

# Ancillary Tests for Melanoma Diagnosis

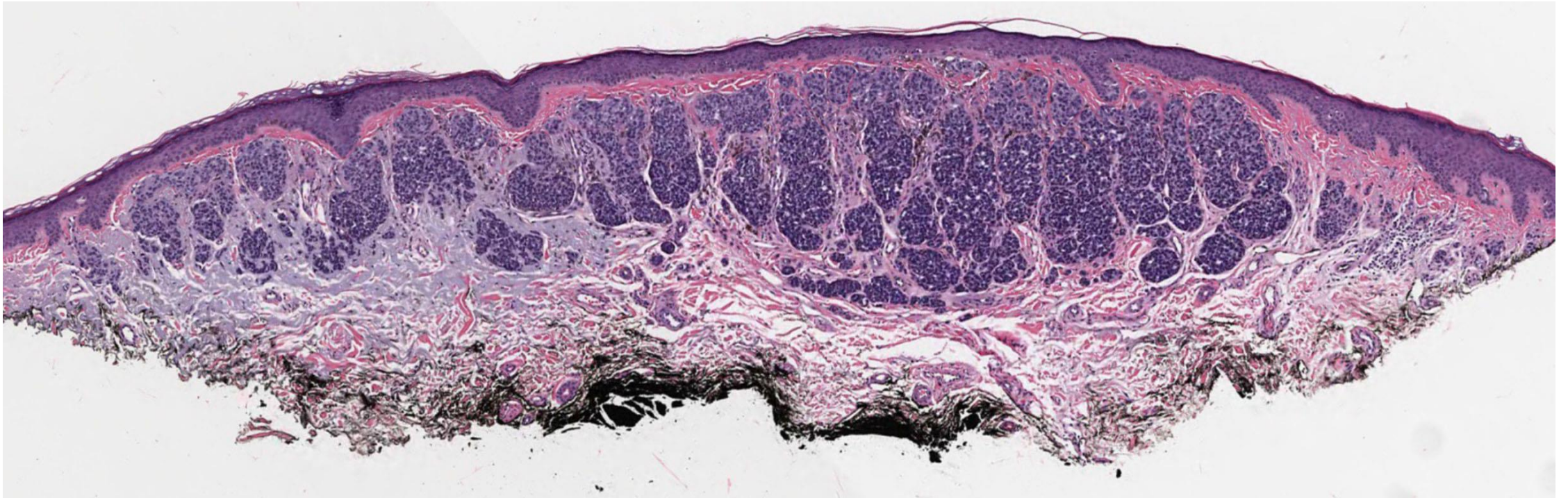
- Immunohistochemistry
- Molecular Tests



## II. Immunohistochemistry

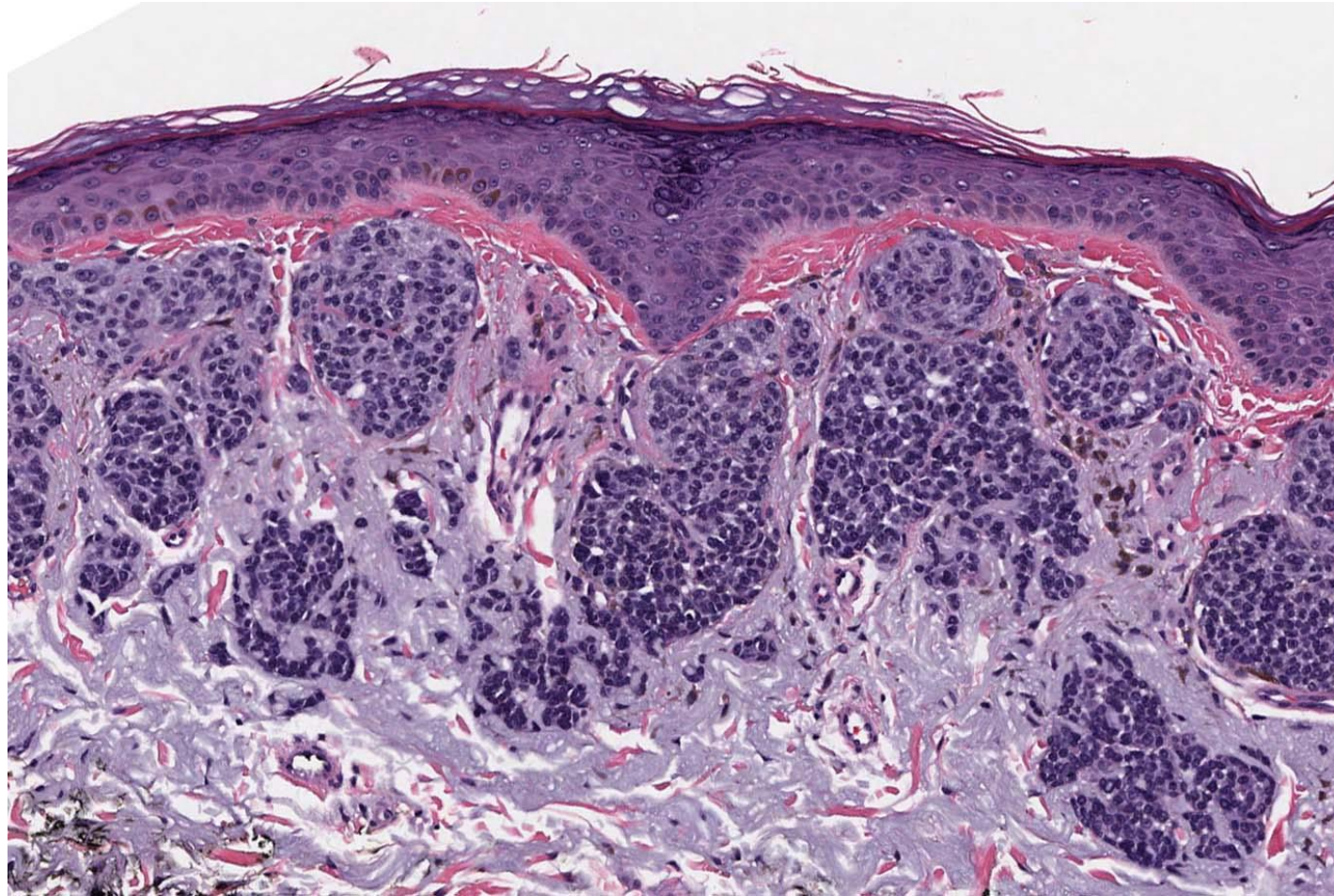
- Melanocytic or Not
  - Amelanotic melanocytic tumor vs other
  - Densely inflamed melanocytic tumor
  - SLN analysis
- Surrogate for molecular pathway (e.g., Spitz; BAP1, beta-catenin)
- Targeted therapy (e.g., BRAFV600E)
- Biomarker to help distinguish benign from malignant

What is Your Diagnosis?



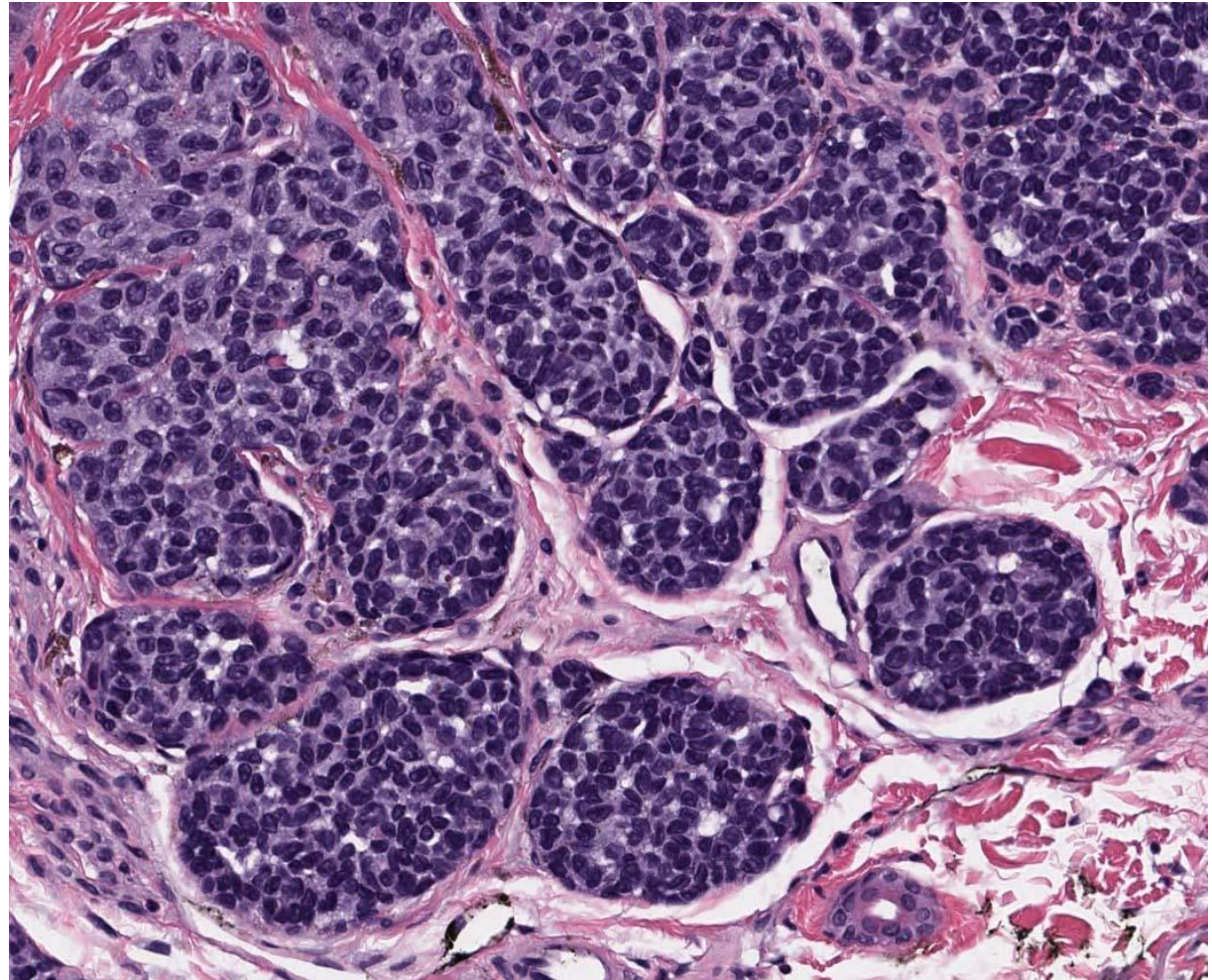
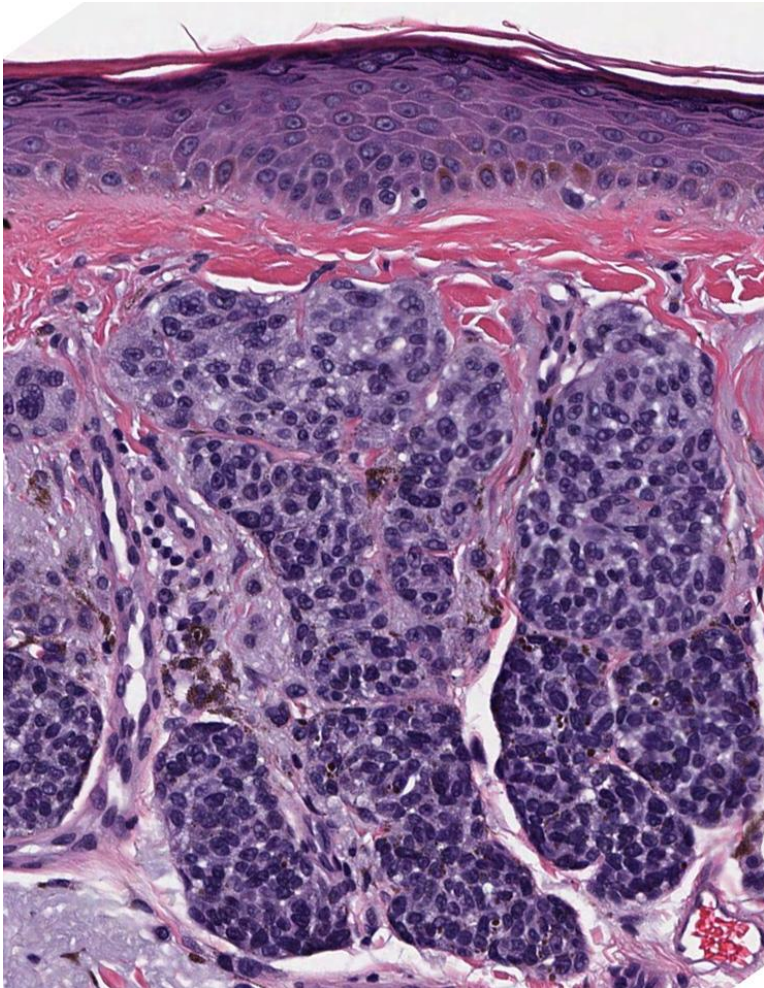


What is Your Diagnosis?



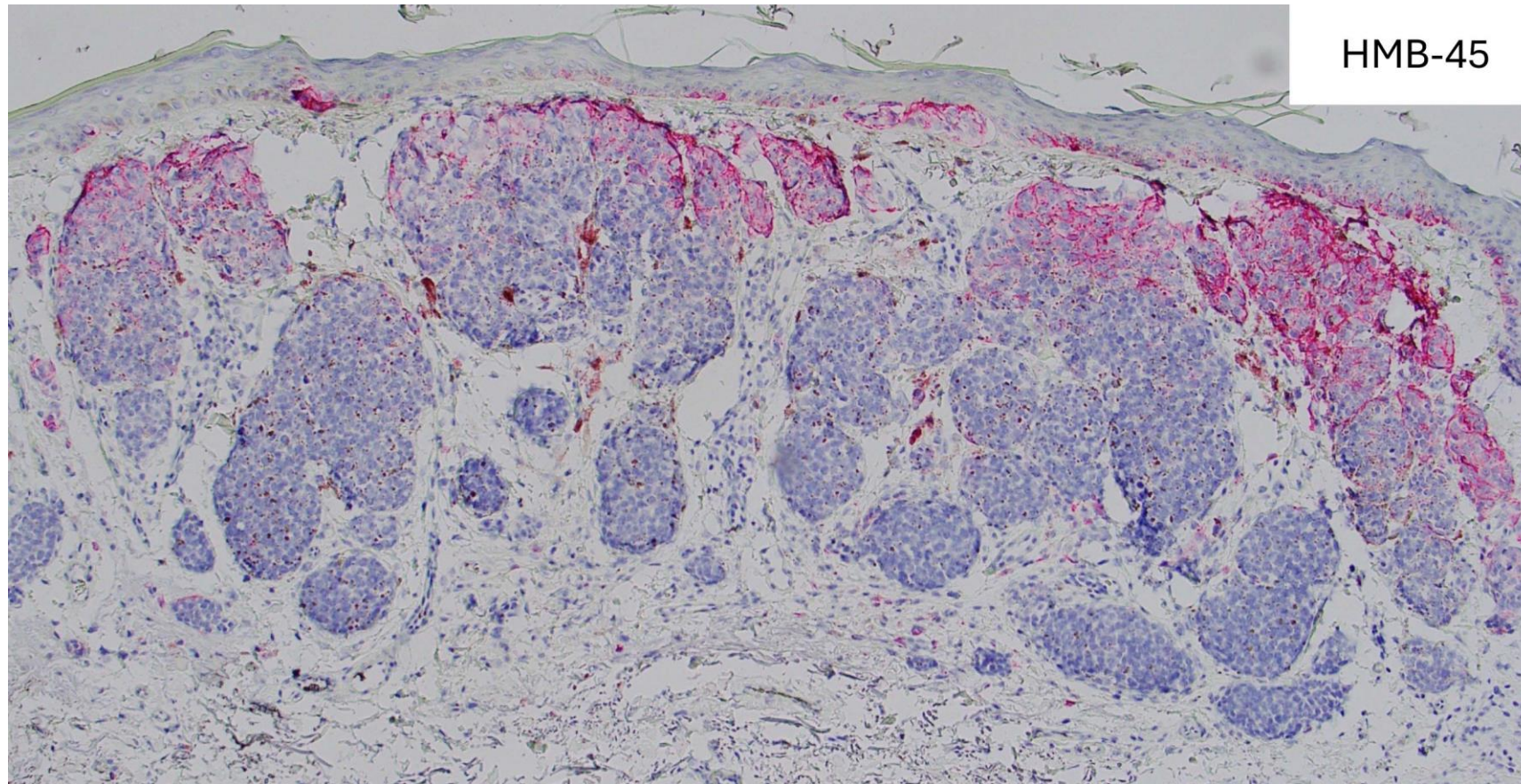


What is Your Diagnosis?



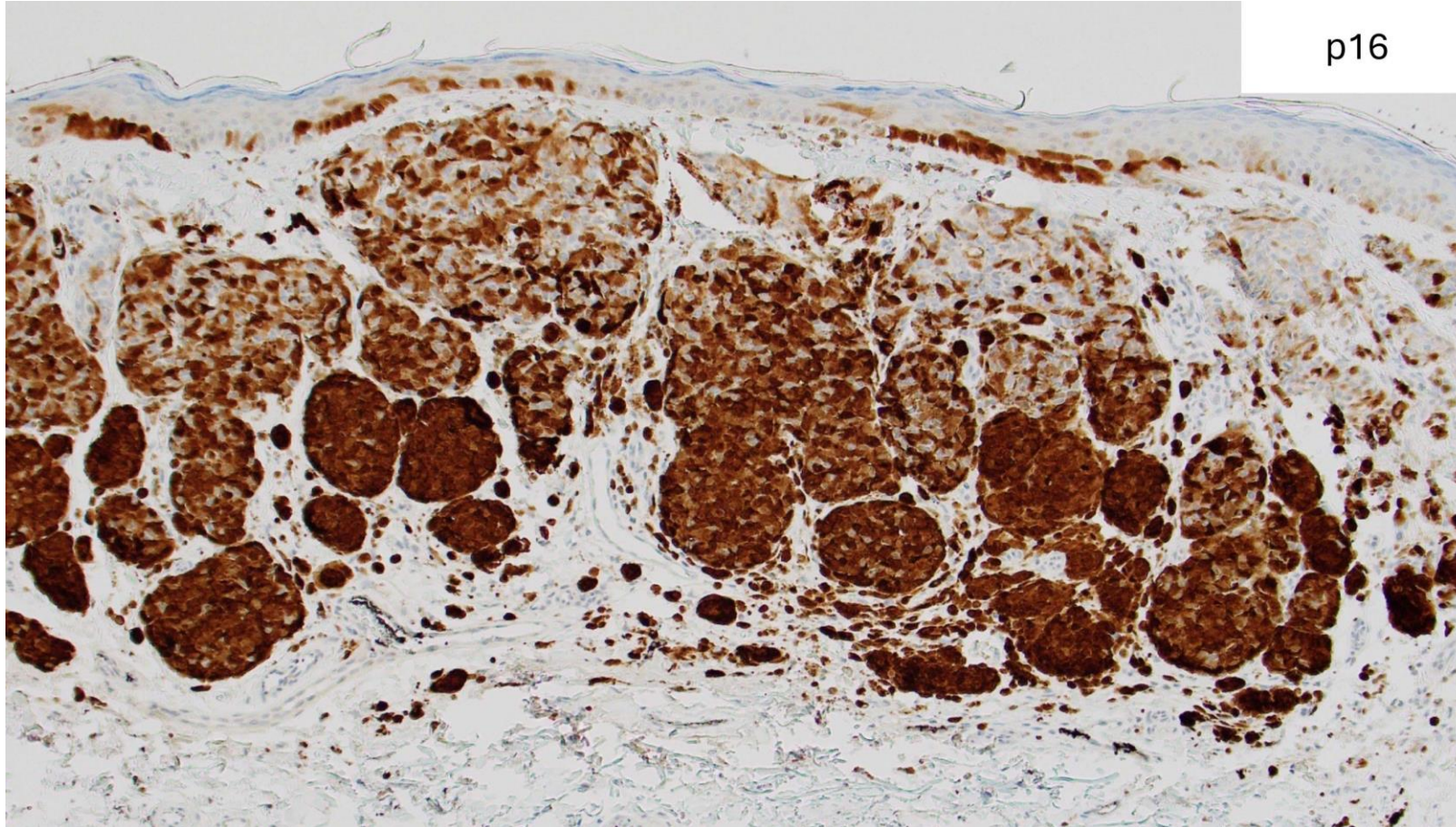


# Submitted IHC slide



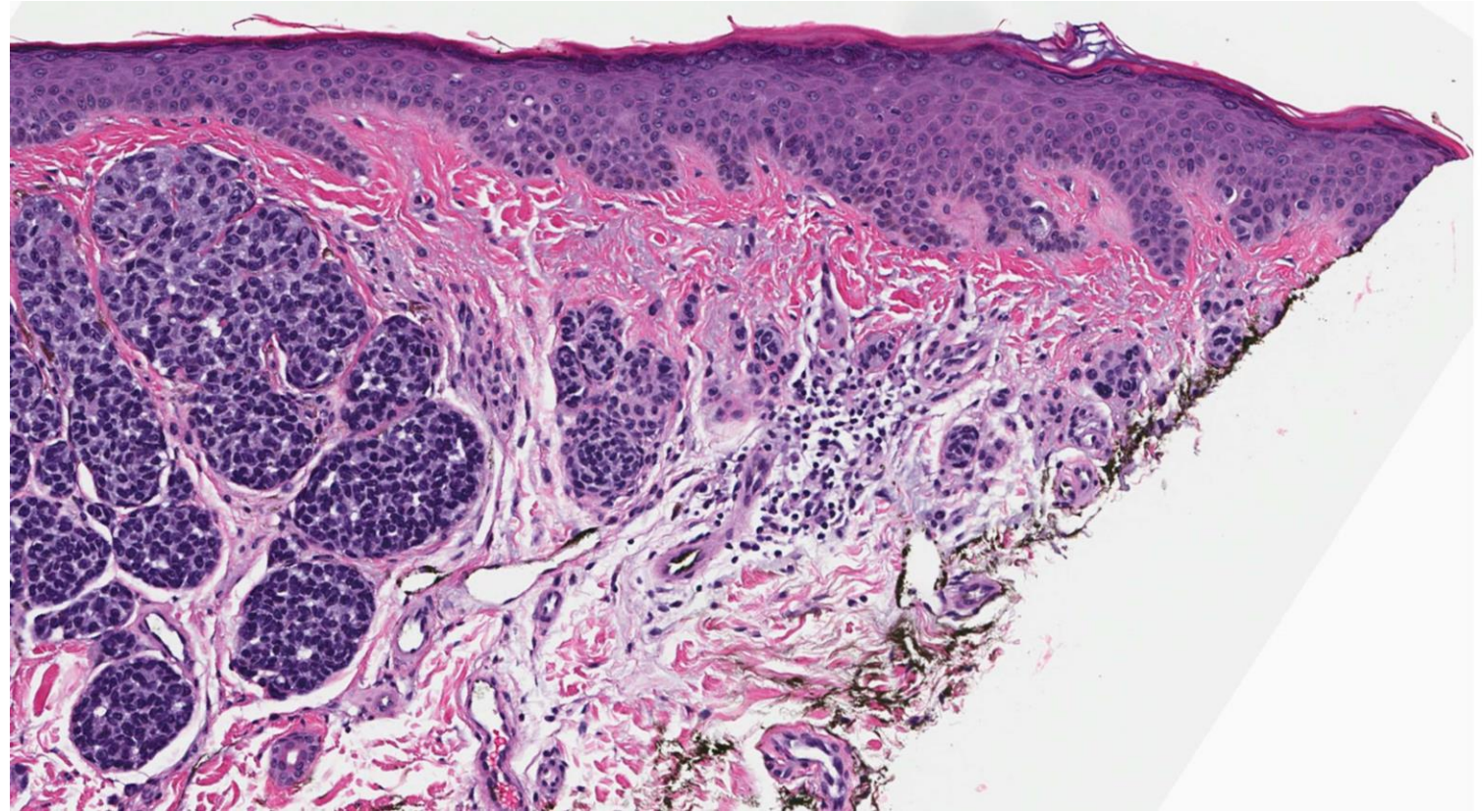


# Submitted IHC slide



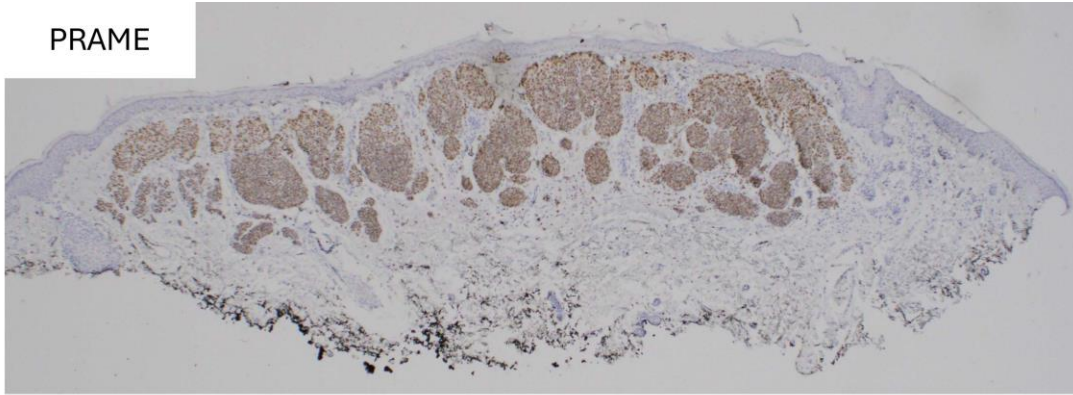


# Changing Lesion; Dual Population of Melanocytes

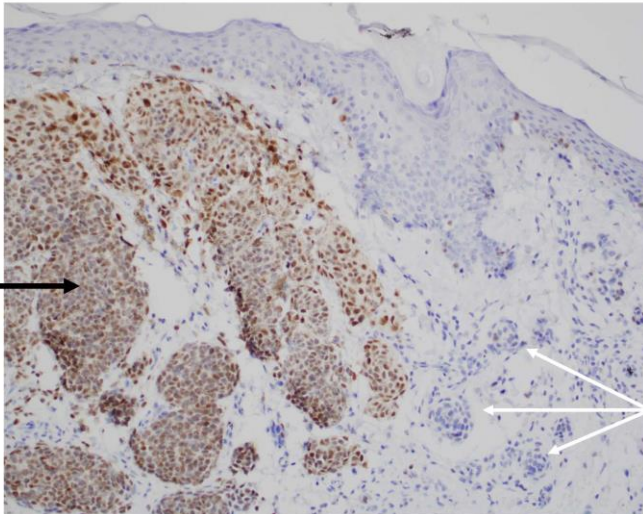


# Diagnostic Support from Ancillary Studies

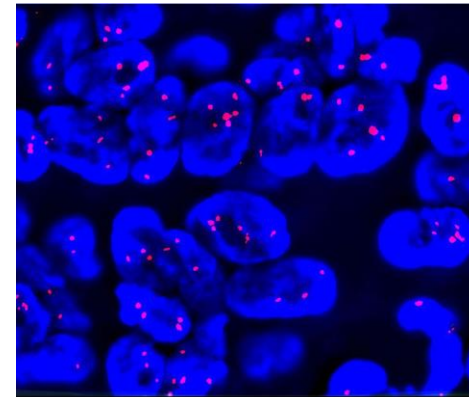
PRAME



MELANOMA +



NEVUS -



**FISH TEST POSITIVE**

- Gain of 6p
- Loss of 6q
- Gain of 11q

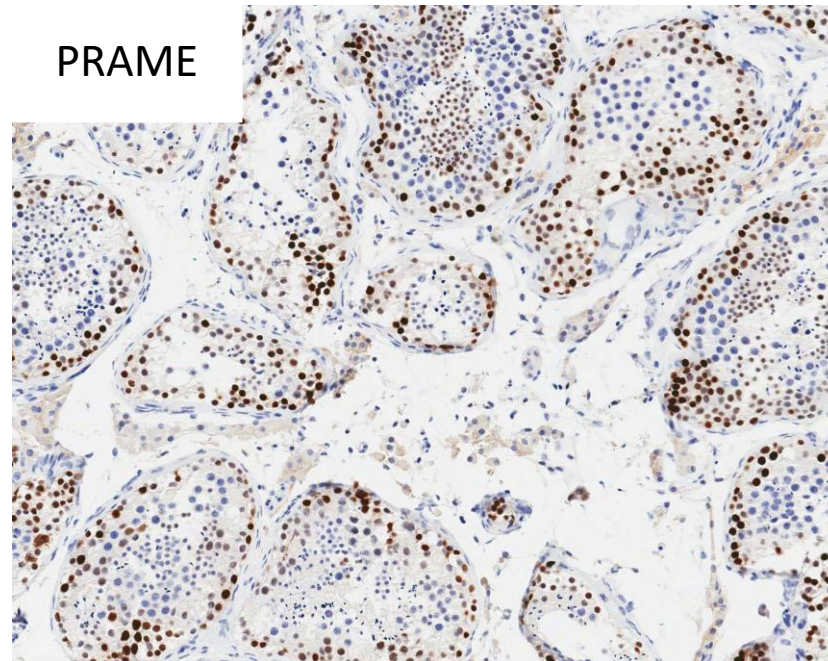
FISH TEST NORMAL  
In adjacent nevus

**Final Diagnosis** Date Signed Out:  
FISH evaluation following hybridization revealed RREB1 (6p25) gain in 93%, relative gain of RREB1 (6p25)/CEP 6 in 50%, relative loss of MYB (6q23)/CEP 6 in 23%, CCND1 (11q13) gain in 56% and homozygous deletion of CDKN2A (p16, 9p21) in 0%



# PRAME

- **P**referentially expressed **A**ntigen in **M**elanoma
- Cancer Testis Antigen

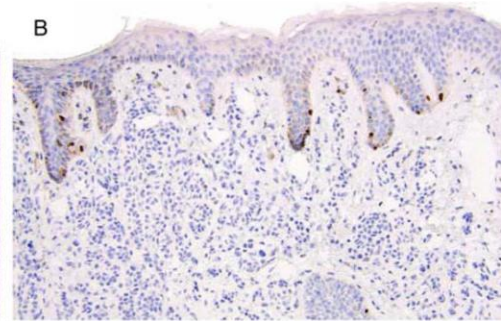
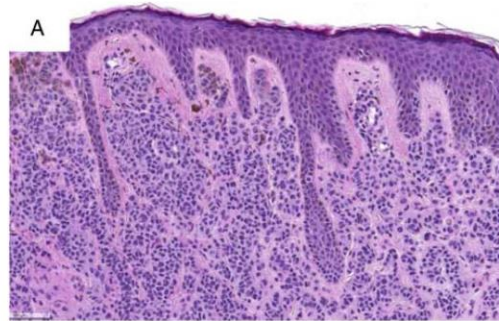




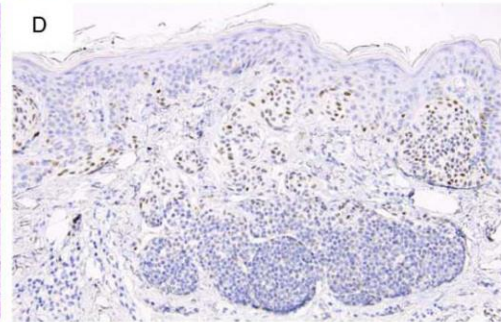
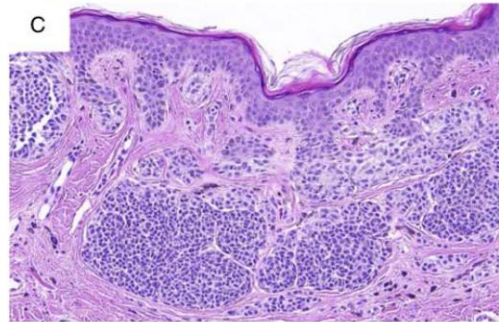
# PRAME Expression by IHC

- Metastatic Melanoma (n=100) 87% POS
- Primary Melanoma (n= 155) 83% POS
  - Conventional: 88 – 94%
  - Desmoplastic: 35%
- Melanocytic Nevi (n= 145) 14% POS

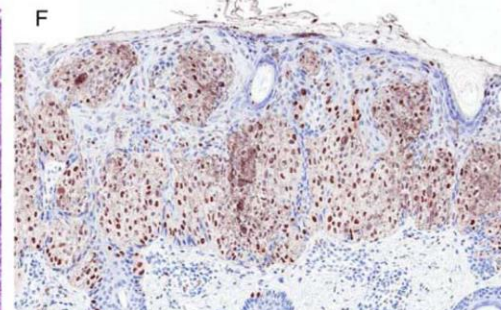
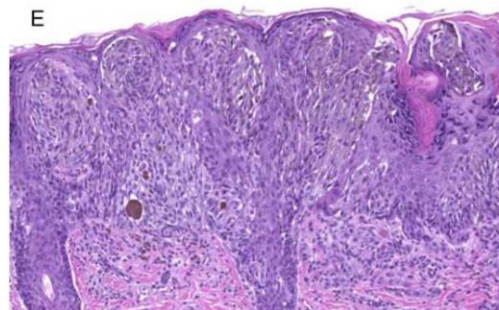
# PRAME in Melanocytic Nevi



4/40  
(1+)

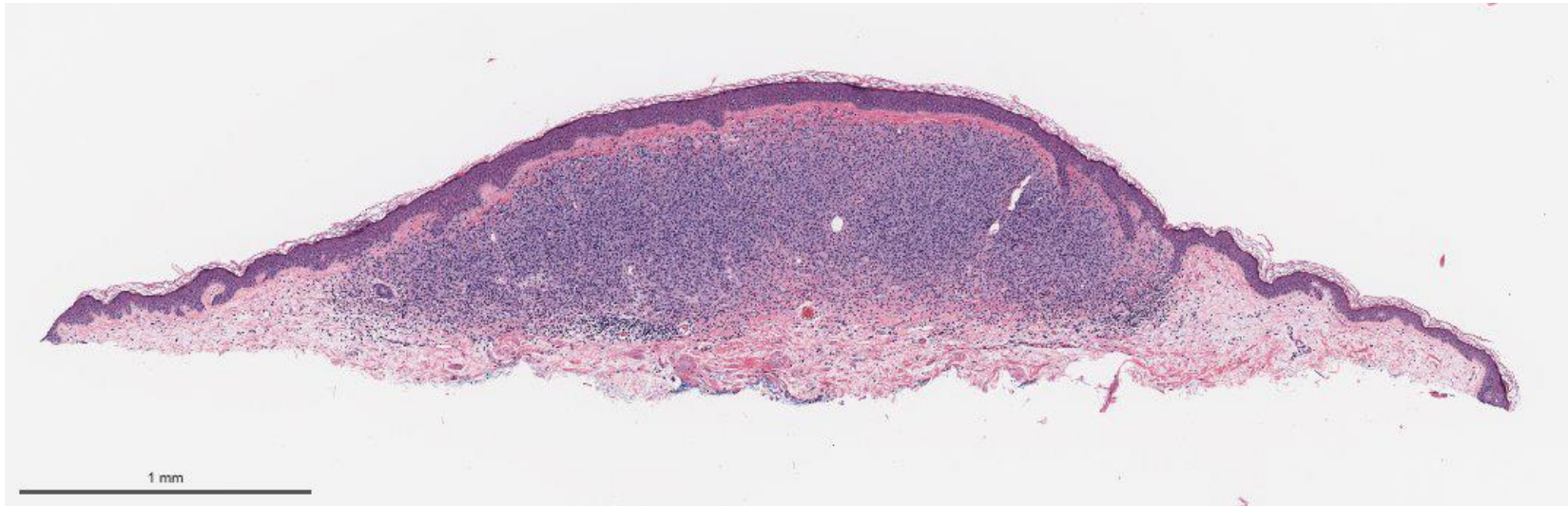


11/60  
(1 – 2+)



1/145  
(4+)

# Nevus or Melanoma?



## FINAL DIAGNOSIS

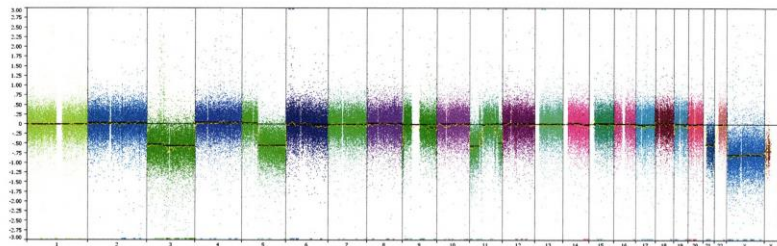
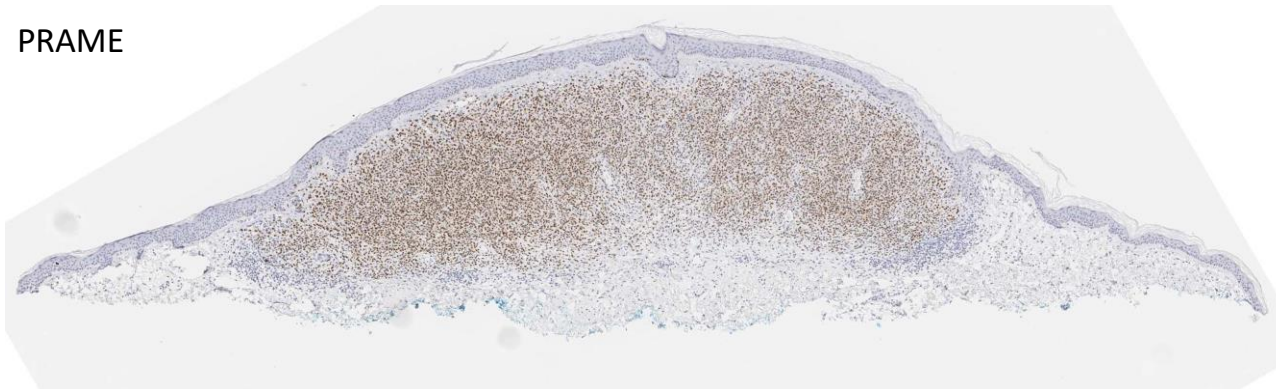
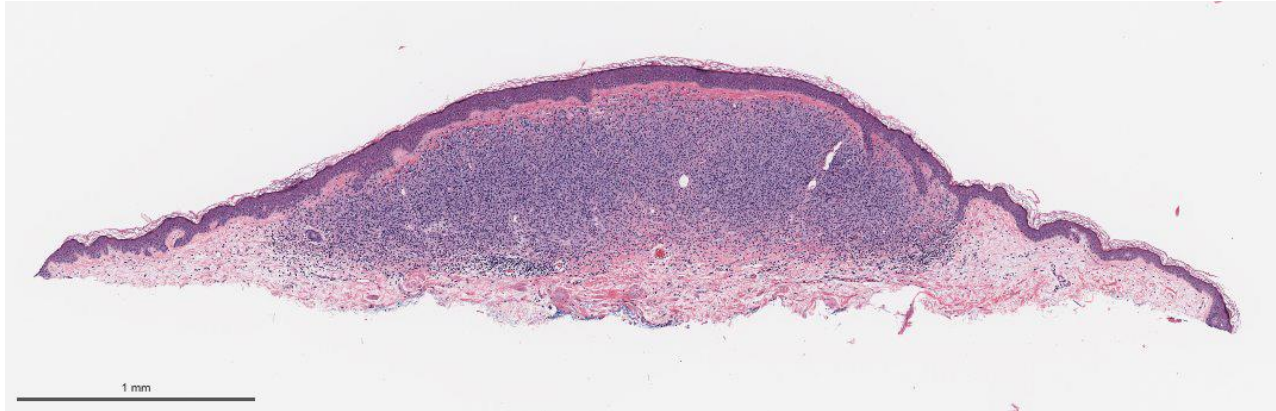
**Right Lateral Inferior Chest, Shave Biopsy:**

### **ATYPICAL INTRADERMAL MELANOCYTIC PROLIFERATION**

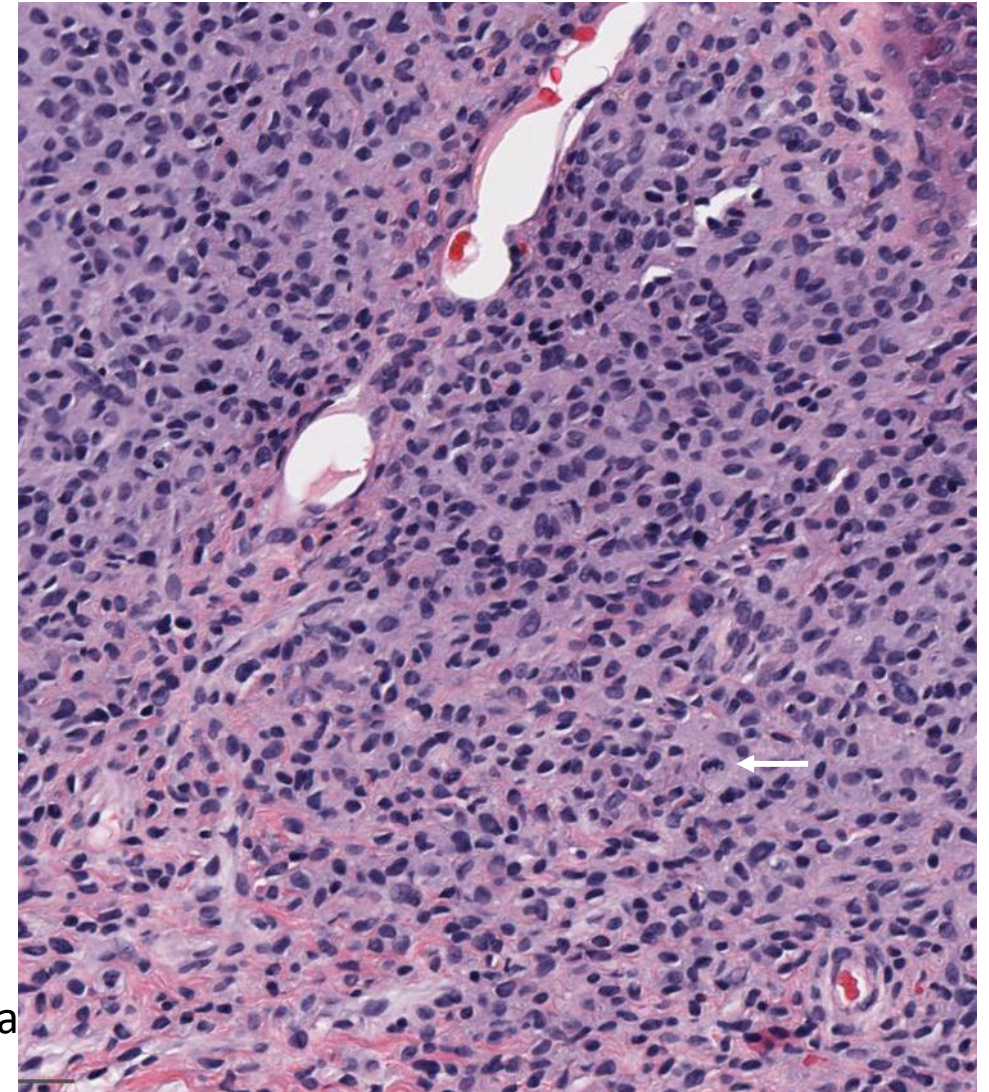
**Note:** This is a difficult biopsy to interpret. There are sheets of melanocytes with variable nuclear size and few mitotic figures. For these reasons I am concern this may represent dermal melanoma with a thickness of 1.3mm, Clark's IV.



