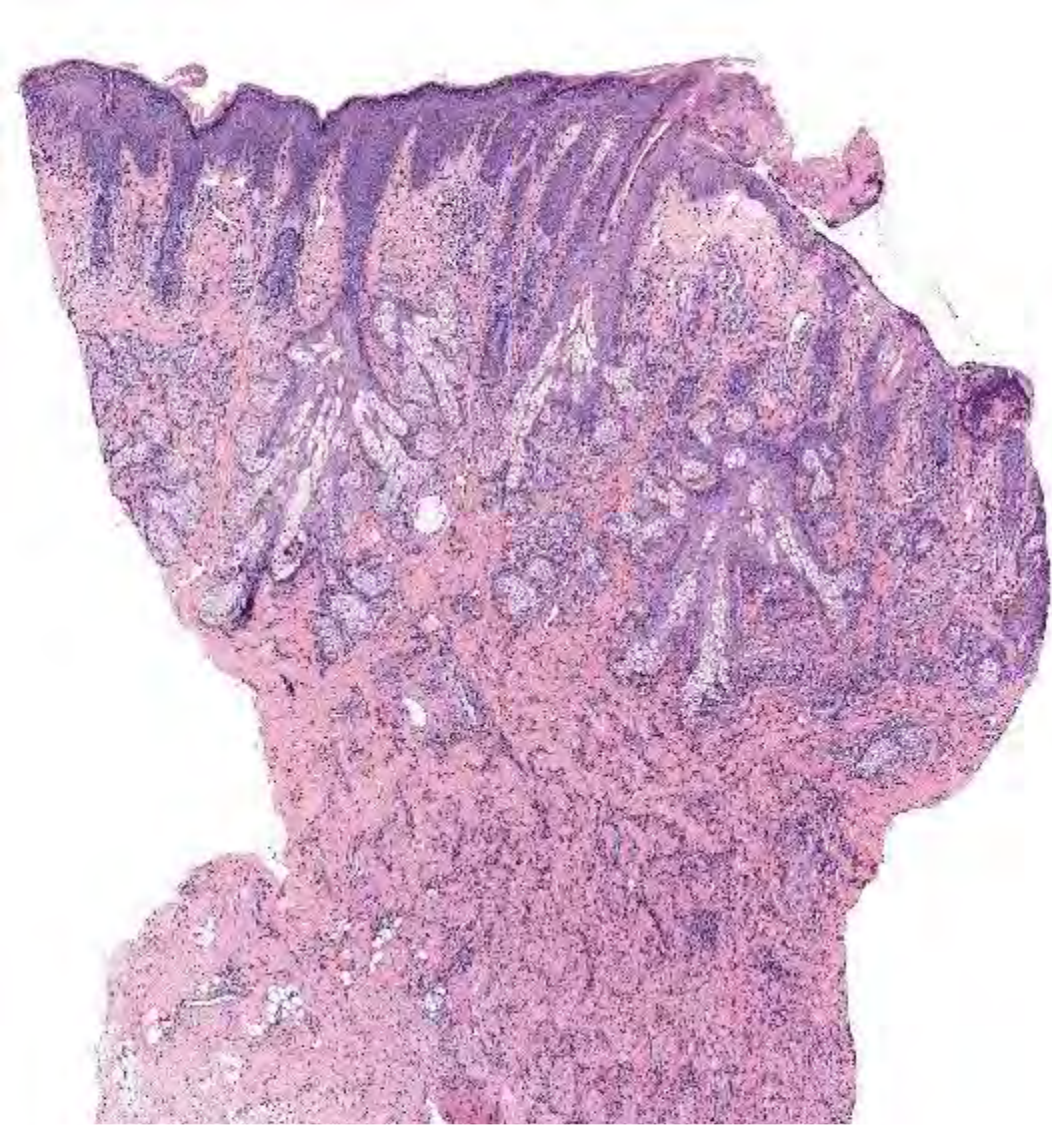
Livia, 25-year-old, Summer Academy of Dermatopathology, July 2025



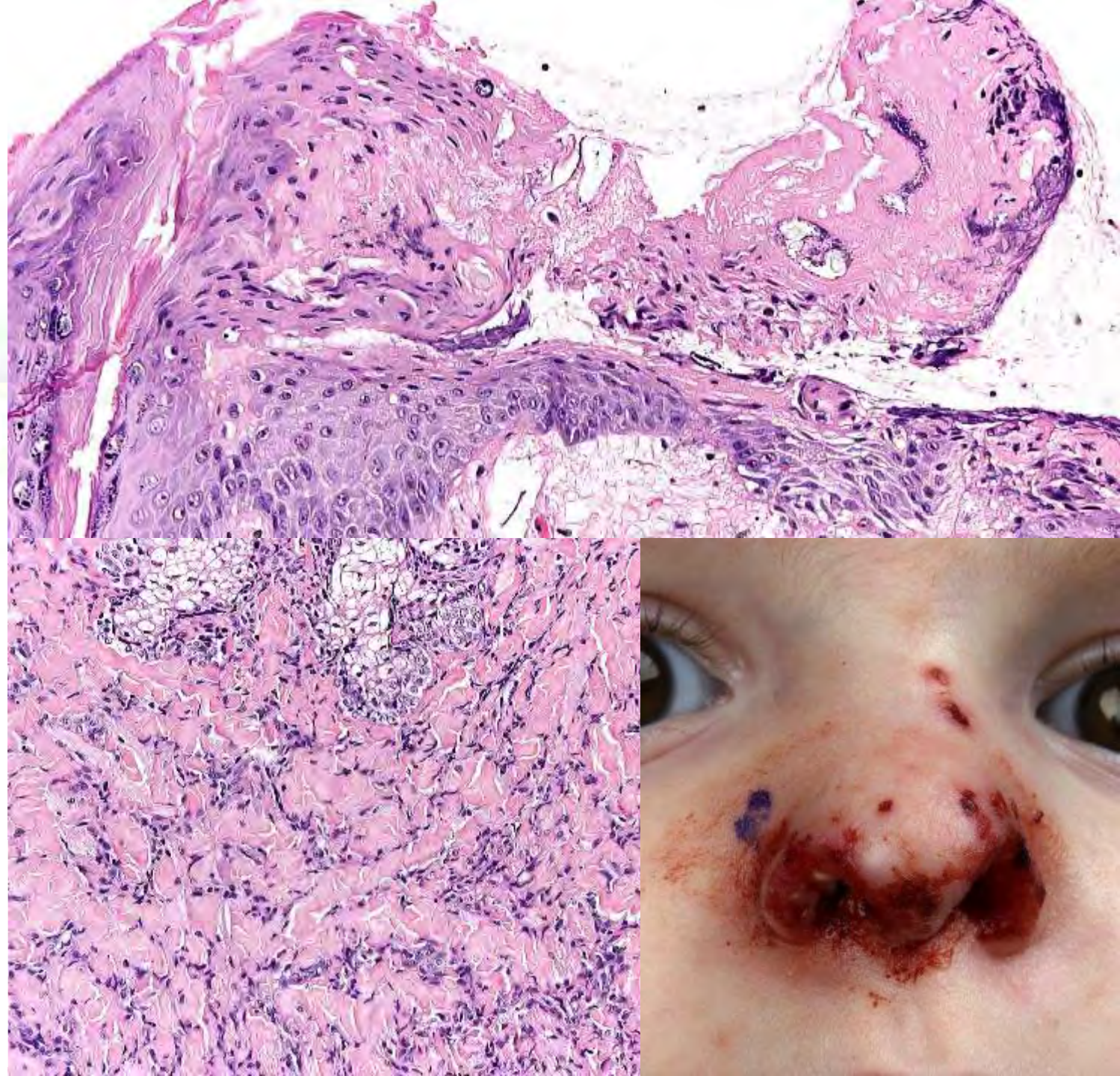


M, 1

Erosive lesions on the nose, not responding to local treatment.



Mid-facial toddler
excoriation syndrome



Mid-facial toddler excoriation syndrome

- Autosomal recessive; Almost all cases have a homozygous GCC repeat expansion in the *PRDM12* gene, resulting in pain insensitivity (the *PRDM12* gene plays a crucial role in pain perception and the development of pain-sensing nerves)
- Onset between 3 and 10 months of age; subsides by the age of 5 – 10
- Restricted to the face; no abnormal pain and itch perception on other body sites



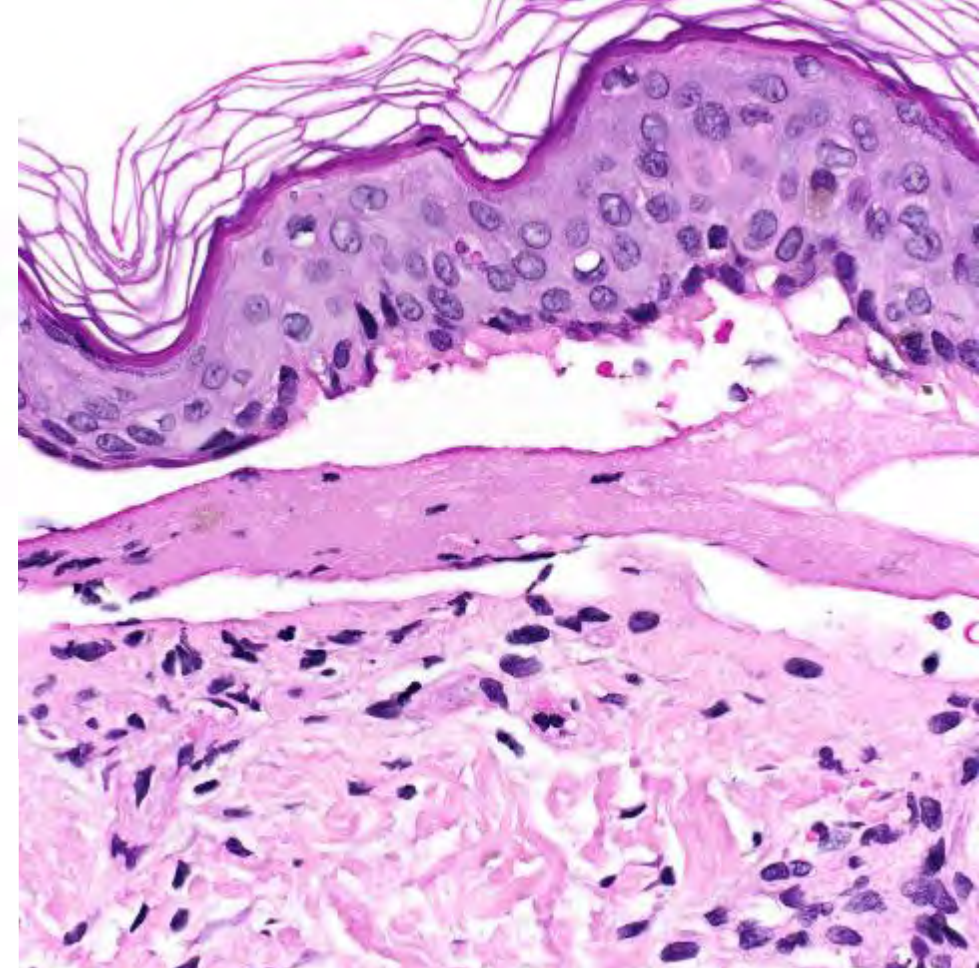
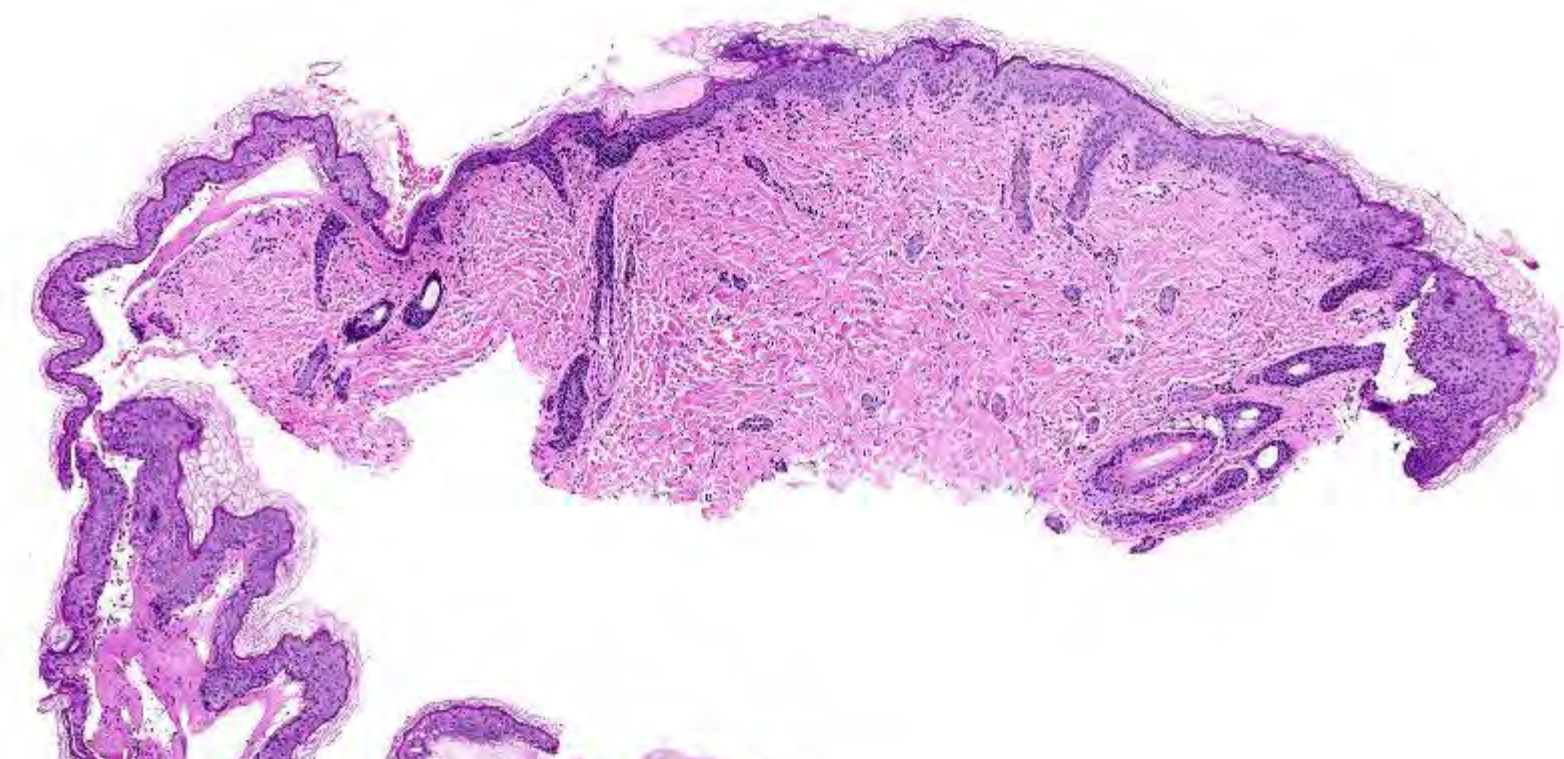
M, 27 days

Premature birth (34th week). Omphalocele after caesarean section, reduced surgically at age 1d. Subsequent groin hernia operated 1 day before observation.

