



How to Navigate Sticky Neuroendocrine Issues

PRESENTED BY

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Raul Gonzalez reported no relevant financial relationships

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Grading of Neuroendocrine Neoplasms

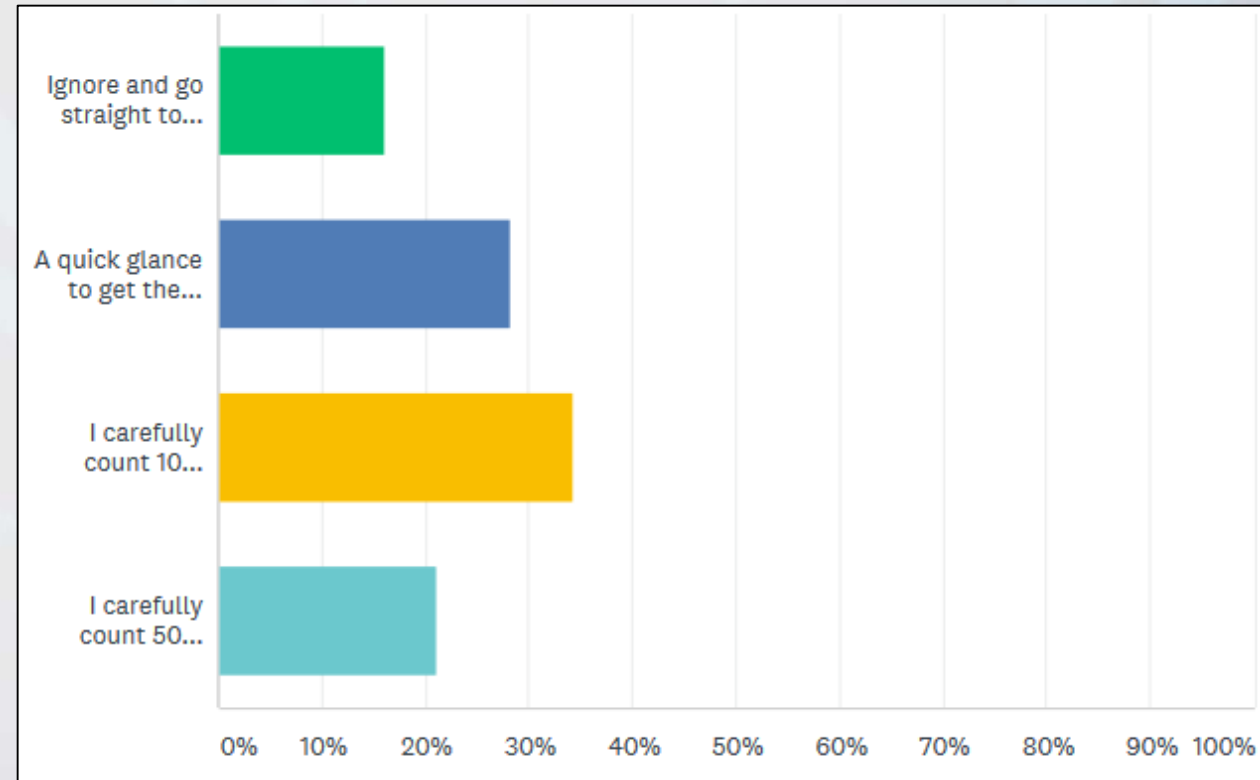
- Based on mitotic count and Ki67 index (by IHC)
- Two survey questions sent out in January

NEN Grading: Counting Mitoses

- How do you count mitoses when grading neuroendocrine neoplasms?
 - A. Ignore and go straight to Ki67
 - B. A quick glance to get the gestalt, then count if it seems high
 - C. I carefully count 10 high-power fields (or 2 mm²)
 - D. I carefully count 50 high-power fields (or 10 mm²), then average

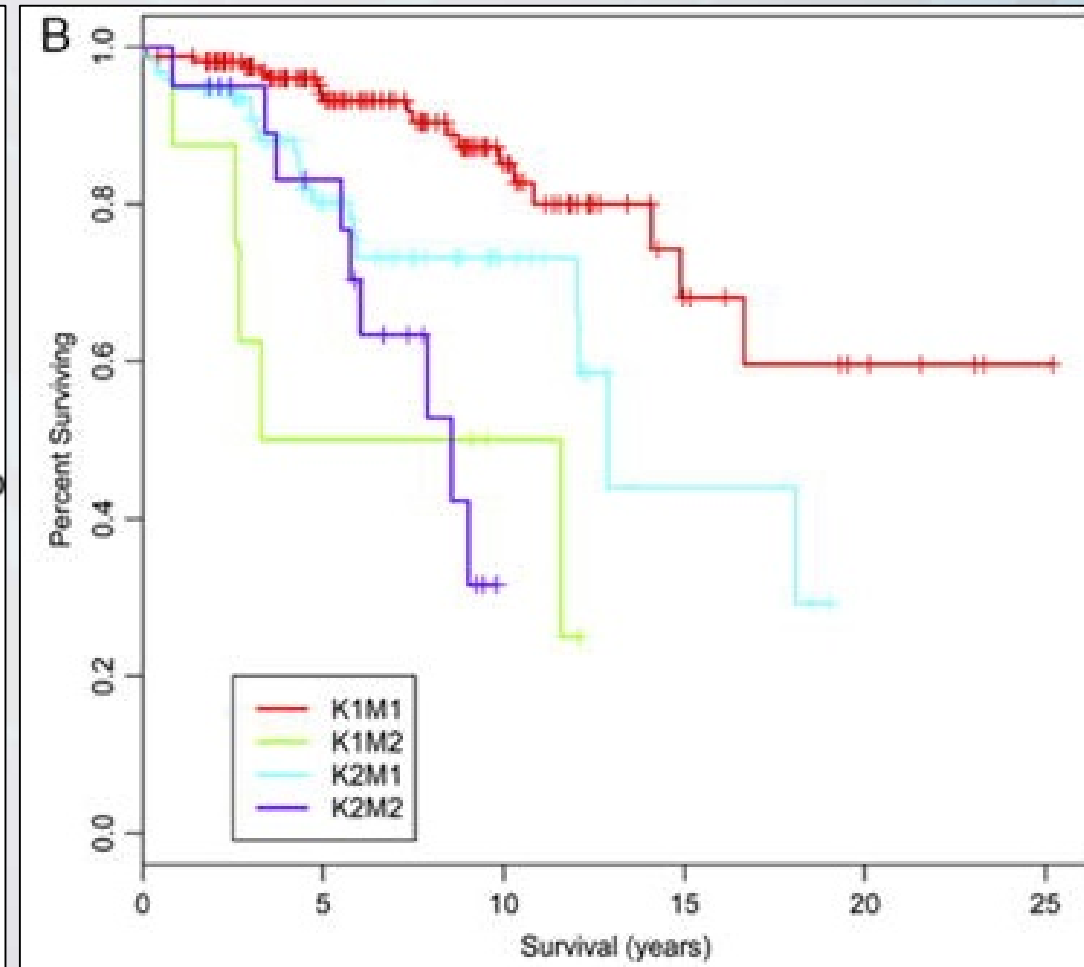
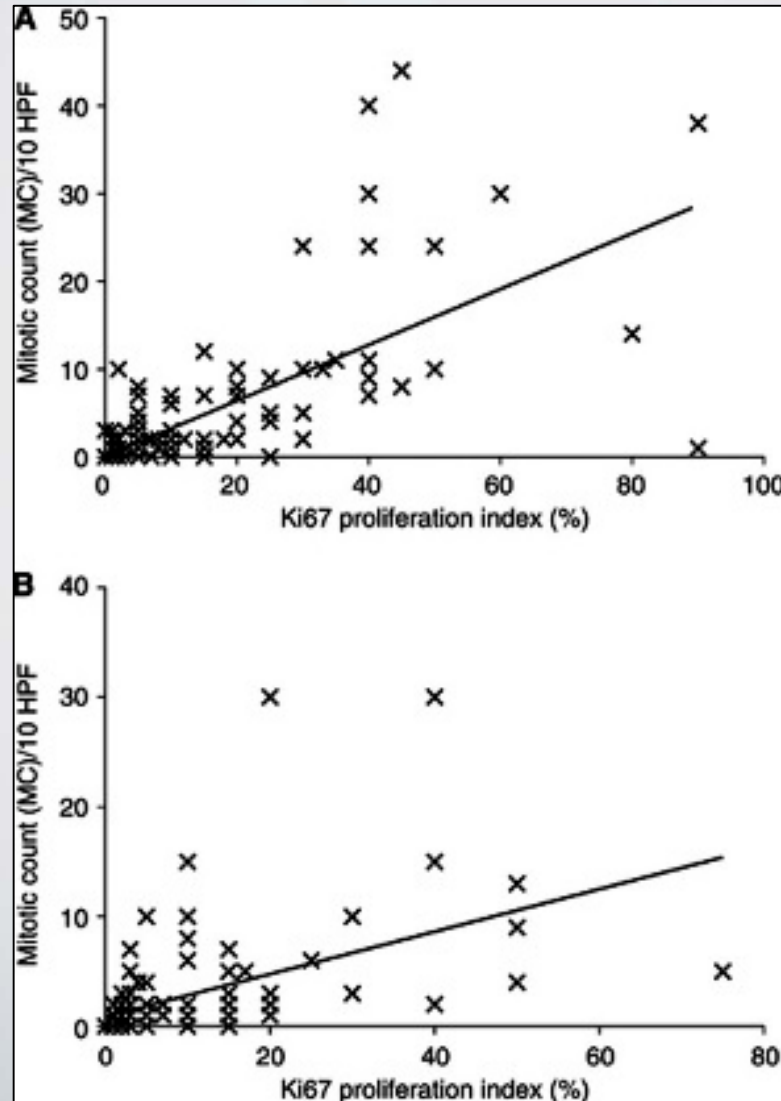
NEN Grading: Counting Mitoses

