

Properties of benign & malignant tumors

Objectives:

- Compare between benign & malignant tumors in terms of differentiation, rate of growth, local invasion & metastases.
- Identify the morphological features that differentiate between benign & malignant tumors.
- Define the terms: differentiation, anaplasia, pleomorphism, nuclear atypia, abnormal mitosis & tumor giant cells.
- Understand the clinical significance of invasiveness and metastasis
- List the pathways by which malignant tumors spread.
- Define the terms: dysplasia & carcinoma in situ.
- List some common sites of distant metastases.
- Recognize the epidemiologic data of cancer distribution in regard to age, race, geographic factors & genetic background
- List some inherited syndromes with a genetic predisposition to cancer

Color Index:

Slides

Important

Male's slides only

Female's slides only

Notes

Extra information



Features to distinguish between benign & malignant tumors: (each point will be explained in details)

A- Differentiation & anaplasia

B- Local invasion

C- Rate of growth

D- **Metastasis**

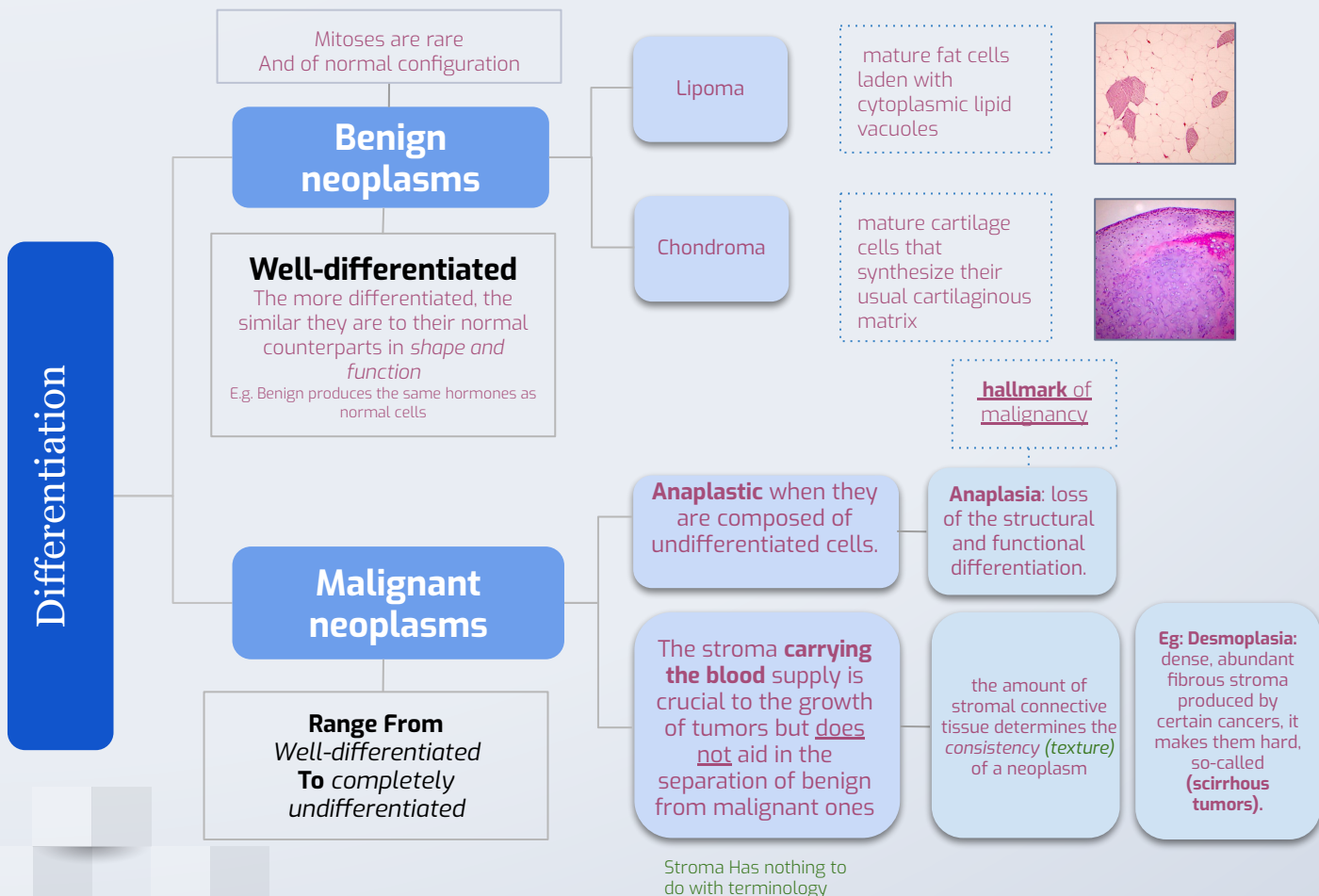
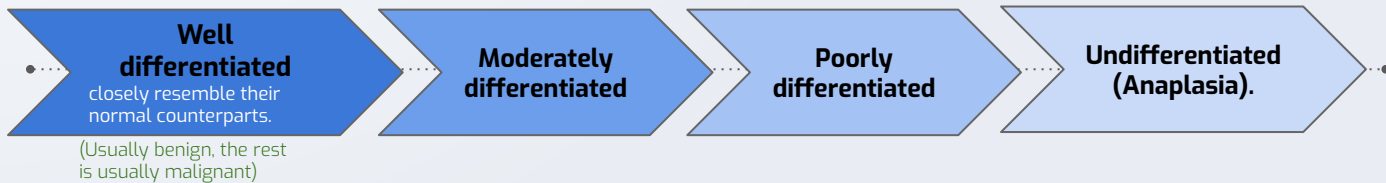
Features to distinguish between benign & malignant tumors :

