### 2018 KOPANA 17th Spring Seminar

# Critical Review and Appraisal of the Latest AJCC System and WHO Classification of Thyroid Tumors

Chan Kwon Jung, MD, PhD Department of Hospital Pathology, The Catholic University of Korea Seoul St. Mary's Hospital

#### **Cancer Stat Facts: Thyroid Cancer**



#### NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program



rates for new thyroid cancer cases have been rising on average 3.8% each year over the last 10 years

https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/thyro.html

#### Korea's Thyroid-Cancer "Epidemic" — Screening and Overdiagnosis



N Engl J Med 2014;371:1765-7

The trend in thyroid cancer incidence in the United States from 1980 to 2009



J Cancer Epidemiol. 2013; 2013: 965212.

### **Historical aspects of FVPTC**



# **EFVPTC** with distant metastasis

- 3 follicular adenomas → bone metastases 7 to 17 yrs after thyroid resection
- 2 presented initially with bone metastases

Baloch ZW and LiVolsi VA. Mod Pathol 2000;13:861–5

### Risk stratification of follicular variant of papillary thyroid carcinoma



"noninvasive follicular thyroid neoplasm with papillary-like nuclear features" (NIFTP)

## The Increase in Thyroid Cancer Incidence During the Last Four Decades Is Accompanied by a High Frequency of *BRAF* Mutations and a Sharp Increase in *RAS* Mutations



-BRAF -RAS -RET-PTC

# "Less is More"

- Less diagnosis: sub-centimeter nodules should not be routinely selected for FNA
- Lobectomy as the initial surgical approach
- Less radioactive iodine treatment
- Less stimulated thyroglobulin testing

### 2nd Edition

The Bethesda System for Reporting Thyroid Cytopathology

> Definitions, Criteria, and Explanatory Notes

Second Edition

Syed Z. Ali Edmund S. Cibas Editors

D Springer

# 2017 Update

### 4th Edition





AJCC

8th Edition

### AJCC **Cancer Staging** Manual

Eighth Edition

D Springer

### The 3rd Edition WHO Classification of Thyroid Tumors

	٢.	Papillary carcinoma	
	•	Follicular carcinoma	
	•	Poorly differentiated carcinoma	
	•	Undifferentiated (anaplastic) carcinoma	
	•	Squamous cell carcinoma	2004
Malignant -	-	<ul> <li>Sclerosing mucoepidermoid carcinoma with eosinophilia</li> </ul>	2004
	•	Mucinous carcinoma	World Health Organization Classification of Turnours
	•	Medullary thyroid carcinoma	Pathology & Genetics
	•	Mixed medullary and follicular cell carcinoma	Tumours of Endocrine Organs
	•	Spindle cell tumor with thymus-like differentiation	/
Benign -	L.	Carcinoma showing thymus-like differentiation	
	٢.	Follicular adenoma	
		Hyalinizing trabecular tumor	
	•		
	L.	Secondary tumor of the thyroid	





#### Adenoma-Carcinoma Sequence



### The 4th Edition WHO Classification of Thyroid Tumors

		ICD-O
Benign:	Follicular adenoma	8330/0
	Hűrthle cell adenoma	8290/0
	Hyalinizing trabecular tumor	8336/1
Borderline,	Other Encapsulated Follicular Patterned Thyroid Tumors	
uncertain:	Follicular Tumor of Uncertain Malignant Potential (FT-UMP)	8335/1
	Well-Differentiated Tumor of Uncertain Malignant Potential (WDT-UMP)	8348/1
	Non-invasive Follicular Thyroid neoplasm with Papillary-like nuclear features (NIFTP)	8349/1
	Papillary thyroid carcinoma	8260/3
Mallanaut	Follicular thyroid carcinoma	8330/3
Malignant:	Hűrthle cell carcinoma	8290/3
	Poorly differentiated thyroid carcinoma	8337/3
	Anaplastic thyroid carcinoma	8020/3
	Squamous cell carcinoma	8070/3
	Medullary thyroid carcinoma	8345/3

## The 4th Edition WHO Classification of Thyroid Tumors

Follicular thyroid carcinoma (FTC), NOS		
FTC, minimally invasive	8335/3	
FTC, encapsulated angioinvasive	8339/3	
FTC, widely invasive	8330/3	
Hűrthle (oncocytic) cell tumors Hűrthle cell adenoma Hűrthle cell carcinoma	8290/0 8290/3	
Poorly differentiated thyroid carcinoma		
Anaplastic thyroid carcinoma		
Squamous cell carcinoma		
Medullary thyroid carcinoma		

# New codes

•	Hyalinizing trabecular tumor	8336/1
•	Follicular Tumor of Uncertain Malignant Potential (FT-UMP)	8335/1
•	Well-Differentiated Tumor of Uncertain Malignant Potential (WDT-UMP)	8348/1
•	Non-invasive Follicular Thyroid neoplasm with Papillary-like nuclear features (NIFTP)	8349/1
•	FTC, encapsulated angioinvasive	8339/3

