

She reviewed the acronym  
VITAMIN C, which stands for:

**Vascular**  
**Infectious/Inflammatory**  
**Traumatic**  
**Autoimmune**  
**Metabolic (endocrine)**  
**Iatrogenic**  
**Neoplastic**  
**Congenital**

# Inflammatory Pathology of the (Luminal) GI Tract

***APPROVED***

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Esophagus



Patients with this present with these two symptoms. Similar to presentation of esophageal neoplasms.

# Esophagitis

- Pain when swallowing akaodynophagia
- Difficulty swallowing akadysphagia

# Esophagitis

- Reflux
- Infectious
- Inflammatory

Reflux is one of the main causes of esophagitis

# Reflux Esophagitis

- Commonly associated with hiatal hernia
- Reflux of stomach contents
  - **acid**
  - **pepsin**
  - **possibly bile**

Dont confuse reflux with hiatal hernia. HH is an anatomic problem. Pts with reflux have stomach contents coming up into esophagus (could be acid, enzymes, bile, etc.).

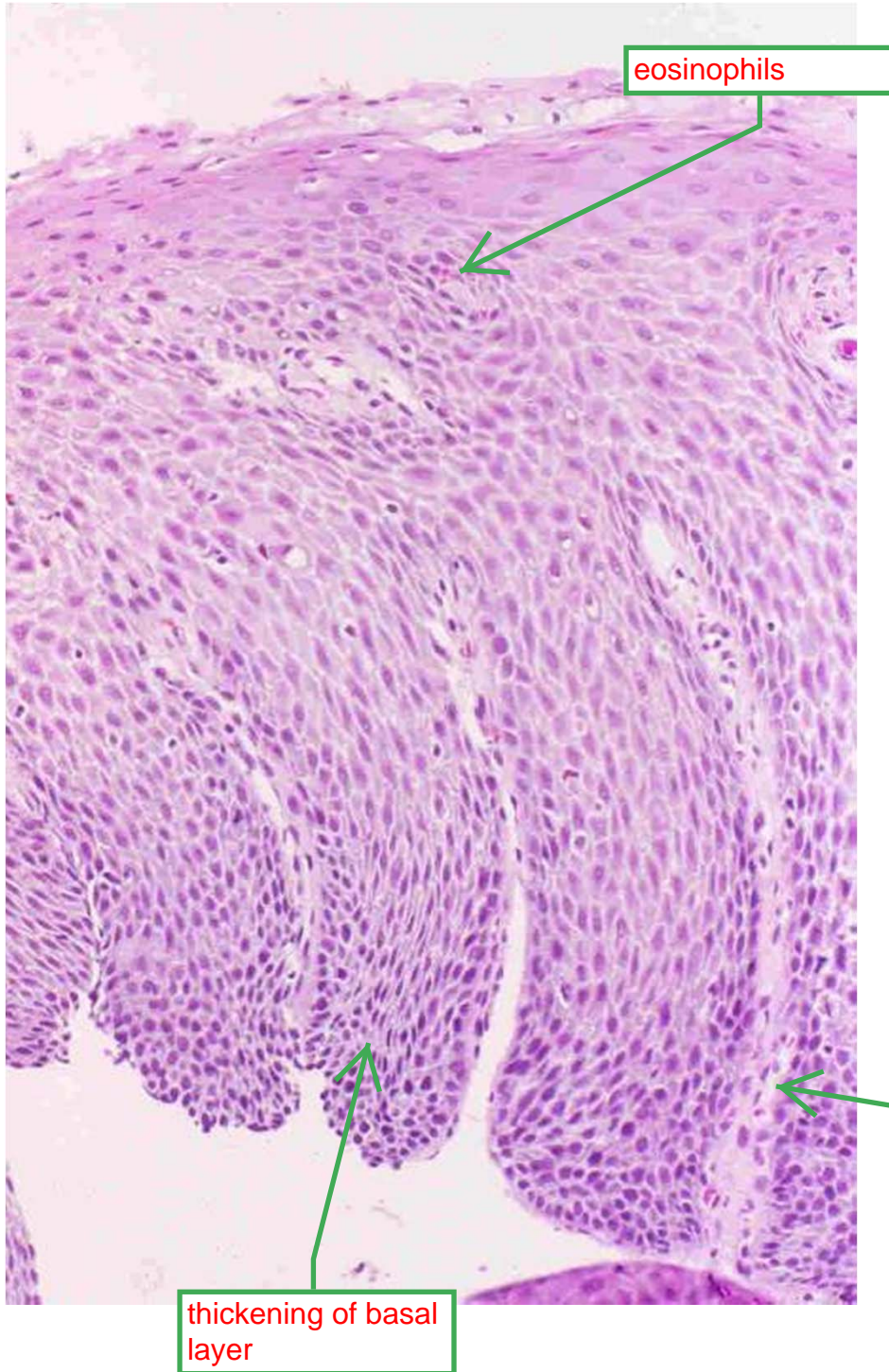
# Reflux Esophagitis

- Heartburn
- Sensation of regurgitation
- Worse when the patient lies down
- Worse after a large meal

Pts have a sensation of heart burn --> very uncomfortable.  
Worse when they lie down or after a large meal (due to physics).

# Reflux Esophagitis

- Thickening of the basal portion of the epithelium
- Elongation of rete ridges
- Scattered intraepithelial eosinophils



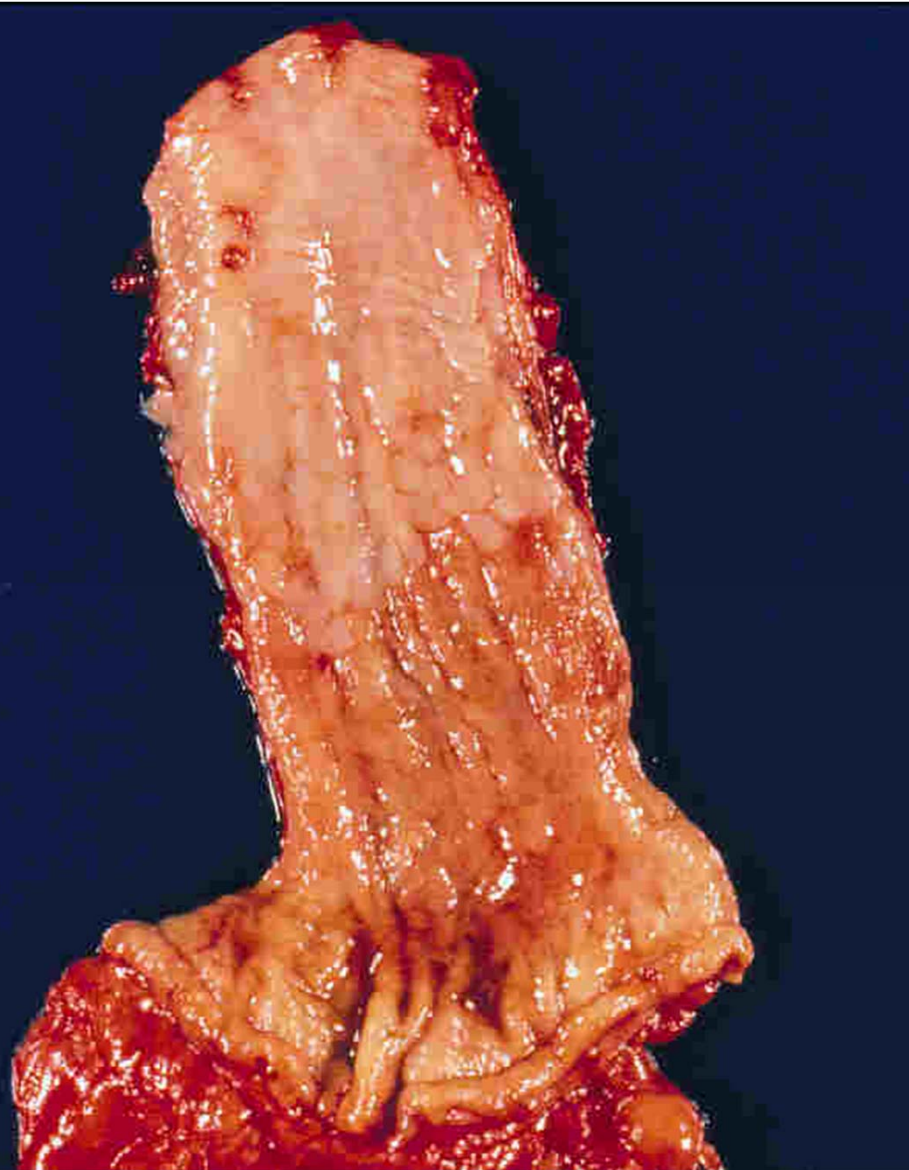
Esophagus is lined by squamous epithelial with a thin basal layer. Sq. epithelium gradually matures on its way to the top. In pts with chronic reflux the sq epithelium looks different.

elongated rete ridges

thickening of basal layer

eosinophils

3 main complications to be aware of.



# Complications

- Ulceration
- Stricture
- Important! Barrett's esophagus = "columnar metaplasia with goblet cells", aka, "goblet cell intestinal metaplasia"

↑  
Long standing caustic irritation to the esophagus leads to metaplasia. If you see goblet cells then pt has Barrett's.

# Esophagitis

- Reflux
- Infectious
- Inflammatory

Reflux does not always lead to Barrett's. Can be treated by reducing acid in stomach. Pts usually on proton pump inhibitors.

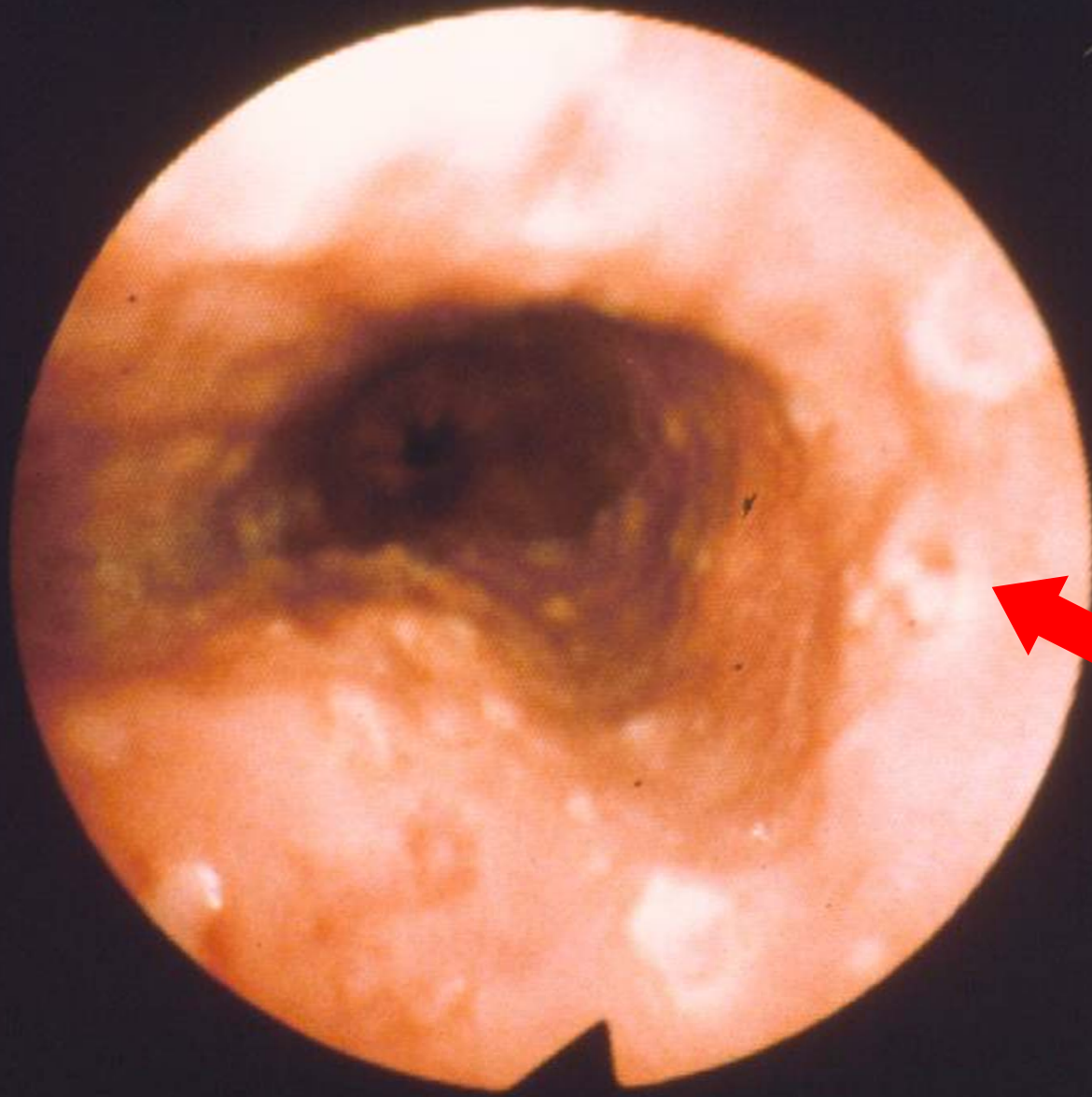
Think about infections in three categories: 1) healthy people 2) people who are slightly immunocompromised (old people, diabetics, etc.) 3) the severely immunocompromised

# Herpes Esophagitis

- Both immunosuppressed and immunocompetent patients (especially during first outbreak)
- Blister forms early, but usually seen as an ulcer
- Herpetic nuclear changes seen at the edge of the ulcer, *in the squamous epithelial cells.*

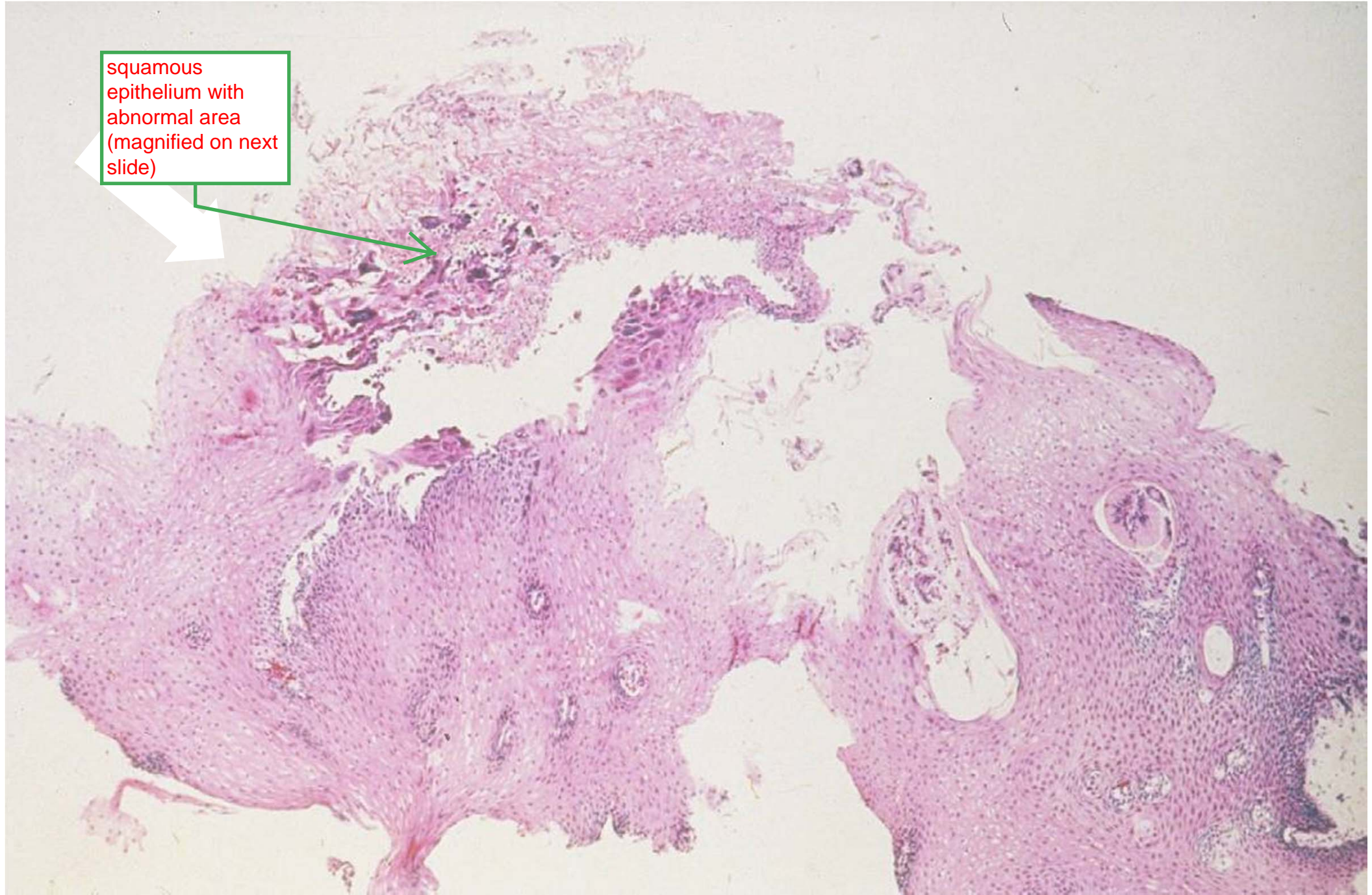
Herpes esophagitis can happen to anybody. To a normal person getting it for the first time it can be severe in oral cavity and involve the esophagus. blister form but by the time you get to doc the blisters break open and herpetic ulcers form.



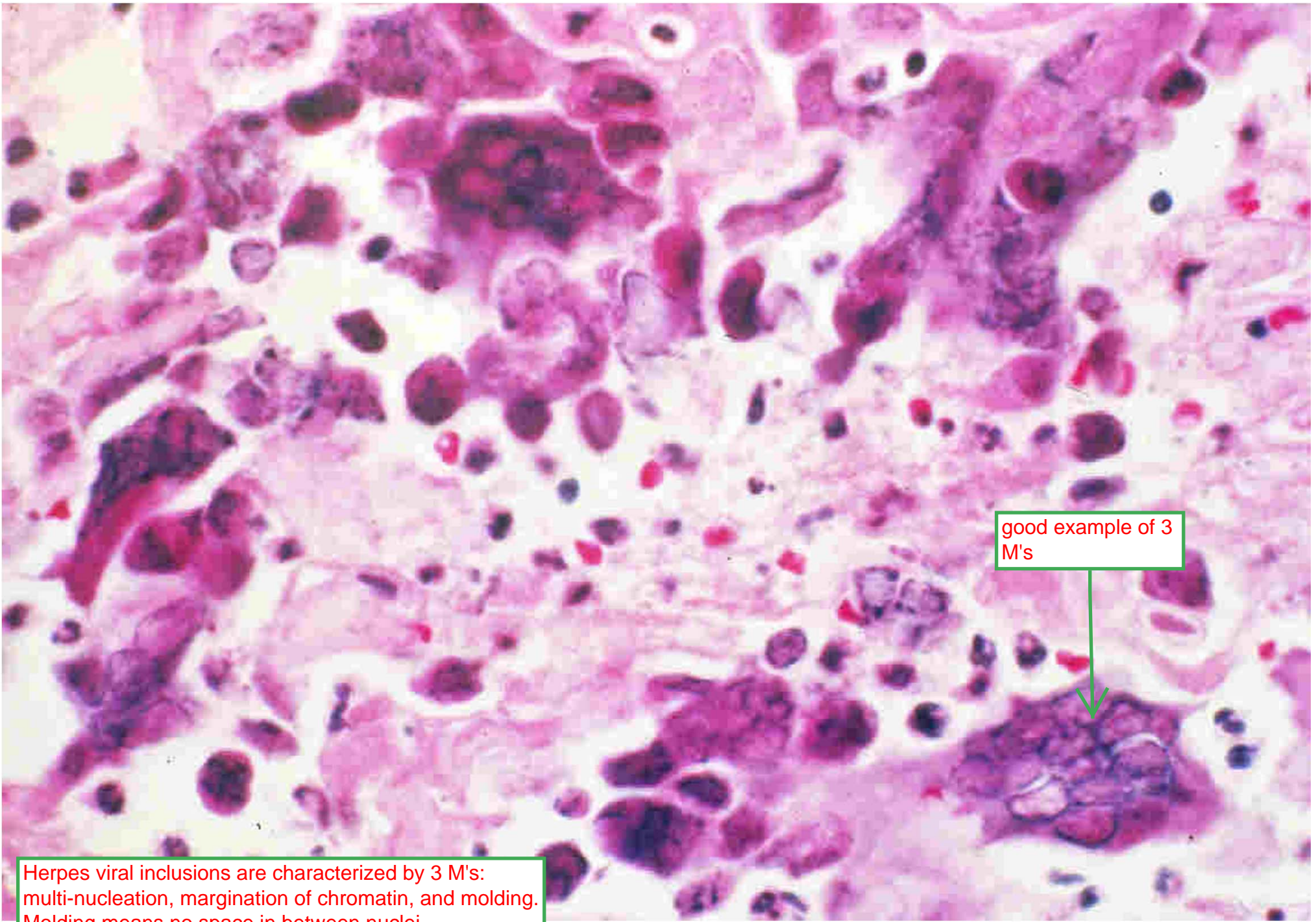


ulcer

squamous  
epithelium with  
abnormal area  
(magnified on next  
slide)





