



TISSUE PAPER



Welcome the final edition of the 'Tissue Paper' for 2018. The second half of the year has provided & will provide members with ample continuing educational opportunities. The joint AIMS/HGQ scientific meeting at The Pineapple Hotel has become an annual event along with the Trivia Night on the HGQ calendar. 50 guests were presented with 3 esteemed speakers that provided renal pathology theme topics relevant to their respective fields of expertise. More recently, the Special Stains & IHC Workshop focused on the Gastrointestinal Tract was held at QUT Gardens Point. This particular event was well attended by guests from a variety of labs locally & interstate.

Thank you to our guests, sponsors, venue, speakers, demonstrators & committee with a special mention to Chris & Jess (QUT) for making this workshop a overwhelming success. The HGQ committee hope to bring this event back in the near future. To cap off a busy year, the AGM/Scientific Meeting will be held on Thursday 25th October - more information to be released shortly. Nominations are now open for the 2019 HGQ Committee. If you would like the opportunity to volunteer your time, skills & knowledge, take on a challenge, and give back to the local & wider histology community, we encourage you to nominate for your spot on the 2019 HGQ committee. For more information on the upcoming events mentioned, please take advantage of free membership at www.hgq.org.au . Until the next edition, take care, stay safe and enjoy!! Happy reading ;)

- Jerres Alcober, President



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Wow, hasn't 2018 gone quickly!

Firstly, I would like to start out by thanking all the people involved in making the September GIT workshop held at QUT so successful. I would also like to extend my thanks to all the trade sponsorship for the continuing support. Thank you also to the participants, your feedback will be taken on board to make the next workshop even better. It was a great day, full of interesting presentation and action packed workshops. I definitely enjoyed myself and I hope everyone else did too!

Next on the calendar is the HGQ AGM/ 3rd Scientific Meeting to be held on Thursday 25th October. I thank all the current committee members for the hard work and dedication that they have given over the last year. It has been a pleasure working with you all. Nominations are now open for the 2019 committee. 2018 has been a fantastic year and I'm already excited about what 2019 holds.

The 9th National Histology Conference is well into the planning stage and is to be held in Adelaide in 24-26th May. Remember to put the date in your calendar and keep an eye out for further information on their website: nationalhistologyconference.com. Hope you can all come to join us in the forthcoming events. Don't forget to head to the website www.hgq.org.au and become a member of HGQ - it's free. Also check us out on our other social media platforms - facebook and instagram.

- Amanda Marsden, Secretary



The HGQ Committee is:

President	Jerres Alcober (TPCH)	Workshops	Chris Cazier (QUT)
Secretary	Amanda Marsden (PAH)	Scientific Meetings	Brett Harrison (Trade)
Treasurer	Mark Bromley (SNP)		Lloyd Blundell (Trade)
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	Melissa Hillas (Mater)	Social Media	Jerres Alcober
Social Events	Kellie Vukovic (SNP)	Website	Mark Bromley

We are always looking for contributions of scientific articles and news, or if you have improvements and techniques that make a difference in your lab! Submissions can be sent to newsletter@hgq.org.au in PDF format.



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2018 AIMS & HGQ Combined Scientific Meeting

August saw the return of the annual combined scientific meeting, sponsored by Roche and held once again at the Pineapple Hotel. This year's theme was Renal Pathology. Starting the evening was pathologist Dr David Wong (Mater) with an in depth presentation on medical renal biopsies, discussing not only the 'why', but also the 'how'



of histology processing and diagnosis. Starting from the biopsy procedure, covering the different samples required, and how each is utilised to give a diagnosis, Dr Wong completed with a selection of case studies.

The next speaker was Dr Deepak Ipe (Griffith University), presenting research on the growth of *Streptococcus agalactiae* in human urine. *S. agalactiae* can cause both symptomatic cystitis (uropathogenic *S. agalactiae* - UPSA) and asymptomatic bacteriuria (ABU causing *S. agalactiae* - ABSA). The presence of ABSA may predispose infection with other UTI causing bacteria. Dr Ipe and his team have demonstrated that differences in malic acid metabolism allow ABSA to grow efficiently in human urine, unlike UPSA. Malic acid is quite common in fruits, including grapes, and urinary concentration is dependent on dietary intake. So, if you do suffer cystitis, put down that wine. (Apologies to Dr Ipe for any misrepresentation of his study).

