



The Royal College of Pathologists
Pathology: the science behind the cure



President's e-newsletter – August 2018

A quick poll...

The new Secretary of State for Health and Social Care is keen on technology.

We are pressing for more investment in better IT for pathology. Our rapid response poll will give us some idea of what you think about the state of your current IT. One button only!

Does the IT at work make you:

- More efficient
- Less efficient

Roll-out of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) primary screening into the NHS Cervical Cancer Screening Programme in England

We raised our concerns with NHS England (NHSE) about the process for the transition from cytology screening to full roll-out of HPV primary screening in December 2019.

We hosted a very constructive meeting with PHE, NHSE and professional groups in June. Much of our advice has been taken on board with the [announcement from NHSE](#) that it has agreed to begin a revised one-stage procurement process to support the roll-out of HPV primary screening into the NHS Cervical Cancer Screening Programme.

Making the transition safe, and ensuring that future staffing is secure is paramount. Cervical screening is a key service for cancer prevention, and we will continue to work to ensure that the programme works well for women.

Equality!

We are very pleased with the recent announcement that boys will also be vaccinated against HPV. Thanks to all involved in the development of the vaccines, clinical trials, collecting and analysing data, providing the evidence to support policy, as well as those making it happen. This is a move that the College strongly supports and it is absolutely the right decision.

Three new medical undergraduate leads for the College

We welcome three new medical undergraduate leads for the College. Working across key areas to raise awareness and promote pathology to medical undergraduates, they are:

- Angharad Davies (Wales) – Foundation
- Hasan Rizvi (London) – Education
- Richard Byers (Manchester) – Engagement

We all had a great time at the Undergraduate Summer School last weekend, as did the students....lot of future pathologists!

On the Agenda

We have launched the first in our series of *On the agenda* webpages, which outline the College's position on topical areas in pathology. Each page contains links to further information:

- [Cancer diagnostics](#)
- [The pathology workforce](#)
- [IT and Laboratory Information Management Systems \(LIMS\)](#)
- [Digital pathology](#)

Early Day Motion on cancer medicines

We were pleased to support an [Early Day Motion on cancer medicines](#) in parliament. We are concerned that cancer patients in Northern Ireland have faced two years of inequitable access to cancer medicines compared to the rest of the UK as they are not able to access medicines recommended by NICE under the NICE/Cancer Drugs Fund process. We will continue to ensure this issue is raised in parliament.

Coming up over the next month

The first of the workforce reports! More Lab tours, a meeting with Matt Hancock, Bood Cancer awareness work, new patient safety bulletins and close working with CRUK to promote the expertise of pathologists in supporting diagnosis, treatment and monitoring of patients with cancer, as well as cancer prevention. I look forward to yet another busy month!

Professor Jo Martin

President, The Royal College of Pathologists

E: jo.martin@rcpath.org [@JoMartin_path](https://twitter.com/JoMartin_path)



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COLLEGE NEWS

Tax relief for clinical scientist trainees

Following last year's announcement that UK medical trainees can claim tax relief on their FRCPATH examination fees, HMRC has now confirmed that College exams for Higher Specialist Scientist Training (HSST) trainees are also now eligible. Members can submit claims for the last four years. Further information about how to claim relief can be found [here](#).

Oliver Memorial Trainee Travel Bursary – Last chance to apply

The College administers the Oliver Memorial Fund, set up in memory of Percy Lane Oliver, who in 1921 created the world's first voluntary blood donor service.

The Percy Oliver Transfusion Medicine Trainee Travel Bursary is offered each spring and autumn up to £500. If you are a trainee clinician or clinical scientist, enrolled in a recognised UK training scheme and working in the field of transfusion science, and planning to attend a national or international blood transfusion meeting, then please apply.

Further details and an application form can be downloaded from [the website](#). Deadline is 5 pm on Monday 27 August 2018.

If you have any queries about the bursary please email TAC@rcpath.org – The Transfusion Medicine SAC.

GET INVOLVED IN THE COLLEGE

Medical Microbiology and Virology College Specialty Training Committee (CSTC)

The CSTC for Medical Microbiology and Virology are seeking a Virology Co-Chair to oversee the work of the committee. The committee is responsible for the oversight of training and assessment in their specialty to develop curricula, assessments and guidance to the standard required by the General Medical Council. For more information, please visit the [College website](#).

