

# **Overview of Soft tissue Sarcoma Pathology Aspect**

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# Introduction

Classification of soft tissue tumors

Biological behaviors of soft tissue tumors

- Benign, Intermediate, Malignant

Incidence: determined by age groups

Locations

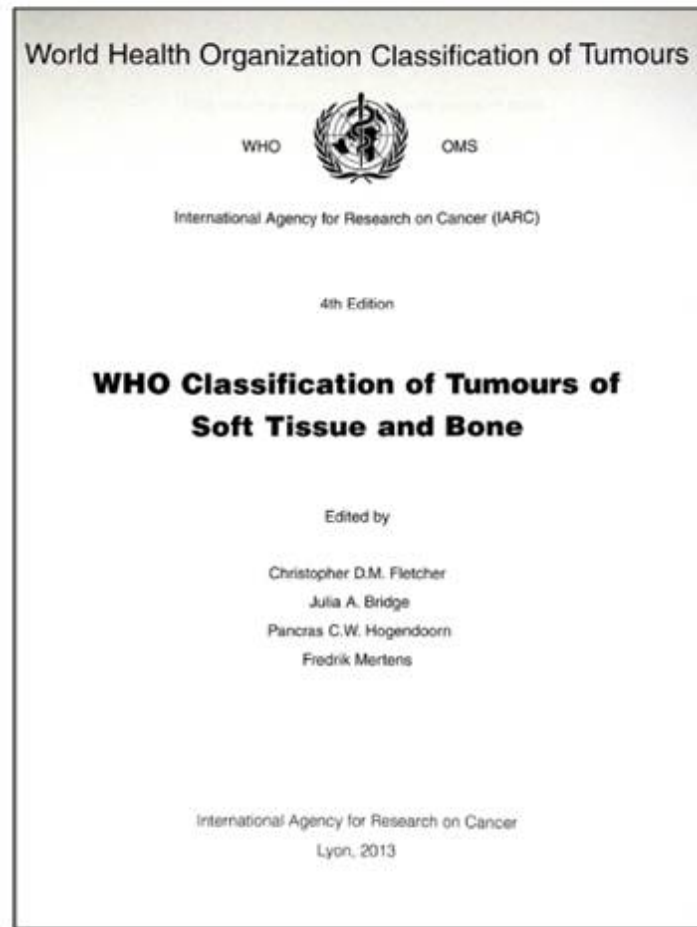
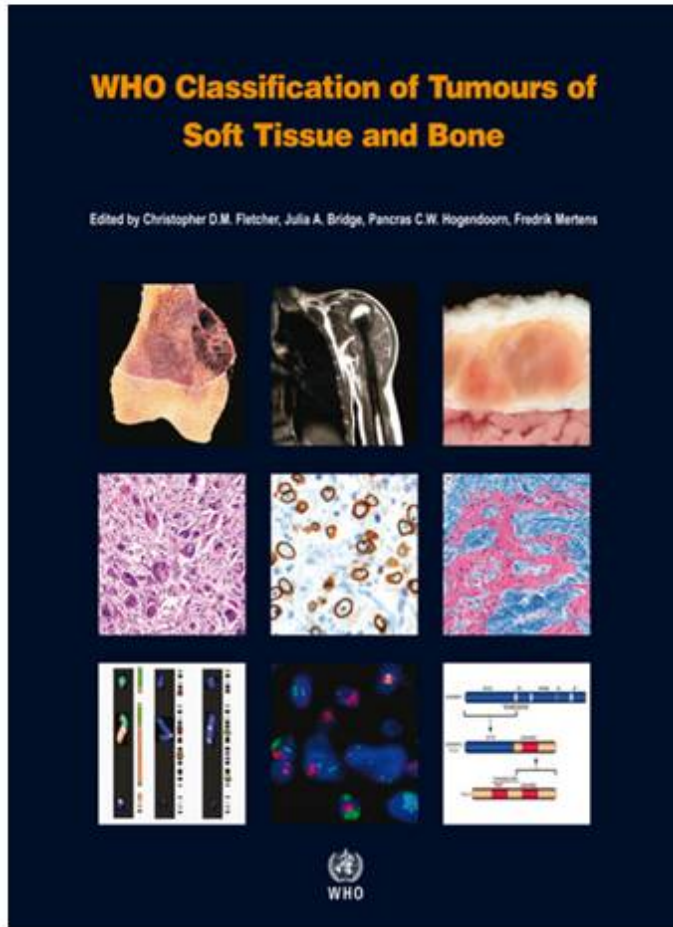
- Anatomic distributions
- Deep vs. Superficial

## **Pathological Diagnosis**

- **Pattern approach**
- **IHC panels**

## **Molecular Genetic**

# WHO Classification 2013



# WHO Classification 2013

## WHO classification of tumours of soft tissue<sup>a,b</sup>

### ADIPOCYTIC TUMOURS

<b>Benign</b>	
Lipoma	8850/0
Lipomatosis	8850/0
Lipomatosis of nerve	8850/0
Lipoblastoma/lipoblastomatosis	8881/0
Angiolipoma	8861/0
Myolipoma	8890/0
Chondroid lipoma	8862/0
Extra-renal angiolipoma	8860/0
Extra-adrenal myelolipoma	8870/0
Spindle cell/pleomorphic lipoma	8857/0
Hibernoma	8880/0
<b>Intermediate (locally aggressive)</b>	
Atypical lipomatous tumour/ well differentiated liposarcoma	8850/1 8850/3
<b>Malignant</b>	
Dedifferentiated liposarcoma	8858/3
Myxoid liposarcoma	8852/3
Pleomorphic liposarcoma	8854/3
Liposarcoma, not otherwise specified	8850/3

