

# BEST PRACTICES IN THE APPLICATION OF IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY TO DIAGNOSTIC UROLOGIC PATHOLOGY:

## LESSONS FROM USES & ABUSES

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## Toward Best Practice IHC use in routine practice

- When IHC stains exceed H&E stain
  - Complex case OR
  - Lack of best practice approach

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### Toward Best Practice IHC use in routine practice

#### Surgical Pathology

- Foundation is the integration of clinical history, gross examination & microscopy
- Cornerstone is still the H&E with appropriate and judicious IHC support – *IHC guides; does not dictate the diagnosis*
- Practice made considerably more objective by ancillary techniques e.g. IHC

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### Toward Best Practice IHC use in routine practice

- Serious misdiagnoses are made by inappropriate use of IHC or incomplete knowledge of antibody/ies
  - *More is not necessarily better*
- *IHC adjunctive method, histology key*
  - *If you have no idea, don't mark it*
- Start with a question based on morphology
- Apply a judiciously constructed panel based on the differential diagnosis generated by the case

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### Toward Best Practice IHC use in routine practice

- Panel should include expected positive and expected negatives
- *There are no absolutely specific or sensitive antibodies*
  - *Anomalous stuff happens*
  - *Sensitivity and specificity is not inherent to the antibody, but to the antibody applied in a given setting*
- Evaluate the stain paying attention to pattern (*nuclear, cytoplasmic, membranous, etc.*)
- *ALWAYS evaluate the controls (positive and negative)*
- Diagnose the case after review of IHC only in the context of the morphology and the clinical situation

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### GOWN'S LAWS OF IMMUNOCYTOCHEMISTRY

- There is no perfect marker of any tumor
- There is no perfect fixative for all antibodies
- If everything in the tissue section appears positive, nothing is actually positive
- All that turns brown (or black, or red, etc.) on the slide is not positive
- Under inappropriate conditions, any antibody can be made to appear positive on any tissue
- In any given immunocytochemical run involving multiple slides, tissue will fall off the slide corresponding to the most critical antibody
- The diagnostic power of any immunocytochemical preparation is no greater than the knowledge and wisdom of the pathologist interpreting it

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### Best "Special Studies" in Surgical Pathology

- Good thin section and well stained H&E slides
- Additional sections, recuts and levels
- A phone call to the clinician (or reviewing the electronic medical records)
- Another trust-worthy pair of eyes (colleague)
- Placing the diagnostic dilemma in context of the clinical situation and management considerations
- Having a best practice approach immunohistochemistry

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### SELECT BEST PRACTICE IHC APPLICATIONS IN UROLOGIC PATHOLOGY

- **Bladder:**
  - Proving origin/differentiation in unusual primary or at a metastatic site
  - IHC in flat intraepithelial lesions
- **Prostate:**
  - Proving origin at a metastatic site
  - Issues related to triple cocktail use in prostate biopsies
- **Kidney:**
  - Proving renal origin at a metastatic site
- **Testis:**
  - Screening panels for tumors involving testis – primary or metastatic sites
  - Characterizing the various germ cell components

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## PROVING UROTHELIAL DIFFERENTIATION

Carcinoma of unknown origin or patient with history of bladder/renal cancer:

- \*Lymph node
- \*Lung
- \*Liver
- \*Bone
- \*Prostate

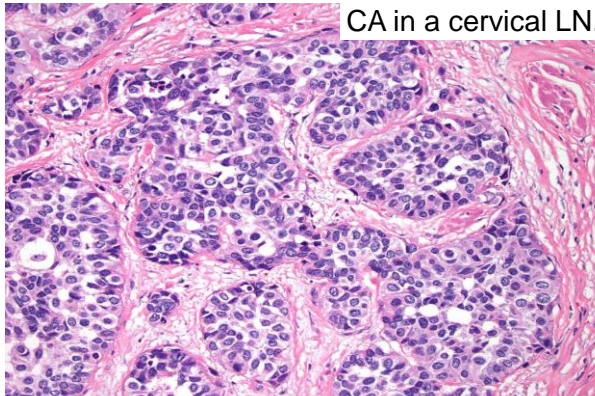
"Unusual carcinoma" in the bladder

Metastatic tumors to the bladder:

- \*Melanoma
- \*Prostate
- \*Colorectal
- \*Cervix
- \*Ovary
- \*Renal

Primary urothelial carcinoma:

- \*UCa with small tubules
- \*Plasmacytoid
- \*Micropapillary
- \*Etc



CA in a cervical LN.

## UROTHELIAL CARCINOMA (Prim. or Metastatic site)

### Challenges:

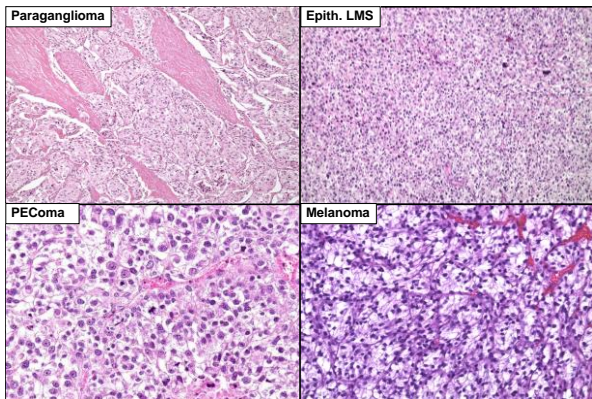
- Poorly differentiated carcinoma
- "Characterless": solid, nested & trabecular architecture

### Hallmarks:

- Frequent squamous and / or glandular diff.
- Cells with nuclear grooves
- Nuclear atypia obvious +/- anaplasia

### Approach

- Clinical history (invasive, usually high stage carcinoma)
- Compare with primary
- Judicious IHC: ? Best markers




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## URINARY BLADDER - IHC

### •Diagnosis of metastatic urothelial cancer

- CK7 (+) (>90%)
- CK20 (+) (40-70%) Traditional, Broad Markers
- p63 (+) (60-90%)
- High molecular weight cytokeratin 34BE12 (+) (60-90%)
- GATA3 (60-70%)
- Uroplakin II (+) (50-80%) Histogenesis-associated markers
- S100P (70- 80%)
- Uroplakin III (+) (20-50%)
- Thrombomodulin (+) (60-75%)
- CEA, Leu-M1 (±) (minimal value)\

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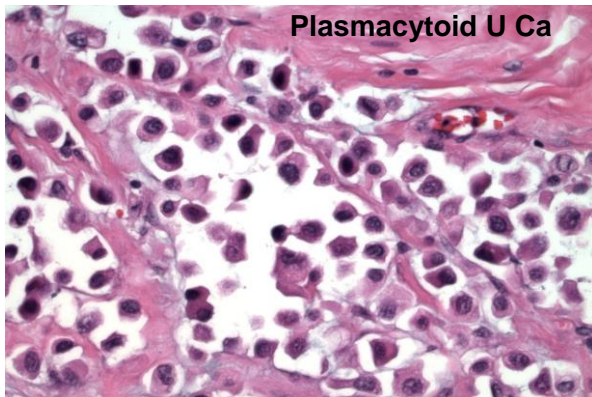
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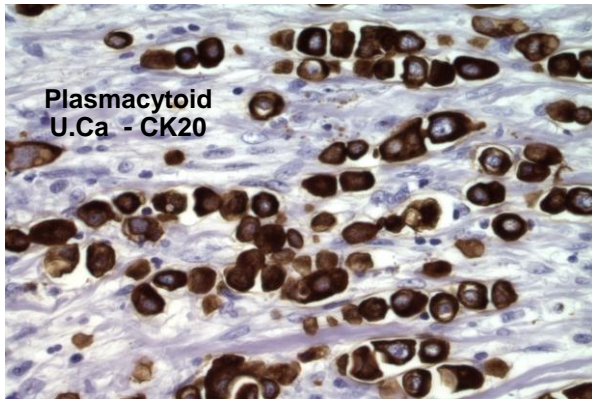
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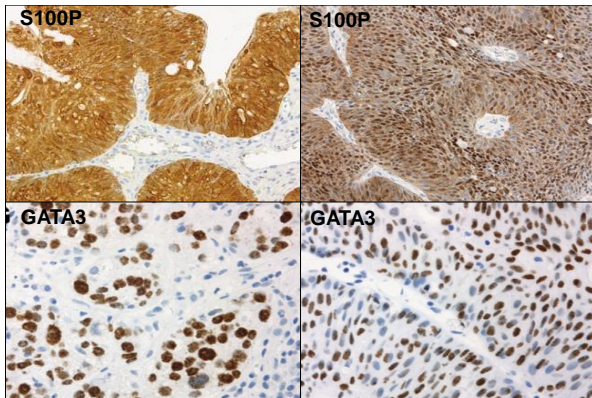
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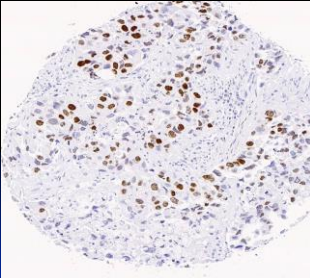
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**GATA3**

- Nuclear staining
- lower sensitivity but higher specificity than S100P for urothelium



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## GATA3 – Wide Range of Expression

- **Positive in**

- Breast, trophoblastic tumors, paragangliomas, salivary gland neoplasms, squamous carcinomas, basal cell carcinomas, yolk sac tumors, pancreatic ductal adenocarcinomas

*\*Miettinen et al. Am J Surg Pathol 2013*

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## Uroplakins – II and III

- Protein constituents of the urothelial plaques in vesicles of urothelium
- Vital role in expansion and contraction through vesicle cycling
- Subunits uroplakins Ia, Ib, II, and IIIa
- Unique and characteristic feature of urothelium
- Previous data for UP3, new data for UP2



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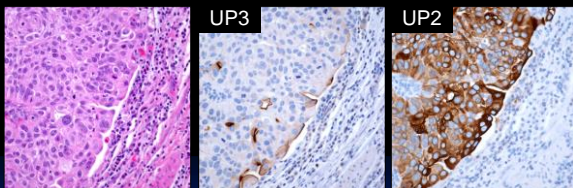
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## Uroplakin 2 versus Uroplakin 3



. Among UC metastases, UP2 showed greater intensity and proportion, (both  $p < 0.001$ ), with higher sensitivity (73% vs 37%, respectively,  $p = 0.001$ ).