# **Renaming entities**

2004, 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition	2017, 4 <sup>th</sup> edition
Follicular adenoma, oncocytic type	Hűrthle cell adenoma
Follicular carcinoma, oncocytic type	Hűrthle cell carcinoma
Poorly differentiated carcinoma	Poorly differentiated thyroid carcinoma
Undifferentiated (anaplastic) carcinoma	Anaplastic thyroid carcinoma
Mixed medullary and follicular cell carcinoma	Mixed medullary and follicular thyroid carcinoma
Carcinoma showing thymus-like differentiation (CASTLE)	Intrathyroid thymic carcinoma

# Hűrthle (oncocytic) cell tumors

>75% of the tumor is composed of Hűrthle cells

Hűrthle cell adenoma	8290/0
Hűrthle cell carcinoma	8290/3

Different from non- Hűrthle cell thyroid carcinomas

- HCC can spread to cervical nodes
- HCC had larger tumors, higher-stage disease, and lower survival rates
- More common in men
- Older age

## Hyalinizing trabecular tumor

- ICD-O code 8336/1
- Benign course, only one case of distant metastasis, rare lymph node metastasis
- Detection of RET/PTC1 rearrangement and RET immunoreactivity



### Encapsulated follicular-patterned thyroid tumors Diagnostic difficulties

- whether the nuclear changes are sufficient to justify a diagnosis of PTC
- uncertainty about the presence of capsular or vascular invasion



# Uncertainty about the presence of PTC-type nuclear changes

# Follicular variant of papillary thyroid carcinoma



% of pathologists	0-9%	10-19%	20-29%	30-39%	40-49%	
Number of case out of 138 total	s 1	1	12	10	9	]
Representative image						
	% of pathologists diagnosing	50-59%	60-69%	70-79%	80-89%	90-99%
	Number of cases (out of 138 total)	15	34	29	19	8
	Representative image					

JAMA Oncol. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2016.0386

# Minimally invasive follicular thyroid carcinoma



# Uncertainty about the presence of capsular or vascular invasion



### Uncertainty Poor interobserver concordance

Encapsulated tumor		Capsular or vascular invasion		
		Present	Questionable	Absent
Nuclear features of PTC	Present	Malignancy		
	Questionable			
	Absent			Benign

### **Regarding the Terminology**

2017 WHO classification: Encapsulated follicular-patterned thyroid tumors on the basis of presence or absence of nuclear features of PTC and capsular or vascular invasion

Encapsulated tumor		Capsular or vascular invasion		
		Present	Questionable	Absent
Nuclear features of PTC	Present	Invasive EFVPTC		NIFTP
	Questionable	WDC, NOS		
	Absent	FTC	FT-UMP	Follicular adenoma

### **Tumors of Uncertain Malignant Potential**

Encapsulated or well-circumscribed follicular-patterned thyroid tumors with questionable capsular or vascular invasion

### ICD-O codes

- 1) Follicular tumor of uncertain malignant potential 8335/1
- 2) Well-differentiated tumor of uncertain malignant potential 8348/1

	Immunohistochemistry	Genetic profile
FT-UMP	similar to those of follicular adenoma, hyperplasia, minimally invasive FTC	similar to those of follicular neoplasms
WDT-UMP	may be positive for HBME1, Galectin 3, CK19	intermediate between benign follicular nodule and PTC



# Criteria for Capsular Invasion



Chan JKC. The thyroid gland. In: Fletcher CDM, ed. *Diagnostic Histopathology of Tumours.* Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone Elsevier; 2007:1018.



**Not yet (B)** Sharp tumor bud invades into but not through the capsule suggesting invasion requiring deeper sections to exclude.

**Not yet (F)** Follicles aligned <u>perpendicular</u> to the capsule suggesting invasion requiring deeper sections to exclude.

**Not yet (I)** Mushroom-shaped tumor within but not through the capsule suggests invasion requiring deeper sections to exclude invasion.



"Not yet" (eg, F, G, I) may be acceptable to some pathologists as representing capsular invasion



**Not yet (F)** Follicles aligned <u>perpendicular</u> to the capsule suggesting invasion requiring deeper sections to exclude.



### Questionable capsular invasion

Fig. 2.16



Hook-like protrusion of tumor cells deeply into but not completely through the capsule

**Broad-based bulge** of tumor cells into the capsule that does not extend beyond its outer contour







\*\*\*\* D represents a common but contentious scenario among experts, in light of these new proposed criteria for significant VI. This endothelialized tumor deposit is juxtaposed to the vessel wall. As this is somewhat similar to C, and there is no obvious thrombus, technically this would not count as significant VI. One counterargument is that the endothelialized appearance represents "organization" of a tumor thrombus and is thus still significant. While deeper levels may help, this scenario may still be considered a "judgment call" based on current level of evidence.

#### **Criteria for vascular invasion in 2017 WHO classification**

Intravascular tumor cells should be adherent to the vessel walls, either covered by endothelium or in a context of thrombus or fibrin.



