

# Pathology of the stomach

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Undergraduate Lectures 2023**



# Overview

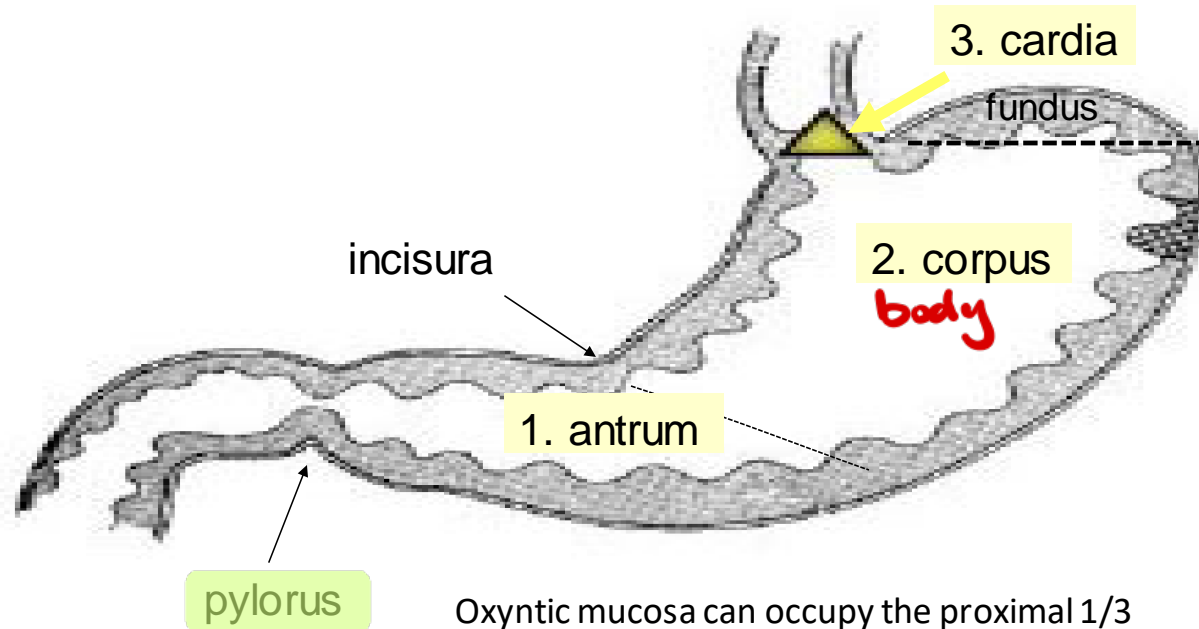
- ▶ Gastric diseases:
  - 1-Inflammatory.
  - 2-Neoplastic.
- ▶ Stomach parts: cardia, fundus, body, antrum, pylorus.

# Normal Stomach

--- Antrum-corporis junction

## 3 Regions

- ▶ Cardia: mucin secreting foveolar cells.
- ▶ Body and fundus: parietal cells (HCL) and chief cells (pepsin).
- ▶ Antrum: neuroendocrine G cells (gastrin)



Oxyntic mucosa can occupy the proximal 1/3 of the antrum

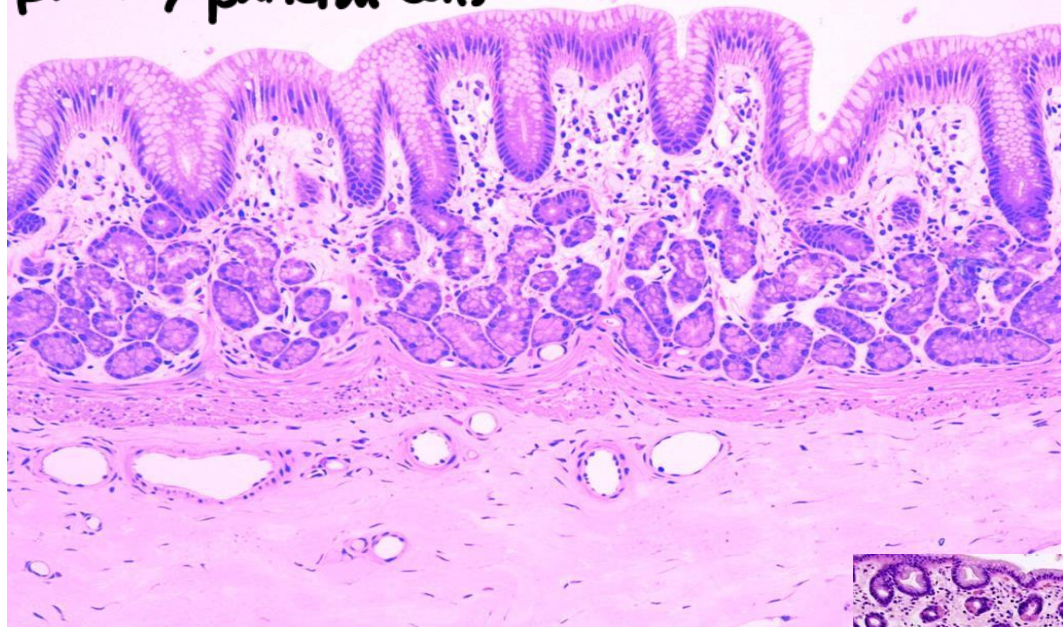
Chief cells  
↑↑ in antrum

\* absor. پیسر  
acids ↓  
in the stomach



antrum/pylorus

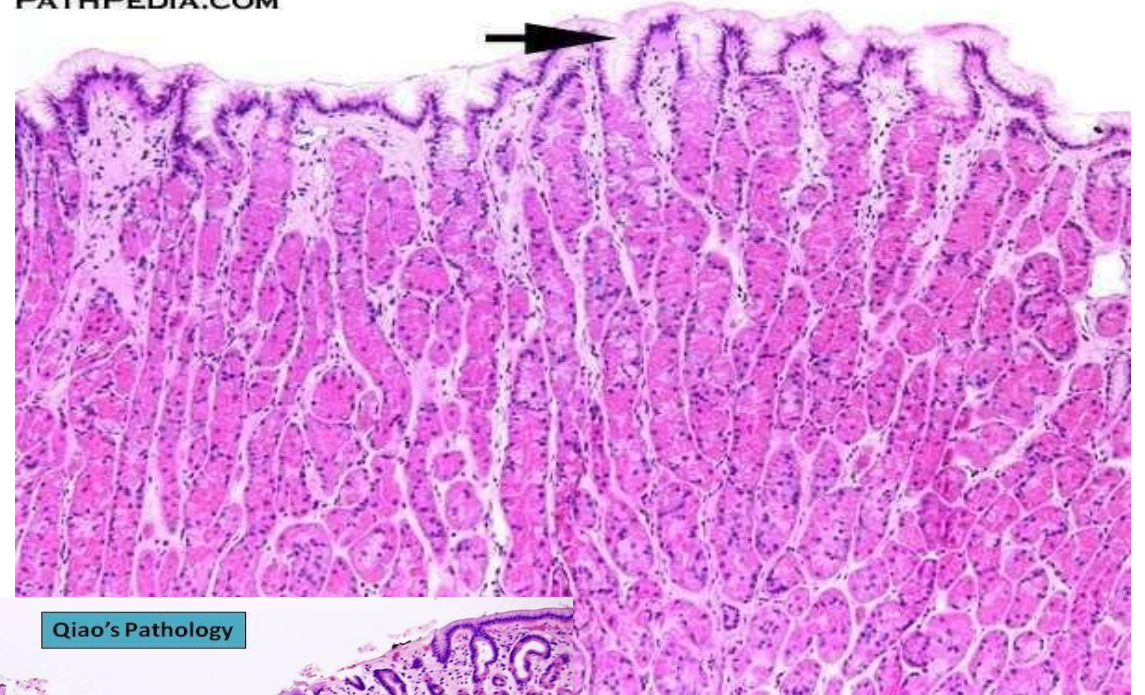
pink / parietal cells



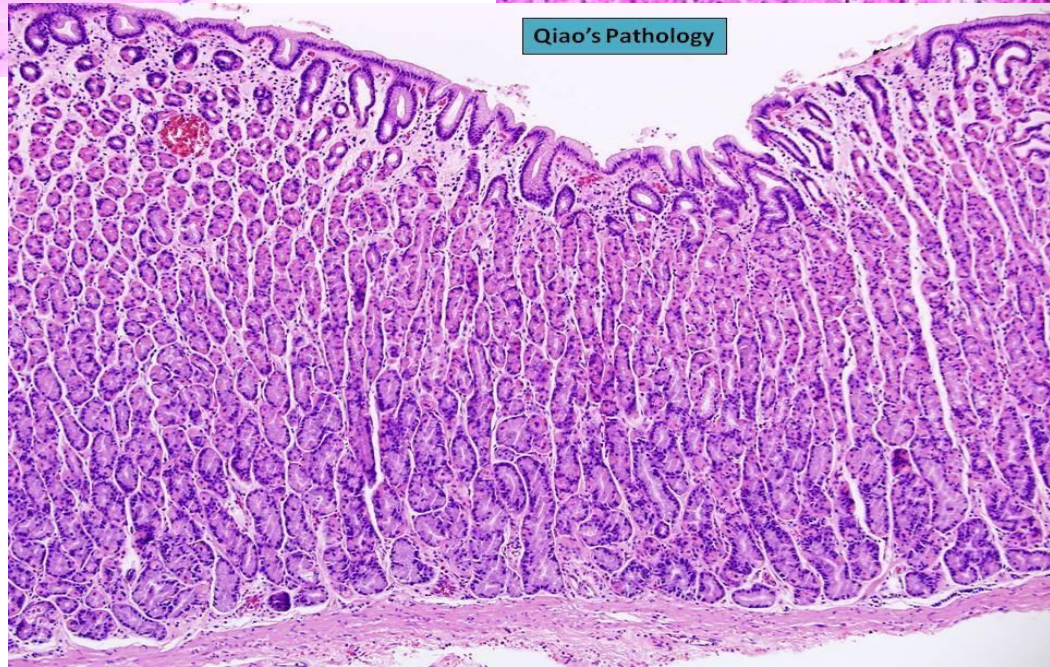
[medcell.med.yale.edu](http://medcell.med.yale.edu)