*Smith et al. Histopathology. In press*

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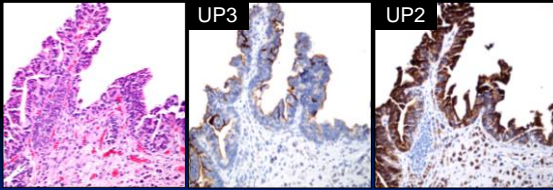
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## Uroplakin 2 versus Uroplakin 3



Villoglandular variant simulates colorectal carcinoma

*Smith et al. Histopathology. In press*

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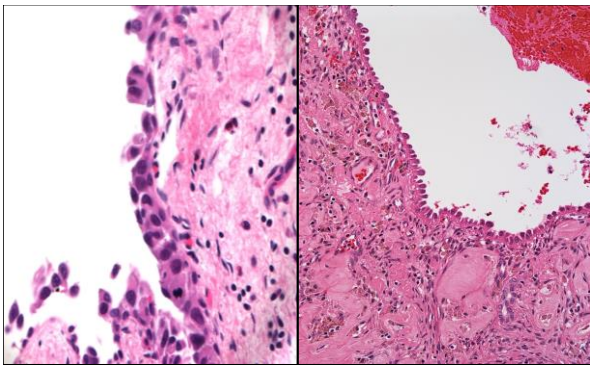
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**CIS**

**REACTIVE ATYPIA**

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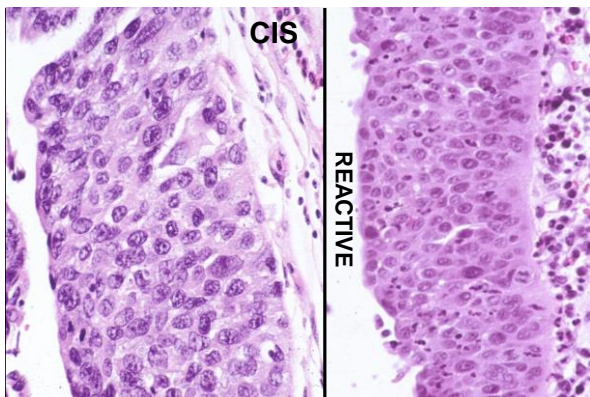
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**CIS**

**REACTIVE**

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## IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY IN FLAT LESIONS OF THE BLADDER

**Panel:** p53, CD44 (standard isoform), CK20

### Indications:

- Marked denudation – residual basal cells vs “clinging” CIS
- Distinction between reactive atypia and CIS (large cell non-pleomorphic or “small” cell)
- Pathologist favors CIS but has reservations making diagnosis
- CIS with unusual morphology – Pagetoid, undermining, etc.

### Caveats:

- Not applicable for dysplasia vs CIS
- Greater caution while evaluating post-treatment biopsies

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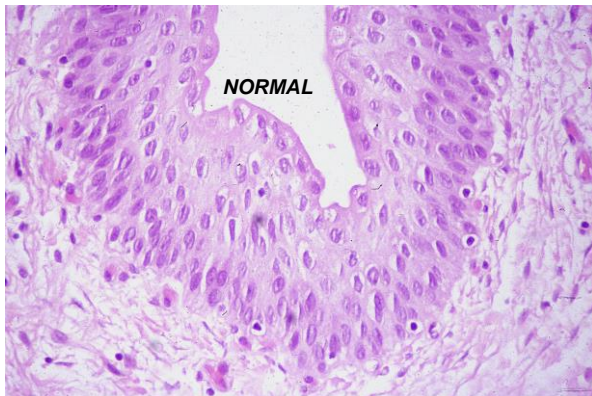
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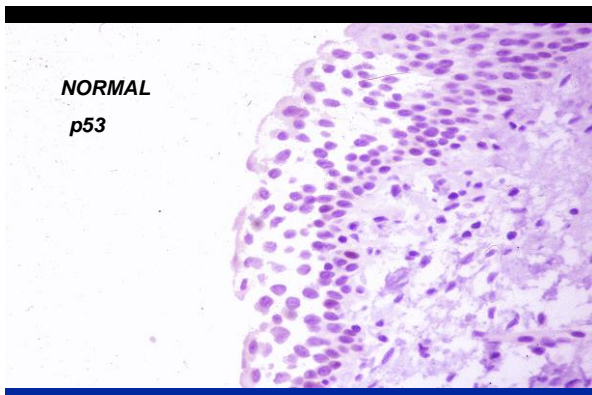
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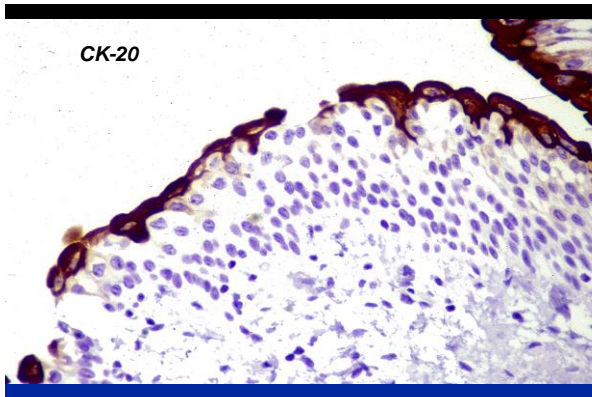
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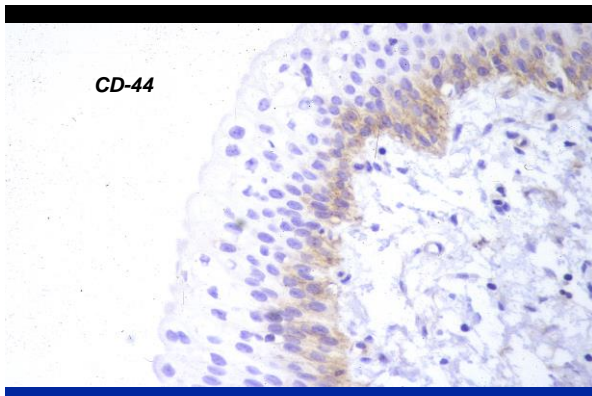
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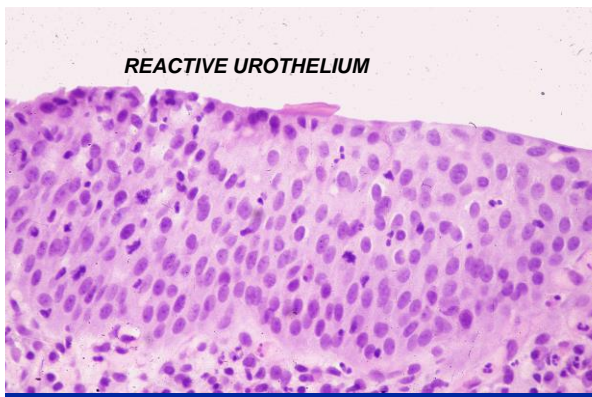
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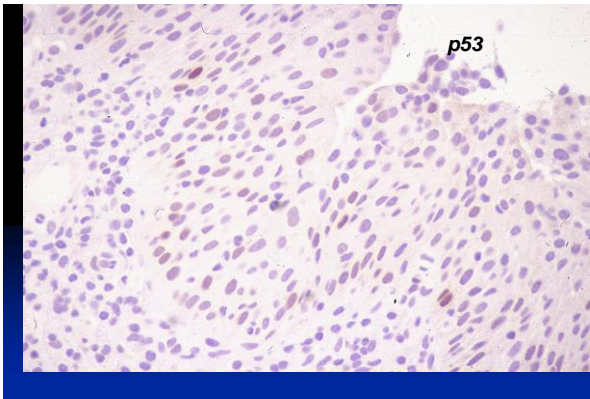
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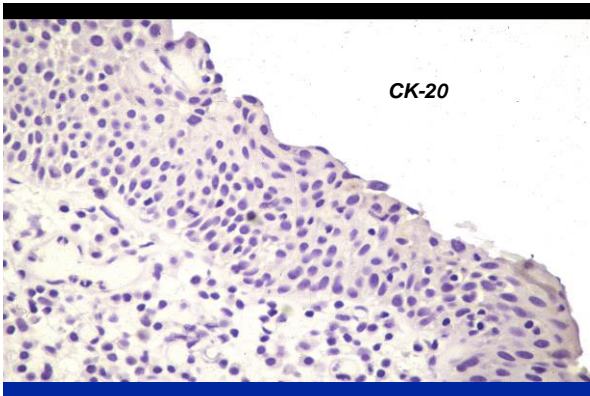
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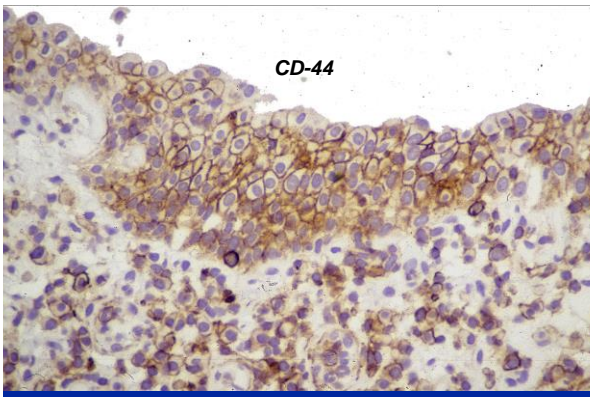
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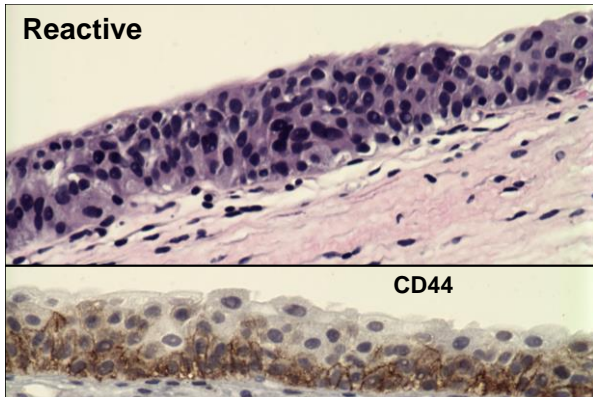
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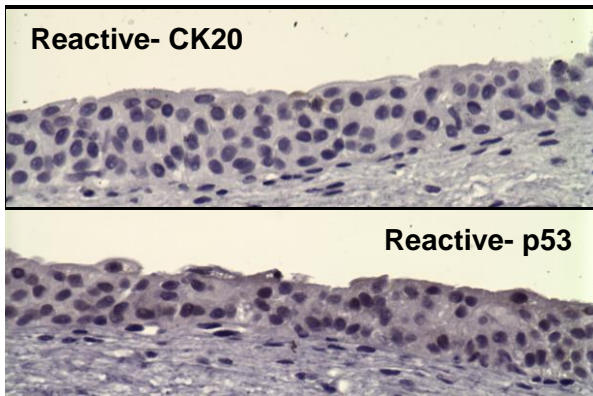
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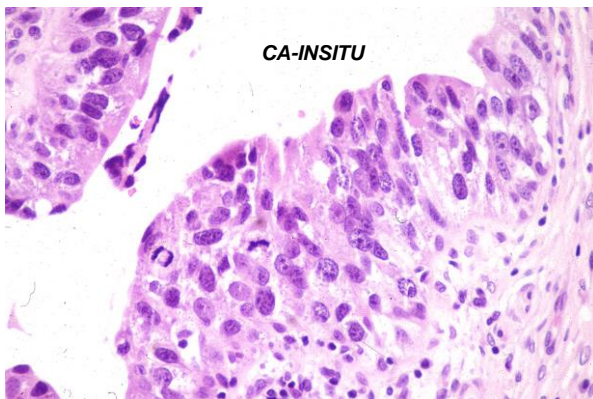
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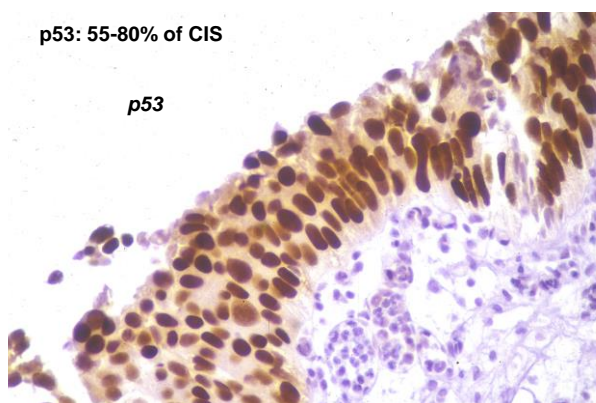
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p53: 55-80% of CIS



