

**Biopsies of the  
Urinary Bladder and the Prostate**

***Practical Diagnostic Considerations***

**Wael A.Sakr, MD,**

**Wayne State University School of Medicine**

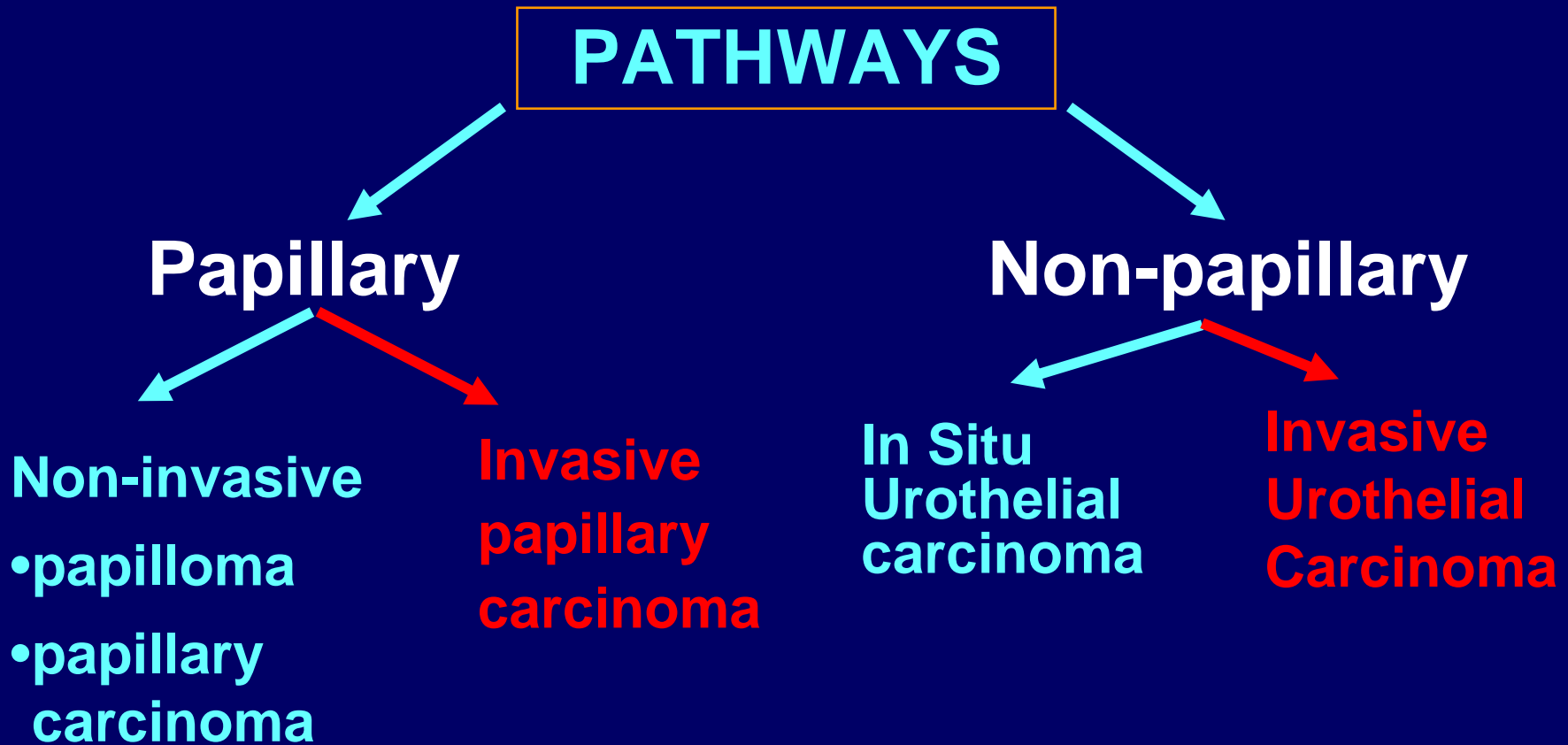
**Karmanos Cancer Institute & the Detroit Medical Center**

# **WHO Classification of Bladder Tumors**

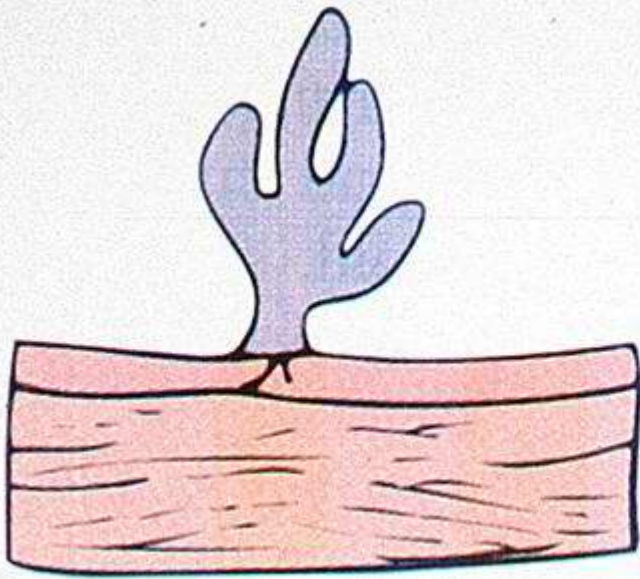
**WHO Classification of Tumours of the Urinary System & Male Genital Organs  
IARC, Lyon, 14-18 December 2002**



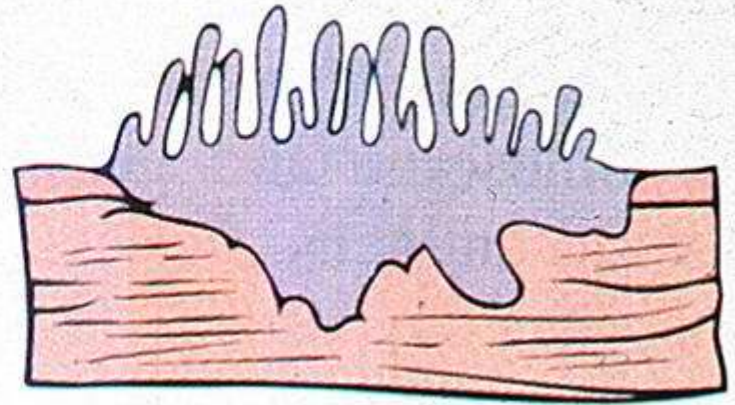
# UROTHELIAL NEOPLASMS OF THE BLADDER



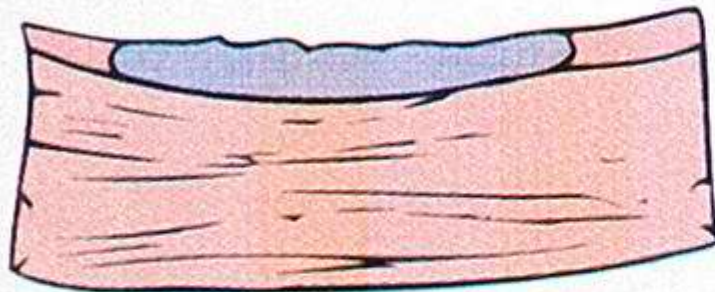
*Pathways may be distinct or interrelated*



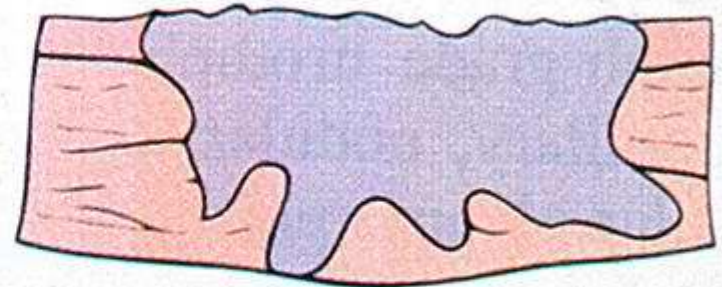
Papilloma-  
papillary carcinoma



Invasive  
papillary carcinoma



Flat noninvasive  
carcinoma



Flat invasive  
carcinoma

# UROTHELIAL NEOPLASMS

## CLINICIANS PERSPECTIVE

**“Superficial  
Cancer”**

Non-  
invasive  
papillary  
cancer

Urothelial CIS

Invasive tumor  
NOT into  
muscularis propria

**“Invasive  
Cancer”**

Tumors that Invade  
into the muscularis  
propria

# WHO/ISUP 2004 CLASSIFICATION

- **NORMAL**
- **HYPERPLASIA**
- **FLAT LESIONS WITH ATYPIA**
  - Reactive (inflammatory) atypia
  - Atypia of unknown significance
  - Dysplasia (low grade intraurothelial neoplasia)
  - Carcinoma in situ (high grade intraurothelial neoplasia)
- **PAPILLARY NEOPLASMS**
  - Papilloma
  - Inverted papilloma
  - Papillary neoplasm of low malignant potential
  - Papillary carcinoma, low grade
  - Papillary carcinoma, high grade
- **INVASIVE NEOPLASMS**

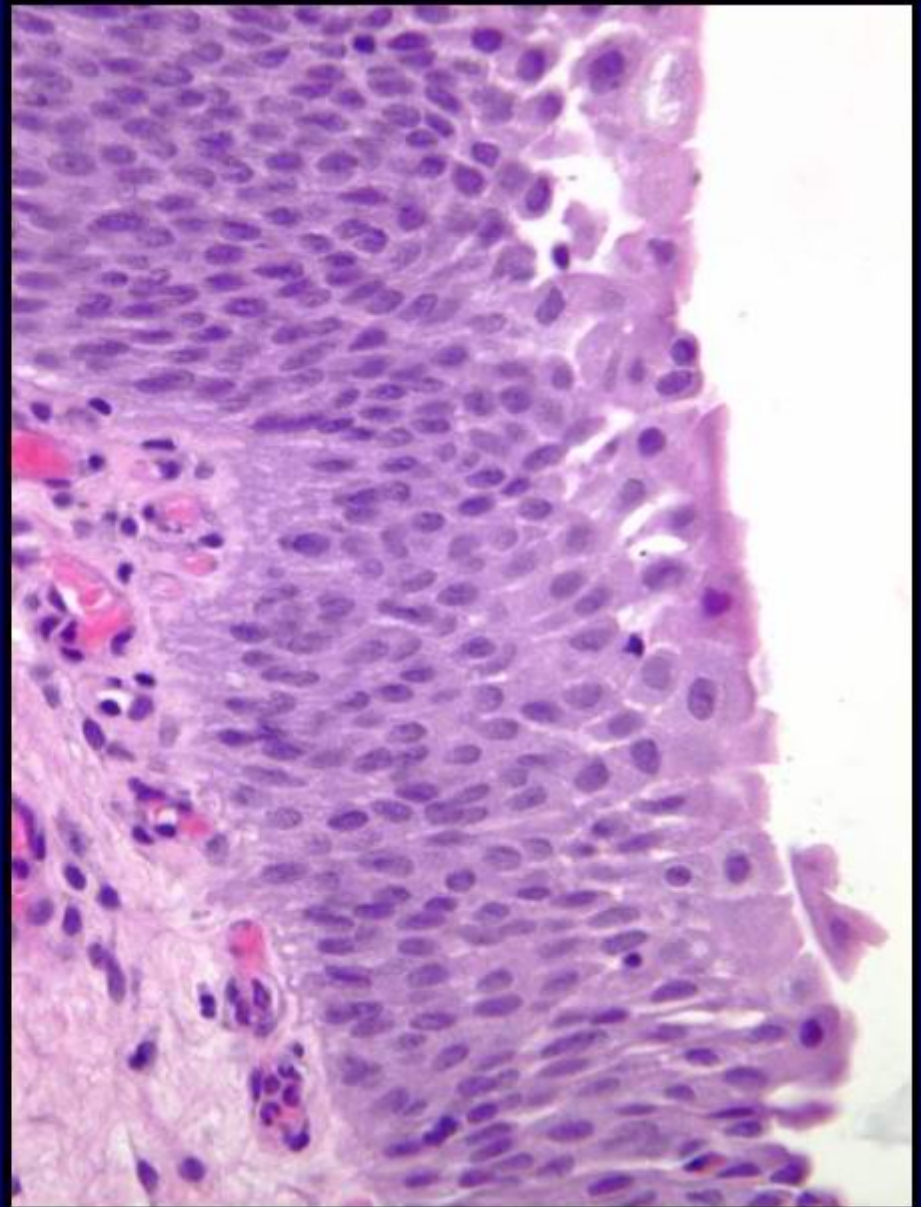
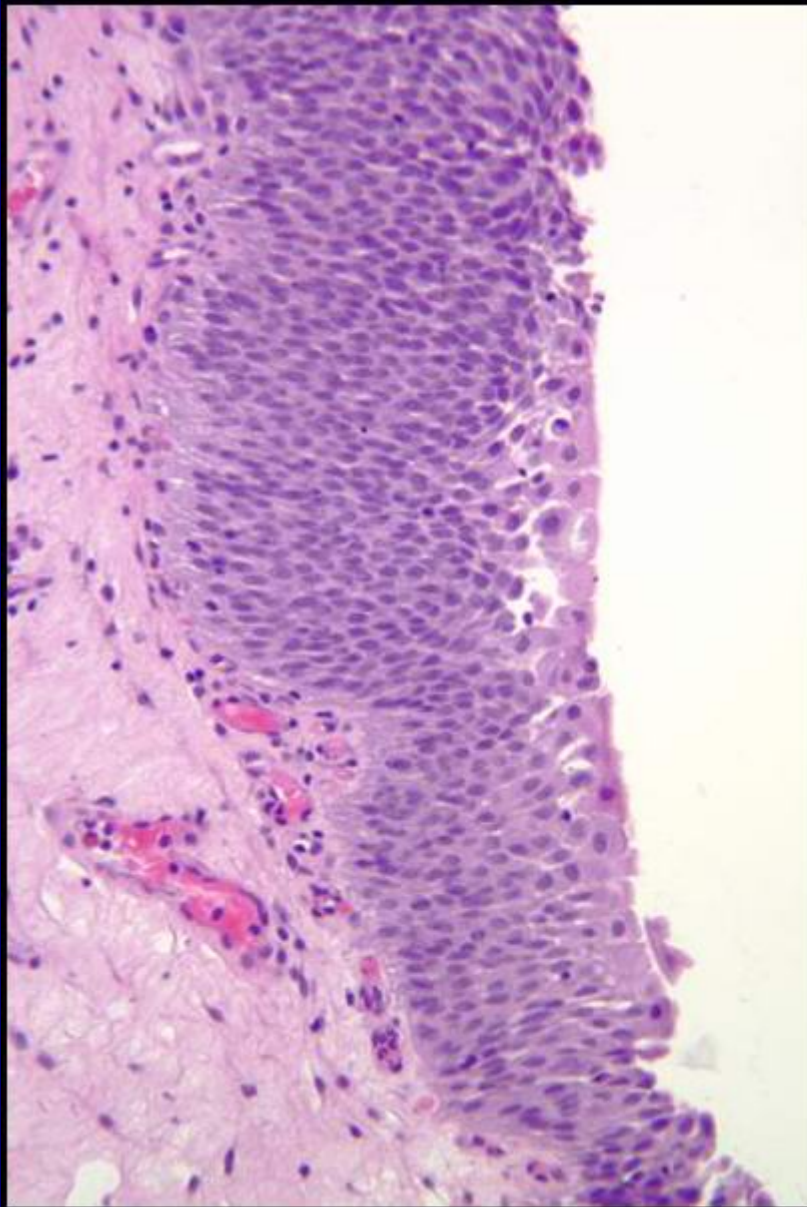
# Flat Urothelium

# **WHO 2004 CLASSIFICATION**

## **UROTHELIAL HYPERPLASIA**

- **Historically defined as  $> 7$  cell layers**
- **“Markedly thickened mucosa without atypia”**
- **Counting cell layers not recommended**
- **Association with neoplasia uncertain**
- **Flat or pseudopapillary architecture**

# HYPERPLASIA

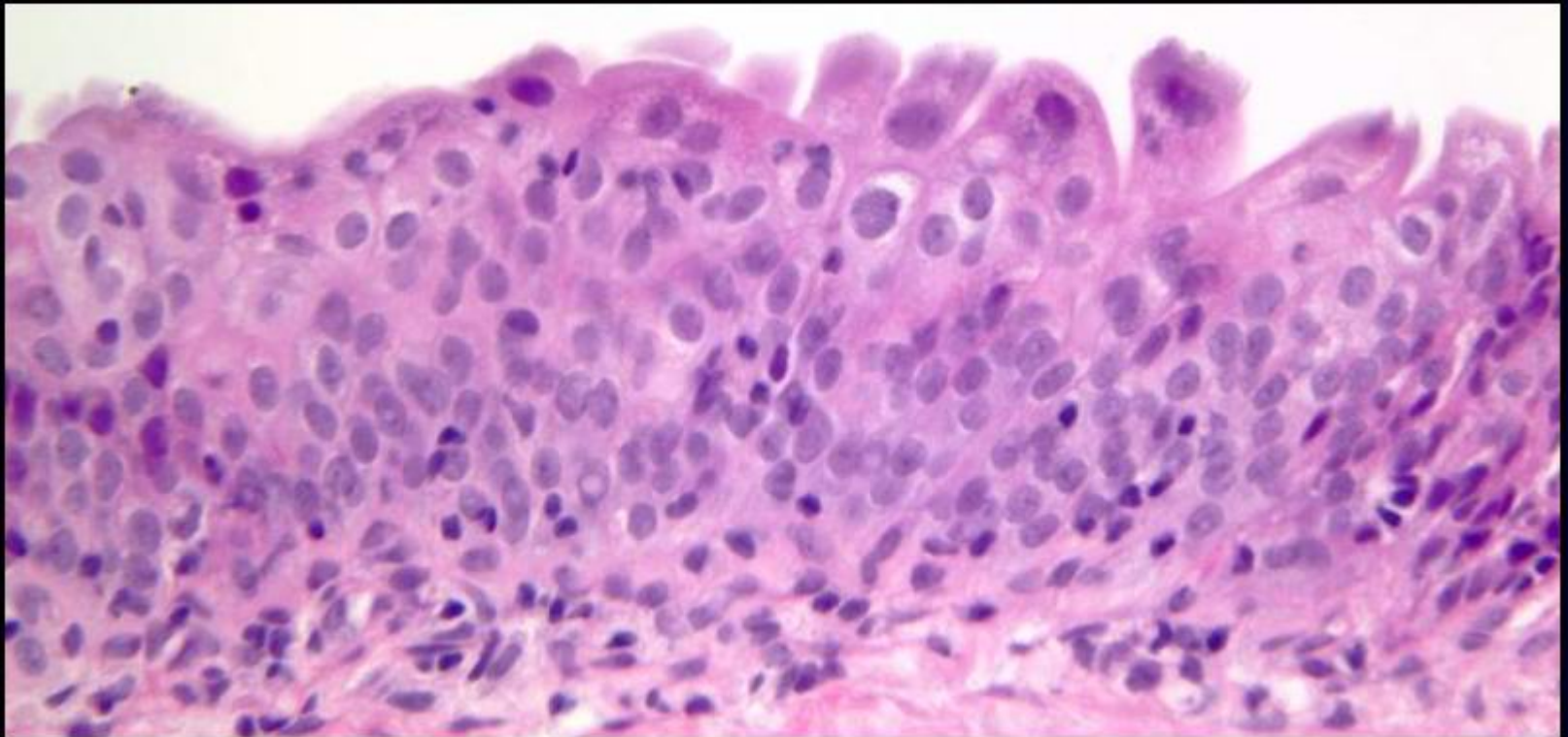
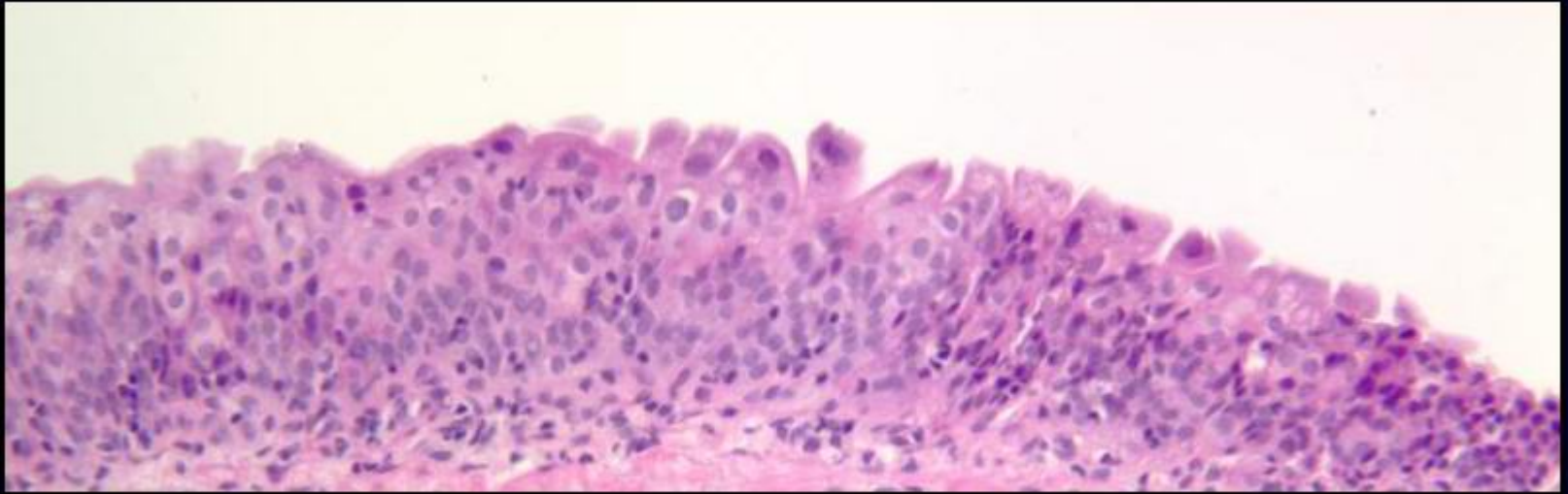


# **WHO 2004 CLASSIFICATION**

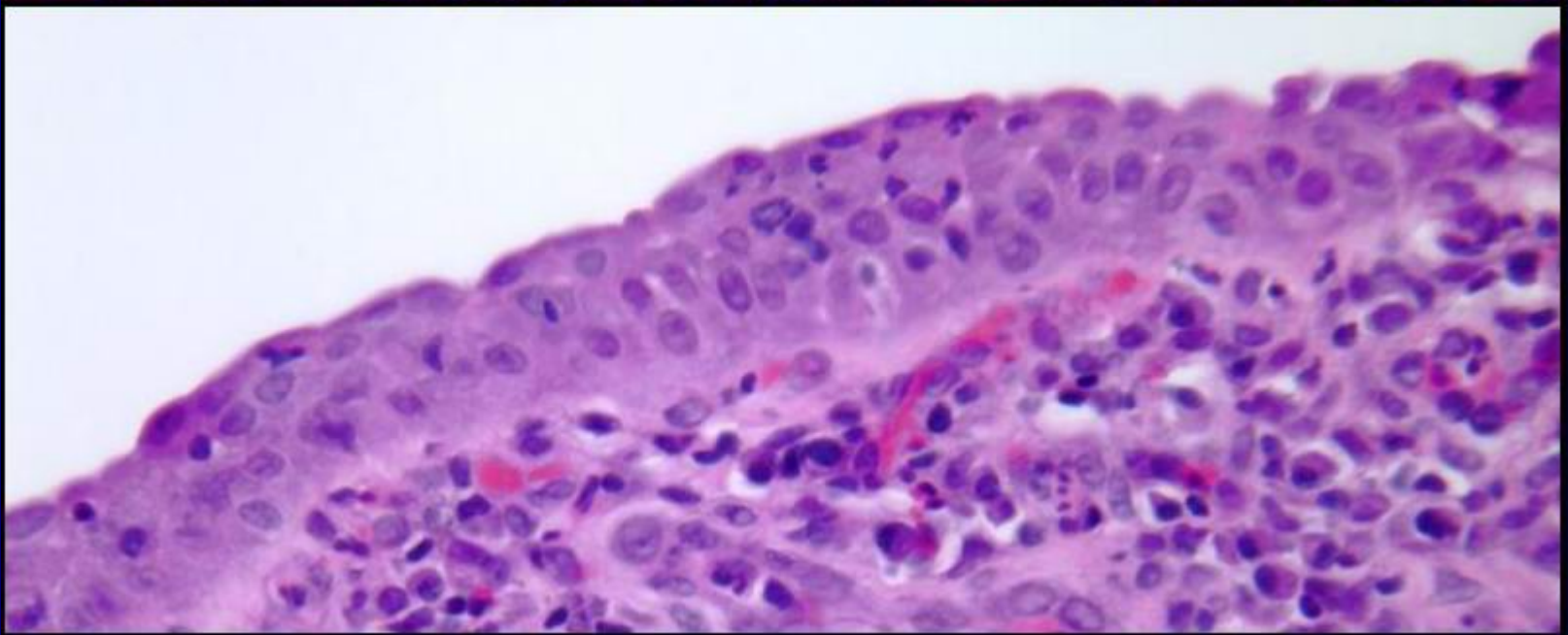
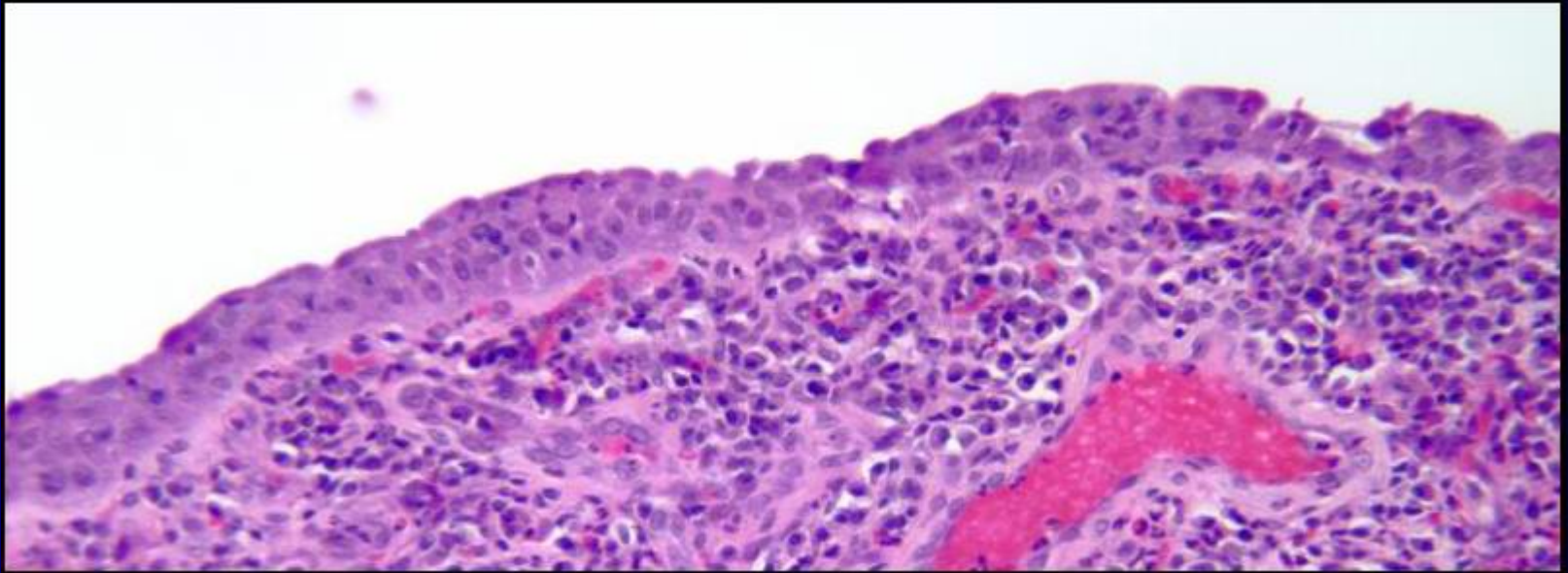
## **REACTIVE ATYPIA**

