



# NEWSLETTER OF THE ARAB DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF PATHOLOGY

Volume 8 Issue 1

November 2015

Website of the Arab Division of the  
International Academy of  
Pathology (AD-IAP)

[www.iap-ad.org](http://www.iap-ad.org)

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## **Calendar of events 2014**

### **Arab Division activities**

IAP-Arab Division 28<sup>th</sup> Congress  
Algeria

### **International activities**

USCAP 105<sup>th</sup> annual meeting  
Washington State Convention Center,  
Seattle, WA, USA  
12-18 March 2016

The XXXI Congress of the IAP  
Cologne, Germany  
25-29 September 2016

## Message from the President



Ismail Matalaka, M.D. FRCPATH  
President, Arab Division of IAP

Honorable colleagues,

I have been honored and extremely privileged to be the president of the Arab Division of IAP for the years 2013-2015. In Dubai's meeting, I will hand over the presidency to our respectful friend and colleague Dr. Kheira Bouzid Bendisari from Algeria. Dr. Bendisari has contributed greatly to the Division and I am sure she will continue to do so through her outstanding efforts and dedication during the coming two years. On this occasion, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts and contributions of all past Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, and the esteemed Colleagues who served as council members throughout the journey of our Division. Without their accumulative commitment, devotion, and loyalty, the division would not have gained its current international recognition and reputation.

Last year, we held the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of our Division in Sousse, Tunisia. Many of us were delighted to revisit Sousse for the second time after the last meeting in 1999 and Tunisia for the fourth time. We thank Dr. Moncef Mokni deeply and our Tunisian colleagues for arranging such a wonderful scientific meeting and an enjoyable social program. We felt grief later hearing the news about the Tunisian terrorist attacks taking place in the same city; not far from the venue where we enjoyed peace and beauty. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all; our brothers and sisters in different Arab countries who are still suffering from the tragic events and crisis. I also pray Allah peacefully rests all those who have passed away.

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## Contributors to this edition of the Newsletter

Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker  
Dr. Ismail Matalka  
Dr. Ghazi Zaatari  
Dr. Salwa ElHaddad  
Dr. Samir Amr  
Dr. Maysa Al-Hussaini

## Acknowledgment

We would like to thank DAKO –Alnahil Trading Est/Jordan, for the financial contribution to the printing of the Newsletter.

The Division is currently taking major steps towards preparing for its crowning event, the 32<sup>nd</sup> Congress of IAP in 2018, which will be held in the Dead Sea in Jordan. We need all the support, help, advice, promotion, effort, and participation possible in this great event. The 31<sup>st</sup> IAP meeting will be held in Cologne, Germany (24<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2016) and we are expecting excellent representative participation from the Arab Division members and friends to aid in communicating with the pathology society through our booth and during the congress activities.

Despite the difficult times that we are currently facing in our region, the Arab School of Pathology, under the leadership of our friend Dr. Salwa El-Haddad, has continued to function and carry out its activities consistently to serve the maximum number of trainee pathologists. Earlier this year, we conducted the Lung Pathology workshop in Amman, Jordan (January 2015), the Neuropathology workshop in Beirut, Lebanon (May 2015), the Urogenital workshop in Cairo, Egypt (May 2015), and Head & Neck workshop in Cairo, Egypt (October 2015). In this elegant newsletter you will find details of these successful meetings.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our 27<sup>th</sup> congress of the Arab Division in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This meeting is taking place in this dynamic and ever- evolving city for the second time since 2000 and I am quite certain that Dr. Mouza Al-Sharhan and her colleagues have prepared a high-caliber, stimulating, and fruitful scientific program.

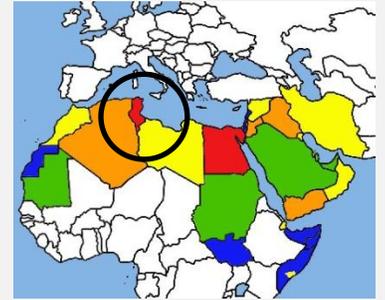
Next year, for the second time, Algeria will be our destination. We are looking forward to meeting our Algerian colleagues who, in 2008, had also done a great job and prepared a well-organized meeting.

I shall always remain proud of being a part of this fantastic and distinguished Division and will continue praying to Allah to keep our countries and beloved societies and families stable, safe, and blessed with health, peace, and love.

