





Objectives

Lesions of endometrium of uterus: know the risk factors, clinical presentation, macroscopic and histological features of

- Endometrial hyperplasia
- Endometrial carcinoma

Lesions of myometrium of uterus:

- Leiomyoma : understand the pathology and clinical features of uterine leiomyomas and is aware that leiomyoma (fibroid) is the commonest neoplasm arising in the female genital tract.
- Leiomyosarcoma

THIS LECTURE WAS PRESENTED BY DR.AMANY FATHADDIN & DR.HAMAD AL JAEDI



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Color index : Main text (black) Female Slides (Pink) Male Slides (Blue) Important (Red) Dr's note (Green) Extra Info (Grey)



Dyspareunia (pain during intercourse)

Urinary symptoms:Dysuria & Difficulty urinating



 Is a process in which there's abnormal Proliferation of endometrial glands resulting in increased gland:stroma ratio of the endometrium when compared to normal. It is Induced by persistent, prolonged stimulation of the endometrium by high levels of estrogen. The endometrial hyperplasia may progress to endometrial carcinoma. The Risk of developing to carcinoma depends on: Level & duration of estrogen excess. The Severity of endometrial hyperplasia. Associated cellular atypia.
 Persistent, prolonged stimulation of the endometrium by high levels of estrogen Any condition in which there is high estrogen can lead to endometrial hyperplasia e.g. A. Anovulatory menstrual cycles(failure of ovulation) such as in perimenopause >level of estrogen is high due to low-level progesterone in the body. B. Excessive endogenous production of estrogen (by the body) e.g.in polycystic ovary syndrome (Stein-Leventhal syndrome), granulosa cell tumors of the ovary cortical stromal hyperplasia (excessive ovarian cortical function) C. Exogenous administration or intake of estrogenic steroids without counter balancing progestins, over a long period of time.
 Hyperestrinism. main cause Obesity Western diet. Hypertension Diabetes mellitus. Nulliparity (never given birth before)
 Mild type of hyperplasia tends to occur in <u>younger</u> patients. Most of the mild hyperplasia cases regress, either spontaneously or after treatment. The more severe type of hyperplasia occur mainly in <u>perimenopausal or postmenopausal</u> women. This form has a significant premalignant potential. Patients with endometrial hyperplasia usually present with abnormal uterine bleeding. (such as menorrhagia, excessive bleeding, irregular periods, postmenopausal bleeding)

Kendometrial Hyperplasia

In endometrial hyperplasia there is proliferation of both glands and stroma but the proliferation of the glands is much more leading to overcrowding of glands. Endometrial hyperplasia is classified based on (A) and (B):





Increase number of glands



Which of these findings on an endometrial biopsy has the highest risk of progression to endometrial carcinoma?

- A. Endometrial polyps
- B. Endometrial hyperplasia without atypia
- C. Endometrial hyperplasia with atypia
- D. Chronic endometritis

Answer: C



I.Simple hyperplasia	without atypia	 Simple hyperplasia (Cystic hyperplasia): glands are variably shaped and sized, and are cystically dilated, with abundant stroma and gives a SWISS CHEESE APPEARANCE. Mild increase in gland to stroma ratio. May progress to cystic atrophy. These lesions Rarely progress to adenocarcinoma 	Simple hyperplasia , early stage H&E x25
males Slides	with atypia	 Uncommon. Architecture of simple hyperplasia, but there is cytological atypia within the glandular epithelial cells. (less crowding then complex) 10% progress to carcinoma. 	Simple hyperplasia , advanced stage H&E
	without atypia	 Proliferation of endometrial glands resulting in Complex, crowded glands with papillary infoldings irregular shapes. Crowded glands: are "back-to-back" with little intervening stroma in between. The epithelial cells remain cytologically normal. 3% progress to adenocarcinoma. 	Complex hyperplasia without atypia
ll.Complex hyperplasia	with atypia	 Complex proliferation of endometrial glands (back-to-back irregular glands) with atypia. (back-to-back means very little stroma in between.) Nuclei are: Enlarged and rounded. Show loss of polarity. Have irregular nuclear membranes. Commonly about 30% of women with this diagnosis have carcinoma somewhere in the uterus when a hysterectomy is performed. (When perform endometrial curettage or endometrial biopsy the biopsy is not represented by the whole endometrium so if we see a Complex hyperplasia with atypia in the biopsy there's a 30% chance that she has carcinoma somewhere else in the endometrium but it's not represented in the biopsy so in this case you have to perform hysterectomy especially in post menopause or perimenopause (as they don't need for the uterus anymore) 30% progress to carcinoma. 	a hyperplasia. There is no atypia Complex hyperplasia without atypia. The glands vary in size and are separated by only a small amount of stroma. Nuclei are oval and pseudostratified. There is no atypia.



