

*Never Stop Wondering when Cells become Art on the Slides*Vittoria Lombardo^{1*} and Stefania Cartesio²¹ Vittoria Lombardo, Cytopathologist, PMIAC - Dipartimento di Prevenzione U.O.C. SPEM ME, Italy² Stefania Cartesio, MD, Medicine and Supportive Care – Fondazione Policlinico “Agostino Gemelli” -IRCCS, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy

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Abstract

Victoria's cells project was created from the idea of an easier training of healthcare personnel, accompany patients through the works to the knowledge of the disease with comfort and attention. Art as a mirror of reality made fantastic and therefore, comfortable by the shapes of colours.

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Submitted: 01.01.2025**Accepted:** 07.01.2025**Published:** 21.01.2025**Background**

Victoria's cells project was created from the idea of an easier training of healthcare personnel, accompany patients through the works to the knowledge of the disease with comfort and attention. Art as a mirror of reality made fantastic and therefore, comfortable by the shapes of colours.

Materials and Methods

cytology (Papanicolau staining) processed with conventional and liquid based cytology (LBC).

Results

The images are visual of impact that communicate and educate about the importance of studying cells and their diagnostic role and significance.

Mycetes resembles a starfish, or squamous metaplasia recalls the sea turtle's shell endocervical and squamous cells resemble fish tanks populated by

puffer fish an anglerfish with its long dorsal fin, a crab-like of metaplastic cells, scorpion and a garfish. A manta ray, a jellyfish and two goldfish populate the slides. From the sea to the earth with cat, or a tender little elephant, a dog and a koal. Other preparations resemble a gymnast, a geisha or a plunging diver. Furthermore, a hummingbird soars in flight, a heron, in a sea of endocervical cells mimicking water lily and peony. The section of malignant mockery is composed of atypical cells, pattern looking like monsters, eyes, or a foul tongue.

Discussion

It is well known that cytopathology is above all a visual science since then, some other attempts have looked at the artistic sides of cytologic pattern and morphology, using some of the pictures for promoting art in cytology during meetings or as didactic pictures on social-media or often using art in cytology around holidays like Christmas. Among them, the

people who fight cancer with oncologic prevention through the cells.

The current editorial deals with a usual but intriguing topic pointed to a project started by Dr. Vittoria Lombardo, who mixed her job as a cytopathologist with her artistic visions under the microscope.

The entire project adopts a simple and charming language evoking analogies between the cellular and real words. The adoption of visual images with teaching purposes is not unknown in the field of medicine. It is well-known, that, for instance, sculptures have been used for anatomic purposes in medical learning programs.

A fetus composed by orangeophilic squamous cells, is the symbolic image of the project.



Conclusions

The recognition of visual images can make the study of cytology simpler and enjoyable leading to the final purpose of prevention and cure.

References

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2. ASC FOUNDATION. Cytopathology photo contest. American society of cytopathology.

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