

Follow-up

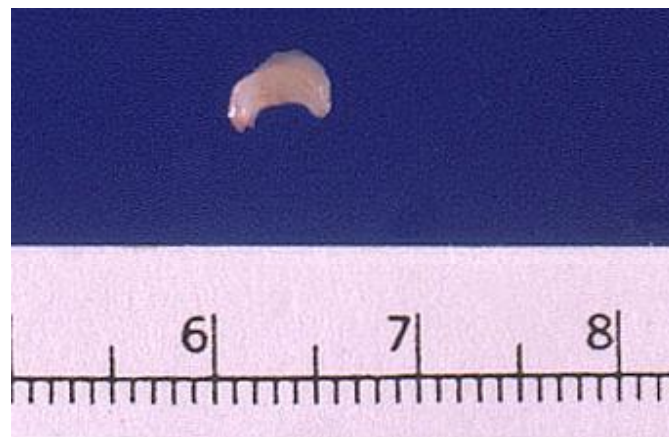
- The colostomy did not work and the patient had to have multiple procedures but the surgeon did not contact the pathologist
- Additional surgery is performed and case reviewed. No ganglion cells were present in any of the 3 specimens
- The parents sued
- Who is at fault?

Verdict

- Pathologist alone was found to be at fault, even though the surgeon did not follow-up with the pathologist
- All 3 frozen sections had no ganglion cells; thus the specimens had been correctly labeled, however, the FS diagnosis was incorrect in proximal colon biopsies
- Permanent sections were also misdiagnosed
- No intra-departmental consultation obtained

Frozen section for Hirschsprung disease

- Orientation of specimen



- 6-8 micron sections
- Over-stain in Hematoxylin by 30 seconds
- Clarify site and purpose of frozen (pathologist's responsibility)
- FS not recommended for primary diagnosis