# Nevoid Melanoma



SNP Array:  
supportive of melanoma



# Immunohistochemistry for PRAME

**Probably Right, Also Makes Errors**

*Phil LeBoit*

# Pitfalls in Using PRAME IHC



- PRAME is not melanoma-specific
- Not all melanomas express PRAME
- Some nevi or non-neoplastic melanocytes express PRAME
- Suboptimal assays
- False interpretation of the results

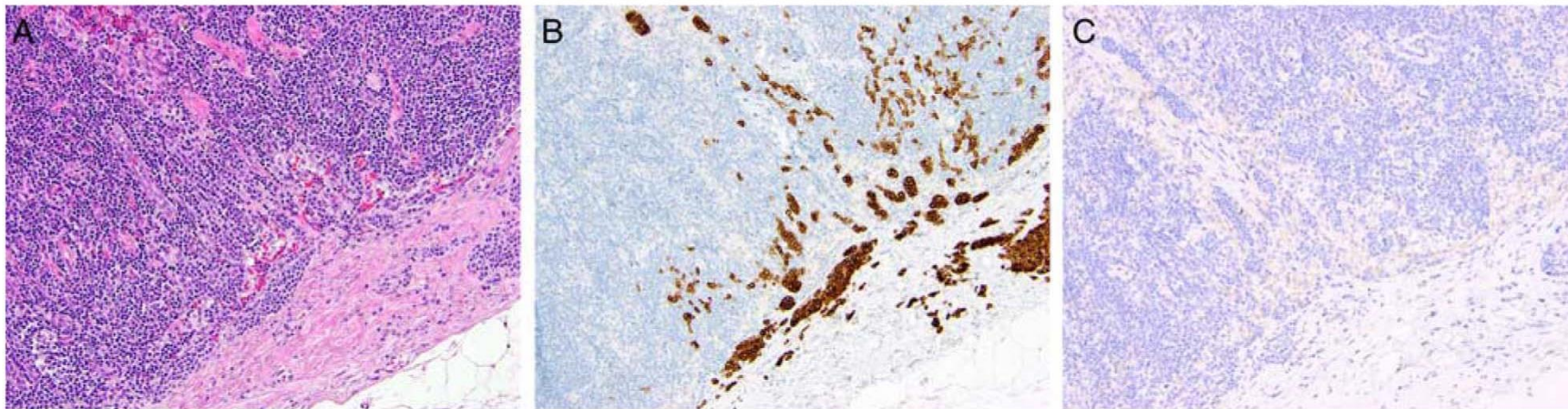


# Utility of PRAME IHC in Clinical Practice

- Nodal Nevus vs metastatic melanoma
- Melanoma in situ vs melanocyte hyperplasia, margins of MIS
- Nevus vs melanoma
- Other

## Immunohistochemistry for PRAME in the Distinction of Nodal Nevi From Metastatic Melanoma

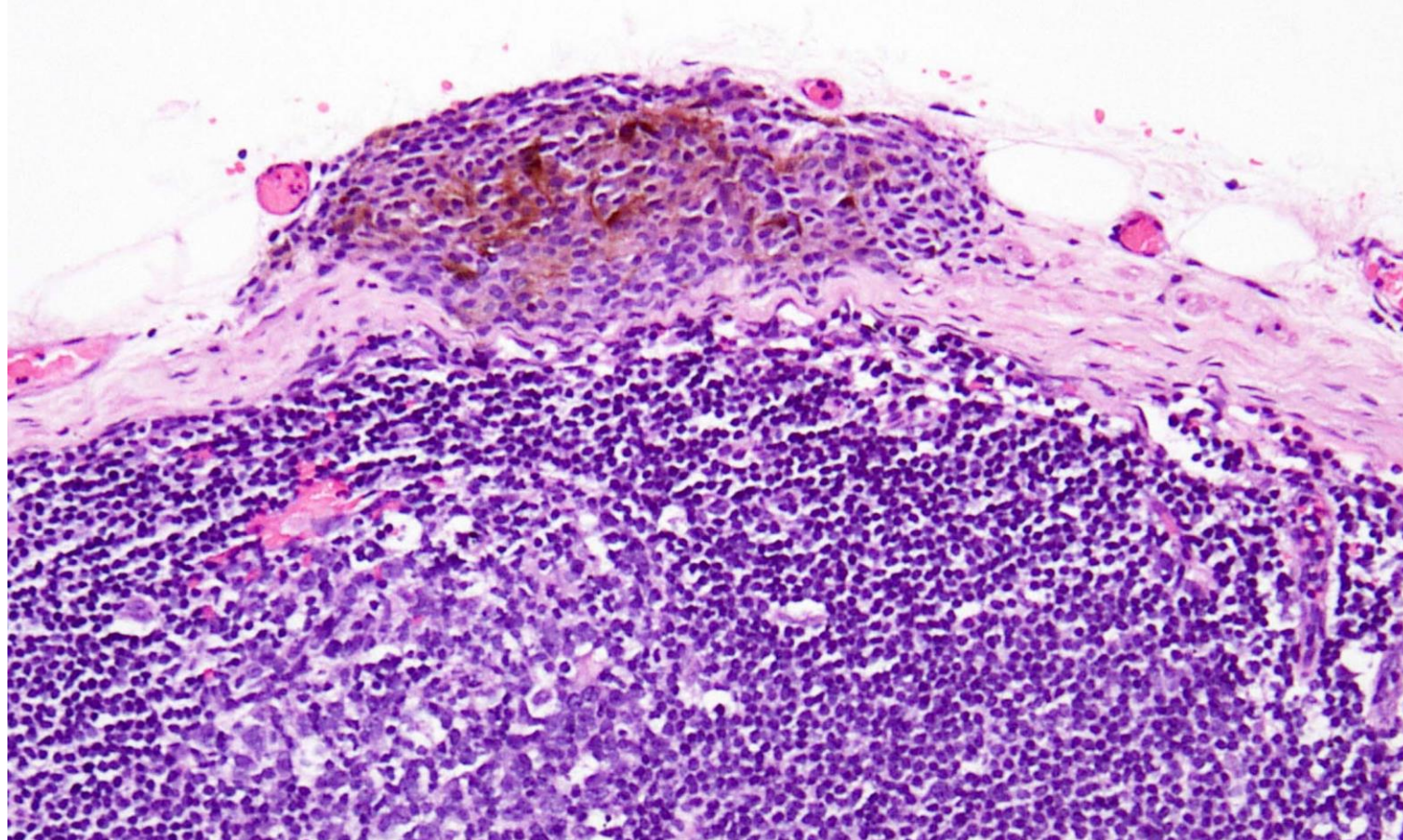
*Cecilia Lezcano, MD, Melissa Pulitzer, MD, Andrea P. Moy, MD, Travis J. Hollmann, MD, PhD, Achim A. Jungbluth, MD, and Klaus J. Busam, MD*



**FIGURE 2.** Nodal nevus. Capsular, subcapsular, and intraparenchymal nevus (A, H&E; B, Melan A; C, PRAME) showing no immunoreactivity for PRAME.

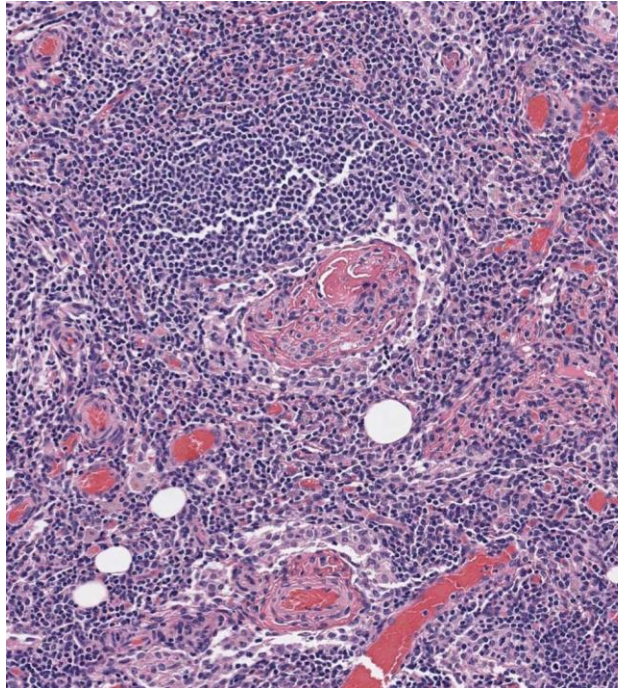


# Capsular Nodal Melanocytic Nevus

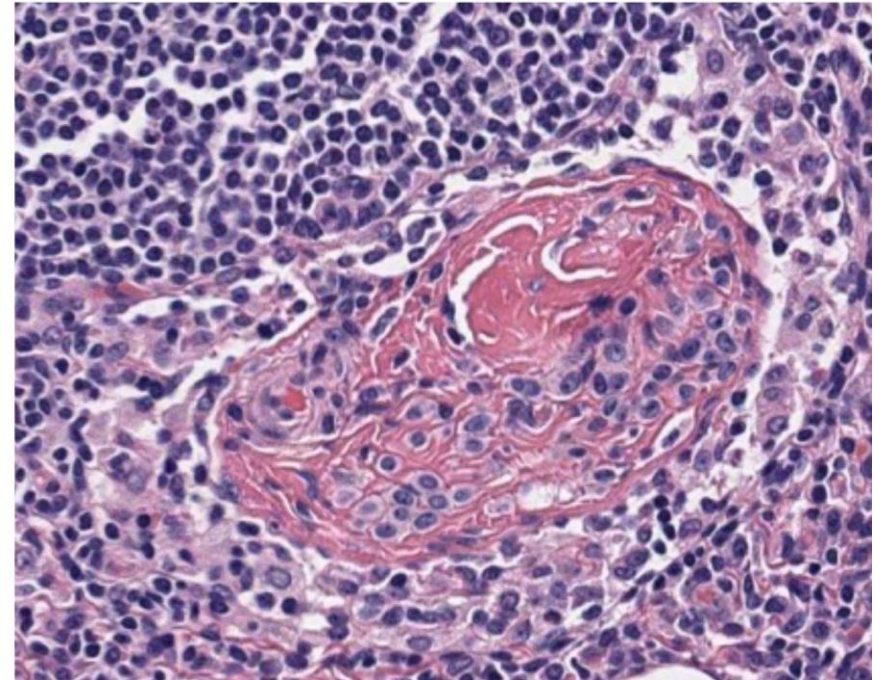
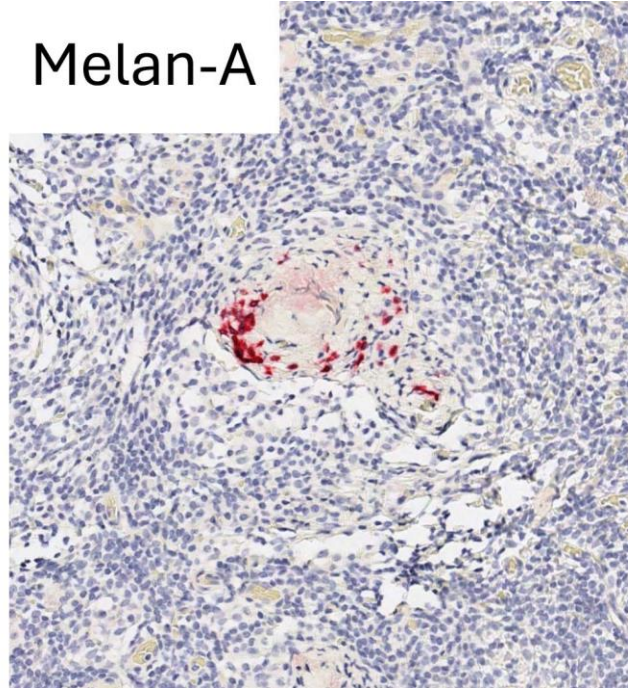




# Trabecular Melanocytic Nevus

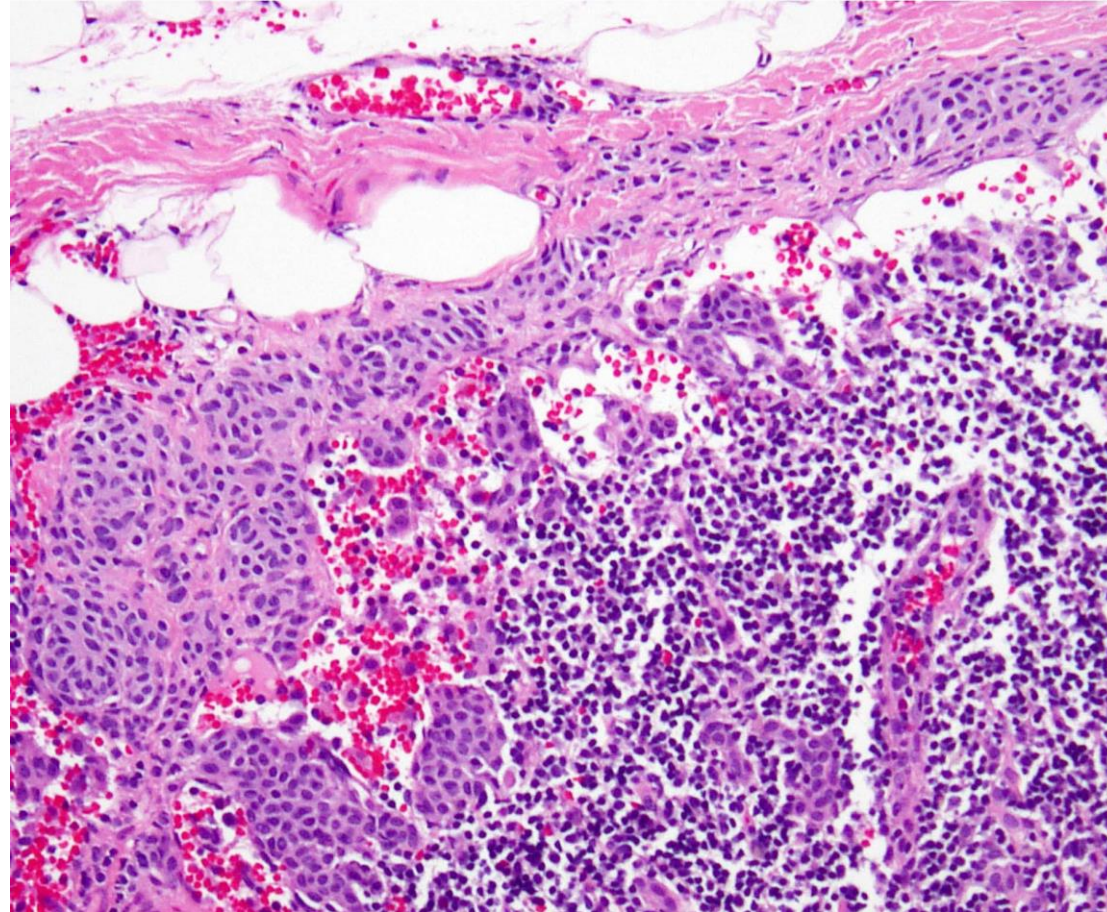


Melan-A

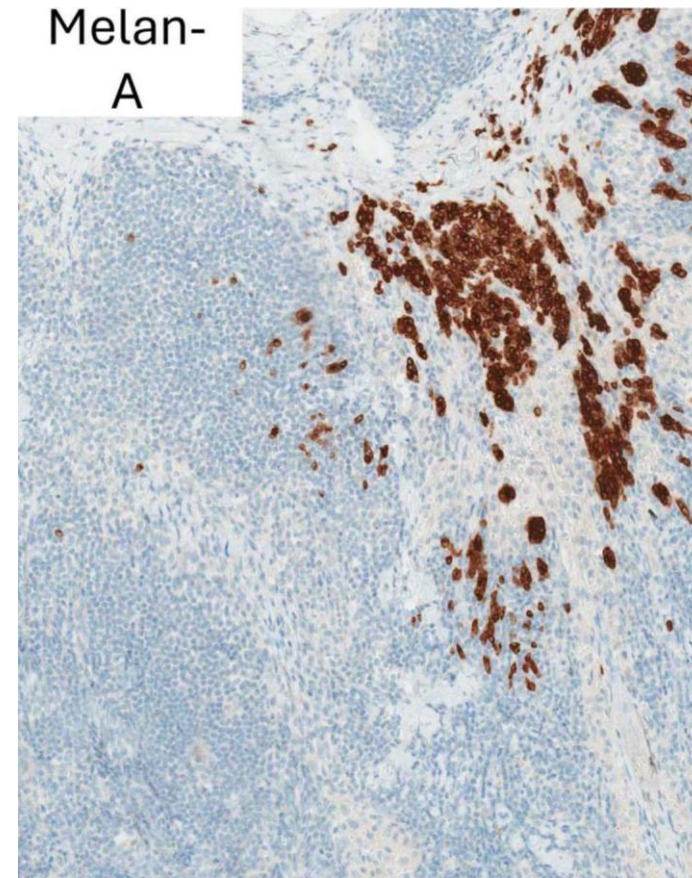
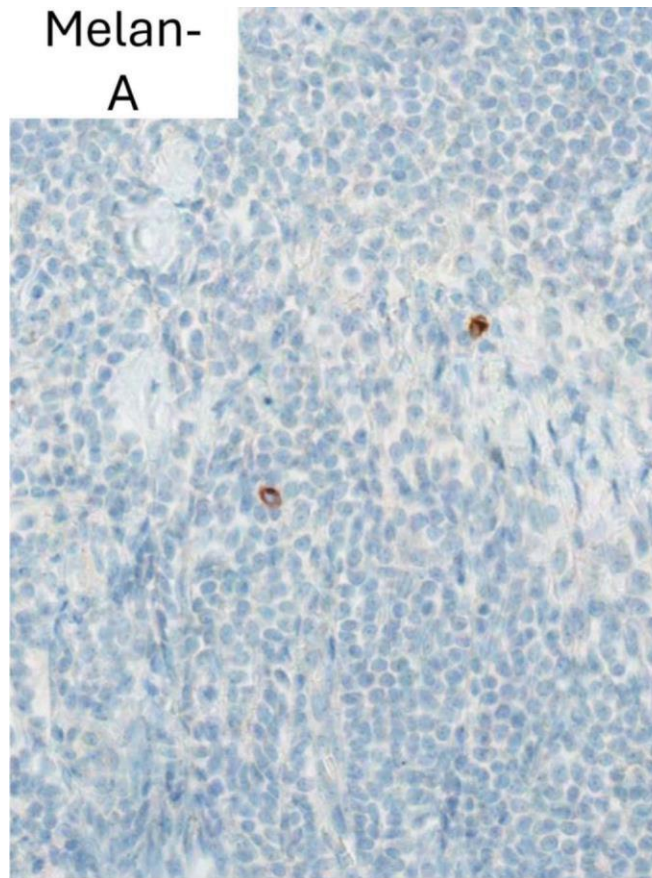




# Capsular and Subcapsular Melanocytic Nevus

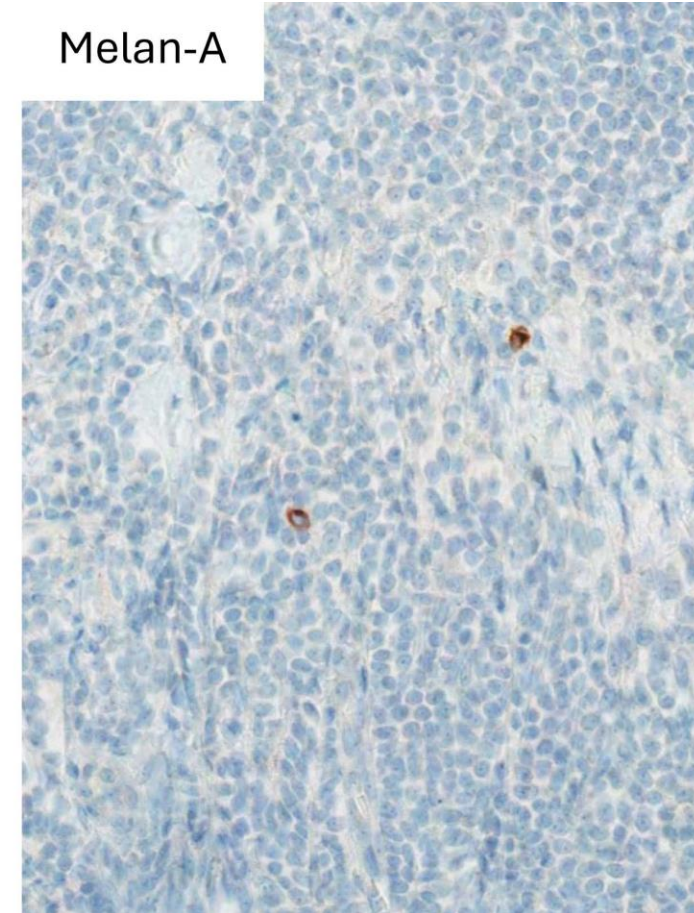
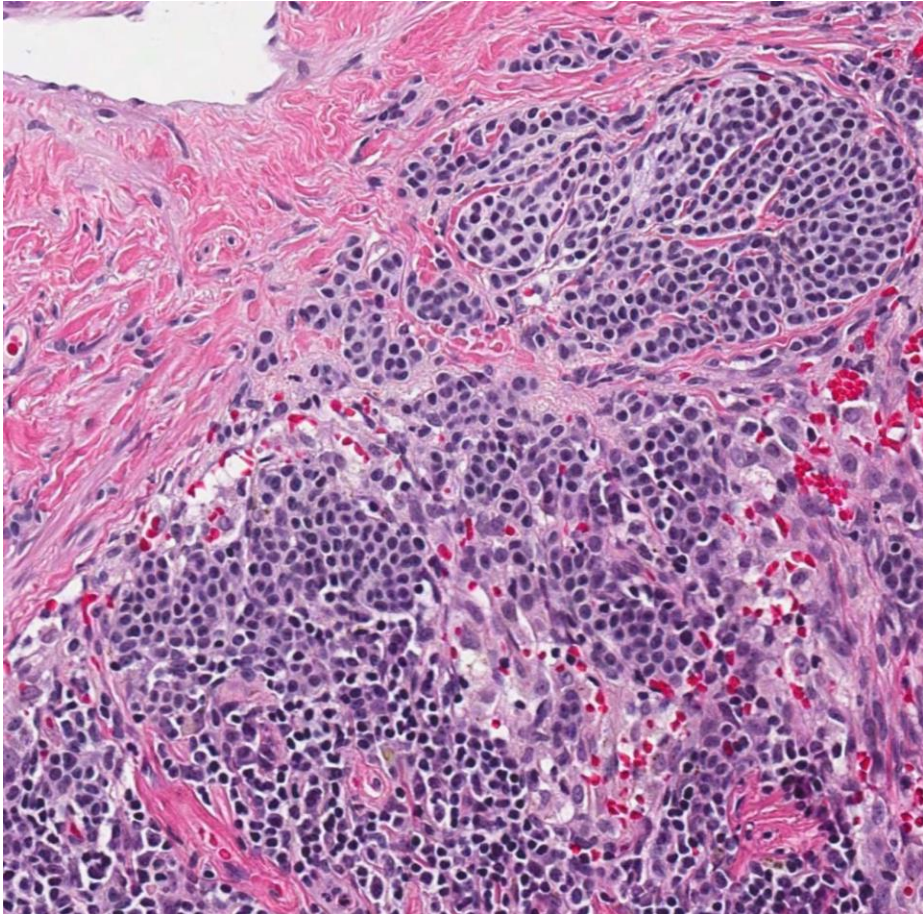


# Capsular and Intranodal Melanocytic Nevus



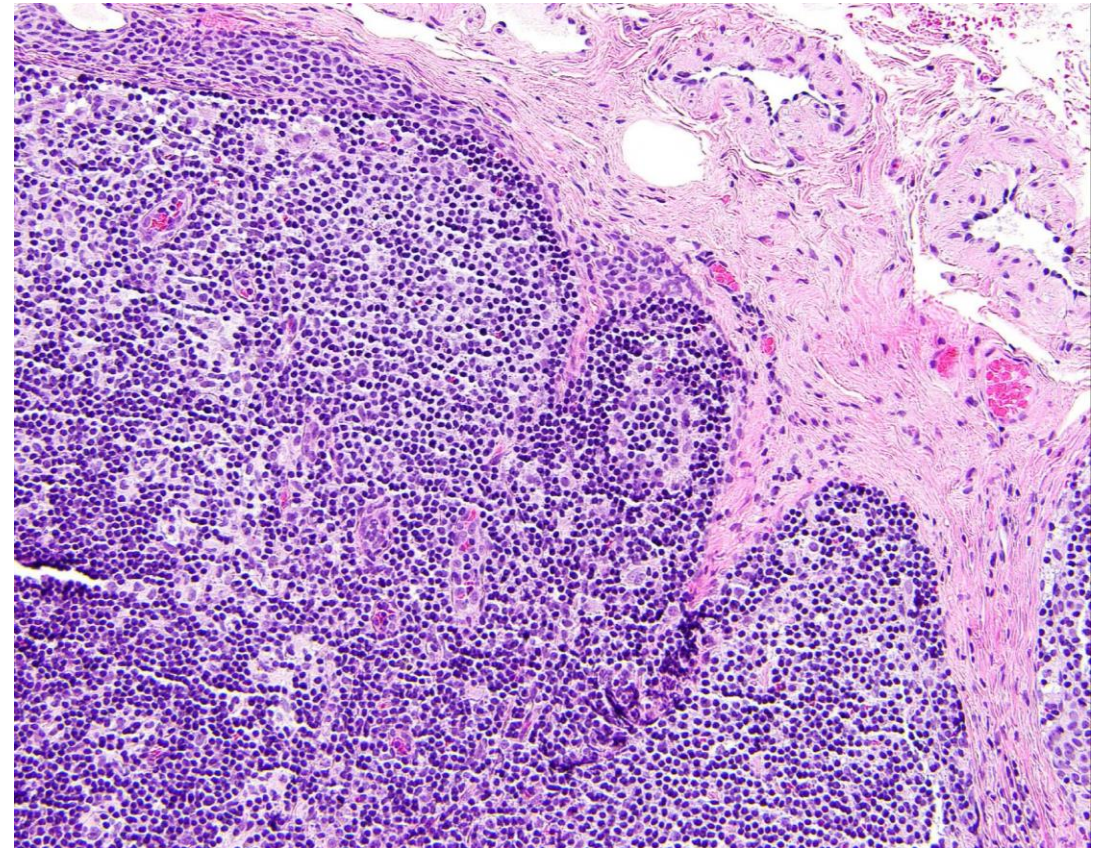
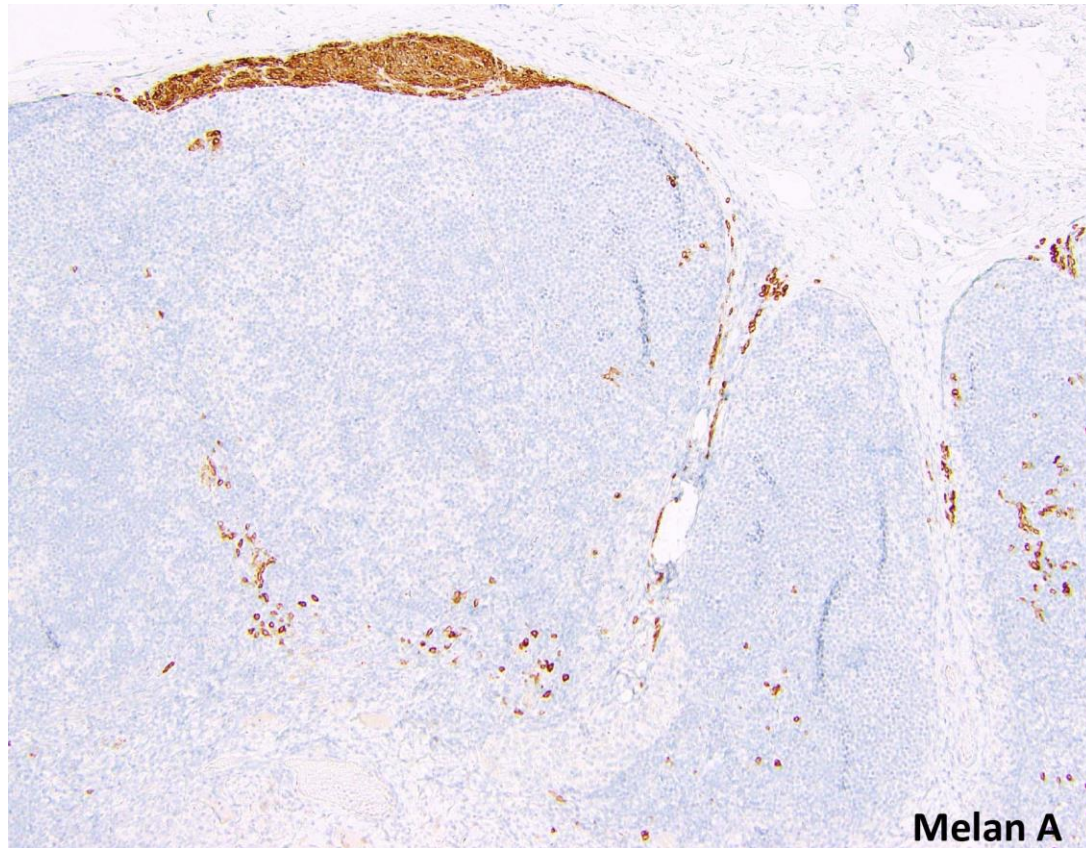


# Capsular and Intranodal Melanocytic Nevus



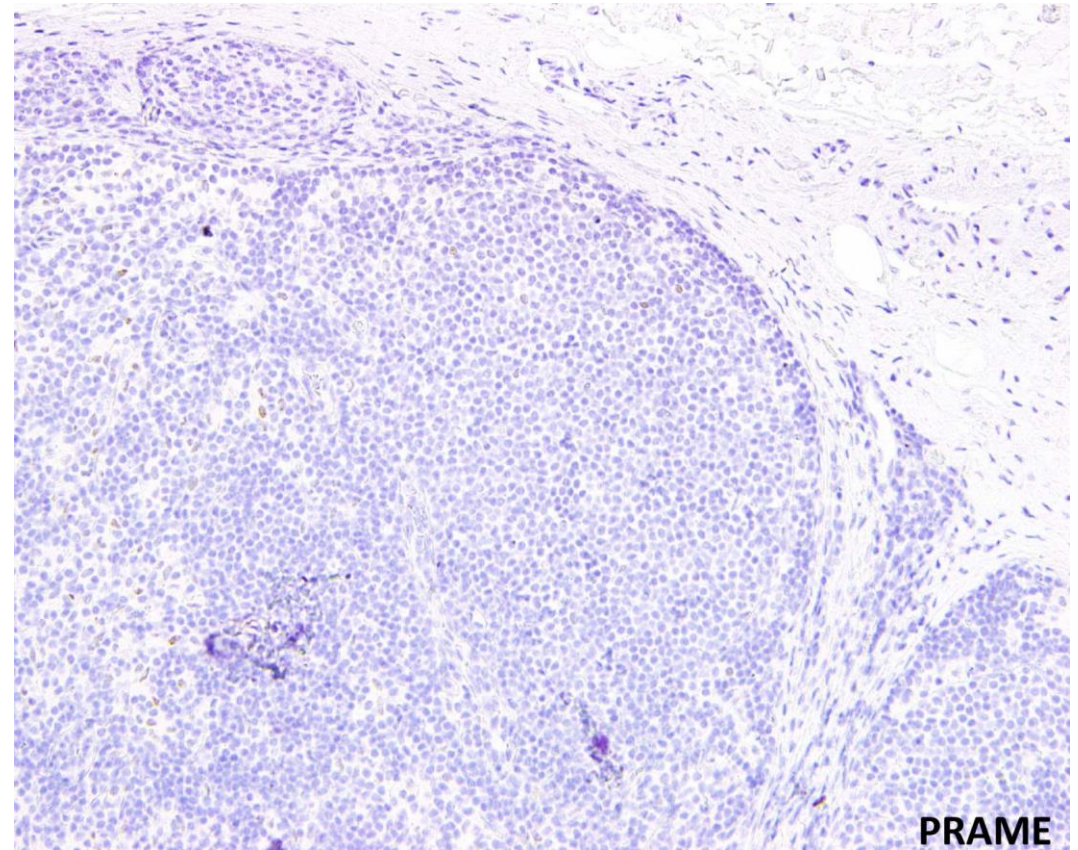
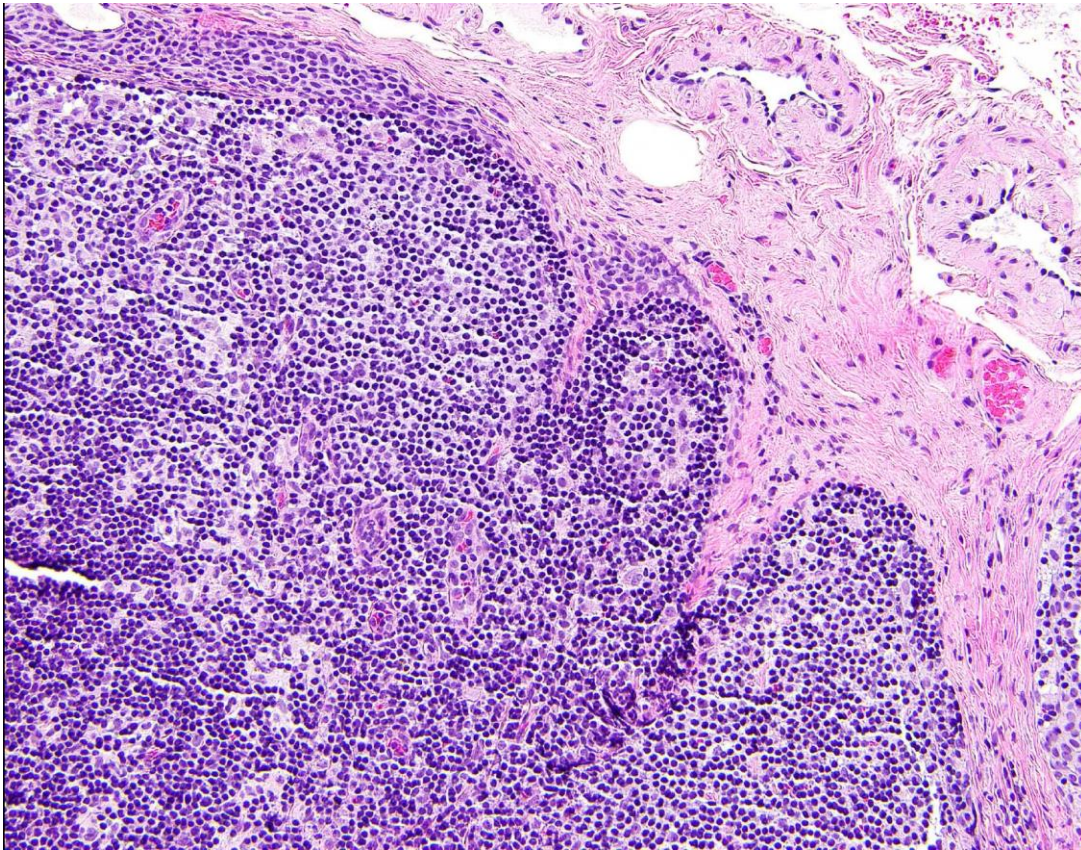


