



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

MDAnderson~~Cancer~~Center

Making Cancer History®

gsi
GIST
Support
International

**GIST
SUMMIT
2025**

The Life Raft
Group
**GIST DAY OF LEARNING
TEXAS**



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MDAnderson
~~Cancer~~Center®

**HOUSTON
MARCH 1**



The Pathology of GIST

Alexander J Lazar MD/PhD

Professor

Departments of Pathology, Genomic Medicine,
Dermatology, & Translational Molecular Pathology

UT MD Anderson Cancer Center

Saturday 1 March 2025



MDAnderson
Moon Shots Program

Disclosure information

Saturday 1 March 20225

Overview of Soft Tissue: WHO, Grading, Staging

Alexander Lazar MD/PhD

I have the following financial relationships:

AbbVie, Adaptimmune, AJCC, Astra-Zeneca, Bain Capital, Bayer, Bio-AI Health, BMS, CAP, Caris, Deciphera, Elsevier, Foghorn Therapeutics, Gothams, GSK, Illumina, Invitae / Archer DX, Iterion Therapeutics, Merck, Modella AI, Novartis, Nucleai, OncoKB (MSKCC), Paige, Pfizer, Regeneron, Roche / Genentech, SpringerNature, SpringWorks, Tempus, ThermoFisher, USCAP

(mostly clinical trials, research support, sci ad boards, consulting)

These relationships are **NOT** considered relevant to the content of this lecture.



"A gripping work! Timely and provocative!"
-Theatre Is Easy



Stages
REPERTORY THEATRE

BALLS

by Kevin Armento and Bryony Lavery

Tickets start at \$25
713.527.0123
stagestheatre.com



Outstanding Sound Design in a Play

- * Brendan Jeeses, *Balls*, One-Year Lease Theater Company/Stages Repertory Theatre/2015/16
- * Gareth Fry, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*
- * Tom Gibbons, *1984*
- * Tom Gibbons, *People, Places & Things*, National Theatre/St. Ann's Warehouse/Bryony Singer Productions/HooFong
- * Stefan Gregory, *Ferris*, Young Vic/Park Avenue Armory
- * Palmer Heffernan, *Today is My Birthday*, Page 73 Productions





STAGES





PLUMSHUGA: THE RISE OF LAUREN ANDERSON



CAST



**DEQUINA
MOORE**
Lauren



**KELLEN
HORNBUCKLE**
Dancer Lauren



ERIC BEST
Carlos



MYA BRYANT
Lauren's Mother



**RAFAELA
HENRIQUE**
Firebird, (Sugar Plum
Fairy)



**BRIDGET
KUHNS**
Sugar Plum Fairy



**DANAЕ
MCGLOTHEN**
Young Lauren



LAYLA PORTER
Firebird, Cleopatra,
(Dancer Lauren)



**JESSICA
COLLADO**
Sugar Plum Fairy



DWAYNE COOK
Lauren's Father



**CAMERON
EDWARDS**
Love



**KHARMA
GRIMES**
Addiction



**ELLIOTT
ROGERS**



KALEN WRIGHT
Young Lauren



EMRY AMOKY
(Carlos)

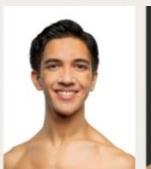


**MAGNOLY
BATISTA**



LAUREN BURKE

Ensemble



ELI GO

(Dominic)



REMIE GOINS
Student



HART ISAACOFF
(Dominic)



MACY RICHTER
Student, (Firebird)



BRETT RULE
Student



**RAFAEL
TILLERY**
Ensemble



**MCKENNA
ARMWOOD**



**ISABELLA
KESSLER**

(Firebird, Sugar Plum
Fairy)



ZOE LUCICH
(Firebird, Sugar Plum
Fairy)



**JUSTINE
MARCOV**
Student



OLIVIA MCBAIN
Student, (Firebird)



**AMELIA
MCGRAYVEY**



ALYSSA PRATT



**NATALIA
SCHEINSON**



RENEE SHUBOV
Student



**ALLISON
WHITLEY**





ALLEY THEATRE



SEARED

SEARED



Elizabeth Brueh
Emily



Chris Hutchinson
Mike



Christopher Salazar
Harry

BY
THERESA REBECK
DIRECTED BY
BRANDON WEINBRENNER

FEBRUARY 7 - MARCH 2



ROUNDING OUT THE CAST IS



Kory Laing as Rodney

GIST Pathology: Lecture Overview

- 1. How do you do pathology?**
- 2. What information is in my pathology report?**
- 3. Why is that information there?**
- 4. Is this information is useful?**

What happens to my tumor in pathology?



Tumor sample is received from the OR and logged into computer.

Tumor is examined by a pathologist.





Tumor is sampled and placed in plastic cassettes for further processing.

Tumor is also given to cytogenetics, tumor bank, molecular diagnosis and electron microscopy when appropriate.



The tissue blocks are fixed in formalin and then loaded on a tissue processor overnight.



Tissue processing is done overnight and utilizes graded treatments of formalin, ethanol, xylene and paraffin.



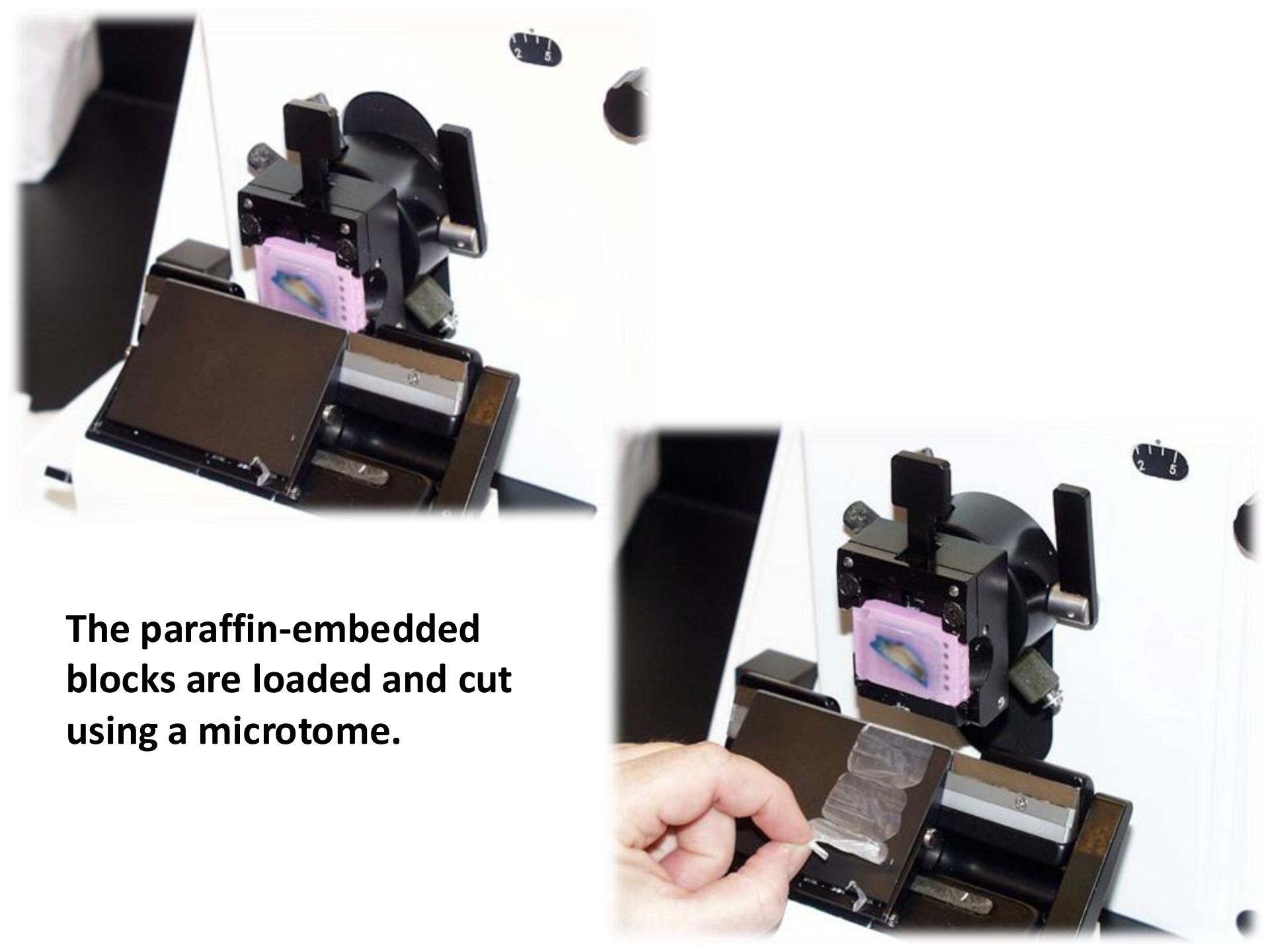
**Blocks are retrieved from
the tissue processor.**





**The tissue fragments are
embedded in a paraffin mold and
cooled – resulting in a tissue block.**

The paraffin-embedded blocks are loaded and cut using a microtome.





Tissue paraffin ribbons are placed in a warm waterbath and then picked up on glass slides.

The unstained slides can be used for H&E, special stains, immuno-histochemistry, molecular studies, etc.





**Most slides are H&E
(hemotoxin & eosin)
stained, given coverslips,
organized and delivered to
the proper pathologist.**



**Additional unstained slides
can be cut at a later time.**





After final diagnosis, both slides and the paraffin blocks from which they are cut are cataloged and stored for future use.



*What information should be in
my pathology report?*



cap

Protocol for the Examination of Specimens From Patients With Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor (GIST)

Based on AJCC/UICC TNM, 7th edition

Protocol web posting date: June 2012

Procedures

- Biopsy
- Resection

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For the Members of the Cancer Committee, College of American Pathologists

* Denotes primary author. † Denotes senior author. All other contributing authors are listed alphabetically.

Surgical Pathology Cancer Case Summary

Protocol web posting date: June 2012

GASTROINTESTINAL STROMAL TUMOR (GIST): Resection

Select a single response unless otherwise indicated.

Procedure

- Excisional biopsy
- Resection
 - Specify type (eg, partial gastrectomy): _____
- Metastasectomy
- Other (specify): _____
- Not specified

Tumor Site

Specify (if known): _____

- Not specified

Tumor Size

Greatest dimension: _____ cm

+ Additional dimensions: _____ x _____ cm

- Cannot be determined (see "Comment")

Tumor Focality

- Unifocal
- Multifocal
 - Specify number of tumors: _____
 - Specify size of tumors: _____

GIST Subtype

- Spindle cell
- Epithelioid
- Mixed
- Other (specify): _____

Mitotic Rate

Specify: ___ /50 HPF

Note: The required total count of mitoses is per 5 mm^2 on the glass slide section. With the use of older model microscopes, 50 HPF is equivalent to 5 mm^2 . Most modern microscopes with wider 40X lenses/fields require only 20 HPF to embrace 5 mm^2 . If necessary please measure field of view to accurately determine actual number of fields required to be counted on individual microscopes to count 5 mm^2 .

+ Necrosis

- + Not identified
- + Present
 - + Extent: ___ %
- + Cannot be determined

Risk Assessment (Note C)

- None
- Very low risk
- Low risk
- Intermediate risk
- High risk
- Overtly malignant/metastatic
- Cannot be determined

Margins

- Cannot be assessed
- Negative for GIST
 - Distance of tumor from closest margin: ___ mm or ___ cm
- Margin(s) positive for GIST
 - Specify margin(s): _____

Pathologic Staging (pTNM) (Note G)TNM Descriptors (required only if applicable) (select all that apply)

- m (multiple)
- r (recurrent)
- y (posttreatment)

Primary Tumor (pT)

- pTX: Primary tumor cannot be assessed
- pT0: No evidence for primary tumor
- pT1: Tumor 2 cm or less
- pT2: Tumor more than 2 cm but not more than 5 cm
- pT3: Tumor more than 5 cm but not more than 10 cm
- pT4: Tumor more than 10 cm in greatest dimension

Regional Lymph Nodes (pN) (Note D)

- Not applicable
- pN0: No regional lymph node metastasis
- pN1: Regional lymph node metastasis

Distant Metastasis (pM) (Note D)

- Not applicable
- pM1: Distant metastasis
 - + Specify site(s), if known: _____

+ Additional Pathologic Findings

- + Specify: _____

Ancillary Studies (select all that apply) (Note E)

Immunohistochemical Studies

- KIT (CD117)
 - Positive
 - Negative
- Others (specify): _____
- Not performed

Molecular Genetic Studies (eg, KIT or PDGFRA mutational analysis)

- Submitted for analysis; results pending
- Performed, see separate report: _____
- Performed
 - Specify method(s) and results: _____
- Not performed

Preresection Treatment (select all that apply)

- No therapy
- Previous biopsy or surgery
 - Specify: _____
- Systemic therapy performed
 - Specify type: _____
- Therapy performed, type not specified
- Unknown

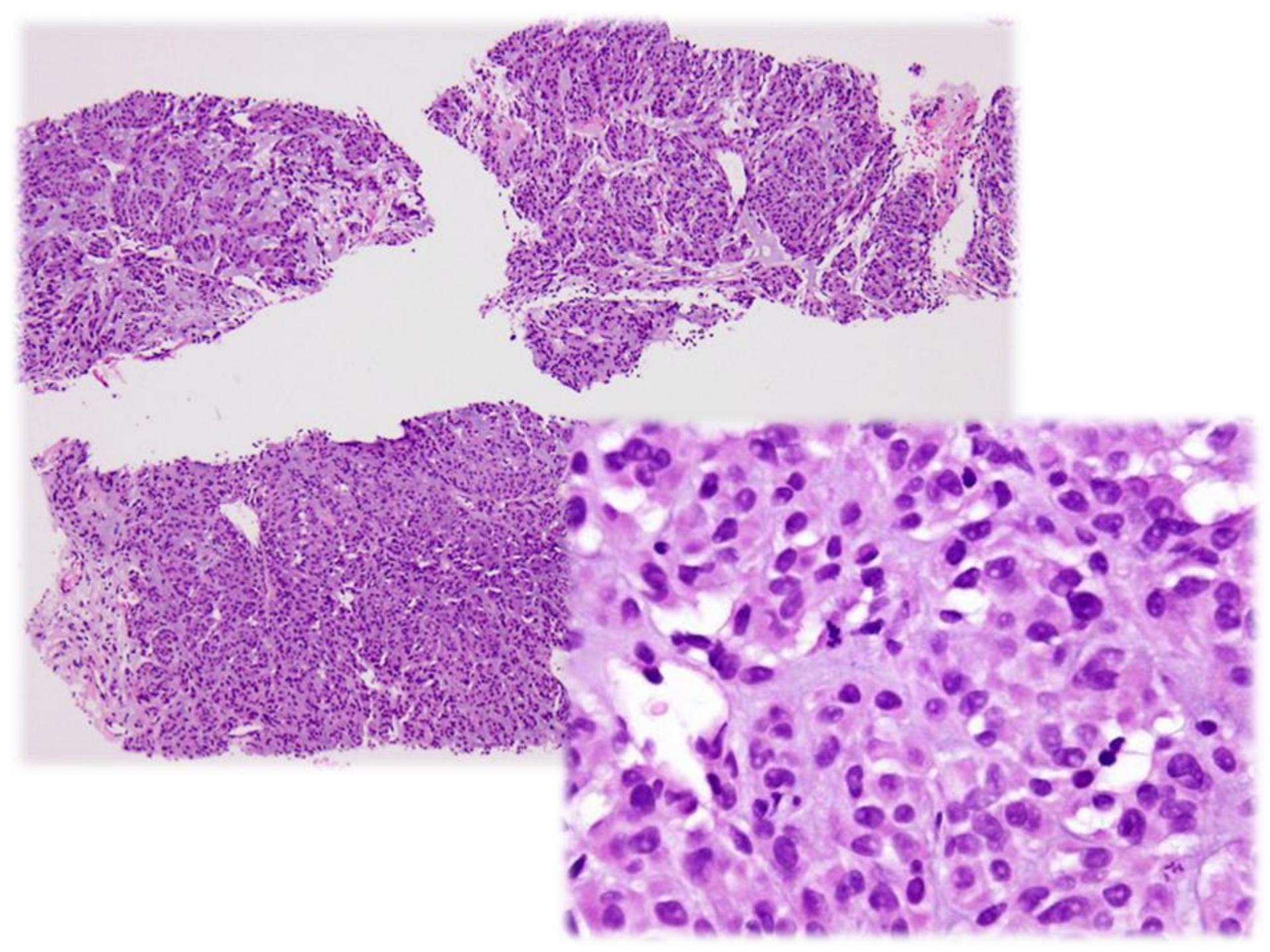
+ Treatment Effect (Note F)

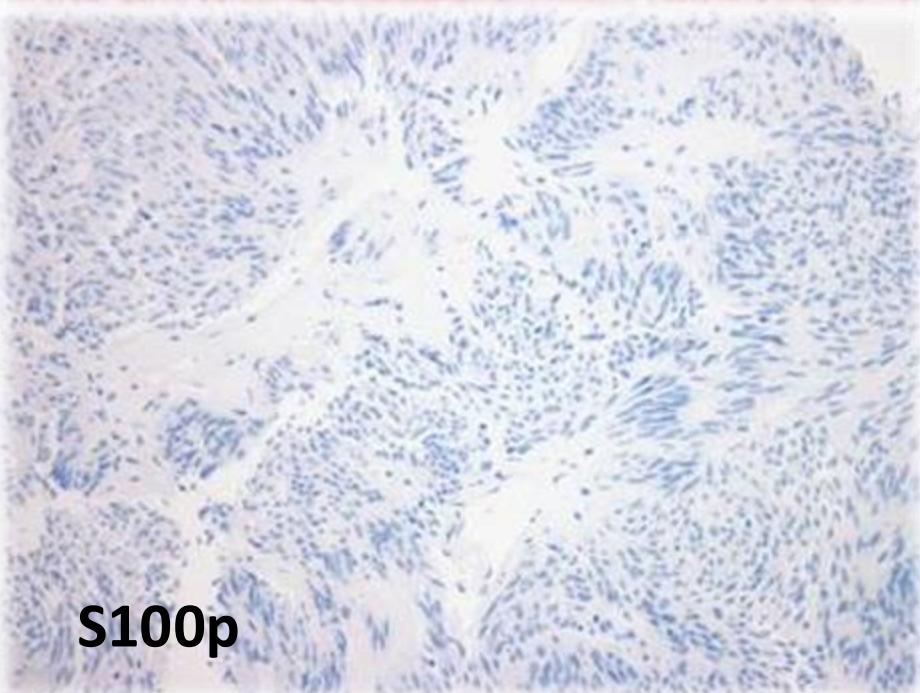
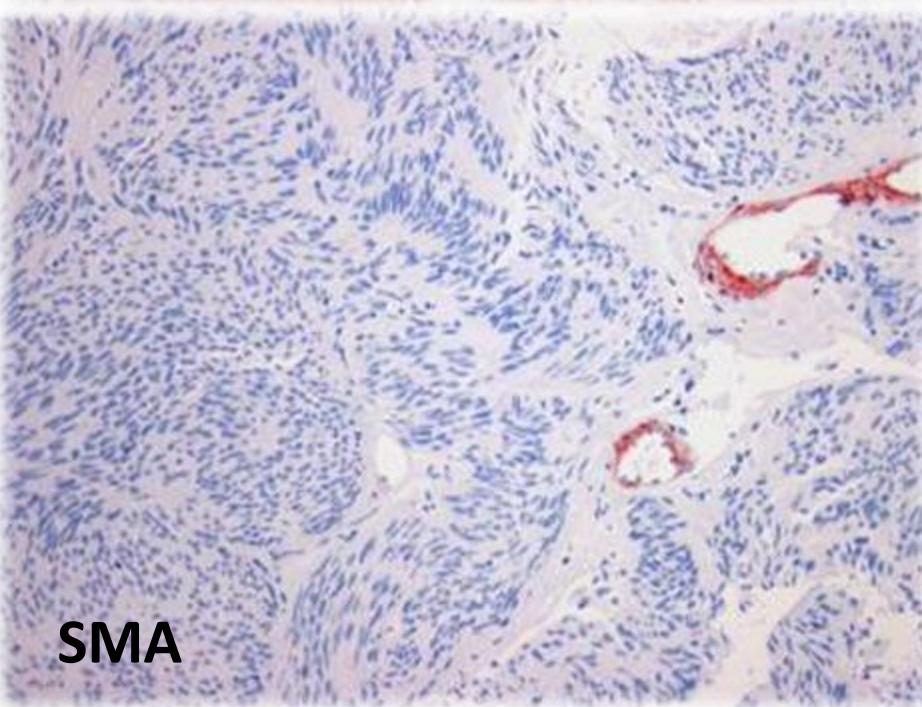
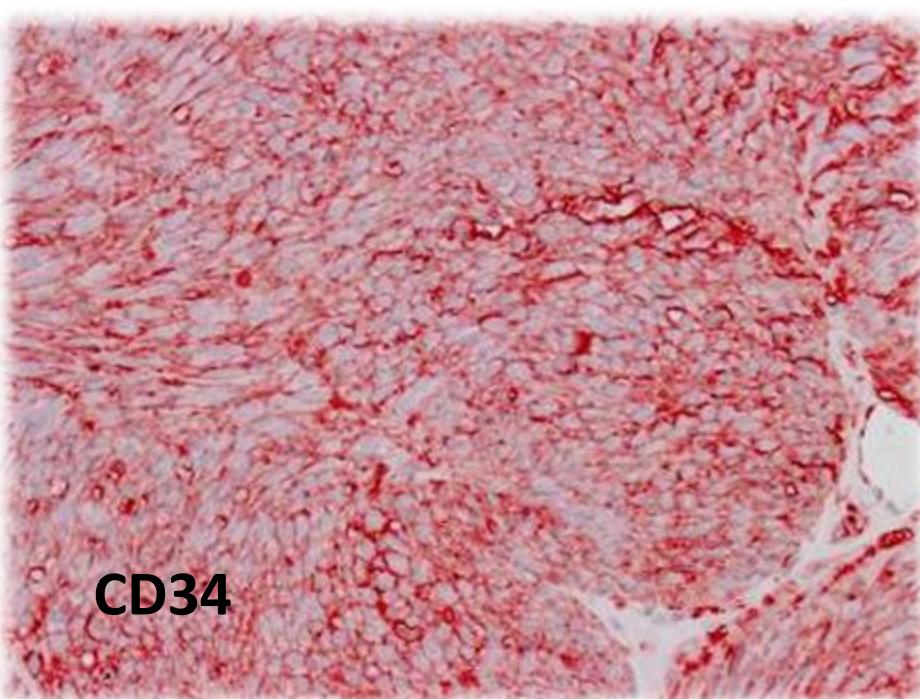
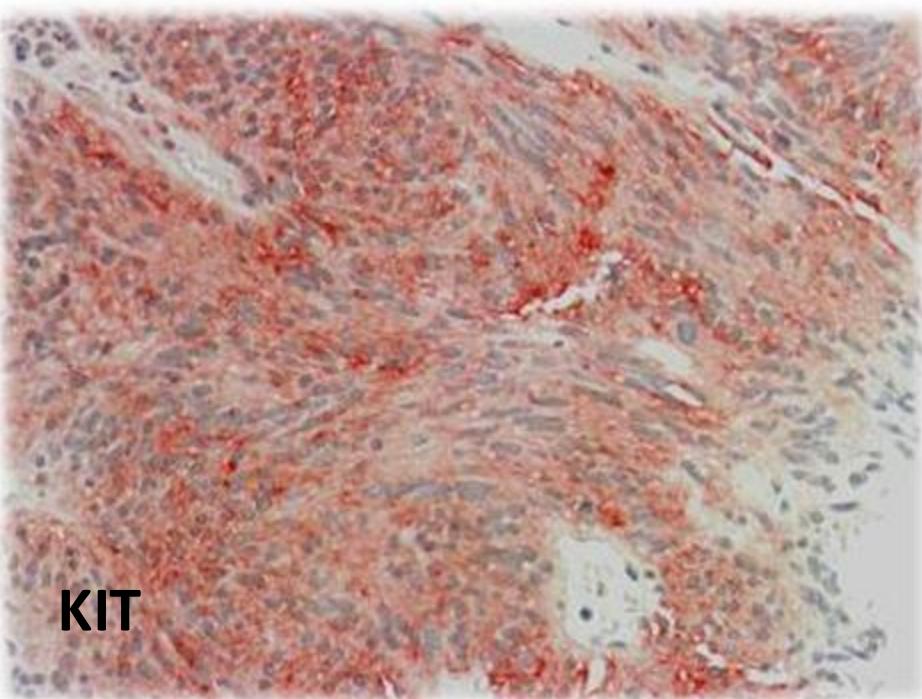
+ Specify percentage of viable tumor: ____%

+ Comment(s)

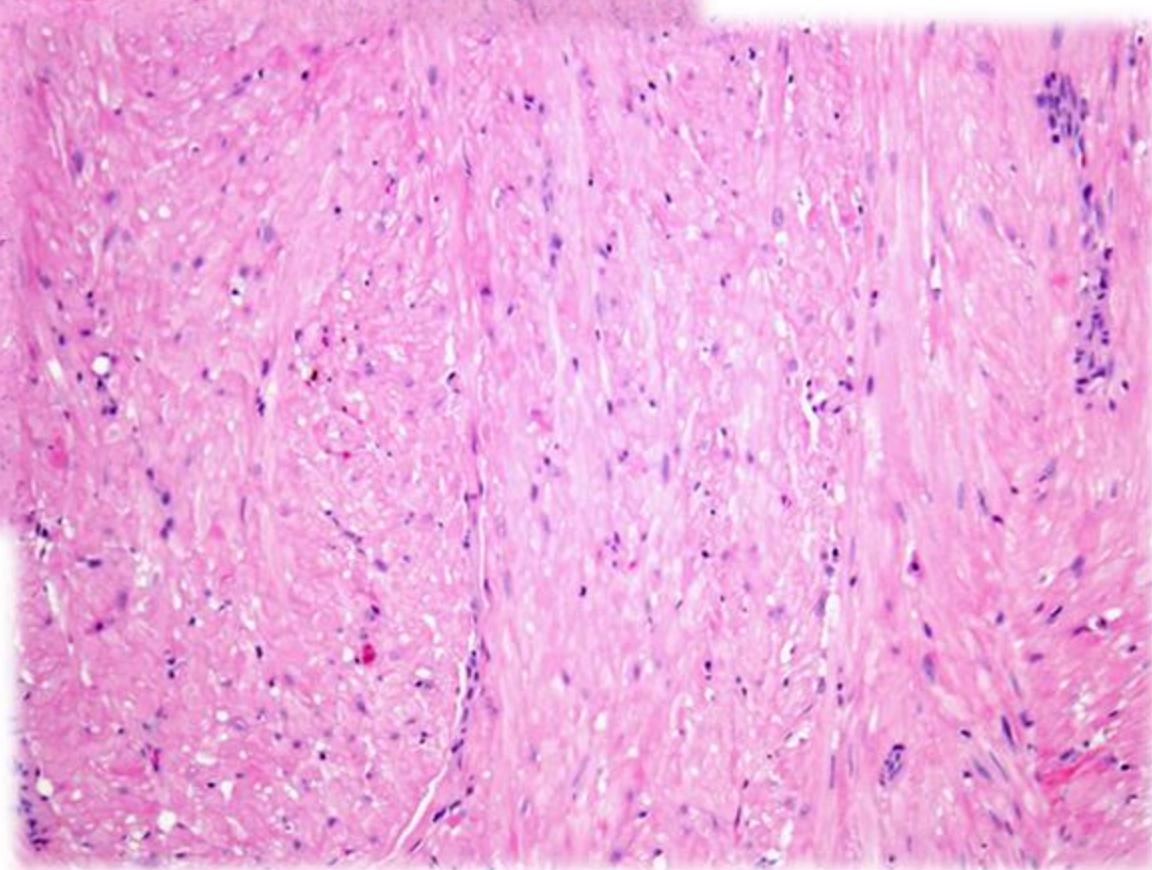
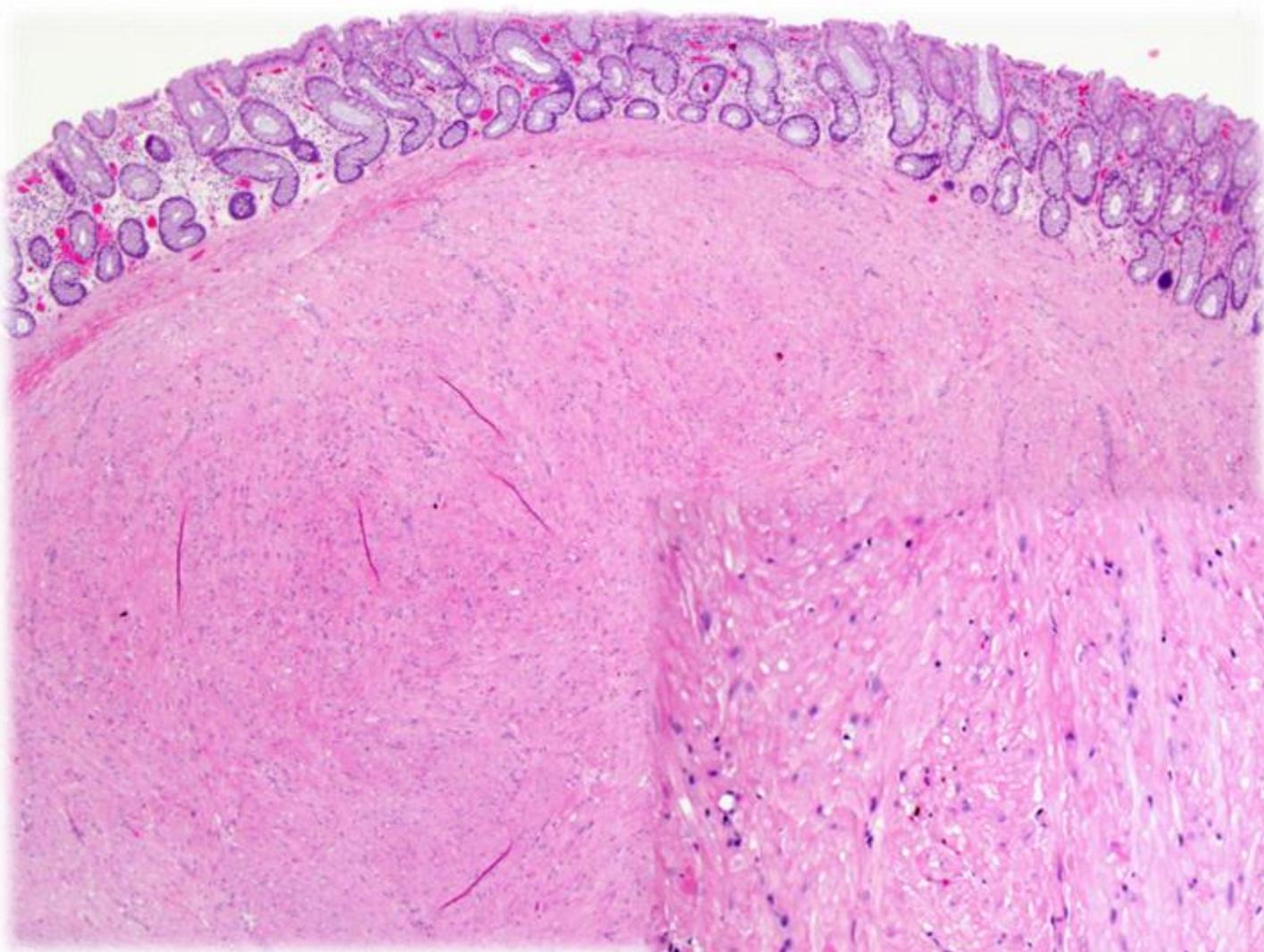
Getting the diagnosis right

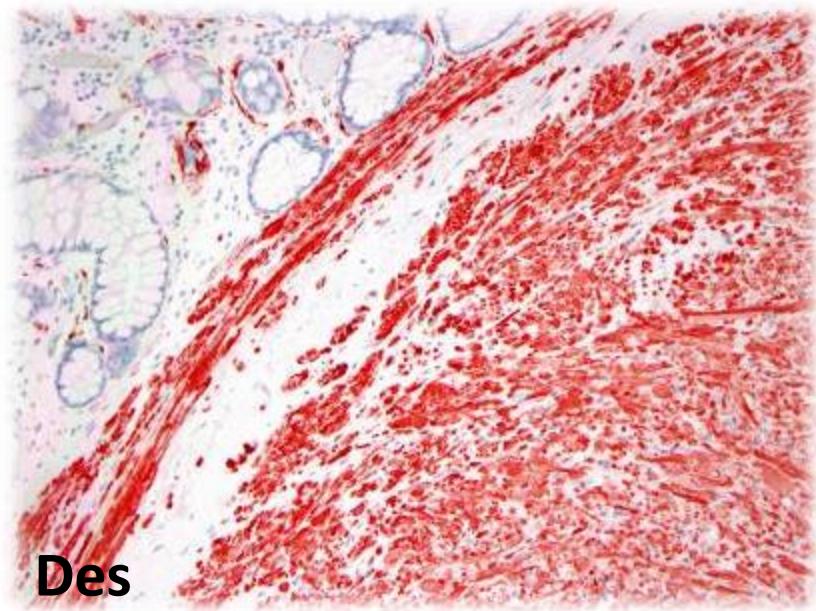
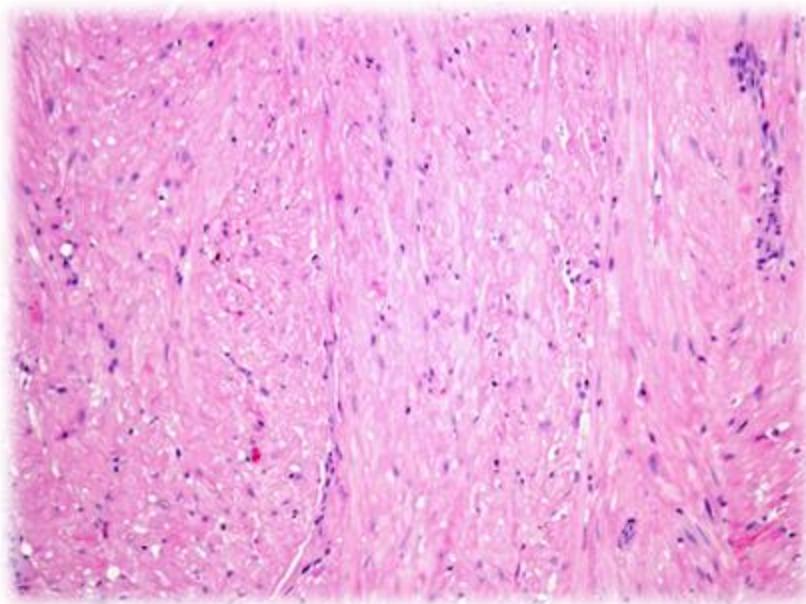
Case 1



