MARCH SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM
Tuesday, March 11, 2014
Sequoia Room, 2nd Floor, Moseley Salvatori Conference Center
637 South Lucas Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90017

“Experiences with Malpractice Litigation as a Pathology Expert Witness”

Para Chandrasoma, M.D.
Chief of Anatomic and Surgical Pathology
LAC+USC Medical Center

Objectives of Program:
1. Point out recent examples of malpractice cases requiring a pathologist as expert witness.
2. Demonstrate the importance of the pathologist as an expert witness in litigation.
3. Illustrate and implement standard of care for pathology practice.
4. Distinguish types of pathology error and how this is established in law.
5. Define the importance of lab and hospital policies in malpractice.
6. Develop methods a pathologist may use to decrease risk of being sued and improve practice.
Dear Readers,

A big thank you to Dr. Scott Nelson of UCLA who enlightened us last month with changes to the new WHO classification of skeletal and soft tissue tumors. Slides from the lectures will be available online at www.LASOP.org. As well, posters to aid in the diagnosis of pulmonary pathology specimens have arrived from our January All day seminar. Please attend our next meeting, March 11th, to pick up your copy.

Please join us this month with what promises to be an excellent presentation by Dr. Para Chandrasoma. Dr. Chandrasoma is Chief of Anatomic and Surgical Pathology, LAC+USC Medical Center and will be discussing experiences with malpractice litigation as a pathology expert witness. This will no doubt be a useful presentation, and will include anecdotes of recent malpractice cases as well as practical tips to develop methods to decrease the risk of being sued. Please join us for this evening presentation, Tuesday March 11th!

At this time, we would also like to remind you to renew your annual membership, if you have not already done so. The financial support of our membership allows us, among other things, to sponsor guest speakers. Payments can be made online at www.LASOP.org or you may contact Shirley Jacke, Administrator, via email at lasopmd@gmail.com for further assistance.

Finally, it is with tremendous sadness we announce the passing of one of its most valued board members, Dr. Beverly A. James. Dr. James who passed away on February 4th, 2014, was a LASOP board member since 2010, and served as co-director of laboratory services at Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family and friends.

As usual, we look forward to seeing you in the audience.

Sincerely, The Board
On May 13th The Los Angeles Society of Pathologists will hold our Annual Resident & Fellow Symposium. This year both case studies and research based presentations are acceptable.

We will have First, Second and Third place prizes.

The deadline for submission is March 28, 2014. If selected, you will be contacted by April 12th.

To submit a case, please follow the format and instructions outlined below:

Create two PowerPoint presentations (PPT) and convert each of them to PDF before submitting them to LASOPMD@gmail.com. If submitting a research presentation no second PPT is required.

Please type 'Resident & Fellow Symposium' in the subject line of your email and be sure to include all of your contact information in the body of your email.

#1: The first PPT would be a "virtual slide" file that LASOP members would review before the meeting. This PDF presentation should include:
- Page 1 - Your name and program affiliation
- Page 2 - Pertinent patient history and symptoms
- Pages 3+ - Images of the case
(Note: Do NOT include the final diagnosis).

#2: The second PPT would be a "handout" that would be posted to the LASOP website directly after the meeting. This PDF presentation should include:
- Page 1 - Your name and program affiliation
- Page 2 - Pertinent patient history and symptoms
- Pages 3+ - Images of the case PLUS the final diagnosis, discussion of any differentials and all references.

Additional guidelines:

- It is the responsibility of the author(s) to ensure that the identity of a patient is not apparent from the information contained in a case report.
- Use conventional units of measurement throughout the manuscript, with conversion factors for Systeme International (SI) units expressed once in parentheses after the first mention of the conventional unit. Example: "The blood glucose concentration of 126 mg/dL (to convert to millimoles per liter, multiply by 0.0555) was used as a criterion for diagnosing diabetes."
- If several laboratory values are listed, conversion factors may be listed in a paragraph at the end of the Materials and Methods or Report of a Case section. In tables and figures, conversion factors should be presented in the footnote or legend. Hematologic values should only be reported using conventional units.
- Use generic names of drugs, unless the specific trade name of a drug used is directly relevant to the discussion.
- Do not use abbreviations in the title or abstract, and limit their use in the text.
- When using acronyms, make certain the full name is spelled out on first use.
- Give sources (name of company and location) for all special reagents (e.g., antibodies, enzymes, probes).
- In listing references, follow AMA style, abbreviating names of journals according to Index Medicus.
- Authors are responsible for the accuracy of references.
The Board has voted the following applicants into the Society as Emeritus Status:

- Jon Lake, MD

The Board has voted the following applicants into the Society as Active Members:

- Su Sin Chen, MD, PhD  
  - Core Diagnostics
- Sumire Kitahara, MD  
  - Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Eric Ken Miyamoto, MD  
  - Mission Hospital

The Board has voted the following applicants into the Society as Junior Members:

- Elizabeth S. Akiyama, MD  
  - UCLA
- Navid Farahani, MD  
  - Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Gregory A. Fishbein, MD  
  - UCLA
- Hien Huynh, MD  
  - LAC+USC
- Leila Langston, MD  
  - UCLA
- Andrew F. Martowski, MD  
  - Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Siavash Azamandesh Samimi, MD

Membership applications are available at:  
http://www.lasop.org/pgs/application.htm
To join PathXchange, visit [www.pathxchange.org](http://www.pathxchange.org) and create an account. Once registered, you will receive an email notifying you that your account is pending approval. After your account has been approved by administration, you will receive a second email with your account details, including your one-time password and a link for immediate access.

After logging in, you will be redirected to another page where you will be asked to change your password.

To join the LASOP section, start at the homepage at [www.pathxchange.org](http://www.pathxchange.org) and select “Groups.” This will direct you to a page citing a long list of member groups (not in alphabetical order).

Find “LASOP” and select “Join” on the far right under “Join Link.” Good luck. We hope to see you there!

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**Local Grand Rounds Schedule**

- **Cedars-Sinai**: [http://www.csmc.edu/15007.html](http://www.csmc.edu/15007.html)
- **UC Irvine**: [http://www.healthaffairs.uci.edu/som/pathology/residencyProgram.html](http://www.healthaffairs.uci.edu/som/pathology/residencyProgram.html)
- **USC**: [http://www.usc.edu/schools/medicine/departments/pathology/calendar/index.html](http://www.usc.edu/schools/medicine/departments/pathology/calendar/index.html)
Surgical Pathology Fellowship  
Olive View/UCLA Medical Center  
Opening for July 2014

The UCLA affiliated Olive View/UCLA Medical Center offers a one year fellowship in general surgical pathology.

The fellow's primary responsibilities include signing out surgical cases and frozen sections diagnosis.

The program offers excellent experience in fine needle aspiration. There is also ample opportunity for attending and organizing specialty conferences.

This position is open to applicants who have completed their training in AP and are board eligible or certified.

A California license is a requirement.

Inquiries should be directed to
Nora Ostrzega MD
Olive View/UCLA Medical Center
Email: nostrzega@dhs.lacounty.gov
All scientific programs will be held on the second Tuesday of each month, with the exception of the January All-Day Program.

The pre-program reception is held between 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The academic program will be held in the Sequoia Room beginning at 6:30 p.m. Location of reception/program is the 2nd floor of the Moseley Salvatori Conference Center (upstairs from the auditorium), 637 South Lucas Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90017, (213) 977-2555. Parking is $6.00 per car.

Parking & Directions

Parking is provided in the Conference Center Parking Structure located directly across from the Center on Lucas Avenue. Parking is not valet but the lot is patrolled. Present your parking ticket to the LASOP receptionist in the lobby for a $1.00 discount, if the ticket is not validated in this manner, the parking charge is $7.00 as you leave the structure.

From the HARBOR FREEWAY (110) SOUTHBOUND: Take the “Downtown Exit/Wilshire Blvd.” off ramp. Take Wilshire Blvd. Turn right onto Wilshire. Proceed West to Lucas Avenue. Turn Right. Parking Structure will be on the right.

From the HARBOR FREEWAY (110) NORTHBOUND: Take the 3rd Street Exit. Turn Left at Beaudry Avenue. Turn Right at 6th Street. Turn Left on Lucas. Parking Structure is on the left. OR

Take the 6th Street Exit. Turn Right on Flower Street. Turn Right on Wilshire Blvd. Turn Right on Lucas. Parking structure is on the right.

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