





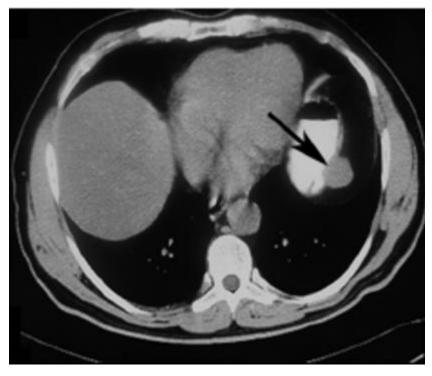
EUS-FNAB of GI Tract: Specimen Handling and Triage

Amy Ly, M.D. Director, Fine Needle Aspiration Service Massachusetts General Hospital Assistant Professor of Pathology Harvard Medical School Boston, MA





Goal of EUS-FNA is Diagnosis

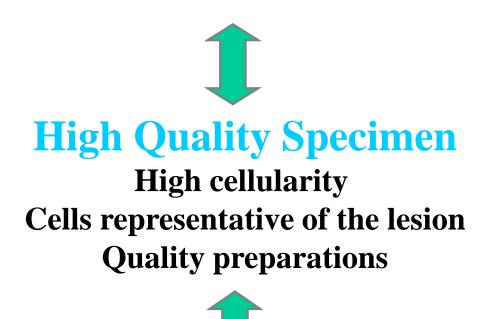


Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor (GIST) in gastric fundus If definitive diagnosis not rendered, aim to provide some pathology information to triage patient for management.





High Quality FNAB



High Quality Interpretation

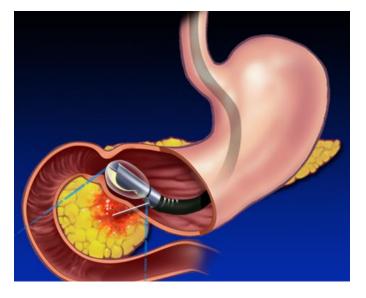
Training of interpreter Experience of interpreter Team approach to diagnosis





FNAB procedure

- 22-25 gauge needle & 10 cc syringe to apply vacuum
- Insert needle into target under US guidance
- Apply suction with the plunger (to generate vacuum)
- Move the needle back and forth within the nodule to obtain the sample
- Release vacuum in syringe

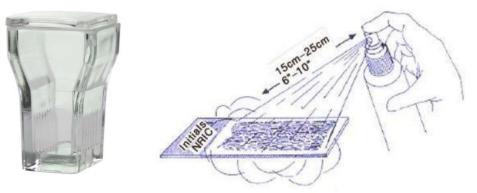






FNAB procedure cont'd

- Expel material onto glass slides
- Smear and **<u>immediately</u>** fix with alcohol

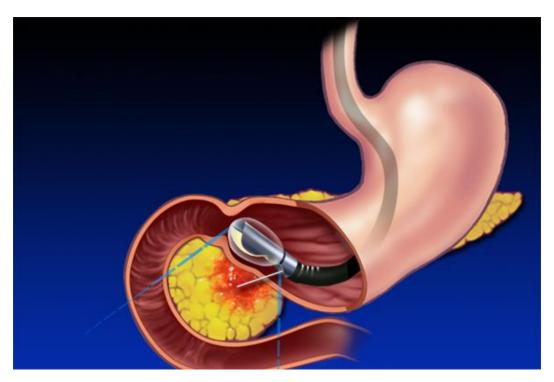


- Fix blood clots and tissue fragments in formalin for cell block preparation
- Rinse needle in Cytolyt or CytoRich Red for LBC; Rinse in saline or RPMI for flow cytometry





EUS-guided FNAB



- U/S Transducer
- Color Doppler
- Aspiration needle
- Transmural aspiration
- Cytology specimen

Transesophageal: esophageal wall, lymph nodes Transgastric: gastric wall, pancreatic body and tail, lymph nodes Transduodenal: duodenal wall, pancreatic head, lymph nodes





Cytology Specimen Preparation

- 1. Direct Smears (ROSE)
 - Alcohol fixed
 - Air dried
- 2. Cytospin
 - Fresh fluid
- 3. Liquid Based Prep
 - Alcohol-Fixed cells
 - ThinPrep
 - SurePath











Cytology Specimen Preparation

- 4. Cell block
 - Formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded
 - Rinsings and dedicated pass into RPMI or formalin
 - Enrich with larger bore needle
 - If cellularity is scant, process fluid as cytospin, ThinPrep, or SurePath
- 5. Flow cytometry
 - Rinse in media if lymphoma is suspected









Standardized Reporting Terminology (Papanicolaou Society of Cytopathology)

- I. <u>Nondiagnostic</u>
- II. <u>Negative</u>: Normal tissue, benign conditions
- III. <u>Atypical</u>: Suggestive but not diagnostic of low grade neoplasm (e.g. neuroendocrine tumor); indeterminate bile duct lesions
- IV. Neoplastic:
 - -Benign neoplasm (e.g. serous cystadenoma)

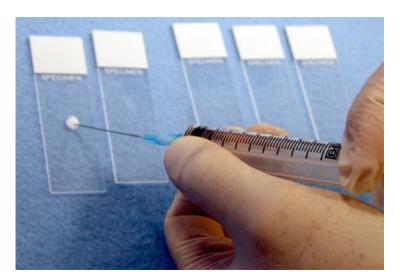
-Other (e.g. mucinous cystic neoplasm)

- V. <u>Suspicious</u>: Suggestive but not diagnostic of malignancy
- VI. Positive/Malignant

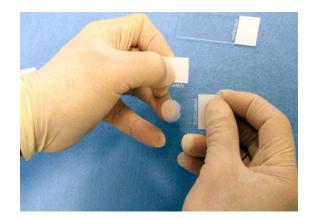


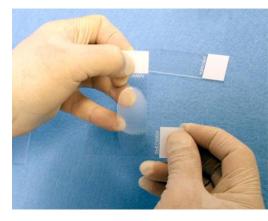


Direct Smears: fast, easy, and inexpensive













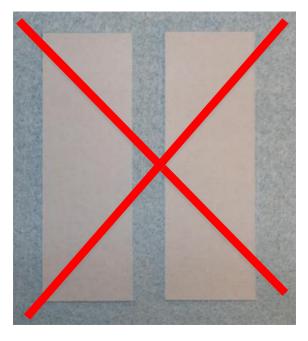
Preparing Direct Smears

- Goal: Create a monolayer of cells for ease of interpretation
 - At least 2 smears made per FNAB pass
 - Alcohol fixation for nuclear detail
 - Rapid H&E stain often used for ROSE
- FNA material contains delicate tissue fragments do not crush!
- Spreader Slides should have little to no material on it, and can be discarded.





Slides for Direct Smears



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Frosted slides

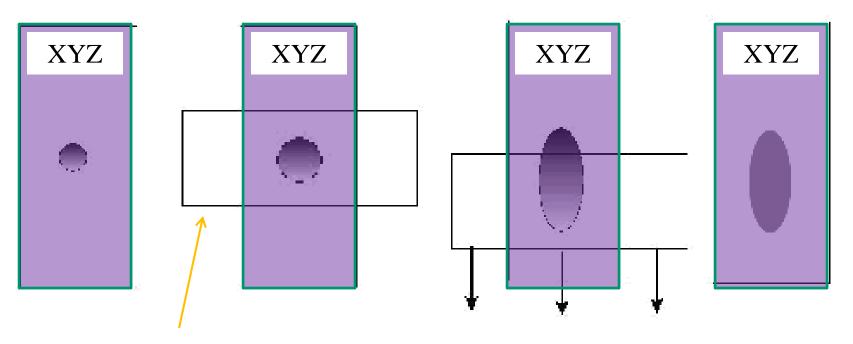
Non- Frosted slides





Best Method for Direct smears

Apply gentle pressure and pull spreader slide towards yourself.

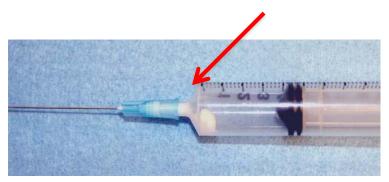


spreader slide

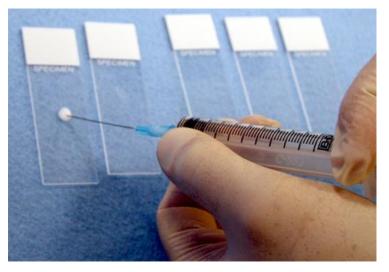




Best Method for Direct smears Deposit the sample on slide



Needle and syringe with aspirated specimen material

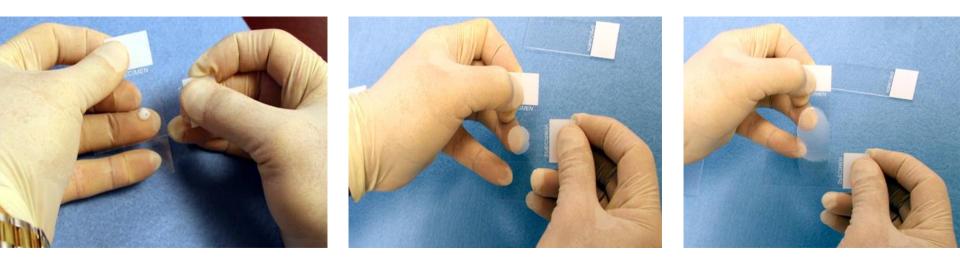


Use syringe to express the material onto glass slide





Best Method for Direct smears



Use perpendicular slides to 'open' the aspirate drop. Do not crush the sample.

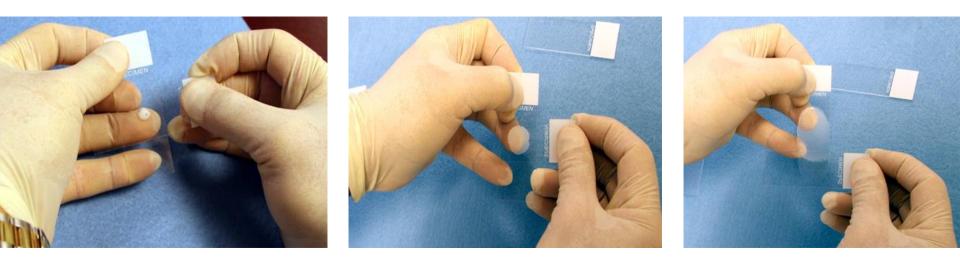
Ideal method as described by Britt-Marie Ljung www.papsociety.org/fna.html

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Best Method for Direct smears



Advantages:

- Allows separation of material into multiple smears
 - Preserves cellular and architectural detail
- Perfect ovals- easier to screen at the time of biopsy
- Practice smearing hand cream and a box of slides





Advancing Diagnosis and Discovery PATHOLOGY **Direct Smears**







Rapid H&E Direct Smears

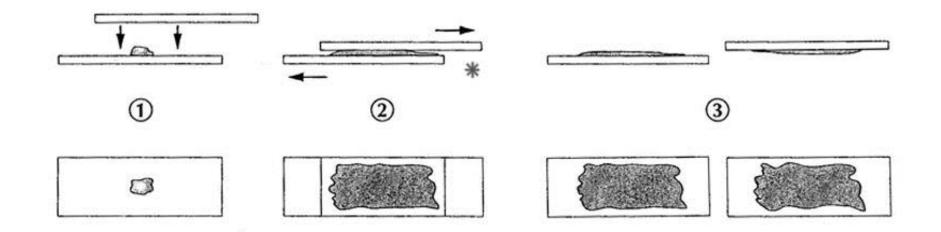






Less optimal direct smear preparation: "Pull apart" method

Apply gentle pressure and slide apart in parallel.

