



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



## President's e-newsletter – September 2019

### President's Messages of the Month

#### World Patient Safety Day - Tuesday 17 September

We are delighted to support the first [World Patient Safety Day](#) on 17 September. Organised by the [World Health Organization](#), the College will be marking the day by launching its Patient Safety Strategy and new undergraduate pathology curriculum.

Patient safety is about maximising things that go right and minimising the things that go wrong for patients. It is one of three components of quality in healthcare alongside clinical effectiveness and patient experience and is a key priority for the College. The College produces a range of resources to support members in ensuring patient safety. We recently released our eighth [Patient Safety Bulletin: missing in action](#). Our [clinical guidelines and best practice recommendations](#) support practitioners across all areas. We are also compiling [a wide range of resources](#) to further knowledge and learning about patient safety.

#### Blood Cancer Awareness Month

[Blood Cancer Awareness Month](#) is an ideal opportunity to help raise awareness of the symptoms of blood cancer and the role of pathologists in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. To mark this, we will be [launching a video](#) telling the story of Florence, a patient diagnosed with myeloma and her diagnosis, care and treatment from the pathology team at St George's hospital in London. We have also supported [Myeloma UK](#) by posting myeloma nursing education modules on the [eCPD app](#).

To find out more about the issues affecting haematology services, we launched the haematology [workforce survey](#) last December. We know you want us to help make a case on your behalf to policy makers and parliamentarians. Please pass this to your local head and encourage them to participate!

### **Meeting NHS England's Chief Executive, Simon Stevens**

I had a very productive meeting with the [Chief Executive of the NHS England, Simon Stevens](#). We covered workforce, IT, networks, opportunities for clinical biochemistry, safety in genomics and the IT system for genomics including the needs in transfusion and what help AI might offer in the future. We have been asked to help him suggest priorities for AI support tools for histopathology.

### **Pensions**

Across the UK, senior healthcare staff, including many of our members, have been hit with high tax charges as a result of a pensions taper scheme. We have been working with Government and the [Academy of Medical Royal Colleges](#) to try and get a resolution.

### **College building shortlisted for further prestigious awards**

We are very proud that the College's building at 6 Alie Street has been shortlisted for a number of awards including for [Building Magazine Project of the Year](#). The Building Awards are the industry's longest running and most prestigious recognition of excellence.

The building has also been shortlisted by the [Brick Development Association](#) under the Education category against some stiff competition. This is great recognition for the building design and the College.

We are going to be open to the public on Saturday 21 September as part of [Open House London](#). This is the world's largest architecture festival, which gives free public access to buildings over one weekend in September each year.

Members, of course, are welcome to drop in at any time [during normal business hours](#) and make use of the members' area. Members are also entitled to an exclusive 20% room hire discount on [any room bookings](#) – our building really is a wonderful venue in which to host events, conferences and meetings. E-mail [sales@eventsatno6.com](mailto:sales@eventsatno6.com) for bookings and more information.

### **Round-up**

- It was great to meet Prof Ian Cree, Head of the World Health Organization's Classification of Tumours Group at the [International Agency for Research on Cancer](#). There is excellent work in progress and it's exciting to explore what the College can do in collaboration.
- We supported the [government consultation on the mandatory fortification of flour with folic acid](#). Thank you to members who provided their views for this response. In the UK between 700 and 900 pregnancies each year are affected by neural tube defects that can cause severe disabilities, mandatory folic acid fortification of bread flour could prevent approximately 150 of these cases.
- The arrival of a new Prime Minister has inevitably meant changes in the [Department of Health and Social Care](#). While Matt Hancock provides continuity as Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, new ministers in the department include Jo Churchill MP, Chris Skidmore MP and Nadine Dorries MP. We have written directly to them to ensure our concerns on areas such as workforce and investment in IT remain on the agenda and are arranging to meet them to brief them on pathology.
- We have been pushing for investment in Laboratory Information Management Systems for some time and it was pleasing to see £12m investment for this in

North and East Yorkshire. We will continue to ask for further investment to ensure that we have IT that is fit for purpose to effectively manage samples, and associated data, and make working life easier for our members.

