

RCPATH Industry Leaders' Forum

Online event

8 October 2025 2 – 4pm BST

Dr Bernard Croal

RCPATH President, Consultant Chemical Pathologist

Dr Bernie Croal is an NHS chemical pathologist from Aberdeen specialising in intravenous nutritional support. He also oversees laboratory services at the Cleveland Clinic in London via TDL. He is a science and medicine graduate, and has trained in general medicine, chemical pathology and Health Services/Public Health Research.



He has spent a long career in various leadership roles within NHS Scotland including clinical director and regional lead for pathology, NHS Scotland demand optimisation lead and chair of the Scottish Clinical Biochemistry Network (SCBN).

He was the President of the Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ACB-UK). He is a fellow of both the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and the Institute of Biomedical Science.

Within RCPATH he has chaired many committees, been Scotland Regional Council Chair for 9 years and a Trustee for 13 years. He also served as College Vice President from 2011 to 2014.

Professor Peter Johnston***RCPATH Vice President, Consultant Histopathologist***

Professor Peter Johnston is a Consultant Histopathologist (NHS Grampian) and Deputy Postgraduate Dean (Scotland Deanery, North Region). Diagnostic work includes cellular pathology with a special interest in haematopathology. An Aberdeen graduate, he has a long commitment to undergraduate and postgraduate medical education, coordinating and innovating in undergraduate teaching over many years. Current postgraduate roles include Director of Medical Education Research in the Scotland Deanery, Chair of the Scottish Diagnostics Specialty Training Board, and part of the Centre for Health Education Research and Innovation in the University of Aberdeen. He is interim Director of the Scottish Medical Education Research Consortium involving the Deanery and the 5 Scottish Medical Schools.



Professor Johnston is a member of the GMC Curriculum Advisory Group. Pedagogic research is in medical careers decision-making, including novel methods to study how students and trainees value generic characteristics of training posts. Clinical learning environments, educational culture, human factors in educational and clinical settings and doctors' wellbeing in COVID-19 and beyond are other areas of study.

Dr Marion Burdin PhD

illumina NHS and Genomics Lead

Dr Marion Burdin is a senior healthcare executive with over a decade of experience in genomics and precision medicine. She has built her career around advancing innovative solutions in reproductive and genetic health, rare diseases, and oncology.



In her current role at Illumina, Marion leads strategic partnerships with NHS England, Genomics England, and Our Future Health, focusing on the integration of clinical genomics and multi-omics technologies into healthcare systems. Her work supports the translation of cutting-edge science into real-world impact, helping to shape the future of patient care through collaborative innovation.

Professor Carel Leroux

Chemical Pathologist

Professor Carel le Roux graduated from medical school in Pretoria South Africa, completed his specialist training in metabolic medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospitals and the Hammersmith Hospitals. He obtained his PhD from Imperial College London where he later took up a faculty position. He moved to University College Dublin for the



Chair in Chemical Pathology and Metabolic Medicine and he is now a Director of the Metabolic Medicine Group. He also holds the position of Professor of Metabolic Medicine at Ulster University and Extra-ordinary Professor of Chemical Pathology at University of Pretoria. He currently coordinates an Innovative Medicine Initiative project on obesity. He previously received the Irish Research Council Researcher of the Year award, a President of Ireland Young Researcher Award, the Irish Research Council Laureate Award, a Clinician Scientist Award from the National Institute Health Research in the UK, and a Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Fellowship for his work on how the gut talks to the brain.

Dr Karen Mitchell FRCPath EuSpLM MBCS

***Consultant Chemical Pathologist, RCPATH Pathology
Informatics Committee Chair***

Karen Mitchell is a Consultant Chemical Pathologist with an interest in Clinical Informatics. She has worked with Standards Implementation team in developing the Unified Test List (UTL) of pathology observables for SNOMED CT, the precursor to Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (PaLM) list of codes in the UK edition of SNOMED CT.



She is the Grampian Clinical Lead for implementing the National LIMS in Scotland and the Chair of the Pathology Informatics Committee at the Royal College of Pathologists.

Nicky Hollowood BSc (Hons) MSc PGCert FIBMS CSci

Lead Healthcare Scientist

Nicky has been the POCT manager at Harrogate Hospital for 19 years and has recently moved to the role of POCT Cross Site Lead for her pathology network-Integrated Pathology Solutions (IPS) having oversight of 3 departments. Harrogate achieved accreditation against ISO 15189:2022 for POCT in 2024 for hospital and community services. The POCT department has upheld accreditation since 2007 through CPA then UKAS.



Nicky has been a module tutor for the IBMS Certificate of Extended practice (CEP) for their POCT programme since inception, her focus being on connectivity and data management in POCT. She sits with other national colleagues on the specialist advisory group for POCT at the IBMS.

In 2024 Nicky took on the role of lead healthcare scientist (LHCS) for Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust, representing their HCS teams at regional and national level and engaging in strategic planning for HCS.

Between 2024-2025 Nicky has been a Healthcare Science Innovation Fellow, her research project focussed on POCT Full Blood count analysis in neonates <2 months.