

A gross specimen of a large, lobulated, pinkish-red polypoid mass, likely a colorectal polyp or adenoma, shown against a light background. The mass has a central, more intensely red area, possibly indicating ulceration or hemorrhage. The surrounding tissue is a lighter, fleshy pink color.

Lower Gastrointestinal Pathology

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GI Pathology Outline

- Esophagus
- Stomach
- Intestine
 - Diverticulosis
 - Inflammatory bowel disease
 - Adenoma
 - Carcinoma

Lower GI Lecture Objectives

- Explain what diverticulosis is, and how it differs from diverticulitis.
- Compare and contrast Crohn disease and ulcerative colitis: what parts of the GI tract are usually affected; how do they differ microscopically, which one responds better to surgery?
- Describe what a colon adenoma is. Is it benign or malignant? When does it become scary? How common is it?

Lower GI Lecture Objectives

- What increases the risk of getting colon carcinoma?
- How does colon cancer typically present?
- Describe *in general (no numbers!)* what the prognosis is for stage 1 vs. stage 4 colon carcinoma.

Diverticulosis

- Mucosa/submucosa herniates through muscle wall
- Older patients, low fiber diet
- Sigmoid colon
- Asymptomatic unless infected (“diverticulitis”)



Diverticulosis



Diverticulosis

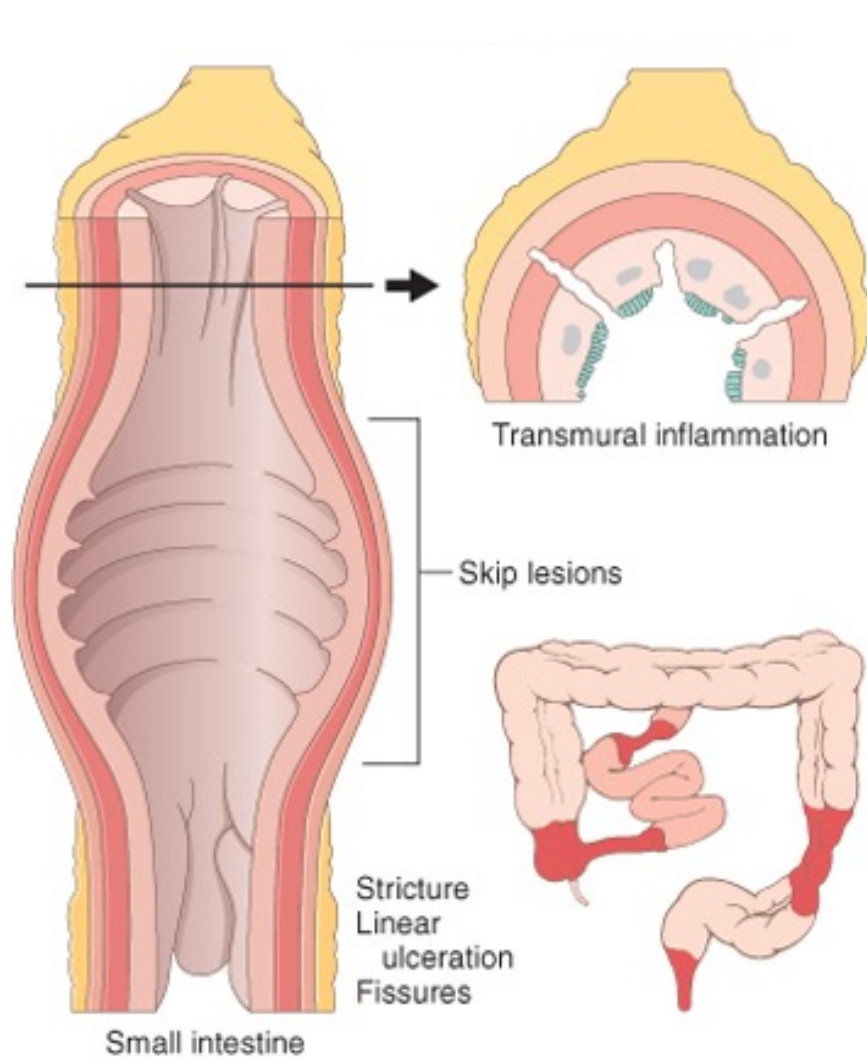
Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Crohn Disease

