



EFCS
European Federation of
Cytology Societies

The EFCS Newsletter

Issue 2/2022



EFCS NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2/2022



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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

After more than two years of COVID pandemic and travel restrictions, we are slowly heading towards normality. This year's EFCS Tutorial was held as an onsite event and it was a great success. The report from this event is available in this issue. Also, the biggest cytological congress organized this year – IAC/ASC International Meeting in Baltimore - will be an onsite event. In this issue you can read an article about the Meeting and about the most important sessions to be held. You can also find an invitation to ECC 2023 which is being held in Budapest, hopefully as an onsite event.

I am happy that there are more and more opportunities to meet you face to face. Of course, all technical achievements in organizing virtual events during the pandemic will stay with us. They allowed us to have great cytological meetings in the first half of this year like Lymph Node Cytology Webinar and Cologne Cytology Tutorial. In July we can also participate in a virtual-only IAC-BAC Tutorial.

I hope that the pandemic experience will enrich our future meetings. Usage of technology, like digital slides, is especially useful in residents and young cytopathologists' education. It is also more affordable for the newcomers to the field and allows for greater knowledge dissemination. That is why I think that after the pandemic we will be even stronger and cytology will be greater than ever.

Besides reports from past meetings and invitations to future events, in this issue we continue with the series of presenting National Societies. This time you can find a comprehensive feature on Slovenian Cytological Society.

Enjoy reading!

Pawel Gajdzis

EFCS Residents and Young Pathologists Committee

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Message from the EFCS Secretary General

Dear Friends, Dear Colleagues,

Since the last issue of the newsletter, many EFCS scientific and educational events and activities were realized. EFCS Tutorial in Trieste and Joint Croatia & Greece webinar were a success, and QUATE test attracted new candidates. You can read more about it in the dedicated articles below.

Among other activities, I would like to highlight the EFCS Annual General Meeting, which was held on June 9th, 2022. Two important decisions were made. First is that the Ukrainian Association of Cytopathology became a member of EFCS. Ukrainian cytopathologists, with a long and successful tradition in cytopathology, joined us in this difficult time of war, and thus received our undeniable support. Welcome and congratulations! Second was the approval of the extension of the EFCS Board of Directors with a new member, Dr Claire Bourgain, EFCS Daily Manager. Claire is our experienced and distinguished colleague from Belgium who prepared the latest EFCS Statute changes, and took care of all, often challenging, legal and administrative work for EFCS. Dear Claire, thank you for your unselfish engagement!

Eurocytology.eu project is progressing well, the main topics are defined, as well as the leaders of each chapter. We are sincerely grateful to the colleagues who accepted this work, all of them "big names" in European cytology. We are looking forward for the new, modern, interactive cytology educational entries.

The first announcement for our next European Congress of Cytology in Budapest, Hungary, is out, so save the date and check the website for updates.

There is one more excellent news I wish to share with you. The EFCS scientific project of digital cytology applied on ASCUS / LSIL lead by Ivana Kholová resulted in an important manuscript which has been accepted for publication in Cancer Cytopathology. Congratulations to Ivana and all co-authors.

Next important cytology meeting is the IAC / ASC congress in Baltimore, USA, with EFCS as a partner. I am sure that European cytology will be presented at its highest! EFCS session featuring interventional / molecular cytology, session presenting European multi-country scientific projects, and session prepared by Young EFCS have all been accepted, as many other individual talks and presentations. I expect that many of you are going to Baltimore in November. If not before, I am excited to meet you there.

Danijela Vrdoljak-Mozetič
EFCS Secretary General
June 26th 2022

IAC-BAC online tutorial 18 & 19 July 2022

If you haven't already booked for this summer tutorial, please do take a look at the programme by clicking on the link below-

<https://www.cytology-iac.org/iac-tutorials>

The focus of the tutorial is on the correlation between cytology, cell blocks and small biopsy specimens.

Specifically, some of the highlights are discussions on upper urinary tract cytology samples and ureteric biopsies, and pleural fluid and biopsy reporting of mesothelial proliferations.

ROSE and the opportunity to collect and prepare specimens in a molecular-friendly way from sites including the thyroid, salivary glands, EBUS and EUS FNA pancreas will be presented by expert tutors, some familiar and some new faces- cytopathologists and cytotechnologists.

The concept of small and suboptimal samples for diagnosis and ancillary testing will be addressed, especially those relevant to pulmonary and pancreatic samples. Soft tissue tumour and lymph node cytology can be fun and interesting when you select the right ancillary tests to confirm the diagnosis. Learn from the experts how to best utilise the diagnostic material in your FNA needle hub.

Gynaecologic cytology and HPV testing including multidisciplinary clinical meeting style case presentation of cervical neoplasia are also on the menu. HPV testing in metastatic head & neck squamous cell carcinoma using FNA samples will also be discussed.

The talks will be recorded so don't worry if you can't take two days off work. Listen to the talks you missed or replay the words of wisdom from one of the last remaining meetings this summer. The cost of the meeting is great value for the study budget but do consider applying for bursaries from professional organisations including your national cytology or pathology societies.



Monday 18. - Tuesday 19. July
British Summer Time

Ashish Chandra
Tutorial Co-Director



NEXT GENERATION CYTOLOGY!

IAC and ASC International Meeting Baltimore – 2022

Fernando C. Schmitt, MD, PhD, FIAC
International Academy of Cytology
President, 2022

Martha B. Pitman, MD, FIAC
American Society of Cytopathology
President, 2022

It is a great privilege and an honor for us, as co-Presidents, to invite you to the 21st International Congress of Cytology held jointly with the American Society of Cytopathology 70th Annual Scientific Meeting. The Congress is November 15-20, 2022 at the Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland, USA, and will provide a unique opportunity for cytology professionals worldwide to learn, share and present the latest findings and insights in cytopathology.

The Congress will feature an interactive, stimulating program that includes scientific sessions, short courses, video microscopy tutorials and information packed general sessions providing you with strategies and advances in the field to implement at your institutions. Throughout the meeting, in addition to the rich programming, there will be networking opportunities with colleagues from around the world that will make a rewarding and memorable experience for you. Scientific sessions will be presented by the current leaders in our field encompassing topics that focus on current practice and innovative advances. The Exhibit Hall will showcase the current and state of the art products in cytopathology.

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NEXT GENERATION CYTOLOGY! IAC and ASC International Meeting Baltimore – 2022

Meeting Highlights

Dr. Denis Wirtz, Theophilus Halley Smoot Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and vice provost for research at Johns Hopkins University, will be delivering the **New Frontiers Lecturer** on opening day of the Congress on Wednesday, November 16. Dr. Wirtz is known for his studies of the molecular and biophysical mechanisms of cell motility and adhesion and nuclear dynamics in health and disease, with a special focus on aging, cancer, and progeria. His presentation will be ***“CODA: Mapping large volumes of tissues and tumors at single-cell resolution.”***

On Thursday, November 17, the **IAC Lecturer, Dr. Marion Saville AM**, will present ***“HPV Primary Testing in Cervical Cancer Screening.”*** Professor Marion Saville is a New Zealand medical graduate who trained in Anatomic Pathology at Northwestern University in Chicago. She went on to complete a fellowship in Cytopathology at East Carolina University and a research fellowship at Georgetown University, focusing on HPV. She has held the position of Executive Director of the Australian Centre for the Prevention of Cervical Cancer since 2000. Marion has served on cervical screening advisory committees in Australia, New Zealand and Ontario.

The **ASC Koss Lectureship** will be presented Thursday afternoon by **Ravi B. Parikh MD MPP FACP**, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy and Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and Staff Physician at the Corporal Michael J. Crescenzo VA Medical Center. His timely lecture is entitled: ***“Delayed, Deferred, or Lost Care: How the COVID-19 Pandemic Changed Care and Workforce Patterns in the US.”*** Dr. Parikh is a practicing oncologist with expertise in delivery system reform and informatics. His work has focused on three core areas: (1) the use of health technology to improve routine patient care; (2) quality of life and survivorship care in oncology; and (3) payment reform for advanced illnesses.

The **International Academy of Cytology Tutorial** will be a pre-congress session on Tuesday, November 15 that will focus on classic cytomorphologic features of lesions from key organ sites presented by experienced faculty. The intended audience for the course would be the candidates appearing for the IAC board examination. However, registration is also open for cytotechnology and pathology trainees, students or anyone more experienced who desires a “refresher” course. The course format will be didactic lectures with brief discussion using selected unknown cases at the end. Audience interaction would be highly encouraged.

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NEXT GENERATION CYTOLOGY! IAC and ASC International Meeting Baltimore – 2022

The very entertaining and exciting “**Diagnostic Slide Seminar**” (DSS) will take place on Friday, November 18th. This Seminar draws a huge audience to experience firsthand the highest standard of diagnostically challenging cases presented with just a “touch” of entertainment. . The Moderators are Dr. Michiya Nishno, USA, and Dr. Wendy Raymond, Australia. Drs. Nishno and Raymond have successfully convinced four courageous panelists to tackle the “unknowns.” The brave panelists include Dr. Philippe Vielh, France, Dr. Pam Michelow, South Africa, Dr. Amber Donnelly, USA and Dr. Michael Henry, USA. Selected images and case histories for the DSS will be available to preview and diagnose on the Meeting Website from September until November; the results will be compiled, tabulated and presented during this Seminar. The final diagnoses will be posted on the Meeting. Audience attendees will have a chance to participate in the polling questions for a more enhanced educational experience.

Drs. Paul VanderLaan and Lukas Bubendorf will moderate the State of the Art Symposium on “Reimagine Cytology.” This forward-looking Symposium will look at the constantly evolving practice of Cytology and will explore the future of cytology through a forward-looking examination of where the field is headed with respect to diagnostic reporting, molecular testing, and specimen evaluation for both cytopathologists and cytotechnologists alike. Panelists include, Amy Ly MD, USA, Sinchita Roy-Chowdhuri MD PhD, USA, Deepali Jain FIAC, India and Josefine Stani CFIAC, Austria.