body / fundus

PATHPEDIA.COM



Qiao's Pathology



body / fundus



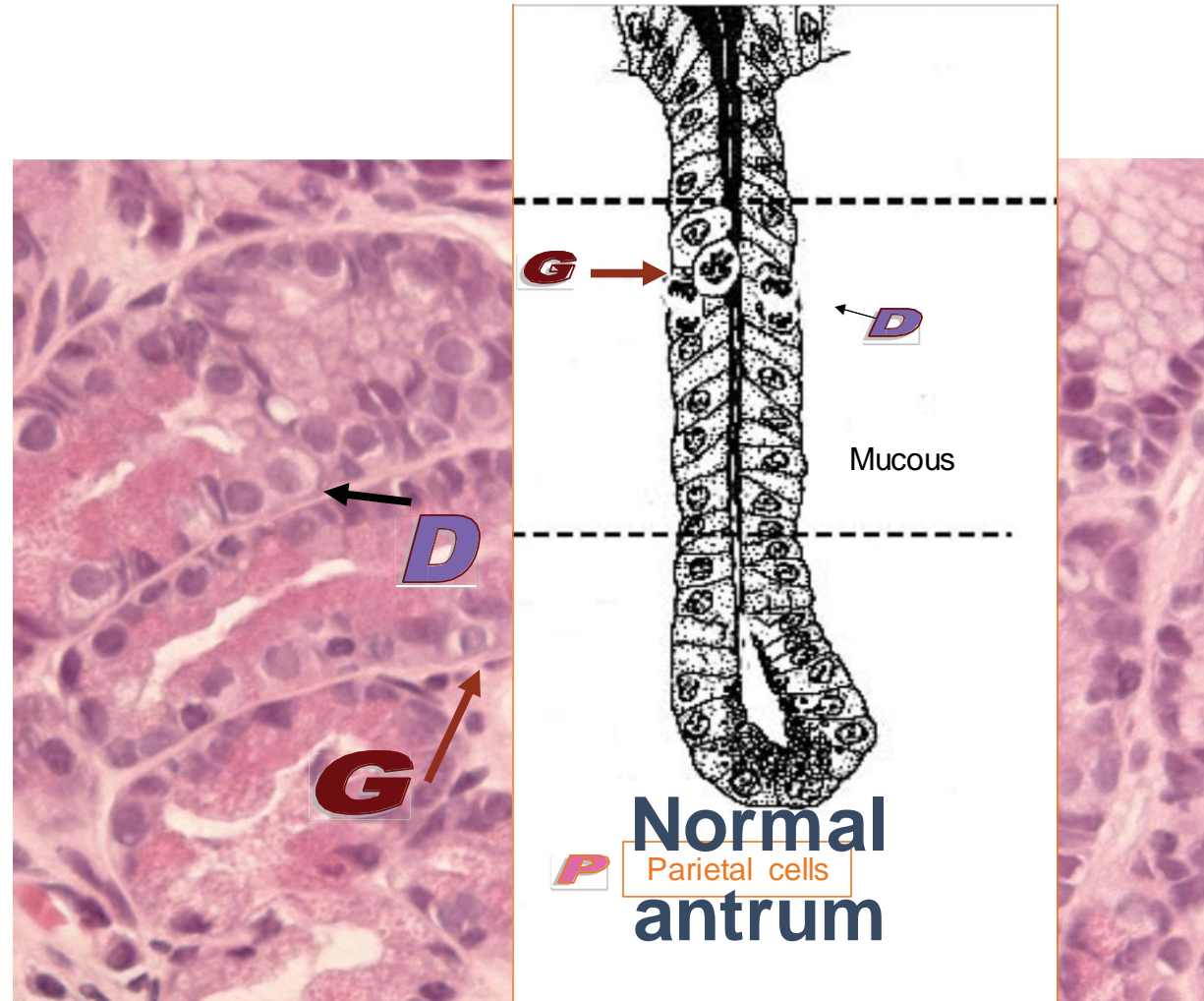
# Antrum

antral/pyloric glands



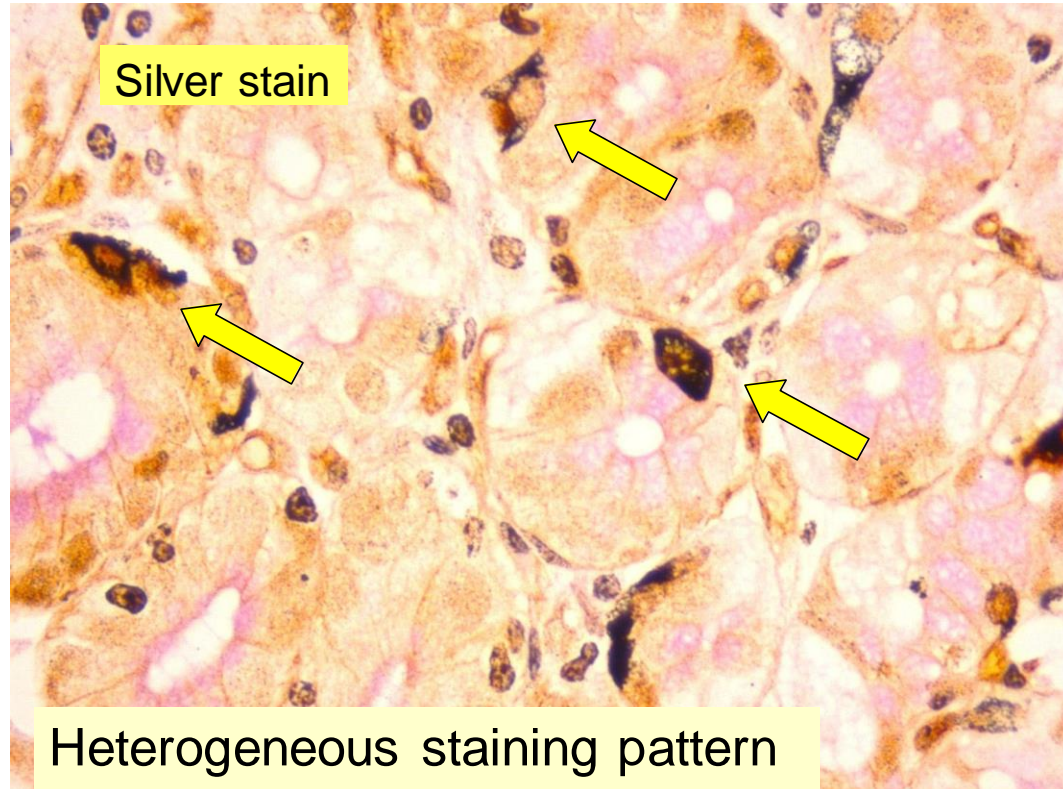
# Antrum

كل انزيمات المعدة  
تعمل inhibition  
على gastrin  
بزيادة motility





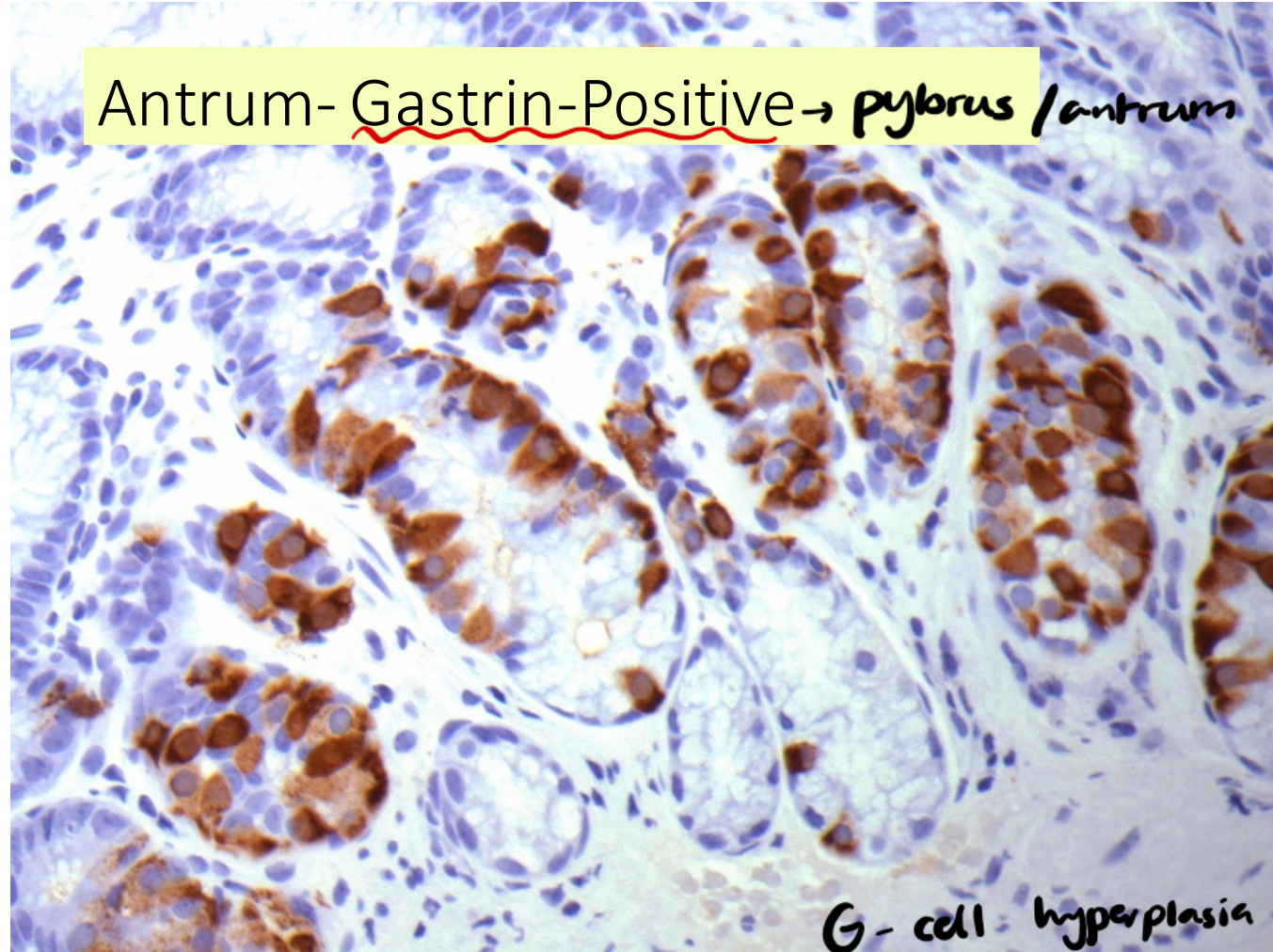
# Antrum endocrine cells



Heterogeneous staining pattern  
Hence: best use immunostains



Antrum- Gastrin-Positive → pylorus / antrum

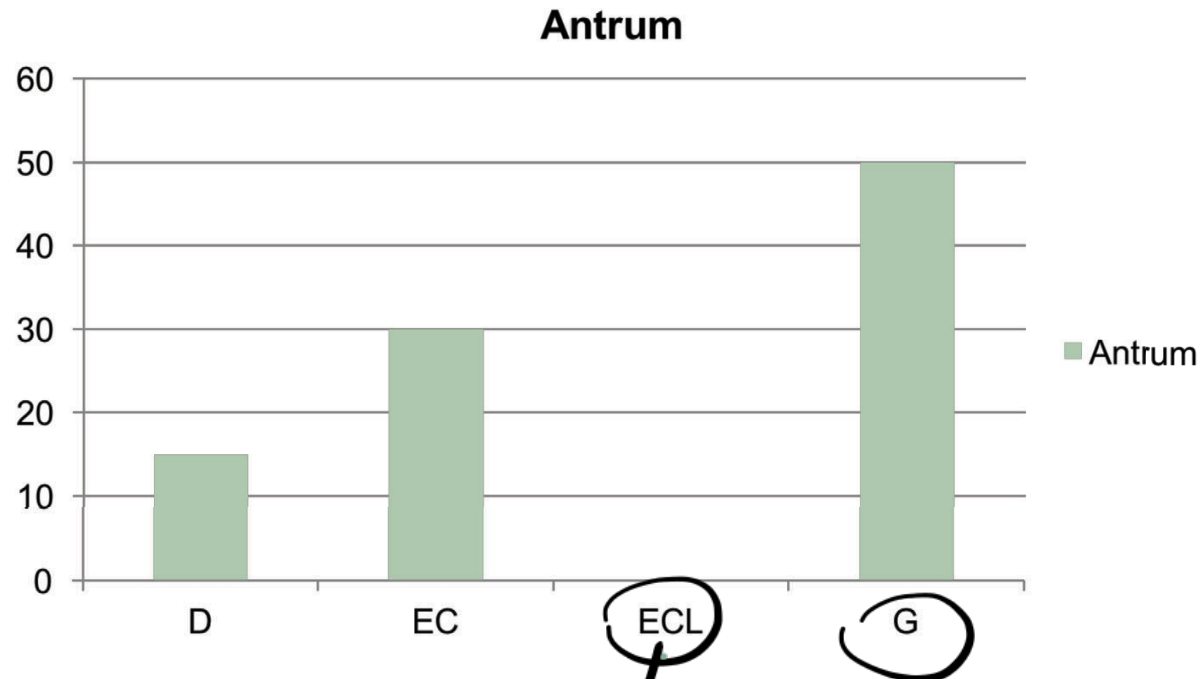


G-cell hyperplasia

>4

# Endocrine Cells **Antrum**

D somatostatin, EC serotonin, ECL histamine or Ghrelin, G gastrin



Modified from Gastroenterologia Polska 2006, 13(1): 7-10

only in body  
or fundus

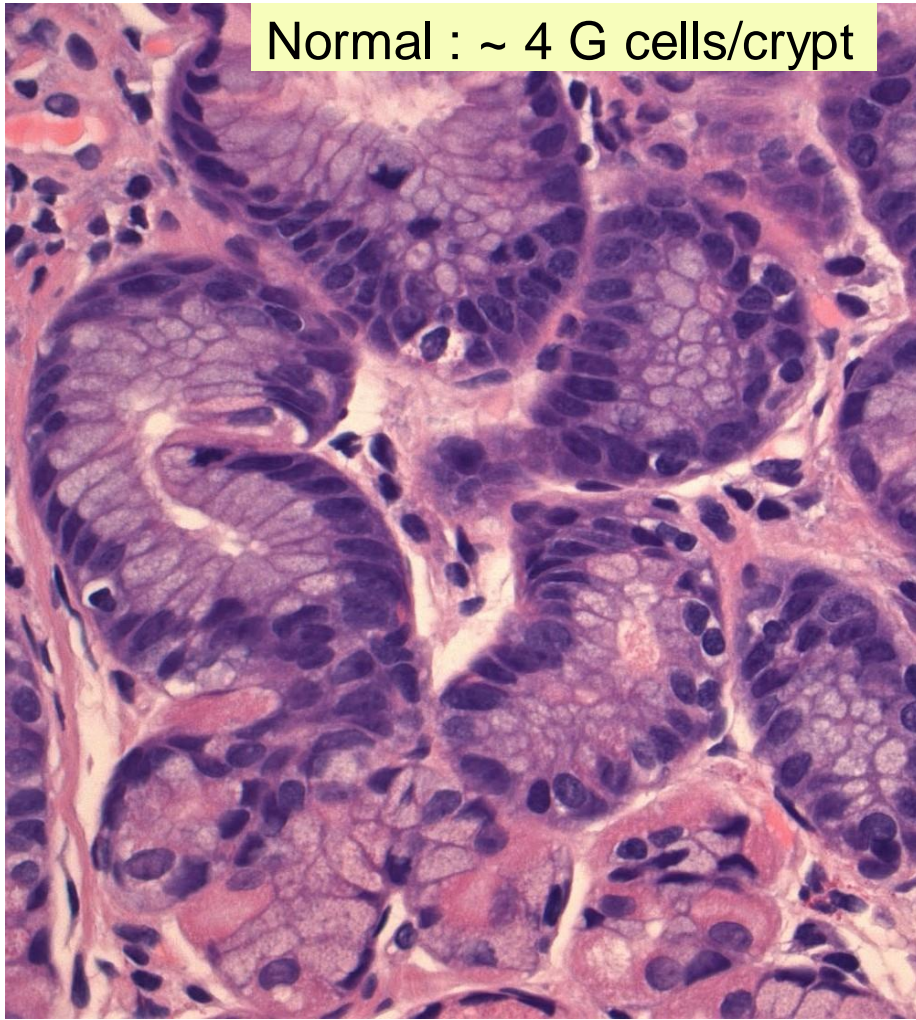
\* histamine  
↑ HCL ↘



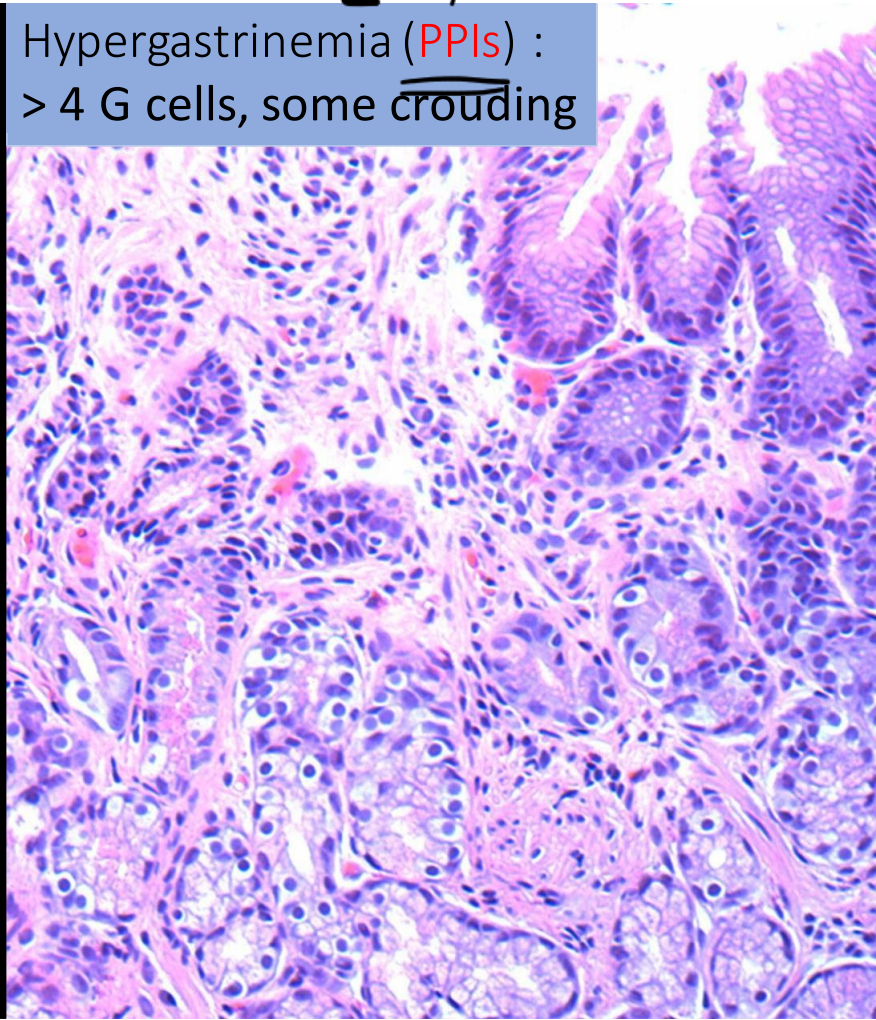
causes :

①

Normal : ~ 4 G cells/crypt



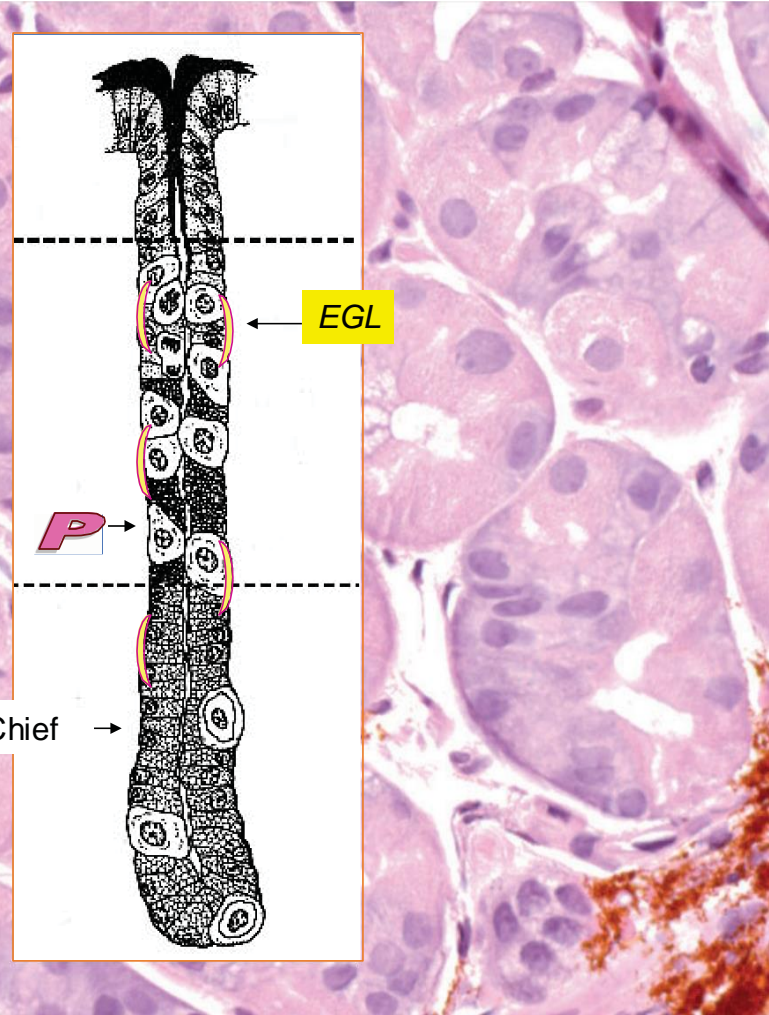
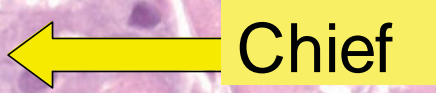
Hypergastrinemia (PPIs) :  
> 4 G cells, some crowding



② atrophic gastritis

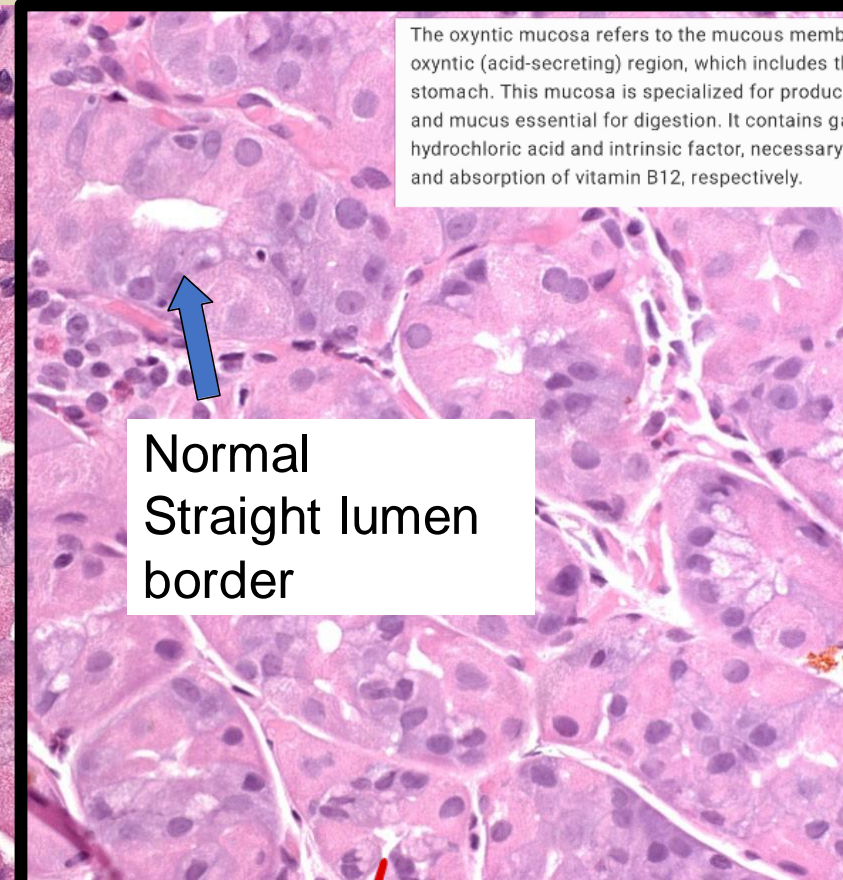
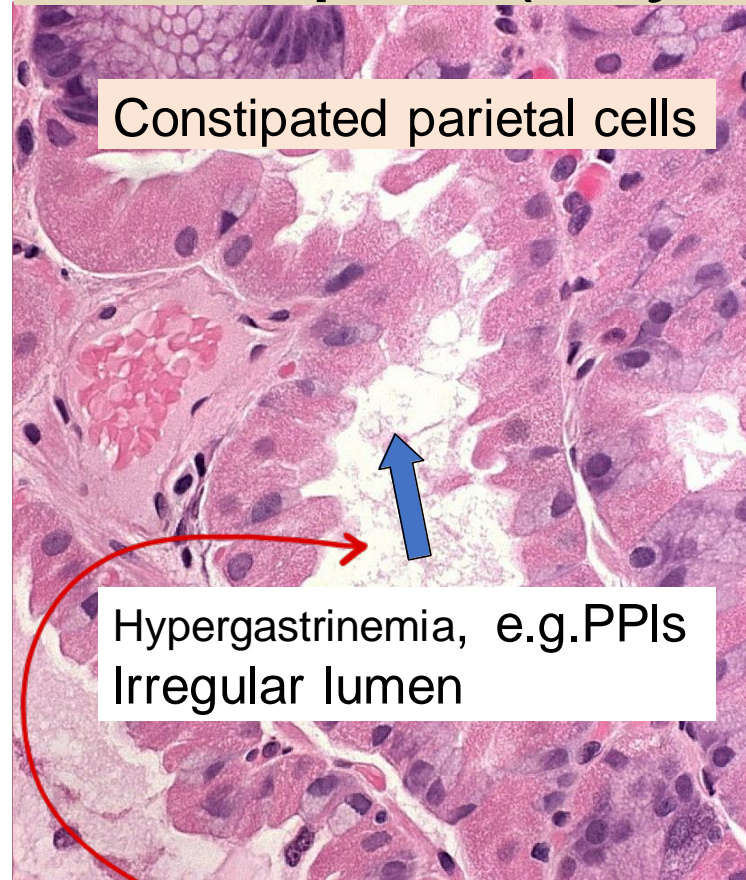