- How do you count mitoses when grading neuroendocrine neoplasms?
- A. Ignore and go straight to Ki67: 16
- B. A quick glance to get the gestalt, then count if it seems high: 28
- C. I carefully count 10 high-power fields (or 2 mm²): 34
- D. I carefully count 50 high-power fields (or 10 mm²), then average: 21
- WHO recommends choice D



NEN Grading: Counting Mitoses^{1,2}

- If mitotic rate and Ki67 are discrepant, Ki67 is usually higher
- Best studied in pancreas

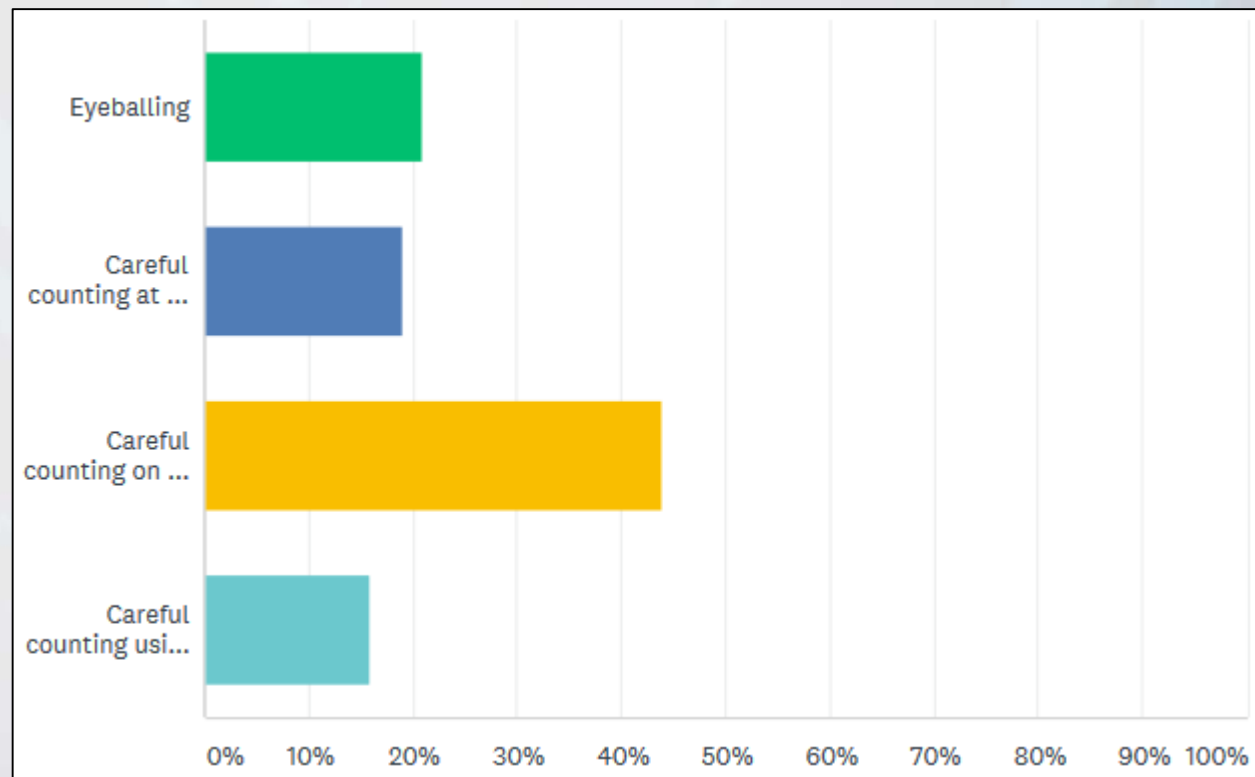


NEN Grading: The Key to Ki67

- How do you evaluate Ki67 when grading neuroendocrine neoplasms?
 - A. Eyeballing
 - B. Careful counting at the microscope
 - C. Careful counting on a printed image
 - D. Careful counting using a software program

