

Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer Newsletter

March 2014. Issue 17.

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PDF versions of this newsletter are available from the structured pathology website.

Welcome to the 17th edition of the Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer newsletter.

This newsletter is intended to provide information on the project to expand and promote the use of structured pathology reporting of cancer.

SPR Protocol update

New editions coming up

The RCPA Board has recently endorsed the following structured pathology reporting protocols:

- Cancer of the Exocrine Pancreas, Ampulla of Vater and Distal Common Bile Duct Structured Pathology Reporting Protocol
- 2nd edition of the Primary Cutaneous Melanoma Structured Pathology Reporting Protocol
- 2nd edition of the Prostate Cancer (Radical Prostatectomy) Structured Pathology Reporting Protocol

The 2nd editions of the Melanoma and Prostate Cancer protocols include the elements from the newly endorsed International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting datasets. These are indicated by a miniature ICCR logo where relevant in the protocol: 

Visit the Structured Pathology Cancer Protocols website to download the protocol or one of the implementation aids!

<http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-Pathology/Structured-Pathology-Reporting-of-Cancer/Cancer-Protocols>

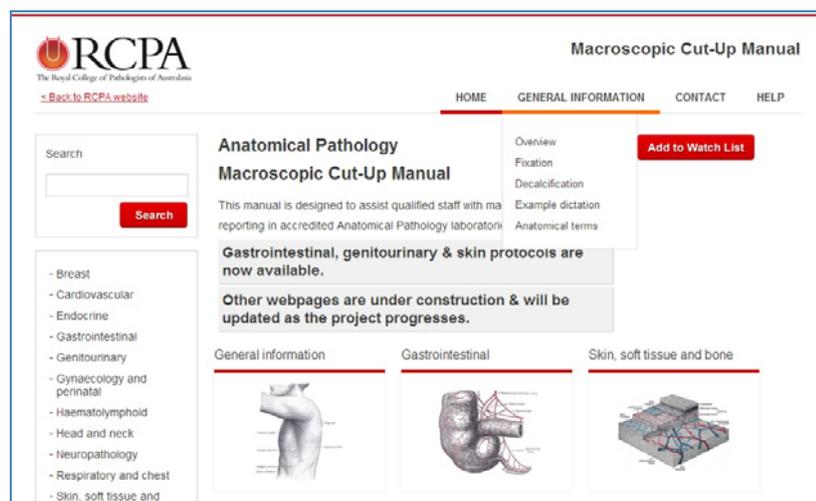
Public Consultation – Prostate Core Biopsy

A protocol that has been eagerly anticipated is the Prostate Cancer – Core/Needle Biopsy. This will very shortly be posted for public comment and your feedback is encouraged.

Macro cut-up manual online!

Live Feb 5:

www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-Pathology/Macroscopic-Cut-Up



The screenshot shows the RCPA website for the Macroscopic Cut-Up Manual. The RCPA logo is at the top left. The page title is 'Macroscopic Cut-Up Manual'. The navigation menu includes HOME, GENERAL INFORMATION, CONTACT, and HELP. A search bar is on the left. The main content area is titled 'Anatomical Pathology Macroscopic Cut-Up Manual' and includes a description: 'This manual is designed to assist qualified staff with macroscopic reporting in accredited Anatomical Pathology laboratories'. Below this, there are three sections: 'General information', 'Gastrointestinal', and 'Skin, soft tissue and bone', each with a corresponding anatomical illustration. A red button 'Add to Watch List' is visible on the right side of the page.

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA) has recognised the need for greater consistency in cut-up in Anatomical Pathology (AP) in an environment where this is increasingly undertaken by non-pathologist staff in the absence of an accredited training program. Funded by a grant from the Commonwealth Department of Health, the College is undertaking a project to create an online cut-up manual. It is envisaged that this could reduce the burden of an in-house manual, with efficiency gains and cost-savings within laboratories. With multiple levels of detailed information, it is also designed as a resource for training and continuing education relevant to a range of AP laboratory staff including consultant pathologists, trainees and non-pathologist staff (scientists, technicians, technologists and quality managers).

Content within the website has been written to conform with the existing RCPA Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer Project (SPR) under the review of Pathologists from the relevant working groups and able to be updated to align with future revisions of these documents.



The manual is intended to be:

- Advisory rather than prescriptive in format
- An “at bench” online reference tool
- Well-illustrated with diagrams & photographs
- Suitable for training purposes
- Synchronised with SPR protocols
- Supportive of laboratory requirements under NATA & NPAAC

The initial release providing guidance for the macroscopic assessment of **gastrointestinal, genitourinary and skin specimens** is now available publicly (without login on) the RCPA website. Further systems and video vignettes will be added in the future as the project progresses.

RCPA members were consulted for feedback from 5 February to 1 March 2014 and the manual was on display at the RCPA Pathology Update meeting in Melbourne from 21-23 February. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive regarding the standardised cut-up protocols and quality illustrations.