Symposia on the new WHO Reporting Systems in Cytopathology of the Pancreaticobiliary tract, lung, lymph nodes/spleen and thymus, and soft tissue will introduce the audience to these reporting systems, discuss how they may differ from prior reporting systems and illustrate the application of the systems with a case-based seminar.

Thursday will also include the **World Vision Cytopathology Contest** chaired by **Drs. Guliz Barkan and Diana Rossi**. Open to individuals from around the world, this contest provides a forum for exposure to cytopathology at the international level.

Additional offerings include, Strategies in Cytopathology and Cytology Education, Platform and Poster Presentations, Video Microscopy Tutorials, Short Courses, Panel Luncheon Seminars, Microscopic Sessions, Roundtable Discussions, Symposia, Companion Meetings and Sign-out with the Professors. **The six-day Congress will have over 80 sessions and 180 Speakers.**

Saturday evening will be the “**CELL**”–**ebriation Baseball Bash!** This party of the year will be held at Camden Yards, which is Baltimore’s baseball-only facility that is steeped in history. **This is a chance to catch up with colleagues, network, dance, eat, drink, sing, and “CELL”ebriate!** This networking reception is a way to commemorate your Congress experience and mingle with attendees and celebrate the professional achievements of our Award Winners, Members and Attendees! Don’t miss this exciting event!

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NEXT GENERATION CYTOLOGY! IAC and ASC International Meeting Baltimore – 2022

Outside of the conference, we invite you to enjoy the beautiful city of Baltimore. Baltimore is a vibrant waterfront city that is “walkable” for visitors. With restaurants, shops, hotels, attractions and museums near each other and the Congress setting. Baltimore is easy to navigate by foot or hop on/off the free Charm City Circulator. Baltimore is centrally located on the east coast of the USA, which gives you an opportunity to explore more during your stay including Washington, DC, New York City, and Philadelphia.

The basic registration fee gives you access to all 6 days of Scientific Sessions, Platform and Poster Presentations, Strategies in Cytopathology and Cytology Education, Short Courses, Symposia, Companion Sessions, Video Microscopy Tutorials, Exhibit Hall, 5 Continental Breakfasts, 9 Coffee Breaks, and Welcome Reception with the Exhibitors. All of these programs provide you with the ability to acquire credits for continuing medical education (CME), and non-physician credits (CMLE).

The success of the joint Congress hinges upon the enormous contribution of the program faculty. They have our deepest thanks for generously donating their time and expertise. Nothing would have been possible without the immense help rendered by the members of ASC Scientific Program Committee, chaired by Dr. Zubair Baloch and the IAC Program Committee, Chaired by Dr. Syed Ali. Their enthusiasm, involvement and persuasion have resulted in an outstanding scientific program. On behalf of the IAC and ASC, we look forward to welcoming you to Baltimore. An exciting program and a world-class faculty await you. Don't miss this wonderful educational experience and a chance to visit Baltimore.

Registration information is available now on the [Meeting Website](https://cytopathology.org/mpage/Meeting_Homepage) (https://cytopathology.org/mpage/Meeting_Homepage).



ECC 2023 Budapest Invitation Letter

Dear Colleagues,

Harmony, regularity in all instances design at all microscopic, immunohistochemical, molecular, proteomic levels at the end of the day the absence of disease which we may call in morphology health. Health viewed is beauty itself! Cytopathology in all its aspects recognizes, fights against disharmony, irregularity and diseases which have always been present in life, especially in our 21st century world. We, cytopathologists gather now in Budapest for the 44th Congress of EFCS with the hope, that will help us find and fight diseases for a better future.

Hereby I invite everyone interested in cytology and being aware of the above questions to come to Budapest for three days to learn each other's knowledge, diverse ways of thinking. Please let us gather our arguing, disputing, controversialist brain for moving towards a healthier world. The Congress will take place between 1st-4th of October 2023. It is organized in a hybrid structure; however, we all will be happier and more active if present personally. Our wish is a three days long lively, continuous personal and scientific activity! There will be "Melting point" sessions, Slide seminars with scanned slides, Companion Meetings, Proffered papers and E-posters, QUATE course and exam and Keynote lectures as well.

The 'background' of it is an active, charming, historical, and modern city which - at least for me - has never been boring during the last 70 years.

Let us take the challenge, please come, it will be our great privilege to see you all in Budapest!

László Vass, MD, PhD, FIAC
Chairman of the Congress



**44TH EUROPEAN
CONGRESS OF CYTOLOGY
BUDAPEST, 1-4 OCTOBER 2023**

Report: 13th annual EFCS Tutorial, June 13-17, 2022

The 13th annual EFCS Tutorial of Cytopathology was held on June 13-17 in Trieste (Italy). The event was chaired by Giovanni Negri and co-chaired by Arrigo Capitanio, local Host was Fabrizio Zanconati of the University of Trieste. After years of difficulties due to the pandemic and the virtualization of the 12th Tutorial in 2021, we decided to resume the classical Tutorial format, based on on-site microscopy workshops and lectures covering the most important topics in cytopathology. The experience of last year's successful virtual Tutorial was however not forgotten, and we decided to add virtual slides to each topic, which were available in advance to the participants and discussed live at the end of each microscopy workshop, using the eurocytology.cloud platform. Overall, fifty-seven virtual slides were uploaded for the participants. The new, albeit traditional approach to the tutorial was well received. Fifty-one participants (cytotechnologists, residents and pathologists) coming from 19 different countries (Armenia, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Israel, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine) took part in the courses, joining the friendly and informal atmosphere of the Tutorial, and more would have participated if more microscopes had been available. Nine tutors from Croatia, France, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland and Spain were involved in the lectures, which included eleven different topics among urine, breast, thyroid, pancreatic, serous effusions, salivary gland, lymph node and gynecological cytology. Lectures on ROSE, molecular and digital cytology as well as HPV have also been included. Social activity was also a highlight, including a welcome party and get-together dinner on the background of the beautiful seaside of Trieste.

Although the data are still provisional, the participants' feedback has been very positive, with most participants judging the event quality as excellent and extremely useful. Beside the teaching and social activity, the Tutorial was also a special occasion to reward Luigi di Bonito, who has been Chair of the EFCS Tutorial for five editions and two times president of the European Congress of Cytology, for his contribution in education and promotion of cytology.

Overall, it was another successful EFCS annual tutorial, in the best tradition of these events. We are already working on the next annual tutorial, scheduled in 2023, stay tuned on the EFCS website!

Giovanni Negri and Arrigo Capitanio



Report: EFCS QUATE aptitude test, June 17, 2022

On Friday, 17th of June 2022, the QUATE aptitude test (Quality Assurance, Training, and Examinations) took place at the Ospedale Universitario di Cattinara, Trieste, Italy.

The QUATE (Quality Assurance, Training and Examinations committee) Aptitude Test is an international exam organized by the European Federation of Cytological Societies (EFCS) as one of the EFCS educational projects. The QUATE test aims to objectively assess the ability and competence of cytoscreeners and cytotechnologists in cervical cytology screening, either on conventional Papanicolaou, SurePath, or ThinPrep slides. The candidates are expected to have a good understanding of the general principles of a cervical cancer screening programme and cytological findings in cervical cytology. By passing the QUATE test, candidates obtain an EFCS certificate, which confirms their screening competence and contributes to achieving a high standard in cervical cancer screening in their respective cytology laboratories.



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Report: EFCS QUATE aptitude test, June 17, 2022



The QUATE exam in Trieste was organized by the QUATE Committee on the last day of the EFCS Tutorial, with the support of the local host.

Fifteen candidates attended the exam, 6 from Italy, 3 from Austria, 2 from Israel, 2 from Russia, one from Denmark, and one from Armenia.

The passing rate was just over 53%, which means that 8 out of 15 candidates passed the exam. Unfortunately, repeated overcalling of negative slides as abnormal was the most common reason for failing the screening test.

The organization was excellent, concerning the communication with candidates, theoretical MCQ part, and microscopy slides.

Our hosts from the Pathology Department of the Ospedale Universitario di Cattinara provided the modern venue with adequate rooms, quality microscopes, facilities, and refreshments.

The organizing committee of QUATE Trieste consisted of Asst Prof Sandra Moslavac, MD, PhD, Prof Allan Wilson, Lead Biomedical Scientist in Cellular Pathology and Consultant Biomedical Scientist in Cervical Cytology, and Asst Prof Danijela Vrdoljak-Mozetič, MD, PhD, Secretary-General of the EFCS.

The next QUATE examination will be offered at the 44th European Congress of Cytology, Budapest, Hungary in October 2023.

Sandra Moslavac
EFCS Educational Committee

Report: Lymph Node Cytology Webinar, March 18, 2022

The Hellenic and the Croatian Societies of Clinical Cytology together with the European Federation of Cytology Societies (EFCS) organized a webinar on Friday 18th concerning the Lymph Node Cytology to share the experience and knowledge between both countries. The seminar was attended by 485 medical doctors, students, and cytotechnologists from 57



countries. In detail the distribution of the participants according to the country was as follows: Greece (189), Croatia (98), Austria (28), Portugal (24), Belgium (15), Spain (10), Switzerland (9), Slovenia (8), India (7), Denmark (6), Turkey (5), Romania (5), Kenya (5), Venezuela (3), Sweden (3), Russia (3), Pakistan (3), Norway (3), Mexico (3), Malaysia (3), Latvia (3), Vietnam (1), USA (1), Ukraine (1), Thailand (1), Singapore (1), República Moldova (1), Peru (1), Namibia (1), Lebanon (1), Kuwait (1), Ireland (1), France (1), Ethiopia (1), England (1), El Salvador (1), Egypt (1), EEUU (1), Czech Republic (1) Canada (1), Australia (1).

Assist. Prof. Danijela Vrdoljak-Mozetič Secretary General of the European Federation of Cytology Societies was responsible for the opening of the webinar.