Fig. 2.52 Follicular thyroid carcinoma with vascular invasion

### Questionable vascular invasion

Fig. 2.17



Irregular outgrowth of neoplastic cells within vascular spaces of the tumor capsule



Tumor cells closely intermixed with vascular spaces of the tumor capsule

- Vascular invasion is considered questionable when a smooth-contoured tumor cell nest located within a vascular space of the tumor capsule lacks endothelial covering and associated thrombus,
  - when a tumor nest in the fibrous capsule abuts a blood vessel

### "Well-Differentiated Tumor of Uncertain Malignant Potential (WDT-UMP)"

- by the Chernobyl Pathologists Group in 2000
- Encapsulated tumor composed of well-differentiated follicular cells with <u>questionable PTC-type nuclear changes</u>, no blood vessel invasion, <u>and capsular invasion that is</u> <u>either absent or questionable</u>

"WDT-UMP, however, is not widely accepted as it is not linked to a define clinical management for these patients" Instead, it is important to designate these tumors in the diagnostic line as "EFVPTC" and state if the tumor has vascular or tumor capsule invasion – by Nikiforov YE
PTC-Type Nuclear Changes	Capsular Invasion		Diagnosis
Obvious	Definite Questionable Absent	}	PTC-FV
Questionable	Definite Questionable Absent	}	WDC-NOS WDT-UMP
Absent	Definite Questionable Absent		FC FT-UMP FA

## Table 2. Encapsulated Thyroid Tumors with Follicular Architecture:A Diagrammatic Scheme

International Journal of Surgical Pathology 8(3):181-183, 2000

## "Noninvasive follicular thyroid neoplasm with papillarylike nuclear features (NIFTP)"

- by international Endocrine Pathology Society working group
- Removing the word "carcinoma" from the nomenclature in an attempt to reduce overtreatment of this indolent tumor
- encompasses non-invasive encapsulated follicular-patterned tumors previously called <u>encapsulated FVPTC</u> as well as <u>WDT-UMP</u>

## The International Working Group for re-examination of the encapsulated follicular variant of papillary thyroid cancer



#### **Original Investigation**

### Nomenclature Revision for Encapsulated Follicular Variant of Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma A Paradigm Shift to Reduce Overtreatment of Indolent Tumors

Yuri E. Nikiforov, MD, PhD; Raja R. Seethala, MD; Giovanni Tallini, MD; Zubair W. Baloch, MD, PhD;
Fulvio Basolo, MD; Lester D. R. Thompson, MD; Justine A. Barletta, MD; Bruce M. Wenig, MD; Abir Al Ghuzlan, MD;
Kennichi Kakudo, MD, PhD; Thomas J. Giordano, MD, PhD; Venancio A. Alves, MD, PhD;
Elham Khanafshar, MD, MS; Sylvia L. Asa, MD, PhD; Adel K. El-Naggar, MD; William E. Gooding, MS;
Steven P. Hodak, MD; Ricardo V. Lloyd, MD, PhD; Guy Maytal, MD; Ozgur Mete, MD; Marina N. Nikiforova, MD;
Vania Nosé, MD, PhD; Mauro Papotti, MD; David N. Poller, MB, ChB, MD, FRCPath; Peter M. Sadow, MD, PhD;
Arthur S. Tischler, MD; R. Michael Tuttle, MD; Kathryn B. Wall; Virginia A. LiVolsi, MD; Gregory W. Randolph, MD; Ronald A. Ghossein, MD

*JAMA Oncol.* doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2016.0386 Published online April 14, 2016.

2015 AFIP fascicle				Capsular invasion			
			Present	Questionab	le	Absent	
	Nuclear features of PTC	Present		Follicular variant of PTC			
		Questionable	Well-differentiated carcinoma, NOS	Well-differentiated t	Well-differentiated tumour of uncertain malignant potential		
		Absent	Follicular carcinoma	Follicular tumour of malignant pote	uncertain intial	Follicular adenoma	
2017 WHO classification				Capsular or vascular invasion			
			Present	Questionable	/	Absent	
	Nuclear features of PTC	Present	Invasive encapsulated follicular variant of PTC	Well-differentiated tumour of uncertain	Non-invasive follicular neoplasm with papillary-like nuclear features		
		Questionable	Well-differentiated carcinoma, NOS	malignant potential			
		Absent	Follicular carcinoma	Follicular tumour of uncertain malignant potential	Follicu	ılar adenoma	



pattern



Image and diagnostic criteria for NIFTP from Nikiforov YE, et al. JAMA Oncol 2016





thick capsule

# 1. Encapsulation or clear demarcation

thin capsule

no capsule but be sharply demarcated



Follicular growth pattern with
 <1% Papillae</p>
 No psammoma bodies
 <30% solid/trabecular/insular growth pattern</p>







## 3. Nuclear score



JAMA Oncol. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2016.0386

Nuclear features:

- **<u>1. Nuclear Size and Shape</u>** 
  - Enlargement
  - Elongation
  - Overlapping
- 2. Membrane Irregularities
  - Irregular contours
  - Grooves
  - Pseudoinclusions
- 3. Chromatin Characteristics
  - Chromatin clearing
  - Margination of chromatin to membrane
  - Glassy nuclei

## Nuclear features of PTC (nuclear score of 2-3) 3-point scoring scheme

	5-point sconing scheme				
luclear features:	Absent/insufficiently expressed (0)	Present/Sufficient (1)			
. Nuclear Size and Shape					
•Enlargement	The second s				
•Elongation	STACE STATE	100 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00			
•Overlapping					
. Membrane Irregularities		March Restored and Participation of the			
Irregular contours					
• Grooves	STATE STATE				
Pseudoinclusions					
3. Chromatin Characteristics					
Chromatin clearing					
Margination of chromatin     to membrane					

