# CHRONIC CHOLECYSTITUS

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# CHRONIC CHOLECYSTITUS

- The inflammation of gall bladder persists for a prolonged period of time is called chronic cholecystitus.
- The gallbladder is a small, pear-shaped organ located on the underside of liver. It stores bile made by the liver and sends it to the small intestine via the common bile duct (CBD) to aid in the digestion of fats. The CBD connects the liver, the gallbladder, and the pancreas to the small intestine.

# **CAUSES**

- Gall stones in more then 90% of cases.
- Infection of the CBD drainage system
- A CBD blockage
- Excess cholesterol in the gallbladder, which can happen during pregnancy or after rapid weight loss
- Decreased blood supply to the gallbladder
- Tumors in the liver or pancreas
- Tumor in the gallbladder, which is rare

# Signs and Symptoms of Cholecystitis

- Symptoms of cholecystitis can appear suddenly or develop slowly over a period of years. Signs and symptoms include:
- severe abdominal pains that may feel sharp or dull
- abdominal cramping and bloating
- pain that spreads to back or below right shoulder blade
- fever
- chills
- nausea
- vomiting

- loose, light-colored stools
- jaundice,
- itching

# Complications

- Pancreatitis, which is an inflammation of the pancreas
- Cancer of the gallbladder, which is rare
- Gangrene
- Perforation of the gallbladder
- Enlarged gallbladder due to inflammation
- Infection
- Necrosis of gallbladder tissue



### Gallstones + Chronic Cholecystitis



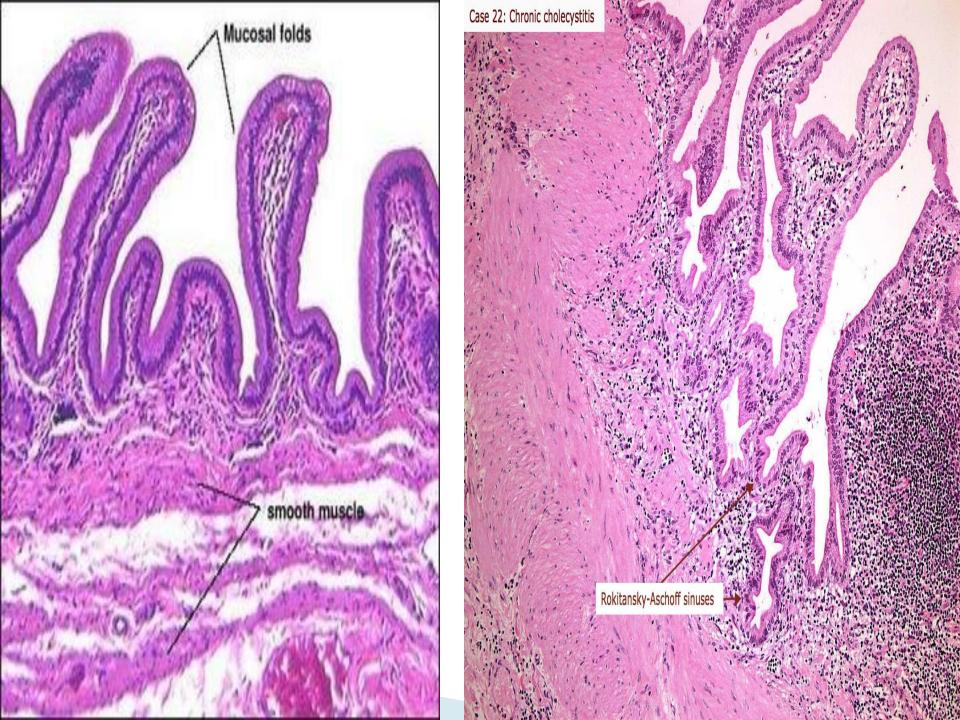
#### Note:

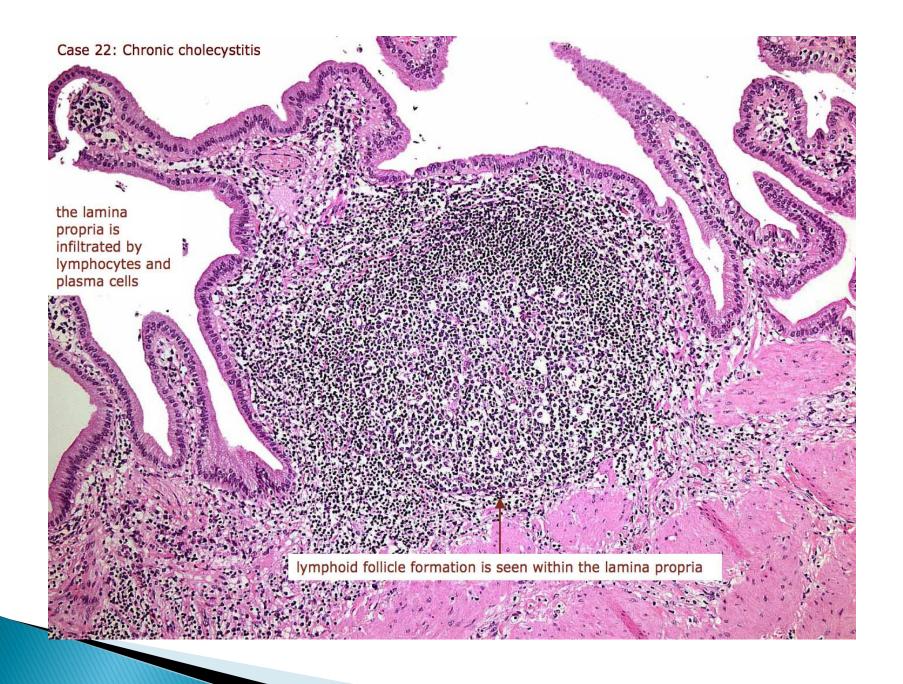
- ·Multiple, Faceted, golden yellow grey stones.
- \*fhickened inflammed gall bladder.
- \*Ulceration at neck suggest occlusion by small stone

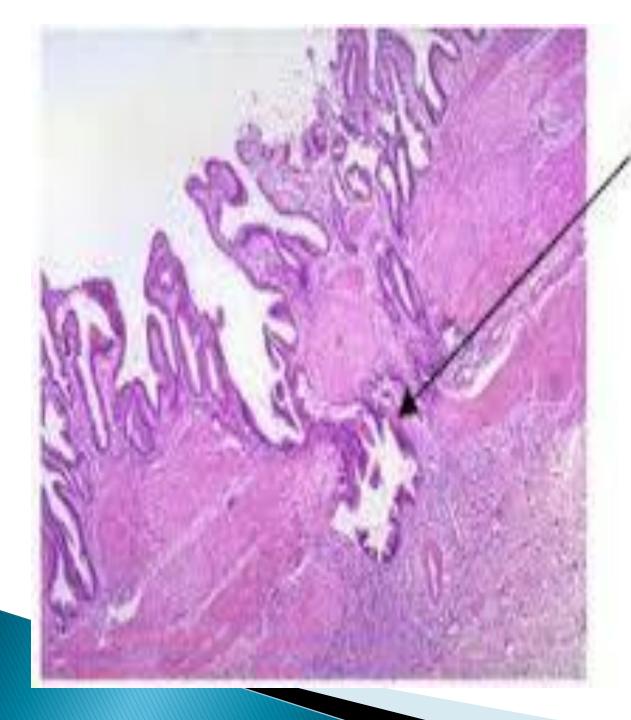
# **MORPHOLOGY**

- The morphological changes in chronic cholecystitus is extremely variable and sometime minimal.
- The serosa is usually smooth and glistening but may be dull by subserosal fibrosis.
- On sectioning the wall is variably thickened and has an opaque grey white appearance.

- Microscopic Features
- Thickening of the gallbladder wall due to fibrosis/muscular hypertrophy - key feature.
- Chronic inflammatory cells -
  - Lymphocytes most common.
- Rokitansky-Aschoff sinuses common.
  - Entrapped epithelial crypts -- pockets of epithelium in the wall of the gallbladder.
- Foamy macrophages in the lamina propria.







Rokitansky-Aschoff Sinus