- **Typically a history of recurrent infection, instrumentation or other**
- **Epithelium may or may not be thickened**
- **Nuclei uniformly enlarged and vesicular**
- **May be prominent centrally located nucleoli**
- **Mitotic figures may be frequent**
- **Acute and/or chronic inflammation**

# REACTIVE ATYPIA



# REACTIVE ATYPIA

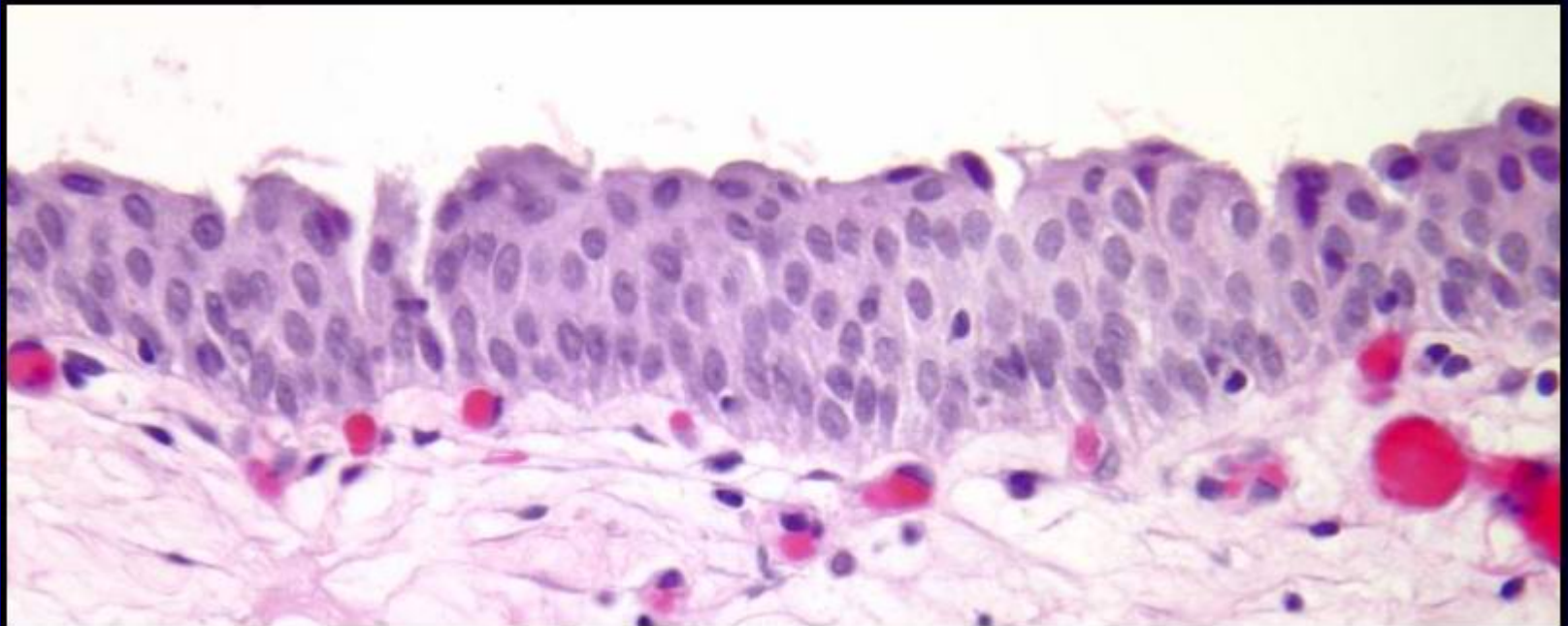
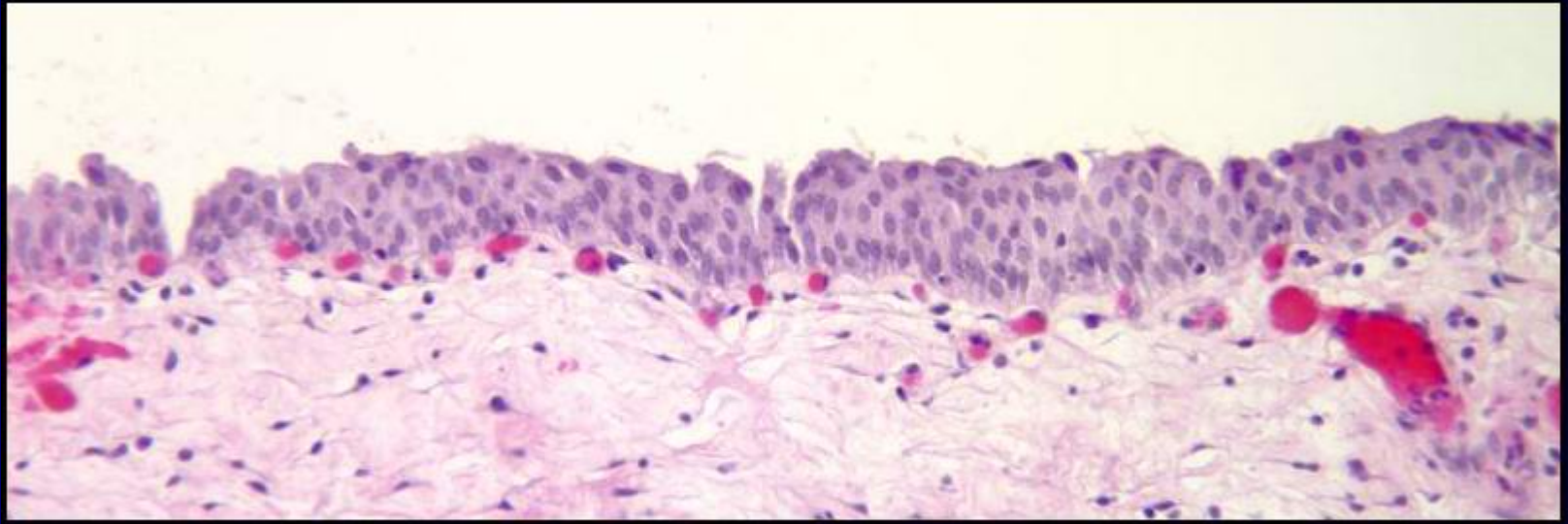


# **WHO 2004 CLASSIFICATION**

## **ATYPIA OF UNKNOWN SIGNIFICANCE**

- **Cases falling into gray zone between clearly reactive and clearly neoplastic**
- **Reserved for cases where dysplasia cannot be ruled out with certainty**
- **Usually inflammatory background**
- **Patients may be followed and reevaluated after inflammation subsides**

# ATYPIA - UNKNOWN SIGNIFICANCE

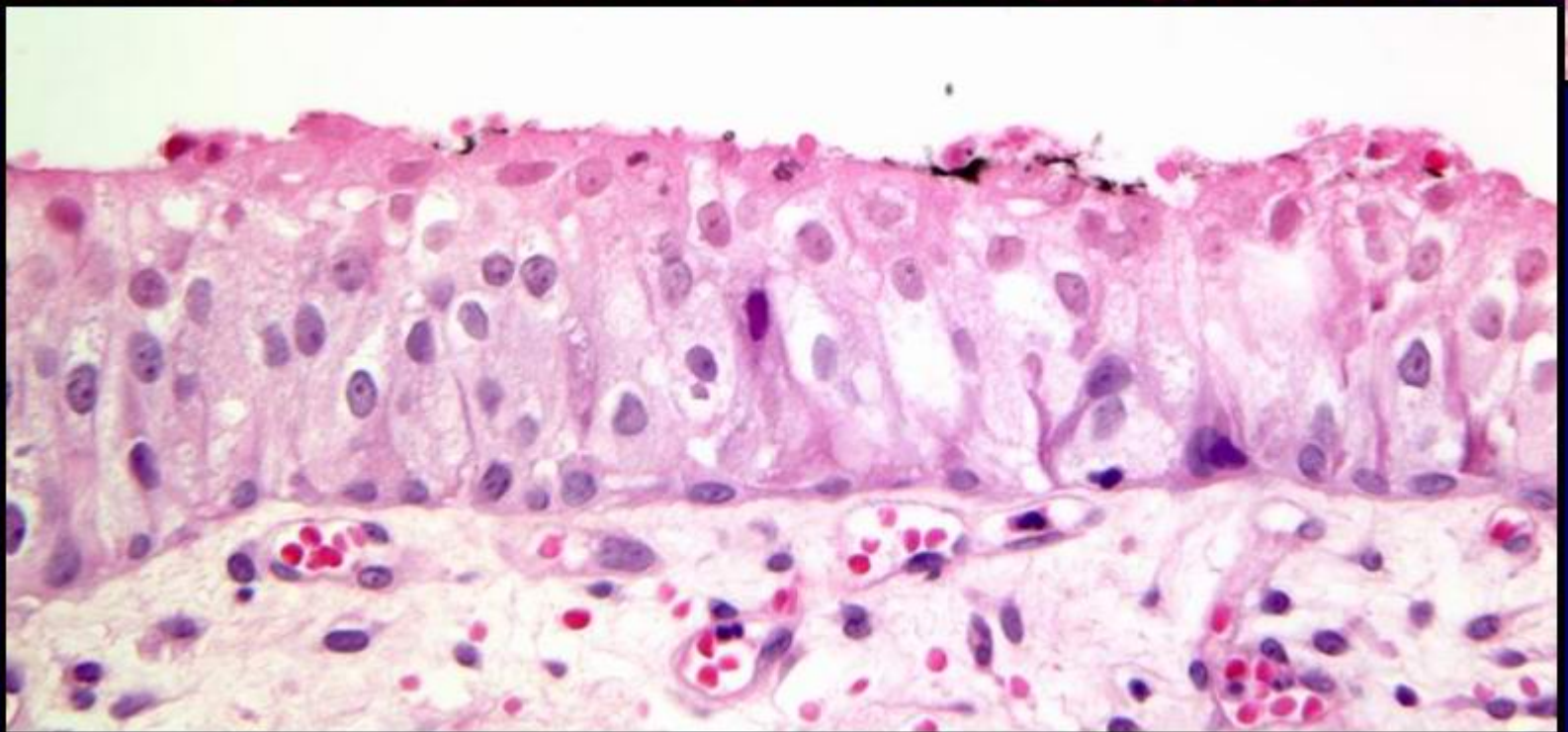
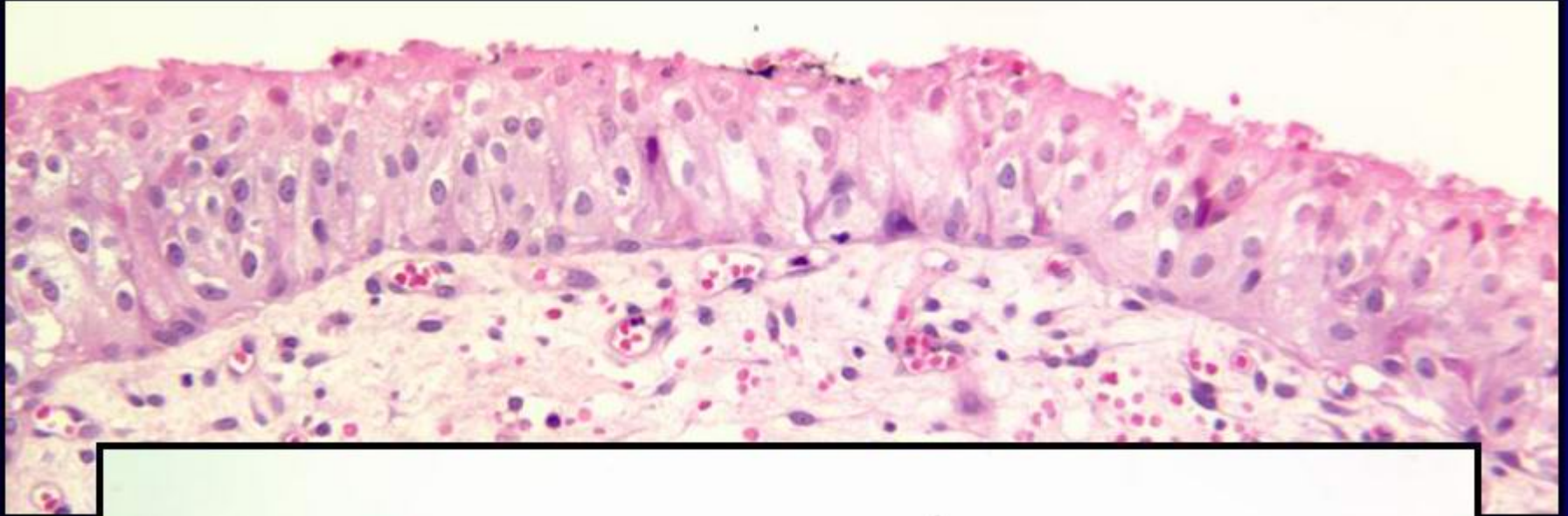


# **WHO 2004 CLASSIFICATION**

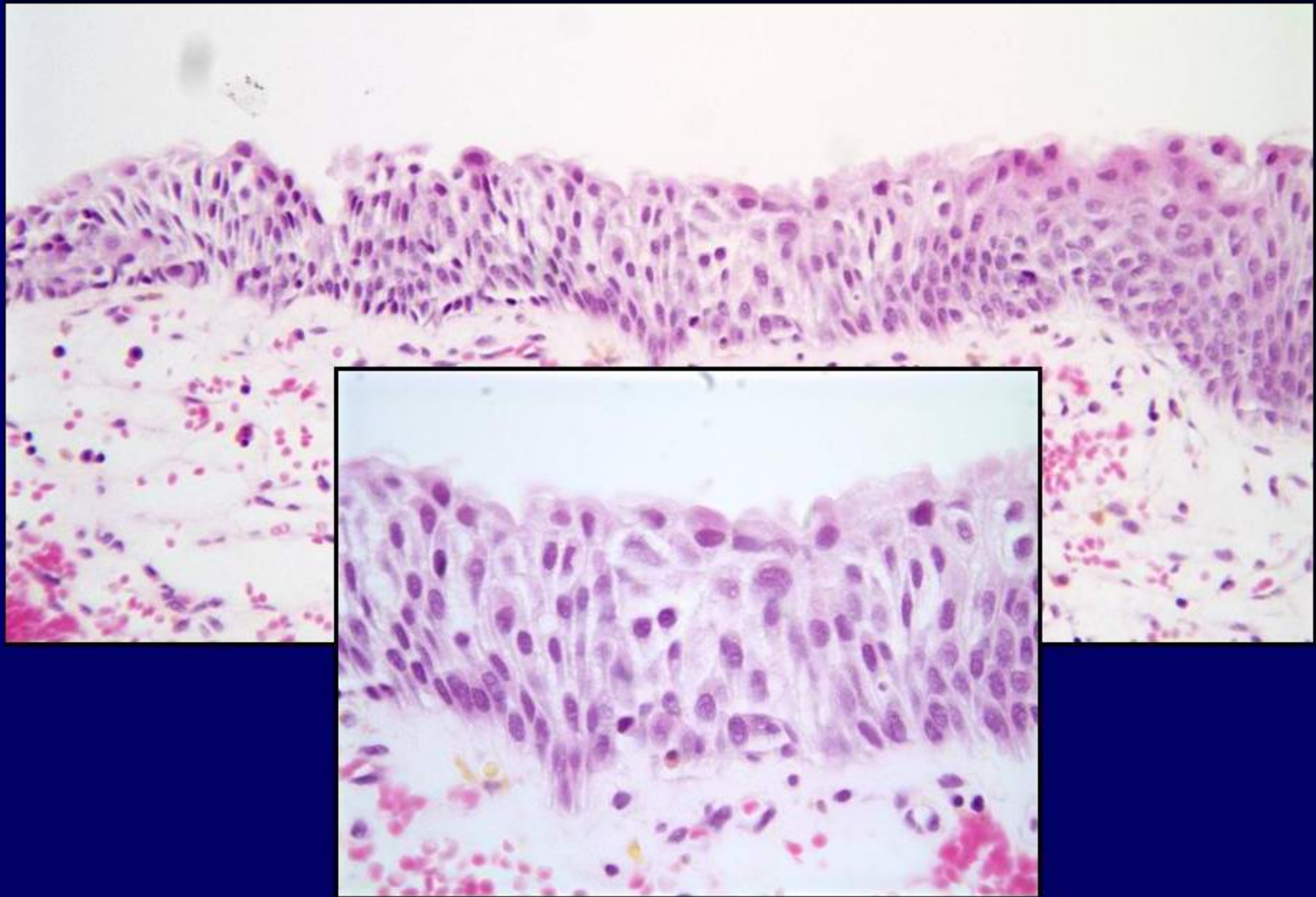
## **DYSPLASIA (LOW GRADE INTRAUROTHELIAL NEOPLASIA)**

- **Need to recognize a lesion with changes short of CIS**
- **Overall features strongly indicative of a neoplastic atypia but fall short of criteria for carcinoma in situ**
- **Significance and treatment to be determined**

# DYSPLASIA



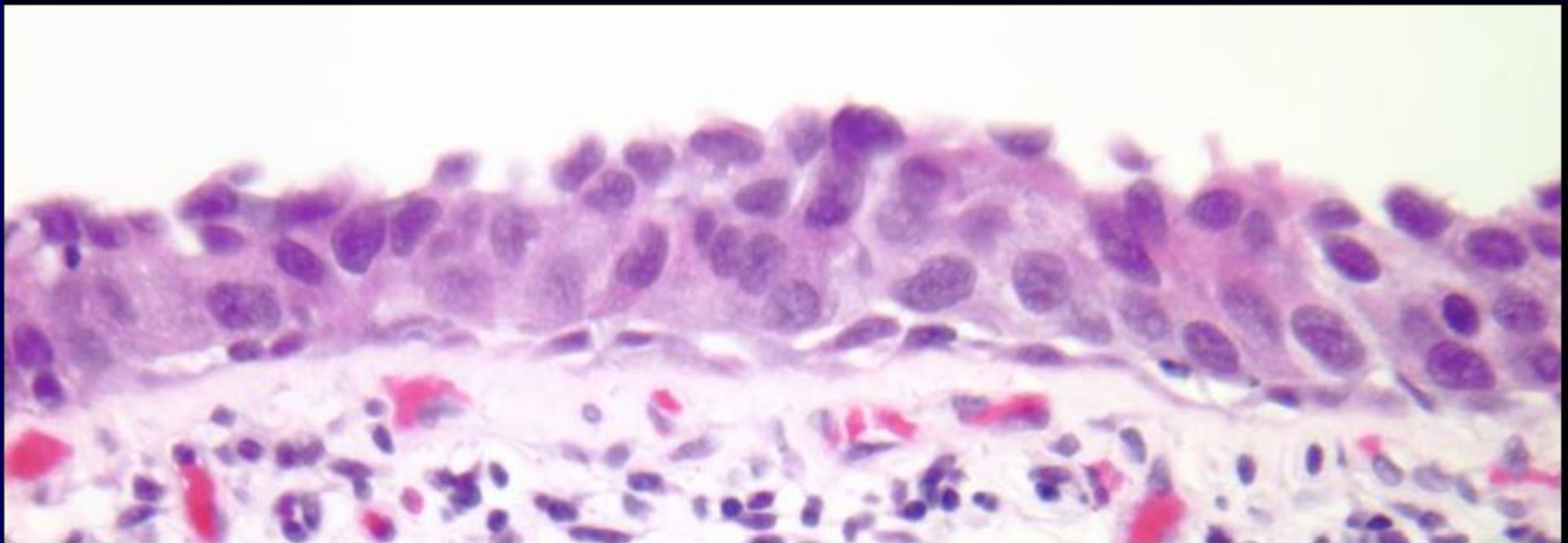
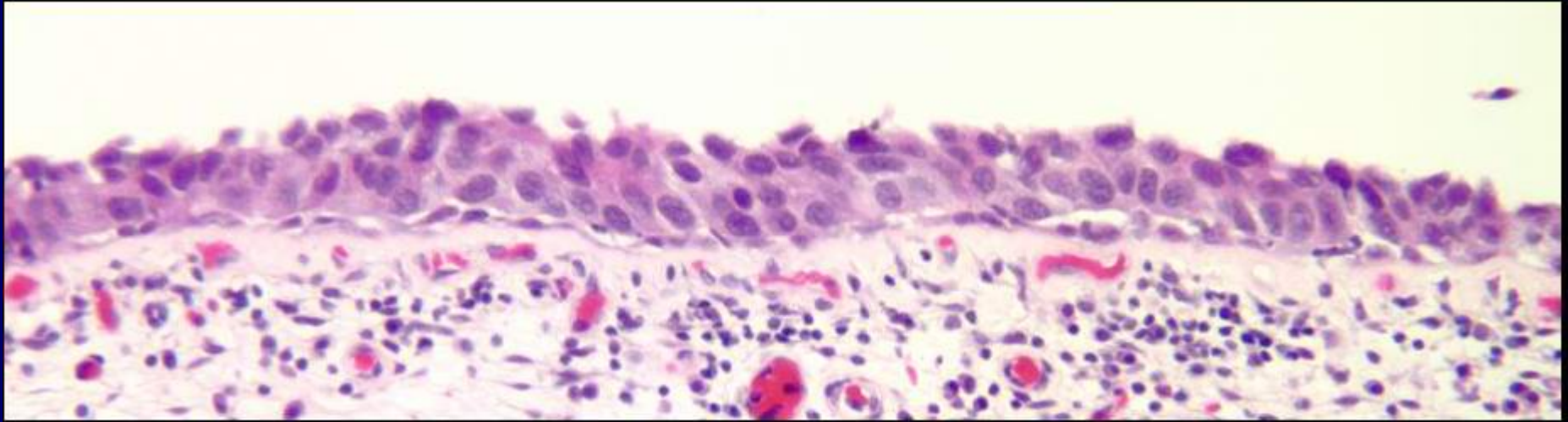
# DYSPLASIA



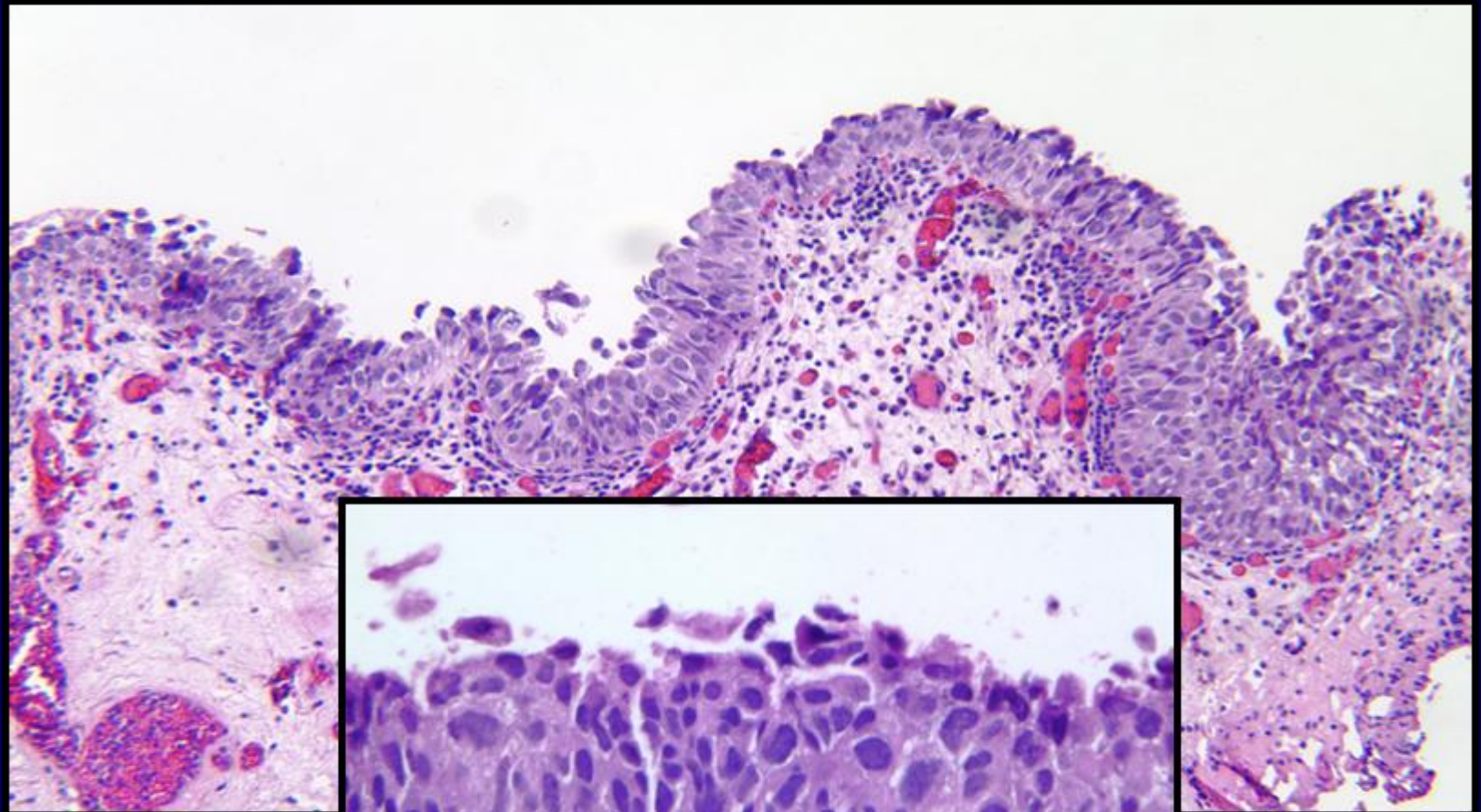
# **WHO 2004 CLASSIFICATION CARCINOMA IN SITU (HIGH GRADE INTRAUROTHELIAL NEOPLASIA)**

- **Reproducibility of diagnosis best at high end of scale**
- **Documented precursor of invasive cancer**
- **Many cases with proven clinical significance under diagnosed**
- **Need for the category of CIS to be expanded to include lower grade lesions “moderate dysplasia”**

