THYROID PATHOLOGY

ELLEN GREENEBAUM, MD MPH

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL PATHOLOGY P&S '77

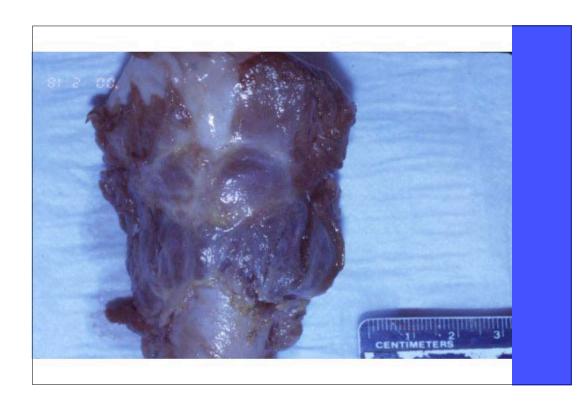
Phone: 305-6719 eg39@columbia.edu

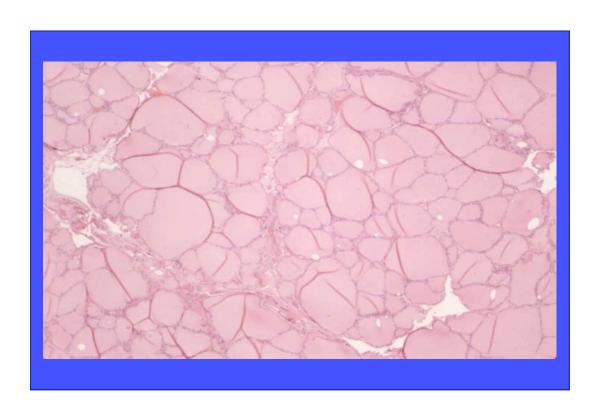














DEFINITIONS

- · GOITER: enlarged thyroid
- EUTHYROID: normal thyroid function
- NONTOXIC: thyroid not hyperfunctional
- · TOXIC: hyperfunctional thyroid

GRAVES' DISEASE DIFFUSE TOXIC GOITER

MOST COMMON CAUSE OF

HYPERTHYROIDISM

GROSS:

- DIFFUSELY ENLARGED
- UP TO 3-4X NORMAL (normal 10-35gm)
- SURGERY RARE



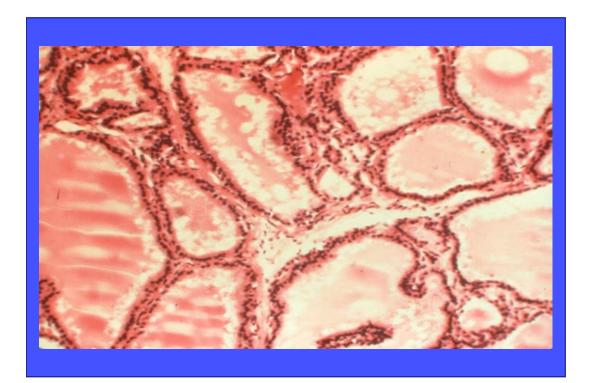


GRAVES' DISEASE

MICROSCOPIC:

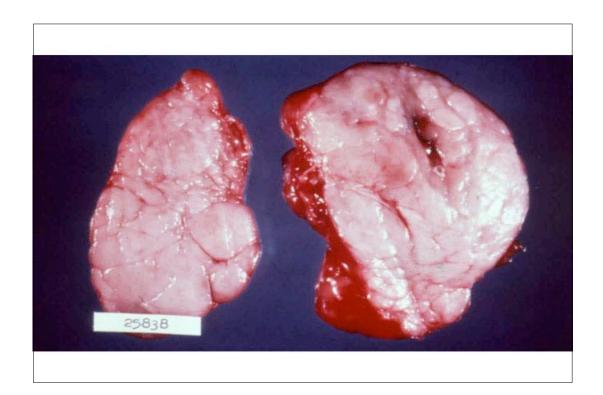
<u>Hyperplasia</u> of follicular lining cells

