

*Meeting – Alep  
December 08<sup>th</sup>, 2007*

Myxofibrosarcoma, fibromyxoid  
sarcoma, or myxofibro-*something*

Refinement or redundancy in soft tissue  
tumor pathology ?

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# Outline

- Quiz !
- Mesenchymal lesions with a « myxo-fibro » appearance
- Clinicopathologic features of the most relevant « myxo-fibro» entities
- Differential diagnostic approach
- Conclusions, take home messages
- Quiz (results).....

QUIZ !

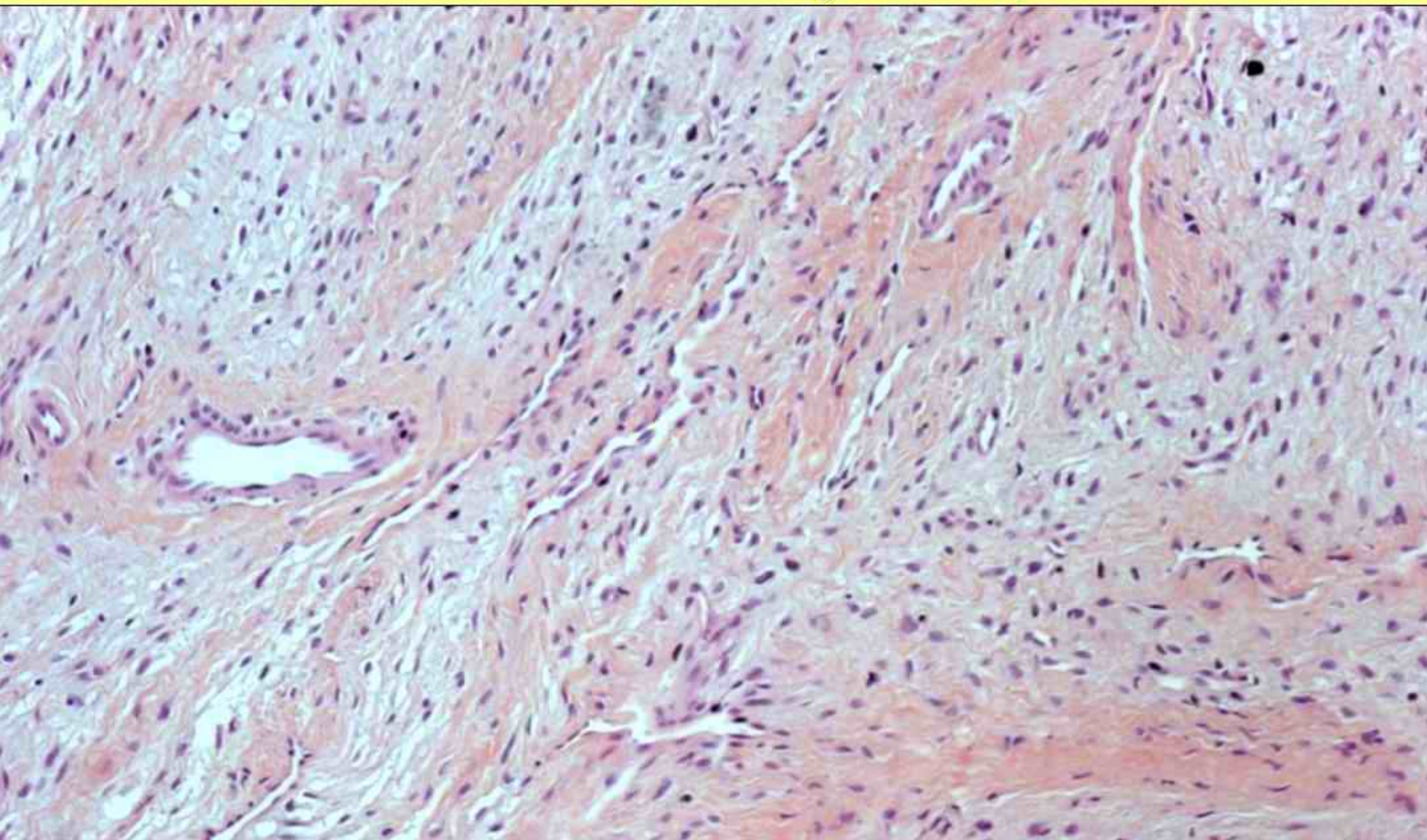
**QUIZ 1:**

1.5 cm nodule developing in close vicinity  
to the nail of the 4<sup>th</sup> digit in a 40 year-old male



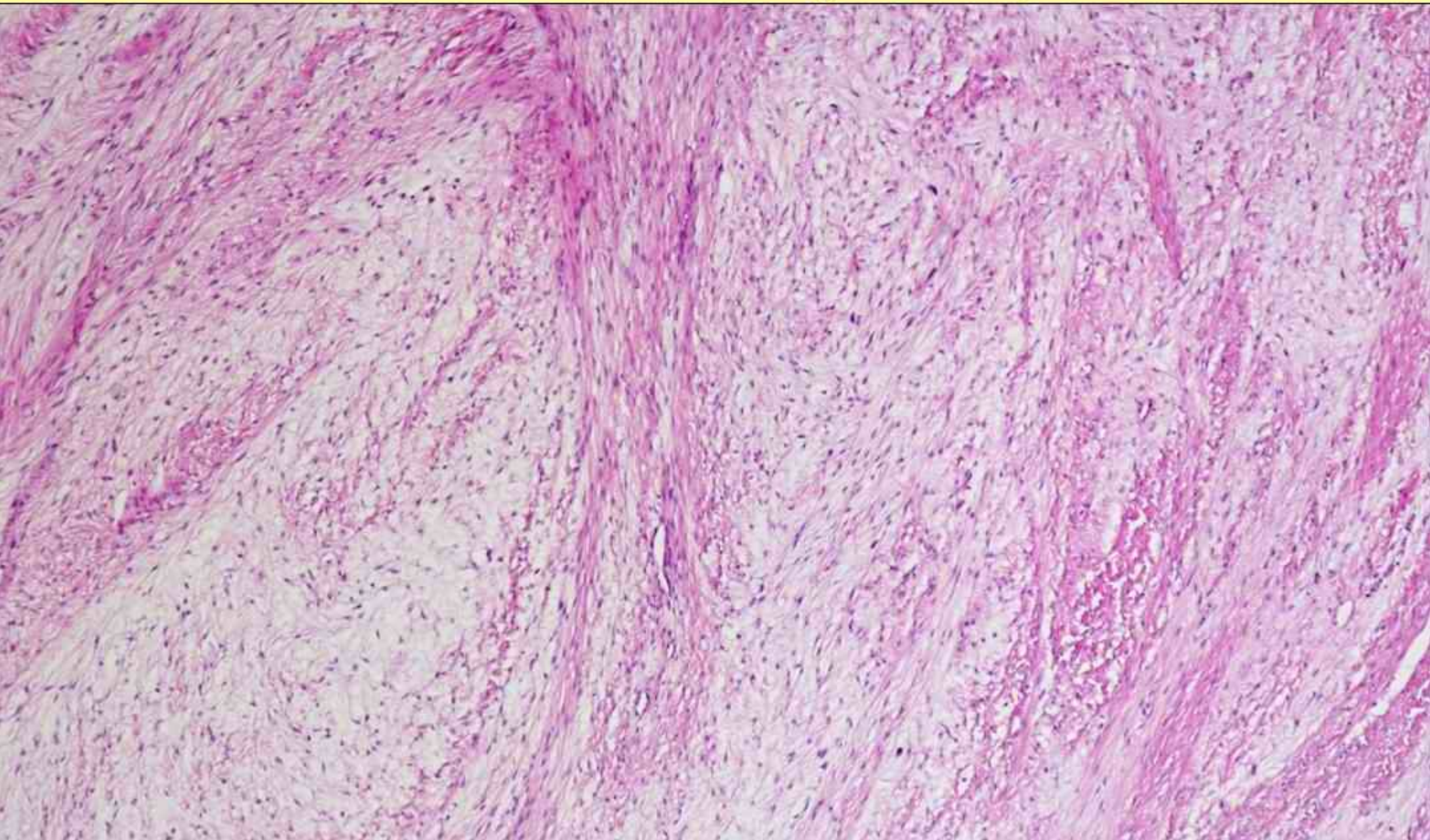
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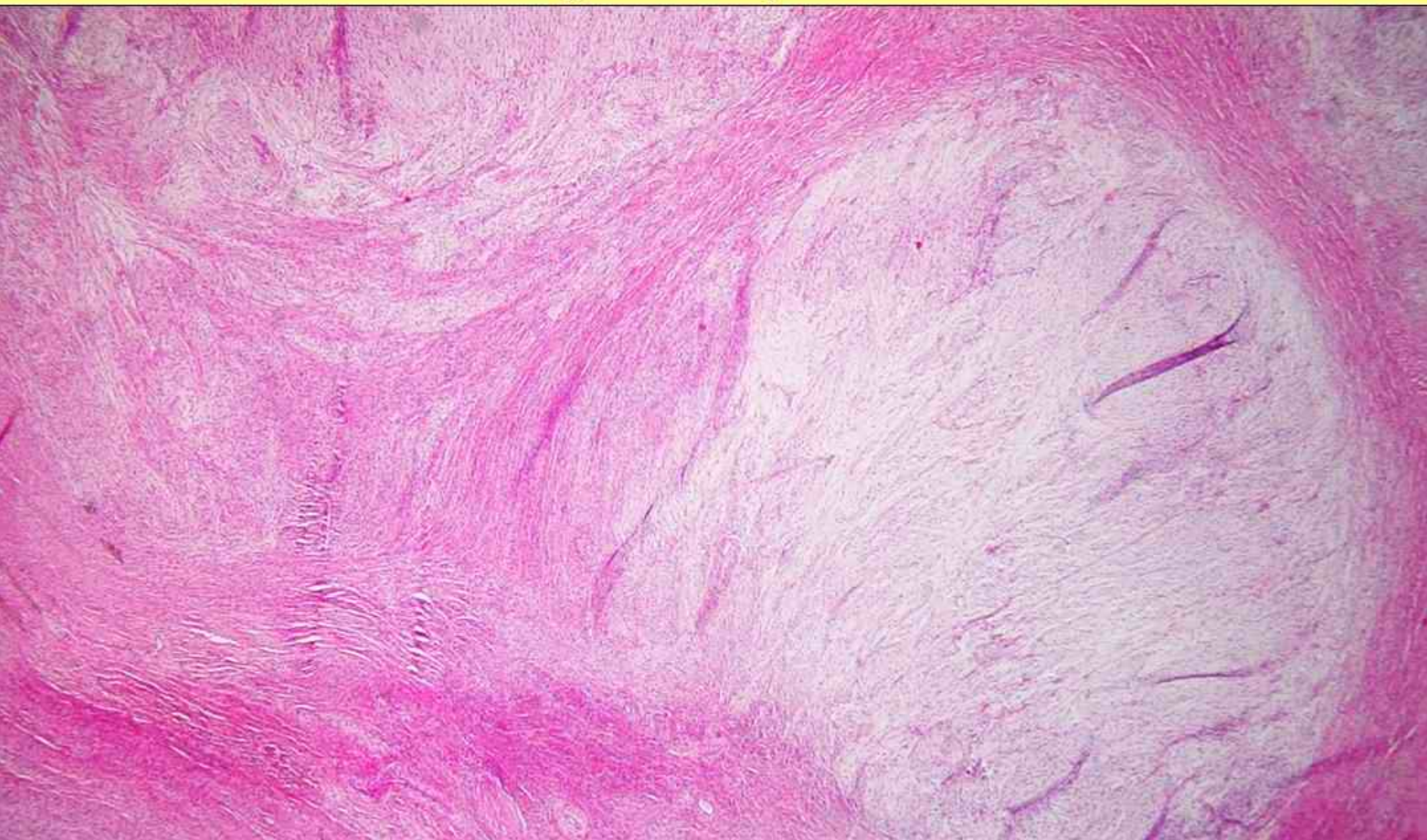


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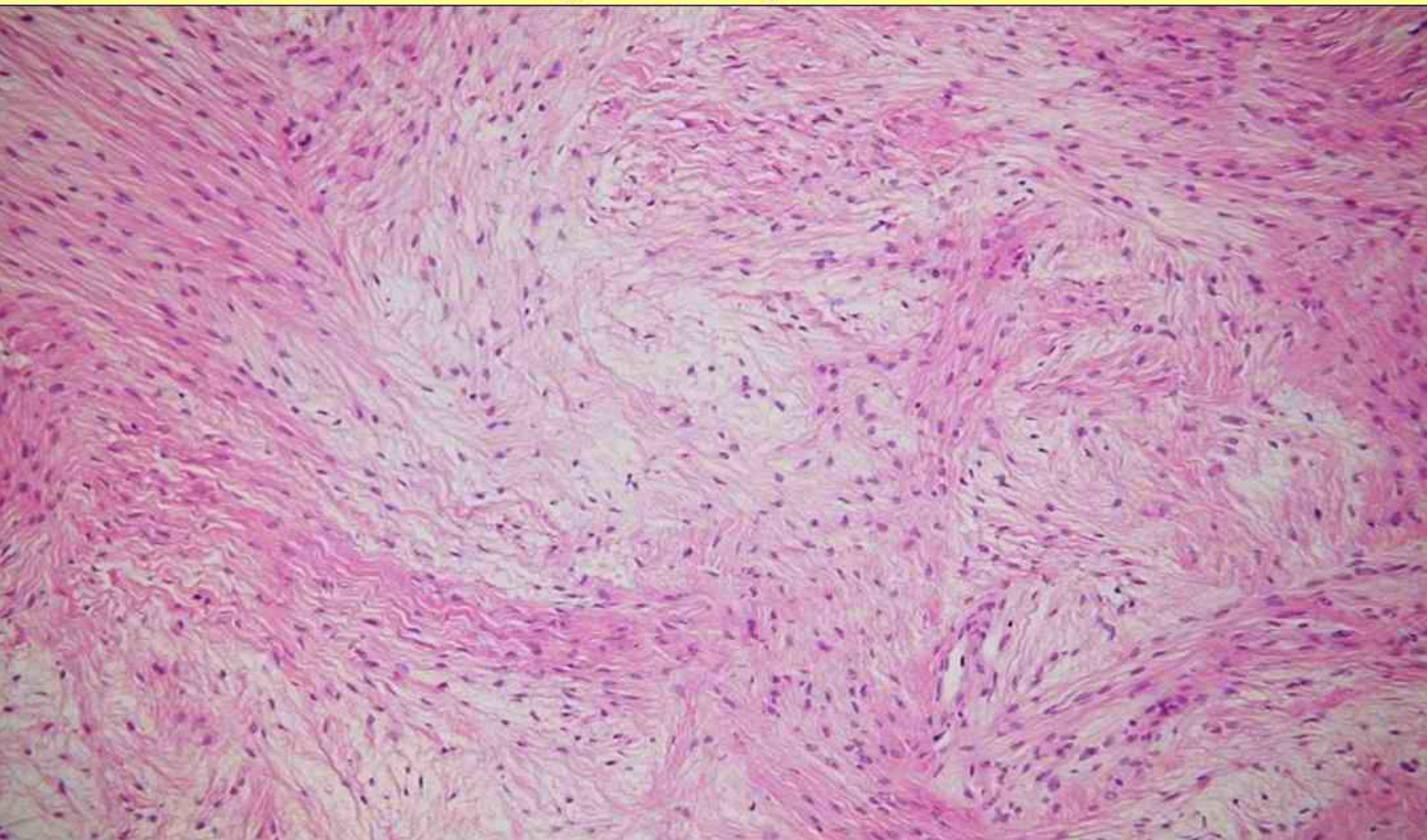
**What is your diagnosis ?**



**QUIZ 2:** 7 cm, well-demarcated, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass  
in the thigh of a 32 year-old male

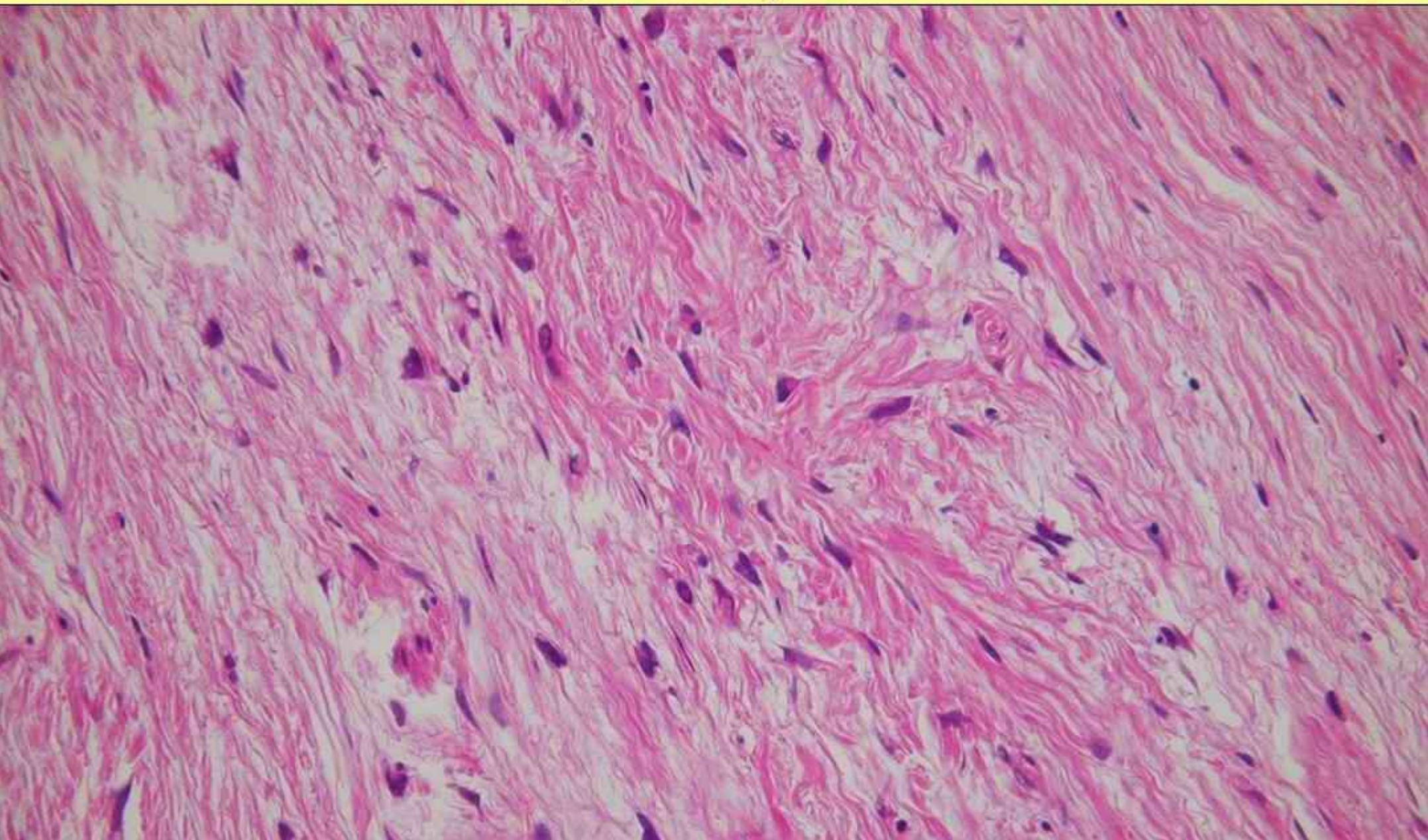


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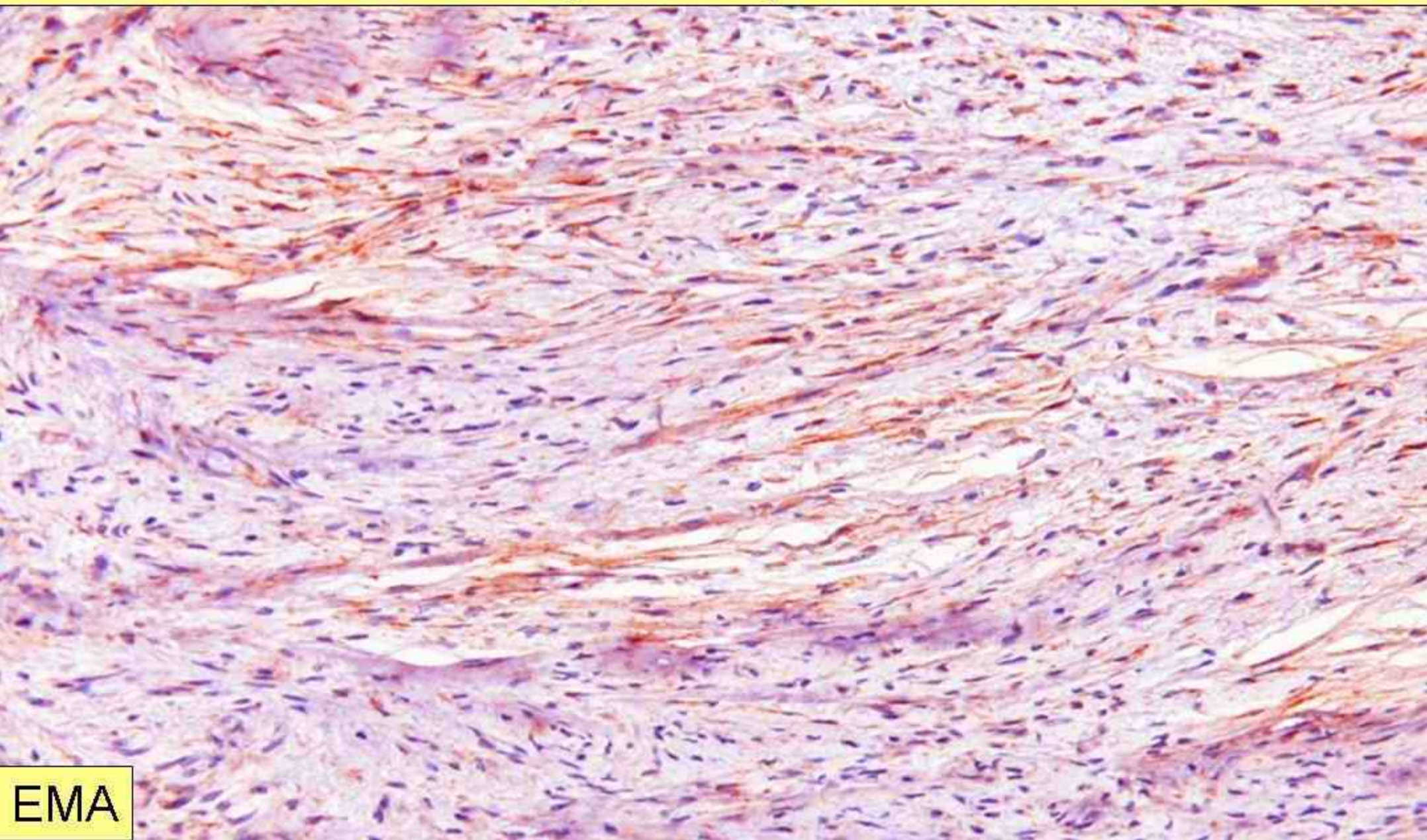


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**QUIZ 2:** 7 cm, well-demarcated, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass  
in the thigh of a 32 year-old male



EMA

**QUIZ 2:** 7 cm, well-demarcated, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass sitting in the thigh of a 32 year-old male

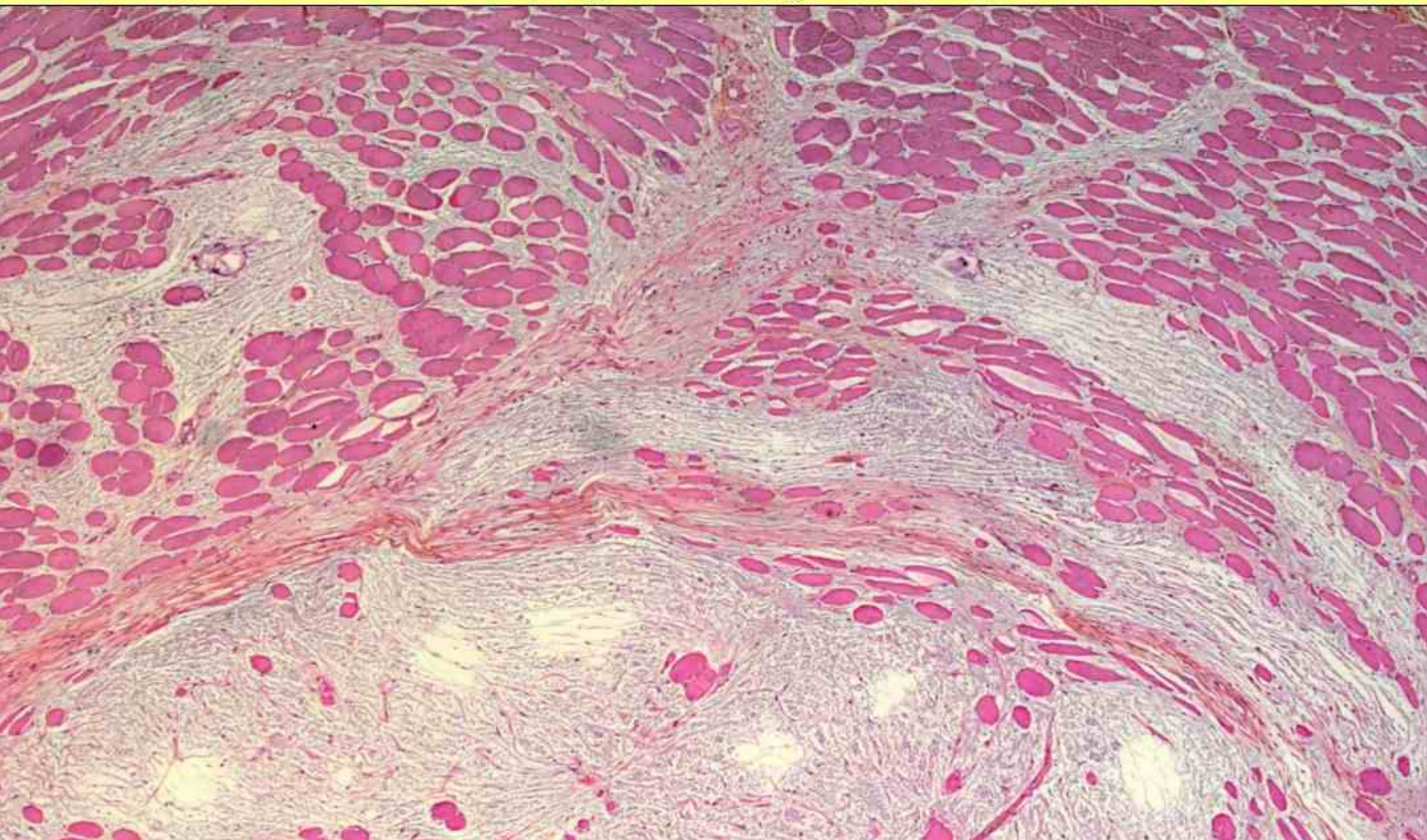
**What is your diagnosis ?**

**EMA**



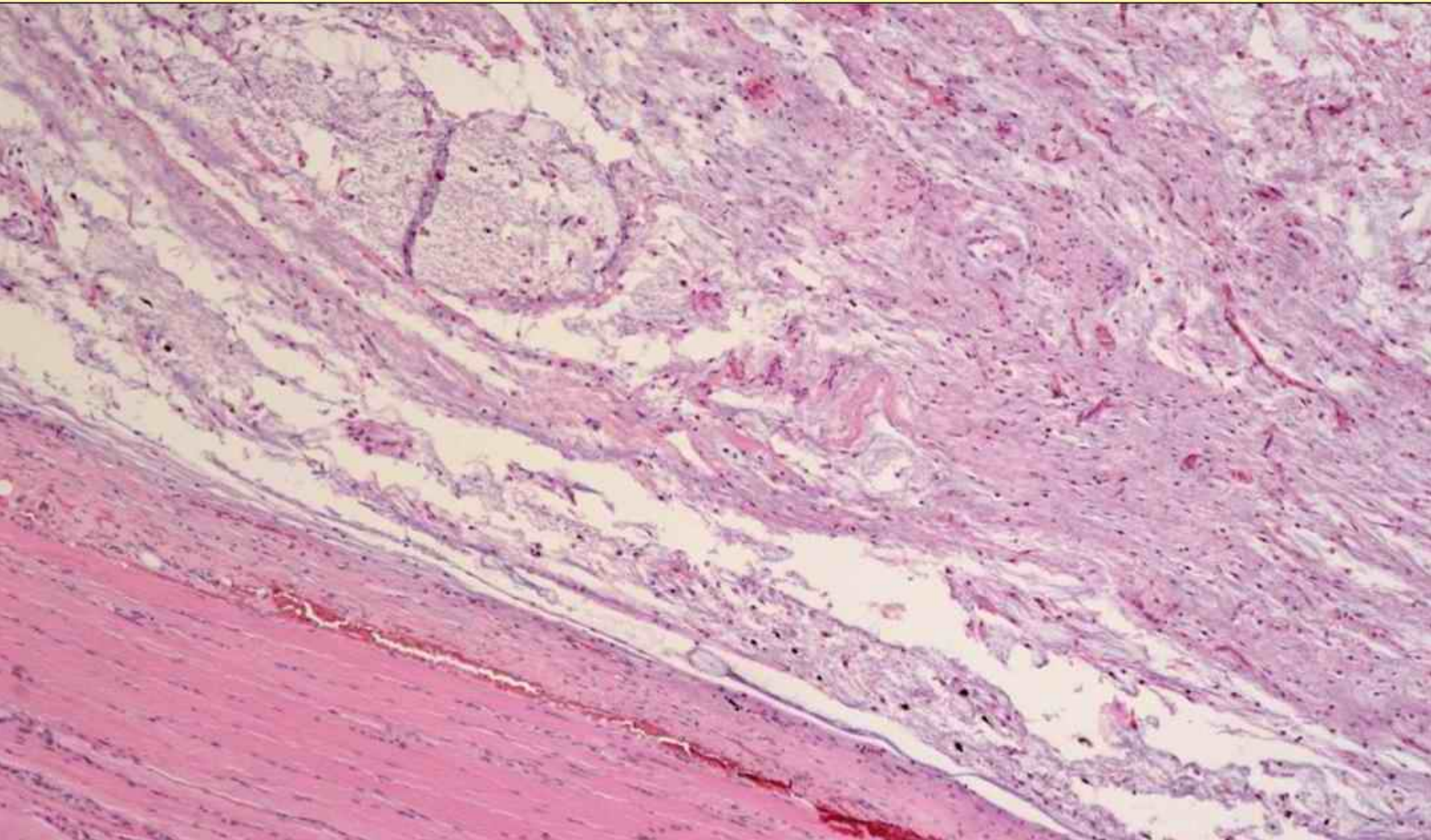
**QUIZ 3:**

6 cm, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass  
developing in the thigh of a 50 year-old female



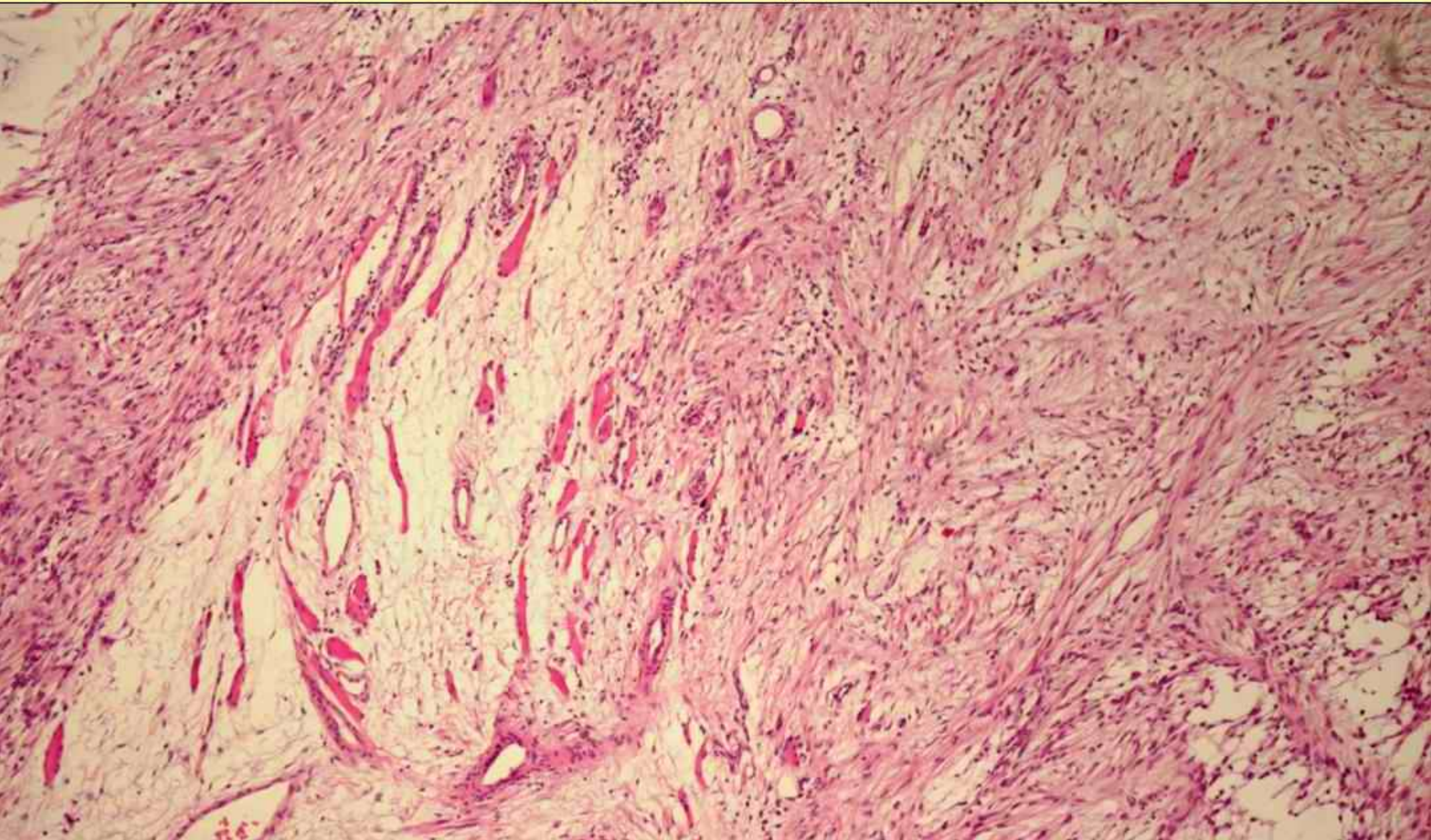
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developing in the thigh of a 50 year-old female