- I was delighted to visit Hemel Hempstead hospital as part of my #LabTour visits and I was really pleased to present a [College Excellence Award for Education](#) to the mortuary team who do such sterling work in training.

**Professor Jo Martin**  
**President, The Royal College of Pathologists**  
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## **COLLEGE NEWS**

### **Histopathologist wanted to join the working group on cancer services**

The College's Working Group on Cancer Services is seeking a new histopathologist member with a broad knowledge base in histopathology reporting who is interested in clinical guideline development, information management and improving the standards of service delivery. Further information and a role description is [available on our website](#).

To apply for this role, please send an expression of interest of no more than 350 words together with your abridged CV to Maria Marrero Feo, Clinical Effectiveness Manager, by 13 September 2019. E-mail: [maria.marrero-feo@rcpath.org](mailto:maria.marrero-feo@rcpath.org) or call 020 7451 6737.

### **International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting (ICCR) Dataset Consultation**

Draft ICCR Endocrine datasets for pathology reporting are [now available for review](#). The documents will be available for comments until Friday 27 September 2019.

### **Educational Update**

**Monday 4 November 2019**

**To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT**  
**CPD Credits: 5**

This training event is free of charge. It is principally for trainers and assessors in chemical pathology, cellular pathology, medical microbiology and virology specialties, plus we will be engaging infectious diseases, immunology and haematology specialties too. The main focus is to present an educational update with a focus on credentialing, Shape of Training and the development of the new curricula. [Bookings can be made online](#).

### **Dr Neera Patel Travelling Bursary**

The College administers the Dr Neera Patel Travelling Bursary, set up in memory of Dr Neera Patel FRCPath, who trained in cellular pathology and worked as a consultant specialising in breast pathology.

The bursary is aimed at histopathology trainees enrolled in a recognised UK training scheme who hope to develop an interest in breast or head and neck pathology, to enable their participation in a national or international meeting.

The recipient will need to demonstrate how they will benefit from attending the conference and, following attendance, provide a brief outline of the conference and how it has helped their career pathway.

Details are available on the [College website](#). The deadline for applications is 9.00am on Monday 4 November 2019.

### **Complimentary refreshments - Events @ No 6 at 6 Alie Street**

Book a [meeting room](#) before the end of September to receive one round of complimentary tea and coffee. Applicable on Monday and Friday bookings between October and January with a maximum of 20 delegates. College members are entitled to an exclusive 20% room hire discount. E-mail: [sales@eventsatno6.com](mailto:sales@eventsatno6.com) for bookings and more information.

## **REGIONAL NEWS**

### **Devolved Regional Council vacancies**

Applications are now invited from Fellows for posts of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales Regional Council members, taking up office immediately until the Annual General Meeting in November 2022. Applicants should submit a completed nomination form to Jessica Zago ([Jessica.Zago@rcpath.org](mailto:Jessica.Zago@rcpath.org)), Governance and Committee Services Officer, together with an abridged CV and a supporting statement of up to 350 words indicating strengths and interests, including any relevant experience.

Specific information about each role, including a role description and nomination form, are available on the following webpages:

- [Northern Ireland Regional Council member](#) (six vacancies) – deadline 22 September 2019
- [Scotland Regional Council member](#) (eight vacancies) – deadline 30 September 2019
- [Wales Regional Council member](#) (seven vacancies) – deadline 30 September 2019

### **Scotland Symposium 2019 – Save the date**

**Wednesday 20 November 2019**

The event will be held in Aberdeen.

Further information about the Scotland symposium will be provided in due course.

Please hold the date in your diaries.

## **GET INVOLVED IN THE COLLEGE**

### **Specialty Advisory Committee (SAC) vacancies**

The College has two vacancies for committee Chairs in the following specialty areas:

- Pre/Peri/Paediatric Pathology Specialty Advisory Committee.
- Veterinary Pathology Specialty Advisory Committee.