- New follicles formed; tall, columnar cells
- <u>Scalloping</u> of colloid
- Lymphoid cell infiltrates
 - · ?source of abnormal autoantibodies



HASHIMOTO'S THYROIDITIS

- May be found
 - incidentally
 - visible neck mass
 - compressing trachea or esophagus
- GROSS:
- Usually <u>enlarged</u> up to 2-3X
- Usually <u>symmetrical</u>, <u>diffuse & firm</u>
 - if nodular, suspect neoplasm
- Light tan or gray
- · L-thyroxine therapy may shrink gland

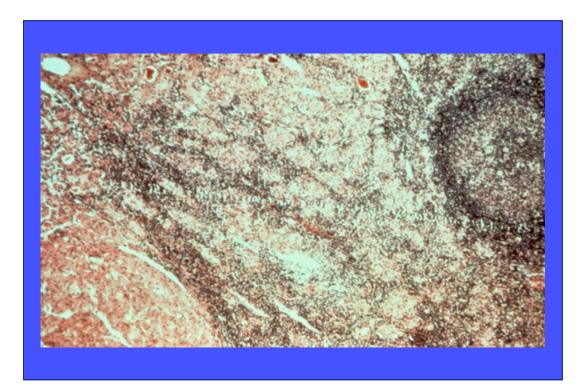


HASHIMOTO'S THYROIDITIS

Lymphocytic thyroiditis with oxyphilia

MICROSCOPIC:

- LYMPHOCYTES & plasma cells
- HURTHLE CELLS = Oxyphilic cells
 - Abundant pink cytoplasm
 - pink = acidophilic = eosinophilic
 - Electron Microscopy
 - numerous mitochondria



NONTOXIC NODULAR GOITER "NTNG"

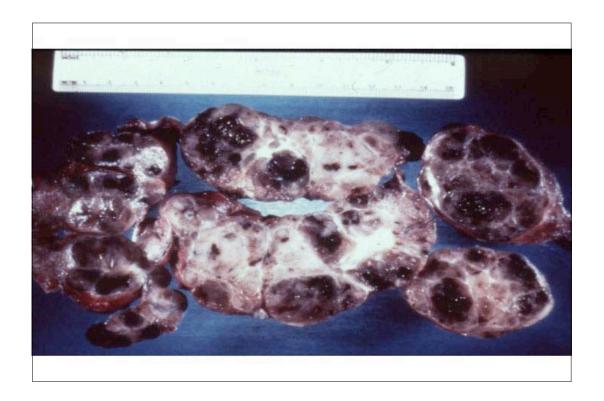
- Common:
 - 4-7% adults in US have palpable nodular goiter
 - usually asymptomatic but may cause compression
 - most are MULTINODULAR
 - may have only one palpable nodule
 - clinical concern to rule out neoplasm
 - · do ultrasound to detect other nodules
 - do needle aspirate or core bx to diagnose NTNG

NONTOXIC NODULAR GOITER "NTNG"

• GROSS:

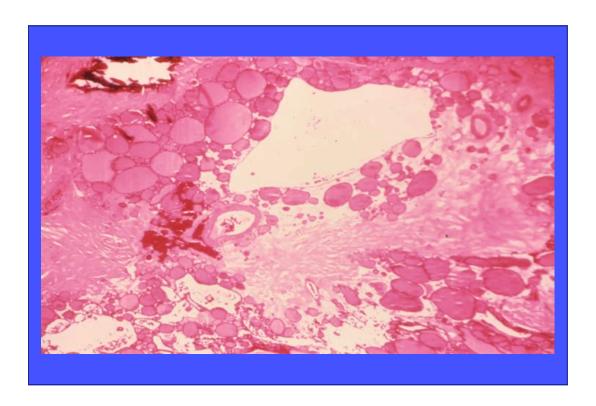
≥1 round, well demarcated, tan glistening nodules of variable sizes within normal red-brown thyroid tissue.

