

Immunohistochemistry for problem solving (and causing problems)

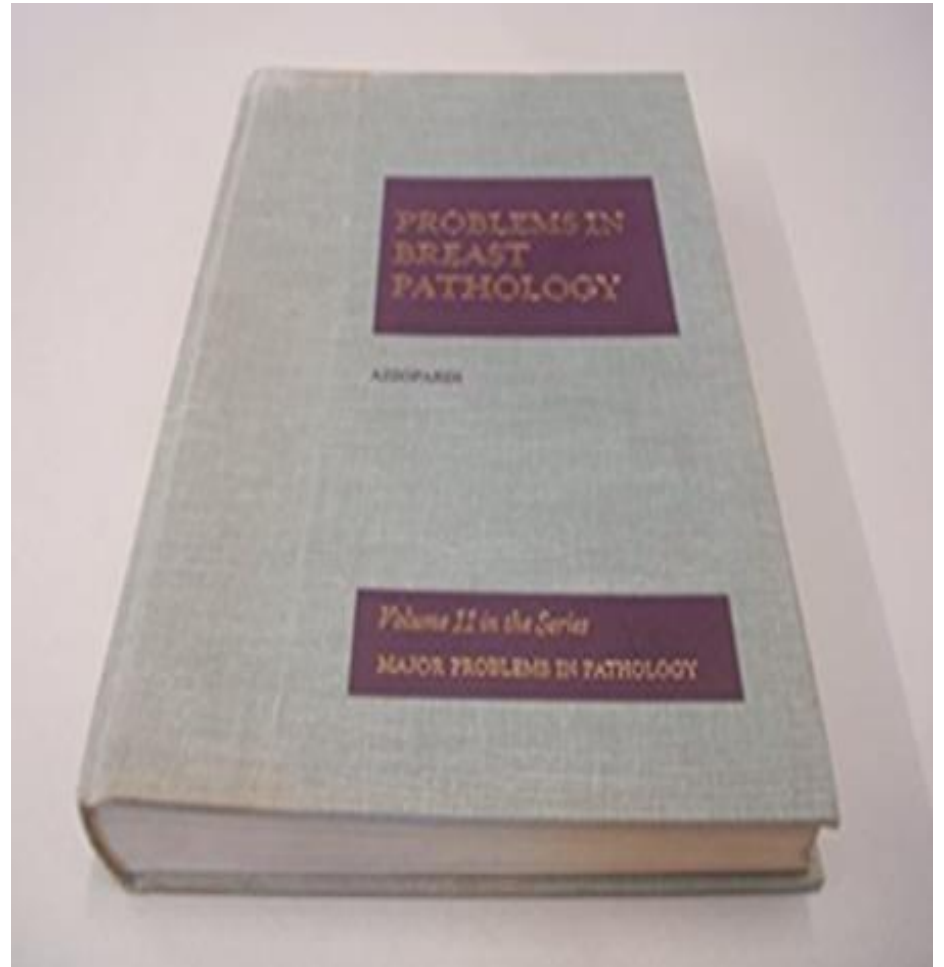
Cecily Quinn MD, FRCPath, FRCPI, FFPATH

Clinical Professor, School of Medicine, University College Dublin &
Consultant Histopathologist, Irish National Breast Screening Programme,
St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin, Ireland





John Azzopardi



**INVASIVE
TUMOUR TYPE**

**LVI or DCIS
with retraction ?**

***IN SITU* or
INVASIVE**

**PRIMARY or
OTHER**

**IHC
for
DIAGNOSIS**

**UDH or
ADH / DCIS ?**

**SPINDLE CELL
LESIONS**

**GLANDULAR &
PAPILLARY LESIONS**

**EVALUATION OF
METASTASES**

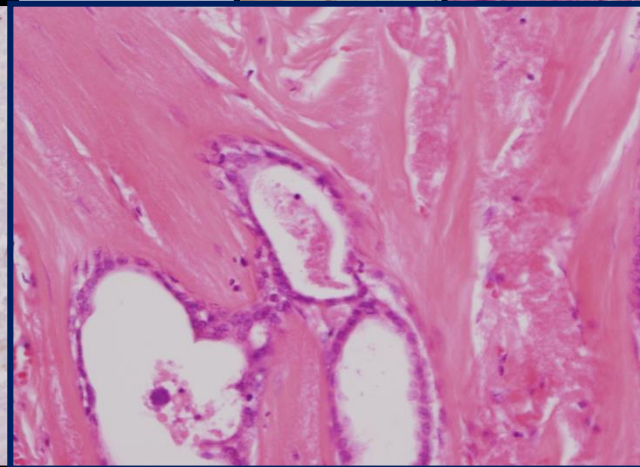
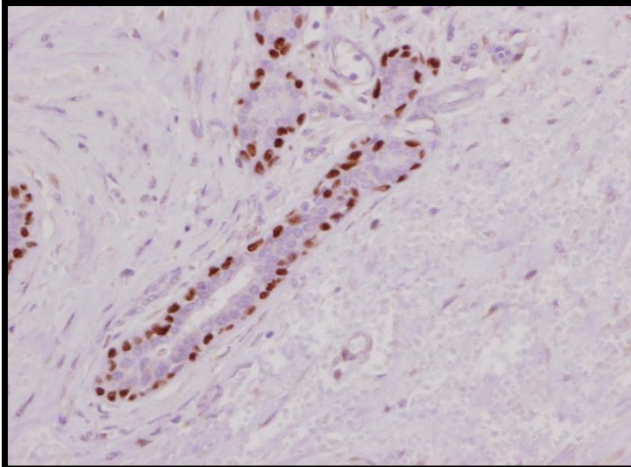
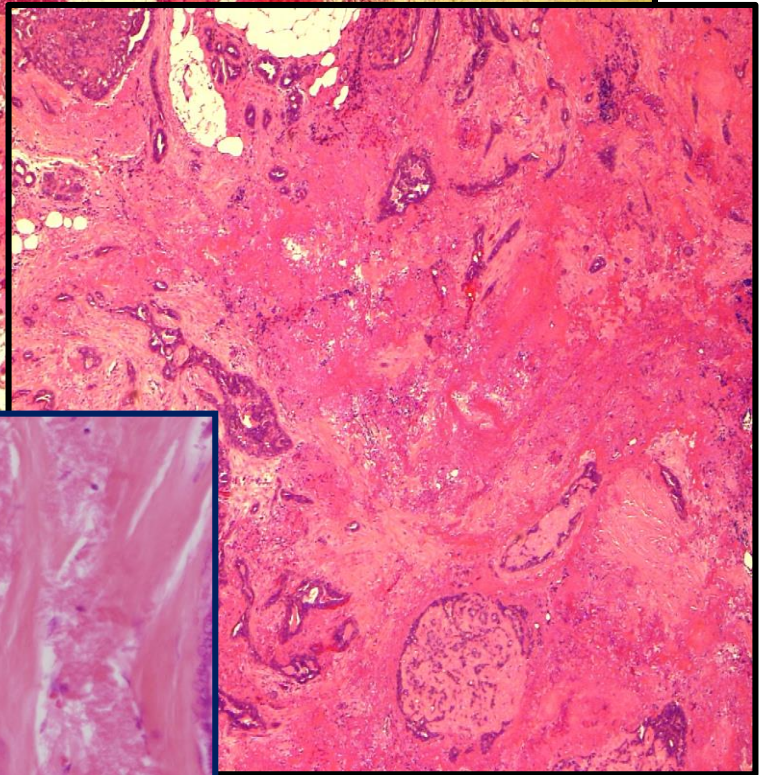
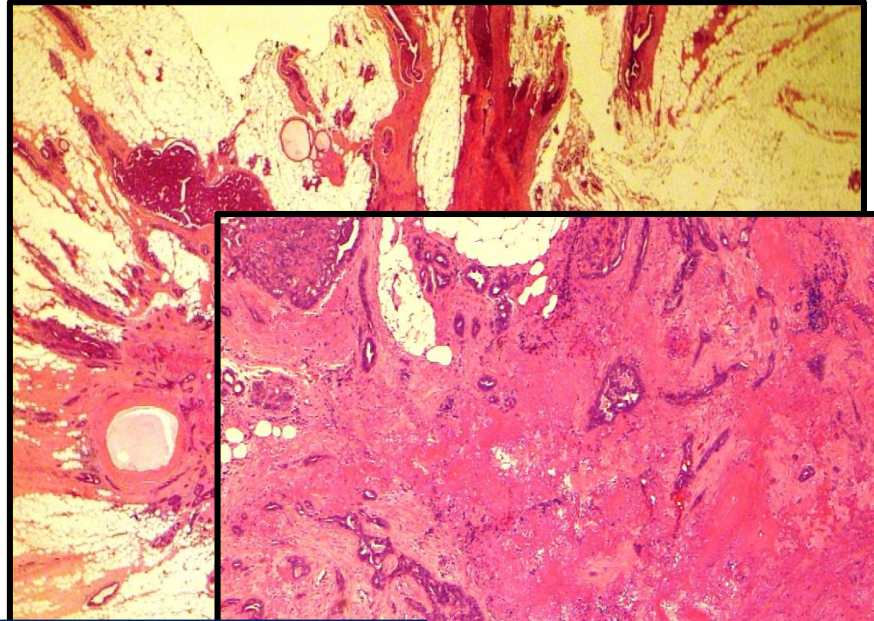
Antibodies for diagnosis

- Myoepithelial cell markers
p63, SMM-HC, Calponin, SM actin
- Cytokeratin family
AE1/3, Cam 5.2, CK5/6, CK7, CK20 etc
- E-cadherin
- Breast specific antibodies
ER, PR, Gata 3, GCDFP-15, mammoglobin
- Others
B-catenin, CD34 etc

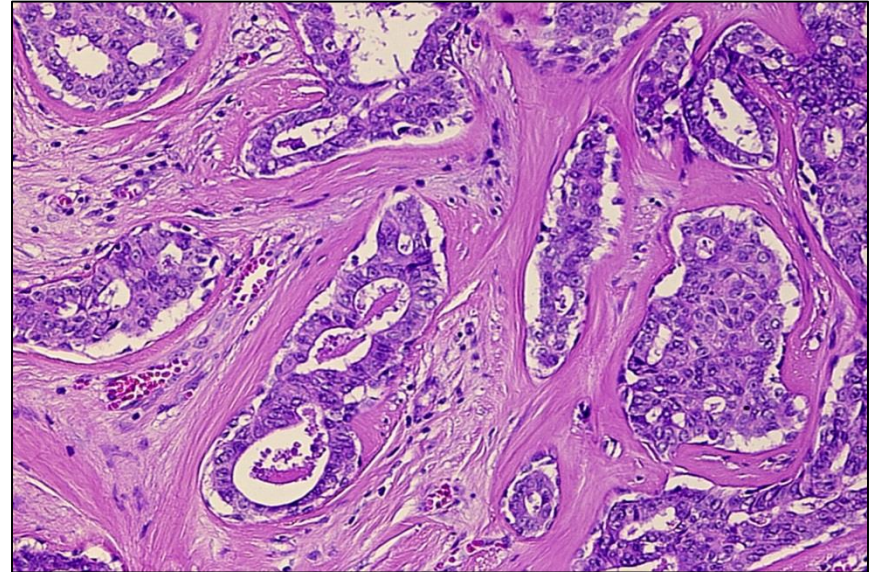
The background of the slide is a histological micrograph. It shows a large area of adipose tissue, characterized by large, clear, pale yellow cells with thin pink borders. Interspersed among these are clusters of glandular tissue, stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E). The glandular structures show purple-stained nuclei and pink-stained cytoplasm and connective tissue. Some glandular units appear to have small lumens. The overall architecture suggests a comparison between benign and malignant glandular lesions in a fatty tissue environment.