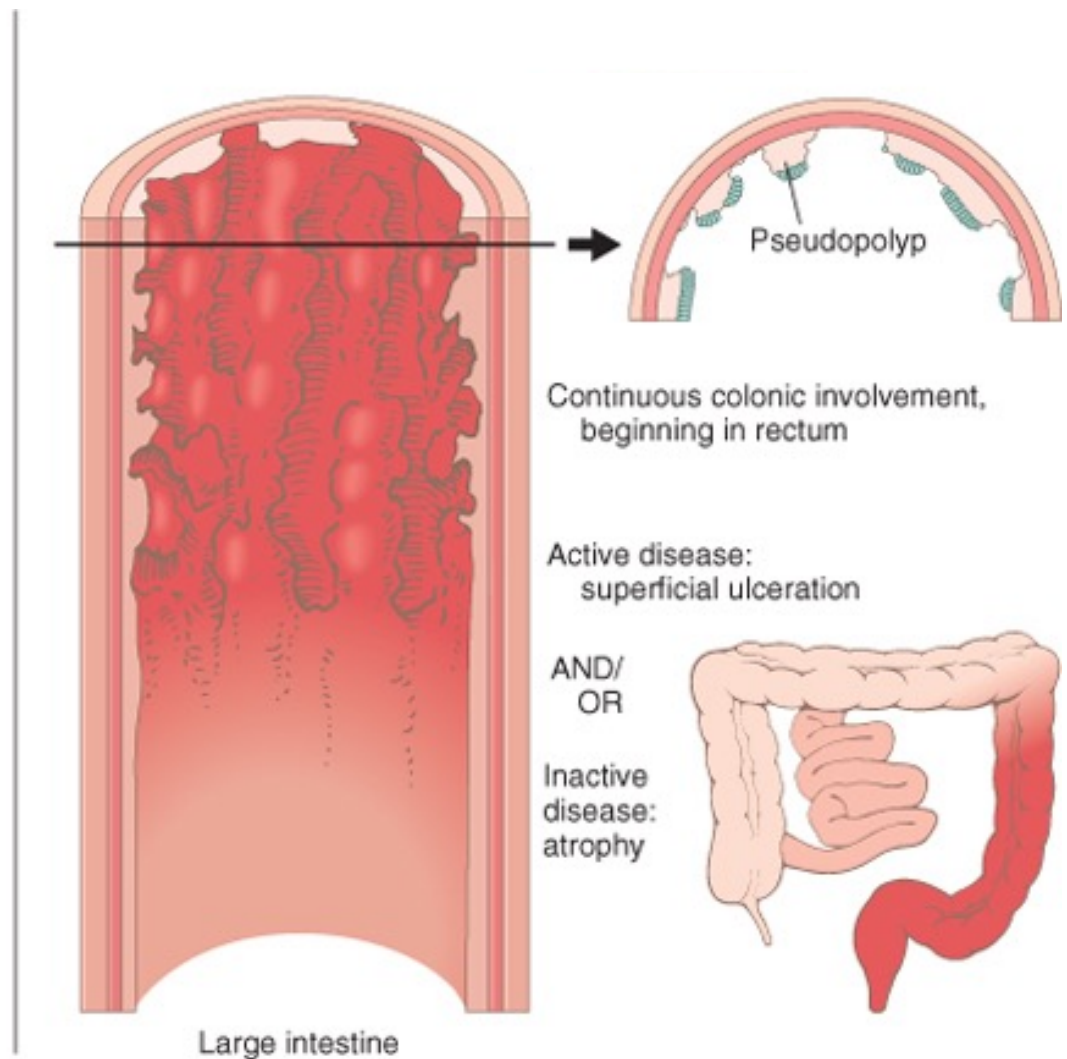
- Anywhere
- Patchy
- Transmural
- Poor response to surgery
- Increased risk of cancer