Specialists involved in this field of Cytology were invited in the webinar. In detail two lectures were presented. The first by Dr. Lina Pappa (Cytopathology Department University Hospital Ioannina, Greece) who presented benign lymphadenopathies and low-grade lymphomas and the second by Dr. Koraljka Gjadrov Kuveždić (University Hospital Centre Zagreb Croatia) who presented high grade NHL and Hodgkin lymphoma. Following these, four Cytopathologists (Dr. Maria Tsironikou-Cytopathology Department, 401 Military Hospital Athens, Greece, Dr. Ivan Švagelj- General Hospital Vinkovci, Croatia, Dr. Anna Vardouli- NHS Cytopathology Department General Hospital Volos, Greece, Dr. Antonia Pavlović-University Hospital Split, Croatia) presented very interesting and educational case reports. Each session was followed by discussion and questions made by the audience.

The closing of the webinar was done by Assist. Prof. Danijela Vrdoljak-Mozetič (EFCS), Dr. Maria Nasioutziki (Greece) and Dr. Tajana Štoos-Veić (Croatia).

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Assist. Prof. **Danijela Vrdoljak-Mozetič**, MD, PhD, MIAC, Secretary General of the European Federation of Cytology Societies

Maria Nasioutziki, MD PhD MIAC, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Greece, President of Hellenic Society of Clinical Cytology

Niki Margari, MD PhD, General Secretary of Hellenic Society of Clinical Cytology

Assist. Prof. **Dinka Šundov**, MD, PhD, University Hospital Split Croatia, President of the Croatian Society of Clinical Cytology

Assist. Prof. **Tajana Štoos-Veić**, MD, PhD, MIAC, University Hospital Dubrava, Zagreb Croatia, Vice President of the Croatian Society of Clinical Cytology

Report: Cologne Cytology Tutorial 2022, March 11 - 12, 2022

This year in March 11 - 12, 2022 the Cologne Cytology Tutorial took place as a virtual meeting for the second time. Our annual tutorial has been founded 2003 in Dueren/Germany at another hospital where the organizer (Engels) and the late chief technician (Zamzow) were posted at that time. From a small issue of some 25 participants the event has grown to 60 registered participants; regarding technical aspects, we've long left the kodachromes of our first years and switched to presentations and whole slide images. The glass slide microscopy workshops we've been preserving, though. Unfortunately, due to Corona-caused restrictions 2019 has been our last presential meeting in this format.

In the course of the pandemic we all have acquired some proficiency with video conference systems, so we've been taking our tutorial to a virtual format. Though we feel the limitations of an online meeting in comparison to a presential meeting, the participants adapted easily to the digital format.

This year twelve speakers from Germany and from Portugal, Poland, USA, Austria and Italy offered an interesting, varied program treating effusion cytology, lung cytology, cytology of head & neck lesions and of the pancreas. The key note lecture on mesothelioma was given by Dr. Claire Michael from Cleveland/Ohio and was one of the highlights of the meeting. A special talk was given by Dr. Achim Rittmeyer, a pneumologist from Immenhausen/Germany, speaking on cytological diagnostics in medical emergencies. Lectures were alternating with microscopy sessions. Relevant slides were demonstrated using whole slide images; in addition the participants were encouraged to access the whole slide images on their own computers using a web portal. The University Hospital Cologne has implemented several years ago a platform for virtual microscopy for student teaching. This proved to be most useful for our tutorial.

As we expect Corona-associated problems to persist during the next years, we plan to shift the tutorial - which up to now has been held in early spring - into late spring or early summer. Hopefully the next Cologne Cytology Tutorial will be a presential meeting. The large and well-equipped microscopy hall in our institution is waiting for you!

Marianne Engels



Figure 1. Microscopy Hall in Cologne



Case Challenges!

Case Challenges!

1

47 years old female presented with 1.6cm hypervascular nodule in thyroid gland. Ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration was performed. The material was fixed in 50% alcohol and stained with Papanicolaou stain.

Fig. 1

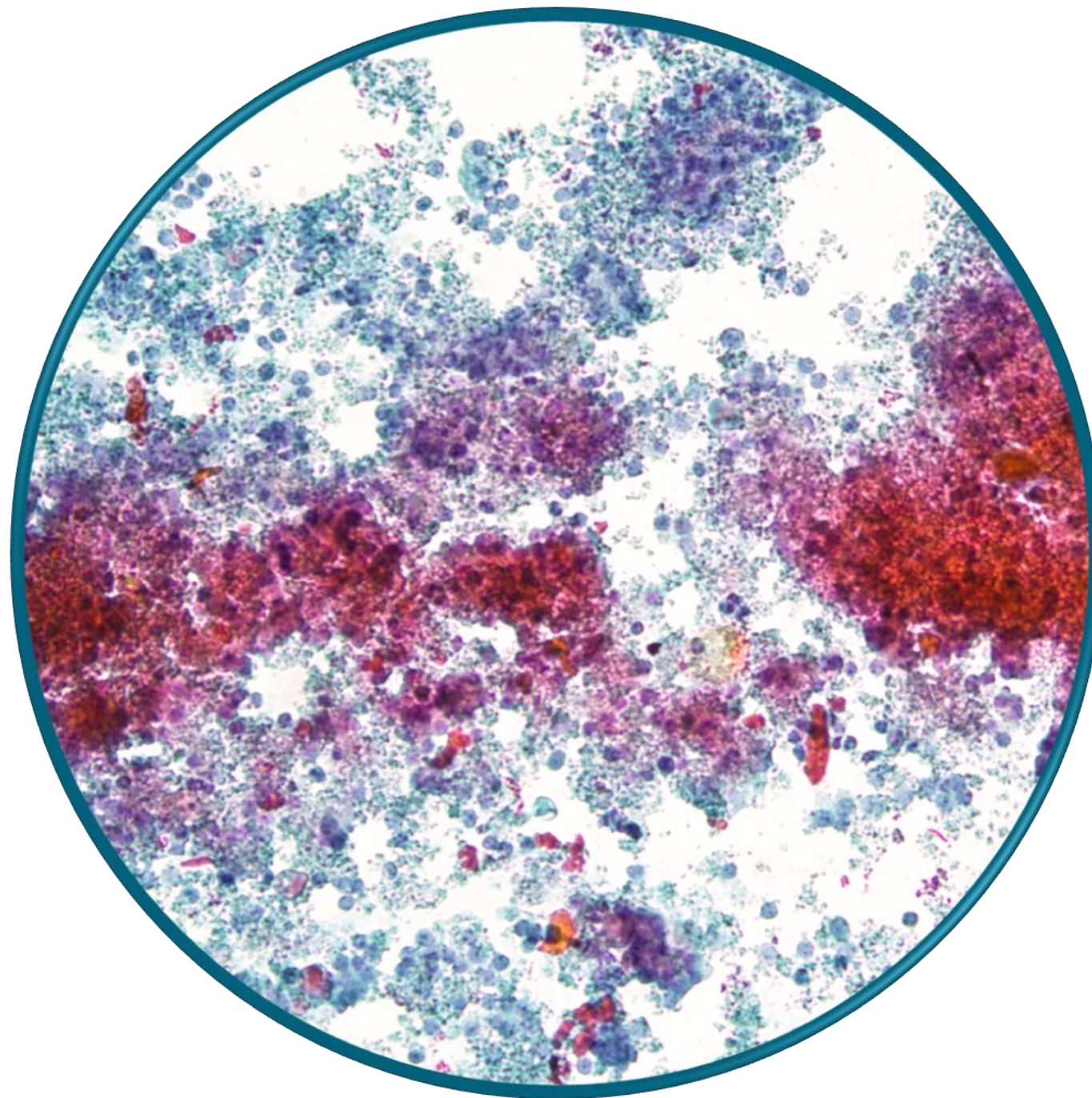
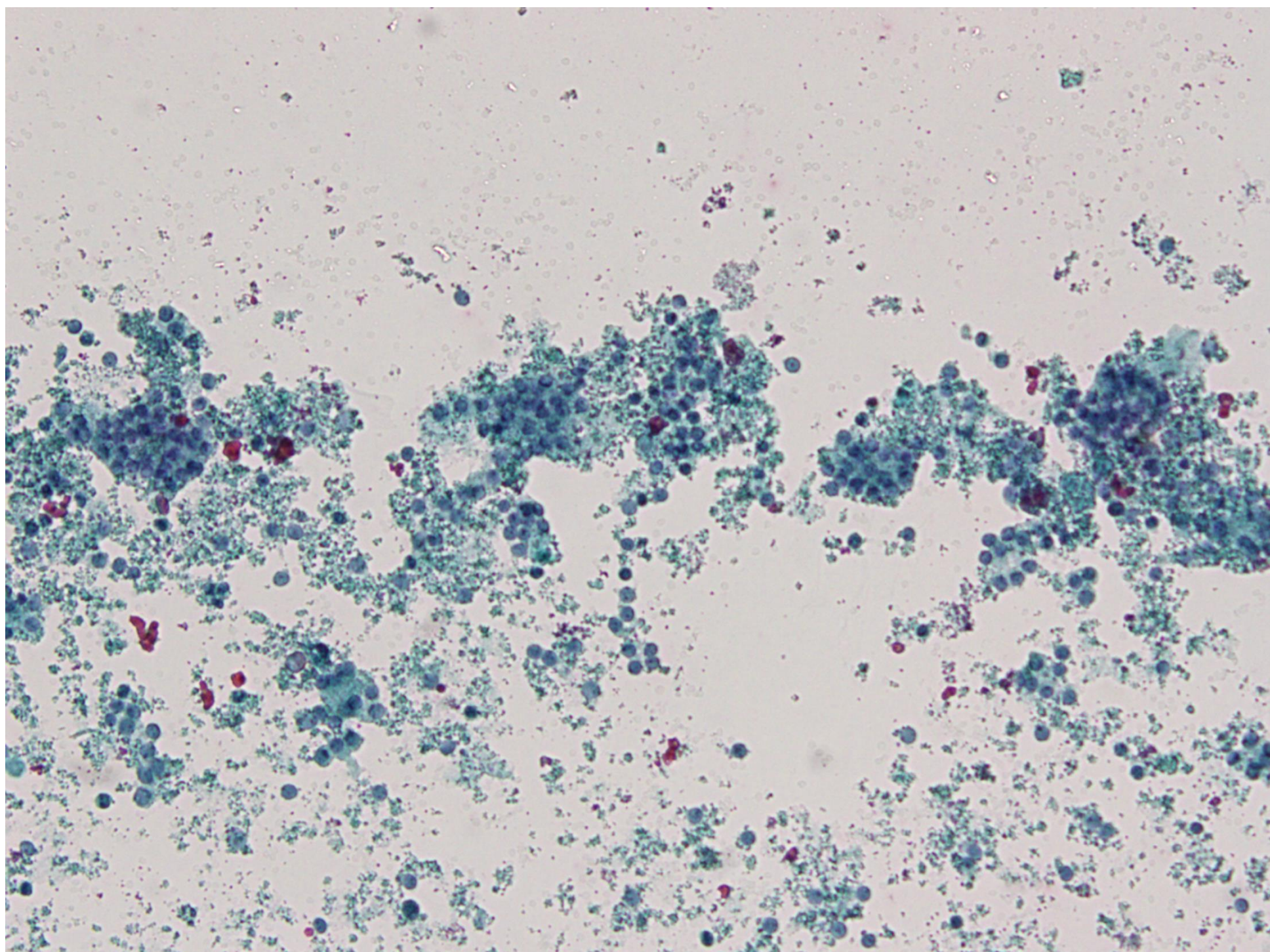