Benign vs malignant glandular lesions

Radial scar

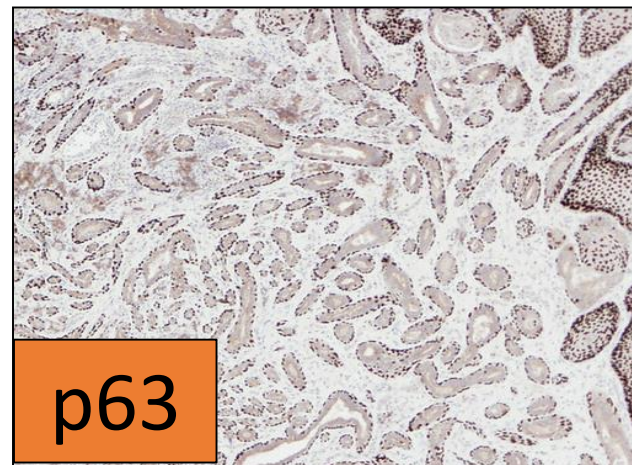


Nipple duct adenoma

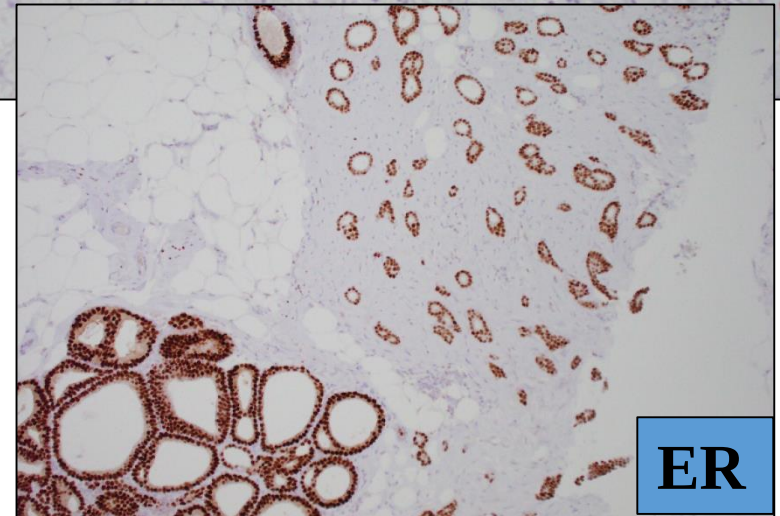
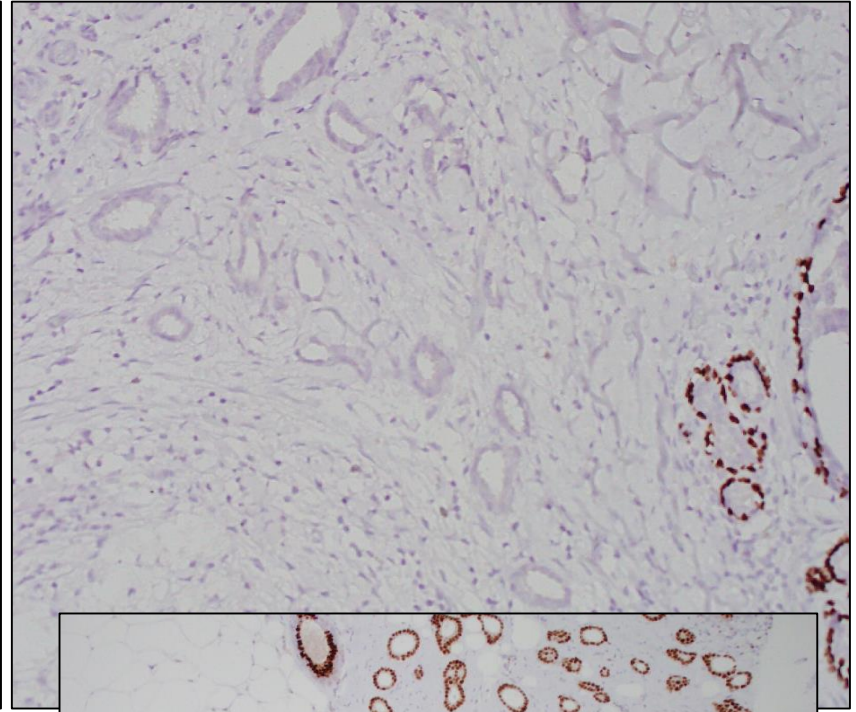
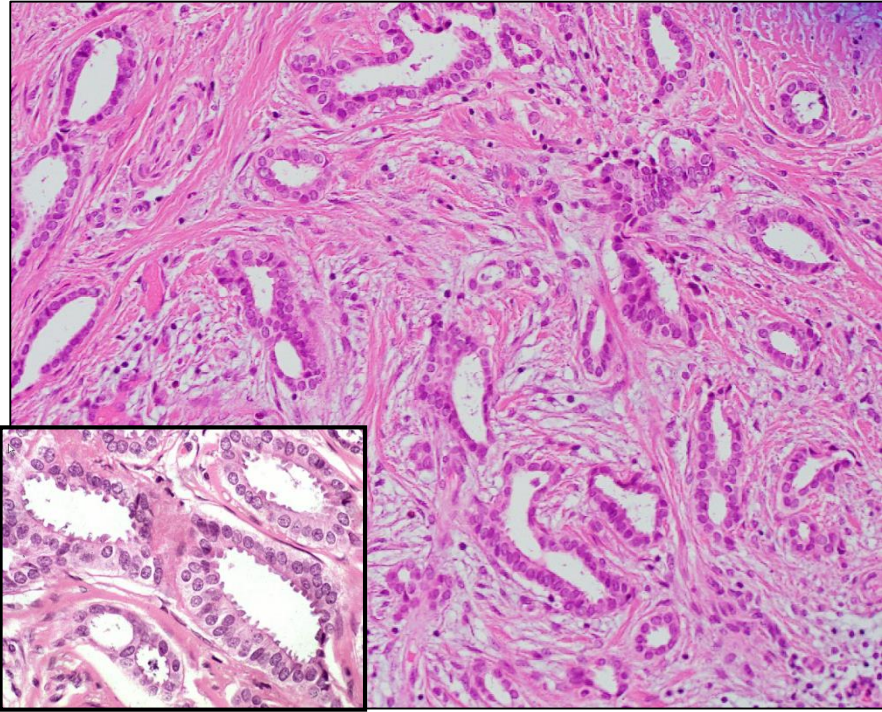


Mimics carcinoma

- Ulcerated nipple clinically
- Infiltrative lesion microscopically



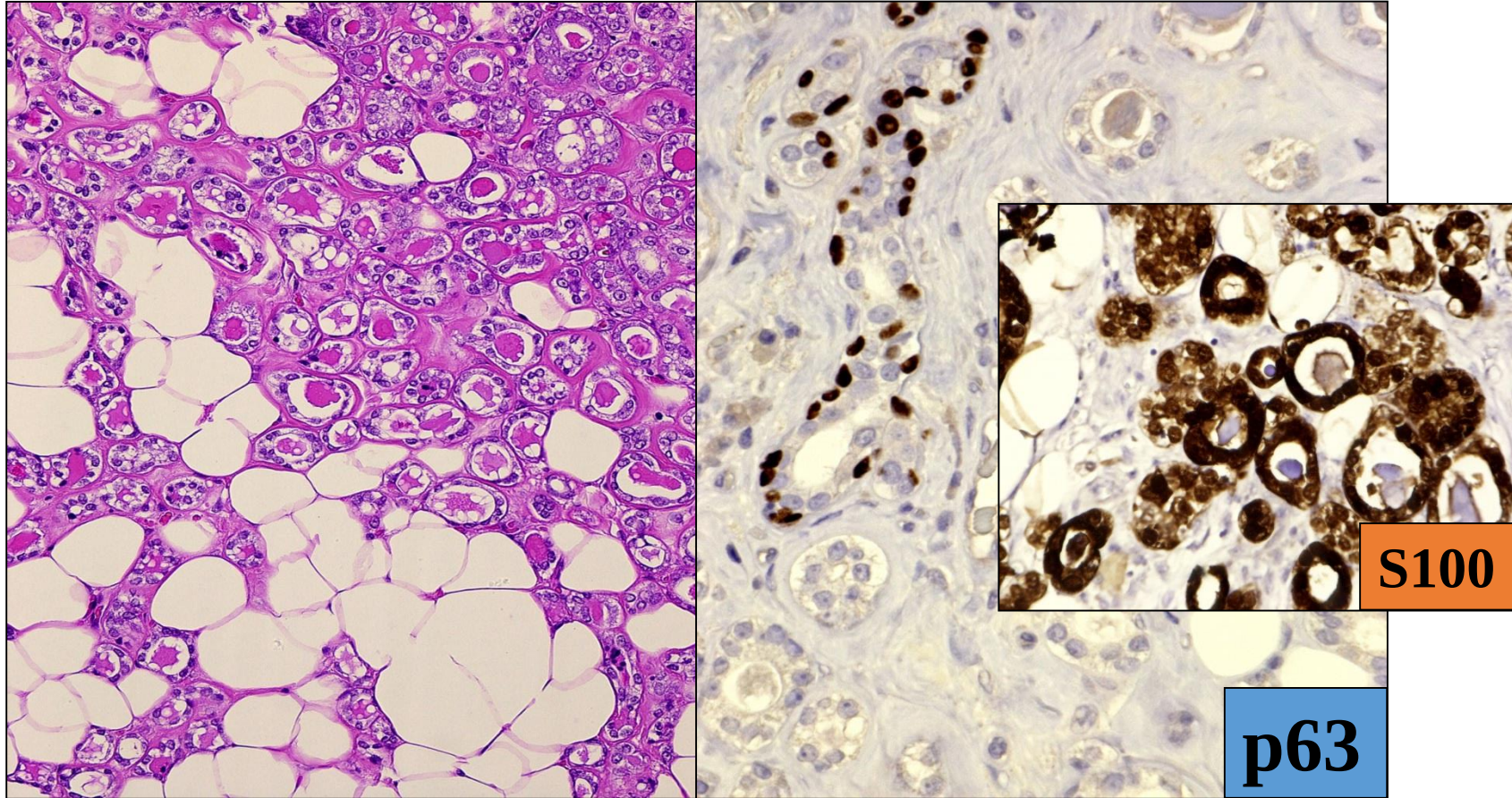
Tubular carcinoma



- Open tubules
- Single cell layer
- Apical snouts
- Extend into fat

ER

Microglandular adenosis



MGA = low grade triple negative tumour with potential to progress

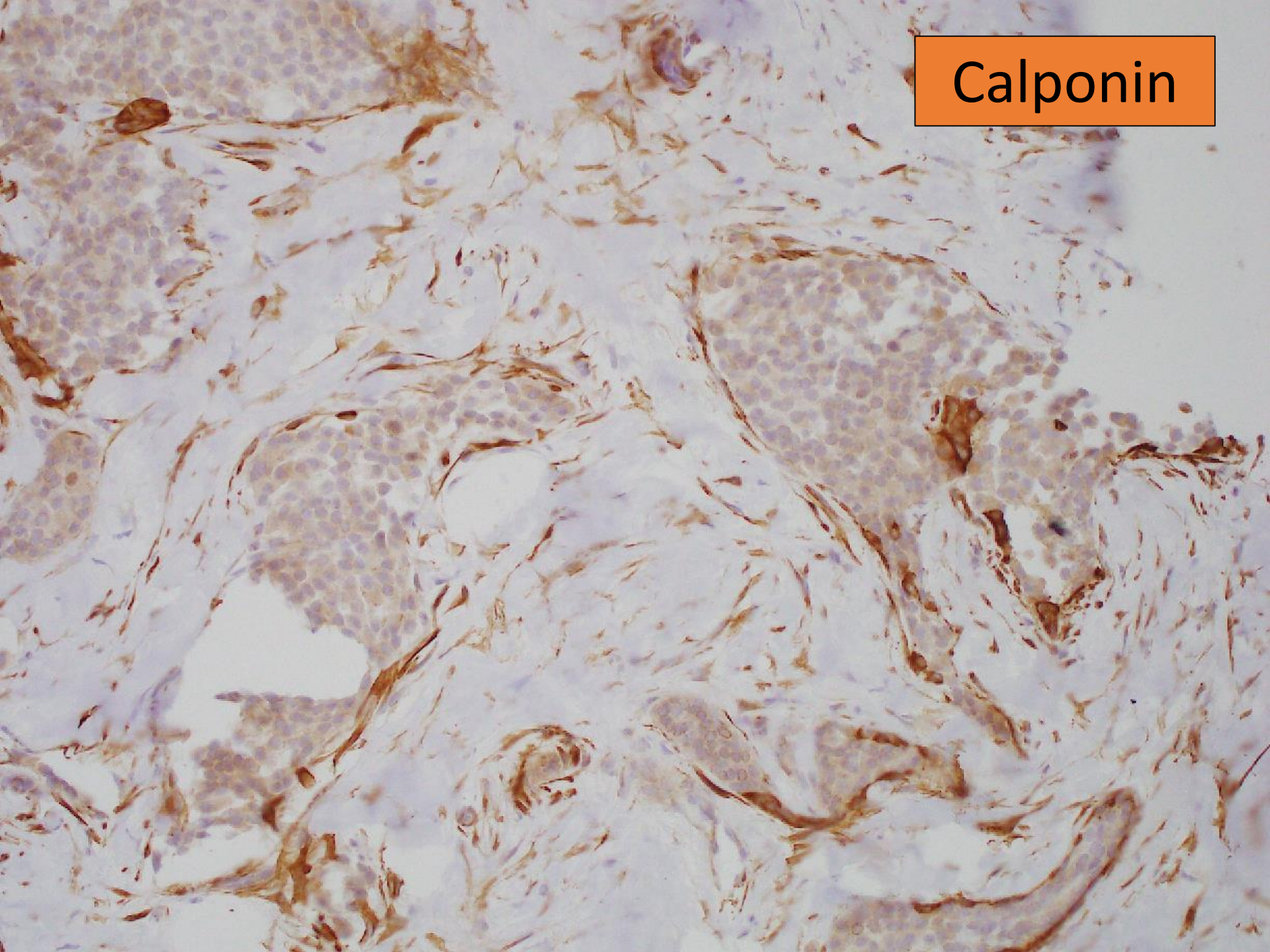
Myoepithelial cell markers

Marker	Sensitivity	Specificity
p63*	Excellent	Excellent
SM actin**	Good	Poor
Calponin**	Excellent	Poor
SM myosin**	Good	Excellent

