Message from the President

Prof. Han van Krieken

The Future of Pathology......

Fifty years ago a group of pathologists and friends came together and started the European Society of Pathology. They had the strong belief that science is the motor of our profession and they proved to be right. The difference of what we were able to offer patients 50 years ago and now is almost incomprehensible. Research has given us insights in causes of diseases and pathogenesis. We have learned what tissue based knowledge means for the outcome of the disease. New tools have been developed to extract new information from biopsies and surgical specimens. So many developments have changed what we do in our daily routine that our colleagues from fifty years ago would hardly be able to understand our reports, although the glass slide and microscope are still the cornerstone of what we do. The ESP was therefore founded on the correct assumption that bringing science into our profession is crucial. The now yearly congress reflects that.

Science does not stand still. Nowadays insights and possibilities evolve even faster. Precision medicine, immunology, targeted therapy, genetics, IT are just a few of the fields that have major impact on medicine as a whole and pathology in particular. The ESP keeps focus on science and tries to bring it into our routine by the educational programs, the congress, including especially the key-note lectures. Nevertheless I know that there are colleagues who feel overwhelmed by all that is happening and this is understandable. We are up to many challenges, but no one has to do this alone.

The strength of pathology has always been that we try to understand the processes we see happening in tissues and cells, use when possible new tools to improve that understanding, and, most importantly, communicate what we see and think to our clinical colleagues. I increasingly experience that our clinical colleagues and even patients have a better understanding of our role. We are appreciated partners in tumor boards, clinicopathological meetings and also in research. The ESP has now close collaborations with oncologists, gastroenterologists, urologists, gynaecologists etc, etc, who participate in our congress and we participate in theirs. By developing the program Pathology and the Public the ESP likes to strengthen our image.

Is see many enthusiastic young colleagues taking up challenges, research programs where pathologists make the difference, quality programs improving the reliability of our diagnosis, interactions with industry making introduction of new technology possible, subspecialisation leading to the best diagnosis for each patient, exchange of digital slides creating new opportunities for consultation, high throughput genetics providing better diagnostic information and above all recognition. Indeed many challenges and a high responsibility, but for sure these developments tell me that the future of pathology is bright.
Message from the Editor

Prof. Aurelio Ariza

This first issue of 2015 inaugurates a determined effort to establish the strict periodicity of our publication. Mid-February, mid-June, and mid-October will be the points of the year when our readers may expect a pristine ESP Newsletter shining on their screens. These three annual issues (winter, springtime, autumn) will endeavour to keep us well tuned in to the expanding waves of European pathology.

To commemorate that the ESP was born fifty years ago a “Future of Pathology” meeting was held in Brussels on January 25th, 2015. In this winter Newsletter our president duly echoes that meeting when he opens fire with his comments on the bright future of pathology. Further on, after my message, you will find the first instalment of our new “Tweet the Term” etymologic minisection, in which Prof Dina Tiniakos will briefly explain the Greek origin of words commonly encountered in our profession. Her first choice (eosin, the “dye of dawn”) cannot be more appropriate, with its powerful evocation of the Homeric epithet, “the rosy-fingered dawn.”

The Newsletter then proceeds to make a call for nominations to new officers and new members of the council of the ESP, announces the bid for venues for the 2019 and 2021 European congresses of pathology (venues already selected are Belgrade for 2015, Cologne for 2016, Amsterdam for 2017, Bilbao for 2018, and Glasgow for 2020), invites participation in “Art Paths Belgrade 2015,” and encourages the celebration of the second annual International Pathology Day (November 5th, 2015). Amidst so much rushing forwards it is wise to have a respite to look at the past. Certainly, the half-century just turned by the ESP is a unique milestone at which to do that. Mr Andrew Wilson, a professional writer, will take good care of making that looking back both rigorous and lively, but he needs all the material each of us can provide.

Working Groups (WGs) have been repeatedly extolled as the ESP’s muscles. In order to fortify those muscles, Prof Han van Krieken and Prof Fátima Carneiro address a letter to all ESP members in which they tell what WGs are all about and give practical guidance on how to become a member. As an example of what WGs are up to, the new chair (Prof Ola Nilsson) and secretary (Prof Stefano La Rosa) of the Endocrine WG share with us their vision and projects. Equally important for the ESP are the national societies of pathology, amongst which the Dutch Scientific Society of Pathology (NVVP) shows exemplary vibrancy. Its enthusiastic president-elect, Prof Katrien Grünberg, deftly sketches the NVVP for us. Also from the Netherlands come Prof van Krieken’s sobering comments on the folly of impact factors, an eye-opening article that promises to offer some solutions in the next Newsletter.

Then Professors Ales Ryska, Janina Kulka and Michael Mihatsch bring us very attractive news on the EAT centres and Giordano Fellowship, an ESP-supported programme for the advanced training in pathology bound to be of extreme interest to both trainees and centres. Afterwards, Prof Helmut Popper asks for volunteers for teaching courses outside Europe and Prof Fred Bosman explains how we can help by donating books and equipment.
Finally, the Newsletter is very pleased to announce the election of Prof George Kontogeorgos, a prominent Hellenic pathologist, as president-elect of the International Academy of Pathology. Hellenic as well is the synthetic ability of Dr Loukas Kaklamani to scoop the best of the literature in his Analecta Medica. The latter once more precede the closing pages in which Prof Gordan Vujanic, our Newsletter’s associate editor, tells us all we should know about recent books and upcoming meetings. Amongst the latter, the European Congress of Pathology to be held in Belgrade on 5-9 September 2015 takes pride of place. You’ll find very practical information on it at the end of the Newsletter.