Normal  
Corpus  
(oxyntic  
mucosa)



مقارنه

# Corpus (oxyntic mucosa)

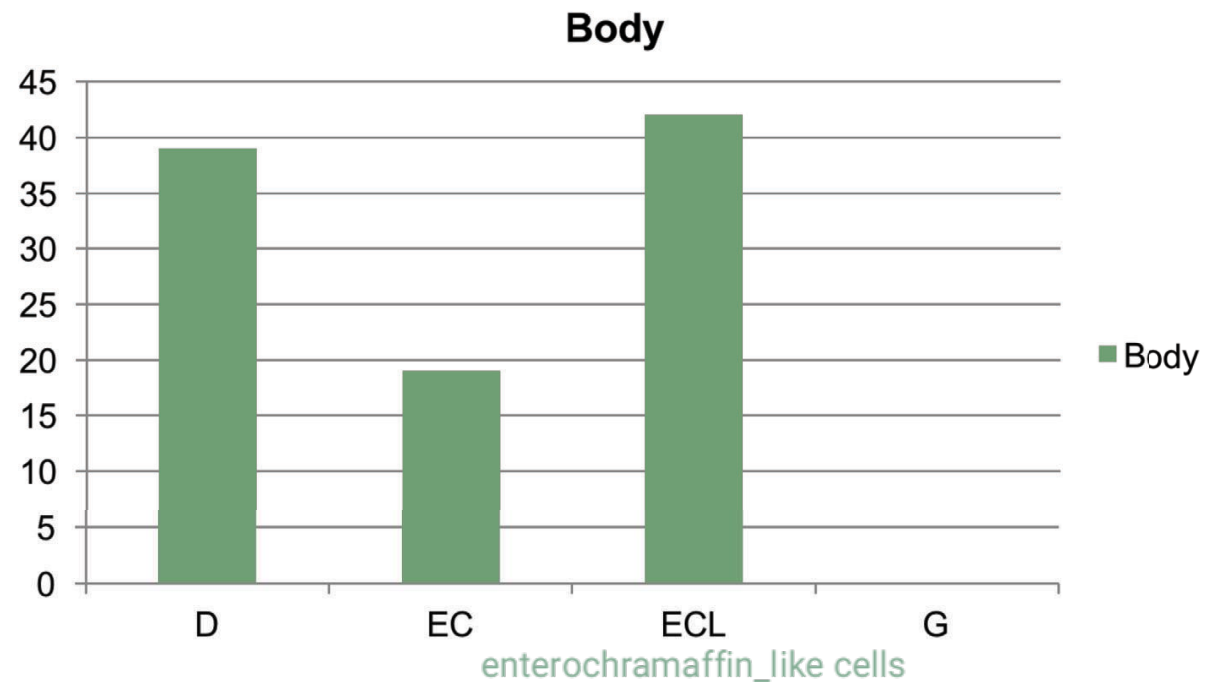


The oxyntic mucosa refers to the mucous membrane lining of the stomach's oxyntic (acid-secreting) region, which includes the body and fundus of the stomach. This mucosa is specialized for producing gastric acid, enzymes, and mucus essential for digestion. It contains gastric glands that secrete hydrochloric acid and intrinsic factor, necessary for the breakdown of food and absorption of vitamin B12, respectively.

الدرءات gastrin صارتا اكبر

# Endocrine Cells **body**

D somatostatin, EC serotonin, ECL histamine or Ghrelin, G gastrin

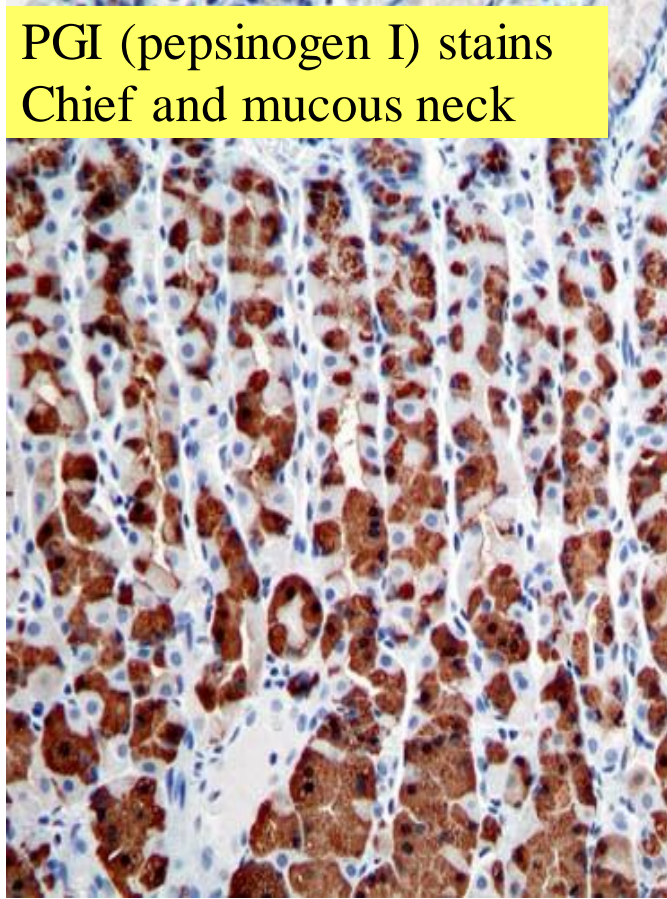


Modified from Gastroenterologia Polska 2006, 13(1): 7-10



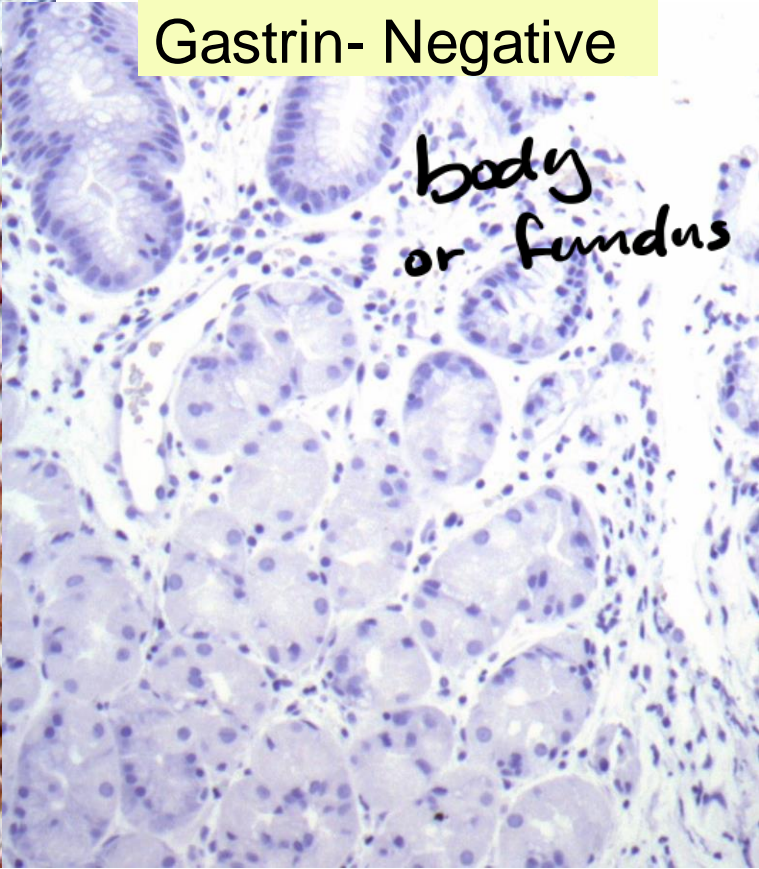
# NORMAL CORPUS

PGI (pepsinogen I) stains  
Chief and mucous neck



Oxyntic endocrine cells make  
**histamine** or **ghrelin**, not gastrin

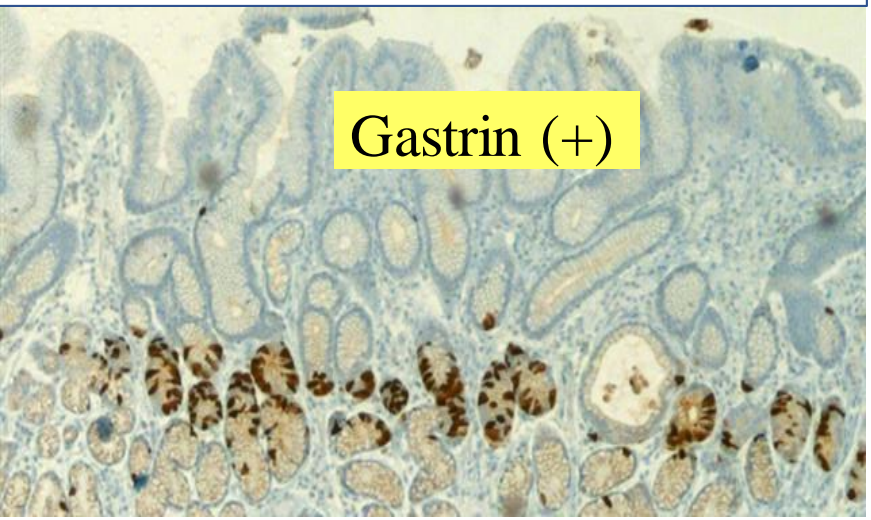
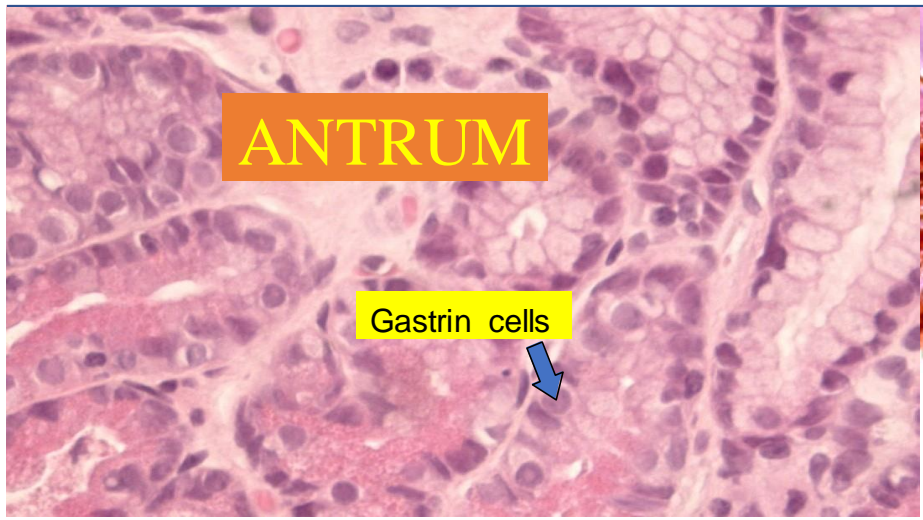
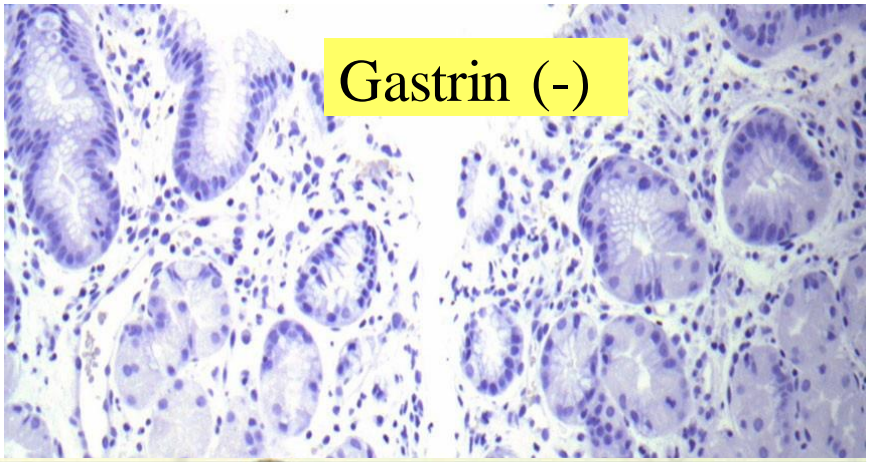
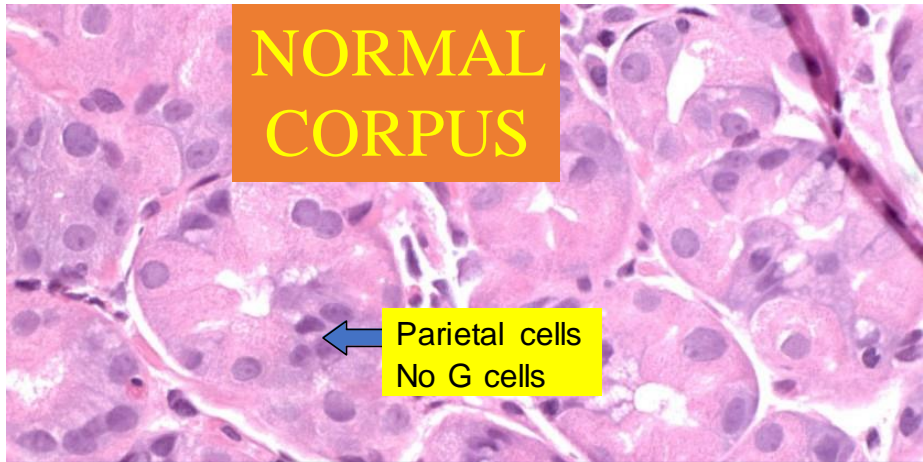
Gastrin- Negative



body لا يمكن  
gastrin +ve يكون  
atrophic في حالة  
of body

(atrophy of  
body)



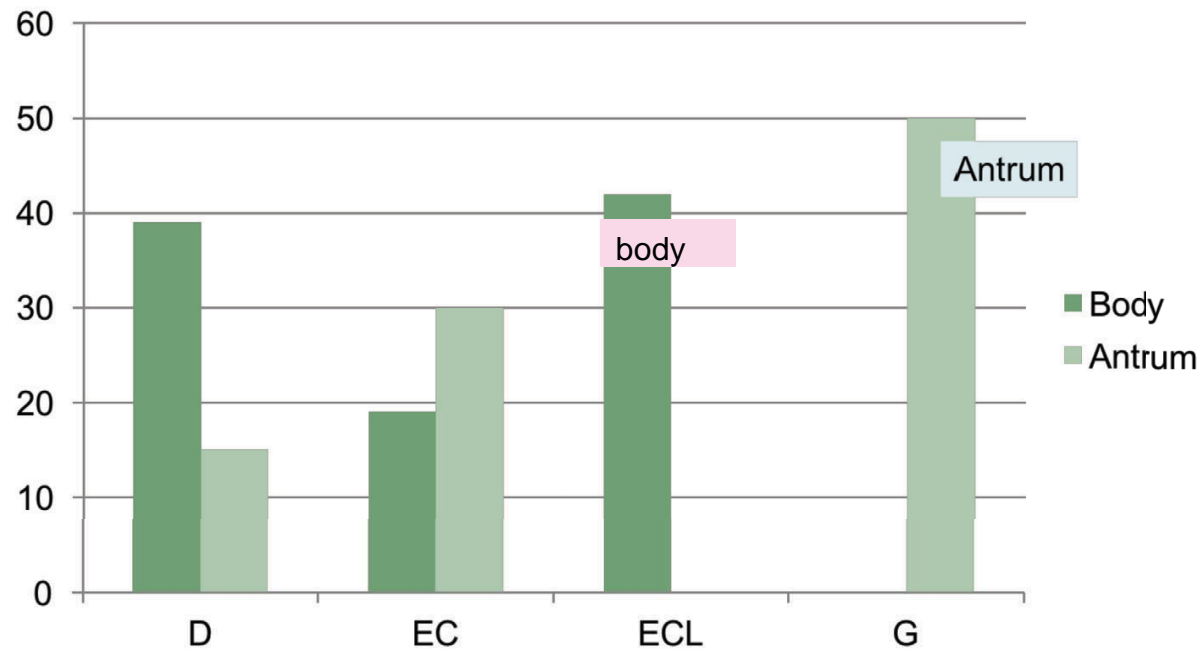


G cells > 4  
hyperplasia

Handwritten text indicating G cell hyperplasia, with a curved arrow pointing to the immunohistochemical image of the antrum.

