

CHAPTER OF PATHOLOGISTS, ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, SINGAPORE

2008–2009 Office bearers

Chairperson:	Dr Cuthbert E S Teo
Vice-Chairperson:	Dr Jacqueline S G Hwang
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Yeo Chin Pin
Committee Members:	Dr Bernard C S Ho Dr Poh Wee Teng Dr Tan Ai Ling
Co-opted Members:	Dr Roland Jureen Dr Ponnudurai Kuperan A/Prof Tan Puay Hoon

HIGHLIGHTS

19th Annual Scientific Meeting, 27 September 2008, Sheraton Towers, Singapore

The theme of the 19th Annual Scientific meeting of the Chapter, "Unity Amidst Diversity" attracted 123 participants. A total of three concurrent symposiums addressed topics on Histopathology, Bits 'n Bugs (and Fleas!), Pathology in Practice. Over the half day meeting, several interesting lectures were delivered by guest speakers and members of the Chapter.

Symposium 1 - "Histopathology"

Chairman: Dr Danilo Giron

"Soft Tissue Pathology: A Selection of Interesting Cases"
Dr Chuah Khoon Leong, Senior Consultant,
Department of Pathology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital

"Giant Cell Rich Bone Tumours and Lesions"
Dr Victor K M Lee, Consultant
Department of Pathology, National University Hospital

"Diagnosis of Aggressive B-cell Lymphoma"
Dr Tan Soo Yong, Senior Consultant
Department of Pathology, Singapore General Hospital

"Cytopathology: Some Interesting Head & Neck Cases"
Dr Jacqueline S G Hwang, Senior Consultant
Department of Pathology, Singapore General Hospital

Symposium 2 - "Bits 'n Bugs (and Fleas!)"

Chairman: Dr Tan Thean Yen

"Tandem Mass Spectrometry-More than a Research Tool"
Ms Jayme Wong, Scientific Officer
Biochemistry Section, Department of Pathology
Singapore General Hospital

"Probiotics in Clinical Diseases: From Clostridium difficile Infection to Immunomodulation"
Prof Lee Yuan Kun, Associate Professor
Department of Microbiology, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine
National University of Singapore,

"Invasive Fungal Infections in Patients with Hematological Malignancies and Recipients of Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation"
Dr Koh Liang Pui, Consultant
Department of Haematology-Oncology
National University Hospital

"The Flea Hath Smaller Fleas than on him Prey"
Dr Mark Taylor, Assistant Professor
Department of Microbiology
Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore

Book Review : Coroner's Practice In Medical Cases

At the request of the Singapore Academy of Law, Dr Cuthbert Teo, Chapter Chairman and Senior Consultant Forensic Pathologist (Forensic Medicine Division, Applied Sciences Group, Health Sciences Authority, Singapore), contributed a review on the book entitled: "Coroner's Practice in Medical Cases" published by the Singapore Academy of Law.

Professional Opinions

During the year, the Chapter contributed feedback and recommendations on:

- Control of Mercury Clinical Thermometers in Singapore to the National Environment Agency'
- National Medical Specialty Centres for Pathology to the Committee on Strategy for National Medical Specialisation Centres, Ministry of Health, Singapore

Distance-Learning Programme

The chapter contributed a module: *Columnar Cell Lesions of the Breast* towards the Academy's Local Distance-Learning Programme (Category 3B).

Symposium 3 - "Pathology in Practice"

Chairman: Dr Timothy Barkham

"HPV – Should I Vaccinate My Daughter" by
Dr Veronica Lee Ventura, Consultant
Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology
National University Hospital

"Life as a Forensic Pathologist"
Dr Cuthbert E S Teo, Consultant
Forensic Medicine Division
Health Sciences Authority (Singapore)

"Personalised Medicine: The Right Therapy for the Right Patient at the Right Dose and at the Right Time"
A/Prof Sunil Kumar Sethi
Chief, Department of Laboratory Medicine
National University Hospital

"Method Validation at a Minimum – What is Really Needed"
Dr Robert Hawkins, Senior Consultant
Department of Laboratory Medicine
Tan Tock Seng Hospital.

Awards recipients

- 2008 BD award
Dr Tan Ai Ling, Senior Consultant
Department of Pathology
Singapore General Hospital
A/Prof Tan Puay Hoon delivered a short citation on Dr Tan Ai Ling.
Dr Tan Ai Ling delivered an oration entitled "Microbiology – The Next Lap".
- Roche Laboratory Medicine (Technical) Award
Ms Lily S Y Ng
Microbiology Laboratory
Changi General Hospital (2007 Recipient)

Ms Shirley S C Phua
Histopathology Laboratory
Health Sciences Authority (2008 Recipient).

