BREAST PATHOLOGY 1

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Regardless of the symptom:

> The underlying cause is **benign** in >90% of cases.

> The likelihood of malignancy increases with **age**:

- the risk of nipple discharge being due to cancer increases from 7% in women <60 years vs. 30% in women >60.
- only 10% of palpable masses in women <40 years are carcinomas vs. 60% in women >50.



- Of women with cancer:
 - *about 45% have symptoms*
 - Palpable mass>>> pain> nipple discharge > inflammatory changes
 - the remainder come to attention through screening tests

Women with breast cancer!



Mammographic screening:

 detects early, nonpalpable asymptomatic breast carcinomas before metastasis.

- the average size of invasive carcinomas detected by mammography is ≈ 1 cm, at this stage only 15% will have metastasized to regional lymph nodes
- The sensitivity and specificity of mammography increase with age → due to replacement of the fibrous, radiodense tissue of young women with the fatty, radiolucent tissue of older women









New Breast Cancer Screening Guideline for women with average risk



LEARN MORE ABOUT BREAST CANCER SCREENING



CLINICAL PRESENTATIONS OF BREAST DISEASE: Dain (mastalgia or mastodynia):

- common
- Related to menses (cyclic edema and swelling).
- Localized due to ruptured cyst, or physical trauma.

Almost all painful masses are **benign** except for 10% of cases that relates to cancers

□ Inflammation:

- Rare, causes edema and erythema.
- Mostly caused by infections (during lactation and breastfeeding).
- An important mimic of inflammatory breast cancer



□ Nipple discharge:

- Normal: when small in quantity and bilateral.
- Milky discharges (galactorrhea):
 - are associated with elevated prolactin levels (pituitary adenoma), hypothyroidism, or endocrine anovulatory syndromes, patients taking OCPs, tricyclic antidepressants, methyldopa, or phenothiazines.
- Bloody or serous discharges:
 - commonly due to large duct papillomas.
 - During pregnancy, result from the rapid growth and remodeling of the breast.
- **<u>BUT</u>** spontaneous, unilateral, and bloody discharge increases concern for malignancy.



Palpable masses:

- 95% are benign
- all palpable masses require evaluation.
- The most common palpable lesions are cysts, fibroadenomas, and invasive carcinomas
- generally detected when they are 2 to 3 cm in size.

Gynecomastia:

- The only common breast symptom in **males**.
- There is an increase in both stroma and epithelial cells resulting from an imbalance between **estrogens**, which stimulate breast tissue, and **androgens**, which counteract these effects.



STROMAL NEOPLASMS

Stromal neoplasms:

• The two types of stroma: intralobular and interlobular

- Tumors of the Intralobular stroma:
 - Include fibroadenoma and phyllodes tumor
 - *biphasic tumors*: *composed of both stromal cells and epithelial cells*



- Tumors arising from Interlobular stroma:
 - Monophasic tumors (only mesenchymal cells)
 - same types of tumors found in other sites of the body (lipomas and angiosarcomas) as well as tumors arising more commonly in the breast (pseudoangiomatous stromal hyperplasia and myofibroblastomas).

■ The only malignancy derived from **interlobular** stromal cells → **angiosarcoma**



Fibroadenoma

■ The most common benign neoplasm of the female breast.

- Related to estrogen activity:
 - may enlarge late in the menstrual cycle and during pregnancy.
 - After menopause usually regress and calcify.
- Peak 20s and 30s
- discrete, solitary, freely movable nodule, (1-10 cm).



Fibroadenoma, gross



FIBROADENOMA



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Phyllodes Tumor

Much less common than fibroadenomas

• Arise from the intralobular stroma and not from preexisting fibroadenomas.

- mostly in the sixth decade
- Leaf-like clefts and slits→
 - due to the presence of nodules of proliferating stroma covered by epithelium

- Classified according to the histologic findings into:
 - Benign (most common 60—75%) → rare recurrence & do not metastasize.
 - Borderline (15-26%) → higher risk of local recurrence than benign phyllodes tumor . Risk of metastasis present but very low
 - *Malignant (8-20%)* → 23 30% risk of local recurrence, 9% risk of distant metastasis



Phyllodes tumors



Epithelial lesions of breast

Benign

- Non proliferative changes:
 - cyst, fibrosis, adenosis
- Proliferative diseases without atypia:
 - epithelial hyperplasia, papilloma, sclerosing adenosis, complex sclerosing lesion
- Proliferative disease with atypia:
 - ADH, ALH

Malignant

- Noninvasive carcinoma:
 - DCIS, LCIS
- Invasive carcinoma



benign epithelial lesions:

The majority are incidental findings detected by mammography.

- Benign changes are divided into three groups:
 - *Nonproliferative changes*: not associated with an increased risk of breast cancer.

• **Proliferative disease without atypia**: polyclonal hyperplasia & associated with 1.5-2 folds increased risk of breast cancer.

• **Proliferative disease with atypia**: monoclonal "**precancers**" & associated with 4-5 folds increased risk of breast cancer in **both** breast

Nonproliferative Breast Changes (Fibrocystic Changes)

Common

- three principal morphologic changes:
 - (1) Cysts (most common): lined by layer of luminal cells often show apocrine metaplasia
 - (2) Fibrosis
 - (3) Adenosis: Increased number of acini per lobule



Nonproliferative disease. cyst





Proliferative disease without atypia

are predictors of risk but unlikely to be true precursors of carcinoma.

Includes:

✓ epithelial hyperplasia
✓ sclerosing adenosis
✓ complex sclerosing lesion

✓ Papilloma

Each is associated with varying degrees of epithelial cell proliferation.



epithelial hyperplasia



epithelial hyperplasia



Sclerosing adenosis



intraductal papilloma



Proliferative disease with atypia

1. atypical lobular hyperplasia (ALH) : resembles lobular carcinoma in situ (LCIS)

2. atypical ductal hyperplasia (ADH): resembles ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS)

- Associated with a moderately increased risk of carcinoma
- are monoclonal proliferations having <u>some, but not</u> <u>all, histologic features that are required for the</u> <u>diagnosis of carcinoma in situ.</u>

atypical ductal hyperplasia



THANK YOU