

# Mimics of Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Dr Catriona McKenzie Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown









### Mimics of IBD: Overview

- Infections
- Drugs

- Autoimmune
- Other



### Infections

Infectious mimics	of IBD			
IBD mimic	Cause(s)	Populations at risk	Diagnostic clues	
Bacterial enteropathogens	Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, Yersinia, E. coli, Aeromonas	<ul> <li>Infections are often food- or water-borne</li> </ul>	Positive cultures/PCR	
Mycobacterial infections	M. tuberculosis, Mycobacterium avium-intercellulare complex	<ul> <li>Tuberculous colitis occurs regardless of immune status</li> <li>Non-tuberculous colitis affects immunodeficient patients</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Positive cultures/PCR</li> <li>Acid-fast stains have low sensitivity in paraffin-embedded tissue sections</li> </ul>	
Sexually transmitted proctocolitis	Syphilis (T. pallidum), lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV, C. trachomatis serotypes L1, L2, L3)	HIV-infected men who have sex with men	<ul> <li>Positive serologic studies (syphilis)</li> <li>Positive culture/PCR (LGV)</li> </ul>	
Amoebiasis	Entamoeba histolytica	All ages affected     Worldwide distribution	<ul> <li>25-40 nm, PAS + trophozoites containing erythrocytes within adherent exudate</li> <li>Positive E. histolytica serology</li> </ul>	
Cord colitis	Bradyrhizobium enterica	<ul> <li>Cord blood hematopoetic</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Culture-negative, antibiotic-responsive</li> </ul>	

stem cell transplant recipients

(presumably)

diarrhoea

#### Case 1: NSW does it better

Male 46 years

#### CLINICAL DETAILS

Histopathology. Pancolitis. Ulcerative colitis. Total colectomy - mesenteric lymph node specimen.

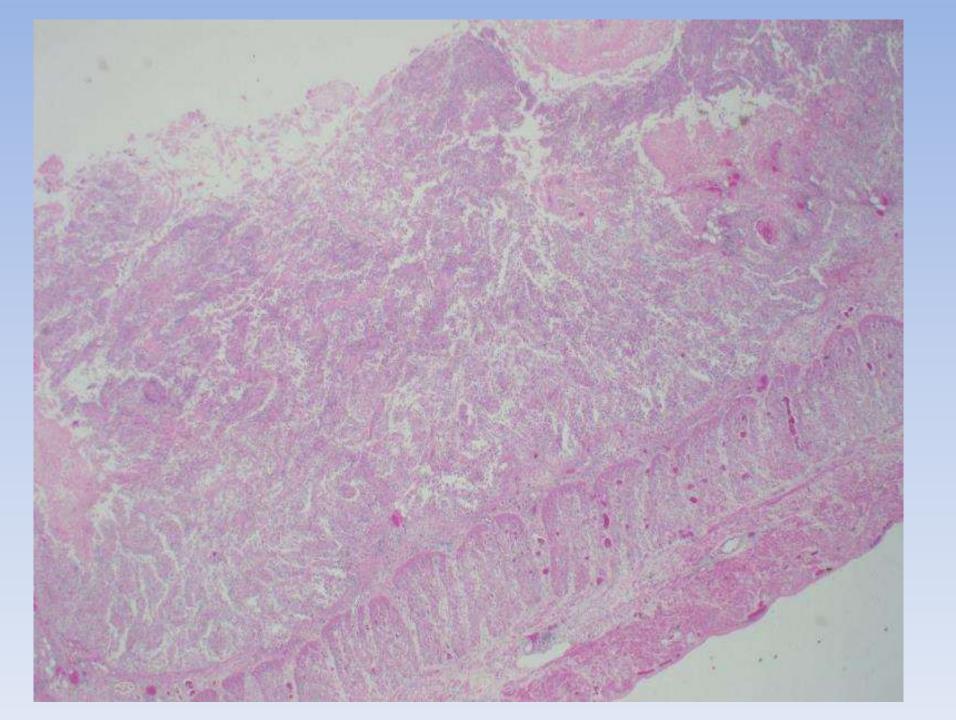
- 46M
- Diagnosed with ulcerative colitis in "the country" on biopsy
- Refractory to treatment with steroids and infliximab
- Transferred to RPAH where he underwent an emergency proctocolectomy



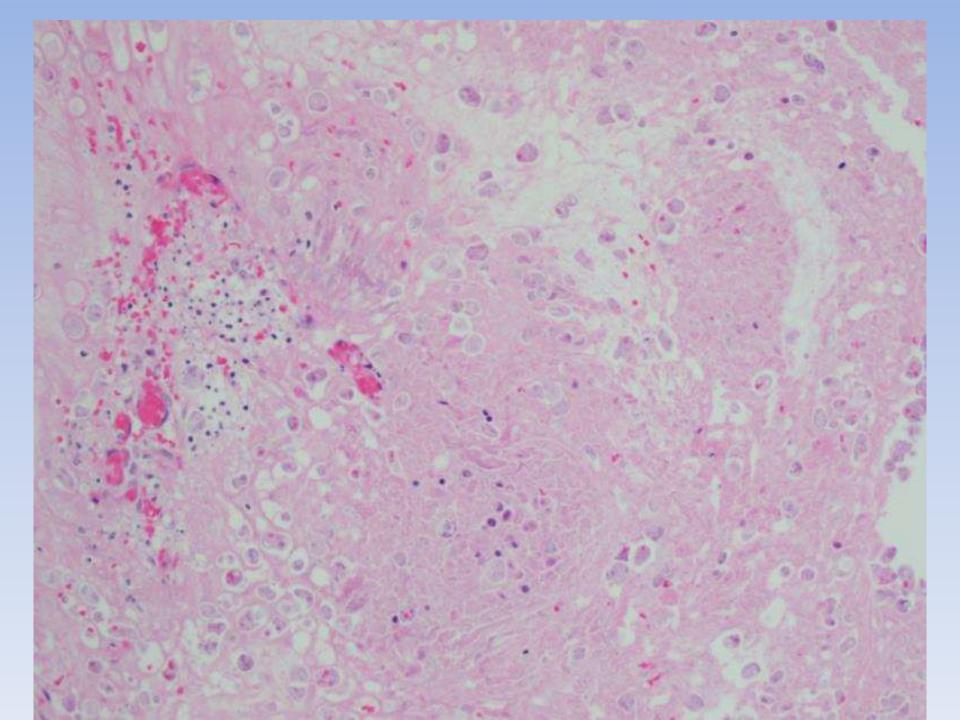
World J Gastrointest Endosc 2017 July 16; 9(7): 327-333

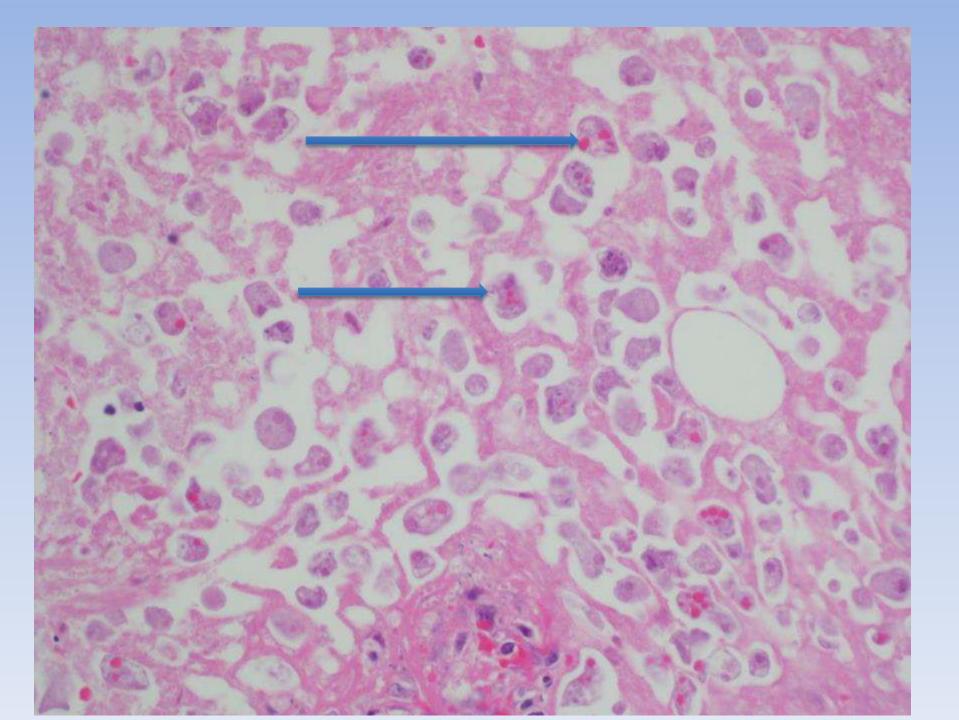


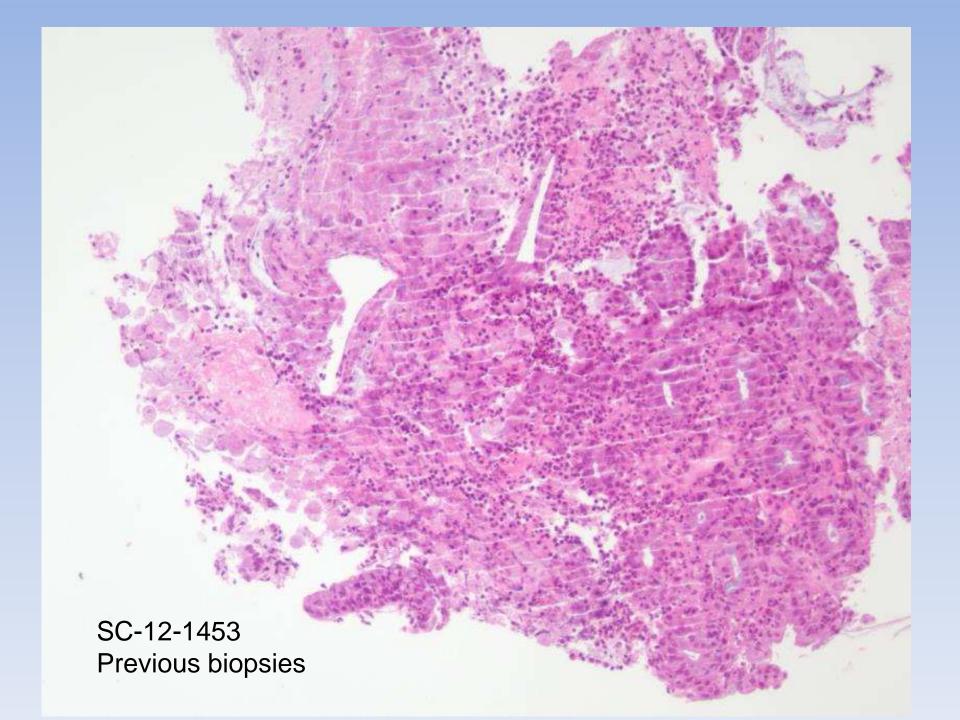


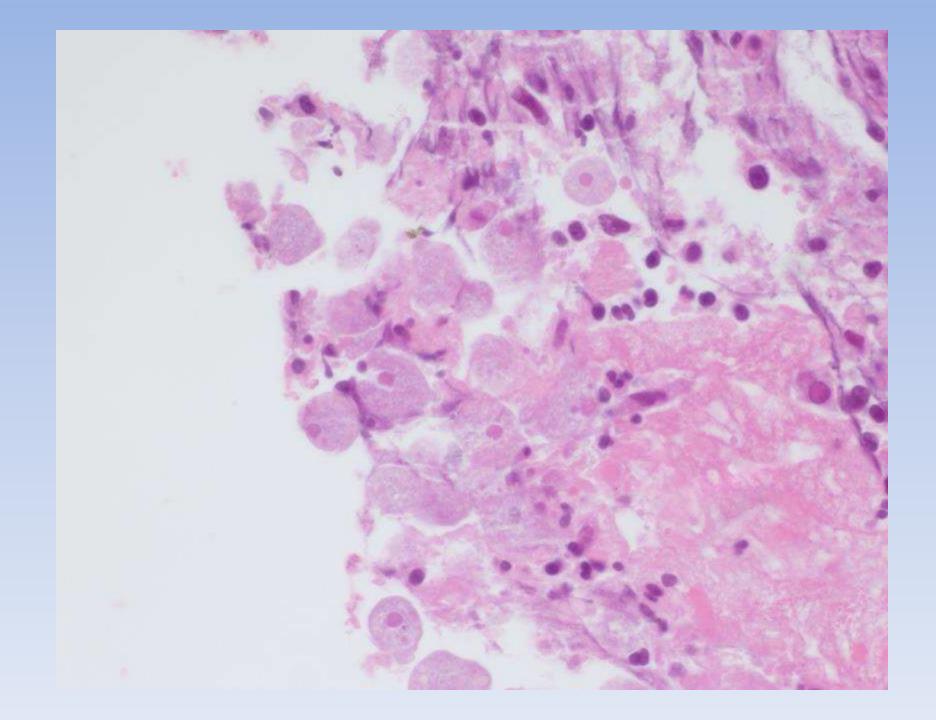












### Entamoeba histolytica

- Parasitic infection, orofaecal transmission
- 10% of world's population is infected
- Industrialised countries immigrants, returned travellers, MSM
- Symptoms vary from vague to fulminant colitis
- May form mass (ameboma)
- May disseminate (liver, CNS)





RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Fulminant Amebic Colitis after Corticosteroid Therapy: A Systematic Review

Debbie-Ann Shirley<sup>1</sup>, Shannon Moonah<sup>2</sup>\*

1 Department of Pediatrics, University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, Virginia, United States of America, 2 Department of Medicine, University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, Virginia, United States of America

- 24 cases identified of intestinal amoebiasis with concomitant corticosteroid therapy
- 25% cases fatal
- 11 (46%) given steroids for misdiagnosed IBD
- Organisms identified on histology on 47% cases from endoscopic biopsies

CASE REPORT

28

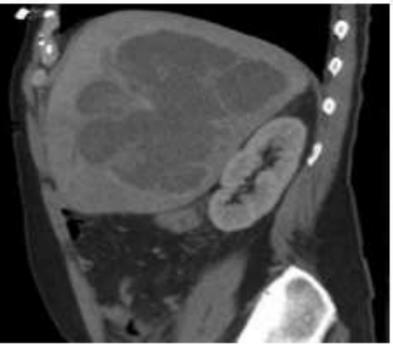
# Learning points from a case of severe amoebic colitis

Christina Petridou<sup>1</sup>, Adnan Al-Badri<sup>2</sup>, Anjana Dua<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Dryden<sup>1</sup>, Kordo Saeed<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Microbiology Department, Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, United Kingdom;

<sup>2</sup>Pathology Department, Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, United Kingdom





### Three subsequent cases

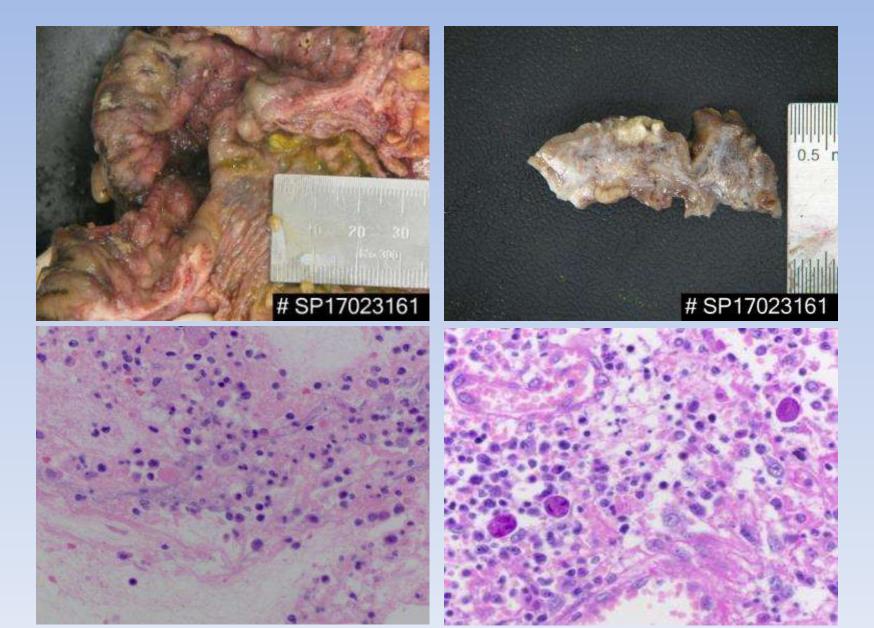
- 67 M
- Cardiac arrest, perforation with 4 quadrant peritonitis

