

SURGICAL PATHOLOGY REPORT [SYNTHETIC]

ACCESSION #: UC-2025-54110

DATE OF PROCEDURE: 05/07/2025

DATE OF REPORT: 05/10/2025

REQUESTING PHYSICIAN: Dr. Kara Ballard, Gastroenterology

PATHOLOGIST: Dr. Katherine Rowe, Anatomic Pathology

CLINICAL HISTORY:

18 year old male with 6 month history of bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain, and urgency. Colonoscopy showed continuous erythema and friability from rectum to splenic flexure. 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 2 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 5 mm in aggregate.
- B. Received in formalin labeled "sigmoid colon" are 4 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 2 mm in aggregate.
- C. Received in formalin labeled "descending colon" are 5 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 8 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 5 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 6 mm in aggregate.

F. Received in formalin labeled "terminal ileum" are 2 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 5 mm in aggregate.

All specimens are entirely submitted in 5 cassette(s).

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:

A. Rectal mucosa shows moderate active chronic inflammation with severe cryptitis, crypt architectural distortion, and mucosal ulceration. The inflammatory process is limited to the mucosa without evidence of granulomas. Occasional Paneth cell metaplasia is noted.

B. Sigmoid colonic mucosa shows moderate to severe active chronic inflammation with crypt branching, crypt atrophy, and focal crypt abscesses. The inflammatory process is limited to the mucosa without evidence of granulomas. Surface epithelium shows reactive changes.

C. Descending colonic mucosa shows moderate to severe 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. Lamina propria shows increased plasma cells and lymphocytes. Terminal ileal mucosa shows mild active inflammation with neutrophilic cryptitis, likely representing backwash ileitis.

D. Transverse colonic mucosa shows mild active chronic inflammation with crypt architectural distortion and crypt abscesses. No evidence of dysplasia is identified.

E. Ascending colonic mucosa shows mild to moderate active chronic inflammation with crypt architectural distortion and crypt abscesses. Lamina propria shows increased plasma cells and lymphocytes.

F. Terminal ileal mucosa shows normal small intestinal mucosa with appropriate crypt to villous ratio. No evidence of chronic inflammatory bowel disease identified in this section.

DIAGNOSIS:

A. Rectum, biopsy:

- moderate active chronic colitis with crypt architectural distortion and goblet cell depletion
- moderate consistent with ulcerative colitis
- No dysplasia identified
- No evidence of cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection

B. Sigmoid colon, biopsy:

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

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

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

F. Terminal ileum, biopsy:

- Mild non-specific inflammation
- Mild active ileitis, consistent with backwash ileitis in the setting of ulcerative colitis
- 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. The mild ileal inflammation in the context of pancolitis is consistent with backwash ileitis, which can be seen in ulcerative colitis and does not necessarily indicate Crohn's disease.

SPECIAL STUDIES:

Grocott's methenamine silver (GMS) stain is negative for fungal organisms.