Partly bullous skin lesions on the right lower leg, arising soon after the reduction of the hernia.

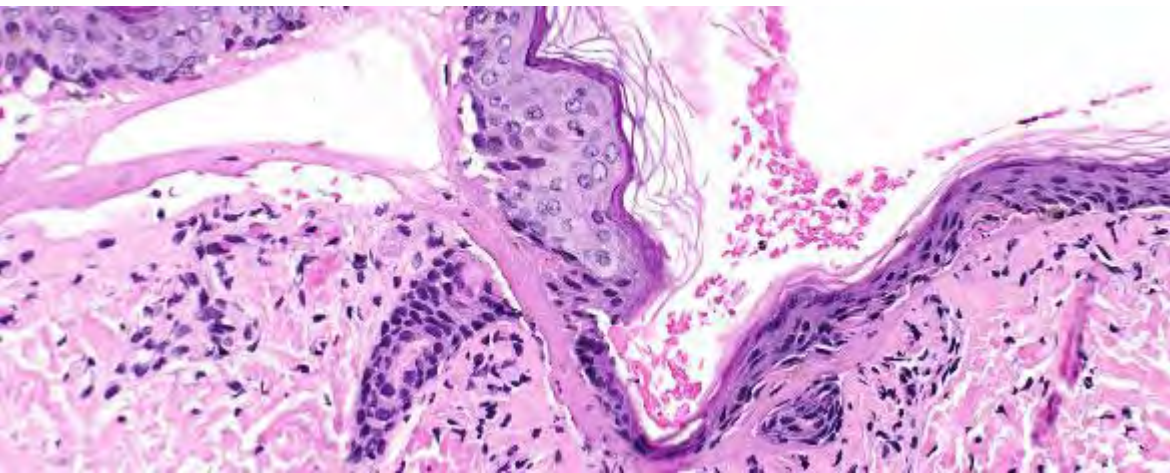
A biopsy is taken.

(Clinical pictures courtesy of Department of Pediatrics)



Mechanic artifact in premature skin

Complete resolution with symptomatic treatment; no further lesions



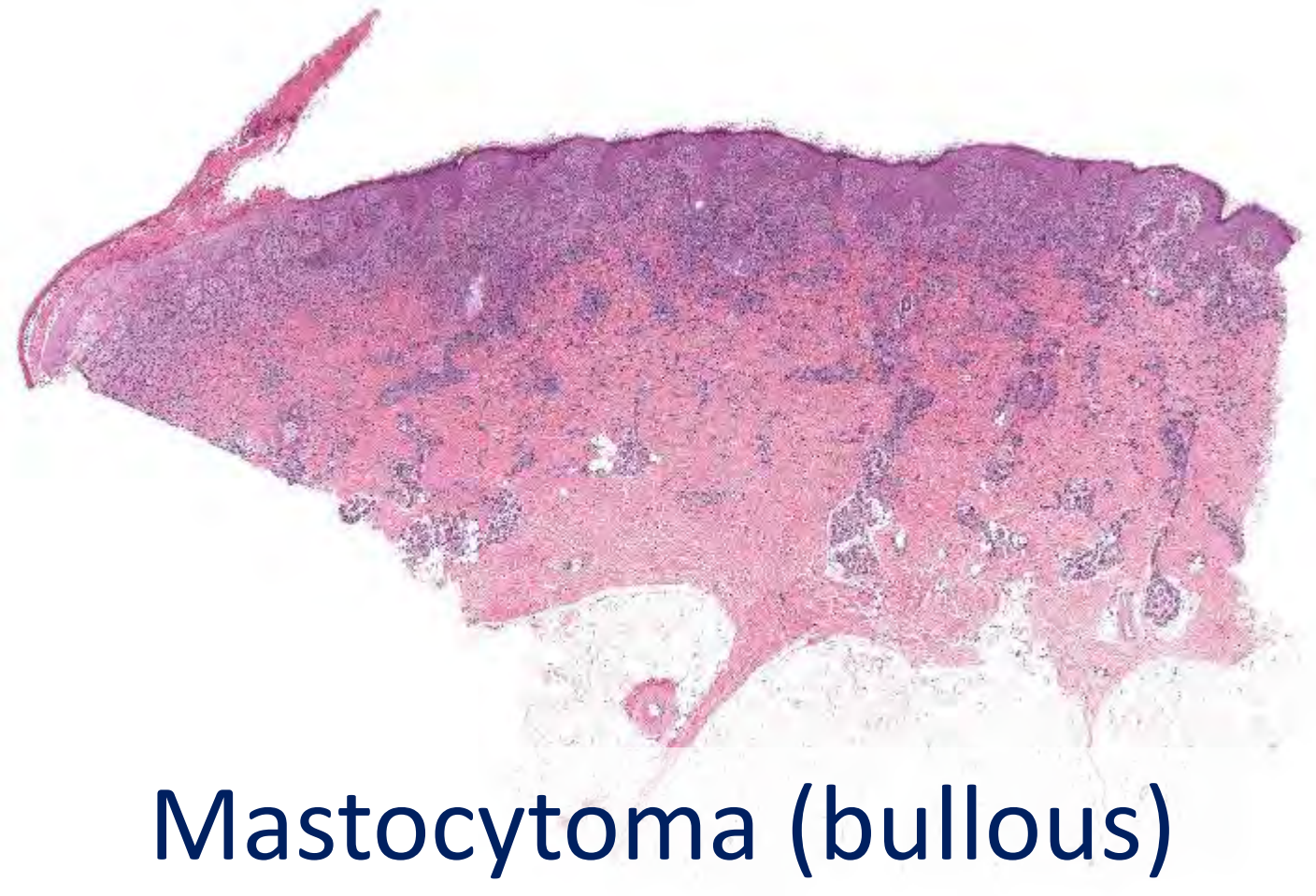


M, 4-month-old

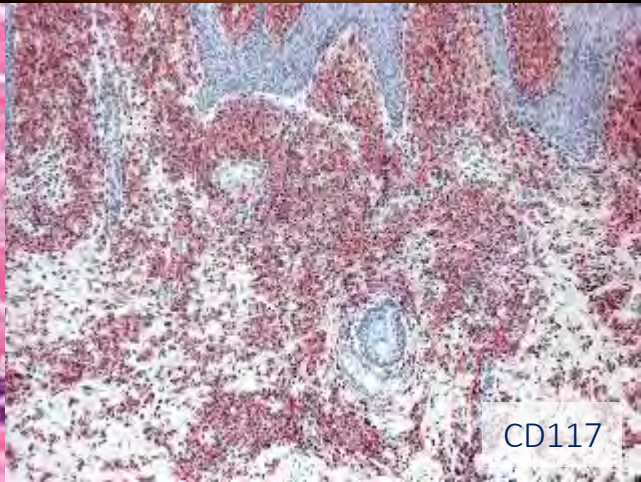
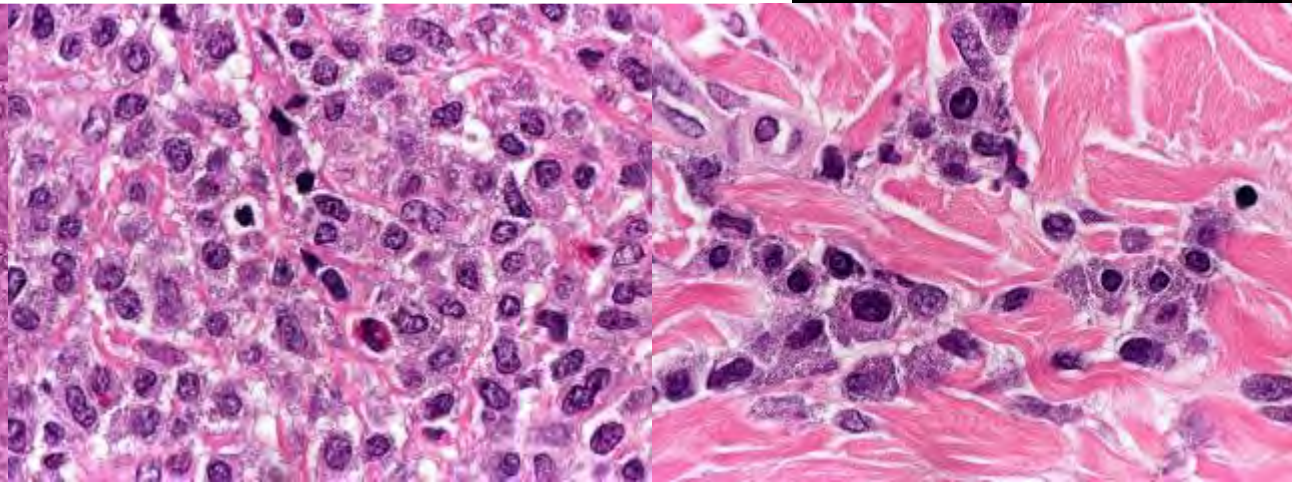
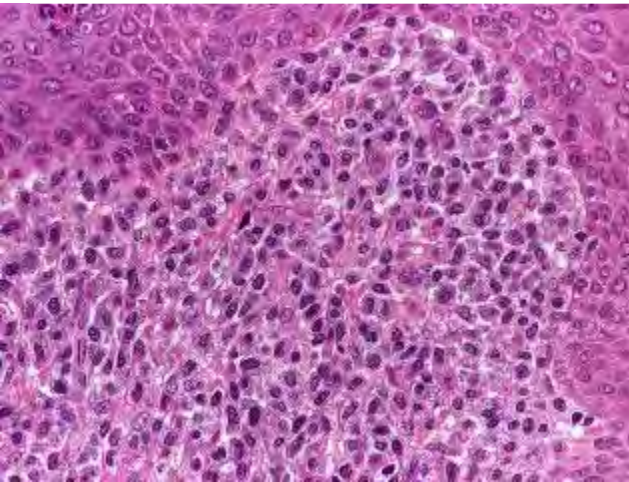
Onset of a bulla on the thigh at the age of 2 months.

According to the mother recurrent bullous features; when the bulla disappears it leaves an erythematous plaque; at every recurrence short-term "redness of the entire body".

A biopsy is taken.



Mastocytoma (bullous)



CD117



1st presentation



9 months later (complete resolution 13 more months later)

F, 3-month-old



84 days later



88 days later



95 days later

The dynamic of solitary (bullous) mastocytoma

WHO classification of tumours of haematopoietic and lymphoid tissues, 5th ed., 2024

Subtype	Clinical features
Maculopapular cutaneous mastocytosis (MPCM)	
Polymorphic MPCM	· Usually seen in children · Brown, yellow, or pale red papules, plaques, and/or nodules · Heterogeneity in number, shape, size, margination, and degree of confluence of the lesions
Monomorphic MPCM	· The most common subtype in adults; may be present from infancy or childhood · Small, round, pigmented macules and papules, ranging from a few scattered lesions to generalized skin involvement with confluent lesions
Diffuse cutaneous mastocytosis	· An extremely rare form of cutaneous mastocytosis occurring in infants · Generalized erythroderma, thickened skin, exaggerated folds, and episodic blistering often accompanied by severe systemic symptoms · Absence of individual skin lesions
Mastocytoma	· The most frequent type of mastocytosis in infants · Mastocytomas are usually solitary lesions, but as many as three lesions are accepted · Yellow to brown papules, nodules, or plaques, often with a leathery texture; less frequently, small and pigmented macules · Rubbing may cause wheals, blisters, and occasionally flushing and hypotension

Essential and desirable diagnostic criteria

Essential: cutaneous lesions with clinical features typical of mastocytosis; absence of clinical signs of systemic mastocytosis; bone marrow evaluation (when indicated) not meeting the criteria for systemic mastocytosis; skin biopsy showing increased numbers of mast cells; mast cells immunoreactive for KIT (CD117) and/or tryptase.

Desirable: aberrant dermal mast cell immunophenotype (CD2+, CD25+, and/or CD30+); detection of *KIT* mutation in lesional skin.

Establishing diagnostic criteria for mastocytosis in skin biopsies

Philippe Drabent,^{1,2} Laura Polivka,^{3,4} Julie Agopian,^{5,6} Jean-Paul Duong Van Huyen,^{1,7} Pierre-Alain Thiebaud,¹ Patrice Dubreuil,^{5,6} Olivier Hermine,^{4,7,8} Thierry Jo-Molina,^{1,7} & Sylvie Eustag^{1,2,7}

¹Department of Pathology, Necker-Enfants Malades Hospital, APHP, ²Sorbonne University, ³Department of Dermatology, Necker-Enfants Malades Hospital, APHP, ⁴Centre de Référence des Mastocytoses (CESTMAS), Necker-Enfants Malades Hospital, APHP, Paris, ⁵CSCM [Signaling, Hematopoiesis and Mechanism of Oncogenesis (CESTMAS), INSERM U1068, Institut Pasteur-Université, Paris, ⁶CNRS UMR7158, Marseille, ⁷Université de Paris, and ⁸Department of Hematology, Necker-Enfants Malades Hospital, APHP Paris, France

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Establishing diagnostic criteria for mastocytosis in skin biopsies

Aims: The diagnosis of mastocytosis in skin biopsies can be challenging, particularly in cases with very few mast cells. More diagnostic criteria are needed. **Methods and results:** We analysed 105 skin biopsies from patients with mastocytosis and compared them with biopsies from inflammatory skin lesions and normal skin. Using CD117 immunostaining, we determined the mast cell distribution pattern, the percentage of mast cells in the inflammatory infiltrate, and the mast cell count per mm². We found that a sheet-like or subepidermal distribution of mast cells was specific for mastocytosis. The most significant feature was the percentage of mast cells and not the mast cell count. We found that a mast cell percentage above 40% was fully specific to both adults

and children, but lacked sensitivity, especially in adults. In children, all cases with a percentage below 40% harboured a number of mast cells above 90 per mm², allowing a straightforward diagnosis. In adults, the diagnosis was more challenging and cases with less than 40% of mast cells could be diagnosed on account of a number of mast cells above 40 per mm², with 88.5% sensitivity and 95.2% specificity. Additional signs might be useful in difficult cases. However, CD25 immunostaining was not useful. **Conclusions:** We confirmed that the criteria currently applied in the bone marrow were not appropriate for the skin. Accordingly, we developed an algorithm for the diagnosis of mastocytosis in skin biopsies with a high level of interobserver reproducibility (mean kappa 0.81).

