

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

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This year's Diagnosis Please competition was once again hotly contested. I am grateful to Dr Mizuki Nishino, Diagnosis Please Editor, for her efforts in selecting great cases for the competition and in supervising the scoring. We continue to be gratified by the level of interest globally, both by individual readers and residency programs. The 2017 competition spanned cases 229–240.

The winners of this year's competition in the North American and international categories include some repeat winners and happily a number of winners that are new to the competition. In the international category, Takao Kiguchi, MD (Fig 1), is an award recipient for the fourth consecutive year. Dr Kiguchi is a 2006 graduate of the Niigata University School of Medicine in Niigata, Japan. He subsequently was a resident at Nagaoka Red Cross Hospital

and at Niigata University Department of Radiology, where he completed his residency in 2009. After his residency, he joined the staff at Niigata Prefectural Central Hospital in 2010 and then served for a year at the Nagaoka Chuo General Hospital in Niigata. In 2011, he joined the staff at Niigata City Hospital, where he still practices.

Dr Kiguchi writes "I am very honored to receive an award in the Diagnosis Please competition, and I am amazed that I have won awards for four consecutive years... to acquire knowledge and to study are good things. However, I believe that they do not necessarily lead to better diagnosis. In the Analects of Confucius, the Chinese philosopher said 'To study and not think is a waste. To think and not study is dangerous.' I believe that this is also applicable to diagnostic radiology; a balance between knowledge and the ability to think is critical."

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone at Niigata City General Hospital, especially my mentor, Dr Takeshi Higuchi, my respected colleagues in the Department of Radiology at Niigata University, and everyone at Ichinomiya Nishi Hospital."

Joining Dr Kiguchi in the winners' circle is another repeat winner, Taro Shimono, MD, PhD (Fig 2). Dr Shimono received his MD degree from the Kyoto School of Medicine (Kyoto, Japan) in 1991. In 2000, he received his PhD degree from Kyoto University as well. He served as a resident in radiology at the Department of Nuclear Medicine in Radiology at Kyoto City Hospital in Kyoto, Japan. From 1997 through 2000, he served as a research and clin-

Figure 1



Figure 1: Takao Kiguchi, MD

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Figure 2

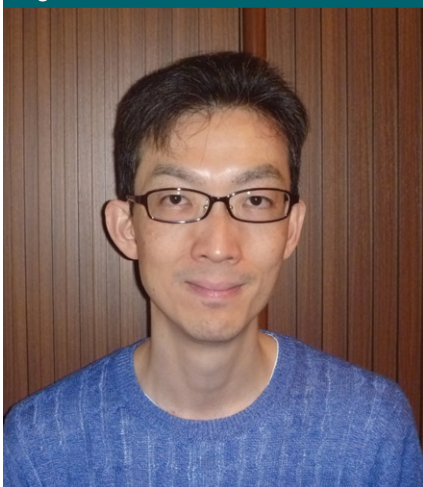


Figure 2: Taro Shimono, MD, PhD

Figure 3



Figure 3: Christopher Vittore, MD

Figure 4



Figure 4: Prince of Songkla University radiology resident group.

Figure 5



Figure 5: Mater Dei Hospital radiology resident group.

ical fellow in the Department of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine at Kyoto University Hospital. In 2000, he joined the

Department of Radiology at Kinki University School of Medicine in Osaka, Japan, and was appointed assistant

professor. In 2010, he joined the faculty in the Department of Radiology at Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine, and in 2012, he was appointed associate professor in the Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology at Osaka City University Graduate School of Medicine.

Dr Shimono writes "I am honored to win this award for the fourth time, while the number of excellent young participants continues to increase. Radiology is extremely interesting, stimulating and satisfying profession. I am very happy as a radiologist. We radiologists must know how disease processes in every field of medicine manifest as Diagnosis Please has shown. The approach to reading images varies according to the clinical indications for the study and reader's personal habits. I believe that when reading images the following skill is most necessary: the skill is a 'simple eye or mind,' which is not influenced by clinical information, to see things just as they are not as they ought to be. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my mentor, Dr Kazamam Nishimura, who inspired me to become a diagnostic radiologist and who is my role model."

In the North American category, new to the winners circle is Christopher Vittore, MD (Fig 3), who currently practices radiology as a member of the Rockford Radiology Associates in Rockford, Illinois. Dr Vittore graduated the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois, in 1994. He subsequently completed a residency in diagnostic radiology at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, Illinois, in 1998, and then completed a fellowship in neuroradiology at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1999. Following completion of his residency and fellowship, Dr Vittore joined the staff as a member of the Rockford Radiology Associates, where he continues to practice.

