

SURGICAL PATHOLOGY REPORT [SYNTHETIC]

ACCESSION #: UC-2025-89016

DATE OF PROCEDURE: 05/08/2025

DATE OF REPORT: 05/11/2025

REQUESTING PHYSICIAN: Dr. Jane Fox, Gastroenterology

PATHOLOGIST: Dr. Jeff Smith, Anatomic Pathology

CLINICAL HISTORY:

49 year old male with 2 week history of bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain, and urgency. Colonoscopy showed circumferential ulceration and pseudopolyps from rectum to mid-transverse 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 6 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 6 mm in aggregate.
- B. Received in formalin labeled "sigmoid colon" are 5 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 6 mm in aggregate.
- C. Received in formalin labeled "descending colon" are 4 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 4 mm in aggregate.
- D. Received in formalin labeled "transverse colon" are 6 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 6 mm in aggregate.
- E. Received in formalin labeled "ascending colon" are 4 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 3 mm in aggregate.

F. Received in formalin labeled "terminal ileum" are 3 tan-pink tissue fragments measuring 5 mm in aggregate.

All specimens are entirely submitted in 1 cassette(s).

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:

A. Rectal mucosa shows moderate active chronic inflammation with crypt architectural distortion, lamina propria plasma cells, and basal plasmacytosis. The inflammatory process is limited to the mucosa without evidence of granulomas. Marked decrease in goblet cell population.

B. Sigmoid colonic mucosa shows moderate active chronic inflammation with marked crypt architectural distortion, numerous crypt abscesses, and complete goblet cell depletion. The inflammatory process is limited to the mucosa without evidence of granulomas. Basal plasmacytosis is prominent. Areas of crypt dropout and lamina propria fibrosis are present, suggesting chronicity and possible treatment effect.

C. Descending colonic mucosa shows mild to moderate active chronic inflammation with diffuse crypt architectural distortion, crypt abscesses, and goblet cell depletion. 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. Surface epithelium shows reactive changes.

E. Ascending colonic mucosa shows mild active chronic inflammation with diffuse crypt architectural distortion, crypt abscesses, and goblet cell depletion. Marked decrease in goblet cell population. In addition to the chronic inflammatory changes, there are numerous neutrophils and pseudomembranes suspicious for superimposed *Clostridioides difficile* infection.

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 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 active chronic colitis with crypt architectural distortion and goblet cell depletion
- Features suggestive of superimposed *Clostridioides difficile* infection
- moderate consistent with ulcerative colitis
- No dysplasia identified

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

- mild to moderate active chronic colitis with crypt architectural distortion
- Changes consistent with chronicity and treatment effect
- Mild active ileitis, consistent with backwash ileitis in the setting of ulcerative colitis
- 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 presence of diffuse crypt architectural distortion, basal plasmacytosis, and continuous inflammatory pattern strongly supports the diagnosis of ulcerative colitis. The histologic features suggestive of superimposed *Clostridioides difficile* infection should be correlated with clinical presentation and stool testing. 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. Histologic features suggesting chronicity and treatment effect are present. Correlation with treatment history is recommended.

SPECIAL STUDIES:

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