Fig. 2



Case Challenges!

(Answer on the next page!)

1

Fig. 3

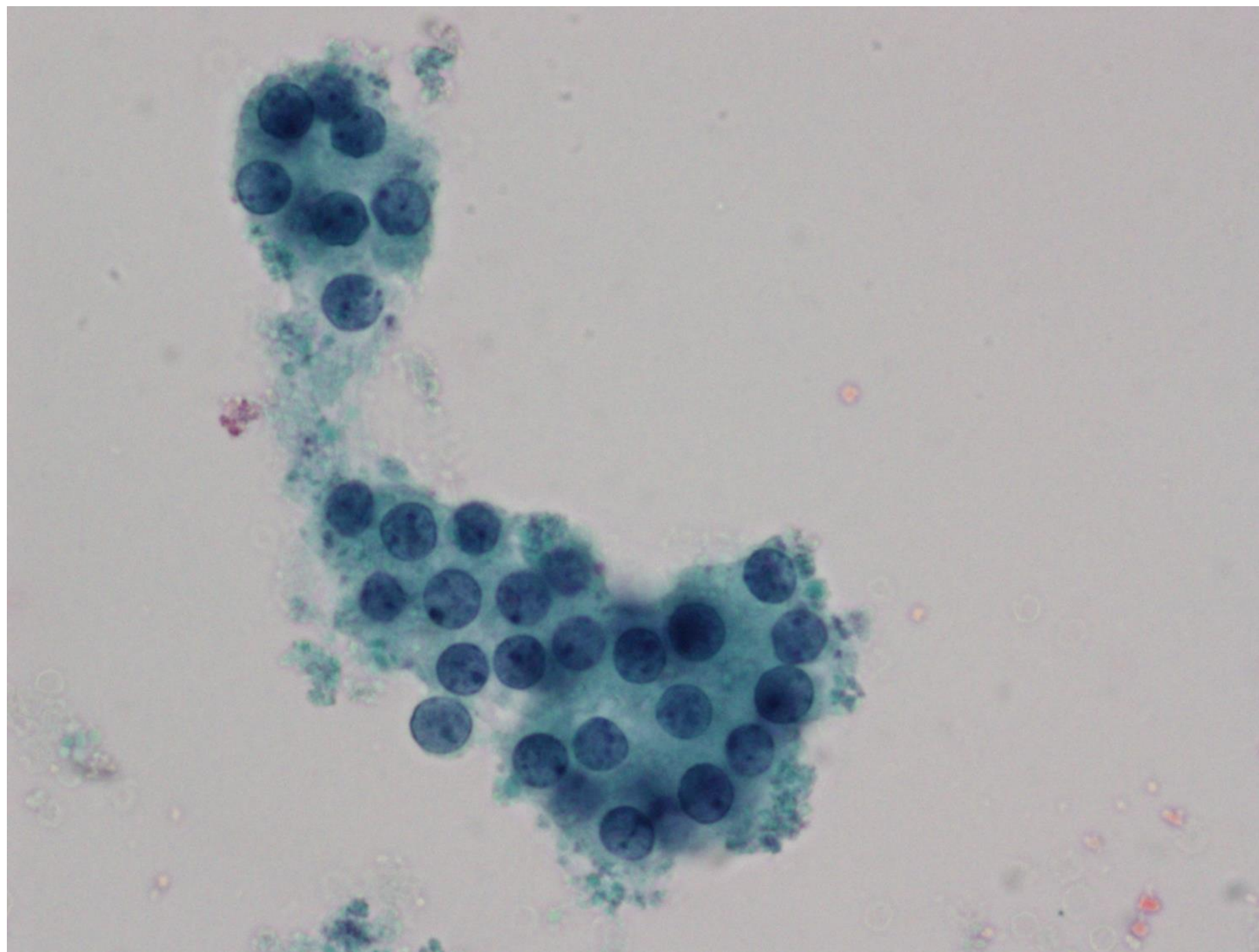
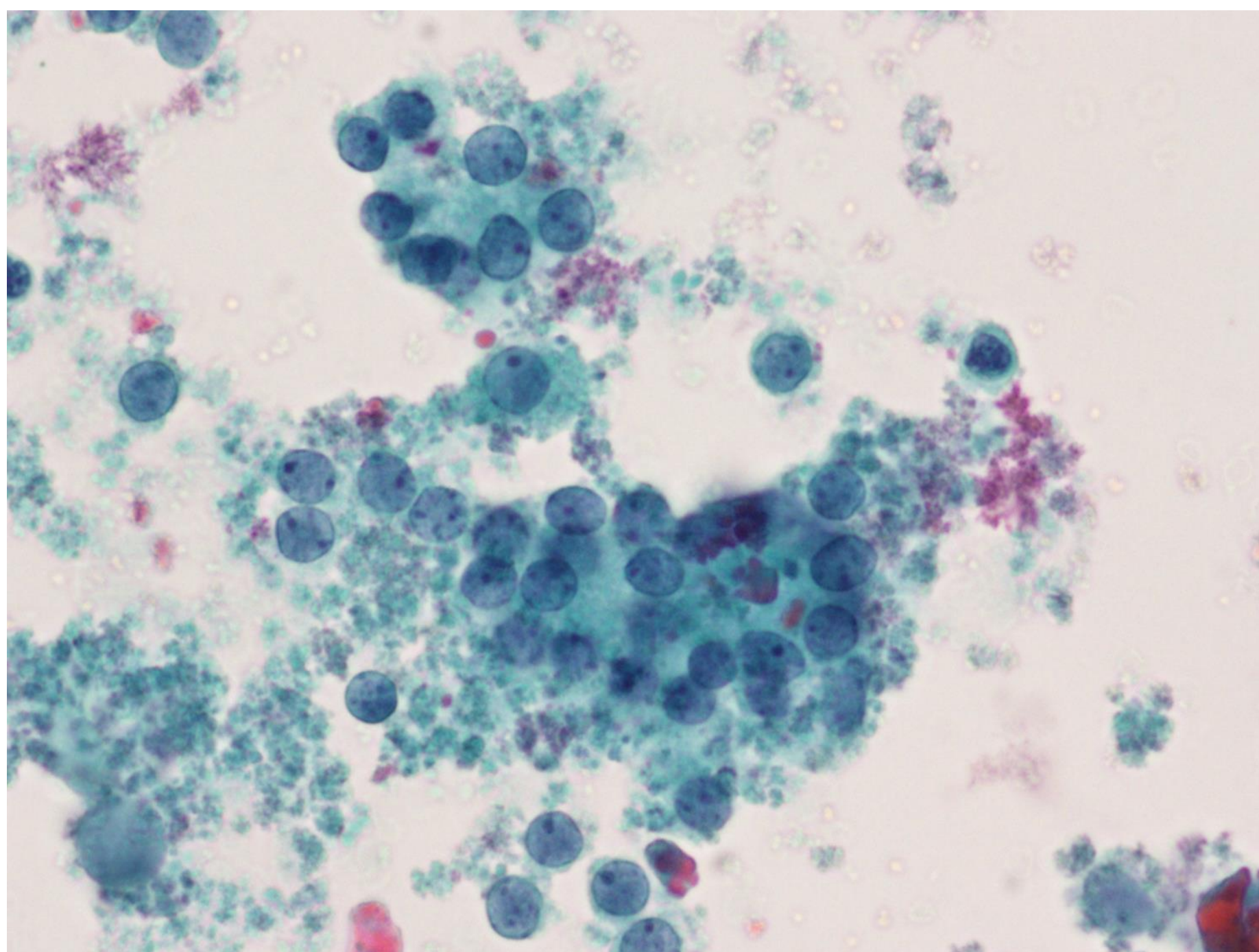


Fig. 4



Questions

- Describe what you see.
- What Bethesda diagnostic category is the most suitable for the case?