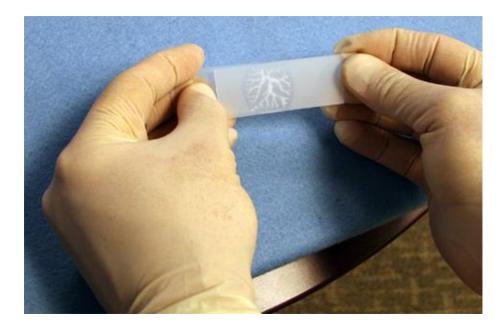


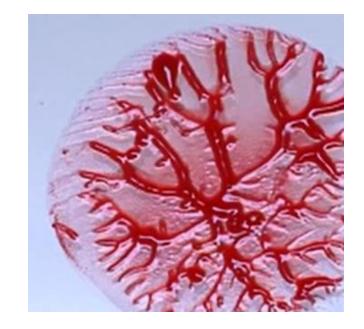
This method is best for peripheral blood smears.





Less optimal direct smear preparation: "Pop" method





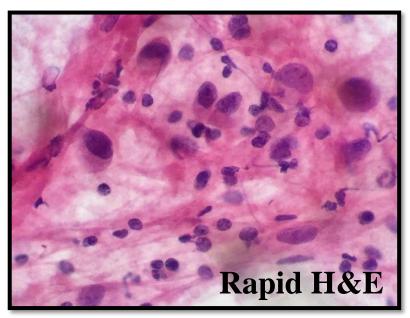
Pull apart and Pop methods are suboptimal

- Entire aspirate is used up on two slides
- Increased distortion, too thick for interpretation, loss of architecture and cellular detail

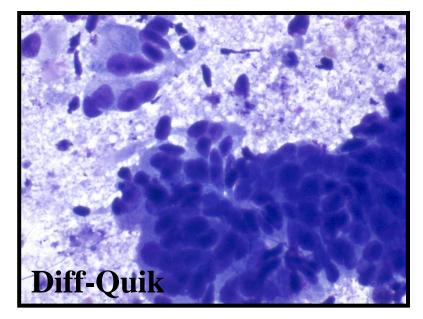




Staining Direct Smears



Alcohol fixed smear
Easier to interpret
Nuclear detail
Slower (2-3 min)
Rapid Pap similar



Air dried smear
Harder to interpret
Cytoplasmic detail
Faster (30 seconds)





Liquid Based- Cytospin



Preferred method of processing fresh cyst fluid Provides cell button for cytology and supernatant for CFA Preserves background elements







Liquid Based-ThinPrep®







Cells are fixed in methanol Cannot use aliquot for flow cytometry, but IHC is OK DNA quality for molecular studies is good







Liquid Based SurePath PrepTM

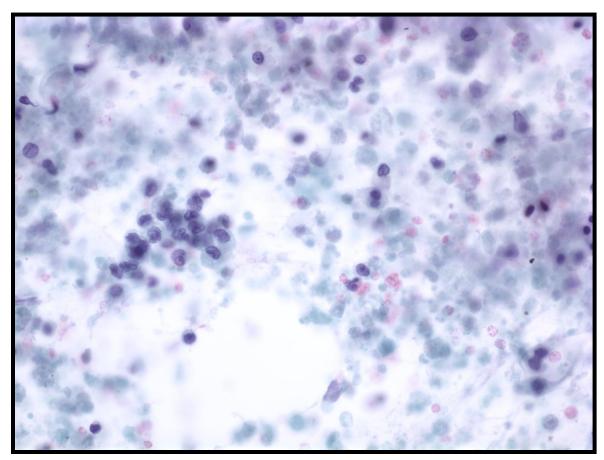


Cells are fixed in ethanol Cannot use aliquot for flow cytometry, but IHC is OK DNA quality for molecular studies is good







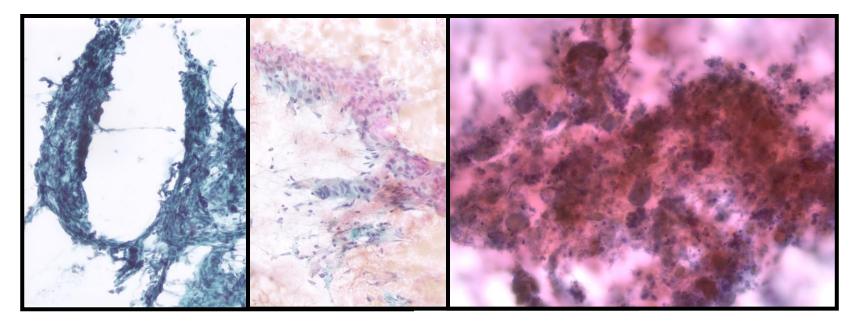


Necrosis





Specimen Quality and Discovery **Quality Construction: Interpretable**?



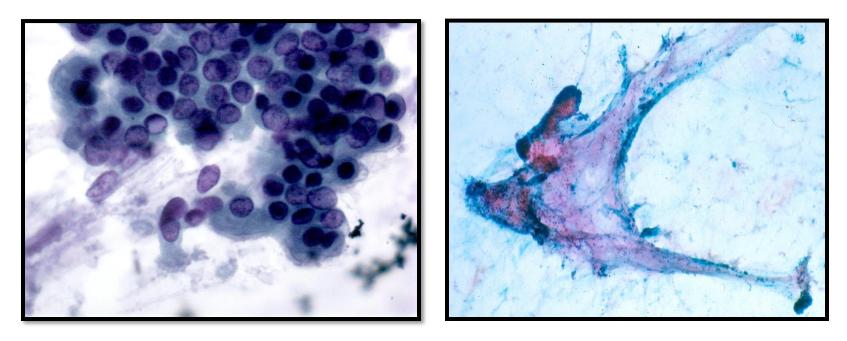
<u>Crush Artifact:</u> Cells delicate; excess pressure on smears <u>Air-dry Artifact:</u> Drying began before put into alcohol fixative

Obscuring blood





EXAMPLE 2 Specimen Quality and Discovery **Security** Is sample representative of the lesion?



Epithelial cells from surface Mu of esophagus, stomach, or duodenum

Mucus from GI tract

GI contamination is a significant problem



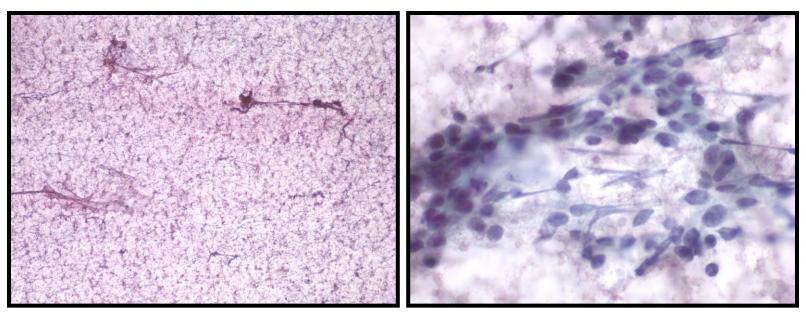
Benign







Specimen Quality Quantity of cells



Scant cellularity Precludes definitive interpretation

Largely blood

Too few cells; Atypical, not maligant

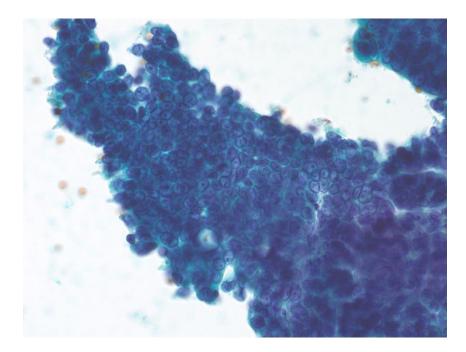


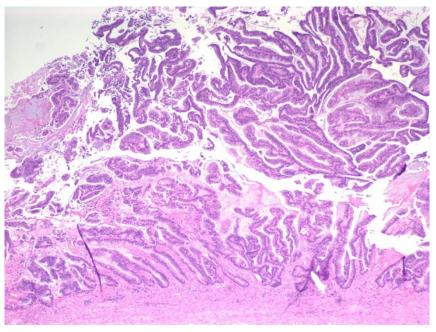


Cytology vs. Histology

Cytology: The study of cells

Histology: The study of tissue









Limitations of Cytology compared to Histology

- Lack of architecture
 - Cannot see distribution of ductal structures
 - Cannot see abnormal localization
 - Cannot see if ducts are adjacent to medium sized vessels, wrapping around nerves or isolated in fat
 - Cannot see contours or angulation of ducts
 - Cannot see luminal contents
 - Cannot see stromal reaction





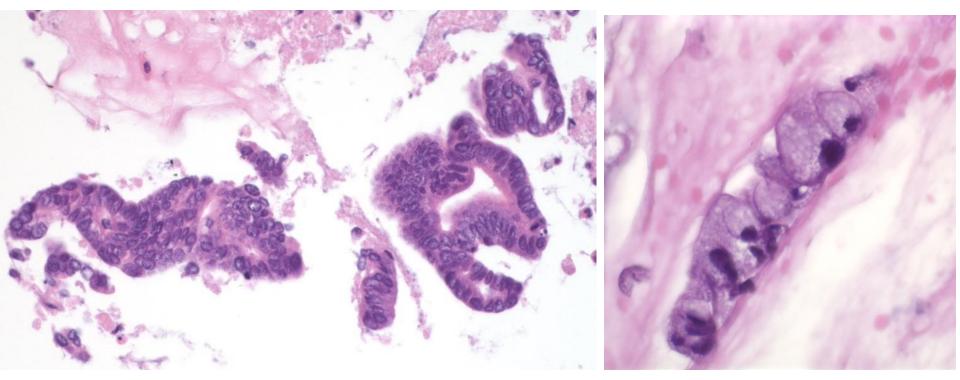


"Tissue worm" left on a Direct Smear





Cell Blocks for Cytohistology



IPMN-HGA

IPMN-LGA

"Tissue worms" are perfect for Cell Block preparations





Cell Blocks for Cytohistology



Any material left in the syringe can be used for cell block preparation. <u>Wait for it to clot</u> before disturbing it.