Ismail Matalka, FRCPath  
President, Arab Division of IAP  
Dean of Medicine and Professor of Pathology  
Jordan University of Science and Technology  
Irbid-Jordan



# 26<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Arab Division of International Academy of Pathology Sousse, Tunisia 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> December 2014



It was the fourth time that Tunisia had the privilege of hosting the meeting of the Arab Division of the IAP, and for the second time in the city of Sousse which held the 11<sup>th</sup> conference in 1999.

The 26<sup>th</sup> Conference of the AD-IAP took place at El Mouradi Palace hotel, Sousse, Tunisia, from the 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> of December 2014. Dr. Moncef Mokni, the Conference's Chair, Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker the Conference's Co-Chair, together with the organizing committee worked hard to ensure a spectacular conference. As was promised, the scientific program was rich and exciting with various and recent topics reflecting the rapid changes in pathology. Lectures covering the recent advances in hematopathology and bone marrow, soft tissue and bone, skin, urogenital, breast, endometrial and ovarian carcinoma, neuro-endocrine, and glial tumors pathology were discussed. This was in addition to dedicated lectures about pediatric pathology. Furthermore, a special session focused on the relation of viruses to the development of cancers. >>

>> Unique lectures were delivered during the opening ceremony which took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2014, including genetics and molecular anthropology of the Arab world by Rym Abdelkefi and skin pathology in Arabo-islamic medicine by Abdelkhalek Ben Rejeb.

As for the council meeting, it took place on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2014 and discussed the various issues related to processes and the administrations of the Arab-Division.

The conference was well attended with a total of 191 participants from different Arab Countries including Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, Libya, Jordan, Oman, UAE, Lebanon, KSA, and Palestine. A total of 29 guests and speakers from the USA, UK, France, Germany, and Italy also joined the meeting. The continuous support of the British, French, and German divisions was evident as well during this meeting, as speakers from the three divisions were supported to lecture in the conference. Oral and poster presentations by the attendees were also presented.

\*Officials of the AD-IAP at the opening ceremony. From left to right: Dr. Moncef Mokni (President of the Conference), Dr. Ghazi Zaatari (Secretary of AD-IAP), Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker (Co-Chair of the conference), Dr. Ismail Matalaka (President AD-IAP), Dr. Samir Amr (Past President IAP), and Dr. Kheira Bouzid Bendisari (President Elect AD-IAP).



This meeting was preceded by the annual meeting of the Maghrebian Society of Pathology, “La Journée Maghrébine de Pathologie”, on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2014. This event was organized in Sousse, with the collaboration of Tunisian, Moroccan, and Algerian Societies of Pathology.

Additionally, a pre-congress workshop/Arab School of Pathology on “Cancer Biomarkers in Pathology”, took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2014, with a total of 58 participants. >>>

>>> Furthermore, Dr. Ghazi Zaatari; Secretary of the Arab Division and Dr. Hassan Annab; Treasurer of the Division were awarded the “Medal of Merit” of the AD-IAP for their long standing service and commitment to the Division during the Gala dinner.

The Organizing Committee arranged an outstanding social program, including the welcome reception that took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2014. The Gala dinner was on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2014 and a spectacular and traditional dinner took place at Madinat Alzahra Parc on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2014.



\* Participants at the Gala Dinner. From left to right: Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker, Dr. Ismail Matalaka, Dr. Nayef Akel, Mrs. Iftikhar Amr, Dr. Samir Amr, Dr. Ghazi Zaatari and Dr. Moncef Mokni .



\* A commemorative plaque awarded to Dr. Samir Amr by Dr. Ghazi Zaatari and Dr. Ismail Matalaka related to the end of his term of office as President of the IAP. From left to right: Dr. Ismail Matalaka, Dr. Samir Amr, Dr. Ghazi Zaatari, Dr. Moncef Mokni and Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker.



\* Handing the AD-IAP Plaque of Appreciation to Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker. From left to right: Dr. Samir Amr, Dr. Ghazi Zaatari, Dr. Ismail Matalaka, Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker, and Dr. Moncef Mokni.



\* Handing the AD-IAP Plaque of Appreciation to Dr. Moncef Mokni at the Gala Dinner. From left to right; Dr. Ghazi Zaatari, Dr. Samir Amr, Dr. Ismail Matalaka, and Dr. Moncef Mokni.



