

# EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF PATHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2022



TAKE A  
LOOK  
INSIDE

Editor:  
Prof. Marina Kos  
Associate editor:  
Prof. Carolin Lackner  
Lay-out:  
Dr Christos Poullos

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## Message from the President of the ESP

(By Prof. Aleš Ryška)



Dear ESP Members, dear Colleagues,

After almost two years of frustrating isolation and various restrictive measures, the time has finally come when the Covid-19 epidemic seems to be, if not close to an end, at least significantly diminished.

We have all been waiting for our lives to return to the old ways of the pre-covid era. Few of us could have imagined that European countries, and indeed the whole world, would face a challenge at least as serious as the pandemic. The unprecedented attack on Ukraine by Putin's Russia has not only caused immeasurable suffering for the people of that free country but has also had direct impact on the entire world economy, including the health care sector.

As we announced on the ESP website right after the beginning of the Russian aggression, our society joined the financial support of Ukraine both by donation to the International Red Cross and by financially supporting the national society of Ukrainian pathologists. We will also support the participation of our Ukrainian colleagues at the ECP in Basel. Those

who attend online will have their registration fee completely waived. Those who can attend the congress physically will have a significantly reduced registration fee.

You have probably already noted the decision of the Scientific/Organising Committee to organise the congress in Basel in a hybrid form. We still believe that most pathologists will be interested in attending the congress in person, and the current numbers of registrations suggests that this will be the case. However, for those who for various reasons cannot make it to Switzerland, there will be the option of joining and participating online. All scientific sessions will also be recorded and will be available for ex-post viewing after the ECP. All detailed information can be found on the [ECP website](#).

ESP headquarters has been busy in recent weeks with preparations for the 2nd ESP Academy, which will take place in June near Brussels. From the applicants, the top 22 young pathology rising stars have been selected and will have the opportunity to attend an intensive course of more than three days with many top speakers.

I am very pleased to see how all activities of the Education Subcommittee are progressing - whether it is the preparation of the new EScoP format or the introduction of brand-new Pathology Masterclasses. More information will be posted on the website soon. A new round of applications for Giordano Fellowships will also be announced very soon. I would also like to thank the representatives of all Working Groups who have been involved in the preparation of the new edition of Pathology Progress Test.

My last information concerns the extending collaboration between ESP and industry - as you have noted, pathology is becoming a discipline that interacts very closely with the activities of individual commercial companies - both diagnostic and pharmaceutical. We are trying to coordinate and formalise this collaboration by introducing the ESP Corporate Partnership. A first meeting, the Advisory Forum, will be organised for our Corporate Partners in May. This platform should enable discussion of the possibilities and expectations of both parties for our future cooperation.

Dear ESP members, once again I would like to cordially invite you to the upcoming European Congress of Pathology in September 2022. After two years, this will be the largest meeting of pathologists not only in Europe, but perhaps also on a global level.

I look very much forward to seeing you in Basel!

Aleš Ryška  
ESP President

## Editor's Message

(By Prof. Marina Kos)

Dear colleagues and friends,



I am so glad I can finally say that hopefully, the COVID threat is behind us, and we all hope for a live meeting, with masks or without them, for the possibility of hugging friends and exchanging experiences and impressions during coffee breaks or after the daily program wondering through the streets of Basel and discovering the city...

Unfortunately, again, there is a dark shadow over what we hoped would be a meeting like those before COVID. The president of the ESP, Prof. Ryška has sent a letter of support to Ukrainian colleagues, and we all hope the Congress will start in a peaceful atmosphere.

You can watch the short invitation posted at the [ECP website](#), where in case you don't already know them, you can see the people who are mostly involved with the Congress organisation, Profs. Ryška and Cathomas as well as the Chair and the Co-Chair of the ESP Trainee Subcommittee Dr Alexandra Vilaia and Dr Pui-Yuen Lee. Except for the announcement of 34th European Congress of Pathology, in the

short video you can hear about their feelings now, that we can finally meet face to face, as well as about the experiences the ESP has after two online congresses. The organisers also explain why the title “The art of next generation Pathology” was chosen. I highly recommend you watch this video with appealing explanations and invitation to Basel.

The local Organising Committee is ready, the preliminary program is published online, and all the members received it by mail, so they can decide whether to participate actively or just listen to the lectures that will be as interesting as ever. Working groups will have their sessions as always, and the titles of the keynote lectures, and names of the lecturers look very promising. In this issue of the Newsletter, you can also read about the activities for the Congress organisation by the young colleagues in the ESP Trainee Subcommittee who have prepared a program especially interesting for the young colleagues, but also for the more experienced ones. The bursaries for young colleagues will be offered, like before, and everyone wishing to participate is invited to do so.

Let us not forget that the educational activities of the ESP are not concentrated only on the European Congress, and that European Society of Pathology Academy (ESPA) is to take place in Genval, Belgium, 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022.

Except for the message of the ESP President, in this issue of the Newsletter you can also read the usual contributions by the ESP Secretary and the Associate Editor Prof. Karoline Lackner such as the review of recently published books and upcoming meetings.

Quite shortly, I really want to say only “See you in Basel”!

Prof. Marina Kos

## Secretary’s Message

(By Prof. Janina Kulka)

Dear Colleagues, dear Friends,



Spring is here. Usually, with re-born nature we develop new hopes and open up our minds. This spring is very different. It brought us a war that was unimaginable until the last moment before it broke out.