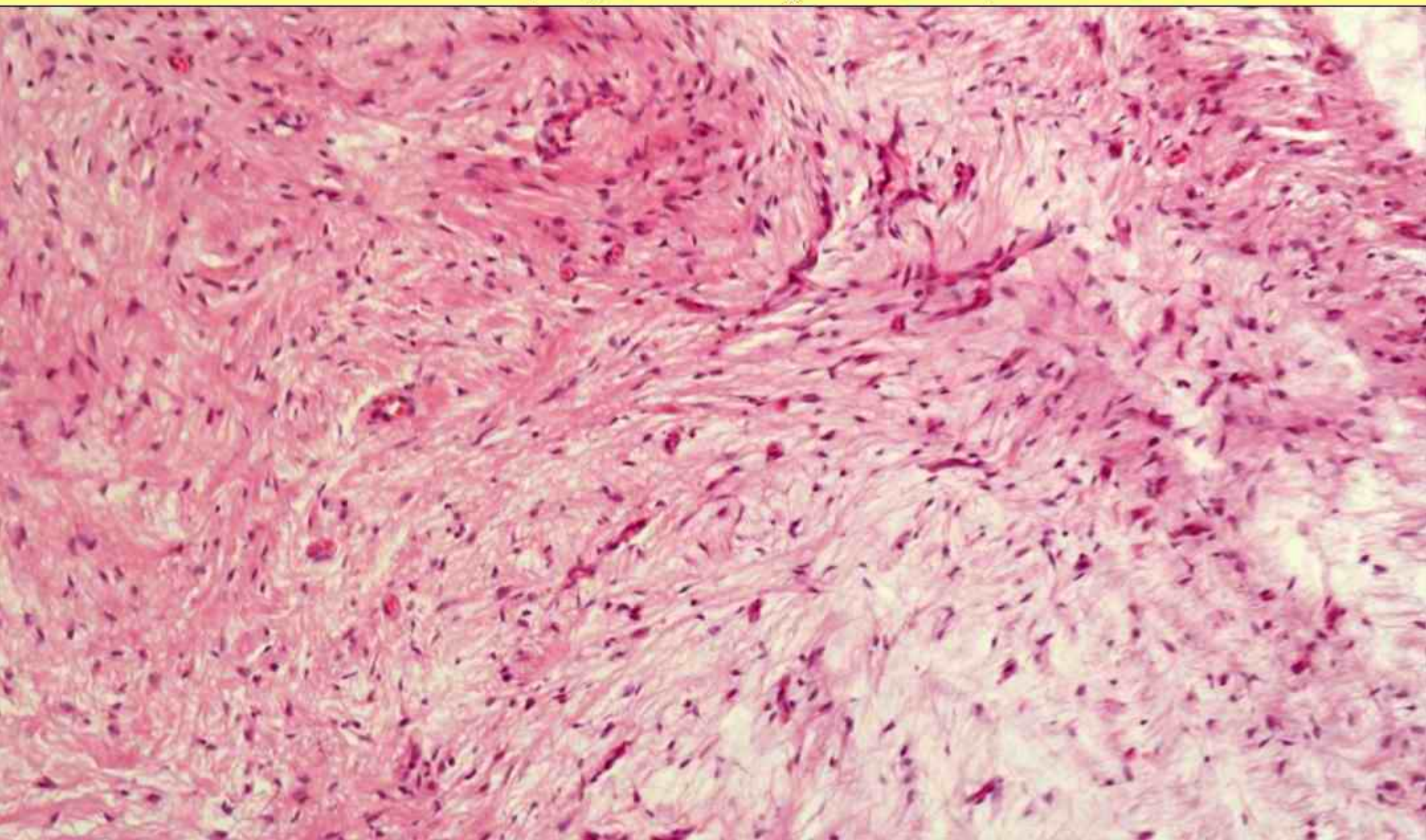
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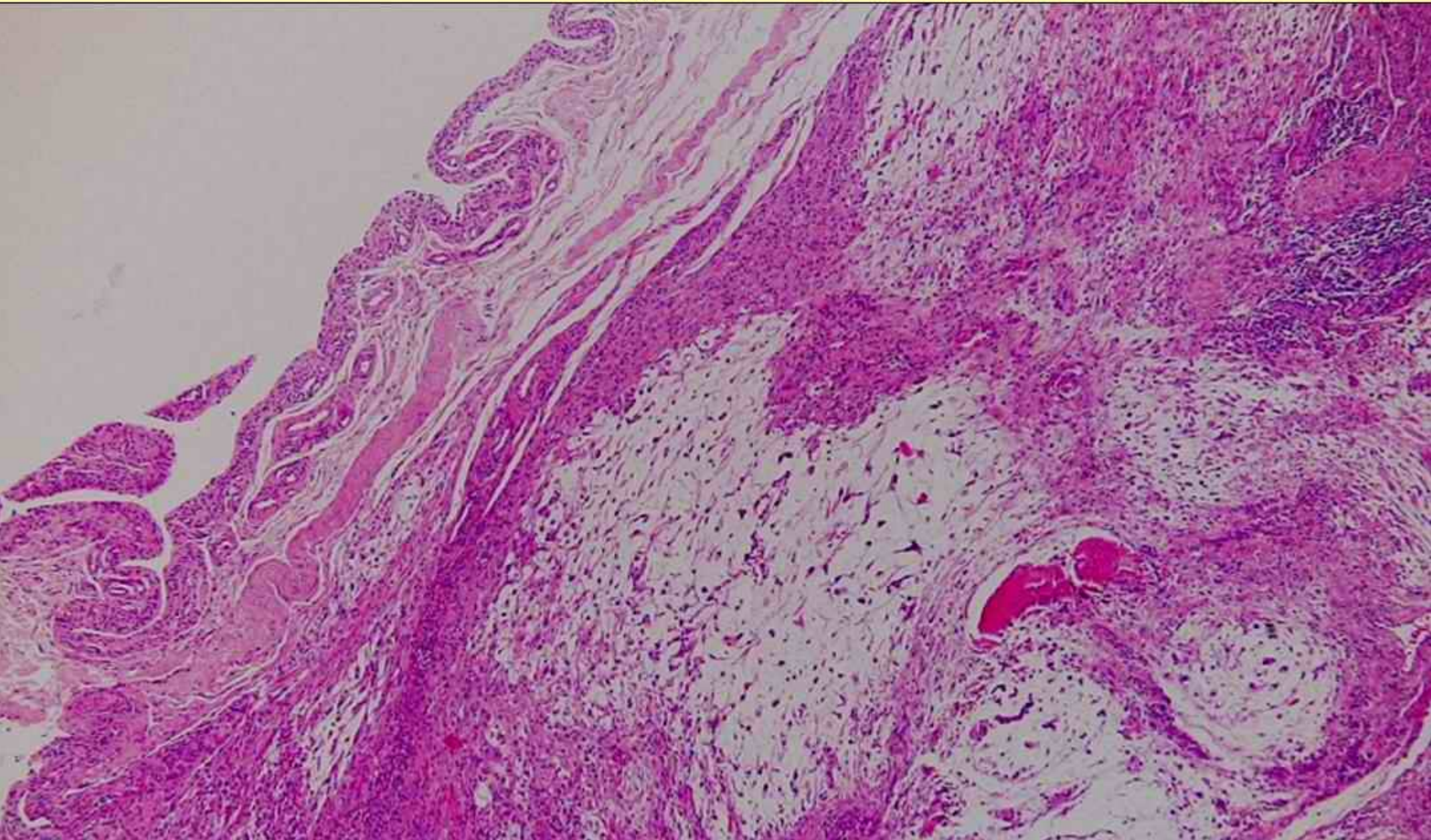
6 cm, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass  
developing in the thigh of a 50 year-old female



**What is your diagnosis ?**

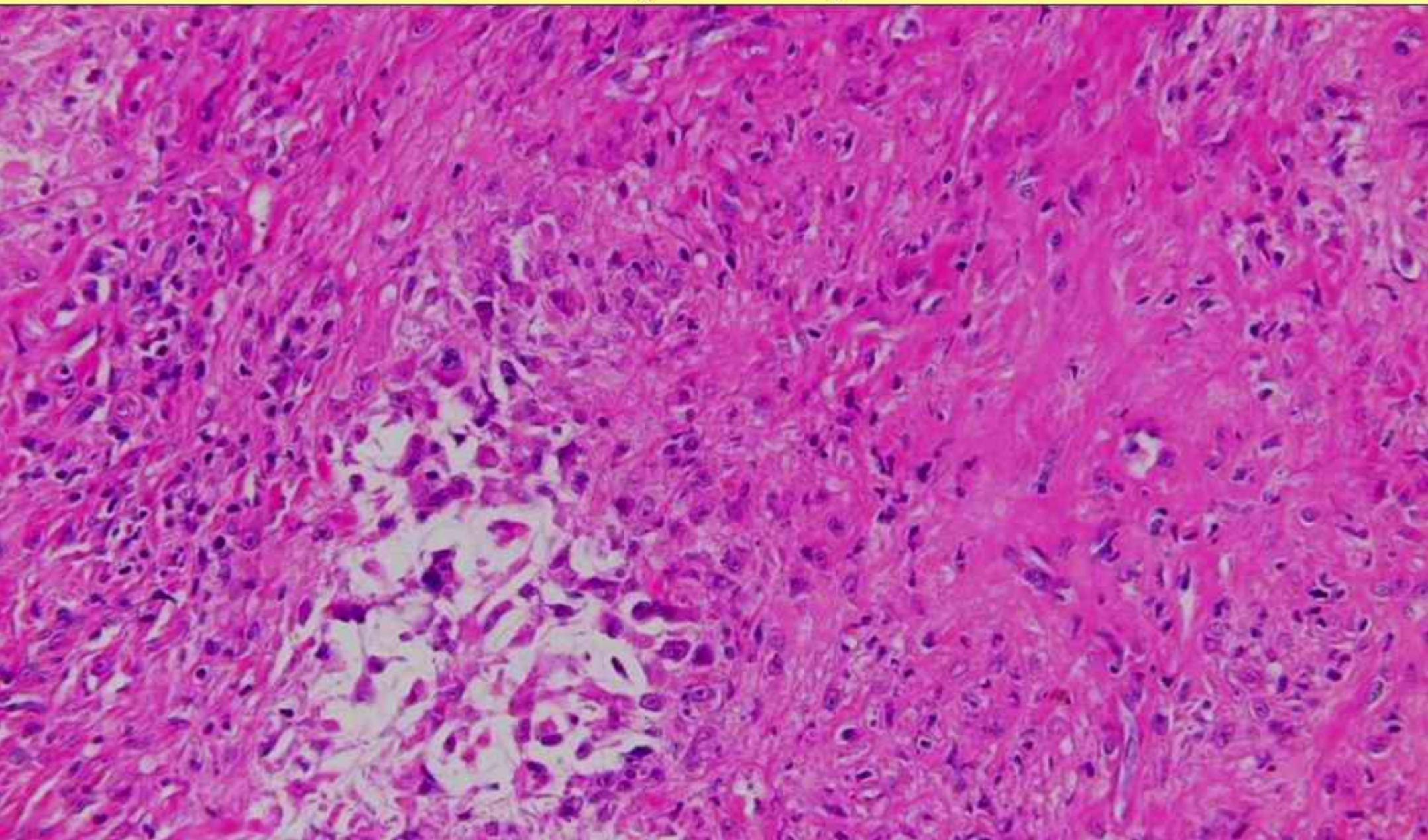
**QUIZ 4:**

4 cm, gelatinous, ill-defined mass of the  
2<sup>nd</sup> left digit in a 45 year-old male



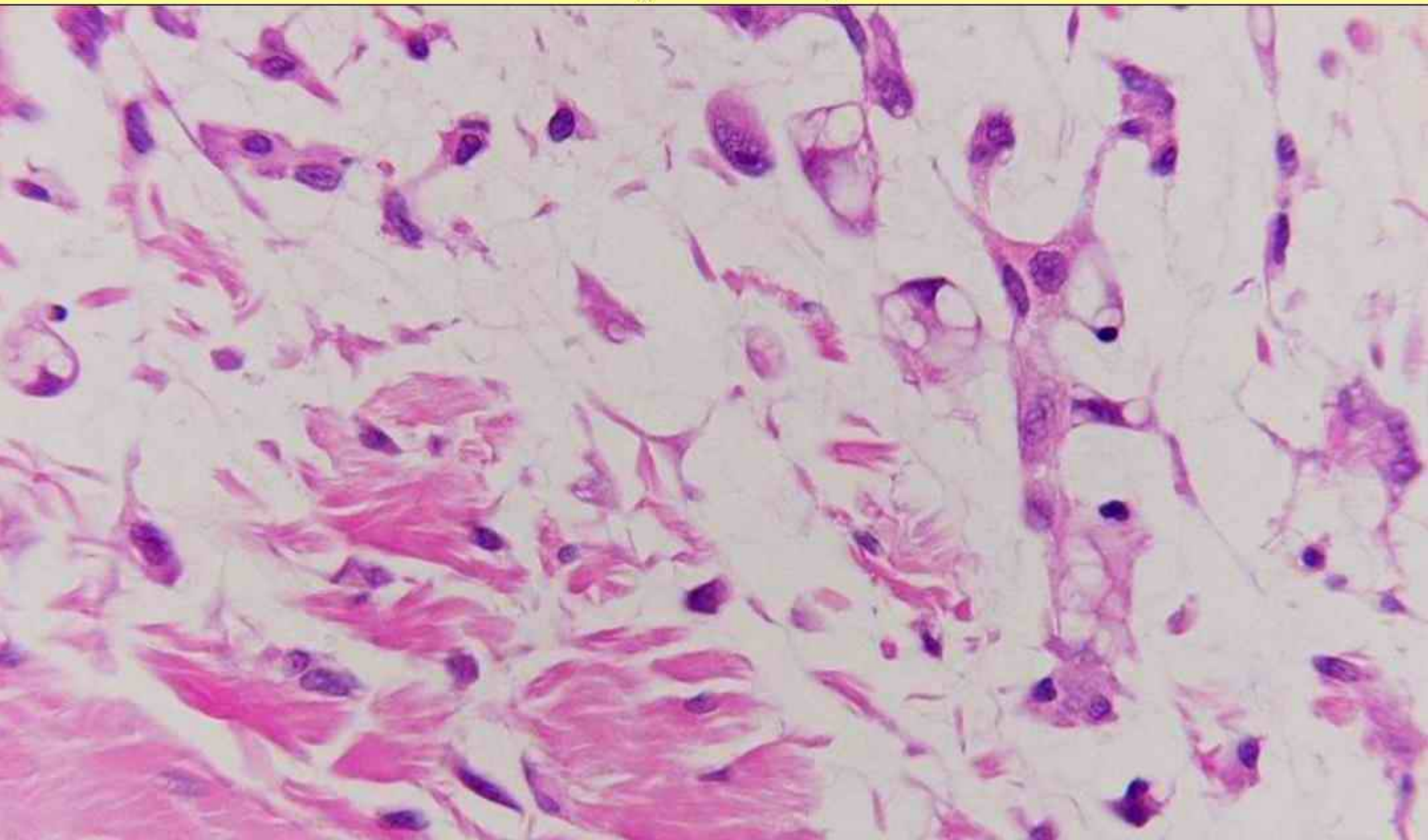
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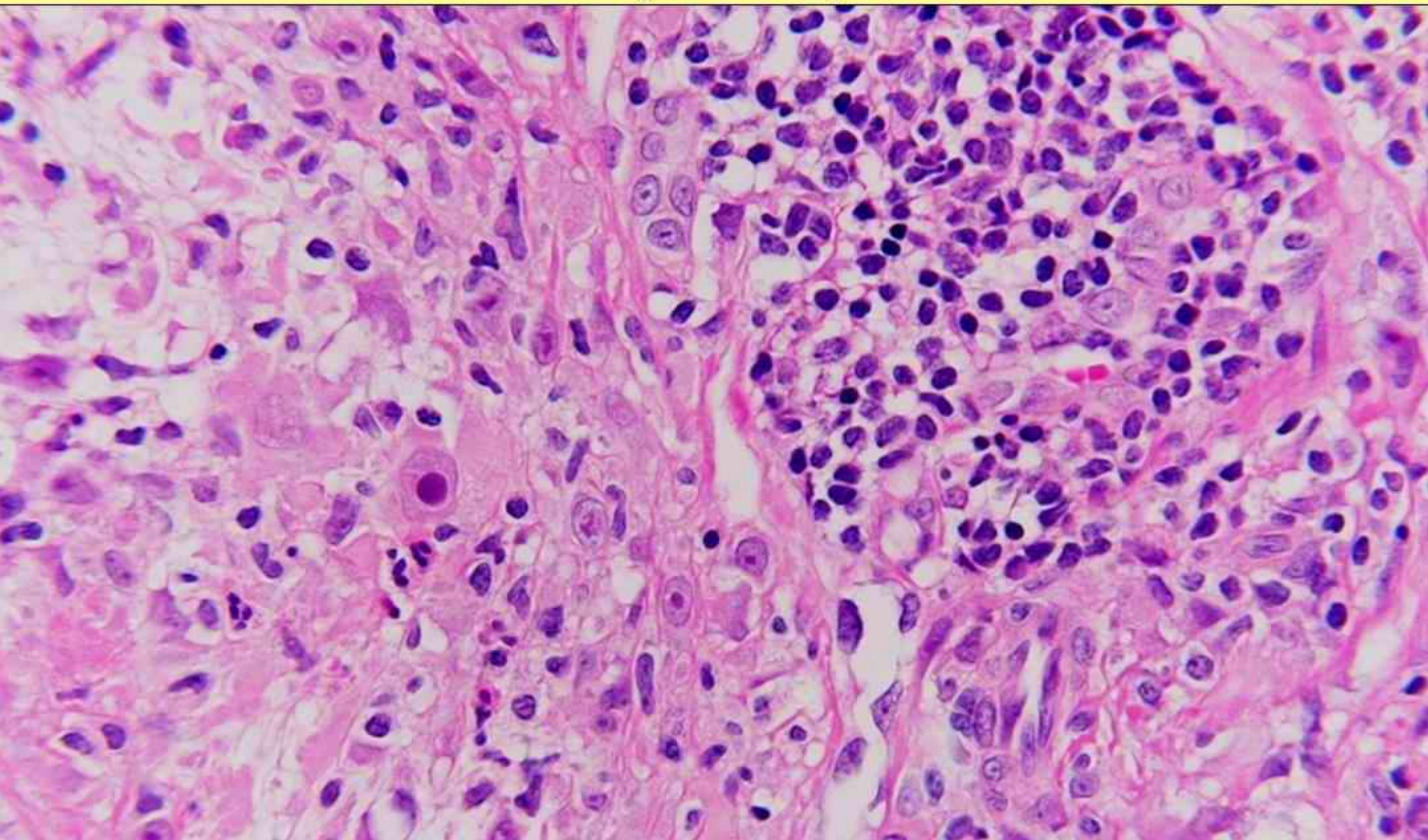
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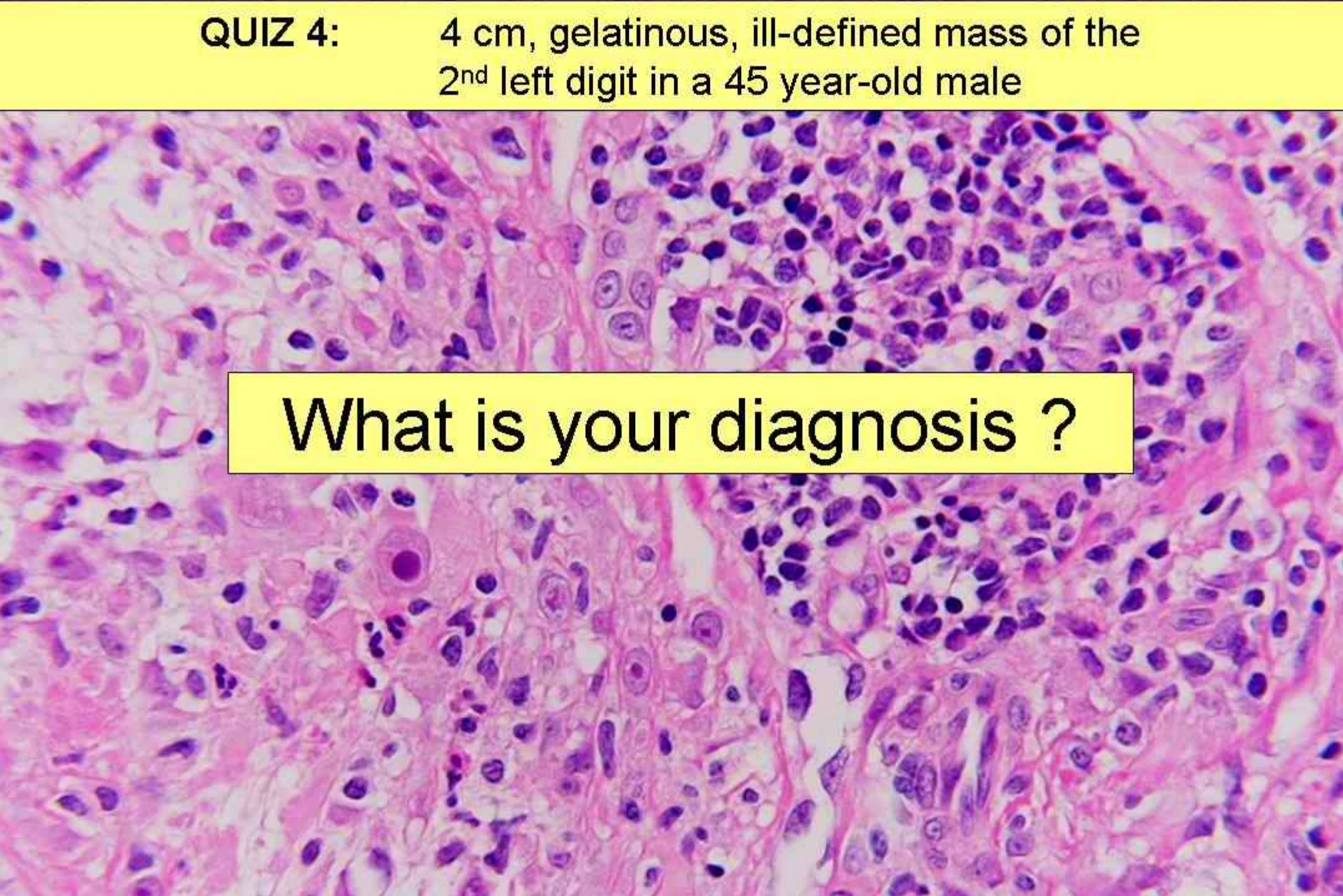
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What is your diagnosis ?

# Mesenchymal lesions with a « myxofibro » appearance

## « Myxofibro » areas observed frequently

- Superficial acral fibromyxoma
- Cutaneous myxoma / Superficial angiomyxoma
- Cellular myxoma / Juxtaarticular myxoma
- Ossifying fibromyxoid tumor
- Myxofibrosarcoma (low- & intermediate grade variants)
- Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma / hyalinizing spindle cell tumor with giant rosettes
- Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor (myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma)

# Mesenchymal lesions with a « myxofibro » appearance

## « Myxofibro » areas observed occasionally

- Soft tissue perineurioma (myxoid variant)
- Desmoplastic fibroblastoma (collagenous fibroma)
- Myxoid neurofibroma
- Myxoid spindle cell lipoma (dendritic fibromyxolipoma)
- Ancient fibrohyalinized nodular fasciitis
- Giant cell fibroblastoma
- Deep « aggressive » angiomyxoma
- Desmoid tumor
- Solitary fibrous tumor (myxoid variant)
- Low-grade malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor
- Dedifferentiated liposarcoma
- Pleomorphic liposarcoma
- Sclerosing epithelioid fibrosarcoma

**Salient clinicopathologic features  
of the most relevant entities**

# Superficial Acral Fibromyxoma

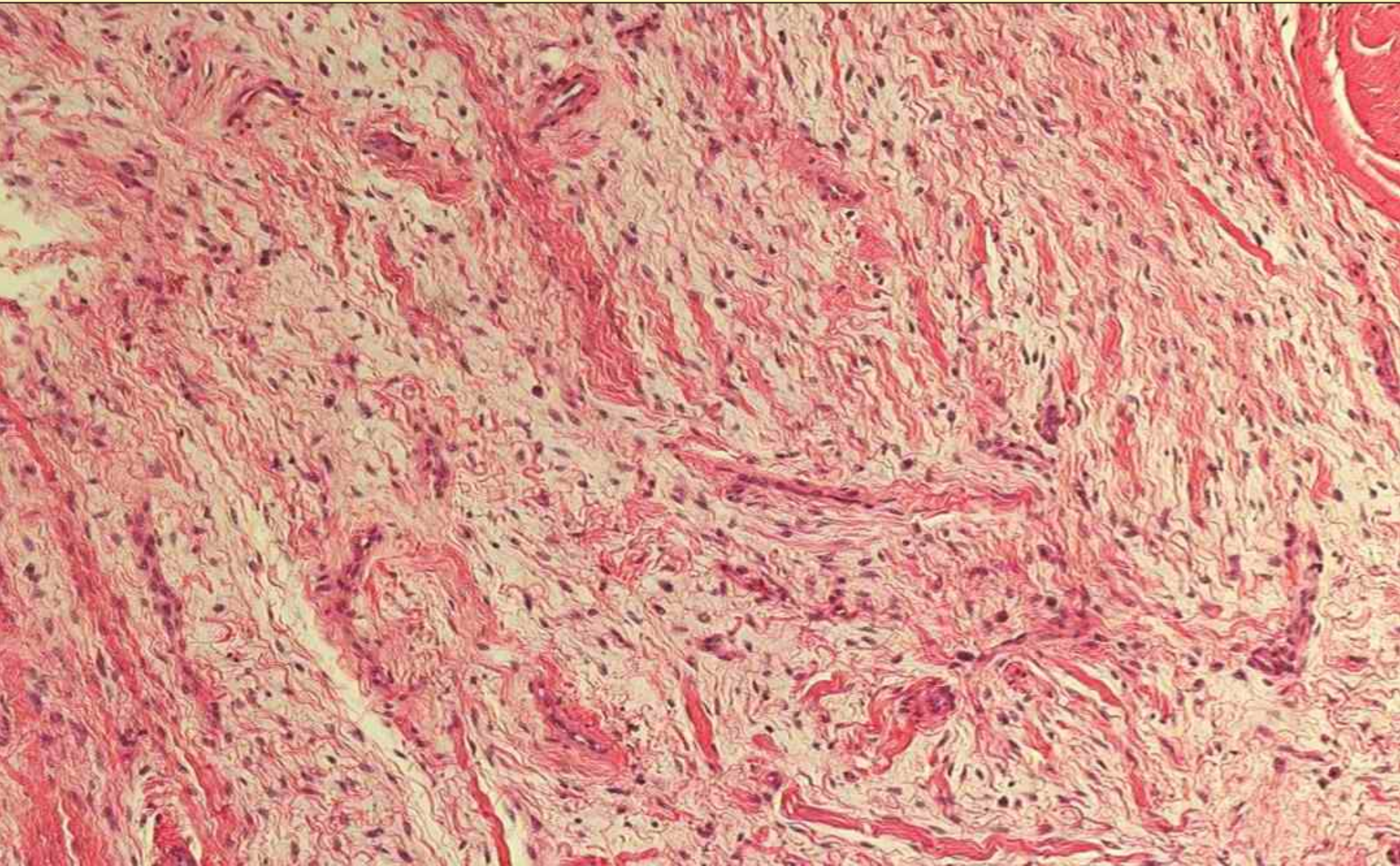
- **Key features**

- Described in 2001 by Fetsch *et al.* (*Hum Pathol*)
- Middle-aged adults
- Sites:
  - Superficial soft tissues of distal extremities (fingers, palm, toes)
  - Tends to involve the nail region
- Size: 1-2 cm
- Benign lesion. Recurrence rate <5%

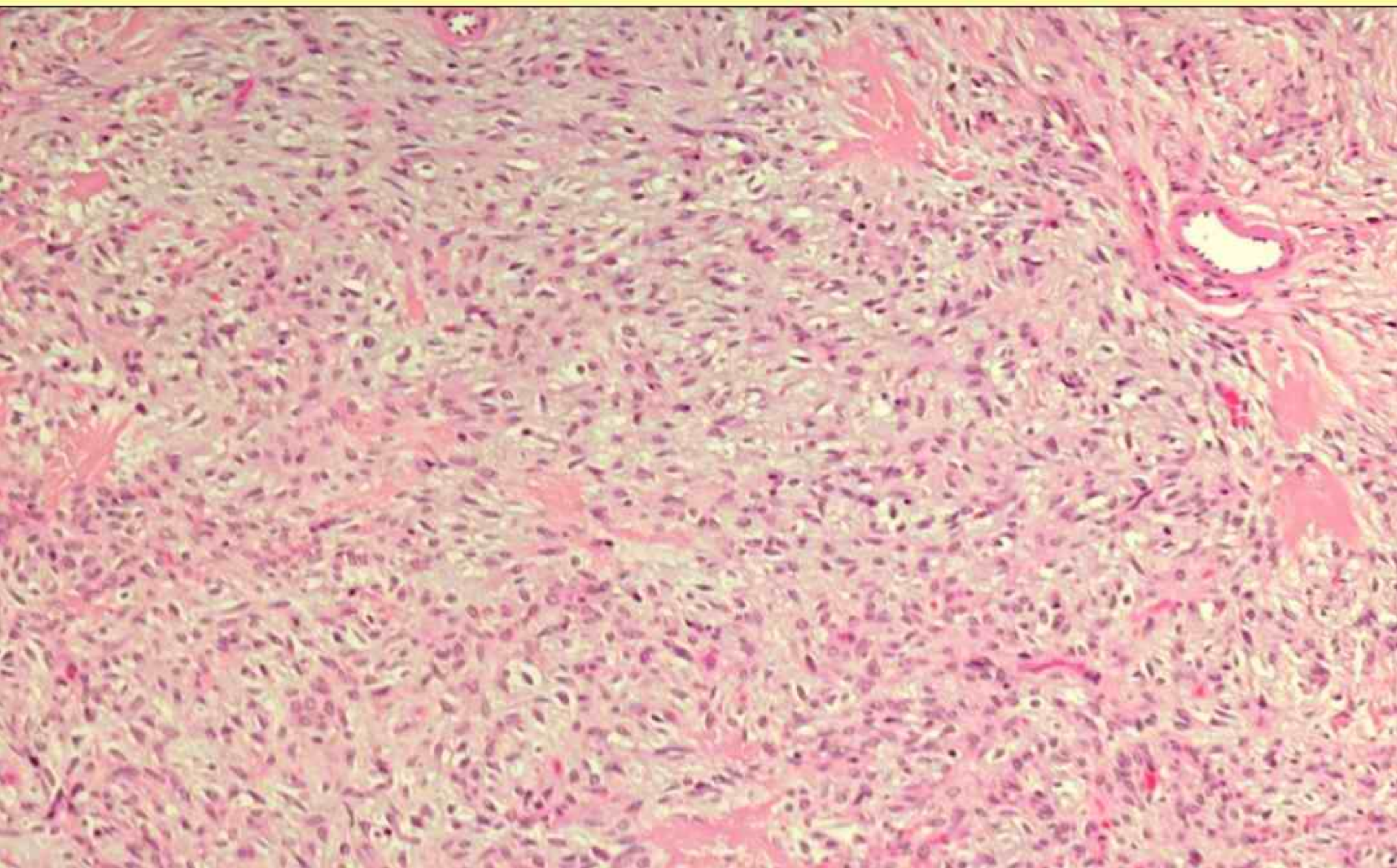
# Superficial acral fibromyxoma



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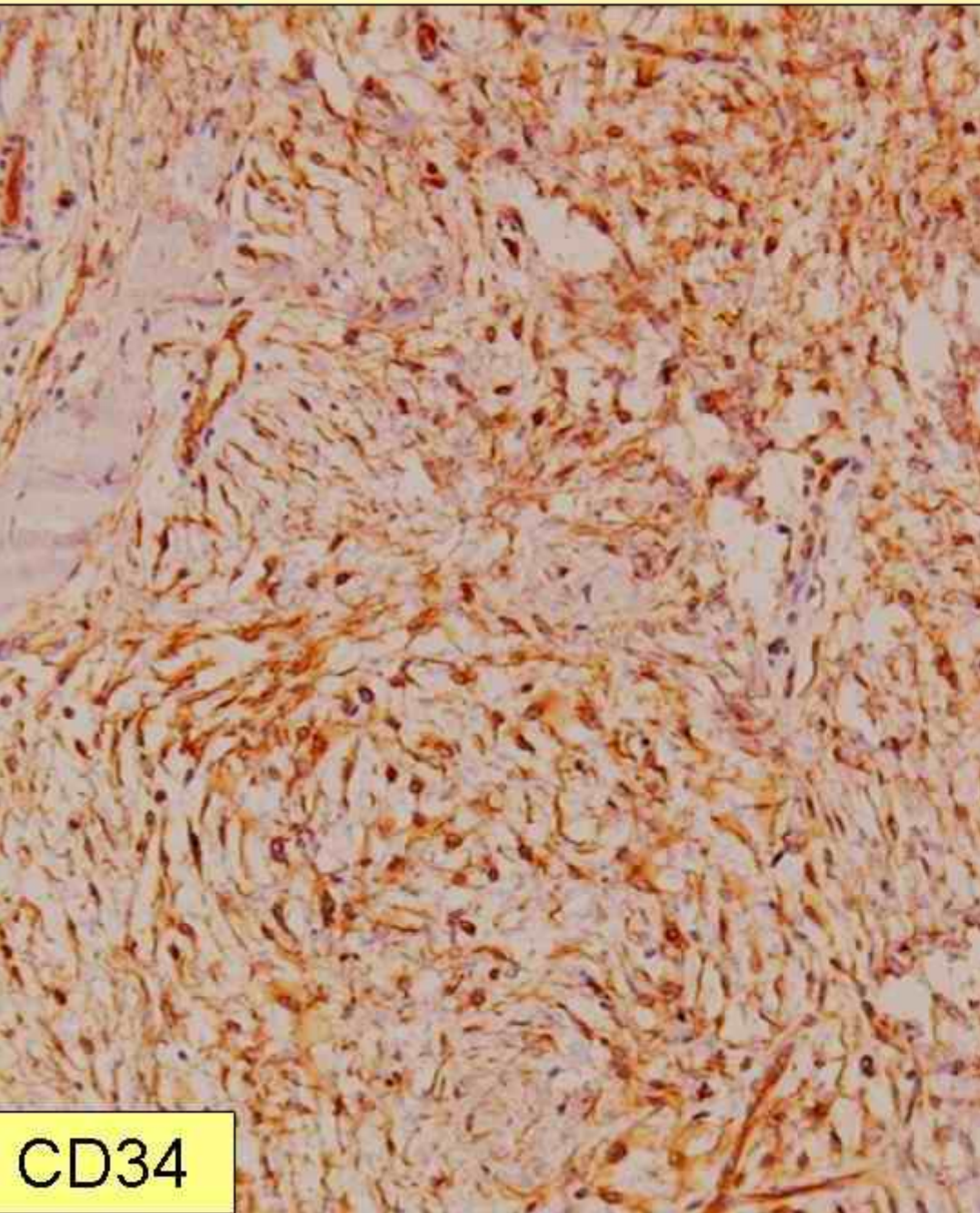


# Superficial Acral Fibromyxoma

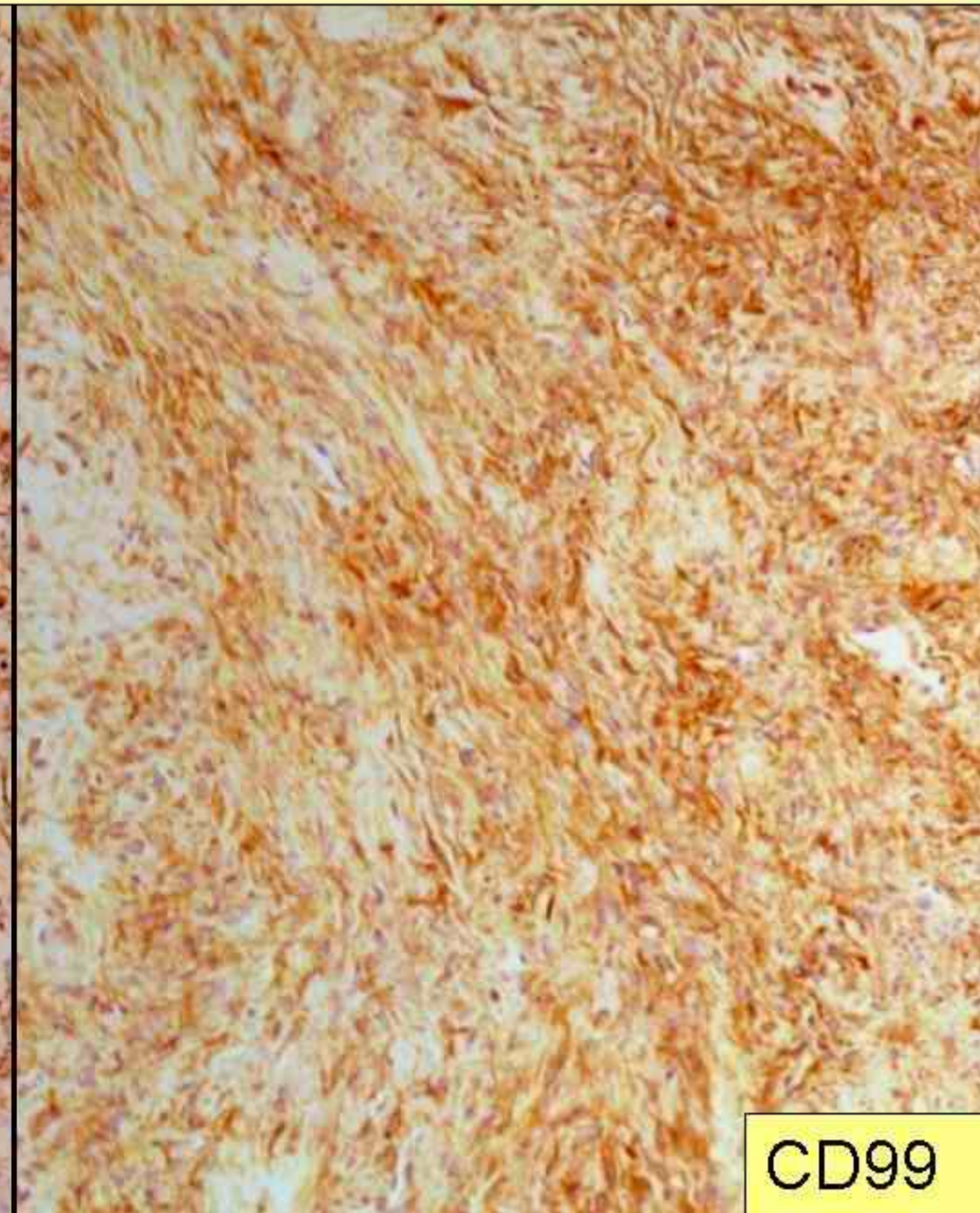
- Immunohistochemistry

- CD34 positivity (90% of cases)
- CD99 + (80%)
- EMA + (70%)
- Usually negative for smooth muscle actin, desmin, keratins, and S100 protein

