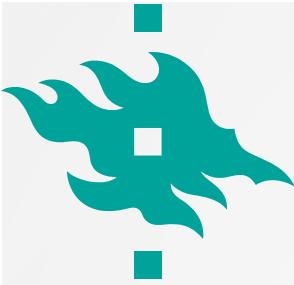




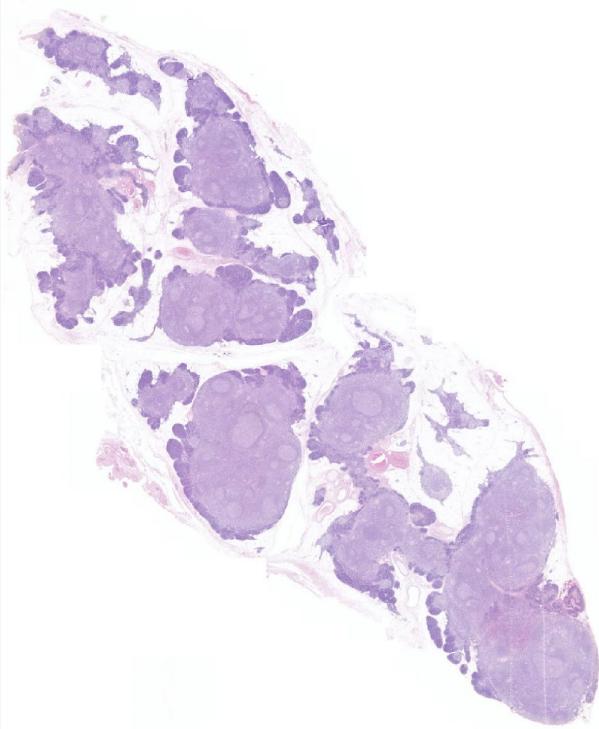
# Thymic germinal centers predict outcome after thymectomy

[Joona Sarkkinen](#)✉, [Johannes Dunkel](#), [Anni Tuulasvaara](#), [Antti Huuskonen](#), [Sari Atula](#), [Eliisa Kekäläinen](#) & [Sini M. Laakso](#)

*Modern Pathology* 35, 1168–1174 (2022)