- 75 M
- Perforation and peritonitis



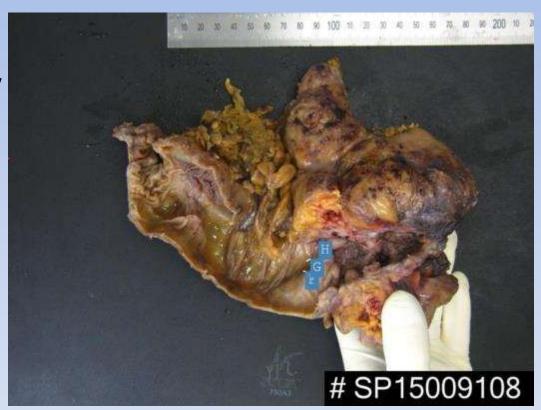


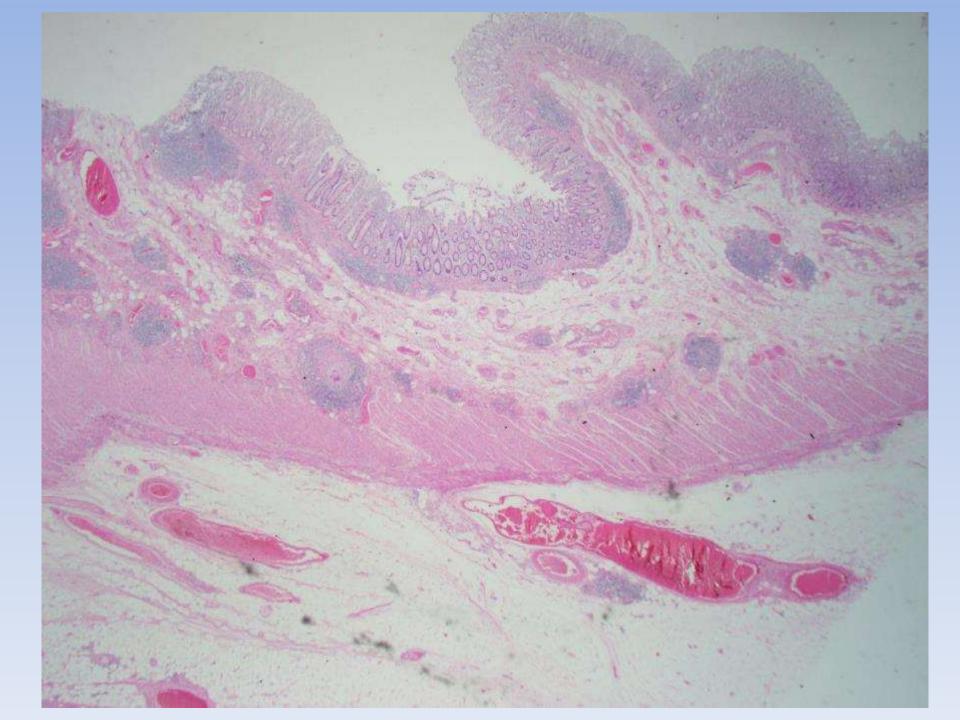
### 58 M, Caecal "tumour"

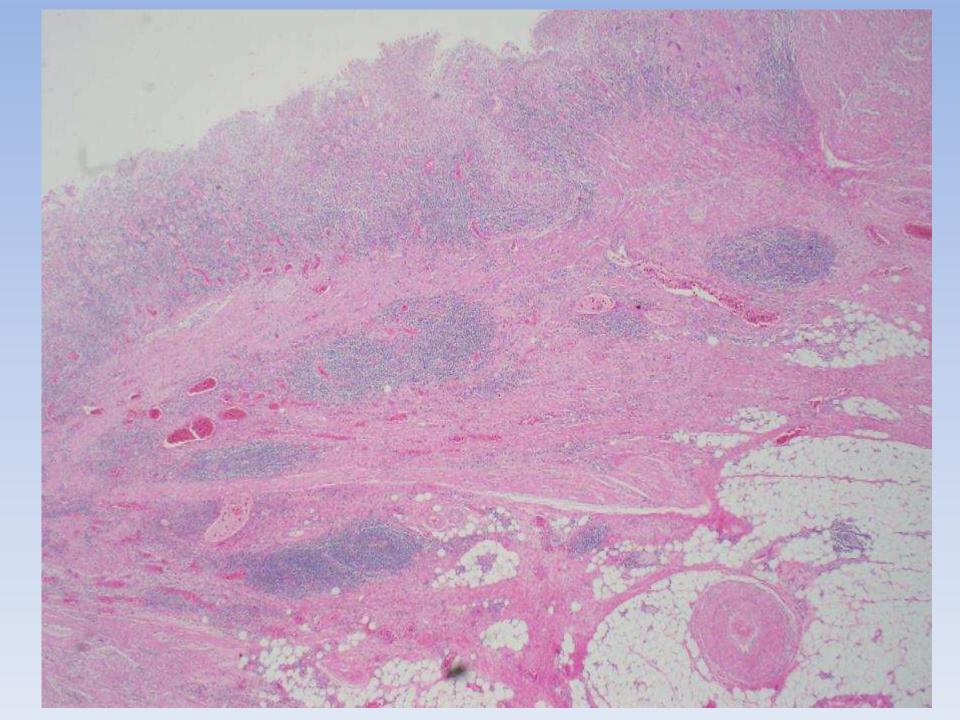


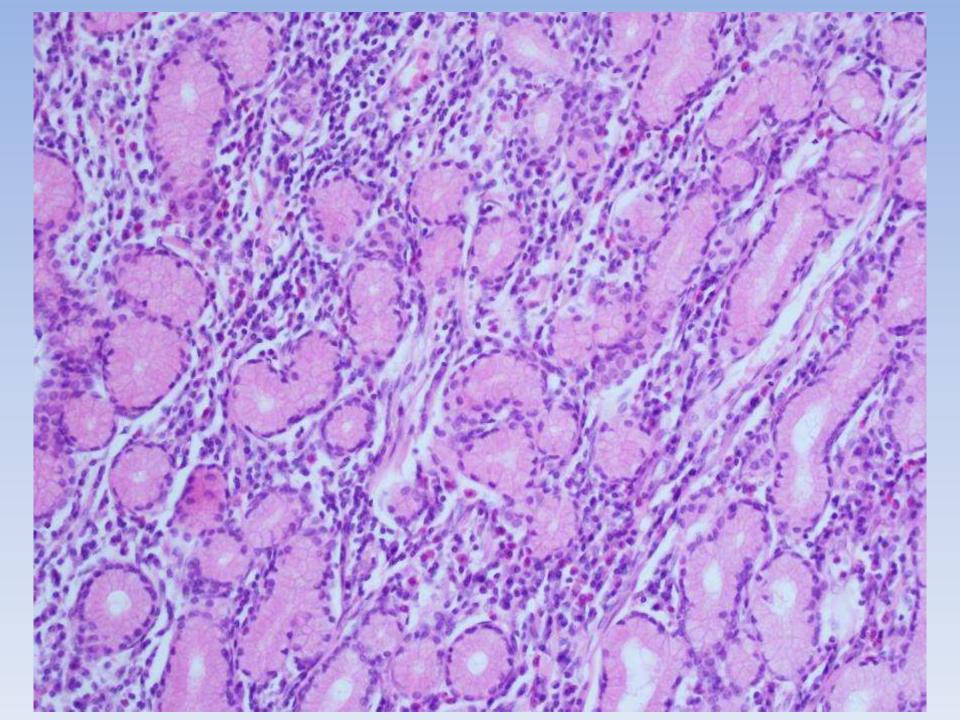
### Case 2: Wear a mask

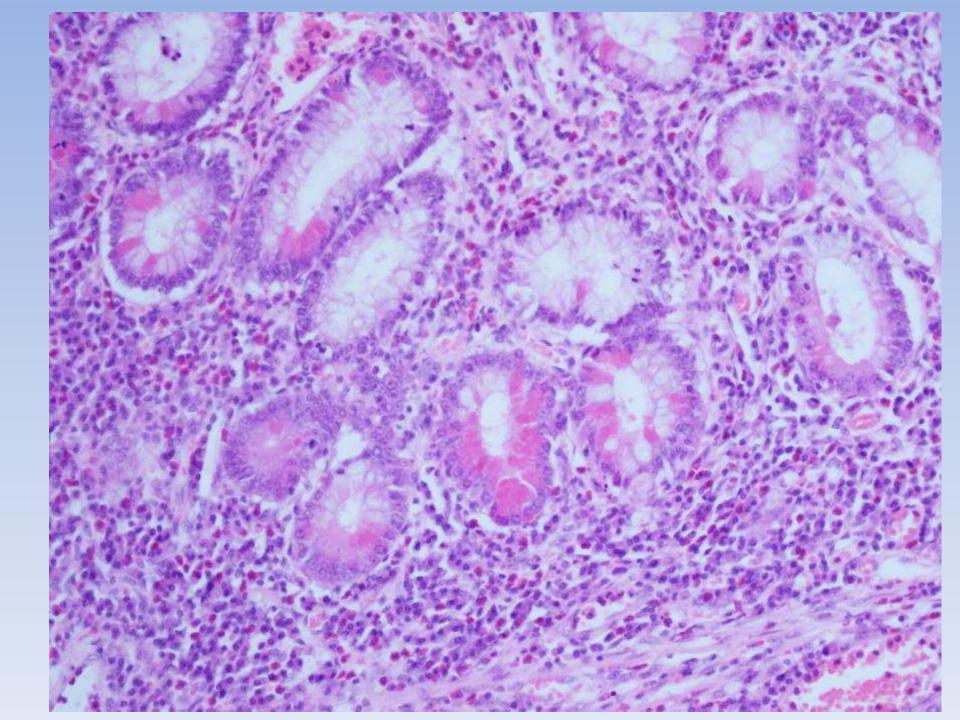
- 61 year old man
- Right hemi colectomy