# Superficial acral fibromyxoma



CD34

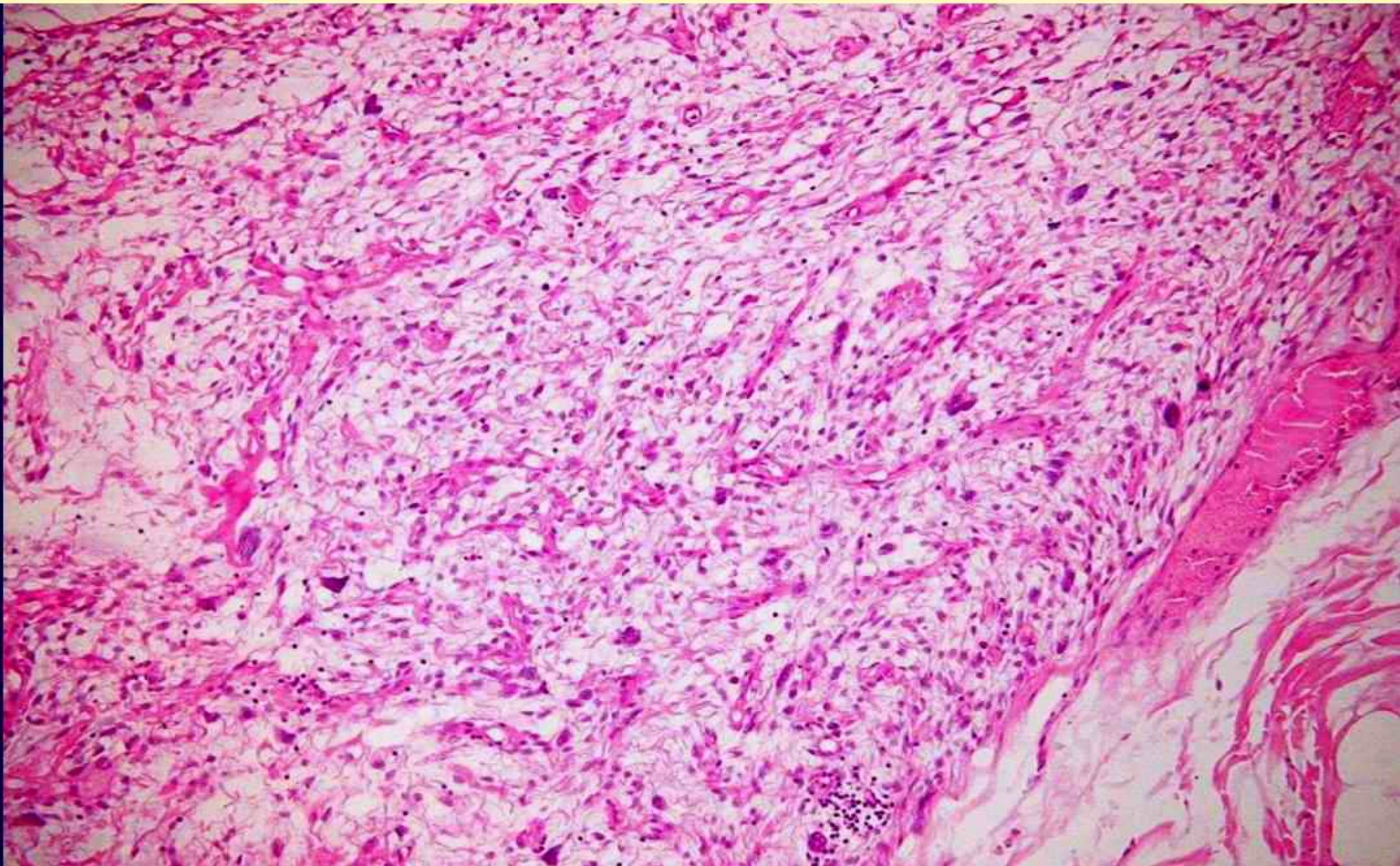


CD99

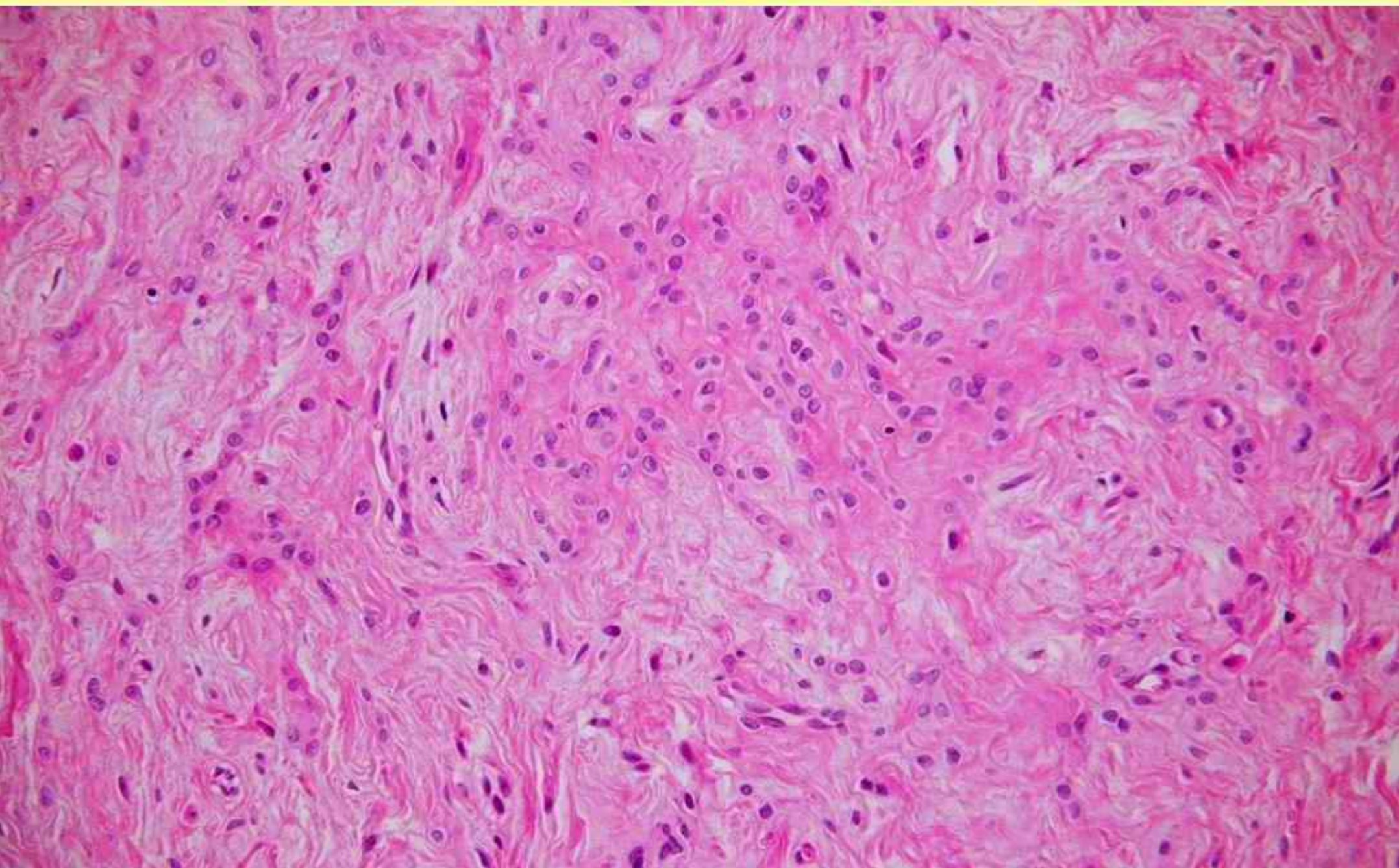
# Superficial Acral Fibromyxoma

- **Differential diagnosis**
  - Low-grade sarcomas +++
    - Low to intermediate-grade myxofibrosarcoma
    - Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma
    - Low-grade MPNST
    - Acral myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma
    - Myxoid variant of dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans
  - Benign lesions
    - Sclerosing perineurioma, Periungueal fibrokeratoma, Myxoid fibrous histiocytoma, Cutaneous myxoma, Superficial angiomyxoma

# Intermediate-grade myxofibrosarcoma



# Sclerosing/myxoid perineurioma



# Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma

- **Key features**

- Described in 1987 by Harry Evans
- Young adults (median 35 yrs); M>F
- Long-standing, painless mass
- Deep soft tissue of limbs (thigh +++), limb girdles, trunk
- Cytogenetics: t(7;16) (q33;p11) FUS/CREB3L2 (90%)  
or t(11;16) (p11;p11) FUS/CREB3L1 (10%)
- Local recurrence: 10% (if the lesion is correctly excised *ab initio*)
- Metastatic rate: 5-10% (lungs, pleura, bone) if F-U <5 years, 70% if F-U > 8-10 years

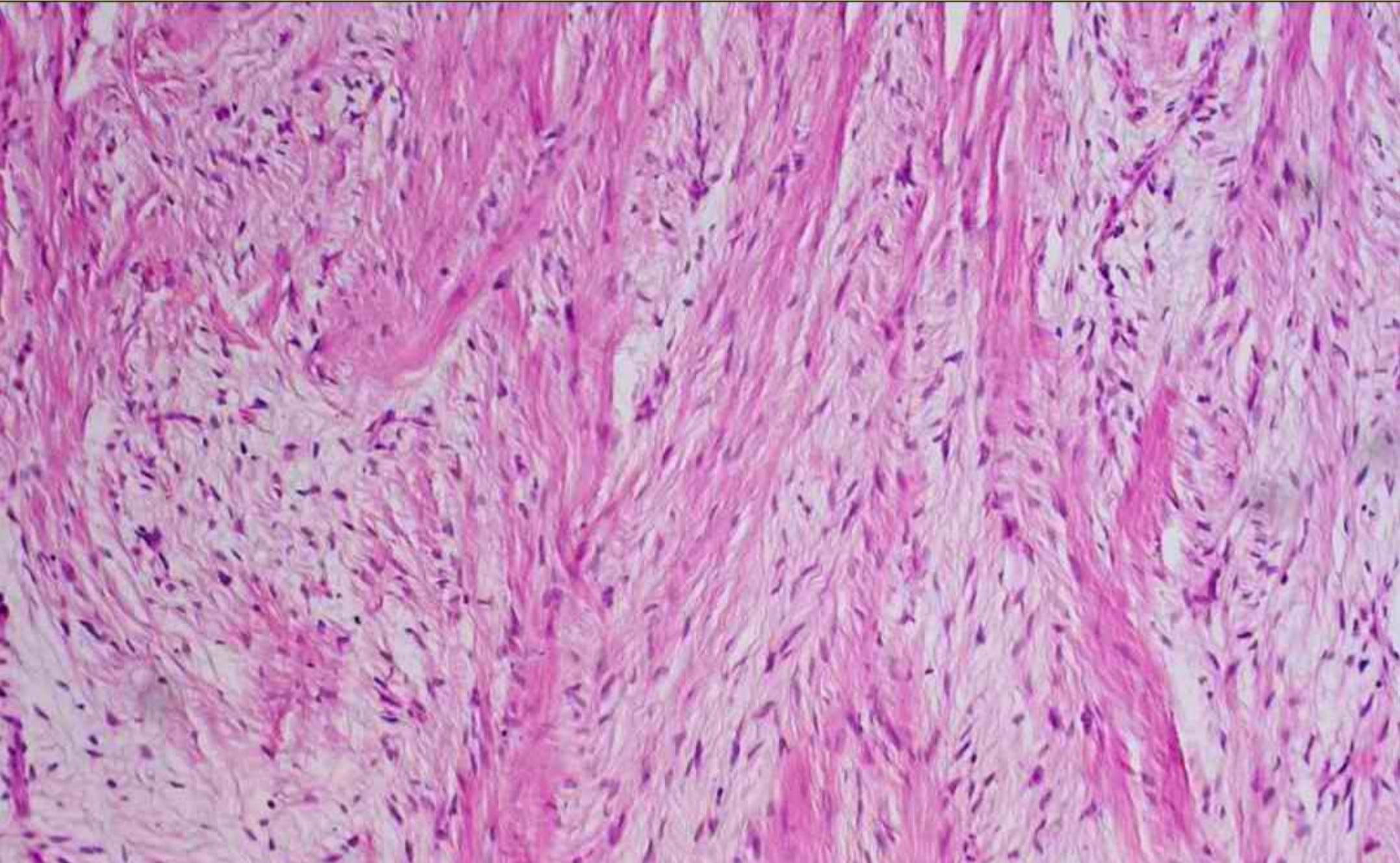
# Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma



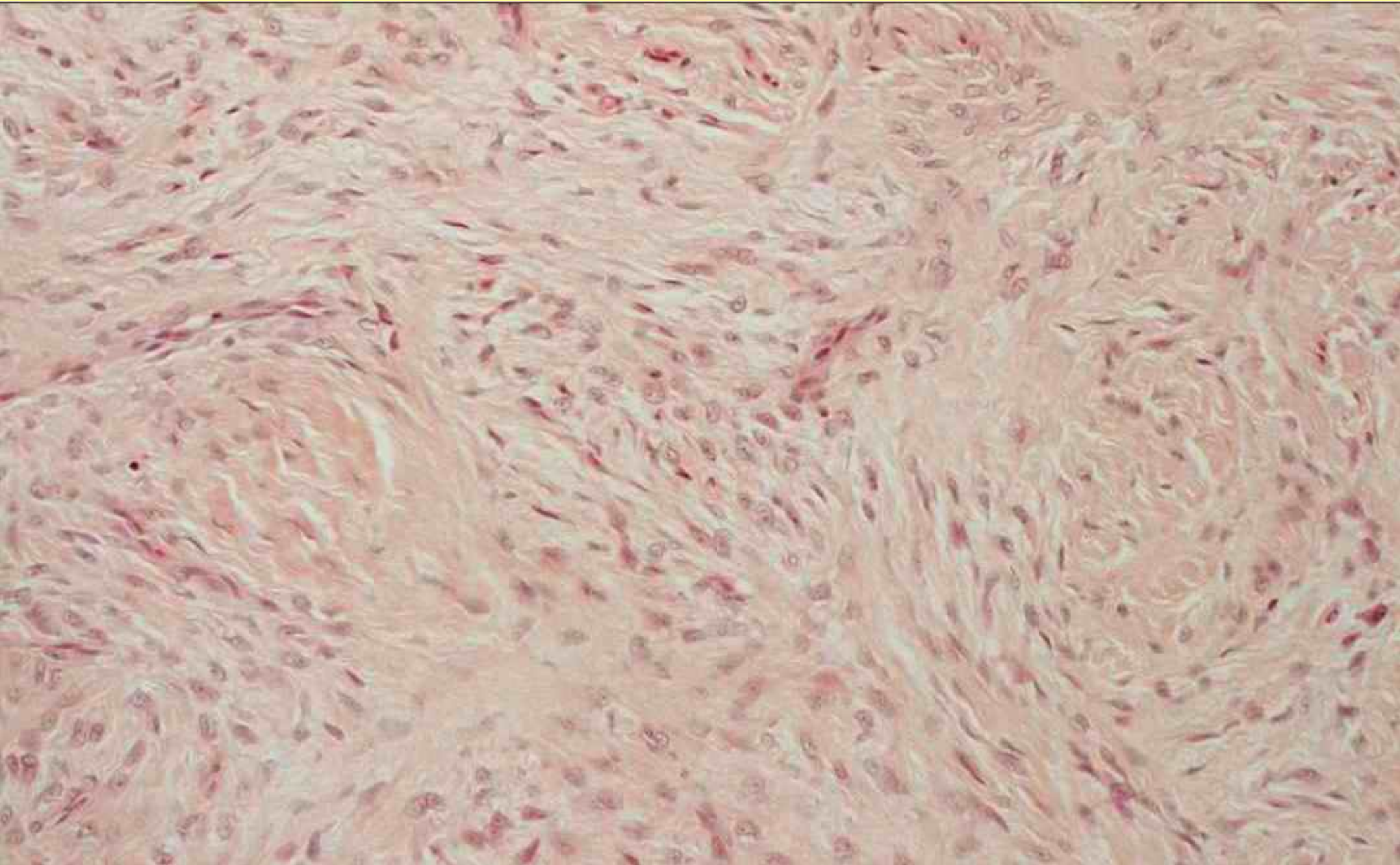
# Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma



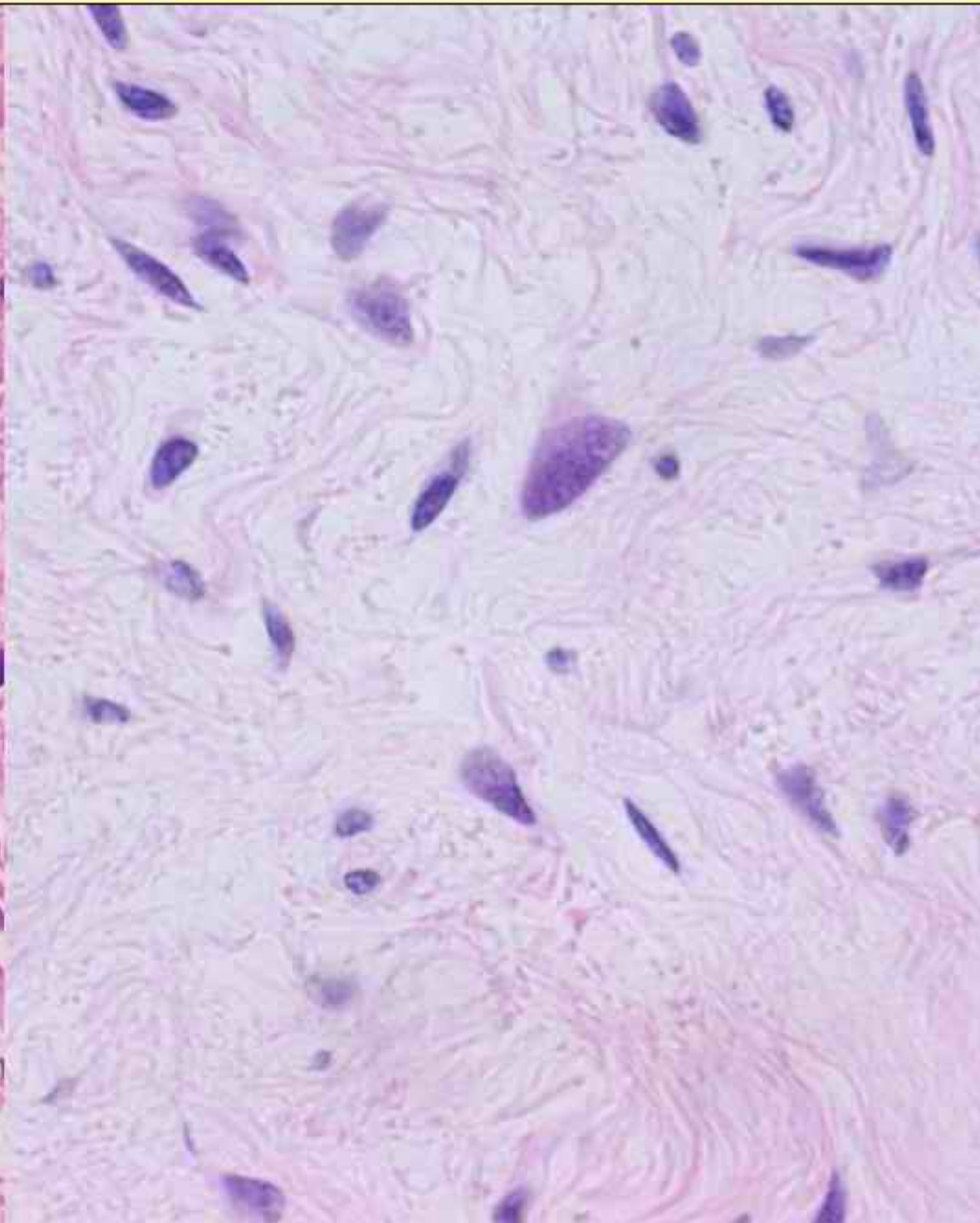
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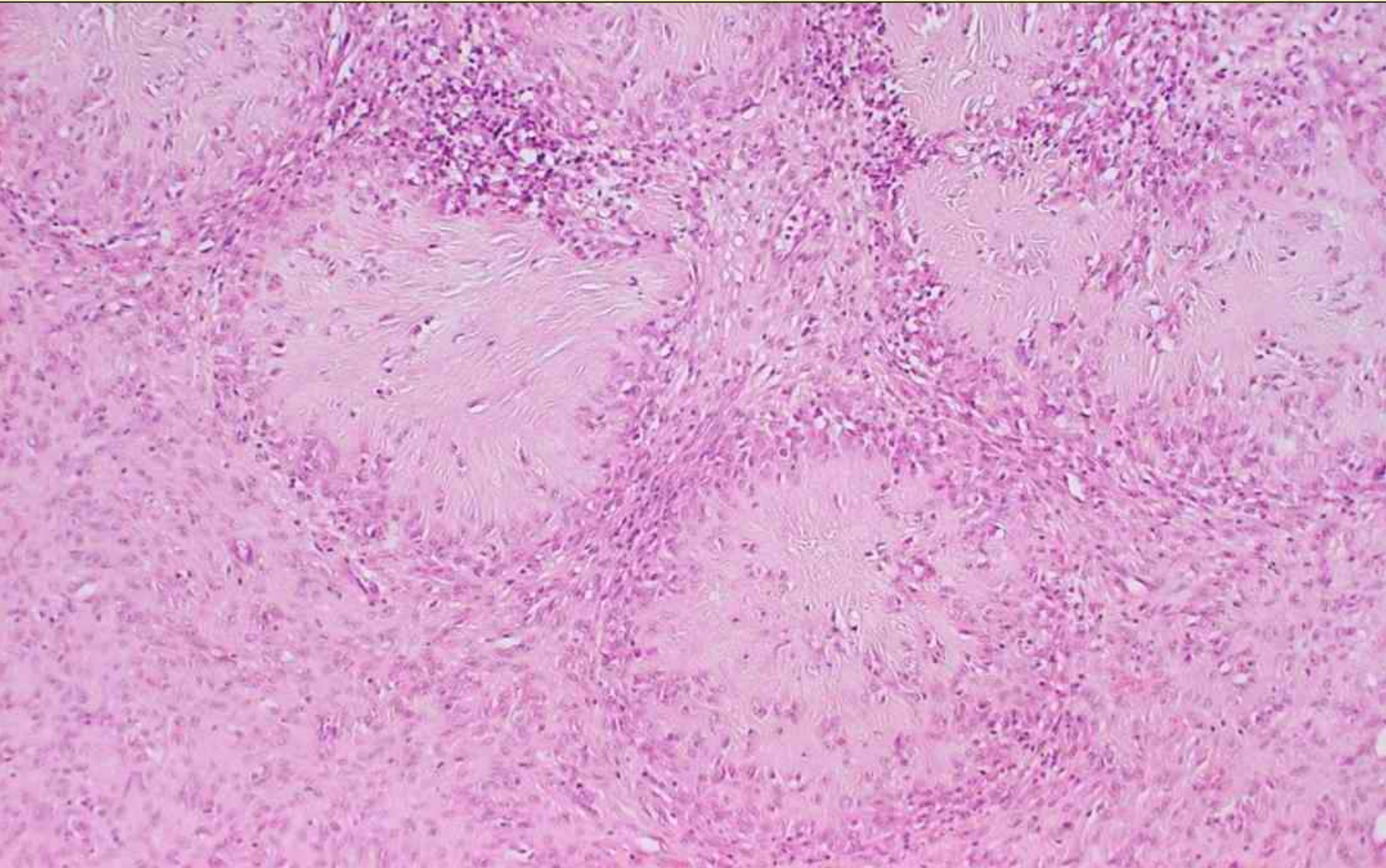
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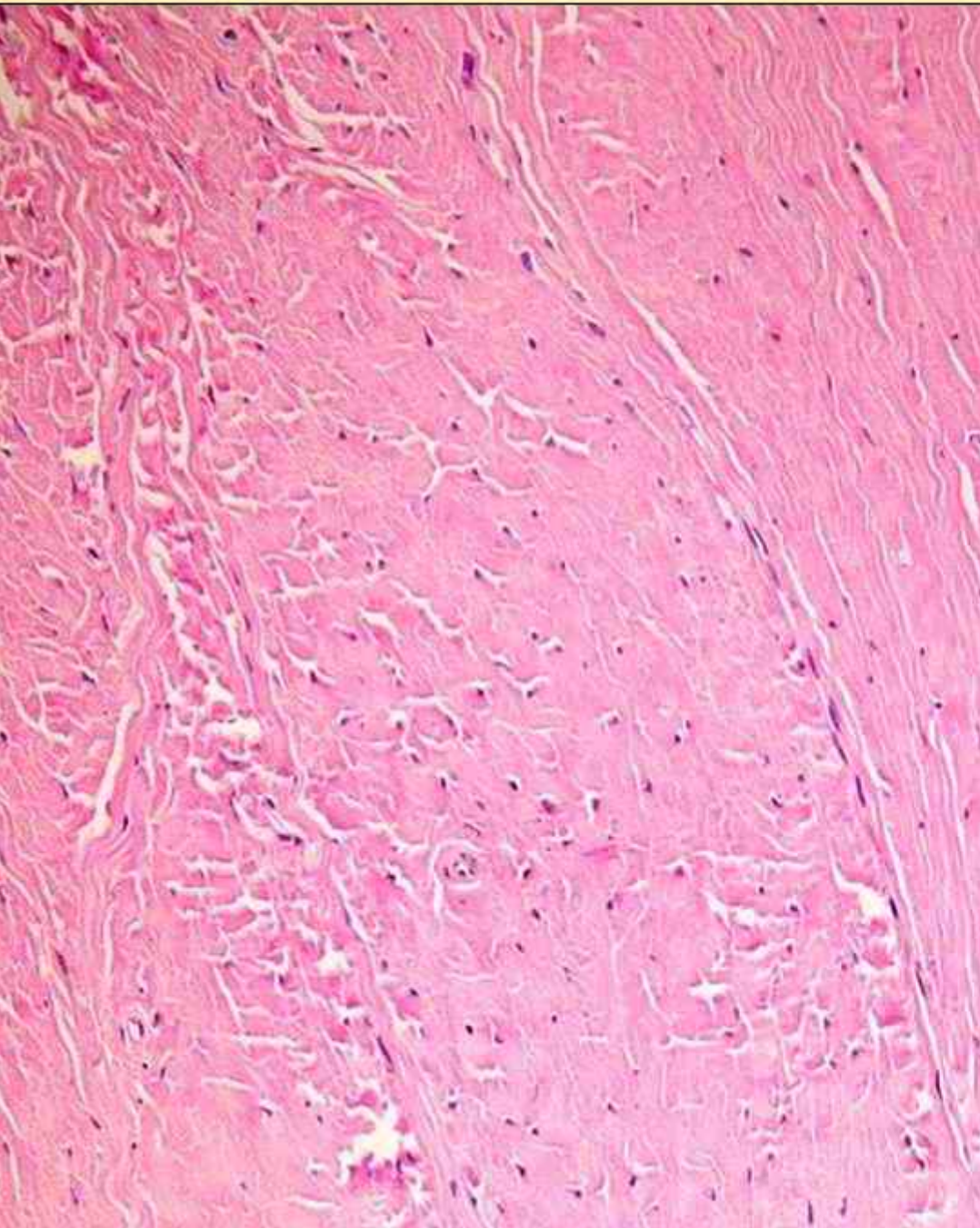
# Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma



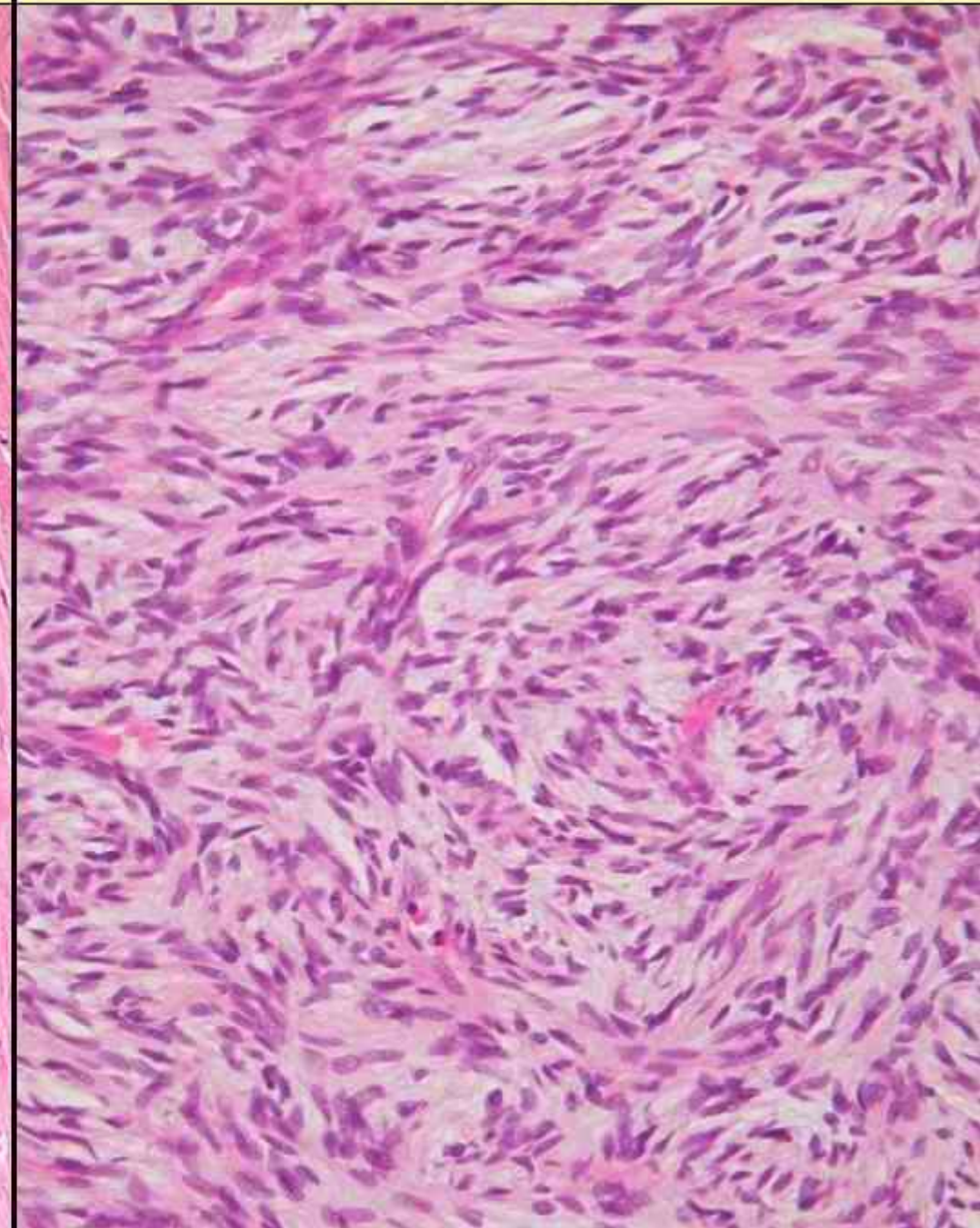
## Hyalinizing spindle cell tumor with giant rosettes: a variant of LGFMS



