Message from the President

Dear members of the European Society of Pathology,

We live in turbulent times. There are many challenges for humanity presented to us in the news daily. On the one hand we remember that 100 years ago the Great War started, on the other hand we see violence in many parts of the world. We like to learn from the past, but the circumstances change continuously. We learn that the Ebola virus poses a big threat and discuss the ethics of the use untested therapeutics. We experience the changes in weather patterns that cause damages and loss of life and are challenged to prevent further climate change.

Pathology experiences turbulent times too. The rapid introduction of targeted therapies for cancer alter our responsibilities; the knowledge on genetics of cancer changes our approach to classification; we recognise many new diseases and infectious agents and the tools to analyse them increase; the possibilities to share digital slides are increasing and consultation is made much easier; patients start to recognise the crucial role of pathologists and start to ask us questions; in many countries the shortages of pathologist is a huge problem for the development of our profession, but in some countries a surplus seems to be an upcoming problem; and always, costs of pathology is seen as too high by almost everyone (except the pathologists).

Most pathologists have chosen their profession at least partly because they like the intellectual challenge to solve complicated problems. The integration of information from many different sources to create a diagnosis and advise for treatment are our daily routine: pathologists are problem solvers. I am convinced therefore that the challenges that we are facing will be solved by us. We need to work together, learn from another use our combined skills and knowledge and therefore we need to talk to each other. There is no better environment to do this than during the upcoming European Congress of pathology, jointly organised by the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland and the European Society of Pathology in London. The scientific program covers many different challenges, and will provide new knowledge and platforms for discussions. The social program will bring us together in a pleasant environment where we can inspire each other.

The congress will set records: we have already the most submitted scientific abstracts (>1800), the highest number of participants (already > 2300 have registered) and the largest commercial exhibition. However, numbers are one thing, your active participation is the real key to success. I am confident that many of you will indeed be an active participant and I am looking forward to see all of you in London!!

Prof. Han van Krieken

Message from the Editor

With the London European Congress of Pathology (ECP) round the corner, this summer issue of our Newsletter is more robust than usual. The aim is to have our members well informed about ESP current affairs when they massively converge on the banks of the Thames at the end of August. Consequently, this issue admixes contributions by
the ESP secretary (Prof Ilmo Leivo), treasurer (Prof Marco Santucci), and chair of the working groups (Prof Fátima Carneiro) with the usual Newsletter sections (the president’s message, the editor’s message, working group reports, national society reports, Analecta Medica, and information on books and meetings).

Prof Han van Krieken opens the fire by reminding us of the many challenges we all face in these turbulent times, with the lessons of the Great War still mostly unlearned one hundred years later. He then goes on to extol the unique opportunities that the London ECP offers us pathologists for fruitful discussion on how to properly channel those turbulences in our field.

Further on three ESP executive committee officers share with us information about their corresponding turfs. Specifically, Prof Ilmo Leivo deals with secretarial aspects (agenda of the general assembly to be held at the London ECP), Prof Marco Santucci with treasury matters (the financial report for 2013 annual accounts), and Prof Fátima Carneiro with WG activities. The latter, as summarised by Prof Carneiro, are to be paid special attention for their role as powerful tools of congress building and subspeciality integration across borders. It may be said that the WGs are transmuting melting pots concocting strong unity out of rich diversity in European pathology.

In consonance with the emphasis placed on the role of the WGs, each Newsletter issue includes a report from one of them. Now it is the turn of Prof Maria Rosaria Raspolini, chair of the Gynaecological Pathology WG, to summarise the recent activities of the group she presides and to delineate its future directions. Additionally, Prof Van den Tweel describes the first meeting of the History of Pathology WG, held in Florence last May. Equally important for the ESP is the role of pathology national societies. In that regard, Prof Paula Borralho Nunes brings us the news of the fast moving Portuguese Society of Pathology. Finally, once more Dr Loukas Kaklamanis offers us his much expected selection of medical abstracts (Analecta Medica), whereas Prof Gordan Vujanic comments on recently published books and upcoming meetings and Prof Jovan Lole Vasiceljevic reports on the Dermatopathology EScop course held this year in Belgrade.

Enjoy! Prof. Aurelio Ariza

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**General Assembly of the European Society of Pathology.**

**Wednesday, 3 September 2014, from 12.00 to 13.00 hrs. ExCel, London, United Kingdom.**

**AGENDA**

**Prof. Ilmo Leivo**

1. Welcome
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes from the General Assembly in Lisbon, 4 Sept 2013
4. Report of the President
5. Report of the Treasurer
6. Report of the Chairman of the Advisory Council
7. Report of the Chairman of the Working Group Chairs
8. Report of the Chairman of the Education Subcommittee
10. Approval of honorary membership to Manuel Sobrinho-Simoes
11. Progress report of the 26th European Congress of Pathology, London 2014
12. Progress report of the 27th European Congress of Pathology, Belgrade 2015
13. Any other items
14. Place and date of the next General Assembly of the ESP

- 9 September 2015 in Belgrade
Treasurer’s Financial Report for 2013 Annual Accounts

Report compiled by Prof. Dr. Marco Santucci, Treasurer of the European Society of Pathology, based on the final version of the 2013 annual accounts to be presented at the General Assembly.

This year, for the first time, the accompanying balance sheet and income statement, as at 31st December 2013, have been fully audited by a statutory certified auditor. This financial statement will be deposited in the National Bank of Belgium.

RESULTS
Following the 2012 decision to adopt analytical bookkeeping, an accounting method, which allows a set off of income against corresponding costs, has been maintained for 2013.

Subsequently, an appropriation account was added to the financial report for 2013. This states the exact amounts used or added to the different allocated funds.

TOTAL RESULTS
The global result for 2013 was the positive sum of 184,374.62 EUR.

INCOME
Membership subscriptions decreased from 76,212.00 to 68,900.50 EUR in 2013. This corresponds to a small fall in the number of (paying) members, on the one hand, and accrediting membership fees to the correct subscription year on the other. As decided last year, members are now automatically reminded that non-payment will result in suspension of their membership.

Income from the KRAS quality control agreement (EQA income) increased from 70,998.18 to 87,490.00 EUR. In addition, costs directly linked to EQA programmes decreased from 119,598.75 EUR in 2012 to 61,110.31 EUR in 2013. A small amount of these costs still relate to 2011 (2,560 EUR) and 2012 (9,931.23 EUR) whereas net costs in 2013 for EQA amounted to 48,619.08 EUR, in line with the net costs for the previous year (48,777.57 EUR). As usual, limited further costs can be expected for 2013 activities, which will appear in the 2014 accounts.

