

*Szervusz [hí]everybody!*



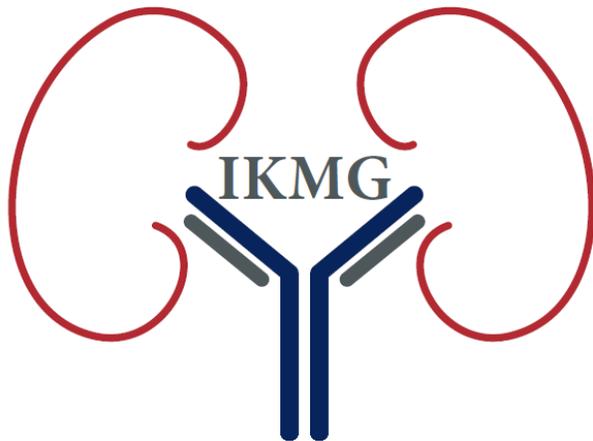
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*Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives*

# Renal Injury due to Monoclonal Gammopathy

## Maria M. Picken MD, PhD

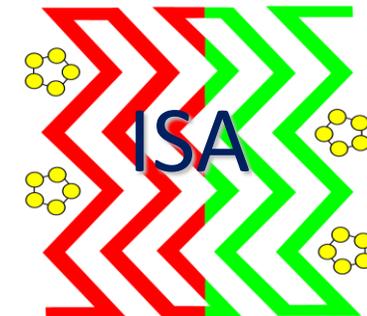
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International Kidney Monoclonal Gammopathy



Renal Pathology Society



International Society of Amyloidosis



# ASN 2016 Chicago



# Objectives

**On completion of this activity, the participant should be able to:**

1. contrast and compare the clinical features & kidney biopsy findings of **amyloidosis and light chain deposition disease**
2. contrast and compare the clinical features & kidney biopsy findings with different **fibrillary deposits**
3. contrast and compare the clinical features & kidney biopsy findings with **monoclonal versus polyclonal** non-organized deposits
4. contrast and compare the clinical features and kidney biopsy findings **direct versus indirect** injury by monoclonal proteins
5. contrast and compare the clinical features and kidney biopsy findings in **distal versus proximal** nephron injury
6. explain the rationale for **pathogenetic classification** of kidney diseases

## Disclosure:

- nothing to disclose

## Outline:

1. Definitions, laboratory tests
2. Glomerular/vascular injury
3. Direct versus indirect injury
4. Tubulo-interstitial injury
5. Summary

# Monoclonal gammopathies:

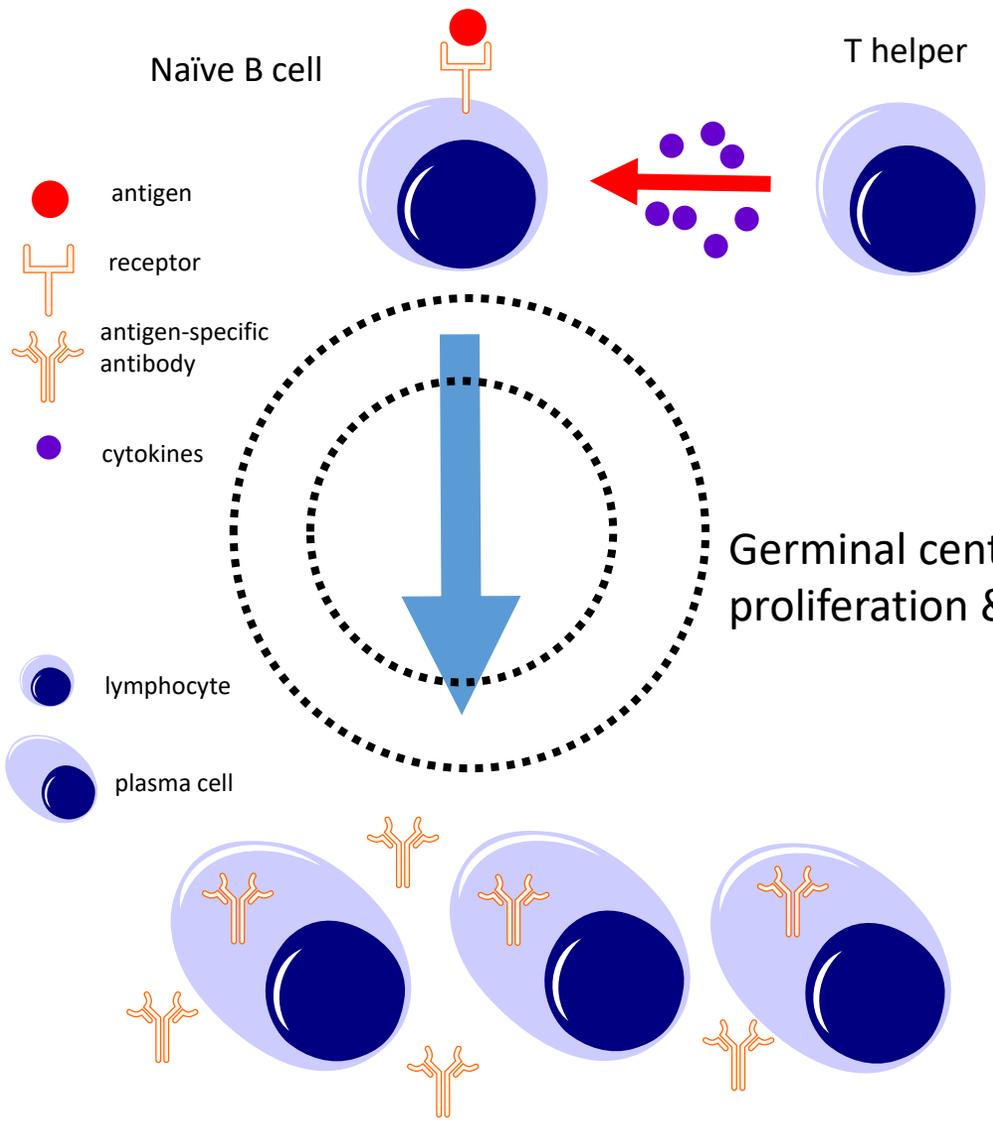
- wide **spectrum** of related diseases
- **immunoglobulins** aka paraproteins, aka “M-component”
- **clonal** plasma cells or B lymphocytes

1. Picken MM. Monoclonal Gammopathies: Glomerular and Tubular Injuries. In: Pathobiology of Human Disease. A dynamic encyclopedia of disease mechanisms. Ed: LM McManus, RN Mitchell, Elsevier 2014, pages 2831-2852 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-386456-7.05411-3>

2. Picken, M.M., Herrera, G.A., Dogan A. (Eds.), Amyloid and Related Disorders in Surgical Pathology and Clinical Correlations. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 2015. Springer, New York

3. Herrera, G. A. and M. M. Picken. Renal diseases associated with plasma cell dyscrasias, Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia and cryoglobulinemic nephropathies. In: Jennette JC, Olson JL, Schwartz MM, Silva FG, eds. Heptinstall's Pathology of the Kidney. 7th ed. Philadelphia, Pa: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2014; pp 951-1014.

4. Bridoux F, Leung N, Hutchison CA, Touchard G, Sethi S, Ferman J, Picken M, Herrera G, Kastiris E, Merlini G, Roussel M, Kyle RA, Nasr SH, on behalf of the International Kidney and Monoclonal Gammopathy Research Group. Diagnosis of monoclonal gammopathy of renal significance. Kid Int, 2015 Apr;87(4):698-711



Immunoglobulins:

- produced in response to antigens
- each B cell produces a single species of antibody with unique antigen binding site

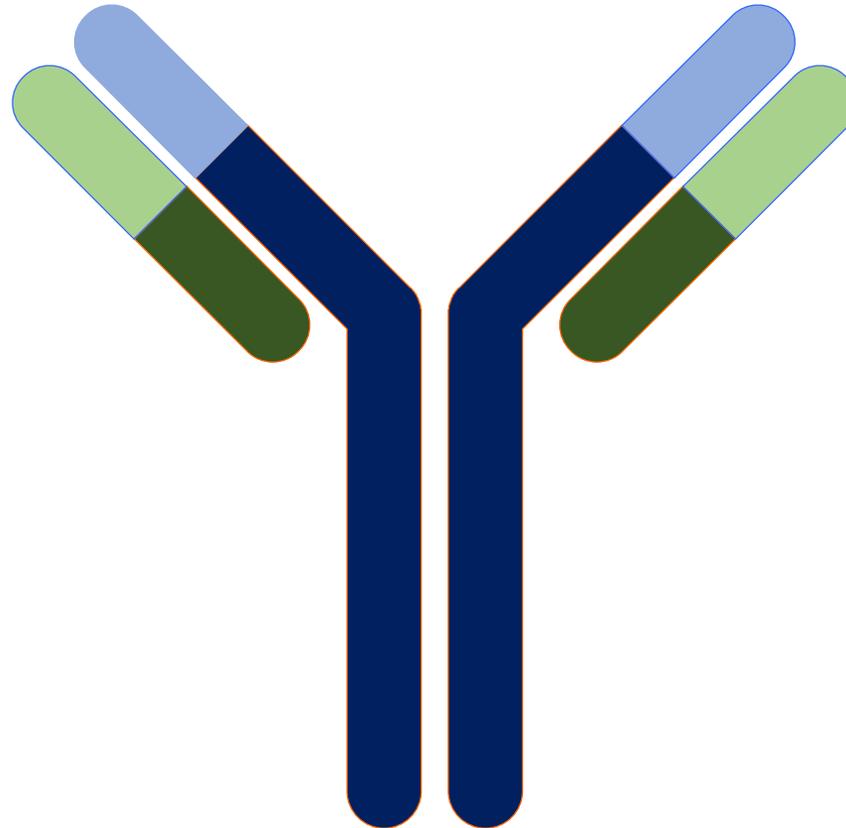
Naïve or memory cell:

- activation by exposure to antigen matching its surface receptor
- proliferation (T helper cell)
- differentiation into an antibody-secreting effector cell

- effector B cells begins secreting antibodies
- differentiate into plasma cells

Paraprotein  
aka monoclonal M-protein:

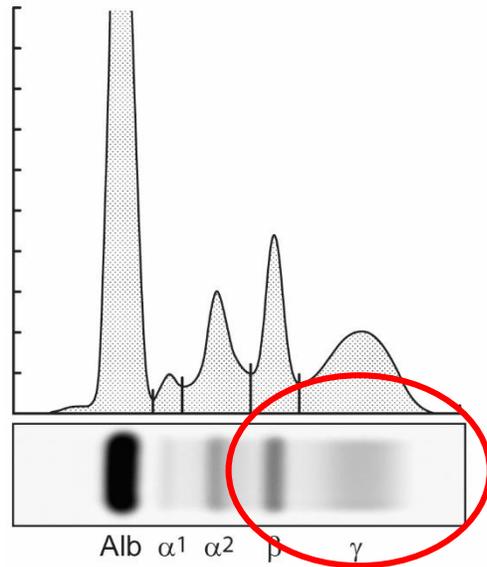
- intact immunoglobulin
- light chain only
- heavy chain only



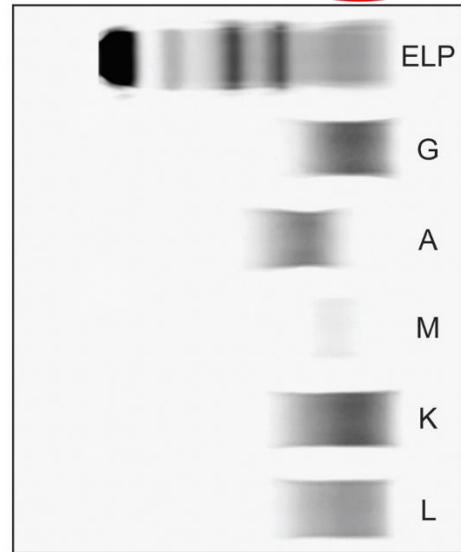
IgG  $\gamma$ , monomer  
IgM  $\mu$ , pentamer  
IgA  $\alpha$ , dimer(secretion), monomer (serum)  
IgE  $\epsilon$   
IgD  $\delta$   
 $\lambda$   
K  
 $\kappa/\lambda = 2:1$

Diagrammatic representation of the IgG molecule. Dark blue = heavy chain constant region (CH1, CH2, CH3); dark green = light chain constant region; light blue = heavy chain variable region; light green = light chain variable region

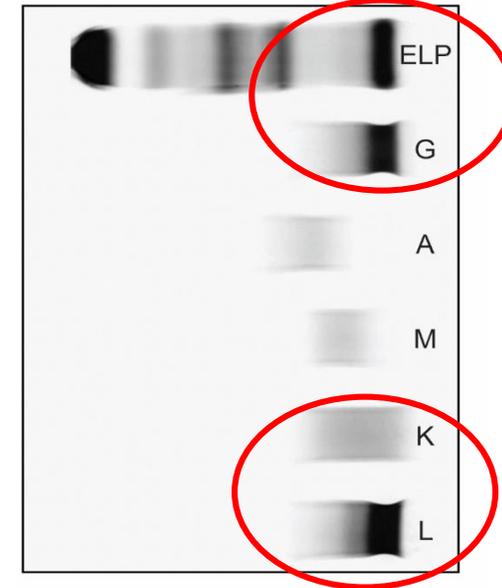
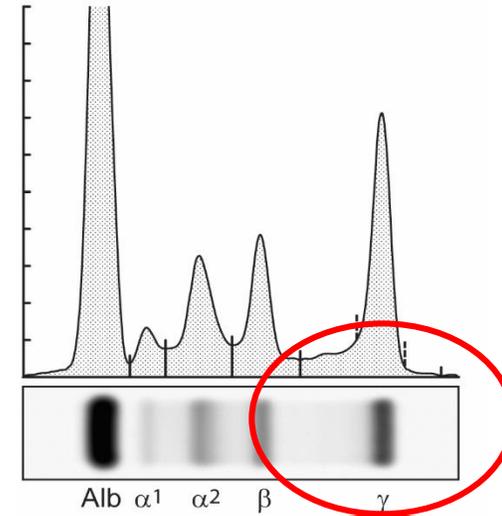
Protein electrophoresis



Protein Immunofixation electrophoresis

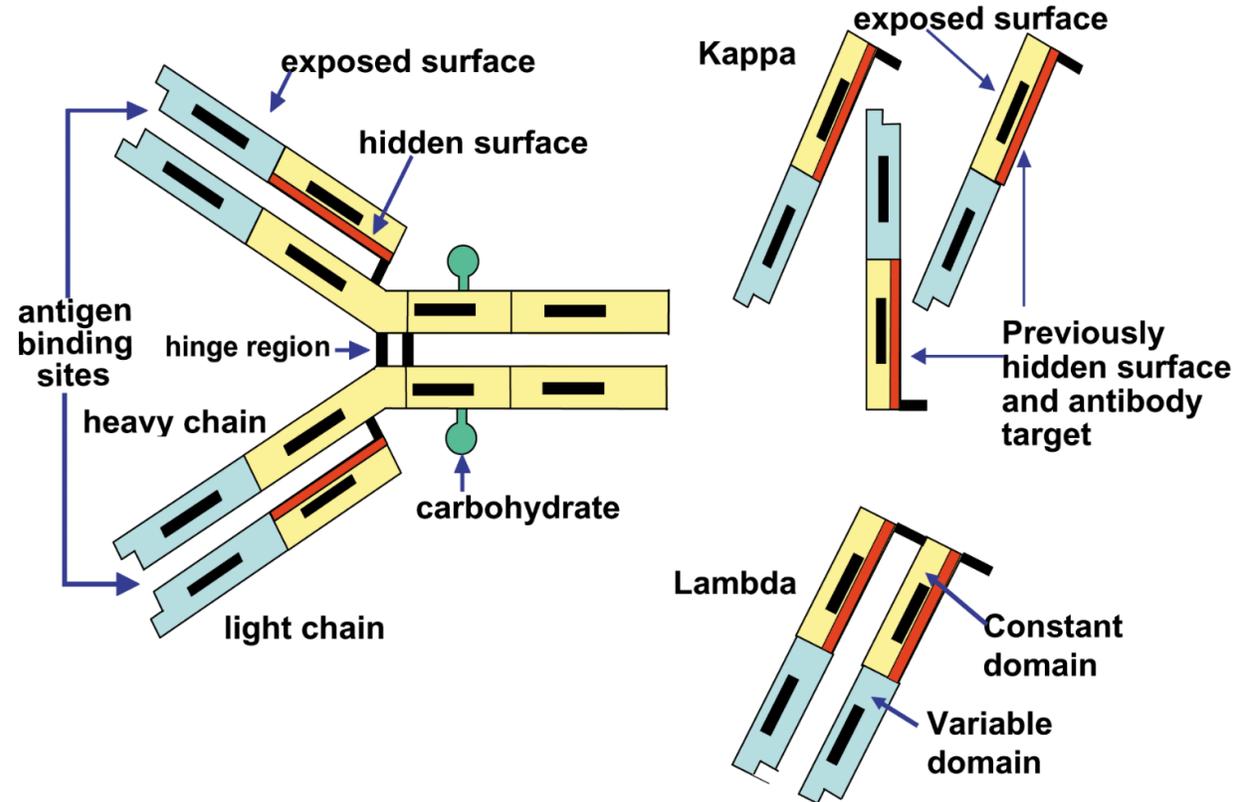


NORMAL SERUM: gamma fraction exhibit a smooth Gaussian distribution indicating a polyclonal distribution



MONOCLONAL IgG $\lambda$ : gamma fraction exhibit a discrete band indicating a monoclonal protein

# Serum free light chain assay (FLC)



IgG intact molecule (left) and free light chains (right). The hidden surfaces of the light chains (red) are tightly bound to the heavy chains by noncovalent interactions. In free light chain which are no longer bound to heavy chain, these surfaces provide the specific targets for the FLC antisera  
*Bradwell, A.R. Serum Free Light Chain Analysis, 5th ed. [7]*

Hevylite<sup>®</sup> assay (HLC) targets junctional epitopes between the  $\kappa$  or  $\lambda$  LCs and heavy chains to provide quantification of intact HLC pairs. This test separately measures serum IgG $\kappa$ , IgG $\lambda$ , IgA $\kappa$ , IgA $\lambda$ , IgM $\kappa$ , and IgM $\lambda$  concentrations. Calculation of the ratio between individual HLC isotype pairs, e.g. IgG $\kappa$ /IgG $\lambda$  (HLCr), allows identification of clonal disease in the same manner as FLCr

# Sensitivity of the current diagnostic tests

## improved but NOT 100%!!!

Test	Sensitivity
FLC $\kappa/\lambda$ ratio	91%
Serum IFE	69%
Urine IFE	83%
FLC $\kappa/\lambda$ ratio and urine IFE	91%
<b>FLC <math>\kappa/\lambda</math> ratio and serum IFE</b>	<b>99%</b>
Serum IFE and Urine IFE	95%
All 3 tests	99%

SFLchains:

- much shorter half-life in the circulation than intact immunoglobulins
- monitoring of responses to chemotherapy
- in renal insufficiency ratio of  $\kappa/\lambda$  useful

Sensitivity of different diagnostic tests and their combinations in 110 patients with AL amyloidosis at the time of disease diagnosis. *Bradwell, A.R. Serum Free Light Chain Analysis, fifth ed. [7].*

## Simplified classification of the Plasma Cell Dyscrasias

	Multiple Myeloma	Smoldering Myeloma	MGUS
Bone marrow monoclonal plasma cells	≥10%	≥10%	<10%
Monoclonal protein serum and/or urine	≥30g/L	≥30g/L	<3.0g/L
hyper <b>c</b> alcemia	+	-	-
<b>r</b> enal insufficiency	+	-	-
<b>a</b> nemia	+	-	-
<b>b</b> one lesions	+	-	-

## Simplified classification of the Plasma Cell Dyscrasias

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<del>r</del> enal insufficiency	+	-	-	<b>+</b>
<del>a</del> nemia	+	-	-	-
<del>b</del> one lesions	+	-	-	-

# Distribution of plasma cell disorders in clinical practice

<b>MGUS</b>	<b>61%</b>
<b>Multiple myeloma</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>AL amyloidosis</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Smoldering myeloma</b>	<b>4%</b>
Lymphoproliferative disease	3%
Solitary or extramedullary plasmacytoma	2%
Macroglobulinemia	2%
Other	2%

From the Mayo Clinic Dysproteinemia data base,  
1960-2003; n=31,479 [adapted from 6]

## MGUS:

- progression to malignancy/overt lymphoproliferative disorder
- progression to MGRS
- no progression

