



Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer Newsletter

Issue 39 - September 2019

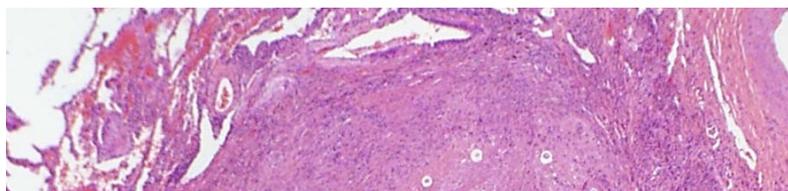
Welcome to the 39th edition of the Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer newsletter. This newsletter is intended to provide information on the project to expand and promote the use of structured pathology reporting of cancer.

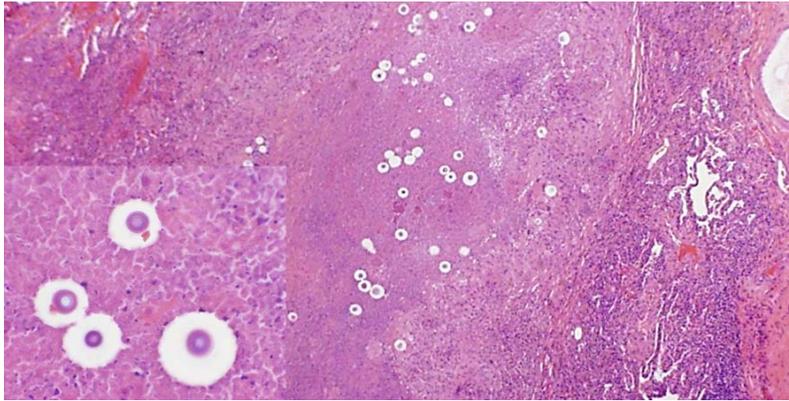
In this issue:

- Interesting case image of the quarter
- Latest edition SPRC protocols
- Seeking your expertise to peer review protocols
- Which protocols are now in development
- New WHO classification
- Updated policy guideline on transfer of specimens
- Read the interview with one of Australasia's most highly respected anatomical pathologists.

PDF versions of this newsletter are available from the [structured pathology website](#).

Interesting case image of the quarter





Cryptococcus in a lung lesion. Source: Dr Jessica Reagh

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The number of Structured Pathology Reporting Protocols now completed and available on the RCPA SPRC [website](#).

Stay up to date

Thank you to all that assisted in developing the new protocols that have recently been published on the [Cancer Protocols](#) section of the SPRC webpage.

To ensure you are up to date - [download](#) these newly published 1st and 2nd Edition protocols to add to your reporting reference collection:

- [Thyroid Cytology Structured Reporting Protocol \(2nd Edition\)](#)
- [Structured Reporting Protocol for Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma, Perihilar Cholangiocarcinoma and Hepatocellular Carcinoma \(1st Edition\)](#)
- [Mucosal Melanomas of the Head and Neck Structured Reporting Protocol \(1st Edition\)](#)
- [Carcinomas of the Major Salivary Glands Structured Reporting Protocol \(2nd Edition\)](#)

[Cancer Protocols webpage](#)

Seeking your expertise for open consultation review

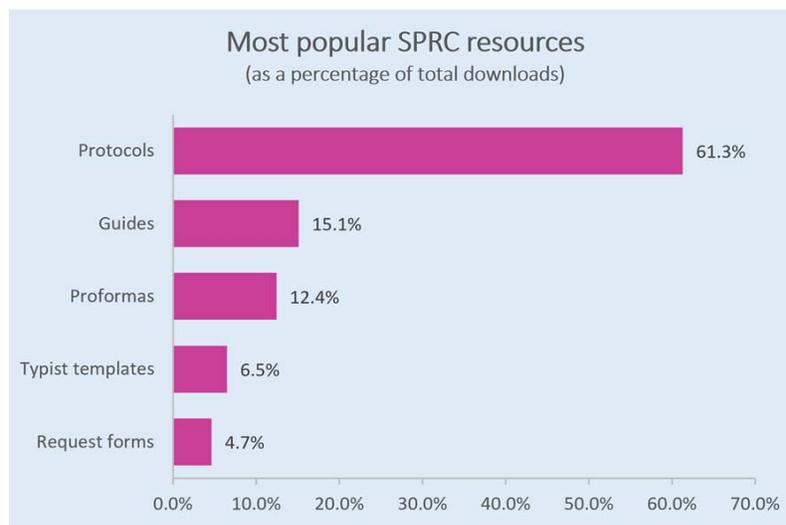
Three draft SPRC protocols have been posted on the RCPA website for open consultation. These include a 2nd edition [Oral cavity protocol](#), 1st edition [Odontogenic tumour protocol](#) and 2nd edition [Endometrial cancer protocol](#).

These protocols are available for comment until **22nd September 2019**.