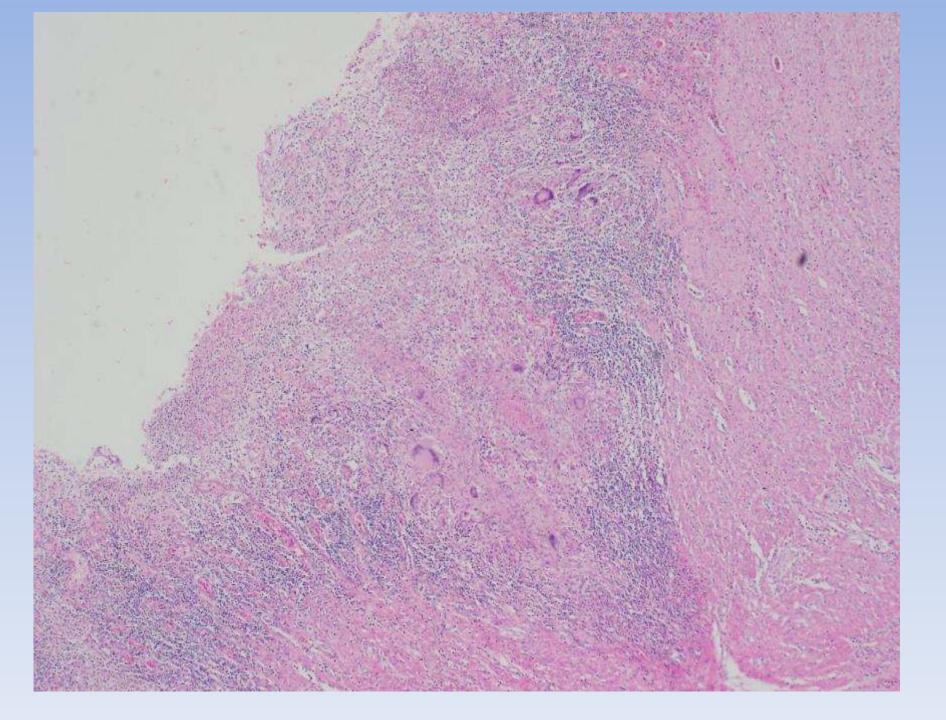


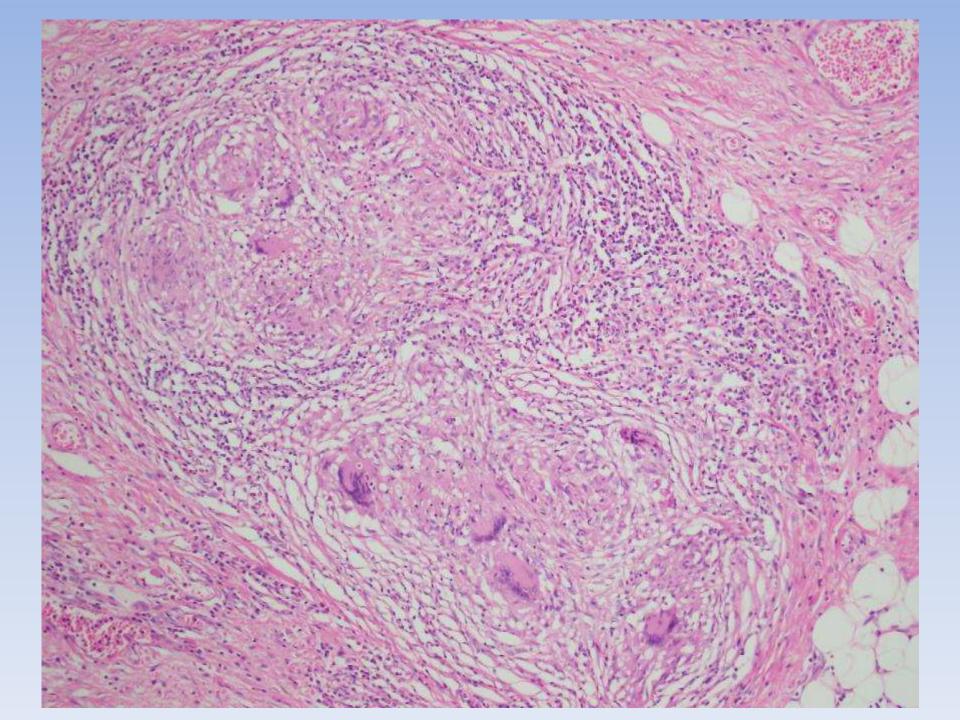


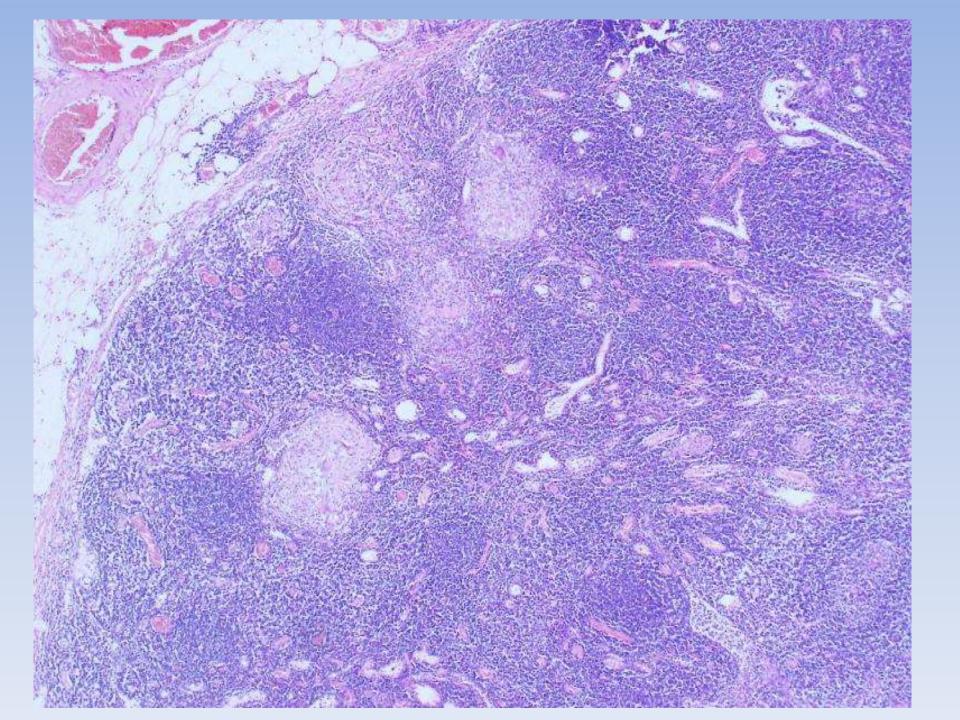


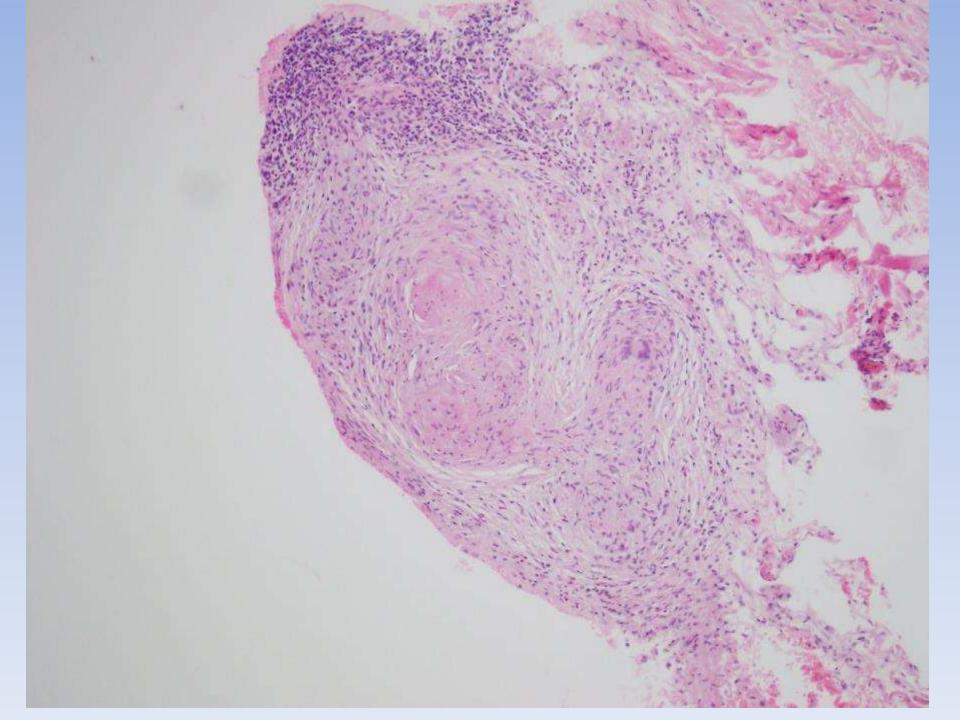






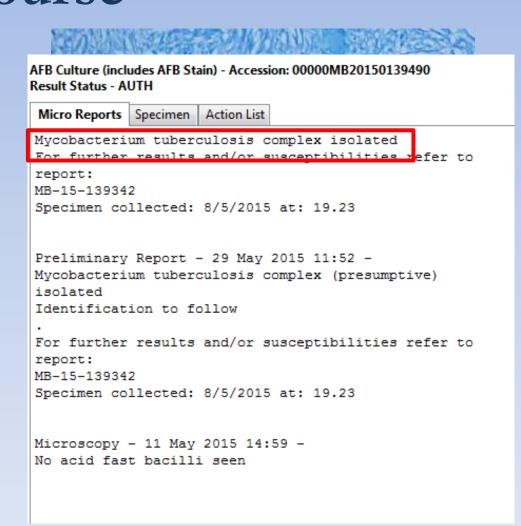






# Further history/ subsequent course

- No history of IBD or recent overseas travel
- ZN (and other organisms stains)
   negative
- Mycobacterial PCR negative
- Culture of peritoneal nodules negative
- Treated presumptively for TB





### Tuberculosis: Experience in a Low Endemic Area Australian Tertiary Hospital

Preetjote Gill · Nicholas R. Coatsworth · Justin S. Gundara · Thomas J. Hugh · Jaswinder S. Samra

20 year period 841 patients identified with TB,
 2.4% abdominal involvement, <1% ileo-caecal or small bowel involvement</li>

# Review article: the diagnosis and management of Crohn's disease in populations with high-risk rates for tuberculosis

D. EPSTEIN\*, G. WATERMEYER† & R. KIRSCH‡

© 2007 The Authors, Aliment Pharmacol Ther 25, 1373-1388

Table 2. Prevalence of selected histological parameters in patients with intestinal tuberculosis (ITB) and Crohn's disease (CD): A comparison of three similar studies. 94-96

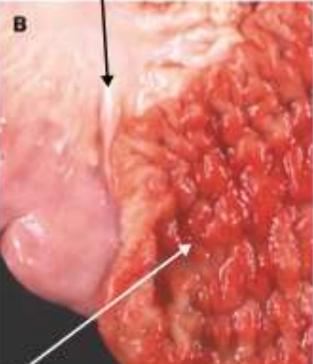
	Pulimood <i>et al.</i> (1999) Southern India		Pulimood <i>et al.</i> (2005) Southern India		Kirsch <i>et al.</i> (2006), Cape Town, South Africa	
	ITB $(n = 20)$	CD $(n = 20)$	ITB $(n = 33)$	CD $(n = 31)$	ITB (n = 18)	CD (n = 25)
Caseous necrosis	40	0	36	0	22	0
Confluent granulomas	60	0	42	3	50	0
≥5 granulomas/biopsy site	40	0	45	0	44	24
≥10 granulomas/biopsy site	-	-	-	340	33	0
Large granulomas	Diameter > 200 μm		Diameter > 400 $\mu$ m		Area > 0.05 mm <sup>2</sup>	
	90	5	51	0	67	8
Submucosal granulomas	45	5	39	6	44	12
Ulcers lined by bands of epithelioid histiocytes	45	5	61	0	61	8
Disproportionate submucosal inflammation	65	5	_	2	67	10
Architectural distortion distant to granulomatous inflammation	~	-	0	62	2	-

Values are given in percentages.

# Is Crohn's disease caused by a mycobacterium? Comparisons with leprosy, tuberculosis, and Johne's disease

Robert J Greenstein





Lancet Infect Dis 2003; 3: 507-14

# Detection of organisms with ZN and PCR in ITB

- Reports of AFB positivity on ZN in ITB variable 6-8% to 53.4%
- Reported sensitivity rate of PCR on FFPE tissue of endoscopic biopsies of ITB 22-75%

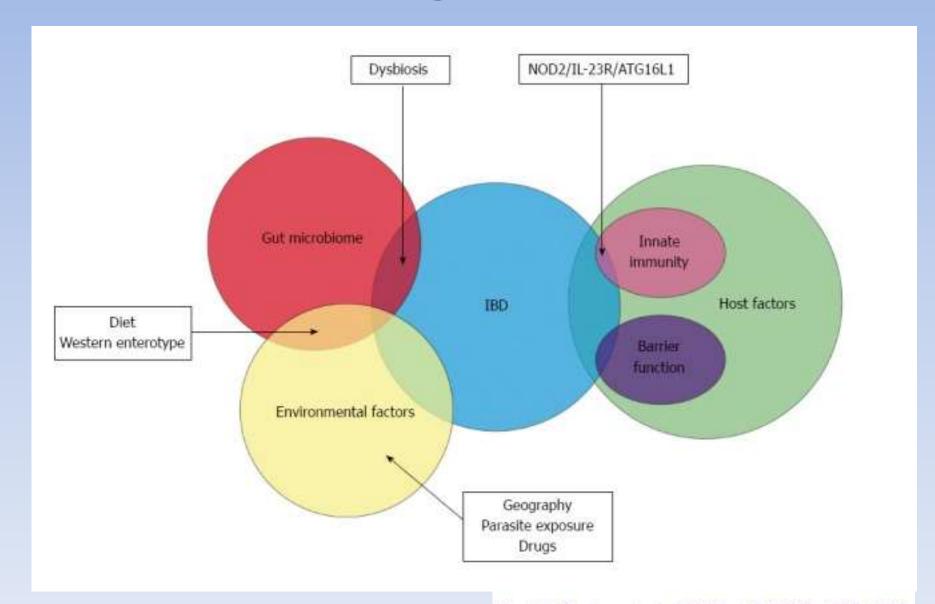
Am | Surg Pathol • Volume 41, Number 10, October 2017

### The Utility of Immunohistochemistry in Mycobacterial Infection

A Proposal for Multimodality Testing

Isaac H. Solomon, MD, PhD,\* Melanie E. Johncilla, MD,\* Jason L. Hornick, MD, PhD,\* and Danny A. Milner, Jr, MD, MSc (Epi)†

### Aetiology of IBD



World J Gastroenterol. 2014 Feb 7; 20(5): 1192-1210.

# Case 3: Sexually transmitted infectious proctitis/colitis

- Syphilis and LGV/CT most commonly reported
- Neisseria gonorrhea

**BMJ** Case Reports

Reminder of important clinical lesson

Lymphogranuloma venereum and HIV infection: misdiagnosed as Crohn's disease

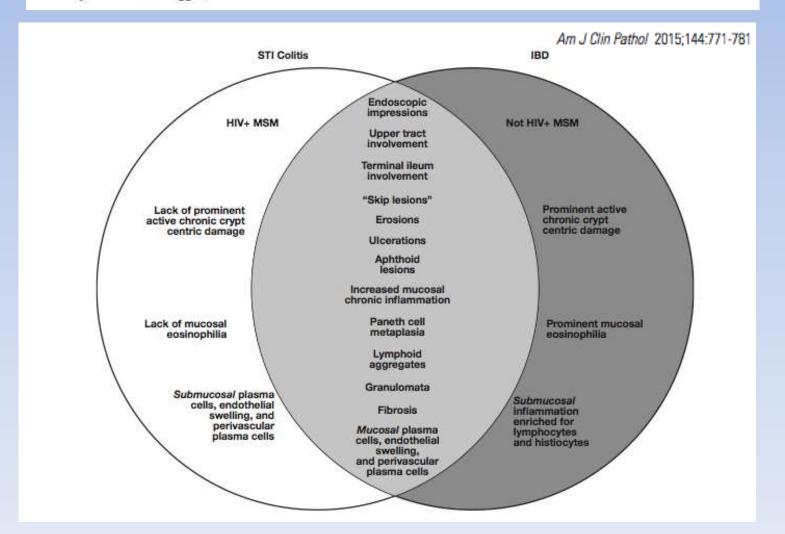
Sheel Patel, Phillip Hay

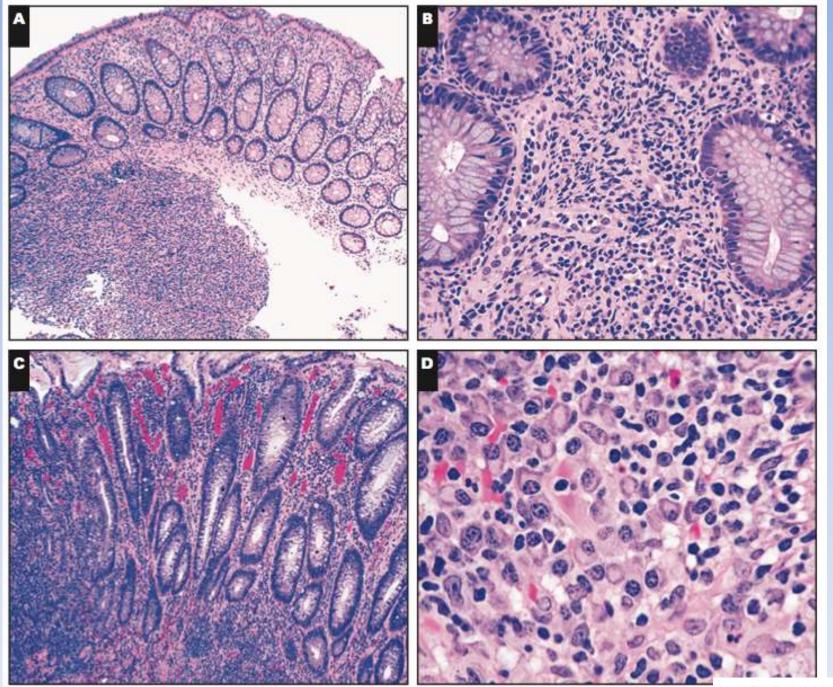
BMJ Case Reports 2010; doi:10.1136/bcr.02.2010.2771

### Sexually Transmitted Infectious Colitis vs Inflammatory Bowel Disease

#### Distinguishing Features From a Case-Controlled Study

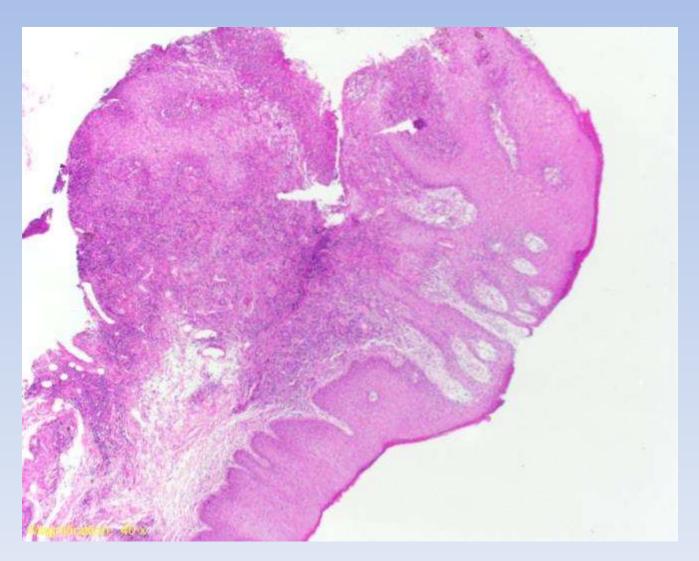
Christina A. Arnold, MD,<sup>1</sup> Rachel Roth, MD,<sup>1</sup> Razvan Arsenescu, MD,<sup>2</sup> Alan Harzman, MD,<sup>3</sup> Dora M. Lam-Himlin, MD,<sup>4</sup> Berkeley N. Limketkai, MD,<sup>5</sup> Elizabeth A. Montgomery, MD,<sup>6</sup> and Lysandra Voltaggio, MD<sup>6</sup>