ANSWERS

1

47 years old female presented with 1.6cm hypervascular nodule in thyroid gland. Ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration was performed. The material was fixed in 50% alcohol and stained with Papanicolaou stain.

a) *Describe what you see.*

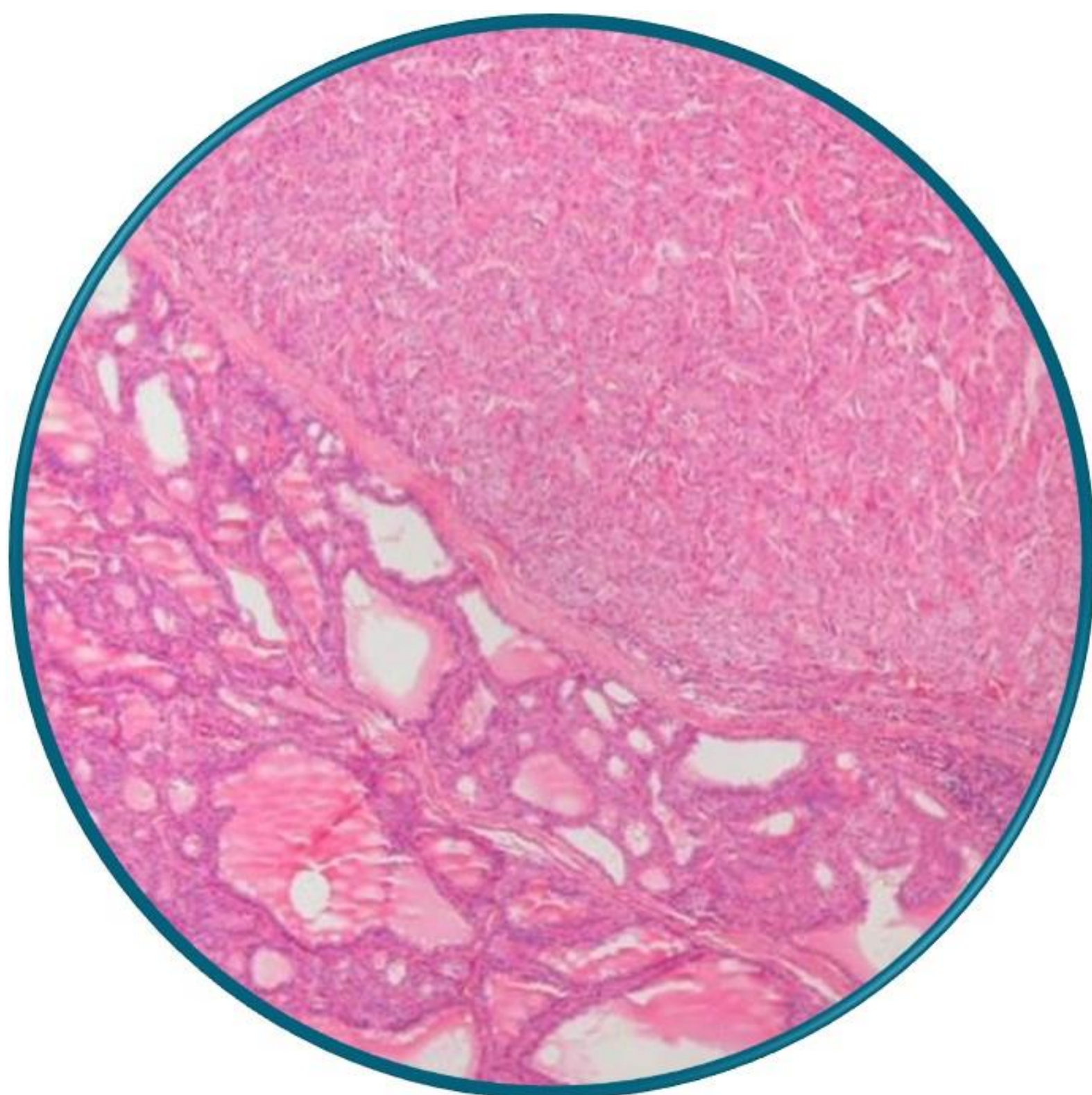
- ☐ Hypercellular smear
- ☐ Low/mild cohesiveness of follicular cells
- ☐ Microfollicular (rosettes)/trabecular formations
- ☐ Condensed colloid in the centre of follicles
- ☐ Minimal colloid on the background
- ☐ Variable nuclear anisomorphia

b) *What Bethesda diagnostic category is the most suitable for the case?*

Follicular Neoplasm Bethesda diagnostic category

Histological verification after lobectomy revealed follicular adenoma (Fig. 5). Cytologically, follicular proliferation, follicular adenoma and follicular carcinoma are indistinguishable.

Fig. 5



Case Challenges!

2

Male patient, 86 years, TBNA LN 7.

History: Central mass lesion in the lung, suspicious for lung carcinoma.

Fig. 1 (MGG, 20x), Fig. 2 (MGG, 40x), Fig. 3 (MGG, 40x), Fig. 4 (TTF1, 40x)

Fig. 1

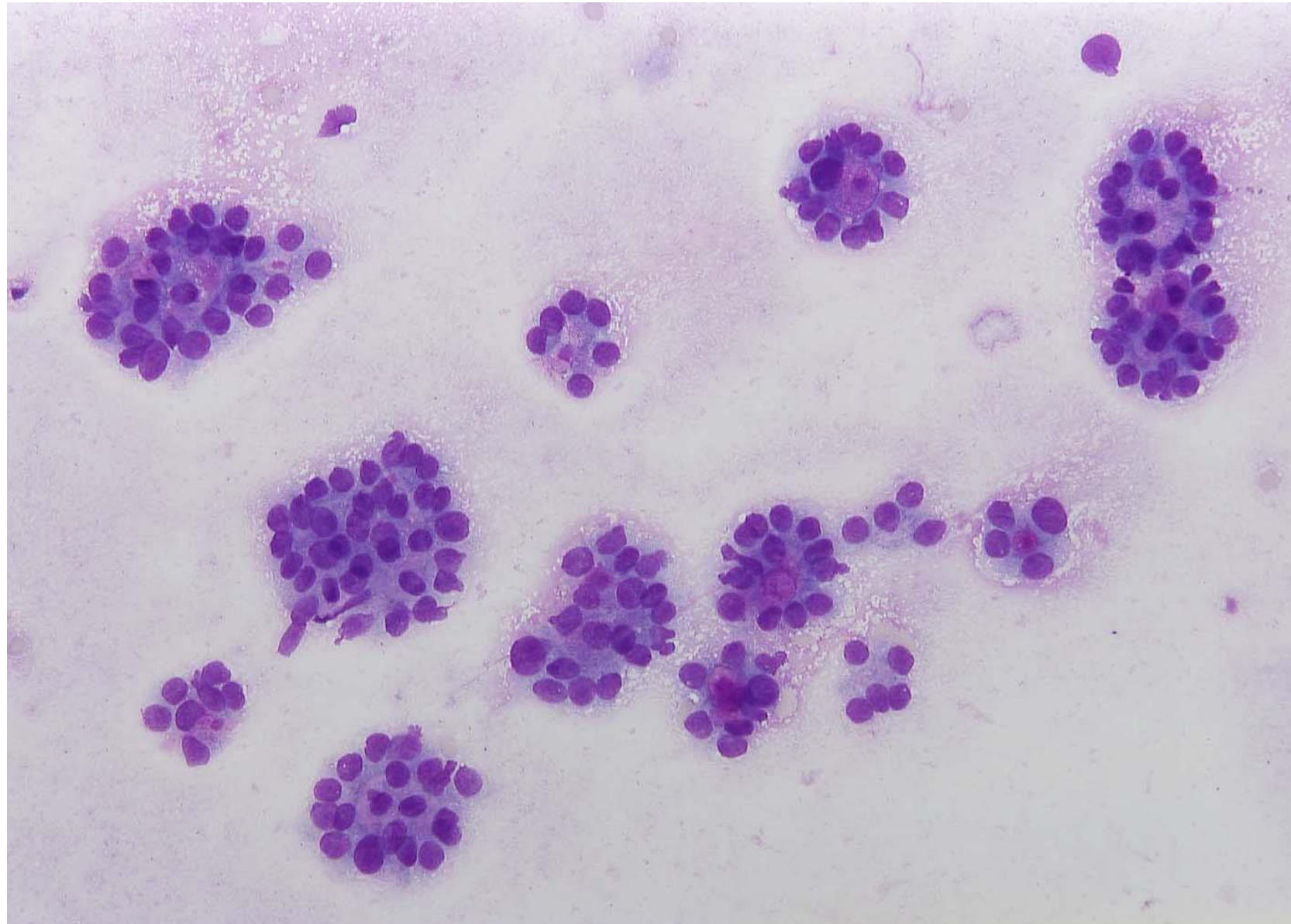
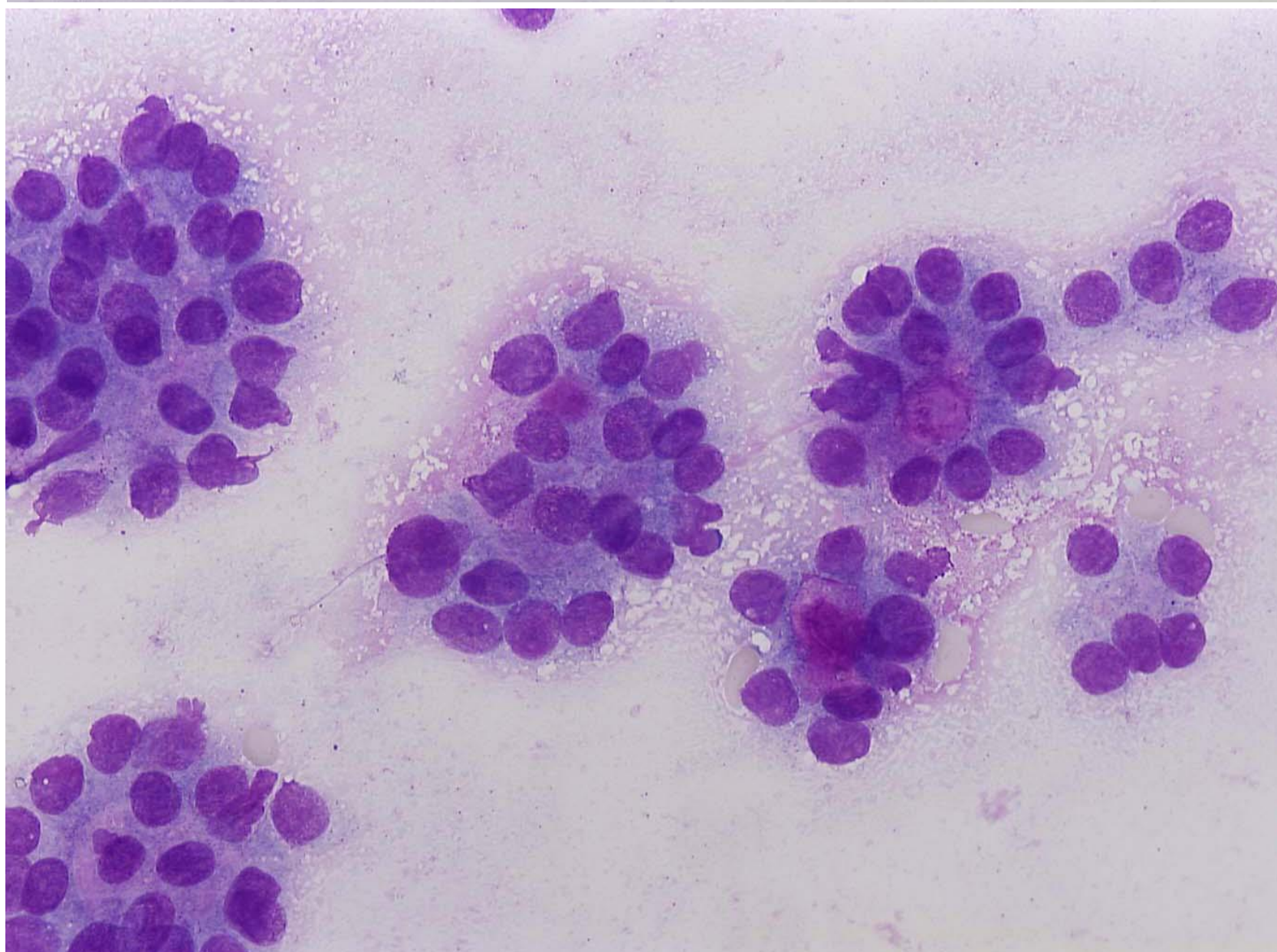


