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Progress Report

The Papanicolaou Society of Cytopathology (PSC) evening session will be held on March 7, 2009 and the topic will be “Where Small Biopsies Go Wrong – Mistakes Made and Lessons Learned: Pathway to Patient Safety.” The speakers will be Drs. Wenig (Beth Israel Medical Center), Kilpatrick (Pathologists’ Diagnostic Services), Dawson (Cleveland Clinic), and Raab (University of Colorado).

The PSC afternoon session (also held on March 7) has always focused on international cytopathology/small biopsy practice. This year, Drs. Ramazanoglu and Yang will speak on practices in Turkey and China, respectively.

In the past year, the PSC extended its international focus by assisting in the development of international training, education, and regional practice development. Members of the PSC have been working in Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East to promote the development of cytopathology service infrastructure and long-term relationships. Our work has focused on the creation of educational courses in fine needle aspiration and partnering with local pathologists and trainees in the building of fine needle aspiration and small tissue biopsy services.

The PSC has extended agreements with European and Asian Cytopathology Societies in order to broaden membership and develop an international network of cytopathologists and surgical pathologists. The PSC is strengthening its relationship with the American Society of Cytopathology to develop joint educational sessions and take advantage of the differing strengths of both societies.

The PSC currently is assisting in the development of a national research and practice agenda by using a modified Delphi method involving a variety of international stakeholders who use cytopathology and small tissue biopsy services. The purpose is to form a network of individuals who will perform research to improve the quality of cytopathology and small biopsy practice in developing nations.

Respectively submitted,

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