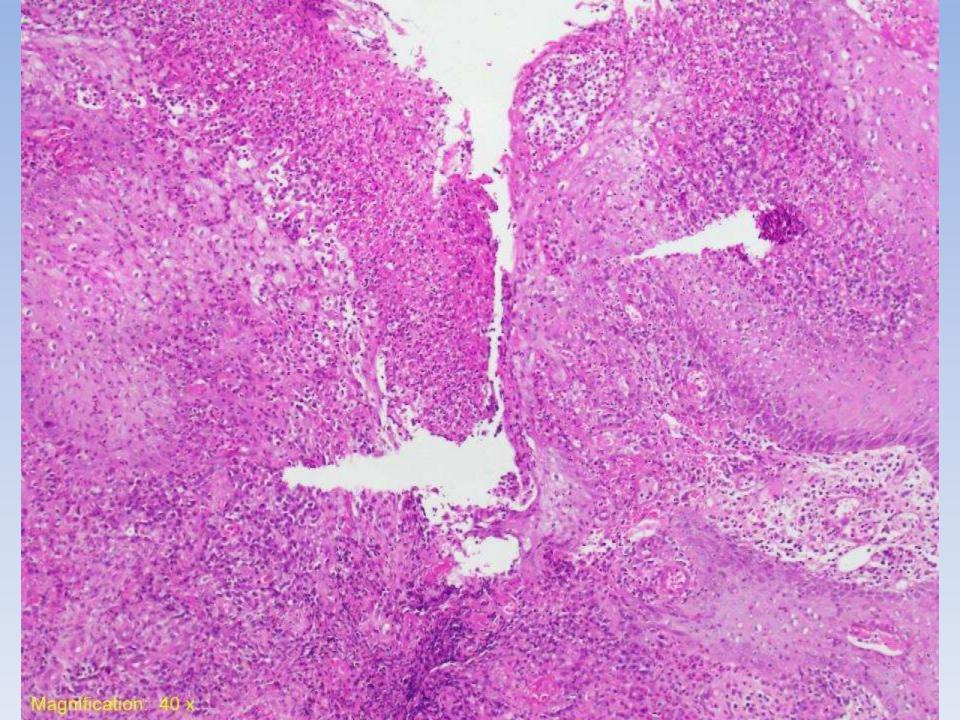


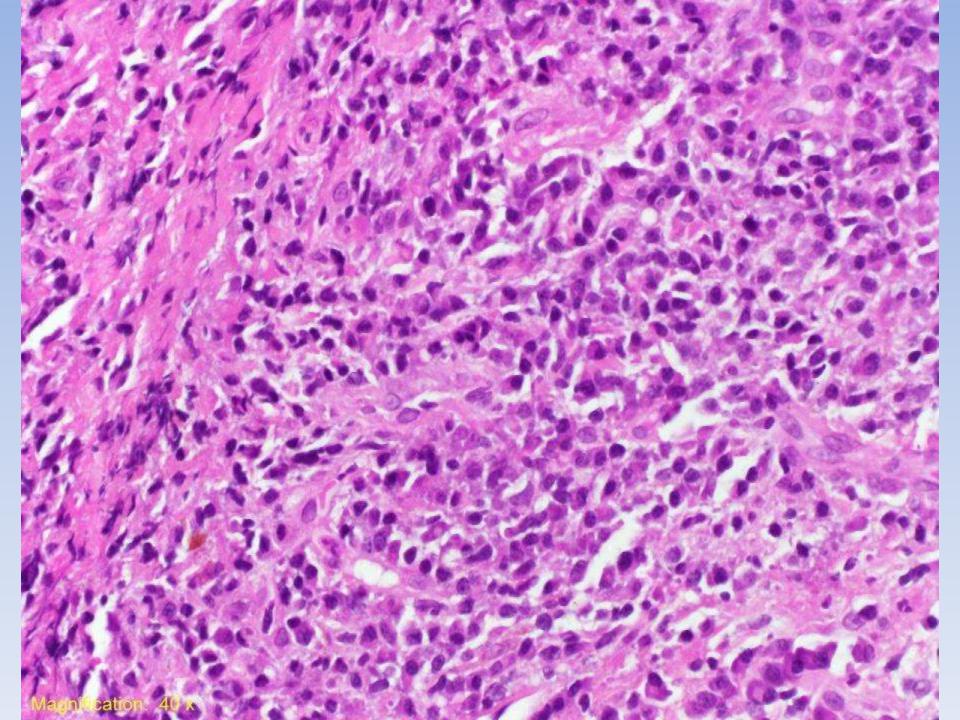


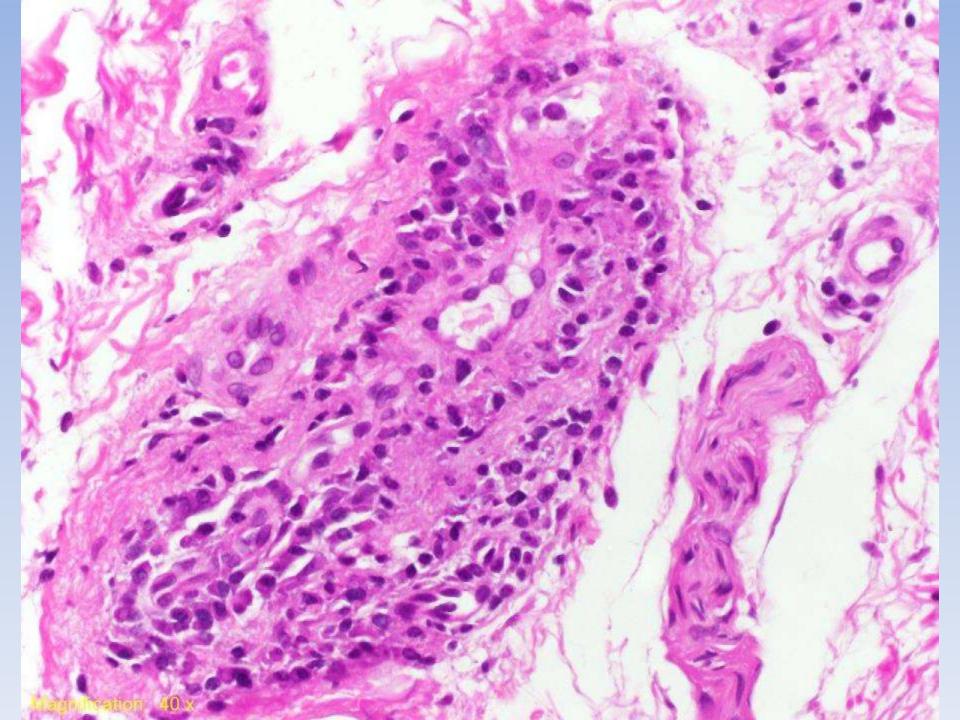
Am J Clin Pathol 2015;144:771-781

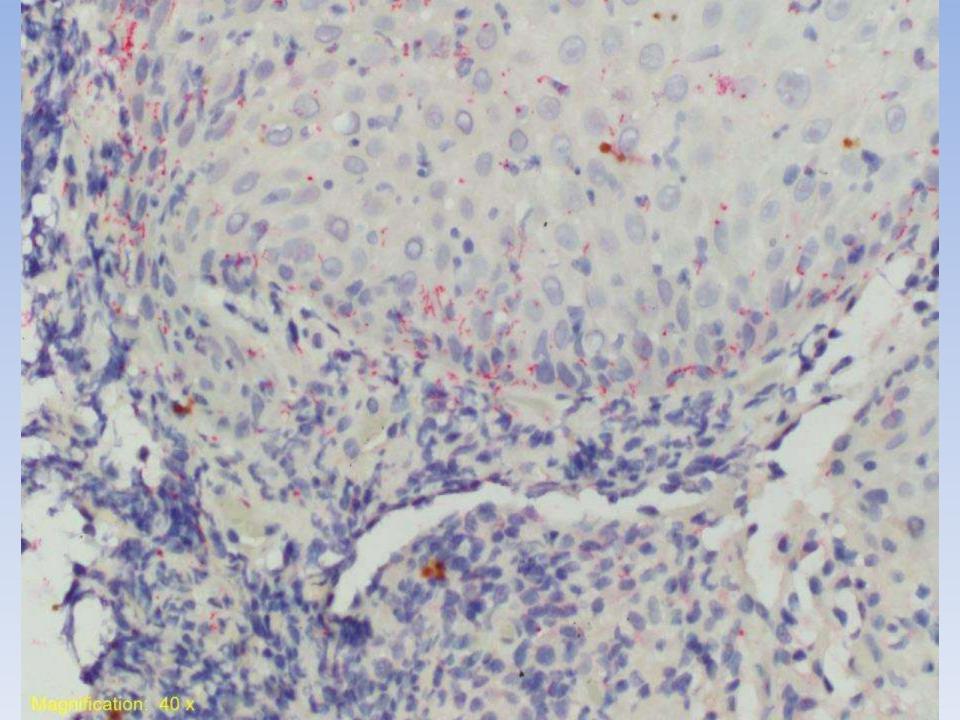
## 56M. Diarrhoea, weight loss. Anal ulcer











Diagnoses: Early syphilis infection (with concurrent features of both primary & secondary syphilis)
Anorectal gonorrhoea infection



# Fifty shades of chronic colitis: non-infectious imposters of inflammatory bowel disease

Christina A Arnold

Dora Lam-Himlin

Ferlyl Bhaljee

Diagnostic Histopathology, 2015

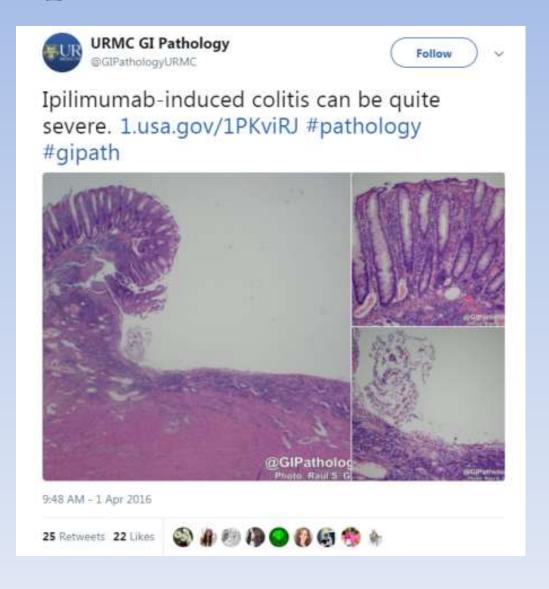
- Infections
- Drugs
- Autoimmune
- Other

#### Top etiologic considerations of the chronic colitis pattern

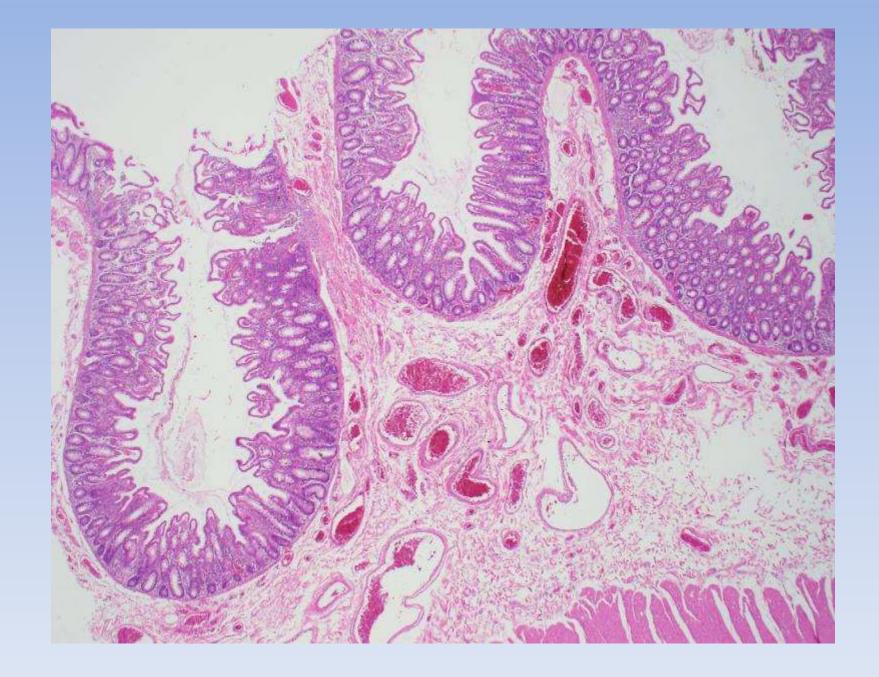
- Diverticular disease
- Diversion colitis
- Therapeutics
  - o NSAIDs
  - o Resins
  - o Ipilimumab
- Vascular injury
  - o Ischaemia
  - o Radiation
  - Vasculitis
- Autoimmune
  - Sarcoid
  - Common variable immunodeficiency
  - Chronic granulomatous disease
  - Vasculitis
- Infections
  - · Stool pathogens
  - o Cord colitis syndrome
  - Syphilitic and lymphogranuloma venereum colitis
  - o Others

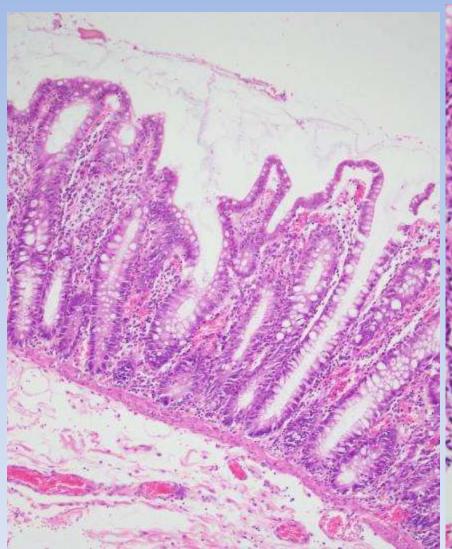
## Case 4 #quite severe

- 69 year old man
- Pan colitis
- ?Toxic megacolon on imaging
- Known metastatic melanoma on treatment with Ipilimumab

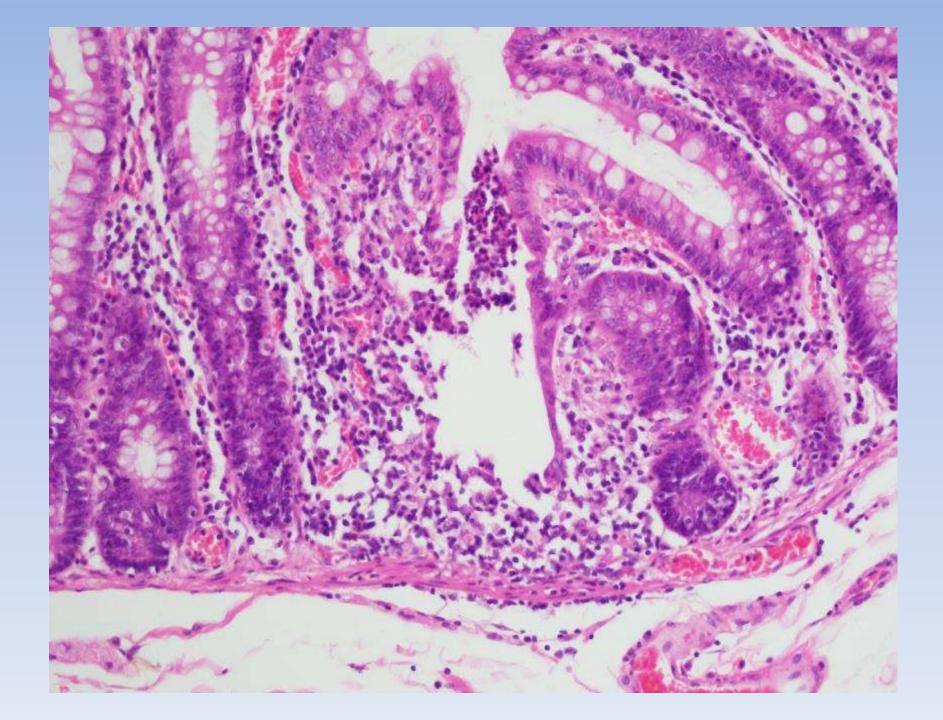


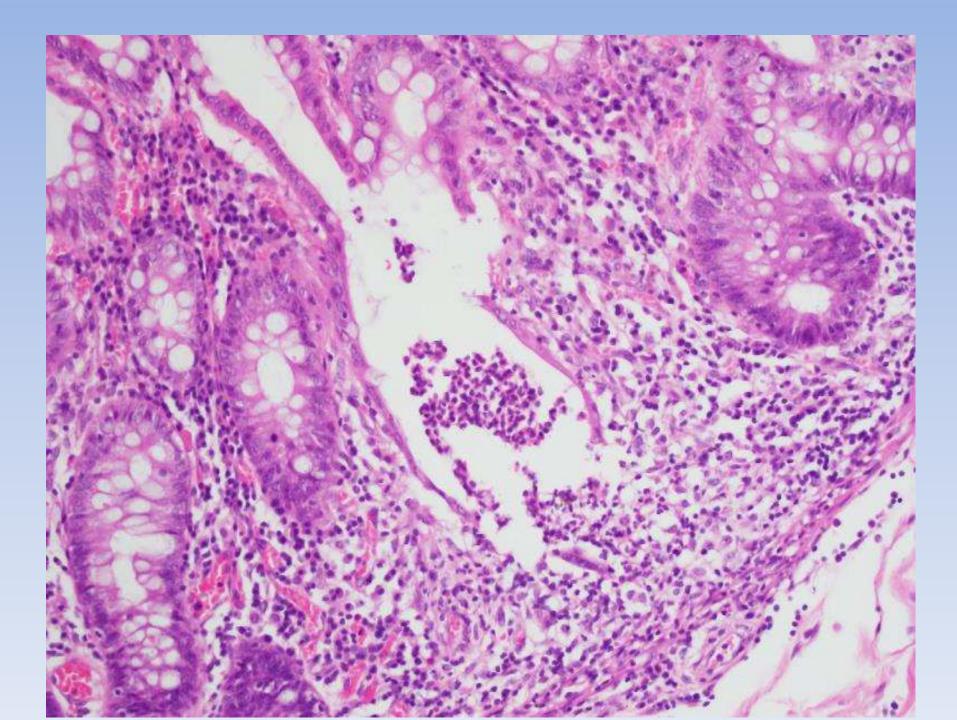












## Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor-Induced Colitis: Diagnosis and Management

