

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Erdheim-Chester Disease Global Alliance Raises Awareness of ECD at USCAP 2017

Pathologists eagerly engage with ECDGA exhibitors to raise their awareness of ECD.

San Antonio, TX - March 20, 2017 – The Erdheim-Chester Disease Global Alliance (ECDGA) attended the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) annual conference to raise awareness of Erdheim-Chester Disease (ECD) among attending pathologists this past week. The exhibit provided a variety of pathological resources developed by ECD Global Alliance medical community members. The trade meeting allowed the Alliance to connect with doctors able to possibly facilitate a diagnosis of ECD with increased knowledge of this rare disease.

ECD is an ultra-rare type of blood cancer that is difficult to diagnosis and can manifest in a variety of complex ways. Pathologists, together with clinicians and radiologists, play a vital role in identifying ECD. If doctors can accurately and quickly recognize ECD in a patient, there are viable off-label treatments available to improve quality of life, slow progression of the life-threatening disease, and in some cases, even possibly reverse damage done by the disorder. The key to a successful or more positive outcome is early diagnosis.

The ECDGA's USCAP exhibit hosted almost 200 pathologists from around the world, including India, China, and Tunisia. The booth was well received by visitors that were excited to learn more about ECD, the recent discoveries being made in this field, and about the ECD Global Alliance's existence to support those affected by the disease.

Concurrent with the ECD booth, four presentations discussed ECD among pathologists earning continuing medical education credits. ECDGA medical community members, Jennifer Picarsic, MD, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA and Carl Allen, MD, PhD, Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Cancer Center, Houston, TX both provided talks discussing the updates occurring in histiocytic disorders, which included the reclassification of ECD as a histiocytic neoplasm. In addition, two ECD case studies were presented by Rami Al-Rohil, MBBS, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN and Brandon T. Larsen, M.D., Ph.D., Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ.

Learn more about the pathology resources provided at USCAP by visiting <http://erdheim-chester.org/pathology-resources/>.

[Erdheim-Chester Disease](#) is a rare multi-systemic histiocytic neoplasm with no known cause that is challenging to diagnosis and treat. Unless successful treatment is found, organ failure can occur.

The [ECD Global Alliance](#) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to awareness, support, education, and research related to Erdheim-Chester Disease.

Contact:

Elizabeth Silva Anderson

liz.anderson@erdheim-chester.org

(337) 404-6033

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