### FIBROBLASTIC / MYOFIBROBLASTIC TUMOURS

<b>Benign</b>	
Nodular fasciitis	8826/0*
Proliferative fasciitis	8826/0*
Proliferative myositis	8828/0*
Myositis ossificans	
Fibro-osseous pseudotumour of digits	
Ischaemic fasciitis	
Elastofibroma	8820/0
Fibrous hamartoma of infancy	
Fibromatosis coli	
Juvenile hyaline fibromatosis	
Inclusion body fibromatosis	
Fibroma of tendon sheath	8813/0
Desmoplastic fibroblastoma	8810/0
Mammary-type myofibroblastoma	8825/0
Calcifying aponeurotic fibroma	8810/0*
Angiomyofibroblastoma	8826/0
Cellular angiofibroma	9160/0
Nuchal-type fibroma	8810/0
Gardner fibroma	8810/0
Calcifying fibrous tumour	8817/0*
<b>Intermediate (locally aggressive)</b>	
Palmar/plantar fibromatosis	8813/1*
Desmoid-type fibromatosis	8821/1
Lipofibromatosis	8851/1*
Giant cell fibroblastoma	8834/1
<b>Intermediate (rarely metastasizing)</b>	
Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans	8832/1*
Fibrosarcomatous dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans	8832/3*
Pigmented dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans	8833/1*

Solitary fibrous tumour	8815/1*
Solitary fibrous tumour, malignant	8815/3
Inflammatory myofibroblastic tumour	8825/1
Low-grade myofibroblastic sarcoma	8825/3*
Myxoinflammatory fibroblastic sarcoma/ Atypical myxoinflammatory fibroblastic tumour	8811/1*
Infantile fibrosarcoma	8814/3
<b>Malignant</b>	
Adult fibrosarcoma	8810/3
Myofibrosarcoma	8811/3
Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma	8840/3*
Sclerosing epithelioid fibrosarcoma	8840/3*

### SO-CALLED FIBROHISTIOCYTIC TUMOURS

<b>Benign</b>	
Tenosynovial giant cell tumour localized type	9252/0
diffuse type	9252/1*
malignant	9252/3
Deep benign fibrous histiocytoma	8831/0
<b>Intermediate (rarely metastasizing)</b>	
Plexiform fibrohistiocytic tumour	8835/1
Giant cell tumour of soft tissues	9251/1

### SMOOTH MUSCLE TUMOURS

<b>Benign</b>	
Deep leiomyoma	8890/0
<b>Malignant</b>	
Leiomyosarcoma (excluding skin)	8890/3

### PERICYTIC (PERIVASCULAR) TUMOURS

Glomus tumour (and variants)	8711/0
Glomangiomas	8711/1*
Malignant glomus tumour	8711/3
Myopericytoma	8824/0
Myofibroma	8824/0
Myofibromatosis	8824/1
Angioleiomyoma	8894/0

### SKELETAL MUSCLE TUMOURS

<b>Benign</b>	
Rhabdomyoma	8900/0
Adult type	8904/0
Fetal type	8903/0
Genital type	8905/0
<b>Malignant</b>	
Embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma (including botryoid, anaplastic)	8910/3
Alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma (including solid, anaplastic)	8920/3
Pleomorphic rhabdomyosarcoma	8901/3
Spindle cell/sclerosing rhabdomyosarcoma	8912/3

### VASCULAR TUMOURS OF SOFT TISSUE

<b>Benign</b>	
Haemangioma	9120/0
Synovial	
Venous	9122/0
Arteriovenous haemangioma/malformation	9123/0
Intramuscular	9132/0
Epithelioid haemangioma	9125/0
Angiomatosis	
Lymphangioma	9170/0
<b>Intermediate (locally aggressive)</b>	
Kaposiform haemangiioendothelioma	9130/1
<b>Intermediate (rarely metastasizing)</b>	
Retiform haemangiioendothelioma	9136/1*
Papillary intralymphatic angioendothelioma	9135/1
Composite haemangiioendothelioma	9136/1
Pseudomyogenic (epithelioid sarcoma-like) haemangiioendothelioma	9136/1
Kaposi sarcoma	9140/3
<b>Malignant</b>	
Epithelioid haemangiioendothelioma	9133/3
Angiosarcoma of soft tissue	9120/3

### CHONDR-OSSSEOUS TUMOURS

Soft tissue chondroma	9220/0
Extraskeletal mesenchymal chondrosarcoma	9240/3
Extraskeletal osteosarcoma	9180/3

### GASTROINTESTINAL STROMAL TUMOURS

Benign gastrointestinal stromal tumour	8936/0
Gastrointestinal stromal tumour, uncertain malignant potential	8936/1
Gastrointestinal stromal tumour, malignant	8936/3