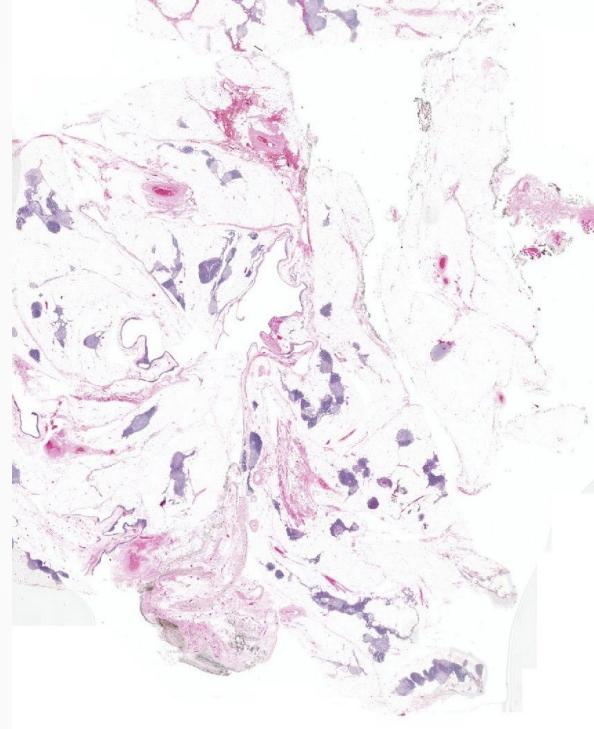


# MG and thymus



**EOMG**

60% of patients have thymic hyperplasia



**LOMG**

10-15% with thymic hyperplasia



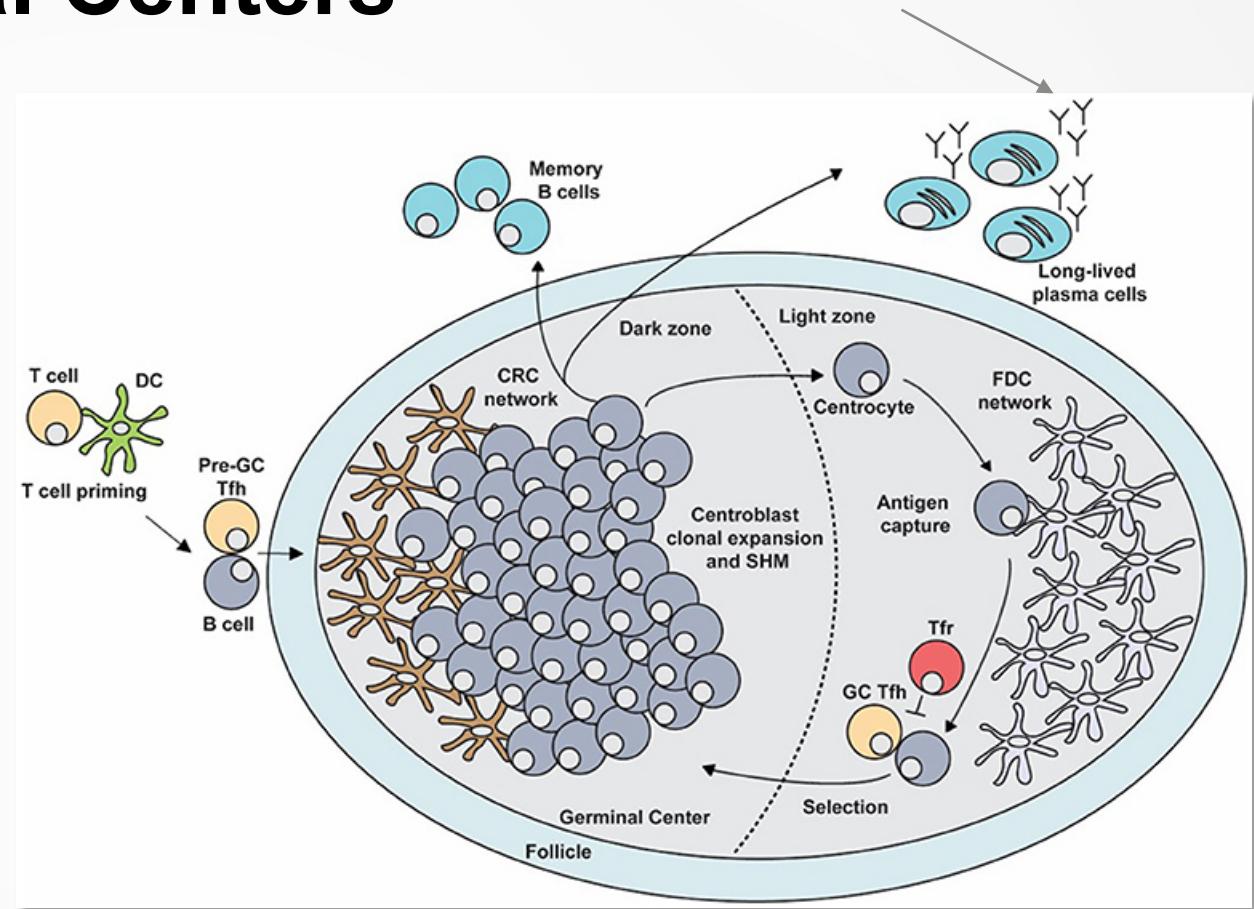
**TAMG**

10-15% of MG patients have thymoma



