

# Atypical “Sclerosing” Osteoblastic Neoplasm

A Tumor of Intermediate Biological Potential Between Usual Osteoblastoma and Conventional Osteosarcoma

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# Osteogenic tumours

## Benign

Osteoma

Osteoid osteoma

## Intermediate (locally aggressive)

Osteoblastoma

## Malignant

Low-grade central osteosarcoma

Conventional osteosarcoma

    Chondroblastic osteosarcoma

    Fibroblastic osteosarcoma

    Osteoblastic osteosarcoma

Telangiectatic osteosarcoma

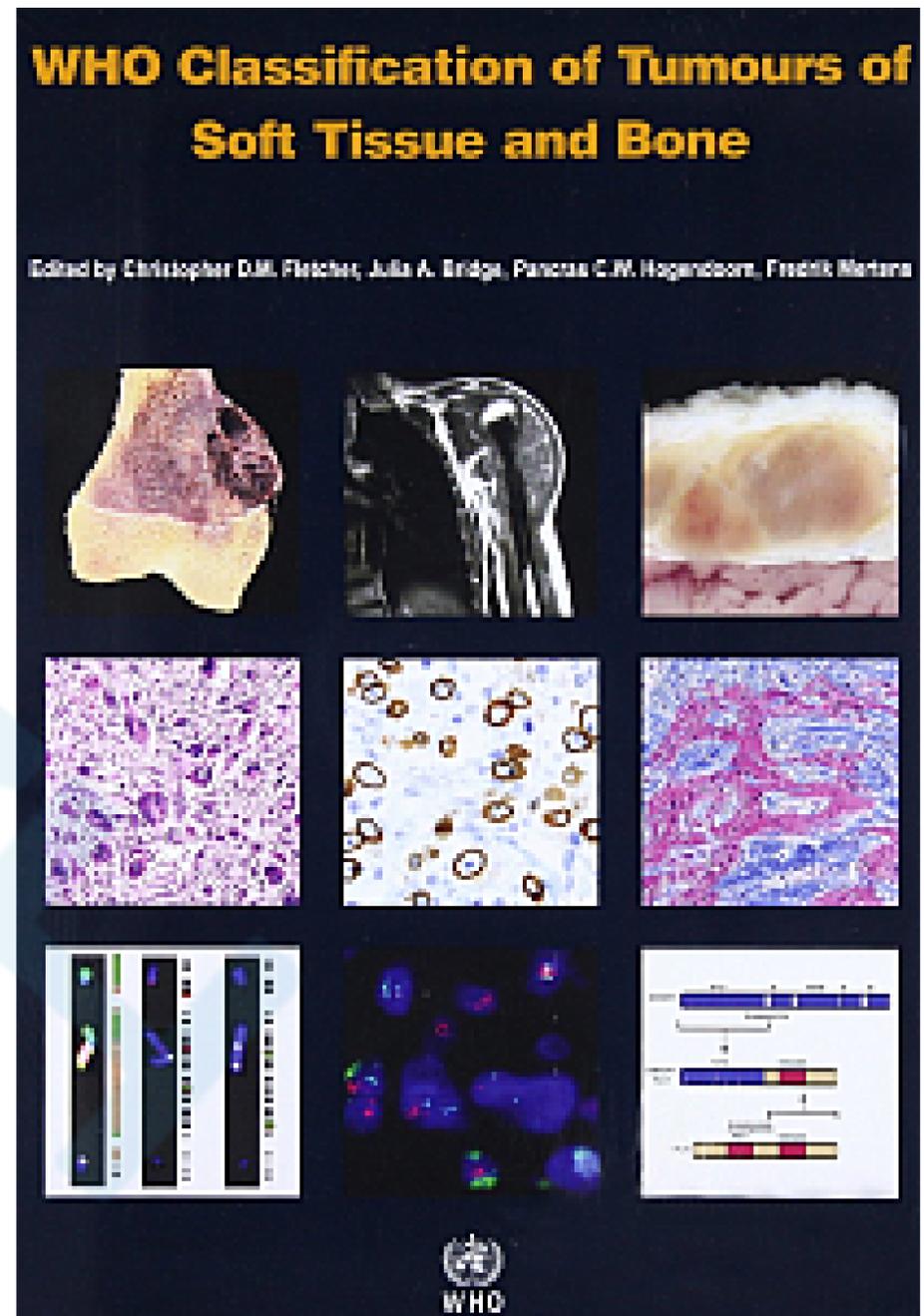
Small cell osteosarcoma

Secondary osteosarcoma

Parosteal osteosarcoma

Periosteal osteosarcoma

High-grade surface osteosarcoma



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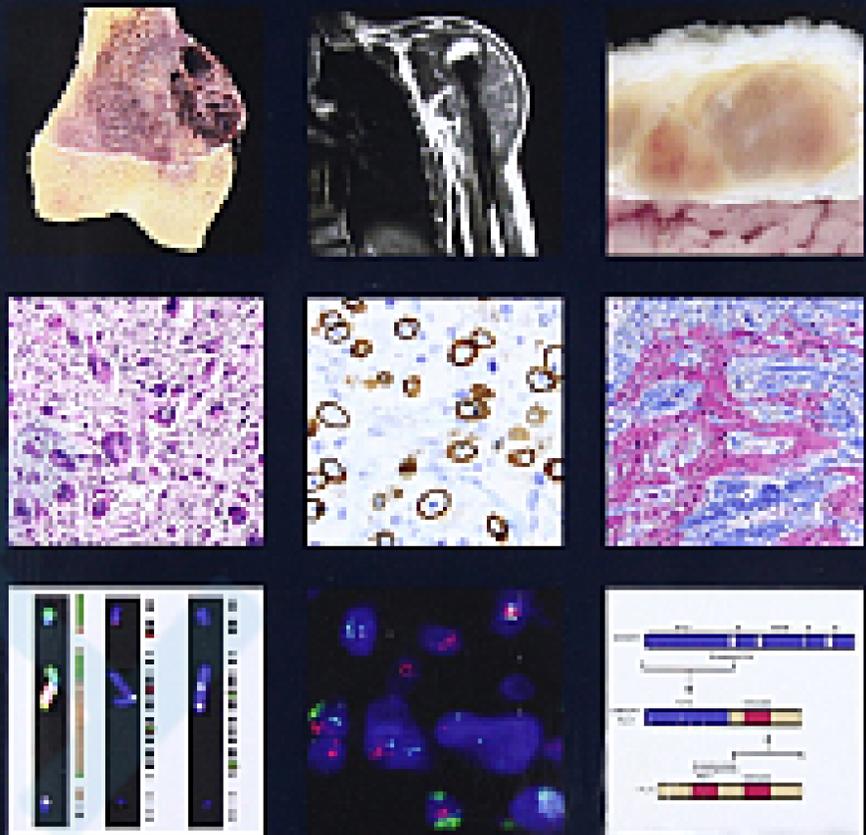
Parosteal osteosarcoma

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High-grade surface osteosarcoma

## WHO Classification of Tumours of Soft Tissue and Bone

Edited by Christopher D.M. Fletcher, Julia A. Bridge, Patricia C.W. Hogendoorn, Fredrik Mertens



# Osteoblastoma ( OB )

## Definition

A benign bone-forming neoplasm, > 2 cm, which produces woven bone spicules, which are bordered by prominent osteoblasts

- Incidence: 1%
- Gender: M : F = 2.5 : 1
- Age: 10 ~ 30 ( 5 ~ 70 )
- Site:

Posterior elements of spine and sacrum (40 ~ 55%)

Proximal femur, distal femur and proximal tibia

# Background

- Conventional OB is considered a **benign** neoplasm, lacking the ability to metastasize, though approximately one fifth of tumors do **locally recur**
- Whether OB can transform or dedifferentiate into an osteosarcoma (OS ) acquiring metastatic potential, remains **controversial**
- The recognized histomorphologic **overlap of OB with OS**, particularly the relatively recently described **OB-like OS**, adds further to this controversy

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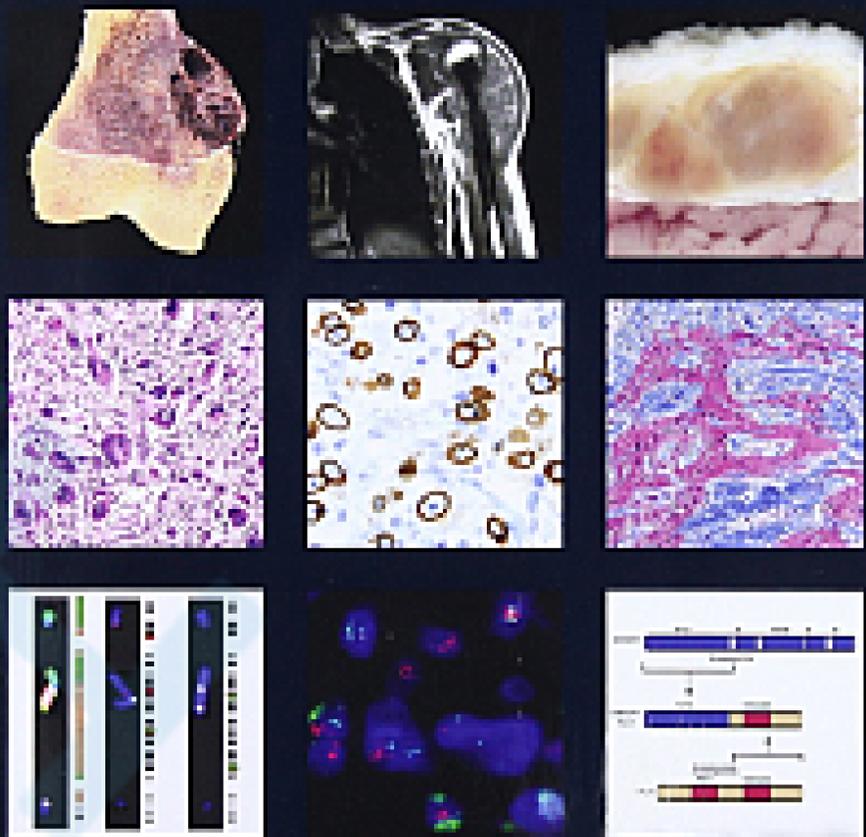


