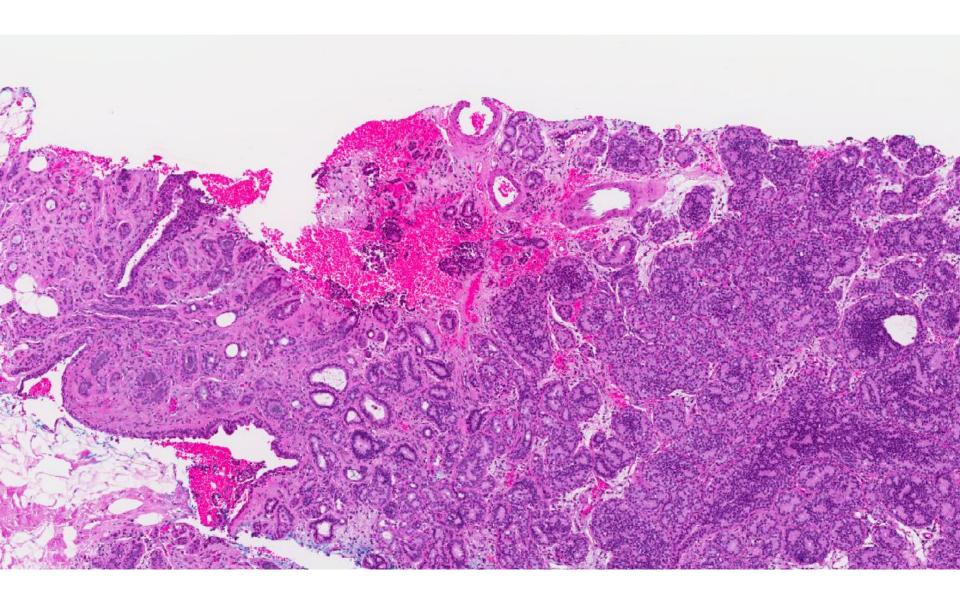
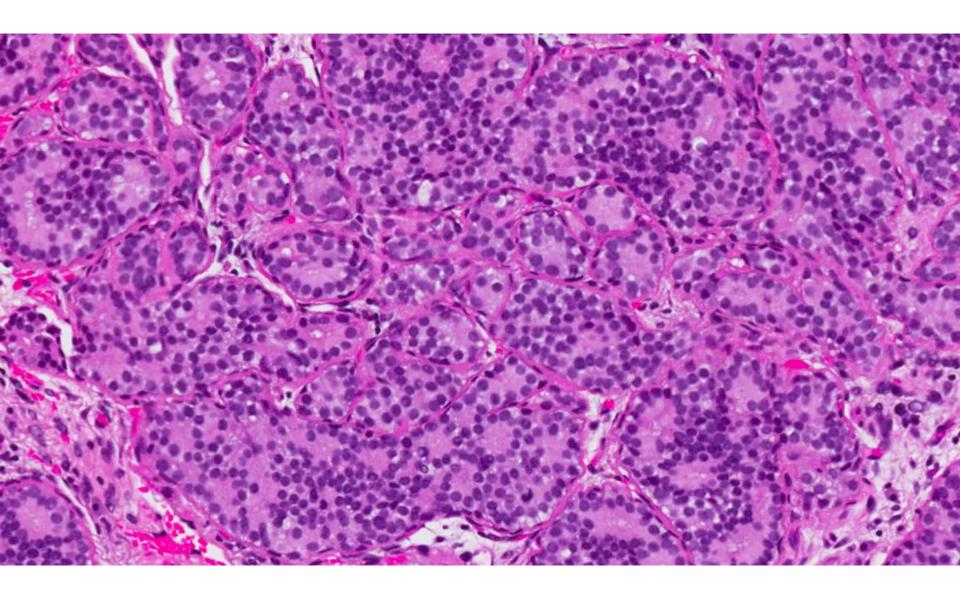
#### Case 14