Keywords: biopsy, CD117, diagnosis, mastocytosis, skin

Introduction

Mastocytosis is defined as a clonal, neoplastic proliferation of mast cells, which accumulate in one or more

organs. The skin is one of the major sites involved. Skin involvement can be the sole manifestation of disease in cutaneous mastocytosis (CM), but can also be observed in systemic mastocytosis (SM). Indeed, SM is often revealed by skin lesions.^{1–4}

Depending on the clinical presentation and prognosis, SM is subclassified into five variants: indolent SM (ISM), smoldering SM (SSM), SM with associated

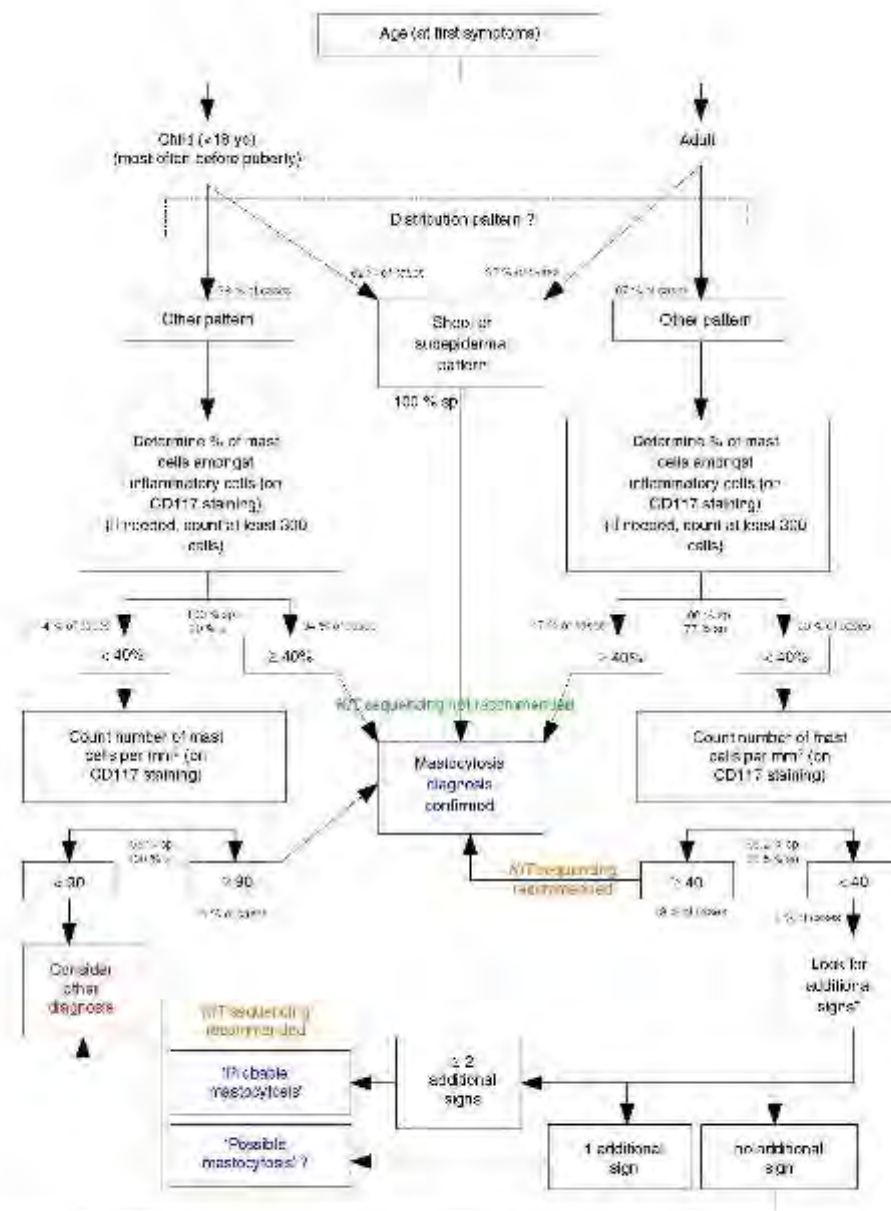


Figure 5. Diagnostic algorithm for mastocytosis in skin biopsies. *Additional signs: pigmentation of the basal layer of the epidermis, presence of eosinophils in the dermis, dilatation of superficial dermal vessels, atypical hyperplasia. sp, specificity; sc, sensitivity. [Colour figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com).

Authors for correspondence: Dr S. Eustag, Service d'Anatomie et Pathologie Pathologiques, Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades, 161 rue de St-Jacques, 75013 Paris, France (email: sylvie.eustag@aphp.fr).

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Cutaneous mastocytoses - children



Solitary mastocytoma



Multiple mastocytomas



Urticaria pigmentosa



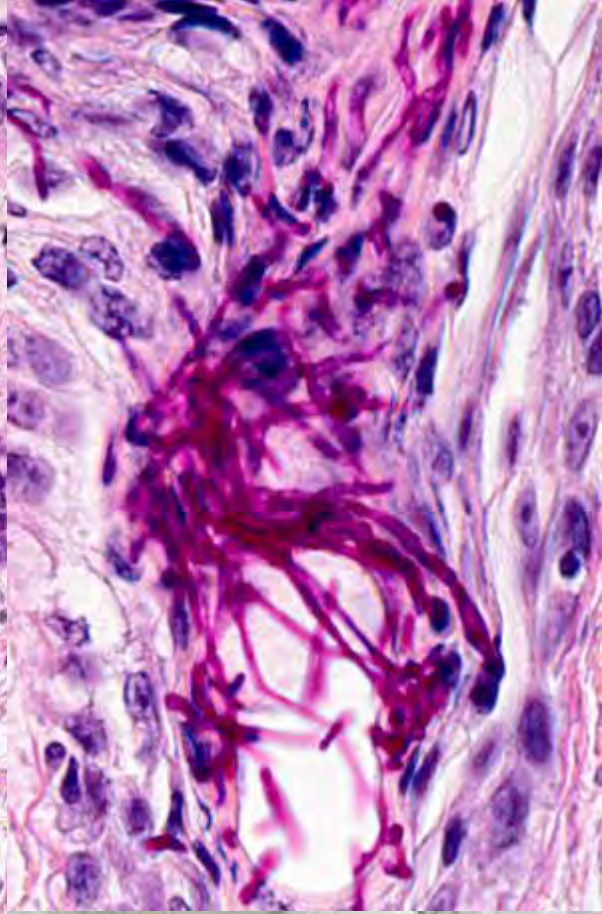
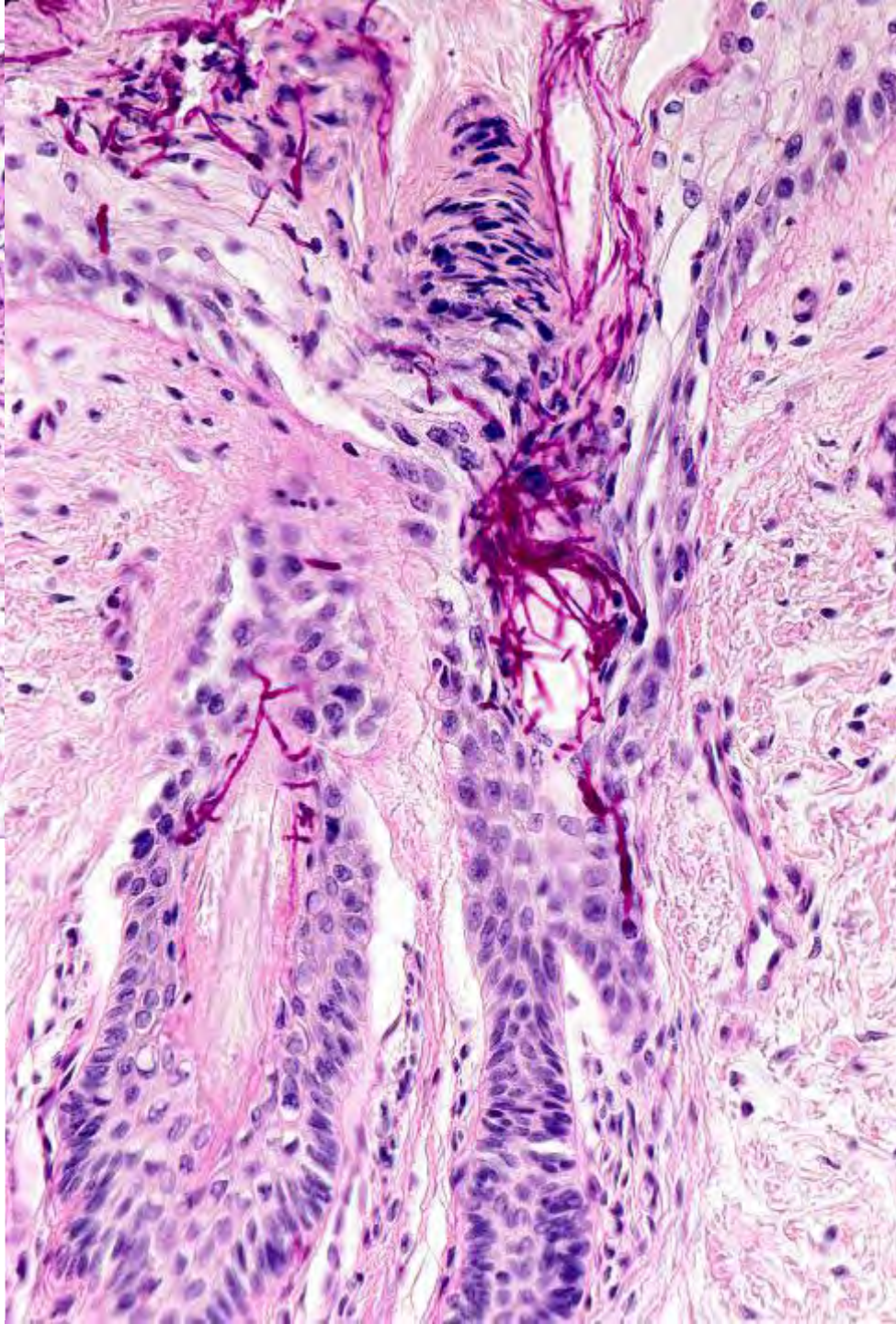
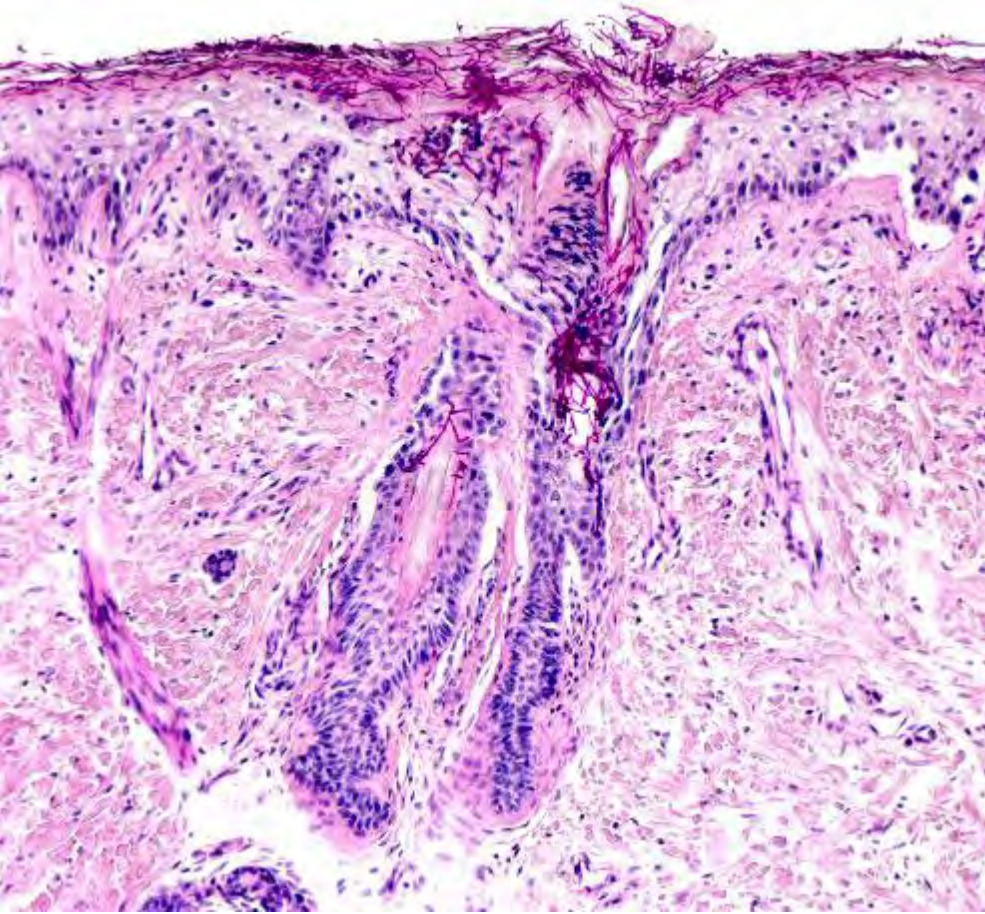
Diffuse ("erythrodermic")
cutaneous mastocytosis

(courtesy Prof. L. Requena, Madrid)

Range of presentations from solitary lesions to involvement of large part of the skin, sometimes with a "leathery" appearance. Bullous lesions may be present and/or develop upon friction. Lesions usually resolve by adolescence, in some patients persist (10-15% of cases). Systemic involvement rare in children.



1-week-old female newborn with methylmalonic acidemia and progressive, partly pustular skin eruption since birth, becoming erythrodermic.



Congenital Candidiasis

Intrauterine infection acquired from the mother. The purely cutaneous form is a limited disease managed with topical antifungal creams; the systemic form (usually in pre-term newborns) may be life-threatening.

Widespread Erythroderma and Desquamation in a Neonate

B. D. Glassman, MD, J. J. Muglia, MD
New England Medical Center Hospitals, Boston, Mass

REPORT OF A CASE

A 1590-g girl was born at 32 weeks' gestation to a 21-year-old Hispanic (gravida 4, para 3) who had a history of intravenous drug abuse and hepatitis B infection and no prenatal care before delivery. Her pregnancy was complicated by vaginal yeast infections during gestation. Premature labor began 1 hour before delivery with rupture of the membranes and leakage of clear, amniotic fluid. A spontaneous vaginal delivery was performed, and the infant was born floppy with no

respiratory effort. Apgar score was 6/8 at 1 and 5 minutes.