p53

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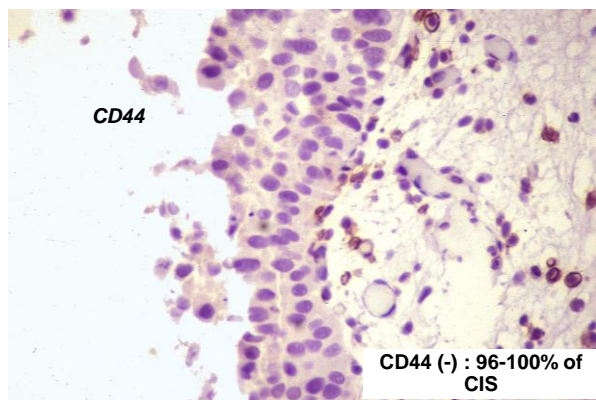
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CD44



CD44 (-) : 96-100% of CIS

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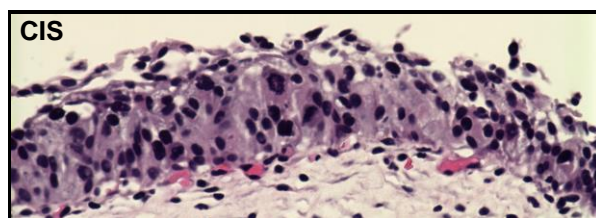
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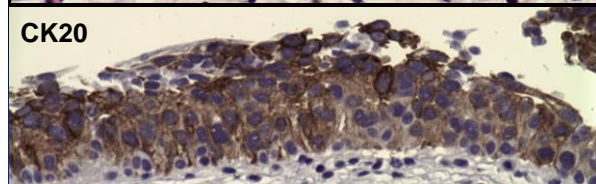
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CIS



CK20



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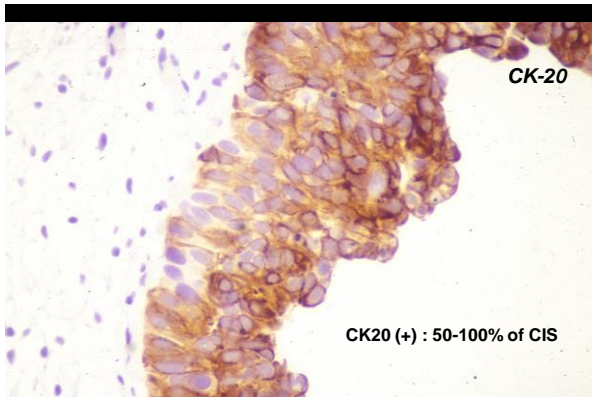
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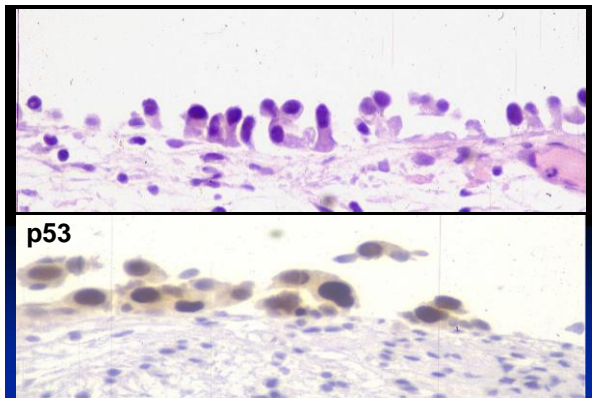
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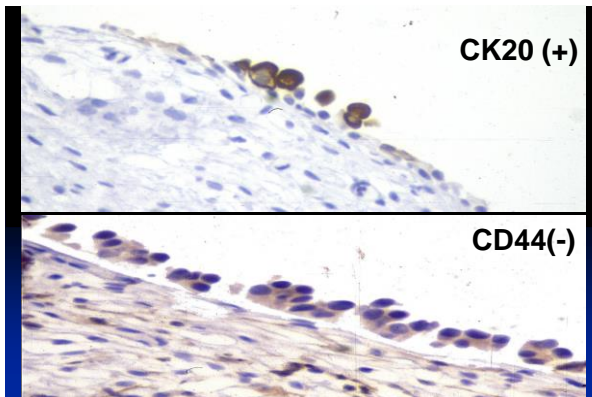
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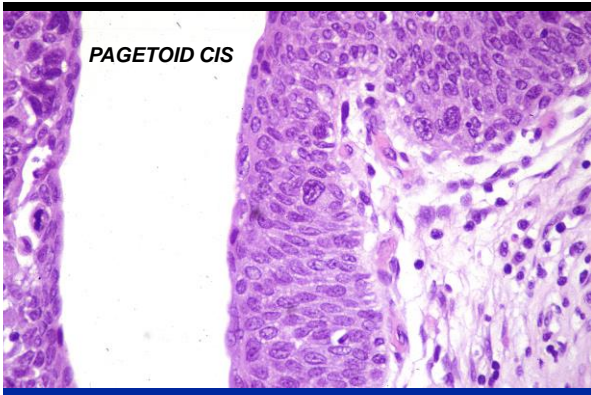
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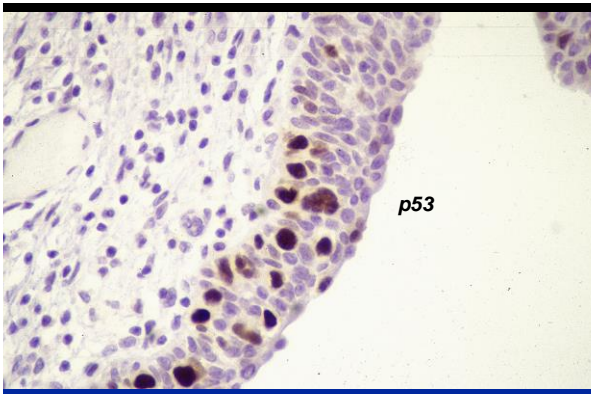
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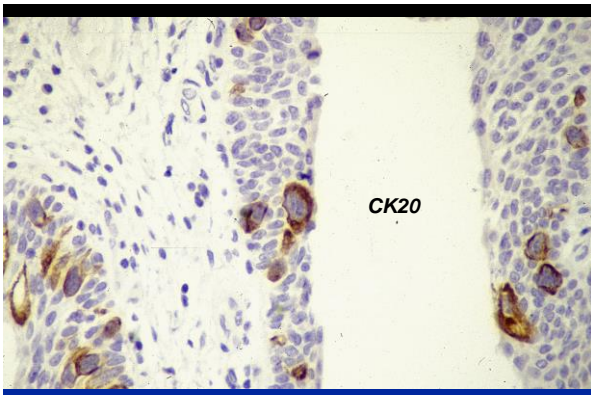
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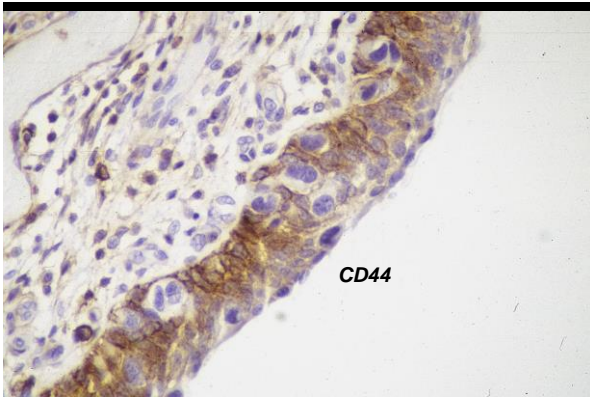
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### UROTHELIAL ASSOCIATED-MARKERS