• Glassy nuclei

100 JAMA Oncol. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2016.0386





#### Minor diagnostic features:

(C) – Dark colloid in the tumor follicles (T) as compared to the adjacent normal tissue follicles (N);

(D) – Irregularly-shaped follicles with haphazard placement of follicular cell nuclei along the basement membrane of the follicle;



JAMA Oncol. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2016.0386

#### Minor diagnostic features:

(E) – "Sprinkling" of the follicles lined by cells showing the characteristic nuclear features of PTC (arrows) on the background of follicles with benign appearing cells; (F) – Follicles clef from stroma;



JAMA Oncol. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2016.0386

#### Minor diagnostic features:

- (G) Multinucleated giant cells within follicles;
- (H) Intratumoral fibrosis.





JAMA Oncol. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2016.0386



## Algorithm for the evaluation of encapsulated/well circumscribed follicular tumors (with no papillae)



## A meticulous histopathologic examination is of paramount importance, since a deviation from these criteria may affect outcomes

## **Exclusion criteria:**

- Invasion
- Papillae > 1%
- Psammoma bodies
- >30% STI growth
- Increased mitoses
- Tumor necrosis

Invasive EFV PTC

Encapsulated classic PTC

- Encapsulated solid variant of PTC
- Poorly differentiated thyroid carcinoma

**BRAF**<sup>V600E</sup>-like PTC

#### **RAS-like PTC**





### Molecular phenotype of NIFTP

- **RAS**
- BRAF K601E

absence of *BRAF* V600E

- PPARG fusion
- THADA fusion



- Most of NIFTPs are driven by clonal genetic alterations  $\rightarrow$  biologically a neoplasm
- NIFTP likely represents the "benign" counterpart or precursor of the invasive EFVPTC

Nikiforov YE, et al. JAMA Oncol 2016

### Case 1



Male / 59 years 5.0 cm indeterminate nodule

FNA: follicular neoplasm
 Lobectomy
 Frozen section: follicular neoplasm



No completion thyroidectomy No RAI

#### Effect of Lowering the Diagnostic Threshold for Encapsulated Follicular Variant of Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma on the Prevalence of Non-invasive Follicular Thyroid Neoplasm with Papillary-like Nuclear Features

Proportion of all papillary thyroid carcinomas Journal of Basic & Clinical Medicine 2017; 6(1):26-28 5% NIFTP 4.4% Invasive encapsulated FVPTC 4% 3.5% 3.4% 3% 2.8% 2% 1.7% 1% 0.6% 0.4% 0.1% 0.4% 0.2% 0.1%0.1% 0.0% 0% 2011 2012 2014 2008 2009 2010 2013 Year









### Case 3 • 33 y/o female • 0.9 cm nodule • BRAF V600E





### Case 4. 67 y/o male, 0.9 cm nodule, BRAF V600E







### Case 5. 37 y/o male, 3.5 cm nodule, NRAS Q61R






### NIFTP (?) with BRAF V600E mutation



Mod Pathol. 2017 Mar 10. doi: 0.1038/modpathol.2017.9



Seoul St. Mary's Hospital study 2008 -2014

### **NIFTP (?) with lymph node metastasis**



Mod Pathol. 2017 Mar 10. doi: 0.1038/modpathol.2017.9



Joint Symposium of the Working Group of Asian Thyroid FNA Cytology 25th Thai-Japanese Workshop in Diagnostic Cytopathology Le Meridien, Chiang Mai, Thailand, January 19, 2018



First raw, left-to-right: C.K. Jung (Korea), A. Salillas (Philippines), S.W. Hong (Korea), K. Kakudo (Japan), S. Rangdaeng (Thailand), C.R. Lai (Taiwan), S. Maeda (Japan), S. Hiroi (Japan), P. Sampatanukul (Thailand)
Second raw, left-to-right: J.Y. Pyo (Korea), J.F. Hang (Taiwan), S. Watcharadetwittaya (Thailand), P. Srimunta (Thailand), A. Abelardo (Philippines), S. Shrestha (Nepal), A. Bychkov (Thailand), C.Y. Liu (Taiwan), S. Keelawat (Thailand), T. Hayashi (Japan)

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THYROID Volume 27, Number 7, 2017 © Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. DOI: 10.1089/thy.2017.0079

## Low Rate of Noninvasive Follicular Thyroid Neoplasm with Papillary-Like Nuclear Features in Asian Practice

Andrey Bychkov,<sup>1</sup> Mitsuyoshi Hirokawa,<sup>2</sup> Chan Kwon Jung,<sup>3</sup> Zhiyan Liu,<sup>4</sup> Yun Zhu,<sup>5</sup> Soon Won Hong,<sup>6</sup> Shinya Satoh,<sup>7</sup> Chiung-Ru Lai,<sup>8</sup> Lien Huynh,<sup>9</sup> and Kennichi Kakudo<sup>10</sup>