Enjoy!

Call for Nominations to New Officers and New Members of the Council of the European Society of Pathology

Prof. Ilmo Leivo

- At the General Assembly in Belgrade in September 2015, the following officers will demit office:
  - President-elect Prof. Pierre Bedossa (as from September 2015 President of the ESP).
  - Treasurer Prof. Marco Santucci (Prof. Santucci has expressed his willingness to continue his work as Treasurer for another four years).

- At the General Assembly in Belgrade in September 2015, the following four regular members of the Council will demit office:
  - Prof. Aurelio Ariza
  - Prof. Jean-Francois Fléjou
  - Prof. Janina Kulka
  - Prof. Arzu Ensari

Members of the ESP are invited to make nominations to new Officers and new Members of the Council. Any nominations must be approved by the individuals themselves, seconded by at least one other member of the society, and accompanied by a short CV of no more than one page. Nominations shall be sent to the Secretary within six weeks of this announcement.

Prof. Ilmo Leivo, Secretary of the ESP
Email: ilmo.leivo@utu.fi

Bids for 2019 and 2021 Congress Venues

European national societies or divisions of the International Academy of Pathology wishing to host the European Congress of Pathology either in 2019 or 2021 should submit a written letter of intent to the President of the European Society of Pathology before the 1st of May 2015. The letter should state which of the two years mentioned is the first and which one is the second option.

The CPO will assess the suitability of the proposed venue and then the ESAP Council will decide upon suitability based of the advice of the CPO. Those national societies whose letter of intent has been approved will be invited to present a full proposal to the Council, which will decide upon the proposals, to be finally approved by the General Assembly.

(For details, see the Bylaws of the European Society of Pathology, Article XI).
Art Exhibition 2015

“Art Paths Belgrade 2015 - The soul of laboratory life”

Dr. Sanja Milenkovic

We are inviting ESP members and all persons involved in the 27th ECP Belgrade 2015, either as meeting attendees, accompanying persons, sponsors or vendors, to participate in “Art Paths Belgrade 2015,” a virtual and on site photo art exhibition that will be held during the 27th ECP in Belgrade, 5-9 September 2015.

Path labs have their own soul. If you see your lab beyond the obvious, if you recognize another dimension, outside the equipment, space or slides, give us that pleasure and show them to us. A picture speaks as a thousand words. The photos inspired by pathologists and their co-workers, special moments and different happenings should come to light and are welcome.

We invite you to participate in both the virtual and the on-site photo art exhibition in Belgrade and to change the face of pathology together. Show us your hidden talents! At the Closing Ceremony of the 27th ECP the two best photographs, one from each category, will be awarded.

Further details on participation and photo art work submission will follow shortly at the 27th ECP website http://www.esp-congress.org/

For more information about “Art Paths Belgrade 2015” please contact:

Sanja Milenkovic:
sanjamilenkovic3@gmail.com
Anna Batistatou: abatista@cc.uoi.gr
Dina Tiniakos: dina.tiniakos@newcastle.ac.uk, dtiniak@med.uoa.gr

International Pathology Day

5 November 2015

The ESP encourages its members and other pathologists to celebrate the second annual International Pathology Day arranged by the Royal College of Pathologists. More information on the different events and ways to give your support on this day and throughout the year is available on the website:

www.rcpath.org/international/pathology-day

We’re Preparing a History of the ESP – Can you Help?

Letters, photos, documents, anecdotes... all welcome!

The Society was created in 1964, and we’ve decided to publish a book to honour its half-century. To do so, we have engaged the services of a professional writer, Andrew Wilson (in the picture above), and hope to produce a book by early 2016.
Andrew stresses: “This is not a history of pathology, but a human history of the Society – its origins, its ups and downs, its controversies and challenges. Of course, the progress of the discipline will be part of the story as will the social and political backdrop, but our focus is on the people and events that contributed to making the Society what it is today.”

Andrew has already begun his archival research and interviews, particularly with past members of the Society’s Executive and committee heads. But he would also like to hear from members who attended conferences, served on committees, attended trainings, or otherwise had dealings with the Society over the years. Any memorabilia such as photos, personal letters, diary entries, or other material related to the Society and its activities would be greatly appreciated – particularly in the first three decades since it was founded.

If you have anything that would enlighten or enliven the book, please get in touch with Andrew directly at wilsonaf@clara.co.uk.

Letter to Members of the ESP on Working Group Membership

Prof. Han van Krieken
Prof. Fátima Carneiro

Dear ESP Member,

It is current ESP policy that all members are welcome to register to one or more working groups (WGs) of the society. WGs serve several different functions. Firstly, they bring together pathologists interested in a particular field of diagnostic pathology, whether they be “experts” or not. For experts, the WGs provide an ideal way to share their experience and expertise. For young pathologists they are a fast track to familiarizing themselves with a subspecialty. Secondly, WGs provide a crucial source of advice in two key areas: the scientific content of the annual congresses (which are based to a significant extent on proposals from the WGs) and the provision of experts for the data set committees of the International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting which develops data sets for the synoptic reporting of cancer. The ESP has always emphasized that the WGs represent the ‘beating heart’ of the ESP; therefore we encourage all of you to sign up to one or more WGs aligned to your interest(s).