Feedback is highly appreciated! It helps ensure that our protocols are inclusive, independent and of the highest quality.

<https://www.rcpa.edu.au/Library/Practising-Pathology/Structured-Pathology-Reporting-of-Cancer/Public-consultation>

[Review drafts](#)



Source: SPRC webpage downloads 2013-2019

Protocols in development

In planning are new edition structured reporting protocols for Endocrine specimens:

- Adrenal Medulla/Phaeochromocytoma/Paraganglioma
- Adrenal Cortex
- Parathyroid
- Thyroid

as well as important updates to Gastrointestinal structured reporting protocols:

- Stomach/Gastric cancer
- Polypectomy & local resections
- Colorectal cancer
- Pancreatic cancer

Please [contact us](#) if you wish to be involved in the development of upcoming Structured Reporting of Cancer Protocols.



WHO Classification of Digestive System Tumours 5th Edition – now available

The much anticipated 5th Edition Digestive Tumours Blue Book has recently been [published](#). Visit the [IARC Publications website](#) for further information.





Updated Guideline on Transfer of specimens

An update to the RCPA [Guideline on Transfer of specimens between different pathology providers](#) for pathology testing at clinician request is now published on the RCPA website under [College Policies](#).

This guideline provides advice on the optimal transfer of patient samples between laboratories for testing and claiming the MBS item for the provision of this transfer service. Improved communication between laboratories will also facilitate appropriate and efficient testing for patient treatment.

ICCR invites you to review draft datasets

The International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting (ICCR) continues to make significant progress in dataset development and is currently inviting you to review and provide comment on the following draft datasets for Endocrine specimens:

- Pheochromocytoma and Paraganglioma
- Carcinomas of the Adrenal Cortex
- Carcinomas of the Thyroid
- Parathyroid Carcinomas & Atypical Parathyroid Neoplasms

The ICCR has been formed to develop common, internationally standardised and evidence-based cancer datasets for surgical pathology specimens. Using the

best international approaches, and leveraging the knowledge and experience of world-leading pathologists, the ICCR aims to ensure that all cancer reports, will be of the same high quality; ensuring completeness, consistency, clarity, conciseness and above all, clinical utility.

Your comment on the draft datasets is invited. The draft datasets are posted to: <http://www.iccr-cancer.org/datasets/datasets-under-consultation>

The documents will be available for comment until **Friday 27th September 2019**.

To provide feedback on the draft datasets, email any comments directly to datasets@iccr-cancer.org. In regard to your comments or suggested changes, please be as specific as possible, including any relevant background information and supporting evidence, including which section/element of the dataset that your comments pertain to. We understand there are different areas of expertise and we welcome all comments and feedback on these draft datasets from all specialists in pathology.



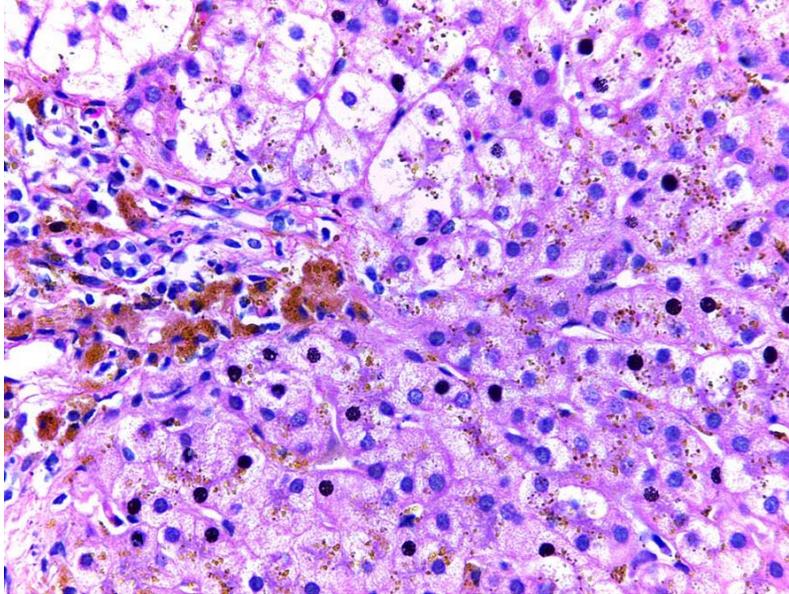
Recent peer reviewed scientific publications

Recent structured reporting in pathology peer reviewed scientific publications:

- [Identification of barriers and facilitators in nationwide implementation of standardized structured reporting in pathology: a mixed method study](#). Swillens et al. Virchows Arch 2019 Jul
- [Dataset for the reporting of renal biopsy for tumour: recommendations from the International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting \(ICCR\)](#). Delahunt et al. J Clin

Pathol 2019 Jul

- [Data Sets for the Reporting of Tumors of the Central Nervous System](#). Louis et al. Arch Pathol Lab Med 2019 Jun



Hemochromatosis liver showing hepatocytes with coarse golden yellow granules of hemosiderin within the cytoplasm. These granules stain with Prussian blue stain.