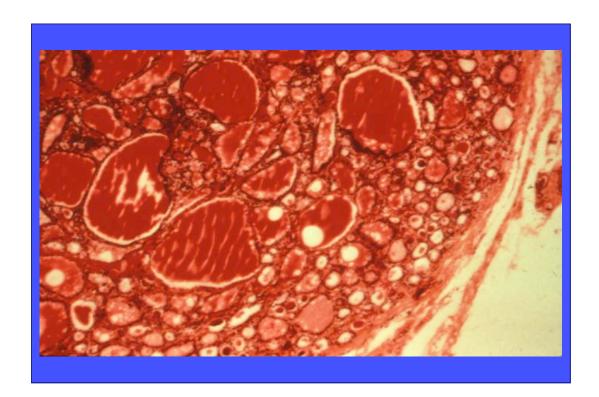




NONTOXIC NODULAR GOITER "NTNG"

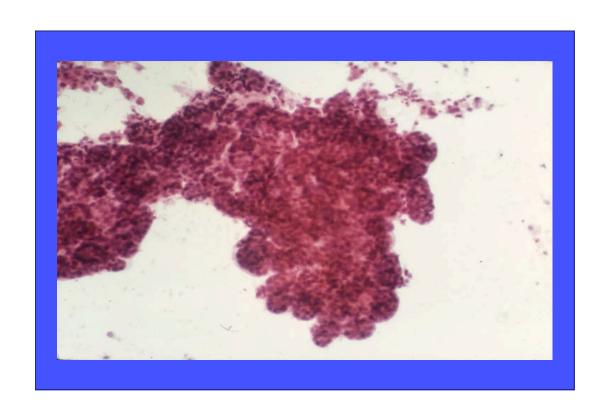
- MICROSCOPIC:
 - -Follicles
 - VARYING SIZES, usually large
 - filled with COLLOID
 - · lined by cuboidal cells
 - -Zones of FIBROSIS & HEMORRHAGE

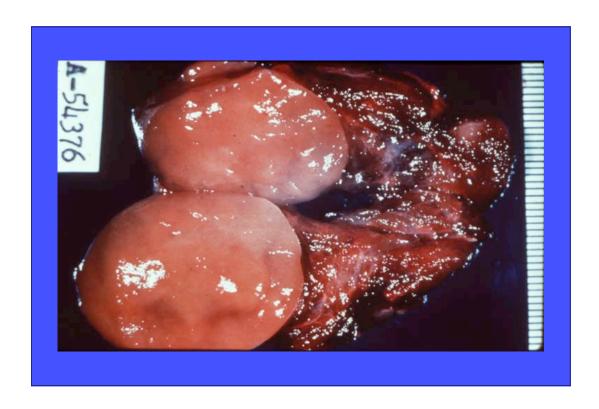


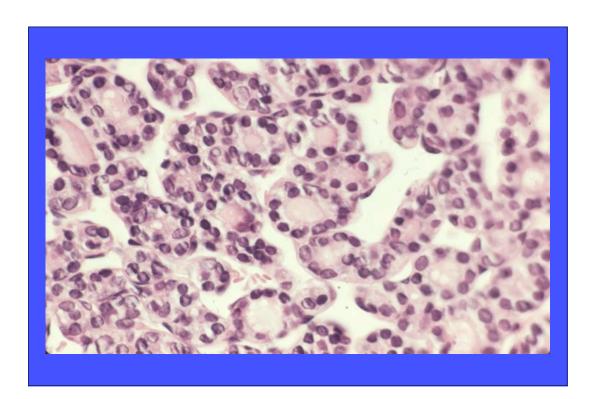


THYROID NEOPLASMS

- BENIGN: ADENOMA
- **GROSS**:
 - -Nodule
 - well encapsulated
 - •solid
 - •deep-tan