To do this, all you need to do is to go to the website, log in with your personal log in details and go to the WGs page via this link: http://www.esp-pathology.org/society/key-activities-and-services/working-groups/wg-application.html. This has changed recently to allow you to register as a member of one or more WGs. Please do not register for too many! You will be expected to be active as a member, so please do not spread yourself too thinly. Also, those of you who are already members of a working group(s) are encouraged to register again. We have been through a number of data set migrations recently and need to ensure that we have reliable up to date information.

Looking forward to seeing you on our website,

Kind regards,

Han van Krieken
President of the ESP

Fátima Carneiro
Chair of the ESP Working Groups
Letter from the Chair and Secretary of the Endocrine Working Group

Profs. Ola Nilsson and Stefano La Rosa

Dear Members,

During the last business meeting of the Endocrine working group, which was held in London during the 26th ECP, we were elected as new chair and secretary. We wish to thank you for the confidence you have put in us to lead the Endocrine working group during the next three years. It will be a challenge to meet the high standards set by our predecessors, but we will do our utmost to continue their mission. We sincerely thank our past chair Anne Couvelard and secretary Yersu Kapran for their tremendous efforts and achievements which have inspired us so much.

Endocrine pathology is a rapidly growing discipline encompassing diseases frequently encountered in the daily practice of cytology and pathology. Diseases previously believed to be rare have increased both in incidence and prevalence over the last years. New immunohistochemical approaches and molecular technologies have been adopted to accurately characterize and classify these endocrine and neuroendocrine neoplasms. The mission of the Endocrine working group is to create, with the help of all interested pathologists, a network of constructive collaborations, which will be instrumental in the successful organization of symposia, lectures, slide seminars and short courses in upcoming meetings. Continuing the excellent work of our predecessors, we will organize sections in which morphological diagnostic aspects will be integrated with molecular technologies in order to improve the diagnosis and characterization of endocrine diseases.

We will also increase the collaboration with other working groups and organize joint sections that cover issues relevant to multiple disciplines. In the next ECP, which will be held in Belgrade in September 2015, an exciting joint symposium will be organized with the Cytology working group entitled “Do more with less: diagnosis of digestive and pulmonary NETs on FNA” covering the delicate role of fine needle aspiration guided by endoscopic ultrasound (EUS-FNA) in the diagnosis of pulmonary and digestive neuroendocrine neoplasms. In addition, specific Endocrine sections will be dedicated to biomarkers in thyroid malignancies and to news in endocrine/neuroendocrine pathology.

Although we will work hard to guarantee the high scientific level of the Endocrine working group, we rely on the support of all European endocrine pathologists in order to be successful. Furthermore, we will make every effort to attract young pathologists and residents to join our working groups to secure the future of our discipline.

With the hope to meet you in Belgrade at the 27th ECP we wish you all the best.

E-mail addresses: ola.nilsson@gu.se; stefano.larosa@ospedale.varese.it

The Dutch Scientific Society of Pathology (NVVP)

Prof. Katrien Grünberg
Council and several subcommittee members at last year’s strategy meeting

The Dutch Society, founded on December 4\textsuperscript{th} 1920, is the organisation for all medical professionals and trainees in pathology in The Netherlands, whether active in surgical pathology, veterinary pathology, experimental pathology or molecular pathology. The society has about 600 members and is dedicated to enhancing pathology by promoting and supporting scientific research, education, professional evaluation, guideline development and quality assurance and pursuing professional interests.

Our mission encompasses the support and encouragement of scientific, educational or other activities that advance the understanding of disease mechanisms and good clinical practice in pathology to the benefit of patients. We aim to promote the understanding of disease by all, including the general lay public. The society promotes communication among professionals in and around the field of pathology by publishing a weekly newsletter and hosting an Internet forum.

The Society acts in partnership with PALGA, the Pathological Anatomical National Computerized Archive; the organisation that stores abstracts, synoptic reports and SNOMED codes of all pathology reports generated in The Netherlands (currently about 62 million in total. Have a peek at PODB). In addition, we actively engage with organisations such as the Dutch Cancer Registration (IKNL) and the Dutch Institute for Clinical Auditing (DICA), and in health care projects such as National Screening Programs (RIVM) for cervical cancer, breast cancer and colon cancer, to promote health care evaluation, quality assessment, and scientific research. NVVP initiates and participates in projects to improve research infrastructure. For example, NVVP and PALGA are in currently developing the Dutch National Tissue Portal (DNTP) as part of the Dutch branch of BBMRI to improve the logistics of scientific use of tissue and its derivatives, while complying with the ever more strict regulations for biobanking.

The NVVP hosts an annual conference with outstanding national and international speakers on a range of topics, both in basic science as in diagnostic practice. The conference provides a forum for Dutch investigators to present their research. The program also features postgraduate education and an expanding array of side symposia. Therefore, this years’ meeting will be dubbed “Dutch National Pathology Week”. The society aims to innovative postgraduate education. On a European scale, we aim to do so by contributing and participating in e-learning initiatives in the European Society of Pathology.

The NVVP is run by a council elected from its membership. These include a President (Hans Blaauwgeers), a president-elect (Katrien Grünberg, president as of April 2015), a General Secretary (Konnie Hebeda), a Treasurer (Monique Koopmans), and Secretaries for professional quality assurance (Philip Kluin) and guideline development (Jan von der Thüsen), education (Paul van Diest), and professional interests (Siebe Wouda). The secretaries preside their respective sub-committees, working groups and task forces. The society’s special committees also carry out visitations for professional quality and for pathology residents’ training. Thus, we are a lively society in which nearly a quarter of all members are in some way actively involved, thereby providing a solid foundation for scientific and professional advancement.
We are delighted that Amsterdam was elected to host the 2017 meeting of the European Society of Pathology and the NVVP members look forward to welcoming you in Amsterdam at the 2017 ECP.