Fig. 2



Questions

- Describe what you see.
- What does it represent?
- What is its significance?

Case Challenges!

(Answers on the next page!)

2

Male patient, 86 years, TBNA LN 7.

History: Central mass lesion in the lung, suspicious for lung carcinoma.

Fig. 1 (MGG, 20x), Fig. 2 (MGG, 40x), Fig. 3 (MGG, 40x), Fig. 4 (TTF1, 40x)

Fig. 3

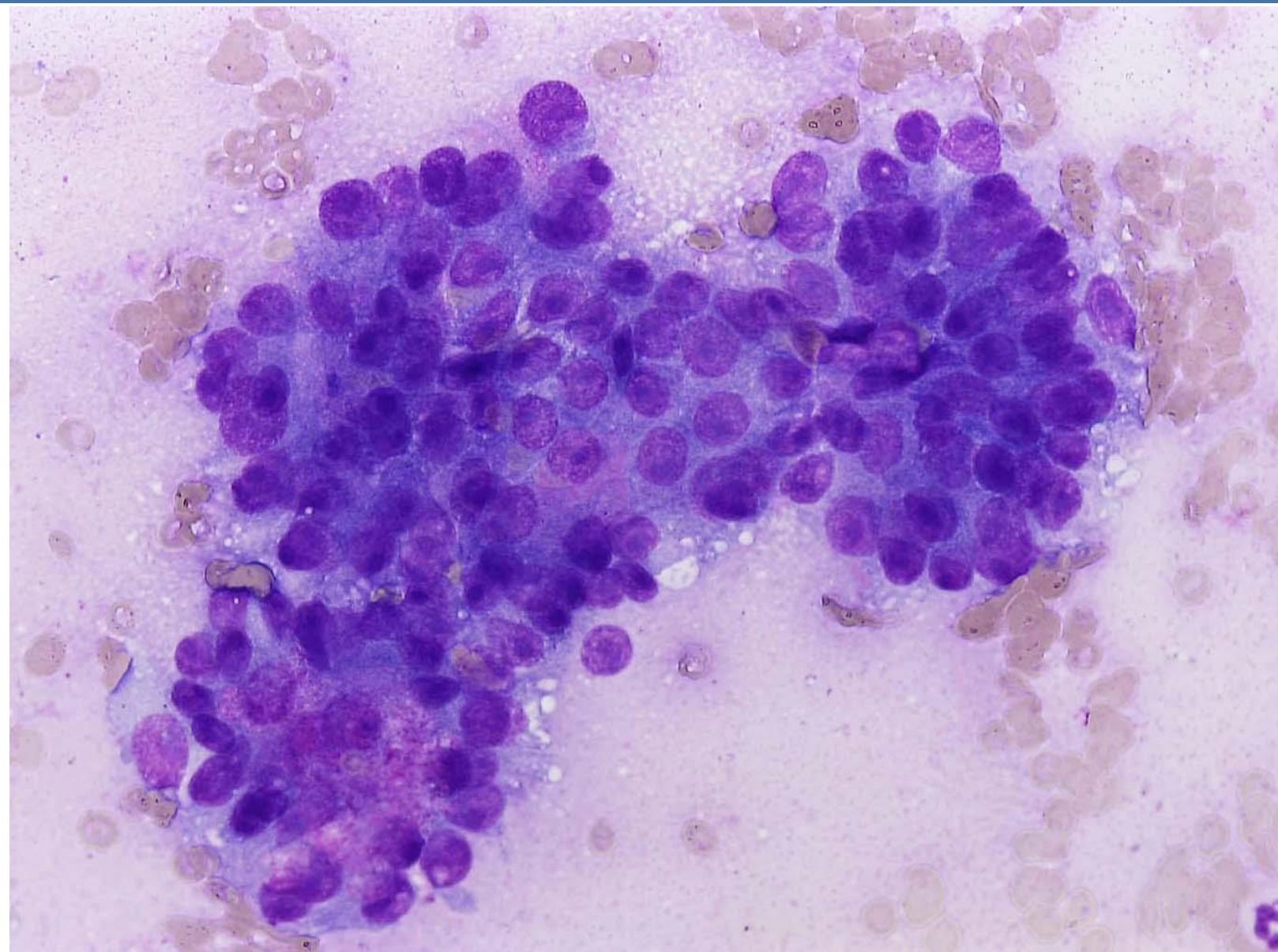
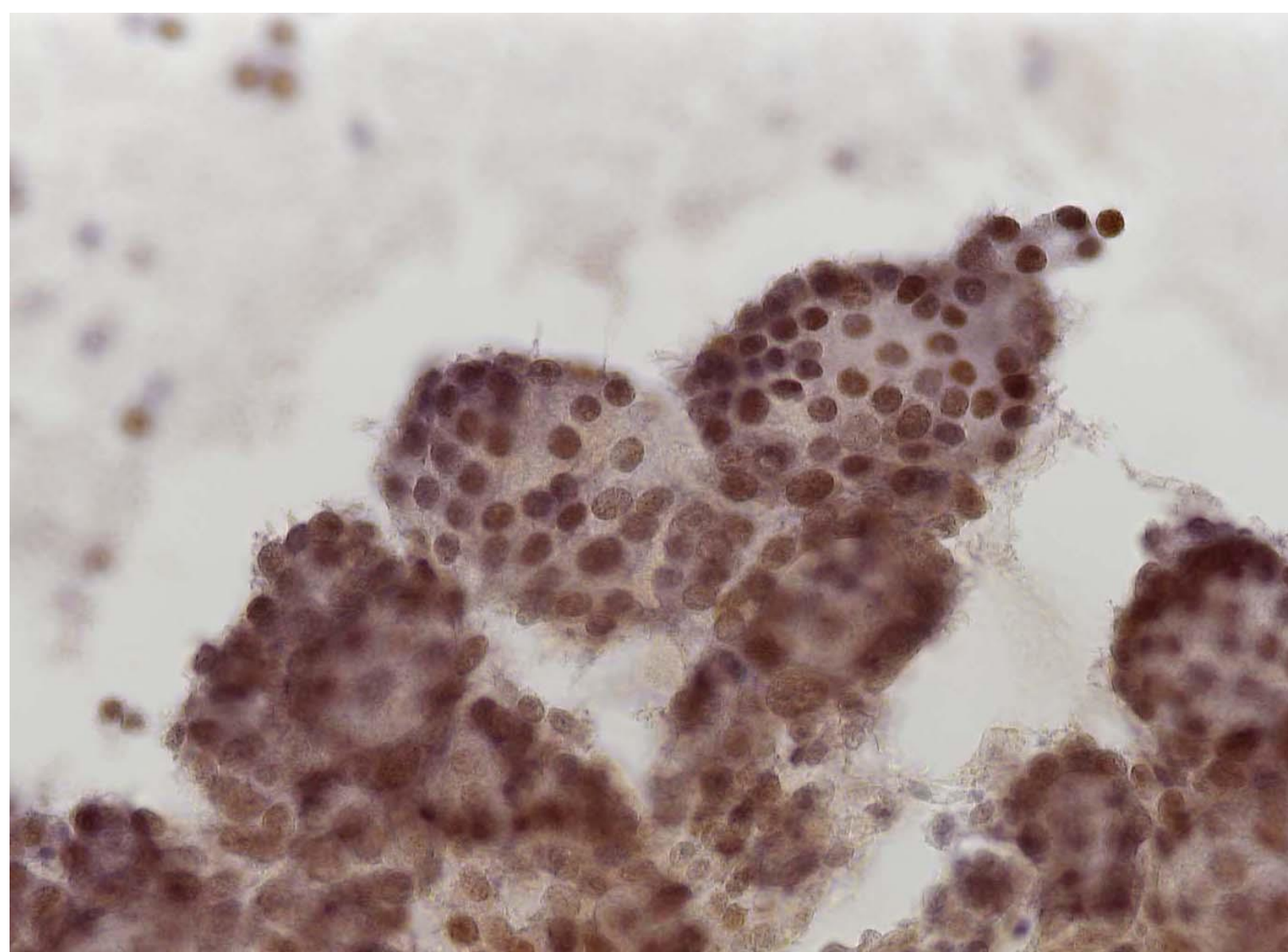


Fig. 4



Questions

- Describe what you see.
- What does it represent?
- What is its significance?

