

# CNS Tumors 2:

## Glioblastomas (IDH-Wild-Type, Grade 4)

### -Definition:

-Diffuse glioma that is IDH-wildtype and **H3** wildtype and has one or more of the following histologic or genetic features:

-Microvascular proliferation

-**Necrosis**

-**TERT** promoter mutation

-**EGFR** gene amplification

-combined **gain** of entire **chromosome 7** and **loss** of entire **chromosome 10** [**+7 /-10**]

-The **most common malignant glioma** (50% of all primary malignant brain tumors in adults).

-**Always grade 4** (no lower grade precursor)

-Age: 6th-8th decades of life

-Site: **cerebral hemispheres** (temporal , parietal, frontal lobes, basal ganglia and thalamus)

-Radiology: **ring enhancing lesion**

### -Clinically:

-rapid progression

-Seizures, neurocognitive impairment, neursea, vomiting, and headache

-Rapid infiltration of the corpus callosum with growth to the contralateral hemisphere leading to bilateral symmetrical lesion (**butterfly glioma**)

### -Prognosis:

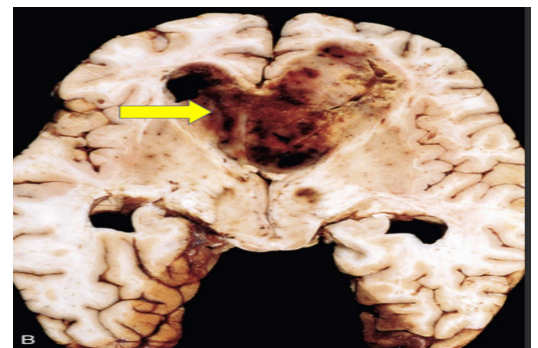
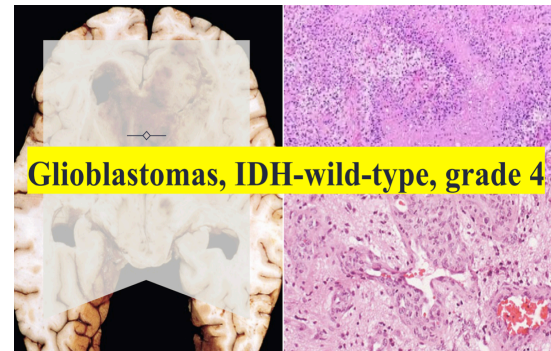
-**Very Poor** even with **resection**

-chemotherapy and radiotherapy the median survival is only about **15-18 months**.

### -Macroscopic:

-variation in the gross appearance of the tumor from region to region is characteristic (was called **glioblastoma multiforme**)

-Some areas are firm and white, others are soft and yellow (due to tissue necrosis)



-others show regions of **cystic degeneration** and **hemorrhage**.

### -Microscopic:

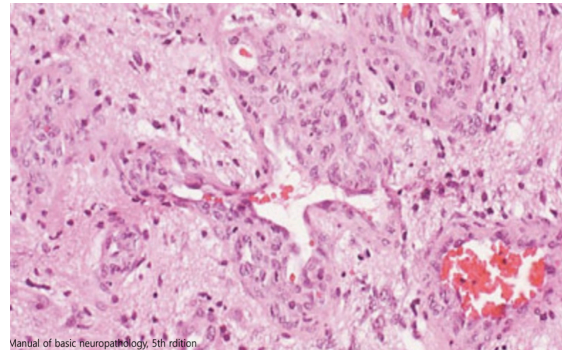
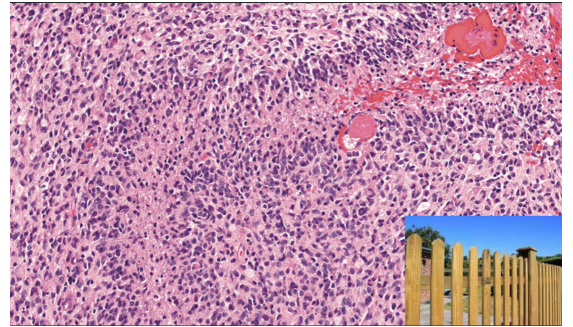
- Similar to **astrocytoma**
- IDH- mutant
- grade 4 with High cellularity
- Prominent nuclear atypia
- Brisk mitotic activity and
- Necrosis: **irregular** zones of necrosis surrounded by dense accumulations of tumor cells (**palisading necrosis**)

### **-OR...**

- microvascular proliferation:
  - the presence of abnormal vessels with walls composed of  $2 \geq$  layers of vascular wall cells.