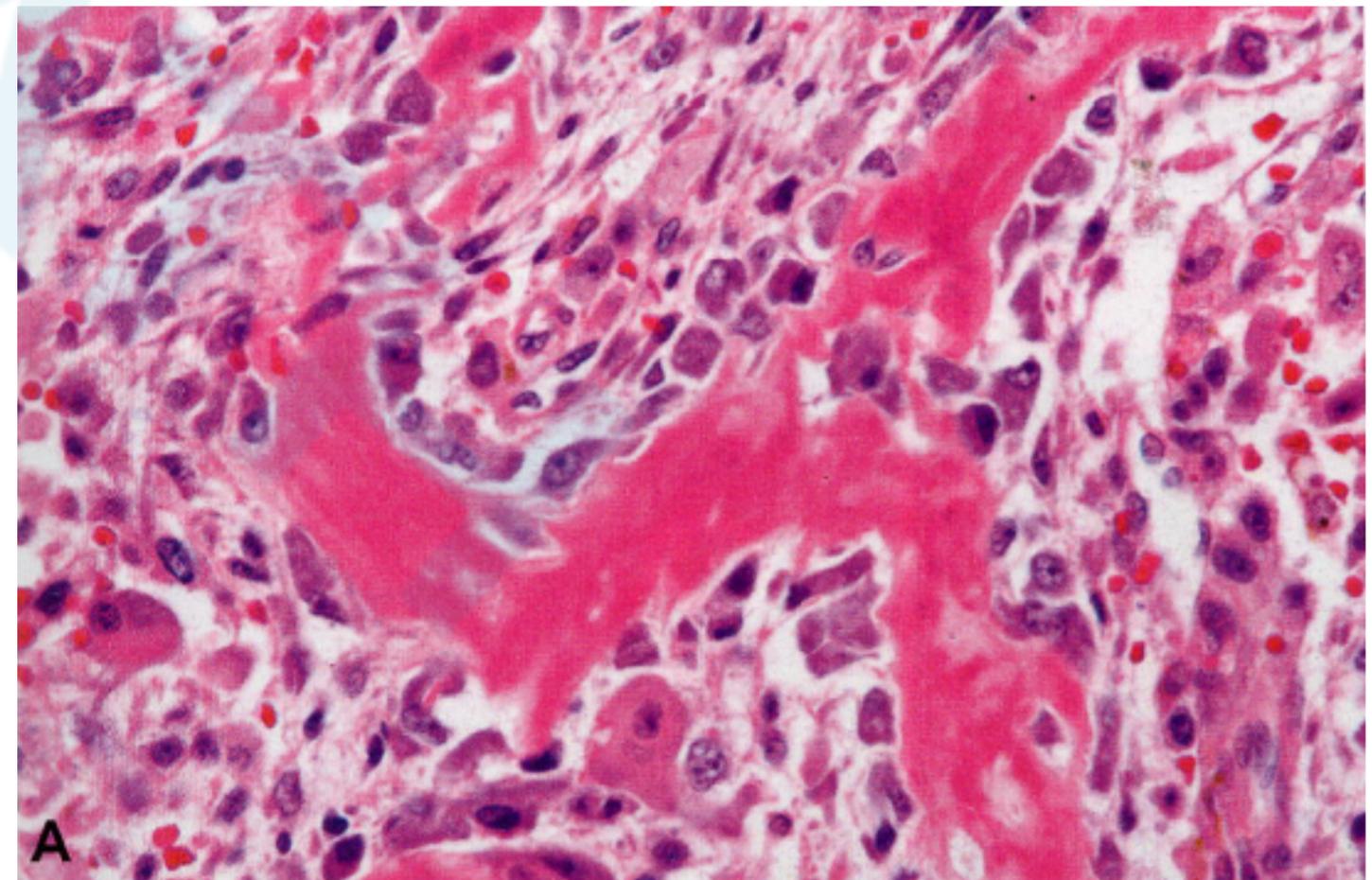
Table 16.01 Histological subtypes of osteosarcoma

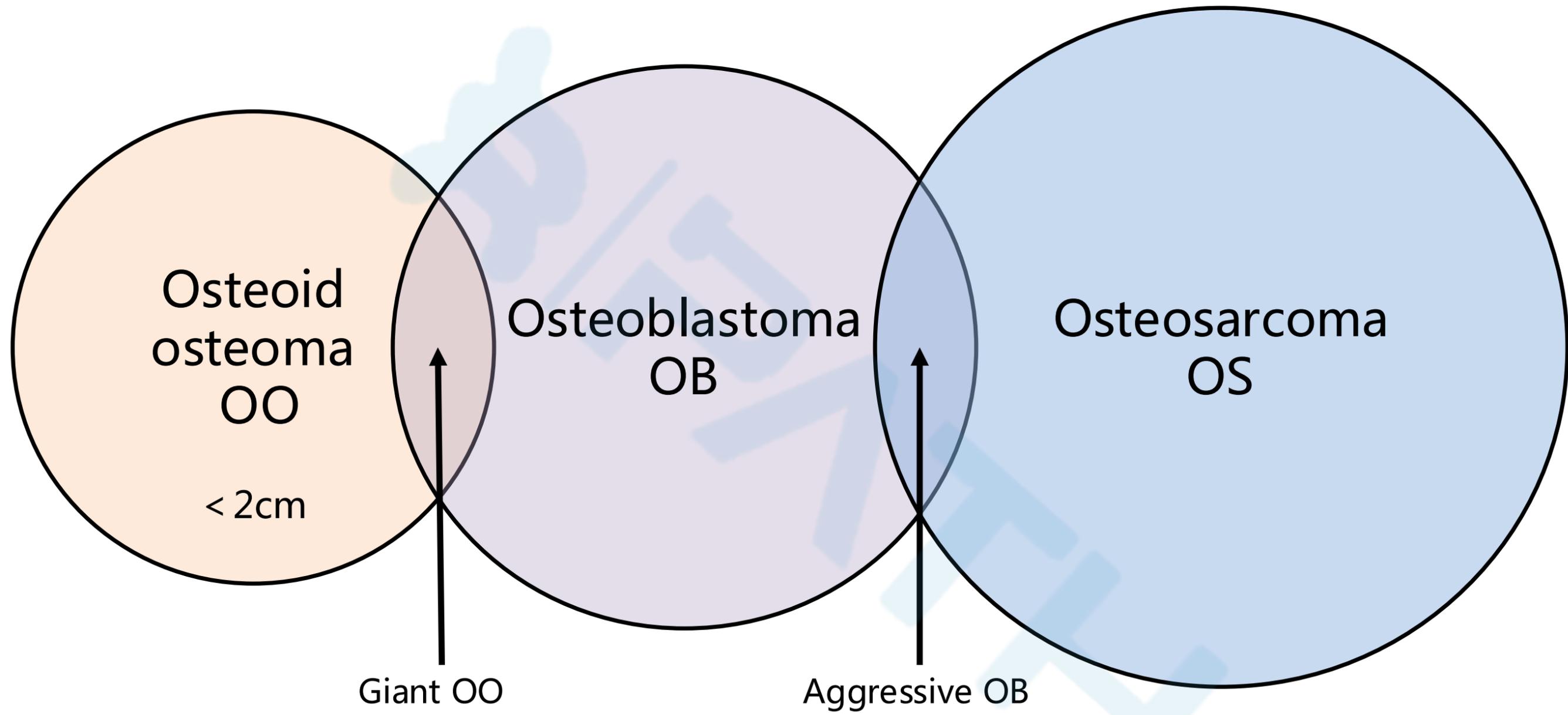
Osteoblastic (including sclerosing)
Chondroblastic
Fibroblastic
Giant cell rich
<b>Osteoblastoma-like</b>
<b>OB-like OS</b>
Epithelioid
Clear cell
Chondroblastoma-like

## OB-like OS is a rare variant of OS

- Sometimes described as a high-grade malignancy and at other times as a low-grade neoplasm, largely based on differing clinical behavior
- The pathologic criteria that define it include peripheral **permeation** of the neoplasm into the surrounding bone, **cellular sheets** of tumor cells devoid of vascular stroma, and an elevated **mitotic rate (3-10/10HPF)**

acterize the epithelioid variant {1474}. In the osteoblastoma-like variant, the tumour cells may rim the neoplastic bony trabeculae in a fashion that mimics osteoblastoma. Features that permit its distinction are the permeative growth pattern, cells that are cytologically atypical and cellular intertrabecular regions {204}. The chondro-