A-Differentiation & anaplasia

Are characteristics seen only in the **parenchymal cells** that constitute the **transformed elements** of neoplasms.

Differentiation

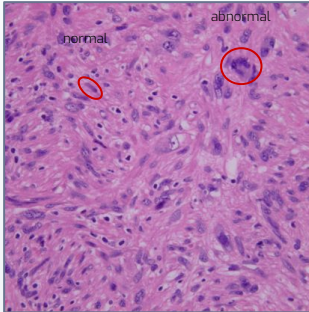
the extent to which the parenchymal cells of the tumor resemble their normal counterparts morphologically and functionally.



Differentiation cont.

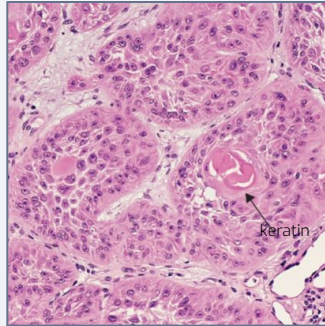
Malignant neoplasms

Leiomyosarcoma



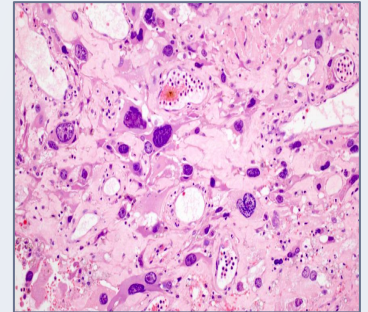
malignant, mesenchymal, smooth muscle.
Moderately differentiated, because we can say it's smooth muscle.
We can see Abnormal Nuclei, normal should be Cigar Shaped

Squamous cell carcinoma



moderately differentiated, we know it's squamous cells
prominent nucleoli can be seen.

Anaplasia



- There is huge (giant) nuclei.
- Very atypical (pleomorphic).
- Resembles no tissue so we have no idea what this tissue is
- it has absolutely no function i.e. it's not forming gland or matrix.

histopathological features (Atypia)

(To judge differentiation)
All of these features come together in the same cell or in different areas

Giant cells

larger than their neighbors & possess either one enormous nucleus or several nuclei

Pleomorphism

variation in size and shape

Mitoses

typical or atypical forms

Enlarged nuclei (High Nuclear)

increase of nuclear to cytoplasm ratio (1:1 instead of normal 1:4, 1:6)

Prominent nucleoli

Hyperchromasia

(dark nuclei) due to coarse & clumped (full of mutations) chromatin

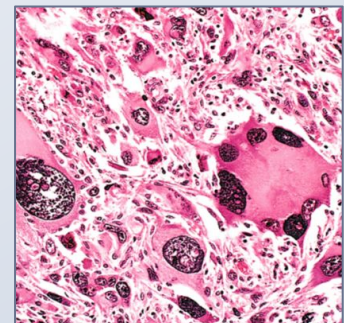
All of these features appear in malignant neoplasms, benign neoplasms usually don't have any feature.