### NERVE SHEATH TUMOURS

<b>Benign</b>	
Schwannoma (including variants)	9560/0
Melanotic schwannoma	9560/1*
Neurofibroma (incl. variants)	9540/0
Plexiform neurofibroma	9550/0
Perineurioma	9571/0
Malignant perineurioma	9571/3
Granular cell tumour	9580/0
Dermal nerve sheath myxoma	9562/0
Solitary circumscribed neuroma	9570/0
Ectopic meningioma	9530/0
Nasal glial heterotopia	
Benign Triton tumour	
Hybrid nerve sheath tumours	9563/0*

<b>Malignant</b>	
Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumour	9540/3
Epithelioid malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumour	9542/3*
Malignant Triton tumour	9561/3
Malignant granular cell tumour	9580/3
Ectomesenchymoma	8921/3

### TUMOURS OF UNCERTAIN DIFFERENTIATION

<b>Benign</b>	
Acral fibromyxoma	8811/0
Intramuscular myxoma (including cellular variant)	8840/0
Juxta-articular myxoma	8840/0
Deep ("aggressive") angiolipoma	8841/0*
Pleomorphic hyalinizing angiectatic tumour	8802/1*
Ectopic hamartomatous thymoma	8587/0
<b>Intermediate (locally aggressive)</b>	
Haemosiderotic fibroplomatous tumour	8811/1*
<b>Intermediate (rarely metastasizing)</b>	
Atypical fibroxanthoma	8830/1
Angiomatoid fibrous histiocytoma	8836/1
Ossifying fibromyxoid tumour	8842/0
Ossifying fibromyxoid tumour, malignant	8842/3*
Mixed tumour NOS	8940/0
Mixed tumour NOS, malignant	8940/3
Myoepithelioma	8962/0
Myoepithelial carcinoma	8962/3
Phosphatic mesenchymal tumour, benign	8990/0
Phosphatic mesenchymal tumour, malignant	8990/3
<b>Malignant</b>	
Synovial sarcoma NOS	9040/3
Synovial sarcoma, spindle cell	9041/3
Synovial sarcoma, biphasic	9043/3
Epithelioid sarcoma	8804/3
Alveolar soft-part sarcoma	9581/3
Clear cell sarcoma of soft tissue	9044/3
Extraskeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma	9231/3
Extraskeletal Ewing sarcoma	9364/0
Desmoplastic small round cell tumour	8806/0
Extra-renal rhabdoid tumour	8963/0
Neoplasms with privascular epithelioid cell differentiation (PECOMA)	
PECOMA NOS, benign	8714/0*
PECOMA NOS, malignant	8714/0*
Intimal sarcoma	9137/2*
<b>UNDIFFERENTIATED/UNCLASSIFIED SARCOMAS</b>	
Undifferentiated spindle cell sarcoma	8801/3
Undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma	8802/3
Undifferentiated round cell sarcoma	8803/3
Undifferentiated epithelioid sarcoma	8804/3
Undifferentiated sarcoma NOS	8805/3

<sup>a</sup> The morphology codes are from the International Classification of Diseases for Oncology (ICD-O) (B16A). Behaviour is coded /0 for benign tumours, /1 for unspecified, borderline or uncertain behaviour, /2 for carcinoma in situ and grade II intraepithelial neoplasia, and /3 for malignant tumours. <sup>b</sup> The classification is modified from the previous WHO histological classification of tumours (B70A) taking into account changes in understanding of these lesions. \* These new codes were approved by the IARC/WHO Committee for ICD-O in 2012.

# Soft Tissue Tumors

- Embryologically derived from *mesoderm* (some from neuroectoderm): fibrous, muscle (striated/smooth), adipose, vessels, nerves
- Benign : Malignant = 200+ : 90 entities
- Many soft tissue tumors does not require IHC for Dx.
- No specific IHC for distinguishing benign/malignant
- For diagnosis sarcoma, need MALIGNANT features (mitosis, necrosis, nuclear atypia, nuclear hyperchromasia, hypercellularity)
- Need IHC panel for tumor cell type identification

# Biological behavior

## Benign

### eg. Lipoma

- Closely resemble normal tissue
- Non-destructive growth
- Cured by complete local excision
- Rare recurrence
- No metastasis

## Malignant tumor (Sarcoma) :

### eg. Liposarcoma, undiff. Pleomorphic sarcoma (UPS/MFH)

- Locally destructive growth
- High recurrence rate
- Distant metastasis - common:
  - Low-grade (histologic grade I) ~ 2-10%
  - High-grade (histologic grade II-III) ~ 10-100%

## **Intermediate (locally aggressive):**

### **eg. Desmoid fibromatosis**

- Infiltrative, locally destructive growth pattern,
- No metastasis
- Rx. wide excision

## **Intermediate (rarely metastasizing):**

### **eg. Solitary fibrous tumor (SFT/hemangiopericytoma)**

- Locally aggressive, metastases risk <2 %
- Not reliably predictable on histomorphology
- Rx. wide excision + F/U

# Age-related incidence

**Some Sarcomas are relatively specific to particular age groups**

- Childhood - RMS, neuroblastoma, Ewing
- Young Adult - Synovial sarcoma , ASPS, DSRCT
- Old age - Liposarcoma, Undiff. pleomorphic sarcoma (UPS/MFH)



# Information on the Request Form

- **Duration**  
(wk/mo, nodular fasciitis, myxoFS)
- **Size**
- **Depth**  
(deep/superficial, Pleo.LPS/Pleo.lipoma)
- **Surrounding structure**  
(knee mass !?!, sciatic nerve mass !?!)
- **Past history**  
(previous Sx/RT, dd.LPS/radiation Sarx)