The gross income from Congresses shows a significant increase from 154,434.80 EUR for 2012 to 280,427.97 EUR for 2013. Congress income agrees with our expectations and budgets prepared prior to the event.

Royalties decreased from 405,007.71 EUR in 2012 to 360,920.13 EUR in 2013. This decrease is in part due to the fact that some of the payments made in 2012 relate to 2011 but were only received in 2012, thus increasing income for 2012. The other reason is the lower subscription rate for Virchows Archiv set 2013.

Financial income substantially increased (56,528.11 EUR in 2012 vs. 114,212.78 EUR in 2013), mainly following higher investment returns after the economic situation improved and a re-evaluation of the international markets. Income from bank interest continued to fall in view of the lower interest rates on savings.

Taking into account costs (24,071.73 in 2012 vs. 31,001.51 EUR in 2013), the net financial outcome increased from 32,456.38 EUR net in 2012 to 83,211.27 EUR net in 2013.

In short, gross income rose from 769,726.30 EUR (2012) to 924,935.73 EUR over the last year. Extra activities commenced in previous years (e.g., EQA) generated not only an extra gross income, but also delivered a positive net result, by virtue of lower costs after set up. Furthermore, the 2013 results substantially benefit from the high earnings from the Lisbon Congress and the significantly increased financial income.
COSTS

Accommodation costs (office at Rue Bara, Brussels) are in line with previous years.

Salary costs fell slightly from 171,077.94 to 160,193.95 EUR, mainly due to lower costs for temporary staff in 2013, following extra ‘in house’ personnel as of 2012. In addition, 2012 was hit by labour costs for previous years.

General costs increased from 183,595.50 EUR to 281,797.34 EUR. This increase was mainly due to costs related to start-up of the educational portal and upgrading the Society website. Other costs were largely in line with 2012.

As mentioned above, financial costs increased from 24,071.73 EUR to 31,001.51 EUR due to more funds being employed to write off current assets, in spite of fewer losses from investment income.

Depreciations are in line with investments.

Taxes have slightly increased after Belgium raised the withholding tax rate on royalty income and interests/dividends as of 2013 (25% instead of 15%).

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

On the liability side, there were no major changes compared with previous years. Total liabilities to 3rd parties fell to 135,941.86 EUR (from 206,441.64 EUR in 2012), in view of fewer outstanding supplier invoices as at 31/12/2013. This leaves ESP a net equity of 2,164,273.37 EUR (2,099,969.22 EUR in 2012).

As in 2012, net equity is divided into general reserves, on the one hand, and allocated funds, on the other. This follows the resolution that from 2012 all decisions regarding support to 3rd parties will be allocated to a pre-established fund on the equity side, thus making all future agreements and obligations to 3rd party organizations more transparent.

All movements of these allocated funds can be followed in the appropriation account. Allocated funds in support of WGs, collective membership and EScoP courses are replenished annually to the maximum amount allocated by the Council.

The office at Rue Bara and office furniture is under equity, with a present value of some 424,535.91 EUR.

Further assets are divided into long-term financial assets (1,119,802.90 EUR) and short-term financial investments (961,052.60 EUR). Total financial assets are distributed in bonds and saving accounts, on the one hand, and investments in equities and shares on the other, at a ratio of 80:20 (a defensive strategy considering the current economic situation).

These accounts were compiled considering all transactions during 2013, up to 31/05/2014, in so far as they may influence the 2013 net result.

However, as far as long-term activities (EQA, EScoP, etc.) are concerned, some costs will only appear well after the activities begin. Therefore it is inevitable that some 2013 costs will only appear in the 2014 accounts.

In witness whereof,

Prof. Marco Santucci
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>December 2012</th>
<th>December 2013</th>
</tr>
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<td>LIABILITIES</td>
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<td>December 2013</td>
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<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
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<td>FUNDS</td>
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<td>RESULT FOR THE PERIOD</td>
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<td>Surplus income over expenditure</td>
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<td>DEFERRALS AND ACCRUALS</td>
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<td>December 2013</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<td><strong>924,935.73</strong></td>
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<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>Purchase of services, works and studies</td>
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<td>137,053.80</td>
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<td>General costs</td>
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<td>Taxes</td>
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<td><strong>SURPLUS INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
<td>64,304.15</td>
<td>184,374.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus income over expenditure</td>
<td>184,374.62</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Result previous period</td>
<td>64,304.15</td>
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<td>Total result to be appropriated</td>
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### Appropriation

#### Allocated funds - used amounts

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<tr>
<td>Educational act. Institute of Path Krakow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational activities Czech Society</td>
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<td>EU projects to advance pathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support ESP WG and allied societies</td>
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<td>Support collective membership status</td>
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<td>Support EScoP courses</td>
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#### Allocated funds - additions

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<td>Educational activities Polisch Society</td>
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<td>Educational act. Institute of Path Krakow</td>
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<td>Educational activities Czech Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU projects to advance pathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support ESP WG and allied societies</td>
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<td>Support collective membership status</td>
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#### Addition to unallocated funds

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### Appropriated to allocated funds

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<td>64,304.15</td>
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### Appropriated to 'result of the period'

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>184,374.62</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>248,678.77</td>
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</table>
Report of the Chair of the Working Group Chairs

The Working Groups of the ESP are bodies representing the different fields of Pathology, which under the auspices of the ESP organize courses and meetings, both at and between the Congresses of the Society, as well as collaborative, inter-institutional projects whenever considered appropriate by their members.

It is my pleasure to provide a short report of the activities of the Working Groups (WG) (n=19) and Associated Societies of the ESP (n=3), the latter encompassing the Association for European Cardiovascular Pathology (AECVP), the European Association for Haematopathology (EAHP) and the Paediatric Pathology Society (PPS). To begin with, I want to highlight the active contribution of the WGs and Associated Societies for the preparation of the scientific programme of the European Congresses of Pathology (ECPs). The input for the London Congress can be measured by the high number of sessions organized by the WGs and Associated Societies, and the quality of the programmes and speakers for different types of sessions (Slide Seminars, Short Courses, Symposia, Videomicroscopy sessions). The organization of the Belgrade Congress is already on its way. For this Congress it was decided to stimulate the organization of joint sessions under the responsibility of two WGs/Associated Societies. Seven slots were left open and offered to the WGs for additional proposals to be selected by the Scientific Committee. Many more activities have been developed by the WGs and Associated Societies (details of which can be found at the ESP website), including educational courses, masterclasses and EScoP courses, among others. Annual reports of the WGs (not always submitted in due time) should describe these activities and are required to apply for the annual WG budget. The chairmen of several WGs have written papers for the ESP Newsletter (the last published in the Spring issue, 2014).

