

## **nPOD Investigator Newsletter, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

### **Webinars:**

Dr. Martha Campbell-Thompson gave a webinar on April 25 reviewing nPOD online pathology system (Aperio). It went very well and was really helpful for investigators to see what Aperio can offer in case. You can access the recorded meeting from the following links:

[Streaming the Aperio Webinar](#)

[Download the Aperio Webinar](#)

Our next webinar will be on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 5pm US Eastern Daylight Time (GMT-04:00). Drs. Marika Bogdani and Tom Wight from Benaroya Research Institute will be leading the webinar. The title for the talk is "Extracellular Matrix in Islets and Lymphoid Tissues in T1D". They will be joined by Dr. Charmaine Simennovic from Australia and Drs. Eva Korpos and Lydia Sorokin from Germany to present data. A brief summary in this research field will be given then followed up with more detailed nPOD cases discussion. Specifically cases 6052 and 6070 will be the focus among the presenters. Feel free to contact me if you would like to contribute as well in this webinar or if you need the meeting information.

### **New Donor Category:**

A new donor category, **T2D+Incretin**, has been created to differentiate T2D cases received Incretin therapy from the ones did not. Among current nPOD collections, there are nine T2D+Incretin cases and 17 typical T2D cases (i.e., without Incretin therapy). For more information about these cases, please login to online pathology system (Aperio) or contact me for assistance.

### **nPOD Industry Group Tissue Prioritization Committee (TPC):**

A new Industry Group TPC in nPOD was formed to review new project applications from industry investigators. nPOD is opening doors and embracing industry investigators. The goal is to facilitate collaboration among all investigators either from academic institutions or industry, like pharmaceutical companies. The first meeting was held on April 16<sup>th</sup>. They reviewed a couple of requests and established rules for this new initiative. The Industry Group TPC is chaired by Dr. Mark Atkinson.

### **Survey on Meeting Goers for nPOD-V Face-to-Face Meeting Planning:**

nPOD-V group is planning a face-to-face meeting in one the upcoming meetings: PEVENT in Finland (May); EASD in Barcelona (September) and IDS in Australia (December). A survey email has been circulated among group members. We are hoping to finalize the plan soon so everyone can start planning their trip.

### **New Cases:**

nPOD received a couple of T1D cases in March.

- Case 6215, 34 years old, male, Caucasian, 15 years disease duration.
- Case 6220, 35 years old, female, Caucasian, 11 years disease duration.

For more information on these new cases, please login to Online Pathology Site (Aperio) or contact me for assistance.

### **New Approved Projects:**

The TPC approved the following projects in March 2013. Welcome Aboard!

1. To identify the differential expression of ADK in normal and diabetic individuals by Justin, Annes from Stanford University
2. Analysis of the antigen-specific T cell repertoire in T1D patients by Mark Davis and Ruth Taniguchi at Stanford University
3. Cell conversion in the human pancreas by Pedro Herrera and Simona Chera at University of Geneva Medical School
4. Role of Islet Amyloid and IL-1 $\beta$  Signaling in  $\beta$ -cell Loss in Cystic Fibrosis-Related Diabetes by Srinath Sanda and Rebecca Hull at UCSF/U of Washington
5. Preventing beta cell dedifferentiation in type 1 diabetes by Maike Sander at UCSD
6. To identify the role of the IL-18R+CD8 T cells subset in islet destruction by Nora Sarvetnick and Kamiya Mehla at University of Nebraska Medical Center
7. Analysis of Islet Enriched Transcription Factor Expression and Activity in Normal & Type 2 Diabetic Islets by Roland Stein at Vanderbilt University Medical Center

### **Cell Viability Work Group**

New cell viability group had the first online meeting to discuss the challenges and action steps on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013. Group leaders will draft SOP to be tested among labs and come back with suggestions for a cell viability SOP and define methodology for such assay. TCR/T cell group will be invited to comment on cell viability issues from nPOD samples. nPOD will also survey investigators receiving cells for their research and solicit feedback so the TPC can provide guidelines for new applicants with proposed research and manage expectations from received nPOD samples for their research.