

# Cyto Paths

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Marluce Bibbo, M.D., Sc.D., F.I.A.C., Editor

## “Cellula Omni e Cellula” in Turkey

Nadir Paksoy, M.D., M.I.A.C., *Cytopathology Lab, Izmit, Kocaeli, Turkey*

Canan Ersöz, M.D., F.I.A.C., *Department of Pathology, Çukurova University Medical School, Adana, Turkey*



### Highlights

- Dr. Yener S. Erozan
- Dr. Hiroyuki Kuramoto
- Dr. Kari J. Syrjänen

**A** first time ever in Turkey in the field of cytology:

The 1<sup>st</sup> Turkish National Cytopathology Congress took place between March 2 and 5, 2006 in Antalya. The congress was chaired by Prof. Dr. Canan Ersöz, president of the Turkish Society of Cytopathology.

Cytopathology has covered significant ground in the past 10 years in Turkey, virtually in an effort to close the gap. The science of modern pathology dates back 100 years in Turkey. During this period, owing to the personal efforts of a few pioneers from the pathology departments of medical schools in 3 major cities, Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir, the field of cytology, which was limited in Turkey in the past, accelerated after the 1990s.

We owe a tribute to those few pioneers who made personal efforts to establish

cytology in Turkey despite restricted means. Prof. Osman Nuri Aker (Ankara) was the only Turkish pathologist to take part in the first exfoliative cytology course offered by Dr. Papanicolaou at Cornell University. The other pioneers are: Prof. Yener Erozan (currently in the

U.S. and working as an associate editor of *Acta Cytologica*), Prof. Uğur Hacıhanefioğlu (Istanbul), Prof. Özden Gürel (Izmir), Prof. Ali Ulvi Özkan (Ankara) and Prof. Cemil Ekinci (Ankara).

An active group of pathologists devoted to cytology emerged in the 1990s. A common feature of the majority

of this group was that they had received cytology training according to Swedish teachings. The experiences that these people gained in Stockholm, Karolinska, Goteborg and Sahlgrenska in Sweden as well as at the Oslo Radium hospitals in Norway opened a new horizon for their



Nadir Paksoy, M.D., M.I.A.C.

### IAC Websites

[www.cytology-iac.org](http://www.cytology-iac.org)  
[www.acta-cytol.com](http://www.acta-cytol.com)  
[www.aqch.com](http://www.aqch.com)  
[www.cytology-tutorial.org](http://www.cytology-tutorial.org)

practice of cytopathology in Turkey.

The time had come to organize cytopathology under a single umbrella in Turkey. These “cytology volunteers” grouped under the name “Cytopathology



**Yener S. Erozan, M.D., F.I.A.C.**

Working Group” in 2001. This group constituted the core of the Turkish Society of Cytopathology, established in 2002. The society’s first president, Prof. Dr. Gamze Mocan Kuzey (Hacettepe, Ankara), overcame many challenges encountered in its establishment. The Working Group and the Society of Cytopathology organized many scientific meetings and courses in various Turkish cities.

This formation reaped its first yield with the organization of the 1<sup>st</sup> National Cytopathology Congress. Alongside Turkish speakers, a foreign group of speakers contributed to the congress by offering conferences and interactive slide seminars. The foreign speakers were Edneia Tani, Lambert Skoog, Juray Sloboda (Sweden);

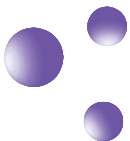
Yener Erozan (U.S.); and Ehud Malberg-er (Israel).

More than 200 participants from various medical schools in Turkey and from hospitals in various cities took part in the congress. The congress aimed to increase young pathologists’ interest in cytology and encourage them to engage in cytology. The topics dealt with were chosen in a manner to shed light on the most frequently encountered challenges by young pathologists in their daily practice. The topics of breast, thyroid, lymph nodes, soft tissue, immunohistochemistry in fine needle aspiration cytology, cervical smear, the Bethesda classification, serous effusions and gastric cytology in exfoliative cytology were ad-dressed.