Osteoid  
osteoma  
OO

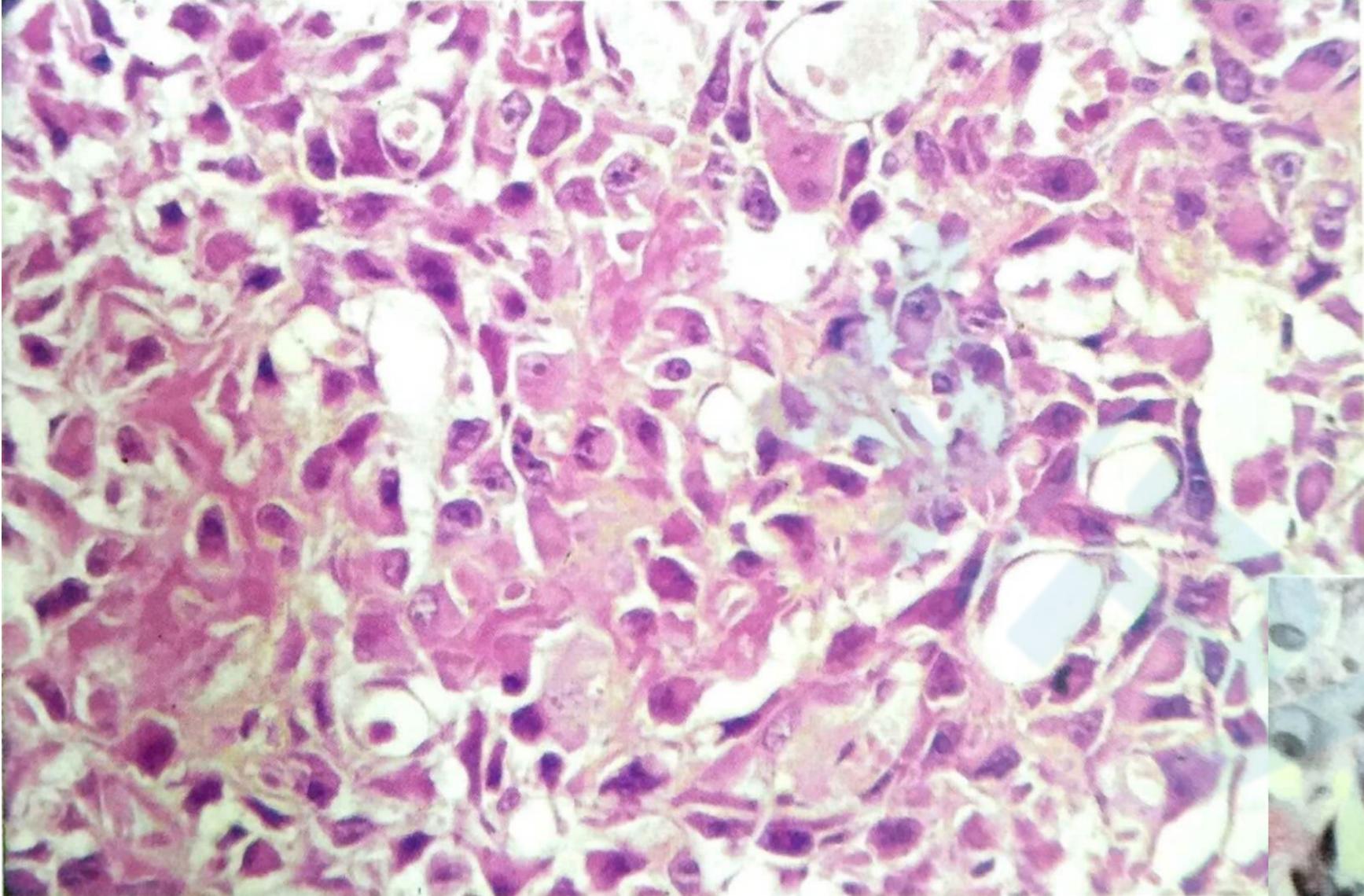
< 2cm

Giant OO

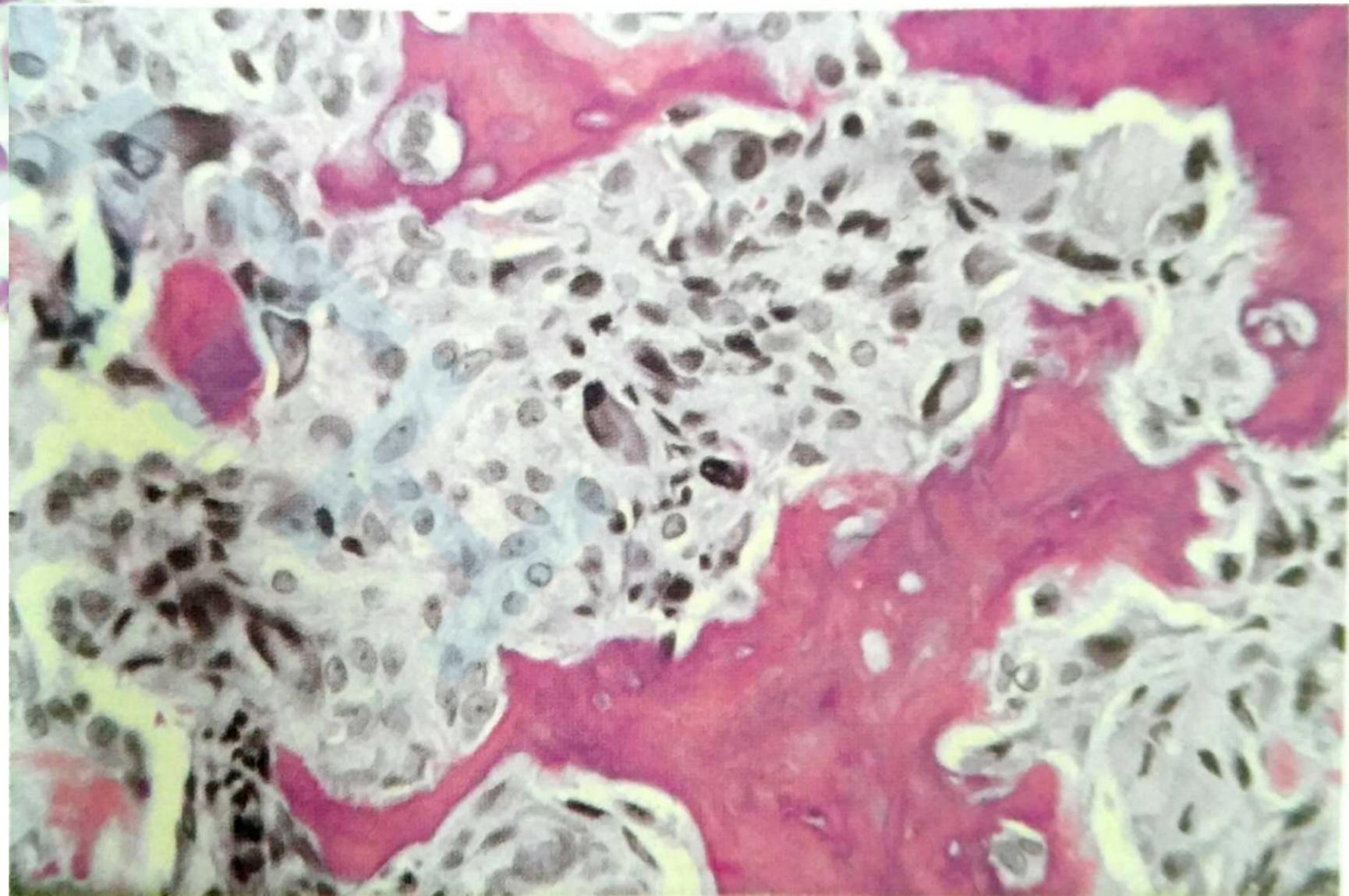
Osteoblastoma  
OB

Aggressive OB

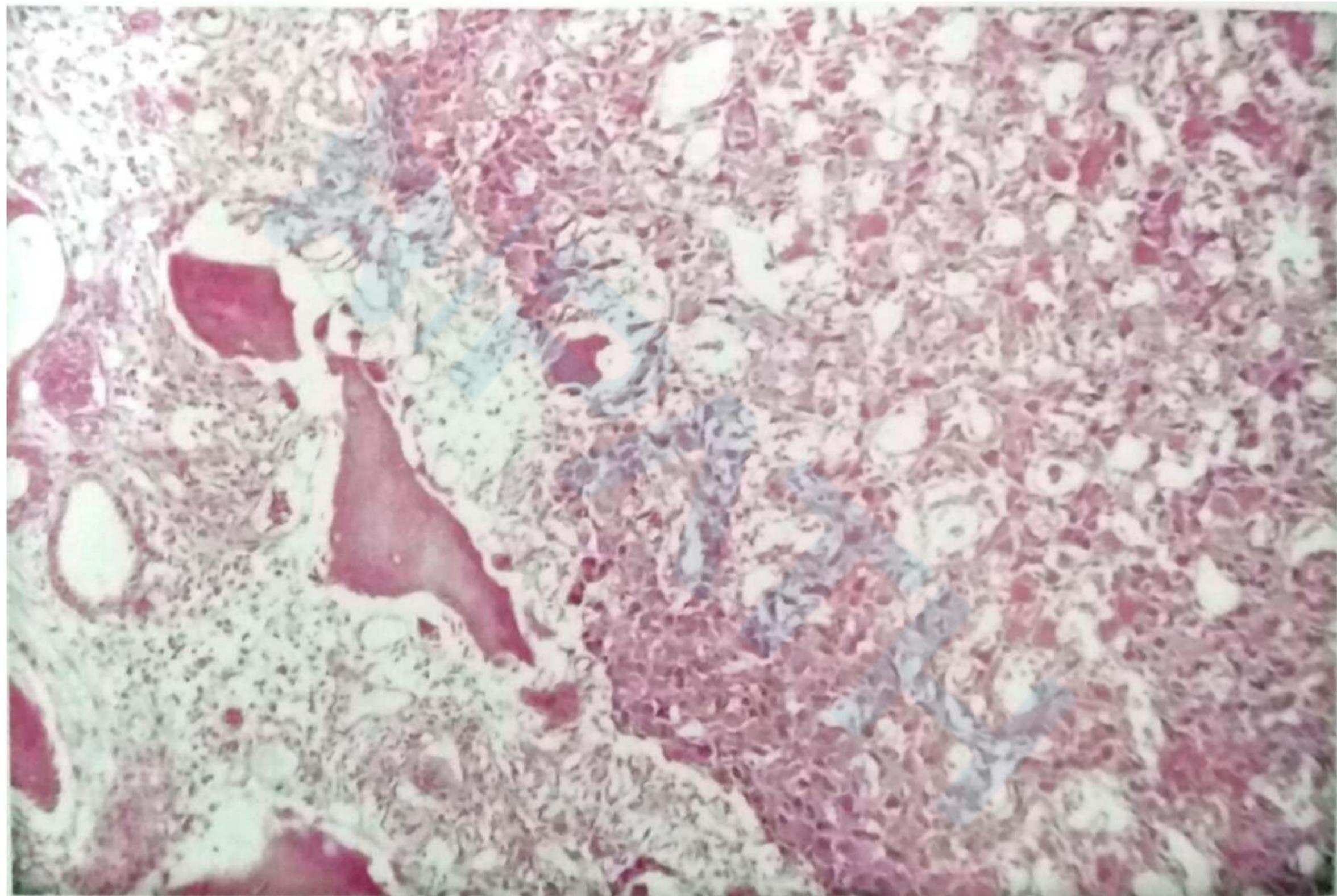
Osteosarcoma  
OS



OB-like OS



Aggressive OB



# A group of bone-forming tumors

## **Histologically**

- Distinct from conventional OB
- Not typical of aggressive OB
- Not meeting the criteria for OS

## **Microscopically**

- Compact, sclerosing sheet-like neoplastic bone
- Few osteoblasts
- Minor OB-like areas

## **Radiographic**

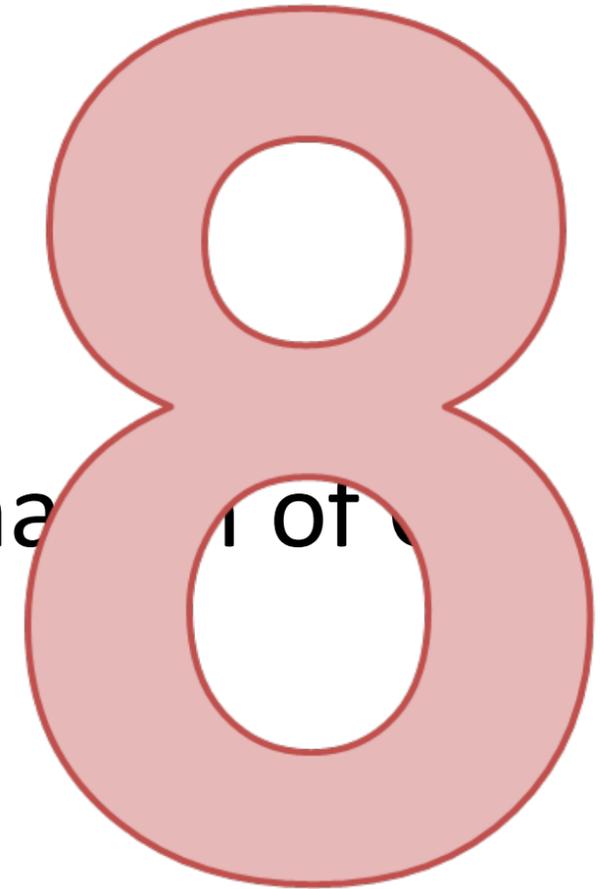
- Not helpful in predicting behavior
- Typically lacked aggressive features

