



# General Pathology

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GENERAL PATHOLOGY

## LECTURE-2

# INTRODUCTION TO PATHOLOGY



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BDS, MDS, ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL PATHOLOGY

# **Introduction to Pathology**

## **(Intended Lecture Learning Outcomes)**

By the end of this lecture, students will be able to:

- **Define** pathology and **differentiate** its major branches.
- **Describe** autopsy and **classify** its main types.
- **Explain** the basic **nomenclature and terminology** commonly used in pathology.

# INTRODUCTION

- Why to study about the cell?

**IT IS THE BASIC UNIT OF THE BODY.**

**Cells → Tissues → Organs → Bodies**

Living bodies are made up of cells

Cells do all the work of life!

# CELL STRUCTURE

## Cytoplasm

- jelly-like material holding organelles in place

## Vacuole & Vesicles

- transport inside cells
- storage

## Centrioles

- cell division

## Mitochondria

- make ATP energy from sugar + O<sub>2</sub>

## Cell membrane

- cell boundary
- controls movement of materials in & out
- recognizes signals

## Lysosome

- food digestion
- garbage disposal & recycling

## Nucleus

- CONTROL CENTER
- protects DNA
  - controls cell

## Ribosomes

- builds proteins

## Golgi apparatus

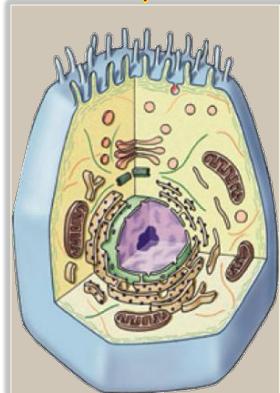
- finishes, packages & ships proteins

## Endoplasmic Reticulum

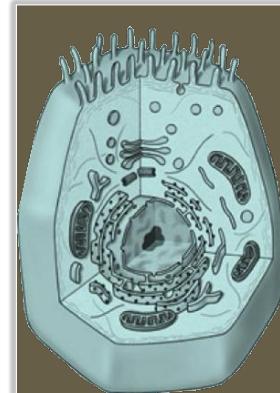
- helps finish proteins
- makes membranes

# Introduction to Pathology

EXTERNAL STIMULI : Eg BACTERIAL INFECTION



NORMAL CELL



DISEASED or DAMAGED CELL

Study Of Normal Functions of  
the cells is called **PHYSIOLOGY**

Study of **Diseased** or Damaged cell  
and its altered **function** is called  
**PATHOLOGY**

# What is Pathology?

- Pathology is a **scientific study (logos) of disease (pathos)**. It mainly focuses on the study of the **structural, biochemical and functional changes in cells, tissues and organs** in disease
- **Patho - suffering logy - to Study (Greek)**

“Your practice of medicine (dentistry) will be as good as your understanding of pathology”

— Sir William Osler

# BASIC TERMINOLOGIES IN PATHOLOGY

- **Health** – is a condition when the individual is normal and in complete harmony (balance) with the surroundings
- **Disease** – opposite of health....what is not healthy is disease. “State in which an individual exhibits an anatomical, physiological, or biochemical deviation from the normal.

# Pathology studies...



# What we study in Disease?????

## 1. ETIOLOGY:

only cause

- Aetiology or etiology is the origin or cause of a disease.
- Types:
  - Genetic (intrinsic) → inherited mutations, chromosomal abnormalities.
  - Acquired (extrinsic) → infections, chemicals, trauma, nutritional imbalance.

## 2. PATHOGENESIS:

- The origin of a disease and the chain of events leading to that disease. *How the cause cause the disease*
- sequence of events from the initial stimulus to ultimate expression of the disease (mechanisms).
- Example: TB infection → inhalation of bacilli → alveolar colonization → granuloma formation.

# Lesion

- **Definition:** A structural alteration in tissues due to disease.
- Examples:
  - Ulcer on oral mucosa.
  - White patch (leukoplakia).
  - Tumor mass.