Let me start my message to express my deepest sympathy to those colleagues and their families who suffer due to the consequences of the war, who lost their jobs or homes or who decided to leave their home country with the intention of finding a safe place to save their families and practice their profession.

Very rapidly, national and international professional organisations expressed their readiness to help those colleagues in need. Among the first, the Executive Committee of the European Society of Pathology decided to set up an emergency fund for the purpose of assisting Ukrainian colleagues in this difficult situation (see the [ESP website](#) for the statement of our President).

However, though we are shocked, life goes on and ESP foresees a year full of educational and scientific activities and new perspectives in collaborations with other scientific societies and corporate partners.

ESP was present in Los Angeles in March 2022 at the USCAP annual meeting where the traditional ESP companion session took place. ESP was represented by our president Prof. Aleš Ryška, our past president, Prof. Holger Moch, the chair of the Educational Committee, Prof. Xavier Matias-Guiu, the chair of the Breast Pathology Working Group, Prof. Zsuzsanna Varga, former president of ESP, Prof. Fatima Carneiro, and Prof. Abbas Agaimy.



The Basel congress in September, the 34th ECP, is eagerly awaited. A few days ago, Prof. Aleš Ryška, in a video message, announced that the Basel congress will be a „hybrid” congress in order to make it easily available for those colleagues who cannot travel to Switzerland. Please register, attend the congress and be prepared for a wonderful scientific program as well as for joyful chatting with old and long ago met friends.

The 2022 Annual Review Issue of Virchows Archiv has been published. This year’s review articles cover many aspects of breast pathology. Virchows Archiv’s impact factor increased to 4.064, which is a great achievement considering the innumerable rival journals on the market. Congratulations and thanks to Prof. Daniela Massi and her team!

I whole-heartedly recommend following the news published on ESP website for more details about the Society’s educational and scientific activities.

See you soon in Basel!

## Message from the ESP Education Subcommittee

(By Prof. Xavier Matias-Guiu and Dr Christos Poullos)



Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

We are both very excited to communicate with you via the ESP Newsletter!

With the present article we would like to introduce ourselves, to present to you the outstanding work produced by the European Society of Pathology (ESP) Education Subcommittee (EDUCOM) and like to share with you the outline of the scheduled activities for the near future!

Professor Xavier Matias-Guiu is Chair of the ESP EDUCOM since September 2021, replacing Prof. Peter Schirmacher. His main field is Gynaecological Pathology. He is a full Professor at the Hospital v. Arnau de Vilanova in Lleida and at Bellvitge University Hospital in Barcelona and past member of the ESP Council. He has active participation in a plethora of ESP projects and activities.

Dr Christos Poullos became the ESP Education Manager in early 2020, just at the age of 35. Previously he was a Junior Consultant in the Pathology Department of AHEPA Hospital/Aristotle University of

Thessaloniki in Greece. He has been an active ESP member since his residency days with several poster/OFPs/bursaries presentations in ECPs since 2012, an ESP Giordano Fellowship in 2017 and a membership in the 1<sup>st</sup> ESP Academy in 2018.

Our work would not be at the same level without the tireless contribution of all ESP EDUCOM members: Prof. Fred Bosman (NL), Prof. Catarina Eloy (PT), Prof. Andrzej Marszalek (PL), Prof. Anna Batisatou (GR), Prof. Helmut Hopfer (CH), Dr Al Dieri (NL), the ESP Director General and Dr Alexandra Vilaia (RO), the Chair of the ESP Trainee Subcommittee. We are grateful and honoured to work with all of them!

### Strategy for ESP Educational activities

ESP, in response to the global health crisis, has been organising several online educational activities. It is worth mentioning that From April 2021 to February 2022, if an ESP member participated in all online ESP activities, other than the Congress, would be awarded with a total of **21 CME credits** without any additional cost to the annual membership fees. For Residents this was completely free.

Continuing the marvellous work of the previous Chairs of the ESP EDUCOM and with the support of the rest of the Subcommittee, the strategy for Education provided by ESP has been formatted. We envision educational projects that cover the training needs of all colleagues, from the first year of residency up to the senior years of their career! We plan to continue offering on-line educational activities, either live or on-demand, but we have started scheduling in-person activities.

### Webinars

The first ESP webinars were organised as a response to the outbreak of the 2020 health crisis and had as subject COVID 19. Later on, we continued with webinars organised by ESP Working Groups (WGs) as well as in collaboration with other organisations. Thus far, a total of 18 webinars were organised, and we would like to thank all contributors for their expertise and dedication! The response from the community was very good, as every webinar was very well attended and in total, we had attendees from more than 100 countries! All webinars were recorded and are available for ESP members with an active account via the [ESP Education Platform](#). We do have plans for new webinars over the course of the next months, so stay tuned for the upcoming announcements!

### Digital Pathology Seminar

ESP in collaboration with the European School of Oncology (ESO) has organised a two-day online seminar for Digital Pathology in December 2021. Not only was the seminar a big success, but the material is available until December 2022 via this [LINK](#). Access to the material is for free, but registration is required. Completion of all available material is awarded with **8 CME** credits!

### Pathology Progress Test

One of the most successful ESP Educational projects is the ESP Pathology Progress Test (PPT), which is offered on annual basis. Prof. Fred Bosman is tirelessly coordinating this, and no words can express our gratitude to him. The 2021 PPT was a huge success with over 1100 colleagues registering to participate! The PPT includes 120 Multiple Choice Ques-

tions, most of them accompanied by either a digitally scanned slide or a still image.