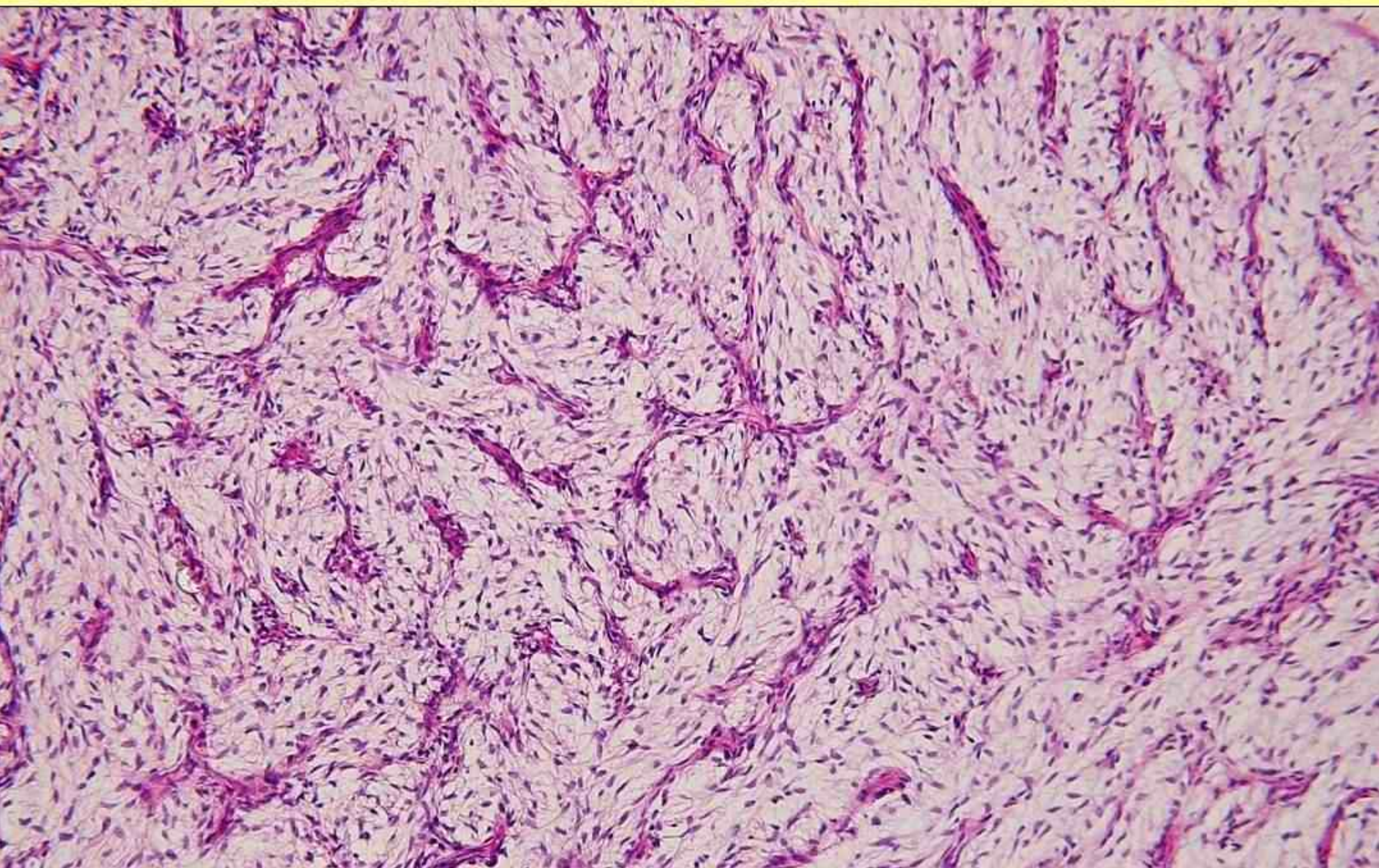
LGFMS, fibroma-like variant



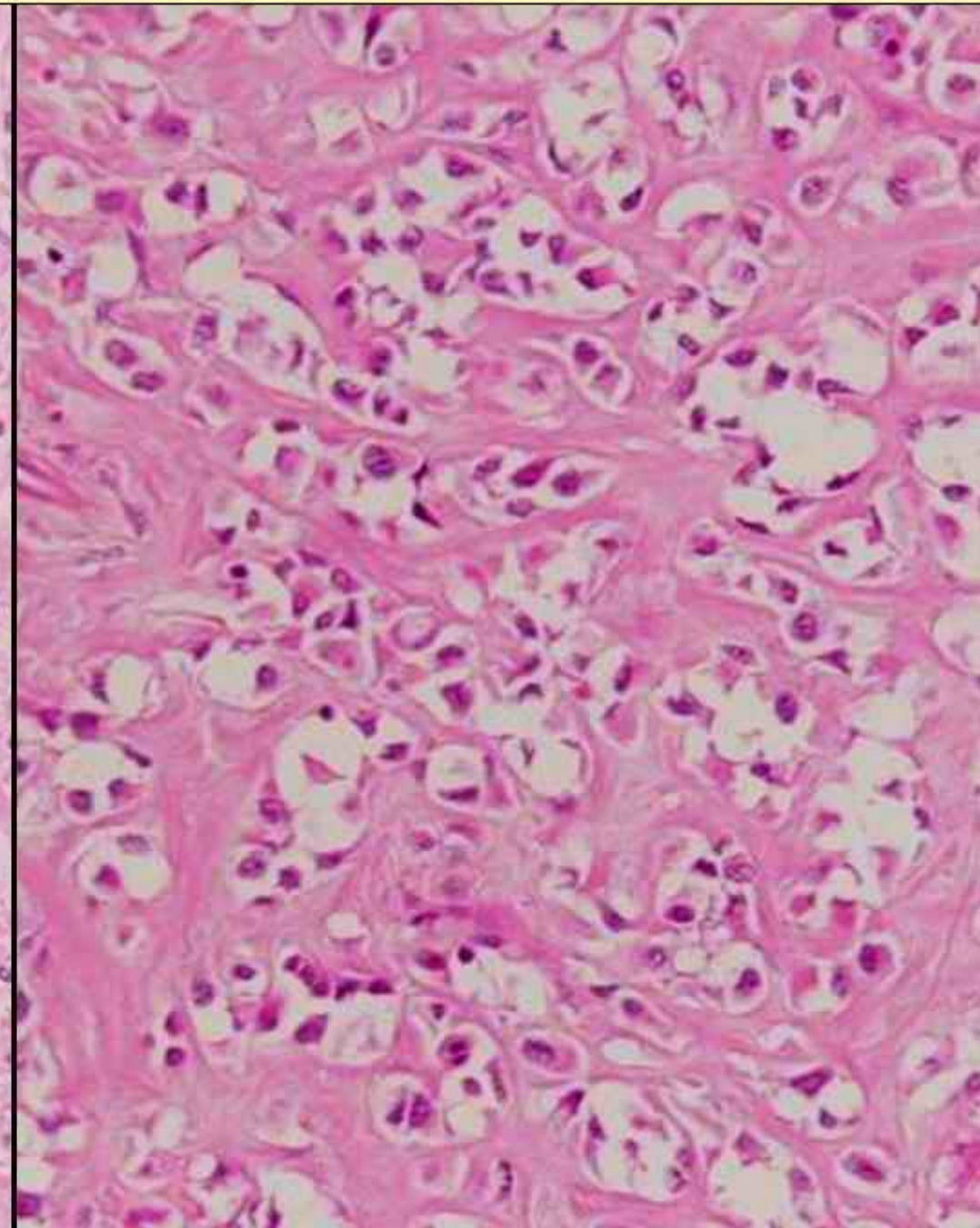
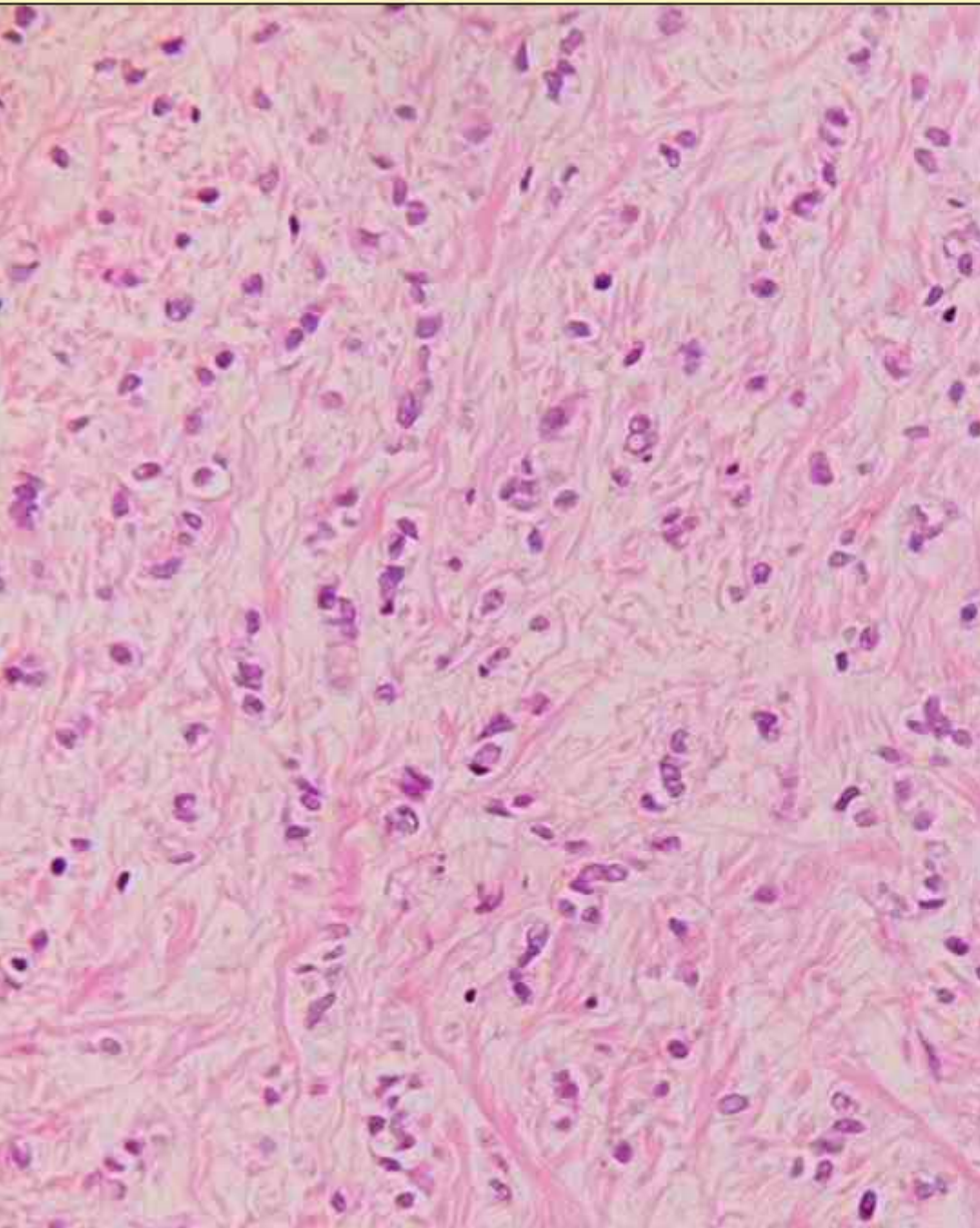
LGFMS, cellular variant



## LGFMS resembling a low-grade myxofibrosarcoma



LGFMS with epithelioid features, resembling sclerosing epith. fibrosarcoma

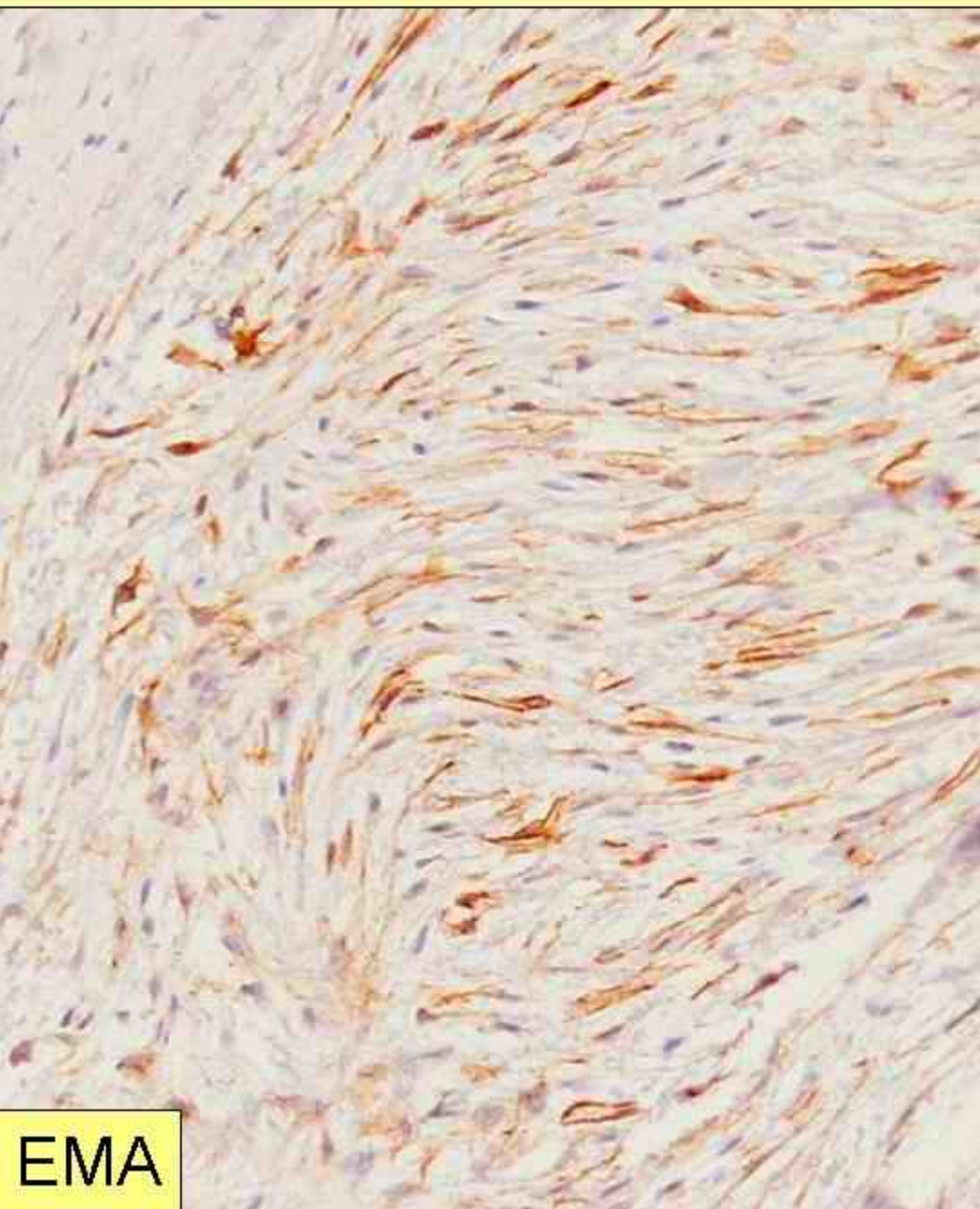


# Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma

- **Immunohistochemistry**

- EMA + : 80%
- CD99 + : 80%
- Bcl-2 + : 80%
  
- CD34: negative
- S100: negative
- SMA: negative
- Desmin: negative
- Keratins: negative

# Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma



EMA



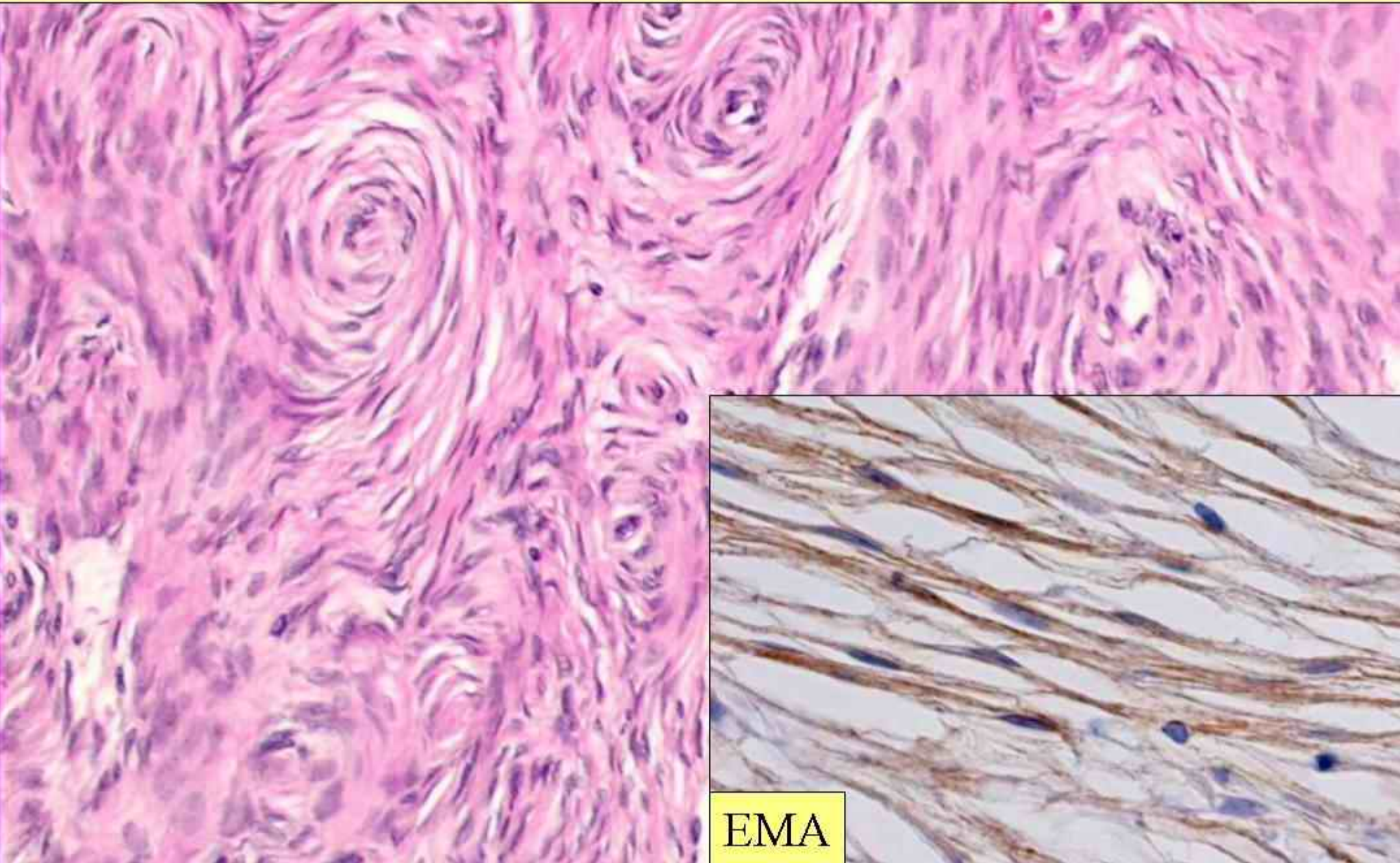
CD34

# Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma

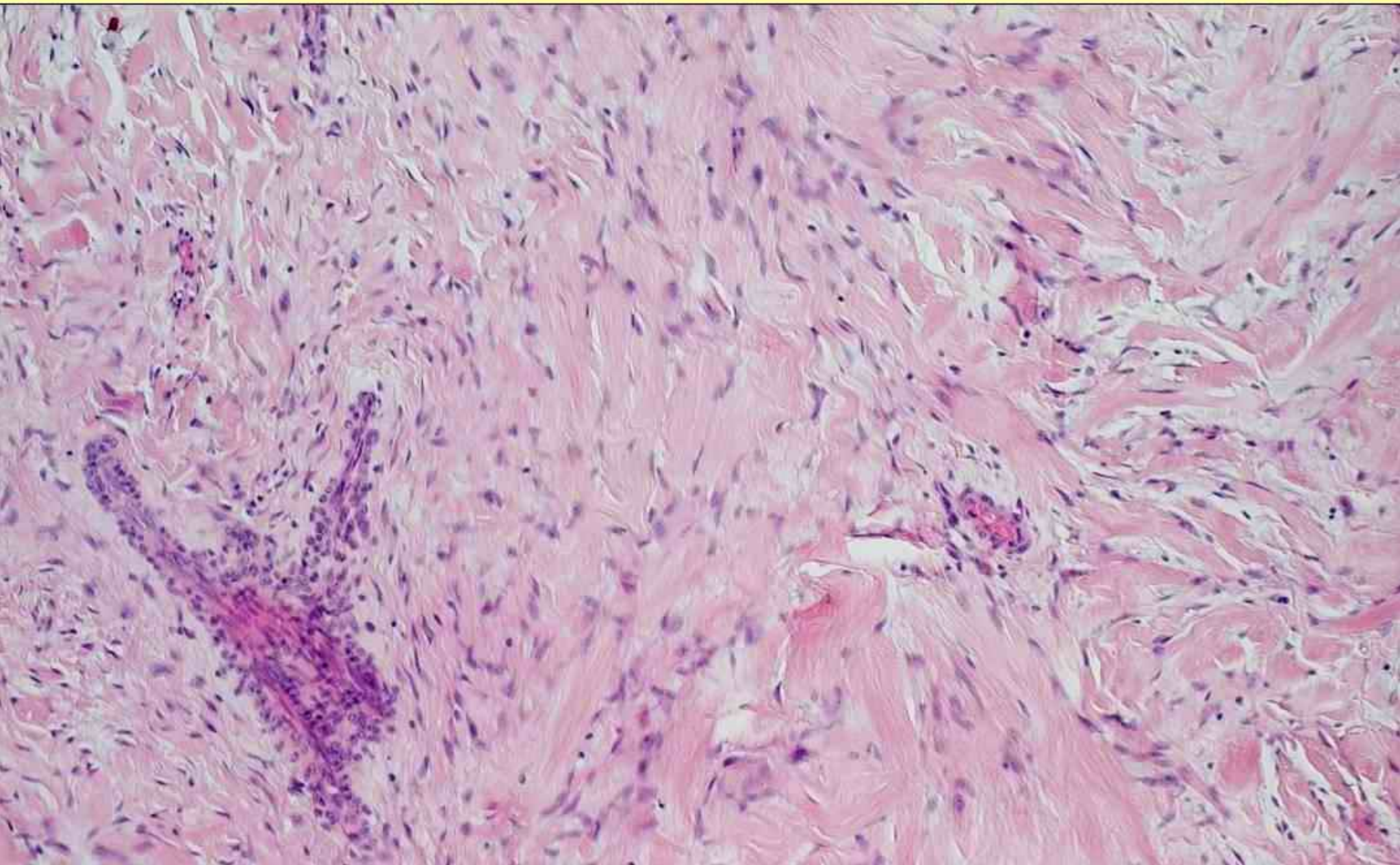
- **Differential diagnosis**

- Perineurioma +++ , fibroma, neurofibroma
- Desmoid tumor +++
- Low-grade myxofibrosarcoma +++
- Low-grade MPNST +++
- Cellular myxoma (for predominantly myxoid lesions) ++
- Sclerosing epithelioid fibrosarcoma (for predominantly epithelioid lesions)
- Leiomyoma & metastatic low-grade endometrial stromal sarcoma (if giant rosettes present)

