

Identifying & Staging Breast Cancer: Understanding Your Pathology Report

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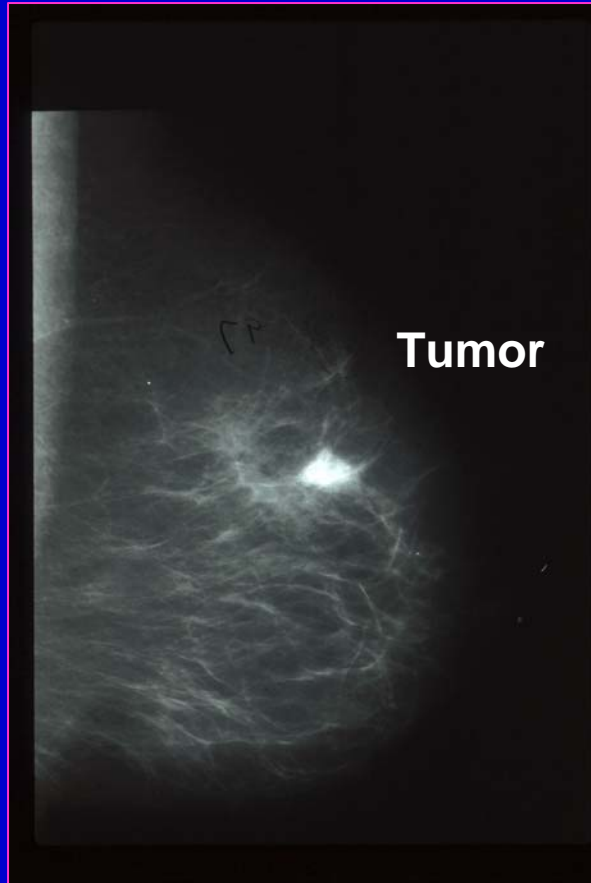
Director, Breast Pathology

