Editor

Runjan Chetty (Canada)

Associate Editors

Jonathan R Kerr (Microbiology; UK) Mary Frances McMullin (UK) Tahir Pillay (Chemical Pathology; South Jorge Reis-Filho (MolecularPathology;

Joe Unsworth (Immunology; UK)

Dhiren Govender (South Africa)

ACP Trainee Representative Guy Martland (UK)

Best Practice Editors

Rousseau Gama (Chemical Pathology:

Joe Unsworth (Immunology; UK) Jonathan R Kerr (Microbiology; UK) Mark Heatley (Histopathology; UK)

Statistical Editor

Angie Wade (UK)

Impact Factor: 2.245

Disclaimer: Journal of Clinical Pathology is owned and published by the Association of Clinical Pathologists and BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Medical Association. The owners grant editorial freedom to the Editor of Journal of Clinical Pathology.

Journal of Clinical Pathology follows quidelines on editorial independence produced by the World Association of Medical Editors and the code on good publication practice of the Committee on Publication Ethics.

Journal of Clinical Pathology is intended for medical professionals and is provided without warranty, express or implied. Statements in the journal are the responsibility of their authors and advertisers and not authors' institutions, the BMJ Publishing Group Ltd or the BMA unless otherwise specified or determined by law. Acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsement.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the RM. I Publishing Group Ltd shall not be liable. for any loss, injury or damage resulting from the use of Journal of Clinical Pathology or any information in it whether based on contract, tort or otherwise. Readers are advised to verify any information they choose to rely on.

Copyright: © 2008 BMJ Publishing Group Ltd and the Association of Clinical Pathologists. All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of Journal of Clinical Pathology.

Journal of Clinical Pathology is published by BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, typeset by The Charlesworth Group and printed in the UK on acid-free paper by Latimer Trend & Co Ltd. Plymouth.

Periodicals postage paid, Rahway, New Jersey, USA. Postmaster: send address changes to: Journal of Clinical Pathology, c/o Mercury Airfreight International Ltd. 365 Blair Road, Avenel, NJ 07001, USA.

Journal of Clinical Pathology

Journal of the Association of Clinical Pathologists JCP is a core publication for workers in all disciplines of pathology. Clinical pathology is its central theme but the journal also publishes basic science papers with a clear clinical application

Editorial Board

F Al-Mulla (Kuwait), S Asa (Canada), D Collins (UK), K Cooper (USA), F Couto (India), P Coyle (UK), M Crook (UK), G Cserni (Hungary), A P Dei Tos (Italy), H-J Delecluse (Germany), R Drut (Argentina), A Folpe (USA), S Fox (Australia), D Ghazarian (Canada), A Giordano (USA), D Govender (South Africa), S Hirohashi (Japan), W Irving (UK), C Jones (UK), K Kerr (UK), M Laffan (UK), L Lamps (USA), C Le Roux (UK), S Lee (Australia), A S-Y Leong (Australia), G McCluggage (UK), M F McMullin (UK), S Nayler (South Africa), J J O'Leary (Ireland), G Perry (USA), T Planche (UK), F Schmitt (Portugal), J Y Scoazec (France), P H Tan (Singapore), G Tse (Hong Kong), P Twomey (UK), J Wainscoat (UK), I S Young (Northern Ireland), Editor, BMJ

Association of Clinical Pathologists

President

G P Spickett

President-Elect

R M Young

Vice-Presidents

W A Telfer Brunton L J McWilliam

Chairman of Council M J Galloway

Honorary Secretary A N Stark

Honorary Treasurer W J Fuggle

General Administrator

Ms Alison Martin, 189 Dvke Road, Hove. East Sussex BN3 1TL UK T: +44 (0)1273 775 700 F: +44 (0)1273 773 303 E: info@pathologists.org.uk http://pathologists.org.uk



JCP Online Archive

The full back archive of Journal of Clinical Pathology is now available from 1969 at http:// jcp.bmj.com/. Users have FREE access to all articles, older than 12 months*, right back to Volume 1, Issue 1. The online archives were digitised with the help of the US National Library of Medicine

Personal subscribers must sign in to access this content. Users not covered by an institutional or personal subscription will have to complete a one-time registration that grants access to all archive content, across all our titles

*Articles that are 12 months old or less require a subscription to access them.

Subscription Information

Journal of Clinical Pathology is published monthly (subscribers have access to all supplements)

Institutional Rates 2008

Print

£499; US\$948; €739

Online

Site licences are priced on FTE basis and allow access by the whole institution. Print is available at deeply discounted rates for online subscribers; details available online at http://group.bmj.com/group/subssales/subscriptions or contact the Subscription Manager in the UK (see

Personal Rates 2008

Print (includes online access at no additional cost) £194; US\$369; €287

Online only

£99; US\$188; €147

ISSN: 0021 9746 (print) ISSN: 1472 4146 (online)

Personal print or online only and institutional print subscriptions may be purchased online at http://group.bmj.com/group/ subs-sales/subscriptions (payment by (MasterCard/Visa only).

Residents of some EC countries must pay VAT: for details call us or visit http:// group.bmj.com/group/subs-sales/subscriptions/subs-vat

Contact Details

Editorial Office

BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, UK

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6209

F: +44 (0)20 7383 6668

E: jclinpath@bmjgroup.com

http://journals.bmj.com/misc/permissions.dtl

Supplement Enquiries

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6057

F: +44 (0)20 7554 6759

E: journals@bmjgroup.com

Subscriptions (except USA)

Subscription Manager, BMJ Journals, BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, PO BOX 299, London WC1H 9TD, UK

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6270

F: +44 (0)20 7383 6402

E: subscriptions@bmjgroup.com

http://group.bmj.com/group/subs-sales/ subscriptions

US Subscriptions

PP&F PO Box 361, Birmingham, AL35201-0361

T: +1 800 348 6473 (toll free in the USA)

F: +1 205 995 1588

E: bmj-clinicalevidence@ebsco.com

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6181

F: +44 (0)20 7383 6556

E: ecurrer@bmjgroup.com

http://group.bmj.com/group/advertising

Author Reprints

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6305

F: +44 (0)20 7383 6699

E: swilliams@bmjgroup.com

Commercial Reprints (except USA & Canada) Nadia Gurney-Randall

T: +44 (0)20 8445 5825

M: +44 (0)7866 262344

F: +44 (0)20 8445 5870

E: ngurneyrandall@bmjgroup.com

Commercial Reprints (USA & Canada) Marsha Fogler

T: +1 800 482 1450 (toll free in the USA)

T: +1 856 489 4446 (outside the USA)

F: +1 856 489 4449

E: mfogler@medicalreprints.com

Guidelines for Authors and Reviewers

Full instructions are available online at http://jcp.bmj.com/ifora. Articles must be submitted electronically http://submit-jcp.bmj.com. Authors retain copyright but are required to grant Journal of Clinical Pathology an exclusive licence to publish http://jcp.bmj.com/ifora/licence.dtl