Currently, the ESP is extending the collaboration with the ESMO in the frame of educational initiatives. In this setting, the ESP has been nominating Pathologists for the ESMO faculties, an initiative that was most welcome by the Chairs of the ESP WGs who have indicated the ESP representatives.

Prof. Fatima Carneiro

Report from the Chair of the Gynaecological Pathology Working Group

I am glad to summarize the recent activities of the Gynaecological Pathology Working Group (WG) in late 2013 and to inform you about our WG future activities.

Following the successful Lisbon European Congress of Pathology (ECP) in 2013, we started focusing on the organization of the London ECP 2014. Compared to the past, we have organized some new sessions jointly with other WGs such as Uropathology and Paediatric Pathology. With uropathologists we will discuss similarities and dissimilarities between male and female urogenital tract pathology, while with paediatric pathologists we will deal with trophoblastic disease and its differential diagnosis. I am extremely happy that renowned international experts have accepted to participate, thus allowing the development of a
powerful scientific program which I hope will offer a window of opportunity for many to update their knowledge and enjoy really good science!

There is also much to say about the new WHO classification of Tumours of Female Reproductive Organs and the new FIGO staging of tumours of the ovary and fallopian tube and primary peritoneal carcinoma. In this respect our outstanding expert colleagues will debate the pros and cons and the useful and not so useful aspects of these new classifications. I predict a very lively and “hot” session!

Besides the organization of our specific sessions at the next ESP congress we have undertaken a couple of new projects involving WG members. The first of these projects is related to neuroendocrine tumours of the uterus. You will hear more about it at our WG business meeting, which, I remind you, will be held at the next ECP on Tuesday, 2 September 2014.

Finally, I am glad to announce a starting cooperation with the European Society of Gynecologic Oncology (ESGO) related to educational activities (joint courses) and scientific projects. In this regard, our WG will organize joint sessions with ESGO at ECP 2015 in Belgrade and we have been invited to take part in a joint session at the ESGO 2015 Congress in Nice, France.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in London in early September

Best personal regards,

Prof. Maria Rosaria Raspollini

The 1st Meeting of the Working Group “History of Pathology”

The meeting was held in Florence, Italy, on May 16 and 17, 2014 and was attended by 35 persons. The local organiser of this very interesting gathering (Prof Gabriella Nesi) selected the department of Pathological Anatomy of the Careggi University Hospital (harbouring the Pathology Museum of the University of Florence) as the location of the Friday meeting, and the Palazzo Medici Riccardi with its famous library, as the location of the Saturday meeting.

The lectures included overviews of certain areas our history and presentations about biographies and local developments. The full programme included:

**Friday, 16 May 2014**

- Historical aspects of autopsy pathology: the influence of the church - J.G. Van den Tweel
- Historical autopsy reports - R. Santi
- Mechanical and atomistic interpretation of syphilis by Giovanni Battista Morgagni - F. Zampieri
- Laryngeal cancer of Frederick III ("Did Virchow really get it wrong?") - R. Sedivy
- History of surgical pathology, intraoperative frozen sections and the origins of hospital based practice of laboratory medicine - J. Wright
- Scientific career and international relations of two Hungarian pathologists (G. Scheuthauer and A. Genersich) in the 19th century - B. Szende
- Pathology in Saint Petersburg/Leningrad: most important achievements in 19th and 20th centuries - V. Zinserling
- The "Gout" of the Medici: a paleopathological point of view - G. Fornaciari
- DNA as historical memory: application of modern technologies to reconstruct the molecular history of diseases and populations – L. Ottini
- The teratology collection of the Museum of Pathological Anatomy at Padua University
The cascade of anatomical discoveries that lead to advance the theory of blood circulation at Padua University – G. Thiene

Historical outline of the Pathology Museum of the University of Florence – G. Nesi

Guided tour to the Pathology Museum of the University of Florence

Scrofula at the Pathology Museum (Master waxworker, Egisto Tortori)

Saturday, 17 May 2014

10.00-12.30 Visit to the Riccardiana Library

Gabriella Nesi (left) and her crew in the Riccardiana Library

Participants studying the front page of Vesalius’ De Humani Corporis Fabrica.

Afternoon session

Biography: Alexandra Piringer-Kuchinka – N. Agnantis

Biography: Pierre Masson – V. Canzonieri

Biography: Aurel Babes – C. Mateoiu

Biography: Gaetano Perusini – S. Pizzolitto

Business Meeting & Closing remarks

Highlights of the meeting were the visits to the historical wax museum at the Institute of Pathology (Museo di Anatomia Patologica dell’Università degli Studi di Firenze) dating from 1824, with its numerous lifelike macroscopical syndromes, and to the Palazzo Medici Riccardi.

After a guided tour in the palace, the participants visited the library with its numerous old manuscripts, among them famous old Roman and Greek poets and scholars and medieval works. The most interesting in the latter group was one of the two existing coloured versions of Vesalius’ De Humani Corporis Fabrica (1543).

The business meeting was intended as a brainstorming session about the future direction of the working group.

The present members favoured an annual continuation of this initiative, the next meeting will be held at the end of May 2015, probably in Padua, Italy.

It was decided that the official business meetings of the Working Group would be held after a symposium of the WG at the annual ESP congresses. Thus the next business meeting is in London after the History of Pathology symposium on Sunday August 31. An agenda will be distributed in due time among the members.

It was a fantastic meeting thanks to Gabriella Nesi and her staff at Careggi’s Pathology Institute.

Prof. Jan G van den Tweel
The Portuguese Society of Pathology (SPAP)
Message from the President

The Portuguese Society of Pathology (SPAP) was founded in 1963, precisely in the same year of the conception of the European Society of Pathology (ESP). The discipline of Pathology, which was formerly secured by surgeons at Medical Schools, was rapidly developing since the beginning of the 20th century in Portugal, mainly by the influence of Portuguese pathologists who studied in German and German pathologists that came to Portugal (e.g., Dr. Frederick Wohlwill, who came to Lisbon in 1934 to be a Prossector at the Portuguese Oncology Institute). As the ESP was then giving its first steps by the hand of Prof. A. Giordano and Prof. P. Dustin, it was time to organize a Portuguese Society, with the purpose of fostering the evolution of pathology and stimulate scientific cooperation among Portuguese and European pathologists. The main mentors of this initiative were Prof. Amandio Tavares da Silva (from Porto) and Prof. Jorge Silva Horta (from Lisbon), with a group of 51 Portuguese pathologists. Its first meeting was held in Lisbon and it was coincidental with the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the institution of the Academic Pathology Chairs at Coimbra, Lisbon and Porto by Luis I, King of Portugal. Prof Jorge Silva Horta quickly established links and organized joint meetings with other societies, namely the Spanish Society of Pathology (SEAP) and the Brazilian Society of Pathology.

