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Introduction and Organization

This department was re-organized in 2003, uniting Department of Human Pathology and Department of Diagnostic Pathology. It is responsible for the practice of diagnostic pathology, education, and research in conjunction with Division of Diagnostic Pathology of the University Hospital. Our aim is the construction of “pathology as clinical medicine” as well as “next-generation pathology for translational research”.

In 2007, Lecturer Dr. Kashima and Associate Dr. Goto have started their research as a visiting scientist in UK and USA, respectively. New members of Associate were Drs. Ishikawa, Hino, and Morikawa. Dr. Nakaya was taken in as Program Associate of Cancer Profession Training Program, which has started in October.

Three postgraduate students finished the course and received Ph.D. In the new fiscal year, 2008, there are ten postgraduates (including one foreign student).

The research is mainly based on morphology, targeting human diseases. On the other hand, we take charge of General pathology course for the 1st grade students in collaboration with Department of Molecular Pathology, and Systematic pathology, Clinical clerkship, and Bedside-learning (BSL) for the 2nd –4th grade students.

Clinical activities (diagnostic pathology and autopsy)

Together with Division of Diagnostic Pathology, we are responsible for the pathologic diagnosis and autopsy in the University Hospital (see the corresponding section of Division of Diagnostic Pathology).

Clinico-pathological conferences (CPCs) for the two autopsy cases are held every month in the hospital. They serve to the education of clinical residents in addition to the weekly autopsy conferences. Surgical pathology conferences are regularly held with each clinical division, and discusses the cases of various tumors, including thorax, upper gastrointestinal tract, neurosurgery, liver, pancrea-biliary tract, urology, gynecology, breast, and orthopedics, as well as biopsy cases of liver, kidney and skin.

Teaching activities

We take on General Pathology course for the 1st grade of undergraduate students, especially in its morphological field. The course program and lecture notes are open to public and available in UT Open Course Ware（http://ocw.u-tokyo.ac.jp/）.

Each class of Systematic Pathology course and the exercise is held in parallel with that of Systematic Medical course. Such integrated classes are expected to promote the practical understanding of systemic pathology for students. Handouts are available in every half course of the pathological exercises. Furthermore, all slides used in the course are now transformed to virtual slides, and are accessible on our website.

Clinical clerkship for the 3rd grade, and BSL for the 4th grade are carried out. In BSL, following courses are included; autopsy pathologic practices including presentation of each case for paired students, surgical pathologic practice using various tumor sections, and a tour of the pathology laboratory.

The past examinations for the second grade students and for graduation are also referred on the web.

We will start the lecture series of tumor pathology for the Cancer Profession Training Program in postgraduate school, and have written the textbook for them (Bunkodo, 2008).

Research activities

The firsrt major theme is “chronic inflammation and neoplasms”, for which various investigations are developed, including Epstein-Barr virus associated neoplasms (gastric carcinoma), lung carcinoma and scar formation, and carcinogenesis in pulmonary fibrosis.

The second main theme is the search of target molecules for cancer therapy by global analysis of expression profiles of various cancers, in collaboration with Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology, the University of Tokyo.

We hosted the 4th Epstein-Barr Virus Conference on June 29, 2007.

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