The goal of the PPT is for Pathologists in training to prepare for their board examinations. Certified Pathologists are welcome to participate, as this is also an excellent self-assessment tool! The PPT 2021 was the first one organised with the new platform and several items were offered for the first time in this edition. The PPT 2021 was offered, free of charge, for any colleague regardless of their ESP membership status. However, ESP members with an updated account were granted access to the correct answers and they received a personalised certificate of participation, which was awarded with **4 CME** credits!

The questions for the PPT to be created are offered not just by EDUCOM members, but also by the ESP Working Groups. Their contribution is crucial for the success of the project. With their collaboration, we have started the preparations to create the next edition of the PPT. This is scheduled for October-November 2022.

### Preceptorship programme

Since January 2021 ESP has launched a preceptorship programme. The first two subjects are prostate and ovarian cancers. Each of these platforms has 5 modules that include a presentation, both video and printed format, and self-assessment questions! Access is on demand, via the [ESP Education Platform](#). Within 2022 we are planning to add more subjects and cancer types. We are already working on creating a platform for endometrium cancer and another for cholangiocarcinoma. More will follow soon!

### European School of Pathology

The European School of Pathology (ES-coP), first conceived in the late 1980's has been very successful. ESP has been busy on providing a new format for EScoP: we envision a complete curriculum with around 15-16 subjects covering all aspects of Pathology practice. We have divided the map of Europe in four areas, and we plan for each subject to be provided once in every area. The goal of ES-coP is to bring experts in touch with Pathologists; thus, all courses will be attended in person.

We schedule for having under the new framework 4 EScoP courses in 2023, with the number per year increasing afterwards.

We are working on providing in October 2022 a Soft tissue tumours EScoP course in Budapest, Hungary. This will be the last one in the "old" system.

### Giordano Fellowship

Since 2015 ESP has been offering subspecialty training through the Giordano Fellowship (GF) programme. Until now, around 60 Colleagues have completed their training in various fields in ESP Advanced Training Centres (ESP-ATCs) across Europe. Over the course of the next months the Awardees of the 2022 Edition of the GF will also begin their training. The goal of the GF is not only to train the individual colleagues, but also through them to disseminate experience to the community, especially in countries that do not have many opportunities for education.

Currently ESP is busy updating the list of ESP-ATCs in order to include more subjects of training and a call for the 2023 edition will be communicated in due course.

### ESP Academy 2022

For 2022 ESP has announced the second ESP Academy (ESPA) to be held in Genval, Belgium. We have received around 50 high-level applications and 22 colleagues were selected. This was not an easy decision as most of the applicants were excellent. The selected colleagues are invited to present a research project during ESPA, for which they will receive feedback from the rest of the attendees. Additionally, the programme includes talks on various subjects, provided by renowned and well-established experts. Our goal is for ESPA not only to be an interactive and intensive workshop for early career Pathologists, but also to create a network for the future leaders in Pathology!

### Masterclass

As mentioned above, the strategy for education provided by ESP includes events tailored for all levels of experience. We plan for the crown jewel of this strategy to be the ESP Masterclass programme. The target audience for this programme is Pathologists in practice, with at least some years of experience. The goal is to provide high-level training in selected subjects. Emphasis will be put not on lectures, but on case presentations, diagnostic dilemmas and potential pitfalls; all in all, as the name suggests, this is the course for becoming a Master in the field. Each Masterclass course will have as core Tutors, experts with established careers in their fields.

The first ESP Masterclass will be held in Brussels in early December 2022. The main Tutor will be **Prof. Manuel Sobrinho Simões**, past ESP President and one of the most well-known Experts in Thyroid Pathology.

### 34<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Pathology

During the 34<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Pathology (ECP), Basel 3-7 September 2022, ESP EDUCOM will have a session with the title “Next generation teaching in pathology”. This is scheduled to take place on Sunday 4 September from 8:30 to 12:00 CEST. You are all welcome to join us and we are looking forward to meeting you in person after more than 2 years of online events!

### Beginner’s guide

For our last information to you, we have a project that is aimed for colleagues who are in the first years of residency. A beginner’s guide is under construction! This platform will be available via the ESP education platform and provide some useful information for everyday Pathology practice. This information will include items like the mechanisms of fixation, about microscopy and about the tools and techniques we use in Pathology. We also envision for part of the material to be used to raise awareness of Pathology in the general public

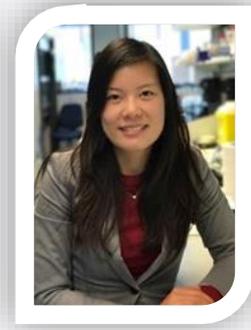
### To sum-up!

ESP EDUCOM, in collaboration with keynote experts from ESP, is proud for providing the above-presented strategy for ESP Educational activities. For each of the projects mentioned above, detailed information will be communicated in due course!

Your active participation, comments and suggestions are more than welcome!

### Message from the ESP Trainee Subcommittee

(By Dr Alexandra Vilaia and Dr Pui-Yuen Lee)



Dear fellow Trainees and Senior colleagues of the ESP,

There are only few months left until #ECP2022Basel and we are very much looking forward to meeting you all again face to face. We are happy to announce you that in these past few months, preparations have been underway in order to organize two sessions especially for trainees. As always, we promise you some other surprises and an exciting social event so keep an eye on our Twitter account: [@EspTrainee](https://twitter.com/EspTrainee) / [Twitter](https://twitter.com/EspTrainee).

