



## WORKSHOP DE PATOLOGIA DIGESTIVA

# CÀNCER GÀSTRIC/UEG – NOVA CLASSIFICACIÓ OMS

Stefania Landolfi

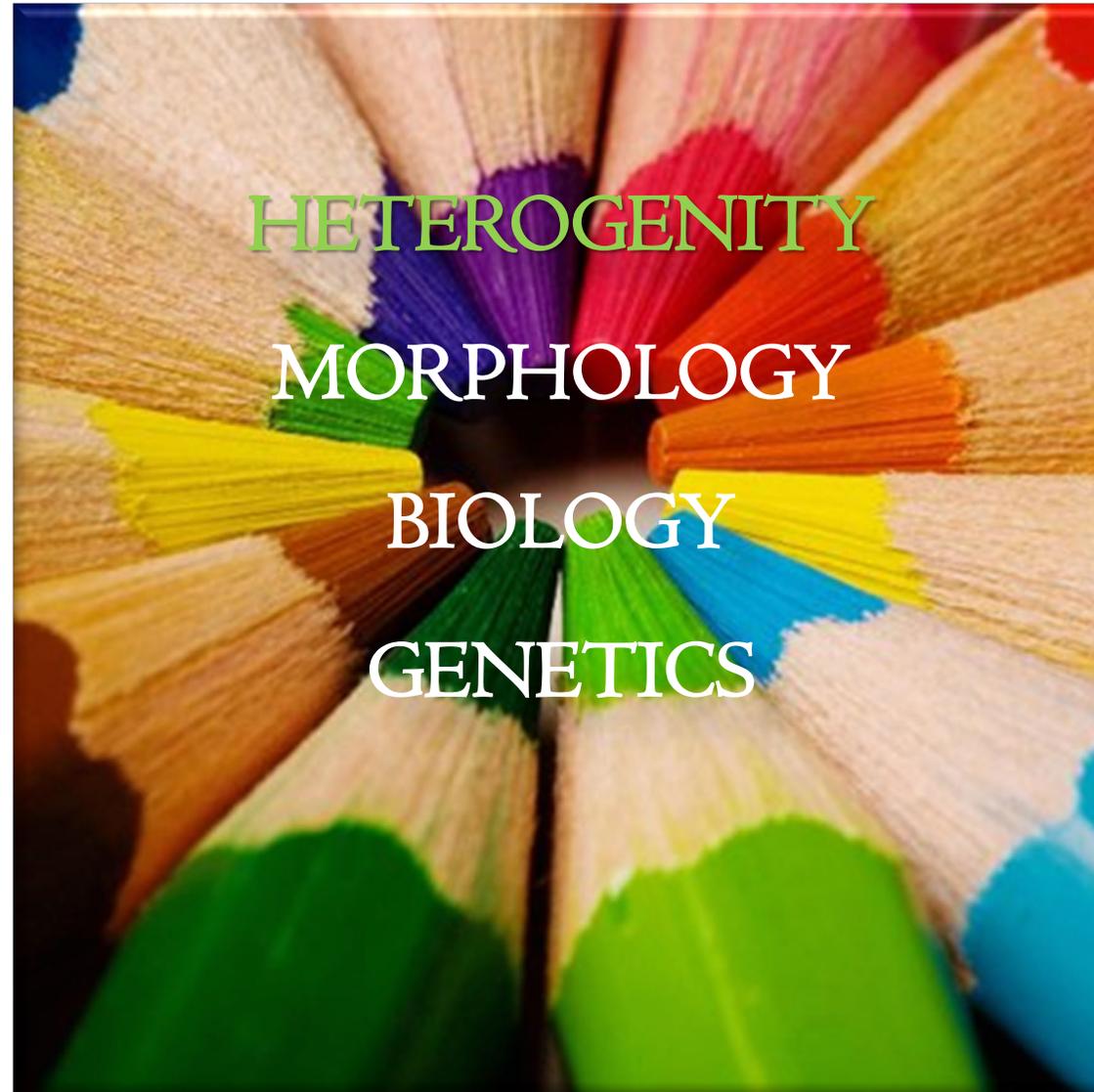
Servei de Anatomia Patologica  
Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron

NO COI

 @steland011



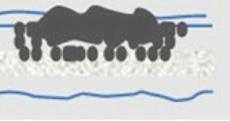
- ✓ Histopathologic classification of gastric cancer
- ✓ Carcinogenesis of gastric cancer
- ✓ Molecular classifications of gastric cancer & predictive biomarkers in gastric cancer: MSI and EBV

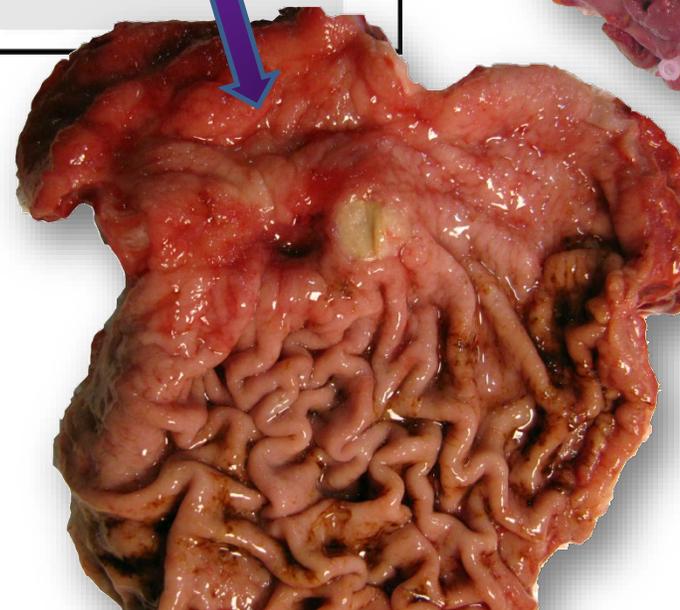
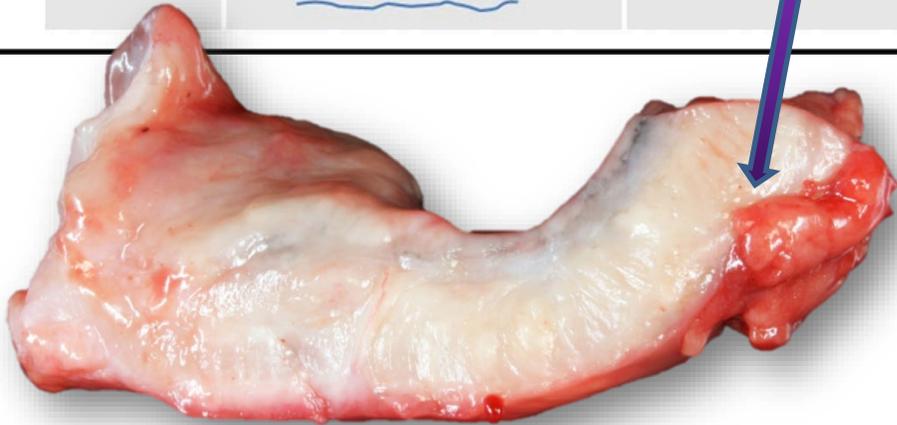




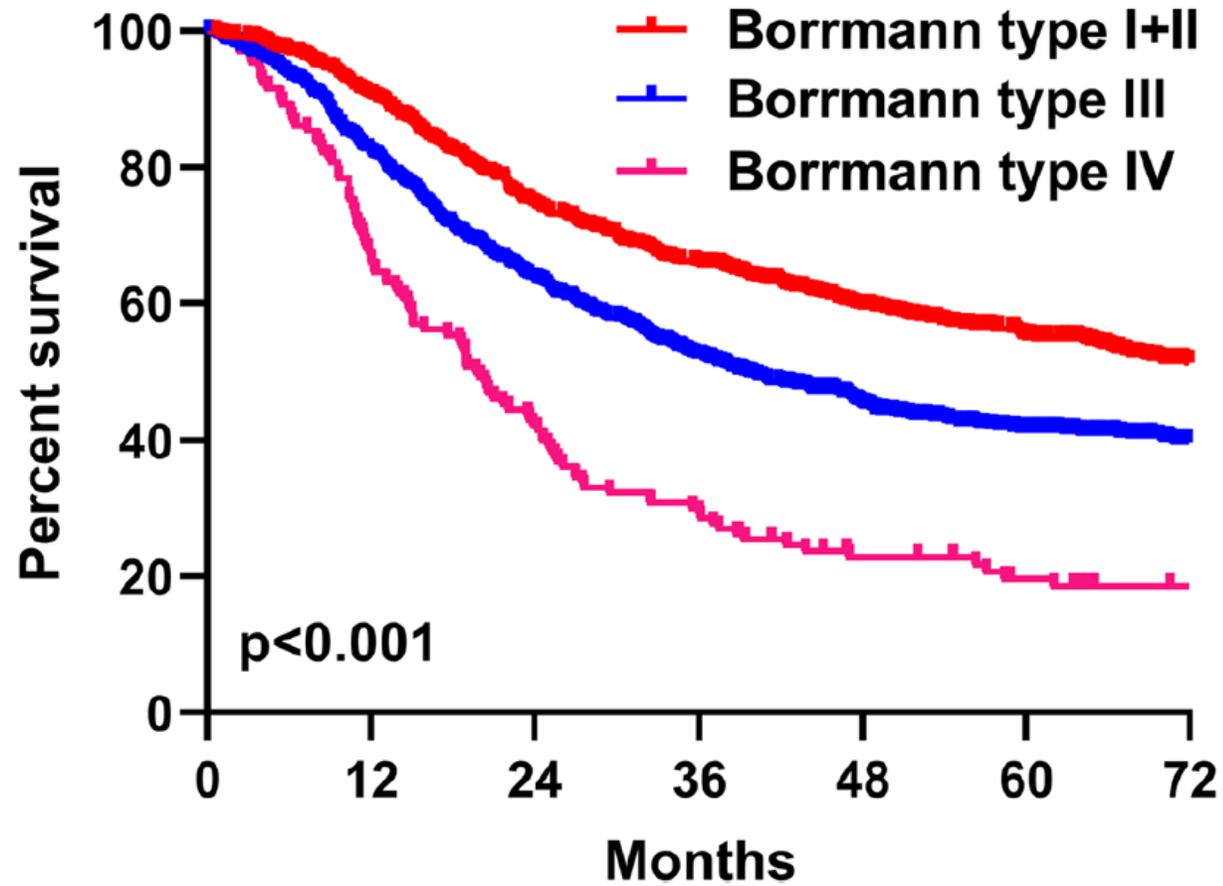
# MACROSCOPIC HETEROGENEITY

Table 2  
The Borrmann classification of advanced gastric cancer (since 1926...)

Type I		Polypoid tumors
Type II		Fungating carcinomas
Type III		Ulcerated carcinomas
Type IV		Infiltrating carcinomas