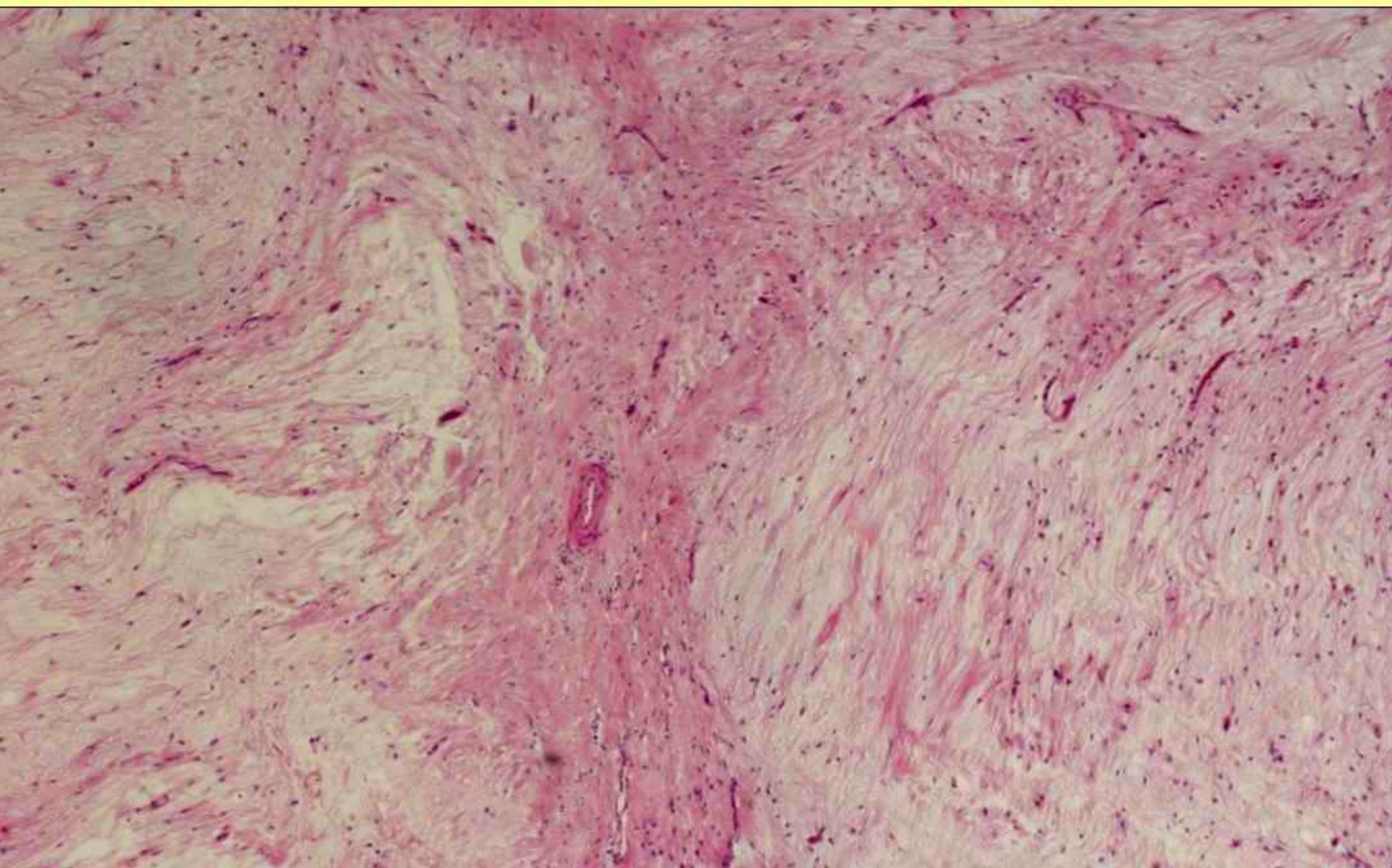
# Soft tissue perineurioma



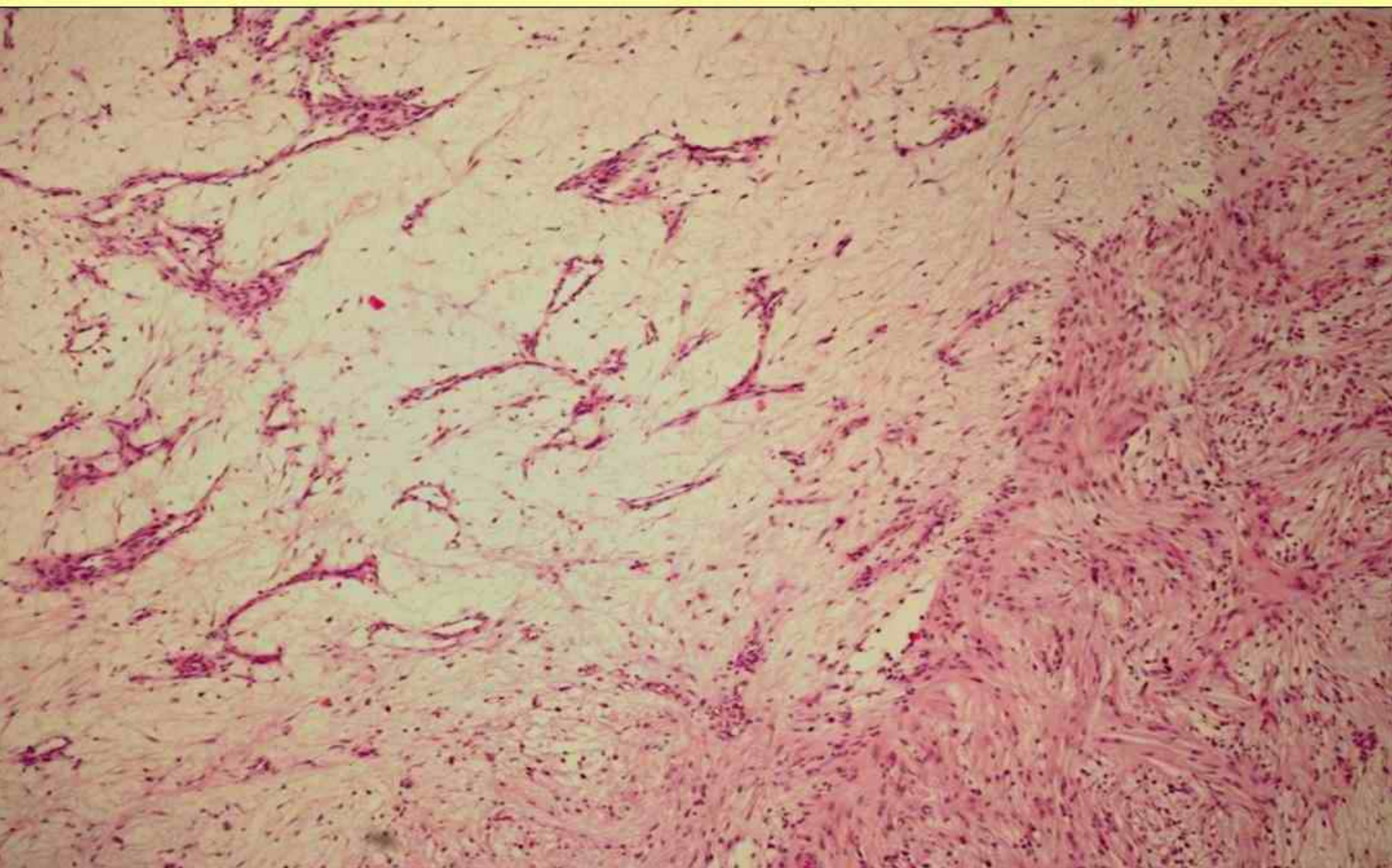
# Desmoid tumor



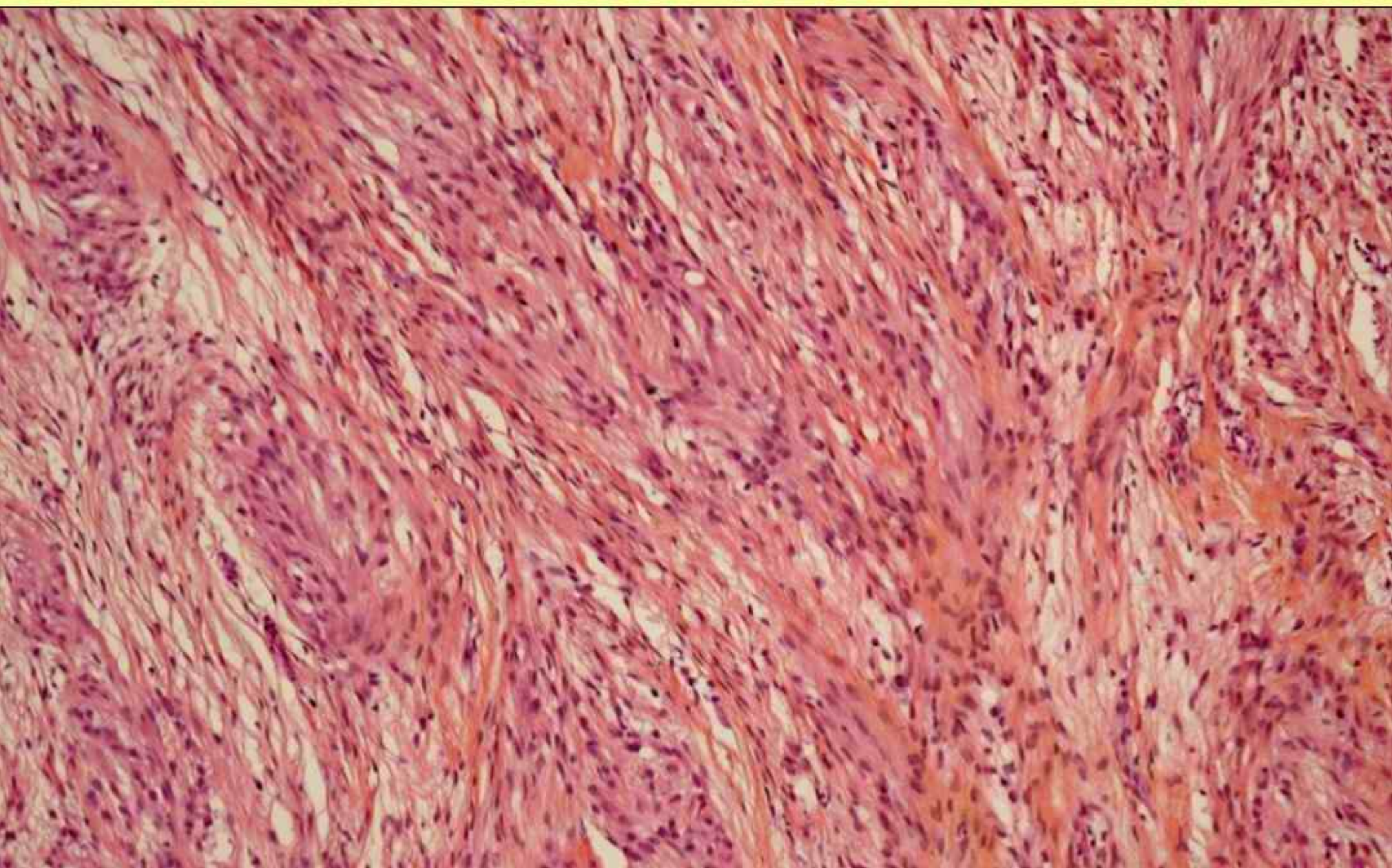
# Cellular myxoma



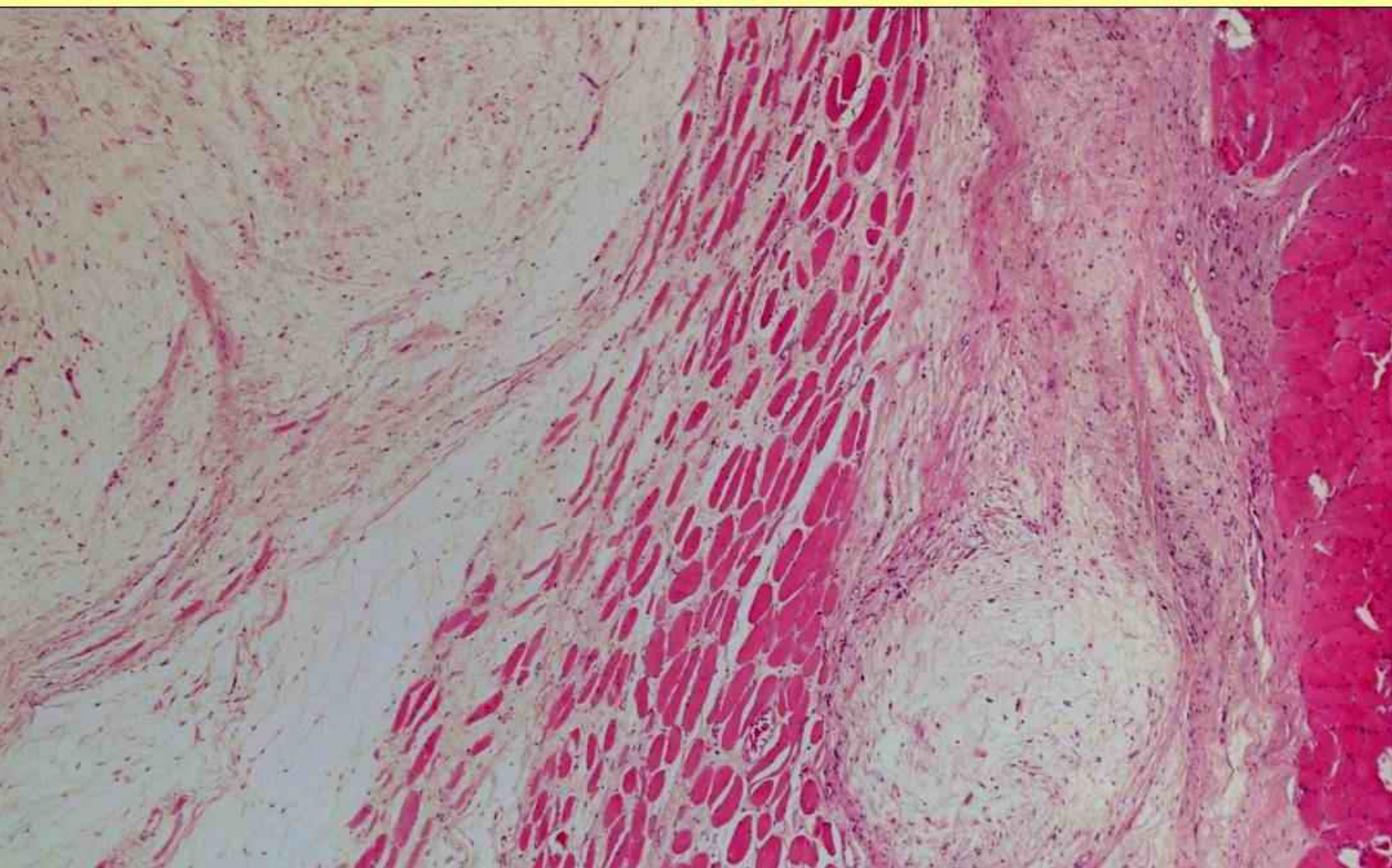
# Cellular myxoma



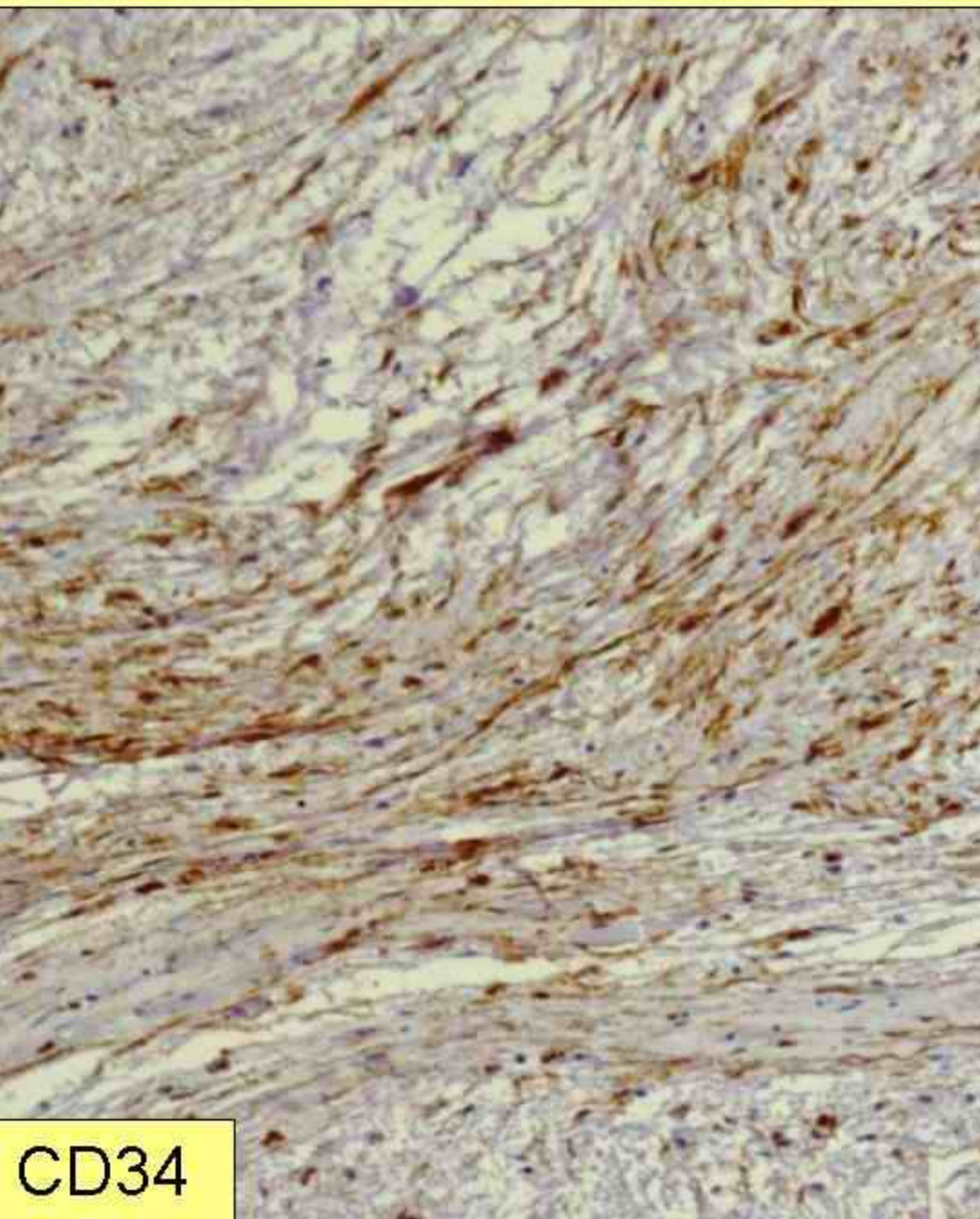
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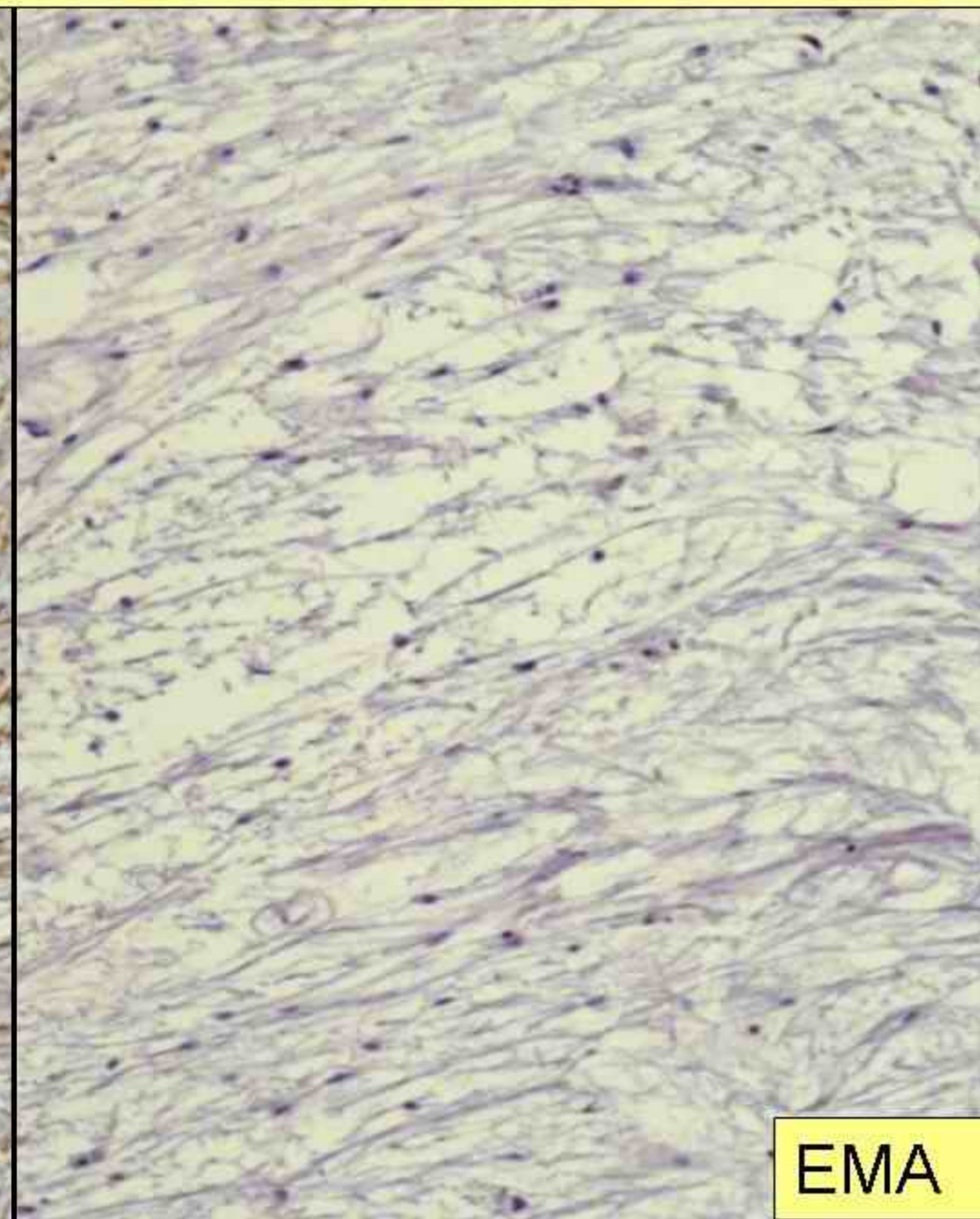
# Cellular myxoma



# Cellular myxoma



CD34



EMA

# Low- and intermediate-grade myxofibrosarcoma

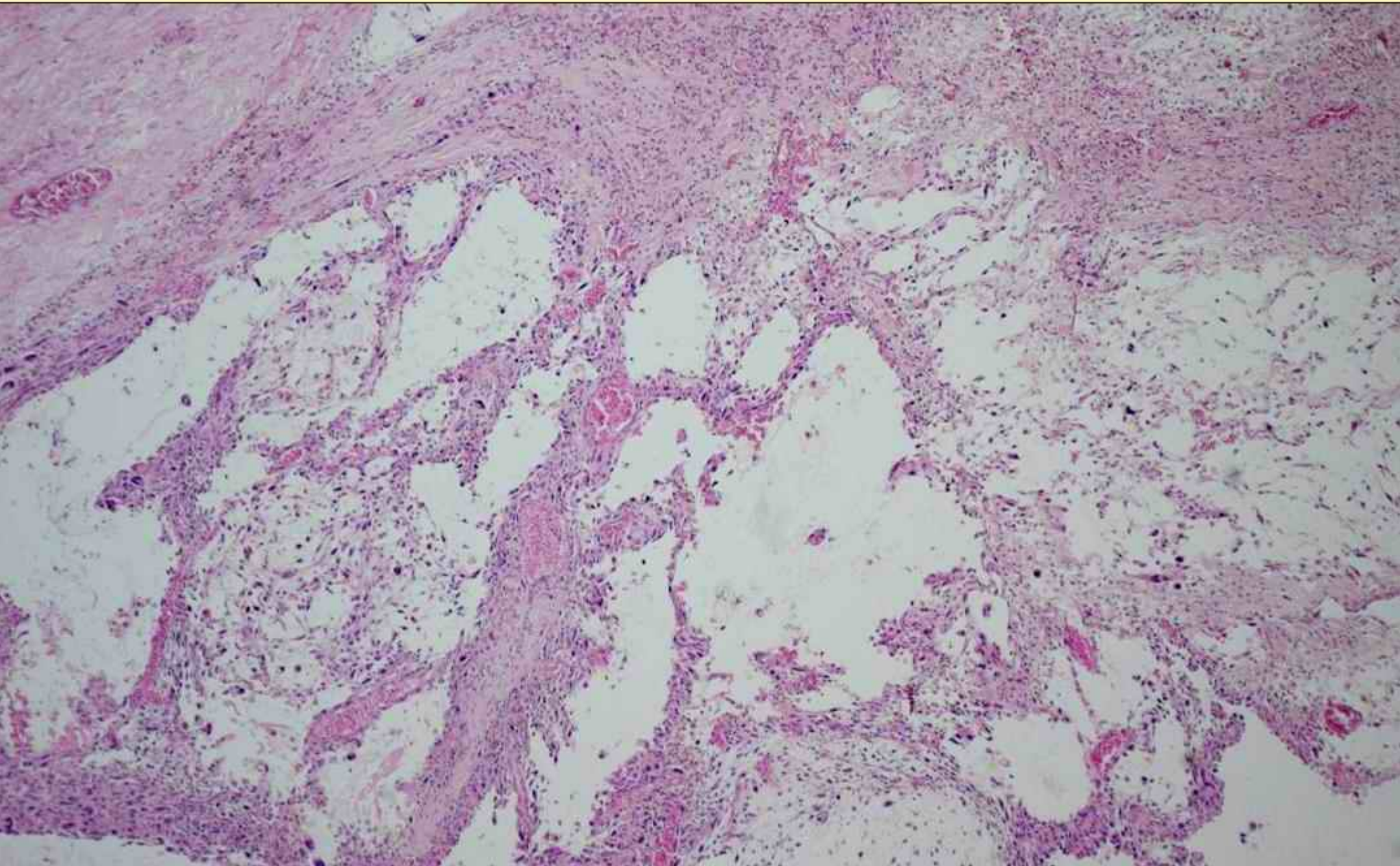
- **Key features**

- Previously called « myxoid MFH »
- Elderly (median 60 yrs); M>F
- Superficial : 60%
- Sites: limbs (lower extrem. +++), limb girdles
- Size: 5-7 cm
- Behavior: depends on histologic grade and extent of resection
- Recurrence rate: 50% (often due to inadequate excisions) – upgrading possible in recurrences
- Metastases rare in low-grade lesions (lungs, bone): 5-15% , often occurring after multiple recurrences
- 5-yr disease specific survival rate: >95%

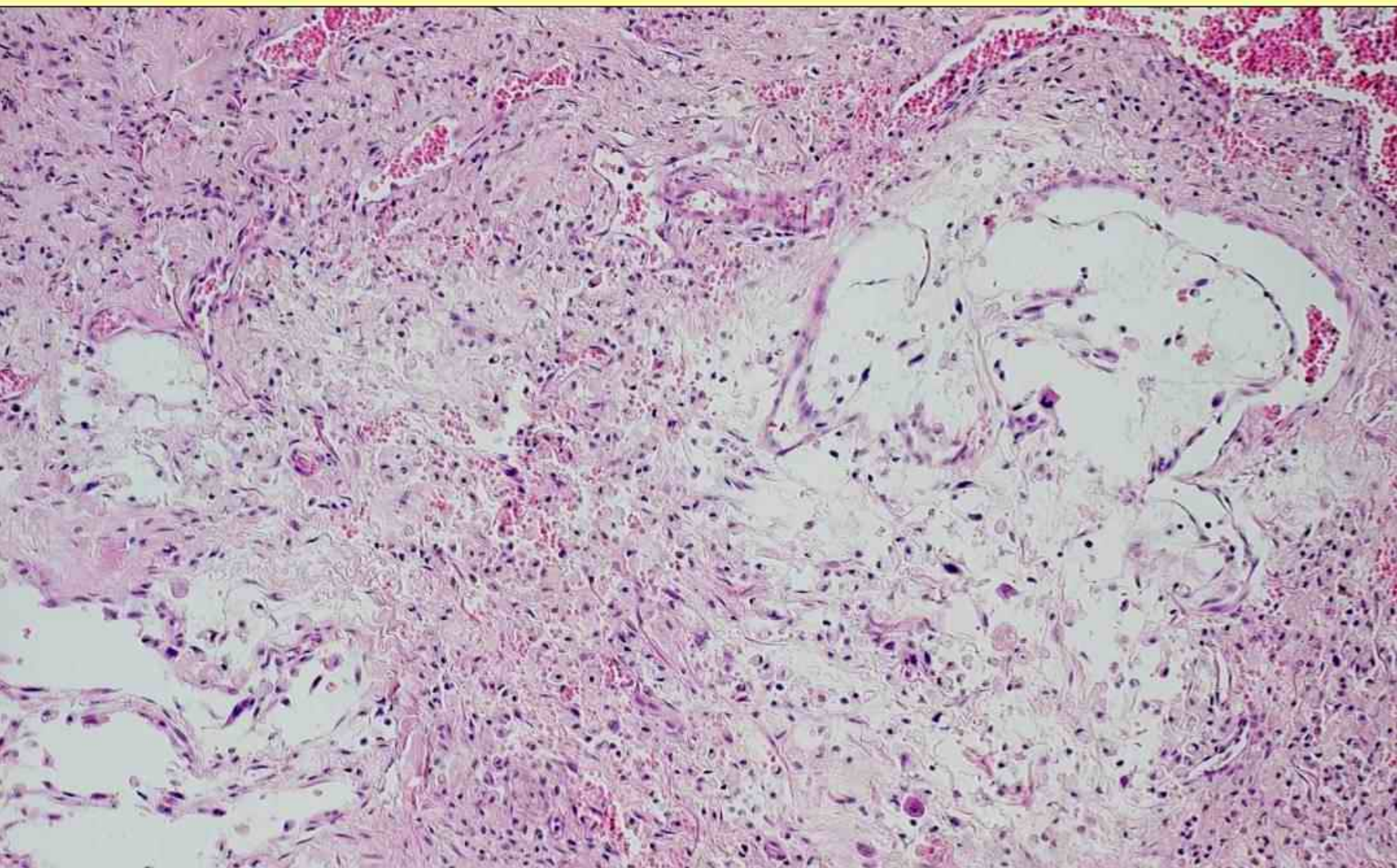
# Low-grade myxofibrosarcoma



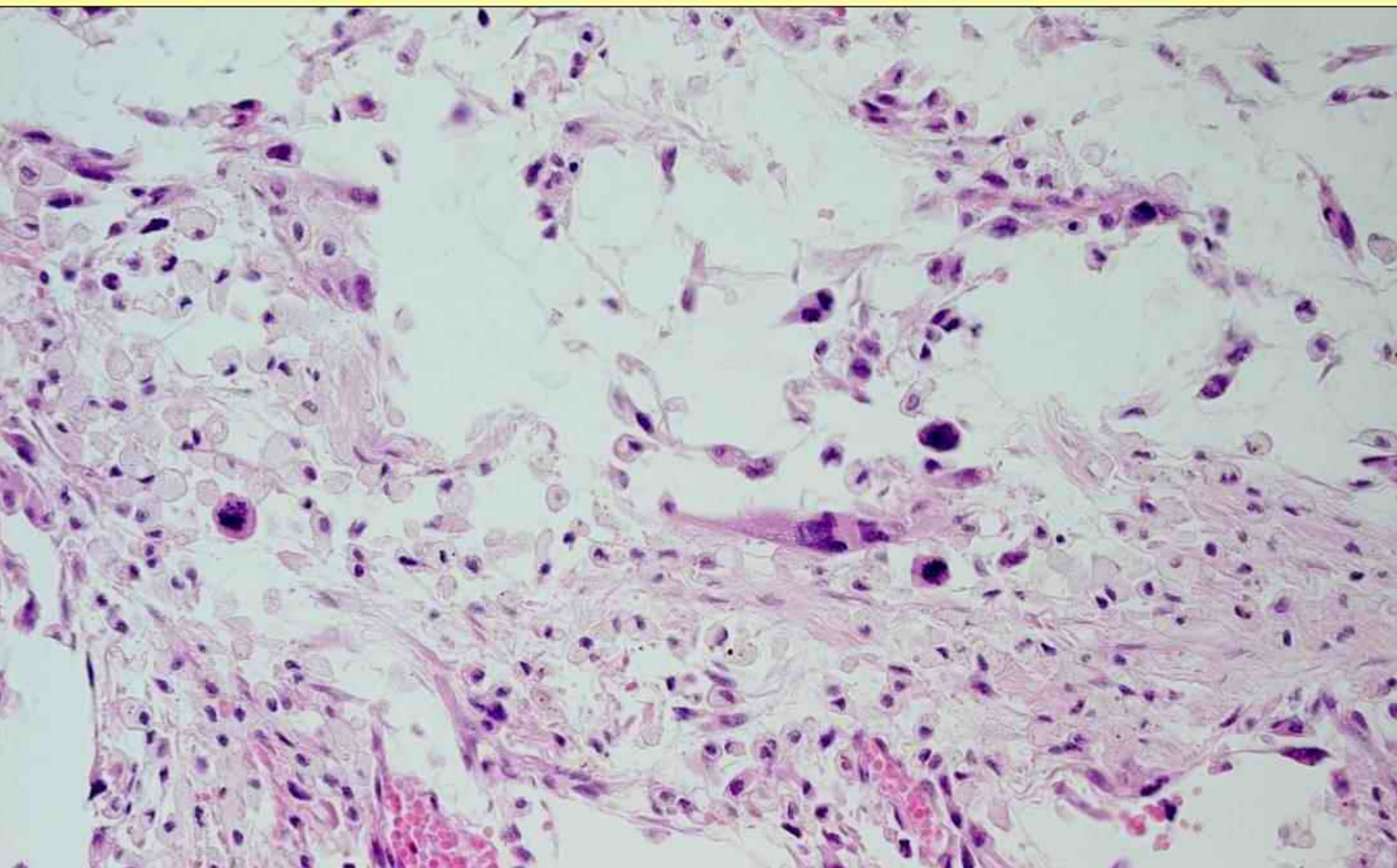
# Low to intermediate-grade myxofibrosarcoma



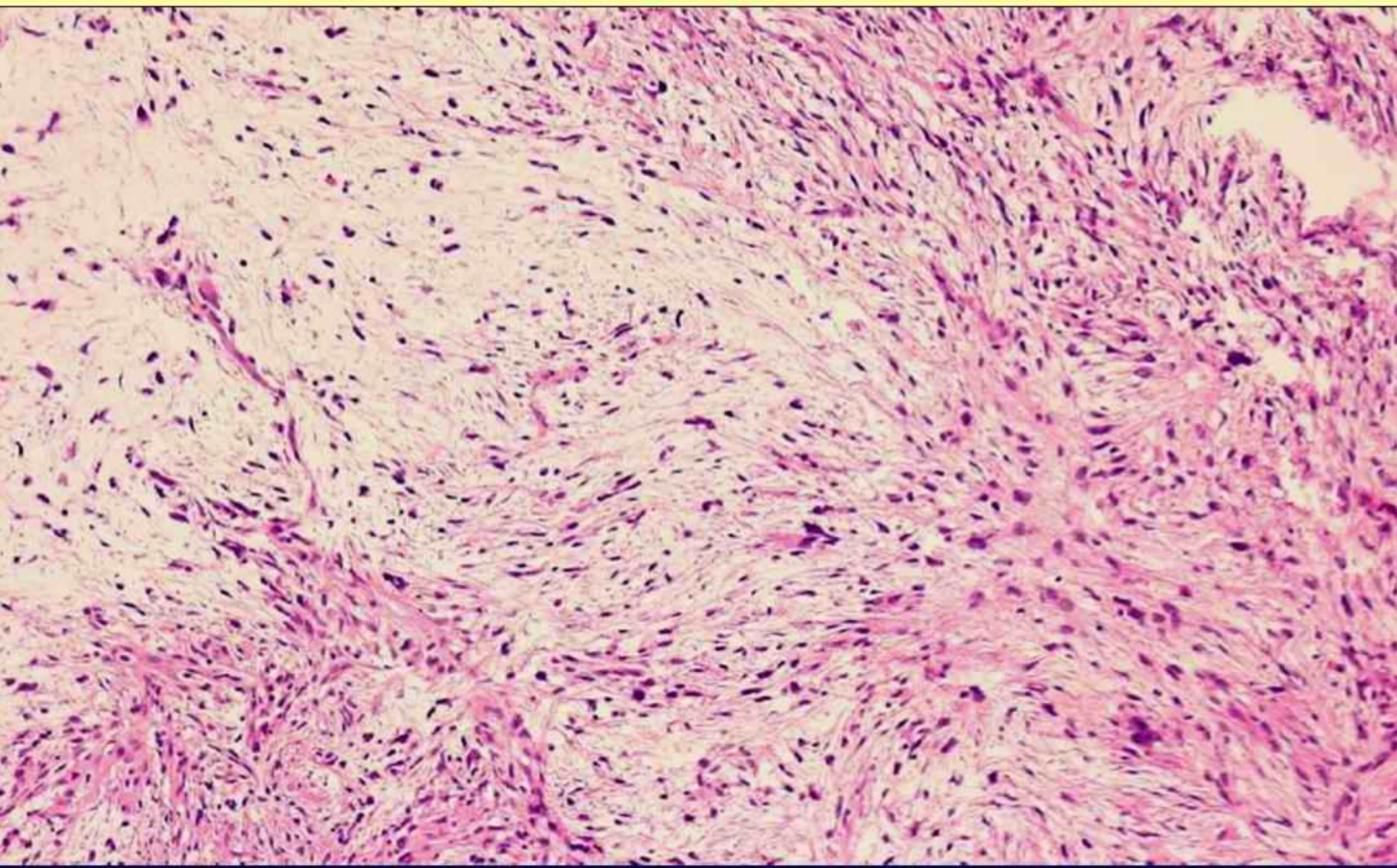
## Low to intermediate-grade myxofibrosarcoma



## Low-grade myxofibrosarcoma



## Intermediate-grade myxofibrosarcoma



# Low- and intermediate-grade myxofibrosarcoma

- Immunohistochemistry

Of no help !

# Low- and intermediate-grade myxofibrosarcoma

- Differential diagnosis
  - Myxoma / Cellular myxoma
  - Nodular fasciitis (myxoid variant)
  - Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma
  - Myxoid liposarcoma (if plexiform vessels numerous)

# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor (Acral myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma)

- Recognized as a distinct entity in 1998 by two different teams who coined two different terms :
  - Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor of distal extremities with virocyte or Reed-Sternberg-like cells: a distinctive lesion with features simulating inflammatory conditions, Hodgkin's disease, and various sarcomas. Montgomery EA, et al. Mod Pathol, 1998, 11: 384-391.
  - Acral myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma: a low-grade tumor of the hands and feet. Meis-Kindblom JM, Kindblom LG. Am J Surg Pathol, 1998, 22: 911-924.

# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor (Acral myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma)

- **Key features**

- Adults
- Distal extremities (hand, wrist, foot, ankle). Upper extremities, especially fingers and hands, more frequently affected
- Often mistaken clinically for a ganglion cyst or tenosynovitis
- Tumor size: 3-4 cm on average with a gelatinous, multinodular gross appearance
- Situation: subcutis or deep soft tissues, involving tendon sheaths and the synovium of adjacent joints

# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor (Acral myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma)

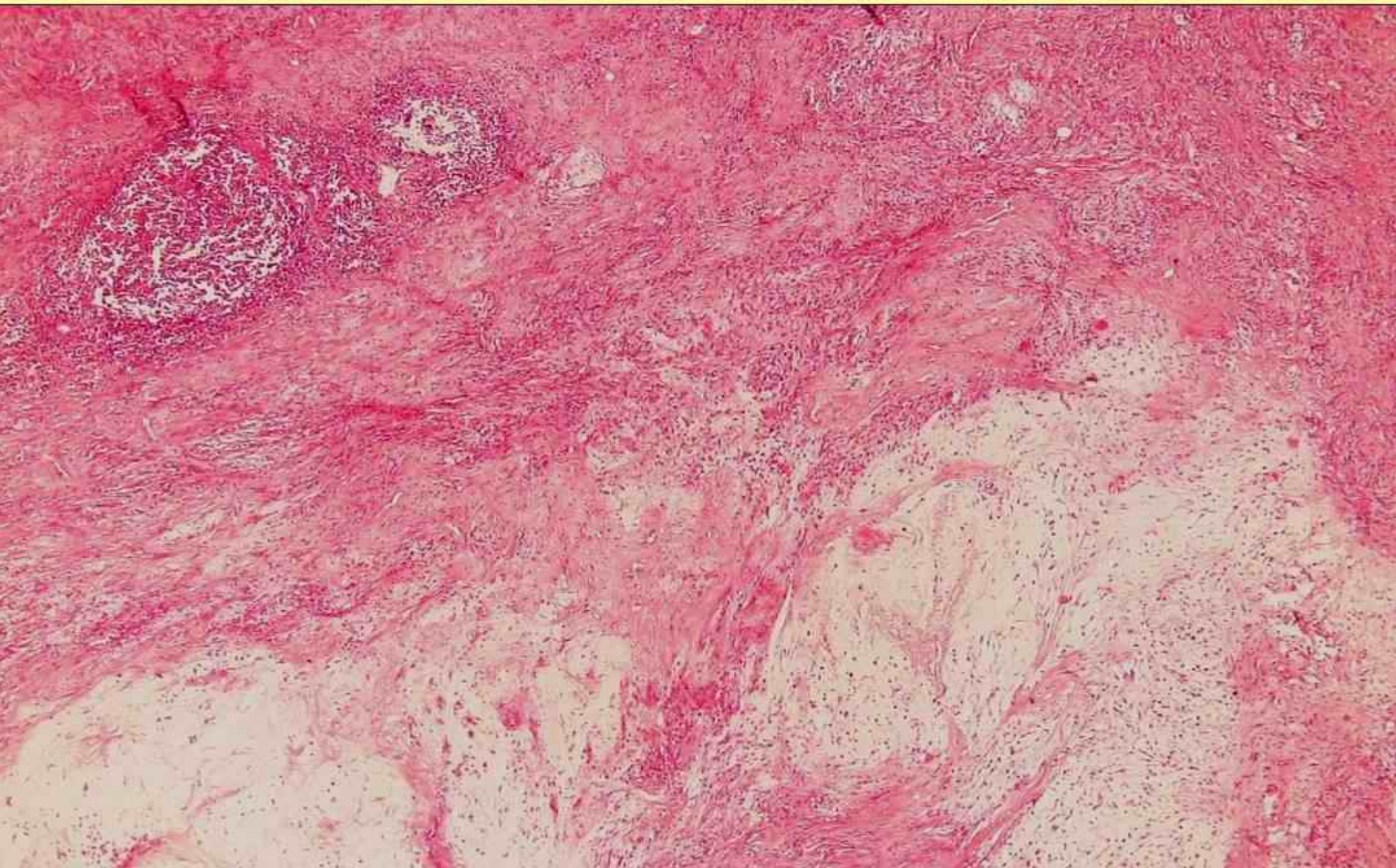
- **Key features** (continued)

- Recurs in about 20% of cases

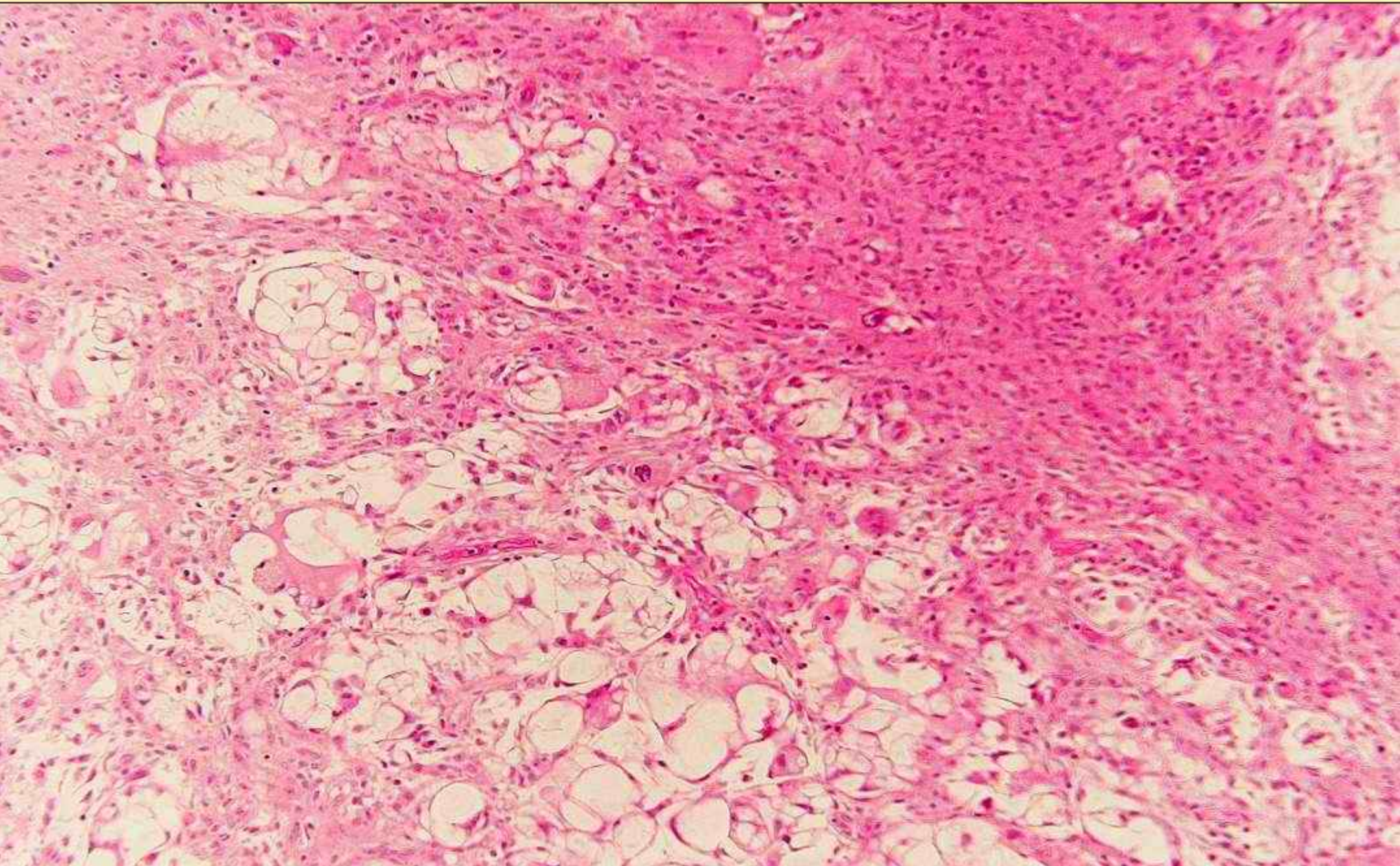
The high proportion - 67% - of recurrent cases reported by Meis-Kindblom et al. is probably related to incomplete excisions due to erroneous diagnoses of benignity

- Metastasizes in less than 5% of cases

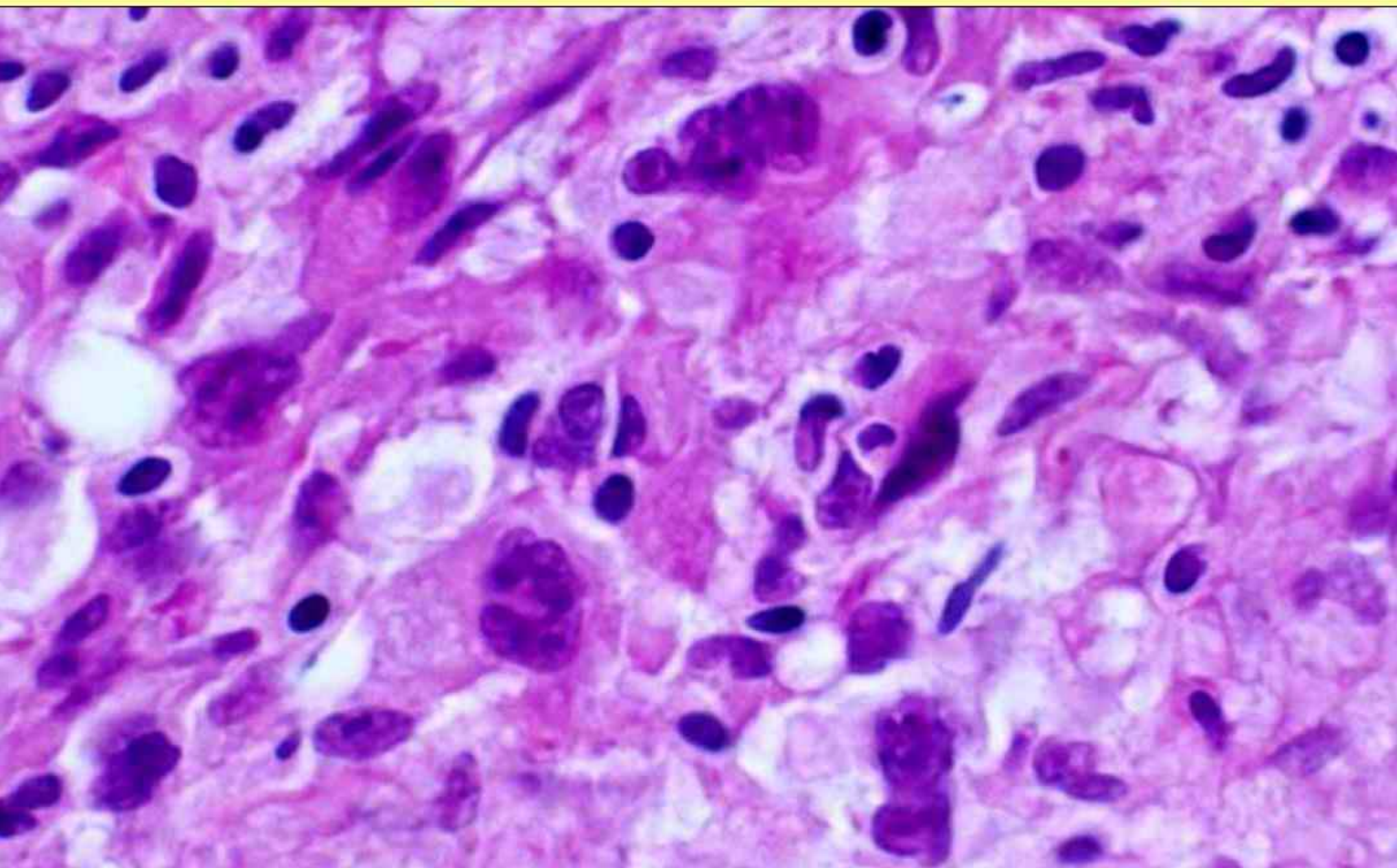
# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor



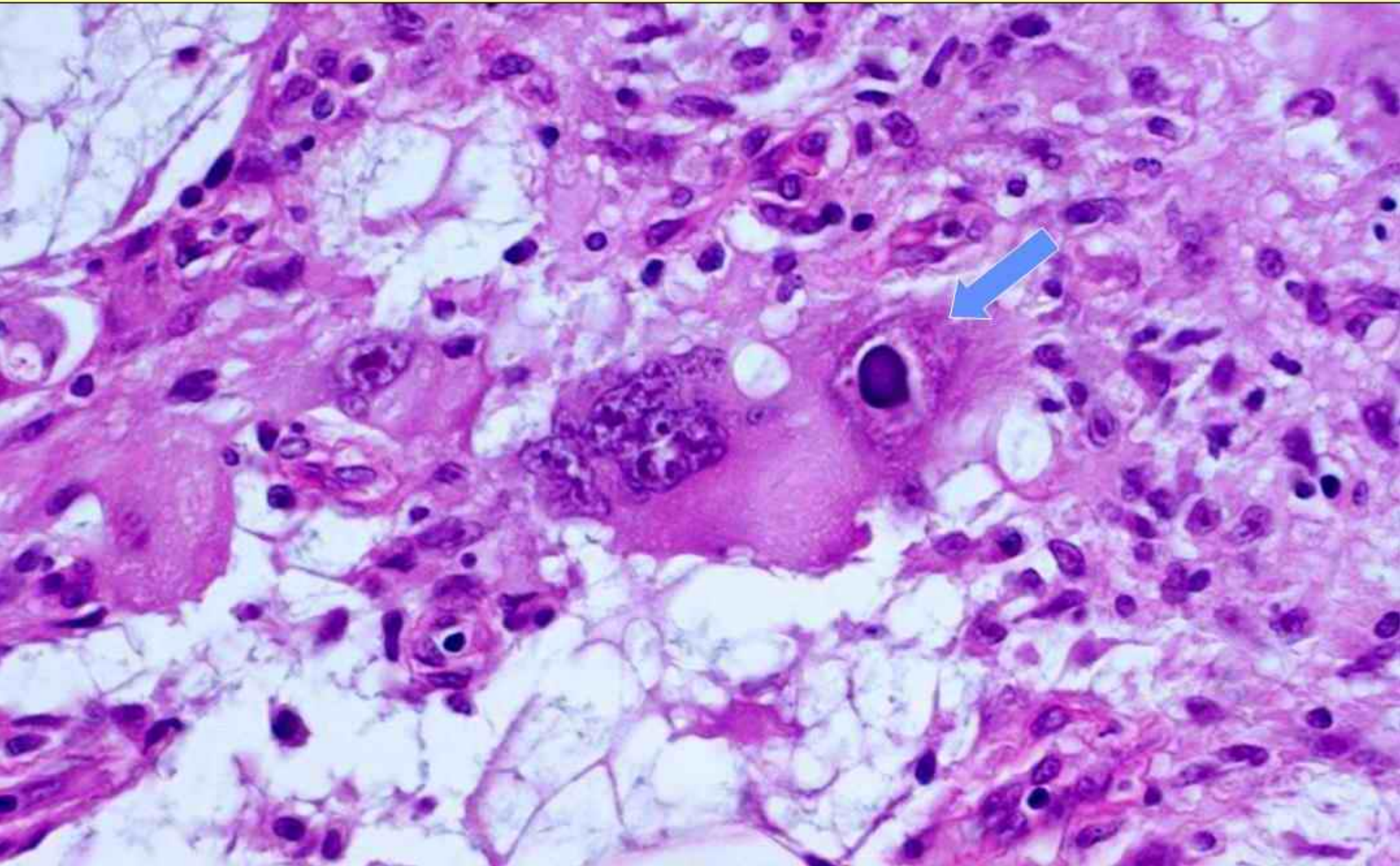
# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor



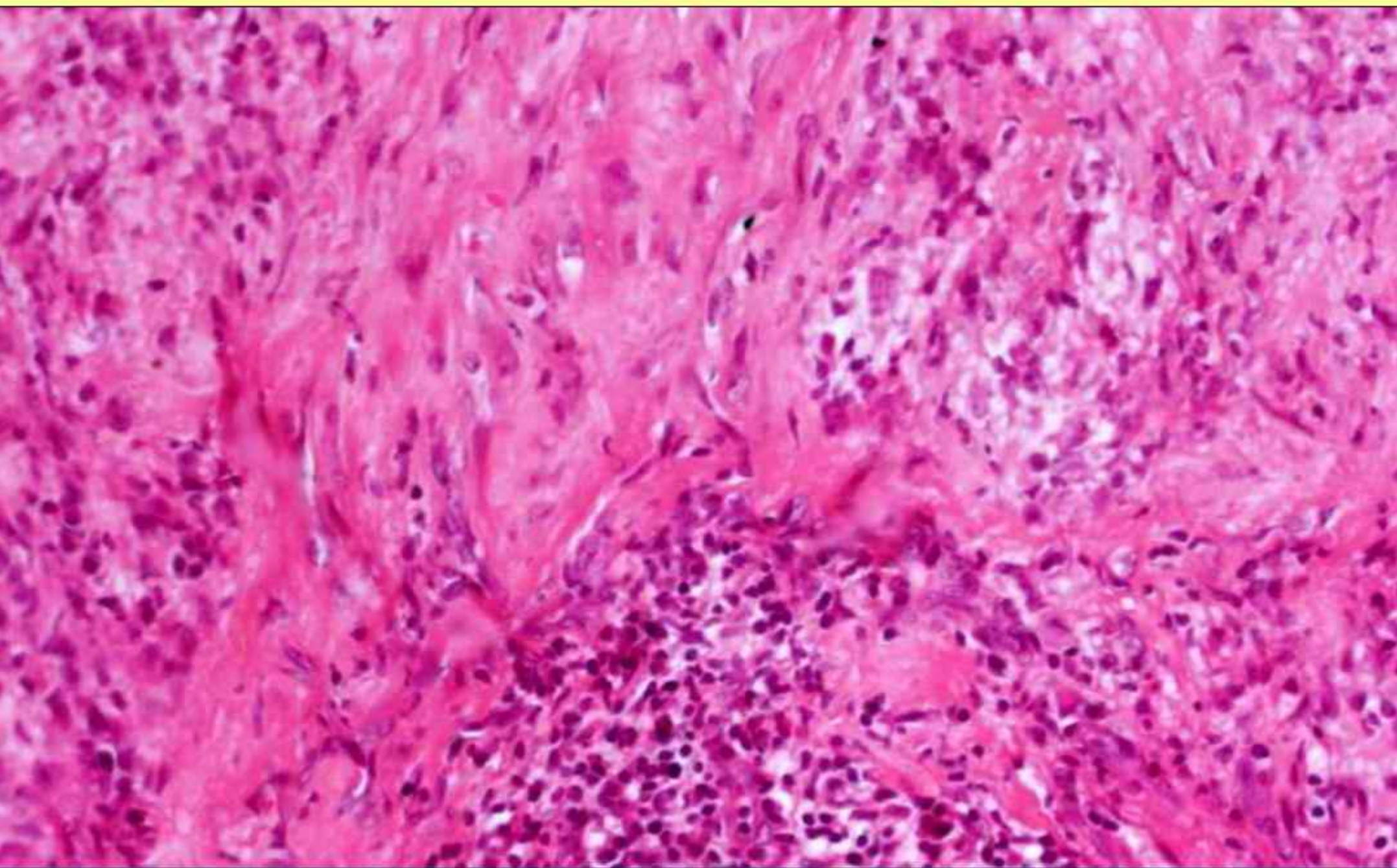
# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor



# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor

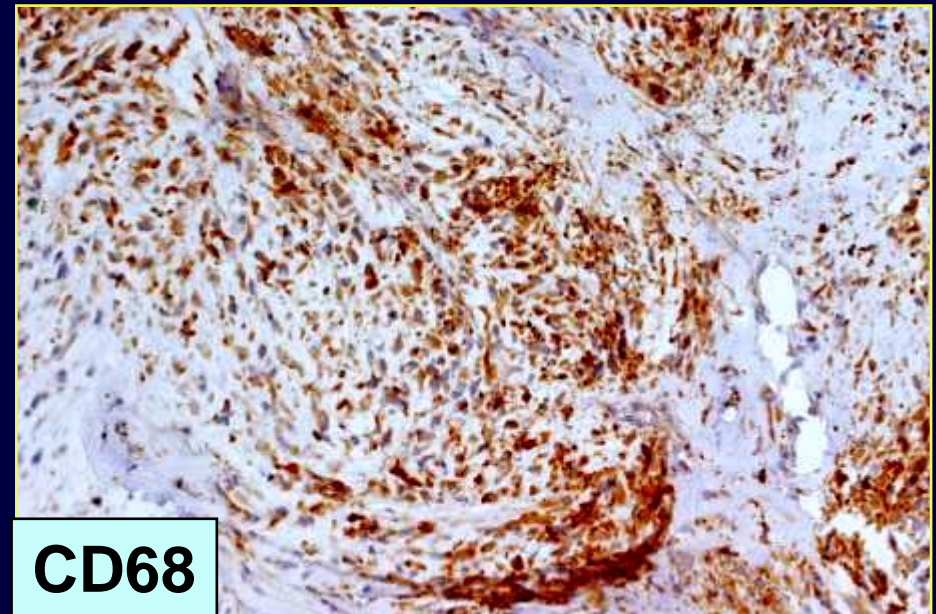


# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor



# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor (Acral myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma)

- **Immunohistochemistry**
  - Positivity for vimentin and CD68
  - Occasional reactivity for CD34, smooth muscle actin, and/or cytokeratin

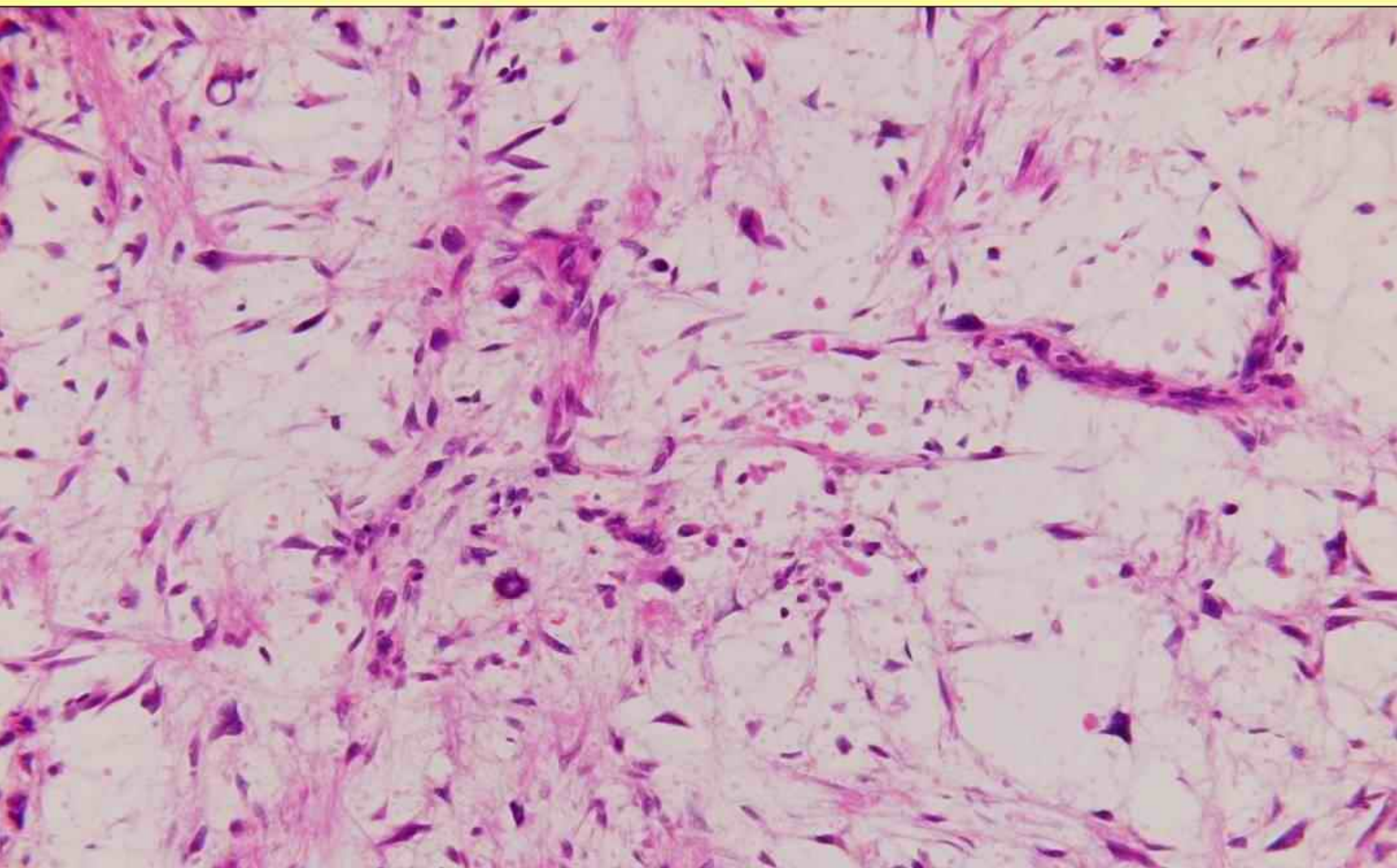


# Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor (Acral myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma)

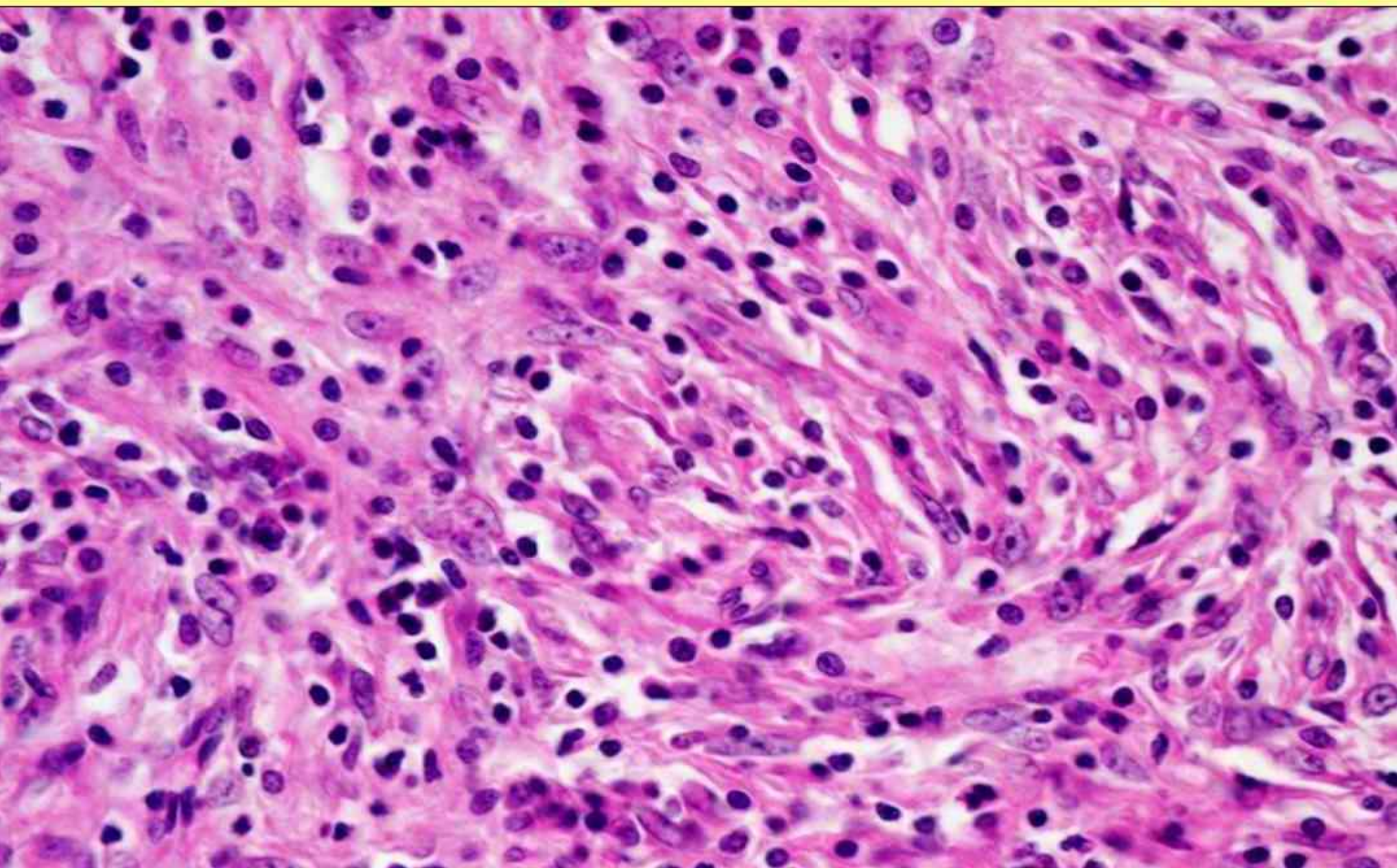
- **Differential diagnosis**

- **if the inflammation predominates** inflammatory processes such as chronic tenosynovitis, inflammatory pseudotumor, mucoid pseudocyst with superimposed inflammatory changes
- **if multinucleated giant cells are numerous** giant cell tumor of tendon sheath
- **if cellular atypia predominate** malignant tumors such as myxofibrosarcoma (myxoid malignant fibrous histiocytoma), pleomorphic liposarcoma (owing to the presence of pseudolipoblastic cells), and inflammatory fibrosarcoma

## Low-grade myxofibrosarcoma (myxoid MFH)



# Inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor



Helpful clues in the differential  
diagnostic approach

Low-grade myxofibrosarcoma (LG-MFS)  
vs  
Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma (LGFMS)

- Question

- is it clinically relevant to distinguish low-grade myxofibrosarcoma (LG-MFS) from low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma (LGFMS) ?

- Yes !

- LG-MFS: 50% recurrences; 5-15% mets.

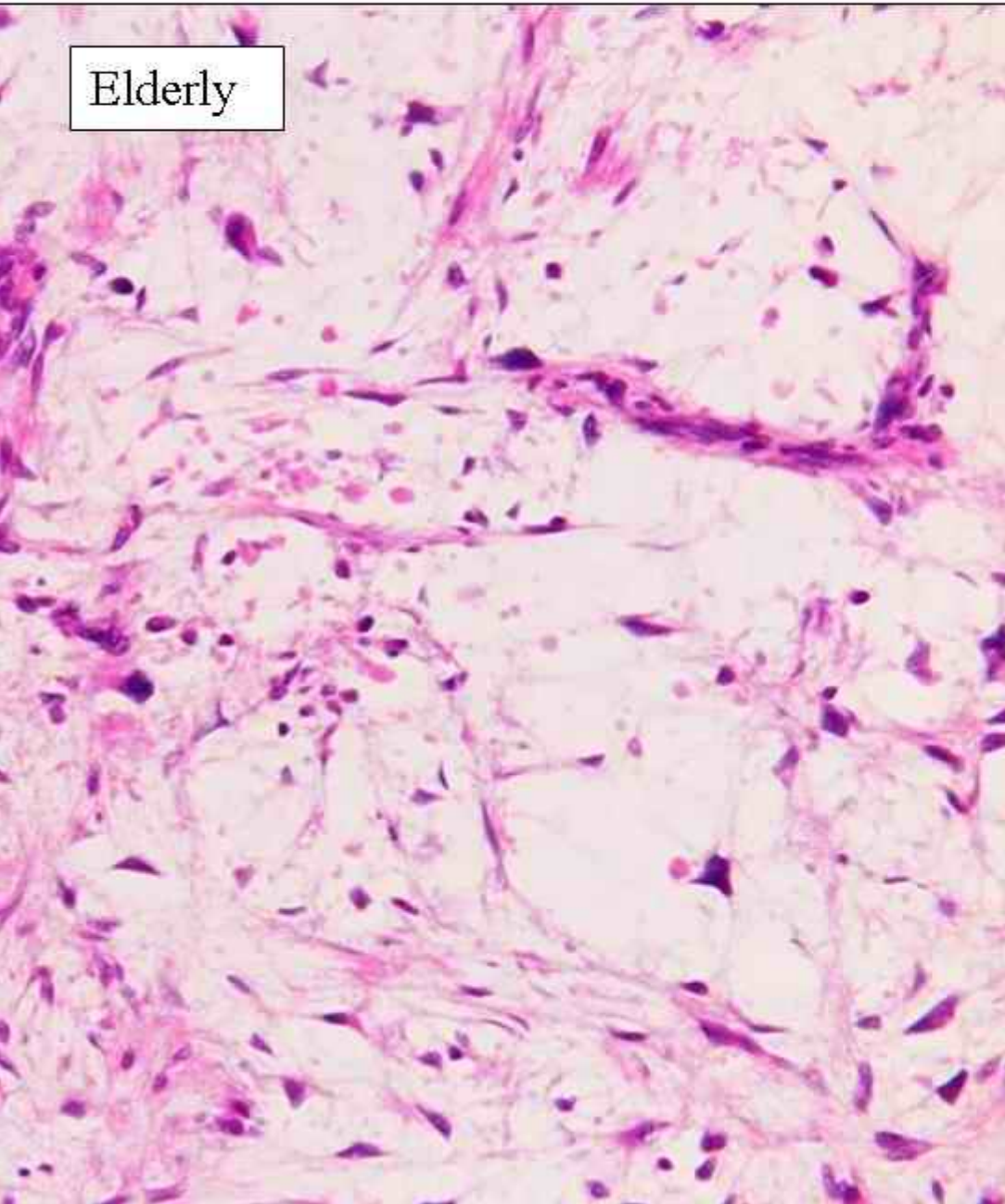
- LGFMS: 10% recurrences; 10%-70% mets.

LG-Myxofibrosarcoma

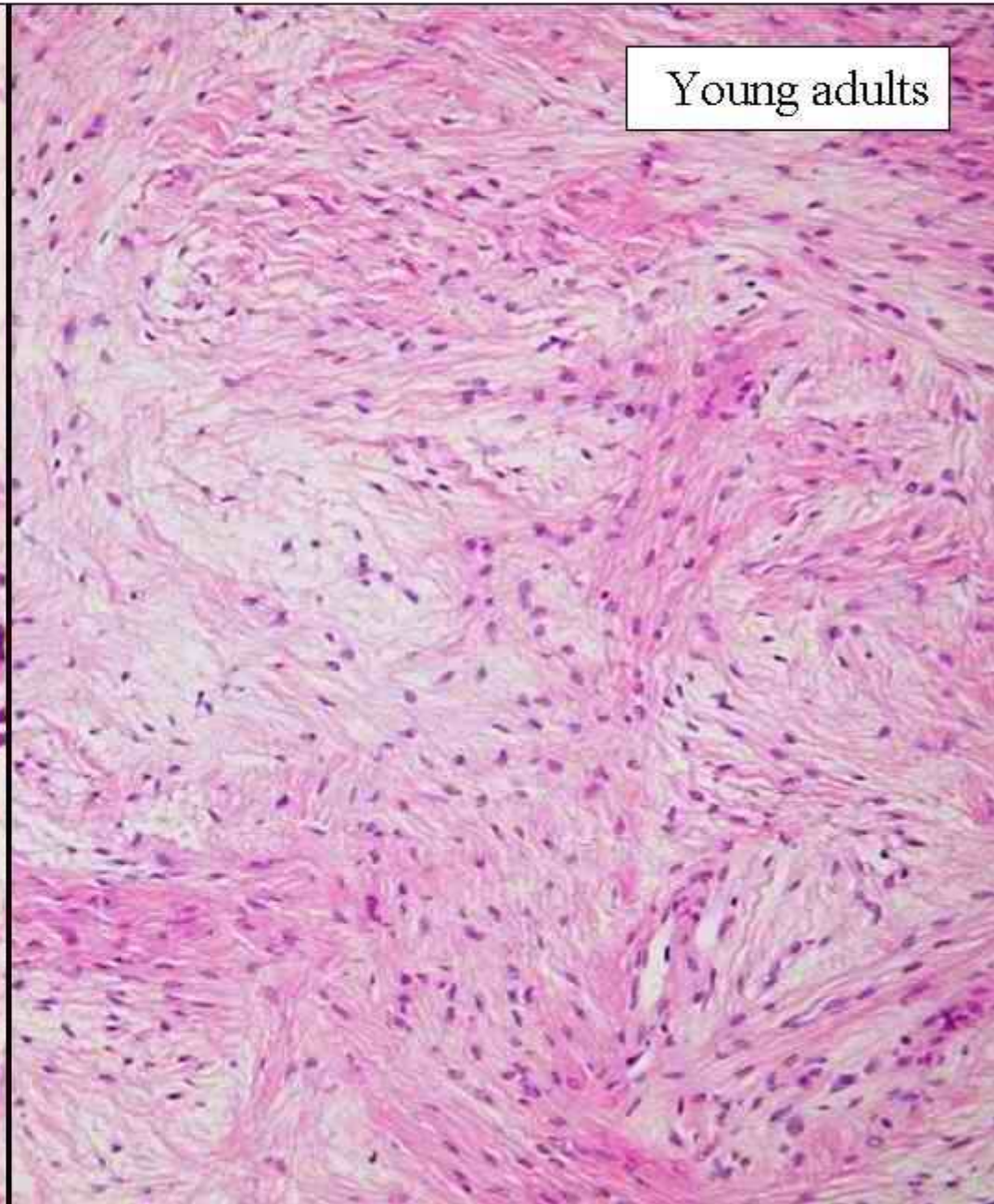
vs

LGFMS

Elderly



Young adults



# LG-Myxofibrosarcoma

vs

# LGFMS

Elderly

Superficial

Multinodular

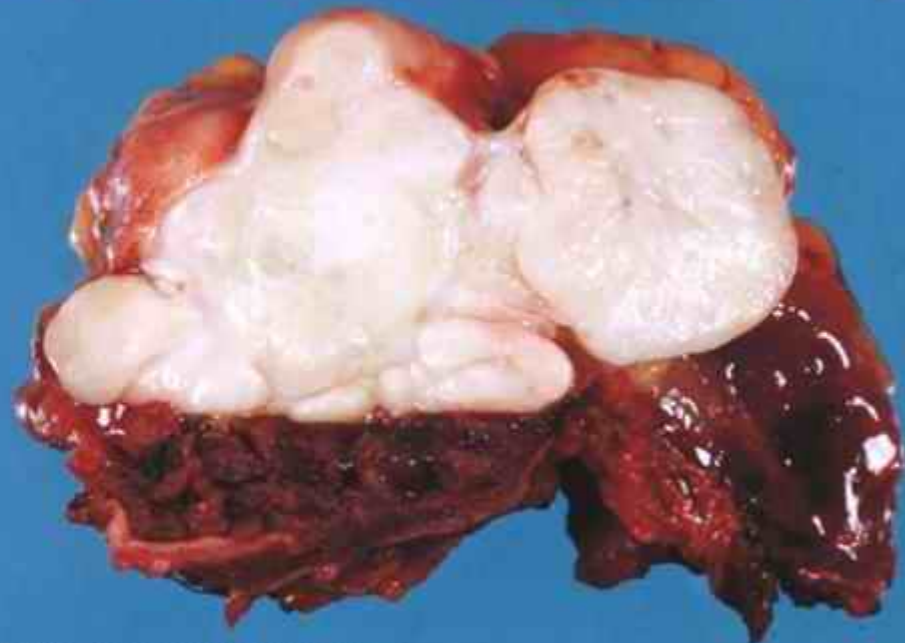
Ill-defined borders

Young adults

Deep

Uninodular

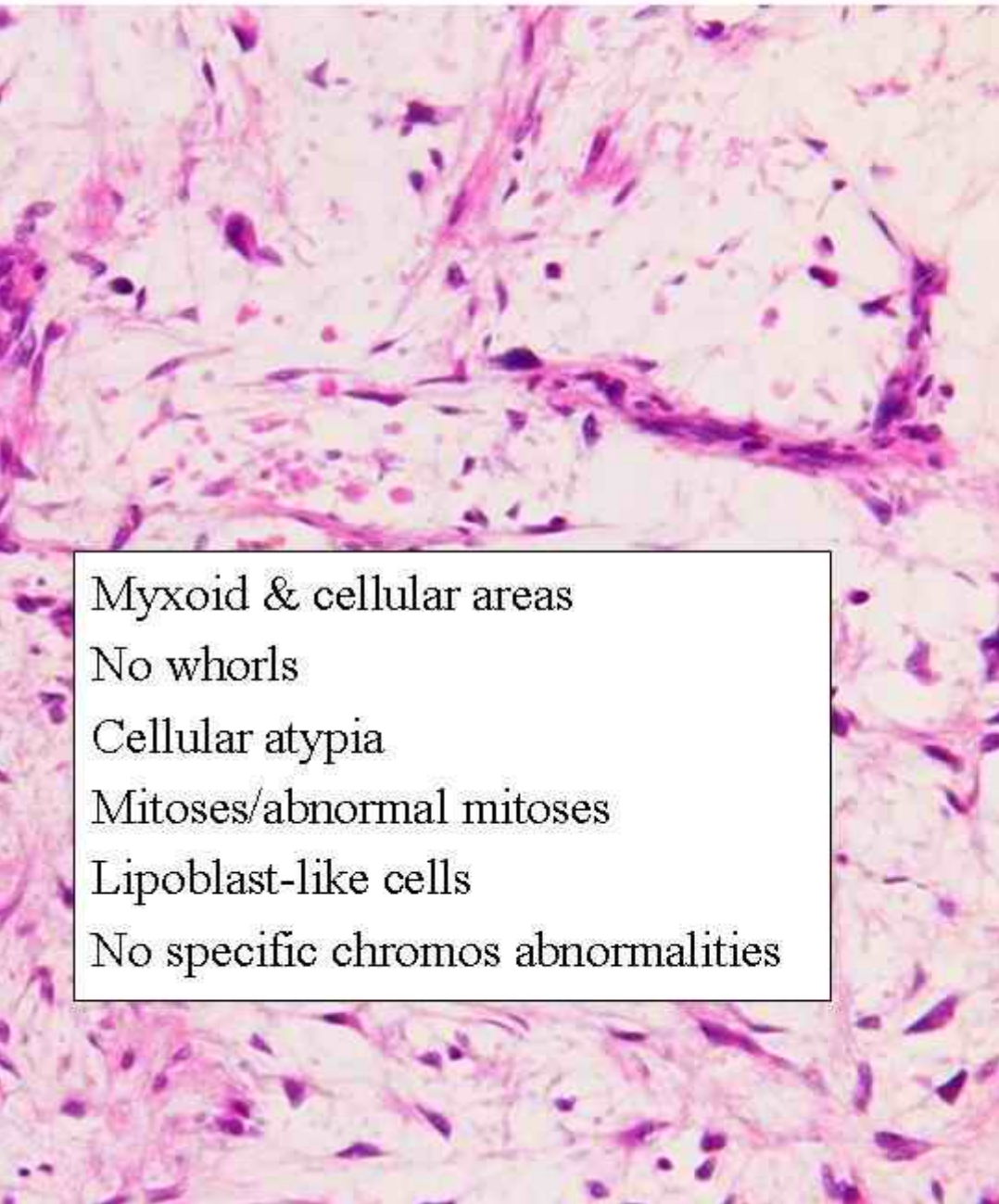
Well-demarcated



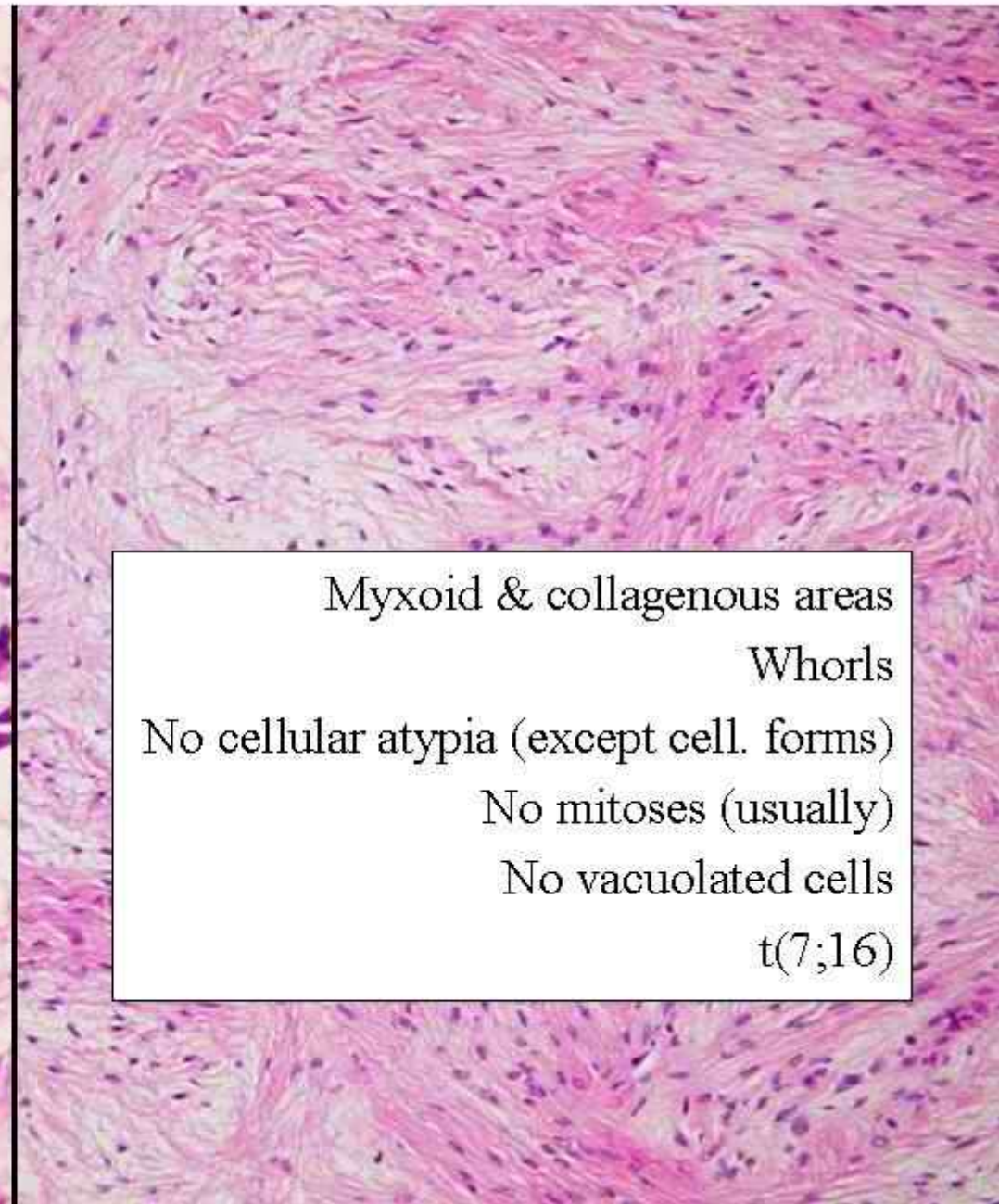
# LG-Myxofibrosarcoma

vs

# LGFMS



Myxoid & cellular areas  
No whorls  
Cellular atypia  
Mitoses/abnormal mitoses  
Lipoblast-like cells  
No specific chromos abnormalities



Myxoid & collagenous areas  
Whorls  
No cellular atypia (except cell. forms)  
No mitoses (usually)  
No vacuolated cells  
t(7;16)

# Cellular myxoma vs Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma (LGFMS)

- Question

- is it clinically relevant to distinguish cellular myxoma from low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma and myxofibrosarcoma ?