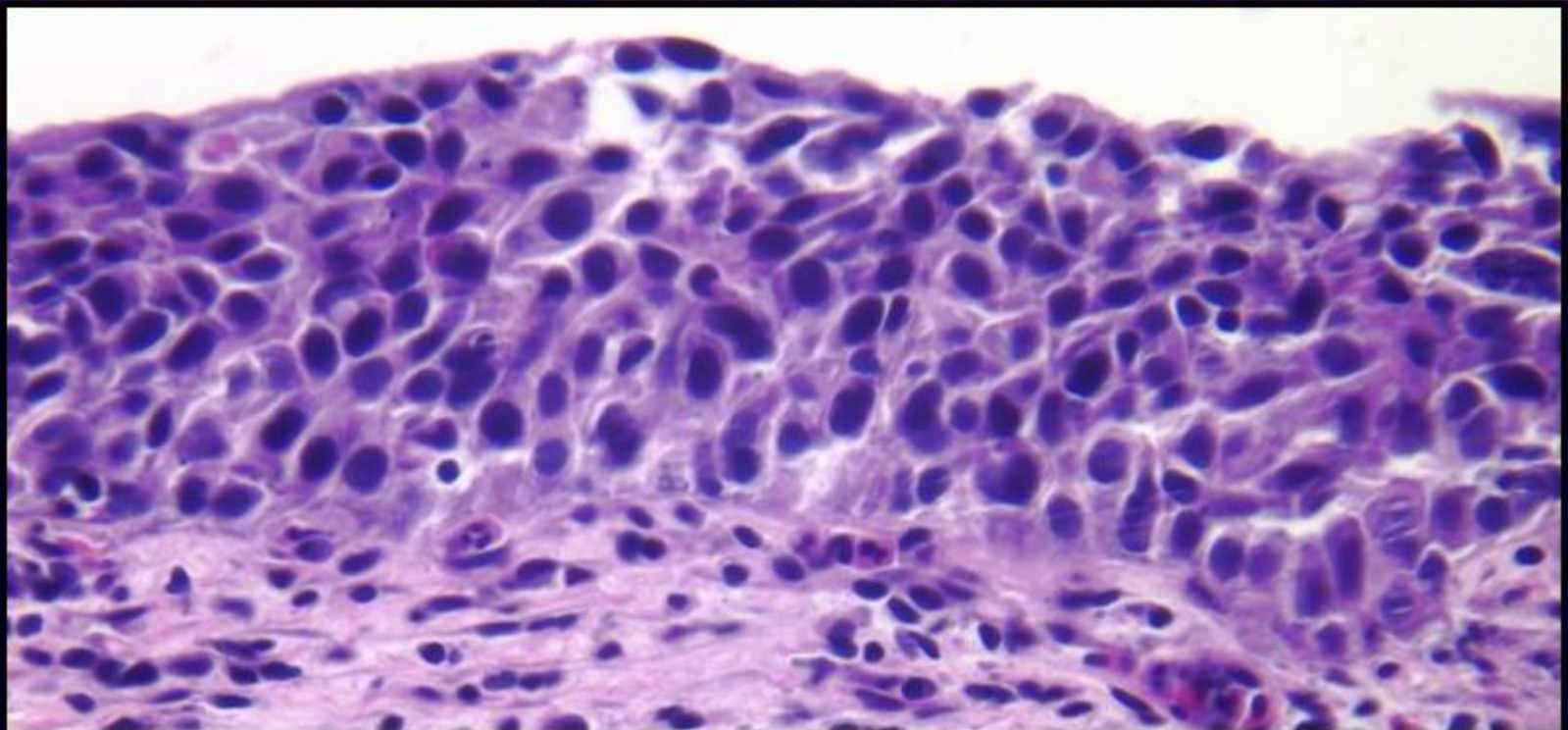
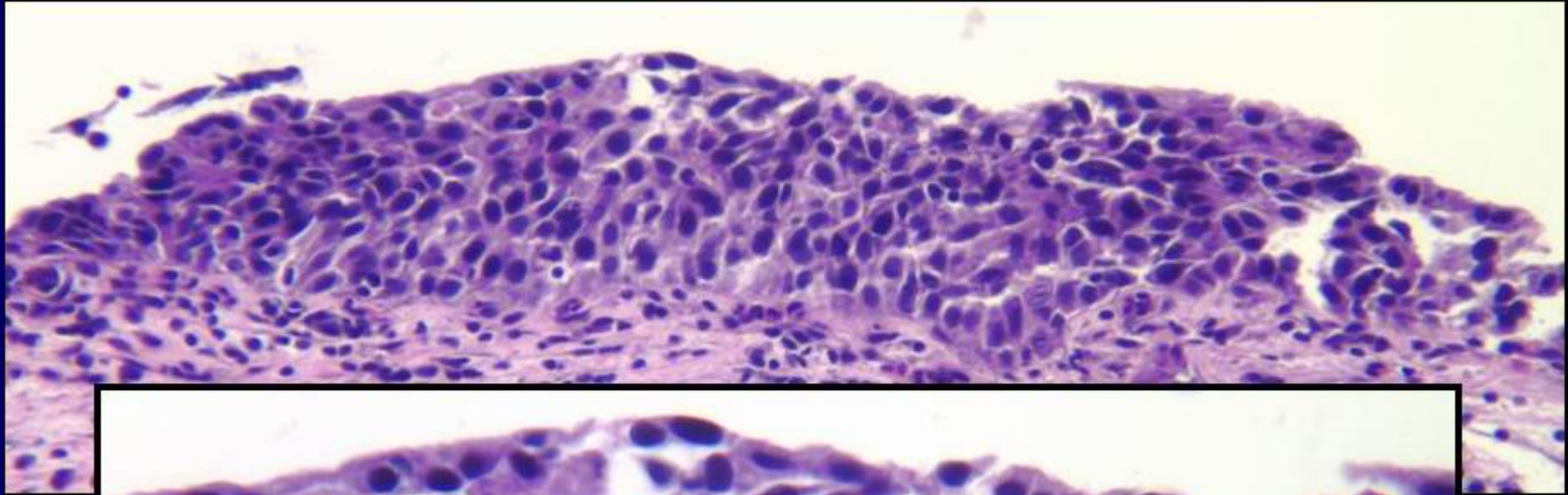
# CIS - LARGE CELL



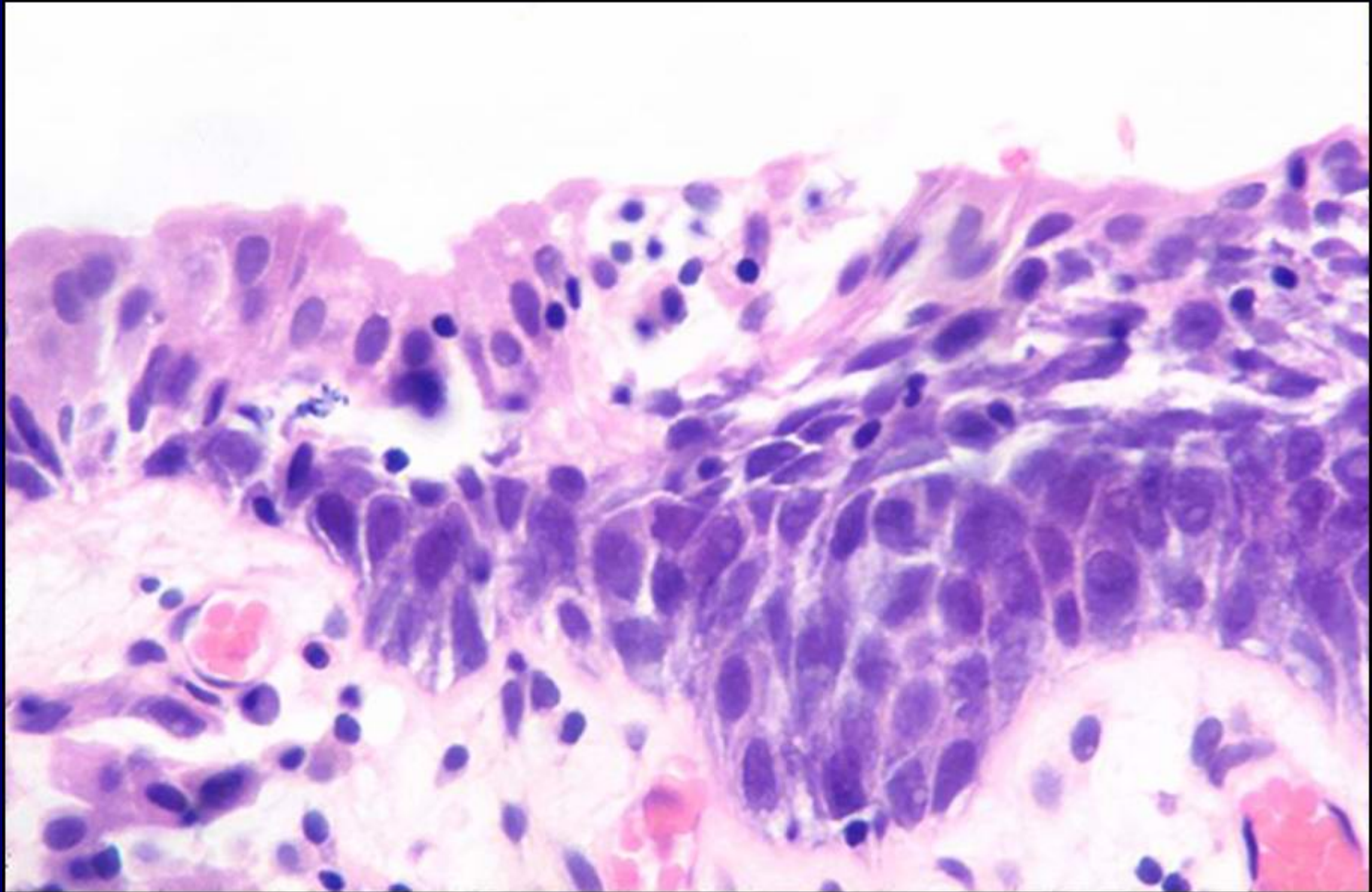
# CIS - LARGE CELL



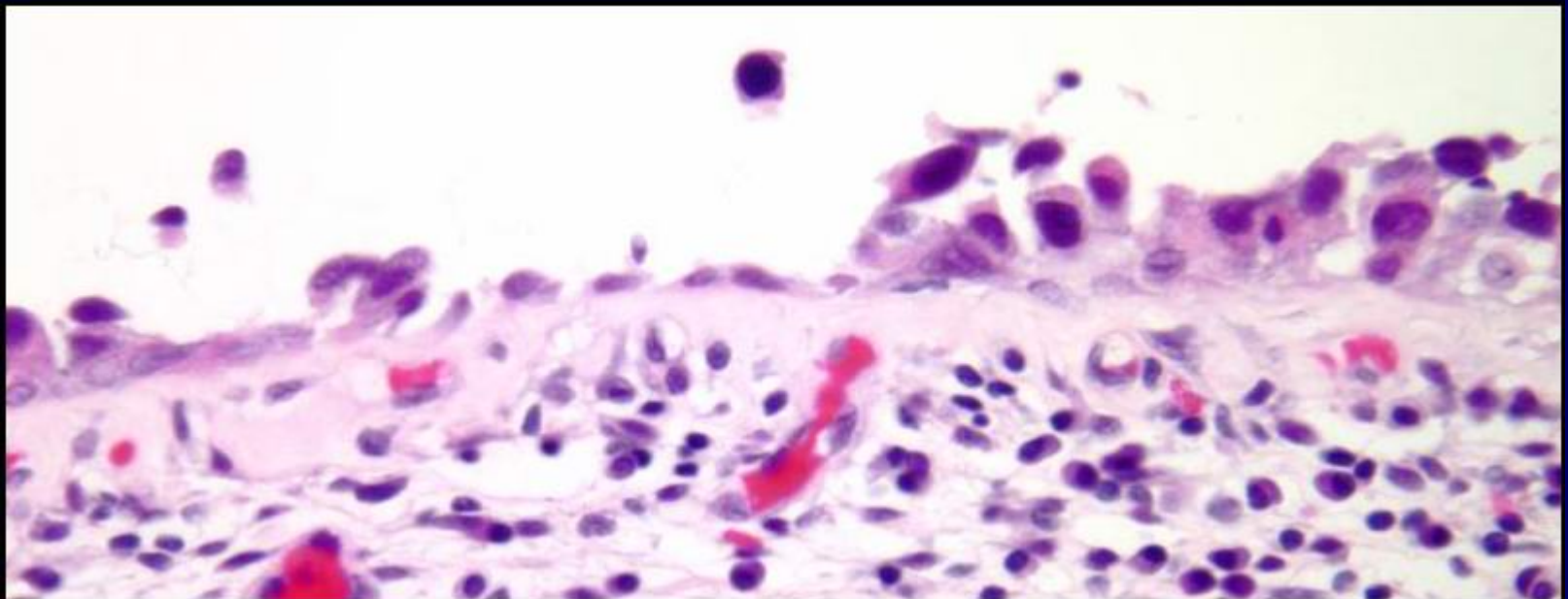
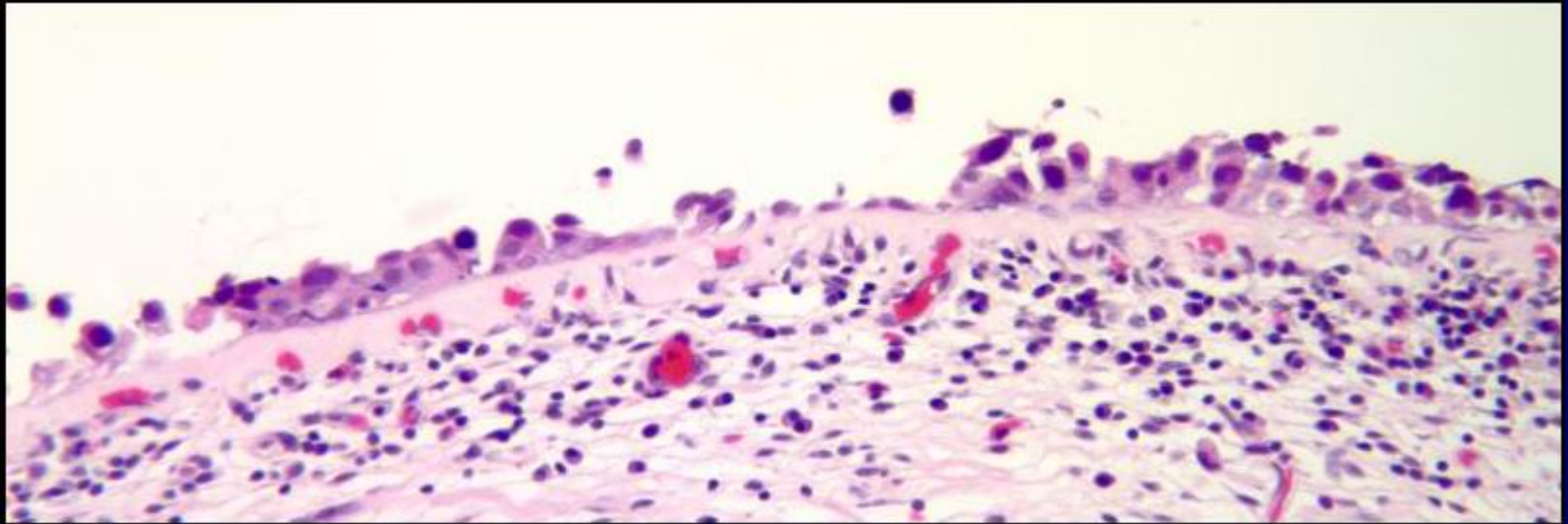
# CIS - SMALL CELL



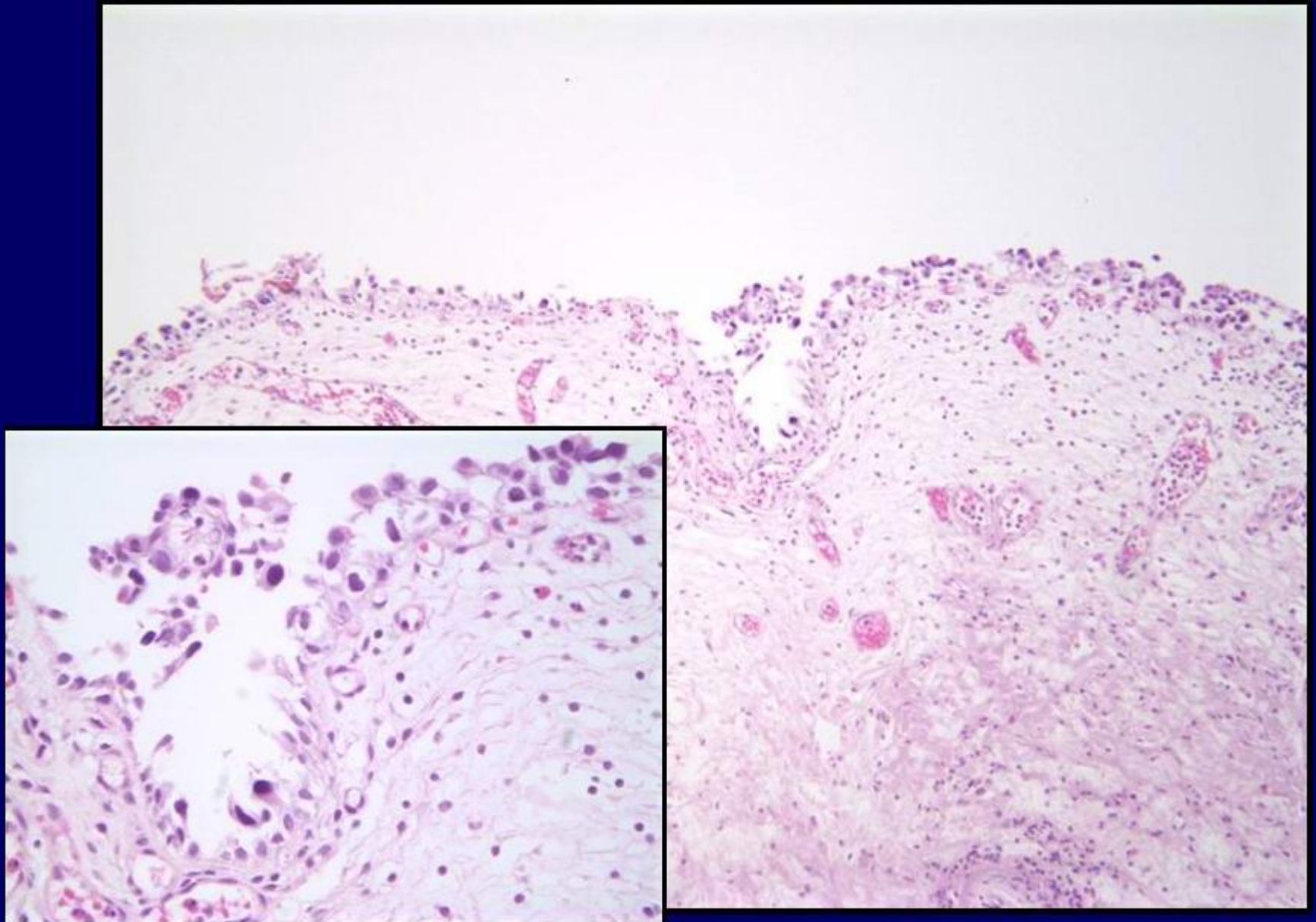
# CIS - UNDERMINING



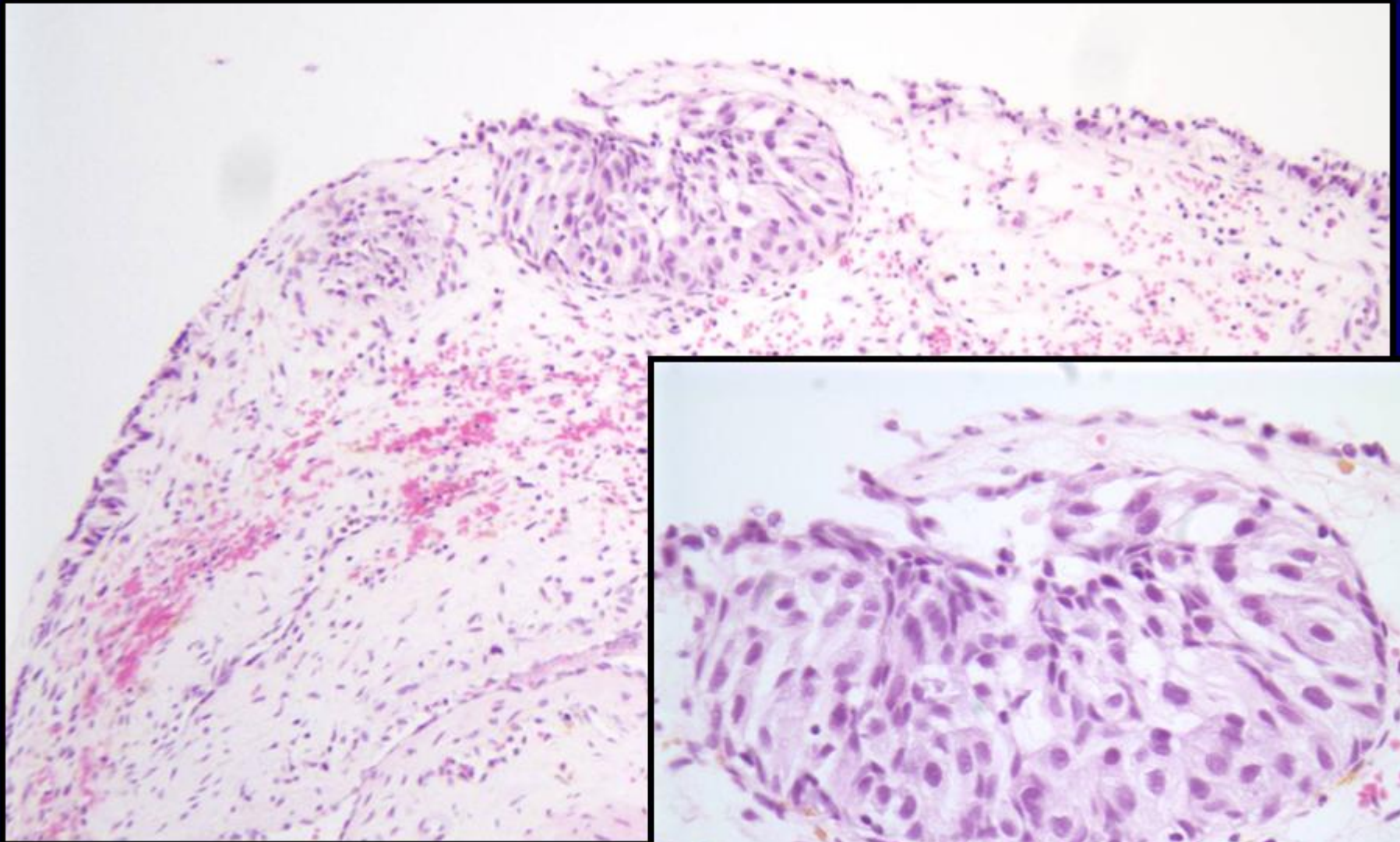
# CIS - DENUDING



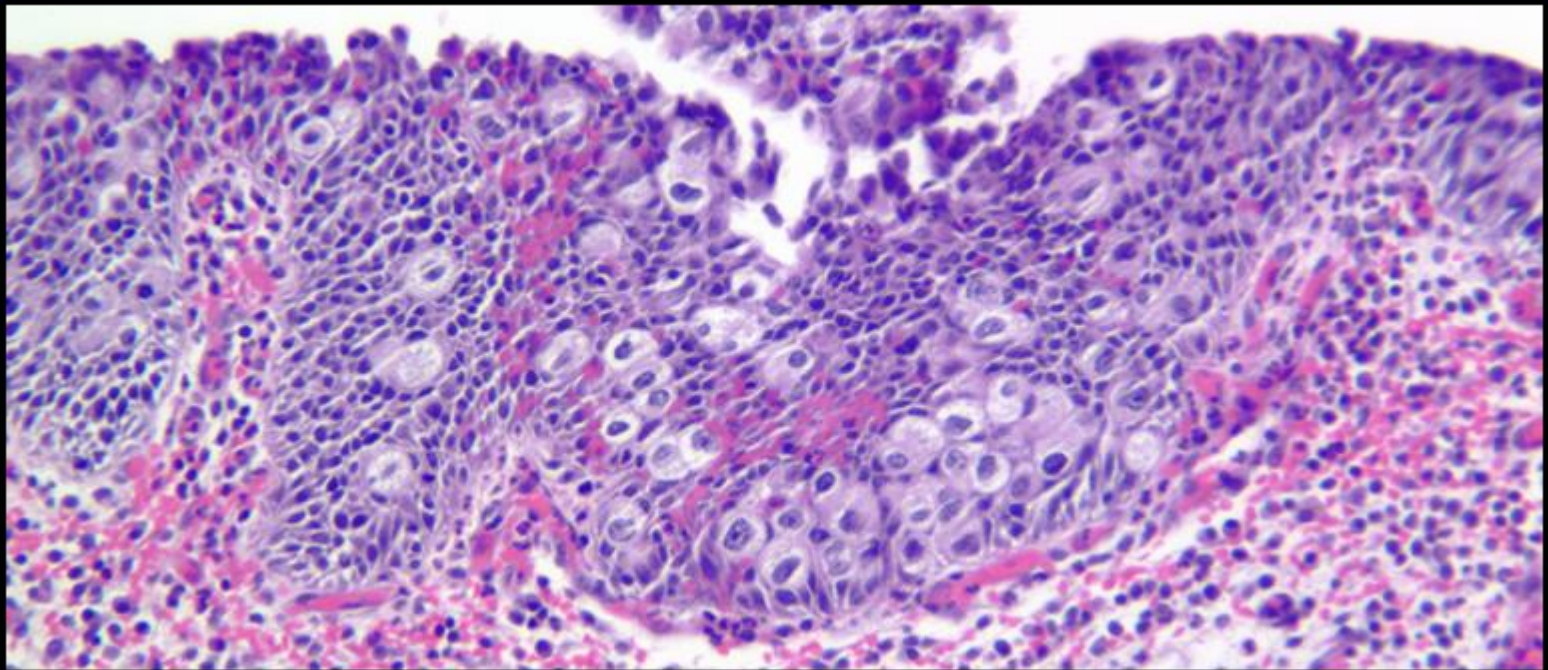
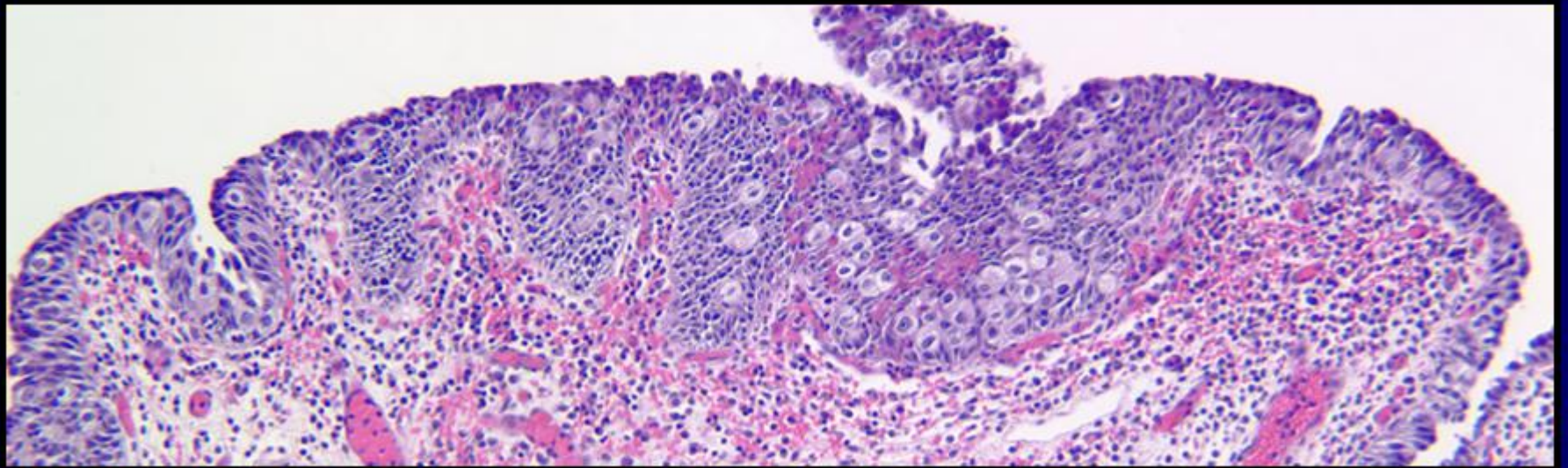
# CIS - DENUDING



