



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure

President's e-newsletter – December 2016



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President's Messages of the Month

Welcome to the December e-newsletter.

Firstly I am delighted to confirm that Professor Jo Martin has been elected to succeed me as President when I demit office in 2017.

Jo is Professor of Pathology at Queen Mary University of London and honorary consultant at Barts Health NHS Trust and was National Clinical Director for Pathology for NHS England from 2013 - 2016.

I look forward working with Jo in her role as President-elect over the next year.

College Team wins Times Higher Education Award

I am also very pleased to announce that the College's International Team won the [International Collaboration of the Year award](#) for their [LabSkills Africa](#) partnership project at the Times Higher Education Awards 2016.

LabSkills Africa is a training programme designed to build capacity and improve the standards and quality of pathology diagnostic and laboratory medicine services in sub-Saharan Africa through skills training, knowledge transfer, leadership development and mentoring.

Cancer Research UK (CRUK) - report on pathology capacity in England

On 23 November, CRUK released [Testing Times to Come? An Evaluation of Pathology Capacity in England](#), which made a number of recommendations to help manage pathology diagnostic capacity to meet the increasing workload, particularly that associated with diagnosis of cancer.

The report recognised the central role of pathology in the care of patients with cancer and also highlighted the serious consequences of failing to act immediately to maximise efficiency, optimise workforce, future-proof the service and improve understanding of pathology provision. We are in complete agreement with these observations and have set out our commitments and priorities to support investment in pathology services to meet growing demand. You can read the full College response at [Testing times](#).

Sudden unexpected death in infancy and childhood (2nd edition) - Multi-agency guidelines for care and investigation

[Launched in the House of Lords on the 30 November](#) by a multi-agency working group chaired by Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, [the guidelines](#) encompass the statutory duties of individual professionals and agencies to investigate all sudden and unexpected deaths in infancy and childhood.

The first edition of the guidelines, published in 2004, took in evidence from key organisations and representatives in child health and protection and were well received both nationally and internationally.

This 2016 edition has been extensively reviewed and updated by an expert working group from the healthcare, charity and justice sectors and covers multi-agency planning, supporting families, assessment of the environment and circumstances of the death, case discussion, the post-mortem and the inquest and role of the coroner. It is based on the best current international research.

This is my last newsletter of 2016. I hope you have a happy and relaxing festive season and enjoy spending time with your loved ones.

Dr Suzy Lishman

President, The Royal College of Pathologists

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COLLEGE NEWS

Annual report 2015-2016

The College's [Annual Report](#) highlights the important and varied roles of its 11,000 members through a series of patients' stories. The Annual Report was circulated to all members with the October Bulletin.

If you would like additional hard copies to hand out at your public engagement event, conference, meeting or workplace, please contact:

publishing@rcpath.org

The Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards (ACCEA)

ACCEA anticipates that there will be a round of awards in 2017. The timetable has not yet been announced but is usually published in March/April with a tight deadline for submitting applications. 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 [2016 forms](#) can be used as a template until the 2017 forms become available. You will find more details on the [website](#).

Consultation on the International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting (ICCR) - draft dataset for Carcinomas of the Cervix

Comments are invited on the draft dataset for [Carcinomas of the Cervix](#), developed by the ICCR. The document will be available for comments until Friday 13 January 2017. Feedback is via an electronic form posted on the website.

Dr Neera Patel Travelling Bursary

The College administers the Dr Neera Patel Travelling Bursary, set up in memory of Dr Neera Patel FRCPath who was a cellular pathologist in breast pathology. Neena sadly died in 2015 and her family would like to support trainees in her memory.

The bursary is aimed at a histopathology trainee enrolled in a recognised UK training scheme who hopes to develop an interest in breast or head & neck pathology, to enable their participation in a national or international meeting.

The recipient will need to demonstrate how they will benefit from attending the conference by providing a brief outline of the conference and how it will help their career pathway. Details are available on the webpages of the [College's Cellular Pathology Specialty Advisory Committee](#). The deadline for applications is Friday 17 March 2017.

GET INVOLVED AT THE COLLEGE

[England Regional Council \(ERC\) Regional Advisor for Thames Valley](#)

Applications are now invited from Fellows for an England Regional Council (ERC) Regional Advisor position taking up office from January 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, until the Annual General Meeting, November 2019. This Regional Advisor vacancy is for Thames Valley (1 vacancy).

Application process

Applicants should submit a completed nomination form to Jessica Zago (Jessica.Zago@rcpath.org), Regional Coordination Assistant, by Monday 9 January 2017 together with an abridged CV and a personal statement of up to 200 words indicating your strengths and interests, including any relevant experience. A draft job description for this role, the ERC reporting structure and Terms of Reference, are available on the [College website](#) (login required):

Please note that these are draft documents and are subject to further changes following feedback from the England Regional Council.

