

DYSPLASIA

This term refers to microscopic changes in tissue architecture (usually increased gland complexity) and cellular appearances (usually loss of cell polarity, nuclear enlargement and darker nuclear staining) which are intermediate between normal tissue and cancer. The most severe (high grade) changes of dysplasia include changes resembling cancer but without invasion of surrounding tissues beyond the lamina propria. The least severe changes are the earliest changes from normal that can be recognised microscopically.

Traditionally in the large intestine dysplastic change in adenomas has been graded as mild, moderate or severe representing a continuum of increasingly severe dysplasia but dysplastic change in chronic inflammatory bowel disease has been graded as low grade (mild-moderate) or high grade (moderate-severe).

Increasingly dysplasia is being graded either as low grade or high grade in both adenomas and inflammatory bowel disease.

References

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