**Prostate vs. Urothelial Carcinoma**

- Often in bladder neck specimens
- Therapeutically critical differential

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSA</li> <li>• PSAP</li> <li>• NKX1.3</li> <li>• Prostein (P501S)</li> <li>• ERG-TMPRSS2</li> <li>• PSMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CK20</li> <li>• P63 or MWCK</li> <li>• GATA3</li> <li>• Uroplakin 2</li> <li>• S100p</li> <li>• Uroplakin 3</li> </ul>
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**CAUTION: Both may coexist!**

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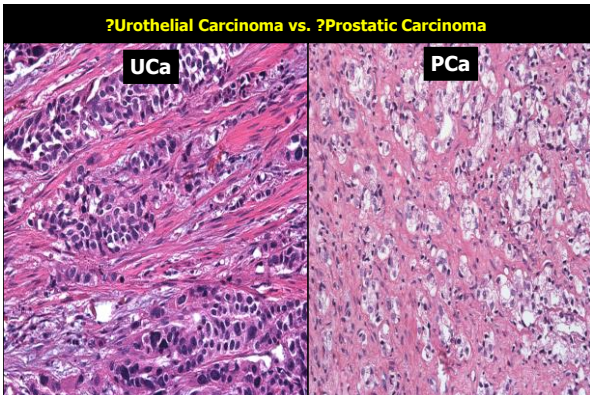
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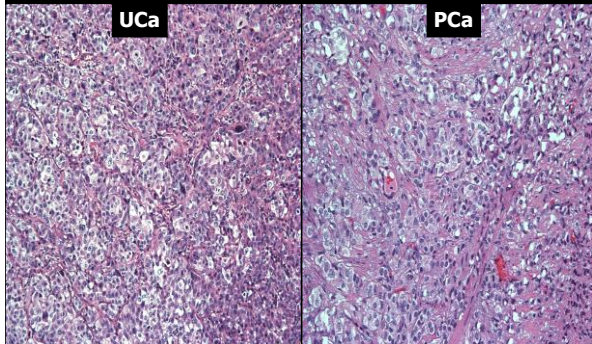
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**?Urothelial Carcinoma vs. ?Prostatic Carcinoma**



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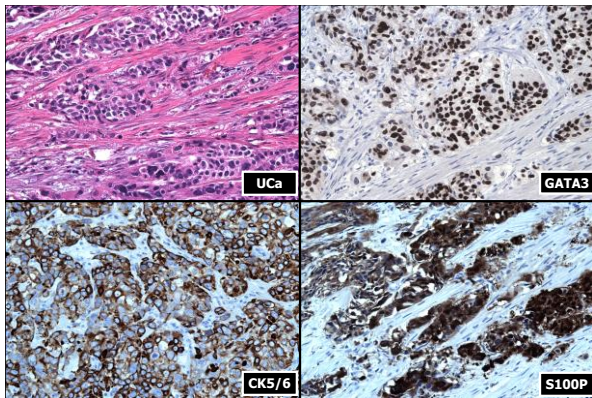
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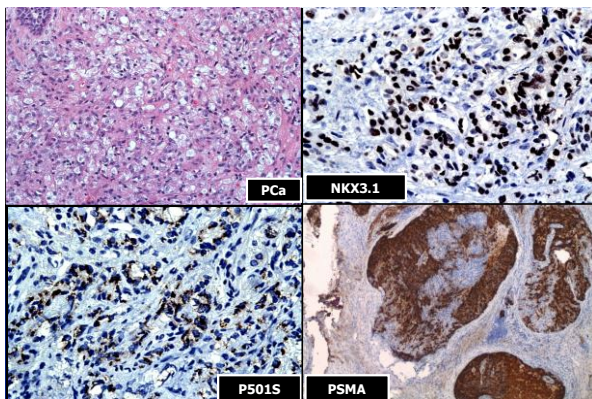
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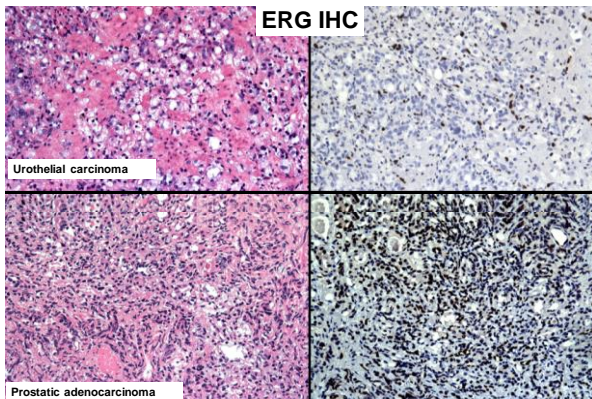
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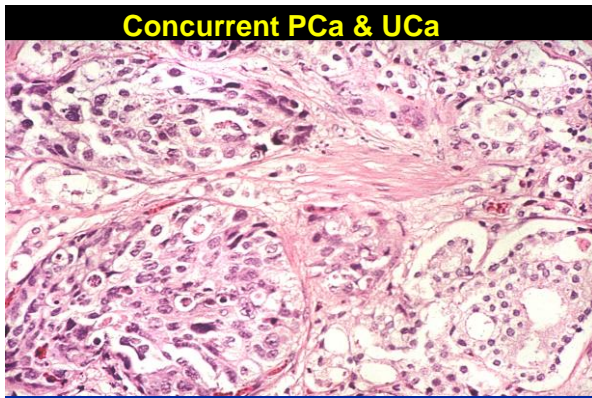
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**METASTATIC ADENOCARCINOMA TO THE BLADDER**

*Virtually any tumor from the body can spread to the bladder on occasion. Problem areas:*

**Enteric morphology: Colon and appendiceal primary vs. bladder primary**

- Morphologically identical
- May have a surface well-differentiated "villous adenoma" surface component
- Helpful features:
  - Clinical history of high-stage colon cancer
  - Absence of intestinal metaplasia
- Immunohistochemistry (CK7, CK20, CDX2) not helpful ( $\beta$ -catenin, nuclear positivity, limited role)

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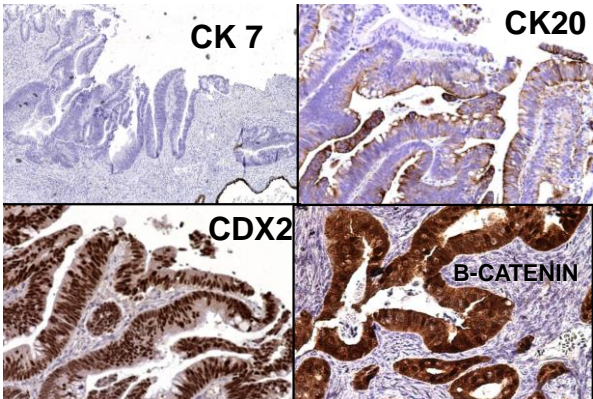
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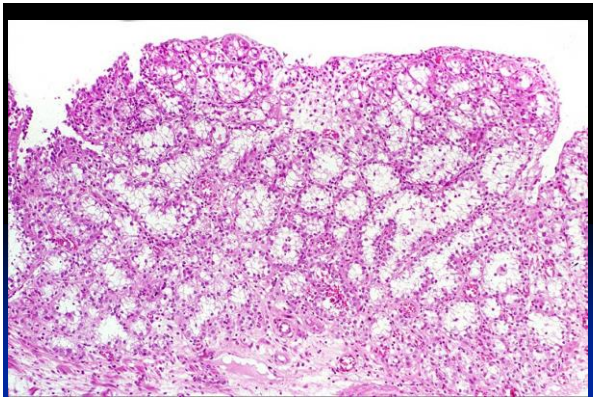
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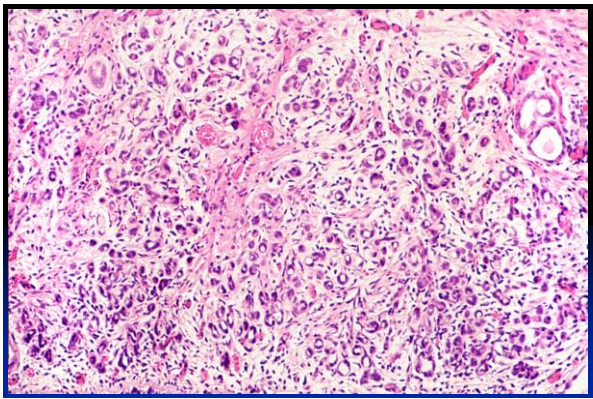
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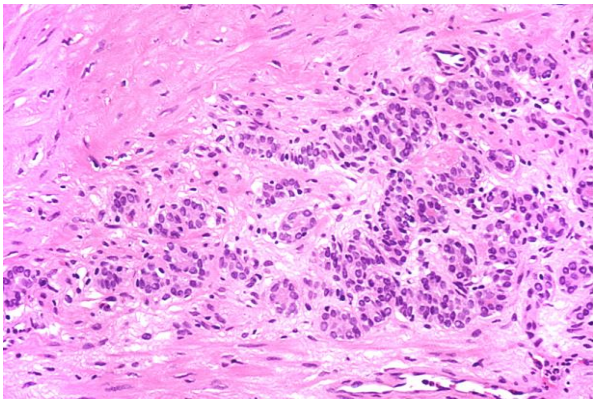
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	Nephrogenic adenoma	Clear cell adenoCa of bladder	Urothelial Ca with glandular morphology	Prostatic adenoCa
<b>Pax2/8</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>10-20%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>AMACR</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>Frequently positive</b>	<b>70-100%</b>
<b>S100A1</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Ki67 % + nuclei</b>	<b>2-5%</b>	<b>40-50%</b>	<b>30-40%</b>	<b>2-25%</b>
<b>PSA</b>	<b>0 -2%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70-100%</b>