The Folly of Impact Factors

Prof. Han van Krieken

The impact factor of a journal is based on the number of articles it publishes and the number of citations to those articles in the two calendar years that follow the year of publication. The idea is that citations are related to the impact of an article, an idea that has some truth. Because a high impact factor is seen as a quality mark, journals and authors strive for a high impact factor. This has resulted in a sort of folie a deux.

Journals have used increase the impact factor many tools to that are not related to quality of original research: a review issue (reviews attract many citations but have no original data, so do not say anything on quality of science), publishing reviews in January (so that almost an extra year of citations is counted for the impact factor), pushing authors to add citations to the journal before accepting an article, push authors to put their data in a letter (a letter does not count in number of articles, but citations do) to name a few. I recently discovered a few new ones.

To my surprise an article of mine that was accepted was put online immediately without editing, it was just the word-file. Although it is nice to have one’s data out rapidly, the editing takes normally only a week or so and gives a way more readable article. I does not seem this was done for the reader but I believe it was done to get more citations before publishing the full article, thereby enhancing the impact factor. Another thing I noticed when I submitted my list of publications of 2014 to my university year report: it was the lowest in many years. Indeed, I am growing older, less creative and probably less productive, nothing to worry about (young colleagues will bring science further). But when I looked more carefully I found that I have many articles published on-line and not yet in print. Had I been more active late 2015 that early? Then I saw that the output of the Department had decreased enormously and one of my colleagues told me that she had an already highly cited article online since January 2014, but in print in January 2015. What happens is this: journals put articles on line and decide to have the most cited ones in the next January issue, enhancing their impact factor substantially (but not the quality of the journal of course!).

Last year we learned that most work published in Science and Nature cannot be reproduced, but these journals are still seen as important for scientific reputations because of the high impact factor. I guess several of you have the same experience as I have: peer review of Science and Nature is more on news worthiness than on quality; if one looks simply at the quality of the histology in those journals it is clear that there is little peer review on quality of data. I have experienced that peer review in specialist journals is way better than in the high impact journals. Actually I am proud of the peer review for the Journal of Hematopathology. We have a very high rejection rate and the comments of the reviewer go in very much detail thus improving the quality of the accepted articles.
How to measure quality of science if impact factors of journals are not reliable? Not an easy question, but I will do some suggestions in the next Newsletter.

EAT Centres (ESP Advanced Training Centres) and Giordano Fellowship

A Programme for the Advanced Training in Pathology Supported by the European Society of Pathology

Prof. Ales Ryska
Prof. Janina Kulka
Prof. Michael Mihatsch

Introduction

Over the last decades great advances have been made with respect to the classification of diseases with the use of more sophisticated diagnostic techniques. In consequence a wide spectrum of diseases may be treated with an individualized therapy. Furthermore in many fields of pathology biopsies are so rare that it is difficult if not impossible to gain sufficient diagnostic experience to fulfil the requirements of the clinicians (lung, liver, kidney, pancreas, bone, a.o.).

Therefore, pathologists need an in depth training in many fields of pathology 1) to meet the needs of the clinicians and 2) to guarantee an optimal therapy for the patients.

ESP has prepared a programme to support education in highly specialized areas.

This advanced training programme should help young pathologists to get in-depth experience in selected training centres throughout Europe. A fellowship named after Professor Alfonso Giordano, who initiated the foundation of the ESP, will be offered to young pathologists to support this programme.

Examples of specialist fields and techniques in pathology in which special training is necessary (other fields may be added)

Specialist fields:
- Pathology of the heart and blood vessels
- Liver pathology
- Dermatopathology
- Selected areas of GI pathology, lung pathology, etc.
- Pancreas pathology
- Nephropathology
- Uropathology
- Hematopathology
- Pathology of lymphatic organs
- Bone and soft tissue pathology
- Pediatric pathology
- Endocrine pathology
- Salivary gland pathology
- Neuropathology
- Ophthalmic pathology
- Fine needle aspiration cytology

Special techniques (open also to technicians/medical scientists):
- Electron microscopy
- Immunofluorescence
- Immunohistochemistry
- Molecular pathology
- Morphometry
- Enzyme histochemistry
- Tissue microarrays
- Digital microscopy

Step I: Selection of the centres

1) Centres of excellence in each particular field should be selected to offer host positions for the trainees. The putative centres must fulfil certain general conditions:
• Offer position for trainees - number of places per year should be specified
• Duration of the stay (minimum 1 month, usually 3 to 6 months)
• Specification of period of the year for training (or 365/365)
• No charge for training
• Support to find a low cost accommodation
• Support to get necessary visa, insurance or other documents if required (expected to be not frequent situation among members of the ESP)
• After completion of the training period the trainee receives a detailed certificate describing the work.
• Agree upon the duration and aim of training beforehand
• Letter of invitation for the applicant

2) The selection of centres will be performed by the Working groups. There are two parallel ways for nomination of the centre:
   A) The initiation of the programme will be announced in the ESP Newsletter with call for the centres to nominate themselves
   B) Chairs of the WGs will contact centres headed by internationally well-known specialists in the particular field to ask whether they want to offer positions in depth training and want to participate in the programme (no limit of the number of centres to be selected by each WG)

3) The application of the centre to be included in the programme will include following details:
   a) Name of the centre, address,
   b) Chair of the centre,
   c) Head of the training programme,
   d) Details about specific areas in which training can be offered (particularly method, field of subspecialty – e.g. kidney transplantation, etc.)
   e) Number of positions offered for each year, expected duration of the training
   f) Specific periods of the year when the visit may be realized (should be defined in direct contact between b1) and the applicant
   g) Contact address for requesting details by the applicant (accommodation options, travel possibilities, etc.)

