



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



President's e-newsletter – November 2019

President's Messages of the Month

There is such a lot going on at the moment and some excellent progress across a range of our activities. As I look forward to visiting Gateshead, Newcastle and Aberdeen over the coming months and more #LabTours, I look forward to the opportunities to keep you up to date with all our work.

National Pathology Week – 4 - 10 November

National Pathology Week (NPW) is in full swing! Pathologists and scientists everywhere are running hundreds of events celebrating just how amazing pathology is. Do share your events and activities with us via social media using #PathologyWeek.

We are also looking to collect your ideas for making pathology even better by asking you and your team to post your everyday innovations as part of our [social media competition](#) #LabTopTips. Post your videos and tips and the best will win a team restaurant voucher. You can find out more about what's happening during NPW via our [website](#).

Celebrating International Pathology Day – 13 November

We are delighted to be hosting a one-day conference in celebration of [International Pathology Day](#) on 13 November. On the day we will be partnering with [The Pathologist Magazine](#), as well as [Visopharm](#) and [Sonic Healthcare UK](#), bringing together a global audience in a celebration of a shared passion for pathology.

This year the themes will focus on advances in rapid and point-of-care diagnostic testing. Key-note speakers will cover a range of topics ranging from a pathology service offered to patients for self-collection, to recent point-of-care diagnostic developments in eastern and southern Africa. This will be followed by a live-streamed

roundtable in the afternoon focusing on a *question of quality*, enabling the opportunity for global participation, creating a truly international pathology day!

There's still time to register for what promises to be a fantastic event by visiting [the College's website](#).

Annual General Meeting - 7 November

You are all very welcome to this event, where we will be announcing the next President elect! [Visit College AGM \(login required\)](#).

Funding for training from Health Education England for extended and advanced roles in histopathology

I am very pleased to be able to share the news that [Health Education England](#) (HEE) has announced funding for training for extended and advanced roles in histopathology.

In response to workforce challenges and the success of the introduction of the College's Advanced Specialist Diplomas in Histopathology dissection and reporting, offered in conjunction with the [Institute of Biomedical Science](#) (IBMS), HEE has announced that it will support the training costs for two individuals per NHS Improvement recognised network to undertake one of the histopathology training programmes offered by the College and IBMS.

The College with the IBMS have developed a number of advanced qualifications within histopathology to support roles in cut-up and in specific areas of reporting, which will enable senior scientific staff to undertake a greater range of activities, supporting patient care.

This is a very welcome recognition of the value of the College's qualifications as a means for developing the scientist workforce. For more details, [see the letter from HEE](#). You can also register your interest by emailing: nhsipathservices@nhs.net

Round-up

- I was delighted to welcome to the College the new Chief Medical Officer for England, Professor Chris Whitty. We had a great discussion about workforce, genomics, IT, digital, AI, transfusion, antimicrobial resistance, flu and lots more.
- I visited the world class faculty in Nottingham to see the brilliant [Molecular Diagnostics Training School](#) run by Prof Mohammed Ilyas. Professor Ming Du gave an excellent talk on lymphoid cancers – supporting care with fantastic science, and training the next generation! I was also delighted to meet colleagues from Indonesia while I was there. A great example of learning together.
- We had a wonderful session at the [Neuron Pod, Centre of the Cell](#), organised brilliantly by the College's public engagement team and Vice President Dr Rachael Liebmann, where I gave a TED-style talk on genetic testing. There were some great questions from the audience.
- I was delighted to chair the [Motor Neuron Disease Association](#) biomedical research advisory panel, full of great expertise, wisdom and lots of fantastic science. I was also pleased to see some excellent neuropathology research there too.