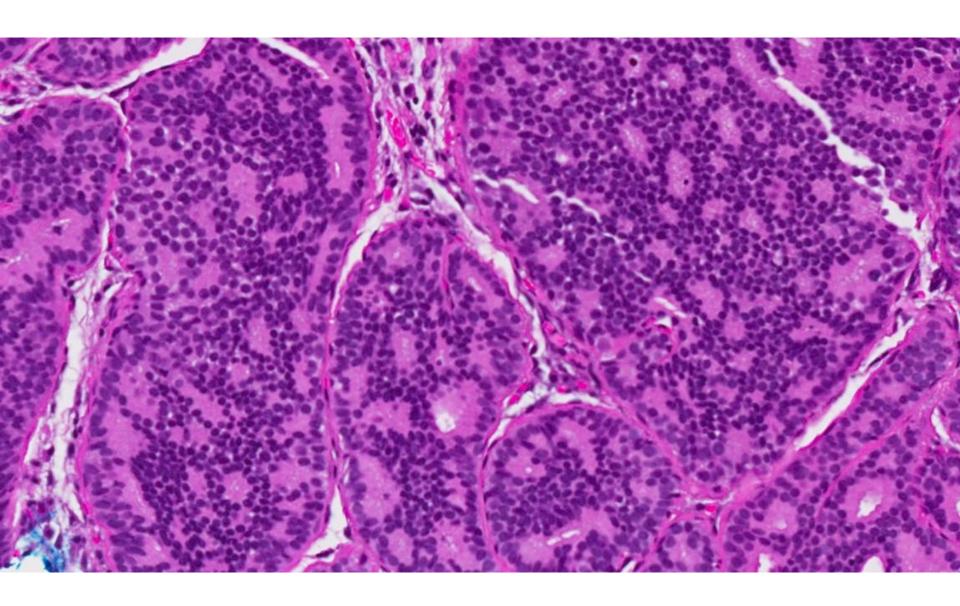
49 year old Chinese lady was discovered to have a left breast LIQ nodule on screening mammography.

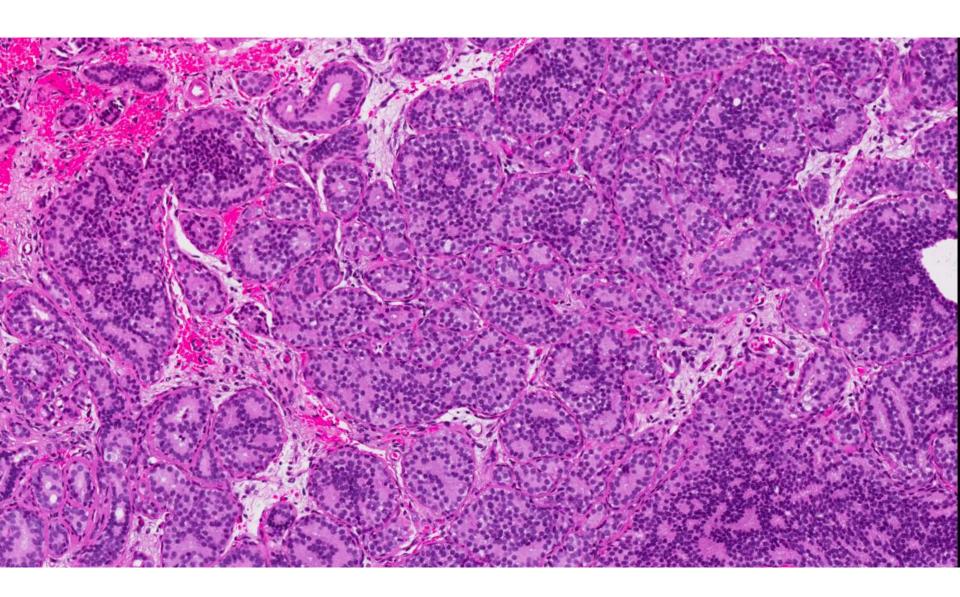
An ultrasound guided trucut biopsy was performed.