ANSWERS

2

Male patient, 86 years, TBNA LN 7.

History: Central mass lesion in the lung, suspicious for lung carcinoma.

Fig. 5 (thyreoglobulin, 40x).

a) *Describe what you see*

Atypical cells with large, hyperchromatic nuclei, some macronucleoli. Arrangement in dense clusters or acinar groups. Some amorphous red material. Cells are positive for TTF1.

b) *What does it represent?*

Solid malignant tumor, TTF1-positive, consistent with pulmonary adenocarcinoma.

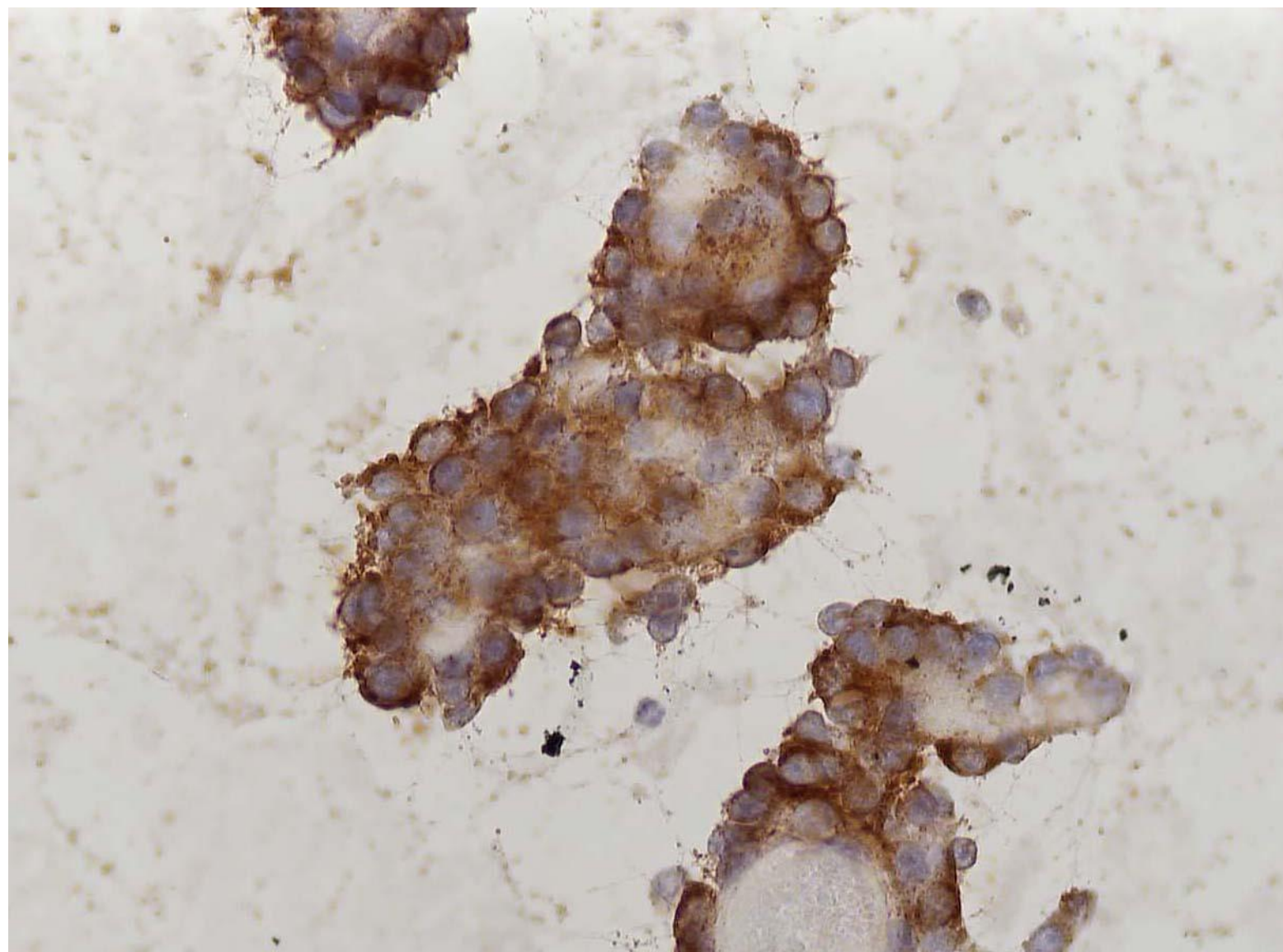
c) *What is its significance?*

Differential diagnosis includes metastatic disease of an extrapulmonary primary. This patient had a history of follicular carcinoma of the thyroid. The tumor cells are positive for thyreoglobulin.

Final diagnosis: Metastasis of follicular thyroid carcinoma.

Comment: Pulmonary metastasis is occurring three times as often as lung cancer. Not every tumor in the lung is a lung tumor, and not every TTF1-positive adenocarcinoma is a pulmonary adenocarcinoma. In any case of adenocarcinoma in the lung, the history should be checked for another primary. If another primary is known, further diagnostic is needed, because treatment options are very different in pulmonary adenocarcinoma and in lung metastasis. In pulmonary carcinoma further molecular diagnostics would be considered to search for driver mutations and eventually planning targeted therapy, in lung metastasis surgery for metastasectomy might be indicated in some cases.

Fig. 5



CYTOLOGY IN SLOVENIA ... YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW ... **A report from the meeting of the Slovenian Society of** **Cytopathology celebrating the 90th birthday of** **Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec, MD, PhD.**

It was a warm spring day in May when, after more than two years of merely interacting online due to the Covid-19 pandemic, members of the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology were finally able to meet face to face, this time in the Škocjan Bay, a nature reserve near Koper.



Picture 1. Škocjan bay

The Škocjan bay represents the remains of the sea that once surrounded the town. It used to be a sea bay which was then slowly filled by the rivers Badaševica and Rižana, thus creating the largest brack water wetland in Slovenia. With its unique and exceptional diversity of plant and animal species famed among bird watchers, and its coastal location, the bay was more than suitable for our festive reunion, which was dedicated to Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec, MD, PhD, and the memorable jubilee in her life; in November 2021, she celebrated her 90th birthday.

After a pleasant introductory speech given by the President of the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology, Vivijana Snoj, MD, it was Prof. Margareta Strojani Fležar, MD, PhD, the vice-president of the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology, who, with extraordinary sensitivity and deep respect for her former mentor, presented the rich body of life-time work and achievements of Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec, both at home and abroad. Her carefully selected words illustrated their respectful and fruitful relationship, which is characterised not only by writing scientific articles together, but also by the transfer of the plentiful professional experience that Prof. Us-Krašovec still holds in abundance. "My teacher of life," she called her.

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CYTOLOGY IN SLOVENIA ... YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW ...

A report from the meeting of the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology celebrating the 90th birthday of Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec, MD, PhD.

In her speech, Prof. Margareta Strojan Fležar, emphasised the fact that Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec is synonymous with the very beginning of Slovenian cytopathology, including its development and additional diagnostic methods abroad as well. In 2005, she received the Goldblatt Prize for outstanding achievement and contribution to the development of cytopathology from the International Academy of Cytology (IAC). In their justification of the prestigious award for Prof. Us-Krašovec, members of the international commission did not overlook, among many other things, her accomplishments in the development of fine needle aspiration biopsy in Slovenia and abroad, the merits for her outstanding contribution to scientific literature and the selfless sharing of her ample knowledge and experience in the process of educating young physicians.

YESTERDAY...

In her presentation, Ana Pogačnik, MD, PhD, took us back to the very beginnings of the development of cytology in Slovenia, as witnessed by our celebrator, Prof. Us-Krašovec. The beginnings of cervical cytology date back to the period between 1951 and 1955, when the first cervical smears were examined at the Gynecology Clinic, the Institute of Oncology, the Celje General Hospital, the Maribor General Hospital, and the Kranj Gynecology and Obstetrics Hospital. In 1952, Prof. Božena Ravnihar, MD, PhD, established a cytology laboratory at the Institute of Oncology, where Prof. Us-Krašovec began working in 1959 and later acted as a very successful head of the laboratory for many years. Her arrival was characterised by the development of non-gynecological cytology and aspiration cytology. With the rapid development of cytology and at the initiative of the Institute of Oncology, the Gynecology Clinic and the Institute of Biology, all based in the Slovenian capital Ljubljana, the need to establish a professional association began to emerge. Thus, the Section for Cytology and Cytodiagnostics was established on December 5th 1964. Its core mission was to consolidate and disseminate the expertise of its members in various ways; by organising courses, seminars, symposia, workshops and congresses. The Section provided regular reports on the professional activities of other branches of medicine as well, and organised both regular and special meetings up to 7 times a year. Regular meetings were primarily held for the purpose of communicating organisational and professional content. At the meetings, the members provided reports on the work of individual laboratories, while also reporting on their participation in congresses abroad.

Picture 2: Prof. Marija Us- Krašovec, MD, PhD.



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CYTOLOGY IN SLOVENIA ... YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW ...

A report from the meeting of the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology celebrating the 90th birthday of Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec, MD, PhD.

In 1969, the Section for Cytology and Cytodiagnostics organised a symposium titled The First Cytological Days, which in fact represented a cytology congress for the entire region of former Yugoslavia, with a collection of proceedings published for the occasion. In 1972, the second cytology symposium was held, this time without printed proceedings.

