



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure

Diagnostic Digital Pathology Clinical Lead

Role description

Appointed by: Council

Responsible to: Vice President for Learning (defaulting to the President in Nov 2018)

Accountable to: Trustee Board

Term of office: Three years from the date of the AGM in the year of appointment

Commitment: 0.5 days per week (on average)

This is a volunteer role. The role is not remunerated but reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

Introduction

This College has a key role in the professional aspects of pathology services in the development and delivery of healthcare. The College mission is to promote excellence in the practice of pathology and to be responsible for maintaining standards through training, assessments, examinations and professional development.

Those holding office in the College provide professional leadership, and thereby contribute at a national level to the maintenance and development of pathology services, and the quality of care that patients receive. The College expects its office holders to be proactive, and to provide leadership not only in their own specialty but also in pathology in general, in the wider context of health services. The College's influence extends to all sectors of healthcare provision.

The College is its membership, and the coordination, coherence and consistency between national, regional and local activities is paramount. All office holders are expected to abide by the College's Code of Conduct. The Honorary Officers play a key role and work together to ensure coherent College advice and guidance across the areas of activity at international, national, Devolved Nation, regional and local levels through the College Directors, the English Regional Representatives and the professional leads in each English geographical area. Devolved Nation representatives provide the professional leadership within their region. The College also provides advice and guidance on specialty-specific issues nationally, regionally and locally. The Specialty Advisory Committees provide professional leadership within their specialty.

Diagnostic Digital Pathology

The College aims to coordinate its activities relating to diagnostic digital pathology across a range of clinical specialties with the aim of ensuring that training, examination and clinical use of digital pathology are fully integrated and that areas of evaluation and research are built into national developments in this area. The work will initially relate to cellular pathology, cytopathology, veterinary pathology, paediatric and perinatal pathology and neuropathology. This does not preclude other specialist areas e.g. haematology, from taking this forward in future.

Purpose of the role

The purpose of this role is to implement the College's diagnostic digital pathology strategy by providing leadership and strategic direction for the use of diagnostic digital technology in appropriate pathology specialties.

Key duties and Responsibilities

The key duties and responsibilities are:

- to implement the College's diagnostic digital pathology strategy
- to provide leadership and strategic development for the use of diagnostic digital technology in appropriate pathology specialties
- to keep up to date with changes in medical and scientific training and standards and provide expert advice with regard to the development of digital pathology
- to scope and work with appropriate training committees to develop a proposal for the introduction of digital pathology into curricula, assessments and examinations
- to develop a proposal for a National Digital Pathology Focus Group, hosted by the College, which would monitor and coordinate developments nationally and provide a source of support for pathologists using this technology
- to promote the College's diagnostic digital pathology strategy and its further development
- to representing the College at appropriate internal and external meetings regarding diagnostic digital pathology
- any other duties that will drive forward the diagnostic digital pathology strategy.

Scope and Accountability

The Diagnostic Digital Pathology Clinical Lead is responsible for developing and delivering the College's Diagnostic Digital Pathology strategy.

The Diagnostic Digital Pathology Clinical Lead will seek approval of the Trustee Board^[TH1] for proposals and work plans after having worked with relevant staff officers and engaged with existing committees and consulted Council. They will submit reports to Council for discussion.

The Diagnostic Digital Pathology Clinical Lead will relate to, and receive practical support, from the staff of the Professional Standards Department who are acting as the lead department for this work.

Key relationships

The Diagnostic Digital Pathology Clinical Lead will work with the:

- VP for Learning
- VP for Professional Standards
- Head of Professional Standards
- Head of Educational Standards
- all relevant College Directors
- chairs of the SACs
- and any other relevant individuals to lead, drive forward and coordinate the College's work to support and develop digital pathology.

Diagnostic Digital Pathology Clinical Lead

Person specification

Requirements	Essential	Desirable
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fellow of the College 2. Participating in a CPD scheme 3. Not currently subject to any investigations related to professional performance or probity 4. Broad overview of pathology specialties relevant to the role 5. A demonstrable interest in diagnostic digital pathology 6. Extensive first-hand practical experience in leading the development and implementation of digital pathology 7. Peer-reviewed publications and research relevant to digital pathology. 8. Trained and up to date in all issues relating to equality and diversity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ✓
Skills and Abilities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to communicate effectively and develop effective working relationships both with colleagues within the College and those in external or stakeholder organisations 2. Excellent verbal and written communication skills with the ability to write clear and concise reports, letters and communications 3. Ability to make decisions and give guidance 4. Ability to take responsibility and show evidence of leadership 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">
Qualities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self-motivated 2. Promotes a positive approach to collaborative work 3. Proven experience of working constructively within a team 4. Track record of achievement of delivering projects 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">