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### Spindle cell lesions

*Benign (PMP) vs. Malignant - H&E diagnosis*

- PMP / PSFMT**
  - keratin(+/-),SMA(+), desmin(+/-), p63(-), Alk-1(+)
- Sarc. Ca**
  - keratin (+/-), SMA(-), desmin(-), p63(+/-), Alk-1 (-), HMCK & CK5/6 (+)
- LMS**
  - keratin (-/+),SMA(+), desmin(+), Alk1(-/+),p63(-)

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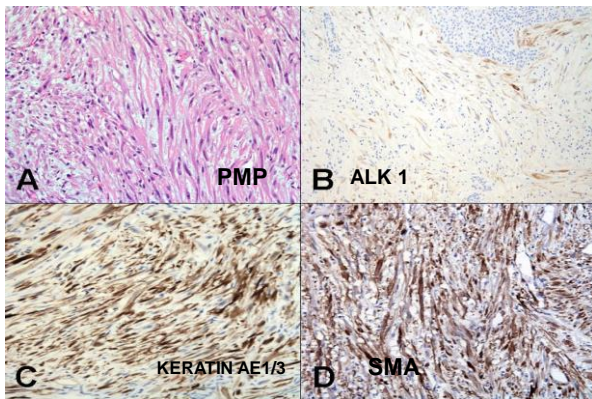
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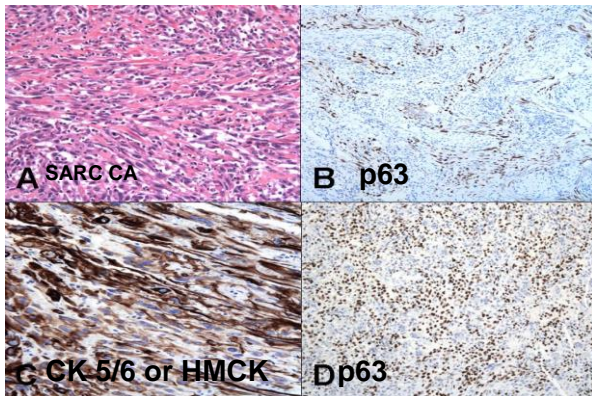
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## IHC in Prostate Needle Bxs.

- **Basal cell cocktail**
  - p63 and 34βE12
- **Triple cocktail “PIN cocktail”**
  - p63/34βE12/AMACR
- **ERG immunohistochemistry**
  - Additional marker, only if triple not conclusive

**PSA** – to prove prostate origin – NA, Cowper's glands

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## Triple cocktail

- **Expected reactions**
  - **PCa:** p63(-), HMCK(-), AMACR(+)
  - **Benign small cancer mimics:** p63, HMCK(+), AMACR(-)
  - **HGPIN:** p63, HMCK(+), AMACR(-/+)
  - **Ductal cancer:**
    - *Invasive component:* p63, HMCK(-), AMACR(+)
    - *Intraductal component:* p63, HMCK(+), AMACR(+)
  - **Urothelial cancer:** p63, HMCK(+/-), AMACR(+)

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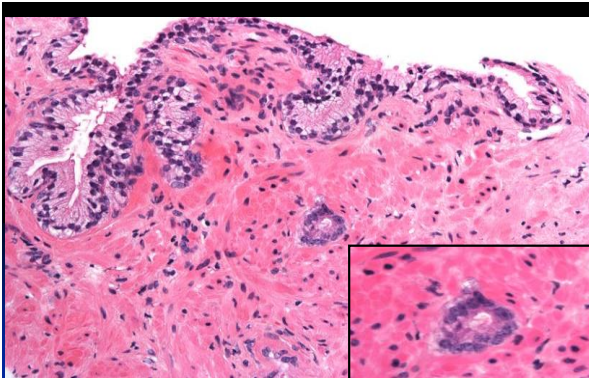
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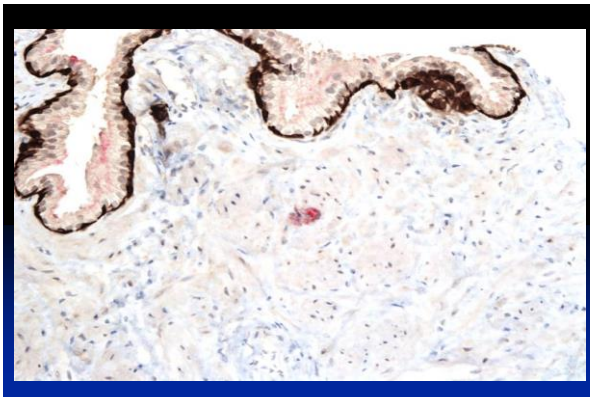
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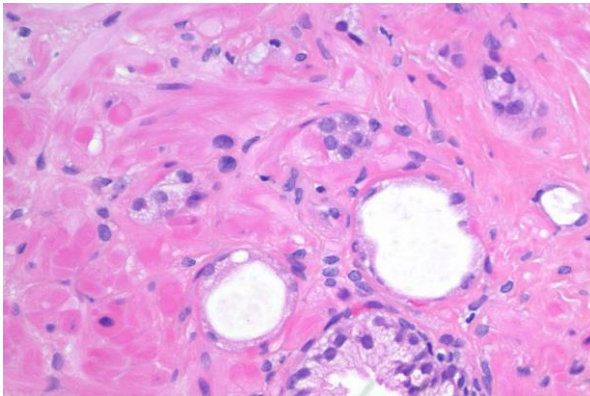
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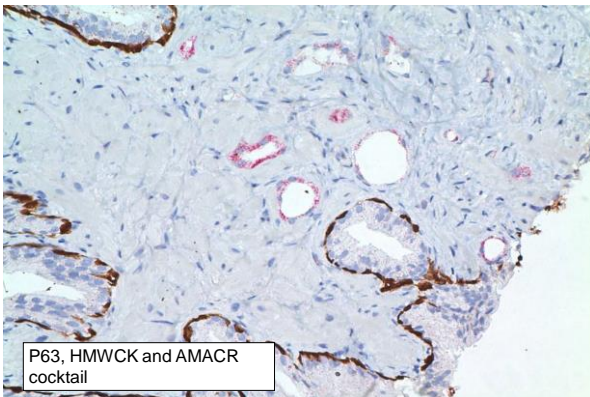
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P63, HMWCK and AMACR  
cocktail

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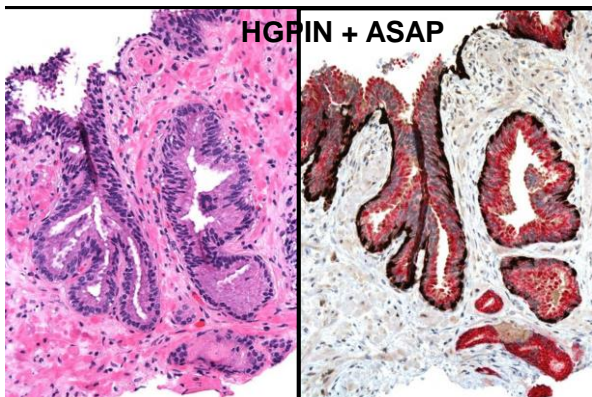
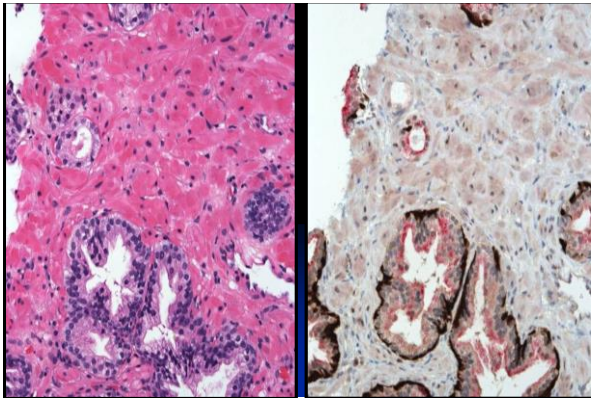
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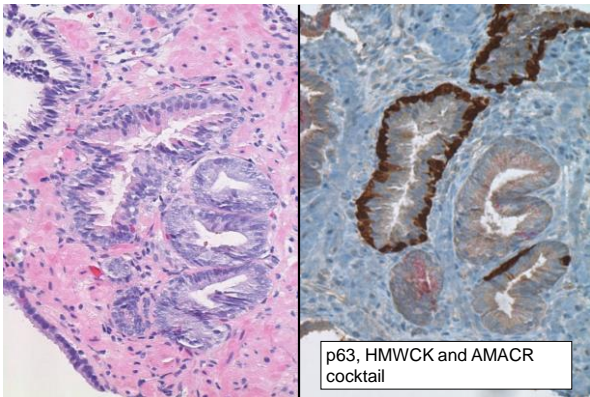
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## EQUIVOCAL IHC

- Results not entirely complimentary
- Unexpected basal cell layer staining
- Results supportive but all glands in an already small or difficult focus not represented in the IHC








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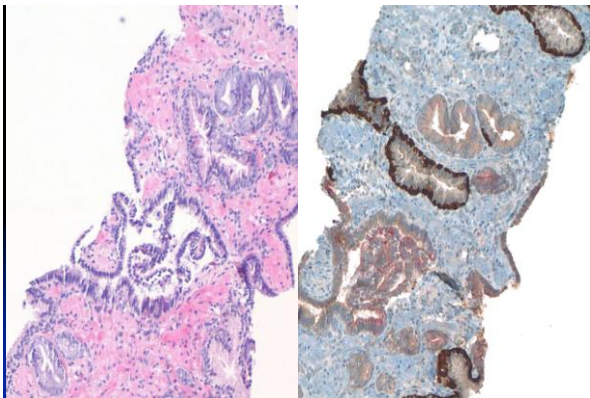
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## ERG Immunohistochemistry