@ReyesGomezE

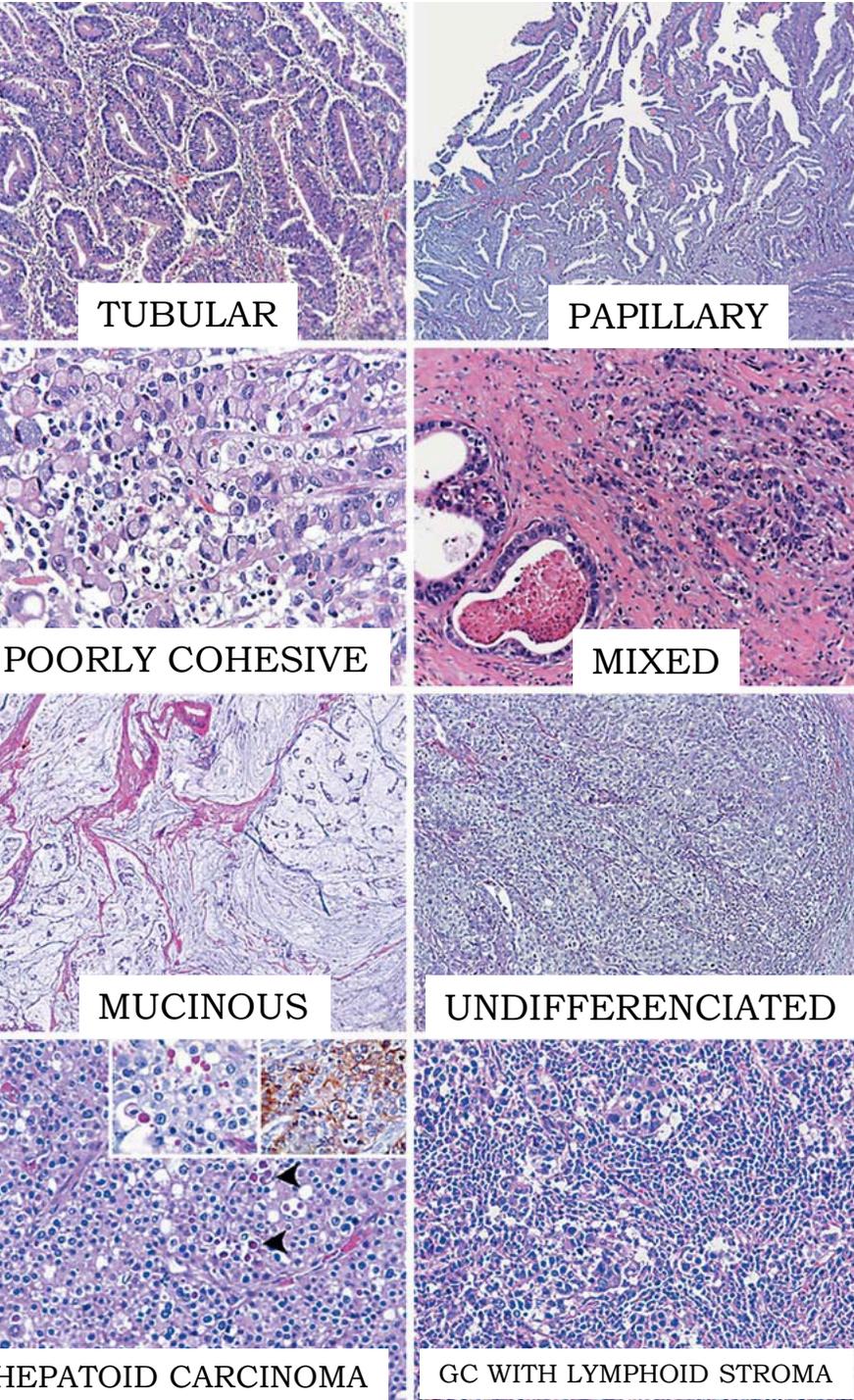


**Fig. 2** Comparison of survival curves between Borrmann type I+II, III, and IV gastric cancer



## MICROSCOPIC HETEROGENEITY

# Histopathologic classification of gastric cancer



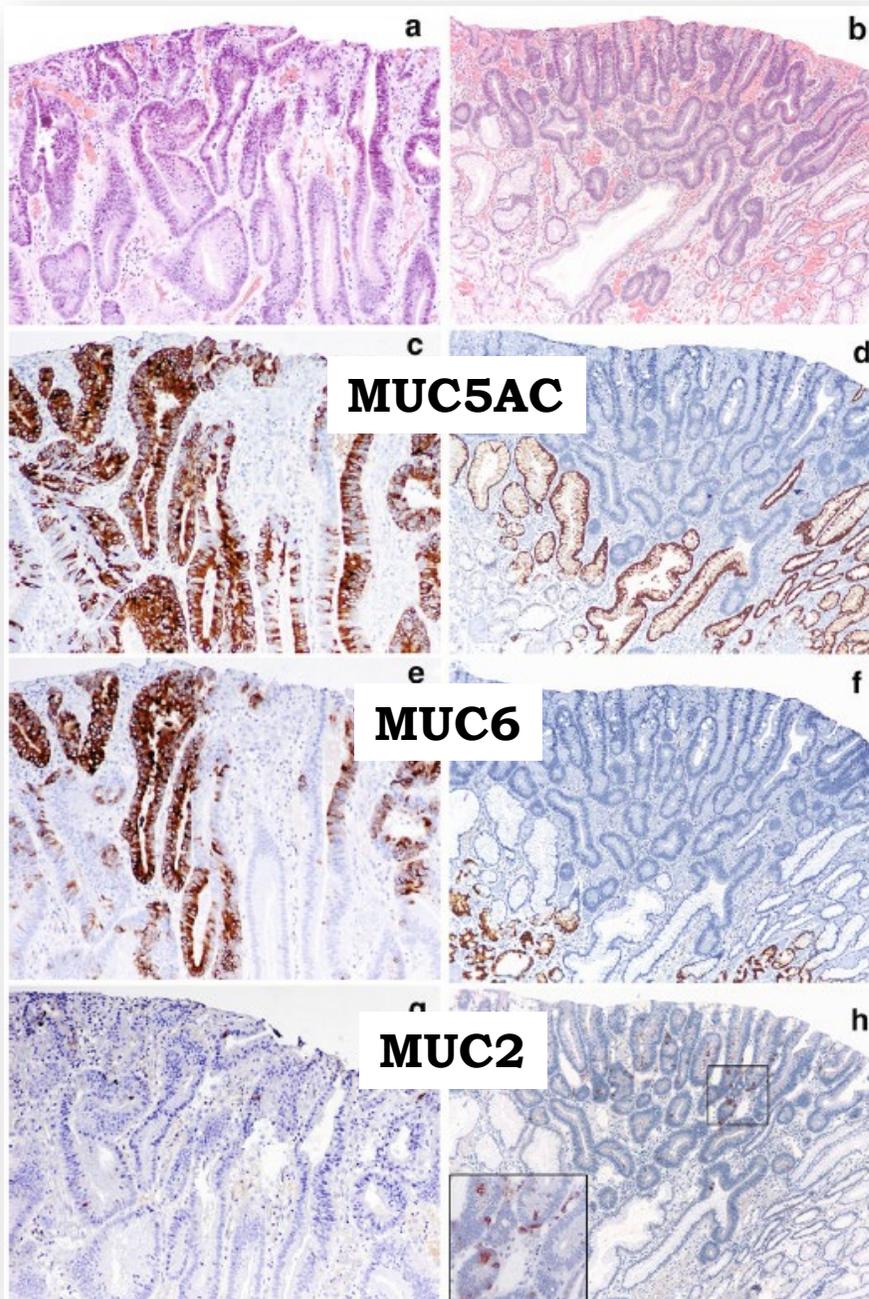
**Table 1.** Heterogeneity of histopathological classification systems in gastric cancer

Laurén [14], 1965	Carneiro [18], 1995	WHO [20], 2010	Japanese classification [21], 2011	Nakamura [15], 1968	Goseki [17], 1992	Solcia [19], 2009
Intestinal	Glandular	Papillary Tubular	Papillary Tubular 1 (well differentiated) Tubular 2 (moderately differentiated)	Differentiated type	I. Good tubular differentiation, mucin poor	Cohesive, ordinary subtype Cohesive, tubular subtype Cohesive, ordinary subtype
		Mucinous	Mucinous	Undifferentiated type	II. Good tubular differentiation, mucin rich	Mucinous, muconodular subtype Mucinous, infiltrative subtype
Diffuse	Isolated cell	Poorly cohesive, SRC phenotype	SRC carcinoma	Undifferentiated type	IV. Poor tubular differentiation, mucin rich	Diffuse, ordinary subtype
		Poorly cohesive, other cell types	Poorly differentiated, non-solid type		III. Poor tubular differentiation, mucin poor	Diffuse, low-grade desmoplastic subtype
Mixed	Mixed	Mixed				
Indeterminate	Solid	Undifferentiated	Poorly differentiated, solid type	Undifferentiated type	III. Poor tubular differentiation, mucin poor	Anaplastic
	Rare variants	Rare variants				High lymphoid response



Epithelial dysplasia of the stomach with gastric immunophenotype shows features of biological aggressiveness

## Gastric (foveolar)-type dysplasia

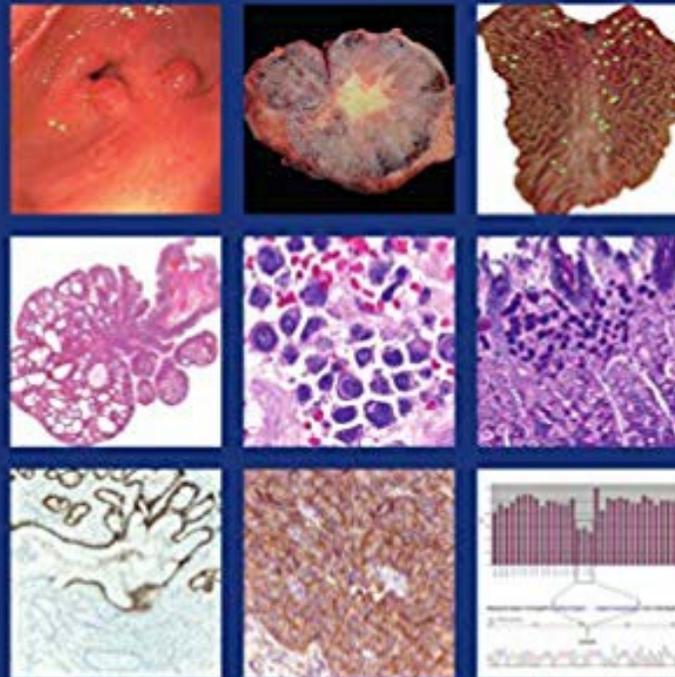


## Intestinal-type dysplasia

WHO Classification of Tumours • 5th Edition

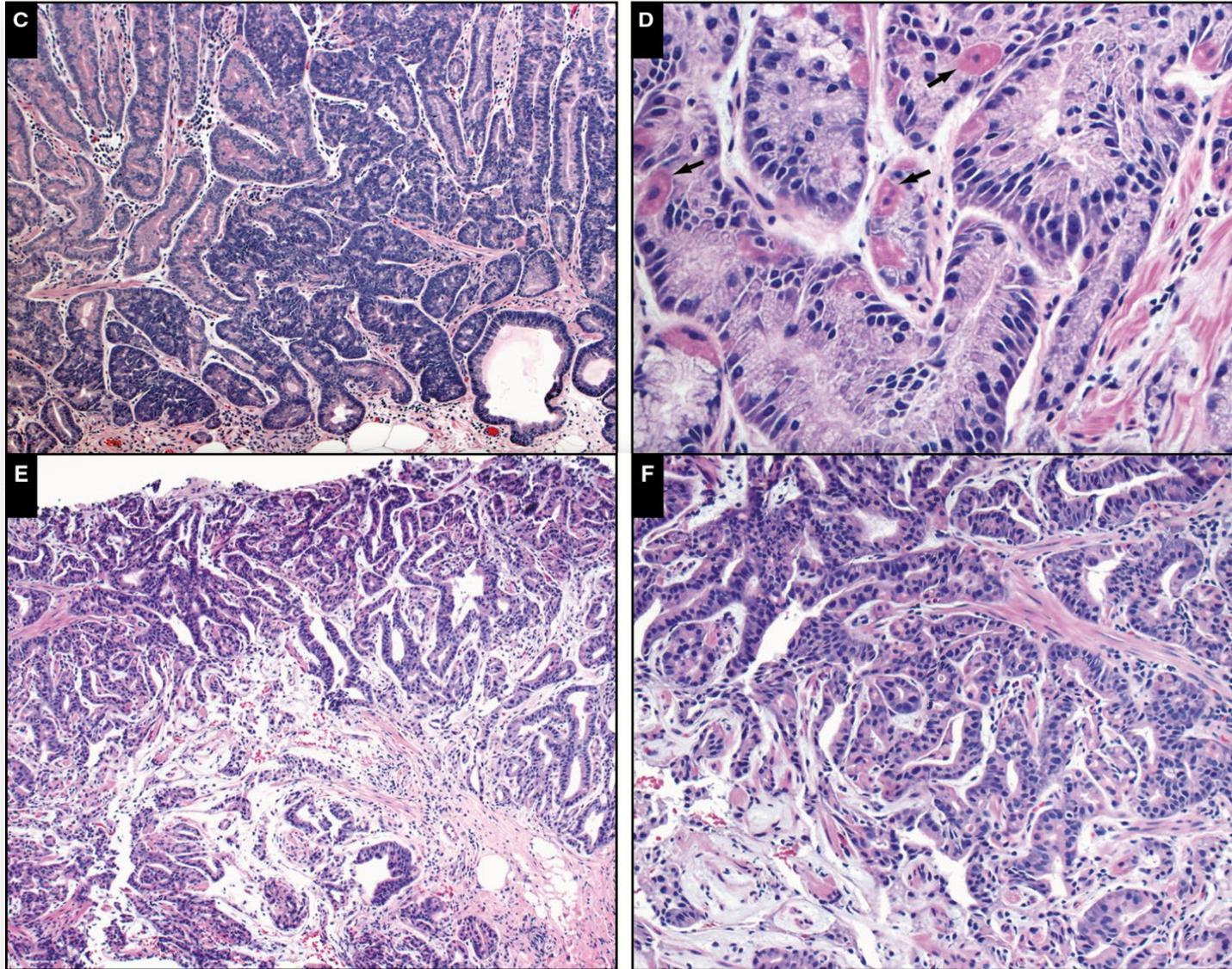
# Digestive System Tumours

Edited by the WHO Classification of Tumours Editorial Board



5th ed., 2019

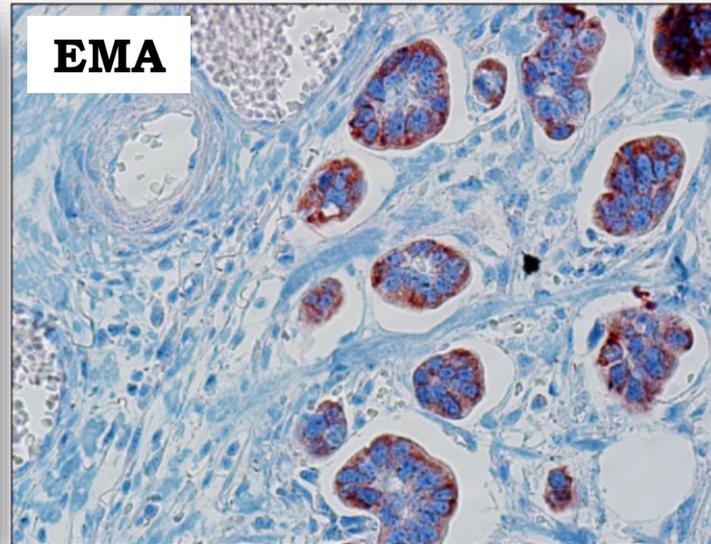
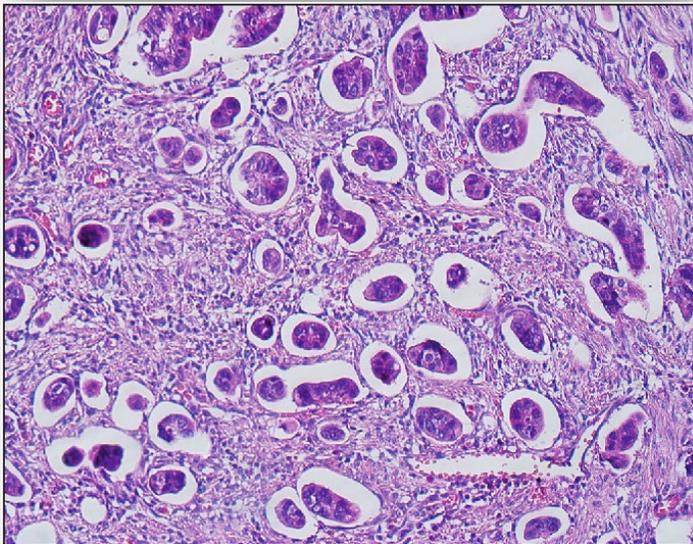
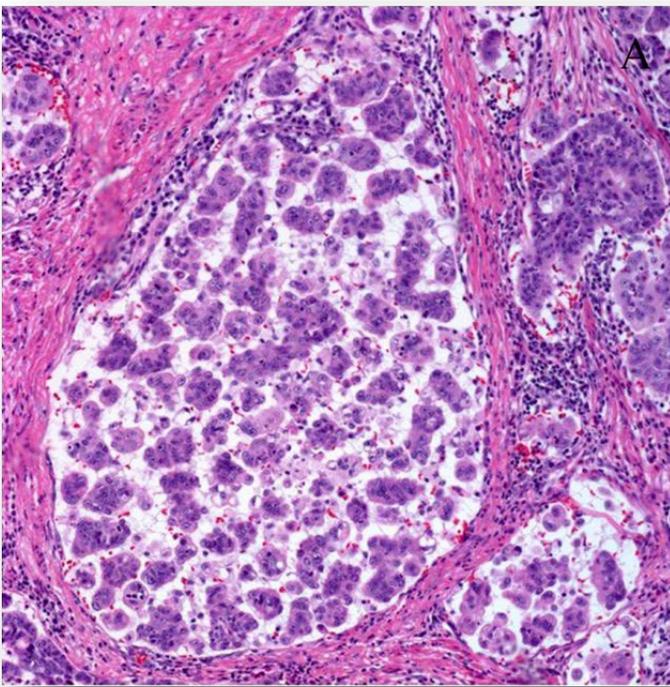
# GASTRIC ADENOCARCINOMA OF THE FUNDIC GLAND TYPE



- from oxyntic gland adenoma
- mixed chief and parietal cells
- neoplastic glands more complex than normal oxyntic glands  
**(anastomosing/”endless glands” pattern)**
- no desmoplasia
- low-growing
- **very good prognosis**

## MICROPAPILLARY ADENOCARCINOMA

- Tumor with papillary clusters devoid of fibrovascular cores within lacunar spaces
- High incidence of lymphovascular invasion and lymph node metastasis
- **Worse prognosis** compared to CoA (5-YSR:30%)