Caroline Prieux-Klotz<sup>1</sup> • Marie Dior<sup>1,2</sup> • Diane Damotte<sup>3</sup> • Johann Dreanic<sup>1,2</sup> • Bertrand Brieau<sup>1,2</sup> • Catherine Brezault<sup>1,2</sup> • Vered Abitbol<sup>1</sup> • Stanislas Chaussade<sup>1,2</sup> • Romain Coriat<sup>1,2</sup>

Targ Oncol (2017) 12:301–308

Author and publication	Treatment	N	Gastrointestinal toxicities: all grade N(%)	Grade III-IV gastrointestina toxicities N(%)
Hodi et al. [5]	Ipilimumab 3 mg/kg every 3 weeks	131	Diarrhea: 36 (25.7%) Colitis: 10 (7.6%)	Diarrhea: 6 (4.6%) Colitis: 10 (7.6%)
Hodi et al. [5]	Ipilimumab 3 mg/kg + glycoprotein 100 mg every 3 weeks	380	Diarrhea: 115 (30.3%) Colitis: 20 (5.3%)	Diarrhea: 14 (3.7%) Colitis: 12 (3.1%)
Robert et al. [27]	Pembrolizumab 2 mg/kg every 2 weeks	89	0	0
Robert et al. [27]	Pembrolizumab 10 mg/kg every 3 weeks	84	Diarrhea: 1 (1.2%)	Diarrhea 1 (1.2%)
Garon et al. [9]	Pembrolizumab 2 mg/kg or 10 mg/kg every 2 or 3 weeks	495	Diarrhea: 40 (8.1%)	Diarrhea: 3 (0.6%)
Robert et al. [6]	Nivolumab 3 mg/kg every 2 weeks	206	Diarrhea: 39 (16%) Colitis: 2 (1%)	Diarrhea: 2 (1%) Colitis: 1 (0.5%)
Weber et al. [7]	Nivolumab 3 mg/kg every 2 weeks	268	Diarrhea: 30 (11.2%) Colitis: 3 (1.1%)	Diarrhea: 1 (0.3%) Colitis: 2 (0.7%)
Rizvi et al. [10]	Nivolumab 3 mg/kg every 2 weeks	117	Diarrhea: 12 (10.5%)	Diarrhea: 12 (10.5%)
Rittmeyer et al. [28]	Atezolizumab 1200 mg every 3 weeks		Colitis: 2 (<1%)	Colitis: 0

#### Ipilimumab-induced toxicities and the gastroenterologist

Robert Cheng,\*,1 Adam Cooper,†,1,1 James Kench,5 Geoff Watson,5 William Bye,\* Catriona McNeil†,1,1,2 and Nicholas Shackel\*,2

\*A.W. Morrow Gastroenterology and Liver Centre, \*Department of Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology, \*Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, 'Chris O'Brien Lifehouse, Camperdown and \*Melanoma Institute of Australia, North Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

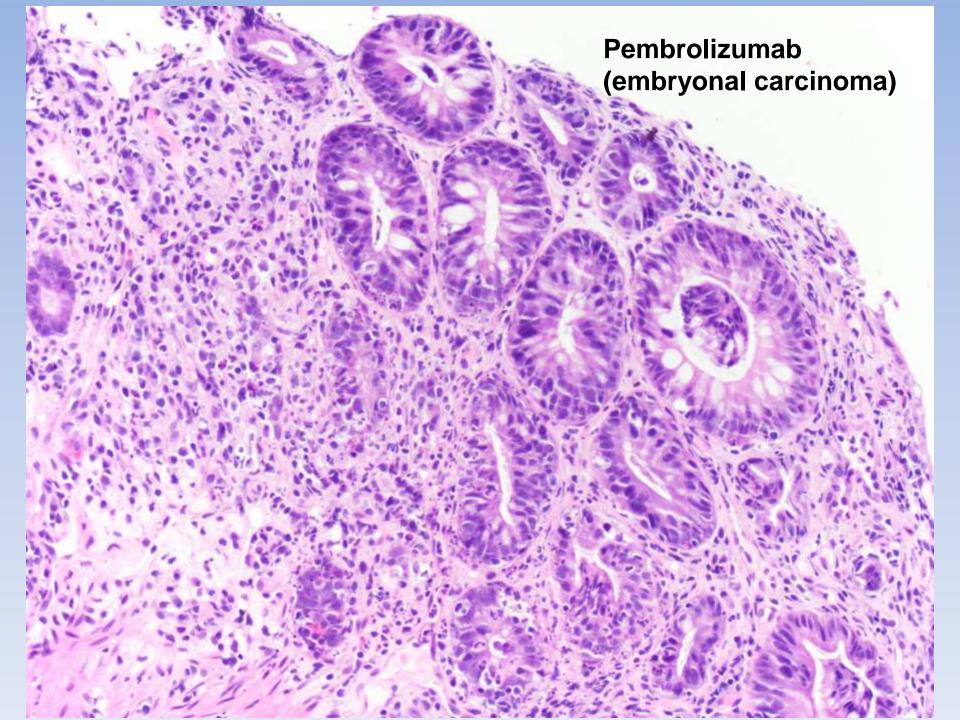
- Neutrophilic infiltrates with cryptitis, crypt abcesses, +/-granulomas
- Lymphocytic infiltrate
- Mixed
- Increased apoptosis/GVHD like
- Small Bowel involvement

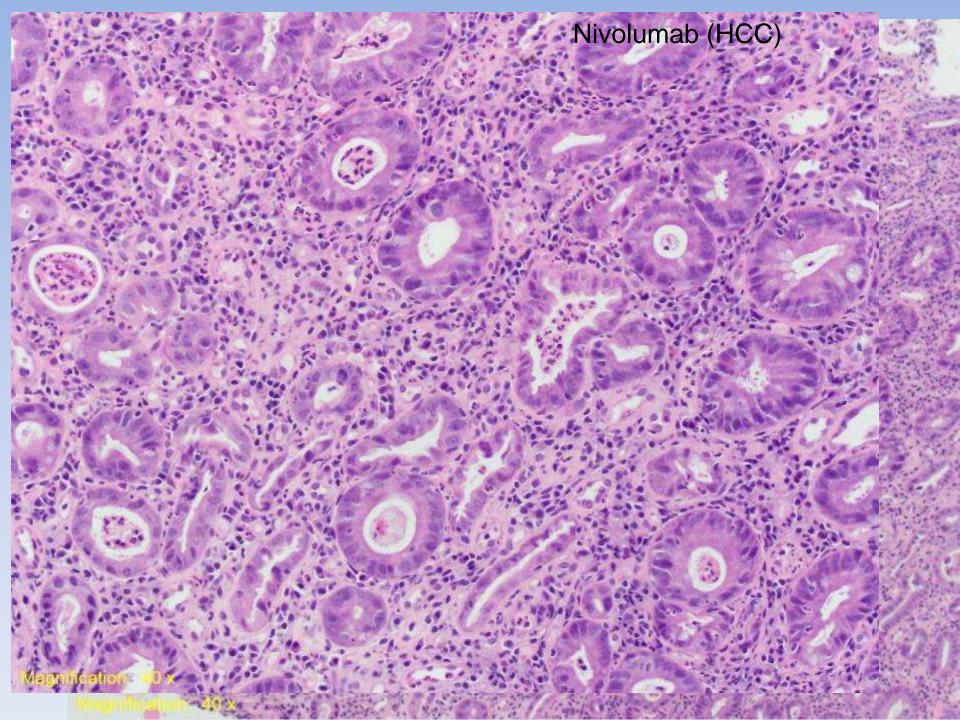
#### Pembrolizumab associated colitis

Table 1: Patients	the state of the second	Land St. Common of the	The state for the state of the state
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I dole I. I dilellis	WILLIOUE	IDIIII III III III III III III III III	LADUSUIC

No Ipilimumab Exposure	Nivolumab	Pembrolizumab	Total
Number of Patients	8	4	12
Median Age	61.5	64	62
Male, n (%)	5 (62)	0 (0)	5 (42)
Female, n (%)	3 (38)	4 (100)	7 (58)
Median doses of drug	13.5	4.5	
Median time to symptoms from drug intiation (months)	8.5	4	6.5
Imaging: n (%)			
Normal	4 (67)	1 (33)	5 (56)
Colitis	2 (33)	2 (67)	4 (44)
Endoscopy: n (%)			
Normal	6 (67)	1 (25)	7 (54)
Mild congestion, edema, inflammation	1 (11)	1 (25)	2 (15)
Moderate congestion, edema, inflammation	2 (22)	1 (25)	3 (23)
Severe congestion, edema, inflammation	0 (0)	1 (25)	1 (8)
Pathology: n (%)	7000	20, 17,	60.00
Normal	4 (44)	1 (25)	5 (38)
Lymphocytic Colitis	1 (11)	0 (0)	1 (8)
Collagenous Colitis	0 (0)	1 (25)	1 (8)
Active colitis	4 (44)	2 (50)	6 (46)
Other	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Treatment: n (%)			
Steroids	7 (87.5)	4 (100)	11 (92)
Infliximab	1 (12.5)	2 (50)	3 (25)
Outcome: n (%)	0.0 0.0	~ ~	58 3555.
Symptom resolution	8 (100)	4 (100)	12 (100)
Drug discontinued	5 (62.5)	3 (75)	8 (67)
Treatment-related death	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

Kim et al, AGA 2017 (abstract)

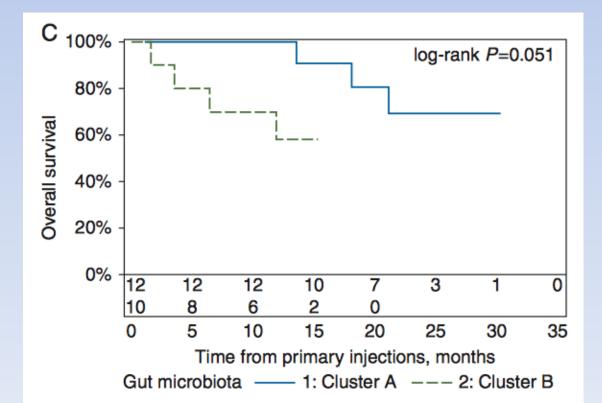




Baseline gut microbiota predicts clinical response and colitis in metastatic melanoma patients treated with ipilimumab

N. Chaput<sup>1,2†</sup>, P. Lepage<sup>3†</sup>, C. Coutzac<sup>1,4</sup>, E. Soularue<sup>1,4,5</sup>, K. Le Roux<sup>3</sup>, C. Monot<sup>3</sup>, L. Boselli<sup>1</sup>, E. Routier<sup>6</sup>, L. Cassard<sup>1</sup>, M. Collins<sup>4,5</sup>, T. Vaysse<sup>4,5</sup>, L. Marthey<sup>4,5</sup>, A. Eggermont<sup>6,7</sup>, V. Asvatourian<sup>8,9</sup>, E. Lanoy<sup>8,9</sup>, C. Mateus<sup>4</sup>, C. Robert<sup>4,6†</sup> & F. Carbonnel<sup>4,5\*,†</sup>

Annals of Oncology 28: 1368–1379, 2017



Bostwick et al. Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (2015) 3:19 DOI 10.1186/s40425-015-0064-2



CASE REPORT Open Access

Rapid complete response of metastatic melanoma in a patient undergoing ipilimumab immunotherapy in the setting of active ulcerative colitis

A Doran Bostwick<sup>1</sup>, April K Salama<sup>2</sup> and Brent A Hanks<sup>2\*</sup>

#### Mimics of IBD

- Infections
- Drugs
- Autoimmune
- Other

#### Top etiologic considerations of the chronic colitis pattern

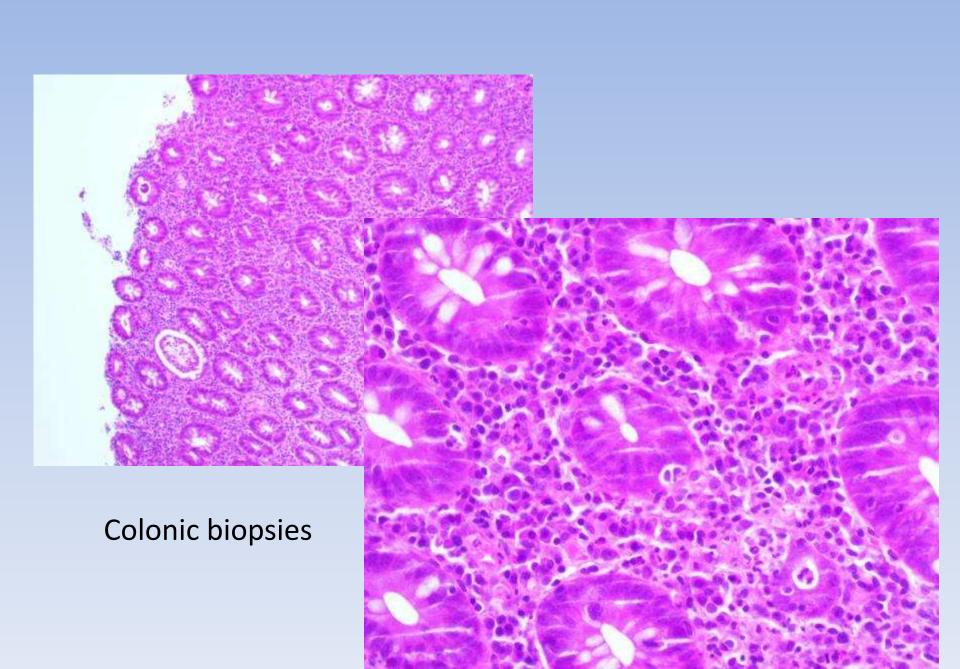
- Diverticular disease
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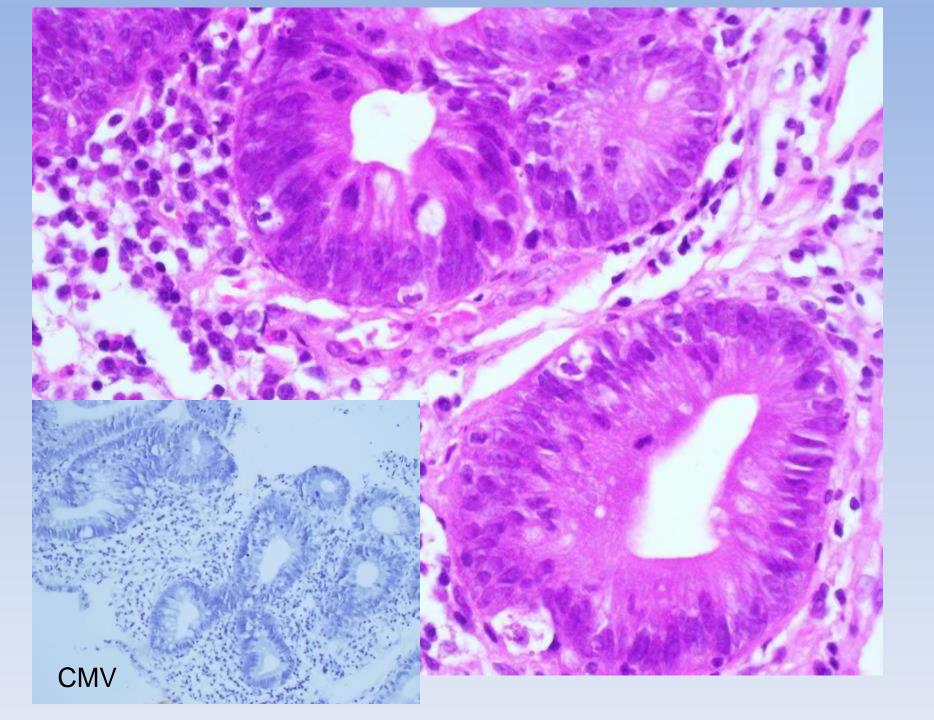
## Case 5. What's missing?