# CIS - DENUDING



# CIS - PAGETOID



# Papillary Urothelium

- Papilloma
- Inverted papilloma
- Papillary neoplasm of low malignant potential
- Papillary carcinoma (low grade)
- Papillary carcinoma (high grade)

# WHO/ISUP CLASSIFICATION INVERTED PAPILOMA

- BACKGROUND

- Well defined clinical entity
- Not a true “papillary lesion”
- Low risk of recurrence
- Reported cases associated with carcinoma

- CONSENSUS

- No changes needed for this category
- Lesions with an associated exophytic component should be classified as papillary neoplasm with inverted growth pattern

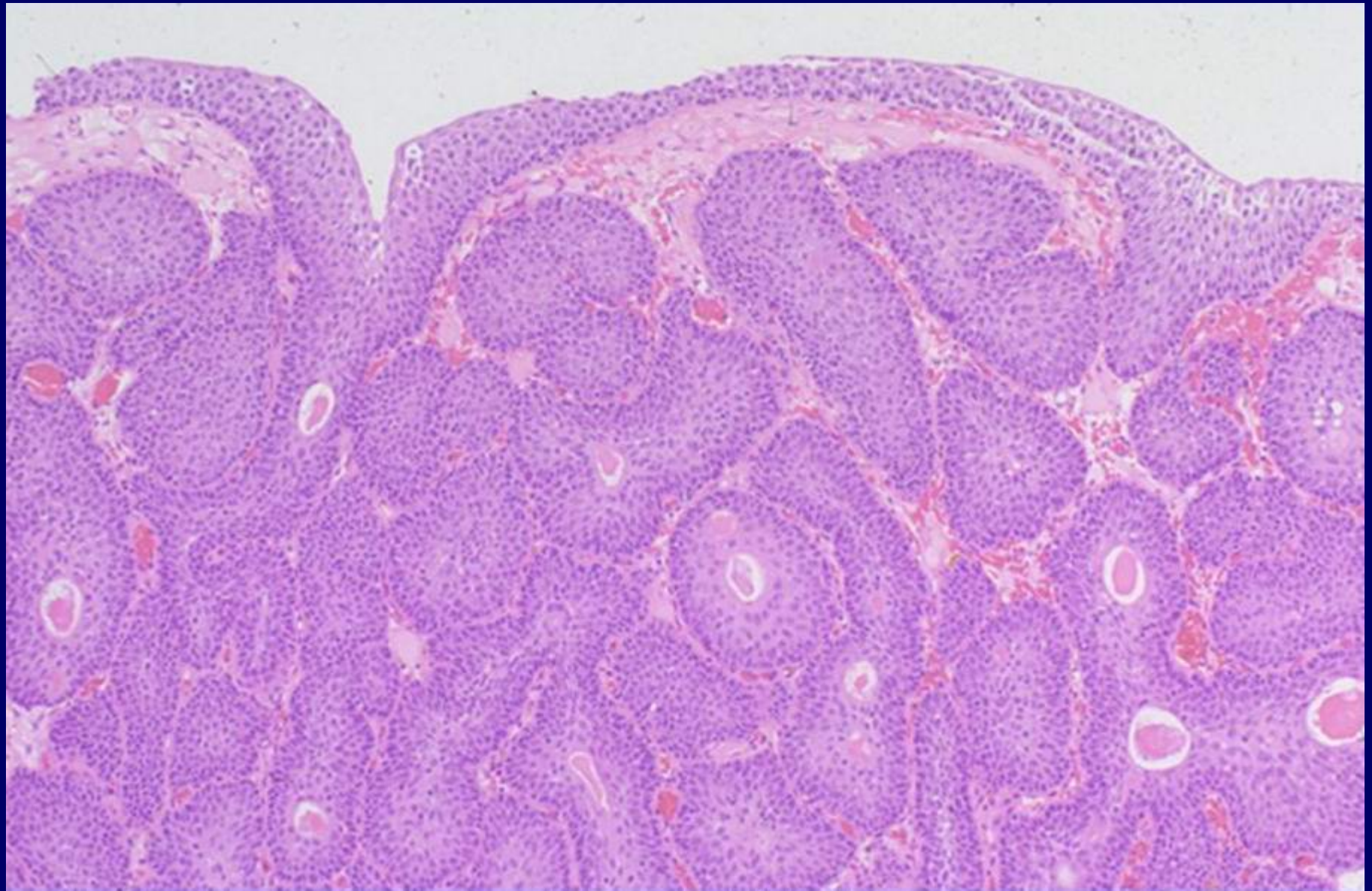
# WHO/ISUP CLASSIFICATION

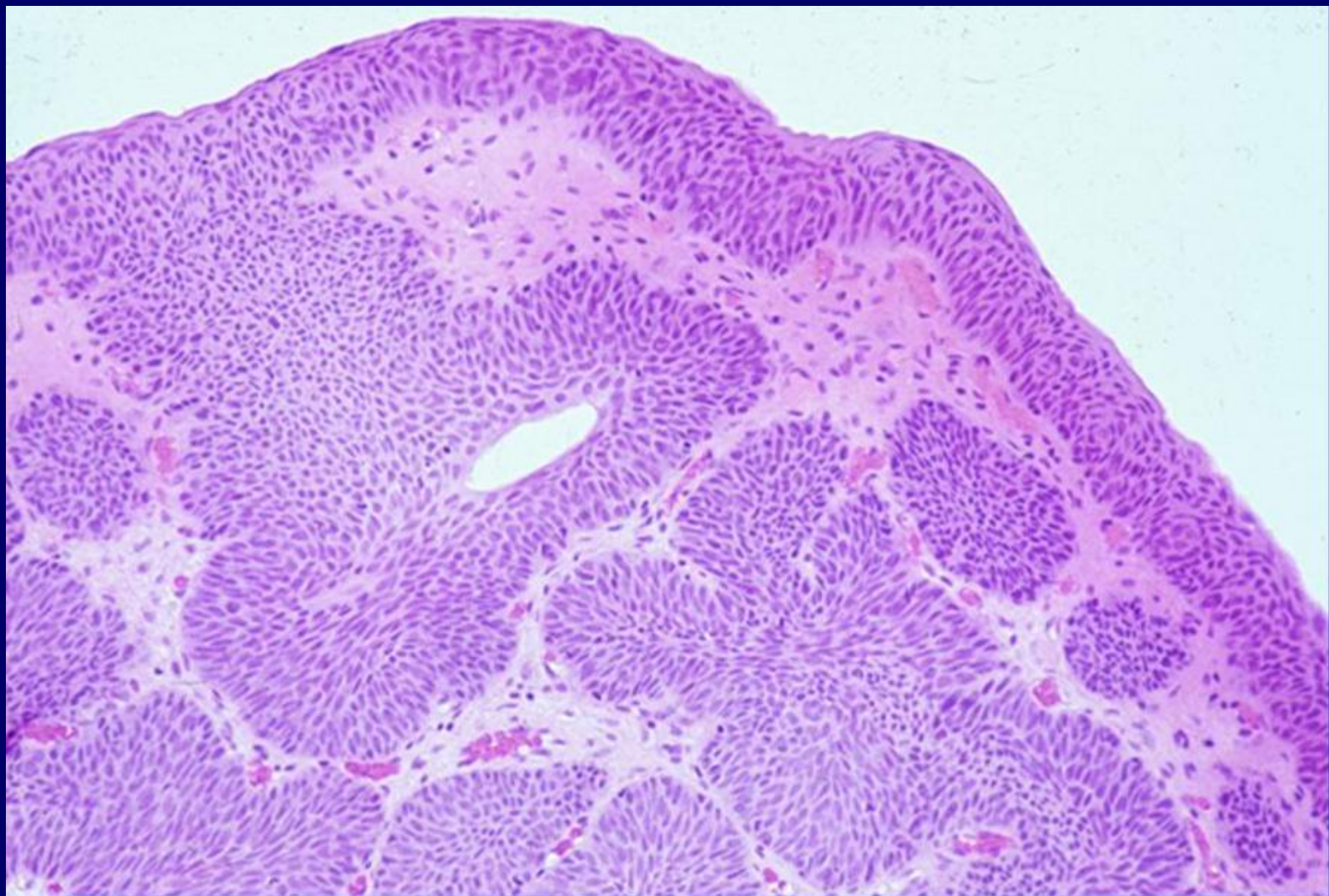
## INVERTED PAPILLOMA

- HISTOLOGY

- Often polyploid architecture
- Covered by normal or attenuated urothelium with anastomosing cords arising from surface at multiple sites
- No significant nuclear pleomorphism
- Minimal mitotic activity
- Squamous or glandular differentiation
- May be fragmented with pieces mimicking true papillae

*Am J Surg Pathol* 22: 1435, 1988





# WHO/ISUP CLASSIFICATION UROTHELIAL PAPILLOMA

- BACKGROUND

- Long standing controversy over distinction of papilloma/low grade papillary carcinoma
- Occasionally see small papillary lesions in children or young adults

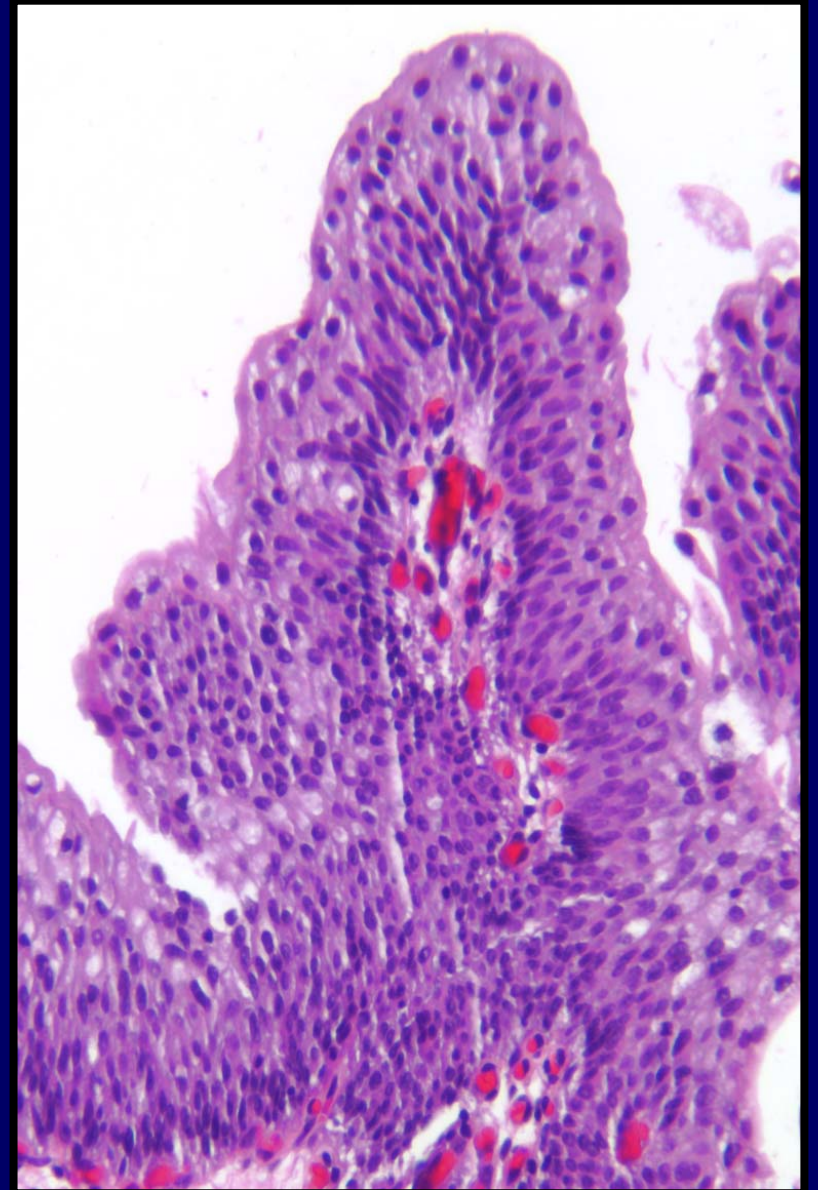
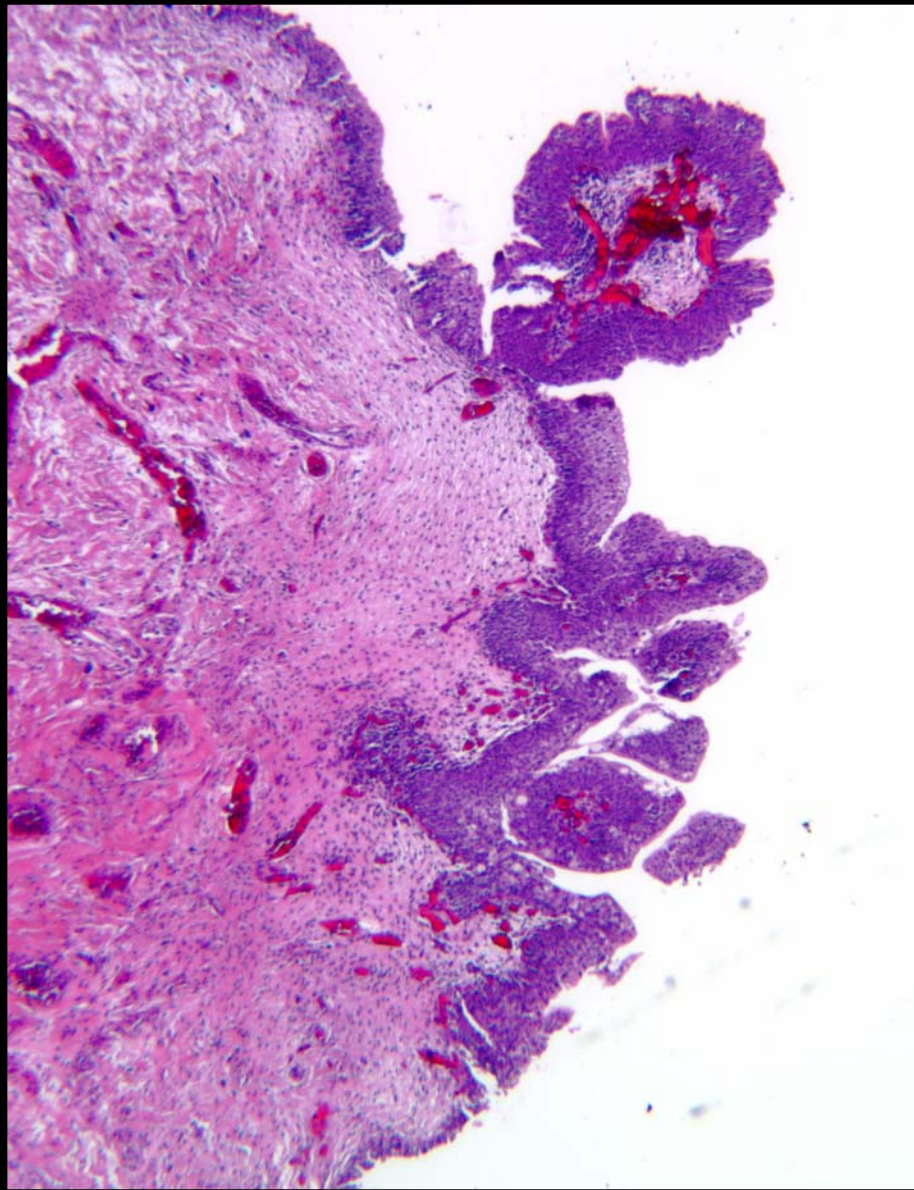
- CONSENSUS

- Following consensus on LMP terminology, role for restrictive papilloma category agreed upon

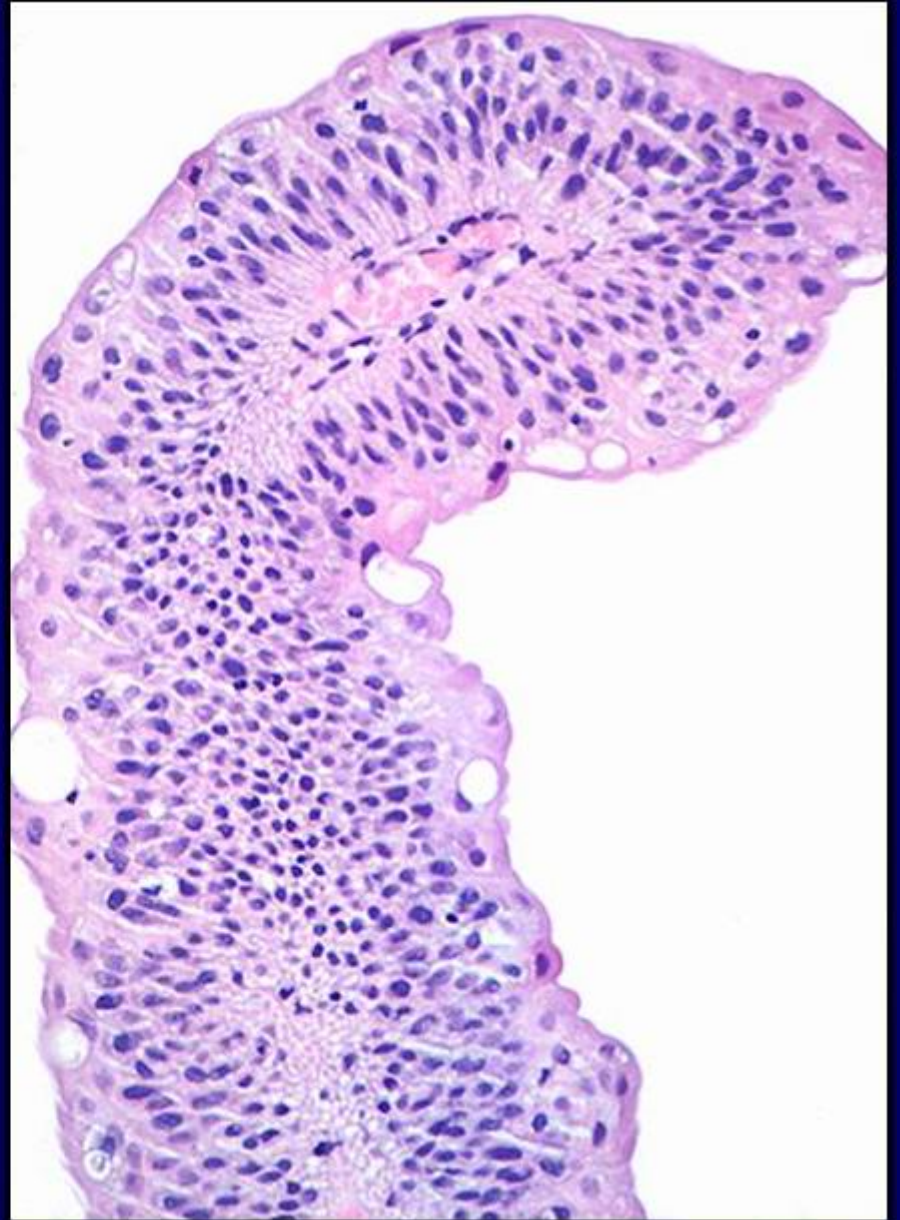
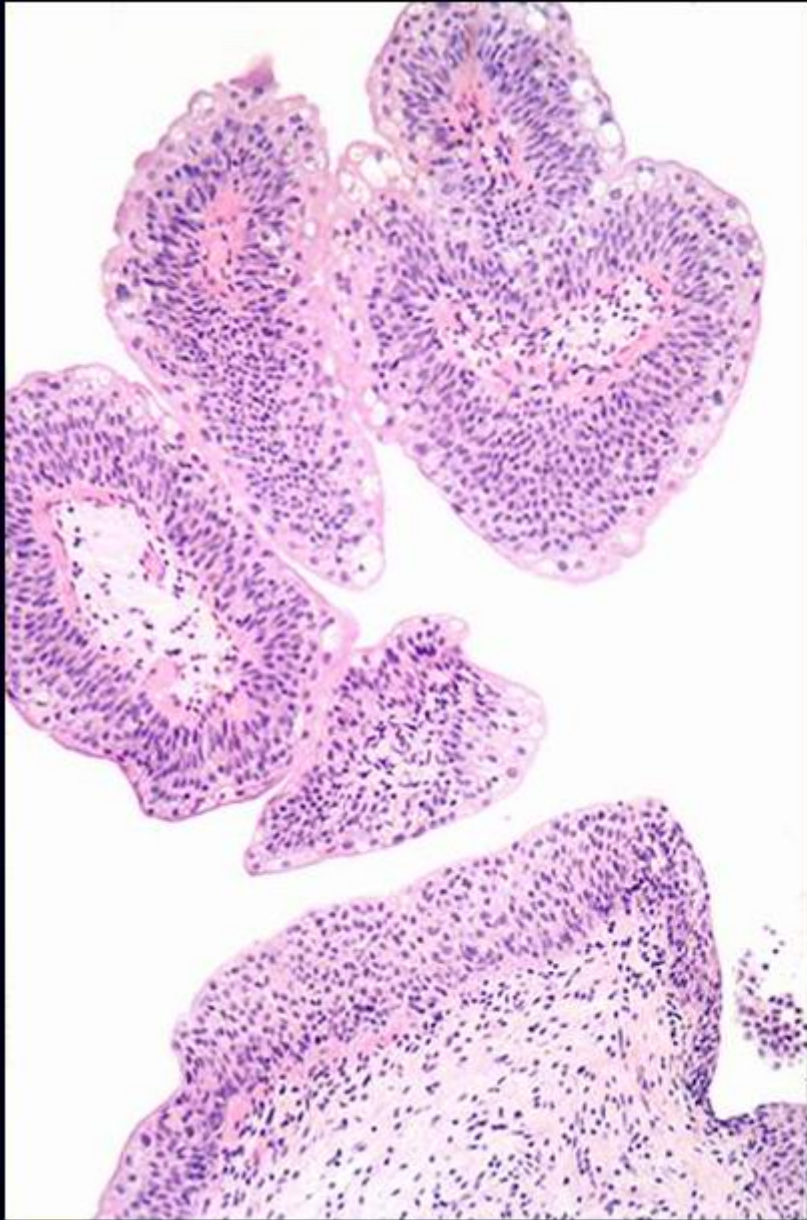
# WHO/ISUP CLASSIFICATION UROTHELIAL PAPILLOMA

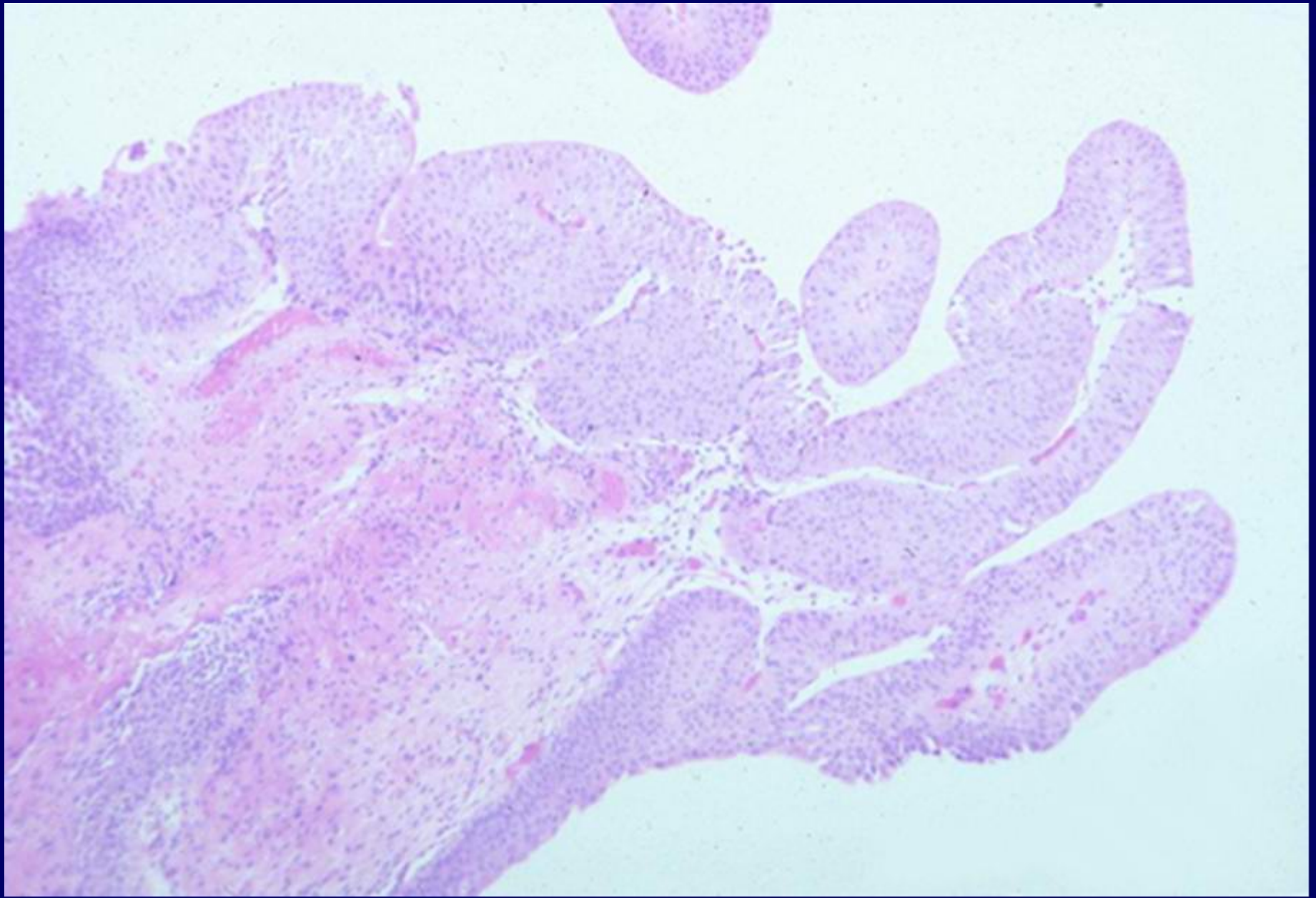
- HISTOLOGY
  - Restrictive criteria of WHO continue
  - Few fine papillary fronds
  - Covered by essentially normal appearing urothelium with no atypia
  - Cell layer counting not necessary

