Five Top Stories in Anatomic Pathology

Stories From the Faculty at UMass Medical School and UMass Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, Massachusetts

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This month’s issue of the Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine introduces a new series of special sections featuring relevant and contemporary topics in Anatomic Pathology and Cytopathology, herein referred to as “Five Top Stories.”

“Five Top Stories” intends to address developments and controversies in our specialty that I hope will be useful to the practicing pathologist. The selected stories are all written under the supervision of the faculty of the Department of Pathology at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts. The expressed views and opinions are their own and not those of the Archives. Likewise, any mention of biologic products or instrumentation does not signify endorsement by the Archives. In their paper “Clinical Implications of Current Developments in Genitourinary Pathology,” Zhong Jiang, MD, and collaborators examine the role of fusion in the ETS gene family as it relates to adenocarcinoma of the prostate and the emergence of IMP-3 as a prognostic biomarker in cancers of the kidney and urinary bladder. Dr Jiang et al then go on to discuss the intriguing story of the so-called translocation renal cell carcinoma, the applications of the UroVysion FISH test in urine cytology, and the still timely subject of triple immunostaining for the diagnosis of prostatic cancer.

For their part, Andrew Fischer, MD, et al reassess the diagnostic value of conventional cytomorphology in diagnosis and discuss the role of newer technologies, such as endoscopic ultrasound and endoscopic bronchial ultrasound, in quality sampling for cytologic examination. Dr Fischer and colleagues conclude their paper with comments on a new breed of cytopathologist, the “interventional cytopathologist,” and end up providing us with 2 added bonuses, sharing with us their views on thyroid molecular testing and targeting therapies based on cytology samples.

All in all, I trust these collected stories will appeal to the pathology community in a constructive and meaningful way. More “Five Top Stories” in other disciplines (breast, endocrine, lung, and hematopathology) will follow in future issues of the Archives.

Dr Fraire is a board-certified pathologist with a long-standing interest in neoplastic and nonneoplastic diseases of the lung. He trained at Baylor College of Medicine with the late and respected S. Donald Greenberg and now serves as Professor of Pathology and Senior Attending Surgical Pathologist at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts, and its affiliated hospital system, UMass Memorial Health Care. Dr Fraire is a section editor for the Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine in environmental pathology.