# Salivary Gland Tumors, Histology, Molecular and beyond-Part II

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Adenoid cystic carcinoma

Polymorphous adenocarcinoma

Mucoepidermoid carcinoma

Acinic cell carcinoma

Secretory carcinoma

WHO 2022

### Adenoid cystic carcinoma (ACC)

- Biphasic ductal and myoepithelial differentiation
- 25% of salivary gland malignancies
- Most common=parotid
- 30% in minor salivary glands, highest frequency in palate
- All ages, high frequency in older patients

- Good early survival: 5-year survival is 75-80%
- Poor long survival: 15 years survival is 35%
- Morphologically bland but infiltrative
- High rate of perineural invasion
- High risk category
- Lymph nodes involvement is uncommon

### ACC-Histology Biphasic differentiation







## Perineural invasion

- PNI is common but not pathognomonic
- ACC has a propensity to infiltrate along nerve tract

#### ACC-Growth patterns





Solid pattern

- Biphasic differentiation is not obvious
- Cells are larger/more atypical
- Mitoses and focal tumor necrosis are common



- Solid component imparts poor prognosis
- Grading based on the amount of solid growth pattern
  - Grade 1: mostly tubular, no solid
  - Grade 2: mostly cribriform, ≤30% solid
  - Grade 3: >30% solid
- At MSK: we report the presence and the amount of solid pattern

Predictors of Outcome in Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma of Salivary Glands: A Clinicopathologic Study With Correlation Between MYB Fusion and Protein Expression

Bin Xu, Esther Drill, Allen Ho, Alan Ho, Lara Dunn, Carlos Nicolas Prieto-Granada, Timothy Chan, Ian Ganly Ronald Ghossein, and Nora Katabi American Journal of Surgical Pathology 2017

Any solid pattern correlated with DFS





#### High Grade Transformation

- Not unique for ACC
- HG pleomorphic, mitotically active carcinoma
- Morphologic overlapping with solid ACC
- High grade features in HGT are exaggerated

	Seethal	'a et	al.	2009
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Features	Solid ACC	HGT-ACC
Growth	Solid nests	Solid confluent nests to sheet
Nuclei	•Uniform in size •At most 2 X size of ACC of other patterns •Indistinct nucleoli	•Variable in size •At least 2-3 X size of ACC of other patterns •Prominent central nucleoli
Stroma	Paucicellular myxoid or hyaline	Fibrocellular desmoplastic
Unique features		Squamoid areas, micropapillae
Mitoses	<10 HPF	>10 HPF
Ki-67	<50%	>50%
Comedonecrosis	Focal, punctuate	Often present, extensive
Microcalicifications	Rarely present	Often present
Abulimnal layer by immunohistochemistry	Present and complete	Incomplete and at least focally absent

### ACC-High grade transformation

#### Solid ACC

#### **HGT-ACC**



### *MYB-NFIB* t(6;9) *MYBL1-NFIB* t(8;9)



- t(6;9)(q22-23;p23-24) translocation resulting in the *MYB-NFIB* fusion gene
  - >50% of ACCs
  - Salivary and non-salivary gland sites
- MYBL1 in 5% of ACCs
- NOTCH1 mutations

Predictors of Outcome in Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma of Salivary Glands: A Clinicopathologic Study With Correlation Between MYB Fusion and Protein Expression Bin Xu, Esther Drill, Allen Ho, Alan Ho, Lara Dunn, Carlos Nicolas Prieto-Granada, Timothy Chan, Ian Ganly, Ronald Ghossein, and Nora Katabi American Journal of Surgical Pathology 2017

- MYB IHC was positive 72%
- Specificity of MYB IHC in detecting MYB fusion 50%
- Can be positive in other tumors



### **ACC-Differential diagnosis**

- Pleomorphic adenoma
- Epithelial myoepithelial carcinoma
- Basal cell adenoma/adenocarcinoma
- Nonkeratinizing/Basaloid squamous cell carcinoma
- NUT carcinoma
- HPV related polyphenotypic sinonasal carcinoma
- Polymorphous adenocarcinoma & cribriform adenocarcinoma





## Epithelial myoepithelial carcinoma

 RAS Q61R IHC cytoplasmic/membranous staining

#### Basal cell adenocarcinoma



### **ACC-Differential diagnosis**

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### Polymorphous adenocarcinoma (PAC)

- Second most common intraoral SG malignancy
- Over 95% in minor salivary gland (palate-60%)
- Infiltrative growth pattern with swirled appearance
- PNI is common
- Morphologic diversity and cytologic uniformity
- Good prognosis: 5-33% local recurrence, 9-15% regional LN metastasis, rare distal metastases and deaths

### PAC-Multiple growth patterns



#### PAC-Multiple growth patterns



### Uniform cytology



Papillary pattern in polymorphous adenocarcinoma??