4) Information about the programme (“Current offer”) and list of selected centres (“Participating Centres”) will be permanently published at the ESP web page.

5) Evaluation of the outcome
   • Number of applications (centre to be excluded from the list if no candidate applies for five consecutive years)
   • Number of trainees accepted in the last years (and their feedback) – for the future years, not for the initial period
   • Number of papers presented (oral free papers or posters) or published by the applicant during or after the training

**Step II: Selection of trainees**

Members of the ESP may apply for the programme, there will be no deadlines.

**Qualifications of the applicant**
• Member of the ESP in good standing
• Completed training in anatomic pathology and successfully passed board examination or resident in the last year of the training (exceptions possible)
• Good knowledge of English or a European language used at the training centre
• Age between 30 and 40 years (exceptions possible)
• Current place of work in a city with a centre of pathology of national repute, involved in teaching and research (to guarantee further
dissemination of the knowledge/experience gained)
- The applicant:
  - selects a training centre from the homepage
  - gets in touch with the host and defines the training period
  - defines the aim of training with the host

The results of the discussion with the host institution are summarized in a letter of invitation of the host institution.

6) Each application will include:
- Curriculum vitae (one page)
- Letter of motivation describing how the newly gained knowledge and skills can be implemented at the home institution (one page)
- Letter of recommendation from the home institution (and the national society of pathology)
- Letter of invitation of the host institution

7) Any application will be evaluated by a committee (structure of the committee will be decided by the officers of the ESP) consisting of:
- Chair of the WG corresponding to the field of interest of the applicant
- Chair of the ESP education subcommittee
- Chair of the particular centre for which application is intended
- Advisory board member of the home country of the applicant
- Treasurer of the ESP
- ESP Council Members

Definite decisions are taken within 3 months after submission. ESP Council has decided to finance Giordano fellowship (€ 1500 – 2000 per month including travel expenses) for up to 10 trainees each year for a maximum of three months.

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Call for Volunteers for Courses outside Europe

Prof. Helmut Popper

Dear Colleagues,

There is an urgent need for education in Pathology in many countries outside Europe (Arab countries, Africa, Australasia, maybe also South America). In addition some initiatives have been started on an individual basis to help. During our Council and Education Subcommittee meeting in Brussels we decided to set up a member database of ESP members willing to help in the education in other areas of the world. It will not be an ESP action, because our focus is still in developing Eastern and Southeastern European countries.

At present the Arab, the African, and the Australasian Divisions of IAP have already asked for volunteers. It might well be that national Societies of Pathology will follow with requests. Usually these courses are organized the way as our EScoP courses. The most important point is to structure the course in an interactive way. This means these courses should have ample time for interactive learning based on instructive cases. Internet-based digitized slides will be the most important material to use. Lectures might summarize the topics. This is in contrast to courses usually given in the USA, where the main focus is on lectures. In most instances the volunteer will have to pay her/his flights, but most often hotel accommodation, and definitely the organization of the course, the meeting
rooms, and IT facilities will be provided by the Organizing Society / Division. If you are interested to serve on this courses, please send an email to me, and I will put you on the Course Volunteers List, which we will place on the ESP/E5coP website. I will need your name, email and Institution address, and your area of specialty.

All requests will come to my desk as chair of Education Subcommittee, I will look up the list and bring you into contact with the respective organizers.

Contact:

Univ.Prof. Dr. Helmut H. Popper
Chair Education SubCommittee European Society of Pathology
Res. Unit Mol. Lung&Pleura Pathology,
Institute of Pathology, Medical University of Graz
Auenbruggerplatz 25, Graz, 8036, Austria
phone: +43316-3804405, -38583646
Email: helmut.popper@medunigraz.at

Can We Help ? YES, We Can ........ !

Prof. Fred Bosman

Do you regularly update your equipment? Sure you do. Even though economy might be a little slower nowadays and your budget slightly less comfortable than a few years ago, you still regularly get new equipment. What about the equipment no longer in regular use? Do you take it to the scrap yard? Put it on ebay? Or maybe you have a little stand on the Saturday flea market? We have a much better idea. Let’s donate this to colleagues less fortunate than most of us. We tend to think of African colleagues or those in some Asiatic countries. But even in Europe in some countries Pathology lacks sufficient government support and colleagues may well be in need of our help and generosity.

Do you buy books? Sure you do. Even though many of us think we know enough, we all run into the odd question for which knowledge stored on the temporal lobe will not provide the right answer. Ah, you Google? Be careful, not everything written online is right, not even when it is under the auspices of Wikipedia. Ebooks on your iPad? Not bad at all, notably as you can easily share them. But all of us have in our office a smart little collection of the learned works we need to consult on a regular basis. What do you do with the printed matter you now longer consult? Dump it is the waste? Burn it? We have a much better idea. Pass it on to our colleagues who do not have the luxury of a budget for continuous medical education or textbooks.