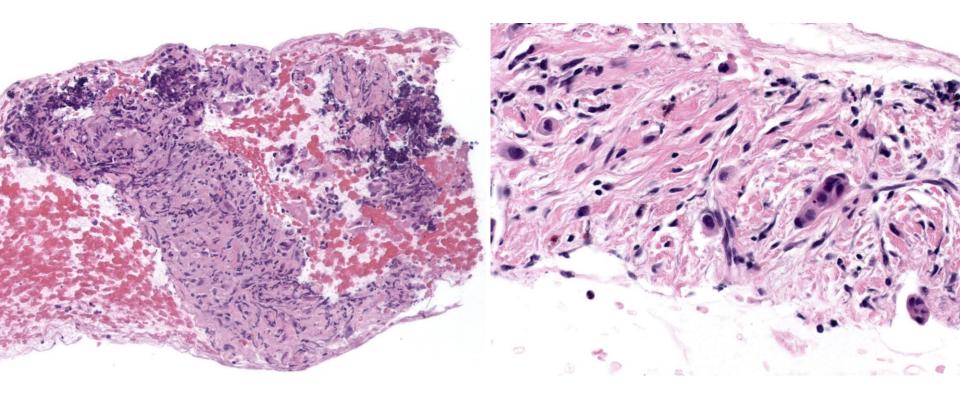


Gently wash the clot into formalin and submit to pathology for cell block preparation. Use separate container for core biopsy.





Cell Blocks for Cytohistology



Autoimmune pancreatitis

Poorly-differentiated PDAC

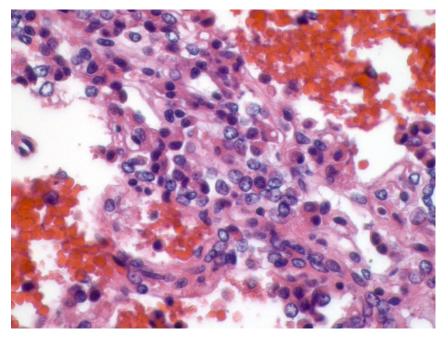


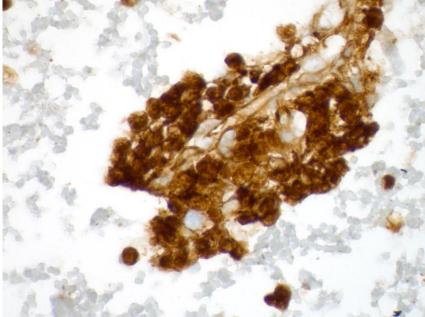


Cell Blocks for Cytohistology

Pancreas- Solid Pseudopapillary Neoplasm

Immunohistochemical staining with Beta-Catenin

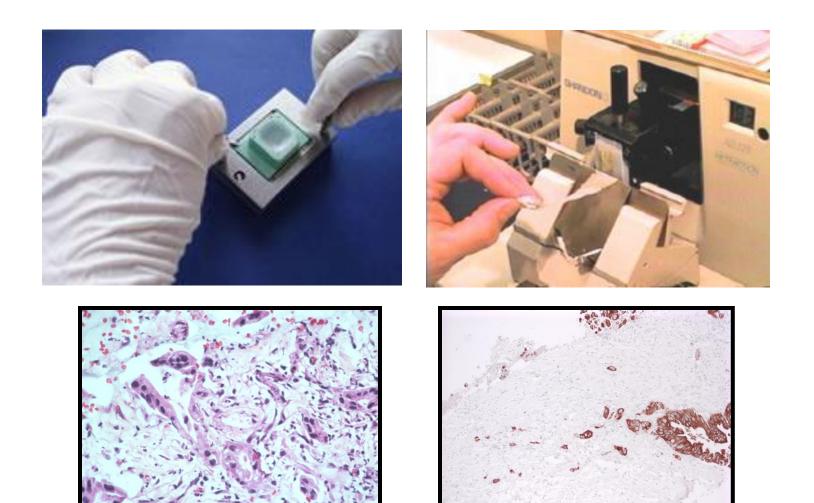








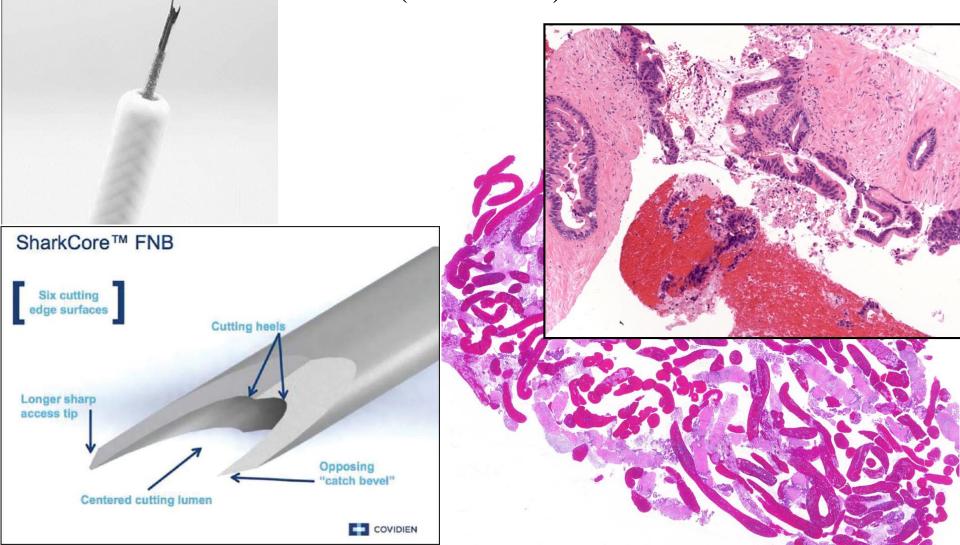
Cell Blocks prepped like Core Biopsies







SharkCore (Medtronic)

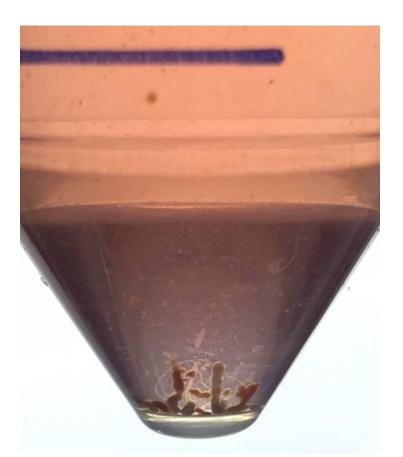






Acquire (Boston Scientific)

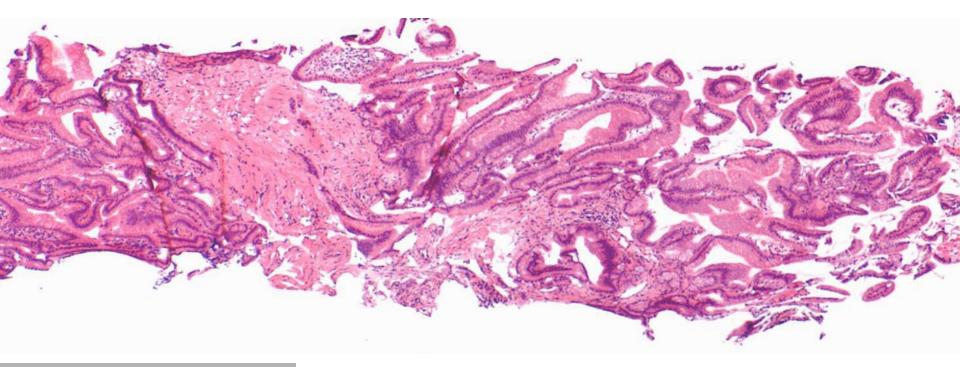








Procore Biopsy (Cook-Medical)



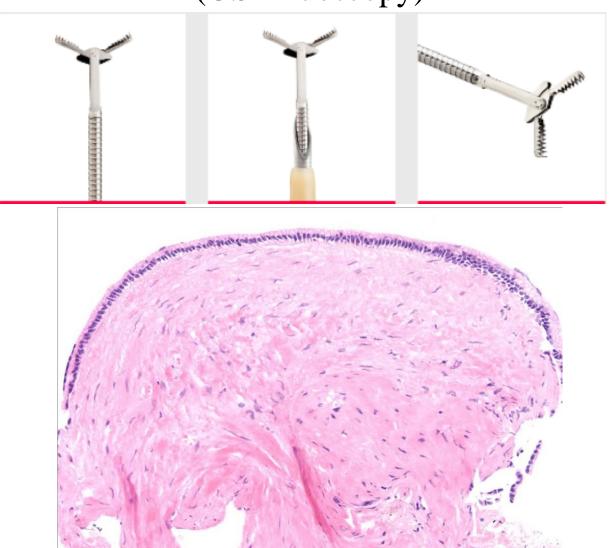


IPMN-LGD



Advancing Diagnosis and Discovery

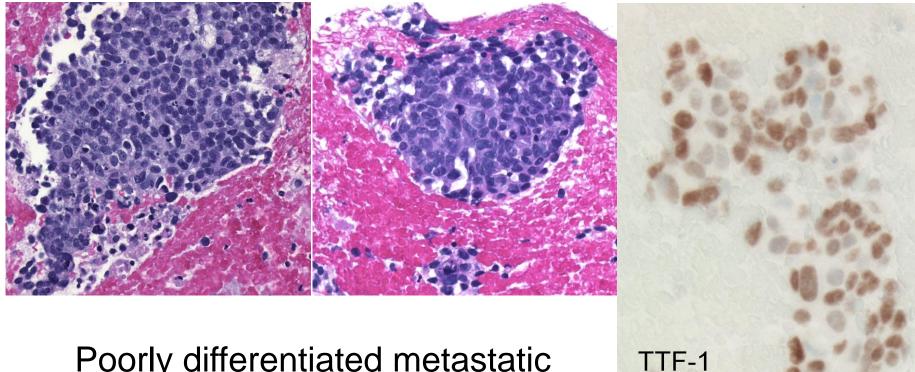
Moray Micro-forceps biopsy (US Endoscopy)







Cell Blocks/Core Biopsy Allow for ancillary testing: IHC, molecular etc



Poorly differentiated metastatic lung adenocarcinoma





Ancillary Testing Refines Diagnosis

- Special Stains
 - Cellblocks; Smears
- Immunohistochemistry
 - Cellblocks; Smears
- Biochemical testing
 - Pancreas cyst fluid: CEA, amylase
- Molecular Analysis [FISH, Specific Mutations (e.g. *KRAS*, *BRAF*) and NGS]
 - Cellblocks
 - Fresh cyst fluid- Pancreas
 - Liquid-Based Cytology (ThinPrep/SurePath)





Quality Cytology

- Quality of the Specimen
 - Quantity of cells
 - Quality of the cells
 - Tissue available for ancillary studies
- Quality of the interpretation
 - Training of the interpreter
 - Experience of the interpreter
 - Rapid or immediate interpretation
 - Cooperation of the diagnostic team





Quality Interpretation

- Pathologist <u>trained</u> in cytology
 - Preferably with boards in cytopathology
- Pathologist <u>experienced</u> in the interpretation of FNAB material, particularly from GI tract via EUS
- Team approach to diagnosis
 - Cooperative interaction between biopsy physician and interpretation group (cytotechnologist and pathologist)





