



ANNUAL REPORT

50th Anniversary Year

COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS OF SRI LANKA

ANNUAL REPORT- 2025



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Annual Report 2025:

The 50th Anniversary Year of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

Authored and edited by

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Message from the President

The year 2025 will be remembered as a pivotal chapter in the long and renowned history of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka. This year holds particular significance as we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the College - a testament to the vision and tireless efforts of those who came before us. I consider it as a privilege to lead the College as the President during this remarkable year, 2025.



The year started with a clear vision and a year-long plan under the theme “Commemorating the Past, Excelling in the Present and Aspiring for the Future” culminated at the end with the collective effort of a dedicated team. While commemorating its richest history, the 50th anniversary provided a unique platform for us to showcase the profound impact of pathology on patient care, its creativity and humanity and to nature the next generation of pathologists.

The main highlight of the year was the 50th Anniversary International Conference, held in October which brought back many Sri Lankan pathologists from overseas and the highest number of overseas experts and delegates, providing a golden opportunity for networking and collaboration. To commemorate this milestone year, the College published a comprehensive book titled “The Final Diagnosis: A 50-year Odyssey” detailing the rich history of the College, and the laboratory medicine in the country.

The video competition emerged as one of the most creative and impactful initiatives of the Golden Jubilee year. It showcased the talent, passion, and scientific literacy of Sri Lankan university students while strengthening public awareness of cancer and the role of pathologists. Path Master Quiz 2025 proved to be an intellectually enriching and highly successful academic initiative. It brought together students from across the country, showcased their depth of knowledge in pathology, and strengthened interfaculty collaboration. Regional workshops strengthened diagnostic literacy, promoted early cancer detection, and built understanding of histopathology among healthcare workers and the community. The public awareness programme was implemented with stronger media engagement, focusing on the critical importance of early cancer diagnosis and the vital role pathology plays in this process. Panoramic PathoVision art competition and exhibition paved the way in celebrating the artistic talents within the pathology community and demonstrating the rich interplay between science and creativity.

The expert committees of the College served as an essential platform for evidence-based discussions, bringing together clinicians, policymakers, and stakeholders to tackle issues related to laboratory services at the national level. A comprehensive national plan for immunohistochemistry services and a detailed curriculum for training medical officers attached to histopathology laboratories were developed. The College also served an advisory role in developing the National Health Strategic Master Plan for next 10 years.

This Annual Report is more than just a record of events. It serves as evidence of what a united profession can accomplish when guided by values, and committed to betterment of its people. As the President of the College, I sincerely thank the Past Presidents, the Council, committees, working groups, collaborators and members for their steadfast commitment. Together, we have addressed the current needs and established a solid groundwork for the future.

Professor Priyani Amarathunga

President 2025

College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

Message from Joint Secretaries

The year 2025 was an exceptionally active and structured year for the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka, requiring sustained coordination, careful planning, and continuous engagement across multiple academic, professional, and public platforms. The



Golden Jubilee celebrations significantly expanded the scope of the College's work, and the effective functioning of this programme depended on the combined efforts of the Council, subcommittees, organising teams, collaborators, and volunteers throughout the year.

From the Secretarial perspective, one of the central priorities in 2025 was ensuring continuity, communication, and operational flow across a wide range of parallel activities. These included the planning and implementation of the 50th Anniversary programme, coordination of academic and public initiatives, documentation of policy and training work, and ongoing liaison with national and international partners.

The Golden Jubilee year comprised a diverse portfolio of initiatives, including student engagement programmes such as the Video Competition and the Path Master Quiz, creative initiatives such as the Panoramic PathoVision exhibition, regional academic and public outreach workshops, media and communication activities, and the landmark 50th Anniversary International Conference. Each of these projects required detailed scheduling, multi-institutional coordination, transparent governance processes, and careful documentation to ensure their successful delivery and accountability.

In addition to event-based activities, the College also advanced important long-term institutional objectives. Expert committees and working groups continued to contribute to national policy discussions, laboratory service development, training frameworks, and strategic planning processes. Training and capacity-building initiatives, including cytoscreener training, medical officer training in pathology, and career guidance programmes, strengthened the future workforce pipeline and reinforced the College's role in professional development.

The 50th Anniversary International Conference represented the culmination of much of this year's work, bringing together scientific exchange, professional recognition, and celebration of the College's history. Supporting its organisation involved extensive coordination with local and overseas faculty, partner organisations, sponsors, universities, and service providers, all of whom contributed to its success.

On behalf of the Secretaries, we extend our sincere appreciation to the President, Past Presidents, Council members, committee chairs, organisers, collaborators, sponsors, and members of the College for their cooperation, commitment, and trust throughout the year. The willingness of colleagues to work collaboratively, share responsibility, and support institutional processes was fundamental to the success of this milestone year.

This Annual Report stands as a record of collective professional effort, organisational discipline, and shared purpose. It has been a privilege to serve the College during this historic period, and we look forward to supporting its continued development in the years ahead.

Dr Lalani J De Silva

Dr Priya Amaraweera

Joint Secretaries 2025

College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

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Contributors

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Dr Priya Amaraweera, Joint Secretary
Dr Cherine Sosai, Organizer, Pre-congress workshop
Dr Badramali Ranasinghe, Convenor, Immunohistochemistry Subcommittee
Professor Gayana Mahendra, Coordinator, Path Master Quiz
Dr Jayanjana Asanthi, Organizer, Pathology Day
Dr Dayal Gamlaksha, Convenor, working group for workload assessment method
Dr Saundika Udugampola, Organizer, Panoramic Pathovision art exhibition
Dr Lakmalie Kariyawasam, Coordinator, Cervical Cancer Screening Programme
Dr R C U Priyadarshika, Conference Coordinator
Dr Samalai Kanagasabapathy, Conference Coordinator
Dr Ruwana Ranawaka, Convenor, Curriculum development committee for MO Pathology

Chapter 1:

Annual general meeting

This year marks a historic milestone for the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka (CPSL) as we proudly celebrate the 50th Anniversary of its establishment. Since its inception, the College has served as the pioneering professional body guiding the development of all pathology-related disciplines in the country. Over five decades, it has played a central role in advancing diagnostic pathology, strengthening specialist training, fostering research, and promoting excellence in laboratory medicine across Sri Lanka.

Today, the College stands as the sole professional organisation representing all histopathologists in the country. Its work has shaped national laboratory standards, enriched postgraduate education, and supported innovations in diagnostic services. As we commemorate this Golden Jubilee, we reflect with pride on a journey defined by commitment, scientific progress, and unity within the pathology community. We also renew our resolve to continue advancing the discipline for future generations, ensuring that Sri Lanka remains at the forefront of diagnostic excellence.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2025 was held on 25 January 2025, at Lecture Hall 1, 3rd Floor, PGIM Academic Centre, Colombo 08, commencing at 9.00 a.m. The meeting was conducted in a hybrid format, enabling both physical attendance and participation via Zoom. During the proceedings, the President and the Council for 2025 were duly appointed.



Annual General Meeting, January 2025

1.1. Appointment of the council

The appointed members of the council include as following:

Name	Post
Prof. Priyani Amarathunga	President
Dr. Mangala Bopagoda	President Elect
Dr. Cherine Sosai	Vice President
Dr. Lalani J De Silva	Joint Secretary
Dr. Priya Amaraweera	Joint Secretary
Dr. Harshima Wijesinghe	Chief Editor
Dr. Ramani Punchihewa	Treasurer

Ex officio	
Dr. Priyanka Abeygunasekara	Immediate Past President
Dr. Niluka Ranatunga	Immediate Past Secretary

Name	Post
Prof. Dulani Beneragama	Council Member
Prof. Chandu De Silva	Council Member
Dr. Jayanjana Asanthy	Council Member
Dr. Deshani Dimalika Walisinghe	Council Member
Dr. Probodha Samarakathne	Council Member
Dr. Dayal Sathyajith Gamlaksha	Council Member
Dr. Bhadramali Ranasinghe	Council Member
Dr. Chandika.Epitakaduwa	Council Member
Dr. Ruwana.Ranawaka	Council Member
Dr. Dilanthi Saundika Udugampola	Council Member
Dr. Kishanthi Ineesha Jayasinghe	Council Member
Dr. Sinnathurai Ahilan	Council Member
Dr. Avanthi Rajapaksha	Council Member
Dr. Modini Jayawickrama	Council Member
Dr. Lakmalie Kariyawasam	Council Member
Dr. R C U Priyadarshika (co-opted)	Conference coordinator

1.2. 50th anniversary celebration plan and the launch of the logo

Prof Priyani Amarathunga, the newly elected President addressed the gathering and presented the year plan for 50th Anniversary Celebration of the College. This included the activities of multi-stakeholder involvement including pathologists, technical officers, medical students and general public and presented with the tentative timeline for each activity.

The logo of the 50th anniversary celebration was also introduced.



Designer: Ms Yasassri Alvitigala, Demonstrator,
Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Colombo

1.3. Council 2025: Group photo



Seated from left to right

Dr Lalani J. de Silva (Joint Secretary), Professor Harshima Wijesinghe (Chief Editor), Dr R C U Priyadarshika (Conference Coordinator), Professor Chandu de Silva, Dr Priyanka Abeygunasekara (Immediate Past President), Professor Priyani Amarathunga (President), Dr Mangala Bopagoda (President Elect), Dr Cherine Sosai (Vice President), Professor Dulani Beneragama, Dr Ramani Punchihewa (Treasurer), Dr Priya Amaraweera (Joint Secretary)

Standing left to right

Dr Jayanjana Asanthi, Dr Niluka Ranathunga (Immediate Past Secretary), Dr Saundika Udugampola, Dr Prabodha Samaratne, Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa, Dr Sinnathuri Ahilan, Dr Dayal Gamlaksha, Dr Avanthi Rajapakse, Dr Ineesha Jayasinghe, Dr Ruwana Ranawaka, Dr Bhadramali Ranasinghe, Dr Deshani Walisinghe, Dr Lakamlie Kariyawasam

Absent

Dr Modini Jayawickrama

Chapter 2:

Highlights of the year: 50th anniversary celebration activities

The year 2025 was a landmark period for the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka, marked by a series of special academic, cultural, commemorative, and public engagement activities organised in honour of the College's Golden Jubilee. These events celebrated the College's 50-year journey while bringing together professionals from across the country and showcasing the growth, resilience, and progress of pathology as a discipline in Sri Lanka. The celebrations highlighted the College's multifaceted contributions to diagnostics, clinical services, education, research, and national health policy.

The events conducted throughout the year reflected the College's commitment to excellence and its continued emphasis on innovation, professional development, and community outreach. From prestigious ceremonial events to interactive educational programmes, the 50th Anniversary activities captured the breadth and depth of the College's impact on the medical community and the public.

2.1. Presidential induction and 50th anniversary celebration

The Golden Jubilee celebrations commenced with the Presidential Induction and 50th Anniversary Celebration, held on 12 March 2025 at the Imperial Monarch Hotel, Sri Jayewardenepura, Kotte. The event, conducted from 6.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m., was organised with dignity and attention to ceremonial tradition, reflecting the significance of the occasion for the College and its membership.



*Academic Procession at the 50th Anniversary Celebration
and the Presidential Induction Ceremony*

The ceremony began with a formal procession comprising the Council Members and office bearers of the CPSL, Past Presidents, the Chief Guest Professor Neelakanthi Ratnatunga, and the Guest Speaker Professor Chandu de Silva. After the singing of the National Anthem and the lighting of the traditional oil lamp, the distinguished guests were escorted to the head table.



Head table at the 50th Anniversary Celebration

Dr. Mangala Bopagoda, President-Elect 2025, welcomed those in attendance, acknowledging the Chief Guest, the Guest Speaker, and the many senior pathologists, academics, and medical professionals present. The induction ceremony followed, during which the outgoing President, Dr. Priyanka Abeygunasekara, formally conferred the President's Medal on Professor Priyani Amarathunga, inducting her as President of the College for the year 2025. A citation outlining Professor Amarathunga's contributions and achievements was read prior to the handover.



President Elect (left) and the Past President (right) addressing the gathering

In her Presidential Address, titled “Reflecting on the Present, to Prepare for Tomorrow,” Professor Amarathunga reflected on the College’s 50-year legacy, its strategic priorities, and the evolving landscape of pathology. She also presented the Past President’s Medal to Dr. Priyanka Abeygunasekara, acknowledging her dedicated service to the College.



Presidential Induction (left) and awarding Past President's medal (right)



Presidential Address by Prof Priyani Amarathunga, President 2025

Awarding of fellowships

As part of the ceremony, three distinguished members of the profession were awarded fellowships of the College in recognition of their exceptional contributions to pathology in Sri Lanka:

Professor Roshitha Nilmini Waduge
Citation delivered by Dr. Cherine Sosai

Dr. Shanika Fernandopulle
Citation delivered by Dr. Prabodha Samarakarathne

Professor Dulani Beneragama
Citation delivered by Dr. Avanthi Rajapaksha

The awarding of these fellowships marked an important moment of recognition for senior members who have shaped the academic, clinical, and professional landscape of pathology.



Fellowship awards to Prof Roshitha Waduge (left) and Dr Shanika Fernandopulle (right)



Fellowship awards to Prof Dulani Beneragama

Following the inductions and awards, Professor Priyani Amarathunga introduced the Chief Guest, who delivered an insightful keynote address titled “Challenges in Practicing Pathology in the Current Era.” The Guest Speaker, Professor Chandu de Silva, thereafter delivered the 50th Anniversary Lecture, “The Final Diagnosis – A 50-Year Odyssey,” reflecting on the historical evolution of pathology services, training, and academic leadership in Sri Lanka.



Address by the Chief Guest, Prof Neelakanthi Ratnatunga



Address by the Guest Speaker, Prof Chandu de Silva

Commemorative plaques were presented to both speakers in appreciation of their contribution to this important milestone event.

A special Golden Jubilee video presentation was screened, outlining the year's planned celebrations, including the 50th Anniversary International Conference. This was complemented by a joint invitation extended by the Presidents of the College and the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology (BD-IAP).

Video competition awards – Phase I

The ceremony also featured the awarding of prizes for Phase I of the CPSL 50th Anniversary Video Competition, recognising the three best submissions based on scientific accuracy, innovation, and public health impact. The prizes for this phase were generously sponsored by Sri Lankan pathologists residing in the United Kingdom. Details of the winners appear in Section 2.2.

The ceremony concluded with the Vote of Thanks delivered by Dr. Lalani J. De Silva, Joint Secretary of the College. Guests were then treated to an elegant cultural performance by the Channa-Upuli Performing Arts Foundation. The event ended with a congratulatory reception and dinner, providing an opportunity for collegial interaction among attendees.

The entire ceremony was livestreamed on the official YouTube channel of the College, extending its reach to members across the globe.



Vote of Thanks by Dr Lalani J De Silva (left) and the compering by Dr Rangana Karunaratne and Dr Sachinthana Sumanasekera (right)

2.2. 50th anniversary video competition

Organizing committee

Professor Priyani Amarathunga
Dr Jayanjana Asanthi
Dr Lalani De Silva
Dr Deshani Walisinghe
Dr Priya Amaraweera

Judge panel (IT Technical)

Mr Ravindra Devaka Kurululasuriya
Mr Kalpa Perera
Mr Ramesh Yasinha

Judge panel (Content and public health suitability)

Dr Mala Tudawe
Dr Geethika Jayaweera
Dr Janaki Fernando
Dr Cherine Sosai
Dr Renuka Goonesighe
Dr Mathivathini Umashankar
Dr Uthpala Amarasekara (Health Promotion Bureau)

As part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations marking fifty years of excellence in pathology, the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka organised a national level Video Competition. This initiative represented a novel fusion of scientific education, youth engagement, and creative communication, providing undergraduate students across Sri Lanka with an opportunity to contribute to cancer awareness through impactful visual storytelling. The

competition was designed not only to stimulate public education but also to highlight the indispensable role of the pathologist in cancer diagnosis and patient management. By enlisting the creativity of university students, the College successfully broadened its reach and encouraged the next generation of medical professionals to engage with pathology in meaningful and innovative ways.

Purpose and rationale

The central theme of the competition, “Raising Awareness about Cancers and the Role of Pathologists in Cancer Diagnosis,” was chosen to reflect the College’s longstanding commitment to public health advocacy. The competition aimed to enhance public understanding of cancer prevention, screening, and early detection, while also showcasing the complex diagnostic processes that underlie modern oncological care. By encouraging creative engagement with these themes, the College sought to promote health literacy and strengthen the relationship between scientific communication and community empowerment.

Eligibility and participation

Participation in the competition was open to all undergraduate students enrolled in recognised universities in Sri Lanka, with both individual and group submissions permitted. A total of 43 registrants expressed their intention to participate. To support the academic and scientific quality of the entries, the CPSL assigned each student or group a dedicated academic supervisor from the College. These supervisors provided guidance on content selection, scientific accuracy, ethical considerations, and overall professionalism, ensuring that the videos matched the standards expected of material disseminated under the College’s name. This collaborative approach ensured that the competition fostered not only creativity but also mentorship, scientific integrity, and professional growth.

Stepwise process: Video competition

- *Circulate the flyer with basic information to Deans of Faculties*
- *Calling expression of interest from university students via a google form*
- *Identifying an expert (a pathologist) for every faculty to guide students*
- *Sending specific guidelines to enrolled students and get them in contact with the expert*
- *Students creating videos under the guidance*
- *Submission of videos with a submission form which included declaration of originality and copyright transfer*
- *Content and technical evaluation by a panel of judges*
- *Revision of material as per evaluation*
- *Dissemination in social media*

Annexures:

1. *Video competition- Information and guidelines*
2. *Video competition – Application form*
3. *Video competition – Judging criteria*

Competition guidelines and expectations

Participants were required to produce an original video between three to five minutes in length. Submissions were accepted in Sinhala, Tamil, English, or a combination thereof, enabling broad linguistic inclusivity. The content guidelines encouraged participants to explore a range of focus areas, including:

- Cancer awareness and prevention
- Available cancer-screening services
- Pathological diagnostic methods
- The role of the pathologist in cancer diagnosis and care

Entries were submitted between 1 January and 15 February 2025, accompanied by a signed application form verified by an academic authority from the participant's university. Contestants also provided consent for technically and ethically approved videos to be uploaded to CPSL's official social media platforms.

Evaluation process

By the submission deadline, 23 videos were received. Each entry underwent a rigorous preliminary review to ensure compliance with technical specifications, scientific accuracy, and ethical communication standards. Videos were also examined for intellectual property considerations and for alignment with national regulations, including the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol (NATA) Act.

Only videos that met all criteria progressed to the formal evaluation stage. An appointed panel of experts assessed the videos using a structured marking scheme encompassing technical quality, scientific accuracy and ethical responsibility, public health impact and awareness value, highlighting the role of pathologists, and clarity and effectiveness of communication. This comprehensive system ensured fairness and consistency in evaluating the diverse entries received from universities across the country.

The evaluation panel consists of pathologists to cover all 3 languages, public health promotion specialists and IT experts.

Awards and recognition

Phase I - Judged Awards

The highest-scoring videos were honoured at the CPSL Presidential Induction Ceremony in March 2025. (refer Section 2.1)

The winners of the phase I: Best video awards

1st Place — Contestant No. 27

“Hope in Healing” – Awareness Video on Cervical Cancer

Participants: Shankavy Shanthirasegaram, Sunthareswaran Subangan, Kavippiriyah Kanakeshwaran, Krishnavi Ratnaranjan, Amalathas Johan Jeevathas, Mithurshan Jayanathan. Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo

2nd Place — Contestant No. 1

“The Invisible Heroes: Early Detection and the Role of Pathologists in Breast Cancer”

Participant: Q. Rahimaa Lamis

Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo

3rd Place — Contestant No. 24

“A Second Chance”

Participants: Kanesamoorthy Kanoojan, Yogendran Mathushanan, Wijayanthi Wijayakumar, Jegatheswaran Janenthalan

Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna.



Winners of the first phase of video competition receiving the prizes at the 50th Anniversary Celebration event

Phase II — Social media engagement and popular awards

Following the evaluated awards, all technically qualified videos were uploaded to the official CPSL YouTube channel and Facebook page in early April 2025, marking the commencement of Phase II, which focused on public engagement. Participants were encouraged to ethically promote their videos, while the College monitored viewership, likes, shares, and overall engagement on both platforms.

A standardised scoring system was used to identify the three most popular videos, based on cumulative engagement metrics collected until 30 September 2025. The Phase II awards were presented during the 50th Anniversary International Conference in October 2025, and winners received cash prizes together with travel grants.

Winners — Phase II: Most popular video awards

1st Place — Contestant No. 14

“Breast Cancer Awareness”

Participant: R.K. Umedha Sewmini

Faculty of Medicine, University of Sabaragamuwa

2nd Place — Contestant No. 6

“Colorectal Cancer Awareness”

Participants: W. Amindu Udes, Kavindu Jayasekara, Monali Anushka, Ashraff Wafi, Surangi Udesha, Upuli Indrachapa

Faculty of Medicine, University of Moratuwa

3rd Place — Contestant No. 24

“A Second Chance”

Participants: Kanesamoorthy Kanoojan, Yogendran Mathushanan, Wijayanthi Wijayakumar, Jegatheswaran Janenthal

Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna

In addition to the prizes for the winners, Certificates of Participation and a cash price were awarded to all technically qualified entrants.



Winners of the second phase of video competition receiving the prizes at the Inauguration Ceremony of the 50th Anniversary Conference

Ethical compliance and publication

The CPSL maintained strict standards of scientific accuracy and responsible communication. Videos found to violate copyright regulations, contain content inconsistent with public health laws, or promote material contrary to healthy lifestyle campaigns were withheld from publication. All participants were notified respectfully regarding the status of their submissions.

Funding

This project was funded by the generous donations from Sri Lankan pathologists based in the United Kingdom and Australia.

Conclusion

The 50th Anniversary Video Competition emerged as one of the most creative and impactful initiatives of the Golden Jubilee year. It showcased the talent, passion, and scientific literacy of Sri Lankan university students while strengthening public awareness of cancer and the role of pathologists. The competition deepened the College's engagement with the broader community, encouraged responsible health communication, and demonstrated the value of interdisciplinary collaboration between medical educators, clinicians, and students. It stands as a model for future public education initiatives and a meaningful contribution to the 50-year legacy of the College.