Subspecialty Service

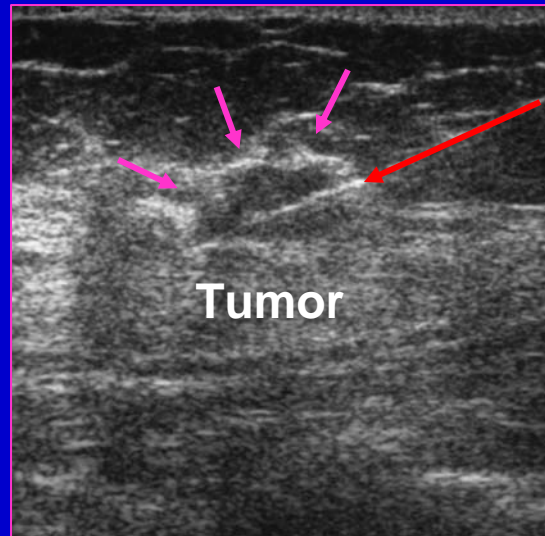
Department of Pathology &

Laboratory Medicine

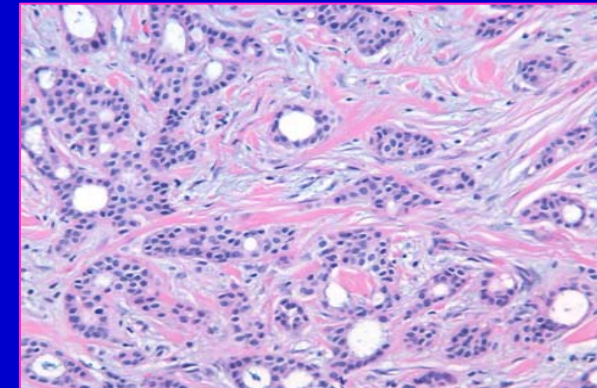
Understanding Your Pathology Report



Mammogram

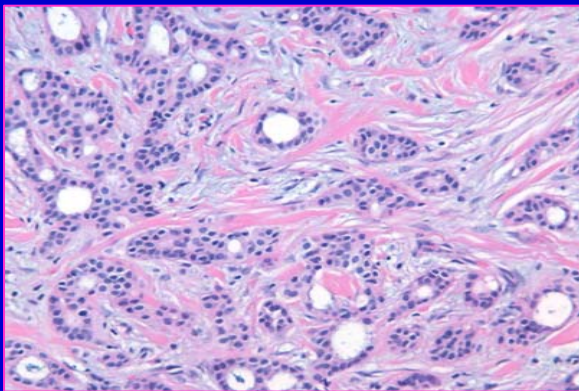


Ultrasound



Cancer

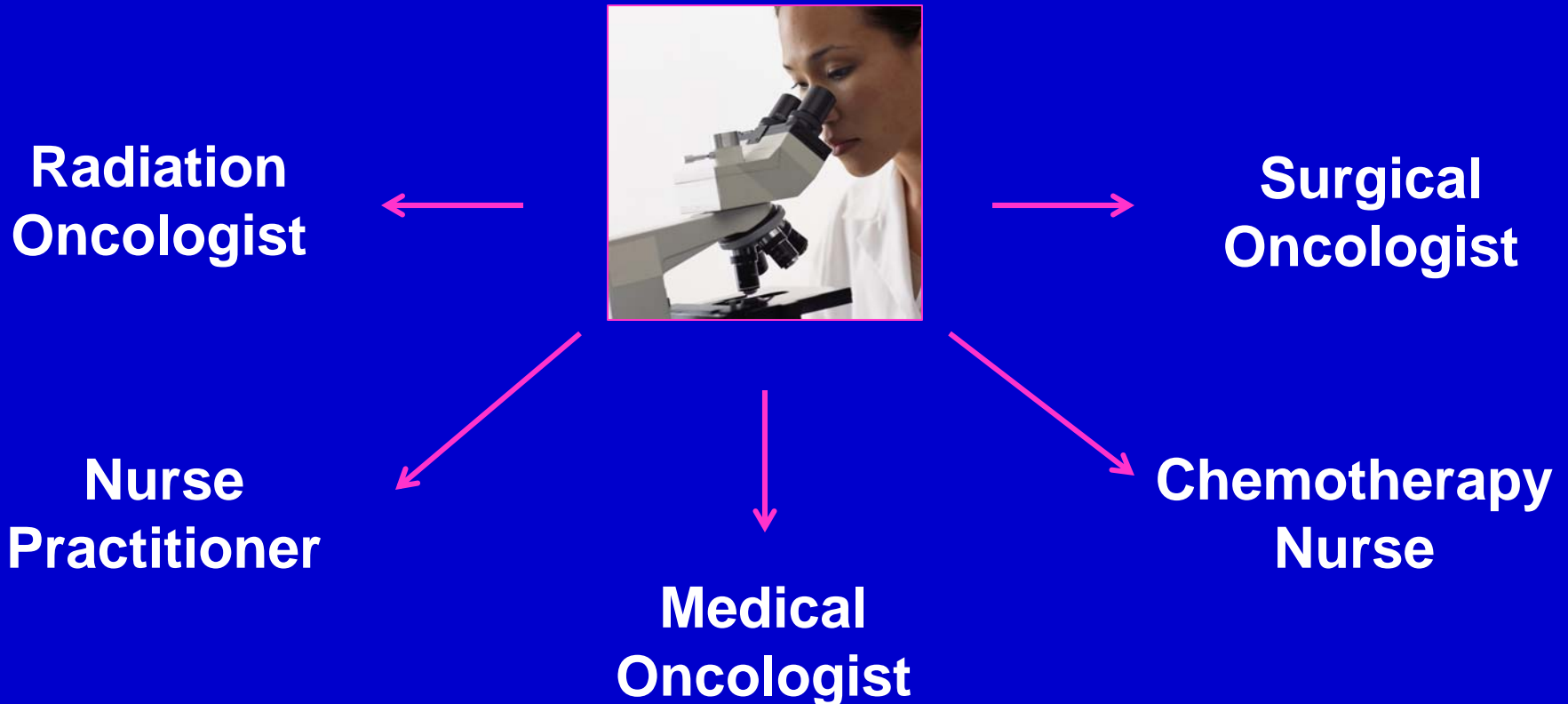
Understanding Your Pathology Report



Invasive Cancer

- **Identify Cancer**
- **Stage the Cancer**
- **Assess Margins**
- **Treatment Markers**

Role of the Pathology Report: Communication



Understanding Your Pathology Report: Breast Cancer Stage

- **Staging System = Classification System**
- **AJCC System = IUCC System**
- **Prognosis**
- **Guides Further Treatment**

Breast Cancer Stage

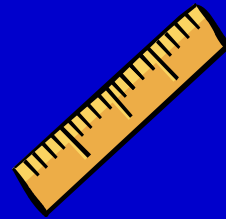
TNM = Shorthand Notation

- **Tumor Size (T): T1, T2, T3**
- **Lymph Nodes (N): N0, N1, N2, N3**
- **Metastasis (M): M0, M1, Mx**
- **Stages I, II, III, & IV**