- Yes

- Cellular myxoma = benign. <2% recur.; no mets.
- LGFMS = sarcoma; 10% recur.; 10%-70% mets.
- Myxofibrosarc. = sarc.; 50% rec.; 5-15% mets

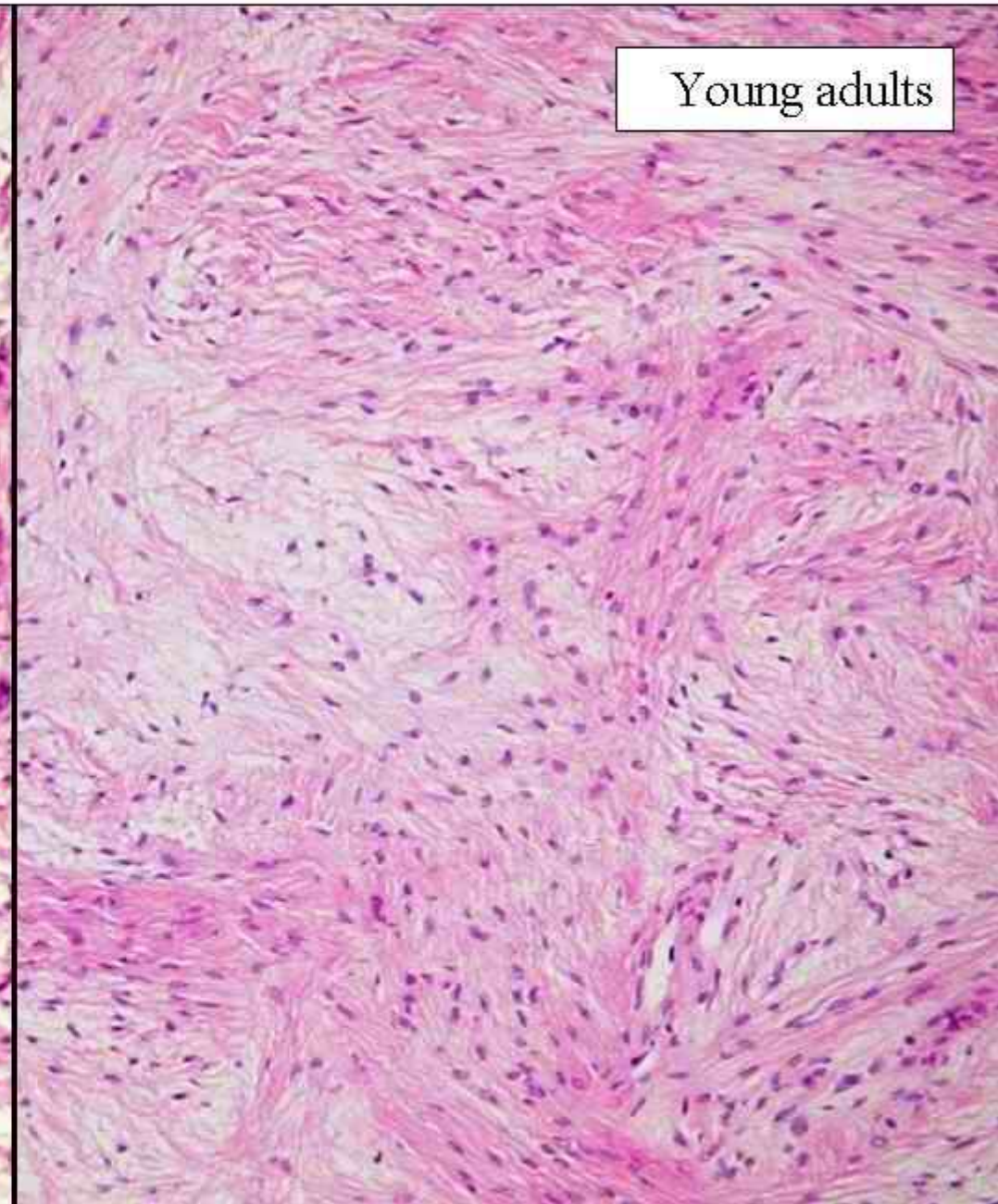
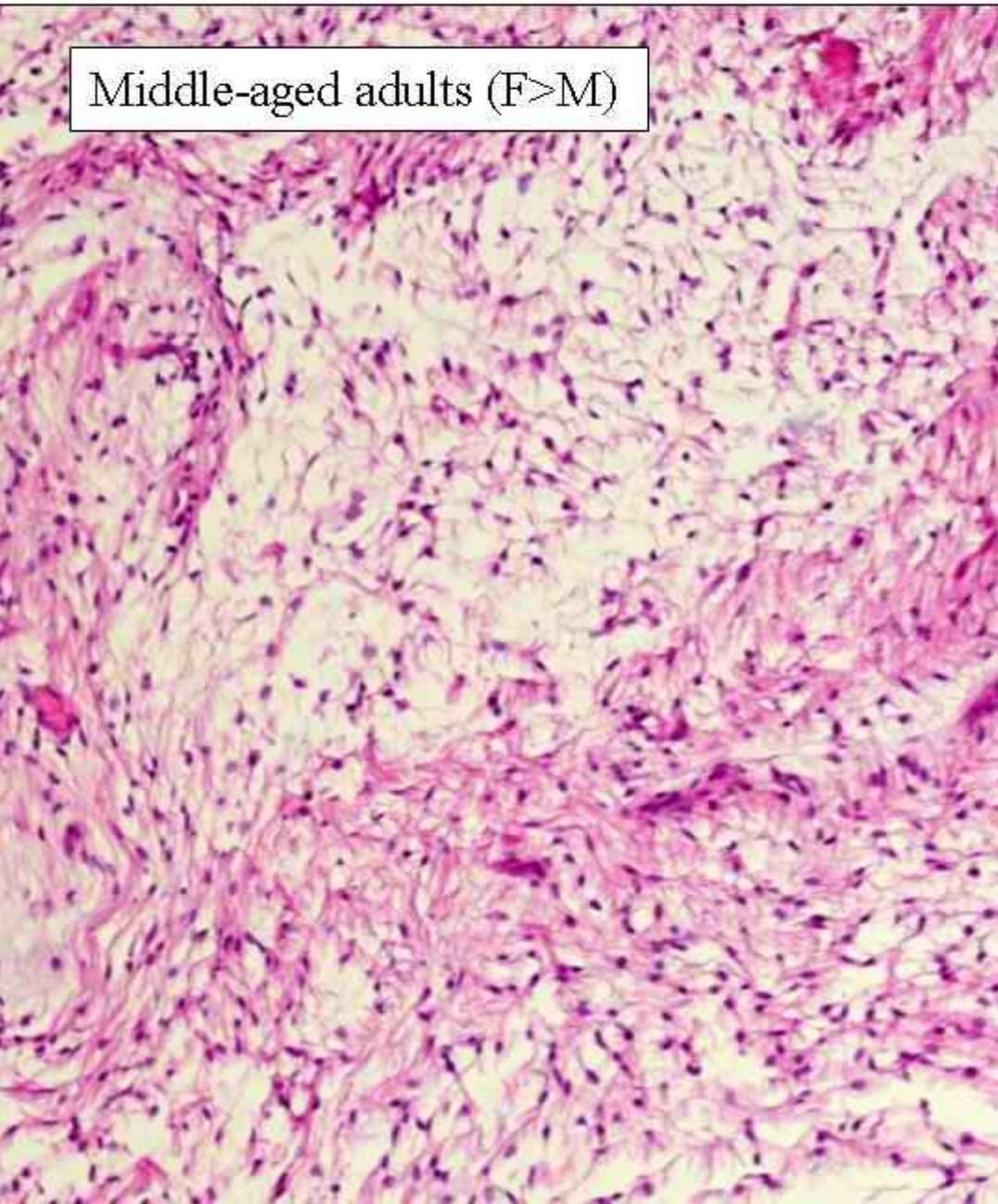
Cellular myxoma

vs

LGFMS

Middle-aged adults (F>M)

Young adults



# Cellular myxoma

vs

# LGFMS

Middle-aged adults (F>M)

Ill-defined borders

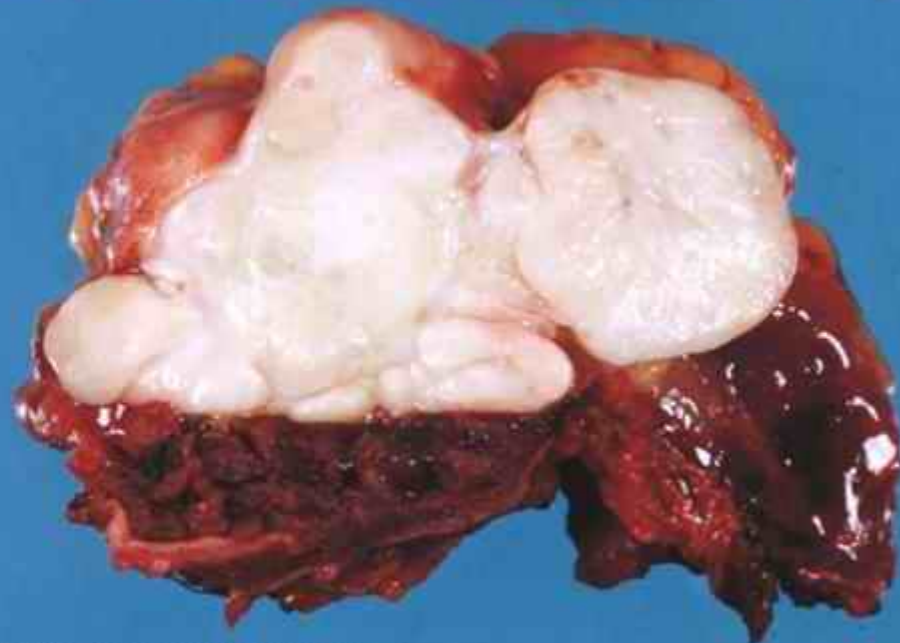
Gelatinous

Young adults

Well-demarcated

Uninodular

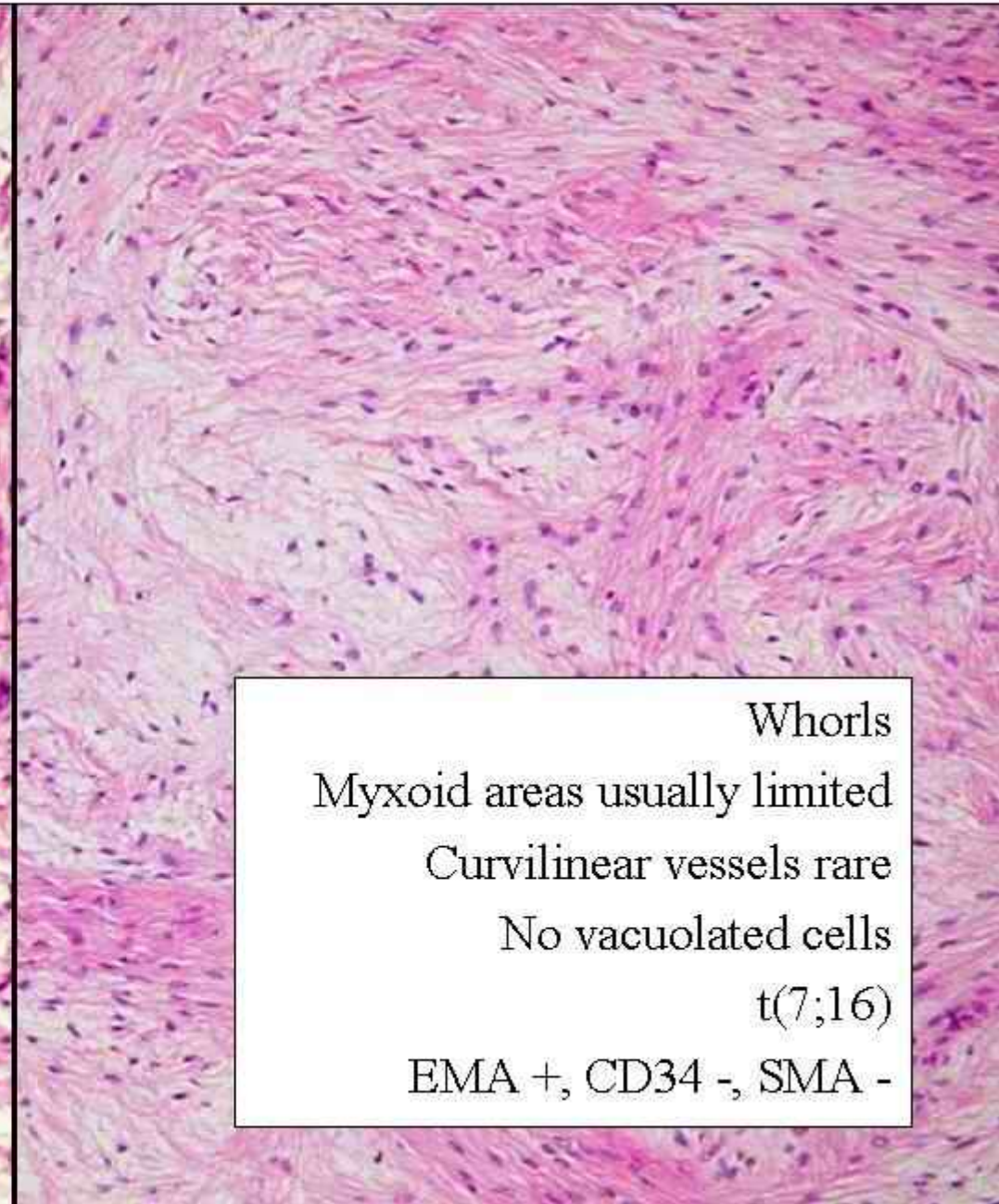
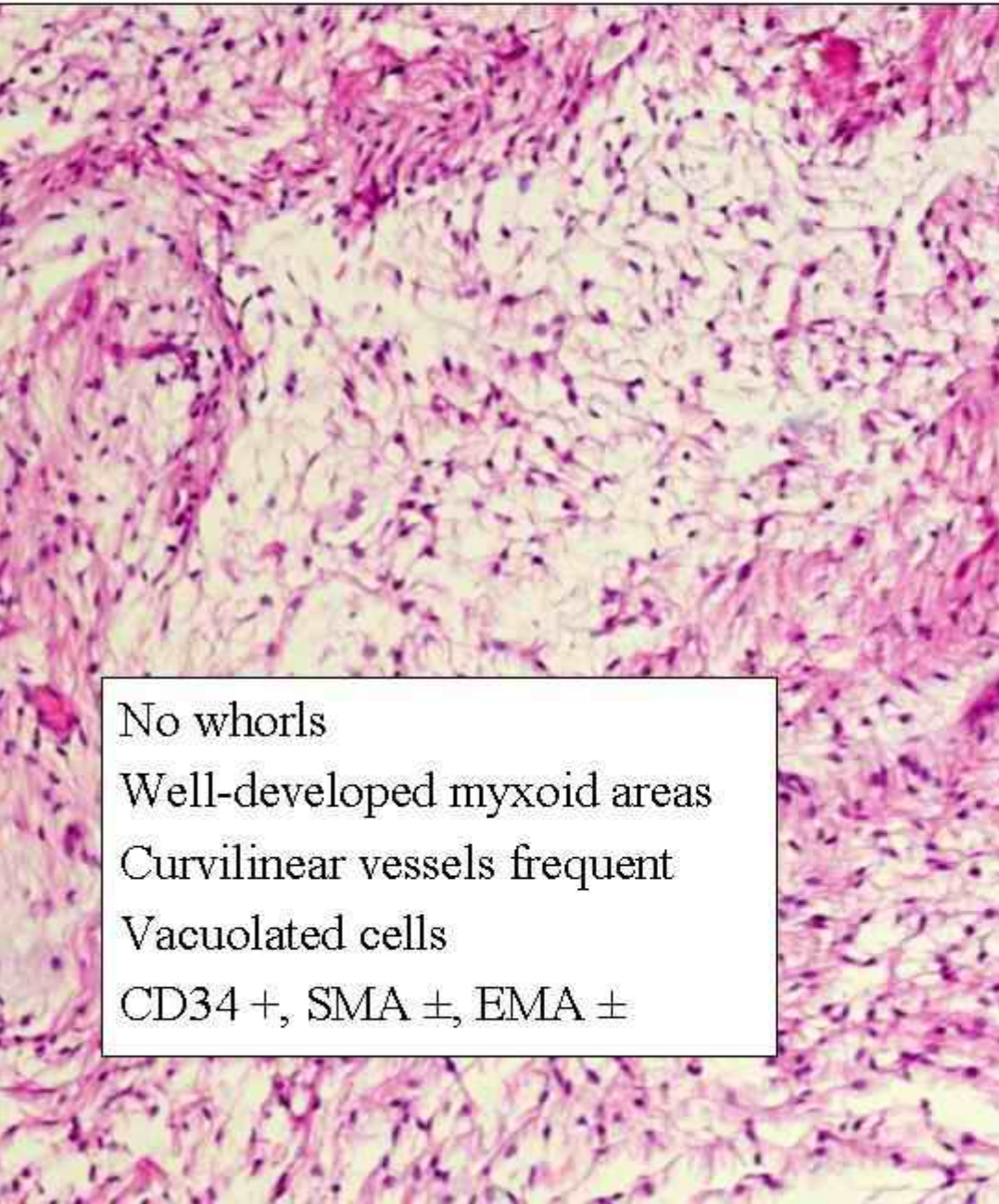
Often solid and fibrous



# Cellular myxoma

vs

# LGFMS



No whorls  
Well-developed myxoid areas  
Curvilinear vessels frequent  
Vacuolated cells  
CD34 +, SMA ±, EMA ±

Whorls  
Myxoid areas usually limited  
Curvilinear vessels rare  
No vacuolated cells  
t(7;16)  
EMA +, CD34 -, SMA -

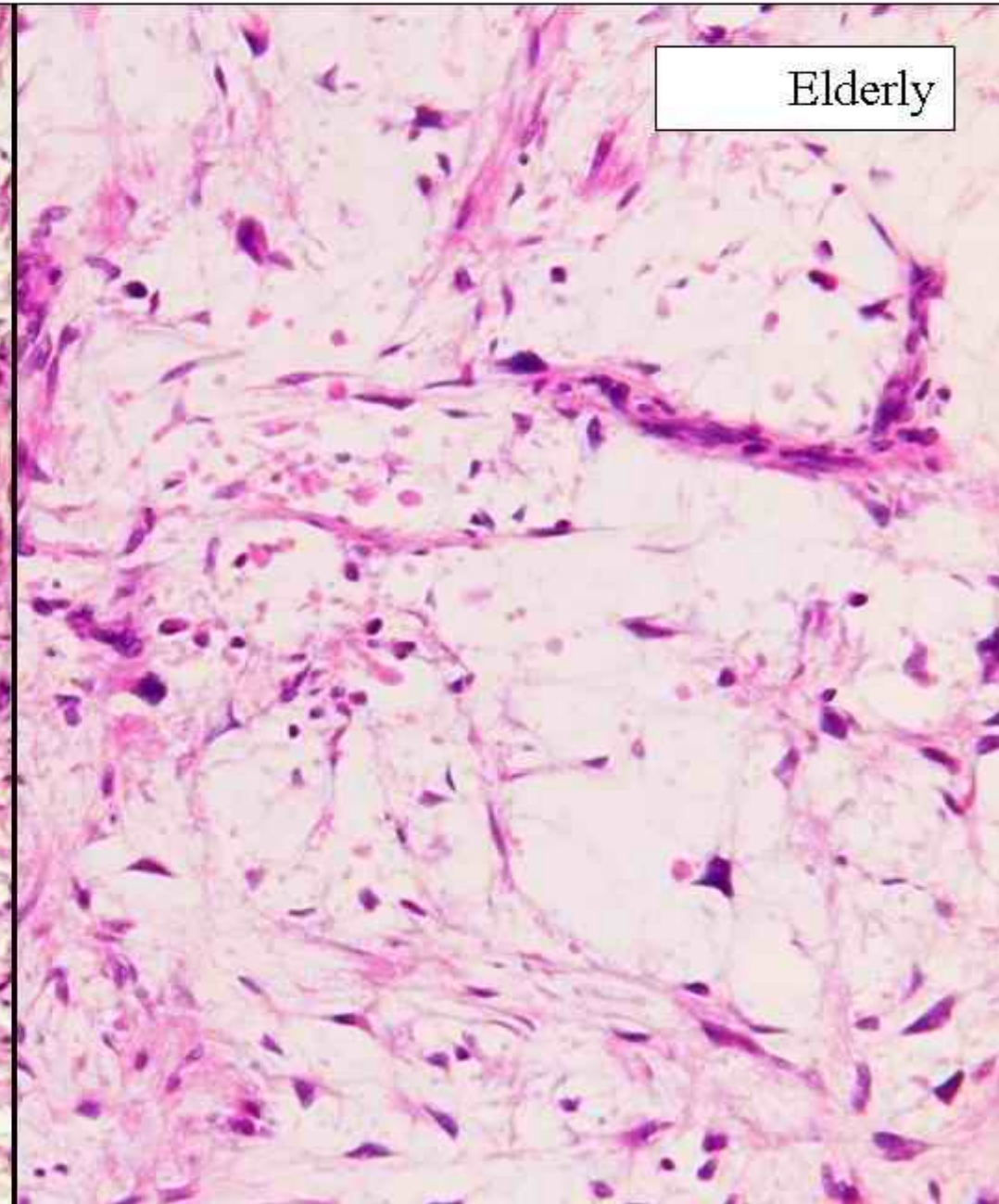
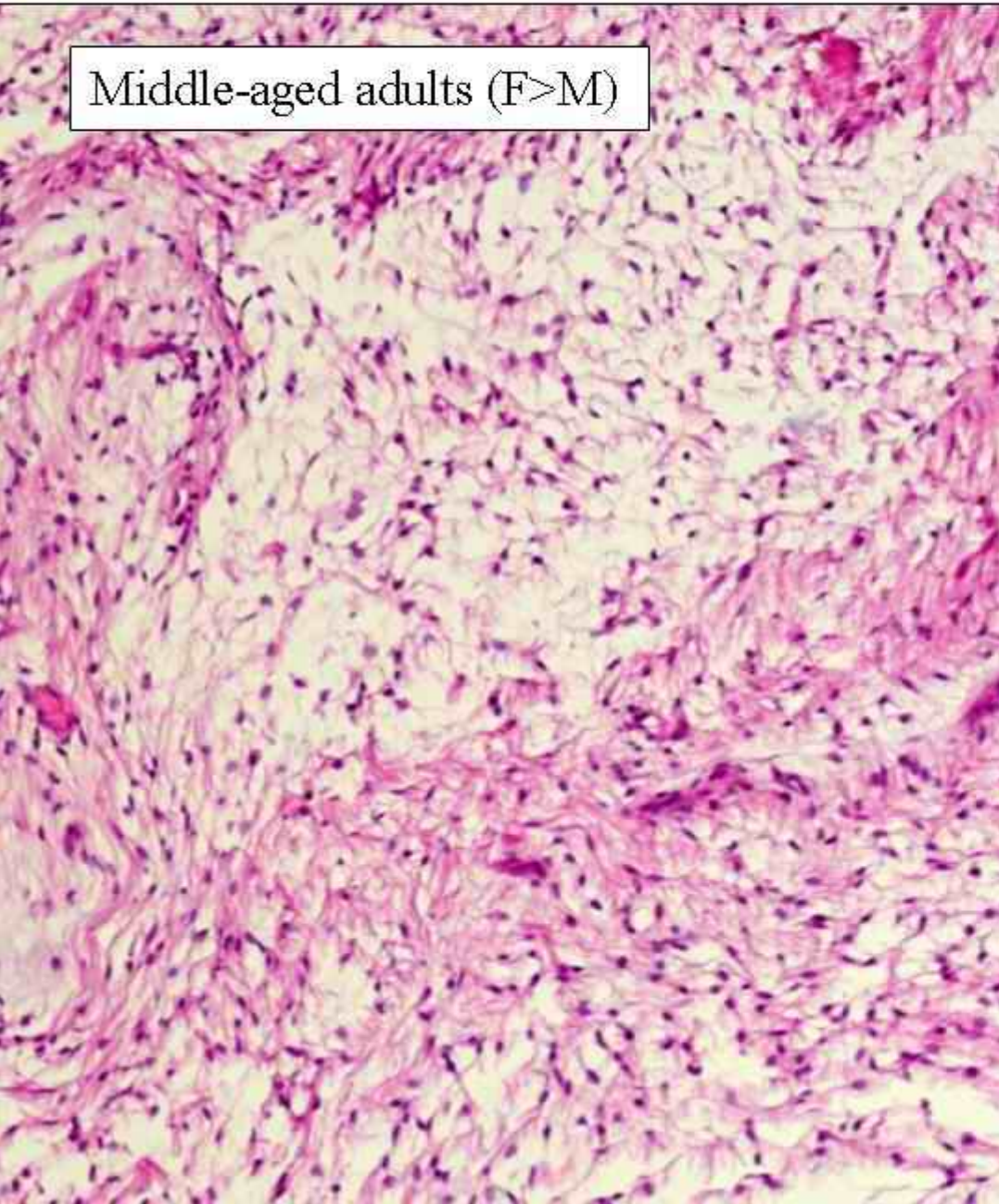
Cellular myxoma

vs

LG myxofibrosarcoma

Middle-aged adults (F>M)

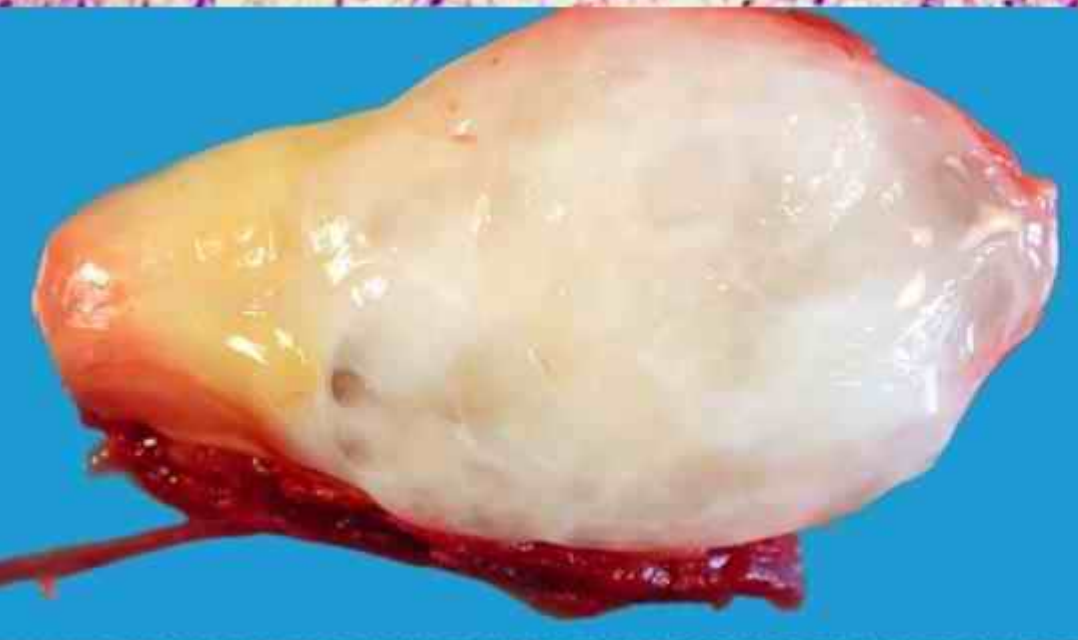
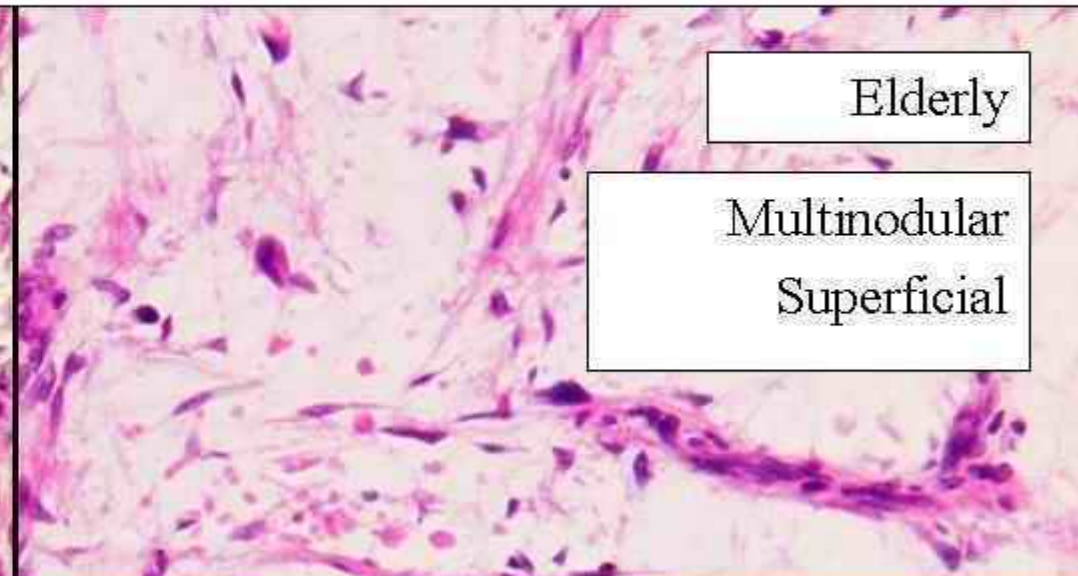
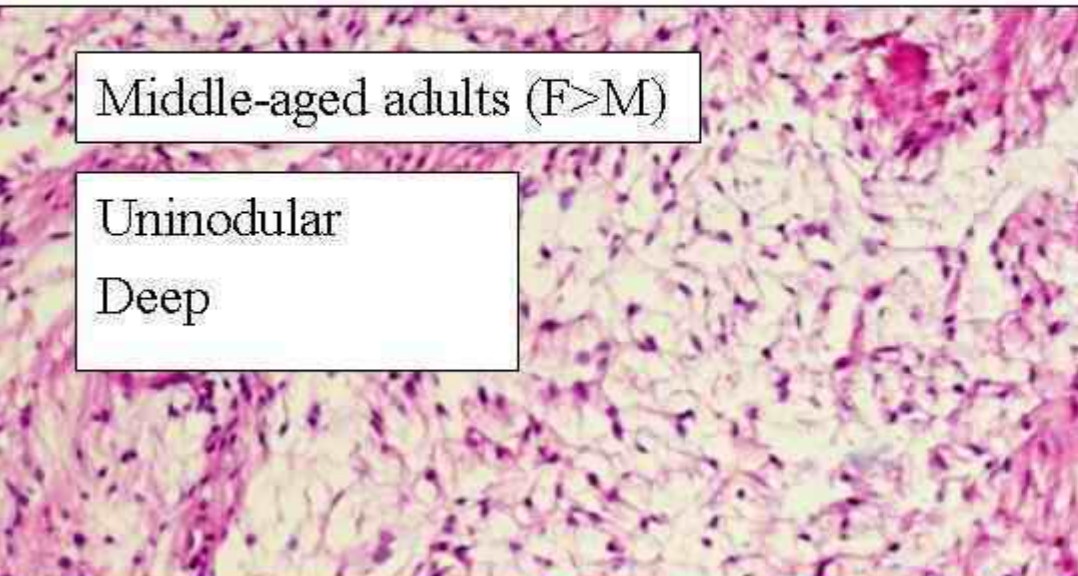
Elderly



# Cellular myxoma

vs

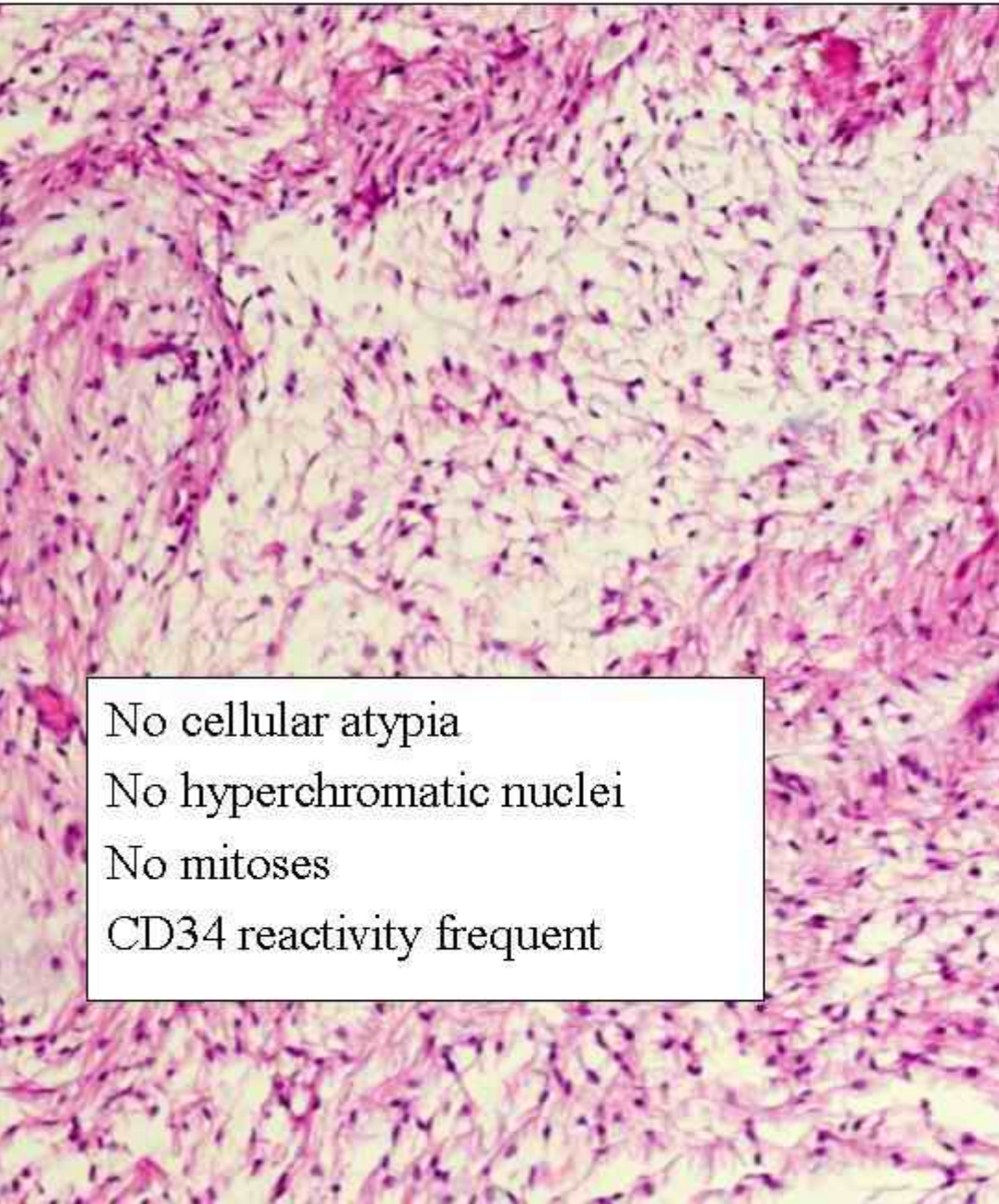
# LG myxofibrosarcoma



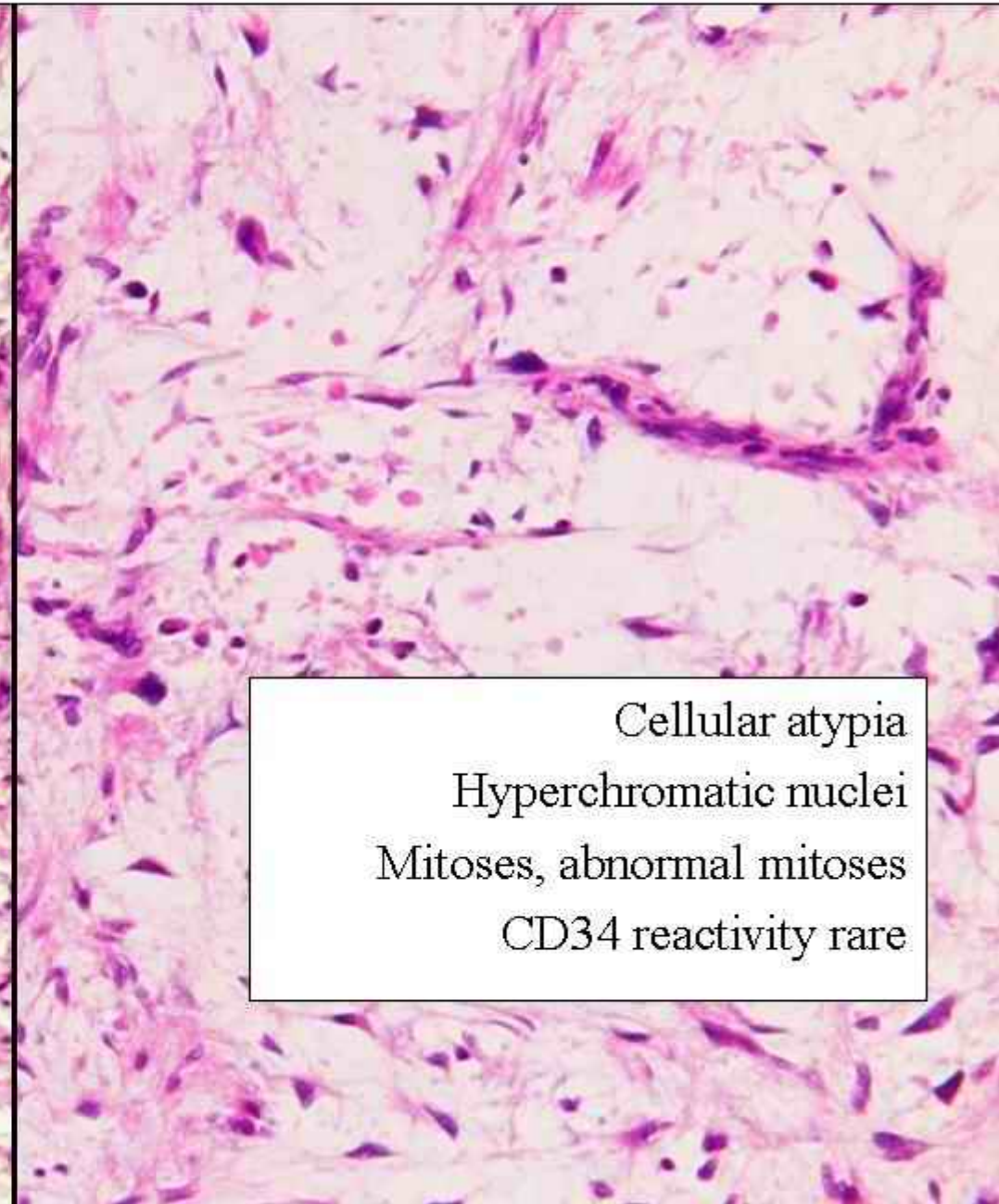
Cellular myxoma

vs

LG myxofibrosarcoma



No cellular atypia  
No hyperchromatic nuclei  
No mitoses  
CD34 reactivity frequent



