

PATH TALK



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

June 2017 Issue

Dear members,



The 18th AGM of the College of Pathologists, 1st April 2017

The 18th AGM of the College was successfully held on 1st April 2017 at 12 noon in the Medical Academies Building. Preceding the AGM, the secretariat organised a liver pathology symposium in conjunction with the visit of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia's Annual Visiting Lecturer, Dr Andrew Clouston. Dr Nik Raihan Nik Mustapha chaired the symposium.

The symposium and the AGM were conducted for the last time in the Medical Academies Building, as it will be handed over the authority to be demolished after July 2017.

The AGM was attended by 24 members, including two very senior founding members of the former Malaysian Society of Pathologists, Tan Sri Dr M. Jegathesan and Datin Dr G. Duraisamy.

Amendments were made to the CPathAMM Rules and Regulations and these were adopted unanimously by the general body: (i) Increase the amount of petty cash to be held by the Treasurer to not exceeding RM3000.00 at any one time, (ii) Change the financial year to commence on the first day of January of each year and terminate on the last day of December in the same calendar year, and (iii) the AGM of the CPathAMM shall be held before or on the last day of June of the following year.

The Academy of Medicine Has a New Temporary Home

With effect from 31st May 2017, the Academy of Medicine, has moved to a new temporary home. The new address is as follows:

Unit 1.6, Level 1, Enterprise 3B, Technology Park Malaysia (TPM), Jalan Innovasi 1, Lebuhraya Puchong - Sungei Besi, Bukit Jalil 57000 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan

The new contact numbers are as follows:

Tel: +603 8996 0700

+603 8996 1700

+603 8996 2700

Fax: +603 8996 4700

Email: secretariat@acadmed.my remains unchanged.

(Cont. next page)



**College of Pathologists,
Academy of Medicine Malaysia
Address:**

G-1, Medical Academies of Malaysia,
210, Jalan Tun Razak,
50400 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Phone:

603-4025 4700

Fax:

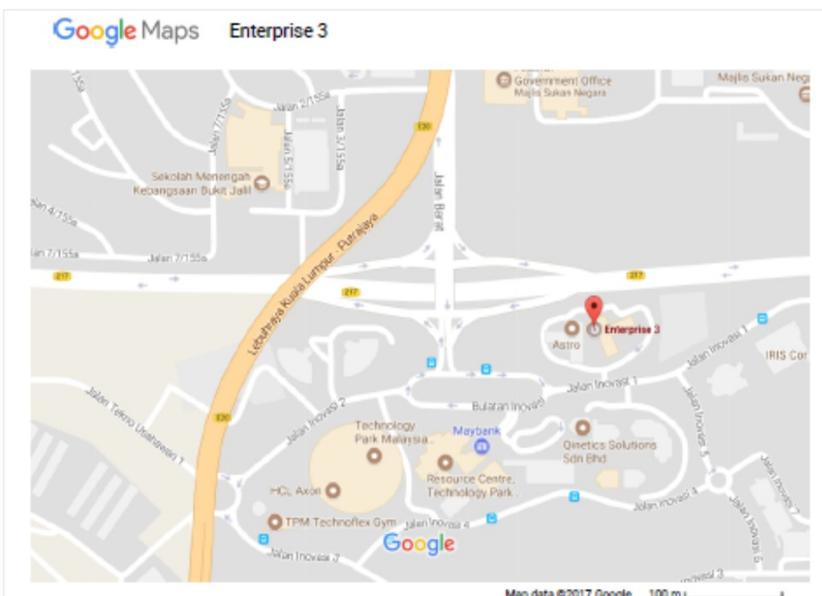
603-4023 8100

Email:

pathtalk@gmail.com

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Enterprise 3

CPathAMM 16 Annual Scientific Meeting

This year our annual scientific meeting will be held on 12th-13th October 2017 in the Royale Bintang Resort & Spa, Seremban, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia. The theme is “Pathology: Strengthening Basics, Enhancing the Future.” Early bird registration would end on 1st August 2017. Please register early. The meeting is organised by Dr Azizon Othman and her team.

See all of you in Seremban!

With best wishes,
Emeritus Professor Dr SK Cheong,
President,
27th June 2017.

In the Spotlight: National Standards and Accreditation Award

Five distinguished members of CPathAMM were recently awarded with the National Standards and Accreditation Award by the Department of Standards Malaysia (DSM). They were **Professor Datuk Dr. Looi Lai Meng, Dato' Dr. Halimah Yahaya, Professor Dr. Victor Lim, Dato' Dr. Roshida Hassan and Dr. Rohani Yasin**. The award ceremony took place at the Sunway Putra Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on the 31st March 2017. The awards were presented by the Yang Bahagia Datuk Wira Dr. Abu Bakar Bin Mohamad Diah, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation. The award ceremony was also attended by the Director General of DSM, Datuk Fadilah Baharin. Path Talk, on behalf of the College, congratulates the recipients of the award on their outstanding achievement.