# PAPILLOMA



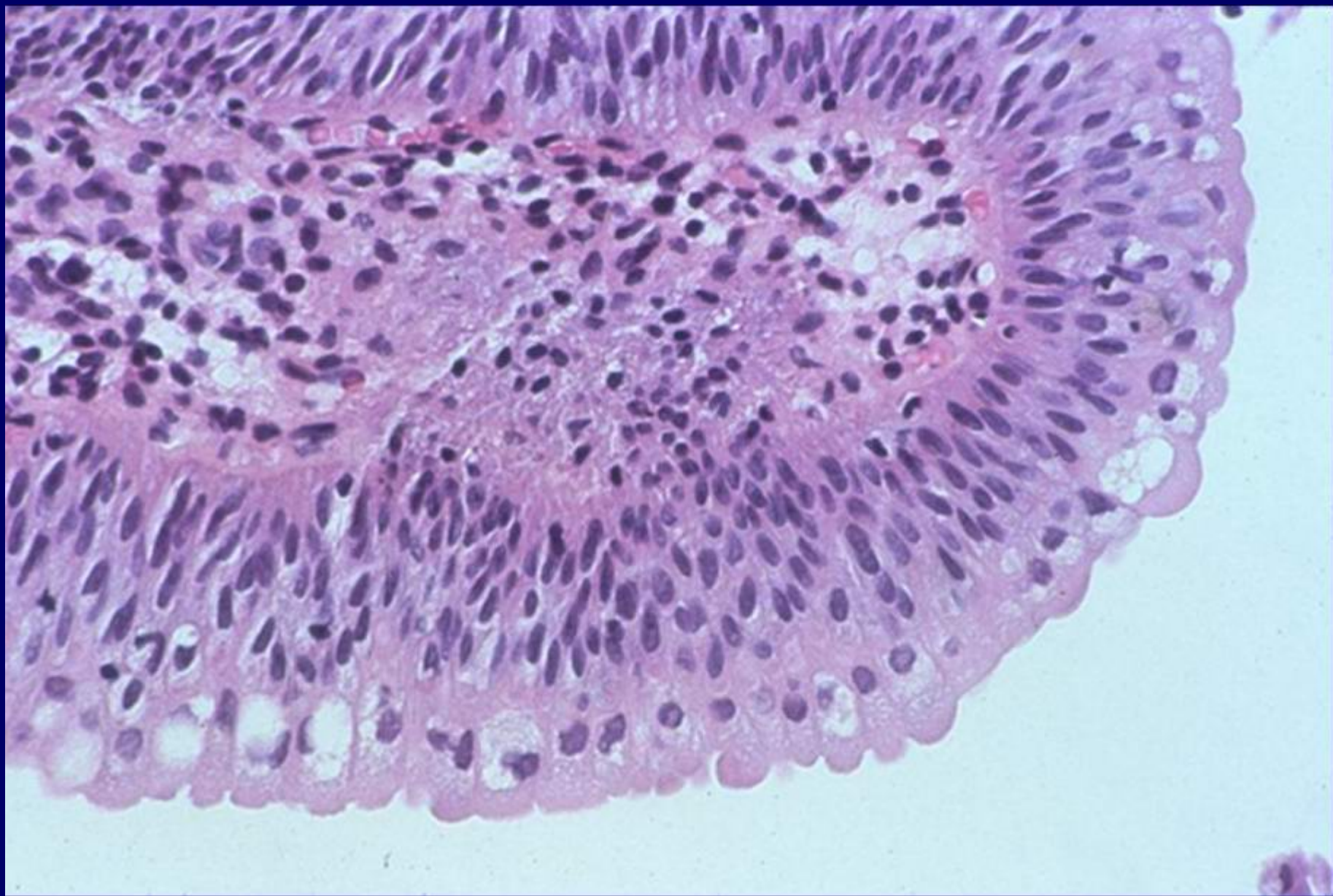
# PAPILLOMA









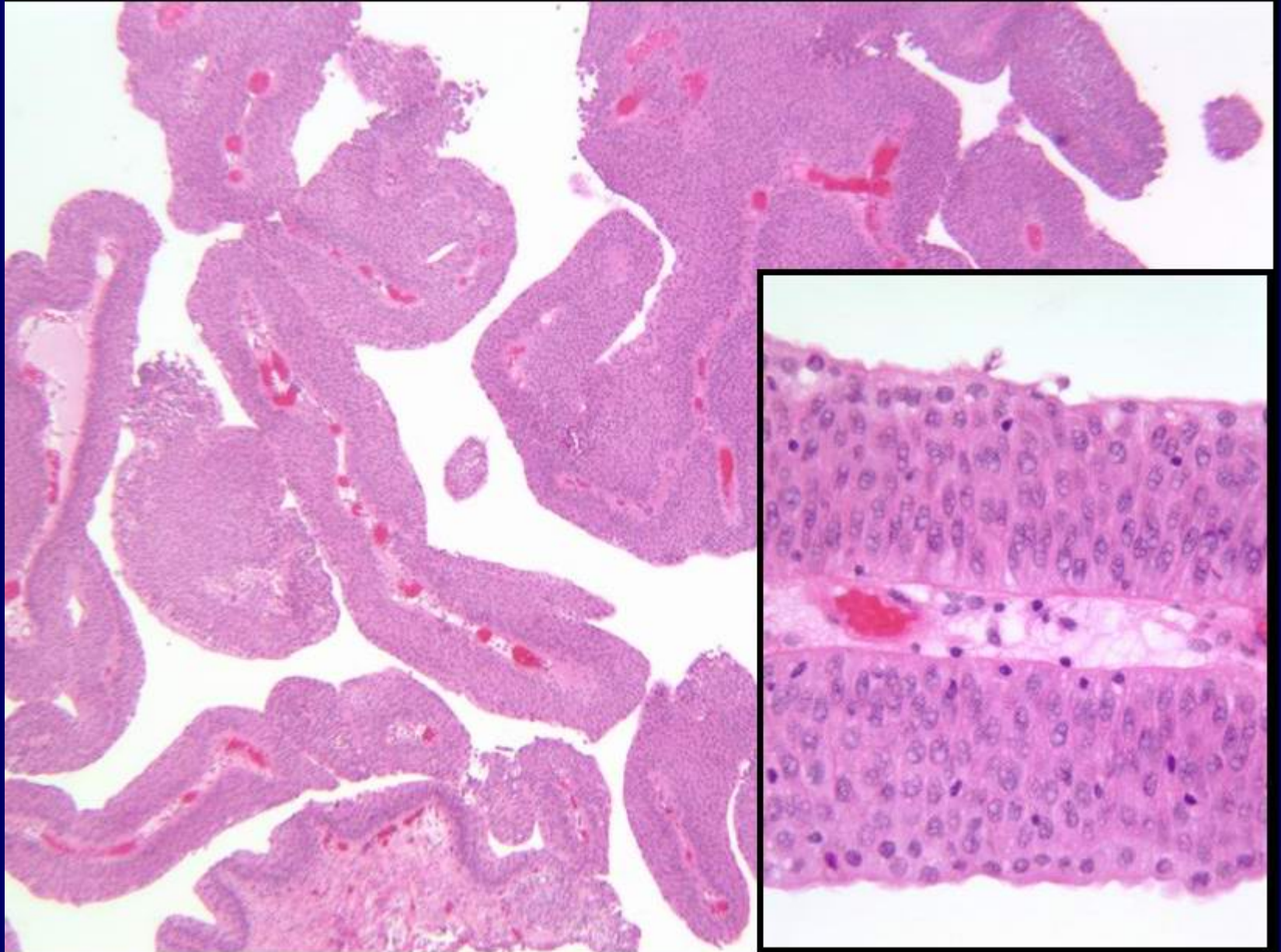


# **WHO 2004 CLASSIFICATION**

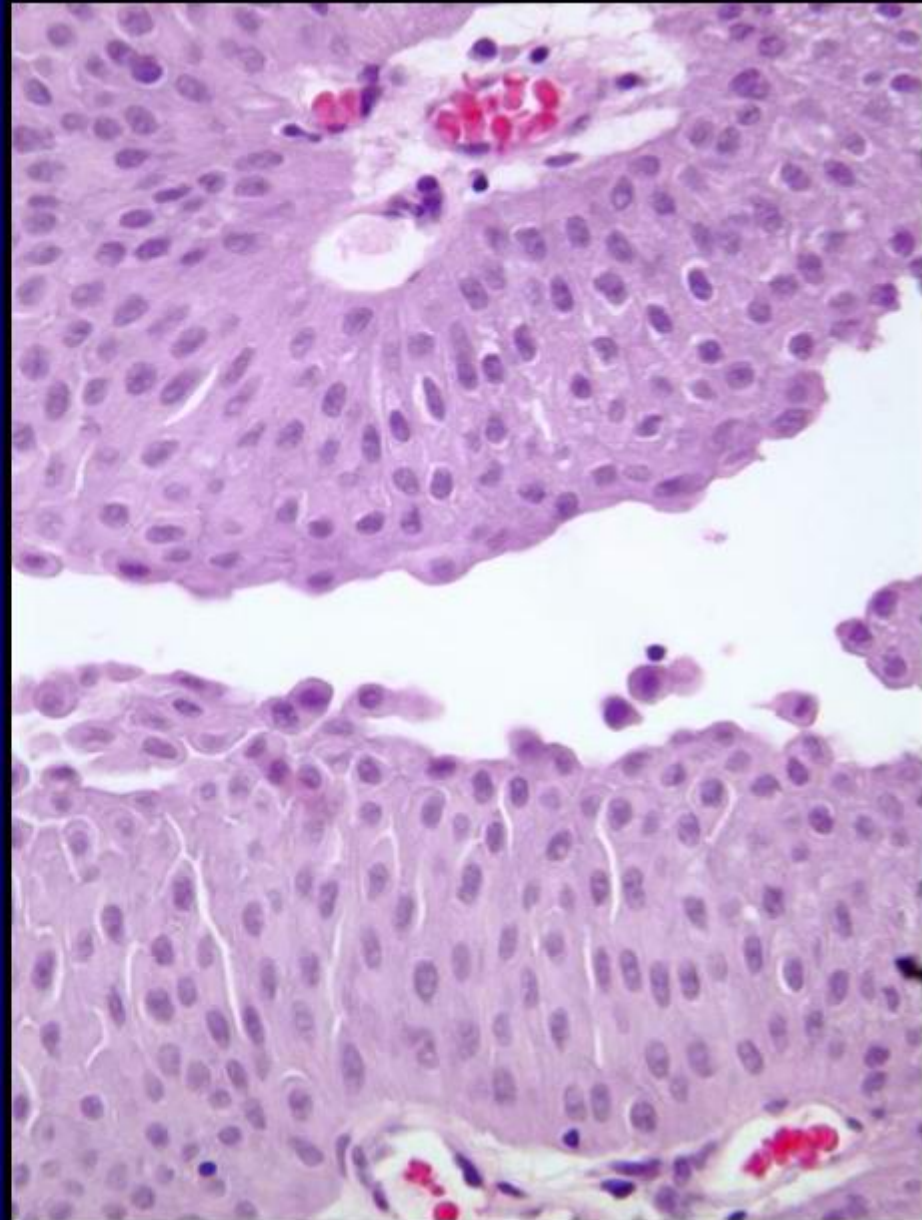
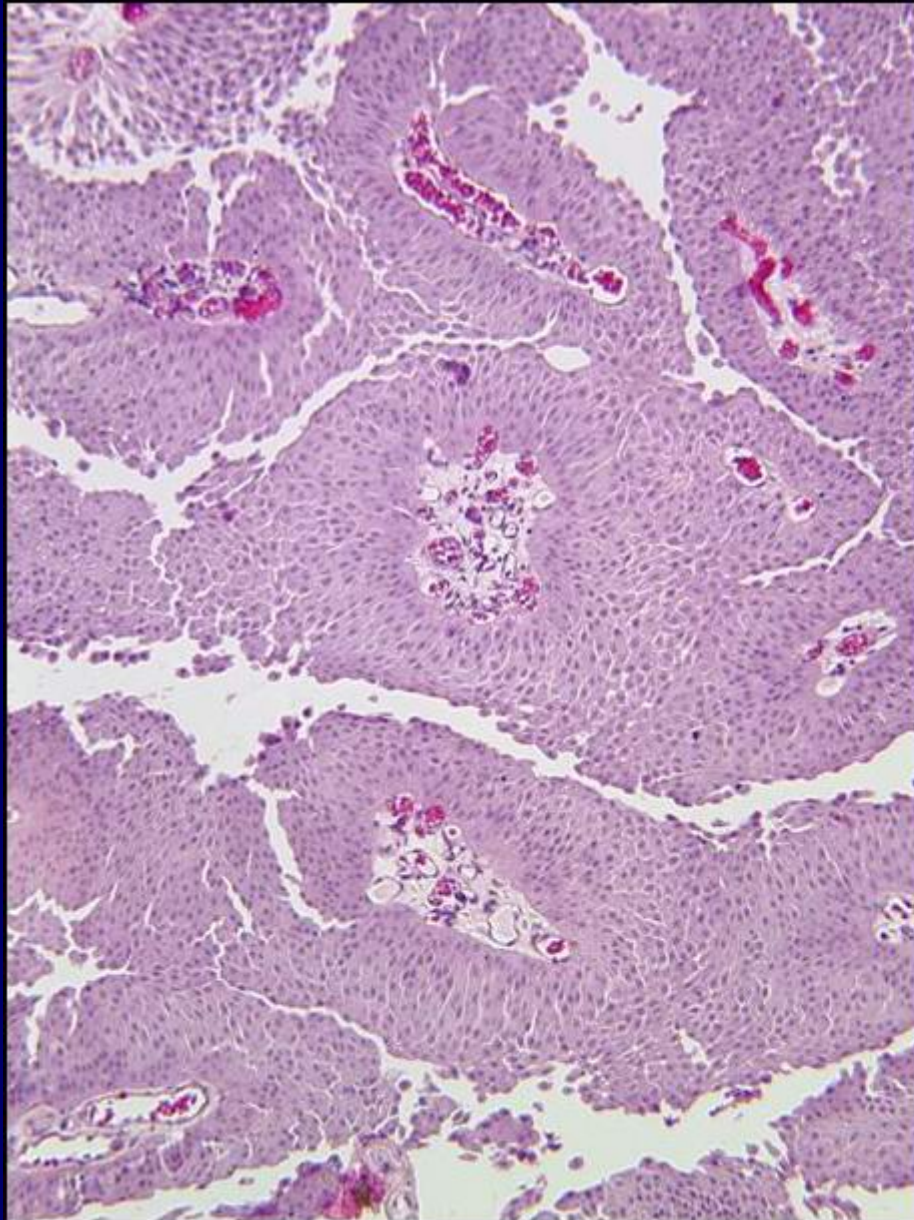
## **PAPILLARY UROTHELIAL NEOPLASM OF LOW MALIGNANT POTENTIAL**

- **Compromise terminology to recognize neoplastic nature but avoid “carcinoma”**
- **Exophytic papillary growth**
- **Delicate papillae**
- **Covering urothelium with little to no architectural or cytologic abnormalities**

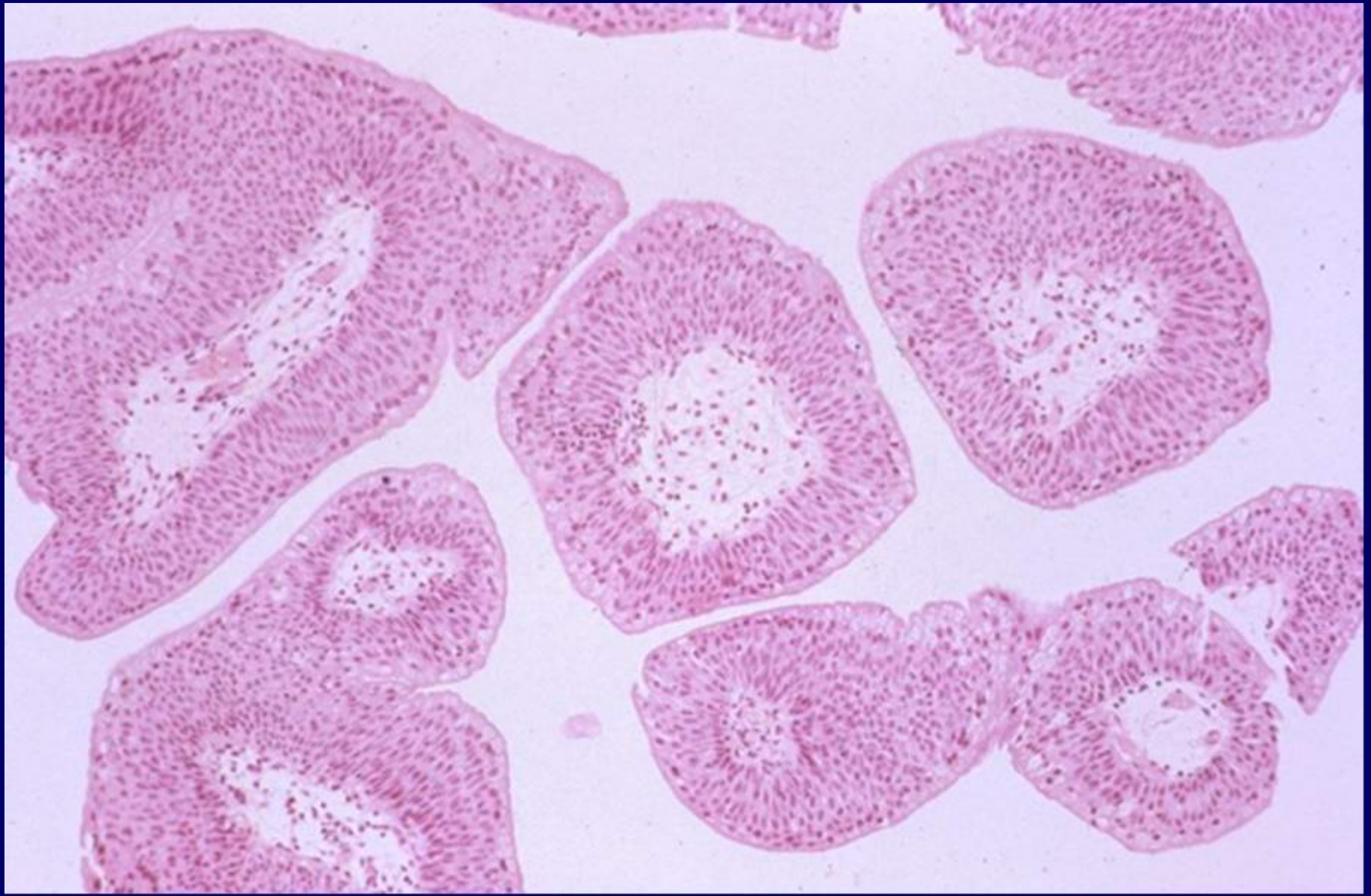
# PUNLMP

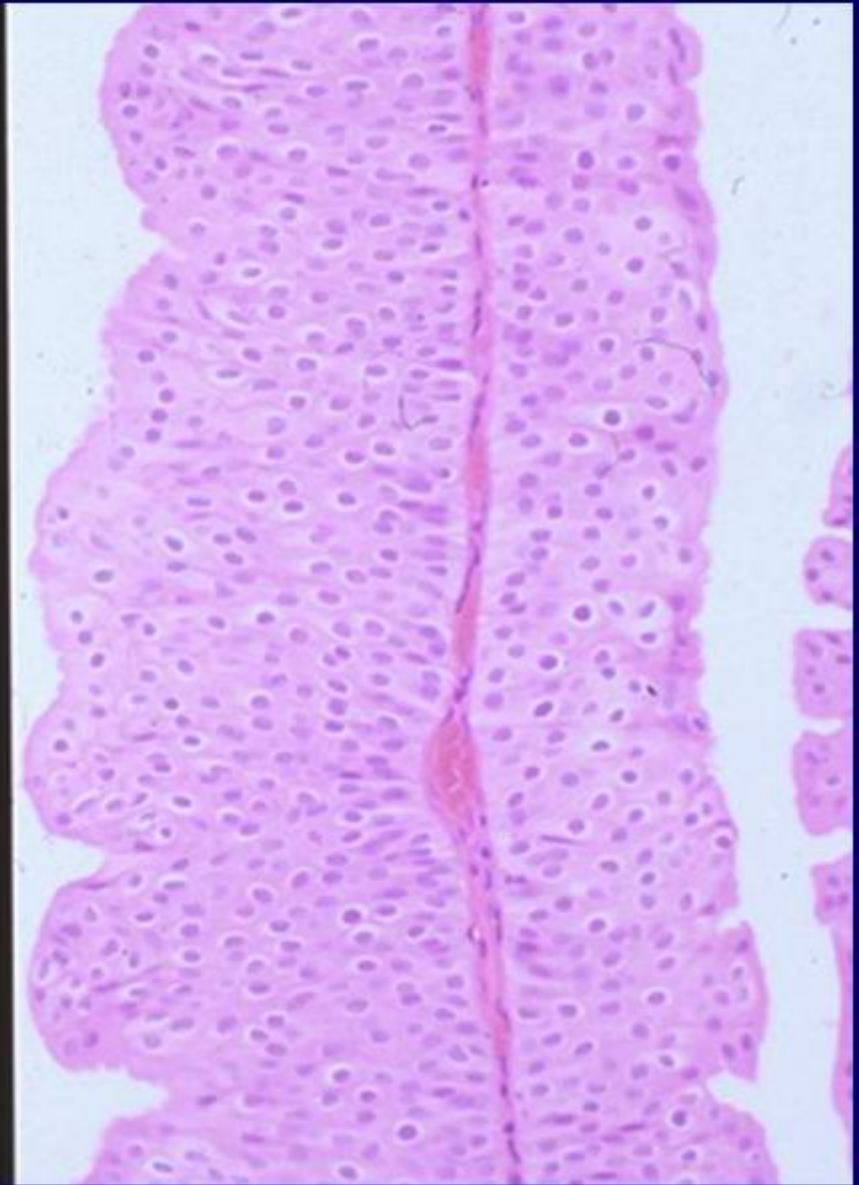
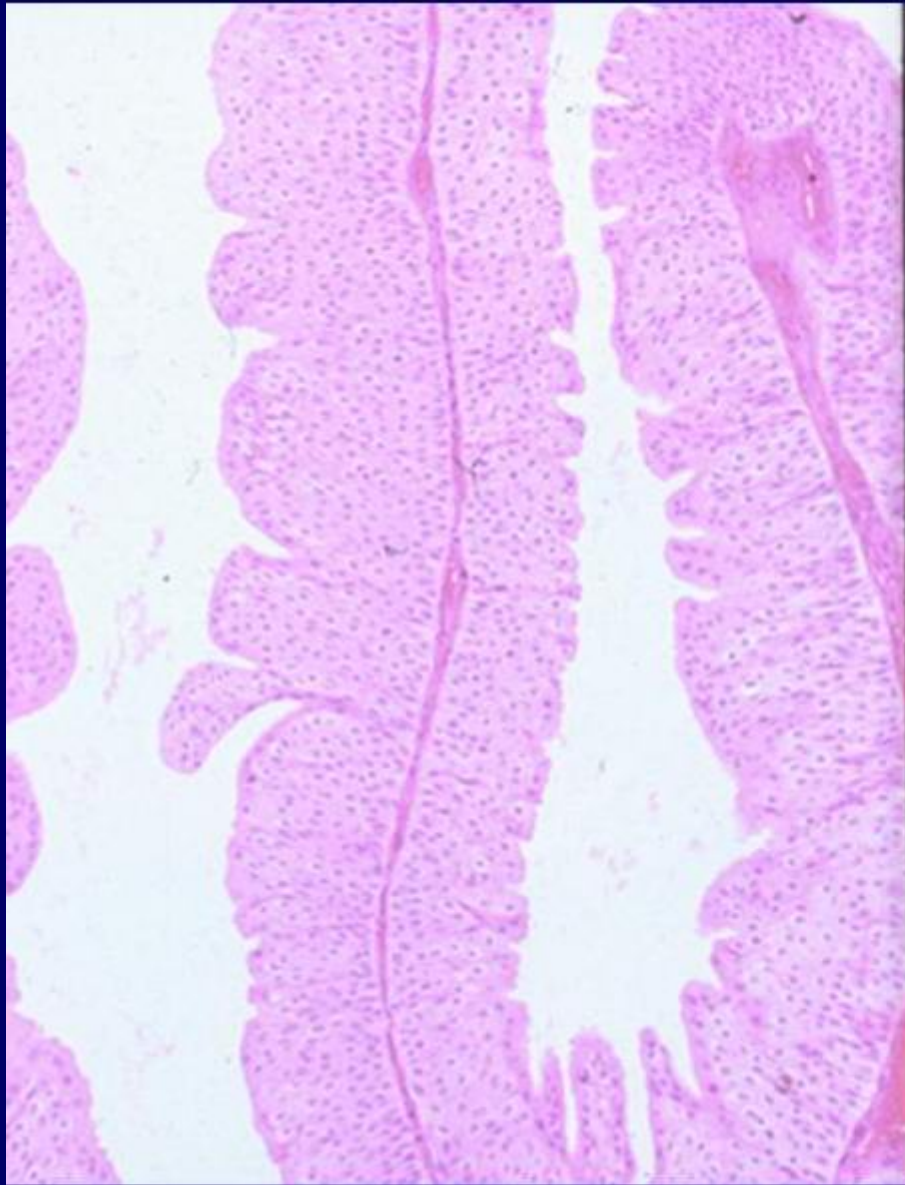