# Endocrine Cells Stomach

D somatostatin, EC serotonin, ECL histamine or Ghrelin, G gastrin



Modified from Gastroenterologia Polska 2006, 13(1): 7-10

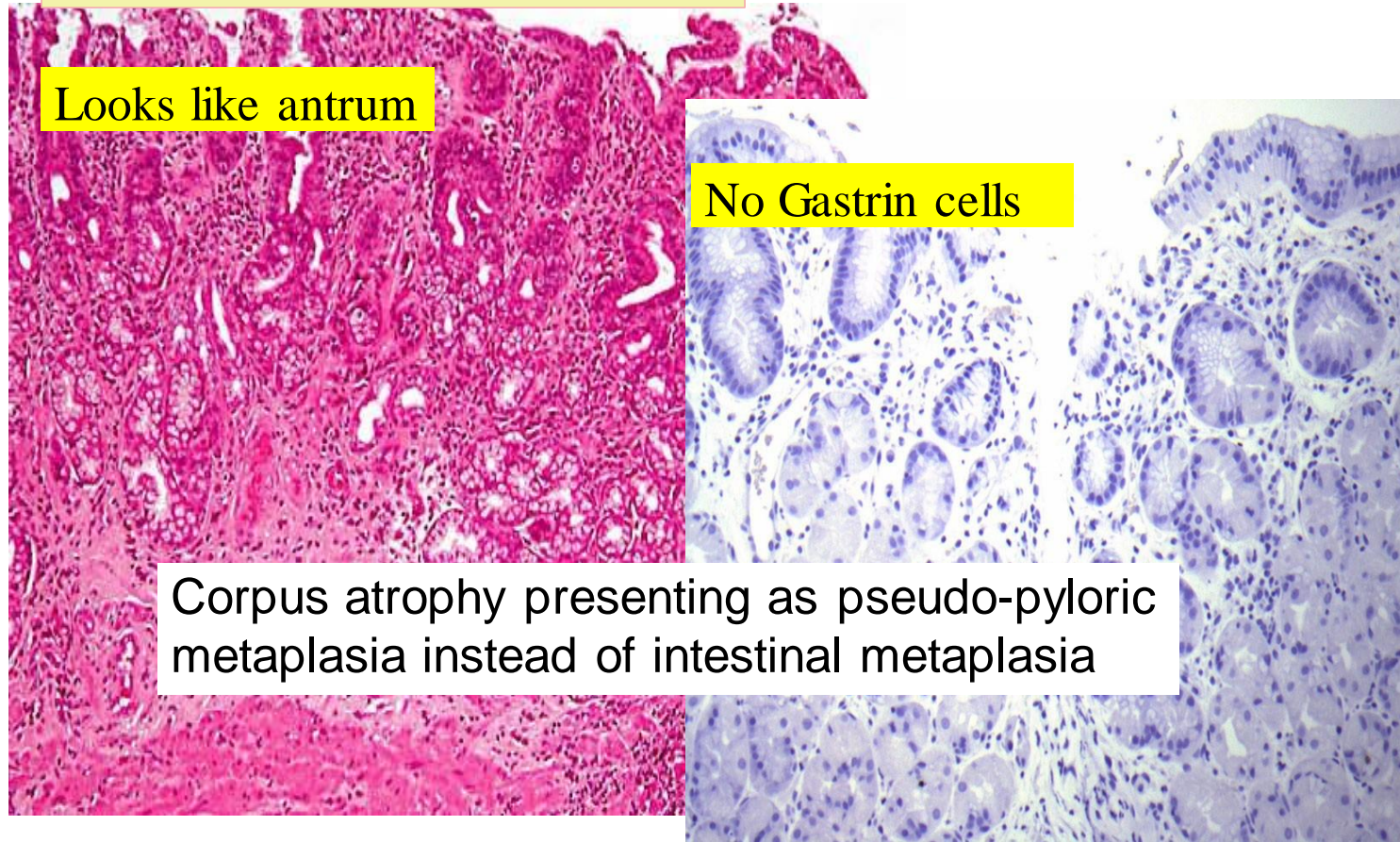


? Clinical relevance

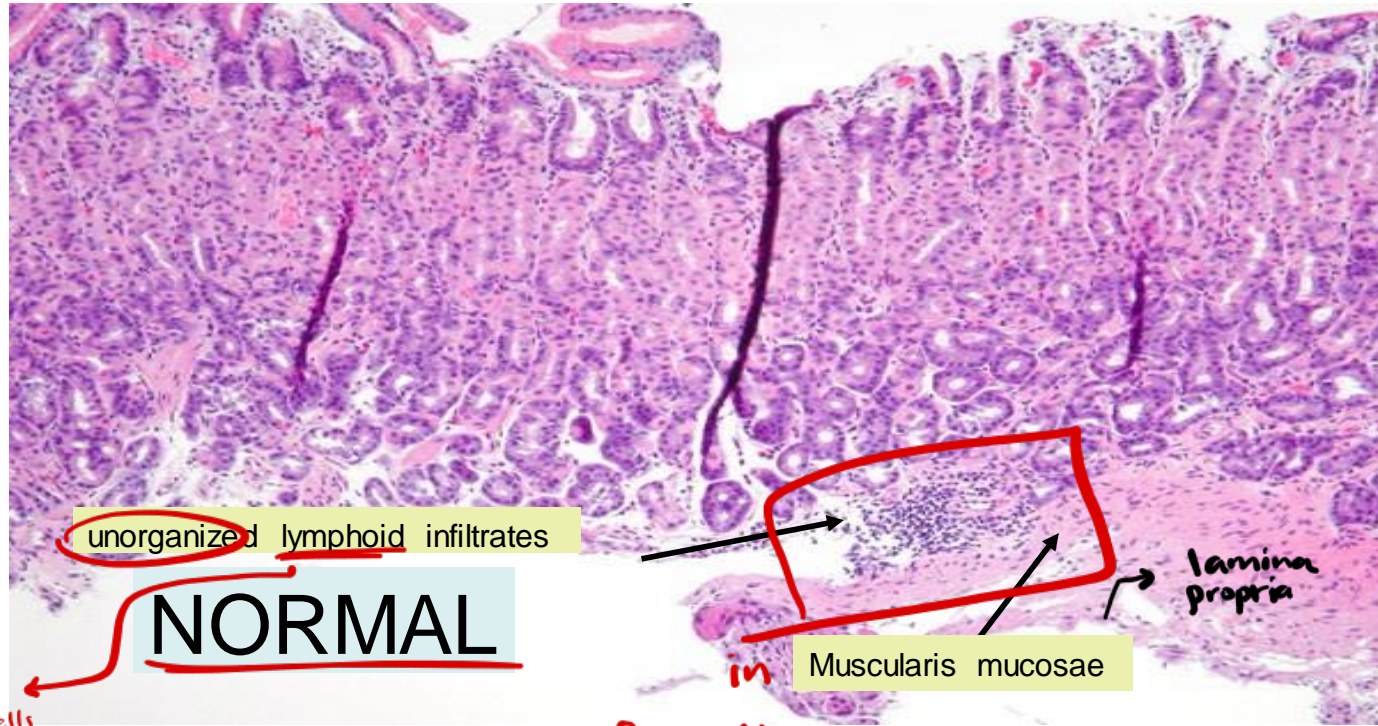
Looks like antrum

No Gastrin cells

Corpus atrophy presenting as pseudo-pyloric metaplasia instead of intestinal metaplasia



# Landmark for NORMAL lymphoid infiltrates Muscularis mucosae

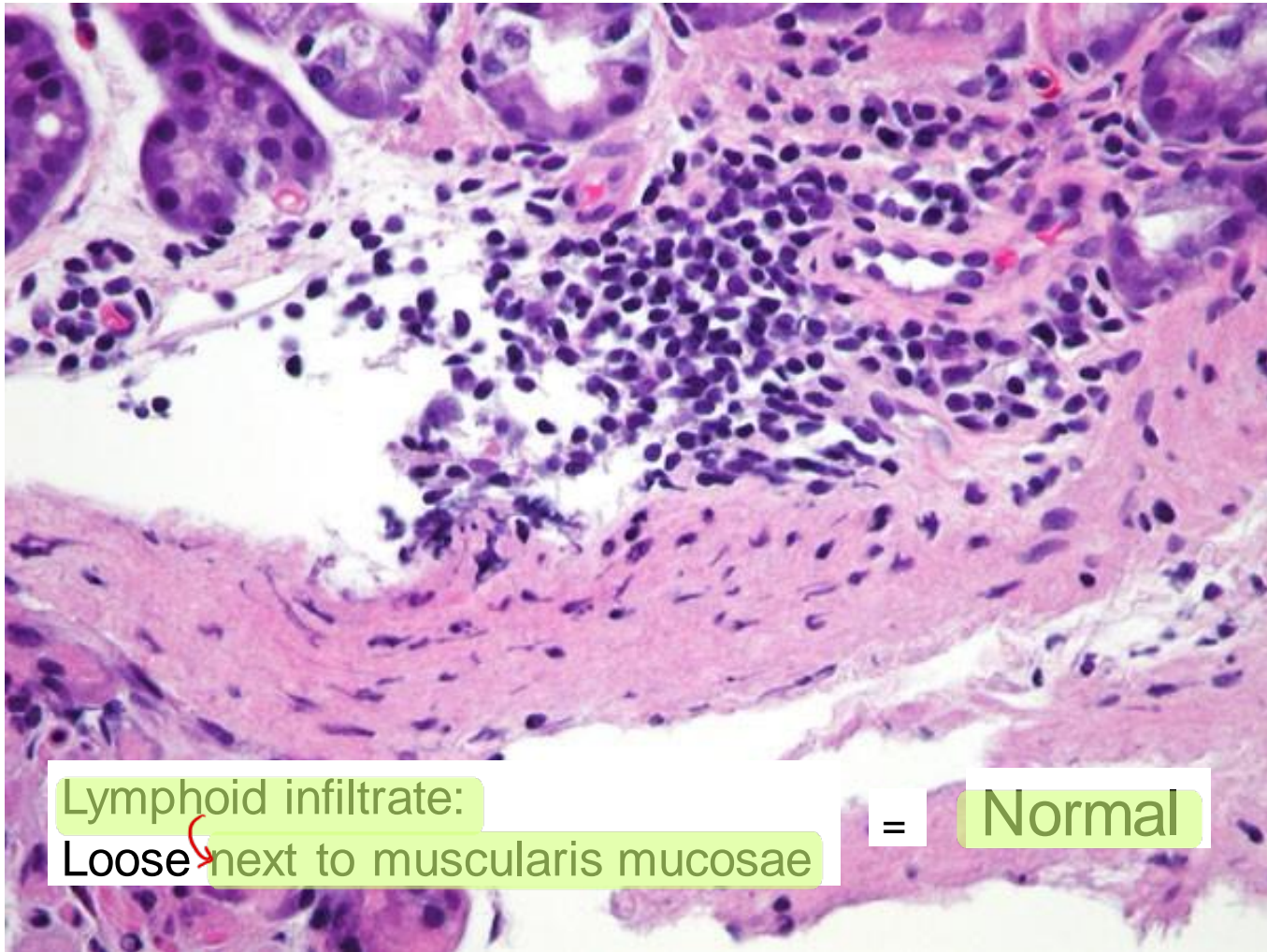


not  
neutrophils  
nor plasma cells

inf. cells → lymphocytes

not neutrophils nor plasma cells





Lymphoid infiltrate:

Loose next to muscularis mucosae

=

Normal



# OUTLINE

- I. Normal stomach
- II. Classification of gastritis**
- III. Specific types of gastritis
- IV. How to interpret gastritis

# - Classification of gastritis -

المحاضرة بتبليغ

من هون

## Updated Sydney System 1994

By  
pattern

Type	Etiology
Non-atrophic <i>Chronic</i>	<u>H. Pylori</u> Other factors
Atrophic ( <i>flat no rugae lining</i> ) <u>Autoimmune</u> <u>Multifocal</u>	<u>Autoimmune</u> <u>H. pylori, dietary, environmental</u>
Special Forms <u>Chemical</u> Lymphocytic <u>Eosinophilic</u> Granulomatous Radiation Other infectious	Chemical irritation Gluten, idiopathic Food sensitivity Crohn's, sarcoid Radiation Virus, fungus, etc.



By etiology

<u>Infectious</u>	1. Bacterial ( <u>H. pylori</u> , T.B.) 2. <u>Viral</u> (CMV) 3. <u>Fungal</u> (candida) 4. Parasitic
Non-Infectious	1. Chemical/Reflux gastropathy 2. Lymphocytic 3. Auto-immune 4. Inflammatory Bowel Disease 5. Eosinophilic
Part of Systemic involvement	1. GVHD 2. Vasculitis (Churg Struss) 3. Granulomatous 4. collagenous
Miscellaneous	1. Hypertrophic gastropathy 2. Vascular lesions (GAVE, portal gastropathy )

*casating granuloma*

*MC by H. pylori*



# My algorithm at low power

Inflammator: MNC, PMN	1. <u>Diffuse</u> : infectious (+/- <u>H. pylori</u> ) 2. <u>Focal</u> : IBD, erosion
Non- Inflammator y	1. <u>Epithelial</u> : <u>Reactive</u> ( <u>chemical/reflux</u> <u>gastropathy</u> ) 2. <u>Vascular</u> : GAVE & portal gastropathy
Other	1. Eosinophilic 2. Granulomatous 3. Collagenous

↑ neutrophils

↓↓ neut.  
atrophic gastritis

# Inflammatory conditions

- ▶ <sup>active</sup> Acute gastritis.
- ▶ Chronic gastritis.
- ▶ Acute gastric ulcer.
- ▶ Chronic peptic ulcer.

Severe acute → ulcer  
or erosion

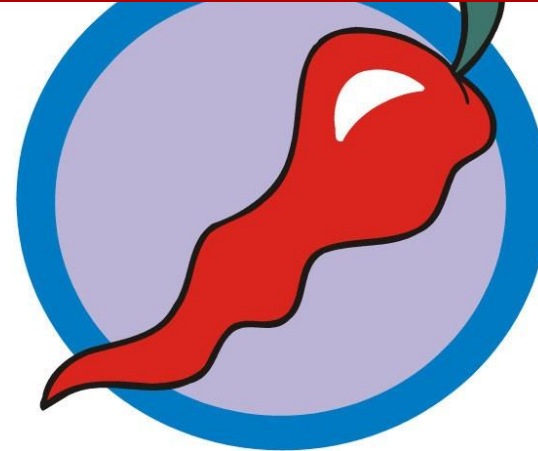
# Acute gastritis and gastropathy

- ▶ **Acute gastritis:** Mucosal injury, neutrophils present.
- ▶ **Gastropathy:** regenerative, <sup>ability to repair</sup> no inflammation
- ▶ **Causes:**
- ▶ NSAIDs, alcohol, bile, and stress-induced
- ▶ **Clinical features:**
- ▶ Asymptomatic, epigastric pain, nausea, vomiting.



# Reactive (Chemical/Reflux) Gastropathy

- Originally described by Dixon (1990) with NSAIDs and bile reflux (1986).
- In Bile reflux: The acid causes most of the damage.