# Ectopic Germinal Centers

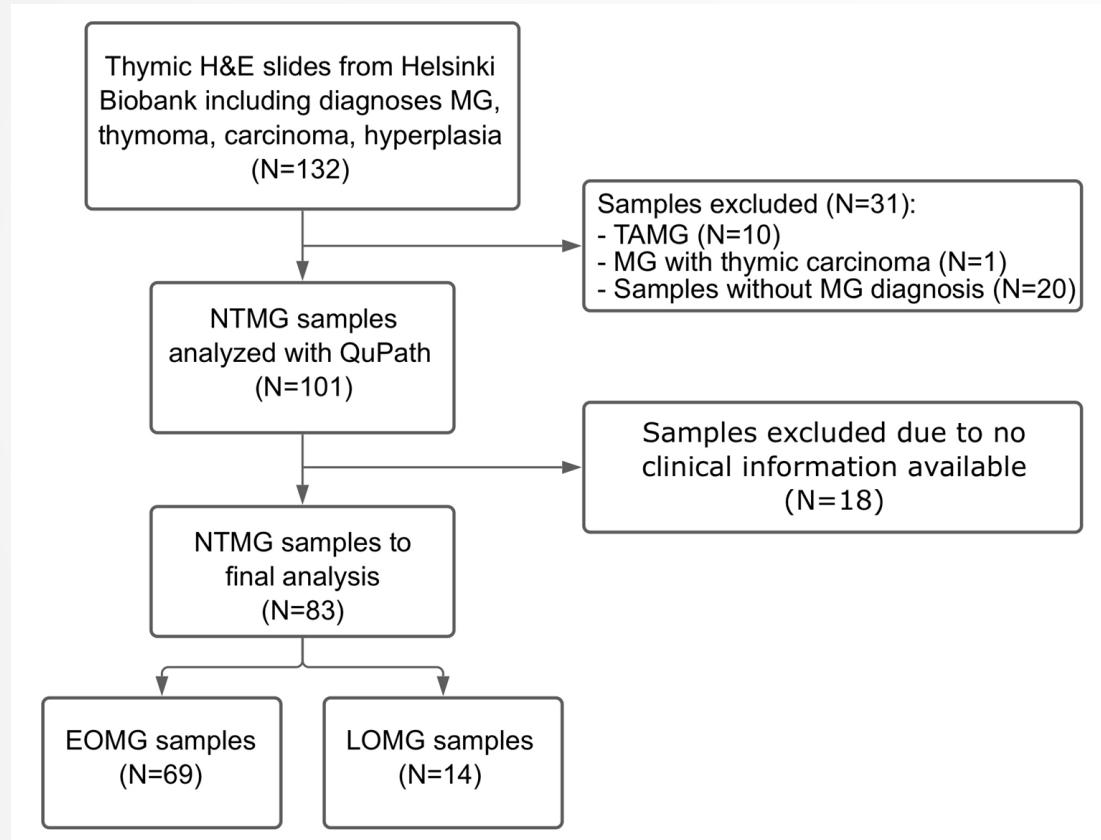
- Result of Chronic Inflammation
  - Autoimmune diseases
  - Cancer
- Double-Edged Sword
- B cells differentiate and start producing high amounts of antibodies



