



HISTOTECHNOLOGY
SOCIETY OF NSW

Histo at the Beach **Saturday 29th July 2023**



Megan Clarke

Snr Biobanking Technician,
Hunter Cancer Biobank



Dr Alison Potter

Pathologist,
NSW Health Pathology



Dr Allan Cala

Forensic Pathologist,
NSW Health Pathology



'Immunohistochemistry
and biobanking'

'Skin biopsies - There is more
than one way to skin a cat'

'Forensic histology on the
foreshore'

3 presentations + 2 Course lunch and drinks + Networking



Register now!

<https://histonsw.org.au/event/histo-at-the-beach/>

Click here, use the QR code or visit our website to register!*

Registrations close 17th of July 2023



HISTOTECHNOLOGY SOCIETY OF NSW

Dr Alison Potter
Pathologist,
NSW Health Pathology



Skin biopsies:

There is more than one way to skin a cat

Skin specimens come in a wide range of shapes and sizes – it seems that there is more than one way to skin a cat! In this session we will tease out the differences and nuances to macroscopic skin pathology, from the clinical decisions of the dermatologist, the approach to macroscopic dissection, and the impact on subsequent microscopic diagnosis.

Presenter Bio

Dr Alison Potter is a Staff Specialist Anatomical Pathologist at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. She gained fellowship in 2021 and completed a Melanoma Dermatopathology Fellowship at the Melanoma Institute Australia prior to joining the team at RPAH. Dr Potter has since fostered a keen interest in Dermatopathology, Bone and Soft Tissue, and Genitourinary Pathology. As a lecturer at the University of Sydney and University of New South Wales, Dr Potter is passionate about educating others in the pathological basis of disease.

Dr Allan Cala
Forensic Pathologist,
NSW Health Pathology



Forensics on the Foreshore

Forensic Pathology is practised at 3 separate campuses in NSW- Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong. Coroner's cases from almost the entire state are handled by around 18 pathologists and trainees, plus technical, admin and social work staff, all who work tirelessly to provide an excellent service to the people of NSW.

Presenter Bio

Senior Staff Specialist Forensic Pathologist | NSW Health Pathology, Forensic & Analytical Science Service.

Born in Sydney many years ago; went to UNSW and graduated in 1982. Years of clinical medicine but been a forensic specialist since 1994; worked in the UK, Ireland and most states of Australia. Overseas trips to SE Asia and the Indo-Pacific. You can see, I was the future, once.



HISTOTECHNOLOGY SOCIETY OF NSW

Megan Clarke

Snr Biobanking Technician,
Hunter Cancer Biobank and
Medical Laboratory Technician
NSW Health Pathology



Presenter Bio

Megan is a technician for NSW Health Pathology and for the NSW Regional Biospecimen and Research Services.

Her main role is to run the automated Immunohistochemistry to optimize crisp, clear and antibody specific immunohistochemistry slides. She is also involved in the tissue processing, embedding, sectioning, and staining at the biobank. Megan has been working in the diagnostic Anatomical Pathology Laboratory for almost 30 years. Her experience and knowledge in all areas are valuable and she is more than willing to help on any project that is necessary. Megan completed her Diploma in pathology Techniques in 1992 and attends regular conferences and workshops to ensure she is up to date with all laboratory and immunohistochemistry techniques.

Immunohistochemistry and biobanking

In a changing world of laboratory life how can these two worlds meet?

Immunohistochemistry uses antibodies to detect the location of proteins and other antigens in tissue sections. The antibody-antigen interaction is visualized using either chromogenic detection with a coloured enzyme substrate, or fluorescent detection with a fluorescent dye.

A biobank is defined as a collection of biomaterials (for example, blood, urine, tissue samples) linked to relevant personal and health information and held specifically for non-diagnostic purposes such as research.

To combine both pathways under the one banner has been a whole new challenge but proving to be a successful process.

The researchers can request samples of any cancer form that can be obtained by the Biobank and use this specifically for their protocol driven project.

Requesting samples with matched data is the key to the samples from biobanks and then using an automated research IHC platform the technician can have involvement from the tissue retrieval and provision, IHC optimisation and staining, involvement with pathologist interpretation and then data retrieval.



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