# CHEMICAL GASTROPATHY

مصحفنا

chronic

- Triad

1. Foveolar hyperplasia  $> 2/3$  of mucosa

2. Smooth muscle fiber hyperplasia

3. <sup>no</sup> Paucity of acute and chronic inflammatory cells

↑  
تضيق  
lamina propria

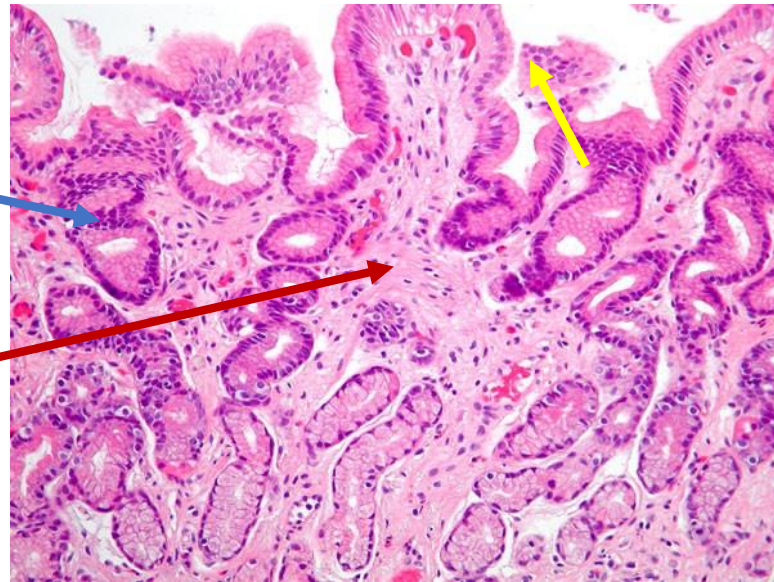
acute

- Other criteria: edema, vasodilation, congestion of capillaries

} not specific

# Reactive/Chemical Gastropathy Triad

1. Foveolar hyperplasia
2. Smooth muscle fiber hyperplasia
3. Paucity of acute and chronic inflammatory cells

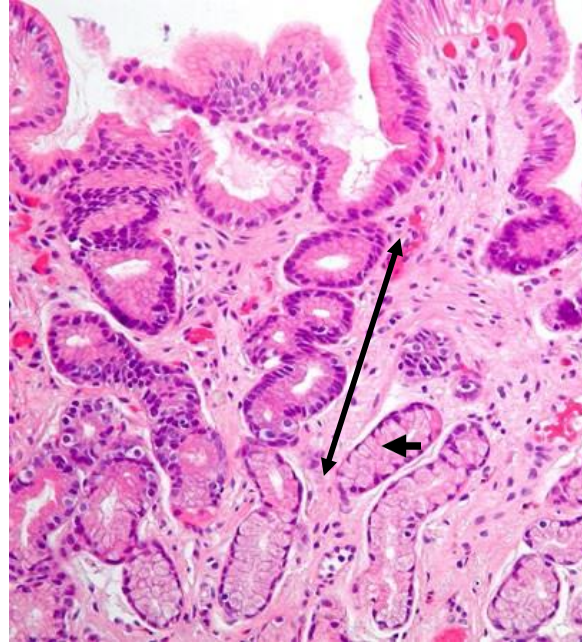


muscularis  
mucosa

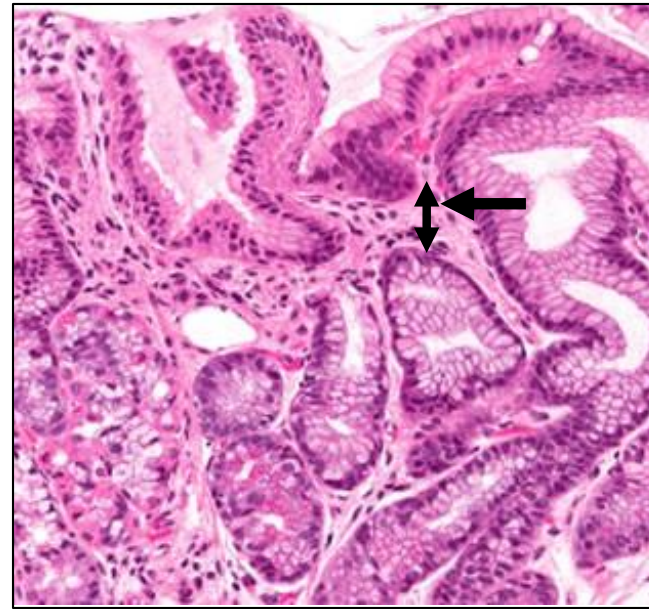
طالعة لزوق



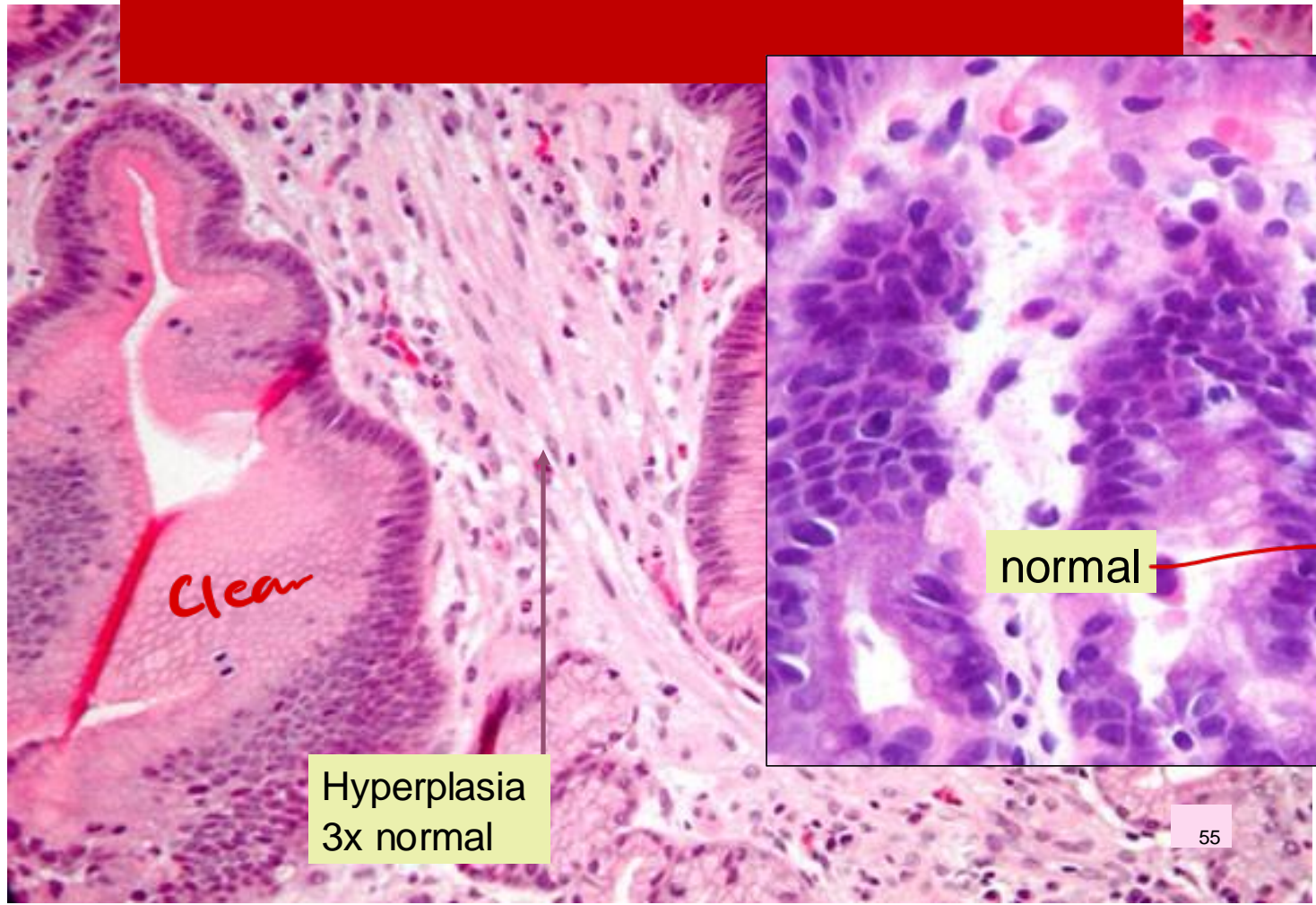
How to identify foveolar hyperplasia?  
(length of neck region)



Foveolar hyperplasia  
Long & tortuous  
Up to 3 x normal



Normal



Clear

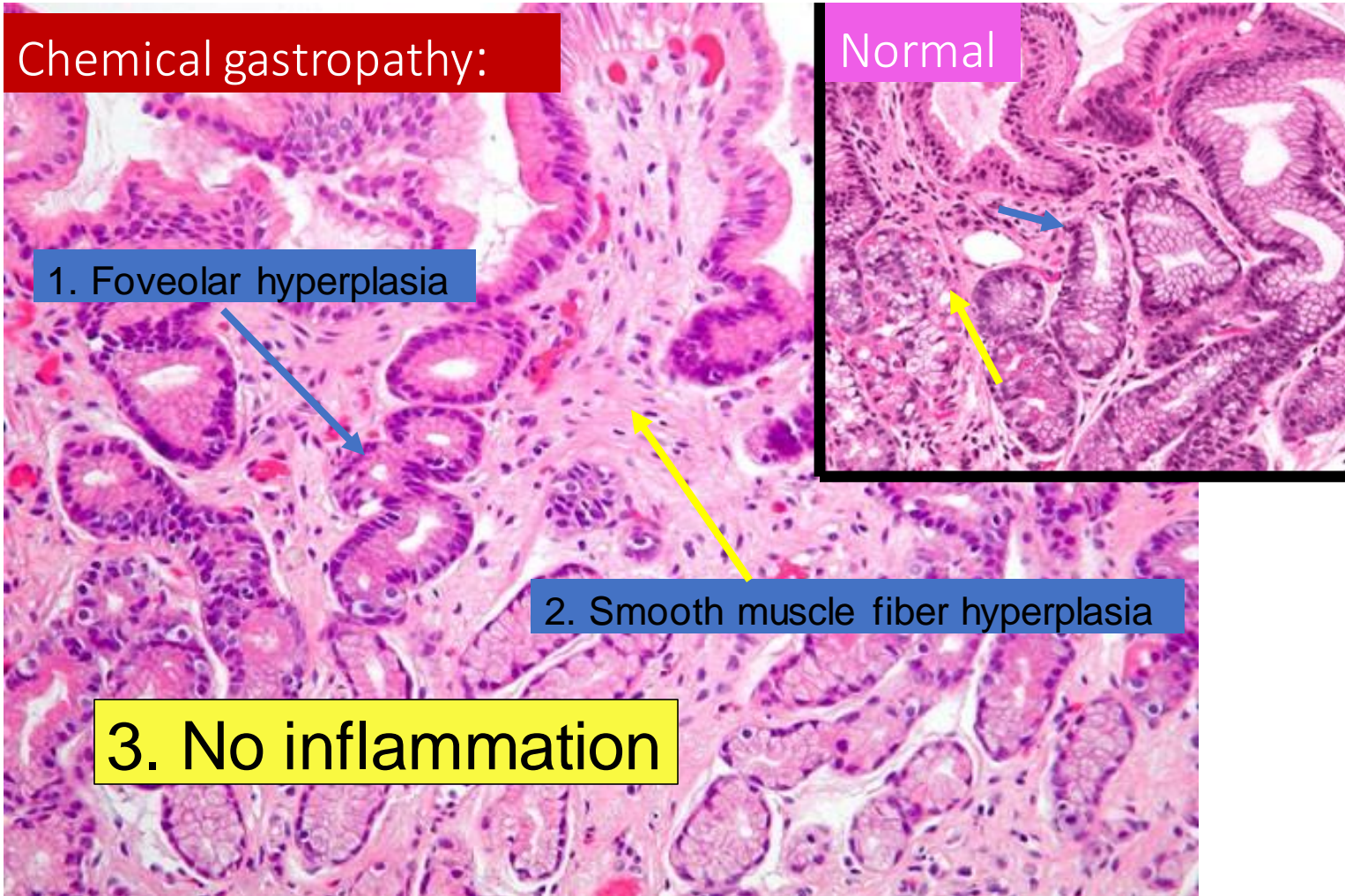
Hyperplasia  
3x normal

normal

1 layer  
+  
G-cell



Chemical gastropathy:



1. Foveolar hyperplasia

2. Smooth muscle fiber hyperplasia

3. No inflammation

Normal



المطرب  
→

%100  
gastropathy patients  
↓  
no acute inf.  
cells

## Chemical Gastropathy: A Distinct Histopathologic Entity in Children

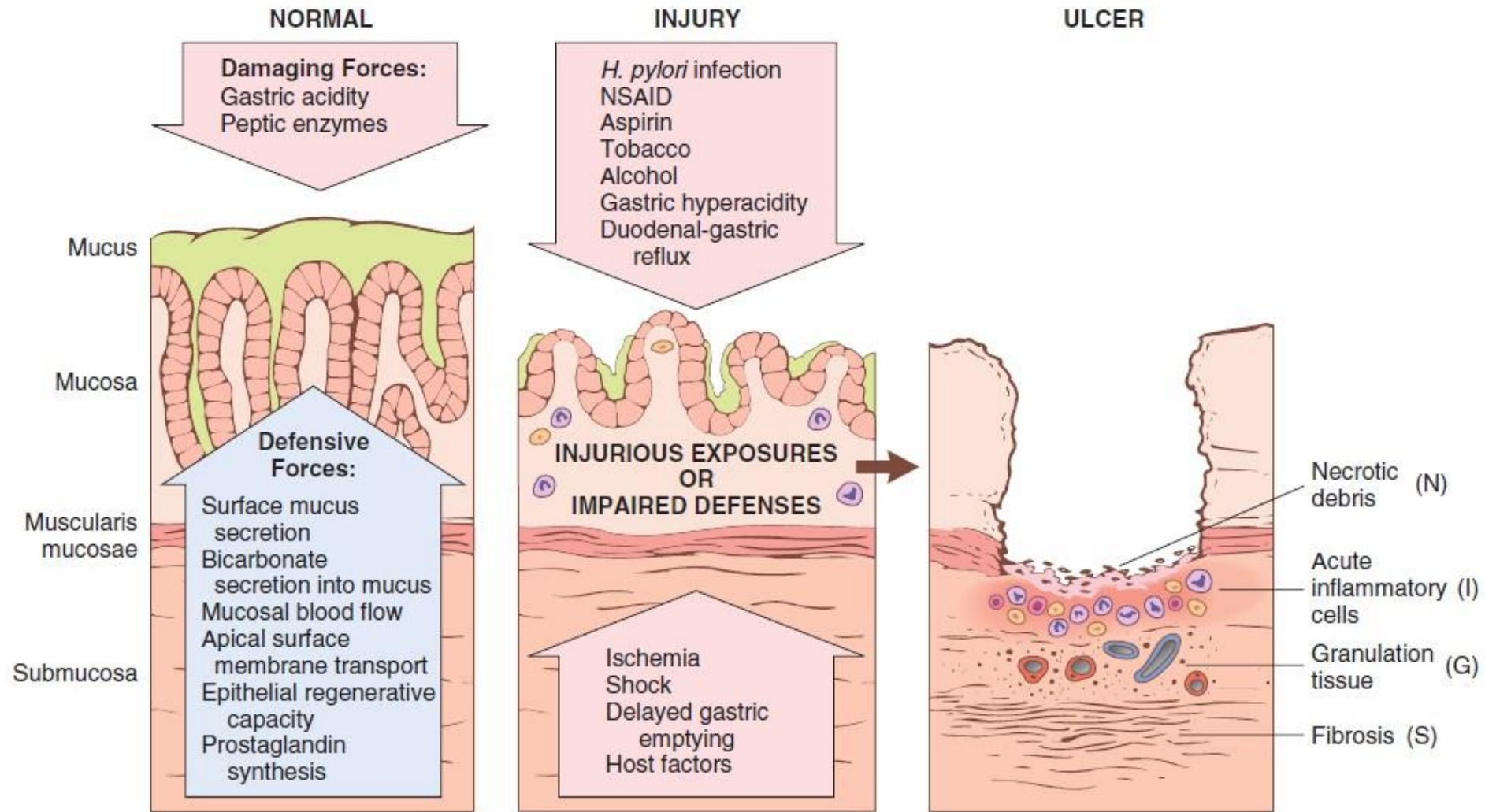
\*Dinesh S. Pashankar, \*Warren P. Bishop, and †Frank A. Mitros

\*Division of Gastroenterology, Children's Hospital of Iowa, and †Department of Pathology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, U.S.A.

**TABLE 2. Histological features of Dixon's diagnostic scoring system in 21 patients with chemical gastropathy**

Antral histological features	Number	Percent
Foveolar hyperplasia	19	90
Lamia propria edema/smooth muscle fibers	16	76
Vascular congestion	20	95
Paucity of acute inflammatory cells	21	100
Paucity of chronic inflammatory cells	19	90

# Pathogenesis



# Pathogenesis

▶ **Imbalance between protective and damaging forces**

▶ **Main causes:**

1. **NSAIDs**
2. **Uremic patients, H pylori infected patients**
3. **Old age.**
4. **Hypoxia**
5. **Harsh chemicals, (acids or bases)**
6. **Alcohol, radiation therapy:**
7. **Chemotherapy.**



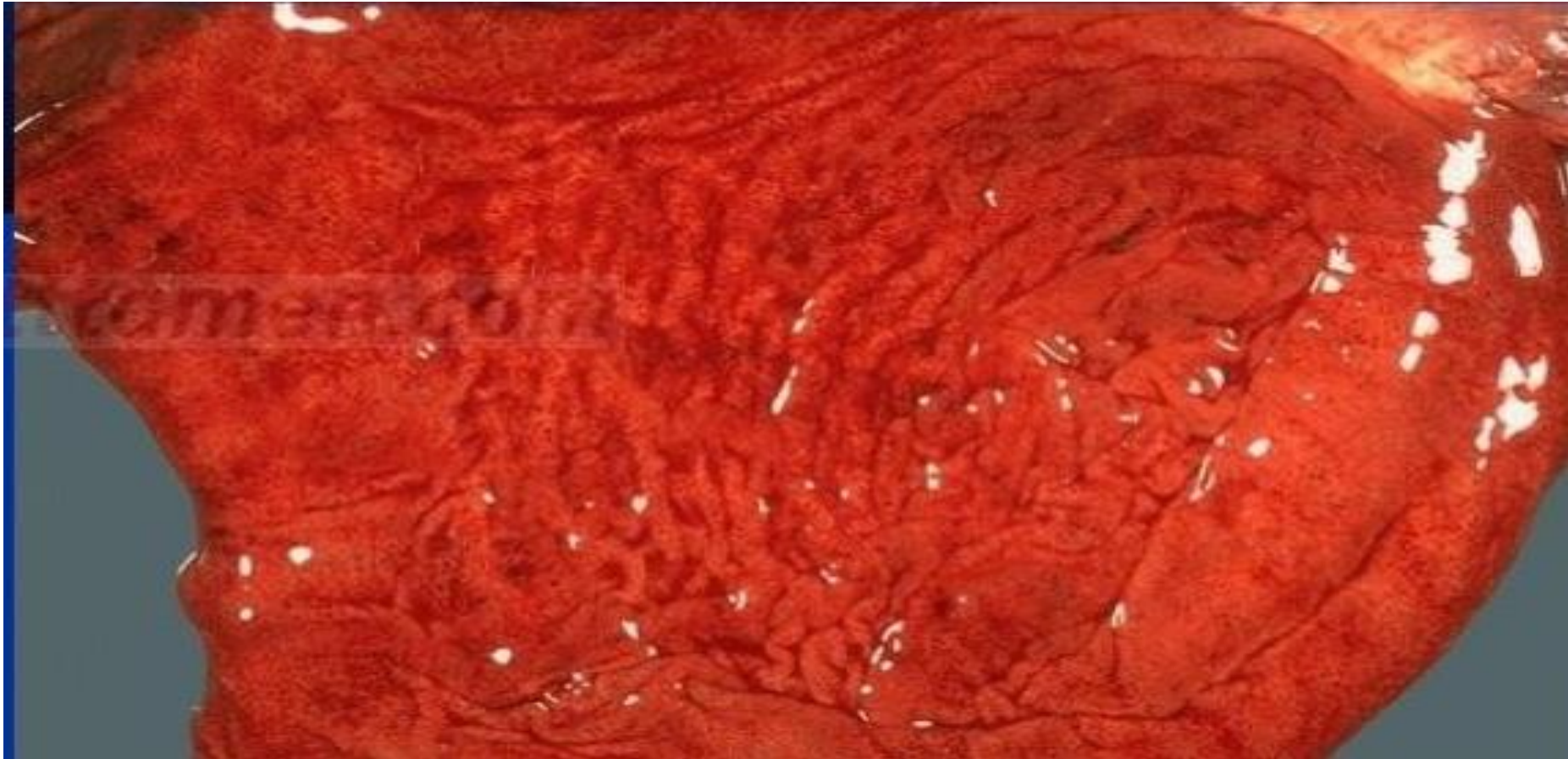
# Morphology

- ▶ Hyperemia.
- ▶ Edema and slight vascular congestion
- ▶ Neutrophils, lymphocytes, and plasma cells are not prominent.
- ▶ Intact surface epithelium. *if mild, severe → erosion/ulcer*
- ▶ Advanced: Erosions and hemorrhage, acute erosive hemorrhagic gastritis.
  