The Turkish Society of Cytopathology wants to make up for lost time and aims to organize the congress annually, not biannually. The 2<sup>nd</sup> congress will take place under the chairmanship of the new president, Dr. Binnur Önal, F.I.A.C., in the spring of 2007. We would like to call out to all interested parties starting now. For the first congress, we chose Virchow’s renowned aphorism: “Cellula Omni e Cellula”/It all begins with the cell!



**(L. to R.) Canan Ersöz, Binnur Önal and Özlem Aydın.**



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## Tell Us About Your Lab

*Cytopathology Lab, Kitasato University Hospital, and Cytotechnologist Course, School of Allied Health Sciences, Kitasato University, Sagami-hara, Japan*

**Hiroyuki Kuramoto, M.D., Ph.D., F.I.A.C.**

### **K**itasato University Hospital

Kitasato University was established in 1962, commemorating the 50-year anniversary of the Kitasato Institute, founded by Shibasaburo Kitasato, M.D. Dr. Kitasato was a world-famous bacteriologist, finding immunologic phenomena on tetanus and establishing a serologic therapy and a candidate of the first Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology. Kitasato University Hospital, with 1,500 beds, covering the Tokyo and Yokohama metropolitan areas, is the referral treatment institute for acute diseases, including malignancies, such as uterine, breast, gastric and colon cancers. Kitasato University Hospital, where a large number of these patients are treated, is 1 of the top 5 institutions among university hospitals in Japan.

### **Kitasato Cytopathology Lab**

Kitasato cytopathology lab is not a screening lab but one that makes a cytopathology diagnosis to contribute to the decision about treatment modality. The lab, directed by Assoc. Prof Jun Watanabe, has a staff of 14 cytopathologists and 18 cytotechnologists and covers approximately 30,000 cases of every origin — Pap, fine needle, ascites, percutaneous drainage, cerebrospinal fluid, etc., although gynecologic specimens occupies approximately 70%. One of the important jobs of Kitasato Cytopathology Lab is intraoperative stat cytology to help surgeons decide on their operative strategy.

In addition to routine cytodagnostic work, Kitasato Cytopathology Lab has been promoting various research on gynecologic tumors and on urinary, lung, breast and thyroid cancers. In particular, we have been playing a reading role in endometrial cytology for the early detection of endometrial carcinoma. Screening for endometrial carcinoma by using endometrial cytology has been adopted in the national cancer detection program since 1987 and is contributing to the early detection of endometrial cancer and decreasing mortality.



**Kitasato Cytopathology Lab Director, Prof. J. Watanabe, center in the front row.**

### **Training of Cytotechnologists in Japan**

In Japan only medical technologists who learned laboratory medicine have a chance to obtain a certificate for cytotechnologists if they have at least 1 year of working experience at a cytopathology lab and pass the examination on cytotechnology organized by the Japanese Society of Clinical Cytology. Approximately 250 medical technologists have been certified as cytotechnologists yearly, and those who passed the exam have been only 25% of the applicants. The knowledge needed by medical technologists is not enough to become

cytotechnologists, who should cover the knowledge of present cytotechnology.

The special school for medical technologists with 6-month program has had a long history since 1969, and systematic education has been successful. Graduates of these special schools are allowed to take the exam without one-year' working

experience. However, they are limited in number, covering approximately 10% of applicants, and thus a nationwide college education is expected.



**Cytotechnologist Course, Kitasato University Director Prof. M. Ohbu, second from right in the front row.**

### **Kitasato Cytotechnologist Course**

At the School of Allied Health Sciences, Kitasato University, the bachelor's degree education was started in 1994 with a 4-year curriculum of cytotechnology. The students have a chance to obtain 2 certificates, medical technology and cytotechnology at graduation, although the number of students is limited to 15 in the cytotechnologist course in their fourth year. We had great support from the School of Health Professions, Thomas Jefferson University, in preparing the curriculum. Now >120 graduates are practicing their craft worldwide, including the U.S. and U.K.