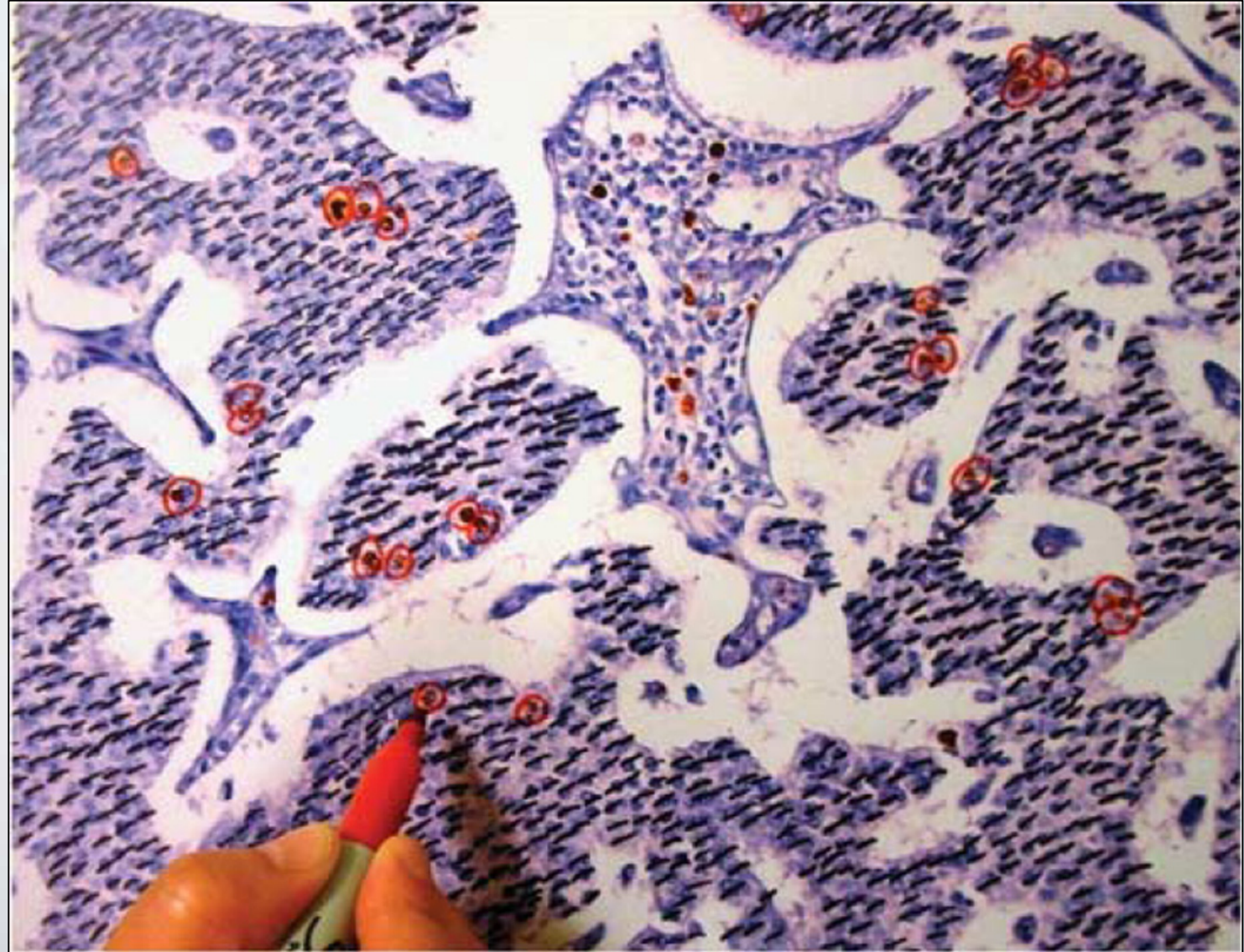
NEN Grading: The Key to Ki67

- How do you evaluate Ki67 when grading neuroendocrine neoplasms?
 - A. Eyeballing: 21
 - B. Careful counting at the microscope: 19
 - C. Careful counting on a printed image: 44
 - D. Careful counting using a software program: 16



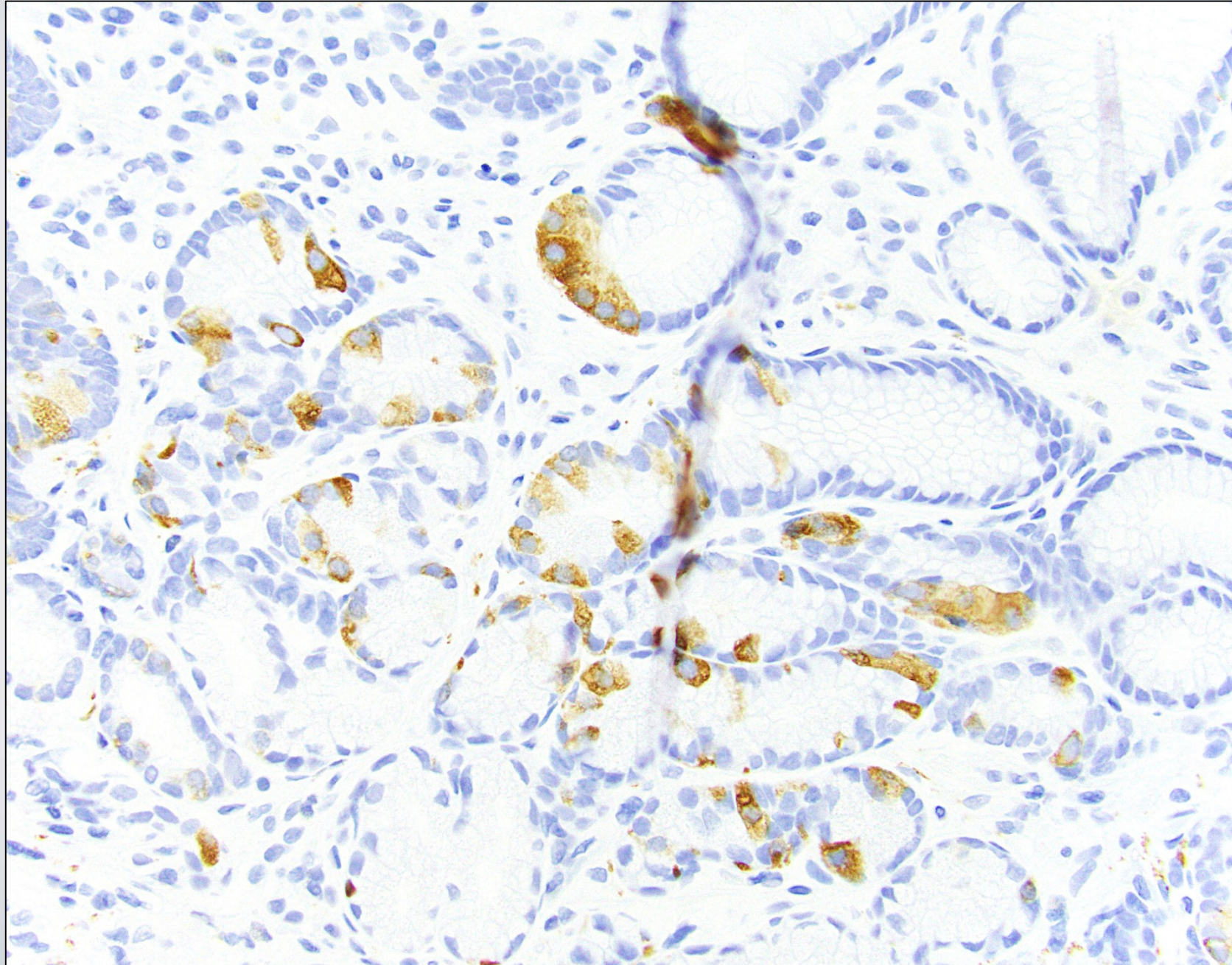
NEN Grading: The Key to Ki67³

- Careful counting on a printed image seems to be the most reliable method
- Eyeballing is inaccurate and unreliable, but man it's so easy
- Again, best studied in pancreas