- 60% of PCa harbor any ETS-rearrangement
- 50% of PCa – TMPRSS2-ERG
- Detection by IHC or FISH
  - High concordance in hormone naive
- IHC detection in ~30% in needle setting
- Do we need a 4<sup>th</sup> marker?
  - – Helps in about 5% of cases with equivocal triple cocktail
- Additional: Marker of prostate histogenesis

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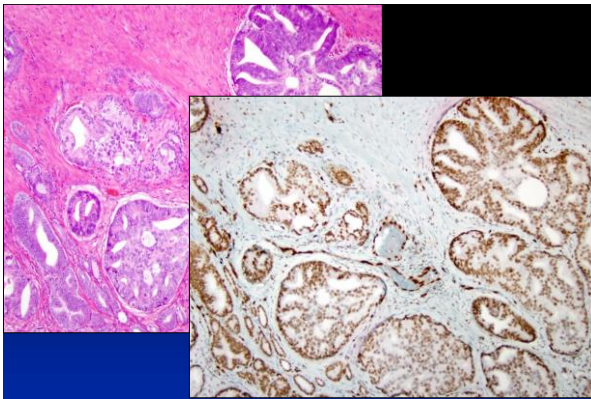
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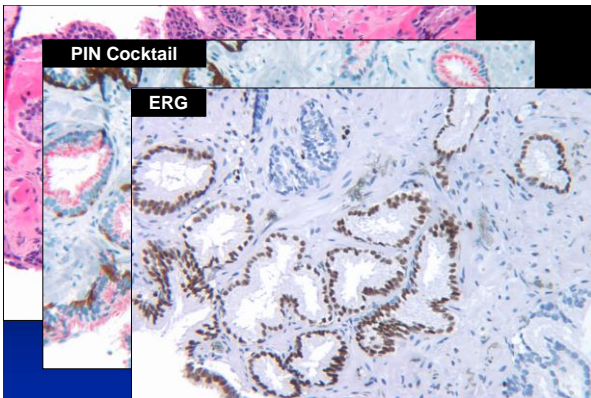
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### IHC in a pt. with one (+) core

- **Confirm bilaterality**- clinical staging - almost 50% patients with prostate cancer treated with RT
- Accurate assessment of # of cores involved – **Active surveillance**
- Quantitation of cancer – **Active surveillance (>50% may exclude)**

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### Work-up of Atypical Foci with Definite Cancer in Other Parts

Patient with Gleason score 3+4 or higher grade cancer on at least one part.

? Work up other parts with small foci of possible 3+3=6

Generally, not indicated, as additional IHC confirmation will likely not change management

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### Abberant expression p63 in Prostate cancer

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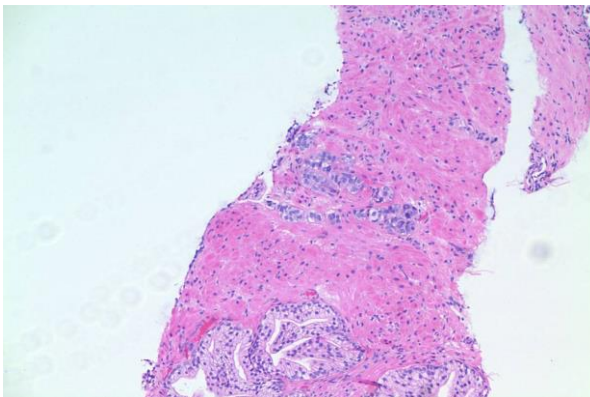
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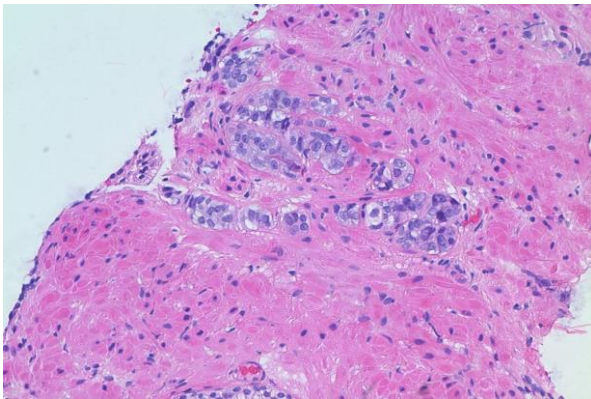
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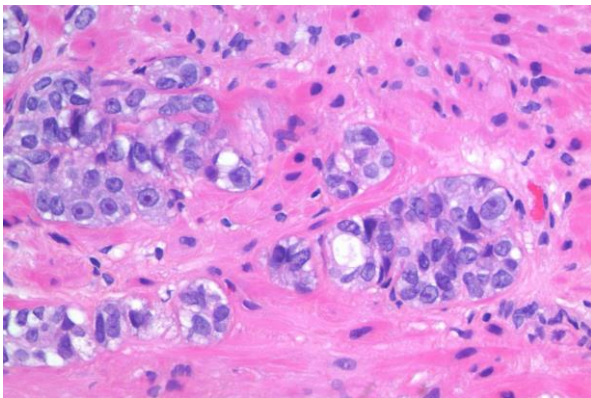
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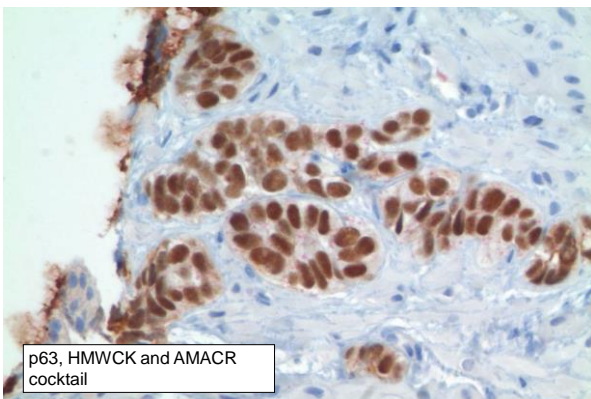
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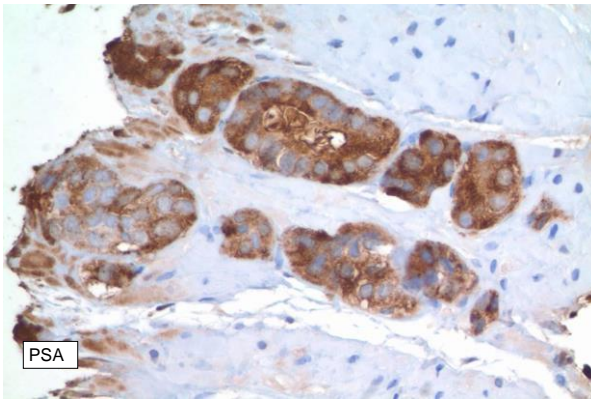
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## IHC IN KIDNEY SURGICAL PATHOLOGY

- Confirming Renal origin
- *Histologic subtyping of RCC*

*Metastatic sites  
Primary tumors  
Small biopsies and FNAS*

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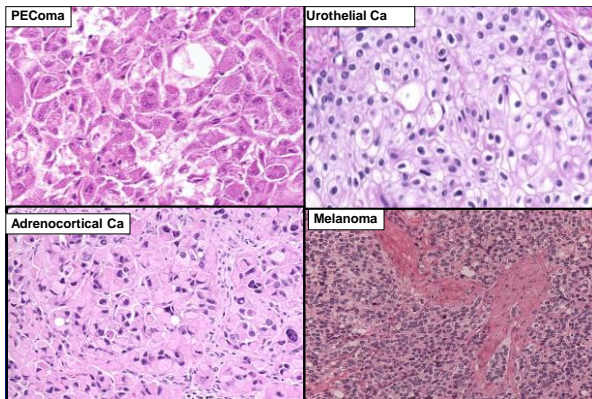
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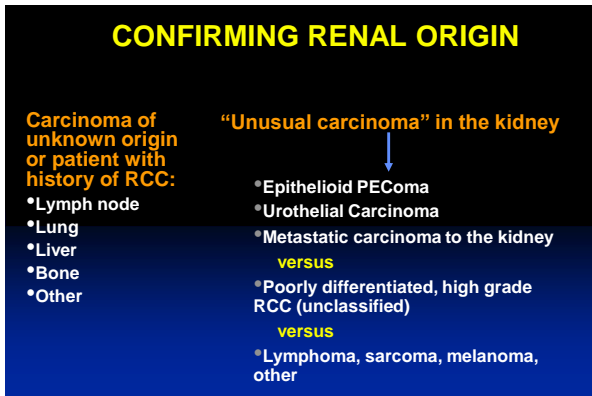
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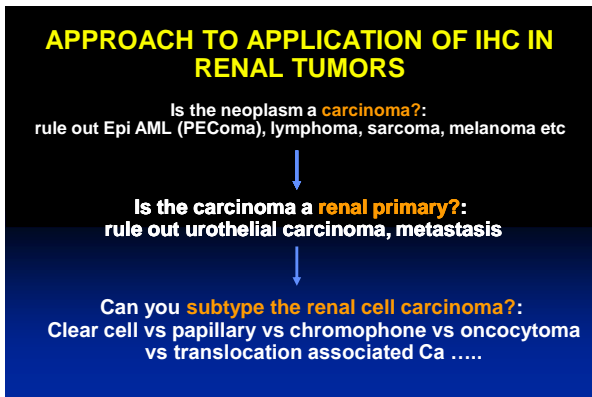
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## RCC antigen

Monoclonal antibody against brush border of healthy PCT

- **RCC types**
  - Clear cell RCC (85%)
  - Papillary RCC (95%)
  - Oncocytoma & Chromophobe (-/+)
  - Collecting duct Ca (-/+)
- **Other tumors**
  - Breast ca
  - Parathyroid ca
  - Embryonal ca, testis
  - Lung
  - Prostate
  - Ovary
  - Melanoma
  - Epididymal cystadenoma
  - Mesothelioma