-The presence of any of the following Molecular features (even in the absence of necrosis or microvascular proliferation) lead to the designation of glioblastoma, IDH wildtype, grade 4:

- The presence of **TERT** promoter mutation
- EGFR** gene amplification
- **+7/-10 chromosome** copy number changes

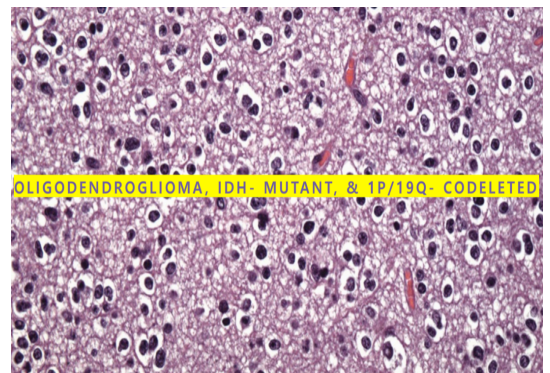


Manual of basic neuropathology, 5th edition

## **Oligodendroglioma (IDH-MUTANT, & 1p/19q-Co-deleted)**

### -Definition:

- A diffusely infiltrating, slow-growing glioma with IDH1 or IDH2 mutation and codeletion of chromosomal arms **1p and 19q**.
- 5-15% of gliomas
- Age at diagnosis: 40-50 yrs.



### -Location:

- mostly in the cerebral hemispheres:
  - mainly in the **frontal** or **temporal** lobes
  - white matter.
- The combination of **surgery, chemotherapy, and radiotherapy** yields an average survival of:

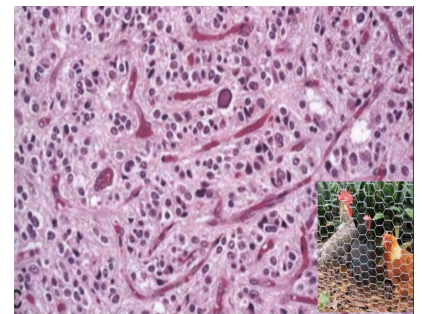
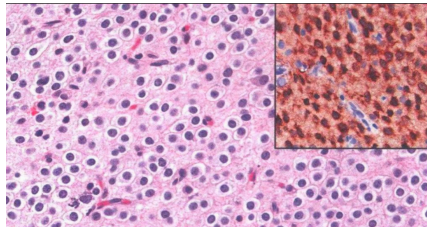
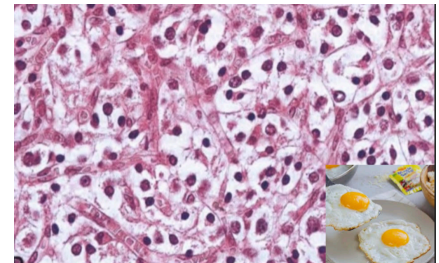
- 10-20** years for WHO grade **2**.
- 5-10** years for WHO grade **3**.
- Grade 3 is more aggressive than grade 2 oligodendroglioma
- When corrected for tumor grade, oligodendrogliomas (CNS WHO grade 2,3) Have best prognosis among diffuse glial tumors
- NO grade 1 OR 4 oligodendroglioma**

### -Macroscopic

- infiltrative tumors with blurring of gray matter-white matter boundary.
- **+/- gelatinous gray mass, cysts, focal hemorrhage, and calcification.**