On initial presentation, a diffuse papular rash on an erythematous background was present on the chest, back, abdomen, buttocks, and face. No pustules were noted. The infant continued in respiratory distress and was intubated 4 hours after delivery. Intravenous ampicillin and gentamicin was begun. Initial laboratory tests showed the following values or results: leukocytes, $3.2 \times 10^9/L$, with 0.65 lymphocytes, 0.9 neutrophils, 0.5 band forms, 0.15 monocytes, and 0.6 eosinophils; human immunodeficiency virus, negative; and VDRL,

nonreactive. No cultures were performed on the placenta or umbilical blood.

By age 3 days, the infant's rash progressed, producing diffuse erythema with scattered areas of sparing on the trunk and desquamative scale on the trunk and extremities with evidence of superficial erosion in some areas. (Figs 1 and 2).

A scraping was performed. Cultures were obtained from the eye, mouth, and nasopharynx and were consistent with the findings in Fig 3.

What is your diagnosis?



Figure 1.



Figure 2.

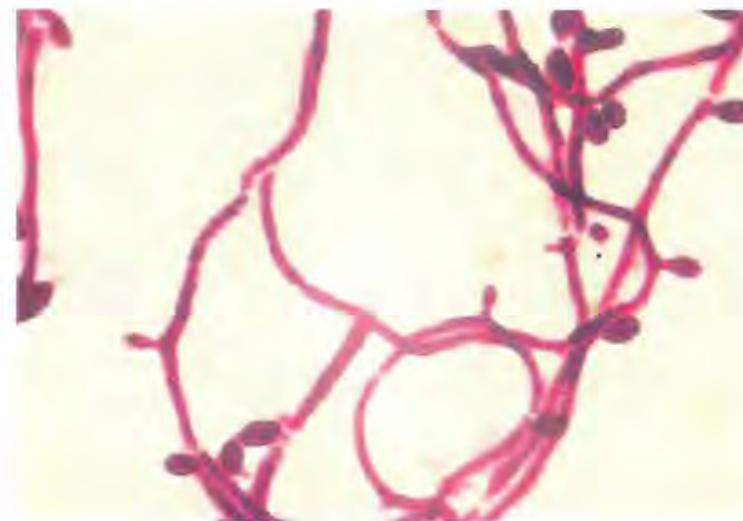


Figure 3.

Neonatal erythroderma

- Congenital ichthyoses
- Atopic dermatitis
- Seborrheic dermatitis
- Neonatal acute generalized pustular psoriasis
- Diffuse cutaneous mastocytosis
- Staphylococcal scalded skin syndrome
- Congenital cutaneous candidiasis
- Congenital immunodeficiencies
- Malnutrition / Metabolic disorders
- Others

Neonatal erythroderma



Atopic dermatitis



Epidermolytic
ichthyosis



Congenital
immunodeficiency



Pustular psoriasis

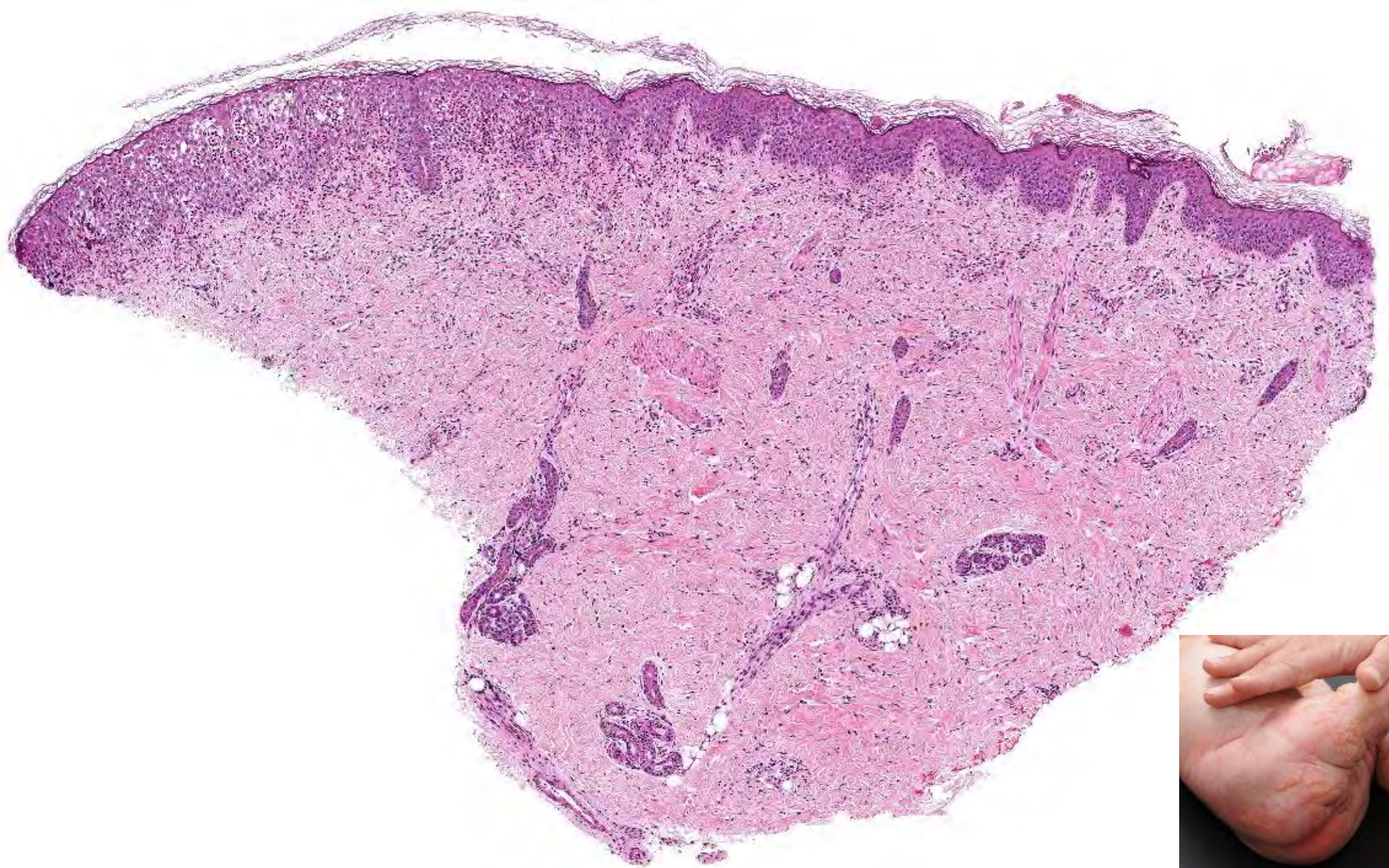


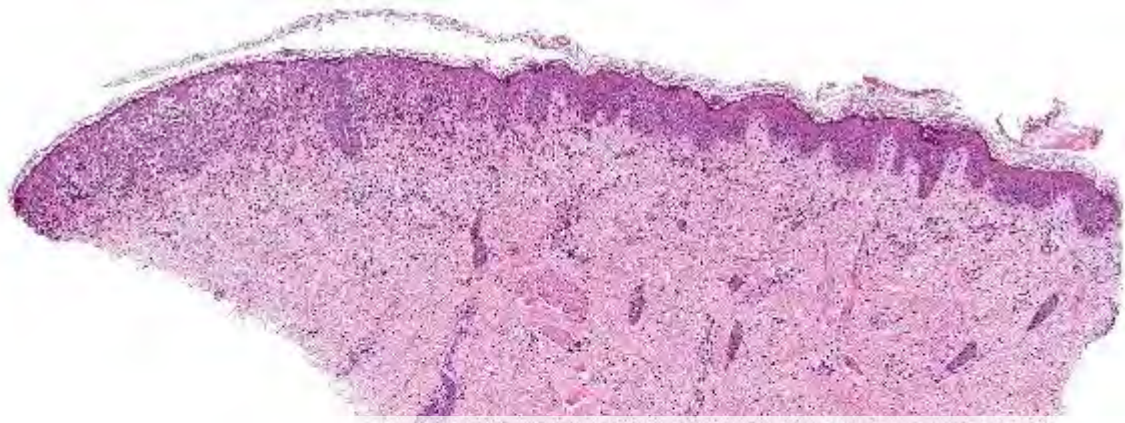
F, 11-day-old

Normal pregnancy and labor; no remarkable familial history.

Generalized, partly bullous lesions following in part the Blascko lines.

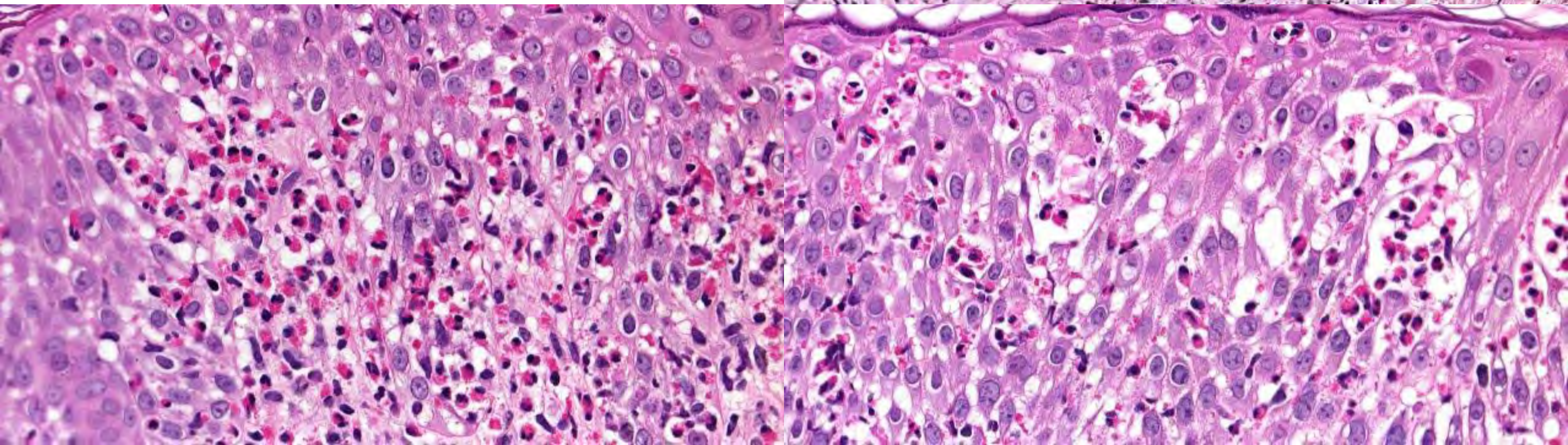
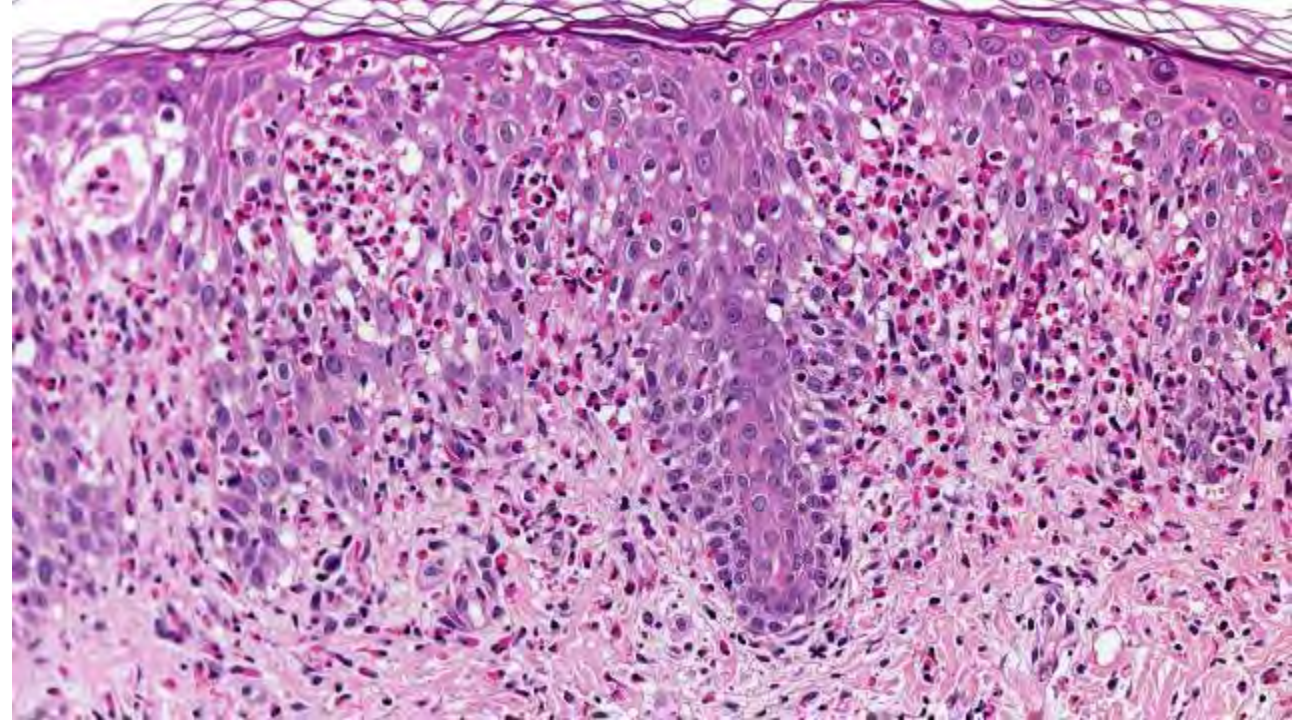
A biopsy is taken from the gluteal region.