*** May be difficult to see due to me cell attenuation around enlarged ducts**

**** Myofibroblast staining**

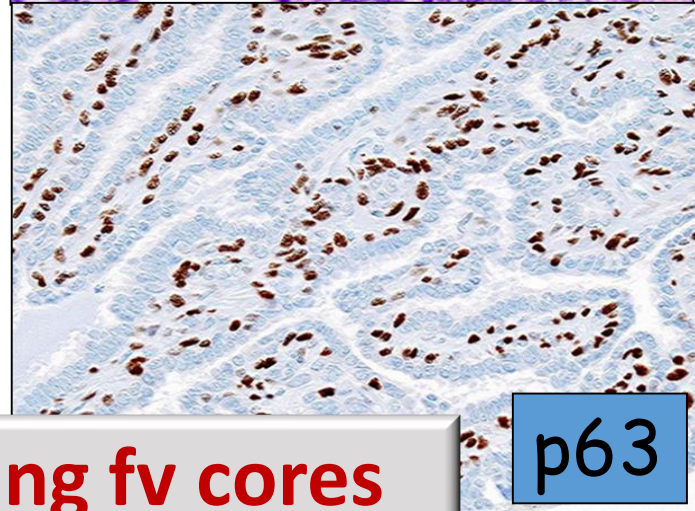
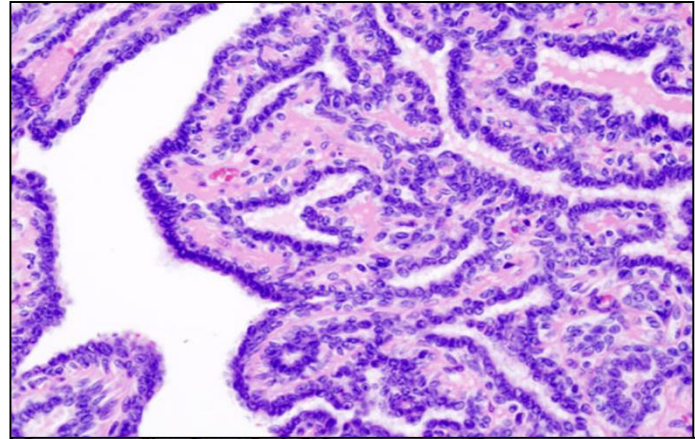
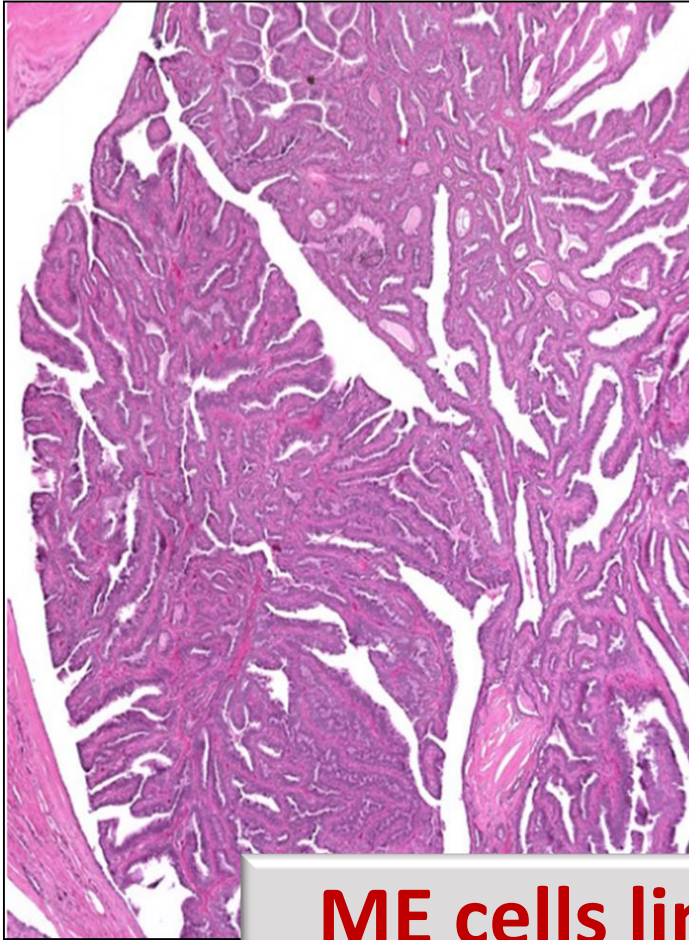
Calponin



A close-up photograph of fern fronds. The fronds are green and have a feathery, pinnate structure. Some fronds show signs of damage or discoloration, particularly along the central rachis. A bright pink rectangular box is superimposed over the center of the image, containing the text "Papillary lesions" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Papillary lesions

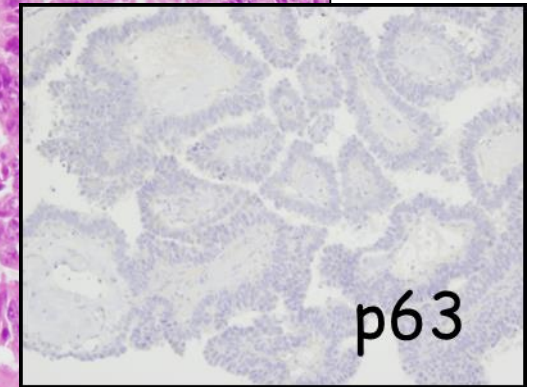
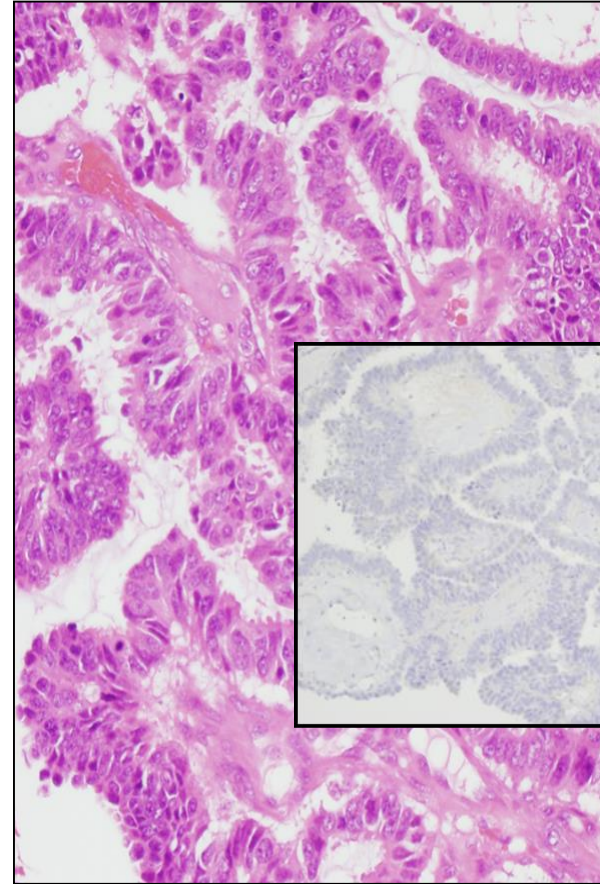
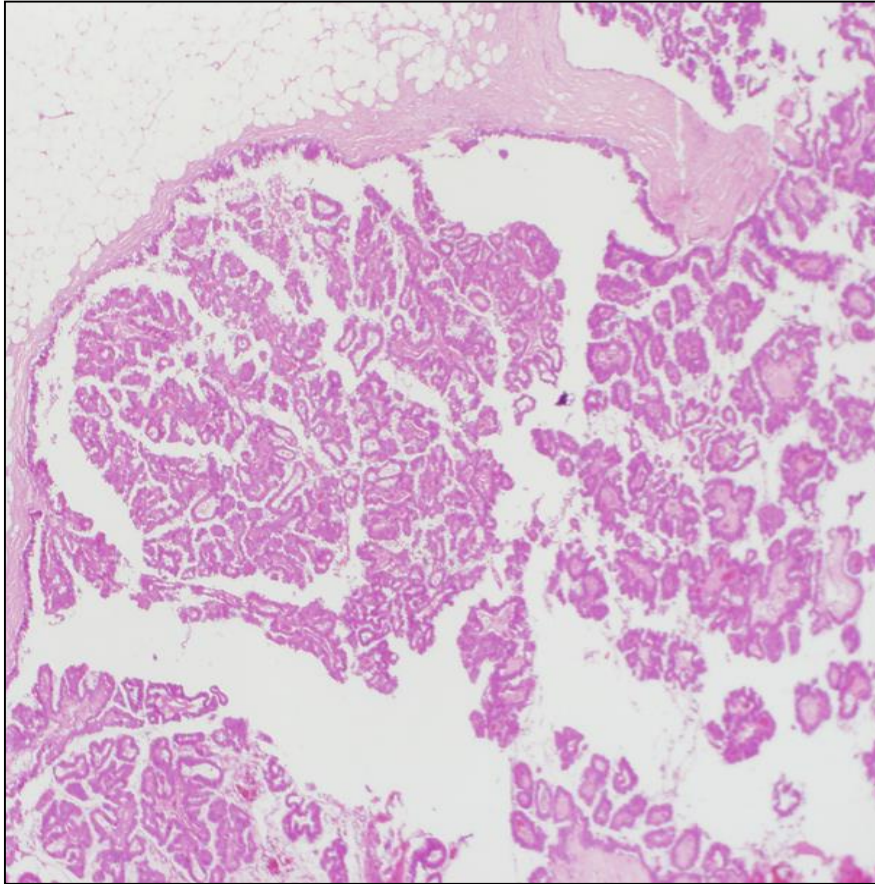
Intraduct papilloma



**ME cells lining fv cores
and at periphery**

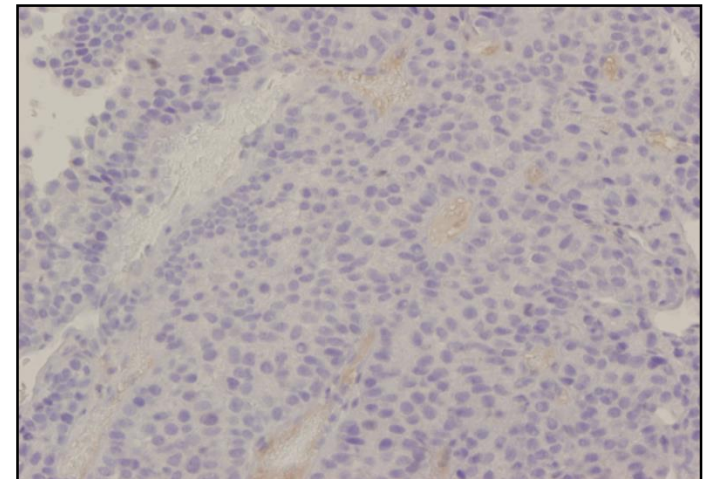
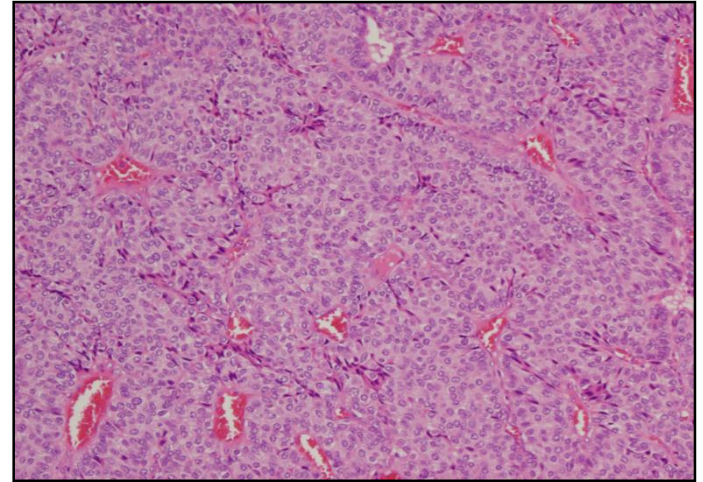
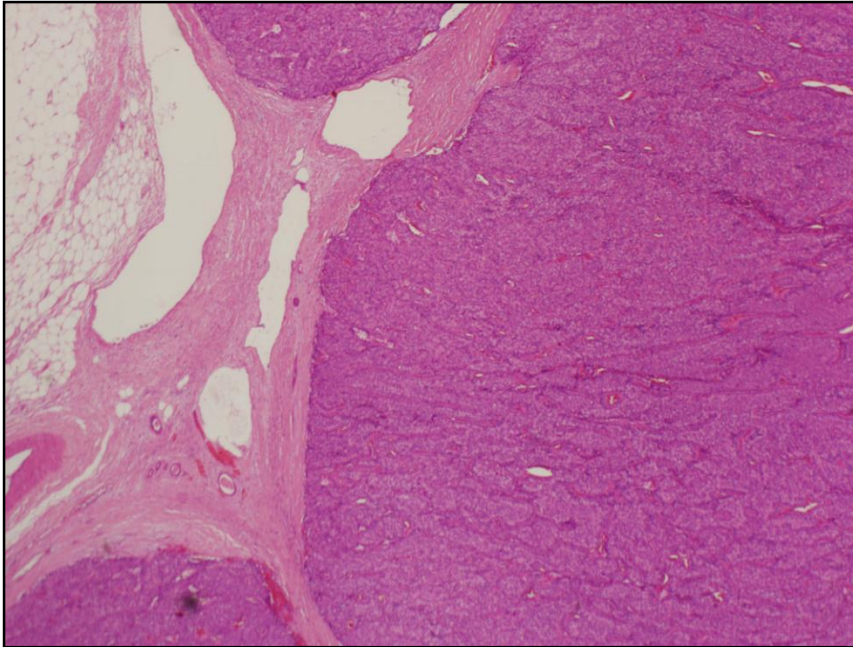
p63