The SPAP is an association designed to gather doctors who are interested in the affairs relating to Pathology and, exceptionally, other Health Sciences professionals that may compete for the same purpose, to foster the improvement and scientific progress of this specialty, as stated in its bylaws. To allow for a stronger position among Portuguese and international scientific societies, SPAP merged with the Portuguese Division of the International Academy of Pathology (IAP) in 2004. Consequently, one of the vice-presidents of SPAP is appointed as the Portuguese representative at IAP.

The Society is run by a Committee elected from its membership. A group of Officers of the Society manage executive functions. Those include a President (currently Paula Borralho), two Vice-Presidents (Fátima Magalhães and Lina Carvalho), a General Secretary (Margarida Teixeira), a Treasurer (Lucília Monteiro) and two Members (Ricardo Fonseca and Mário Rui Silva).

The Society includes “Clubs” devoted to several different branches of Pathology (Breast, Bone and Soft Tissues, Gastrointestinal, Pulmonary and Mediastinal Pathology, Paediatric and Perinatal Pathology) and promotes monthly interdepartmental regional meetings (where residents have the opportunity to present their most didactic and interesting cases), inter-congress thematic meetings (mainly organized by “Clubs”) and a National Congress in a bi-annual basis. The last SPAP meeting was held during the 25th European Congress of Pathology in Lisbon, were SPAP officers participated actively in the design of the scientific and social program of the Congress, with some special sessions entirely organized by the Portuguese Society of Pathology/Portuguese Division of the IAP (the Residents Slide Seminar and three Special Sessions: the commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the institution of Academic Pathology Chairs Portugal, the “The best of histopathology clubs” and “The best of molecular pathology in routine diagnosis”).

For the near future SPAP is launching some new sub-committees, especially devoted to education, to establish a liaison with other Societies and a “Young-SPAP” committee, headed by residents.

Prof. Paula Borralho Nunes
1) Pathological Complete Response and Long-Term Clinical Benefit in Breast Cancer: the CTNeoBC Pooled Analysis

P. Cortazar, L. Zhang, M. Untch et al.
The Lancet, 2014: 164-172

Background

Pathological complete response has been proposed as a surrogate endpoint for prediction of long-term clinical benefit, such as disease-free survival, event-free survival (EFS), and overall survival (OS). We had four key objectives: to establish the association between pathological complete response and EFS and OS; to establish the definition of pathological complete response that correlates best with long-term outcome, to identify the breast cancer subtypes in which pathological complete response is best correlated with long-term outcome, and to assess whether an increase in frequency of pathological complete response between treatment groups predicts improved EFS and OS.

Methods

We searched PubMed, Embase, and Medline for clinical trials of neoadjuvant treatment of breast cancer. To be eligible, studies had to meet three inclusion criteria: include at least 200 patients with primary breast cancer treated with preoperative chemotherapy followed by surgery; have available data for pathological complete response, EFS, and OS; and have a median follow-up of at least 3 years. We compared the three most commonly used definitions of pathological complete response—ypT0 ypN0, ypT0/is ypN0, and ypT0/is— for their association with EFS and OS in a responder analysis. We assessed the association between pathological complete response and EFS and OS in various subgroups. Finally, we did a trial-level analysis to assess whether pathological complete response could be used as a surrogate endpoint for EFS or OS.

Findings

We obtained data from 12 identified international trials and 11,955 patients were included in our responder analysis. Eradication of tumour from both breast and lymph nodes (ypT0 ypN0 or ypT0/is ypN0) was better associated with improved EFS (ypT0 ypN0: hazard ratio [HR] 0·44, 95% CI 0·39—0·51; ypT0/is ypN0: 0·48, 0·43—0·54) and OS (0·36, 0·30—0·44; 0·36, 0·31—0·42) than was tumour eradication from the breast alone (ypT0/is; EFS: HR 0·60, 95% CI 0·55—0·66; OS 0·51, 0·45—0·58). We used the ypT0/is ypN0 definition for all subsequent analyses. The association between pathological complete response and long-term outcomes was strongest in patients with triple-negative breast cancer (EFS: HR 0·24, 95% CI 0·18—0·33; OS: 0·16, 0·11—0·25) and in those with HER2-positive, hormone-receptor-negative tumours who received trastuzumab (EFS: 0·15, 0·09—0·27; OS: 0·08, 0·03—0·22). In the trial-level analysis, we recorded little association between increases in frequency of pathological complete response and EFS (R2=0·03, 95% CI 0·00—0·25) and OS (R2=0·24, 0·00—0·70).

Interpretation

Patients who attain pathological complete response defined as ypT0 ypN0 or ypT0/is ypN0 have improved survival. The prognostic value is greatest in aggressive tumour subtypes. Our pooled analysis could not validate pathological complete response as a surrogate endpoint for improved EFS and OS.

2) The Prostate Health Index: A New Test for the Detection of Prostate Cancer

S. Loeb, W. J. Catalona
A major focus in urologic research is the identification of new biomarkers with improved specificity for clinically-significant prostate cancer. A promising new test based on prostate-specific antigen (PSA) is called the Prostate Health Index (PHI), which has recently been approved in the United States, Europe and Australia.

PHI is a mathematical formula that combines total PSA, free PSA and [-2] proPSA. Numerous international studies have consistently shown that PHI outperforms its individual components for the prediction of overall and high-grade prostate cancer on biopsy. PHI also predicts the likelihood of progression during active surveillance, providing another noninvasive modality to potentially select and monitor this patient population.

This article reviews the evidence on this new blood test with significant promise for both prostate cancer screening and treatment decision-making.

3) BAG3 Regulates Epithelial–Mesenchymal Transition and Angiogenesis in Human Hepatocellular Carcinoma
H. Xiao, S. Cheng, R. Tong, et al.

Bcl2-associated athanogene 3 (BAG3) protein is a co-chaperone of heat-shock protein (Hsp) 70 and may regulate major physiological and pathophysiological processes. However, few reports have examined the role of BAG3 in human hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). In this study, we show that BAG3 regulates epithelial–mesenchymal transition (EMT) and angiogenesis in HCC. BAG3 was overexpressed in HCC tissues and cell lines.

