



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure

## President's E-newsletter – March 2016



### President's Messages of the Month

Welcome to my March e-newsletter, slightly later than usual as I've been travelling on College business. The most important news is that we have just received planning permission to redevelop the Goodman Building, the College's new premises on Alie Street. Work will begin soon on demolishing the current building. Please keep an eye out for regular updates on progress on the College website.

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The last few weeks have been busy, with important government announcements, consultations and publications. Unfortunately the dispute over the junior doctors' contract continues - the College is doing what it can to support its trainees and I remain grateful to senior members for minimising the impact on patient care during industrial action. I'll be going into all these issues in more detail in my column for the April issue of the Bulletin. Highlights for now include:

### **Government introduces medical examiners**

The Secretary of State's [announcement](#) to introduce medical examiners is a welcome step forward in improving patient safety in the NHS.

The College has [long campaigned for their implementation](#) and will be submitting a full response to the government's [consultation](#).

### **Devolved regional council manifestos and policy launches**

For the first time, the College has produced pathology policy manifestos for the devolved nation elections which will take place in May this year. Wales Regional Council Chair Dr Esther Youd launched [Pathology Priorities for Wales](#) in Cardiff on St David's Day. On 8 March, the Northern Ireland Regional Council Chair Dr Peter Sharpe launched their [pathology services manifesto](#) in Stormont, Belfast. The Scotland Regional Council manifesto will be launched later this month.

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

The College has published its [response](#) to [Lord Carter's review of operational productivity and performance in English NHS acute hospitals](#).

### **Clinical Excellence Awards**

The Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards (ACCEA) have announced the dates for this year's Clinical Excellence Awards. The round opens on 11 March and closes 16 May. College Fellows applying for College support must submit their applications to [mary.kehoe@rcpath.org](mailto:mary.kehoe@rcpath.org) by noon 19 April. This does not leave long for the College process. Those requesting College support are advised to arrange someone to write a supportive citation

in good time. More information about the College process is available [here](#).

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## COLLEGE NEWS

### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

#### Free Science Communication Training

- Thursday 16 June 2016, Centre for Life, Newcastle
- Thursday 15 September 2016, National Museum, Cardiff

Booking has opened for the next two Science Communications Training sessions. Run by Karen Davies from the Science Museum, the day is an excellent opportunity to gain experience in organising events and working with different audiences. For information on the terms and conditions visit [Science Communication Training](#). To book your place or for more information, please contact: [amaka.nwagbara@rcpath.org](mailto:amaka.nwagbara@rcpath.org)

#### Outreach opportunities – volunteers needed

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

#### Art-Pathology workshops, with scientist-turned-artist Dr Lizzie Burns March – July 2016

A series of workshops exploring the *Microscopic World* and *DNA Through Art*, will be taking place in secondary and primary schools over the spring and summer. We currently require volunteers from any speciality for the following sessions:

- Thursday 17 March - The Godolphin Junior School, Oatlands Drive, Slough SL1 3HS
- Friday 6 May - Thameside Primary School, Harley Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 8DB

#### Schools Science Conference, University of Westminster, London 20 April 2016

The College will be running a workshop at the conference which will feature activities on cancer diagnosis, antibiotic resistance and virtual pathology. We are ideally seeking histopathologist and microbiologist volunteers but volunteers from all specialties are welcome as a full briefing will be provided.

#### Skirting Science 2016, Weston-Super-Mare 23 June 2016

[Skirting Science](#) is looking for a volunteer to deliver a practical activity at a one-day event for year 9 girls (ages 13/14) to encourage them to consider careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

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](mailto:amaka.nwagbara@rcpath.org)

## **COLLEGE MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES**

### **Chair of the Specialty Advisory Committee (SAC) in Veterinary Pathology**

Applications are invited for the Chair of the Veterinary Pathology (SAC). Applicants must be Fellows in veterinary pathology, veterinary clinical pathology or veterinary microbiology. Applicants should submit their CV with a brief summary of their relevant experience and interest in the post by May 27. Applications and requests for further information should be submitted to the current Chair, Professor Cheryl Scudamore - [c.scudamore@har.mrc.ac.uk](mailto:c.scudamore@har.mrc.ac.uk)

## **NEW COLLEGE PUBLICATIONS**

- [Recommendations for work space for consultant and associate specialist cellular pathologists](#)

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **Webinar Sahara Desert Trek 2016 - 14 March 2016**

This webinar will provide attendees with detailed information about the College's Sahara Desert Trek challenge, which is scheduled to take place in October. Attendees will be able to learn about logistics, planning and what to expect on the trek. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions and obtain advice directly from challenge event organisers, World Expeditions.

The webinar will take place on Monday 14 March 2016 at 1:30pm – 2:30pm. Register online at: [Webinar Sahara Desert Trek](#)

## **COLLEGE CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA**

### **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 to address a number of areas of post-mortem practice that have been highlighted at previous meetings. The day should appeal to both consultants and registrars who undertake post-mortem examinations with the aim to offer guidance on 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 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 Prescot 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.