On Tuesday 6th September 2022, during the morning sessions, we are happy to invite you to our Joint Session with the ESP Cytopathology Working Group. We have prepared the session “Junior and senior pathologists facing a cytologic challenge” and five trainees will have the opportunity to share interesting and challenging cytology cases with the attendees. The presentations are designed to be accessible to trainees, and on top of that, the cases have a twist that will catch your eye and intrigue you. If you are interested in cytopathology and a good challenge, mark your calendar, and join us on September 6th.

The second session we have prepared, will bring together five internationally renowned young pathologists discussing the challenges and opportunities in research and academia. This session will be both educational and inspirational for trainees, young specialists, and researchers. If you ever wondered with questions such as “How will the future generation of pathologists look like?”, “Why is it worth to take the academic pathway?” “What is translational research?” or “How should we prepare for an interview?” we gladly invite you to join us on Wednesday, 7th September 2022. If you are currently involved in research or academia or if you thought about this but you have no idea where to start, this session is more suited for you! Get ready to be inspired and do not forget that at the end there will be an open discussion, so prepare your questions for our speakers! Following our morning session, we will meet again for the General Assembly of the Trainees.

Visit the official website of the congress where you can check the full scientific program and other relevant data. You can also find an interview we have prepared with ESP President Prof. Aleš Ryška and Chair of Local Organising Committee, prof. Cathomas Gieri, discussing the highlights of the #ECP2022Basel and some tips and tricks when planning your trip to Basel. On our Twitter account you will also find information about Trainee Subcommittee activities, interesting pathology papers and cases and latest updates about ECP2022 and last but not least our social event!

Looking forward to meeting you in Basel!

Alexandra Vilaia, Chair of ESP Trainee Subcommittee  
Pui-Yuen Lee, Co-Chair of ESP Trainee Subcommittee

## Presenting the Croatian Society of Pathology

(By Prof. Marina Kos)

In the last issue of our Newsletter, Prof. Marszalek presented the activities of the large society from a big country, the Polish Society of Pathology. Here, as a former president for about 10 years, I am presenting a small society from a small country, the Croatian Society of Pathology. Even though the Society is small, compared to the bigger countries, it has quite a tradition, because it was founded yet in former Yugoslavia, as the professional “branch” of the Croatian Medical Society (founded in 1847, when Croatia was a part of Austro-Hungarian Empire, and continued with activity in the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes). Unfortunately, documents showing the activity of the Society of Pathology are lost in the 1990 war after Yugoslavia fell apart and Croatia gained its independence. In the independent Croatia, the activities continued, the Society changed its name to Croatian Society of Pathology and Forensic Medicine. The reason for the change was, that many pathologists in the smaller centres specialised also in forensic medicine, because that was needed.

The 1st Croatian Congress of Pathology was held in the capital, Zagreb, in 1996 and prof. Mladen Belicza was elected President. Until now, six national congresses were very successfully organised, every 4 years. At the 5th Congress in 2012, the unified algorithms for describing samples of malignant tumours were accepted, and published, and at the 6th congress in Osijek in 2016, changes in classification were introduced and also accepted.

The 7th Congress was planned for 2020, but unfortunately had to be cancelled because of the Covid pandemic. The General Assembly was held virtually, because the new president and members of the Board had to be elected. Prof. Sven Seiwert was elected president for the next 4 years, and we are planning to finally organise the 7th Croatian Congress of Pathology as soon as possible. In the meantime, the number of members remained more or less the same throughout the years, mostly because some members left the country or retired and were replaced by residents. Active members are trying to popularise the Society among young pathologists, and, with regard to this, the possibility of the group membership in the ESP has been a very important factor, as well as bursaries for the participation at the ESP congresses. Our Society has successfully participated in the organisation of several EScoPs. We plan to actively participate in organizing EScoP courses again, but Zagreb Medical School, where the courses were usually held, was quite badly damaged in two earthquakes in 2020. Hopefully the damage will be repaired, or we shall find some other way to continue with this activity. Our members also participated in many ECPs as invited speakers, session chairs or with oral or poster presentations. They were also very interested in Giordano fellowships, that some of them participated in and passed their experience to other members. Representatives of the Society in the Advisory Board have actively and in the written form supported every effort of the ESP regarding the regulations of the European Council that might reflect upon pathology as a profession, and eventually upon our diagnostic process and the fate of our patients.

The Society has two regular meetings every year (usually as a session in association with a Symposium or Professional meeting when people gather anyway) where current issues are discussed. Until now, within the society several working groups were founded: hematopathology, breast pathology and the working group for coronership. The working groups meet and report of their activity to the secretary of the Society (currently prof. Anita Skrtic). At the end of the current year, the secretary has to submit a written report about the activities of the Society to the Croatian Medical Society (invited lectures, participation at the national and international courses and meetings, published papers and textbooks etc).

Not all Croatian pathologists are members, but we are actively working on recruitment of the new members, because, in our opinion, especially in the country as small as Croatia, we need to meet, discuss about our problems and advance professionally. The membership in the Croatian Society of Pathology and Forensic medicine, and in the European Society of Pathology offers exactly this possibility.



Institute of Pathology of Zagreb Medical school from the outside (roof) and the inside after the earthquake.