## MGUS: IgM versus non-IgM

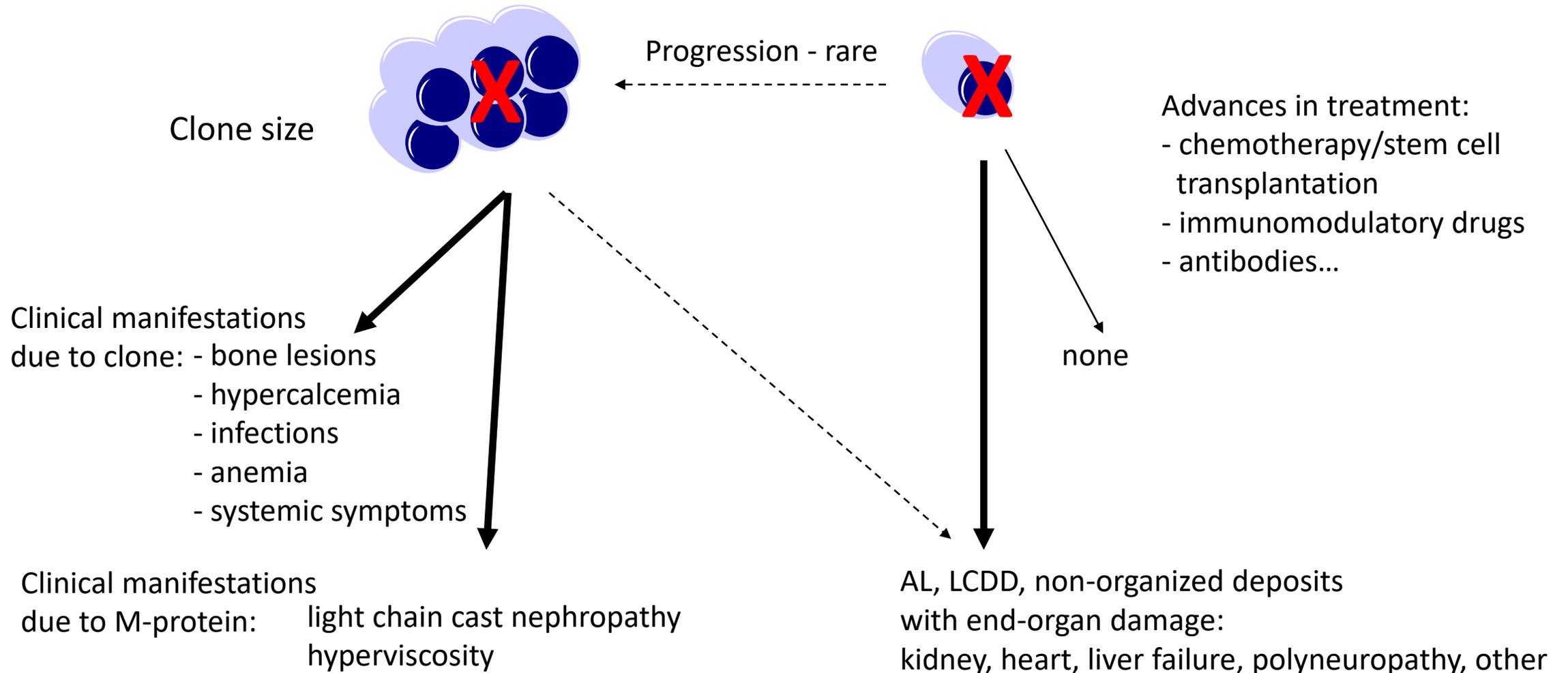
- IgM → Waldenström macroglobulinemia
- non-IgM → multiple myeloma
- light chain → multiple myeloma

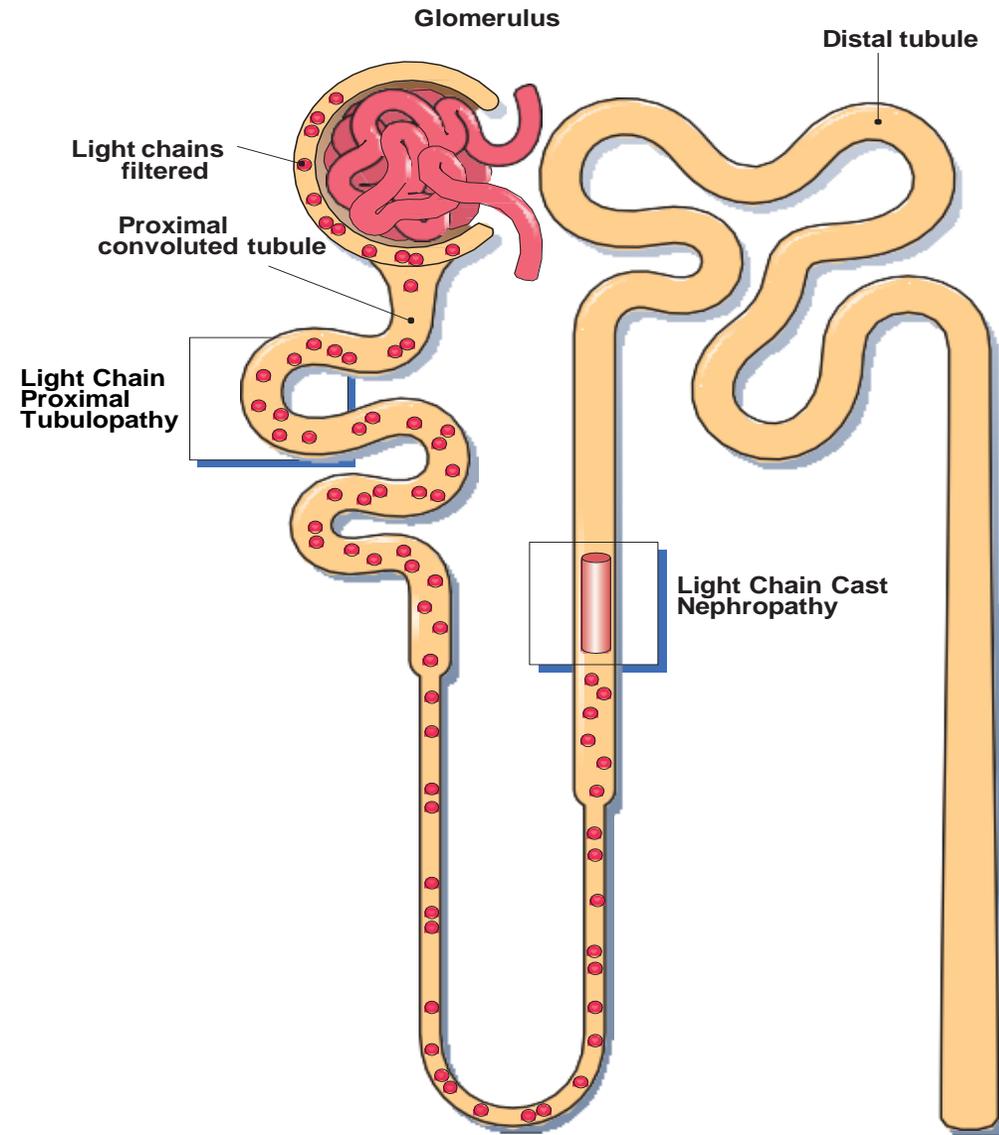
## MGRS:

- renal insufficiency/proteinuria
- monoclonal deposits in the kidney or indirect kidney injury

# B-cell neoplasia

# M-component related diseases





# Systematic approach to kidney evaluation:

- location of paraproteins:
  1. glomerular/intravascular
  2. tubulo-interstitial
  3. other – indirect injury
- correlation with immunofluorescence[IF]/immunohistochemistry[IHC]: clonality
- correlation with electron microscopy [EM]: organized versus non-organized deposits
- defining features by IF, by EM or both
- clinical correlation

Pathomechanism: direct versus indirect paraprotein induced injury

# Amyloidosis

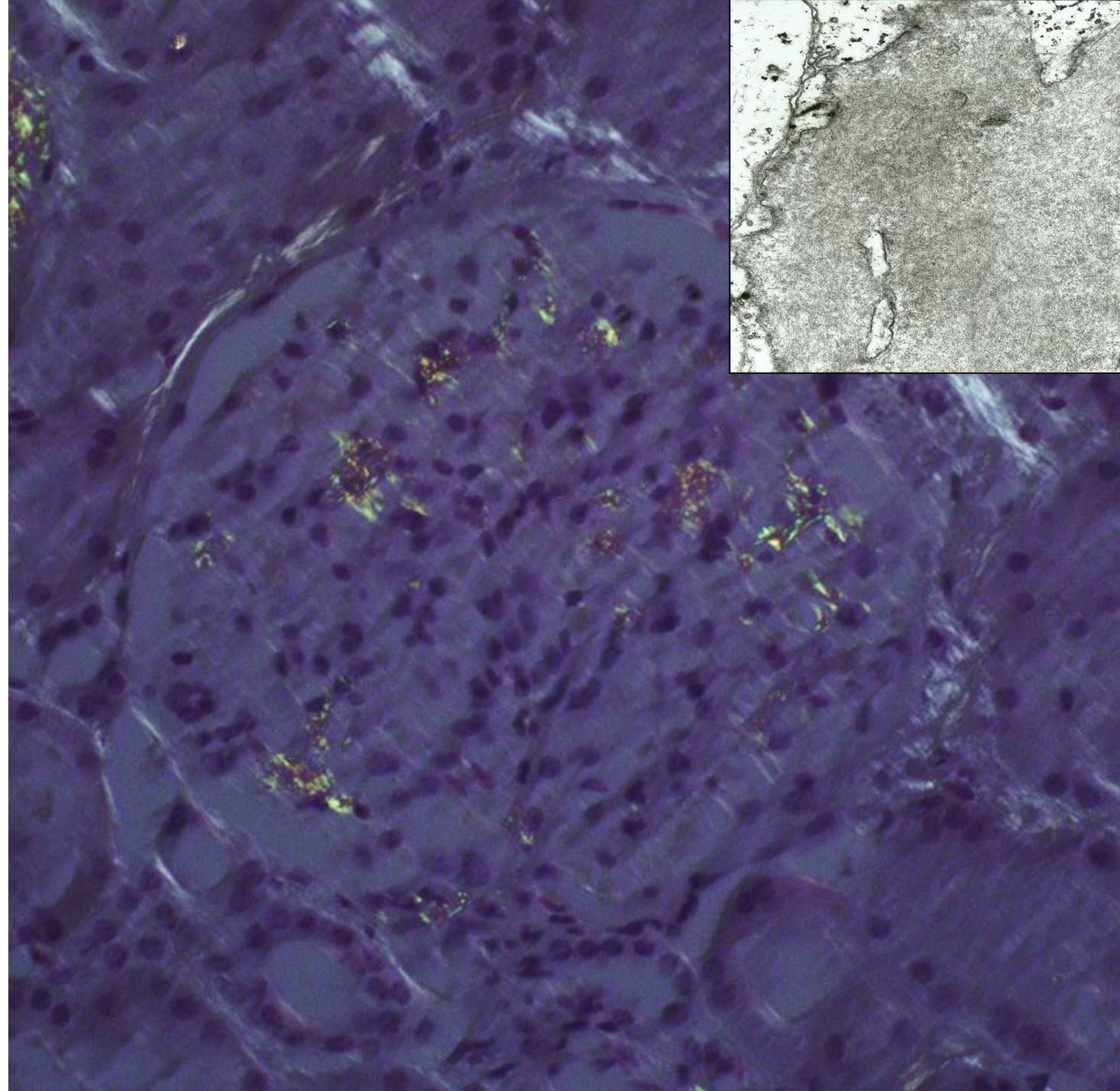
defining feature =  
Congo red stain birefringence under  
polarized light

Immuno (IF/IHC) stains are variable  
depending on amyloid type

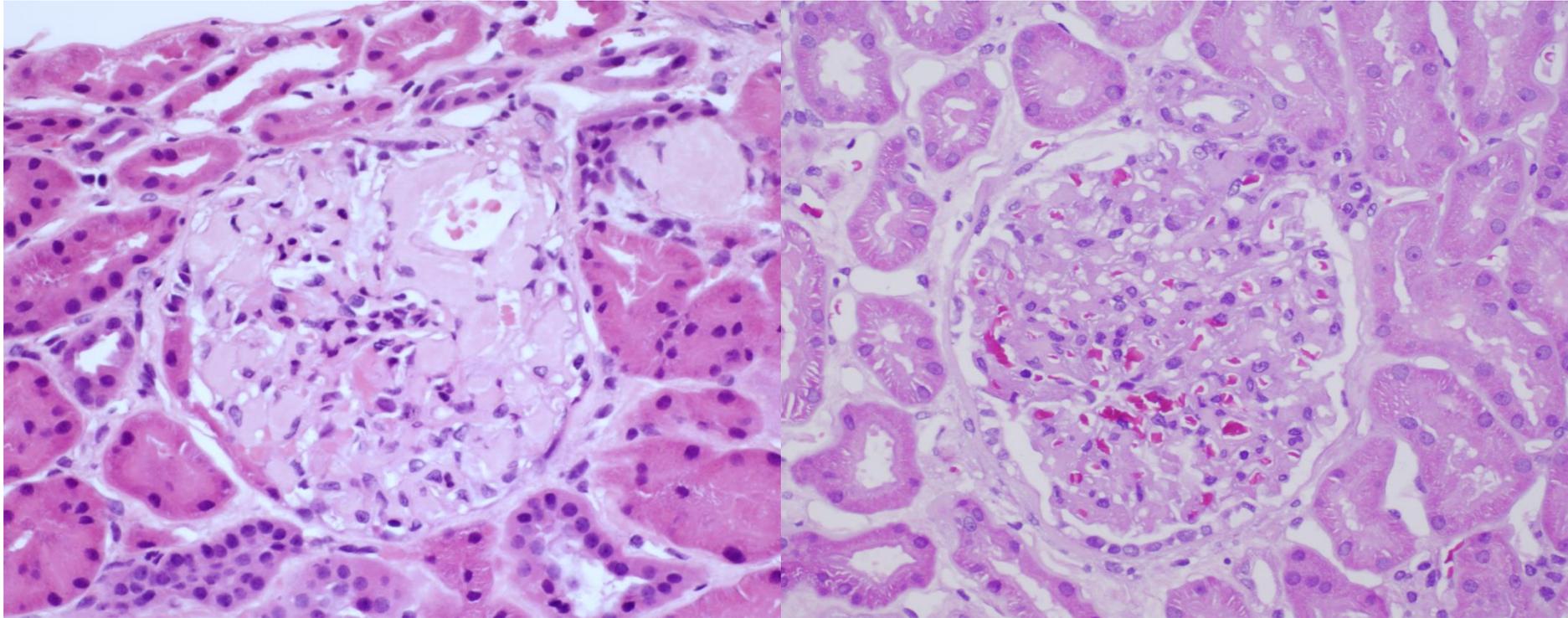
Light microscopy variable depending  
on disease stage

Electron microscopy [insert] = supportive  
by showing characteristic fibrils but not  
required if Congo red stain is diagnostic

*Picken MM, 2015 [9]*



Light microscopy [LM]= neither sensitive nor specific



Clinical: proteinuria/nephrotic syndrome

LM - mesangial expansion:

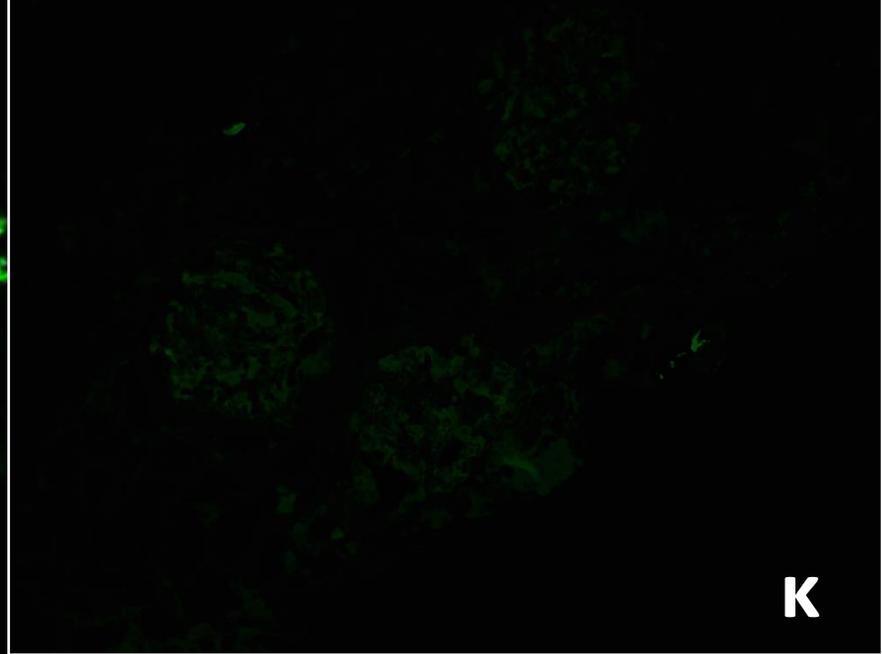
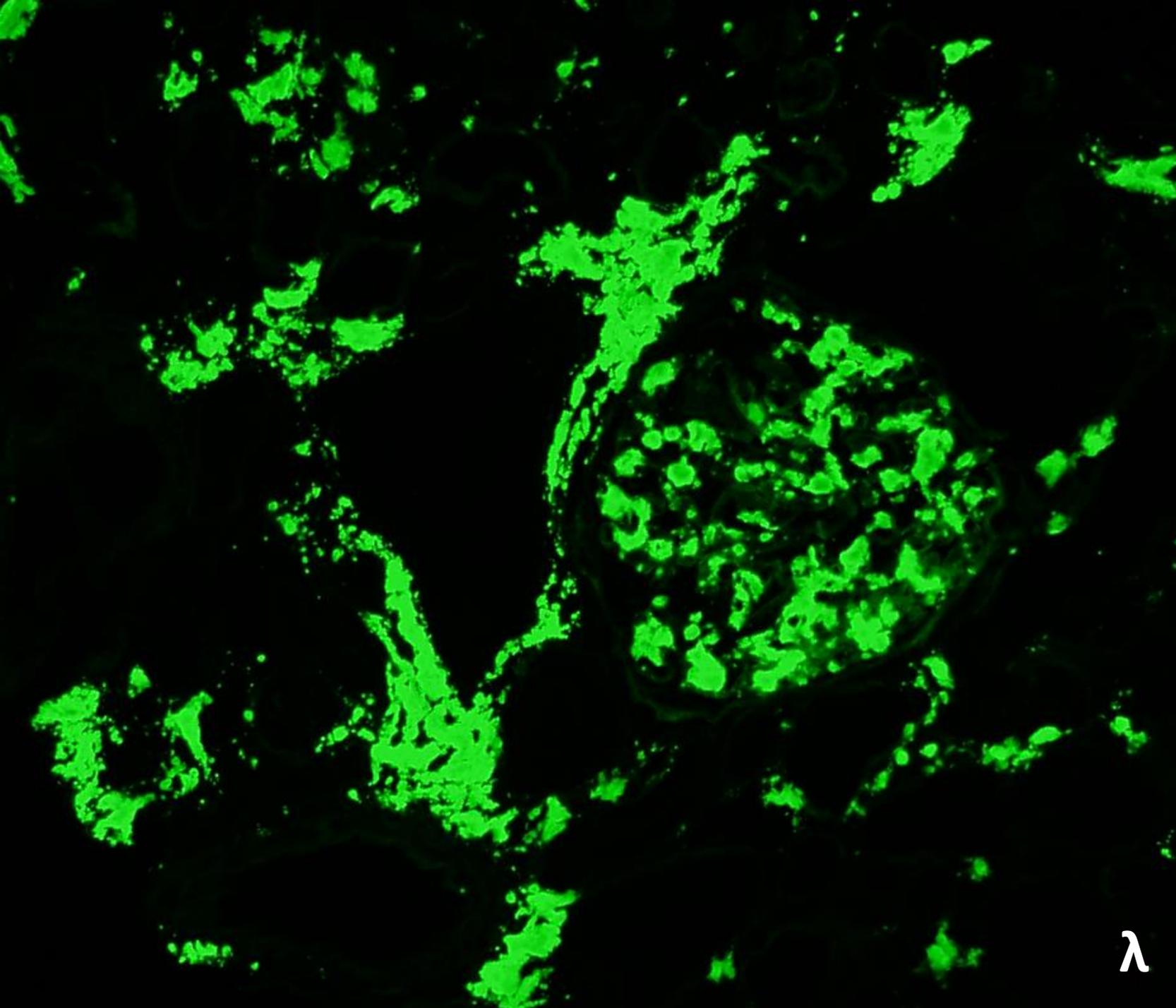
- diabetes
- amyloidosis, LCDD

Picken MM 2014 [1]

Proteinuria/nephrotic syndrome

LM - normal/almost normal glomeruli: **THINK EARLY STAGE!!!**

- minimal change disease/Focal & segmental glomerular sclerosis
- membranous nephropathy
- diabetes
- early lupus
- amyloidosis, LCDD...