# MATERIAL AND METHODS

- Over 22 years
- 3 co-authors
- Diagnoses of atypical OB, malignant transformation of well-differentiated OS, and OB-like OS
- Tumors had to demonstrate

Majority: **predominantly compact, sclerosing sheet-like pattern of neoplastic bone with few osteoblasts**

Minor: conventional OB like areas, without any evidence of permeation

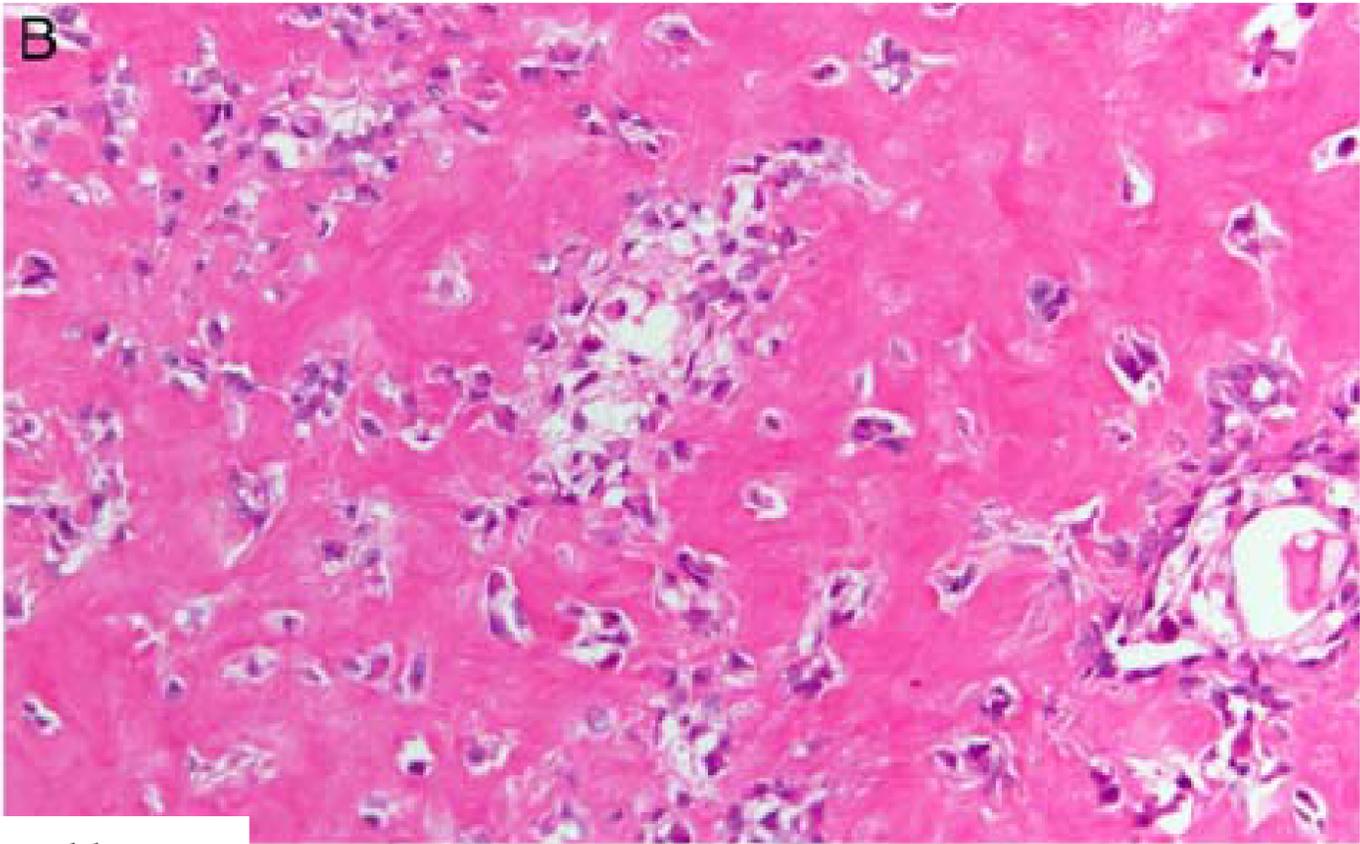
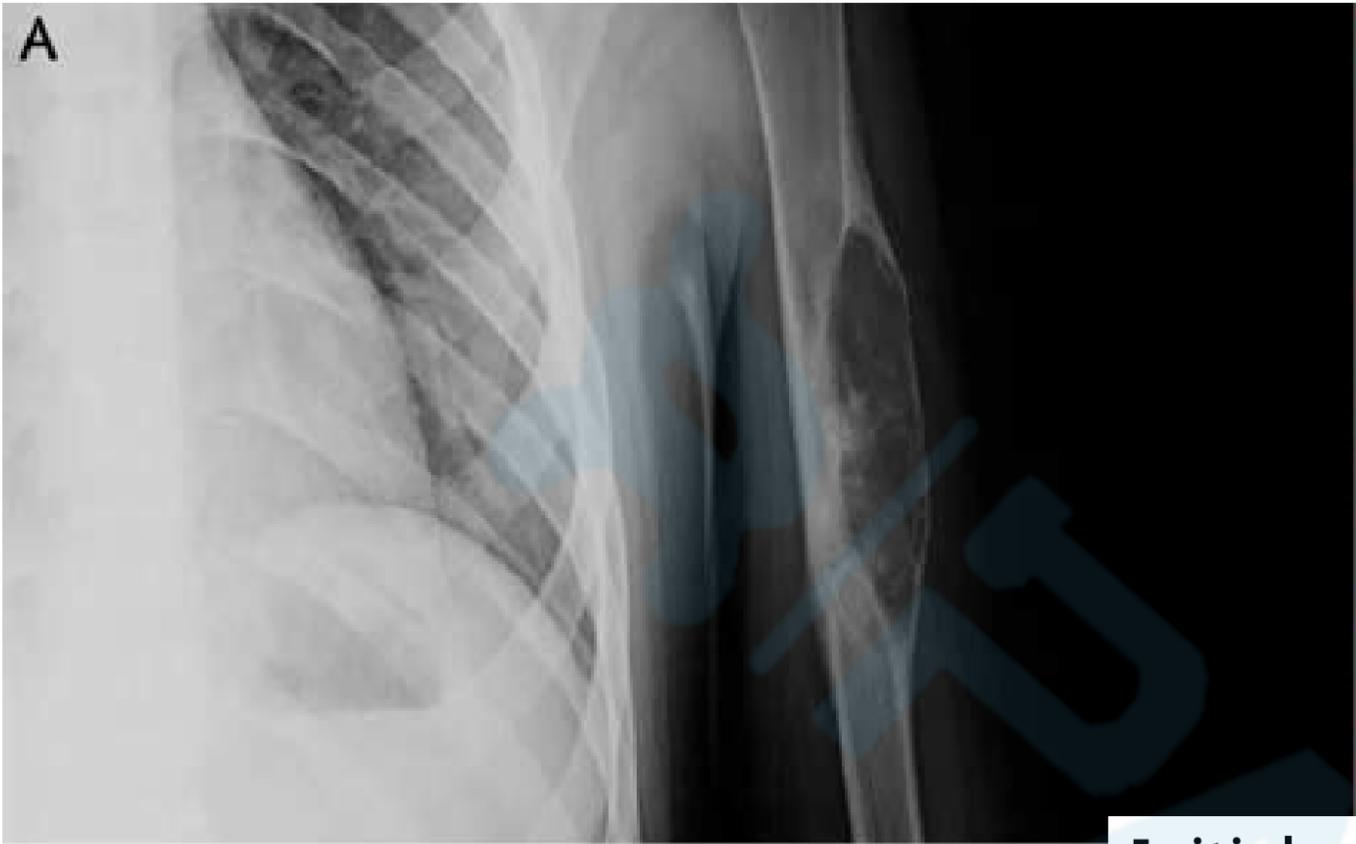


# RESULTS

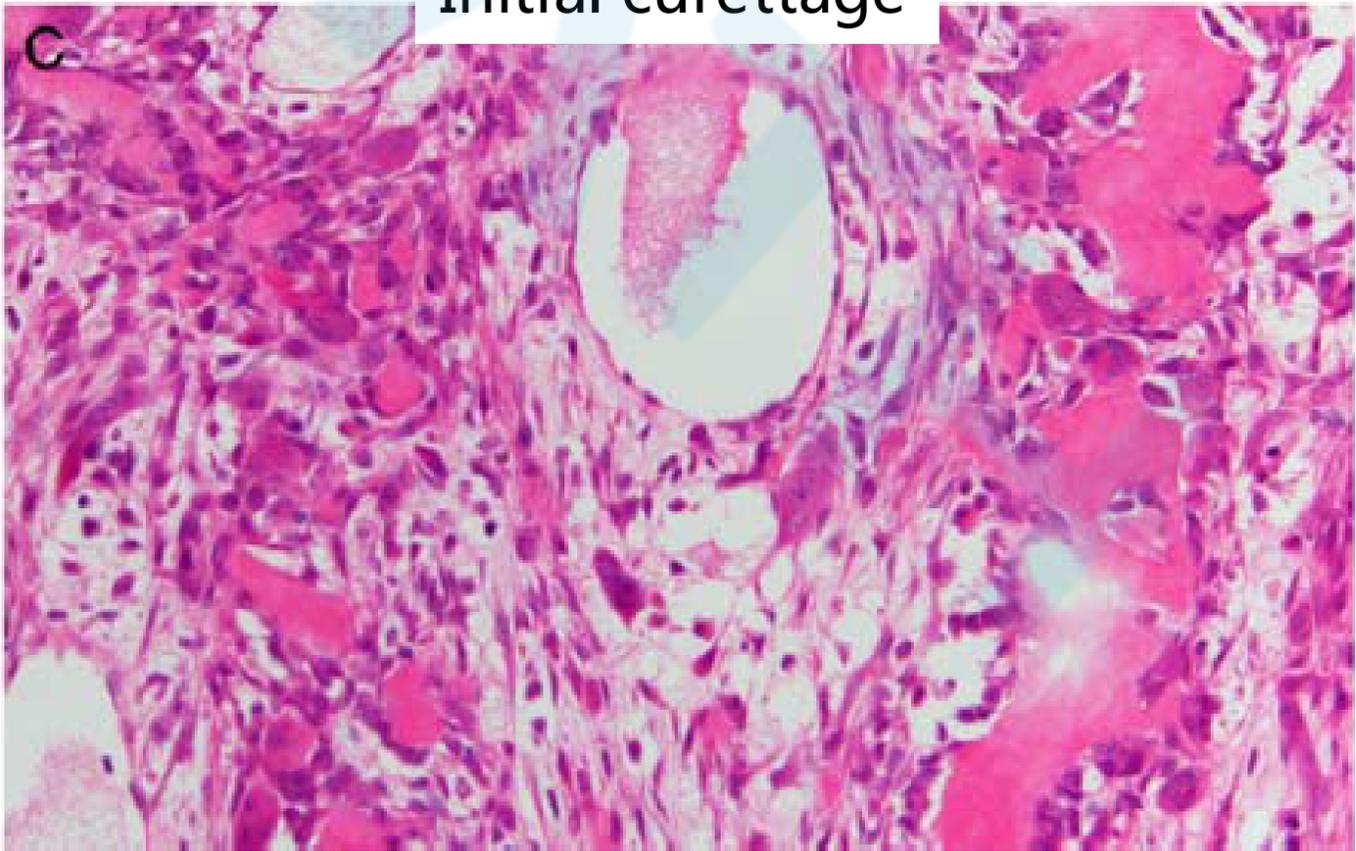
**TABLE 1. Clinical and Histopathologic Features of Atypical Sclerosing Osteoblastic Neoplasms**