Encapsulated papillary carcinoma



**No ME cells lining fv cores
+/- at periphery**

Solid papillary carcinoma

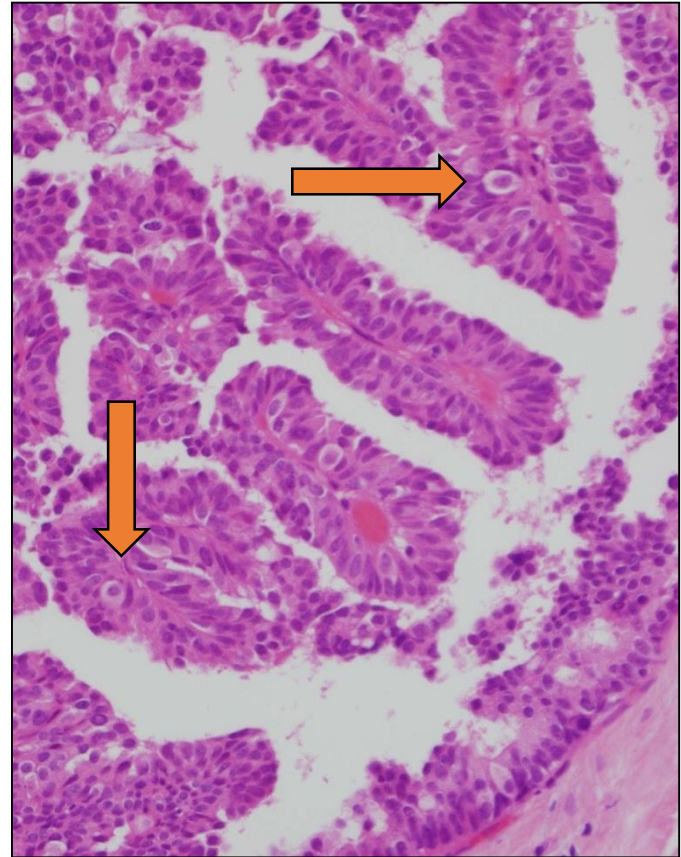


**No ME cells within lesion
+/- at periphery**

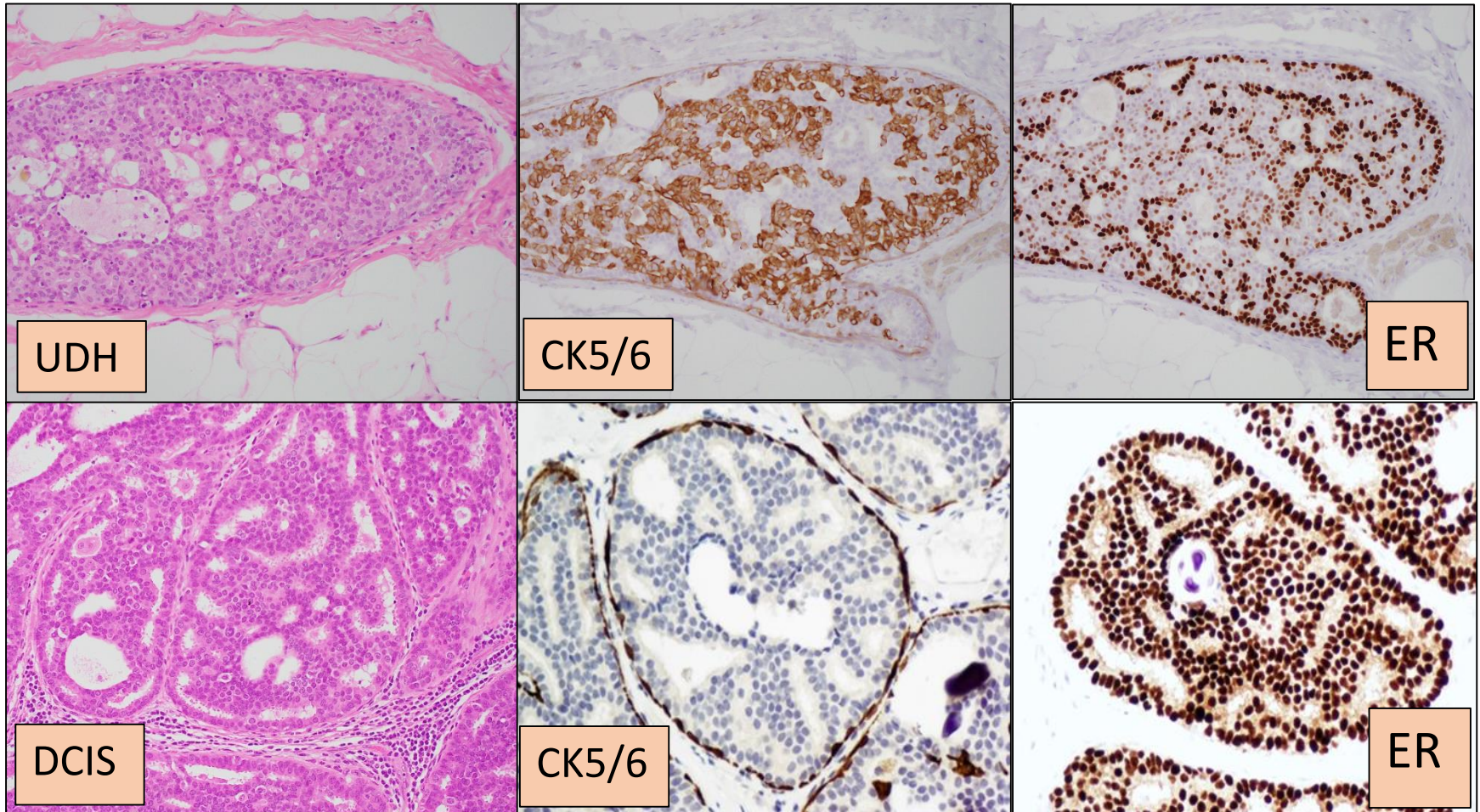
Encapsulated papillary carcinoma

Dimorphic variant

- Epithelial cells in direct contact with fibrovascular cores morphologically different - 'globoid'
- May mimic ME cells
- **Erroneous diagnosis of benign papilloma**
- ME marker negative



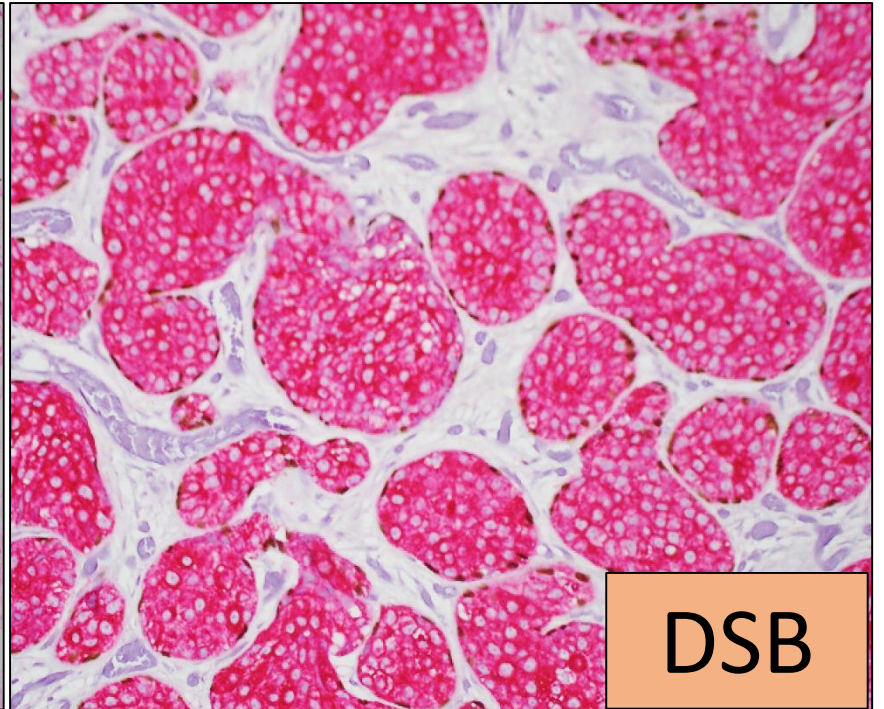
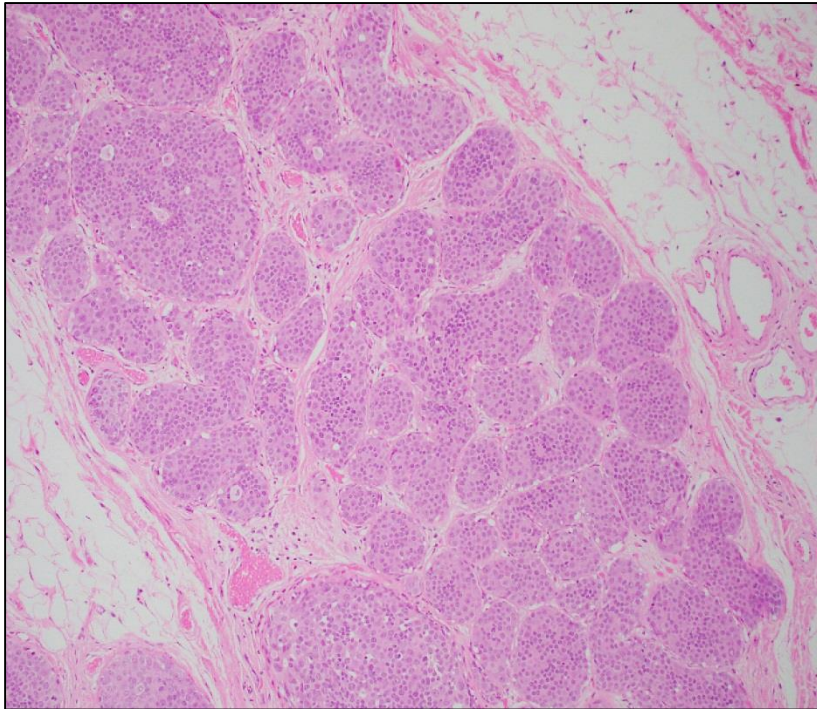
UDH versus ADH/DCIS