# Location & site distribution

## Deep Soft Tissue - Most

- 75% Large muscles of extremities *esp. thigh*
- 10% Retroperitoneum

## Superficial sarcoma

- eg. Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP), Epithelioid sarcoma, Angiosarcoma, myxofibrosarcoma

## Region specific

- Hand & wrist:- Epithelioid sarcoma
- Scalp:- Angiosarcoma
- Knee/ankle:- Synovial sarcoma
- GU, orbit:- Rhabdomyosarcoma

# Incidence

- < 1% of the overall human malignancy
- Life-threatening (2% of all cancer deaths)
- 3/4 = Undiff. high-grade pleomorphic sarcoma (UPS/MFH), Liposarcoma, Leiomyosarcoma, Synovial sarcoma, Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor (MPNST)

# Diagnosis

## Surgical biopsy

- **Core needle biopsy (CNB)**: at least 3-5 cores, 14-16 gauge needle size, put in > 1 blocks
- **Open biopsy**: when CNB fail to Dx.

## Cytology

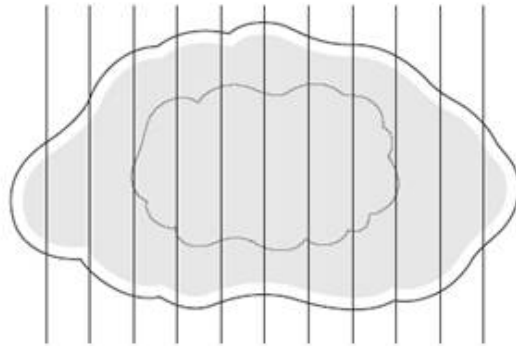
- Limited role: monitoring recurrence/metastasis. In known Dx. Sarcoma
- NOT recommend for primary Dx. for Sarcoma

# Diagnosis

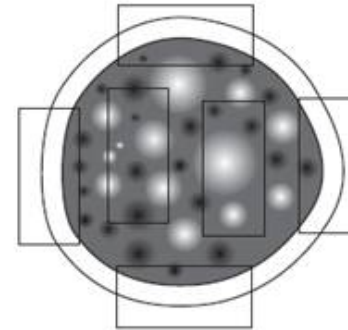
## Frozen section

- To determine low-grade vs. high-grade  
(NOT... benign vs. malignant)
- Assess margin  
(EXCEPT... myxoFS, wd.LPS, desmoid tumor)
- Confirm fresh/viable tissue