\* Handing the AD-IAP Plaque of Appreciation to Dr. Wael Sakr. From left to right: Dr. Samir Amr, Dr. Ghazi Zaatari, Dr. Ismail Matalka, and Dr. Wael Sakr.



\* Handing the AD-IAP Plaque of Appreciation to Dr. Kristin Henry. From left to right: Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker, Dr. Kristin Henry and Dr. Moncef Mokni.



\* Handing the Conference Plaque of Appreciation to Dr. Ismail Matalka. From left to right: Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker, Dr. Ismail Matalka, and Dr. Moncef Mokni.



\* Handing the Conference Plaque of Appreciation to Dr. Ghazi Zaatari. From left to right: Dr. Mohammed Samir Boubaker, Dr. Ismail Matalka, and Dr. Moncef Mokni.



\* Dr. Ghazi Zaatari receiving the Medal of Merit, being fixed by Dr. Salwa ElHaddad.

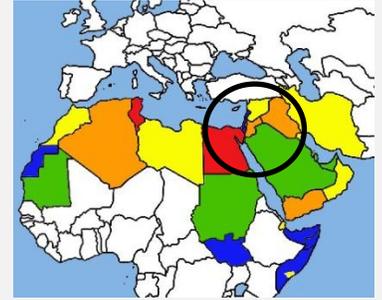


\* Handing the Medal of Merit to dr. Hassan Annab. From left to Right: Dr. Ghazi Zaatari, Dr. Hassan Annab, Dr. Samir Amr, Dr. Ismail Matalka and Dr. Kheira Bouzid Bendisari.

# Workshop on Lung Pathology

Amman, Jordan,

16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> January 2015



The Jordanian Society of Pathologists (JSP), in collaboration with the Arab School of Pathology at the AD-IAP, held a joint workshop entitled “Lung Pathology Workshop”, on the 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> of January 2015, at Le Meridian Hotel, Amman, Jordan. The workshop was conducted by Professor Helmuth Popper from the Medical School of the University of Graz, Austria and assisted by Dr. Ulrike Gruber-Moesenbacher.

>>> The cases were discussed thoroughly and this was followed by overall summary lectures as well as lectures on new advancements in lung pathology.

Dr. Issam Francis scanned all cases, helped in their preparation, and loaded them all several months before the meeting on his website (Histopathology Network <http://pathmed.net/> and <http://healthconference.net/lungpath/> ).

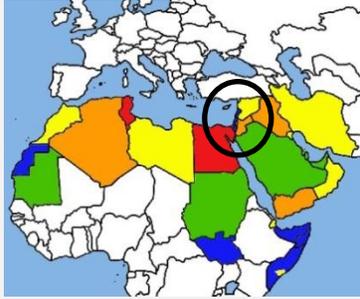
The workshop had a unique set- up. Virtual slides were prepared from 250 cases on the various neoplastic and non-neoplastic lung pathologies and were posted on the workshop’s website, before the workshop which gave the participants a chance to review the cases. >>>

The workshop was attended by 65 participants from different countries, including Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Oman, Kuwait, and Libya. The attendees showed a great deal of enthusiasm and requested similar interactive workshops on the various topics of pathology.



\* A group photo of the speakers and participants of the workshop

**Workshop on  
Neuropathology  
Beirut, Lebanon  
11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 ▼**



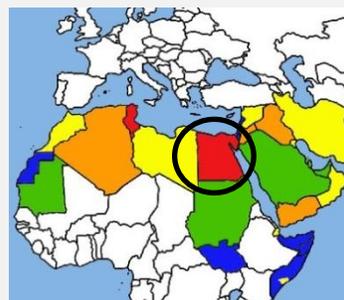
The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, the Middle East Medical Assembly (MEMA), and the Arab School of Pathology held a Neuropathology workshop on the 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 at the American University of Beirut (AUB), Beirut, Lebanon.

The workshop was held during the 47<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of MEMA and the program included up-to-date didactic lectures and case discussions on contemporary topics in neuropathology with emphasis on classifications of brain tumors and the best modalities for their diagnosis.

The MEMA program included an instructive session on neuro-oncology that complemented the neuropathology workshop.