**The distinction between ADH and DCIS
relies on morphology and not on IHC**

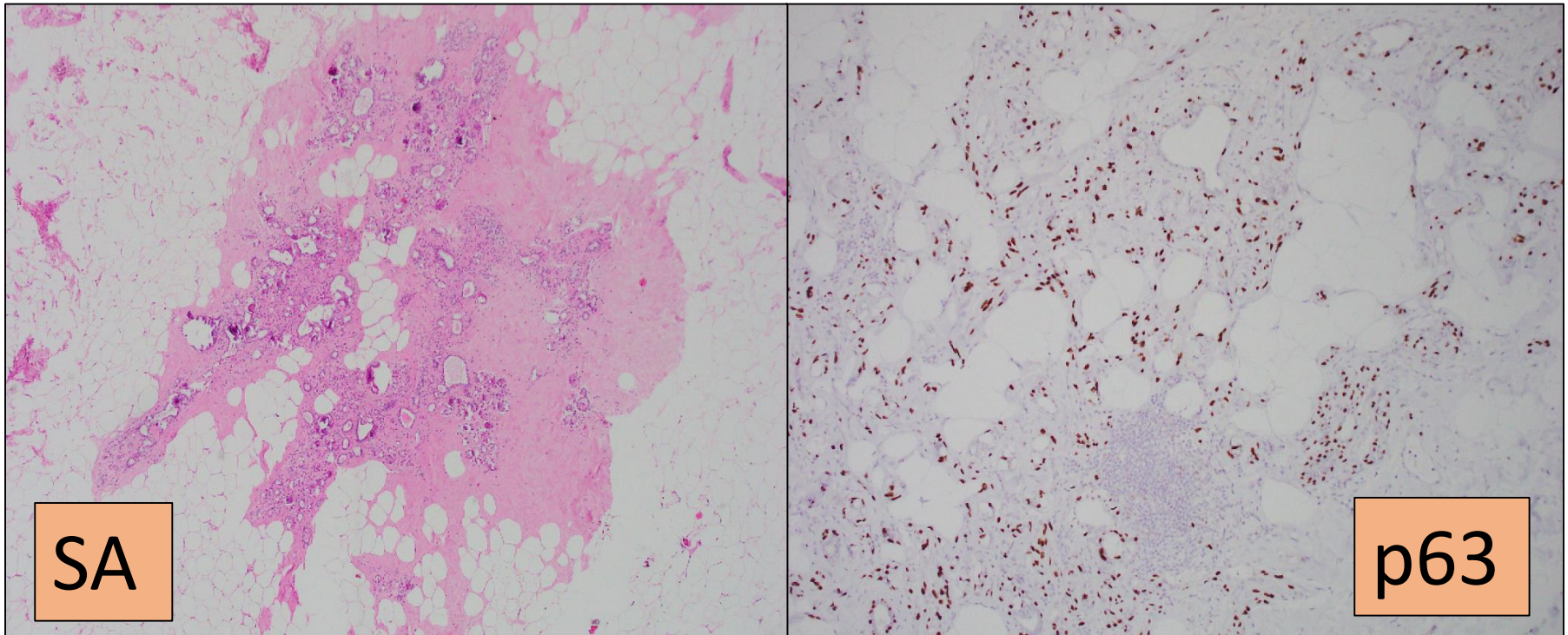


DCIS in TDLU



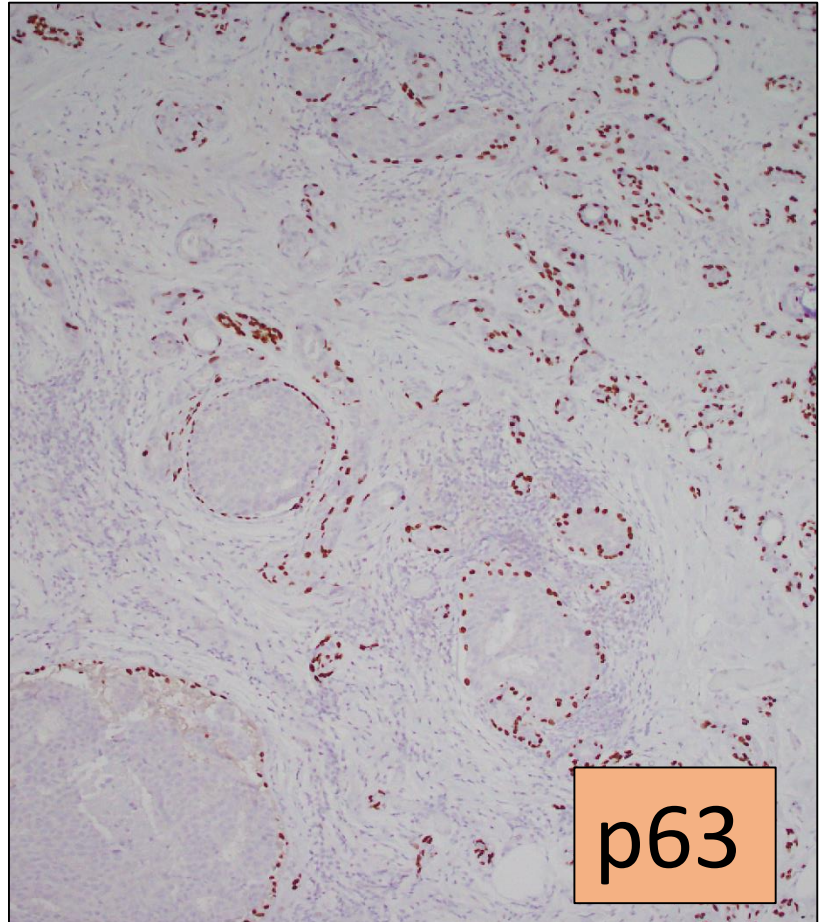
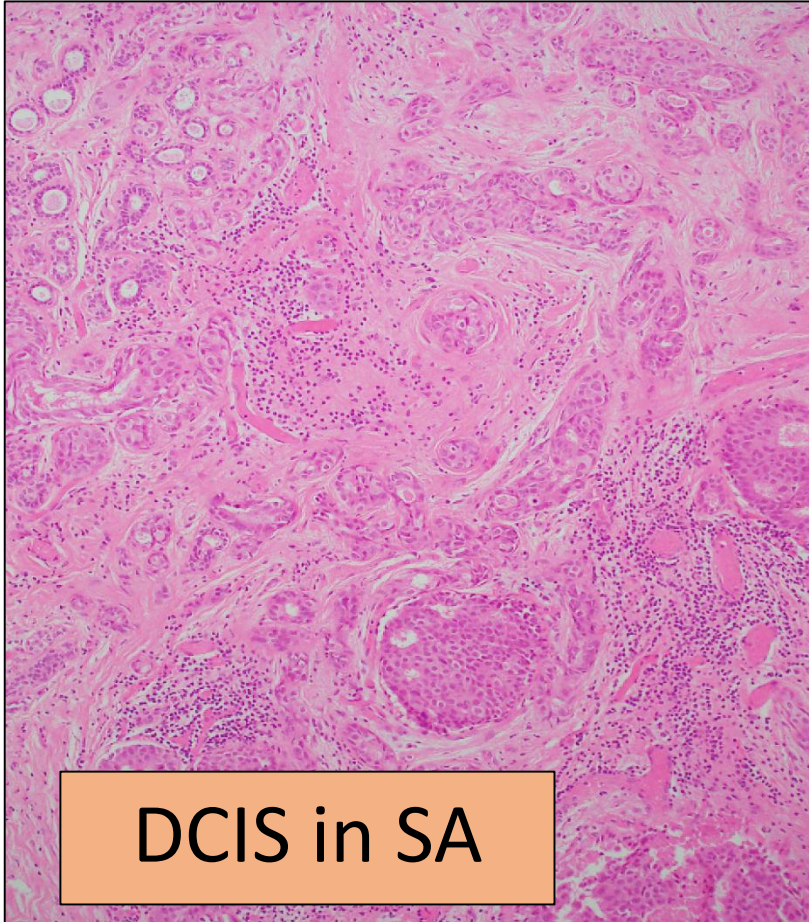
DSB

Sclerosing adenosis vs invasive carcinoma

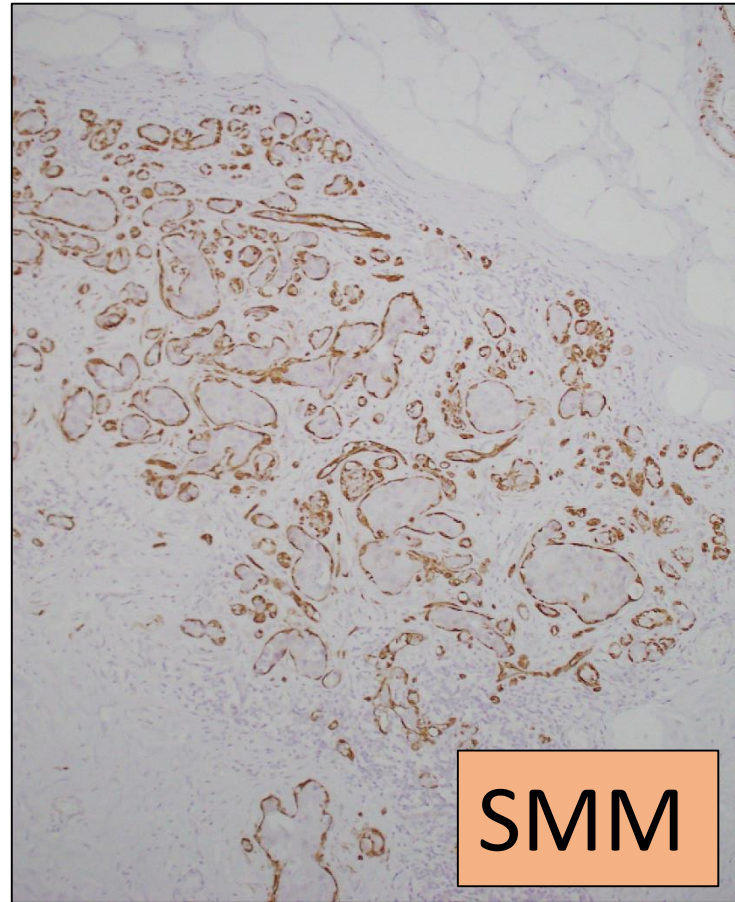
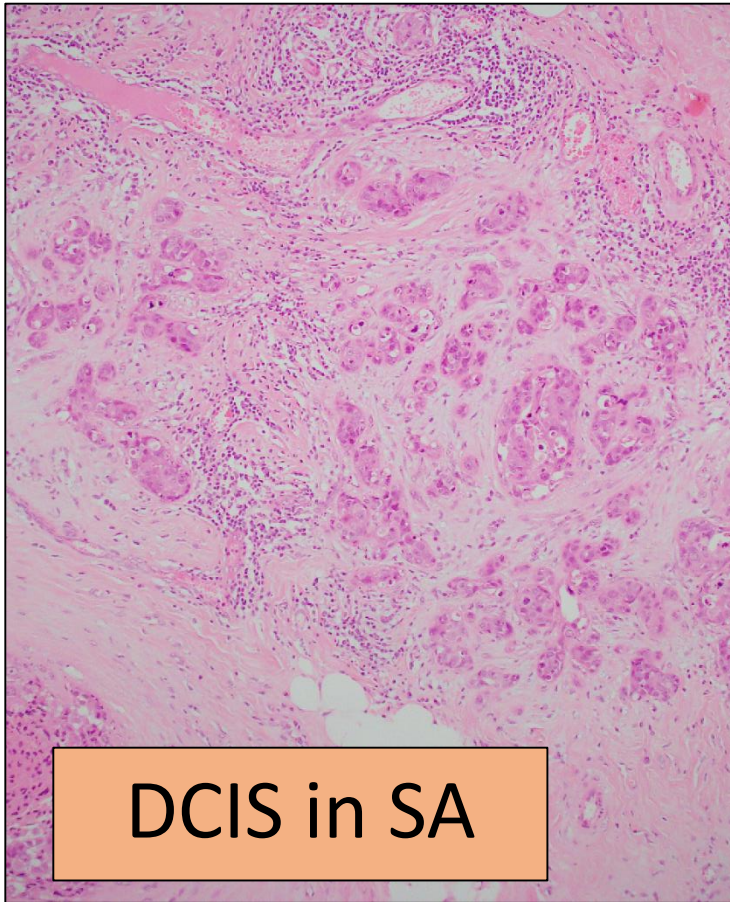


Nodular arrangement at low power

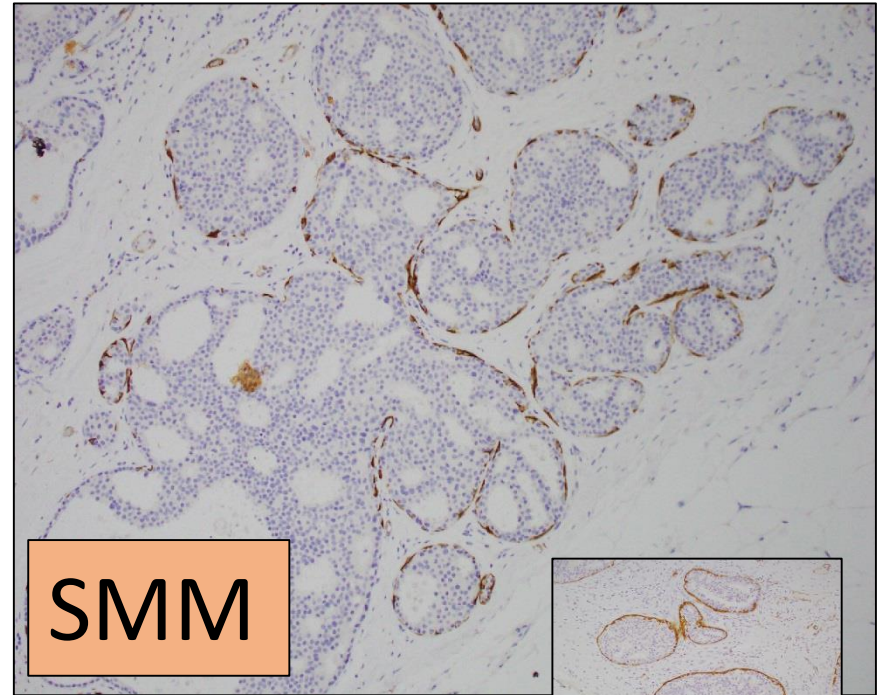
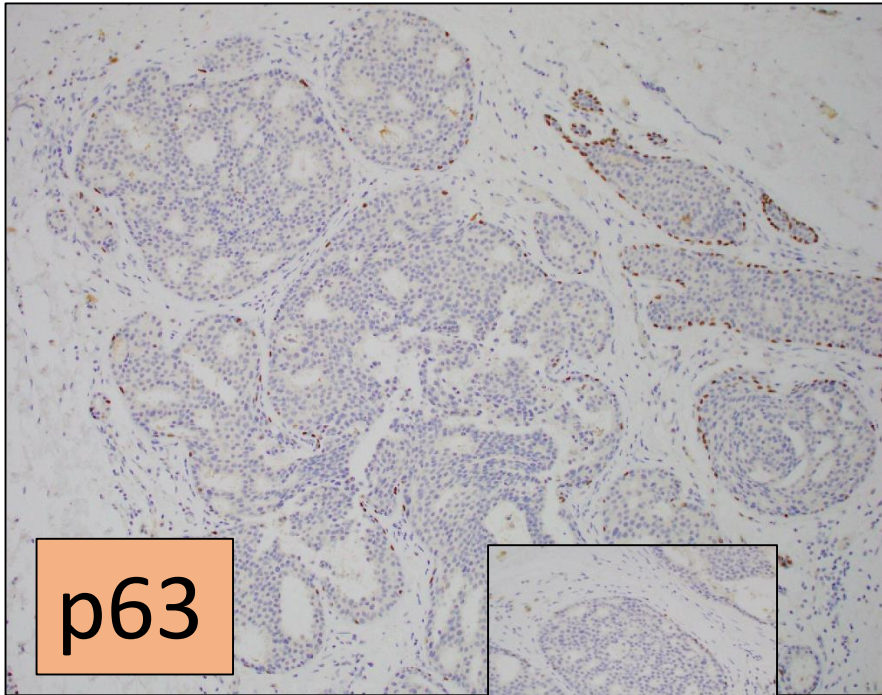
DCIS in sclerosing adenosis vs invasive carcinoma