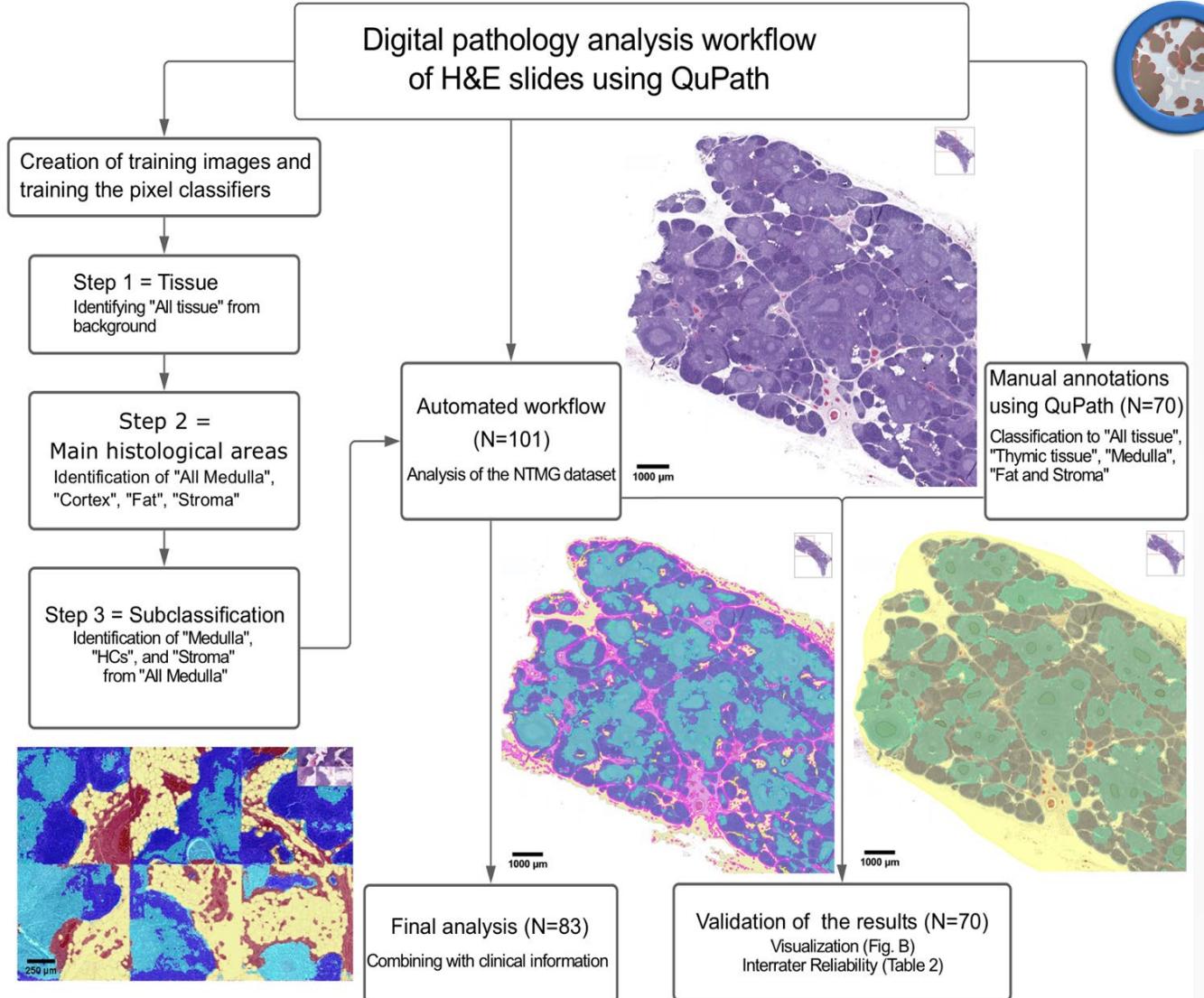
*Regulation of the Germinal Center Response,  
Stebegg et al, Frontiers in Immunology, 2018*