				FV-PTC		eFV-PTC		NIFTP	
PI	Site	Period	<i>PTC</i> , n	n	%	п	%	n	%
M. Hirokawa	Japan, Kobe	2007-2015	9727	271	2.8%	167	1.7%	50	0.5%
S. Satoh, K. Kakudo	Japan, Fukuoka	2015	386	25	6.5%	20	5.2%	12	3.1%
C.K. Jung	South Korea, Seoul	2008-2014	6269	240	3.8%	140	2.2%	95	1.5%
S.W. Hong	South Korea, Seoul	2014	2111	171	8.1%	55	2.6%	5	0.2%
Z. Liu	China, Shandong	2011-2016	5113	113	2.2%	36	0.7%	16	0.3%
Y. Zhu	China, Wuxi	2012-2014	2190	187	8.5%	19	0.9%	6	0.3%
C.R. Lai	Taiwan, Taipei	2010-2011	380	22	5.8%	20	5.3%	18	4.7%
A. Bychkov	Thailand, Bangkok	2013-2014	163	16	9.8%	9	5.5%	4	2.5%
L. Huynh	Vietnam, Ho Čhi Minh City	2016	265	25	9.4%	10	3.8%	0	0%
Total			26,604	1070	4.0%	476	1.8%	206	0.8%

TABLE 1. INCIDENCE OF FV-PTC AND NIFTP IN ASIAN INSTITUTIONS

PTC=all primary PTC, including NIFTP; FV-PTC=all PTC follicular variant, including infiltrative and encapsulated (both invasive and noninvasive); eFV-PTC=encapsulated invasive and noninvasive FV-PTC; NIFTP=noninvasive eFV-PTC.

PI, principal investigator; PTC, papillary thyroid carcinoma; FV-PTC, follicular variant of PTC; eFV-PTC, encapsulated follicular variant of PTC; NIFTP, noninvasive follicular thyroid neoplasm with papillary-like nuclear features.



Endocr Pathol. 2018 Feb 23. [Epub ahead of print]



Endocr Pathol. 2018 Feb 23. [Epub ahead of print]



Q1. Have you adopted NIFTP terminology in your

practice?

Q3. Did you change a sampling technique of the capsule of encapsulated thyroid lesions after NIFTP implementation?



■Yes, now submit in toto ENo, used to submit in toto No





- Q4. Do you use papillary thyroid carcinoma nuclear score proposed by the NIFTP working group?
  - Yes, a part of report = Yes, but rarely mentioned = No





The Bethesda diagnostic category

The impact of NIFTP on the relative decrease in ROM for the Bethesda diagnostic categories

Pathology 2018 in press



## Limitations and challenges

# NIFTP is not a 'finished product' it is still evolving and the concepts outlined here require validation and if needed, modification

## **Modifications of Diagnostic Criteria for NIFTP**

- 1. Encapsulation or clear demarcation
- 2. Follicular growth pattern with

<1% Papillae ) 0% Papillae

No psammoma bodies

<30% solid/trabecular/insular growth pattern

- 3. Nuclear score 2 3
- 4. No vascular or capsular invasion
- 5. No tumor necrosis
- 6. No high mitotic activity (<3 mitoses per 10 HPF)

Florid nuclear features of PTC is not an exclusion criterion, but is rarely seen without true papillae. If such nuclear features are seen, examination of the entire tumor, not just the capsule, with optional, but recommended analyses for *BRAF* V600E using either IHC or molecular techniques may be necessary

## **Modifications of Diagnostic Criteria for NIFTP**

- Misclassification of invasive infiltrative FVPTC with BRAFV600E mutation as NIFTP should be avoided.
- With detailed histological examination of the entire tumor, most NIFTPs with suggested metastasis and/or BRAF V600E mutation can be eliminated.
- If genotyping is available, *BRAF* V600E mutation, *RET/PTC* rearrangements, and *TERT* mutations should be used to exclude NIFTP.
- Needless to say, any tumors with histologically confirmed metastasis should not be classified in the borderline tumor category.

### **BRAF V600E EFVPTC**



Exclusion criteria: BRAF V600E, RET/PTC, TERT promoter mutations



### RAS (+) or BRAF K601E NIFTP



## **RAS** mutations in thyroid cancer

FA	FTC / EFVPTC	PDTC	ATC	
20-25%	30-45%	20-40% BMC M	<b>10-20%</b>	

Putative progression of RAS-driven follicular-patterned thyroid tumors

FA	NIFTP	Minimally invasive FTC / PTC	Widely invasive FTC / PTC	PDTC ATC		
Accumulation of secondary mutations as a result of chronic RAS activation						







### Papillary thyroid carcinoma

- Malignant epithelial tumor showing evidence of follicular cell differentiation and a set of distinctive nuclear features.
- PTC is usually invasive.
- Papillae, invasion or cytological features of papillary thyroid carcinoma are required.