DCIS in sclerosing adenosis vs invasive carcinoma



DCIS vs invasive carcinoma



Reduced expression of DCIS associated MEC vs normal MEC

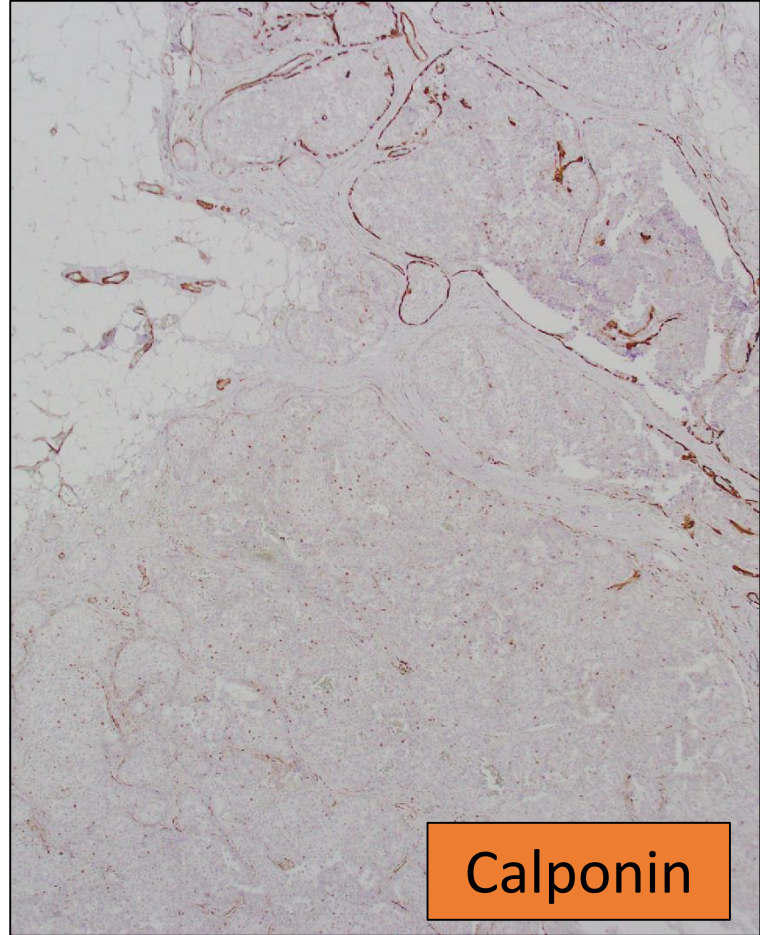
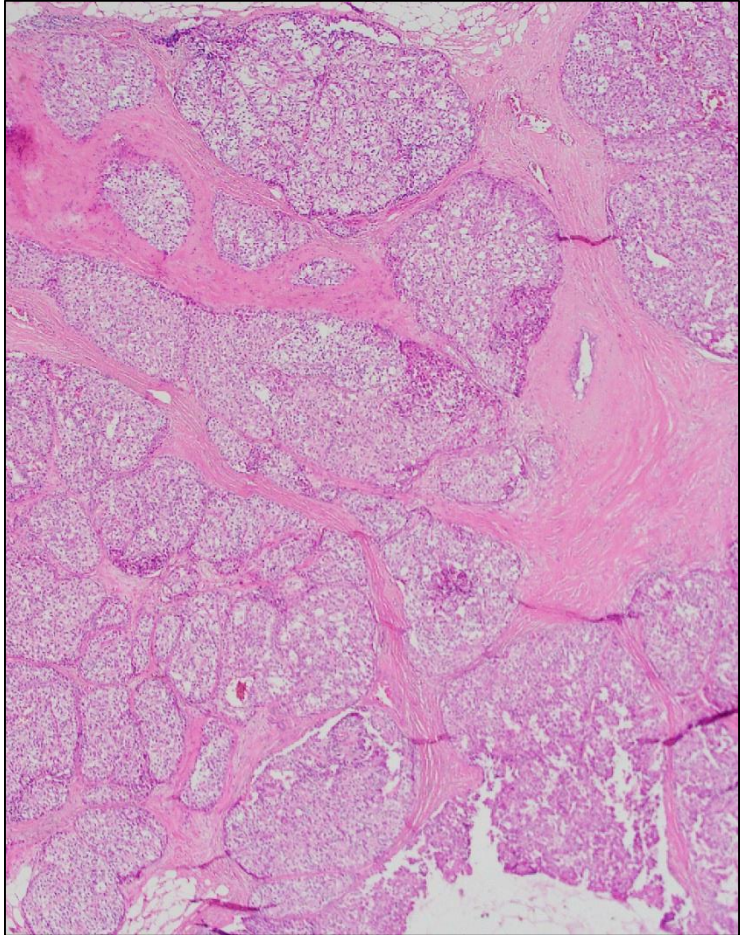
Myoepithelial cell marker	% DCIS cases with reduced expression (n = 56)
Smooth muscle actin	0%
Calponin	16%
SMM HC	76%
p63	10%

Phenotypic Alterations in Ductal Carcinoma In Situ-associated Myoepithelial Cells: Biologic and Diagnostic Implications

Justin B. Hilson; Stuart J. Schnitt; Laura C. Collins

Am J Surg Pathol 2009

% DCIS vs % invasive carcinoma



Quality Assurance in Breast Pathology

Lessons Learned From a Review of Amended Reports

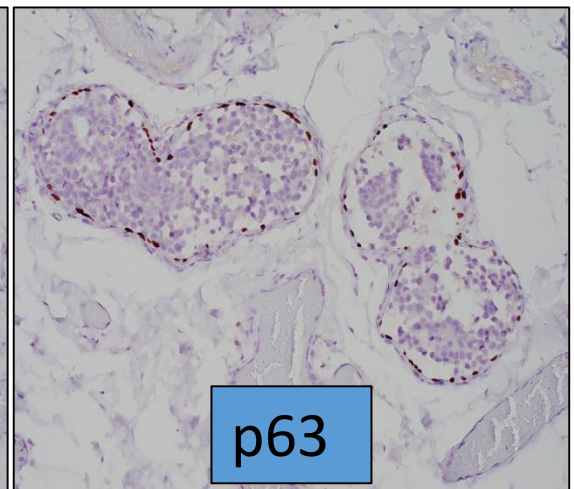
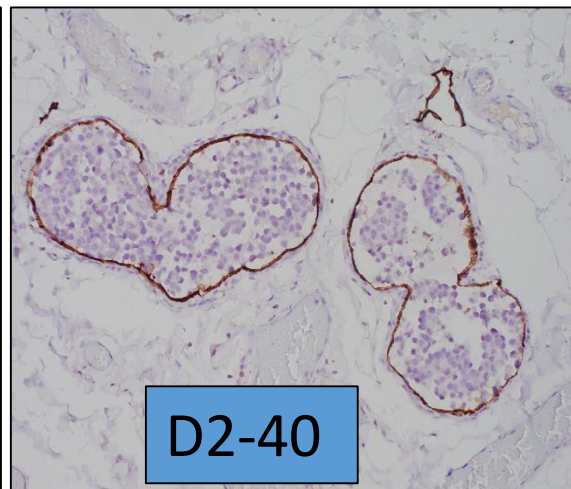
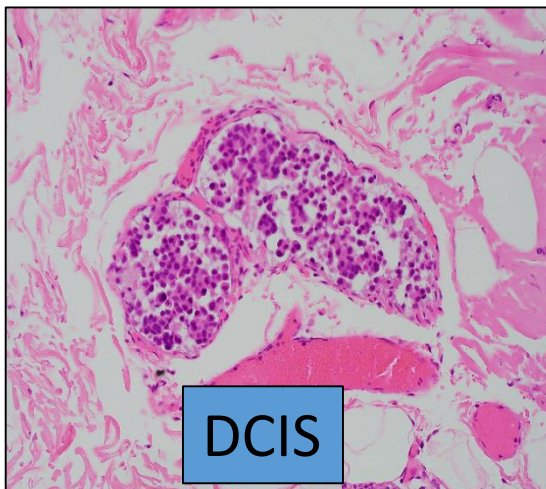
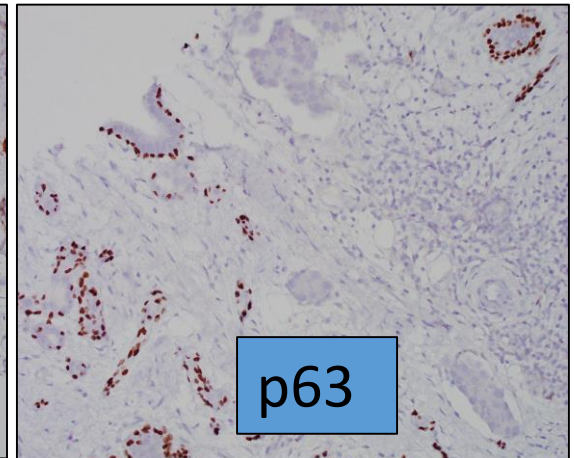
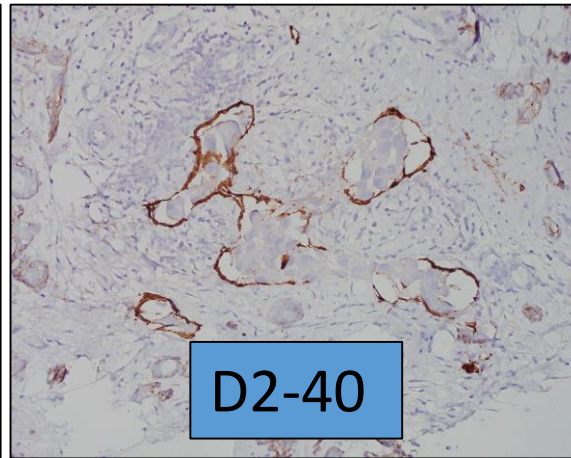
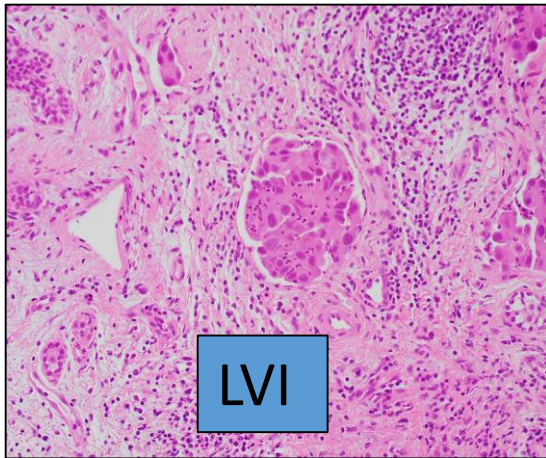
Table 2. Major Diagnostic Changes During a 5-Year Period

Case No.	Specimen	Original Diagnosis	Amended Diagnosis	Discoverer	Mechanism of Discovery	Time to Discovery, d
Downgraded diagnoses						
1	Core biopsy	IDC, DCIS	DCIS in sclerosing adenosis	Pathologist	Surgical excision	35.1
2*	Core biopsy	IDC	DCIS in sclerosing adenosis	Pathologist	Surgical excision	78.9
3	Excision	IDC	DCIS in sclerosing adenosis	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	6.2
Upgraded diagnoses						
4	Core biopsy	DCIS	IDC	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	4.1
5	Core biopsy	DCIS	IDC, DCIS	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	4
6	Mastectomy	DCIS	IDC, DCIS	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	3
7	Excision	DCIS	DCIS with microinvasion	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	2.1
8	Core biopsy	LCIS	Microinvasive lobular carcinoma	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	2
9	Excision	DCIS with microinvasion	IDC, DCIS	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	16.8
10	Mastectomy SLNB	No lymph node metastases	Micrometastatic carcinoma	Pathologist	Other ancillary studies	0.3
Changed diagnoses						
11	Excision	DCIS in complex sclerosing lesion	ADH in complex sclerosing lesion	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	13
12	Re-excision	DCIS	Severe ADH	Pathologist	Predictive factor reporting	3
13	Core biopsy	IDC	DLBCL	Pathologist	Surgical excision	19.9
14	Core biopsy	Fibroadenoma, fat necrosis	Amyloidoma	Pathologist	Intradepartmental consultation	5

Abbreviations: ADH, atypical ductal hyperplasia; DCIS, ductal carcinoma in situ; DLBCL, diffuse, large B-cell lymphoma; IDC, invasive ductal carcinoma; LCIS, lobular carcinoma in situ; SLNB, sentinel lymph node biopsy.