Education and Training

In 2008, the Chapter contributed and participated actively to Continuing Medical Education programmes:

31 March 2008

Cardiomyopathy of Childhood

Professor Chow Chung Wo
Head, Department of Anatomical Pathology, Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne
Associate Professor, Department of Paediatrics/Pathology, University of Melbourne, Australia
Visiting Professor RCPA 2007
President, Australia and New Zealand Paediatric Pathology Group

Chairperson: A/Prof Tan Puay Hoon

Co-organisers: Singapore Society of Pathology & College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Singapore.

23 June 2008

Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma: Pathways & Precursors

Dr Jennifer L. Hunt
Section Head, Surgical Pathology, Department of Anatomic Pathology
Director, Head & Neck/Endocrine Pathology
Director, Anatomic Pathology Molecular Diagnostics
Associate Professor of Pathology, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine
Cleveland, Ohio, USA

Chairperson: Dr Jacqueline S G Hwang

Co-organisers: Singapore Society of Pathology, Chapter of Endocrinologists, College of Physicians, Singapore & Chapter of General Surgeons, College of Surgeons, Singapore

29 August 2008

Haematopathology Slide Seminar Singapore General Hospital/ Department of Haematology:

Dr Tien Sim Leng, Senior Consultant
Dr Ho Liam Pock, Consultant

National University Hospital/Department of Haematology-Oncology:

Dr Ng Chin Hin, Registrar;
Dr Michelle L M Poon, Registrar.

Tan Tock Seng Hospital/Department of Laboratory Medicine:

Dr Ong Kiat Hoe, Consultant;
Dr Ponnudurai Kuperan, Senior Consultant.

Chairperson: Dr Ponnudurai Kuperan

Co-organisers: Singapore Society of Pathology, the Singapore Society of Haematology, Chapter of Haematologists, College of Physicians, Singapore & Tan Tock Seng Hospital:

Microbiology Tutorial Sessions (CD-recorded Audio-Conference Sessions)

Co-organisers: Singapore Society of Pathology & the Department of Pathology, Singapore General Hospital:

- **17 March 2008**
The Questions You Should be Asking About Your Blood Culture Methodology
Dr Paul Bourbeau, *PhD, ABMM*.
Director of Microbiology, Geisinger Medical Laboratories, Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, Pennsylvania, USA.

Moderator: Dr Tan Ai Ling
- **7 April 2008**
Gram Positive Bacilli Identification
Dr Kathryn Bernard, *PhD*.
Head, Special Bacteriology/Bioterrorism, National Microbiology Laboratory, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Moderator: Dr Chan Kian Sing
- **28 April 2008**
Clinical Relevance in Microbiology
A/Prof Yvette S McCarter, *PhD*.
Director of Microbiology, Department of Pathology, University of Florida, Jacksonville, Florida, USA.

Moderator: Dr Sng Li-Hwei
- **26 May 2008**
The Most Commonly Asked Questions About Stool Parasitology
Ms Lynne S. Garcia, *MS, MT, F(AAM)*.
Manager of Clinical Microbiology, Division of Clinical Laboratories, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles, California, USA.

Moderator: Dr Mavis G C Yeo
- **30 June 2008**
The Most Commonly Asked Questions About Blood Parasitology
Ms Lynne S. Garcia, *MS, MT, F(AAM)*.
Manager of Clinical Microbiology, Division of Clinical Laboratories, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles, California, USA.

Moderator: Dr Rama Narayana Deepak
- **3 November 2008**
Tick-borne Diseases
Dr Paul Rocco LaSala
Assistant Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, USA.

Moderator: Dr Cecilia C L Ngan
- **24 November 2008**
Clinical Implications and Detection of Newer *b*-lactamases
Dr Kenneth S. Thomson, *PhD*.
Professor, Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology, Creighton University Medical Centre, Omaha, Nebraska, USA.

Moderator: Dr James H C Sim
- **15 December 2008**
Wound Cultures Workup
Dr Susan E. Sharp, *PhD, DABMM*.
Director of Microbiology, Kaiser Permanente & Pathology Regional Laboratory & Associate Professor, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, Oregon, USA.

Moderator: Dr Ng Tong Yong

More information on the Chapter is available at http://www.ams.edu.sg/chapter/home.aspx?sec_id=8