# Capsular and parenchymal nodal nevus





# Capsular and parenchymal nodal nevus

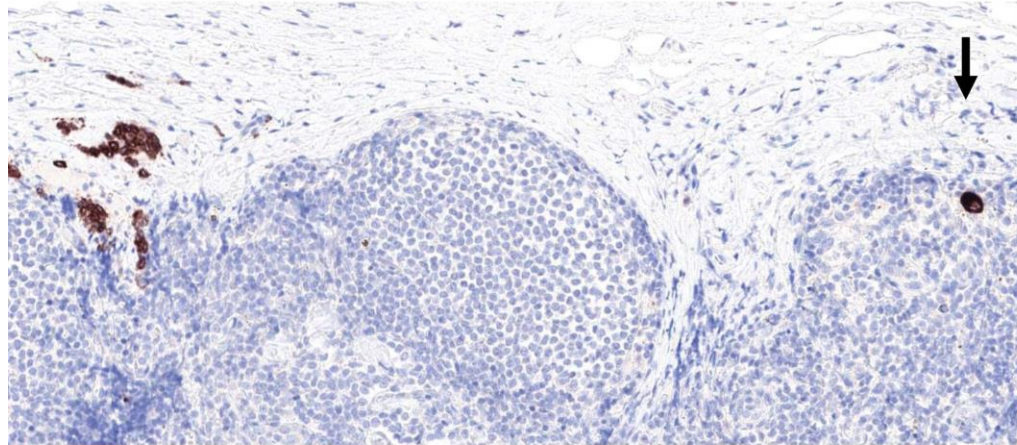


PRAME

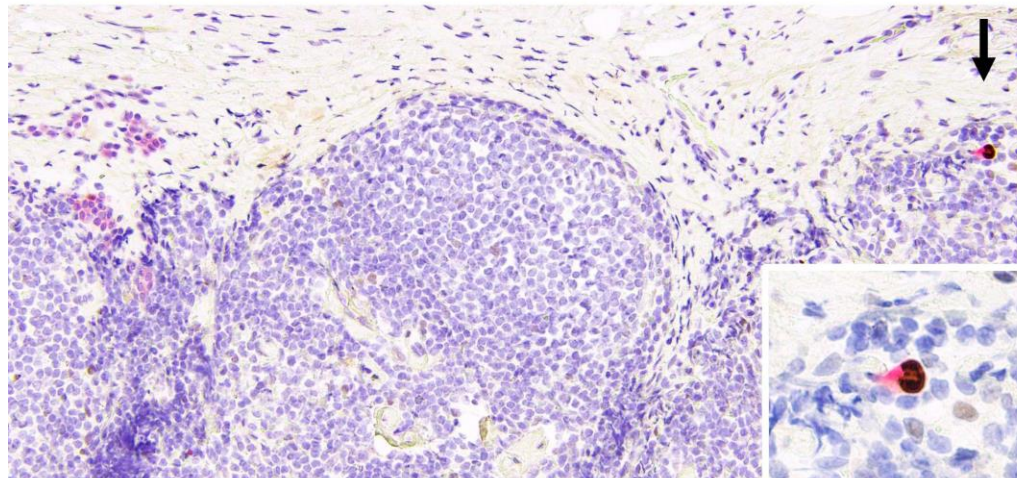


# PRAME IHC for SLN Analysis

Melan-A

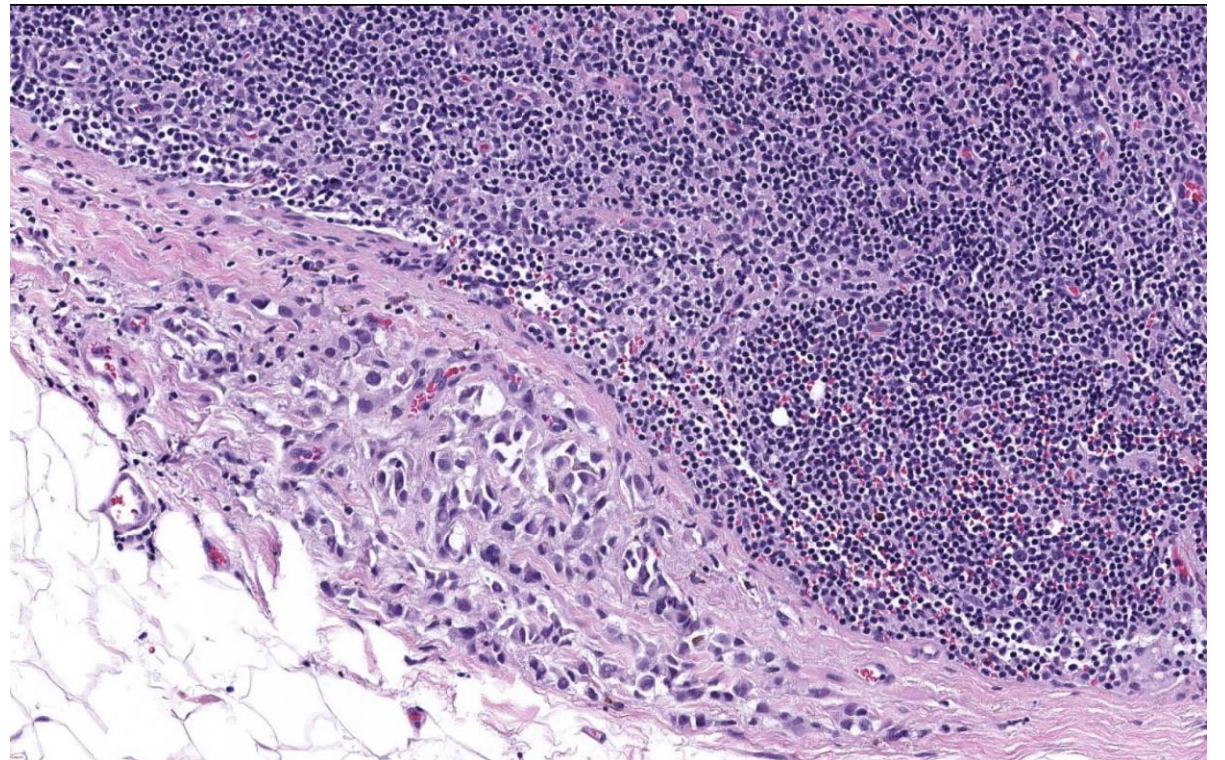
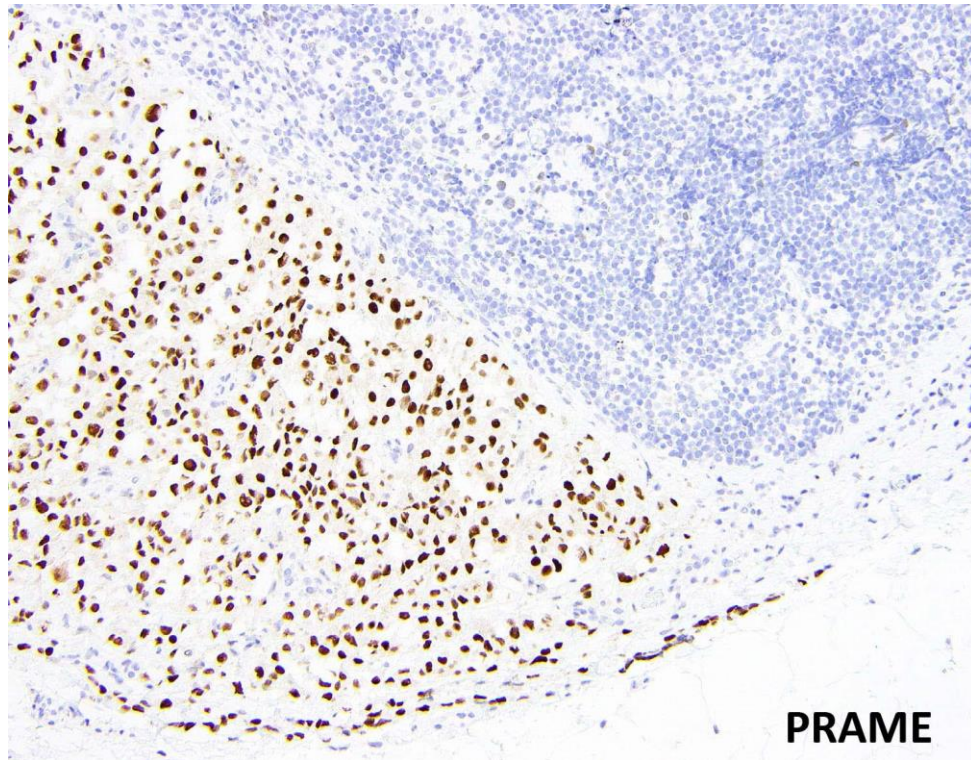


PRAME/  
Melan-A





# Capsular Metastatic Melanoma

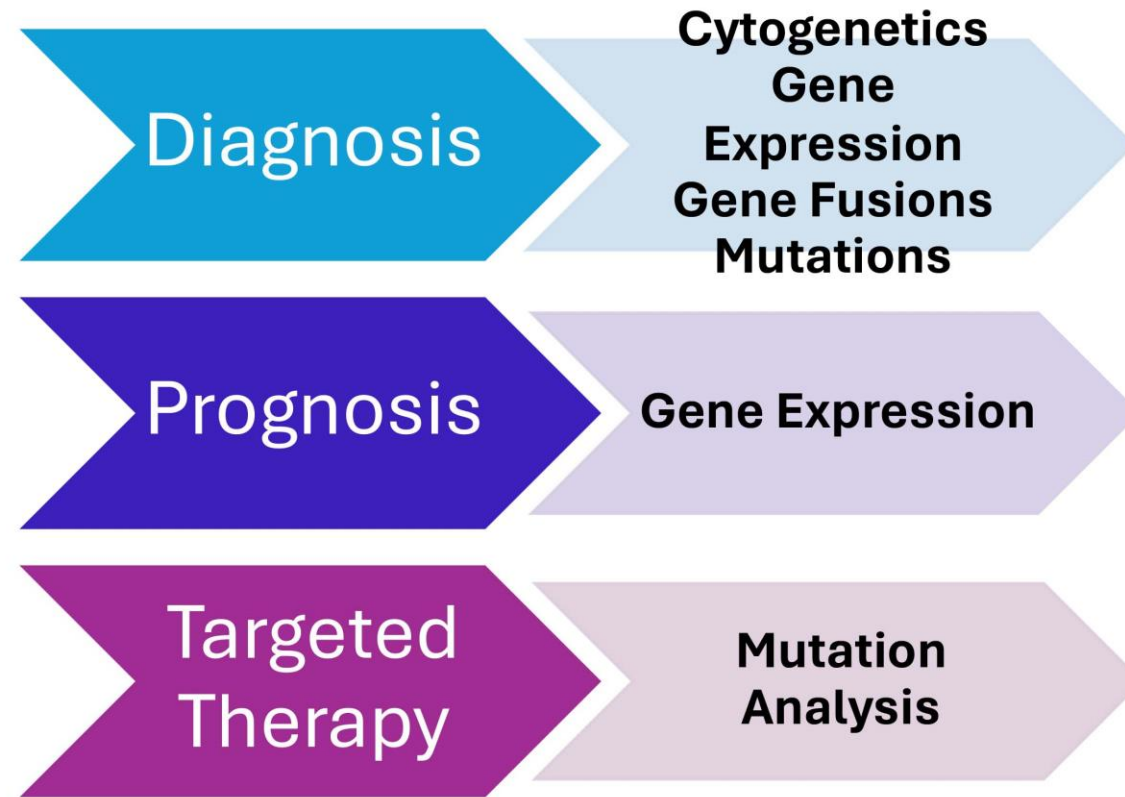


# Nodal Nevus vs Metastatic Melanoma

- Features typical of nodal nevus
  - Located in fibrous tissue, but may also be surrounded by lymphocytes
  - Cytologically bland
  - Negative for HMB-45 and PRAME
- Features typical of metastatic melanoma
  - Located in nodal parenchyma, but may also involve the fibrous tissue
  - Cytologically atypical
  - Positive for PRAME and/or HMB-45

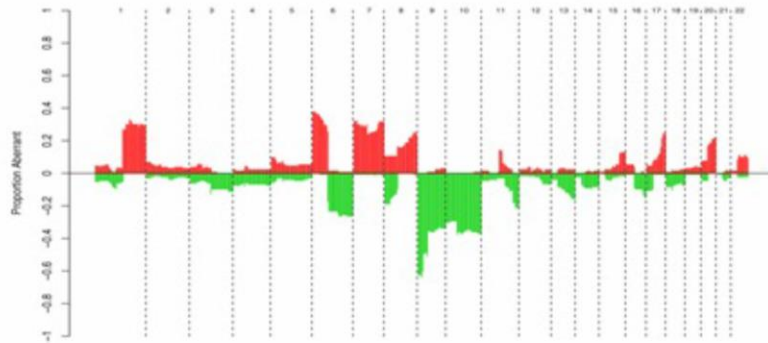


# III. Molecular Tests

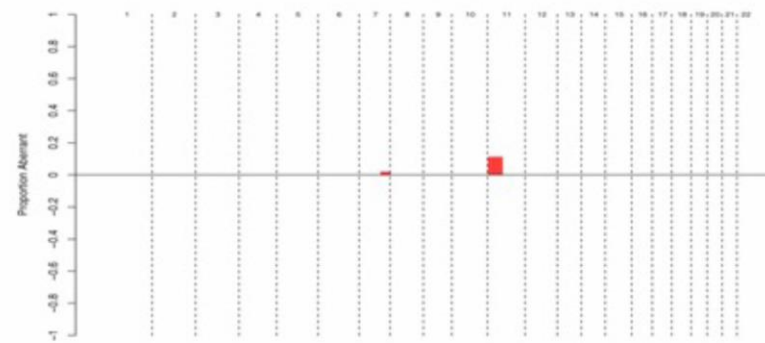


# Nevus vs Melanoma – Cytogenetic Tests

**Melanoma  $n=133$**



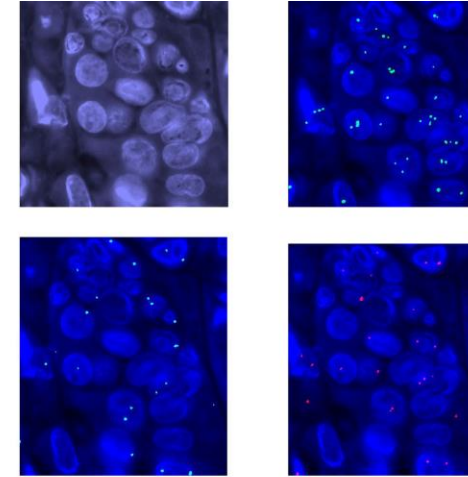
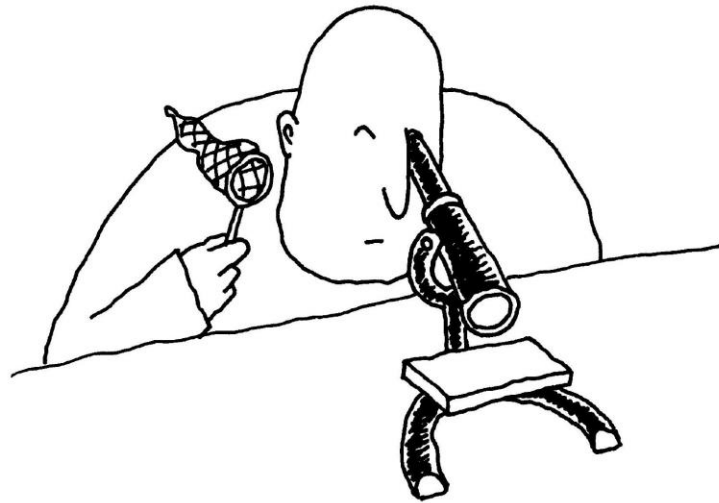
**Nevi  $n=54$**



*Bastian et al Am J Pathol 2003*



# FISHING for Melanoma Diagnosis



## Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization (FISH) as an Ancillary Diagnostic Tool in the Diagnosis of Melanoma

*Pedram Gerami, MD,\* Susan S. Jewell, PhD,† Larry E. Morrison, PhD,†  
Beth Blondin, BSc,† John Schulz, BSc,† Teresa Ruffalo, BSc,† Paul Matushek, IV, MS,†  
Mona Legator, BSc,† Kristine Jacobson, MS, MAJ,† Scott R. Dalton, MC,‡  
Susan Charzan, MS,§ Nicholas A. Kolaitis, BS,§ Joan Guitart, MD,\*  
Terakeith Lertsbarapa, MD,\* Susan Boone, MD,\*  
Philip E. LeBoit, MD,§ and Boris C. Bastian, MD§*

*Am J Surg Pathol 2009;33:1146-56*

# Melanoma FISH test

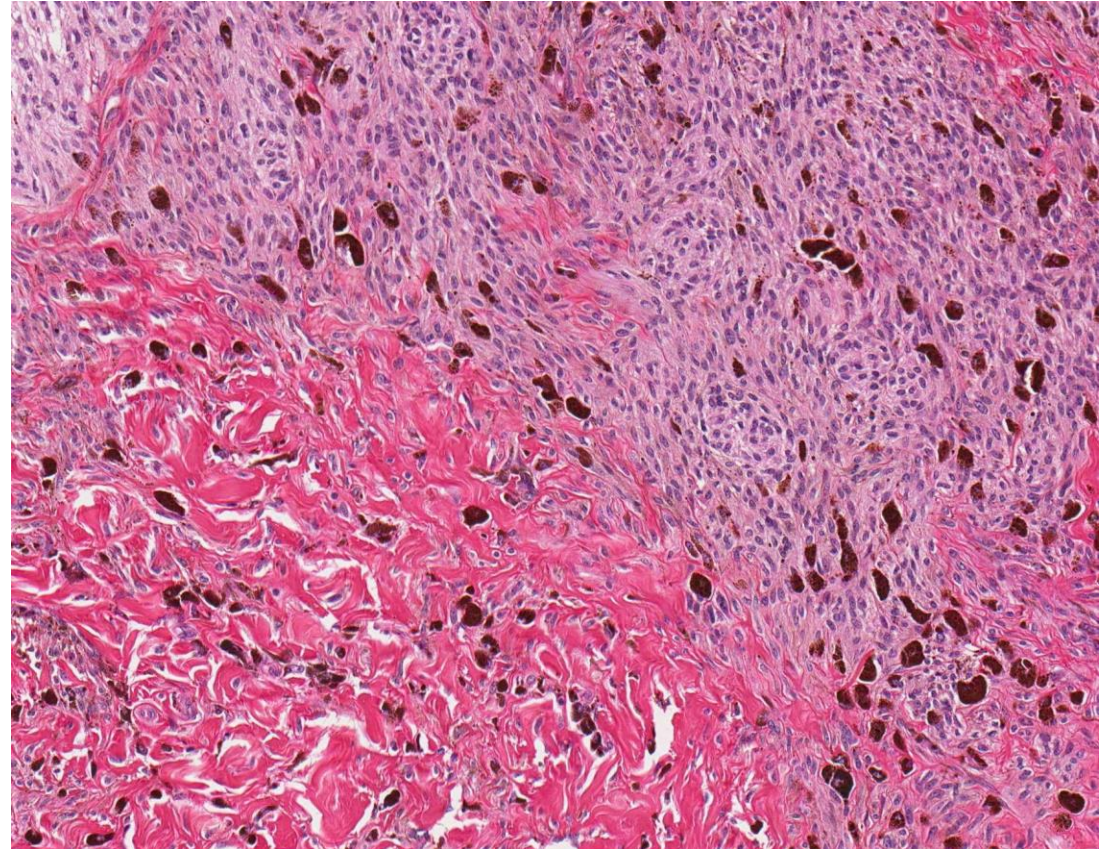
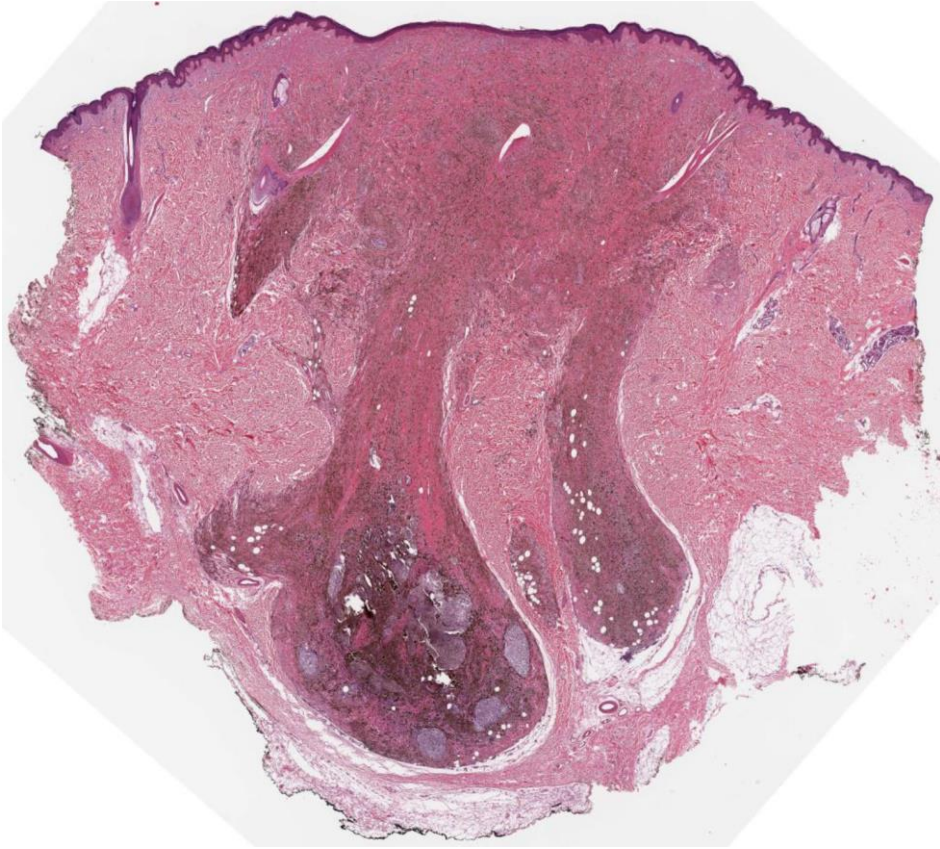
- Advantages
  - Suitable for small biopsies and mixed tumor cell populations
  - FISH technology fairly widely available
- Disadvantages
  - Limitations in test sensitivity and specificity
  - Added cost and time



# Spectrum of Blue Tumors

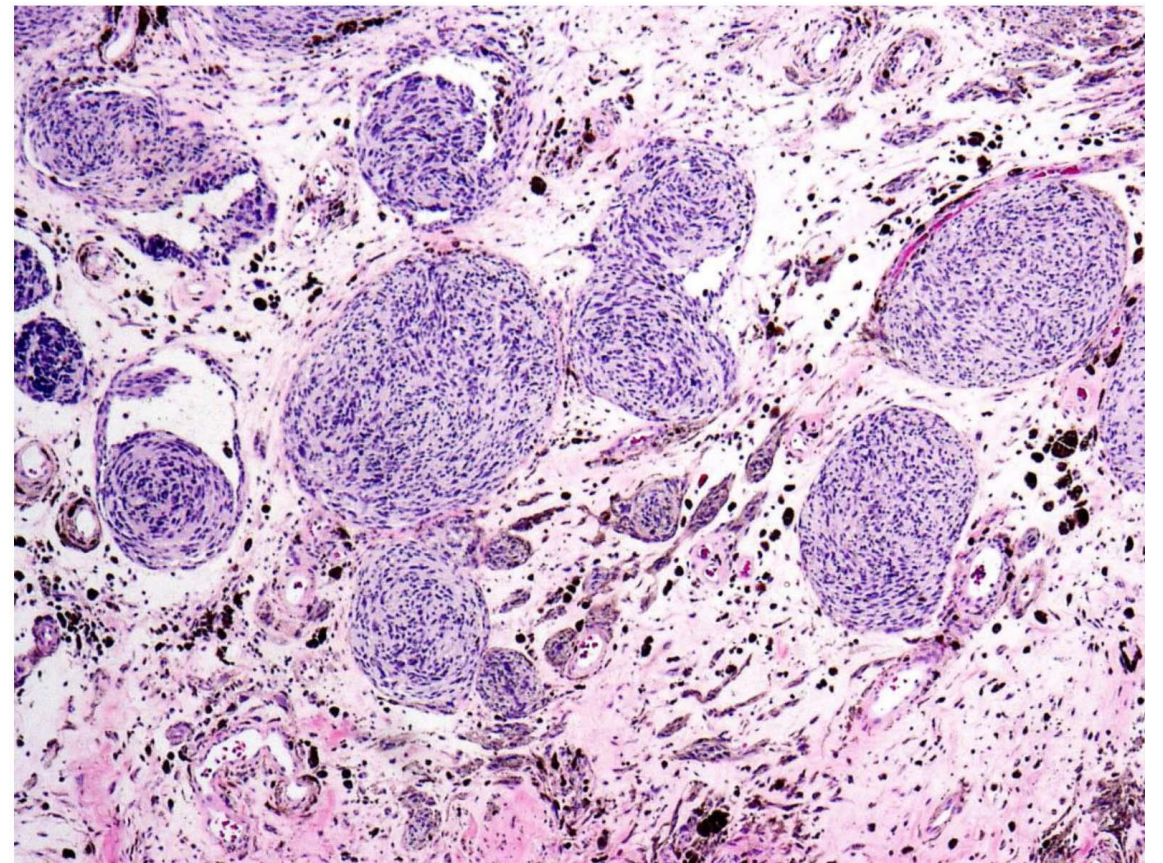
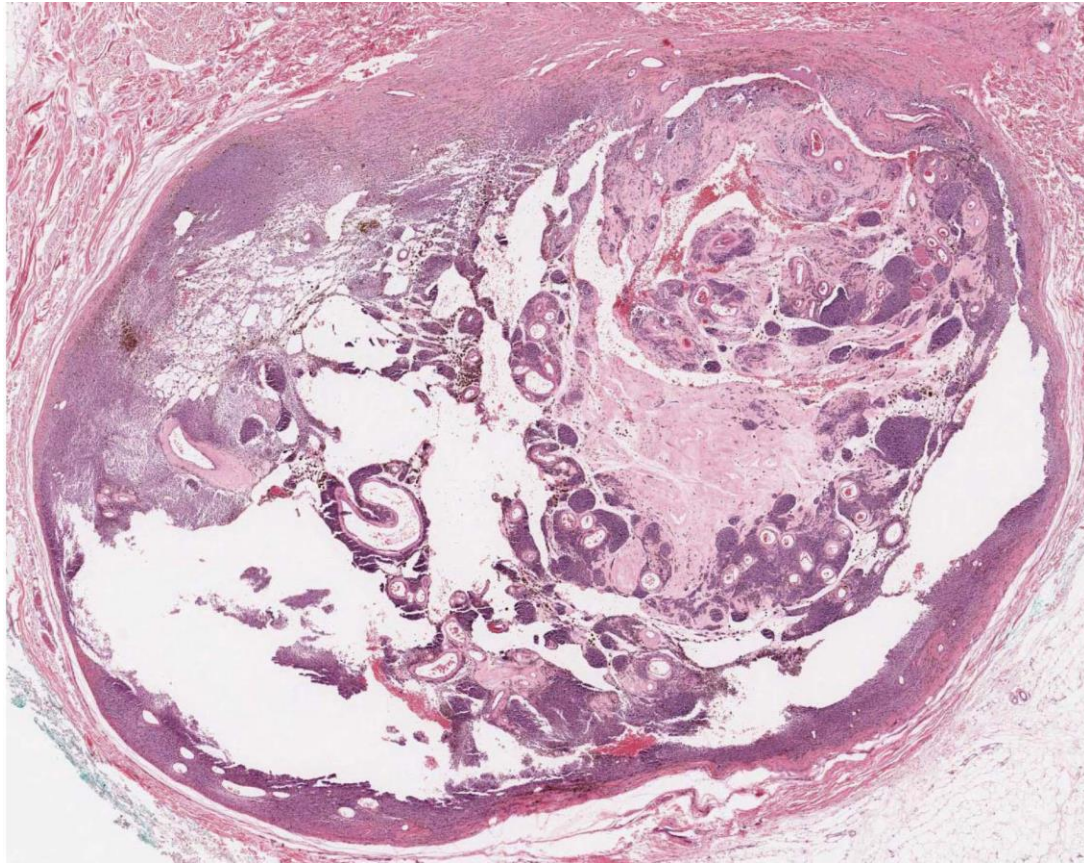
- Blue nevi (e.g., common, sclerosing, cellular)
- Blue nevus-related melanomas
- Metastatic melanoma simulating a blue nevus
- Blue tumors with uncertain diagnosis

# Cellular Blue Nevus



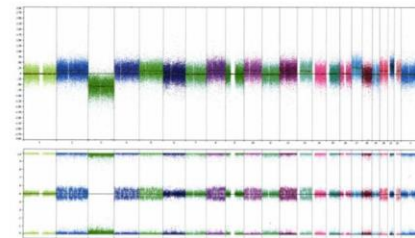
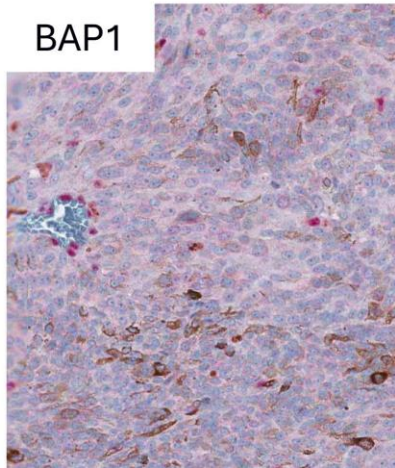
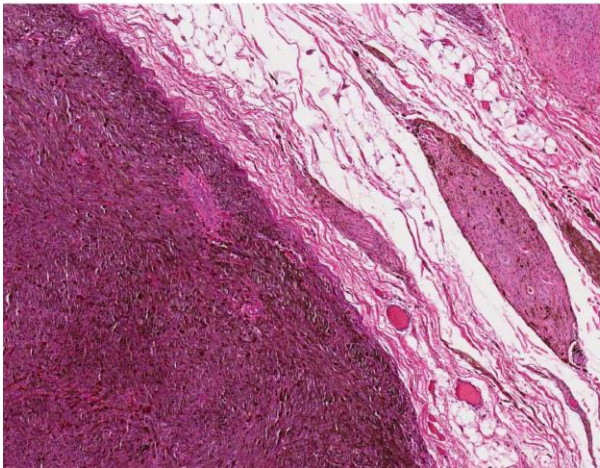
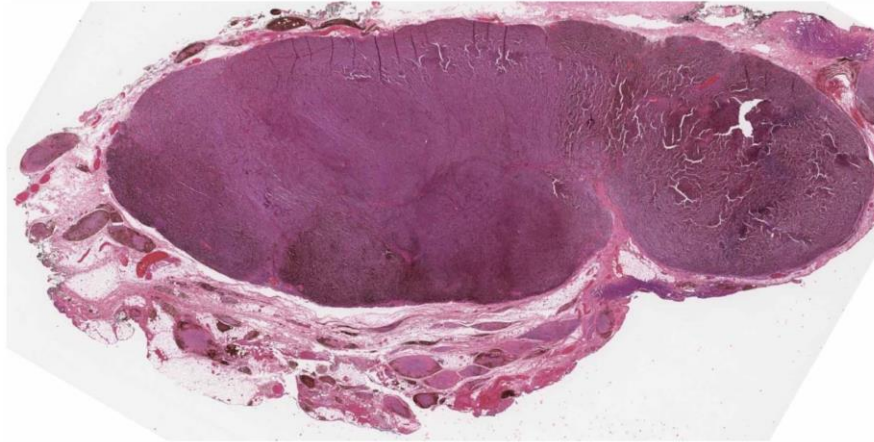


# Cellular Blue Nevus





# Melanoma ex BN vs Atypical Cellular BN



Numerical aberrations  
of chromosomes 2,3,4  
5,6,10,12,13,20,22



# Blue Tumors: Features worrisome for melanoma

- Tumor cell overgrowth (loss of background fibrotic dendritic BN)
- Expansile growth of cytologically atypical cells with mitoses
- Tumor necrosis
- Ancillary test results:
  - Loss of BAP1 expression
  - Genomic aberrations

# Chromosomal CNA – common in Blue Melanomas

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

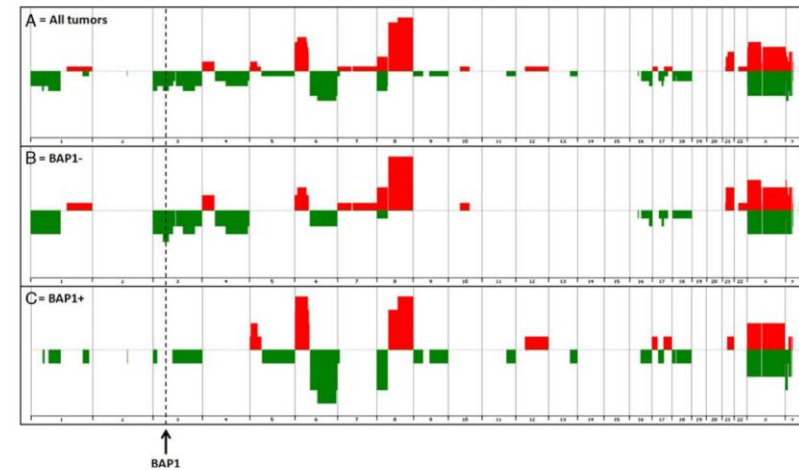
### Melanomas Associated With Blue Nevus or Mimicking Cellular Blue Nevus

#### *Clinical, Pathologic, and Molecular Study of 11 Cases Displaying a High Frequency of GNA11 Mutations, BAP1 Expression Loss, and a Predilection for the Scalp*

Sebastian Costa, MD,\* Michelle Byrne, MBBS,† Daniel Pissaloux, PhD,\*  
Veronique Haddad, PharmD,\* Sandrine Paindavoine, MSc,\* Luc Thomas, MD, PhD,‡  
Francois Aubin, MD, PhD,§ Thierry Lesimple, MD,|| Florent Grange, MD, PhD,¶  
Bertille Bonniaud, MD,‡ Laurent Mortier, MD, PhD,\*\* Christine Mateus, MD,††  
Brigitte Dreno, MD,‡‡ Brigitte Balme, MD,§§ Beatrice Vergier, MD, PhD,|| and  
Arnaud de la Fouchardiere, MD, PhD\*

**Abstract:** Melanomas associated with blue nevi (MABN) or mimicking cellular blue nevi (MMCBN) represent exceptional variants of malignant cutaneous melanocytic tumors. Uveal and leptomeningeal melanomas frequently have somatic mutations of *GNAQ* or *GNA11*, which are believed to be early driver

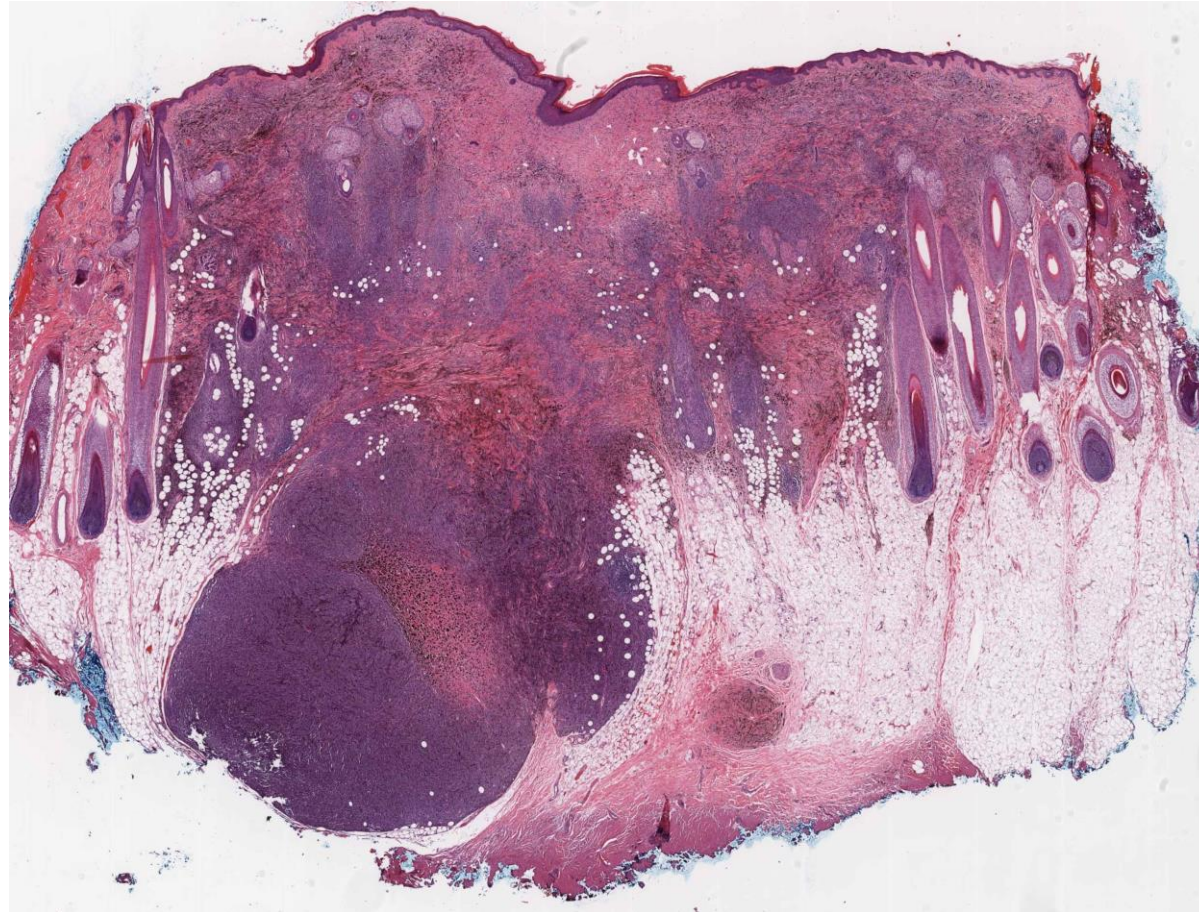
large dermal atypical melanocytes, in some cases lying adjacent to a blue nevus. Four patients developed metastatic disease, and 2 died from their disease. A *GNA11* mutation was found in 8/11 cases and a *GNAQ* mutation in 1 case. Seven of 11 cases showed loss of nuclear BAP1 immunohistochemical (IHC) expression in the malignant component, sparing the adjacent nevus. Array



**FIGURE 4.** Penetrance plots showing recurrent chromosomal alterations in MABN/MMCBN. Red blocks represent chromosome gains; green blocks represent chromosome losses. The amplitude of each abnormality corresponds to its prevalence. A, Penetrance plot summarizing the copy number imbalances per chromosome in all patients. B, Penetrance plot summarizing the copy number imbalances per chromosome in the group of 7 patients with BAP1 IHC loss (BAP1-negative tumors). C, Penetrance plot summarizing the copy number imbalances per chromosome in the group of 4 patients without BAP1 loss (BAP1-positive tumors).