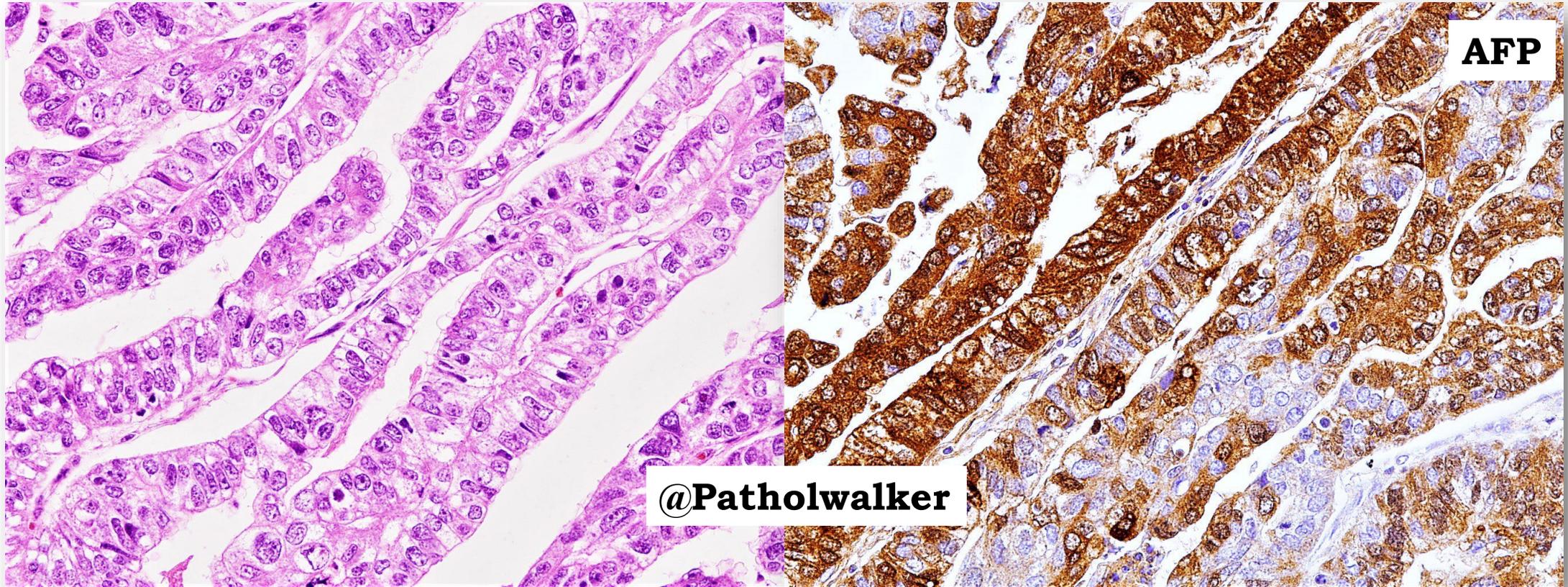
### Variants of Gastric Carcinoma: Morphologic and Theranostic Importance

Sun-Mi Lee, Kyoung-Mee Kim and Jae Y. Ro

Additional information is available at the end of the chapter

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5772/54342>

Vardar, Enver et al. Turk patoloji dergisi 31 3 (2013): 219-22 .



## **ADENOCARCINOMA WITH ENTEROBLASTIC DIFFERENTIATION** (subtype of epatoid carcinoma)

- Tubulopapillary architecture
- Columnar cells with clear cytoplasm (resembling early fetal gut epithelium)
- **Worse prognosis** compared to CoA (5y-SR: 9%)

✓ **Histopathologic classification of gastric cancer**

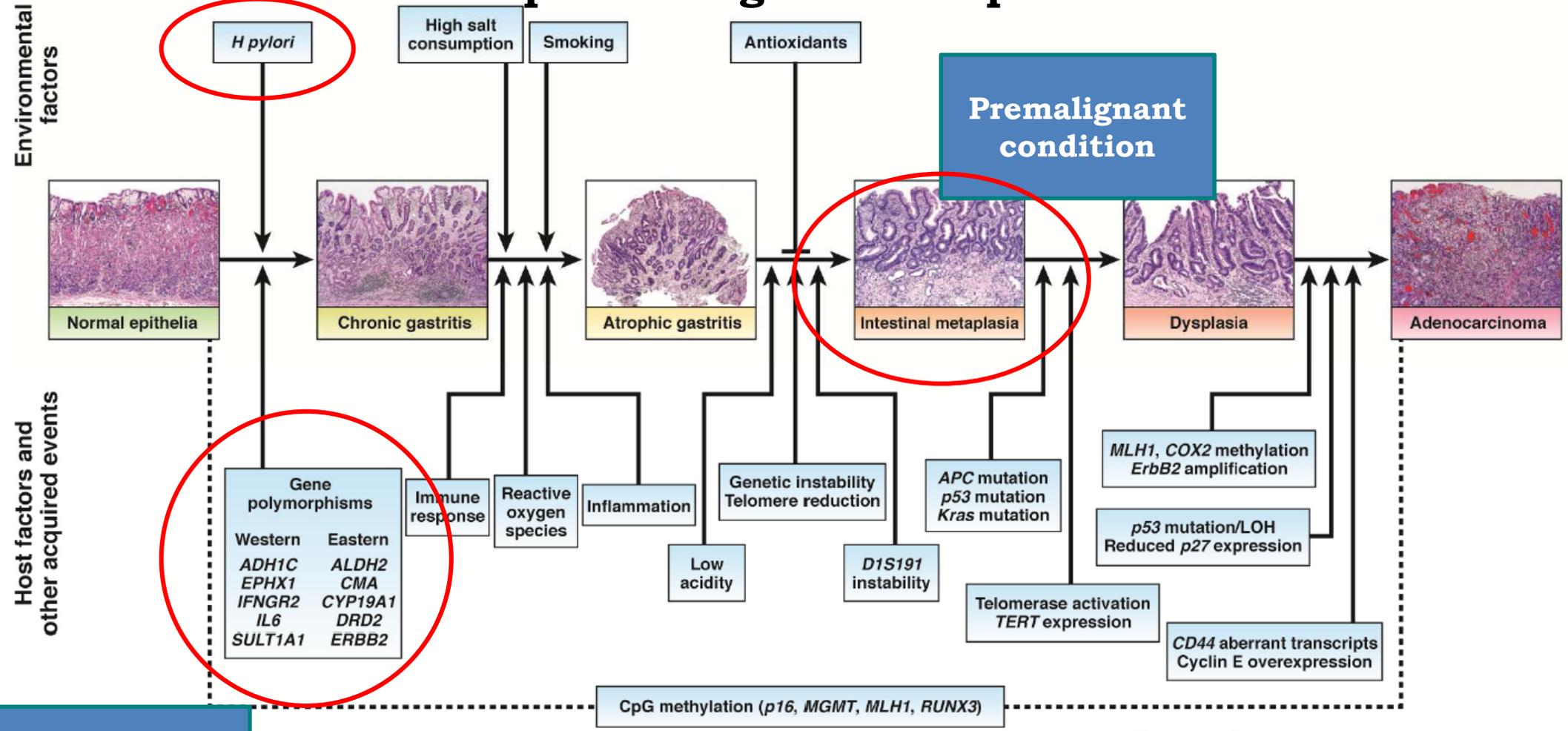
✓ **Carcinogenesis of gastric cancer**

✓ **Molecular classifications of gastric cancer & predictive**

**biomarkers in gastric cancer: MSI and EBV**

# Genetics and Molecular Pathogenesis of Gastric Adenocarcinoma

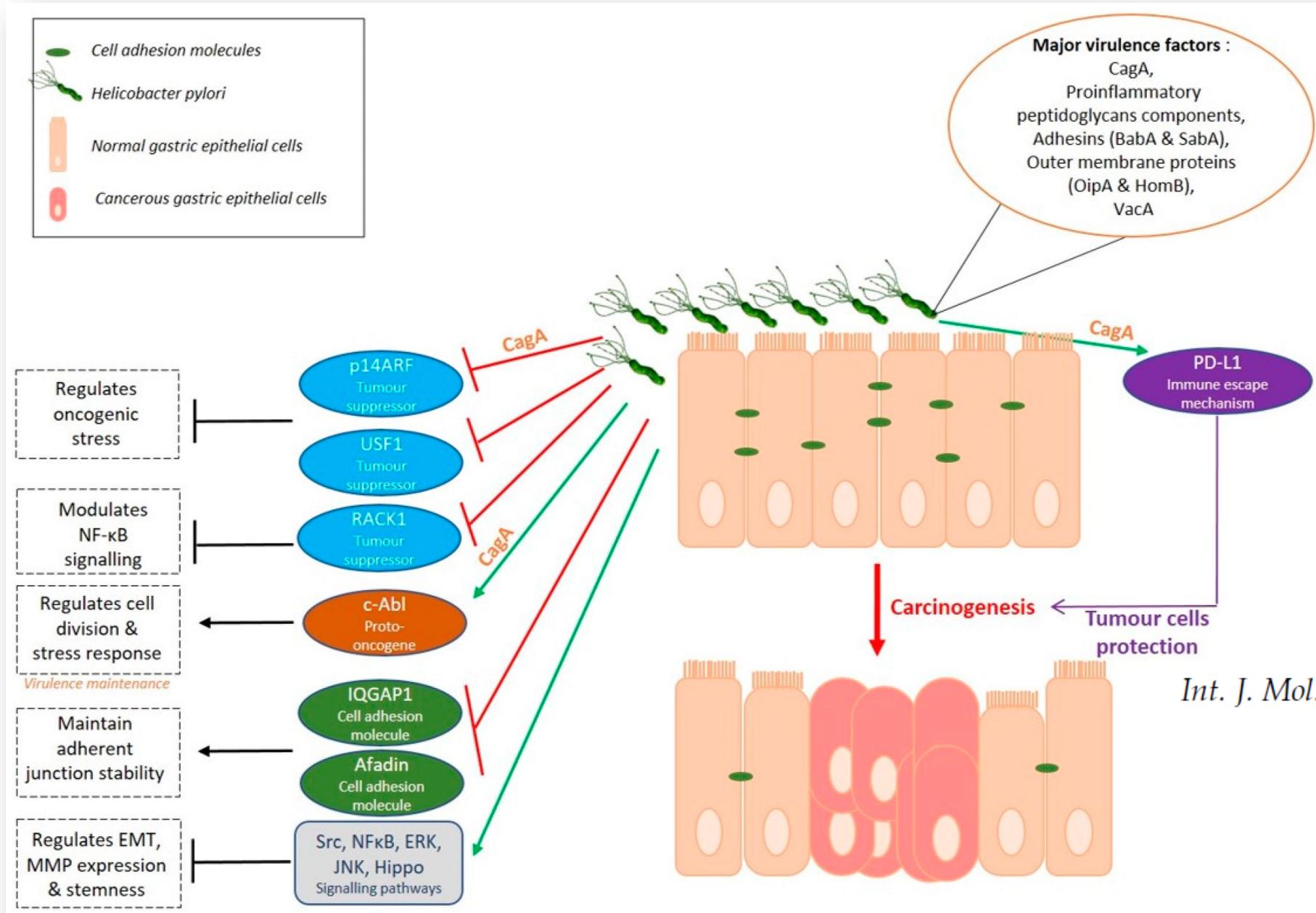
## Multi-step Carcinogenesis Sequence\*



Interplay between environmental and host factors

\*Diffuse-type GC does not involve metaplasia

# Gastric Cancer: Advances in Carcinogenesis Research and New Therapeutic Strategies



Int. J. Mol. Sci. 2021, 22, 3418.

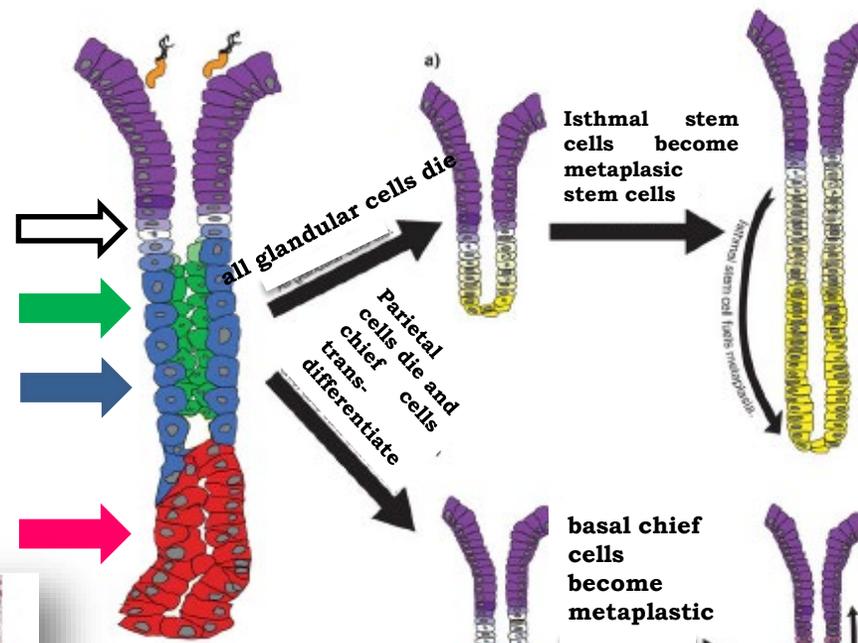
# Spasmolytic Polypeptide-Expressing Metaplasia (SPEM)

isthmal stem cells

mucous neck cells

parietal cells

chief cells

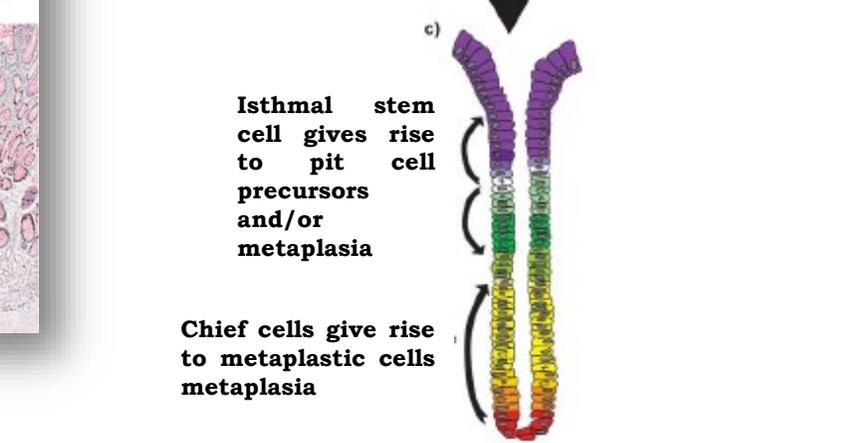


## SPEM and IM: Time for re-evaluation of metaplasias and the origins of gastric cancer

James R. Goldenring<sup>1,\*</sup>, Ki Taek Nam<sup>1</sup>, Timothy C. Wang<sup>2</sup>, Jason C. Mills<sup>3</sup>, and Nicholas A. Wright<sup>4</sup>



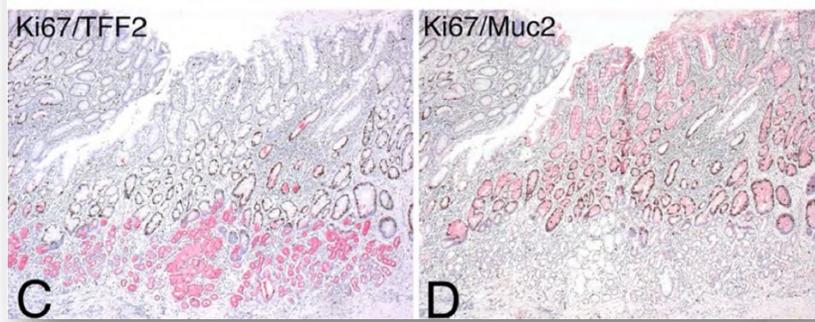
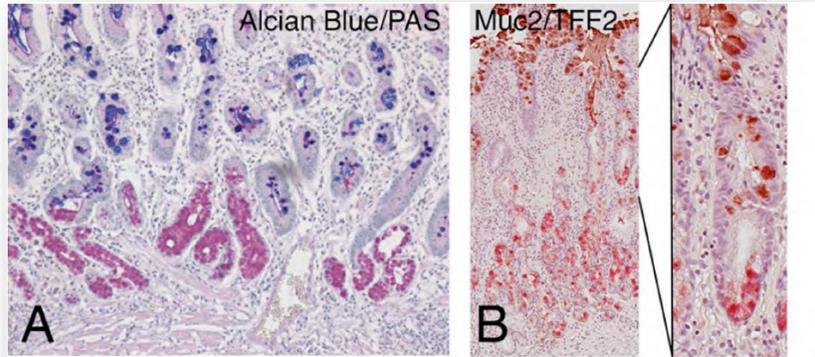
Isthmal stem cell gives rise to pit precursors (foveolar hiperplasia)



Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2018 May ; 15(5): 257-273. doi:10.1038/nrgastro.2018.5.