Issue #1

- This chromogranin IHC is from a patient suspected to have atrophic gastritis. Would you consider this neuroendocrine hyperplasia?
- A. Yes
- B. No



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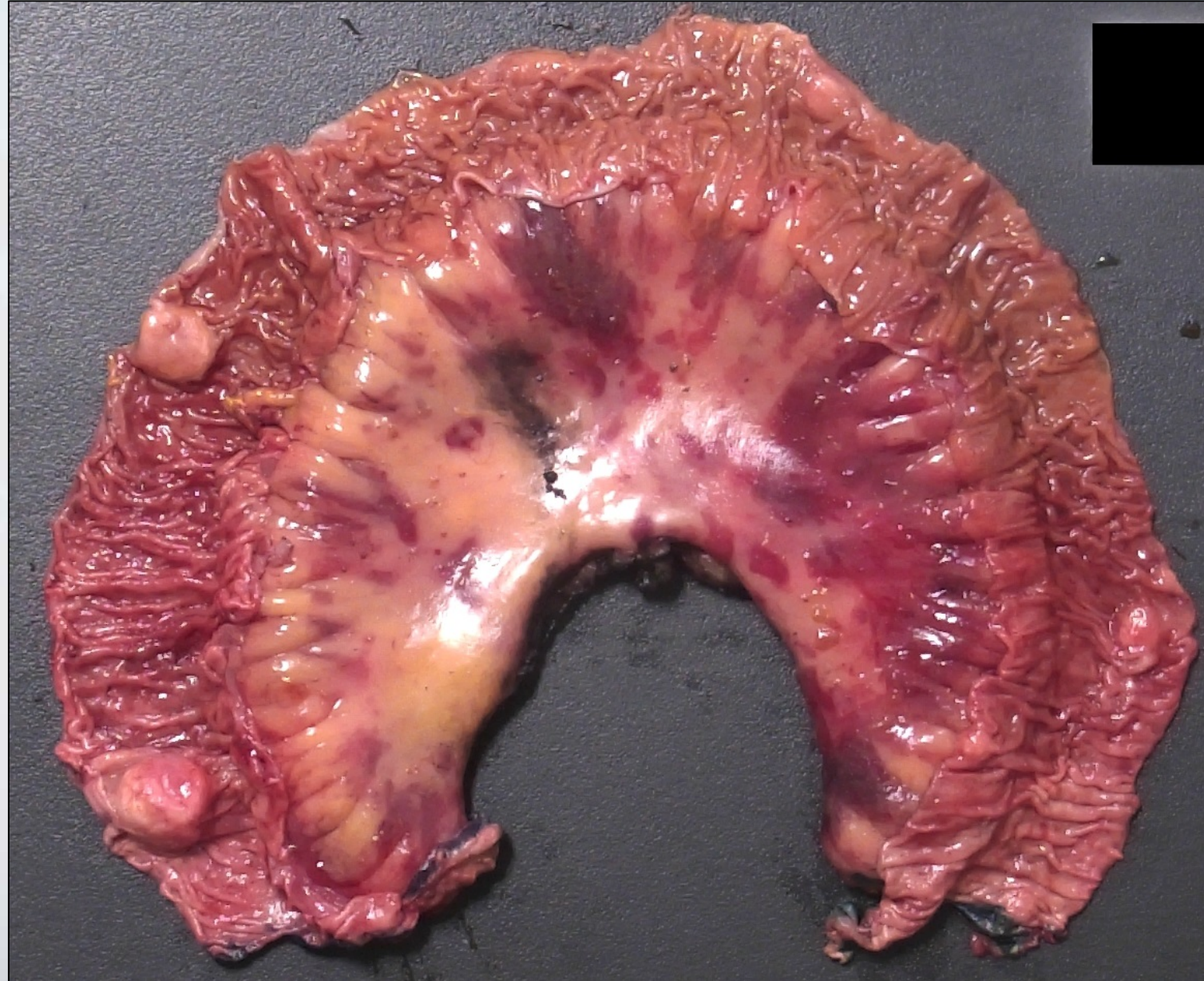
Poll: This chromogranin IHC is from a patient suspected to have atrophic gastritis. Would you consider this neuroendocrine hyperplasia?

Classifying Gastric NE Hyperplasia⁴

- Evaluation of ECL cells using synaptophysin or chromogranin IHC
- Linear hyperplasia: five or more cells lying inside the basement membrane of glands
 - Focal: at least five chains are present in one specimen
 - Diffuse: a mean of at least two chains per linear millimeter of mucosa
- Micronodular hyperplasia: Clusters of five or more endocrine cells, not exceeding in size the diameter of a gastric gland
 - Mean of at least one micronodule per linear millimeter of mucosa
- Adenomatoid hyperplasia: five or more micronodules, closely adherent
- Dysplasia: enlarging micronodule (more than 150 μ m), fusing micronodules, microinvasive lesion, nodule with newly formed stroma

Issue #2

- You receive a small bowel resection specimen that contains multiple discrete NETs. Which do you perform Ki67 on?
- A. All of them
- B. Only the first one I see
- C. Only the largest one
- D. Only the most mitotically active one