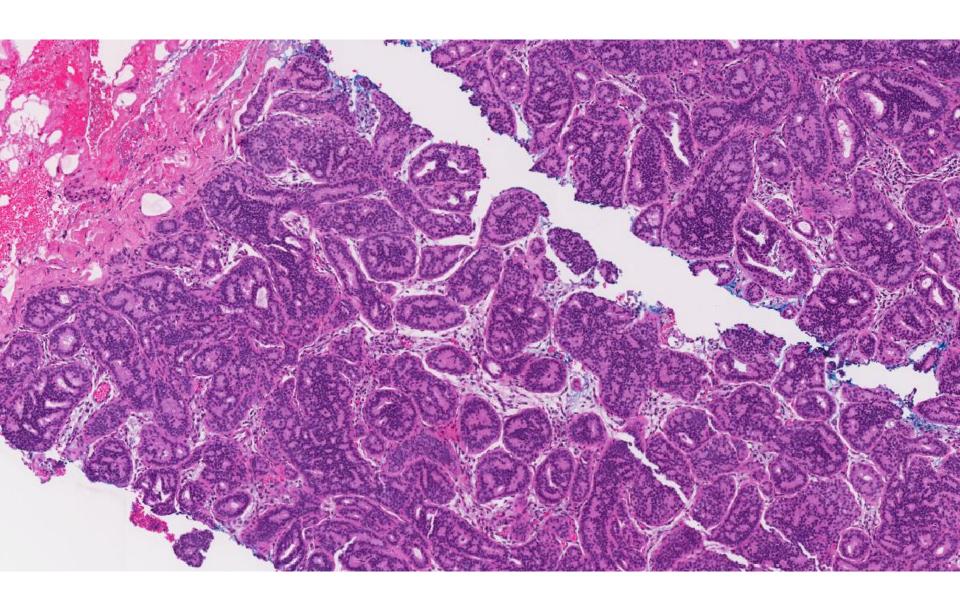


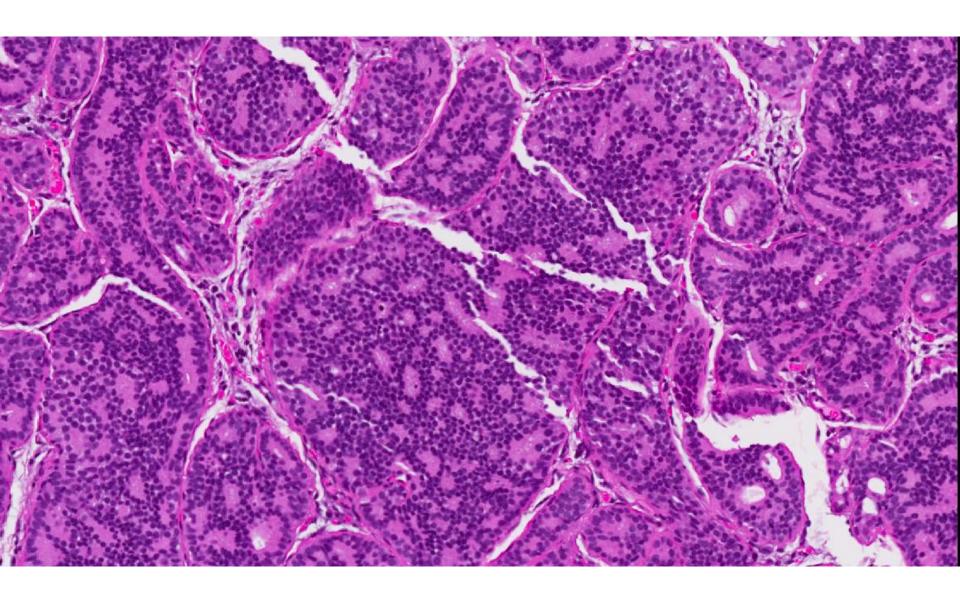












#### Diagnosis

Ductal carcinoma in situ, low nuclear grade, cribriform pattern, without necrosis, superimposed on adenosis

# Ductal carcinoma in situ: classification & grading

- No universal agreement.
- Move away from architectural system:
  - Comedo, solid, cribriform, papillary, micropapillary.
- Nuclear grade.
- Nuclear grade with necrosis and/or cell polarisation.
- Consensus for nuclear grade.