BAG3 knockdown resulted in reduction in migration and invasion of HCC cells, which was linked to reversion of EMT by increasing E-cadherin expression and decreasing N-cadherin, vimentin and slug expression, as well as suppressing matrix metalloproteinase 2 (MMP-2) expression. In a xenograft tumorigenicity model, BAG3 knockdown effectively inhibited tumor growth and metastasis through reduction in CD34 and VEGF expression and reversal of the EMT pathway.

In conclusion, BAG3 is associated with the invasiveness and angiogenesis in HCC, and the BAG3 gene may be a novel therapeutic approach against HCC.

4) An Ultrasensitive Method for Quantitating Circulating Tumor DNA with Broad Patient Coverage
A. Newman, S. Bratman, J. To et al.

Circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) is a promising biomarker for noninvasive assessment of cancer burden, but existing ctDNA detection methods have insufficient sensitivity or patient coverage for broad clinical applicability. Here we introduce cancer personalized profiling by deep sequencing (CAPP-Seq), an economical and ultrasensitive method for quantifying ctDNA.

We implemented CAPP-Seq for non–small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) with a design covering multiple classes of somatic alterations that identified mutations in >95% of tumors. We detected ctDNA in 100% of patients with stage II–IV NSCLC and in 50% of patients with stage I, with 96% specificity for mutant allele fractions down to ~0.02%. Levels of ctDNA were highly correlated with tumor volume and distinguished between residual disease and treatment-related imaging changes, and measurement of ctDNA levels allowed for earlier response assessment than radiographic approaches.

Finally, we evaluated biopsy-free tumor screening and genotyping with CAPP-Seq. We envision that CAPP-Seq could be routinely applied clinically to detect and monitor diverse malignancies, thus facilitating personalized cancer therapy.
5) CDC Grand Rounds: Discovering New Diseases via Enhanced Partnership between Public Health and Pathology Experts

Introduction

This is another in a series of occasional MMWR reports titled CDC Grand Rounds. These reports are based on grand rounds presentations at CDC on high-profile issues in public health science, practice, and policy. Information about CDC Grand Rounds is available at http://www.cdc.gov/about/grand-rounds.

Despite advances in public health, medicine, and technology, infectious diseases remain a major source of illness and death worldwide. In the United States alone, unexplained deaths resulting from infectious disease agents have an estimated annual incidence of 0.5 per 100,000 persons aged 1–49 years. Emerging and newly recognized infections, such as hantavirus pulmonary syndrome and West Nile encephalitis, often are associated with life-threatening illnesses and death. Other infectious diseases once thought to be on the decline, such as pertussis, again are becoming major public health threats. Animals increasingly are being recognized as potential vectors for infectious diseases affecting humans; approximately 75% of recently emerging human infectious diseases are of animal origin. Increasing global interconnectivity necessitates more rapid identification of infectious disease agents to prevent, treat, and control diseases.

Surveillance and rapid response for emerging infectious diseases remain cornerstones of CDC’s public health mission. There is a need for a holistic “One Health***” approach with interdisciplinary engagement, given the vital interconnectedness among humans, animals, and the environment. Fortunately, many partnerships, systems, and tools are available to use in pursuit of this goal. The strong public health partnership between CDC’s Infectious Diseases Pathology Branch and forensic pathologists and medical examiners, coupled with the use of state-of-the-art technologies, has facilitated explanation of many otherwise unexplained deaths, led to the discovery of new pathogens, and enabled the monitoring of unexplained deaths and critical illnesses at the state and local levels.

The Pathologist and Public Health Partnership

Pathologists are among the first to encounter infectious disease outbreaks through their collaborative work with diverse specialists including epidemiologists, clinicians, veterinarians, and microbiologists, and are thus in an excellent position to discover emerging infectious diseases.

Hantavirus at the Four Corners

For example, in 1993, an unexplained respiratory illness appeared in the Four Corners area (a region of the United States where the boundaries of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah meet) with reports of a influenza-like illness with high mortality rates in previously healthy young adults. The diligence of forensic pathologists in New Mexico in pursuing and performing autopsies was invaluable to the investigation. These autopsies revealed pulmonary edema and large proteinaceous pleural effusions. At the first meeting of the three joint investigators (the New Mexico Department of Health, the Office of the Medical Investigator at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, and CDC) a list was established of the most likely causes (i.e., influenza, plague, or a possible new agent) and intensive diagnostic efforts were mounted.

The first breakthrough came via serologic testing at CDC with the detection of hantaviral antibodies in serum of patients who had succumbed to the illness. This was an unexpected finding because, at that time, there was no known pathogenic hantavirus in the United States, and all characterized pathogenic hantaviruses in other parts of the world caused renal disease with hemorrhage, unlike the pulmonary nonhemorrhagic disease observed in the Four Corners patients. Proof that this illness was caused by a hantavirus arrived rapidly through two
hantavirus-specific tests developed at CDC. One test was a hantavirus-specific polymerase chain reaction (PCR) that was used to amplify the hantaviral nucleic acid sequence directly from the patient’s tissues and demonstrated that the infectious agent was a novel hantavirus. The other test was an immunohistochemical test using an antibody that reacted with all known hantaviruses. Using this antibody, microscopic examination of tissues from victims of this unexplained respiratory illness enabled localization of the viral proteins to the areas of disease in the lung, specifically the pulmonary endothelial cells (Figure 1). Immunohistochemistry (IHC) also provided a clue as to why patients develop "pulmonary leak": the virus damaged pulmonary vessels very much like poking holes in a pipe.

Figure 1. Immunohistochemistry for detecting pathogens in tissue*

*Red color indicates site of the pathogens: A) Hantavirus proteins can be seen in endothelial cells in the lung of a patient; B) Leptospira organisms are present in large blood vessels in the lung; C) West Nile virus antigens can be seen in neurons in a patient with encephalitis.

At the outset of this investigation in 1993, only one nonpathogenic hantavirus had been identified in the United States; today, 24 hantaviruses with differing levels of pathogenicity have been identified in the Americas. This recognition of New World hantaviruses, coupled with a better understanding of hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, has resulted in critical improvements in the rapid recognition and clinical management of the disease and better understanding of the natural reservoir (rodents) and mode of transmission, all of which have greatly improved the ability to implement control and prevention measures, with emphasis on the critical role of individual communities.