Atypical Mitosis

Not similar of any normal phase of mitotic phases.
Only seen in malignancy



It is sarcoma (we don't have to know which type of sarcoma).
But we can recognize:
- different shape of cells (pleomorphism)
- the nuclei is dark (Hyperchromasia), and increase of nuclear to cytoplasm ratio (enlarged)
- Giant cells (either nucleus or several nuclei)

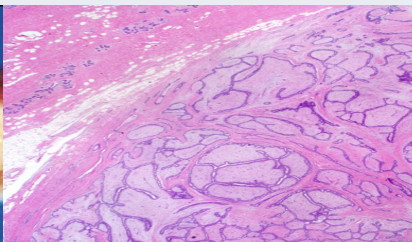
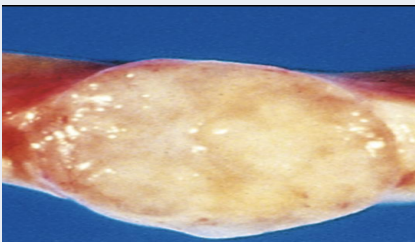


Tumor Giant Cells

Features to distinguish between benign & malignant tumors :

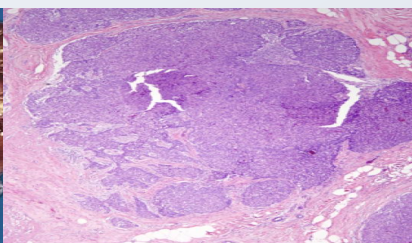
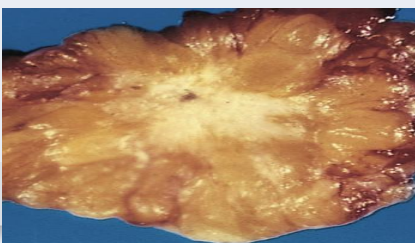
B-C -Rate of growth and local invasion

	Benign tumors	Malignant tumors
Rate of growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grow slowly. ● Their growth is affected by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - adequate blood supply - location - hormones e.g. leiomyoma of the uterus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grow fast. ● Usually correlates inversely with the level of differentiation. fastest is anaplastic
Local invasion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● remain localized. ● cannot invade. ● usually encapsulated (surrounded by a fibrous capsule). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● invade the underlying basement membrane or stroma. ● Progressive invasion ● Destructive. ● They are usually not capsulated.



Fibroadenoma in the breast (**benign tumor**)

Local invasion



Tumor in the breast (**Malignant tumor**)

Local invasion

Features to distinguish between benign & malignant tumors :

D- Metastasis

Definition

it is the development of secondary implants of a tumor that are **discontinuous** with the primary tumor & located in remote tissues (far from origin).

Discontinuous indicates metastasis. Continuous indicates *local* invasion.

- * More than any other attribute, the property of metastasis ALWAYS identifies a neoplasm as malignant.
It is the **most important** sign of malignancies.
- * Cancer have different ability to metastasize.
- * Approximately 30% of patients present with clinically evident metastases.
- * Generally, the more anaplastic and the larger the primary tumor, the more likely it metastasizes.

Pathways of Malignant Neoplasm Dissemination (Metastasis pathways)

Seeding Within Body Cavities	Lymphatic Spread	Hematogenous Spread
Occurs when neoplasms invade a natural body cavity. Seedings are deposits of tumor in cavities.	more typical of carcinomas .	favored by sarcomas but can also occur in carcinomas.
particularly characteristic of cancers of the ovary , which often cover the peritoneal surfaces widely.	- Breast carcinoma → axillary lymph node - Lung carcinomas → bronchial lymph nodes	Veins are more commonly invaded, because they have a thin wall The <u>liver</u> and <u>lungs</u> are the most frequently involved secondary sites



Primary tumor: a tumor that is made in the organ itself.
Metastasis (secondary) tumor: a tumor made somewhere else.