## Ductal carcinoma in situ: nuclear grading scheme

- 3 tiers: low, intermediate, high.
- Heterogeneity may be seen.
- Low and high grade usually not observed together.
- Low and high grade DCIS are likely distinct diseases.

#### Ductal carcinoma in situ:

#### what to include in the pathology report

- Nuclear grade.
- Presence and type of necrosis (punctate, comedo).
- Architectural pattern(s).
- Cell polarization.
- Size/extent of the lesion.
- Location of calcifications:
  - DCIS alone.
  - In benign tissue alone.
  - Both DCIS and benign breast tissue.
- Status of surgical margins.

### Low nuclear grade DCIS

- Small, monomorphic cells with uniform nuclei, regular chromatin, inconspicuous nucleoli.
- Rare mitoses.
- Arcades, micropapillae, cribriform or solid patterns.
- Solid pattern may show microacini in which cells are polarized around small extra-cellular lumina in a rosette-type arrangement.
- Microcalcifications are often of the psammomatous type.
- Necrosis is uncommon.
- Micropapillary pattern may be associated with more extensive disease with multiquadrant involvement.

#### Intermediate nuclear grade DCIS

- Cells with mild to moderate variability in size, shape and placement.
- Variably coarse chromatin, variably prominent nucleoli.
- Cell polarization not as well-developed as in low-nucleargrade DCIS.
- Mitoses may be present.
- Punctate or comedo necrosis may be present.
- Amorphous or laminated microcalcifications similar to that of low-nuclear-grade DCIS, or of both low-grade and high-grade DCIS.

### High nuclear grade DCIS

- Highly atypical cells in solid, cribriform or micropapillary patterns.
- Nuclei are pleomorphic, poorly polarized, with irregular contours and distribution.
- Coarse, clumped chromatin and prominent nucleoli.
- Mitotic figures common.
- Comedo necrosis frequent.
- Amorphous microcalcifications.

### Ductal carcinoma in situ: *unusual* variants

- Apocrine.
- Signet ring.
- Neuroendocrine.
- Spindled.
- Squamous.
- Clear cell.

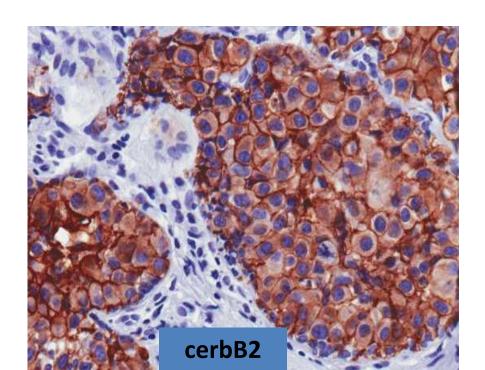
Grade according to nuclear features and necrosis.

### Ductal carcinoma in situ: ER and PR

- Adjuvant tamoxifen significantly reduces ipsilateral risk of DCIS recurrence and/or progression to invasive breast cancer by about 50% in patients treated with lumpectomy and radiation.
- Benefit is restricted to patients with ER-positive disease.
- Similar reduction for contralateral breast cancer.
- Results for PR similar, but less significant.
- Controversial whether routine PR testing in DCIS is necessary.

## Ductal carcinoma in situ: *HER2*

- HER2 overexpression is more common in high-grade DCIS than in invasive breast cancer.
- No clinical indication for HER2 assessment in DCIS.



# Ductal carcinoma in situ: clinical course and prognosis

- Clinical, pathological, molecular data indicate that DCIS is a precursor, albeit not obligate, to invasive breast cancer.
- Radiographic-pathological correlation studies show that DCIS is in most cases confined to a single segment or ductal-lobular system.
- Involvement of the segment may be extensive and "skipped" areas may occur, especially in low nuclear grade DCIS.

# Ductal carcinoma in situ: clinical course and prognosis

- Increased risk of local recurrence and/or progression to invasive cancer:
  - Young age.
  - Larger lesion size.
  - High nuclear grade.
  - Comedo necrosis.
  - Positive margin status.