**Leptospirosis in Nicaragua**

In 1995, another pulmonary outbreak was reported, this time in Nicaragua, with several hundred cases and many deaths. An important difference with this outbreak was that instead of the clear fluid usually observed accumulating in the lungs, frank hemorrhage was detected. Initially, a viral hemorrhagic disease was suspected; however, within a few days pathologic evaluation helped solve the mystery. A novel IHC technique was used, employing several antibodies reactive against multiple strains of leptospirosis bacteria, and the etiology was confirmed. The association of pulmonary hemorrhage with leptospirosis is now a well-recognized syndrome in addition to the classic hepatic and renal disease. This understanding, combined with awareness of increased transmission after intense rainfall and flooding and improved disease control and prevention efforts, resulted in better treatment, and ultimately saved lives.

**West Nile Virus via Transplantation**

Transmission of infections from a single donor to multiple recipients through organ transplantation has been detected increasingly in recent years. Some infections identified at CDC as novel associations with solid organ transplants include West Nile virus (WNV), lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus, rabies, *Balamuthia*, and microsporidiosis. A young female victim of an automobile crash, whose care necessitated multiple transfusions, was associated with the first of these events in 2002. Following her death, several organs were donated, and all recipients developed a febrile illness. One of the recipients who succumbed was thought to have contracted WNV infection, but results of his serology testing were negative for WNV. However, examination of autopsy specimens at CDC showed encephalitis, with IHC clearly demonstrating WNV antigen in neurons, and the negative serology was determined to be a result of the transplant.
immunosuppression regimen. Diagnosis of this infection led to a traceback investigation that identified the blood components the donor had received prior to her death as the source of the virus and profoundly influenced thinking about West Nile virus transmission via blood transfusion and transplants.

6) The Novel Mitochondrial 16S rRNA 2336T>C Mutation Is Associated With Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Z. Liu, Y. Song, D. Li, et al.

Background

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) is a primary disorder characterised by asymmetric thickening of septum and left ventricular wall, with a prevalence of 0.2% in the general population.

Objective

To describe a novel mitochondrial DNA mutation and its association with the pathogenesis of HCM.

Methods and results

All maternal members of a Chinese family with maternally transmitted HCM exhibited variable severity and age at onset, and were implanted permanent pacemakers due to complete atrioventricular block (AVB). Nuclear gene screening (MYH7, MYBPC3, TNNT2 and TNNI3) was performed, and no potential pathogenic mutation was identified. Mitochondrial DNA sequencing analysis identified a novel homoplasmic 16S rRNA 2336T>C mutation. This mutation was exclusively present in maternal members and absent in non-maternal members. Conservation index by comparison to 16 other vertebrates was 94.1%.

This mutation disturbs the 2336U-A2438 base pair in the stem–loop structure of 16S rRNA domain III, which is involved in the assembly of mitochondrial ribosome. Oxygen consumption rate of the lymphoblastoid cells carrying 2336T>C mutation had decreased by 37% compared with controls. A reduction in mitochondrial ATP synthesis and an increase in reactive oxidative species production were also observed. Electron microscopic analysis indicated elongated mitochondria and abnormal mitochondrial cristae shape in mutant cells.

Conclusions

It is suggested that the 2336T>C mutation is one of pathogenic mutations of HCM. This is the first report of mitochondrial 16S rRNA 2336T>C mutation and an association with maternally inherited HCM combined with AVB. Our findings provide a new insight into the pathogenesis of HCM.

7) Cross-sectional Study: CagA–positive Helicobacter pylori Infection, Acute Coronary Artery Disease and Systemic Levels of B-type Natriuretic Peptide


Background

B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP) determination is routinely used to evaluate the severity of congestive heart failure, a possible consequence of coronary artery disease (CAD). CAD originates from vascular atherosclerotic processes and is stimulated by inflammatory events, which may also be triggered by chronic bacterial infections.

Aim

To explore the effect of Helicobacter pylori infection upon systemic BNP, tumour necrosis factor-α (TNF-α) and interleukin-6 (IL-6) levels and linear homology between cardiac peptides and H pylori.

Methods

A group of 103 consecutive patients with a diagnosis of non-ST elevation acute CAD (ACAD) and no other concomitant pathology was examined. BNP was measured by a commercial solid-phase sandwich immunoradiometric assay. H pylori infection, CagA serological status and circulating levels of IL-6 and TNF-α, were
determined by ELISA assays. Amino acid sequence homology between human cardiac and *H pylori* peptides was investigated by Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST) analysis.

**Results**

Circulating levels of BNP and IL-6, in pg/mL (interquartile difference), among infected patients with anti-CagA serum antibodies, respectively 781 (1899) and 37.7 (137.6), were significantly increased in respect to those measured in uninfected patients, respectively 325 (655) and 7.7 (23.5), (p<0.01 and p=0.025), and, with regard to BNP alone, also in patients infected by CagA negative *H pylori* strains, 305 (593), (p<0.01). TNF-α levels were raised in CagA positive in respect to uninfected patients. Tropomyosin and Ca2+ transporting ATPases showed strong similarities to *H pylori* proteins, suggesting the existence of molecular mimicry phenomena.

**Conclusions**

Chronic infection by *H pylori* expressing CagA correlates with high circulating levels of BNP and IL-6 in patients with ACAD.

Dr. Loukas Kaklamannis

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**Some Recently Published Books**

**Robbins and Cotran Pathologic Basis of Disease, Professional Edition**

By Vinay Kumar
2014, 1472 pages, ~EUR130

Dependable, current, and complete, Robbins and Cotran Pathologic Basis of Disease, 9th Edition is the perennially best-selling text that you’ll use long after your medical student days are behind you. A world-class author team headed by Drs. Vinay Kumar, Abul Abbas, and Jon Aster, delivers the latest, most essential pathology knowledge in a readable, interesting manner, ensuring optimal understanding of the latest basic science and clinical content. High-quality photographs and full-color illustrations highlight new information in molecular biology, disease classifications, new drugs and drug therapies, and much more.

**WHO Classification of Tumours of the Female Reproductive Organs**

By R.J. Kurman, M.L. Carcangiu, C.S. Herrington, R.H. Young
2014 (4th ed), 316 pages, 400 illus, ~EUR100

WHO Classification of Tumours of Female Reproductive Organs is the sixth volume in the Fourth Edition of the WHO series on histological and genetic typing of human tumors. This authoritative, concise reference book provides an international standard for oncologists and pathologists and will serve as an indispensable guide for use in the design of studies monitoring response to therapy and clinical outcome.

**Quick Compendium Companion for Molecular Pathology**

By George Leonard, Frank Zuehl, Daniel Mais
2009, 208 pages, ~EUR50
As molecular pathology continues to become a growth industry, it is more important than ever to keep pace with advances in this expanding field. The original Quick Compendium of Molecular Pathology is an essential resource for board exam preparation and for maintaining competency in molecular pathology.

