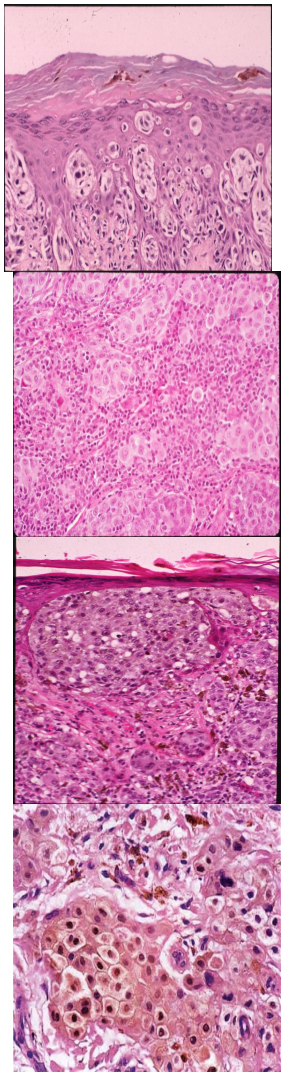

Malignant Melanoma

Most malignant melanomas arise in the epidermis and may be	*in situ* (entirely within the epidermis) or invasive (extending through			

All major types of melanoma originate almost invariably from melanocytes at the epidermal-dermal junct

more than half of them arise with *clinical* evidence of or have completely supplanted the precursor nevus at th

Classification	**of**	***Melanoma***

There are two major categories of melanoma, w... *in situ*) ...

About 5% to 10% of melanomas in different series fall into "unclassified" or "other" categories. ... *in situ* ...

Finally, the separate description of the morphologic variants has nosologic and pedagogic value, facilitat...

Morphology of Tumorigenic and Nontumorigenic Melanoma

In their nontumorigenic stage, melanomas tend to expand ...

recent guidelines have emphasized the value of the "ugly duckling" sign of the changing or different-look

Histologically, most of the lesional cells in nontumorigenic melanoma in situ have epidermotropism

Clinically, the tumorigenic vertical growth phase is qualitatively different from the plaquelike radial growth

quite uniform and may be pink rather than blue-black, and the diameter of the tumor nodule itself is often

The major histologic feature that distinguishes a tumorigenic melanoma is the capacity for proliferation o

Tumorigenic melanoma.	A mass of melanoma cells is present in the dermis, defined as at least one clust

Nontumorigenic melanoma.	No mass of melanoma cells is present in the dermis (there is no cluster larger th

Vertical growth phase .	A lesion is classified as vertical growth phase if it is tumorigenic or if there are a

Radial growth	phase	*(RGP).*	A lesion is classified as radial g

In rare instances, a mass is formed in the dermal component of a melanoma by the accretive piling up o

phase" . These lesions are nontumorigenic. However, if any mitoses are present in such a lesion, it woul

In a study conducted by the Pathology Panel of the Cancer Research Campaign in the United Kingdom,

Molecular Pathology	of	*Melanoma*	.	Knowle

The Nontumorigenic Co	***mpartment of***	***Primary Malignant Melanoma (Radial Growth Phase)***	

The following sections describe	the morphology *in situ*	of the nontumorigenic compartments of the different for	or invasive radial growth phase

Two major patterns of nontumorigenic	*lentiginous* melanoma can be distinguished	pattern predominates the pattern	*Pagetoid* and focally contiguous	The pr

Not all superficial melanocytic proliferations can be reliably and reproducibly distinguished *in situ.*" Because the differential diagnosis [illegible]

recur, and grow inexorably, although without metastatic potential should be diagnosed *in situ,* [illegible]

□

Superficial Spreading Melanoma

Superficial spreading melanoma, also referred to as pagetoid melanoma , is the most frequent form of m

Histopathology	.

Architectural pattern fea	tures of importance in the diagnosis include the large diameter of the lesions, po

Cytologically,	the lesional cells are rather uniform and have abundant cytoplasm containing va	

When the lesion is	*in situ,*	the basement membrane is intact and there are no lesi

Histogenesis	.	On electron microscopic examination, melano-somes ar

more likely than other melanomas to be associated with BRAF or NRAS mutations . These evolving gen

Differential Diagnosis	.	A junctional nevus differs from	*in situ*	superficial spreading melano

When tumorigenic vertical growth phase is present, it does not differ appreciably from that in any other f

Among the nonmelanocytic	*in situ*	neoplasms that must be	differentiated from	superficial spreading melano

antigen and keratin and are negative for HMB-45 and Melan-A. S100 reactivity, although unusual, may c

A final pitfall in evaluating nonmelanocytic mimics of intraepidermal melanoma involves the variable tend