### **Exchange Program on Cytotechnology Education Between Japan and the U.S.**

The School of Allied Health Sciences, Kitasato Universi-

ty, and College of Health Professions, Thomas Jefferson University, have established an academic exchange program since 1997, and 4 exchange students each year have had the privilege to join the regular classes and learn cytotechnology in a foreign atmosphere for 3 weeks. This exchange program enhances students' motivation for learning cytotechnology as well as increasing the knowledge of cytology. Globalization in this respect is also welcomed for us, both faculty members.

### **College Bachelor's Degree Education: Future Perspective**

Currently 5 universities, including 2 national universities, are offering cytotechnology education, and the bachelor's degree education system has a high success rate, approximately 85%, in having graduates pass the cytotechnologist exam. Education in a well-organized system, however, is not still provided in Japan. We expect approximately 20 colleges with a well-established curriculum. The first-generation cytotechnologists are retiring. We have a duty to contribute to the nation's health care through not only maintaining but also improving the level of cytotechnology. A high-level education system of cytotechnology is mandatory.



**Cytotechnologists, bachelor's degrees, with traditional costumes, at graduation ceremony. Prof. H. Kuramoto, right in the front row.**

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## Light Source

**K**ari Syrjänen was born in Hollola, Finland, but spent his childhood in Lahti. He selected the career of researcher early during his studies in the Medical Faculty, University of Helsinki, starting as a voluntary researcher at the Department of Anatomy in 1970. He moved to the Department of Pathology two years before graduating in 1974. His doctoral thesis dealt with prognostic factors in breast, gastric and colorectal cancer. Since then, he has devoted practically his entire career to cancer research.

Dr. Syrjänen started specializing in pathology in January 1977 at Jorvi Regional Hospital (outskirts of Helsinki). As is well known, this period coincided with the appearance in *Acta Cytologica* of two milestone papers (Meisels et al and Purola et al) initiating a new era in our understanding of cer-

vical carcinogenesis and the key role of HPV in this process. These pioneering reports immediately aroused the curiosity of the young man, who shifted his main focus of interest from breast cancer to cervical cancer. Over the years, however, breast cancer has remained the second most important focus of Dr. Syrjänen's research, resulting in >70 breast cancer publications.

Dr. Syrjänen's great affection for cytopathology dates back to the early years

of his specialist training in pathology in Kuopio. What was originally intended as a short visit unexpectedly extended to a period of 20 years. Apart from his contributions in genital HPV infections, Dr. Syrjänen's renown was based on several pioneering observations linking HPV to several nongenital malignancies.

In 1981 Dr. Syrjänen started a prospective follow-up study of women with genital HPV infections; that project was



**Kari J. Syrjänen, M.D., Ph.D., F.I.A.C.**

to become the first and longest prospective cohort study ever conducted on genital HPV infections up to then, spanning an almost 20-year period (1981–1999) (Kuopio HPV Cohort Study). Today's reader can better place this study into its right context simply by thinking that in October 1981, when the first patients were enrolled, the first two low-risk types (HPV6 and HPV11) had been

just characterized, but there was not even the slightest idea about the existence of HPV16 or other oncogenic HPV types, and all DNA techniques were in their infancy. When this study was concluded, in 1999, we knew a lot more about the natural history of HPV, thanks to this pioneering study.

Today Dr. Syrjänen is an internationally known authority and scientist with the solid background of a clinical pathologist/cytopathologist. His own research

activity has resulted in 670 papers, reviews and book chapters, >450 other scientific communications as well as 3 textbooks. The first of these is legendary, as the first exhaustive treatise on HPV-associated human diseases, edited with Leo G. Koss, to whom Dr. Syrjänen is much indebted as an outstanding teacher of medical writing and also of sound scientific thinking. In the early 1990s, Dr. Syrjänen also had the privilege of becoming closely acquainted with George L. Wied, who visited him in 1993 and monitored the first IAC examination in Finland.