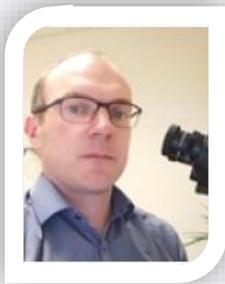
## ESP Interview series

Topic: Tissue-Specific Immunopathology in Fatal COVID-19.

[Dorward D et al., American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine 2021](#)

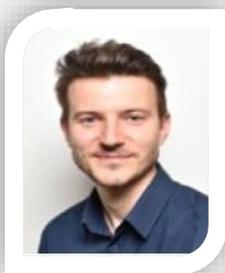
Interviewee:

Dr David Dorward  
University of Edinburgh, Scotland



Interviewer:

Dr Martin Zacharias  
Medical University of Graz, Austria



Dr David Dorward, a pathologist at the NHS Lothian / University of Edinburgh, Scotland, was recently interviewed by Dr Martin Zacharias, a fourth-year pathology trainee at the Medical University of Graz, Austria. The interview revolved

around Dr Dorward's paper "Tissue-Specific Immunopathology in Fatal COVID-19", published in 2021 in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, a top-notch clinical journal in respiratory medicine.

**Zacharias:** Dr Dorward, you are a clinical lecturer in histopathology at the University of Edinburgh but are also affiliated with the Centre for Inflammation Research. Please describe your professional obligations there and how your institution facilitates your diagnostic and scientific work.

**Dorward:** My job changed about a year ago and I am now a Consultant Pathologist in NHS Lothian and Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer in the University of Edinburgh (affiliated with the Centre for Inflammation Research). Most of my time is spent on clinical thoracic, molecular, and post-mortem pathology. I also have a small amount of time for research and teaching which I find interesting and rewarding but there is always a juggling act between clinical and research work. Both institutions have a collaborative and relatively flexible approach which allows a combined approach.

**Zacharias:** How did you come up with the idea of pursuing a career in pathology?

**Dorward:** I took a slightly meandering route into pathology! After foundation programme (the initial two years after medical school) I completed two years of training in internal medicine with the aim of becoming a respiratory physician. During that time the opportunity arose to take time out of clinical training and undertake a Wellcome Trust funded PhD investigating the role of neutrophil migration in acute lung injury. Towards the end of this I realised that pursuing a career in pathology would allow me to combine the areas that I enjoyed most in clinical work and academia as well as provide a different work-life balance than I would have as a respiratory physician.

**Zacharias:** Congratulations on your paper “Tissue-Specific Immunopathology in Fatal COVID-19”, which was published in 2021. Can you briefly describe the scope and the main findings of your paper?

**Dorward:** Thanks. Our paper characterised the pathological features in a group of patients who died from COVID-19 during the first wave of the pandemic. We performed detailed histological analysis of 37 sites throughout the body paired with testing for SARS-CoV-2 at the same sites. This allowed us to map the distribution of the virus and its relationship to local and systemic inflammatory responses. We showed that the presence of replicating virus did not directly associate with local inflammation (for example in the GI tract, kidney and liver where virus was detected but there was no associated inflammation) whilst significant

pulmonary inflammation did not equate to the presence of large amounts of SARS-CoV-2. We also explored in more detail the inflammatory environment in the lung and characterised the immune cell infiltrates.

**Zacharias:** Your publication appeared early in the pandemic. How was it possible to gather this quite impressive amount of data in a very short time? How important was the research infrastructure of your institution and of your collaboration partners?

**Dorward:** We gathered the data through a huge amount lot of hard work by a large number of incredibly capable and motivated people both within the local hospitals and in the Universities of Edinburgh, St Andrews and Liverpool. Collaboration between these institutes was essential - some were existing collaborations while others were formed because of COVID-19. Existing research infrastructure was also key - for example, we were able to amend existing ethical approval for a separate post-mortem research study to include the COVID-19 work. I think that the most important single factor was everyone's willingness to go the extra mile and do what they could to help provide insights into this novel disease.

**Zacharias:** The paper was published in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, a top-notch clinical journal in respiratory medicine, and has been cited over 160 times in just one and a half years. Can you comment on

the clinical impact of your work? What feedback did you receive from clinical colleagues?

**Dorward:** I think it was the direct clinical impact of this work that I found the most rewarding. We were able to provide rapid feedback to our colleagues across the hospital, in particular in Intensive Care and Internal Medicine, to help explain the clinical signs and symptoms that they were observing. It also allowed us to then engage in discussions about issues such as pulmonary thrombosis, nosocomial infection, and heterogeneity of COVID-19 etc.

The other area which I think was hugely important was in how we relayed the post-mortem findings back to the relatives of those who had died. If you remember back to the early days of the pandemic there was a huge amount of uncertainty and isolation. In conversations with relatives, and formal feedback, we were able to provide them with at least some answers to help explain what had happened to their loved one and often, that there was nothing missed or nothing more that could have been done in terms of treatment.

**Zacharias:** In general, what do you think is the role of pathologists during a pandemic? How can they contribute to better patient care or public health?

**Dorward:** I think that the role of the pathologist is central to the characterisation of a novel disease but can be largely overlooked by others in clinical and re-

search environments. The simplest description of what is happening at a cellular level in individual tissues and how that fits together in the context of systemic disease is key. Pathologists are therefore able to compare those findings with other similar diseases and provide context and perspective.