So what is the idea? Soon the ESP website will open a page with ‘Offer and demand’. Need to get rid of equipment in good working order but no longer in use? Put it on the offer list. Got the last Edition of Fletcher and need to get rid of the old edition? Put it on the offer list. Need something, books, machines, cassettes, chemicals for stains or whatever else? Put it on the demand list. The ESP office will be in touch to arrange the contact between the generous colleague who offers and the grateful colleague in demand. Our treasurer has even freed up a bit of budget to assist in cost of transportation, whenever needed.

Contact:

Krasi Serguieva: admin@esp-pathology.org
We are very pleased to inform you that at the XXIX International Congress of the International Academy of Pathology held in Bangkok, Thailand in October 2014, Prof. George Kontogeorgos (in the picture above) was elected as President Elect of the IAP.

In accordance with Chapter II of the IAP Bylaws, the term of his office is two years beginning the first day of December 2014 and concluding on the last day of November 2016. At the conclusion of his term he shall become IAP President.

As President-elect he is a member of the Executive Committee, the Educational Committee and the International Organizing Committee.

Congratulations for his election to this prestigious post!

L. Hardell, M. Carlberg

We made a pooled analysis of two case-control studies on malignant brain tumours with patients diagnosed during 1997-2003 and 2007-2009. They were aged 20-80 years and 18-75 years, respectively, at the time of diagnosis. Only cases with histopathological verification of the tumours were included. Population-based controls, matched on age and gender, were used. Exposures were assessed by questionnaire. The whole reference group was used in the unconditional regression analysis adjusted for gender, age, year of diagnosis, and socio-economic index. In total, 1498 (89%) cases and 3530 (87%) controls participated. Mobile phone use increased the risk of glioma, OR=1.3, 95% CI = 1.1-1.6 overall, increasing to OR = 3.0, 95% CI = 1.7-5.2 in the > 25 year latency group. Use of cordless phones increased the risk to OR = 1.4, 95% CI = 1.1-1.7; with highest risk in the >15–20 years latency group yielding OR = 1.7, 95% CI = 1.1–2.5. The OR increased statistically significant both per 100 h of cumulative use, and per year of latency for mobile and cordless phone use. Highest ORs overall were found for ipsilateral mobile or cordless use, OR=1.8, 95% CI = 1.4-2.2 and OR = 1.7, 95% CI = 1.3-2.1, respectively. The highest risk was found for glioma in the temporal lobe. First use of mobile or cordless phone before the age of 20 gave higher OR for glioma than in later age groups.

2) Multiplatform Analysis of 12 Cancer Types Reveals Molecular Classification within and across Tissues of Origin

K. A. Hoadley, C. Yau et al.
Cell 2014; 158: 929-944

Recent genomic analyses of pathologically defined tumor types identify “within-a-tissue” disease subtypes. However, the extent to which genomic signatures are shared across
tissues is still unclear. We performed an integrative analysis using five genome-wide platforms and one proteomic platform on 3,527 specimens from 12 cancer types, revealing a unified classification into 11 major subtypes.

Five subtypes were nearly identical to their tissue-of-origin counterparts, but several distinct cancer types were found to converge into common subtypes. Lung squamous, head and neck, and a subset of bladder cancers coalesced into one subtype typified by TP53 alterations, TP63 amplifications, and high expression of immune and proliferation pathway genes. Of note, bladder cancers split into three pancancer subtypes.

The multiplatform classification, while correlated with tissue-of-origin, provides independent information for predicting clinical outcomes. All data sets are available for data-mining from a unified resource to support further biological discoveries and insights into novel therapeutic strategies.

3) A Red Meat-Derived Glycan Promotes Inflammation and Cancer Progression

A.N. Samraj, O.M.T. Pearce et al.
 Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 2015; 112:542-547

Significance

We present an unusual mechanism for well-known association between red meat consumption and carcinoma risk involving the non-human sialic acid N-glycolyneuraminic acid (Neu5Gc). We first evaluate the Neu5Gc content of various foods to show that red meats are particularly rich in orally bioavailable Neu5Gc and then investigate human-like Neu5Gc-deficient mice fed this form of Neu5Gc.

When such mice were challenged with anti-Neu5Gc antibodies, they developed evidence of systemic inflammation. Long-term exposure to this combination resulted in a significantly higher incidence of carcinoma (five-fold increase) and an association accumulation in the tumors. Similar mechanisms may contribute to the association of red meat consumption with other diseases, such as atherosclerosis and type 2 diabetes, which are also exacerbated by inflammation.

Abstract

A well-known, epidemiologically reproductive risk factor for human carcinomas is the long-term consumption of “red meat” of mammalian origin. Although multiple theories have attempted to explain this human-specific association, none have been conclusively proven. We used an improved method or survey common foods for free and glycosidically bound forms of the nonhuman sialic N-glycolyneuraminic acid (Neu5Gc), showing that it is highly and selectively enriched in the red meat.

The bound form of Neu5Gc is bioavailable, undergoing metabolic incorporation into human tissues, despite being a foreign antigen. Interactions of this antigen with circulating anti-Neu5Gc antibodies could potentially incite inflammation. Indeed, when human-like Neu5Gc-deficient mice were fed bioavailable Neu5Gc and challenged with anti-NeuGgc antibodies, they develop occasional tumours of the liver, an organ that can incorporate dietary Neu5GC. Neu5Gc-deficient mice immunized against Neu5Gc and fed bioavailable Neu5Gc developed a much higher incidence of hepatocellular carcinomas with evidence of Neu5Gc accumulation.

