

**Dr Christine Qian (Anatomical Pathology) 2011 RCPA Foundation Technical Assistance Grant**

Project title: Anatomical pathology and molecular pathology

“I worked on a project with a research group at Deakin University, School of Medicine, looking at a type of chemical antibody that could be used in immunohistochemistry. These antibodies differ from the antibodies currently used in routine practice, in that they are chemically generated rather than obtained from animals, and thus are shelf-stable, cheaper, quicker to produce and do not rely on animals for their production. The grant I received helped pay for the consumables we required for our experiments, such as those used in tissue processing, antigen retrieval as well as the purchase of conventional antibodies, which we compared our chemical antibodies to. This project lead to a publication on an online, peer-reviewed, open access journal called PLOS ONE. This journal also charged a publication fee. I have attached a copy of that article to this email. In terms of the impact the research has had on my professional practice, I think I now have a much more detailed understanding of how immunohistochemistry works. This includes technical knowledge and some basic principles of immunostaining that the laboratory scientists usually know about, but most registrars do not know much about. I've found that this additional knowledge and experience is quite useful in daily practice, given that immunohistochemistry is something that we use every day.”