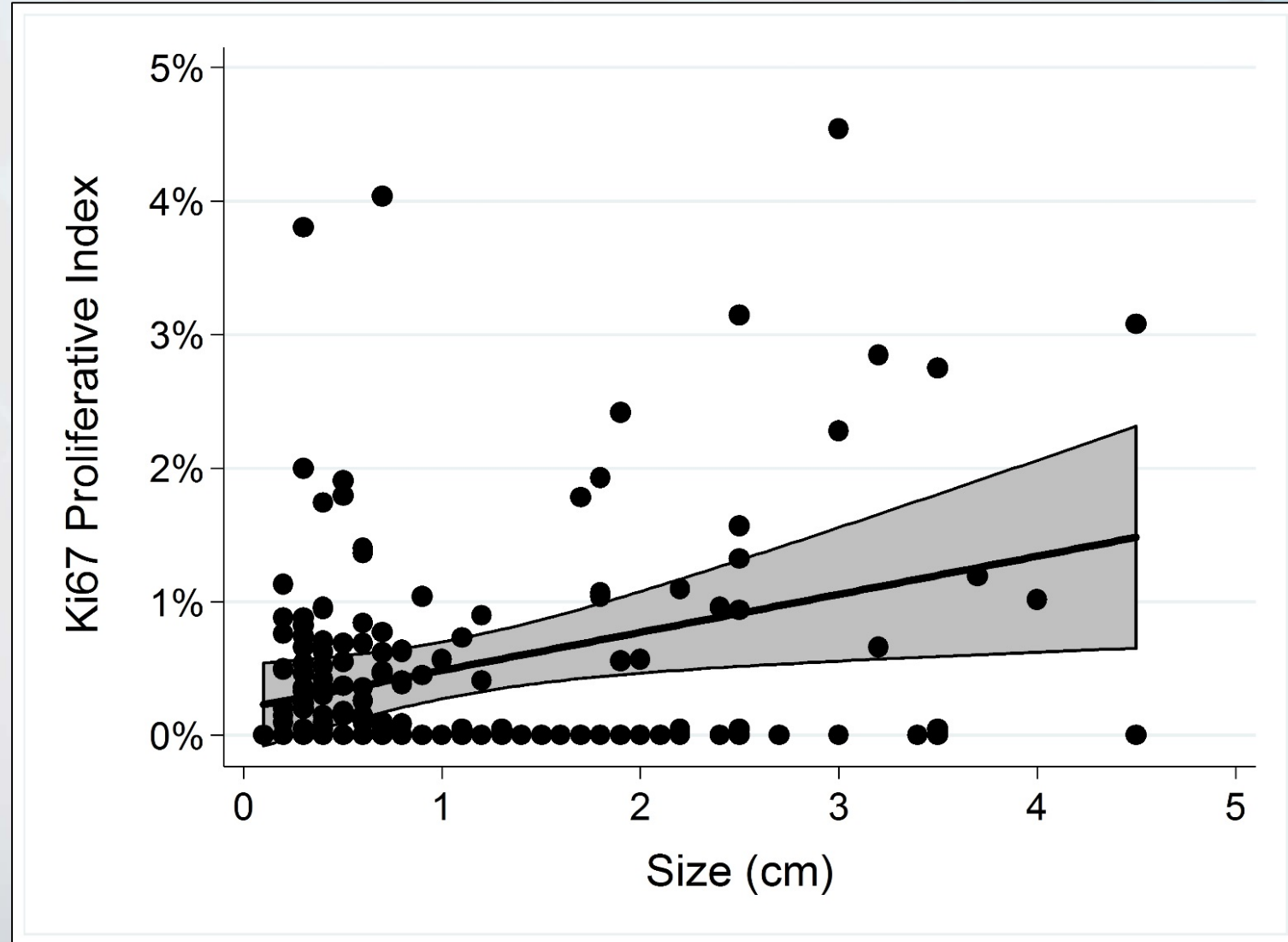
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Poll: You receive a small bowel resection specimen that contains multiple discrete NETs. Which do you perform Ki67 on?

Small Bowel NET Multifocality⁵

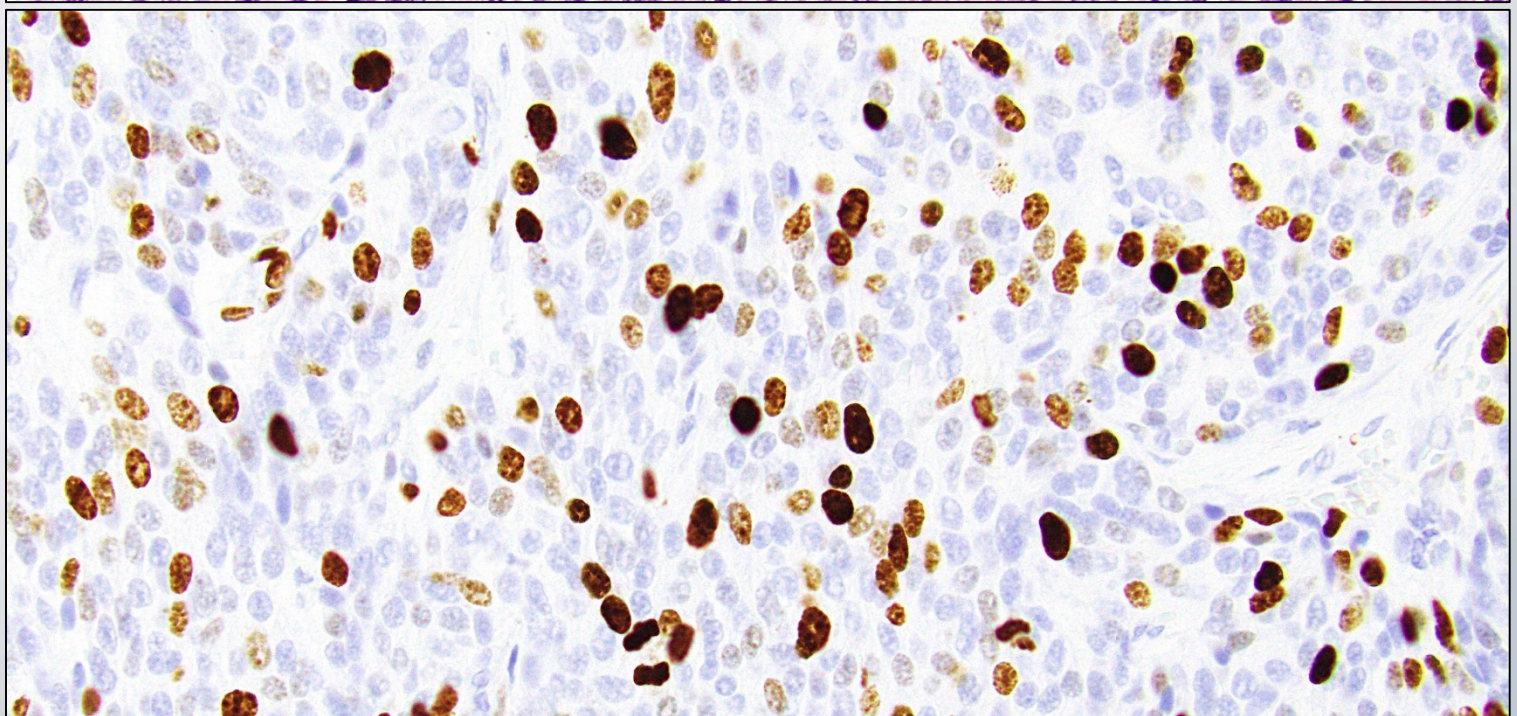
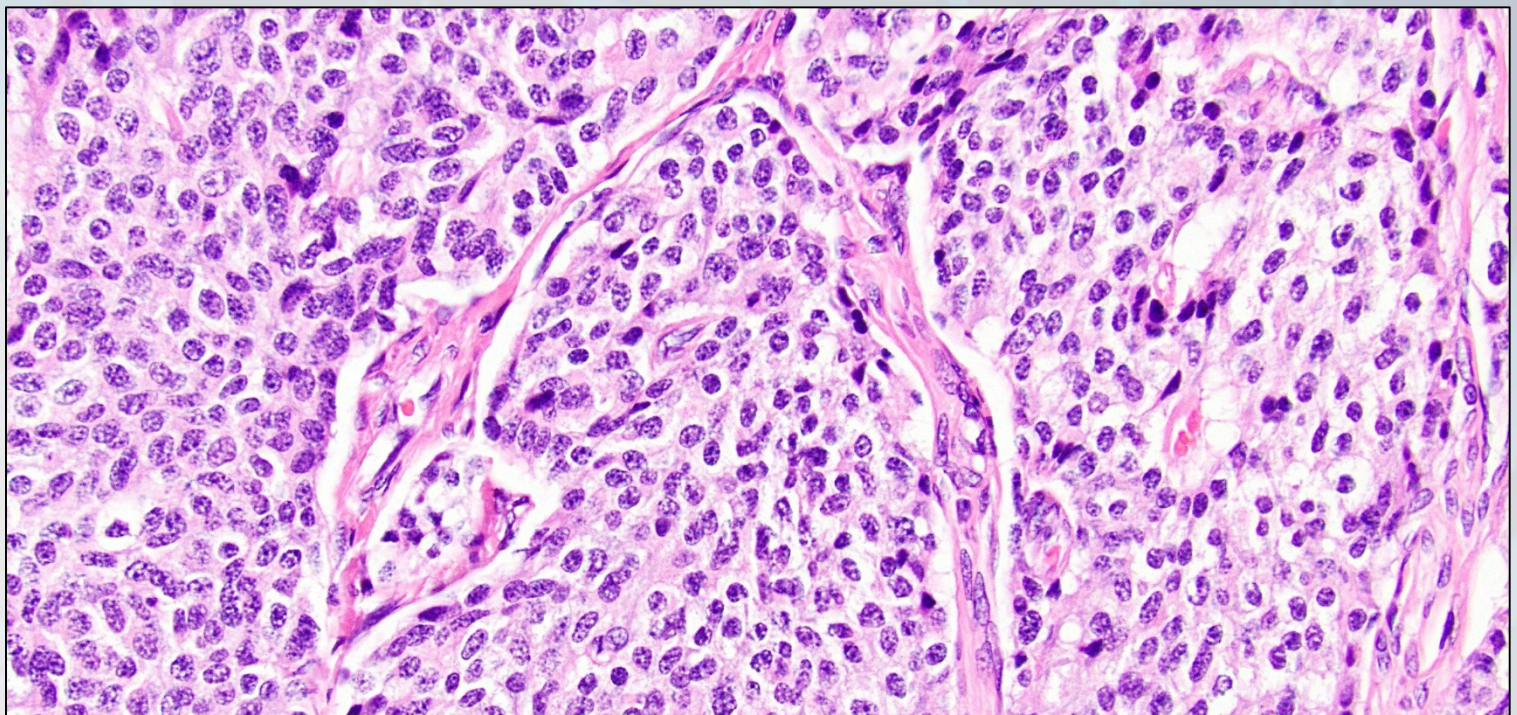
- Positive correlation between tumor size and Ki67 index (coefficient 0.28)
- Only staining the largest lesion for Ki67 should accurately grade almost all cases
- If one is more mitotically active, though, use that one!
- Primary focus vs. node?



