

SURGICAL PATHOLOGY REPORT [SYNTHETIC]

ACCESSION #: UC-2025-82925

DATE OF PROCEDURE: 04/21/2025

DATE OF REPORT: 04/24/2025

REQUESTING PHYSICIAN: Dr. Jerry Barajas, Gastroenterology

PATHOLOGIST: Dr. Lori Maddox, Anatomic Pathology

CLINICAL HISTORY:

58 year old female with 6 month history of bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain, and urgency. Colonoscopy showed mild erythema and granularity limited to rectum and sigmoid 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 6 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 5 mm in aggregate.
- C. Received in formalin labeled "descending colon" are 5 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 5 mm in aggregate.
- D. Received in formalin labeled "transverse colon" are 2 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 4 mm in aggregate.
- E. Received in formalin labeled "ascending colon" are 6 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 7 mm in aggregate.

F. Received in formalin labeled "terminal ileum" are 2 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 7 mm in aggregate.

All specimens are entirely submitted in 3 cassette(s).

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:

A. Rectal 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. Mucosal edema and congestion are present.

B. Sigmoid colonic mucosa shows mild to moderate active chronic inflammation with crypt branching, crypt atrophy, and focal crypt abscesses. The inflammatory process is limited to the mucosa without evidence of granulomas. Mucosal edema and congestion are present.

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. No evidence of dysplasia is identified. The inflammatory pattern shows overlapping features of both ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.

D. Transverse colonic mucosa shows moderate active chronic inflammation with marked crypt architectural distortion, numerous crypt abscesses, and complete goblet cell depletion. No evidence of dysplasia is identified.

E. Ascending colonic mucosa shows mild to moderate active chronic inflammation with diffuse crypt architectural distortion, crypt abscesses, and goblet cell depletion. Lamina propria shows increased plasma cells and lymphocytes. In addition to the chronic inflammatory changes, there are numerous neutrophils and pseudomembranes suspicious for superimposed *Clostridioides difficile* infection. Terminal ileal mucosa shows mild active inflammation with neutrophilic cryptitis, likely representing backwash ileitis.

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:

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

B. Sigmoid colon, biopsy:

- mild to moderate active chronic colitis with crypt architectural distortion and goblet cell depletion
- Mild active ileitis, consistent with backwash ileitis in the setting of ulcerative colitis
- mild to moderate 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 suggestive of superimposed *Clostridioides difficile* infection
- 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. The histologic findings show classic features of ulcerative colitis with diffuse crypt architectural distortion and diffuse mucosal inflammation. The histologic features suggestive of superimposed *Clostridioides difficile* infection should be correlated with clinical presentation and stool testing. 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. 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:

CD3 and CD20 immunostains show a normal distribution of T and B lymphocytes without evidence of lymphoma. Gram stain highlights numerous gram-positive bacilli morphologically consistent with *Clostridioides difficile*.

This is a synthetic educational pathology report created for AI training purposes. It does not represent a real patient case.