## Acid and the Basis for Cellular Plasticity and Reprogramming in Gastric Repair and Cancer

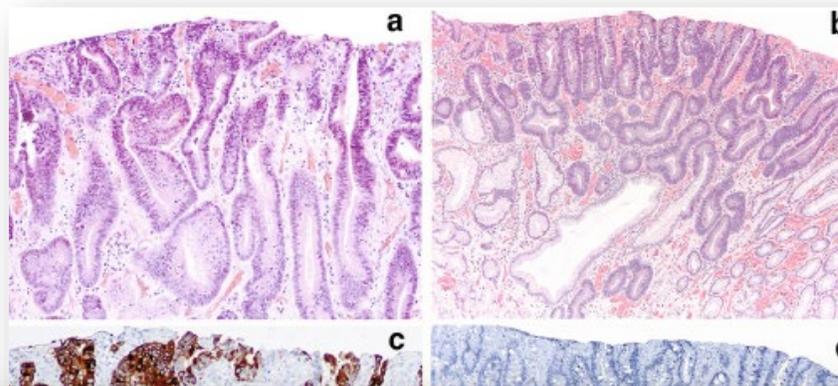
José B. Sáenz, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup> and Jason C. Mills, MD, PhD<sup>1,2,3</sup>





Epithelial dysplasia of the stomach with gastric immunophenotype shows features of biological aggressiveness

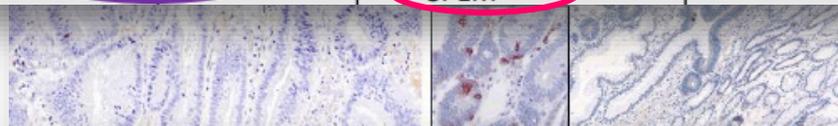
## Gastric (foveolar)-type dysplasia



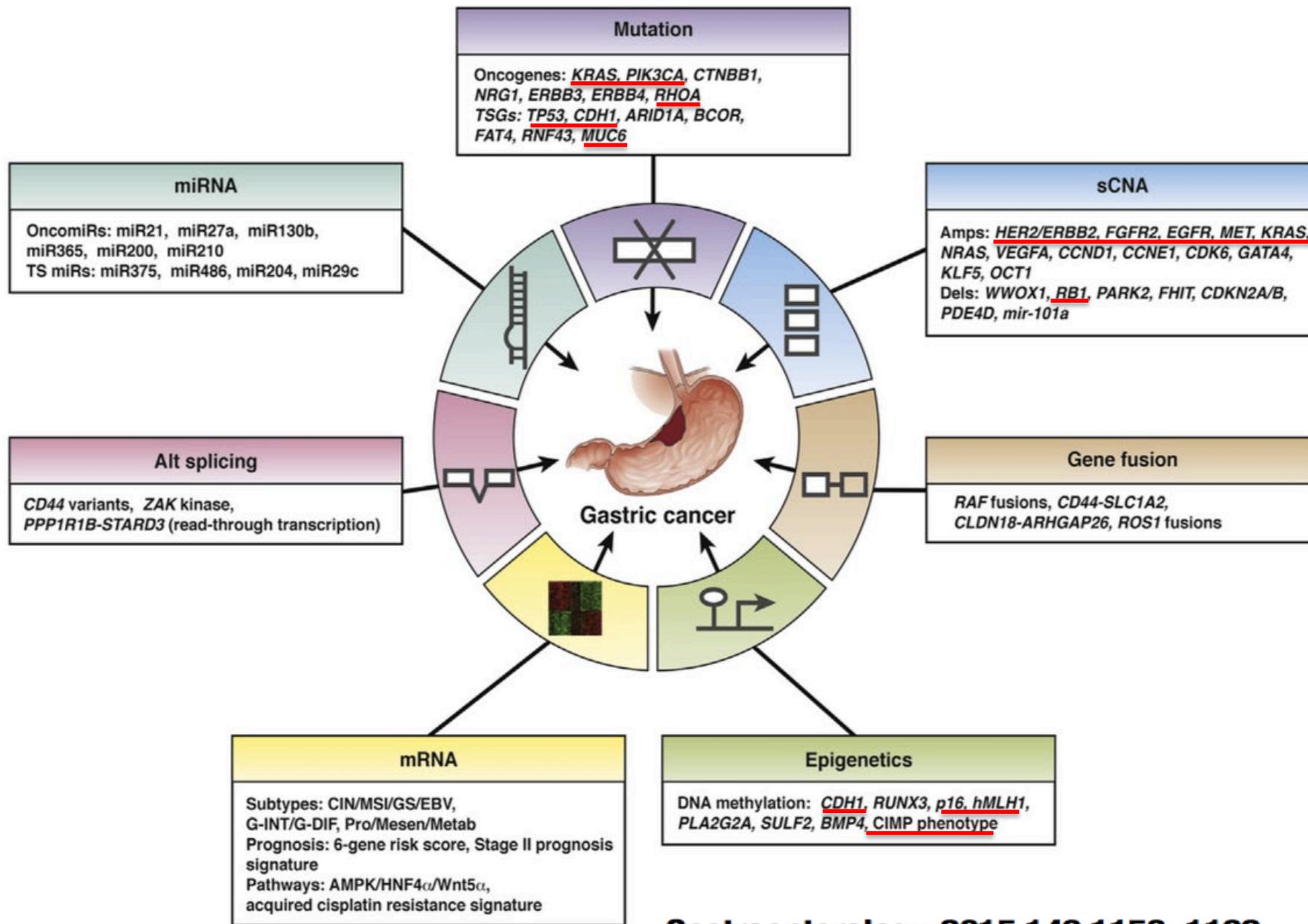
## Intestinal-type dysplasia

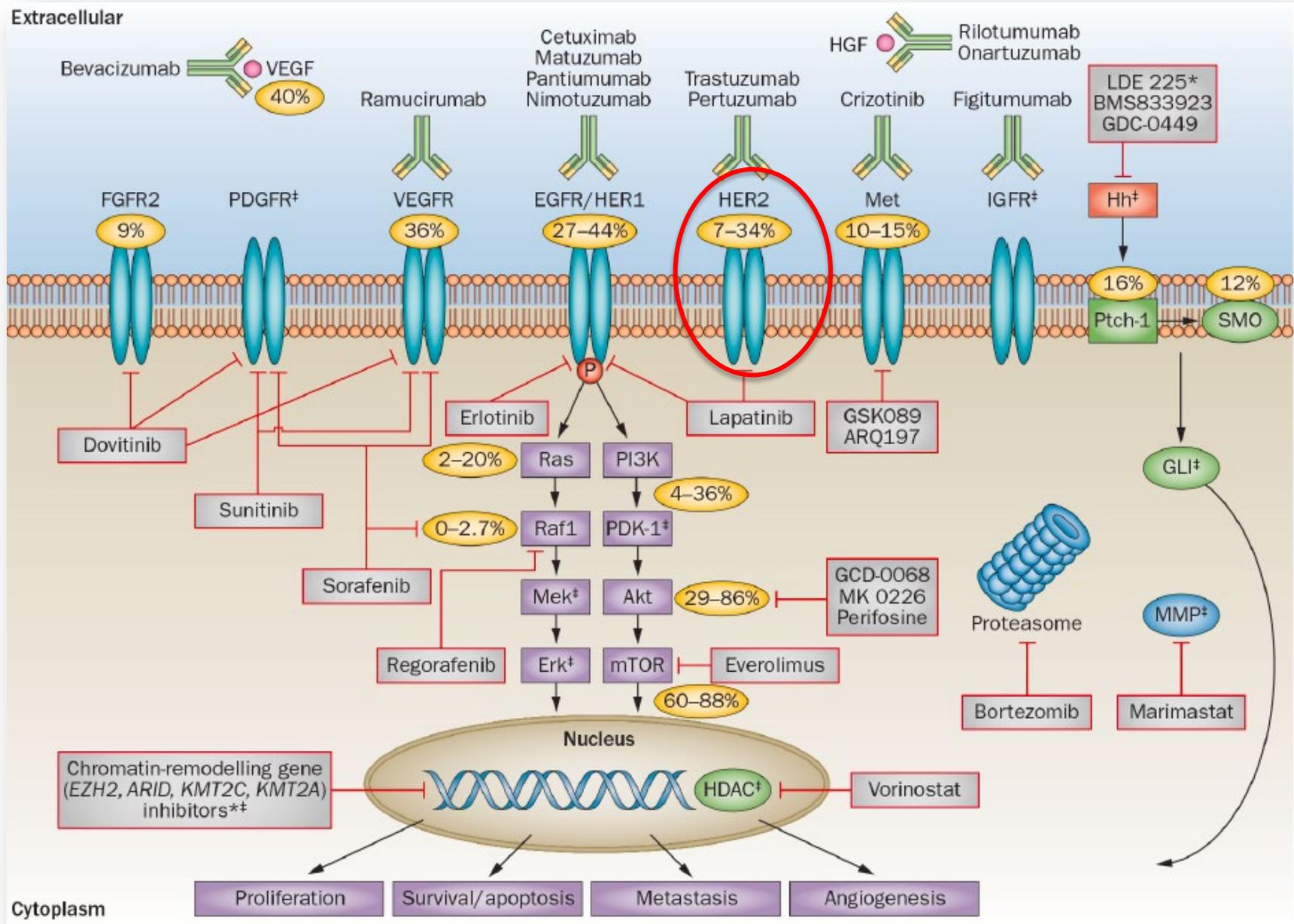
## ‘Singapore-Duke’ classification

Genomic Subtype	Histological Features	Associated Genes/Pathways	Drug sensitivity (Preclinical)
Mesenchymal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diffuse subtype</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EMT pathways</li> <li>CSC pathways</li> <li><i>TGFβ</i></li> <li>mTOR signalling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sensitive to PI3K/AKT/mTOR inhibitors</li> </ul>
Proliferative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intestinal subtype</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Genomic instability</li> <li><i>TP53</i> mutations</li> <li>Cell cycle</li> <li>DNA replication</li> <li>Mitosis</li> <li>Copy number alterations (<i>ERBB2/HER2</i> and <i>KRAS</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unresponsive to 5-FU</li> </ul>
Metabolic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gastric subtype</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Metabolic processes</li> <li>Digestion</li> <li>Secretion</li> <li>SPEM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased sensitivity to 5-FU</li> </ul>



- ✓ **Histopathologic classification of gastric cancer**
- ✓ **Carcinogenesis of gastric cancer**
- ✓ **Molecular classifications of gastric cancer & emerging predictive biomarkers in gastric cancer: MSI and EBV**

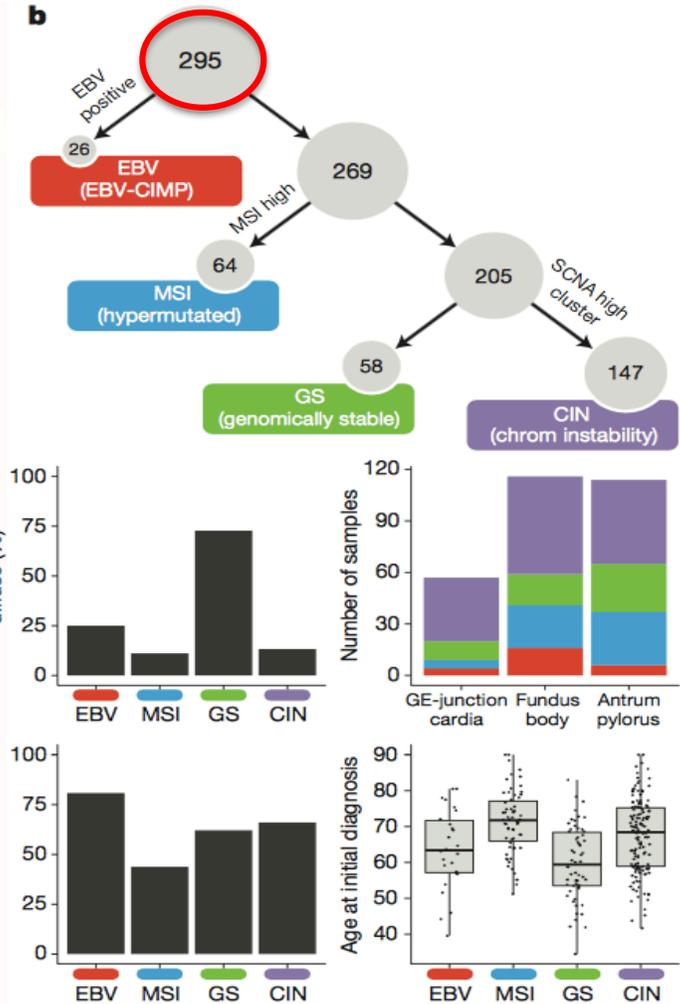
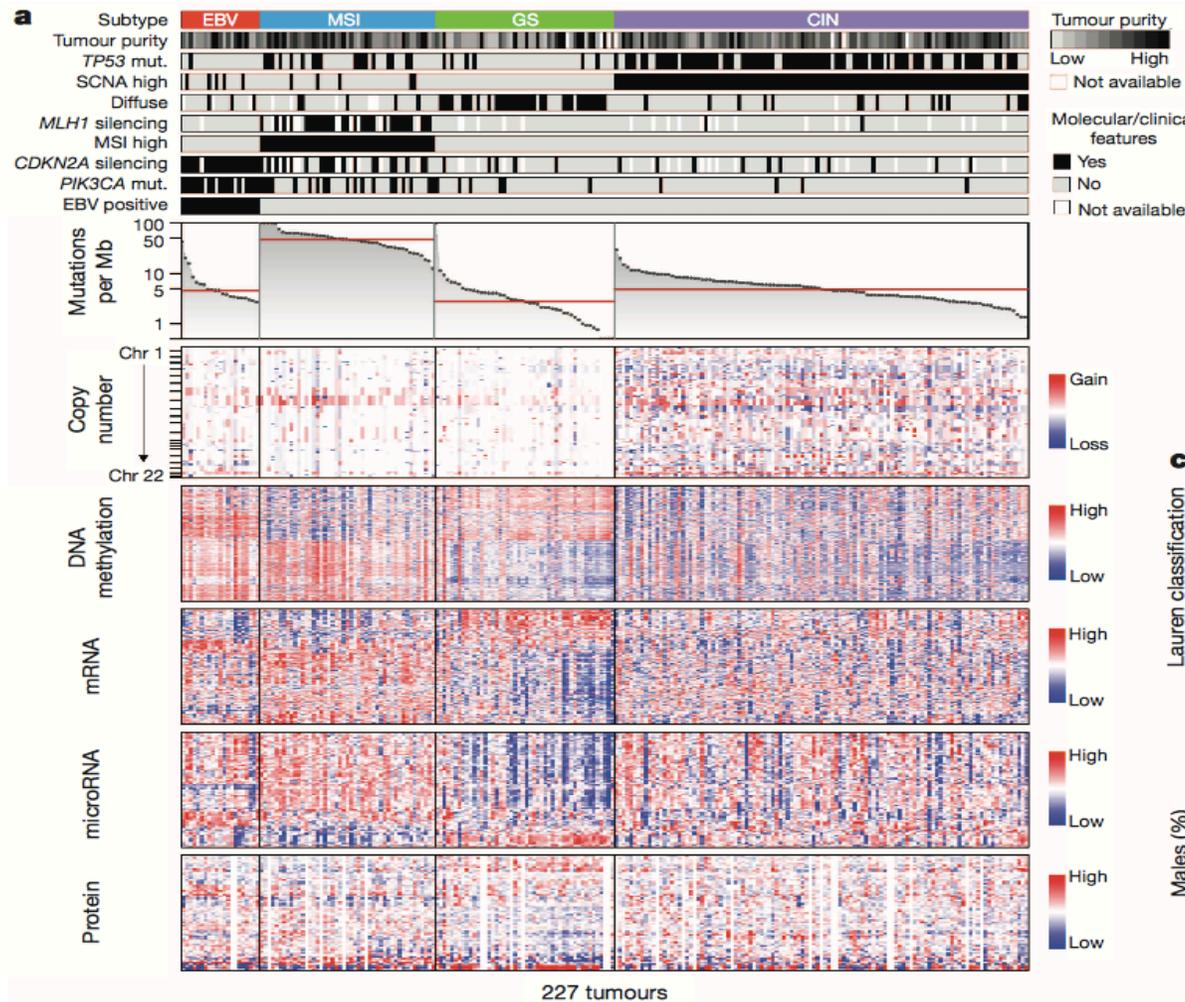