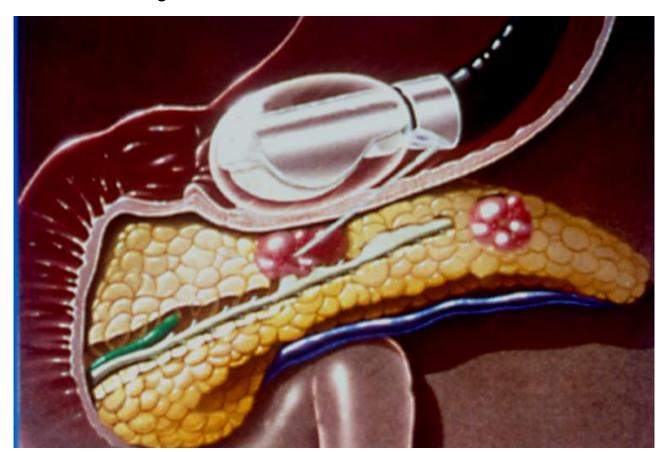
Cytology Interpretation

- Multimodal Approach
 - Patient clinical Information
 - Age and gender
 - Symptoms
 - Past medical history
 - Radiological Information
 - Location of mass (and organ traversed for EUS)
 - Mass characteristics
 - Solid or cystic
 - » Size, contours, invasion
 - » Cystic lesions: single or multilocular; wall thickness, Ca++, intramural nodule
 - » Gross cyst contents: thick/viscous, thin/watery, clear, brown
 - Ancillary tests: CEA, amylase, molecular analysis





Quality Interpretation: Familiarity with GI Contamination

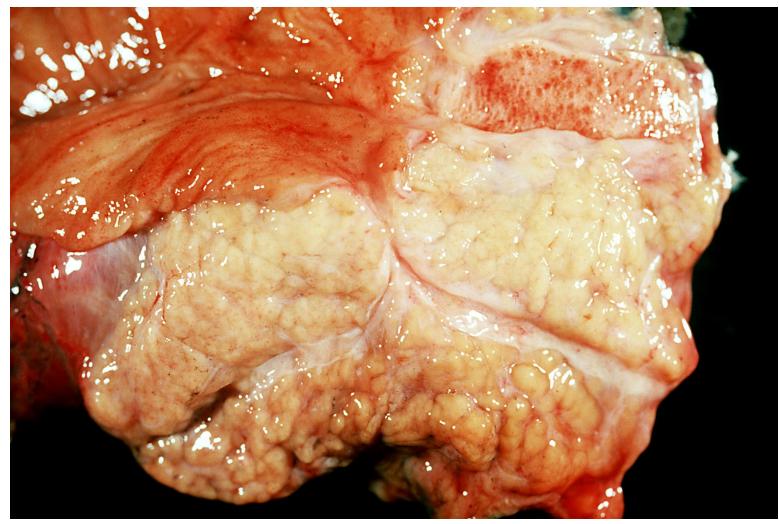


Transgastric: pancreatic body and tail Transduodenal: pancreatic head





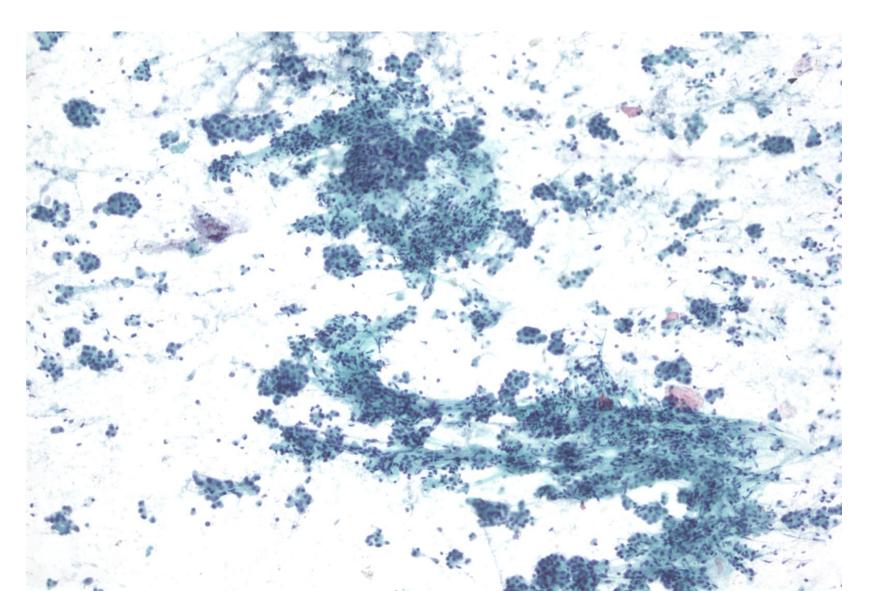
(bivalved pancreatic head)



Courtesy of 4th Series AFIP Fascicle on Tumors of the Pancreas



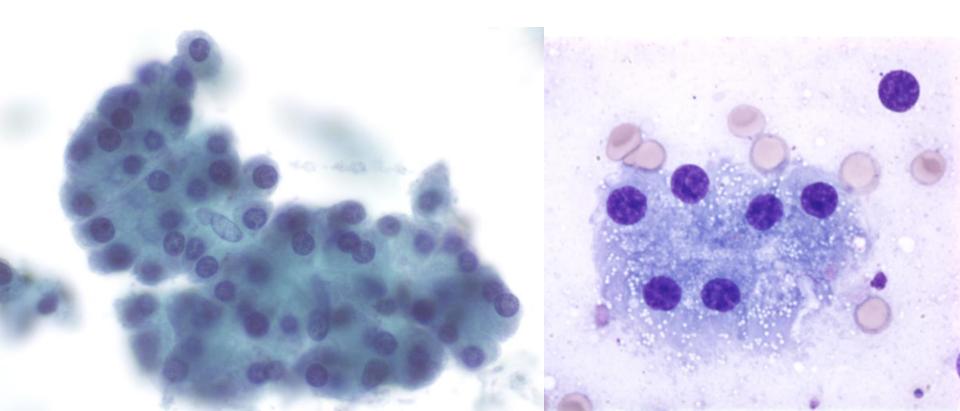








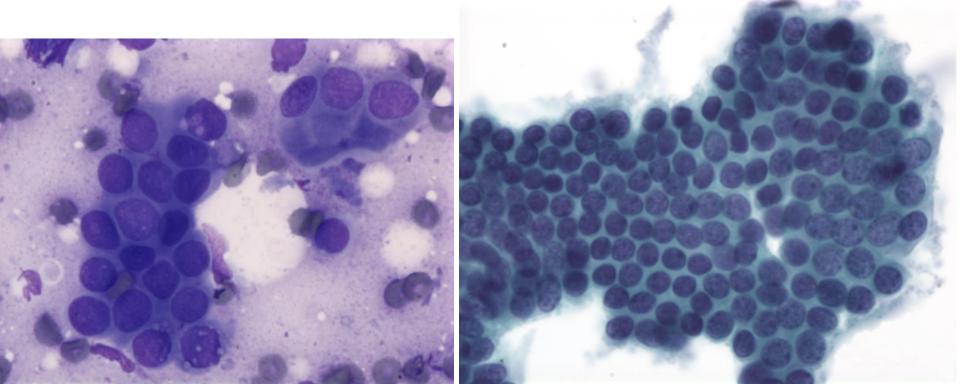
Acinar Cells







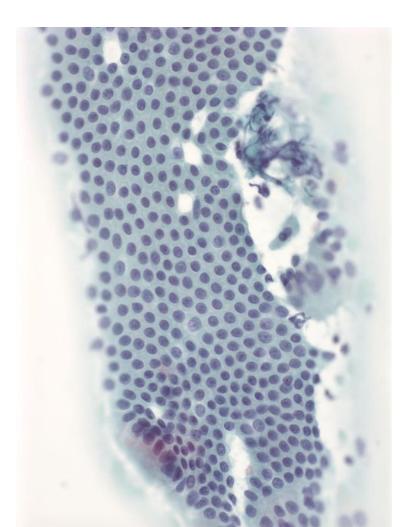
Ductal Cells







Gastric Contamination

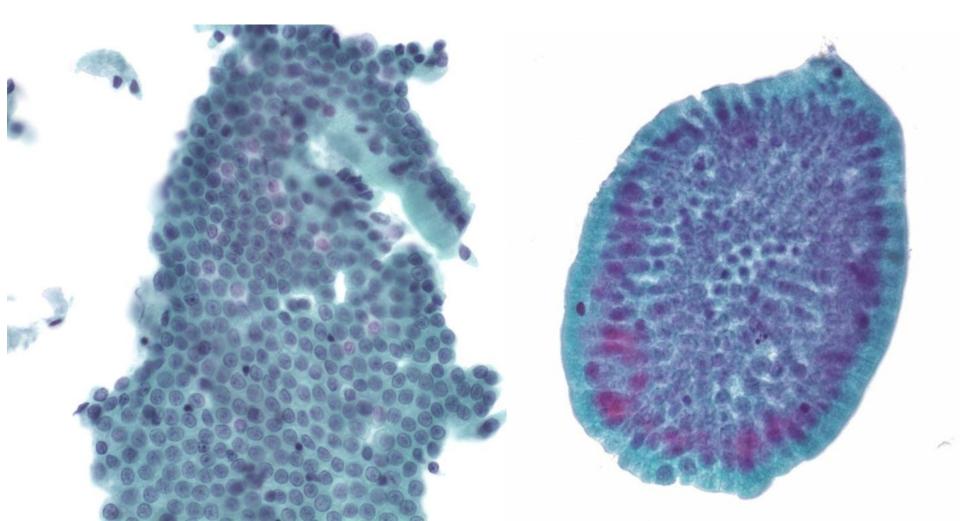








Duodenal Contamination



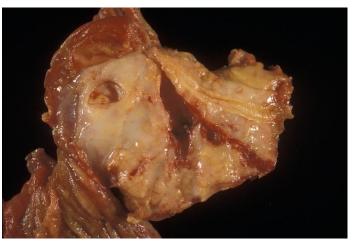


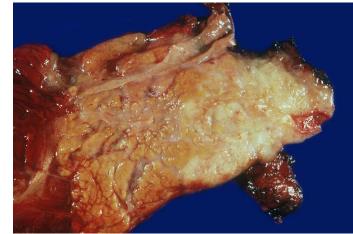
PATHOLOGY



Differential Diagnosis of Solid Pancreatic Masses

- Solid
 - Chronic pancreatitis –
 - Ductal adenocarcinoma
 - Metastasis
 - Pancreatic neuroendocrine tumor
 - Acinar cell carcinoma
 - Pancreatoblastoma
 - Solid-pseudopapillary neoplasm