# Morphological Changes

- **Definition:** Structural alterations in cells/tissues visible under microscope or grossly.

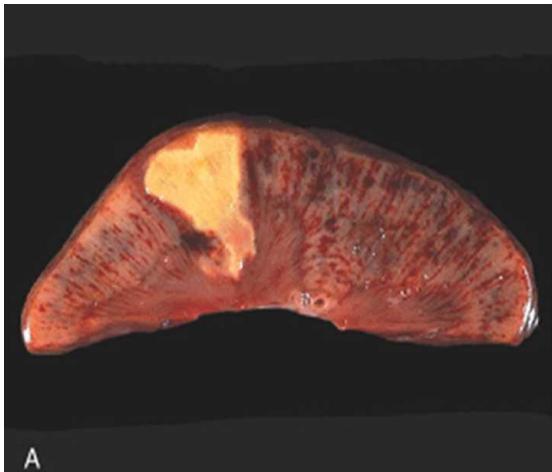
## 2- Types:

- ✓ Gross changes – seen with naked eye (e.g., swelling, ulcer).
- ✓ Microscopic changes – seen under light/electron microscope.

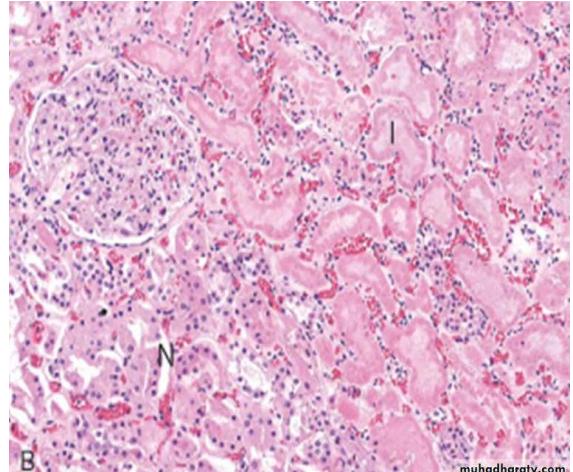
## Morphological changes

### Gross

Macroscopic appearance visible to  
the naked eye



### Microscopy



# Clinical Manifestations

*by doctor*

- **Signs:** Objective evidence, observed by doctor  
(e.g., swelling, redness).
- **Symptoms:** Subjective, experienced by patient  
(e.g., pain, burning).
- **Syndrome:** A group of signs & symptoms that occur together (e.g., Down's syndrome).  
*many signs, symptoms together*

# Diagnosis

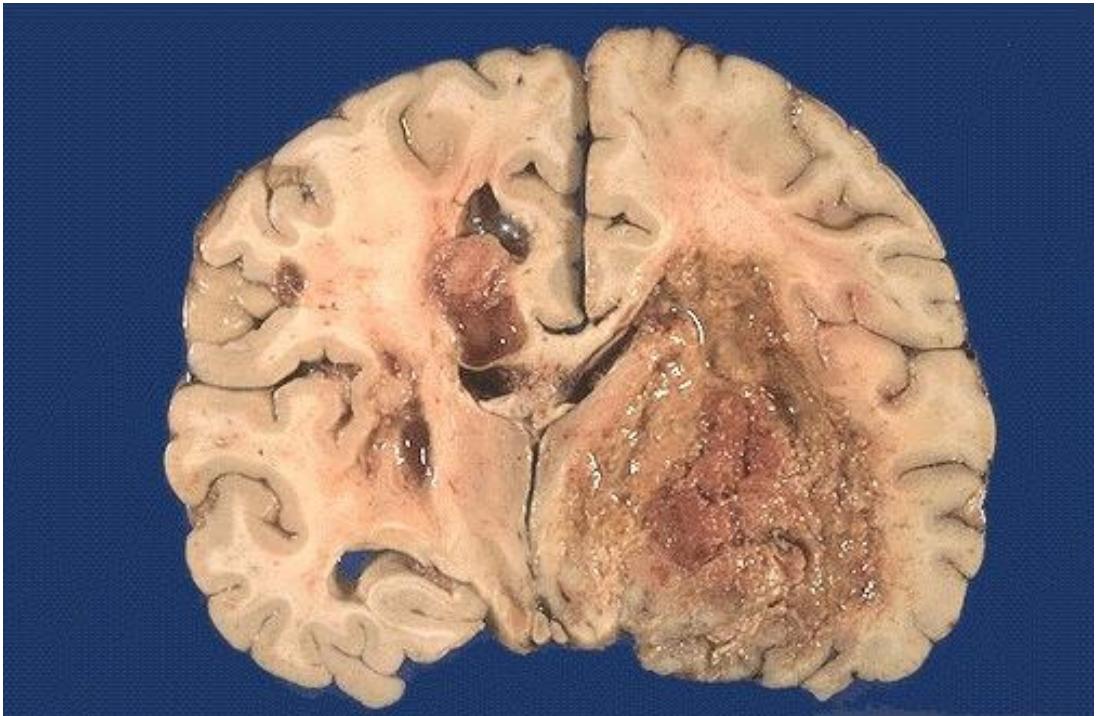
**Definition:** Identification of a disease.