- It was a real pleasure to speak at the Manchester Medical Society, along with Sarah Coupland, Director of the North West Cancer Research Centre, at their meeting on disruptive technologies in the future of pathology.
- I was very proud to be able to support such great colleagues at the Institute of Biomedical Science Congress 2019. The programme of lectures, presentations and workshops showcased the increasing breadth of biomedical science.
- I participated in a successful joint roundtable discussion at the Conservative party conference, organised by the Royal College of Physicians and the British Medical Association. A number of key workforce themes emerged including the need for multidisciplinary working and urgent action on recruitment and retention. We had a frank discussion with good joint messages that were well received.
- The European Association for Professions in Biomedical Science hosted a superb meeting in Genoa. It was fantastic to meet such excellent colleagues from all over Europe.
- There have been some really useful meetings taking place across the country. Dr Adam Christian, a College Fellow, attended a workshop at the National Assembly for Wales on key challenges for lung cancer care in Wales, looking at the current and potential policy interventions that could improve patient outcomes and experience. Dr Jonathan Kell, Wales Regional Council Chair, met Chris Bryant MP (Rhondda, Labour) to discuss histopathology workforce concerns in Wales. Chris Bryant has previously suggested in parliament and the media that there should be 'golden hellos' to help recruit to parts of Wales.

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COLLEGE NEWS

Mapping out our activities: November 2019-January 2020

The College and its officers organise and support activities around the world, including across the UK and the Republic of Ireland, to ensure its work caters to and represents the incredible range of perspectives and experiences of the diverse pathology workforce.

The [College's interactive map](#) provides a snapshot of key activities coming up in November, December and January. It also documents the President's lab tour and the location of regional representatives, so you can see the network of pathologists and scientists who bring local issues to the fore at a national level. The map is updated quarterly with the latest news about what's happening near you.

Celebrate Christmas in style at Events@No6 and get a 20% discount!

Our Christmas packages are designed for 40-200 guests, with canapes, bowl food and fine dining options. We can also create bespoke proposals based on your requirements. College members are entitled to an exclusive 20% [room hire](#) discount. E-mail sales@eventsatno6.com for bookings and more information.

REGIONAL NEWS

Scotland Regional Symposium 2019

Wednesday 20 November 2019 (11am–3pm)

To be held at The Rox Hotel, 17-23 Market Street, Aberdeen, AB11 5PY

CPD credits: 3

The Scotland Regional Symposium will include presentations on subjects at the forefront of pathology in Scotland:

- College President, Professor Jo Martin, outlining key College priorities and policy areas.
- Dr David Stirling will present on the Scottish National Laboratory workforce.
- Dr Bill Bartlett will give an update on the Scottish National Laboratories Programme,
- Professor Keith Gardiner, from the Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency (NIMDTA), will be joining the event to speak about NIMDTA's VALUED strategy.
- Joanne Brinklow, the College's Director of Learning will give a talk about *New Perspectives in Pathology Curricula*.

Attendance at the symposium is free, but we require formal registration. Further information and registration for the event are available via the above hyperlink. If you have any queries, please contact Jessica Zago, Governance and Committee Services Officer. Email at Jessica.zago@rcpath.org

GET INVOLVED IN THE COLLEGE

Trainees' Advisory Committee (TAC) roles

Trainees take up an active role on the TAC! The committee covers all specialties and all College regions. Representatives on the TAC are responsible for raising issues on behalf of trainees in their specialty. The committee representatives are also active members of the [College's specialty committees](#); participating in discussions and informing the committee of the views of specialty trainees.

Why should I apply?

Make a difference – work with other trainees in your specialty, network with your peers, get involved with the College's work and support your professional development.

What TAC roles are available?

Clinical Science Trainee Representative (Deputy)

The deadline for applications is 5pm on Friday 29 November 2019 and further details about the role can be found at [TAC roles](#).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Discover Pathology Careers event – please encourage undergraduates to attend our event

We still have tickets left for our exciting and unique pathology careers event at the College on 9 November as part of [National Pathology Week 2019](#). [Discover Pathology Careers](#) will involve interactive talks by consultants from a number of the pathology specialties as well as structured networking sessions – see the full programme [here](#). Please help us spread the word to medical, biomedical and veterinary undergraduates by forwarding them the [event booking link](#).