* Cases 2 and 3 represent a core biopsy and a subsequent excision of the same lesion.

Lymphovascular invasion or DCIS with retraction?



Invasive lobular carcinoma

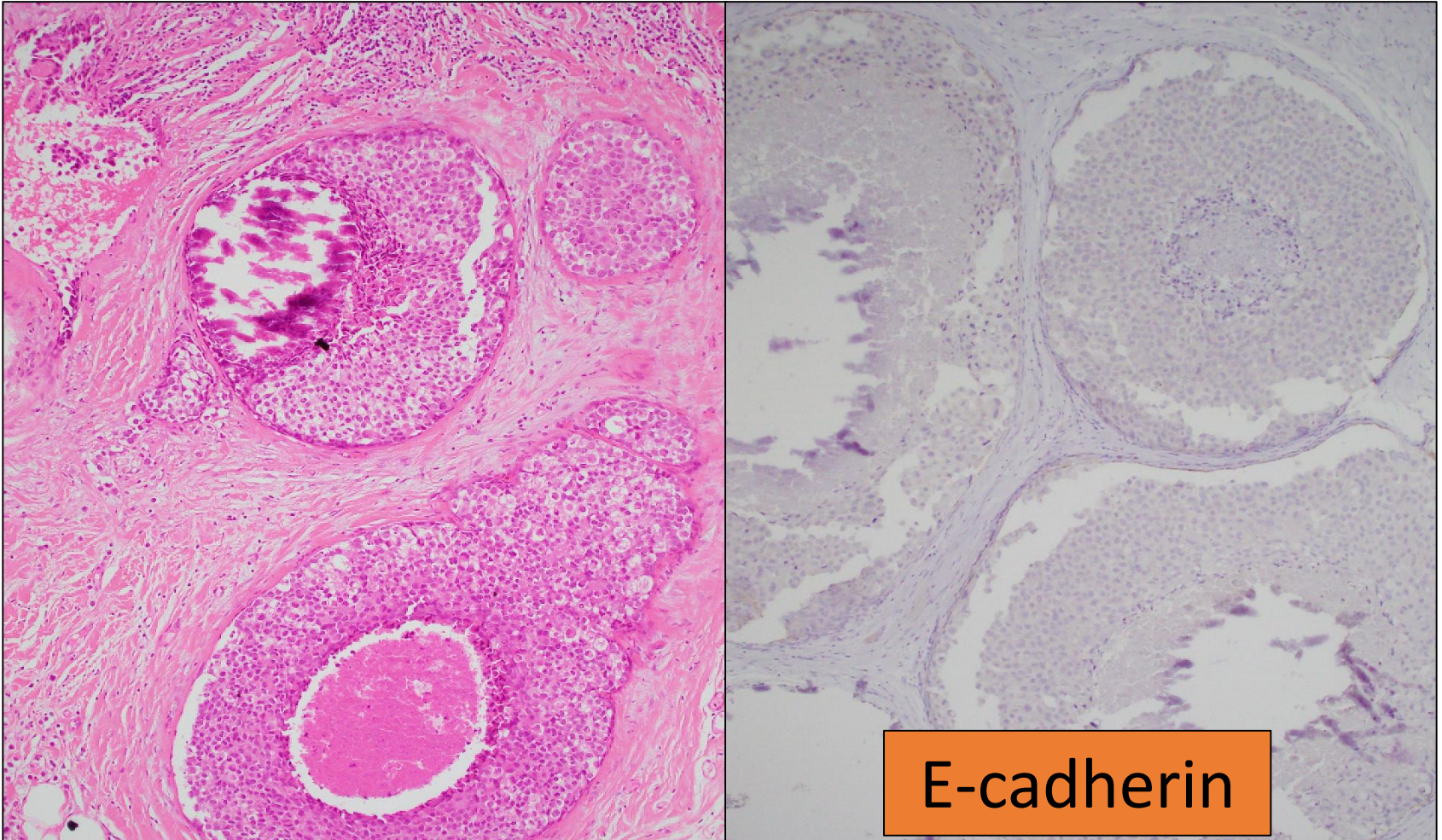


E-cadherin

E-cadherin

- Cell adhesion molecule
- Regulated by CDH1 gene
- **Loss of expression observed in 85% ILC**
- Characteristic dyscohesive cell arrangement
- **15% ILC e-cadherin positive**
- **Do not change diagnosis!**
- Other catenin complex proteins lost
- p120 catenin – cytoplasmic staining

Pleomorphic LCIS



Alternatives to primary breast carcinoma

Metastases

Lymphoma

CLUES

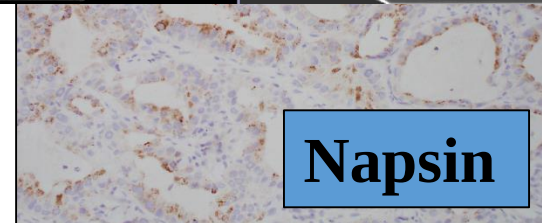
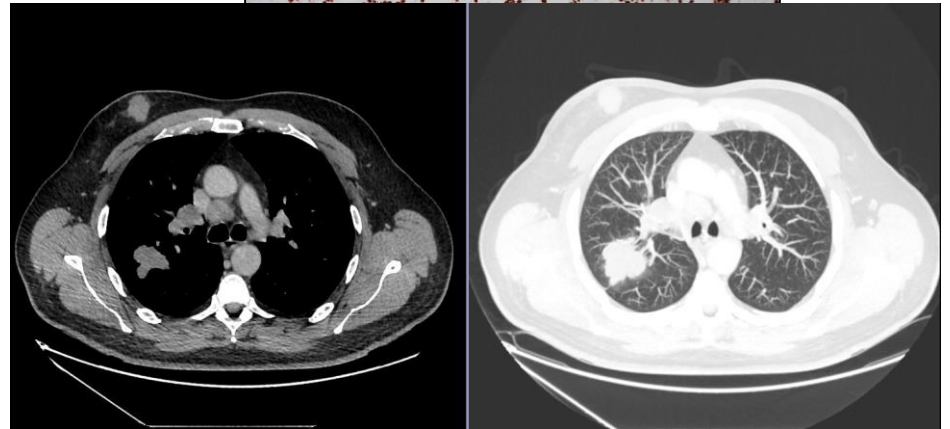
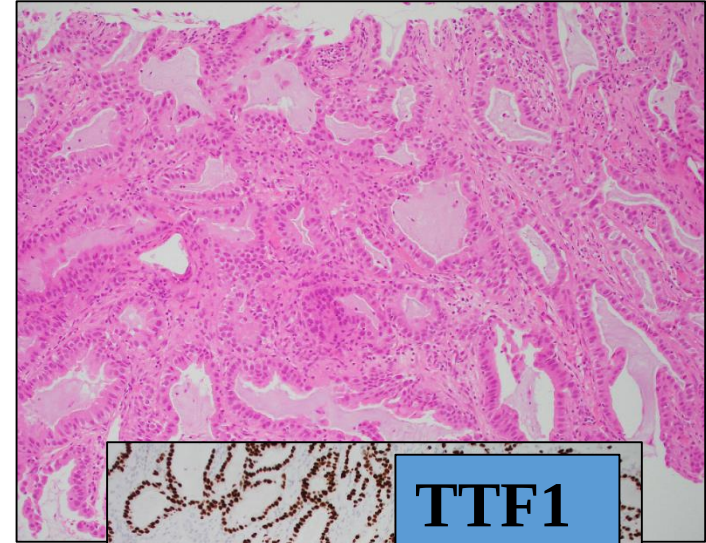
- ❖ Multiple lesions
- ❖ Circumscribed outline
- ❖ Unusual morphology
- ❖ No DCIS
- ❖ Triple negative
- ❖ Significant history

Metastases

- Melanoma
- Lung
- Ovary
- Sarcoma
- Prostate
- Kidney
- Stomach

Lymphoma

- Primary
- Secondary





REVIEW

An approach to the diagnosis of spindle cell lesions of the breast

Emad A Rakha, Mohammed A Aleskandarany, Andrew H S Lee & Ian O Ellis

Department of Histopathology, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and the University of Nottingham, Nottingham City Hospital, Nottingham, UK

Rakha E A, Aleskandarany M A, Lee A H S & Ellis I O
(2016) *Histopathology* 68, 33–44. DOI: 10.1111/his.12865

An approach to the diagnosis of spindle cell lesions of the breast

Although most breast spindle cell lesions (BSCLs) are rare, they constitute a wide spectrum of diseases, ranging from reactive processes to aggressive malignant tumours. Despite their varied histogenesis and behaviour, some lesions show an overlap of morphological features, making accurate diagnosis a challenging task, particularly in needle core biopsies. Clinical history and immunohistochemistry can help in making a correct diagnosis in morphologically challenging cases. To make an accurate diagnosis, it is important to maintain a wide differential diagnosis and be familiar with the diverse morphological appearances of these different entities. BSCLs can generally be classified into bland-looking and malignant-

looking categories. In the former, the commonest diagnosis is scarring. However, it is important to distinguish low-grade spindle cell metaplastic breast carcinoma from other benign entities, as the management is clearly different. In the malignant category, it is important to differentiate metaplastic carcinoma from other malignant primary and metastatic malignant spindle cell tumours of the breast, such as malignant phyllodes tumour, angiosarcoma, and melanoma. This review focuses on the classification and histological and molecular diagnosis of various BSCLs, with an emphasis on the diagnostic approach, including in core biopsies.

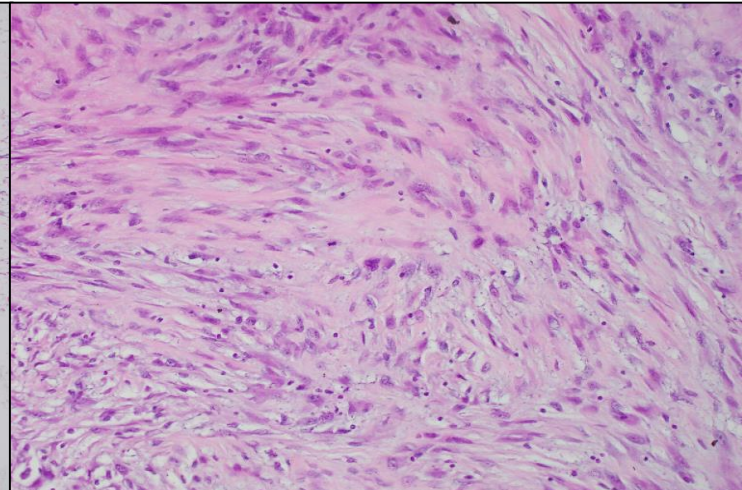
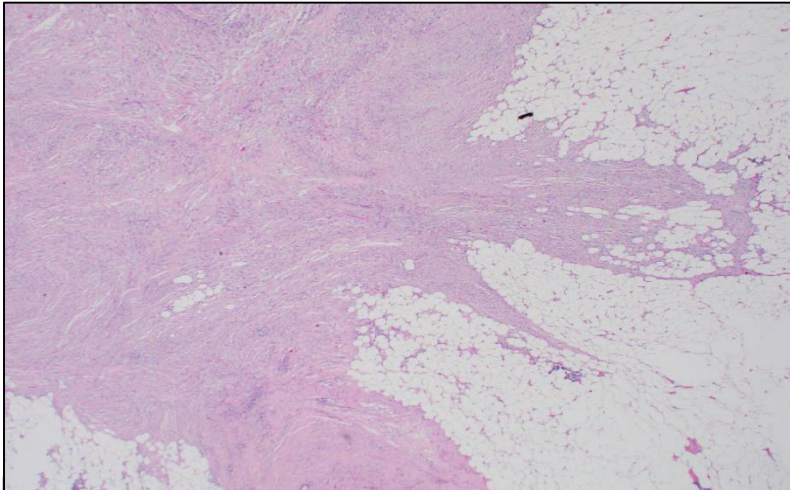
Keywords: breast, core biopsy, diagnosis, immunohistochemistry, spindle cell lesions, update