2.3. “Path Master Quiz” competition 2025

Invigilators (online round)	
Organizing committee	Dr Umashankar Mathivadini
Professor Priyani Amarathunga	Dr Avanthi Rajapaksha
Professor Gayana Mahendra (Coordinator)	Dr Ruwana Ranawaka
Dr Cherine Sosai	Dr Prabhoda Samaratne
Professor Dulani Beneragama	Dr Lakmalie Kariyawasam
Dr Niluka Ranathunga	Dr Deshani Walisinghe
Professor Hemali Gunasekara	Dr Surangi Hiroshani
Dr Samalai Kanagasabapathy (Convenor)	Dr Vinothika Sivamayuran
Dr Roshitha De Silva	Dr Chandrani Somaratne
Dr Priya Amaraweera	Dr Menaka Weerasinghe
Dr Lalani De Silva	Dr Pradeepa Gayani
	Dr S Ahilan
	Dr Jayanjana Asanthi
	Dr Lakpriya Wijethunga
Expert panel for question selection	
Professor Lakmini Mudduwa	Invigilators (physical round)
Professor Roshitha Waduge	Dr Modini Jayawickrama
Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi	Dr Niluka Ranathunga
Professor Sulochana Wijetunge	Dr Priya Amaraweera

As another event of the 50th Anniversary celebrations, the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka organised the Path Master Quiz – 2025, an Inter Medical Faculty Pathology Quiz, a national academic competition designed to strengthen undergraduate engagement with pathology and to promote excellence in medical education across the country. The competition aimed to inspire enthusiasm for pathology among medical students, encourage healthy academic rivalry between medical faculties, and reinforce the importance of foundational and applied pathology in medical education and clinical practice.

The Path Master Quiz received an overwhelmingly positive response from universities throughout Sri Lanka. Invitations were extended to the Deans of all twelve medical faculties, each of whom responded affirmatively by nominating a student team and appointing recognized academic supervisors. This ensured full national representation and established the quiz as a flagship academic event of the Golden Jubilee year.

Teams participated:

1. Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo (FMC)
2. Faculty of Healthcare Sciences, Eastern University of Sri Lanka (FME)
3. Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna (FMJ)
4. Faculty of Medicine, General Sir John Kotelawala University (FMJK)
5. Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya (FMK)
6. Faculty of Medicine, University of Moratuwa (FMM)
7. Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya (FMP)
8. Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna (FMR)
9. Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (FMRJ)
10. Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (FMS)
11. Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura (FMSJ)

The competition comprised two stages:

- Online round (First round)
- Physical final round (Second round)

Both phases were carefully planned and executed by the quiz organising committee with support from expert reviewers, academic coordinators, technical officers, and multiple institutional partners.

Online round — First phase of the competition

The online round of the Path Master Quiz 2025 was held on 29 July 2025, from 9.30 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. All twelve medical faculties participated this phase concurrently at their respective institutions. Each university coordinated its session under the supervision of its designated academic coordinator with the support of a IT technical officer and a CPSL-appointed invigilator, while the overall process was centrally monitored by the College.

The programme commenced with an introduction to the Path Master Quiz and a reflection on the 50-year journey of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka, emphasizing the College's contributions to medical education and laboratory services nationwide by the President Prof Priyani Amarathunga. Participants were introduced and then briefed on the rules, structure, time allocation, scoring system, and expectations for the competition by Prof Gayana Mahendra and the quiz master Dr Roshitha De Silva.

Stepwise process: Path Master Quiz

Enrolling teams

- Circulate the flyer with basic information to Deans of Faculties and calling nominations for a faculty academic coordinator*
- Enrolling teams from the faculties through the faculty academic coordinator*
- Circulation of information to coordinators*

Setting the quiz

- Creating a pool of pathologists for setting questions*
- Circulating guidelines to the pathologists to set questions*
- Initial scrutiny and stratification by content and the difficulty level of questions by the organizing committee*
- Selections of questions for the quiz by an independent panel of experts*
- Upload the quiz into the online quiz platform*

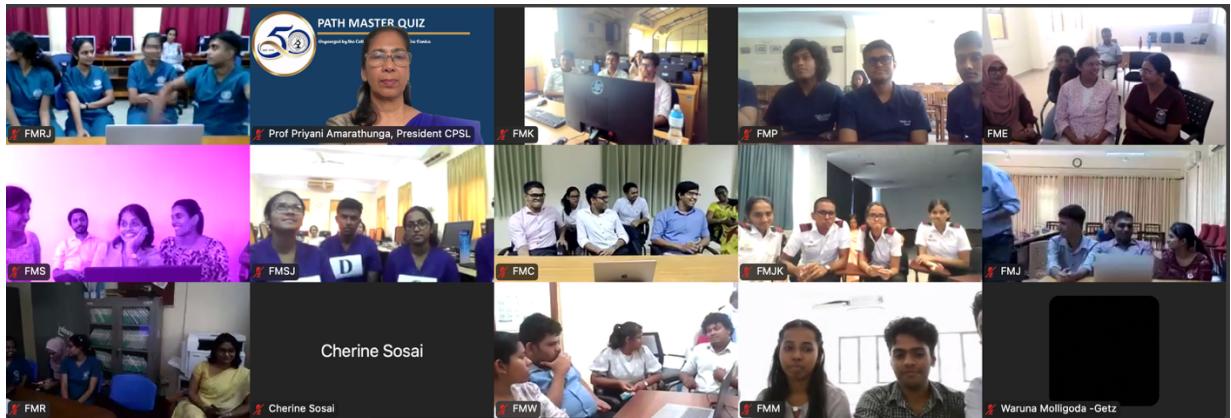
Conduct of the quiz

- Phase 1 – online*
 - Setting rules and regulations in liaison with the faculty academic coordinators*
 - Setting the local venue at the faculty to attempt the quiz with the help of an identified IT expert from each faculty*
 - Assigning an identified pathologist as an invigilator at the local setting*
 - Conduct of the quiz online, moderated by the quiz master*
- Phase 2 – physical*
 - Setting IT facilities to attempt the quiz through online platform*
 - Assigning an invigilator for each team*
 - Conduct of the quiz, moderated by the quiz master*

Annexures:

- Path Master quiz - Guidelines for the pathologists to submit questions: round 1*
- Path Master quiz - Guidelines for the pathologists to submit questions: round 2*
- Path Master quiz – Quiz competition information sheet*
- Path Master Quiz- Registration form*
- Path Master quiz – Online quiz format and*

The online quiz which ran on Kahoot platform, supported by Mr Waruna Molligoda consisted of six separate rounds including four individual rounds and two group rounds. The questions, developed and vetted by panels of subject experts, assessed core pathology knowledge, interpretive skills, analytical speed, and problem-solving accuracy. Question difficulty increased progressively throughout the quiz, with integrated mechanisms for time-based scoring to reward both precision and efficiency.



Conduct of the online quiz in zoom platform

The online round proceeded smoothly across all centres, with strong participation and minimal technical interruptions. At the conclusion of the quiz, a commemorative video marking the 50th Anniversary of the College was screened. This was followed by a brief career guidance segment encouraging students to consider the diverse career pathways available in pathology by Dr Cherine Sosai. Dr Samalai Kanagasabapathy delivered the vote of thanks.



Teams of the online quiz with their faculty staff and the invigilator



Teams of the online quiz with their faculty staff and the invigilator

The three teams qualified for the final round

Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo (FMC)

Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura (FMSJ)

Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya (FMK)

Final round — Physical competition

The physical final round of the PathMaster Quiz was held on 3 September 2025, from 9.00 a.m. to 11.45 a.m., at the 5th Floor Auditorium, UCFM Tower, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. This event brought together the three qualifying teams for the final phase of the competition and was attended by senior academics, past presidents, council members of the CPSL, university coordinators, undergraduate students and invited guests.

The programme commenced with a formal welcome address by the President, CPSL followed by remarks highlighting the role of pathology in medical training and its relevance across clinical disciplines by the Acting Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Colombo. The finalist teams were introduced by Prof Gayana Mahendra and the quiz master, Dr Janidu Karunaratne provided a detailed overview of the scoring structure and expectations for the final stage.

The complexity of questions and time constraints increased in a graded manner, challenging students' accuracy, speed, reasoning, and ability to work collaboratively. The event demonstrated a high level of preparation by the contestants and the strong coordination of the organisers.

A guest lecture was organised to inspire the attendees including medical students, on the field of pathology title "History of Pathology: From Papyrus to Precision Medicine". This lecture delivered by Prof Janaki Hewavisenthi, Chair Professor, Faculty of Medicine, Ragama, provided a comprehensive overview of the evolution of pathology, tracing its development from ancient origins to modern advancements in molecular diagnostics and precision oncology. It enriched the academic value of the event and provided meaningful context for students pursuing careers in diagnostic sciences.



Head table (right) and the organizers (left) at the Path Master Quiz



Speakers at the Path Master Quiz physical round



Audience at the Math Master Quiz physical round

At the conclusion of the rounds, the scores were tabulated and the winners announced in the presence of senior members of the College.

Champions: Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo (FMC)

1st Runner-up: Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura (FMSJ)

2nd Runner-up: Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya (FMK)

The teams were awarded cash prizes and the certificates. The event concluded with a formal Vote of Thanks, delivered by Dr Samalai Kangasabapathy (convenor) and a group photographs, followed by refreshments for all attendees. The organising committee acknowledge the all the team members along with the expert panellists, technical staff, and sponsors whose support made the event a success.



Champion team, University of Colombo with their academic staff



First runners-up team, University of Sri Jayewardenepura with their academic staff



Second runners-up team, University of Kelaniya with their academic staff



Winners with the organizing committee

The champion team of the Path Master Quiz ie. University of Colombo team was invited to the inauguration ceremony of the 50th Anniversary International Conference and awarded the Inaugural Path Master Trophy. Dedicated service provided by Prof Gayana Mahendra in meticulous coordination of the event was also appreciated.



Some of the pathologists attended at the Path Master Quiz



Champion team receiving Path Master Trophy at the Inauguration Ceremony of the 50th Anniversary Conference

The educational material generated through this academic activity was finally shared with the academic coordinators of each faculty on their request, for them to use as learning material for the students.

Funding

The event was hosted by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo and disseminated live, via zoom. The awards were funded by the generous donations from Sri Lankan pathologists based in the United Kingdom and Australia.

Conclusion

The Path Master Quiz 2025 proved to be an intellectually enriching and highly successful academic initiative. It brought together students from across the country, showcased their depth of knowledge in pathology, and strengthened interfaculty collaboration. The competition stood as a fitting tribute to the College's 50-year commitment to excellence in pathology education and capacity building. Through its rigorous structure, mentorship elements, and academic diversity, the Path Master Quiz solidified its place as a hallmark event of the Golden Jubilee celebrations.

The report was submitted by Dr Samalai Kanagasabapathy and Prof Gayana Mahendra

2.4. “Panoramic PathoVision 2025”: art competition and exhibition

Organizing committee

Professor Priyani Amarathunga
Dr Saundika Udugampola
Dr Amal Jayathilaka
Dr Cherine Sosai

Dr Nayana Ratnayake
Dr Priya Amaraweera
Dr Lalani De Silva

As part of the College’s 50th Anniversary celebrations, the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka (CPSL), together with the Department of Medical Humanities, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, organised the Panoramic Pathovision 2025, an art competition and exhibition in parallel to the 50th Anniversary International Conference held from 23–24 October 2025 at the UCFM Tower. This initiative introduced a unique cultural dimension to the Golden Jubilee year by bringing together science, medicine, and artistic creativity.

The concept was proposed by the Conference Organising Committee as a commemorative event that would highlight the creative and reflective aspects of pathology. With the theme “Science of Pathology Through Diverse Artistic Creations,” the competition invited participants to explore and interpret the discipline through visual, literary, and sculptural mediums, emphasising the breadth and depth of pathology beyond the laboratory.

To steer the initiative, a dedicated subcommittee was appointed to plan and execute all aspects of the competition. The committee engaged in several rounds of discussion before selecting the event title “Panoramic Pathovision 2025,” a name chosen to reflect the wide-ranging creative perspectives anticipated. Comprehensive submission guidelines in consultation and a promotional flyer were developed and distributed widely among College members, postgraduate trainees, laboratory professionals, and overseas CPSL members via email and social media.

The competition welcomed submissions across a diverse set of creative categories, namely paintings, photography including microphotography, poetry and prose, sculptures and wood carvings, and creative group work. Participants were required to submit their entries through a structured process that included completion of a Google Form providing biodata, artwork details, a description of the art piece, declarations of originality, and consent for public display. A printed copy of the form accompanied each physical submission delivered to the CPSL office.

By the submission deadline, a total of 39 entries had been received, representing a broad cross-section of CPSL members and laboratory professionals. Each entry was registered under its respective category and

Stepwise process: Pathology art exhibition

- *Circulate the flyer among all categories of laboratory staff of government and private sector.*
- *Setting guidelines in consultation with Medical Humanities Department, FoM, University of Colombo.*
- *Guidelines uploaded to website (the links provided with the flyer)*
- *Submission of creative works alone with a google form (online and printed copy) which contains a short description of the work, declaration of originality and consent for dissemination*
- *Selection of judge panels including content experts (pathologists) and experts having different artistic capabilities.*

Annexures:

9. *Art competition - Information and guidelines*
10. *Art competition – Submission form*

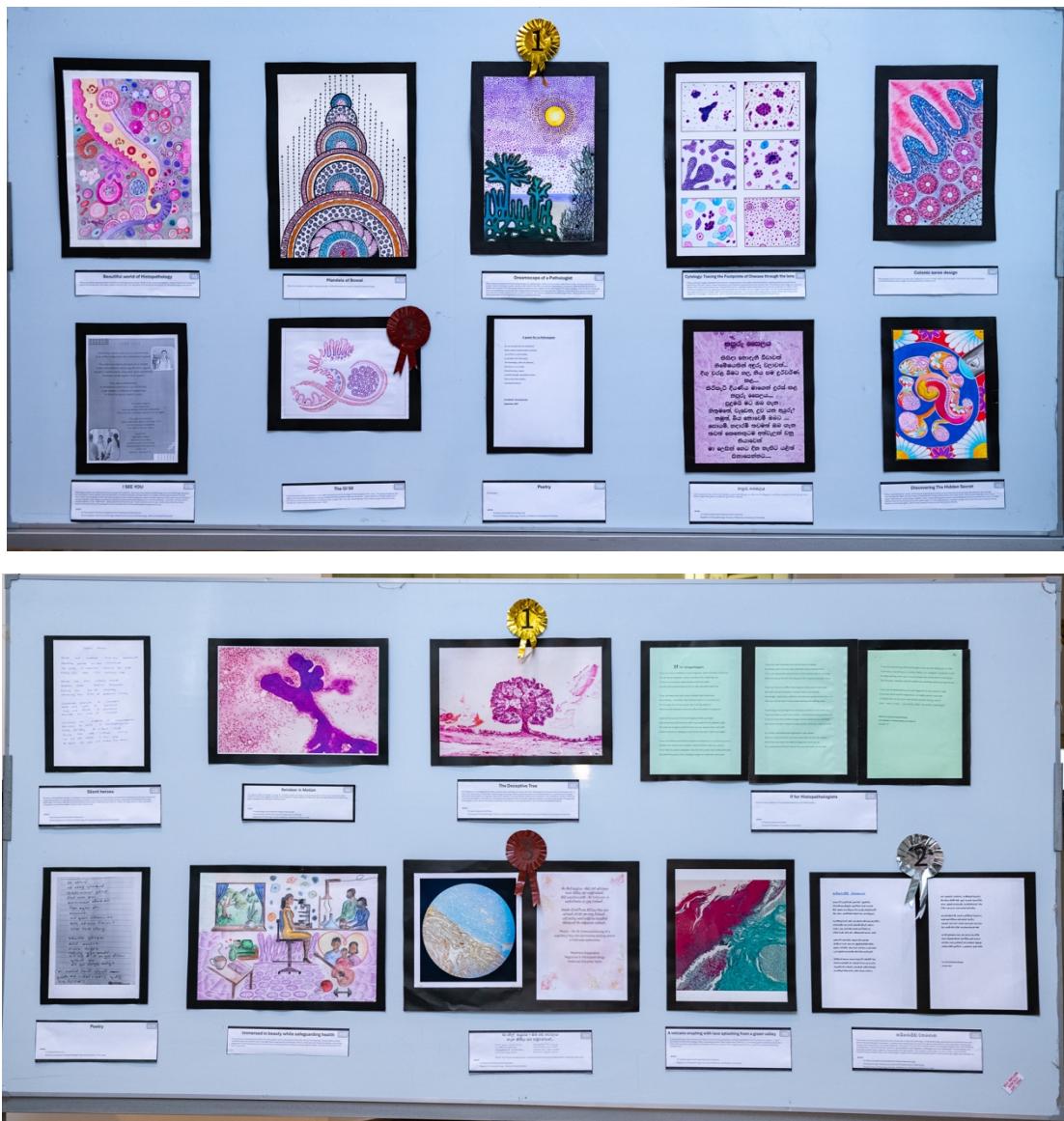
assigned a unique identification number. There were 14 paintings, 7 photographs, 16 poetry & prose and 2 artistic craft works.

A panel of judges appointed by the CPSL Council evaluated all submissions and selected the best three works in each category based on creativity, relevance to the theme, and artistic quality.

The judge panels

Photography and creative craft – Prof Chandu de Silva and Prof Lakmali Amarasiri
Paintings - Prof Saroj Jayasinghe and Dr Sandini Gunaratne
Poetry and prose – Prof Jean Perera and Prof Dulani Beneragama

Opening ceremony of the exhibition was held on 23rd October morning and the opening was done by Professors Janaki Hewavisenthi and Chandu de Silva. The exhibition was held throughout the days of the 50th Anniversary International Conference, where all artworks were displayed for conference participants, medical students and visitors. Winning entries were prominently highlighted within the exhibition space.



Art works displayed at the 50th Anniversary International Conference site



Art works displayed at the 50th Anniversary International Conference site



Opening Ceremony of the Panoramic Pathovision Exhibition



Opening Ceremony of the Panoramic Pathovision Exhibition

At the closing ceremony of the 50th Anniversary Conference, on 25 October 2025, winners were awarded plaques and certificates in recognition of their achievements. All participants were presented with certificates of appreciation for their contribution to the event.

The creative work of the winners (1st place) in each category was published in the College journal, The Journal of Diagnostic Pathology. All artworks were published in College's official website "Art Gallery" and disseminated via social media.



Winners of the Panoramic Pathovision art competition



Winners of the Panoramic Pathovision art competition

Panoramic Pathovision 2025 succeeded in celebrating the artistic talents within the pathology community and demonstrating the rich interplay between science and creativity. The event added a vibrant and reflective cultural dimension to the College's Golden Jubilee celebrations and laid the foundation for future interdisciplinary initiatives that bridge the arts and medical sciences.

The report was submitted by Dr Saundika Udugampola

2.5. Publication of book: “The Final Diagnosis: A 50-Year Odyssey”

Authors and editors

Prof Chandu de Silva
 Prof Janaki Hewavisenthi
 Prof Isha Prematilleke
 Dr Palitha Ratnayake

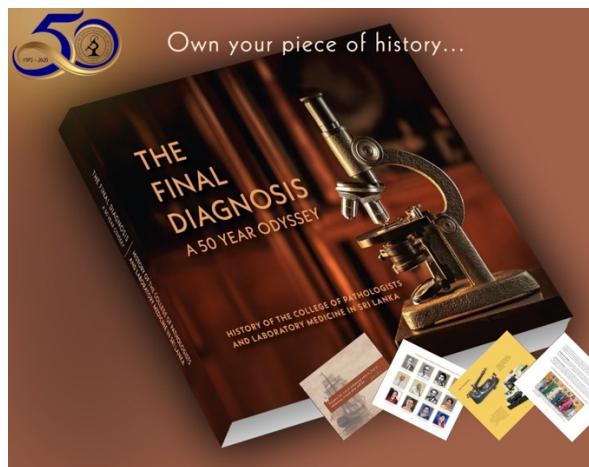
As a central feature of the Golden Jubilee celebrations, the College undertook the development of a landmark publication titled “The Final Diagnosis – A 50 Year Odyssey.” This commemorative volume represents the first comprehensive written history of the College, chronicling the origins, growth, and transformation of pathology services in Sri Lanka over five decades. The book stands as a tribute to the pioneers, visionaries, and professionals whose collective commitment shaped the discipline and elevated the standards of diagnostic medicine in the country.

Concept, purpose, and origins of the publication

Over the past fifty years, the CPSL has played a vital role in establishing professional standards, strengthening academic training, expanding provincial services, and advancing specialised diagnostics. Documenting this history was essential not only for posterity but

also for educating future generations about the evolution of pathology as a discipline in Sri Lanka.

The book was conceptualized as a scholarly yet accessible narrative, combining historical documentation with personal reflections, archival material, and rare photographs. It traces the College's foundation, its early leadership, the challenges encountered by successive councils, and the remarkable progress achieved across hospital services, universities, and postgraduate training systems.



Cover page of the book

Content structure and development process

The publication is organised into thirteen chapters, each focusing on a distinct historical or thematic period in the College's evolution. The chapters draw from archival documents, early publications, institutional records, personal memoirs, and a collection of historically significant photographs. The book offers:

A detailed account of the early formation of the CPSL, including the contributions of the three pioneering pathologists and the establishment of the first council.

An exploration of the growth and consolidation period (1975–2000), highlighting the expansion of academic and service roles and the foundations of postgraduate education.

A comprehensive review of the modern era (2001 onwards), including innovations in diagnostic services, regional service expansion, health-system contributions, and academic advancements.

Documentation of the College's international collaborations, including partnerships with the British Division of International Academy of Pathology, SAARC Academy of Cytopathology and Histopathology, and other global academic bodies.

A detailed account of the national expansion of pathology services, with provincial case studies and historical records from hospitals across the island.

An extensive section on pathology in universities and postgraduate training, profiling major academic figures and highlighting advances in training programmes, infrastructure, and teaching methodologies.

The visual richness of the volume is enhanced by rare archival photographs, including images of the first CPSL Council, early academic events, provincial laboratory development, and university-based pathology departments. These images span numerous pages of the publication and provide readers with valuable historical context and visual documentation of the College's journey.