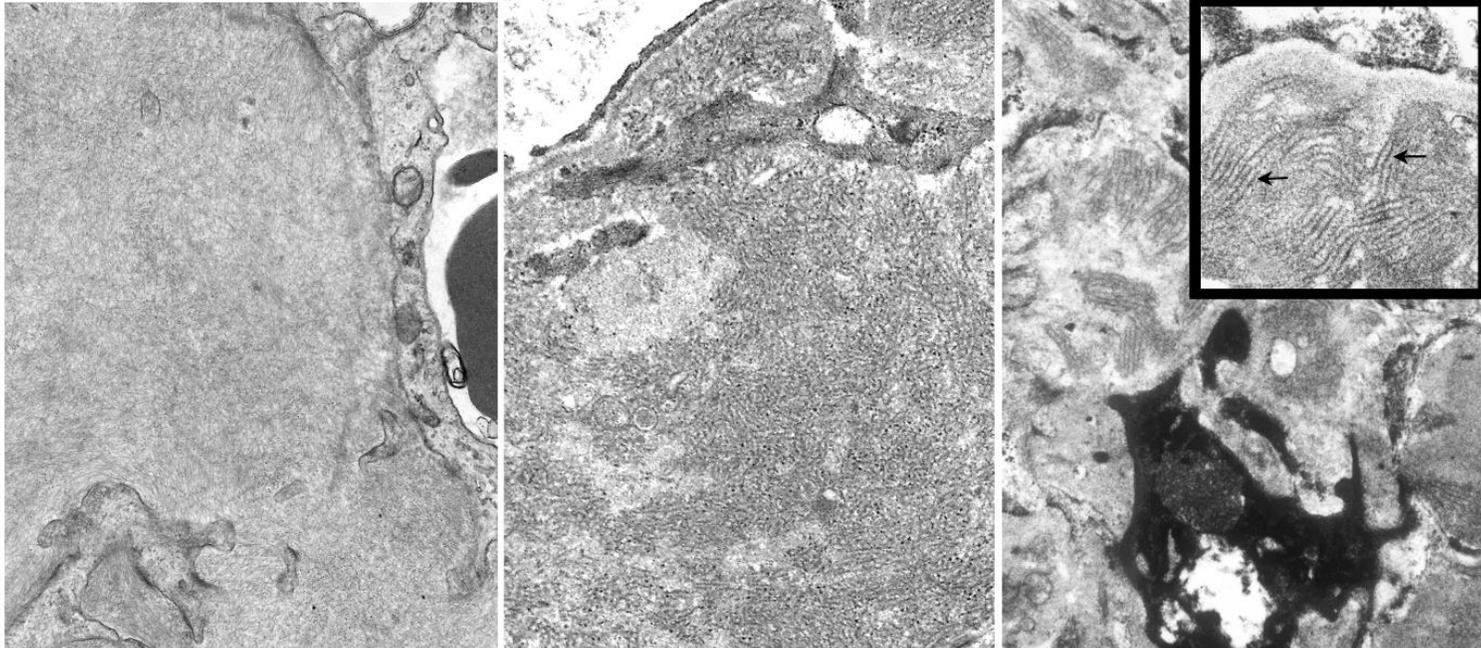
- AL = amyloidosis derived from immunoglobulin light chain:
- the most common type of systemic amyloidosis
  - amyloid type diagnosed by demonstration of light chain restriction by immune stains

AH = amyloidosis derived from Immunoglobulin heavy chain (rare)

Kidney 70%: nephrotic syndrome, renal failure; heart 70%

*Picken MM 2014 [1]*

# Electron microscopy – differential diagnosis of fibrillary deposits:



Amyloid:  
fibrils ~ 8-10 nm  
in thickness  
haphazardly arranged,  
straight fibrils,

Fibrillary GN:  
fibrils ~ 20-30 nm  
in thickness  
haphazardly arranged,  
straight fibrils,

Immunotactoid GN:  
microtubules >30 nm  
in diameter,  
focal parallel alignment

Fibrillary GN: rare (0.5-1%)  
Proteinuria, hematuria, renal insufficiency, HTN  
mesangium, glomerular basement membranes,  
or both

IF: polyclonal IgG and complement  
Common: underlying malignancy,  
some - dysproteinemia, or  
autoimmune diseases

Prognosis poor, rare remission without  
immunosuppressive therapy *Nasr et al [11]*

Immunotactoid GN:  
10-fold rarer than fibrillary GN  
deposits *usually* monoclonal  
overlap with cryoglobulinemic GN?

IGN and cryoglobulinemic nephropathy  
= part of the spectrum of renal manifestations  
in patients with circulating cryoglobulins?

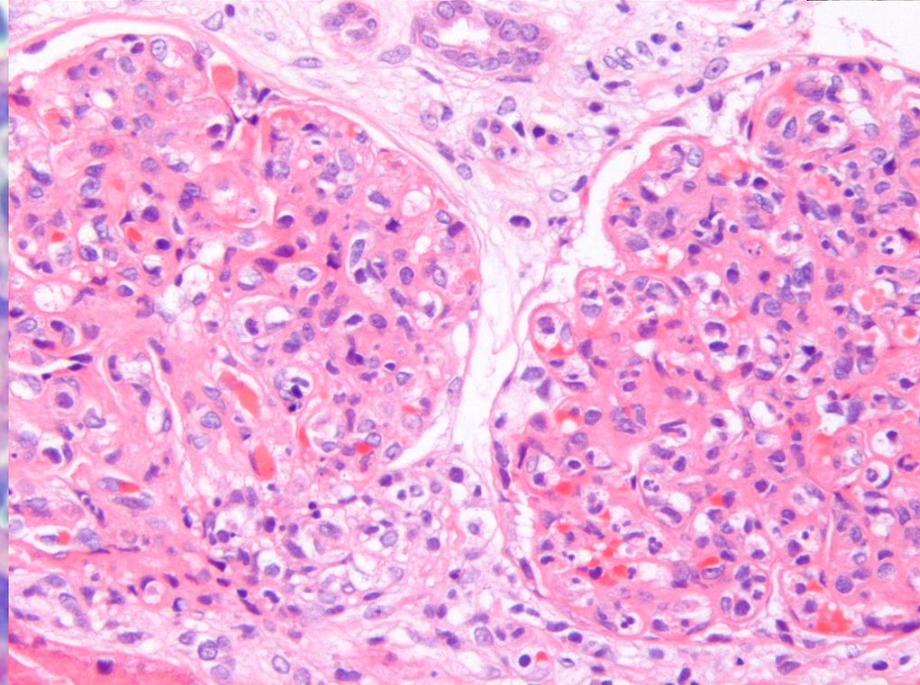
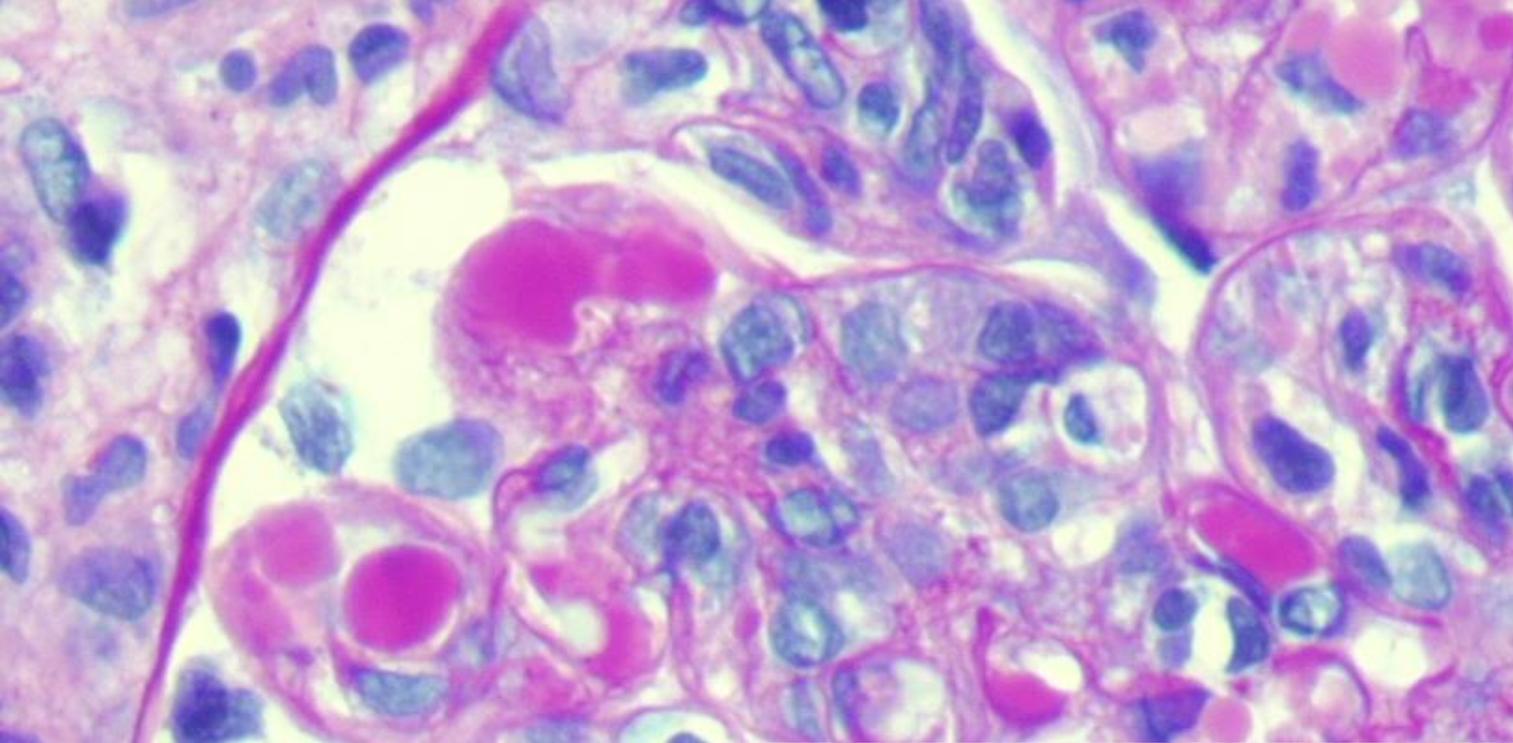
# Cryoglobulins:

– proteins that become insoluble at reduced temperatures

Type I = 10-15%, multiple myeloma, Waldenström macroglobulinemia  
- monoclonal paraprotein

Types II = 50-60%  
- immune complexes: monoclonal IgM-polyclonal IgG or IgA (RF function)

Type III = 25-30%, SLE, rheumatoid arthritis  
- polyclonal IgM and IgG



**IF: IgG-κ**

**EM: organized deposits**

(may be focal)

*courtesy of Michael Mihatsch*

**LM: membranoproliferative  
pattern of injury**

# Organized deposits: amyloidosis, fibrillary, immunotactoid and cryoglobulinemic

deposits	location	Congo red	paraprotein	diagnosis
fibrils 8-10 nm in thickness	extracellular	(+)	AL/AH-100% non-AL/AH: 0%	amyloidosis
fibrils 20-30 nm in thickness	extracellular	(-)	some	fibrillary glomerulonephritis
microtubules >30 nm in diameter	extracellular	(-)	usually	immunotactoid glomerulonephritis
microtubules, curvilinear, annular-tubular structures, and fingerprints, focal	Extracellular subendothelial & intraluminal	(-)	100% 0%	Cryoglobulin type I, II Type III

# Waldenström's macroglobulinemia aka lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma

clinicopathologic entity:

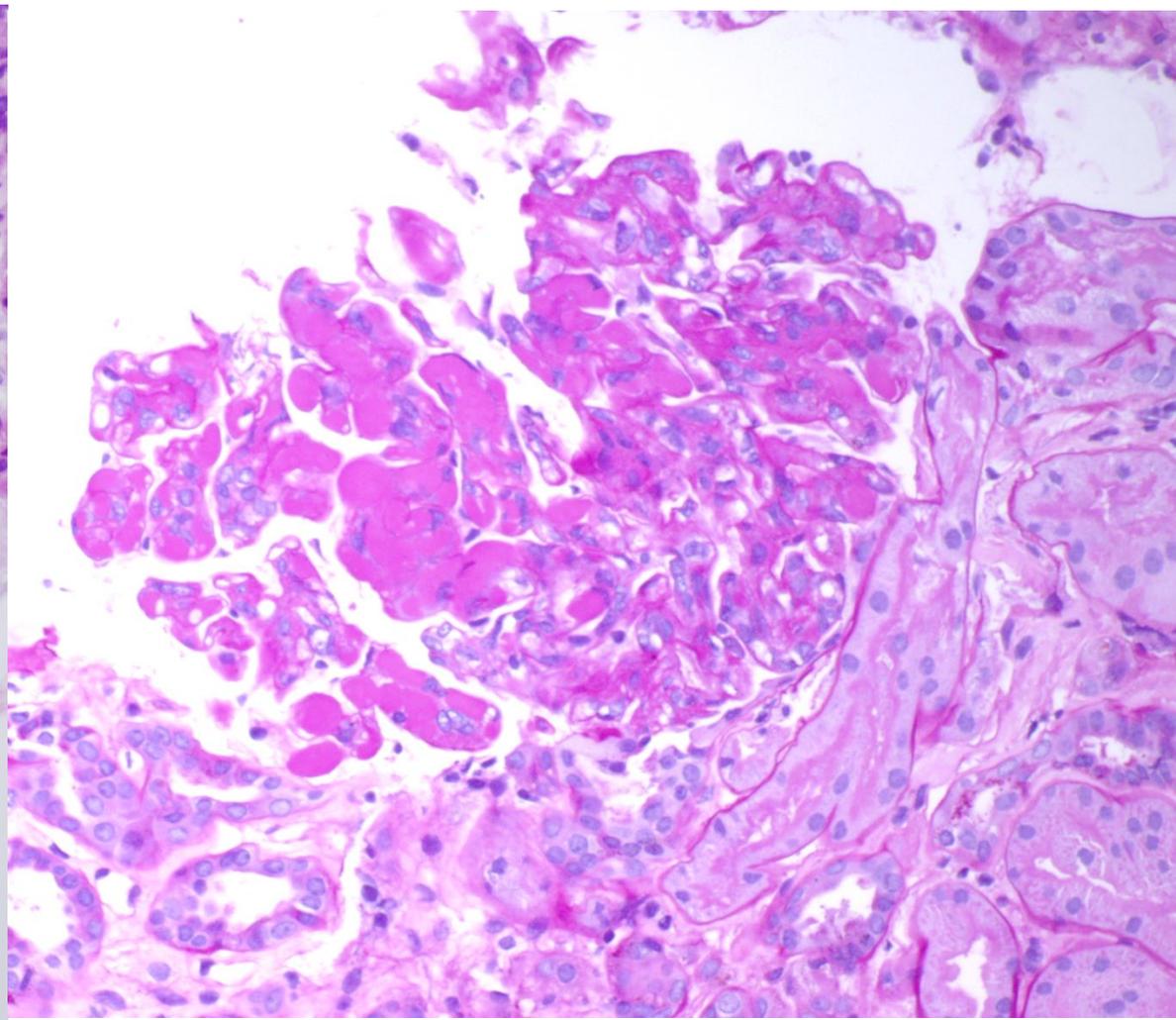
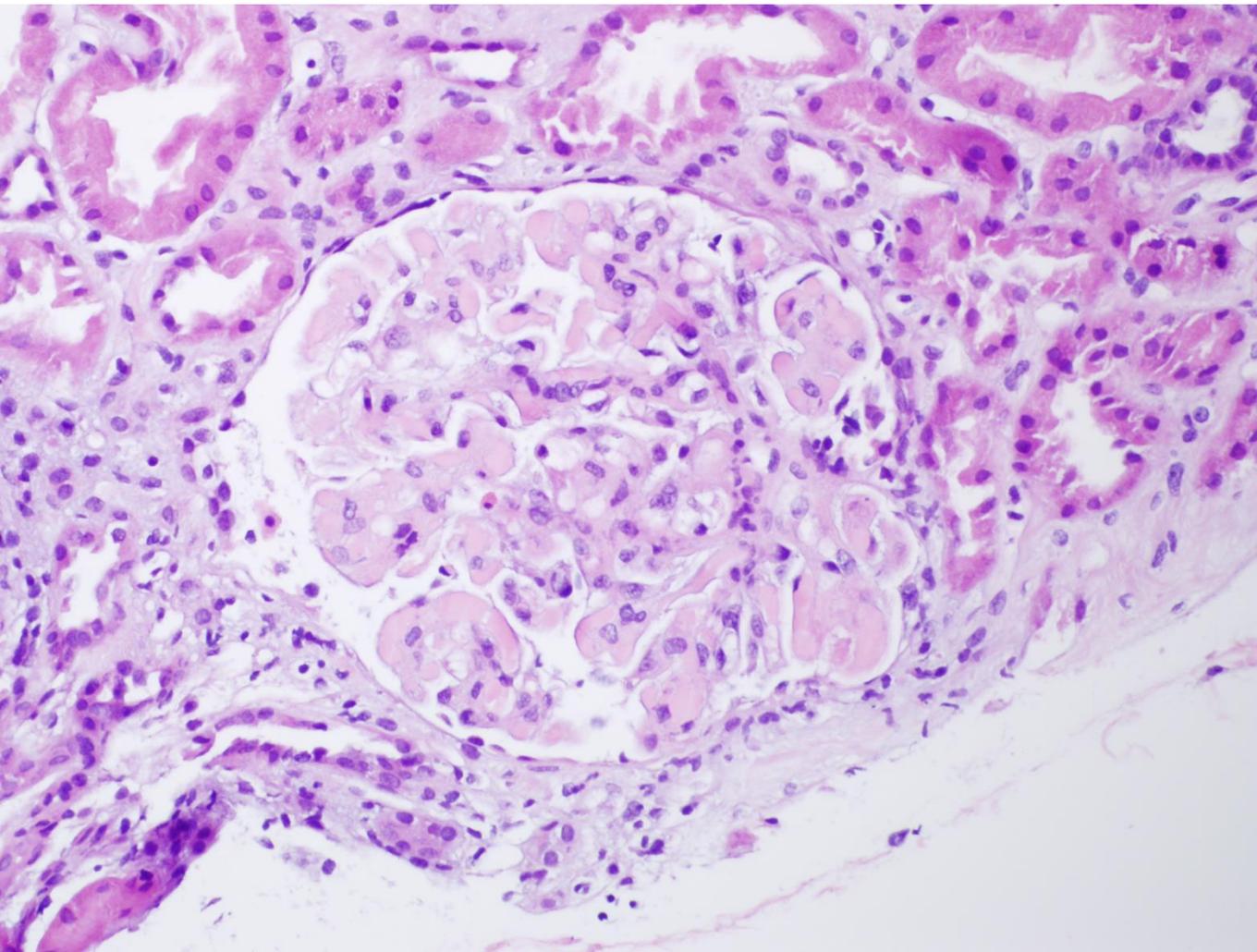
- bone marrow lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma + **IgM** monoclonal gammopathy
- anemia, hyperviscosity, lymphadenopathy, hepatomegaly or splenomegaly

Other pathologies:

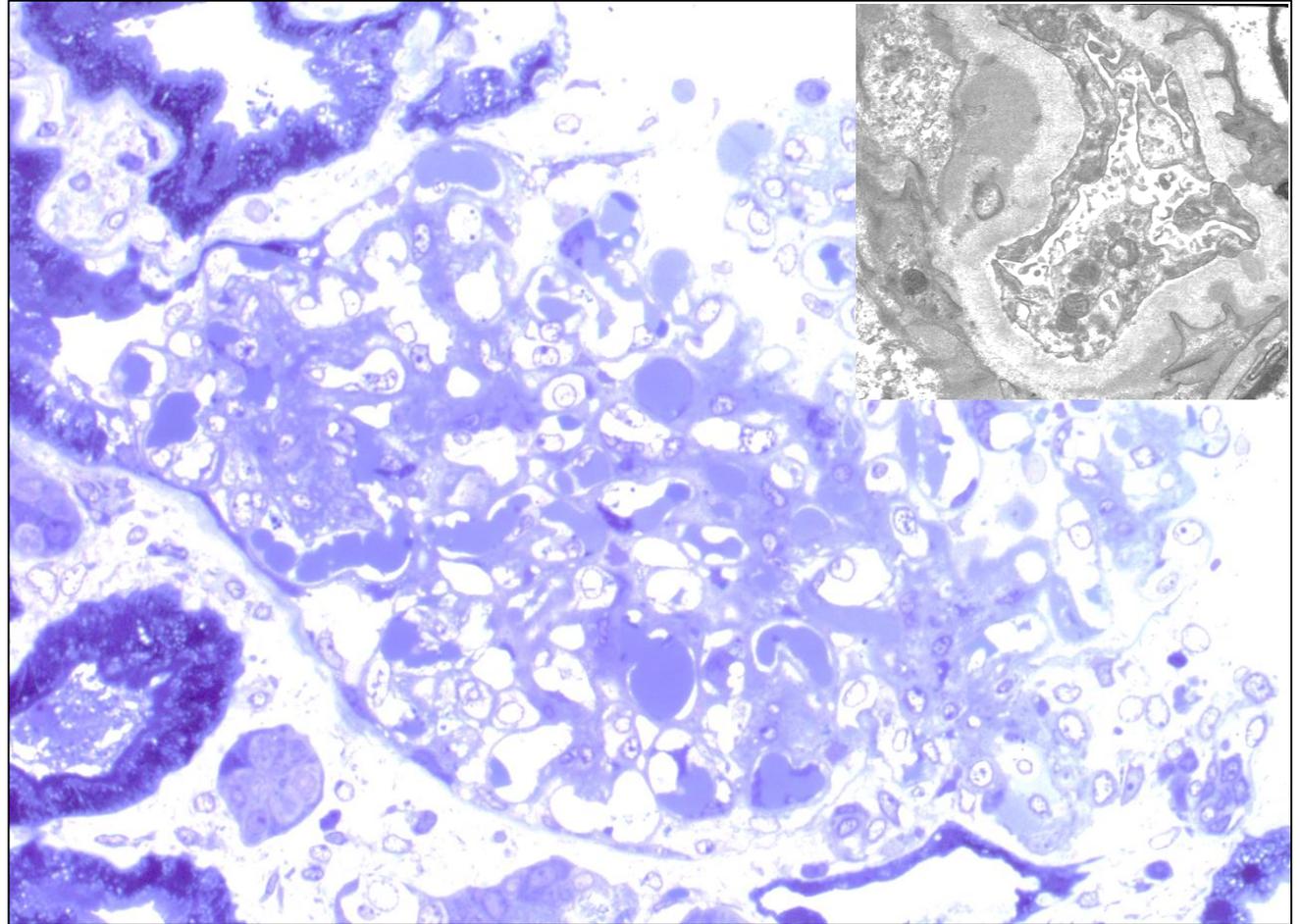
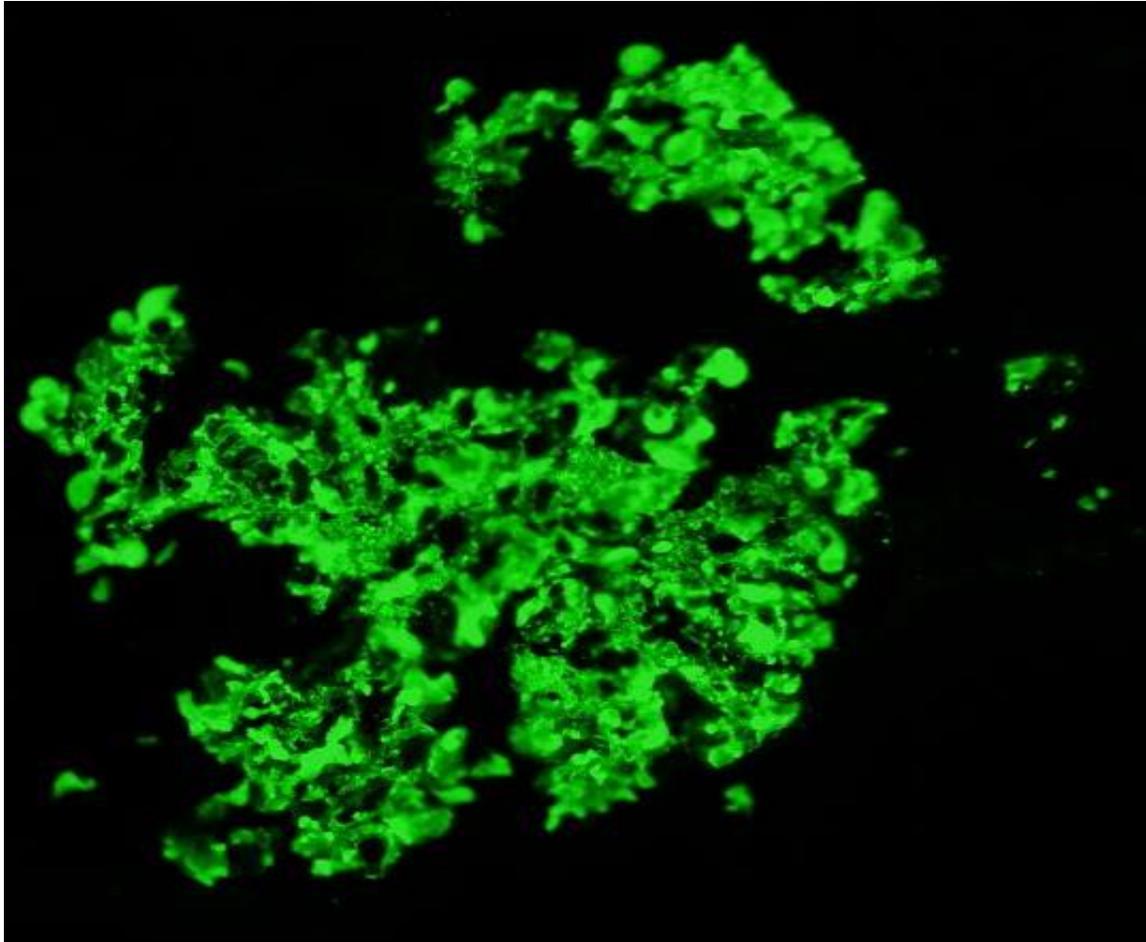
- Bence Jones proteinuria 40%, > 1 g/d 3%
- cryoglobulins 20%
- AL

rare, 1-2% of hematologic cancers, US: ~ 1,500/year

"indolent lymphoma", incurable but treatable



Waldenström macroglobulinemia



IF: IgM-k glomerular capillaries + intracapillary thrombi

# Crystalglobulinemia: intravascular crystals

- very rare
- pathomechanism not clear: crystallization of monoclonal proteins in the systemic vasculature with vascular injury, thrombosis, and occlusion

Crystalline nephropathy – differential diagnosis:

## **(A) non-paraprotein crystals**

- nephrocalcinosis and oxalate nephropathy, most common
- urate nephropathy, cystinosis, dihydroxyadeninuria, less frequent
- drug-induced crystalline nephropathy (indinavir, triamterene)

## **(B) paraprotein crystals:**

- intracellular crystals:  
light chain proximal tubulopathy/crystal-storing histiocytosis
- intratubular crystals, rare [12]
- Intravascular, very rare [12, 13]

# Differential diagnosis of intracapillary paraprotein:

- cryoglobulinemia,
- Waldenström macroglobulinemia,
- crystalglobulinemia

## SKIN FREQUENTLY INVOLVED

### Monoclonal gammopathy of cutaneous significance

D. Lipsker, 2016 [16]

Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology

8 AUG 2016 DOI: 10.1111/jdv.13847 [14]

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jdv.13847/full#jdv13847>

# **Monoclonal Immunoglobulin deposition Disease[MIDD]:**

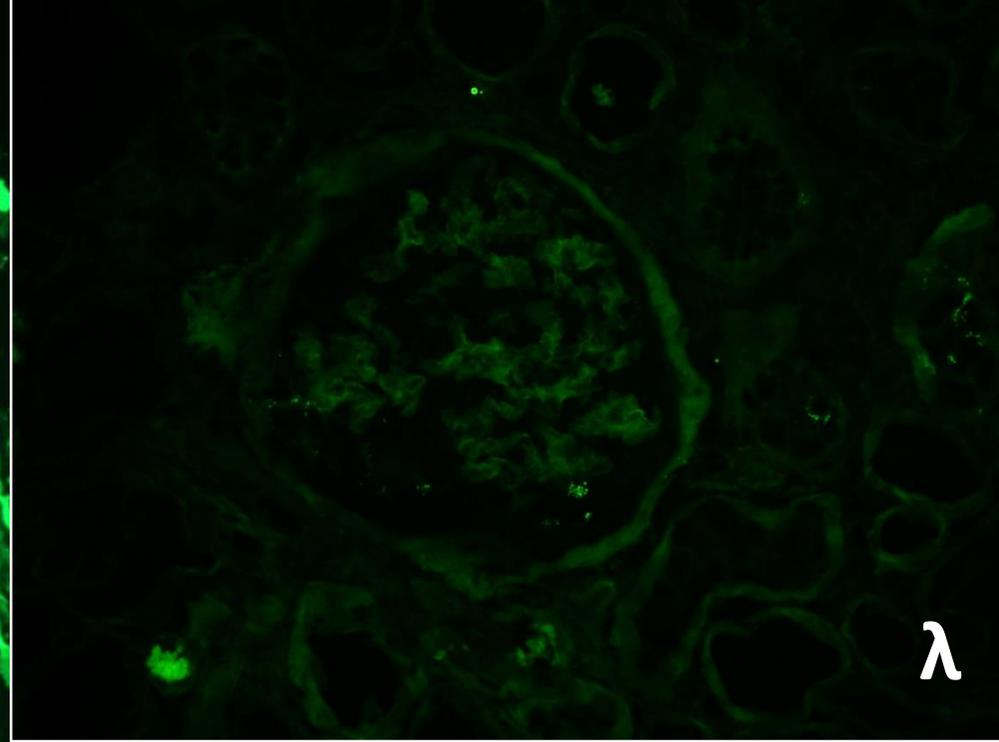
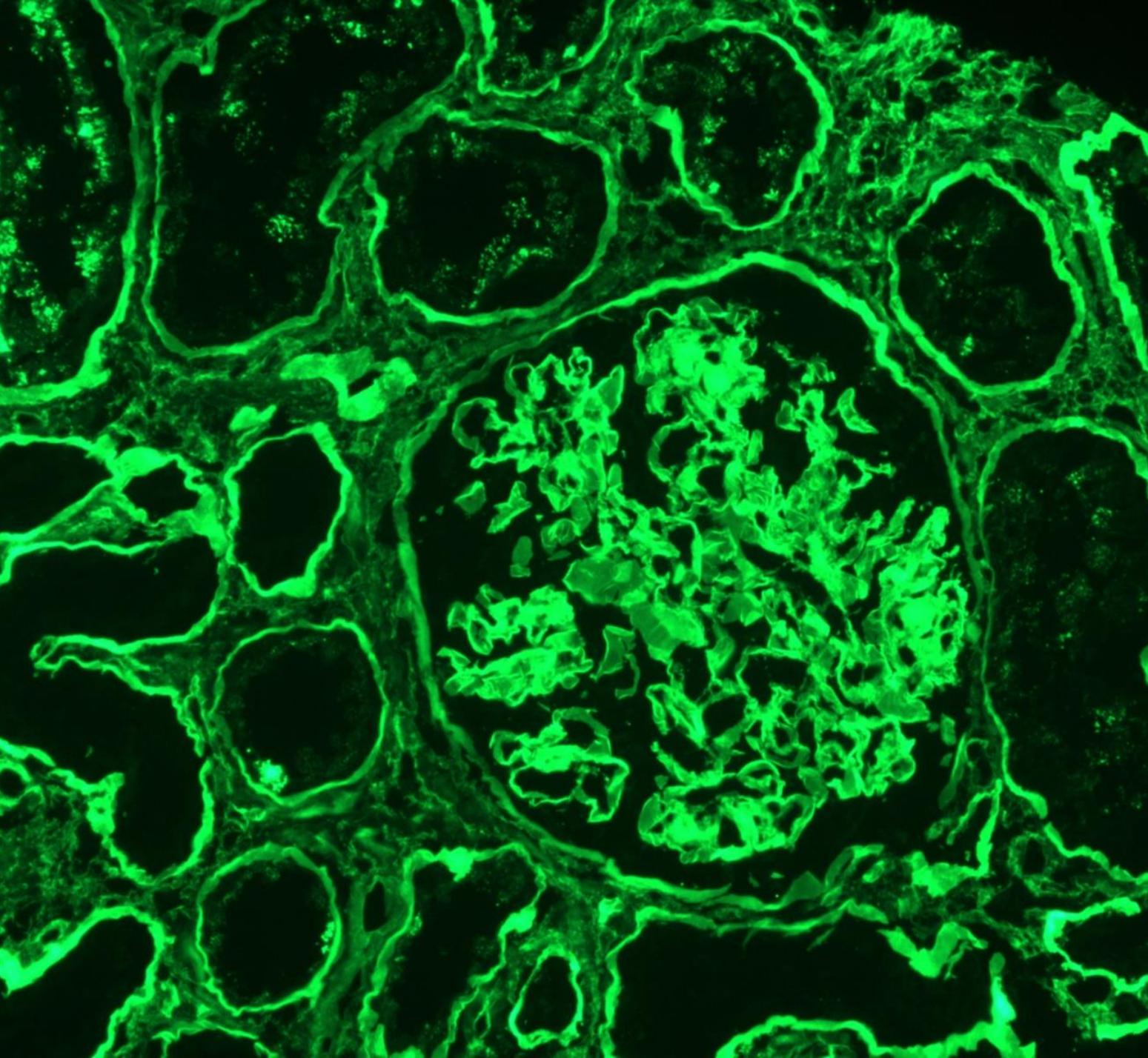
**Light Chain Deposition Disease (LCDD), most common**

**Light/Heavy chain Deposition Disease, rare**

**Heavy Chain Deposition Disease, rare**

**Defining feature = immunostain with characteristic pattern of distribution**

**LCDD-κ>LCDD-λ**

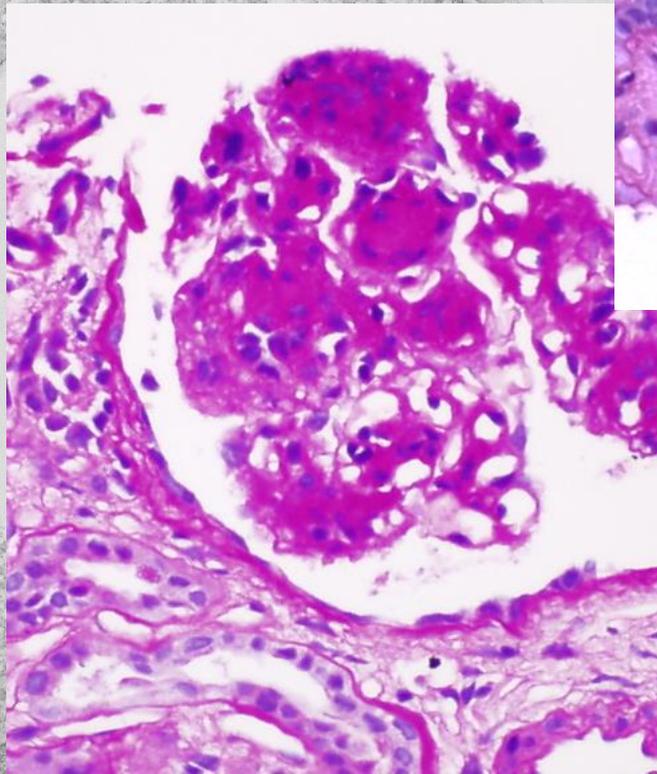
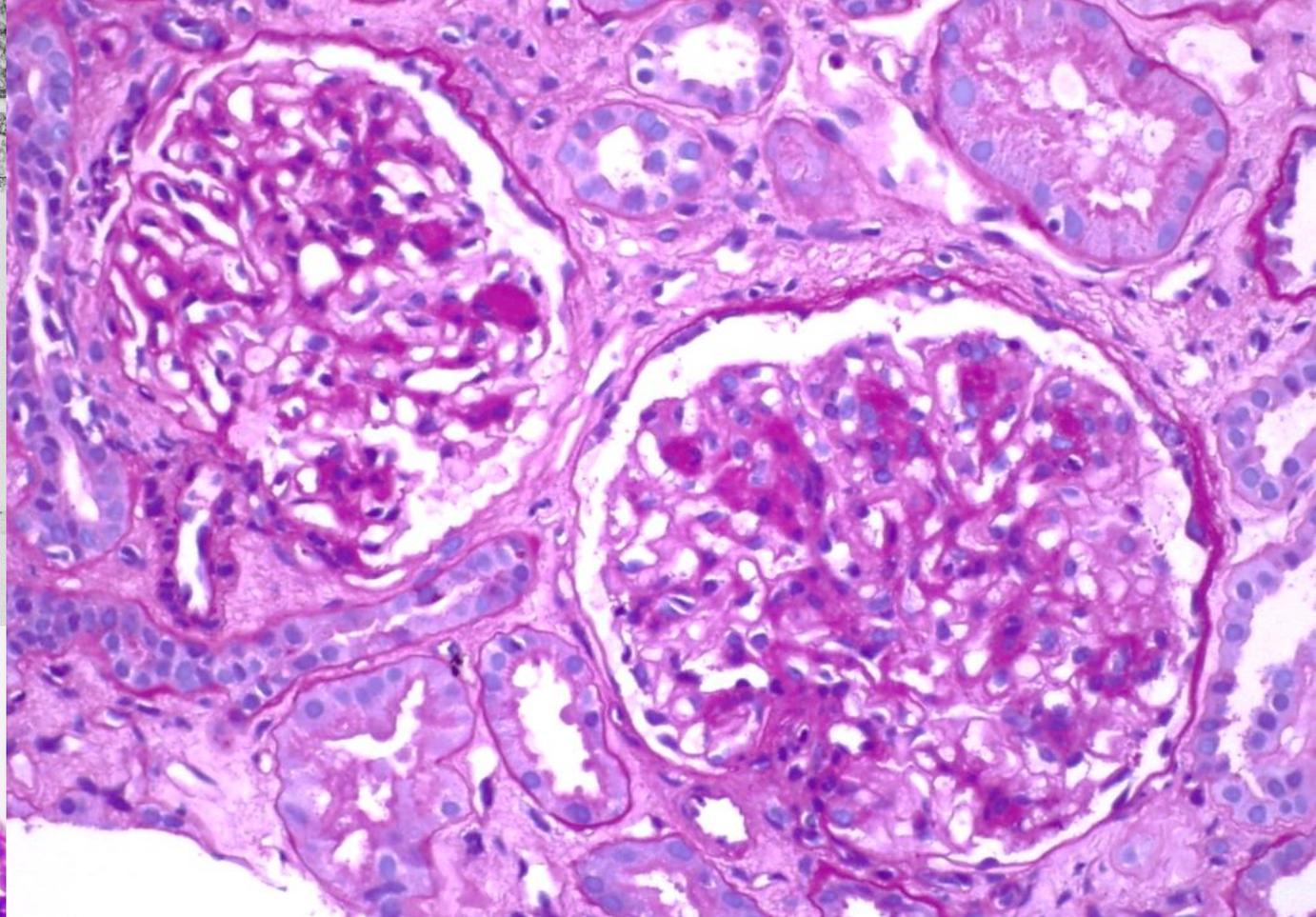
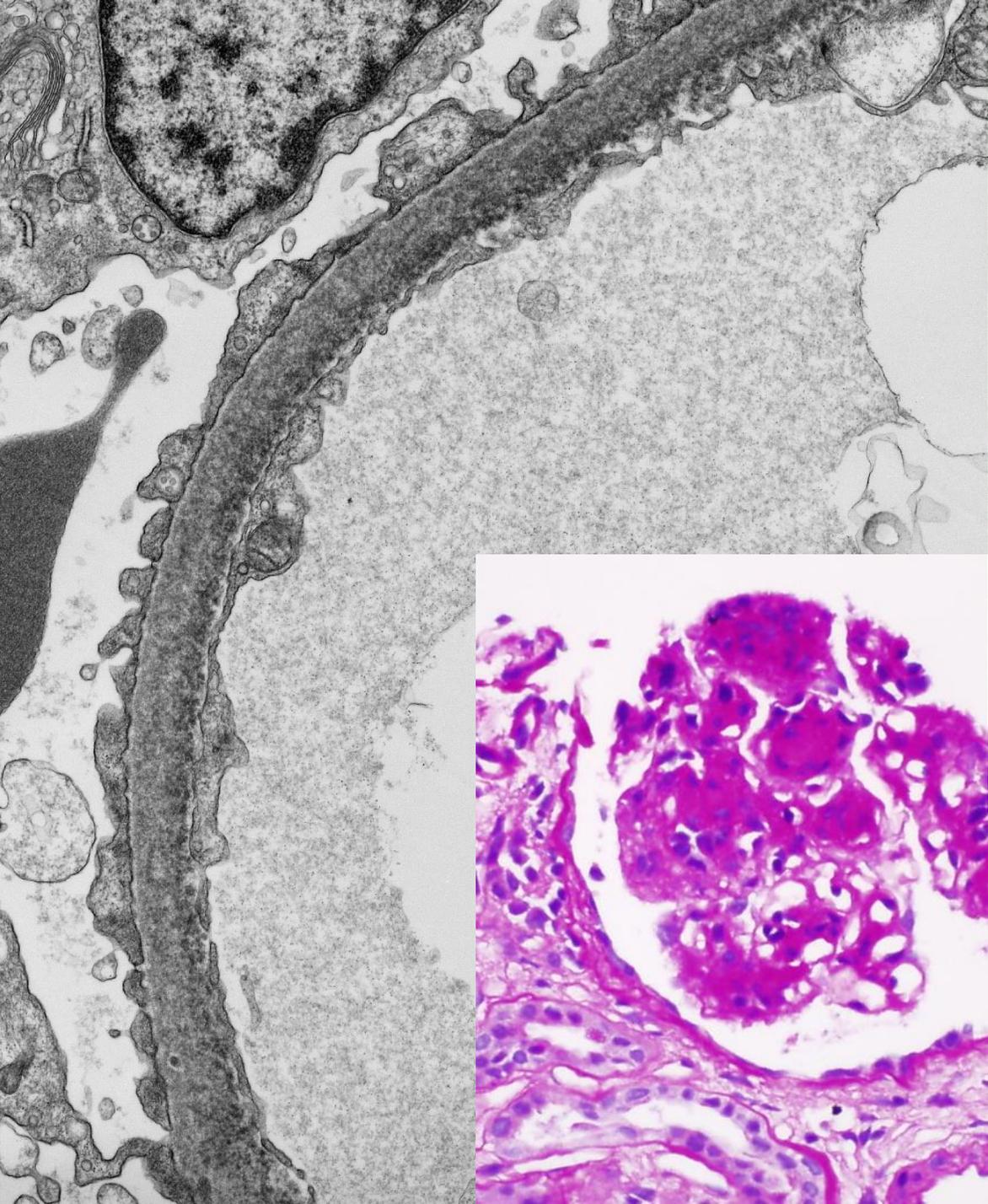


Light chain deposition disease  
LCDD

- IF monoclonal deposits  
along basement membranes
- Congo red (-)
- EM - powdery

- Clinical:  
- proteinuria/nephrotic s.