# Comprehensive molecular characterization of gastric adenocarcinoma

Nature. 2014 Sep 11;513(7517):202-9

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network\*



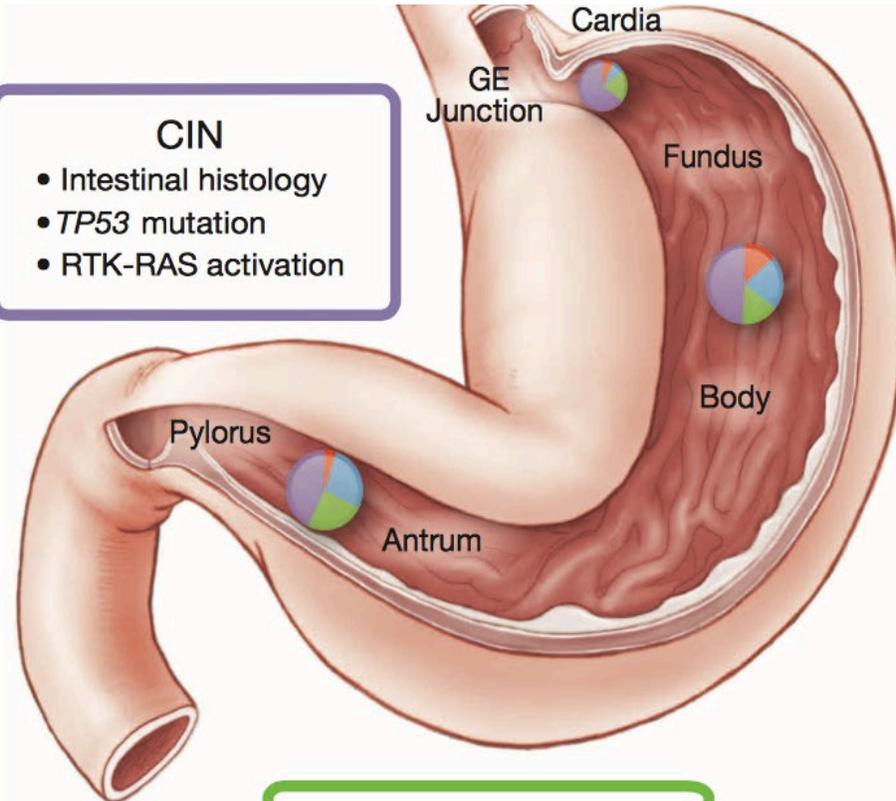
# Comprehensive molecular characterization of gastric adenocarcinoma

Nature. 2014 Sep 11;513(7517):202-9

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network\*

**50%**

- CIN**
- Intestinal histology
  - *TP53* mutation
  - RTK-RAS activation



**20%**

- GS**
- Diffuse histology
  - *CDH1*, *RHOA* mutations
  - *CLDN18-ARHGAP* fusion
  - Cell adhesion

- EBV**
- *PIK3CA* mutation
  - *PD-L1/2* overexpression
  - EBV-CIMP
  - *CDKN2A* silencing
  - Immune cell signalling

**9%**

- MSI**
- Hypermutation
  - Gastric-CIMP
  - *MLH1* silencing
  - Mitotic pathways

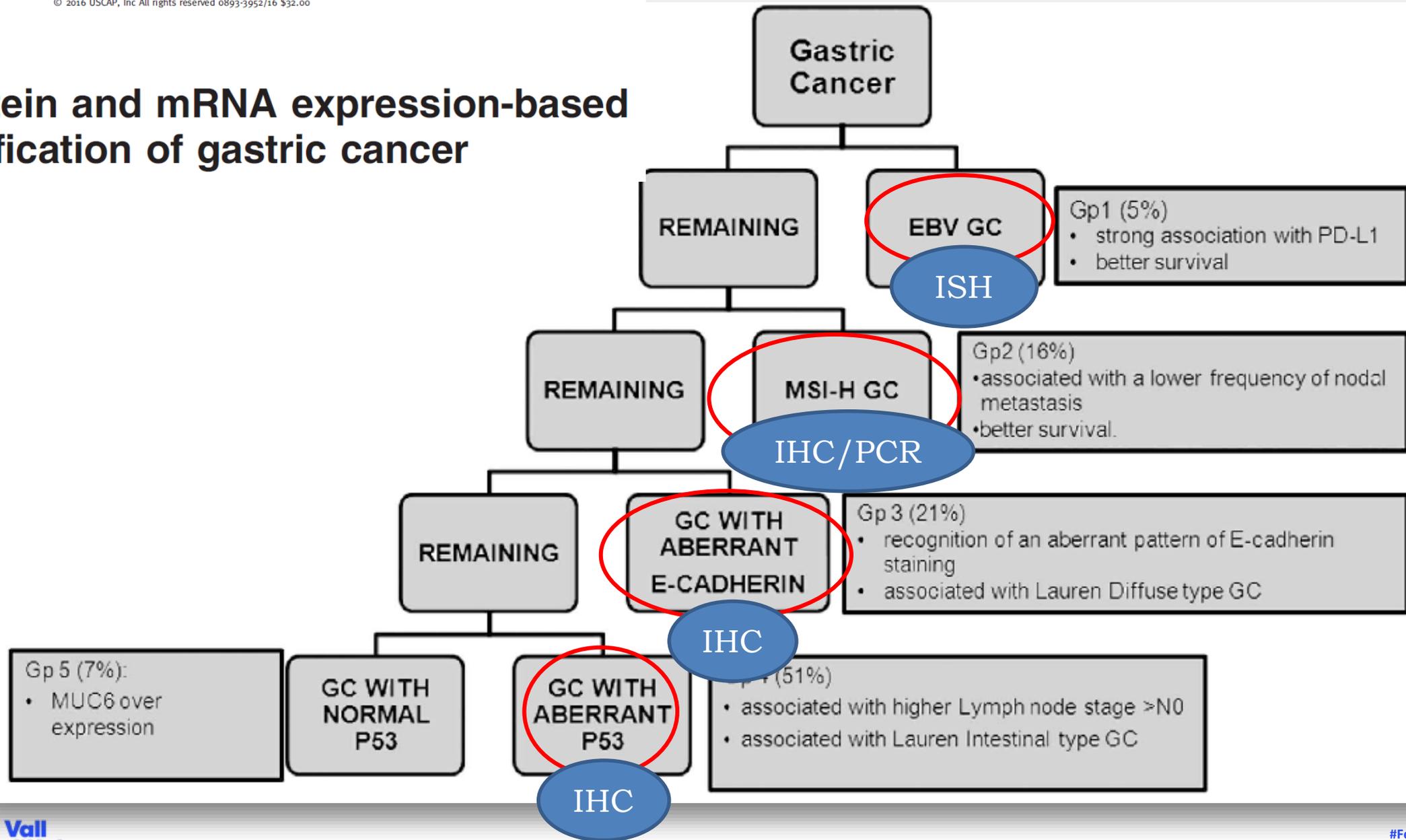
**21%**

**Table 2. Molecular Classification Systems for Gastric Cancer**

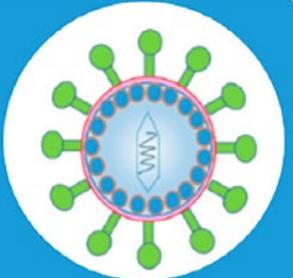
GC Subtype	The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network[57] (N = 295)	Asian Cancer Research Group[58] (N = 300)
Subtype 1	<b>MSI</b> Hypermethylation Gastric-CIMP <i>MLH1</i> gene silencing Mitotic pathways	<b>MSI (best prognosis)</b> Predominantly intestinal subtype by Lauren classification (> 60%) Located in antrum Often diagnosed at early stage (I/II) Hypermethylation
Subtype 2	<b>EBV</b> <i>PIK3CA</i> mutation PD-L1 and PD-L2 overexpression EBV-CIMP <i>CDKN2A</i> silencing Immune cell signaling	<b>MSS/ TP53-positive (Intermediate prognosis)</b> EBV infection more frequent Intact <i>TP53</i> tumor suppressor gene activity
Subtype 3	<b>CIN</b> Intestinal histology by Lauren classification <i>TP53</i> mutation Receptor tyrosine kinase-Ras activation	<b>MSS/ TP53-negative (Intermediate prognosis)</b> Loss of functional <i>TP53</i> tumor suppressor gene activity
Subtype 4	<b>GS</b> Diffuse histology by Lauren classification <i>CDH1</i> (E-cadherin) and <i>RHOA</i> tumor suppressor gene mutations <i>CLDN18-ARHGAP</i> fusion Cell adhesion	<b>MSS/EMT (worst prognosis)</b> Younger age Predominantly diffuse subtype by Lauren classification (> 80%) Often diagnosed at later stage (III/IV)

CIMP = CpG island methylator phenotype; CIN = chromosomal instability; EBV = Epstein-Barr virus; EMT = epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition; GC = gastric cancer; GS = genomically stable; MSI = microsatellite instability; MSS = microsatellite stable; PD-L = programmed death ligand.

# A protein and mRNA expression-based classification of gastric cancer

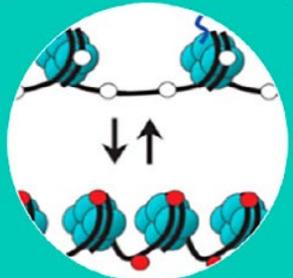


# PATHOGENESIS OF EBV-ASSOCIATED



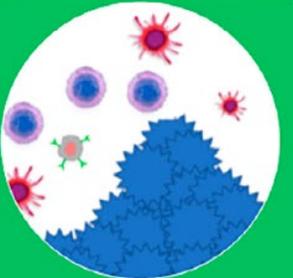
## EBV Infection and Latency

- EBV enters from oropharynx. Into B cells through lymphoid tissues
- Cell to cell contact between B cells and gastric epithelial cells, or direct entry into gastric epithelia allows EBV to enter gastric cells
- Once inside the nucleus, EBV enters latency cycle and constitutively expresses latent genes, such as BARF-1 which enhances cell proliferation
- Some studies suggest *H. pylori* helps EBV remain in latent phase



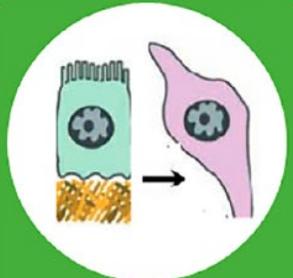
## DNA Methylation and Cell Pathway Regulation

- LMP2A initiates host genome-wide methylation, leading to 270 uniquely methylated genes in EBVaGC
- Several cellular pathways are deregulated in EBVaGC leading to tumorigenesis
- Pathways involving energy production and metabolism are significantly altered
- Metabolic pathways are downregulated in EBVaGC



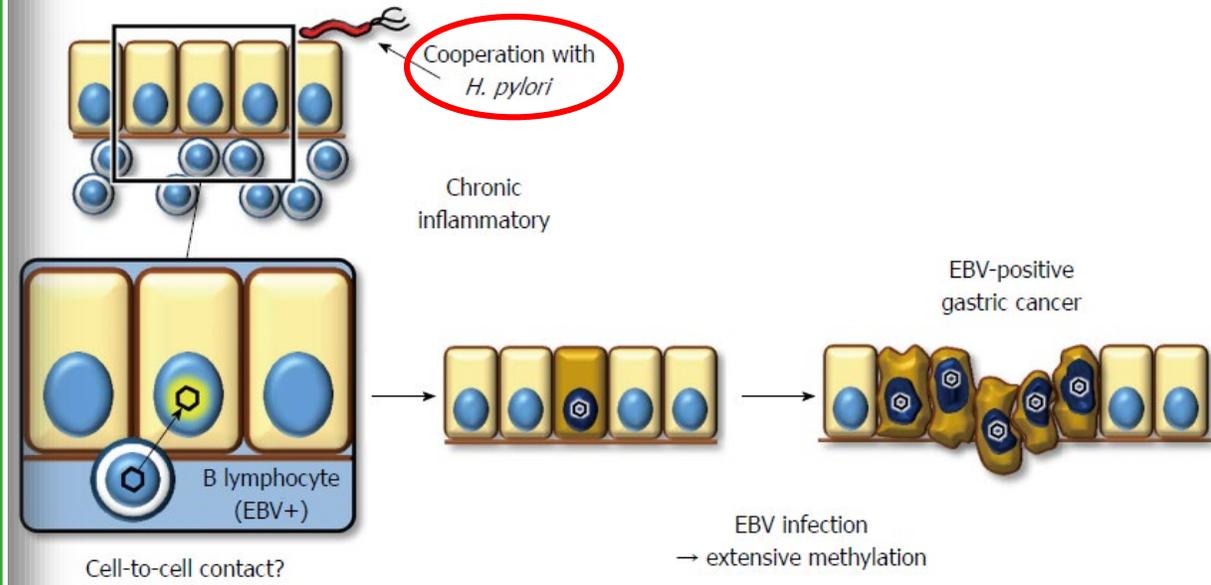
## Inflammation and Tumor Microenvironment