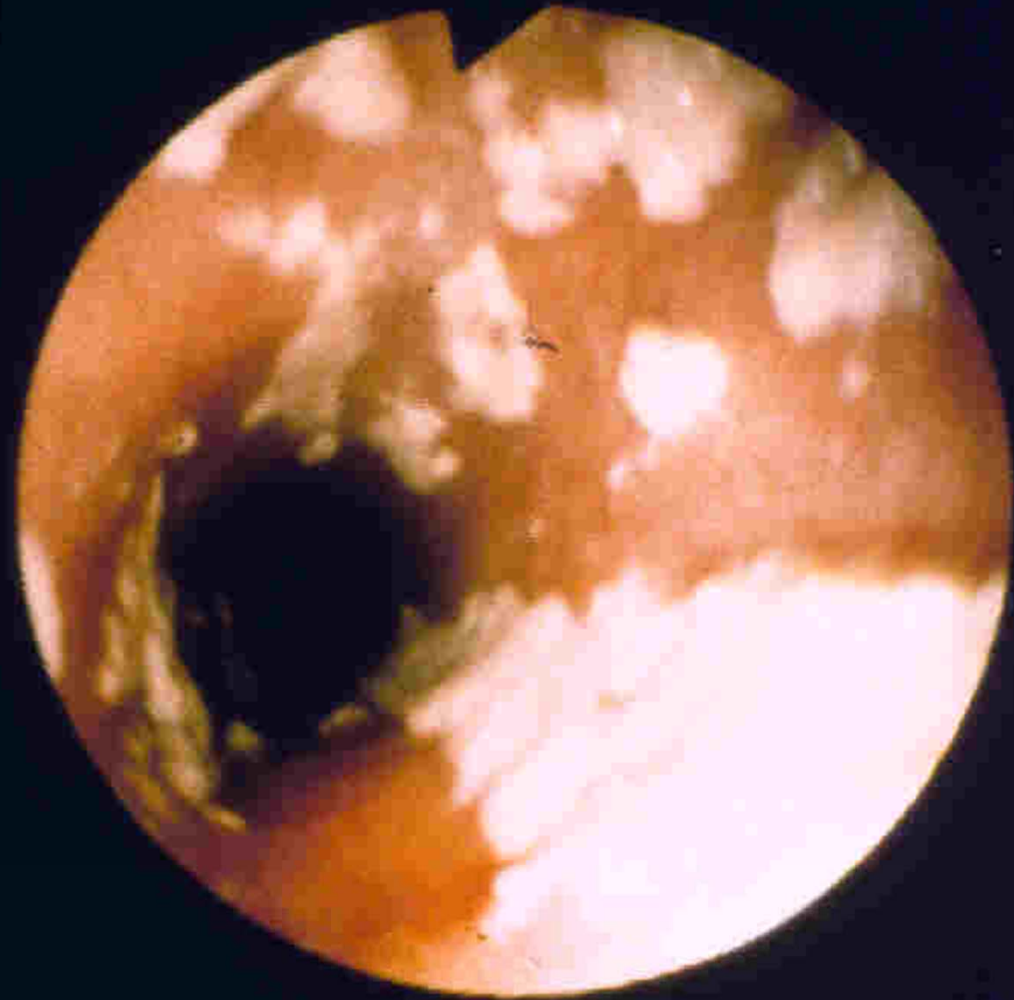
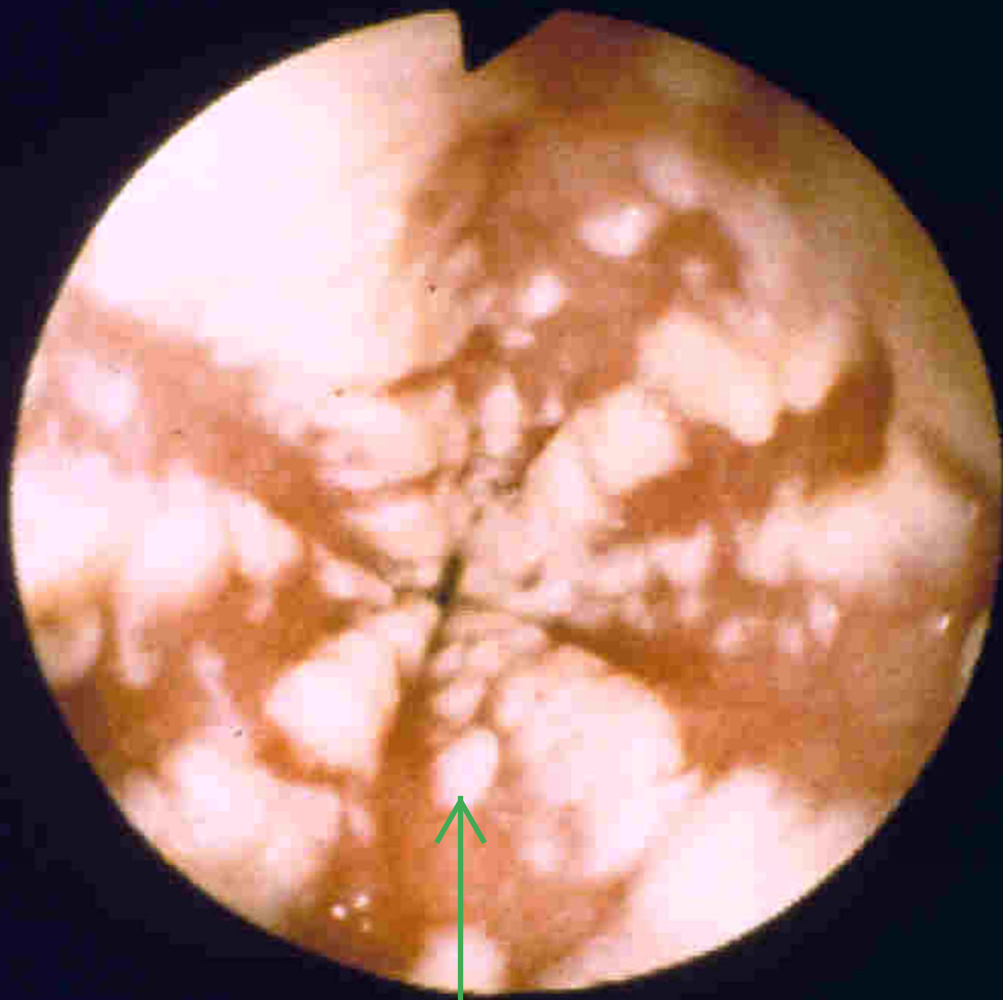


good example of 3 M's

Herpes viral inclusions are characterized by 3 M's: multi-nucleation, margination of chromatin, and molding. Molding means no space in between nuclei.

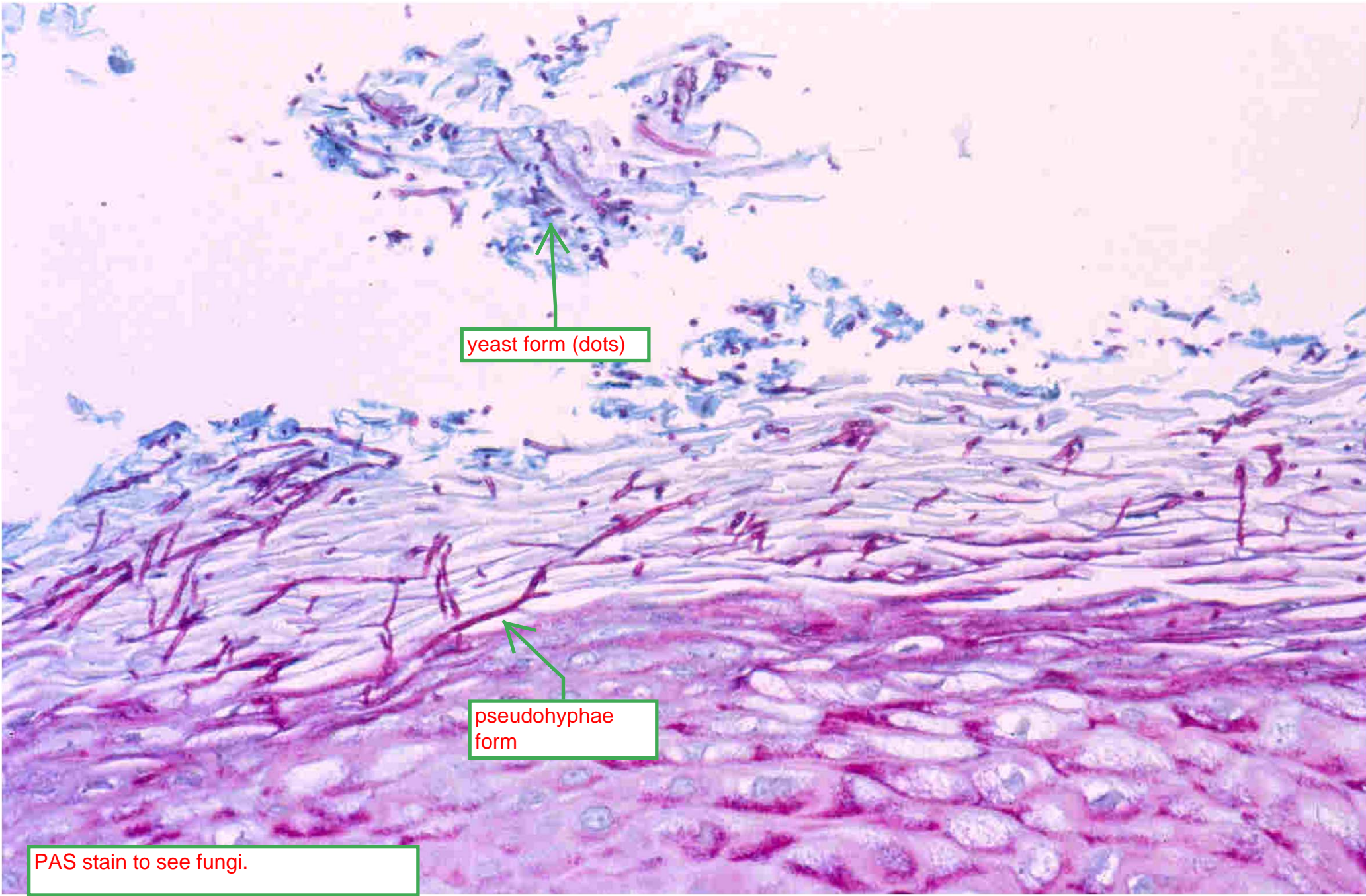
# Candida Esophagitis

- Immunosuppressed patients and others
  - “Relatively immunosuppressed”
    - elderly or sick
    - diabetes
- Exudate forms a ‘pseudomembrane’ on the mucosal surface. white colored (see next slide)
- Usually not an invasive infection.



exudates,  
esophagus is  
beefy red under





yeast form (dots)

pseudohyphae form

PAS stain to see fungi.

# Cytomegalovirus (CMV)

- **Immunosuppressed patients**

- Bone marrow transplant
- Organ transplant
- Chemotherapy
- HIV/AIDS

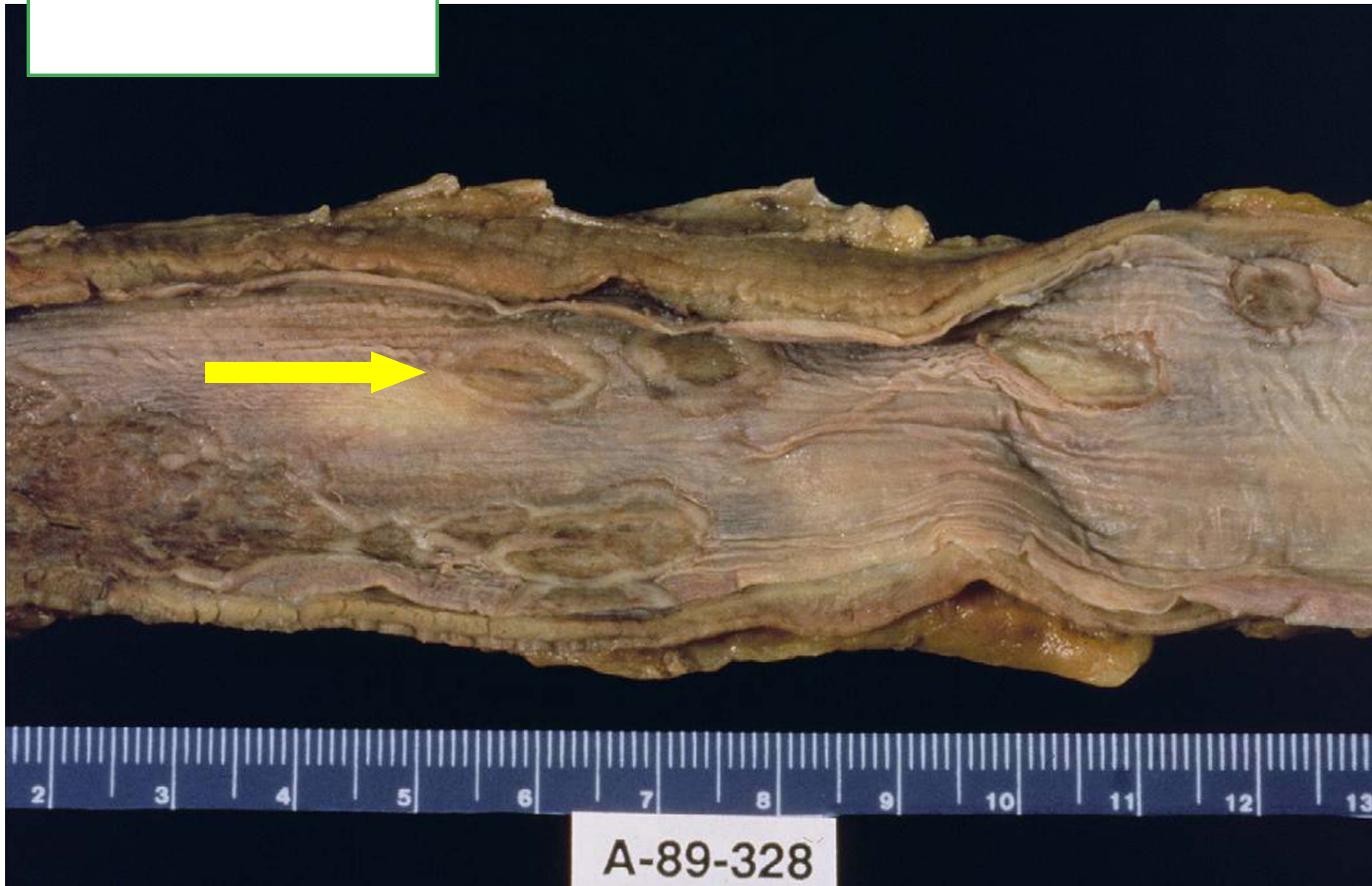
- Endothelialitis

- Ulceration
- CMV viral inclusions, *most commonly in endothelial cells*

As opposed to herpes, this infects endothelial cells.



CMV ulcer (arrow). We still get same gross impression.



A-89-328



squamous epithelial  
supposed to be  
here (ulcer)



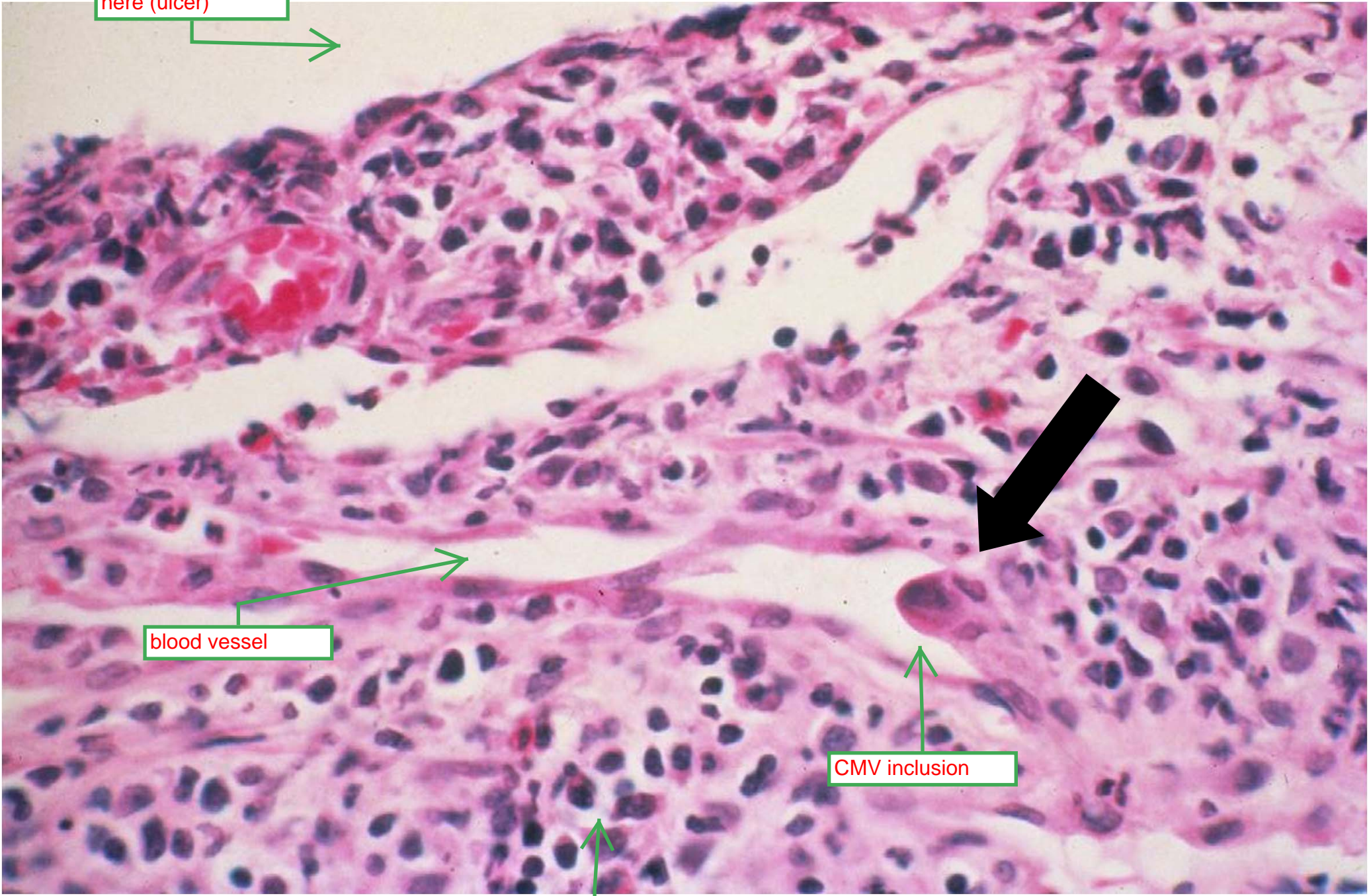
blood vessel



CMV inclusion

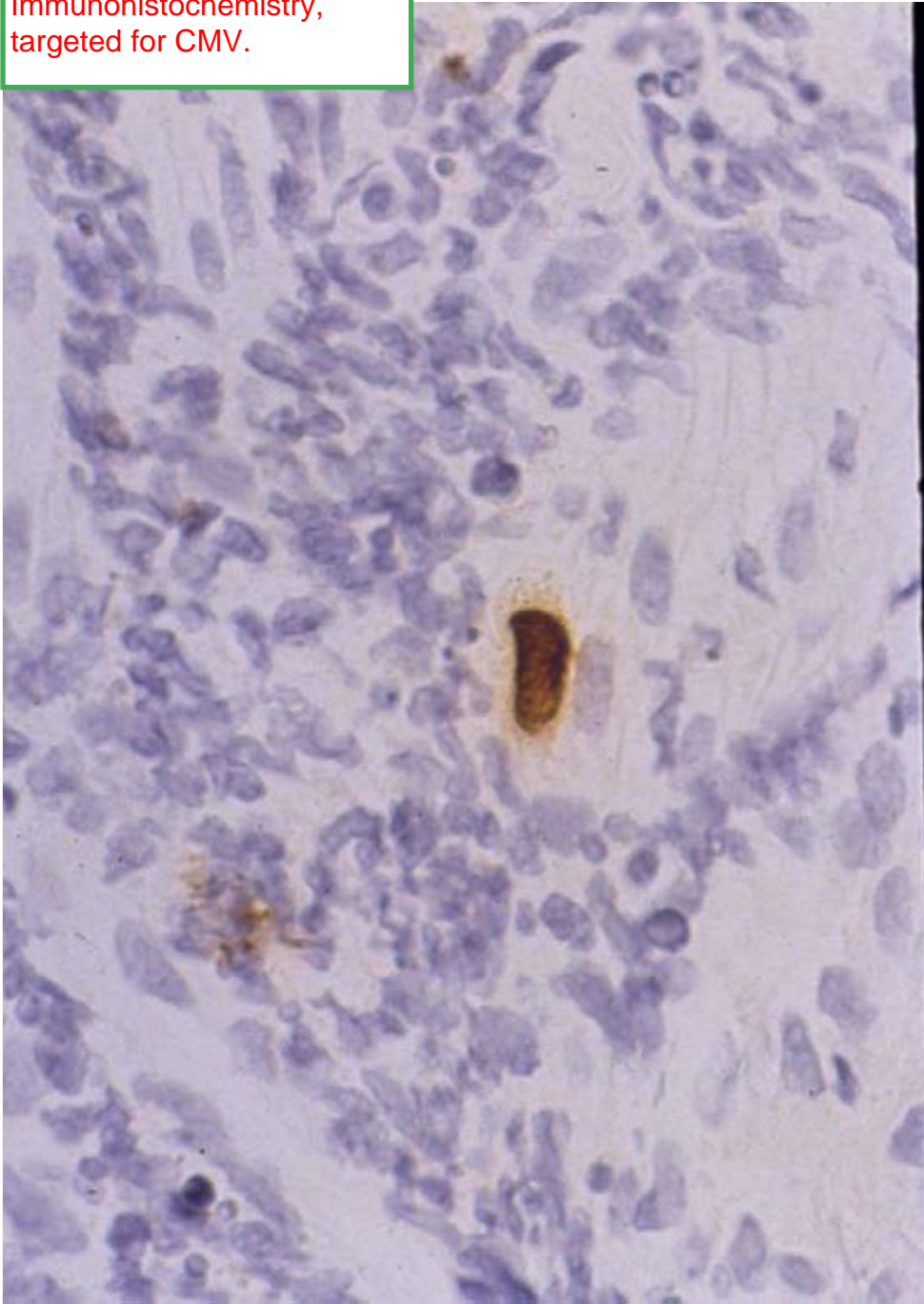


granulation tissue





On Left:  
Immunohistochemistry,  
targeted for CMV.



Small blood vessels can get  
occluded by virus and inflammatory  
response can occur --> blocks  
everything down stream. We think  
that that's how CMV leads to  
ulceration.