Incontinentia pigmenti

Stage I





At birth



11 months later (Stage III)

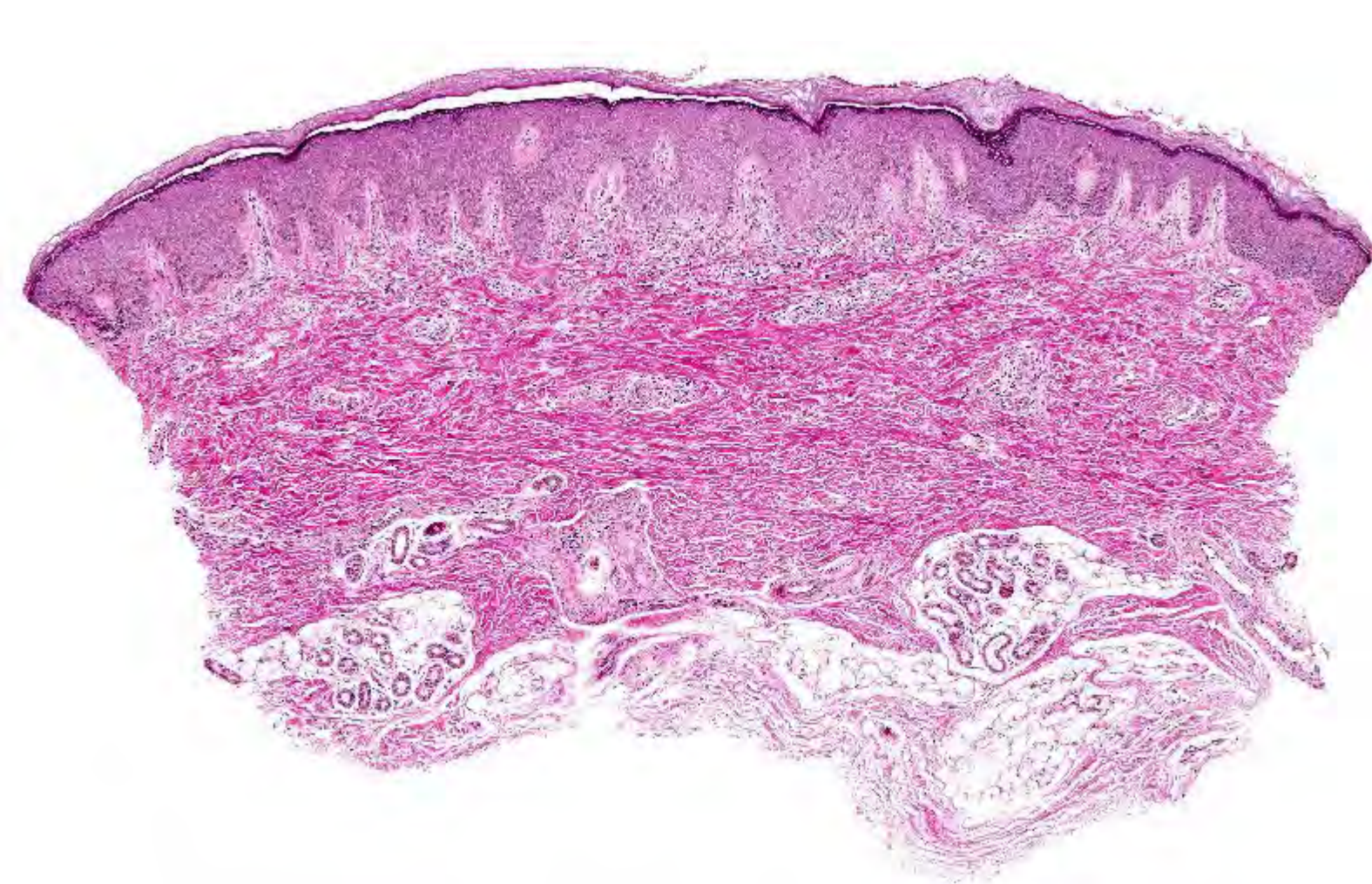




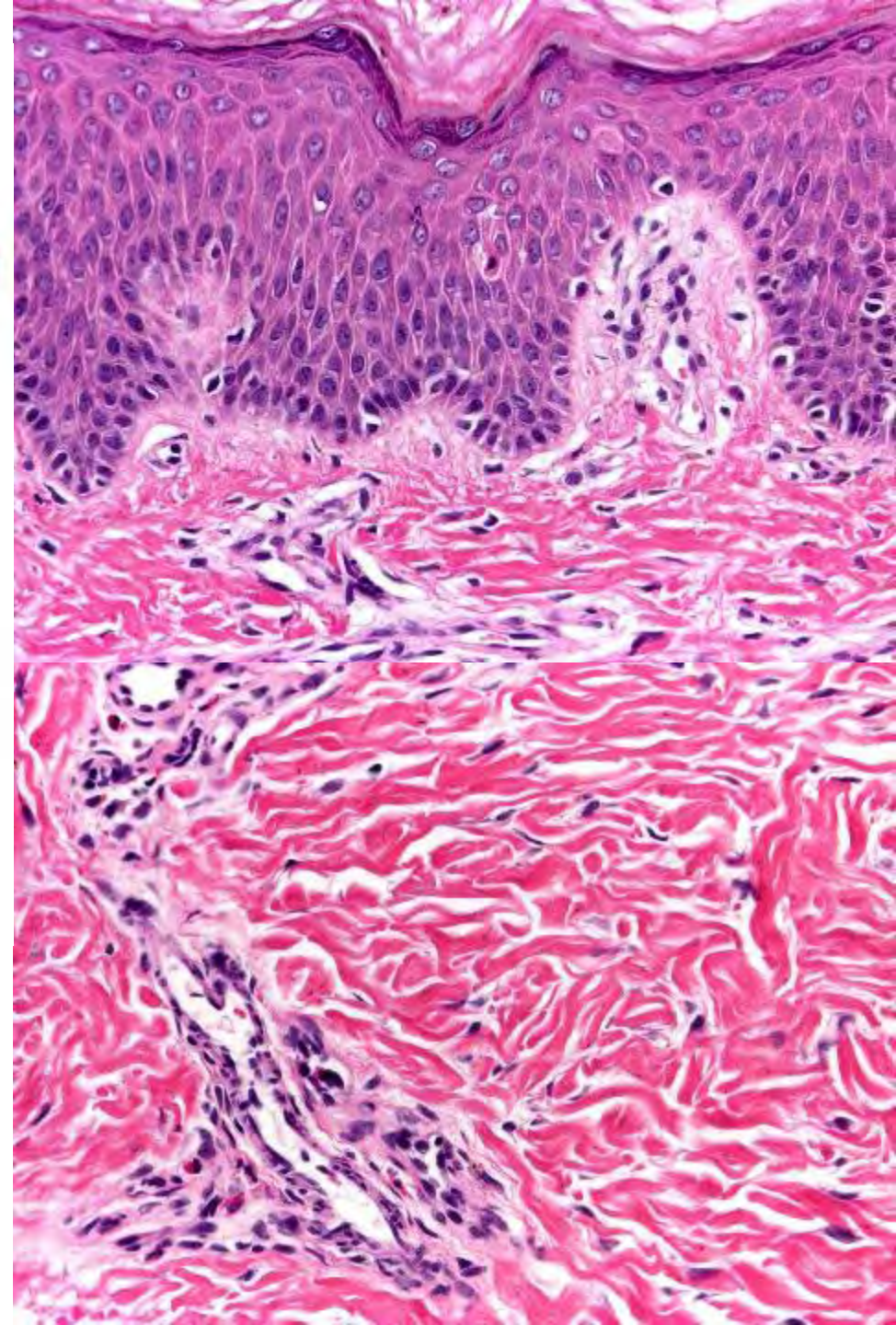
F, 6-week-old

Generalized, partly vesicular lesions with focal linear arrangement.

A biopsy is taken from the inner ankle.



Incontinentia pigmenti
Stage II



Incontinentia pigmenti

- Mutation in the *IKKBKG (NEMO)* gene
- *Stage 1* (vesicular); *Stage 2* (verrucous); *Stage 3* (hyperpigmented); usually resolve during infancy/adolescence; *Stage 4* (hypopigmented atrophic) onset in adolescence or adulthood
- "Painful subungual tumor": possibly a type of keratoacanthoma
- *Differential diagnosis with other vesiculobullous eruptions in newborns and young children:*
Toxic erythema of newborn; Transient pustular melanosis; Neonatal cephalic pustulosis; Congenital candidiasis; Langerhans cell histiocytosis; Infantile acropustulosis; other rare causes of vesiculobullous eruptions



F, 4. Since the age of 2 months vegetating, ulcerated lesions on the face and upper extremities. Radiologic investigations negative; blood investigations within normal limits.



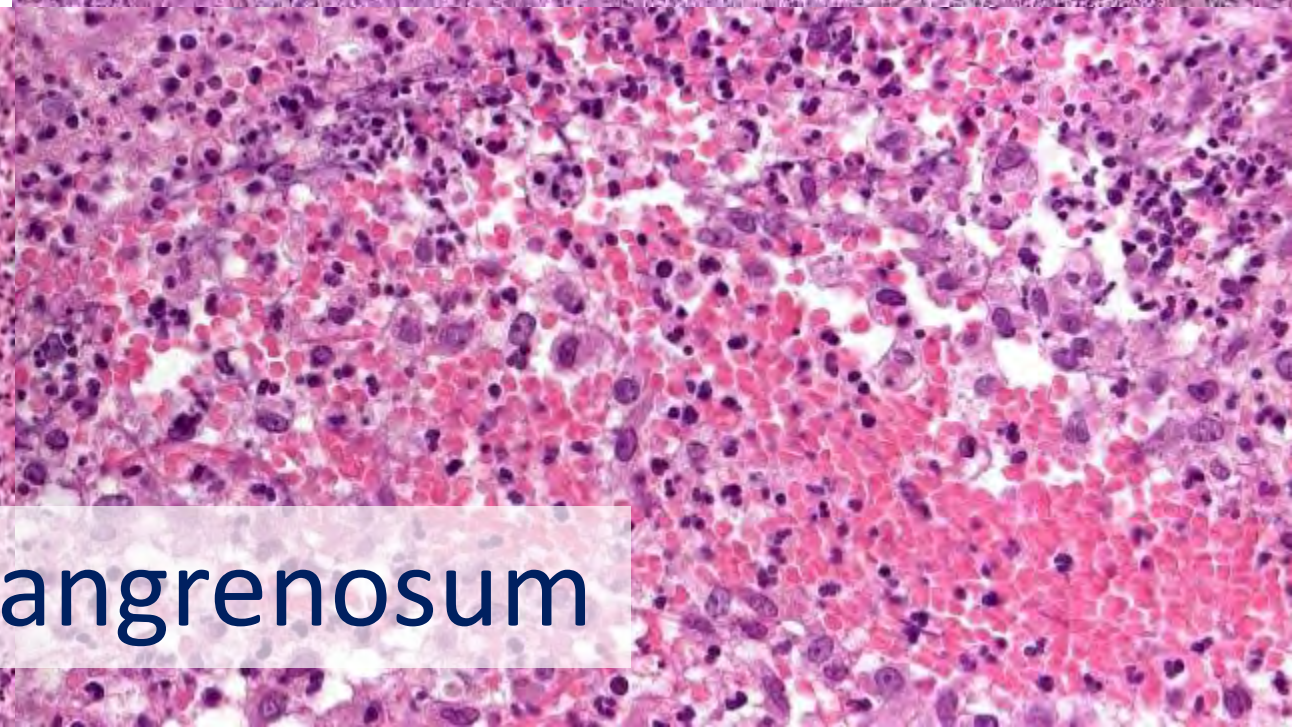
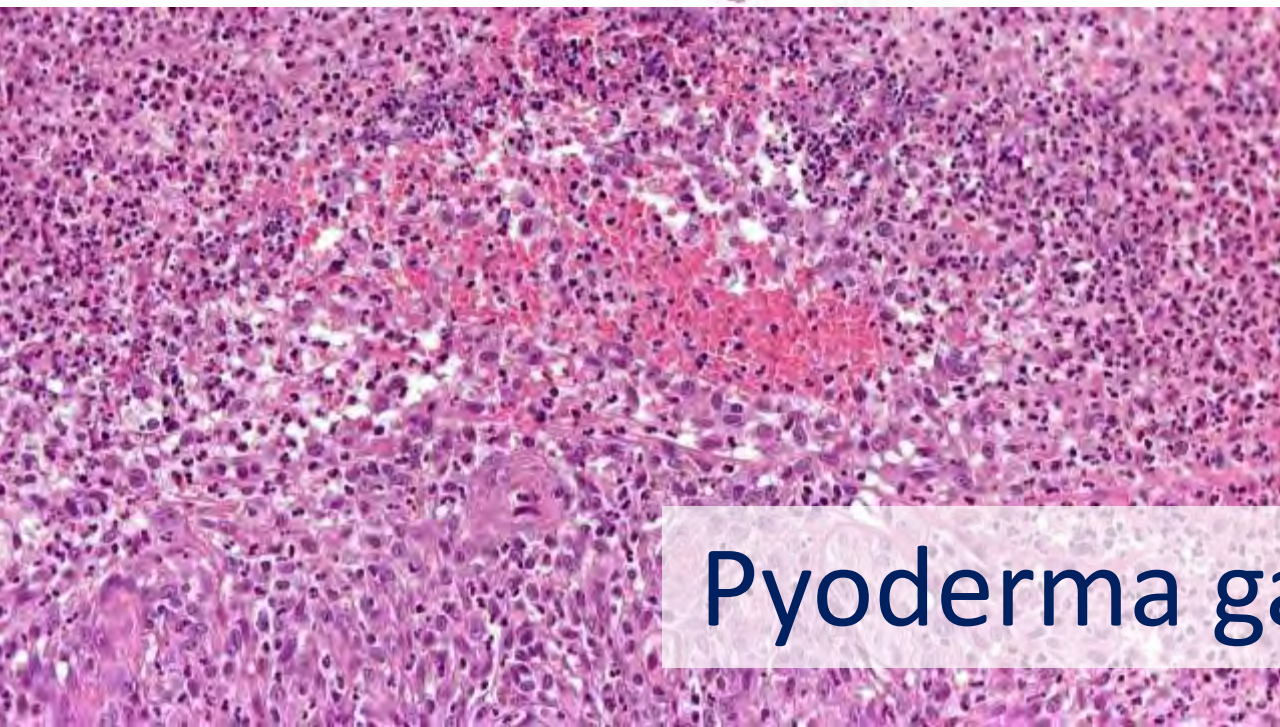
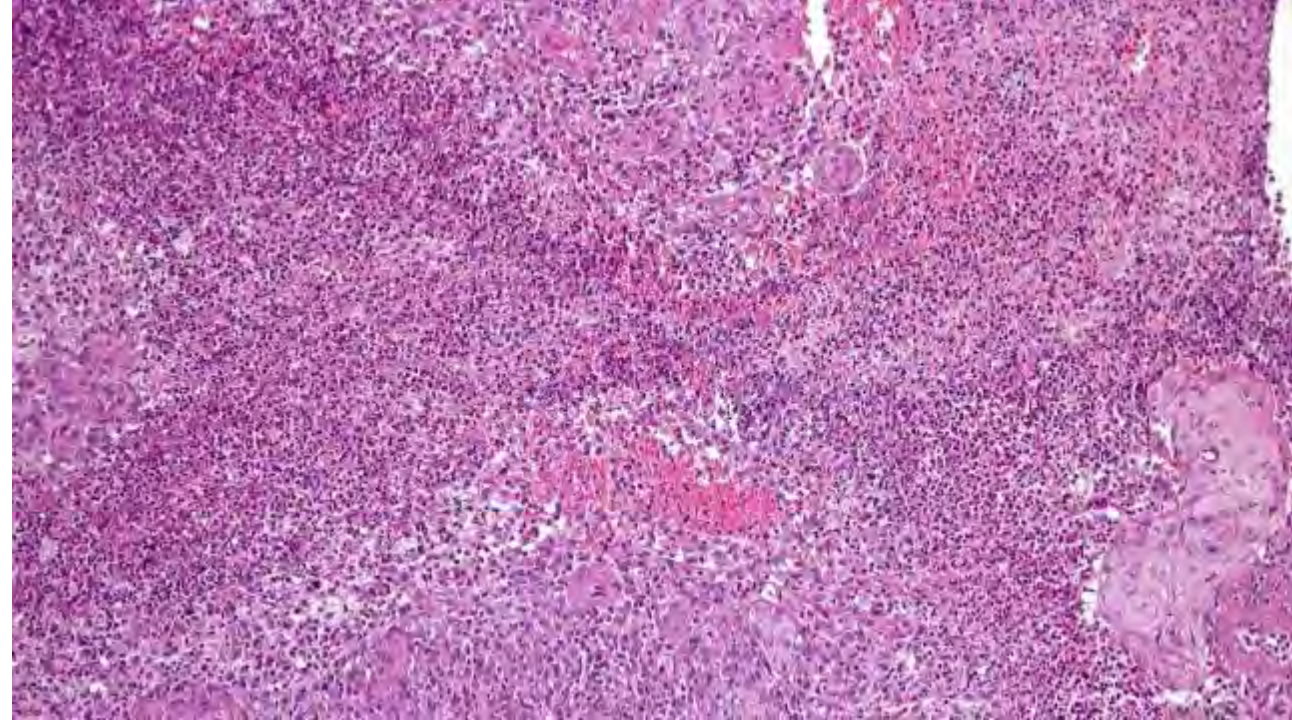
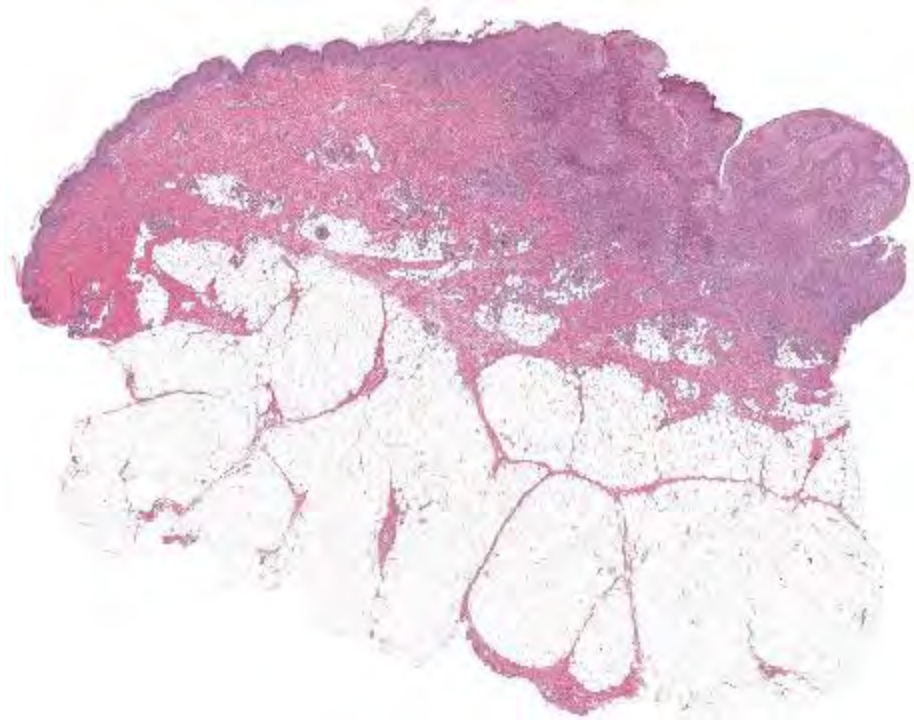
Between 1 and 2 years of age treated with steroids, cyclosporin, infliximab with only partial response.