Issue #3

- Same small bowel resection. H&E and Ki67 to the right. What would you call this?

- A. NET, G1
- B. NET, G2
- C. NET, G3
- D. NEC

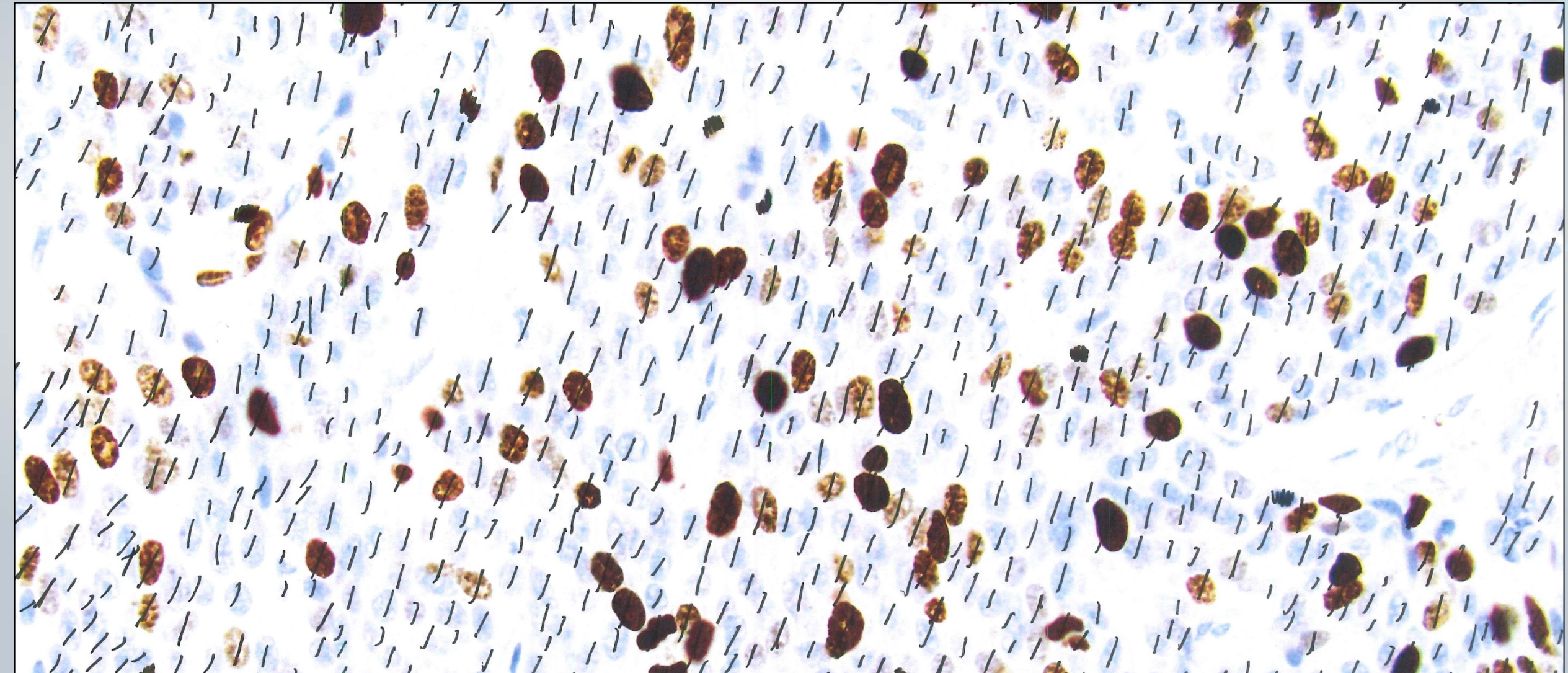


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**Poll: Same small bowel resection. H&E
and Ki67 to the right. What would you call
this?**