# PUNLMP



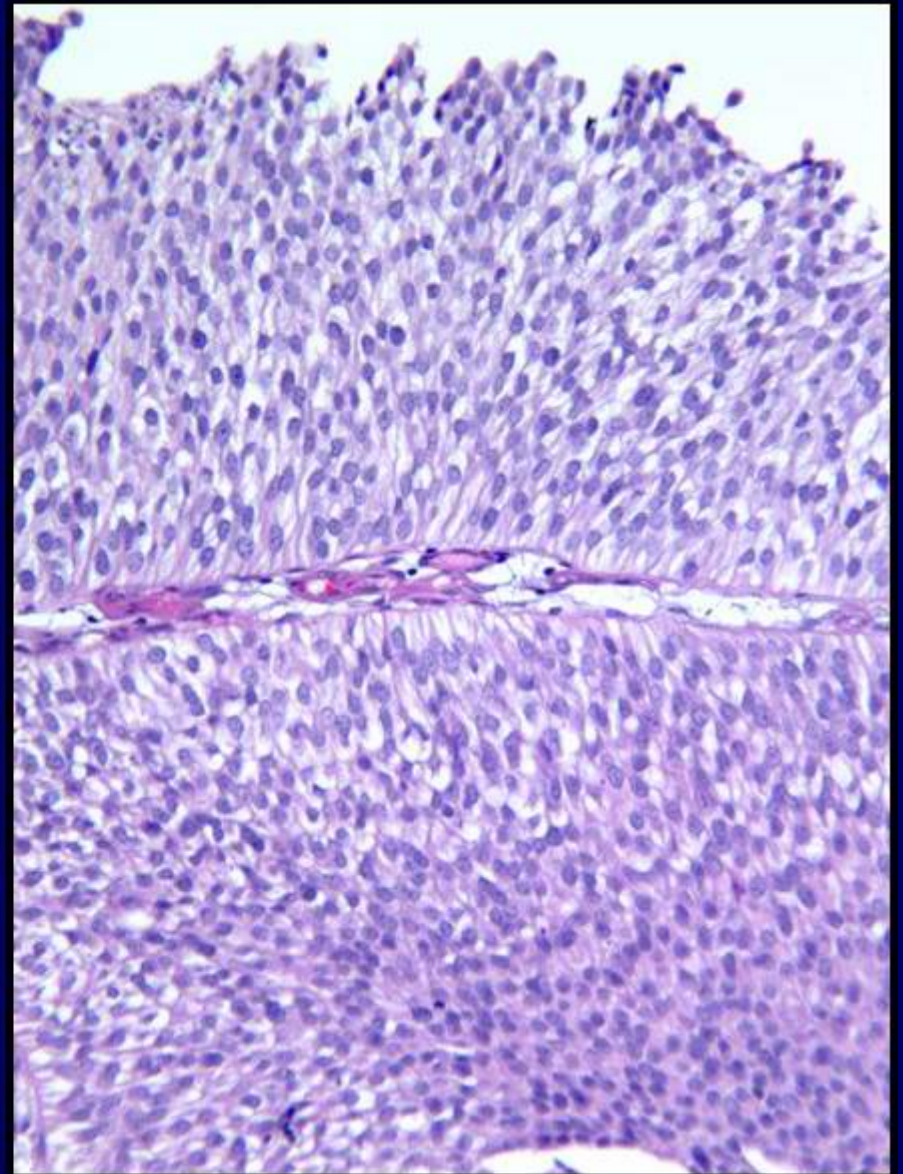
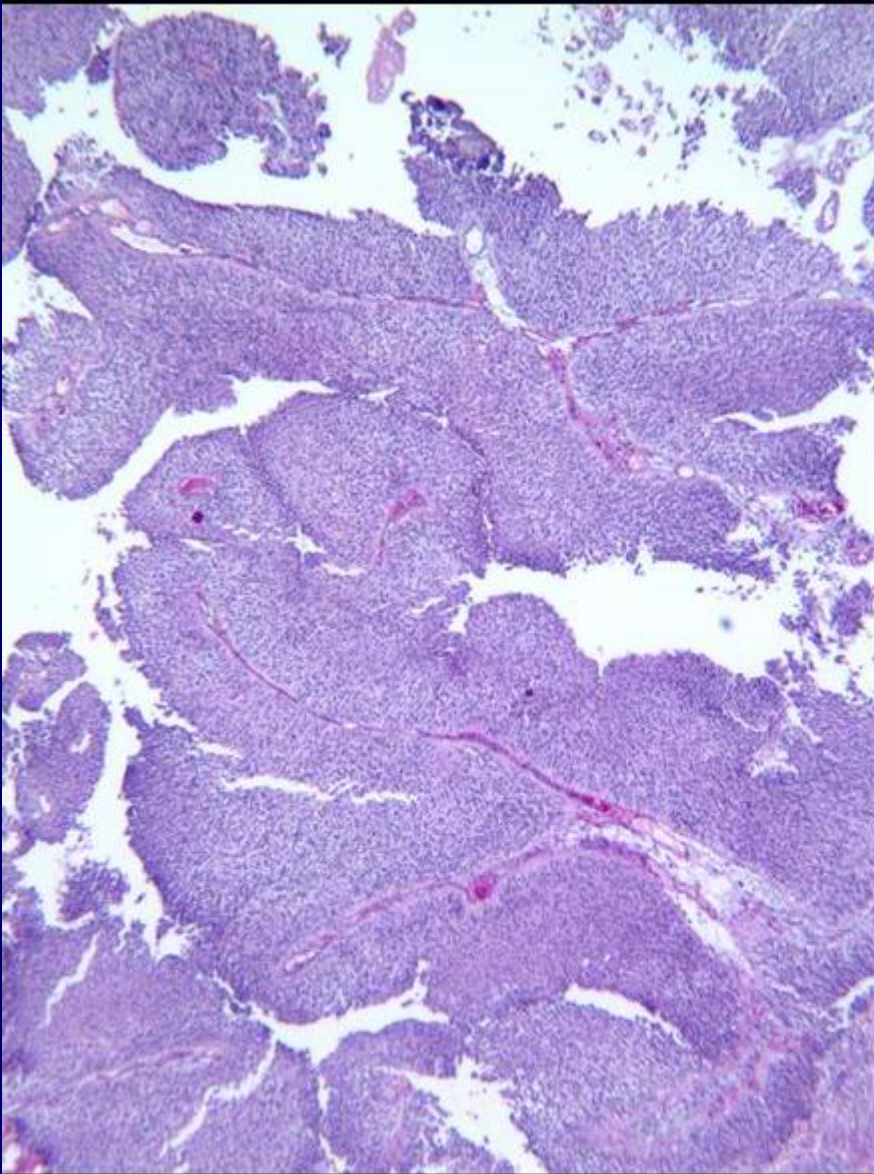








# PUNLMP

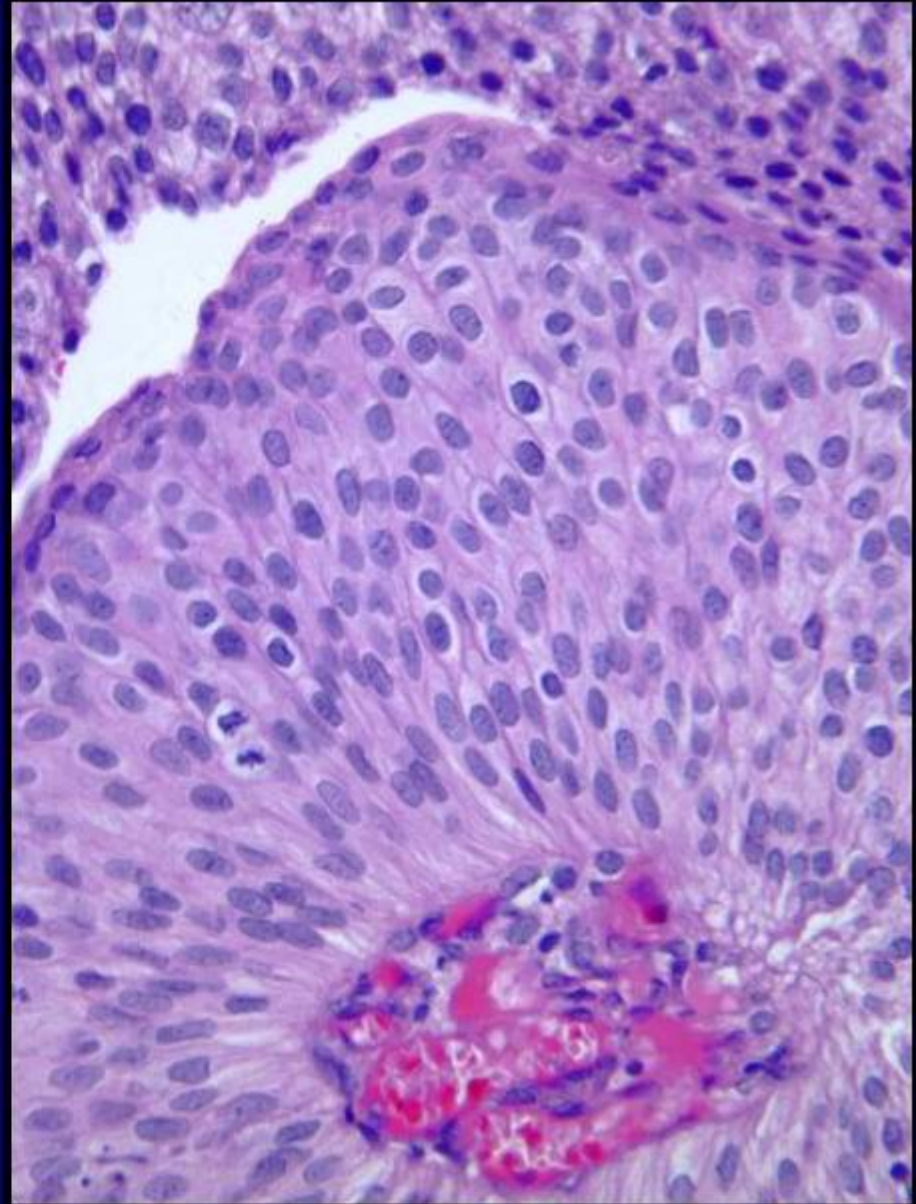
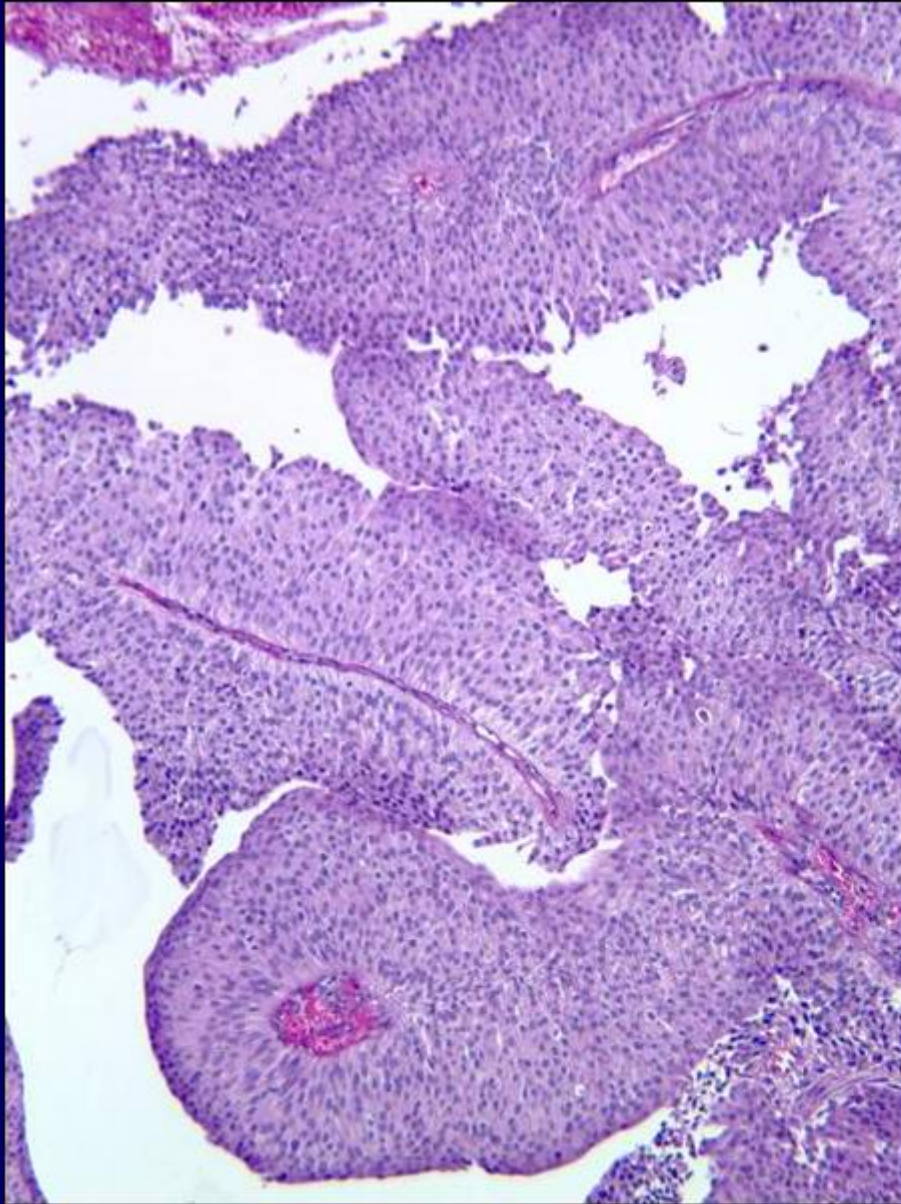


# **WHO 2004 CLASSIFICATION**

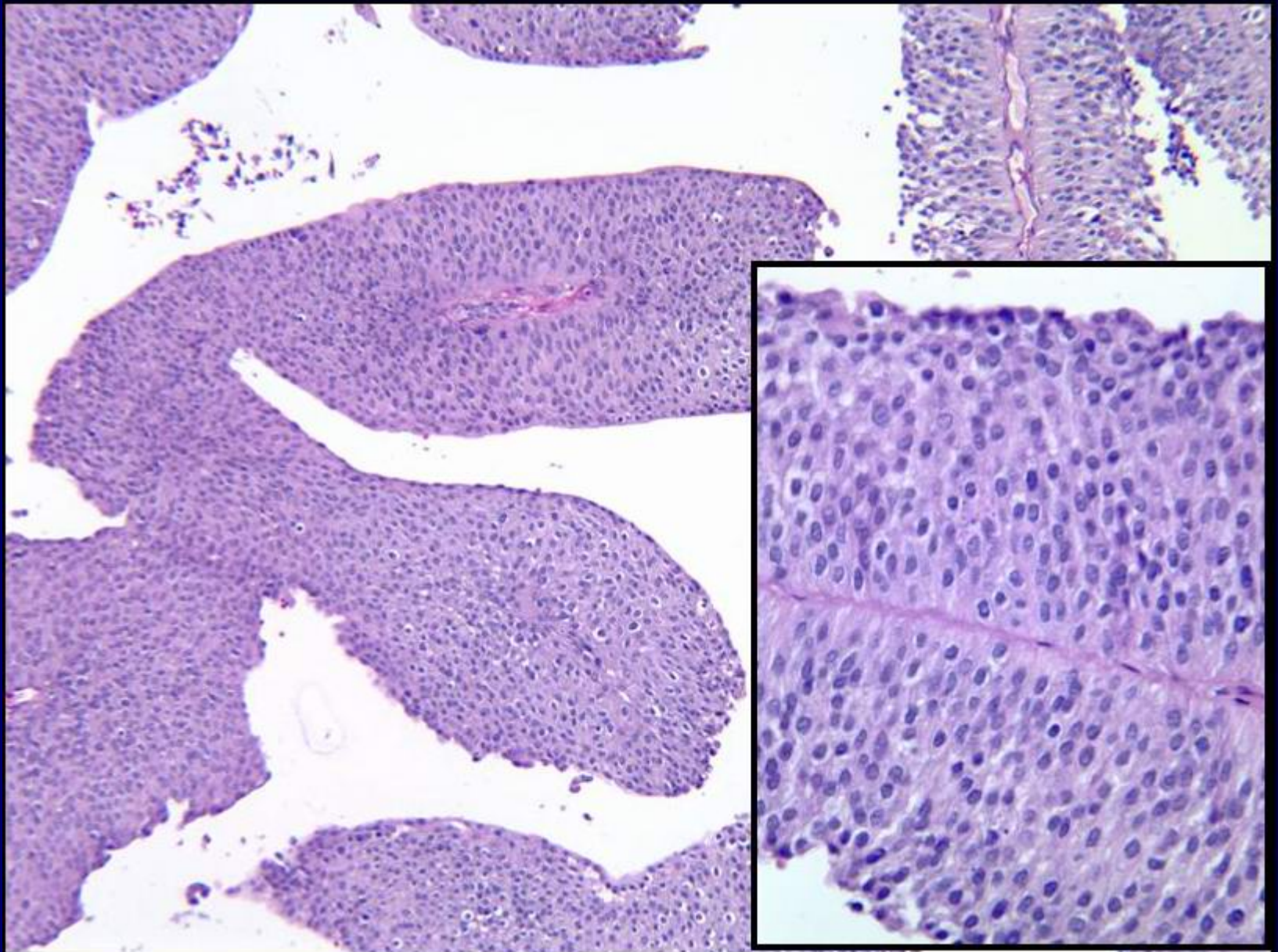
## **PAPILLARY CARCINOMA, LOW GRADE**

- **Largely made up lower half of WHO II (1973)**
- **Significant risk of recurrence but low risk of invasion**
- **Delicate, occasionally fused papillae**
- **Characterized by an overall orderly appearance but shows definite though mild cytologic abnormalities**

# LOW GRADE



# LOW GRADE

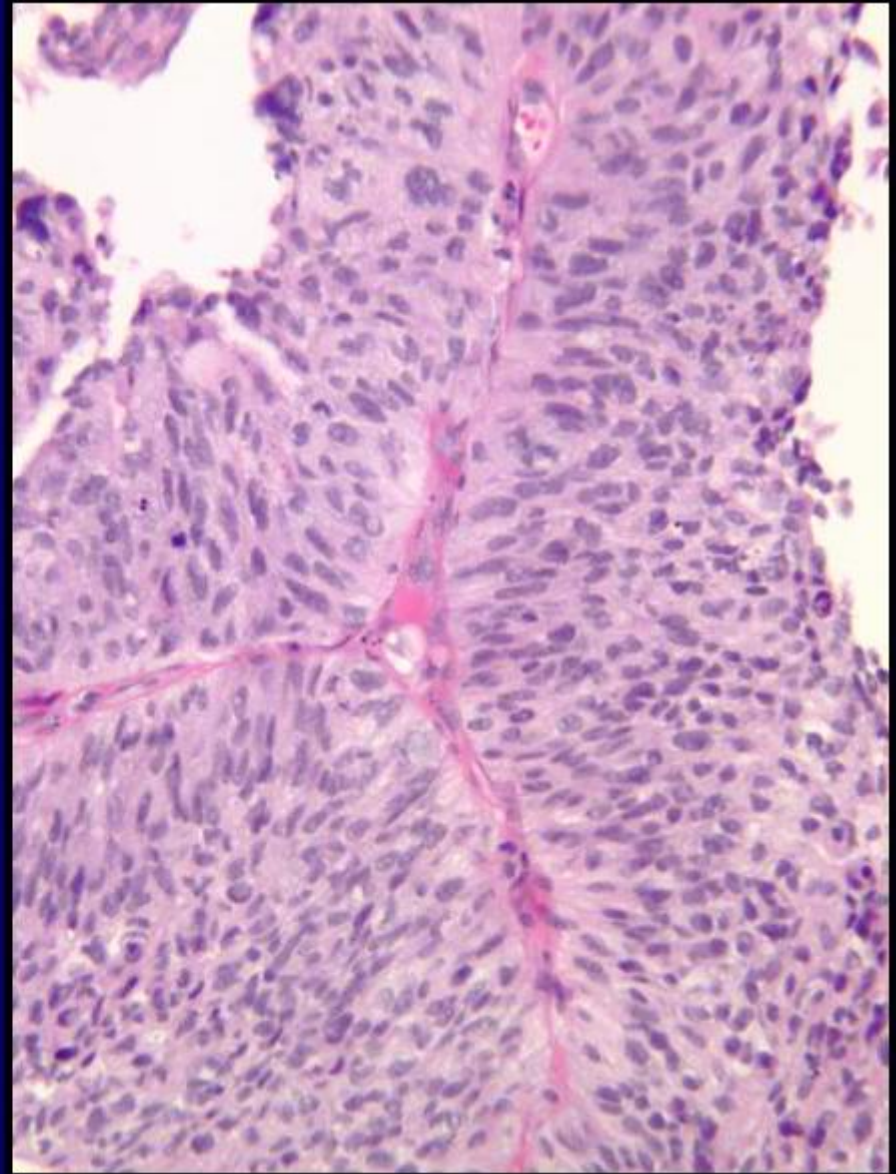
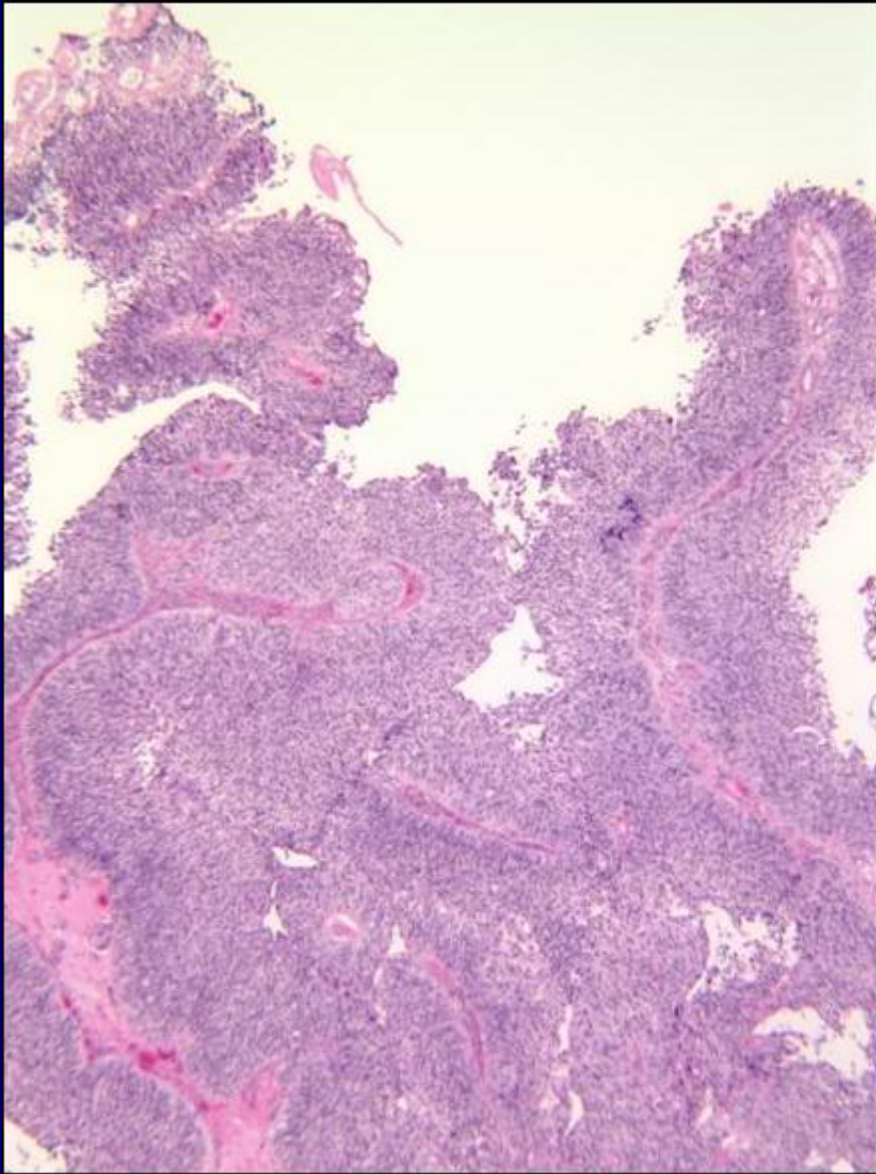


# **WHO 2004 CLASSIFICATION**

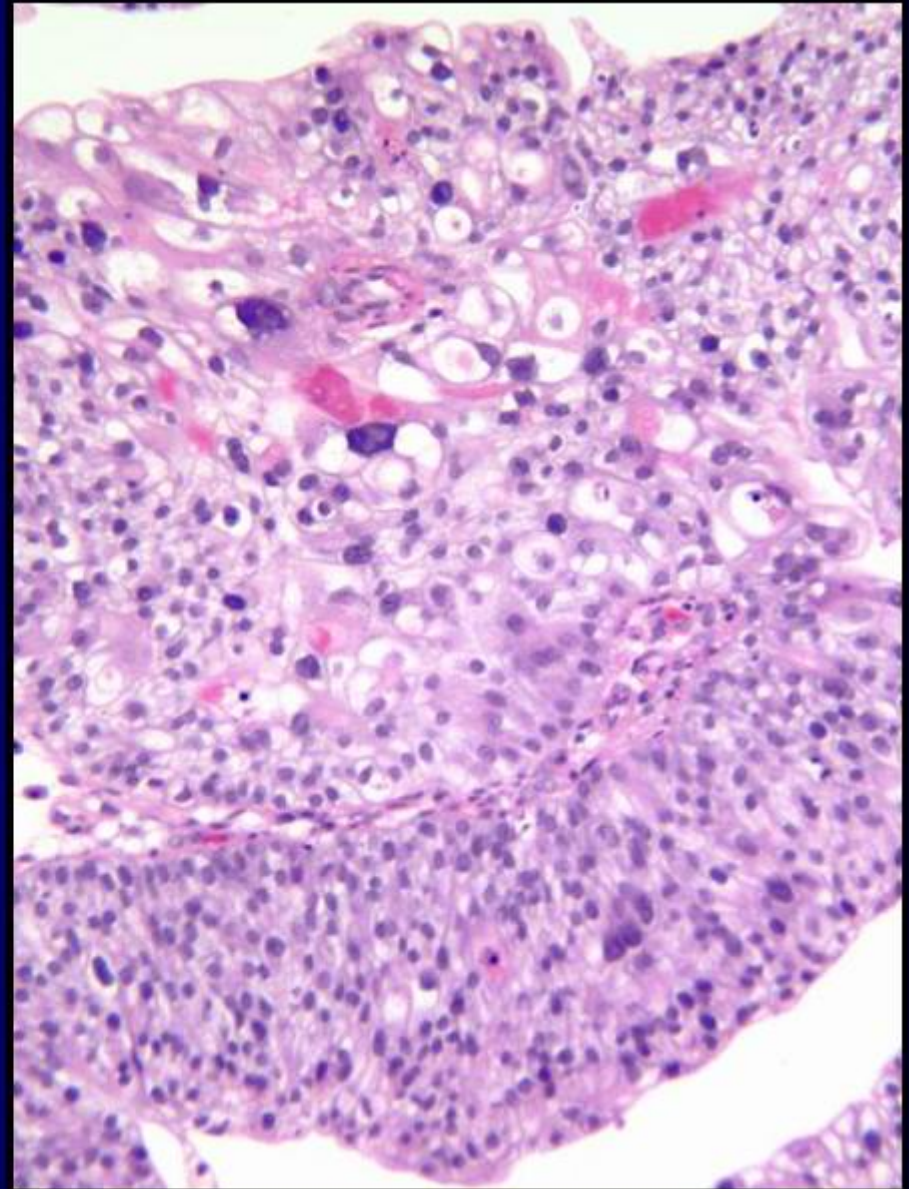
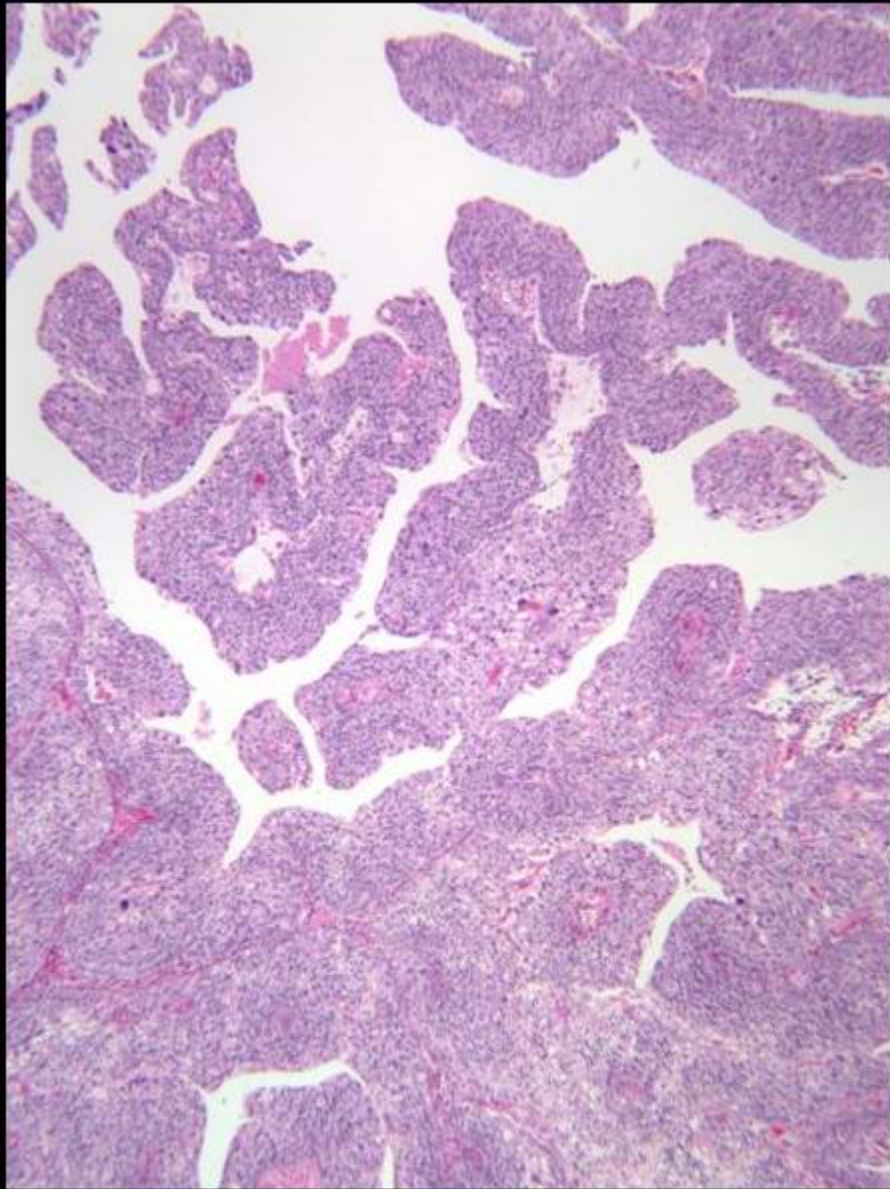
## **PAPILLARY CARCINOMA, HIGH GRADE**