One of the key early observations that we made and talked a lot about with our clinical colleagues as well as with public health and legal bodies, was that not all deaths following SARS-CoV-2 infection were the same. The disease pathogenesis of COVID-19 associated diffuse alveolar damage in an otherwise healthy 60-year-old man is very different to a 98-year-old nursing home resident with multiple co-morbidities whose relatively mild COVID-19 pneumonitis is sufficient to cause cardiac decompensation and death. This single observation informs clinical management, drug trial design and understanding of mortality statistics.

**Zacharias:** In routine pathology practice, autopsies are mainly performed to elucidate death causes. However, the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has prominently demonstrated the usefulness of autopsy in the research setting as well. What is your opinion on the “research autopsy”, both in infectious and non-infectious diseases?

**Dorward:** Great question. I think that autopsies whenever possible should contain elements of clinical observation, learning and research - in some ways if you isolate these components then the

opportunities that can arise from autopsies are not fully utilised. For example, seeing an autopsy as purely a means for tissue acquisition for research means that may you lose the possibility of explaining an individual's disease progress or miss the interaction of multiple co-morbidities in the pathogenesis of a disease.

Having said that I think that autopsies can provide a unique opportunity for researchers to define what is actually happening in multiple organs at both the cellular and molecular level and in particular allowing spatial and temporal delineation of cellular interactions. Much of this is not possible during life, particularly in critically ill populations when biopsies are not feasible. Peripheral blood, bronchial lavage etc can provide very useful information but can miss some of the detail that is available at autopsy.

**Zacharias:** What fascinates me about your work is the integration of comprehensive morphological and molecular data. Did your skills as a pathologist help you in this approach? And more broadly, how can histomorphology help to better understand disease processes in general?

**Dorward:** Being a pathologist definitely helped and in the data analyses I was able to provide a complementary skill set to others within the collaboration. That was part of what made this project so rewarding, was working with experts from a range of clinical and research disciplines and being comfortable with contributing

in areas that you had experience (and happily acknowledging the areas that you didn't know much!).

One really memorable example of this was when we looked at the first batch of immunohistochemistry for the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. Being a pathologist in that context allowed me to make the observation that there was no inflammation surrounding infected epithelial cells in the liver, kidney and GI tract which then sparked a lot of interest from our virology colleagues and comparison with other coronaviruses.

**Zacharias:** What skills should an innovative scientist in the field of pathology have? Did you have mentors early in your career promoting your skills and interests?

**Dorward:** I think that the skills of being inquisitive, observant and collaborative in one's approach to pathology research are probably the most important.

I have been really fortunate to have had some excellent mentors and supervisors throughout my career. Many of those have been relatively informal relationships but the opportunity to chat with people with more experience has been invaluable whether that has been research ideas, career advice or just to let off steam!

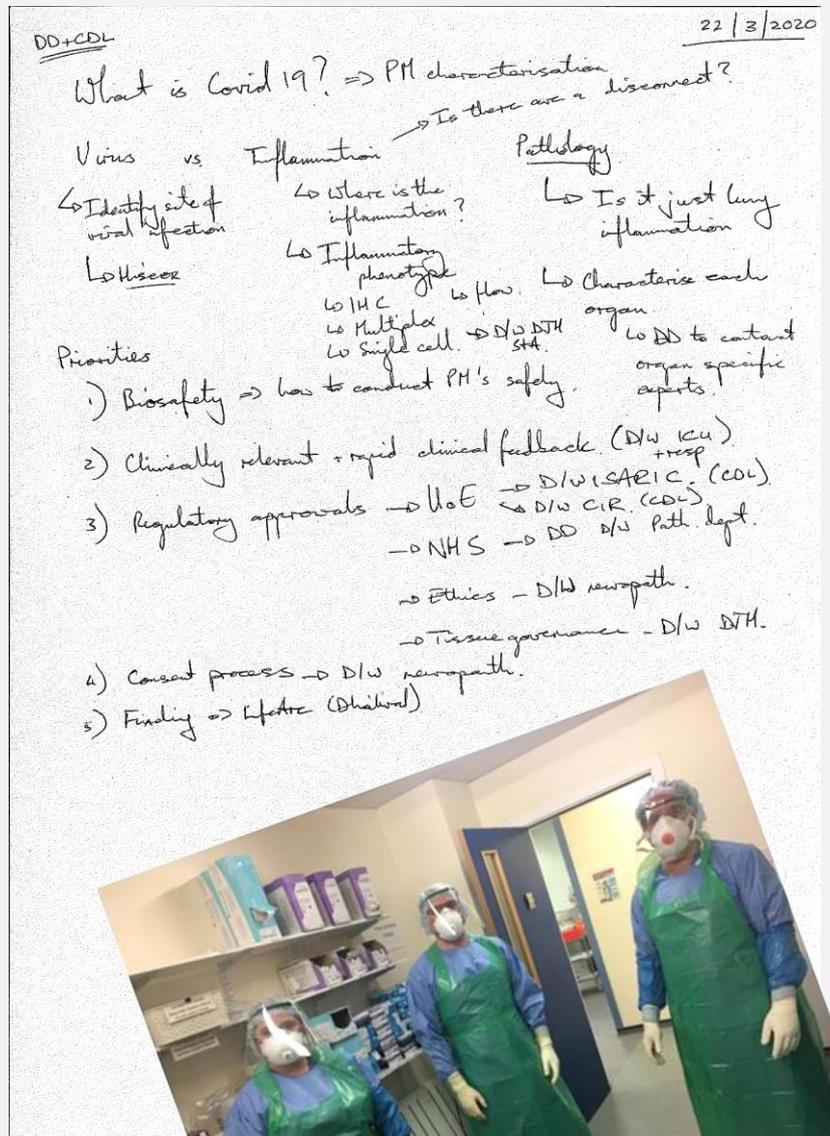
**Zacharias:** What are you working on currently? Are there follow-up investigations of the findings in your paper?