Some endometrial hyperplasia revert to normal spontaneously or with medical treatment (In a young patient start hormonal treatment (progesterone),others persist as hyperplasia, and a few progresses to endometrial adenocarcinoma.

The risks for developing adenocarcinoma in each are as follows:

- Simple hyperplasia without atypia 1%
- Complex hyperplasia without atypia 3%
- Simple hyperplasia with atypia (simple atypical hyperplasia) -10%
- Complex hyperplasia with atypia (complex atypical hyperplasia) 30% **

Atypical hyperplasia in postmenopausal women appears to have a higher rate of progression to adenocarcinoma.



6. Clinical behavior and premalignant potential



- This is a common neoplasm in women. Overall it is the fifth commonest cancer in women. Endometrial cancers arise mainly in postmenopausal women
- They cause postmenopausal bleeding
- Early detection and cures are possible

Classification These tumors	Туре 1	Туре 2
are classified into two broad categories:	endometrioid carcinoma	papillary serous carcinoma,clear cell carcinoma.
Histological type	Endometrioid adenocarcinoma	Papillary Serous or clear cell carcinoma Papillary serous is the more common form of type II carcinoma.
Prevalence	80% of endometrial cancers, (most common type) *e.g. endometrioid adenocarcinoma and its variants.	15% of cases of all endometrial carcinoma
Age	Premenopausal & perimenopausal (50-60 yrs)	Postmenopausal (~ 70 yrs) with endometrial atrophy (small atrophic uterus). late in life, about one decade later than type I
Unopposed estrogen	Present (associated with estrogen excess and endometrial hyperplasia)	Absent (no association with hyperestrinism or preexisting hyperplasia)
Precursor lesion	Precursor lesionEndometrial hyperplasia :disease may follow atypical hyperplasia but may occur independently of it especially in older patientsEndometrial intraepit (its like carcinometrial)	
Growth	Slow growing	Rapidly progressing
Grade	Low (majority of the carcinomas are well differentiated)	High (These tumors are large bulky poorly differentiated tumors, which invade early into the myometrium, Extrauterine extension is common)
Myometrial invasion	Usually superficial	Usually deep and early
Prognosis	Favorable	Poor
Genetic Alteration	 PTEN, microsatellite instability Majority of endometrioid carcinomas have PTEN gene mutations. Also there may be inactivation of DNA mismatch repair genes. P53 mutations is seen in half of the poorly differentiated endometrioid carcinomas. Mutations in mismatch repair genes and the tumor suppressor gene PTEN are early events in the stepwise development of endometrioid carcinoma. Women with germline mutations in PTEN(Cowden Syndrome) and germline alterations in DNA mismatch repair genes (Lynch Syndrome) are at high risk for this cancer. TP53 mutations occur but are relatively uncommon and are late events in the genesis of this tumor type. 	 P53 mutations P53 mutations (at least 90% of <u>serous endometrial carcinoma</u>) The precursor of serous carcinoma is serous endometrial intraepithelial carcinoma (its like carcinoma in situ) (SEIC) in which TP53 mutations are often detected, suggesting an early role for such mutations in the development of this form of endometrial carcinoma.



Pathogenesis

This is a common neoplasm in women. Overall it is the fifth commonest cancer in women.

Endometrial cancers arise mainly in postmenopausal women

They cause postmenopausal bleeding and Early detection and cures are possible.

Usual sequence of events in Type I endometrioid carcinoma:



Endometrial carcinoma



Pathogenesis of endometrial intraepithelial neoplasia and endometrial carcinoma

Genetic mutations

lead to:

- Uncontrolled proliferation starting from a single location
- Absence of programmed cell death

Classic mutations include:

PTEN: tumor suppressor (common in type 1 EC)

p53: tumor suppressor :

- Present in > 90% of type 2 ECs
- Worse outcomes associated with p53 mutations

POLE gene: involved in DNA replication and repair

Lynch syndrome mutations (DNA mismatch repair genes)

Progression of disease

Meaning it progressed from endometrial hyperplasia In order lead to:

Uncontrolled endometrial proliferation \rightarrow EIN \rightarrow EC

Direct extension into the myometrium and adjacent structures

Invasion into lymphatic capillaries

Metastasis to regional lymph nodes:

- Pelvic lymph nodes
- Para-aortic lymph nodes

Distant metastasis via lymphatic and hematologic spread

Pathogenesis of benign endometrial hyperplasia

- Estrogen naturally stimulates proliferation of endometrial tissue
- Progesterone (produced by the corpus luteum only after ovulation) counteracts estrogen/has a protective effect on the endometrium
- Excess estrogenic stimulation → diffuse hyperplasia throughout the cavity
- Altering the hormonal milieu (e.g., treating with progestins and/or removing estrogenic stimulation) can lead to resolution of hyperplasia.



Endometrial >>>				
carcinoma				
Risk factors <u>(only type 1)</u>	Risk factors for type I are the same as that of endometrial hyperplasia andinclude:NulliparityHyperestrinismDiabetes MellitusObesityHypertensionwestern diet.Late menopauseEstrogen therapyTamoxifen therapy (drug that induce LH & FSH production)High socioeconomic status.			
Clinical features	 Most patients are between 50 and 60 years. Many of the patients tend to be nulliparous and obese. Patients have abnormal vaginal bleeding and excessive leukorrhea <u>Elderly women present with postmenopausal bleeding</u>. The diagnosis of endometrial cancer must be confirmed by biopsy or curettage and histologic examination of the tissue. 			
	Grossly	May look close to normal or exophytic or infiltrative	Harden and Andrew A Andrew Andrew And	
Basic Morphology	Microscopy	 Both type I and II are adenocarcinomas originate in the endometrium and can eventually infiltrate the underlying myometrium, enter vascular spaces and metastasize to lymph nodes. Serous carcinoma has much greater cytologic atypia and are more poorly differentiated and is therefore more aggressive 		
	Tumor spreads by	 Direct myometrial invasion with extension to the periuterine structures Through lymphatics to lymph nodes In the late stages, metastasize to the lungs, liver, bones, others 		
Prognosis	Clinical b o th o th o th e Endome other his e Serous o e Stage is	al behavior of endometrial adenocarcinoma <u>aepenas</u> on the histologic type the grade (degree of differentiation) the stage (extent of spread). ometrioid carcinoma (type I) has a better prognosis than the er histologic types. us carcinomas (type II) have poorer prognosis		



Leiomyoma



Overview	Benign tumors that arise from the smooth muscle cells in the myometrium are properly termed leiomyomas, but because of their firmness often are referred to clinically as fibroids .		
Epidemiology	The most common benign tumor in females, affecting 30- 50% of women of reproductive age, and are considerably more frequent in black women and probably the most common neoplasm in women.		
Pathogenesis	 About 40% of leiomyomas have an associated chromosomal abnormality. These tumors are associated with several different recurrent chromosomal abnormalities, including rearrangements of chromosomes 6 & 12 that also are found in a variety of other benign neoplasms, such as endometrial polyps and lipomas. Mutations in the MED12 gene, which encodes a component of the RNA polymerase transcription complex, have been identified in up to 70% of leiomyomas. The mechanism by which MED12 mutations contribute to the development of leiomyomas is not presently understood. The tumor is estrogen responsive. Estrogens and possibly oral contraceptives stimulate the growth of leiomyomas; conversely, these tumors shrink postmenopausally 		
Clinical Features	 Leiomyomas of the uterus often are asymptomatic, being discovered incidentally on routine pelvic examination. The most frequent presenting sign is menorrhagia heavy bleeding , with or without metrorrhagia abnormality in timing. Leiomyomas rarely, if ever, transform into sarcomas, and the presence of multiple lesions does not increase the risk of malignancy They are benign tumors with no appreciable malignant potential (incidence of malignant transformation to sarcoma is 0.1-0.5%). It can be single or multiple (mostly multiple). Irregular abnormal bleeding and sometimes pelvic pain. It may cause anemia from heavy bleeding. Can have urinary frequency if the fibroid is compressing the urinary bladder. It may interfere with implantation and therefore cause infertility. In pregnant women it may cause abortion, obstructed labor, postpartum hemorrhage etc. 		