- Chronic inflammation is a risk factor for EBVaGC as it sets the optimal conditions necessary for tumorigenesis
- Tumor microenvironment can play a critical role in tumorigenesis, metastasis and angiogenesis
- The balance between host immune response and EBV immune evasion guides cancer development



## Epithelial to Mesenchyma Transition (EMT)

- Downregulation of host cellular micro-RNAs (miRNA) facilitates EMT
- Increased expression of host long noncoding RNAs (lncRNAs) also contributes to EMT
- EBV miRNAs also influence oncogenesis, cell adhesion, signal transduction and apoptosis
- Loss of host tumor suppressors such as PTEN and ARID1A leads to lymphovascular invasion

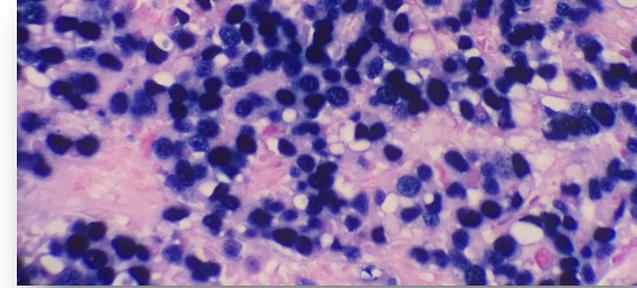
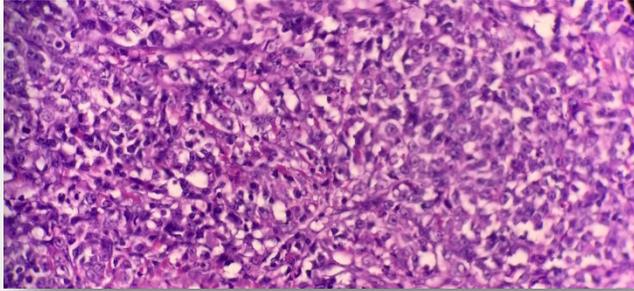


# CLINICAL-PATHOLOGICAL FEATURES EBV-ASSOCIATED GC

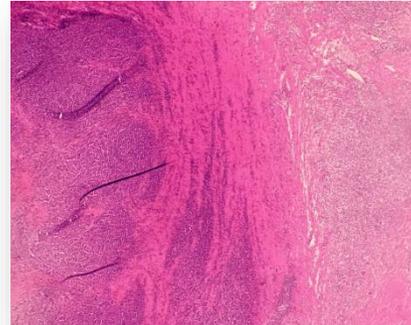
- predominantly proximal stomach
- associated with lower T and N stages
- well-delineated tumors with pushing borders
- moderate-poor degree of differentiation
  - ✓ 63,4% tubular type
  - ✓ 4,9% poorly cohesive type
- associated with prominent immune infiltrate
- Lower HER2 expression

# MORPHOLOGY OF EBV-ASSOCIATED GC

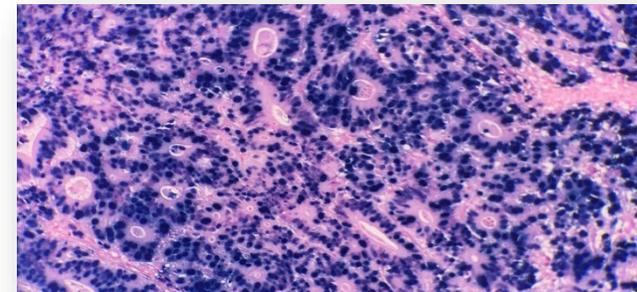
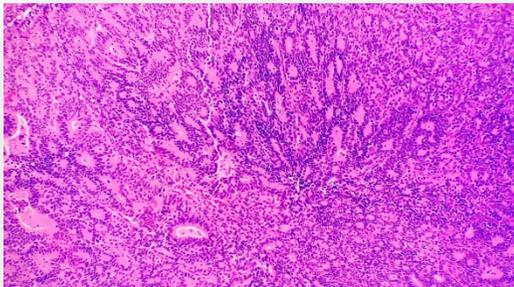
- ✓ **GC with lymphoid stroma** (lymphoepithelioma-like/medullary carcinoma)



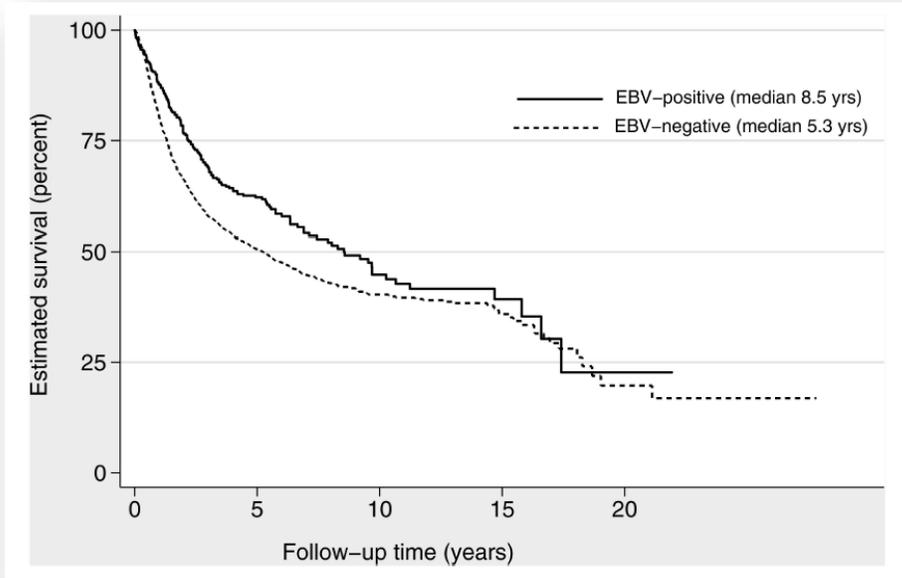
- ✓ **Carcinoma with Crohn's disease-like lymphoid reaction** (3 or more follicles in the invasion edge of the tumor)



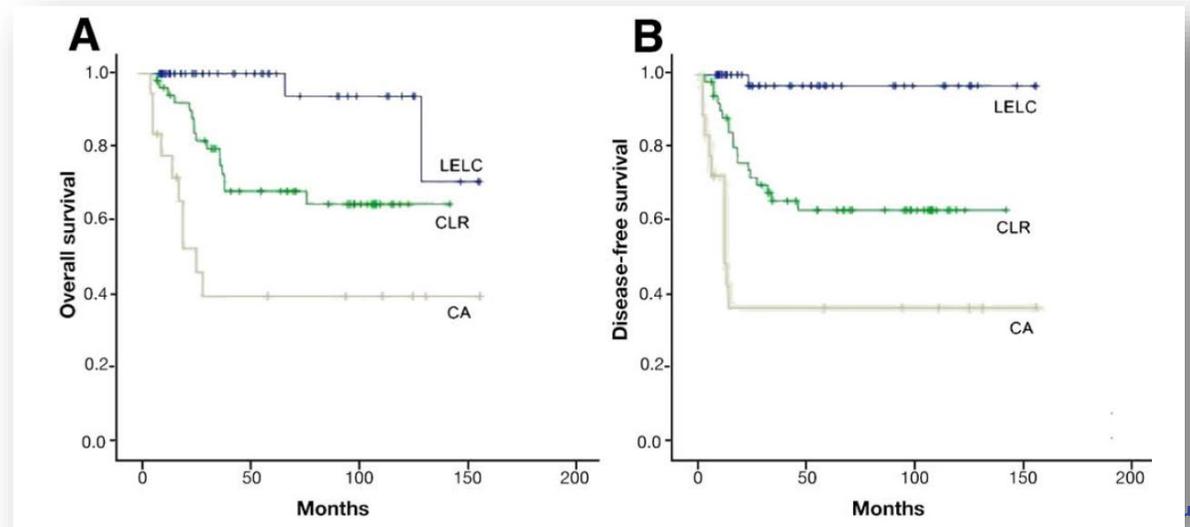
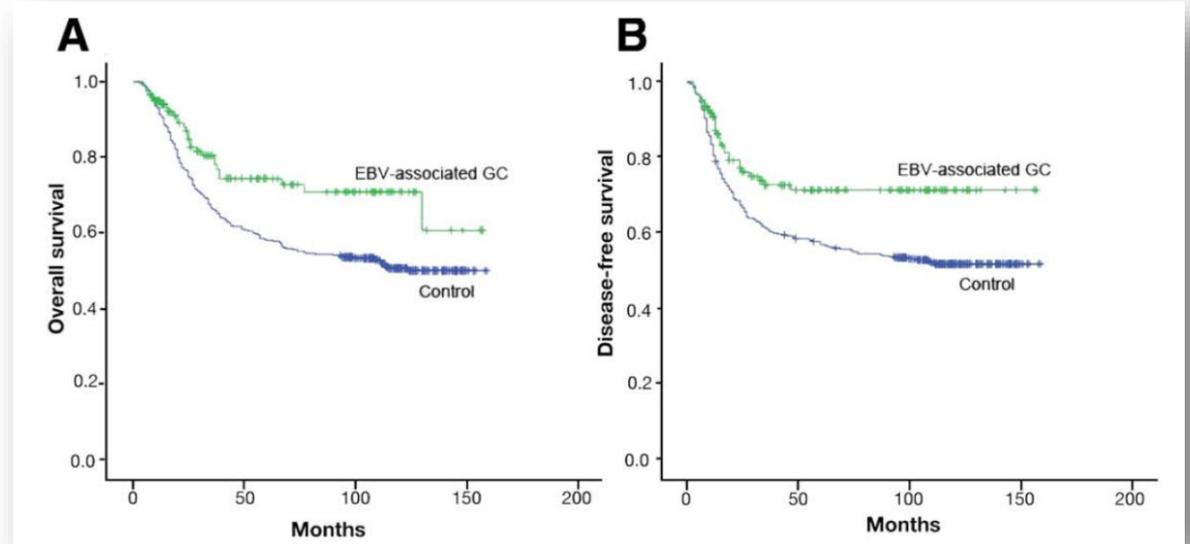
- ✓ **Conventional-type adenocarcinoma** (scattered lymphocytes with prominent desmoplasia wo or less 3 follicles)