Papillary patterned tumors thought to behave more aggressively and to have greater capacity of recurrences

#### Cribriform Adenocarcinoma

Cribriform adenocarcinoma of the tongue: a hitherto unrecognized					
type of ader	Cribriform Adenocarcinoma of Minor Salivary Gland	the tongue			
Michal¹, Skálová¹, Simp	Origin Principally Affecting the Tongue:				
Mukenšnábl <sup>1</sup>	Skalova Alena MD PhD: Sima Radek PhD: Kasnirkova-				
Histopathology. 1999 D	Nemcova, Jana Mgr; Simpson, Roderick H.W. MD; Elmberger, Goran MD; Leivo, Ilmo MD, PhD; Di Palma, Silvana MD; Jirasek, Tomas MD, PhD; Gnepp, Douglas R. MD; Weinreb, Ilan MD; Perez-Ordoñez, Bayardo MD; Mukensnabl, Petr MD, PhD; Rychly, Boris MD; Hrabal, Petr MD; Michal, Michal MD				
	Am J Surg Pathol. 2011 Aug;35(8):1168-76				

Cribriform Adenocarcinoma

A subtype of polymorphous adenocarcinoma?

A separate entity??





### Optical clear nuclear features



#### PAC/Cribriform adenocarcinoma



- One uniform cell type
- Ovoid open vesicular chromatin PTC like nuclei
- Low grade cytology
- Less infiltrative (CASG)

#### Adenoid cystic carcinoma



- Biphasic
- Hyperchromatic angulated nuclei (myoepithelial cells)
- Mitoses and apoptosis
- More infiltrative

### Immunohistochemistry

#### CASG/PAC

- Diffuse S100 and CK7
- CD117 (+/-)
- P63 usually + P40 -
- Calponin & SMA: + patchy

#### Adenoid cystic carcinoma

- S100 is variably +
- CD117 + (ductal cells)
- Similar staining for P63 and P40
- Myoepithelial (calponin, P63, P40,SMA) and ductal (cam5.2)







#### Two cribriform adenocarcinomas in major G

CASG

#### Histologic Spectrum of Polymorphous Adenocarcinoma of the Salivary Gland Harbor Genetic Alterations Affecting PRKD Genes

Sebastiao APM, Xu B, Lozada JR, Pareja F, Geyer FC, Da Cruz Paula A, da Silva EM, Ghossein RA, Weinreb I, de Noronha L, Weigelt B, Reis-Filho JS, Katabi N.

Modern Pathology; Jan 2020; 33 (1): 65-73

Molecular findings PRKD alterations

- *PRKD1* pGlu710ASP point mutation in 70-89% of PAC
- Fusion involving PRKD1, PRKD2, PRKD3 in 70-94% CASG
- PRKD fusion-positive tumors
  - Have a high risk of nodal metastasis
- <u>Molecular testing may provide prognostic</u> <u>information</u>

#### Histologic Classification and Molecular Signature of Polymorphous Adenocarcinoma (PAC) and Cribriform Adenocarcinoma of Salivary Gland (CASG) An International Interobserver Study

Bin Xu, Andrea L. Barbieri, Justin A. Bishop, Simon I. Chiosea, Snjezana Dogan, Silvana Di Palma, William C. Faquin, Ronald Ghossein, Martin Hyrcza, Vickie Y. Jo, James S. Lewis Jr, John R. Lozada, Michal Michal, Fresia G. Pareja, Bayardo Perez-Ordonez, Manju L. Prasad, Bibianna Purgina, Jorge S. Reis-Filho, Theresa Scognamiglio, Ana P.M. Sebastiao, Raja R. Seethala, Alena Skálová, Stephen M. Smith, Merva S. Tekkeşin, Lester D.R. Thompson, Jason K. Wasseman, Bruce M. Wenig, Ilan Weinreb, and Nora Katabi American Journal of Surgical pathology

