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For immediate release,

## **Association for Molecular Pathology holds 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exhibits, October 29 – November 2, 2008 in Grapevine, TX**

Bethesda, MD - October 27, 2008 - The **Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP) 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exhibits** will be held October 29 – November 2, 2008 at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine, Texas. This meeting will feature three days of plenary sessions and workshops in hematopathology, infectious diseases, inherited genetic diseases, solid tumors, and current technical topics presented by leading scientists and diagnosticians in the field of molecular diagnostics.

**Carl T. Wittwer, MD, recipient of the 2008 AMP Award for Excellence in Molecular Diagnostics, will present the keynote lecture, *Rapid-Cycle, Real-Time PCR and Melting Analysis*.** Dr. Wittwer is the technical vice president and medical director of the Advanced Technology Group and the General Flow Cytometry Laboratory at ARUP Laboratories at the University of Utah School of Medicine. The 2008 AMP Award for Excellence in Molecular Diagnostics is supported by Roche Diagnostics Corporation.

**Clonality Assessment in Hematopathology: European and North American Perspectives**, a special full-day symposium, will be held on October 29, and will focus on practical approaches and technical challenges to clonality testing, including the use of Ig/TCR gene rearrangements and affects of assay design on test results.

**Molecular Diagnostics Applications in Pathology: A Case-Oriented Approach** will be held on October 30, 2008 and is geared towards pathologists, laboratory directors, and technologists who have little experience in the area of molecular diagnostic testing. **This full-day course will provide practical applications of current developments through actual case studies covering the four major clinical molecular pathology disciplines: solid tumors, hematopathology, infectious diseases, and inherited diseases.** Attendees will learn more about molecular diagnostic instrumentation and techniques including gene sequencing, in situ hybridization (ISH and FISH), microsatellite instability analysis, nucleic acid extraction and purification, and PCR.

The Association for Molecular Pathology is a not-for-profit scientific society dedicated to the advancement, practice, and science of clinical molecular laboratory medicine and translational research based on the applications of genomics and proteomics. AMP was founded in 1995 to provide structure and leadership to the then-emerging field of molecular diagnostics. Through its Council and Committees, AMP pursues topics of importance to those at the forefront of this growing discipline. From the beginning, AMP has worked to develop mechanisms for training and certification in diagnostic molecular pathology. AMP has assumed national visibility with its efforts to shape regulations and policy that influence research and the practice of molecular diagnostics. The organization is divided into the scientific subdivisions of genetics, infectious diseases, hematopathology, and solid tumors. Each subdivision addresses issues, identifies goals, shapes policy, and provides member benefits specific to that particular discipline. Members can participate in any or all of these subdivisions. The AMP membership includes individuals from academia, government, and industry, including basic scientists, laboratory directors, medical technologists, and trainees. Through the efforts of an enthusiastic membership from across the United States and around the world, AMP continues to grow in numbers and influence.

[www.amp.org](http://www.amp.org)

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