### **ICD-O** codes

1)	Papillary carcinoma	8260/3
2)	Follicular variant of PTC	8340/3
3)	Encapsulated variant of PTC	8343/3
4)	Papillary microcarcinoma	8341/3
5)	Columnar cell variant of PTC	8344/3
6)	Oncocytic variant of PTC	8342/3

### Variants of papillary thyroid carcinoma

- 1) Papillary microcarcinoma
- 2) Encapsulated variant
- 3) Follicular variant
- 4) Diffuse sclerosing variant
- 5) Tall cell variant
- 6) Columnar cell variant
- 7) Cribriform-morular variant
- 8) Hobnail variant
- 9) Papillary thyroid carcinoma with fibromatosis/fasciitis-like stroma
- 10) Solid/trabecular variant
- 11) Oncocytic variant
- 12) Spindle cell variant
- 13) Warthin-like variant

## Encapsulated variant of PTC

- about 10% of all cases of PTC
- Blood borne metastases are rare
- Survival rate is nearly 100%





### Main DDx: Follicular adenoma with papillary hyperplasia

## Follicular variant of PTC

Exclusively or almost exclusively follicular growth pattern

- 1) Infiltrative subtype
- 2) Encapsulated subtype with invasion
- 3) Macrofollicular variant
- 4) Diffuse or multinodular follicular variant



### Tall cell variant of PTC

- Two to three times taller
- Eosinophilic (oncocytic-like) cytoplasm, Distinct cell borders
- ≥ 30% of all tumor cells





### Tall cells: Height to width ratio

### two to three times taller



2.8:1 3.5:1



### Variation depending on the plane of section

### Historical evolution of the diagnostic criteria for TCV

Year	Author	H:W ratio	Tall cells %
2017	WHO	2~3:1	>30%
2015	ATA	3:1	>50%
2014	Jung CK et al.	3:1	> 50% TCV, 10-50% TCF
2014	Ganly et al.	2:1	>50% TCV, 30-49% TCF
2008	Ito et al	3:1	>50%
2007	Ghossein & LiVolsi	2:1	>50%
2004	WHO	3:1	No %
1996	Ostrowski & Merino	2:1	>70%
1988	Johnson et al.	2:1	>30%
1976	Hawk & Hazard	2:1	No %



### Columnar cell variant of PTC

- lack the conventional nuclear features of PTC
- pseudostratified epithelium,
- subnuclear vacuolization or clear cytoplasm
- CDX2(+)





## Columnar cell variant of PTC



### Hobnail variant

- Apically located nuclei with prominent nucleoli
- Eosinophilic cytoplasm
- > 30% of cells with hobnail features
- Loss of cellular cohesion



### **Diffuse sclerosing variant**





# Hereditary Thyroid cancer

- Medullary thyroid cancer
- Familial non-medullary thyroid cancer
- Familial adenomatous polyposis , Cowden's disease , Werner's syndrome and Carney complex



# **Cribriform-Morular Variant of PTC**

- Young women
- FAP: ~40%
- APC, CTNNB1 mutations
- no BRAF mutation
#### Risk of structural disease recurrence in patients without structurally identifiable disease after initial therapy

High Risk Gross extrathyroidal extension, incomplete tumor resection, distant metastases, or lymph node >3 cm

Intermediate Risk Aggressive histology minor extrathyroidal extension, vascular invasion, or > 5 involved lymph nodes (0.2-3 cm)

> Low Risk Intrathyroidal DTC ≤ 5 LN micrometastases (< 0.2 cm)

Thyroid. 2016;26:1-133

FTC, extensive vascular invasion (≈ 30-55%) pT4a gross ETE (≈ 30-40%) pN1 with extranodal extension, >3 LN involved (≈ 40%) PTC, >1 cm, TERT mutated ± BRAF mutated\* (>40%) pN1, any  $LN > 3 cm (\approx 30\%)$ PTC, extrathyroidal, BRAF mutated\*(≈ 10-40%) PTC, vascular invasion (≈ 15-30%) Clinical N1 (≈20%) pN1, > 5 LN involved (~20%) Intrathyroidal PTC, <4 cm, BRAF mutated\* (≈10%) pT3 minor ETE (≈ 3-8%) pN1, all LN < 0.2 cm (~5%)  $pN1, \leq 5 LN$  involved ( $\approx 5\%$ ) Intrathyroidal PTC, 2-4 cm (≈ 5%) Multifocal PTMC ( $\approx 4-6\%$ ) pN1 without extranodal extension,  $\leq 3$  LN involved (2%) Minimally invasive FTC ( $\approx 2-3\%$ ) Intrathyroidal, <4 cm, BRAF wild type\* (≈ 1-2%) Intrathyroidal unifocal PTMC, BRAF mutated\*, (≈ 1-2%) Intrathyroidal, encapsulated, FV-PTC (~ 1-2%) Unifocal PTMC (≈ 1-2%)

#### Follicular thyroid carcinoma

#### **ICD-O** codes

Follicular thyroid carcinoma 8330/3

- Minimally invasive
  8335/3
- Encapsulated angioinvasive 8339/3
- Widely invasive 8338/3

#### Classification follicular thyroid carcinoma

Traditional	AFIP 2014		WHO 2017
Minimally invasive	Minimally invasive	With capsular invasion	Minimally invasive
		With limited vascular invasion (< 4 vessels)	Encapsulated angioinvasive
		With extensive vascular invasion (≥4 vessels)	
Widely invasive	Widely invasive		Widely invasive

AFIP, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology



Cancer 2006;106:1669-76

## Extensive vascular invasion ( $\geq$ 4 foci)

 Tumors with limited invasion of vessels (< 4) have a better prognosis than do those with extensive vascular invasion

# Risk of structural disease recurrence

High Risk Gross extrathyroidal extension, incomplete tumor resection, distant metastases, or lymph node >3 cm

Intermediate Risk Aggressive histology, minor extrathyroidal extension, vascular invasion, or > 5 involved lymph nodes (0.2-3 cm)

T ..... D!. I.