Leiomyoma









Morphology

Location

Microscopically

- o Intramural: embedded within the
- Submucosal: lie immediately
- Serosa / Subserosal fibroids lie beneath the serosal surface of the uterus or are pedunculated and attached to the serosa.
- Parasitic leiomyomas: a type is subserosal where tumor extend out on attenuated stalk and even become attached to surrounding organs, from which they may develop a blood supply (Pedunculated ones lose their connection to the uterus



Overview	 Leiomyosarcomas of the uterus virtually always arise de novo from the mesenchymal cells of the myometrium. Recurrence after surgery is common with these cancers, and many metastasize, typically to the lungs. It is the malignant tumor of the smooth muscle with increased mitosis and necrosis. It is rare & Sites include the uterus and soft tissue Poor prognosis.
Iorphology	 They are almost always solitary and most often occur in postmenopausal women, in contradistinction to leiomyomas, which frequently are multiple & usually arise premenopausal. The diagnostic feature of leiomyosarcoma include: tumor necrosis > cytologic atypia > mitotic activity Because increased mitotic activity is sometimes seen in benign smooth muscle tumors, particularly in young women, an assessment of all three features is necessary to make
emales Slides	diagnosis of malignancy.

Summary

Endometrial hyperplasia results from excess endogenous or exogenous estrogen.

The risk of developing carcinoma is predominantly related to cytologic atypia.

On the basis of clinical and molecular data, two major types of endometrial carcinoma are recognized:

- 1. Endometrioid carcinoma is associated with estrogen excess and endometrial hyperplasia. Early molecular changes include inactivation of DNA mismatch repair genes and the PTEN gene.
- 2. Serous carcinoma of the endometrium arises in older women and usually is associated with endometrial atrophy. Mutations in the TP53 gene are an early event.

Deep Focus Question 😕

Which of the following can be a presenting complaint if a woman has a small fibroid located right underneath the peritoneum covering the fundus of the uterus?

- A. Compression of the urinary bladder leading to increased frequency of urination
- B. Severe, recurrent pelvic pain
- C. Compression of uterine arteries leading to myometrial ischemia

D. Compression of the fallopian tube opening leading to ectopic pregnancy Answer: A



Keywords



Endometrial hyperplasia	 increased gland:stroma ratio high levels of estrogen eg : theca tumors , PCOS , contraceptive Anovulatory menstrual cycles polycystic ovary syndrome Nulliparous obese women or DM granulosa cell tumors of the ovary cortical stromal hyperplasia usually present with abnormal uterine bleeding. Simple without atypia : cystically dilated, abundant stroma and gives a SWISS CHEESE APPEARANCE . Complex without atypia : Crowded glands: are "back-to-back" , papillary infoldings irregular shapes
	 Patients have abnormal vaginal bleeding and excessive leukorrhea Elderly women present with postmenopausal bleeding.
Endometrial carcinoma	 Premenopausal & perimenopausal associated with estrogen excess and endometrial hyperplasia Slow growing superficial Myometrial invasion Genes : PTEN, microsatellite instability Nulliparity
	 Postmenopausal no association with hyperestrinism or preexisting hyperplasia Endometrial intraepithelial carcinoma Is Precursor lesion Deep Myometrial invasion P53 mutations
Leiomyoma	 Benign tumors that arise from smooth muscle cells Growth stimulated by Estrogens and possibly oral contraceptives increase in size during pregnancy or taking contraceptives. Decrease In size after menopause. Mutation in the MED12 gene Menorrhagia Cut surface: whorled, grey-white interlacing bundles of smooth muscle cells
Leiomyosarc oma	 malignant tumor arises de novo from the mesenchymal cells of the myometrium Show Tumor necrosis , Cytological atypia , Mitotic activity



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YOU VŚ MCQs

Question I

What is the most common neoplasm arising in the female genital tract?

Ovarian carcinoma

Cervical carcinoma

Uterine leiomyoma (fibroid)

Endometrial carcinoma

Question 2

What is the characteristic appearance of simple hyperplasia on histology?

Back-to-back irregular glands

Cystically dilated glands with abundant stroma

Crowded glands with papillary infoldings

Loss of polarity and vesicular nuclei

Question 3

Which type of endometrial hyperplasia has the highest risk of progression to adenocarcinoma?

Simple hyperplasia without atypia

Simple hyperplasia with atypia

Complex hyperplasia without atypia

Complex hyperplasia with atypia

Question 4

Which genetic alteration is commonly associated with endometrioid carcinoma?

