

# Diagnosis Please Certificates of Recognition Awarded to Six Individuals and to International and North American Radiology Resident Groups

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Once again, the Diagnosis Please competition was exceedingly competitive and hotly contested. We are pleased to note both an increase in the number of individual participants and a rather dramatic increase in the number of residency programs competing worldwide. This year there are a number of new winners both in the individual winner and institutional winner categories. We also have the opportunity to recognize the ongoing efforts of several individuals and one residency program that have won in prior years.

The Diagnosis Please feature continues to be quite popular; hundreds of responses are received monthly from *Radiology* readers who are participating in this challenging competition. The

2013 competition spanned cases 193-204. Unfortunately, only 11 cases were included in the competition, as case 197 was excluded because insufficient clinical data were provided in Part 1 (1). This year we are pleased to award certificates of recognition to one individual winner from North America and five international individual winners, as well as to the North American and international residents' groups that submitted the highest number of correct answers (diagnoses) for these 11 cases.

Matthew P. Shapiro, MD (Fig 1), received his MD degree from Boston University in 1980 and after internships in surgery and pathology, in 1986, he completed residency and fellowship at Tufts New England Medical Center. Following residency and fellowship, he joined the staff of the Tufts University service at the Boston VA Medical Center, where he was appointed assistant professor of Radiology at the Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston. In 1989, he joined the staff at Lowell General Hospital in Lowell, Mass, where he remained until 2003, when he assumed his present position as a member of Blue Ridge Radiologists in Virginia. Dr Shapiro notes, "Analyzing the images in conjunction with the clinical information is like solving a puzzle. All of the information is there, but it must be assembled into a single, unifying diagnosis that explains everything. The process can take quite a bit of time and effort, but I have found the experience stimulating and rewarding." Dr Shapiro goes on to state that he would like to express his sincere gratitude to all of his teachers at Tufts New England Medical

Figure 1



Figure 1: Matthew P. Shapiro, MD

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Figure 2



Figure 2: Taro Shimono, MD

Center, The Boston VA Medical Center, and the New England Baptist Hospital where he received his training and to his father, Dr Jerome H. Shapiro (former chief of radiology at Boston City Hospital) “who inspired me to become a radiologist and was a role model for me throughout my professional career.”

This year’s international individual winners are Taro Shimono, MD, Ioannis Papachristos, MD, Takao Kiguchi, MD, Yo Kaneko, MD, and Hideki Shima, MD.

Taro Shimono, MD (Fig 2), returns to the winner circle as a three-time winner. He received his MD degree from Kyoto University in 1991 and served as a resident in radiology at Kyoto University Hospital and Kyoto City Hospital in Kyoto, Japan. Following a clinical fellowship in radiology at Kyoto City Hospital and Shiga Medical Center in Shiga, Japan, he served as a research and clinical fellow in radiology (1997–2000) in the Department of Nuclear Medicine and Diagnostic Imaging at Kyoto University Hospital, where he received his PhD. In 2000, he was appointed assistant professor of radiology at Kinki University School of Medicine in Osaka, Japan, and in 2010, was appointed assistant professor of radiology

Figure 3



Figure 3: Ioannis Papachristos, MD

at Osaka City University Graduate School of Medicine. Since 2012, he has served as associate professor in the Department of Radiology at Osaka City University Graduate School of Medicine. Dr Shimono notes, “Diagnosis Please is the most exciting educational contest, and international participants seem to increase year by year, so I am very surprised and honored to win for the third time. Using Web search engines including Google to search for a diagnosis is very effective for conditions with unique symptoms and signs. I feel, however, search engines are not so effective for approaching radiologic diagnoses. To choose the search terms effectively, we need extensive knowledge, experience, and imagination among them, I think imagination is most important.” He goes on to state “I am really grateful to my colleagues, my radiology teacher- Dr Yukio Miki and especially my mentor, Dr Kazumasa Nishimura.”

Ioannis Papachristos, MD (Fig 3), is now a two-time winner of the Diagnosis Please competition. Dr Ioannis Papachristos received his MD degree from Democritus University of Thrace, Medical School, Alexandroupoli, Greece, in 2006. He then completed a radiology residency in the Department of Radiol-

Figure 4



Figure 4: Takao Kiguchi, MD

ogy at the University Hospital of Ioannina, Ioannina, Greece, and in the Department of Radiology at the General Hospital of Corfu in Corfu, Greece. During that time, he spent 6 months in the Neuroradiology Division at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pa. In 2013, he began to work at the Iatropolis Diagnostic Center in Chalandri, Athens, Greece, and in January of 2014, he began serving as a diagnostic radiologist in the MR and CT Department of the Eurodiagnosis Diagnostic Center in Corfu, Greece. Dr Papachristos notes, “Diagnosis Please cases are refreshing, stimulating, challenging, and highly educational. At the same time, they require a disciplined and structured approach that I carry over in my everyday practice. Thus, Diagnosis Please is not just an intellectual exercise.” He goes on to note, “I would like to express my gratitude to my most valuable teachers: my mentor and colleague Dr Harris S. Chrysikopoulos in Corfu, Greece; Dr Stephanos B. Lachanis (winner of the Diagnosis Please competition in 2002); and Dr Stamos Trakadas and Dr Georgios Delimpasis in Athens, Greece.”