Having left Kuopio in 1999, Dr. Syrjänen spent some years in Italy as visiting professor at two prestigious institutes, the 765-year-old University of Siena and Italian National Health Institute (ISS) in Rome, both hosting research groups participating in his international projects. This stay in Italy witnessed the emergence of a new research project focused on novel biomarkers in HPV-associated

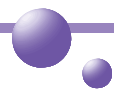
cervical carcinogenesis (HPV-PathogenISS study), of which a new report is published almost once a month.

Dr. Syrjänen recently accepted a position at the Department of Oncology & Radiotherapy, Turku University Hospital. His current activities include running research projects (LAMS Study, NIS Cohort) and giving guidance to an active group of post-docs engaged in research on different topics of clinical oncology. Recently Dr. Syrjänen decided to share his widespread research experience and established a consultation company, SMW Consultants Ltd, to give assistance particularly to authors coming from outside the English-speaking scientific community.

Having learned many lessons, Dr. Syrjänen has a motto: do not take research too seriously; it should be fun, too. If something can be determined from the photo below, taken at one of the European congresses in the late 1990s, there seem to be some others as well who evidently share this opinion with him.



(L. to R.) Drs. Kari J. Syrjänen, Włodzimierz T. Olszewski, Volker Schneider and Leopold G. Koss.



## NEW IAC MEMBERS — 2005

### Medical Members (M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — October 2005

Ali Mohammed Al-Za'abi, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
 Elizabeth L. Bousfield, Makati City, Philippines  
 Tamar A. Giorgadze, Johnson City, TN, U.S.A.  
 Hans-Udo Kasper, Cologne, Germany  
 Bella Maly, Jerusalem, Israel  
 Subhash H. Mehta, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Mounzer Youness Saleh, Al-Baha, Saudi Arabia  
 Tan Puay-Hoon, Singapore, Singapore  
 Hüseyin Üstün, Ankara, Turkey  
 Tomoko Wakasa-Haba, Kashiwara, Osaka, Japan  
 Peter Ziemke, Potsdam, Germany

### Professional Member (P.M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — October 2005

Rana Al-Awadhi, Kuwait

### Cytotechnologist Members (C.M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — October 2005

Wan Ming Cheung, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China  
 Ho Pek Yui, Singapore, Singapore  
 Barbara Naber, Stuttgart, Germany

Ascencio Guillermina Ojeda, Punta Arenas, Chile  
 Denise von Mollendorf, Albemarle, Gauteng, South Africa

### Elevation from Cytotechnologist Member (C.M.I.A.C.) to Cytotechnologist Fellow — October 2005

Angelica von Hoffmeister, Berlin, Germany

## NEW IAC MEMBERS — 2006

### Medical Members (M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — February 2006

Badr Ahmed Abdullgaffar, Dubai, United Arab Emirates  
 Anita Achan, Thornleigh, NSW, Australia  
 Francisco Alameda Quitlet, Barcelona, Spain  
 Lyndal Anne Anderson, Westmead, Sydney, Australia  
 Lia Barrios Garcia, Bolivar, Colombia  
 Umesh Kumar Bhanot, Ulm, Germany  
 Alice Ngot Htain Chan, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China  
 Ahmed H. El-Habashi, Dammam, Saudi Arabia  
 Dina M. El-Sahrigy, Edmundston, Canada  
 Christian H. Garbar, Marcinelle, Belgium  
 Marina Ivanovic, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

Clary Ka-Lai Lee, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China  
 Rocio del Pilar Lopez, Bogotá, Colombia  
 Lui Chi Wai, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China  
 Paula Monteiro, Porto, Portugal  
 Suzuko Moritani, Shiga, Japan  
 Liron Pantanowitz, Longmeadow, MA, U.S.A.  
 Wei Sun, New York, NY, U.S.A.  
 Suad H. Taraif, Houston, TX, U.S.A.  
 Ludwig Wilkens, Hannover, Germany  
 Wai Lun Yip, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China