Dysplasia and carcinoma in-situ

	Dysplasia	Carcinoma in-situ (in location)
Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a loss in the uniformity of the individual cells and a loss in their architectural orientation (Loss of maturation) It is a non-neoplastic process but a premalignant condition. (pre-cancer) المرحلة الفاصلة/الانتقالية إلى السرطان 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an intraepithelial (inside the mucosa) malignancy (has all features) in which malignant cells involve the entire thickness of the epithelium <u>without</u> penetration of the basement membrane If dysplastic changes involve the entire thickness of the epithelium it is called: carcinoma in-situ.
Location	occurs mainly in the epithelia. Applicable only to epithelial neoplasms.	
Reversible or irreversible	Dysplasia may be reversible .	Irreversible
Cancerous or not	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not mean cancer. Does not necessarily progress to cancer. 	It displays the cytological features of malignancy without invading the basement membrane.
How it differs from cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of invasiveness. Reversibility 	It is a true neoplasm with all of the features of malignant neoplasm <u>except</u> invasiveness.
Histological Features Of Dysplasia	Dysplastic cells show a degree of: pleomorphism, ↑ N:C ratio, hyperchromasia, irregular nuclei , increased mitosis, loss of polarity & a discolored mutation Or total failure of maturation . Dysplastic cells show some features but no to the point of cancer.	
The risk of invasive cancer in dysplasia varies with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> grade of dysplasia (mild, moderate, severe) duration of dysplasia site of dysplasia <p style="text-align: center;">Higher risk </p> <p>E.g. if in the cervix → slower to develop If in the oral cavity → faster to develop</p>	

Dysplasia features

1 Increase the rate of mutation

2 Disordered maturation

3 Nuclear abnormality:

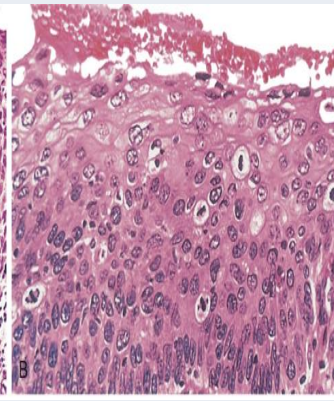
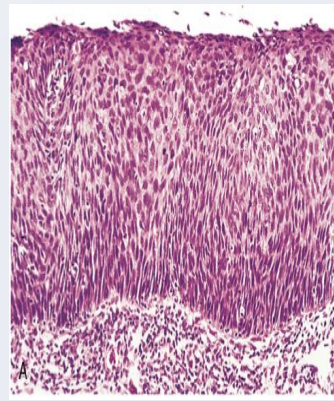
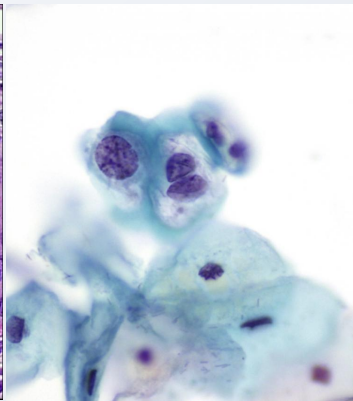
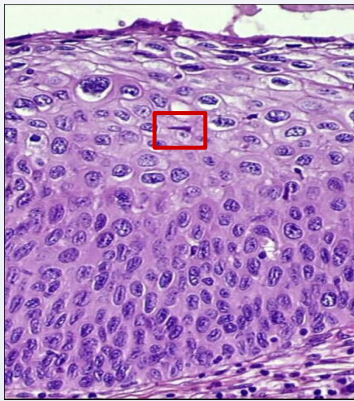
- Increase N/C ratio
- Irregular nuclear membrane
- Increase chromatin content

4 Cytoplasmic abnormalities:
Due to failure of normal maturation

Dysplasia and carcinoma in-situ (Cont.)

