

October 2017

September-October 2017 Reviewer of the Issue - Björn L. Isfoss

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Dr. Björn L. Isfoss is Currently a full-time Senior Pathology Consultant in Norway since 2005. He is also Board Member of three national medical advisory organs in Norway.

He was graduated in 1982 from University of Iceland with MD degree; Passed residency during 1989 to 1995 in anatomical, clinical and molecular pathology. He studied for a PhD degree in carcinoma in situ of bladder by Oslo university during 2011-2014 and another PhD degree in histological characterization of stem cells in breast epithelium and stroma during 2011-2017 in Lund

university of Sweden.

He has been appointed as Reference Pathologist, during long or short periods, within: Molecular pathology (Tromsø). Immunohistochemistry (Lund). Skin pathology (Oslo). Gastrointestinal pathology (Oslo). Breast pathology (Lund). Gynecologic pathology (Lund). Uropathology (Lund and Telemark).

The following is his own words regarding reviewing manuscripts: "It is an honor and pleasure to be asked to review a manuscript that is submitted by other authors for publication, if the issue is relevant for one's skill profile, and when time is available. This type of activity contributes to sharpen one's own academic abilities, and it is in fact a community service.

The communications around the review process for *Urology Journal* have been uncomplicated, yet professional.

I am fortunate to have received research guidance and writing advice from high-quality researchers and colleagues at the universities where I have studied medicine (Reykjavik Iceland, Massachusetts USA, Texas USA, Lund Sweden, and Oslo Norway) – a total of 21 years as formal student at medical faculties. One of the best things that happened to me was to be able to start and complete two cancer-related PhD programs simultaneously in two organ systems in two different countries in six years, while still working as a diagnostic pathologist. This provided cross-pollination of knowledge between different cancer diseases, and tutorship from seasoned experts in both basic and clinical biomedical fields in different academic environments. As a practitioner of pathology, I am also grateful that I have been able to work 10 years as a clinical bedside physician, including within the field of urologic surgery, which has given me a user's view of pathology services. This type of exposure can be recommended for all those that work within diagnostic fields such as pathology/lab medicine or radiology. Also, extremely focused work can help, such as when I could do prostate pathology only during a period at the Baylor College of Medicine & The Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. The best of all possible worlds would be to have clinical bedside, laboratory medicine, and academic experience in one and the same person. However, I definitely belong to a dying breed, since the body of knowledge required to serve successfully within any given field of medicine is expanding so rapidly. The need for sub specialization cannot be dismissed. It is necessary because of ever increasing scientific data, which is undeniably contributing to better patient care.

I wish *Urology Journal* all the best in the future."

Dr. Isfoss was chosen as the best reviewer of the issue by editorial board of The *Urology Journal* for his valuable and timely review of manuscript.