

UCSF PATHOLOGY ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5: NOVEMBER 2019

Message from The Director of Cytopathology: Elham Khanafshar, MD, MS



Dear Friends and Alumni,

It is hard to believe that I have already started my second year serving as the Director of Cytopathology at UCSF. We had a very busy year full of excitement due to our long-planned cytopathology division move. In September 2019, our division finally moved into its new home in the brand-new Bakar Precision Cancer Medicine Building (PCMB) located at the UCSF Mission Bay campus. We have an expanded state of the art in-house cytopathology laboratory and a four room Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) Clinic equipped with the latest ultrasound machines which allow us to serve our patients with gold standard of care. We provide palpation-guided as well as ultrasound-guided FNA services with or without appointment.

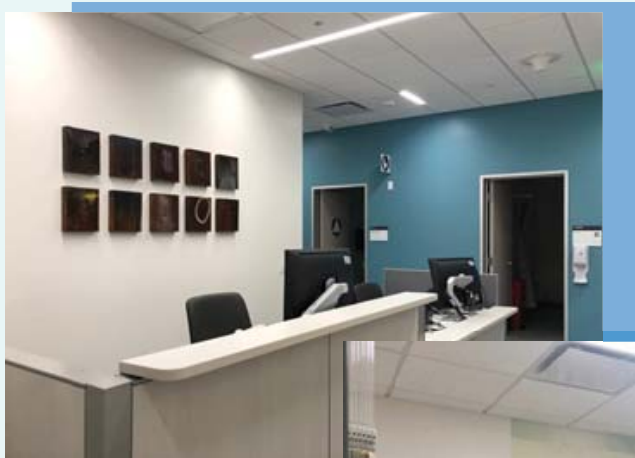


**Bakar Precision Cancer Medicine Building
1825 4th Street
San Francisco, CA 94143**

In this new site, we are happy to say that the divisions of cytopathology and surgical pathology are located on the same floor, and allowed our divisions to be much more consolidated than when we were located at Mount Zion.



UCSF Cytopathology Laboratory



UCSF Fine Needle Aspiration Clinic



History of Fine Needle Aspiration service at UCSF:



In 1979 Dr. Britt Marie Ljung, then a Resident in Medicine at the Karolinska Institute Hospital in Sweden, visited UCSF as a volunteer and helped Drs. Theodore Miller and John Abele establish the FNA service at UCSF with a focus on palpation-guided FNA of breast and thyroid lesions. In 1983, after completing her residency in Anatomic Pathology at UCLA Dr. Ljung officially joined UCSF, and since then the service has flourished. Our first FNA Clinic, a shared clinic room and an office space, was established in 1997. It was not until early 2000 that FNA group acquired a dedicated space at Mount Zion Cancer Center with two dedicated exam rooms, patient waiting area, and physician and cytotechnologists workspace. Our clinic expanded the scope of practice in 2008 when ultrasound guided FNA was introduced. In 2016, a larger space was planned for an expanded FNA Clinic in the UCSF new Cancer Center, Precision Cancer Medicine Building (PCMB), where we reside now.

Upcoming Faculty Teaching Highlights:

We look forward to seeing you all during the American Society of Cytopathology (ASC) 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT this November and at United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 109th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA. Here is the list of upcoming ASC and USCAP courses by our Cytopathology Faculty:

ASC 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting Sessions:

Thursday - 11/14/19		
5:30pm - 6:30pm Vienna	SO06 Signing-out with the Professor	Britt-Marie Ljung, MD Thyroid FNAB, Challenging and Interesting Cases
Friday - 11/15/19		
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Savoy	SC06 Short Course	Steven Long, MD Dita Gratzinger, MD, PhD Hemepath/Cytopath Synthesis: Maximizing Diagnosis and Specimen Handling of Lymphoid Lesions Obtained by FNA and Cytology
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Murano	VMT10 Video Microscopy Tutorial	Sarah M. Calkins, MD Elham Khanafshar, MD Practical Tools In Salivary Gland Cytology
Sunday - 11/17/19		
8:30 am - 9:30 am Milano	US01 Ultra Sound Course	Ronald Balassanian, MD, Dianna Ng, MD Joshua R. Menke, MD, Annemieke van Zante, MD, PhD, Roberto Ruiz-Cordero, MD, Poonam Vohra, MD, Steven Long, MD Ultrasound Fine Needle Aspiration Workshop

USCAP 109th Annual Meeting Sessions:

Zubair Baloch, MD, PhD, **Elham Khanafshar, MD, MS**, Martha Bishop Pitman, MD, Andre L Moreira, MD, PhD, Guliz A. Barkan, MD, Marc Philippe Pusztaszeri, MD
 “Diagnosing a Case as “Atypical”: Criteria, Controversies & Aftermath”,
 Evening Specialty Conference - Cytopathology

You can also check out our last year USCAP course by Elham Khanafshar, MD, MS, Britt-Marie Ljung, MD, Sarah M. Calkins, MD, Annemieke van Zante, MD, PhD, on “Head and Neck Cytopathology: Practical Tools for Common Cases” through the link below:

<https://www.pathlms.com/uscap/courses/8804>

Dr. Britt-Marie Ljung has recently updated her famous videos on proper Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy technique. Check the new video online using the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXh9en_nCBU

The cytopathology faculty have also continued to offer the one day interactive microscopy seminar each year in coordination with our annual CME course, Current Issues in Anatomic Pathology, organized each year by Dr. Laura Tabatabai, Chief of Pathology Service, and Director of Cytopathology at SFVAHCS. This one day cytopathology microscopic seminar will open the 2020 Current Issues course on Wednesday, May 20th. This year we are excited to announce that we have added an Ultrasound-Guided Fine Needle Aspiration Workshop to the course. The workshop will be held on Thursday, May 21st at PCMB Fine Needle Aspiration Clinic in the evening. The remaining course will be on current surgical pathology topics with special lectures on Head and Neck Pathology.