Takao Kiguchi, MD (Fig 4), is a 2006 graduate of the Niigata University School of Medicine. He served as a res-

Figure 5



Figure 5: Yo Kaneko, MD

Figure 6



Figure 6: Hideki Shima, MD

Figure 7



Figure 7: Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center radiology residents.

ident in the Department of Radiology at the Nagoaka Red Cross Hospital and subsequently at the Niigata University Department of Radiology, completing his residency in 2009. After the completion of his residency, he worked until 2010 in the Niigata Prefectural Central Hospital in Niigata, Japan, and in 2010,

served for a year in Nagaoka Chuo General Hospital in Niigata. In 2011, he joined the staff at Niigata City General Hospital where he still practices. Dr Kiguchi notes, "I think the most important personal traits in diagnostic radiology are knowledge, the ability to think, and the ability to search for informa-

tion. Diagnosis Please can sharpen all of these. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone in the Department of Radiology at Niigata City General Hospital and especially to my mentor, Dr Takeshi Higuchi and to everyone who has been important to the Department of Radiology of Niigata University."

Another first-time international winner is Yo Kaneko, MD (Fig 5). Dr Kaneko graduated Gifu University School of Medicine in 2003 and served there as a resident in radiology until 2005, when he joined the staff at the Gifu Prefectural Hospital. In 2007, he moved to Gifu Central Hospital and was named chief of the PET Center. Since 2011, he has served as chief of staff in the Radiology Department at Kizawa Memorial Hospital. On learning of his award, Dr Kaneko noted, "I still cannot believe this is true. I did not join this contest thinking of myself as a contender; winning was just a far-off dream, or so I thought. This time by chance, I was fortunate to see cases that were already familiar to me. I can only say that I was extremely lucky. I hope it is not so, but I feel that I must have expended a lifetime's worth of luck this time. Anyway, if there is one factor I would blame my winning on, I would say this is because my policy is to never stop learning. I wish to thank my colleagues at Kizawa Memorial Hospital, and of course, Masayuki Kanematsu from Gifu University Hospital who has been my mentor the whole way."

Hideki Shima, MD (Fig 6), is another first-time winner. Dr Shima is a graduate of the Chiba University School of Medicine (1991) who completed his residency training at Chiba University Hospital, Chiba, Japan; Tornomon Hospital, Tokyo, Japan; and St Marianna University Hospital, Kawasaki, Japan. He was board certified in radiology by the Japanese Radiological Society in 1997 and by the Japanese Society of Interventional Radiology in 2002. In 2004, he received his PhD degree from Teikyo University School of Medicine. Since 2012, he has served as both a diagnostic and interventional radiologist at Narita Red Cross Hospital, Narita City,

Figure 8



Figure 8: Mater Dei Hospital radiology residents.

Chiba, Japan. Dr Shima notes, “Needless to say, Diagnosis Please is a worthwhile learning exercise not only for radiology residents but also for well-educated radiologists. By reading a lot of articles and textbooks and narrowing the possible diagnoses, we can increase our knowledge. I firmly believe that knowledge is power, and it sometimes can save a patient’s life or improve their prognosis.”

This year’s North American resident group is once again the team in the Department of Radiology at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center (Philadelphia, Pa) (Fig 7). This year they have chosen to respond in poetry:

The Penn residents are a  
fine group to know- head to toe  
Still smiling after all that  
Philadelphia snow  
Each month they would

make it their biz

To view and solve the monthly quiz  
And got enough right to win nine  
years in a row.

Congratulations to the Penn residents for winning the competition for 9 consecutive years!

There is a brand new winner in the international resident group, Mater Dei Hospital (Fig 8). Mater Dei Hospital is the national hospital of Malta, the smallest country in the European Union, with a population of around 420000. Radiology training there commenced in 2008 with a group of five trainees that have now completed their training. Currently, there are nine residents in training, and residents spend 4 years in Malta and 1 year abroad on a fellowship geared toward subspecialization. In 2012, the group had a visit by Professor William Torregiani from Tallaght Hospital, Dub-

lin, Ireland, who encouraged them to start submitting a resident group answer to *Radiology’s* Diagnosis Please. They took the challenge and submitted their first answer in January of 2013. The residents review each case individually and e-mail their answers to the training coordinator, Dr Adrian Mizzi. On the last Wednesday of every month, one of the residents presents the case to the group and a diagnosis is reached by consensus and then submitted to *Radiology*. They note, “Every case provides a wealth of knowledge and is an excellent exercise in clinical and imaging diagnostics. Having to reach a consensus is also great fun and a good team building exercise. We are immensely grateful and honored and humbled by this award, and we are encouraged to keep submitting answers in the future.”

We encourage all of our readers, particularly resident groups, to participate in the Diagnosis Please competition. As this year’s winners and winners in the past have described, these cases are an excellent vehicle for learning. Moreover, as the award-winning resident groups note, they have the benefit of participation through the exchange of ideas with peers.

Individuals and resident groups interested in submitting the most likely diagnoses can do so at the Diagnosis Please Web site (<http://dxp.rsna.org/>). The Radiological Society of North America designates this journal-based CME activity for a maximum of 1.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* for those who submit the most likely diagnosis for a given case.

#### Reference:

1. Tan JH, Mafee MF. Case 197: malignant paraganglioma manifesting with calvarial metastases. *Radiology* 2013; 268(3):919–923.