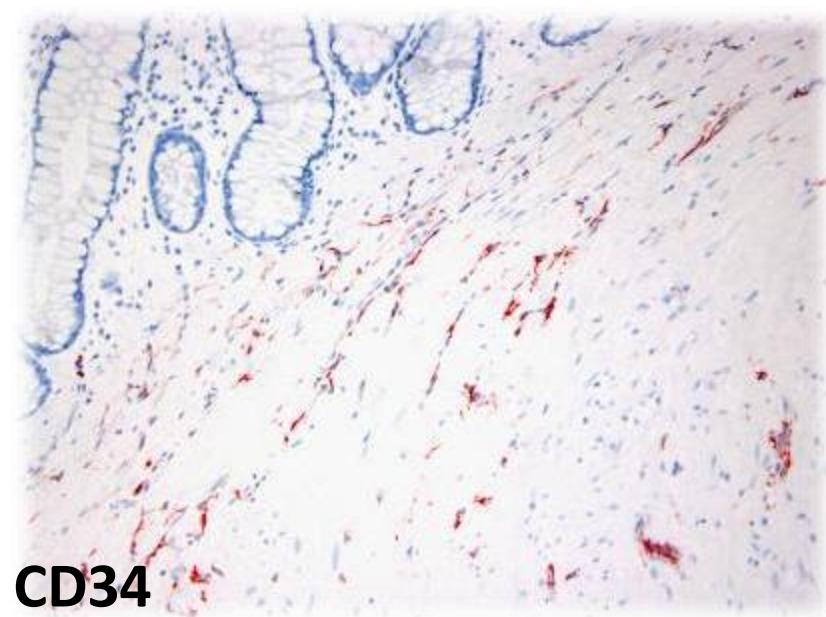


Case 2





Des

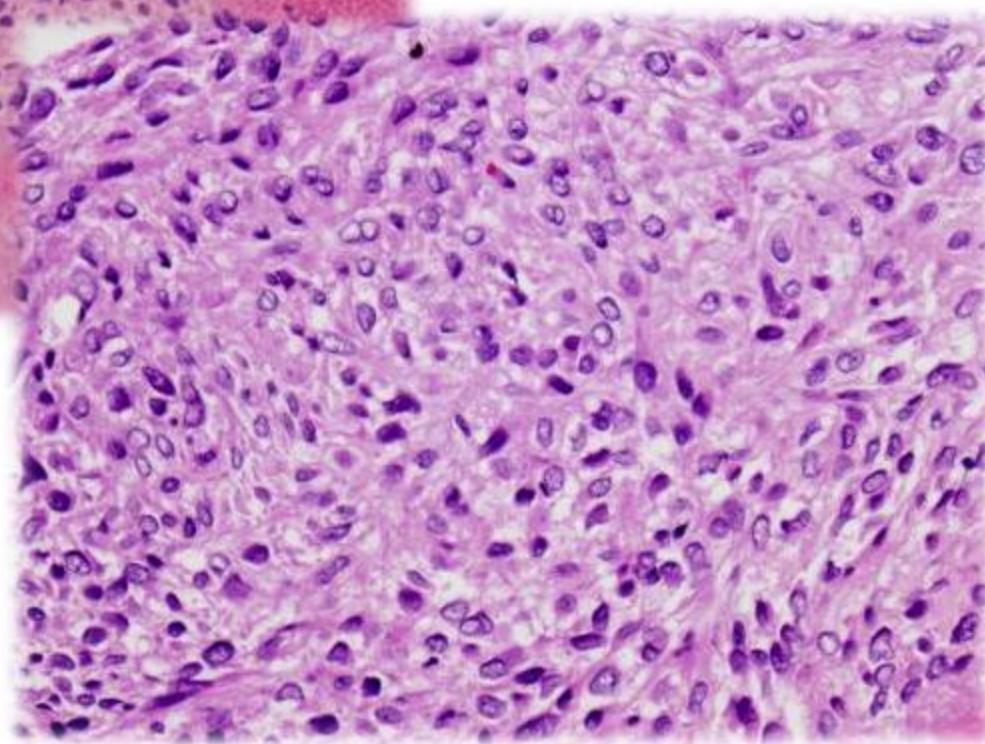
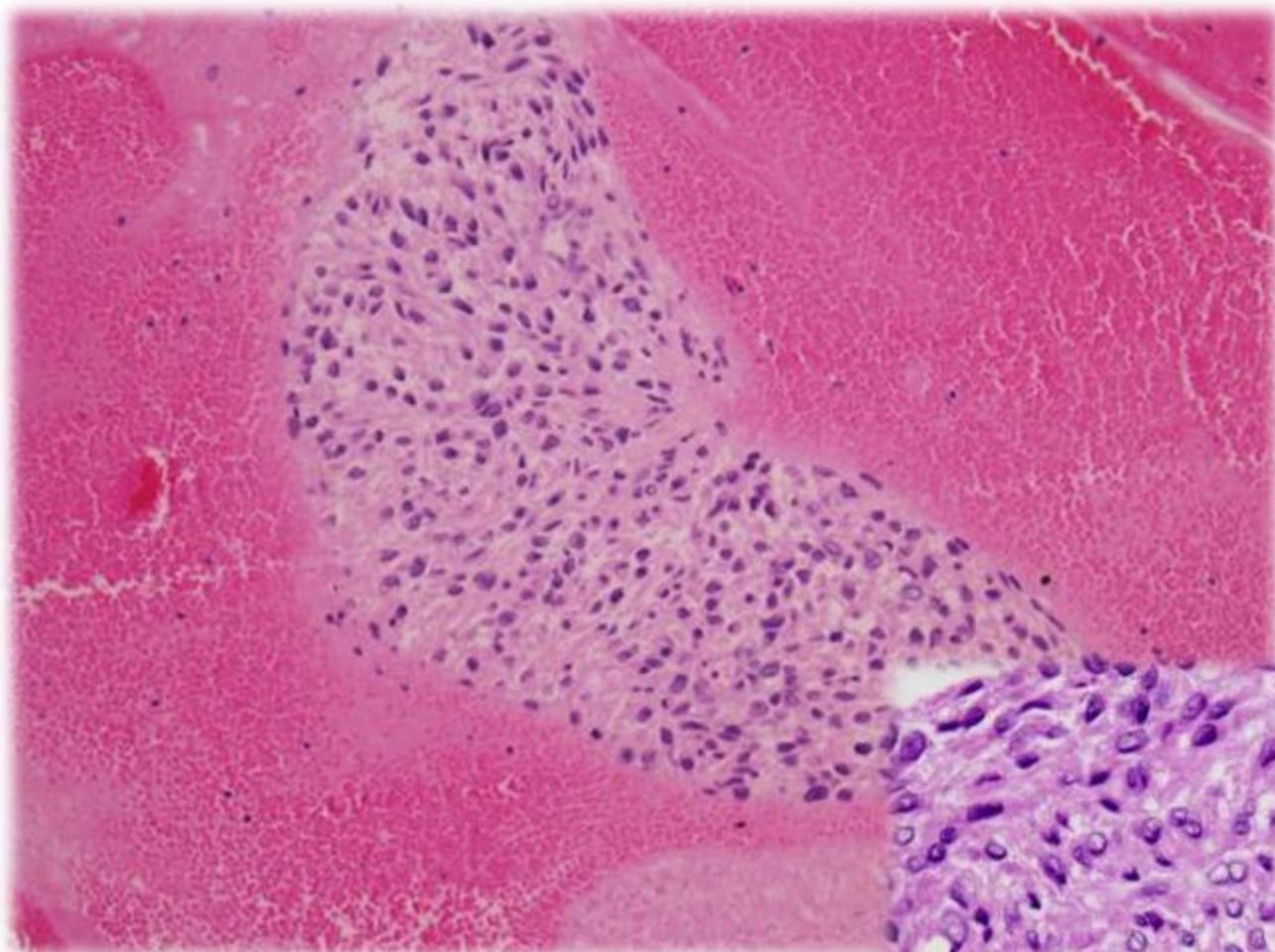


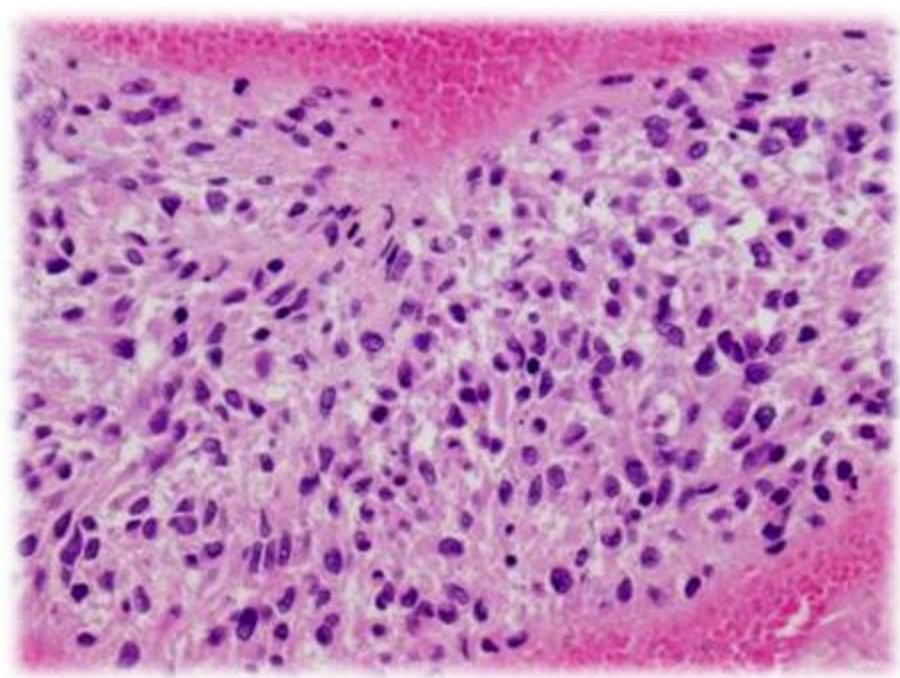
CD34



KIT

Case 3





SMA



Des

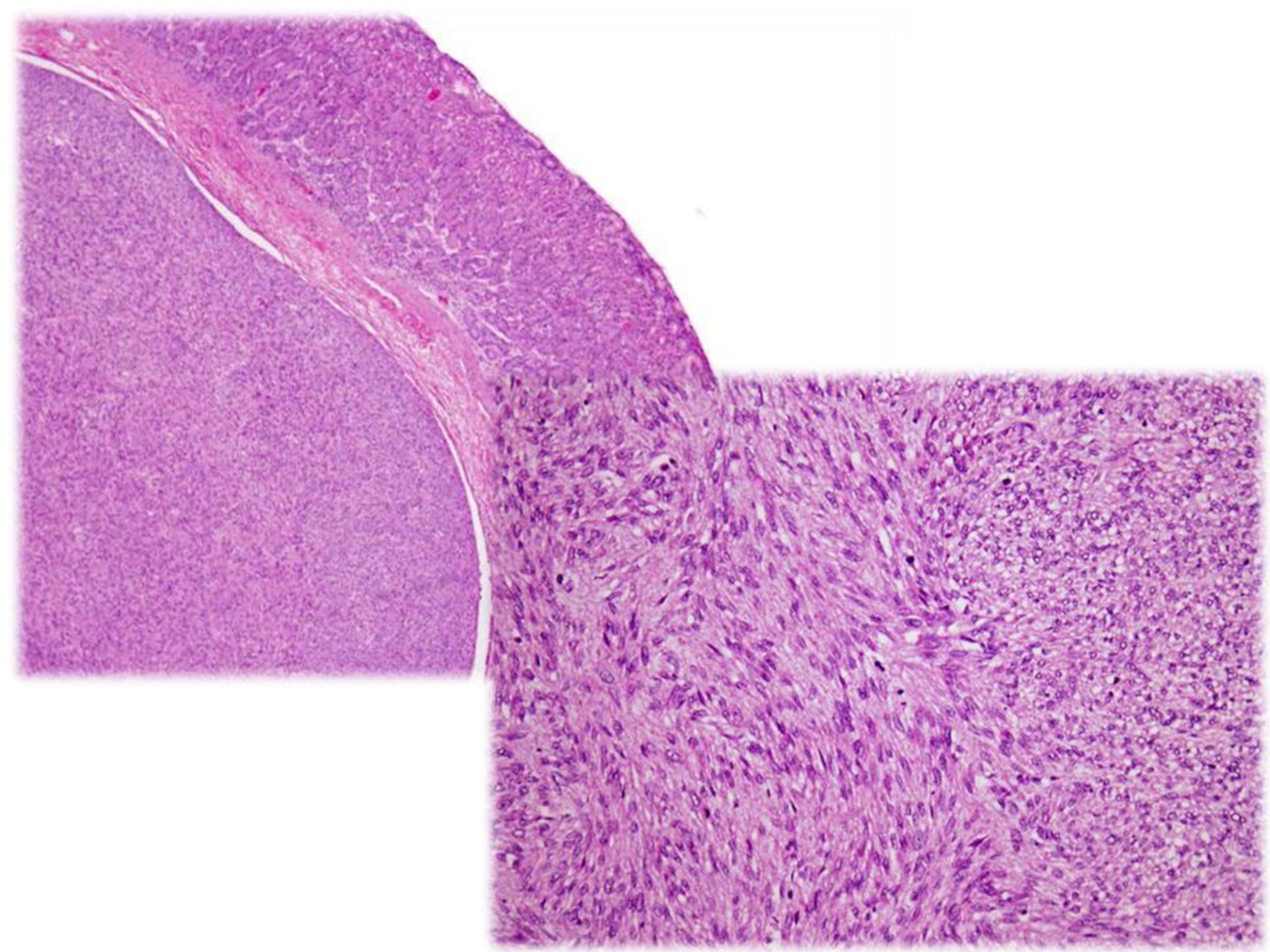


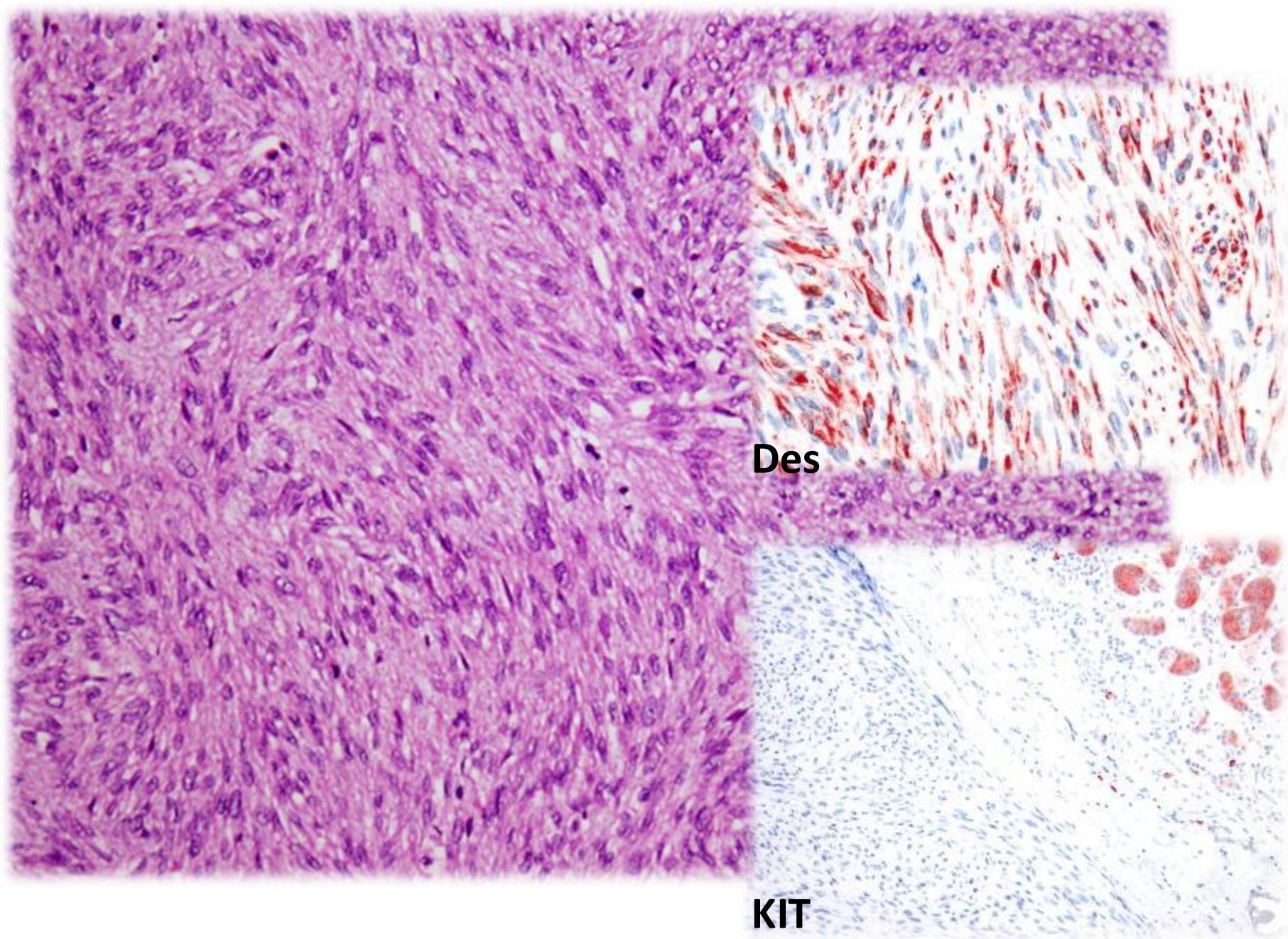
panK



S-100 p

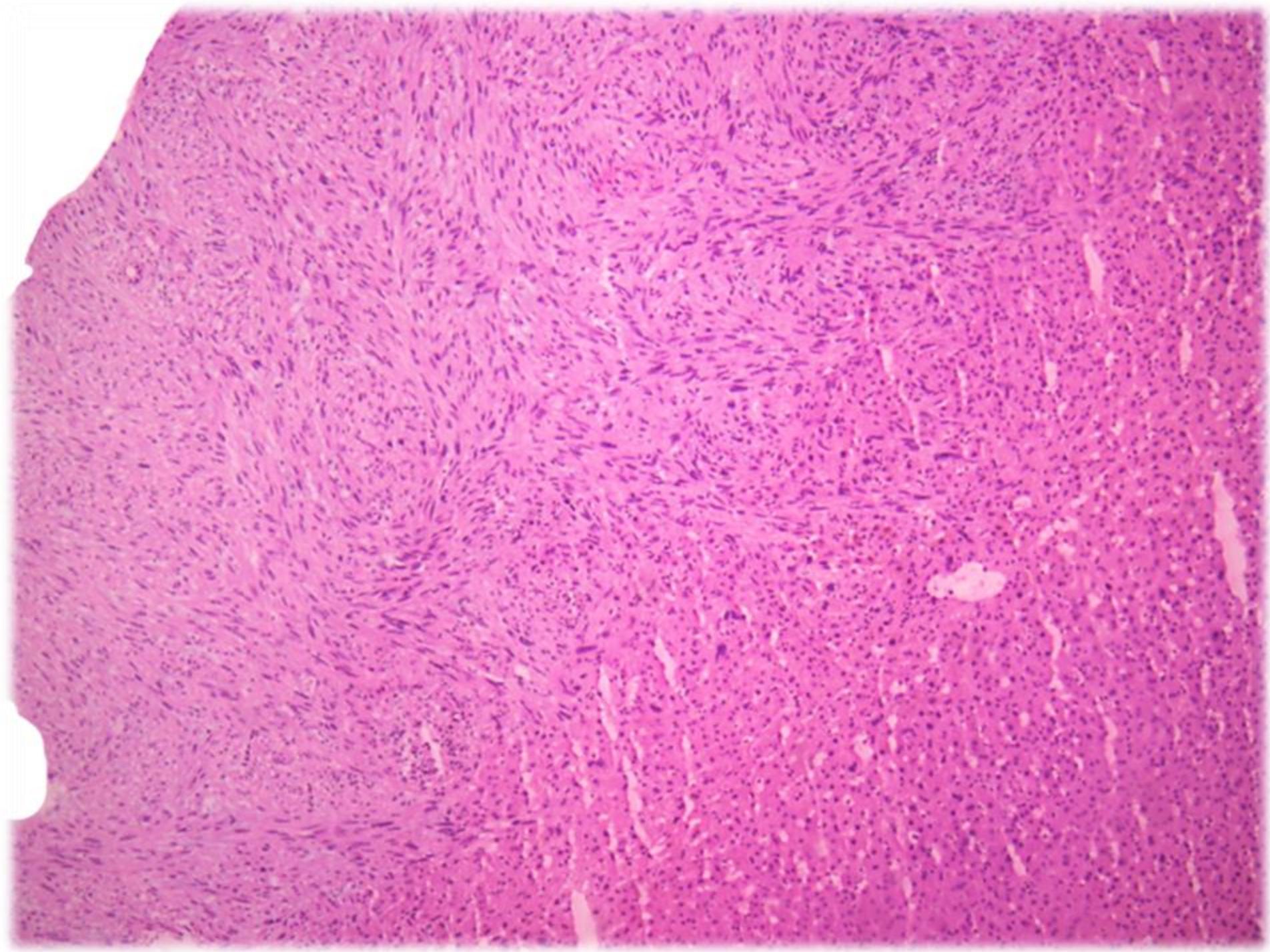
KIT





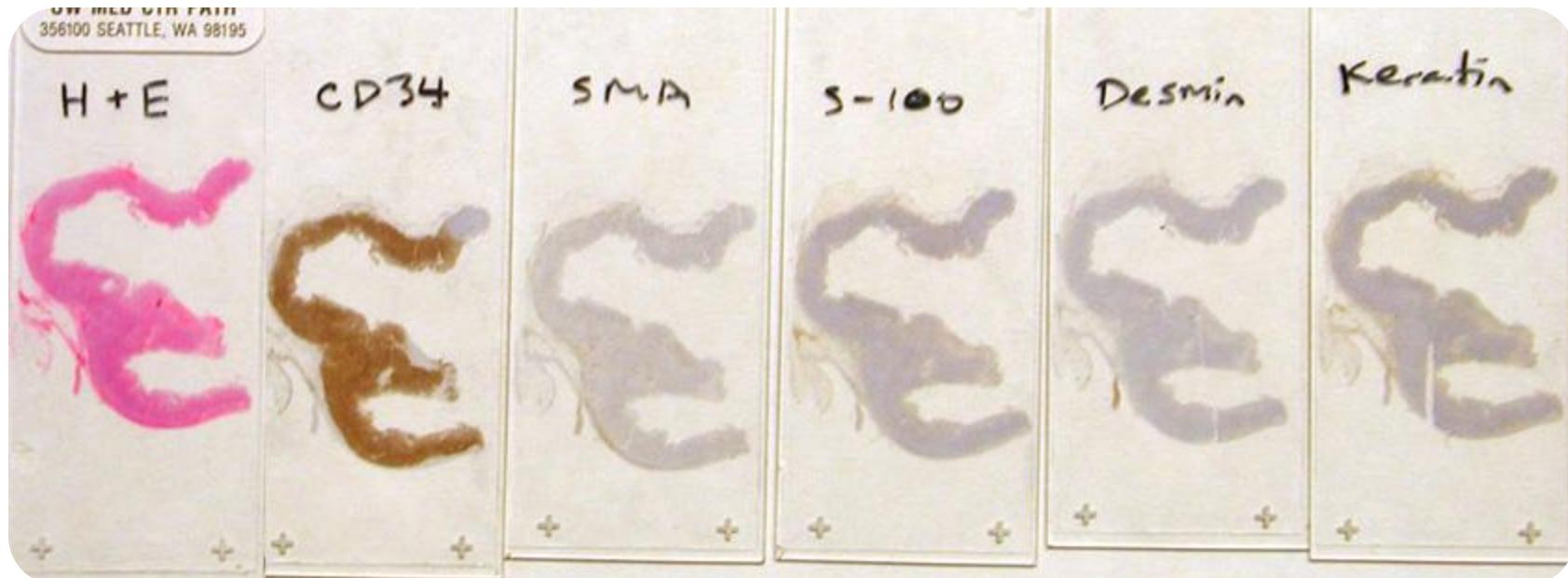
Des

KIT

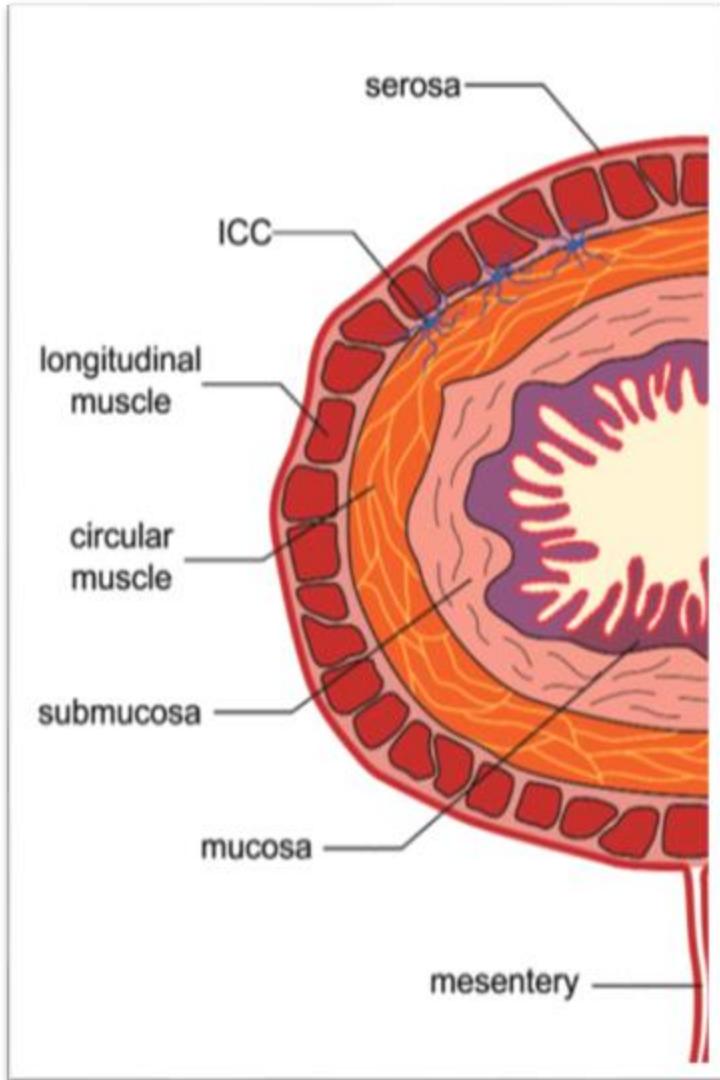


DIAGNOSIS	KIT	CD34	Ker	SMA	DES	S-100
GIST	+	+(70%)	-	+(40%)	-	-
Carcinoma	-	-	+	+(sar)	-	-
Melanoma	+/-	-	-	-	-	+
Leiomyoma	-	+/-	+/-	+	+	-
Leiomyosarcoma	-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	-
Schwannoma	-	-	-	-	-	+
Fibromatosis	-	-	-	-	-	+/-

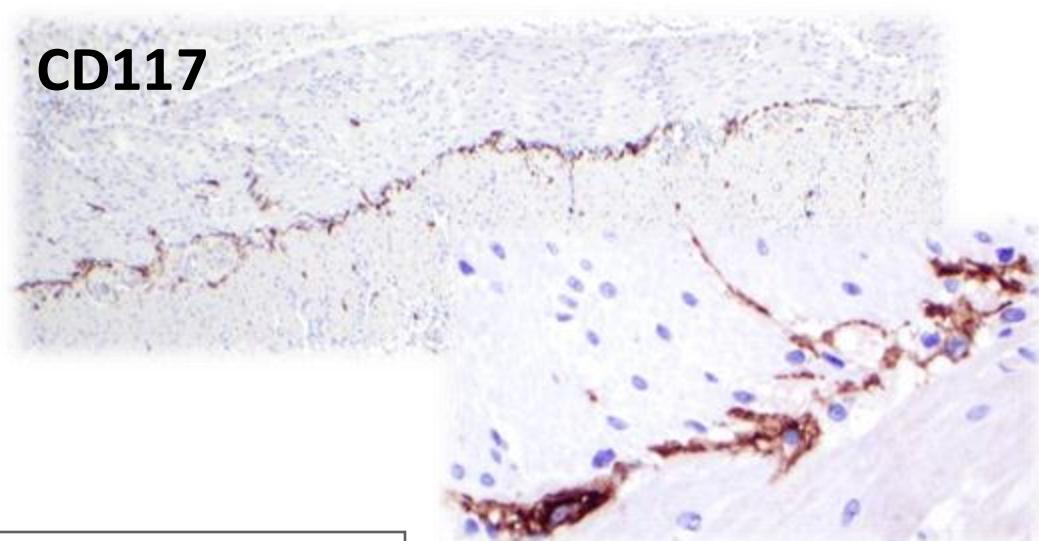
Immunohistochemical Profile of GISTS (Circa 1997 and prior)



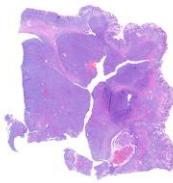
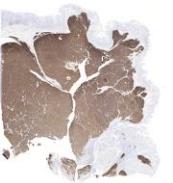
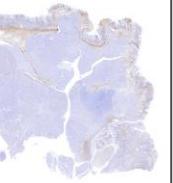
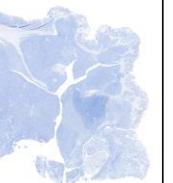
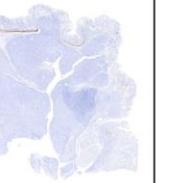
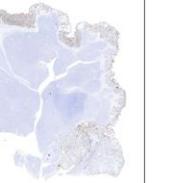
Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor



- Arise from the interstitial cells of Cajal (ICC)
- ICC have a “pacemaker” function and are important in coordinating peristalsis



Immunohistochemical Profile of GIST

H&E	CD117 (KIT)	CD34	Smooth muscle actin	S100 protein	Desmin	Pan-keratin
	95%	70%	30%	5%	2%	<1%
						
+	+	+	+	+	+	+

KIT (CD117) +ve (95%)

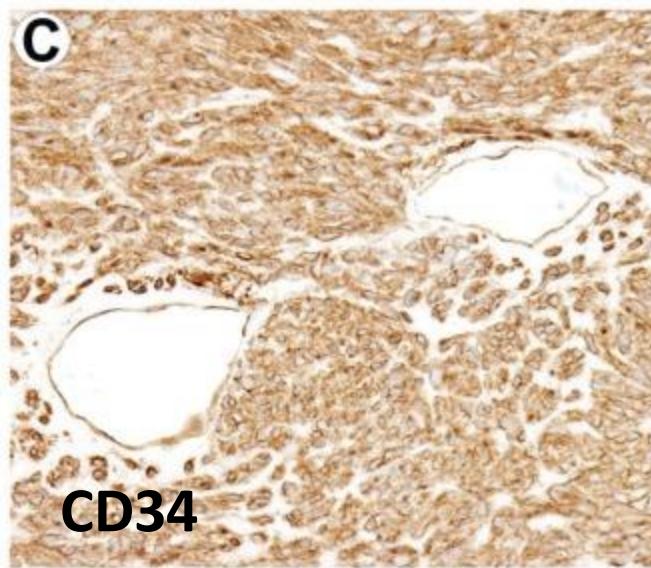
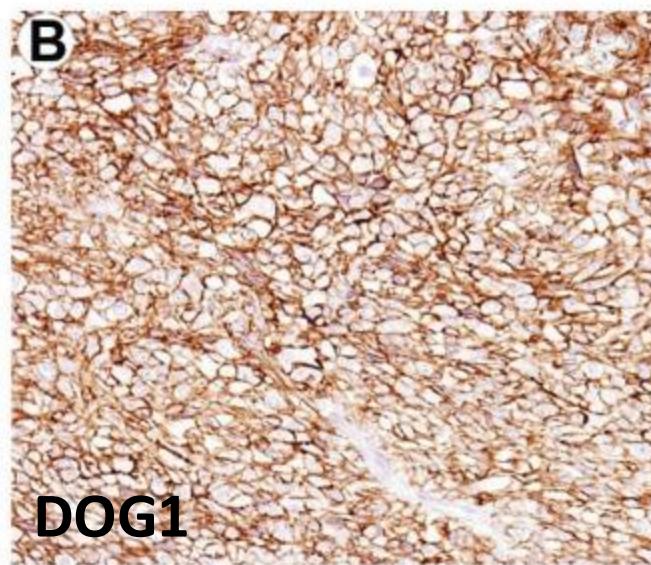
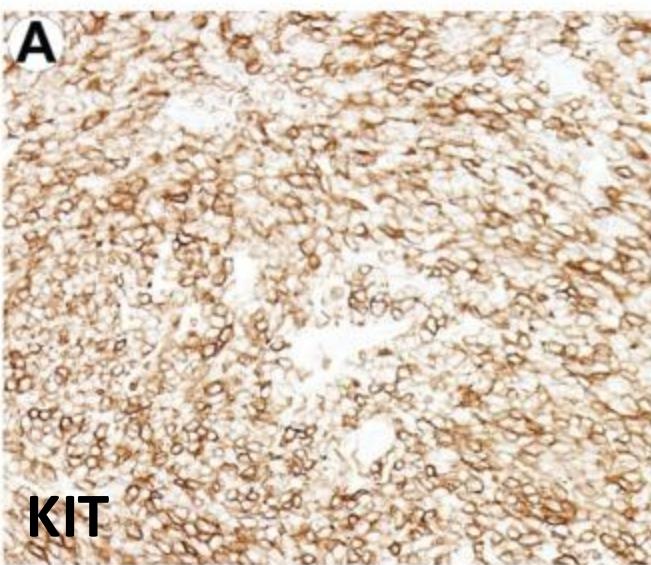
CD34 +ve (70%)

SMA +ve (30-40%)