Authorship and editorial contributions

Each chapter of the book was authored by a senior member of the College with expertise in the relevant historical or thematic area. Many pathologists in addition to the main authors have contributed by writing sections of the chapters. Together, their contributions provide a detailed and cohesive narrative that spans the College's inception to its present role as the national leader in pathology services.

The visual design, page layout, and overall presentation of the book were executed by Mr Kithsiri Ekanayake, whose work ensured a professional, archival quality publication befitting a Golden Jubilee commemorative volume, whose contribution was appreciated at the launch of the book.

Publication and launch

The book was completed and formally launched at the Inauguration Ceremony of the 50th Anniversary International Conference on 23rd October 2025. It was received with deep appreciation by the membership and the wider medical community as a seminal contribution to the documentation of medical history in Sri Lanka. The launch marked a significant milestone in the Golden Jubilee calendar and represented one of the most meaningful achievements of the anniversary year.



The first copy of the history book presenting to the President by Prof Isha Prematilleke at the Inauguration Ceremony

The authors presented the first two copies of the book to Prof Priyani Amarathunga, the President, College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka and to Prof L R Amarasekera, the senior-most past president present at the event. The authors also handed over a copy to Dr HR Wickremasinghe, a founder member of the College. Copies of the book are available for sale at the College office.



Copies of the book presenting to Prof LR Amarasekera (left) and Dr HR Wickremasinghe(right)

Conclusion

“The Final Diagnosis – A 50 Year Odyssey” stands as a landmark publication for the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka. It captures five decades of dedication, progress, and professional achievement with scholarly depth and narrative clarity. The book honours generations of pathologists whose contributions strengthened diagnostic services nationwide and preserves the heritage of the discipline for the future. Its development reflects the collaborative efforts of authors, editors, designers, and College leadership who recognized the vital importance of safeguarding the history of pathology in Sri Lanka.

2.6. Regional workshops for multistakeholder involvement

As another initiative of the 50th anniversary celebrations, the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka extended its academic and public engagement activities to regional centres with the intention of strengthening professional collaboration, improving public awareness, and showcasing the evolving role of histopathology services across the country. Two major peripheral activities were conducted during the year including one in Galle and the other in Anuradhapura, each designed to engage local stakeholders, enhance visibility of pathology services, and foster interdisciplinary participation.

Galle regional workshop - 08 July 2025

“Glimpse of Health in South — Moving Beyond the Microscope”

Organizers

Dr Priya Amaraweera

Dr Lakmalie Kariyawasam

To commemorate our Golden Jubilee, the CPSL organised a joint academic programme in collaboration with the Galle Medical Association (GMA), the leading professional body in the Southern Province. The programme was held on 8 July 2025, from 11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. at the GMA Auditorium, National Hospital Galle. The workshop aimed to raise awareness among regional clinicians and trainees about advancements in histopathology services in the south of the country.

The programme titled “Glimpse of Health in South: Moving Beyond the Microscope” provided an insightful overview of the evolving practices and diagnostic capabilities in histopathology, highlighting case-based applications, emerging technologies, and the central role of pathology in clinical decision-making.

Programme highlights

The workshop featured three invited speakers, each offering a specialised perspective:

Topic: “Solving the Mysteries Through Cells and Tissues”

Dr. Thushari Liyanage, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna

Dr. Liyanage delivered a case-based discussion covering cytology, histology, immunohistochemistry, and related diagnostic services available in the region. She emphasised the importance of proper specimen collection, handling, and transport, key steps influencing diagnostic accuracy.

Topic: “Meeting Expectations: Histopathology Through the Oncology Lens”

Dr. Mahilal Wijekoon, Consultant Oncologist, National Hospital Galle

He highlighted the indispensable role of histopathology in cancer diagnosis and oncology treatment planning. His lecture was followed by an interactive discussion on the use of immunohistochemistry and molecular pathology in targeted therapy.

Topic: “Embracing Innovation Towards Targeted Therapy: Advances Through Cases”

Dr. Priya Amaraweera, Consultant Histopathologist, National Hospital Galle

Dr. Amaraweera showcased advancements in immunohistochemistry and discussed future directions in digital pathology, supported by illustrative short videos.



Speakers at the “Glimpse of Health in South” Galle workshop

Participation and collaboration

The event attracted strong regional participation. Consultants from the Galle Medical Association, senior pathologists from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, clinicians from the National Hospital Galle, specialist consultants from peripheral hospitals in the Southern Province, postgraduate trainees, and representatives from the

CPSL attended the programme. Their engagement contributed to lively academic discussions and effective knowledge sharing.

The workshop was moderated by Dr. Bhagya Piyasiri, Consultant Microbiologist, National Hospital Galle, who facilitated interaction between speakers and participants.



Some participants of the “Glimpse of Health in South” Galle workshop

At the conclusion of the event, the CPSL presented plaques to the speakers, organisers, and the President of the GMA in appreciation of their contributions. The programme was organised by Dr. Priya Amaraweera, Secretary of CPSL 2025, and Dr. Bhagya Piyasiri, PG Coordinator of the GMA, with support from the leadership and members of both organisations.

The report was submitted by Dr Priya Amaraweera

Anuradhapura regional workshop- 17 July 2025

“Pathology Day 2025 — Cancer Awareness Programme”

Organizers

Dr Jayanjana Asanthi

Dr Sanjeeewani Jayawardena

The second major regional event, Pathology Day 2025 – Cancer Awareness Programme, was held on 17 July 2025 at the Teaching Hospital Anuradhapura and the RDHS Auditorium. This was jointly organised by the Department of Histopathology, TH Anuradhapura in collaboration with CPSL, the Directorate of Education, Training & Research Unit of the Ministry of Health, and the Anuradhapura Medical Association (AMA). The workshop formed a key component of the Golden Jubilee community-outreach events.

The programme was conducted under the theme “Histopathology Saves Lives: The Hidden Language of Diseases,” underscoring the importance of histopathology in early cancer detection and precise diagnosis.

Purpose and Objectives

The workshop was designed to enhance awareness of common malignancies and the critical importance of early detection, while also demonstrating the workflow, value, and complexity of histopathology in modern diagnostics. It sought to actively engage healthcare workers in practical educational activities, strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration

through shared learning and career guidance, and ultimately promote public health literacy within the wider community.



Organizers, Dr Sanjeeewani Jayawardena (left) and Dr Jayanjana Asanthi (right) at the “Pathology Day” in Anuradhapura



Speakers, Dr Palitha Ratnayake (left) and Prof Priyani Amaratunga (right) at the “Pathology Day” in Anuradhapura

Key activities

Welcome ceremony- The event opened at the Professorial Unit Auditorium with a welcome address and an outline of the relevance of the programme to CPSL’s 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Laboratory open day- Participants toured the histopathology laboratories, observing demonstrations of specimen processing, immunohistochemistry techniques, and diagnostic workflow. Cancer-awareness videos were screened throughout the tour.

Educational booths and exhibitions - Gross specimens, microscope slides, and process-flow charts were displayed. Pathology specimens provided by CeDARC were explained by histopathology registrars, greatly enriching the educational experience.

Cervical smear screening - A cervical screening clinic was conducted at the Gynaecology Clinic by Dr. Sanath De Silva, Consultant VOG. Screening and reporting were carried out by the members of the CPSL with 20 patients receiving screening and reports.

FNAC clinic- A Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology clinic was conducted with the help of CPSL members.

Key activities continued.

“Ask the experts” hub- The senior members of the CPSL volunteered to provide expert opinion on pathology related queries, allowing participants to discuss cancer-related concerns and gain insights into diagnostic pathways.

Interactive learning segment -The “Pathology Challenge” included puzzles, quizzes, and brain teasers tailored to different healthcare groups—registrars, medical officers, MLTs, nurses, assistants, and medical students. The segment was supervised by college members and eleven winners were selected and awarded gifts.

Career guidance- Career guidance sessions in Histopathology, Haematology, and Chemical Pathology were conducted for the medical students of the Rajarata University. A dedicated career-guidance hub provided further support for medical undergraduates and pre-intern doctors.

Health talks- A series of informative talks were delivered by our consultants targeting different categories of the health care workers including doctors, nurses, medical laboratory technicians, and other support workers.

Stage drama- An educational stage drama on early detection and diagnosis of breast cancer was performed by five 4th-year medical undergraduates from Rajarata University.

Staff appreciation- The Department of Histopathology formally recognised all staff members, including special appreciation for three senior former technicians for their longstanding service.

Out-patient department (OPD) awareness programme- The Health Education Unit delivered cancer-awareness messages through educational videos, leaflet distribution, and public health talks, emphasising the critical role of histopathology reports in timely cancer care. The educational videos produced by the undergraduate students on cancer aware for the video competition were used.

The following consultants contributed as resource persons.

Professor Priyani Amarathunga, Dr Palitha Rathnayake, Dr Ramani Punchihewa, Dr Gayani Ranaweera, Dr Amal Jayathilake, Dr Dayal Gamlaksha, Dr Deshani Walisinghe, Dr Lalani De Silva, Dr Avanthi Rajapaksha, Dr Vasana Mendis, Dr Thushara Hewageegana, Dr. Mahasen Neththikumara, Dr Pradeepa Gayani.



Resource persons at the “Pathology Day” in Anuradhapura



Resource persons at the “Pathology Day” in Anuradhapura

Participation

The programme drew exceptional participation, with more than 270 healthcare personnel, including consultants, medical officers, nurses, public health midwives, medical laboratory technologists, and students taking part in the various academic and clinical activities. In addition, over 100 members of the public attended the OPD awareness programme, demonstrating strong community interest. The event also benefited from extensive support and collaboration from regional healthcare institutions and professional partners, contributing significantly to its overall success.



Participants of the “Pathology Day” in Anuradhapura



Group photo of the consultants participated in the “Pathology Day”

The report was submitted by Dr Jayanjana Asanthy

Other supportive activities

The College also supported the Health Education Exhibition organized by the Castle Street Hospital for Women by providing cancer awareness videos to display among public.

Conclusion

Regional workshops and other health education activities achieved all intended objectives, strengthening diagnostic literacy, promoting early cancer detection, and building understanding of histopathology among healthcare workers and the community. The initiative contributed significantly to the CPSL's Golden Jubilee celebrations and highlighted the value of regional engagement.

2.7. Media conference and publicity initiatives

During its 50th Anniversary year, the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka (CPSL) placed strong emphasis on strategic communication and public outreach to enhance national awareness of cancer prevention and to showcase the indispensable role of pathologists in patient care. The Media Committee played a central role in these efforts, coordinating public communication, guiding media engagement, and ensuring that the College's voice was clearly represented across mainstream and digital platforms throughout the celebratory year.

Media Committee Members

Professor Priyani Amarathunga
Dr. Cherine Sosai
Professor Dulani Beneragama
Dr. Badramali Ranasinghe
Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi

Dr. Lalani De Silva
Dr. Avanthi Rajapakse
Dr. Dayal Gamlaksha
Dr Pradeepa Gayani

National media briefing on cancer awareness and the role of pathologists

A major highlight of the anniversary's media engagement strategy was the national media briefing conducted in collaboration with the Health Promotion Bureau on 9 July 2025.

This event marked a significant milestone in the College's outreach efforts, aiming to improve public understanding of early cancer detection and to illuminate the critical role of pathologists in diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment planning.

The briefing sought to educate the public on cancer prevention, clarify the multidimensional contribution of histopathology to cancer care, and elevate the visibility of CPSL through well-coordinated media engagement. A series of structured presentations was delivered by representatives of the CPSL and the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP), each addressing key aspects of cancer care, diagnostic accuracy, and national health priorities.

Professor Priyani Amarthunga, President of the CPSL, opened the session with an overview of the College's 50-year journey and its pivotal contribution to strengthening pathology services across the country. Dr. Suraj Perera, Director of the NCCP, discussed national cancer statistics and highlighted the central role of pathology in early detection and cancer surveillance.



Speakers at the media briefing conducted at the Health Promotion Bureau

Professor Dulani Beneragama provided an in-depth explanation of the diagnostic process behind histopathology reporting, emphasising its impact on clinical decision-making.

Dr. Dayal Gamlaksha and Dr. Avanthi Rajapakse presented patient case narratives illustrating how specialised investigations and prognostic markers guide personalised management. Dr. Lalani De Silva summarised the extensive public awareness activities undertaken by the CPSL during the anniversary year, while Dr. Cherine Sosai delivered the Tamil segment of the briefing to ensure multilingual inclusivity. Link for the you tube: <https://www.youtube.com/live/Mq16ZDty3Vk>



Speakers at the media briefing conducted at the Health Promotion Bureau



Speakers at the media briefing conducted at the Health Promotion Bureau

Media coverage and public impact

The media briefing received wide national coverage, reflecting the strong public interest in cancer awareness and the role of pathology in healthcare. The event was livestreamed via the Health Promotion Bureau's official YouTube channel, allowing broad public access, and was subsequently reported across major television news channels and print media organisations.

Following the success and visibility generated by the briefing, Professor Priyani Amarathunga was invited as a guest on popular national health programmes *Nugasevana* (*Rupavahini*) and *Adaraneeya Jeewithaya* (*Siyatha TV*) where she further highlighted the responsibilities of pathologists, the importance of early cancer detection, and the expanding scope of histopathology in modern healthcare. These appearances significantly extended the reach of the College's public-awareness mission.



Cancer awareness paper articles (top), briefing in the news of main TV channels (below)



Television programmes



Link: <https://youtu.be/Rt3Fc-WGnz8>

Link: https://youtu.be/XYYRnkBhoFU?si=iGMPPuAn5_9S6wfh

Cancer awareness briefing in the news of main TV channels (top), and focussed TV programmes (below)

Media coverage for the 50th Anniversary International Conference

Electronic media coverage was given to the inauguration ceremony of the 50th Anniversary International Conference as a news item.

Paper article on 50th anniversary celebration of the College.

Ms Kumudini Hettiarachchi published a feature article on “Sunday Times” on 14th December 2025 on the 50-year journey of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka and its anniversary celebration activities and the way forward.

Conclusion

The Media Committee’s work during the 50th Anniversary year substantially elevated the College’s public presence and strengthened national understanding of the central role of pathology in cancer care. Through strategic media engagement, the use of multilingual communication, and effective coordination with national health institutions, the committee ensured that the messages of the CPSL reached a wide and diverse audience. Their efforts contributed meaningfully to public education and played an essential role in the overall success of the Golden Jubilee celebrations.

A strong bridge between science and medicine

Kumudini Hettiarachchi traces the 50-year journey of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

These medical specialists who work behind the scenes, vital for the diagnosis of diseases and treatment of patients, left their laboratories and microscopes, for a brief spell to celebrate an important birthday.

Founded on March 15, 1975, this year is the 50th anniversary of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka (CPSL) and it was time for the medical team to celebrate this milestone by also look towards the future.

A glimpse into the beginnings is beautifully captured in "The Final Diagnosis: A 50 Year Odyssey", a commemorative publication on the CPSL's "remarkable" history.

Authored and edited by Emeritus Professor Chandu de Silva; Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi; Professor Ishan Prematilleke; and Dr. Palitha Ratnayake, the book documenting the CPSL and the evolution of laboratory medicine in Sri Lanka, was launched during the CPSL's International Conference recently.

It was a simple affair, the beginnings – 18 pathologists meeting under the leadership of Dr. W.D. Ratnayake, with other stalwarts such as Dr. Doris Peiris, Dr. H.R. Wickramasinghe and Dr. Rance Perera in attendance, according to 'The Final Diagnosis'. The much-needed gender balance being ensured even so long ago!

That inaugural meeting had been in the Consultants' Lounge of the Colombo General Hospital (now National Hospital of Sri Lanka – NHSL) at 5 p.m. on March 15, 1975.

With Dr. Ratnayake donning the mantle as the first CPSL President, the tone was set.from modest beginnings emerged a professional body that has, for five decades, shaped medical education, guided



► The first CPSL Academic Session in 1975 with Health Minister Dr. Ranjith Atapattu as Chief Guest



► CPSL President Prof. Priyani Amarathunga

national policy decisions and strengthened Sri Lanka's capacity for accurate disease diagnosis," the book states.

It also looks at those early days when all laboratory related professionals – histopathologists, haematologists, chemical pathologists, microbiologists and forensic pathologists – were members of the CPSL and how later most of these categories branched off to establish their own professional colleges. Currently, the majority of the CPSL's membership consists of histopathologists.

It is also through the book that the first academic session held on July 5, 1975, comes to the fore. With Prof. R.G. Panabokke delivering the inaugural lecture on breast carcinoma, 'The Final Diagnosis' describes how this event set a "precedent" for scientific rigor, open discussion and shared learning that continues today.

Flash forward to 2025 and numerous have been the celebratory events on the 50th anniversary, under CPSL President Prof. Priyani Amarathunga.

Launched in March on the theme 'Commemorating the Past, Excelling in the Present and Aspiring for the Future', Prof. Amarathunga too like those who have gone before, has set the tone by spotlighting her speciality of histopathology as the study of the origins and nature of diseases and the structural abnormalities produced by diseases.

'Pathology' derives from the Greek terms *páthos* (suffering) and *lógos* (study) and is described as being a 'bridge' between science and medicine.

While 'Reflecting on the present, to prepare for tomorrow', Prof. Amarathunga outlines the significant evolution of histopathology from autopsy-based analysis to the examination of minimally-invasive biopsies facilitated by advanced clinical technologies.

In preparation for these rapid advancements in histopathology, particularly in the context of cancer diagnosis and individualized treatment, she emphasizes the critical need for enhanced multi-disciplinary collaboration, rigorous and standardized specimen handling protocols and a proactive integration of emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The CPSL's star event was the 50th Anniversary International Conference from October 22 to 25, organized in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo (UCFM), and the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology (BDIAP). It had brought together more than 235 delegates from 10 countries as well as many local experts.

Offering unique perspectives, the 'Panoramic Patho Vision 2025', an art

competition and exhibition held in parallel to the conference had been organized by CPSL and the Colombo University's Department of Medical Humanities. Competitors in the categories of paintings, photography, poetry, prose, sculptures and wood carvings, had explored how the world is seen through the microscope, the diagnostic process or how the human side of disease could be transformed into creative work.

The other events dotted the CPSL calendar included a Video Competition on Cancer Awareness among undergraduates early in the year; a 'Pathology Day 2025 – Cancer Awareness' held on July 17 at the Anuradhapura Teaching Hospital; and in September, the Path Master Quiz – the inaugural inter-university quiz with all 12 medical faculties taking part.

The impactful 'Pathology Day' on the theme 'Histopathology saves lives: The hidden language of diseases', had been held in collaboration with the Anuradhapura Teaching Hospital's Department of Histopathology. It had been supported by the Health Ministry's Directorate of Education, Training & Research Unit and the Anuradhapura Medical Association.

The highlights had included guided tours for people through the histopathology laboratory. Females had benefited from free cervical smear screening and an FNAC (fine needle aspiration cytology) clinic, offering critical early cancer diagnostic services.

A powerful stage drama on early breast cancer detection had been held by the Rajarata University medical undergraduates.

The Path Master Quiz, meanwhile, was won by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, while the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, were the first and second runners-up respectively.

With regard to post-graduate education, Prof. Amarathunga says that while the CPSL has a partnership with the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM), it also supported the holding of the Fellowship Examination of the Royal College of Pathologists this year in Sri Lanka.

She says that another significant partnership is with the BDIAP from which was born the Sri Lankan British School of Pathology to support biennial international conferences in Sri Lanka. The 10th such conference is scheduled for next year (2026).

"Behind every accurate diagnosis, every life-saving treatment plan and every well-functioning laboratory, there is a legacy built by the CPSL and its members," adds Prof. Amarathunga, echoing 'The Final Diagnosis'.



► Founder President
Dr. W.D. Ratnayake

Paper article on 50th Anniversary Celebration of the College on Sunday Times, December 14th 2025

Chapter 3:

50th Anniversary International Conference

The 50th Anniversary International Conference of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka (CPSL), held from 23rd to 25th October 2025, at the UCFM Tower, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. This landmark event was organised in collaboration with the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology (BDIAP) and the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, under the Golden Jubilee theme “Commemorating the Past, Excelling in the Present, and Aspiring for the Future.” The conference brought together an exceptional gathering of local and international pathologists, clinicians, postgraduate trainees, medical undergraduates, and allied health professionals, reflecting the wide-reaching academic and professional influence of the College during its five decades of service. The main conference was preceded by a pre-congress workshop on quality assurance in analytical phase of laboratory testing on 22nd October 2025.

Conference organizing committee

The Conference Organising Committee chaired by Prof Priyani Amarathunga and supported by the conference coordinators Dr RCU Priyadarshika, Dr Champika Ratnayake, Dr Mathivathani Umashankar, and Dr Samalai Kanagasabapathy and the joint secretaries contributed immensely to the success of the 50th Anniversary International Conference. The activities were also voluntarily supported by the staff from the Department of Pathology, University of Colombo. The President and Council extend their sincere appreciation for the dedication, commitment, and exemplary service rendered by the committee.



Conference Organizing Committee

Seated from left to right

Dr Lalani J. de Silva (Joint Secretary), Dr. Samalai Kanagasabapathy (Conference Coordinator), Professor Chandu de Silva, Dr Priyanka Abeygunasekara, Professor Priyani Amarathunga (Co-chairperson), Dr Mangala Bopagoda (Co-chairperson), Dr Cherine Sosai, Dr Ramani Punchihewa (Treasurer), Dr R C U Priyadarshika (Conference Coordinator), Dr Champika Ratnayake (Conference Coordinator), Dr Priya Amaraweera (Joint Secretary)

Standing left to right

Dr Jayanjana Asanthi, Dr Lakamlie Kariyawasam, Dr Camalita Senerath, Professor Isha Premathilake, Dr Harshima Wijesinghe (Chief Editor), Dr Avanthi Rajapakse, Dr Prabodha Samarakarathne, Dr Dayal Gamlaksha, Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa, Dr Deshani Walisinghe, Dr Saundika Udugampola, Dr Ineesha Jayasinghe, Dr Niluka Ranathunga

Absent

Dr G H Pradeepa Gayani, Dr Amal Jayathilake, Dr Bhadramali Ranasinghe, Dr Janaki Fernando, Dr Nayana Rathnayake, Professor Sulochana Wijetunge, Dr Gayani Ranaweera, Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi, Dr Charishma Fernando, Dr Saumya Liyanage, Dr Menaka Weerasinghe

3.1. Inauguration ceremony

The inauguration ceremony, held on 23rd October 2025 at 6.00 pm, began with a ceremonial procession of council members followed by the lighting of the traditional oil lamp. The Chief Guest, Professor Indika Karunatillake, Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo, attended alongside special guests Dr Jan von der Thüsen, President of BDIAP, and Professor Vajira Dissanayake, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo.