At age 2 a biopsy was diagnosed with "non-X malignant histiocytosis"; treatment with vincristine, cyclophosphamide, prednisone without effect (short-term improvement was noted by the mother after every prednisone administration).

At age 3 two more biopsies did not provide a clear-cut diagnosis; treated with low-dosage radiotherapy without effects.

At age 4 two new biopsies.

The family of the patient comes to Graz for a second opinion (this picture taken during the visit; old biopsies reevaluated).



Pyoderma gangrenosum

Severe pyoderma gangrenosum in children

- Head & face lesions more common than in adults; often genital lesions in infants and small children (perineum)
- May be associated with systemic diseases (ulcerative colitis, rheumatoid arthritis, etc.); the majority of cases however idiopathic
- May be part of PAPA (*pyogenic arthritis, PG & acne*), PAPASH (*pyogenic arthritis, PG, acne, & suppurative hidradenitis*), or PASH (*PG, acne, suppurative hidradenitis*)
- In many cases controlled by systemic steroids
- Severe, recalcitrant cases pose a difficult therapeutic problem

Dramatic case of paediatric pyoderma gangrenosum

A 1-year-old girl presented with recurrent, painless, ulcerative lesions for 10 months. The ulcer on the forehead rapidly progressed and involved both cheeks and nose with yellowish purulent discharge in recent 20 days (Figure 1A). She was treated with antibiotics resulting in no response. She had no systemic symptoms and a haemogram showed a normocytic normochromic anaemia (Hb 98.7 g/L) and decreased haemoglobin (77 g/L). Bone marrow examination ruled out haematopoietic malignancy. The biopsy from the forehead demonstrated numerous neutrophils in dermis (Figure 2). The direct and indirect immunofluorescence were negative. Fungal, viral, bacterial and parasitic cultures from the excretory products and blood were all negative. Pyoderma gangrenosum (PG) was considered, and 1.5 mg/kg/day methyl prednisolone was used. An excellent improvement of lesion and haematological parameters (WBCs $15 \times 10^9/L$, Hb 98 g/L) was observed with 4 weeks treatment (Figure 1B). The patient was diagnosed with PG according to the Delphi consensus criteria.¹ She had (negative) results of assay of the underlying disease (autoinflammatory, infiltrative) and had minor criteria (recurrent infection, multiple recurrent painful ulcerations and decreased albumin) without necessity of corticosteroids.

Paediatric PG is easily overlooked and misdiagnosed due to its infrequent incidence and any real involvement of the head or face.^{2,3} Prompt diagnosis and treatment are essential to avoid severe scar healing to affect aesthetic and mental health. Nonbiphenyl steroids, such as clobetasol or betamethasone, are used to suppress more than 50% of PG including children.⁴ Regardless of the cause or symptoms of systemic comorbidities in this patient, further long-term, multidisciplinary follow-up are necessary.

Jingsi Chen ¹, Hong Wang, Jiali Ren



Figure 1 (A) Ulcerative and erosive lesions on the face (B) A significant improvement of lesion with 4 weeks treatment

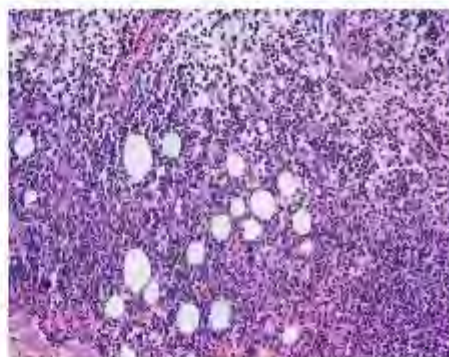


Figure 2 Pathohistological analysis at the edge of lesion showed numerous neutrophils infiltrate in dermis (H&E×200).

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Correspondence to: Dr. Jingsi Chen, Department of Dermatology, Children's Hospital of Fudan University, Shanghai, China

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Review

Pediatric pyoderma gangrenosum: a systematic review and update

Elio Kechichian^{1,2}, MD, Roger Haber^{1,2}, MD, Nadim Mourad^{1,2}, MD, Rana El Khoury^{1,2}, MD, Samer Jabbour^{2,3}, MD, and Roland Tomb^{2,4}, PhD

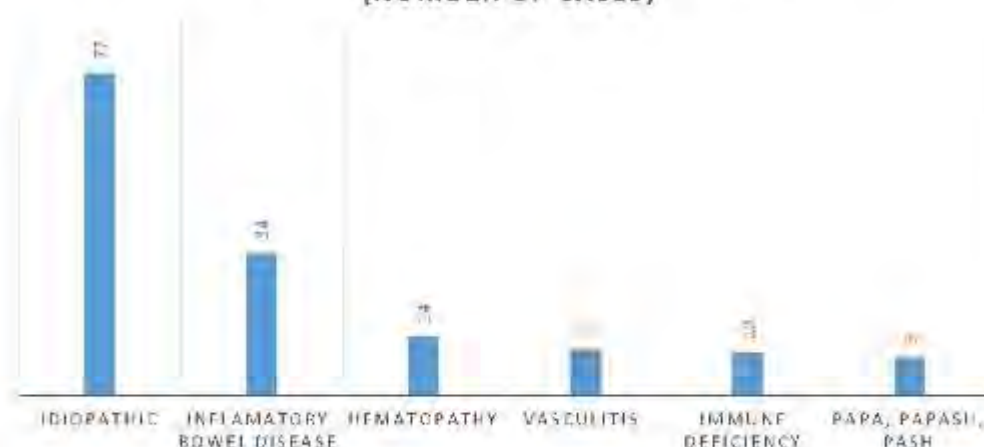
¹Department of Dermatology, Hadassah University Hospital, P.O. Box 12002, Jerusalem 9112001, Israel; ²Department of Dermatology, Hadassah University Hospital, P.O. Box 12002, Jerusalem 9112001, Israel; ³Department of Pediatrics, Hadassah University Hospital, P.O. Box 12002, Jerusalem 9112001, Israel; ⁴Department of Dermatology, Hadassah University Hospital, P.O. Box 12002, Jerusalem 9112001, Israel

Correspondence: Dr. Elio Kechichian, MD, Hadassah University Hospital, P.O. Box 12002, Jerusalem 9112001, Israel. Email: elio.kechichian@hadrassah.org.il

Abstract

Pyoderma gangrenosum (PG) is a sterile neutrophilic disorder that rarely affects children. Clinical, epidemiological, and therapeutic data on pediatric PG is poor as there are many newly reported associated diseases and drugs. This paper aims to review all recent available data on pediatric PG. A systematic review of the literature was conducted using Embase, Medline, and Cochrane databases. A total of 132 articles were included in the review. The most commonly reported underlying diseases in pediatric PG are inflammatory bowel diseases followed by hematologic disorders, vasculitis, immune deficiencies and Pyogenic Abscess, Pyoderma gangrenosum and Acne (PRAPA) syndrome. More than half of the cases occur with no underlying disease. The most frequently reported clinical presentation is multiple dissemination ulcers. Treatment should be tailored according to the underlying etiology. It includes systemic steroids, corticosteroid sparing agents such as dapsone and cyclosporine, and TNF- α inhibitors such as adalimumab and infliximab. Response to treatment is high with cure rates reaching 60%. A high index of suspicion and a thorough workup are mandatory in the management of pediatric PG.

MOST COMMON UNDERLYING DISEASES IN PEDIATRIC PYODERMA GANGRENOSUM (NUMBER OF CASES)



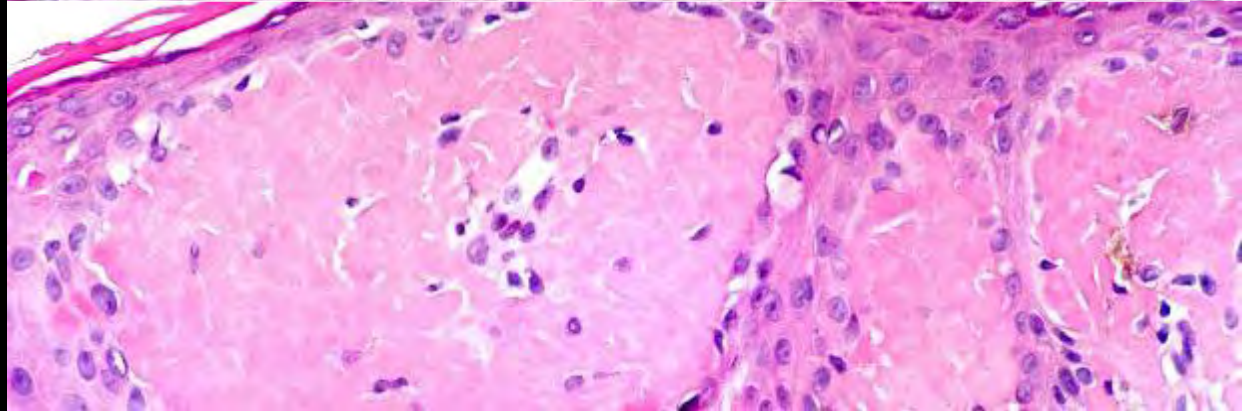


F, 7

Severe sunburn after sun exposure without sunscreen in the mountain (1,500 meters elevation above sea level). The eruption developed within 7—10 days.



Juvenile colloid milium



Juvenile colloid milium

Immunohistochemical and ultrastructural studies

Hashimoto K, Nakayama H, Chimenti S, Carlesimo O A, Galvieri S, Iacobelli D, Bianchi L. *J Cutan Pathol* 1989; 16: 164-174.

A 7-year-old Italian girl with juvenile colloid milium was studied with histological, immunohistochemical, and electron microscopic methods. This patient had a well-documented history of severe sunburn and developed the lesions on the face shortly afterward. Numerous apoptotic keratinocytes were observed in the lower epidermis. These cells began their degeneration with filamentous whorl formation (or filamentous degeneration) of tonofilaments. In the papillary dermis the colloid substance was resolved by the electron microscopy into either wavy, thin filaments derived from the epidermal keratinocytes or typical amyloid filaments. Many desmosomes and gap junctions were found in the colloid substance. Polyclonal antikeratin antibody (DAKO) was positive in the colloid substance, particularly in the parts close to the epidermis. These findings suggested that juvenile colloid milium is different from adult colloid milium despite clinical similarities and that the former belongs to the group of actinic amyloid K, i.e. amyloidosis due to actinic degeneration of keratinocyte and its keratin.

Colloid milium is currently classified into three different subtypes: (a) adult type (1-7), which occurs on sun-exposed areas such as face, ears, neck and dorsum of hands as small or confluent semi-transparent papules, (b) juvenile form (8), which has been attributed to keratinocyte degeneration and (c) pigmented colloid milium (9) associated with exogenous ochronosis due to hydroquinone bleaching cream among South African blacks. A vague entity called nodular colloid degeneration (10-12) or paracoloid of the skin (13) may represent a tumefactive nodular amyloidosis which is now characterized as an accumulation of light chain of immunoglobulins (14, 15).

We encountered an interesting case of juvenile colloid milium which was initiated by a severe sunburn. This report consists of immunohistochemical and ultrastructural analyses of this case to elucidate the nature of so called juvenile colloid milium.