*Picken MM [1]*



MIDD: LCDD, HCDD, LHCDD

- monoclonal deposits along basement membranes
- Congo red (-)
- EM: non-fibrillary, powdery
- Light microscopy = variable!!!

May be associated with other paraprotein pathologies

*Picken MM 2014 [1]*

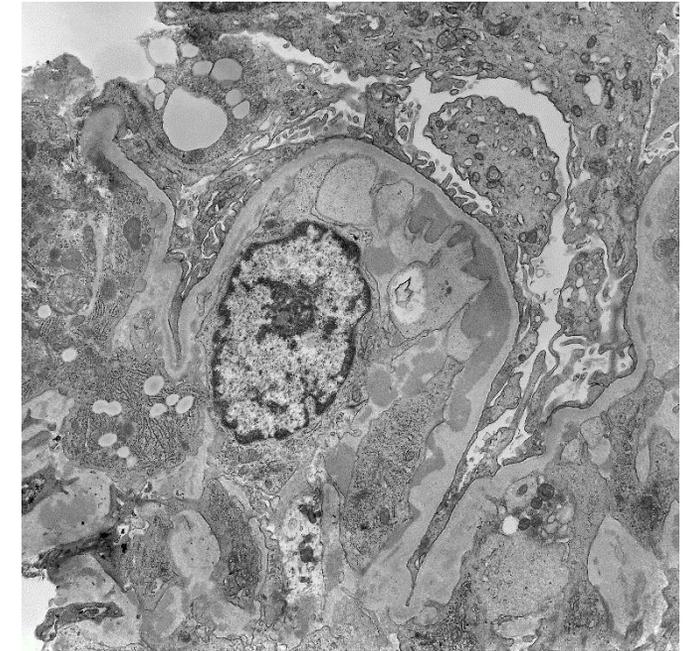
*Nasr et al 2009 [15]*

# Glomerulonephritis with non-organized deposits immune complex-like

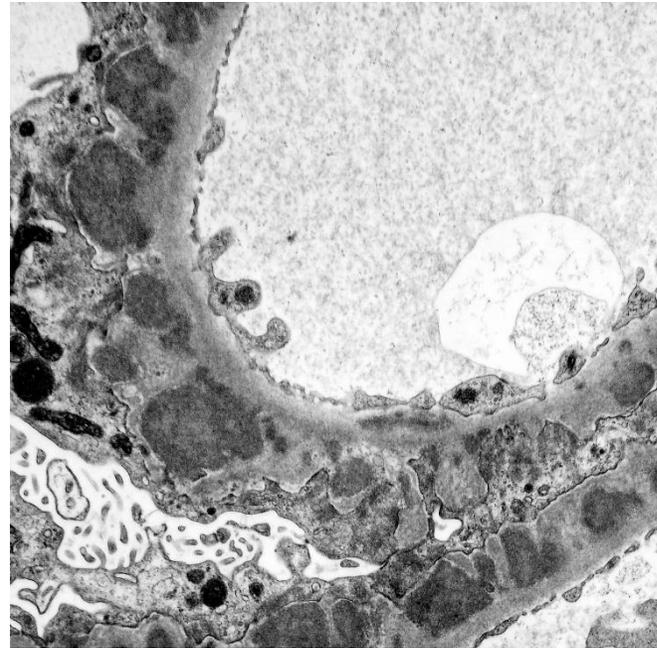
LM variable: proliferative(MPGN),membranous

IF: IgG3-kappa

EM: immune complex-like deposits



**Abundant, large, granular electron-dense mesangial and subendothelial deposits.**



**Abundant, medium-sized, granular electron-dense subepithelial and intramembranous deposits**

## C3 Glomerulonephritis

- proliferative glomerulonephritis
- IF: C3 and **no immunoglobulins**
- EM: electron dense deposits, non-organized, immune-complex-like

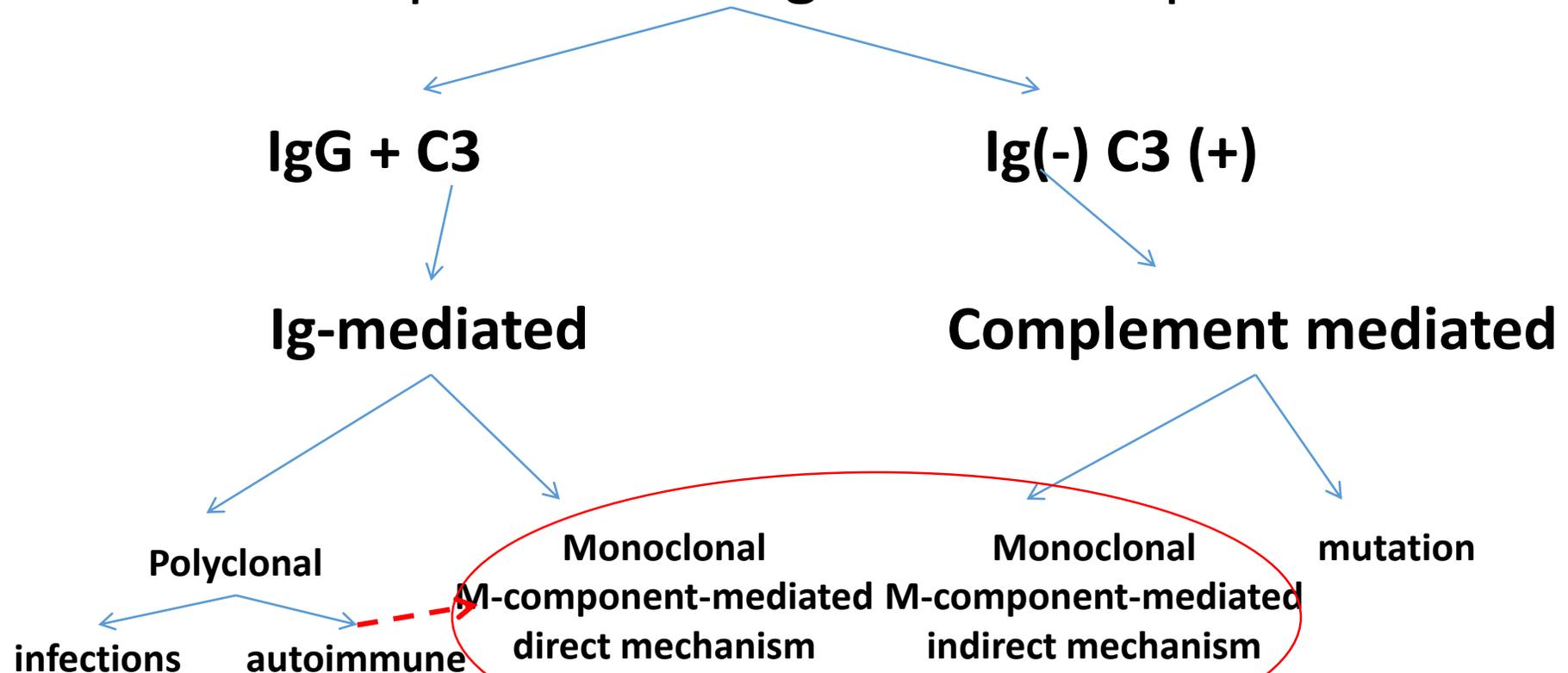
Pathomechanism: dysregulation of the alternative pathway of complement

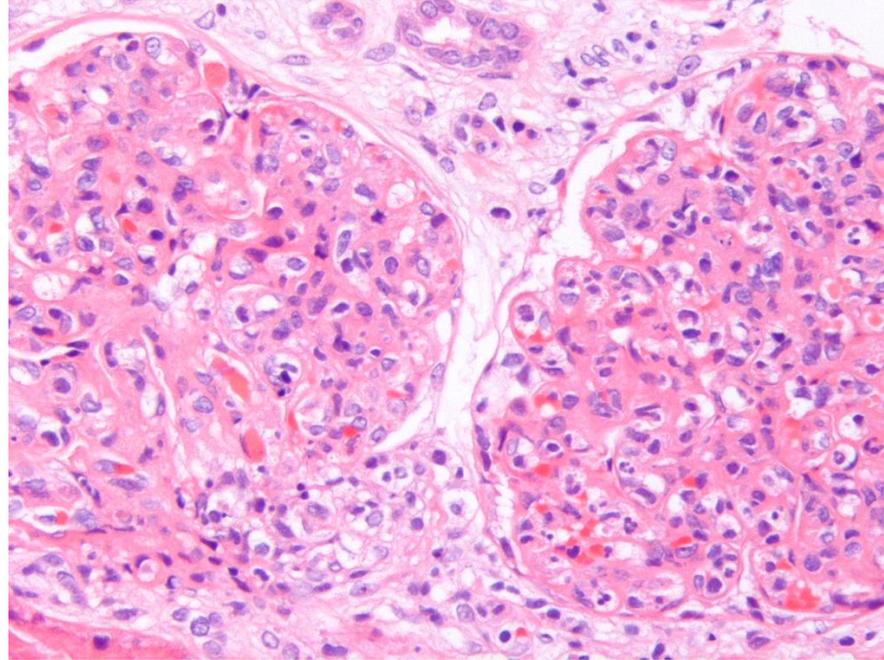
Dysregulation of the alternative pathway of complement - C3 glomerulopathies:  
C3 glomerulonephritis & Dense Deposit Disease

- mutations
  - functional inhibition of regulating proteins
  - functional inhibition of regulating proteins by a monoclonal gammopathy
- = indirect paraprotein induced injury**

# Evolution of classification of membranoproliferative pattern of glomerular injury towards pathogenetic classification

Membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis:





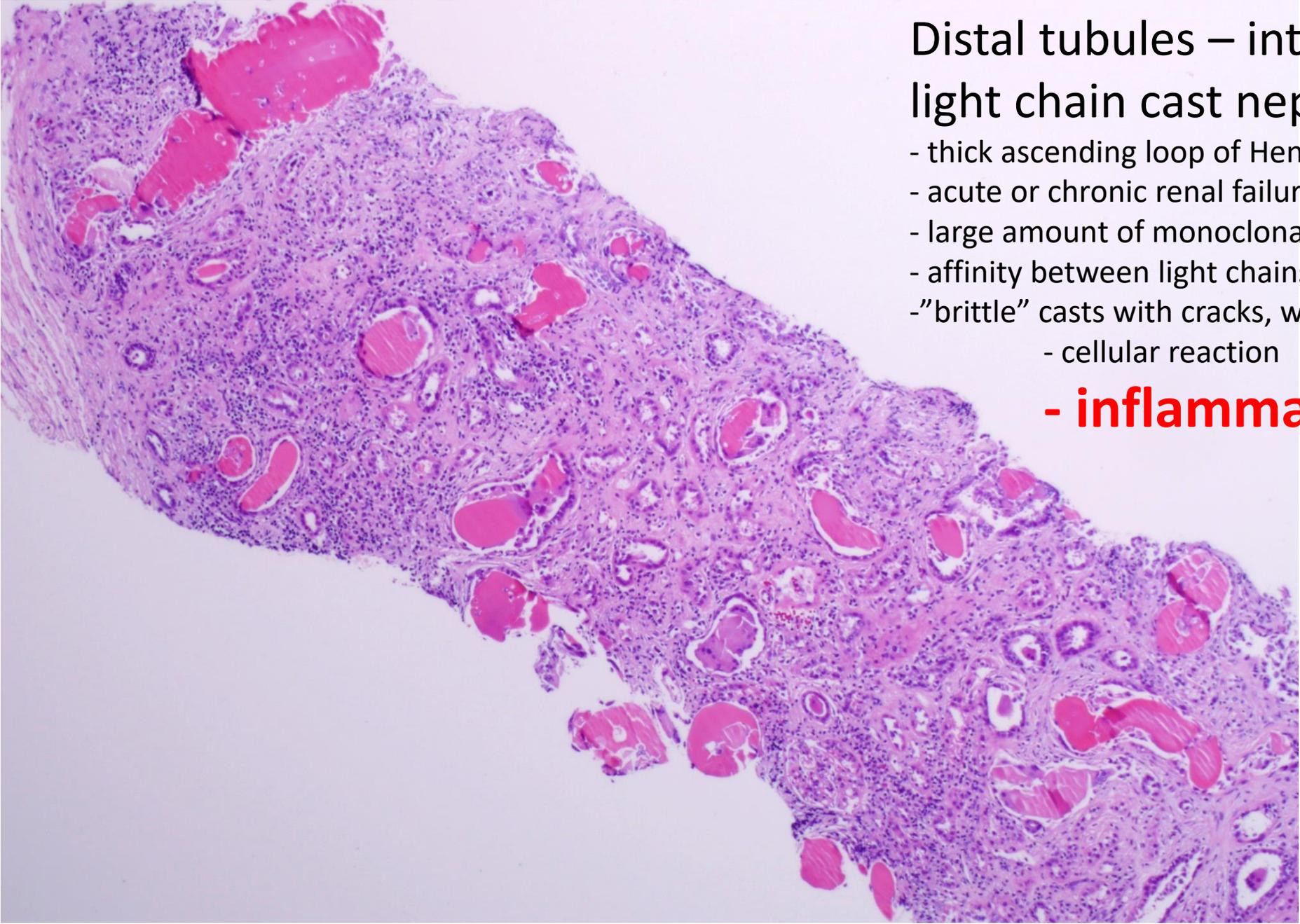
**Monoclonal gammopathy is an important cause of membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis (MPGN):**

**all (adult) patients with MPGN should be evaluated for an underlying monoclonal gammopathy**



DON'T  
FORGET

*to examine the  
tubules and the  
interstitium!!!*

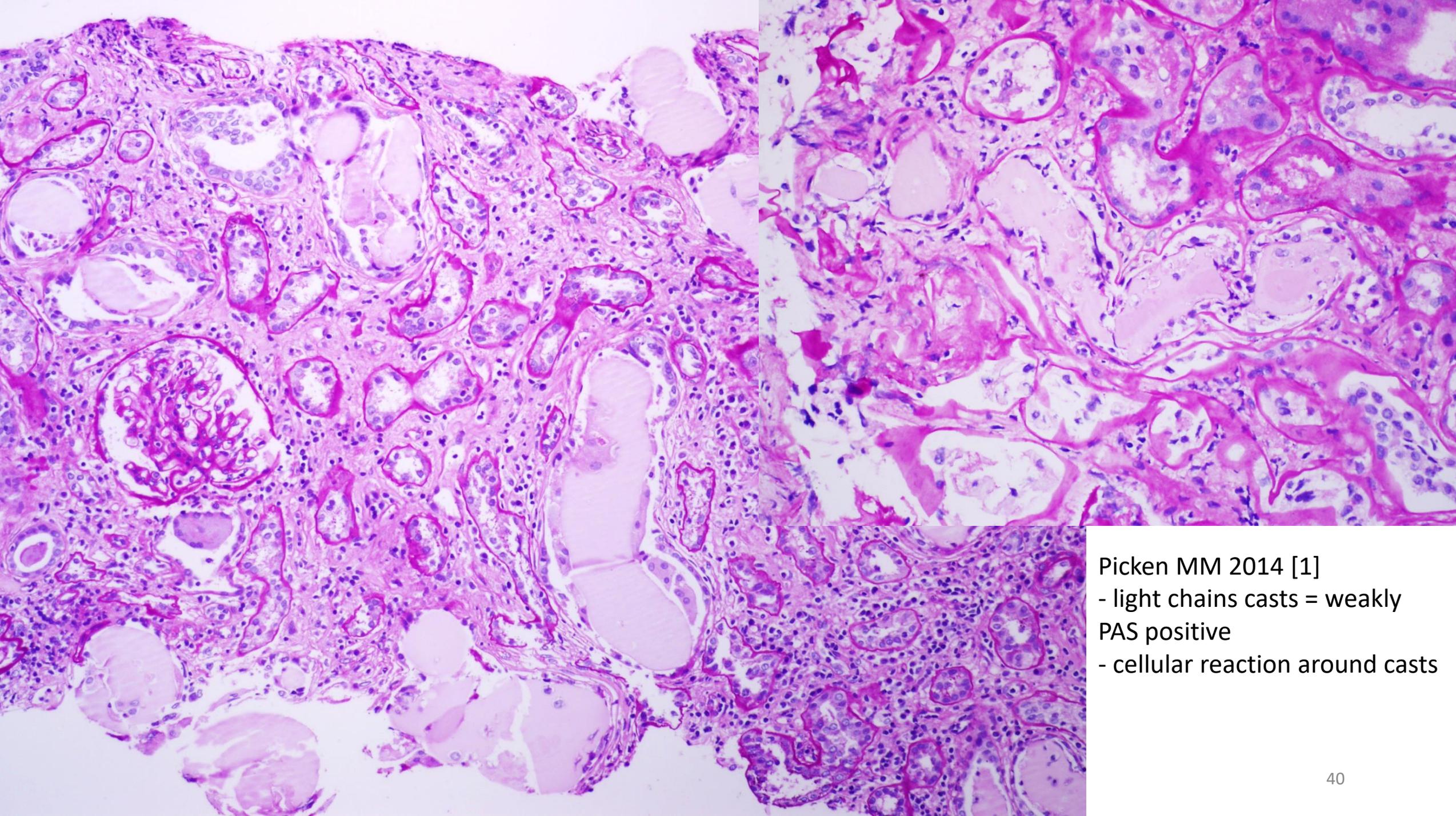


Distal tubules – intratubular light chain  
light chain cast nephropathy:

- thick ascending loop of Henle
- acute or chronic renal failure
- large amount of monoclonal free light chains
- affinity between light chains with uromodulin (Tam Horsfall protein)
- "brittle" casts with cracks, weakly PAS (+),
  - cellular reaction