Welcoming the Chief Guest



Head table of the Inauguration Ceremony

Professor Priyani Amarathunga, President of CPSL 2025, welcomed the audience and reflected on the College's fifty-year journey and its contributions to strengthening laboratory services, postgraduate training, and national cancer care. Professor Vajira Dissanayake highlighted the indispensable contributions of pathologists to the national health system and reiterated the faculty's support for collaborative academic activities. Dr Jan von der Thüsen conveyed BDIAP's continued commitment to partnership with the CPSL and expressed appreciation for Sri Lanka's active participation in international pathology forums.

In his address, Professor Karunatillake commended the College for its five decades of exemplary service to the nation and highlighted the increasingly pivotal role of pathologists in the evolving healthcare landscape. He also acknowledged the longstanding partnership

between the CPSL and the University of Colombo, noting that the College's progress reflects a strong culture of academic excellence and national service.



Speaker of the Inauguration Ceremony, from left to right, Prof Priyani Amarathunga, Prof Indika Karunatillake, Prof Vajira Dissanayake, Dr Jan von der Thüsen

A key academic highlight of the inauguration was the keynote lecture delivered by Professor Dilani Lokuhetty, Emeritus Professor, University of Colombo and Head, WHO Classification of Tumours, International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon.

Her lecture, titled "Shifting of the Sands: Evidence-based Pathology and the WHO Classification of Tumours," explored contemporary principles in tumour classification, the need for global standardisation, and Sri Lanka's meaningful contributions to the WHO process.



Keynote Speaker, Prof Dilani Lokuhetty

The ceremony also featured a formal launch of the College's official 50-year history book, "The Final Diagnosis – A 50-Year Odyssey." The editors, Professor Isha Premathille, Professor Chandu de Silva, Professor Janaki Hewawasenthi, and Dr Palitha Rathnayake, collectively presented the publication, marking an important milestone in documenting the College's institutional heritage. A token of appreciation was offered to Mr Kithsiri Ekanayake, who designed the book cover (refer Section 2.5).

A trophy was presented to the winners of the Path Master Quiz, acknowledging the outstanding performance. The quiz recognised students who demonstrated strong foundational knowledge in pathology and clinical reasoning, celebrating their enthusiasm, preparation, and active engagement with the Golden Jubilee scientific programme (refer Section 2.3).

Special recognition was then awarded to the winners of Phase II of the 50th Anniversary Video Competition, who produced the most popular videos of the series. Their widely appreciated and impactful creations played a meaningful role in advancing the College's public-health outreach by promoting cancer awareness, encouraging early detection, and engaging the wider community through creative communication (refer Section 2.2).

A commemorative video capturing all activities of the 50th Anniversary year was screened, providing attendees with a visual reflection of the College's milestones throughout 2025.

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Dr Priya Amaraweera, Joint Secretary of the College. The ceremony concluded with a cultural performance by the University of Colombo Dance Circle and a rooftop cocktail reception. The event was compered by Dr Rangana Karunaratne and Dr Sachinthana Sumanasekera.



Dr Priya Amaraweera delivering the Vote of Thanks (left) and the audience (right)



Performances by the University of Colombo Dancing Circle

3.2. Scientific programme overview

The three-day scientific programme, held from 23rd to 25th October, consisted of symposia, workshops, free paper presentations and poster presentations. The academic content of the symposia was delivered by 9 international speakers, 3 speakers from SAARC countries and 6 local resource persons, representing specialised expertise across multiple subspecialties of pathology.

Symposia and quiz

Distinguished speakers for symposia included:

Dr Jan von der Thüsen

President, British Division of International Academy of Pathology,
Consultant Histopathologist, Department of Pathology and Clinical Bioinformatics,
Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Dr Michail Doukas

Consultant Histopathologist,
Department of Pathology and Clinical Bioinformatics,
Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Professor Hemamali Samaratunga

Professor of Pathology,
Auesta Specialised Uropathology,
University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland.
Australia

Dr Malee Fernando

Consultant Histopathologist,
Sheffield Laboratory Medicine,
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, United Kingdom

Professor Yasodha Natkunam

Professor in Haematopathology, Department of Pathology,
Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford,
California, USA

Professor Priyanthi Kumarasinghe

Chief Pathologist, Consultant Anatomical Pathologist,
Clinical Professor, School of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine,
University of Western Australia, Australia

Professor Jonathan Said

Consultant Pathologist, David Geffen School of Medicine,
UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles,
California, USA

Dr Anna Saparamadu

Consultant Cellular Pathologist,
Department of Histopathology,
Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust,
University Hospitals of Northamptonshire
United Kingdom

Professor Bharat Rekhi

Professor and Pathologist, Department of Pathology,
Tata Memorial Hospital, Parel, Mumbai.
India

Professor Nuzhat Husain

President, Indian Division of International Academy of Pathology.

Professor and Head of Pathology, State Referral Centre for Lab Investigations.

Former Dean, Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences,

Lucknow, India

Professor Shahid Pervez

Professor and Consultant Histopathologist,

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine,

Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi.Pakistan

Professor Wiseman Pinto

Professor of Pathology and Former Dean, Goa University.

Former HOD, Department of Pathology, Goa Medical College.

President, Asian Society of Cytopathology.

Chairman, International Affairs Committee IAC.

India

Dr Priyangi Amarabandu

Consultant Histopathologist,

Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama.

Sri Lanka

Professor Chandu de Silva

Consultant Histopathologist, Emeritus Professor,

University of Colombo.

Sri Lanka

Dr Harshima Wijesinghe

Professor and Consultant Histopathologist,

Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine,

University of Colombo.

Sri Lanka

Professor Dulani Beneragama

Associate Professor and Consultant Histopathologist,

Faculty of Medical Sciences,

University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Sri Lanka

Professor Primali Jayasooriya

Professor in Oral Pathology,

Department of Oral Pathology,

Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya.

Sri Lanka

Professor Isha Prematilleke

Professor and Consultant Histopathologist,

Faculty of Medical Sciences,

University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Sri Lanka

Dr Niluka Ranathunga

Consultant Histopathologist,

District General Hospital, Chilaw.

Sri Lanka

The sessions addressed a broad spectrum of topics in histopathology, cytopathology and molecular pathology.



Resource persons and chairpersons of the symposia

Workshops

Eight separate comprehensive workshops were conducted on the afternoons of the 23rd and 24th of October, offering hands-on training in specialised areas of histopathology and cytopathology. Each workshop accommodated 50 participants per session and was repeated twice, enabling a total of 100 participants to benefit from each programme. In continuation of the theme of commemorating the past, each workshop—similar to the symposia—was dedicated to a pioneering member of the college and a distinguished contributor to the field of pathology.

The workshops, together with their respective local and international resource persons, were as follows:

Workshop on Lymphoma	Professor Jonathan Said, Professor Yasodha Natkunam, Dr Priyanka Abeygunasekara
Workshop on Lung and Mediastinal Pathology	Dr Jan von der Thüsen, Dr Ramani Punchihewa, Dr Roshana Constantine, Dr Jayanjana Asanthi
Workshop on Cytology	Dr Dushyanti Samarasinghe, Dr Thushari Liyanage, Dr Cherine Sosai, Dr Lalani J De Silva
Workshop on Male and Female Genital Pathology	Professor Hemamali Samaratunga, Professor Bimalka Seneviratne, Professor Isha Prematilleke, Dr Gayani Ranaweera
Workshop on Dermatopathology	Dr Anna Saparamadu, Dr Prabodha Samararathne, Dr Palitha Rathnayake, Dr Avanthi Rajapaksha
Workshop on Renal Pathology	Professor Sulochana Wijetunge, Dr Harshima Wijesinghe, Dr Sonali Rodrigo
Workshop on Liver Pathology	Dr Michail Doukas, Dr Mangala Bopagoda, Dr Nishani Jayathunga
Workshop on Soft Tissue and Bone Pathology	Professor Bharat Rekhi, Dr Malee Fernando, Professor Gayana Mahendra, Dr Samalai Kanagasabapathy



Teams of the workshops



Teams of the workshops

3.3. Commemoration of past members

Committee

Professor Priyani Amarathunga

Dr Mala Tudawe

Professor Neelakanthi Ratntunga

Dr Janakie Fernando

Professor Chandu de Silva

Dr Lalani De Silva

Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi

Dr Ineesha Jayasinghe

As a tribute to the pioneers in the field of pathology in Sri Lanka, and to commemorate their remarkable service to the progress of the College, each symposium and workshop were named after distinguished members of the College. The citation of them were included in the conference proceedings book.

1. Dr Ranee N Perera & Dr Ranga Wickramasinghe Honorary Symposium on Recent Developments in Diagnostic Pathology
2. Dr W D Ratnavale & Professor G E Tennakoon Memorial Symposium on Diagnostic Cytopathology
3. Dr Doris Peiris and Professor Daphne Attygalle Memorial Symposium on Approaches to Diagnosis
4. Professor R G Panabokke and Dr M A Nanda Prematilleke Memorial Symposium on Pitfalls/mimics in Diagnostic Pathology
5. Dr Bede Jayaweera & Professor Preethika Angunawela Memorial Workshop on Lymphoma
6. Dr Chithrika de Silva & Dr Phyllis Ganegoda Memorial Workshop on Lung and Mediastinal Pathology
7. Professor S B Ellepola Memorial Workshop on Cytology
8. Professor L R Amarasekera Honorary Workshop on Male and Female Genital Pathology
9. Dr S D Atukorala Memorial Workshop on Dermatopathology
10. Dr Saroja Siriwardene Honorary Workshop on Renal Pathology
11. Dr D H Cooray Memorial Workshop on Liver Pathology
12. Professor W E Karunaratne Memorial Workshop on Soft Tissue and Bone Pathology

3.4. Abstracts: free papers and poster presentations

The conference received 242 abstracts from local and international contributors, comprising 182 case reports and 60 research papers. After meticulous scientific review, 196 abstracts were accepted for presentation. A total of 24 research papers were delivered as oral presentations in four parallel free paper sessions, while 24 were presented as e-posters. In addition, 143 case reports were also presented as e-posters.

The abstract review process was overseen by Dr R.C.U. Priyadarshika, supported by a team consisted of Dr Deshani Walisinghe, Dr Saundika Udugampola and Dr Menaka Weerasinghe together with the editorial panel that included Dr. Harshima Wijesinghe, Dr Gayani Ranaweera, Dr Charishma Fernando, and Dr Saumya Liyanage.

The Judge panel included Professor Lakmini Mudduwa, Dr Mihiri Madurawe, Dr Janakie Fernando, Professor Kamani Samarasinghe, Dr Priyanka Abeygunasekera, Dr Modini Jayawickrema, Professor Bimalka Seneviratne, Professor Dulani Beneragama and Dr Sonali Rodrigo.



Free paper sessions

Winners of the free paper session

1st place: Validation of a novel artificial intelligence-based tool for Ki-67 quantification in breast cancer: enhanced accuracy, reproducibility and efficiency in resource limited setting.

A.P. Nellihela , R.M.N.D. Rathnayake, N.J. Asanthi, V.C. Bandaranayake, A. Ramana, K. Thanikasalam, M. Senarathna, M.P.G.N.S.Jayawardhana.

2nd place : Uncommon histological features of giant cell tumours of bone which may lead to misdiagnosis: a review of clinicopathological features of 59 cases.

C. M. Baranasuriya, M. Jayawickrama, M. V. C. de Silva

3rd place: Morphological predictors of microsatellite instability in Gleason grade 4 and 5 prostate cancers

R. G. S. Rassagala, H. D. Wijesinghe, B.Y. Hettiarachchi, C.M. Baranasuriya, M.V.C. De Silva

Winners of the Poster session (case reports)

1st place : CR60 - Index case of visceral leishmaniasis caused by *Leishmania siamensis* in Sri Lanka

P. G. S. P. N. Karunaratne, T. P. M. Bopagoda, N. Gunathilaka

2nd Place : CR112- Atypical teratoid/ rhabdoid tumour: a rare embryonal tumour

R. M. J. B. Rathnayake, R. Punchihewa

3rd Place : CR 31- Lymph node metastasis mimicking histiocytes in endometrioid carcinoma with microcystic elongated fragmented pattern of invasion: a potential diagnostic pitfall.

C. M. Baranasuriya, A.D Attygalle

Certificates and cash prizes for the winners were distributed at the closing ceremony.



Award winners of free papers

3.5. Attendance and participation

The conference recorded 237 registered participants, including consultants, postgraduate trainees, international delegates, and online participants. Virtual attendance included 31 remote participants, spanning local postgraduate trainees currently on overseas and foreign delegates from SAARC and non-SAARC countries. Altogether 55 foreign delegates attended the conference (virtual and physical) from India, Nepal, Bangladesh, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Kuwait and Malaysia. Physical attendance remained consistently strong throughout the event, demonstrating the relevance and academic value of the programme.

The detailed breakdown of the participants categories is as follows.

Category	Registered number
Local Consultants	82
Local PG trainees	100 (including those in overseas)
Foreign delegates (physical)	36
Foreign virtual participants	19
Total	237

Registration Process: Registration was facilitated through an online portal via the CPSL website, with an extended early-bird period closing on 15 September 2025.

3.6. International and local CPD accreditation

The scientific programme was accredited under both National CPD unit of the Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka which provided 18.5 CPD points for each participant and under Royal College of Pathologists, United Kingdom which provided 15 CPD points for each full participant.

Participants were issued e-certificates upon completion of the programme.



Participants of the conference on the second day

3.7. Souvenirs

In celebration of the 50th Anniversary, the College designed a water bottle and a computer bag. The bag was given free of charge to all conference attendees. The water bottle was sold to cover the cost.



Conference souvenirs, water bottle (left) and laptop bag (right)

3.8. Pre-congress workshops

The pre-congress workshop titled "Quality Assurance in the Analytical Phase of Laboratory Testing: Current Perspective" was successfully conducted on October 22, 2025, at the UCFM Tower. This session was specifically designed for technical officers across all laboratory sectors and was coordinated by Dr Cherine Sosai and Dr Carmalita Senarath, with the support from Dr Sandini Gunarathna and Dr Lakmali Kariyawasam.

The event saw a robust turnout with a total of 178 participants, the majority of whom represented the private sector (121), followed by 32 participants from government sector laboratories and 25 individuals from university laboratories and undergraduate programs.

The workshop featured a panel of resource persons who provided expert insights into specialized fields. Key speakers included

Dr Bharati Jhaveri, Pathologist, State of Illinois, Springfield, Illinois, USA (Online)

Professor Chandana Wickremaratne, Consultant Haematologist, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna

Dr Gaya Katulanda, Consultant Chemical Pathologist, National Hospital of Sri Lanka

Dr Nayana Ratnayake, Consultant Histopathologist, National Hospital, Kandy

Dr Kushlani Jayathilake, Consultant Microbiologist, Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital

Dr Chandanamali Punchihewa, CEO & Chief Scientist, Gene Labs Private Ltd, Nawala

Dr Geethika Jayaweera, Consultant Histopathologist, Army Hospital, Colombo

Dr Sandini Gunaratne, Consultant Histopathologist, Lady Ridgeway Hospital

These experts facilitated a comprehensive programme that covered quality assurance within the analytical phases of haematology, histopathology, microbiology, chemical pathology and molecular testing. Furthermore, the program addressed broader strategic themes, such as whether Sri Lanka can serve as a regional role model for laboratory testing quality, and incorporated practical learning through case scenarios and discussions regarding Turnaround Time (TAT).

The Sriyanai Nanayakkara who has pioneered laboratory accreditation in Sri Lanka was invited as a special guest for the workshop.

Parallel to the technical officer's workshop, a pre-congress webinar was held for the pathologists on quality in anatomic pathology: back to basics and quality assurance in laboratory testing: How quality programs improve patient care by Prof Bharati Jhaveri.



Participants of the pre-congress workshop



Resource persons and invitees of the pre-congress workshop

The report was submitted by Dr Cherine Sosai

3.9. Closing ceremony

The conference concluded on the 25th of October 2025 with closing remarks delivered by the conference organising team, who expressed their gratitude for the invaluable contributions of the international faculty, local speakers, sponsors, organising committee members, postgraduate trainees, and administrative teams.

Awards and certificates were then presented to the winners of the free paper sessions, poster presentations, winners of the “Panoramic PathoVision” art competition, as well as to recipients of raffle draw prizes and quiz winners.

The sponsors of the event were also appreciated.



Appreciation of sponsors at the closing ceremony



Quiz winners receiving their prizes



Conference coordinators delivering the Vote of Thanks



Conference team facing a group photo at the end of the closing ceremony

Chapter 4:

College academic / CPD activities

The College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka continued to strengthen its Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme during the year, with a focus on structured academic activities and broad professional engagement.

The coordinators for the CPD activities were as follows:

- Dr. Jayanjana Asanthi — Black Box sessions
- Dr. Prabodha Samaratne — Webinars
- Dr Lalani De Silva and Dr Priya Amaraweera – Peer review sessions
- Other members: Dr Pradeepa Gayani and Dr Waruni Dissanayake

Dr. Lalani De Silva also continued to facilitate approval from the Education, Training and Research Unit of the Ministry of Health for accreditation of individual activities, enabling participants to claim CPD points.

4.1. Black-box sessions

Monthly “Black-box” sessions were conducted mostly by young pathologists in peripheral hospitals. A collection of interesting and educational cases was discussed by them via zoom meetings. The trainees were given the prior opportunity to go through the slides of these cases in some sessions. There were wide participation of PG trainees and a significant number of consultants for the “Black-box” sessions. The scheduled sessions and the resource persons were as follows:

- *March — Dr. Saundika Udagampola*
- *April — Dr. Kanchana Morawakkorala*
- *June — Dr. Avanthi Rajapaksha*
- *July — Dr. Prabodha Samaratne*
- *August — Dr. Dayal Gamlaksha*
- *September — Dr. Shirani Samarathunga*
- *October and November — No sessions*
- *December — Dr. Lakmalie Kariyawasam*

4.2. Webinars

The CPSL webinar series was recommenced in July. Webinars were mostly conducted by overseas resource persons on current updates via zoom meetings. A wider participation of both PG trainees and consultants was there for webinars. The webinars conducted during the year with the resource persons included:

- *Molecular Pathology in Routine Practice — Dr. Nishani Jayathunga (31 July 2025)*
- *Pathopearls — Dr. Jayalakshmi Payippattu Leelamma (29 August 2025)*
- *Quality Assurance in Anatomical Pathology — Dr. Bharati Jhaveri (22 October 2025)*

- *Neuroendocrine Neoplasms of the Gastroenteropancreatic Tract — Dr. Hiroshi Silva (21 November 2025)*
- *Pathology of Salivary Glands — Dr. Eranga Nissanka Jayasuriya (10 December 2025)*
- *Uropathology — Dr. Maheshika Jinadasa (29 December 2025)*

4.3. Peer review meetings

Peer review meetings, established in 2019, continued in Colombo and Galle. Although these meetings were suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, they were re-established in 2022 and have continued uninterrupted since then. During the year, meetings were conducted monthly in Colombo and every two weeks in Galle. These sessions provide an important platform for case discussion, quality improvement, and professional support, particularly for acting consultants and pathologists serving in peripheral hospitals.

The Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM) supported this activity by providing laboratory premises and access to the multiheaded microscope without the usual usage charges, recognising the need of continuous educational activities for the acting consultants working in peripheries and the service benefit of the programme.



A peer review session in Galle

4.4. Workshops

A neuropathology workshop was held on 2 May 2025 in collaboration with the Sri Lanka College of Oncologists.

Date: 2nd May 2025

Time: 9.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.

Venue: Auditorium, National Blood Centre, Narahenpita

As part of the series of academic and professional development initiatives, the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka (CPSL) successfully conducted a high-impact Neuropathology Workshop on 2nd May 2025 at the Auditorium of the National Blood Centre, Narahenpita.

The event specifically targeted consultant histopathologists and postgraduate trainees in histopathology from across the country, providing a rare opportunity to engage with internationally renowned experts in the subspecialty of neuropathology.

Resource persons

The workshop was greatly enriched by the presence of a distinguished panel of global experts, who generously shared their clinical and academic expertise:

- **Prof. Epari Sidhar**
Consultant Neuropathologist, TATA Memorial Hospital, India
- **Prof. Tejpal Gupta**
Senior Consultant Neuro-Oncologist, TATA Memorial Hospital, India
- **Prof. Girish Chynaswammi**
Senior Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, TATA Memorial Hospital, India
- **Associate Prof. Santhosh Upadhdhaya**
Consultant Paediatric Neuro-Oncologist, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, USA

Workshop content and objectives

The focus of the workshop was on diagnostically challenging neuropathology cases, combining both pathological and radiological perspectives. The sessions featured interactive case-based discussions, illustrative slides, and multidisciplinary insights. A key emphasis was placed on resource-appropriate approaches to diagnosis and management relevant to low- and middle-income country (LMIC) settings like Sri Lanka.

Participation

The event attracted 90 registered participants, and over 65 attended in person, including a wide representation from consultant histopathologists, postgraduate trainees, and academics across the country. The enthusiastic participation demonstrated the significant demand and appreciation for subspecialty-level learning opportunities in neuropathology.

CPD accreditation

The programme was formally accredited under the National Continuing Professional Development (NCPD) Programme, coordinated by the Education, Training, and Research (ET&R) Unit of the Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka.

Each participant was awarded 4 CPD points upon completion of the workshop, further supporting their ongoing professional licensure and career development.