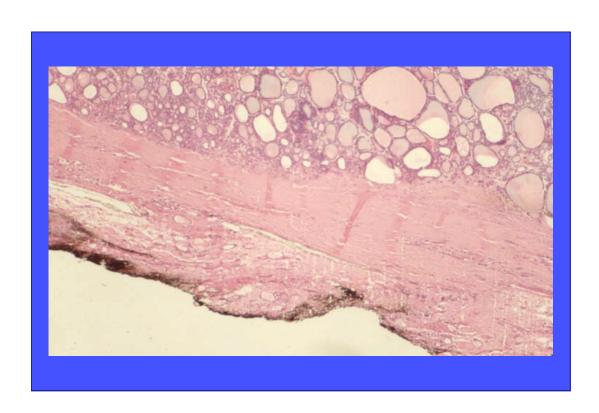






THYROID NEOPLASMS

- How to distinguish Follicular ADENOMA from CARCINOMA?
 - -Search for <u>invasion</u> of capsule or blood vessels
 - -Examine entire nodule, especially capsule



THYROID CARCINOMA 1. PAPILLARY: 70-80% 2. FOLLICULAR: 10-20% 3. MEDULLARY: 5% 4. ANAPLASTIC: 1-3%

PAPILLARY CARCINOMA

- 70-80% of thyroid carcinomas
- GROSS: most often solitary
 BUT.....
- · MICRO: most often multifocal
 - if opposite lobe is serially sectioned, another focus will be found in 50-75% of cases

PAPILLARY CARCINOMA

GROSS:

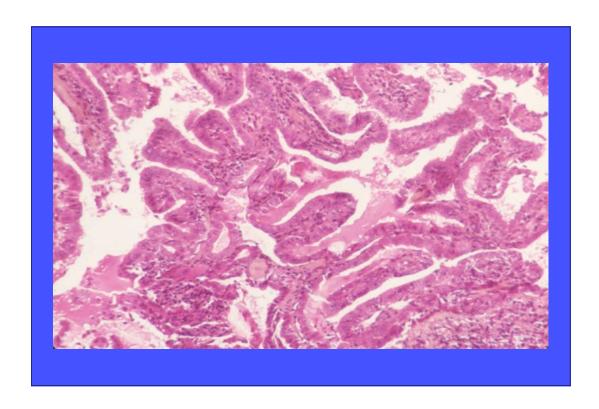
- GRANULAR or FIRM WHITE LESION
- IRREGULAR BORDERS

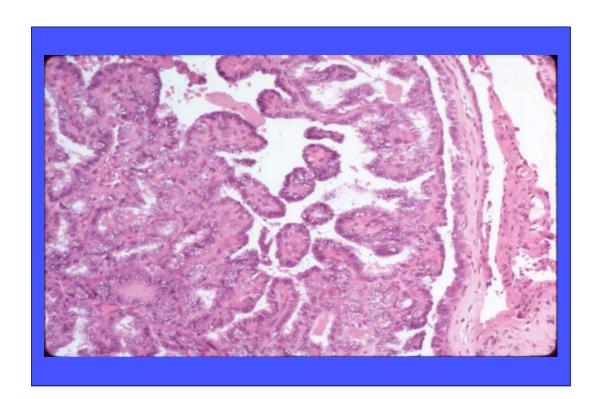


MICRO:

- PAPILLARY FRONDS
- CUBOIDAL LINING CELLS
- MOST LESIONS ALSO HAVE FOLLICULAR AREAS
- SAME BIOLOGIC BEHAVIOR REGARDLESS OF % PAP VS. FOLL