Video guides offer an easy way to get involved in National Pathology Week

To support our popular written activity resource packs, we have created a range of short hands-on activity videos, which explain how to run quick and easy hands-on activities.

We hope the new set of visual guides will inspire lots of interactive engagement among our members and other event organisers, particularly during National Pathology Week (4–10 November). They are all on our website, with accompanying written resources, and on our [YouTube channel](#).

It's not too late to tell us what you're running for National Pathology Week

If you're running an event for [National Pathology Week](#) (4–10 November), please tell us about it, however small it is! You can register events that are open to the public [on our website](#) so they can be advertised on our [public events page](#). Whether your event is open to the public or not you can share what you're up to by posting photos or videos about your preparation for the event and/or at the event itself on social media. If you tweet, please remember to tag us [@RCPPath](#) and include [#PathologyWeek](#).

New consultations

- [Guideline on autopsy practice: Precautions for high-risk infectious autopsies](#)

New publications

- [Tissue pathway for histopathological examination of the placenta](#)
- [Dataset for histopathological reporting of carcinomas of the pancreas, ampulla of Vater and common bile duct](#)
- [Dataset for histopathological reporting of neuroendocrine neoplasms of the gastroenteropancreatic tract](#)
- [Best practice recommendations: Histopathology and cytopathology of limited or no clinical value](#)
- [Dataset for histopathological reporting of oesophageal and gastric carcinoma](#)
- [Tissue pathway for dermatopathology](#)

COLLEGE CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

[Digital Pathology: Best practice recommendations and validation](#)

Friday 15 November 2019

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

CPD credits: 6

The aim of this event is to introduce the RCPATH best practice recommendations for digital pathology and explain digital pathology validation for primary diagnosis. Many labs are looking to use digital pathology. The RCPATH guidelines are designed to get you up and running quickly with digital pathology, while ensuring that safety and quality are maintained. This event will give attendees an overview of the approach to digital pathology validation, and practical tips on using them.

[Early Detection Innovation Sandpit and Award](#)

18–20 November 2019

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

CPD credits: TBC

Cancer Research UK (CRUK) is teaming up with the Science and Technologies Facilities Council (STFC) to run the next Early Detection Innovation Sandpit to encourage new collaborations and promote new thinking in the field of early detection of cancer.

The sandpit, from 18 to 20 November, hosted by the College, will focus on the application of artificial intelligence and related technologies to digital pathology.

More information on the scientific theme of the sandpit and how to apply can be found [here](#). Questions can be directed to Dr Alexis Webb, CRUK Senior Research Funding Manager in Early Detection, alexis.webb@cancer.org.uk

[The Golden Hour Conference II - The pathology of traumatic injury](#)

Friday 22 and Saturday 23 November 2019

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

CPD credits: TBC

Our second Golden Hour Conference once again brings together clinicians and others who are passionate about transforming outcomes for injured patients. Building on the success of last year's event, the team will bring together local and international experts who will help us define the path to novel diagnoses and interventions. It is increasingly recognised that the opportunity to intervene in potentially preventable trauma deaths occurs in the pre-hospital and early emergency room phase. Increasingly, services are working much more closely with Her Majesty's Coroner's and pathologists and this is transforming our understanding of why our patients die.

Supported by College, the conference is an opportunity to build on the lessons learned from previous years and to bring about further exciting discussions about the future of trauma care. As an additional section this year, there will be a focus on the golden hour within the context of major incidents and multiple patient events, learning lessons of best practice from around the world.

[Cytopathology Study Day](#)

Friday 6 December 2019

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

CPD credits: 6

This annual event is an update for pathologists and BMS working in cytopathology. It will provide an overview of College documents relevant to cytopathology that have been

written or revised this year. The recently proposed international terminology for reporting serous fluid samples will be presented. There is also a session dedicated to cytotechnology and molecular testing.