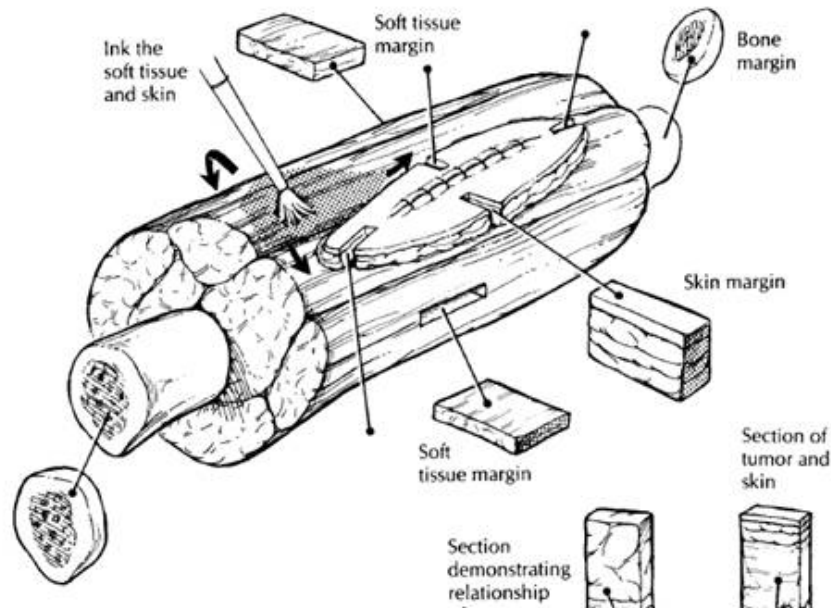
# Tissue Sampling



Paint externally and cut into multiple transverse slices



Sample non-necrotic tumour and tumour in relation to the margins of excision



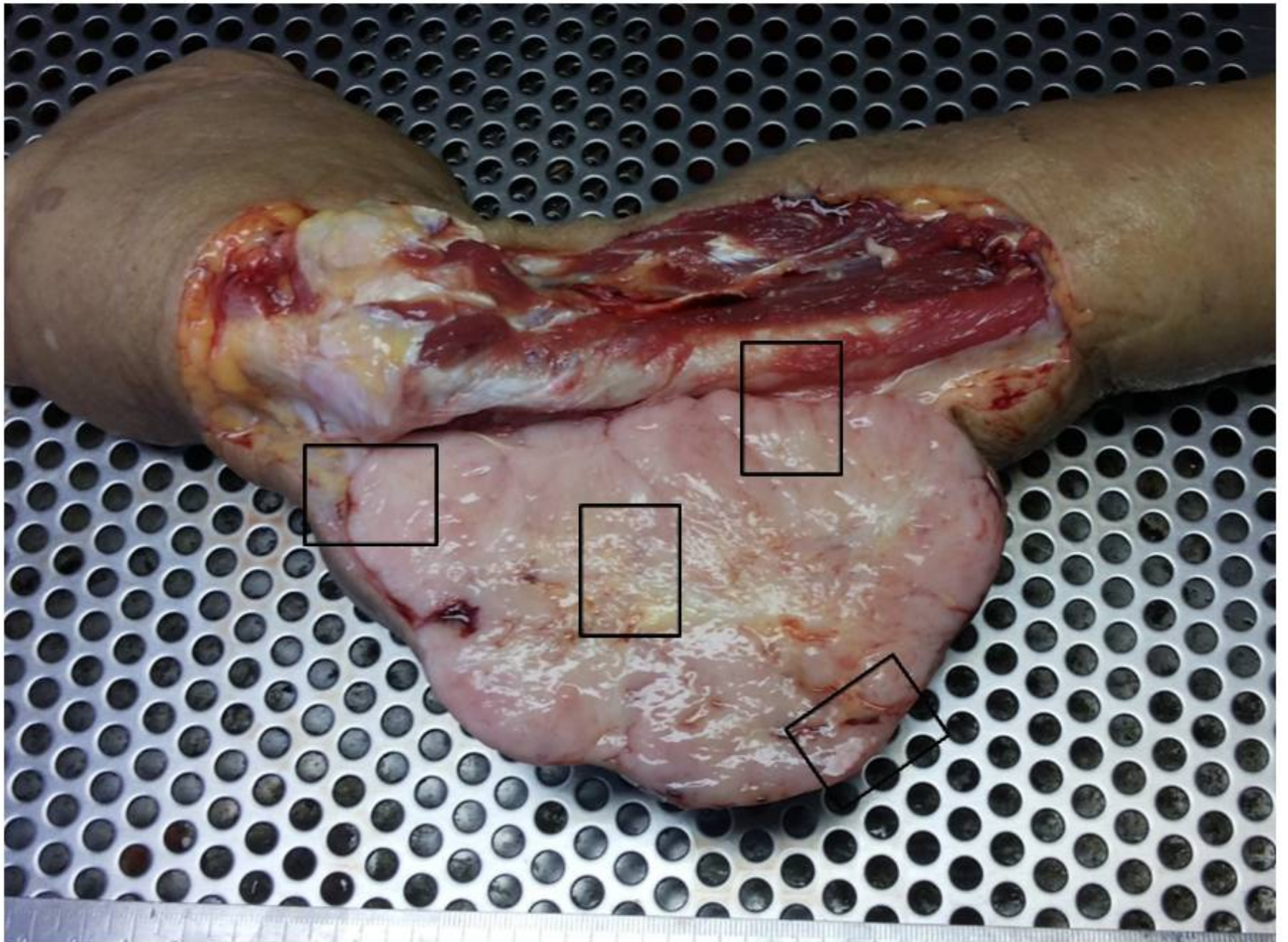
## References

1. Rubin BP, Cooper K, Fletcher CD, Folpe AL. Members of the Cancer Committee, College of American Pathologists. Protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with tumors of soft tissue. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2010 Apr;134(4):e31-9.
2. Rubin BP, Antonescu CR, Gannon FH. Members of the Cancer Committee, College of American Pathologists. Protocol for the examination of specimens from patients with tumors of bone. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2010 Apr;134(4):e1-7.
3. Derek C. Allen, Iain Cameron. Histopathology Specimens. Springer-Verlag London Limited 2004.
4. William H. Westra, Surgical Pathology Dissection. 2nd Ed. Springer-Verlag New York