Clinical history

The patient is a 7-year-old Italian girl presenting several small confluent papules, brownish-colored, occurring symmetrically on the zygomatic promi-

nences, nose and perioral region (Fig. 1). The onset of her illness coincided with a very severe sunburn which she sustained during mountain skiing in the Italian Alps (1,500 meters elevation above sea level) in February, 1984. The sun exposure without sun-screen lasted 2-3 h/day for one week. The first eruption developed within 7-10 days. Only a slight improvement has been noticed after the diagnosis and avoidance of sun-exposure. No history of similar illness is noted in her family.

Material and methods

A biopsy specimen was divided into 2; the first part was fixed in 10% formalin and routinely prepared for diagnostic H & E stain and the second part for electron microscopy. Some sections from the first part were used for PAS stain, alkaline Congo red stain, Dylon stain (16) and immunohistochemical stain for amyloid P component and keratins. Amyloid P component (17) is present in all types of amyloid as well as in elastic fiber microfibrils (17). NKH-1 was used to detect proteins related to elastic fiber microfibrils (18). Monoclonal and polyclonal

K. Hashimoto,¹ H. Nakayama,¹
S. Chimenti,² O. A. Carlesimo,²
S. Calvieri,² D. Iacobelli,¹
L. Bianchi,²

Departments of ¹Dermatology, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, MI and ²WMC, Allen Park, MI, USA, and ³Università La Sapienza, Rome, Italy

K. Hashimoto, Department of Dermatology,
Wayne State University School of Medicine,
Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A.

Accepted January 31, 1989

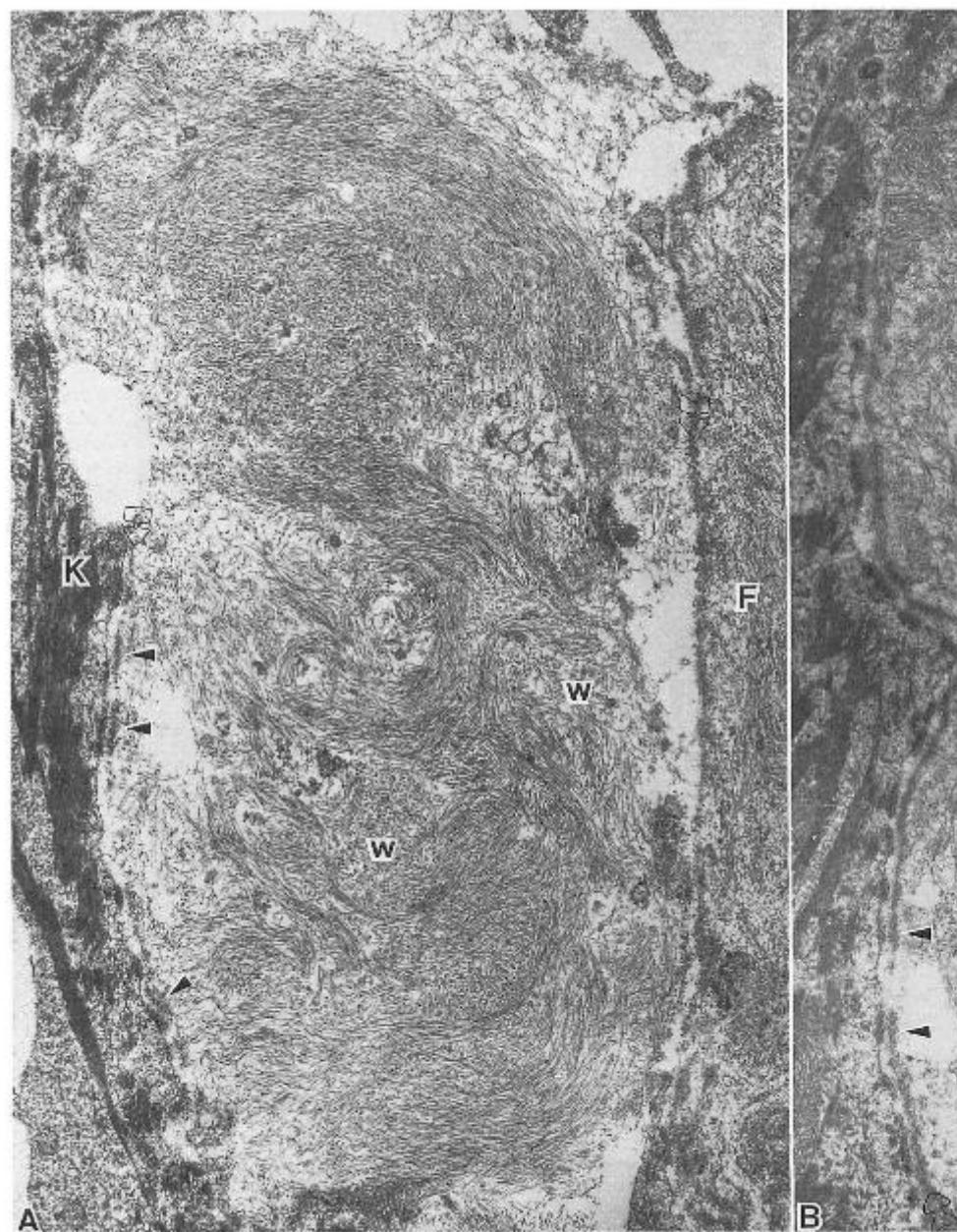


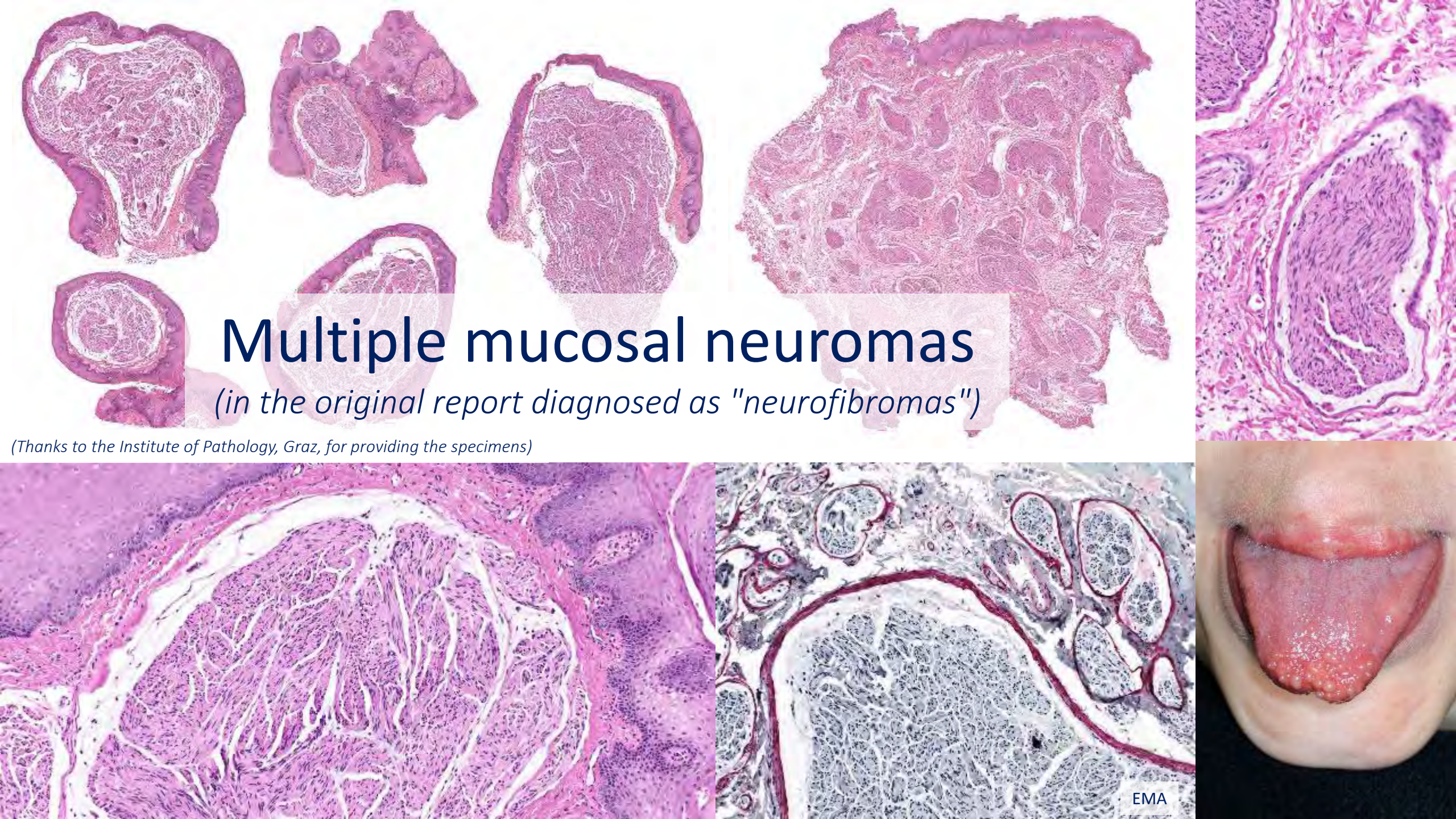
Fig. 6. A degenerated keratinocyte is filled with whorled (w) bundle of wavy filaments. This is surrounded by a normal keratinocyte (K) on the left and by another degenerated cell (F) on the right in A. Along the border of these cells basal lamina-like dense layer (arrow) is formed and hemidesmosome-like junctions are produced in A and B. At such junctions the basal lamina-like layer becomes thicker and denser (arrowheads). It seems that the basal lamina-like layer represents modified cell membrane of the degenerated cell. A and B: $\times 30,000$.



F, 8

According to the mother lesions on the tip of the tongue present "forever". No other relevant information reported in the chart.

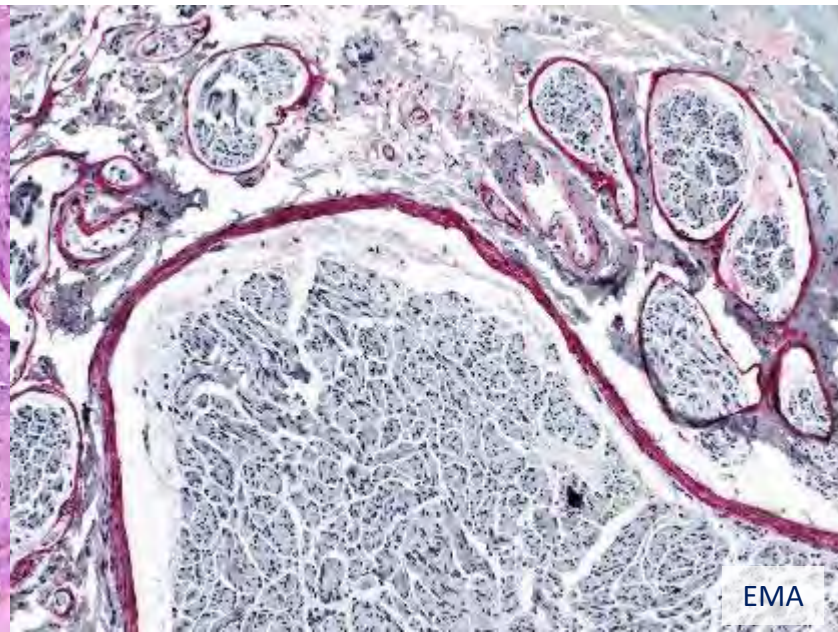
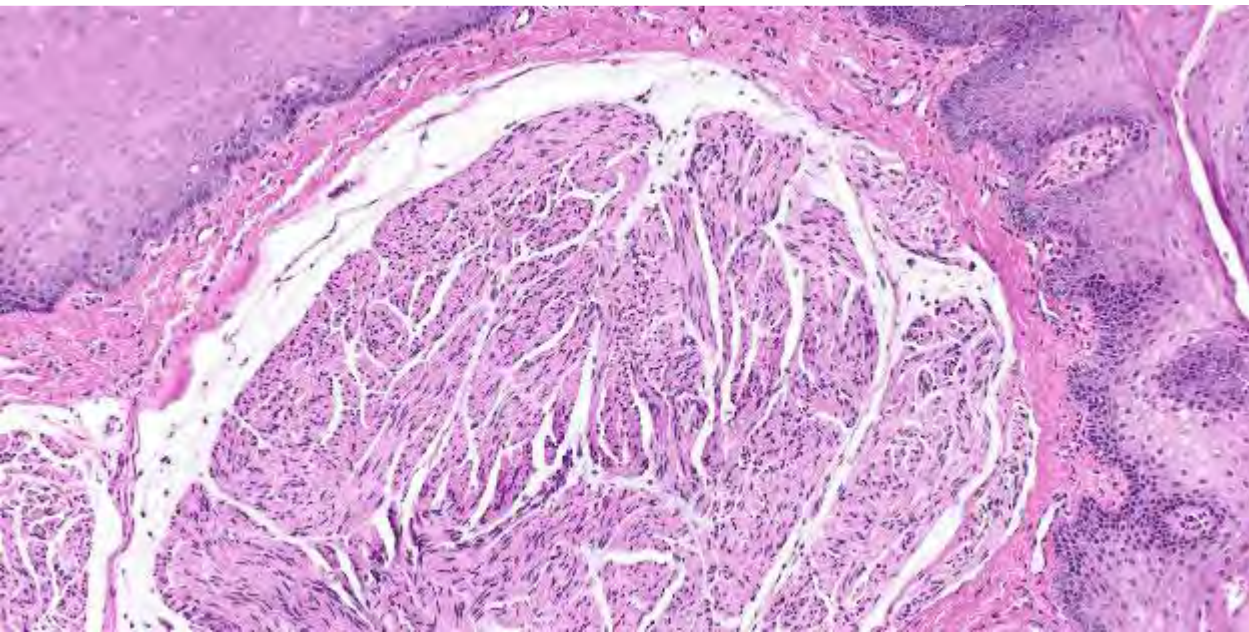
Several lesions are removed surgically under the clinical diagnosis of "lymphangiomas, retention cysts, or papillomas".



Multiple mucosal neuromas

(in the original report diagnosed as "neurofibromas")

(Thanks to the Institute of Pathology, Graz, for providing the specimens)



One year previously (age 7)



Four years previously (age 4) had presented at the Pediatric department; a diagnosis of "multiple retention cysts" had been made; a dermatological consultant made the diagnosis of "multiple oral papillomas and retention cysts". No treatment was administered.

Three years later, at the time of these pictures (1 year before biopsy), still no change in the diagnosis.

Age 15



Constipation and abdominal pain described already at birth (and in subsequent visits), with diagnosis of "congenital megacolon" made at birth (no other investigations performed).