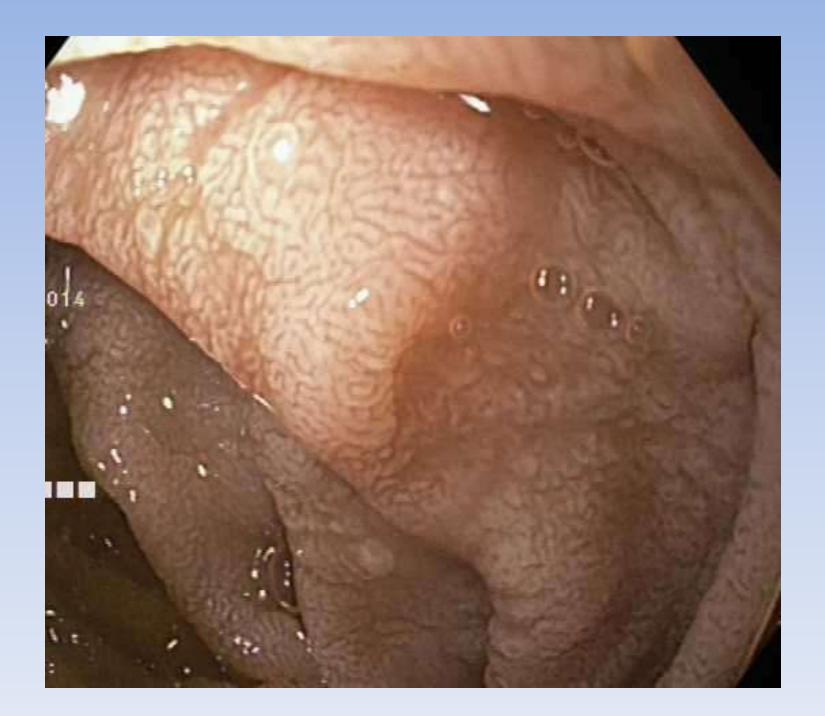
#### CLINICAL DETAILS

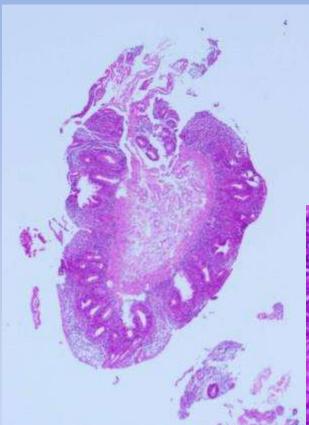
Diarrhoea. Duodenum. Ascending colon. Descending colon. Rectum.

• 74F

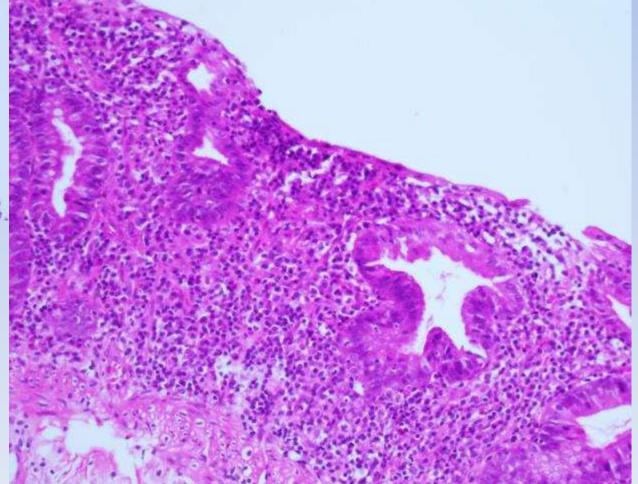


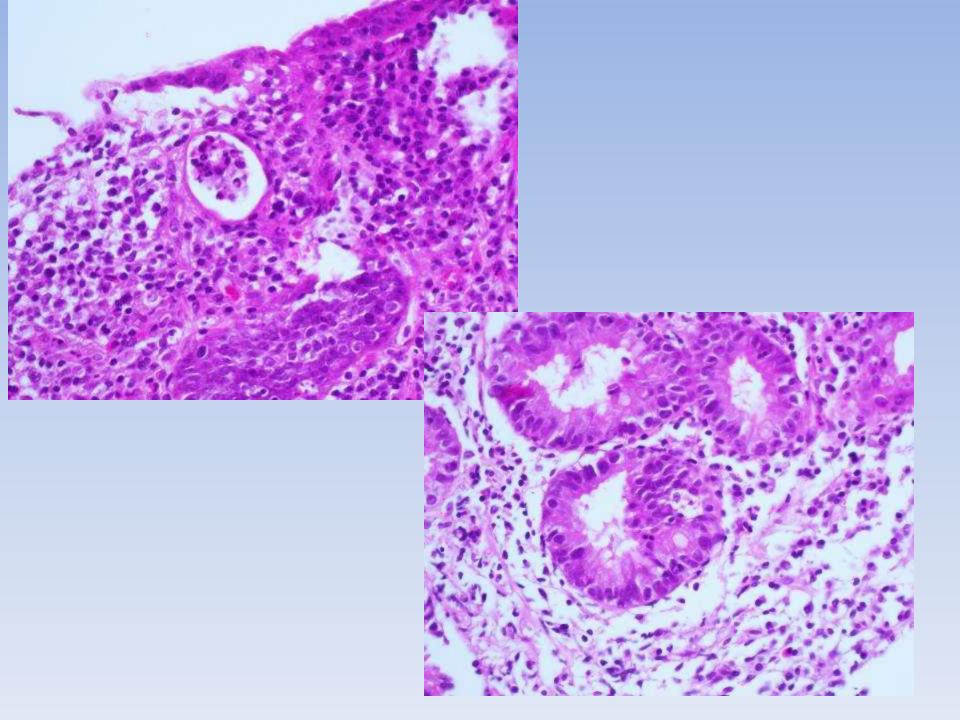




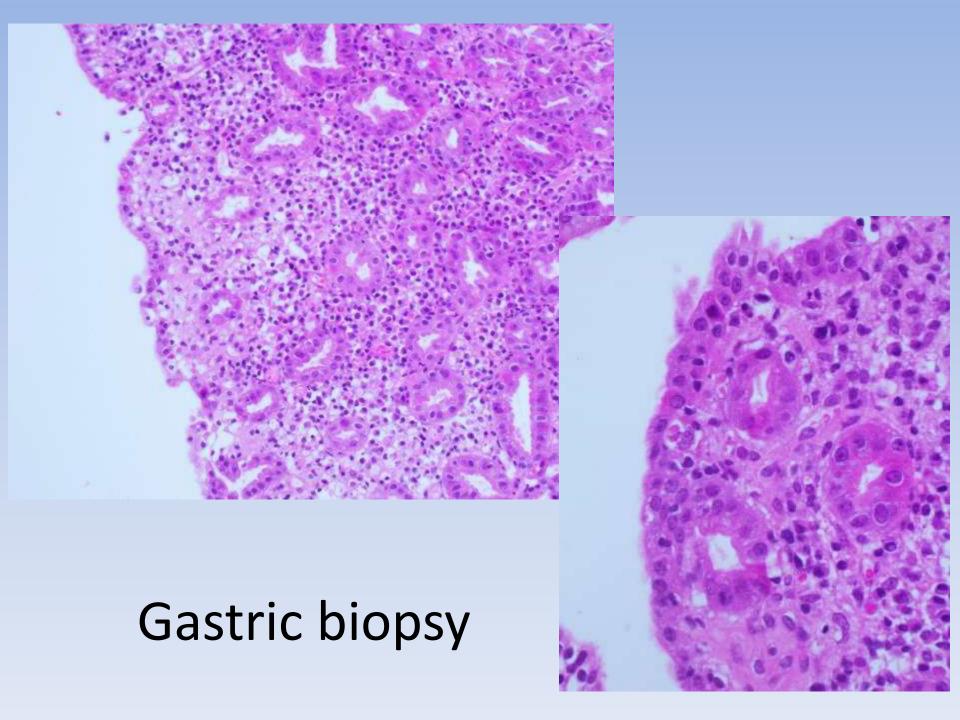


### **Duodenal biopsies**









## Autoimmune enteropathy

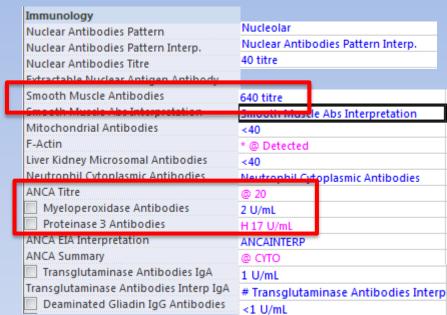
- Rare (<1/100000 infants)</li>
- First described in 1982 in children, now well recognised in adults
  - Syndromic
    - IPEX (Immune dysregulation, Polyendocrinopathy, Enteropathy and X linked) - loss of function mutations in FoxP3
    - APECED syndrome (Autoimmune Polyendocrinopathy Candidiasis Ectodermal Dystrophy Syndrome)
  - Non syndromic

### Further history

- 74 F presented to Dubbo March 2014 with 3 month history of severe diarrhoea
- Transferred to RPA responded to steroids,
   TPN and Sulphasalazine, returned to Dubbo
- Diarrhoea returned with fevers, complicated by documented CMV, underwent emergency colectomy and end ileostomy
- Steroids reduced again but high stoma output (2-3L) day – re- biopsied

## **Progress**

- Diagnosis of autoimmune enteropathy
- Recommenced high dose steroids and azathioprine
- Plasma sent to
   Children's Hospital of
   Philadelphia for anti enterocyte antibody
   testing (negative)



#### Gastrointestinal Biopsy Findings of Autoimmune Enteropathy

A Review of 25 Cases

Ricard Masia, MD, PhD,\* Stephen Peyton, MBBS,† Gregory Y. Lauwers, MD,\* and Ian Brown, MBBS, FRCPA†‡

Am J Surg Pathol • Volume 38, Number 10, October 2014

- Protracted diarrhoea
- Small intestinal villous atrophy
- Lack of response to dietary therapy
- Evidence of autoimmunity (circulating autoantibodies to gut epithelium/associated autoimmune diseases)

# Autoimmune enteropathy: a case study Talia L. Fuchs<sup>1</sup>, Jeffrey L. Engelman<sup>2</sup>, Mark Tschuchnigg<sup>1</sup> (1) Australian Clinical Labs, Bella Vista, Sydney Australia (2) Gastroenterologist, St George Private Hospital, Sydney Australia

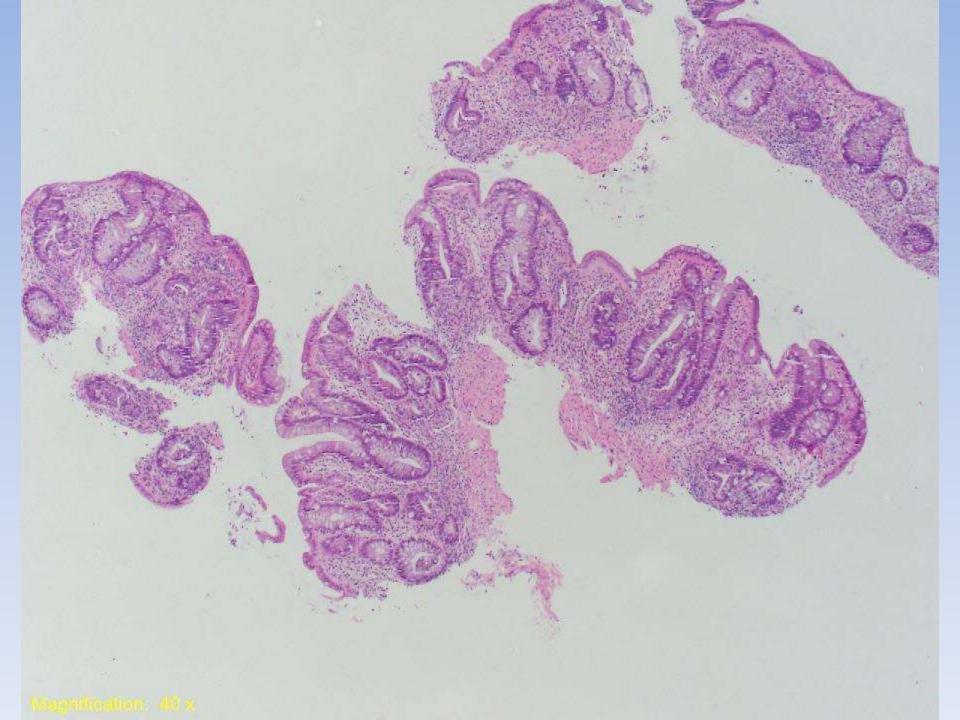
Figure 7: Anti-enterocyte IgG autoantibodies immunofluorescence 1:16 dilution (20x magnification). Image courtesy of A/Prof Lynette Moore, SA Pathology, Adelaide (2016).

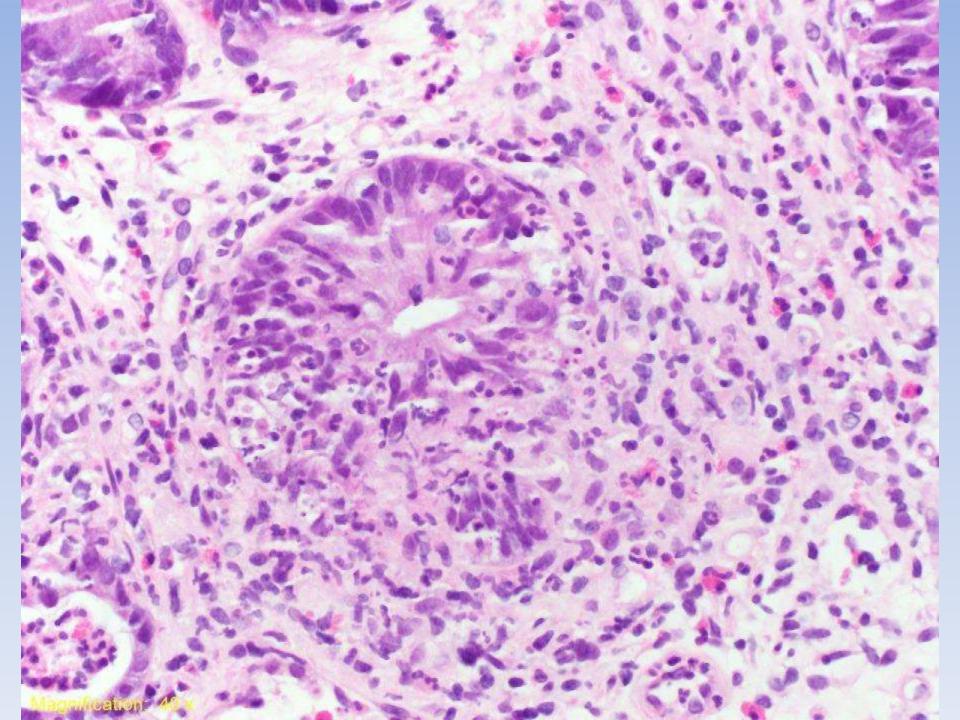
## Case 6. What's missing #2?