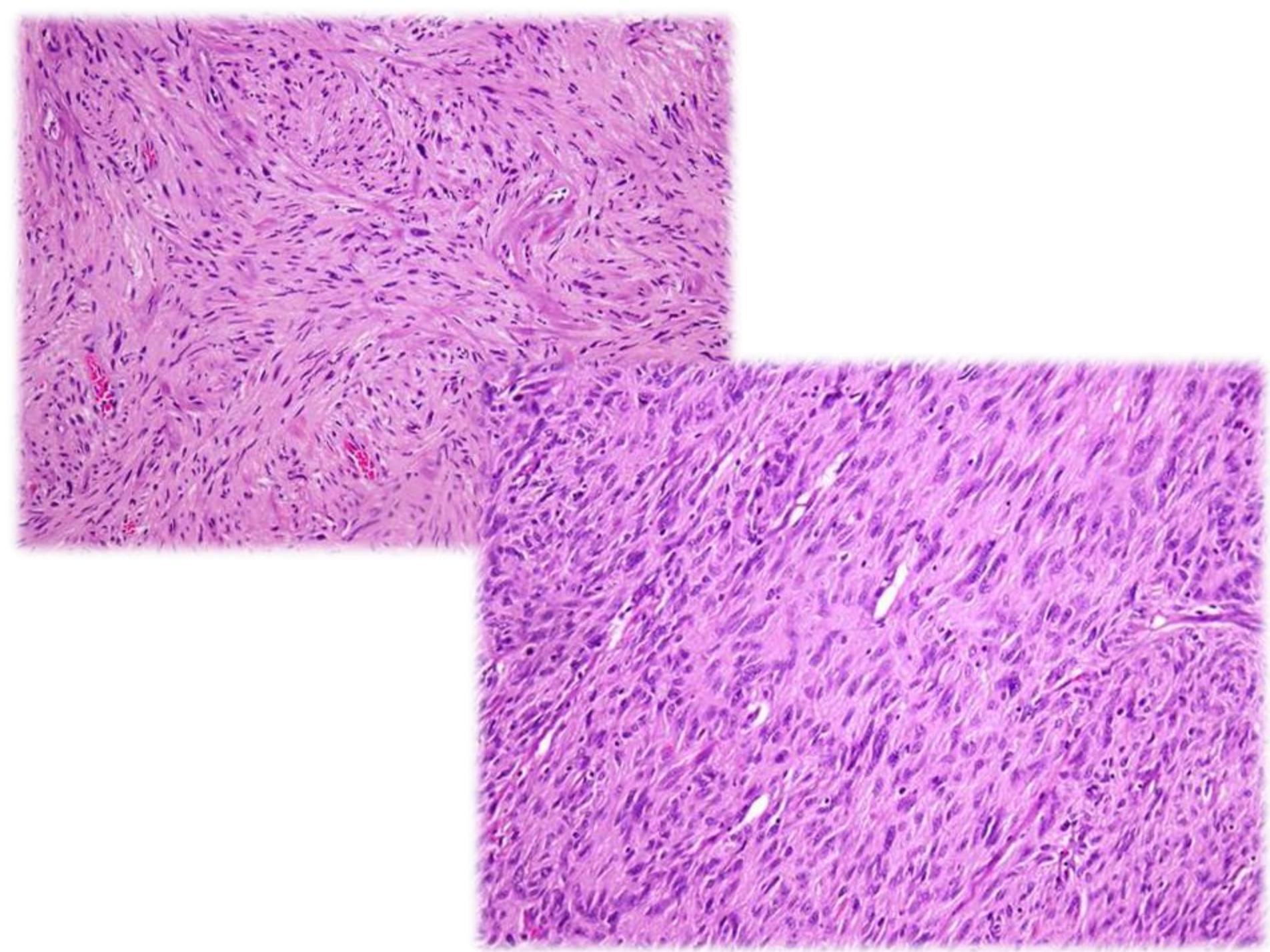
Desmin -ve

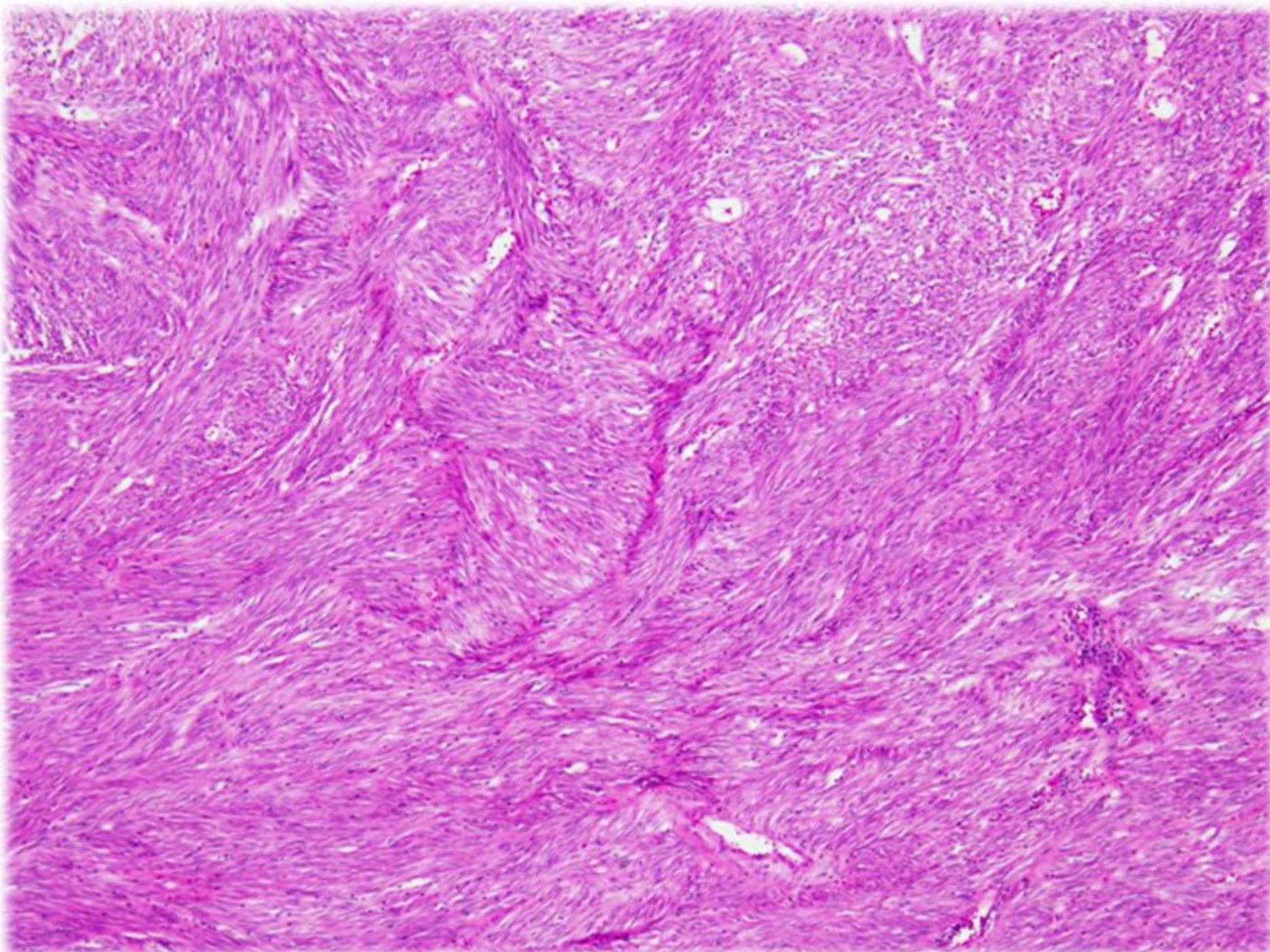
S-100 protein -ve

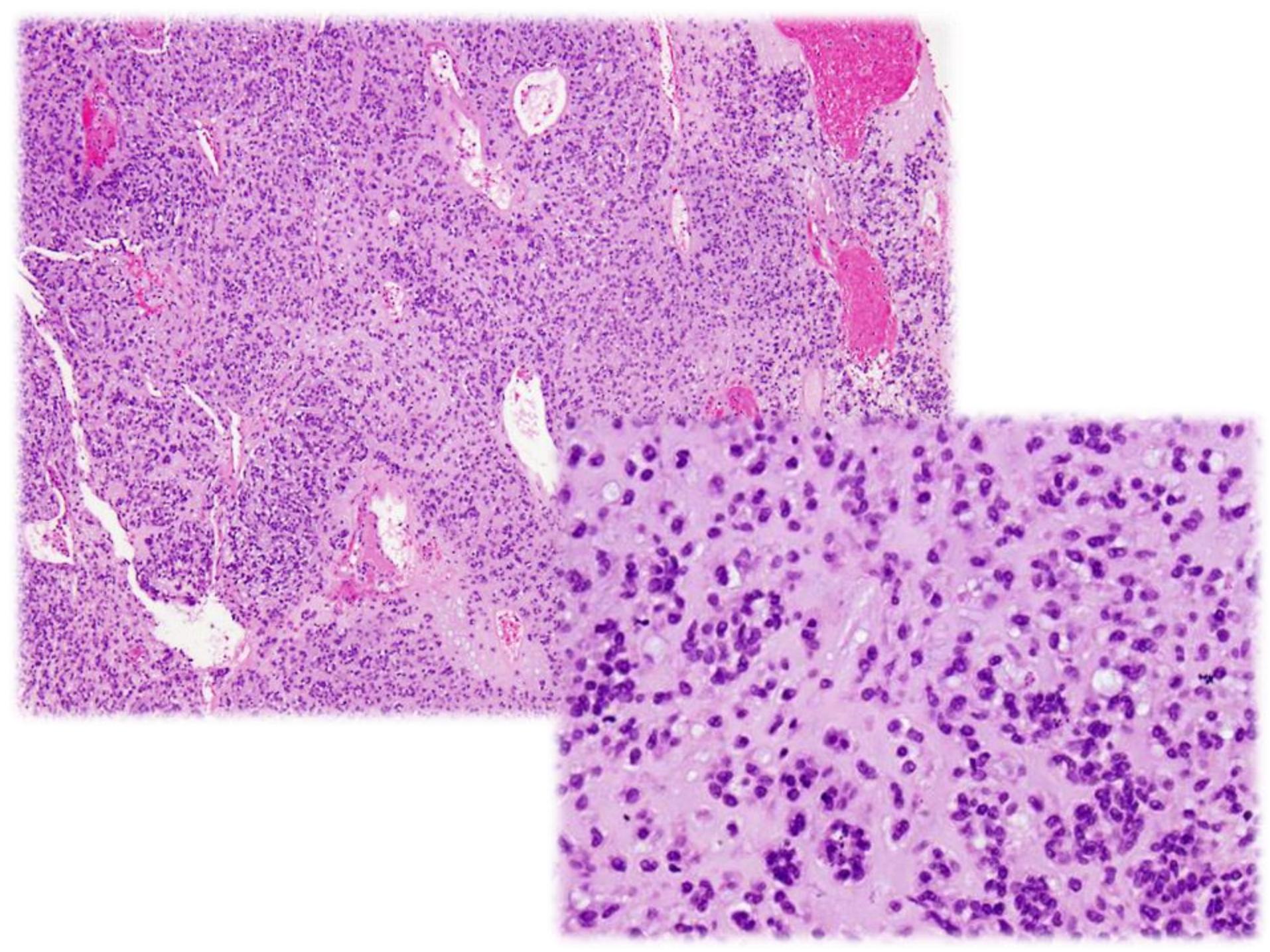
Keratin -ve

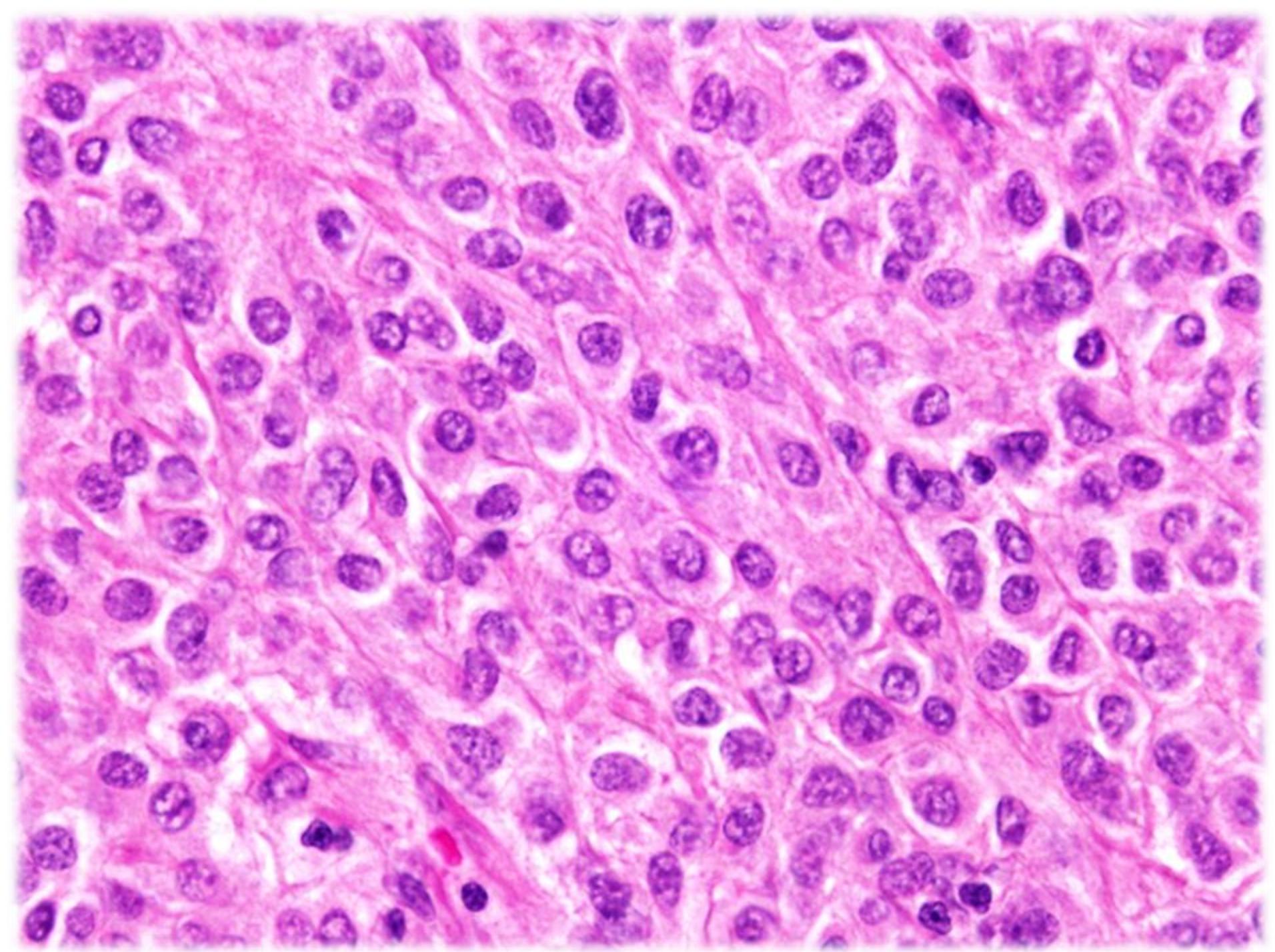


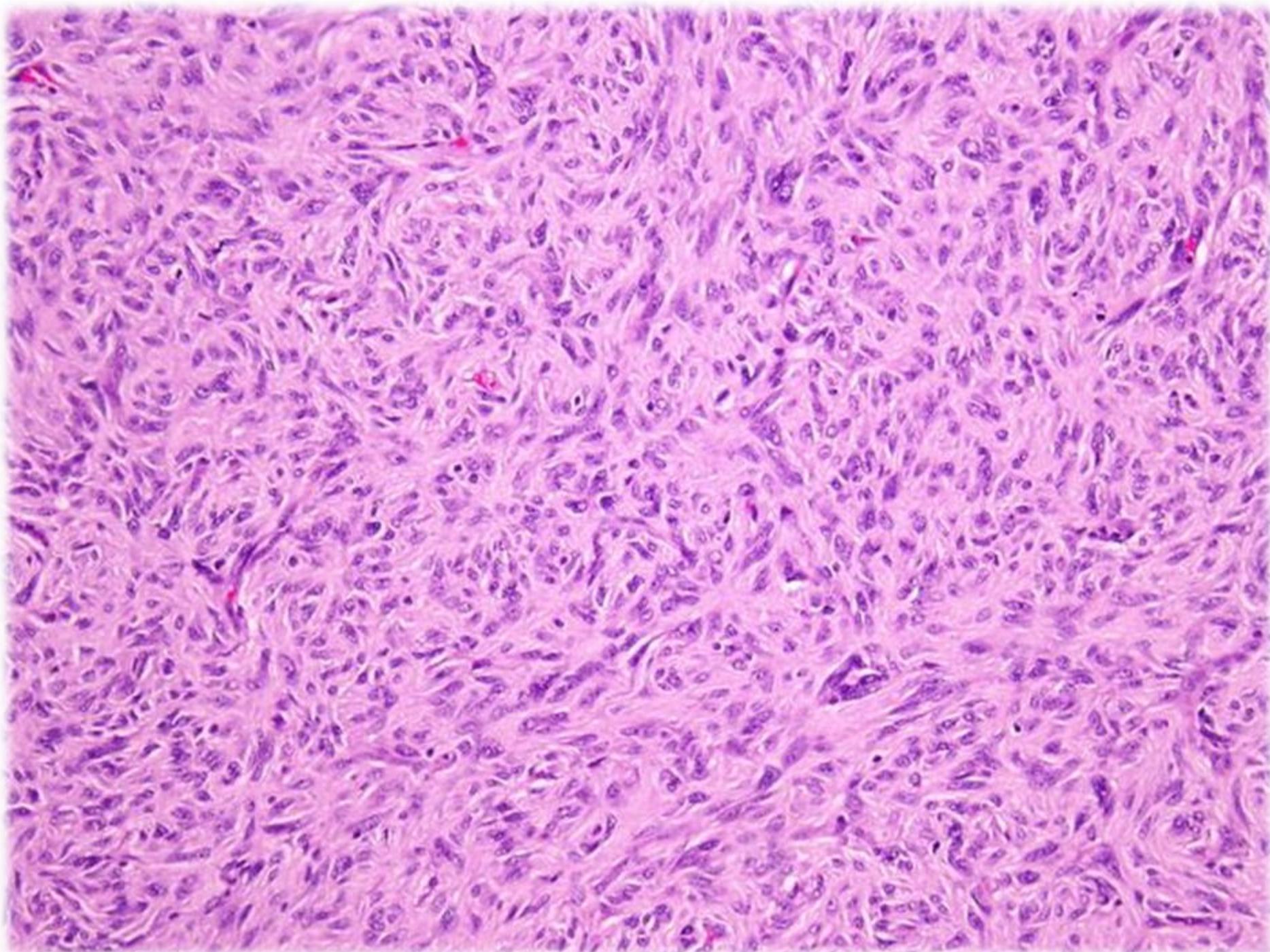
The many faces of GIST

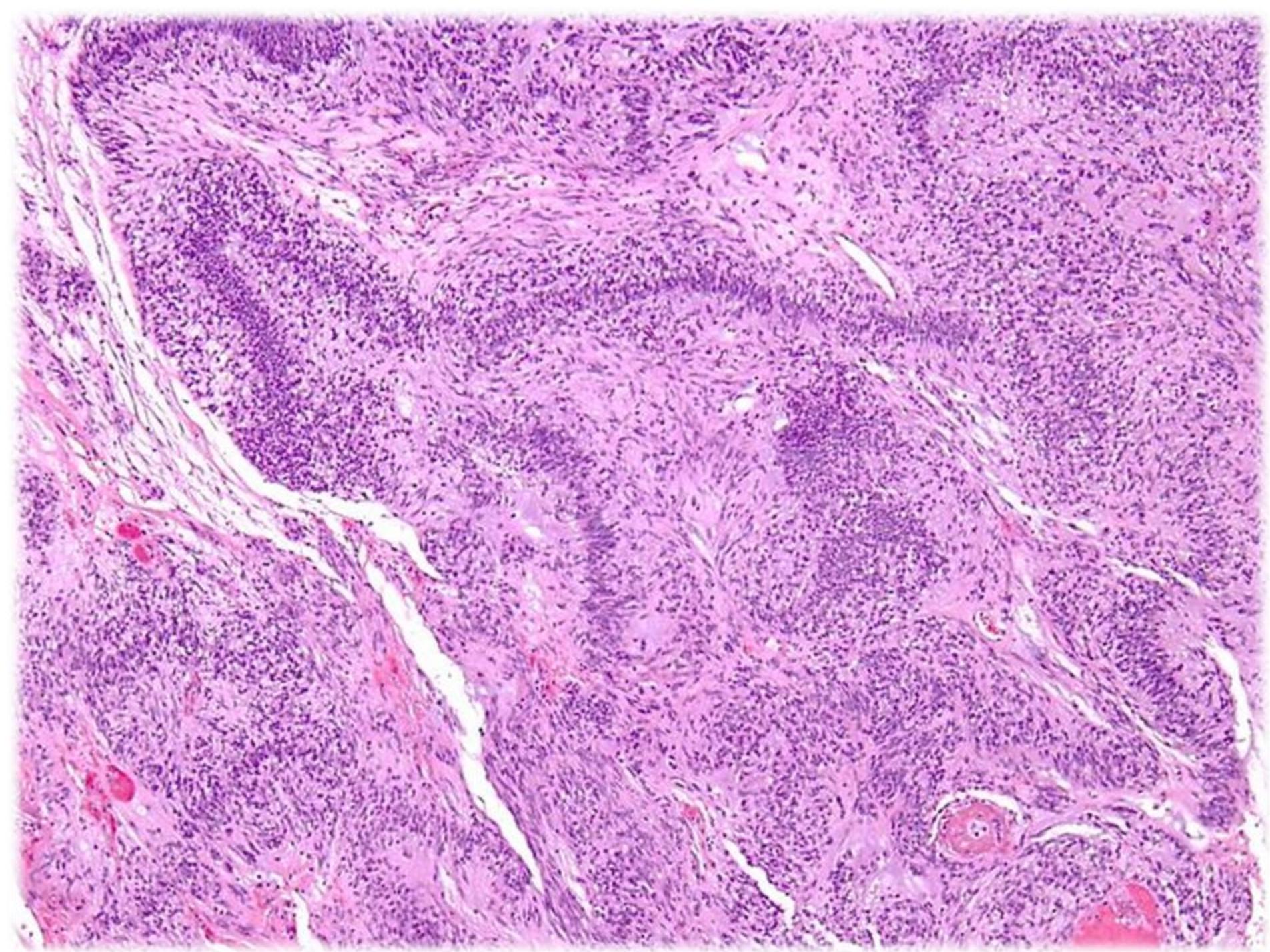


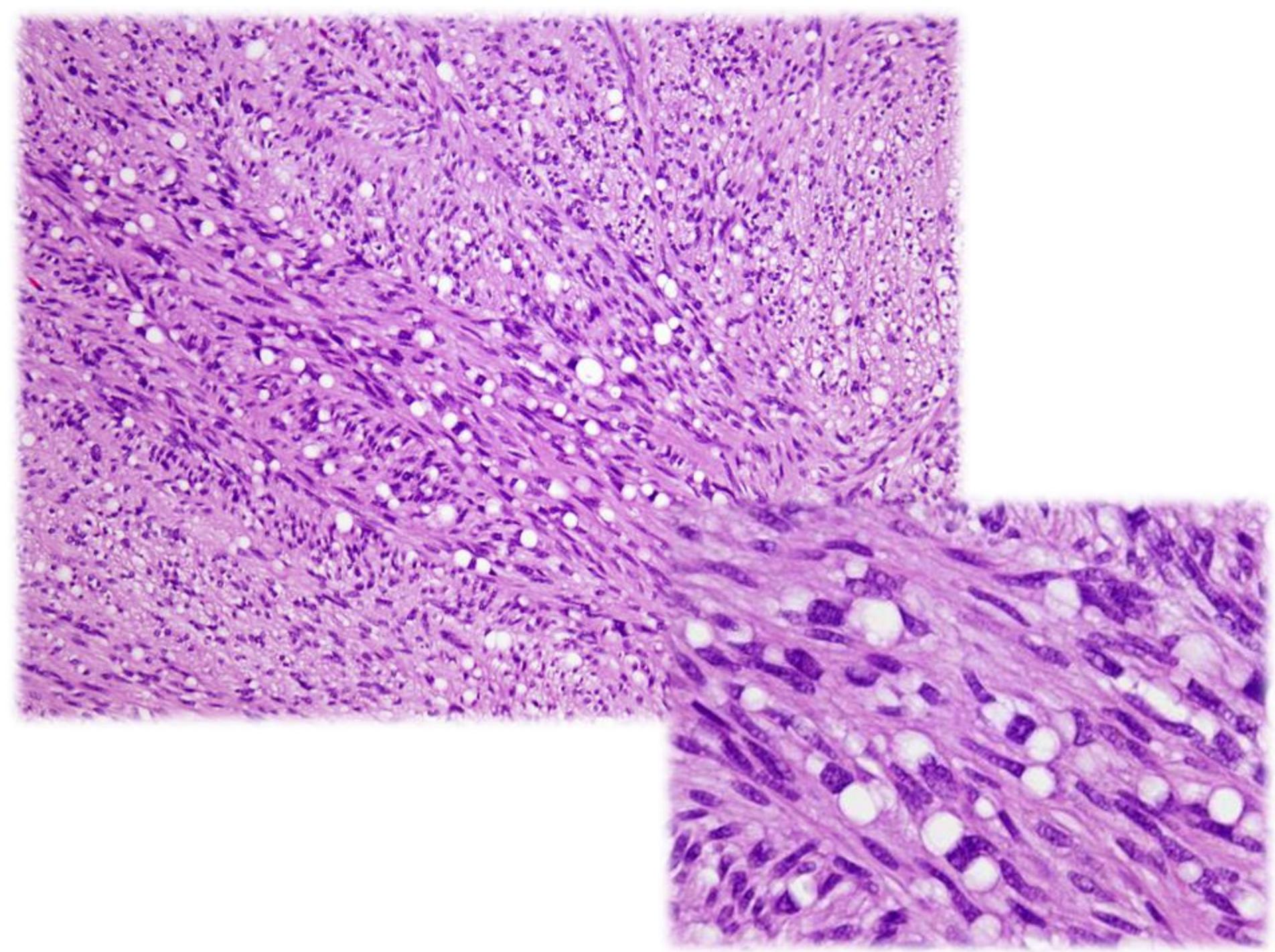


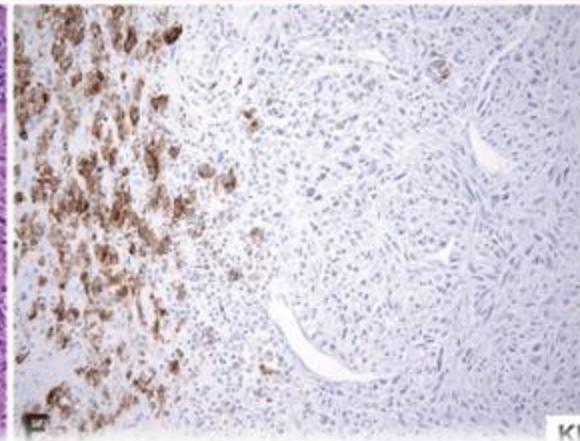
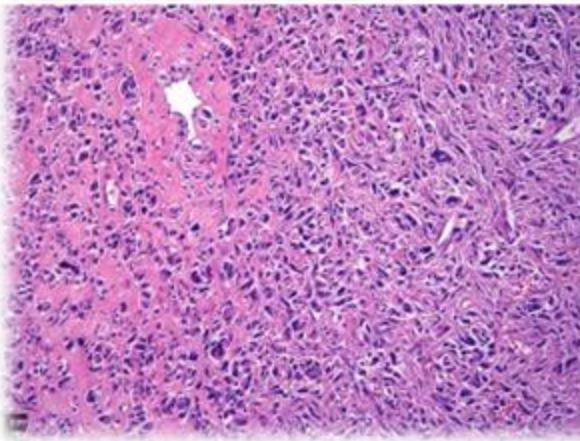
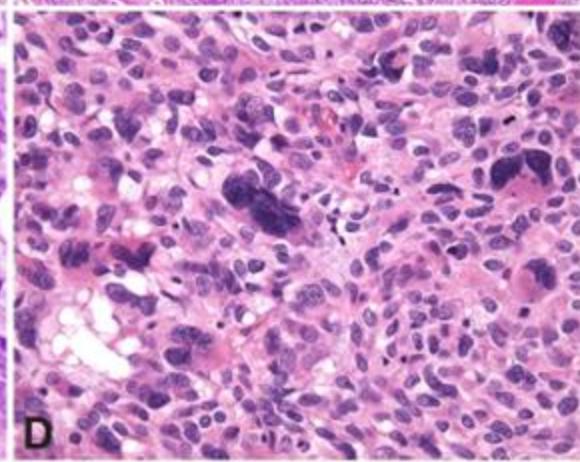
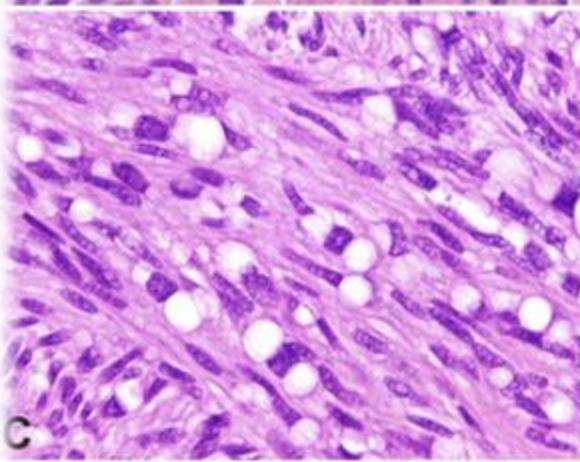
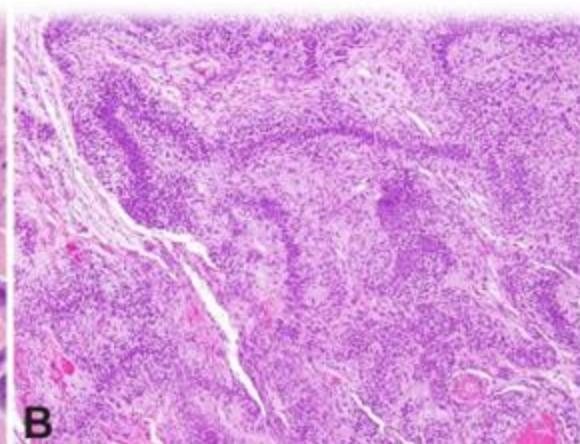
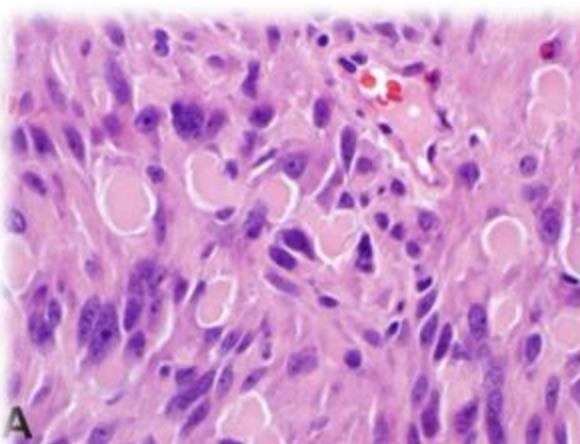


