



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure

## President's e-newsletter – March 2017



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### President's Message of the Month

The last month has been a busy one for political engagement, with several meetings with MPs and peers. I also attended two All Party Parliamentary Group meetings this week - on lung and ovarian cancer - and am building good relationships with parliamentarians, who are now better informed about the role and importance of pathology. I've got meetings with Ministers David Mowat and Philip Dunne, Shadow Health Secretary Jon Ashworth and others in the coming month so continue to advise and influence.

The [England Regional Council](#) met this week and it struck me that some members may be unaware of the excellent regional resources available on the College website. The [quarterly regional newsletter](#) (log-in required) is particularly informative, with local news stories, information about pathology transformation, upcoming meetings, research opportunities and much more. Why not have a look at the [regional pages](#) for your area?

There are several opportunities coming up to get involved in the work of the College. We will be holding elections for new officers and Council members over the summer and will be recruiting to the new posts of Local College Representative in the next month or so. More information will be available on the website and in next month's e-newsletter. I do

hope you'll consider standing or applying for one of these roles.

As always, please do contact me if there's anything you would like to bring to my attention.

With best wishes.

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## **COLLEGE NEWS**

### **National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines - Lynch Syndrome**

[NICE](#) has issued new guidance recommending that microsatellite instability (MSI) testing or immunohistochemistry should be offered to everyone diagnosed with colorectal cancer to help identify people with Lynch syndrome.

College guidelines have long stated these tests should be routinely carried out on all people diagnosed with bowel cancer under the age of 50 at the time of diagnosis.

While new guidance from NICE is a positive step towards identifying patients with Lynch Syndrome, its implementation can only be delivered by increasing resources in cellular and molecular pathology laboratories and genetic services.

See also letters we co-signed with Bowel Cancer UK and others in the [BMJ](#) and The [Telegraph](#),

### **RCPATH/ Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) Conjoint Board for Histological Dissection – Call for new members and examiners**

The Conjoint Board for Dissection (RCPATH and IBMS), is looking for enthusiastic consultant histopathologists to join the board or to assist in exam setting and portfolio/examination marking.

The role of the board is to govern the process of the Diploma of Expert Practice (DEP) in Histodissection and Advanced Specialist Diplomas (ASD) in Specimen Dissection (Breast and Lower Gastrointestinal pathology) and to revise and develop new and existing dissection qualifications and plan/run the assessment process. The board meet approximately three times a year at the IBMS offices in London.

We are inviting applications for board members or those who would like to be involved in the assessment of portfolios and examination setting/marketing. Please send a short CV (1 page A4), to Chris Ward at the IBMS [chrisward@ibms.org](mailto:chrisward@ibms.org) by Friday 31 March.

CVs will be reviewed by the board who will make a recommendation on appointments to the Cellular Pathology Specialty Advisory Committee.

### **Multi-Source-Feedback (MSF) for Trainees - update**

Updated MSF information is now available on the [College website](#). The ST1 histopathology MSF will start on 6 March and the ST1 chemical pathology/ST3 chemical pathology (metabolic medicine) MSF will start on 13 March. For trainees in ST3 and ST5 (or ST5 and ST7 for chemical pathology/metabolic medicine), please note that you can commence the MSF process yourself via the [LEPT system](#) at a suitable time to coincide with your forthcoming ARCP.

Medical Microbiology and virology trainees on the original 2010 curricula who are not required to transfer curricula should continue to use LEPT and initiate their ST5 MSF as required. All other medical microbiology and virology trainees should use the [RCP ePortfolio](#)

### **National Undergraduate Histopathology and Molecular Pathology Introduction**

**10-11 April, St James's University Hospital, Leeds.**

**Funded by the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland in partnership with the Royal College of Pathologists – **Free to register****

This course gives medical undergraduates the opportunity to network and meet junior and senior clinical academics in pathology. It is a great way to get students interested in a career in pathology. Please circulate to all medical students in your hospital/university and encourage them to attend - [Histopathology and Molecular Pathology Introduction](#)

### **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 specialising 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 should demonstrate how they will benefit from attending the conference by providing a brief outline of the conference and how it will help their career development. Details are available at [Cellular Pathology Bursaries](#), The deadline for applications is Friday 17 March 2017.

