



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CYTOPATHOLOGY

Cytology Proficiency Testing (PT)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services published amendments to Cytology Proficiency Testing (PT) in the Federal Register, January 16. These proposed amendments are partly based upon the suggestions of an advisory committee that were made three years ago. These amendments are for changes in the **regulatory** requirements for proficiency testing. **Legislative** changes in proficiency testing were not successfully passed in the 110th Congressional session.

There is now a 60 day comment period on the proposed regulatory changes. The ASC is encouraging cytology professionals to make constructive comments for improvements. The deadline for all comments is March 17, 2009 at 5:00 pm. CMS has called for comments concerning 14 different aspects of PT: 1) Cytology challenges and new technology, 2) testing individuals, 3) testing frequency, 4) number of challenges, 5) response categories, 6) referencing challenges, 7) biopsy confirmation, 8) validation of challenges, 9) scoring, 10) re-testing and remediation, 11) appeals, 12) initial testing site, 13) proctors, and 14) collection of information requirements.

Future of Cytopathology Forum

The American Society of Cytopathology (ASC) is exploring how cytopathology can evolve and serve the unmet needs of the medical community. A steering group has been formed to discuss health care scenarios that will impact the way we practice medicine in the future. This development will be based upon a report that was recently commissioned by the ASC from The Forbes Group that investigated the impact of the changing healthcare environment on cytopathology.

The Forbes Group document indicates that transformational forces are acting to change the way that the United States provides healthcare. Many of the well-established boundaries between specialties will blur as a result of decreasing personnel resources (primarily physicians) and the implementation of new technologies. These changes herald opportunities to create solutions for healthcare deficits that many of our professions currently face. They represent an opportunity to develop new partnerships and bridge the gap in unmet needs of providers and patients.

Continuing Education Activities

Progressive Evaluation of Competency (PEC)

The ASC launched a new educational initiative to aide cytopathology program directors and pathology program directors in monitoring and ensuring competency of the pathology residents and cytology fellows in their programs. The Progressive Evaluation of Competency (PEC) program will offer online exams over the residents and fellowship year that will track a baseline, mid-year and final level of knowledge and overall competency in cytopathology. The Progressive Evaluation of Competency (PEC) program will be used to determine the strengths and areas needing improvement for residents and fellows.



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Cytoteleconference Series

The ASC Cytoteleconference Series has been expanded to include Self-Assessment Modules (SAMs) for the American Board of Pathology Maintenance of Certification (MOC).

Case Studies (Online)

The ASC has developed interesting case studies on the ASC Website that members can now view for CME and to fulfill the Self-Assessment Modules (SAMs) for the American Board of Pathology Maintenance of Certification (MOC). The Case Study Project provides an interactive distance-learning experience to interesting cases in the field of cytopathology. Each Case will have objectives, multiple images and clinical history, along with a multiple-choice diagnosis followed by discussion, review images and references. Each completed Case may be claimed for 1 credit hour of CME when viewed online.

eJOURNAL Club

The ASC has developed an online eJOURNAL club on the ASC Website that members can now view for CME and to fulfill the Self-Assessment Modules (SAMs) for the American Board of Pathology Maintenance of Certification (MOC). The online journal club reviews the most current literature in cytopathology by today's foremost experts. Participants are able to view a new article from a recent issue of respected peer-reviewed journals each quarter of the year. You will also be to review the article's key points and clinical implications. At the end of each presentation, the participants will be able to obtain CME/CE and SAM.

56th Annual Scientific Meeting

The 56th Annual Scientific Meeting will be held at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa in the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida, November 7 – 11, 2008. . The ASC Annual Meetings have been held since 1953. More than 700 attendees are attracted to the Annual Meeting to keep abreast of the dramatically changing cytopathology arena. The ASC meetings provide a high quality forum for the continuing education of the professional cytopathology community. The Annual Meeting features many different components.



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**2008-2009 American Society of Cytopathology
Executive Board and Officers**

November 9, 2008, Orlando, Florida– The American Society of Cytopathology announced its new officers and Executive Board members for 2008-2009 as follows:

American Society of Cytopathology Officers

PRESIDENT

Ann T. Moriarty, M.D.
AmeriPath Indiana
Indianapolis, Indiana

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Hormoz Ehya, M.D.
Fox Chase Cancer Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

VICE-PRESIDENT

Nancy A. Young, M.D.
Albert Einstein Medical Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Edmund S. Cibas, M.D.
Brigham & Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

American Society of Cytopathology Executive Board Members

Barbara A. Crothers, D.O. (2009)

Walter Reed Army Medical Center
Department of Anatomic Pathology
Washington, DC

Andrew A. Renshaw, M.D. (2010)

Baptist Hospital of Miami
Department of Pathology
Miami, Florida

**Marilee Means, Ph.D.,
SCT(ASCP) (2009)**

University of Kansas Medical Center
Kansas City, Kansas

Syed Z. Ali, M.D. (2011)

The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Department of Pathology
Baltimore, Maryland

Sana O. Tabbara, M.D. (2009)

The George Washington University
Washington, DC

**William N. Crabtree, Ph.D.,
SCT(ASCP) (2011)**

Indiana University
Department of Pathology
Indianapolis, Indiana

**Leigh Ann Cahill, B.S.,
CT(ASCP) (2010)**

Medical College of Virginia
Department of Pathology
Richmond, Virginia

Ritu Nayar, M.D. (2011)

Northwestern Memorial Hospital
Chicago, Illinois

Ruth L. Katz, M.D. (2010)

M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
Department of Pathology
Houston, Texas

Raheela Ashfaq, M.D. (2012)

University of Texas Southwestern Medical
Center
Dallas, Texas



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Terence J. Colgan, M.D. (2012)

Mount Sinai Hospital
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Donna K. Russell, M.S. CT(ASCP)
(2012)**

University of Rochester Medical Center
Rochester, New York

Dina R. Mody, M.D.

(Past President)

The Methodist Hospital
Department of Pathology
Houston, Texas

The officers and new Executive Board members were installed on November 9, 2008 during the ASC's 56th Annual Scientific Meeting. The ASC Executive Board is the general management of the American Society of Cytopathology. The Board regularly performs the ordinary duties of a board of directors to appoint any Committee it may deem necessary and to delegate whatever powers necessary to the Committees. Executive Board Members are elected to serve a four-year term on the Board.

Additional information on the American Society of Cytopathology may be obtained from: American Society of Cytopathology, 100 West 10th Street, Suite 605, Wilmington, DE 19801; telephone: (302) 429-8802, fax: (302) 429-8807, e-mail: asc@cytopathology.org, web site: www.cytopathology.org.