In addition to the Faculty of the Department, the guest speaker was Dr. Tarik Tihan, Professor of Pathology, Department of Pathology, Neuropathology Unit, at the University of California, San Francisco. This educational program was attended by 27 pathologists.

**Workshop on  
Urogenital  
Pathology  
Cairo, Egypt  
13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May 2015 ►**



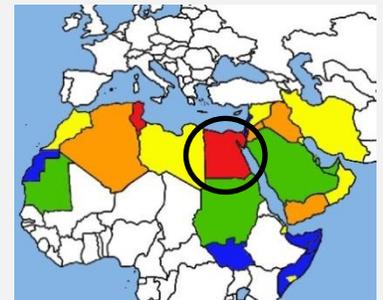
Under the umbrella of the British-Arab School of Pathology, a workshop on urogenital pathology was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 in Cairo, Egypt.

The meeting was conducted by four superb speakers, Wael Sakr and Anais Malpica (USA), Michael Wells and John Smith (UK). It was attended by 78 participants who came from nearly all Egyptian Universities and Institutions.

The meeting shed light on different topics of different organs such as the urinary bladder, kidney, prostate, as well as the female genital tract.

There were interactive sessions with clinical case presentations. The meeting was accredited 13 hours by AACME.

**Workshop on Head  
and Neck Updates  
Cairo , Egypt  
22<sup>nd</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> October  
2015 ▼**



The Arab School of Pathology hosted a workshop of Head and Neck held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2015 in Cairo, Egypt. It was conducted by Wasim Raslan (KSA), Ann Sandison (UK), and Walid Khalbuss (USA). Unfortunately Wael Sakr (USA) cancelled due to personal and career issues.

There were 86 attendees who provoked good discussion and debate which enriched the sessions. The speakers were very informative and their talks were of high quality.

The meeting discussed, in different sessions, cytology and its implications, together with histopathology.

# Collaboration with Other IAP Divisions

## Arab Division Participation in the 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific IAP Congress Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Dr. Ibrahim Khalifeh, an Associate Professor at the AUB Medical Center and Dr. Samir Amr from King Fahad Specialty Hospital in Dammam, Saudi Arabia participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> AP-IAP meeting that took place in Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Dr. Khalifeh gave a presentation on Leishmaniasis in the Middle East, and the impact of the current war in Syria on the spread of the disease among the refugee population.

>>

>> Dr. Samir Amr co-chaired a session entitled “Mistakes Made, Lessons Learnt”. Each speaker presented a problematic case with errors made in the initial diagnosis, and how it was discovered and rectified. Dr. Amr made a presentation of breast mass that was initially thought to be a mammary carcinoma, but proven later to be a benign skin appendage tumor.

We would like to thank Dr. Robin Cook for providing the photos for the article.



\*Three former Presidents of IAP met in Brisbane: Samir S Amr (Jordan, 2012-2014), Philip W Allen (Australia, 1994-1996), and Konrad Muller (Australia, 2006-2008).

\*Upper Left; speakers and moderators at the session on “Histopathological Approach in the Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases”: Sonu Nigam (Australia), Lyndall Buck (Australia), Ibrahim Khalifeh (Lebanon), Annette Schmitt-Graeff (Germany), Shahid Pervez (Pakistan), Samir Amr (Jordan), Daniel Luthringer ( USA). Dr. Ibrahim Khalifeh covered the topic of Leishmania in Lebanon and how this was influenced by the ongoing civil war in Syria.

\*Upper Right; Speakers at the IAP session: “Mistakes Made; Lessons Learnt”: Dominic Spagnolo (Australia), Gary Tse (Hong Kong), Claude Cuvelier (Belgium), Jane Dahlstrom (Secretary, Australian Division of IAP, Congress President), Soon Lee (President, Australian Division of IAP), Samir Amr (Jordan, Past President, IAP), Malcolm Hayes (Canada), and Philip Allen (Australia, Former President, IAP).

# 104<sup>th</sup> Meeting of United States-Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 21<sup>st</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March 2015 Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA, USA

The 104<sup>th</sup> Meeting of USCAP was held in Boston at the Hynes convention Center on 21<sup>st</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> March 2015. There were many Arab pathologists participating in this meeting, many came from USA and Canada and several others came from Arab countries.

