

March 5, 2011

Mark E. Sobel, MD, PhD
Executive Officer
Intersociety Council for Pathology Information,
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814-3993

Dear Dr. Sobel and the Intersociety Council for Pathology Information,

I would like to use this opportunity to thank you for awarding me the Travel Grant which helped me to attend the 100th USCAP meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

I had an opportunity to present my poster titled "A new biological prognostic model based on immunohistochemistry predicts survival in patients with diffuse large B-cell lymphoma". I got numerous questions regarding my poster, and pathologists were especially interested in new "Choi" algorithm used in classification of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. This algorithm was designed by my attendings at the University of Nebraska, and it has proven to be superior than the old Hans algorithm in subclassifying diffuse large B-cell lymphomas into germinal center and non-germinal center subtypes. In the paper, I combined the Choi algorithm with two other immunohistochemical markers reflecting tumor microenvironment and created a biological prognostic model for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma.

I am currently at the first year of hematopathology fellowship, so during this USCAP I mainly focused on hematopathology. Numerous interesting and controversial topics were presented by the most recognized pathologists in the field. Plentiful platform presentations and posters gave me some ideas for my future projects. I also had the opportunity to discuss the hematopathology job market with some of the practicing hematopathologists. Their input was very valuable since I will start looking for a job fairly soon.

In summary, this USCAP meeting was great educational and professional experience that will definitely help me in my future career as a hematopathologists.

Sincerely,

Anamarija Morovic Perry, M.D.
Hematopathology fellow
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, Nebraska