### Cytotechnologist Members (C.M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — February 2006

Cheng Wan Biu William, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China  
 Sharon Li DeLeón, Canovans, Puerto Rico  
 Kyung Hee Han, Seoul, Republic of S. Korea  
 Kum-Soon Kang, Seoul, Republic of S. Korea

Young-Nam Lee, Seoul, Republic of S. Korea  
 Siriporn Methong, A. Muang, Nakornpathom, Thailand  
 Setsuo Sugishima, Fukuoka City, Japan

### Medical Members (M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — April 2006

Syed Salahuddin Ahmed, Taif, Saudi Arabia  
 Minaxi Sharad Desai, Manchester, United Kingdom  
 Wilfried Esinger, Mainz, Germany

Csaba Hegedus, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada  
 Virawudh Soontornniyomkij, Bangkok, Thailand

### Cytotechnologist Members (C.M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — April 2006

DK HJH Rozillah PG Ahmad, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei  
 Linda M. Brewer, Carlton South, Victoria, Australia  
 Huong Thanh Pham, Fitzroy, Victoria, Australia

Adele Richards, North Ryde, NSW, Australia  
 Junko Ueda, Ube, Yamaguchi, Japan

### Medical Members (M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — July 2006

Sandhya Joshi, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates  
 Amanda Nim-Chi Kan, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China

Aya Sakurai, Aichi, Japan  
 Lakshmy Nandakumar, Herston, Queensland, Australia

### Cytotechnologist Members (C.M.I.A.C.) Admitted to the International Academy of Cytology — July 2006

Rudi B. H. M. Evers, Enschede, the Netherlands

Heidi Hahn, Langen, Germany

### Elevation from Cytotechnologist Member (C.M.I.A.C.) to Cytotechnologist Fellow — October 2005

Radheshyam C. Dey, Rockville, Maryland, U.S.A.

Cindy Walczak, Einbeck, Germany

## Cytopathology Board Examination passes (F.I.A.C.) — 2005–2006

Madrid, Spain, October 2005

Javier Saenz de Santamaria, Badojoz, Spain

Melbourne, Australia, October 2005

Ghazala Kafeel, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

Anne Stewart, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Munich, Germany, December 2005

Sabine Delventhal, Hannover, Germany  
Helma M. Motherby, Frankfurt, Germany

Essam A. Raweily, Epsom, Surrey, England

Paris, France, December 2005

Jean-Louis Dargent, Brussels, Belgium

Evora, Portugal, June 2006

Fernando Carlos de Lander Schmitt, Porto, Portugal

## 16TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CYTOLOGY MAY 13–17, 2007 VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

The congress theme is “Cytology in the Global Village.” The conference program will feature symposia, award lectures, satellite meetings, concurrent sessions, poster presentations and state-of-the-art workshops. Program highlights will include:

- HPV testing in screening programs
- HPV vaccines
- Cervical cancer management in developing countries
- In vivo imaging and cytology
- Impact of genomics and proteomics on diagnostic cytology and screening programs
- Automation in cytology — current status
- Molecular profiles of precancer and early cancer
- Hot topics in diagnostic cytology
- Predictive oncology and personalized, targeted therapies — is cytology combined with genomics an enabling platform?

Please join us to explore recent advances in cytology as well as to discover or reacquaint yourself with beautiful Vancouver and British Columbia.



Diponkar Banerjee, M.B.Ch.B., F.R.C.P.C., Ph.D.  
Program Leader, Cancer Pathology  
BC Cancer Agency  
Room 3225C  
600 West 10th Ave  
Vancouver  
British Columbia, Canada V5Z 4E6  
Tel: 604-877-6235  
Fax: 604-877-6178  
E-mail: [dbanerje@bccancer.bc.ca](mailto:dbanerje@bccancer.bc.ca)  
Web site: [www.cytology2007.com](http://www.cytology2007.com)

For an examination schedule for cytopathologists and cytotechnologists, please visit the International Academy of Cytology Web site, [www.cytology-iac.org](http://www.cytology-iac.org).