**Types:**

- ✓ **Clinical diagnosis** – based on history & examination.
- ✓ **Provisional diagnosis** – the most likely working diagnosis made before confirmatory investigations.
- ✓ **Differential diagnosis** – list of possible diseases with similar features.
- ✓ **Laboratory / Histopathological diagnosis** – based on investigations/biopsy.
- ✓ **Final diagnosis** – based on correlation of all findings.

# Prognosis

- **Definition:** Prediction of the outcome of a disease (good or poor).
- Example: Oral leukoplakia with mild dysplasia  
→ better prognosis than oral cancer.



# Discussion

Pathology ????

Etiology:

Provisional diagnosis

Prognosis:

Pathogenesis:

Signs

Symptoms



Any Questions?



# Branches of pathology

- **General Pathology** – basic mechanisms common to all diseases (e.g., inflammation, necrosis, healing).
- **Systemic Pathology** – study of diseases affecting specific organs/systems.
- **Oral Pathology** – diseases affecting oral cavity, jaws, and related structures.
- **Clinical Pathology / Laboratory Medicine** – laboratory investigations of disease.
- **Forensic Pathology** – medico-legal aspects of disease and death.  
*like crime investigation*

# General Pathology

- Deals with **basic principles and mechanisms of disease** that are common across all tissues and organ systems.
- Focus areas:
  - ✓ **Cell injury and adaptation**
  - ✓ **Necrosis and apoptosis**
  - ✓ **Inflammation**
  - ✓ **Tissue repair and healing**
  - ✓ **Circulatory disturbances**
- **Importance:** Builds foundation to understand disease mechanisms before studying individual organs.

# Systemic Pathology

- Applies the principles of general pathology to **specific organs and systems.**
- Focus areas:
  - ✓ Diseases of cardiovascular system, Respiratory system, Gastrointestinal tract, liver, kidney, CNS, endocrine system, etc.
- **Importance:** Helps understand how diseases manifest in particular organ systems and correlate with clinical features.

# Oral Pathology

- A **specialized branch** focusing on the oral cavity, jaws, salivary glands, and maxillofacial region.
- Focus areas:
  - ✓ Developmental anomalies (e.g., cleft lip/palate, odontogenic cysts), Dental caries, pulp and periapical diseases, Periodontal diseases, Oral precancerous lesions and oral cancer, Benign and malignant tumors of oral cavity and jaws.
- **Importance:** Direct relevance to **dentistry** — helps dentists diagnose, prevent, and treat oral diseases.