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

### **Public Engagement Innovation Grant Scheme**

Applications are invited for the Public Engagement Innovation Grant Scheme. The College is offering grants of up to £1000 for interactive and engaging projects that promote the importance of pathology to various audiences. The deadline for applications is Monday 5 June 2017. For more information, visit [Public Engagement Innovation Grant Scheme](#) or contact the Public Engagement team at [PEG@rcpath.org](mailto:PEG@rcpath.org).

### **Outreach opportunities – volunteers needed**

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

#### **Careers talk –new**

##### **17 March 2017, DoubleTree by Hilton, Greenwich, London**

St Dunstan's College is seeking a pathologist to give a 45-minute talk at their annual dinner to years 12 and 13 students about careers in pathology.

#### **Careers Carousel, Hackney, London**

Educational charity, Inspire, is seeking volunteers to [Inspire](#) 10-11 year olds and introduce them to careers in pathology. Each carousel session lasts for 10 minutes and pupils will have a chance to meet a diverse range of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) professionals to help them broaden their knowledge of science.

- Friday 10 March, 9.15 - 10.30, at St Scholastica's Primary School (Rectory Road)
- Thursday 23 March, 8.45 - 12.15, at Millfields Primary School (Clapton)
- Friday 26 May, 9.30 - 12.00, at Thomas Fairchild Primary School (Old Street/Hoxton)

#### **My Biology, Hackney, London**

Do you have an activity that brings your job to life? [Inspire](#) is looking for volunteers to run a 30-minute interactive session that introduces your job to students. Volunteers may bring along props, equipment, photos and examples of their work.

- w/c 6 March 2017 at St Scholastica's Primary School (Rectory Road/Clapton)
- w/c 20 March 2017 at Millfields Primary School (Clapton)
- w/c 22 May 2017 at Thomas Fairchild Primary School (Hoxton / Old Street)

- w/c 12 June 2017 at Morningside Primary School (Hackney Central)
- w/c 3 July 2017 at Colvestone Primary School (Dalston)

For more information, please contact [theresa.hudson@rcpath.org](mailto:theresa.hudson@rcpath.org)

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### European Engagement 2017: Focus on Hungary

As part of its European Engagement Plan in 2017, the College will be prioritising its engagement with Hungary. Under the leadership of Dr Tibor Hortobágyi, the College's Country Advisor for Hungary, we aim to profile the work of the College's Hungarian members over the coming months; establish relationships with pathology institutions and key stakeholders in Hungary and create a forum to discuss the critical and emerging issues for pathology education, training and practice in Hungary. Fellows and trainees interested in participating in the College's *Focus on Hungary* initiative should contact the International Department: [international@rcpath.org](mailto:international@rcpath.org)

### Paediatric Pathology: Placements for pathologists from resource-limited countries

The College is working to establish a programme aimed at building the capacity of paediatric pathology services in a number of resource-limited countries through training and mentoring. We would like to hear from any paediatric pathology departments and fellows who would be willing to host clinical attachments or observerships for approximately three months. Expenses will be covered (flights, accommodation and subsistence etc). Interested departments and Fellows should email [international@rcpath.org](mailto:international@rcpath.org).

### Webinar: Global Health Challenges 2017

This webinar will provide attendees with detailed information about the College's Global Health Challenges taking place in 2017; London to Paris Cycle Ride, Prudential Ride London-Surrey, Land's End to John O'Groats Cycle Challenge and Iceland Trek. Attendees will learn more about each challenge including logistics, planning, what to expect, funding options along with a broader overview of the College's global health work. To watch the webinar please visit <https://youtu.be/c-iF6c2Rm4I>

### Facebook Live Event: Medical Training Initiative (MTI) In Pathology

Tuesday 21 March 2017 - 10:00 – 11:00am (GMT)

Looking to spend up to two years training in the UK? This live video streaming event will provide overseas doctors with detailed information about the College's MTI in Pathology scheme. Attendees will learn about the scheme, eligibility criteria, how to apply for scheme training posts, the application timetable, the supporting documentation required, how to find a post and what to expect at interview. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask questions and obtain advice directly from the College's International Education Officer, Miss Zuzana Lescisinova. Further information on the College's MTI (Path) scheme can be found on [our website](#). Register online for this event by visiting our [Facebook page](#)

**New consultations – [Visit Documents in development](#)**

- Dataset for histological reporting of endometrial cancer (5e) - open for consultation until 13 March
- Guidelines on Autopsy Practice: Autopsy in sickle cell disease and sickle trait persons (2e) - open for consultation until 22 March.