Dysplasia

carcinoma in-situ

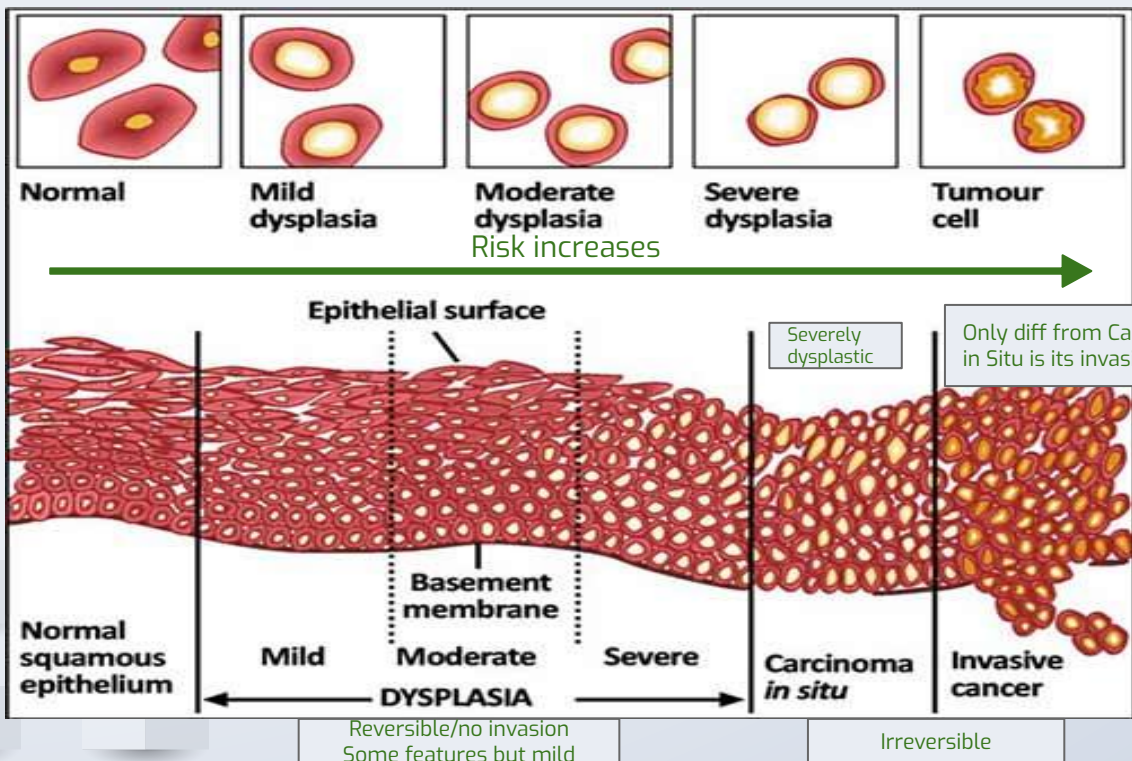


Histology:
Few atypical cells/Loss of maturation in layers

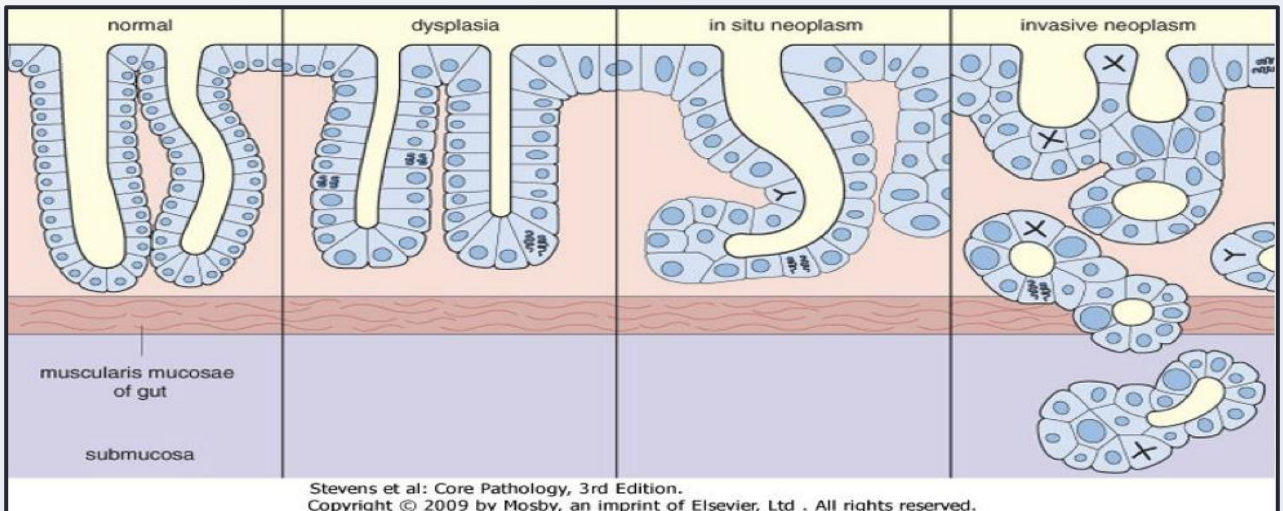
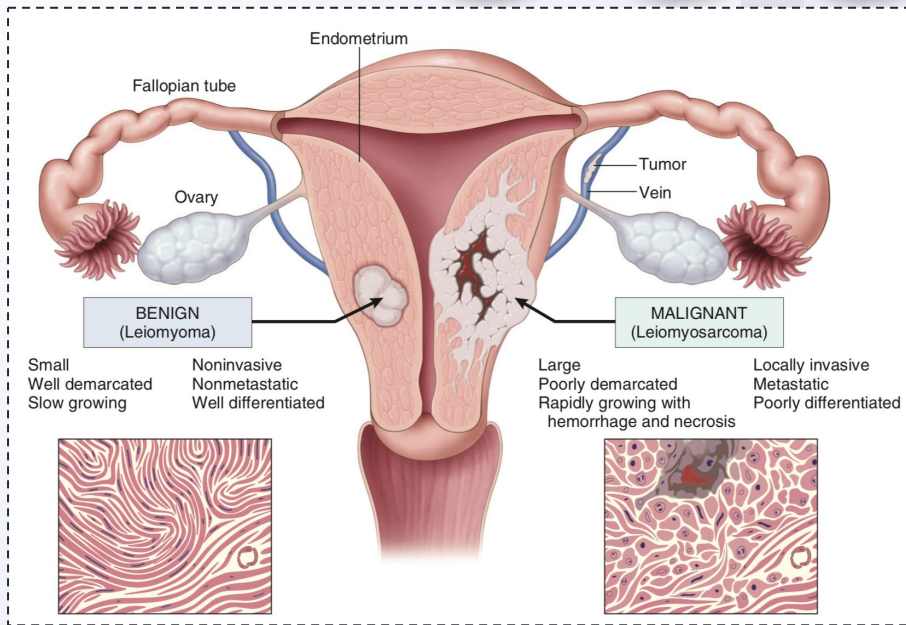
Cytology:
hyperchromasia/enlarged but not severe

