



Utility of Immunohistochemical expression of smoothelin in staging of urothelial carcinoma in transurethral resection specimen of bladder tumours

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Accurate recognition of muscularis propria (MP) and muscularis mucosae (MM) in bladder cancer is crucial as carcinoma confined to the lamina propria is usually treated conservatively, whereas one extending into the MP always dictates a more radical surgical management. Distinguishing bladder MP from MM can be problematic on H&E staining, especially in transurethral resection specimens of bladder tumors (TURBT), due to hyperplastic MM mimicking MP, desmoplastic reaction and splayed MP due to tumor. Desmin stains both MM and MP equally. Smoothelin is a novel smooth muscle specific marker expressed only in terminally differentiated smooth muscle cells and relatively specific for MP.



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Laparoscopic management of a large primary retroperitoneal hydatid cyst
Urology and Medical Studies

[International Conference on Urology and Andrology, November 09-10,2020](#)

8. Abstract Citation : [Hemant Kamal, Utility of Immunohistochemical expression of smoothelin in staging of urothelial carcinoma in transurethral resection specimen of bladder tumours , International Conference on Urology and Andrology, November 09-10,2020](#)