Breast Cancer Stage

Stage I & II Breast Cancer

Tumor Size: x.x cm

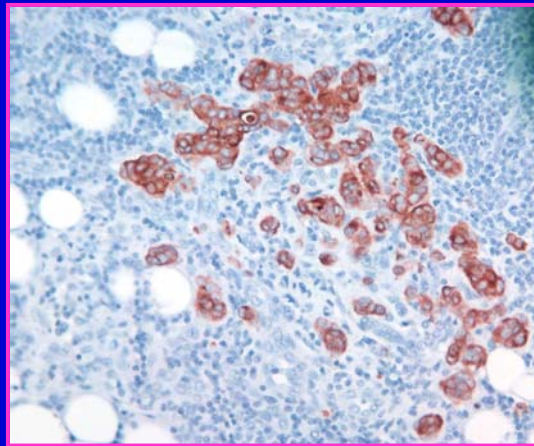


T1 \leq 2.0 cm

T2 2 – 5 cm

T3 $>$ 5 cm

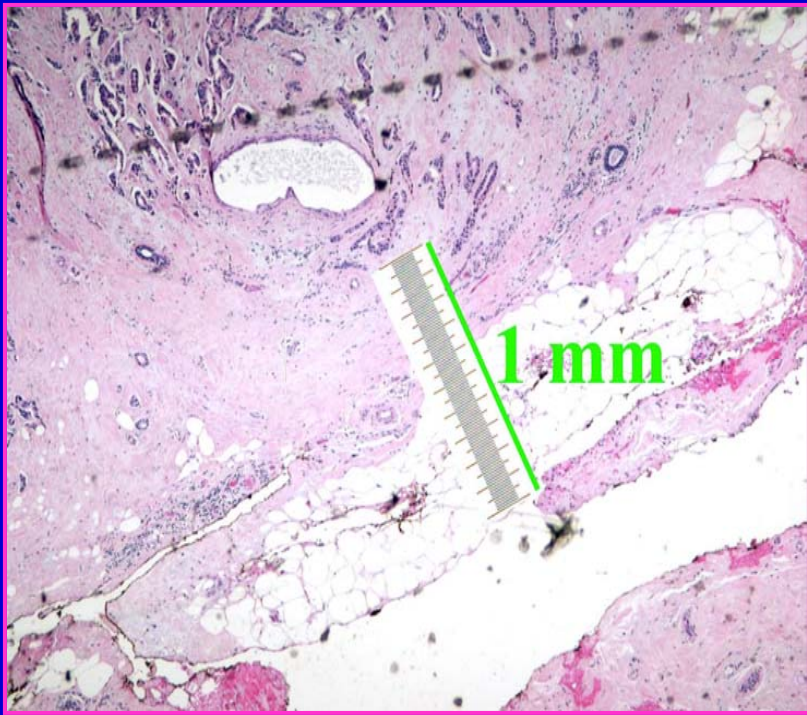
Lymph Nodes: # Positive/ # total



N0 = None

N1 = 1-3 Pos

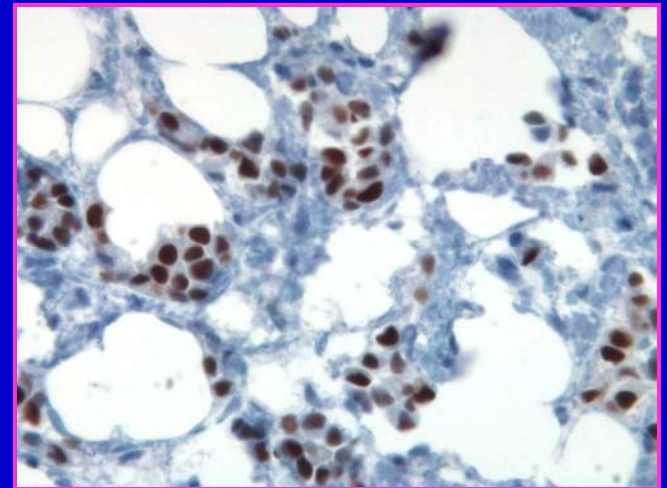
Your Pathology Report: Assess Margins



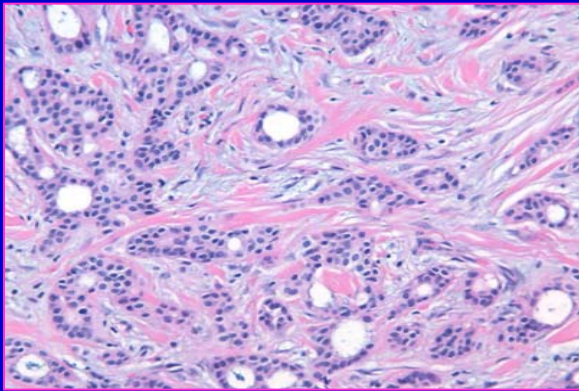
We Want
“Negative” Margins
(> 2 mm)

Your Pathology Report: Treatment Markers

- **Estrogen Receptors: % Cells**
- **Progesterone Receptors: % Cells**
- **HER-2/*neu*: Pos/Neg**



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