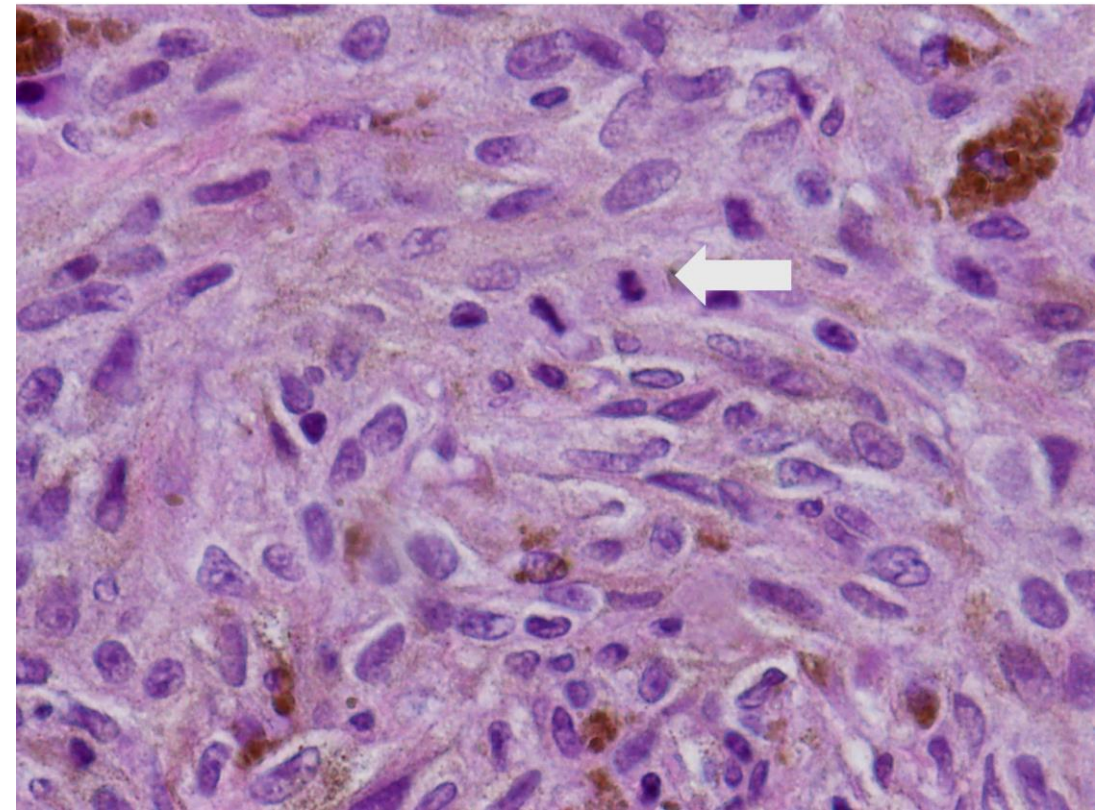
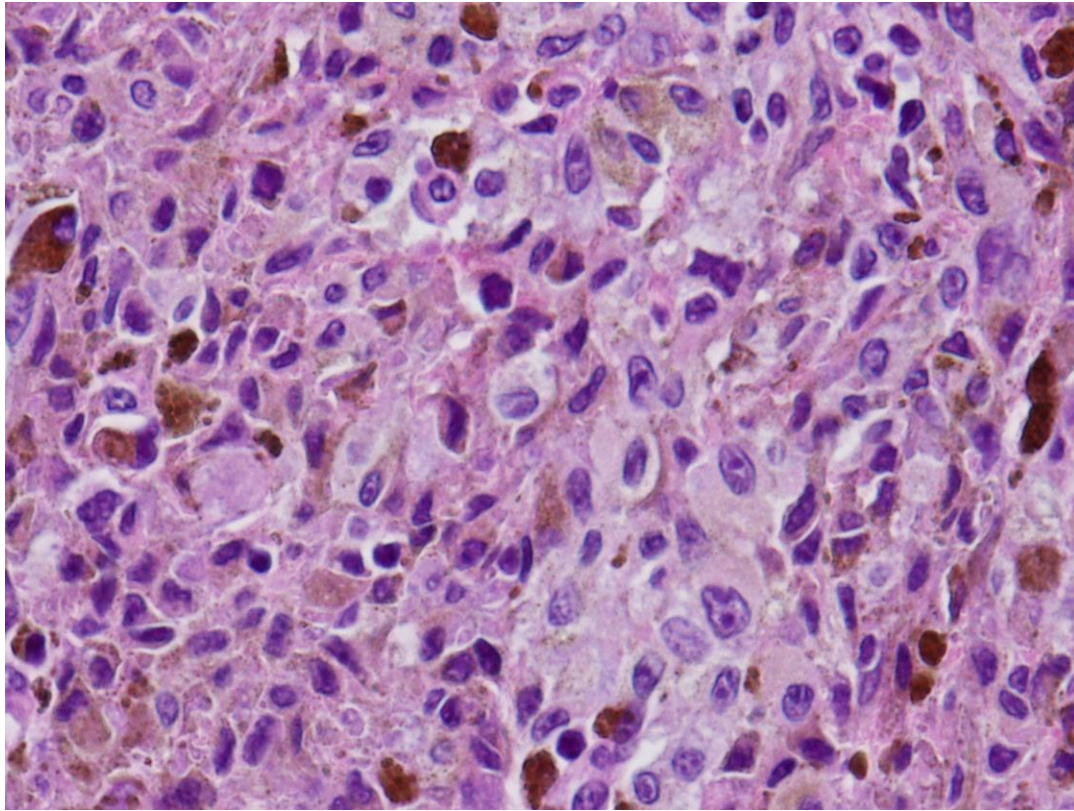


# CBN or Melanoma?



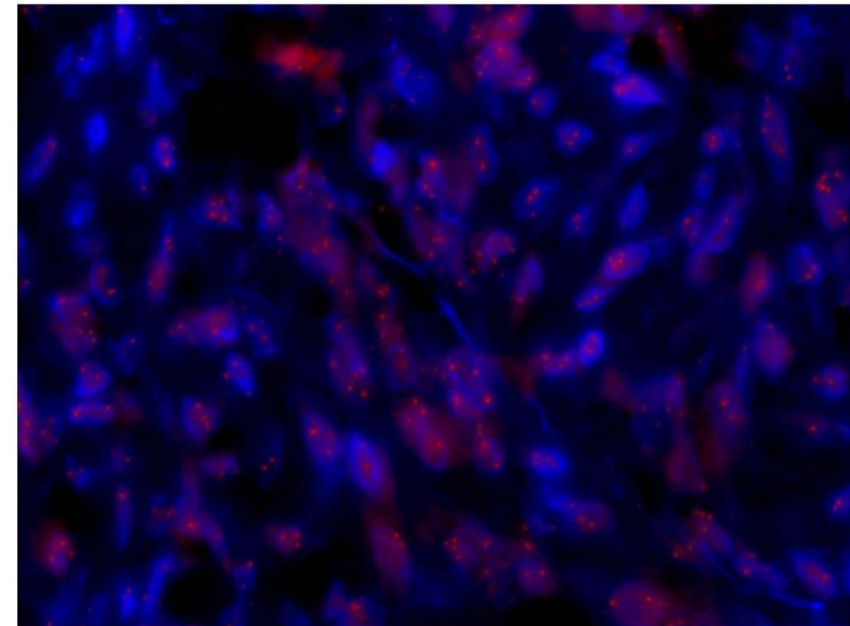
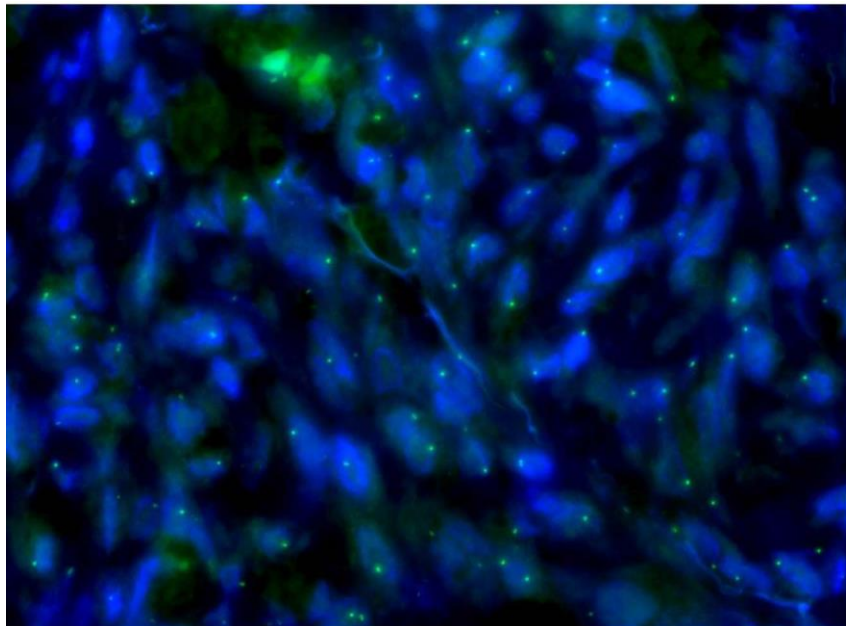
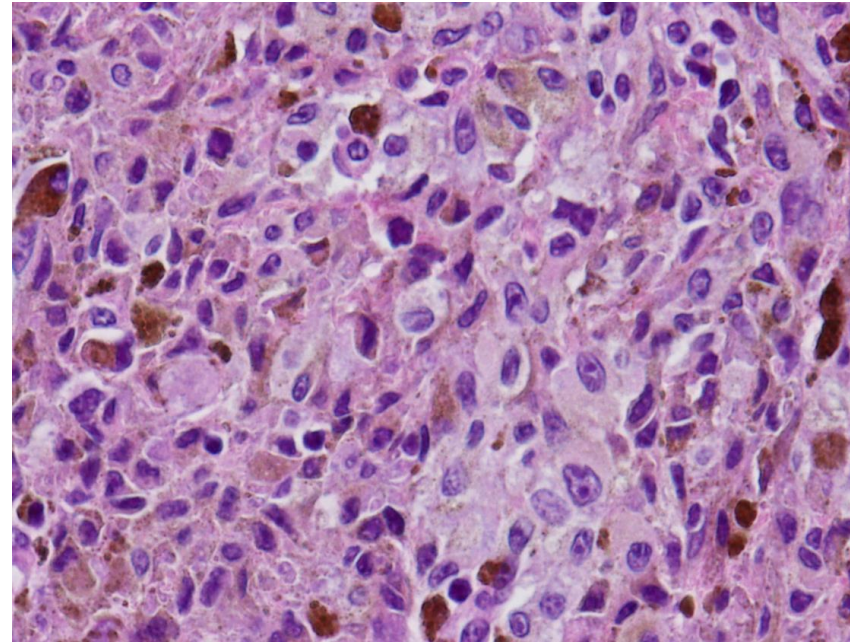


# Epithelioid Atypia and Mitoses

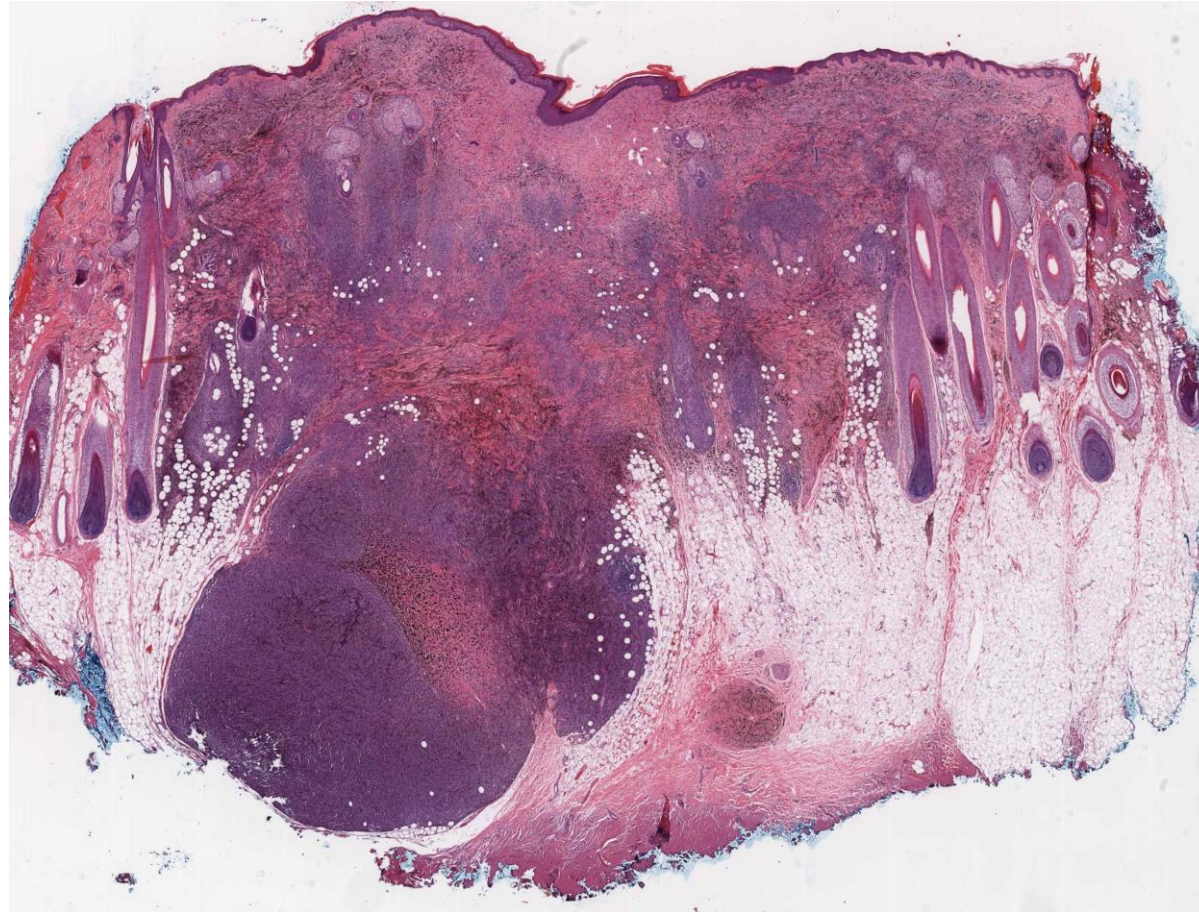




# Positive FISH test



# Melanoma ex plaque-type blue nevus





# Spitz Tumors

- Spitz nevi
- Spitz melanocytoma
- Atypical Spitz tumor with uncertain diagnosis
- Spitz melanoma

# Sophie Spitz

“Melanomas of Childhood”; Am J Pathol 1948

- 13 children (18 mo - 12 yrs)
- 12/13 had a benign clinical course

JUVENILE MELANOMA -  
different from adult melanomas



1910 - 1956



# Sophie Spitz



# Sophie Spitz's Melanomas

## - Heterogeneous Group of Tumors

Am J Pathol 1948

- 13 children (18 mo -12 yrs)
- All benign except for one:
  - 12 yo girl
  - Tumor on foot
  - Deeply located: plantar fascia

Probable correct diagnosis: **Clear cell sarcoma**



1910 - 1956



# Juvenile Melanoma

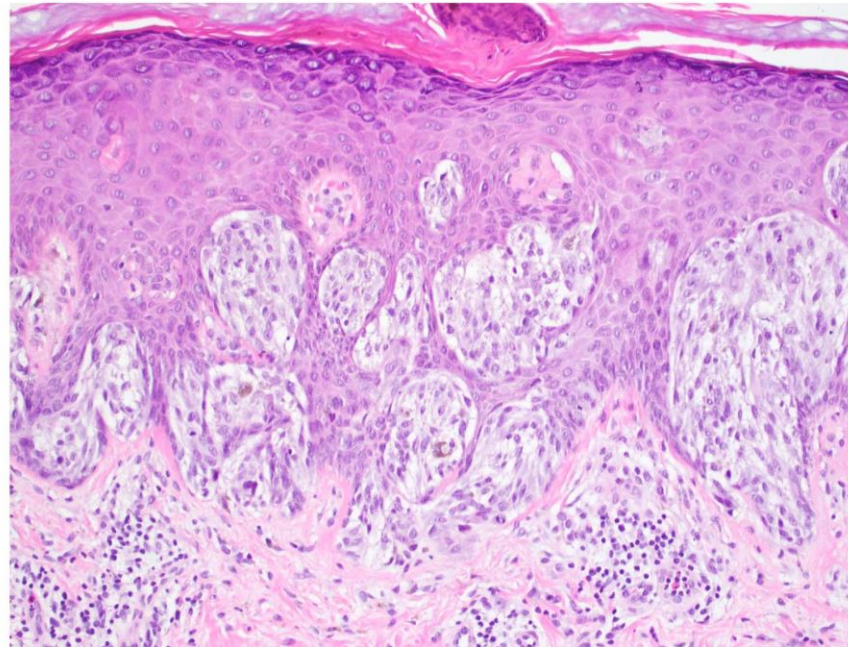
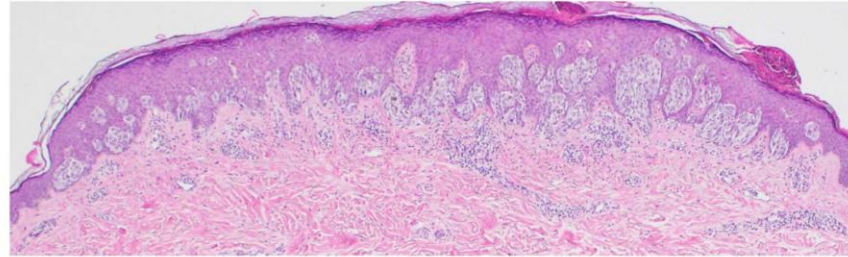


# Spitz Nevus

- Kernan JA, Ackerman LV. Spindle cell nevi and epithelioid cell nevi (so-called juvenile melanomas) in children and adults: a clinicopathological study of 27 cases. Cancer. 1960;13:612-25.
- Weedon D, Little J. Spindle and epithelioid cell nevi in children and adults. A review of 211 cases of Spitz nevi. Cancer 1977; 40: 217-25.
- Paniago-Pereira C, Maize JC, Ackerman AB. Nevus of large spindle and/or epithelioid cells (Spitz's nevus). Arch Dermatol. 1978; 114: 1811-23



# Spitz Nevus



# The Spitz Family Grows

Polypoid Spitz naevus  
Agminated Spitz naevus  
Pagetoid Spitz naevus  
Dysplastic Spitz tumour  
Desmoplastic Spitz naevus  
Angiomatous Spitz naevus  
Hyalinized Spitz naevus  
Plexiform Spitz naevus  
Halo Spitz naevus  
Pseudogranulomatous Spitz naevus  
Tubular Spitz naevus  
Myxoid Spitz naevus  
Pigmented spindle cell Spitz naevus  
Pigmented epithelioid cell Spitz naevus  
Combined Spitz naevus  
Recurrent/persistent Spitz naevus

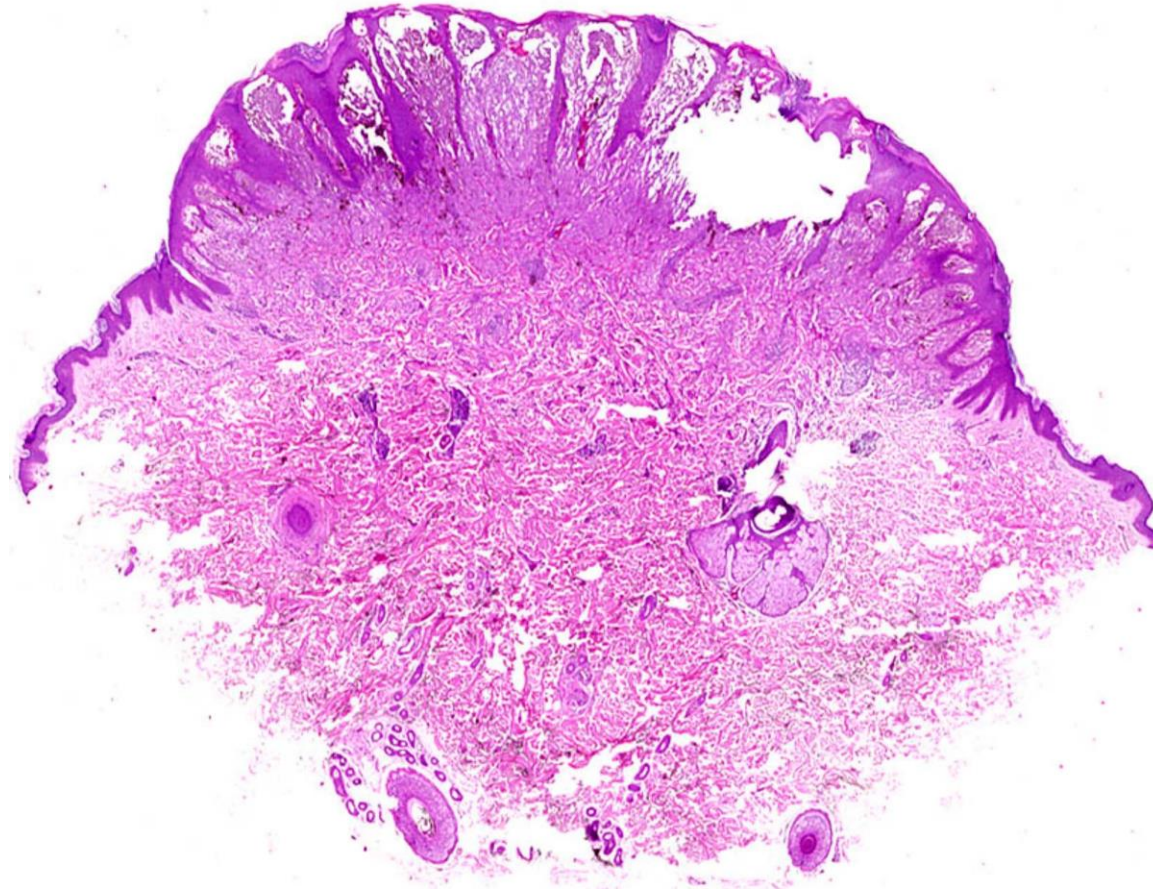
WHO Classification of  
Skin Tumours. 2018.  
Chapter 2. Spitz Naevus,  
p111.



*Darth Spitz*

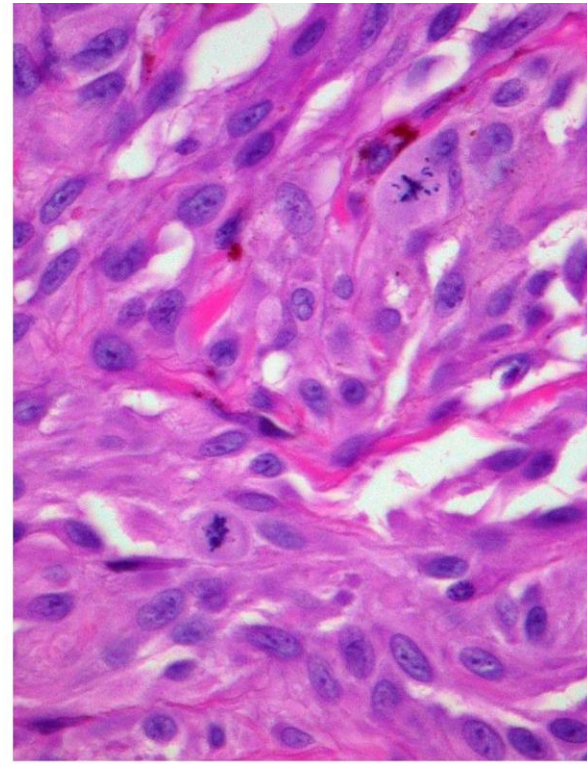
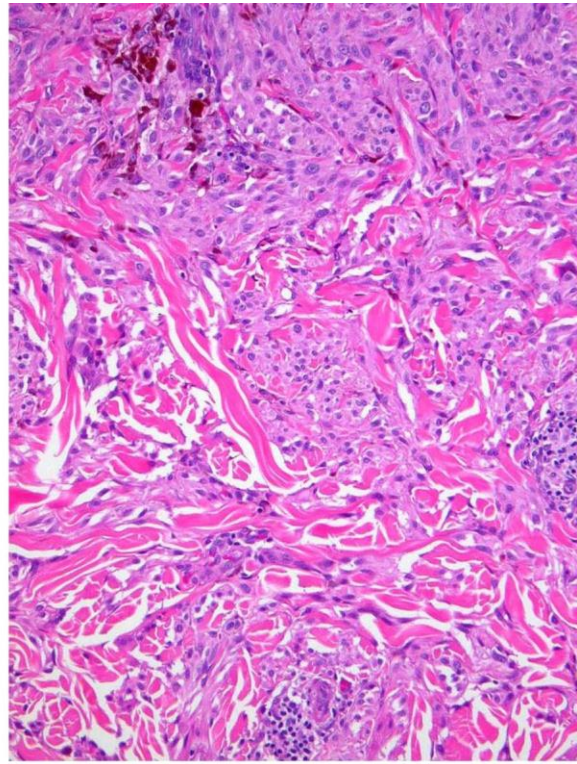
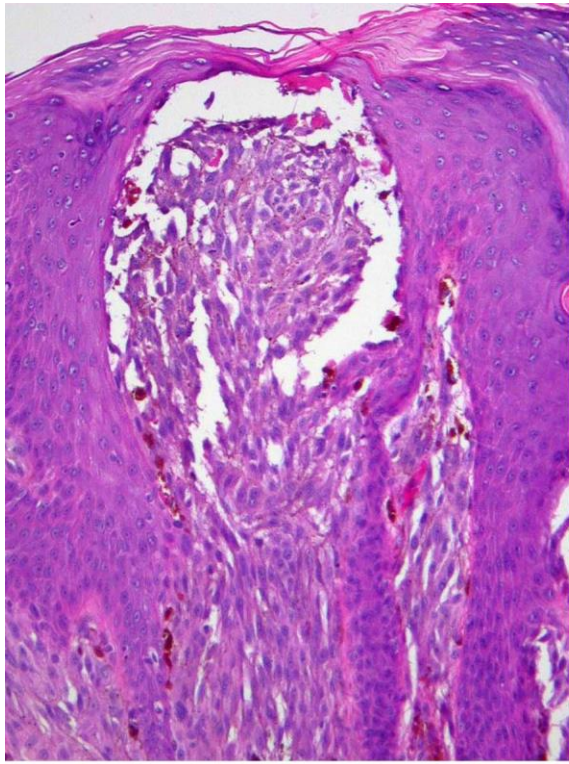


Report as “Spitz Nevus”



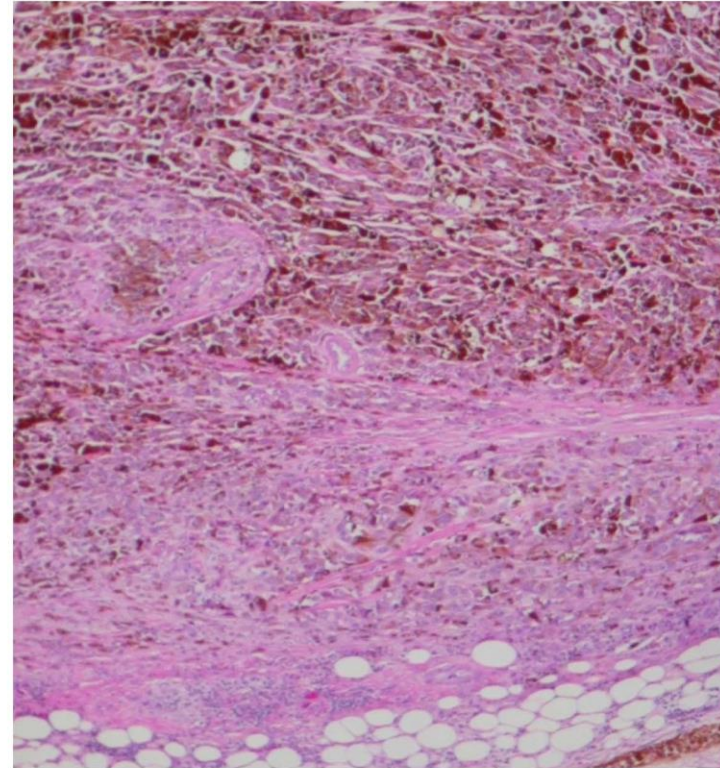
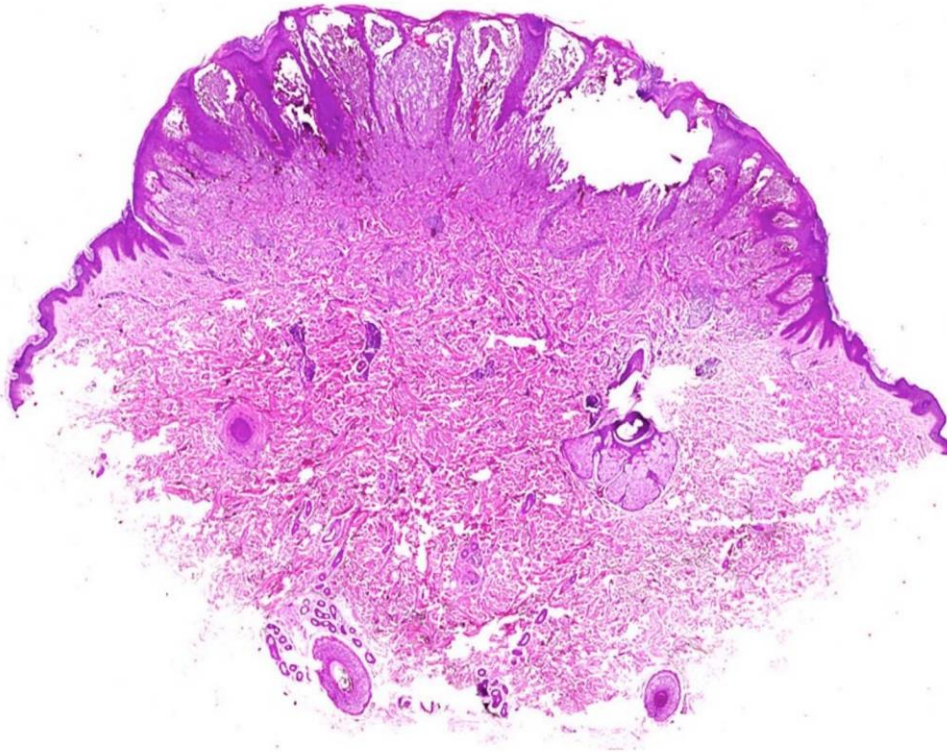


Report as “Spitz Nevus”





# Correct diagnosis: Melanoma



6 yrs later: LN Metastasis



# The Fog of Spitz



# The Fog of Spitz

## **Atypical Spitz Nevi/Tumors: Lack of Consensus for Diagnosis, Discrimination From Melanoma, and Prediction of Outcome**

RAYMOND L. BARNHILL, MD, ZSOLT B. ARGENYI, MD, LYNN FROM, MD, L. FRANK GLASS, MD, JOHN C. MAIZE, MD, MARTIN C. MIHM, JR., MD, MICHAEL S. RABKIN, MD, PhD, SALVE G. RONAN, MD, WAIN L. WHITE, MD, AND MICHAEL PIEPKORN, MD, PhD

*Hum Pathol* 1999; 30: 513

Modern Pathology (2006) 19, S21–S33  
© 2006 USCAP, Inc. All rights reserved 0893-3952/06 \$30.00  
[www.modernpathology.org](http://www.modernpathology.org)



## **The Spitzoid lesion: rethinking Spitz tumors, atypical variants, ‘Spitzoid melanoma’ and risk assessment**

Raymond L. Barnhill



# MALIGNANT SPITZ NEVUS

CDR HENRY G. SKELTON III, MC USN,

LTC KATHLEEN J. SMITH, MC USA, CDR THERESA T. HOLLAND, MC USN,

COL MARIA-MAGDALENA TOMASZEWSKI, MC USA, AND COL GEORGE P. LUPTON, MC USA

The patient is a 22-year-old white woman, who was 16 years of age at the time of initial presentation. At that time, a lesion was removed from her left cheek, which was diagnosed as dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans. Four years later, a physical examination of the patient revealed an enlarged lymph node in the lower midline neck area. The lymph node was biopsied and both lesions were sent for further histopathologic examination.

**Histopathology:** The original lesion was composed of densely cellular fascicles of plump spindle-shaped cells extending into the subcutaneous fat with a pushing not infiltrating margin (Fig. 1). Examination at higher power showed regular fascicles of plump spindle-shaped cells with prominent nucleoli. Occasional mitotic figures were seen, some present deep within the lesion (Fig. 2). The lymph node biopsy showed similar fascicles of spindled cells within the parenchyma surrounded by normal lymphoid tissue (Figs. 3 and 4). Mitotic figures were not found. Between the fascicles were areas of fibrosis. Both the skin and lymph node biopsies showed positive staining with S-100 protein (Chemicon 1:2000, ABC method).

The patient has had no evidence of recurrence or further spread now 5.5 years after excision of the original lesion.

## DISCUSSION

Before Dr. Sophie Spitz established criteria for the diagnosis of spindle cell and epithelioid cell nevi (S&E nevi) in 1948, these lesions were considered histologically indistinguishable from malignant melanomas (MM).<sup>1,2</sup> McWhorter and Woolner confirmed the benign clinical behavior of these lesions after reviewing similar lesions



Figure 1. "Malignant Spitz nevus" of this case showing sharp lateral demarcation and a deep pushing margin extending into the subcutaneous fat. (hematoxylin and eosin, original magnification  $\times 75$ )

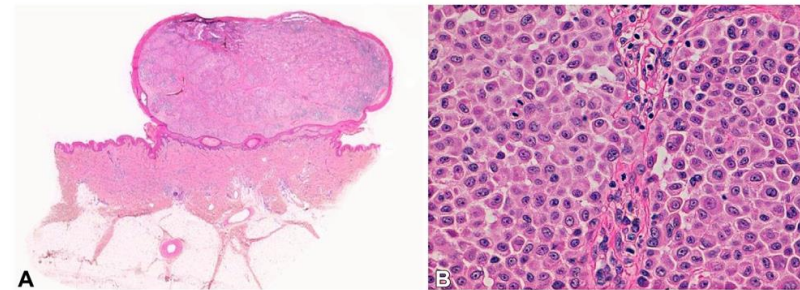
reported by Allen and Spitz, which could be used to differentiate S&E nevi from MM, included (1) features of a compound nevus, (2) edema and telangiectasia in the upper portion of the dermis, (3) nests of cells sharply

## Atypical Spitz tumors in patients younger than 18 years

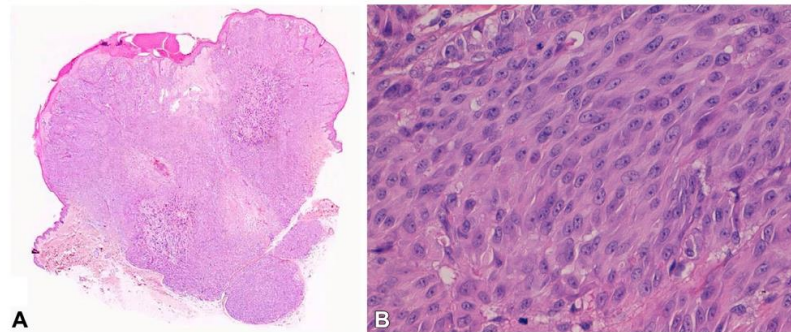
Daniela Massi, MD,<sup>a</sup> Carlo Tomasini, MD,<sup>c</sup> Rebecca Senetta, MD,<sup>d</sup> Milena Paglierani, BSc,<sup>a</sup> Francesca Salvianti, PhD,<sup>b</sup> Maria Elena Errico, MD,<sup>c</sup> Vittoria Donofrio, MD,<sup>c</sup> Paola Collini, MD,<sup>f</sup> Gabrina Tragni, MD,<sup>g</sup> Angela Rita Sementa, MD,<sup>i</sup> Franco Rongioletti, MD,<sup>j</sup> Renata Boldrini, MD,<sup>k</sup> Andrea Ferrari, MD,<sup>h</sup> Claudio Gambini, MD,<sup>i</sup> and Maria Cristina Montesco, MD<sup>i</sup>  
*Florence, Turin, Naples, Milan, Genoa, Rome, and Padua, Italy*

40 Massi *et al*

J AM ACAD DERMATOL  
JANUARY 2015



**Fig 1.** Atypical Spitz tumor in the lower limb of 8-year-old boy. The lesion measures 6 mm in thickness. The child is alive, no further evidence of disease after 127 months follow-up. (A and B, Hematoxylin and eosin stain; original magnifications: A,  $\times 2.5$ ; B,  $\times 40$ .)



**Fig 2.** Atypical Spitz tumor in the upper limb of a 3-year-old girl. The lesion is 7.5 mm in thickness. Sentinel lymph node was negative. Patient was alive with no evidence of disease at 16 months follow-up. (A and B, Hematoxylin and eosin stain; original magnifications: A,  $\times 2.5$ ; B,  $\times 40$ .)



# Risk Assessment of Spitz Tumors

STUDY

## Spitz Tumors in Children

### A Grading System for Risk Stratification

Alain Spatz, MD; Eduardo Calonje, MD; Susan Handfield-Jones, MD; Raymond L. Barnhill, MD

**Objective:** To describe a grading system for risk stratification of atypical Spitz tumors in children and adolescents. In some circumstances, unequivocal distinction between Spitz nevus and melanoma is practically impossible. It is likely that these lesions for which we lack specific diagnostic criteria represent a broad histological continuum extending from benign to malignant tumors. Therefore, we propose that Spitz tumors be categorized into low-, intermediate-, or high-risk categories based on the accumulation of abnormal features.

**Design:** Retrospective study.

**Settings:** Institutional practice.

**Patients:** We present 30 cases of atypical Spitz tumors in patients younger than 18 years evaluated for at least 3 years or in whom a metastatic event developed during this period.

**Intervention:** None.

**Main Outcome Measure:** The grading system was formulated after data collection.

**Results:** Among the parameters studied, only diagnosis at age greater than 10 years, diameter of the lesion greater than 10 mm, presence of ulceration, involvement of the subcutaneous fat (level V), and mitotic activity of at least 6/mm<sup>2</sup> carried a likelihood ratio greater than 1.50 and were therefore used for the grading system.

**Conclusion:** The application of an objective grading system, such as the one described herein for the first time, is the first step in providing useful information for the management of atypical Spitz tumors.

Arch Dermatol. 1999;135:282-285

	Score 0	Score 1	Score 2
Age	0-10	11-17	
Diameter	0 to 10mm	>10mm	
Fat Involment	Absent		Present
Ulceration	Absent		Present
Mitotic activity/mm2	0 to 5	6 to 8	>8
	Low Risk	Intermediate	High Risk
Total Score	0 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 11

	Metastasis	No Metastasis	Total	% Metastasis
Low	1	14	15	7%
Intermediate	3	3	6	50%
High	7	2	9	78%
Total	11	19	30	37%

FOR DISCUSSION

---

**Sentinel lymph node biopsy as an adjunct to  
management of histologically difficult to  
diagnose melanocytic lesions: A proposal**

Scott W. Kelley, MD, and Clay J. Cockerell, MD *Dallas, Texas*

J Am Acad Dermatol 2000;42:527-30





## *Surgery to the Rescue*

Many pediatric melanoma lesions present at a more advanced stage than those in the adult population. Clinical and histological melanoma mimics, including a subset of Spitz nevi, are difficult to discriminate from melanoma. When dealing with a childhood melanoma, the clinician is likely to be faced with a thick lesion, and one in which the actual diagnosis may even be in doubt. There is a paucity of data to guide the physician in his management of melanoma in this age group, particularly with respect to node status and adjuvant therapy. The authors present two cases of pediatric melanoma in which the novel use of sentinel node biopsy helped confirm the diagnosis of melanoma, determined the need for full lymph node dissection, and guided the use of adjuvant interferon therapy.