**- inflammation, fibrosis**

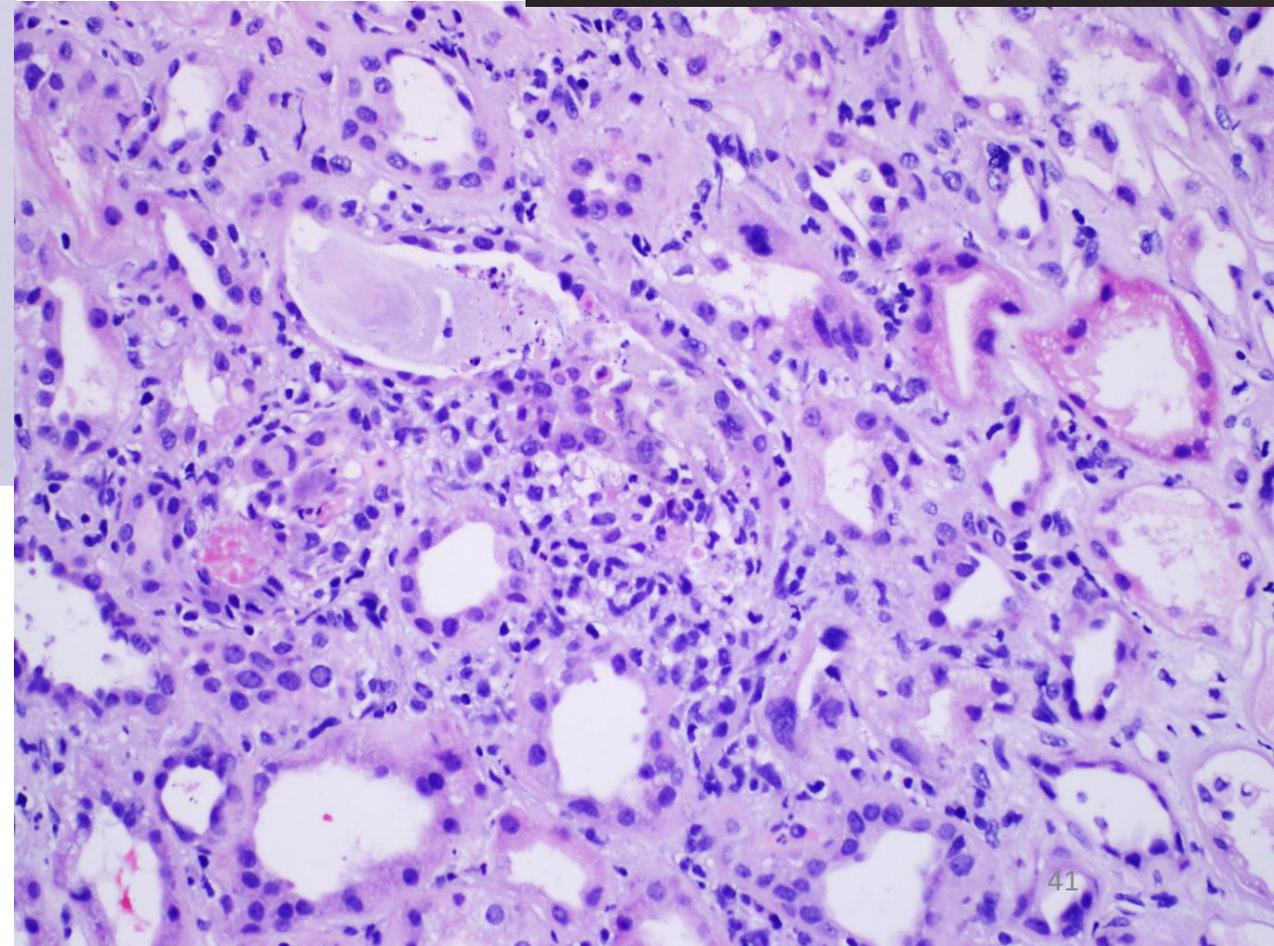
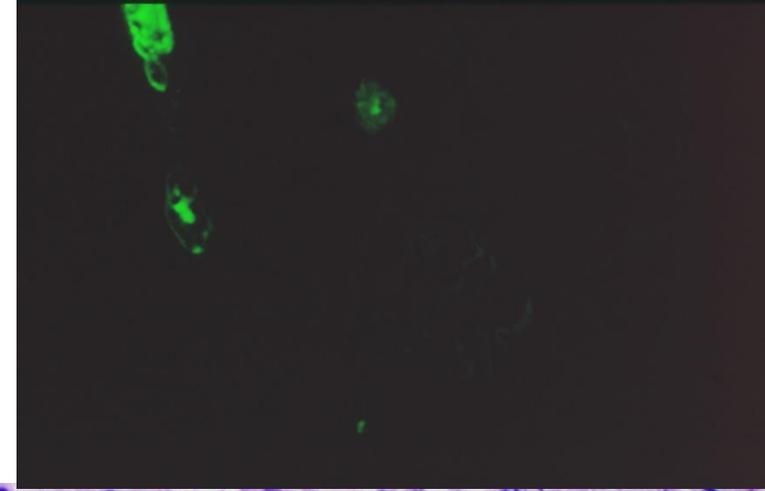
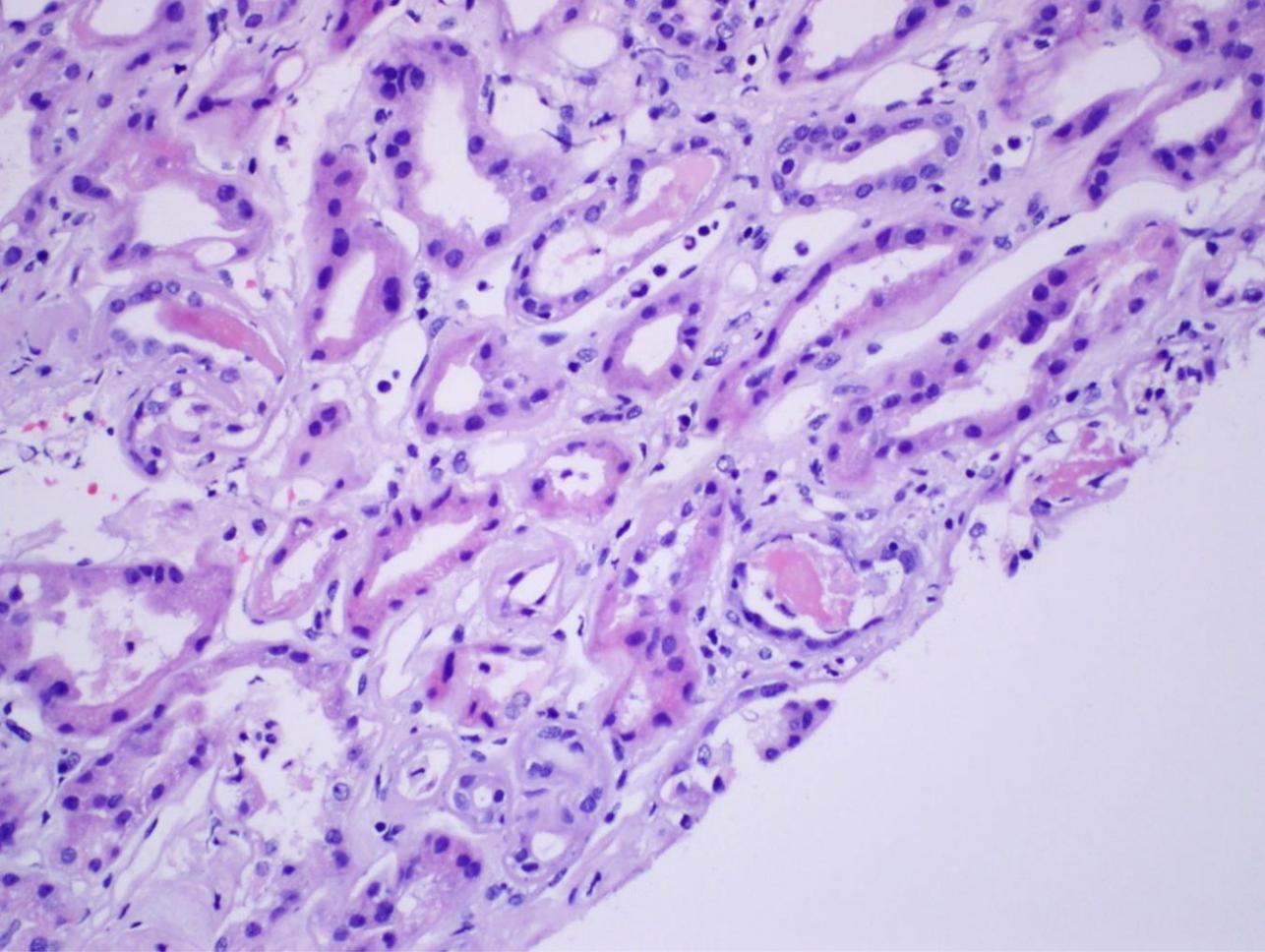
Picken MM 2014 [1]



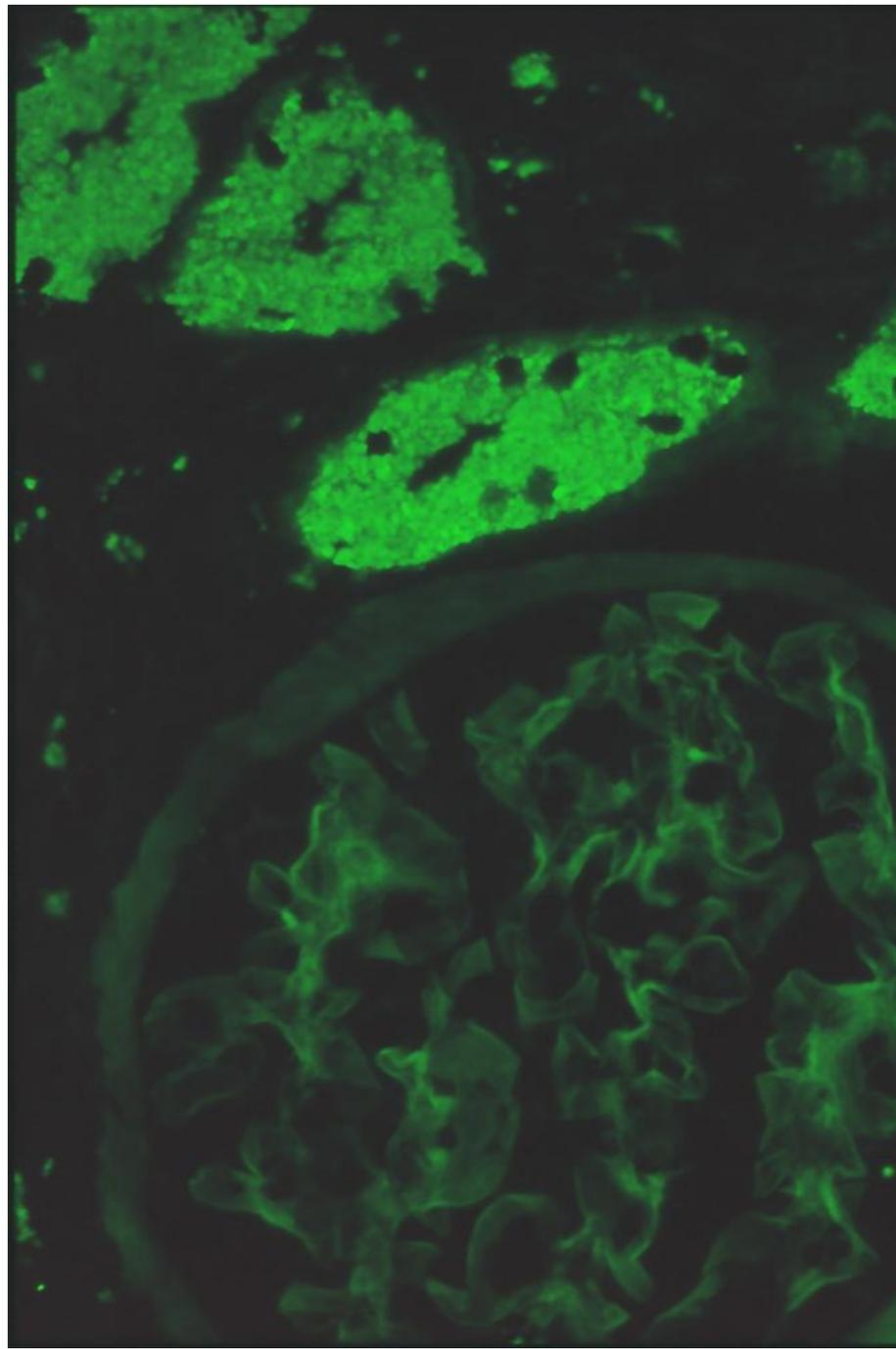
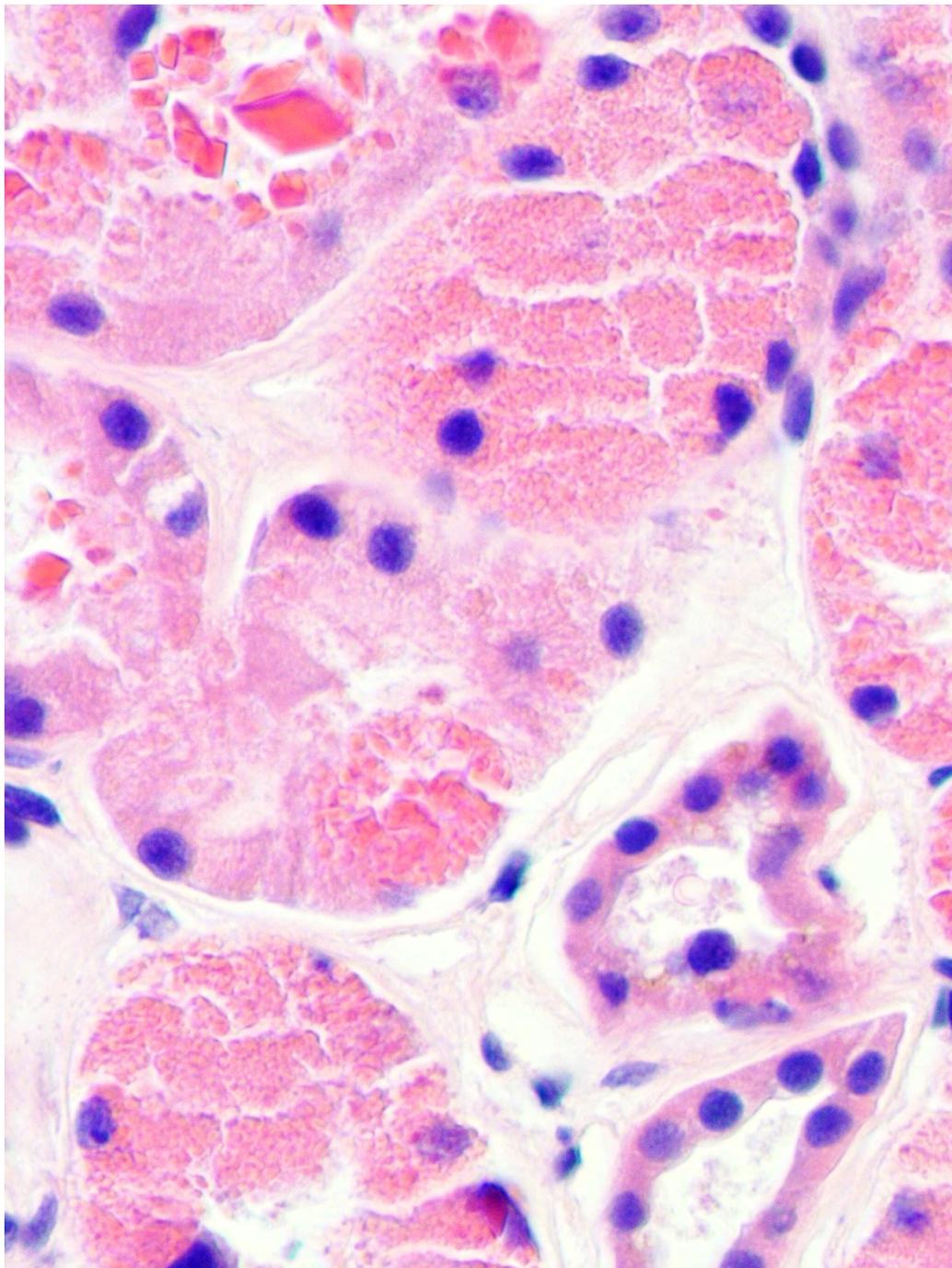
Picken MM 2014 [1]

- light chains casts = weakly  
PAS positive

- cellular reaction around casts



Differential Diagnosis:  
early light chain cast nephropathy versus  
Interstitial nephritis

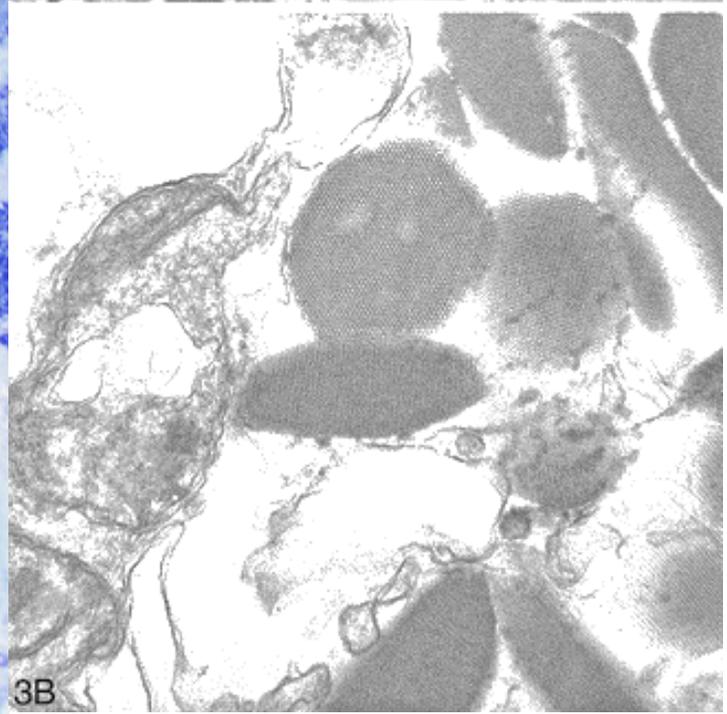
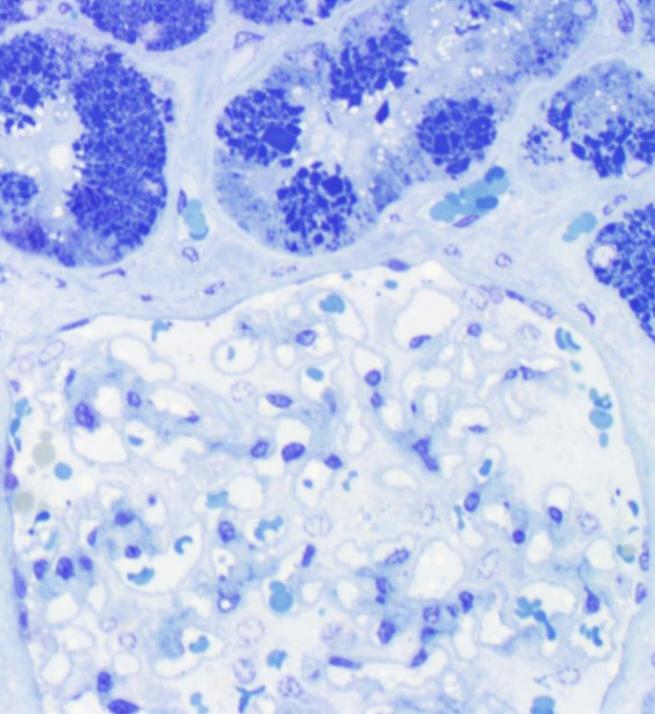
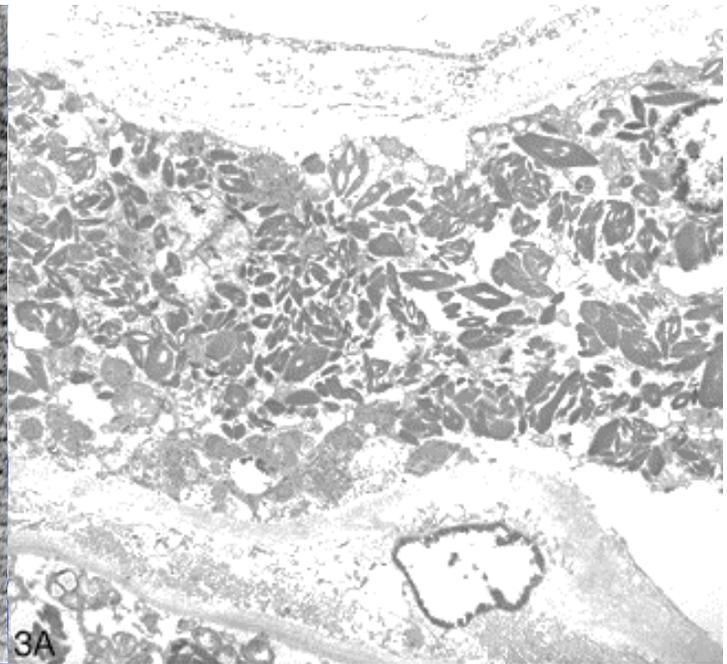
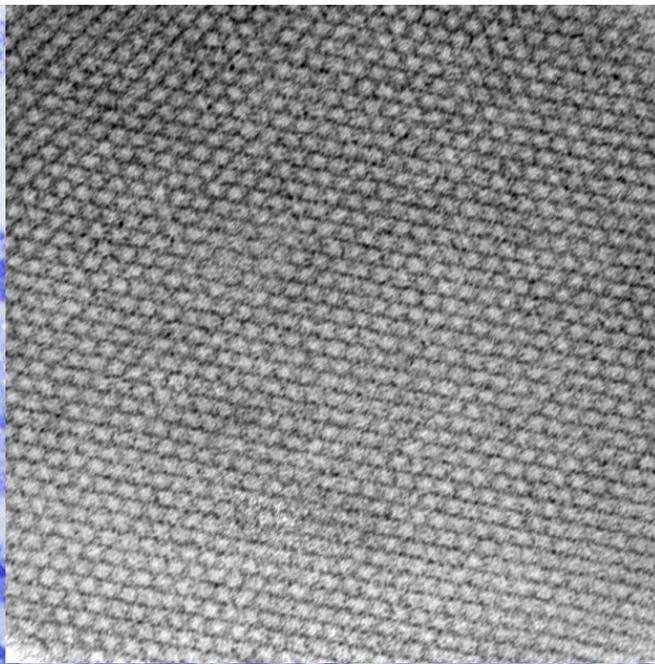
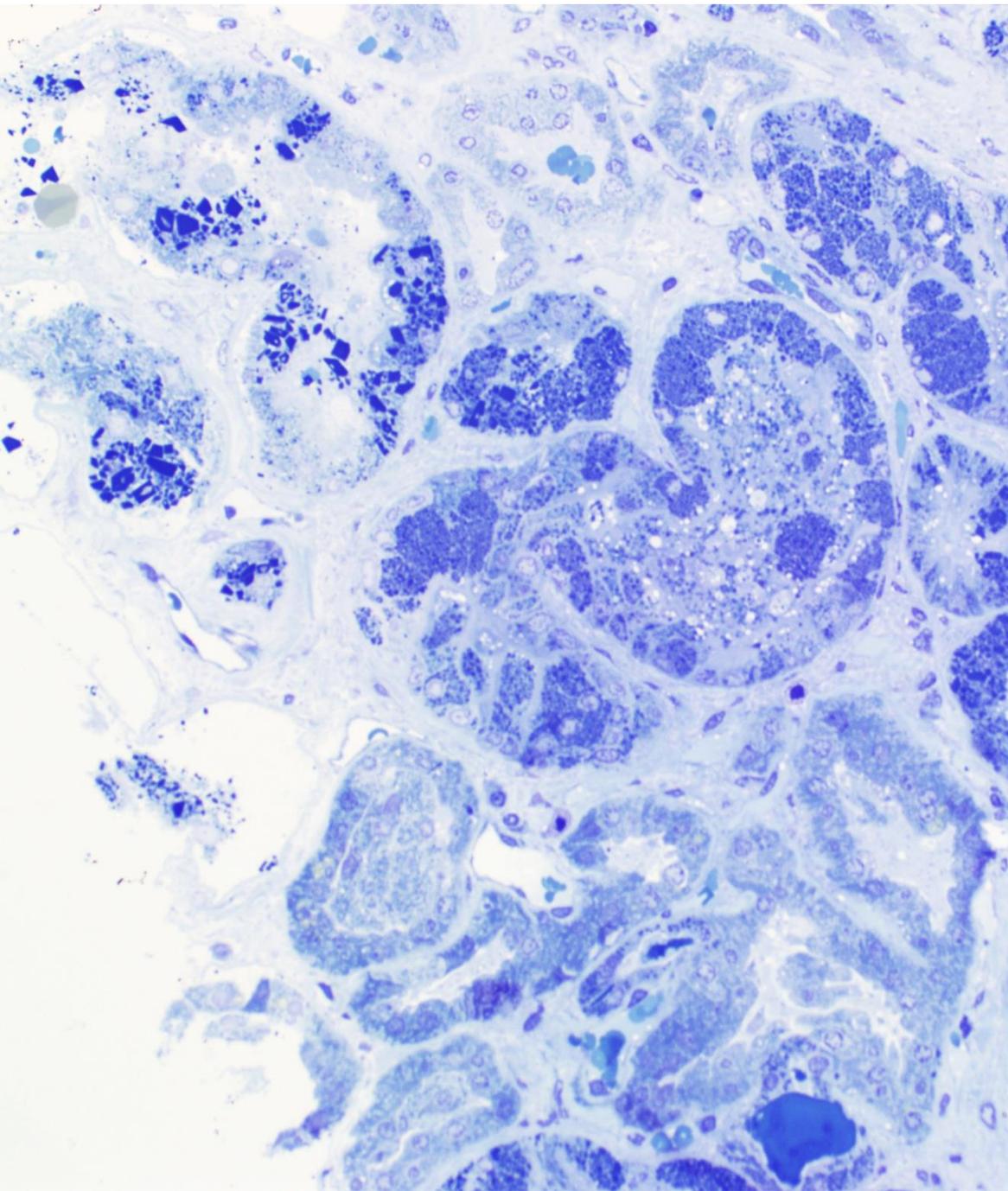


