Medical Image of the Week: Lepidic Growth

Figure 1. Two different tumors showing **lepidic growth** along the alveolar interstitium with preserved alveolar architecture.

Lepidic growth is most often seen in adenocarcinoma *in situ* (Figure A, 40x magnification). Adenocarcinoma *in situ* is formerly known as bronchoalveolar cell carcinoma (BAC). A similar growth pattern in a morphologically very different tumor (mucinous adenocarcinoma) is shown for comparison (Figure B, 400x).

Mucinous adenocarcinoma growing on alveolar septae nearly always is invasive, so the entity of mucinous adenocarcinoma *in situ* practically doesn't exist, further differentiating this entity from BAC.

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