**Dorward:** Yes, we have been doing some work on characterising immune cell phenotypes in COVID-19 and have recently published a proteomic analysis of fatal COVID-19.

**Zacharias:** Especially during the pandemic it seems that your workload has been quite high. How do you spend your leisure time to keep balance?

**Dorward:** I enjoy spending time with my family - we have three children who are always keen to ensure that leisure time is full of fun. I also enjoy running, cycling and a bit of DIY. Building a pizza oven was definitely the highlight of 2021!

*The following original note derives from a planning meeting of Dr Dorward and his team in March 2020:*



## List of Recently Published Books

(By Prof. Carolin Lackner)

### Preliminary note:

A number of informative and comprehensive reviews of the key books every pathologist should know about in 2022. Doody's Core Titles is an annual list of the most distinguished titles in the health sciences. Further information can be found via this [LINK](#).

### Review #1

Title: Biopsy Interpretation: The Frozen Section. 3rd Edition

Authors: Nicole Cipriani, Aliya Hisain, Jerome B. Taxy

Editor: Nicole A. Cipriani

Publisher: Wolters Kluwer

ISBN-13: 978-1975170073

ISBN-10: 1975170075

In this upcoming 3rd edition of the Biopsy Interpretation Series "**Biopsy Interpretation: The Frozen Section**" the expert authors discuss several key issues of frozen section analysis focussing on the clinical setting requiring a frozen section, the interpretation as well as the limitations of this, often challenging, intraoperative histopathological consultation. The book contains a large number (400) of high-quality images not only of informative frozen sections but also of frozen section artifacts. In particular, the updated content of the new edition in addition to classical topics also covers critical areas in infectious diseases, female genital tract, head and neck, bone and soft tissue pathology.

### Review #2

Title: Congenital Heart Disease: A Clinical, Pathological, Embryological, and Segmental Analysis. 1st Edition

Author: Richard Van Praagh

Publisher: Elsevier

ISBN-10: 1560533684

ISBN-13: 978-1560533689

Dr Richard Van Praagh is an internationally renowned paediatric cardiologist who made seminal contributions to the understanding of the morphology of congenital heart disease (CHD). In addition, he defined an internationally accepted standardized nomenclature for the range of CHD (Van Praagh segmental classification system). In his upcoming book "**Congenital heart disease: A Clinical, Pathological, Embryological, and Segmental Analysis**" he comprehensively describes the morphology and physiology of CHD making the book a valuable resource and reference for all disciplines involved in patient management. The description of the complex pathologic anatomy is facilitated by well-organised text and tables complemented by more than 550 high-quality images.

### Review #3

Title: Surgical Pathology of the GI Tract, Liver, Biliary Tract and Pancreas. 4th Edition

Authors: Robert D. Odze MD FRCP(C), John R. Goldblum MD FCAP FASCP FACG

Publisher: Elsevier

ISBN-13: 978-0323679886

ISBN-10: 0323679889

The new edition of the benchmark textbook and winner of the 2015 BMA Medical Book Award First Prize in Pathology “**Surgical Pathology of the GI Tract, Liver, Biliary Tract and Pancreas**” has been updated to include most recent advancements in clinical, etiologic, molecular, and therapeutic management topics for surgical pathologists in training as well as in practice. The fully revised 4th edition features ample information on molecular biology and immunohistochemistry in addition to classical fields of GI pathology. The text is clearly written and organized to facilitate diagnostic decision making and reporting. The book contains more than 3000 high-quality colour illustrations, extensive tables and graphs to help the reader to gather the appropriate information in a timely manner and is also available in an e book format. Furthermore, it reviews the role of next-generation sequencing (NGS) to help identify targetable mutations in gastrointestinal tract tumours facilitating personalized patient management.

## Upcoming Conferences

(By Prof. Carolin Lackner)

ESP-organised events:

- 1) [ESP Academy](#): 18 to 21 June 2022, Geneva, Belgium
- 2) [European Congress of Pathology](#): 3 to 7 September 2022, Basel, Switzerland

Other Conferences/Events:

**11th Arkadi M. Rywlin International Pathology Slide Seminar Symposium in Anatomic Pathology**. 30 May to 1 June 2022 Porto, Portugal. [INFO](#)

**Medical University of Graz: Lung Pathology & Pleural Diseases**, 9 to 15 June 2022, Hotel Weitzer, Graz, Austria

**Dermatopathology Conference: Molecular classification of melanocytic lesions & Lymphomas and pseudolymphomas of the skin**. 11 June 2022, Antwerp, Belgium. [INFO](#)

**54th European Pancreatic Club Meeting** (Kyiv-online) 22-25 June 2022: [INFO](#)

**IAP Hungarian Division Technology Transfer in Diagnostic Pathology, Central European Regional Meeting, Uro-pathology**, 23 to 25 June 2022 in Székesfehérvár, Hungary: [INFO](#)

**12th International Thymic Malignancy Interest Group Annual Meeting (ITMIG 2022)**, virtual, 29 September to 2 October 2022: [INFO](#)

**Medical University of Graz: Postgraduate Course - Gastrointestinal Pathology**, 29 September to 1 October 2022, Medical University Graz - Med Campus, Graz, Austria

More events are published via the [ESP website](#). The list is regularly updated!

