



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure

President's E-newsletter – February 2016



Professor Sir Roddy MacSween

Professor Sir Roddy MacSween, past president of the College, sadly died on 11 December 2015. A memorial service will be held in the University Chapel, University of Glasgow on 19 February 2016 at 11.00 am. All are welcome to attend.

Operational productivity and performance in English NHS acute hospitals: Unwarranted variations

Lord Carter's review of operational productivity and performance in English NHS acute hospitals has been published today. The full review can be found at [Productivity in NHS Hospitals](#). The College will publish a response in due course.

Furness Prize for Science Communication 2015

I am pleased to announce that the [winner of the Furness Prize](#) for Science Communication 2015 is Dr Elaine Cloutman-Green, an Infection Prevention and Control Practitioner at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH).

Dr Cloutman-Green will be awarded the prize at the New Fellows' Ceremony in March.

The Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards (ACCEA)

ACCEA has announced that there will be a round of awards in 2016. The round is expected to open in March/April and the deadline for submitting applications is usually quite tight. For this reason you are advised to start working on your application now if you plan to apply for a new award or renew an existing award. The [2015 forms](#) can be used as a

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template until the 2016 forms become available. You will find more details on the [website](#).

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COLLEGE NEWS

Professional standards invited reviews

There may times when departments of laboratory medicine recognise that they are running sub-optimally. There are many possible causes and most of these problems are resolved internally but sometimes external assistance is needed. The College has always offered help in such circumstances. More information at [Professional standards review](#).

Requests for advice, further investigation or review should be made to the Professional Standards team by telephone on 0207 451 6736 / 6732 or email professionalism@rcpath.org. Informal advice is free of charge as a benefit of College membership.

2016 Workforce census - UK consultants – Thank you

Thank you to all those who have completed the 2016 Workforce Census. If you have not done so, we need your help to collect workforce details to ensure that workforce planning is evidence-based and robust. The College needs to advise the Department of Health, Health Education England (HEE) and other relevant bodies on your behalf to sustain the pathology workforce. The new census will take you less than five minutes to update. It is really important that you confirm your professional details at [Workforce planning](#). The College's specialty-specific submissions to HEE and NHS Wales are accessible from the same page.

College assessors needed

College assessors have a vital role advising consultant appointment committees on the adequacy of the training and experience of the candidates. The College needs more assessors in all pathology specialties, from all regions, to carry out this important function on behalf of the profession. If you think that you can assist please consider volunteering. For more details and a self-nomination form, please see: [College assessors](#).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

We are looking for volunteers to facilitate the following public engagement events:

- **Bring Your Job to School Day, 11 February 2016**

This is a careers fair for pupils aged 11-18 at George Green's School in London. We are looking for volunteers to share their experiences that have led them to where they are now.

- **Careers Talk at Saint Benedict, Derby, date is dependent on availability of volunteer**

We are looking for a pathologist to give a talk at Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy in Derby. The aim is for A-level students to find out what pathology is and the routes for a career in pathology.

If you are interested in taking part in any of these events, or know someone who may want to participate, please contact amaka.nwagbara@rcpath.org

COLLEGE MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES

Clinical Excellence Awards Panel

Applications are invited for members of the new College Clinical Excellence Awards Panel (CEAP) for a term of three years starting with immediate effect. Members will need to be available to attend the annual meeting on Tuesday 26 April at a London venue. Details of the CEAP can be found at [Get involved at the College](#). In response to the 2015 consultation with the Fellowship and in order to ensure appropriate panel representation of the Fellowship the College would particularly welcome applications from the following groups: Fellows who do not currently hold a higher award, Fellows who practice in smaller pathology specialties, Fellows from ethnic minorities, women and LGBT Fellows. For more information about the role and to express an interest, please contact the College Registrar, Dr Rachael Liebmann at registrar@rcpath.org

Trainee representative for haematology

A position is available for a trainee representative to act as alternate for the Intercollegiate Committee on Haematology (ICH)/Trainees Advisory Committee (TAC). For more information please contact the committee administrator: TAC@rcpath.org

NEW COLLEGE PUBLICATIONS

See - [College Publications – Cancer Datasets and Tissue Pathways](#)

- Dataset for parathyroid cancer histopathology reports (3rd edition)
- Tissue pathways for gastrointestinal and pancreatobiliary pathology (2nd edition)
- Dataset for tumours of the central nervous system, including the pituitary gland (4th edition)

New Consultation

Dataset for histopathology reports for prostatic carcinoma (3rd edition) - on <https://www.rcpath.org/profession/publications/documents-in-development.html> (log-in required)

Examiner Recruitment, FRCPath Part 2 Haematology Examinations - Dubai, UAE

The College is establishing an overseas examination centre for FRCPath Part 2 Haematology examinations in Dubai in 2016. We would like to hear from haematology fellows residing in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region who would be interested in becoming College examiners. Interested Fellows should email the International Department in the first instance: international@rcpath.org

Senior Histopathologists

Kenya, Nairobi - 12 month assignment

The Aga Khan University Hospital Nairobi (AKUHN) is seeking to appoint two experienced histopathologists for a period of up to 12 months. Both roles are salaried and will involve reporting all aspects of histopathology (with the scope to sub-specialise), reporting non-gynaecological and gynaecological screening cytology cases and teaching histopathology trainees. Appointees will be involved in shaping AKUHN's services. Accommodation will also be provided. Interested applicants should email their CVs to international@rcpath.org

COLLEGE CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Liver Biopsy in the Assessment of Medical Liver Disease

Monday 29 February 2016

5 CPD Credits

The Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescott Street, London E1 8BB

This course will provide a practical diagnostic approach to reporting medical liver biopsies, focusing on the importance of clinico-pathological correlation in assessing common patterns of liver damage. Recommended for senior trainees in pathology and hepatology and consultant histopathologists and gastroenterologists who are regularly involved in liver biopsy assessment (without necessarily working in a liver unit).

