SURGICAL PATHOLOGY REPORT [SYNTHETIC]

ACCESSION #: UC-2025-29314
DATE OF PROCEDURE: 04/17/2025
DATE OF REPORT: 04/21/2025
REQUESTING PHYSICIAN: Dr. Gabrielle Sanchez, Gastroenterology
PATHOLOGIST: Dr. Gina Reynolds, Anatomic Pathology

CLINICAL HISTORY:

73 year old male with recent onset history of bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain, and urgency. Colonoscopy showed severe ulceration and spontaneous bleeding from rectum to descending colon. Clinical suspicion for ulcerative colitis.

SPECIMEN RECEIVED:

A. Rectum, biopsy

B. Sigmoid colon, biopsy

C. Descending colon, biopsy

D. Transverse colon, biopsy

E. Ascending colon, biopsy

F. Terminal ileum, biopsy

GROSS DESCRIPTION:

A. Received in formalin labeled "rectum" are 5 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 3 mm in aggregate.

B. Received in formalin labeled "sigmoid colon" are 3 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 7 mm in aggregate.

C. Received in formalin labeled "descending colon" are 2 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 6 mm in aggregate.

D. Received in formalin labeled "transverse colon" are 2 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 8 mm in aggregate.

E. Received in formalin labeled "ascending colon" are 3 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 6 mm in aggregate.

F. Received in formalin labeled "terminal ileum" are 5 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 6 mm in aggregate.

All specimens are entirely submitted in 4 cassette(s).

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:

A. Rectal mucosa shows severe active chronic inflammation with diffuse neutrophilic cryptitis, crypt abscesses, and epithelial injury. The inflammatory process is limited to the mucosa without evidence of granulomas. No evidence of dysplasia is identified. The inflammatory pattern shows overlapping features of both ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.

B. Sigmoid colonic mucosa shows moderate active chronic inflammation with severe cryptitis, crypt architectural distortion, and Paneth cell metaplasia. The inflammatory process is limited to the mucosa without evidence of granulomas. No evidence of dysplasia is identified.

C. Descending colonic mucosa shows moderate active chronic inflammation with severe cryptitis, crypt architectural distortion, and Paneth cell metaplasia. The inflammatory process is limited to the mucosa without evidence of granulomas. Basal plasmacytosis is prominent. Rare cells with intranuclear and cytoplasmic inclusions suspicious for cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection are identified.

D. Transverse colonic mucosa shows mild active chronic inflammation with marked crypt architectural distortion, numerous crypt abscesses, and complete goblet cell depletion. Occasional Paneth cell metaplasia is noted.

E. Ascending colonic mucosa shows mild to moderate active chronic inflammation with crypt architectural distortion and crypt abscesses. Surface epithelium shows reactive changes.

F. Terminal ileal mucosa shows mild reactive lymphoid hyperplasia without evidence of chronic inflammatory bowel disease. No evidence of chronic inflammatory bowel disease identified in this section.

DIAGNOSIS:

A. Rectum, biopsy:

- severe active chronic colitis with crypt architectural distortion and goblet cell depletion
- Features of chronicity consistent with inflammatory bowel disease, with overlapping features of both UC and CD
- Viral cytopathic changes suspicious for cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection

- severe consistent with ulcerative colitis
- No dysplasia identified
- No evidence of cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection

B. Sigmoid colon, biopsy:

- moderate active chronic colitis with crypt architectural distortion and goblet cell depletion
- moderate consistent with ulcerative colitis
- No dysplasia identified

C-E. Descending, transverse, and ascending colon, biopsies:

- moderate active chronic colitis with crypt architectural distortion
- Features consistent with ulcerative colitis
- No dysplasia identified

F. Terminal ileum, biopsy:

- Mild non-specific inflammation
- No evidence of inflammatory bowel disease

COMMENT:

The histologic findings show a pattern of continuous chronic active colitis with greatest severity in the distal colon and rectum, with relative sparing of the proximal colon. The absence of granulomas, transmural inflammation, and terminal ileal involvement are features favoring ulcerative colitis over Crohn's disease. Correlation with clinical, endoscopic, and radiologic findings is recommended for definitive classification. Clinical correlation and follow-up biopsies are recommended to monitor disease activity and treatment response. Immunohistochemical staining for CMV is positive, confirming the presence of CMV infection. This may contribute to the severity of colitis and should be considered in treatment planning. The histologic findings show overlapping features of both ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. This pattern may represent an 'indeterminate colitis' and correlation with clinical, endoscopic, and serologic markers is strongly recommended for further classification.

SPECIAL STUDIES:

Periodic acid-Schiff (PAS) stain is negative for fungal organisms. Cytomegalovirus (CMV) immunohistochemistry reveals scattered positive cells confirming viral infection.