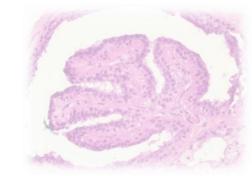
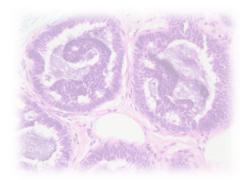


### Case 18

66 year old Chinese female. Left breast lump, excision biopsy. Core biopsy diagnosis was indeterminate.



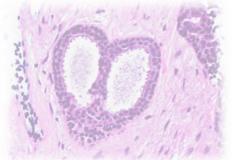


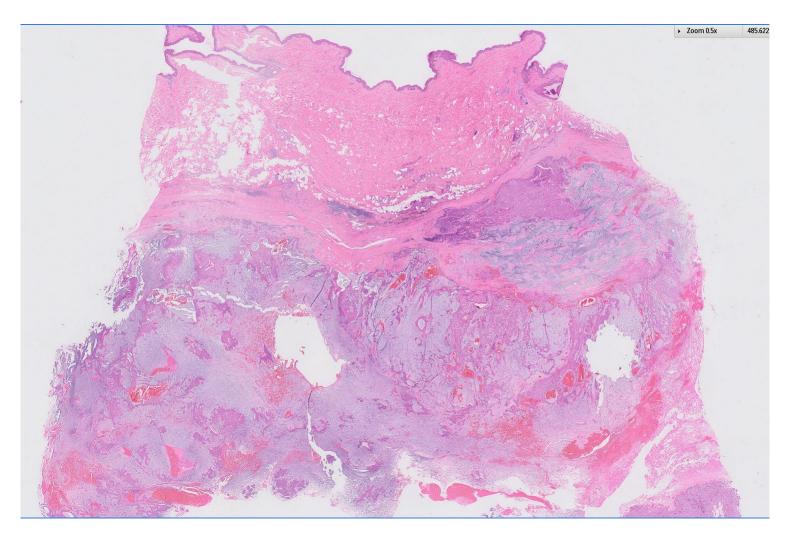








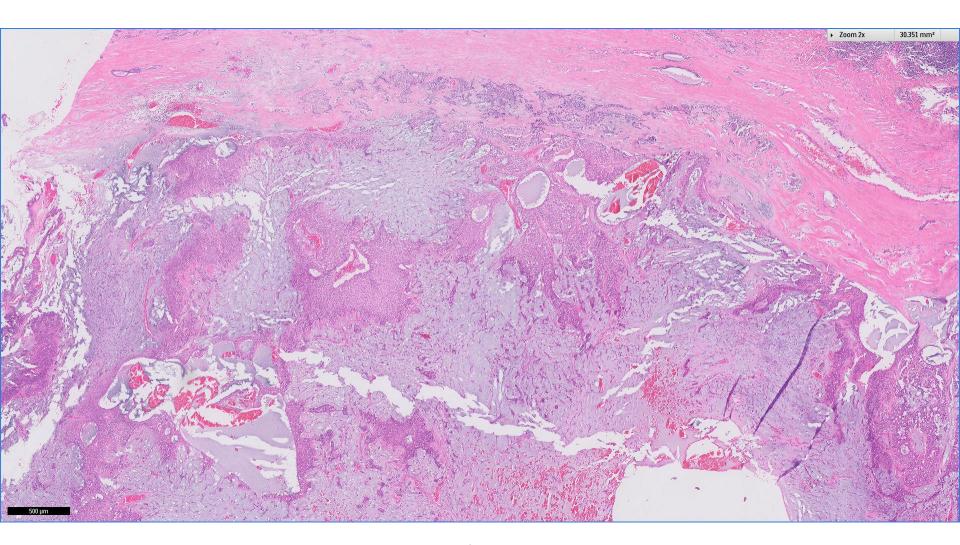








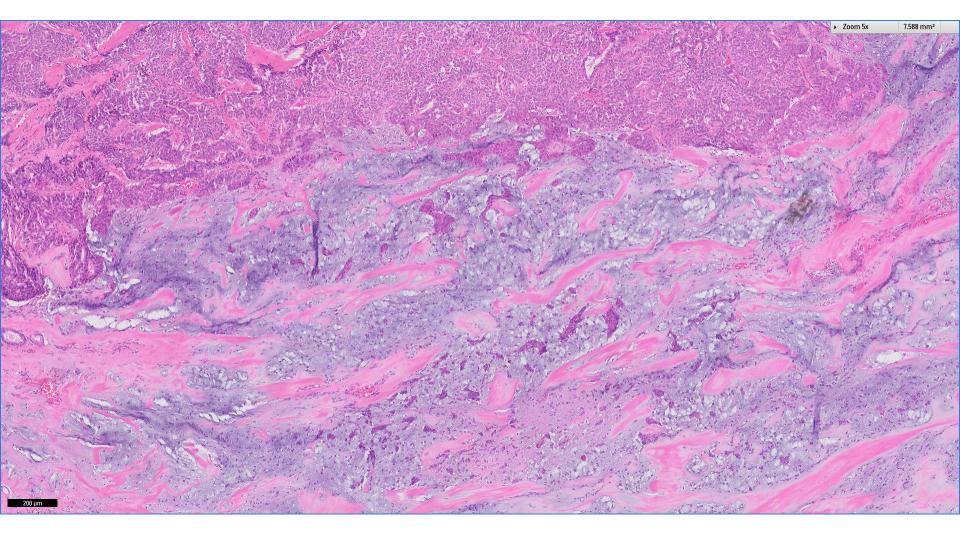








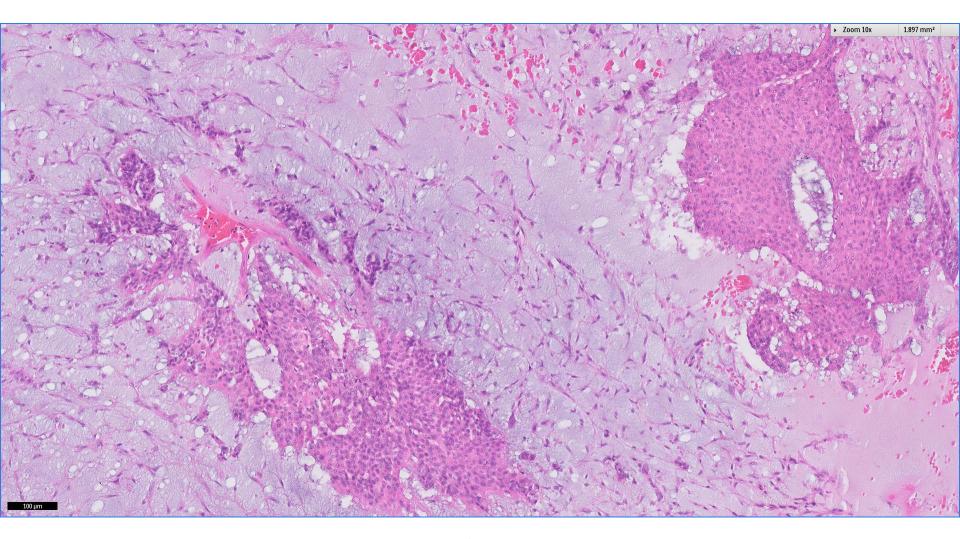








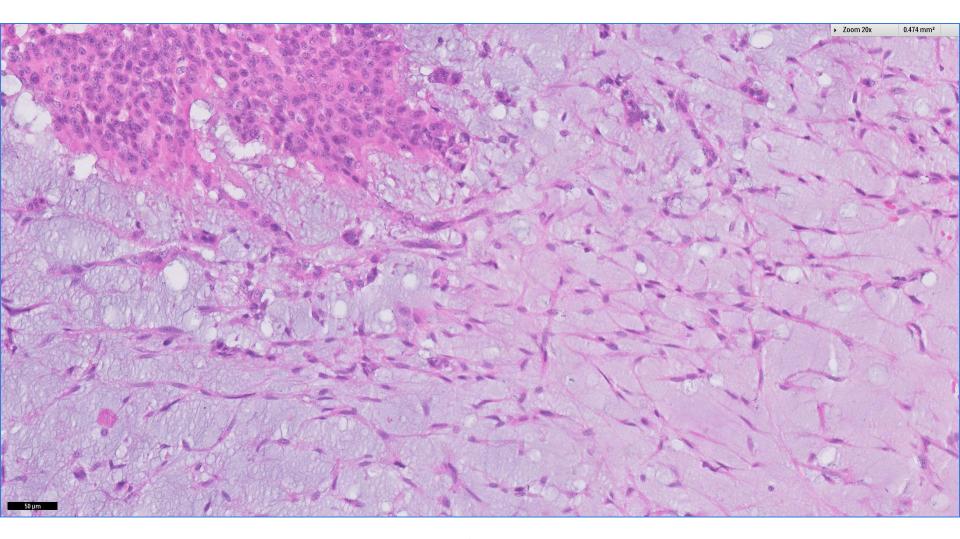














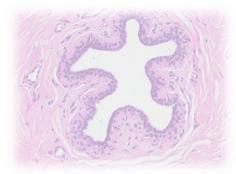


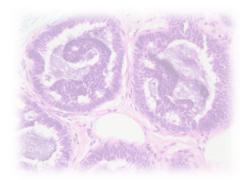


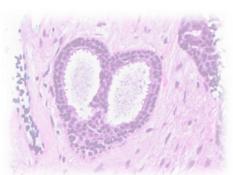
# Diagnosis, case 18

Left breast lump, excision biopsy:
Consistent with pleomorphic adenoma.















### Pleomorphic adenoma ~ definition

 Benign tumour with variable cytomorphological and architectural manifestations of epithelial and myoepithelial components set within a chondromyxoid stroma.









### Localisation ~

Usually retroareolar.

#### Clinical features ~

- Nodule, affecting adult women.
- Rare cases affect male patients.
- On mammography and ultrasound examination, it appears as a roundish lesion with well-defined borders, simulating a fibroadenoma.
- Tumours with intraductal growth can present as a cystic lesion.
- Radiological diagnosis is sometimes complicated by the presence of microcalcifications, which can prompt suspicion for malignancy.