- ▶ Active inflammation (neutrophils) is not necessary.

# Acute gastritis

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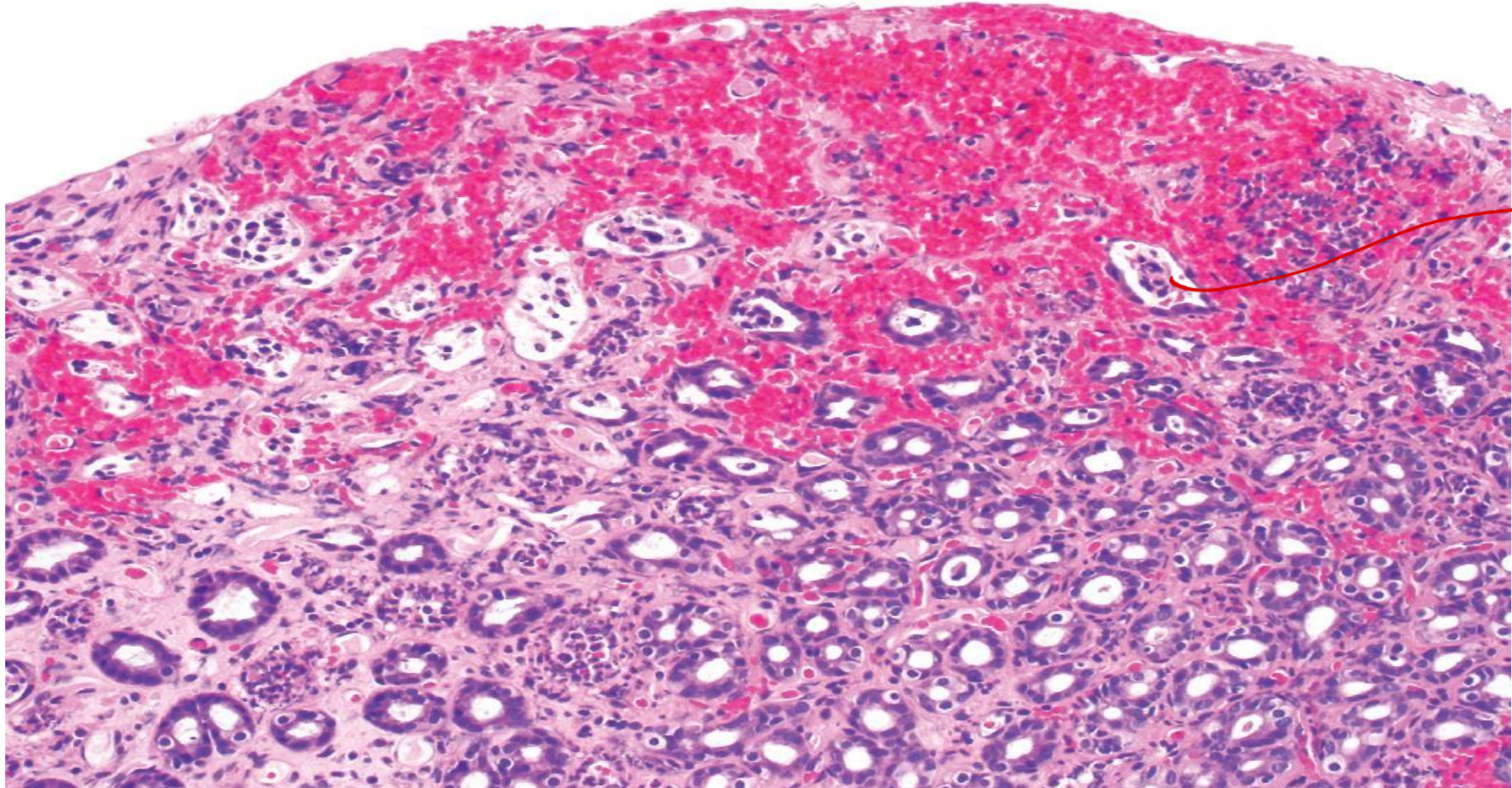
redness / hyperemia





B

- Ulcer
- no intact surface



↑↑↑  
RBCs

Vascular  
Spaces



# Stress-Related Mucosal Disease

## acute gastric ulcers

- ▶ Severe physiologic stress:
- ▶ Trauma
- ▶ Extensive burns
- ▶ Intracranial disease
- ▶ Major surgery
- ▶ Serious medical disease
- ▶ Critically ill patients

وهي  
جداً

\* الأسباب لكل الأنواع  
حتى كل نوع أسباب محددة  
إلا باللاب

## Acute gastric ulcers:

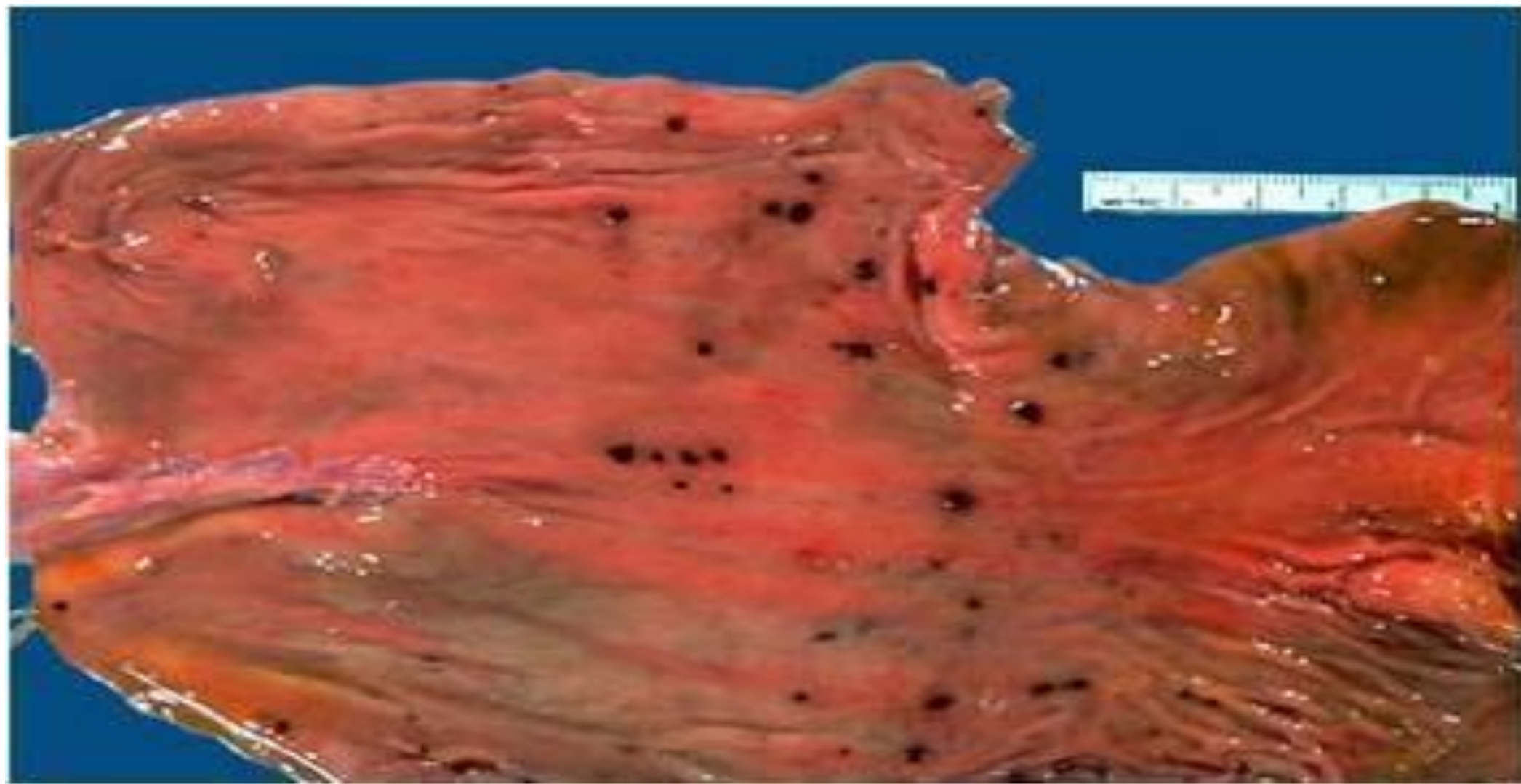
- ▶ ***Stress ulcers***: critically ill patients with shock, sepsis, or severe trauma.
- ▶ ***Curling ulcers***: proximal duodenum , severe burns or trauma.
- ▶ ***Cushing ulcers***: stomach, duodenum, or esophagus, intracranial disease, high risk of perforation.

\* deep ulcer → Crohn

# Morphology

- ▶ Acute ulcers are rounded and typically less than 1 cm in diameter
- ▶ Shallow to deep.
- ▶ Ulcer base brown to black *black → blood*
- ▶ Anywhere in stomach
- ▶ Usually multiple.
- ▶ Normal adjacent mucosa
- ▶ No scarring
- ▶ Healing with complete reepithelialization occurs days or weeks after removal of injurious factors





## Clinical features

- ▶ Nausea, vomiting,
  - ▶ Melena
  - ▶ Coffee -ground hematemesis
  - ▶ Perforation complication.
- 
- ▶ Prophylaxis with proton pump inhibitors
  - ▶ Outcome depends on severity of underlying cause.

نفسي  
ال esophagus

نفسي treatment  
ال gerd

# Chronic gastritis



▶ *Causes:*

▶ ***Helicobacter pylori* associated gastritis: most common.**

▶ ***Autoimmune atrophic gastritis: less than 10% of cases.***

▶ **Less common**

▶ Chronic NSAID

▶ Radiation injury

▶ Chronic bile reflux.



# Clinical features

- ▶ Nausea and upper-abdominal discomfort
- ▶ Vomiting
- ▶ Hematemesis uncommon.
  
- ▶ Less severe but more prolonged symptoms.

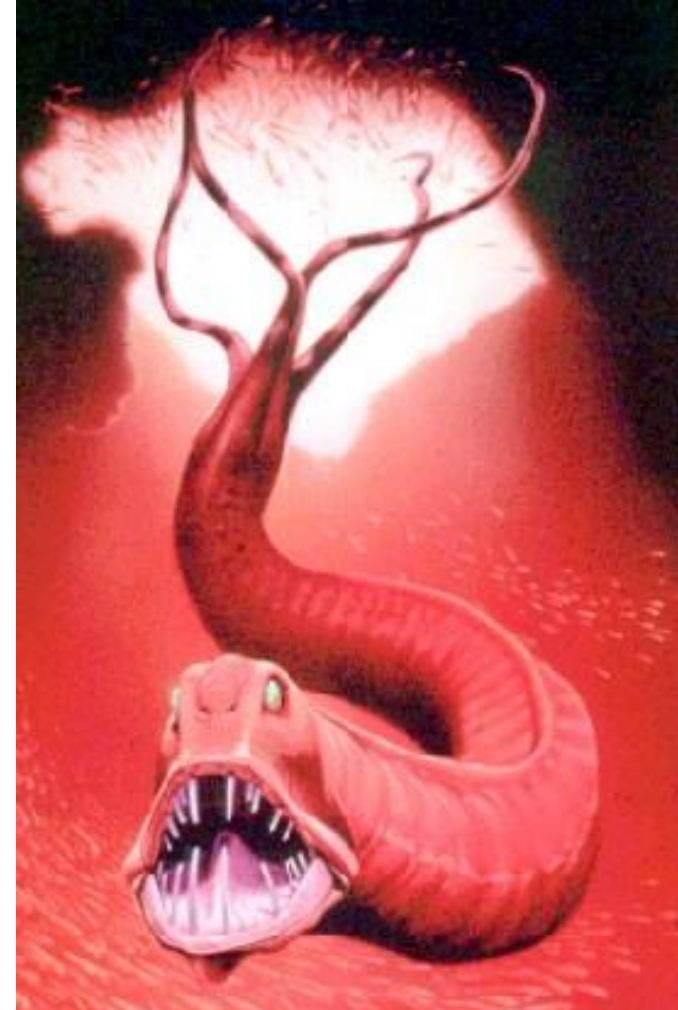
# Diffuse Chronic Inflammation

*H. pylori*

1. Gastritis Patterns
2. Special presentations
3. Diagnosis (stains)

M.C. site → antrum

autoimm. ↓  
parietal cells of body/fundus



# Helicobacter pylori Gastritis

▶ Discovery of the association of H.pylori with peptic ulcer disease was a revolution.

▶ Spiral or curved, G-ve, bacilli.

▶ Present in almost all duodenal ulcers.

▶ Majority of gastric ulcers or chronic gastritis.

▶ Acute infection is subclinical.

▶ Antral gastritis with increased acid production >> peptic ulcer

▶ Intestinal metaplasia and increased risk of gastric cancer.

↳ not parret

\* biopsy of antrum

adenocarcinoma  
intestine  
intestinal metaplasia  
lymphoma



atrophic  $\xrightarrow{\text{causes}}$  2 cancers  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{adenocarcinoma} \\ \text{neuroendocrine tumor} \end{array} \right.$

- ▶ Poverty, household crowding, limited education, poor sanitation
- ▶ Infection is typically acquired in childhood, persists to adult-life.

- ▶ **Pathogenesis:**

- ▶ H.pylori adapted to live in the mucus layer, non-invasive, by

- ▶ Flagella: allow motility.

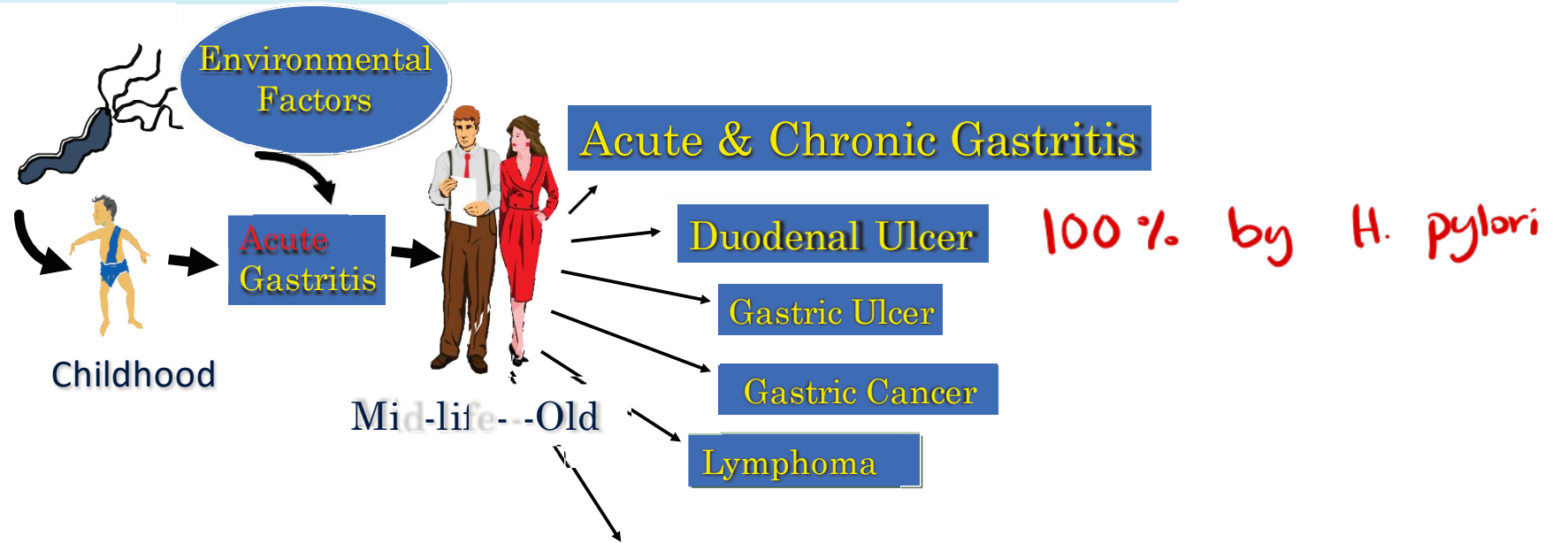
- ▶ **Urease**: split urea to ammonia, protect bacteria from acidic pH.

