

**2011 SPP Fall Meeting
Milwaukee, WI
September 29-October 2, 2011**

Synopsis

The 2011 Fall SPP Symposium will draw on local, national, and international expertise to focus on "Vascular Tumors and Malformations." This is an area of great difficulty to many pediatric pathologists and significant local expertise exists. Presentations will address the diagnostic, therapeutic, and biologic aspects of these lesions. The symposium director is Dr. Paula North, of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.

Needs Assessment

Vascular anomalies of infancy and childhood, comprised by vascular tumors and vascular malformations, are a broad, heterogeneous group of clinicopathologically distinct entities of diverse etiology for which accurate histopathological diagnosis is frequently essential in guiding approaches to effective therapy. Unfortunately, pathologists, like many clinicians, and radiologists have historically, lumped these lesions under the generic term *hemangioma*, sometimes qualified by simplified descriptive modifiers such as capillary or cavernous. In part, this nosological oversimplification has reflected lack of widespread recognition of the clinical urgency for precise diagnosis for many of these perplexing, even life-threatening disorders, and, in part, ignorance of very recent advances in our understanding of underlying pathogenetic mechanisms that support more specific classification and more specifically targeted therapies. As development of important new diagnostic tools and better understanding of etiology have evolved, international multidisciplinary consensus has turned to a new, more biologically-based classification system and therapeutic approach for dealing with these too often clinically devastating lesions.

The symposium will provide participants with current multidisciplinary understanding of vascular anomalies, encompassing the historical perspective, the perspectives of leading clinicians, radiologists and surgeons who treat vascular anomalies patients in renowned specialty centers, the histological perspective of pathologists specializing in the field, and the scientific perspective of leading researchers in the field thereby promoting improved diagnosis and patient outcomes.

COG Update

Protocols for treatment of pediatric malignancies and the requirements for submission of pathologic and biologic specimens are continuously evolving as knowledge of these diseases grows and new technologies emerge. While the vast majority of pediatric pathologists, as well as many general pathologists, are responsible for the appropriate triage and processing of biopsies and resections for COG protocols, only a minority attend COG meetings and/or are actively involved as investigators on COG protocols. This disparity leads to gaps in the pathologist's understanding of protocol requirements and/or the scientific basis for specific requirements. The "COG Update" was implemented and serves to inform participants of new requirements in COG protocols and the emerging scientific data driving those changes. The "COG Update" addresses the various disease groups on a rotating basis. The disease group to be presented at a particular meeting is chosen by the COG Pathology Chair in consultation with the Education Committee based on the extent and significance of new information related to that disease group and/or the elapsed time since that disease group was last addressed in a "COG Update." The "COG Update" is expected to bridge gaps in knowledge and understanding of the evolving protocol requirements and the scientific basis for those requirements, thereby facilitating the appropriate triage and handling of these clinical specimens.

Overall Program Objectives

Upon completion of this meeting, participants should be able:

1. Through the platform and poster scientific sessions, enhance their knowledge and apply recent advancements in research and practice to their work, related to the biology, characterization and/or diagnosis of pediatric disease.
2. Through the Symposium, relate recent advancements in the diagnostic, therapeutic and biologic aspects of vascular anomalies to their clinical practice and research; consult in management of vascular anomalies by multidisciplinary teams of clinicians, radiologists, pathologists and surgeons – thereby promoting improved diagnosis and patient outcomes. The topic of the 2011 Fall Meeting Symposium is “Vascular Tumors and Malformations.”
3. Through the COG Update, examine new requirements in COG protocols and the emerging scientific data driving those changes to facilitate the appropriate triage and handling of these clinical specimens. The topic of the 2011 “COG Update” is “Pediatric Brain Tumors”.

Symposium Objectives

Upon completion of this symposium, participants should be able to:

1. Interpret and utilize in practice the current biology-based classification of vascular anomalies of infancy and childhood, accepted by specialty centers across the globe, in which a broad multidisciplinary approach is often essential to the diagnosis and treatment of these disorders.
2. Incorporate in communication and reports the specific types of information practicing clinicians and surgeons need from their pathology colleagues in the diagnosis of these lesions – and vice versa.
3. Distinguish clinical look-alikes, whether vascular or non-vascular, benign or malignant, that may confound dermatologists and surgeons and acutely require accurate histopathological diagnosis.
4. Correlate pathological and radiological findings that are particularly critical for diagnosis and therapeutic guidance.
5. Apply in practice the recent changes in nomenclature and radiological and histological diagnostic criteria for hepatic “hemangiomas” that have changed the surgical and medical approach to infants with perinatal hepatic masses.
6. Describe important recent research findings, new investigational tools, and continuing challenges in the study of these still perplexing disorders.

Planner and Faculty Disclosure

As a sponsor accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Society for Pediatric Pathology (SPP) must ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all its individually or jointly sponsored educational activities. All planners and faculty (speakers, authors and presenters) who participate in the planning and execution of an SPP educational activity are required to disclose whether they or their spouse/partner have any significant financial interest or other relationship (1) with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) and/or provider(s) of commercial services discussed in an educational presentation and (2) with any commercial supporters of the activity. (A “significant financial interest or other relationship” can include such things as grants or research support, status as an employee, consultant, major stock holder, member of speakers bureau, etc.) This applies to current relationships as well as any within the past twelve months. The intent of this disclosure is not to prevent a faculty member with a significant financial or other relationship from making a presentation. Disclosure is required so that planners may reasonably decide whether to make adjustments in the program and its faculty, and so that participants in the activity may formulate their

own judgments as to whether the faculty member's interests or relationships influenced the presentation with regard to exposition or conclusion. The SPP has also required that faculty disclose any products that are not labeled for the use under discussion and that the disclosure be made to the audience at the time of presentation.

All planners and faculty who participate in the planning and execution of an SPP educational activity have been informed of the SPP Policy on Disclosure of Relevant Conflicts of Interest. Faculty who have disclosed industry relationships have been counseled, in writing, of the necessity to deliver their presentations in a manner free of commercial bias. Written notification is made, in accordance with SPP Policy, to resolve any relevant conflicts of interest.

CERTIFICATE OF CME/SAM CREDIT OR PARTICIPATION

Accreditation Statement

The Society for Pediatric Pathology is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

The Society for Pediatric Pathology designates this live activity for a maximum of 10.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should only claim the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

International Physicians

The American Medical Association has determined that physicians not licensed in the US who participate in this CME activity are eligible for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™].

Health Professionals

Health Professional participants (including residents and fellows-in-training) may claim hours to receive a Certificate of Participation for an activity designated for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™].

CME Credits

Certificates of continuing medical education *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™] will be issued through the Society for Pediatric Pathology. CME credits will only be awarded after completion of an online evaluation form.

Self-Assessment Module Credits

The SPP is accredited by the American Board of Pathology to offer Self-Assessment Module (SAM) credits for the purpose of meeting the American Board of Pathology requirements for Maintenance of Certification. Registrants must take and pass the post-test in order to claim SAMs credit(s). SAM credits are offered for the fall meeting and perinatal symposia only.