The final speaker for the evening was Suellen Hopkins (PAH) with an interesting case study of a renal transplant. While everyone is aware of the ABO and Rh blood types, there is a veritable

alphabet of other groups which impact on transfusions and transplants. In this case,



crossmatching had initially shown compatibility, but the patient subsequently showed signs of rejection. Upon investigation, the patient showed a reaction to the Duffy antigen which had not been apparent on the original test. Patient history indicated a previous blood transfusion, which may suggest that the patient's immune system had been primed against Duffy, but the levels of antibody were undetectable until re-exposure. Luckily for the patient, this was



recognised and immunosuppressant therapy avoided serious consequences.

After filling our brains, it was then the turn everyone's stomach to be satisfied with platters of food doing the rounds, and also a chance to mingle and catch up on the gossip.

Thanks to Anne-Marie Christensen and the rest of our Queensland AIMS colleagues for another interesting evening.

- Melissa Hillas

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Special Stains & IHC Workshop Review

Pre-workshop Presentations

The morning sessions, chaired admirably by our own Kellie Vukovic, consisted of a series of four presentations. Starting at 9am, Dr Prasad Jayaratne, an anatomical pathology registrar at The Prince Charles Hospital, kicked things off with an informative overview of the anatomy of the upper gastrointestinal tract, along with the histology of some common ailments. Dr Lauren Kalinowski, having recently passed her RCPA Fellowship exams, took the baton from Dr Jayaratne and continued narrating our anatomical and histological tour down into the lower extremities of the GI tract with her excellent presentation.

After breaking for morning tea, the presentations continued with Professor Damien Harkin from QUT who took us into the colourful world of histological staining, with particular focus on the old stalwart H&E stain, and the ever pleasing Masson Trichrome. Finally Dr Michael Walsh from SNP brought things home with a very interesting presentation on mucins, their structure and function, and their role in the world of GI pathology.

- Mark Bromley

Special Stains Workshop

After the informative presentations on the special stains pertaining to GIT it was time to put the theory to practice in the special stains workshop. The workshop consisted of five stains. A general Haematoxylin and Eosin stain, Alcian Blue, Periodic Acid Schiffs stain, Alcian Blue PAS and a Masson Trichrome stain. Participants had been asked to look at the stains beforehand and work out how to run them congruently so as they could be completed in the timeframe given.

Controlled chaos ensued with a wide range of participants, from those who had never stained before to people with vast experience, all being guided by the team of demonstrators roaming the room. At the end of the workshop, participants pulled out their microscope and were able to self-assess the slides they had just stained. Tony Reilly and Professor Damien Harkin skilful guided the participants from down the slides from "Tongue to bum" showcasing what the stains should be highlighting. At the end of an enjoyable session, participants were able to take home their slides and hopefully gained some knowledge, experience and insight into each stain.

- Amanda Marsden



Special Stains & IHC Workshop Review

IHC Workshop

The IHC workshop was presented by Anthony Van Zwieten, senior scientist from The Prince Charles Hospital. This was an open forum giving opportunities to delegates to offer advice and discuss their experience from different laboratories. Anthony covered basic trouble shoot, IHC pitfalls, recent advancements in the IHC world, drug treatments and future of IHC. Anthony also gave an overview of single, dual and triple IHC stains, SISH and FISH staining. PD-1 and PD-L1 inhibitors were also discussed as the emerging front-line treatment for cancer. Anthony presented and discussed interesting cases including breast tumour markers and lung markers through the afternoon.

For the IHC workshop, delegates performed manual IHC staining on provided slides which contained positive and negative tissue with anti-CEA antibody. The antibody was generously provided by MetaGene Pty Ltd. The antibody was optimised to 1/200 for ideal staining. Dewaxing and heat retrieval was pre-performed to accommodate the staining time. Self-assessment criteria were provided for delegates to evaluate their staining at the end of day. All delegates completed staining in the required time with no issues encountered. The day ended with lots of ideas exchanged between and everyone taking something away from the workshop.

Overall a highly positive feedback was provided from delegates. A big thank you to Chris Cazier from QUT for all the behind the scenes work for making the day go smoothly without any issues.

- Arin Chandra

Social Function

After the workshop, the social event was held over the bridge at the Ship Inn which proved to be a great night. Despite the rain, 50 people walked across to the venue and were greeted with a welcome drink and balcony views over South Bank. This was a great opportunity to mingle with our Histology peers and debrief about the day. The food was delicious and the drinks were flowing which added to a great atmosphere. At the end of the night a group of keen party animals continued onto the Plough in at South bank for more drinks which went into the early hours of the morning. Overall a great day and night was had by all who attended.