Cellular atypia  
Hyperchromatic nuclei  
Mitoses, abnormal mitoses  
CD34 reactivity rare

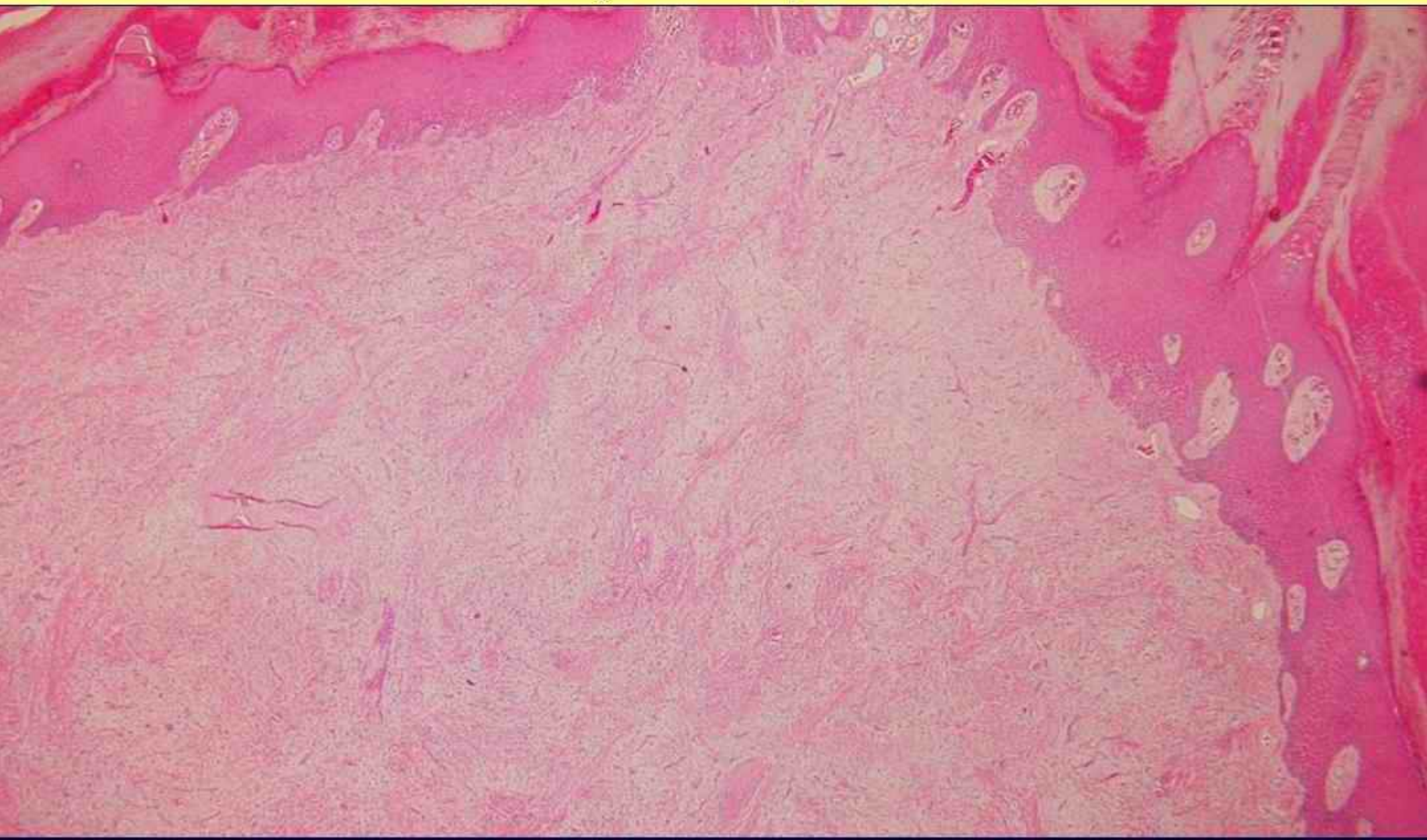
# Conclusions - Take home messages

- « Myxo-fibro » mesenchymal lesions are not all the same !
- Myxofibrosarcoma and low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma are two separate clinicopathologic entities that deserve recognition
- There is some degree of overlap between myxofibrosarcoma and inflammatory myxohyaline tumor

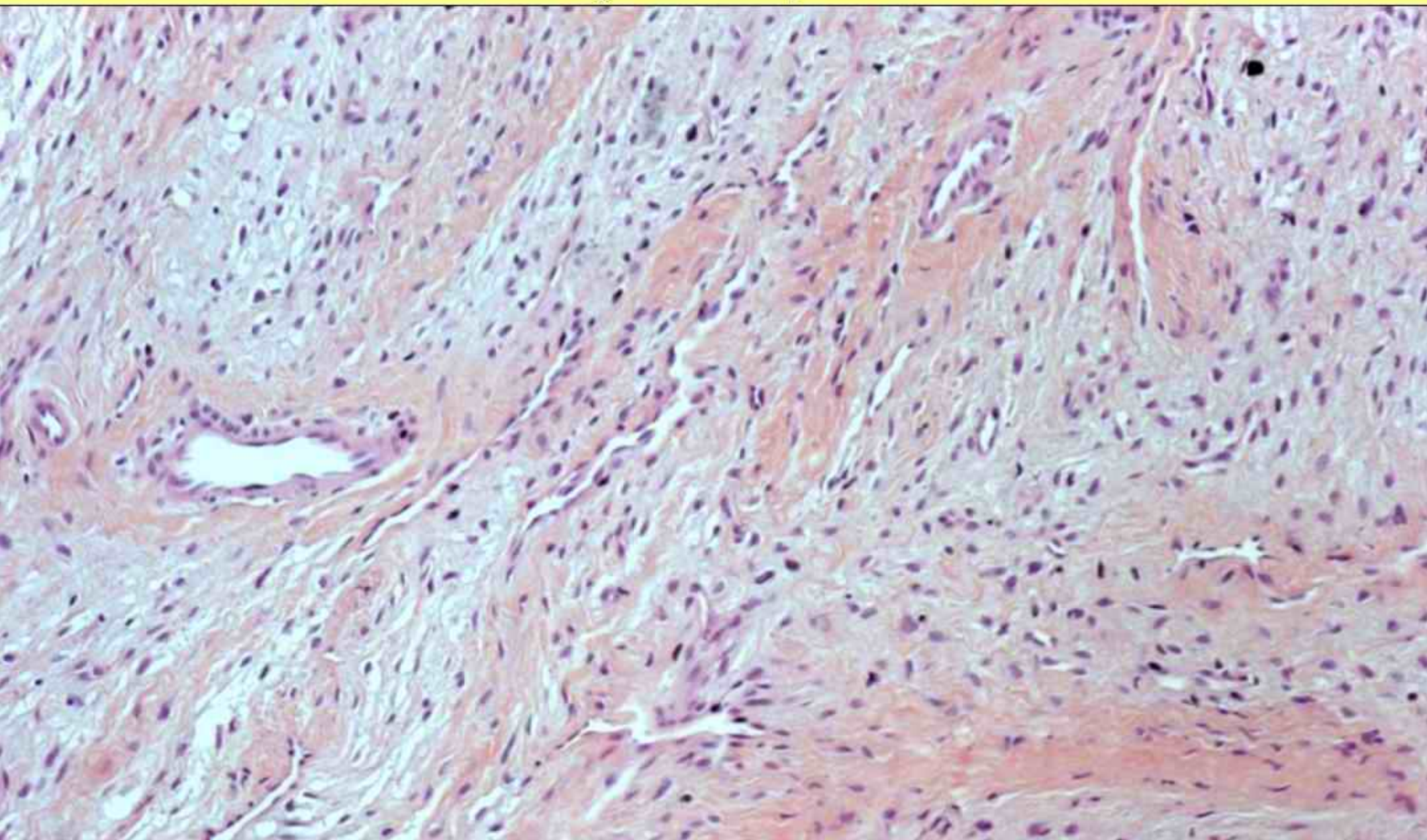
# QUIZ: RESULTS

**QUIZ 1:**

1.5 cm nodule developing in close vicinity to the nail  
of the 4<sup>th</sup> digit in a 40 year-old male



**QUIZ 1:** 1.5 cm nodule developing in close vicinity to the nail of the 4<sup>th</sup> digit in a 40 year-old male



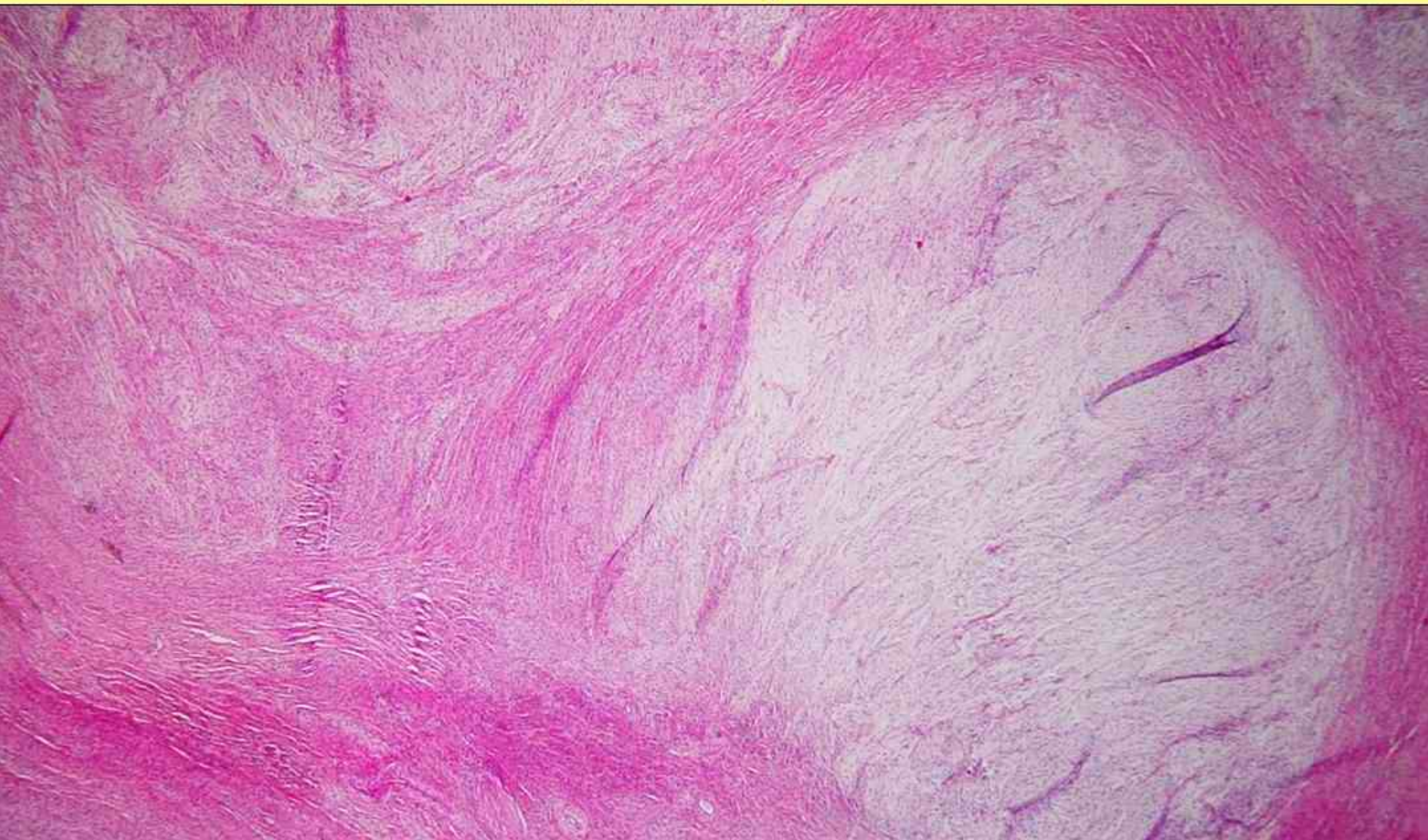
**QUIZ 1:**

1.5 cm nodule developing in close vicinity to the nail  
of the 4<sup>th</sup> digit in a 40 year-old male

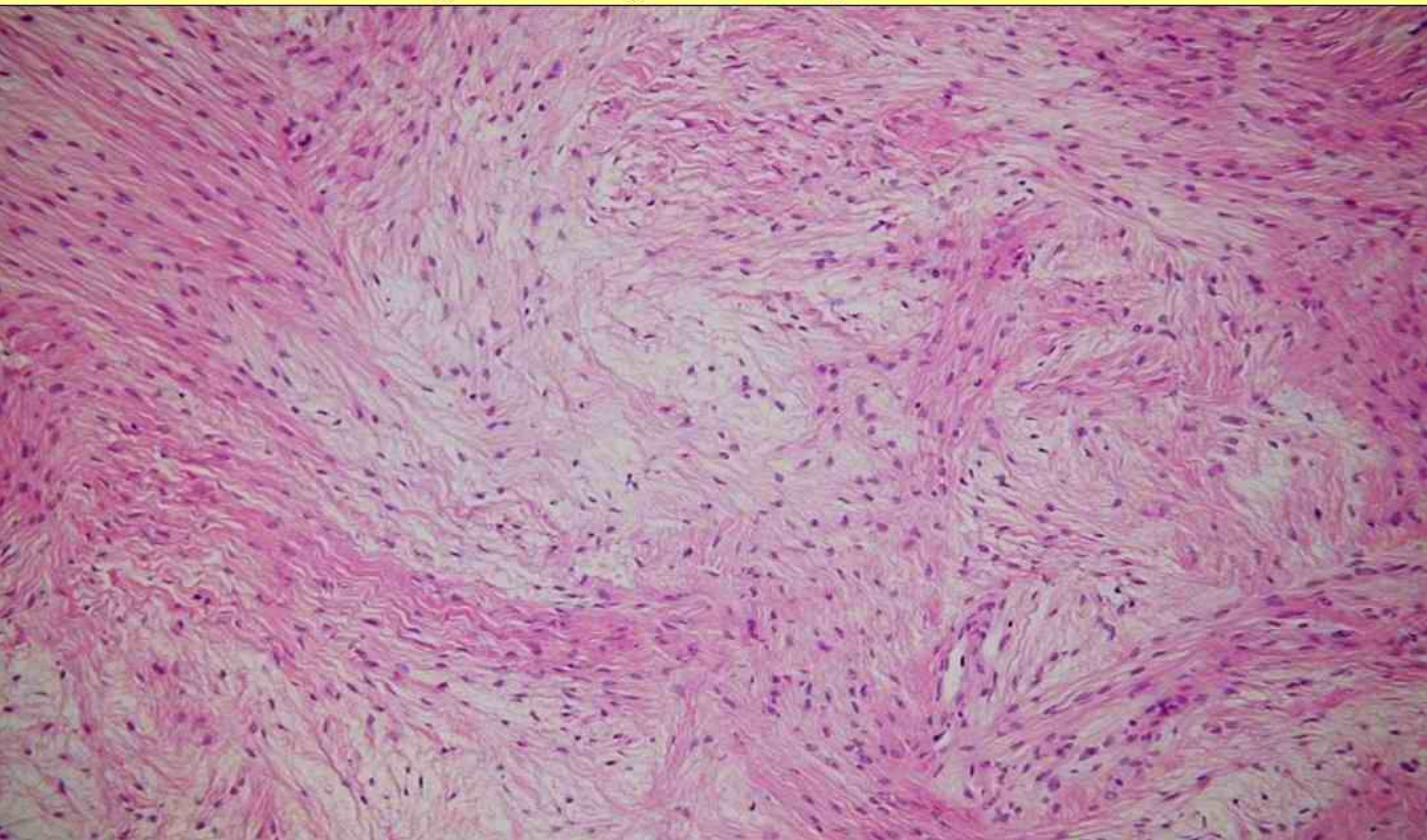


Superficial acral  
fibromyxoma

**QUIZ 2:** 7 cm, well-demarcated, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass  
in the thigh of a 32 year-old male



**QUIZ 2:** 7 cm, well-demarcated, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass sitting in the thigh of a 32 year-old male



**QUIZ 2:**

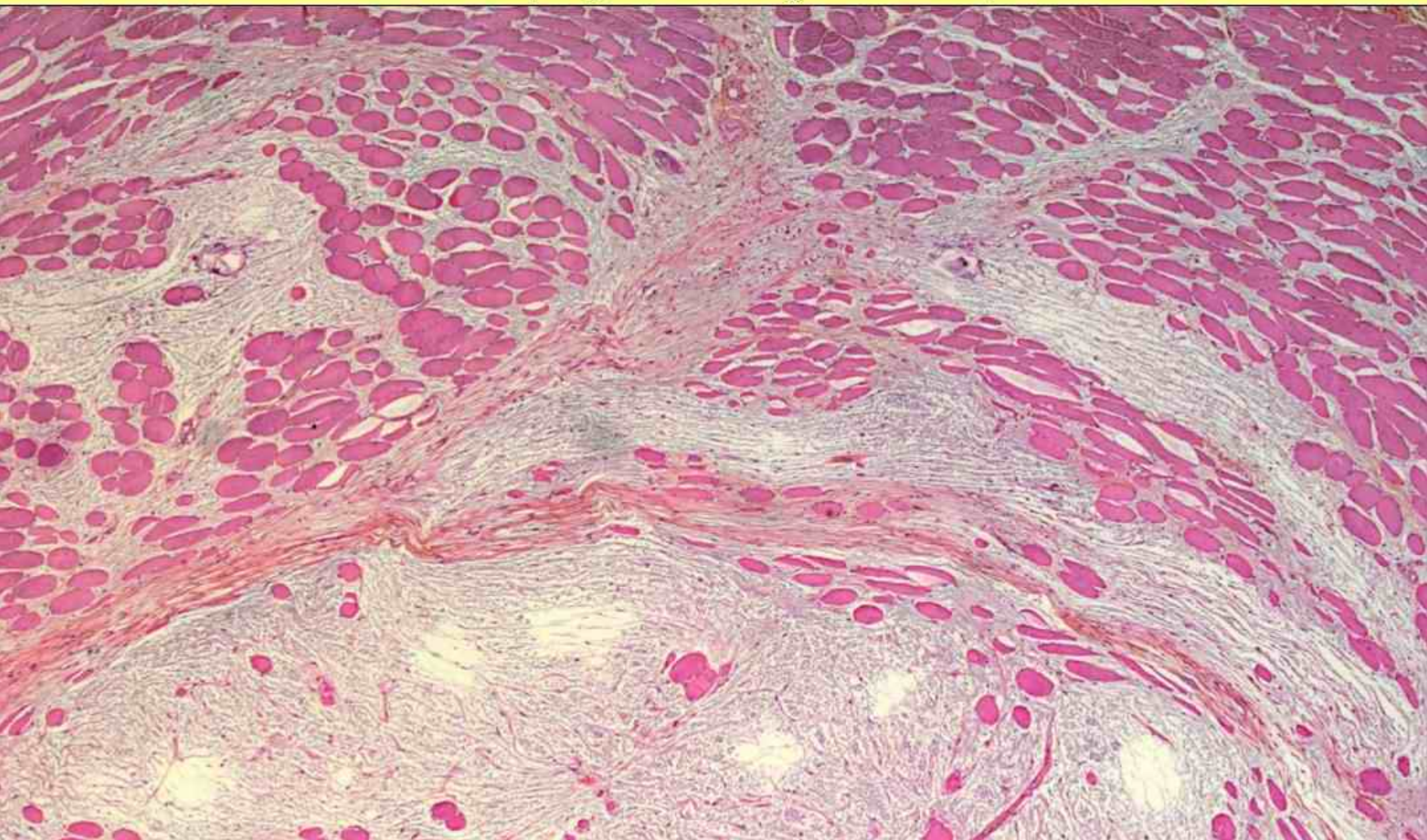
7 cm, well-demarcated, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass sitting in the thigh of a 32 year-old male



Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma (Evans tumor)

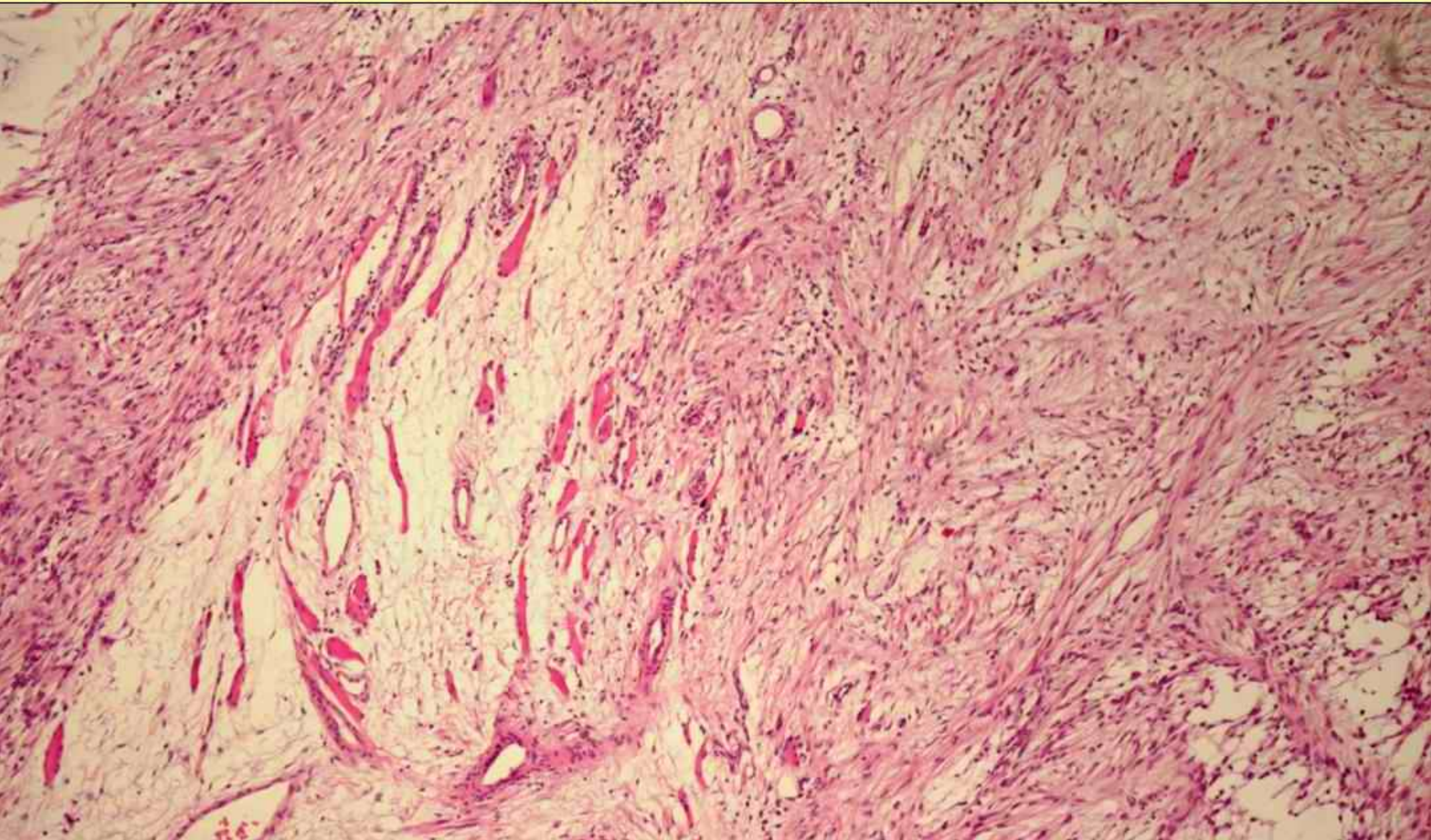
**QUIZ 3:**

6 cm, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass  
developing in the thigh of a 50 year-old female



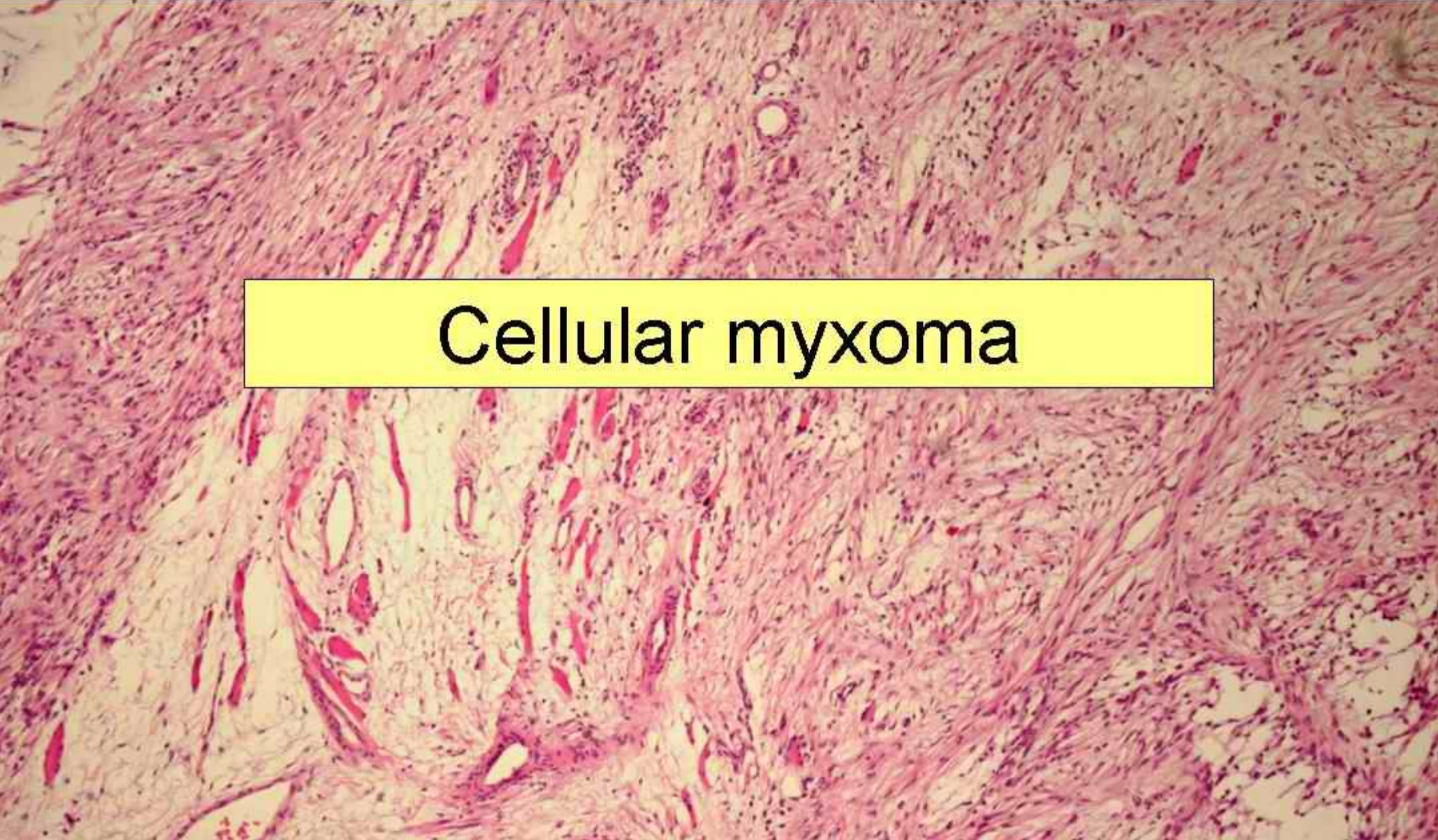
**QUIZ 3:**

6 cm, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass  
developing in the thigh of a 50 year-old female



**QUIZ 3:**

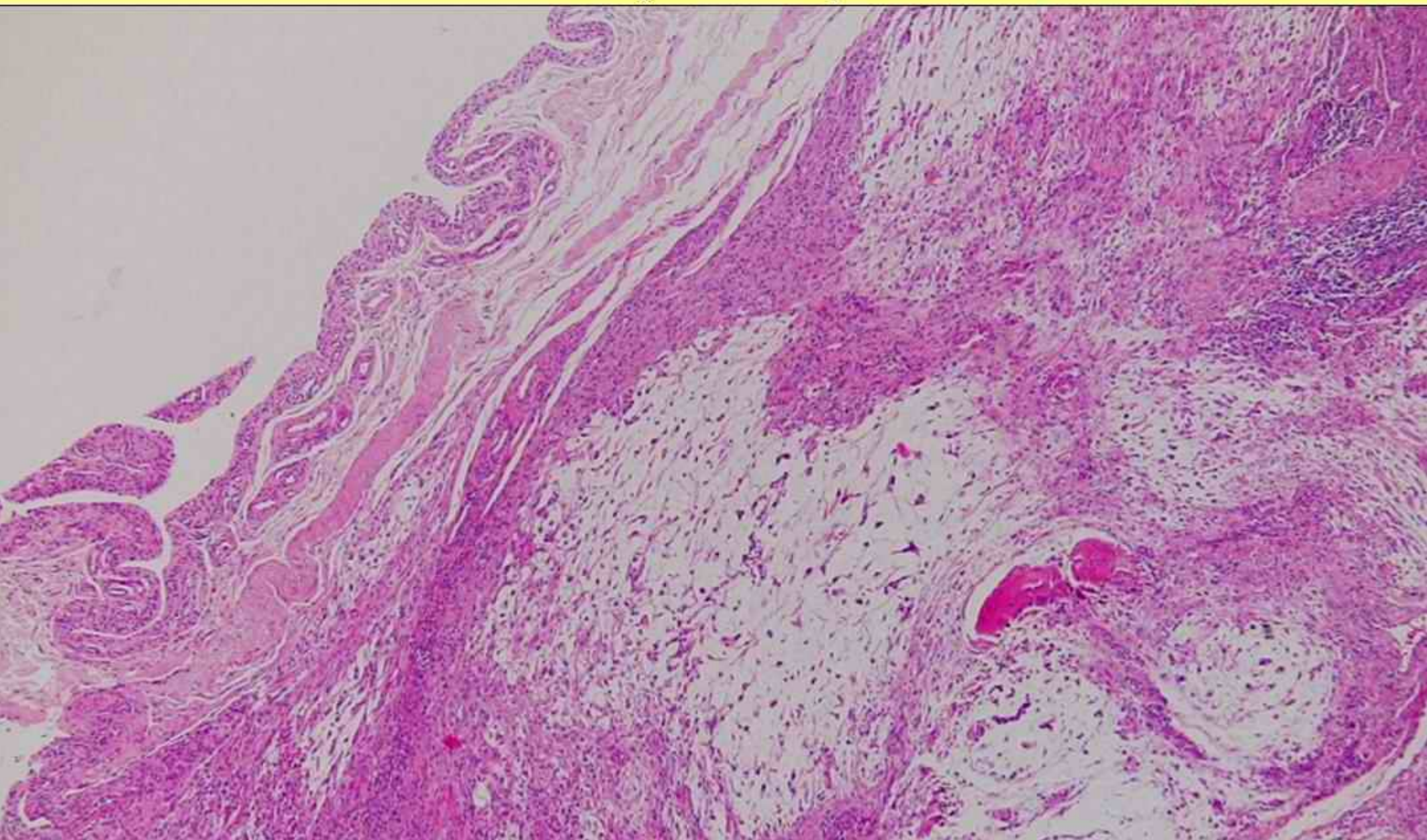
6 cm, slowly-growing, intramuscular mass  
developing in the thigh of a 50 year-old female

A histological slide showing a cellular myxoma. The tissue is composed of numerous spindle-shaped cells with elongated nuclei, arranged in a disorganized, haphazard pattern. The cells are embedded in a pale, eosinophilic, myxoid stroma. There are several small, irregular vascular channels scattered throughout the tissue. The overall appearance is that of a low-grade, non-specific mesenchymal neoplasm.

**Cellular myxoma**

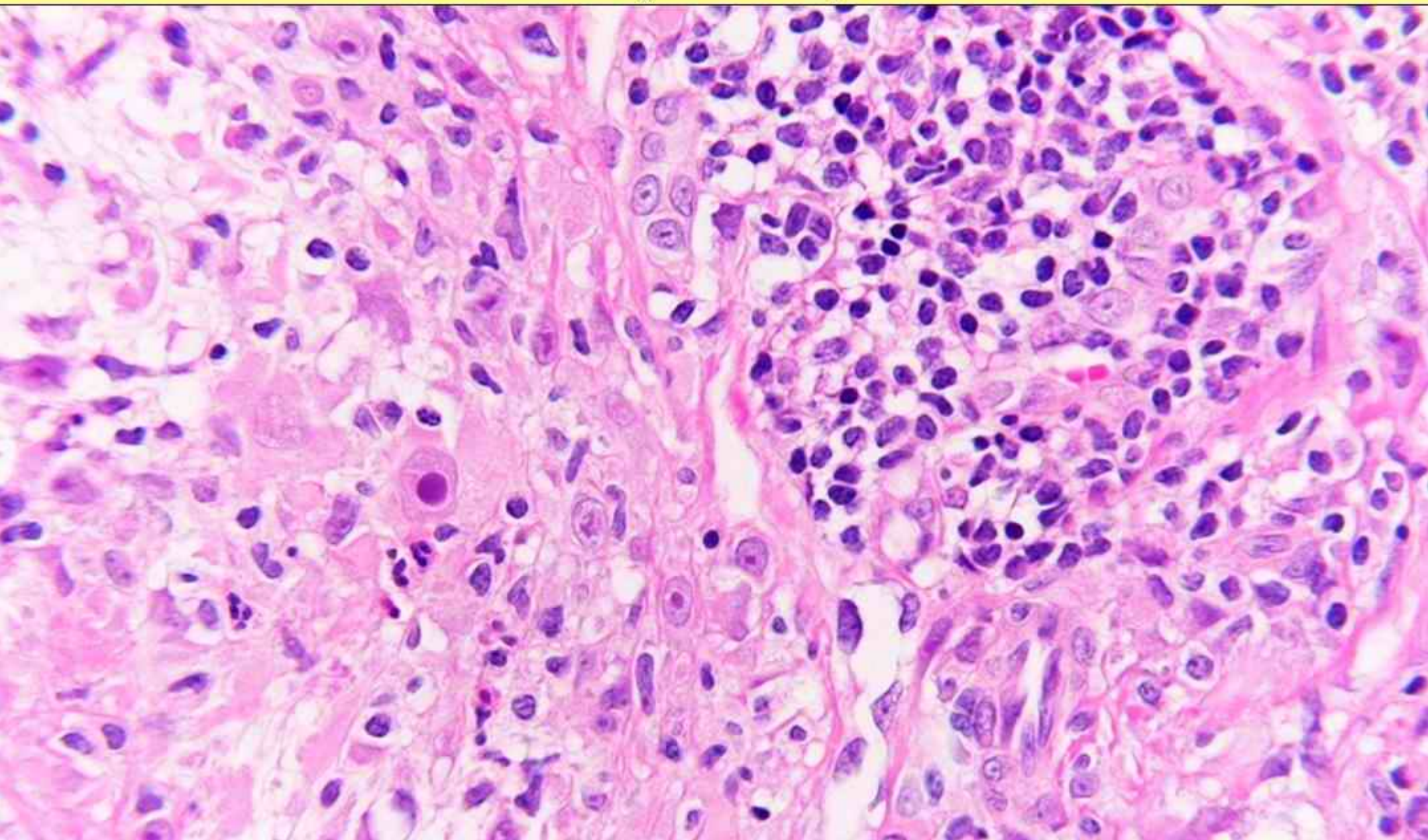
**QUIZ 4:**

4 cm, gelatinous, ill-defined mass of the  
2<sup>nd</sup> left digit in a 45 year-old male



**QUIZ 4:**

4 cm, gelatinous, ill-defined mass of the  
2<sup>nd</sup> left digit in a 45 year-old male



**QUIZ 4:**

4 cm, gelatinous, ill-defined mass of the  
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**Inflammatory myxohyaline tumor**



Thank you for your attention....

.....Louis Guillou