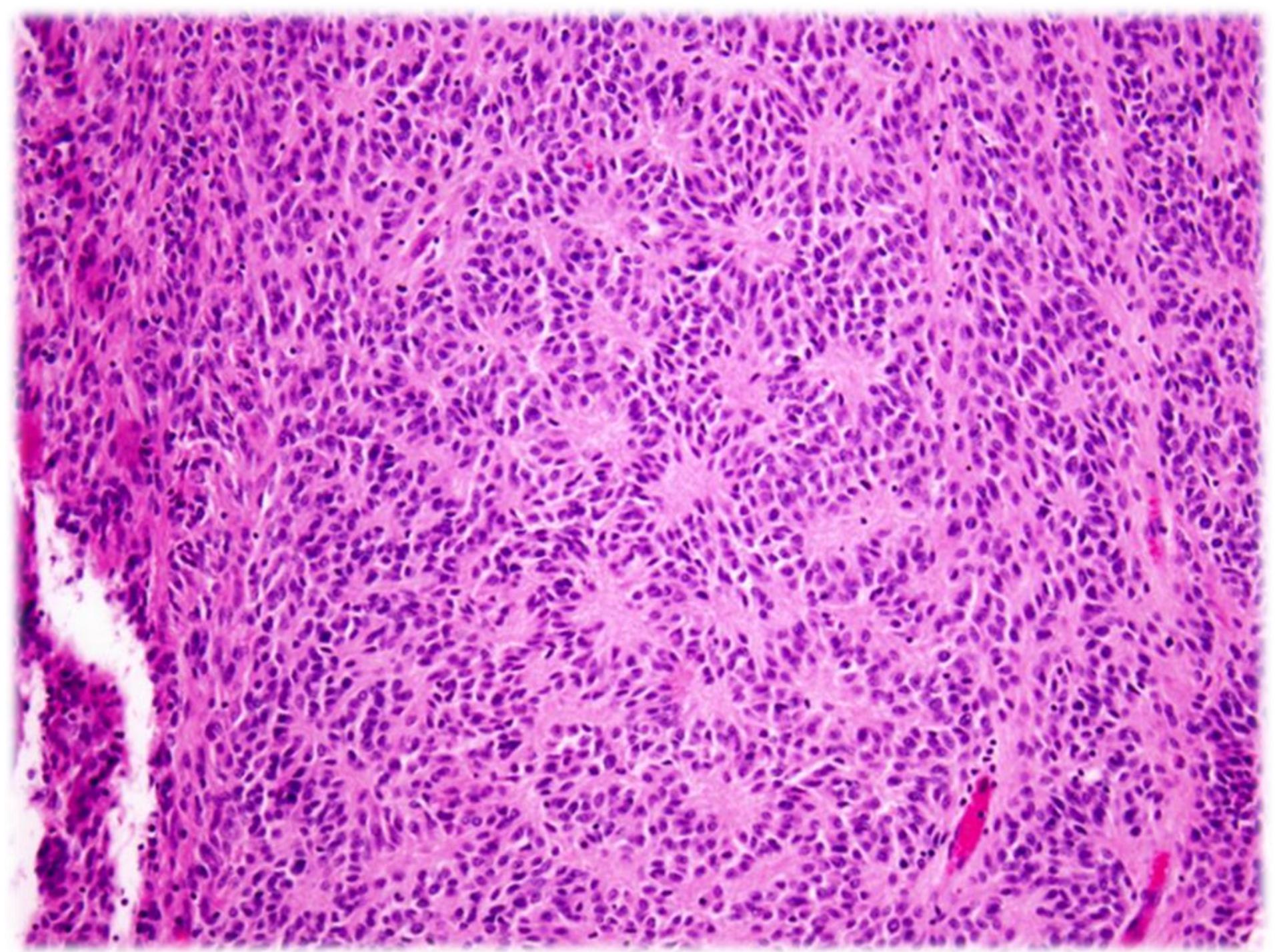












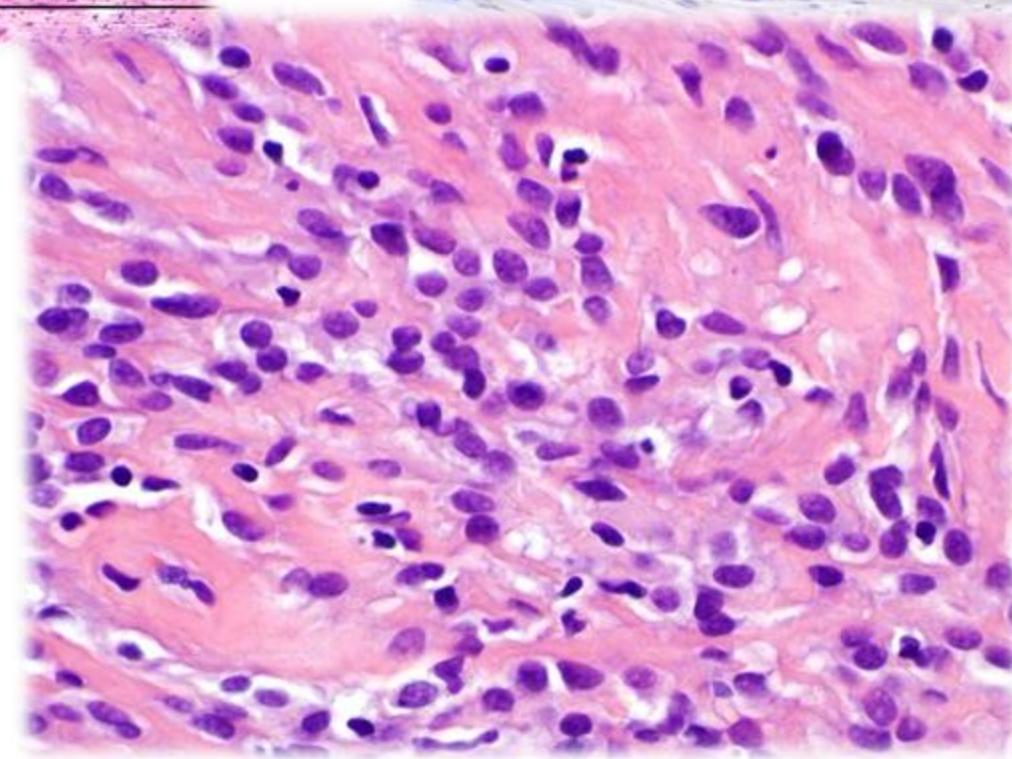
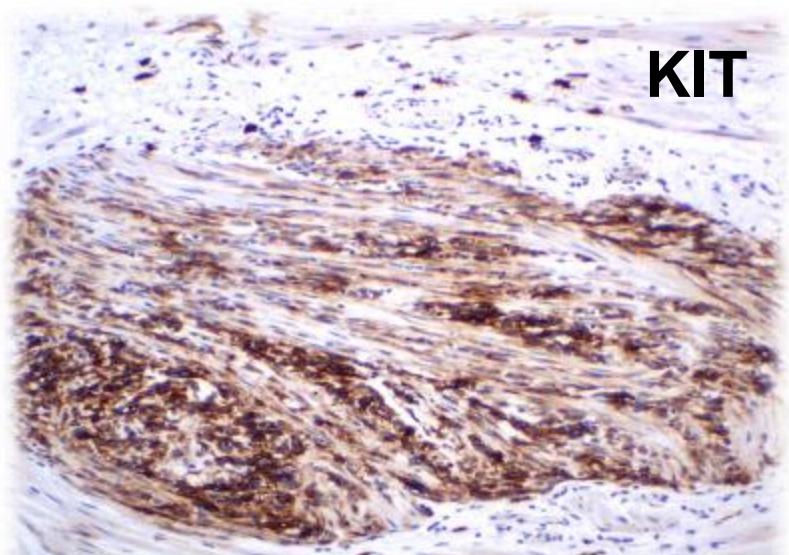
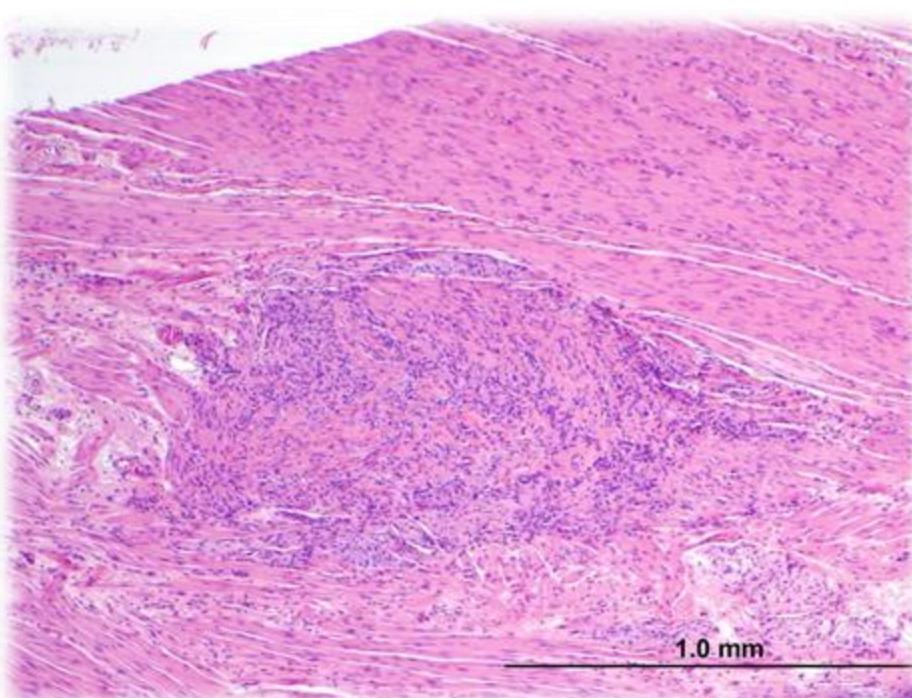
Clinical Characteristics of GIST

Wide age range – peak in 5th-7th decade

M = F

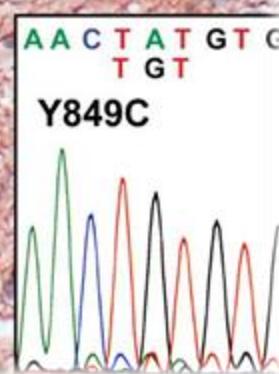
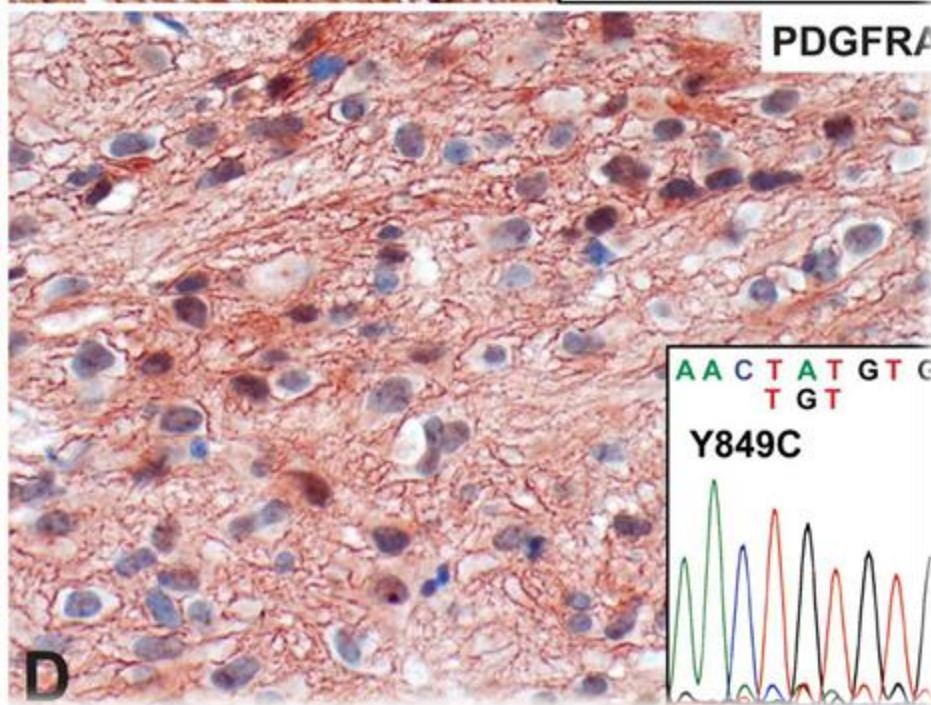
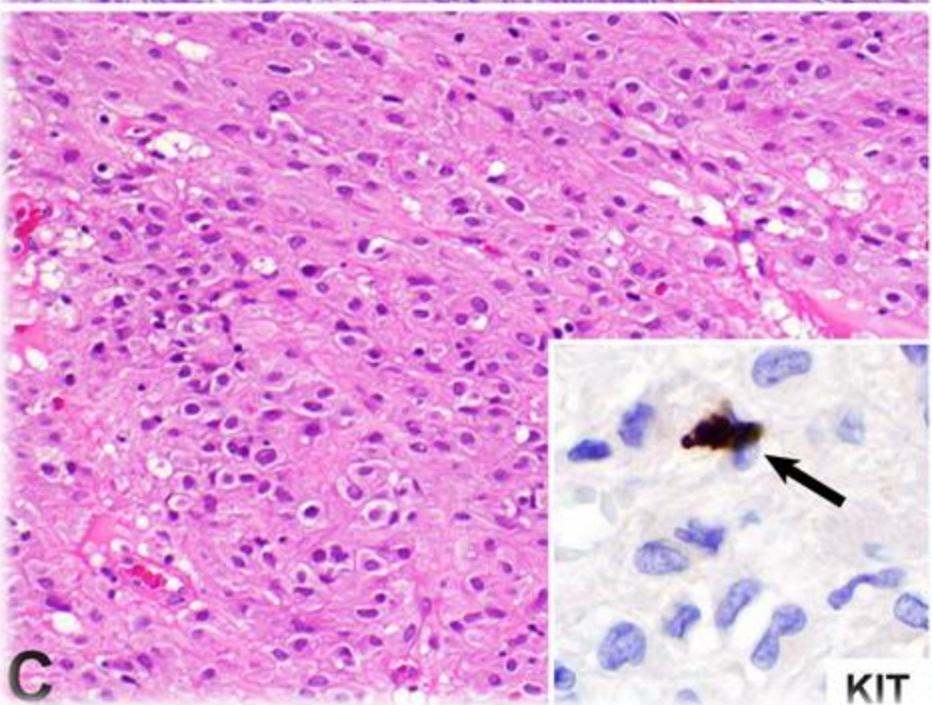
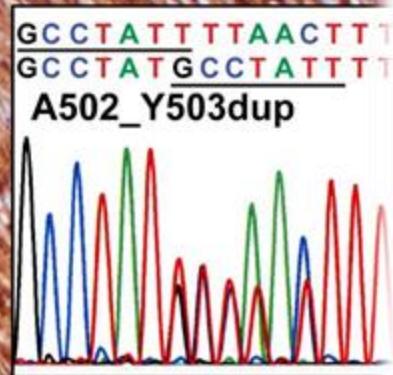
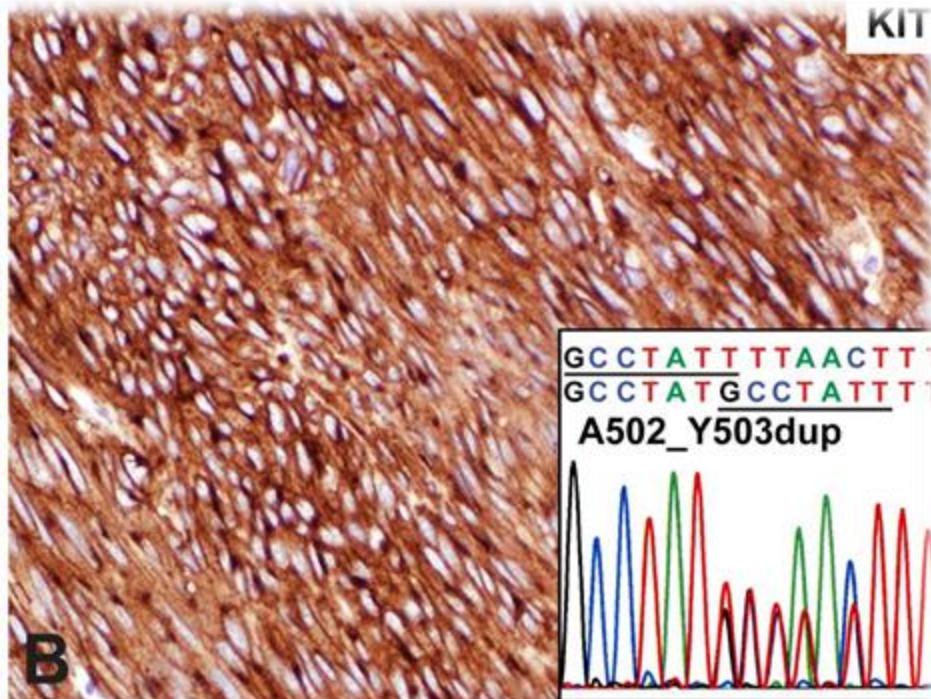
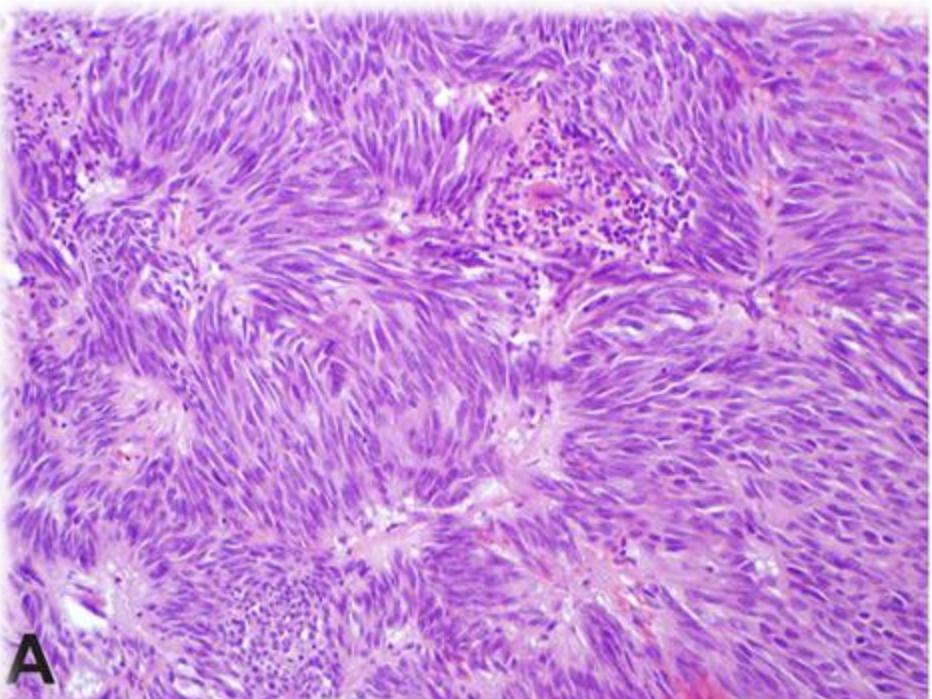
Small lesions = “incidentalomas”

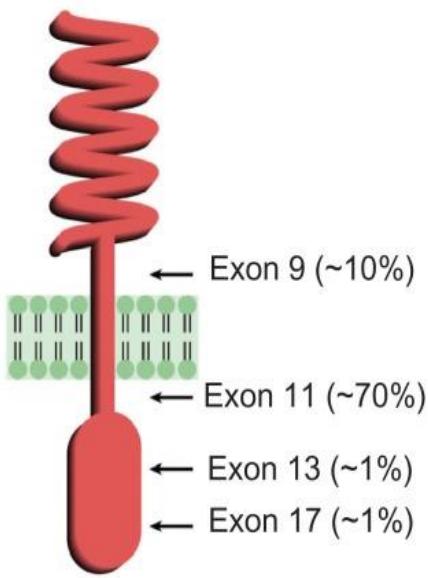
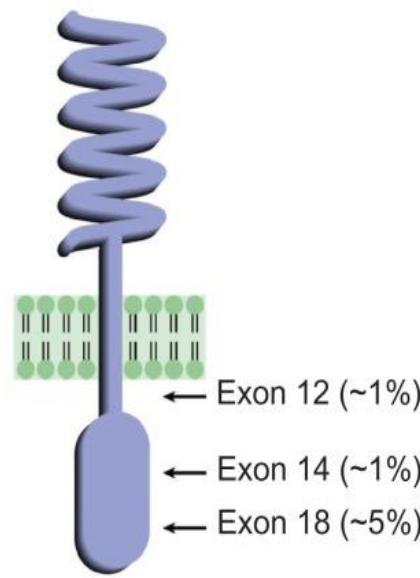
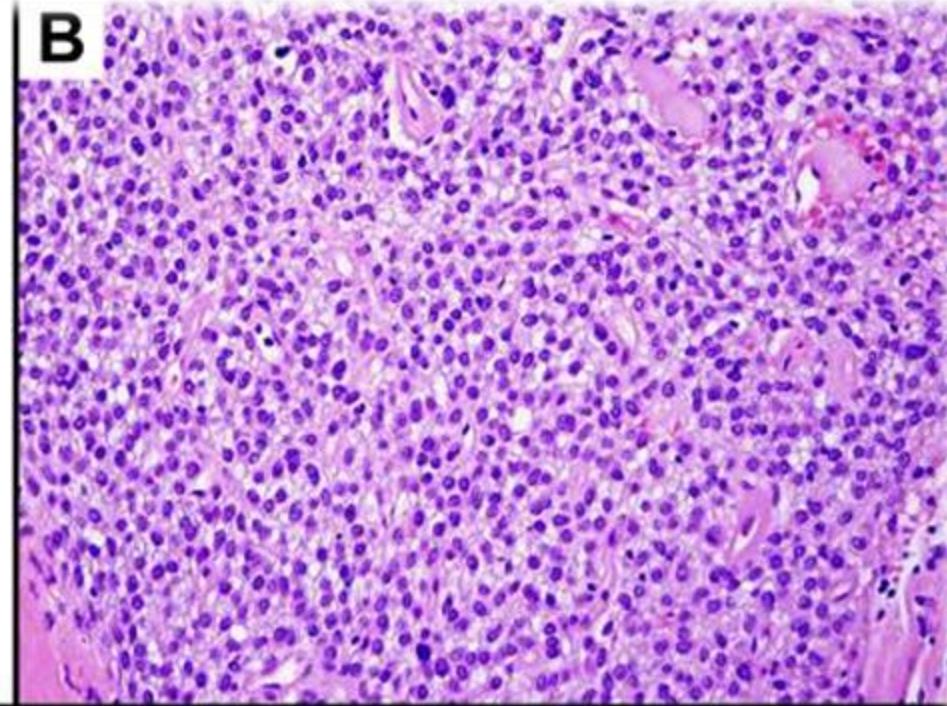
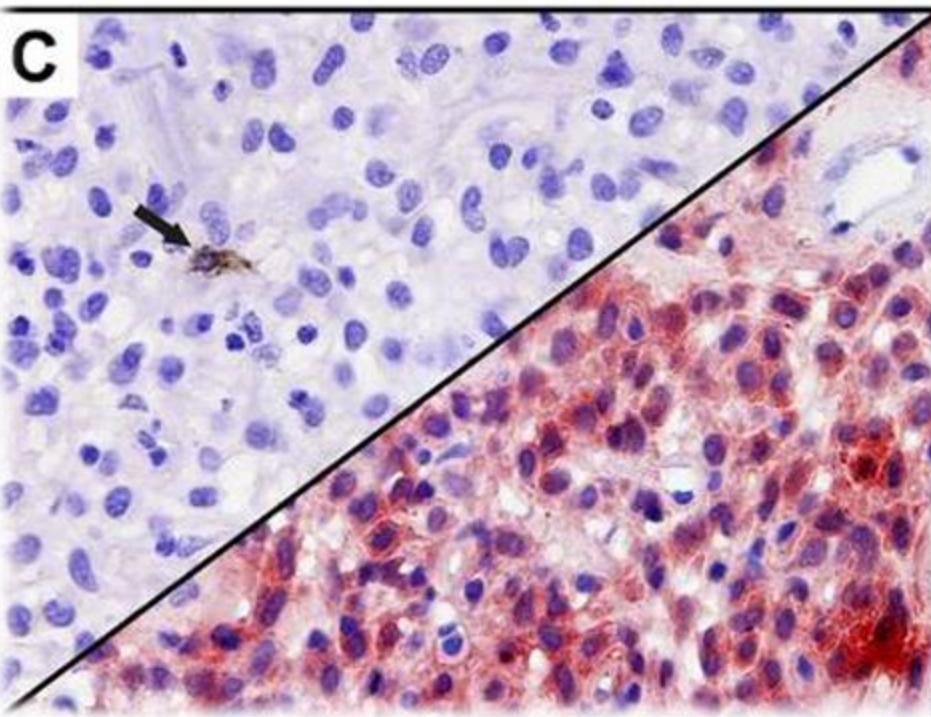
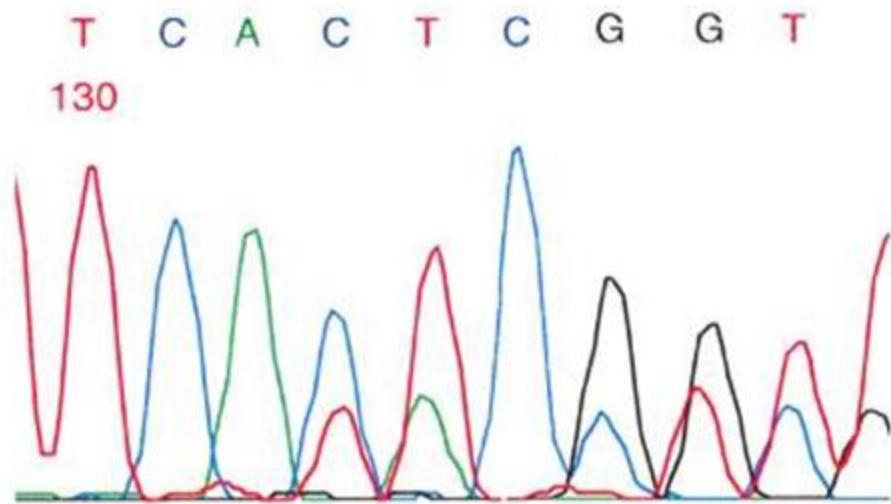
Presenting symptoms include:
abdominal pain,
gastrointestinal bleeding,
early satiety,
symptoms referable to a mass

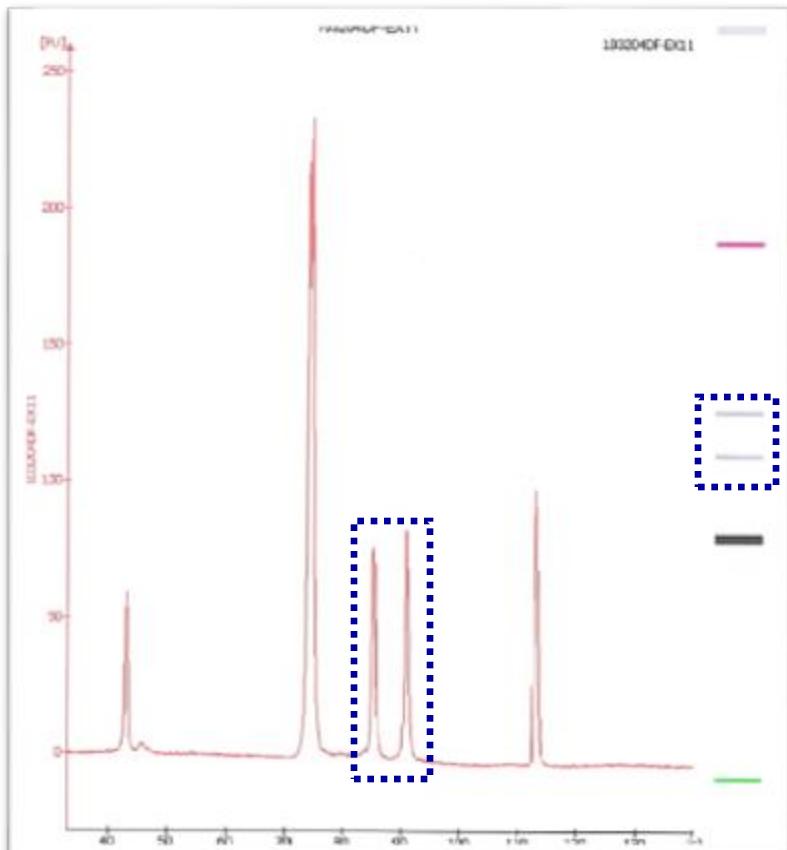


courtesy of Susan Abraham,
UTMDACC, Houston, TX

KIT

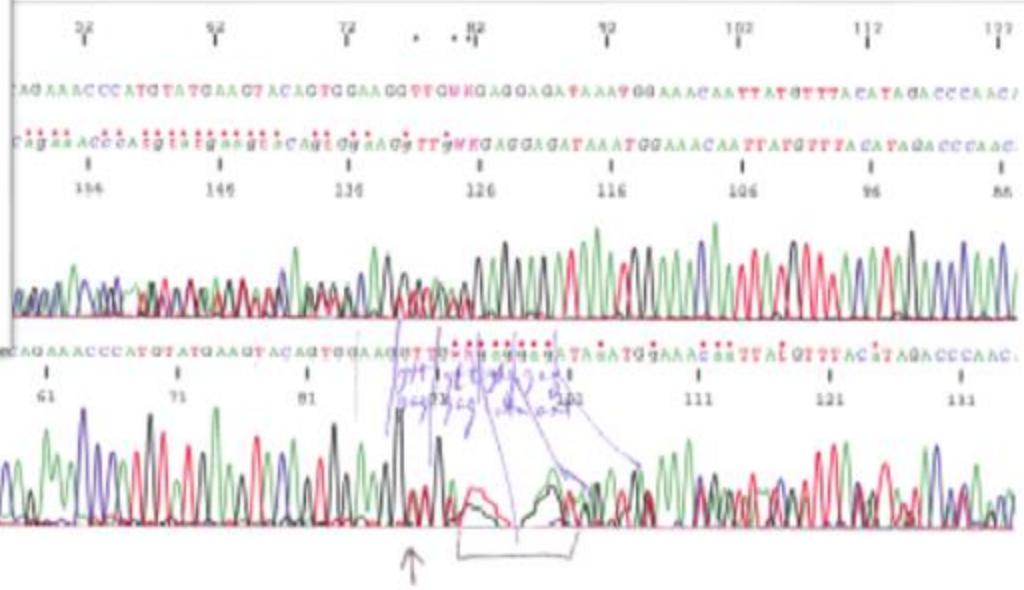


KIT**PDGFRA****B****C****D**



Exon 11

V559 V560del

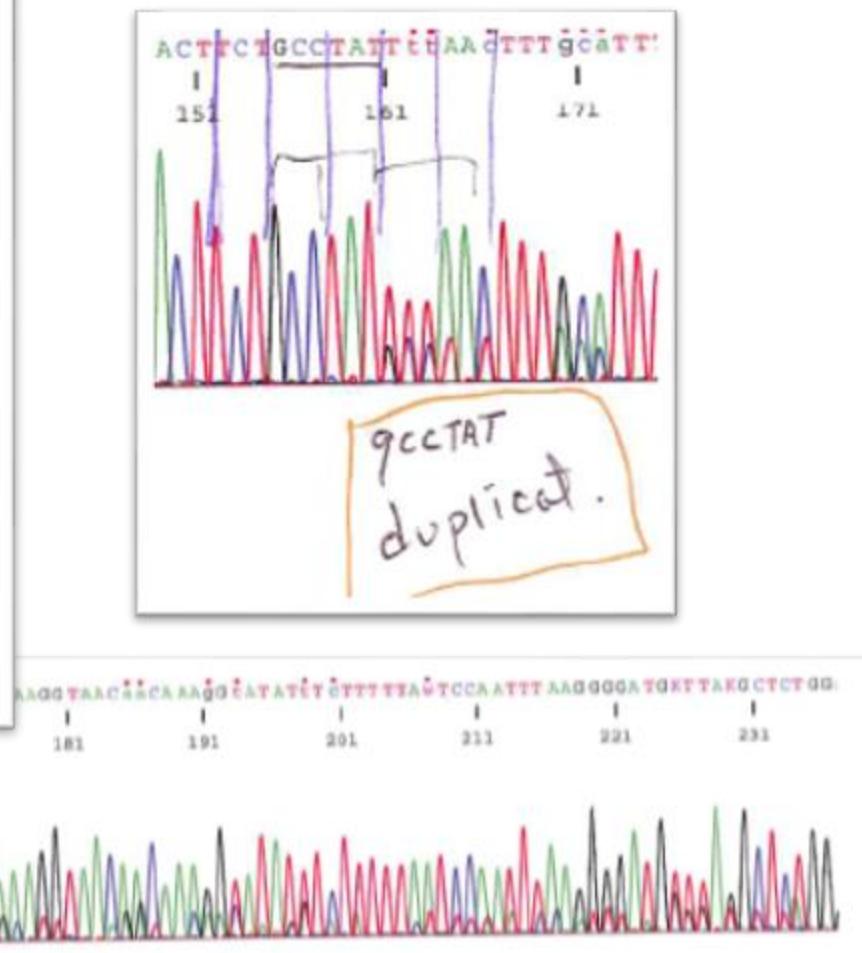
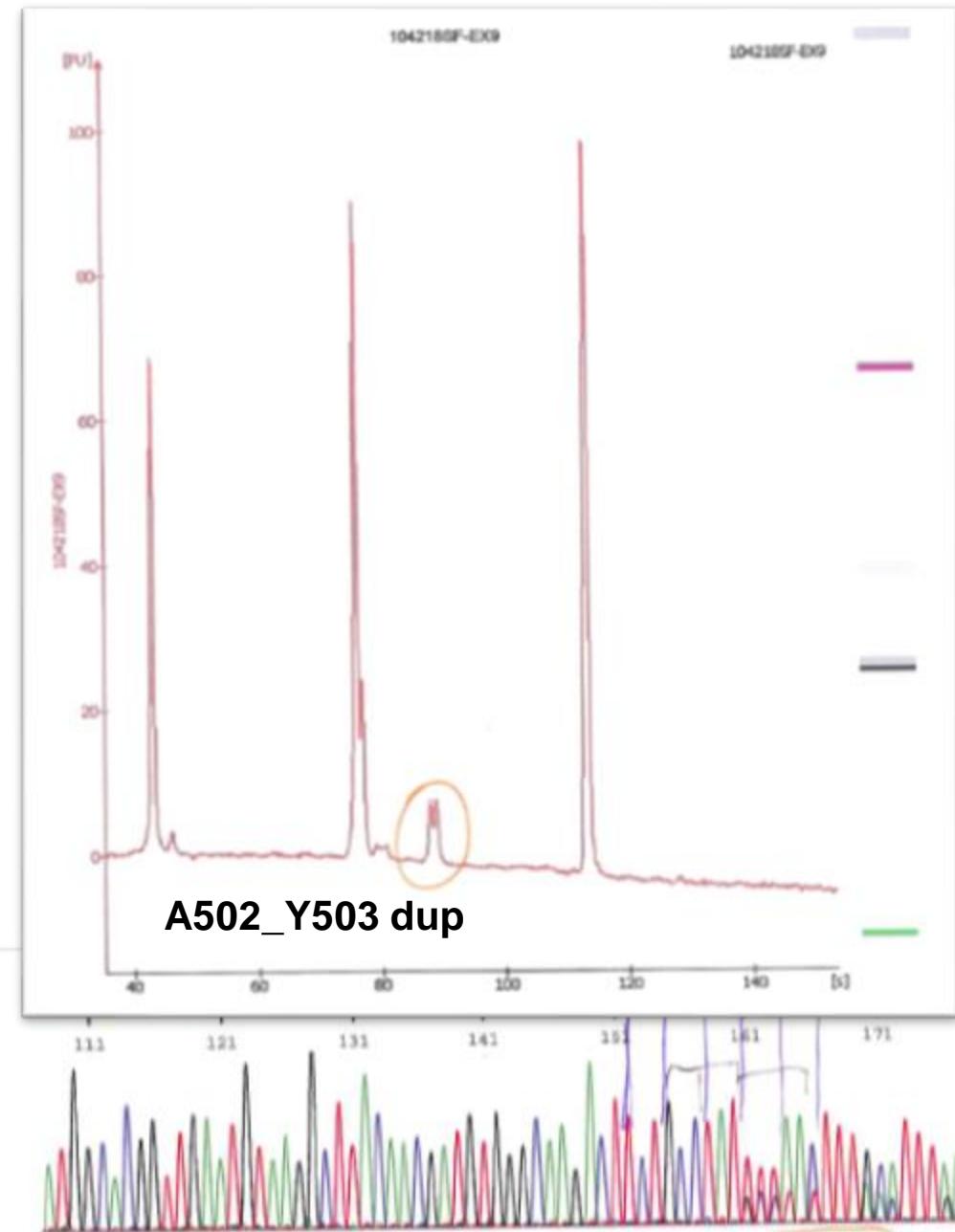


6 bp direct?

$$\left(V_{559} - V_{580\text{dol}} \right) \frac{\pi\pi}{g_{\pi\pi} g_{\pi\pi}} \text{ata ant}$$