# Undiff. Pleomorphic Sarcoma

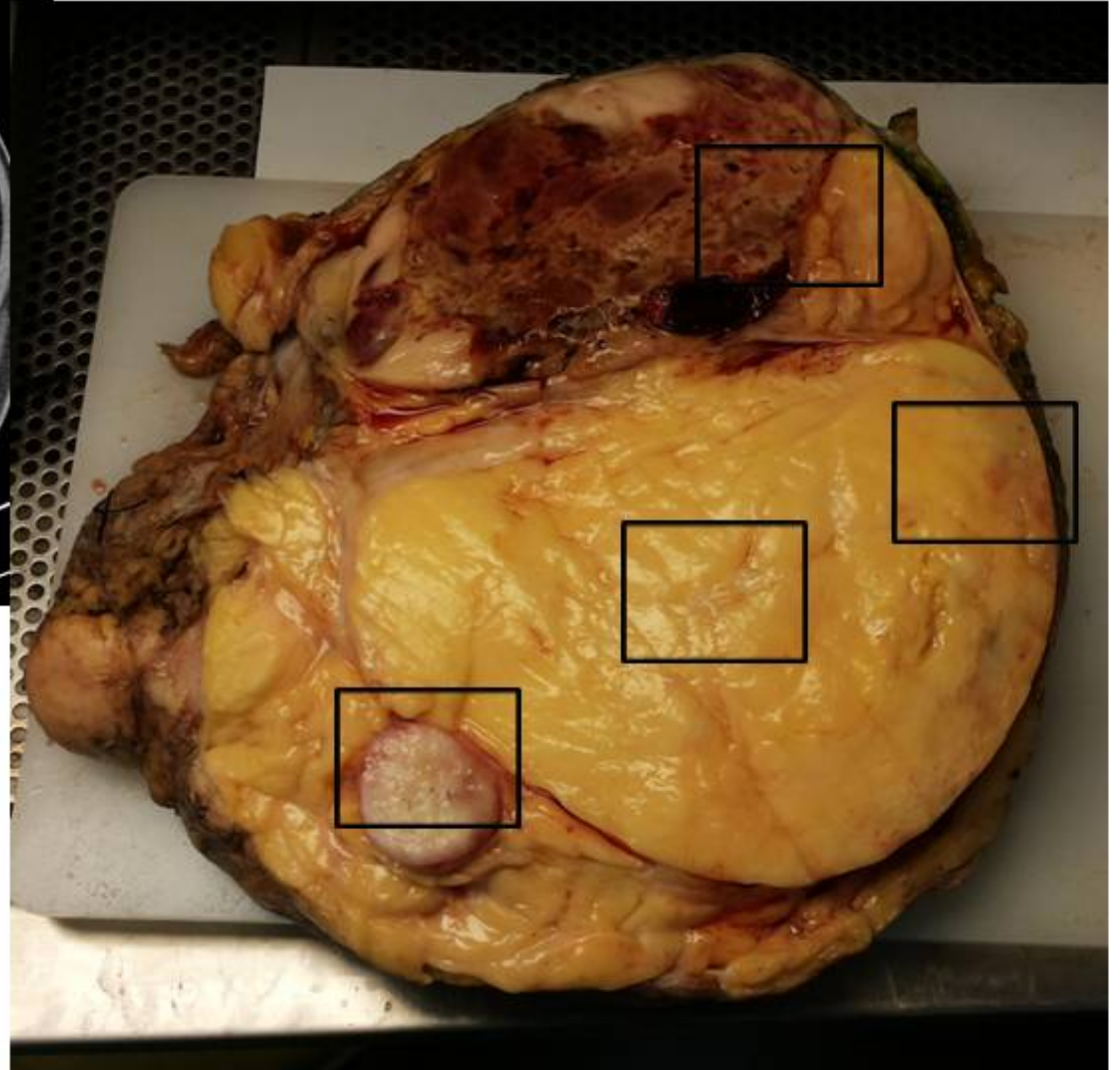
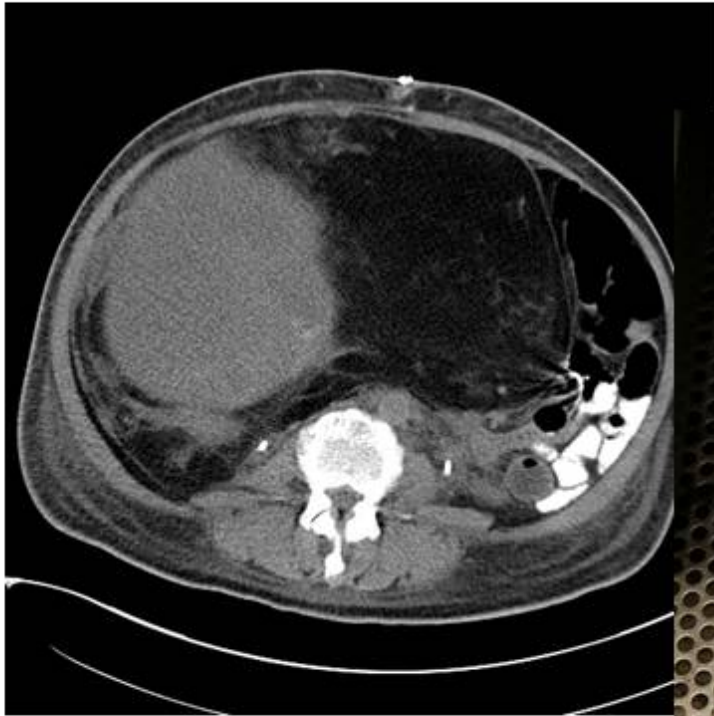