Zuckerman R, Maier JP, Guiney WB Jr, et al. Pediatric melanoma: confirming the diagnosis with sentinel node biopsy. *Ann Plast Surg* 2001; 46:394–399

## **Pediatric Melanoma: Confirming the Diagnosis With Sentinel Node Biopsy**

---

Randall Zuckerman, MD

Joel P. Maier, MD

William B. Guiney, Jr, MD

W. Thomas Huntsman, MD

Eric K. Mooney, MD

---

mimic melanoma histologically, particularly the Spitz nevus. Lastly, there is a paucity of data to guide the surgeon in this age group, particularly with respect to node status and adjuvant therapy. No prospective trials exist and even retrospective studies are rare.<sup>4</sup> In a sense, these factors constitute a “triple threat” of pediatric melanoma:

1. Delayed presentation with thicker lesions
2. Histological ambivalence
3. “Terra incognita” with respect to clinical trials of adjuvant therapy and of node management, particularly in the thick lesions of the childhood age group



Original contribution

# Sentinel lymph node metastasis is not predictive of poor outcome in patients with problematic spitzoid melanocytic tumors<sup>☆</sup>

Tawny Hung MD<sup>a</sup>, Adriano Piris MD<sup>b</sup>, Alice Lobo MD<sup>c</sup>, Martin C. Mihm Jr. MD<sup>d</sup>,  
Arthur J. Sober MD<sup>e</sup>, Hensin Tsao MD<sup>e</sup>, Kenneth K. Tanabe MD<sup>f</sup>, Lyn M. Duncan MD<sup>b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Vancouver General Hospital and University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, BC V5Z 1M9*

<sup>b</sup>*Dermatopathology Unit, Pathology Service, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114, USA*

<sup>c</sup>*Department of Dermatology, Hospital das Clinicas, University of Sao Paulo, 05403-010 Brazil*

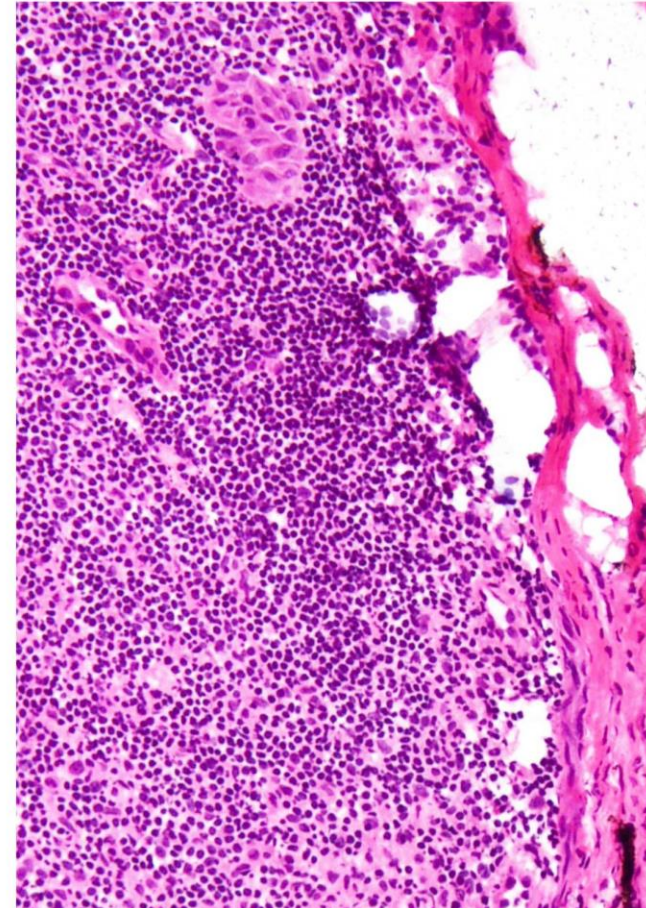
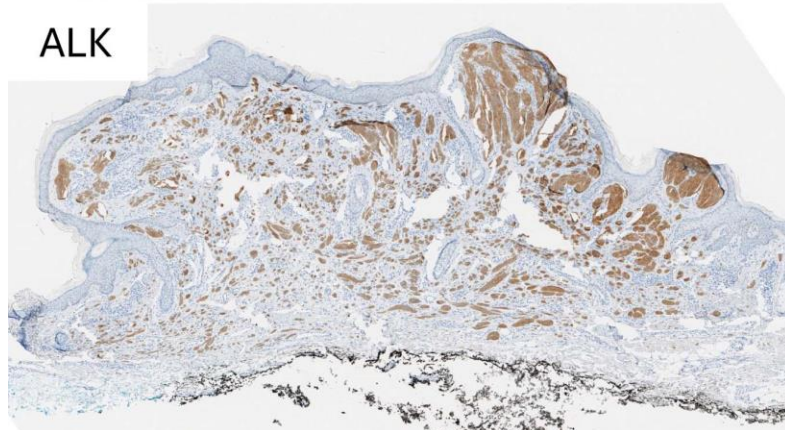
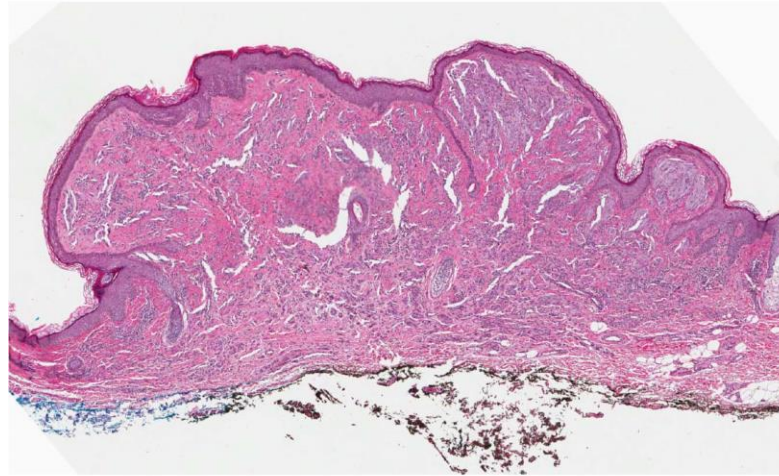
<sup>d</sup>*Department of Dermatology, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02115, USA*

<sup>e</sup>*Department of Dermatology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114, USA*

<sup>f</sup>*Division of Surgical Oncology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114, USA*

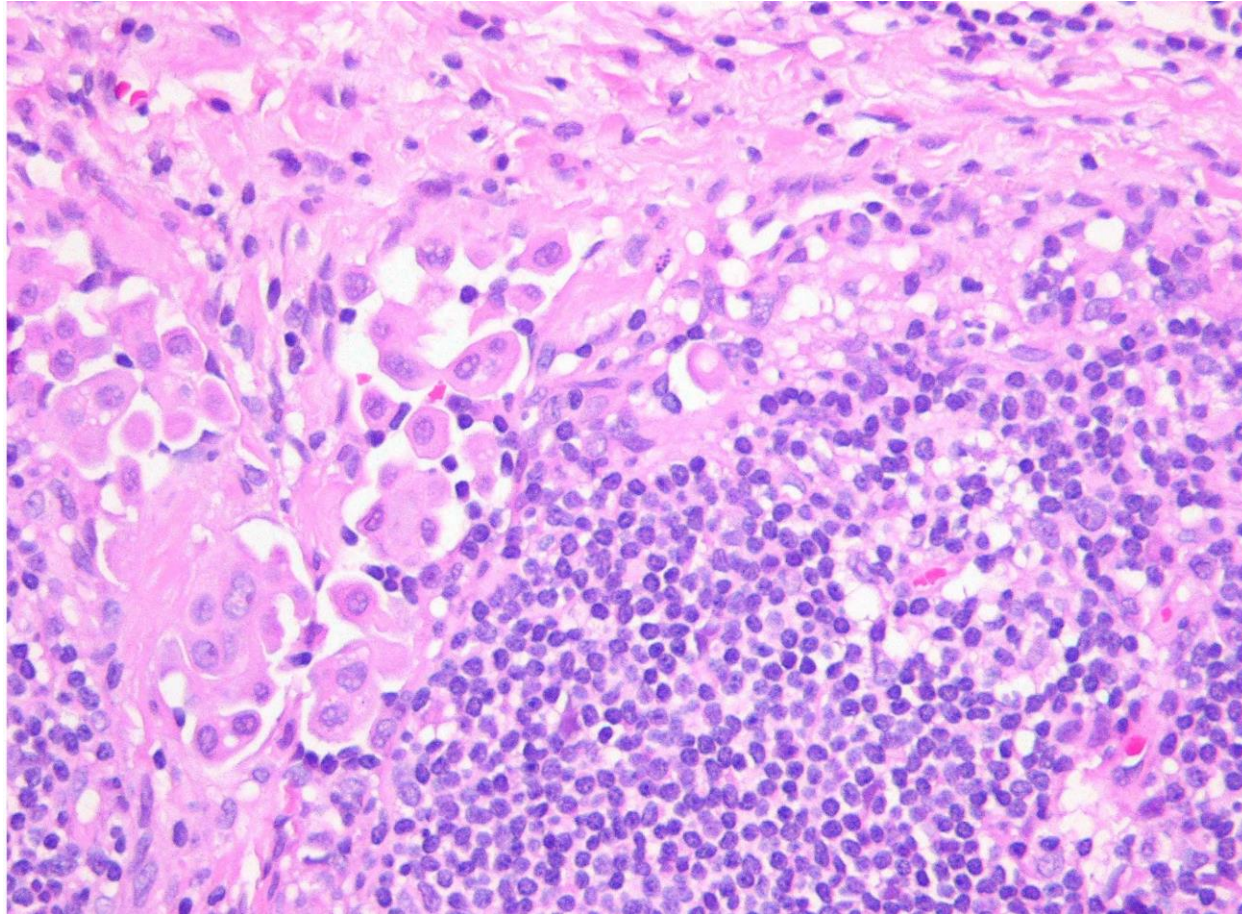


# Spitz Nevus with SLN Deposit



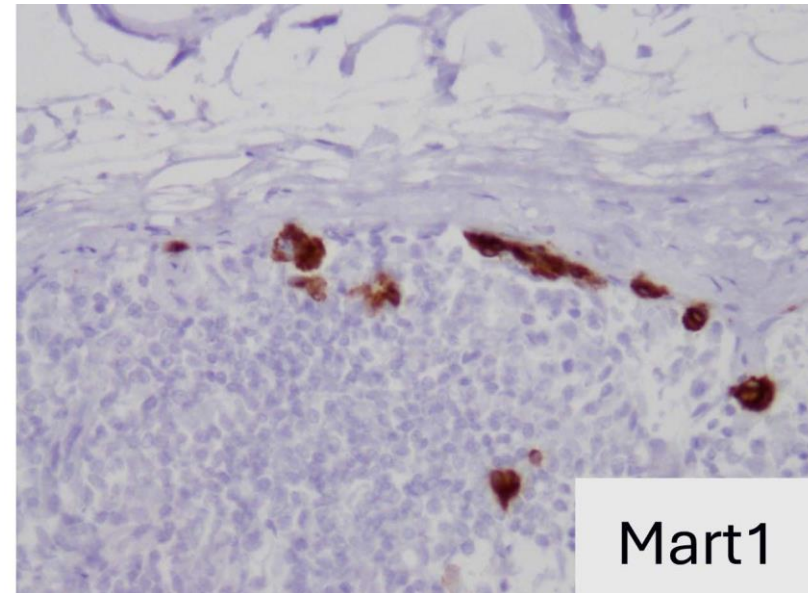
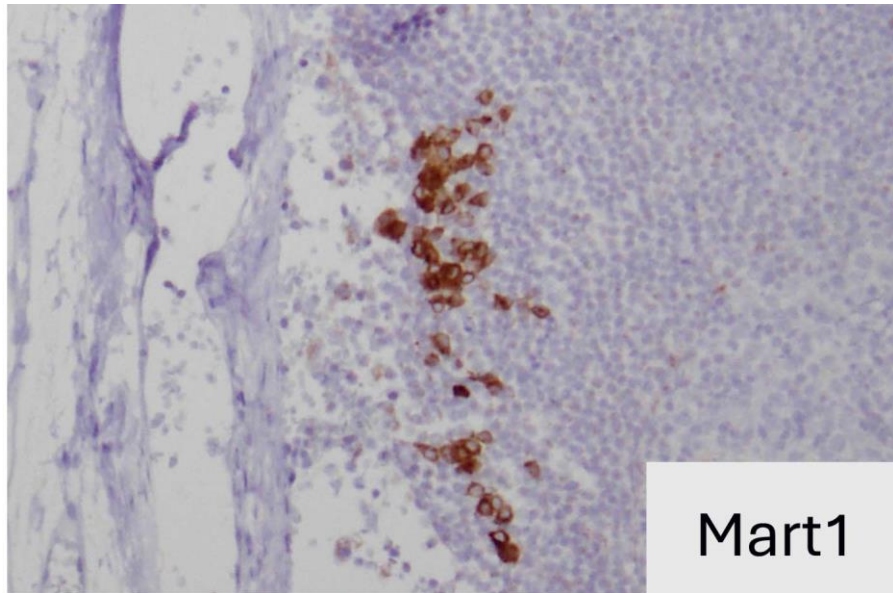


# Benign Mesothelial Cells in LN



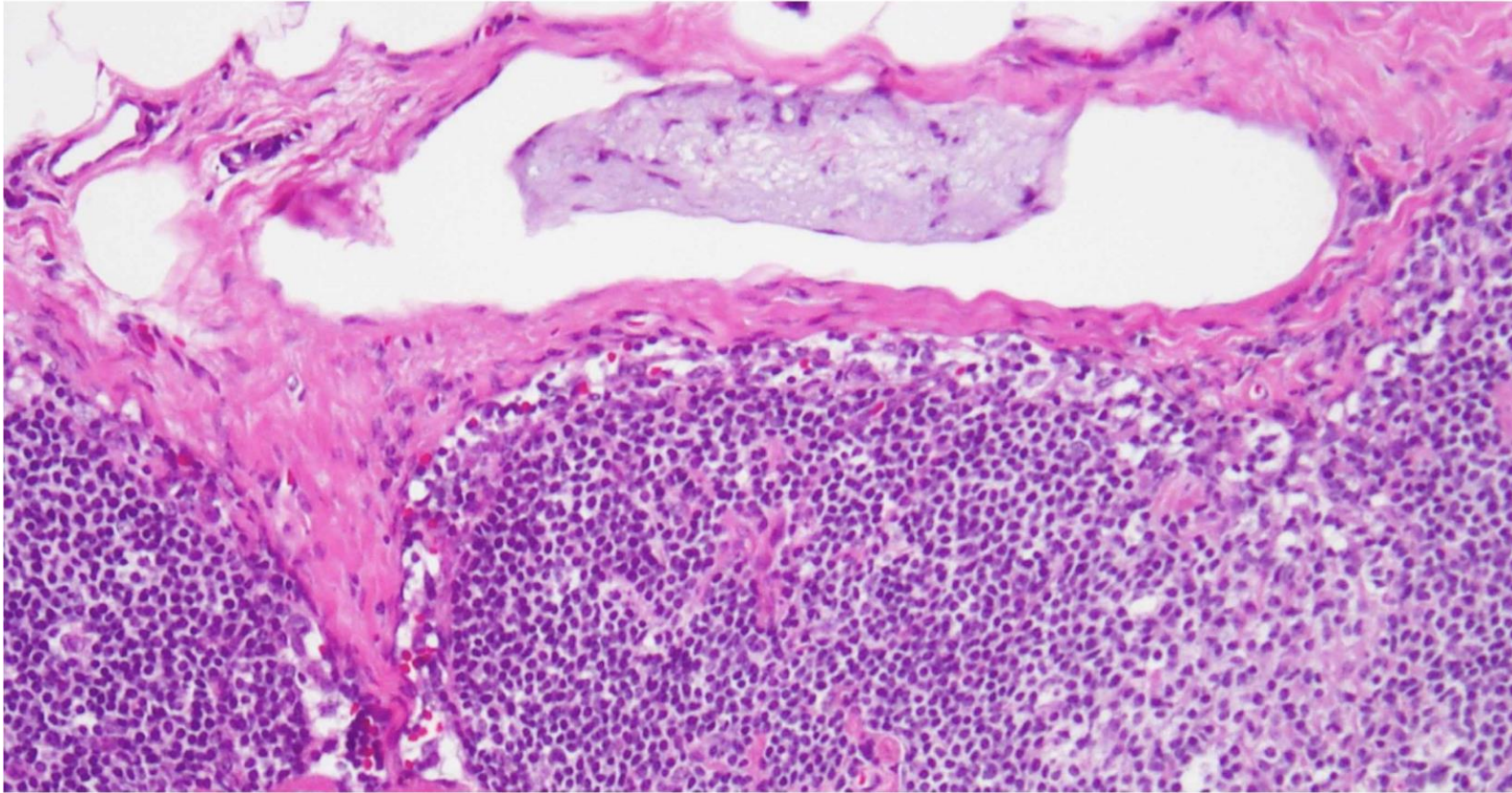


# Intranodal Nevus Cells in Lymph node



Incidental finding in an axillary SLN of a patient with breast cancer

# Dermal Stroma in LN



Am J Surg Pathol 2010; 34:1492-7



# The Brave New Spitz

## The Molecularization of Spitz

*American Journal of Pathology*, Vol. 157, No. 3, September 2000  
Copyright © American Society for Investigative Pathology

Mutations and Copy Number Increase of *HRAS* in  
Spitz Nevi with Distinctive Histopathological Features

Boris C. Bastian,<sup>\*†</sup> Philip E. LeBoit,<sup>\*†</sup> and  
Daniel Pinkel<sup>†</sup>

debate whether Spitz nevus and melanoma reside at the  
opposing ends of a biological spectrum<sup>3</sup> or represent two



### ARTICLE

Received 25 Sep 2013 | Accepted 15 Dec 2013 | Published 20 Jan 2014

DOI: 10.1038/ncomms4116

### Kinase fusions are frequent in Spitz tumours and spitzoid melanomas

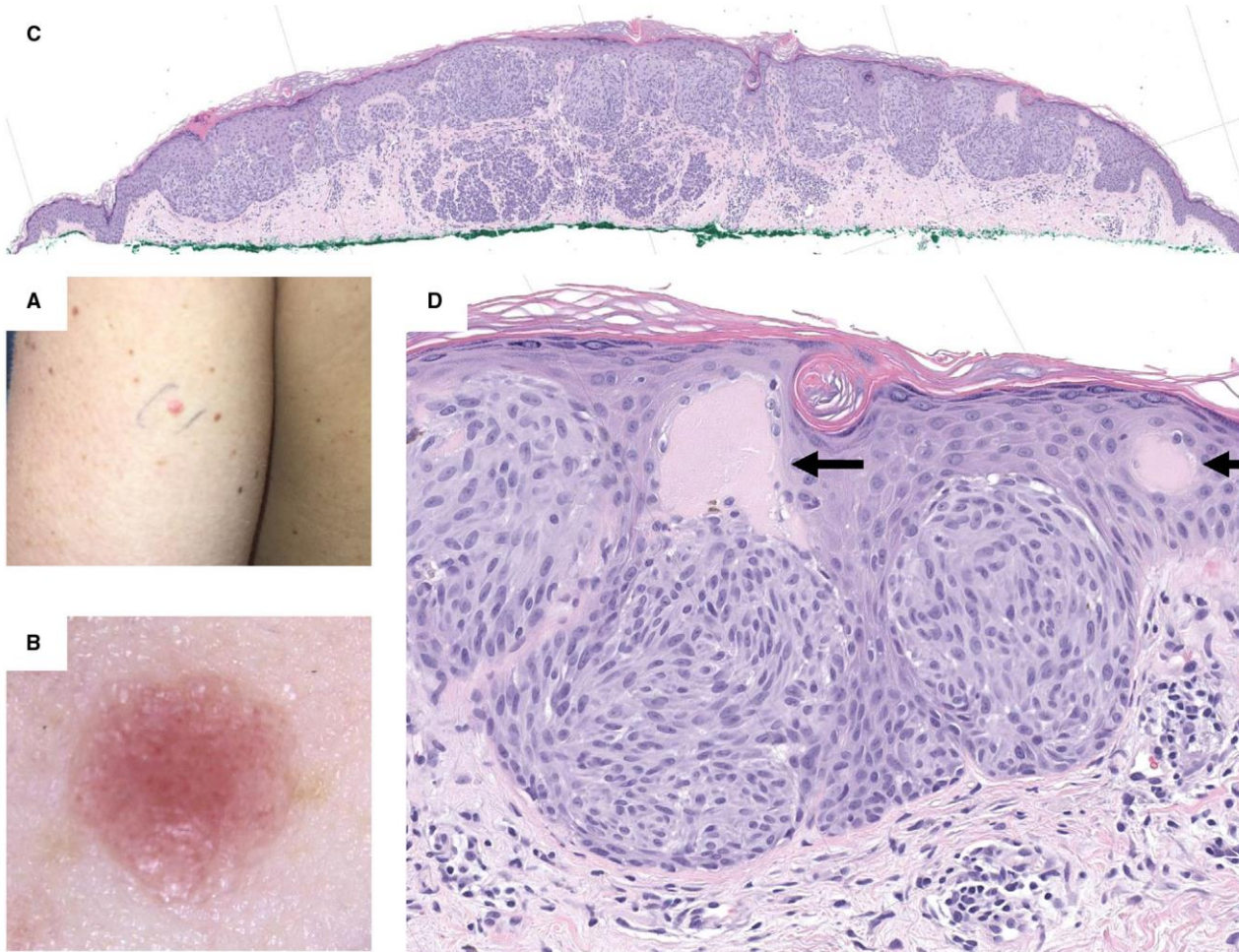
Thomas Wiesner<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Jie He<sup>3,\*</sup>, Roman Yelensky<sup>3,\*</sup>, Rosaura Esteve-Puig<sup>4</sup>, Thomas Botton<sup>4</sup>, Iwei Yeh<sup>4</sup>,  
Doron Lipson<sup>3</sup>, Geoff Otto<sup>3</sup>, Kristina Brennan<sup>3</sup>, Rajmohan Murali<sup>5,6</sup>, Maria Garrido<sup>4</sup>, Vincent A. Miller<sup>3</sup>,  
Jeffrey S. Ross<sup>3</sup>, Michael F. Berger<sup>1</sup>, Alyssa Sparatta<sup>4</sup>, Gabriele Palmedo<sup>7</sup>, Lorenzo Cerroni<sup>2</sup>, Klaus J. Busam<sup>5</sup>,  
Heinz Kutzner<sup>7</sup>, Maureen T. Cronin<sup>3</sup>, Philip J. Stephens<sup>3</sup> & Boris C. Bastian<sup>1,4,5</sup>

# Molecular Pathology and Spitz

- Definition of “Spitz” by molecular pathway
  - HRAS aberrations
  - Kinase fusions (Ros1, Alk, Ntrk, Ret, Met, MAP3K8, Braf, other)
- Molecular findings subclassify Spitz
  - Spitz nevus
  - Spitz melanocytoma
  - Spitz melanoma
  - Atypical Spitz tumor of uncertain biologic potential

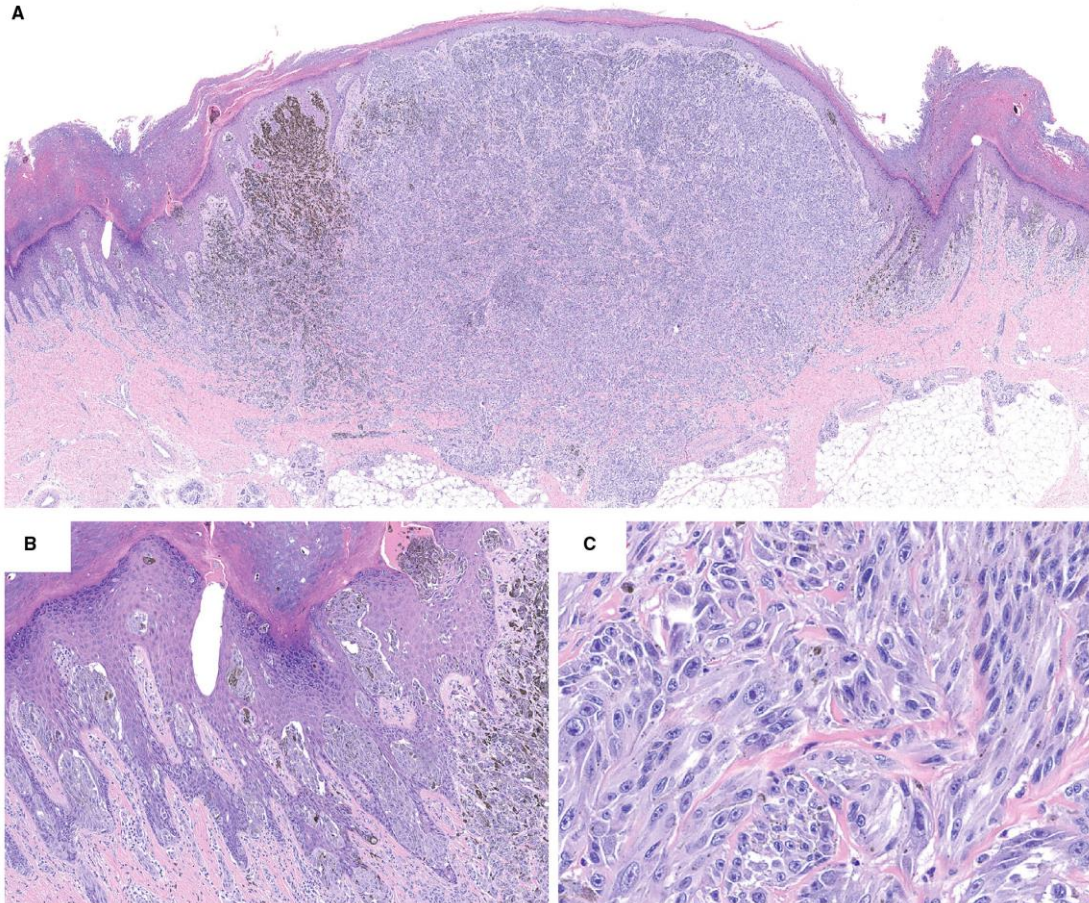


# Spitz Nevus



- Benign clinical findings
- Benign histopathology
- Single genomic aberration typical of Spitz

# Spitz Melanoma

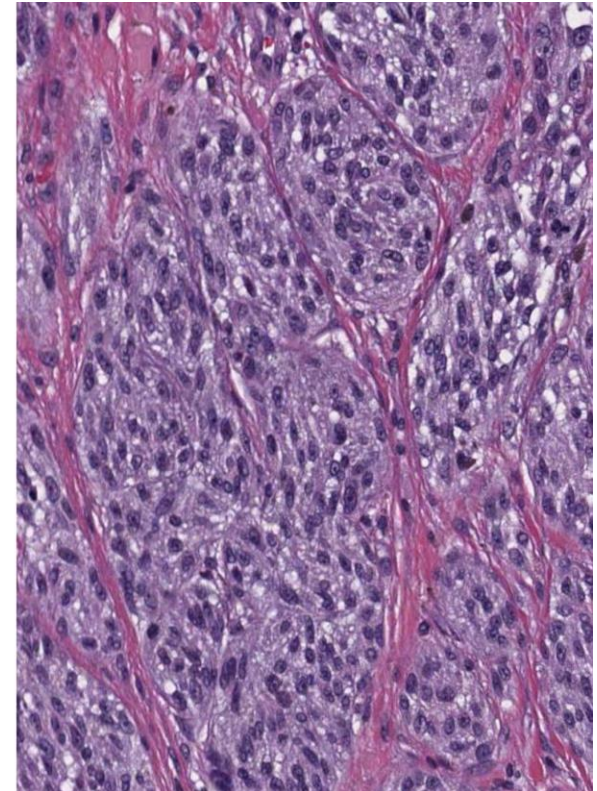
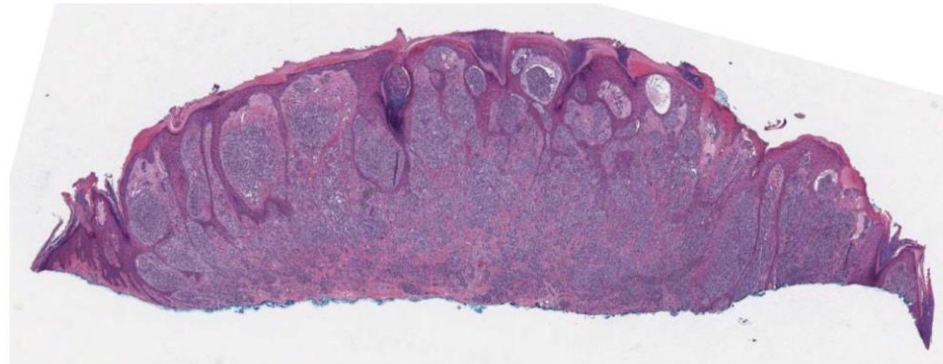


- Atypical/malignant pathology
- Spitz pathway aberration and addtl genetic aberrations typical of melanoma
- Example: MAP3K8-SPECC1 fusion plus numerous segmental gains and/or losses



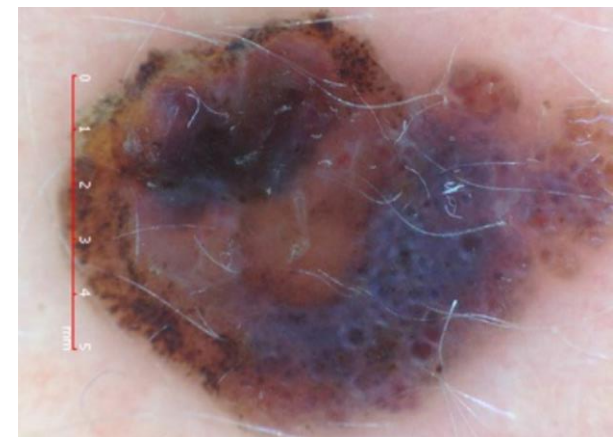
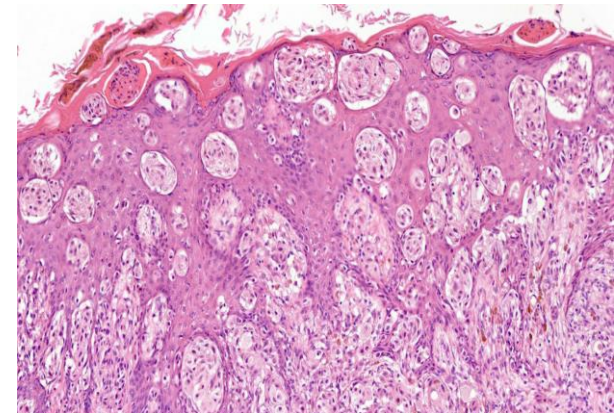
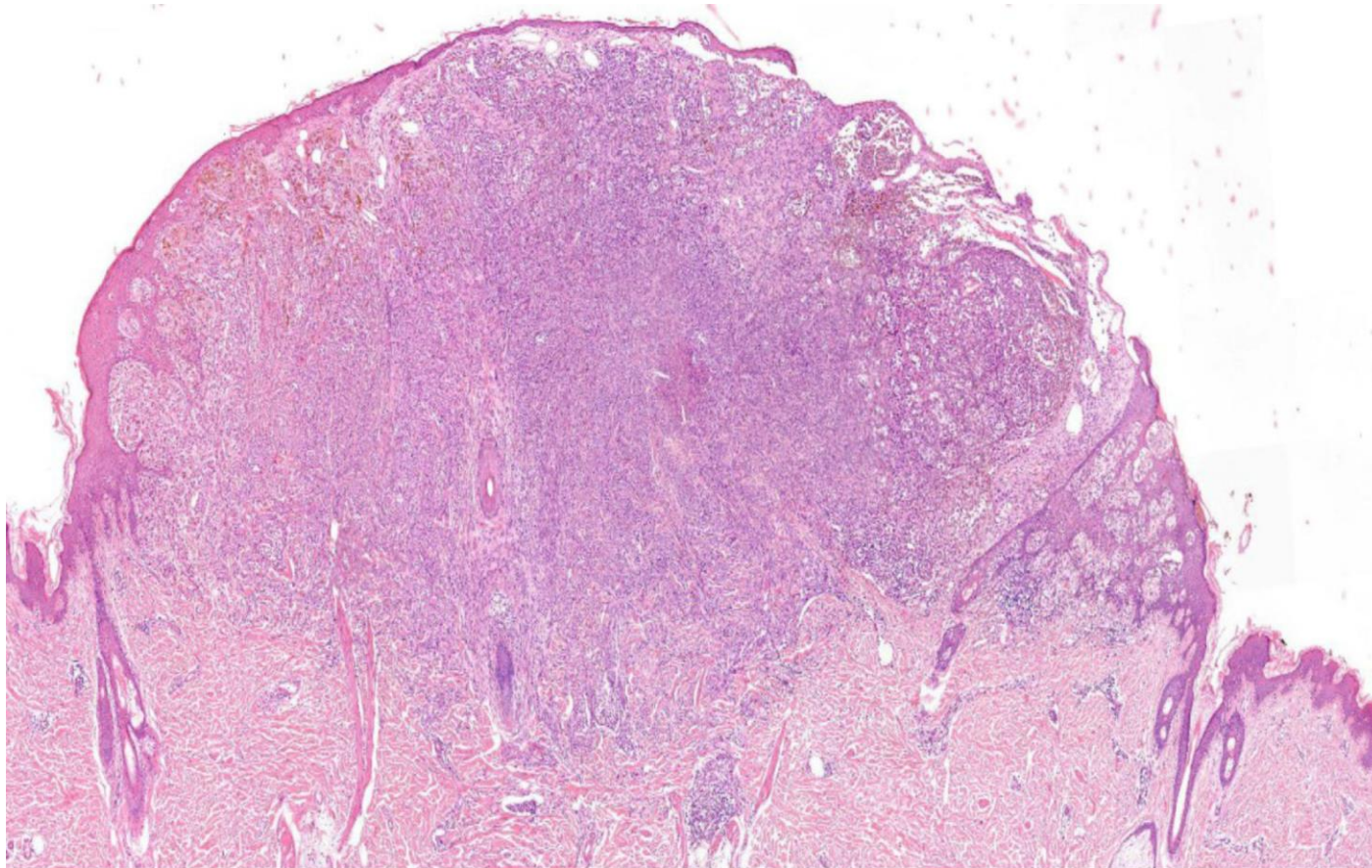
# Spitzoid Melanoma

- Melanoma with Spitz-like features
- Non-Spitz pathway (BRAF, NRAS, other)



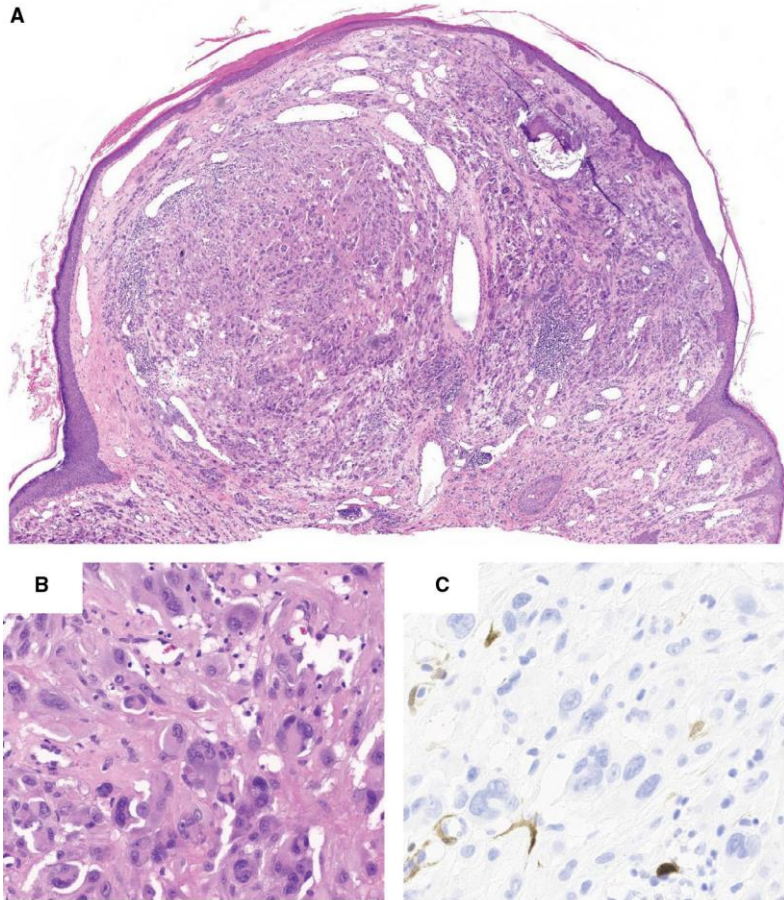


# Melanoma (referred as AST)





# Spitzoid Melanocytoma



- Atypical histopathology
- Spitz pathway aberration plus select addtl genomic aberration(s) that are not sufficient for melanoma
- Example: MAP3K8-SVIL fusion plus homozygous deletions of p16

# Terminology

- Atypical Spitz tumor
  - Spitz neoplasm with uncertainty as to whether it is benign or malignant
- Spitz Melanocytoma
  - Benign Spitz neoplasm with genetic/genomic aberrations



# The Spectrum of Spitz

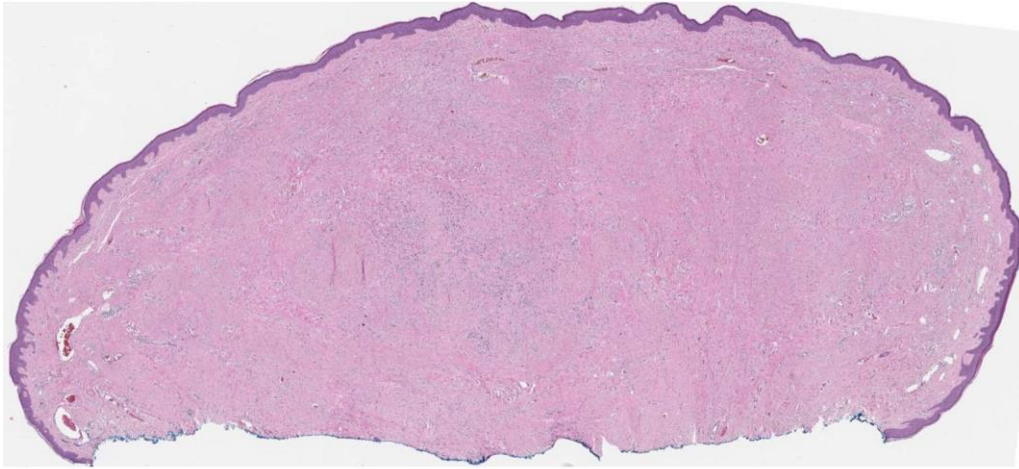
Benign Spitz



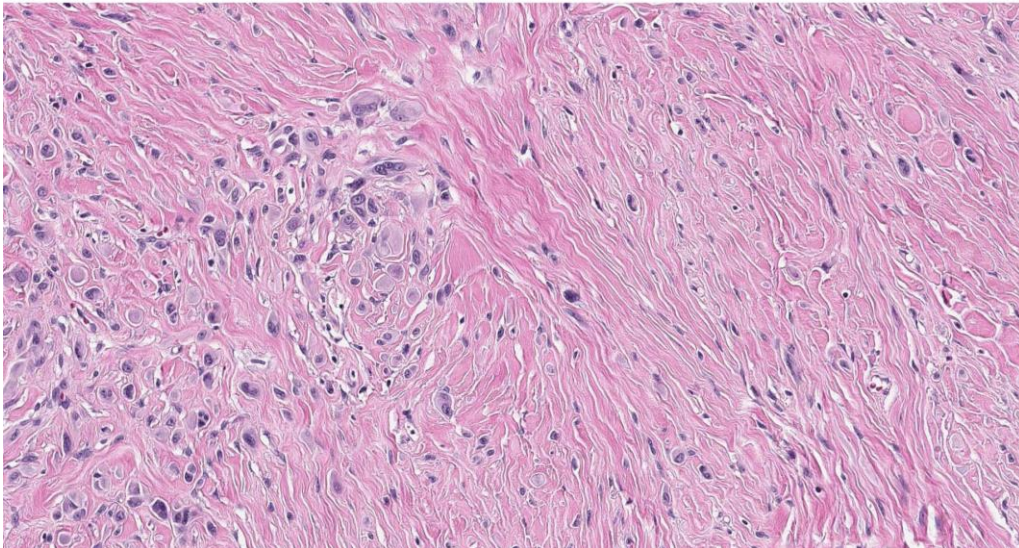
Malignant Spitz



# Desmoplastic Melanoma or Not?

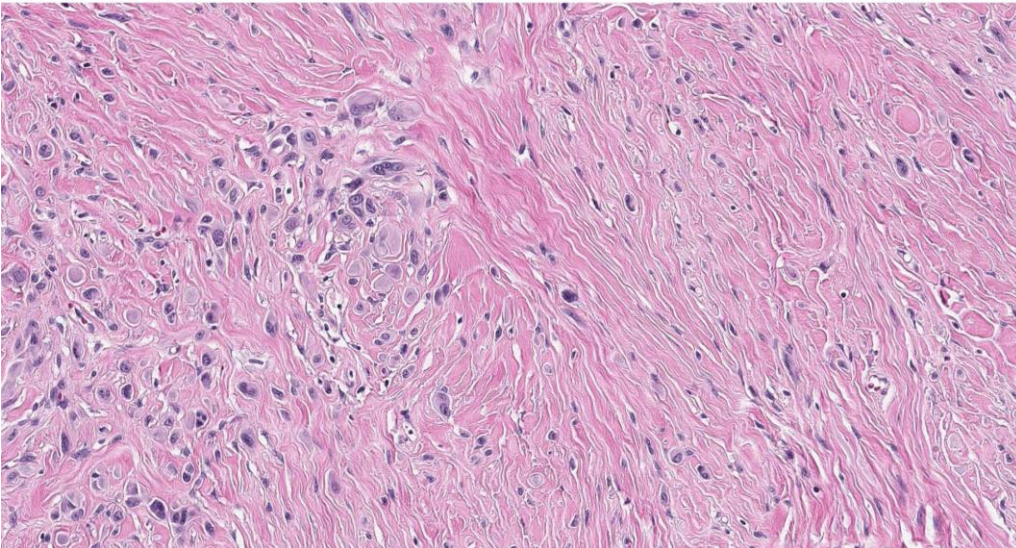
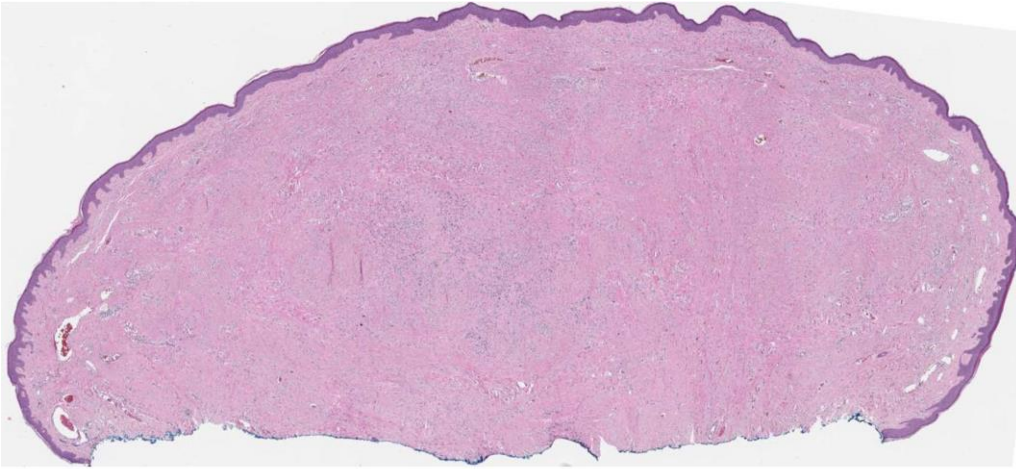