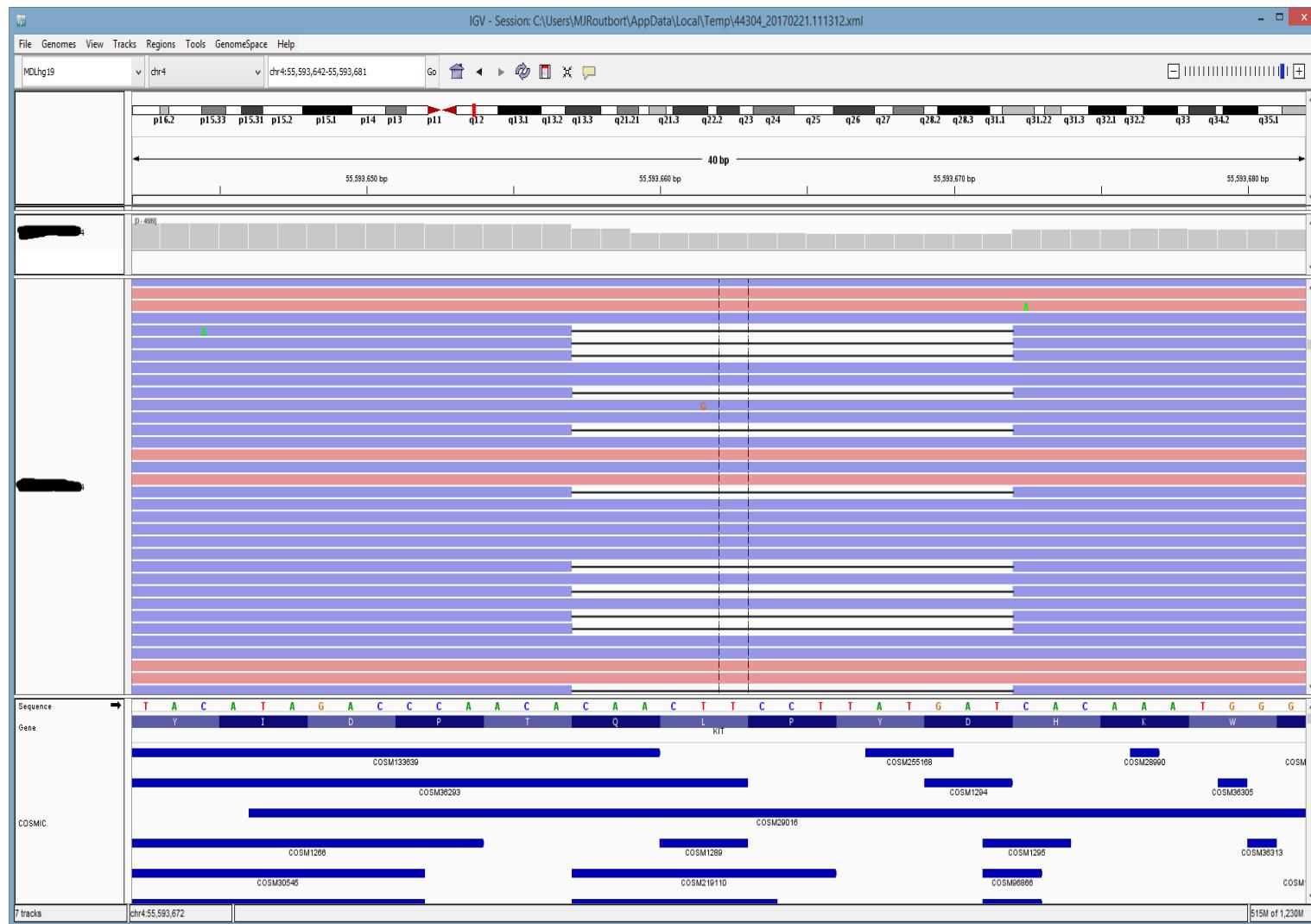
Exon 9

A502_Y503dup

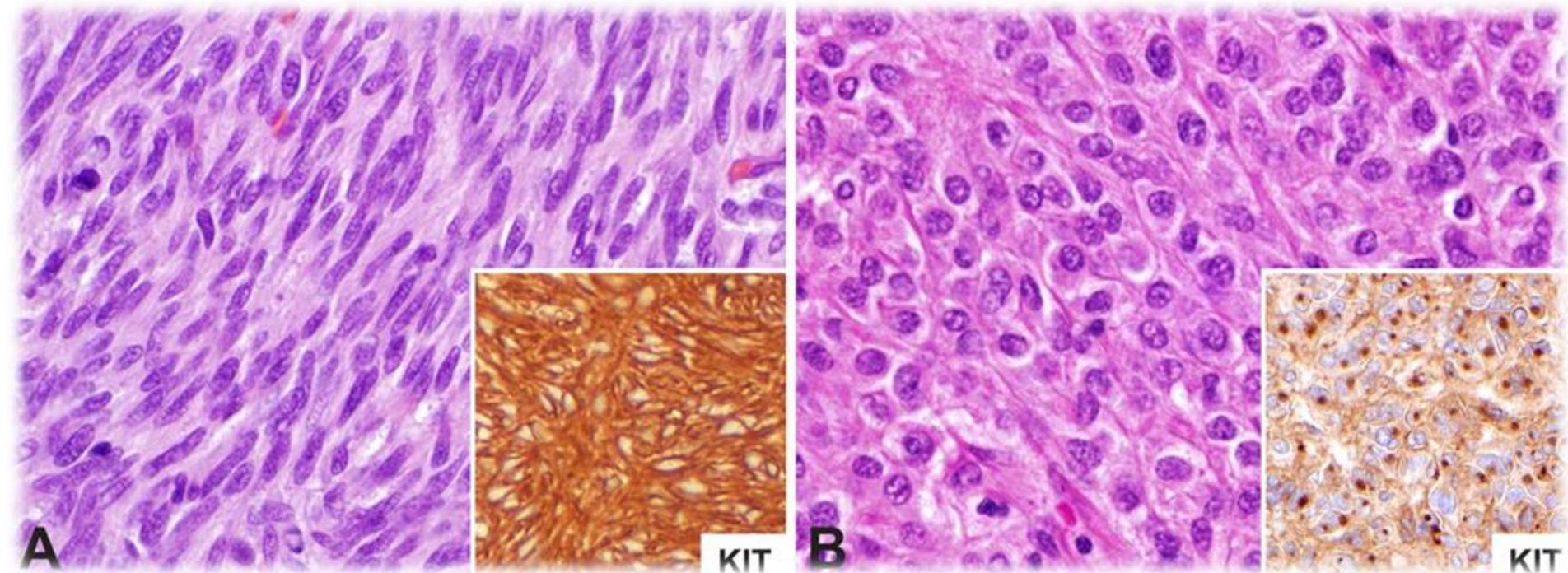


NM_000222.2(*KIT*):c.1725_1739del p.Q575_D579del

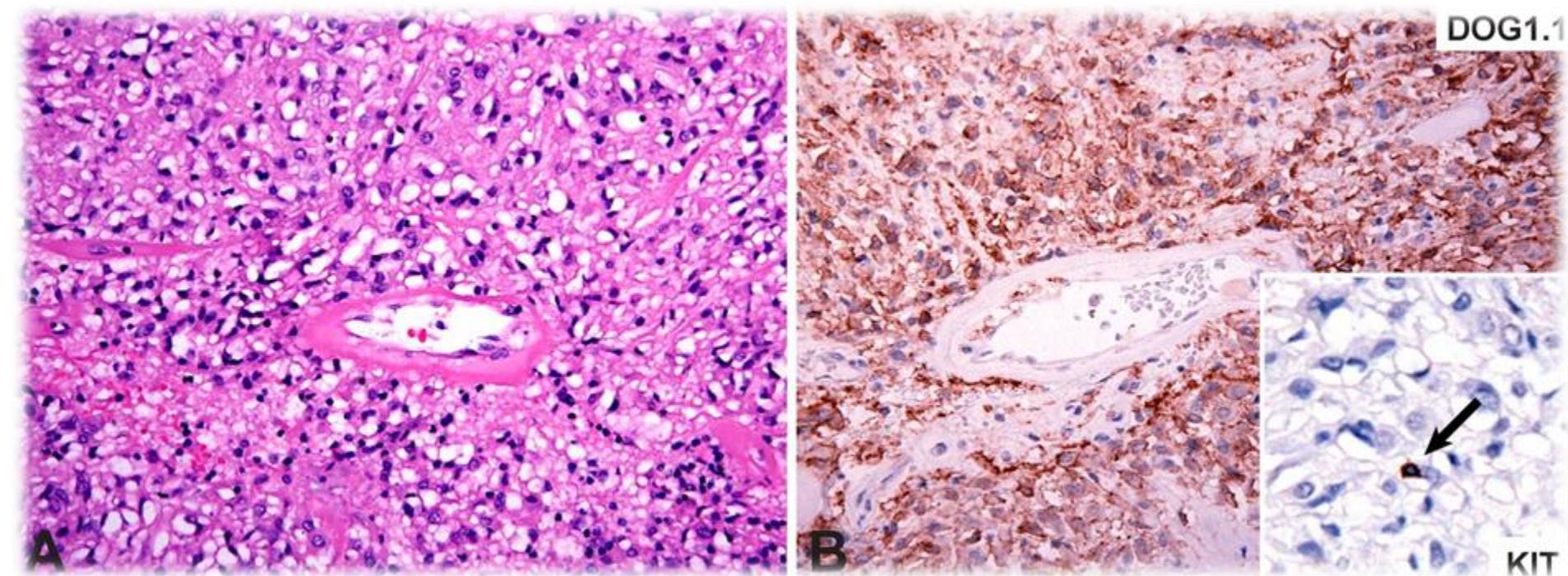
a 15-bp inframe deletion in exon 11 of *KIT* causing a loss of 5 amino acids.



KIT immunoreactivity in GIST



KIT-negative GIST



Gastric GISTs with Distinctive Histology (Multinodular/Plexiform)

- **Pediatric GISTs**

- Female predominance (peak 2nd decade)

- Indolent, but late metastases common

- Molecular genetic basis unknown

Carney Triad

- Gastric GIST, pulmonary chondroma, paraganglioma

- Molecular genetic basis unknown

Carney-Stratakis Syndrome

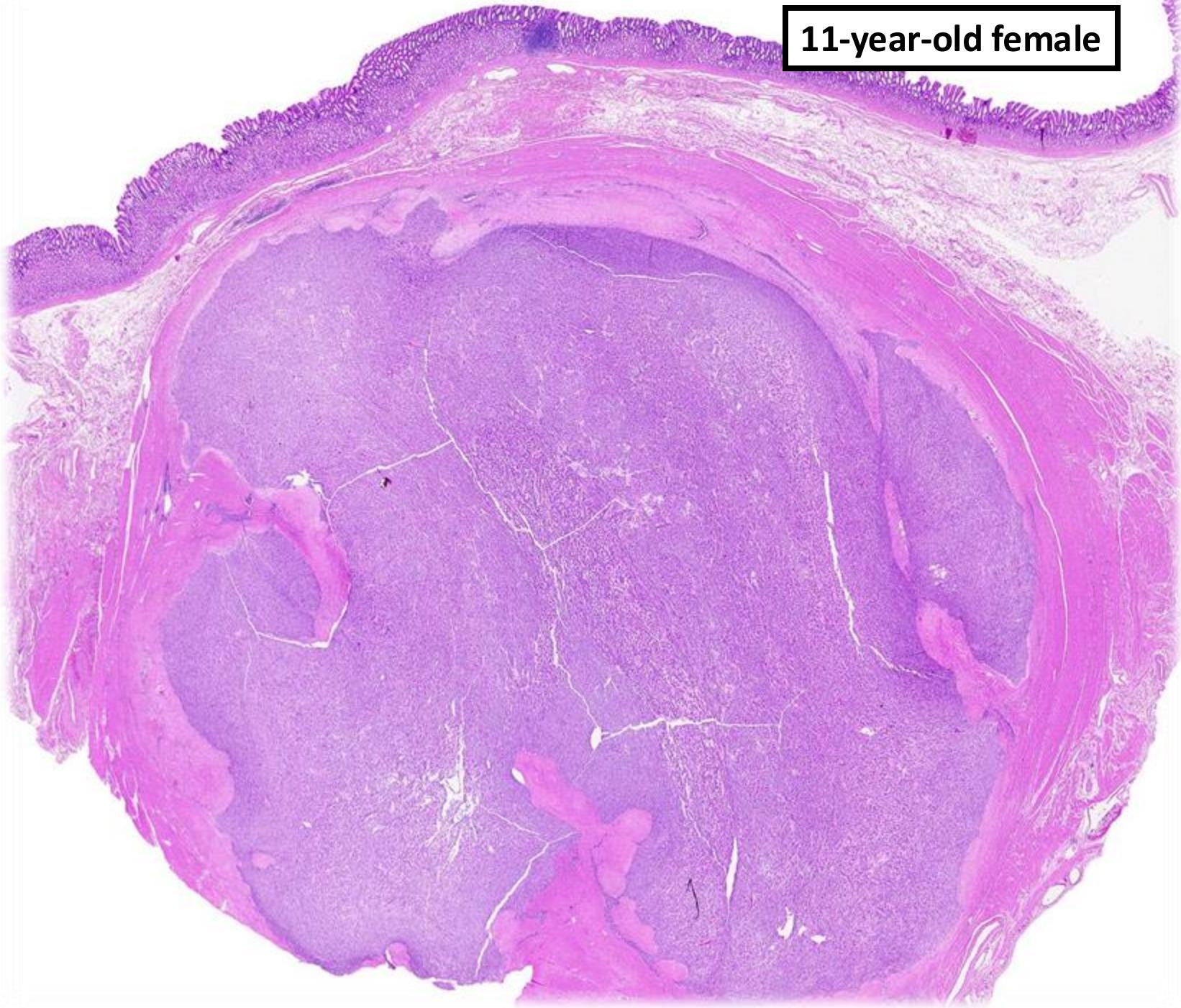
- Gastric GIST and paraganglioma

- Germline mutations in succinate dehydrogenase subunit genes (*SDHA*, *SDHB*, *SDHC*, or *SDHD*)

GIST with Distinctive Histology

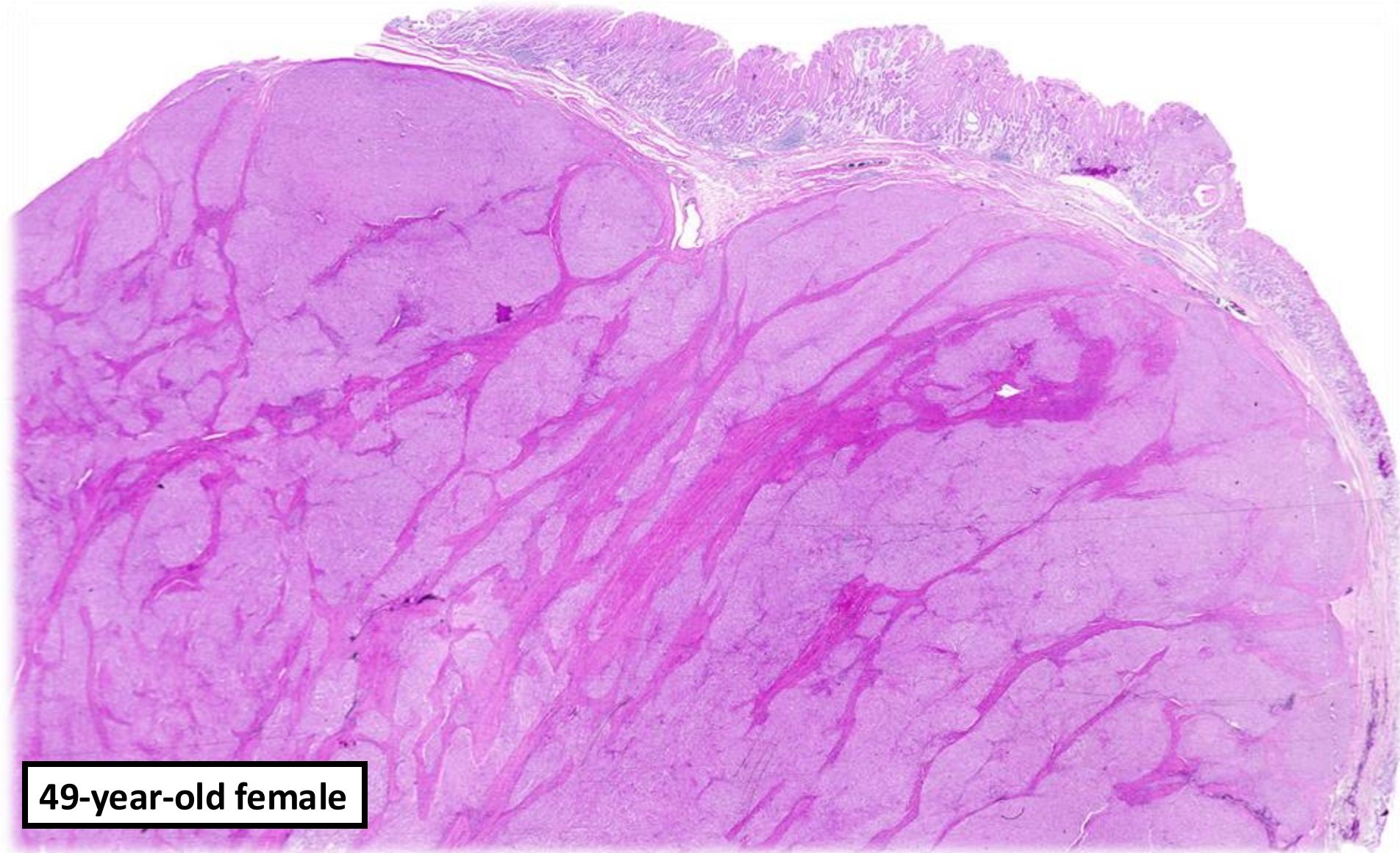
- Multinodular/plexiform growth pattern
- Epithelioid or mixed morphology
- “Pediatric-type” or “type 2” GISTs
- Loss of SDHB staining by IHC
- Lymph node metastases common
- Distant metastases common – clinically indolent
- Current risk assessment criteria do not reliably predict behavior
- No response to imatinib

11-year-old female



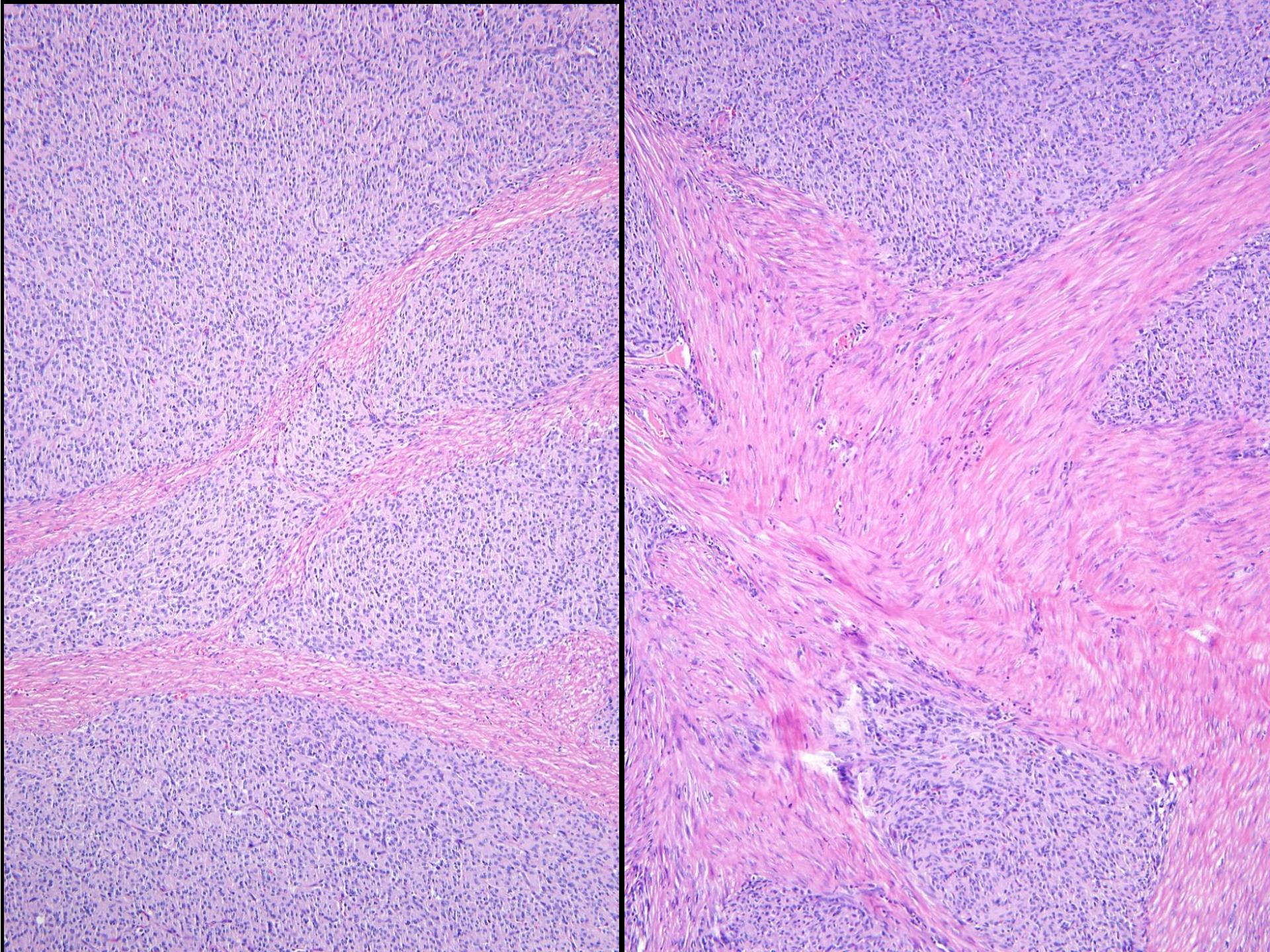
Courtesy of Jason Hornick, BWH/Harvard, Boston, MA

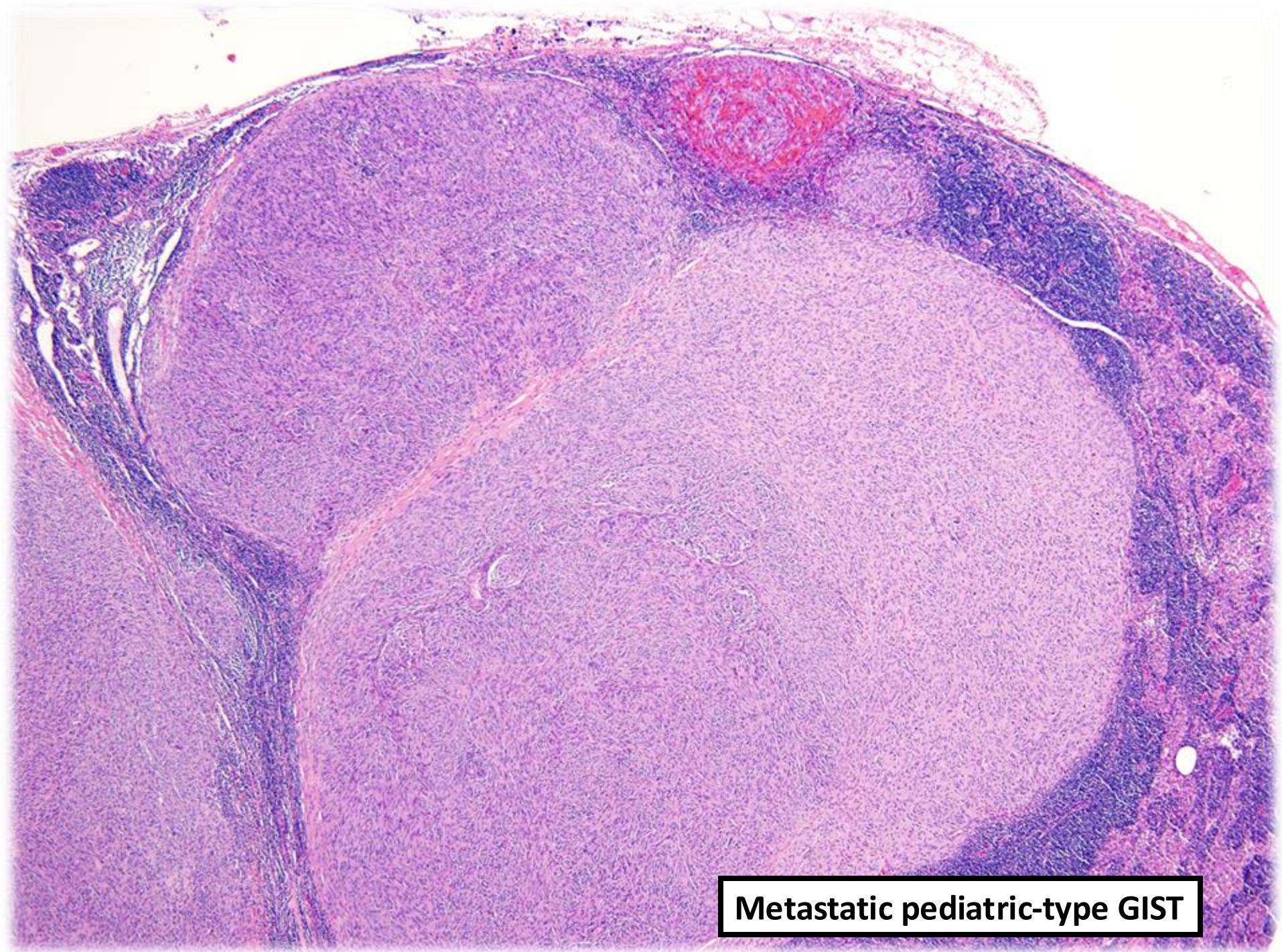
Pediatric-type GIST in an Adult



49-year-old female

Courtesy of Jason Hornick, BWH/Harvard, Boston, MA





Metastatic pediatric-type GIST

SDHB

KIT exon 11-mutant GIST

SDHB

“Wild-type” gastric GIST

Risk assessment in GIST

GIST – Prognostic Factors

Size

Mitotic Rate

Anatomic Location

Pleomorphism

Cellularity

Necrosis

Mucosal Invasion

Proliferation Markers (Ki-67, Mib-1, PCNA, etc)

DNA Flow Cytometry

Image Analysis

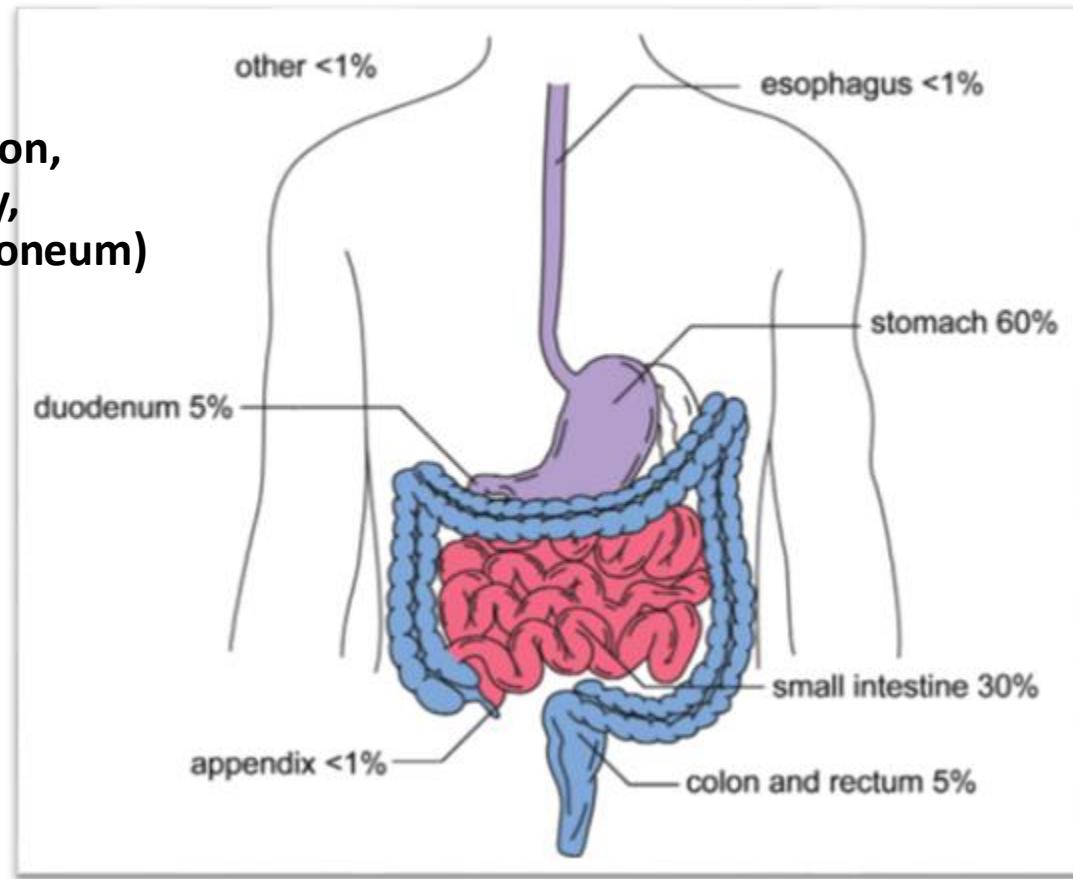
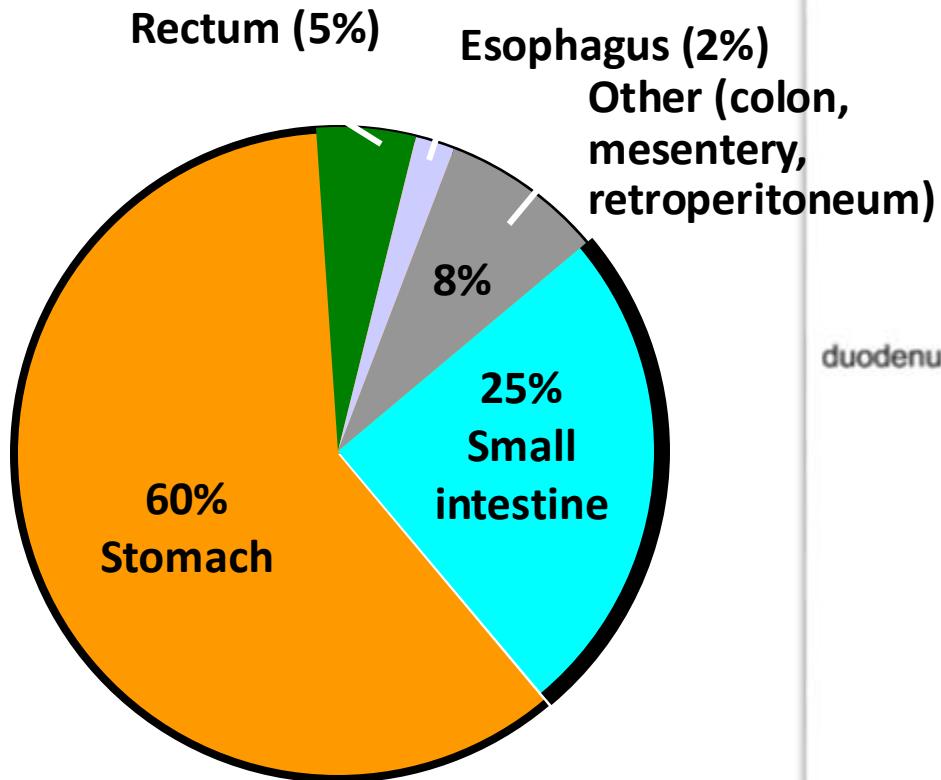
Nuclear Organizer Regions

**Problem – Small GISTs without mitoses
can metastasize!**

NIH Consensus Risk Assessment

	Size	Mitotic Count
Very Low Risk	< 2 cm	< 5/50 HPF
Low Risk	2-5 cm	< 5/50 HPF
Intermediate Risk	< 5 cm	6-10/50 HPF
	5-10 cm	< 5/50 HPF
High Risk	> 5 cm	> 5/50 HPF

GIST: Sites of Involvement



Omentum, mesentery, pelvis and retroperitoneum = EGIST (<1%)

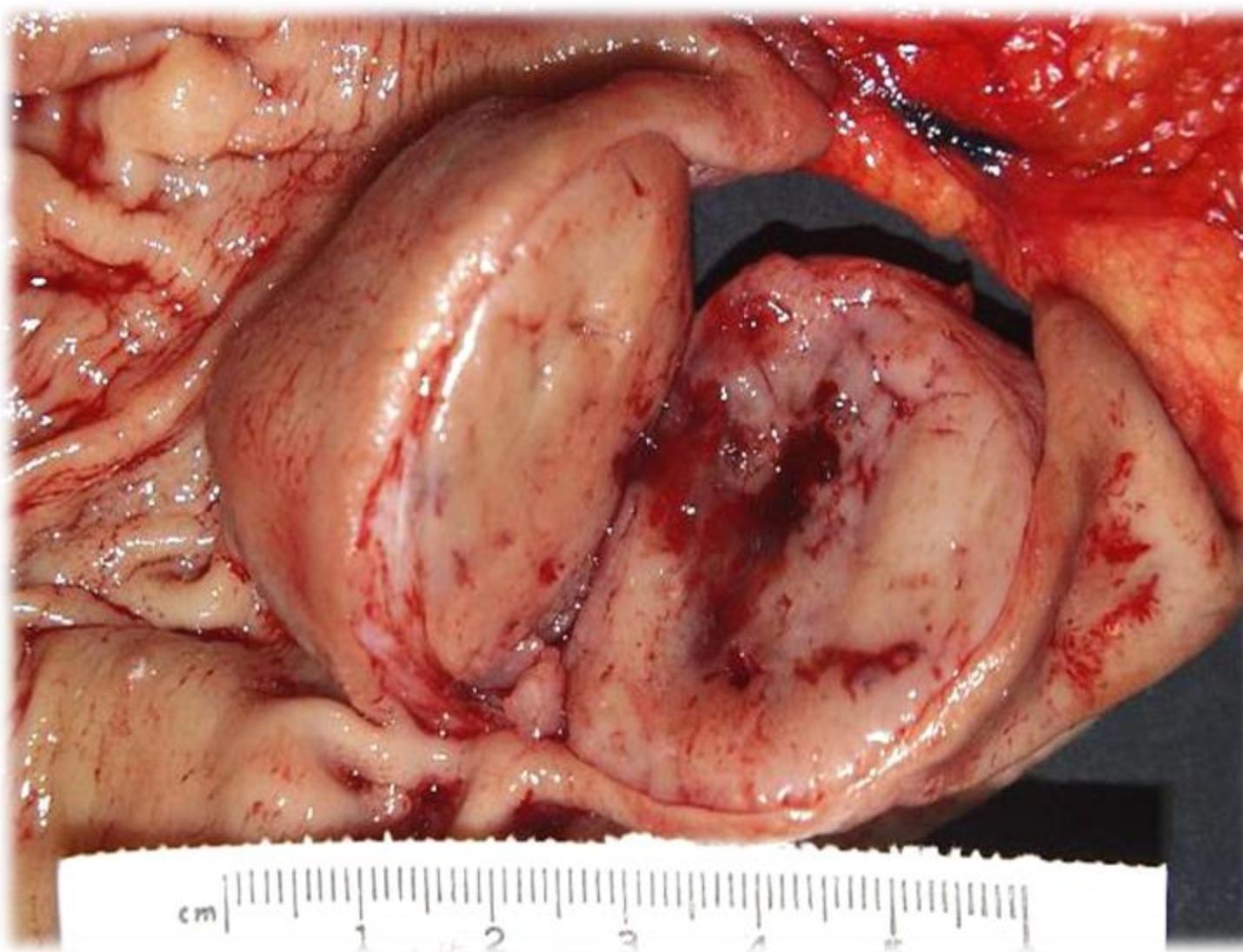
2007/2010/2014 NCCN GIST Risk Assessment Guidelines***

Tumor	Parameters	Risk of	Progressive	Disease [#] (%)	
	Size	Gastric	Duodenum	Jejunum/Ileum	Rectum
Mitotic	≤ 2 cm	None (0%)	None (0%)	None (0%)	None (0%)
Index	> 2 ≤ 5 cm	Very low (1.9%)	Low (8.3%)	Low (4.3%)	Low (8.5%)
≤ 5 per 50 hpf	> 5 ≤ 10 cm	Low (3.6%)	(Insuff. data)	Moderate (24%)	(Insuff. data)
	> 10 cm	Moderate (10%)	High (34%)	High (52%)	High (57%)
Mitotic	≤ 2 cm	None*	(Insuff. data)	High*	High (54%)
Index	> 2 ≤ 5 cm	Moderate (16%)	High (50%)	High (73%)	High (52%)
> 5 per 50 hpf	> 5 ≤ 10 cm	High (55%)	(Insuff. data)	High (85%)	(Insuff. data)
	> 10 cm	High (86%)	High (86%)	High (90%)	High (71%)