Joint meeting with the Royal Society of Medicine (RSM)- Immunopathology & Immunotherapy: to go boldly 11 March 2016, Royal Society of Medicine, London

This meeting has been jointly organised by the Pathology Section, RSM and the College to showcase the advances being made in the research, diagnosis, and treatment of immunotherapy sensitive pathologies. Speakers will address subjects from the production of Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products to Immunological Senescence, and includes those at the forefront of their field from paediatrics to neurology. This meeting will provide updates on current and developing knowledge from some of the leading figures in the subject. The meeting has been designed to be of interest to all medical and clinical healthcare workers and the scientific research community.

Autopsy Pathology

Tuesday 22 March 2016

5 CPD Credits

Coin Street Conference Centre, 108 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NH

The aim of the meeting is address a number of areas of post-mortem practice that have been highlighted at previous meetings as topics of concern/interest. The day should appeal to both consultants and registrars who undertake post-mortem examinations with the aim to offer guidance on how to approach these types of cases and to provide an opportunity to discuss interesting or challenging cases with other pathologists.

National Joint Training Day Medical Microbiology/Histopathology
Wednesday 20 April 2016

Coin Street Conference Centre, 108 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NH

The aim of this programme is to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration in order to improve the investigation, diagnosis and management of infection. This will be a clinically-oriented day with plenty of case presentations to illustrate important practical points.

We have secured hand-held voting pads for all attendees to maximise involvement and learning opportunities.

Combined RCPATH/BNS Neuropathology/Neuro-Oncology Meeting
Wednesday 11 May 2016

6 CPD Credits

The King's Fund, 11-13 Cavendish Square, London, W1G 0AN

This conference has been designed to correspond with the release of the latest update of the World Health Organisation classification of CNS tumours. The day will provide a practical approach to the diagnosis of CNS tumours, focusing on the interpretation of new molecular tests and their integration into the overall classification of the patient's tumour.

Urology reporting: What really matters – When and Why
Monday 20 June 2016

6 CPD Credits

The Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescott Street, London E1 8BB

It is important for histopathologists to understand the clinical significance of their reports and how a data item that is critical in one clinical scenario may be entirely irrelevant in another setting.

This novel study day aimed at senior trainees and consultant histopathologists will explain how urology data is used to guide patient management and discuss the significance of each data item in different clinical scenarios and specimen types. The course will enable attendees to adopt a more efficient personalised approach to histopathology reporting by focussing on accurately reporting data items that are clinically relevant in a particular case.

Dates for your diary – further information to follow shortly

- Managing Intracranial Infections. Do we have the right answers or are we asking the right questions? 23 September 2016
- Infection Training - Trainee Event 19-20 October 2016, London
- Advances in Transfusion Medicine 24-25 November 2016, London

NEWS FROM EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Lab Tests Online – Volunteers needed

[Lab Tests Online-UK](#) is looking for healthcare scientists and doctors to volunteer to join their team of editors.

Lab Tests Online-UK is written by practising laboratory doctors and scientists to help the public understand the many clinical laboratory tests

that are used in diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of disease. It is supported by the RCPATH, Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) and Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ACB). Because it is non-commercial and edited by volunteer practising pathology staff, it is consistently rated highly by patient associations and GPs as a trusted website.

The role of an editor is to occasionally review and edit if required, the information about a specific test, which would then be published on the website. Commitment is flexible but the expected turnaround time to return pages is within 4 weeks. Please contact labtestsonlineuk@acb.org.uk for more information.

Cancer Research UK - Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) survey

Cancer Research UK is completing a project to make MDTs as effective as possible across the UK. If you are a member of a multidisciplinary team (MDT), please follow the link to complete a survey, which should take less than five minutes: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DRFC6T6>
Please also circulate to colleagues in other disciplines who also are also members of MDTs.

The UK National Screening Committee has published 11 recommendations including improvements to existing screening programmes for:

- Introducing faecal immunochemical testing (FIT)
- Introducing non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT)
- Introducing HPV primary screening

See - [UK National Screening Committee recommendations](#)

Standards for Microbiology Investigations (SMIs) – reissued

- SMI B 42: Investigation of bone and soft tissue associated with osteomyelitis (REISSUED)
- SMI B 55: Investigation of gastric biopsies for Helicobacter pylori (REISSUED)

BMA research grants for medical practitioners 2016 – applications open - Deadline - 7 March 2016.

<http://bma.org.uk/researchgrants>

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

For a list of external conferences see:

<https://www.rcpath.org/profession/conferences/event.html>

- **Adoptive T-Cell Therapy Congress 15-16 March 2016**
<https://www.rcpath.org/event/adoptive-t-cell-therapy-congress.html>
- **Critical Appraisal Workshop – 16 March 2016**
<https://www.rcpath.org/event/critical-appraisal-workshop.html>

- **Microbiology Society Annual Conference – 21-24 March 2016**
<https://www.rcpath.org/event/microbiology-society-annual-conference-2016.html>
- **9th British Association of Urological Pathologists Kidney and Bladder Pathology Course - 4-5 April 2016 -**
<https://www.rcpath.org/event/advanced-prostate-pathology-course.html>
- **Practical Pulmonary Pathology - 4-6 July 2016**
<https://www.rcpath.org/event/practical-pulmonary-pathology.html>
- **Histopathology of the Bone Marrow - 29-September 2016**
<https://www.rcpath.org/event/histopathology-of-the-bone-marrow-.html>

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