April 2020 44 (4) 545-552

- Interobserver agreements even among expert H&N pathologists are fair to moderate
- 25 to 30% of cases showing indeterminate histologic features
- Tumors with papillary architecture are part of the spectrum
- Tumors with predominant papillary architecture have *PRKD* fusion
- WHO 2022: CASG is a subtype of PAC
#### PAC/CASG represent a morphologic & molecular spectrum

PAC/PRKD1 hotspot	IND/overlapping morphologic & molecular alteration	CASG/PRKD	
mutation		fusion	
			7

### **Mucoepidermoid Carcinoma(MEC)**

- Most common malignancy (children and adults)
- Mean patient age is 45 years
- Female to male predilection 3:2
- Prior exposure to radiation

### Mucoepidermoid carcinoma

- Major salivary glands 60%
  - 48% parotid
  - 11% submandibular
  - 1% sublingual
- Minor salivary glands 35% (most frequent sites: palate & buccal mucosa)
- Reported in mandible and maxilla (central)





### MEC variants: Oncocytic MEC



- Extensive oncocytic cells

- Presence of mucous cells and non-oncocytic tumor cells

#### MEC variants Sclerosing MEC

- Central sclerotic stroma
- Relatively circumscribed
- Peripheral lymphoid tissue





#### **MEC** variants



#### Peripheral lymphoid stroma



Lymphoid stroma should not be misinterpreted as nodal metastases

# Grading MEC



# MEC survival

**5** years survival

Low Grade (LG): 92-100% Intermediate Grade (IG): 62-92% High Grade (HG): 0-43%



Low Grade: Surgical resection High Grade: Surgical resection + adjuvant radiation ( side effects) + neck dissection Intermediate Grade???

## MEC-Different grading systems

- AFIP
- Brandwein
- Healy
- MSKCC

# AFIP grading system

	Intracystic component <20%	+2
	Neural invasion	+2
	Mitoses (≥4/10HPF)	+3
	Necrosis	+3
	Anaplasia	+4
	Grade	Score
	Low	0-4
Goode & Auclair 1997	Intermediate	5-6
	High	7-14

### Brandwein grading system

• Brandwein 2001

Intracystic component <25%	+2
Neural invasion	+2
Tumor invades in small nests and islands	+2
Lymphatic/vascular invasion	+3
Pronounced nuclear atypia	+2
Bony invasion	+3
Mitoses (≥4/10HPF)	+3
Necrosis	+3
Grade	Score
Low	0
Intermediate	2-3
High	4 or more

# Modified Healy Qualitative

Low Grade	Intermediate Grade	High Grade	
Growth: Macrocysts & microcysts	Growth: Solid nests	<u>Growth:</u> Predominately solid	
1/1 mucin/epidermoid cells, minimal to moderate intermediate cells	Large duct are not obvious	Tumor cells range from poorly differentiated to epidermoid and intermediate	
Transition to excretory duct			
<u>Cytology:</u> Absent to minimal pleomorphism and rare mitoses	<u>Cytology:</u> Mild to moderate pleomorphism, few mitoses, prominent nucleoli	<u>Cytology:</u> Marked pleomorphism, easily found mitoses	
Infiltration: Circumscribed borders	Infiltration: Invasive, poorly circumscribed borders, fibrosis	Infiltration: PNI, VI, invasion into soft tissue, desmoplasia	
Pools of extravasated mucin	Peripheral chronic inflammation	Less common peripheral chronic inflammation	

# Problems

- AFIP system
  - Downgrades MEC
  - Fails to predict an indolent course for low grade
- Brandwein system
  - Upgrades MEC
  - Categorizes some indolent tumors as high grade
- Healy system
  - Ambiguous
  - Subjective

### Case 1

All grading systems Low grade MEC



All grading systems High grade MEC





#### Prognostic Features in Mucoepidermoid Carcinoma of Major Salivary Glands with Emphasis on Tumour Histologic Grading

Katabi N, Ghossein R, Klimstra DS, Dogan S, Ganly I Histopathology July 2014

- All grading systems (AFIP, Brandwein, Healy, MSKCC) correlated significantly with outcome
- No consensus in 23/52 (44%) and tumors called high-grade using Brandwein but low grade using AFIP
- Mitosis, necrosis, pleomorphism, desmoplasia, and LN metastasis were associated with adverse DFS and RFS (p< 0.02)</li>