Acknowledgements

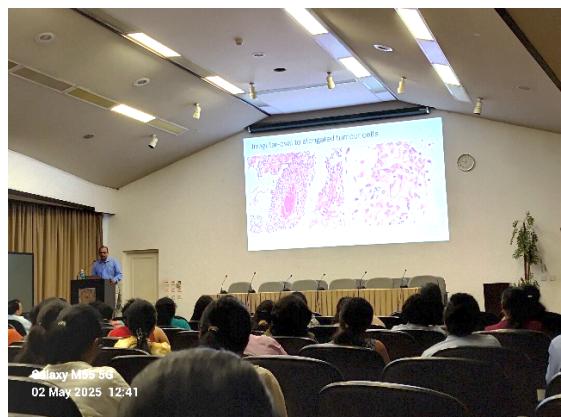
The College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka extends its heartfelt gratitude to the following individuals and organizations whose efforts made this event a success:

- The College of Oncologists of Sri Lanka for facilitating the coordination with international experts
- Dr. Mahendra Somathilaka, Consultant in Paediatric and Adolescent Oncology, National Cancer Institute, Sri Lanka, for his instrumental role in facilitating the visit of the resource persons and arranging lunch and refreshments for all attendees
- Dr Roshana Constantine for her kind coordination in arranging this programme
- The Director of the National Blood Centre for kindly providing the auditorium and multimedia facilities free of charge
- Dr. Jayanjana Asanthi and Dr. Prabodha Samaratne, members of the CPD Committee of the CPSL Council, for their dedicated support in organizing and coordinating the workshop

Conclusion

The neuropathology workshop stood out as a landmark academic event, offering participants a valuable opportunity to update and expand their knowledge in a highly specialized area of pathology. By providing access to international expertise and providing national-level engagement, the College reinforced its commitment to strengthening the capacity of the pathology workforce in Sri Lanka.

This workshop is a testament to the College's vision for academic excellence and its ongoing efforts to promote high-quality, inclusive, and accessible education for pathologists throughout the country, especially as it celebrates 50 years of service and leadership in the field of pathology



Neuropathology workshop



Neuropathology workshop

Chapter 5:

Training and capacity building

5.1. Cytoscreener training

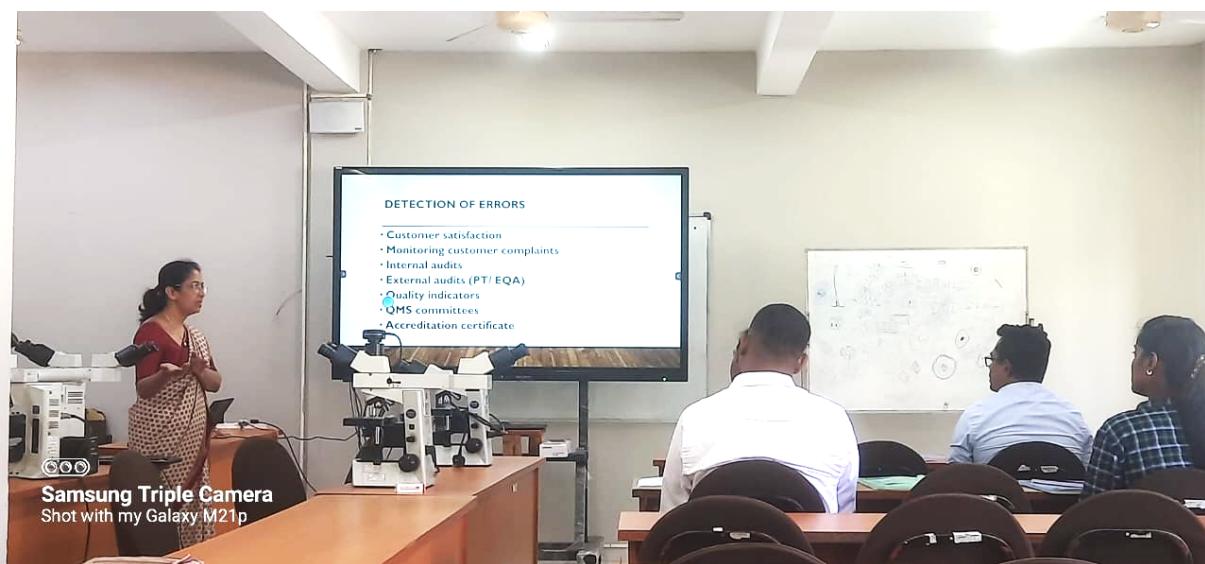
The cervical cytology subcommittee of College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka coordinated by doctors Gayani Ranaweera and Lakmalie Kariyawasam has involved with two main workshops to uplift the National Cervical Cytology Programme of Sri Lanka in 2025. These workshops were organized with the collaboration of Family Health Bureau.

Cervical cytology training for new cytoscreeners 2025 Programme

The first programme was designed to train new cytoscreeners for National Cervical Cancer Screening Programme, considering the shortage of cytoscreeners island wide. It was held at Family Health Bureau on 11.08.25 to 15.08.25 (5 days). Six (6) medical laboratory technologists (MLTs) participated the programme. The programme consists of series of lectures regarding the pathogenesis and clinical importance of cervical cancers, different benign and malignant entities encountered in practice, staining techniques and troubleshooting, quality assurance, reporting formats, logistics and HPV DNA testing in cervical cancers.

Dr Kelum Jayasinghe, Dr Dayal Gamlaksha, Dr Ruwana Ranawaka, Dr Avanthi Rajapakse, Dr Ramani Punchihewa, Prof Priyani Amarathunga, Dr Gayani Ranaweera and Dr Lakmalie Kariyawasam were participated as resource persons delivering the lectures.

There were daily practical sessions with demonstrations of pap smears including different entities using power point presentations and live microscopy sessions. A few assessments were also taken place on daily basis with MCQs and spot tests of different entities of pap smears.



Cytoscreener training programme, 2025



Cytoscreener training programme, 2025

Refresher training for cytoscreeners 2025 Programme

Refresher training programme for cytoscreeners which was held at Lecture Hall 1- Family Health Bureau and Waters Edge, Battaramulla from 12.11.2025 to 14.11.2025 as a 3 days programme from 9.00 am to 4.00pm. The above programme was designed to refresh the knowledge of cervical cancer screening among cytoscreeners who are already engaging with cervical cancer screening programme. 43 medical laboratory technologists (MLTs) participated the programme.

The programme was included with a series of lectures regarding the pathogenesis and clinical importance of cervical cancers, different benign and malignant entities encountered in practice, reporting formats, logistics and HPV DNA testing in cervical cancers. Dr Janaki Abeynayake, Dr Samalai Kanagasabapathy, Dr Avanthi Rajapakse, Dr Gayani Ranaweera, and Dr Lakmalie Kariyawasam were contributed as resource persons.

There were daily practical sessions with demonstrations of pap smears including different entities using power point presentations and live microscopy sessions. There were several assessments with MCQs and power point presentations containing smear images. The trainees were enthusiastically participated in all sessions.



Refresher training programme for cytoscreeners, 2025

National Strategic Plan 2026–2030 – Well Woman Programme

A workshop was held on 28th October 2025, and two subsequent small group discussions were conducted on 3rd November 2025 and 7th November 2025 to formulate National Strategic Plan 2026–2030 – Well Woman Programme. The major activities include transition from cytology-based cervical screening to HPV-based screening, develop national HPV-based screening and treatment guidelines aligned with WHO recommendations and implement HPV-based screening services. To achieve these goals, it was planned to upgrade HPV testing laboratories with molecular platforms, biosafety standards, and digital connectivity as well as to strengthen colposcopy services island wide. It was planned to maintain parallel operation of Pap smear and HPV testing until full national rollout. Dr Gayani Ranaweera and Dr Lakmali Kariyawasam contributed to this discussion. The position of the College of Pathologists, Sri Lanka on the proposed changes to the Cervical Cancer Screening Programme in Sri Lanka were submitted to the Director, Maternal and Child Health in writing



Coordinators of the College participating in the National Strategic Plan formulating workshops

In addition, Technical Advisory Committee meetings on Well Woman Programme 2025 were regularly attended by the coordinators. Proposals included increasing cytoscreener cadre, strengthening HPV DNA testing, ensuring consumable quality, continuing training, and providing remuneration for additional services.

The report was submitted by Dr Lakmali Kariyawasam.

5.2. Distribution of textbooks for facilitating perinatal pathology postmortems

Prof Priyani Amarathunga as the focal point from the College for feto-infant death surveillance programme of the Ministry of Health coordinated the distribution of textbooks on perinatal and paediatric pathology. These books were purchased by the Family Health Bureau through a WHO funded project, initiated when Dr Kapila Jayaratne was the programme coordinator. 20 copies of books were purchased and initially distributed to a few hospitals in 2023. The rest of the books were distributed during this year as per the table below. Postgraduate training centres, children's hospitals and women's hospitals were given the priority. It was ensured that all provinces are covered.

The books delivered are

1. Potter's Pathology of the Fetus, Infant and Child. 2nd Edition. Volume 1 and Volume 2 by Enid Gilbert-Barness
2. The Pediatric and Perinatal Autopsy Manual by Marta C Cohen and Irene Scheimberg
3. National Guidelines for feto-infant Pathological Post-mortem and Placental Examination



Initial distribution of books in 2023



Books to be distributed in 2025

The list of hospitals receiving the books

Potter's Pathology (allocated in 2023 and 2025)

1. TH Peradeniya
2. North Colombo Teaching Hospital (2023)
3. TH Mahamodara
4. Colombo South Teaching Hospital (2023)
5. Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital
6. De Soyza Maternity Hospital
7. Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children
8. Castle Street Hospital for Women (2023)
9. Sirimavo Bandaranayake Hospital for Children in Kandy
10. TK Kaluthara (2023)
11. BH Nuwaraeliya
12. TH Anuradhapura
13. TH Ratnapura
14. TH Badulla
15. DGH Matara
16. DGH Kegalle (2023)
17. TH Jaffna (2023)
18. BH Vavniya
19. TH Batticaloa
20. TH Kurunegala (2023)

Perinatal Autopsy Manual (all books were allocated in 2025)

1. TH Peradeniya
2. North Colombo Teaching Hospital
3. TH Mahamodara
4. Colombo South Teaching Hospital
5. Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital
6. Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children
7. Sirimavo Bandaranayake Hospital for Children in Kandy
8. DGH Avisawella
9. Amy Hospital
10. DGH Negombo
11. BH Wathupitiwala
12. DGH Polonnaruwa
13. TH Ratnapura
14. DGH Monaragala
15. DGH Hambanthota
16. DGH Ampara
17. BH Chilaw
18. BH Puttalam

5.3. Training of medical officers in pathology (MO Pathology)

The Council identified the lack of adequate histopathology knowledge and skills among medical officers attached to pathology laboratories as a major concern and decided to address this through the development of a structured training programme. A subcommittee was appointed to undertake this task.

Sub-committee members

*Prof Priyani Amarathunga
Dr Ruwana Ranawaka
Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa
Dr Saundika Udagampola
Dr Lalani De Silva
Dr Dayal Gamlaksha
Dr Cherine Sosai*

The subcommittee developed the training programme up to the stage of curriculum formulation. The curriculum was designed to consist of seven modules covering a wider area. The proposed teaching methods include lectures, practical laboratory sessions, observational learning, case-based discussions, small-group tutorials, assignments, and mentorship.

Medical officer of pathology training curriculum

1. *Module 1: Normal anatomy and histology*
2. *Module 2: Routine histopathology laboratory operations -1*
3. *Module 3: Routine histopathology laboratory operations -2*
4. *Module 3: Fine needle aspiration cytology (FNAC) and cytology*
5. *Module 4: Grossing techniques across all organ systems*
6. *Module 5: Post-mortem examinations*
7. *Module 7: Soft skills.*

Annexures

11. *Draft curriculum for MOO pathology training*

The report was submitted by Dr Ruwana Ranawaka

5.4. FRCPath Part 2 (Histopathology) examination

The College facilitated the conduct of the FRCPath (Histopathology) Part 2 examination in April 2025 in Sri Lanka. The exam was conducted across 10 centres in the UK and two overseas centres, namely Hong Kong and Sri Lanka. This was the first occasion on which a Fellowship examination of the Royal College of Pathologists (UK) was conducted in a South Asian country. 30 candidates from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka sat for the exam which was held at the PGIM, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Four pathologists from Sri Lanka were appointed as examiners for this examination, namely Dr. Gayani Ranaweera, Dr. Harshima Wijesinghe, Dr Charishma Fernando and Dr Jayanjana Asanthi. Dr. Gayani Ranaweera was also appointed the Lead Examiner for the Sri Lankan centre.

The report was submitted by Dr Gayani Ranaweera

5.5. Career guidance in pathology

Dr Avanthi Rajapaksha contributed as a resource person for the Career Guidance Seminar for young doctors conducted Sri Lanka medical Association (SLMA) in 2025. In addition, two other sessions on career guidance in pathology were held for undergraduate medical students, one by Dr Cherine Sosai at the online Inter-university Pathology Quiz and the other by Prof Priyani Amarathunga at the “Pathology Day” held at Anuradhapura Teaching Hospital.

Chapter 6:

College journal and other publications

Chief Editor

Dr Harshima Wijesinghe

Co-editors

Dr Gayani Ranaweera

Dr Charishma Fernando

During the year, issues of the Journal of Diagnostic Pathology for 2024 and 2025 were published, and outstanding volumes were completed, bringing the journal up to date.

In order to promote academic writing and research dissemination among members, it was proposed that article submissions and publications in the College Journal be incentivised through the award of bonus marks. It was agreed that this proposal would be discussed further at the Board of Study meeting.



Publication and the launch of “The Final Diagnosis: A 50-Year Odyssey” a comprehensive publication on the history of the College and laboratory medicine in Sri Lanka was presented at Chapter 2. Section 2.5.

The Conference Proceedings published along with the 50th Anniversary Conference included the abstracts of all research papers and case reports, the abstracts of all guest lectures and the citations of distinguished members of the College who were commemorated /honoured at the conference.

Chapter 7:

College sub-committees for laboratory services and national policy decisions

7.1. Working group for developing a new workload assessment method

Conveners of the working group and subcommittee: Dr Dayal Gamlaksha

Dr Amal Jayathilaka

Dr Nayana Rathnayake

Chairperson of the main subcommittee: Dr Palitha Rathnayake

Secretaries of the main subcommittee: Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa

Dr Saundika Udugampola

Workload data derived from a scientific method of assessment is crucial for future planning, cadre projections, cost-effective resource allocation, and ensuring equitable workload distribution in the field of histopathology in Sri Lanka. However, the current workload assessment method lacks scientific grounding, relying primarily on the total number of specimens as a surrogate indicator of workload. This approach is inaccurate and incomplete, as it does not account for the variation in complexity between different specimens. For example, simple and complex specimens are weighted equally, and the macroscopy and microscopy components of the workload are not assessed separately.

To address these shortcomings, the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka appointed a working group and subcommittee to develop a new, scientifically based workload assessment method for histopathology.

The working group, comprising 11 members, has developed:

1. Criteria for workload assessment in histopathology and cytopathology.
2. A point-based system for common specimen types across major organ systems (e.g., gastrointestinal tract, female genital tract, respiratory system).

Following this, a proposal was formulated to apply the sample point system to selected histopathology laboratories across the country as a pilot project.

Next steps:

1. Activation of the subcommittee – comprising 40 members, tasked with: evaluating and refining the proposed sample point system and assigning appropriate point values to different specimen types based on the reviewed sample point system.
2. Presentation of the proposal – to the subcommittee, followed by discussion and finalization of the point system.
3. Implementation of a pilot project – applying the point system in selected histopathology departments representing varying levels of workload to assess feasibility and accuracy.
4. This initiative marks a significant step toward a standardized, objective, and equitable system for workload measurement in histopathology in Sri Lanka, ultimately aiming to improve efficiency, fairness, and planning within the health system.

The report was submitted by Dr Dayal Gamlaksha.

7.2. Committee for laboratory accreditation

Co-chairpersons

*Prof Priyani Amarathunga
Dr Mangala Bpagoda*

Conveners

*Dr Sandini Gunaratne
Dr Champika Rathnayake*

Members

*Dr Sriyani Nanayakkara
Dr Priyangi Amarabandu
Dr Palitha Rathnayake
Dr Geethika Jayaweera
Dr Mangala Bopagoda
Dr Sonali Rodrigo
Dr Nayana Rathnayake
Dr Kumudu Senanayaka
Dr Sandini Goonaratne
Dr Priyanka Abeygunasekara*

A significant achievement of this year is that the histopathology laboratory at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children (LRH) successfully obtaining national accreditation from the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment (SLAB) in June (2025). This significant achievement, which positions LRH among a select group of accredited laboratories, signifies the lab's adherence to stringent international standards (ISO 15189) in all aspects of its operations. The College appreciated the team headed by Dr Sandini Gunaratne for their achievement.



Lady Ridgeway Hospital histopathology laboratory team

During the year, the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka continued to engage actively with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders in strengthening laboratory accreditation and quality management systems in Sri Lanka.

The Ministry of Health requested the College to nominate representatives for several national initiatives, including National Guidelines Development for Establishing a Laboratory Accreditation System in Sri Lanka and the formation of a pool of experts for the National Guidelines Committee (NGC) which includes representatives from all professional colleges. The Council agreed to entrust this responsibility to Dr Champika Rathnayake, who was nominated accordingly. The College also requested to submit Quick Reference Guidelines for Healthcare Accreditation.

Dr Carmalita Senarath, representing the College participated in a series of consultative meetings to develop a Road Map to Strengthen the Laboratory Quality Management System. Current systems, gaps, and improvement areas were discussed. These meetings had been followed by stakeholder meetings.

A stakeholder meeting to improve the Quality Management System for clinical and public health laboratories, an initiative led by the Ministry of Health were attended by a team including Dr Badramali Ranasinghe, Dr Cherine Sosai, Dr Priya Amaraweera, Dr Sonali Rodrigo, and Dr Champika Rathnayake.

Further discussions were held regarding the enhancement of the Laboratory Quality Manual and the relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) developed by the Quality Directorate of the Ministry of Health. The subcommittee prepared a set of proposals outlining suggested updates and improvements to these documents.

To encourage and recognise institutional achievement in laboratory quality, the Council approved a proposal to formally recognise hospital laboratories that have achieved accreditation. This recognition will be awarded on an institutional basis, rather than to individuals, and will acknowledge leadership and commitment to quality improvement. The President reiterated the Council's agreement to recognise government sector laboratories that have achieved Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB) accreditation, with the intention of presenting this recognition at a future award ceremony.

In addition, Dr Champika Rathnayake organised a workshop for the technical officers of the MRI on 25 April 2025, contributing to capacity building in laboratory quality and technical standards.

Through these activities, the College has continued to support the development of a coherent, nationally aligned, and sustainable framework for laboratory accreditation and quality management in Sri Lanka.

7.3. Immunohistochemistry (IHC) subcommittee

Co-chairpersons

*Prof Priyani Amarathunga
Dr Mangala Bopagoda*

Members

*Dr Champika Rathnayake
Dr Geethika Jayaweera
Dr Priya Amaraweera
Dr Shanika Fernandopulle
Dr Ramani Punchihewa
Dr Jayanjana Asanthi
Dr Modini Jayawicrama
Prof Sulochana Wijetunge
Dr Harshima Wijesingha
Dr Priyanka Abeygunasekera
Dr Vasana Karunaratne
Dr Vinothika Sivamayuran
Dr Chandrani Somaratne*

Co-conveners

*Dr Badramali Ranasinghe
Dr Sonali Rodrigo*

Members

*Prof Lakmini Mudduwa
Dr Roshana Constantine
Dr Palitha Rathnayake
Dr Anoma Perera
Dr Priyangi Amarabandu*

During the year, the Immunohistochemistry (IHC) Subcommittee focused on improving access to IHC services, addressing reagent and equipment challenges, and developing a strategic plan for the establishment of provincial-level IHC laboratories.

Planning and expansion of IHC services

Dr Badramali Ranasinghe took the leadership in developing a proposal to establish a national and provincial level IHC services covering all provinces in order to improve equity of access. It was noted that at present the Sabaragamuwa, North-Western, and Eastern Provinces do not have well established IHC laboratories. The Council recommended that these provinces be prioritised based on histopathology workload and IHC demand. The subcommittee was requested to formally seek the allocation of at least three automated IHC machines from the Ministry of Health, with prioritisation to be guided by workload if fewer machines are made available.

A comprehensive proposal for the establishment of national-provincial-level IHC laboratories was developed by the subcommittee. The subcommittee participated in two meetings with the acting Deputy Director General – Laboratory Services (DDG-LS) and Director Laboratory Services and discussed the establishment of national-provincial-level IHC laboratories in addition to short-term issues related to reagent supply and service disruptions. The Ministry expressed support for stepwise implementation of the proposal.

The proposal included the implementation strategy for cost-effective IHC services in all provinces

- A. Strengthening the facilities in established laboratories
- B. Establishment of provincial-level new IHC laboratories
- C. Establishing an efficient and reliable transport mechanism for the peripheral referring hospitals to the provincial/ regional IHC laboratories

Operational challenges

Significant challenges were identified during the year, including shortages of IHC reagents, equipment breakdowns, and increasing workload.

The temporary suspension of IHC services at the National Hospital of Sri Lanka due to reagent shortages, as well as similar challenges at other centres including Maharagama and Galle, were highlighted. Concerns were also raised regarding the high cost of local procurement, delays in approvals following audit concerns, and the operational risks associated with reagent shortages.

The subcommittee emphasised the importance of proactive engagement with the Ministry of Health to address these issues and prevent service disruptions.

It was noted that frequent breakdowns of automated IHC machines significantly affect service delivery. Redistribution of underutilised machines from low-volume centres to high-demand centres was suggested as a means of optimising resource use.

The subcommittee also explored alternative operational models, including the preparation of cut sections at peripheral laboratories to reduce the burden on main centres, while being mindful of audit and governance considerations.

Guidelines and standardisation

The subcommittee discussed the development of:

- A list of rare and expensive IHC markers to be centralised at designated reference laboratories.
- Guidelines on antibody shelf-life and the validated use of expired antibodies under strict quality control to prevent audit issues while maintaining service continuity.
- Documentation and validation requirements for each marker to ensure quality and accountability.

The College was requested to consider issuing formal circulars or guidelines in this regard.

Data collection and reporting

The subcommittee compiled national IHC statistics and prepared correspondence to the Ministry outlining key challenges and requirements. This includes:

- Updating reagent and workload estimates using current data.
- Continuing to monitor service delivery challenges and advocating for sustainable solutions.

Through these activities, the IHC Subcommittee has played a central role in strengthening immunohistochemistry services in Sri Lanka and advancing equitable, standardised, and sustainable diagnostic services nationwide.