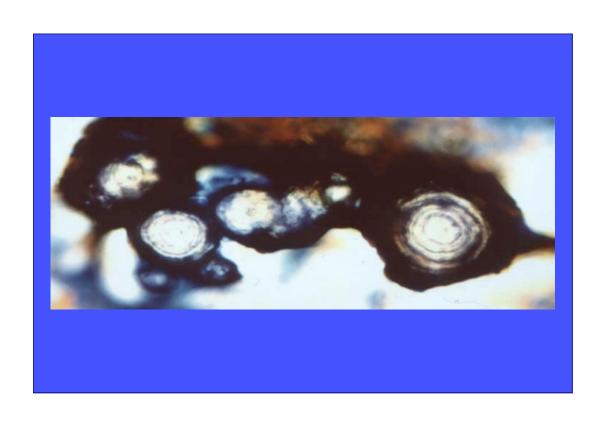


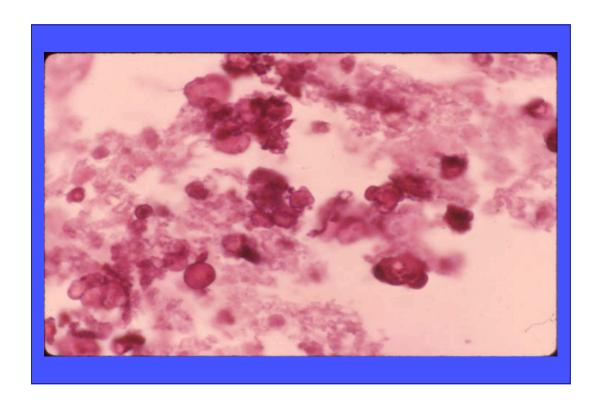


NUCLEAR FEATURES:

- GROUND GLASS
- OPTICALLY CLEAR
- ORPHAN ANNIE-EYE

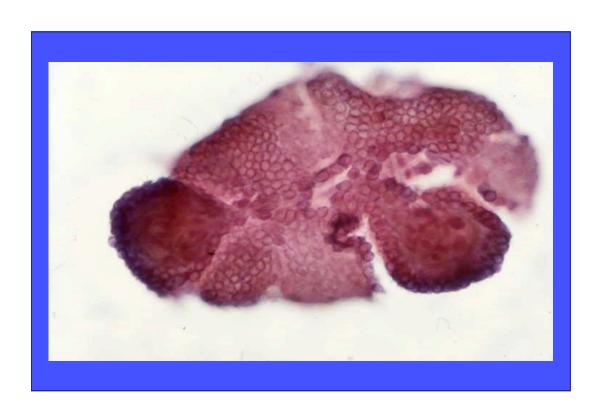
PSAMMOMA BODIES=
-SMALL CONCENTRIC CONCRETIONS





RELIABLY DIAGNOSED BY:

- 1. FINE NEEDLE ASPIRATION (FNA)
- 2. CORE NEEDLE BIOPSY
- 3. FROZEN SECTION DIAGNOSIS



METASTATIC SPREAD:

- LYMPHATIC TO PARATHYROIDAL LNs
- MULTICENTRIC FOCI IN THYROID
 - ? MULTIPLE PRIMARIES
 - ? MET FOCI VIA LYMPHATIC SPREAD
- CLINICAL OR SUBCLINICAL

PAPILLARY CA

SPREAD:

- RARELY DIE OF PAPILLARY CA
- IF DIE, USUALLY
 - -PULMONARY OR CEREBRAL METS
 - -INVASION OF JUGULAR, CAROTID OR AIRWAY
 - -ANAPLASTIC DIFFERENTIATION

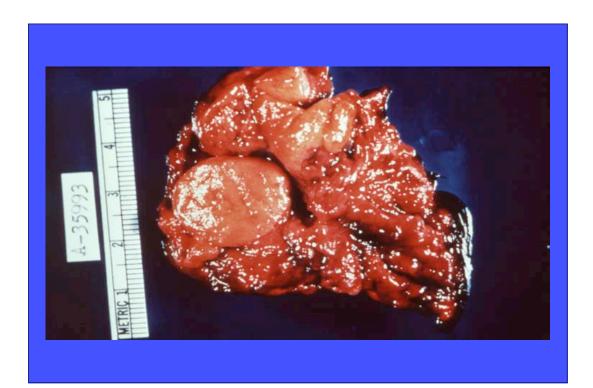
FOLLICULAR CA

- 10-20% OF THYROID CARCINOMAS
- USUALLY
 - -SOLITARY
 - -COLD
 - **-LOW RAI UPTAKE**

FOLLICULAR CA

GROSS:

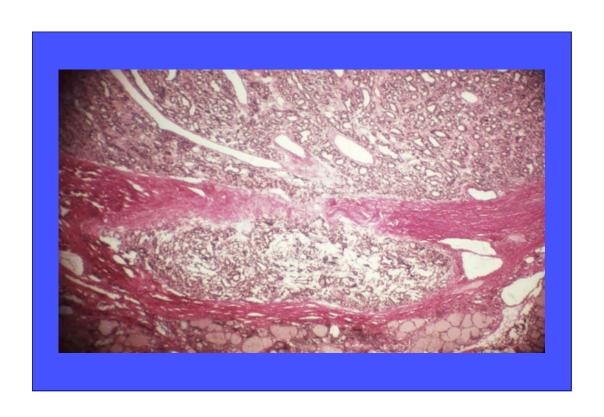
- SOLITARY
- MAY HAVE CAPSULE
 - INVASION DISTINGUISHES CA FROM ADENOMA
- MAY INVADE
 - ADJACENT THYROID
 - OUTSIDE THYROID & CAUSE ADHESIONS TO ADJACENT STRUCTURES

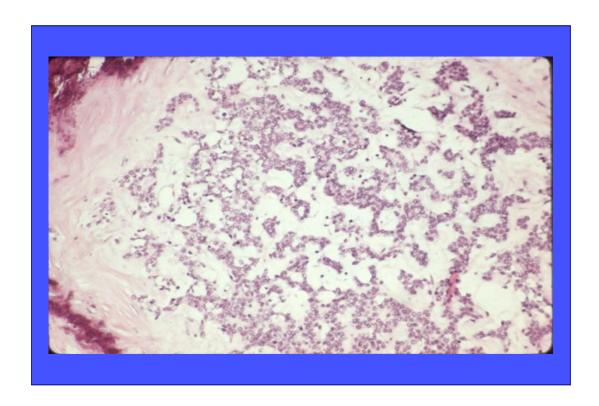


FOLLICULAR CA

MICRO:

- SOLITARY IN ONE LOBE
- METASTATIC SPREAD:
 - -INVADES AND METS VIA VEINS
 - -COMMON SITES OF METS:
 - **LUNGS AND BONES**





CHORNOBYL PROJECT I 131 Radioisotope scan of 24 year old man with thyroid cancer and lung metastases



FOLLICULAR CA

Treatment:

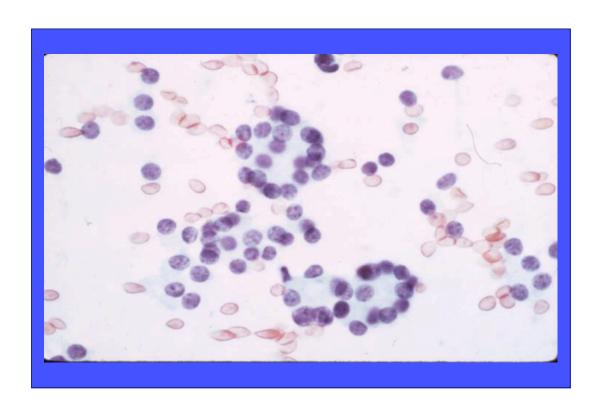
- Total thyroidectomy (1 or 2 stages)
- If metastatic to lung or bone,
 treat with hi dose 131 to ablate
- 10 year survival: 50-70%

THYROID NEOPLASMS

- How to distinguish Follicular ADENOMA from CARCINOMA?
 - Search for <u>invasion</u> of capsule or blood vessels
 - Examine <u>entire</u> nodule, especially capsule

FOLLICULAR CA

- VERY DIFFICULT TO DIAGNOSE BY FROZEN SECTION
 - -Bland tumor cells
 - -Subtle invasion
- EASY TO DIAGNOSE ANY CA WITH GROSS INVASION &/OR ANAPLASIA AND MITOSES



- 5% OF THYROID CARCINOMAS
- ARISE from <u>PARA</u>FOLLICULAR CELLS ("C" CELLS)
 - -ARISE FROM NEURAL CREST
- FAMILIAL 25% (MEN)
- ASSOCIATED WITH RET PROTO-ONCOGENE

