GASTROINTESTINAL
INTERESTING CASE #1

72-year-old man with a polypoid esophageal mass

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Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the esophagus

**Gross:** Polypoid and pedunculated, tan-white mass

**Histology:** Biphasic histology in which the sarcomatous component far outweighs the carcinomatous element. Can see focal mesenchymal differentiation towards skeletal muscle, cartilage or bone. The limited epithelial component is typically a squamous cell carcinoma but can also be an adenocarcinoma, undifferentiated carcinoma or show neuroendocrine features.

**Pathogenesis:** Monoclonal tumor arising from sarcomatous metaplasia of carcinomatous component via the epithelial-mesenchymal transition pathway. Sarcomatous component has growth advantage (higher Ki67 and aneuploidy).

**Ancillary studies:** Keratin often stains sarcomatous component, which also shows strong reactivity with vimentin and occasionally with desmin and actin.