- 41 M with nodule on back
- Referred with a diagnosis of desmoplastic melanoma

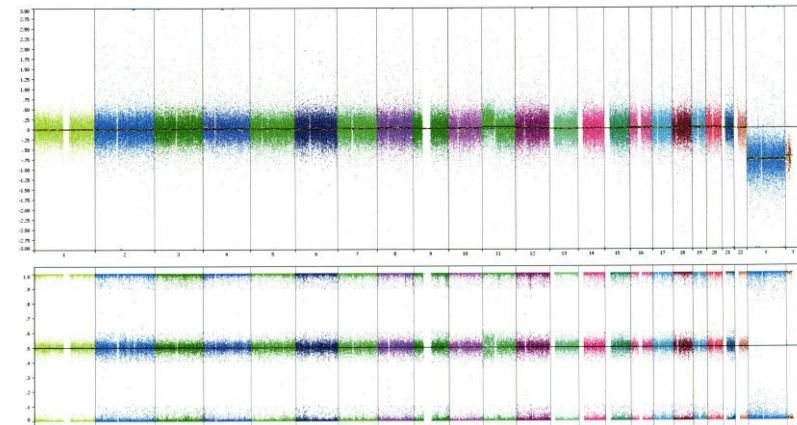




# Desmoplastic Spitz Nevus

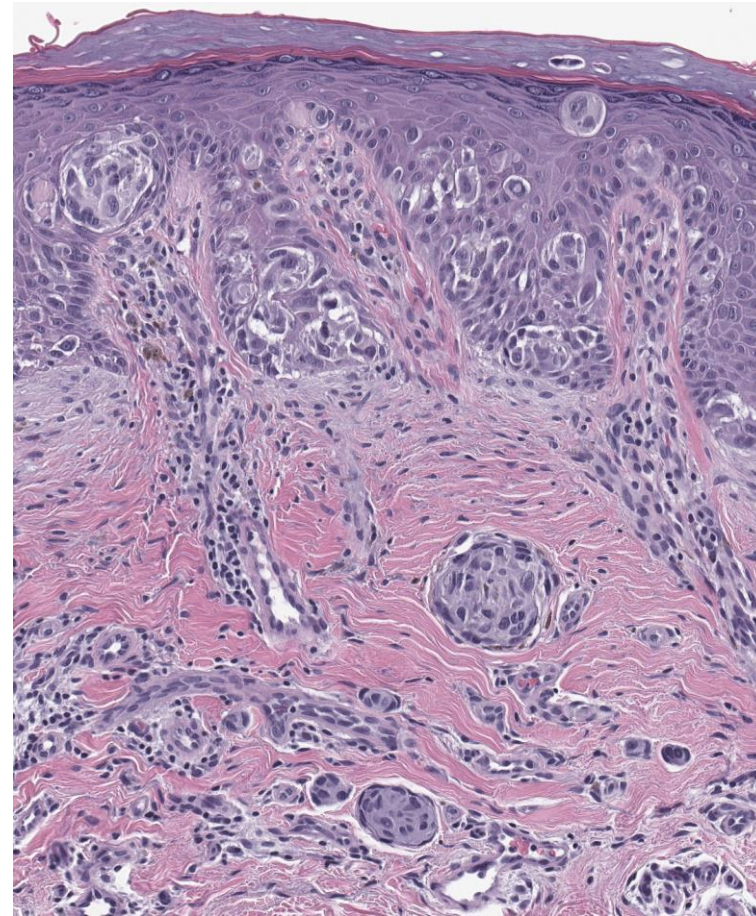
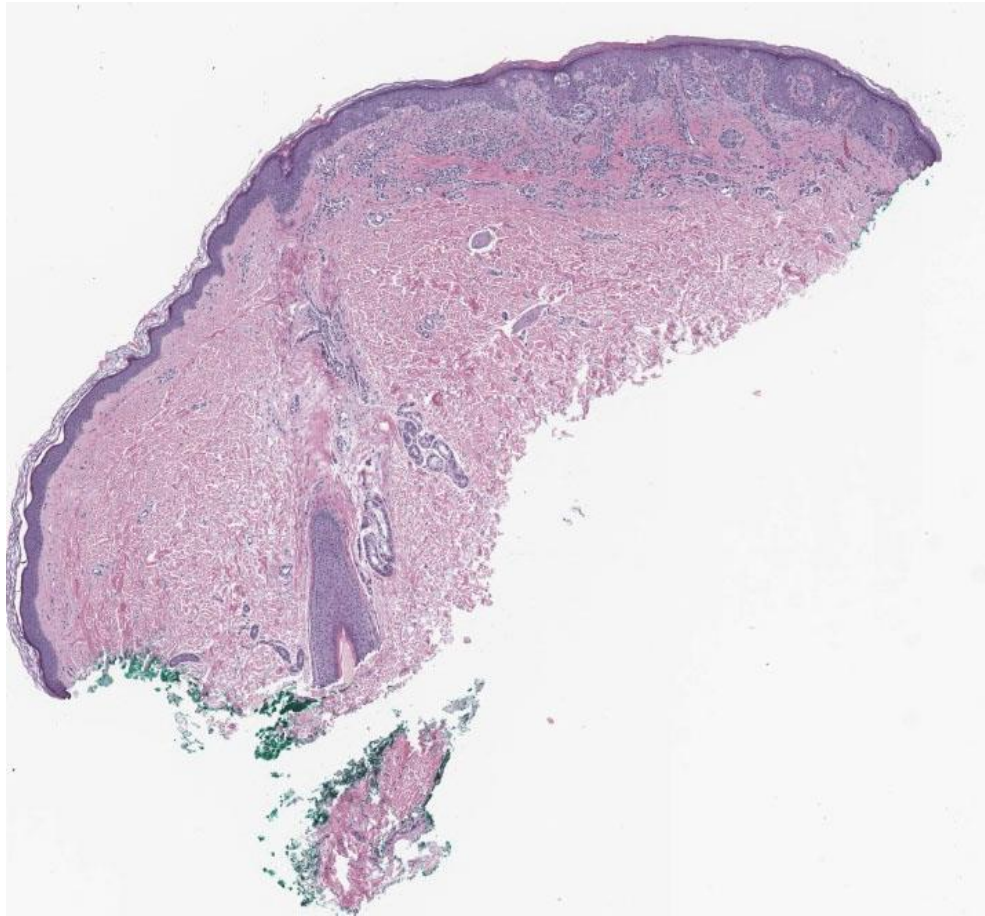


Cytogenetics: Isolated gain of 11p



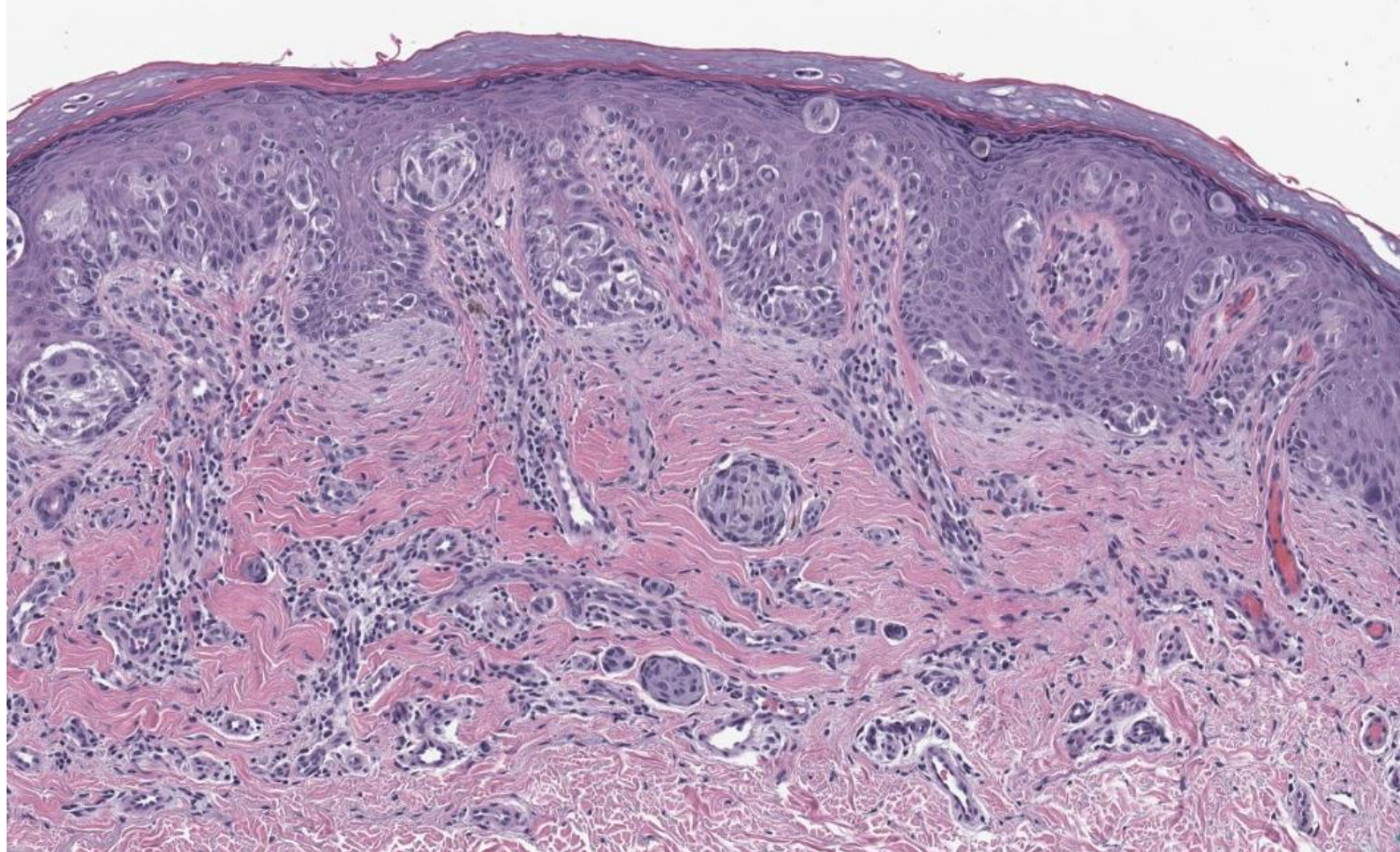


# What is Your Diagnosis?



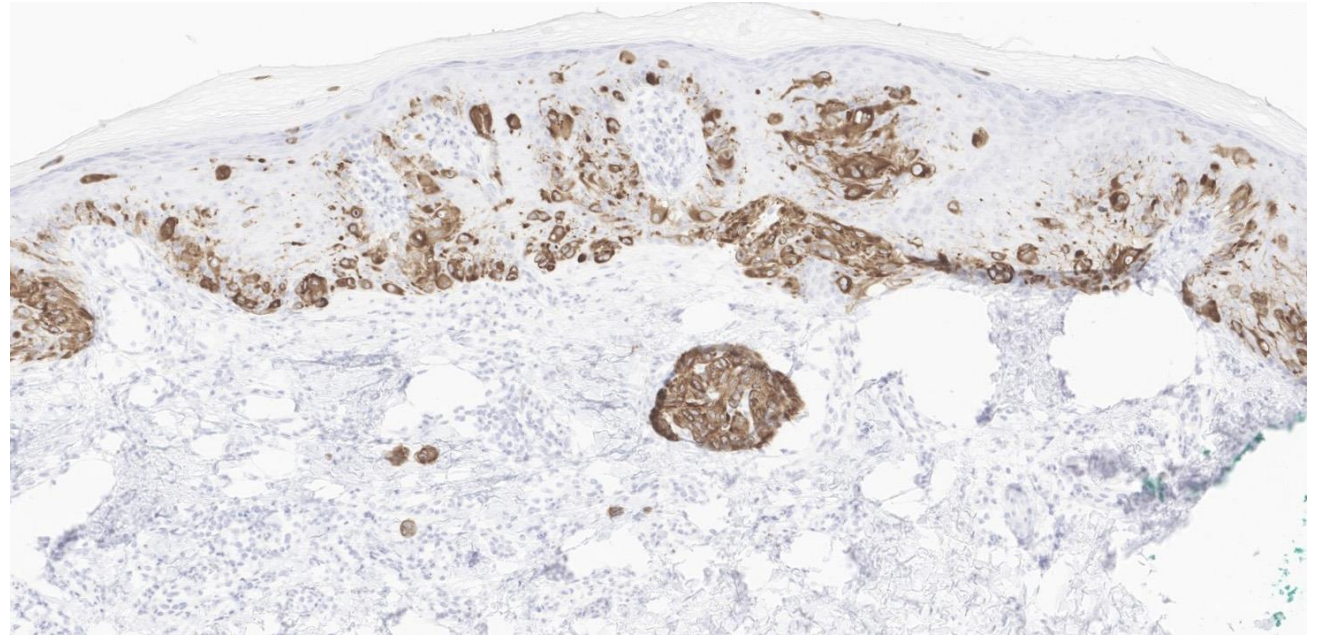


# Prelim: “Atypical” Compound Spitzoid Proliferation



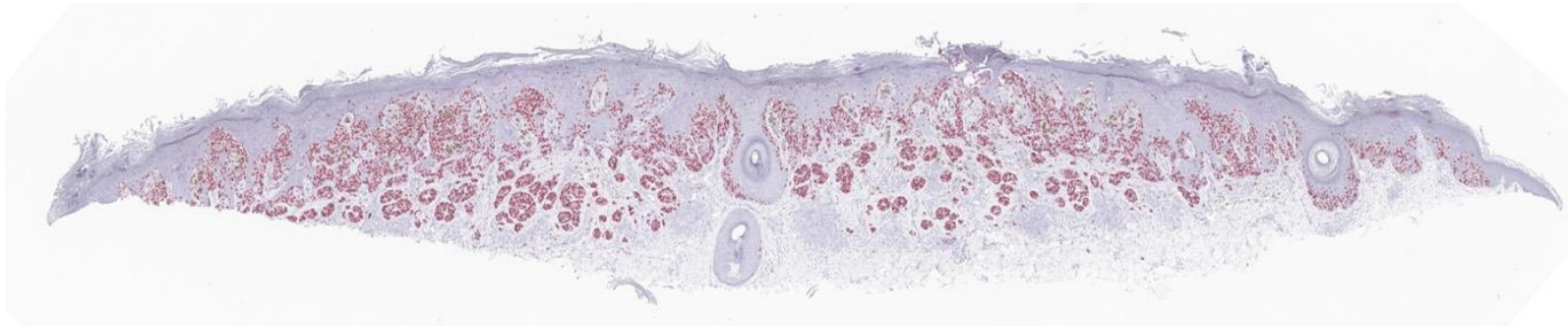
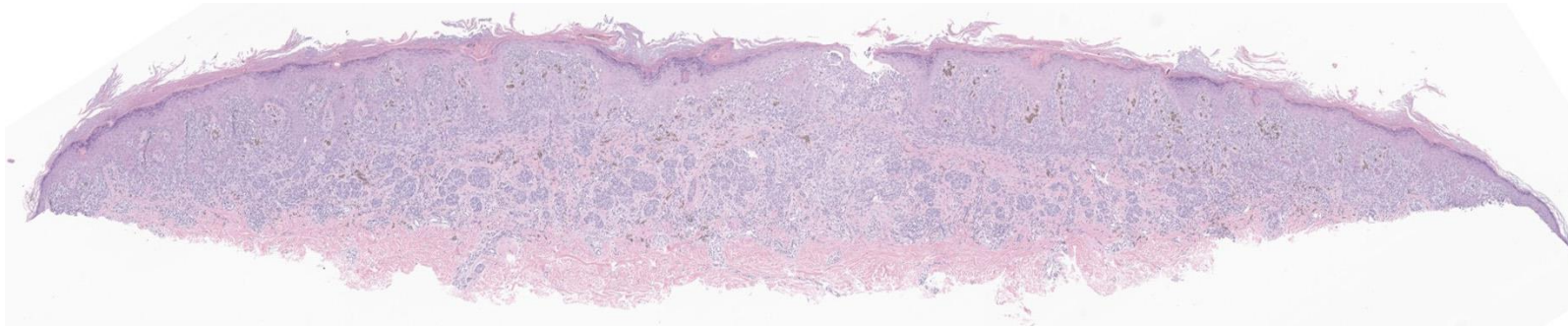
## Ancillary Test Results = Spitz Nevus

- Negative for BRAFV600E
- Positive for NTRK





# Nevus or Melanoma?



DDX: Neoplasm of Uncertain Behavior vs. Dysplastic Nevus

## DIAGNOSIS:

Left Anterior Distal Thigh (Shave Biopsy):

**MALIGNANT MELANOMA.**

GROWTH TYPE: NODULAR

BRESLOW'S **THICKNESS**:  $\geq 1.2$  MM.

MITOSIS PER 1MM: 0/MM2.

LYMPHOID INFILTRATE: NON-BRISK INFLAMMATION

**ULCERATION: FOCAL**

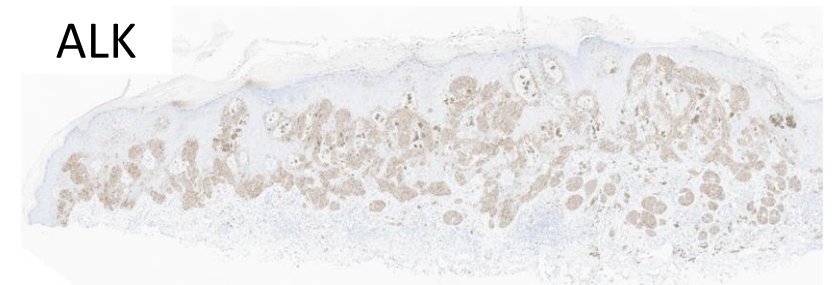
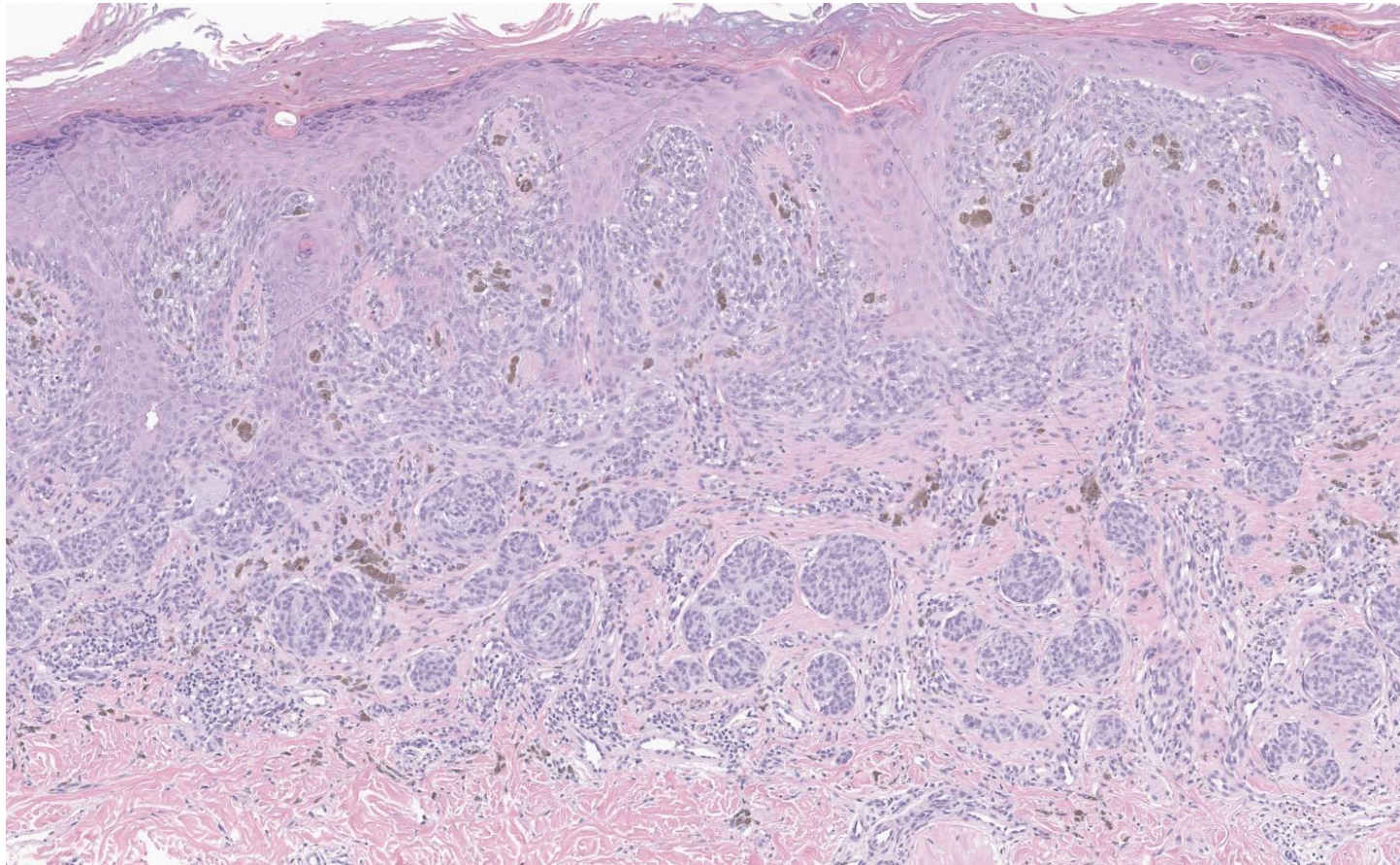
REGRESSION: NOT IDENTIFIED

MARGINS: THE LESION EXTENDS TO THE BASE AND A PERIPHERAL MARGIN.

**PATHOLOGIC STAGE: PT2B**



# Diagnosis: Spitz Nevus

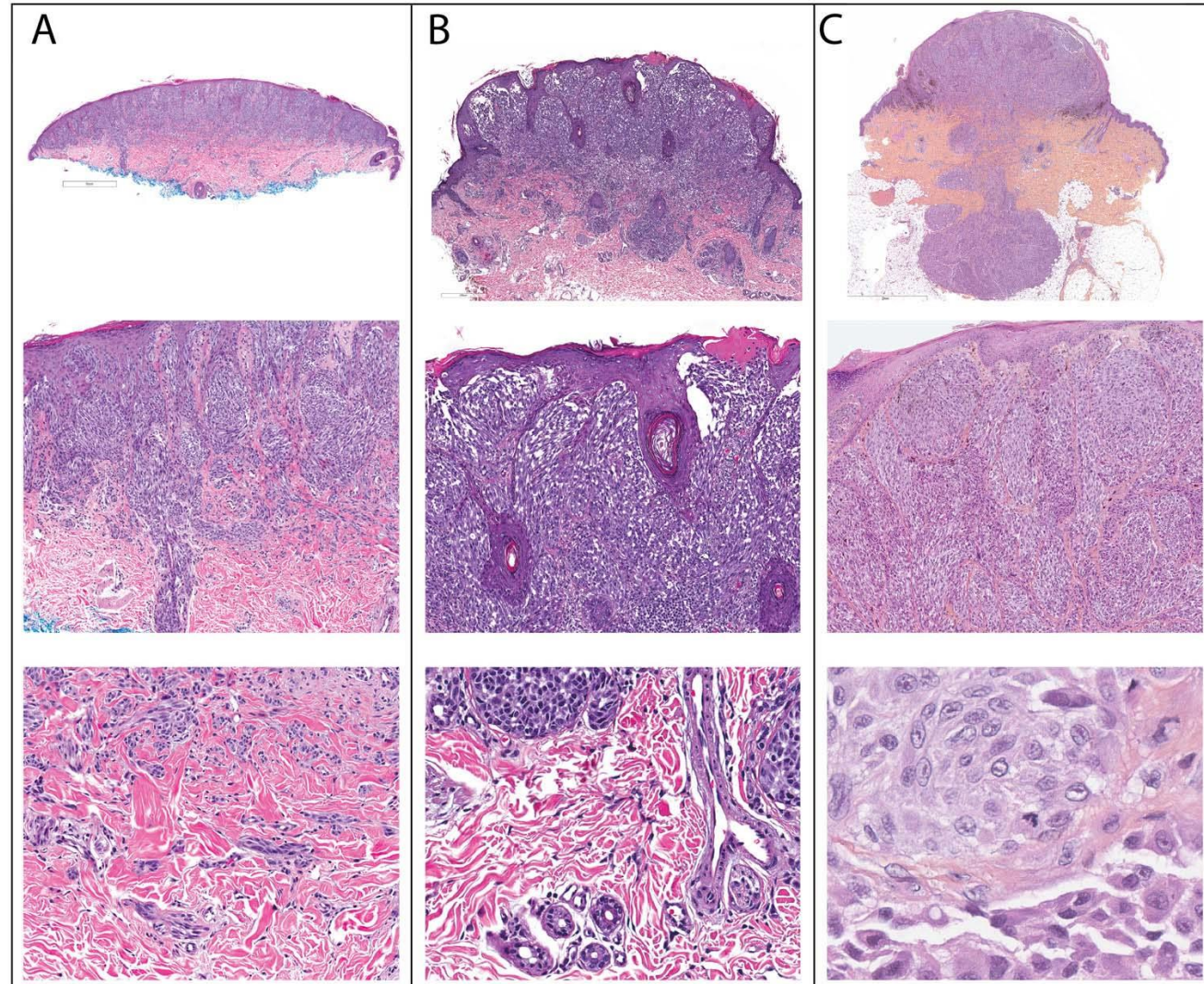


Sequence analysis: DCTN1-ALK FUSION

SNP ARRAY:  
NO UNBALANCED GENOMIC ABERRATIONS



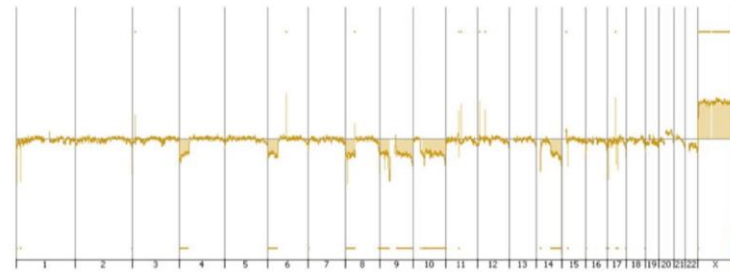
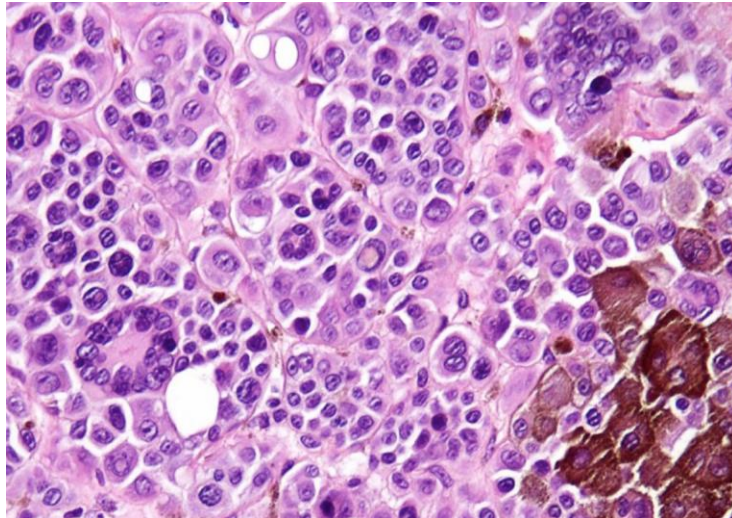
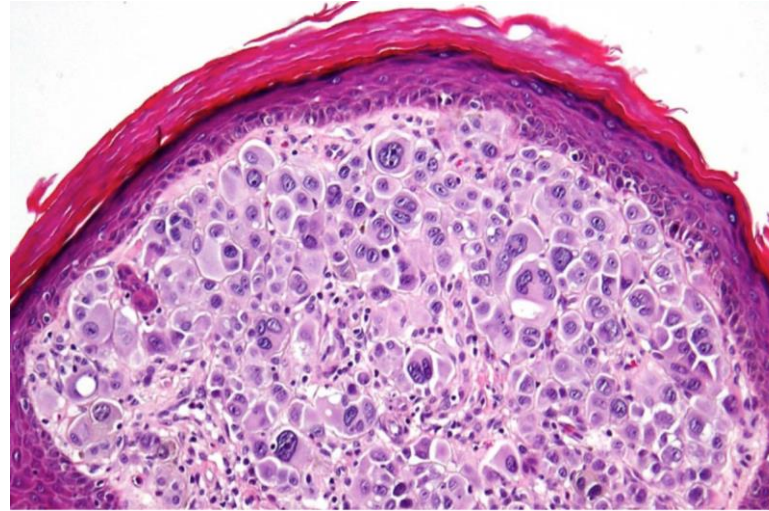
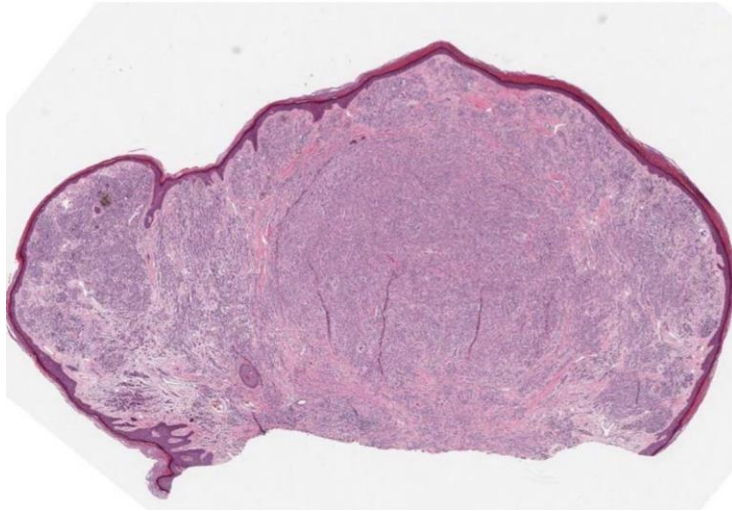
# Spitz Tumors with Alk-Fusions



*Yeh et al Am J Surg Pathol 2015;39:581-91*



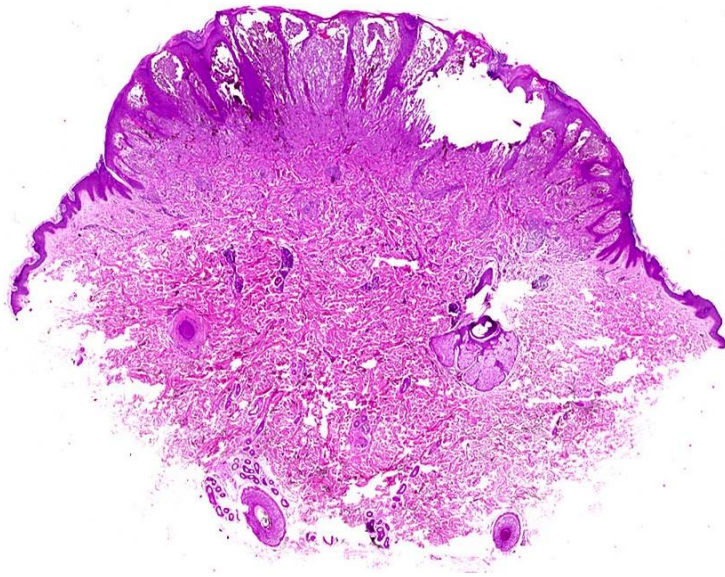
# Melanoma



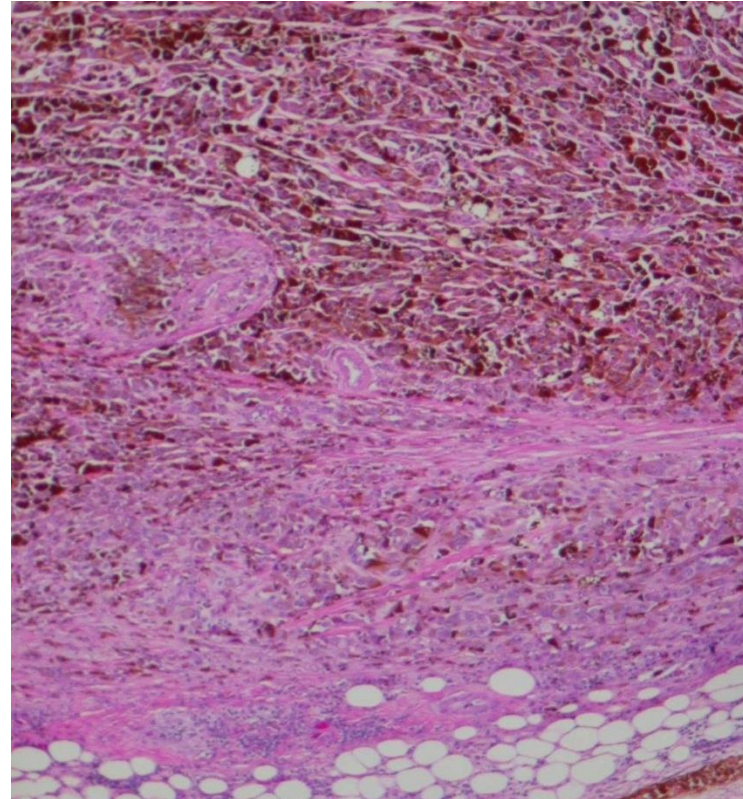
Losses of: 4p, 6p, 8p, 9, 10p,  
10q, 14q