Taken together, our data provide and unusual mechanistic explanation for the epidemiological association between red meat consumption and carcinoma risk. This mechanism might also contribute to other chronic inflammatory processes.
epidemiologically associated with red meat consumption.

4) Atypical Hyperplasia of the Breast — Risk Assessment and Management Options

L. C. Hartmann, A. C. Degnim, et al.


Breast biopsies are commonly performed to evaluate mammographic or palpable findings that are of concern, and the majority reveal benign findings. More than 1 million of the breast biopsies that are performed annually in the United States are found to be benign.1 On the basis of the histologic findings, it is possible to stratify women with benign biopsy findings into groups with significantly different risks of later breast cancer. Atypical hyperplasia is a high-risk benign lesion that is found in approximately 10% of biopsies with benign findings. In this article, we examine these benign lesions because they have special importance as a predictor of future breast cancer. There are two types of atypical hyperplasia, as classified on the basis of microscopic appearance: atypical ductal hyperplasia and atypical lobular hyperplasia; these occur with equal frequency and confer similar risks of later breast cancer. Thus, throughout this article, the varieties will be referred to together as “atypical hyperplasia.”

In atypical hyperplasia, there is a proliferation of dysplastic, monotonous epithelial-cell populations that include clonal subpopulations. In models of breast carcinogenesis, atypical hyperplasia occupies a transitional zone between benign and malignant disease, because it contains some of, but not all, the requisite features of a cancer and is thus considered to be premalignant.

In studies with long-term follow-up, atypical hyperplasia has been shown to confer a relative risk for future breast cancer of 4. Although these relative-risk statistics have been recognized for decades, only recently has the absolute risk among women with atypical hyperplasia been better characterized, with a cumulative incidence of breast cancer approaching 30% at 25 years of follow-up.

This high cumulative incidence is not widely recognized, and thus, women with atypical hyperplasia are not included in many high-risk guidelines. For example, screening magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is not routinely recommended for these women. In addition, studies of the use of chemopreventive agents show that only a small minority of high-risk women take these drugs, despite randomized clinical trials showing substantial benefit specifically for women with atypical hyperplasia.

5) Tumor Microenvironment of Metastasis and Risk of Distant Metastasis of Breast Cancer


JNCI 2014; 106: 136

Background tumour microenvironment of metastasis (TMEM), consisting of direct contact between a macrophage, an endothelial cell, and a tumour cell, has been associated with metastasis in both rodent mammary tumours and human breast cancer. We prospectively examined the association between TMEM score and risk of distant metastasis and compared risk associated with TMEM score with that associated with IHC4.

Methods. We conducted a case-control study nested within a cohort of 3760 patients with invasive ductal breast carcinoma diagnosed between 1980-2000 and followed through 2010. Case patients were women who developed a subsequent distant metastasis; control subjects were matched (1:1) on age at and calendar year of primary diagnosis. TMEM was assessed by triple immunostain and IHC4...
Purpose: The development of a genetic signature for the identification of high-risk cutaneous melanoma tumours would provide a valuable prognostic tool with value for stage I and II patients who represent a remarkably heterogeneous group with a 3% to 55% chance of disease progression and death 5 years from diagnosis.

Experimental design: A prognostic 28-gene signature was identified by analysis of microarray expression data. Primary cutaneous melanoma tumour tissue was elevated by RT-PCR for expression of the signature, and radial basis machine (RBM) modeling was performed to predict risk of metastasis.

Results: RBM analysis of cutaneous melanoma tumour gene expression reports low risk (class 1) or high risk (class 2) of metastasis. Metastatic risk was predicted with high accuracy in development (ROC = 0.93) and validation (ROC = 0.91) cohorts of primary cutaneous melanoma tumour tissue. Kaplan-Meier analysis indicated that the 5-year disease-free survival (DFS) rates in the development set were 100% and 38% for predicted classes 1 and 2 cases, respectively (P < 0.0001). DFS rates for the validation set were 97% and 31% for predicted classes 1 and 2 cases, respectively (P < 0.0001). Gene expression profile (GEP), American Joint Committee on Cancer stage, Breslow thickness, ulceration, and age were independent predictors of metastatic risk according to Cox regression analysis.

Conclusions: The GEP signature accurately predicts metastasis risk in a multicenter cohort of primary cutaneous melanoma tumours. Preliminary Cox regression analysis indicates that the signature is an independent predictor of metastasis risk in the cohort presented.
Some Recently Published Books

Prof. Gordan Vujanic

**Rare Tumors and Tumor-like Conditions in Urological Pathology**
A. Lopez-Beltran, C. Menendez, R. Montironi and L. Cheng
2015, 437 pages, 490 illus, ~€135

This book is a comprehensive guide to rare tumors and tumor-like conditions of the urinary system and male genital organs. It comprises five chapters, devoted to the kidney, bladder, prostate, testes, and penis. Each chapter begins with a brief overview of "common" tumors and tumor-like conditions and with a section on the classification of both common and rare entities. The main clinical, pathological, immunohistochemical, and molecular findings for each rare tumor or tumor-like condition are then described and discussed.

**Pediatric Malignancies: Pathology and Imaging**
D. Parham, J. Khoury and M. B. McCarville
2014, 429 pages, 349 illus, ~€150

Pediatric tumors comprise a unique set of diseases that may pose diagnostic challenges to pathologists, oncologists, and pediatricians. Pediatric Tumor Pathology: A Practical Approach serves as a state-of-the-art reference for understanding the fundamental biology and diagnostic aspects of pediatric tumors. This volume stands apart from other books covering pediatric neoplasia by providing an in-depth analysis of the pathogenetic and diagnostic aspects of the most commonly encountered tumors.