- Kellie Vukovic



2018 SSIHC Workshop Photos





Histotechnology Group of
Queensland

3rd Scientific Meeting + AGM

6-9pm, Thursday 25th October 2018
'Gold' Room, Normanby Hotel

1 Musgrave Road, Red Hill Q

6-630 Welcome Drink

630-7 Annual General Meeting

7-730 Presentation:

"Investigating the biology of cells and embryos using molecular
and histological staining techniques." - Dr Jennifer Young,
Queensland Eye Institute

730-830 Canapés/Platters

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Special Stains & IHC Workshop

Behind the Scenes

The theme was decided as Gastrointestinal Tract and Mucins then after month of QUT timetabling issues, all rooms, labs and breakout/meal areas were locked in and booked.

To best demonstrate all the planned special stains, I combined a series of tissues into the one block/slide. I had trailed quite a few different tissue types and combinations before settling on the final tissue types that correlated lecture theme "GIT" and the Special Staining theme "Tongue to Bum". The final selection included, Tongue, Oesophagus, Stomach, Small Bowel, Caecum and Rectum with the following stains, H&E, Massons Trichrome, PAS, Alcian Blue and Alcian Blue PAS.

Sectioning was a little difficult due the amount of tissue pieces (aligned diagonally), extra-large block mould and the vary densities. All staining solutions were made in house and QC was performed along the way above mentioned tissues.

Small dropper bottles were sourced for all reagents save time and limit wastage which is vastly different to the normal student practical class where students collect their reagents in test tubes from four staining stations located around the lab peripherals.

IHC on the other hand was pretty simple, as a Colon Adenocarcinoma case with a normal small bowel block was available as we routinely cover the Carcinoembryonic Antigen (CEA) for student IHC practical classes.

Game day or should I say "Staining Day",involved last minute laboratories setups, to save on time, all slides had to be dewaxed, rehydrated; slides for Masson's Trichrome required 60 mins post-fixation in Picric Acid. In

addition, antigen retrieval had to be performed on slides for IHC component. All this was done just before each lab session to ensure best results for all.

Apart from a few minor issues occurring on the day, all went to plan with most, if not all attendees completing all the stains on time. Congratulations!! Good staining results were obtained across all methods, for example PAS positivity for Neutral Mucins, Alcian Blue positivity for Acidic Mucins while highlighting the gradual change of Neutral Mucins in the stomach and transitioning over to Acidic Mucins in Rectum.

A big thank you to Jessica Ellis for assisting throughout the process, the Laboratories that donated items (you know who you are) and the sponsors for consumables and IHC reagents

- Chris Cazier



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There's More to Me than Histology

NAME: Ken Ricketts

WORKPLACE: Sullivan Nicolaides

POSITION: Retired

1. What was your first part-time job?

I worked at a Timber Mill

2. How long did you work in histology?

47 years in the Histology lab and 3 years in a lab working with rats.

I am the longest serving SNP staff member with just over 50 years of work.

3. When people ask, "So, what do you do?" How did you explain Histology?

I tell them it is the study of cancer in tissue.

4. What is a skill you're good at that not many people know about?

Listening to people - after 30 years as a lab manager it is amazing how good you get at listening.

5. What is the best country you have ever visited?

Canada

6. What is your favourite food?

Seafood

7. If you won the lottery, what would you do?

Spend more money than I do now.

8. What is your dream holiday destination and why?

Africa - because you never know what is around the corner.

9. What do you plan on doing in your retirement?

To enjoy life :)





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What's new with the HGQ?

Upcoming Events

October 2018

- **Newsletter - Tissue Paper**
- **Scientific Meeting & AGM**
 - Venue - The Normanby Hotel
 - THU 25 OCT
- **Other - Conference - HSNSW**
 - Rooty Hill, NSW
 - 5-7 OCT

February 2019

- **Newsletter - Tissue Paper**

March 2019

- **Scientific Meeting**
 - Venue - TBA
 - THU 21 MAR

May 2019

- **National Histology Conference**
 - Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, SA
 - 24-26 MAY

June 2019

- **Newsletter - Tissue Paper**
- **Social Event - Trivia Night**
 - Venue - TBA
 - FRI 28 JUN

August 2019

- **Scientific Meeting**
 - Venue - TBA
 - THU 22 AUG

June 2019

- **Newsletter - Tissue Paper**

October 2019

- **Scientific Meeting & AGM**
 - Venue - TBA
 - THU 24 OCT