Thyroid. 2016;26:1-133

FTC, extensive vascular invasion (≈ 30-55%) pT4a gross ETE (≈ 30-40%) pN1 with extranodal extension, >3 LN involved (≈ 40%) PTC, > 1 cm, TERT mutated ± BRAF mutated\* (>40%) pN1, any LN > 3 cm (≈ 30%) PTC, extrathyroidal, BRAF mutated\*(≈ 10-40%) PTC, vascular invasion (≈ 15-30%) Clinical N1 (≈20%) pN1, > 5 LN involved (≈20%) Intrathyroidal PTC, < 4 cm, BRAF mutated\* (≈10%) pT3 minor ETE (≈ 3-8%)

### Histopathology of FTC

- Capsular and/or vascular invasion
- Microfollicular, normofollicular, macrofollicular, and other patterns (e.g. cribriform)
- No nuclear features of PTC





Intravascular tumor cells should be adherent to the vessel walls, either covered by endothelium or in a context of thrombus or fibrin



#### Endothelial Cell Markers

CD31/CD34



ERG/Fli-1



#### Encapsulated angioinvasive FTC

 Tumors with limited invasion of vessels (< 4) have a better prognosis than do those with extensive vascular invasion

#### **Vascular invasion**

- •Armed Forces Institute of Pathology fascicle, 1992
- : focal (<4 invasive foci) and extensive (≥4 foci)

•WHO

: vascular invasion is often prominent in widely invasive FTC, but alone, does not categorize an FTC as "widely invasive"

### Widely invasive FTC

- Extensive invasion of the thyroid and extrathyroidal soft tissues.
- Vascular invasion is often prominent, but alone, does not categorize an FTC as "widely invasive"
- More important than the extent of thyroid or soft tissue invasion is the identification of extensive angioinvasion



#### Variants of FTC

- 1) Clear cell variant: >50% clear cells
- 2) Signet-ring cell type
- 3) FTC with a glomeruloid pattern: round to oval
  - epithelial tufts growing within them, mimicking
  - a renal glomerulus
- 4) Spindle cell FTC

### Hűrthle (oncocytic) cell tumors

#### >75% of the tumor is composed of Hűrthle cells

Hűrthle cell adenoma	8290/0
Hűrthle cell carcinoma	8290/3

Different from non-Hűrthle cell thyroid carcinomas

- HCC can spread to cervical nodes
- HCC had larger tumors, higher-stage disease, and lower survival rates
- More common in men
- Older age

# The revised Bethesda System

Diagnostic category		Risk of malignancy (%)
I. Nondiagnostic or Unsatisfactory		5-10
II. Benign		0-3
III. AUS/FLUS	~5-15 -	→ ~10-30
IV. FN/SFN	15-30 -	> 25-40
V. Suspicious for malignan	50-75	
VI. Malignant		97-99

The	revised	Bethesda	System
Diagnostic category		Risk of malignancy (%)	Risk of malignancy If NIFTP is not CA (%)
I. Nondiagnostic or Unsatisfactory		5-10	No change
II. Benign		0-3	No change
III. AUS/FLUS		~10-30	6-18
IV. FN/SFN		25-40	10-40
V. Suspicious for mali	gnancy	50-75	45-60
VI. Malignant		97-99	94-96

Anticipated changes in the implied risk of malignancy of TBSRTC diagnostic categories and recommendations for comments due to the surgical pathology diagnosis of NIFTP

Diagnostic category	Risk of malignancy with NIFTP (%)	Optional note
Nondiagnostic or Unsatisfactory	No significant change	None
Benign	No significant change	None
AUS or FLUS	6-18	None
Follicular neoplasm or Suspicious for a FN	10-40	The histopathologic follow-up of cases diagnosed as such includes follicular adenoma, follicular carcinoma, and follicular variant of papillary thyroid carcinoma, including its recently described indolent counterpart NIFTP.
Suspicious for malignancy	45-60	The cytomorphologic features are suspicious for a follicular variant of papillary thyroid carcinoma and its recently described indolent counterpart NIFTP.
Malignant	94-96	A small proportion of cases (~3–4%) diagnosed as malignant – compatible with papillary thyroid carcinoma – may prove to be NIFTP on histopathologic examination.

### AUS/FLUS, FN/SFN, or suspicious for PTC?





- It is desirable to eliminate from the malignant category tumors likely to harbor a NIFTP.
- A suspected PTC with an exclusively follicular architecture, especially one that lacks intranuclear cytoplasmic pseudoinclusions and psammoma bodies (e.g., many follicular variants of PTC), is best interpreted as "suspicious for malignancy" rather than malignant.







