#### NURS 821 Advanced Pathophysiology Margaret H. Birney PhD,RN

Lecture 3 Mechanisms and Manifestations of Disease (cont'd) Part 3 Neoplasia (cont'd)

#### **Unique Cancer Cell Properties**

- May burden immune system with tumor load.
- Metastasize-may secrete enzymes to infiltrate
- Establish own blood supply
- May secrete hormones

#### **Unique Cancer Cell Properties**

- Essentially escape all cell controls
  - Lack adhesion, cohesion
  - Lack cell-cell communication to stop growth-grow quickly
- $\bullet$  May secrete factors to decrease  $T_H$  and  $T_K$  function
- Anaerobic cells
- Hide in blood clots
- Estimated to occur undetected 6 times in 70 years

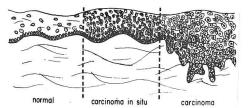
#### Unique Cancer Cell Properties

- Mimic fetus-invisible to immune system; secrete HCG
- Mutate, change DNA
- Nitrogen traps
  - Weaken host
  - Increase metabolic and caloric needs while decreasing appetite
- Hide in immune-privileged places
- Grow, infiltrate with finger-like growth

#### Cancer Pathophysiology

- Neoplasia growth and spread
  - Growth not faster, just don't die on schedule
  - Depends on number cells dividing or moving through cell cycle
  - Cell cycle timing
  - Number of cells lost
  - Growth factors which facilitate cells to enter
    Go phase when no replacement cells needed

#### Carcinoma vs. Carcinoma in situ



• Basement membrane invasion differentiates carcinoma from carcinoma in situ.

#### Cancer Pathophysiology

- Lack of cellular controls allow growth, detachment, and distant spread
- Spread through blood, lymphatics, direct extension or invasion of surrounding organs and tissues
- Seeding-tumor erodes into body cavities, depositing cells on serosal surfaces; may be iatrogenic

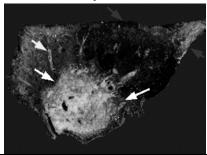
#### Cancer Pathophysiology

- Metastases-tumor cells break loose (detach), traveling to distant parts where implantation occurs
- Invasion
- Establish own blood supply and proliferate

#### **Cancer Metastasis**

- Occurs due to:
  - Infiltration
  - Direct extension
  - Invasion of surrounding tissue
  - Seeding-may be iatrogenic
  - Emboli travel until lodge in capillaries
  - Common sites-liver and lungs

## Lung Adenocarcioma with Projections



#### **Cancer Manifestations**

- Depend on site, size, ability to expand
- Palpable mass
- Pain
- Paraneoplastic syndromes
- Cancer cachexia
- Pneumonias, effusions
- Abnormal bleeding
- Jaundice
- Obstruction
- Pathologic fracture
- Infection
- Hormone production

## Seven Warning Signs of Cancer

- Change in bowel or bladder habits
- $\bullet$   $\underline{A}$  sore that does not heal
- $\bullet$  <u>*U*</u>nusual bleeding or discharge
- <u>Thickening</u> or lump
- <u>Indigestion</u> or difficulty swallowing
- **O**bvious change in wart or mole
- Nagging cough or hoarseness


## Significance of Cancer Cachexia

- Definition-nutritional deterioration of unknown etiology influencing therapy responses and survival
- Cachectin (TNF) secreted by macrophages and NK cells-blocks triglyceride uptake by cells; produces a shock-like endotoxin; directly toxic to tumor cells

#### Cancer Cachexia

- Often presenting sign of malignancyadvanced
- Weight loss-poor indicator of survival in all tumor types
- Incidence varies, most significant in GI cancers

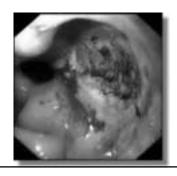
#### **Cancer Complications**

- Depend on cancer characteristics
- Infections
- Malnutrition
- Dehydration
- Hemorrhage-ulceration, necrosis
- Obstruction of viscera
- Serous cavity effusions
- Pain

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# Adenocarcinoma of Colon with Lymph Metastases

#### Gastric Cancer with Necrosis



Primary Tumor	(T)
TX	Primary tumor cannot be assessed.
TO	No evidence of primary tumor.
Tis	Carcinoma in situ.
T1, T2, T3, T4	Increasing size and/or local extent of the primary tumor.
Regional Lymp	h Nodes (N)
NX	Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed
N0	No regional lymph node metastasis.
N1, N2, N3	Increasing involvement of regional lymph nodes.
Distant Metast	asis (M)
MX Presen	ce of distant metastasis cannot be assessed.
M0 No dist	ant metastasis.
M1 Distant	metastasis

### **Grading of Cancer**

- GX-grade can not be determined
- G1-tumor cells well-differentiated, closely resembling parent or tissue of origin
- G2-tumor cells moderately differentiated, retain some parent tissue characteristics
- G3-tumor cells poorly differentiated, parent tissue identity usually able to be established
- G4-tumor cells poorly differentiated, tissue origin difficult or impossible to determine