

The Malaysian Society of Pathologists: 4th Annual General Meeting & Scientific Meeting

The 4th annual general meeting & scientific meeting was held at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur 22-23 September 1979.

Abstracts of the scientific communications follow.

Correlation of laboratory parameters to prognostic criteria in three cases of multiple myeloma

P SIMMONS, U MURIGIAH AND CG LOPEZ (*Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur and National Blood Service Centre, Kuala Lumpur*) Three cases of myeloma were diagnosed as IgG-kappa, kappa and IgA- respectively during the last four months. The first case had a very poor prognosis according to Medical Research Council and South-West Oncology Group criteria, in fact the patient died before treatment and before investigations were completed. The other two cases had poor to medium prognoses. Clinical, haematological and immunological findings will be presented and discussed.

Angiosarcoma of the spleen

H MENAKA AND LM LOOI (*Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur*) This is a case report of a 73 year old Chinese man who presented with a problem of anaemia and hepatosplenomegaly. Due to complications, a laporotomy was performed, during which splenectomy and wedge biopsy of the liver was done. The biopsy findings and haematological data will be discussed.

Prevalence of thyroid autoantibodies in a Malaysian population

T PANG, SF YAP, A NGAN AND J BOSCO (*Department of Medical Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya and Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya*) The prevalence of thyroid autoantibodies

against thyroglobulin and microsomal antigen in symptomless subjects was investigated using a passive haemagglutination technique. A higher prevalence was observed in females and also with advancing age. The significance of these findings in relation to thyroid disease in symptomless persons will be discussed.

Dysgerminoma of the ovary

SABARIAH ABDUL RAHMAN AND DK SEN (*Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya and Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya*) An 8 year old female presented with a solid ovarian tumour. The histological features were those of a dysgerminoma. She defaulted follow-up, and reappeared with an abdominal swelling and pain. The tumour filled the pelvic cavity and extended into the abdomen, infiltrating the bowel, abdominal wall and other structures. The histology was that of an endodermal sinus tumour. The significance of this in terms of pathology and management are discussed.

Histopathology of skin lesions in leprosy as seen at the University Hospital, Kuala Lumpur

P JAYALAKSHMI (*Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya*) A review of skin biopsies performed at the University Hospital, Kuala Lumpur during the 10 year period from 1968 to 1978, revealed 76 cases of leprosy. The lesions were classified into 5 groups namely tuberculoid (TT), borderline tuberculoid (BT), borderline (BB), borderline lepromatous (BL) and lepromatous leprosy (LL).

Paraffin embedded sections were routinely stained with hematoxylin-eosin and Fite's stain for acid fast bacilli.

The relative frequency of occurrence of various groups were BT (38%), LL (25%), TT (25%) and BL (12%).

Observations on the features of the 5 groups of leprosy will be illustrated and discussed.

Investigation of a suspected outbreak of Japanese encephalitis in Pulau Langkawi

RANDEL FANG, HSU DAR REN AND LIM TEONG WAH (*Virus Division, Institute for*

Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur) An investigation was carried out on a suspected outbreak of Japanese encephalitis (JE) in June 1979 in Pulau Langkawi.

Results incorporating the clinical features, laboratory and serologic findings, and brief epidemiological survey showed 60% of the cases to be positive for JE infection. Another 20% were suggestive of JE, but diagnosis could not be confirmed as death had occurred prior to the start of the investigation.

The outbreak appeared to be localised to 2 areas in Langkawi, and 90% of the cases affected were between the ages 5–15.

The mosquito vectors for JE were shown to be present in Langkawi, but the 'link' host between the normal animal cycle and man could not be determined. No virus isolation was attempted.

The use of the immunoperoxidase technique in differentiating between orbital lymphomas and pseudolymphomas

E SUMITHRAN AND E JANSON (*Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya*) Histopathologists have difficulty in differentiating between lymphomas and pseudolymphomas of the orbit. Lymphomas are tumours derived from one cell line while pseudolymphomas are large aggregates of lymphoid cells and are not true tumours. Consequently, if they produce immunoglobulins at all, lymphomas would be expected to produce an immunoglobulin of only one type (monoclonal) while the lymphoid cells in pseudolymphomas would be expected to produce a variety of immunoglobulins. This hypothesis was tested on 9 lymphoid orbital masses. The findings will be presented and discussed.

Hepatitis B surface antigen in renal biopsies

LM LOOI AND K PRATHAP (*Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya*) A review of 478 consecutive renal biopsies performed in the University Hospital, Kuala Lumpur in the 3 year period between January 1976 and December 1978 showed positive immunofluorescent deposits of hepatitis B surface antigen in about 50 cases. The majority of these were from patients suffering from systemic lupus erythematosus.

The distribution of the deposits and the significance of these findings will be discussed.

Non-parasitic liver cysts

NIK AZIZAH WAN KADIR (*Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya*) Ten liver cysts, 2 of them malignant, were reported in the University Hospital between 1969 and 1978.

This paper presents their clinico-pathologic features and their long-term follow-up.

Malignant change was seen in two of these liver cysts—one an adenocarcinoma and another a cystadenocarcinoma. Features differentiating the two types will be illustrated.

An outbreak of acute conjunctivitis caused by Coxsackievirus A24 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1978

DORA SK TAN, M YIN-MURPHY AND S KANDIAH (*Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, Department of Bacteriology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Singapore and Eye Clinic, General Hospital, Kuala Lumpur*) An investigation of an outbreak of acute conjunctivitis in Kuala Lumpur from May to August 1978 was made. A total of 2133 cases was involved, most of whom were adult Malay males of low income status from the surrounding villages and low-cost flats. The majority of cases had bilateral conjunctivitis with clear discharge. Pain and subconjunctival haemorrhage were not common and recovery, mostly without complications, occurred within 1 week. Eye scrapings and paired sera specimens were examined and the causal agent was found to be Coxsackievirus A24.

Clinical evaluation of an automated column procedure for assay of CK-MB

M IMAI, GR WERMUS, RL RISACHER, EE BAILLE, JD STOREY, ML SASS, HJ GRADY, SM SAX AND JJ MOORE (*Du Pont Far East, Inc. Japan*) Evaluations were conducted in several laboratories to determine the analytical performance and diagnostic usefulness of a unique CK-MB test pack developed for the Du Pont Automatic Clinical Analyzer. The findings will be presented and discussed.