Case	Age (y)/Sex	Site	Initial Diagnosis	Initial Treatment	Follow-up
1	12/M	Left humerus	Osteblastoma*	Curettage	Local recurrence, 8 mo. Dx rendered "atypical osteoblastic lesion, most consistent with osteosarcoma." Lost to follow-up, 1 y
2	11/M	Left femur	Unusual bone-forming lesion, most consistent with osteosarcoma*	En bloc intralesional resection	Local recurrence, 2 y. Dx rendered "atypical osteoblastic lesion, most consistent with osteblastoma-like osteosarcoma." AWD, 3 y 10 mo
3	22/M	Right fibula	Osteblastoma	Curettage	Local recurrence, 4 mo. Dx unchanged. En bloc resection with negative margins. NED, 1.5 y
4	25/F	Right fibula	Subperiosteal sclerosing osteblastoma*	Curettage	Local recurrence, 3 y 1 mo. Dx unchanged. En block resection, osteblastoma* with negative margins. NED, 11.5 y
5	38/F	Right 2nd metatarsal	Osteoblastic osteosarcoma*	Curettage & en bloc resection, negative margins	Considered a low grade osteosarcoma. NED, 9.5 y
6	55/M	Left 3rd metatarsal	Osteblastoma	Curettage & en bloc resection, negative margins	Local recurrence, 3 y. Dx rendered "osteosarcoma" with comment that it may represent "malignant degeneration of an osteblastoma." BKA, lost to follow-up. DOD, 11 y
7	27/M	Tibia	Osteosarcoma*	BKA	BKA performed after initial diagnostic biopsy. NED, 3 y
8	16/M	Right 1st metatarsal	Atypical sclerosing osteoblastic neoplasm*	Curettage	No local recurrence as of 9 mo. Patient actively being followed

# Case 1

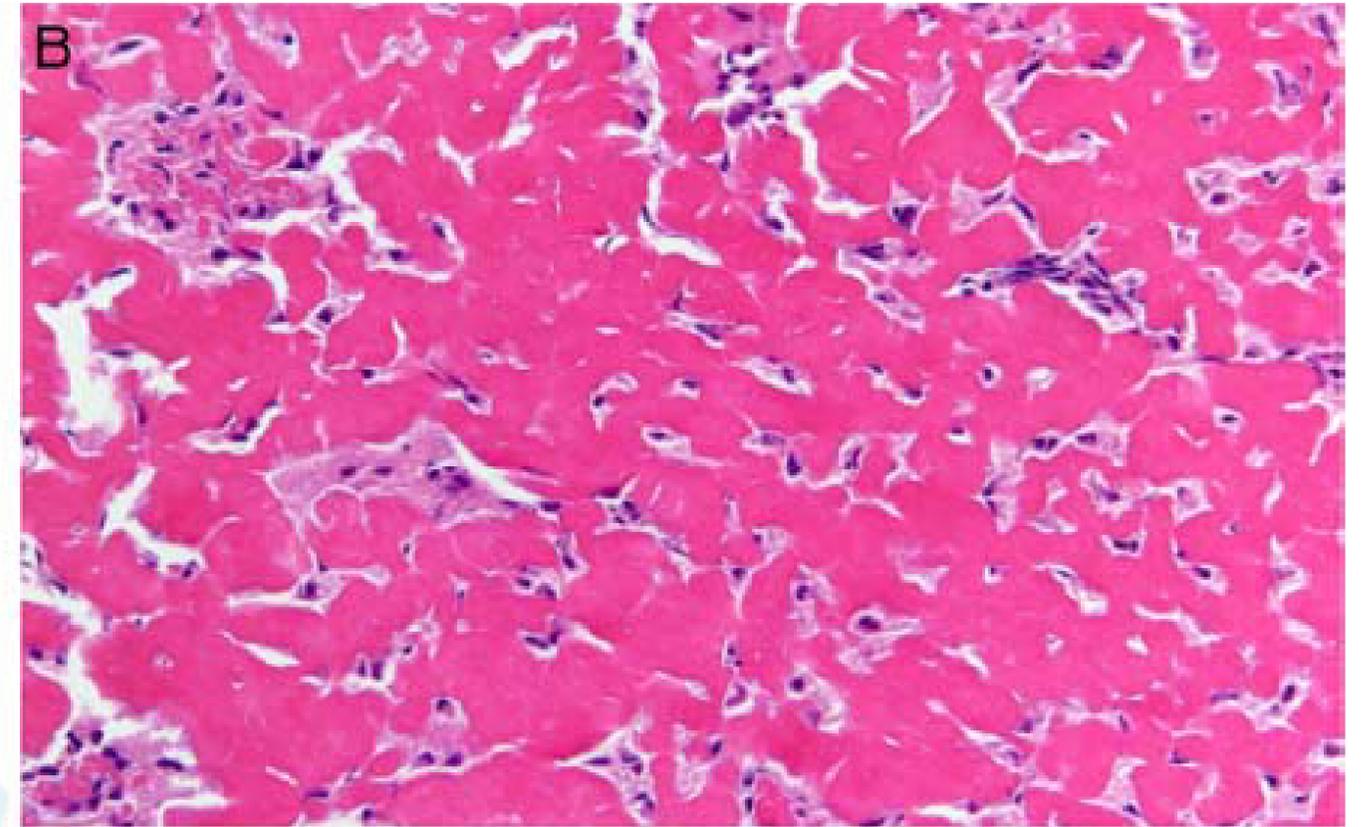


Initial curettage



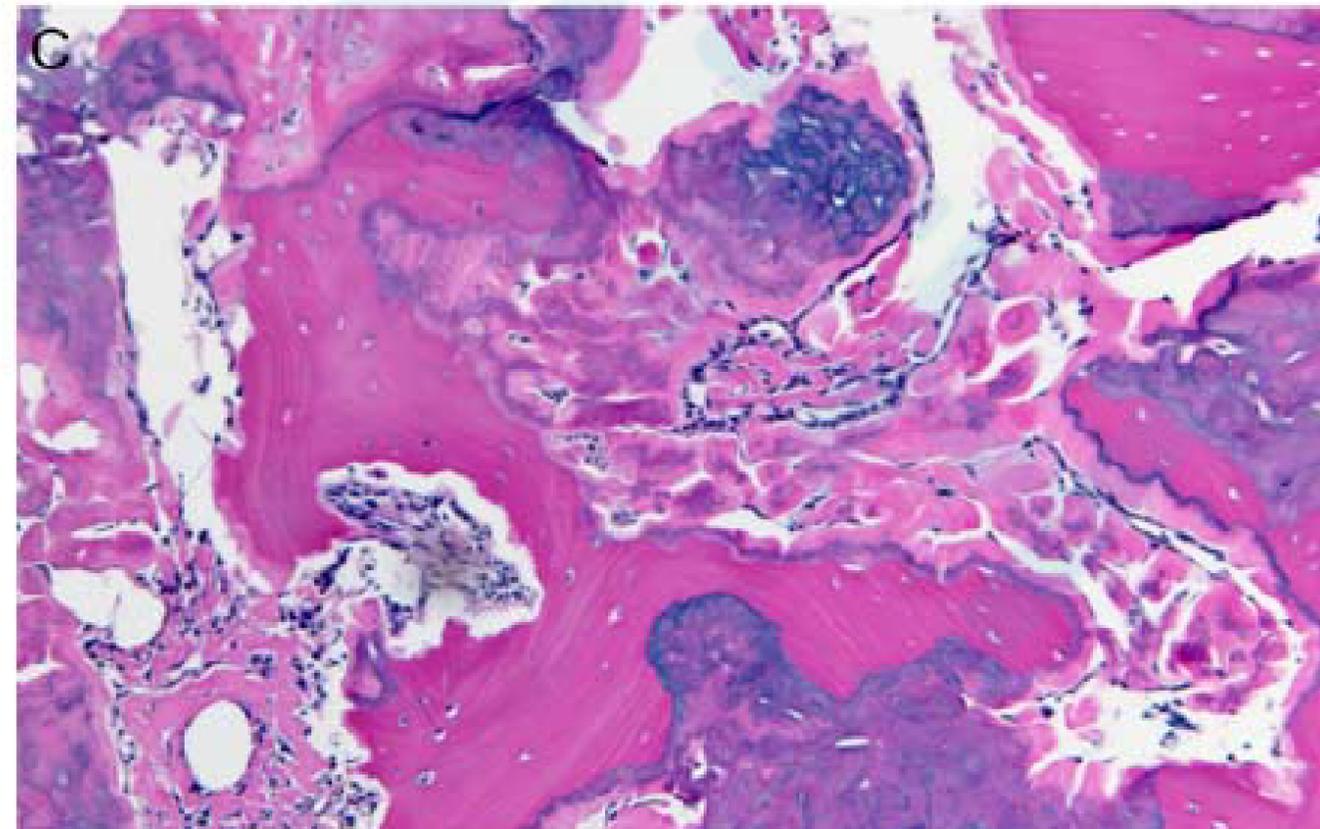
Local recurrence, 8 mo.  
Dx rendered "atypical osteoblastic lesion, most consistent with osteosarcoma."  
Lost to follow-up, 1 y

# Case 2



Initial curettage  
“unusual bone-forming lesion”

Local recurrence  
En bloc intralesional resection  
Focally permeative pattern  
“Atypical osteoblastic lesion, most consistent with osteblastoma-like osteosarcoma”