“A mighty impressive document which will simplify educating our scientist practitioners and registrars and in standardising practices. We will certainly use this format and can't wait to see the final completed version”

The Lead Pathologist on the project is Dr Simon King and the Project Manager is Margaret Dimech. Margaret can be contacted by email at margaretd@rcpa.edu.au for further information.

The Steering Committee looks forward to providing more detail as the project proceeds.

ICCR progress



The final dotting of 'i's' and crossing of 't's' is now complete on the constitution of the ICCR. Agreement has been received by all parties and the paperwork for final signature is anticipated later this month.

Directors for the new ICCR will be:

- Mike Wells for the European Society of Pathology (ESP)
- Mary K Washington for the College of American Pathologists (CAP)
- Lynn Hirschowitz for The Royal College of Pathologists UK (RCPATH)
- John Srigley for the Canadian Association of Pathologists - Association Canadienne des Pathologistes (CAP-ACP) in association with the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer
- and David Ellis for the RCPA

A second Australian resident director will also be appointed as this is a requirement of Australian law as the ICCR will be incorporated in Australia. It was suggested by the President of the European Society of Pathology that a clinician would be a very useful addition to the group and accordingly, a high profile Australian oncologist is likely to be appointed as a second Australian Director.

ICCR Datasets

Datasets for

- Heart (chair: Dylan Millar, USA)
- Mesothelioma of the pleura (chair: Andrew Churg, Canada)
- Thymus (chair: Andrew Nicolson, UK)

...are all kicking off this month. Chairs have been appointed as above and expert committees are being convened. This series of datasets is being developed in synchrony with the WHO Classification of Neoplastic Diseases updates occurring this year. A 2nd edition of the ICCR Lung cancer dataset will also be undertaken as the new WHO updates are due for release in 2014.

In addition, a new ICCR dataset for intrahepatic hepatocellular-cholangiocarcinoma and hepatocellular carcinoma is also commencing with Alastair Burt, editor of Histopathology and Dean at Adelaide University, as chair.

The Renal cancer dataset (chair: John Srigley, Canada) is near completion and it is hoped it will go to open consultation soon.

A combined dataset for Ovarian, Fallopian tube and Primary peritoneum site (chair: Glenn McCluggage UK) is well underway and will incorporate the new FIGO and WHO classifications.

Publications

As part of the ICCR development process, a journal article is written by the expert panel which describes and discusses the evidence behind the elements in the ICCR dataset. The article for Melanoma has recently been published:

Data Set for Pathology Reporting of Cutaneous Invasive Melanoma Recommendations From the International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting (ICCR). Scolyer RA, Judge MJ, Evans A, Frishberg DP, Prieto VG, Thompson JF, Trotter MJ, Walsh MY, Walsh NMG, Ellis DW. (2013). Am J Surg Pathol. 37(12):1797-814.

For more details on the work of the INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON CANCER REPORTING – read the ICCR newsletters at:

www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-pathology/ICCR

New ICCR datasets = new SPR protocols

To date the datasets tackled by the ICCR have coincided with existing local protocols:

- Melanoma
- Lung
- Prostate (Radical Prostatectomy)
- Renal
- Endometrial

As the ICCR datasets are published these will be incorporated into an updated edition of our local protocol eg 2nd edition of the Melanoma, Lung, Prostate which all include the ICCR data elements and commentary (denoted with ICCR logo). These protocols are published with all of the associated documents such as the macroscopic reporting template; hyperlinked guide etc.

However, with the ICCR's development of a dataset for Ovary/Fallopian Tube/Primary peritoneal site a new process is required as there is no equivalent local protocol to update. This new process will be similar to the existing development process in that a local expert committee/authoring group will be convened. Ideally this will be prior to the public consultation of the ICCR Dataset so that our local committee's views can be noted.

Once the ICCR dataset is published, a draft SPR protocol template will be developed using the ICCR Dataset as the core. The local expert committee/authoring committee will then review, add in additional elements, values and commentary as deemed necessary and incorporate the standard inclusions of our local protocols – specimen handling, example reports, request information sheets etc. Once complete the protocol, following our standard process, will be posted for a period of public consultation.

As with any of our protocols which include the ICCR dataset elements – feedback pertaining to the ICCR will be posted for review by the

international group, and any feedback on local inclusions to the protocol will be dealt with by the local expert committee.

If you have any questions regarding this process or the international datasets or local protocols please contact Meagan Judge at MeaganJ@RCPA.EDU.AU.

New website – new url's

In November 2013 the RCPA moved over to a brand new website which means your old bookmarks to access cancer protocols won't work – you'll need to re-bookmark the following pages:

Cancer Protocols:

<http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-Pathology/Structured-Pathology-Reporting-of-Cancer/Cancer-Protocols>

Macroscopic reporting templates:

<http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-Pathology/Structured-Pathology-Reporting-of-Cancer/Macroscopic-reporting>

The International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting:

<http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-pathology/ICCR>

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You have received this message because you are listed as a stakeholder of the national structured pathology reporting project.

If you do not want to receive this newsletter in the future, please email: MeaganJ@RCPA.EDU.AU