10.5 Predisposing factors of cancer cells

Epithelial tissue sometimes shows such deviation from normal tissue growth as hyperplasia, metaplasia and dysplasia. These changes may predispose to cancer. They occur as dysplasia of cervix uteri, polyposis coli, chronic cystic mastitis etc.

Carcinoma in situ represents preinvasive epithelial tumor with atypical cell changes without disruption of basement membranes. Some preinvasive lesions may progress to invasive forms, some are unchanged and some may spontaneously regress.

10.6 Characteristics of benign tumors

Benign tumor is classified on the basis of well differentiated cells, which do not invade and cannot set up a new growths – metastases. Benign tumors are usually separated from the surrounding host tissue by a capsule of connective tissue. Benign tumor growth is slow. Necrosis and ulcerations of these tumors are unusual. However, benign tumor can represent sometimes extremely serious problem (if it obstructs a bronchus, vessel, truct, if it interferes with oxygenation, nutrition or elimination, if it has functional endocrinial activity etc.)