# Esophagitis

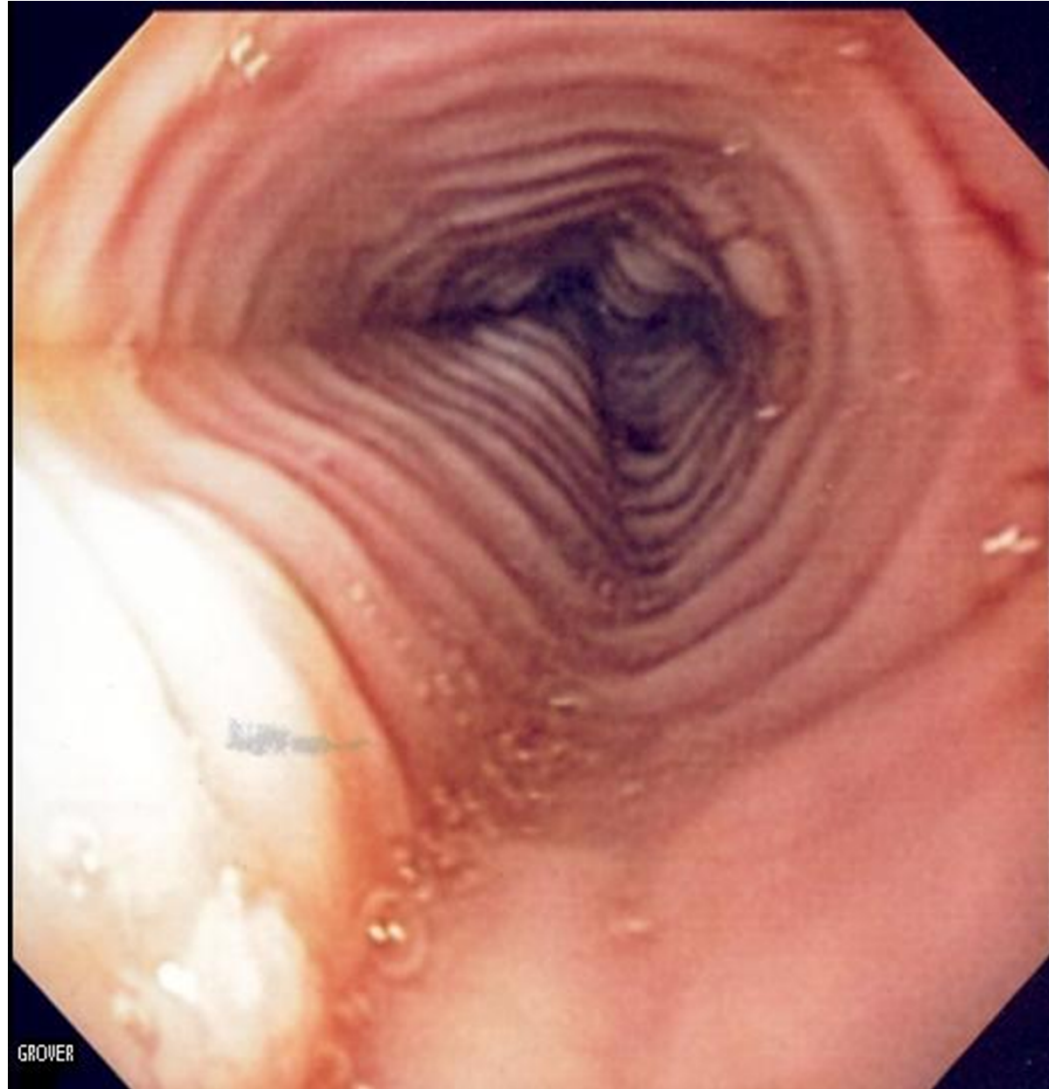
- Reflux
- Infectious
- Inflammatory

# Primary Eosinophilic Esophagitis

- Younger patients, male predominance
- Associated with allergy and asthma
- Causes dysphagia
- Significantly more eosinophils are present than in reflux esophagitis

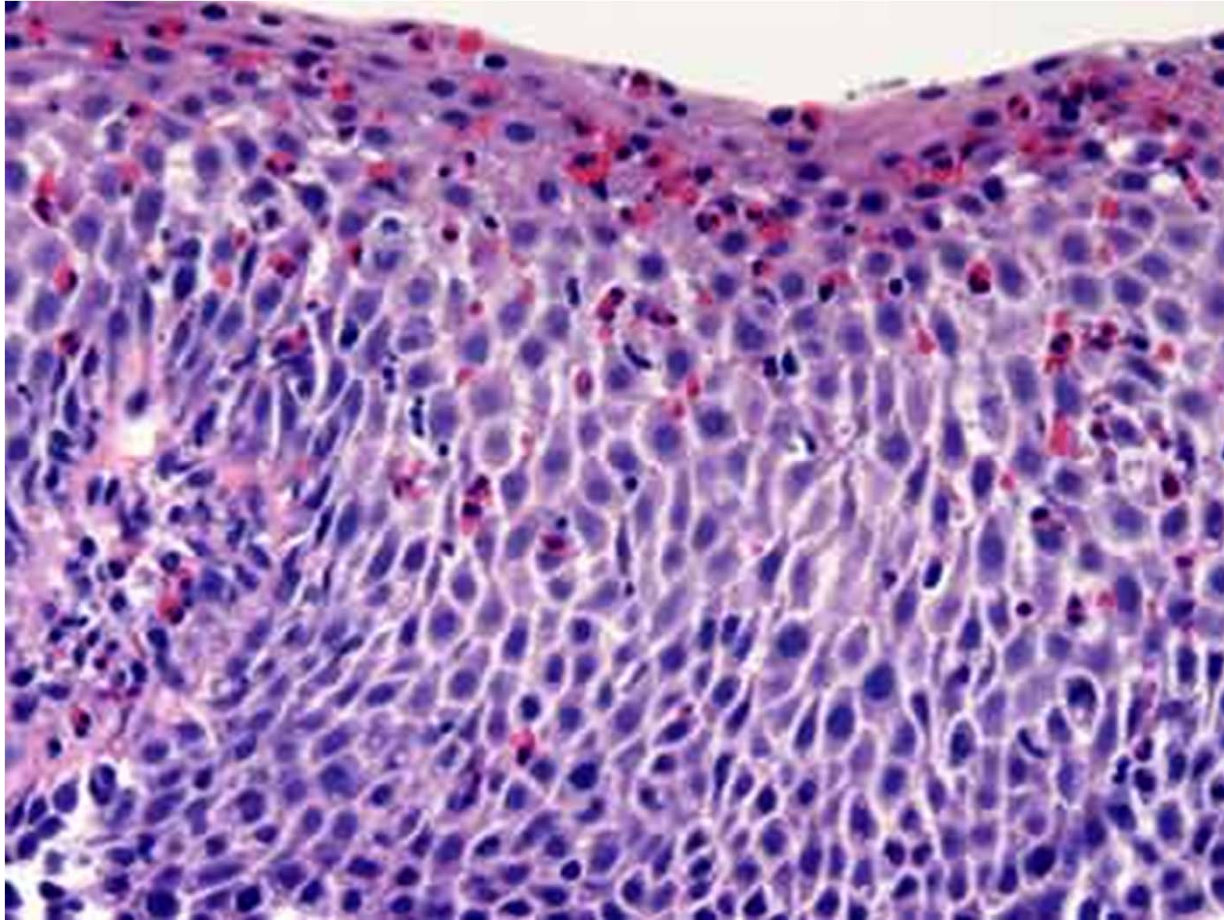
tons of them

Trachealization of the esophagus. Looks like trachea. Some call it felinization.





Diagnosis made by seeing >20 eosinophils in the high power field. Usually at the surface. Can be treated with steroids via inhalation and then swallowing.



# Esophagitis

- Reflux
- Infectious
- Inflammatory
- **Traumatic:** Pill esophagitis, Corrosive esophagitis, Mallory-Weiss tears from repeated vomiting, Radiation esophagitis
- Congenital: malformations
- **Vascular:** Varices and bleeding associated with portal hypertension

Lots of other ways to get esophagitis.

**Stomach**

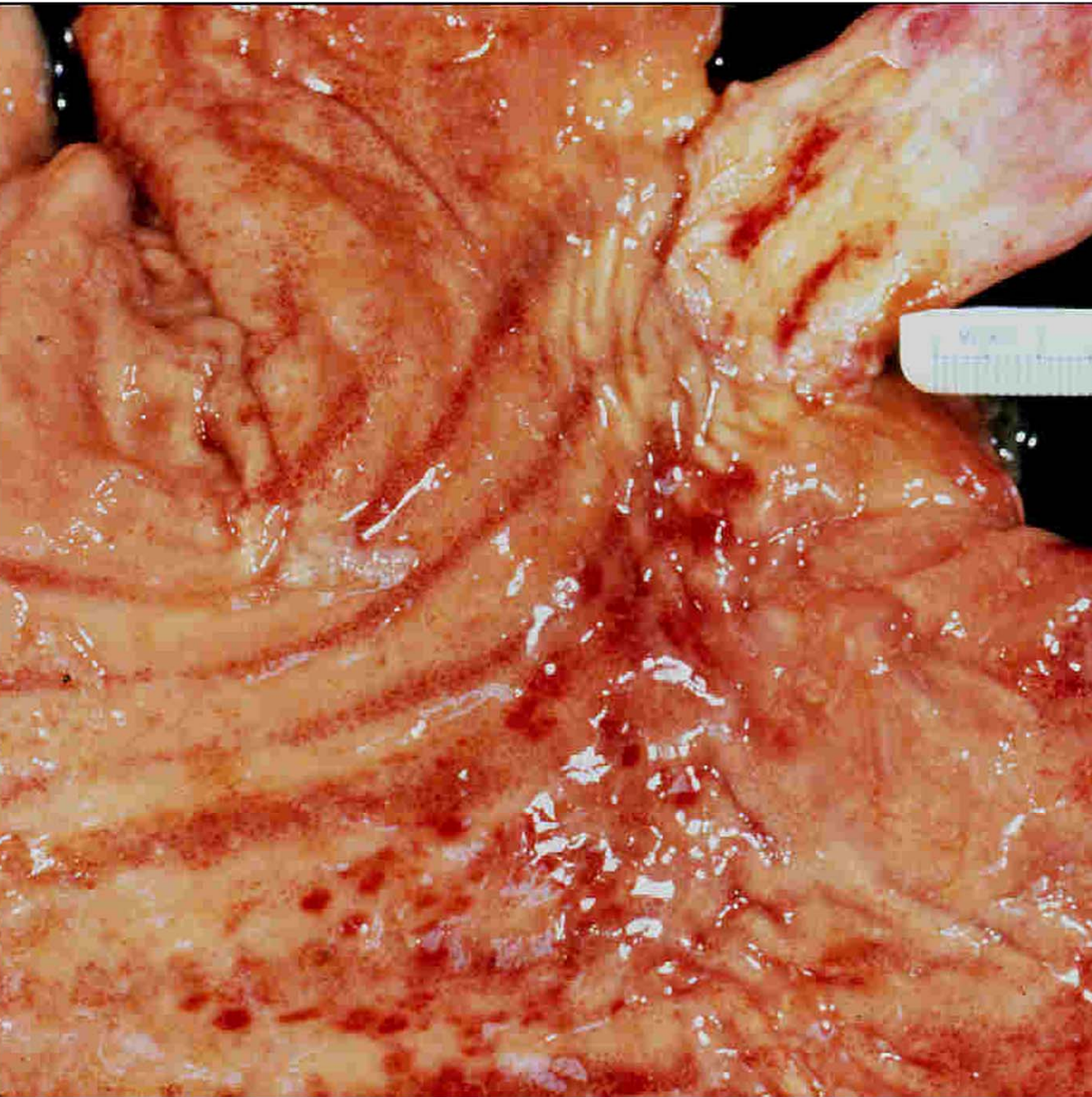


# Acute Erosive Gastritis

- Alcohol
- Aspirin, NSAIDs
- Smoking
- Uremia
- Steroids
- Stress (MICU patients, burn patients)

Happens in mostly healthy people.

this pt died of severe burns in MICU



erosion and hemorrhage



# Chronic Gastritis +/- Activity

- Antral-predominant gastritis (COMMON)

- **Infectious, with acute inflammation**  
***(Helicobacter pylori)***

- **Involves the entire stomach when severe**

- Body-predominant (less common)

- **Autoimmune**

- **Anti-parietal cell and anti-intrinsic factor antibodies**

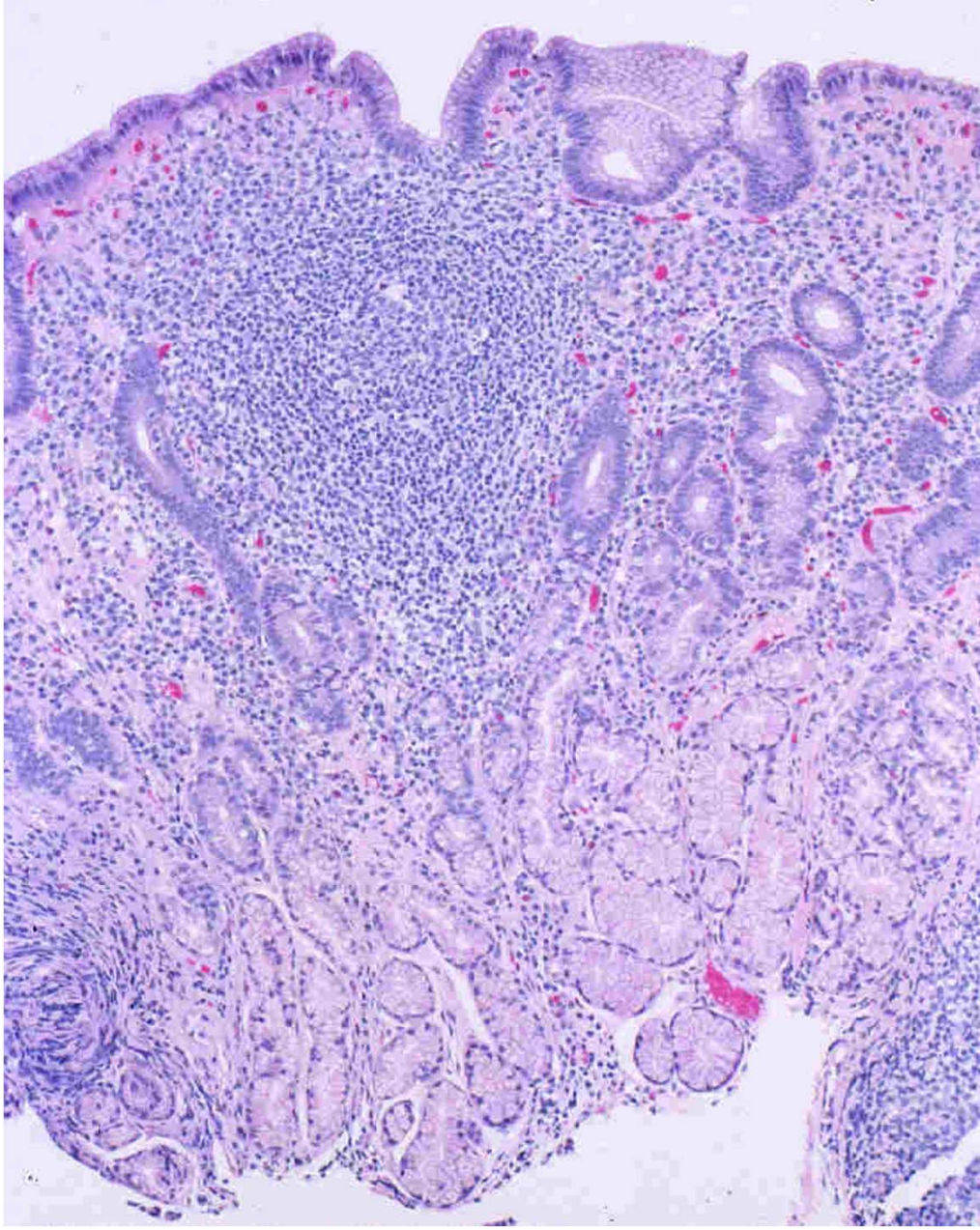
- **Dramatic decrease in acid production**

will see  
one of  
these  
two  
causes

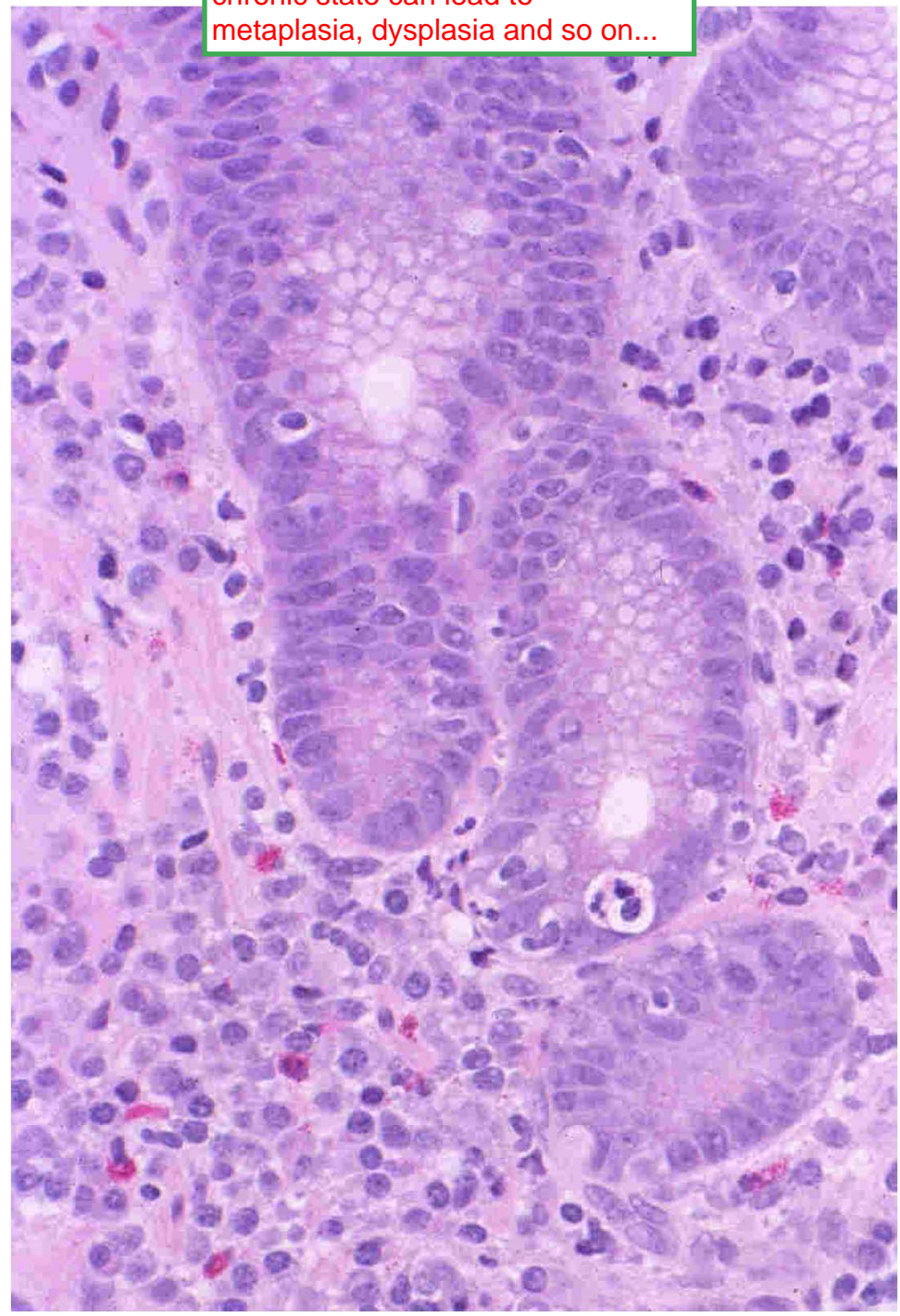
This is more commonly seen.



5% of pt population has biopsy that shows chronic active gastritis associated with h. pylori. chracterized by lymphoid follicles in gastric mucosa. increase in plasma cells in lamina propria and neutrophils in epithelium.