Ulcerative Colitis

- Colon only
- Continuous
- Superficial
- Good response to surgery
- Increased risk of cancer



Crohn disease



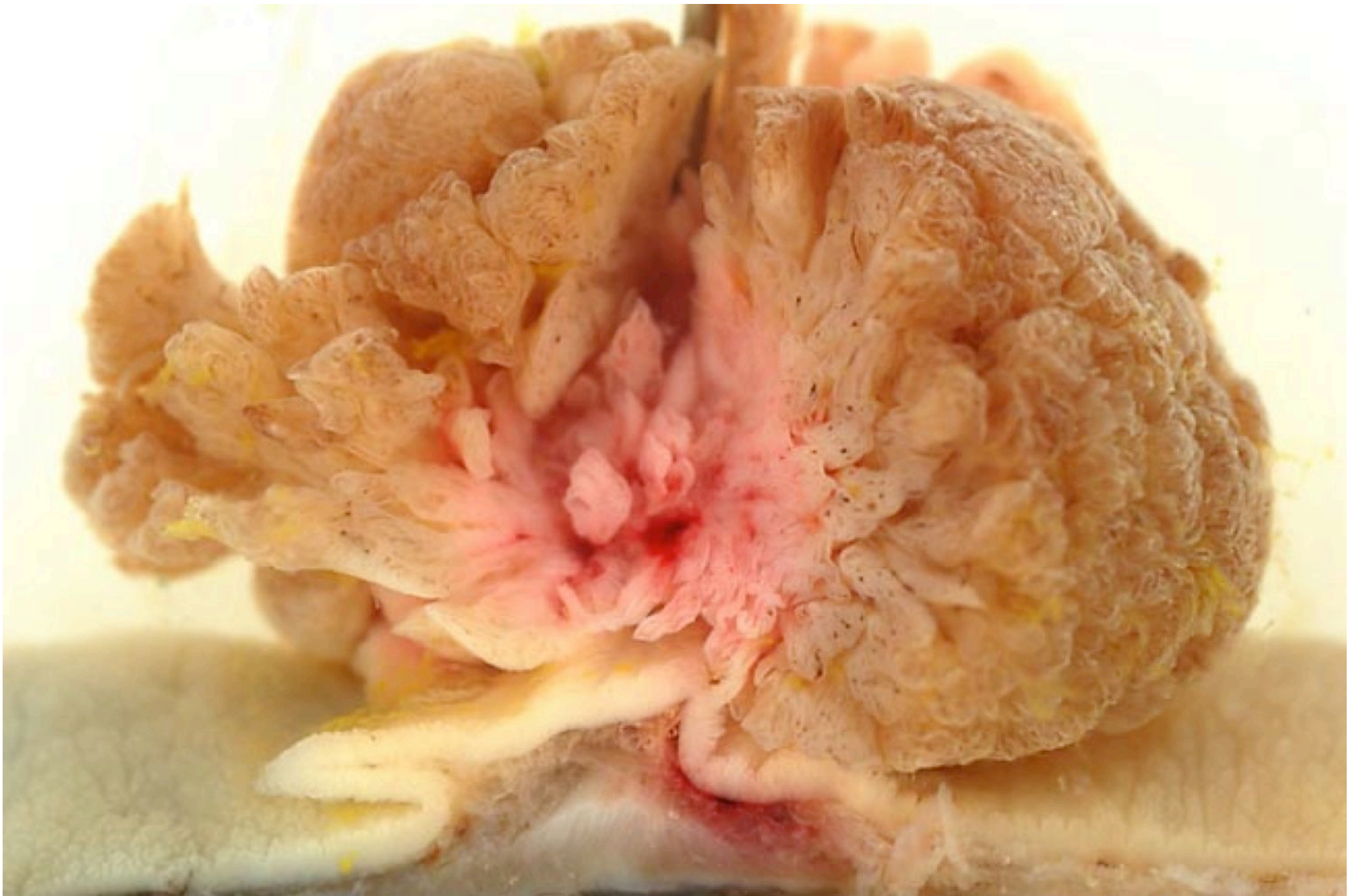
Ulcerative colitis

Adenoma