[Wales Regional Council \(WRC\) membership applications invited \(5 vacancies\)](#)

Applications are now invited from Fellows for posts of Wales Regional Council member taking up office from January 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, until the Annual General Meeting, November 2019.

Application process

Applicants should submit a completed nomination form to Jessica Zago (Jessica.Zago@rcpath.org), Regional Coordination Assistant, by Friday 13 January 2017, together with an abridged CV and a personal statement of up to 200 words indicating your strengths and interests, including any relevant experience. A job description for this role, along with Terms of Reference and a nomination form is available on the [College website](#) (login required):

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

National Pathology Week 2016

Thank you for taking part in National Pathology Week. We are in the process of carrying out an evaluation of this year's activities and would like to know how your event went. Please complete an online survey – [organiser of single event](#) or [organiser of multiple events](#). This will help us improve the support we provide and future events.

Free Science Communication Training

Thursday 23 March 2017, Royal College of Psychiatrists, London

Booking has opened for the next session of the College's popular Science Communication Training. Run by Karen Davies from the Science Museum, the day is an excellent opportunity to learn how to work with different audiences and create events to meet specific aims and objectives. For more information visit [Science Communication Training](#). E: amaka.nwagbara@rcpath.org

14th Schools Science Conference

Wednesday 26 April 2017, University of Westminster, London

The organisers of the annual Schools Science Conference are looking for volunteers to host pathology stands at the conference on 26 April 2017. The stands are an opportunity to engage students aged 13-16 with different careers in science. If you are interested, please contact sharon.gage@srgprojectmanagement.co.uk

Big Bang Fair South East Wednesday 28 June 2017, South of England Showground, West Sussex

Organisers of the Big Bang Fair South East are looking for volunteers to deliver hands-on interactive activities for young people and their teachers. The fair links local employers, education institutions and professional bodies with young people and their teachers to showcase the varied careers in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). If you would like to get involved please visit [Big Bang Fair](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

International Pathology Day 2016

This year's International Pathology Day was held on Wednesday 16 November. To coincide with the event, the College hosted an international roundtable in partnership with [The Pathologist magazine](#) that discussed how to strengthen pathology education and training in low and middle-income countries. The discussion was streamed live and over 200 pathologists from all over the world participated via the roundtable's webinar platform.

Missed this year's event? For a limited time you can watch the full recording by registering online for free at <http://bit.ly/2qbLkV>

Sahara Desert Trek 2016

In October 2016, Team RCPATH pushed themselves to the limit and trekked across the flat desert floor and sand dunes of the awe-inspiring Sahara Desert, to raise funds for RCPATH's global health work. To see how the group got on, please visit the College's Flickr page at <https://flic.kr/s/aHskHmieNh>

London Marathon 2017

The College has secured a charity place in next year's London Marathon, which takes place on Sunday 23 April 2017. Following an open application process, Dr Alice Wort, Chair of RCPATH's Trainee Advisory Committee (@PathologyHouse) has been selected to represent the College in the London Marathon and fundraise on our behalf. You can follow Alice's progress using the hashtag #TeamRCPATH online or via our website <http://tinyurl.com/zlapqkf>

Global Health Challenges 2017

In November 2015, the International Department established the Global Health Challenge scheme; a programme of challenge events aimed at raising unrestricted funds to support the delivery of some of the College's international global health activities. Following on from this year's success, the International department will be [hosting a number of challenge events in 2017](#).

Cycle for the College: London to Paris Bike Ride - 19 - 23 July 2017

In response to the positive feedback we received from this year's participants, the College will be holding the London to Paris Bike ride event next year in collaboration with Global Adventure Challenges.

This five-day challenge covers 4 days in the saddle and participants will cycle approximately 295 miles from capital to capital. Following the challenge, fundraisers will enjoy an overnight stay in Paris and have an opportunity to watch the finale of the Tour de France.

Prudential Ride London-Surrey 100 - Sunday 30 July 2017

The College has been successful in gaining charity places for the 2017 Prudential Ride London-Surrey 100 that will take place on Sunday 30 July 2017.

Trek for the College: Iceland - 30 August – 3 September 2017

Organised in collaboration with Action Challenge, this five-day camping challenge covers 3 days trekking past volcanoes, mountains, snow and lava fields. At the end of the trip fundraisers will have the chance to explore Reykjavik, famous for its mineral-rich Blue Lagoon and celebrate your journey with a dinner and party.

Land's End to John O'Groats - 29 August – 10 September 2017

Pedal 1,000 miles from Land's End to John O'Groats (LEJOG); the furthest possible distance in the British Isles. Covering more than 12 counties, this is one of the toughest fundraising cycle events.