#### **MSKCC Grading System**

High grade MEC: ≥4mitosis/10 HPFs and/or necrosis Does not include PNI, VI, or bone invasion

	Low grade	Intermediate grade	High grade
Predominant growth pattern	Cystic	Predominantly solid	Any (usually solid)
Infiltration	Well circumscribed borders	Well circumscribed or infiltrative borders	Any (usually infiltrative borders)
Mitosis	0-1/10 HPFs	<4/10HPFs	≥4/10HPFs
Necrosis	Absent	Absent	Present

### WHO 2022 (5<sup>th</sup> edition)

#### Three grading systems:

AFIP, Brandwein and MSK without endorsement

"LG MECs are usually circumscribed, partly cystic and contain groups of mucous cells.

IG MECs generally have more solid areas, while HG neoplasms are solid with fewer mucous cells, and may display nuclear pleomorphism, mitotic figures, necrosis, and perineural, lymphovascular or bony invasion."

#### Critical Appraisal of Histologic Grading for Mucoepidermoid Carcinoma of Salivary Gland: is an Objective

**Prognostic Two-Tiered Grading System Possible?** 

Bin Xu, Bayan Alzumaili, Karina C. Furlan, German H. Martinez, Marc Cohen, Ian Ganly, Ronald A. Ghossein, Nora Katabi *Am J Surg Pathol,* September 2023

- LG and IG MECs behave similarly with comparable risk of nodal metastasis, recurrence, and distant metastasis
- Modified MSKCC 2-tiered grading system (LG and HG)

Low	grade	High	grade
Mitotic count <4/10 HPFs	No tumor necrosis	Mitotic count ≥4/10 HPFs	Tumor necrosis

Two-tiered grading system independently predicts RFS



MAML2-FISH

### **MEC-Differential Diagnosis**

- Benign cyst
- Warthin's Tumor
- Hyalinizing clear cell carcinoma
- Salivary duct carcinoma
- Squamous cell/Adenosquamous carcinoma

### Acinic cell carcinoma (AciCC)

- Serous acinar differentiation
- Wide range of age
- Slightly more common in females
- Most common site parotid (90-95%)

Spectrum of acinic cell carcinoma is broad and not limited to the typical acinar cells

# AciCC-Histology

# AciCC-Histology

#### <u>Cell types</u>

- Acinar
- Intercalated duct
- Vacuolated
- Non-specific glandular

#### **Growth patterns**

- Solid/lobular
- Microcystic
- Follicular

### Acinar cells

Eccentric uniform nuclei with abundant basophilic cytoplasm





#### Vacuolated cells

#### Non-specific glandular cells







#### AciCC Growth patterns



#### Associated lymphoid stroma



#### Lymphoid stroma should not be misinterpreted as nodal metastases



### AciCC-Prognosis

#### Low grade indolent tumor

High grade and aggressive behavior may occur



### AciCC Molecular/IHC

- <u>Molecular</u>: t(4;9)(q13;q31) involving the upstream region of transcription factor NR4A3 (Nuclear Receptor Subfamily 4 Group A Member3)
- <u>IHC:</u> Positive for DOG1, SOX10 and NOR1 (highly specific and sensitive marker)

#### What is your diagnosis?



#### Mammary Analogue Secretory Carcinoma of Salivary Glands, Containing the ETV6-NTRK3 Fusion Gene: A Hitherto Undescribed Salivary Gland Tumor Entity

Skálová Alena, Vanecek Tomas, Sima Radek, Lace Jan, Weinreb Ilan, Perez-Ordonez Bayardo, Starek Ivo, Geierova Marie, Simpson Roderrick HW, Passador-Santos Fabricio, Ryska Ales, Leivo Ilmo, Kinkor Zdenek, Michal Micha

*Am J surg pathol*. 2010 May;34(5):599-608
### Secretory carcinoma

- Morphologic and genetic similarities to secretory carcinoma of breast
- t(12,15) resulting in *ETV6-NTRK3*
- Parotid is the most common site
- Previously diagnosed as AciCC
- Zymogen granules are absent