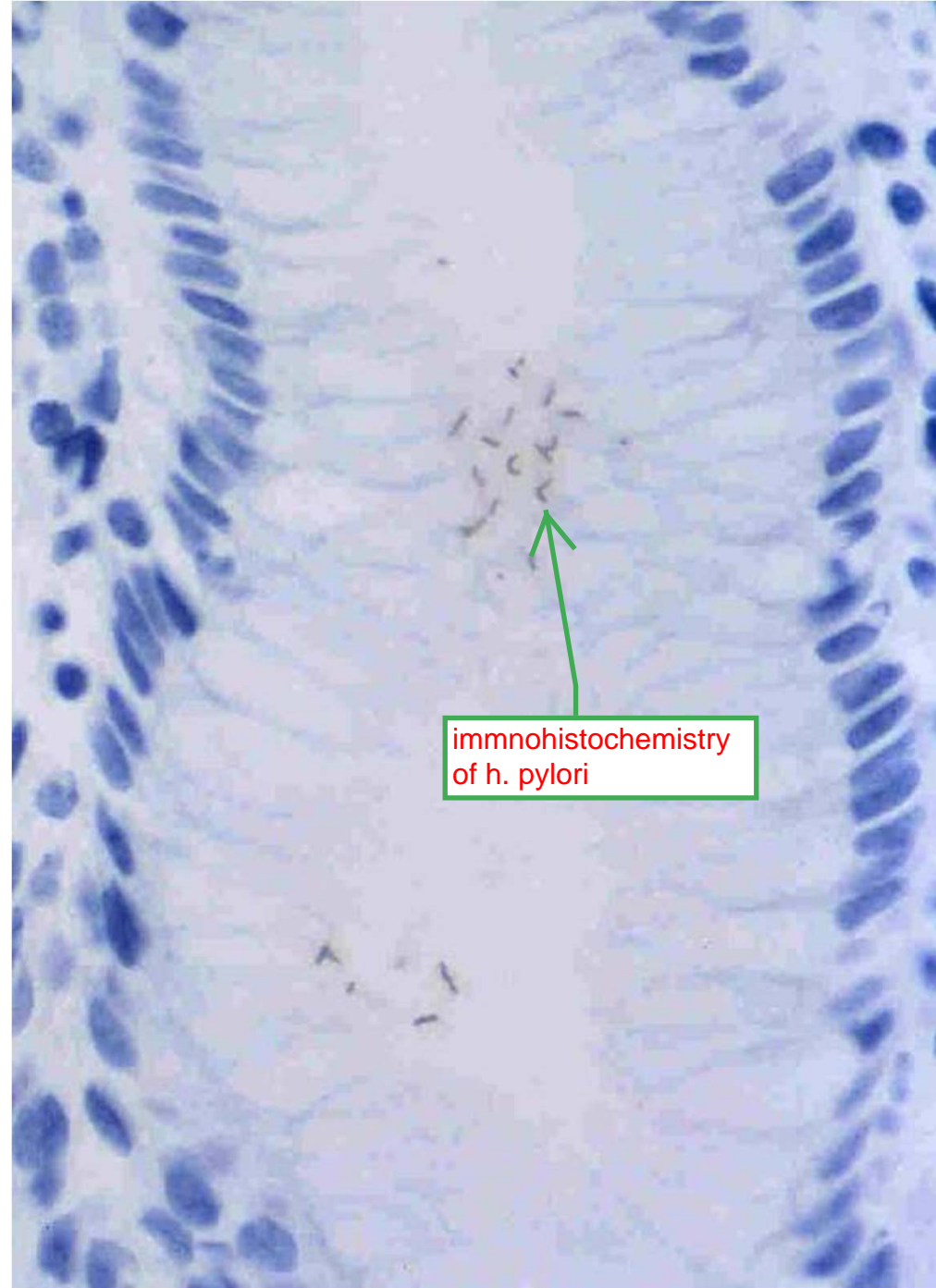
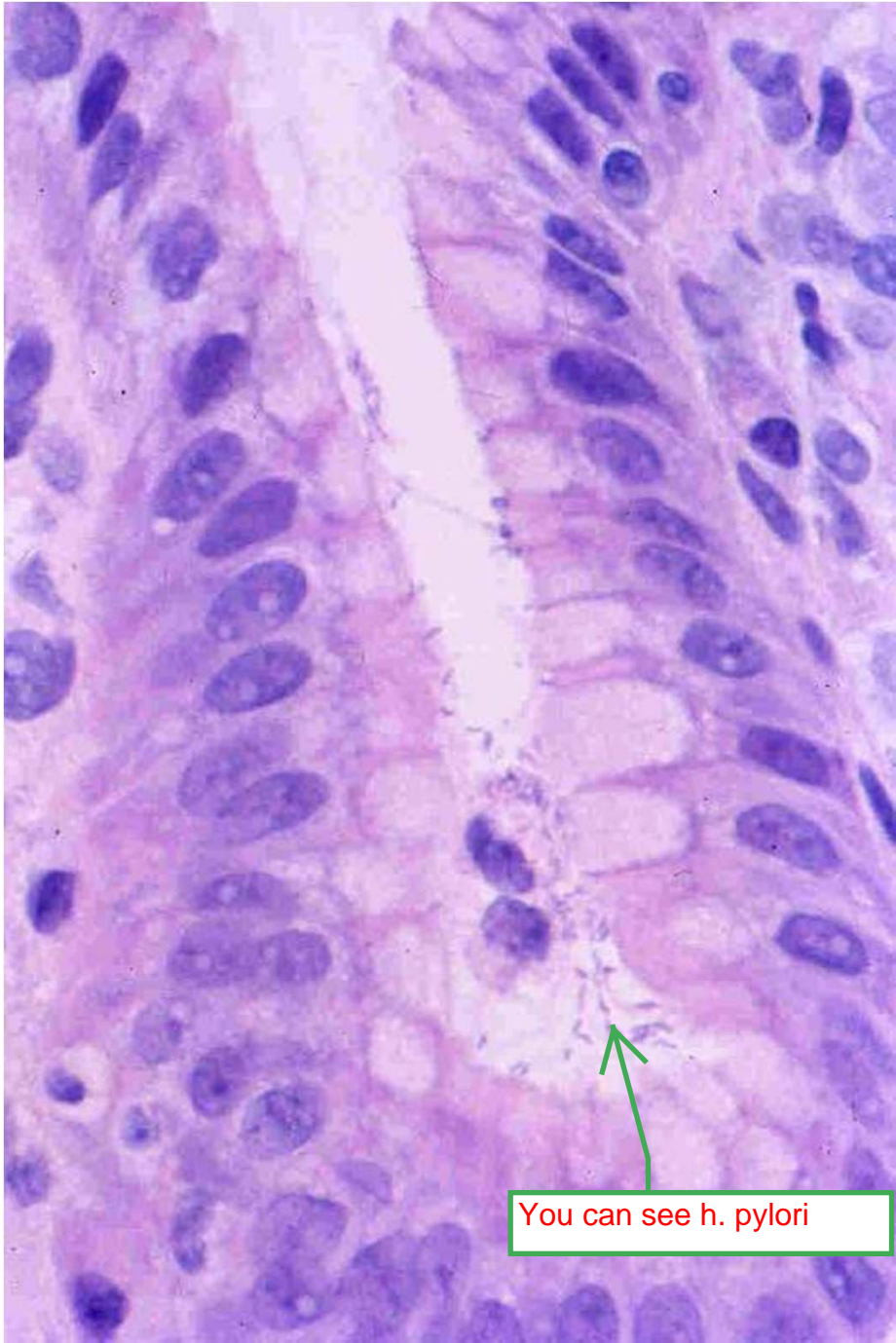


h pylori is a class 1 carcinogen so chronic state can lead to metaplasia, dysplasia and so on...

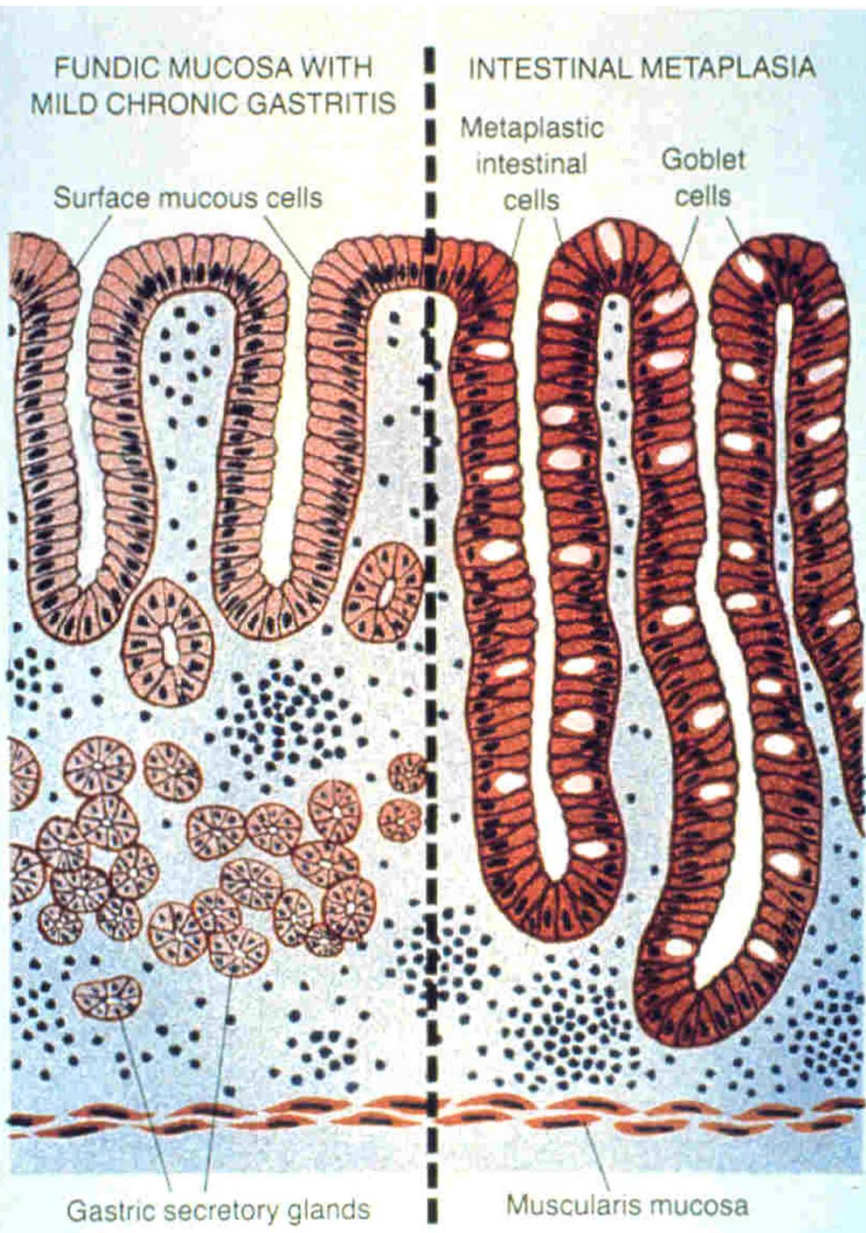


magnification of pic on left







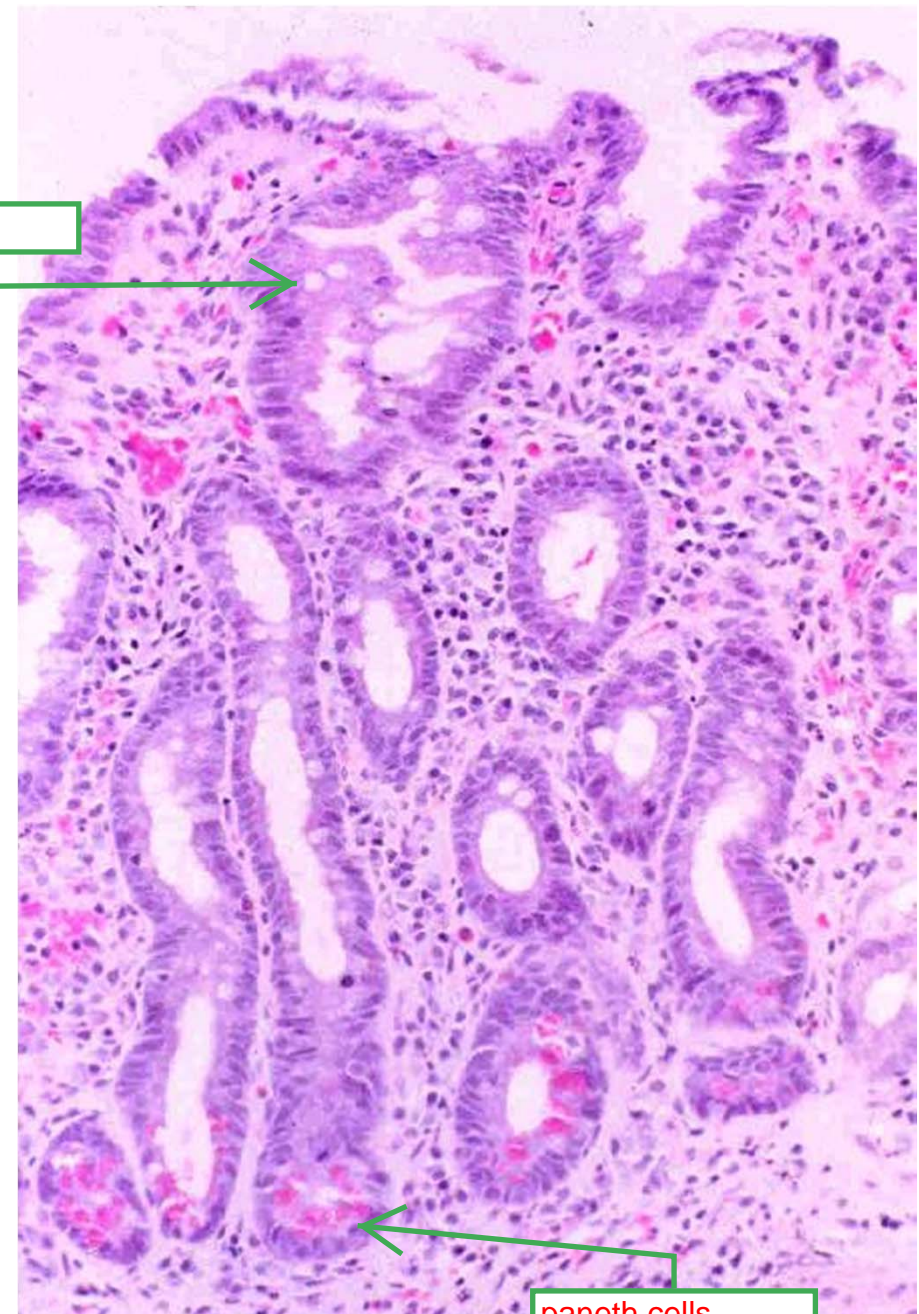
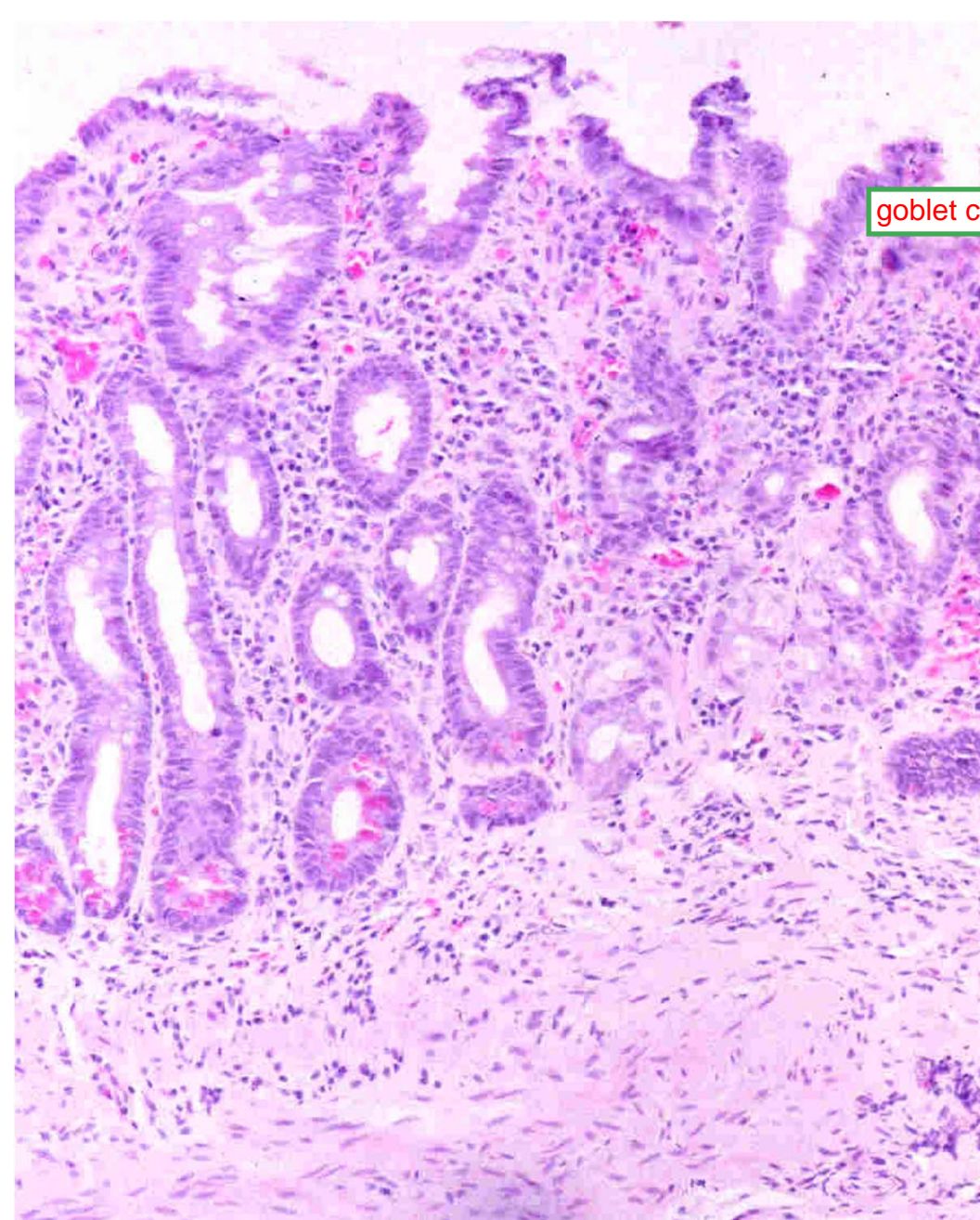


# Intestinal Metaplasia of the Stomach

- Response to chronic injury
- Intestinal type mucin (goblet cells)
- Paneth cells
- Brush border
- Villous architecture

chronic gastritis leads to intestinal metaplasia





goblet cells



paneth cells



## Chronic Gastritis with Intestinal Metaplasia

well developed  
intestinal metaplasia

# Peptic Ulcer Disease

(PUD)

ulcers in duodenum also fall under PUD  
category



### NORMAL

#### Damaging Forces:

Gastric acidity  
Peptic enzymes

#### Defensive Forces:

Surface mucus secretion  
Bicarbonate secretion into mucus  
Mucosal blood flow  
Apical surface membrane transport  
Epithelial regenerative capacity  
Elaboration of prostaglandins

### INJURY

*H. pylori* infection  
NSAID  
Aspirin  
Cigarettes  
Alcohol  
Gastric hyperacidity  
Duodenal-gastric reflux

#### INCREASED DAMAGE OR IMPAIRED DEFENSES

Ischemia  
Shock  
Delayed gastric emptying  
Host factors

### PEPTIC ULCERATION

Necrotic debris (N)

Nonspecific acute inflammation (I)

Granulation tissue (G)

Fibrosis (S)

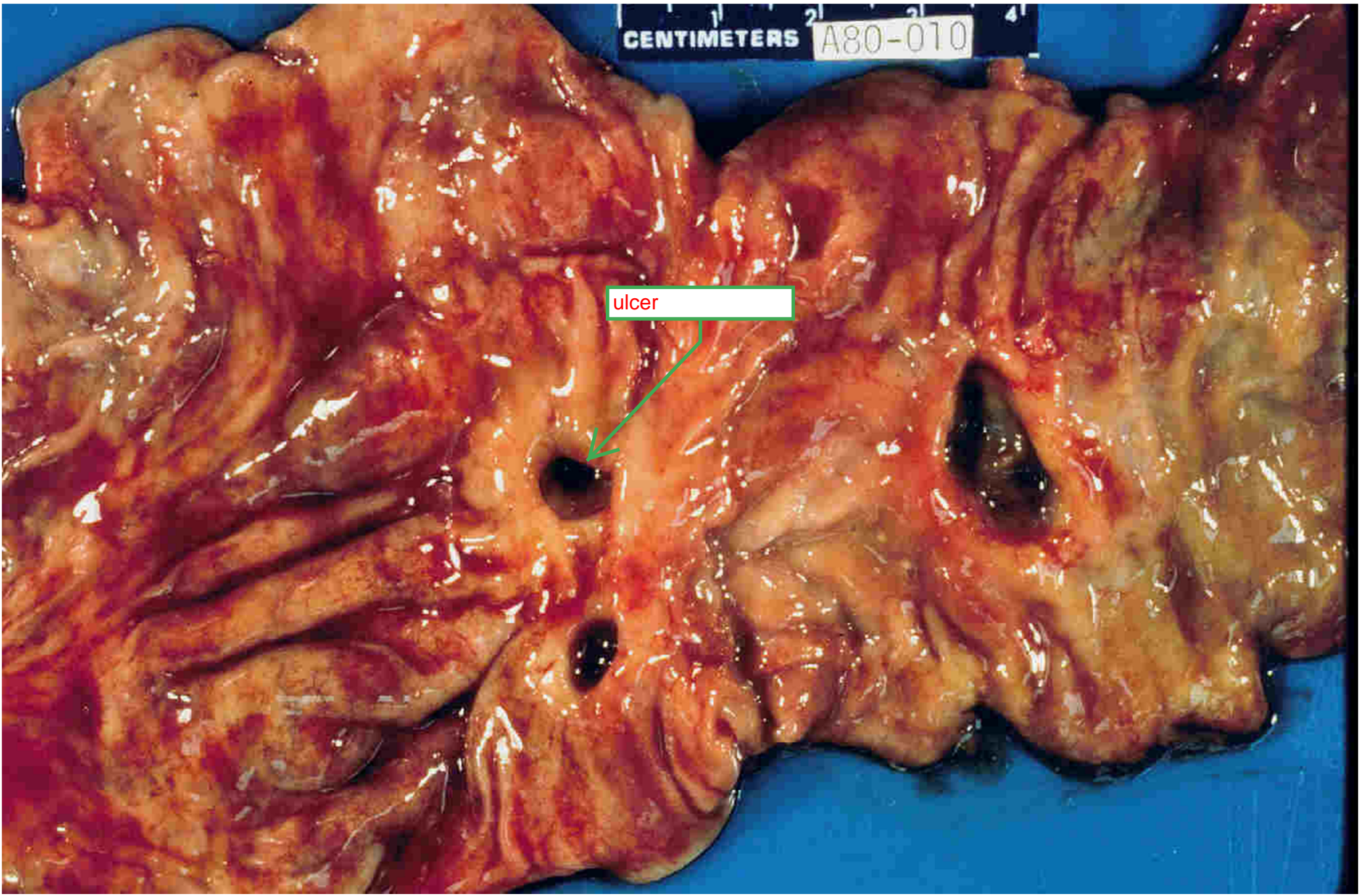
how ulcers form. balance between  
damaging and defensive forces.

