Winners of the 2009 American College of Rheumatology Annual Slide Competition

American College of Rheumatology Audiovisual Aids Subcommittee

The major project completed by the Audiovisual Aids Subcommittee of the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) in 2009 was the development of an online image bank. The ACR launched the Rheumatology Image Bank at its 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting in Philadelphia. This online library contains more than 1,500 images of rheumatic diseases and conditions and includes images from the ACR Slide Collection (third edition) as well as more than 300 images not published previously. The winning images from the 2009 competition, as well as several other noteworthy submissions, will also be included in the Rheumatology Image Bank. To view these images and many more, visit the Rheumatology Image Bank at http://images.rheumatology.org.

The ACR Annual Slide Competition is an opportunity for health professionals to contribute to one of the preeminent image collections devoted to the rheumatic diseases. More than 100 entries were submitted to this year’s competition. Each submitted image was evaluated not only for a competition prize but also for inclusion in the new Rheumatology Image Bank. The selection process was a difficult but pleasurable task for the subcommittee.

The 2009 overall competition winner was a composite of serial clinical photographs depicting the treatment response of keratoderma blennorrhagicum in a patient with reactive arthritis (Figure 1). A composite of images depicting the clinical and radiographic findings in a patient with Lofgren’s syndrome was the winner in the case study category (Figure 2). In the still image category, a clinical photograph of a patient with skin lesions of discoid lupus was the winner (Figure 3).

Honorable mention was awarded for images of cardiac sarcoidosis (submitted by Anupama Shahane, MD), scrotal varicosities in Behçet’s disease (submitted by Suhail Aamar, MD, MSc), granulomatous orbital inflammation (submitted by Joshua Baker, MD), radiographic sacroiliitis in a child with juvenile spondylarthritis (submitted by Donna Swistowski, MD), lacrimal gland enlargement in a child with sarcoidosis (submitted by Vijay Karia, MD), a Romanus lesion in a patient with ankylosing spondylitis (submitted by Shamsa Shariat-Panahi, MD), the histopathologic findings in a case of infection-induced macrophage activation syndrome (submitted by Bijal Mehta, MD), hereditary multiple exostoses (submitted by Dana Toib, MD), ochronosis (submitted by Joseph Lutt, MD), and lipoma arborescens of the knees (submitted by Mahnaz Momeni, MD).

The ACR encourages the continued submission of high-quality images to its annual slide competition. The Audiovisual Aids Subcommittee is targeting particular images to enhance the image bank. If you have high-quality images that illustrate rheumatic conditions or are relevant to the practice of rheumatology, please submit them to the 2010 Image Competition. The deadline for the 2010 competition is September 7.

If you have any questions regarding the image competition, please contact products@rheumatology.org.
Figure 1. Reactive arthritis: keratoderma blennorrhagicum (composite). Serial photographs obtained over a 4-month period depict the treatment response of keratoderma blennorrhagicum in a 30-year-old man with reactive arthritis. Submitted by Dina Arrieta Vega, MD, Heredia, Costa Rica.

Figure 2. Clinical and radiographic findings in a patient with Lofgren’s syndrome (composite). This 30-year-old woman presented with acute pain and swelling in her wrist and ankle regions (lower panels). Tender subcutaneous nodules were present over the anterior legs (upper right panel). Chest radiography showed hilar adenopathy (upper left panel). Biopsy of one of the nodules revealed erythema nodosum. Submitted by Joseph Lutt, MD, Portland, OR.

Figure 3. Discoid lupus. Multiple discoid plaques with central scarring and peripheral postinflammatory hyperpigmentation are present on the nose, cheeks, and lips. Submitted by Martin Kriegel, MD, Boston, MA.