For more information and to register your interest for these challenges, please email Gemma Hooley, International Administrator - gemma.hooley@rcpath.org

COLLEGE CONSULTATIONS

New publications

[Code of practice for histocompatibility and immunogenetics \(H&I\) services](#)

New consultation – log in at

<https://www.rcpath.org/profession/publications/documents-in-development.html>

Guidelines on autopsy practice: Autopsy for suspected drowning – consultation open until 20 December

COLLEGE CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Liver Biopsy in the Assessment of Medical Liver Disease

Friday 17 March 2017

5 CPD credits

To be held at The Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescot 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).

Cancer datasets – guiding care for the individual and the wider population **NEW**

Thursday 30 March 17

5 CPD Credits

To be held at Coin Street Conference Centre, 108 Stamford Street, London, SE1 9NH

This programme aims to update pathologists with the latest changes in pathological cancer data collection.

“Doctor I’ve been Bitten!” **NEW**

Thursday 6 April 2017

To be held at Coin Street Conference Centre, 108 Stamford Street, London, SE1 9NH

5 CPD Credits

Joint event with Public Health England

A training session for trainees and consultants, specifically within infectious diseases and microbiology, to raise awareness and understanding of a range of zoonotic diseases seen in travellers and UK residents. The common theme for the day is the association with an animal bite. Some of the more controversial aspects of Lyme disease will be discussed, as well as diseases that are commonly missed in the travelling population. The day will finish covering the mysteries of animal bites and their management when the bite itself is the issue from envenomation or consequential infection.

NEWS FROM EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

An opportunity to make a difference to pathology at a national level

The first ‘Getting it Right First Time’ (GIRFT) report, published by Professor Tim Briggs, suggested that changes could be made to improve pathways of care, patient experience, and outcomes - with significant cost savings, and this approach now forms a key part of the roll-out of the recommendations in Lord Carter’s report (February 2016) in operational performance and productivity in acute hospitals.

As a result, pathology has been added to the programme roll out, and GIRFT is now looking for a skilled and effective clinical leader, who is recognised as

expert by their clinical colleagues and with the endorsement of their specialty society to undertake the Clinical Lead for Pathology.

For further information about GIRFT, the role of Clinical Lead, and details of how to apply please visit: [GIRFT](#). Closing dates for applications: 5 February 2017

The National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) seeks new members

The NCRI Clinical Studies Groups are seeking members for each of the following areas;

- brain tumour
- breast cancer
- children's cancer and leukaemia
- colorectal cancer
- lung cancer
- lymphoma
- primary care
- skin cancer
- upper GI cancer

Membership is for 3 years in the first instance, with an option to reapply for a further 3 years. For further information on the role, please see [NCRI CSGs Membership Advert](#). Application deadline - 5pm, Friday 16 December 20.

Apply to deliver an Royal College of Physicians (RCP) lecture

Applications are now open for the Graham Bull prize in clinical science and Goulstonian lectureship from the RCP. Entry is open to research workers under age 45 who feel they have made a major contribution to clinical science, and applicants must be a member or fellow of RCP London. For more information please visit the [RCP website](#).

2017 Advancing Healthcare Awards

This year there are seven awards open to allied health professionals, healthcare scientists and those who work alongside them in support roles. For more information visit [Advancing Healthcare Awards](#). Closing date 5pm Friday 13 January 2017.

Royal Medical Benevolent Fund - President's Appeal

The Royal Medical Benevolent Fund is the leading UK charity for doctors, medical students and their families. It provides financial support, advice and information when it is most needed due to age, ill health, disability and bereavement. Please see a [personal appeal](#) from Professor Parveen Kumar CBE, President of the RMBF.

UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations – consultation and reissue

- [UK SMI V 5: Screening for hepatitis C infection](#) (under consultation) Please send comments by **15 December 2016 5:00pm** using the consultation form provided on the website.

- The following UK SMI has been reissued - [SMI V 11: HIV screening and confirmation](#) (reissued)

The UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC) – Call for new screening topics

[UK NSC](#) has issued its [annual call for new screening topics](#). This is an opportunity for any individual, group or organisation to submit a proposal for a condition which they think should have its own screening programme, but has not been considered by the UK NSC in the past. Closing date - Monday 9 January 2017.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

For a list of external conferences see:

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

- [CESR in Histopathology](#) – 21 January 2017
- [Post ASH meeting – Significant Highlights - Bristol](#) – 1 February 2017
- [Post ASH meeting – Significant Highlights - Manchester](#) – 8 February 2017
- [Post ASH meeting – Significant Highlights - London](#) – 9 February 2017
- [Nottingham Breast Pathology Masterclass 2017](#) – 26-27 July 2017
- [National Immunoglobulin Database Meeting](#) – 9 December 2016

[The London Haematopathology Course](#): 1 – 3 March 2017. E: maria.calaminici@bartshealth.nhs.uk