# Histologic analysis of 83 NTMG thymic slides

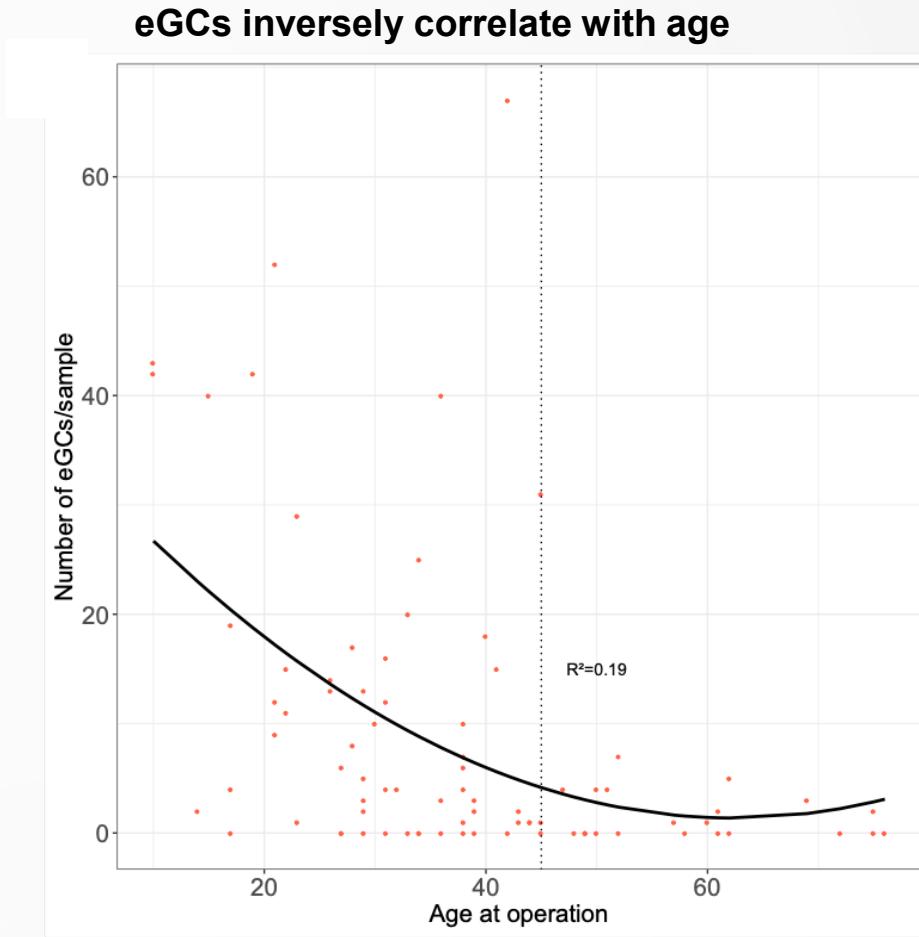
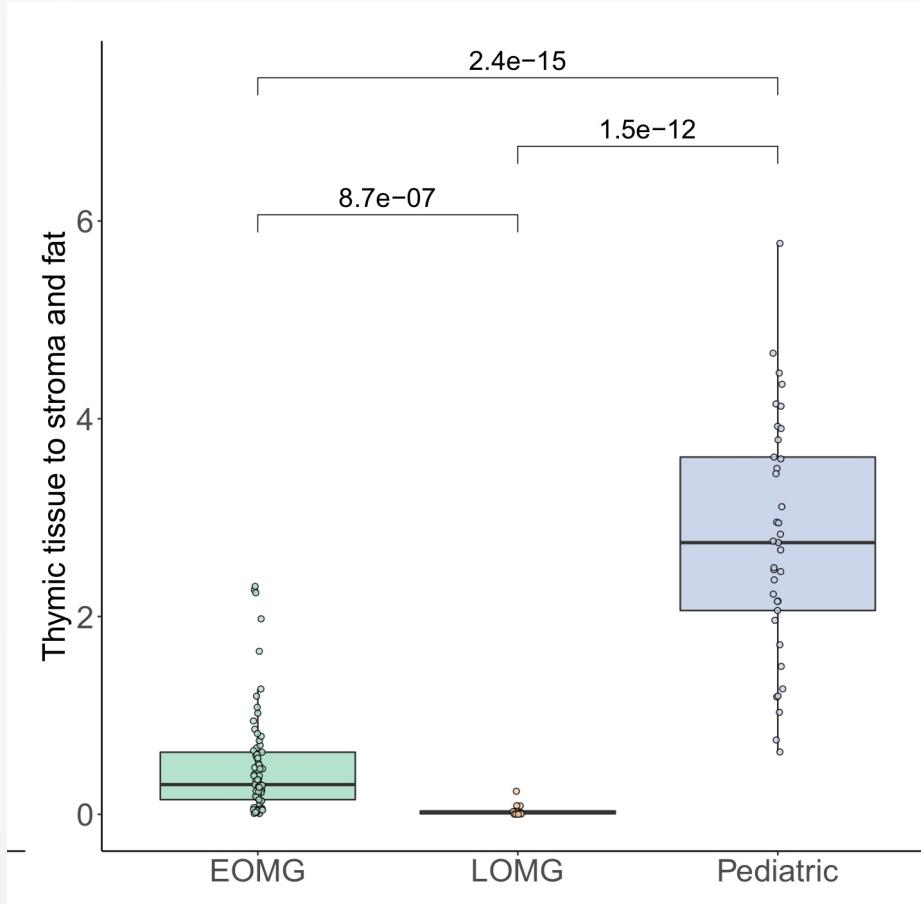


	EOMG (N=69)	LOMG (N=14)
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	63 (91 %)	4 (29 %)
Male	6 (9 %)	10 (71 %)
<b>Age at diagnosis</b>		
Mean (SD)	32 ( $\pm$ 10)	62 ( $\pm$ 8.9)
<b>Age at thymectomy</b>		
Mean (SD)	33 ( $\pm$ 11)	64 ( $\pm$ 8.4)
<b>AChRAb</b>		
Negative	14 (20 %)	3 (21 %)
Positive	47 (68 %)	10 (71 %)
Missing	8 (11.6%)	1 (7.1%)
<b>Thymic pathology</b>		
Normal	18 (26 %)	12 (86 %)
Hyperplasia	51 (74 %)	2 (14 %)
<b>Ocular vs generalized</b>		
Ocular	6 (9 %)	2 (14 %)
Generalized	63 (91 %)	12 (86 %)