Online Trainee Registration

Online registration is now open to StRs appointed this August to a run-through training programme with a National Training Number. [Further information and the online form.](#)

Call for Trustee Board nominations

Nominations are open for two Honorary Officer positions at the College, which take effect from the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 15 November:

- Treasurer (to replace Dr David Cassidy)
- Assistant Registrar (to replace Mrs Avril Wayte).

Nominations close on Monday 3 September and we invite members to nominate suitable candidates:

You should have received an email with details of how to submit a nomination from Electoral Reform Services, which is managing the election on behalf of the College. If you have not received the email, please contact elections2018@rcpath.org.

Clinical Director of Safety and Quality

The College is recruiting for the new post of Clinical Director of Safety and Quality, who will be responsible for developing the College's patient safety agenda.

Full details of this opportunity and how to apply are [available online](#).

NEW PUBLICATIONS

- [Guidelines on autopsy practice: Autopsy for suspected acute anaphylaxis](#)
- [Dataset for histopathological reporting of cancer of unknown primary \(CUP\) and malignancy of unknown primary origin \(MUO\)](#)

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Spotlight on digital pathology and healthcare tech at special RCPATH event at British Science Festival

The College is running a panel discussion event, *The robot will see you now* as part of the [British Science Festival](#)'s [Medical Sciences Section](#) programme on 13 September in the medical school at the University of Hull. This 1-hour public discussion event will involve four expert speakers from different areas of medicine, healthcare and health technology research, including Dr Darren Treanor, the College's digital pathology lead. The event will be chaired by Professor Kate Gould, Chair of the RCPATH England Regional Council and will include short presentations, an audience Q&A and a reception after the main session, where attendees and speakers can continue their discussions. The event is free and open to all. For more information, and to reserve free tickets, visit the [event page](#).

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pathology Futures: The Role of Genomics in Disease Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention – 14 November

The role of genomics in the diagnosis and treatment of disease is growing at a phenomenal pace, allowing patient care to become more personalised. As a result, pathologists are not just involved in an initial diagnosis; but in the entire treatment pathway of a patient. Where a disease has a genetic basis and molecular testing is performed, the role of the pathologist in guiding treatment through the course of a patient's therapy is crucial.

As part of the College's International Pathology Day (IPD) celebrations, the College has partnered with [The Pathologist](#) to host this one-day event, exploring the important role and contribution of pathologists, scientists, and laboratory medicine professionals in the treatment pathway and care of patients, and how the results from research undertaken in the laboratory are directly used to develop new ways to treat patients and combat disease. The day will be filled with talks, interactive exhibitions, workshop presentations, and the College's popular International Pathology Day Roundtable.

[Book a place now](#) before September 2018 to access our discounted early bird registration fee.

We are also keen to hear from College members who are involved in the field of genomics, drug discovery, design, research and development with a view to showcasing their work as part of the 2018 International Pathology Day celebrations. If you would like to get involved, please email us at pathologyday@rcpath.org

100 miles for the College! Prudential RideLondon | Sunday 29 July 2018

College fellow and Regional Council for Wales's member [Dr Jim Seale](#) completed this year's Prudential RideLondon challenge, which took place on Sunday 29 July 2018. Prudential Ride London is seen as the world's greatest festival of cycling. This year's event is the sixth of its kind. A total of 26,720 riders completed the event.

Dr Seale began his journey from 9am in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, then followed a 100-mile route on closed roads through the capital and into Surrey's stunning countryside. With leg-testing climbs and a route made famous by the world's best cyclists at the London 2012 Olympics, it's a truly rigorous experience. After heading through Leatherhead, Oxshott and Esher the route took Dr Seale back into London through Kingston and over Putney Bridge to the Embankment all the way alongside the Thames and across Parliament Square and up Whitehall. The route continued through to Trafalgar Square, under Admiralty Arch before a spectacular finish on The Mall.

You can still support Dr Jim Seale by visiting his [fundraising page](#) to raise much-needed funds to support the implementation and evaluation of a human papillomavirus (HPV) screening pilot project in Zimbabwe.

HPV is the cause of almost all cervical cancer cases and is responsible for an important fraction of other anogenital and head and neck cancers. Current estimates indicate that in Zimbabwe every year 2,270 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 1,451 (64%) die from the disease. This pilot project aims to reduce mortality rates through the introduction of a screening programme and the training of health workers to build local capacity and sustainability.