Dr Vittore writes "I've enjoyed participating in Diagnosis Please over the years. The challenging cases provide opportunities to investigate the clues, develop ideas, follow the leads, apply

reason, and bring it all together to produce an independent learning experience that can become quite compelling. I also appreciate the detailed discussion of the case when the answer is revealed.”

I have been particularly gratified by

the continued growth of interest in participation among residency programs across the world. This year there is a three-way tie for the winner of the international residency group. Once again, the Prince of Songkla University radiology resident group from Hat Yai,

Thailand (Fig 4), is among the international winners.

They write “Diagnosis Please is a good vehicle for lifelong learning and brain exercise. We are so delighted that we have been recognized as the Diagnosis Please winner for eight times, reflecting the value of the teamwork and perseverance. In remembrance of his Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej (1927–2016) of Thailand, we would like to dedicate the award to our beloved, late King, the father of our nation. Our loss is our gain! We will certainly follow his invaluable royal guidance, namely the philosophy of sufficiency economy shown in many royal projects and pursue the practice of perseverance. ‘May all readers be blessed with pure perseverance, sharp wisdom and complete physical health.’ According to the preface of the Story of the Mahajanaka composed by his Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej.”

The second winner of the international resident group is the radiology residency program at Mater Dei Hospital in Malta (Fig 5). The residents write “The cases in Diagnosis Please provide a monthly diagnostic challenge. Residents are encouraged to study and research every case on an individual basis and submit their top diagnosis to Dr Adrian Mizzi, the post-graduate training coordinator, along with relevant literature that supports the diagnosis. Every month, a resident prepares a presentation about the case and presents it to the group. This fuels a lively discussion and a final diagnosis is then selected for submission. This process not only allows us to broaden our radiological knowledge and problem solving skills but also serves as a team building exercise which enhances our residency experience. We believe that our success in diagnosis is a reflection of good team spirit and persistent endeavor. We are very honored to receive this award for the third time and would like to thank *Radiology* for providing us with this wonderful learning opportunity.”

The third winning international residency group is the residency program at Hospital De Santa Maria in Lisbon,



Figure 6: Santa Maria Hospital resident group.



Figure 7: Montefiore Medical Center resident group.

Portugal (Fig 6). Dr J. Fonseca Santos, Head of the Department of Radiology, writes "Speaking on behalf of the residents from the Radiology Department of Santa Maria Hospital, Lisbon, we are thrilled to receive external recognition for our efforts! The didactic discussion has been both rewarding and challenging. A true cooperative learning experience! We are proud to provide a photograph of our group taken in front of the statue of Professor Egas Moniz, the only Portuguese ever to win the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine and the developer of cerebral angiography. Special acknowledgments to all radiology assistants that are daily engaged with our education and that share their precious knowledge with us."

The North American resident group with the highest number of correct diagnoses this year was the residency program at Montefiore Medical Center from the Bronx, in New York City (Fig 7). Dr Judah Burns, Associate Program Director, notes "Montefiore residents are accustomed to solving difficult cases

and routinely participate (and win!) in local case conference challenges such as at the New York Roentgen Society monthly meetings. For the monthly Diagnosis Please challenge, each case if distributed by email and possible solutions are solicited. Following our monthly resident meeting, we use an electronic poll to vote on the favored answer. We are eager to push ourselves and test the creativity of our residents in finding solutions to these clinically challenging cases."

Dr Adam-Goldman Yassen, Senior Resident, writes "The Diagnosis Please cases offer an opportunity to think critically about clinical scenarios we do not routinely encounter and try to make the diagnosis. The lively discussions of the cases force us to articulate our clinical reasoning in a thoughtful manner. Working through these challenging cases makes me more confident in my ability to approach unknown cases both in training and in my future career."

We congratulate all those who have participated in this year's competition

and hope that you have learned a great deal through your efforts in handling the Diagnosis Please cases. We would like to encourage all of our readers, particularly resident groups, to participate in the Diagnosis Please competition. As the comments of this year's winners and winners in the past have shown, these cases are a wonderful vehicle for learning. In addition, residency group participants have the added benefit of fostering team work through the exchange of ideas and participation in the competition among residency groups.

Individuals and resident groups interested in submitting the most likely diagnosis can do so at the Diagnosis Please website: <http://dyp/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.