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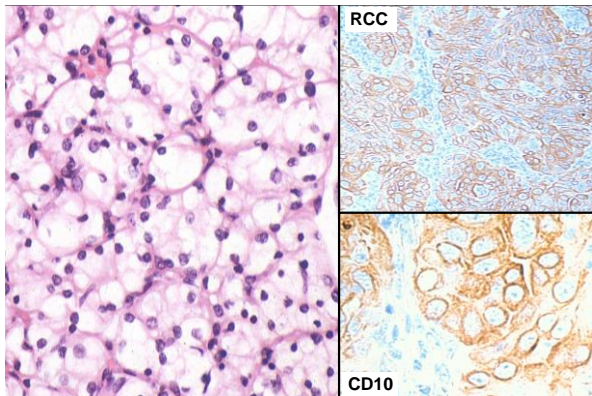
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## PAX8

Paired box transcription factor, similar to PAX2  
Predominantly data from polyclonal antibody – new monoclonal

- **RCC types**
  - Clear cell RCC (>95%)
  - Papillary RCC (>95%)
  - Wilms tumor
  - Metanephric (+) adenoma
  - Oncocytoma (+)
  - Chromophobe RCC (-/+)
  - Collecting duct Ca (-/+)
  - Translocation assoc. Ca (-/+)
- **Other tumors**
  - Similar to Pax2
  - Thyroid neoplasms
  - Extensive GYN positivity

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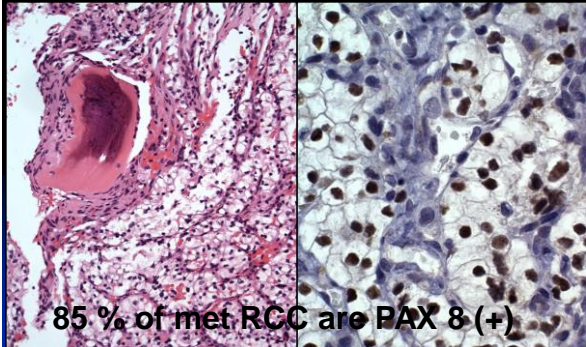
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### Metastatic Clear cell RCC (Bone)



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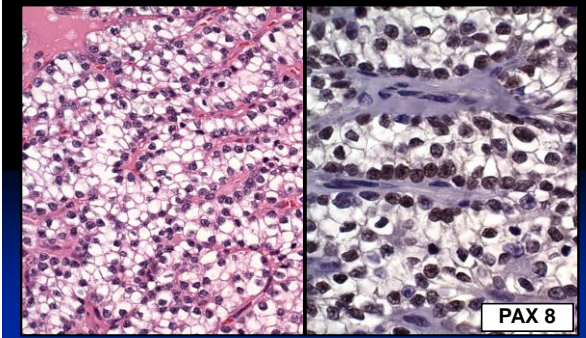
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### PARATHYROID CARCINOMA



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### S100A1

Among the 13 member S100 protein family.  
Expressed in numerous cell types, not well studied

#### Positive in RCC

- Clear cell RCC (60%)
- Pap RCC (80%)
- Clear cell-pap RCC
- Oncocytoma
- Translocation assoc RCC
- Chromophobe RCC (-)

#### Other tumors

- Ovarian Ca (serous, clear)
- Endometrial Ca

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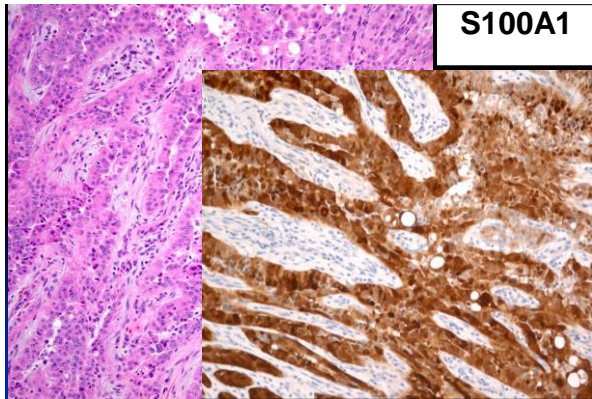
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**S100A1**

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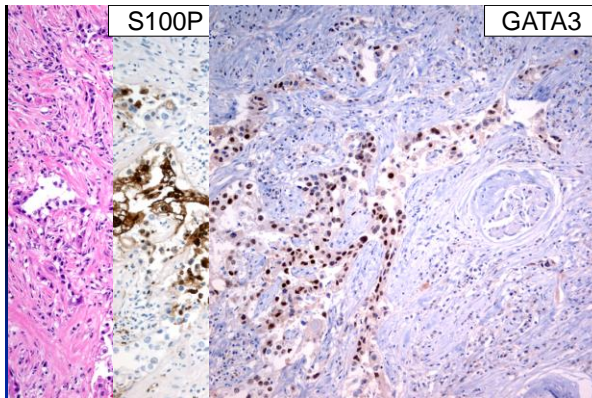
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**S100P**

**GATA3**

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## Carbonic anhydrase IX

•Family of zinc containing metalloproteinase that regulates cell proliferation, adhesion and metastasis

### Kidney tumors

- Clear cell RCC (+)
- Papillary RCC (-/+)
- Chromophobe RCC (-)
- Oncocytoma (-)
- Urothelial Ca (+/-)

### Other tumors

Most carcinomas of endometrium, stomach, lung, cervix, liver, breast etc.

Prognostic utility of CA IX in clear cell RCC

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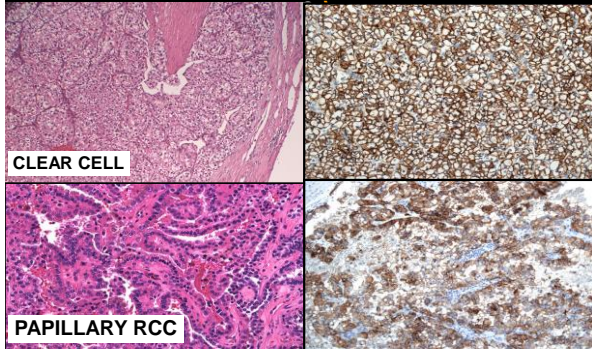
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## CARBONIC ANHYDRASE IX



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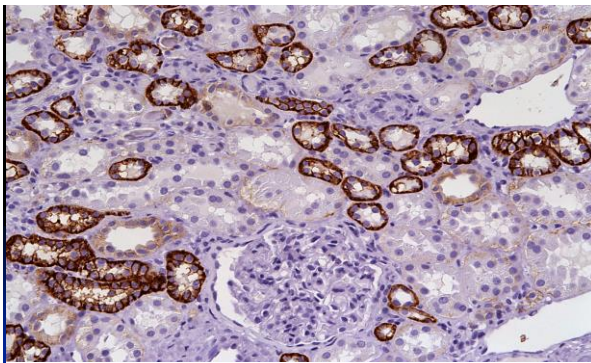
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Ksp-cadherin in distal convoluted tubules

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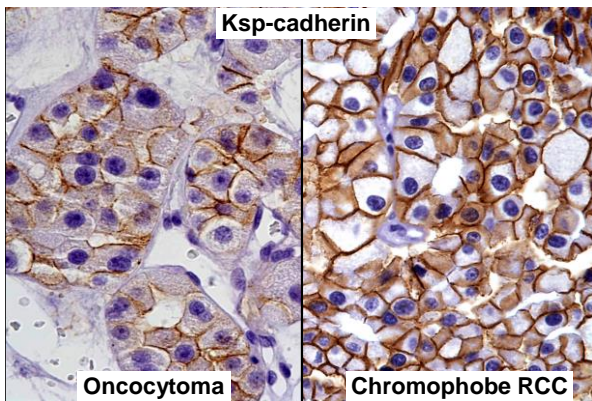
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## Cathepsin K

- Expression is related to overexpression of MiTF
- PEComas: moderate to strong and diffuse cytoplasmic staining is seen in all variants
  - \* co-expressed with other melanocytic markers (more diffuse than HMB-45)
- MiTF-TFE3 translocation associated carcinomas
  - \* t(X;1): >85% cases, diffuse
  - \* t(X;17): 0%
  - \* t(6;11): 100% of cases, diffuse

Other renal tumors:  
Negative except nonspecific in necrotic areas

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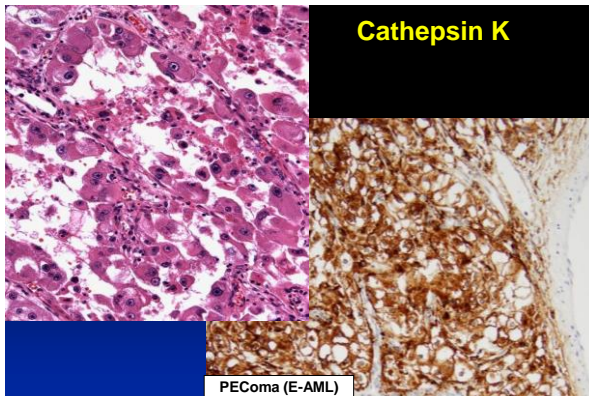
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## CONFIRMING RENAL ORIGIN

Is the neoplasm  
a **carcinoma**?:

Is the carcinoma  
a **renal primary**?:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Renal "related"</b></li><li>• AE1/AE3 (+)</li><li>• EMA (+)</li><li>• Vimentin (+)</li><li>• CK7 (-), CK20 (-)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Renal associated</b></li><li>• "RCC marker" (80%)</li><li>• PAX8 (&gt;90%)</li><li>• S100A1*</li><li>• CD10 (+) (94%)</li></ul> |
|---|--|

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**If history of renal mass and renal histogenesis markers are negative?**

- **Consider: Chromophobe carcinoma**
  - CD117 (+) and Ksp-Cadherin (+)
- **Consider: Epithelioid PEComa and translocation carcinoma**
  - Cathepsin K, MelanA/HMB45

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## **Renal Clear and Papillary Tumors**