# Spitzoid Melanoma



**FISH Results:**  
**Gains in CCDN1 (11q13) and**  
**RREB1 (6p25) in > 70% of cells**

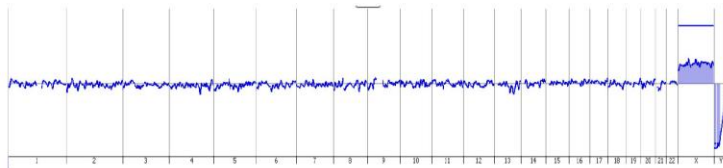


Metastatic melanoma in LN

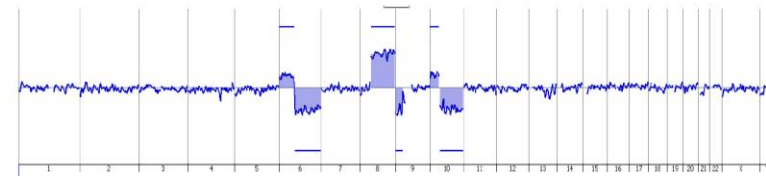
# Nevus vs Melanoma – Cytogenetic Tests



Melanocytic Nevus



Melanoma

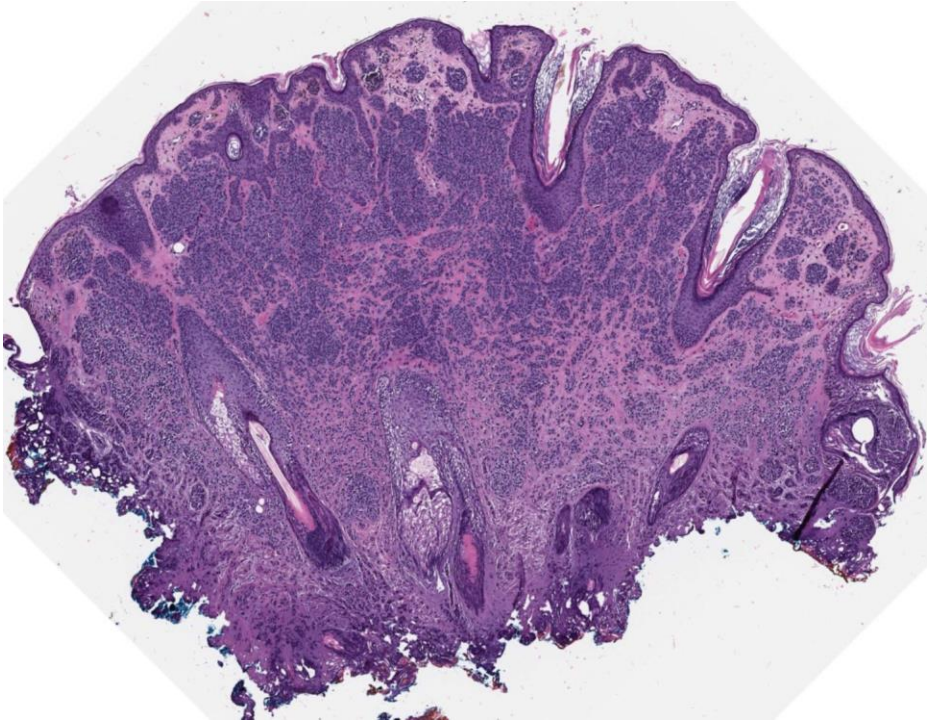




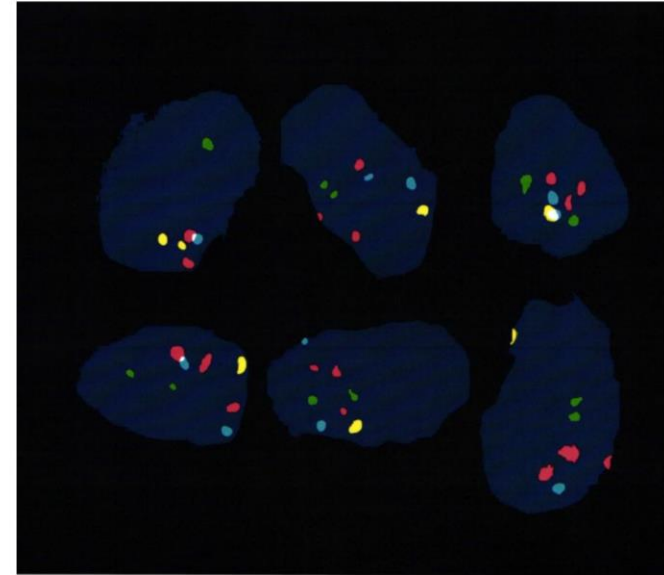
# Cytogenetics for Melanocytic Tumors

Often right, but also makes errors

# Ordinary Nevus with Positive FISH test

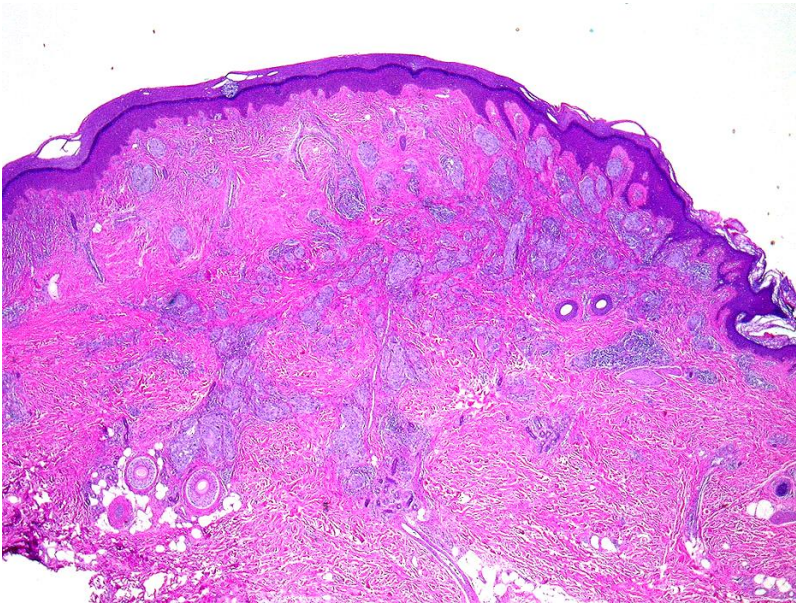


**“Positive” FISH Test**

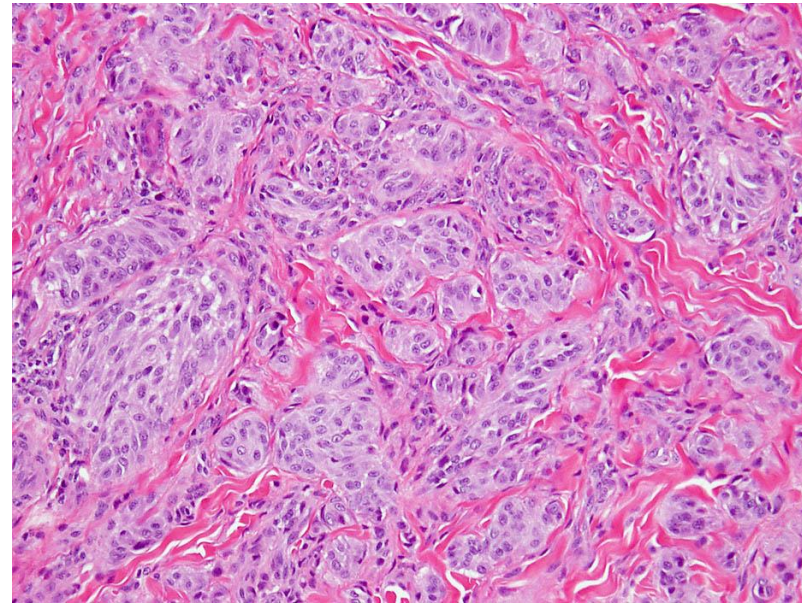




# Limitations of Cytogenetic Analysis

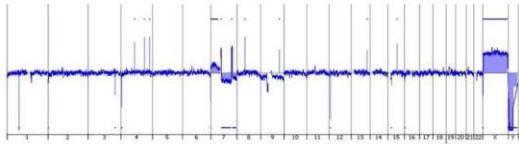
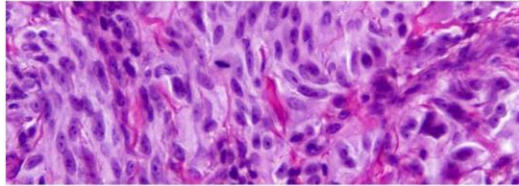
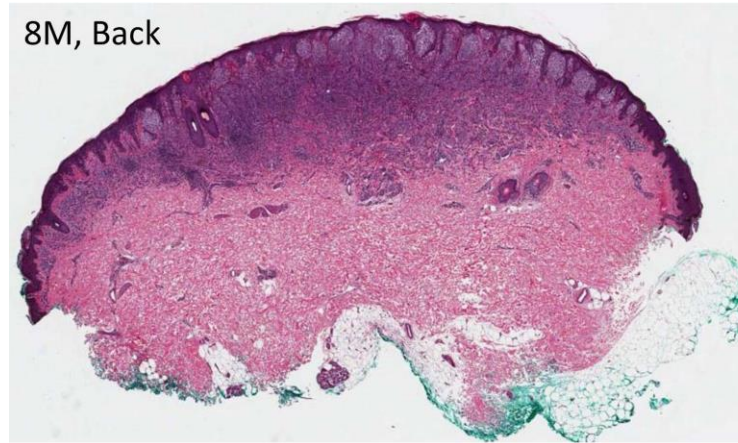


CGH:  
-Loss of 1p and 9p

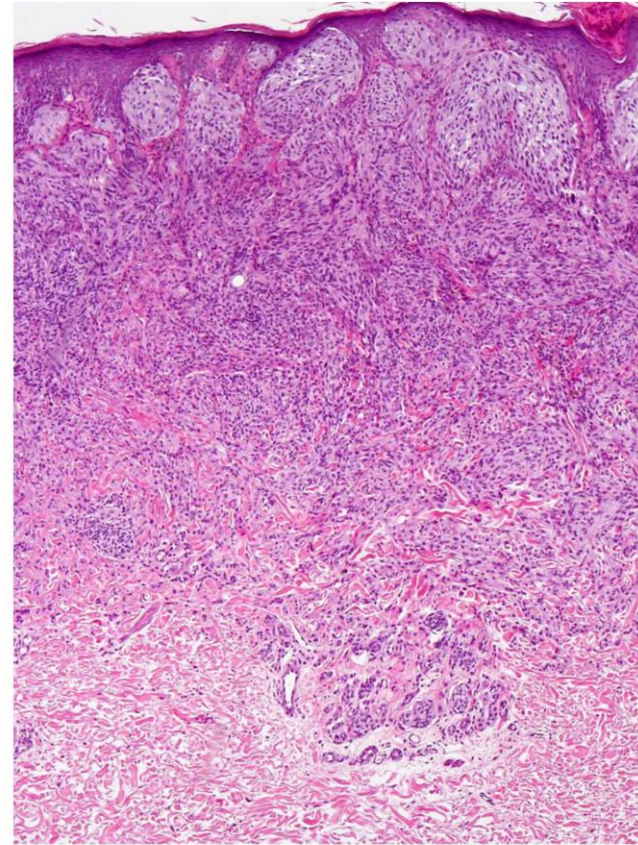


“Spitzoid Melanoma of  
Childhood” in 2005

# What is Your Diagnosis?



CGH:  $\downarrow$ 9p,  $\uparrow$ 7q





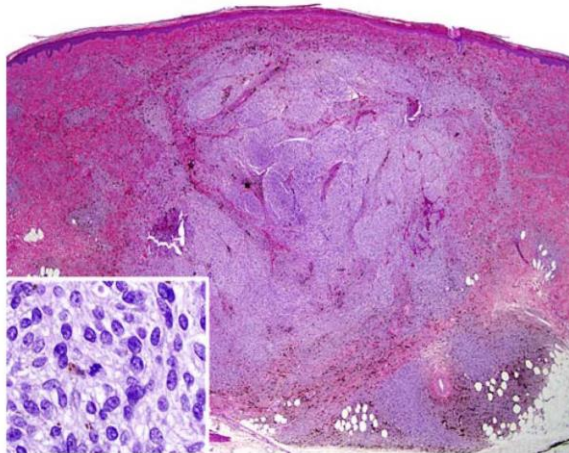
# Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization as an Ancillary Tool in the Diagnosis of Ambiguous Melanocytic Neoplasms

## A Review of 804 Cases

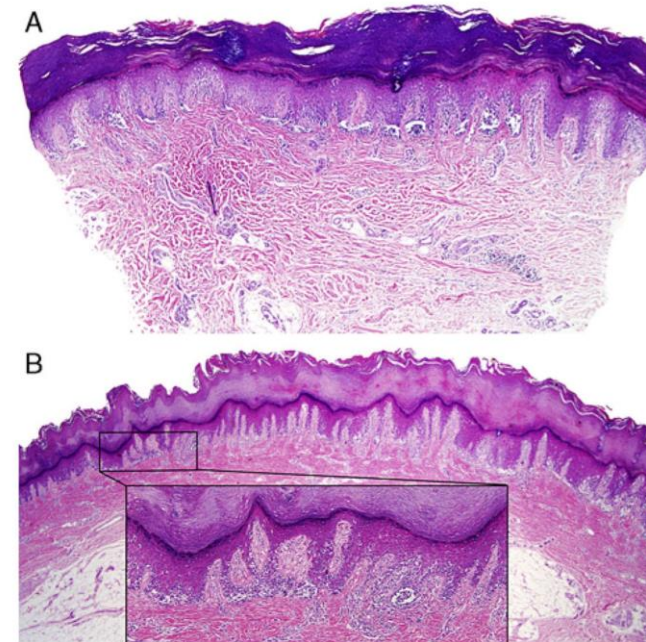
Jeffrey P. North, MD,\*† Maria C. Garrido, MD,‡ Nicholas A. Kolaitis, MD,‡  
Philip E. LeBoit, MD,\*†‡ Timothy H. McCalmont, MD,\*†‡ and Boris C. Bastian, MD\*†‡

*FISH in Diagnosis of Ambiguous Melanocytic Neoplasms*

*Am J Surg Pathol • Volume 38, Number 6, June 2014*



**FIGURE 5.** Blue nevus or blue nevus-like melanoma. Histopathologic image(s) of a 14-year-old boy with a lesion on the foot. This neoplasm has features of a cellular blue nevus with large nests and fascicles of moderately large, oval, and spindle melanocytes extending into the subcutis. However, scattered mitotic figures were present (inset), and a Ki-67 immunostain showed a focus with a mildly elevated proliferation rate. FISH showed no aberrations, and a diagnosis of cellular blue nevus was rendered (hematoxylin and eosin).



**FIGURE 3.** Acral neoplasms. Histopathologic image(s) of a 70-

# Current trends

- NGS more commonly used as main method
  - Molecular pathway
  - Mutation burden
  - Genomic aberrations
- FISH, CGH will likely become less relevant



# TERT Mutations

## SCIENTIFIC REPORTS



OPEN

### ***TERT* Promoter Mutations Are Predictive of Aggressive Clinical Behavior in Patients with Spitzoid Melanocytic Neoplasms**

Received: 29 January 2015

Accepted: 30 April 2015

Published: 10 June 2015

Seungjae Lee<sup>1</sup>, Raymond L. Barnhill<sup>2</sup>, Reinhard Dummer<sup>3</sup>, James Dalton<sup>1</sup>, Jianrong Wu<sup>4</sup>, Alberto Pappo<sup>5</sup> & Armita Bahrami<sup>1</sup>

# TERT Mutations

ORIGINAL STUDY

---

## Utility of *TERT* Promoter Mutations for Cutaneous Primary Melanoma Diagnosis

*Nancy E. Thomas, MD, PhD,\*† Sharon N. Edmiston, BS,\*† Yihsuan S. Tsai, PhD,† Joel S. Parker, PhD,†‡  
Paul B. Googe, MD,\*§ Klaus J. Busam, MD,¶ Glynis A. Scott, MD,||\*\* Daniel C. Zedek, MD,\*§  
Eloise A. Parrish, MS,† Honglin Hao,\* Nathaniel A. Slater, MD,\* Michelle V. Pearlstein, MD,\*  
Jill S. Frank, MS,††† Pei Fen Kuan, PhD,‡‡ David W. Ollila, MD,††† and Kathleen Conway, PhD\*†§§*

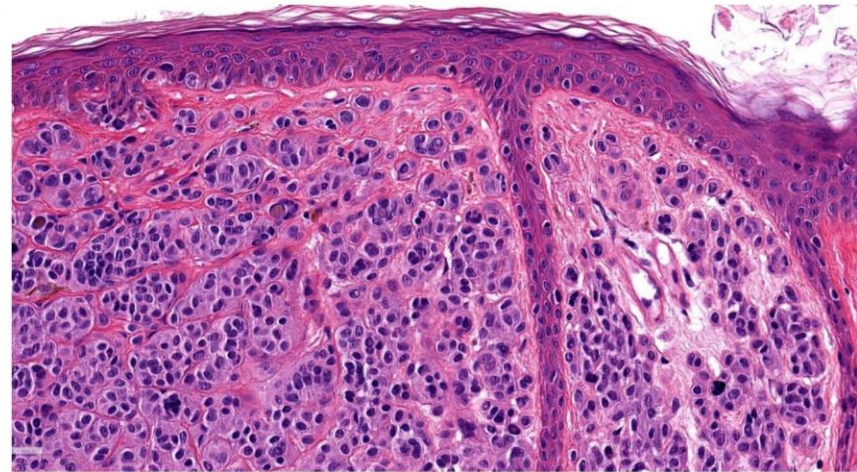
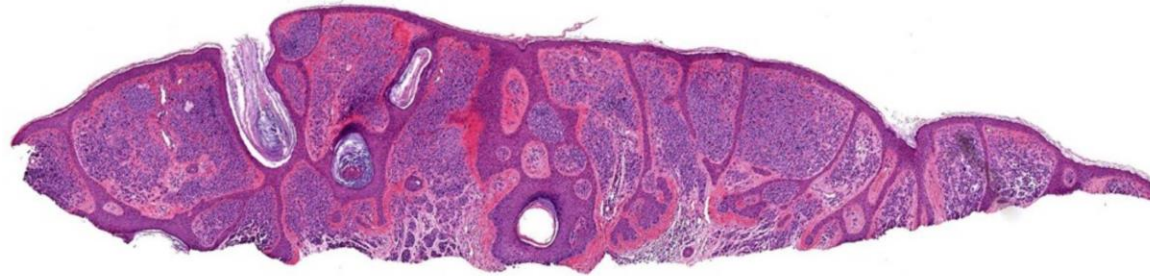
- 86 primary cutaneous melanomas
- 72 melanocytic nevi
- Sensitivity for melanoma: 78%
- Specificity for melanoma: 98%

*Am J Dermatopathol 2019; 41: 264-72*



# TERT Mutation in an Ordinary Nevus

Ordinary Melanocytic Nevus with 124C>T *TERT* Mutation

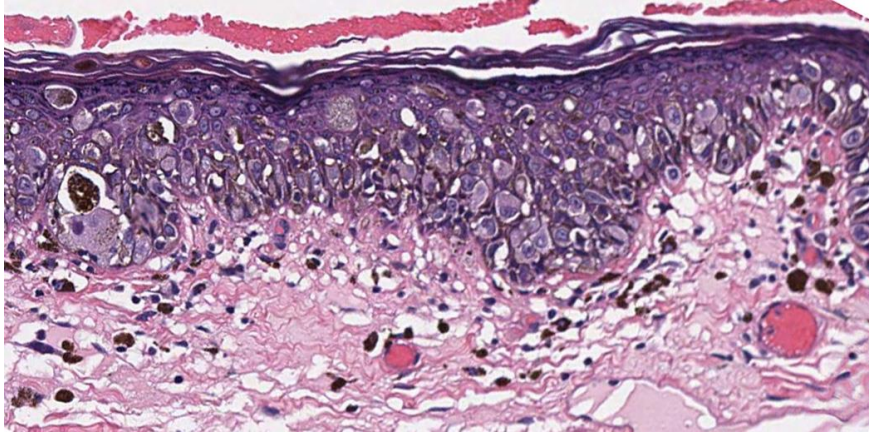


# Limitations to Molecular Approach to Spitz

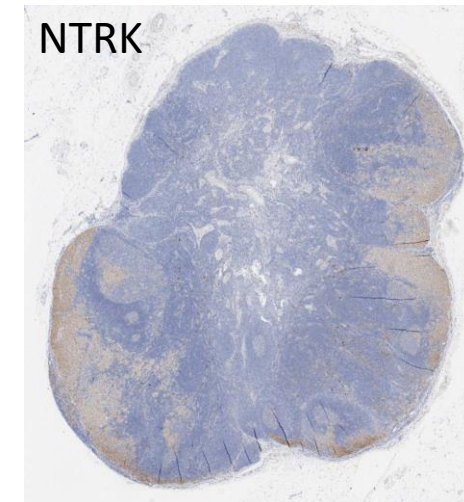
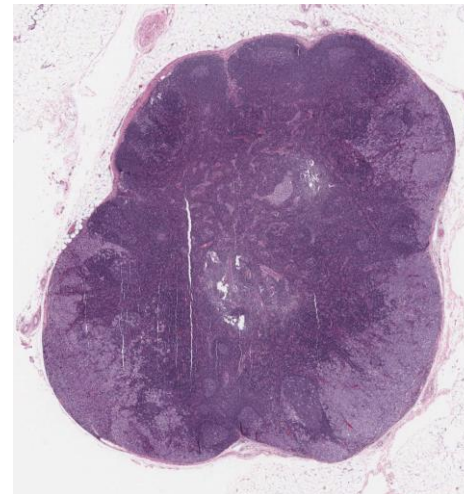
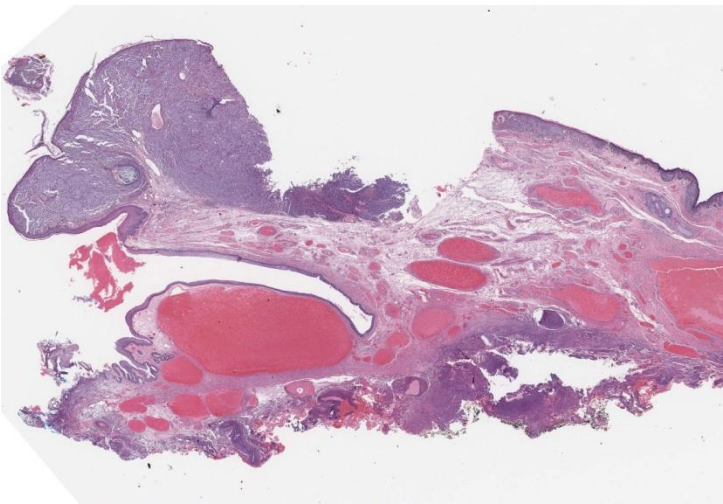
- Overlap in mutation profile and genomic aberrations between nevi, melanocytomas and melanomas
- Overlap in genetic and genomic aberrations between Spitz and non-Spitz melanocytic neoplasms



# Anal mucosal melanoma with NTRK fusion



NTRK2::TRAF2



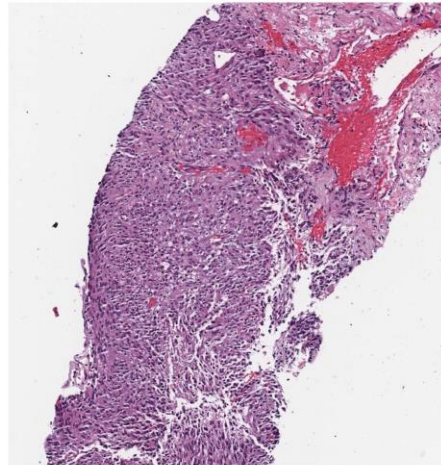
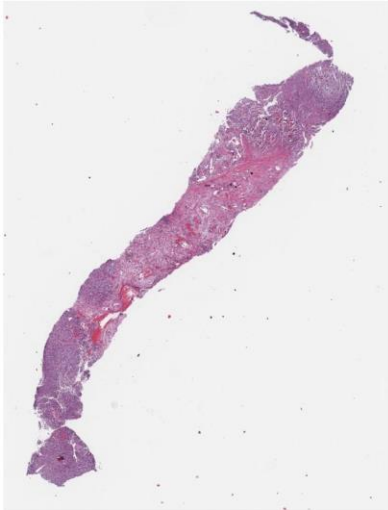
# Sequence Analysis for Diagnosis

- Melanoma vs soft tissue tumor
- Staging of melanoma
- Subtyping by pathway (e.g. Spitz vs Blue vs Other)
- Ancillary evidence for assessing benign vs malignant (e.g., TERT)

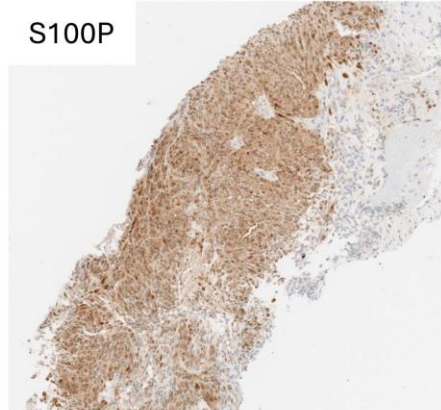


# Limitations of Histopathology

41 F with h/o melanoma and  
nodule in lung



S100P



Reported as  
“Metastatic Melanoma”

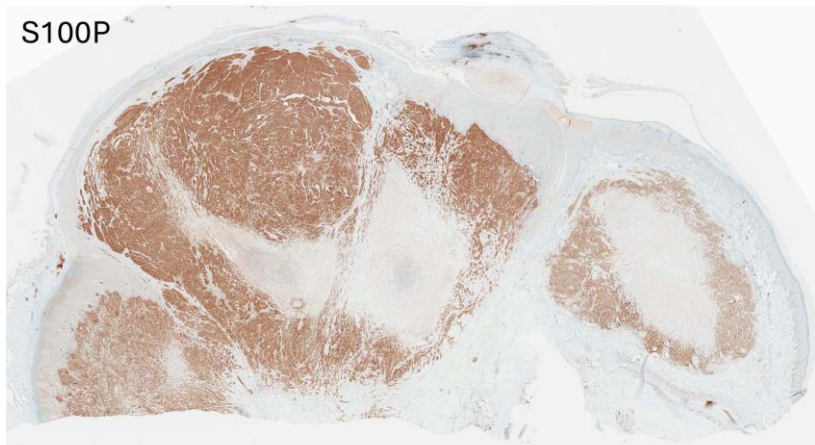
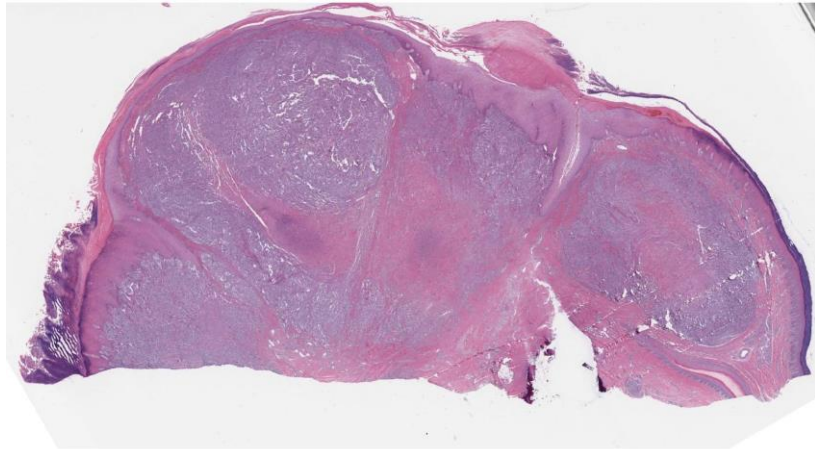
SEQUENCE ANALYSIS

**EWSR1- CREM FUSION**

Revised Diagnosis”

**Clear cell sarcoma**

# Limitations of Histopathology: Primary Tumor



## CLINICAL INFORMATION:

Melanoma of right great toe.

## DIAGNOSIS:

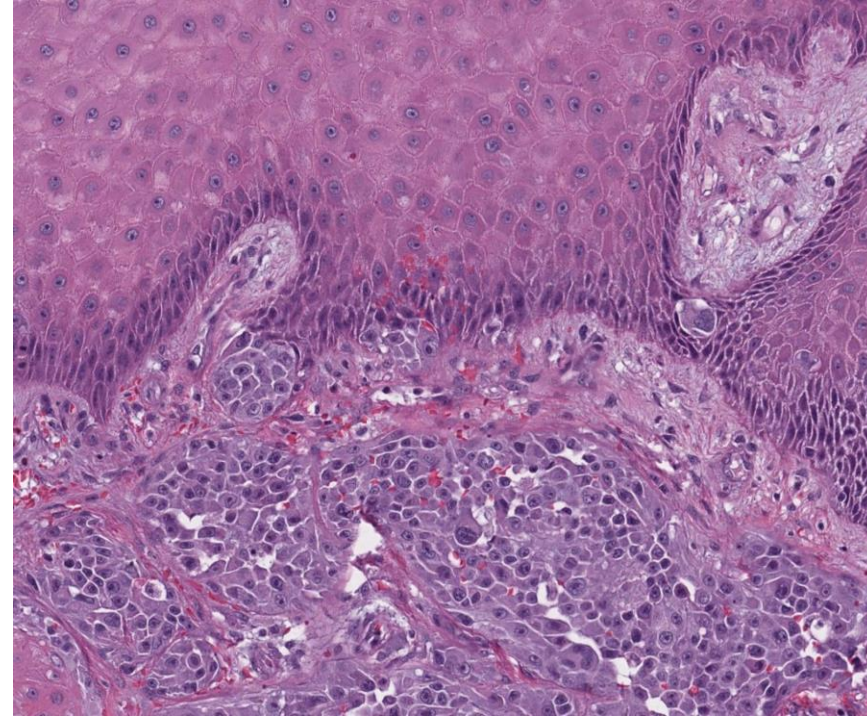
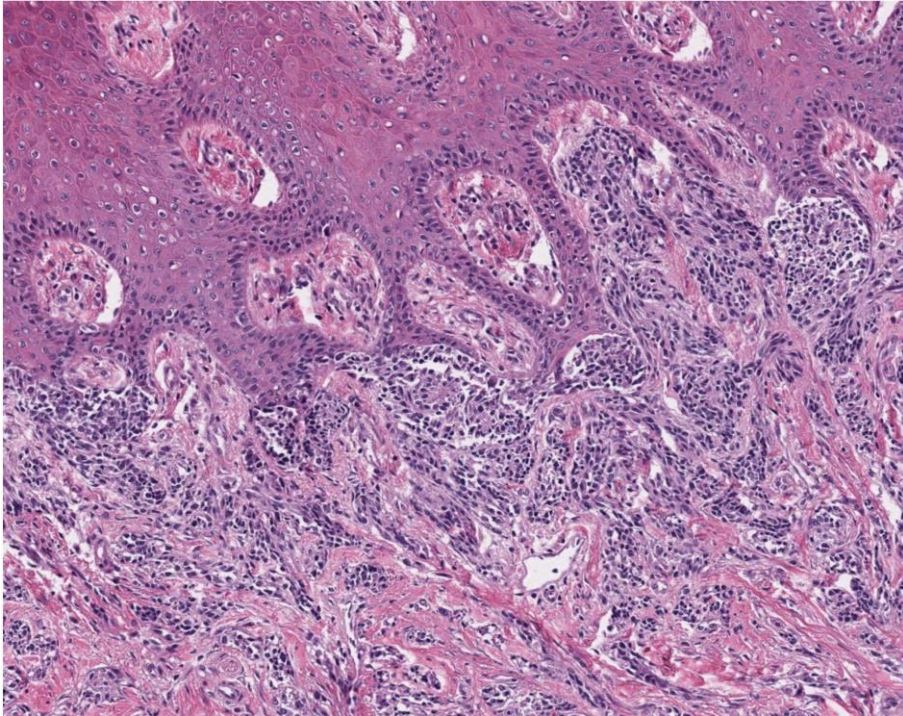
### A. Great toe, right (resection):

Type:	Acral lentiginous
Breslow Depth:	10 mm
Regression:	Absent
Mitotic count:	3 per 10 high power field
Tumor infiltrating lymphocytes:	Few
Ulceration:	Absent
Satellite nodules:	Absent
Margins:	Negative (skin, soft tissue and bone)
The melanoma involves the bone.	

Note: Melanoma is metastatic to a lymph node in a separately submitted specimen



# Primary Tumor: Clear Cell Sarcoma



**Specimens Submitted:**

1: Great toe, right; resection

---

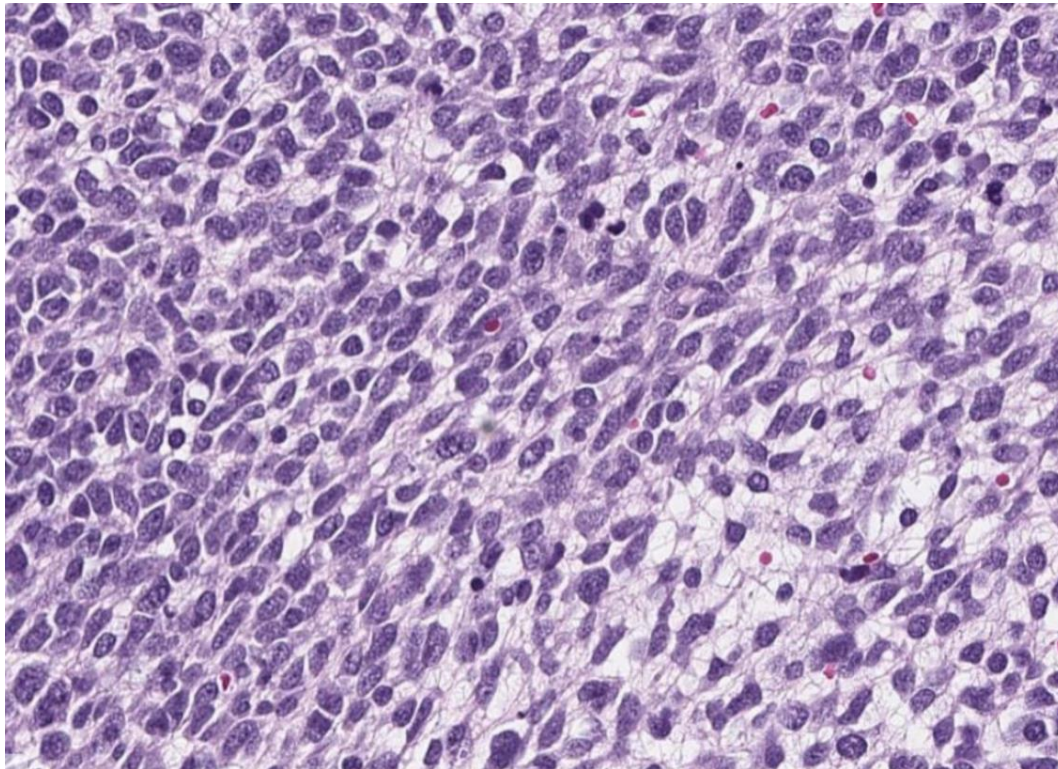
**DIAGNOSTIC INTERPRETATION:**

**POSITIVE FOR THE FOLLOWING GENE FUSION IN THE CLINICALLY VALIDATED PANEL:**

**EWSR1-CREM fusion**



# Undifferentiated Malignant Tumor



**Location:** Bone/Soft tissue

**Submitting Physician:**

**Service:** Gastric & Mixed Tumor

**Primary Pathologist:**

---

**Final Diagnosis**

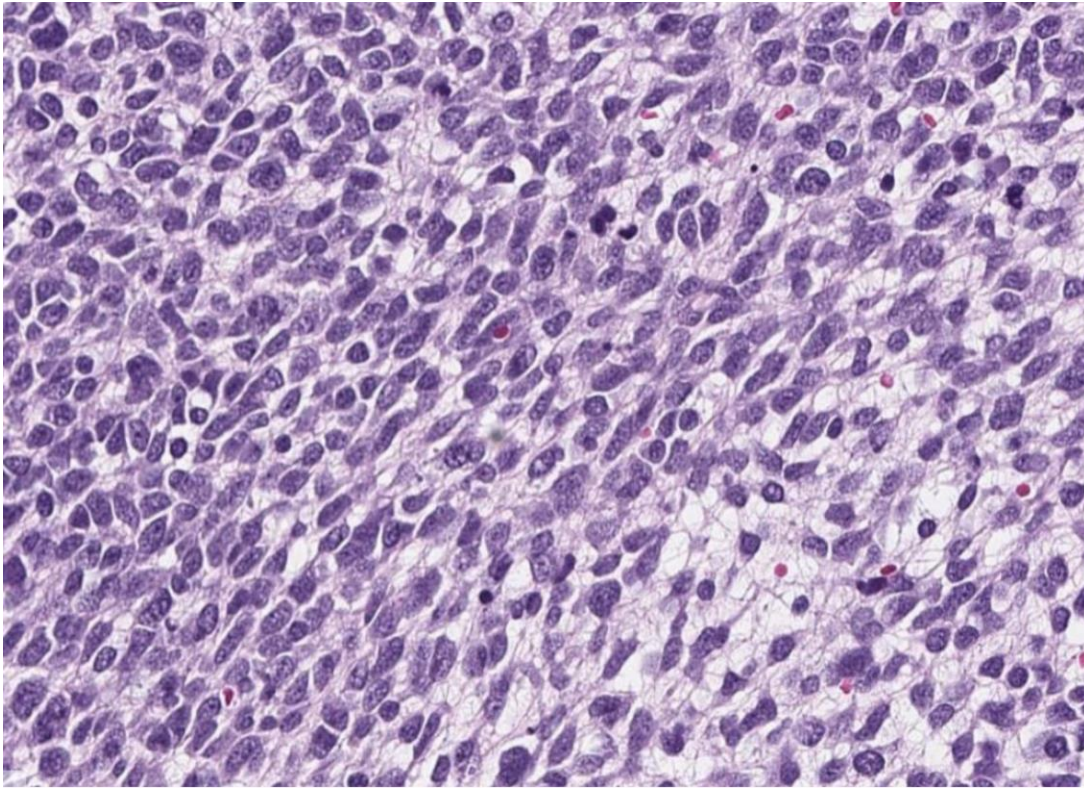
**Date Signed Out:** 11/14

1. Right groin mass, right inguinal lymphadenectomy:

- High grade primitive sarcoma most consistent with Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor. (see Note)
- Tumor measures 9.0 cm in greatest dimension.
- Tumor involves superficial soft tissue and shows focal involvement of lymph node.
- Tumor shows prominent areas of necrosis (50% of tumor).
- Surgical resection margins are free of tumor.