Dr. Rohani, Dato' Dr. Roshida & Prof. Dato' Dr. Looi with their awards



Dato' Dr. Halimah with her award



All recipients of the award with YB Datuk Wira Dr. Abu Bakar & Datuk Fadilah Baharin

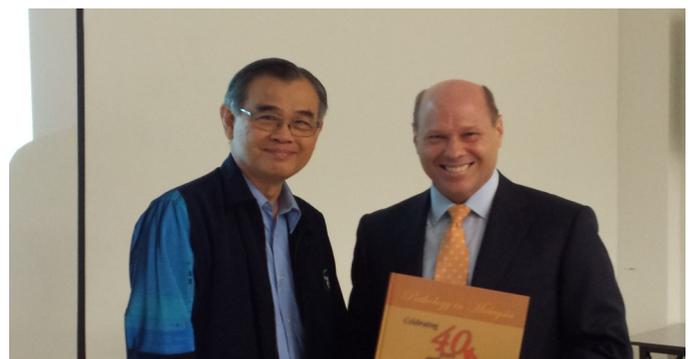


Symposium on Liver Pathology In conjunction with the 18th Annual General Meeting of the College of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia (CPathAMM)

The Symposium on Liver Pathology was organised by the College in conjunction with the 18th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the College. The symposium and AGM were held on 1st April 2017 at the Medical Academies Building.

The symposium was chaired by Dr Nik Raihan Nik Mustapha and started with brief opening remarks by the President of the CPathAMM, Emeritus Prof. Dr. Cheong Soon Keng. The invited speaker for the symposium was **Dr Andrew Clouston**, the Visiting Lecturer from the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA). Dr Clouston is currently a visiting pathologist to the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Associate Professor of Molecular and Cellular Pathology at the University of Queensland and Deputy Director of the UQ Centre for Liver Disease Research. His research interests include studies on liver fibrosis, fatty liver disease, liver allograft rejection and gastrointestinal cancer. Dr Clouston delivered two lectures entitled **“Approach to Hepatocellular Nodules Including Immunohistochemistry”** and **“Liver Fibrosis - Pathology and Pathogenesis”**. This symposium provided the participants with the opportunity to interact and conduct stimulating discussion with Dr Clouston on liver pathology and liver fibrosis. As a token of appreciation, Dr Clouston was presented with a copy of the CPathAMM Pathology Commemorative Book.

Following the symposium, Emeritus Prof. Dr Cheong called the AGM to order and thanked all members for their attendance. Members were briefed on the annual report and treasurer report for the year 2016/2017. The AGM was adjourned at 1pm.



UPCOMING EVENT



PATHOLOGY: STRENGTHENING BASICS, ENHANCING THE FUTURE

16th Annual Scientific Meeting

College of Pathologists

Academy of Medicine of Malaysia

Speakers

Prof. To' Puan Dr. Nordiah Awang Jalil

Assoc. Prof. Tan Soo Yong

Prof. Wong Kum Thong

Prof. Wan Zaidah Abdullah

Dr. Siew Shue Feng

Dr. Masita Arip

Dr. Anza Elias

Datin Dr. Baizurah Mohd. Hussain

YM Dr. Tengku Norita Tengku Yazid

Dr. Noryati Abu Amin

Dr. Jessie Hiu

and MANY MORE

Registration

	Early Bird	Regular
AMM Member	RM 350	RM 400
Non-AMM member	RM 400	RM 450
Foreign Delegates	USD 150	USD 200
Medical Officer/ Allied Health	RM 250	RM 300

Highlights

Prathap Memorial Lecture

Breakout Symposia Exhibition Booths

Industrial Talk

Abstracts

Open to all registered participants

Submission: cpathabstracts2017@gmail.com

Submission deadline: **1st August 2017**

12 & 13 October 2017

The Royale Bintang Resort & Spa

Seremban, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia

1st Announcement



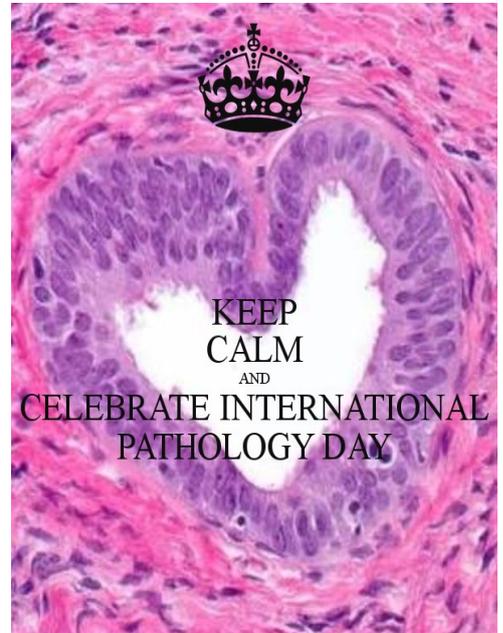


UPCOMING EVENT

International Pathology Day 15th November 2017

This year's International Pathology Day (IPD) will be held on Wednesday **15th November 2017**. The aims of the International Pathology Day are: (1) To recognise and celebrate the role of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine services in addressing global health challenges and improving health outcomes of communities, and (2) To create wider public awareness on the important role of Pathology in their daily lives.

