



Progress Report 2015

Infectious Disease Pathology Working Group of the European Society of Pathology

The threat by emerging and re-emerging infections worldwide remains a major health problem. Despite the persistence of these infectious problems, pathologists often feel inadequate in the tissue diagnoses of infections in the light of the increasing arsenal of methods which are available to the clinical microbiologist. However, many of these techniques can be applied also by pathologists namely in formalin fixed paraffin embedded tissue, however needing a specific expertise. Furthermore, conventional morphology still remains a major cornerstone of a diagnosis in infectious disease in tissue samples considering the type of inflammatory reaction and the association of these reactions with the detection of infectious agents namely by sophisticated auxiliary methods, establishing the final diagnosis in biopsy tissue and autopsy material.

The working group of the ESP for infectious disease pathology could celebrate its 10 years birthday at the ESP congress in Belgrade. Since the congress of 2005 in Paris, the ID-Path Working Group has performed a number of sessions within the different congresses of the ESP, covering a broad range of pathology in infectious diseases. In addition, since a couple of years the ID working group has started to perform joint sessions with other working groups which show more or less common infections in their biopsy material, including joint sessions with the Gastrointestinal Pathology Working Group, the Pediatric Pathology Working Group, the Bone Marrow Working Group and others.

In Belgrade, two sessions were held including a symposium "Infections of the Brain and Eye", with even 3 working groups (Neuropathology, Ophthalmopathology and ID-Pathology) covering an interesting range of common and less common infections in these organs. The second symposium covered "Microbes and tumors: An update". The association between tumors and infections, namely viral but also other infections, remains a very hot topic and is the paradigmatic example of the classical overlap between ID and tumor pathology.

We're looking forward for the IAP/ESP meeting in Cologne 2016, here we will have joint sessions with the Binford-Dammin Society of the United States as well as the section of infectious disease pathology in the IAP, covering various topics including a slide seminar about granulomatous lesions.