Images: AFIP Pancreas fascicle 2007

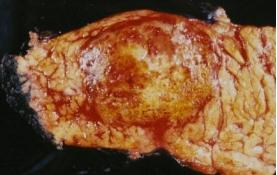


Differential Diagnosis of Advancing Diagnosis Solid Pancreatic Masses

- Solid
 - Chronic pancreatitis
 - Ductal adenocarcinoma
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 neuroendocrine tumor
 - Acinar cell carcinoma
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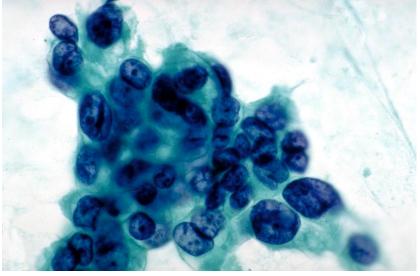


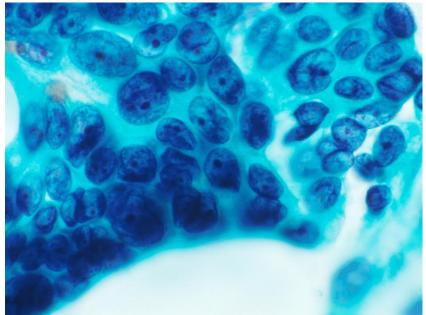






High Grade Adenocarcinoma





- Marked nuclear
 - atypia
 - hyperchromasia
 - pleomorphism
 - overlapping
- Prominent nucleoli
- Single atypical cells
- Mitoses
- Coagulative Necrosis

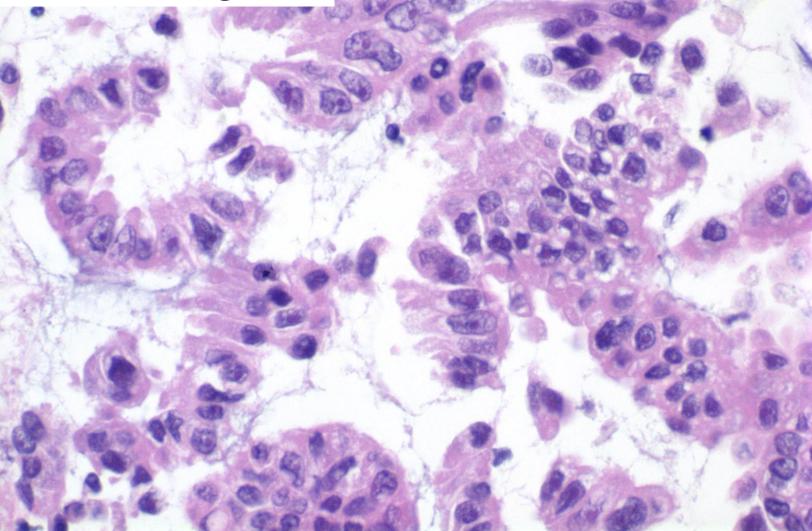
✓ Drunken Honeycomb
✓ Anisonucleosis (4:1)
✓ Parachromatin clearing
✓ Nuclear membrane irregularity

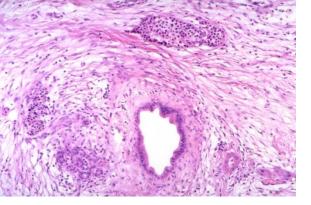
✓ Parachromatin clearing
✓ Nuclear crowding
✓ Irregular nuclear membranes
✓ Visible cytoplasmic mucin

✓ Drunken honeycomb✓ Exaggerated vacuolated cytoplasm

MASSACHUSETTS WRAL HOSPITAL ifferentiated Adenocar Chine Diagnosis

Cell block preparation of needle rinsings





Chronic Pancreatitis

Key Cytologic Features:

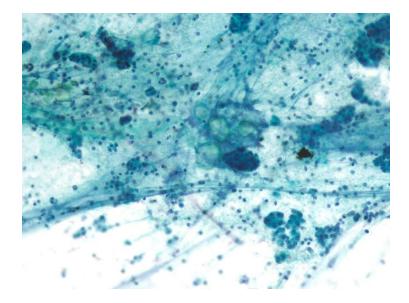
-Fragments of acinar tissue with acini splayed apart by fibrosis

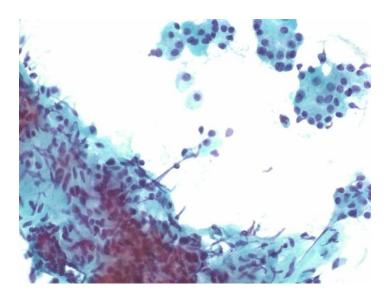
-Stromal fragments

-Inflammatory cells (lymphocytes, plasma cells, macrophages and siderophages)

-Background debris and calcification -Ductal epithelium with only mild cytologic atypia

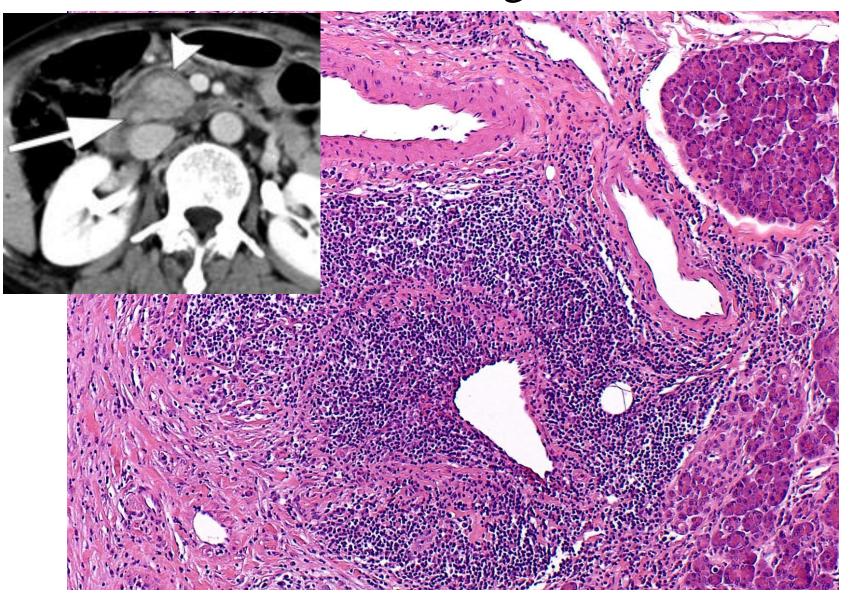
-No definite features of neoplasia







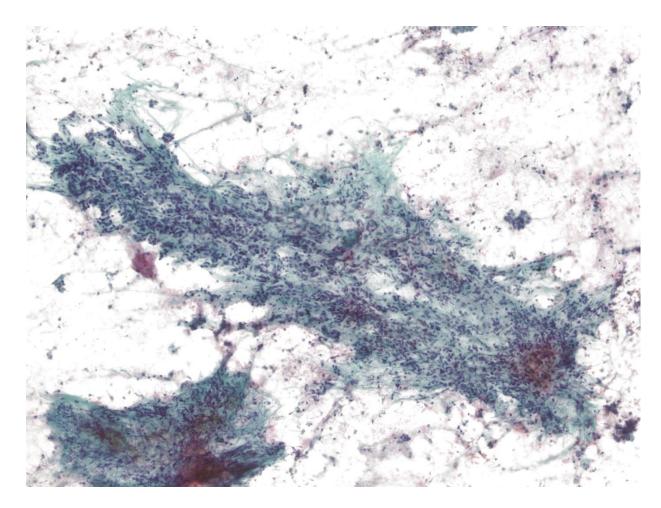
Autoimmune Pancreatitis: Advancing Diagnosis and Discovery Mass Forming Lesion







Autoimmune Pancreatitis

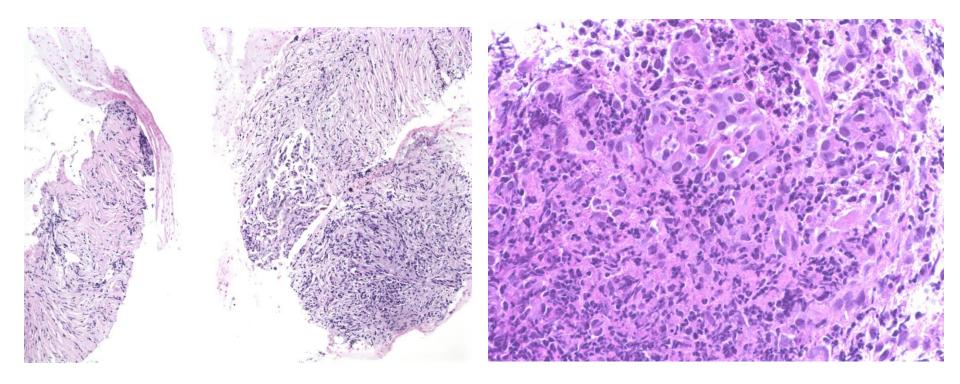


Deshpande V, Mino-Kenudson M, Brugge WR, Pitman MB, Castill CF, Warshaw AL Lauwers GY. Am J Surg Pathol. 2005; 29; 1464-1471.





AIP: Core Biopsy

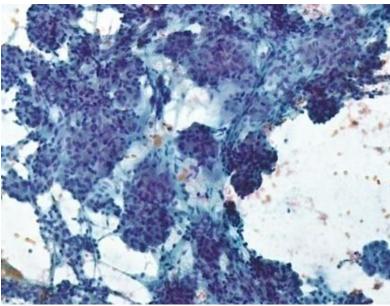


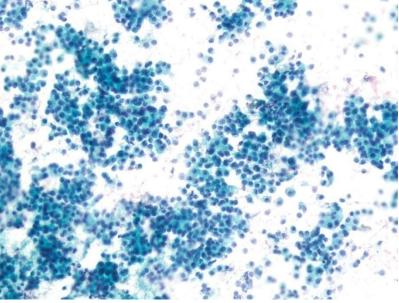
Type 2





Benign vs Malignant Acinar Cell Population





Benign

Malignant

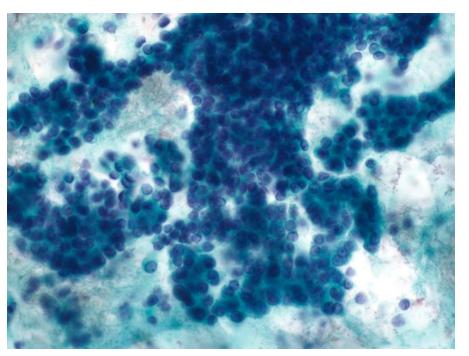


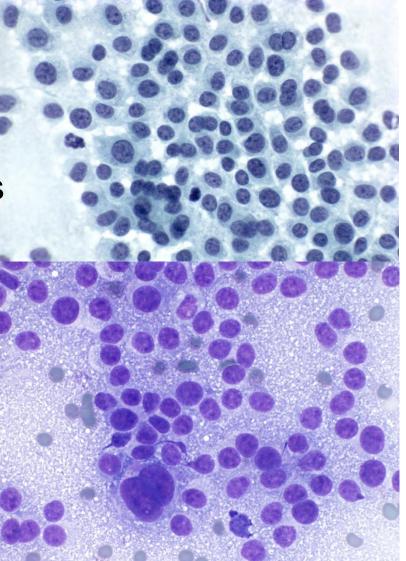


Acinar Cell Carcinoma

- ✓ Cohesive groups and single cells
- ✓ Many stripped naked nuclei
- ✓ Granular cytoplasm (and background)
- ✓ +/- nucleoli

