

Culinary delights in kitchen pathology

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INTRODUCTION

It is fascinating that so much of the descriptive pathology appears to have originated in the kitchen. The evidence is plain to the past medical students of the older textbooks of general pathology from an era dominated by male pathologists. It is curious that in modern times it is no longer trendy to use the cook's vocabulary when more and more pathologists are women.

One wonders how often the mortuary apron was changed for the kitchen variety to transform into the naked chef, or has there always been a good wife behind the pathologist. The tabby cat must have wandered into the kitchen when the pathologist was trying to imagine the tabby heart in anaemia. An amusing spin is that the red kidney bean would not have been so named but for the clinical gourmet at the kitchen table.

A compilation of delightful culinary ingredients has been prepared in alphabetical order and served up with the associated morbid anatomical diagnosis. The author would be grateful for other interesting gems from the cookery book which can be added on to the list.

Appearance	Cause	Affected organ
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A		
anchovy sauce	amoebic abscess	liver
apple eye	proptosis	eye
Adam's apple	laryngeal prominence	larynx
apple-jelly	lupus vulgaris	skin
B		
bacon rind	amyloidosis	spleen
beefy	pernicious anaemia	tongue
	<i>Pneumocystis carinii</i>	lung
berry	aneurysm	brain
bitter almond (smell)	cyanide poisoning	stomach
'blutwurst' (German sausage)	Hodgkin's disease	spleen
bread and butter	rheumatic pericarditis	heart
C		
cabbage	cerebral damage	brain
'cafe au lait'	von Recklinghausen's disease	skin
cauliflower	chondritis	ear
cheesy	caseation	tuberculosis

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cherry (spot)	dermal lesion	skin (Figure 1)
cherry red (colour)	carbon monoxide poisoning	blood
chicken breast	emphysema	chest
chicken fat	postmortem clot	blood
chicken foot	Sternberg's tumour	lymph node
	cuts from glass shards	skin
chocolate	endometriosis (cyst)	ovary
coffee bean	Brenner's tumour	ovary
ground coffee	gastric haemorrhage	stomach
curd	molluscum contagiosum	skin
E		
egg shell	carcinoma	gall bladder
F		
fish mouth	vasculopathy	heart
fish scales	ichthyosis	skin
fried egg	<i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>	lung
G		
garlic (odour)	carbon monoxide poisoning	lungs

Figure 2. a. Nutmeg liver, with (b) nutmeg for comparison.





Figure 1. Cavernous haemangioma (cherry spot).

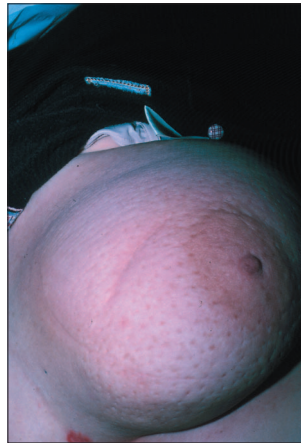


Figure 3. Breast carcinoma (peau d'orange).

ginger	kwashiorkor	hair
goose flesh	cutis anserina	skin
grapes	sarcoma botyroides	vagina
H		
herring bone	fibrosarcoma	soft tissue
honey comb	bronchiectasis	lung
	actinomycosis	lung
L		
lemon yellow	anaemia	skin
M		
maple syrup	metabolic disorder	urine
melon seed	tuberculosis, rheumatoid arthritis	joint
milk (spots)	myocardial spots	heart
mulberry	cholelithiasis	gall bladder
N		
nut in almond	Hodgkin's disease	spleen
toffee		
nutmeg	hepatic venous congestion	liver (Figure 2)
O		
oat	oat cell carcinoma	lung
onion skin	Ewing's sarcoma	bone
	hypertension	artery
orange (peau d')	carcinoma	breast (Figure 3)
	elephantiasis	lymphatics
P		
pea soup	diarrhoea	stool
pear (unripe)	scirrhus carcinoma	breast
popcorn	Hodgkin's disease	lymph node

porridge	atheroma	artery
port wine	Sturge-Weber syndrome	skin (Figure 4)
pot (cooking)	malnutrition	belly
potato	seminoma	testis
	sterno-cleido-mastoid tumour	muscle
pigeon	emphysema	chest
prune	abdominal muscle defect	belly
plum (colour)	infarcted bowel	intestines

R

raspberry	dermal rash	skin
redcurrant jelly	intussusception	stool
rice seed	tuberculosis, rheumatoid arthritis	joint
rice water	cholera	stool

S

sago	amyloid	spleen
spaghetti	tinea versicolor	skin
meatball		
starch granule	Maltese cross	foreign body
strawberry	cholesterosis	gallbladder
	naevus	skin (Figure 5)
sugar icing	perisplenitis	spleen
Swiss cheese	endometrial hyperplasia	uterus
	juvenile disease	breast
Swiss roll	gastric mucosa exam	stomach

T

tart	monocyte debris	blood
teaspoon	koilonychia	nail

W

walnut	senile dementia	brain
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Figure 4. Angiomatous naevus (port wine stain).



Figure 5. Cavernous haemangioma (strawberry naevus).