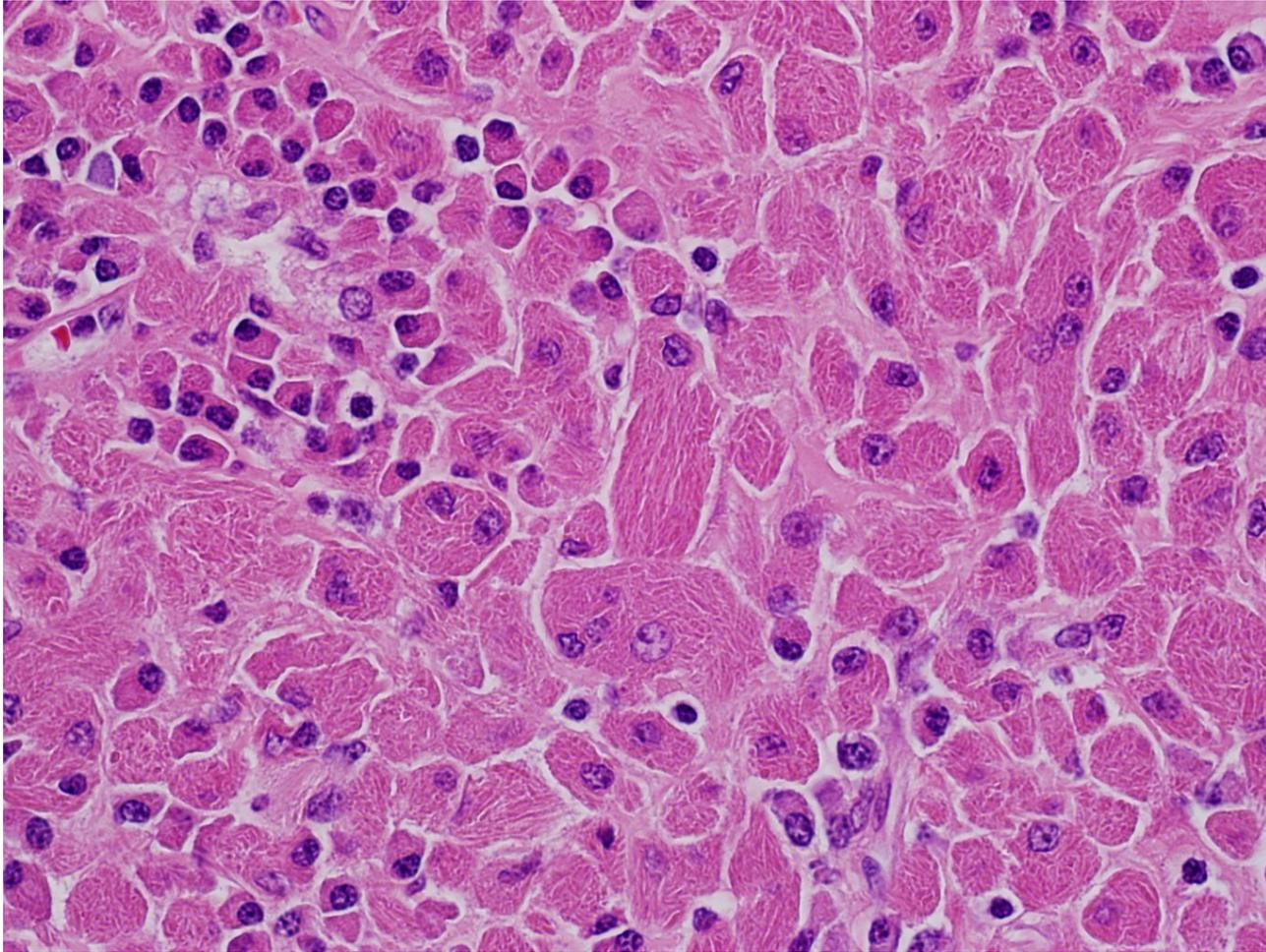
LCPT: **L**ight  
**C**hain  
**P**roximal  
**T**ubulopathy  
with crystals

Intracellular organized

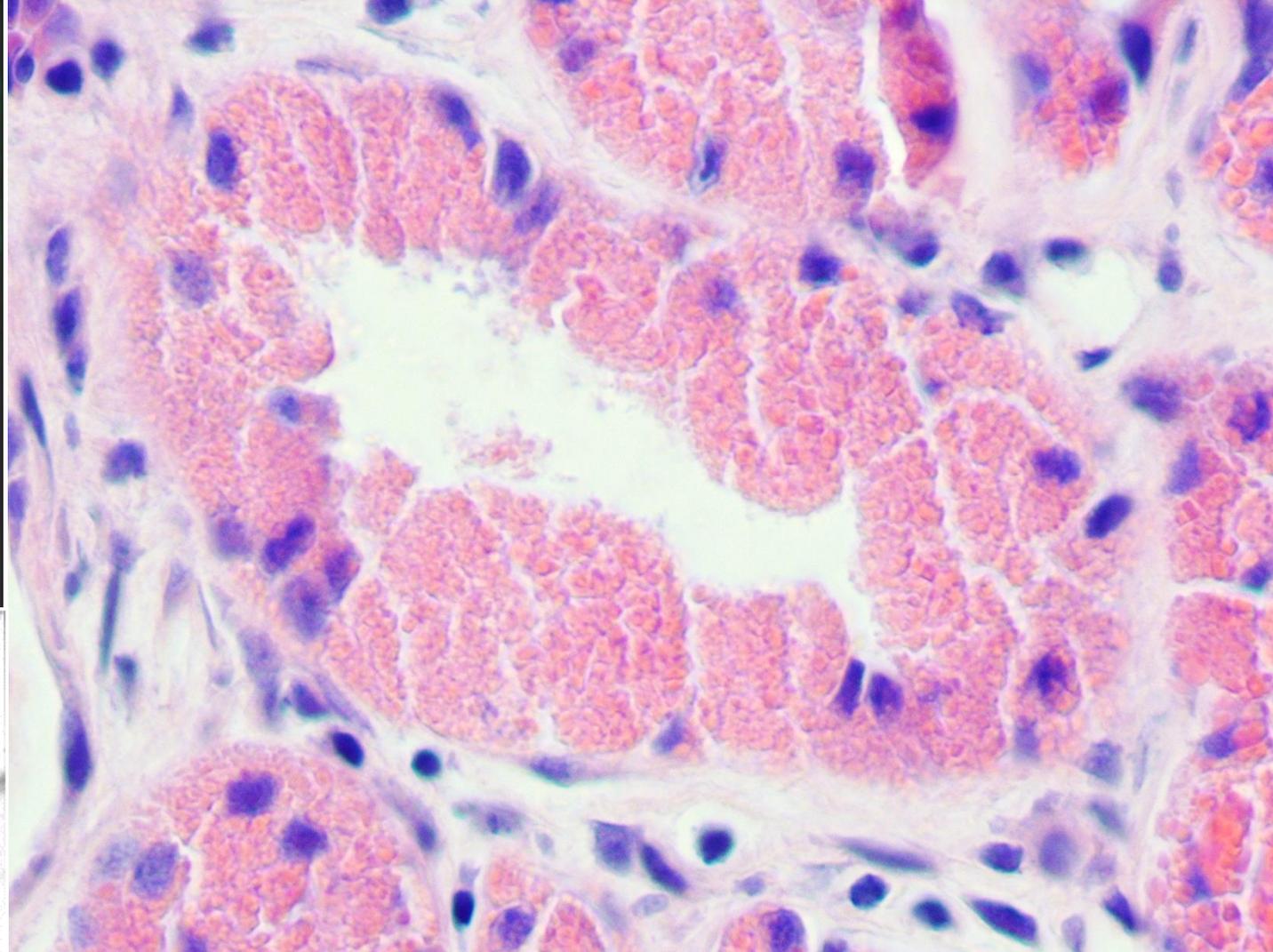
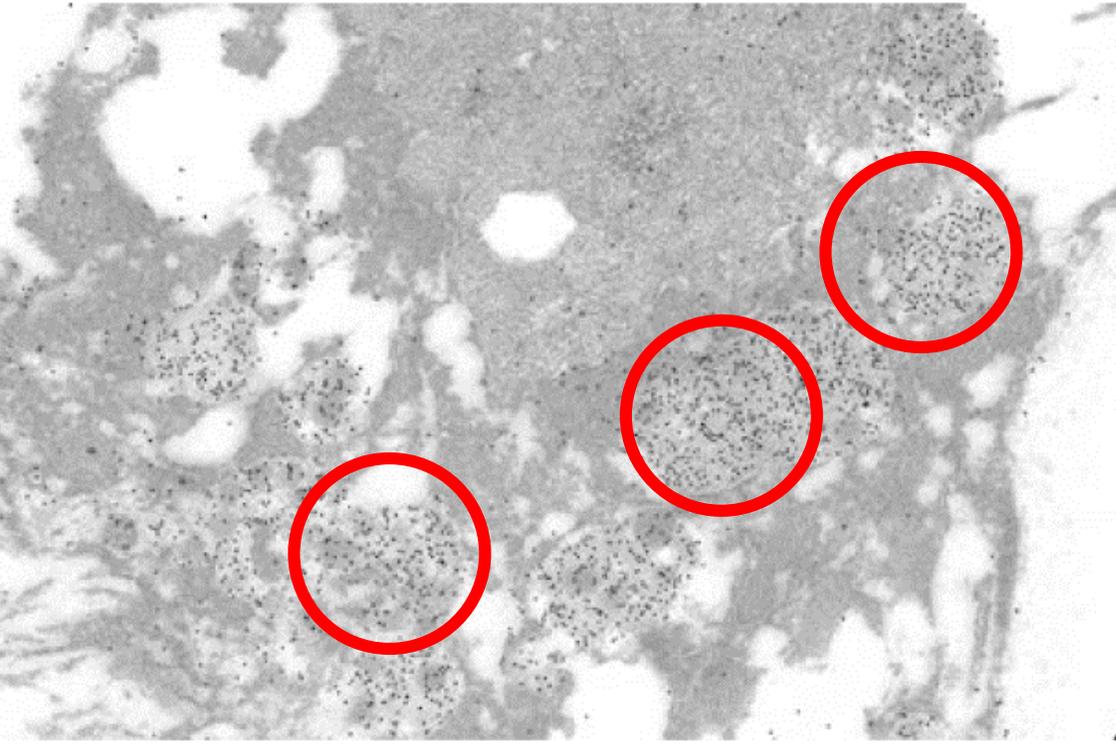
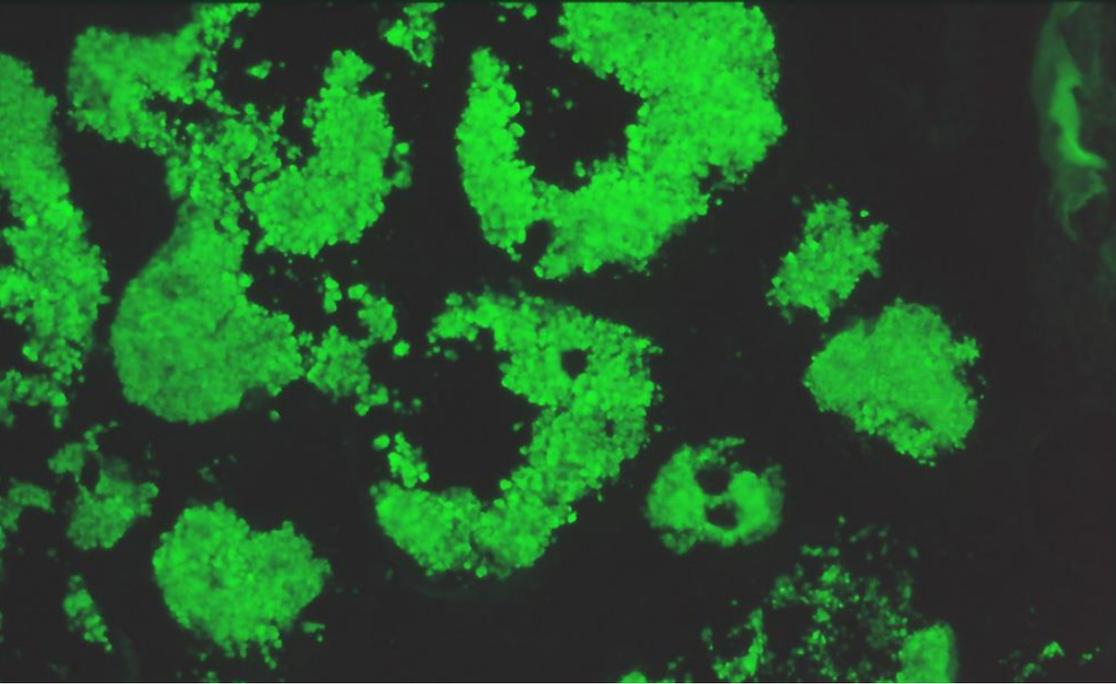
Clinical: slowly  
progressing renal failure  
with/without Fanconi  
syndrome, complete or  
partial  
(glucose, amino acids, uric acid,  
phosphate, and bicarbonate)

Recurrence in kidney  
Transplant!!!  
[20, 21]

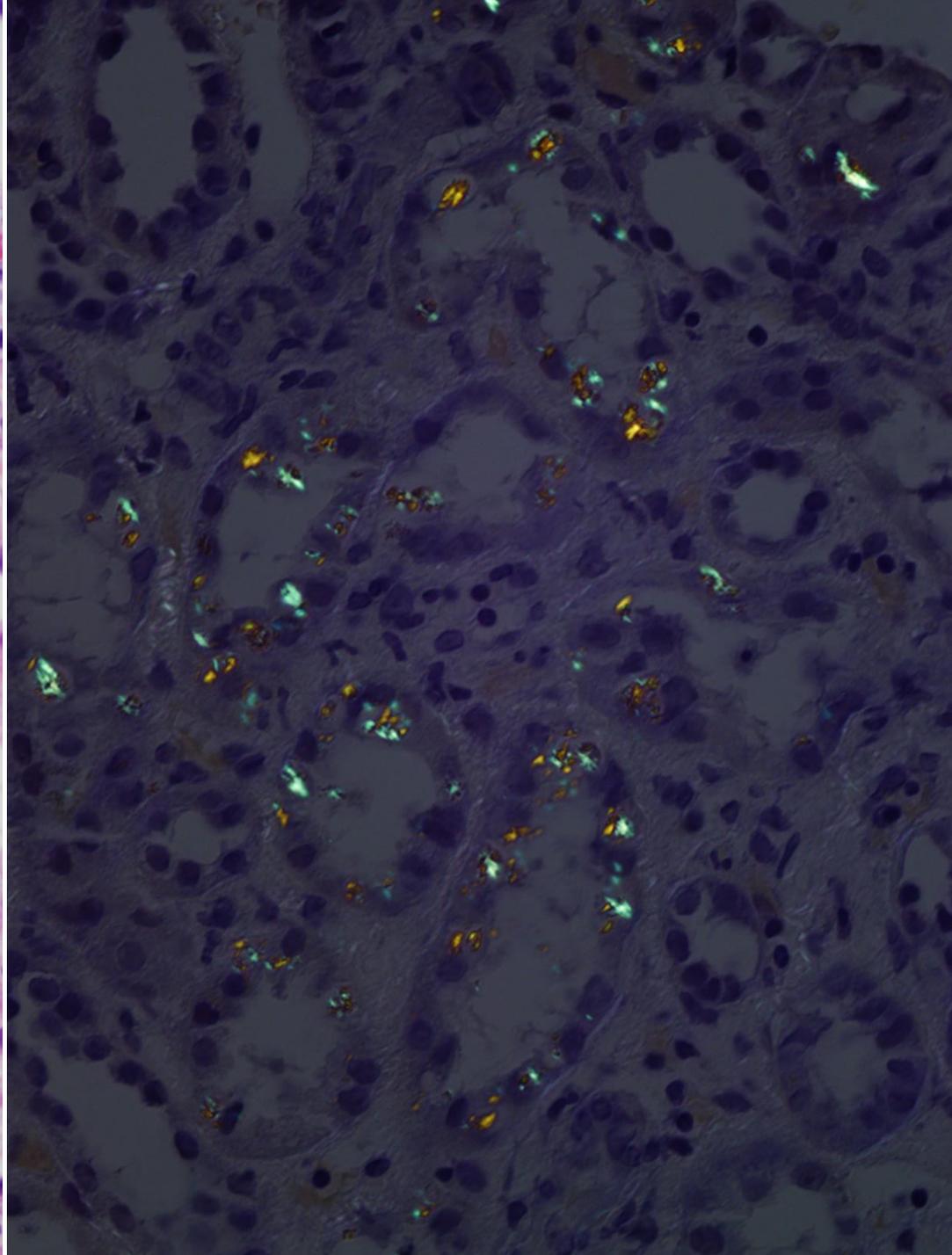
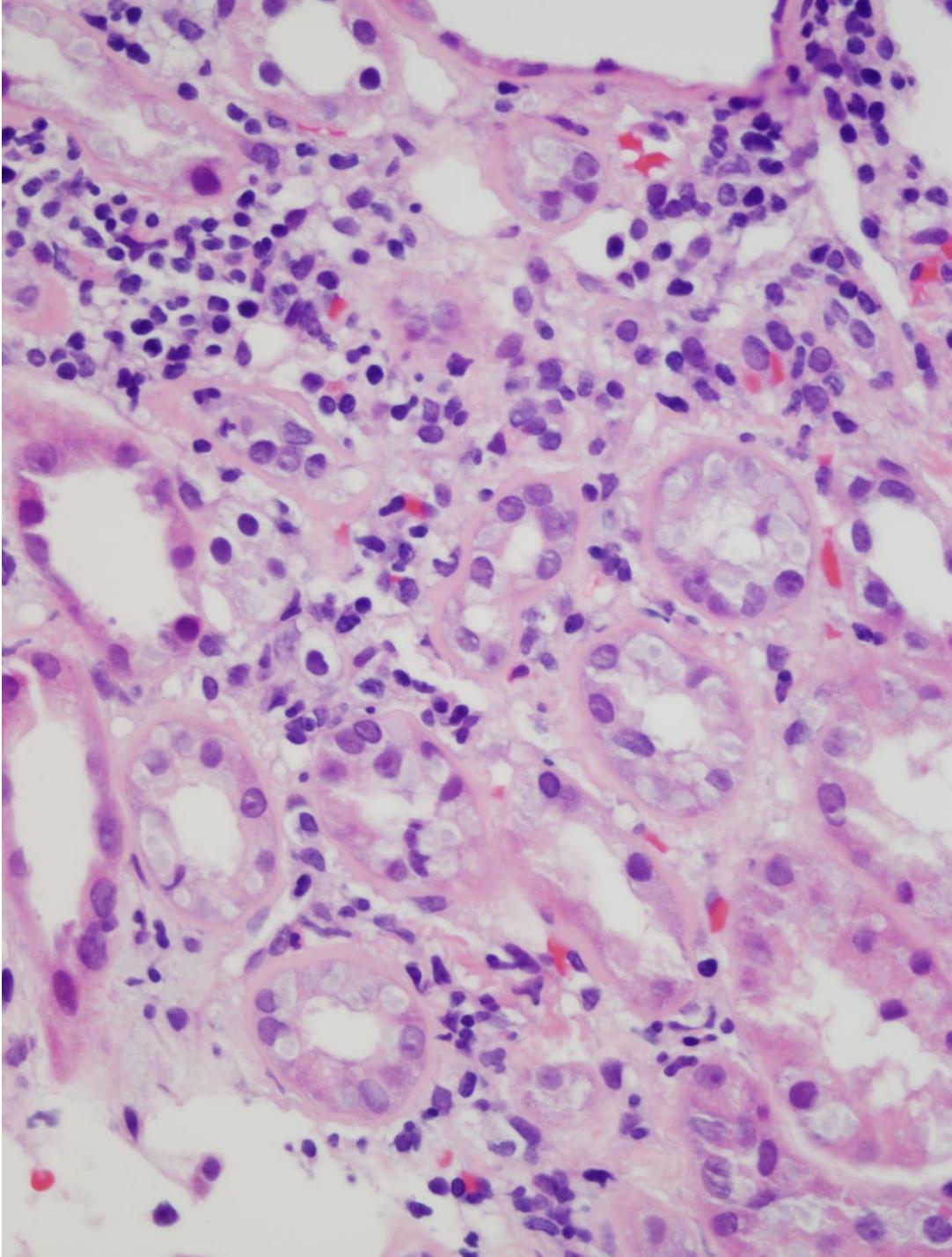