Direct Smears

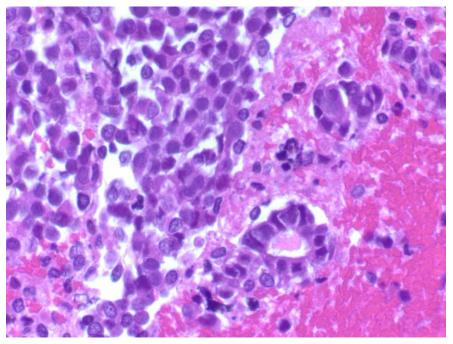


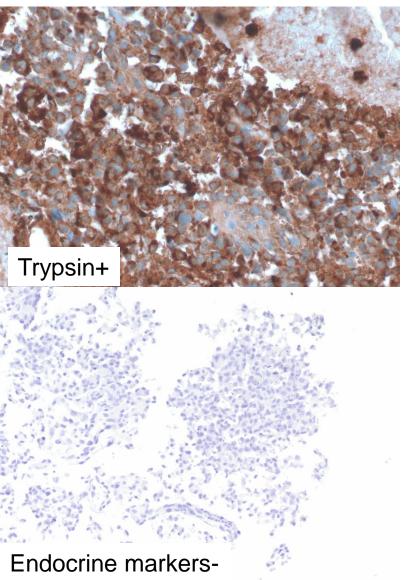




Advancing Diagnosis and Discovery

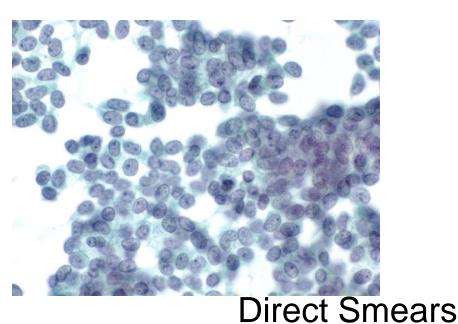


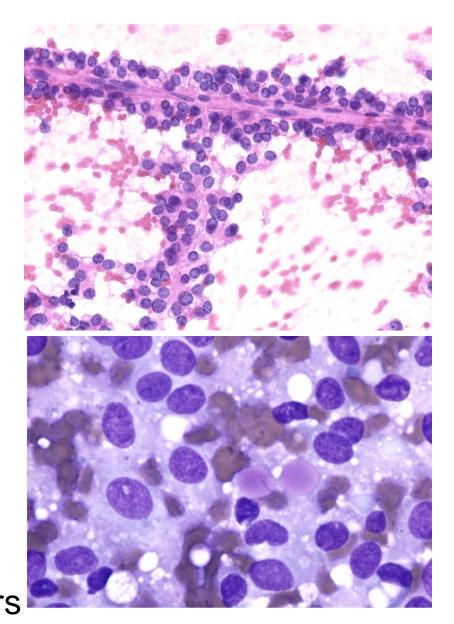




MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL OSPITAL DIAGONOLINA PROPERTIES OF THE DIAGONOSIS PATHOLOS OF THE DIAGONOSIS

- ✓ Papillary branching
- ✓ Myxoid stroma
- Clinging cells and single cells
- ✓ Euchromatin
- ✓ Oval, indented, grooved nuclei
- ✓ Perinuclear vacuoles/globules



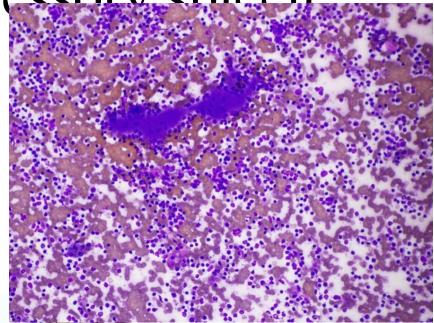




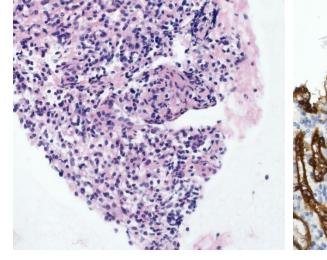


Spenule/accessory spleen

- Lymphoid tissue
- Histiocytes
- Blood vessels
- CD8+ cells indicating splenic endothelial cells



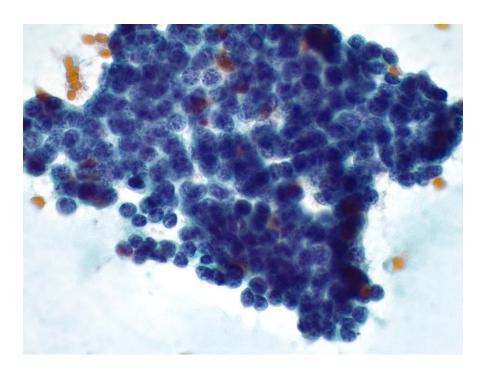
Direct Smear

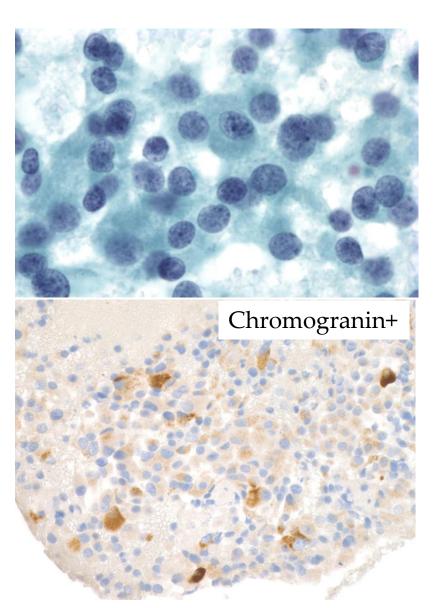


Cell Block



- ✓ Single cells mostly
- ✓ Plasmacytoid
- \checkmark Coarse, stippled chromatin
- ✓ -/+ nucleoli









Special Case: Cyst Fluid Evaluation

A. Is the cyst mucinous or not?

- 1) Gross examination
- 2) CEA (best test)
- 3) Cytology

B. Is the cyst low- or high-grade? <u>Cytology!!</u>

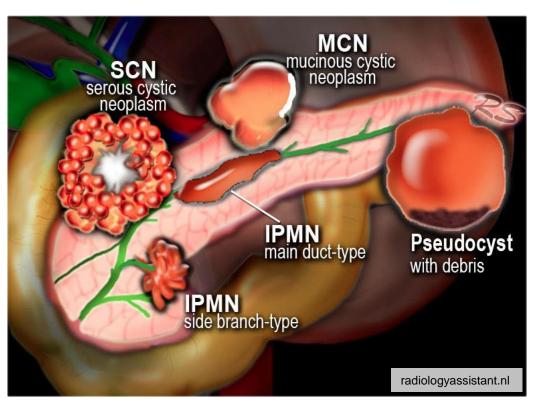






Pancreatic Cysts

- Differential Diagnosis
 - Pseudocyst
 - Lymphoepithelial cyst
 - Serous cyst
 - Mucinous cyst
 - (MCN and IPMN)
 - Cystic degeneration of typically solid tumors
 - PanNET
 - SPN
 - other
 - Other more rare cysts







Management Options

- Surgical
 - Distal pancreatectomy
 - Middle pancreatectomy
 - Pancreatoduodenectomy (Whipple)
- Medical
 - Drain
 - Ablate
- Observation





Current Recommendations for Pancreatic Cyst Management

- Surgery-recommended
 - MCN, all grades
 - IPMN-HGD
 - IPMN-invasive
 - Cystic PanNET
 - SPN
 - Cystic Acinar Cell Ca.
 - Cystic PDAC

- Surgery-optional
 - PCT
 - LEC
 - SCA
 - IPMN-LGD
 - IPMN-IGD??

<u>Cytology is critical for cyst classification and management.</u> Decision to operate is based on surgical risk vs malignancy risk.





Surgical procedures

	Whipple	Middle pancreatectomy	Distal pancreatectomy	Other
Frequency, (%)	368, (43.2%)	63, (7.4%)	373, (43.8%)	47, (5.5%)
Complications (%)	40%	49.2%	36.4%	32.4%
Pancreatic fistula	12.5%	35.5%	18.2%	8.8%
Delayed gastric emptying	6.5%	0%	0.3%	0%
Other major complication	12.9%	12.7%	12.6%	11.8%
Median length of stay, days	8 days	6 days	6 days	8 days
Operative mortality, n	2	0	1	1





Outcomes

	MCN	MD IPMN	BD IPMN	SCA	CNET	SPN
n	199	180	146	137	62	29
Malignant (%)	10.3%	33.7%	13.7%	0.0%	10.7%	0.0%
Outcome						
3-year survival (%)	94.0%	83.0%	88.0%	97.0%	98.0%	100.0%
5-year survival (%)	90.0%	78.0%	80.0%	90.0%	98.0%	100.0%

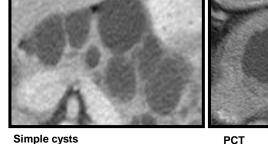


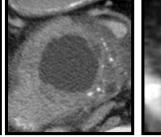
Pancreatic Cysts: CT



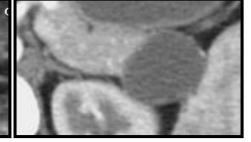
unilocular









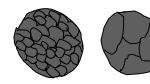


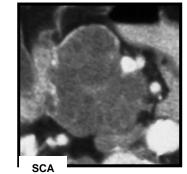
Simple cysts

BD-IPMN w/ LGD Benign imaging

MCN w/ LGD

multilocular





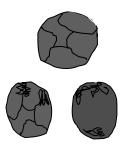


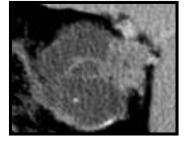


Small or non-enhancing MN: IPMN with HGD

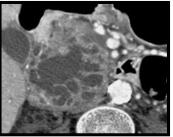
Benign to Worrisome imaging



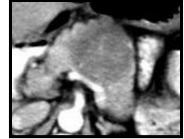




MCN w/ inv. Ca.



