

Association of Directors of Anatomic and Surgical Pathology (ADASP)

Activities in brief, 2007-2008.

ADASP has been busy on multiple fronts throughout 2007-2008. The annual meeting of the membership in San Diego (the venue of the USCAP meeting) concerned evidence based pathology and mentorship-retention of faculty. The annual meeting was well attended and received.

ADASP has been active as a participating organization in many multi organizational venues. Specifically (and not inclusive of all activities):

1. The American Board of Pathology (ABP) held its participating society meeting in the spring to discuss the early versions of maintenance of certification (MOC) and recertification for new residency graduates with time limited certificates as well as pathologists holding time unrestricted certification. Subcommittees for content curriculum were established for anatomic and clinical pathology. ADASP is represented on the AP curriculum committee (Representative: CN Otis)
2. The College of American Pathologists has continued to work with ADASP on several committees ranging from governmental affairs to residency training. The latter has resulted in the organization of a new subcommittee to address residency training (so named the Graduate Medical Education Committee, GMEC). ADASP is represented by its current President (CN Otis). Several working meetings and conference calls have set forth a working outline describing the current and future challenges in pathology residency training.
3. The Consensus conference on immunohistochemistry (Society on Applied IHC) was attended by ADASP representative (CN Otis). As a result of the discussion concerning standardization of IHC (the first of 2 documents having since been published in the journal AIMM), ADASP is in the process of constructing a guideline on the use and practice of immunohistochemistry in anatomic pathology (chaired by council member Paul Swanson)

The practice guidelines and checklists for reporting tumors of major organ systems continue to be updated. Practice guidelines and checklists for Prostate and Gastric neoplasms have been completed (published in the American Journal of Clinical Pathology, Human Pathology, and Virchow's Archives). The Mediastinal and Renal Cortical tumor guidelines are in the process of submission for publication. It is important to stress that these guidelines are in accord with AJCC 2006 requirements for reporting tumors and therefore may be used to satisfy the requirements for reporting tumors as an NCI recognized cancer center. As this process goes forward, a compendium of guidelines and checklists will be published as a benchmark representing the work of experts in all the respective major tumor types. ADASP seeks support from the IPC to encourage faculty who have volunteered to contribute in this project to respond to the effort in a timely manner.

The ADASP spring council agenda will include discussion on so-called "Institutional Consultations", requiring the review of patient diagnostic materials prior to definitive therapy at referred institutions.

In addition to practice guidelines and checklists, ADASP intends on constructing a position paper on practicing and reporting immunohistochemical studies- a topic of much recent attention.

The ADASP website continues to expand its scope to include the above activities and may be found at <http://www.adasp.org>.

The officers of ADASP will change this year. Nominees for president include Dr. Mark Wick (president elect) and nominations for president elect include Dr. Jeffrey Myers. Dr. Timothy Smith will remain as Secretary Treasurer. Dr. Christopher Otis will thus become past president.

Respectfully Submitted:

Christopher N. Otis, M.D.
President, The Association of Directors of Anatomic and Surgical Pathology