**CSH:** Crystal Storing Histiocytosis: kidney, systemic [21], [22]



Light Chain Proximal Tubulopathy – non-crystalline  
Intracellular non-organized  
More common than crystalline!!! [20]



Amyloid  
Inclusions

Interstitial  
Infiltrate

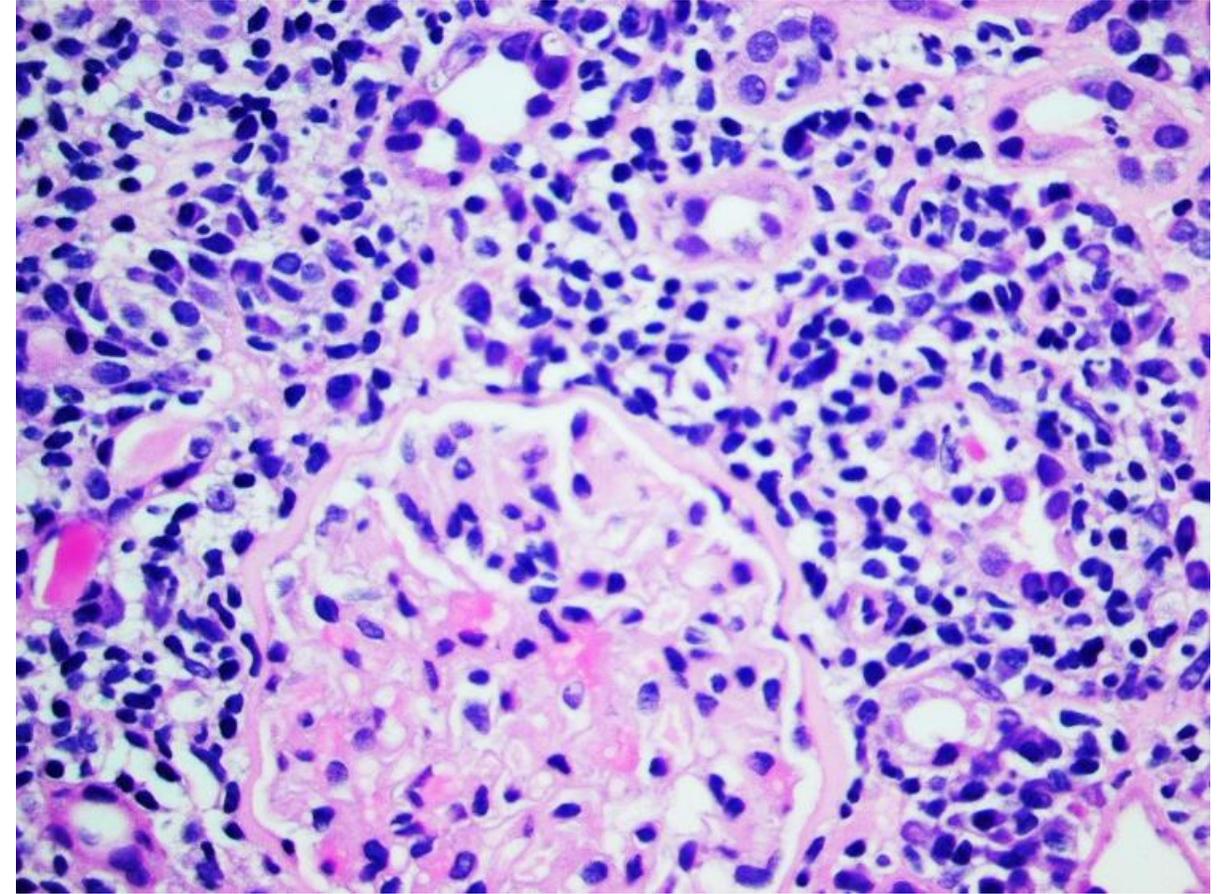
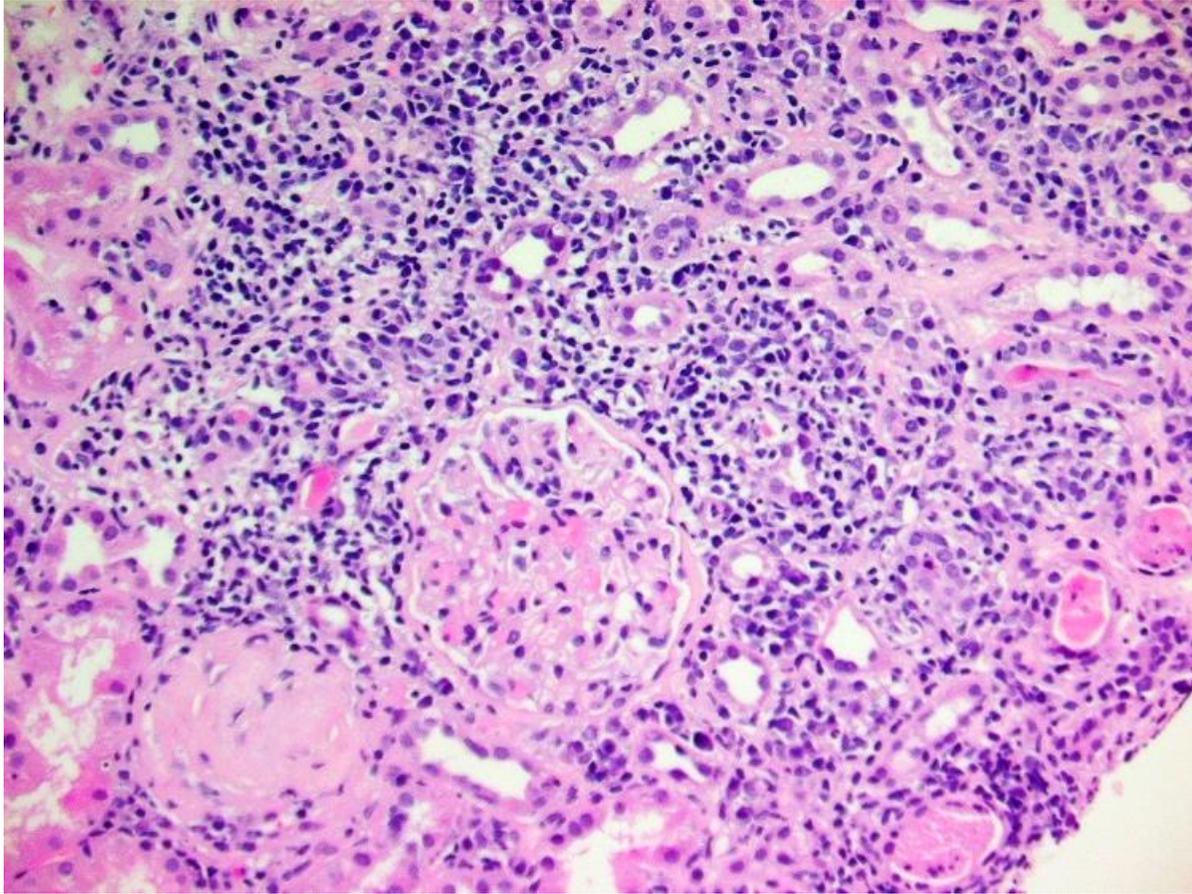
*Slide courtesy  
of Chris Larsen*

## **Intracellular monoclonal immunoglobulin:**

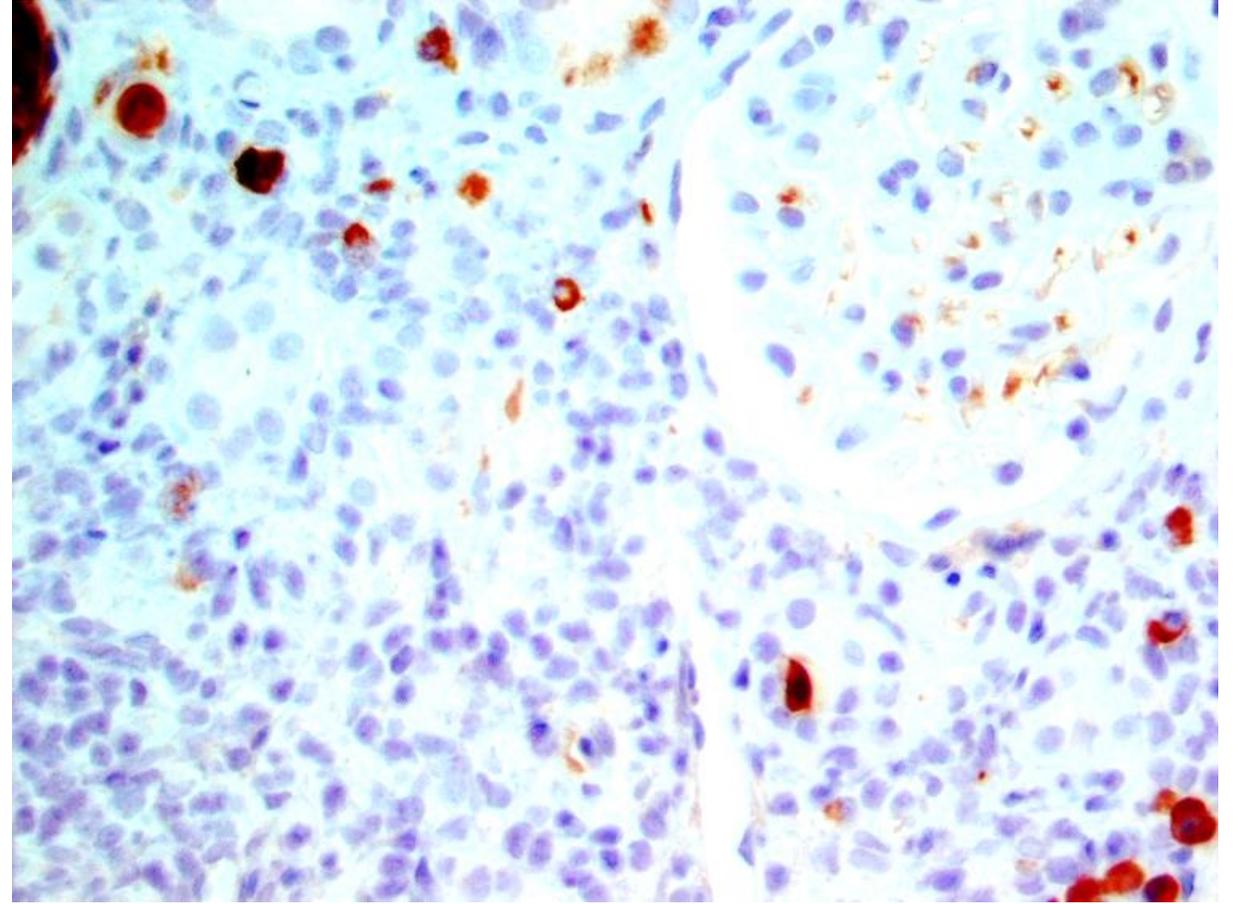
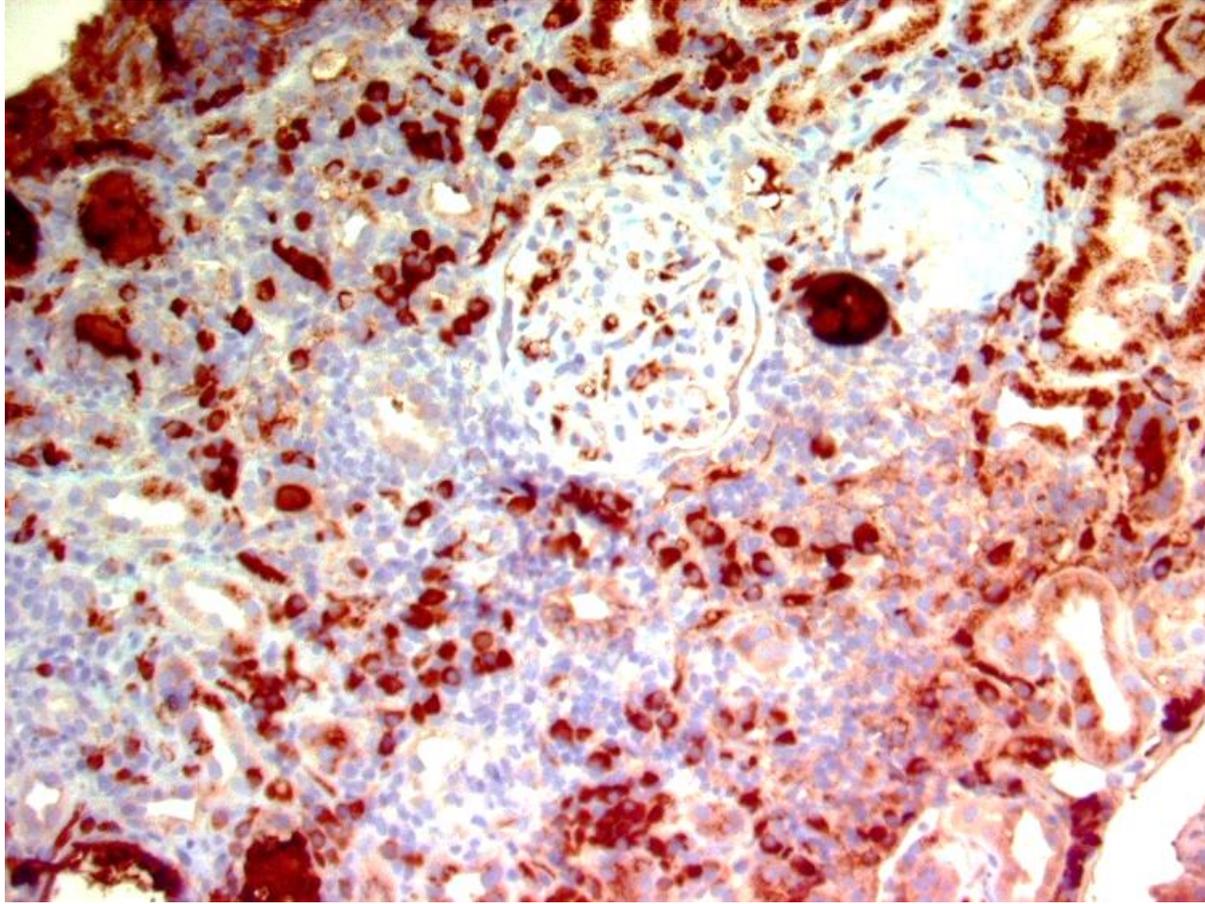
**1. Crystalline**

**2. Non-crystalline**

**3. Fibrillar**



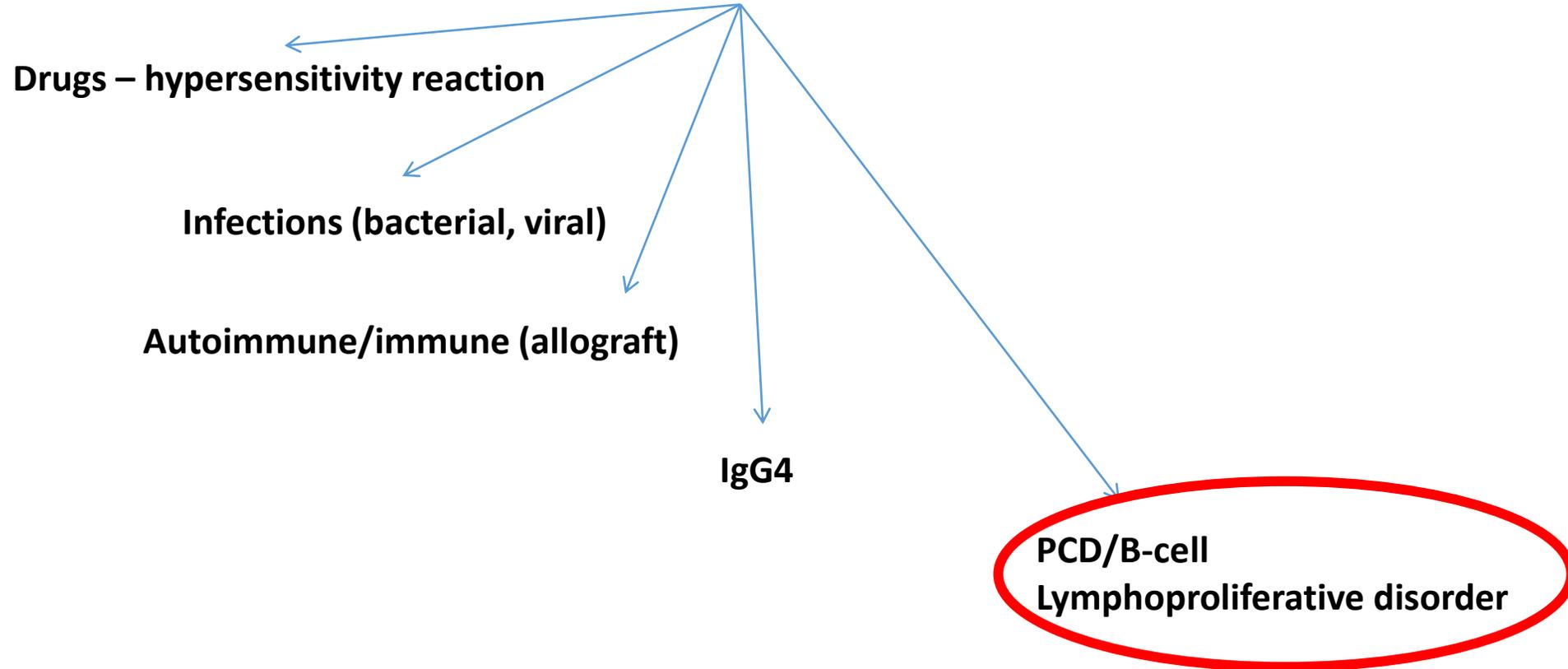
Interstitial infiltrate – differential diagnosis:  
interstitial nephritis versus underlying plasma cell dysplasia versus monoclonal infiltrate  
Beware of “interstitial nephritis” masking underlying PCD!



Monoclonal infiltrates – demonstration of light chain restriction by immunohistochemistry:  
left positivity for  $\kappa$  while stain for  $\lambda$  (right) shows rare positive cells

# Interstitial nephritis – differential diagnosis pathogenetic classification

## INTERSTITIAL NEPHRITIS



# Conclusions:

Morphologic pattern of injury versus **pathogenetic classification**

Importance of immunofluorescence and electron microscopy

Light microscopy frequently shows overlapping morphologies and is not specific

Light microscopy - importance for prognosis

>1 pattern of injury

Clinical correlation, overlapping features clinically

Some MGRS entities may be rather indolent but ultimately lead to renal failure, recur in kidney transplants

Focus on early diagnosis

Comprehensive evaluation

Thank you

Questions?

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