Local recurrence, 2 y  
AWD\*, 3 y 10 mo

\*AWD indicates alive with disease

# Case 3



Curettage

Local recurrence, 4 mo. Dx unchanged

En bloc resection with negative margins

NED\*, 1.5 y

\*NED, no evidence of disease

“osteoblastoma” with soft tissue extension

## Case 4



Curettage

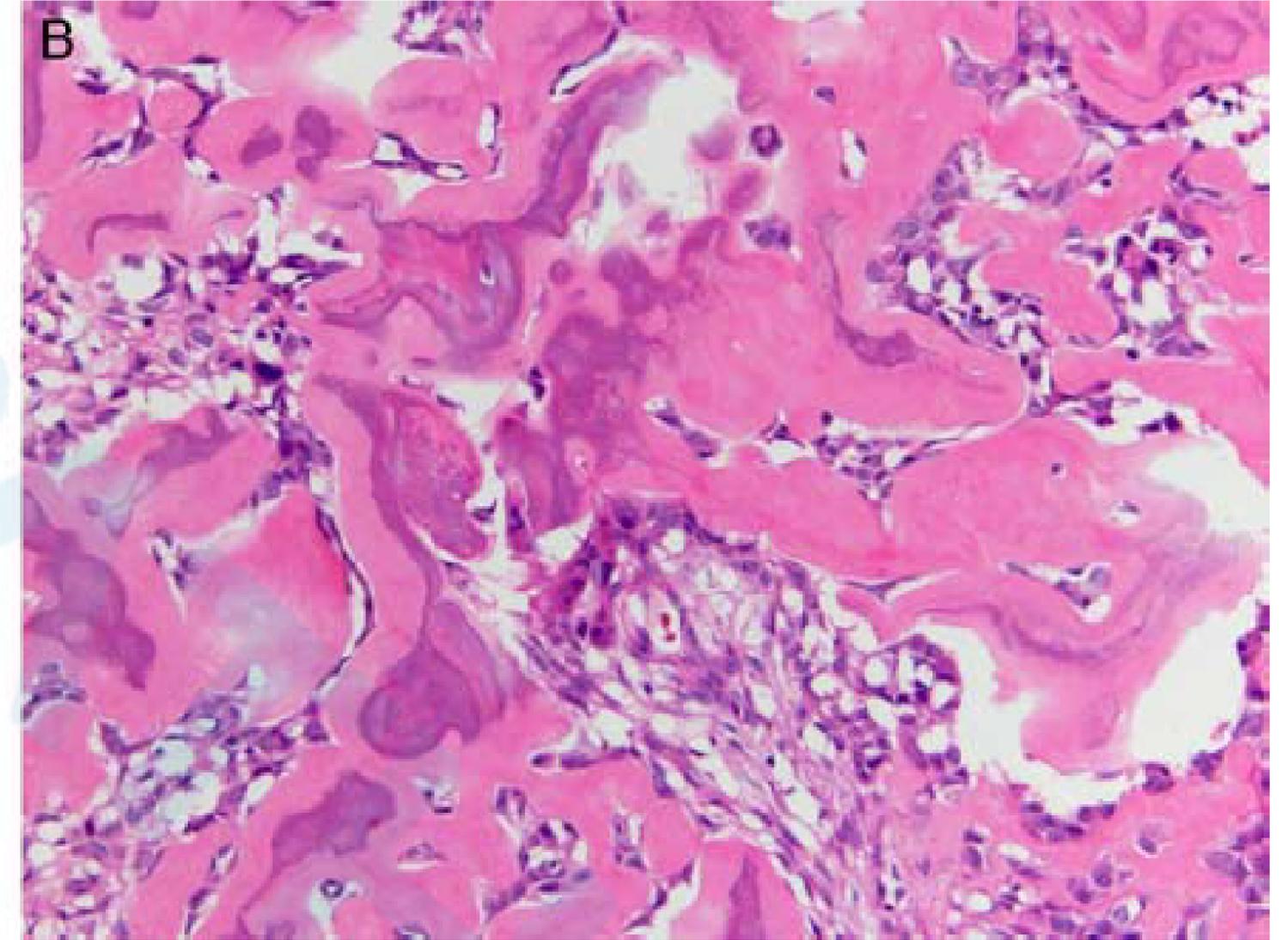
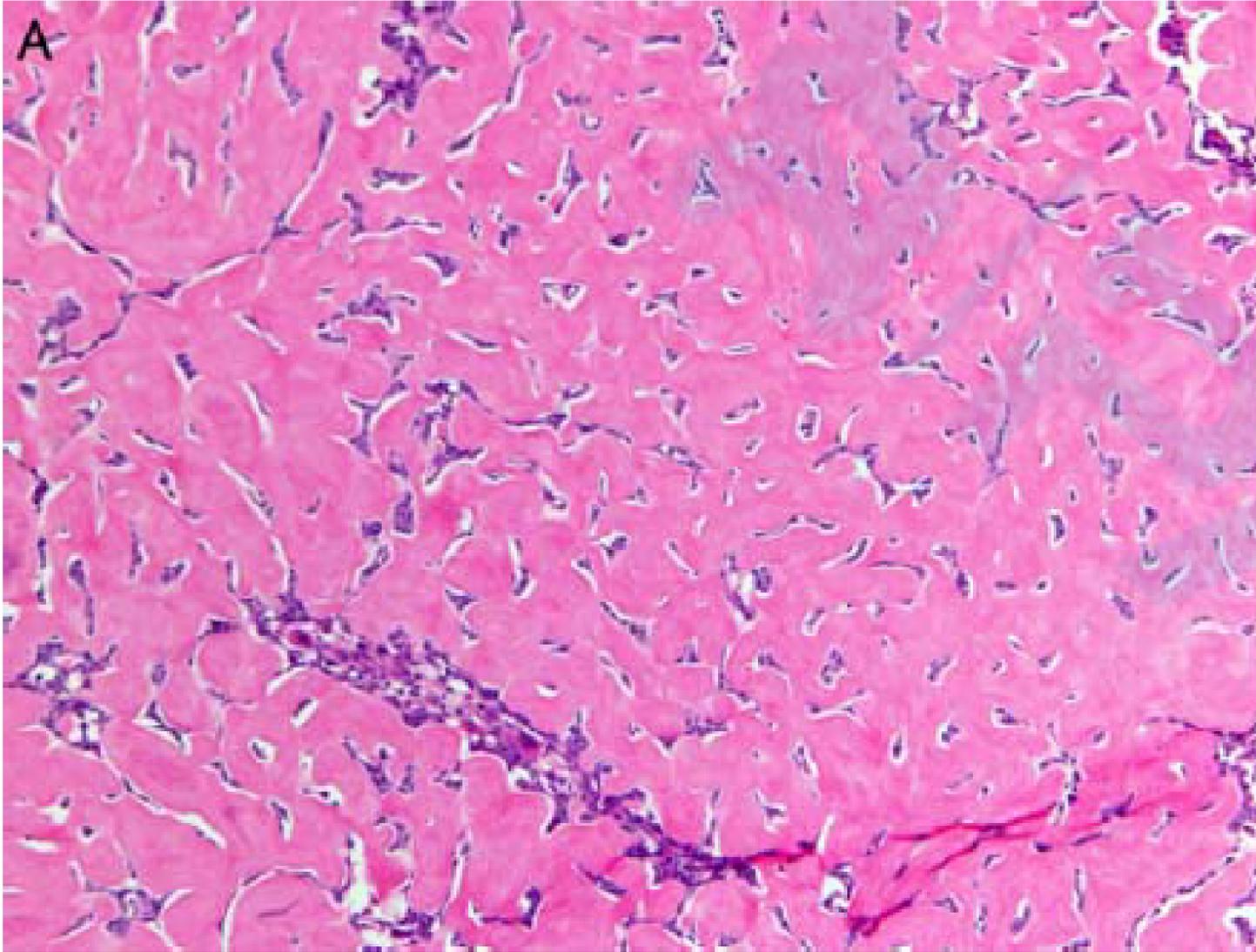
Local recurrence, 3 y 1 mo. Dx unchanged

En block resection with negative margins

NED, 11.5 y

“Subperiosteal sclerosing osteoblastoma”  
appears circumscribed and nonaggressive

# Case 5

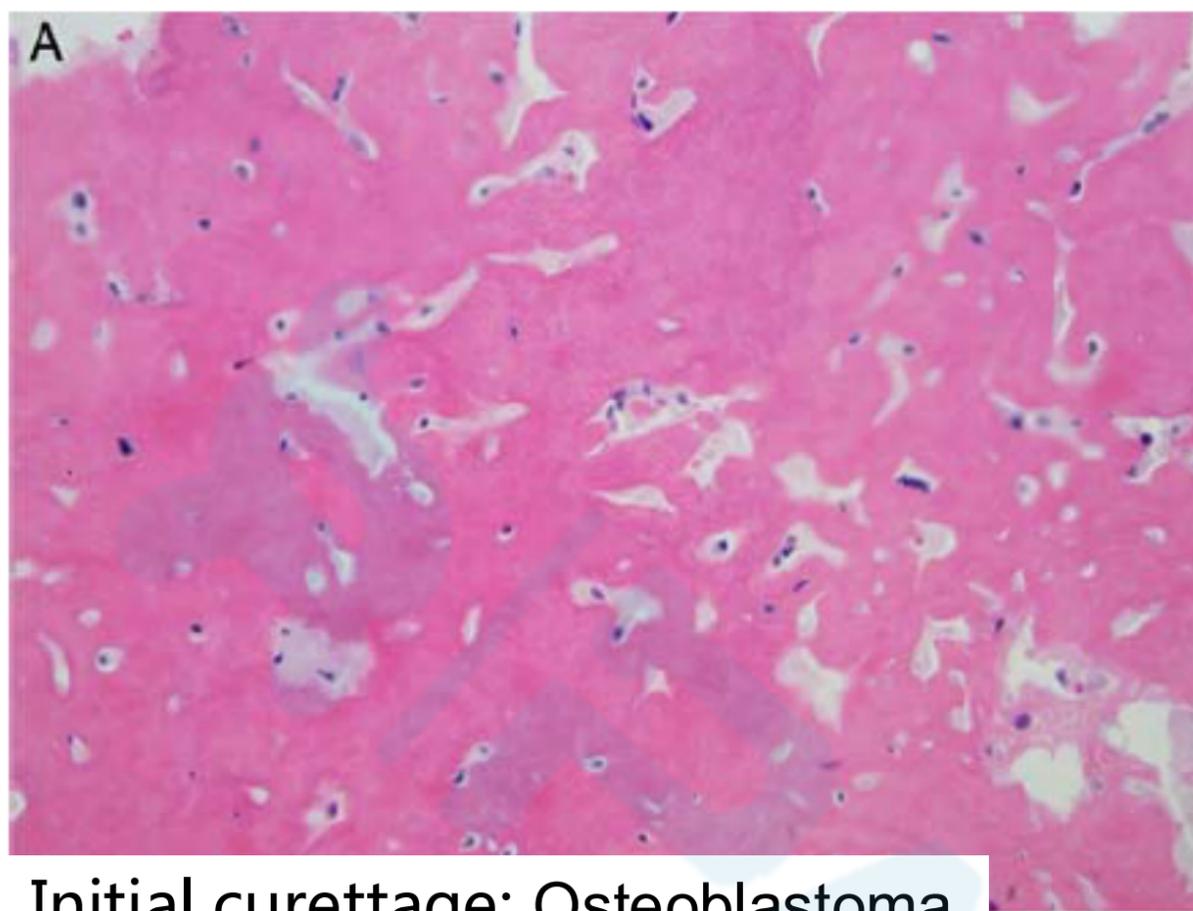


Initial Diagnosis: "osteoblastic osteosarcoma"

