

## 2003 Dr. Smita Chowkekar, India

### Report of the Fellowship at Ackerman Academy of Dermatopathology

I, Dr.Smita S Chowkekar, M.D. in Dermatology, venerology and leprology and working as lecturer in Lokmanya Tilak Municipal Medical College and General Hospital.

I had applied for the Gordon Singy Foreign Fellowship 2005-2006 offered by World association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. I received the letter that I was honored by Gordon Singy Foreign fellowship sponsored by World association of societies of pathology and laboratory medicine in the year of 2005.I was granted US\$ 5,000 (five thousand US dollars) for training at Ackerman Academy of Dermatopathology in New York, United states. I decided to go to New York for the fellowship in the month of July for three months.

I joined the Ackerman Academy of Dermatopathology on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005 for the training. During my course in the institute my working days were from Monday to Friday from 7:30am-5: 30 pm. On Wednesday morning all trainees were going to Mount Saini Medical Hospital, Brooklyn for lectures on Dermatopathology.

During training we all trainees were seeing histopathology slides which were coming regularly for reporting in multi-headed training microscope with Dr.Ackerman and Dr Gottlieb. They were explaining the slides with minor details and solving the queries of trainee. Dr. Gottlieb taught us how to report the slides. He taught us microbiologic aspect of Dermatopathology, how to read special stains for reorganization of infectious agents. I have seen slides of many skin diseases including inflammatory skin diseases to malignant skin diseases. On alternate Wednesday the associates in the Institute were taking brief lectures on dermatopathology topics eg: - Immunofluorescence in dermatology, vesiculobullous disorders etc. On alternate Wednesday Dr. Gottlieb were giving us ten slides for assessing .He used to discuss these slides and tell us our mistakes.

Dr.Gottlieb taught me immunofluorescence in Dermatopathology I used to examine slides for immunofluorescence with him.

The program also including research activities. I wrote two articles with Dr.Ackerman

- 1.Erythroderma of seborrheic dermatitis
2. Destombes-Rosai-Dorfmaan Syndrome.

The Laboratory in charge showed the laboratory and explained the laboratory techniques for staining routine H&E slides.

My experience in the Ackerman Academy was exciting, fruitful, and full of knowledge.

I am very grateful to the World association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine for giving me this great opportunity.