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Fibrolamellar-type hepatocellular carcinoma: A histologically unique tumor with a distinctive molecular alteration

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Fibrolamellar hepatocellular carcinoma is generally a fairly rare event in routine pathology practice. It is a unique type of hepatocellular carcinoma with a distinctive predilection for young patients without underlying liver disease unlike most hepatocellular carcinomas which arise in the background of liver injury such as hepatitis or cirrhosis. It has a characteristic cell type composed of large polygonal hepatocytes with eosinophilic and granular cytoplasm surrounded by abundant, thick fibrous tissue arranged in lamellar bands of collagen fibers, co-expression of cytokeratin 7 and CD68 and activation of protein kinase A (most often by formation of DNAJB1-PRKACA). In this talk, the distinctive clinic-pathologic features of Fibrolamellar hepatocellular carcinoma and the diagnostic pathologic criteria will be

reviewed in detail. Further, updated molecular genetics and associated signaling transduction pathway involved with this specific tumor will be particularly highlighted as a primer for anatomic pathologists.

Speaker Biography

Yue Xue has completed her MD/PhD training, followed by Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. She later did two fellowships, one in Oncologic Surgical Pathology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and the other on Gastrointestinal/Liver Pathology at Emory University. She is an Assistant Professor at Emory University, where the liver transplant program was ranked second nationally in 2017. As a Junior Faculty, she has published almost 20 original observations and written three book chapters, and been actively involving in pancreatobiliary/liver research.

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