New appointment: International Regional Advisor for Western Pacific

Professor Dr Looi Lai-Meng has been recently appointed as the International Regional Advisor for Western Pacific . Professor Lai-Meng is a distinguished Professor in the Department of Pathology, University of Malaya. Professor Lai-Meng is an Executive Committee Member at the InterAcademy Partnership for Health and a Past-President for the World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and also a Senior Fellow at Academy of Sciences Malaysia.

5th Annual Breast Cancer Forum - What Causes Breast Cancer? What Cures It? - London, Friday 14 September 2018

The College has partnered with the Royal Society of Medicine and Pink Ribbon to deliver this year's Breast Cancer Forum. For the first time, a special session that will explore a range of international perspectives will be held at the forum. Organised by the College and chaired by Dr Rachael Liebmann, Vice President for Communications, confirmed panel speakers include:

- Dr Hania Fadl, Founder and Chief Executive of the Khartoum Breast Cancer Care Centre (Sudan)
- Dr Nada Alwan, Professor of Pathology, University of Baghdad & Director, National Cancer Research Center (Iraq)
- Dr Abeer Shabaan, Consultant Pathologist, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham & Breast Subspecialty Lead, West Midlands Clinical Research Network (UK & Egypt)
- Dr Shahin Sayed, Consultant Histopathologist, Aga Khan University Hospital Nairobi & Secretary-General, College of Pathologists of East, Central and Southern Africa (Kenya)

Members can access a 10% discount. For further information and to book your place, please visit our [events page](#).

Are you working on research in this field? We'd love to hear from you and share your work through this forum. Please email [Faaria Hussain](#), International Projects Officer for further information.

Become a Mentor for Medical Microbiology or Chemical Pathology overseas trainees!

International Trainee Support Scheme (ITSS)

The International Trainee Support Scheme (ITSS) provides mentoring and guidance to overseas doctors and scientists who are preparing to sit the College's FRCPath Part 1 and Part 2 exams. This year, the scheme will be

opened for overseas trainees wishing to sit for the relevant examination in medical microbiology and chemical pathology. Mentoring is an essential component of the scheme and we would like to hear from any Fellows or trainees (ST3-5) in medical microbiology and chemical pathology who would be interested in becoming a volunteer mentor.

Please complete our [online form](#) in the first instance. If you would like any further information, please email [Zuzana Lescisinova](mailto:Zuzana.Lescisinova), International Education Officer.

COLLEGE CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Disruptive Technology in Pathology

Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 October 2018

To be held at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, 27 Sussex Place, London NW1 4RG

CPD credits: 11

This is a joint event with the Association of Clinical Pathologists. Rapid advances in technology are impacting all areas of pathology. Over the next few years we can expect to see even more amazing innovation enter our world and our practice. This meeting highlights some of the most advanced recent developments and the ways in which these developments are about to change patient care. This is a special meeting bringing together pathologists, industry and world experts across a range of areas, to showcase innovations that are changing healthcare, and are changing the way we think about pathology practice.

The Golden Hour – Why do injured people die?

Saturday 10 November 2018

To be held at the Wellcome Collection, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE

CPD credits: 5

The Golden Hour Conference is a meeting for key figures in the field of pre-hospital trauma ranging from clinicians, radiologists, pathologists and representatives of Her Majesty's Coroner to anyone who is interested in helping the clinical pre-hospital world understand more fully the causes of death in injured patients. This conference will mark a new era in transforming current knowledge and understanding of why patients die from traumatic injury. It will be significant in helping to change the culture of working between clinicians, radiologists, pathologists and coroners in the area of death from injury in order to build a case for change in this area, as well as prompting the development of new therapies and strategies that could reduce the number of deaths from severe injury.

Advances in Transfusion Medicine 2018

Thursday 22 and Friday 23 November 2018

To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London E1 8QT

CPD credits: 11

There are ongoing significant advances in transfusion medicine and science with high quality research supporting evidence-based practice. This two-day meeting brings together experts from various clinical disciplines together with

leaders in transfusion science to provide a broad overview of current key developments. The meeting will be of wide interest to all those involved in transfusion medicine.