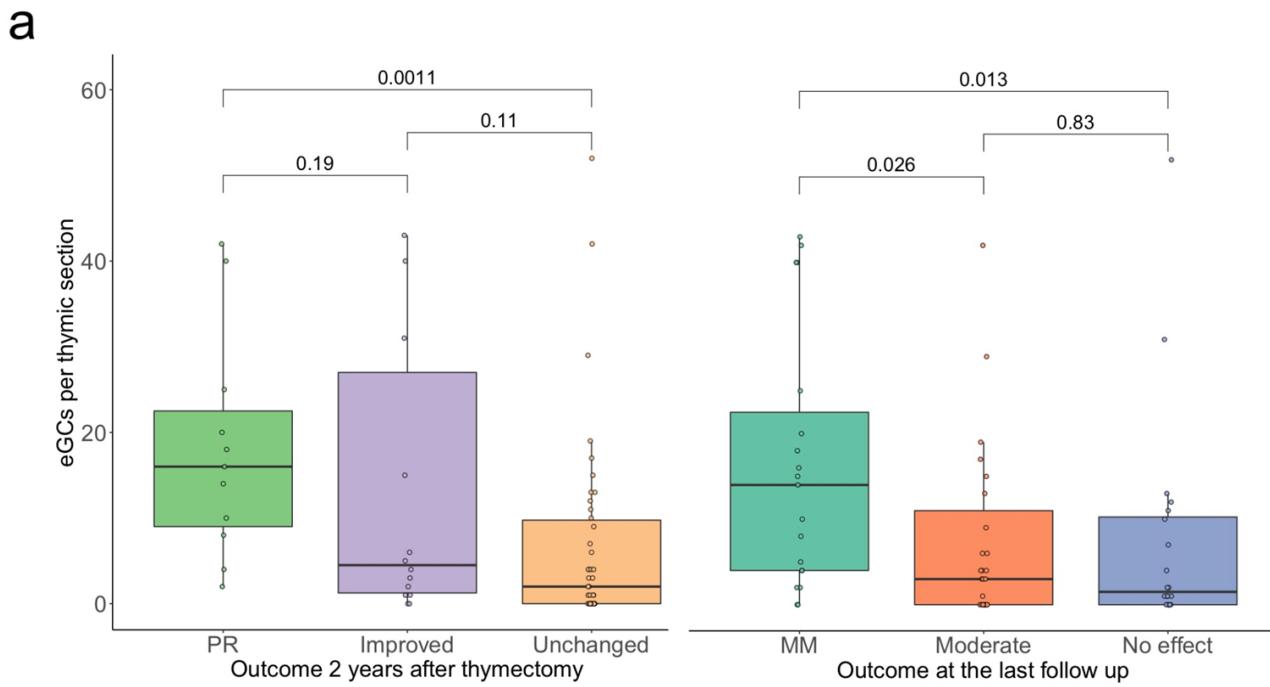


# Thymic tissue and eGCs are more common in EOMG than in LOMG

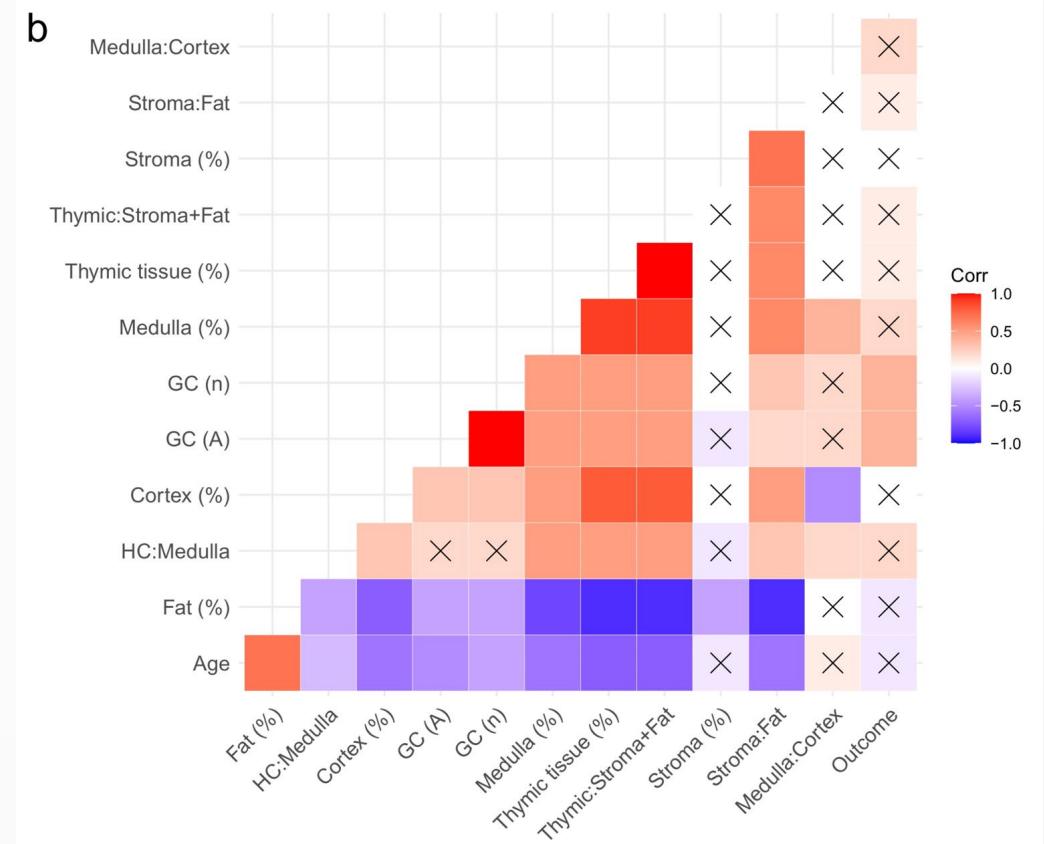




# Number of eGCs correlate with better outcome in EOMG after thymectomy