# Peptic Ulcer Disease - Defined

- Usually involves distal stomach or proximal duodenum
- H. pylori-associated vs. Other

CENTIMETERS A80-010

ulcer

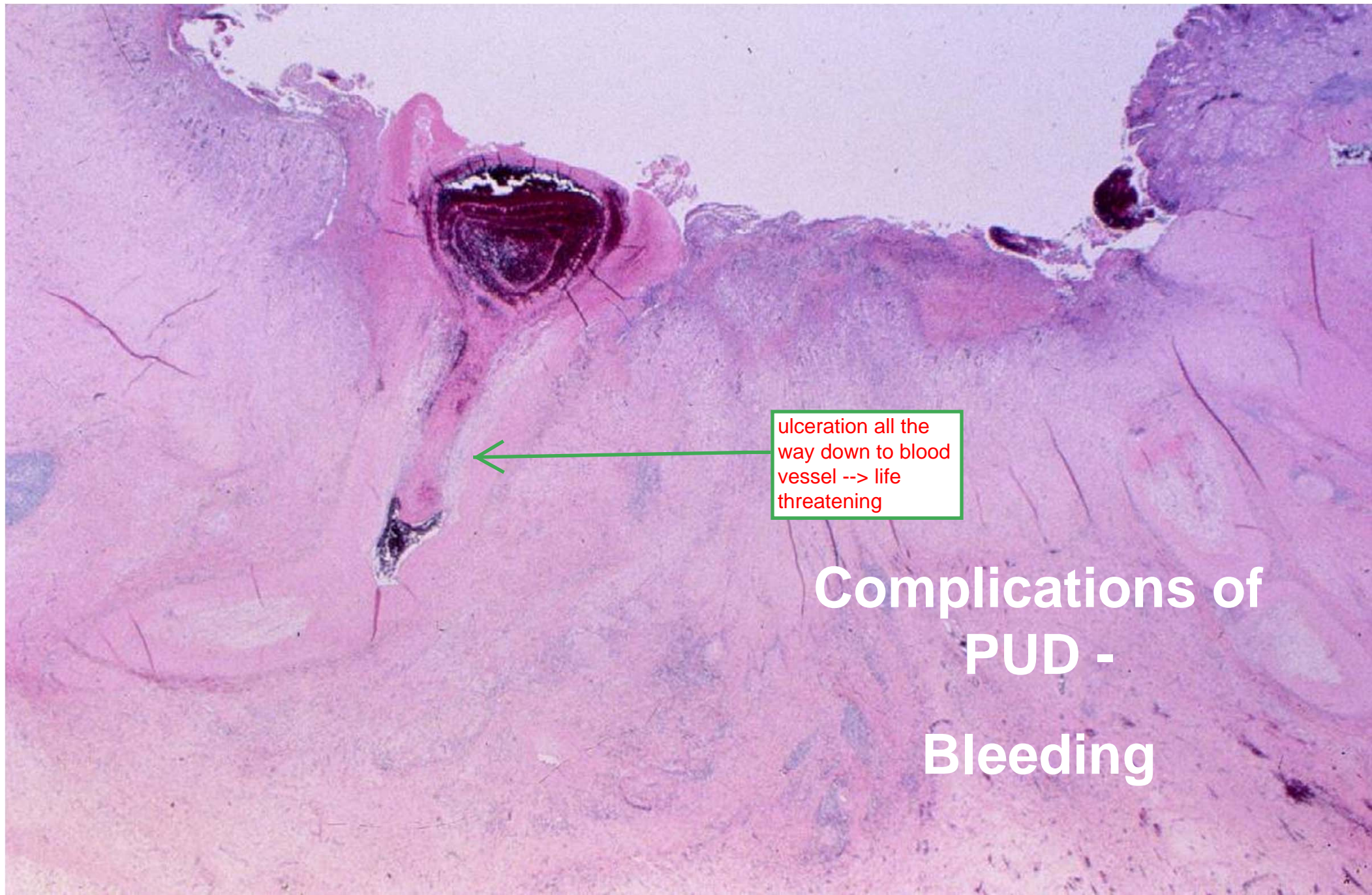


# Complications of PUD

two main complications

- Bleeding
- Perforation

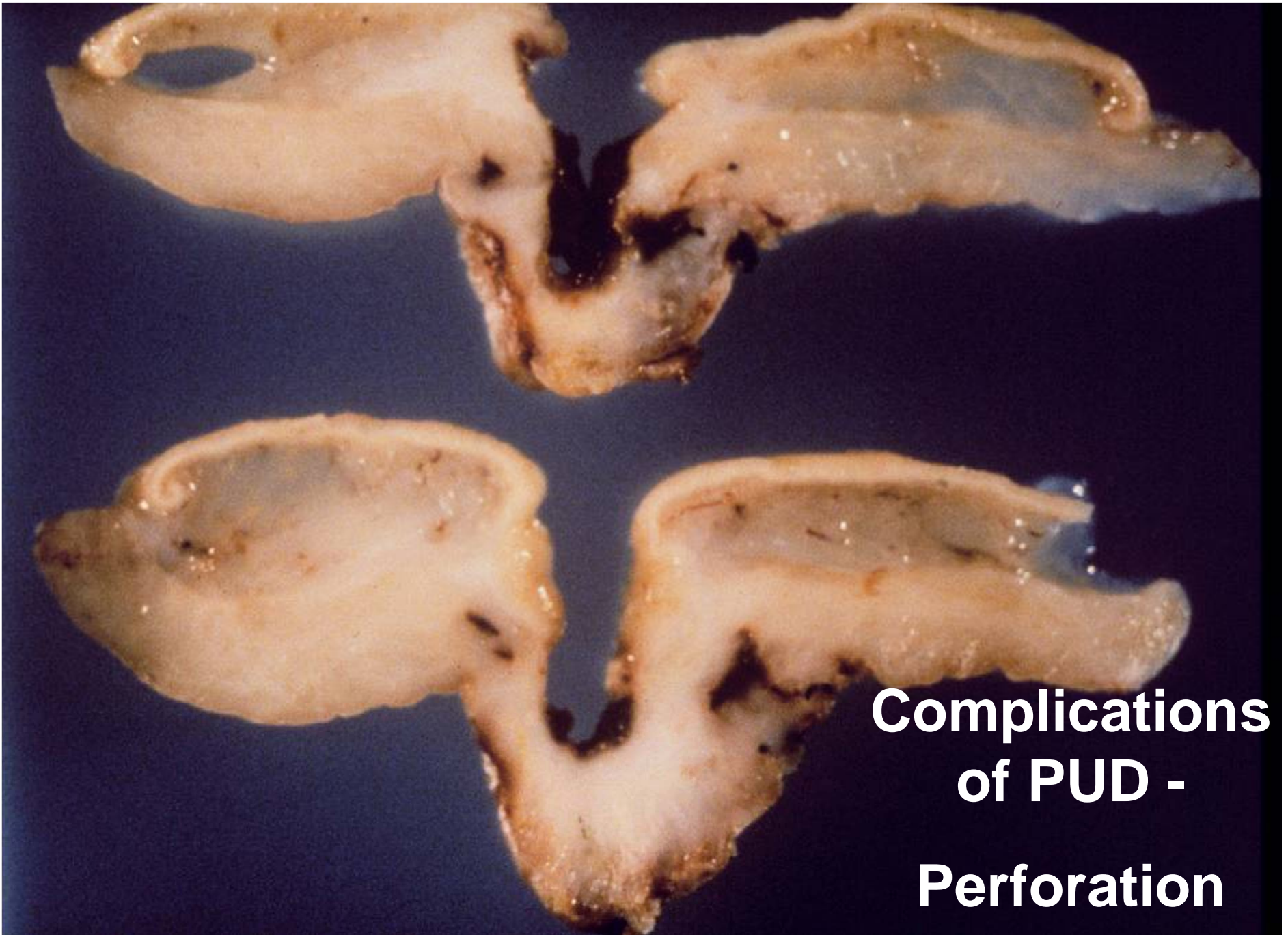




ulceration all the way down to blood vessel --> life threatening

# Complications of PUD - Bleeding





## Complications of PUD - Perforation

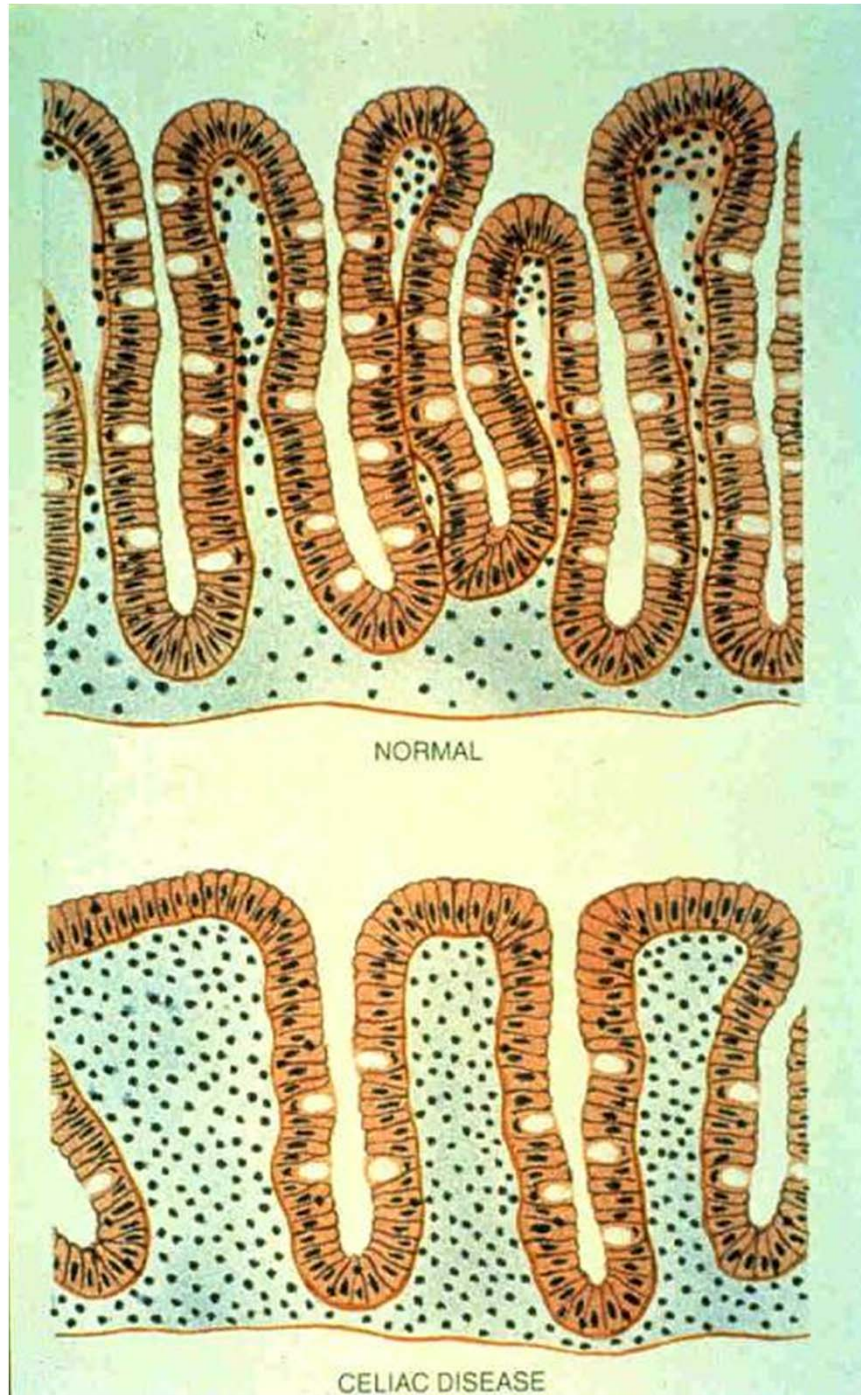
ulcer penetrates entire wall of stomach.  
acid enters peritoneal cavity --> bad.

# Small Bowel

# Celiac Sprue

(gluten-sensitive enteropathy)



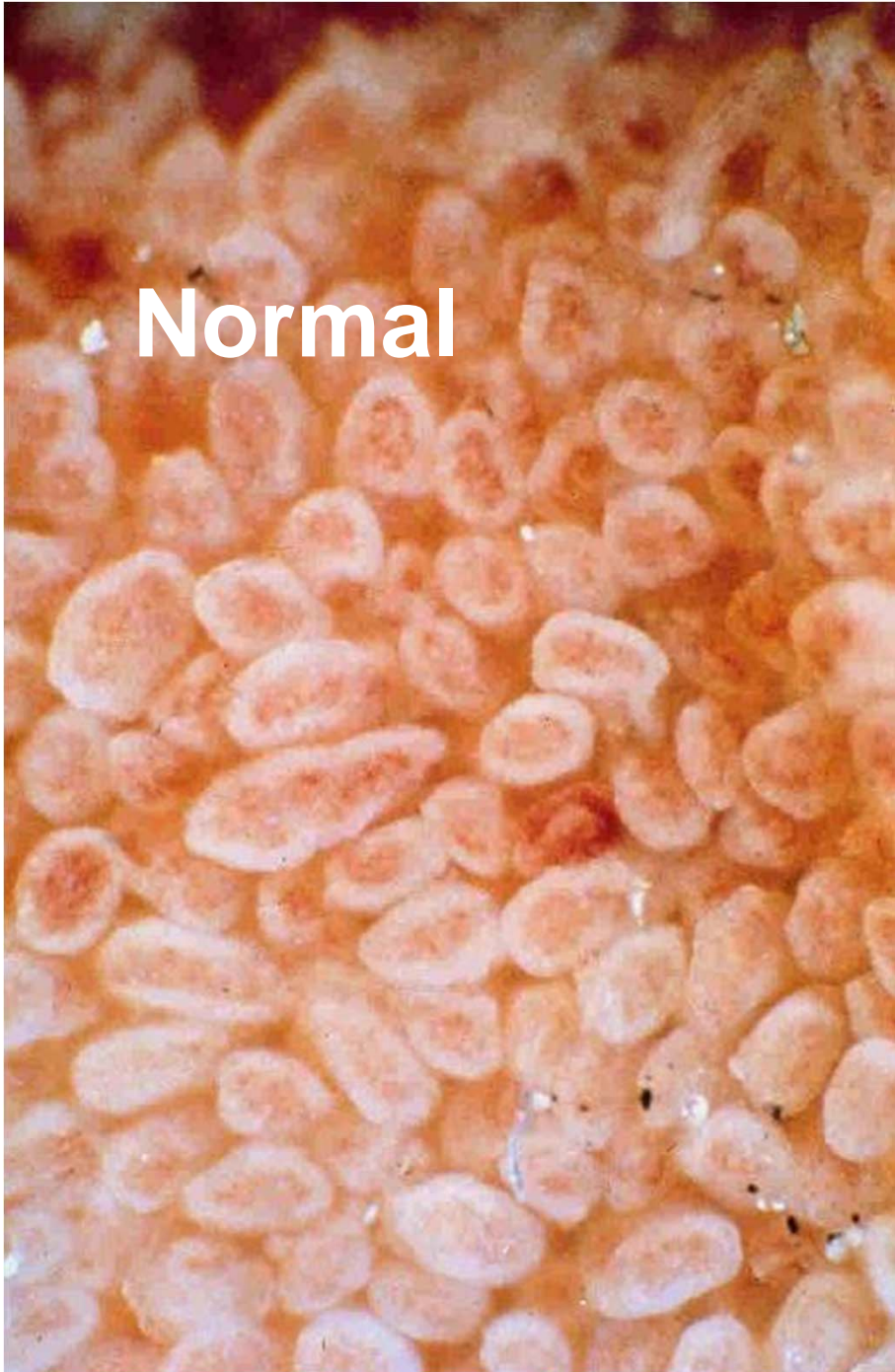


NORMAL

CELIAC DISEASE

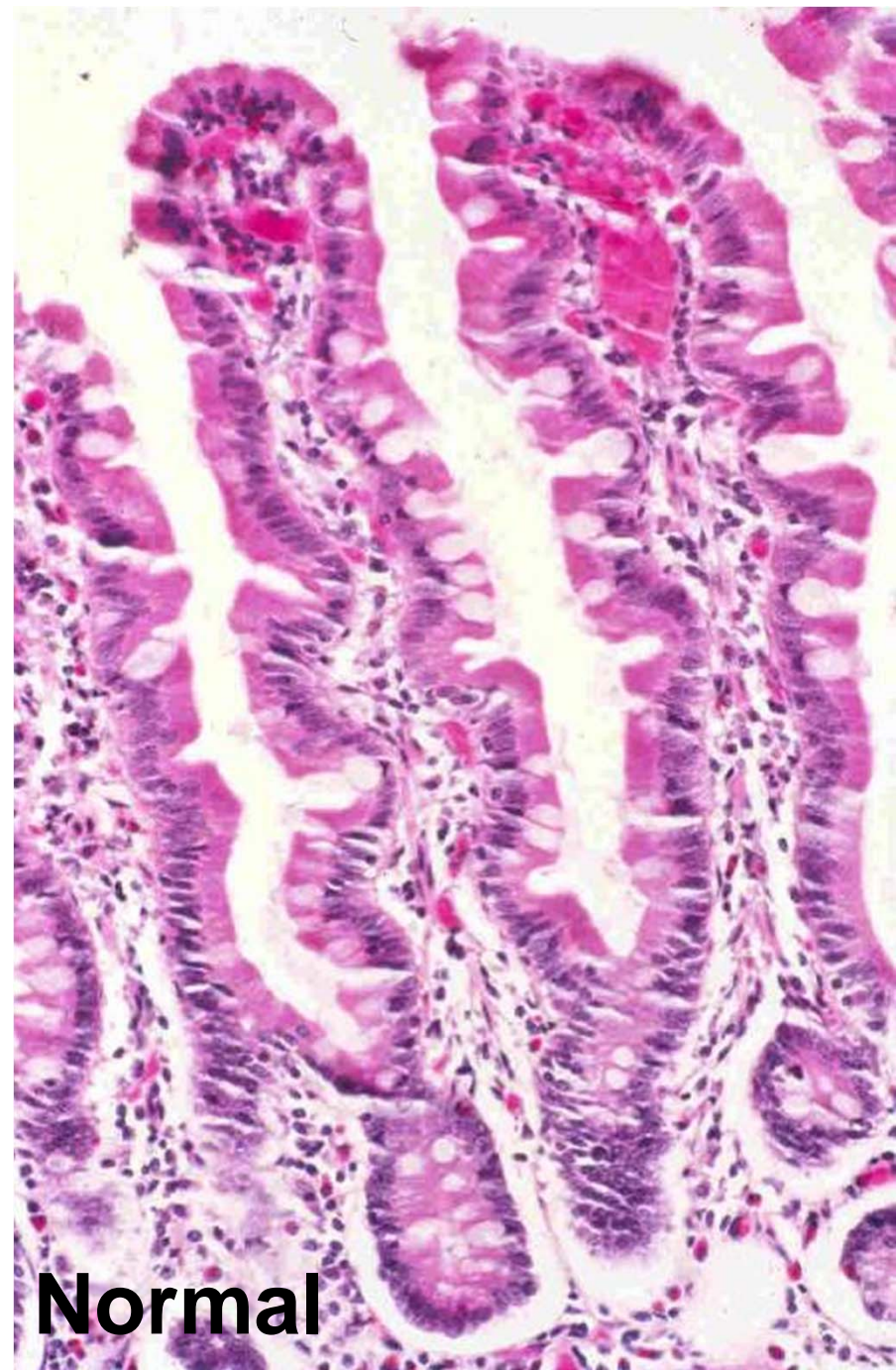
increased T lymphocytes over time --> increased inflammation --> villi begin to appear blunted





normally villi look like fingers (left). in celiac's you see a more flattened look (right).





**Normal**

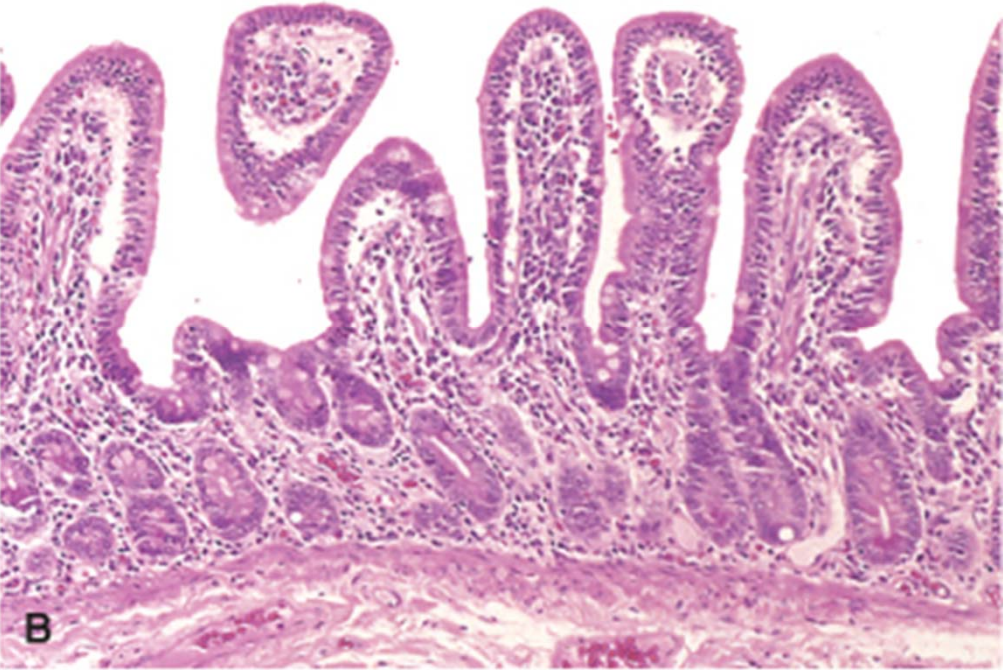


**Sprue**

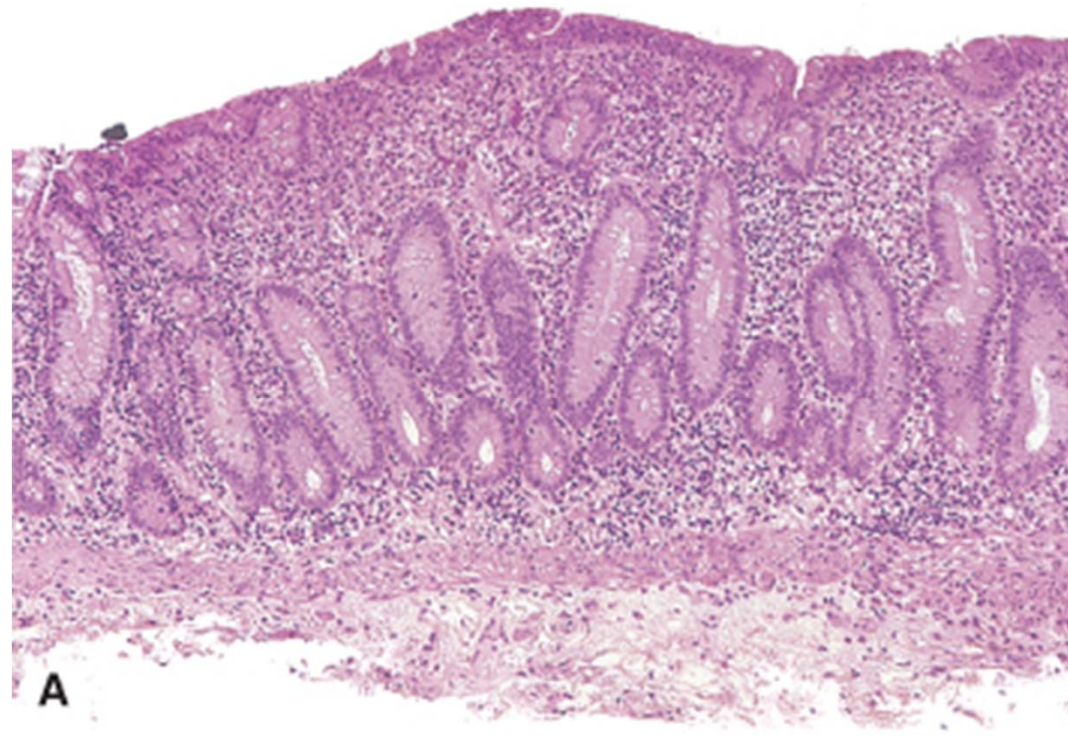
same thing again on histological level



complete  
flattening can  
occur

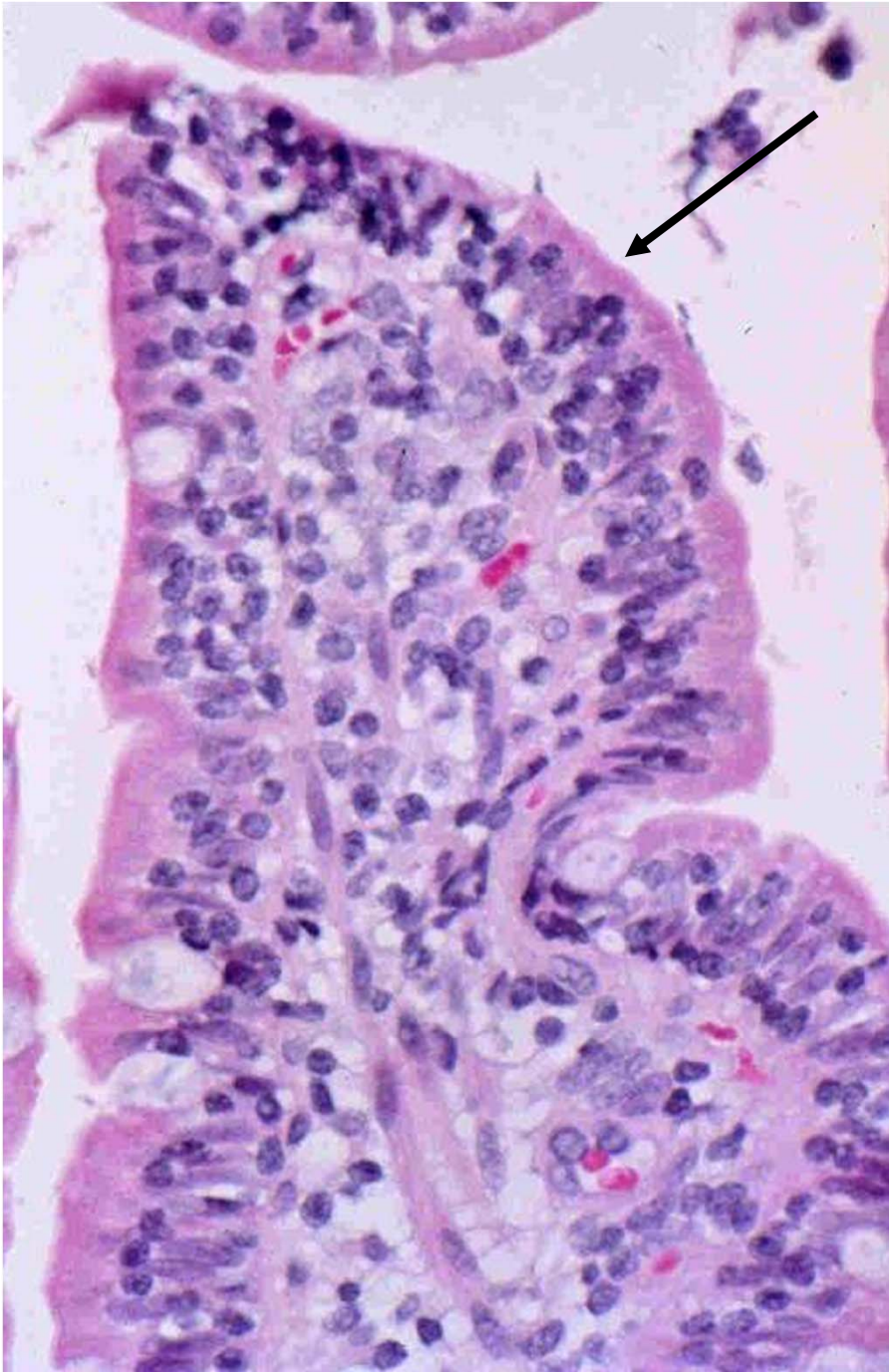


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**CELIAC SPRUE: Villous atrophy and Increased Intraepithelial Lymphocytes (Normal small bowel on left, celiac sprue on right)**



- Increased numbers of lymphocytes in surface epithelium
- Injury of surface epithelium
- Varying degrees of villous atrophy depending on ?chronicity?