Summary recommendations of the IHC proposal to achieve sustainable all island IHC service

- Establish three new IHC laboratories in provinces currently lacking these services:
 - Eastern Province: TH Batticaloa
 - North-Western Province: TH Kurunegala
 - Sabaragamuwa Province: TH Ratnapura
- Upgrade all new and existing facilities to meet laboratory infrastructure standards.
- Formalize "Draining Centers" for each IHC lab to streamline logistics and fund allocation (draining centers identified)
- Establish a specialized courier system for the secure transport of wax blocks and histopathology slides, ensuring specimen integrity.
- Equip provincial centers with IHC auto-stainers
 - Eastern Province: TH Batticaloa
 - North-Western Province: TH Kurunegala
 - Sabaragamuwa Province: TH Ratnapura
- High-throughput centers (>8,000 tests per annum) must be allocated at least two machines for redundancy.
- Implement a replacement plan for obsolete equipment, prioritizing national referral centers.
- Laboratories categorized into three tiers to optimize the use of IHC markers.
 - Tier 1- Basic IHC panel only
 - Tier 2- Basic + secondary IHC panels
 - Tier 3- Comprehensive panel including basic + secondary panels too.
(IHC panels identified)
- Provide standardized "IHC Packages" (Microtomes, water baths, lab refrigerators, and dedicated IT systems).
- Establish mandatory regular preventative maintenance schedules for all equipment.
- Transition to bulk procurement of antibodies and reagents from validated suppliers to ensure cost-efficiency.
- Establish a "Named Separate Allocation" for IHC reagents at each hospital. This prevents IHC costs from depleting the budget meant for routine histology.
- Assign dedicated Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLT/MLS) and support staff to IHC labs as per recommended workload ratios.
- Identify a ministry approved cover up plan in case of service breakdown due to machine failure or unavailability of reagents in any IHC centre, for the transparency of allocations
(cover-up hospitals identified)
- Implement continuous professional development programs, including local workshops and regional fellowships in neighboring countries.
- Develop national Quality Assurance (QA) protocols and monitor Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

The report was submitted by Dr Badramali Ranasinghe

7.4. National Health Strategic Master Plan (NHSMP) 2026–2035

As part of the development of the National Health Strategic Master Plan (NHSMP) 2026–2035 for the diagnostic sector, a stakeholder meeting was held on 23rd May 2025. A proposal for the histopathology sector was submitted by the College representatives who participated in the meeting: Prof Priyani Amarathunga, Dr Ramani Punchihewa, Professors in Pathology and other lab-related departments of universities also had been invited to this meeting by the Ministry of Health. Prof Janaki Hewavisenthi, Prof Bimalka Seneviratna and Prof Priyani Amarathunga attended representing universities and added valuable inputs to the strategic plan.

Key strategies included

1. *Clustering system: Implementing a new organizational structure.*
2. *Provincial IHC labs: Establishing immunohistochemistry laboratories at the provincial level.*
3. *National reference lab: Developing a national reference laboratory for molecular pathology.*
4. *Digital pathology & AI: Preparing for the era of digital pathology and artificial intelligence.*
5. *Quality improvement & accreditation: Enhancing laboratory quality and pursuing accreditation.*
6. *Laboratory information systems & safety: These crucial aspects have already been integrated.*
7. *Sub-specialization: Inclusion of plans for sub-specialization in various areas*



College members and university academics participating in formulating the National Health Strategic Master Plan 2026-2035

Cadre projections for next 10 years

In line with the future strategies, the College formulated the histopathologists cadre projections for next 10 years and submitted to the Ministry of Health. Projected workload increase, expansion of specialized investigations, postgraduate training and necessity for subspecialisation were considered for cadre projections. Existing cadre including those in replacement list is 72 and the projected cadre for 2036 is 113. A meeting was scheduled on 21st January 2026 with DDG-MS1 regarding this matter.

7.5. Molecular genetics and digital pathology committee

Co-chairpersons

*Prof Priyani Amarathunga
Dr Mangala Bopagoda*

Convenor

Dr Priyangi Amarabandu

Members

*Dr Champika Rathnayake
Dr Harshima Wijesinghe
Prof Chandu de Silva
Dr Palitha Rathnayake
Dr Jayanjana Asanthy*

Dr Priyangi Amarabandu participated in the Consultative Meetings to Develop a Road Map for Genomic Sequencing Services (GSS) with Dr Champika Rathnayake participating as MRI nominee. This WHO-funded initiative aims to develop a national GSS road map.

The College also recommended the inclusion of molecular genetics reagents requested by the histopathologists at Apeksha Hospital to the national Formulary.

7.6. Committee for private sector matters

Co-chairpersons

*Dr Priyanka Abeygunasekara
Prof Priyani Amarathunga
Dr Mangala Bopagoda*

Convenors

*Dr Ramani Punchihewa
Dr Charishma Fernando
Dr Nayana Ratnayake*

The committee recommended a 20% increase of consultation fee for private sector cases from 2026 as there was no increment happened in 2025.

7.7. Advisory role for National Cancer Control Programme

The College members including Prof Priyani Amarathunga, Dr Priyangi Amarabandu and Dr Lalani De Silva attended and provided expert opinions at multiple meetings convened by the Cancer Control programme. The importance of continuous supply of IHC reagents, expanding IHC laboratories to each province and strengthening the facilities of the molecular laboratory at Apeksha Hospital were discussed at these meetings.

1. Consultative Meeting on Updating the Strategic Plan on Prevention and Control of Cancer (2025–2030)- (23.04.2025) Strengthening laboratory and radiology services and incorporating ImPACT review recommendations were discussed. Dr Priyangi Amarabandu and Dr Lalani De Silva
2. National Workshop on Cancer Control Planning (27.03.2025) Prof. Priyani Amarathunga participated to represent the College. The national cancer prevention plan was discussed, with short-, mid-, and long-term recommendations for pathology services, including guideline development, expansion of molecular pathology and IHC services,
3. Consultative Meeting on Strengthening Cancer Registration and Research (29.05.2025) Dr. Priya Amaraweera represented the College. Discussions focused on cancer registries, research prioritization, inclusion of private sector data, ImPACT findings, and phased planning.
4. Nomination – Technical Advisory Committee on Cancer Registration and Research (2025–2027) CPSL was requested to nominate an expert to the TAC to provide technical advice on cancer registration and research
5. National Advisory Committee on Prevention and Control of Cancers (10.12.2025) A hybrid meeting was scheduled; CPSL nominee is Dr Priyangi Amarabandu
6. Dr Priyangi Amarabandu was nominated at the request of the National National Advisory Committee on Prevention and Control of Cancers – 2025 (05.08.2025) Dr. Priyangi Amarabandu participated in the hybrid meeting convened by the NCCP. Minutes were circulated to the Council.
7. Consultative Meeting with the Hon Minister of Health & Mass Media on Strengthening Cancer Control Activities for the Period of 2026 – 2030 (09.01.2026). Prof Priyani Amarathunga and Dr Priyangi Amarabandu participated.

7.8. Task Force and other ministry related matters

Through strengthened provincial coordination, structured planning for vacancies and cover-up services, improved data collection, and the development of more secure reporting systems, the College continued to support workforce organisation and service continuity. Priority areas requiring national-level engagement were identified, with emphasis placed on formal communication pathways, documented follow-up, and coordinated action.

Provincial Coordinators

New members were appointed as Provincial Coordinators to strengthen coordination and representation across the country. The Council approved the following list:

Co-chairpersons

Prof Priyani Amarathunga

Dr Mangala Bopagoda

Conveners

Dr Sinnathurai Ahilan

Dr Amal Jayathilake

Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa

Provincial coordinators

- *Western: Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa*
- *Central: Dr Deshani Dimalika Walisinghe*
- *Southern: Dr Lakmalie Kariyawasam*
- *Northern: Dr Amal Jayathilake and Dr Vinothika Sivamayuran*
- *Eastern: Dr Sinnathurai Ahilan*
- *Uva: Dr Ayomi Kankanamge*
- *North-Western: Dr Niluka Ranatunga*
- *North Central: Dr Jayanjana Asanthi and Dr Pradeepa Gayani*
- *Sabaragamuwa: Dr Avanthi Rajapaksha*

Vacancy, replacement, and transfer-related planning

The task force was requested to prepare a vacancy list and replacement list, to be ready once annual transfers are finalised. It was also agreed that workload statistics for 2024 should be collected to support service planning and staffing decisions.

The Council also emphasised the importance of formal written communication, agenda-driven meetings, and systematic follow-up, noting that verbal discussions alone may not result in implementation.

Issues related to supply chain and other challenges in laboratory services.

Meeting with DDGLS on Challenges in Supply Chain on 06.11.2025: Participants were Dr. Suranga Dolamulla (Director, Laboratory Service), MO, MO, MSD, Ms Senani (AD MSD), Ms Nandani from MOH and Dr Ramani Punchihewa, Dr Cherine Sosai, Dr Champika Ratnayake, Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa, Dr Chandani Peris, Dr Priya Amaraweera from CPSL.

Following points were discussed:

- **Reagent supply:** Regular supply of basic reagents/consumables ensured. Agreed to provide local purchase approval within 3–5 working days. Bulk supply quality to be checked by TEC. Chemicals for special stains provided to local suppliers.
- **Immunohistochemistry (IHC):** Service expansion proposals to be submitted by CPSL. Justification required for reagent combinations. MLT appointments at institutional level; annual training to be arranged.
- **Chemical pathology coverage:** Hospitals without specialists to be covered by nearest Chemical Pathologist (onsite/offsite). Requests to be communicated through official channels.
- **Histopathology coverup & equipment:** Written MOH approval required for coverup. Equipment/staffing issues to be addressed via proper annual requests.
- **Pathology trainee intake:** Proposed increase from 12 → 24 to address retirements; CPSL to justify with data and projections.

- **Quality reporting & training:** Use standard format for reporting lab item failures. Funds available for training programs at MRI. Regular institutional lab review meetings to continue. (Responsibility: CPSL / Institutions)

Action points.

1. CPSL to submit IHC proposals and histopathology item list which need NMRA approval.
2. CPSL to justify trainee intake and follow up on coverup approvals.
3. AD- MSD to ensure timely reagent supply and approvals.
4. Institutions to request equipment/logistics support as per annual plan.
5. CPSL to circulate and ensure use of quality failure reporting format.

The follow-up meeting is planned with the preparation of required documents.

Issues related to Global Pathology Leadership Programme

The College representatives Dr Sandini Gunaratne, Dr Champika Rathnayake and Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa participated in the meetings for the development of a roadmap for implementation of Global Laboratory Leadership programme (GLLP) in Sri Lanka.

However, the members of all four laboratory related Colleges have concerned about this programme and its influence on the existing laboratory management system. A series of meetings were held with members from all 4 laboratory Colleges, and the concerns were submitted in writing to the DGHS and the Secretary Ministry of Health.

Physical meeting with DGHS with members from all 4 Colleges was held on 17th of December 2025 with the participation by Dr Suranga Dolamulla (Director LS), Dr Sujatha, Dr Gaya, Dr Jayanthi, Dr Sanjeewa, Dr Chandika, Dr Champika, Dr Cherine and few other members regarding the concerns of GLL training and quality management issues.

The second meeting with DDG-LS was held on 12th January 2026 and the Colleges were requested to submit a programme agreed by the Colleges as earliest possible.

7.9. College representation at other meetings of the Ministry of Health related to laboratory functioning

Formulary Revision Committee (25.02.2025) Dr Cherine Sosai and Dr Priyangi Amarabandu represented the College. It was agreed to remove unused items from the formulary, specialized items including IHC equipment were added, and a separate molecular formulary was proposed. It was noted that procurement usually occurs approximately two years after submission of estimates

Technical Evaluation Committee on Procurement of Equipment: Dr Camalitha Senarath, Dr Priyangi Amarabandu, and Dr Niluka Ranathunga were appointed under the Health System Enhancing Project. No meetings were held during this year.

Technical Evaluation Committee-Medicinal Drugs and Devices (SPC) (02.04.2025) Dr Ramani Punchihewa, Dr Cherine Sosai, and Dr Modini Jayawickrama participated. Delays in procurement and issues related to preliminary item lists and procedures were discussed.

Laboratory Review Committee Meeting – Guidelines (26.06.2025): Dr Champika Rathnayake participated. The meeting focused on strengthening laboratory governance and finalization of proposed laboratory guidelines.

Formulary Revision Core Committee Meeting – Laboratory Items 2025 (02.07.2025): Dr Cherine Sosai, Dr Sriyani Nanayakkara, Dr Camalita Senarath, and Dr Priyangi Amarabandu participated. Correspondence was exchanged with MSD regarding future inclusion.

8th National Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee Meeting: Dr Cherine Sosai, Dr Bhadramali Ranasinghe, and Dr Champika Rathnayake participated. Updates were provided on funding availability for equipment maintenance and calibration, utilization of World Bank and ADB pandemic funds, and proposed projects on laboratory leadership, quality improvement, and genomic testing.

9th National Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee Meeting (04.09.2025) Dr Cherine Sosai participated.

Policy Dialogue with Health Sector Stakeholders on National Policy on Health and Well-being (2026–2035). The dialogue reviewed policy statements and was coordinated through the Directorate of Policy Analysis and Developments.

Planned Bid Evaluation of Pharmaceuticals, Surgical, and Laboratory Tenders for 2026 (22.09.2025) Dr Ramani Punchihewa and Dr Cherine Sosai represented CPSL. Liaison with SPC officials focused on haematology-related items.

Nomination of Reviewers – Education, Training and Research Unit: Dr Lalani De Silva and Dr Modini Jayawickrama were nominated as reviewers for research proposals.

National Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee Meeting on Regulation of the Reagent Supply Chain (10.10.2025): Dr Cherine Sosai and Dr Bhadramali Ranasinghe participated. CPSL was requested to submit prioritized reagent lists and challenges.

Chapter 8:

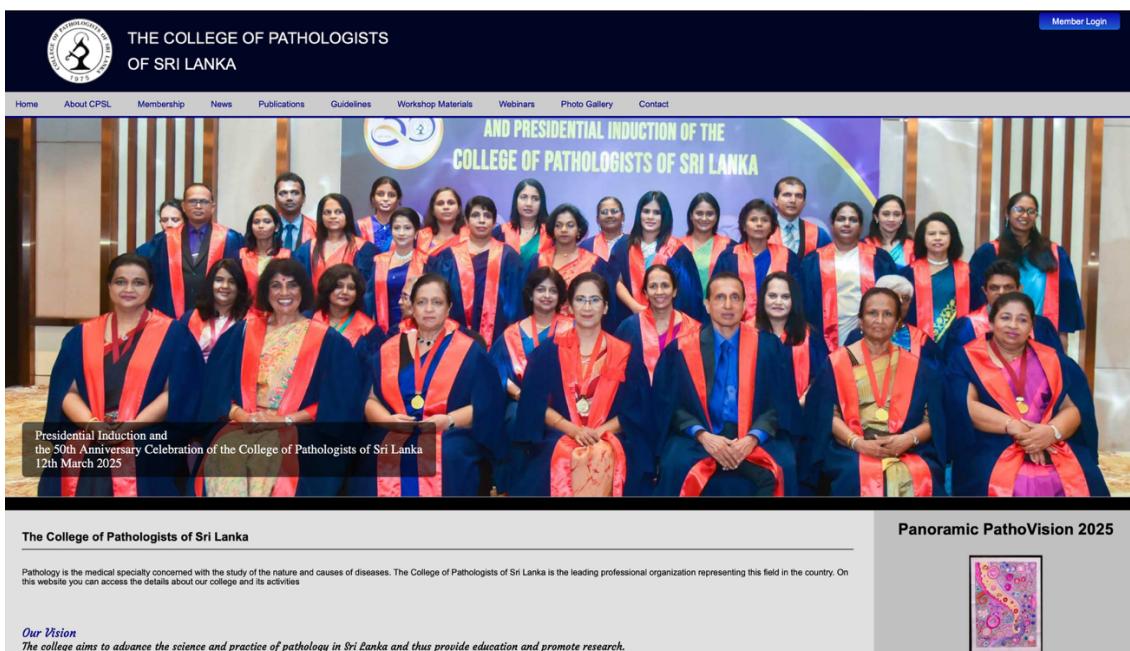
College website and social media platforms

The College utilizes its digital platforms, such as the website, Facebook and YouTube to bridge the gap between the medical professionals and the public focussing awareness and health education. A remarkable change happened during this year in all three digital platforms, enhancing the visibility of the College among other healthcare professionals and the public.

8.1. Official website

The website which is open to its membership and the community provides access to the journal, conference proceedings, publications and other educational material. It also provides the interface for online conference registration and abstract submission.

The website underwent a major update giving it a new look during this year. The server capacity was upgraded from 1GB to 50GB to accommodate high-resolution content. On the home page, the user interface was enhanced from static to dynamic through the implementation of the image slider. A new toolbar was added named “News” so that the special activities conducted by the College are uploaded as news items. The page on the history of the College and the photos of past presidents were updated. The creative works received for ‘Panoramic PathoVision’ art competition were uploaded to the website as an art gallery.



8.2. Facebook page

The Facebook page acts as the "social voice" of the College, focusing on real-time updates and community engagement. This page started in 2011 had only about 260 followers until the end of 2024. With the implementation of events involving undergraduate medical students, especially the video completion among students and dissemination of these videos on Facebook, resulted in a steep rise in its followers, followed by a steady rise thereafter. At the end of the year 2025, the number of followers has increased to 875 including over 500 page likes.

The analysis of the metrics of the Facebook page shows that most followers are 25-34 years age category (41%) followed by 35-44 (21%) and 18-24 (20%) with a male to female ratio of 46:55. The followers are located all over the country, 30% in Colombo and 25% in Jaffna. The other followers are also from the main cities where universities are located including Galle, Kandy, Ratnapura and Batticaloa depicting that medical students or young doctors are the main crowd following the page. Repeated posting targeting this category of followers may help making pathology more popular among young doctors.



College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

507 likes • 868 followers

The College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka is the apex professional body representing, all the subspecialties of pathology in Sri Lanka. The College has been established in 1975 and celebrating its 50th anniversary in the year 2025.

Community

All About Photos Followers Mentions More

Links

colpathsl.com

Contact info

College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

Highlights

Add highlights

Photos

See all photos

International Pathology Day 2025

What's on your mind?

Photo/video Reel Live video

Featured

People won't see this unless you pin something. Manage

Posts

Filters Manage posts

List view Grid view

College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka Published by Priyani Amarathunga • December 14 at 7:44 AM

Kumuduni Hettiarachchi tracing the CPSL's, 50 year Odyssey and anniversary celebration activities in Sunday Times today. ... See more

SUNDAYTIMES.LK A strong bridge between science and medicine These medical specialists who work behind the scenes, vital for the diagnosis of diseases and treatment of patients, left their laboratories and microscopes, for a...

The three most popular reels on cancer awareness uploaded to the page were reached by 21K, 14K and 9.5K views.

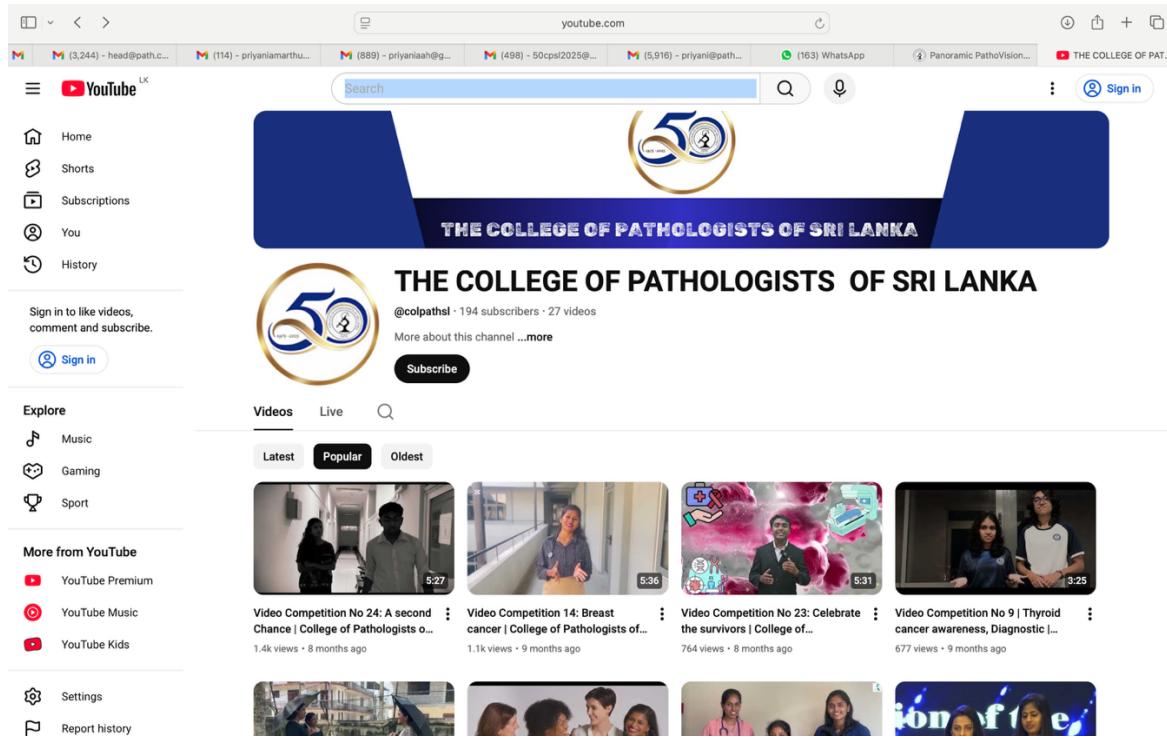
8.3. YouTube channel

The YouTube channel is the College's repository for video-based educational and commemorative content. The channel was reactivated in 2025 due to technical errors encountered. About 20 cancer awareness videos generated by the undergraduate video competition and nearly 10 videos of the 50th anniversary celebration events of the College are uploaded to the website. The channel has acquired 194 subscribers during 2025.

The most popular video is a breast cancer awareness video which was published by the medical students of the University Jaffna, which has reached 1.4K views, 155 likes and 14 comments for 8

months. The second most popular video is also on breast cancer published by a student from Sabaragamuwa University which has reached 1.1K views, 150 likes and 29 comments by the end of 2025.

