

Small Neuroendocrine Carcinoma of the Rectum Entirely Covered by an Adenomatous Component

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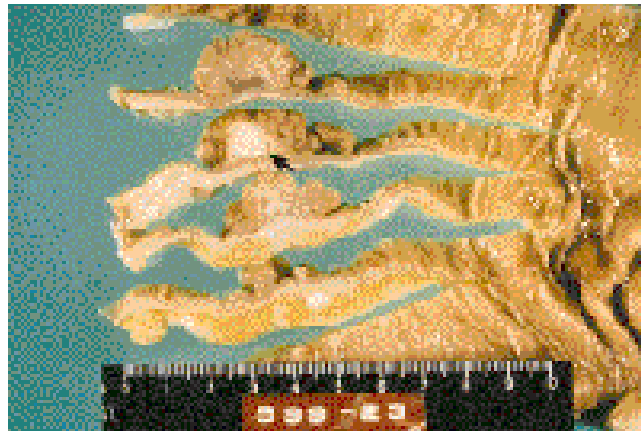


Figure 1 **a** Neuroendocrine carcinoma (NEC) of the large intestine is a rare condition with an extremely poor prognosis. At autopsy, a laterally spreading tumor (LST) 5 cm in diameter was found in the rectum in a 54-year-old woman who had multiple liver and bone metastases of unknown origin. **b** Cross section of the LST revealed, however, the coexistence of a whitish round tumor (arrow) beneath the brownish LST.

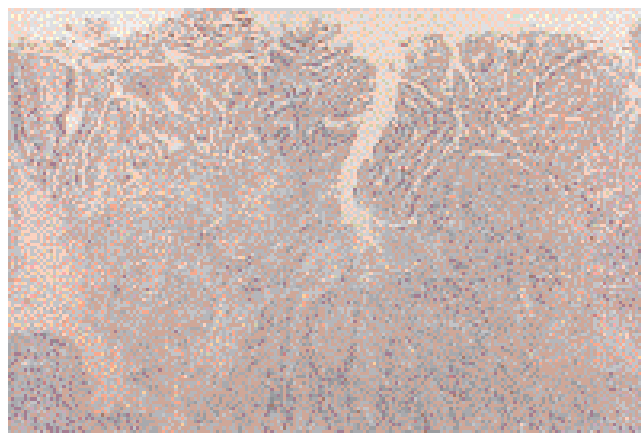


Figure 2 Pathological examination revealed the LST to be a tubulovillous adenoma and the round tumor to be NEC. The extensive metastases resulted from the NEC which was just 1 cm in diameter (haematoxylin and eosin stain, original magnification $\times 12$).