IAC Tutorials

Monday 3 to Wednesday 5 December 2018

To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT

CPD credits: 13 for all three days

The British Association for Cytopathology (BAC) and the Royal College of Pathologists (RCPATH) are delighted to host the IAC tutorial in London at the new RCPATH premises. The tutorial covers a wide range of topics, providing up-to-date information from international experts in the field. The talks will be followed by PowerPoint based slide seminars with plenty of opportunity to interact with the faculty during and after sessions.

Advanced Molecular Brain Tumour Classification with Epigenetic Profiling

Friday 3 May 2019

To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT

CPD credits: 7

This one-day workshop will provide a multifaceted view of epigenetic profiling in adult and paediatric brain tumour diagnostics. The workshop will convey the biological principles of epigenetics in health and disease with a focus on brain tumours and explain how methylation profiles of brain tumours are detected with current array technologies. The day will be supplemented with an interactive practical session where participants will have the opportunity to discuss the diagnostic approach of challenging adult and paediatric CNS tumour cases. These cases will be available for viewing in a digital format prior and during, the workshop for registered participants.

NEWS FROM EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Clinical Trials Regulation; MHRA update

As part of UK's exit negotiations from the EU, the [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency](#) is working to ensure continuity to support clinical trials and has issued an update on Clinical Trials Regulation.

For more information please visit: [Clinical Trials regulation](#)

The Doctors for the NHS Essay Prize in collaboration with the BMJ

In recognition of the NHS's 70th anniversary, Doctors for the NHS (DFNHS) are offering a prize of £500 for the best essay with the title:

- Our profession in today's NHS

Open to all doctors in training with a first prize of £500 and a second prize of £200.

The winning essay will be published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ), subject to editorial approval. Winners will be announced at the DFNHS Annual Meeting in London on Saturday 6 October.

Essays should be under 2000 words. Closing date for submission 16 September 2018. For more information visit: [The Doctors for the NHS essay prize](#) or email doctors4thenhs@gmail.com

General Medical Council (GMC) independent review into how gross negligence manslaughter workshops

A number of workshops are being held to gather feedback as part of the GMC's independent review into how gross negligence manslaughter, and culpable homicide in Scotland, are applied to medical practice. The working group for the independent review, chaired by Leslie Hamilton, is keen to hear from doctors across all career stages and specialties. Workshops will take place across the UK in September and October in Belfast, Manchester, London, Edinburgh and Cardiff. [Register your interest here](#).

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

See [external conferences](#)

- [Histopathology of the Bone Marrow](#) – 10 September 2018
- [HIS 2018](#) – 26-28 November 2018
- [Breast Pathology Masterclass Rome 2018](#) – 19-20 September 2018
- [Infection Prevention 2018](#) – 30 September- 2 October 2018
- [Embryo biopsy workshop](#) – 11-12 September 2018
- [Challenge or Conform: Finding Consensus in an Evolving Specialty](#) – 27-28 September 2018
- [GI Pathology Update](#) – 10 December 2018
- [UK CLL Forum Clinical Sciences Day - Defining High Risk CLL - Beyond p53](#) – 28 September 2018
- [UK Myeloma Forum Autumn Day - Unusual Presentations of Gammopathies and Associated Conditions](#) – 8 November 2018
- [UK Biobanking Showcase 2018](#) – 27 November 2018
- [Molecular Diagnostics Training School](#) – 24-26 September 2018
- [Image Analysis Training School](#) – 27-28 September 2018
- [Immunomodulation, GVHD and Transplant Dilemmas](#) – 14 September 2018
- [Transplants and T Cells: new solutions for old problems?](#) – 25 September 2018
- [2nd East Midlands Laboratory Diagnostic Mycology Course](#) – 19-20 September 2018
- [UK MDS Forum Education Day](#) – 5 November 2018
- [BSBMT Education Day](#) – 9 October 2018
- [St Mark's gastrointestinal histopathology workshop](#) – 7 September 2018
- [Educational Workshops 2018: The Ongoing Challenges of MRSA](#) – 17-21 September 2018
- [BAGP Week Long Course](#) – 17-21 September 2018
- [BDIAP/BSG/UKLPG meeting on liver and lower GI pathology](#) – 22-24 November 2018

- [Federation of Infection Societies \(FIS\) 2018](#) – 13-15 November 2018
- [Current Perspectives in Haematological Malignancies](#) – 10 October 2018