The 50th anniversary celebration event held in March and the Inauguration Ceremony of the 50th Anniversary International Conference were livestreamed via the YouTube channel.



Chapter 9:

Membership updates

The College life membership register was reviewed and updated during the year. Updated information was collected from existing members and incorporated into the records. In addition, 12 new members were enrolled in 2025. The details of the newly registered members are as follows:

Membership number	Name	Council meeting confirmed the membership
275	Dr Pallekankanamge Dona Kumudu Kumari	April 2025
276	Dr Sachinthana Dulanjalee Sumanasekara	April 2025
277	Dr Thadshajini Arudselvan	May 2025
278	Dr Rassagalage Gayathri Sithumini Rassagala	May 2025
279	Dr Jayani Chamindika Malagala	May 2025
280	Dr Prasanga Dilhari Kumari Thiranagama	May 2025
281	Dr Kemanilamiya Sheron	June 2025
282	Dr Hajani Kajanthan	June 2025
283	Dr Supanya Thanansayan	July 2025
286	Dr Samalai Kanagasabapathy	November 2025
287	Dr Kariyawasam Bovithanthrige Rojika	November 2025
288	Dr Buddi Nirmani Adhikari	November 2025

Sponsorships, industry support, and donors

The College received generous corporate and institutional sponsorship, ensuring the successful execution of academic and logistical components.

Conference Sponsors

Platinum Sponsors

Morison Limited

Premium International (Pvt) Ltd

Gold Sponsors

Analytical Instruments (Pvt) Ltd

Biomedite (Pvt) Ltd

Delmege Forsyth & Co, Ltd

Hemsons International Pvt Ltd

Primecare Holdings (Pvt) Ltd

Silver Sponsors

A & M Suhada Enterprises (Pvt) Ltd

George Steuart Health (Pvt) Ltd

Ministry of Health and Mass Media

Other Sponsors

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Kish Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd

National Science Foundation

P and T Trading (Pvt) Ltd

Sri Lanka Convention Bureau

Advertisements

Durdans Hospital

Hemas Hospitals

Hemas Surgicals and Diagnostics

Lanka Hospitals PLC

Donors

A group of Sri Lankan Pathologists working in United Kingdom and Australia

Sponsorships for other events

Transport facilities - Anuradhapura Pathology Day: Analytical Instruments (Pvt) Ltd.

Refreshments - Final round of Path Master Quiz: Delmege Forsyth & Co, Ltd.

Annual General Meeting January 2026: Hayleys Lifesciences (Pvt) Ltd

Annexure 1: Video competition - Information and guidelines



Video Competition

Information and Guidelines

Annexure 1

Theme:

Raising awareness about cancers & the role of pathologists in cancer diagnosis

Eligibility:

- Open to all current undergraduate students from any University in Sri Lanka.
- Individual or group participation is allowed.

Competition Guidelines:

1. Theme Focus Areas:

- Cancer awareness
- Cancer screening and services available to the public
- Pathological diagnostic methods
- Role of pathologists in cancer diagnosis and care

2. Target Audience:

- General public

3. Video Requirements:

- Duration: 3-5 minutes
- Language: Sinhala, Tamil, or English (or a combination)
- Format: MP4 (preferred), minimum resolution of 720p
- Content Guidelines:

The video must be accurate, engaging, and suitable for a broad audience.

All references or external content must be properly cited.

Content should be your original creation; plagiarism or copying others' work is strictly prohibited.

4. Submission Period:

- 1st January 2025 – 15th February 2025

5. Submission Process:

- Email your video along with a completed application form to 50cpsl2025@gmail.com.
- The application form must be signed by an academic member of your university to verify your status as an undergraduate student.
- You must also sign an agreement and provide consent for technically qualified videos to be published on our social media platforms with due acknowledgment to the participants.
- Ensure all entries comply with ethical standards and technical specifications.



Organizing committee

Prof. Priyani Amarathunga
Dr. Lalani De Silva
Dr. Priya Amaraweera
Dr. Jayanjana Asanthi
Dr. Deshani Walisinghe



50cpsl2025@gmail.com



<https://www.collegeofpathologists.com/>



Commemorating the past, Progressing in the present
and Aspirations for the future

50th Anniversary Celebrations of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

Video Competition

Criteria for selection and awards

1. Initial Technical Review:

- o Videos will be reviewed for adherence to technical and content guidelines.

2. Social Media Publication:

- o Approved videos will be published on CPSL's Facebook and YouTube pages with due recognition to the author.

3. Awards:

- o **Best Video** – Judged based on the accuracy, creativity, clarity, and the impact. **Three winners** will be selected, and cash prizes will be awarded at the **CPSL Presidential Induction Ceremony in March 2025**.

- 1st place- Rs 30,000.00
- 2nd place- Rs 20,000.00
- 3rd place- Rs 15,000.00

- o **Most Popular Video** – Determined by social media engagement (views, likes, shares).

Three winners will be selected, and cash prizes will be awarded at the **Annual Academic Session of College of Pathologist of Sri Lanka in October 2025**.

- 1st place- Rs 30,000.00
- 2nd place- Rs 20,000.00
- 3rd place- Rs 15,000.00

All technically approved entries will receive a participation certificate and a cash prize

Contact Information:

For further details, please contact: 50cpsl2025@gmail.com

Join us to spread awareness and showcase your creativity!



Organizing committee

Prof. Priyani Amarathunga
Dr. Lalani De Silva
Dr. Priya Amaraweera
Dr. Jayanjana Asanthy
Dr. Deshani Walisinghe



50cpsl2025@gmail.com



<https://www.collegeofpathologists.com/>

Annexure 2: Video competition – Application form



Application Form for Video Competition

1. Contestant Number: _____

2. Video Topic: _____

3. Participant Details:

- Full Name: _____
- University: _____
- Faculty: _____
- Contact Number: _____
- Email Address: _____

4. Names of other participants:

5. Declaration: I hereby declare that:

- The content of the video submitted for this competition is original and does not contain any material created by others without proper authorization.
- I take full responsibility for the content of the video.

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

6. Certification by an Academic Member:

I hereby certify that the above-named participant is a student of [University Name], and the details provided above are accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Name of Academic Member: _____

Designation: _____

University/Faculty: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature and Of official Seal: _____ Date: _____



50th Anniversary Celebrations of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

Commemorating the past. Progressing in the present
and Aspirations for the future

Consent for Video Publication

I, the undersigned, hereby grant the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka permission to publish
my submitted video

on its official social media platforms, including Facebook and YouTube. I understand that due
acknowledgment will be given for my work.

Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Annexure 3A: Video competition – Judging criteria

Judging Criteria – Cancer Awareness Video Competition Phase 1

Theme: Raising awareness about cancers and the role of pathologists in cancer diagnosis

Target Audience: General Public

Total Marks: 100

1. Contestant No:

2. Topic of the Video:

.....

Criteria	Description	Marks (100)
Public Awareness & Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effectively raises awareness about cancer (risk factors, prevention, early detection, treatment options). - Delivers a strong, impactful message that encourages action (e.g., screening, lifestyle changes). - Relatable to the general public (accessible language, engaging format). 	/25
Highlighting the Role of Pathologists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearly explains how pathologists contribute to cancer diagnosis, treatment planning, and prognosis. - Shows the importance of pathology in the cancer care journey. - Avoids misconceptions about the role of pathologists. 	/20
Scientific Accuracy & Ethical Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses evidence-based, accurate information from credible sources. - Avoids misinformation, exaggerated claims, or fear-mongering. - Ensures ethical representation of cancer patients and healthcare professionals. 	/15
Clarity & Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses clear, simple, and engaging language for the general public. - Logical and structured storytelling (beginning, middle, and end). - Avoids excessive medical jargon or explains technical terms simply. 	/15
Creativity & Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses innovative storytelling, metaphors, analogies, or unique presentation styles. - Captivates and retains audience attention (visuals, narration, or dramatization). - Effectively conveys emotions to inspire action. 	/15
Technical Quality (Visual & Audio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High-quality visuals, clear graphics, and smooth transitions. - Good sound quality (audible narration, appropriate background music if used). - Professional editing and overall polish. 	/10

Total Score: _____ / 100

Bonus Points (Optional, up to 5 points)

- **Accessibility:** Subtitles, translations, or voiceovers for a wider audience (+1-2 points).
- **Originality:** A fresh and different perspective compared to common cancer awareness videos (+1-2 points).
- **Call to Action:** Strong encouragement for screening, early diagnosis, or advocacy (+1 point).

Judging Guidelines:

- Each judge should score each video based on the above criteria.
- The final score will be the sum of all criteria (out of 100).
- In case of a tie, the highest-scoring video in **Public Awareness & Impact** will be the winner.

Signature :.....

Name of the assessor:

Date :

Annexure 3B: Video competition – Judging criteria

Judging Criteria – Cancer Awareness Video Competition Phase II

Proposed Scoring System

Facebook

- 1 Like/Reaction = **1 point**
- 1 Share = **3 points**
- 1 Comment = **2 points**
- 200 Views = **1 point**

YouTube

- 1 Like = **2 points**
- 1 Comment = **2 points**
- 50 Views = **1 point**

Justification

Justification for Weighting

YouTube and Facebook measure engagement differently. By assigning weights, we can ensure that both platforms contribute fairly to the final score, without one overshadowing the other.

1. **Likes/Reactions (Facebook = 1 point; YouTube = 2 points)**
 - Likes and reactions are the most basic form of engagement.
 - YouTube likes are weighted slightly higher because the platform requires deliberate action after longer video play, compared to Facebook where likes are quicker and more casual.
2. **Shares (Facebook = 3 points)**
 - Sharing reflects the **highest level of endorsement**. A user is willing to associate with the content and recommend it to others, which has more value than a simple like or comment.
 - As YouTube does not provide a reliable public “share” metric, shares are counted only for Facebook.
3. **Comments (Facebook & YouTube = 2 points)**
 - Comments require more effort and indicate stronger engagement than a like.
 - Equal weight is given across both platforms, as comments generally represent meaningful interaction regardless of where they occur.
4. **Views (Facebook = 200 = 1 point; YouTube = 50 = 1 point)**
 - YouTube views are more reliable (minimum 30 seconds watch time), hence fewer views are required for 1 point.
 - Facebook views count after just 3 seconds, including autoplay, so we set a higher threshold (200 = 1 point) to prevent inflation.
 - This ensures views contribute to reach, but **do not dominate** the scoring.

Additionally,

Only engagement from the **official CPSL Facebook page** and **official CPSL YouTube channel** will be counted.

Engagement from personal accounts, reposts, or other platforms will be excluded to maintain fairness. Artificial boosting (bots, fake accounts, spam) will lead to disqualification.

Compiled by Dr Lalani J De Silva, approved by network Operating Centre, University of Colombo

Invitation and guidelines for the pathologists to submit questions for Path Master Quiz 2025, pathology competition for medical undergraduates.

College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka is planning to have a pathology competition among medical undergraduates of state universities as a part of its 50th Anniversary Celebration. Pathologists are invited to submit questions for the common question pool. Your kind coorporation and contribution to the success of this event will be highly appraciated.

Format of the quiz competition: Conducted in two sessions

- The first quiz session will be online via an online game/quiz platform (Kahoot or Quizzes).
- The second session will be physical through a similar platform for the selected top three quiz teams.

Question Content and Focus:

- **Content:** General Pathology, Tumor Pathology, Systemic Pathology, Basic Haematology, Basic Chemical Pathology, Clinicopathological Applications, and relevant History of Pathology for undergraduates.
- **Case Scenarios:** Include clinicopathological applications in later rounds of both online and physical quizzes.

Question Format and Structure:

- **Question Type:** Single Correct Answer with four options.
- **Question Media:** Can be text-only or a mix of text and relevant pictures (macroscopy, microscopy, instruments, scientists, etc.). Pictures can be used in the stem or the responses.
- Question stems and answers must be understandable within the time limit.
- Keep case scenarios brief to ensure comprehension within the time limit and app space
- Pictures (stem or answers) must be good-quality JPEGs, max 5MB per question.
- **Required Information per Question:**
 - Correct answer
 - Difficulty level (1-easy to 5-difficult)
 - Time duration (20s, 30s, 1min)
- **Submission Format:** PowerPoint document with one question per slide. Include a table at the bottom of each slide with the answer, difficulty, and time frame (see sample).

Submission Process and Review:

- **Submission:** Pathologists are invited to submit questions for both sessions. An expert panel will select questions based on content coverage and difficulty.
- **Each pathologist can submit a maximum of 10 questions, from multiple aspects to cover the content areas.**
- **Author Information:** Include your name upon submission; questions will be anonymized afterward.
- **Submission Deadline: 31.05.2025** by email to Dr. Niluka Ranathunga. Emial: nilukaranathunge@gmail.com

General Guidelines and Authority:

- Quiz coordinators/expert team may modify questions for clarity or to meet requirements.
- Pathologists must comply with the expert panel's final decision.

List of faculty coordinators who shuld be excluded from question submission: Dr Gayani Ranaweera, Dr Mangala Bopagoda, Prof Bimalka Seneviratne, Dr Thushari Liyanage, Dr Sachinthana Sumanasekera, Dr Anusha Tennakoon, Dr Balavally Thanenthiran, Dr N Janane, Dr Vasana Mendis, Dr Namal Gunawardhane, Dr Chamani Gamakaranage, Dr Thusitha Somarathna, Dr Irandhi Kumarasinghe.

Developed by the Quiz Organizing Committee/ College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka 2025.

Annexure 5: Path Master quiz - Guidelines for the pathologists to submit questions: round 2

Invitation and guidelines for the pathologists to submit questions for Path Master Quiz 2025, pathology competition for medical undergraduates. Second round

College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka has completed the first round of the Path Master Quiz and is planning to have the second round during the first week of September. Pathologists are invited to submit questions for the common question pool. Your kind coorporation and contribution to the success of this event will be highly appraciated.

Format of the quiz competition: Second round

- It will be physical through a similar online platform as per the first round for the selected top three quiz teams. (Universities of Colombo, Jayewardenepura and Kelaniya)

Question Content and Focus:

- **Content:** General Pathology, Tumor Pathology, Systemic Pathology, Basic Haematology, Basic Chemical Pathology, Clinicopathological Applications at the level of undergraduates.
- **Case Scenarios:** Include clinicopathological applications rather than recall knowledge.

Question Format and Structure:

- **Question Type:** Single Correct Answer with four options.
- **Question Media:** Can be text-only or a mix of text and relevant pictures (macroscopy, microscopy, instruments, scientists, etc.). Pictures can be used in the stem or the responses.
- Question stems and answers must be understandable within the time limit.
- Keep case scenarios brief to ensure comprehension within the time limit and app space
- Pictures (stem or answers) must be good-quality JPEGs, max 5MB per question.
- **Required Information per Question:**
 - Correct answer
 - Difficulty level (3- Moderate to 5-difficult)
 - Time duration (30s, 45s)
- **Submission Format:** PowerPoint document with one question per slide. Include a table at the bottom of each slide with the answer, difficulty, and time frame (see sample).

Submission Process and Review:

- .
- **Each pathologist is requested to submit 5-10 questions (minimum 5), from multiple aspects to cover the content areas.**
- **Author Information:** Include your name upon submission; questions will be anonymized afterward.
- **Submission Deadline: 08.08.2025** by email to Dr. Niluka Ranathunga. Emial: nilukaranathunge@gmail.com
- **Selection:** An expert panel will select questions based on content coverage and difficulty

General Guidelines and Authority:

- Quiz coordinators/expert team may modify questions for clarity or to meet requirements.
- Pathologists must comply with the expert panel's final decision.

List of faculty coordinators who should be excluded from question submission: Dr Gayani Ranaweera, Dr Ahalyaa Sivashangar, Dr Mangala Bopagoda, Prof Bimalka Seneviratne, Prof Isha Prematilleke

Developed by the Quiz Organizing Committee/ College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka 2025.

Annexure 6: Path Master quiz – Quiz competition information sheet to Deans

Path Master quiz Interfaculty Pathology quiz for medical undergraduates of all state universities in Sri Lanka

Important Information

Participation Criteria

- Each state medical faculty may send **one team** consisting of **four contestants and one reserve**.
- Team members must be current undergraduates of the faculty who have **not completed the final MBBS**.
- The selection criteria for team members are to be determined by each faculty.
- Team members must be available to participate in events (either online or in person) during the tentative periods provided by CPSL. Faculties are encouraged to **avoid selecting students facing planned examinations**.

Team Registration

- Teams must be registered by **30.05.2025**.
- Registration forms will be provided in due course.

Quiz Content

The quiz will cover undergraduate-level knowledge in pathology, including general pathology, tumour pathology, systemic pathology, basic haematology, basic chemical pathology, clinicopathological applications and history of pathology.

Quiz Format

The competition will be conducted in two phases:

Step 1: Online Quiz: for all registered teams

- The quiz will be conducted via an online quiz app.
- Teams will participate from their respective faculties.
- The results will be announced after the quiz.
- Question format: **Single correct answer-type** with 4 responses

Faculties are kindly requested to provide IT facilities, including at least two laptops equipped with working audio, video, webcam, and a stable internet connection. If students have access to such facilities, they may use their own; otherwise, faculties are encouraged to facilitate access to ensure students are adequately equipped.

Step 2: Physical Quiz: for the top **three teams** qualified from the online quiz.

- The same team participated in the online quiz should participate.
- Venue: **Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo**.
- Format: **Single correct answer-type questions** with 4 responses
- Participants will require an **electronic device** (tablet/smartphone) to submit responses.

Awards and Certificates

- **All participants**, including reserves, will receive a **certificate of participation**.
- Cash awards for winning teams:
 - **Champion Team:** Rs. 50,000
 - **First Runner-up:** Rs. 30,000
 - **Second Runner-up:** Rs. 25,000

Please contact Quiz Coordinator Professor Gayana Mahendra by email: baggmahendra@yahoo.co.uk for any clarifications.

Developed by the Quiz Organizing Committee/ College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka 2025.

Annexure 6: Path Master quiz – Quiz competition information sheet to Faculty Coordinators

PATH MASTER QUIZ: INFORMATION SHEET:

Participation Criteria

- Each state medical faculty may send **one team** consisting of **four contestants and one reserve**.
- Team members must be current undergraduates of the faculty who have **not completed the final MBBS**.
- The selection criteria for team members are to be determined by each faculty.
- Team members must be available to participate in events (either online or in person) during the tentative periods provided by CPSL. Faculties are encouraged to **avoid selecting students facing planned examinations**.

Quiz Content

The quiz will cover undergraduate-level knowledge in pathology, including general pathology, tumour pathology, systemic pathology, basic haematology, basic chemical pathology, clinicopathological applications and history of pathology.

Quiz Format

A mock / trial quiz will be before the online quiz.

The quizzes will be conducted in weekdays during working hours.

The competition will be conducted in two phases:

Step 1: Online Quiz: for all registered teams

- The quiz will be conducted via an online quiz app.
- Teams will participate from their respective faculties. An invigilator will be appointed by the College.
- The results will be announced after the quiz.
- Question format: **Single correct answer-type** with 4 responses
- Rounds 1-4 (Individual Rounds): Each round has 12 questions.
 - Each of the four team members will answer 3 consecutive questions on the "hot seat" per round.
- Rounds 5-6 (Team Rounds): Each round has 6 questions directed to the entire team.
- Results & Qualification:
 - Results will be announced after Round 6.
 - The top three teams based on scores will qualify for the Physical Quiz.

Step 2: Physical Quiz: for the top **three teams** qualified from the online quiz.

- The same team participated in the online quiz should participate.
- Venue: **Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo**.
- Format: **Single correct answer-type questions** with 4 responses
- Participants will require an **electronic device** (tablet/smartphone) to submit responses.
- Rounds 1-2 (Individual Rounds): Each round has 8 questions.
- Rounds 3-4 (Team Rounds): Each round has 8 questions directed to the team.

Awards and Certificates

- **All participants**, including reserves, will receive a **certificate of participation**.
- Cash awards for winning teams:
 - **Champion Team:** Rs. 50,000
 - **First Runner-up:** Rs. 30,000
 - **Second Runner-up:** Rs. 25,000

Continued.....

Continued

PATH MASTER QUIZ: RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COORDINATOR

Registration and preparation of students

- Select a team of four (4) students and one (1) for reserve based on criteria determined by the faculty. (Please refer participation criteria given in the information sheet)
- Appoint a team leader.
- Nominate a technical person for online quiz day support.
- Fill the registration form attached herewith and submit it through the Dean of the Faculty on or before 30.05.2025 to the e mail: colpathsl@yahoo.com and copied to 50cpsl2025@gmail.com
- Guide and train the team.

Logistics for the conduct of online quiz

- Arrange the necessary excuses from the clinical/academic work for the students to participate in the quizzes.
- Identify the quiz center within your faculty premises for the students to participate.
- Ensure minimal disturbance, privacy, and reliable internet facility at the centre.
- Ensure to have at least two laptops with functioning audio, video, and webcam.
- Provide necessary facilities for the invigilator of the online quiz.
- Ensure that all contestants are present at the quiz centre 15 minutes before the quiz.

Note: A mock online quiz will be held during the first week of July and the coordinator is encouraged to participate in it.

PATH MASTER QUIZ: RULES AND REGULATIONS

All team members are expected to abide by the rules and regulations mentioned below.

- Team composition cannot change post-registration without CPSL/quiz coordinator approval for valid reasons.
- The same team participated in the online quiz should participate in the physical quiz (if qualified).
- Universities are responsible for providing technical facilities; CPSL is not liable for failures.
- The coordinators are not allowed to contribute to the question bank developed by the CPSL.

During conduct of the online quiz

- Entry to the quiz centre is allowed only to the Contestants, University Technical Person and Invigilator.
- Reserved contestants are not allowed in the quiz centre
- No books or mobile devices are allowed for contestants.
- University coordinators cannot communicate with contestants during the quiz.
- Invigilators will not clarify questions under any circumstances.
- Video must be on throughout the quiz.

The decision of the quiz organizing committee of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka will be the final.

Please contact Quiz Coordinator Professor Gayana Mahendra by email: baggmahendra@yahoo.co.uk for any clarifications.