- "C" CELLS PRODUCE MAINLY CALCITONIN
 - & OTHER PP HORMONES ie SERATONIN, ACTH
- PRE-OP SERUM CALCITONIN FOR DIAGNOSIS
- POST-OP SERUM CALCITONIN TO DETECT RESIDUAL OR RECURRENT TUMOR
- TOTAL THYROIDECTOMY
- LN DISSECTION <u>IF</u> ENLARGED OR SUSPICIOUS NODES

MEDULLARY CA

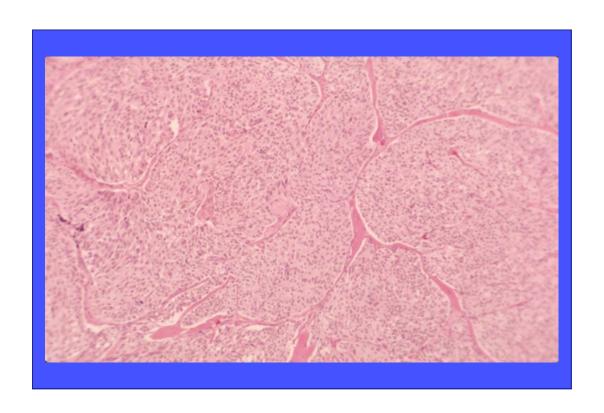
GROSS:

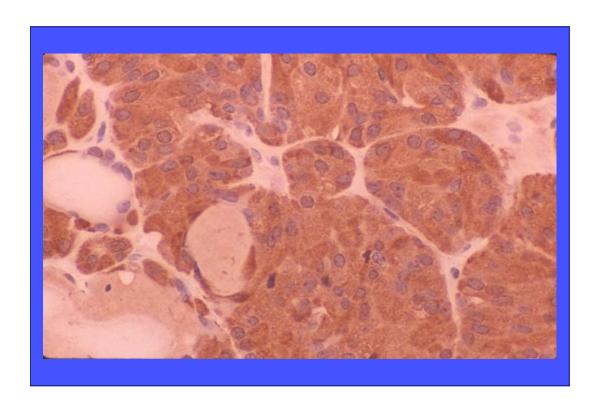
- YELLOW-TAN
- ILL-DEFINED BORDERS
- INFILTRATES ADJACENT TISSUES

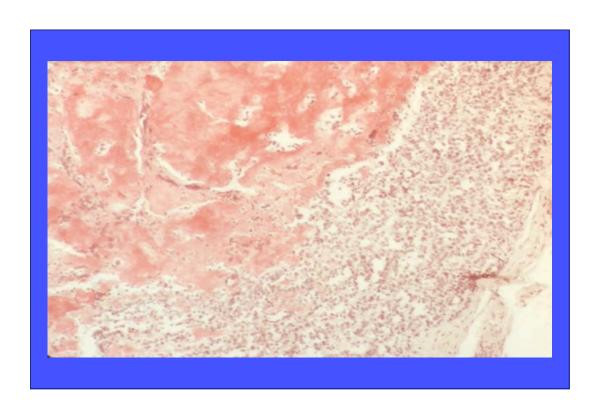


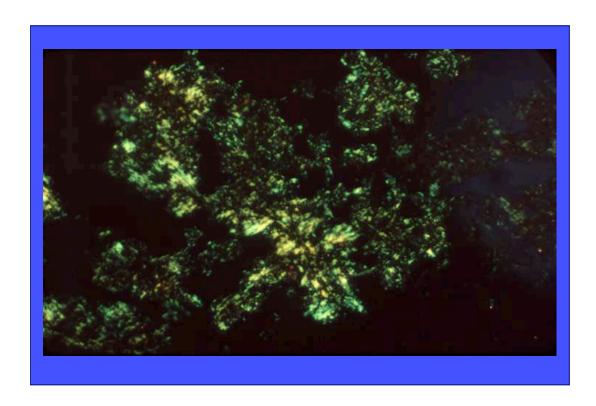
MICROSCOPIC:

- SOLID NESTS
- ROUND TO SPINDLY CELLS
- AMYLOID-LIKE STROMA
 - -CONGO RED, POLARIZED:
 APPLE GREEN BIREFRINGENCE









SPREAD:

- LYMPHATIC
- VENOUS
- METS TO LUNG AND BONES
- MULTIFOCAL

ANAPLASTIC CA

- 1-3% OF THYROID CARCINOMAS
- VERY POOR PROGNOSIS
 (<5% SURVIVE 5 YEARS)
- LESS FREQUENT than 40 years ago

ANAPLASTIC CA

CLINICAL:

- Patients >50 years old
- Old nodule begins to grow rapidly
 - -? arose in pre-existing nodule
- ? Lower incidence due to more resected nodules

ANAPLASTIC CA

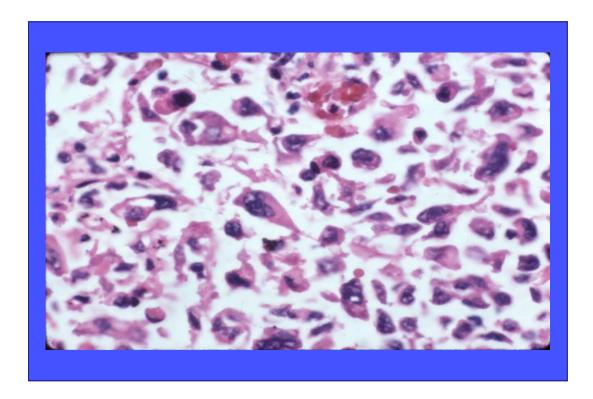
CLINICAL:

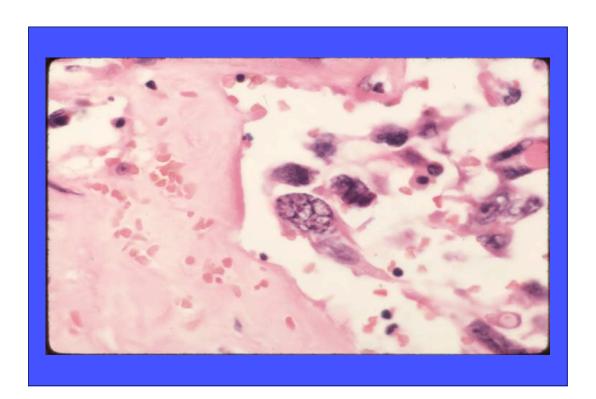
- Rapid growth
- Invasion of adjacent structures
- Tracheostomy frequently necessary
- · Usually unresectable
- Chemo / Radiation not useful in most

ANAPLASTIC CA

MICRO:

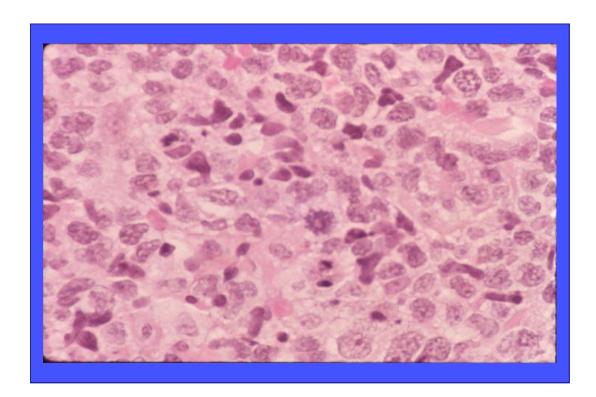
- HIGHLY UNDIFFERENTIATED!!!!!
 - -small cells
 - -giant cells
 - -spindle cells
- May need immunostains to distinguish from lymphoma & sarcoma





MALIGNANT LYMPHOMA OF THYROID

- USUALLY ARISES IN HASHIMOTO'S THYROIDITIS
- RARELY PRIMARY IN THYROID



THYROGLOSSAL DUCT CYST

- PERSISTENT THYROID ALONG EMBRYONAL MIGRATION PATH IN MIDLINE NECK, ANTERIOR TO LARYNX & HYOID BONE
- RESECTED WHEN RESIDUAL TRACT / CYST PERSISTS OR RECURS
- MICRO:
 - LINED BY CILIATED RESPIRATORY
 EPITHELIUM, SQUAMOUS, OR BOTH