- **Significant risk of progression**
- **Generally requires intravesical therapy**
- **Overall impression is one of disorder**
- **Irregular, often fused papillae**
- **Significant cytologic atypia is characteristic**

# HIGH GRADE



# HIGH GRADE



# WHO/ISUP CLASSIFICATION PAPILLARY UROTHELIAL NEOPLASM OF LOW MALIGNANT POTENTIAL

- BACKGROUND
  - Major controversy regarding terminology
  - General acceptance that “Grade 1” papillary TCC is not intrinsically malignant
  - However also acknowledged that these are associated with significant risk for recurrence
  - Follow up but not addition tx is necessary
- CONSENSUS
  - Clinically important lesion
  - “LMP” compromise to recognize neoplastic nature but not labeled as malignant (“carcinoma”)

# WHO/ISUP CLASSIFICATION PAPILLARY UROTHELIAL NEOPLASM OF LOW MALIGNANT POTENTIAL

- HISTOLOGY
  - Exophytic papillary growth
  - Delicate papillae
  - Covering urothelium with little to no architectural abnormalities
  - Normal nuclear size and shape
  - Fine chromatin with absent nucleoli
  - No or only rare mitoses

# WHO/ISUP CLASSIFICATION LOW GRADE PAPILLARY CARCINOMA

- BACKGROUND

- Intermediate group of lesions well recognized from numerous clinical studies
- These tumors have a low but definite risk of invasion
- Recurrence common and progression occurs

- CONSENSUS

- Tumors in the lower 1/2 of traditional WHO grade II have a low but definite risk of invasion and progression
- Require close follow-up but may not need additional intravesicle therapy

# WHO/ISUP CLASSIFICATION LOW GRADE PAPILLARY CARCINOMA

- HISTOLOGY

- Delicate, occasionally fused papillae
- Characterized by an overall orderly appearance
- Nuclei uniformly enlarged
- Retain elongated, round to oval shape
- Chromatin fine with absent to inconspicuous nucleoli
- Few mitoses, basally located

# UROTHELIAL CARCINOMA IN SITU - LONG TERM OUTCOME

| <b>SURVIVAL-TYPE</b>    | <b>10-Year</b> | <b>15-Year</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Progression-free</b> | <b>63%</b>     | <b>59%</b>     |
| <b>Cancer-specific</b>  | <b>79%</b>     | <b>74%</b>     |
| <b>All-cause</b>        | <b>55%</b>     | <b>40%</b>     |

*Cheng et al, Cancer 85:2469, 2000*

# PATTERN BASED GRADING OUTCOME

| <b>Grade</b> | <b>Recur</b> | <b>Progress</b> | <b>Dead</b> | <b>Cases</b> |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>1</b>     | <b>35%</b>   | <b>0%</b>       | <b>0%</b>   | <b>26%</b>   |
| <b>2A</b>    | <b>68%</b>   | <b>3%</b>       | <b>3%</b>   | <b>44%</b>   |
| <b>2B</b>    | <b>74%</b>   | <b>19%</b>      | <b>12%</b>  | <b>26%</b>   |
| <b>3</b>     | <b>46%</b>   | <b>38%</b>      | <b>15%</b>  | <b>4%</b>    |

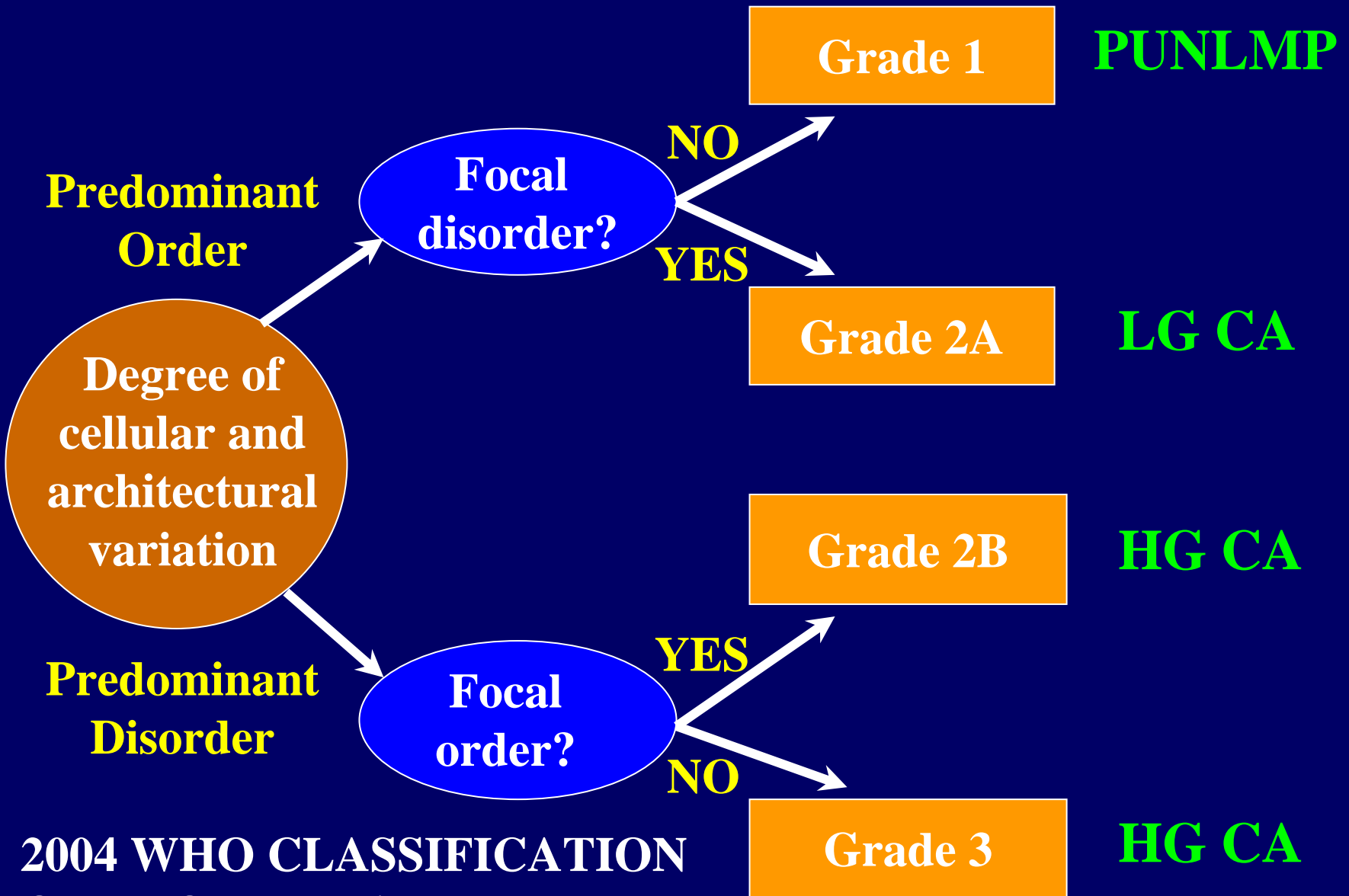
# Rationale

**THE TERM “CARCINOMA” IS REMOVED FROM  
THE LOWEST GRADE PAPILLARY TUMORS**

**ALL TUMORS ARE BETTER DEFINED AND  
ILLUSTRATED THAN IN 1973 WHO**

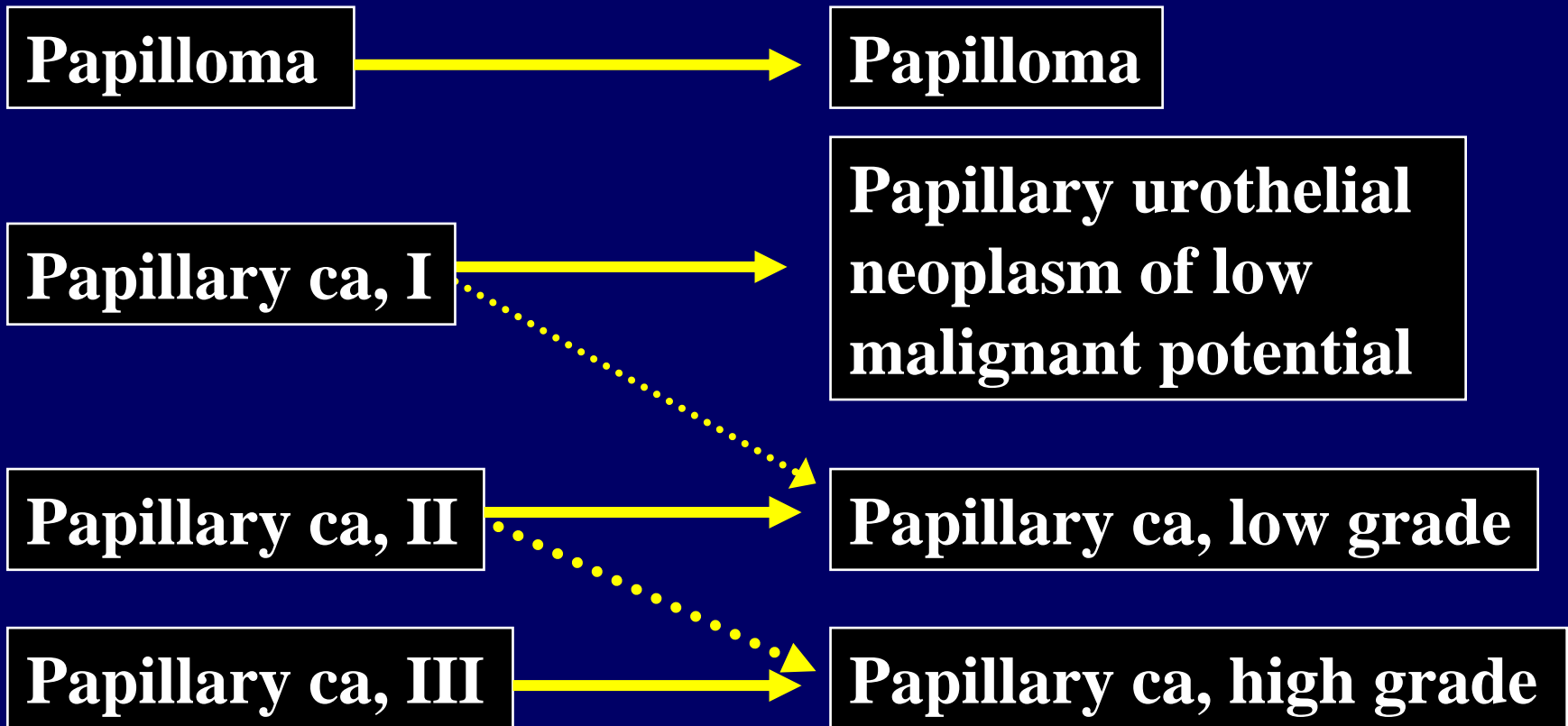
**MOST TRUE CARCINOMAS ARE HIGH-GRADE**

**URINARY CYTOPATHOLOGY IS RECOGNIZED**



**2004 WHO CLASSIFICATION  
OF UROTHELIAL  
NEOPLASMS**

# WHO 1973 vs WHO 2004



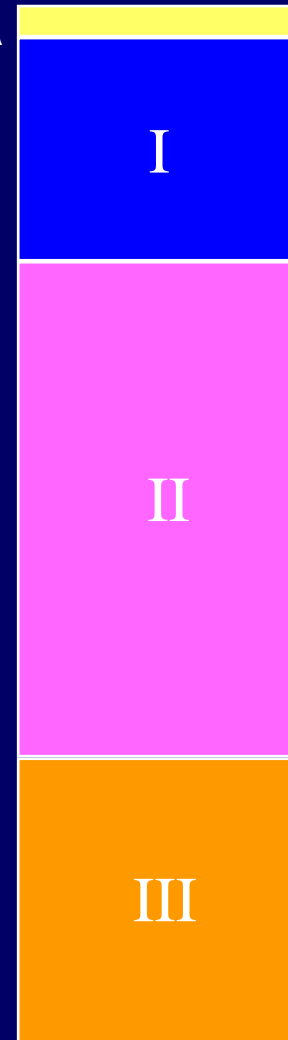
# CORRELATIONS OF WHO CLASSIFICATIONS

WHO/ISUP

1973



PAPILLOMA



# CLASSIFICATION OF UROTHELIAL NEOPLASMS

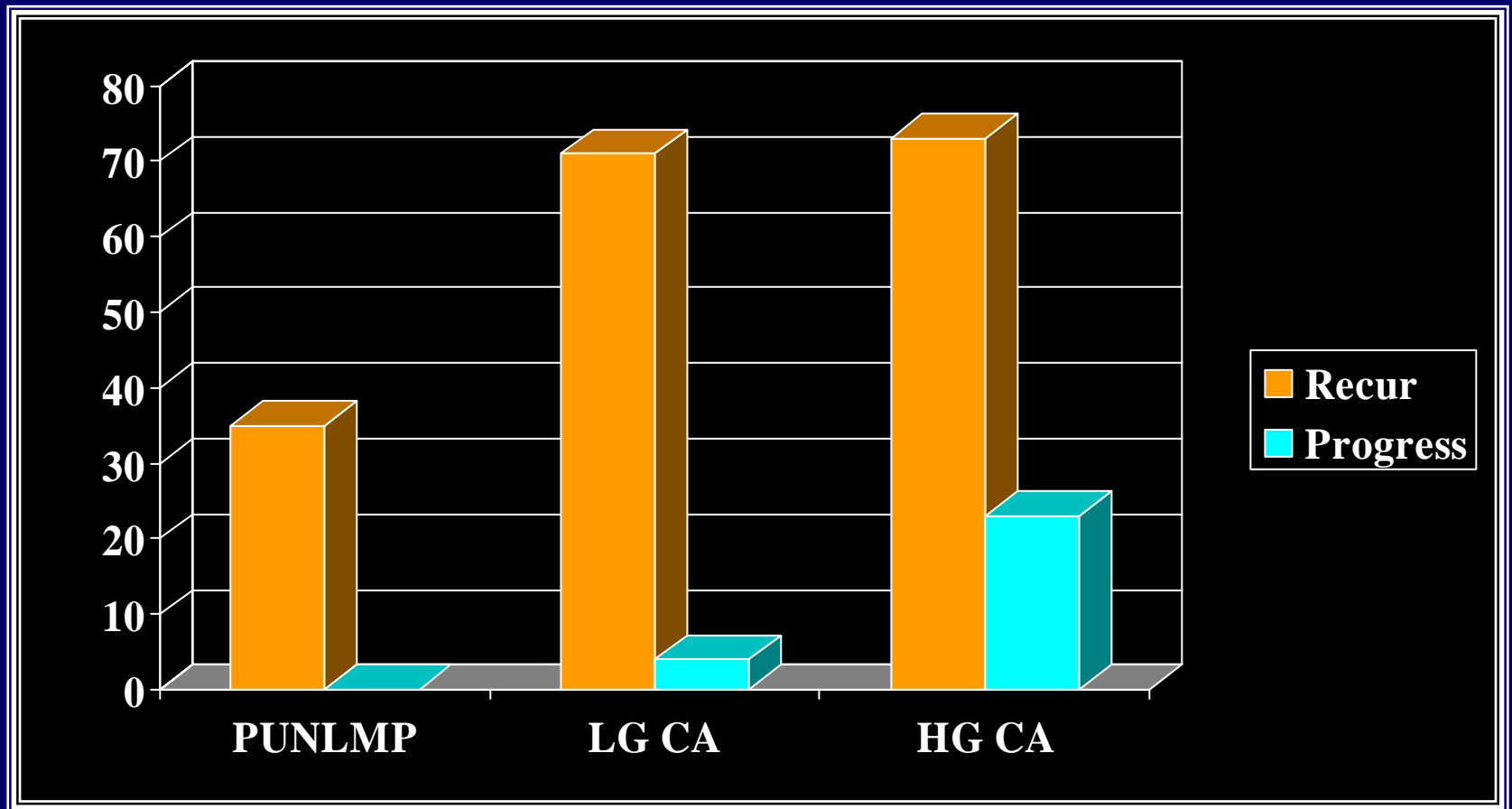
(1998 WHO/ISUP, 2004 WHO, 2004 AFIP FASCICLE)

- ATYPIA
  - REACTIVE
  - OF UNKNOWN SIGNIFICANCE
- DYSPLASIA
- CIS
  
- PAPILOMA
- PUNLMP
- CARCINOMA
  - LOW GRADE
  - HIGH GRADE

# **PATIENT PROGRESSION by GRADE (380 CASES)**

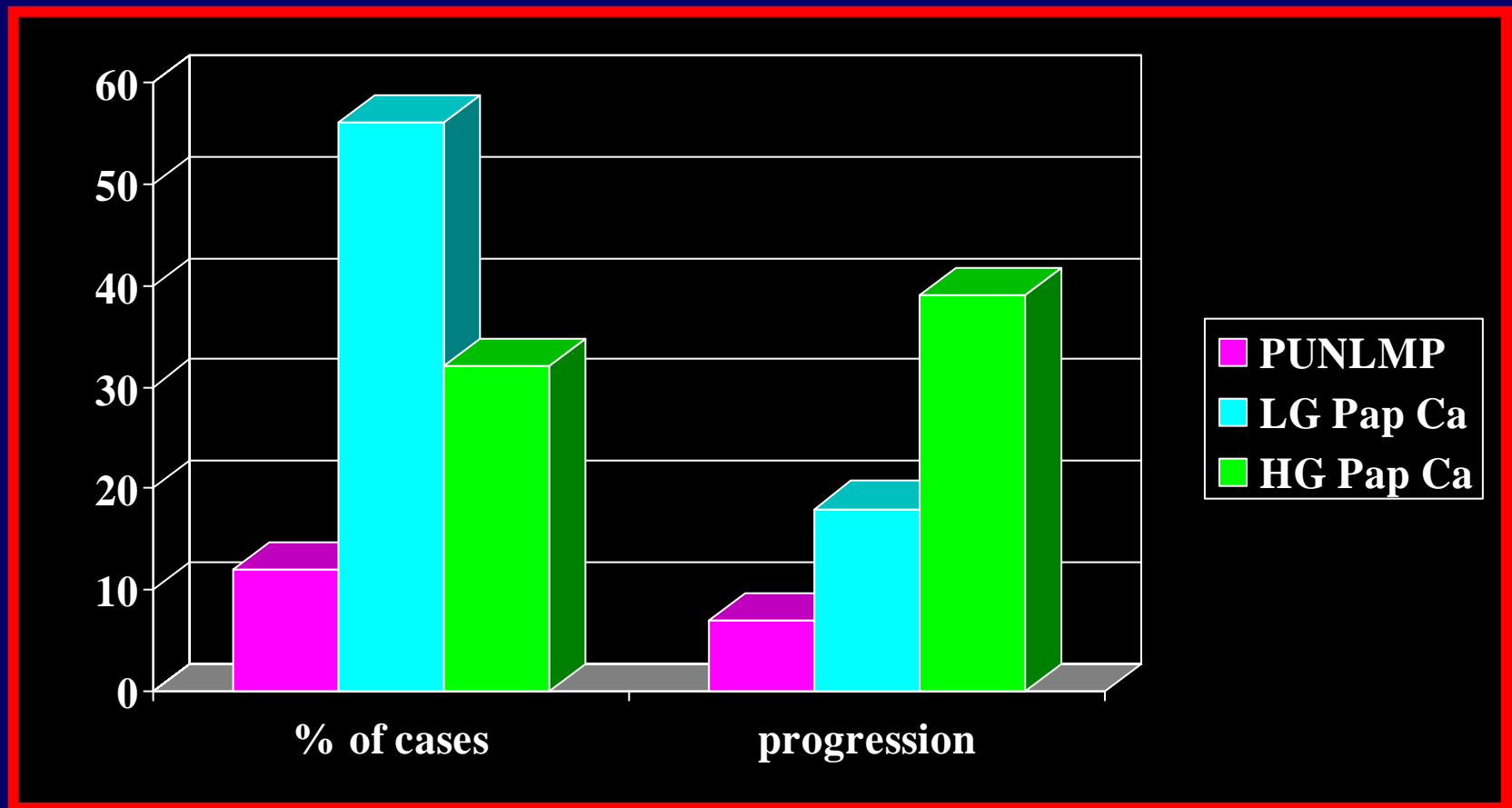
- PUNLMP 7.7%**
- LOW-GRADE 12.0%**
- HIGH-GRADE 61.9%**

# WHO/ISUP GRADING IN pTa UROTHELIAL CARCINOMA



*Holmäng et al, J Urol 165:1124-1130, 2001*

# WHO/ISUP (1998) OUTCOME DATA



*Cheng et al, Cancer 88:1663, 2000*

# **THE NEXT STEP IN THE CLASSIFICATION OF UROTHELIAL NEOPLASMS**

**UROTHELIAL NEOPLASM, LOW-GRADE**

**UROTHELIAL CARCINOMA, HIGH-GRADE**

# **LOW-GRADE UROTHELIAL NEOPLASMS (PAPILLOMA, PUNLMP, LOW-GRADE CA)**

**CELLS LACK MALIGNANT FEATURES**

**CYTOLOGIC DETECTION 30-60%**

**INVASION <10%**

**RECURRENCE <50%**

**PROGRESSION 7-15%**

**PATIENT SURVIVAL >90%**

# **HIGH-GRADE UROTHELIAL NEOPLASMS (HIGH-GRADE CARCINOMA)**

**CELLS HAVE MALIGNANT FEATURES 85%**

**CYTOLOGIC DETECTION 70-95%**

**INVASION >50%**

**RECURRENCE 30 - >50%**

**PROGRESSION 30 - 60%**

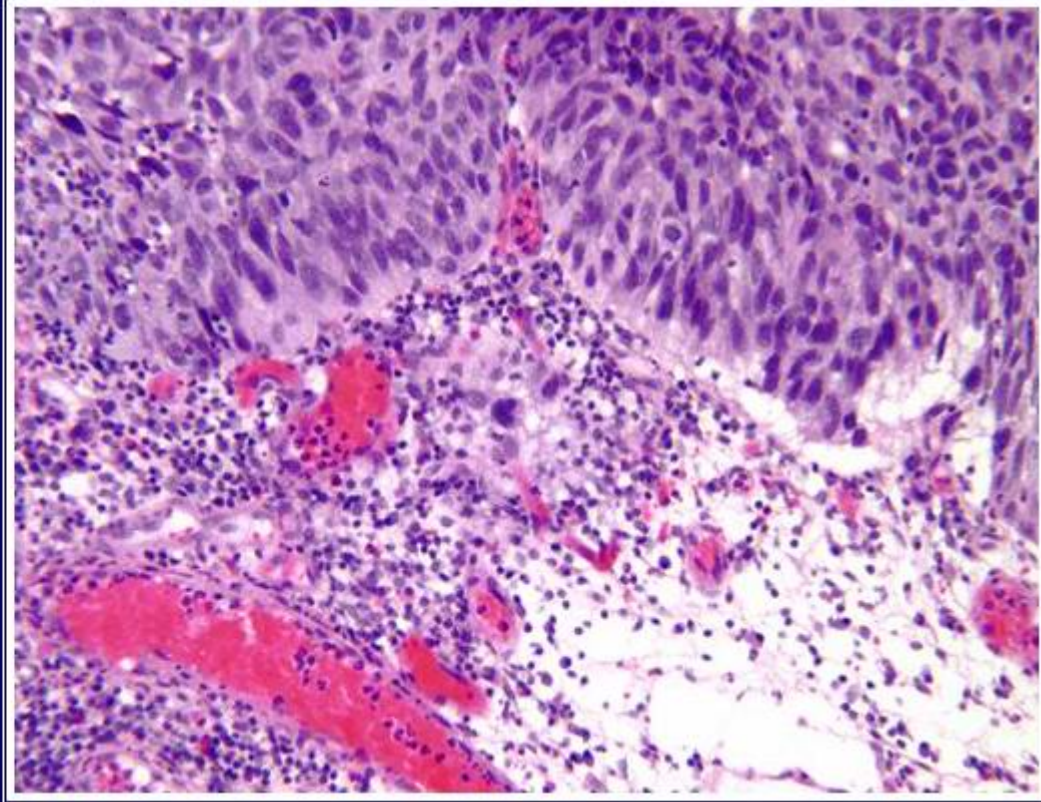
**PATIENT SURVIVAL <50%**

***EVEN IF TUMOR-FREE AT F/U***

# Invasive Urothelial Neoplasia

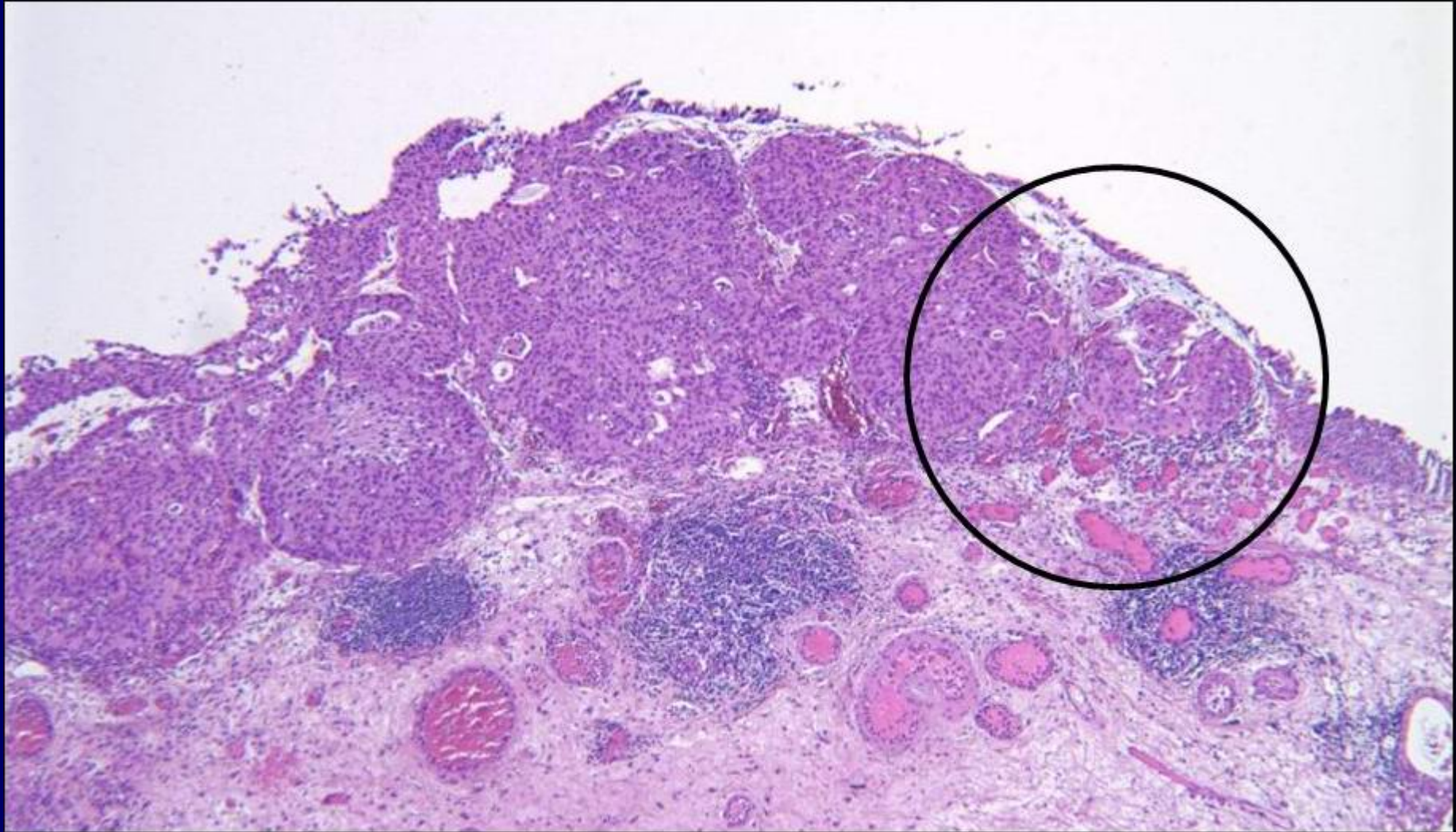
# UROTHELIAL CARCINOMA “MICROINVASION”