Developed by the Quiz Organizing Committee/ College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka 2025

Annexure 7: Path Master Quiz registration form

REGISTRATION FORM: PATH MASTER QUIZ

Interfaculty Pathology quiz for medical undergraduates
of all state universities in Sri Lanka

1. **Name of the University**
2. **Details of the coordinator**
 - 2a. Name:
 - 2b. Designation:
 - 2c. Email ID:
 - 2d. Contact number (mobile):
3. **Details of team member 1 (Team leader)**
 - 3a. Name:
 - 3b. Year of undergraduate studies and registration number:
 - 3c. Email ID:
 - 3d. Contact number (mobile):
4. **Details of team member 2**
 - 4a. Name:
 - 4b. Year of undergraduate studies and registration number:
 - 4c. Email ID:
 - 4d. Contact number (mobile):
5. **Details of team member 3**
 - 5a. Name:
 - 5b. Year of undergraduate studies and registration number:
 - 5c. Email ID:
 - 5d. Contact number (mobile):

6. Details of team member 4

6a. Name:

6b. Year of undergraduate studies and registration number:

6c. Email ID:

6d. Contact number (mobile):

7. Details of team member 5 (Reserve)

7a. Name:

7b. Year of undergraduate studies and registration number:

7c. Email ID:

7d. Contact number (mobile):

8. Details of the supporting technical officer

8a. Name:

8b. Email ID:

8c. Contact number (mobile):

Declaration

On behalf of the team, I hereby declare that I have read, understood, and agree to abide by all the rules and regulations of the Path Master Quiz organized by the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka and accept that the decisions made by the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka (CPSL) and its appointed quiz organizing committee regarding all aspects of the competition shall be final.

Name of the team leader

Signature Date

Name of the Faculty Coordinator

Signature Date

Recommendation of the Dean

Signature Date

Annexure 8: Path Master quiz – Online quiz format and regulations

ONLINE QUIZ: FORMAT

- The quiz will be conducted via an online quiz app.
- Teams will participate from their respective faculties. An invigilator will be appointed by the College.
- The results will be announced after the quiz.
- Question format: **Single correct answer-type** with 4 responses
- Rounds 1-4 (Individual Rounds): Each round has 12 questions.
 - Each of the four team members will answer 3 consecutive questions on the "hot seat" per round.
- Rounds 5-6 (Team Rounds): Each round has 6 questions directed to the entire team.
- Results & Qualification:
 - Results will be announced after Round 6.
 - The top three teams based on scores will qualify for the Physical Quiz.

PATH MASTER QUIZ: RULES AND REGULATIONS

All team members are expected to abide by the rules and regulations mentioned below.

- Team composition cannot change post-registration without CPSL/quiz coordinator approval for valid reasons.
- The same team participated in the online quiz should participate in the physical quiz (if qualified).
- Universities are responsible for providing technical facilities; CPSL is not liable for failures.
- The coordinators are not allowed to contribute to the question bank developed by the CPSL.
- During conduct of the online quiz
 - Entry to the quiz centre is allowed only to the Contestants, University Technical Person and Invigilator.
 - Reserved contestants are not allowed in the quiz centre
 - No books or mobile devices are allowed for contestants.
 - University coordinators cannot communicate with contestants during the quiz.
 - Invigilators will not clarify questions under any circumstances.
 - Video must be on throughout the quiz.

The decision of the quiz organizing committee of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka will be the final.

Please contact Quiz Coordinator Professor Gayana Mahendra by email: baggmahendra@yahoo.co.uk for any clarifications.

Annexure 9: Art competition - Information and guidelines

PANORAMIC PATHOVISION 2025

Art Competition and Exhibition

Organized by the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka in celebration of its 50th Anniversary

In Collaboration with the Department of Medical Humanities, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo.

23–24 October 2025

UCFM Tower I alongside the 50th Anniversary International Conference

We're excited to announce an art competition and exhibition inviting you to explore the fascinating world of **Pathology**. This competition aims to showcase how the profound science of Pathology can be beautifully and powerfully expressed through diverse artistic creations.

Theme:

Science of pathology through diverse artistic creations

Categories of creative work accepted:

We welcome submissions in the following categories:

- Paintings
- Photography
- Poetry and prose
- Sculptures and wood carvings
- Creative group work (e.g. a structure or a collage or any other creative work fitting to the theme)

Eligibility:

Entries are open to:

- Medical Laboratory Consultants, Postgraduate Trainees
- Any other staff member of laboratory team
- Overseas CPSL members
- Laboratory team as a group

Submission Guidelines:

Please adhere to the following guidelines for your submissions:

- An individual can submit creations to **all categories**, but only **one entry is allowed per category**.
- All creative work must adhere to the specified dimensions and conditions below:
 - **Paintings:** Maximum size A3, in any coloring medium.
 - **Photographs:** Original photos with no editing, printed in 10"x12" or 10"x15" size.
 - **Poetry or Prose:** Handwritten or printed in Sinhala, English, or Tamil.
 - **Wood Carvings, Sculptures:** Must be stable in an open environment and light enough to handle (maximum 3kg).

Method of submission:

- Each art work should be submitted as separate entries.
- Please ensure you follow both steps for a complete submission.

Step 1. Google Form Submission: Fill in the Google Form at

<https://forms.gle/Y8iUhxeeRboHoBEb8> with the required information, including:

- cotenstant's biodata
- the Title of your creative work
- a short description of the creation (maximum 100 words)
- declaration regarding originality of the work
- consent to publicise the creative work in the official website and social media platforms of the College for promotional purposes

Print the google form upon submission and sign the hard copy.

Step 2. Creative Work Submission: Submit your creative work with the printed copy of the google form to the College office at: **7th floor, PGIM Academic Center, No. 85, Rodney Street, Colombo 08.**

- The submission deadline for both steps is **September 1st, 2025.**

Selection and display of creative work:

- A panel of judges appointed by the Council of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka will select the **best three creations under each category.**
- All entries will be displayed at the conference premises during the first two days of the **50th Anniversary International Conference of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka.**
- Valuable gifts will be awarded to the winners at the closing ceremony of the conference.
- A certificate will be issued to all participants.

Contacts for more information:

For any inquiries, please contact:

- Email: 50cpsl2025@gmail.com
- Isuri : Tel. 076 410 5088

We look forward to seeing your artistic interpretations of the science of Pathology!

Prepared by: Prof Priyani Amaratunga, Dr Lalani De Silva, Dr Saundika Udugampola, Dr Amal Jayathilake, Dr Cherine Sosai and Dr Santhushya Fernando.

Annexure 10: Art competition – Submission form

PANORAMIC PATHOVISION 2025

Art Competition and Exhibition

23rd–24th October 2025

UCFM Tower | alongside the 50th Anniversary International Conference

1. Applicant Details

A. Full Name :

Team leader, in case of a group
submission

B. Affiliation / Institution :

C. Designation / Role :

D. Address :

E. Email :

F. Contact Number :

2. Category of Submission (Please tick relevant category/ies)

- Painting
- Photography
- Poetry
- Sculpture
- Wood carvings

- Creative teamwork as a group

3. Artwork Details (Use additional sheets if submitting multiple items) (add more for more than one entry)

Entry No. 01

A. Title of Artwork :

B. Medium / Materials
Used :

(if applicable)

C. Short Description (max
100 words) :

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4. Transportation & Insurance

- Will you take care of handling and transportation of your own work during exhibition days?
 Yes No
- Do you need assistance with transportation? Yes No

*Please note: The College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka will take utmost care but **is not liable for any loss or damage** to artworks during transit or exhibition.*

6. Self-Declaration of Originality

I hereby declare that:

1. The submitted artwork(s) is/are my original creation(s).
2. I hold the rights to the submitted work(s) and have not infringed on any copyright or intellectual property of another individual or entity.
3. I grant permission to the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka to exhibit my work(s) and to use images for promotion and documentation purposes.
4. I understand and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the exhibition.

Signature of Applicant :

Name :

Date :

Submission Instructions

- Deadline for submission: **1st September 2025**
- Submit the completed google application form and print it and submit the signed hard copy with the artwork.
- Your artworks and the printed application form should be submitted to the office of the College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka,
 - Address: 7th floor, PGIM Academic Center, 85 Rodney Street, Colombo-8, Sri Lanka
- For further information, contact the exhibition committee at:
 - College office: Email: 50cpsl2025@gmail.com, Telephone: 0764105088
 - Coordinator: Dr Saundika Udugampola Tel. No. +94 (71) 874 8192

-----Prepared by Dr Lalani De Silva and Prof Priyani Amarathunga.

Annexure 11: Draft curriculum for training of medical officers in pathology

Course Title: Histopathology curriculum for Medical Officers

Duration: 3 Months (Approximately 12 weeks)

Overall Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, medical officers attached to the Histopathology section will:

- Possess a comprehensive understanding of the routine workflow within a histopathology laboratory.
- Grasp the fundamental theoretical principles underpinning various laboratory techniques.
- Demonstrate sound knowledge of normal anatomy and basic histology across all organ systems.
- Achieve competency in performing Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology (FNAC) procedures.
- Develop proficiency in grossing surgical specimens, particularly small and medium-sized biopsies.
- Acquire foundational skills in conducting pathological post-mortem examinations.
- Exhibit essential soft skills for effective communication, teamwork, and ethical practice within a medical setting.

Teaching Methodology: The course will employ a blended learning approach incorporating:

- **Lectures:** Covering theoretical concepts and background knowledge.
- **Practical Laboratory Sessions:** Hands-on experience with techniques and procedures.
- **Observation:** Observing experienced staff in routine and specialized tasks.
- **Case-Based Discussions:** Analyzing real-world scenarios and challenges.
- **Small Group Tutorials:** Facilitating interactive learning and problem-solving.
- **Assignments and Presentations:** Reinforcing learning and developing communication skills.
- **Mentorship:** Guidance and feedback from senior pathologists and technologists.

Assesments:

- **Continuous Assessment:** Participation in discussions, completion of assignments, and performance in practical sessions.
- **Mid-Course Assessment:** Written examination covering theoretical knowledge and practical understanding.
- **Practical Skills Assessment:** Evaluation of competency in FNAC and grossing techniques.
- **Final Examination:** Comprehensive written examination covering all modules.
- **Case Presentations:** Assessment of analytical and presentation skills.

Detailed Curriculum:

Module 1: Foundations - Normal Anatomy and Histology (Weeks 1-2)

- **Detailed Topics:**
 - Basic tissue types: Epithelium, Connective Tissue, Muscle, Nervous Tissue - structure, function, and subtypes.
 - Systematic review of normal anatomy and corresponding histology of all major organ systems:
 - Cardiovascular system

- Respiratory system
- Gastrointestinal system (including accessory organs)
- Urinary system
- Male and female reproductive systems
- Endocrine system
- Central and peripheral nervous systems
- Hematopoietic and lymphoid systems
- Skin and soft tissues
- Bone and cartilage
- Embryological basis of common tissue and organ development.
- Introduction to cellular injury and adaptation.
- **Learning Activities:**
 - Lectures with visual aids (histological slides, diagrams).
 - Microscopy sessions: Identifying normal tissue components and architecture.
 - Review of histology atlases and online resources.
 - Self-assessment quizzes on anatomical and histological structures.
- **Assessment:**
 - Spotting examination of histological slides.
 - Short answer questions on anatomy and histology.

Module 2: Routine Histopathology Laboratory Operations 1(Weeks 3-4)

- **Detailed Topics:**
 - **Specimen Handling:**
 - Pre-analytical phase: Requisition forms, patient identification, labeling.
 - Specimen transport guidelines and requirements for different tissue types.
 - Specimen reception protocols, logging, and tracking systems.
 - **Grossing (Cut-up):**
 - Principles of gross examination: macroscopic description, dimensions, color, consistency.
 - Systematic approach to grossing different types of specimens (biopsies, resections).
 - Importance of representative sampling for histological processing.
 - Techniques for inking surgical margins.
 - **Hands-on practice:** Grossing simulated and real (under supervision) small and medium-sized biopsies.
 - **Specimen Radiography:** Principles and applications in identifying calcifications or foreign bodies.
 - **Specimen Photography:** Techniques for documenting gross findings.
 - **Common Errors at Cut-up:**
 - Carryover contamination: Prevention and mitigation strategies.
 - Specimen mix-up: Importance of meticulous labeling and tracking.
 - Failure to identify and sample pathology adequately.
 - **Histological Processing:**
 - **Theory:** Fixation (types of fixatives, mechanism of action), dehydration, clearing, infiltration.
 - **Observation:** Following the tissue processing cycle in the laboratory.
 - **Embedding:**
 - **Theory:** Principles of tissue orientation for optimal sectioning.
 - **Practical demonstration:** Embedding different types of tissue.
 - **Microtomy:**
 - **Theory:** Principles of section cutting, different types of microtomes and blades.
 - **Observation:** Operation of the microtome and common artifacts.

- **Slide Preparation:**
 - Mounting sections onto slides, labeling.
- **Staining:**
 - **Theory:** Principles of Hematoxylin and Eosin (H&E) staining, mechanism of dye binding.
 - **Observation:** Automated staining procedures.
- **Mounting:** Principles and techniques for coverslipping.
- **Record Keeping:** Importance of accurate and complete records at each stage.
- **Storage of slides, wax blocks, wet specimens, documents, records etc.**
- **Typing:** Basic understanding of report generation and data entry.

Module 3: Routine Histopathology Laboratory Operations 2 (Weeks 4-5)

- **Detailed Topics:**
 - **Laboratory Safety and risk mitigation**
 - Identification of potential health hazards (chemical, biological, physical).
 - Use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
 - Spill management and safety protocols.
 - Waste disposal procedures according to regulations.
 - **Quality Control & Quality Assurance:**
 - Importance of accuracy and turnaround time in reporting.
 - Quality control measures in processing, staining, and reporting.
 - Internal and external quality assurance programs.
 - **Ethics**
 - Confidentiality of patient information and data security.
 - Ethical considerations in reporting and communication.
 - Legal aspects of data protection
 - **Research and Audits:**
 - Introduction to basic research methodologies in histopathology.
 - Importance of laboratory audits for quality improvement.
 - **AI & IT in Laboratory Setup:**
 - Laboratory management system and data entry
 - Report typing
 - Collection of data for audits/ research
 - Overview of current and potential applications of artificial intelligence and information technology in histopathology (e.g., image analysis, data management).
 - **Cancer Registry:** Understanding the process of reporting cancer diagnoses to relevant registries.
 - **Special Techniques:**
 - **Special Stains:** Basic principles and applications of commonly used special stains (e.g., PAS, Masson trichrome, reticulin). Observation of staining procedures.
 - **Deep Cuts and Re-embedding:** Techniques for re-processing tissue blocks for further analysis.
 - **Frozen Sections:** Principles, indications, and basic steps of cryostat sectioning and rapid staining. Observation of the procedure.
 - **Imprint Smears:** Preparation and basic interpretation.
 - **Immunohistochemistry (IHC):** Basic principles and applications in diagnosis and research. Introduction to common markers. Observation of the procedure.
 - **Molecular Techniques:** Overview of basic molecular techniques used in histopathology (e.g., PCR, FISH) and their applications.
- **Learning Activities:**

- Lectures and demonstrations of laboratory procedures.
- Hands-on practice in grossing (simulated and supervised real cases).
- Observation of tissue processing, embedding, microtomy, and staining.
- Discussions on quality control and safety protocols.
- Case studies highlighting potential errors and their consequences.
- Interactive sessions on ethical dilemmas and medico-legal issues.
- Presentations on special techniques.
- **Assessment:**
 - Practical assessment of grossing skills.
 - Short answer questions on laboratory procedures and quality control.
 - Case-based discussions on potential errors and ethical considerations.

Module 4: FNAC & Cytology (Weeks 6-7)

- **Detailed Topics:**
 - **How to Perform a FNAC (Skills):**
 - Indications and contraindications of FNAC.
 - Patient preparation and consent.
 - Techniques for superficial and deep lesions.
 - Different types of needles and syringes.
 - Smear preparation techniques (direct smears, cytopspin).
 - Practical sessions on simulated models and supervised real cases.
 - **Persuasions and Complications of FNAC:**
 - Communicating the procedure to patients.
 - Potential complications (bleeding, pain, infection) and their management.
 - **Fixation:**
 - Air-dried smears and their fixation (e.g., Diff-Quik).
 - Wet-fixed smears and their fixation (e.g., 95% alcohol).
 - **Staining (Skills):**
 - Principles and practical application of common cytological stains (e.g., Papanicolaou stain, Giemsa stain).
 - Hands-on staining of prepared smears.
 - **Basic Cytological Interpretation:**
 - Cellular morphology and patterns in benign and malignant conditions (introduction).
 - Common findings in cytology of different organ systems (brief overview).
- **Learning Activities:**
 - Lectures and demonstrations on FNAC techniques.
 - Hands-on practice on models and under supervision on patients.
 - Microscopy sessions focusing on cytological smears.
 - Case discussions on FNAC findings.
- **Assessment:**
 - Practical assessment of FNAC technique.
 - Interpretation of basic cytological smears (case studies).

Module 5: Grossing Techniques of All Organs (Weeks 8-9)

- **Detailed Topics:**
 - Systematic approach to grossing specimens from all major organ systems:
 - Detailed protocols for small and medium-sized biopsies.
 - General principles and considerations for large resection specimens.
 - Importance of clinical history and imaging findings in grossing.
 - Techniques for orienting specimens and identifying key anatomical landmarks.

- Sampling strategies for different types of lesions and organs.
- Documentation of gross findings (description, measurements, photography).
- Handling of special specimens (e.g., lymph nodes, bone marrow trephines).
- Correlation of gross findings with potential microscopic features.
- **Emphasis on Small and Medium Sized Biopsies:**
 - Grossing of skin biopsies (shave, punch, excision).
 - Endoscopic biopsies (gastrointestinal, respiratory).
 - Needle core biopsies (liver, kidney, prostate).
 - Lymph node biopsies.
- **General Understanding of Big Specimens:**
 - Principles of grossing large resections (e.g., colectomy, nephrectomy, mastectomy).
 - Identifying margins and key pathological features.
 - Sampling strategies for large tumors and adjacent tissues.
- **Learning Activities:**
 - Lectures and demonstrations of grossing techniques for different organs.
 - Hands-on practice on a wide variety of simulated and real (under supervision) specimens.
 - Review of grossing manuals and protocols.
 - Case-based discussions on grossing strategies.
 - Presentation of interesting grossing cases.
- **Assessment:**
 - Practical assessment of grossing skills on various specimen types.
 - Written assignments on grossing specific cases.

Module 6: Post-mortem Examination (Weeks 10-11)

- **Detailed Topics:**
 - **Indications of Pathological Post-mortem:**
 - Medico-legal vs. pathological autopsies.
 - Specific clinical scenarios where a pathological autopsy is indicated.
 - **History Taking and Consent:**
 - Importance of obtaining relevant clinical history.
 - Ethical considerations and obtaining informed consent.
 - **External Examinations and Measurements:**
 - Systematic external examination of the body.
 - Documentation of external findings (e.g., scars, injuries, abnormalities).
 - Body measurements and their significance.
 - **Evisceration and Basic Knowledge of Dissections of All Organs:**
 - Techniques for opening body cavities and removing organs (evisceration).
 - Basic principles of dissecting individual organs to identify pathology.
 - Sampling strategies for histological examination.
 - Correlation of gross findings with clinical history.
 - Proper handling and preservation of tissue samples.
- **Learning Activities:**
 - Lectures and demonstrations of post-mortem techniques (may involve observation of autopsies depending on ethical and logistical considerations).
 - Discussions on indications, consent, and ethical issues.
 - Practical sessions on demonstrating organ dissection (using models or animal organs).
 - Review of autopsy protocols and guidelines.
- **Assessment:**
 - Written examination on the principles and procedures of post-mortem examination.
 - Practical assessment on simulated dissection (if feasible).

Module 7: Soft Skills (Week 12)

- **Detailed Topics:**
 - **Communication:**
 - Effective verbal and written communication with colleagues, clinicians, and other hospital staff.
 - Active listening and clear articulation.
 - Communicating technical information to non-technical audiences.
 - **Interpersonal Relationships:**
 - Teamwork and collaboration within the laboratory.
 - Conflict resolution and maintaining positive working relationships.
 - Respect for colleagues and their roles.
 - **Professionalism and Ethics:**
 - Maintaining professional conduct and appearance.
 - Adherence to ethical guidelines and laboratory policies.
 - Respect for patient confidentiality and dignity.
 - Accountability and responsibility for one's actions.
 - **Breaking Bad News (Introduction):**
 - Basic principles of communicating difficult diagnoses to patients and families (role-playing and discussions).
 - Empathy and sensitivity in communication.
 - Understanding the emotional impact of diagnoses.
- **Learning Activities:**
 - Interactive workshops and role-playing exercises focusing on communication and interpersonal skills.
 - Case studies and discussions on ethical dilemmas.
 - Guest lectures on professionalism and communication in healthcare.
 - Reflective exercises on personal communication style.
- **Assessment:**
 - Observation of communication and teamwork during practical sessions.
 - Participation in role-playing exercises.
 - Reflective essays on professionalism and ethics.

Additional Important Considerations:

- **Mentorship:** Assigning each medical officer to a senior pathologist or experienced technologist for guidance and mentorship throughout the course.
- **Logbook/Portfolio:** Maintaining a logbook of procedures performed, cases observed, and learning experiences.
- **Resources:** Providing access to relevant textbooks, online resources, histology atlases, and laboratory manuals.
- **Guest Lectures:** Inviting specialists in areas like molecular pathology, forensic pathology, or specific organ system pathology to provide focused insights.
- **Site Visits:** Arranging visits to other histopathology laboratories or related departments (e.g., radiology, oncology) to broaden their understanding.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** Regular feedback from supervisors and course instructors to the medical officers, as well as opportunities for the officers to provide feedback on the course content and delivery.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Regularly reviewing and updating the curriculum based on feedback and advancements in the field.

This expanded curriculum provides a more detailed roadmap for the 3-month histopathology course, ensuring that the medical officers gain the necessary knowledge, skills, and professional attributes to contribute effectively to the histopathology laboratory. Remember to adapt the specific content and activities based on the available resources and the specific needs of your institution.

Draft document developed by Dr Ruwana Ranawaka, Dr Chandika Epitakaduwa, Prof Priyani Amarathunga, Dr Dayal Gamlaksha, Dr Suandika Udugampola in 2025