Haematology 2020: Updates, Controversies, Uncertainties

Tuesday 17 December 2019

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

CPD credits: TBC

Join the Intercollegiate Committee on Haematology (ICH) for a half-day, interactive meeting to debate and discuss key issues facing haematology consultants and trainees. With short presentations from key opinion leaders and room for discussion, don't miss an opportunity to debate important issues facing haematology now and in the future. Senior representatives from the medical royal colleges, British Society for Haematology, Association of Clinical Pathologists, British Society of Blood and Marrow Transplantation and British Blood Transfusion Society will be present to inform and energise the discussions and debates.

With a highly discounted rate of £30 to attend this meeting, don't miss out what is going to be a hugely exciting event.

Innovation and Technology: Clinical Scientists Challenging Healthcare

Boundaries

Thursday 30 January 2020

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

CPD credits: 7

This event will showcase the role the clinical scientist plays in translating innovations into the clinic. Internationally leading academics will present examples of emerging and postulated technologies and discuss how they can revolutionise healthcare. Leading clinical scientists will present on current and emerging innovations in the use of novel technology in healthcare. The event will provide opportunities for networking and open discussion to direct future interdisciplinary research and technology development.

2nd Bi-Annual UK Endocrine Pathology Society/RCPATH Endocrine Pathology Update

Thursday 6 and Friday 7 February 2020

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

CPD credits: 9

Hear the latest developments in endocrine pathology and oncology from nationally and internationally recognised experts in the field. Join us for a two-day update on endocrine pathology, covering topics including:

- the thyroid cancer 'epidemic'
- pathological criteria for papillary thyroid carcinoma
- surgical approaches to thyroid cancer and pathology
- reporting thyroid FNA cytology using the UK 'THY' system
- WHO 2017 classification of thyroid tumours 2017: NIFTP, FTUMP, WDTUMP, WDTNOS (emphasis on diagnostic pitfalls)
- risk stratification of thyroid cancer
- pitfalls in thyroid diagnosis and medicolegal issues
- the thyroid patient – what the oncologist needs from pathology
- update on new therapies and clinical trials for thyroid cancer
- multidisciplinary working in thyroid disease
- MDTs, datasets and UK national guidelines

- case-based discussions.

Who should attend? Consultant pathologists and senior trainees reporting on thyroid pathology.

Liver biopsy in the assessment of medical liver disease

Thursday 5 and Friday 6 March 2020

**To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT
CPD credits: 10**

This year two annual courses will be linked to provide a two-day course of lectures and practical experience in liver pathology. Delegates have the option of attending either or both days.

Day 1 – Liver biopsy in the assessment of medical liver disease

This course, organised by Professor Stefan Hübscher, will be delivered for the tenth time. Presentations by hepatologists and histopathologists cover the investigation of medical liver diseases. 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.

Day 2 – Histopathology workshop on liver pathology

This slide-based practical workshop is devised for consultants working outside specialist liver centres, and trainees in stage C or D who have an interest in liver pathology. It is designed to complement the annual course 'Liver biopsy in the assessment of medical liver disease', but also works as a standalone course.

Soft tissue tumors from infants to young adults: the age matters!

Thursday 19 and Friday 20 March 2020

**To be held at the Crowne Plaza Royal Victoria Sheffield, Victoria Station Road,
Sheffield S4 7YE**

CPD credits: 10

This event will be a case-based approach to the current major clinicopathologic issues in soft tissue tumours in different paediatric ages. The event is targeted at paediatric pathologists, histopathologists and trainees.

We will also be hosting a dinner at the Crown Plaza on the first evening of the event. This will be a great opportunity to network with colleagues and presenters attending the two-day event. Bookings can be made at the time of booking the conference. Please contact meetings@rcpath.org if you have any questions.

The Beautiful Brain

Thursday 23 and Friday 24 April 2020

**To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT
CPD credits: 13**

This special course focuses on the instrumental role of neuropathological study in the analysis of human brain disorders, examining prenatal onset, management, cause identification, genetic advice, and research on human neurodevelopment and new therapies.'

This course is for candidates interested in fetal medicine and human neurodevelopment, including pathologists, neuropathologists, neuro-radiologists, neurologists, gynaecologist-obstetricians, genetists and neuroscientists.'