BRCA1 mutation

PTEN gene mutation

P53 mutation

Microsatellite instability



) 5- B / 6- A / 7- A / 8-A



Cases



1.A 50-year-old nulliparous woman with a history of diabetes complains that her menstrual blood flow is more abundant than usual. During the last two menstrual cycles, she noticed spotting throughout the entire cycle. The patient is obese (BMI = 32 kg/m2), and her blood pressure is 160/100 mm Hg. An ultrasound examination reveals a thickened endometrial stripe with a polypoid mass in the uterine fundus. The patient undergoes a hysterectomy. The uterus is opened to reveal a partially necrotic mass (shown in the image). A biopsy of the mass shows moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma. Which of the following represents the most likely precursor of this patient's malignant disease?



A.Adenomyosis B.Atypical hyperplasia C.Chronic endometritis D.Complex hyperplasia

2.Neoplastic cells obtained from the patient described in Question 1 would most likely show loss of function of which of the following cell cycle control proteins?

A.p53	B.PTEN	C.Rb	D.RET
3.A 45-year-old obese woman (BMI = 32 kg/m2) with a history of diabetes and poorly controlled hypertension complains of increased menstrual blood flow of 3 months in duration. An endometrial biopsy is shown in the image. Which of the following most likely accounts for the pathogenesis of endometrial hyperplasia in this patient?			
A.Excess estrogen	B.Exposure to	C.History of chronic	D.History of oral

A.Excess estrogen	B.Exposure to	C.History of chronic	D.History of oral
stimulation	exogenous progestational agents	endometritis	contraceptive use

4.A 52-year-old woman presents with chronic pelvic discomfort. A CT scan of the pelvis shows a 10-cm, well-circumscribed uterine mass. A hysterectomy is performed. On gross examination, the mass is soft with areas of necrosis and irregular borders extending into the myometrium. Histologic examination demonstrates large zones of necrosis surrounded by a rim of disorganized spindle cells that display numerous mitoses. Immunohistochemical staining for smooth muscle actin is positive. Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?

A.Adenomyosis	B.Carcinosarcoma	C.Endometrial stromal sarcoma	D.Leiomyosarcoma	
5.A 33-year-old woman with a history of menorrhagia presents with a 6-month history of increasing fatigue. A CBC reveals a hypochromic, microcytic anemia (hemoglobin = 8 g/dL). Bimanual pelvic examination reveals an enlarged uterus with multiple, irregular masses. A hysterectomy is performed, and a sharply circumscribed fleshy tumor is found within the uterine wall (shown in the image). Which of the following is the most likely cause of vaginal bleeding and anemia in this patient?				
A.Adenomyosis B.Endometrial C.Endometriosis D.Uterine leiomyon carcinoma				







EXTRA CASES MAY REQUIRE EXTRA INFO

1.A 23-year-old nulliparous woman comes to the office because of chronic episodic pelvic pain. The pain begins 2-3 days before menses and continues throughout the menses, after which it subsides. Menarche was at age 14. She has a regular menstrual cycle of 25 days with 5-6 days of moderate bleeding. Medical history is significant for recurrent migraine headaches with aura. She is not sexually active. Physical examination shows a fixed anteverted uterus and nodularity in the posterior cul-de-sac. The patient is provided with a medication that acts to inhibit the growth of endometrial tissue. Which of the following medications was most likely provided?

A.Paroxetine

B.Danazol

C.Clomiphene

D.Progestin-only contraceptive pills

2.A 31-year-old woman, gravida 1 para 1, presents to the office because of heavy and painful menstrual bleeding for the last 2 months. She reports soaking 12-15 sanitary pads during her last menses. Her menstrual cycle is regular, with 5-6 days of heavy bleeding. Menarche was at age 12. She is sexually active with one male partner and denies any pain during intercourse. Past medical and surgical history is unremarkable. Temperature is 37° C (98.6°F), pulse is 102/min, respirations are 19/min, and blood pressure is 100/60 mmHg. Physical examination shows an enlarged uterus with irregular contour.



Laboratory value	Result
Complete blood count	
Hemoglobin (Hb)	9 g/dL
Mean corpuscular volume (MCV)	75 fL
Hematocrit	32%
Leukocyte count	9,100/mm3
Platelet count	400,000/mm3
Neutrophils, segmented	54%
Eosinophils	1%
Basophils	0%
Lymphocytes	25%
Monocytes	4%

The remainder of the examination is unremarkable. Urine pregnancy test is negative. Complete blood count is as follows: Which of the following is the most likely origin of this patient's ultrasound finding?

A.Placental epithelium

B.Smooth muscle cell C.Germ cell

D.Transitional epithelium



Pathology Team