### -Microscopic:

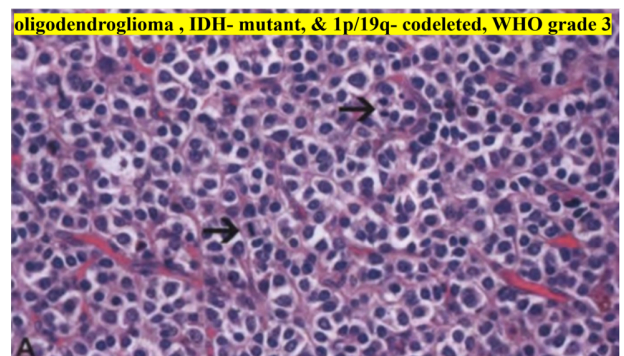
- sheets of regular uniform cells resembling oligodendrocytes
- spherical nuclei containing finely granular chromatin (salt and pepper)
- The nuclei are surrounded by a clear halo of cytoplasm → **fried-egg** appearance.
- delicate network of "**chicken-wire**"- like anastomosing capillaries
- Calcification up to **90%** of cases.
- Mitotic activity usually is absent or low (Ki67<5%)
- No** spontaneous necrosis
- No** microvascular proliferation



## Oligodendroglioma (IDH-mutant & 1p/19q- Codeleted, Grade 3)

### -Definition:

- An IDH-mutant and **1p/19q-codeleted** oligodendroglioma with focal or diffuse histological features of anaplasia (in particular, pathological microvascular proliferation and/or brisk mitotic activity **with or without necrosis**).



## IDHm 1p/19q-codeleted Oligodendrogliomas, grades 2-3

Essential diagnostic criteria for oligodendroglioma, IDH-mutant and 1p/19q-codeleted, WHO grade 2	Essential diagnostic criteria for oligodendroglioma, IDH-mutant and 1p/19q-codeleted, WHO grade 3
A diffuse glioma	A diffuse glioma
<b>WITH</b>	<b>WITH</b>
an IDH1 codon 132 or IDH2 codon 172 missense mutation*	an IDH1 codon 132 or IDH2 codon 172 missense mutation*
<b>AND</b>	<b>AND</b>
combined whole arm deletions of 1p and 19q	combined whole arm deletions of 1p and 19q
<b>AND</b>	<b>AND</b>
absence of histological features of anaplasia.	histological features of anaplasia, including brisk mitotic activity and/or pathological microvascular proliferation with or without necrosis
	<b>AND/OR</b>
	homozygous <i>CDKN2A</i> deletion**

## Circumscribed astrocytic gliomas

### Pilocytic Astrocytoma, WHO grade 1

- Relatively **benign** tumor
- Age at presentation: **children and young adults.**

#### -Location:

- cerebellum (especially in children)** > **Optic** nerve> Midline locations: Brainstem, optic chiasm/ hypothalamus, basal ganglia > Spinal cord> Cerebral hemispheres:
- Rare in children** but happens in adults

#### -Clinically:

- mass effect,
- Hydrocephalus,**
- **increased intracranial pressure**
- Treatment: Well circumscribed tumor curable with complete resection

#### -Molecular profile:

- activating mutations or translocations involving the gene encoding the **BRAF** → resulting in activation of the **MAPK** signaling pathway.
- do **NOT** have mutations in IDH1 and IDH2, supporting their distinction from the adult type low-grade diffuse gliomas

#### -Macroscopic:

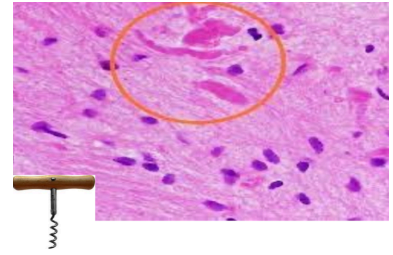
- well circumscribed (discrete) Cystic tumor
- +/- calcifications

## -Macroscopic:

-bipolar cells with long, thin **GFAP** positive "hairlike" processes

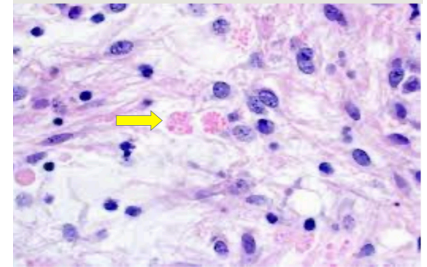
### -Rosenthal fibers:

- brightly eosinophilic corkscrew shaped structures within the astrocytic processes
- made of Can be physiologic (gliosis) or pathologic (PA) and Alexander disease



### -eosinophilic granular bodies:

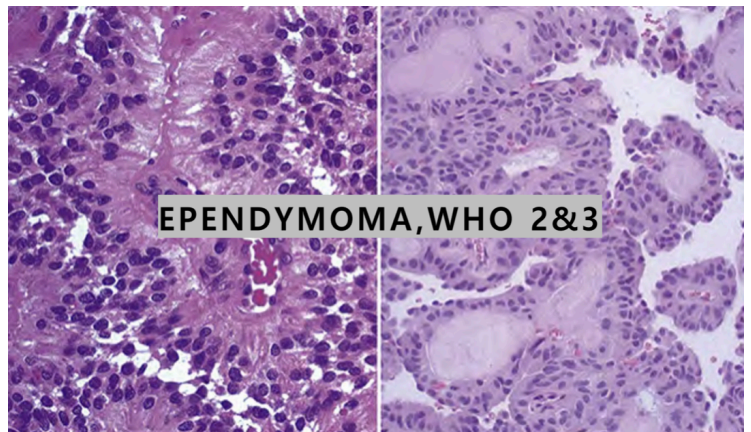
- rounded hyaline droplets in cytoplasm of astrocytes seen in **PA** and ganglion-cell tumors
- microcysts** are often present
- necrosis and mitoses are **rare**.



## Ependymoma (Grade 2 & 3)

### -Definition:

-**glioma**, Mostly arise next to the ependyma- lined ventricular system, including the central canal of the spinal cord.



### -Location:

- posterior fossa:
  - near the **4th ventricle**, accounting for 5-10% of tumors in the **first two decades** of life
- supratentorial
- Spinal: the **most common location in adults** and in patients with **NF2**

### -Age:

- In the **first 2 decades** of life; near the **4th ventricle** (post. Fossa) accounting for 5-10% of primary brain tumors in this age group.
- In adults the spinal cord and supratentorial ependymomas occur with almost equal frequency
- The clinical outcome for completely resected **supratentorial** and **spinal ependymomas** is better than for those in the **posterior fossa**

## -Ependymoma, WHO grade 2, microscopic:

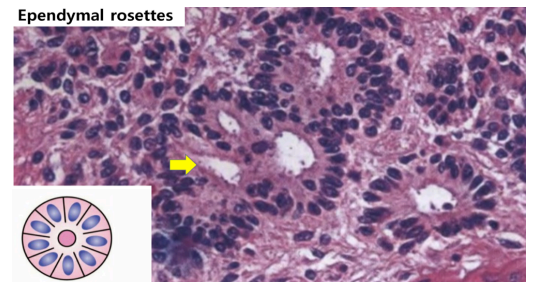
- uniform small cells** with round to oval nuclei and granular chromatin in a fibrillary background
- low cellularity**
- low mitotic** count
- No necrosis** or **MVP**
- Cilia and microvilli** are seen on ultrastructural examinations

## -Ependymoma WHO grade 2, Morphology:

- Tumor cells may form glandlike structures (rosettes)
- Rosette formation:

### **-Ependymal rosettes:**

- diagnostic hallmark** of ependymoma (25%)
- tumor cells arranged around a **central canal or lumen** that resemble the embryologic ependymal canal, with long, delicate processes extending into a lumen



### **- perivascular pseudorosettes:**

- not specific** for ependymoma (seen in **glioblastoma and medulloblastoma**)
- tumor cells radially arranged around vessels.
- Called "pseudo" because the central structure is not formed by the tumor itself, but instead represents a **native, non-neoplastic element**



## Anaplastic ependymomas, WHO grade 3:

- Show **less evident ependymal differentiation**
- brisk mitotic rates, and microvascular proliferation carry more prognostic impact than necrosis and atypia.

