

# Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer Newsletter

December 2017. Issue 32.

## Index:

(click on a title below to go directly to that story)

- [Mark the date – 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 18](#)
- [Breast HER2 testing guidelines](#)
- [Implementing AJCC TNM8!](#)
- [ICCR progress](#)
- [Brain teaser](#)

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

Welcome to the 32nd 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.



*Season's Greetings*

Wishing you all the very best for this holiday season and a very HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## Mark the date – 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 18

You are invited to a webinar titled: "Topical issues in cervical histopathology reporting", to be held on 19 February 2018 at 1pm AEST.

Dr Marsali Newman and A/Prof Kerryn Ireland-Jenkin will discuss selected issues in the histological reporting of cervical biopsies and resections for pre-invasive cervical neoplasia that relate to the RCPA structured reporting protocol, and provide the latest update from the ICCR for reporting cervical cancer.

To register for the session please click on the link below:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5239834099781678594>

Enter your name and email address then click 'Register'.

By registering for the event you will be sent a reminder beforehand and a link to join the call at the appropriate time.

The session will be recorded and made available on the RCPA website.

# Breast HER2 testing guidelines

The ASCO/CAP guidelines for HER2 testing in breast cancer were published in 2013 and adopted in the USA, UK and other parts of the world. However, in Australia, there were a number of issues in adopting these 2013 guidelines 'as is', so in order to address this and move forward, a working party of people with specific HER2 expertise, representing various jurisdictions, was convened to discuss and arrive at a consensus for drafting HER2 guidelines for Australia.

As this process was nearing completion, ASCO/CAP commenced an update to their 2013 guidelines and therefore the decision was made to wait for the revised guidelines to be published so as to incorporate the latest recommendations, and in hope that these may resolve some of the concerns relating to implementation of the 2013 guidelines in Australia.

While their process has been somewhat delayed from initial expectations, the revised ASCO/CAP guidelines have been finalized and should be published soon. Once they become available, our local HER2 testing for breast cancer working party will reconvene to review and update the draft local guidelines. Once these are reviewed and approved they will be published and then incorporated into the Breast Cancer Structured Pathology Reporting Protocol.

## Implementing AJCC TNM 8!

The AJCC TNM 8<sup>th</sup> edition (TNM8) was published in late 2016 and the RCPA Cancer Services Advisory Committee (CanSAC) has developed a position statement recommending its implementation as soon as possible.

It will be important for users of AJCC TNM8 to understand the requirements of licensing to avoid any issues since the licensing approach to TNM8 is significantly different from that previously adopted by AJCC for TNM 7<sup>th</sup> and previous editions. To assist with this process a number of clarifying statements have been agreed with AJCC and added to the policy statement. It is recommended that these explanatory notes be reviewed before implementation of AJCC TNM8 is considered.

The position statement is published to the RCPA website:

<http://www.rcpa.edu.au/getattachment/78b4c0f6-3b9e-4f02-940e-bce33ebaed0f/Implementation-of-the-8th-Edition-TNM-Cancer-Stagi.aspx>

## Public consultation

Public consultation for the four ICCR datasets for urinary tract datasets is now underway. The draft datasets have been posted to the following webpage and are available until 9th February 2018.

<http://www.iccr-cancer.org/datasets/datasets-under-consultation>

Please click on the link and provide your feedback.

## Organisational changes

At a recent meeting of the Board, John Srigley of Canada was elected President and Tim Helliwell of the UK was elected Vice-President of the ICCR. "John Srigley has been Vice-President of the ICCR since the organisation incorporated in 2014 and has also been at the forefront of progressing Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer both in Canada and the rest of the world. John will provide constancy in leadership as well as the expertise to advance ICCR's goals", said David Ellis, immediate past president of the ICCR.

## Terminology progress

Throughout 2017 there has been ongoing discussions involving International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO)/SNOMED International and the International Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (IPaLM) Special Interest Group, the University of Nebraska Medical Centre as well as representatives from Pathology Colleges around the world and the ICCR, regarding the international harmonisation of terminology binding for cancer datasets.

In October 2017 at a meeting in Bratislava, this initiative became an official project of IHTSDO/SNOMED International. It was agreed that the ICCR datasets, as the only true international cancer datasets would be the template model but harmonization would also involve datasets and protocols from other countries. The project will involve representatives from the USA, UK, Canada and Australia as well as many other countries around the world. The resultant terminology will be published from the IHTSDO/SNOMED International website to ensure ease of update and appropriate governance of the process. IHTSDO/SNOMED International will retain copyright over the terminology.

"This is an extremely important and very exciting step forward as terminology binding of the ICCR datasets will facilitate implementation of structured reporting around the world. Even those countries with cancer dataset development processes of their own such as the USA, UK and Australia will benefit as they incorporate ICCR agreed elements in their local datasets/protocols they can adopt the terminology associated with those elements as well" said David Ellis.

## New datasets

Four datasets in the Endocrine Tumour Series have been agreed with Prof Anthony Gill, senior staff specialist from Royal North Shore Hospital and Professor of Pathology at the University of Sydney, as Endocrine Series Champion:

- Thyroid - (Chair: Ronald Ghossein)

- Parathyroid - (Chair: Michelle Williams)
- Adrenal cortical gland - (Chair: Thomas Giordano)
- Adrenal medulla/ Paraganglioma/ Pheochromocytoma/Carotid body - (Chair: Arthur Tischler)

The chairs are in the process of nominating candidates for the Dataset Authoring Committees.

Planning for the Skin and Ophthalmic suites of datasets is underway.

## Brain teaser

Here's something to relax with over the holidays.....

When is Rose's birthday? Rose gives her friends Andrew and Lee 10 possible dates for her birthday:

May 15, 16 or 19  
June 17 or 18  
July 14 or 16  
August 14, 15 or 17

Rose tells Andrew the month only and Lee the date only of her birthday.

Andrew says "I don't know when Rose's birthday is but I know that Lee does not know too."

Lee says that "at first I don't know when Rose's birthday is, but I know now."

Andrew says "then I also know when Rose's birthday is."

Do you know when Rose's birthday is?

Good luck!

(To find out the answer, email Meagan at [MeaganJ@RCPA.EDU.AU](mailto:MeaganJ@RCPA.EDU.AU)).

### **Structured Pathology Reporting Project Manager:**

#### **Meagan Judge**

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia

Phone: +61 2 8356 5854

Mobile: 0402 891031

Fax: +61 2 8356 5808

Address: 207 Albion Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010, Australia

**WEBSITE:** [www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-Pathology/Structured-Pathology-Reporting-of-Cancer](http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-Pathology/Structured-Pathology-Reporting-of-Cancer)

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](mailto:MeaganJ@RCPA.EDU.AU)