# Clinical Pathology (Laboratory Medicine)

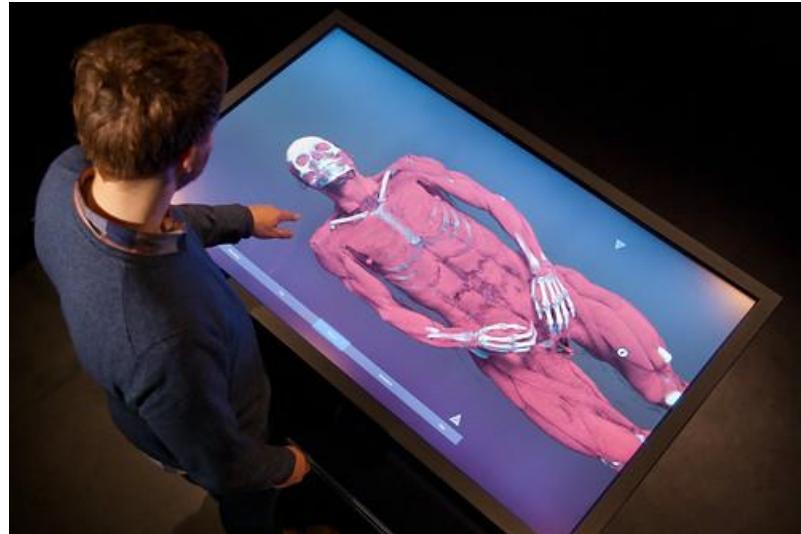
- Involves the study of disease through **laboratory investigations** of body fluids and tissues.
- Subdivisions:
  - ✓ ~~Hematology~~ <sup>Hemato Pathology</sup> – blood disorders (e.g., anemia, leukemia).
  - ✓ **Clinical chemistry** – biochemical changes in diseases (e.g., diabetes, renal failure).
  - ✓ **Microbiology** – study of infectious agents (bacteria, viruses, fungi, parasites).
  - ✓ ~~Cytology~~ <sup>Cytopathology</sup> – exfoliative cytology, fine-needle aspiration cytology.
- **Importance:** Provides essential diagnostic information to guide patient management.

# Forensic Pathology

- Branch of pathology dealing with **medico-legal investigations** of disease, injury, and death.
- Focus areas:
  - ✓ Postmortem examinations (autopsies).
  - ✓ Determination of cause and manner of death (e.g., natural, accidental).
  - ✓ Examination of injuries, poisoning, burns.
  - ✓ Contribution to criminal investigations and legal proceedings.
- **Importance:** Links medical science with law, ensuring justice in medico-legal cases.

# Autopsy- post-mortem examination

It is a highly specialized surgical procedure that consists of a thorough examination of a corpse to determine the cause/manner of death and to evaluate any disease or injury that may be present.



## **TYPES OF AUTOPSIES:**

### **Medico-Legal Autopsy or Forensic :**

- They are generally performed, as prescribed by applicable law, in cases of violent, suspicious or sudden deaths, deaths without medical assistance or during surgical procedures.

### **Clinical or Pathological autopsies :**

- They aim to determine, clarify, or confirm medical diagnoses that remained unknown or unclear prior to the patient's death.

### **Anatomical or academic autopsies :**

- They are performed by students of anatomy for study purpose only.



# Histopathology

- Study of tissues under the microscope to diagnose diseases.
- Uses biopsy specimens (incisional, excisional, punch biopsy).
- Routine staining: Hematoxylin & Eosin (H&E).
- Special stains: PAS, Gram, Ziehl–Neelsen, etc.
- Importance:
  - Gold standard for diagnosing tumors (benign vs malignant).
  - Essential for confirming oral lesions (e.g., leukoplakia, squamous cell carcinoma).