### **Clear cell RCC**

**CA-9 (+)**  
**RCC (+)**  
**Pax8 (+)**  
**Vimentin (+)**

### **Clear –Papillary RCC**

**CK 7(+)**  
**Racemase (-)**  
**HMCK (+)**  
**RCC, CD10(-)**

### **Papillary RCC**

**RCC (+)**  
**CK7 (+)**  
**Racemase (+)**

### **Metanephric adenoma**

**RCC (+)**  
**CK7 (+)**  
**Racemase (+)**

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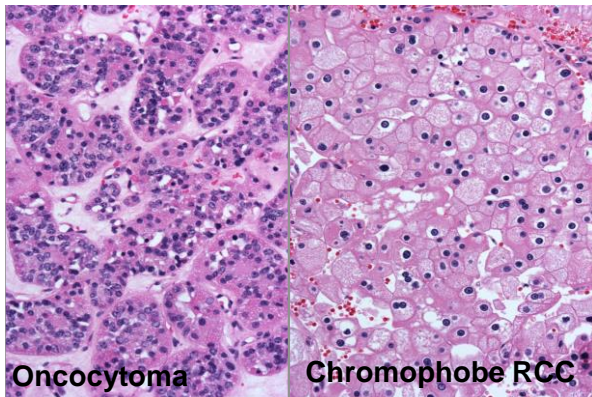
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## Renal Oncocytic Tumors

### Oncocytoma

CK 7 (- / +)

S100 A1 (+)

Barttin  
(cytoplasmic)

### Chromophobe RCC

CK 7 (+ / -)

S100A1 (-)

Barttin (membranous)

*Amylase 1A (AMY1A), EPCAM, Claudin and Caveolin 1  
- Investigational*

*\*Not adequately studied: preliminary data  
Not tested in hybrid oncocytic tumors\**

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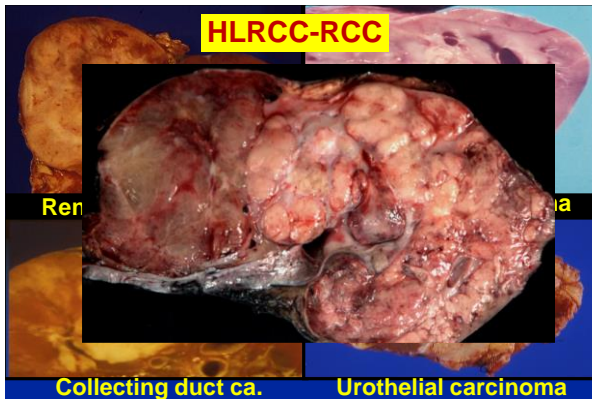
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## IHC FOR HIGH GRADE DISTAL NEPHRON CA

### RENAL CELL CA incl. CDC

- PAX8
- RCC
- S100 A1
- CK 7 & 20 (-)

### RENAL MEDULLARY CA

- OCT3/4 (+)
- INI1 lost (-)
- PAX8

### UROTHELIAL CA

- GATA 3
- S100P
- HMCK
- P63
- Uroplakin 2
- CK 7 & 20 (+)

- HLRCC-RCC/FH deficient
- FH lost (-)
- 2SC positive

CAIX and Vimentin immunoreactivity can be seen in UCa

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## TESTIS IHC: Screening panels

- **Germ cell tumors**
  - OCT 3/4
  - SALL4
  - PLAP
  - EMA(-)
  - Vimentin (-)
- **Sex cord tumors**
  - SF1
  - Melan A
  - Inhibin
  - Calretinin
  - CD99
  - Synaptophysin
  - S-100
  - FOXL2
- **Lymphoma:** CD-45, CD3, L26
- **Visceral malignancy:** EMA (+), vimentin (±)

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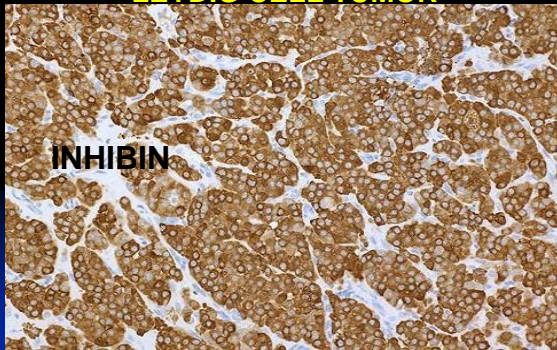
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## LEYDIG CELL TUMOR



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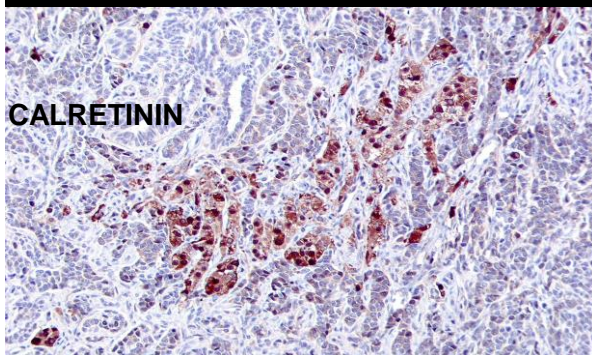
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## SERTOLI CELL TUMOR



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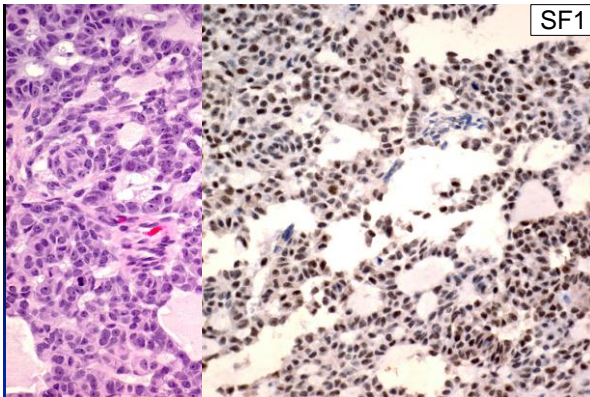
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### IHC in characterizing the different germ cell components

- There is no substitute to well (overnight) fixed sections
- Adequate sampling is key - the # of IHCs should NEVER exceed the H&E slides
- Remember what matters in germ cell tumors

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### GERM CELL TUMOR – What really matters?

One does not necessarily have to characterize every morphologically different focus

• **Pure classic Seminoma vs. non-seminomatous components**

• **Mixed germ cell tumor**

- Specify components (as accurately as you can)
- >80% or pure embryonal carcinoma (↓)
- >50% teratoma (↑)

Vascular-lymphatic invasion – pathologic stage  
Margin status

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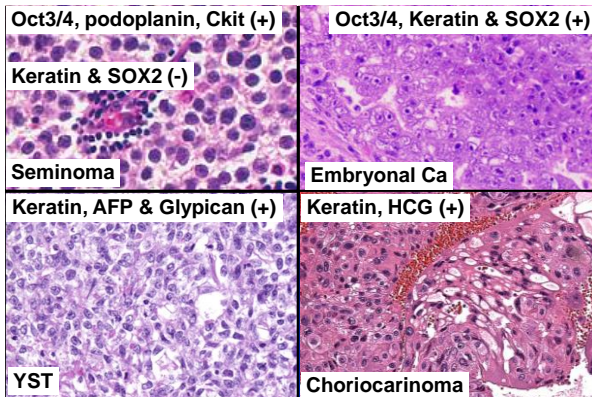
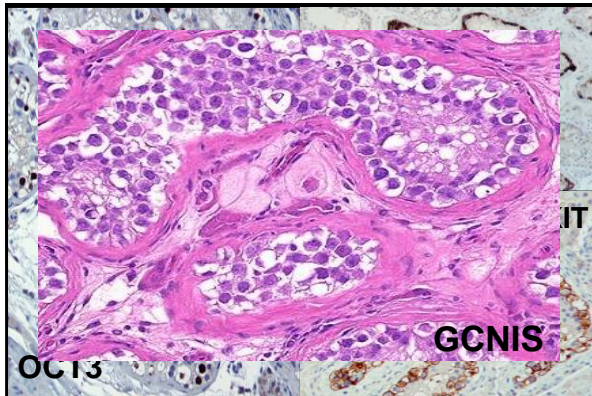
## IHC IN GERM CELL TUMORS

- **GCNIS:** Oct3/4, c- kit, SALL4, Podoplanin, PLAP - all (+)
- **Seminoma:** Oct3/4, c-kit, Podoplanin – all (+)
- **Embryonal Ca:** Oct3/4, CD30, SOX2, Keratin weak, – all (+)
- **YST:** Glypican, AFP, Keratin strong
- **CC:** HPL,  $\beta$ HCG, Glypican-syncytiotrophoblasts
- **SS:** CD117, SAL4 (weak)

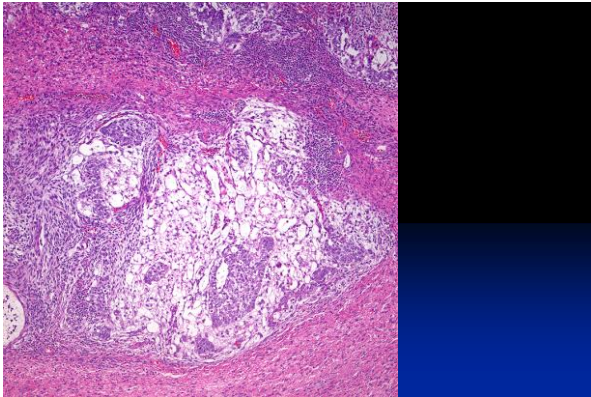
**Cytokeratin AE1/AE3:** E Ca, YST, T, CC

**Oct 3/4:** Seminoma, E Ca

**PLAP:** Minimal / no value – except in GCNIS







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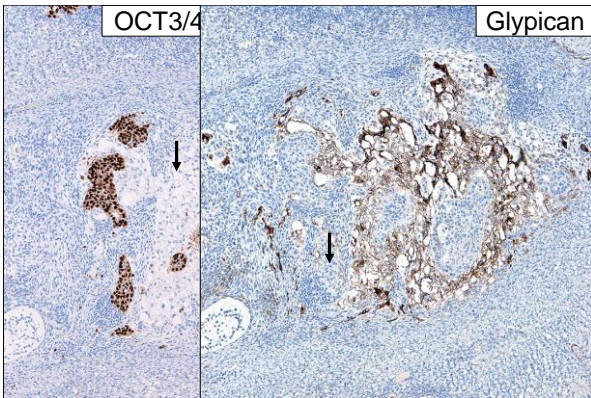
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