In 1973, Prof. Us-Krašovec with the Section for Cytology and Cytodiagnostics saw to it that in the last year of specialisation in pathology, the field of cytopathology was added and in 1978 it became possible to choose cytopathology as an independent orientation in the last 12 months of specialisation in pathology. In 1990, an additional mandatory 4-month rotation in cytopathology was added to the pathology specialisation plan for all residents in order for them to become acquainted with cytopathology.

The Slovenian Section for Cytology and Cytodiagnostics also organised two European Cytology Congresses; the first one in 1974, and then in 1997 the 24th European Cytological Congress in Ljubljana.

Intersectional meetings were held between 1980 and 1990, especially in collaboration with the Croatian Society for Clinical Cytology. In 1992, the Slovenian Section of Cytology and Cytodiagnostics joined the European Federation of Cytology Societies (EFCS), and in 1998 the Section for Cytology and Cytodiagnostics was renamed the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology.

After the year 2000, local experts began organising cytology courses and workshops. In the years between 1995 and 2019, sixteen cytological workshops were organised in co-organisation with the Institute of Oncology, the Faculty of Medicine in Ljubljana and the Celje General Hospital, also inviting internationally recognised lecturers from abroad. One of the most high-profile events was held in 2015, namely the 8th Annual Tutorial in Cytopathology in Ljubljana in co-organisation with the EFCS, presented a course covering both gynecological and non-gynecological cytology, and organised the QUATE exam.

The EFCS tutorial chair was Prof. Luigi Di Bonito, MD, PhD, with hosts Prof. Margareta Strojan Fležar, MD, PhD, and Assist. Helena Gutnik, MD, PhD, from the Institute of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine in Ljubljana.

Dr. Ana Pogačnik has enriched her narrative of the history of cytology by displaying a number of photographs that evoked both recent and distant memories of events, people, places and anecdotes, which brought smiles to our faces while reminding us how the field of cytology has developed over time.

TODAY...

As an answer to the inquiry about the current state of Slovenian cytology, we listened to some recent contributions in the field of cytology, which were presented at the last European Cytology Congress in Wroclaw, Poland.

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CYTOLOGY IN SLOVENIA ... YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW ...

A report from the meeting of the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology celebrating the 90th birthday of Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec, MD, PhD.

In her presentation, Vivijana Snoj, MD, showed an interlaboratory comparison of the Milan System for reporting salivary gland cytopathology. Upon comparison of the two classifications (the currently established classification scheme in Slovenia contains 5 categories, while the Milan system contains 6 categories), it was found that the two are very similar and that a shift to the Milan system could easily be achieved by organising a workshop to unify the relevant cytological criteria and align the Slovenian method with the clinician's expectations.

The contribution was followed by a presentation of an interesting and extremely rare cytological case by Assist. Maja Kebe Radulović, MD, namely an EUS-guided fine needle aspiration of a tumour in the tail of the pancreas, which turned out to be a pheochromocytoma after close observation of the cytomorphological characteristics in conjunction with clinical data, imaging, and last but not least, various immunocytochemical/immunohistochemical methods; the cytological diagnosis was also confirmed histologically.

Irena Srebotnik Kirbiš, BSc, PhD, has prepared an interesting presentation on the challenges in immunocytochemistry including quality assessment and the triaging of samples obtained by EUS-guided fine needle aspiration to achieve the most optimal further processing.

I have concluded the official programme of the meeting with a contribution about cytology in Slovenia, specifically focusing on education. The Medical Chamber of Slovenia usually opens new residency positions for doctors twice a year (for individual providers, for the scope of the entire country and for a known contractor). A specialisation in pathology takes 5 years and consists of an "introductory part" which lasts 10 months, is based on autopsy activity and includes an introduction to biopsy work and histopathological techniques; and continues with a "focused part" lasting 38 months which covers predominantly biopsies from various organ systems and some autopsy pathology (31 months), cytopathology (4 months), forensic pathology, along with toxicology, deontology and expertise (3 months). The final year consists of "in-depth orientation" which includes the choice of one of five available programmes (surgical pathology, internal medicine pathology, neuropathology, cytopathology, or forensic pathology). In order to work in cytopathology, one must devote the last year of their specialisation to the field of cytopathology, which is appropriately divided according to specific areas of cytopathology and defined by the approximate number of examined biopsies and the number of performed fine needle aspiration biopsies.

I continued by presenting the course of education in cytopathology at the Institute of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ljubljana, where I am employed, and concluded with a realistic overlook of the current situation in the field of cytopathology in Slovenia, namely, the shortage of cytopathologists, adding a touch of optimism for the future.

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CYTOLOGY IN SLOVENIA ... YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW ...

A report from the meeting of the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology celebrating the 90th birthday of Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec, MD, PhD.

Picture 3. A meeting of members of the Slovenian Society of Cytopathology on May 20th 2022 in the Škocjan bay Nature Reserve on the 90th birthday of Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec, MD, PhD. (Photo by Vivijana Snoj, MD)



TOMORROW ...

A discussion was held on ways to attract young people to the world of cytopathology, on possible reasons why young pathology residents in Slovenia tend to not choose cytopathology and on our personal role in the process of improving the current situation.

In my humble opinion: "Each of us has a duty to strive each day to become an example to the younger generation in terms of knowledge, along with respectful interpersonal relationships, in a constant pursuit of their own development.,,"

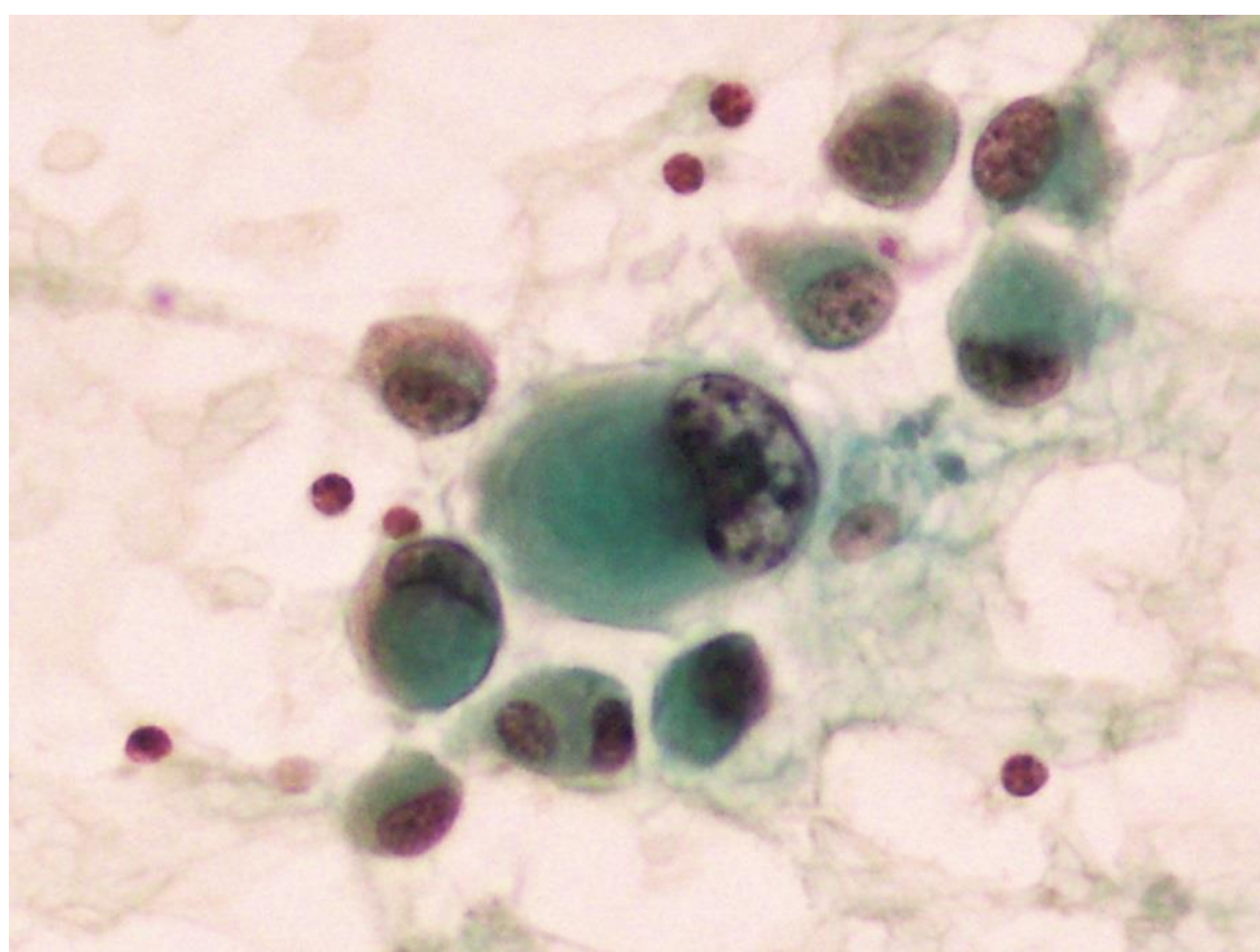
We have concluded the meeting in the pleasant company of Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec and a guided tour of the Škocjan Bay Nature Reserve. A sincere smile on the face of Prof. Marija Us-Krašovec and her bright eyes gazing into the sky have left us all reassured that the field of cytopathology in Slovenia is evolving in the right direction.

Damjana Cimerman
Residents and Young Pathologists Committee

Trivial Facts of Cytopathology

Did you know that the term “cell” was first used by Robert Hooke (1635–1703) in an attempt to describe the basic units that consisted of a piece of cork?! To latter on, in 1851, the pathologist Herbert Lebert, describe the first characteristics of cancer cells by meticulous annotations of the increased nuclear-cytoplasmatic ratio of the malignant cells in unstained preparations!

Find out more in this amazing article by Diamantis A, Beloukas A, Kalogeraki A, Magiorkinis E, A brief chronicle of Cytology: from Janssen to Papanicolaou and beyond, Diagnostic Cytopathology, DOI: 10.1002/dc.22887.



Thank you for your time!

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