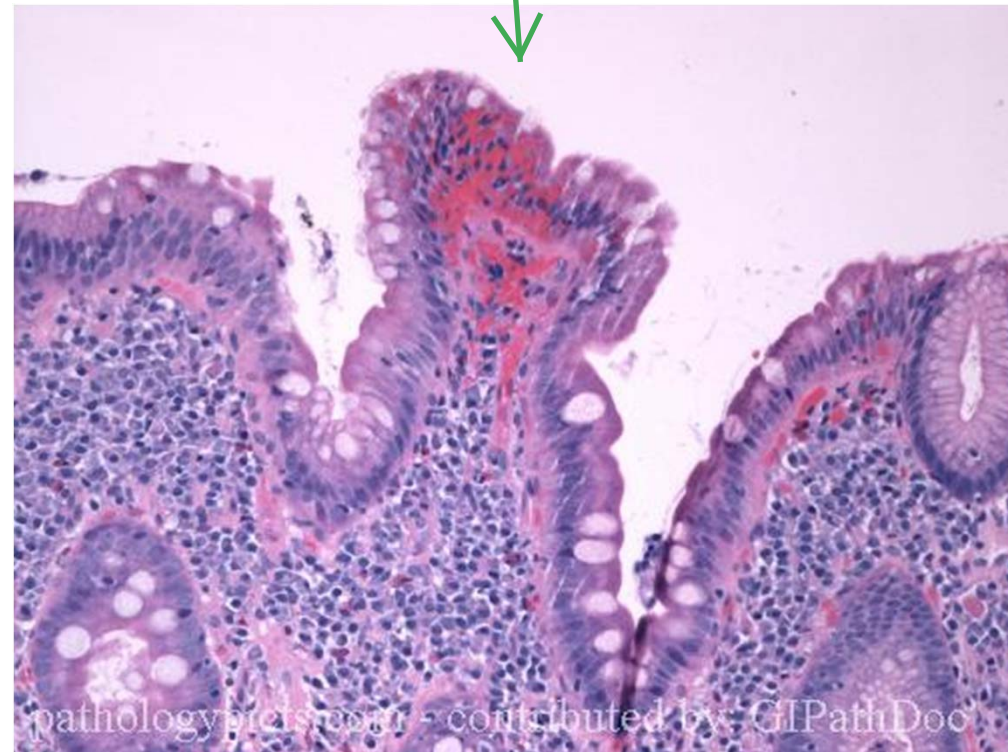
villi become more flattened over time



# Peptic Duodenitis

- Proximal duodenal inflammation
- Hyperacidity of gastric contents
- Acute inflammation
- Gastric-type metaplasia (foveolar metaplasia)

some acute inflammation, villus blunting, gastric metaplasia (to protect it from acid)



basically too much acid in stomach.

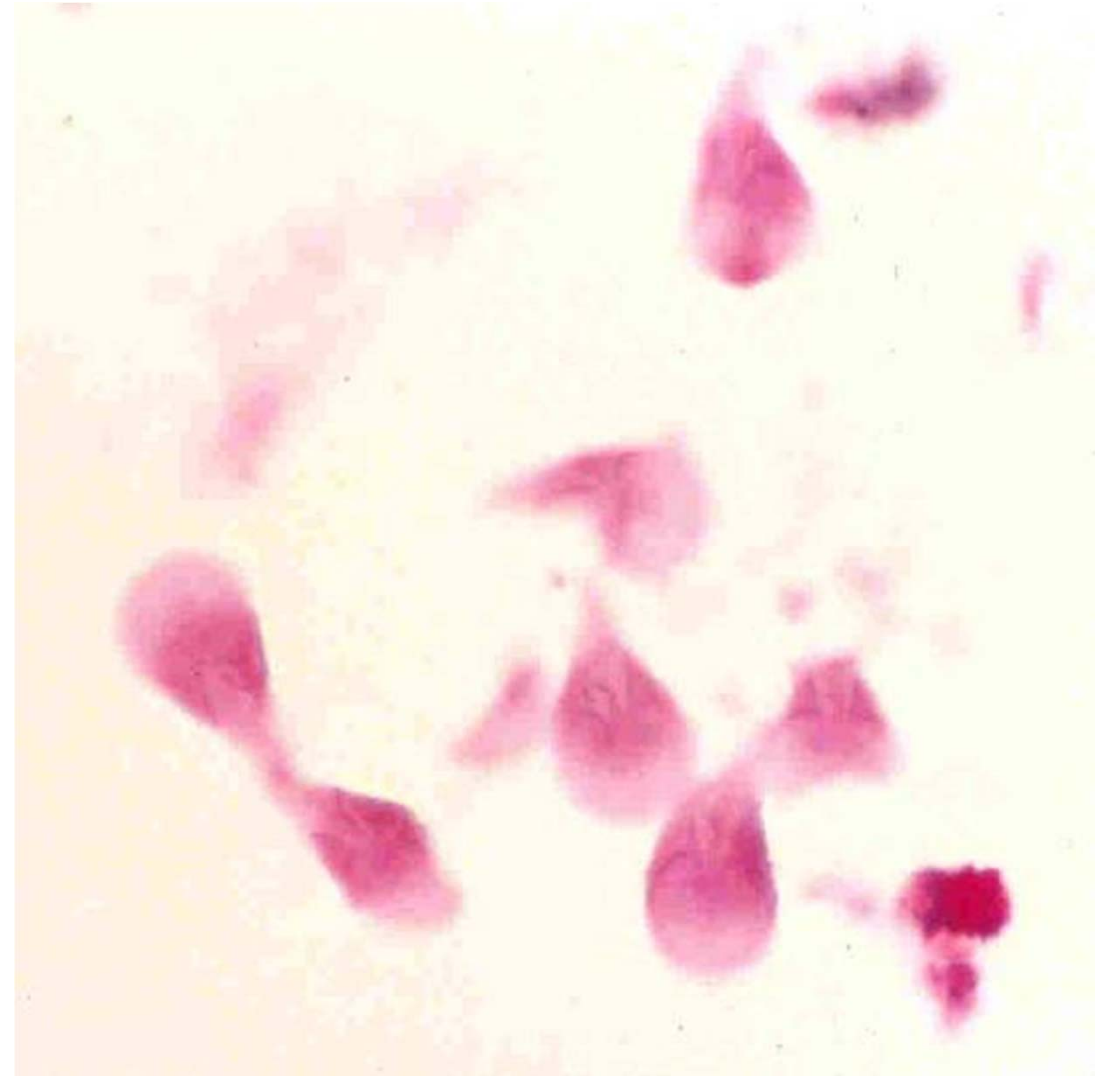


# Giardia

- Protozoan gut pathogen
- Trophozoites and cysts (which are shed)
- Usually acquired from drinking water contaminated with cysts
- Poor sanitation and crowded living conditions predispose to infection
- Immunosuppression increases risk

giardia infects the small intestines. can affect anyone.

# Giardia

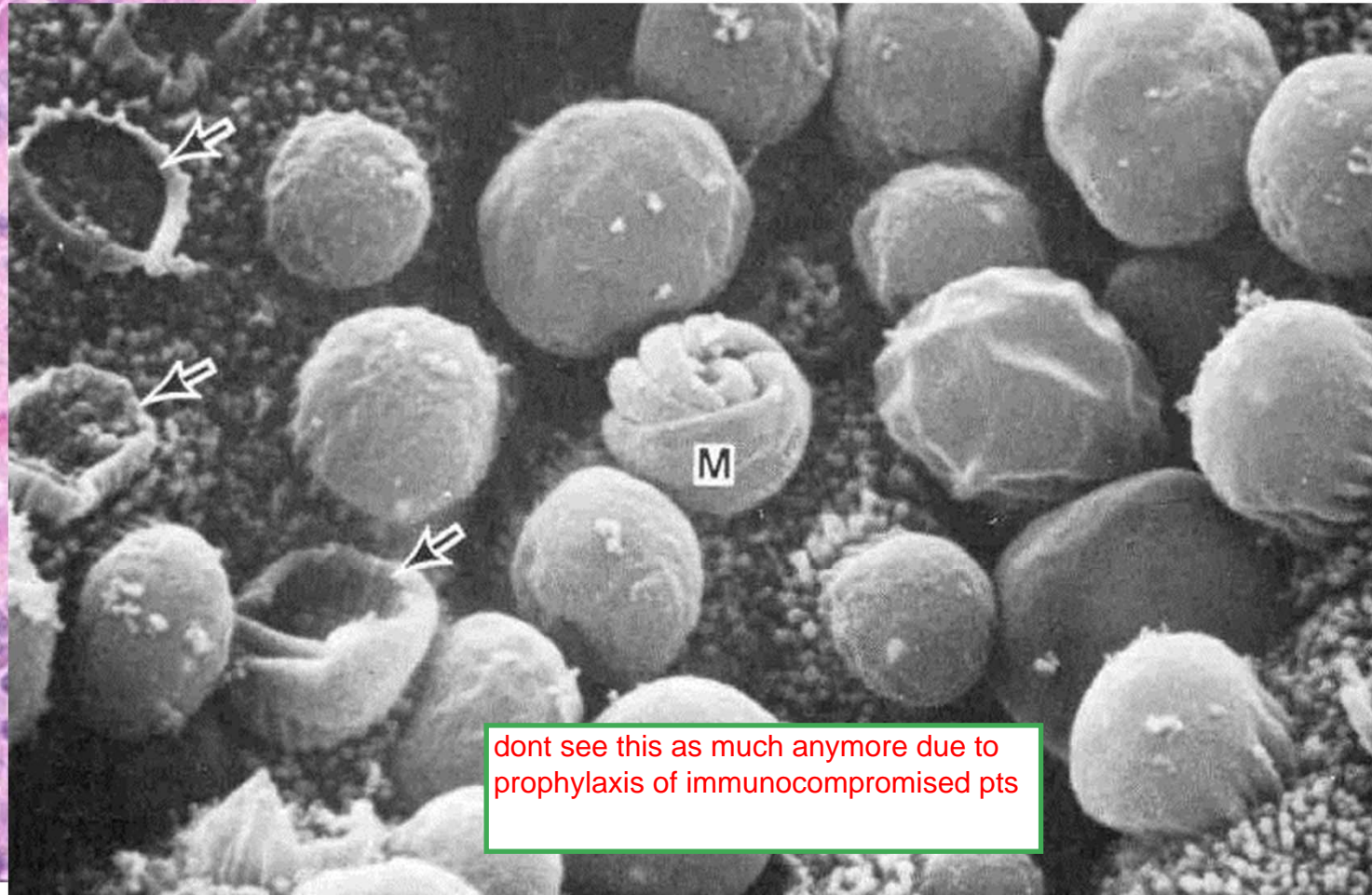


better way to make diagnosis is to look at stool for ova and parasites instead



# Cryptosporidium

cryptosporidium



dont see this as much anymore due to prophylaxis of immunocompromised pts



# Bacterial Enterocolitis

- Will be discussed in a different lecture
- Diagnosed by Clinical Pathology (ie, stool studies/microbiology lab), not by Anatomic Pathology (endoscopic biopsies)
  - Toxin-mediated disease
  - Invasive infections
  - (Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, Yersinia, etc.)

Colon

# Inflammatory Bowel Disease

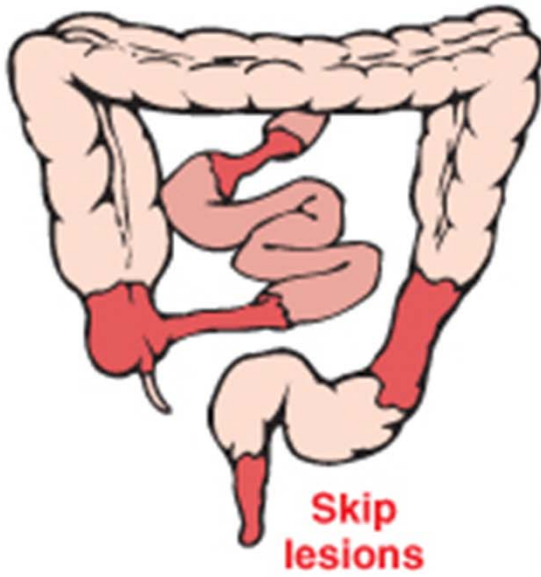
- Crohn's Disease
- Ulcerative Colitis



Feature of IBD	Crohn's Disease	Ulcerative Colitis
Location?	<b>Anywhere</b> in GI Tract, but especially SI and colon	<b>Rectum, colon</b> <small>starts here and moves elsewhere</small>
Involvement?	<b>Skip Lesions</b>	<b>Contiguous, starting in rectum</b>
Depth of Inflammation?	<b>Transmural</b> , with fistulas common	Limited to <b>Mucosa</b>
Granulomas?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Increased risk of CA?	<b>Yes</b> , if colonic involvement	<b>Yes</b>
Response to surgery?	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Good</b>

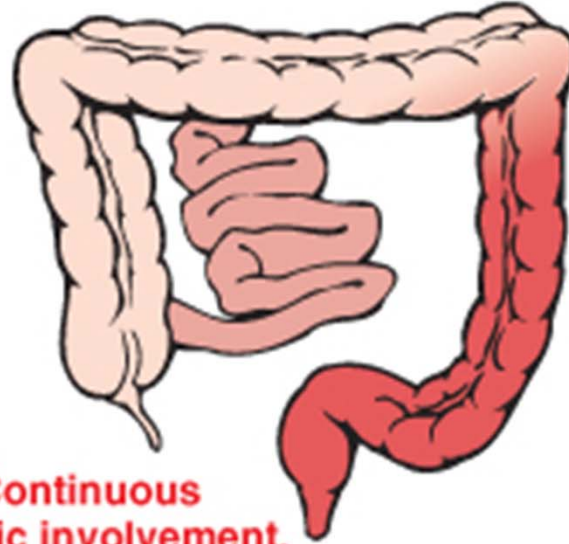
you should know the difference between these two because you will be tested on this on the wards and elsewhere

### CROHN DISEASE

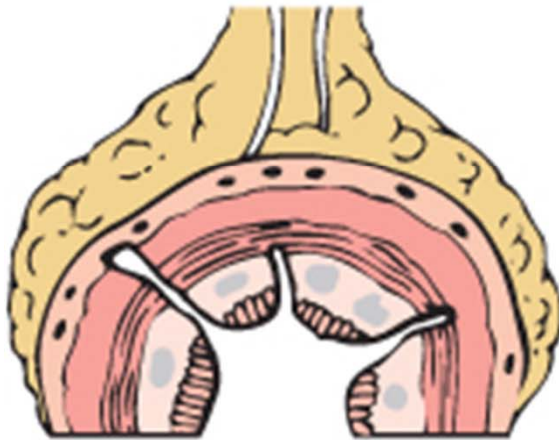


Skip lesions

### ULCERATIVE COLITIS

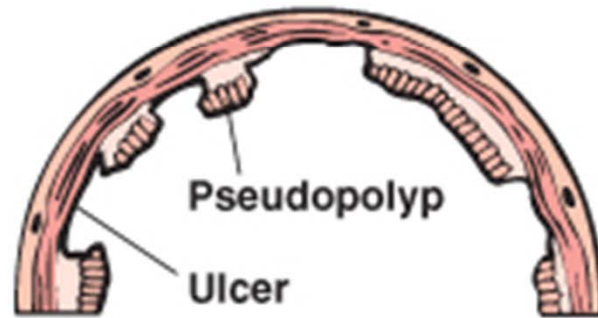


Continuous colonic involvement, beginning in rectum



Transmural inflammation  
Ulcerations  
Fissures

ulcers penetrate entire wall



Pseudopolyp  
Ulcer

inflammation limited to mucosa

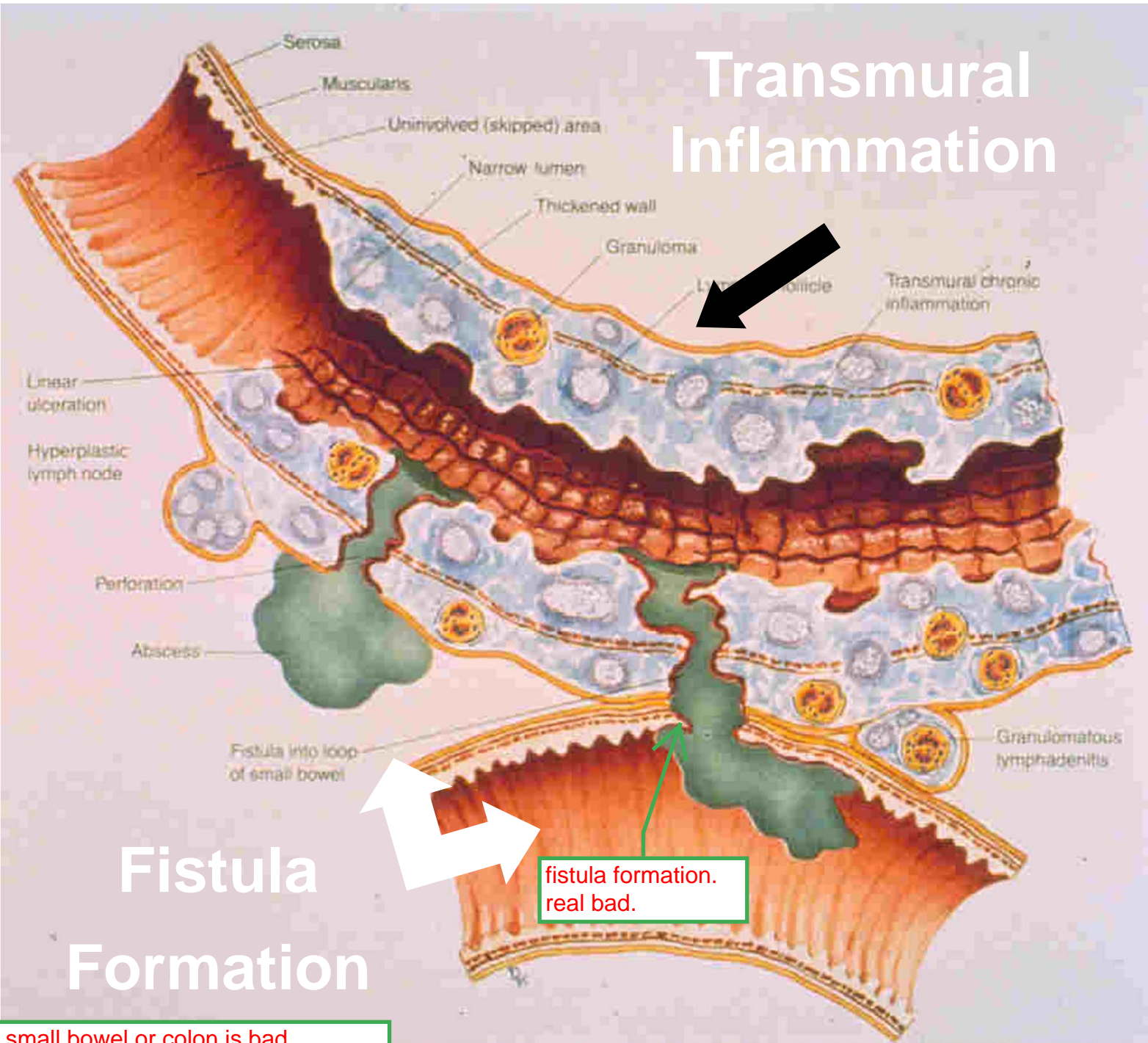
Nice visualization comparing the two

# Crohn's Disease

- Small Bowel only 30%
- Colon Only 20%
- Both 50%



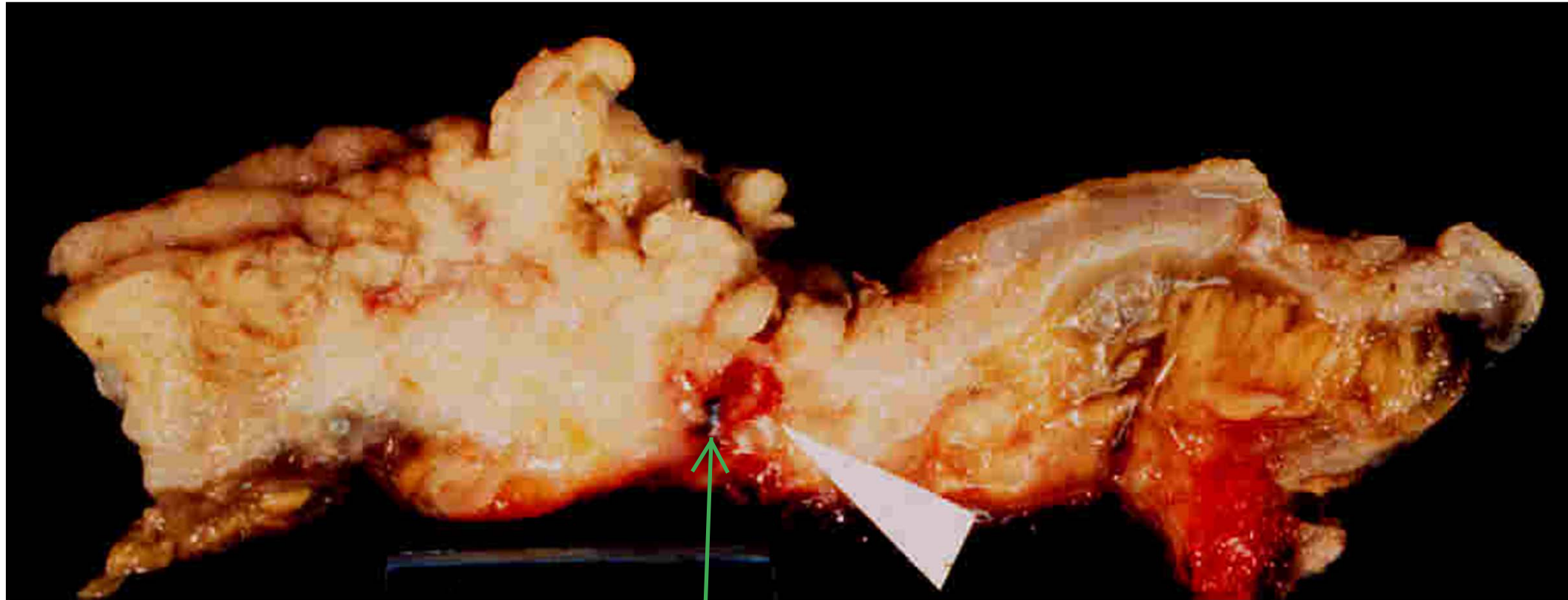
# Transmural Inflammation



# Fistula Formation

fistula formation.  
real bad.