IPMN w/ inv. Ca.





cPanNET

Worrisome to High-risk imaging

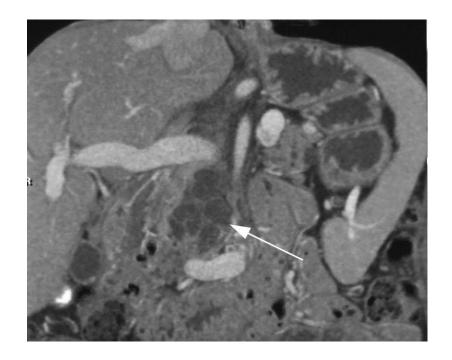
SPN





EUS Recommended (2012 guidelines)

- Worrisome Imaging
 - Cyst > 3cm
 - Thickened/enhanced cyst walls
 - MPD 5-9 mm
 - Nonenhancing mural nodule
 - Abrupt change in caliber of MPD with distal atrophy

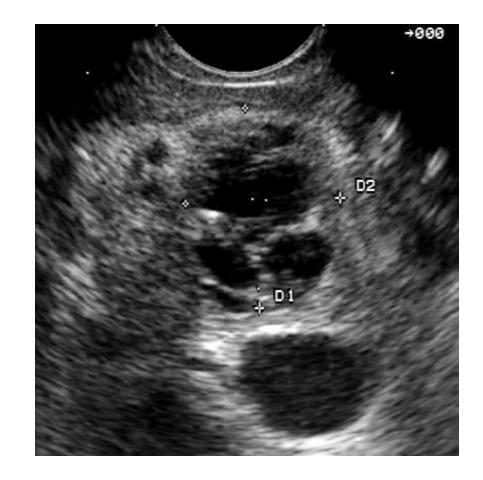






Nonspecific EUS Imaging

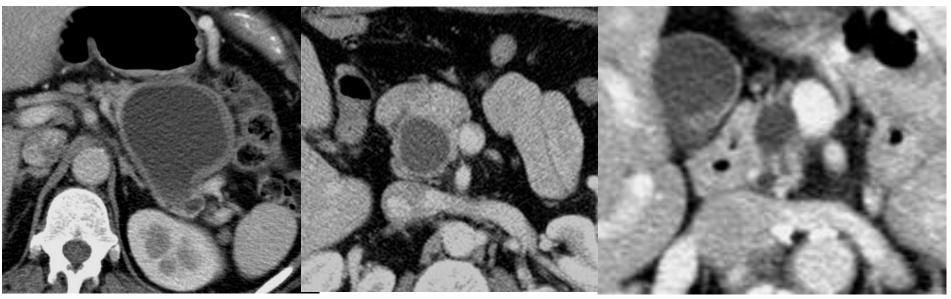
- Broad differential diagnosis:
 - Mucinous
 - BD-IPMN
 - MCN
 - Nonmucinous
 - Macrocystic SCA
 - Lymphangioma
 - Benign
 - − Malignant (≥HGD)







Challenges in Cyst Characterization: Morphologic Overlap



MCN Pseudocyst

IPMN

Cohen-Scali F et al. Radiolgy 2003 Khurana B et al. AJR 2003 Kim S et al. AJR 2006





Cystic Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors: The Value of Cytology in Pre-Operative Diagnosis

Vicente Morales-Oyarvide MD, Won Jae Yoon, MD2, Thun Ingkakul MD, David G Forcione MD, Brenna Casey, MD, William R Brugge MD, Carlos Fernández-del Castillo MD, and Martha B Pitman MD Cancer Cytopathology. 2014; 122:435-444..

TABLE 2. Accuracy of Cytology and EUS for the Diagnosis of Cystic Pancreatic Neuroendocrine

					Benign or	
	<u>N</u>	<u>Diagnostic</u>	<u>Suspicious</u>	<u>HR</u>	indeterminate	
Cytology	35	71%	77%	86%	5%	
EUS	34	38%	47%	56%	15%	
	I					

Key: EUS, endoscopic ultrasound; HR, high-risk

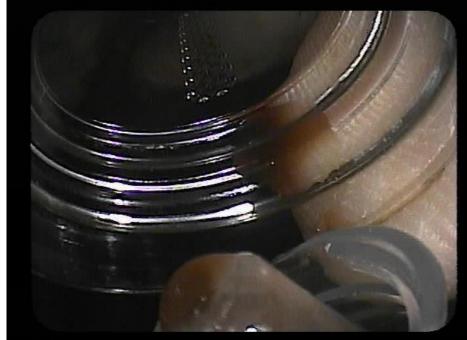




Pancreatic Cyst Fluid

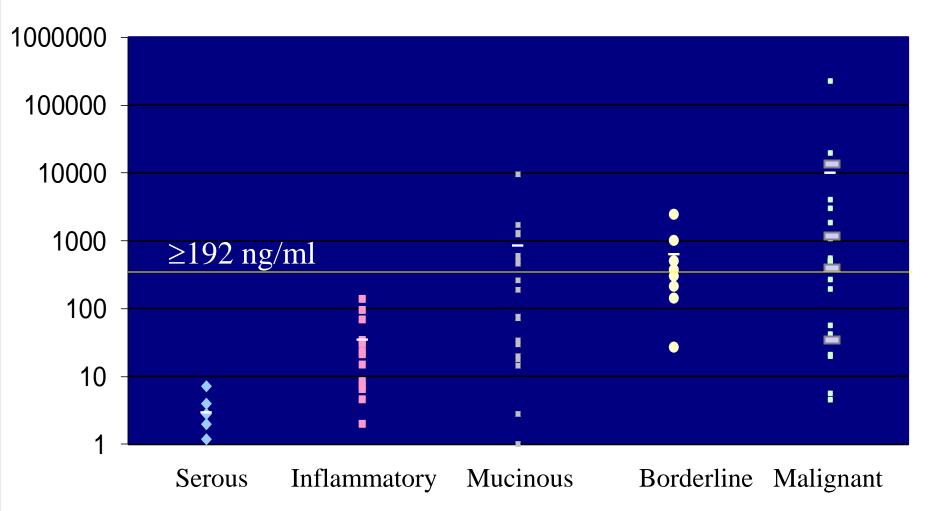


Mucinous cyst fluid: Thick and viscous



Pseudocyst fluid: Thin, watery, brown

CEA by cyst fluid analysis







CEA and Amylase: Key Points

- Elevated CEA (≥ 192 ng/ml) supports a mucinous cyst
 - Does not distinguish IPMN from MCN
 - Level does not correlate with malignancy
 - Rare FP: PCT, GI duplication cyst, LEC
- Amylase levels
 - Elevated in the 1000's for most PCT
 - Low amylase level tends to exclude a PCT
 - Level does not distinguish IPMN from MCN

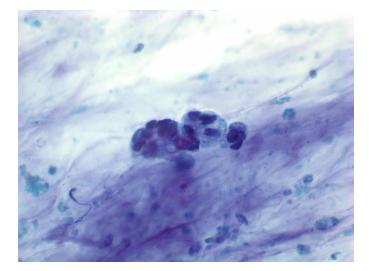
Direct Smear Preparation: Acellular thick mucin

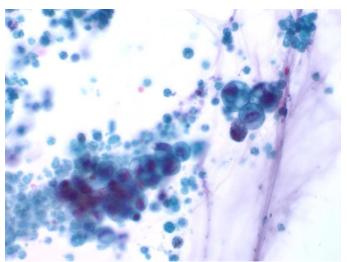
Mucin appears stringy on LBC processing

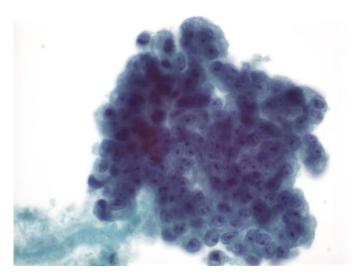


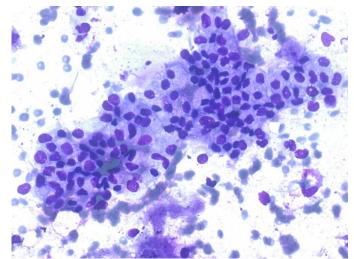


Atypical Glandular Cells





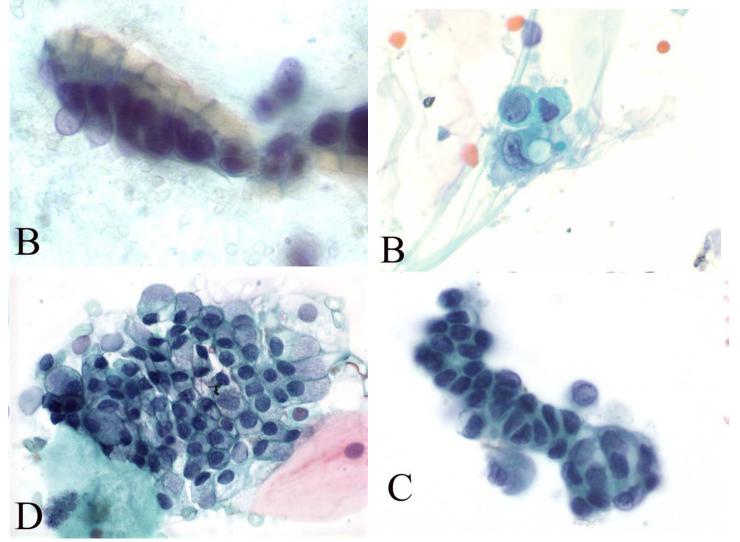








Low Grade High Grade



High-Grade Atypical Epithelial Cells in Pancreatic Mucinous Cysts are a More Accurate Predictor of Malignancy than "Positive" Cytology Martha Bishop Pitman M.D, et.al. (Cancer Cytopath 2010)



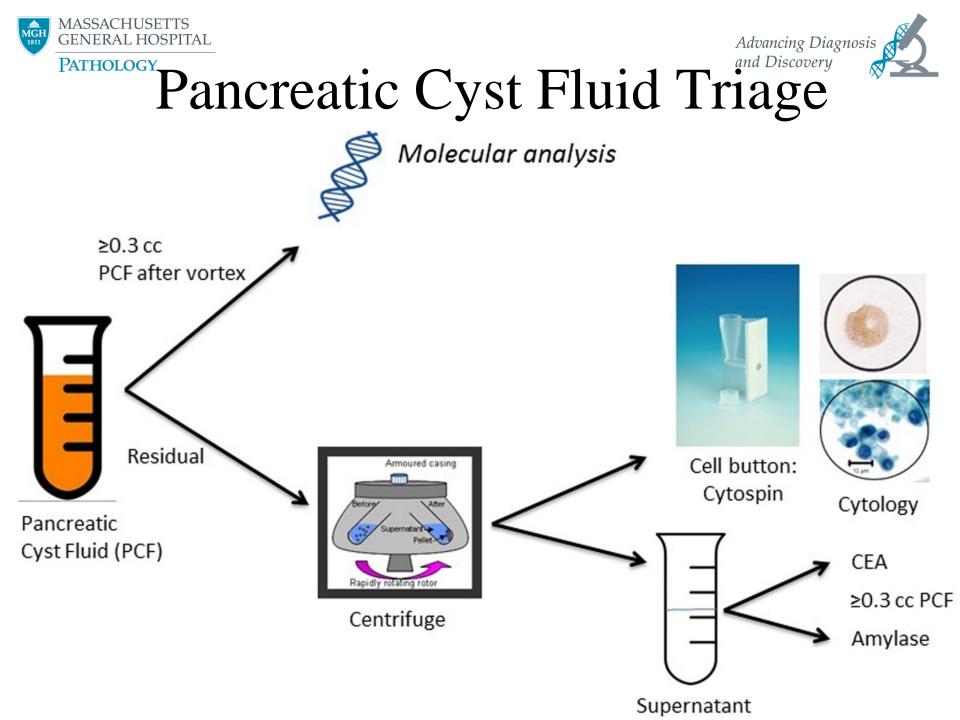


Cytological Preparations from Cysts



- Direct smears if fluid thick enough
 - Send Fresh <u>undiluted</u> cyst fluid for:
 - CEA; Amylase
 - Molecular
 - Cytology
 - Cytospin
 - Cellblock