Male 31 years

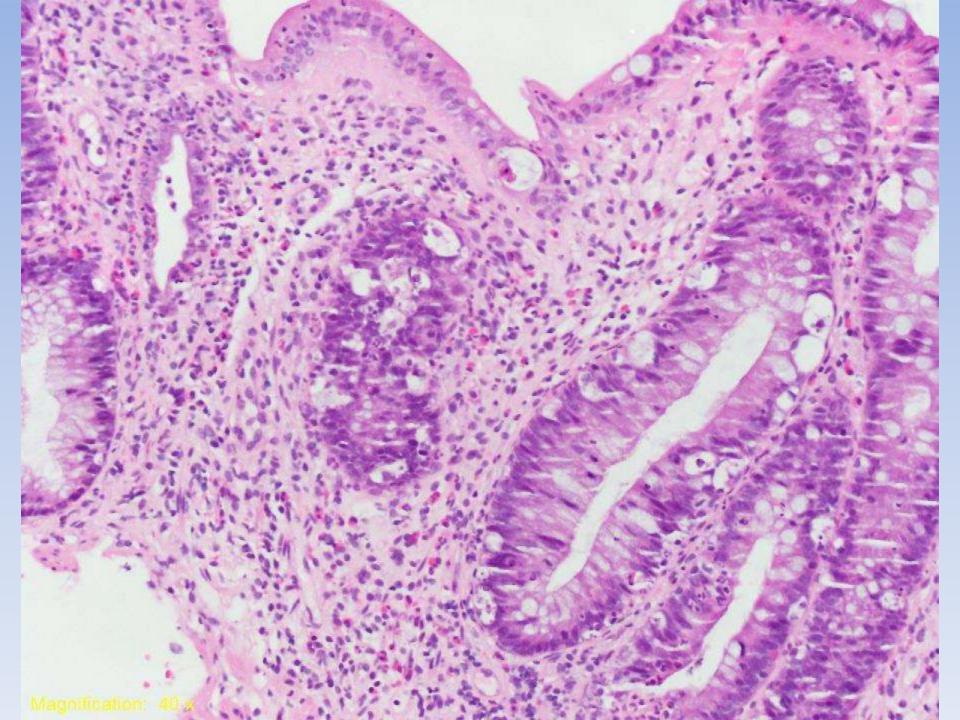
#### CLINICAL DETAILS

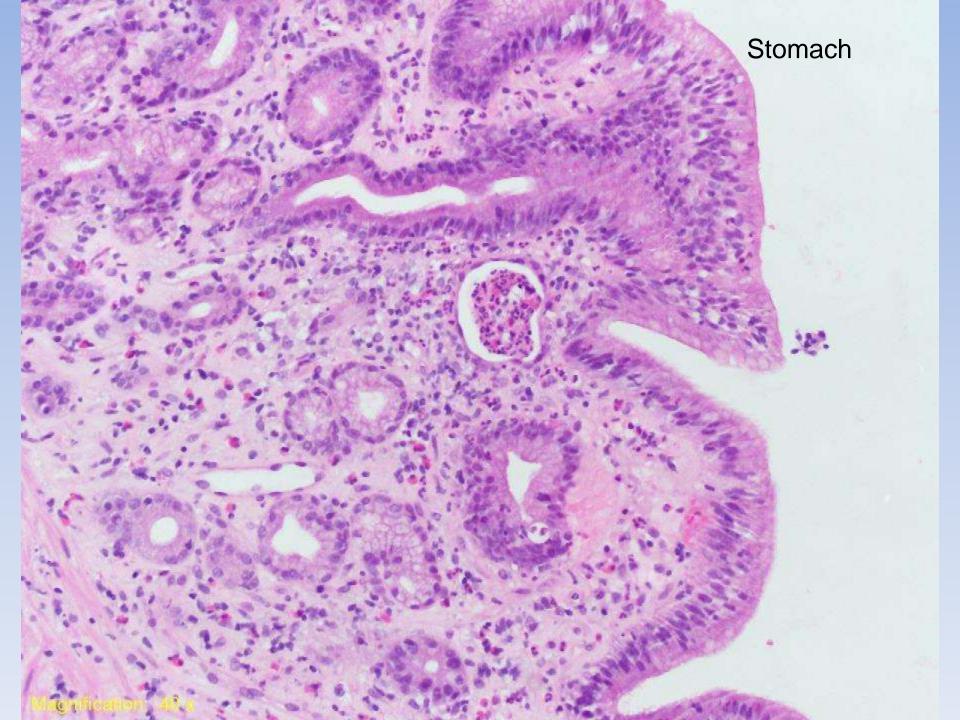
Antrum (AUS30750). Duodenum. Terminal ileum. Random.

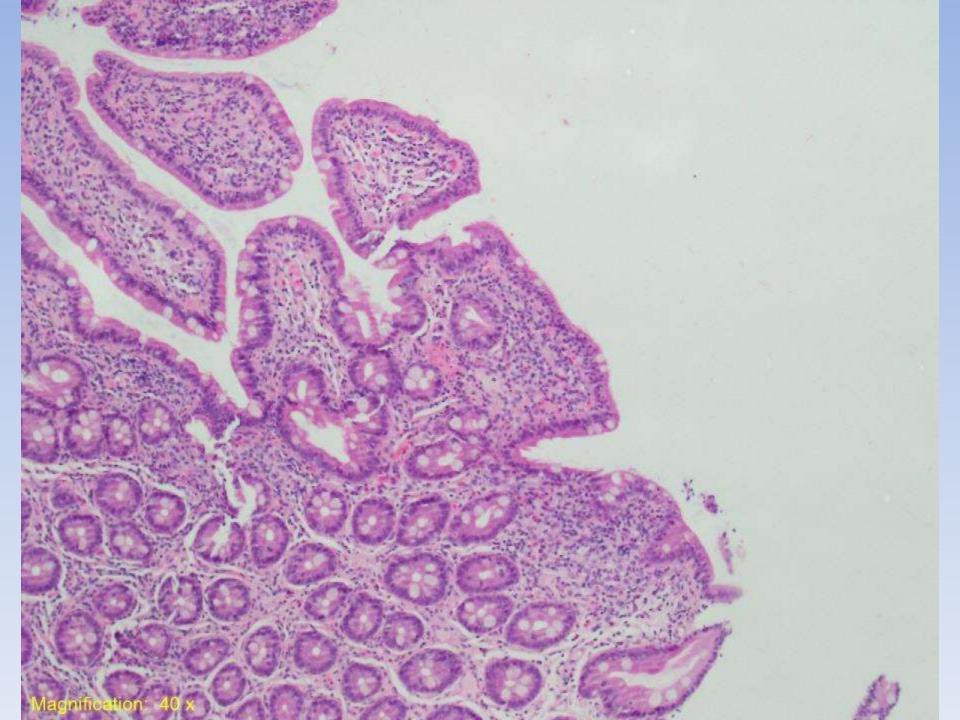


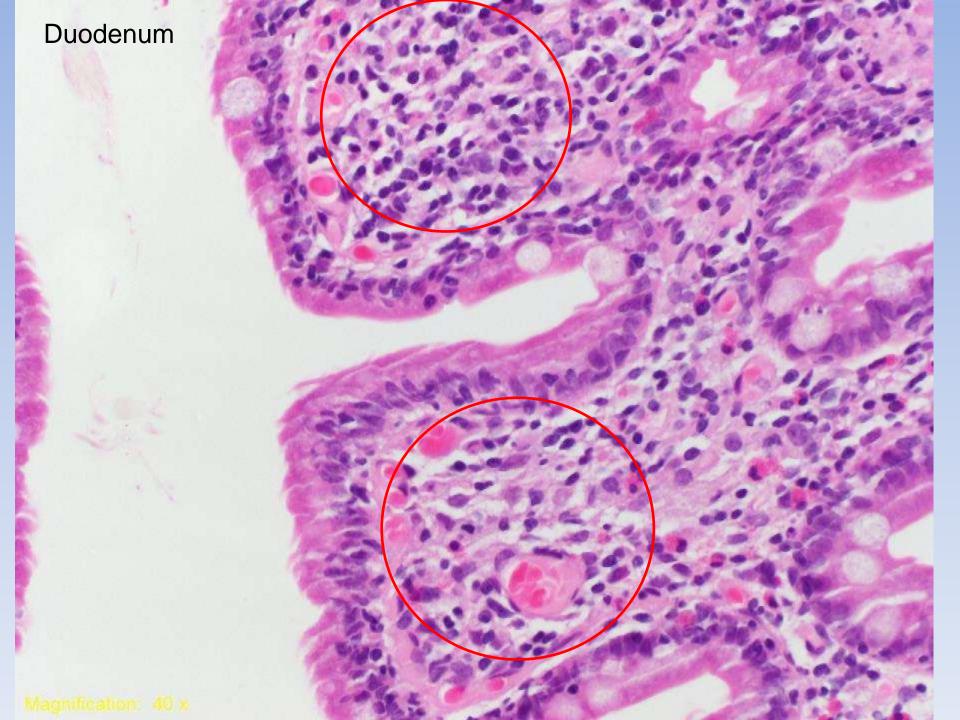


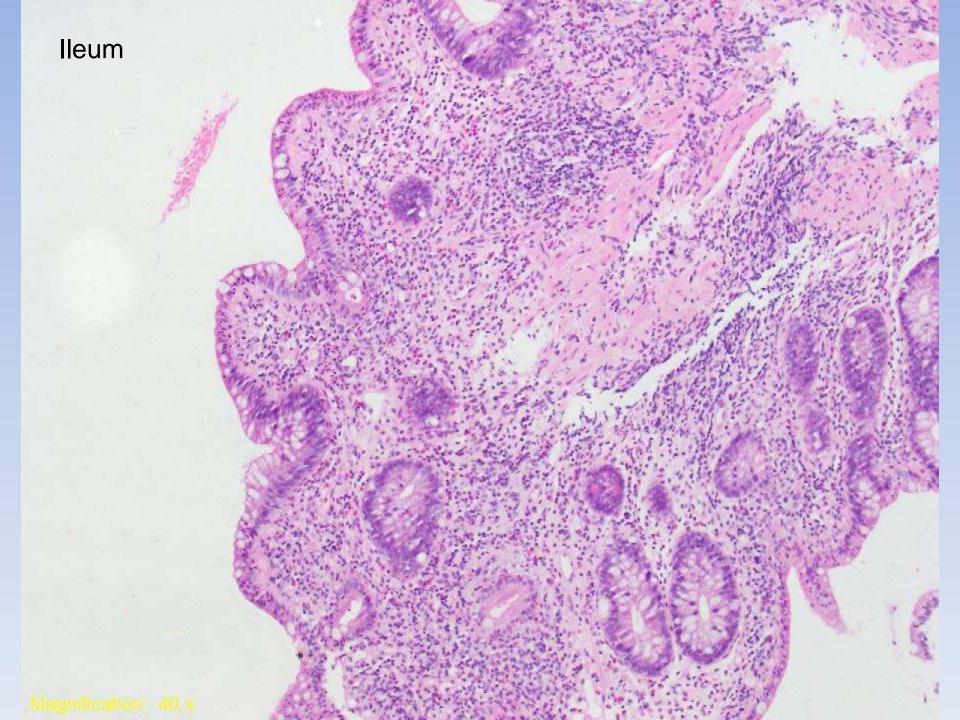


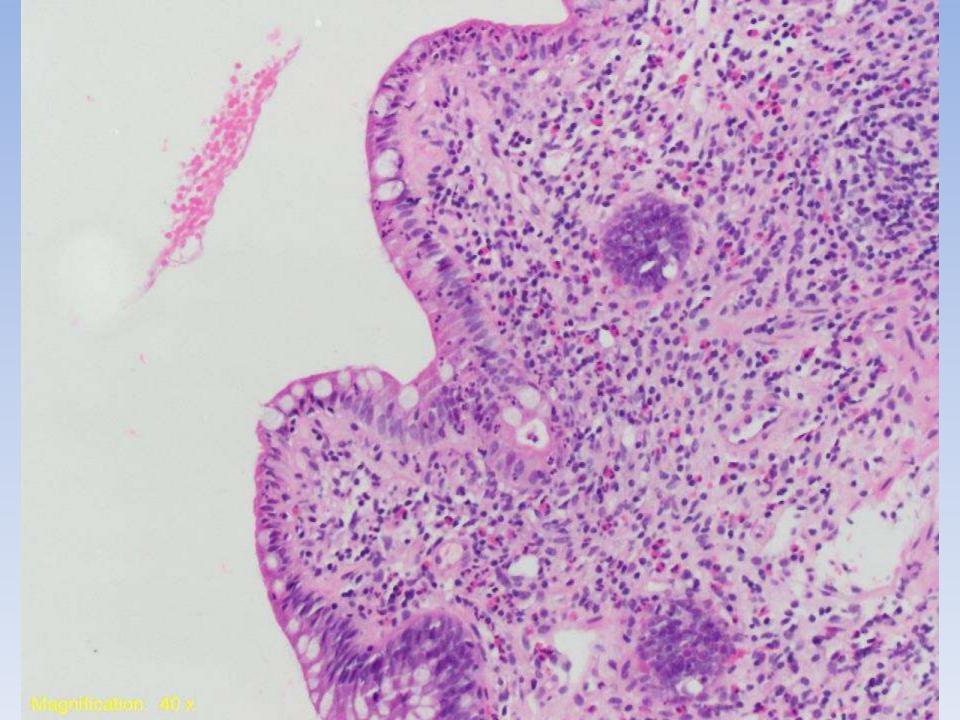












# Diagnosis

**CVID** 

.....and recent c.jejuni infection

# Gastrointestinal Tract Pathology in Patients With Common Variable Immunodeficiency (CVID)

A Clinicopathologic Study and Review

Jason A. Daniels, MD,\* Howard M. Lederman, MD, PhD,† Anirban Maitra, MBBS,\* and Elizabeth A. Montgomery, MD\*

TABLE 2. P	ercentage of	<b>Patients</b>	Showing	Histologic	Abnormality	ŗ
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Histologic Findings	Esopha gus	Stomach	Small Intestine	Colon	Appendix	Gallbladder
Decreased plasma cells	N/A	12/18 (67%)	13/19 (68%)	10/16 (63%)	1/1 (100%)	1/2 (50%)
Lymphoid aggregates	N/A	11/18 (61%)	9/19 (47%)	13/16 (81%)	0/1 (0%)	0/2 (0%)
Increased apoptosis	1/10 (10%)	6/18 (33%)	4/19 (21%)	8/16 (50%)	1/1 (100%)	0/2 (0%)
Intraepithelial lymphocytosis	5/10 (50%)	4/18 (22%)	12/19 (63%)	6/16 (38%)	0/1 (0%)	0/2 (0%)
Villous blunting*	N/A	N/A	10/12 (83%)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Collagenous pattern*	N/A	0/4 (0%)	0/12 (0%)‡	2/6 (33%)	N/A	N/A
Granulomas	0/10 (0%)	1/18 (6%)	2/19 (11%)	3/16 (19%)	0/1 (0%)	0/2 (0%)
Intraepithelial neutrophils	4/10 (40%)	8/18 (44%)	6/19 (32%)	14/16 (88%)	0/1 (0%)	1/2 (50%)
Crypt Distortion†	N/A	N/A	N/A	6/14 (43%)	0/1 (0%)	N/A
Infections†	4/4 (100%)	2/8 (25%) CMV;	1/19 (5%)	1/14 (7%) CMV	0/0 (0%)§	0/1 (0%)
	Candida	1/8 (13%) HP;	CMV; 1/19 (5%)		Section of the sectio	
		1/8 (13%) Crypto	Crypto			
Cancer	0/10 (0%)	1/18 (6%) AdenoCA	0/19 (0%)	0/16 (0%)	0/1 (0%)	0/2 (0%)

<sup>\*</sup>When accompanied by intraepithelial lymphocytosis.

<sup>†</sup>When accompanied by intraepithelial neutrophils.

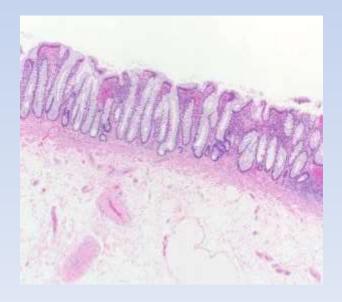
<sup>‡</sup>A single case of small intestinal mucosa with a collagenous pattern occurred in a patient without an increase in intraepithelial lymphocytosis.

<sup>§</sup>A single case of Cryptosporidam was identified in an appendix without neutrophilic infiltrate.

Crypto indicates Cryptosporidium; HP, H. pylori.