## Updated AJCC/TNM system

# downstages a significant number of patients by

- 1) raising the age cutoff from 45 to 55 years of age at diagnosis
- 2) removing microscopic extrathyroidal extension from the definition of T3 disease

# Extrathyroidal extension (ETE)

#### **Minor extrathyroid extension was removed** from the definition of T3 disease

# Minor ETE: not clinically appreciated

- Involvement of perithyroidal adipose tissue, strap muscles, nerves, or small vascular structures detected only by microscopy
- Lack of prognostic significance
- T1 or T2 disease

#### Gross ETE: grossly evident

- Identified by imaging or intraoperative findings
- T3b disease
- T4a disease
- T4b disease

### Gross extrathyroidal extension

# a clinical finding based on radiologic and/or clinical evidence of macroscopic tumor extending outside the thyroid gland



Tumor size: 1.5 x 1.4 cm

# OP record: presence of strap muscle invasion



### T1 or T3 ?

Microscopic ETE



Strap muscle

# Gross extrathyroidal extension

#### **Identified by imaging or intraoperative findings**

- T3b disease gross ETE involving only strap muscles
- T4a disease gross ETE involving the subcutaneous soft tissues, larynx, trachea, esophagus, muscle, or recurrent laryngeal nerve
- T4b disease gross ETE involving prevertebral fascia or encasing the carotid artery or mediastinal vessels

Pathological staging requires the use of all information obtained during clinical staging, as well as histologic study of the surgically resected specimen.

#### Primary tumor (T) for papillary, follicular, poorly differentiated, Hürthle cell and anaplastic thyroid carcinomas

- TX: Primary tumor cannot be assessed
- T0: No evidence of primary tumor
- **T1:** Tumor  $\leq 2$  cm in greatest dimension limited to the thyroid
  - **T1a:** Tumor  $\leq$  1 cm in greatest dimension limited to the thyroid
  - **T1b:** Tumor > 1 cm but  $\leq$  2 cm in greatest dimension limited to the thyroid
- **T2:** Tumor > 2 cm but  $\leq$  4 cm in greatest dimension limited to the thyroid
- T3\*: Tumor > 4 cm limited to the thyroid or gross extrathyroidal extension invading only strap muscles
  - T3a\*: Tumor > 4 cm limited to the thyroid
  - **T3b\*:** Gross extrathyroidal extension invading only strap muscles (sternohyoid, sternothyroid, thyrohyoid or omohyoid muscles) from a tumor of any size
- T4: Includes gross extrathyroidal extension into major neck structures
  T4a: Gross extrathyroidal extension invading subcutaneous soft tissues, larynx, trachea, esophagus or recurrent laryngeal nerve from a tumor of any size
  T4b: Gross extrathyroidal extension invading prevertebral fascia or encasing carotid artery or mediastinal vessels from a tumor of any size

# Regional lymph node (N)

- NX: Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed
- NO: No evidence of regional lymph node metastasis

**N0a\*:** One or more cytologic or histologically confirmed benign lymph nodes **N0b\*:** No radiologic or clinical evidence of locoregional lymph node metastasis

N1\*: Metastasis to regional nodes

**N1a\*:** Metastasis to level VI or VII (pretracheal, paratracheal, prelaryngeal / Delphian or upper mediastinal) lymph nodes; this can be unilateral or bilateral disease

**N1b\*:** Metastasis to unilateral, bilateral or contralateral lateral neck lymph nodes (levels I, II, III, IV or V) or retropharyngeal lymph nodes

Pathologic confirmation of lymph node status is not required, and patients can be classified as having N0 disease, as long as there is no evidence of lymph node metastasis on routine preoperative and intraoperative evaluations (clinical examination, imaging, and intraoperative findings).

When age at diagnosis is	And T is	And N is	And M is	Then the stage group is
< 55 yrs	Any T	Any N	M0	Ι
22	Any T	Any N	M1	Π
$\geq$ 55 yrs	T1	N0/NX	M0	Ι
	T1	N1	M0	II
	T2	N0/NX	M0	Ι
	T2	N1	M0	II
	T3a/T3b	Any N	M0	II
	T4a	Any N	M0	III
	T4b	Any N	M0	IVA
	Any T	Any N	M1	IVB

#### Differentiated thyroid cancer

Anaplastic thyroid cancer

T is	And N is	And M is	Then the stage group is
T1-T3a	N0/NX	M0	IVA
T1-T3a	N1	M0	IVB
T3b	Any N	M0	IVB
T4	Any N	M0	IVB
Any T	Any N	M1	IVC

Differentiated	thyroid
cancer	

Age at diag	nosis < 55	years	
Stage I:	any T	any N	M0
Stage II:	any T	any N	M1
Age at diag	nosis ≥ 55 j	years	
Stage I:	T1	N0 / NX	M0
	T2	N0 / NX	M0
Stage II:	T1	N1	M0
	T2	N1	M0
	T3a / T3b	any N	M0
Stage III:	T4a	any N	M0
Stage IVA:	T4b	any N	M0
Stage IVB:	any T	any N	M1

Medullary thyroid carcinoma

Stage I:	T1	N0	M0
Stage II:	T2	N0	M0
	Т3	N0	M0
Stage III:	T1 - 3	N1a	M0
Stage IVA:	T4a	any N	M0
	T1 - 3	N1b	M0
Stage IVB:	T4b	any N	M0
Stage IVC:	any T	any N	M1

# Anaplastic thyroid carcinoma

Stage IVA:	T1 - T3a	N0 / NX	M0
Stage IVB:	T1 - T3a	N1	M0
	T3b	any N	M0
	T4	any N	M0
Stage IVC:	any T	any N	M1

# Thank you