Impact of Next-Generation Sequencing on the Clinical Impression of Pancreatic Cysts

Martin Jones, MBBS^{1*}, Zongli Zheng, MD, PhD^{1*}, Jessica Wang, MD¹, Emily Albanese¹, Abdurrahman Kadayifci, MD², Dora Dias-Santagata, PhD¹, Long Le, MD¹, William R. Brugge, MD², Carlos Fernandez-del Castillo, MD³, Mari Mino-Kenudson¹, MD, A. John Iafrate, MD, PhD^{1^}, and Martha Pitman, MD^{1^} States | *Co-first authors | ^Co-senior authors Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (in press)

¹Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Pathology, Boston, MA, United States | ²Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Medicine, Boston, MA, United States | ³Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Surgery, Boston, MA, United

- NGS supported the imaging impression in 78% but changed it in 12%
- NGS defined a cyst as mucinous in 48% of cysts with a nonelevated CEA
- *KRAS* and/or *GNAS* mutations supported a diagnosis of IPMN in 71% of cases without an elevated CEA
- *KRAS* mutation reclassified 19% of cysts non-neoplastic by imaging and with low CEA

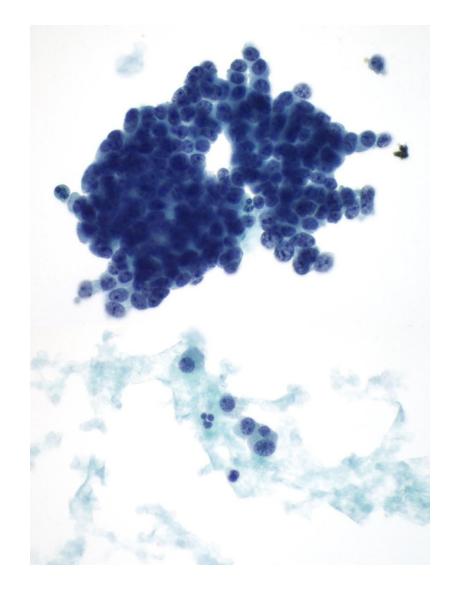


Cystic PanNETS



- Imaging Nonspecific
 - Thick cyst wall
 - Solid and cystic
- Cytology is THE diagnostic test
 - CEA low
 - Amylase low
 - KRAS/GNAS negative
- Cells usually diagnostic when present

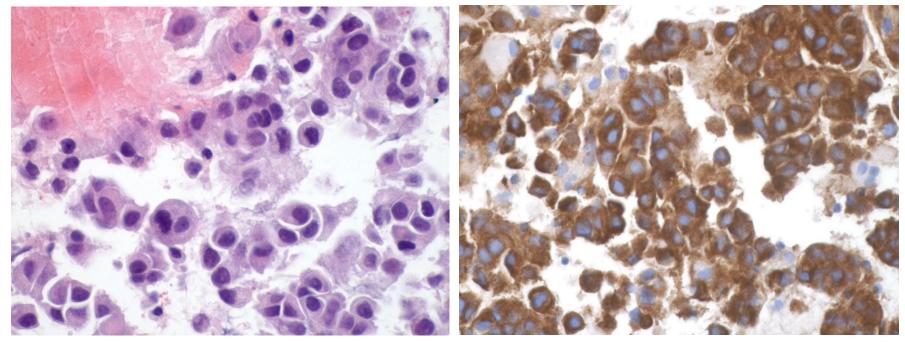
Cystic Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors: The Value of Cytology in Pre-Operative Diagnosis Vicente Morales-Oyarvide MD¹, Won Jae Yoon, MD², Thun Ingkakul MD¹, David G Forcione MD³, Brenna Casey, MD³, William R Brugge MD³, Carlos Fernández-del Castillo MD¹, Martha B Pitman MD⁴ Cancer Cytopathology, 2014; 122:435-444.







PanNET Cytohistology: Cell Block



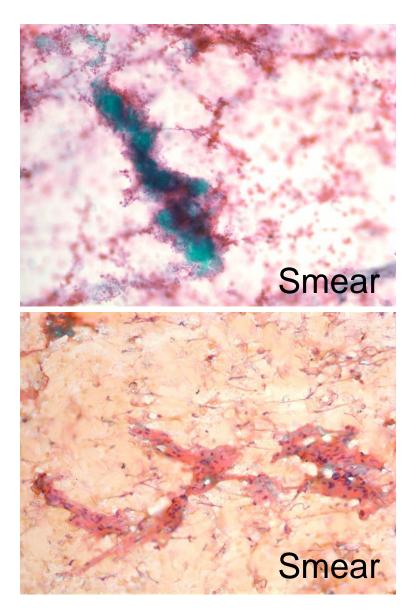
cPanNET

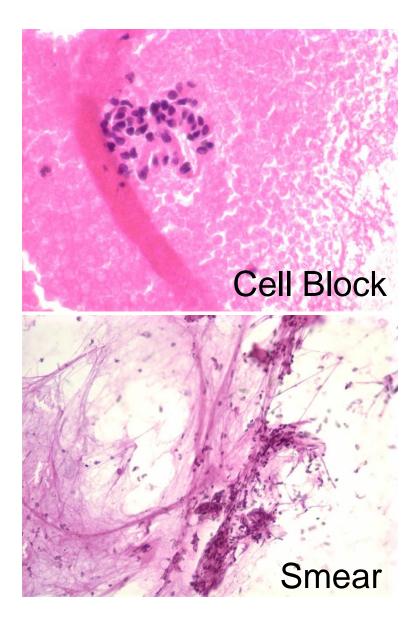
Synaptophysin



Serous Cystadenomand Discovery





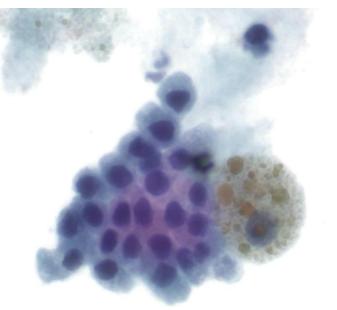


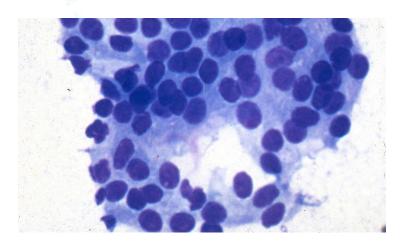




Serous Cystadenoma

- Cuboidal non-mucinous epithelial cells
- Hemosiderin-laden macrophages in a clean or bloody, nonpseudocyst like background
- CEA and amylase low
- NO KRAS/GNAS
- 3p deletions support diagnosis



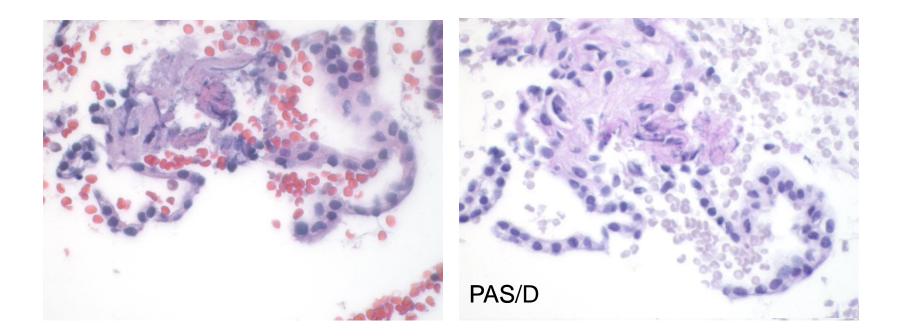




PATHOLOGY

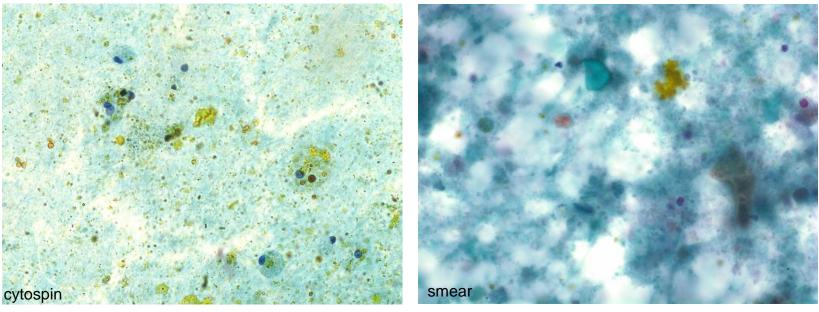


Cytohistology: Cell Block Serous Cystadenoma





Pancreatic Pseudocyst^{Advancing Diagnosis} cytology



- cyst debris, blood, proteinaceous material and yellow
 - hematoidin-like pigment
 - variable inflammation
 - NO cyst lining epithelium

•CEA low; amylase usually in the 1000's; no KRAS or GNAS

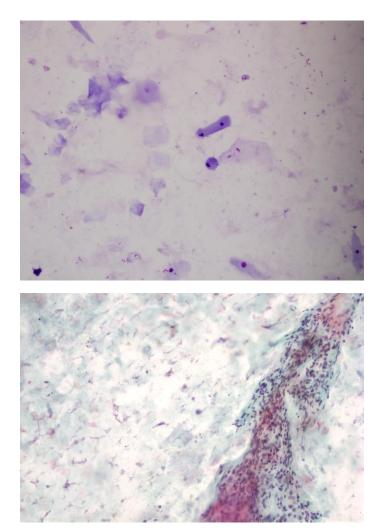




MASSACHUSETTS

Lymphoepithelial cyst

- Anucleate squames and abundant keratinous debris
- Mature superficial squamous cells
- Lymphocytes are usually present but amount is variable and may be quite scant
- +/-Cholesterol clefts





Cytology Smears for NGS

MASSACHUSETTS

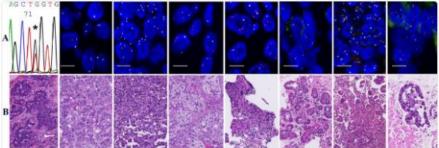
PATHOLOGY

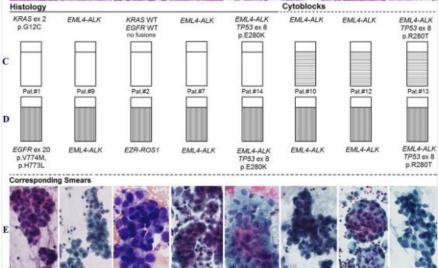
GENERAL HOSPITAL

MGH

1811

Cytology smears as excellent starting material for NGS-based molecular testing of patients w/adenocarcinoma of lung onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cn...





8000 (60%)

14000 (70%)

2000 (80%)

5000 (50%)

1500 (30%)

3500 (30%)

500 (5%)

5000 (70%)

Tumor cell content