



What is pathology?

Event title	What is pathology?
Venue	The Hunterian Museum, London.
Target audience	School students.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Gain an appreciation of how the research of pathologists past and present has shaped modern day society.2. Use pattern recognition to interpret tissue changes in disease.3. Develop and perform a role play to demonstrate the change in our society's health as a result of the work of the pathologist under study.
Age range	13 – 16 years.
How was the event advertised?	Leaflets and posters and advertising by the Hunterian Museum.
Number attending	40 students.
Booking required?	Yes.
Length of event	2 hours.
Refreshments provided?	No.
Equipment needed	<p>Information sheets on the pathologists under study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexander Fleming.• Louis Pasteur.• Edward Jenner.• Robin Warren, and• Rene Laennec. <p>These sheets were made for the pathologists acting as group leaders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 light microscopes.• Paired normal and anonymised slides of diseased tissue - we used CIN, pneumonia, liver cirrhosis and Helicobacter pylori gastritis.• Laminated photos of the Pathologist under study and photos relevant to the pathologist's work.• A question based worksheet for each group structured so that the answers describe the work of the pathologist under study, with some questions based on exhibits within the museum.• Photos for the pattern recognition game.• Paper and pens for note taking and brainstorming.• Prizes for the winning group – we gave out music vouchers.
People needed	A co-ordinator and at least 4 pathologists (1 per group of students, but ideally two per group).

Printed material used	Photos and information sheets as described under "equipment needed" section.
Room set up	4 tables with chairs for 10 students around each table; stage area for performance of role plays which can be in the centre or at the front of the room.
Event programme	<p>The first 30 minutes were divided into the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brainstorming session at the start to establish student ideas on "what do pathologists do?" 2. Pattern recognition game which matches famous paintings to artists so that students can use these skills to recognize tissue changes in disease during the slide session. 3. An introduction to the Pathologist under study using the photocards and the worksheet. 4. Slide viewing using the light microscopes. <p>The second 30 minute session was spent taking the groups around the museum and showing them exhibits which relate to the work of their chosen pathologist, and answering some of the questions on the worksheet.</p> <p>The second hour was divided into two sessions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first 30 minutes was spent brainstorming a script and practicing their role play (the pathologists can also take part!) 2. The second 30 minutes: each group performs a 5 minute role play. Each role play is judged by an independent observer – you could use the invigilator. At the end of each play, there is an opportunity for questions and answers. At the end of all the plays, feedback is given by the judge and the winning group are awarded the prize. <p>We finished with a very brief presentation summarizing how the work of these pathologists has had an impact on the lives of the students present. We asked them to complete the same questionnaire distributed at the start, in order to evaluate any changes in perception. We ended with feedback forms to assess our event.</p>
Possible variations	Different historical or present day pathologists could be studied, different venues would be appropriate as long as there are exhibits or object handling opportunities relating to the chosen pathologists.
What did the audience particularly like?	The role plays – despite feeling reluctant to start working on them, the students enjoyed this aspect the most.
What surprised the audience?	That pathologists have had such a big impact on modern society.
What else would the audience have liked?	More time to look at the slides and to look around the museum.
How much preparation was involved?	The worksheets and information sheets on the chosen pathologist under study were given in advance to each pathologist leading a group of students. The group leader pathologists were also given the task of bringing slides relevant to their group and preparing any laminated photos to show on the day.
Any other comments?	
Images	
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