- ▶ **Adhesins**: bacterial adherence to foveolar cells

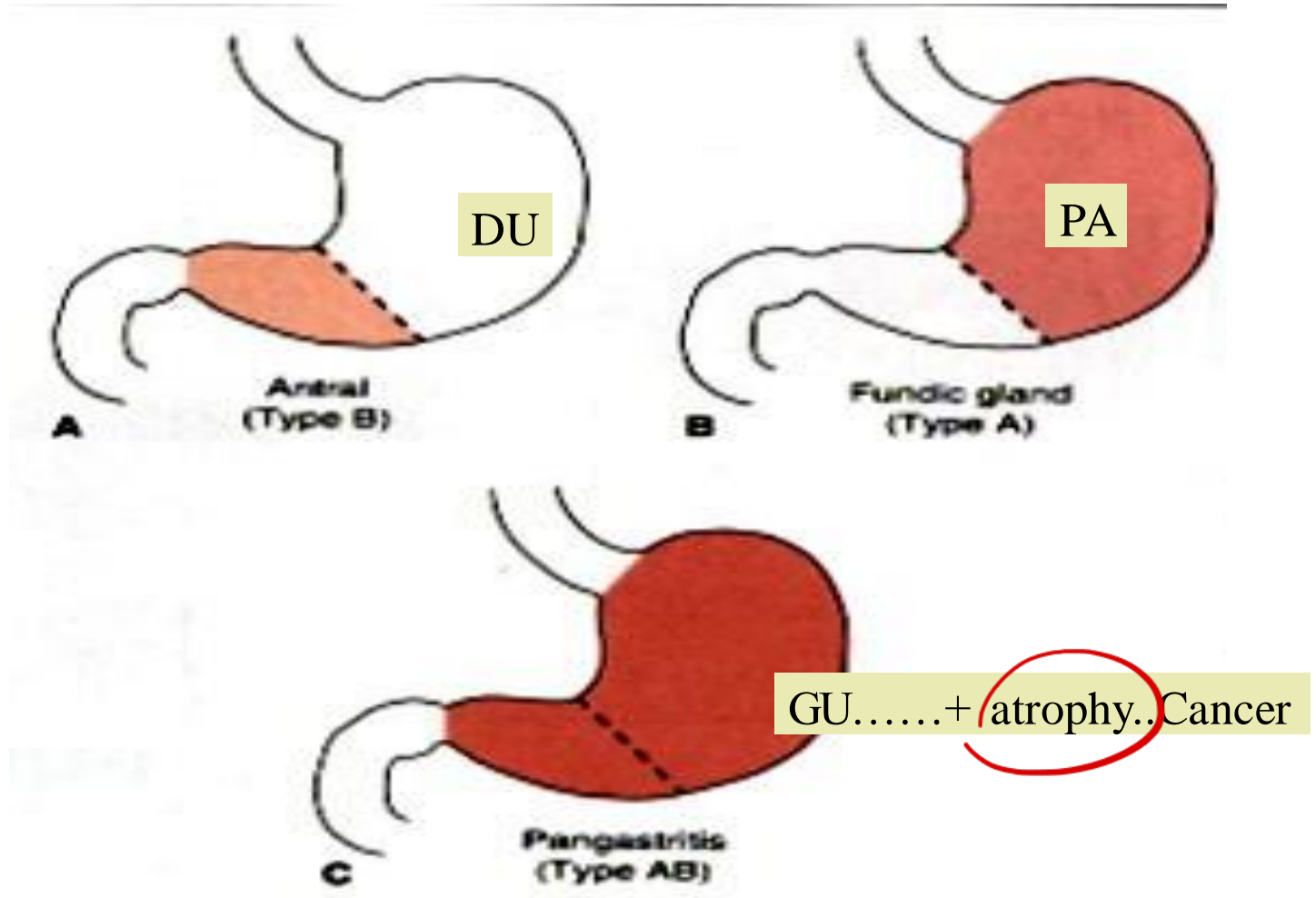
- ▶ **Toxins**: CagA, for ulcer or cancer development



# OUTCOMES OF *H. PYLORI* INFECTION



# GASTRITIS PATTERN



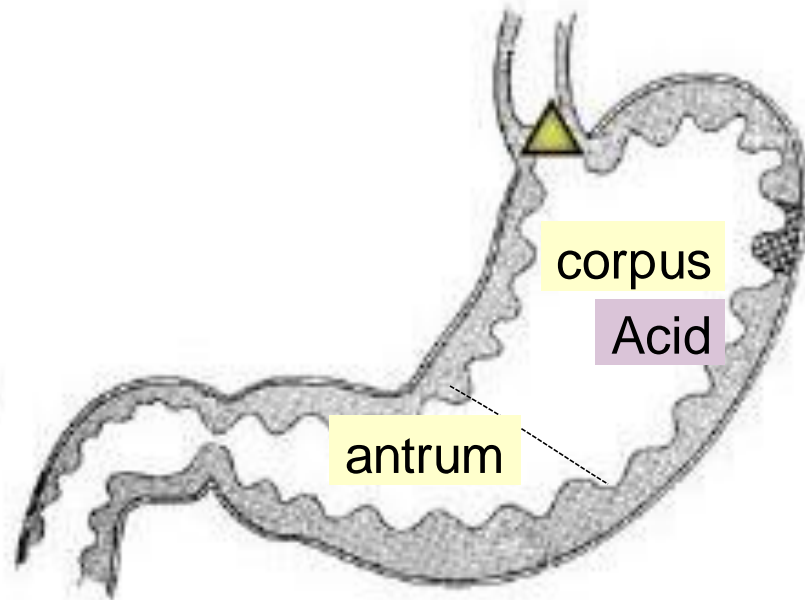


Q: How do we explain different gastritis patterns with *H. pylori* infection?

Q: How do bugs in the stomach cause ulcers in the duodenum?

# No bacteria likes too much acid including *H. pylori*

*H. pylori* prefers neutral pH and dies below 4.0 or above 8.2

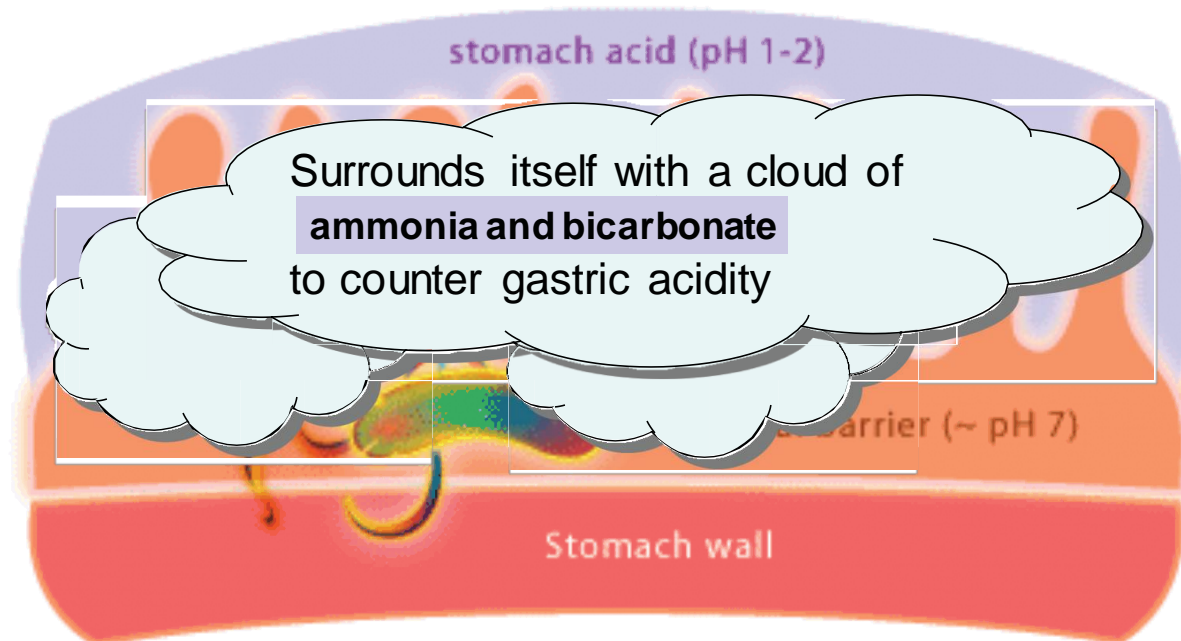


*H. pylori* starts its life in the antrum where it is less acidic

# No bacteria likes acid

Starts in the antrum

مكرر

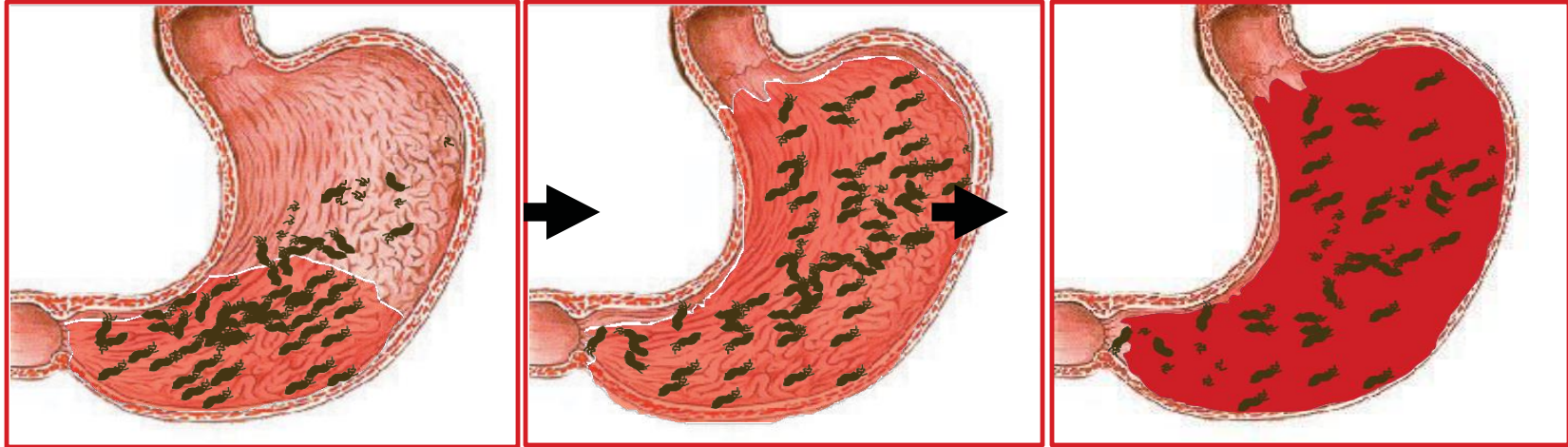


(it produces urease which converts urea (abundant in saliva & gastric juices) to ammonia and bicarbonate)



Gastritis Stages  
proximal migration of *H. pylori*

Antral Predom. Corpus gastritis Pan-atrophic



انtrum بـ بكتريا ↗

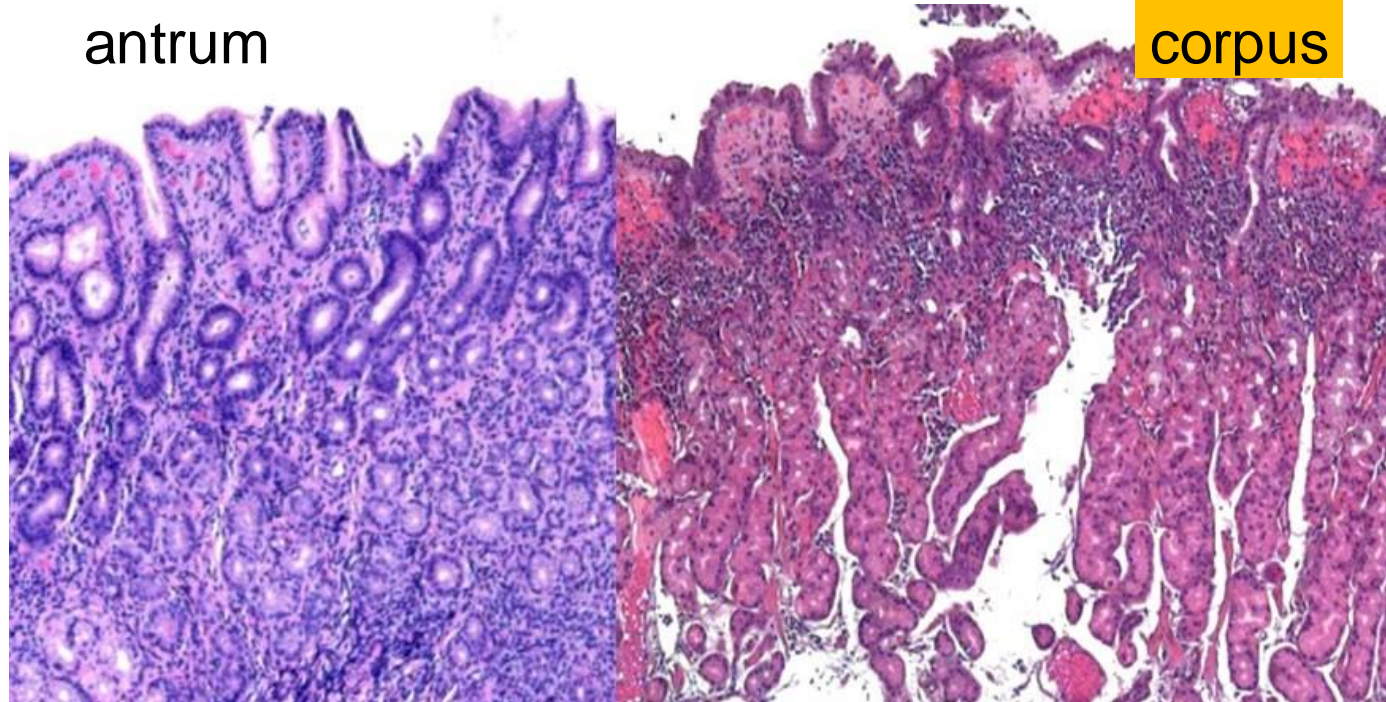
↘ pan gastritis ↗ atrophic gast.