Ki67: 28.7%

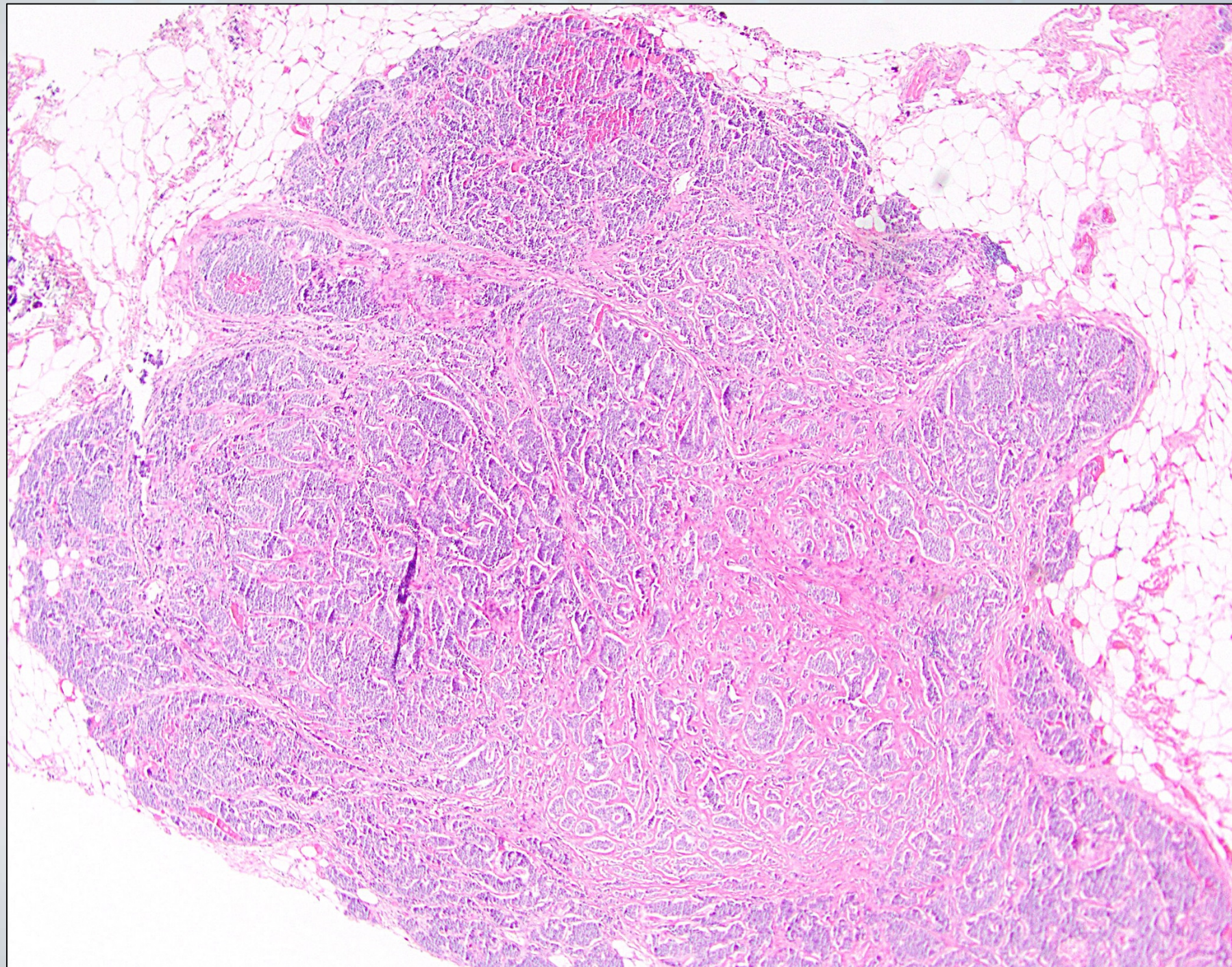


Digestive NENs: Naming & Grading (Says WHO)⁶

Histology	Mitotic rate (per 2 mm ²)	Ki67 index (at least 500 cells)	WHO grade
Well-differentiated neuroendocrine tumor	0-1	<3% (not 0-2%)	1 (low)
	2-20	3-20%	2 (intermediate)
	>20	>20%	3 (high)
Poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma	n/a (basically >20)	n/a (basically >20%)	n/a (not assigned a numerical grade; essentially all high-grade lesions)

Issue #4

- Same small bowel resection. You find this in the mesentery. Positive lymph node, or tumor deposit?
- A. Node
- B. Deposit



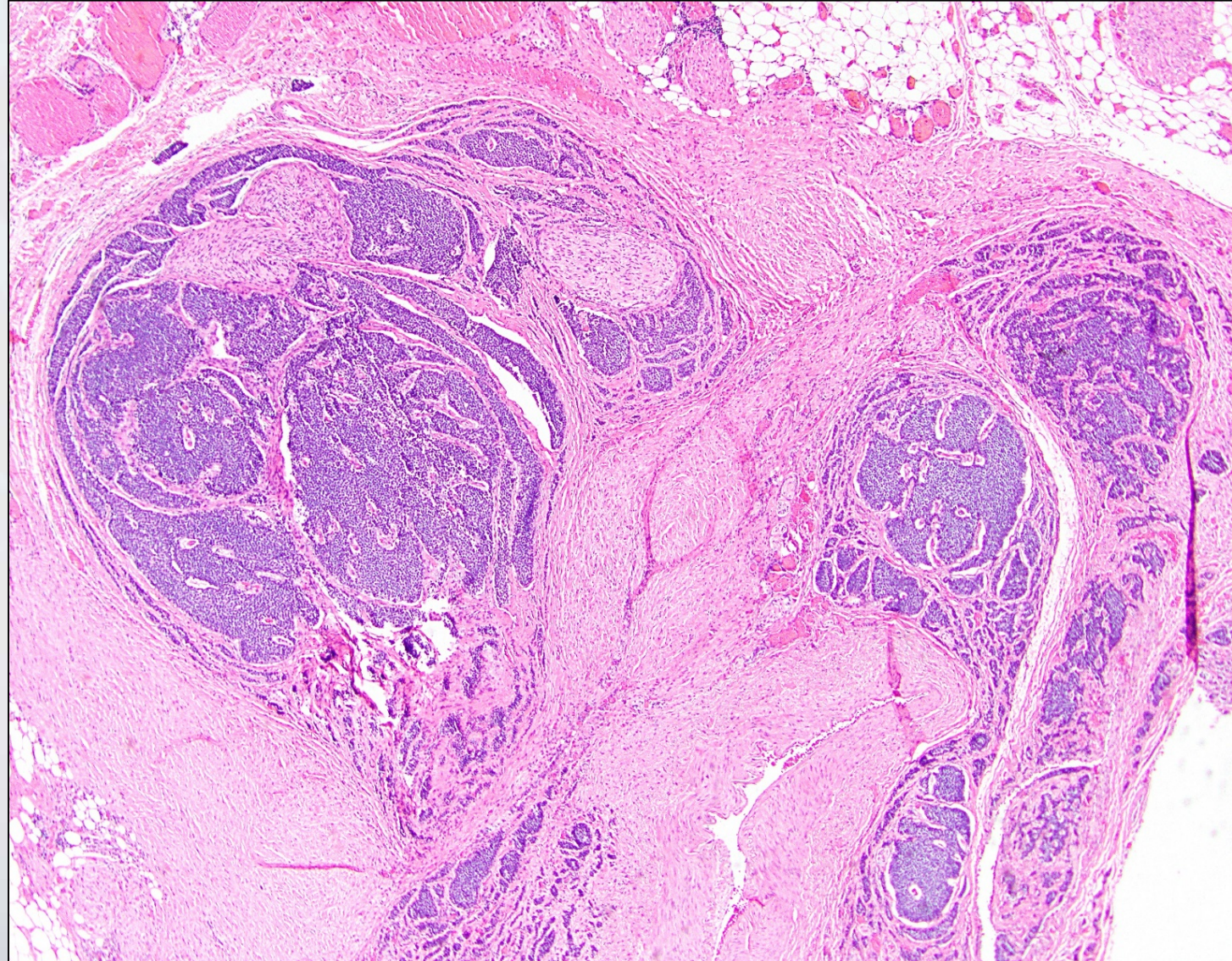
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Poll: Same small bowel resection. You find this in the mesentery. Positive lymph node, or tumor deposit?