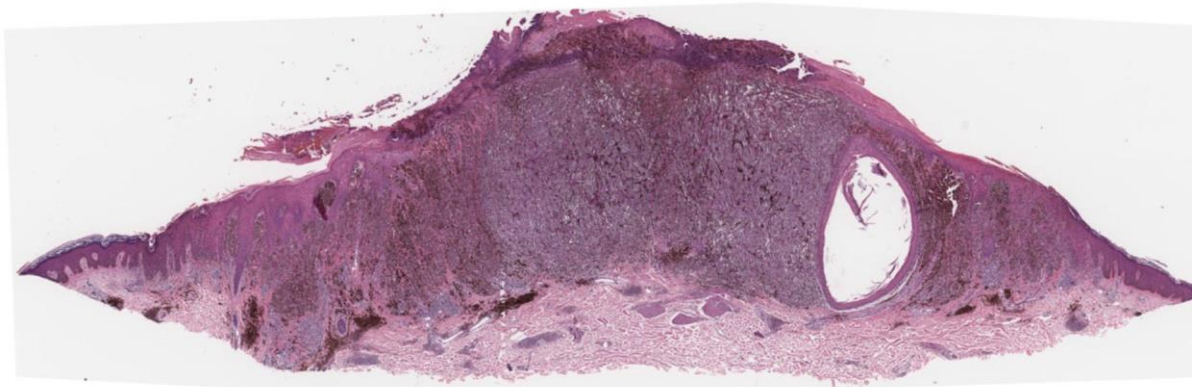


# Results from Molecular Studies



- NRASQ61R mutation
- High TMB
- UV signature mutation

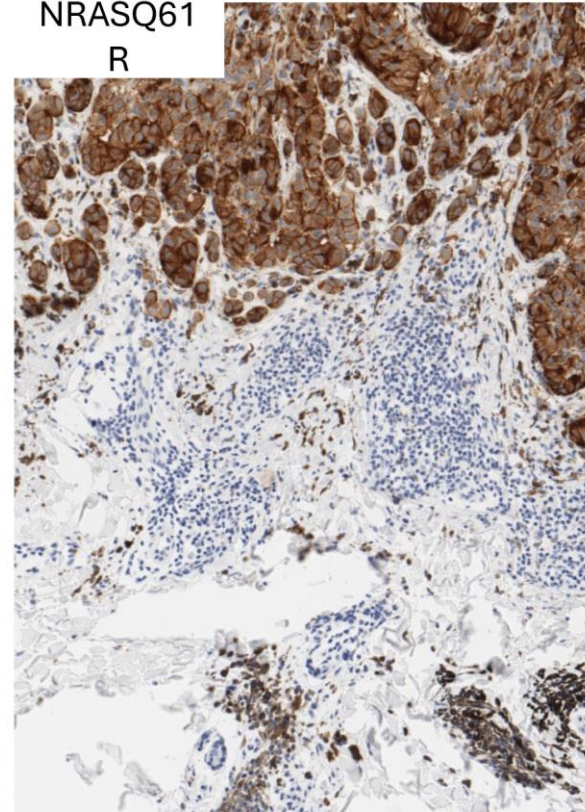
# Primary Melanoma with *NRAS*Q61R Mutation



NRASQ61  
R

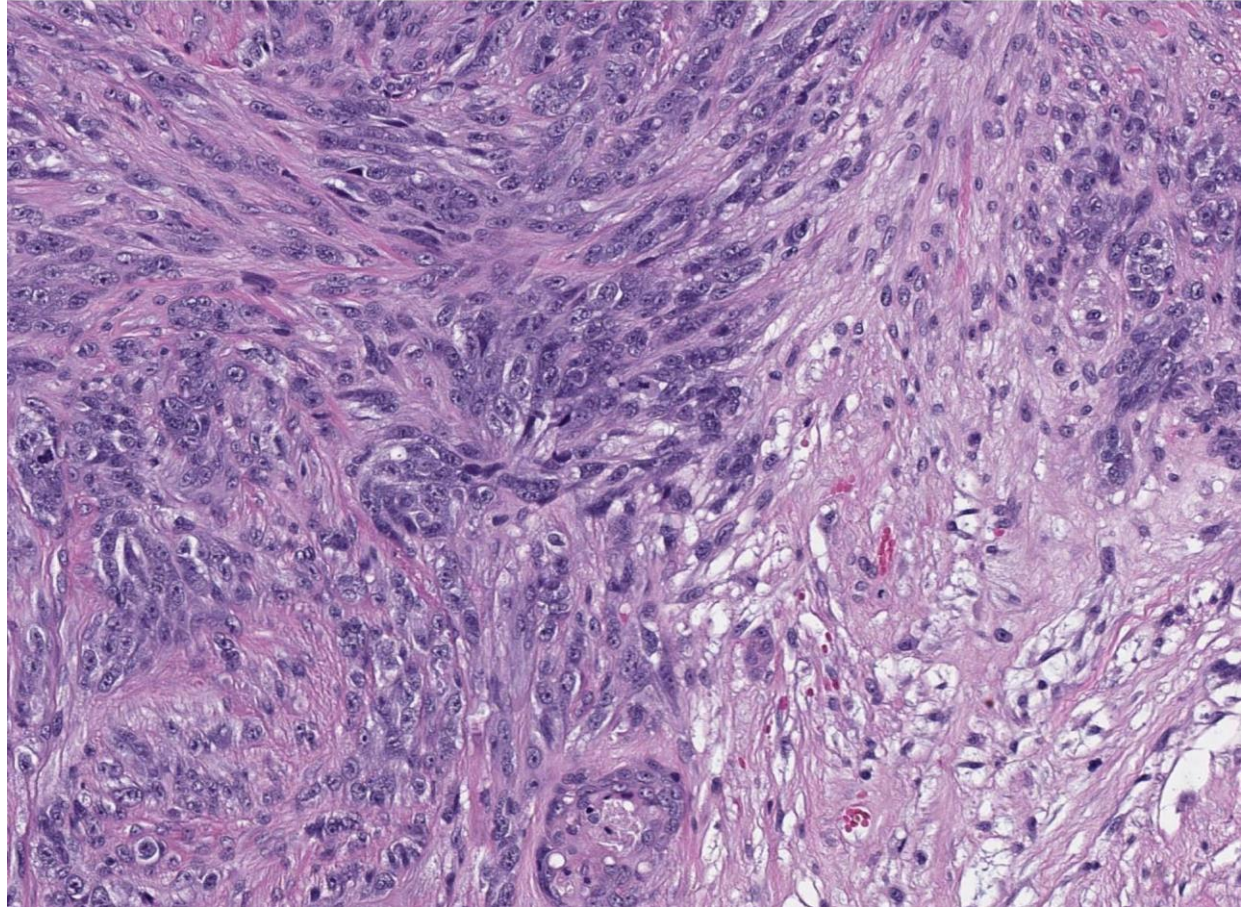
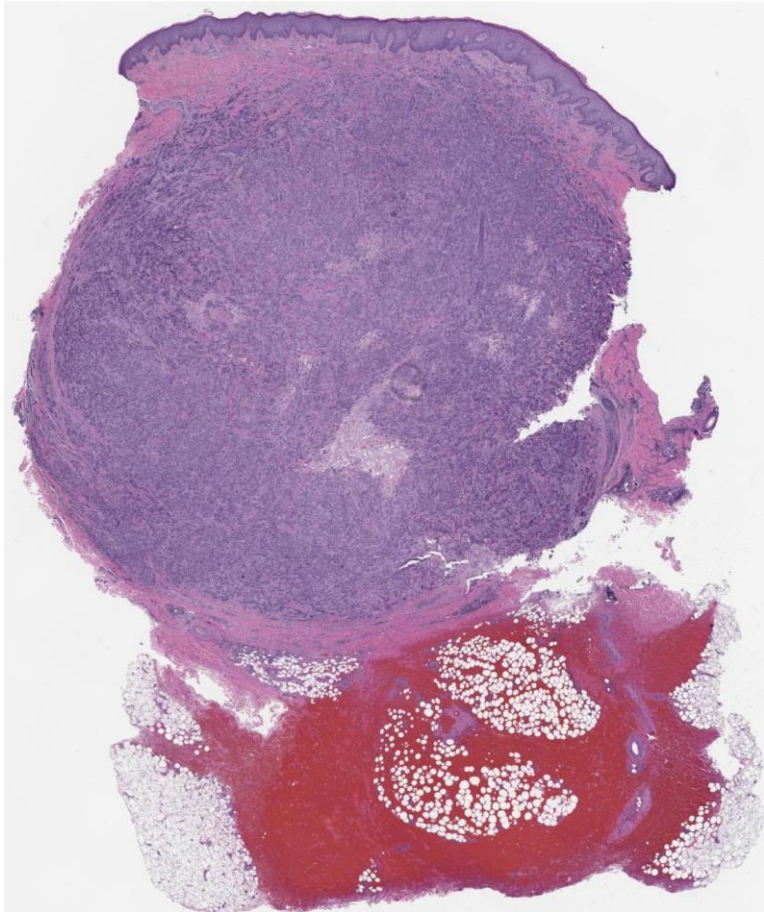


NRASQ61  
R



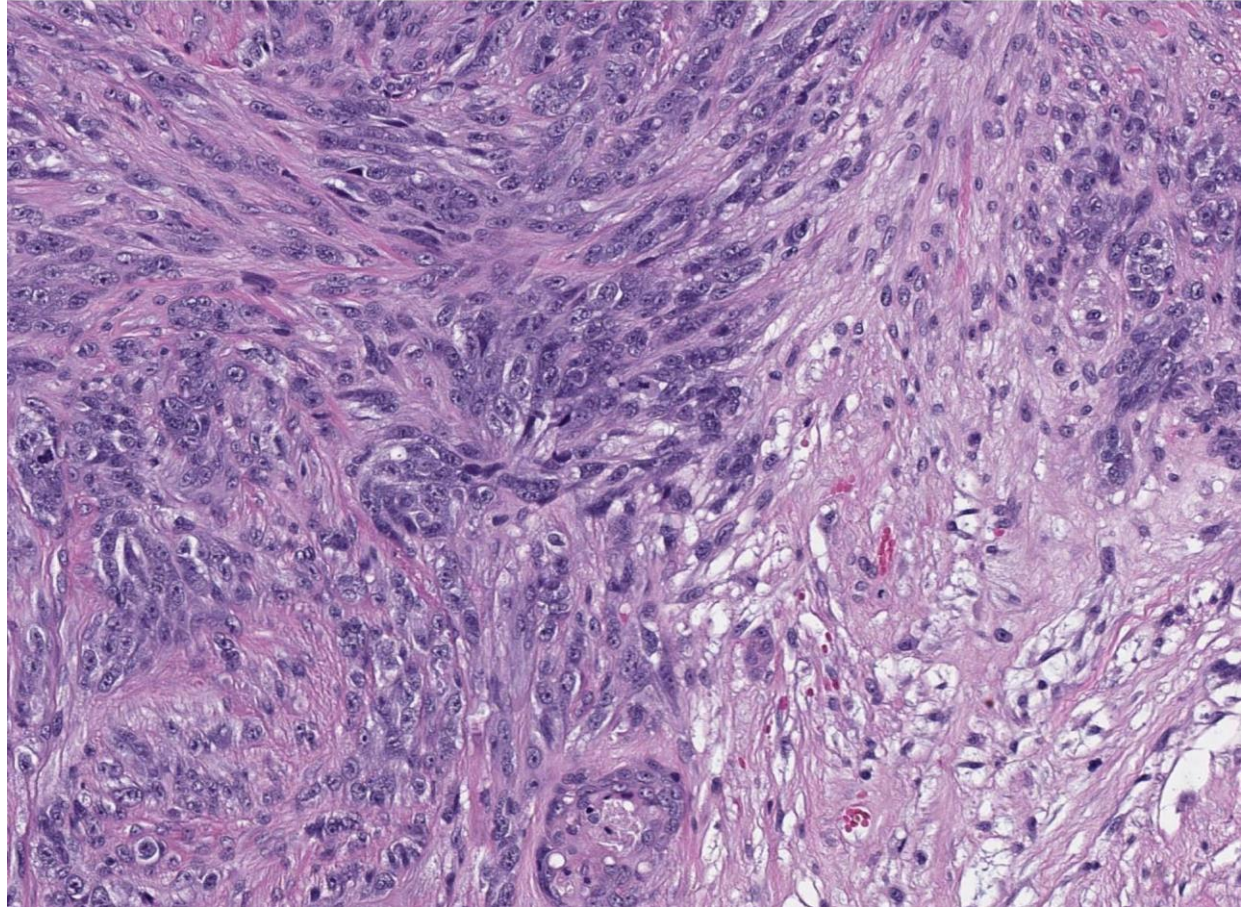
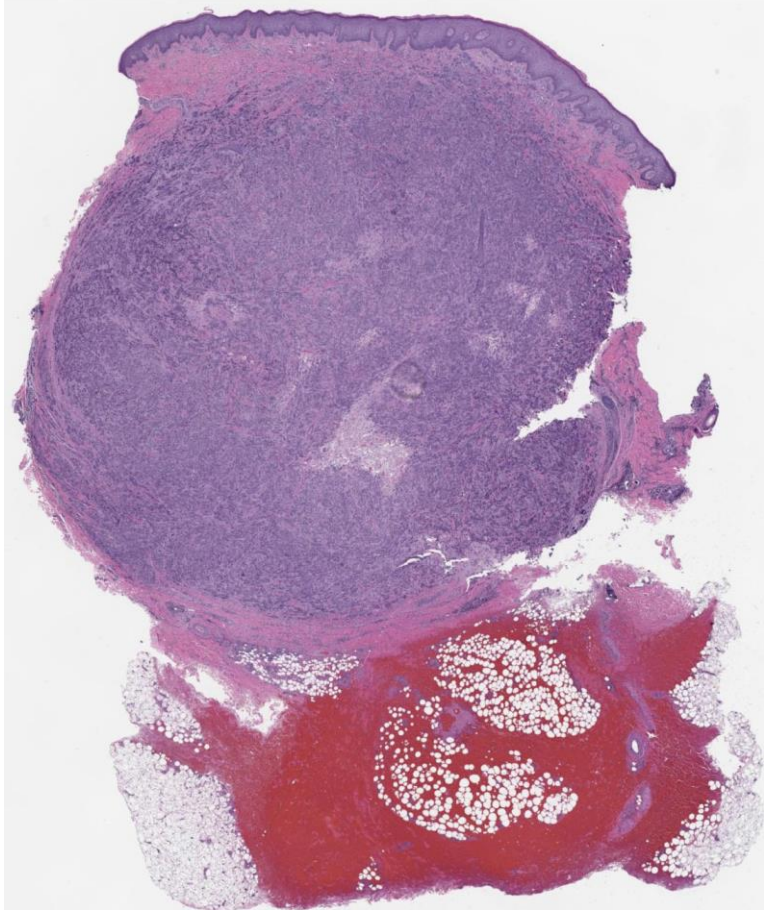


# What is Your Diagnosis?





# CRTC1::TRIM11 Fusion Tumor





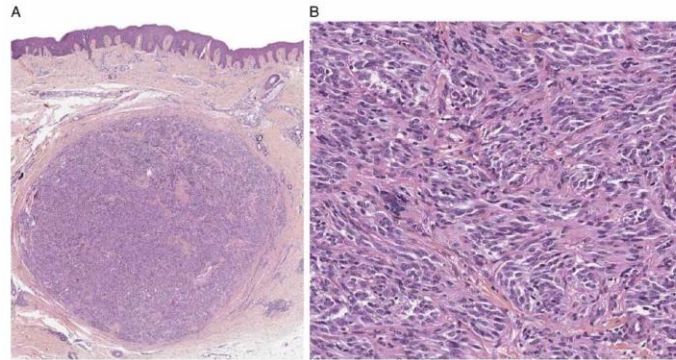
# Metastasizing CRTC1:TRIM11 Tumor

Am J Surg Pathol 2018; 42:382-91

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Cutaneous Melanocytoma With *CRTC1-TRIM11* Fusion Report of 5 Cases Resembling Clear Cell Sarcoma

Lucie Cellier, MD,\* Emilie Perron, MD, MSc,\*†‡ Daniel Pissaloux, PhD,\*  
Marie Karanian, MD,\* Veronique Haddad, PharmD,\* Laurent Alberti, PhD,\*  
and Arnaud de la Fouchardière, MD, PhD\*



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

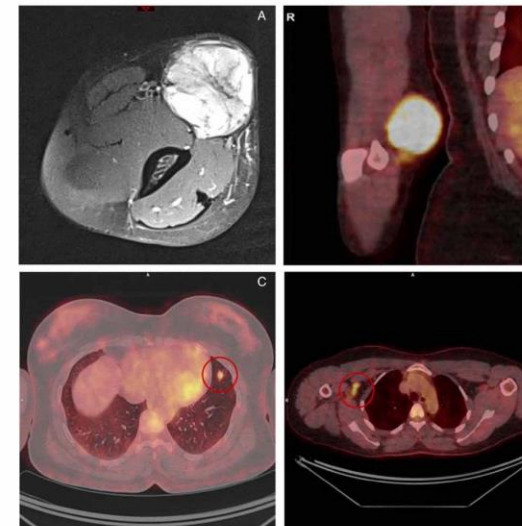
### *CRTC1-TRIM11* Fusion in a Case of Metastatic Clear Cell Sarcoma

Are *CRTC1-TRIM11*  
Fusion-bearing Tumors  
Melanocytomas or Clear  
Cell Sarcomas?

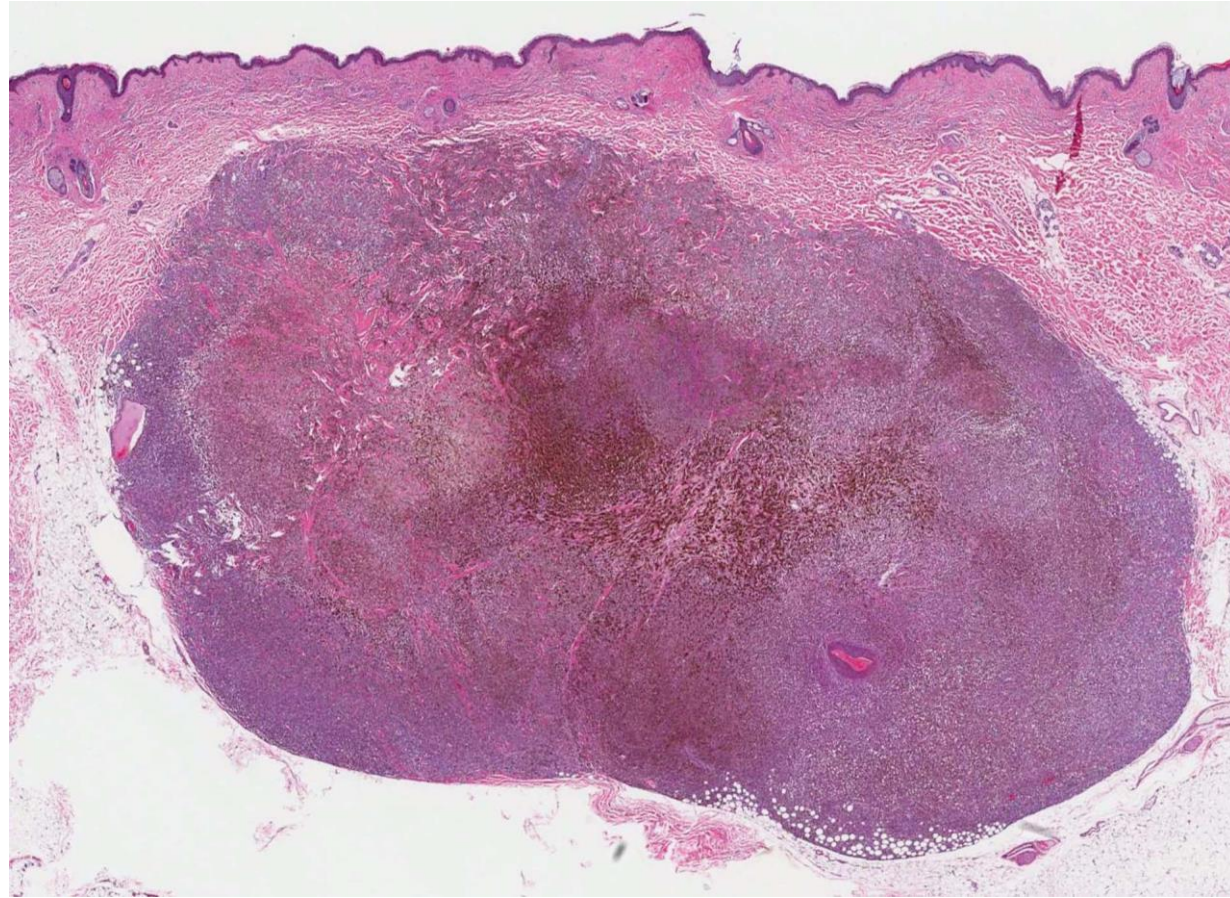
#### To the Editor:

We read with interest the article by Cellier and colleagues in the 2018 March issue of the *American Journal of Surgical Pathology* on the proposal of a new tumor entity named cutaneous melanocytoma with *CRTC1-TRIM11* fusion, which seems to have a favorable prognosis.<sup>1</sup> The authors reported 5 cases of unpigmented nodular dermal tumors, which harbored a previously undescribed invariable *CRTC1-TRIM11* fusion highlighted with RNA

sequencing (t(19;1)(p13;q42)). These tumors displayed a unique nodular pattern with dense fascicles and nests of unpigmented cells with medium to large atypical epithelioid and spindle cells, with constant expression of melanocytic markers (SOX10, MelanA, S100 protein, and HMB45), resembling dermal clear cell sarcoma (CCS). In some cases, necrosis and a high mitotic activity were observed. However, none of the 5 cases recurred during a median follow-up of 14 months (3 to 72 mo). On the basis



# Metastatic melanoma

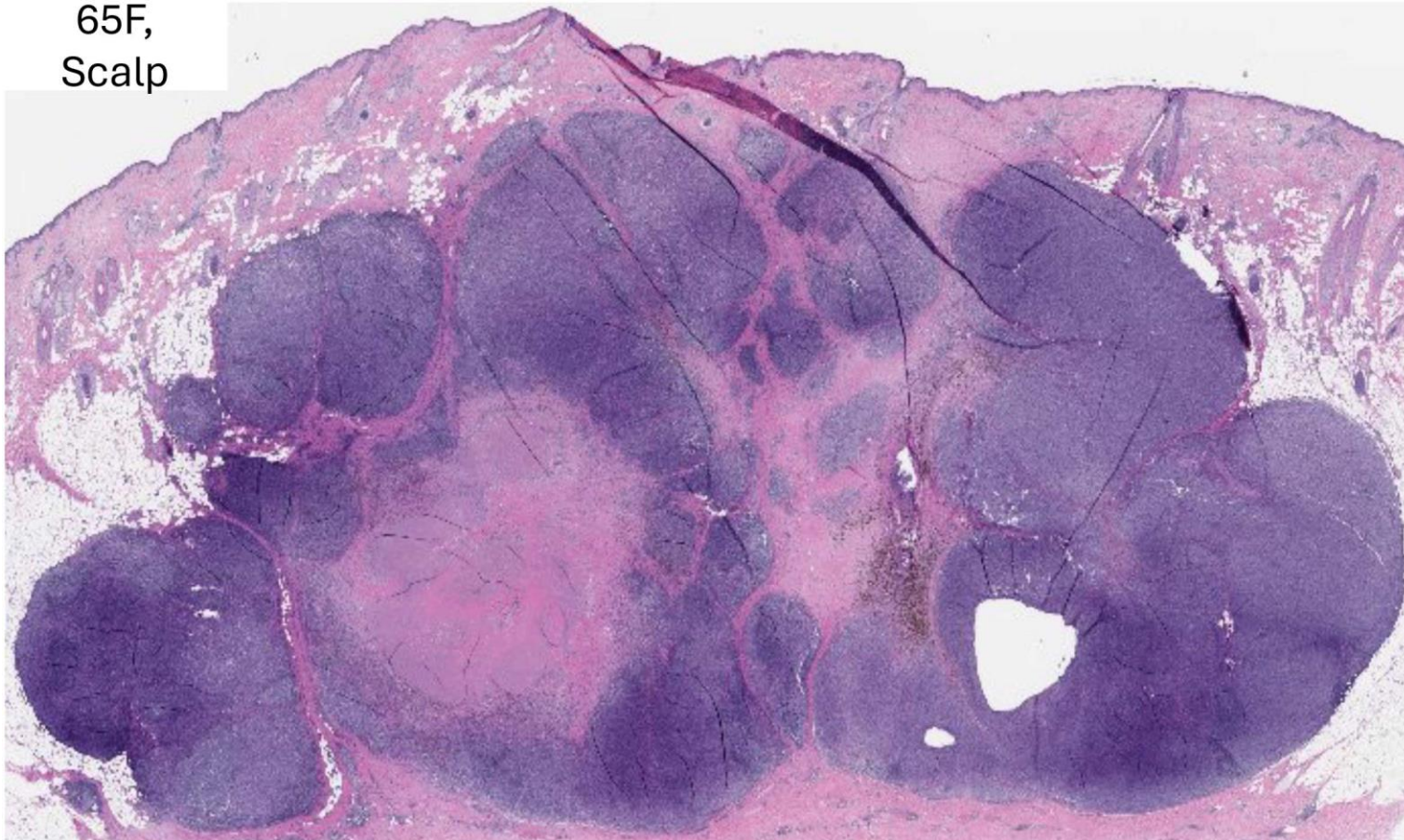


**History of prior invasive melanoma with pos LNs**



# Metastatic Melanoma?

65F,  
Scalp

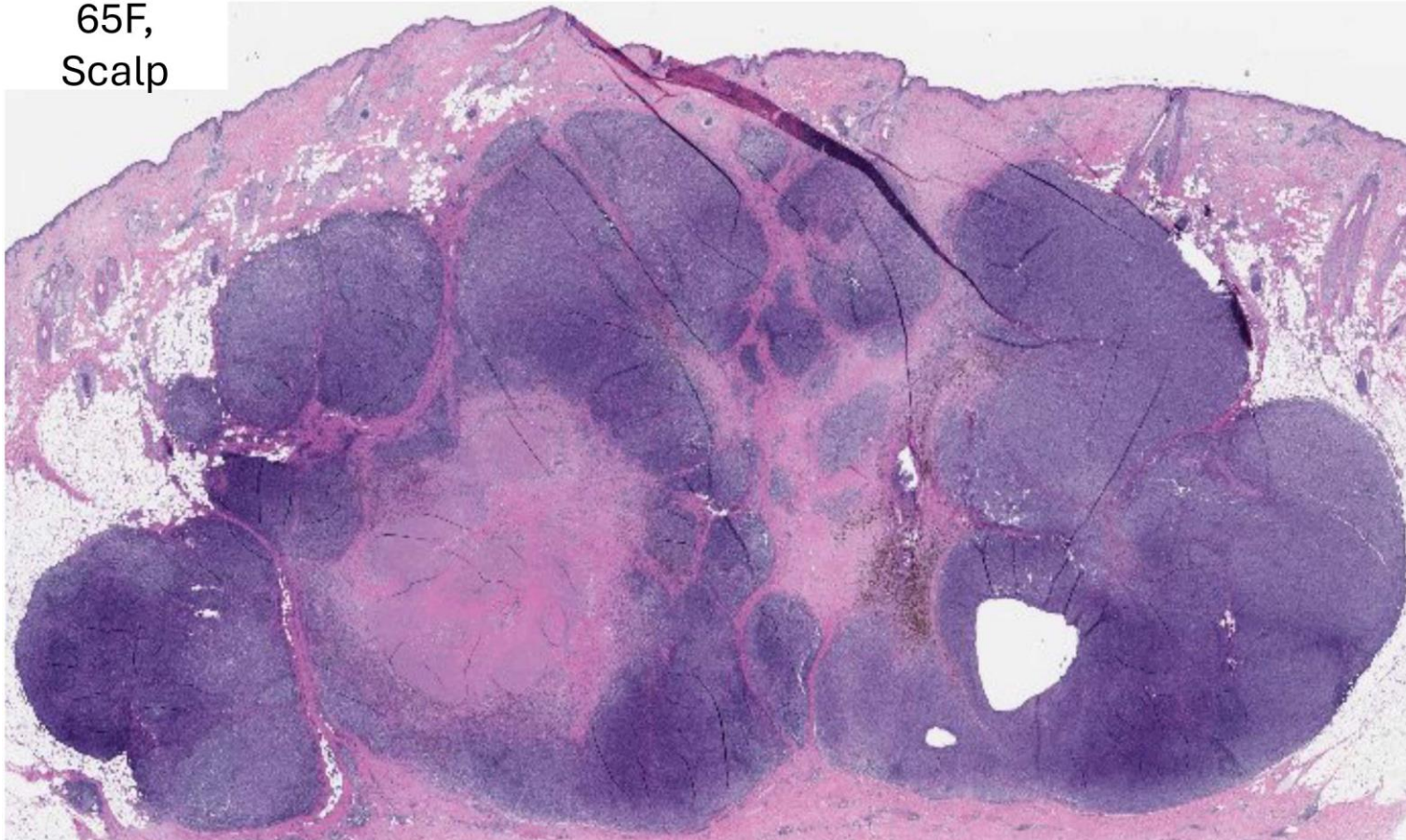


Pathology:

- Mass in subcutis
- Multinodular growth
- Necrosis
- No nevus or melanoma in situ

# Primary Melanoma

65F,  
Scalp



## Clinical History

- Lesion present > 10 yrs
- No evidence of melanoma elsewhere

## Molecular Findings

- *GNAQpQ209L*
- Low mutation burden
- No UV signature

## Blue Nevus-Related Melanoma



# Importance of Clinicopathology Correlation

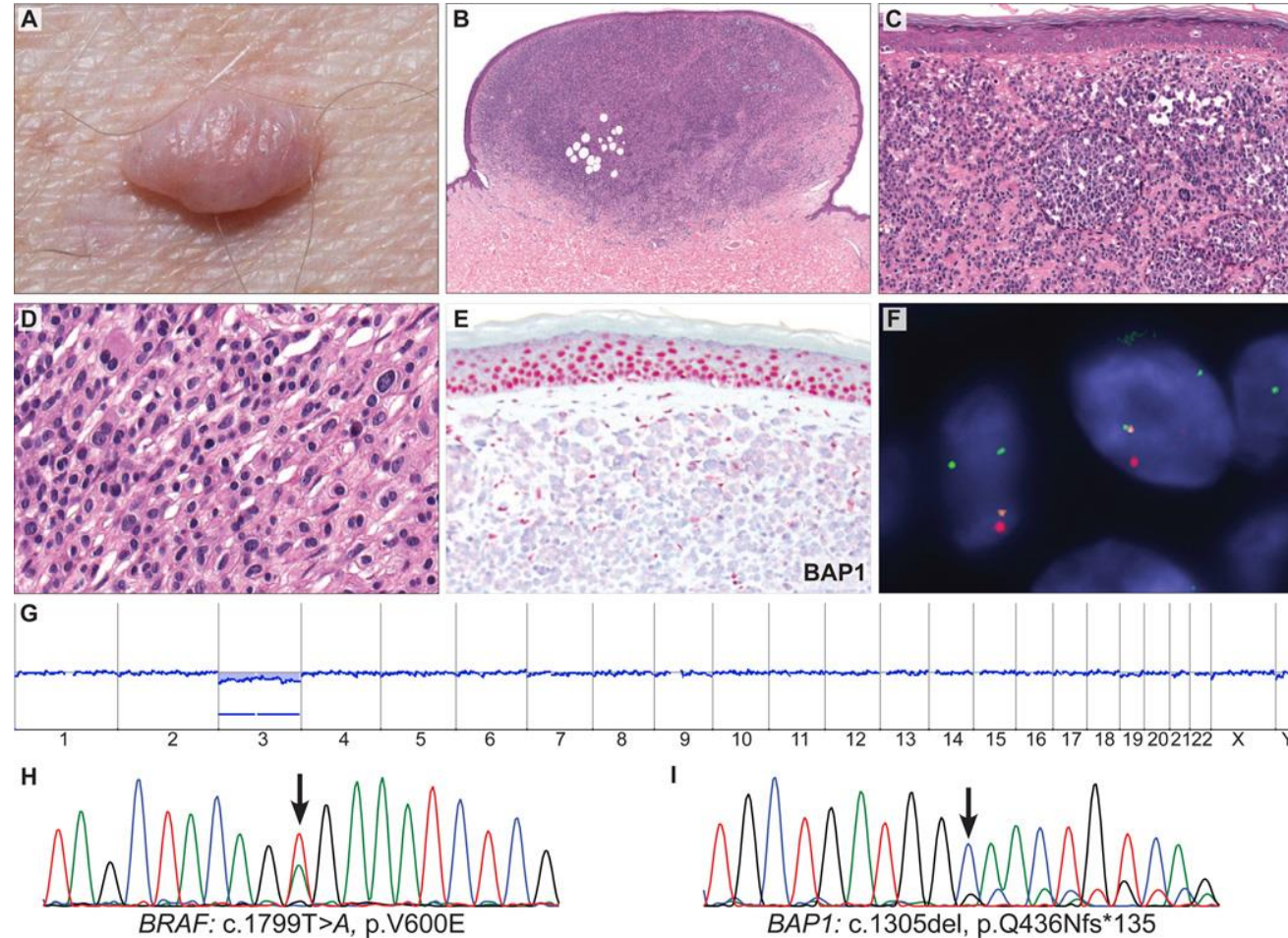
- Clinicopathologic context important for choice to do NGS
- Clinicopathologic context important to interpret NGS results

# The Rise of Melanocytomas

- Pigmented Epithelioid Melanocytoma
- BAP1-Inactivated Melanocytoma
- WNT-Inactivated Melanocytoma
- Spitz Melanocytoma



# BAP1-Neg Epithelioid (“Wiesner’s”) Nevus



*Wiesner et al. Am J Surg Pathol 2012;36:818-30.*

Received: 25 February 2019 | Revised: 18 June 2019 | Accepted: 20 June 2019  
DOI: 10.1111/cup.13530

## REVIEW

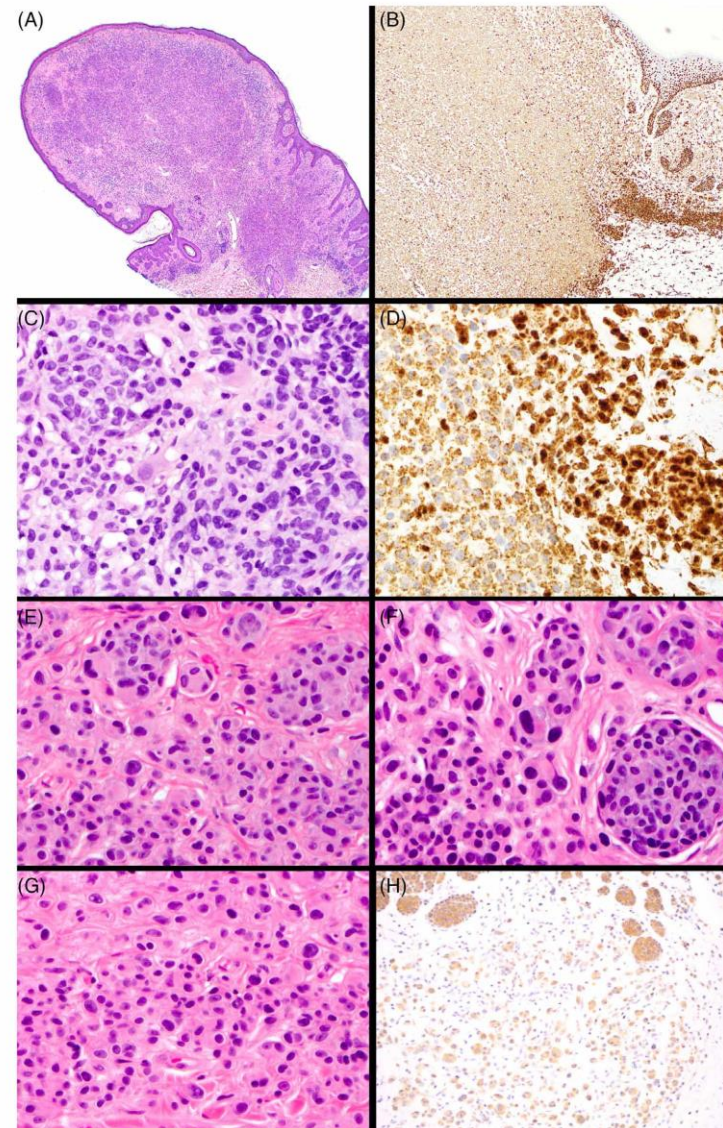
# BRCA1-associated protein (BAP1)-inactivated melanocytic tumors

Arianna J. Zhang<sup>1</sup> | Patrick S. Rush<sup>2</sup> | Hensin Tsao<sup>3,4</sup> | Lyn M. Duncan<sup>1,3</sup>

ZHANG ET AL.

JOURNAL OF CUTANEOUS MEDICINE AND SURGERY | WILEY | 969

**FIGURE 3** Cutaneous BAP1-inactivated melanocytic tumor (BIMT). A, This tumor has an overall polypoidal configuration with a biphasic pattern (H&E  $\times 20$ ). B, Positive nuclear BAP1 staining in small peripheral melanocytes and epidermal keratinocytes ( $\times 100$ ). C, Biphasic proliferation of melanocytes with large epithelioid cells (left) and smaller melanocytes with less cytoplasm (right) (H&E  $\times 400$ ). D, Absent BAP1 nuclear staining in large melanocytes (left) and retained nuclear BAP1 expression small melanocytes (right) ( $\times 400$ ). E, F, G, Examples of variable cytological atypia (H&E  $\times 400$ ,  $\times 630$ ,  $\times 400$ ). H,  $BRAF^{V600E}$  staining in both the small nevic population (top) and large epithelioid BAP1-deficient population (bottom) ( $\times 200$ )





# MPATH-DX V 2.0



Consensus Statement | Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

## Revision of the Melanocytic Pathology Assessment Tool and Hierarchy for Diagnosis Classification Schema for Melanocytic Lesions A Consensus Statement

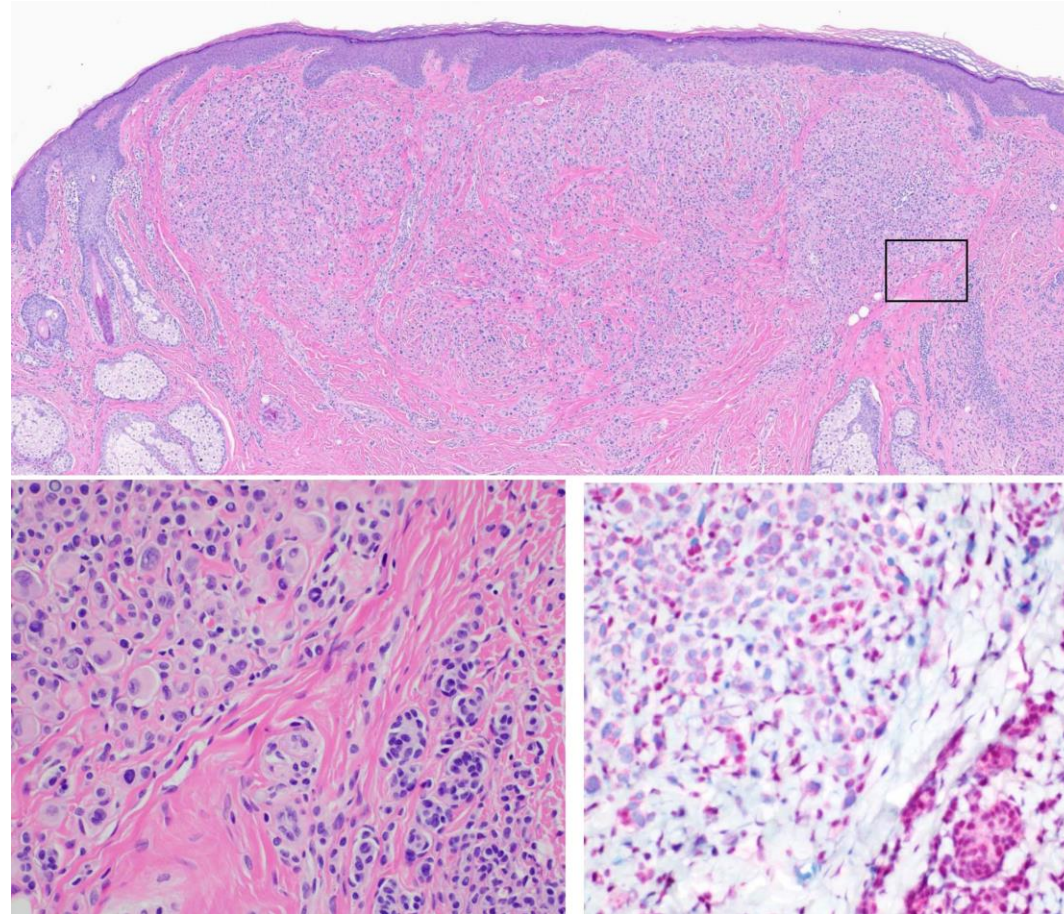
Raymond L. Barnhill, MD; David E. Elder, MBChB; Michael W. Piepkorn, MD, PhD; Stevan R. Knezevich, MD, PhD; Lisa M. Reisch, PhD; Megan M. Eguchi, MPH; Boris C. Bastian, MD, PhD; Willeke Blokx, MD, PhD; Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD; Klaus J. Busam, MD; Richard Carr, MBChB; Alistair Cochran, MD; Martin G. Cook, MD; Lyn M. Duncan, MD; Rosalie Elenitsas, MD; Arnaud de la Fouchardière, MD, PhD; Pedram Gerami, MD; Iva Johansson, MD; Jennifer Ko, MD, PhD; Gilles Landman, MD, PhD; Alexander J. Lazar, MD, PhD; Lori Lowe, MD; Daniela Massi, MD, PhD; Jane Messina, MD; Daniela Mihic-Probst, MD; Douglas C. Parker, MD; Birgitta Schmidt, MD; Christopher R. Shea, MD; Richard A. Scolyer, MD; Michael Tetzlaff, MD, PhD; Xiaowei Xu, MD, PhD; Iwei Yeh, MD, PhD; Artur Zembowicz, MD, PhD; Joann G. Elmore, MD



Table 1. The Melanocytic Pathology Assessment Tool and Hierarchy for Diagnosis Version 2.0

Class	Risk of tumor progression	Probability of progression, No. per population	Treatment recommendation	Examples <sup>a</sup>
0	NA	NA	Consider repeat biopsy	Nondiagnostic or unsatisfactory
I: low grade	Very low risk for continued proliferation and progression to invasive melanoma	1 in 10 000 to 1 in 100 000	No further treatment <sup>b</sup>	Common acquired nevi, no atypia
				Congenital nevi, no atypia
				Atypical and dysplastic nevi, low-grade atypia <sup>c</sup> Common blue nevi
II: high grade	Low risk for progression to invasive melanoma	1 in 100 to 1 in 1000	Re-excision with margins <1 cm <sup>b</sup>	Atypical and dysplastic nevi, high-grade atypia <sup>c</sup>
				Spitz nevi, tumors or melanocytomas, and atypical variants
				Cellular blue nevi or melanocytomas and atypical variants
				Plexiform or deep penetrating nevi or melanocytomas
				Lentigo maligna Melanoma in situ
III: melanoma pT1a	Relatively low risk for local and regional metastasis	1 in 10 to 1 in 100	Follow national guidelines (eg, wide excision with 1 cm margins) <sup>b</sup>	Melanoma AJCC stage pT1a, <0.8 mm Breslow thickness
				Melanoma pT1a lr (low risk) <sup>d</sup>
				Melanoma pT1a <sup>e</sup>
IV: melanoma ≥pT1b	Moderate to increased risk for regional or distant metastasis	1 in 2 to 1 in 10	Follow national guidelines (eg, wide excision with 1-2 cm margins <sup>b</sup> and consideration of sentinel lymph node staging and other therapies)	Melanoma AJCC stage pT1b or greater, ≥0.8 mm Breslow thickness

# Combined BAP1-Inactivated Nevus





# BAP1-Inactivated Melanocytic Tumors

- Histopathology benign: Nevus
- Atypical histo- or molecular path, but still benign: Melanocytoma
- Atypical, but unsure about biology: “atypical tumor”
- Malignant: Melanoma

# Ancillary Tests for Melanoma Diagnosis

- Essential for the diagnosis of fusion tumors
- Can help in select cases to reach the correct diagnosis
- Significant limitations in sensitivity and specificity
- Tendency for over-utilization



# Acknowledgements and thank you to:

- Colleagues at MSKCC
- Many collaborators at other institutions
- My family

[busamk@mskcc.org](mailto:busamk@mskcc.org)

**Thank You!**