crohn's in the small bowel or colon is bad



fistula



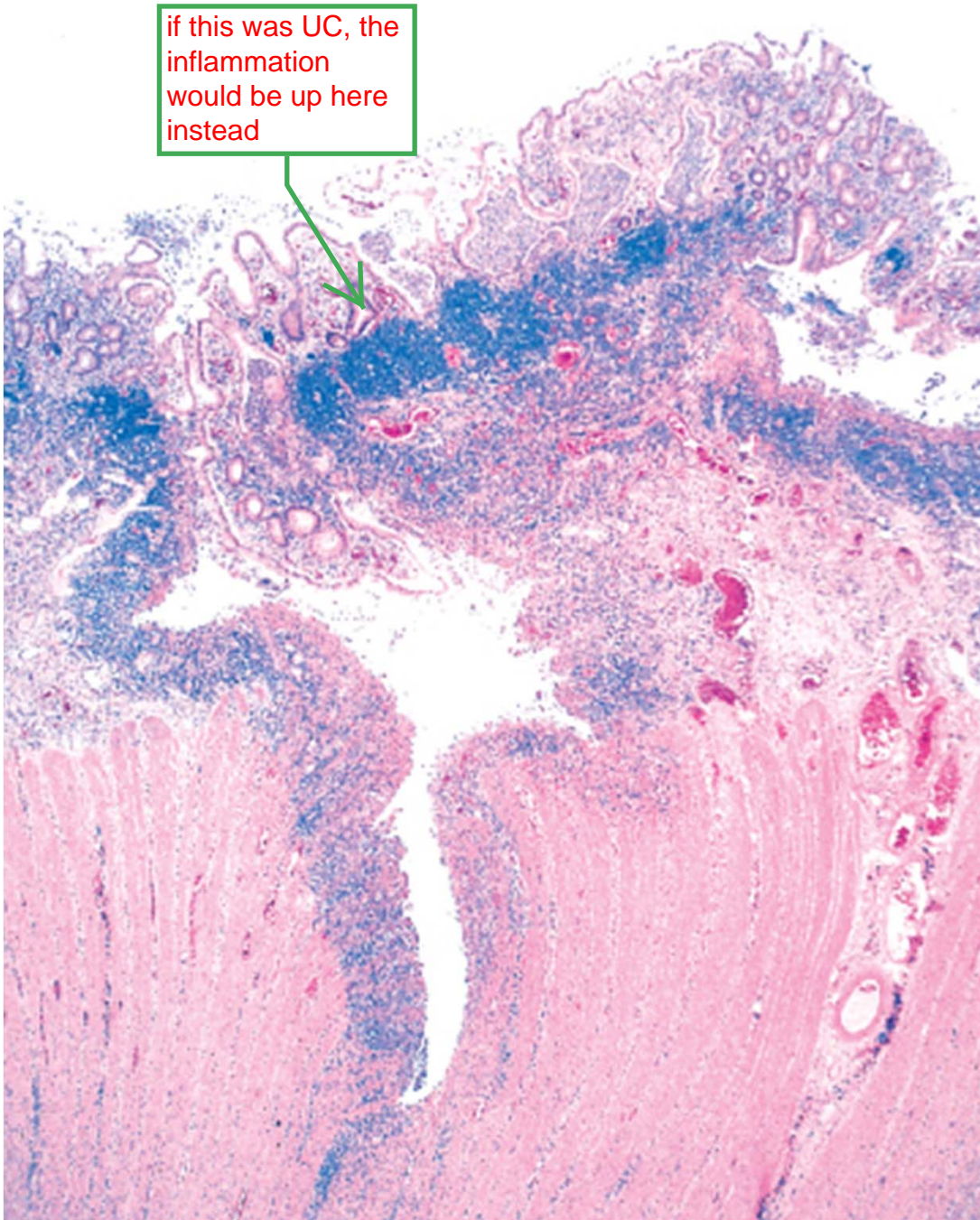
# Transmural Inflammation of Crohn's Disease

- Fistulous necrosis
- Lymphocytic infiltrate
- Fibrosis

if this was UC, the inflammation would be up here instead

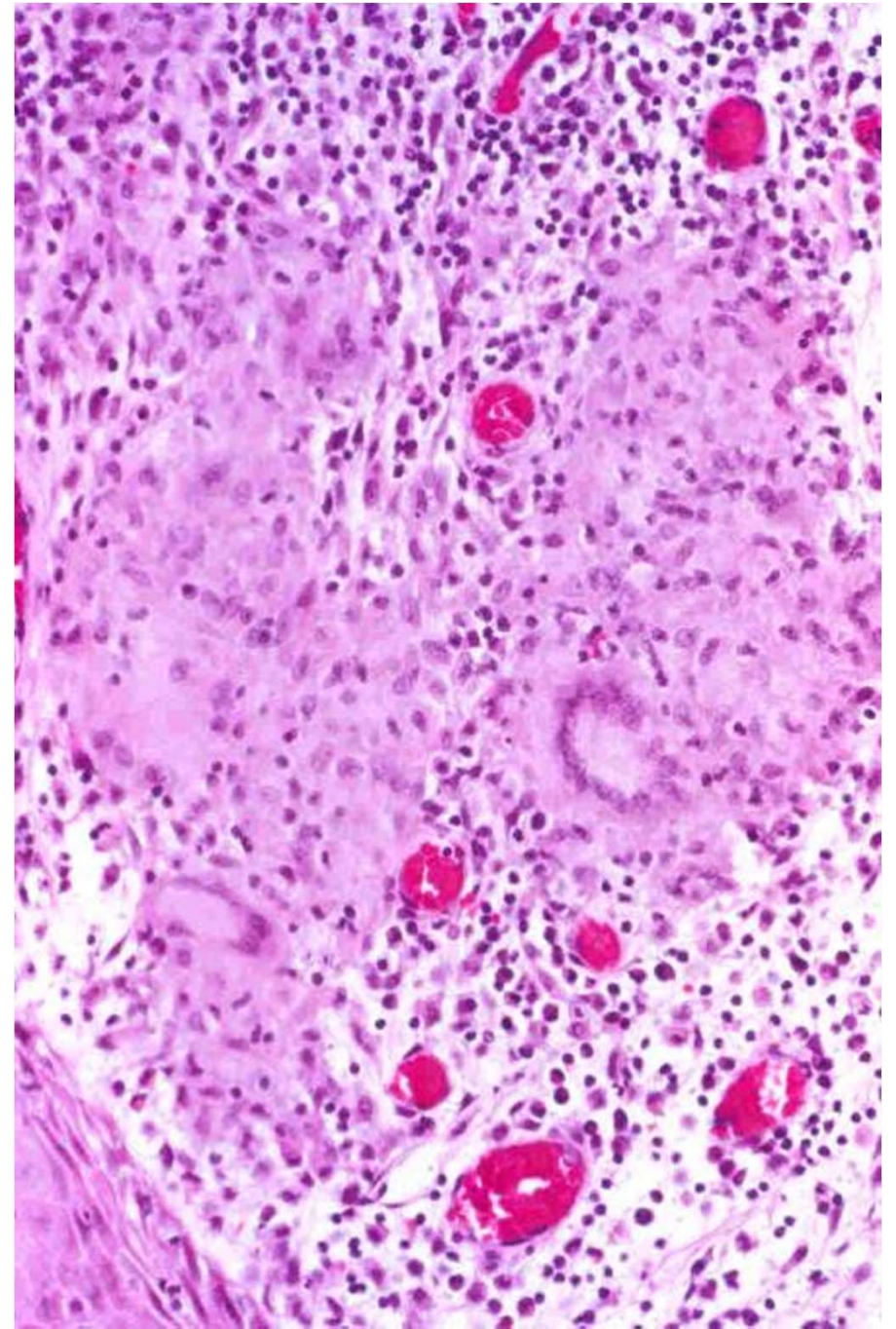
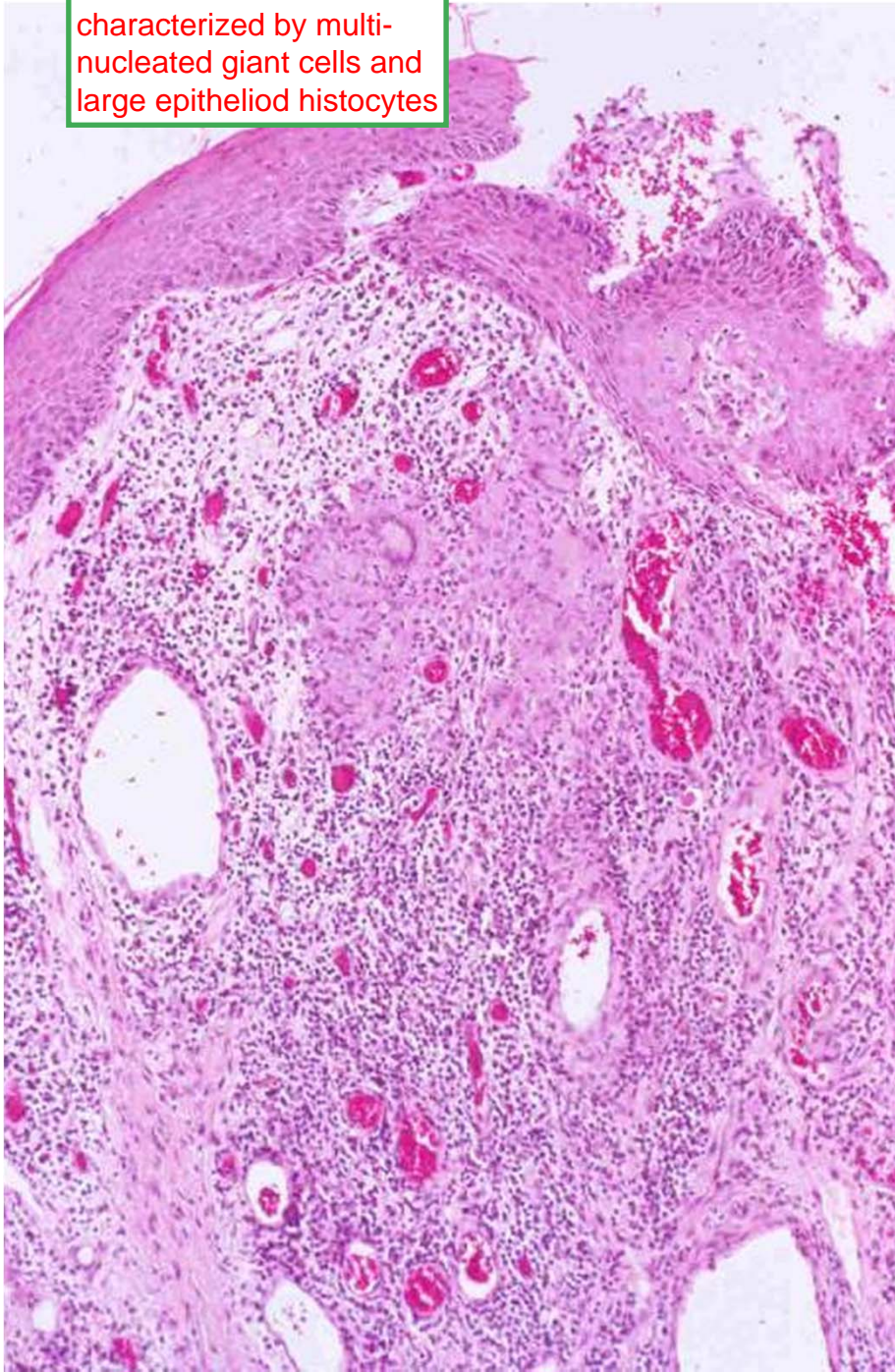


histo section of small bowel with ulcer penetrating down to muscularis propria





crohn's with esophageal involvement.  
characterized by multi-nucleated giant cells and large epithelioid histocytes



# Ulcerative Colitis

- Can involve rectum only
- Can extend continuously and stop anywhere in the colon
- No skip lesions
- No small intestinal involvement

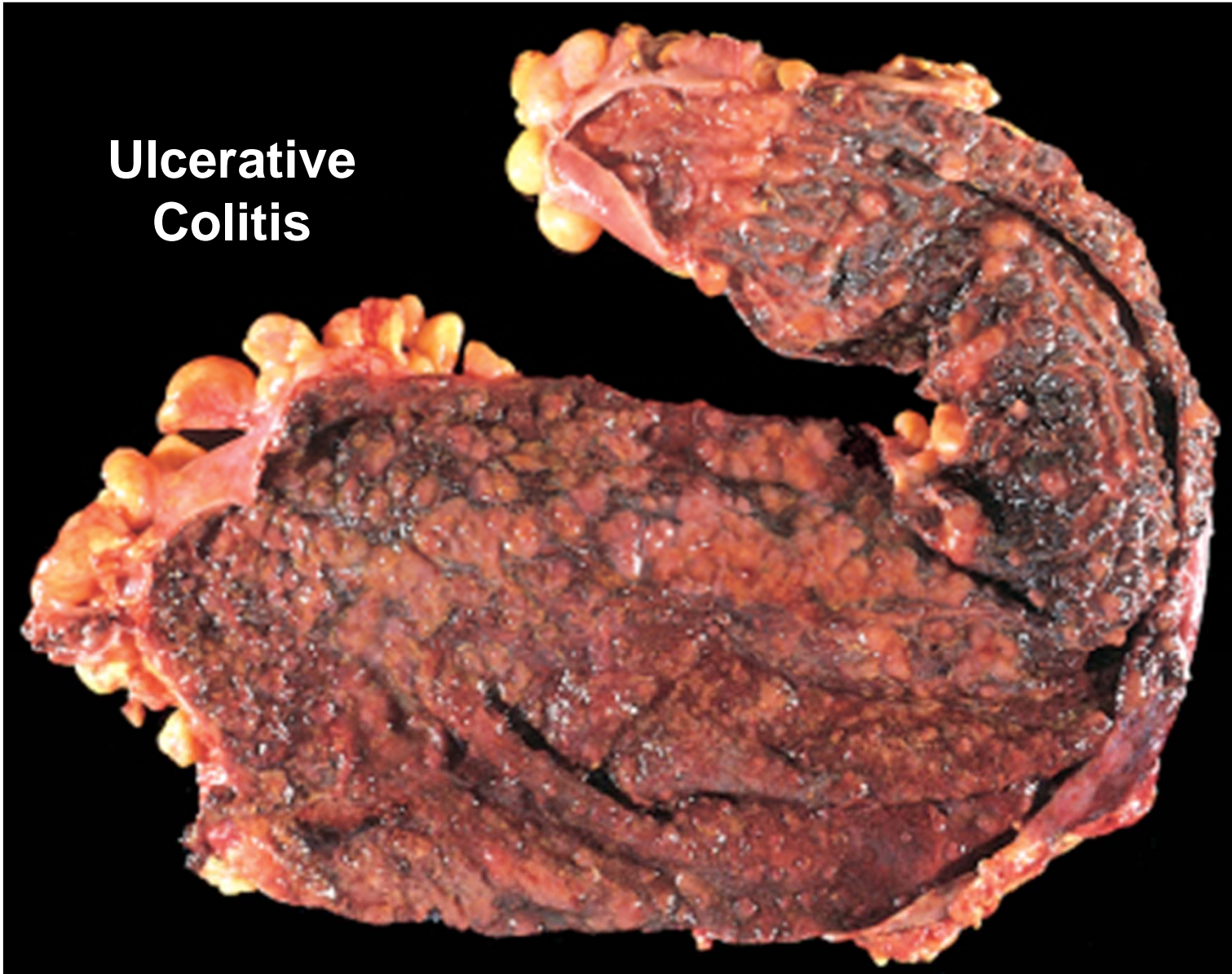




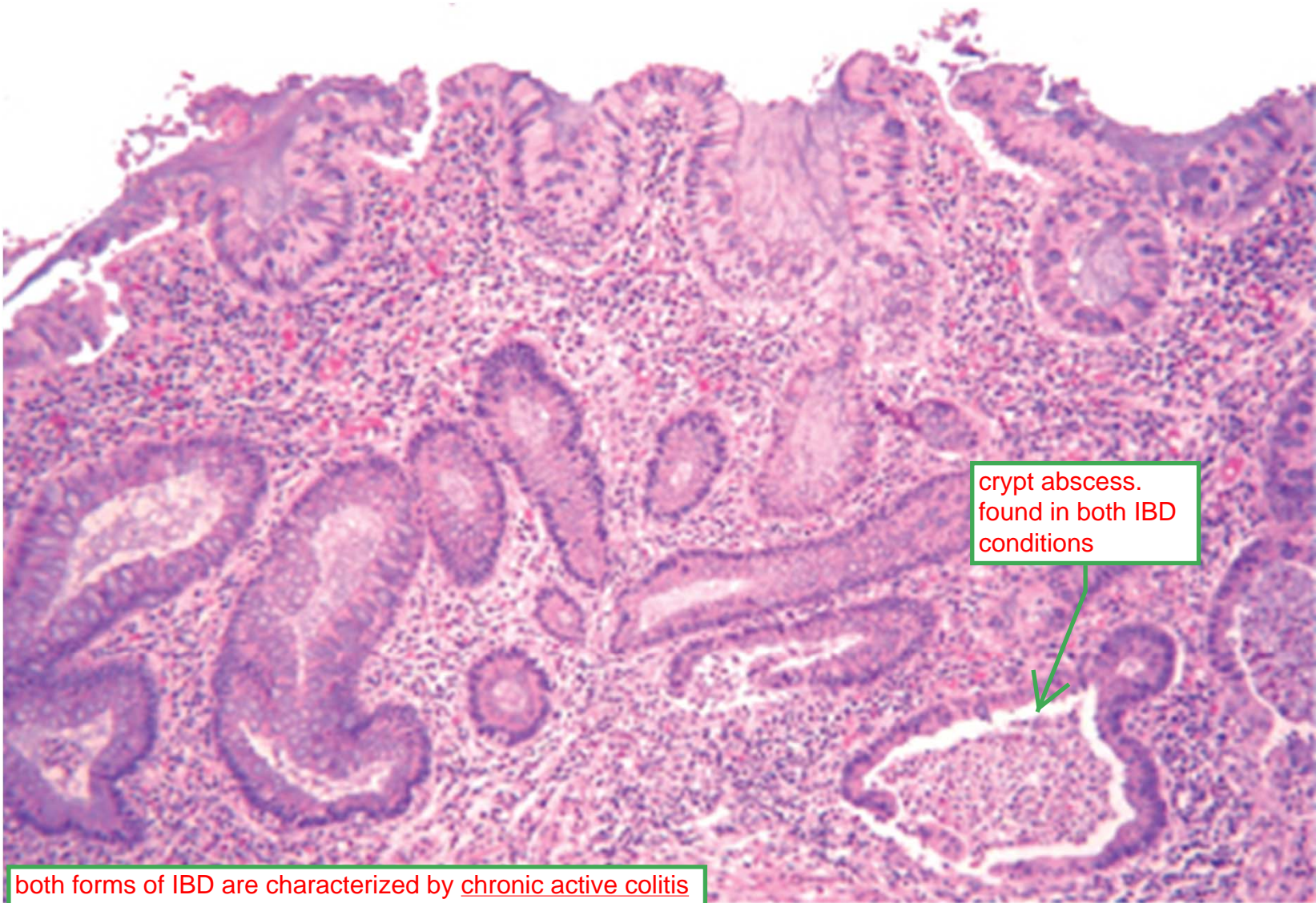
**Normal Colon**



## Ulcerative Colitis



no skip lesions. usually area of inflammation is well demarcated.