- **68 cystectomies for CIS**
- **microinvasion (<5mm) identified in 23 (34%)**
- **bladder cancer deaths in:**
  - **1/46 (2%) without microinvasion**
  - **3/22 (14%) with microinvasion**

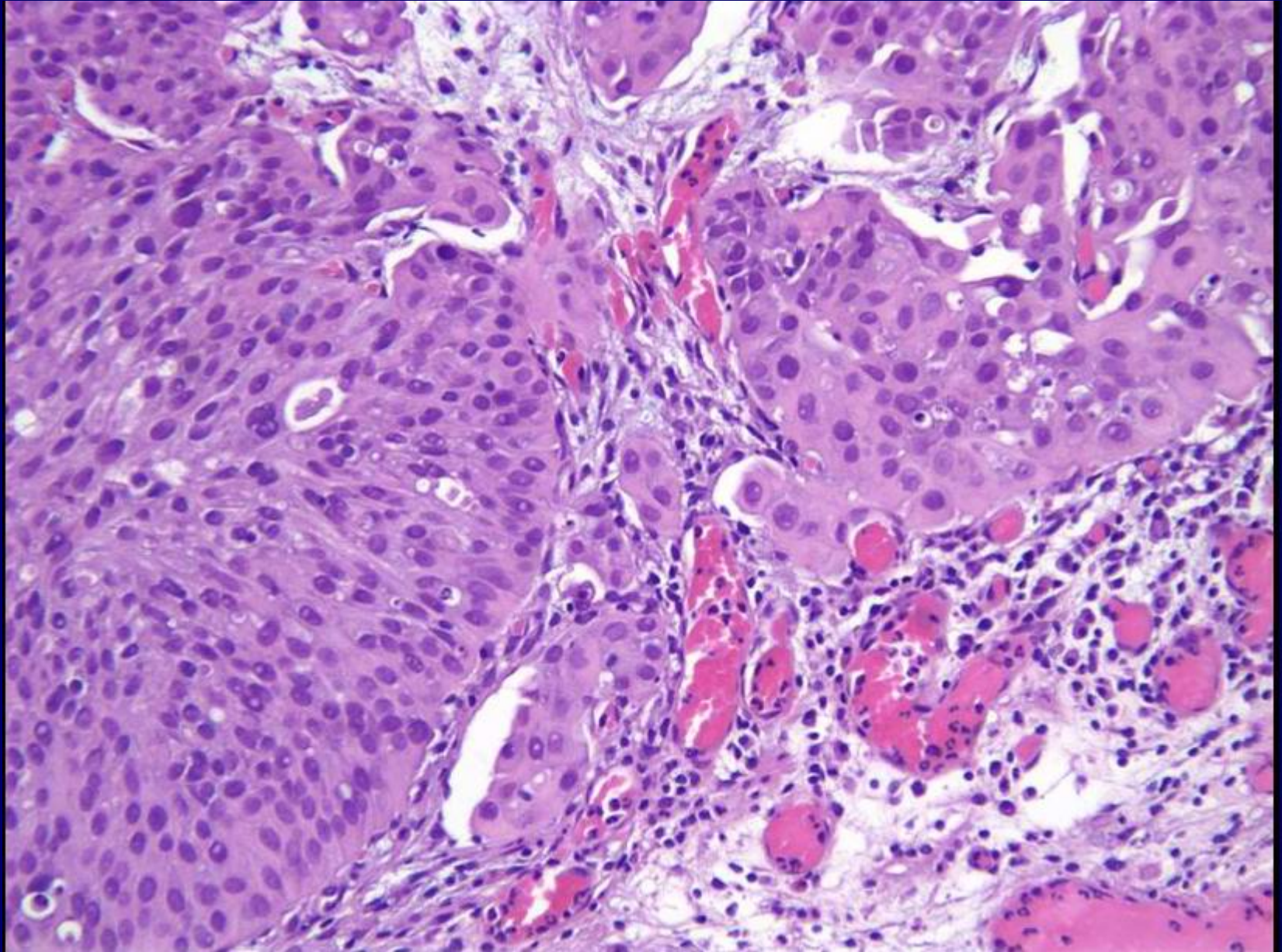


*Farrow and Utz, Clin Oncol 1:609, 1982*

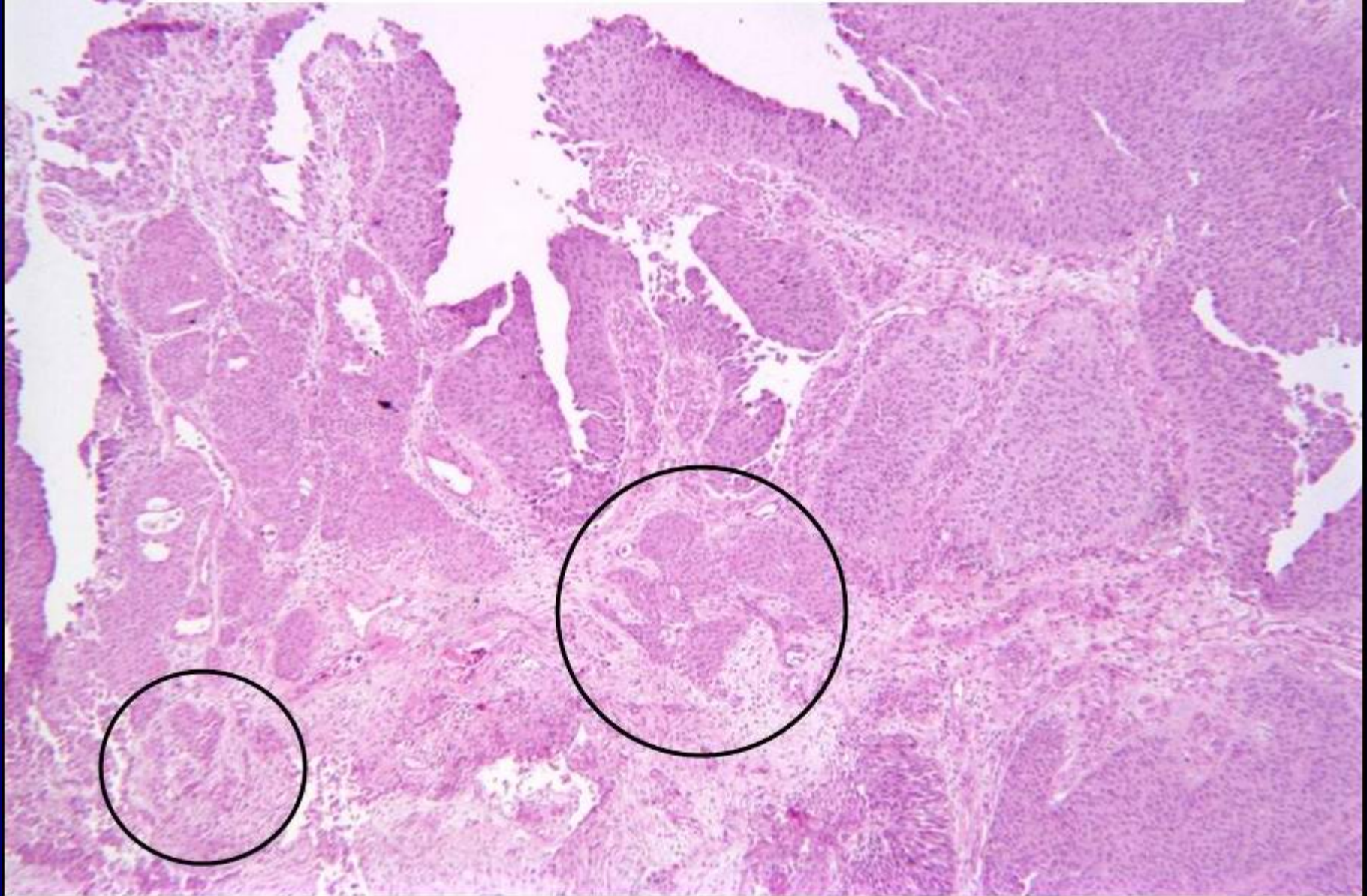
# LAMINA PROPRIA INVASION



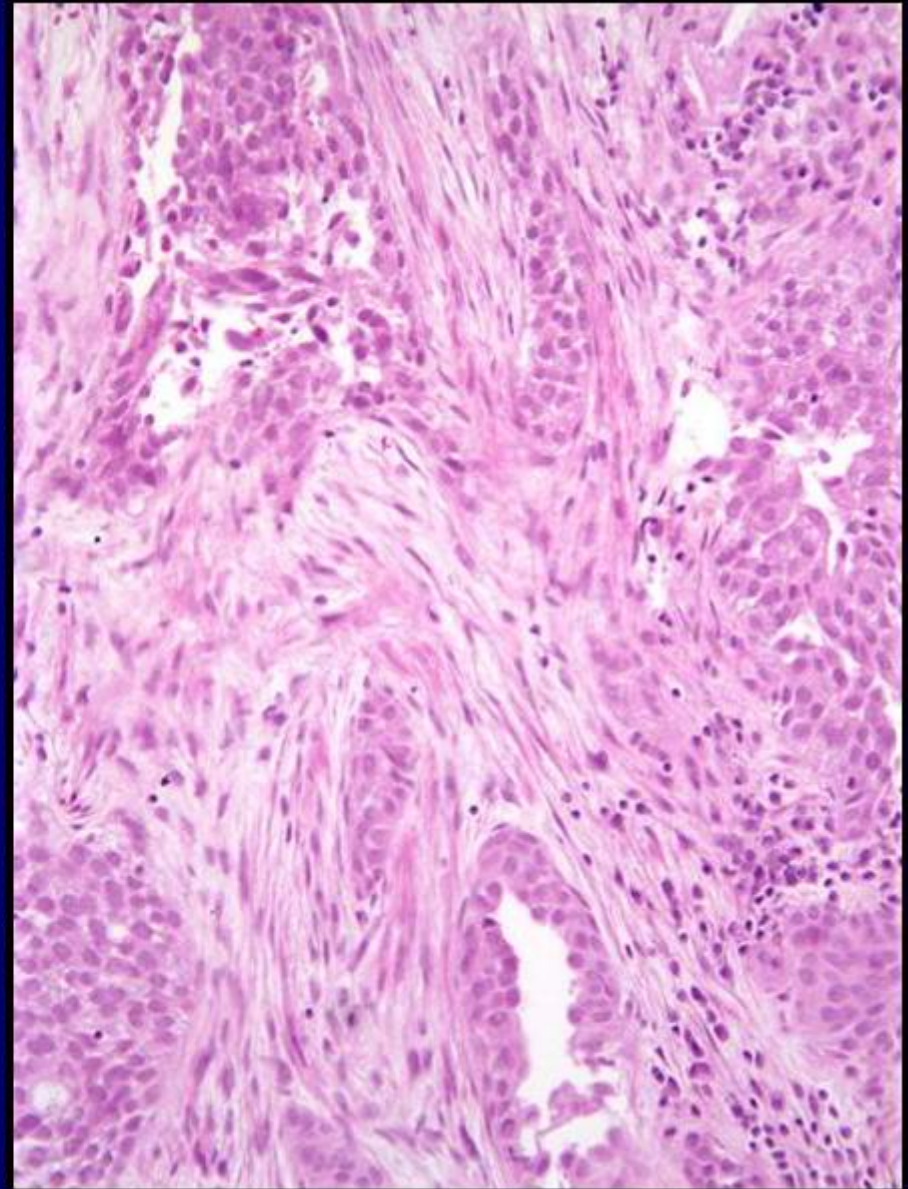
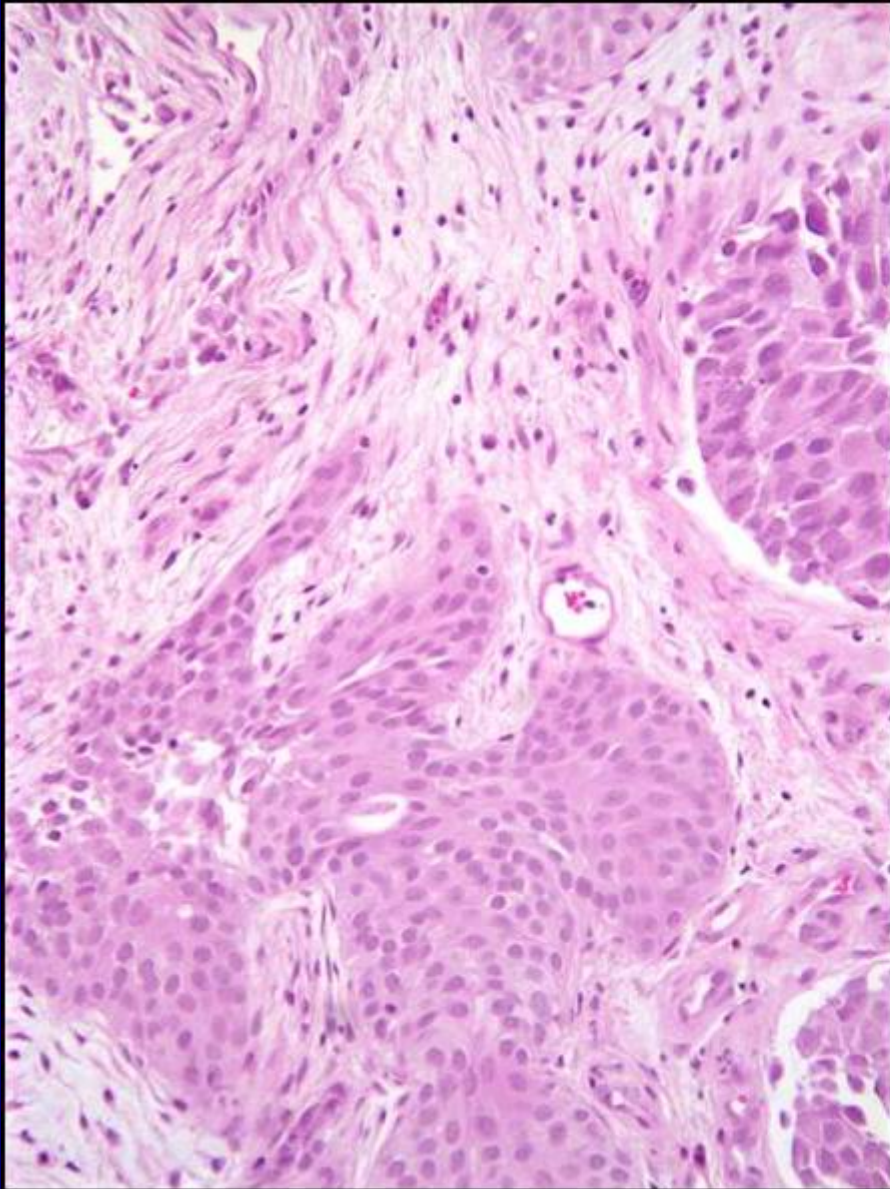
# LAMINA PROPRIA INVASION



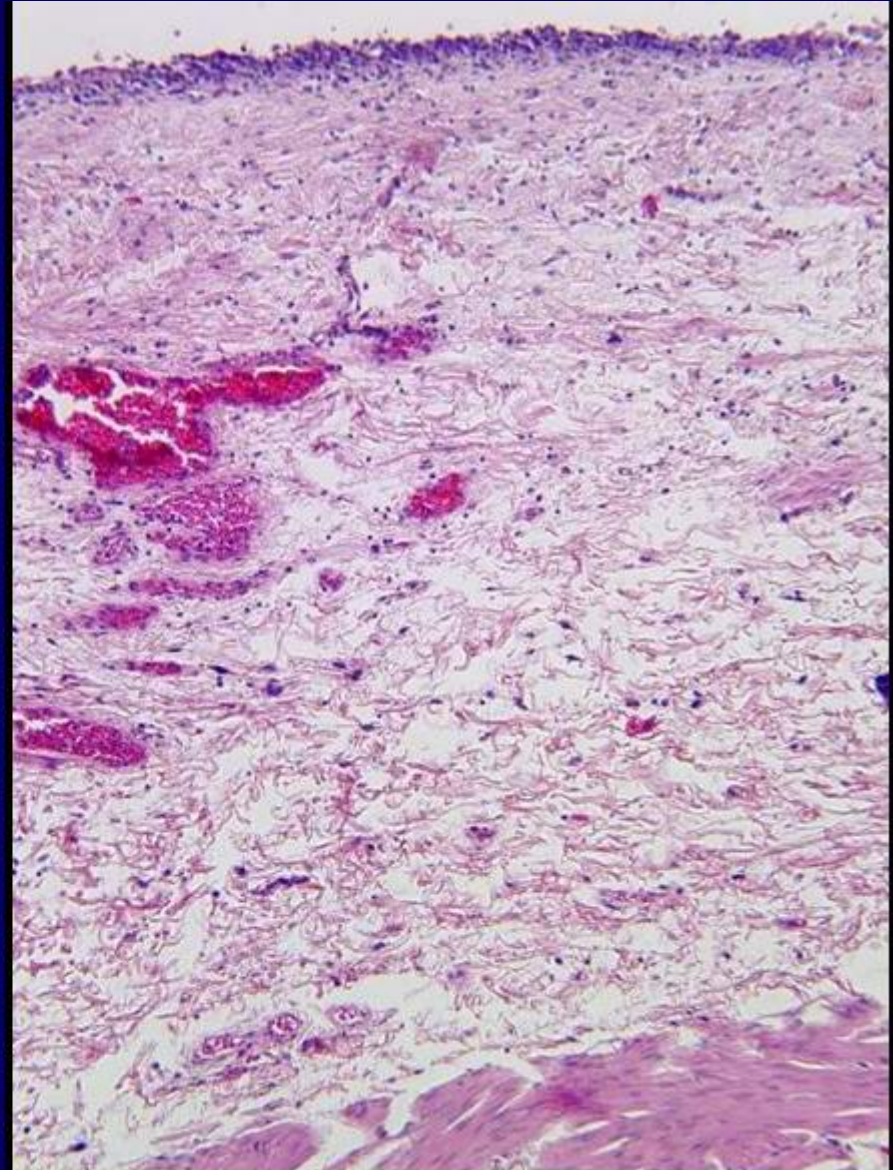
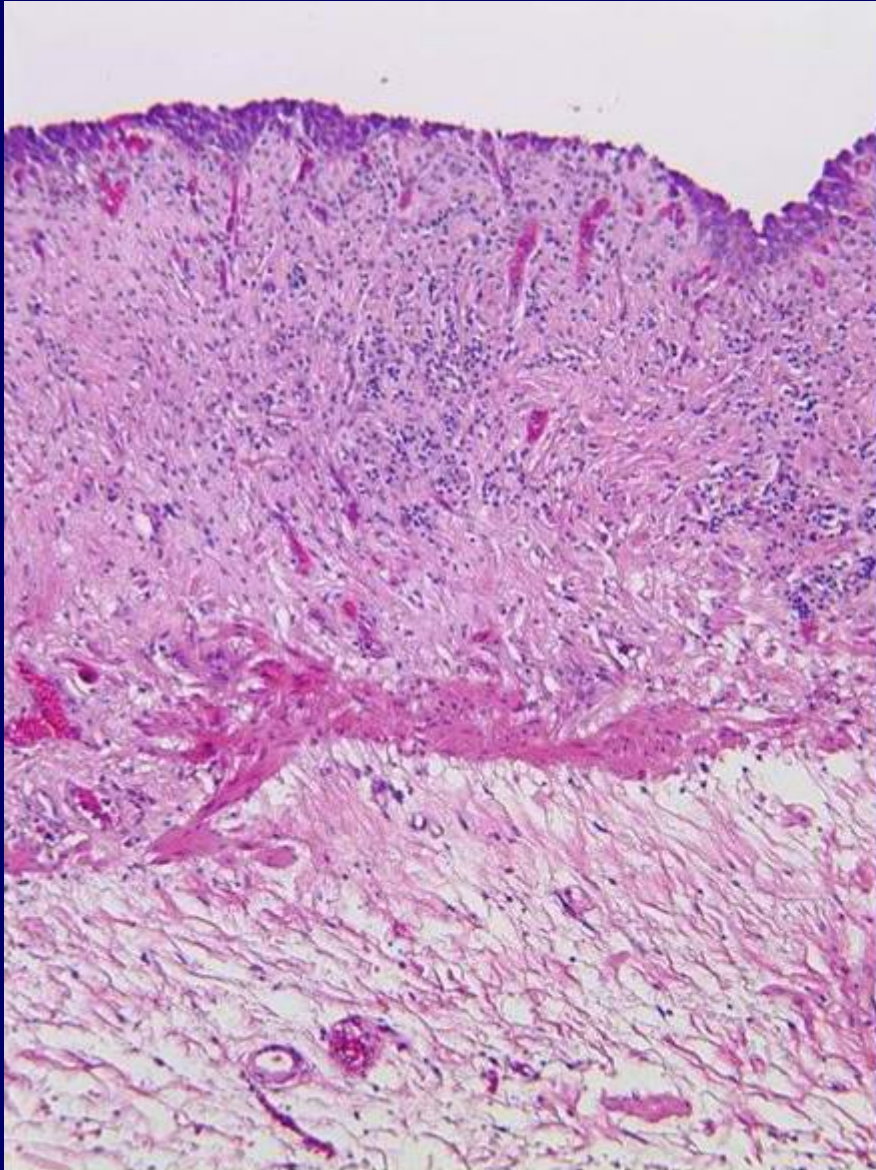
# DIAGNOSIS OF INVASION



# DIAGNOSIS OF INVASION



# MUSCULARIS MUCOSAE



# MUSCULARIS MUCOSAE DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORMAL URINARY BLADDER

| <b>Pattern</b>     | <b>Ro (1987)</b> | <b>Keep (1989)</b> |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Continuous</b>  | <b>3%</b>        | <b>13%</b>         |
| <b>Interrupted</b> | <b>20%</b>       | <b>45%</b>         |
| <b>Scattered</b>   | <b>71%</b>       | <b>43%</b>         |
| <b>Absent</b>      | <b>6%</b>        | <b>0%</b>          |

# **pTa BLADDER CA**

## **LONG TERM OUTCOME**

- 146 patients with 15 or more years FU
- all treated with TURBT and BCG

### **LOW GRADE (23)**

- 15 year progression-free survival - 95%
- 15 year disease-specific survival - 100%

### **HIGH GRADE (125)**

- 15 year progression-free survival - 61%
- 15 year disease-specific survival - 74%

# Issue of Substaging of T1 Cancer

**pT1a**

**invasion up to m. mucosae**



**pT 1b**

**invasion beyond m. mucosae**



- **3 studies have explored significance.**
- **T1b tumors higher rate of progression.**
- **5-yr survival of T1 b tumors comparable to pT2 tumors.**

# **HISTOLOGIC FEATURES OF INVASION**

- **Loss of smooth BM outline**
- **Single cells or irregular clusters of cells haphazardly extending from surface**
- **Invading cells with more abundant eosinophilic cytoplasm than non-invasive**
- **Retraction artifact**
- **Stromal edema - myxoid, desmoplasia or fibrosis**
- **Inflammation**

# STAGING OF BLADDER CANCER (2002 TNM)

- **pTa**      **Non-invasive, papillary**
- **pTIS**     **Non-invasive, flat**
- **pT1**      **Invasion of submucosa**
- **pT2**      **Invasion of muscularis propria**
- **pT3**      **Invasion of perivesical tissue**
- **pT4**      **Invasion of adjacent structures**