**Managing Intracranial Infections. Do we have the right answers or are we asking the right questions?**

**Friday 23 September 2016**

**6 CPD Credits**

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

The aim of this meeting is to provide a useful, up-to-date overview of the latest in diagnosis and management of intracranial infections. Many specialists only see these cases rarely and maintaining competency and confidence in their management can be challenging. As well as a diverse range of presentations there will be opportunity to debate issues relating to treatment and management of these often complex infections. The programme has been designed to appeal to trainees and consultants in microbiology, virology, infectious diseases and neuroscience specialties.

**National Infection Training**

**Wednesday 19 & Thursday 20 October 2016**

**To be held at CIWEM, 106-109 Saffron Hill, London, EC1N 8QS**

The aim of the two days is to give trainees the opportunity for consultant led, interactive teaching to equip them with knowledge and skills for specialist medical microbiology and virology practice. The organisers intend that this event will be of benefit to those preparing for their Medical Microbiology and Virology RCPATH Part 1, Part 2 or Year 1 OSPE.

### **Advances in Transfusion Medicine**

**Thursday 24 & Friday 25 November 2016**

**10 CPD credits both days**

**The Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 0AE**

This two day meeting organised on behalf of the College brings together experts from various clinical disciplines with leaders in transfusion science to provide a broad overview of current key developments informing evidence based practice. We are also pleased to include the College Foundation Lecture, emphasising the increasing importance of blood group genomics and application to clinical practice.

### **NEWS FROM EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS**

#### **National Pathology Information Standards - Regional Collaborative Workshops**

The Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) Diagnostics Data Service (DDS) is hosting two online sessions via Webex to discuss planned changes to the national Pathology Coding and Messaging Standards. The workshops are aimed at laboratory managers, pathology IT managers, lead clinicians or IT system suppliers.

Each workshop will examine:

- What the adoption of new standards will mean for organisations.
- The plans for completion and roll-out of the National Laboratory Medicine Catalogue (NLMC).
- How IT systems and work processes will cope.
- What HSCIC can do to support staff through the changes needed to achieve the National Information Board 'roadmap'.

WebEx sessions are taking place to share feedback from the events. These will be recorded and available to share with colleagues.

- 22 March, 10am – 12pm
- 24 March, 2pm - 4pm

For more information and to register for this event please contact:

[diagnosticsdata@hscic.gov.uk](mailto:diagnosticsdata@hscic.gov.uk)

#### **Masters in Molecular Pathology- September 2016, Edinburgh**

This course is particularly relevant to trainees in pathology and a number of fully funded places (salary, fees and laboratory consumables) are available from the Medical Research Council (MRC). Further information at [Masters in Molecular Pathology](#). Additional details are available from the Course Director, Professor Simon Herrington at [simon.herrington@ed.ac.uk](mailto:simon.herrington@ed.ac.uk)

#### **The Pathological Society 2016 Undergraduate Essay Award**

A prize of £500 will be awarded to the best undergraduate essay on the following subject: *Discuss recent advances in our understanding of the pathobiology of non-coding RNA*. Deadline: 31 August 2016.

Visit [The Pathological Society Essay Award](#)

**Standards for Microbiology Investigations (SMIs)**

- [SMI B 44: Investigation of orthopaedic implant associated infections](#)

**OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST**

**For a list of external conferences see:**

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

**Joint UK Cancer Cytogenetics Group and Centre for Haemato-Oncology Annual Conference - 22-23 March 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/joint-uk-cancer-cytogenetics-group-and-centre-for-haemato-oncology-annual-conference.html>

**Guy's and St Thomas' Aortic Graft Infection Symposium - 1 April 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/guy-s-and-st-thomas--aortic-graft-infection-symposium-1.html>

**BSGCT 2016 Annual Conference - 15 April 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/bsgct-2016-annual-conference.html>

**DigitalPath Europe 2016 - 18-19 May 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/digitalpath-europe-2016.html>

**UKNEQAS Quality Assurance Masterclass - 16 June 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/uk-neqas-for-immunology-immunochemistry-allergy-quality-assurance-masterclass.html>

**UKNEQAS Annual Participants Meeting 2016 EQA: Turning theory into practice - 17 June 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/uk-neqas-for-immunology-immunochemistry-and-allergy-annual-participants-meeting-2016-eqa-turning-theory-into-practice.html>

**Nottingham Pathology 2016 - 28 June-1 July 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/nottingham-pathology-2016.html>

**European Conference on Donor Health and Management (ECDHM) - 13-15 July 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/european-conference-on-donor-health-and-management--ecdhm-.html>

**Lymphoma Management - 8-19 July 2016**

<https://www.rcpath.org/event/lymphoma-management-.html>

**March 2016. The Royal College of Pathologists • 4th Floor • 21 Prescott Street • London, E1 8BB • United Kingdom**