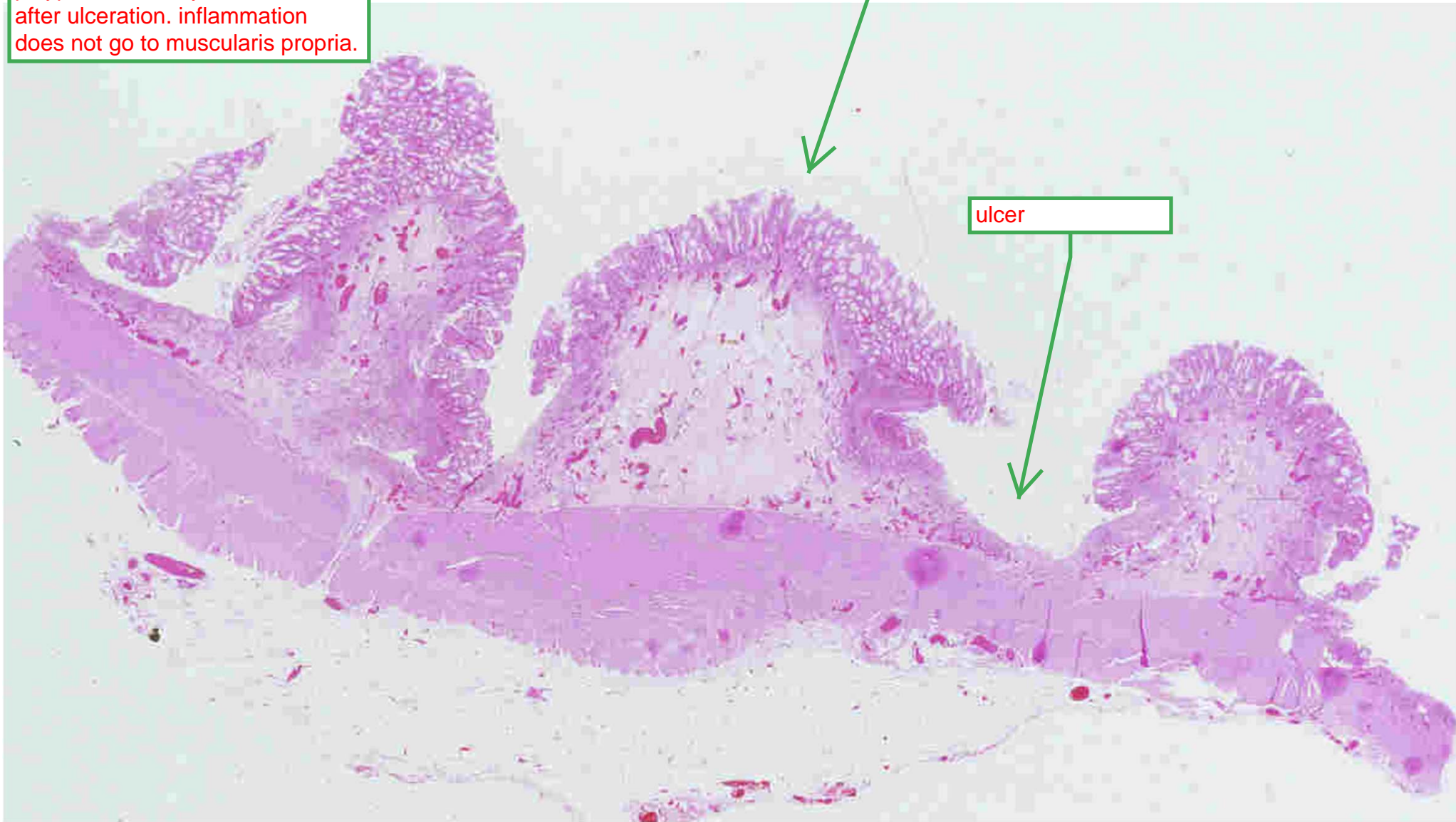
crypt abscess.  
found in both IBD  
conditions

both forms of IBD are characterized by chronic active colitis pattern --> this means that there are no longer test tube like gland anymore because architecture has messed up due to ulceration. "chornic" in the name stands for the architectural disarray and "active" stands for neutrophils eating up epithelial glands. you can't tell difference between the two conditions by this slide. can be either.

2005



surgical resection specimen. this is UC because we see inflammatory pseudopolyps between areas of ulceration. the polyp are basically what remains after ulceration. inflammation does not go to muscularis propria.



pseudopolyp

ulcer

## Inflammatory Pseudopolyps



# Pseudomembranous Colitis

- Superficial Mucosal necrosis
- A membrane of neutrophils and fibrin
- Associated with previous antibiotic treatment and overgrowth of *Clostridium difficile*

this is iatrogenic.  
clindamycin is a big  
cause of this. kills  
good bacteria and  
*clostridium difficile*  
takes over.



crypts are  
basically  
volcanoes that  
erupt and release  
neutrophils

The image is a histological section of the colon stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E). It shows a cross-section of the mucosal layer. The surface is covered by a thick, white, fibrinous membrane, which is characteristic of pseudomembranous colitis. Below this membrane, there is a layer of necrotic mucosa. The underlying crypts are filled with a dense infiltrate of neutrophils, forming crypt abscesses. A green arrow points from a text box at the bottom left to one of these crypt abscesses. The overall appearance is that of a severely inflamed and damaged mucosal surface.



# Clostridium Difficile-Associated Pseudomembranous Colitis



yellowish membrane that you can  
basically peel off. pus form  
pseudomembrane

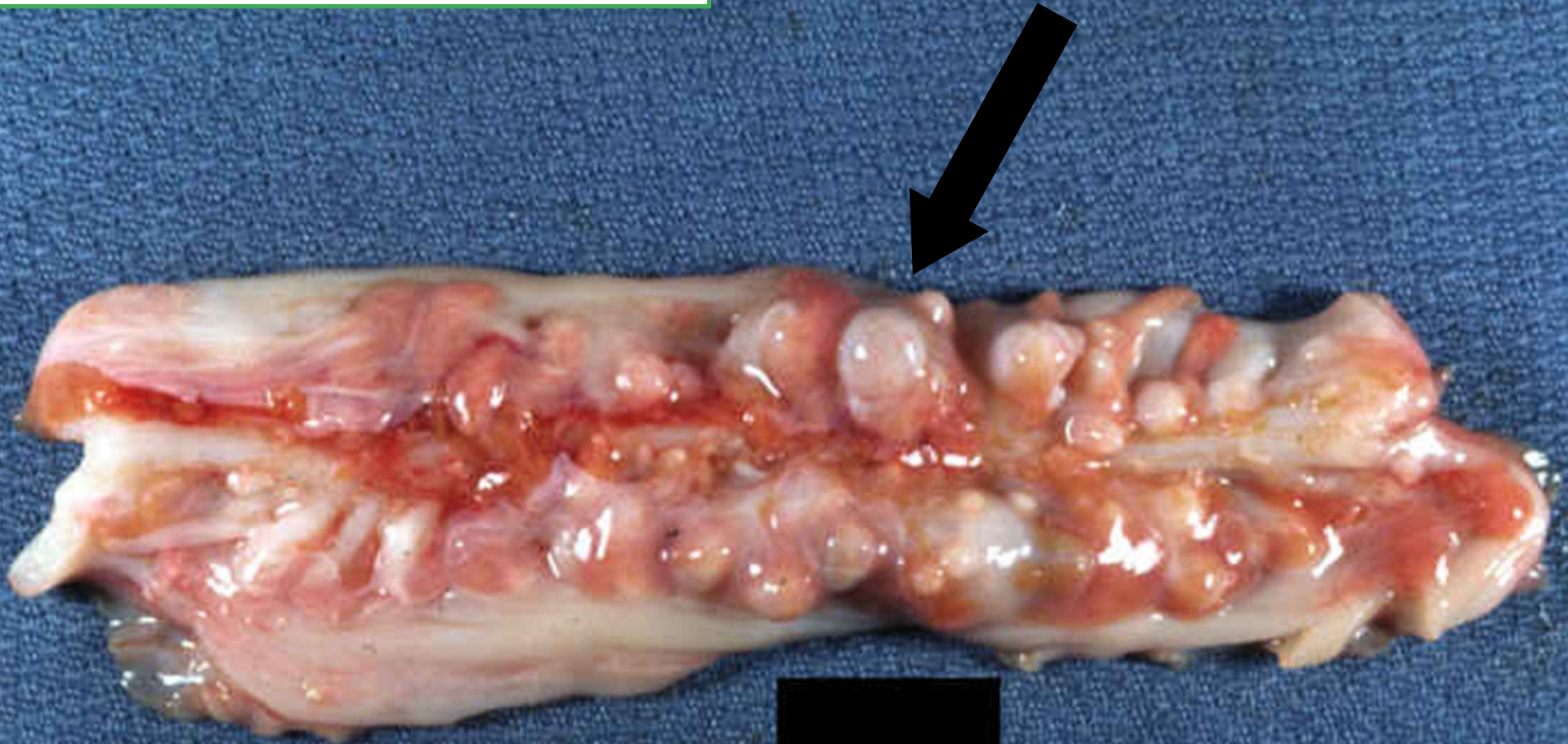
# Diverticular Disease

- Uncommon before age 40-50, but seen in more than 50% of patients 70-80
- Associated with Western diet, low in fiber and high in refined carbohydrates and meat
- 95% of disease is seen in the sigmoid colon

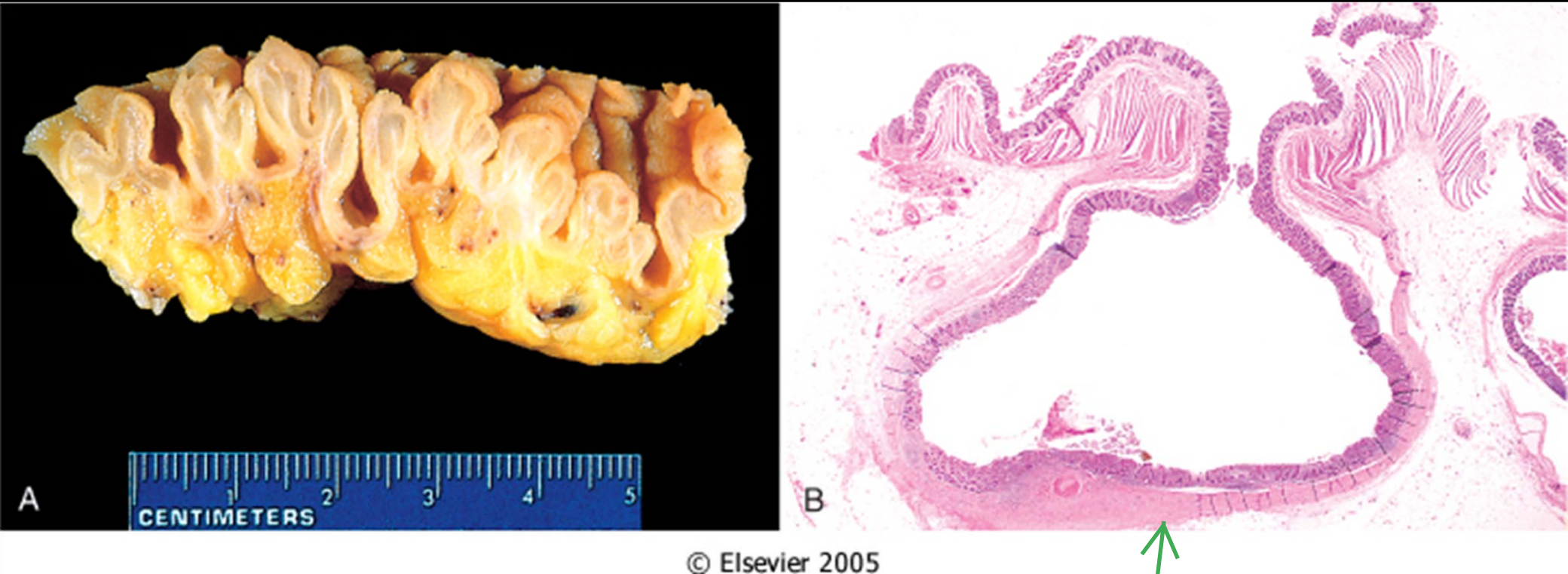
increases intraluminal pressure in colon and causes diverticulum to form



showing outside of colon. normally we should see taenia coli and smooth serosa but instead we see little balloons popping out.



in X-section



each diverticulum is like a miniature appendix.  
obstruction can cause it to become inflamed.  
leads to diverticulitis.

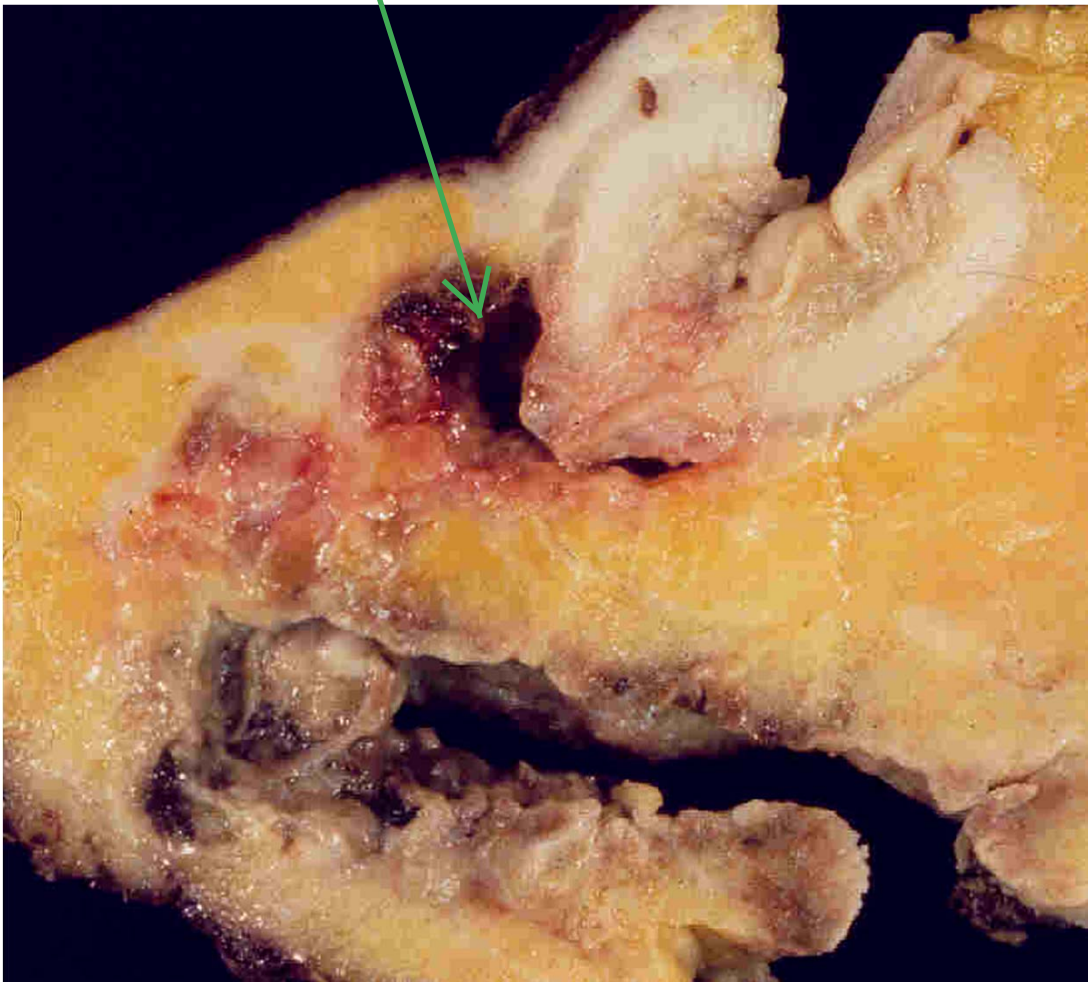
diverticulum

# Complications of Diverticular Disease

- Bleeding not as common as inflammation
- Inflammation
  - Diverticulitis
  - Perforation
  - Abscess, adhesions, fistula
  - Stricture



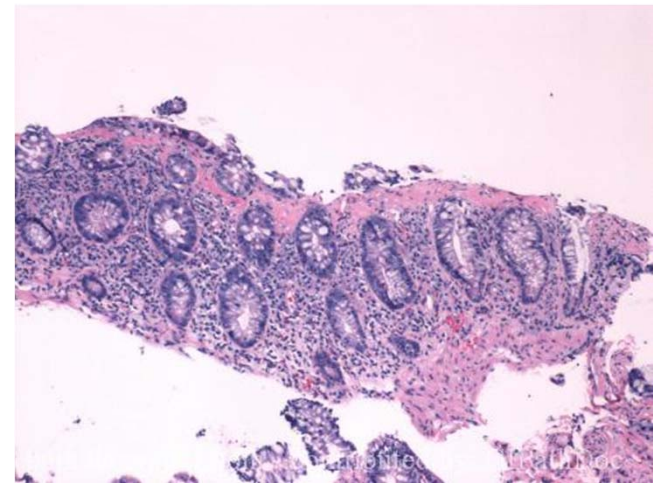
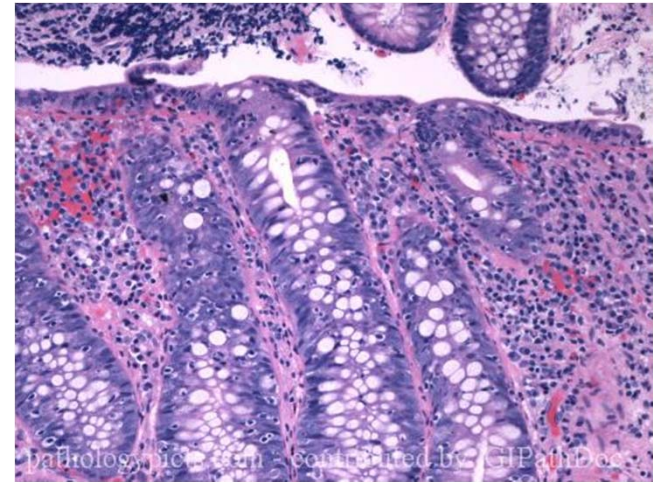
diverticulum



ruptured diverticulum

# “Microscopic” Colitis

- Lymphocytic Colitis or Collagenous Colitis
- Endoscopically Normal
- Watery Diarrhea
- Elderly patients

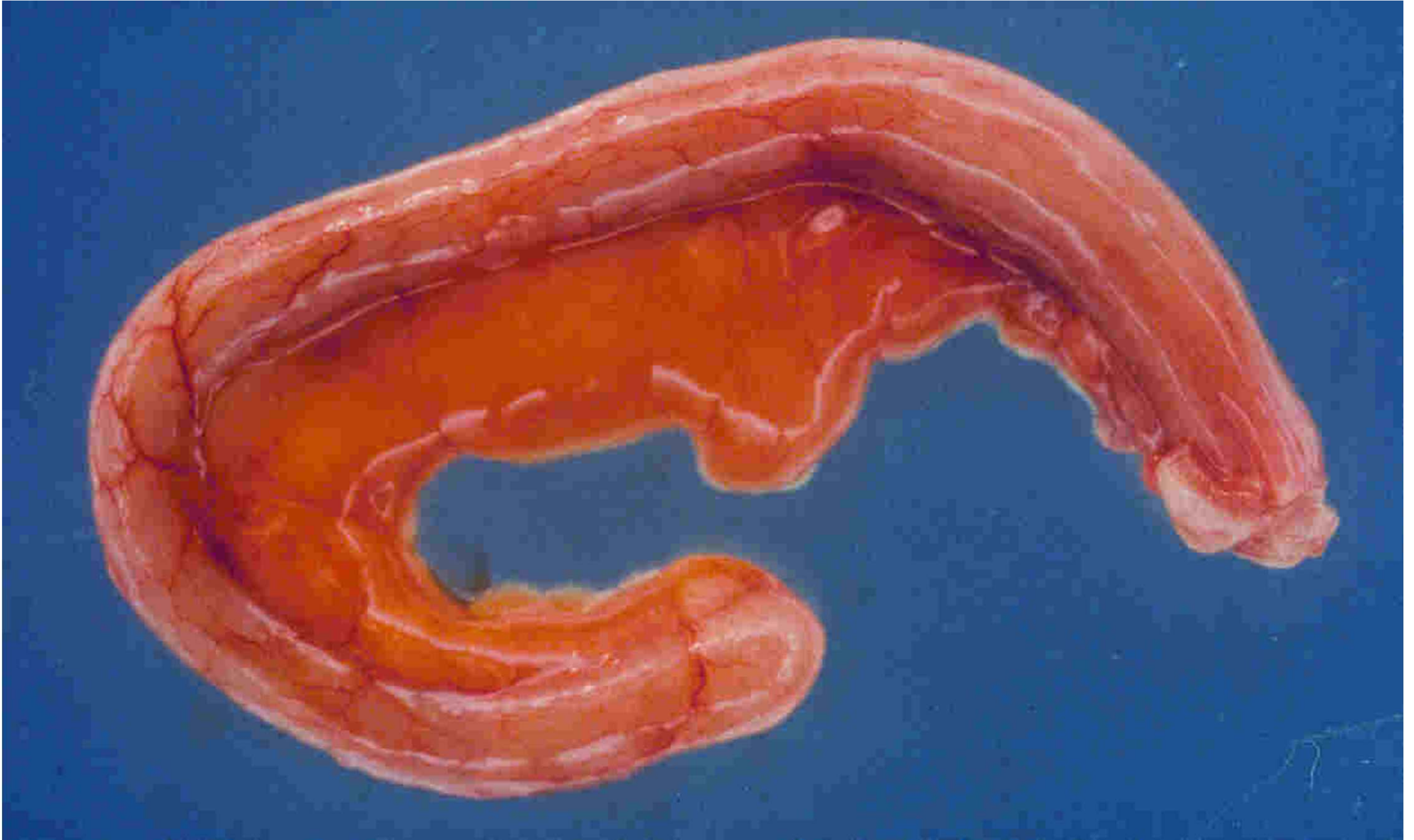


watery diarrhea in elderly folks. we don't know stimulus but pts get increased T cells in their epithelium, increased inflammation --> leads to watery diarrhea. if given enough time it can progress from lymphocytic appearance (top) to collagenous appearance (bottom). pts treated with steroids.

# Colon - Other

- Vascular: Ischemic injury
- Traumatic: Prolapse, Radiation, Obstruction (such as appendicitis)
- Infections in immunosuppressed patients (such as CMV)
- Iatrogenic: NSAID colitis, Graft-versus-host-disease





**Normal Appendix**

normal appendix



**Gangrenous necrosis of appendix**

gangrenous appendix