# Dediff Liposarcoma



# Synovial sarcoma

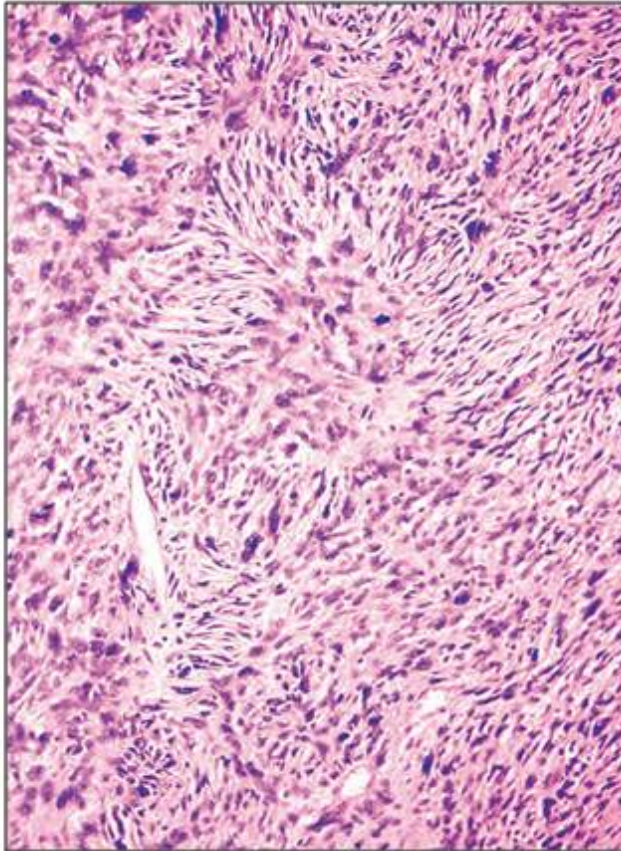


# Comment

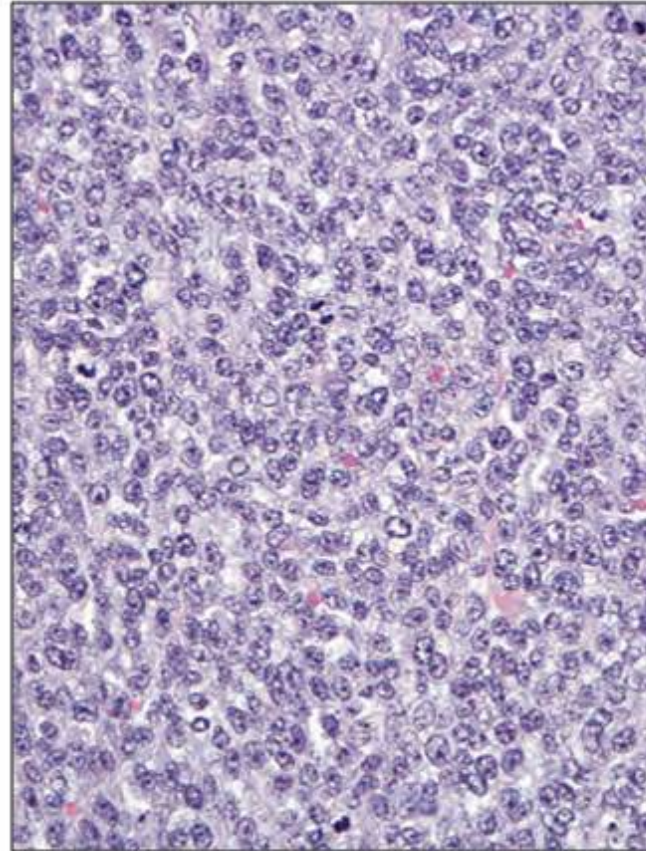
- Extensive necrosis precluded our interpretation; Rebiopsy/excision might be helpful
- The low grade sarcoma in this small biopsy might not represent the whole tumor.
- Due to discordance between radiographic/pathologic finding, recommend rebiopsy/open biopsy for definite diagnosis.