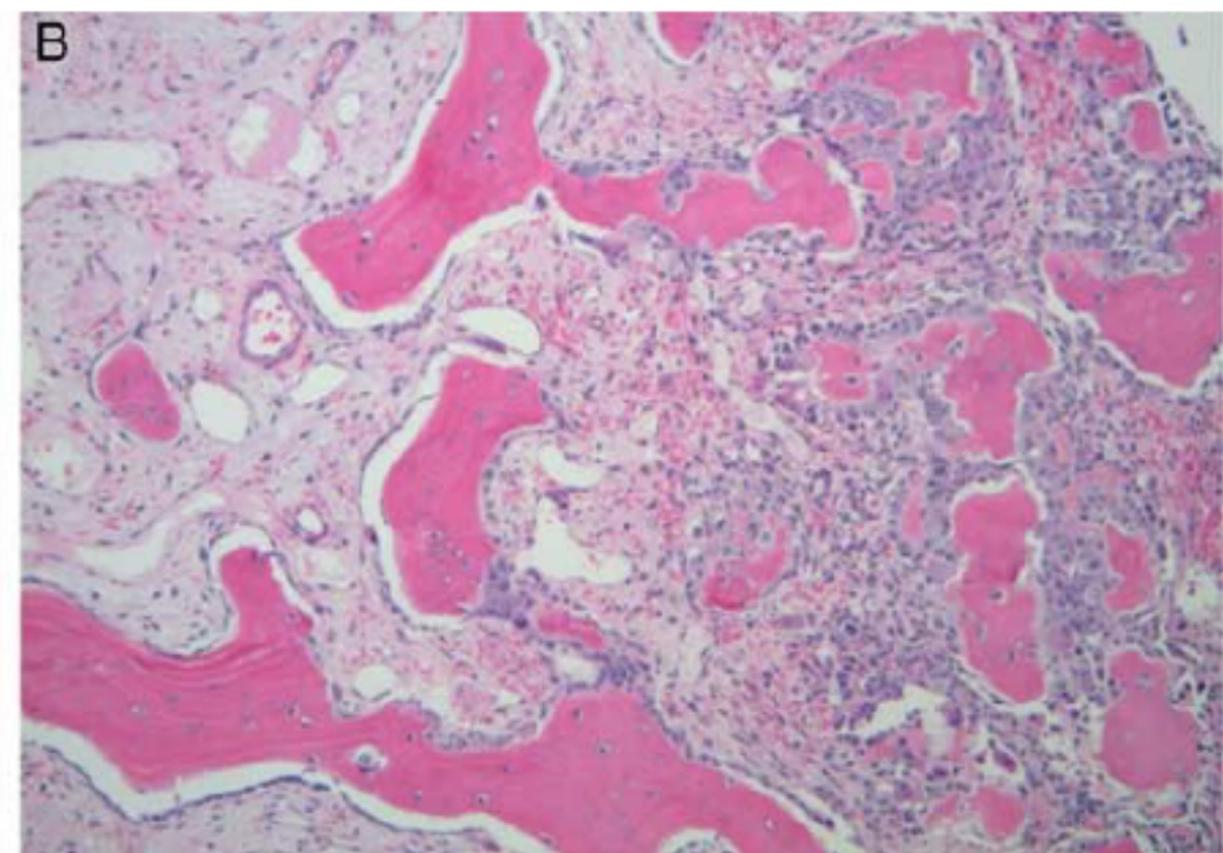
A minority of foci were more typical of osteoblastoma

Curettage & en bloc resection, negative margins  
Considered a low grade osteosarcoma. NED, 9.5 y