## Mimics of IBD

- Infections
- Drugs
- Autoimmune
- Other



### Top etiologic considerations of the chronic colitis pattern

- Diverticular disease
- Diversion colitis
- Inerapeutics
  - o NSAIDs
  - o Resins
  - o Ipilimumab
- Vascular injury
  - o Ischaemia
  - o Radiation
  - Vasculitis
- Autoimmune
  - Sarcoid
  - Common variable immunodeficiency
  - o Chronic granulomatous disease
  - Vasculitis
- Infections
  - Stool pathogens
  - o Cord colitis syndrome
  - Syphilitic and lymphogranuloma venereum colitis
  - o Others

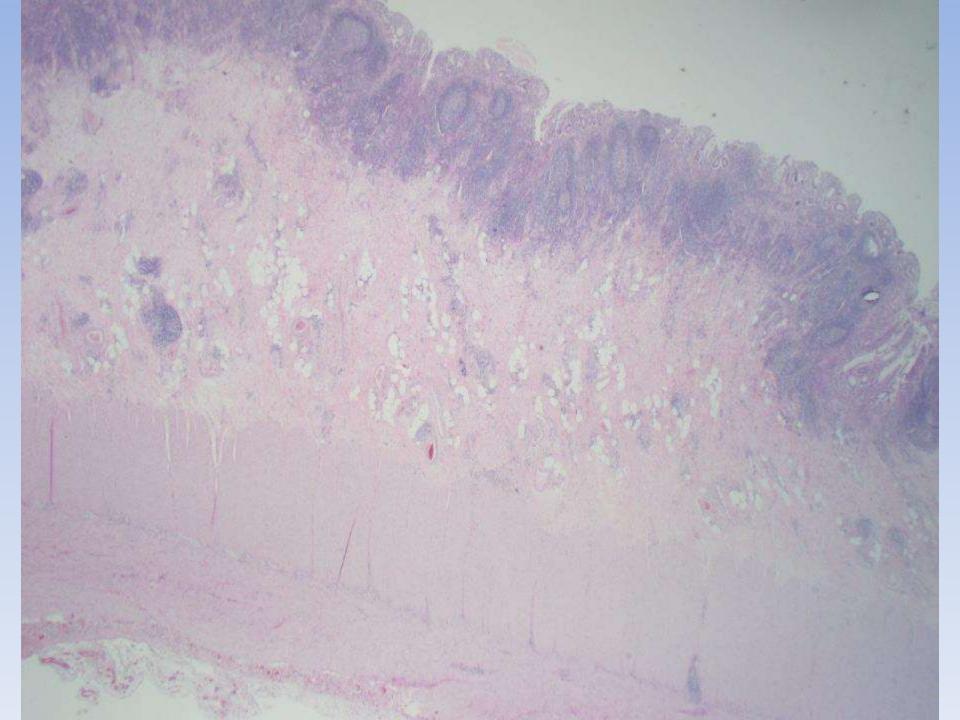
### Case 7: Diversion colitis

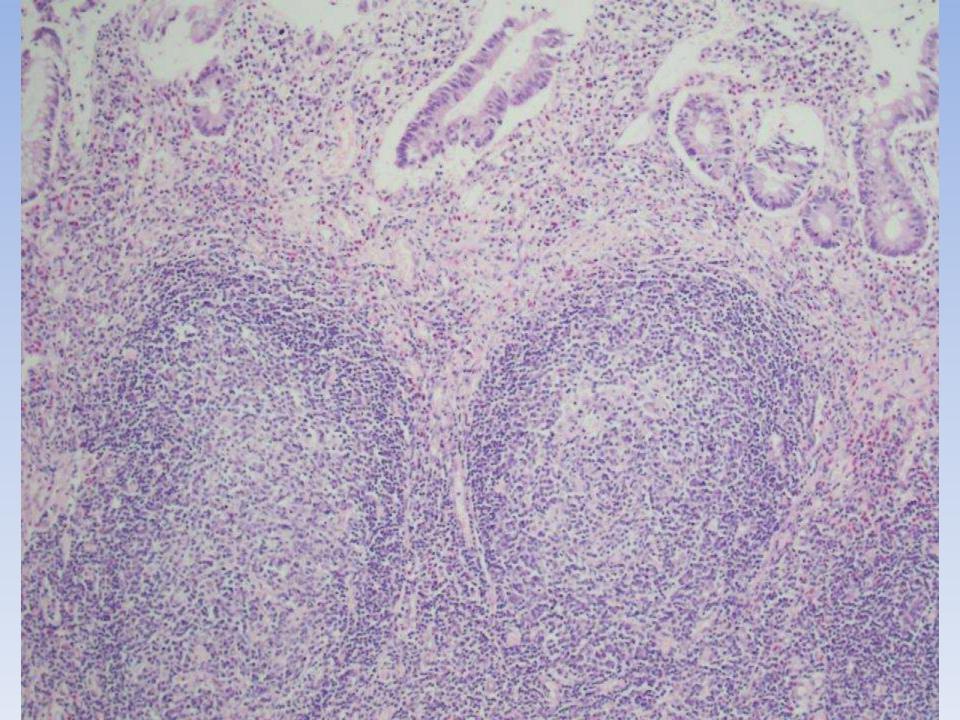
- 33 year old man.
   History of ulcerative colitis.
- Completion proctectomy

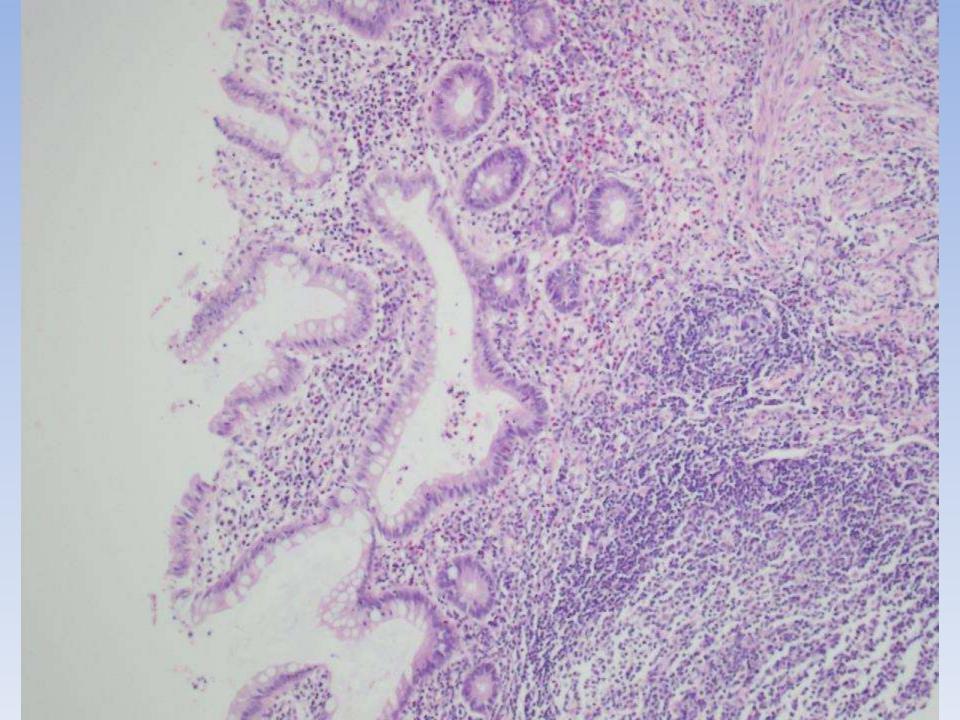


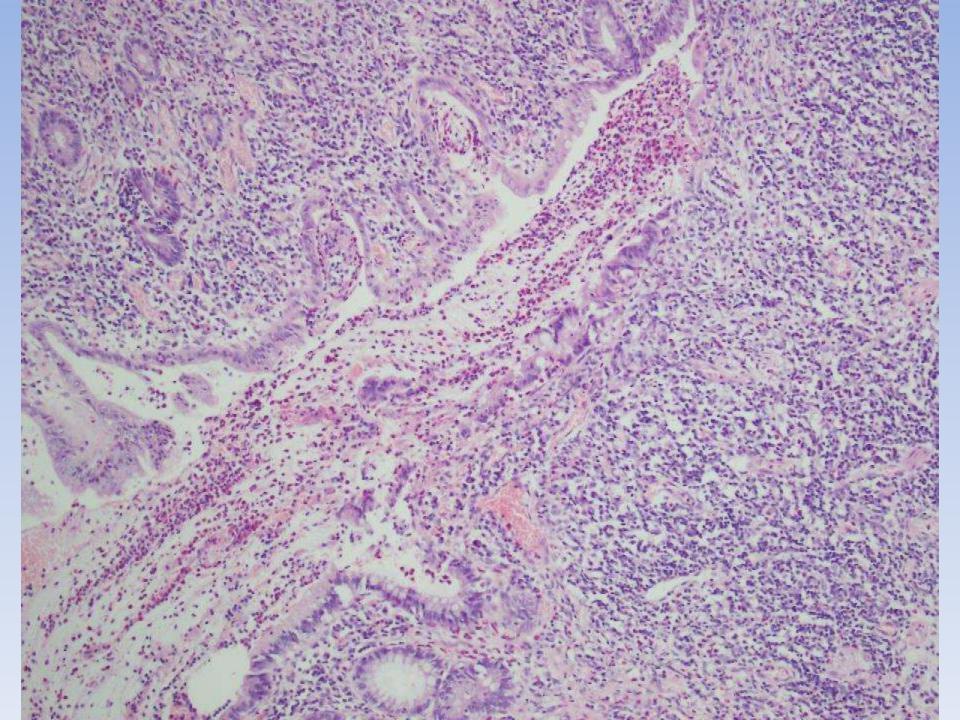












### Diversion colitis vs UC

Feature	IBD of Pouch	Diversion Colitis	
IBD mucosal changes	+	+	
Crypt atrophy	+/-	++	
Lymphoid hyperplasia	+/-	++	
Diffuse disease	+/-*	++	
Previous IBD rectum	+	1225	
Symptoms decreased on exclusion	*	=	
Symptoms decrease on hookup	<del>(m)</del>	+	
Ulcers	++	+/-	
Focal mild patchy cryptitis	+	++	

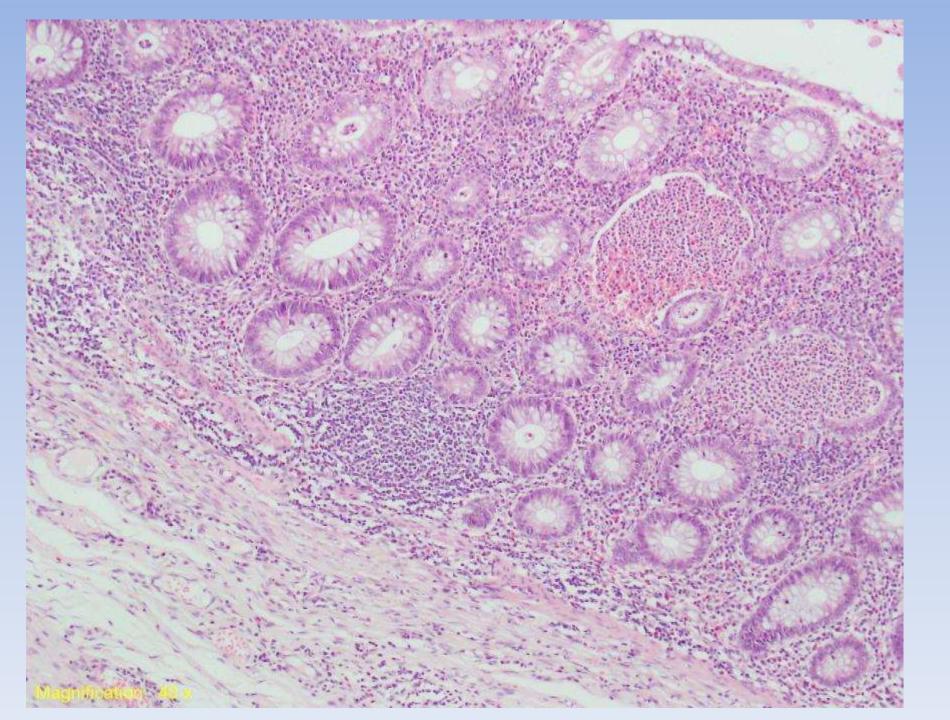
## Case 8

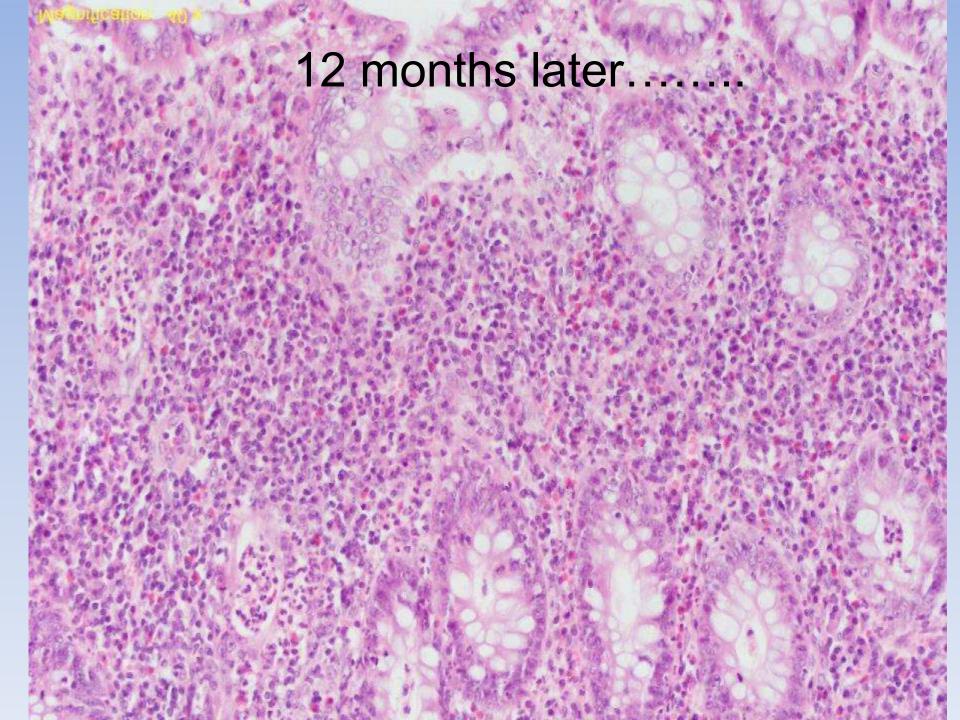
- 68F
- Stage 3 breast cancer
- Recent colitis diarrhoea
- Colonoscopy + Bx -? diverticular associated colitis.
- Just affects sigmoid colon.
- Diverticular colitis?











# Segmental colitis associated with diverticulosis: is it the coexistence of colonic diverticulosis and inflammatory bowel disease?

Annals of Gastroenterology (2017) 30, 257-261

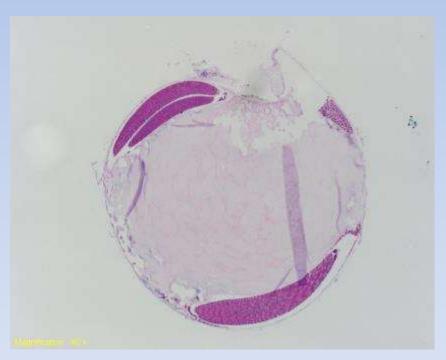
John Schembri<sup>a</sup>, John Bonello<sup>a</sup>, Dimitrios K. Christodoulou<sup>b</sup>, Konstantinos H. Katsanos<sup>b</sup>, Pierre Ellul<sup>a</sup>

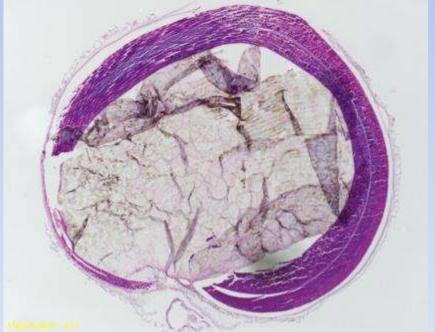
- "SCAD"
- M>F, typically elderly
- UC and Crohn's like changes described
- Usually managed conservatively
- Reported to precede UC and Crohns

### Case 9

### CLINICAL DETAILS

Unusual cystic foreign bodies through (R) colon. ?Parasite.





### Pseudoparasitic appearance of undigested quinoa

906 GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY Volume 80, No. 5: 2014

#### Commentary

Right lower quadrant pain in a farmer brings to mind many occupational diseases, among which certainly are parasites. Blastocystis, long considered a nonpathogen, is arguably now being appreciated as capable of causing GI distress, although it has no egg stage in its development and so could not account for the egglike forms seen at colonoscopy in this patient. In fact, these forms are too large for any of the parasitic eggs we see in daily practice throughout the world; perhaps if one were a gastroenterologist in the pre-Cambrian era, with the larger species seen then, well...who knows. These egglike forms were admirably identified by the authors as quinoa seeds. Quinoa, a species of goosefoot (Chenopodium), is thought to have been domesticated by the Incas in the Peruvian Andes 3000 to 4000 years ago; they held the crop to be sacred and referred to it as the "mother of all grains." With the arrogance of conquerors, the conquistadors forbade quinoa cultivation and forced the Incas to grow wheat. Although quinoa is usually prized for its seeds, the green leaves of the quinoa growth also are edible, although not widely available. Chenopods are considered a pseudocereal rather than a true cereal because they are not a member of the true grass family; they are closely related to beetroot and spinach. Today, guinoa is very popular because it is gluten free and a very good source of protein and essential amino acids, magnesium, iron, and calcium. Who among us does not know a vegan, a lactose intolerant person, or someone who is experimenting with a glutenfree diet and who would not benefit from this superfood? I am curious why the quinoa seeds were still present a week or 2 after ingestion. Was the patient's memory about the time of its ingestion flawed? Does quinoa have an as-yet-undefined effect to decelerate intestinal motility? Isn't it marvelous how observation of the unusual leads to speculation, which in turn promotes inquiry and research, that then advances our knowledge? One can learn so much about so many things by practicing medicine...and just paying attention.

> Lawrence J. Brandt, MD Associate Editor for Focal Points



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