**Rare Malignant Skin Tumors**
F. Rongioletti, I. Margaritescu and B. Smoller
2015, 347 pages, 358 illus, ~€155

This book provides practitioners with a single volume that reviews the clinical and pathologic features of rarely encountered cutaneous neoplasms. The text includes an in-depth discussion of the clinical findings, as well as the histologic and immunologic features of these diseases that are rarely encountered, reported, or recognized. Additional laboratory data used to make and support the diagnoses with some therapeutic and prognostic hints are discussed for each entity. The volume is organized into general categories correlating with the cell(s) of origin.

**Atlas of Soft Tissue and Bone Pathology**
L. Dodd and M. Bui
2014, 280 pages, ~€130

This is an abundantly illustrated resource for diagnosis of bone and soft tissue lesions—a particular challenge due to their rarity and complexity. In addition to carefully selected histologic photographs, this unique atlas enhances standard visual information with illustrations of imaging findings, cytology, and molecular and cytogenetic information. This vivid pictorial survey is arranged in a pattern-oriented approach based on the actual working method used in daily practice.

**Crib Death - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); Sudden Infant and Perinatal Unexplained Death: The Pathologist’s Viewpoint**
G. Ottaviani
Crib death or sudden infant death syndrome is the most frequent death-causing syndrome during the first year of life, striking one infant in every 700-1,000. Despite a wide spectrum of theories and years of research, crib death remains a great enigma. This book describes systematic studies of the cardiovascular system and autonomic nervous system carried out in a large number of infants, newborns, and fetuses who have died suddenly and unexpectedly, as well as in age-matched control cases.

**Genitourinary Pathology: A Volume in the Series: Foundations in Diagnostic Pathology**
M. Zhou and C. Magi-Galluzzi
2015 (2nd ed), 720 pages, ~€155

Genitourinary Pathology, by Drs. Ming Zhou and Cristina Magi-Galluzzi, a volume in the Foundations in Diagnostic Pathology Series, packs all of today’s most essential information on genitourinary pathology into a compact, high-yield format! Well-organized and segmented by type of infectious organism, the book’s pragmatic approach complemented by abundant full-color, high-quality photomicrographs and clinical photos, and at-a-glance tables makes it easy to access the information you need to quickly and accurately detect and identify molecular and genetic mechanisms of disease.

**Colitis: A Practical Approach to Colon Biopsy Interpretation**
K. Geboes, S. Nemolato, M. Leo and G. Faa
2014, 200 pages, 90 illus, ~€80

This concise book explains how to analyze endoscopic mucosal biopsies of the colon obtained for diagnosis and follow up of colitis in general and inflammatory bowel diseases (ulcerative colitis, Crohn’s disease and microscopic colitis) in particular. This is achieved by the presentation of basic lesions in multiple drawings together with an explanatory text and microscopic photographs. The description is completed by a review of various differential diagnostic issues and types of colitis.

**Atlas of Practical Genitourinary Pathology**
Ximing Yang
2014, 960 pages, 1,500+ illus, ~€110

Atlas of Practical Genitourinary Pathology teaches the surgical pathologist how to accurately diagnose and effectively manage the full spectrum of common and rare genitourinary diseases. Completely current with the latest advances in the field, it is one of the first texts to address the new diagnostic markers for GU tumors and the increasing application of immunohistochemistry.

**Differential Diagnosis in Surgical Pathology**
P. Gattuso, V. Reddy, O. David, D. Spitz and M. Haber
2014 (3rd ed), 1,088 pages, 1,350 illus, ~€190

Confidently sign out your most complex and challenging cases with the updated edition of Differential Diagnosis in Surgical Pathology. Widely used by residents and practicing pathologists alike, this comprehensive medical reference provides brief, bulleted descriptions of both common and rare disorders, integrating excellent illustrative examples of the pathology with selected references. It’s the perfect go-to resource to have by your microscope.

**Histopathology of the Salivary Glands**
H.B. Hellquist and A. Skalova
2014, 350 pages, 236 illus, ~€150

Over the last 25 years, it has become more and more evident that salivary gland
pathology is by far the subject within head and neck pathology that causes most diagnostic challenges and problems for general pathologists. During courses the author has given, consultants and trainees alike have expressed the lack of a comprehensive, useful book on salivary gland pathology.

Meetings in 2015

Society for Paediatric Pathology Spring Meeting 2015
21-22 March, Boston, USA
http://www.spponline.org/meetings.asp

USCAP: 2015 Annual Meeting
21-27 March 2015, Boston, USA
http://www.uscap.org/meeting/70313

99th Annual Conference of German Society of Pathology
28-31 May 2015, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
http://www.pathologie-kongress.com

American Society for Clinical Pathology Annual Meeting 2015
28-31 October 2015
Long Beach, USA
Details to follow soon

And, last but not least:

27th European Congress of Pathology
5-9 September 2015
Belgrade, Serbia
http://www.esp-congress.org

The registration is open now, Belgrade is preparing to welcome us there, and you will find much more about the Congress in the next Newsletter, but here are some important dates to be pencilled in your diaries:

1 April 2015 - First deadline for early registration fee
8 April 2015 - Deadline for abstract submission and bursary application
1 July 2015 - Second deadline for early registration fee