Recent research activity highlights:

In addition to our teaching mission, the faculty continue to publish and present top scholarly work on a range of diverse topics. I invite you to read these selected articles on some of our exciting research work.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/hed.25613>

<https://jnccn.org/view/journals/jnccn/17/9/article-p1075.xml>

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/ijc.32156>

Our faculty also are actively engaged in committees for CAP, ASC and the Papanicolaou Society that actively review and publish new standards.

Our new faculty and staff:

We have an amazing cytopathology faculty and staff who are dedicated to providing the highest level of care to our patients. In the last two years, we welcomed several additions to our family.



Steven R. Long, MD: Steve is a Full Professor of Pathology and has come to us from Stanford with his wealth of knowledge in cytopathology, and head and neck pathology. Steve did his medical school training at UCSF, and became interested in a pathology career as a post-sophomore fellow in our department. He did his residency and cytopathology fellowship here at UCSF, and after some years in private practice in the Sacramento area, made a change to academic pathology a few years ago. Needless to say, we are thrilled to have him back at UCSF!



Roberto Cordero-Ruiz, MD: After completing his medical school in University of La Salle School of Medicine in Mexico, Roberto completed his residency training in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology in Jackson Memorial Hospital at University of Miami, FL. Roberto joined us from MD Anderson after subspecialty training in Cytopathology, Hematopathology and Molecular Pathology. He has been actively working on validating cytopathology specimen for molecular testing in the last two years. We are delighted to have him as a member of our family!



Nancy Greenland, MD, PhD: After completing undergraduate studies at Columbia, Nancy received a Ph.D. in Biological Chemistry from MIT. She then completed an MD at Stanford University and residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at UCSF, followed by fellowships in cytopathology and surgical pathology. Her graduate work at MIT focused on natural terpene indole alkaloid enzymes involved in the biosynthesis of anti-hypertensive and anti-cancer small molecules. Currently, her research is focused on genitourinary pathology and cytopathology, with recent projects involving the identification of histologic correlates of molecular signatures in prostate cancer and the use of bronchoalveolar lavage cytology in predicting chronic lung allograft dysfunction in lung transplant patients. Nancy recently joined our faculty at San Francisco VA hospital.



Joshua Menke, MD: After completing Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency and Cytopathology fellowship at University of California San Francisco (UCSF), Joshua finished his Hematopathology fellowship at Stanford before joining Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital in September 2018. His clinical and research interest is in diagnosing lymphoma with small volume cytology samples and in utilizing various advanced genomic and proteomic analytic techniques to study cytology and hematopathology specimens. His research is funded by the Clinical Cancer Genomics Laboratory and Clinical Research Grants Program at UCSF. Joshua is one of the UCSF principal investigators for a cytology-hematopathology interinstitutional collaboration (CHIC), that aims to study the performance of cytology samples in diagnosing lymphoma across large datasets from 5 different academic institutions (UCSF, Stanford, University of Virginia, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and Massachusetts General Hospital).



Jill Growchowski: Jill has been with UCSF since 2001. In March of 2018, she started her new role as the cytopathology supervisor. She is dedicated to the division's growth and well-being. We are lucky to have her.



Leslie Bober: Leslie is our new cytotechnologist. She has come from CPMC and has 14 years of experience.

If you are interested to join our division, we currently have an opening for cytopathology faculty position. You can apply using the link below:

<https://aprecruit.ucsf.edu/JPF02594>

Cytopathology fellowship highlights:

Our fellowship continues to train outstanding cytopathologists. Our fellows are active in teaching, research, publishing papers, presenting at conferences, and winning awards!

Our last year cytopathology fellow, Dr. Soo-Ryum Yang, received the 2019 Papanicolaou Society of Cytopathology Research Award —second place— for his outstanding research on “Targeted Deep Sequencing of Cell-Free DNA from Body Cavity Fluids with Malignant, Suspicious, and Benign Cytology.”

Our current fellow, Dr. Lucy Han’s upcoming ASC 2019 Annual Meeting platform presentation on “Followup of Salivary Gland Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy Patients Supports that Cellular Oncocytic/Oncocytoid Neoplasm Represents a Low Risk Diagnostic Category” has been chosen as one of the finalists for the Warren R. Lang, MD Resident Physician Award. The Award winners will be announced on Saturday, November 16th during the Awards Presentation starting at 5:30 pm.

Cytopathology Twitter account:

We are also happy to announce that last year we started our official UCSF Cytopathology twitter account with the guidance of Dr. Vighnesh Walavalkar. You can now follow us on twitter [@UCSFCytopath](https://twitter.com/UCSFCytopath).

UCSF Cytopathology has continued to pioneer in clinical services as well as teaching and researching nationally and internationally. As the new Director of Cytopathology, I could not be prouder of our division.

Recent & Upcoming Events

USCAP 2020 in Los Angeles

February 29 - March 5, 2020

Registration Now Open

Hotel Reservations Now Open

As we look forward to the future for the department and the exciting initiatives ahead, please consider supporting us. Your support impacts the greatest needs of the department, clinical research, and education and training

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