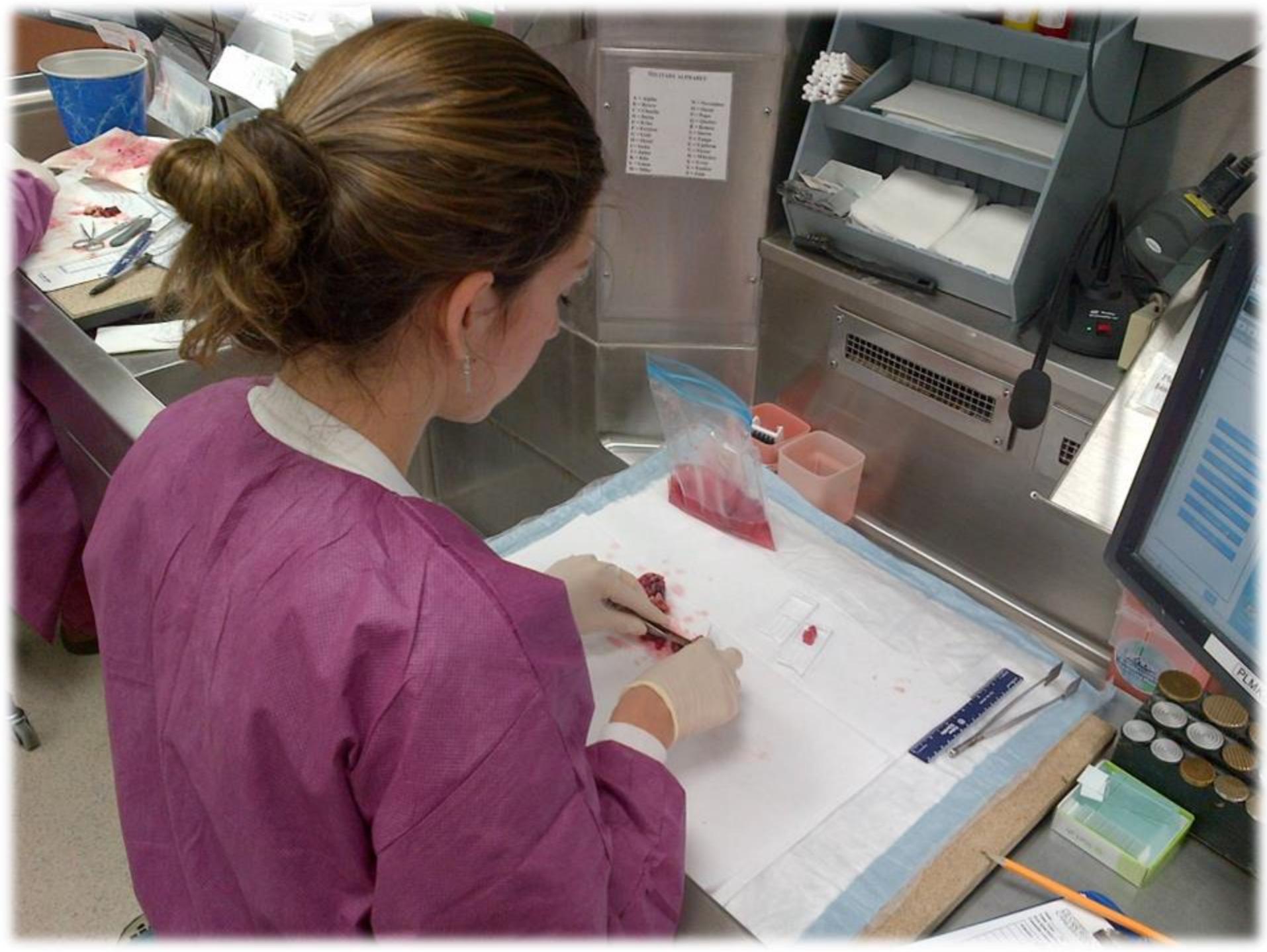
***Modified from Miettinen & Lasota, *Semin Diagn Pathol*, 2006 by Dr. Chris Corless, OHSU

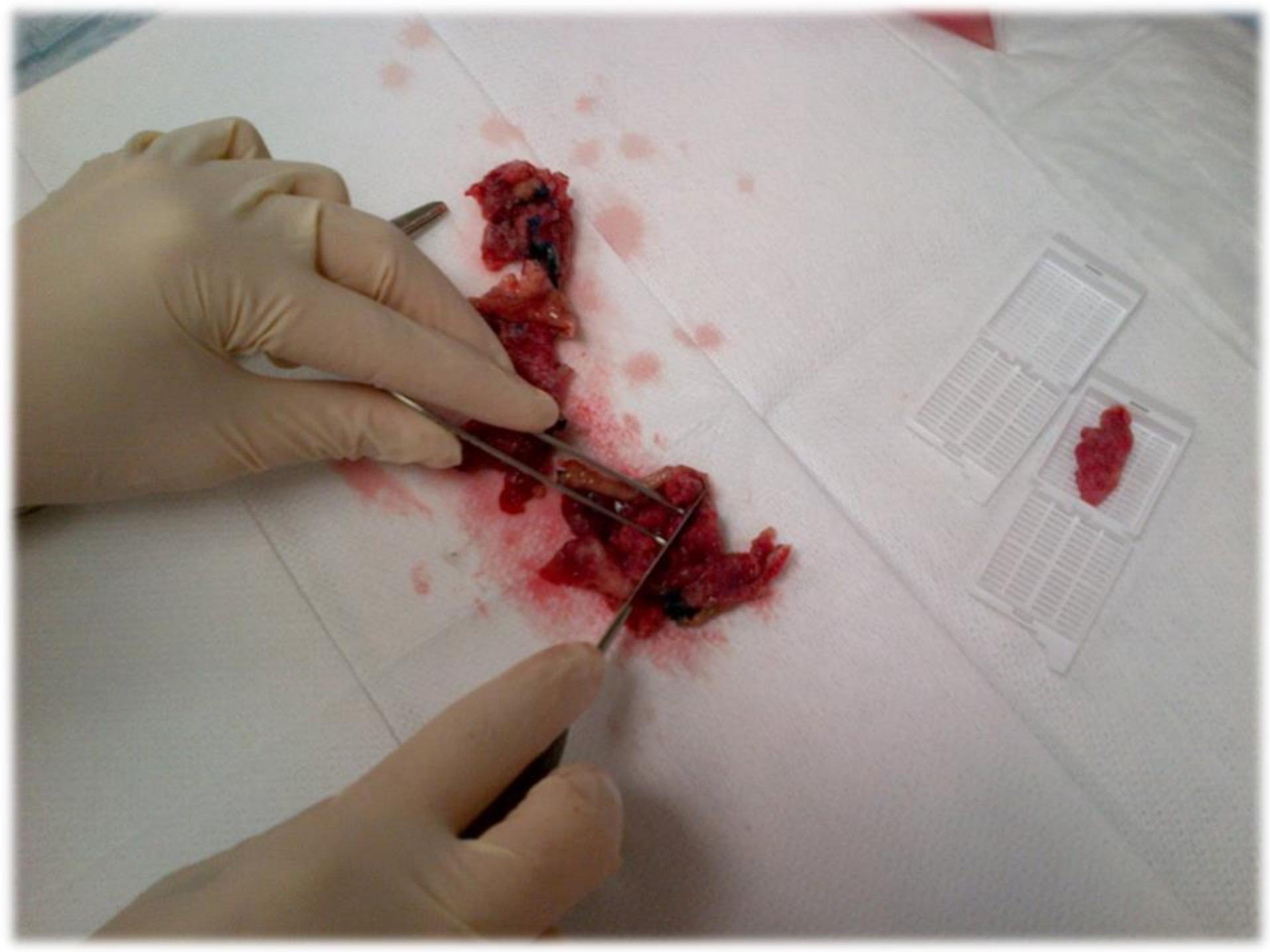
Data based on long-term follow-up of 1055 gastric, 629 small intestinal, 144 duodenal and 111 rectal GIST

GIST - Gross Appearance



Courtesy of Brian Rubin, Cleveland Clinic





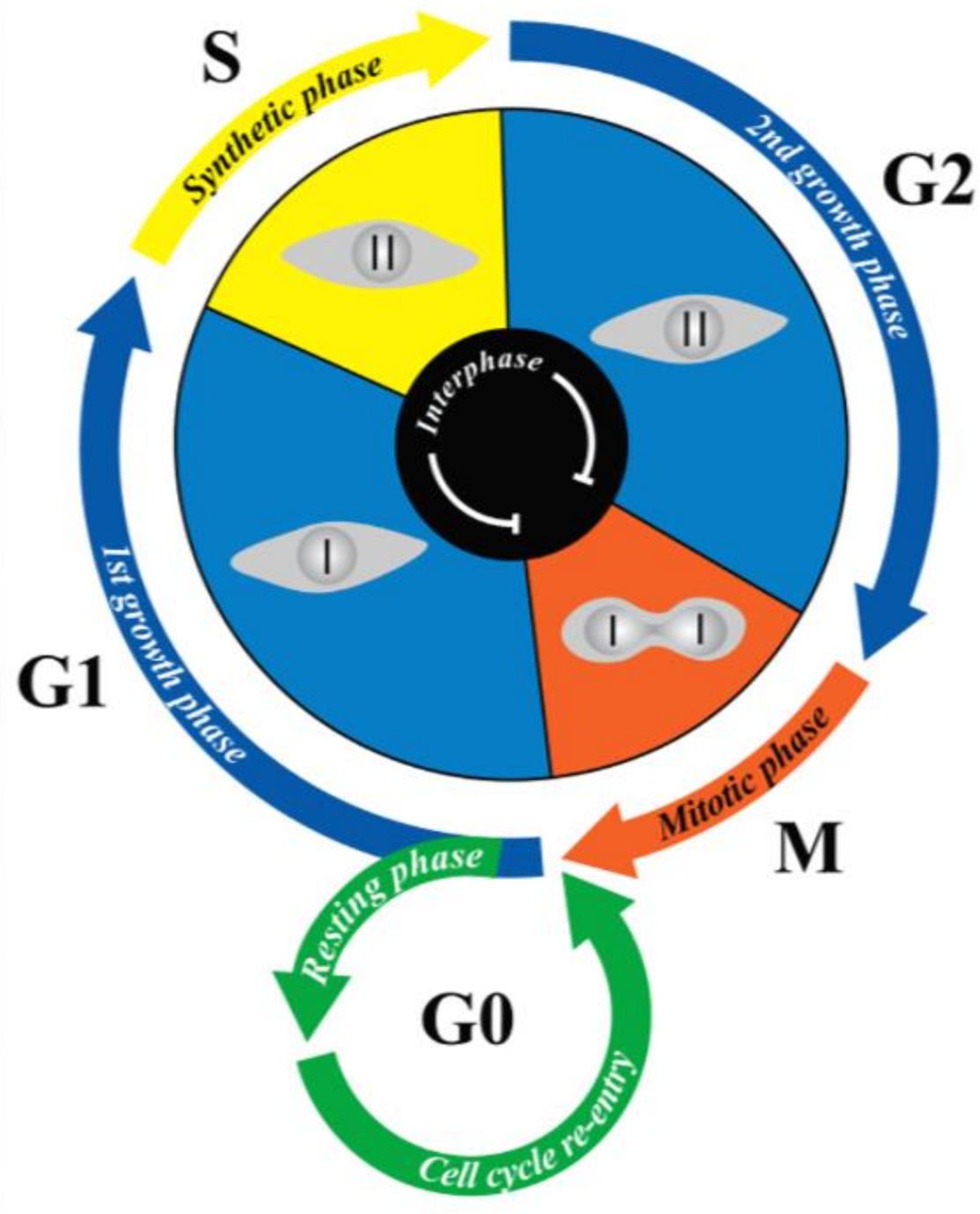
2007/2010/2014 NCCN GIST Risk Assessment Guidelines***

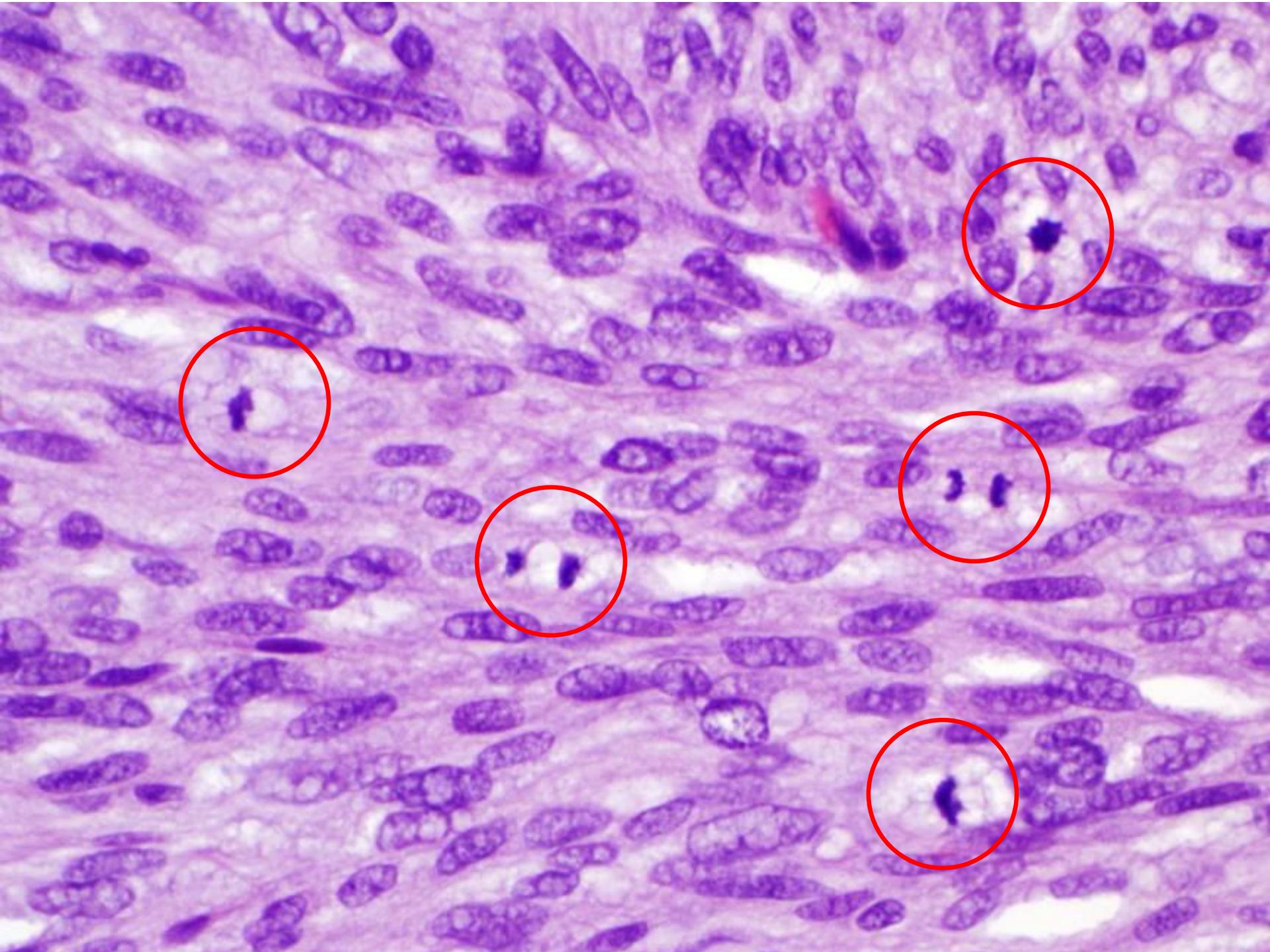
Tumor	Parameters	Risk of	Progressive	Disease [#] (%)	
	Size	Gastric	Duodenum	Jejunum/Ileum	Rectum
Mitotic	≤ 2 cm	None (0%)	None (0%)	None (0%)	None (0%)
Index	> 2 ≤ 5 cm	Very low (1.9%)	Low (8.3%)	Low (4.3%)	Low (8.5%)
≤ 5 per 50 hpf	> 5 ≤ 10 cm	Low (3.6%)	(Insuff. data)	Moderate (24%)	(Insuff. data)
	> 10 cm	Moderate (10%)	High (34%)	High (52%)	High (57%)
Mitotic	≤ 2 cm	None*	(Insuff. data)	High*	High (54%)
Index	> 2 ≤ 5 cm	Moderate (16%)	High (50%)	High (73%)	High (52%)
> 5 per 50 hpf	> 5 ≤ 10 cm	High (55%)	(Insuff. data)	High (85%)	(Insuff. data)
	> 10 cm	High (86%)	High (86%)	High (90%)	High (71%)

***Modified from Miettinen & Lasota, *Semin Diagn Pathol*, 2006 by Dr. Chris Corless, OHSU

Data based on long-term follow-up of 1055 gastric, 629 small intestinal, 144 duodenal and 111 rectal GIST

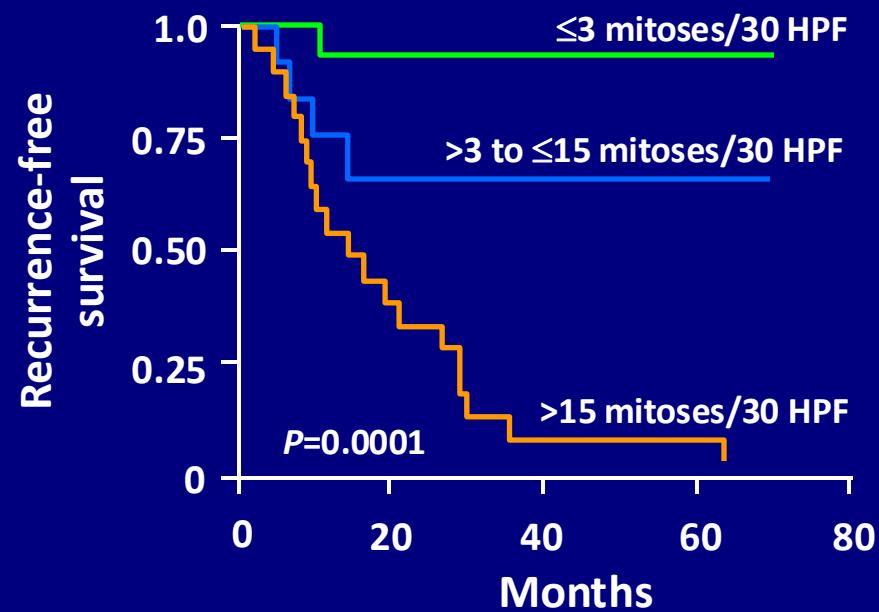
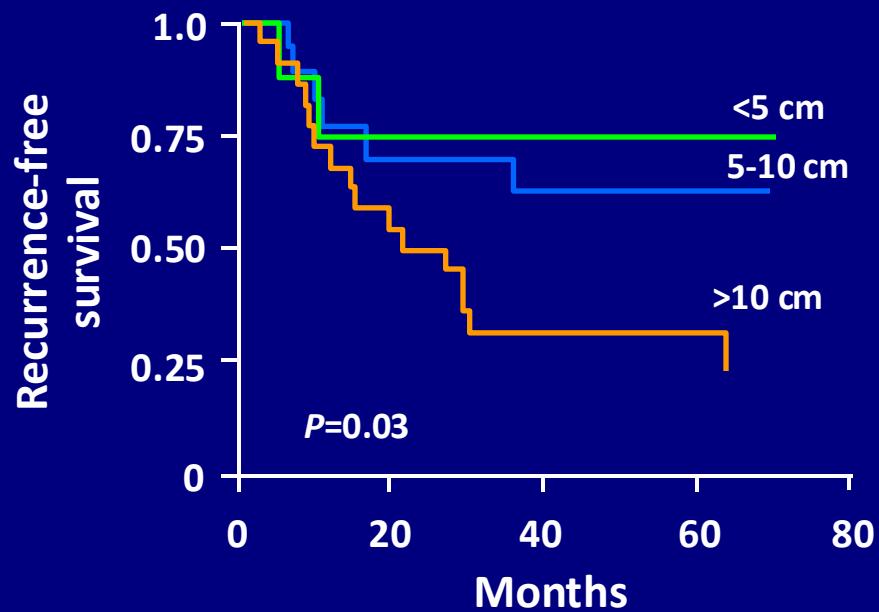
Miettinen *et al.* 2005 and 2006





GIST - Recurrence-Free Survival Following Surgical Treatment of Primary GIST

- Recurrence-free survival is predicted by tumor size and mitotic index



FNCLCC Grading

- All three numbers are summated to determine degree of differentiation

Grade 1 : 2-3

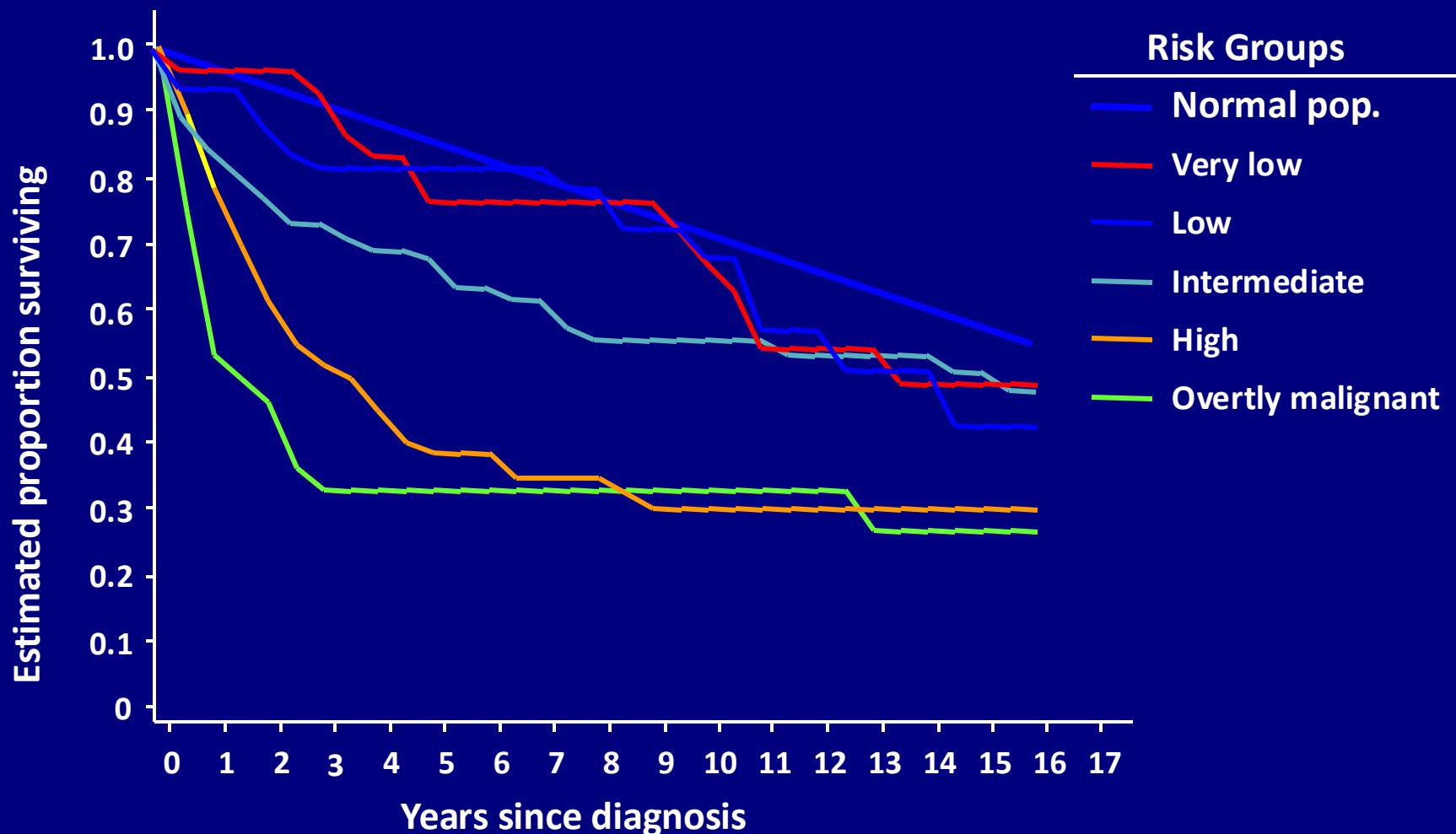
Grade 2 : 4-5

Grade 3 : 6-8

- Proven to correlated well with survival

- *Mitotic Count.* In the most mitotically active area, ten successive high-power fields (at 400x magnification=0.1734 mm²) using a 40x objective.
 - 1 0-9 mitoses per 10 HPFs
 - 2 10-19 mitoses per 10 HPFs
 - 3 >20 mitoses per 10 HPFs
- *Tumor necrosis.* Evaluated on gross examination and validated with histological sections
 - 0 No tumor necrosis
 - 1 <50% tumor necrosis
 - 2 >50% tumor necrosis
- *Degree of Differentiation.* 1-3

GIST - Overall Survival by Risk Group



[Prediction Tools](#)

Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor Prediction Tools

 [Share](#)

Our gastrointestinal stromal tumor prediction tools are designed to help patients and their physicians calculate the likelihood of tumor recurrence following the complete resection (surgical removal of all cancerous tissue) of the gastrointestinal stromal tumor. They are designed for patients who have not received tyrosine kinase inhibitors before or after surgery.

Survival Without Recurrence Following Surgery

Our gastrointestinal stromal tumor nomogram is a tool designed to predict the likelihood of tumor recurrence two years and five years following the complete resection (surgical removal of all cancerous tissue) of the gastrointestinal stromal tumor. It is appropriate for patients who have not received tyrosine kinase inhibitors before or after surgery.

Artificial Intelligence Calculator for Recurrence Following Surgery

Using new machine-learning classifiers called optimal classification trees, our artificial intelligence (AI)-based calculator is designed to predict the probability of gastrointestinal stromal tumor recurrence five years following the complete resection (surgical removal of all cancerous tissue) of the gastrointestinal stromal tumor. It is designed for patients who have not received tyrosine kinase inhibitors before or after surgery.

[Change Prediction Tool](#)

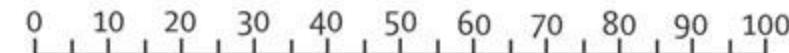
Stomach (Gastric) Cancer Information

The most common type of stomach cancer (gastric cancer) is called adenocarcinoma. Learn more about the different types and how Memorial Sloan Kettering gastric cancer experts can help.

[Learn more](#)

GIST Nomogram for Recurrence Free Survival

Points



Size (cm)



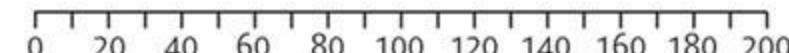
Mitotic index



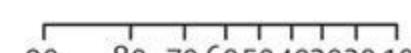
Site



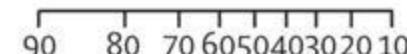
Total points



Probability of 2-year RFS



Probability of 5-year RFS

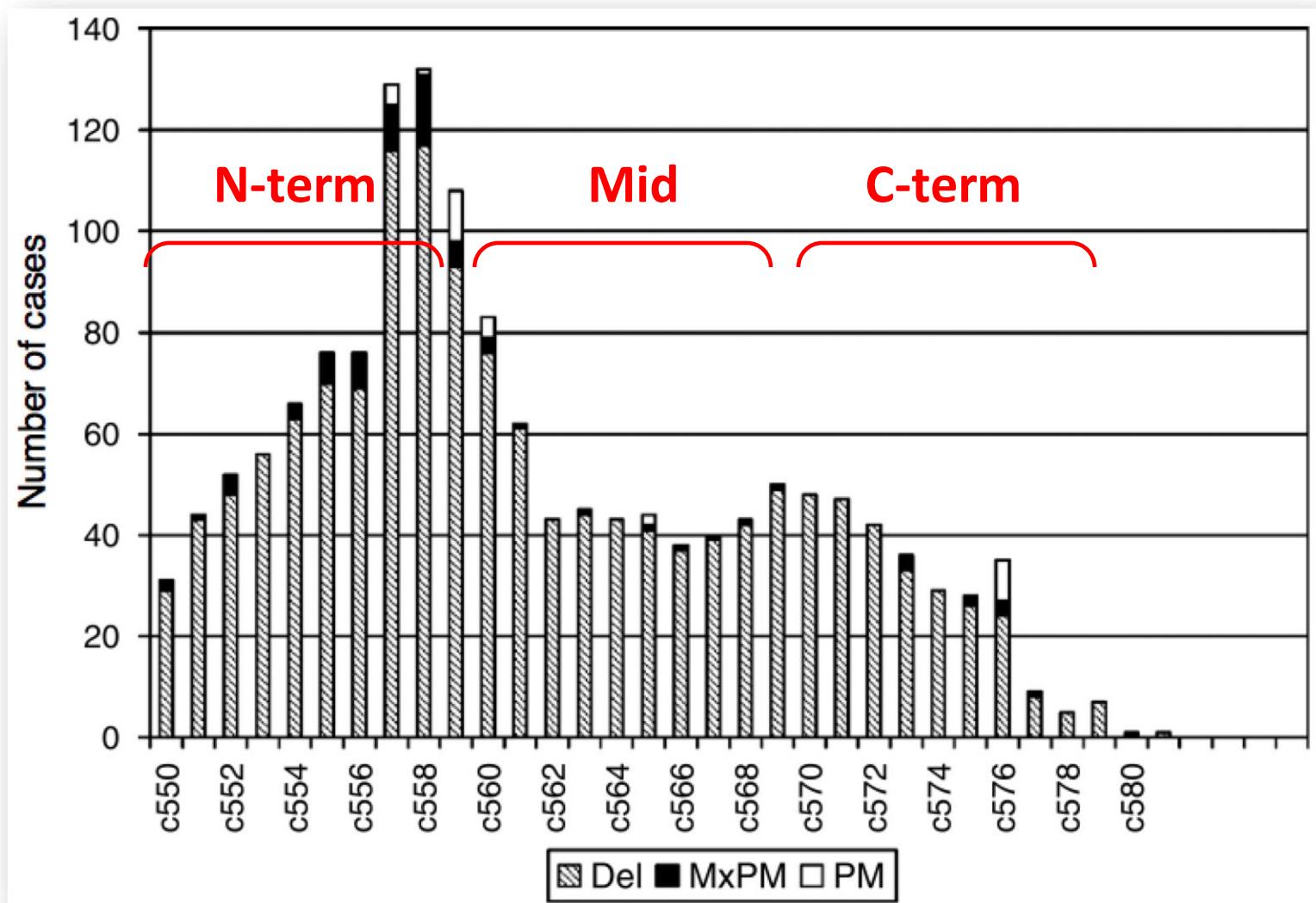


Genomic complexity and prognosis

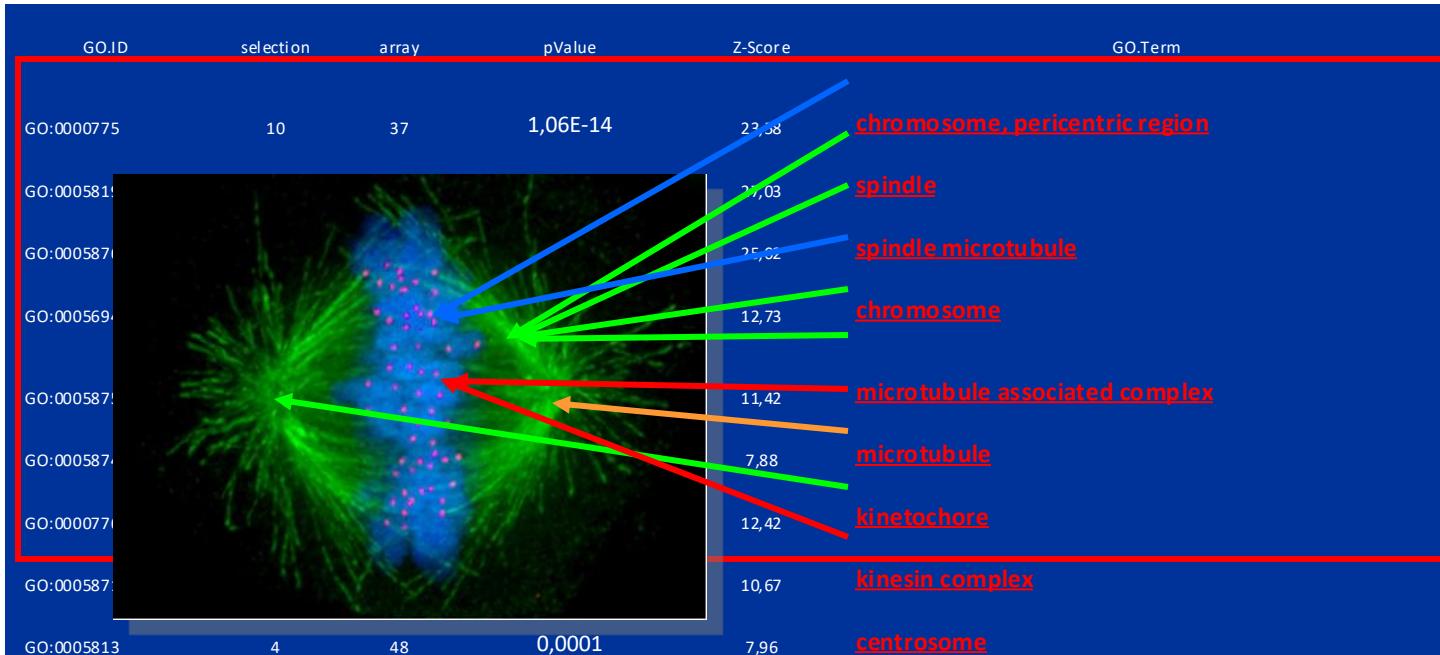
Possible approaches

- (Histological grading)
- Risk assessment +:
 - Array-CGH
 - Carter signature
 - Next generation Sequencing

Spectrum of KIT Exon 11 Mutations



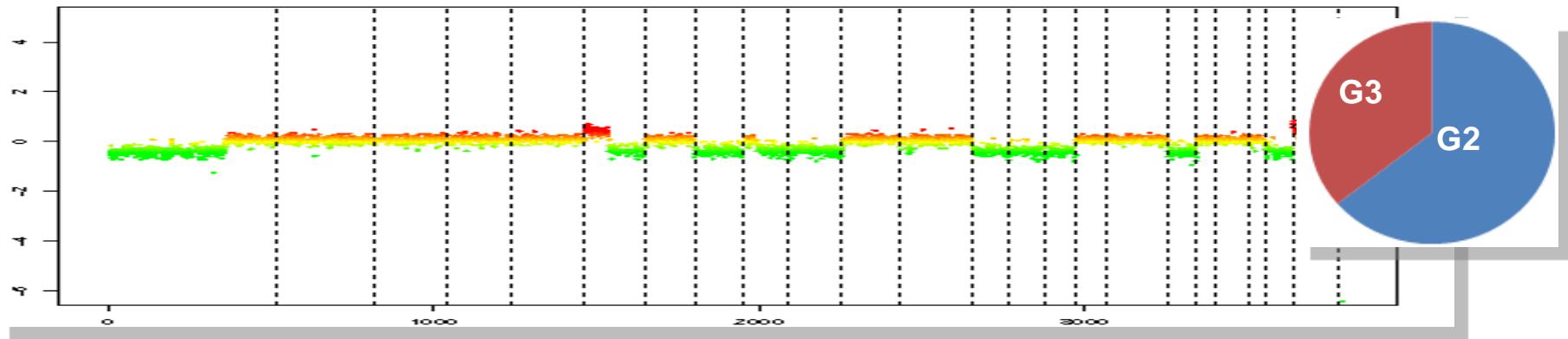
CINSARC : GO analysis of the 67 significant genes