Situ = Location, no invasiveness
Loss of maturation, basement membrane is not invaded

Dysplasia & carcinoma in-situ (both in epithelium)



Summary from slides



SUMMARY

CHARACTERISTICS OF BENIGN AND MALIGNANT TUMORS

- Benign and malignant tumors can be distinguished from one another based on the degree of differentiation, rate of growth, local invasiveness, and distant spread.
- Benign tumors resemble the tissue of origin and are well differentiated; malignant tumors are poorly or completely undifferentiated (anaplastic).
- Benign tumors tend to be slow growing, whereas malignant tumors generally grow faster.
- Benign tumors are well circumscribed and have a capsule; malignant tumors are poorly circumscribed and invade the surrounding normal tissues.
- Benign tumors remain localized to the site of origin, whereas malignant tumors are locally invasive and metastasize to distant sites.

MCQs

1- Which of the following is correct about dysplasia ?

a- irreversible

B- invasive

C- displays cytological features of malignancy

D- occurs mainly in epithelia

2- Carcinoma in situ is a true neoplasm with with all of the features of malignant neoplasm except:

A- pleomorphism

B- it occurs in stroma only

C- it doesn't penetrate the basement membrane

D- reversible

3- which has the fastest rate of growth?

A- Well differentiated

B- Moderately differentiated

C- Poorly differentiated

D- Anaplastic

4- The more anaplastic and the larger the primary tumor is the *less* likely it is to metastasize

A-True

B- False

5- Seeding within body cavities is typical in :

A- Breast carcinoma

B- Cancer of the Ovaries

C- Lung Carcinoma

D- Both A and C

6- it is totally loss of the structural and functional differentiation:

A- Anaplasia

B- stroma

C- Desmoplasia

D- Lipoma

SAQs

MCQ: 1-D-2-C-3-D-4-B-5-B-6-A

1- List three characteristics of local invasion in benign tumors?

2- Name the most frequently involved secondary sites in metastasis.

3- What does (Differentiation) means in distinguish between benign & malignant tumors?

4- Enumerate three histopathological features of malignant neoplasms.

SAQ:
1. slide 5
2. Slide 6
3. Slide 3
4. Slide 4

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Special thanks to Manal for her amazing work and efforts

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Editing File