A Review of Articles From Last Month’s
Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

Listed below are questions based on articles that appeared in last month’s edition of the ARCHIVES. Registered continuing medical education participants should answer these questions either online or use the February 2008 answer sheet.

1. A retrospective review of pediatric patients with pituitary adenomas determined that patients with adrenocorticotropic hormone–secreting tumors presented at a median age of 14 years, while patients with growth hormone–secreting tumors and prolactinomas presented at a median age of 15 years.

True or False?
(from Pediatric Pituitary Adenomas—Webb & Prayson)

2. Among the results of a study that examined the correlation of intraoperative consultation (IC) with the final diagnosis (FD), which finding is false?
   a. 87 of 2811 specimens were interpreted as having been given an IC diagnosis that disagreed with the FD
   b. lymph nodes for evaluation for metastases was the most frequent specimen sent for IC
   c. among the tissue categories with more than 100 specimens, breast, female genital, central nervous system/peripheral nervous system, and gastrointestinal tract had diagnostic disagreement rates between 1.7% and 3%
   d. diagnostic disagreements for skin, breast, and oral cavity were almost entirely related to assessment of the resection margins of a neoplasm
   e. soft tissue/bone/joint and central nervous system/peripheral nervous system specimens accounted for the largest absolute number of diagnoses that were deferred to permanent sections (22 each)

(from Intraoperative Consultation/Final Diagnosis Correlation—White & Trotter)

3. When the staining pattern of 28 spindle cell lipomas (SCLs) was examined, the authors found that among the 6 SCL cases occurring in women, all were positive for androgen receptors.

True or False?
(from Frequent Detection of Androgen Receptors in Spindle Cell Lipomas—Syed et al)

4. When the staining properties of 5 immunohistochemical markers were determined in evaluating effusions, which of the following results was determined to be true?
   a. calretinin was found to be a more sensitive and more specific marker of mesothelial cells than D2-40
   b. WT1 stained 60% of mesotheliomas, half of benign effusions, and 27% of adenocarcinomas
   c. 39 of 48 cases of adenocarcinoma showed positive membranous staining with MOC-31
   d. sensitivity for XIAP in identifying malignant cases was 39%
   e. 90% of benign effusions stained with calretinin

(from Cytologic Malignancy Versus Benignancy—Lyons-Boudreaux et al)

5. Among families who said they did not believe an autopsy was useful, the 2 most frequently cited reasons were that it did not answer their specific questions, and there was difficulty obtaining the results.

True or False?
(from How Well Do We Communicate Autopsy Findings to Next of Kin?—Keys et al)

6. In a comparison of pathologic features of wedge and core perioperative biopsies performed on 36 kidney allografts, which one of the following statements was found to be false?
   a. wedge biopsies had a significantly higher mean number of glomeruli, although only 2 wedge and 3 core samples had fewer than 7 glomeruli
   b. 20 of the core biopsies (including 3 of 10 intraoperative core biopsies) but no wedge biopsies contained medullary as well as cortical tissue
   c. the odds for a higher arterial fibrointimal thickening (cv) score were far greater on a core biopsy than on a wedge biopsy of the same kidney
   d. all 13 of the core biopsies with moderate (cv2) arterial fibrointimal thickening on core biopsy were from donors aged 40 years or older
   e. on wedge biopsies, increased cv score was significantly associated with increased interstitial fibrosis but not patient age or sclerotic glomeruli

(from Arteriosclerosis in Kidneys From Healthy Live Donors—Haas et al)