### Secretory carcinoma-Histology Eosinophilic cells with vacuolation



### Secretory carcinoma-Histology Microcysts, macrocysts, tubules with intraluminal secretions

Macrocystic



### Secretory carcinoma-Histology Papillary cystic growth pattern





Floating clusters and hemosiderin



### Secretory carcinoma-IHC



## Secretory carcinoma Prognosis

- Indolent with the capacity of HG behavior
- Lymph node metastases up to 25%
- Rare distant metastases
- Potential therapeutic options with Trk inhibition in an NTRK3-rearranged tumors

# Secretory carcinoma-Differential Diagnosis

- Mucoepidermoid carcinoma
  - Squamoid/epidermoid cells and abundant mucocytes
  - IHC: positive for p63 and negative for S100
- Intraductal carcinoma
  - Ductal proliferations surrounded by myoepithelial cells
  - Intact myoepithelial rim around tumor cells-IHC
- Salivary carcinoma NOS
  - Diagnosis of exclusion

### Acinic cell carcinoma



# Secretory carcinoma vs AciCC

#### Secretory carcinoma

- Growth patterns: papillary-cystic, microcystic/tubular, follicular
- Zymogen-rich acinar cells absent
- Vacuolated cells more common

### <u>AciCC</u>

- Growth patterns: solid, microcystic
- Zymogen-rich acinar cells present (diagnostic)
- Vacuolated cells less common

- Positive for S100, CK7 Mammaglobin, GCDFP-15, GATA3
- Negative or focal DOG1, NOR1

- Negative for S100, CK7, Mammaglobin, GCDFP-15
- GATA3 (-/focal)
- Positive for DOG1, NOR1, SOX10

NR4A3 fusion

# WHO 2022

5<sup>th</sup> edition

# WHO 2022

### Benign tumors

- Keratocystoma
- Intercalated duct adenoma
- Striated duct adenoma
- Sclerosing polycystic adenoma

### Malignant tumors

- CASG is now a subtype of PAC
- Intraductal carcinoma
- Sclerosing microcystic adenocarcinoma
- Microsecretory adenocarcinoma
- Mucinous adenocarcinoma
- Salivary carcinoma NOS & emerging entities
  - Poorly differentiated carcinoma
  - Oncocytic carcinoma

### Microsecretory adenocarcinoma(MSA)

- Oral cavity: palate and buccal mucosa
- Perineural invasion is rare
- Necrosis is absent and mitotic rates are low
- No reported recurrence or metastasis

### Microsecretory adenocarcinoma (MSA)

- Rounded borders
- Microcystic growth pattern
- Intercalated duct-like cells, eosinophilic/clear cytoplasm, hyperchromatic nuclei
- Basophilic luminal secretions
- Cellular fibromyxoid stroma
- MEF2C::SS18 fusion
- IHC: Positive for S100, SOX10, and p63, and negative for p40, mammaglobin, and calponin. SMA (+/-)



### Sclerosing microcystic adenocarcinoma (SMA)

- Intraoral sites: tongue, lip, Buccal mucosa, FOM
- Infiltrative tubules, cords, nests, embedded in collagenous stroma
- Biphasic ductal (CK7, pan-CK) and myoepithelial (p63/p40, S100, calponin, SMA)
- Perineural invasion is common
- Low proliferative rate
- Good outcome



### Mucinous adenocarcinom a

- Intraoral sites
- Intracellular/extracellular mucin
- Variable architecture
- Papillary, colloid and signet ring, mixed
- Cytologic atypia varies
- IHC: (+) for CK7 and (-) for CK20, CDX2, p63/p40, TTF1, S100, calponin, SMA, and AR
- AKT1 p.E17K mutation
- IPMN?



# Intraductal carcinoma (IDC)

- Ductal proliferations in cysts and lobules, with variable architecture, surrounded by myoepithelial cells (p40, p63 calponin, SMA)
- Intercalated and oncocytic IDC
  - Positive for S100/SOX10 and negative for AR and GCDFP-15
  - RET fusion, BRAF V600E
  - Low grade



# Intraductal Carcinoma (IDC)

### • Apocrine IDC

- Positive for AR and GCDFP-15, negative for \$100/SOX10)
- HRAS, PIK3CA, TP53
- Low grade or high grade
- Mixed type
- Biphasic rather than intraductal or in situ



## Oncocytic Carcinoma





- Carcinomas consisting entirely of oncocytes
- No consensus about the existence of oncocytic carcinoma
- Most are salivary duct carcinomas
- It has been included in as an emerging entity