**Biopsy Interpretation of Pediatric Lesions**
By Aliya Husain
2014 (1st ed), 392 pages, ~EUR120 list

Pathologists and pathology residents, look no further: Biopsy Interpretation: Pediatric Lesions is your practical, essential guide to pediatric biopsies. This how-to guide is the perfect bench reference for both the pediatric pathologist tasked with interpreting pediatric biopsies and the general surgical pathologist. Authored by a panel of top experts, the topics covered include a wide spectrum of diseases that afflict children, laying a comprehensive framework for diagnosing both the common and not-so-common diseases that can be identified by biopsy. If you’re a medical professional faced with the challenge of interpreting pediatric biopsies, this reference will prove indispensable to your day-to-day life.

**Handbook of Forensic Medicine**
By Burkhard Madea
2014 (1st ed), 1312 pages, ~EUR280 list

Forensic Medicine encompasses all areas in which medicine and law interact. This book covers diverse aspects of forensic medicine including forensic pathology, traumatology and violent death, sudden and unexpected death, clinical forensic medicine, toxicology, traffic medicine, identification, haemogenetics and medical law. A knowledge of all these subdisciplines is necessary in order to solve routine as well as more unusual cases.

**Gastrointestinal Pathology and Its Clinical Implications**
By Robert Riddell, Wilfred Weinstein, Klaus J. Lewin
2014 (2nd ed), 1712 pages, 2100 illus, ~EUR240

This comprehensive, two-volume resource highlights the practical aspects the pathology of biopsies and gross specimens, the clinical/pathological correlation, and differential diagnoses, and the ways in which these affect the management of patients with gastrointestinal disorders. The authors provide valuable insights on many important areas of gastrointestinal pathology, and openly address controversies within the specialty. This all-inclusive work stands alone in its illustrative quality and in its emphasis on the clinical implications of patient management as related to pathologic findings.

**Practical Breast Pathology**
By Tibor Tot, Laszlo Tabar, Peter Dean
2014 (2nd ed), 206 pages, ~EUR90

Focused on a modern, interdisciplinary approach to diagnosing and managing diseases of the breast, this concise book builds on the high standard set in the previous edition. It provides a complete foundation in the basic principles, radiologic appearance and underlying pathology of breast disease, without overwhelming non-pathologist members of the team with excessive detail. For effective communication at every level, Practical Breast Pathology, Second Edition provides the clear information, case examples and superb illustrations that make it an ideal clinical problem solver.

**Diagnostic Pathology: Spleen**
By Aaron Auerbach
2013 (1st ed), 536 pages, ~EUR180

This book is designed to be the most comprehensive book on splenic pathology to date. It is an easy to use, overview of the lesions, both neoplastic and nonneoplastic, that arise in the spleen. Topics of focus include infectious diseases and lymphoproliferative disorders of the spleen. It analyzes each entity under the categories of definition, etiologies and pathogenesis, clinical presentations, treatment, prognosis, imaging, macroscopic features, microscopic features, cytopathology and ancillary studies, and differential diagnosis. This text would be an ideal
tool for surgical pathologists, hematopathologists, pathology residents, and medical students.

**Atlas of Endocrine Pathology**
By Lori Erickson
2014 (1st ed), 178 pages, 500 illus, ~EUR100

Atlas of Endocrine Pathology provides a comprehensive compendium of photomicrographs of common and uncommon entities in endocrine pathology. The volume includes histologic features of normal features, reactive conditions, hyperplasia, and tumors. The most helpful diagnostic features are illustrated to provide direction and clues to the diagnosis of endocrine tumors. Furthermore, photomicrographs highlight the most pertinent diagnostic features in problematic diagnoses in endocrine pathology.

**Diagnosis of Neoplasia in Endometrial Biopsies**
By Oluwole Fadare
2014 (1st ed), 192 pages, ~EUR110

With its unique algorithmic and pattern-based approach, Diagnosis of Neoplasia in Endometrial Biopsies is an essential practical guide to interpreting endometrial biopsy samples. All potential entities are classified based on the dominant histologic pattern, with each resulting sub-group progressively sub-classified to reach a diagnosis. Decision tree flowcharts facilitate rapid narrowing of the differential diagnosis. Recent advancements are discussed and explained, and strengths and limitations of diagnostic tests are identified in the context of their application to the biopsy sample. Lavishly illustrated throughout, this book serves the practising pathologist as a scope-side assistant for quick reference, up-to-date guidance, and recommendations for ancillary testing. For the resident, this book facilitates quick and comprehensive mastery of the interpretation and diagnosis of endometrial biopsies.

**Diagnostic Pathology: Familial Cancer Syndromes**
By Vania Nose
2013 (1st ed), 700 pages, ~EUR 180

Diagnostic Pathology: Familial Cancer Syndromes features a comprehensive review of the top 56 inherited tumor syndromes associated with neoplasms, which every surgical pathologists diagnoses in their daily sign-out practice. With over 175 chapters and written by well-known experts in the field, this book seeks to help surgical pathologists, clinicians, fellows, and residents understand the critical differences in diagnosing familial tumors and differentiating these from the sporadic counterpart. Besides the well-described pathology of these syndromes, the clinical implications on diagnosing these syndromes are also presented in detail. This book will guide pathologists and clinicians to master diagnostic criteria when diagnosing tumors associated with inherited tumor syndromes.

**Pathology of Pediatric Gastrointestinal and Liver Disease**
By Pierre Russo, Eduardo Duchelli, David Piccoli
2014 (2nd ed), 525 pages, ~EUR110

Pathology of Pediatric Gastrointestinal and Liver Disease provides the pediatric pathologist, the GI or general pathologist, and the pediatric gastroenterologist with the most complete and current reference on the subject. With an emphasis on clinical-pathological correlation, the book includes in-depth discussions on disorders and issues that are frequently encountered but for which up-to-date information is often not readily available, as well as infrequent disorders unique or specific to children that are not covered in standard texts. Among the topics considered are malabsorption and motility disorders, immunodeficiencies, including AIDS, developmental malformations, food allergies, cystic diseases of the liver, hepatic tumors, and esophageal and pancreatic disorders. Many new illustrations and electron micrographs are included in this edition, and the high-quality endoscopic and radiographic images permit ready correlation with the pathologic principles under discussion.