# Pattern Recognition (+ DDX)

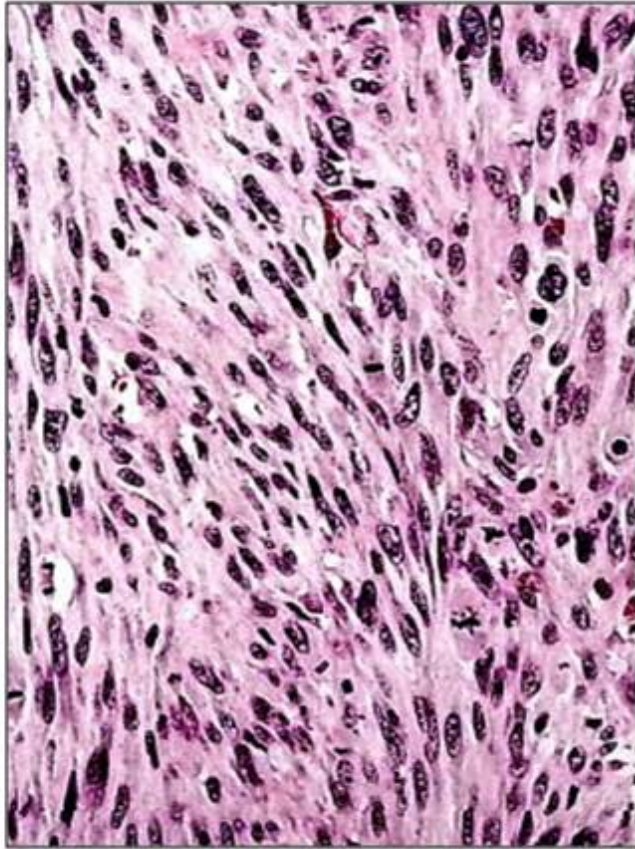


**Pleomorphic cells**

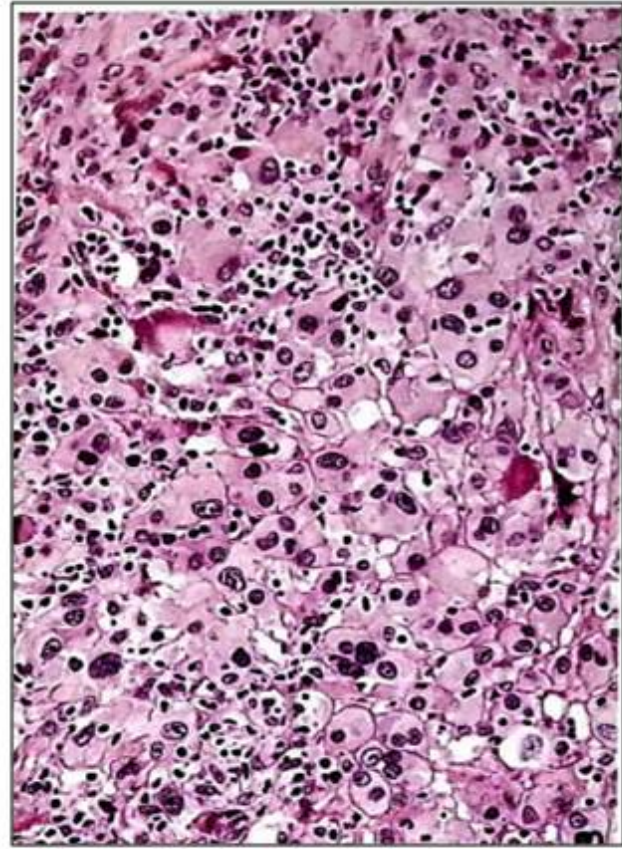


**Round cells**





**Spindle cells**



**Epithelioid cells**

# **Diagnosis on Histologic Pattern & IHC Results +/- Molecular studies**

- Pleomorphic tumors
- Small blue round cell tumors
- Monomorphic spindle cell tumors
- Epithelioid cell tumors

# Morphology of Cells in Soft Tissue Tumors

Morphology	Features	Tumor Type
Pleomorphic cell	Anaplastic cell, enlarged nuclei	UPS (MFH), Schwannoma, Pleomorphic variant of LPS, RMS, LMS,
Round cell	Size of a lymphocyte with little cytoplasm	Rhabdomyosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma/PNET, lymphoma, PDSS
Spindle cell	Rod-shaped, long axis twice as great as short axis	PDSS, MPNST, Fibrosarcoma, LMS, Schwannoma
Epithelioid cell	Polyhedral with abundant cytoplasm	(Carcinoma, Melanoma) Epithelioid sarcoma, ASPS, Epithelioid variant of LMS, AS, MPNST.

UPS (MFH): undiff. pleomorphic sarcoma (malignant fibrous histiocytoma), RMS: rhabdomyosarcoma, LMS: leiomyosarcoma, PNET: primitive neuroectodermal tumor, PDSS: poorly diff. synovial sarcoma, MPNST: malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor, ASPS: alveolar soft part sarcoma, AS: angiosarcoma

# Diagnosis on Histologic Pattern, No IHC Requirement

- Benign & malignant lipomatous lesions
- Low-grade fibrous lesions
- Benign vascular lesions
- Myxoid tumors of deep soft tissue
  - Myxofibrosarcoma
  - Myxoid LPS
  - Extraskeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma (EMC)



## IHC Panel for Pleomorphic Malignant Tumors

	CK	S100	CD30	SMA	desmin
CA	+	-	-	-	-
Melanoma	-	+	-	-	-
ALCL	-	-	+	-	-
LMS	+/-	-	-	+	+
RMS	-	-	-	-	+
MPNST	+/-	+/-	-	-	-
UPS (MFH)	-	-	-	+/-	-

CA: carcinoma, ALCL: anaplastic large cell lymphoma, LMS: leiomyosarcoma, RMS: rhabdomyosarcoma, MPNST: malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor, UPS (MFH): undiff.pleomorphic sarcoma (malignant fibrous histiocytoma)

## IHC Panel for Small blue Round Cell Tumors

	CK	S100	CD45	TdT	Desm	CD99
<b>Ewing</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+</b>
<b>Lymphoma</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+/-</b>
<b>RMS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>PDSS</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+/-</b>
<b>DSRCT</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>CA</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Melanoma</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Lymphoma</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+/-</b>

**Ewing: Ewing sarcoma, RMS: rhabdomyosarcoma, PDSS: poorly diff. synovial sarcoma, DSRCT: desmoplastic small round cell tumor, CA: carcinoma**

## IHC Panel for Monomorphic Spindle Cell Tumors

	CK	S100	CD34	SMA	CD117
<b>SS</b>	+/-	+/-	-	-	-
<b>MPNST</b>	-	+/-	-	-	-
<b>FS/DFSP</b>	-	-	+/-	+/-	-
<b>LM/LMS</b>	-	-	-	+	-
<b>SFT</b>	-	-	+	-	-
<b>GIST</b>	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+
<b>Schwannoma</b>	-	+	-	-	-

**SS: synovial sarcoma, MPNST: malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor, FS/DFSP: fibrosarcoma/dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans, LM/LMS: leiomyoma/leiomyosarcoma, SFT: solitary fibrous tumor (hemangiopericytoma), GIST: gastrointestinal stromal tumor**

## IHC Panel for Malignant Epithelioid Cell Tumors

	CK	S100	CD45	CD30	CD31	SMA
CA	+	-	-	-	-	-
Melanoma	-	+	-	-	-	-
E-MPNST	+/-	+	-	-	-	-
ALCL	-	-	+/-	+/-	-	-
Epithelioid sarc	+	-	-	-	-	-
E-AS	+/-	-	-	-	+	-
E-LMS	+/-	-	-	-	-	+

CA: carcinoma, E-MPNST: epithelioid malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor, ALCL: anaplastic large cell lymphoma, E-AS: epithelioid angiosarcoma, E-LMS: epithelioid leiomyosarcoma

**Cont'**