**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**

**Thursday 30 March 2017**

**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!”**

**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.

### **Kaizen! Rapid Quality Improvement Interventions in Pathology**

**Friday 7 April 2017**

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

#### **5 CPD Credits**

Delegates will learn about methodology for rapid quality improvement (QI), understand how to apply a rapid model for QI, how to apply QI tools and techniques to monitor and continuously improve an aspect of service delivery or patient care. The day will also help participants to develop their own QI improvement project and work out the outcomes and processes involved. This event will be of interest to all trainees, pathologists and clinical scientists working in pathology.

### **Educational Update**

**Friday, 12 May 2017, 9:30am-4:00pm**

**Radisson Blu Hotel, Manchester Airport**

This event for those involved with delivery of pathology training (trainers and assessors) and will include material on generic professional capabilities, changes in GMC standards and information on supervised learning events (SLEs).

The full programme with further details will be circulated soon.

### **Symposium on Pathology in Wales**

**Wednesday 5 July 2017**

**To be held in the Lecture Theatre, Life Sciences Hub, Cardiff Bay, CF10 4PL**

#### **4 CPD Credits**

This symposium is aimed at fellows, members, trainees, medical students and others interested in pathology in Wales. Delegates will also be able to meet the College President, Dr Suzy Lishman, and other honorary officers to find out about the College's activity in Wales.

Full programme to follow shortly but topics such as digital histopathology – the Wales experience, haemostasis & thrombosis, medical examiners and changes to death certification, molecular pathology and pathogen whole genome sequencing will be covered.

### **Gynaecological Pathology reporting: What really matters - When and Why**

**Monday 16 October 2017**

**To be held at: The Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB**

#### **6 CPD Credits**

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 gynaecological pathology data is used to guide patient management as well as discussing 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.

## **NEWS FROM EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS**

### **Research study at the University of Manchester – Survey**

The University of Manchester would like your views as a healthcare professional on advising patients about healthier lives as part of your day-to-day practice. The survey will take less than ten minutes to complete, unless you wish to add further comments. There is also an option for a follow-up semi-structured telephone interview should you wish to discuss any of the topics further. Visit: [University of Manchester Survey](#)

### **The CM-Path Clinical Trials Pathology Advisory Group (CT-PAG) is recruiting for scientific members**

CT-PAG is an advisory group that sits within the new National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) initiative in cellular molecular pathology, CM-Path. The Advisory Group will provide advice on pathology requirements in clinical trial design to researchers, funders and others. Specifically, members of the advisory group will provide guidance and critique on pathology and biomarker components of trials.

The remit of the group is broad, including advising on:

- Tissue acquisition, processing, storage and access.
- Tissue analytics, including DNA and RNA sequencing, genomic microarrays, DNA methylation, PCR, proteomics, metabolomics, circulating tumour cells and cell-free DNA, immunohistochemistry, in situ hybridisation.
- All types of biomarkers including predisposition, screening, diagnostic, prognostic, predictive, pharmacological and surrogate response.
- Biomarker discovery, assay development, qualification.
- Bioinformatics of large data sets, biostatistical analysis.

See [website](#). Deadline for applications - 5pm Sunday 12 March.

## **OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST**

See [external conferences](#)

- [Standardised Susceptibility Testing - Residential Workshop](#) - 11-13 April
- [Current and Future Challenges for Innovative Biomarker Development](#) - 12 April 2017
- [British Association of Gynaecological Pathologists Annual Conference](#) – 19 & 20 May 2017
- [The Gloucestershire Gastrointestinal Pathology Course](#) – 29 Sep 2017
- [5th BSD Self-Assessment meeting](#) – 3 July 2017



- [Belfast Pathology 2017](#) – 20-23 June 2017
- [The HMDS Annual Haematopathology Update Day](#) – 30 June 2017
- [Transforming the Knowledge Landscape - March 2017](#) – 10 March 2017
- [The Sheffield Oral and Maxillofacial](#) Pathology - 29-30 June 2017