**Pulmonary Pathology**
By R. Rao, Cesar Moran, Saul Suster
2014 (1st ed), 200 pages, ~EUR55

Intended for busy practitioners, Pulmonary Pathology is a pithy, pocket-sized guide to all of the key pulmonology entities and diagnoses that pulmonologists see in daily practice. It addresses non-neoplastic conditions including Infections, Granulomatous Diseases, Acute Lung Injury,
Idiopathic Interstitial Pneumonias, Vasculitis, Histiocytoses, Lung Pathology in Systemic Diseases, Transplant-Related Lung Pathology, and Miscellaneous Non-Neoplastic Conditions. Neoplasia entities include Benign Epithelial Neoplasia, Pre-Invasive Neoplasia, Squamous Cell Carcinoma, Adenocarcinoma, Neuroendocrine Neoplasia, Other Epithelial Neoplasia, Mesenchymal Neoplasia, Lymphoproliferative Disorders, Pleural Tumors, Metastatic Tumors, and Tumor-Like Conditions. The book features a bulleted format replete with illustrations for quick information retrieval. It will be a handy summary and quick reference for pulmonary pathology residents and will serve as a portable refresher course for more experienced pathologists.

Breast Pathology
By Melinda Sanders, Jean Simpson and David Elder 2014 (1st ed), 304 pages, “EUR120

Based on actual cases drawn from the extensive breast pathology consultation practice at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Breast Pathology covers the full classification of breast tumors and focuses on especially challenging differential diagnoses or unusual and problematic morphologic presentations. Using a pattern-based approach, each case is presented as a difficult diagnostic choice with two or even three possible diagnoses for the pathologist. For each case there is a description illustrating an expert’s diagnosis and analysis, along with commentary providing additional context on the evaluation of such specimens. The book places special emphasis on avoiding diagnostic pitfalls. Each case discussion is supported with several high quality color photomicrographs that facilitate an extensive visual history and learning experience. Brief references to the literature are also included.

Prof. Gordan Vujanic

Pathology Meetings in 2014

USCAP – 2014 Diagnostic Pathology Update
20 – 25 July 2014
San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA

Paleopathology Association Annual Meeting 2014
Paleopathology Association (PPA)
26 – 29 August 2014
Lund, Sweden
Contact: ppa-2014@ark.lu.se

Paediatric Pathology Society 60th Annual Meeting (jointly with the SPP)
4-6 September 2014
Birmingham, UK
http://www.paedpath.org

XXX Congress of the International Academy of Pathology
5-10 October 2014
Bangkok, Thailand
http://iap2014.com

AECVP – 6th Biennial Meeting 2014
Association for European Cardiovascular Pathology (AECVP)
9-11 October 2014
Paris, France
http://anpat.unipd.it/aecvp/index.php/meetings-and-courses

The 17th European Association of Haematopathology Annual Meeting
17-22 October 2014
Istanbul, Turkey
http://www.eahp2014.org
AMP 2014 Annual Meeting
Association for Molecular Pathology
13-15 November 2014
National Harbor, Maryland, USA
http://www.amp.org/meetings/index.cfm

ASCP 2014 Annual Meeting
American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP)
8-11 October 2014
Tampa, Florida, USA

The 30th Annual Meeting for the Histiocyte Society
Histiocyte Society (HS)
28-30 October 2014
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
http://www.histiocytesociety.org/annualmeeting

BDIAP 109th Symposium on Gynaecological Pathology, a Joint Meeting with the ISGP
International Academy of Pathology - British Division (IAP-BD)
21-22 November 2014
London, UK
http://www.bdiap.org/

USCAP 2015 Annual Meeting
United States & Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP)
21-27 March 2015
Boston, Massachusetts, USA
http://www.uscap.org/meeting/70313

27th European Congress of Pathology Belgrade 2015
European Society of Pathology Congress
Pathology – breaking barriers in medicine
5-9 September 2015
Belgrade, Serbia
www.esp-congress.org

3rd Kidney Tumor Friends Meeting
13-15 June 2014, Mikulov, Czech Republic

The meeting focused mainly on diagnostic problems in general genitourinary (GU) pathology, including urinary bladder tumors, testicular tumors and prostatic lesions. Rare and new kidney tumors were discussed as well. More than 130 registered participants attended the meeting from 21 countries. There were 13 case presentations during the slide seminar on Friday, 13 June, and several presentations sparked a vivid debate. The following day, Saturday, 14 July was reserved for lectures given by 14 distinguished speakers from 7 countries from 4 continents: Isabel Alvarado Cabrero, Mexico City, Mexico, Mahul Amin, Los Angeles, USA, Eva Comperat, Paris, France, Milan Hora, Plzen, Czech Republic, Naoto Kuroda, Kochi, Japan, Chisato Ohe, Osaka, Japan, Delia Perez Montiel, Mexico City, Mexico, Maria Picken, Chicago, USA, Kiril Trpkov, Calgary, Canada, Gordan Vujanic, Cardiff, UK, Ximing Yang, Chicago, USA, Ming Zhou, New York, USA, Michal Michal and Ondřej Hes, Plzeň, Czech Republic.

The main meeting organizers, Drs. Ondrej Hes and Michal Michal, received accolades for the exceptional scientific and social quality of this meeting and for their legendary hospitality. The meeting provided an exceptional opportunity to hone the diagnostic GU pathology skills for the attending pathologists and trainees, and to socialize with colleagues and friends, while enjoying the beauty of the Czech wines and countryside.

Prof. Ondrej Hes

Prof. Gordan Vujanic
Report of ESCoP Belgrade 2014

2014 ESCoP Course in Belgrade (Serbia) had Dermatopathology as the main topic. The Course was held from 10 to 12 April 2014 and there were about 70 participants in total (50 registered participants, and another 20 ‘gratis’ participants, mainly young trainees in pathology).

There were 7 international tutors including Maria Balabanova (Sofia, Bulgaria), Arnaud de la Fouchardiere (Lyon, France), Sylvie Fraitag (Paris, France), Konstantina Frangia-Tsivou (Athens, Greece), Marko Lens (London, U.K.) Marco Santucci (Florence, Italy) and Bernhard Zelger (Innsbruck, Austria), and 5 Serbian tutors including Martina Bosić, Dimitrije Brašanac, Danijela Dobrosavljević, Ljiljana Medenica, and Dejan Nikolić. They delivered 10 lectures, 10 slide seminar sessions and 2 interactive seminars which were all very highly regarded by the participants. It is worth emphasising the importance of having these courses within the countries where people cannot easily find financial support to attend similar educational events abroad and they hugely improve their diagnostic skills and understanding of the importance of integration of pathology in everyday clinical practice.

The Course was supported by an ESP grant and local sponsors.

Director of ESCoP Belgrade Courses,

Prof. Jovan Lole Vasiljevic