# Case 6



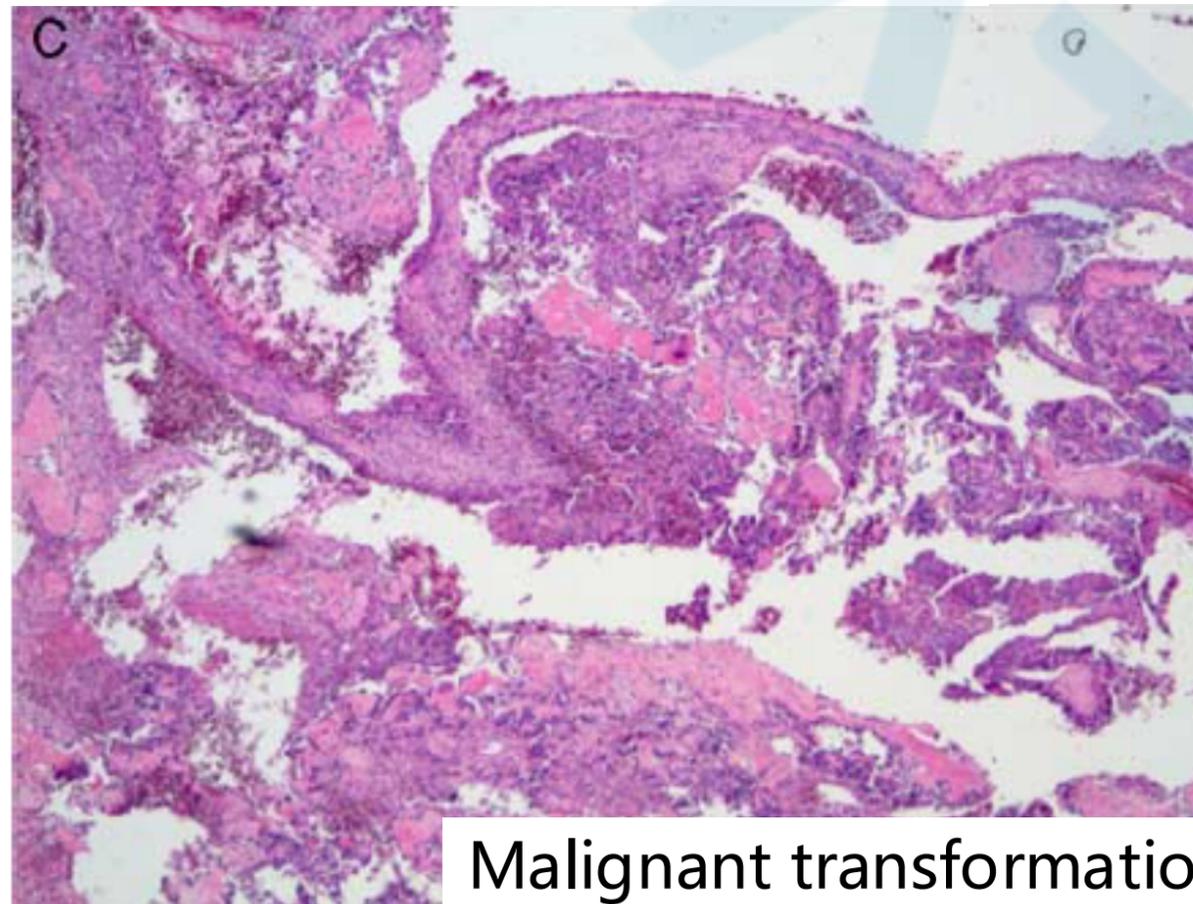
Initial curettage: Osteoblastoma



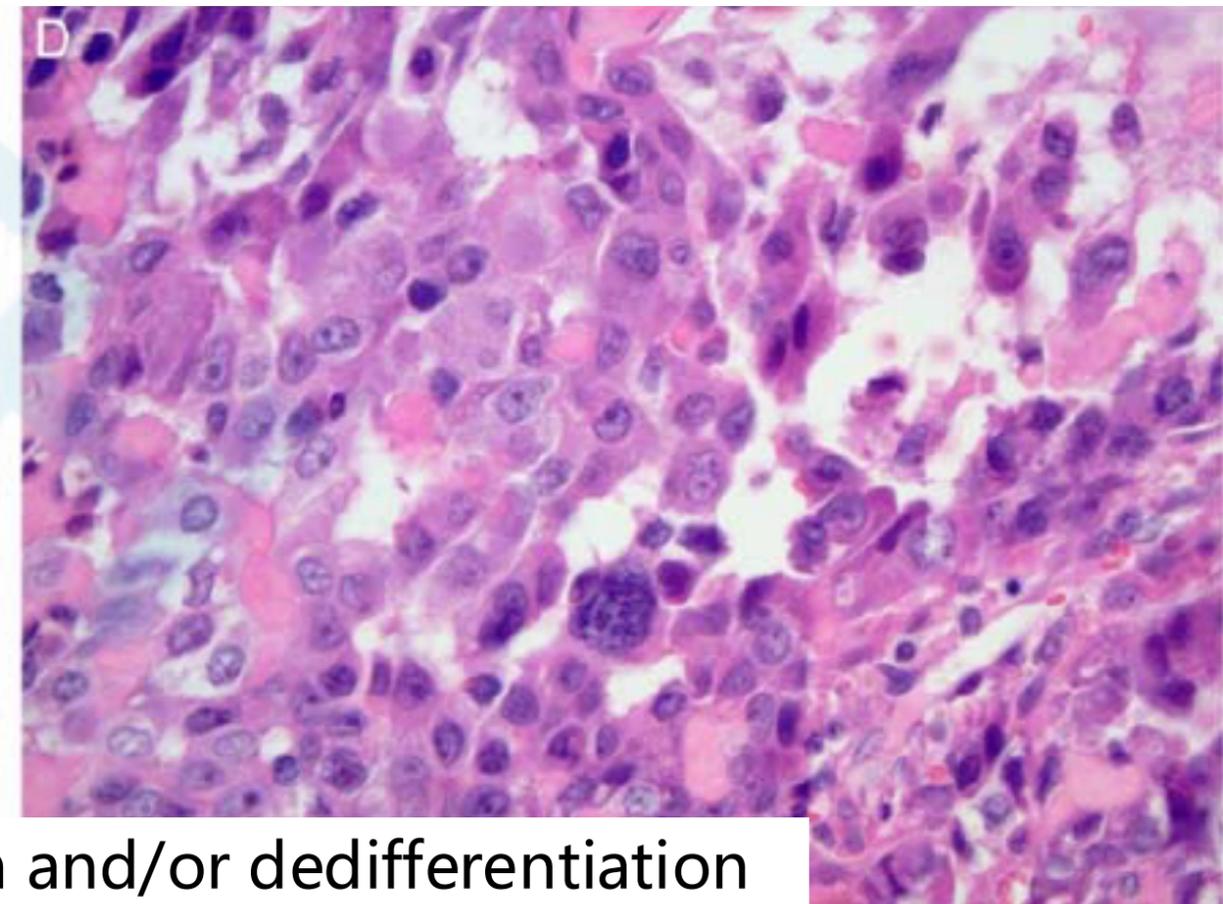
Classic osteoblastoma-type appearance

Curettage & en bloc resection, negative margins

Local recurrence, 3 y  
BKA\*, lost to follow-up  
DOD\*, 11 y

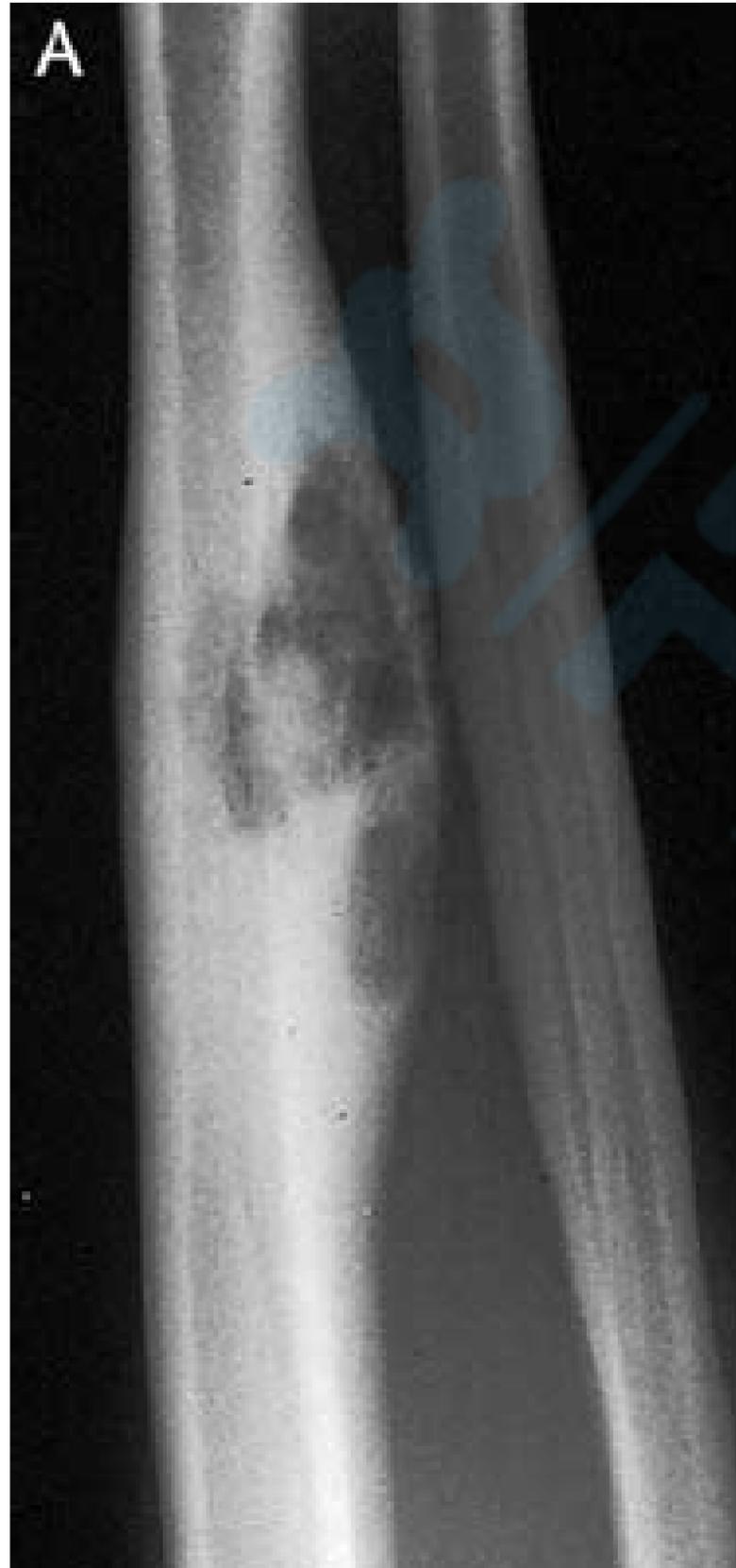


Malignant transformation and/or dedifferentiation



\*BKA, below knee amputation  
\*DOD, dead of disease

# Case 7



Expansile, largely circumscribed and intracortical lesion



Hemorrhagic to centrally sclerosing lesion

Initial Diagnosis:  
**Osteosarcoma**

BKA performed after  
initial diagnostic  
NED, 3 y

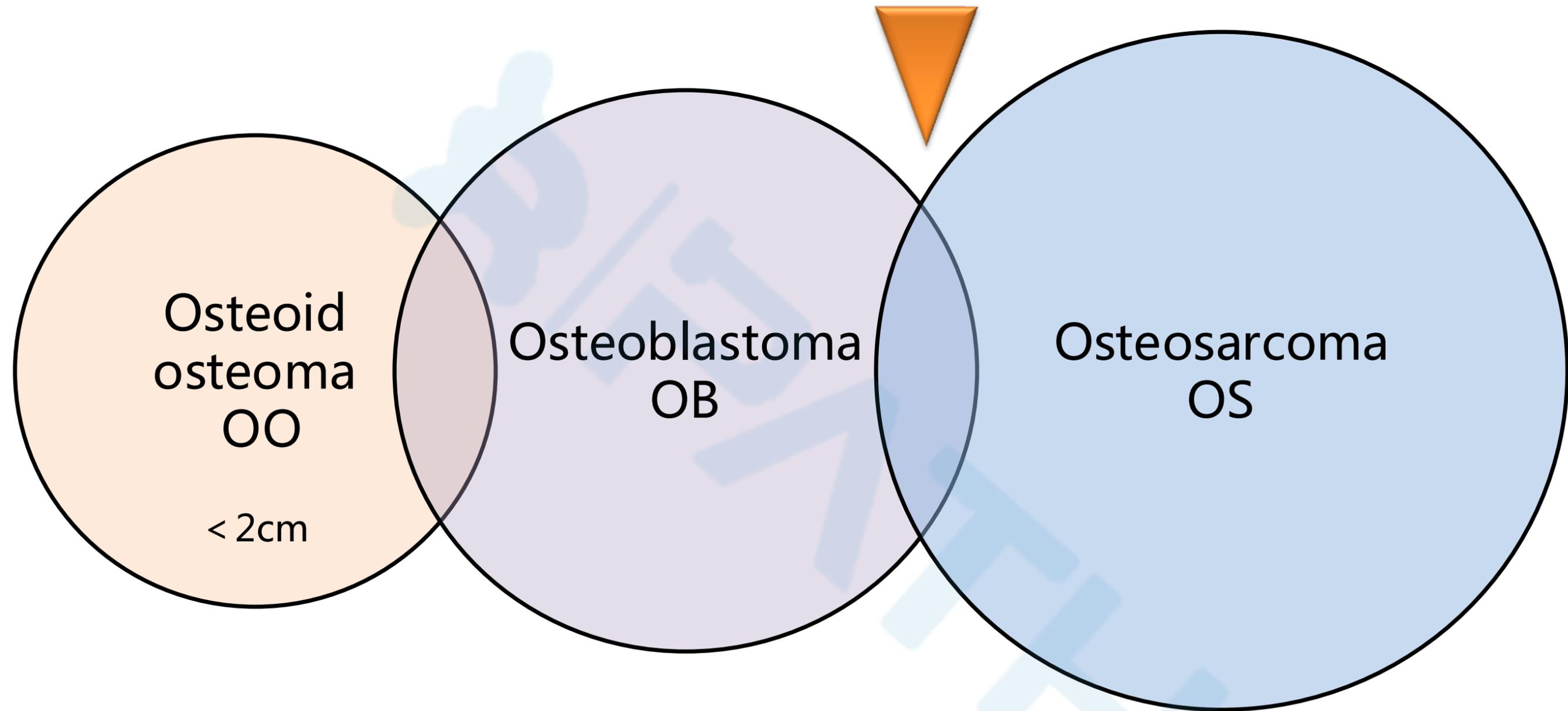
# Case 8



Initial Diagnosis: **Atypical sclerosing osteoblastic neoplasm**  
No local recurrence as of 9 mo

An expansile lesion with central sclerosis, involving the head of the first metatarsal

- With at least 12 months clinical followup for 7 of cases, the clinical course revealed **a high rate of local recurrence** following curettage and/or en bloc resections (**80%**, 4/5 cases), especially compared with conventional OB
- We report herein the clinicopathologic features of these unusual osteoblastic lesions, which we believe should be considered as **borderline to low-grade malignant neoplasms**



From a therapeutic and prognostic perspective, the obvious importance of distinguishing OB from OS **cannot be over-emphasized**

# SUMMARY

- Typically arising in the **distal lower extremities** of **adolescent and young adult males**
- Radiographs generally appear as **benign**
- Histologic diagnosis is a **dominant sclerotic matrix**, with a **minority** of areas resembling **conventional OB**, without evidence of definite medullary bone permeation
- Potential for **locally aggressive behavior**
- Best classified by the designation "**atypical sclerosing osteoblastic neoplasm**"
- **Resection with negative margins** appears to be the most reasonable management option

# Sclerosing Osteoblastoma

A rare type of osteoblastoma is the multifocal **sclerosing osteoblastoma**, which can be medullary or endosteal and or juxtacortical:

- Presents a **multifocal** growth pattern
- Roentgenological and gross features: more than one circumscribed lesion with the appearance of the central “nidus” of osteoid osteoma – “**multifocal osteoid osteoma**” – enclosed in a block of reactive sclerotic bone
- Histologically defined by multiple small foci of **typical osteoblastoma** separated by a proliferating bone and fibrous tissue
- A few may have a predominant proliferation of epithelioid cells, a nodule composed exclusively by epithelioid cells can mimic metastatic carcinoma

*THANK YOU*