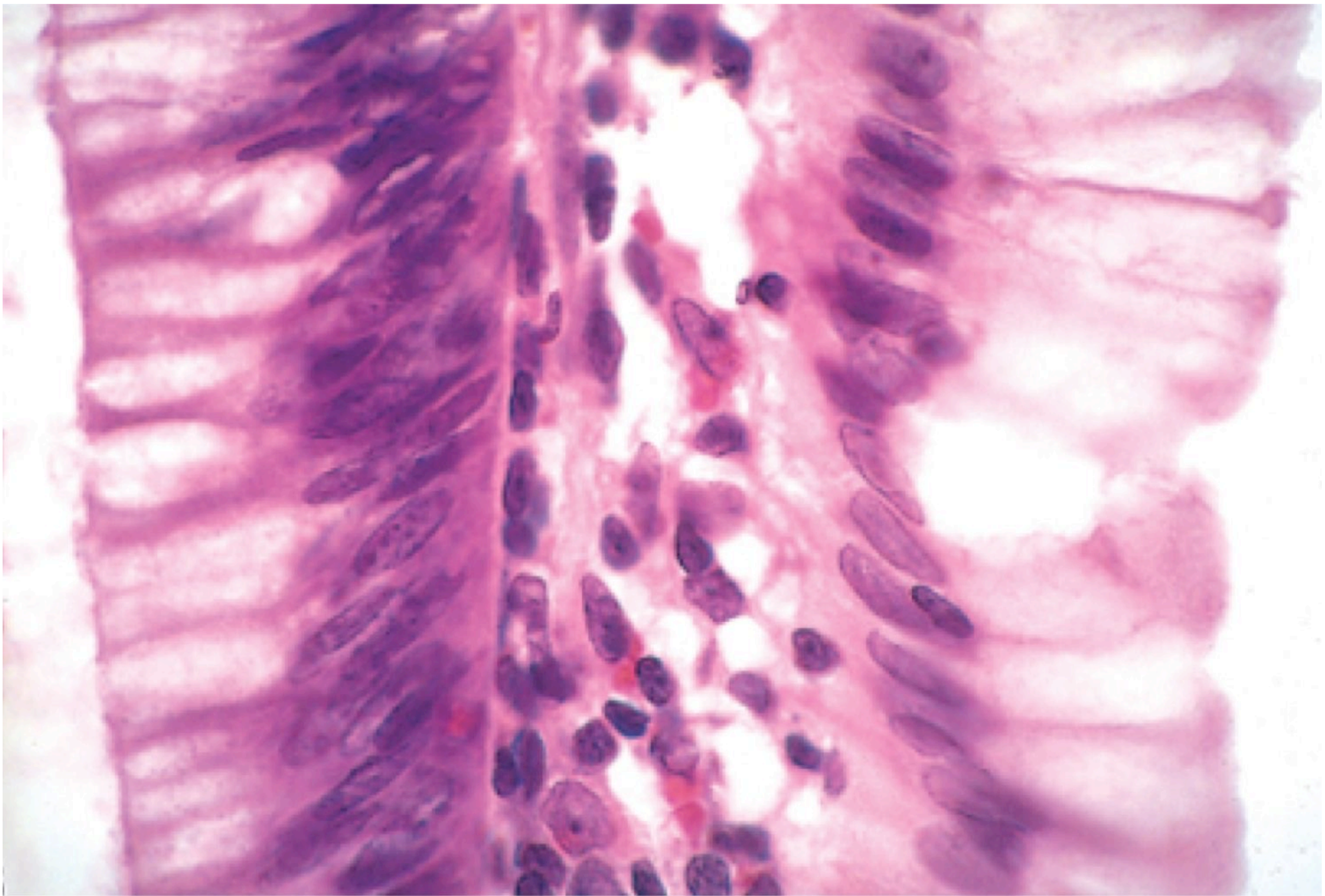
- Common! 50% of people >60.
- Benign glands; may become dysplastic
- More dangerous when:
 - Large (>1 cm)
 - Villous architecture
 - Severely dysplastic