# *Sustained* H. Pylori Gastritis

antrum

corpus



past  
an

كيف تعرف انو المريض  
لبيستجيب للسوادق

Pan Gastritis with superficial inflammation in the corpus

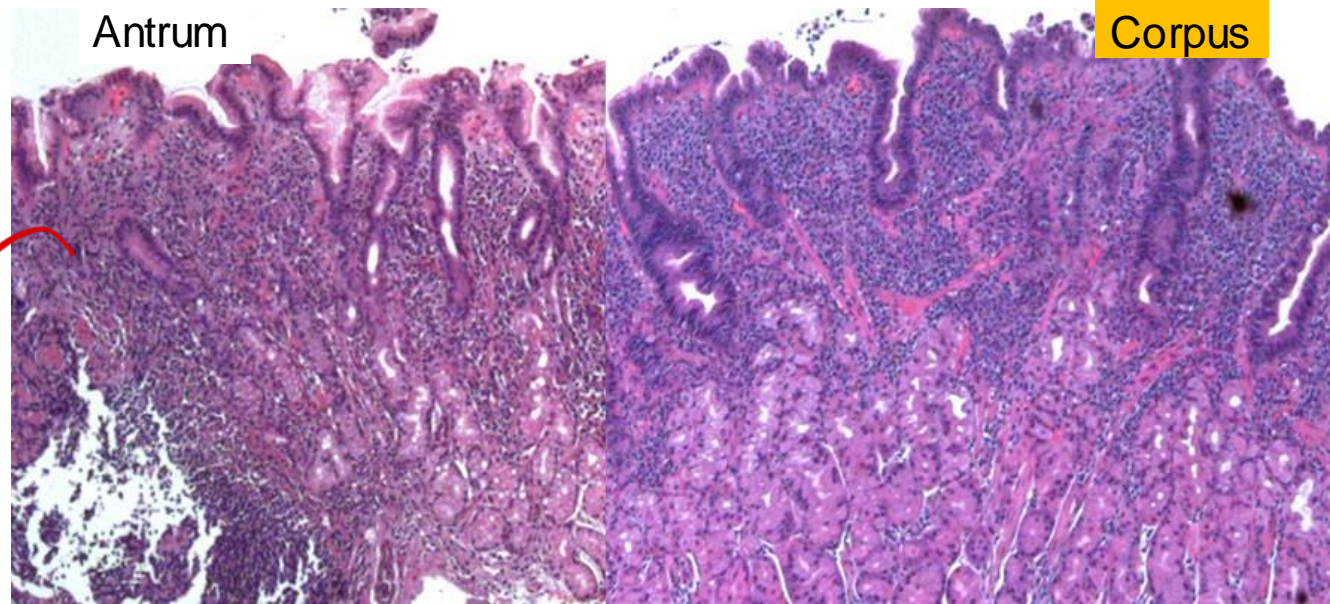
biopsy  
of antrum

no neutrophils

H. pylori is not active

And *later* H. Pylori Gastritis

Chronic

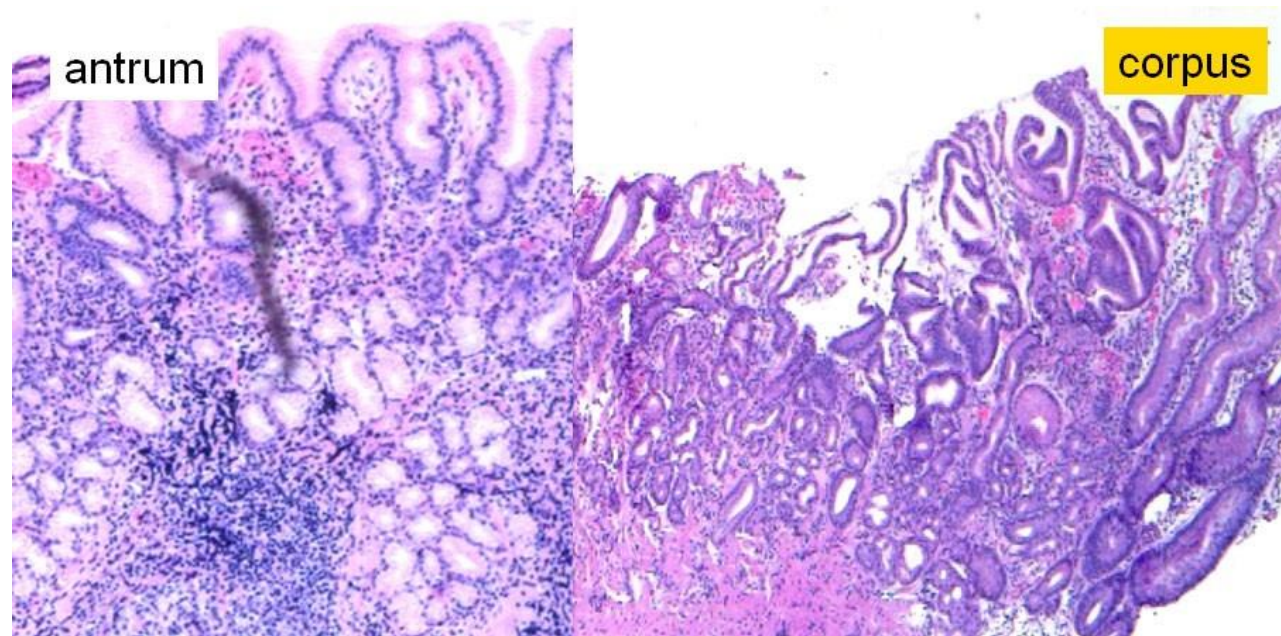


inf. cells  
lymphocytes  
plasma cells

Pan-Gastritis with deeper inflammation in ! corpus



## *Too Late* *H. Pylori* gastritis



antralization  
of  
body

Pan Gastritis with corpus atrophy  
With increased risk for gastric carcinoma

# Morphology

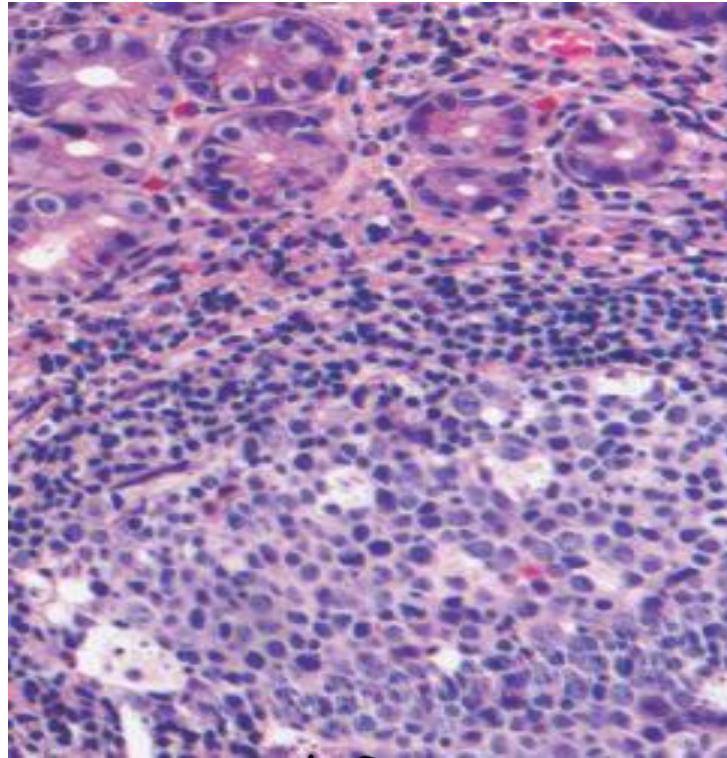
- ▶ Gastric biopsy: H. pylori in mucus layer, antrum.
- ▶ Neutrophils within the lamina propria
- ▶ Plasma cells, lymphocytes & macrophages. } H. pylori انهنه  
active بس تابتنه اذا  
or not
- ▶ **Lymphoid aggregates>>> increased risk of MALT lymphoma.**
- ▶ **Intestinal metaplasia (goblet cells)>>> dysplasia >> increased risk of adenocarcinoma**





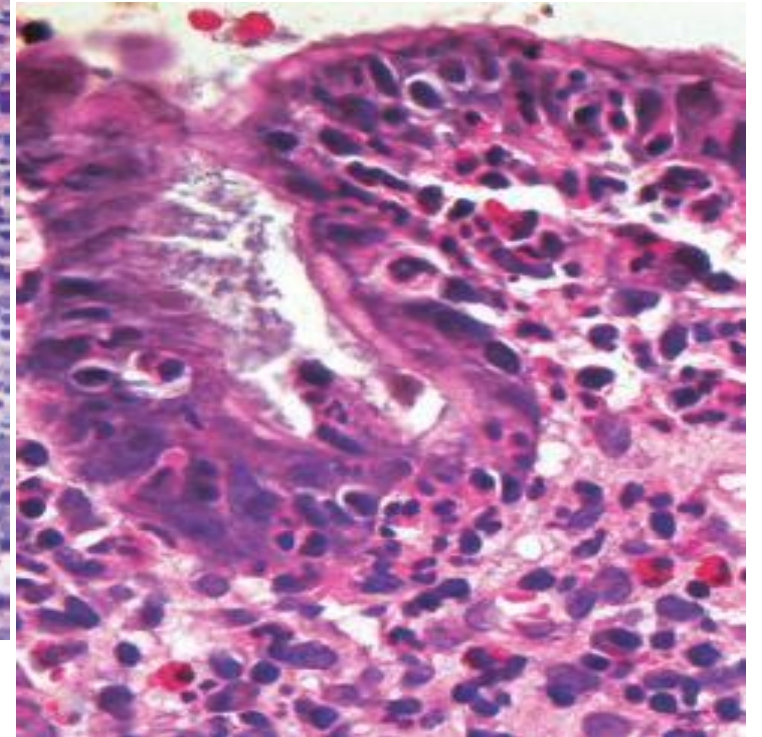
W.S. Stain

Ch. inf. cells

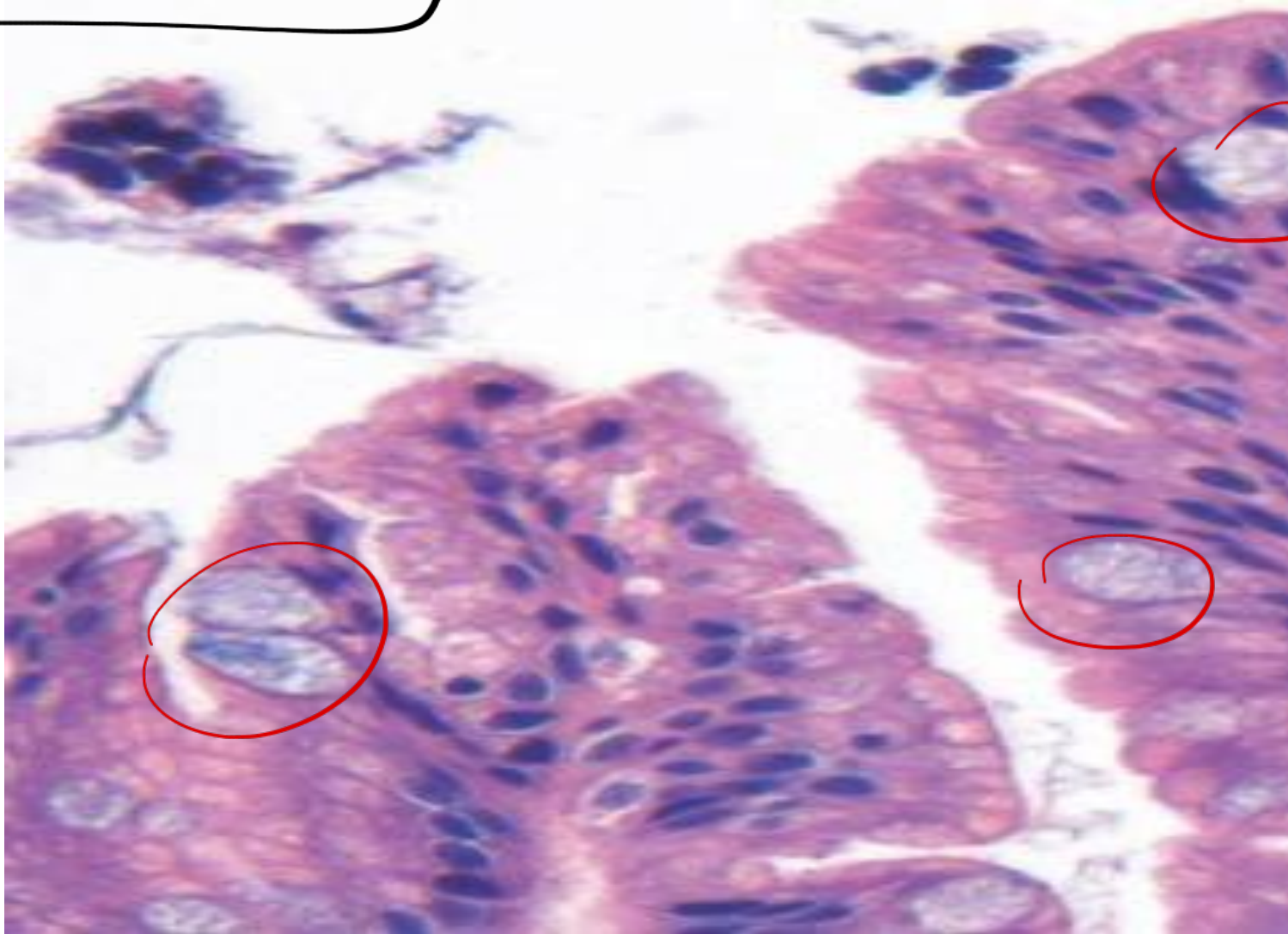


lymphoid follicles

acute



# Intestinal metaplasia



# Diagnosis and treatment

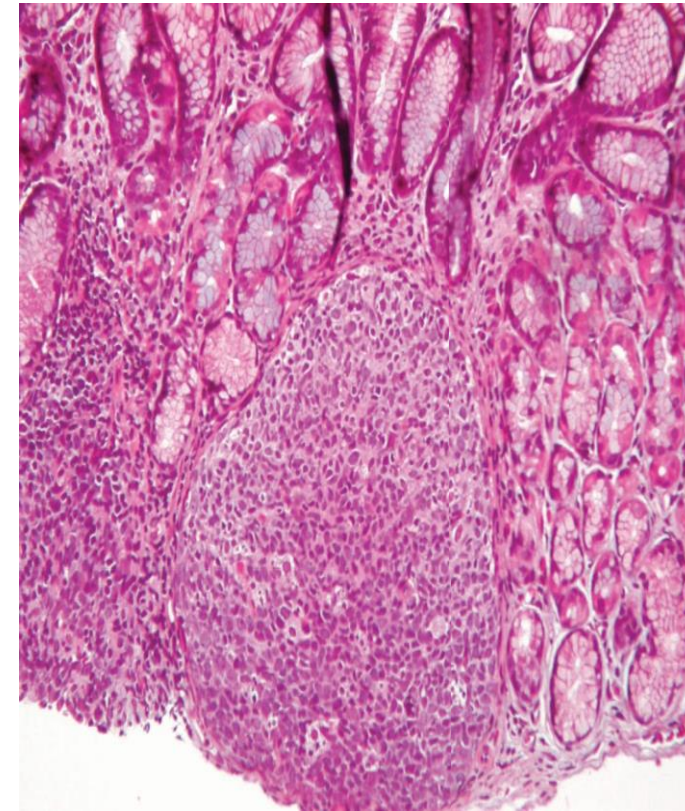
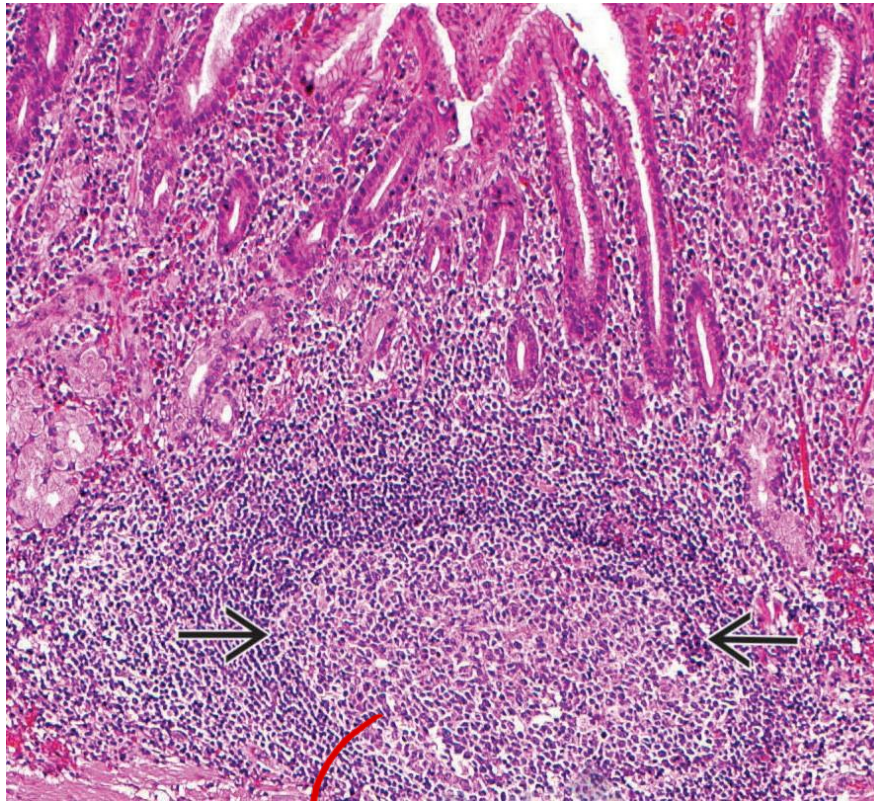
- ▶ Serologic test: anti-H .pylori antibodies.
- ▶ Stool test for H.pylori.
- ▶ Urea breath test.
- ▶ Gastric biopsy الأصم
- ▶ Bacterial culture.
- ▶ PCR test for bacterial DNA.
- ▶ Treatment: combinations of antibiotics and PPI.



# Lymphoid Follicles in *H. pylori* infection

Pre-treatment

Post treatment



germinal center  
lymphoid follicle  
يمكن تصير → lymphoma



# Autoimmune Gastritis

- ▶ Antibodies to <sup>anti-parietal AB</sup> parietal cells and <sup>anti-I.F. AB</sup> intrinsic factor in serum.
- ▶ Reduced serum pepsinogen I levels
- ▶ Antral endocrine cell hyperplasia
- ▶ Vitamin B12 deficiency >>> pernicious anemia and <sup>megaloblastic RBC</sup> neurologic changes
- ▶ Impaired gastric acid secretion (*achlorhydria*)
- ▶ Spares the antrum → normal
- ▶ Marked *hypergastrinemia*

# Pathogenesis

- ▶ Immune-mediated loss of parietal cells >>> reductions in acid and intrinsic factor secretion.
- ▶ Acid reduction leads to hypergastrinemia
- ▶ Hyperplasia of antral G cells } *antralization of body*
- ▶ Deficient intrinsic factor >> deficient ileal VB12 absorption >> megaloblastic anemia.
- ▶ Some chief cell damage >> reduced pepsinogen

# Morphology

- ▶ Damage of the oxyntic (acid-producing) mucosa.
- ▶ Diffuse atrophy, thinning of wall, loss of rugal folds
- ▶ Lymphocytes, plasma cells, macrophages, less likely neutrophils.
- ▶ Intestinal metaplasia >>> dysplasia >> <sup>adeno</sup> carcinoma.
- ▶ Neuroendocrine cell hyperplasia >>> tumors.

## Clinical features

*elderly* <sup>LI</sup> *H. pylori* → *young*

- ▶ 60 years, slight female predominance.
- ▶ Often associated with other autoimmune diseases





Table 15.2 Characteristics of *Helicobacter pylori*-Associated and Autoimmune Gastritis

Feature	<i>H. pylori</i> -Associated	Autoimmune
Location	Antrum	Body
Inflammatory infiltrate	Neutrophils, subepithelial plasma cells	Lymphocytes, macrophages
Acid production	Increased to slightly decreased	Decreased
Gastrin	Normal to markedly increased	Markedly increased
Other lesions	Hyperplastic/inflammatory polyps	Neuroendocrine hyperplasia
Serology	Antibodies to <i>H. pylori</i>	Antibodies to parietal cells ( $H^+,K^+$ -ATPase, intrinsic factor)
Sequelae	Peptic ulcer, adenocarcinoma, lymphoma	Atrophy, pernicious anemia, adenocarcinoma, carcinoid tumor
Associations	Low socioeconomic status, poverty, residence in rural areas	Autoimmune disease; thyroiditis, diabetes mellitus, Graves disease