# PROGNOSIS OF EBV-ASSOCIATED GC



Camargo MC, et al. *Gut* 2014;63:236–243



# REPLICATIVE ERRORS REPAIR (MMR) PROTEINS

**Puntual**

G

T

**Insertion**

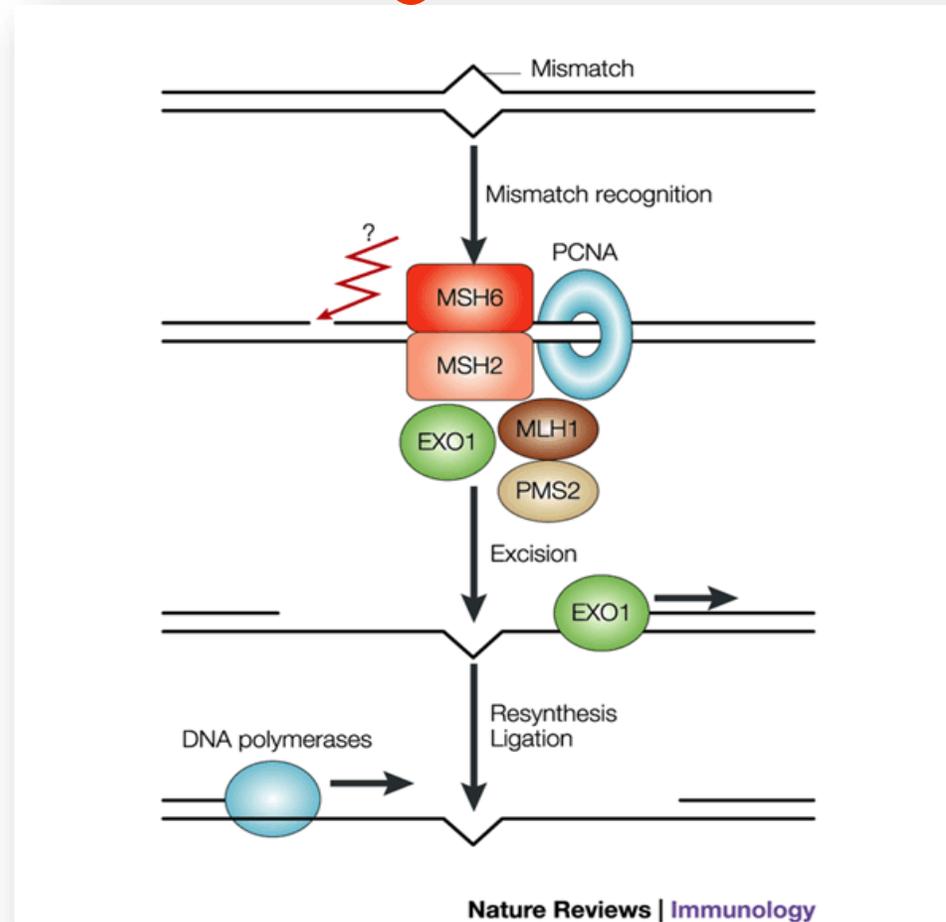
AAAA

TTTT

**Deletion**

CACACACACA

GTGTGTGT

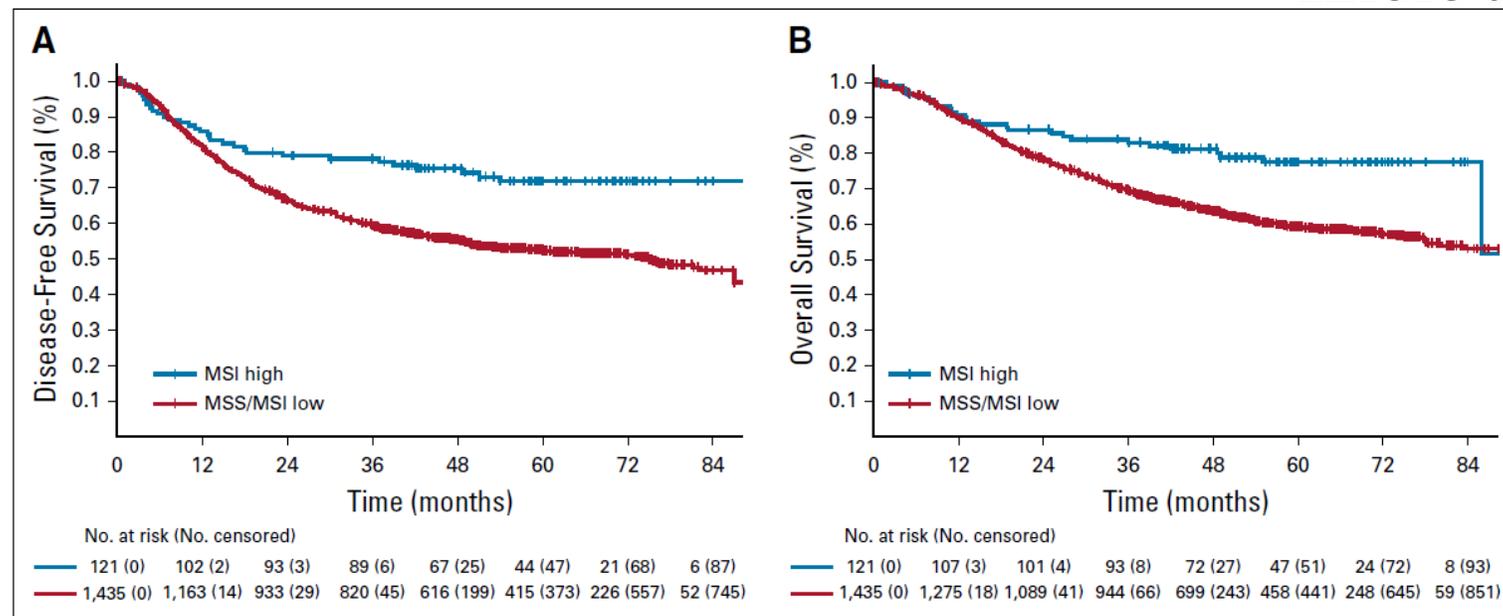


# MSI GASTRIC CANCER

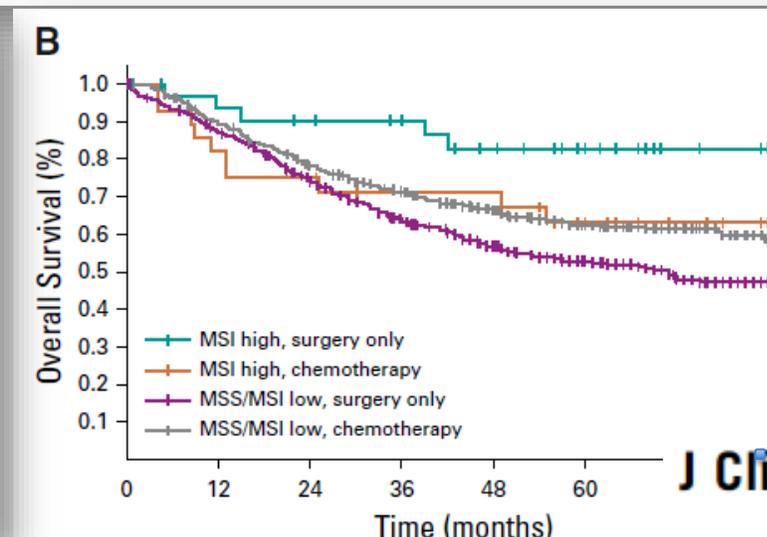
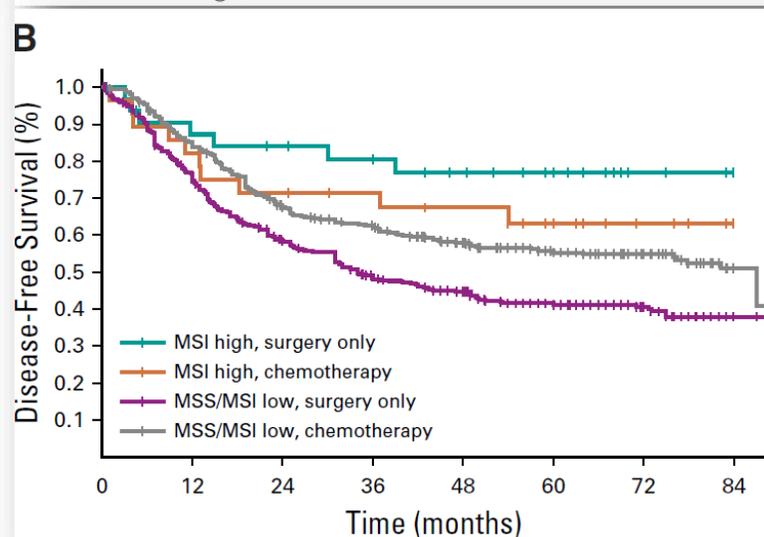
- MSI in about 15-20% of cases
- usually associated with:
  - female sex
  - older age
  - antral location
  - intestinal histology
  - earlier stage
  - considered a favorable prognostic indicator for both early and advanced stages
- The incidence of gastric cancer in HNPCC is low

# DFS and OS analysis of MSI gastric cancer

MAGIC and CLASSIC trials

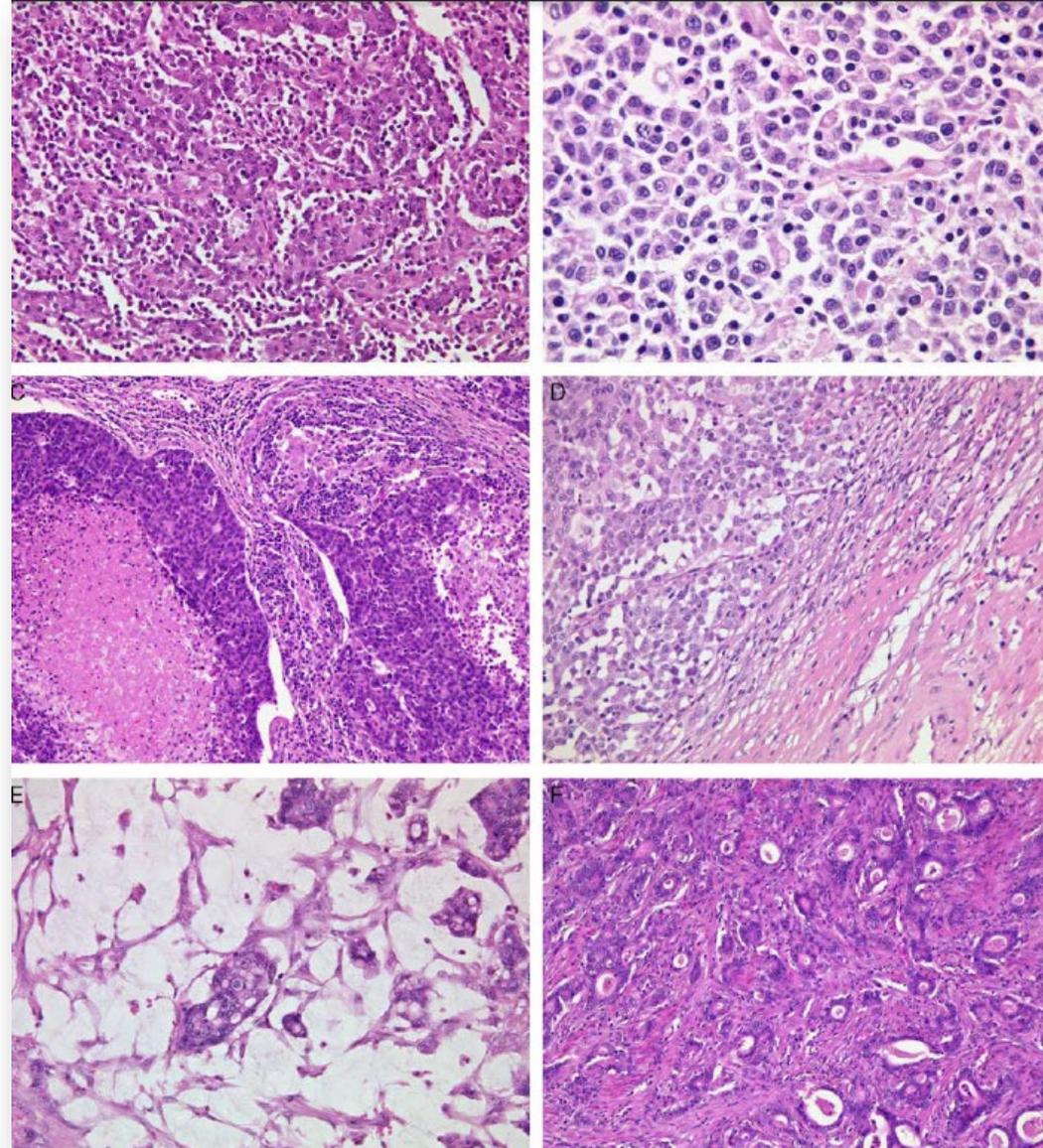


**FIG 2.** Kaplan-Meier curves of (A) disease-free survival and (B) overall survival according to microsatellite-instability (MSI) status (microsatellite stable [MSS]/MSI-low v MSI-high).

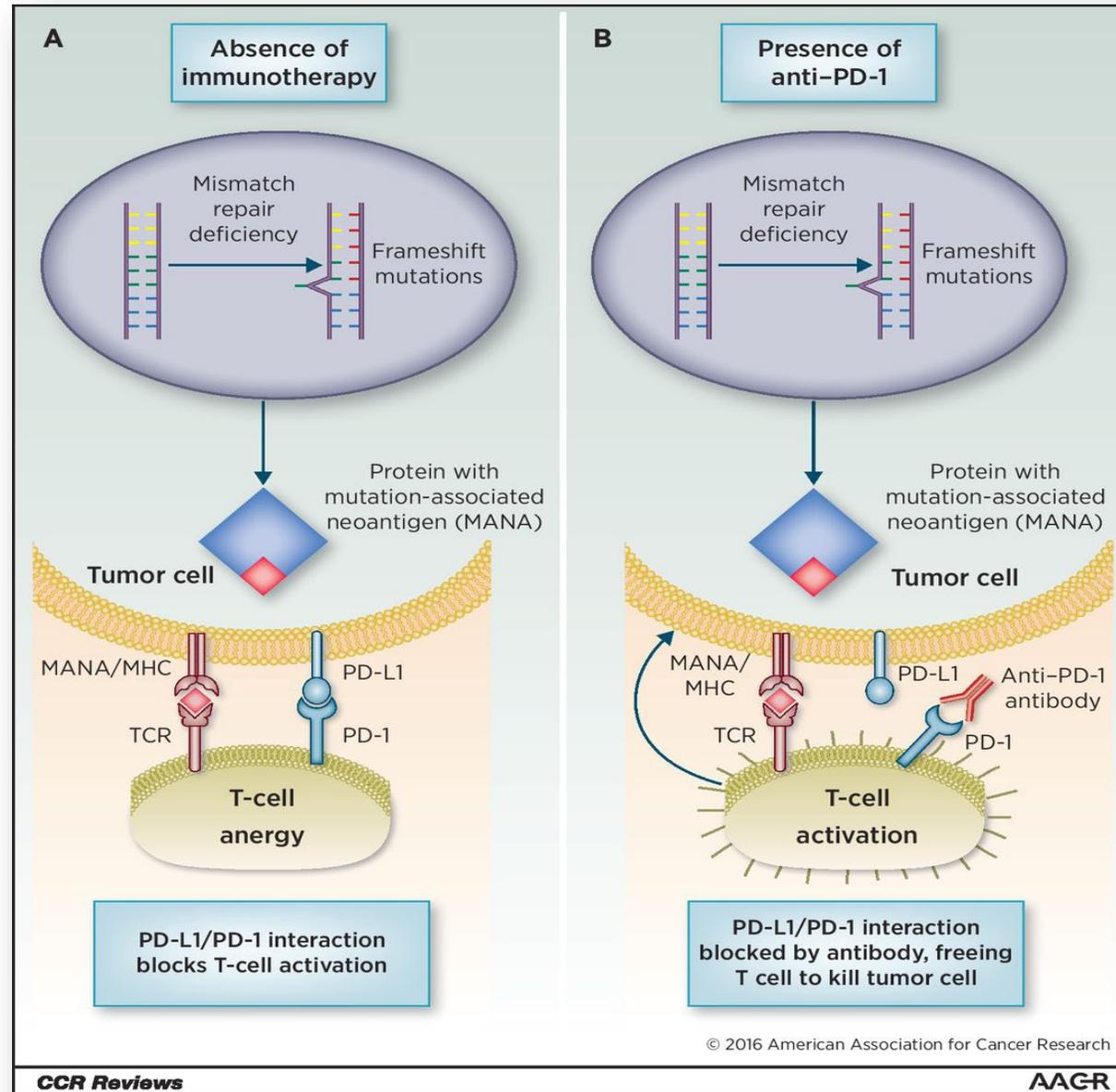


J Clin Oncol 37:3392-3400.

# HISTOMORPHOLOGY OF MSI GASTRIC CANCERS



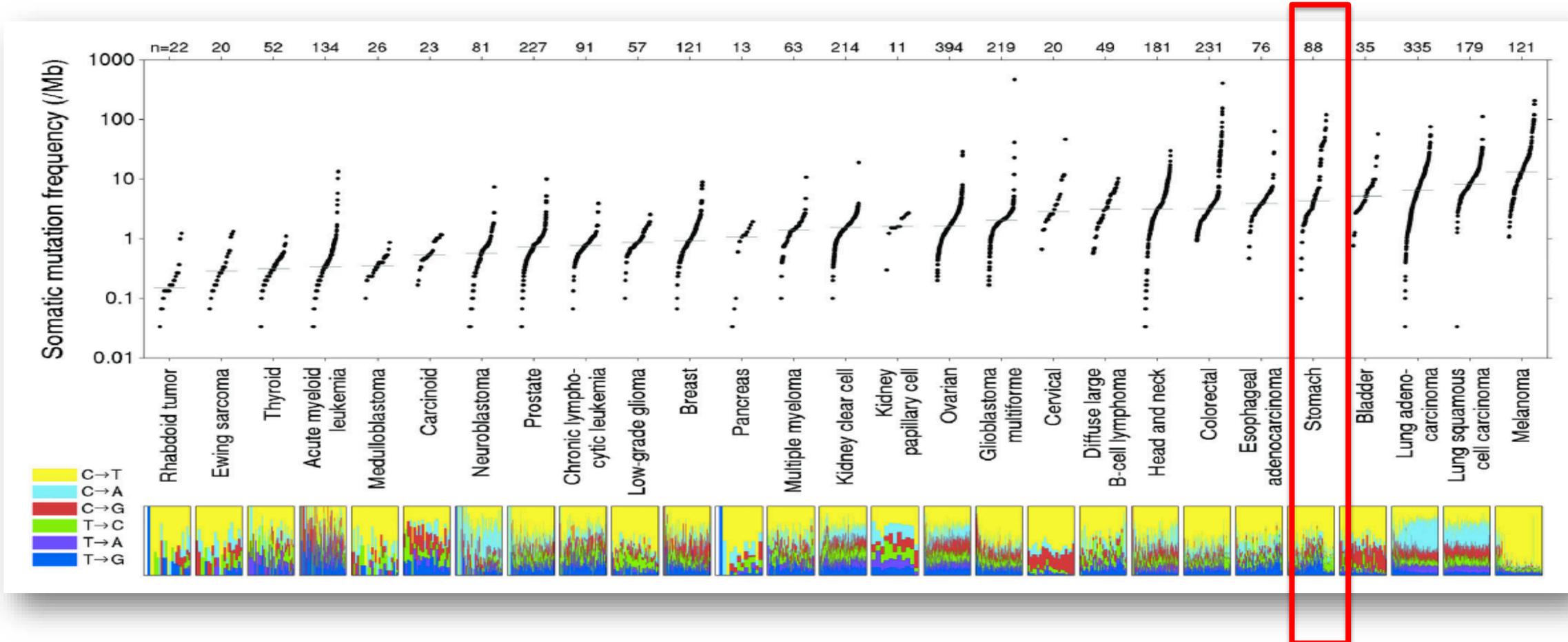
# PROPOSED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MSI STATUS AND IMMUNOLOGIC RESPONSE



**Clinical  
Cancer Research**

AAGR American Association  
for Cancer Research

# FREQUENCY OF GENETIC SOMATIC MUTATIONS IN CANCER



# Programmed Death-Ligand 1 Expression Is Common in Gastric Cancer Associated With Epstein-Barr Virus or Microsatellite Instability