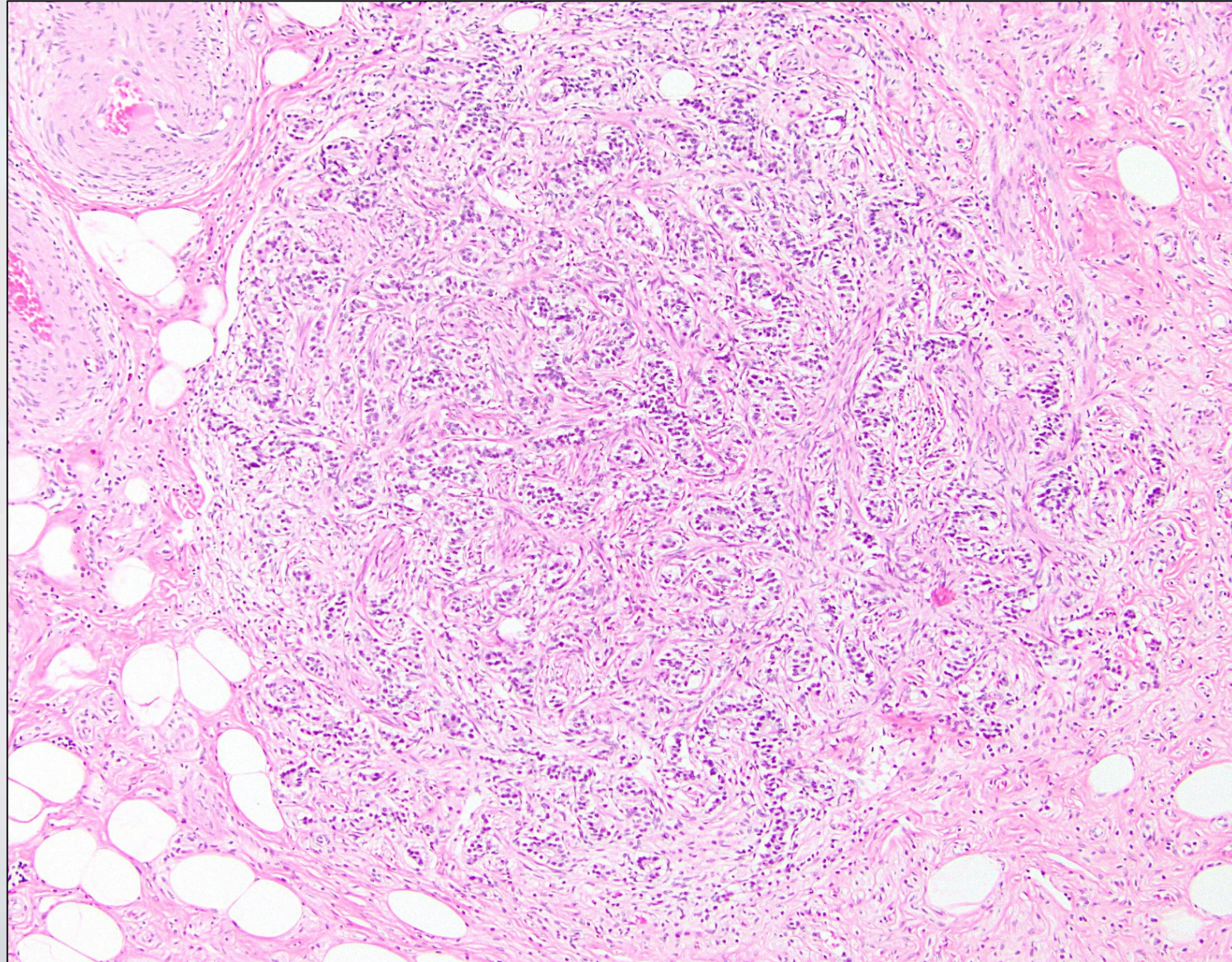
Small Bowel NET Tumor Deposits⁷⁻⁹

- Stronger predictor of poor patient outcome than nodal disease
 - pN2 per AJCC 8th edition (must be >2 cm)
- Usually many entrapped nerves and vessels
- Likely decent interobserver variability, as with colon



Issue #5

- You gross an appendix for “acute appendicitis.” You pay close attention to the tip section and find this 0.13 cm lesion. What do you do?
- A. Ignore it
- B. Write a short report
- C. Write a full synoptic
- E. Drop the slide on the floor and run over it with your chair



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Poll: You gross an appendix for “acute appendicitis.” You pay close attention to the tip section and find this 0.13 cm lesion. What do you do?

Significance of Incidental Appendix NETs¹⁰⁻¹³

- The vast majority do nothing
- Some metastasize to local nodes
 - Syracuse et al: Mesoappendix invasion
 - Groth et al: Size >2.0 cm
 - Brighi et al: Size >1.55 cm, G2 grade, lymphovascular invasion
 - Mehrvarz Sarshekeh et al: Size >1.0 cm (SEER data)
 - Noor et al: Size \geq 1.0 cm (OR for 1.0 cm increase = 5.01)
- Anyone seen a case spread distantly (pM1)?
- We don't do synoptics for pancreas microadenomas ...

References (PMID)

1. 23579216

2. 24121170

3. 25412850

4. 3072229

5. 30326145

6. WHO 2019

7. 24457461

8. 27684993

9. 23902577

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Questions?



THANK YOU!



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