## ESP Preceptorship Programme



**AVAILABLE NOW!**



ESP in collaboration with AstraZeneca and MSD, are pleased to announce that the **Ovarian and Prostate Cancer Virtual Education Series** are now available.

This educational curriculum is not supported by CME points. Z4-36196. Date of preparation: August 2021. The content of the Virtual Education Series is intended for pathologists.

Look out for these two Virtual Education Series in the education portal of the European Society of Pathology website!

### COMING SOON:

#### Biomarkers in endometrial cancer virtual education series

Prof. Xavier Matias-Guiu  
Prof. Koen Van de Vijver  
Dr Ana Oaknin

This educational series is intended for healthcare professionals for medical educational purposes only.



### COMING SOON

#### Cholangiocarcinoma Virtual Education Series



[LEARN MORE ▶](#)

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## LUNG 2022 EQA Scheme



### EQA Scheme Non Small Cell Lung Carcinoma



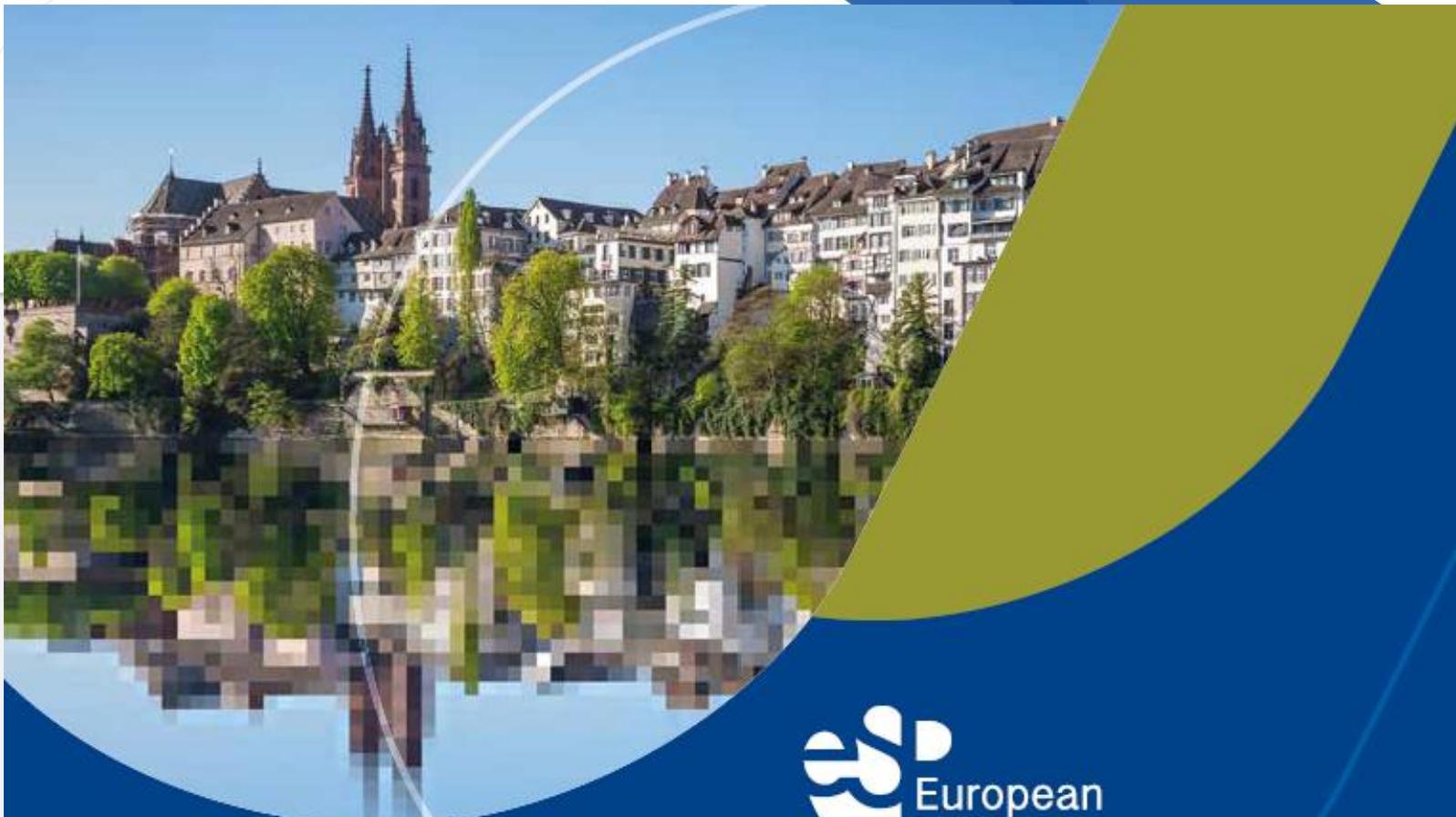
Registrations for the 2022 NSCLC EQA Scheme have started!

**Deadline: 10 June 2022**

[Click for more info!](#)

ESP Corporate Partnership  
Programme





# 34<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Pathology

*The Art of Next Generation Pathology*

3–7 September 2022  
Congress Center Basel, Switzerland

[www.esp-congress.org](http://www.esp-congress.org)

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