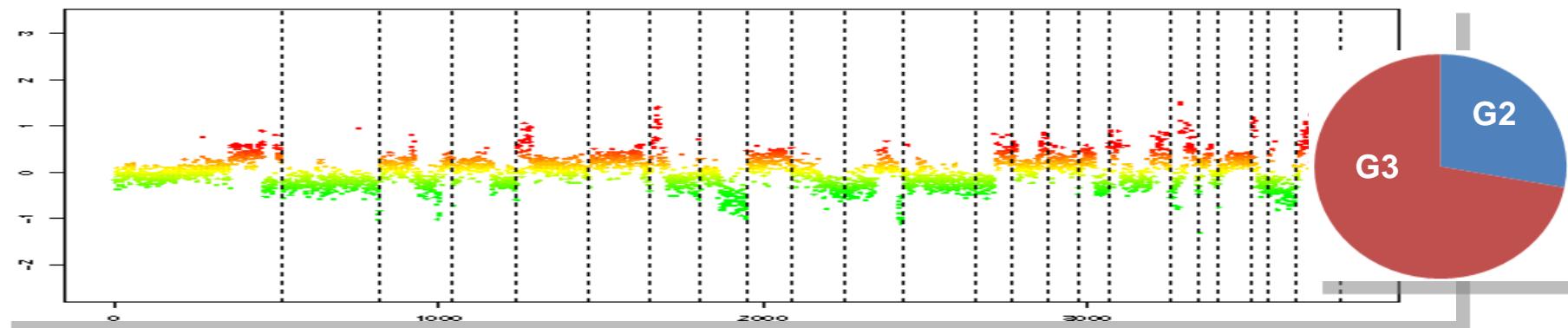
CINSARC is a signature related
to chromosome management and mitosis control
associated with genome complexity

GO:0000940	2	9	0,0012	9,52	centriole
GO:0030496	2	13	0,0022	7,84	microtubule cytoskeleton
GO:0005657	2	16	0,0032	7,02	spindle pole
GO:0005814	3	75	0,0059	4,47	chromatin
GO:0000785	2	32	0,0111	4,77	nucleosome
GO:0000786	1	3	0,0187	8,30	female pronucleus
GO:0001939	1	3	0,0187	8,30	spindle pole body
GO:0005816					

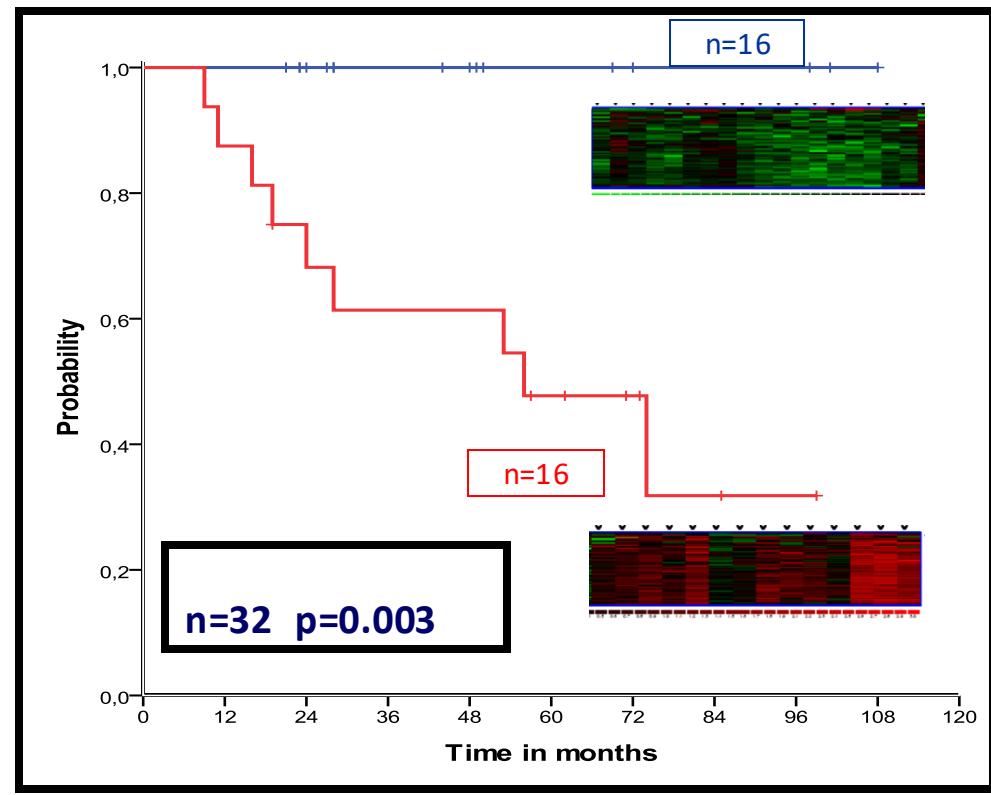
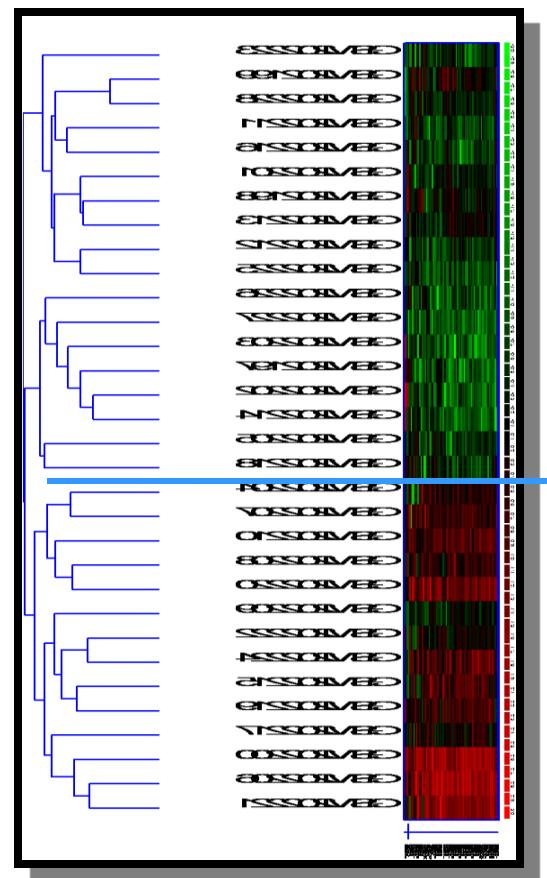
« Arm » Profile



« Rearranged » Profile

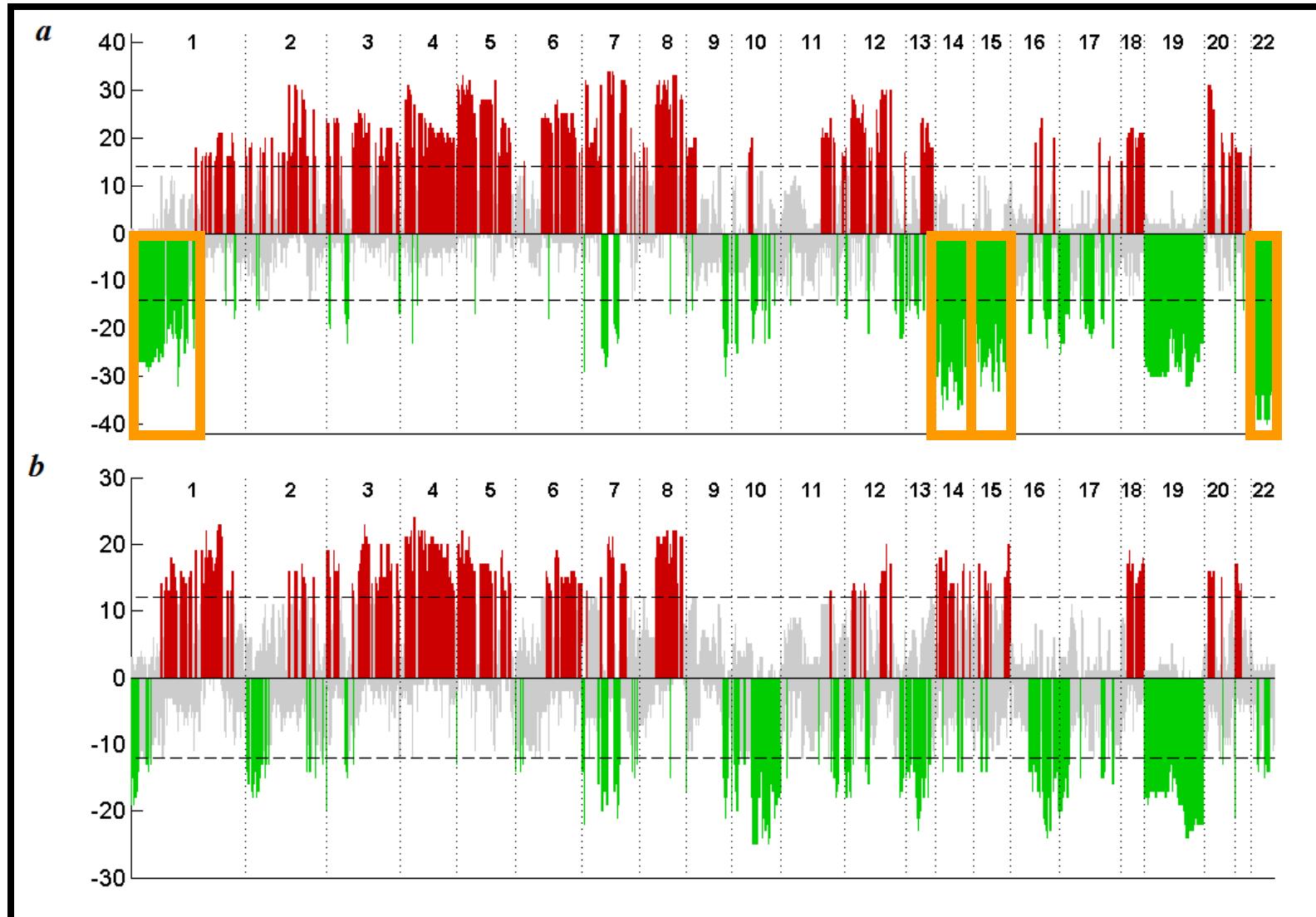


CINSARC and GIST
In-silico study of 32 GISTs
(Yamaguchi *et al* 2008)

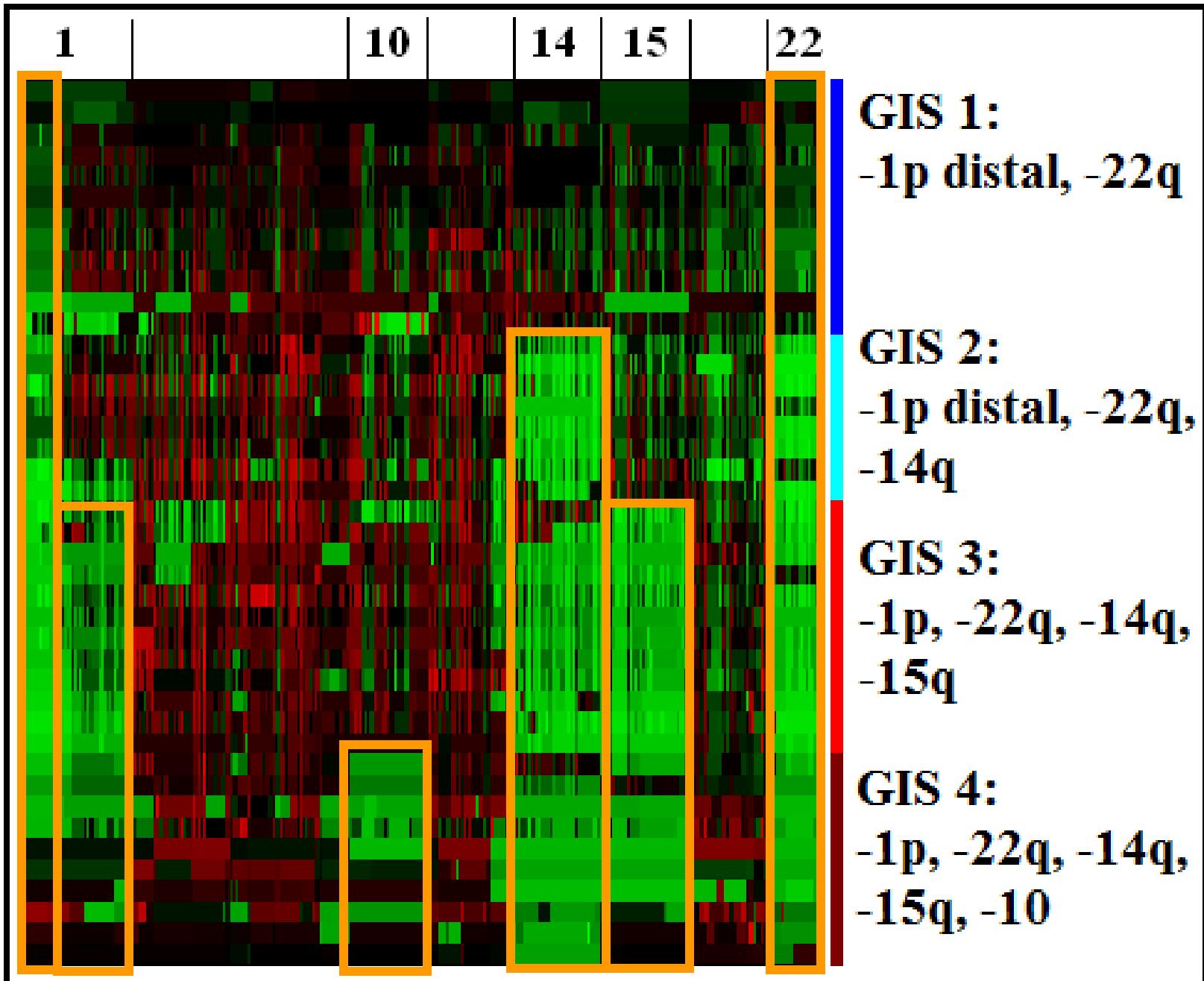


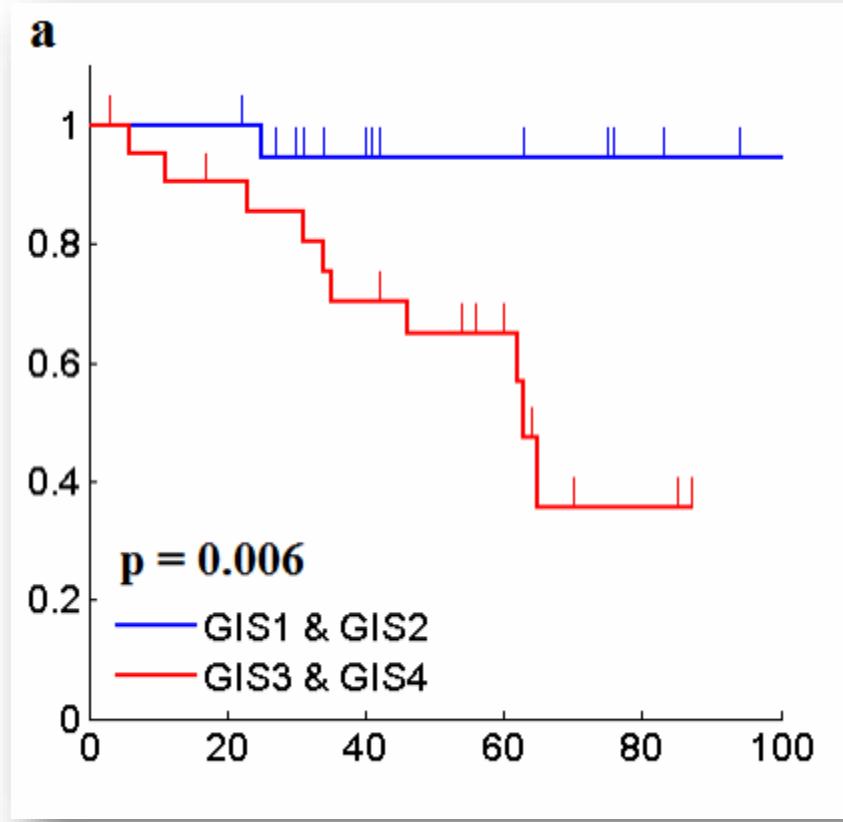
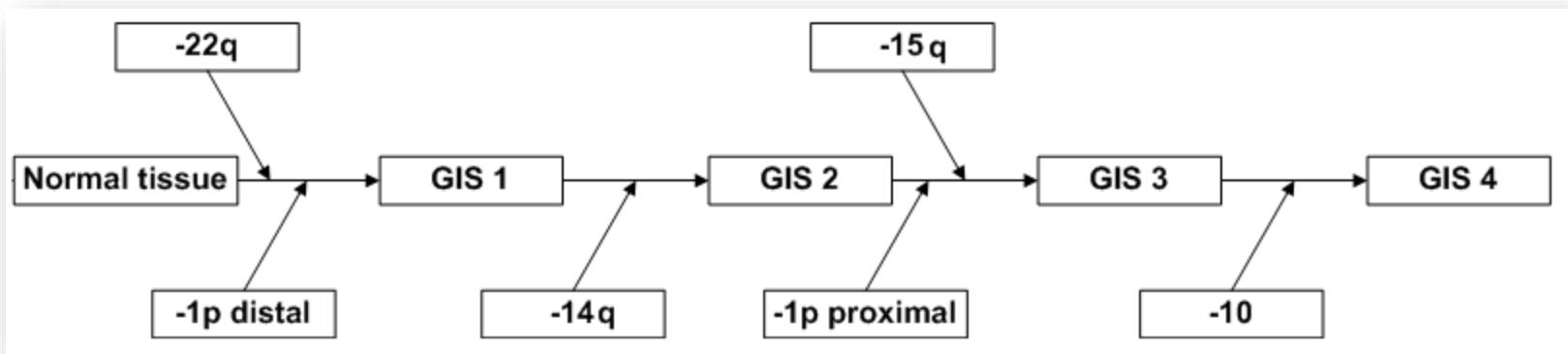
Courtesy of J-M Coindre & F Chibon,
Bordeaux, France (Fresch Sarcoma Group)

GIST (n=42)



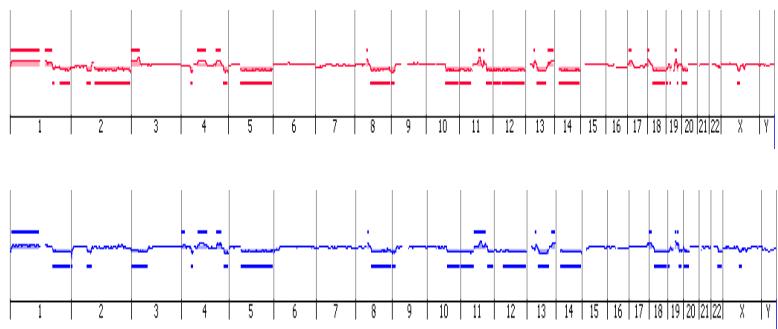
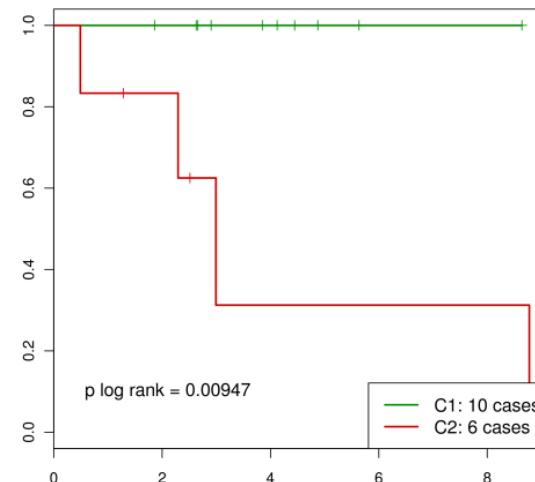
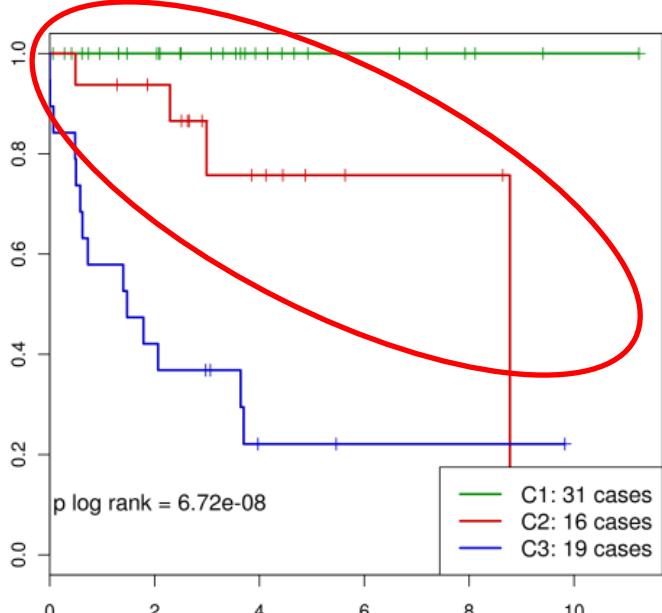
LMS (n=30)





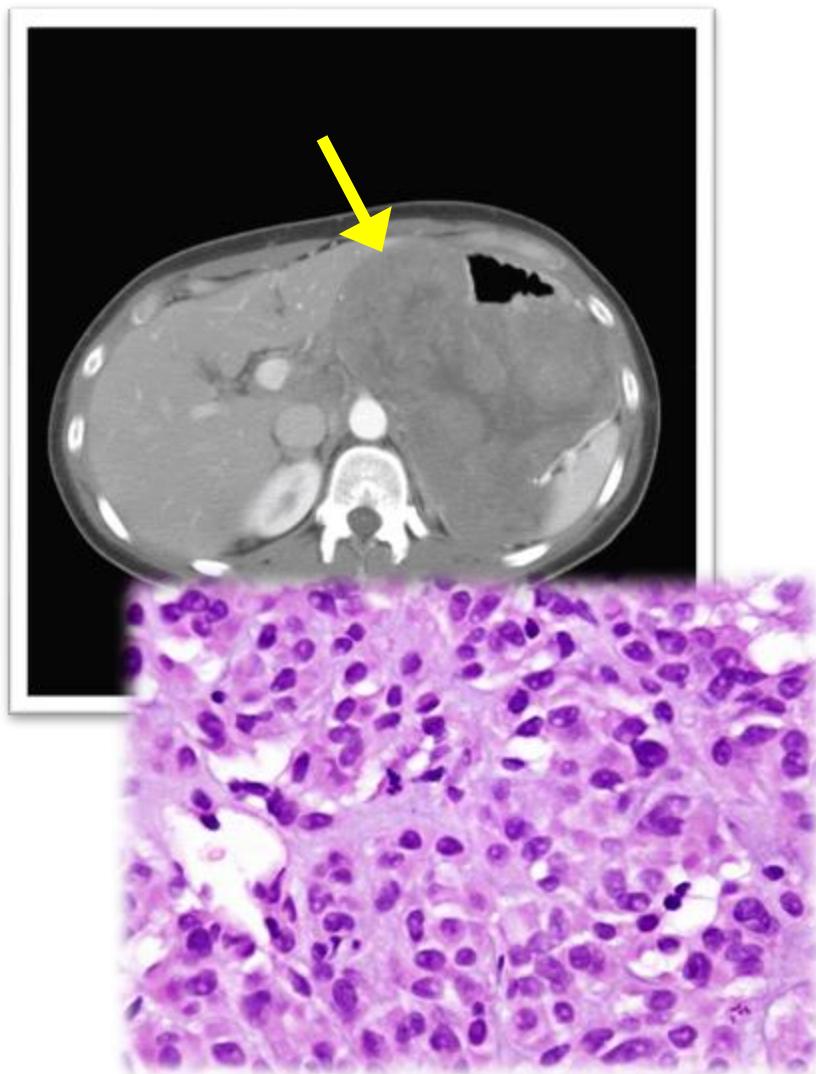
GIST and molecular signature

(Lagarde et al. Clin Cancer Res 2012;18: 826-838)

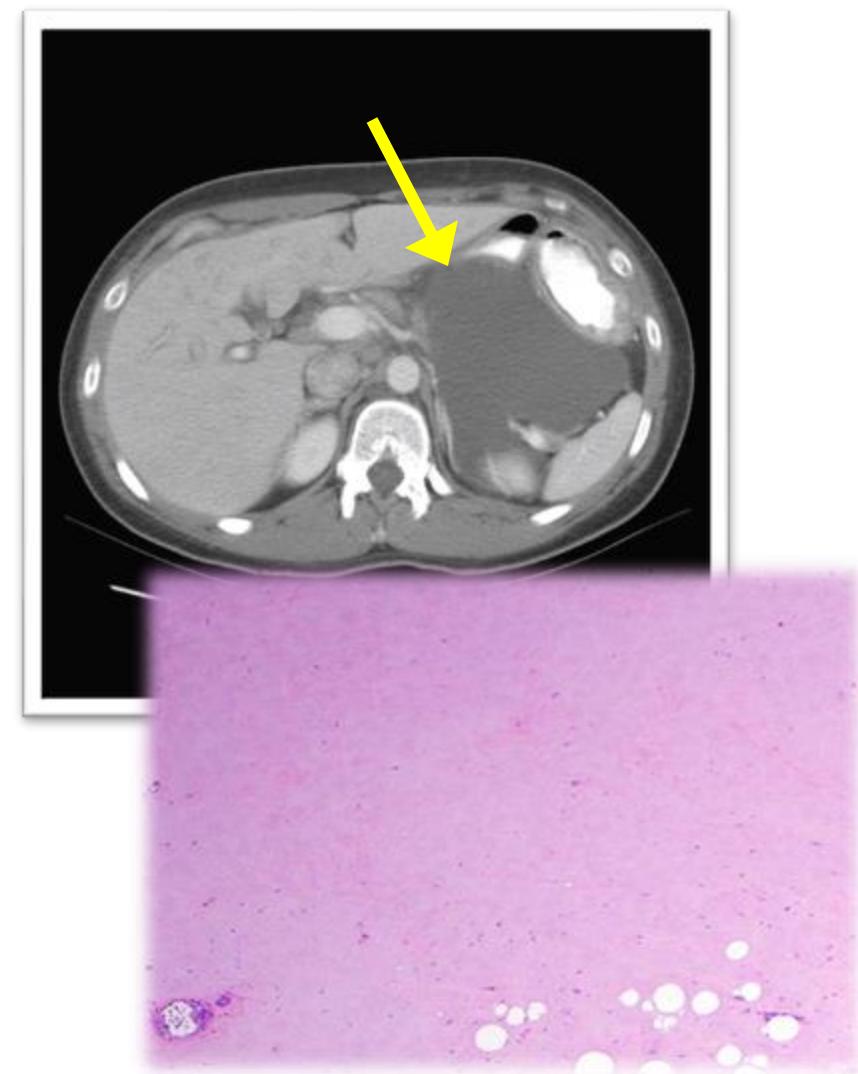


Treatment can cause big changes.

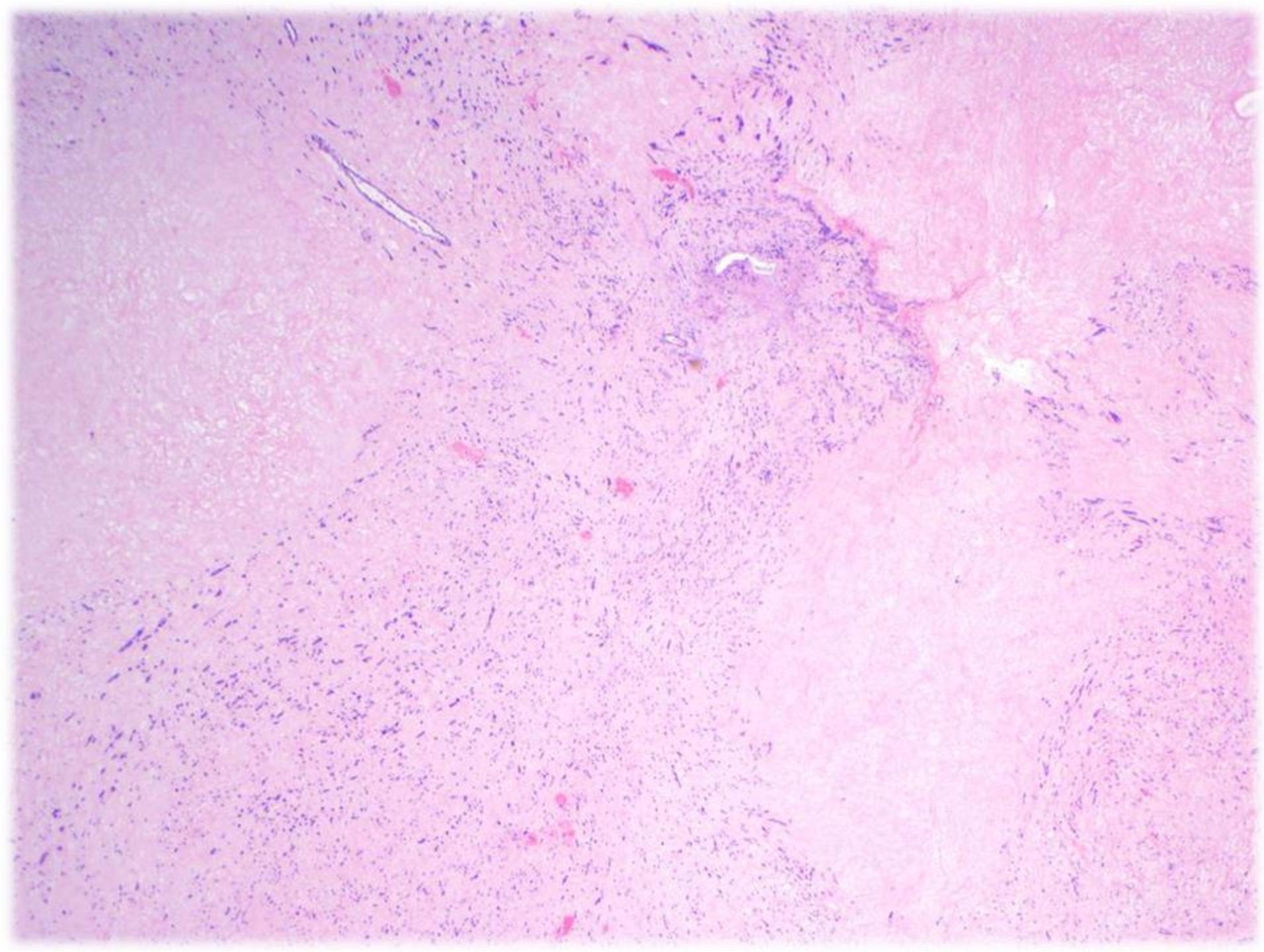
Treatment effect

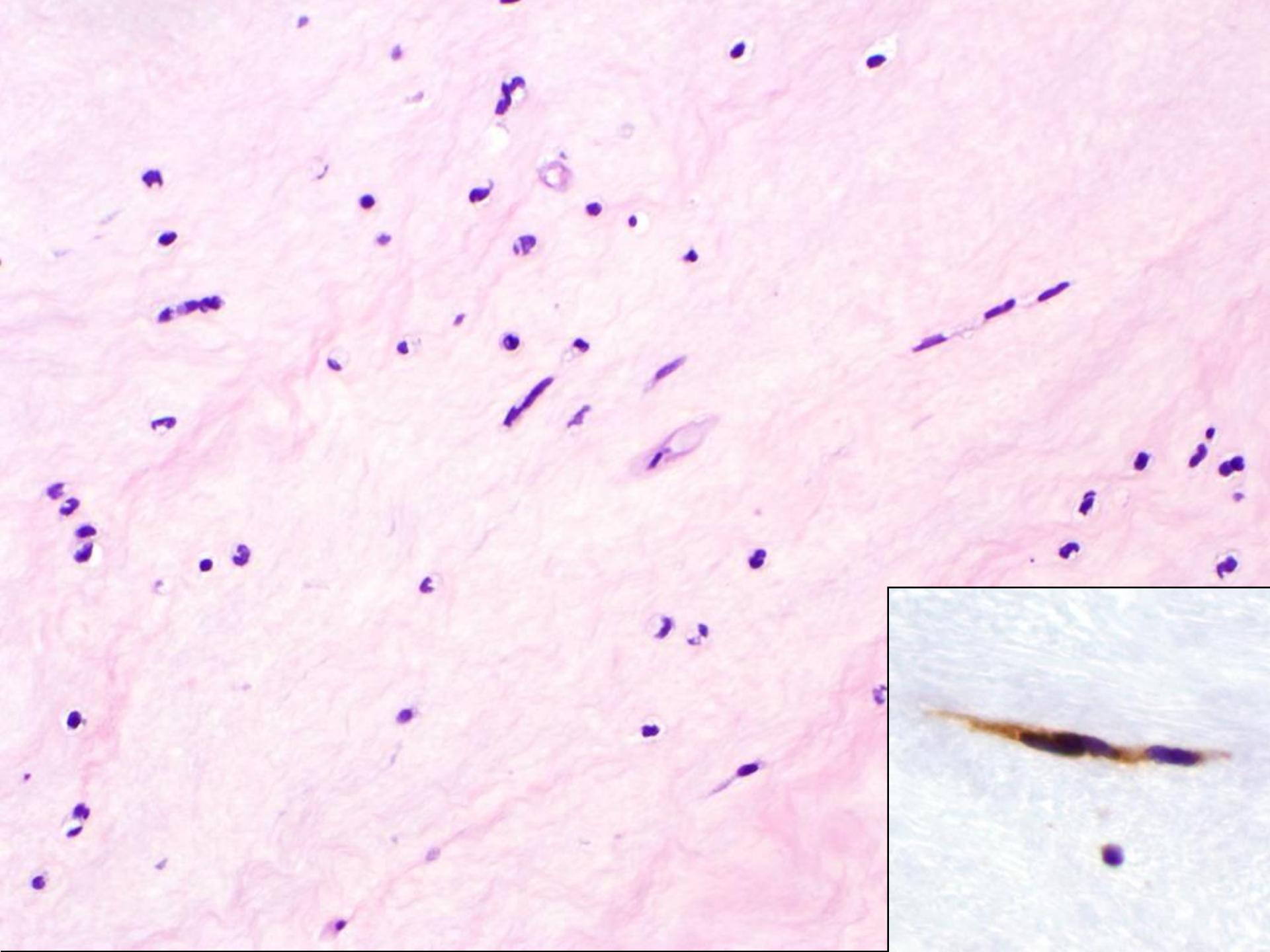


Pre-Imatinib

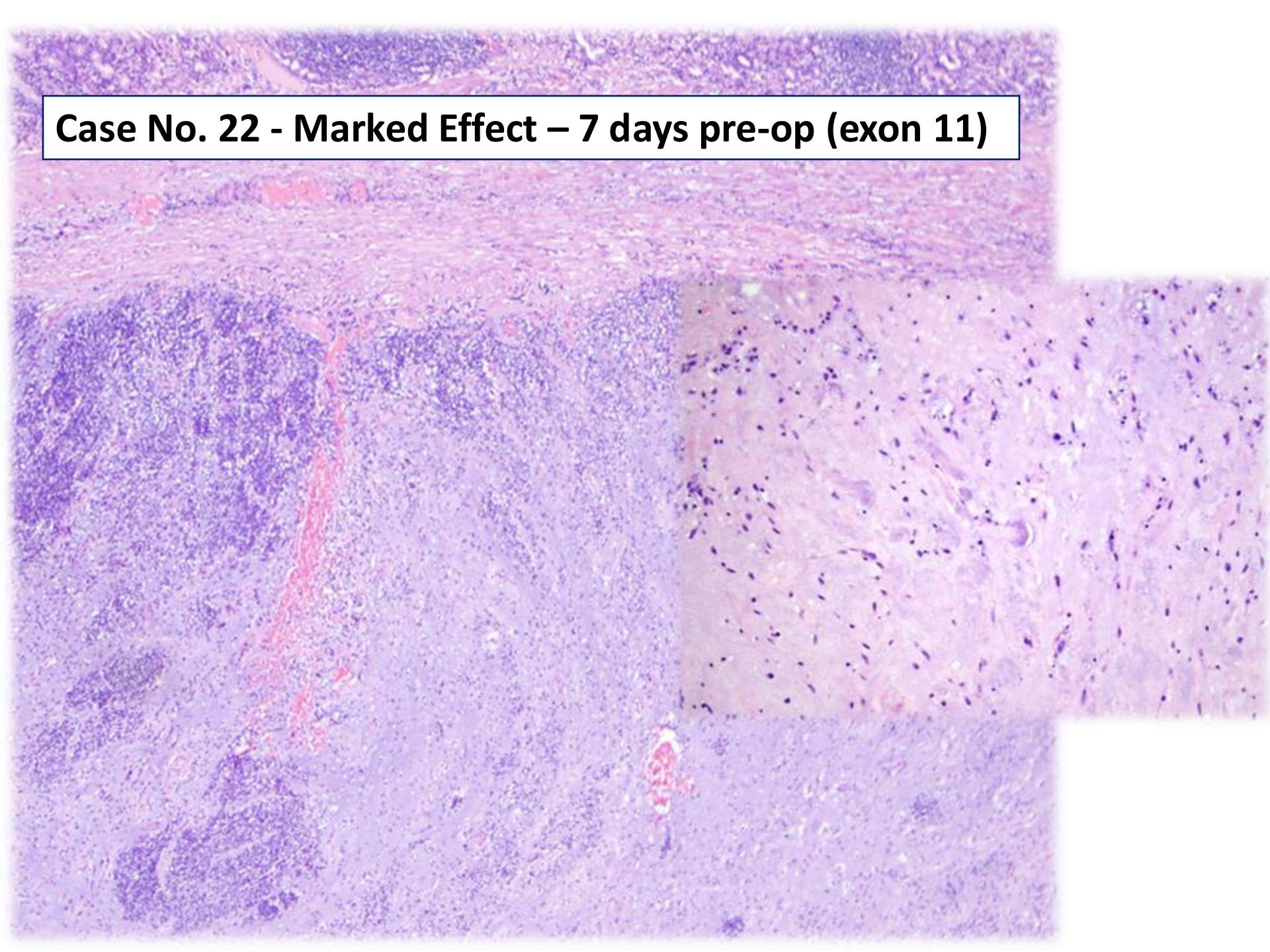


Post-Imatinib (8 weeks therapy)