Immunohistochemistry

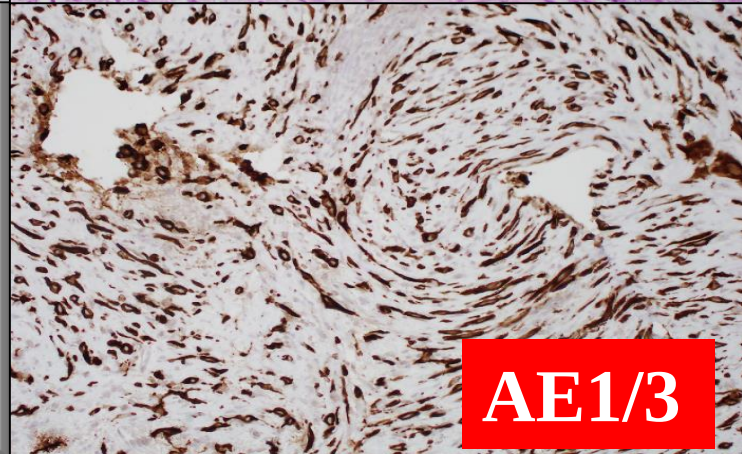
- Use a panel of antibodies
- Interpret in the light of morphology and clinical context
- Beware of the pitfalls

Bland looking pure SCLs

- **Fibromatosis – like MBC**



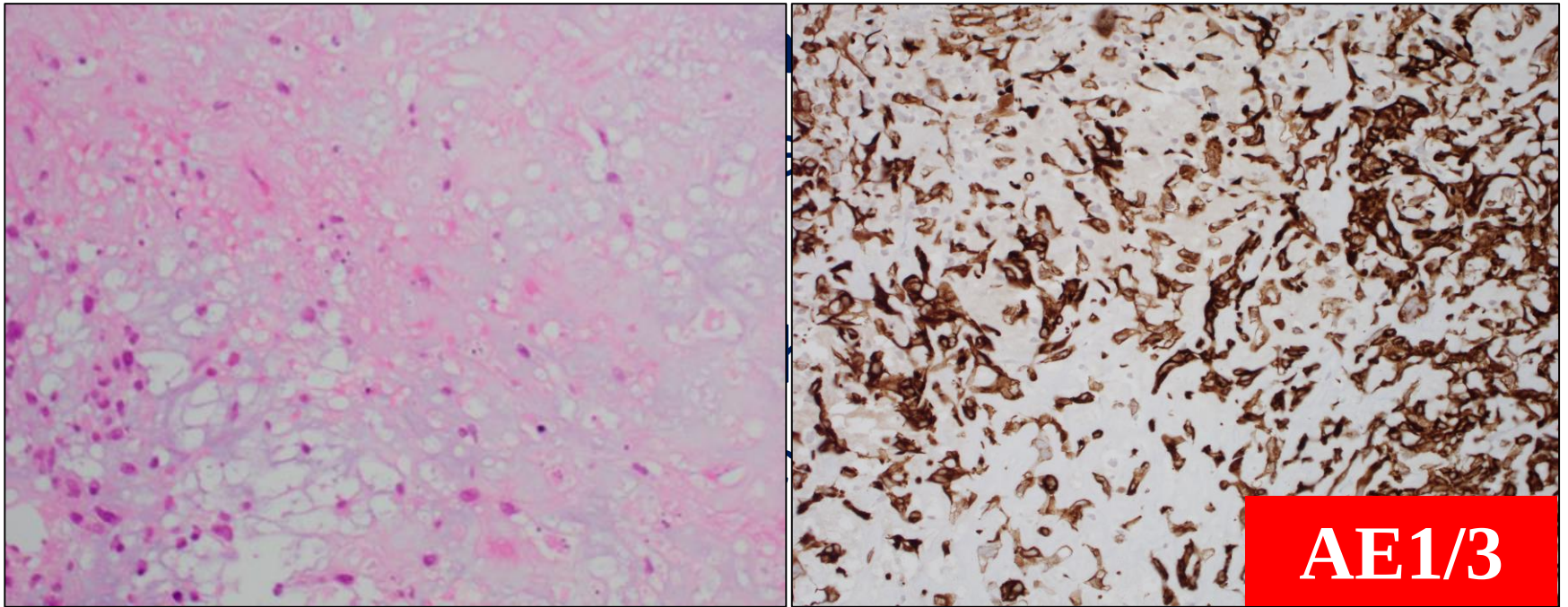
**Cytokeratin +
p63 positive +/-
SMA frequently +
*CD34 -
ER, PR and Her2 -**



AE1/3

Malignant looking pure SCLs

- **Metaplastic spindle cell carcinoma**

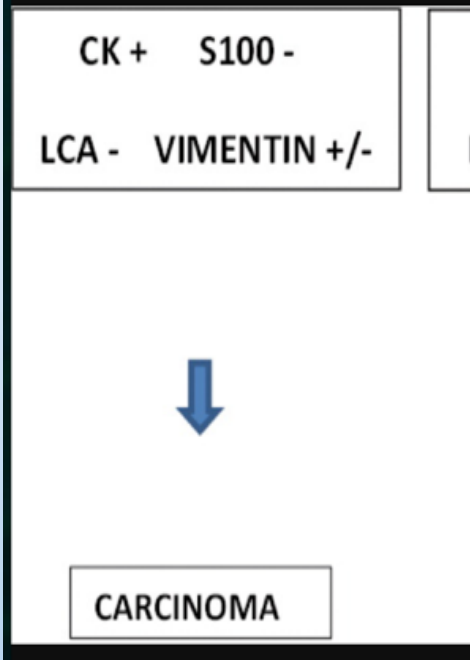


Cytokeratin (CK)

- **Firstline IHC** if considering MBC
- Use a **panel** of antibodies
- Staining may be **focal** or **absent** in **mbc**
p63 useful especially if CK negative
Repeat on excision if CK negative on NCB
- MBC may co-express mesenchymal markers
- **Focal CK positivity** possible in **PT stroma** and in **leiomyosarcoma**

Application of Immunohistochemistry in Undifferentiated Neoplasms: A Practical Approach.

Kandukuri SR, Lin F, Gui L, Gong Y, Et



	CK20 ⁻	CK20 ⁺
CK7 ⁺	• Lung • Breast • Upper GI ADC • Pancreatic/biliary ADC • Endometrial/ endocervical ADC • Thyroid • Thymic CA • Salivary gland duct CA • Hepatocellular CA, fibrolamellar type • Ovarian serous CA • Anal duct CA • Mesothelioma	• Urothelial CA • Esophagus ADC • Gastric ADC • Small bowel ADC • Mucinous ADC of lung • Ovarian mucinous CA • Pancreaticobiliary ADC • Cholangiocarcinoma
CK7 ⁻	• Hepatocellular CA • Clear cell renal carcinoma • Adrenal cortical CA • Prostate ADC • Small cell carcinoma • Squamous cell CA • Germ cell tumors • Neuroendocrine neoplasm • Medullary CA of colon	• Colorectal ADC • Small bowel ADC • Mucinous ADC of lung • Mucinous ADC of lung • Mucinous ADC of lung • Mucinous ADC of lung • Mucinous ADC of lung • Mucinous ADC of lung

Abbreviations: ADC, adenocarcinoma; CA, carcinoma; CK, cytokeratin; GI, gastrointestinal.

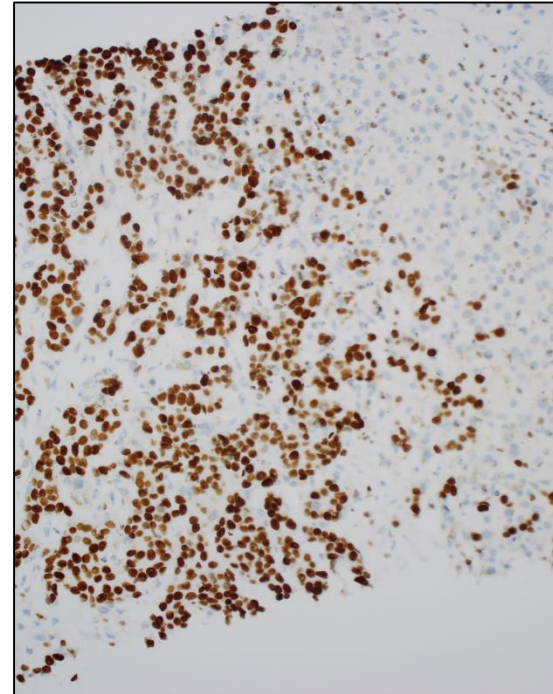
- Check out history
- Review any previous pathology

BREAST

- Gata 3
- ER & PR
- GCDFP-15
- Mammoglobin

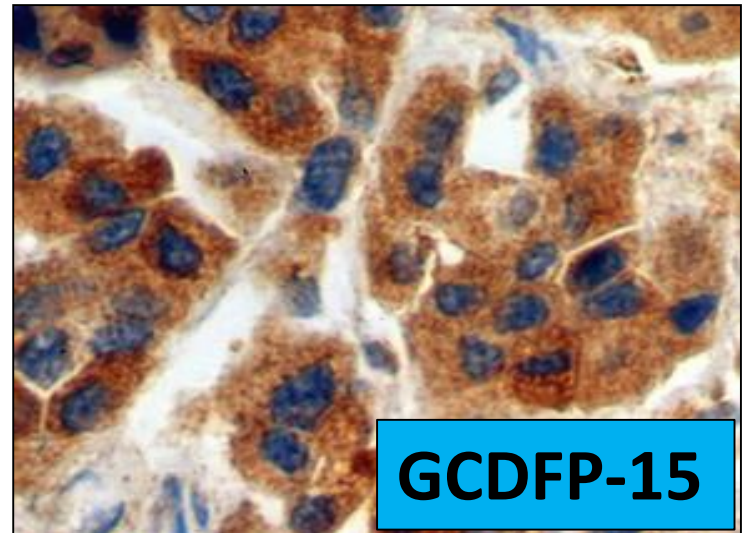
Gata -3

- Transcription factor in luminal epithelial cells
- Expressed in 90% breast tumours
- Also present in
 - Range of normal tissues*
 - Other tumours*
 - Urothelial
 - Renal
 - Mesothelioma
 - Paraganglioma



GCDFP-15

- 15 kDa glycoprotein
- Expressed in 50 -70% breast tumours
- Also expressed in
 - Skin appendage tumours*
 - Salivary gland tumours*
 - Some lung tumours*
 - Some prostate tumours*
- Expression linked to hormone receptors
- Positivity rate higher in luminal & HER2+ tumours compared with triple negative



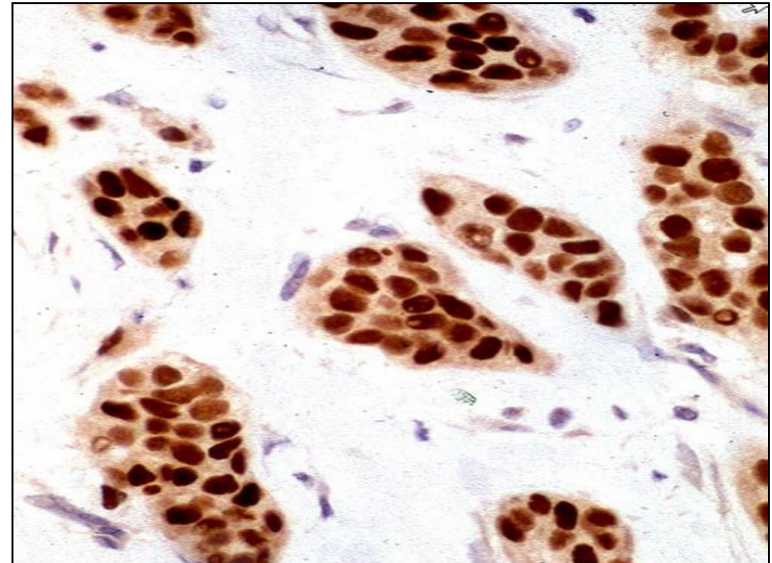
Mammoglobin

- 10.5 kDa secretory protein
- Expressed in 50-70% breast tumours
- Also expressed in
 - Skin appendage tumours*
 - Salivary gland tumours*
 - Some GYN tumours*
 - Some melanomas*



ER & PR

- Nuclear transcription factors
- Regulate normal breast development
- ER - expressed in 80% breast tumours
- PR – expressed in 65%
- Also expressed in
 - Other tumours
 - Ovary
 - Endometrium
 - Stomach
 - Lung
 - Thyroid
 - Neuroendocrine tumours



Antibodies in breast carcinoma

Frequently positive	Sometimes Positive	Usually negative
Cytokeratin 7		Cytokeratin 20
ER, PR	S100	HMB45, Melan A
Gata 3	WT1	PAX 8
GCDFP-15	TTF1	Napsin
Mammoglobin		LCA
		PSA

Conclusions

- Immunohistochemistry is very helpful in the diagnosis of breast pathology
- Always begin by carefully evaluating the H&E appearances
- Beware of the IHC pitfalls