Medical examiners: face-to-face training

Medical examiners will ensure accurate death certification across a local area, provide much needed support for bereaved families and improve patient safety. Medical examiners will be doctors registered with the GMC holding a current licence to practise. Any doctor wishing to work as a medical examiner will need to attend a face-to-face training day and complete mandatory e-learning modules.

The College is the lead medical royal college for medical examiners, providing the essential training which will equip you with the knowledge and skills you will need for this important role. The day will include short presentations, small group discussions of case scenarios and the opportunity to share experience. The training has been trialled with experienced medical examiners from pilot or early adopter sites.

A certificate will be awarded to provide evidence of completion of the face-to-face component of the medical examiner training. This training complements the e-learning which you must complete before attending this training. The College is inviting new medical examiners to join as members. This is dependent on completion of this training and evidence of satisfactory completion of the e-learning modules. **Please note** – It will be necessary to stay for the entire day to receive a certificate of completion of this training. You must have completed all 26 core e-learning modules before attending the face-to-face training.

Medical examiner: face-to-face training session

Tuesday 23 June 2020

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

Medical Examiner: face to face training session,

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

Medical examiner officer training

The College is leading on the training of medical examiners and has recently also agreed to provide training for medical examiner officers (MEOs). The training days are open to anyone who has been appointed, or is considering applying to work as an MEO.

MEOs work closely with medical examiners and will undertake tasks such as coordinating the completion of death certificates and referrals to the coroner, and speaking to clinicians and bereaved families. There is more information about the role of the MEO, including a [model job description](#).

MEOs may come from a wide range of backgrounds. It is anticipated that many will be nurses, healthcare scientists or bereavement officers by background, although this list is not exhaustive.

This face-to-face training day is the second part of basic MEO training. Everyone attending the course must have completed the 26 mandatory core e-learning modules before the date of the course. It is vital that you have completed this preparatory work to enable you to get the most out of the training day. The e-learning [can be accessed here](#). (Registration with e-Learning for Healthcare is required).

Medical examiner officer training

Wednesday 22 January 2020

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

Medical Examiner Officer training

Tuesday 17 March 2020

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

Medical Examiner Officer training

Wednesday 6 May 2020

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

For further information, please contact the RCPATH Conference Department at meetings@rcpath.org or on 020 7451 6700.

NEWS FROM EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS AND JOINT WORKING

New NHS app from NHS Digital

A new NHS app has been developed to provide people in England with more information about NHS services and greater control over how they use these services.

The app allows users to book appointments at their GP, manage repeat prescriptions, view their GP medical record and set organ donation preferences. More functions will be added soon. Feedback about the app is welcomed and can be given using the in-app feature.

The app can be downloaded via [Google Play](#) for Android and the [App Store](#) for Apple.

UK Advancing Healthcare Awards 2020

The awards are open for entry to allied health professions (AHPs) and healthcare scientists working across the UK, recognising and celebrating the achievements of these professions and those who work alongside with them. More information can be found at [Advancing Healthcare Awards](#).

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

11–12 November 2019

[BAUN 2019](#)

19 November 2019

Clinical User Meeting

For more information, please email: helen.macdougall@waters.com

19 November 2019

[21st London Lymphoma Forum](#)

20 November 2019

[Meeting the Challenges of Gram Negative Infections in the UK](#)

22 November 2019

Scottish Clinical Transfusion Advisory Committee Annual Educational Meeting

For more information, please email Shiona Fairweather: shiona.fairweather@nhs.net

25 November 2019

[Bloodwise Grantholders' day 2019](#)

6 December 2019

Diagnostic histopathology of liver tumours

For more information, please email: livertumourconference@outlook.com

21–24 January 2020

HIS/PHE Foundation course in infection prevention and control

30 March – 3 April 2020

Annual Conference 2020

28 January 2020

Post ASH Significant Highlights

29 January 2020

Post ASH Significant Highlights

4 February 2020

Post ASH Significant Highlights

See external conferences. RCPATH CPD accredited online resources can be found at the following [link](#)

