

19th EAHP Meeting 2018 Report

By Dr Faezahtul Arbaeyah Hussain

I was given the opportunity to attend the 19th Meeting of The European Association For Haematopathology in Edinburgh. It was a 5-and-half day meeting between 29th September to 4th October 2018, held in the Edinburgh International Conference Center.

More than 400 participants attended in meeting, from all over the world. Only three participants from Malaysia, which were me, Prof. Dr Noraidah Masir and Dr Ahmad Toha Samsudin. I submitted two cases of MEITL to contribute into the case discussion workshop that was held in the last two days lymphoma workshop.

The first half day was educational session, where the speakers talked about 'The approaches to the diagnosis and molecular/genetic evaluation of haematological disorders'. On the 30th, it was a whole day dedicated to bone marrow pathology. The other two days, 1st and 2nd October were the lymphoma symposiums, followed by the final two days of lymphoma workshop.

The bone marrow symposium consists of keynote on 'The role of the bone marrow microenvironment in lymphoma' and updates in ALL. All of the presentations and case discussion are on lymphoma infiltration into the bone marrow.

There were 7 lymphoma symposiums. Each symposium is divided into main topics, which include 'MALT lymphoma', 'Microenvironment in lymphomagenesis', 'Lymphoproliferative of immune privileged sites other than CNS & testis', 'Clinical correlation in cutaneous lymphoma', 'Potential of liquid biopsy in lymphoma' and 'Gastrointestinal lymphoproliferative disorders (T cells)', where, the first talk was given by a keynote speaker. The rest of the sessions were 15 minutes updates from researches that was done mainly around Europe and America, related to the main subjects. It was interesting to know the vast advanced researches that have been done in the lymphoma subjects. The QA at the end of each session, where the world experts in lymphoma, would give their comments and at times, they also elaborated on what was presented by the speakers. Another interesting scenario was that, there were two medical undergraduate students who spoke about their researches. I would think, we should encourage our medical undergraduate students to do this too, i.e to present their mini research findings in scientific meetings.

The highlights of this 5 1/2-day event were the morning sessions of 'Meet the Professor'. Event though I had to pay extra 30Euro for these 3 morning sessions, I enjoyed the small group discussions. Each session was 45 minutes, and each day there were 4 sessions running concurrently. It was up to the participants to choose which session they want to attend. Prebooking had to be done to secure a seat. I had the chance to listen to Prof. D.de Jong who talked on 'From Clinic to Molecular: Integration of all modalities in daily lymphoma diagnostics;

Prof E. Jaffe gave a talk on 'EBV associated lesions: Management of diagnostic problems' and Prof SH Swerdlow on 'A day in the life a haematopathologist'. Meeting the 'eminent council members of lymphoma' was so exciting.

The final two days of the meeting were dedicated on cases discussion. There were more than 200 cases (we had to sent 10 unstained slides for each case submitted along with abstract) from many parts of the world. They were then grouped into main pathology ie cutaneous lymphoma, GI T cell lymphoma etc. Each group of cases then will be reviewed by a panel of experts to see if they agreed with original given diagnosis or they would suggest a new diagnosis. The panels also select which case for oral presentation. Each presenter talked about their cases which include the clinical presentation, pathological findings, ancillary tests, the treatment/outcome of the patient and discussion of the diagnosis. At the end of each session, the expert panels will summarised all of the cases that were submitted to them, and mentioned those diagnoses that were slightly different from the panels' diagnosis.

It was a packed week with education on haematopathology. A few things that I learnt from this meeting was that, we are still lacking of established advanced molecular ancillary study in diagnosing lymphoma and the researches on lymphoma in Malaysia are only in small scale in each centre; we have to change this by having a national-wide study on lymphoma, involving many centres. I would strongly encourage other fellow pathologists who are subspecialising or already subspecialised to attend to this kind of meetings abroad. Even though it might be pricy (the registration fees, air flight ticket and accommodation), I think its totally worth it. I would like to thank MSH for sponsoring me to attend the 19th EAHP Meeting.

Mark your calendar

The 20th EAHP Meeting will be held in 2020 in Dubrovnik, Crotia 11-16th September 2020.


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ME, PROF DR NORAI DAH MASIR (UKM) AND DR AHMAD TOHA SAMSUDIN (QEH)

Monomorphic Epitheliotropic Intestinal T Cell Lymphoma (MEITL) (10)

Case Number	Submitter	Panel Diagnosis
311	Dr Laurence de Leval, Switzerland	MEITL
180	Dr Agnes S. Harahap, Indonesia	MEITL
181	Dr Anne Hultquist, Sweden	MEITL
224	Dr Clara Bertuzzi, Italy	MEITL
282	Dr Nathanael Bailey, US	MEITL
377	Dr Anna Kwiecinska, Sweden	MEITL
427	Dr John Goodlad, UK	MEITL
432	Dr Leticia Quintanilla-Fend, Germany	MEITL
468	Dr Mine Hekimgil, Turkey	MEITL
506	Dr Faezhtul A. Hussain, Malaysia	MEITL



2 CASES THAT WERE SUBMITTED FOR THE LYMPHOMA WORKSHOP, AND THE PANELS ACCEPTED OUR DIAGNOSES.