Source: [Department of Pathology, Calicut Medical College CC-BY-SA-4.0](#)

Interview with Professor Jane Dahlstrom OAM

One of Australasia's most prestigious anatomical pathologists - Professor Jane Dahlstrom - was recently awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for her service to medical education and to pathology. Professor Dahlstrom is currently the Chair of the Head, Neck and Endocrine Series of Structured Reporting Groups, and has contributed substantially to the SPRC Project and also to the ICCR.

Recently I was fortunate enough to interview Jane to find out a little more about her and how she reports.

Where do you currently work?

ACT Pathology, Canberra Health Services, Australia.

Can you share an interesting non-pathology fact about you?

I am most at peace if I have a view of water.

Can you share an interesting or memorable case you have reported?

One memorable case was receiving a placenta in the laboratory with the history "Placenta for Dr Dahlstrom - a beautiful healthy baby girl. Come and visit us".

This placenta was from a mother who had had 5 previous mainly mid trimester pregnancy losses. In a previous pregnancy around 2002 I had diagnosed neonatal hemochromatosis in her stillborn baby. I met this family and discussed what we knew about the condition and the experimental treatments I had read about , high-dose intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg). The obstetrician, immunologists and patient agreed to trial high-dose IVIG during pregnancy, and as they say the rest is history.

Do you have any tips or tricks that you find useful for reporting?

Be systematic in the way you approach reporting as I believe it reduces the possibility of error.

Do you have any favourite resources you like to use to stay on top of recent guidelines and evidence?

I like to "surf" PubMed.

Do you have a favourite course or conference that you would like to attend or have attended?

The Update courses of the International Pediatric Pathology Association (IPPA). They are run every five years over five days. While very intensive, and comprehensive, there is always a good social program. I come home motivated with a full tank of knowledge that I am then itching to put into practice.

What advice would you give early career pathologists?

Pride is nothing to be proud of. If you not sure ask a colleague. If you get it wrong just learn from it.

If money was no object, what pathology industry problem would you like to see solved?

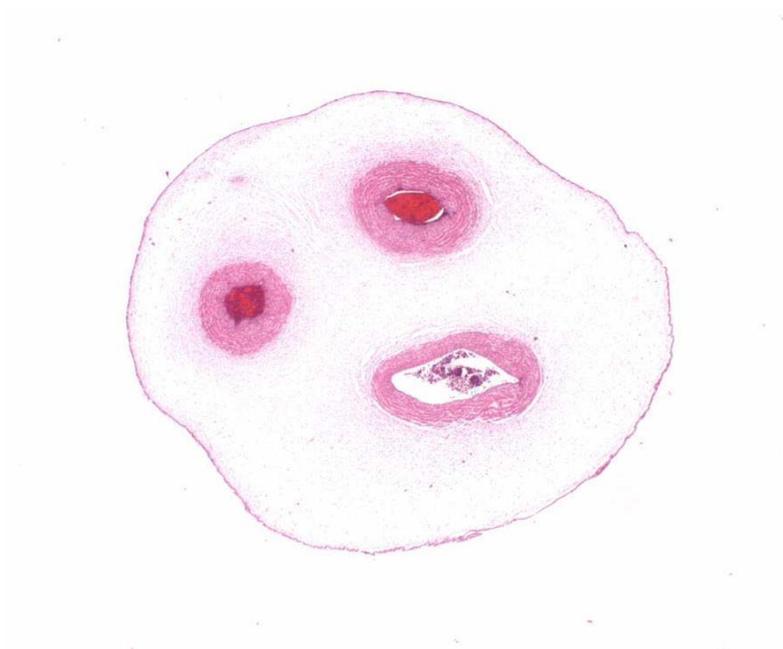
A laboratory information system that was seamless to use and also met the needs of external stakeholders such as the cancer registries and researchers.

Who else would you like to see answer these questions?

Fionar Bonar.

Thank you to all who shared their interesting case images!

Don't keep them all to yourself. [Send in](#) your interesting case images to the SPRC newsletter - entertain or educate your peers!



Source: Prof Jane Dahlstrom.

Want to know how you can improve structured reporting?

The annual SPRC Survey is coming, and your input is greatly appreciated.

The data collected in the short survey is kept anonymous and is only used to improve Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer resources. Valued input from pathologists like you across Australasia guide the future direction of this well-loved project in Australasia.

“In diagnostic pathology, information is everything.”

D.W. Ellis & J Srigley

This SPRC Project is evolving and looking to the future. Our continual improvement relies on building upon the work of leaders in the field. Please share your ideas on how to improve Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer resources by contacting:

structuredpathology@rcpa.edu.au



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