### Pathogenesis ~

- PA arising in the salivary glands shows rearrangements on PLAG1 and HMGA2.
- No data are currently available on molecular alterations in breast PA.

### Macroscopic appearance ~

- Solid nodule, hard in consistency and with welldefined margins.
- Size is usually 1–2 cm.
- Longstanding nodules can reach larger sizes.



#### Histopathology ~

- Neoplastic proliferation of epithelial and myoepithelial cells, organized in glandular structures and strands immersed in a myxochondroid stroma.
- Single stellate cells are present.
- Neoplastic glands are lined by an inner layer of epithelial cells and an outer layer of myoepithelial cells.
- The strands of polygonal, oval, and stellate cells are mainly composed of myoepithelial cells.
- No cellular atypia, necrosis, or atypical mitotic figures are present.
- The stroma is usually myxochondroid, but cartilaginous or osseous metaplasia can be observed.
- PA can present as an intraductal growth, similar to ductal adenoma.
- Some cases show a polypoid intraductal growth, resulting in a multinodular structure.
- Some cases are associated with typical features of ductal adenoma, suggesting a relationship between the two lesions.

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### Immunohistochemistry ~

- Myoepithelial markers SMA, calponin, p63, CK14 positive in outer cell layer.
- Luminal markers low molecular weight cytokeratin and EMA label the epithelial component.

### Differential diagnosis ~

- Tumours with mucinous and myxoid stroma (mucinous carcinoma, matrix producing metaplastic carcinoma); adenomyoepithelioma.
- PA lacks cellular atypia, atypical mitoses and necrosis, with a well-organised biphasic pattern ~ a thin and continuous outer layer of myoepithelial cells and an inner layer of regular epithelial cells; in contrast to metaplastic carcinoma.
- AME shows prominent and often multistratified myoepithelial cell layer, with relatively frequent nuclear atypia and mitoses.



#### Cytology ~

- FNA may be difficult to interpret, if the diagnosis is not considered.
- Highly cellular smears composed of cell aggregates and chondromyxoid material.
- Epithelial cells have round plump cytoplasm and are arranged in glandular clusters.
- Myoepithelial cells are elongated or plasmacytoid.
- Metachromatic chondromyxoid material can be seen.
- Absence of atypia, mitoses and necrosis.

#### Essential criteria ~

- Well defined margins.
- Glands lined by a double layer immersed in a myxochondroid background.

#### Prognosis and prediction ~

- Benign.
- Recurrences can occur in cases with extensive polypoid intraductal growth that are not completely excised at surgery.
- Rare reports of malignant transformation.