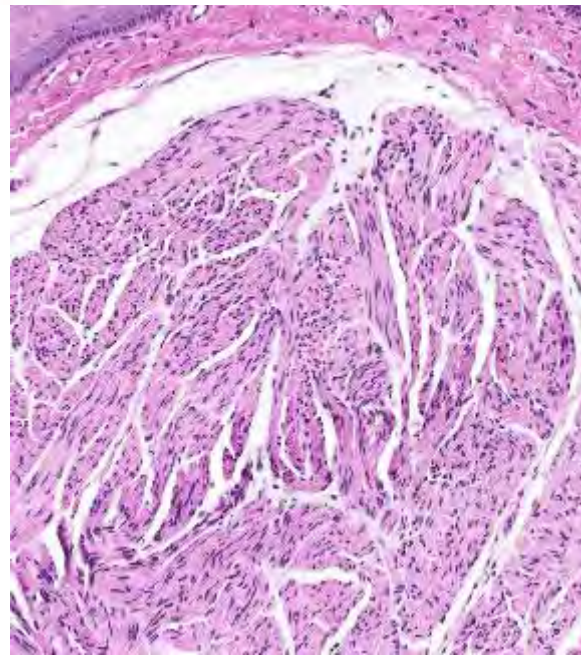
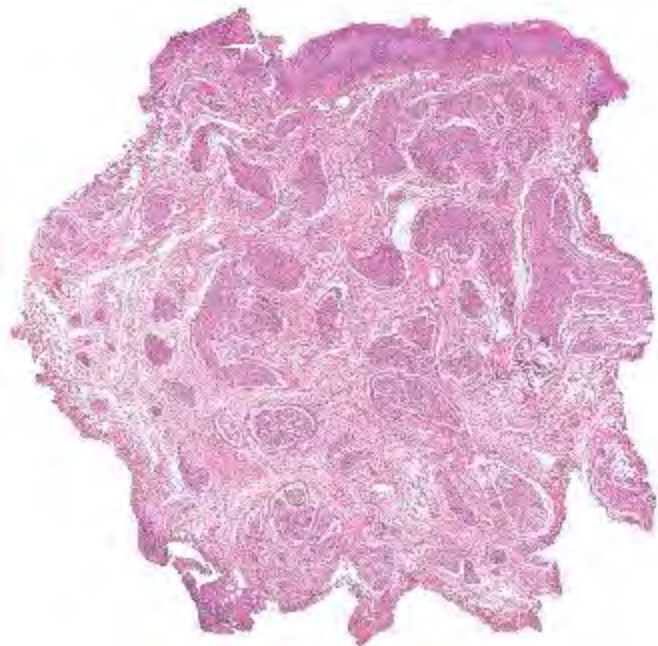
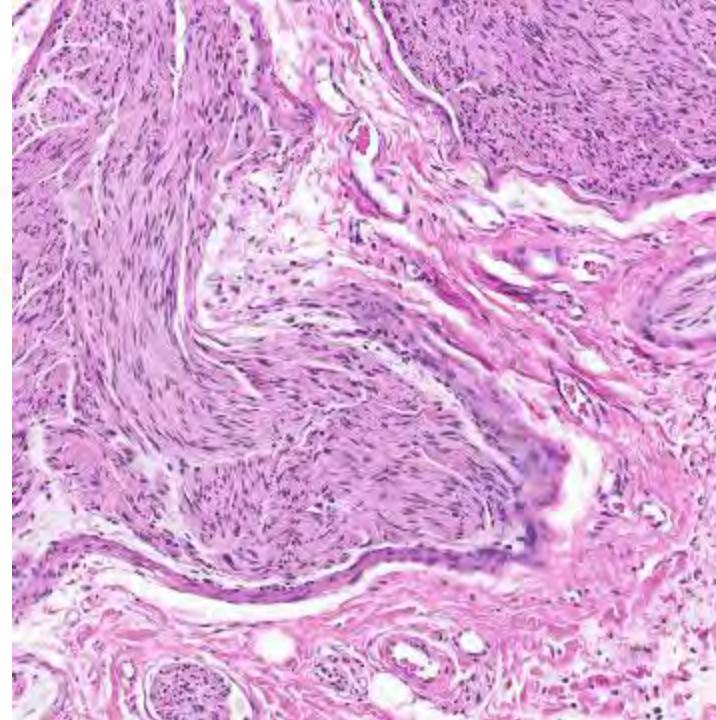
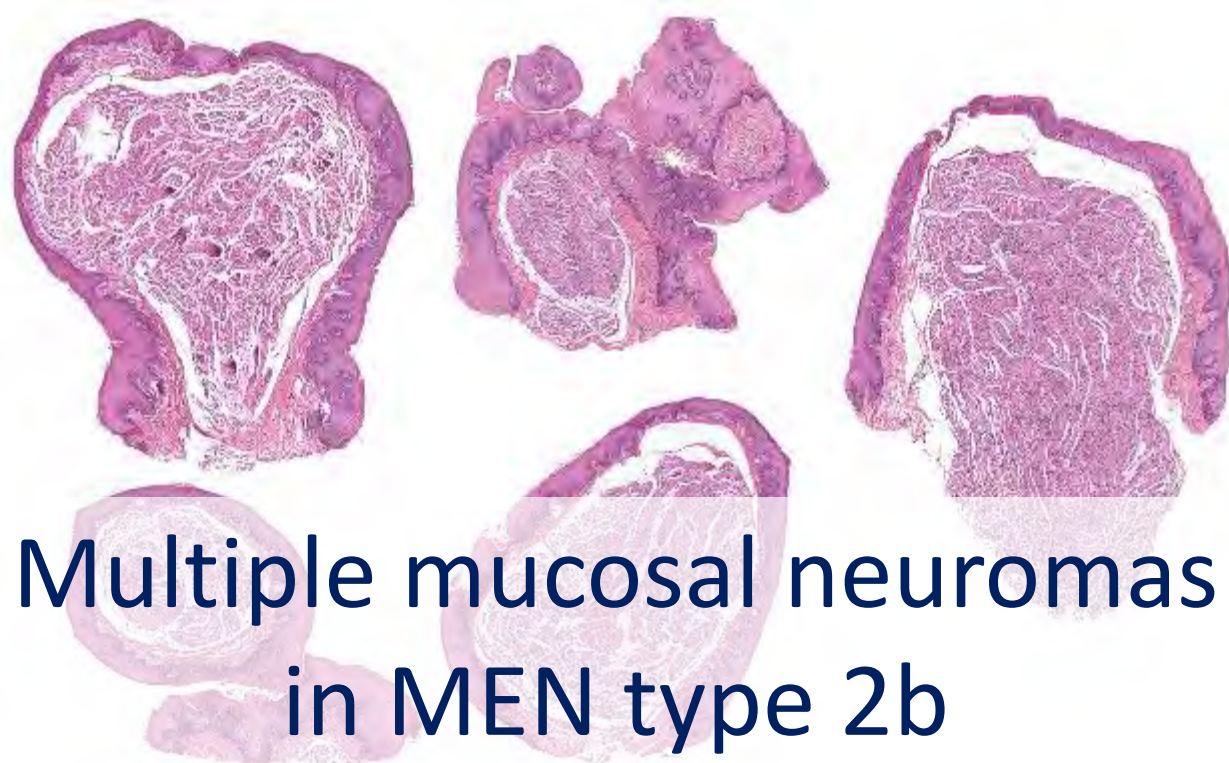
First description of oral lesions in a Hospital chart at the age of 4.

At 9, one year after the excision of some oral lesions, diagnosis of multifocal medullary thyroid carcinoma with lung and vertebral metastases; only at this time a diagnosis of MEN type 2b has been made (spontaneous mutation p-Met 918 THR).

During the years the oral lesions were slowly growing in number with appearance of neuromas also on the hard palate and gingiva.

At 15 new metastases detected, than stable disease.

At present (age 19) serum calcitonin 4760 (+++).



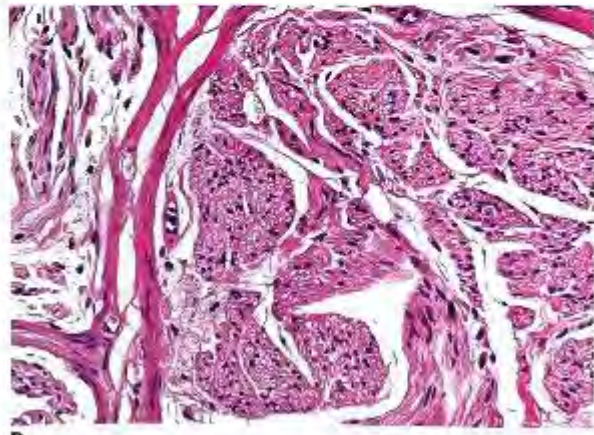
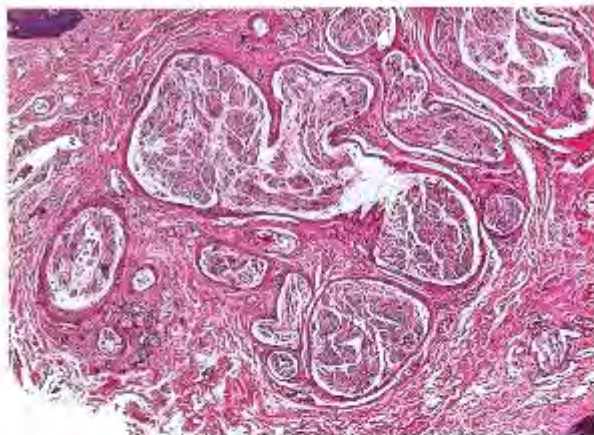
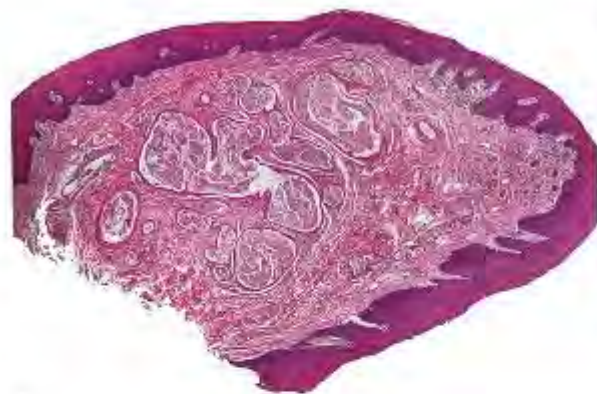


FIGURE 113-14. Histopathology of a neuroma of the tongue in a patient with the MEN 2b syndrome and multiple mucosal neuromas. **A:** Many nerve fascicles are seen in the propria of the mucosa. **B:** Each fascicle is ensheathed by perineurium. **C:** The lesion consists of mature nerve fascicles. **D:** Detailed image of one of the fascicles. Tiny "empty" holes correspond to axons, ensheathed by eosinophilic Schwann cells.



FIGURE 113-13. A patient with MEN 2b syndrome. **A:** Typical facies with prominent lips. Note the similarity with the patient in the previous figure. **B:** Neuromas on the free border of the eyelids. **C:** Multiple mucosal neuromas on the tip and lateral borders of the tongue. **D:** Detailed image of the multiple mucosal neuromas on the tip of the tongue.



Other Genodermatoses 63

Susan J. Bayliss, Monique G. Kumar, Ángela Hernández-Martín, Bernard A. Cohen, Teresa Martínez-Menchón, Encarna Guillén-Navarro, and Virginia P. Sybert



Fig. 63.2 Multiple endocrine neoplasia type 2B. Enlarged lips and multiple neuromas on the tip of the tongue.

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- Overview of Multiple Endocrine Neoplasias (MEN)
- Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia, Type 1 (MEN 1)
- Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia, Type 2A (MEN 2A)
- Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia, Type 2B (MEN 2B)**

Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia, Type 2B (MEN 2B)

(Mucosal Neuroma Syndrome; Multiple Endocrine Adenomatosis, Type 2B)

By [Patricia A. Daly, MD](#), University of Arizona
[Lewis Landecker, MD](#), Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
 Last reviewed on Apr 2021 | Modified Sep 2022

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Multiple endocrine neoplasia, type 2B (MEN 2B) is an autosomal dominant syndrome characterized by medullary thyroid carcinoma, pheochromocytoma, multiple mucosal neuromas and intestinal ganglioneuromas, and often a marfanoid habitus and other skeletal abnormalities. Symptoms depend on the glandular elements present. Diagnosis and treatment are the same as for MEN 2A.

See also Overview of Multiple Endocrine Neoplasias.

Having two parents of MEN 2B passes the 11 from a single amino acid substitution in the RET protein. As in MEN 2A, and familial medullary thyroid carcinoma, this mutation results in activation of RET proto-oncogene-mediated cellular processes. More than 50% are de novo mutations and thus may be sporadic rather than familial.

Symptoms and Signs of MEN 2B

Symptoms and signs reflect the glandular abnormalities present (see table [Complications Associated With Multiple Endocrine Neoplasias by Syndrome](#)). About 50% of patients have the complete syndrome with mucosal neuromas, pheochromocytoma, and medullary thyroid carcinoma. Fewer than 10% have neuromas and pheochromocytoma alone, whereas the remaining patients have neuromas and medullary thyroid carcinoma without pheochromocytoma.

Often, mucosal neuromas are the earliest sign, and they occur in most or all patients. Neuromas appear as small, fleshy, painless bumps on the lips, tongue, and buccal mucosa.

The eyelids, conjunctivae, and corneas also commonly develop neuromas; infants are often unable to make tears. Thickened eyelids and eyelashes, and fleshy hypertrophied lips are characteristic.

Coarse facial features and lax skin, in addition to thinning of the scalp hair, abnormal and occasionally megacolon are common and thought to result from diffuse intestinal ganglioneuromatosis.

Patients almost always have a [marfanoid habitus](#). Skeletal abnormalities are common, including deformities of the spine (scoliosis, kyphosis, scoliosis), enlarged capital femoral epiphyses, dolichostyly (long shaped skull, also called scapulothoracic habit), pectus excavatus and scoliosis habitus.

Medullary thyroid carcinoma and pheochromocytoma resemble the corresponding disorders in MEN 2A syndrome, both tend to be bilateral and multicentric. Medullary thyroid carcinoma, however, tends to be particularly aggressive in MEN 2B and may be present in very young children.

Although the neuromas, facial characteristics, and gastrointestinal disorders are present at an early age, the syndrome may not be recognized until medullary thyroid carcinoma or pheochromocytoma manifestly makes the

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Multiple endocrine neoplasia, type 2B (MEN 2B)

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The clinical symptoms of MEN2B include mucosal neuroma, Marfan-like habitus, thyroid carcinoma (especially medullary thyroid carcinoma), pheochromocytoma, gastrointestinal symptoms, and specialized facial features. MEN2B combined with GI symptoms mainly includes abdominal pain, constipation or diarrhea, and often includes megacolon disease.