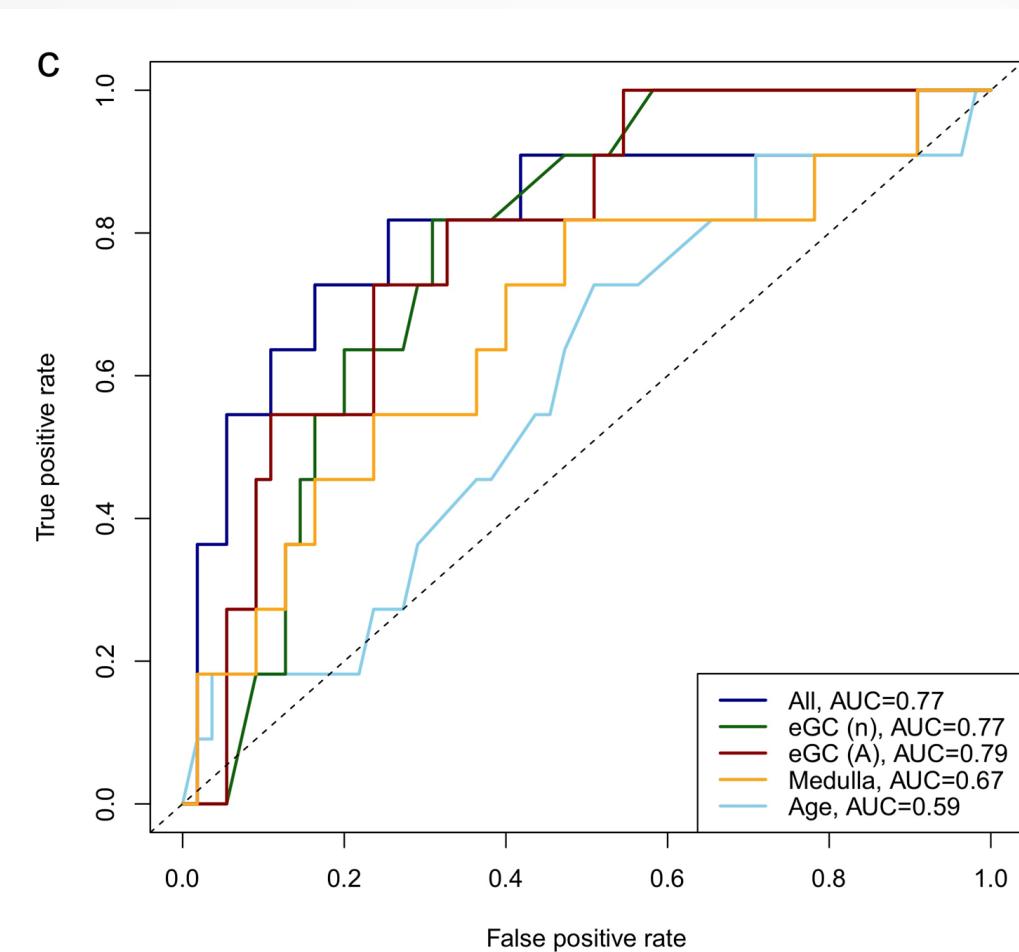


Other histological areas did not affect outcome





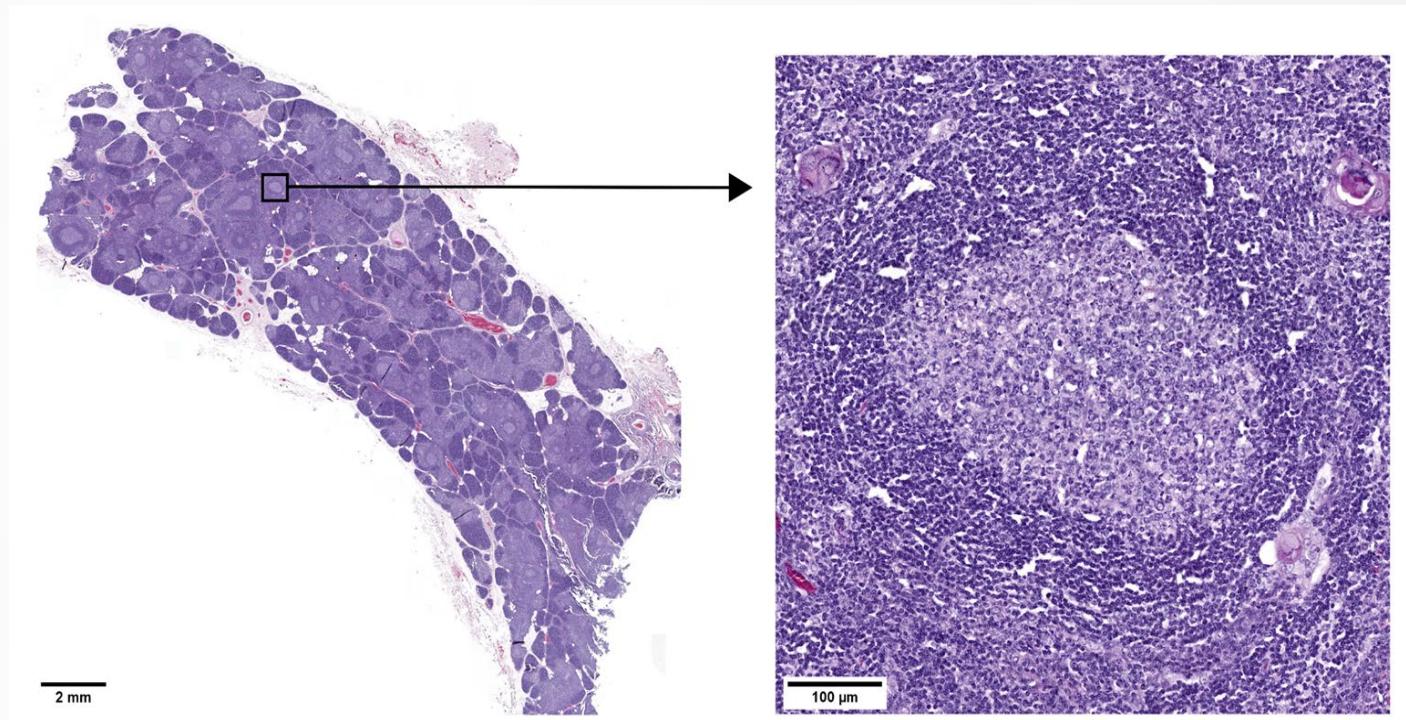
# Number of eGCs in the thymus predict prognosis of EOMG after thymectomy





# Conclusions

- Ectopic germinal centers correlate with better postoperative outcome after thymectomy
- The number of ectopic germinal centers could be used to predict postoperative outcome





60° 10 1.2 N, 24° 57 18 E