Tubular adenoma of colon



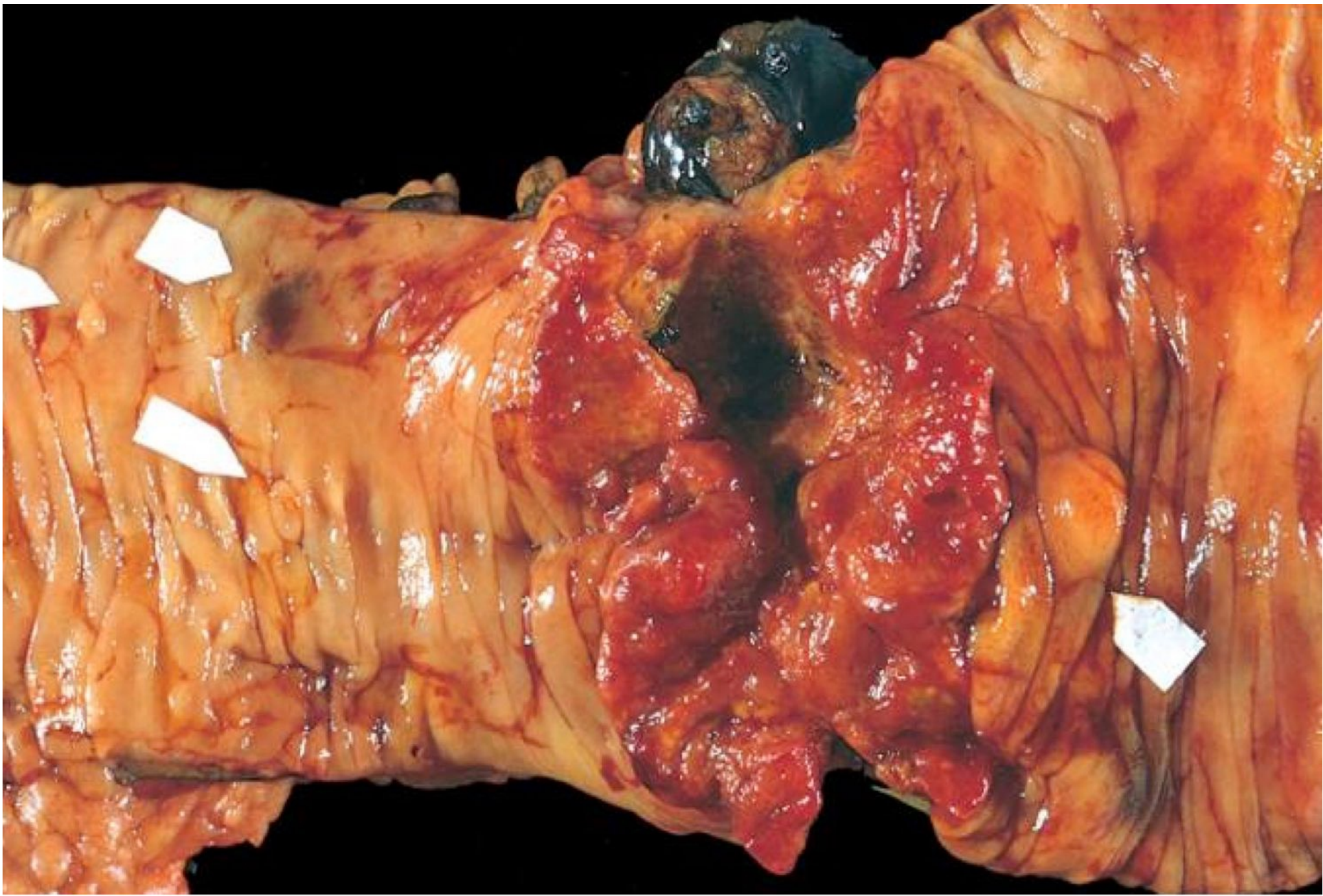
Villous adenoma of colon



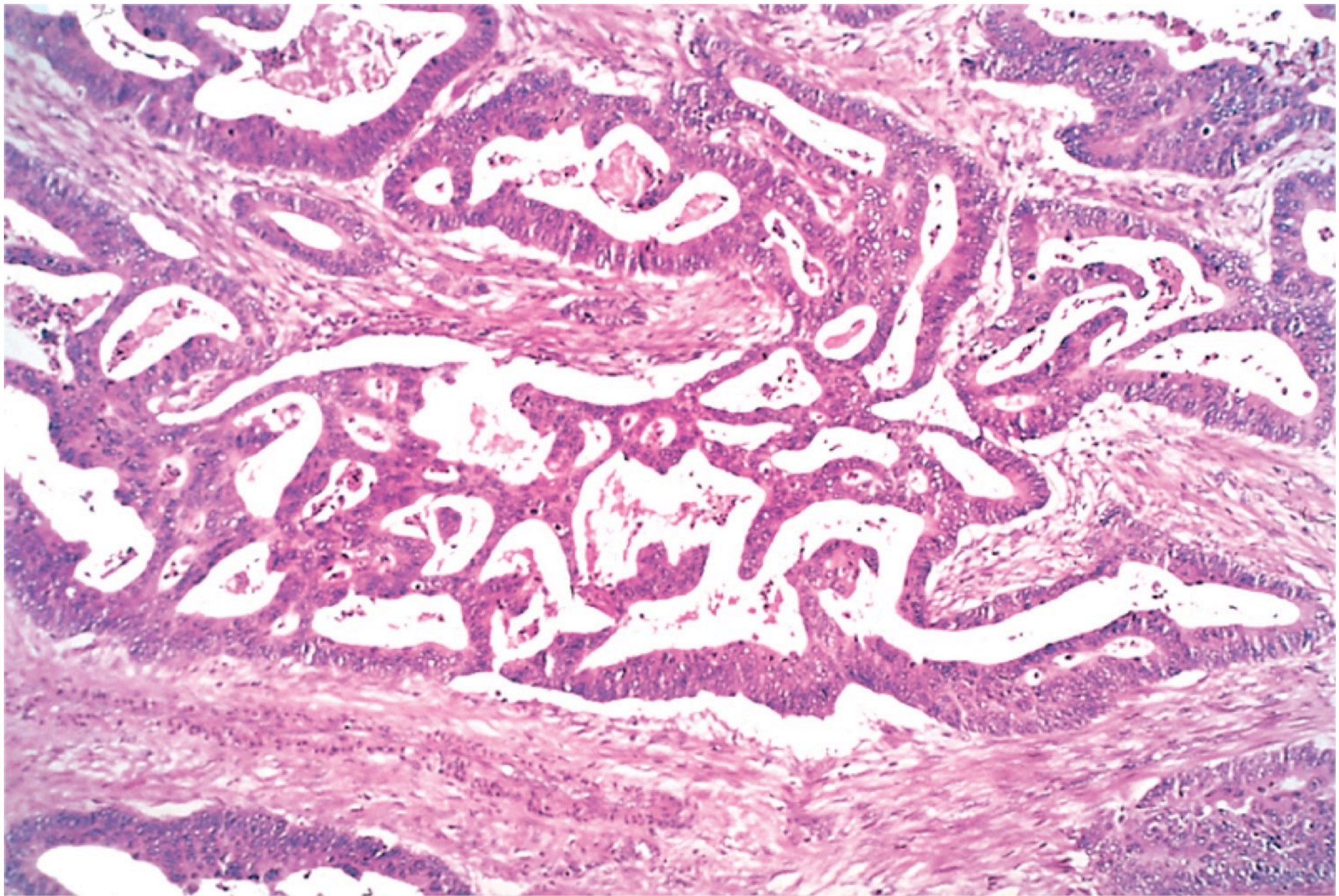
Dysplastic (L) vs. normal (R) epithelium

Colon Carcinoma

- Almost always arises in adenomatous polyp
- Diet: low fiber, high fat, lots of refined carbs
- Symptoms:
 - silent for years
 - fatigue, weakness, iron-deficiency anemia
 - occult bleeding, crampy pain
- 5 year prognosis: 4% (stage 4) - 90% (stage 1)



Colon carcinoma



Colon carcinoma