# Cytology

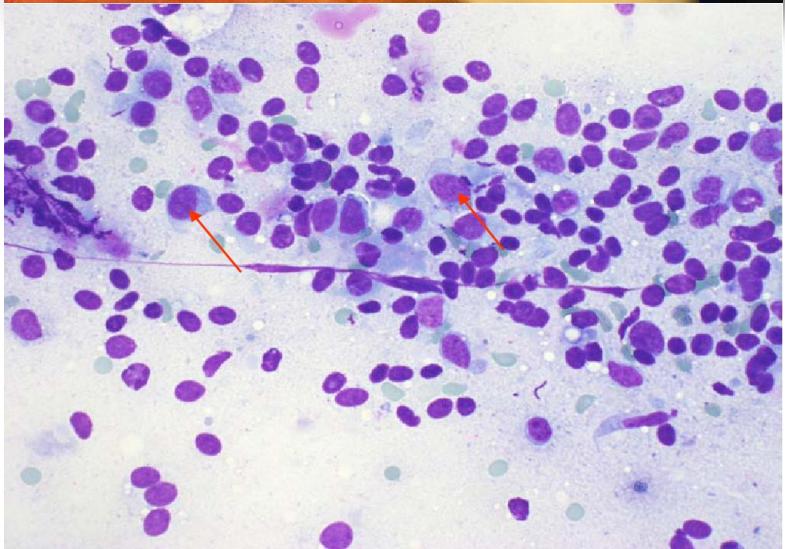
Cy + o Pathology

- Microscopic evaluation of individual cells. damage cells
- Common techniques:
  - 1- ▪ **Exfoliative cytology** (scraping of oral mucosa). زمو
  - 2- ▪ **Fine-needle aspiration cytology (FNAC)** for swellings, lymph nodes, salivary glands. بابرة واسنج
- Importance:
  - Quick, minimally invasive, inexpensive.
  - Useful in screening (e.g., oral premalignant lesions, Pap smear for cervical cancer).

# Exfoliative cytology/ Brush biopsy



## Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology (FNAC)



# Molecular Pathology

- Application of **molecular biology techniques** to study **disease mechanisms** at **DNA, RNA, and protein levels**.
- Methods include:
  - **PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction)**
  - **FISH (Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization)**
  - **Immunohistochemistry (IHC)** ↗
  - **Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS)**
- Importance: Detects genetic mutations and biomarkers.



- ✓ Histopathology
- ✓ Biopsy
- ✓ Cytopathology
- ✓ Hematopathology



Any Questions?



# Essential Learning Resource

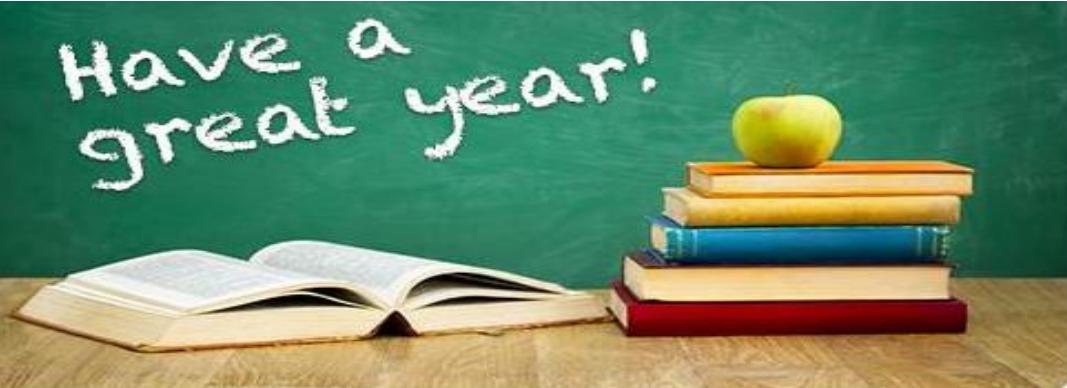
- **Harsh Mohan: Essential Pathology for Dental Students** (with Practical Pathology). 5<sup>th</sup> ed; 2017; Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers
- **Harsh Mohan: Textbook of Pathology.** 7<sup>th</sup> ed; 2014; Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers
- **Kumar: Robbins Basic Pathology.** 10<sup>th</sup> ed; 2017; Elsevier

# ONE MINUTE EVALUATION

**WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND WITH TERM  
‘ETIOLOGY’?????????**

- A. Structural changes in disease
- B. Cause of the disease
- C. Study of the tissues
- D. None of above





SUCCESS  
is dependent on effort.

— Sophocles



ALL THE BEST