A booth was allocated for the Arab Division to advertise for the International Congress of IAP to be held at the Dead Sea Convention Center in Jordan in 2018. Mrs Iftikhar Al Hammouri sat behind the booth and distributed pamphlets and souvenirs.

Meetings for the Executive Council of IAP and the Educational Committee of IAP were held during the USCAP meeting. These were attended by Dr Ghazi Zaatari, Vice President for Asia and Member of the Educational Committee, and by Dr Samir Amr, Past President of IAP.

A reception was held on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2015 for the Friends of the Arab Division. This tradition was started over 15 years ago by Dr. Wael Sakr, and has been taking place since then at every USCAP meeting. Pathologists residing and working in USA and Canada meet with pathologists from the Arab World. This year, Dr. Sakr awarded Dr. Salwa ElHaddad a commemorative plaque in appreciation for his efforts.

Credits of photos: Dr. Robin Cook and Dr. Samir Amr.

\*First image from left: Dr. Rouba Ali and Dr. Walid Khalbous with pathologists from Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Middle image: Dr. Mohammad, Dr. Ahmed Shbaik and Dr. Moncef Mokni. Right image: Dr. Sharif Zaki from CDC in Atlanta next to Dr. Zaatari with other guests.



\*Executive Council of International Academy of Pathology (IAP) met in Boston during USCAP meeting. From the Arab Division of IAP, Dr. Ghazi Zaatari, Vice President for Asia, and Dr. Samir Amr, Past President of IAP, are council members.



\*At the booth of the Arab Division for the 2018 IAP International Congress in Jordan, Dr. Zaatari is seen standing next to Dr. Amr, his wife Iftikhar and his daughter-in-law Kateryna. Both ladies sat behind the booth distributing leaflets and souvenirs.



## International Academy of Pathology- Arab Division Medal of Merit

In recognition of the continuous effort and support to the AD-IAP, the Division's Council voted for the "Medal of Merit" of the Arab Division of the International Academy of Pathology which will be awarded to those members who have offered exceptional service to the Division and contributed substantially to the achievement of its objectives in promoting academic pathology practice and educational activities.

To be eligible, a member must have served as a regular member for at least ten years. The award is intended to be selective and distinctive. The "Nomination Process" will take place through an Award Committee consisting of the president, past president, and secretary of the Division and shall identify and nominate prospective candidates. The medal will be awarded to the candidate by the president of the Division at the General Assembly of the Division during the annual meeting.

It shall be accompanied by a certificate carrying the name and logo of the Arab Division, the Medal of Merit Award, and the names of the awardees. The Division acknowledges the generosity of Dr. Samir Amr for covering the expenses of moulding about 100 of these medals. >>

### Obituary

Dr. Ala Qutaishat, a clinical pathologist and the former Secretary of the Jordanian Society of Pathology, passed away peacefully on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2015 after a major surgery for the resection of a metastatic gastric GIST tumor.

Dr. Qutaishat was very active in the arrangement and participation in many of the division's activities. He was one of the organizing committee members of the 25<sup>th</sup> AD-IAP meeting that took place in Amman- Jordan in 2013, and attended the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of AD-IAP that took place in Sousse, Tunisia.

He was also actively engaged in the preparation of the joint JSP and AD-IAP Arab School of Pathology Workshop that took place in Amman, Jordan in January 2015. >>>

>> During the Sousse meeting in Tunisia last year Dr. Ismail Matalaka, President of the Arab Division, awarded the first two to Dr. Ghazi Zaatari and Dr. Hassan Annab. Dr. Zaatari served as the Secretary of the Division for so many years and was a crucial individual in the advancement and progress of the Division through the support of its various activities. He also served at the IAP in the educational Committee. Dr. Annab held the position of the Treasurer of the Division and has been supporting the mission of the AD-IAP for many years. He has been a regular attendee and a council member for more than 20 years.

Congratulations dearest Drs. Zaatari and Annab for your distinguished recognitions.



\*The front and back sides of the Medal of Merit

>>> Dr. Qutaishat was passionate about education and the spread of knowledge and will be always remembered for his contributions to the Arab Pathology Community. Rest in peace dear Ala.



\*Dr. Ala Qutaishat receiving a Plaque of Appreciation from Dr. Salwa Elhaddad at the 25<sup>th</sup> Congress of the AD-IAP that was held in Amman in 2013 for his outstanding contribution.