*Am J Surg Pathol* 2016;40:1496–1506

Changqing Ma, MD, PhD,\* Krishna Patel, MD,† Aatur D. Singhi, MD, PhD,\*  
Bing Ren, MD, PhD,\* Benjamin Zhu, BA,\* Fyza Shaikh, MD,† and Weijing Sun, MD†

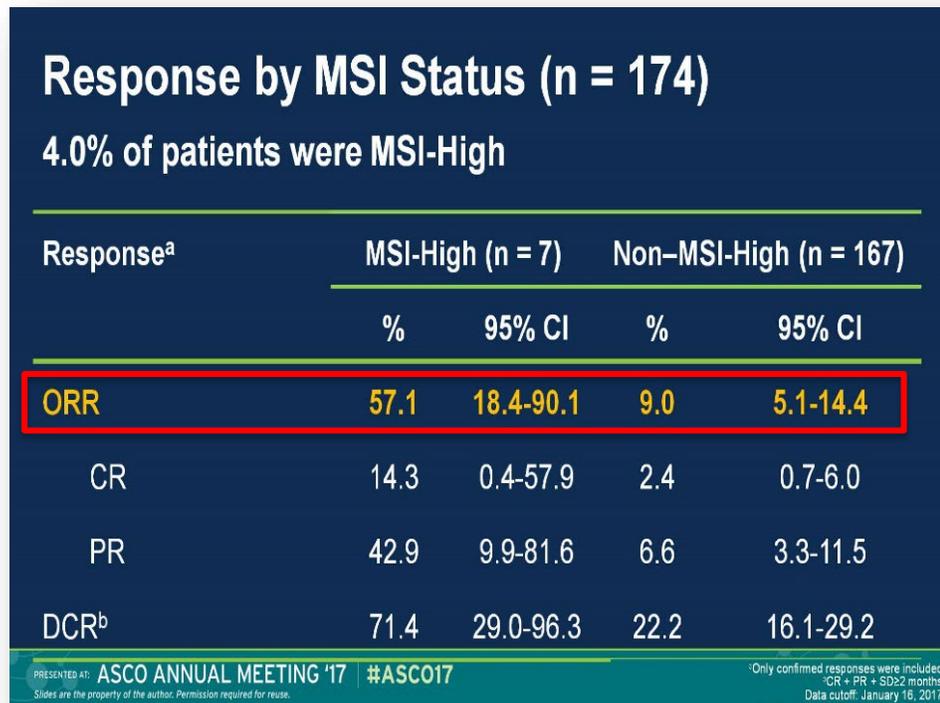
**TABLE 2. PD-L1 Expression and Tumor Immune Microenvironment Stratified by EBV and MSI Status**

	All (N = 44)	EBV + (N = 7)	MSI (N = 16)	EBV – /MSS (N = 21)	P
<b>Pattern of PD-L1 staining (n [%])</b>					
Diffuse	10 (23)	4 (57)	5 (31)	1 (5)	< 0.001
Invasive front	14 (32)	2 (29)	9 (56)	3 (14)	
Immune infiltrates	8 (18)	1 (14)	0	7 (33)	
Negative	12 (27)	0	2 (13)	10 (48)	
<b>Portion of cells in tumor with PD-L1 staining (n [%])</b>					
0% (PD-L1 –)	12 (27)	0	2 (13)	10 (48)	0.013
> 0% (PD-L1 +)	32 (72)	7 (100)	14 (87)	11 (52)	
> 0, < 5%	16	2	5	9	
≥ 5%, < 10%	6	1	4	1	
≥ 10%, < 20%	3	1	2	0	
≥ 20%, < 30%	3	1	2	0	
≥ 30%, < 40%	1	1	0	0	
≥ 40%	3	1	1	1	
<b>T cells at the invasive front (mean/high-power field [range])</b>					
CD3	436 (112-865)	580 (265-865)	527 (149-780)	318 (112-654)	< 0.001
CD4	249 (51-516)	310 (164-516)	287 (51-489)	200 (52-514)	0.011
CD8	246 (35-640)	366 (129-512)	306 (63-640)	161 (35-338)	< 0.001
PD-1	97 (5-331)	137 (48-230)	127 (5-331)	60 (17-178)	0.002
<b>CD4/CD8 ratio (n [%])</b>					
CD4 ≥ CD8	29 (66)	3 (43)	8 (50)	18 (86)	0.028
CD4 < CD8	15 (34)	4 (57)	8 (50)	3 (14)	
<b>Portion of immune cells expressing PD-1 (n [%])</b>					
< 5%, > 0%	3 (7)	0	2 (13)	1 (5)	0.481
≥ 5%	41 (93)	7 (100)	14 (87)	20 (95)	

# Possibility of using PD-1/PD-L1 immune checkpoint inhibitors in EBV+/MSI GCs

- PD-L1 amplification is frequent in EBV+ GC
- Studies and clinical trials proved that **MSI-high GCs** treated with **pembro** are associated with a higher rate of response and disease control compared with MSS

## KEYNOTE 059 Cohort 1



## KEYNOTE-061 (phase 3)

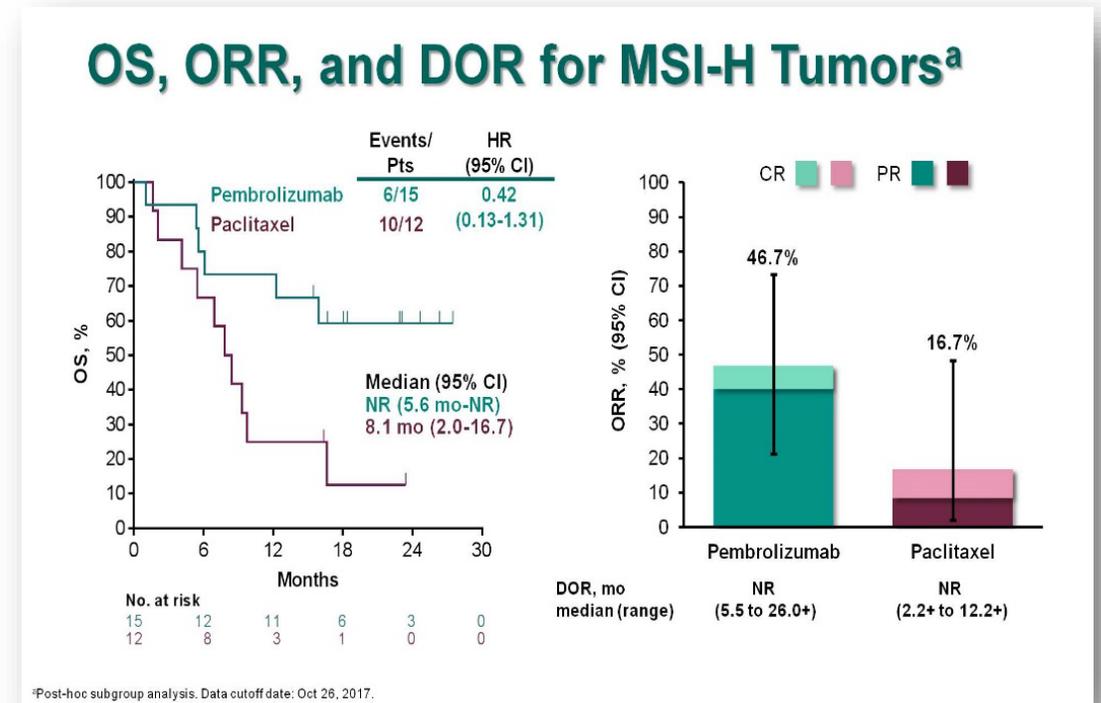


Table 1 Selected active clinical trials involving molecular targeted therapies for specific gastric cancer subtypes

GC subtype	Molecular target	Therapeutic agents	Clinical trial name (ID)	Phase	Patients	Additional treatments	ESCD	Clinical efficiency			Condition	Study (citation)			
								ORR	mOS	mPFS					
EBV	PD-1	Pembrolizumab	KEYNOTE-059 (NCT02335411)	II	316	Cis+5-FU	May-19	11.60%	5.6	2	Rec/Met GC	[37]			
			KEYNOTE-061 (NCT02370498)	III	592	Paclitaxel	Jul-19						Failed	Adv GC	[38]
			KEYNOTE-062 (NCT02494583)	III	764	Cis+5-FU(X)	Jun-20							Adv GC	
	Nivolumab +/-Ipilimumab (CTLA4 inhibitor)			KEYNOTE-585 (NCT03221426)	III	860	Cis+X(5-FU) or FLOT	Jul-23				GC			
				ONO-4538-38 (NCT03006705)	III	700	S-1 or XOX	Jun-10				Stage III GC			
				CheckMate649 (NCT02872116)	III	1266	XOX or FOLFOX	Oct-21				Adv/Met GC			
				ONO-4538-37 (NCT02746796)	II/III	680	SOX or XOX	Aug-20				Adv/Rec GC			
	PD-L1	Avelumab		JAVELIN Gastric 300 (NCT02625623)	III	371	Avelumab + BSC vs Irinotecan + Paclitaxel	Sep-20				Rec/Met GC			
				JAVELIN Gastric 100 (NCT02625610)	III	466	vs OX + 5-FU(X)(LV)	Mar 2024				Adv/Met GC			
	Durvalumab			NCT02572687	I	114	Ramucirumab	Sep-18	36%	5.32/4.14 <i>P &lt; 0.0001</i>	1.61/1.45	Adv/Met GC	[43,45]		
				NCT02340975	Ib/II	135	+/- Tremelimumab (CTLA4 inhibitor)	Aug-19						Rec/Met GC	[46]
				NCT02678182	II	770	Cis, X	Aug-10						Adv/Met HER2 neg. GC	
	Atezolizumab			DANTE (NCT03421288)	II	295	FLOT	Feb-25				Adv GC			
				ICONIC (NCT03399071)	II	40	FLOT-A	Aug-25				T1-T3 GC			
PIK3CA	BYL719	AZD5363	NCT01613950	I	18	AUY922	Mar-14	NA			Adv/Met GC				
			NCT02451956	II	25	Paclitaxel	Dec-18						Adv GC with PIK3CA mutation		
ARID1A	PLX2853	AZD2281 (Olaparib)	NCT03297424	II	166		May-21				ARID1A mutations				
			NCT02576444	II	64		Sep-18				PIK3CA, AKT, or ARID1A mutations				
MSI	PD-1	Pembrolizumab	KEYNOTE-016 (NCT01876511)	II	171		Jun-21	40%	Not reached	5.4	MSI	[47]			
GS	CDH1	NA	-			Prophylactic gastrectomy									
													RHOA	NA	
													CLDN18-ARHGAP fusion	NA	
CIN	EGFR	Cetuximab	NCT00183898	II	75	XOX	Jun-18				Adv GC				
			NEOPECX (NCT01234324)	II	171	ECX, placebo	Aug-17				Adv GC incl. GEJ				
	Panitumumab			MEGA (NCT01443065)	II	162	FOLFOX/FOLFOX + panitumumab/FOLFOX + AMG102	Jan-19	13.1/8.3/11.5	5.8/5.2/7.6	Adv GC	[48]			
				NCT01813253	III	400	Irinotecan, placebo	Jan-18					EGFR overexpr. Adv GC or GEJ		
				NIEGA (NCT03400592)	II	55	Irinotecan	Jun-18					Rec/ Met GC with overexpr. EGFR		



# Keytruda pembrolizumab

KEYTRUDA as monotherapy is indicated for the treatment of the following MSI-H or dMMR tumours in adults with:

- unresectable or metastatic gastric, small intestine, or biliary cancer, who have disease progression on or following at least one prior therapy.

## Oesophageal carcinoma

KEYTRUDA, in combination with platinum and fluoropyrimidine-based chemotherapy, is indicated for the first-line treatment of locally advanced unresectable or metastatic carcinoma of the oesophagus or HER-2 negative gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma, in adults whose tumours express PD-L1 with a CPS  $\geq 10$  (see section 5.1).

## Opdivo (*nivolumab*)

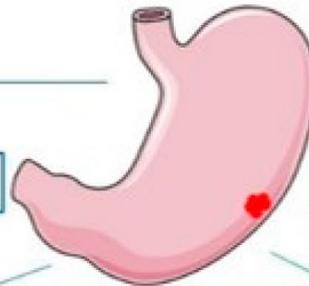
### **Gastric, gastro-oesophageal junction (GEJ) or oesophageal adenocarcinoma**

OPDIVO in combination with fluoropyrimidine- and platinum-based combination chemotherapy is indicated for the first-line treatment of adult patients with HER2-negative advanced or metastatic gastric, gastro-oesophageal junction or oesophageal adenocarcinoma whose tumours express PD-L1 with a combined positive score (CPS)  $\geq 5$ .

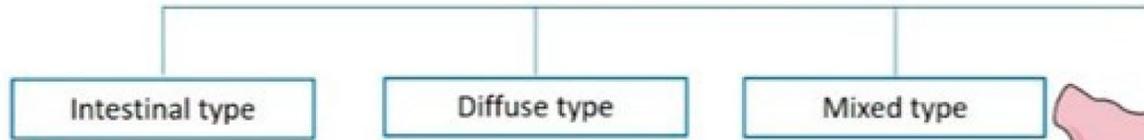
## Histological Classification

## Gastric adenocarcinomas

## Molecular Classification



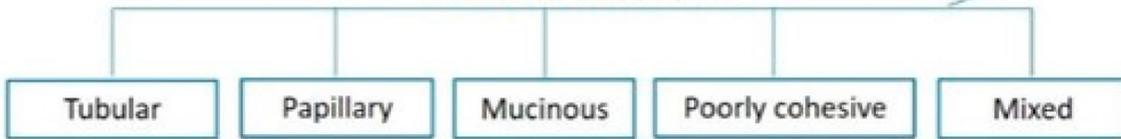
### Laurèn Classification



### TCGA Classification



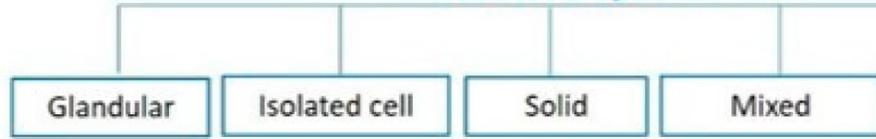
### WHO Classification



### Asian Cancer Research Group Classification



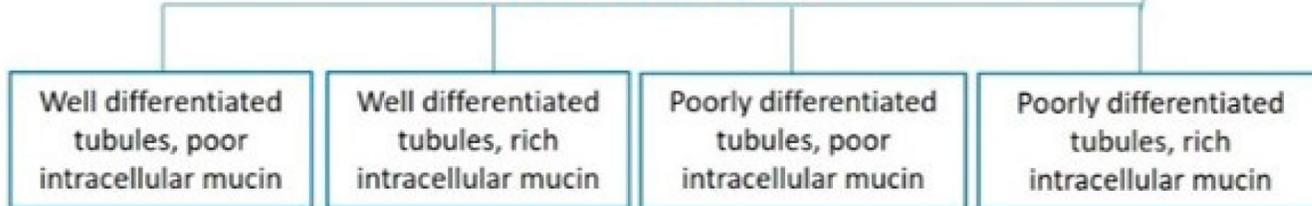
### Carneiro System



### Setia Classification



### Goseki Classification



Gràcies