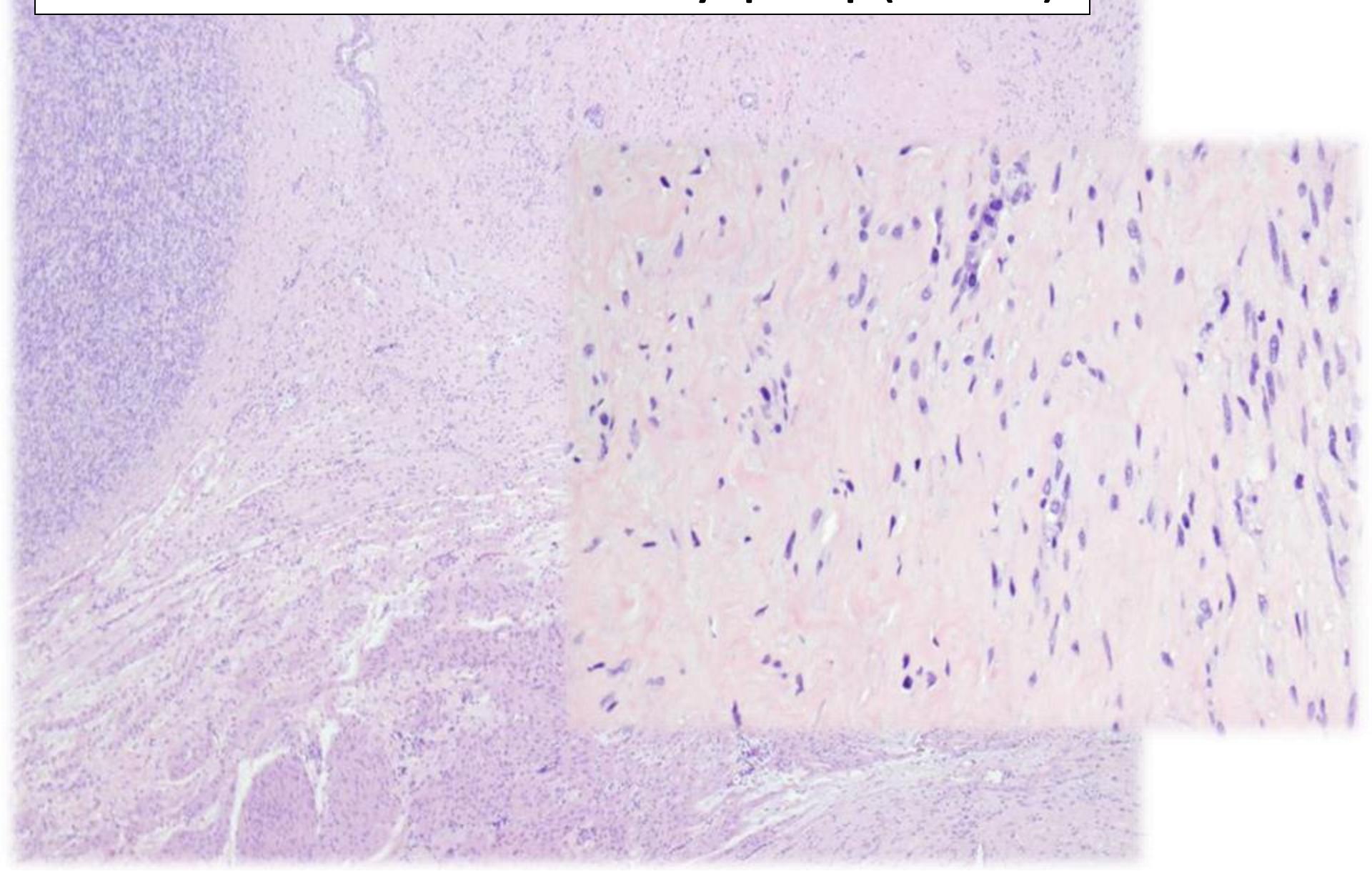




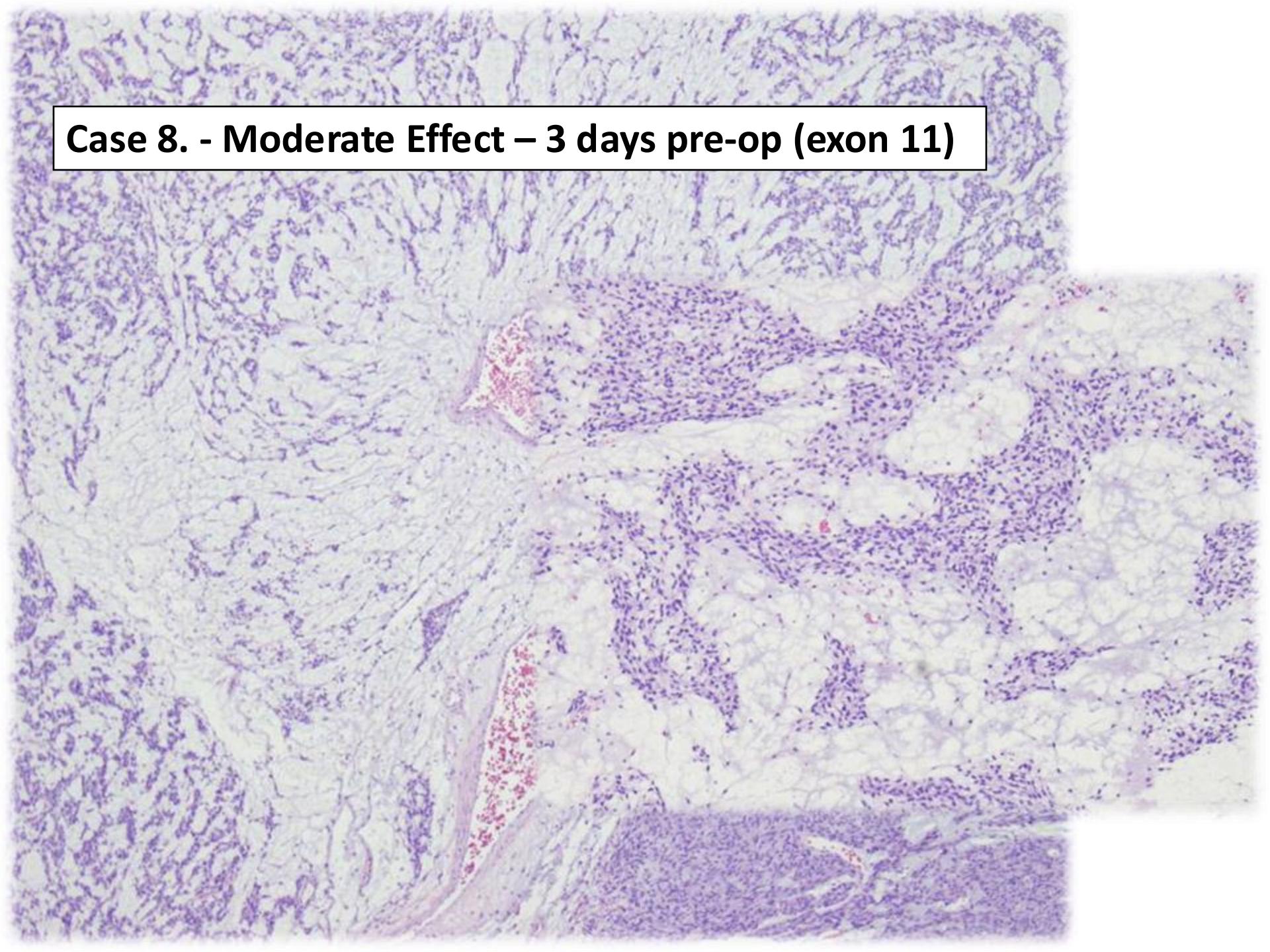
Case No. 22 - Marked Effect – 7 days pre-op (exon 11)



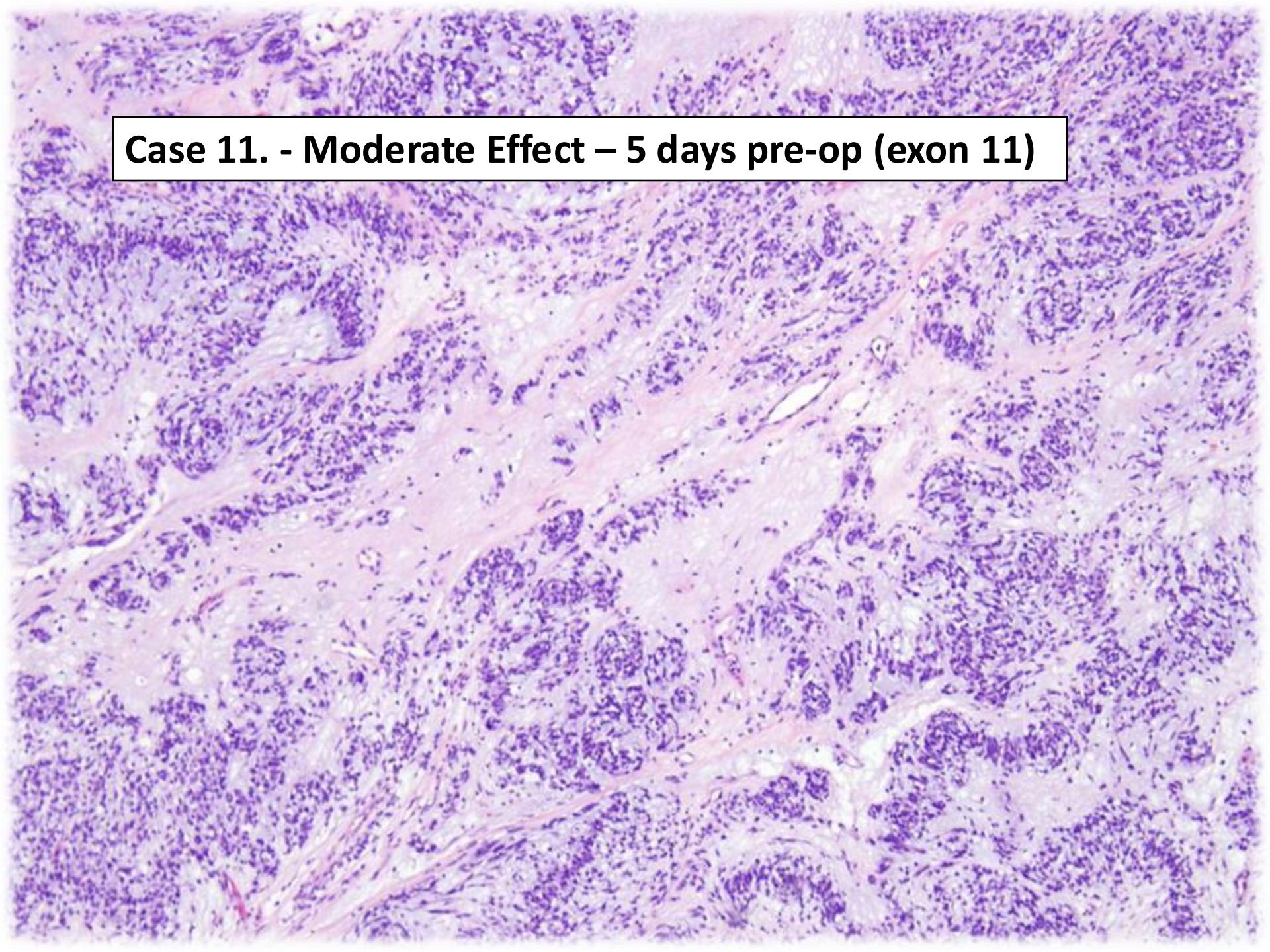
Case No. 12 - Marked Effect – 5 days pre-op (exon 11)



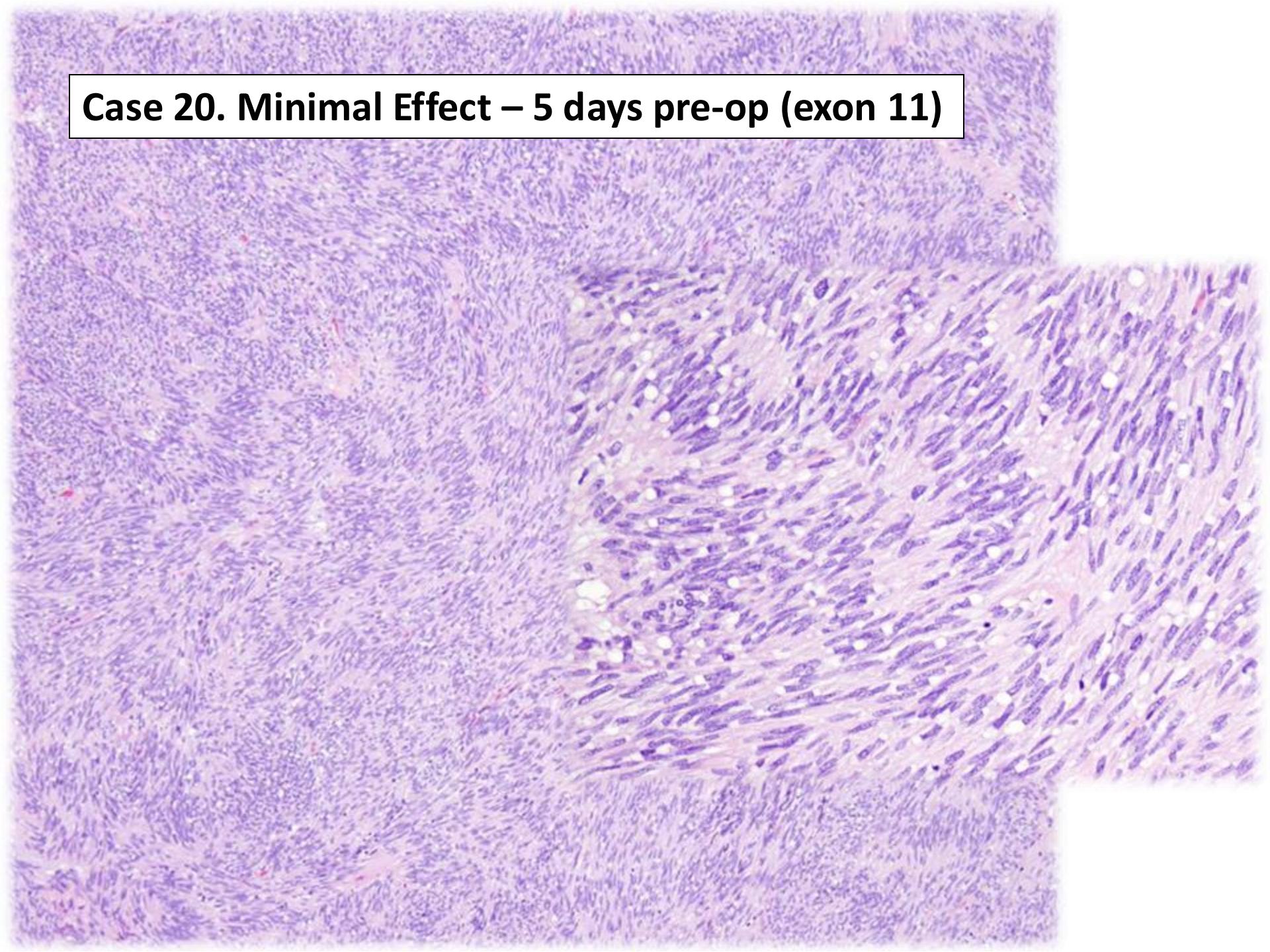
Case 8. - Moderate Effect – 3 days pre-op (exon 11)



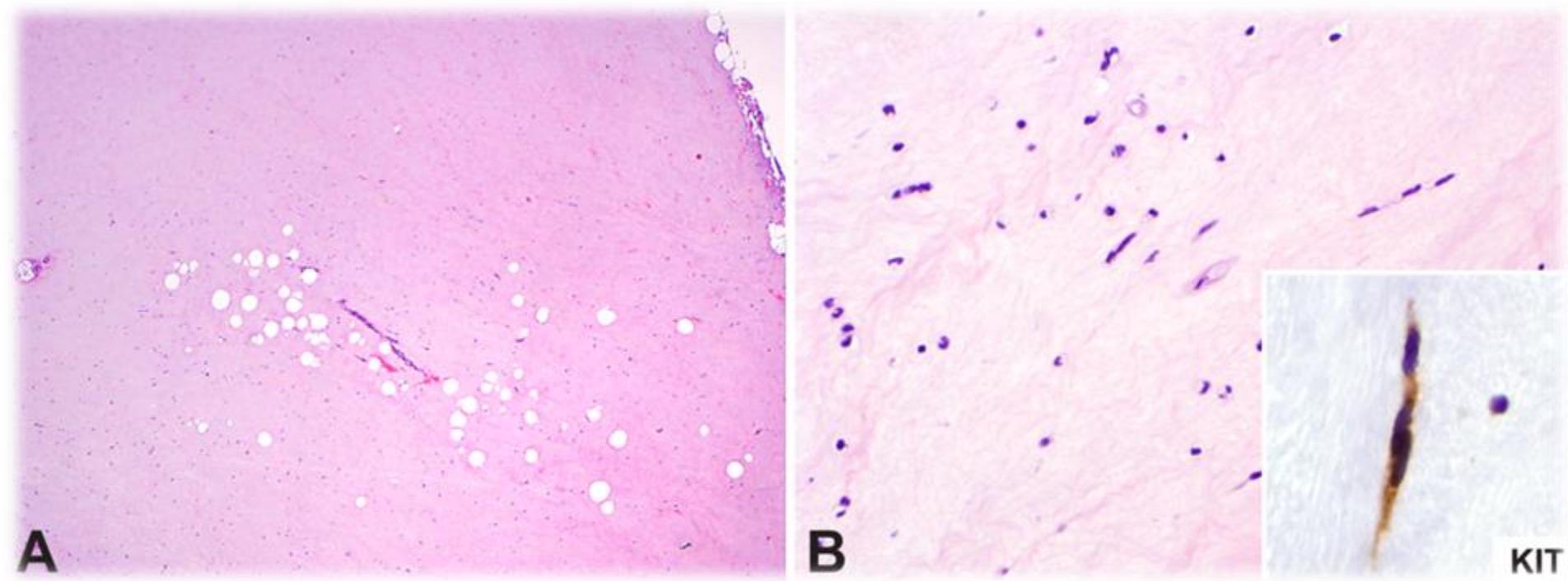
Case 11. - Moderate Effect – 5 days pre-op (exon 11)



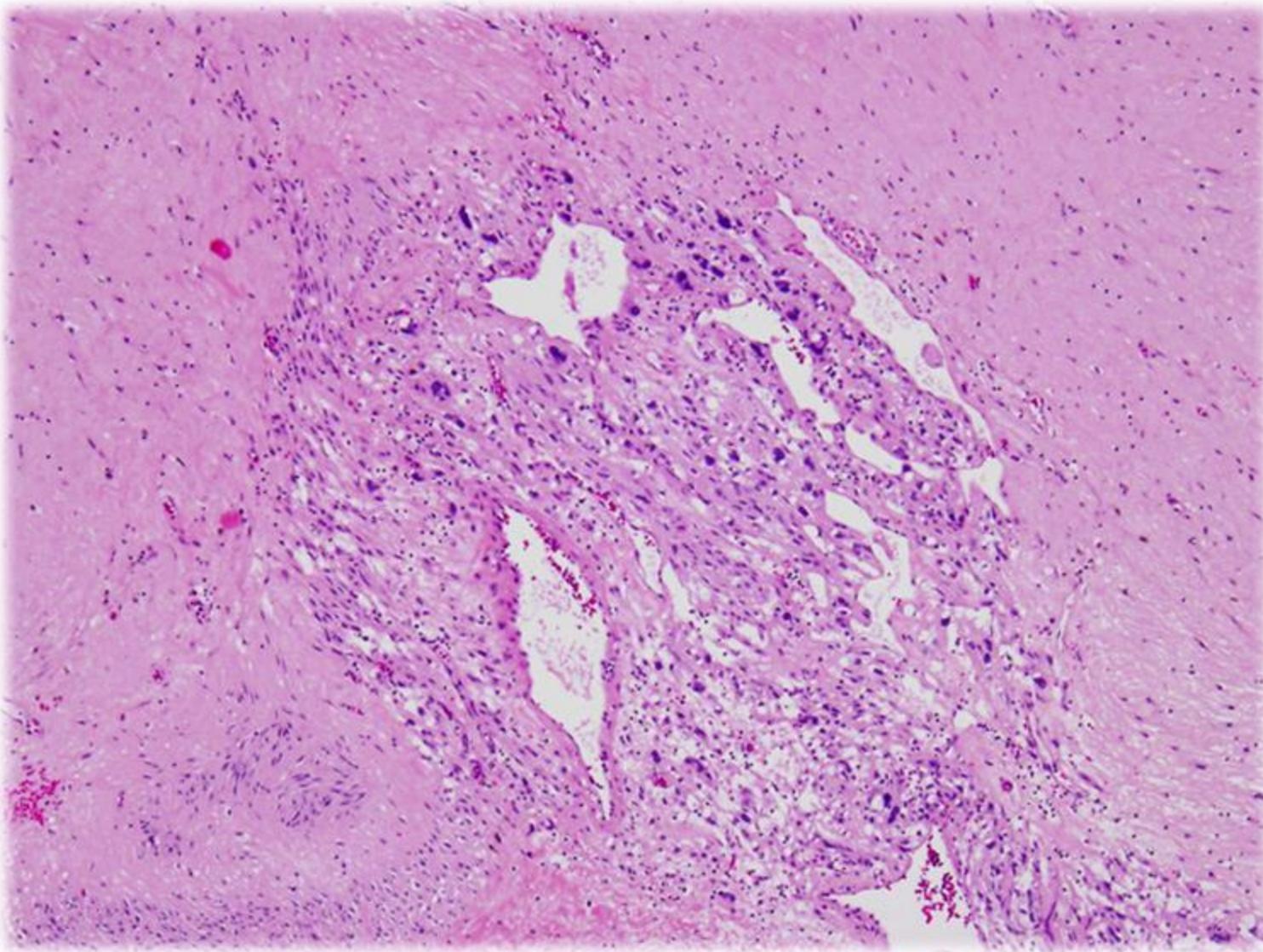
Case 20. Minimal Effect – 5 days pre-op (exon 11)

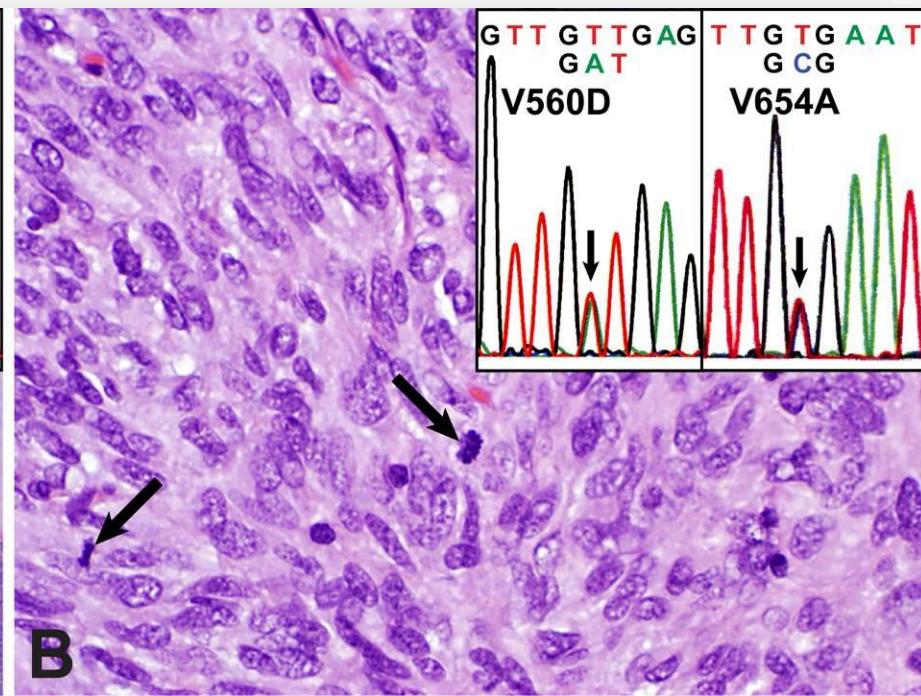
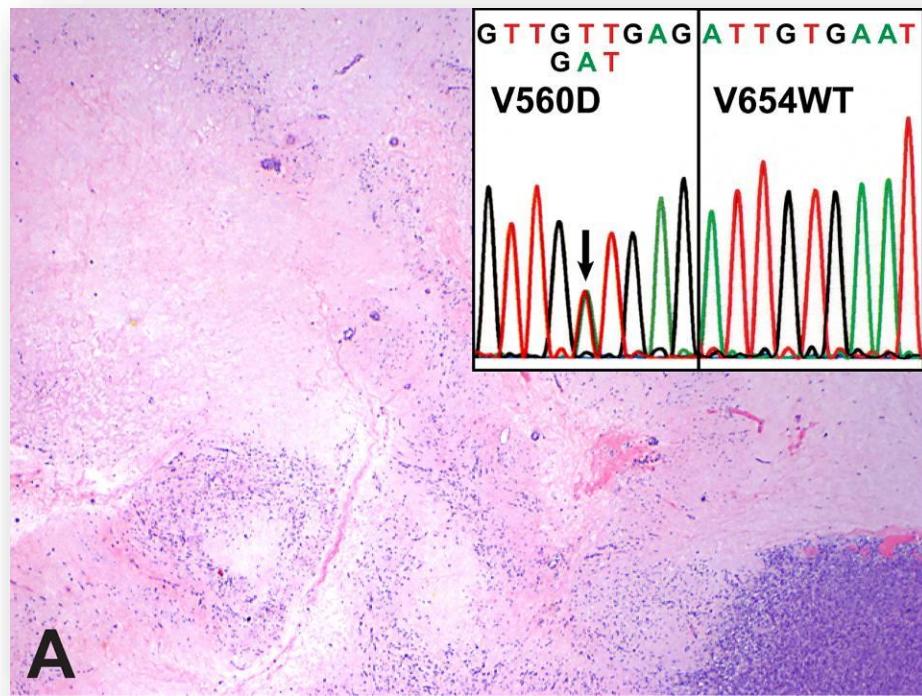


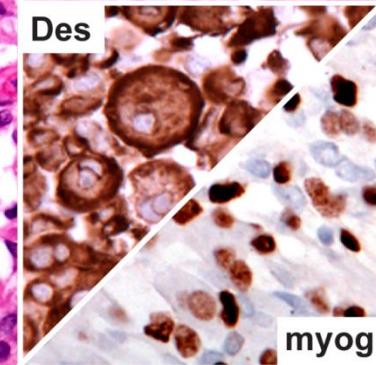
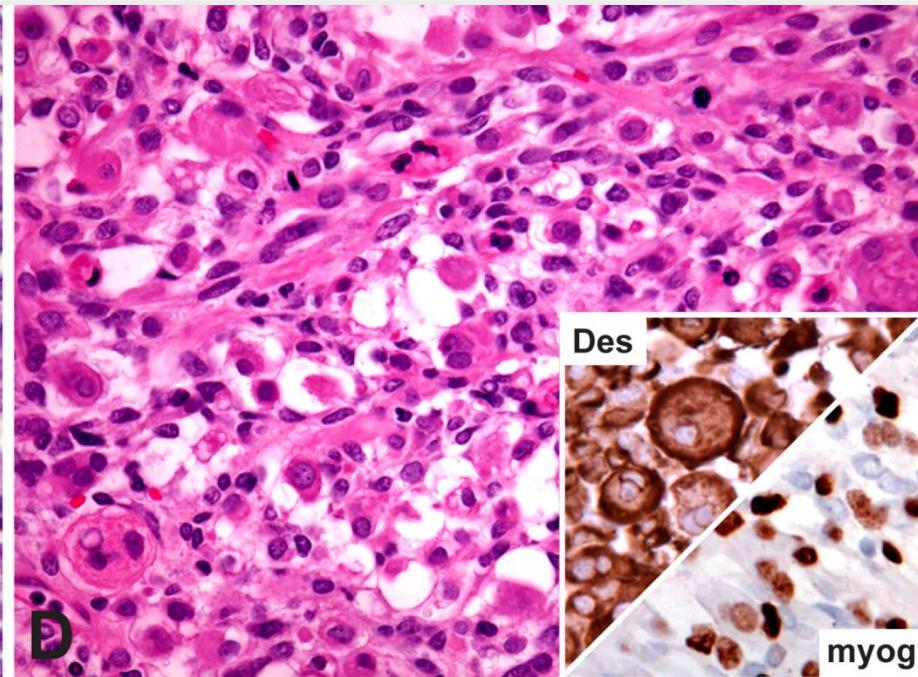
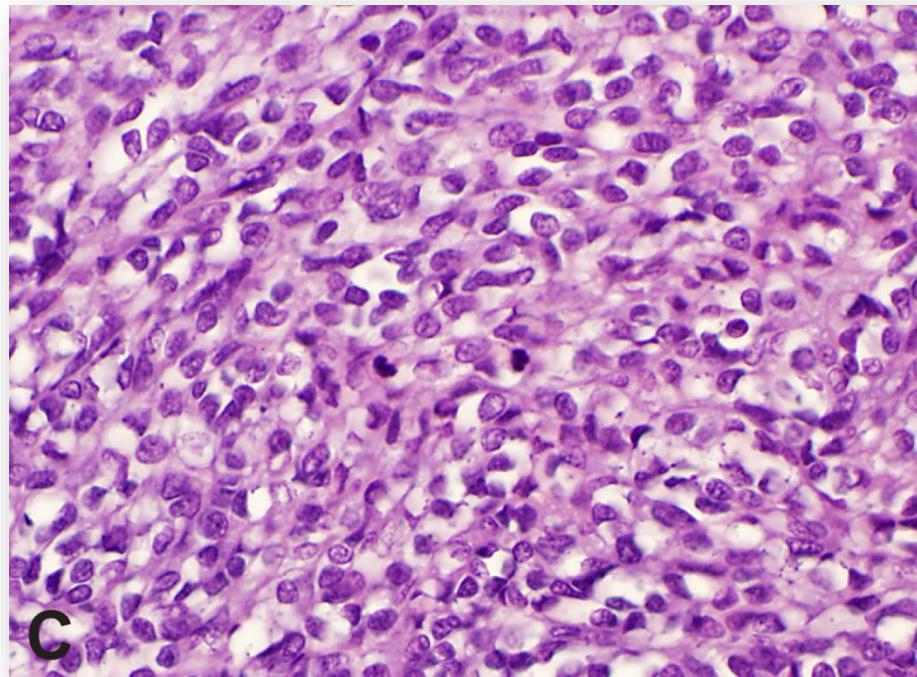
Long term Imatinib Tx



Long term Imatinib Tx







myog

Thanks!

Acknowledgements

- **Brian Rubin, Cleveland Clinic.**
- **Jason Hornick, Brigham & Women's Hospital/Harvard**
- **Jean-Michel Coindre & Frederic Chibon, Bordeaux, France (French Sarcoma Group)**
- **Michael Heinrich & Chris Corless, University of Oregon.**
- **Jon Trent, University of Miami.**
- **Many Fine Colleagues at UTMDACC.**