The College of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia (CPathAMM) is one of the participating organisations in this yearly event. Write to us at pathtalk@gmail.com to share your activities for IPD 2017!



The 29th World Congress of World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine WASPALM2017

The 29th World Congress of WASPaLM will be held from 15th - 18th November 2017 at Kyoto International Convention Centre. The Congress is organised in conjunction with the 64th Annual Meeting of Japanese Society of Laboratory Medicine. In Kyoto, recent advances and future directions in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine will be discussed under the theme of the Congress: Contribution to Medical Innovation of the Next-Generation. Registration and abstract submission will be opening by **mid-January 2017** with abstract submission deadline on **mid-May 2017** and early bird registration deadline on **13th September 2017**. For further information, please visit <http://www.congre.co.jp/waspalm2017/> or email jslm-waspalm2017@congre.co.jp.



CPathAMM membership subscription fee is essential to ensure various education and community outreach activities can be carried for continuous professional development of all members. The College would like to remind all current members to keep up to date in terms of subscription fee payment as action will be taken against the defaulters. To check payment status, kindly email to pathtalk@gmail.com.

Featured Article: Toronto Boy's DNA Reveals Mysterious New Disease - And Possible Cure

Daniel Nevins-Selvadurai was only four weeks old when his long and painful medical mystery began back in July 2006. His mother, Christina Arulrajah, suspected he had the flu and took him to the doctor. The visit quickly turned into an ambulance ride to Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, where a doctor made a shocking diagnosis. "I was told he had a stroke," Arulrajah said, "at which point I told the doctor, 'No, it's only old people who get strokes.' Sure enough they did an MRI and showed he had a stroke." Daniel made a full recovery from the stroke but he soon became a frequent patient at SickKids with a weak immune system and a growing list of painful symptoms: stomach problems, blood in his stool, rashes and infections resulting in sepsis. "They tested him for Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis; it turned out not to be either," Arulrajah said.

Years went by and his symptoms became more baffling. Daniel was referred to the hospital's clinical teams specializing in hematology, oncology, rheumatology, immunology, gastroenterology, dermatology and other fields. The doctors did their best to ease his pain but couldn't provide answers. "A lot of people saying, 'We are puzzled,'" the mother said. "We heard every synonym for the word medical mystery." But in a paper published today in Nature Communications, a team of clinician-scientists from SickKids outline how they finally managed to solve the mystery of Daniel's illness using advanced DNA sequencing. The little boy's genome revealed a new disease caused by a never-before-seen gene mutation — one which might also explain the painful health problems of two more SickKids patients. Dr. Aleixo Muise, a gastroenterologist and one of the leaders of the study, met Daniel seven years ago. In fact, the little boy was one of his first patients at the hospital. He suspected Daniel had a genetic disorder but he recalls being frustrated because he couldn't figure out which one. "So we tried to treat him the best as we could, using the drugs that were available, but we knew we were just putting a Band-Aid on his symptoms and not really treating his actual disease." In late 2014, Muise and the SickKids team earned a grant for a study of inflammatory bowel disease and similar conditions that would involve sequencing the genomes of select patients. Muise quickly thought of Daniel and enrolled him in the study. "The big game-changer for Daniel is that we were able to sequence his DNA and from that we were able to identify a mutation of a specific gene that explained all the symptoms that he had," Muise said.

Daniel's mutation was in *ARPC1B*, a gene that produces a core protein of the Arp2/3 complex, which cells need to change shape, divide and perform other important tasks. When hematologist Dr. Walter Kahr studied Daniel's platelets, he noticed there was no *ARPC1B* protein. Doctors had previously assumed the protein was essential to survival. The co-leader of the study says the *ARPC1B* protein deficiency explains why Daniel's platelets are small and misshapen. He says normal platelets, which are responsible for clotting blood, resemble fried eggs but Daniel's are spiky.

"It ... explains the fact that the patient had a lot of bleeding problems," he said. "When you have the inflammation, which is part of it, but also if the platelets don't work very well, there's a lot of bleeding. And this patient had a lot of bleeding issues." Doctors at SickKids also discovered Daniel isn't their only patient with the disease. They found two other patients with the same mutation and about 20 more cases worldwide. Daniel's doctors believe a bone marrow transplant could cure him and they're actively searching for a donor. The 10-year-old is excited about the possibility of putting his health problems behind him. "It would be really nice because I wouldn't have to go to doctors constantly, it would just be a normal checkup."