The term of office for these roles will be 7 November 2019 – 7 November 2022 and the deadline for applications is 5.00pm on Friday 27 September 2019.

We are also seeking expressions of interest from members looking to join the **Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics SAC** as committee members. The deadline for applications is 5.00pm on Friday 20 September 2019. The next meeting of this SAC will be held on Tuesday 15 October 2019.

### **Why should I apply?**

The College is committed to setting and maintaining professional standards and promoting excellence in the teaching and practice of pathology, for the benefit of patients. Those holding office in the College contribute to this important work by providing professional leadership and contributing at a national level to the maintenance and development of pathology services and the quality of patient care.

Make a difference and help to shape College activities and policy by building the profile of your specialty and pathology in general.

### **How to apply**

Visit the volunteering opportunities page on the [College website](#) and submit your application to [elections@rcpath.org](mailto:elections@rcpath.org).

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **International Pathology Day 2019: Advances in rapid and point of care diagnostic testing**

**Wednesday 13 November 2019**

**The Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT**

**CPD Credits: 4**

This November, for International Pathology Day 2019, the College is once again partnering with [The Pathologist Magazine](#), as well as [Visopharm](#) and [Sonic Healthcare UK](#), to bring together a global audience in celebration of a shared passion for pathology. The theme, covered by keynote speakers, is 'Advances in rapid and point of care diagnostic testing'. These will be followed by a live streamed roundtable in the afternoon focusing on 'a question of quality' – the stream will enable global participation, creating a truly international day. Delegates can also attend a sponsored lunchtime workshop on artificial intelligence and take part in a poster completion, themed 'Research into Laboratory Use'. To register please visit [the College's website](#).

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

### **Volunteering opportunities this autumn**

We have a number of volunteering opportunities coming up this autumn, giving members the chance to gain experience in public engagement, including [Incredible You activities](#) in a number of locations, and a [Your Body, Your Consent workshop](#) for sixth formers in Norwich. The links to each are below. No previous experience is necessary as a full briefing will be provided. Keep an eye on our [Get Involved page](#) for future public engagement volunteering roles.

- [Incredible You activity facilitators, 11 October, London](#)
- [Incredible You activity facilitators, 2 October, Manchester](#)

- [Incredible You activity facilitators, 26 October and 7 November, Oxford](#)
- [Your Body, Your Consent workshop facilitators, 14 October, Norwich](#)

### **Help us engage young people with pathology careers this National Pathology Week**

As always, we will be using the platform of [National Pathology Week](#) (4–10 November) to highlight pathology careers to secondary school students, undergraduates and Foundation doctors. There are lots of ways you can support us:

- Please tell any undergraduates you know about our [Discover Pathology Careers event](#) taking place on 9 November at our building in London.
- Consider giving a careers talk or running a workshop at a secondary school in your area – our [video guides to careers talks](#) and the [Your Body, Your Consent workshops](#) offer a step-by-step guide on how to do this.
- Share our [careers-related videos](#) and [careers pages](#) and include #PathologyCareers in social media posts.
- If you're running an event, request some of our careers booklets via the [online form](#).

### **Spread the word about our competitions for pathologists, students and the public**

We are welcoming nominations for the [Furness Prize for Science Communication](#) until 28 October. The prize is awarded to a pathology trainee or undergraduate who has shown excellence in their science communication activities.

The [Paola Domizio Undergraduate Essay Prize](#) is open until 30 September and offers science, medical and veterinary undergraduates the chance to explore how advances in genomics are impacting on pathology and patient care.

Our [Art of Pathology competition](#) is open to people of all ages until 23 September. The competition invites participants to explore pathology in a unique and creative way. This year's theme is 'Pathology: a new point of view'.

Please visit our [competition pages](#) for more information and contact the [public engagement team](#) if you have any queries.

### **NEW CONSULTATION**

- [\*\*Guidelines for post-mortem cross-sectional imaging in adults with non-forensic deaths\*\*](#)

### **COLLEGE CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA**

#### **The Coronial Autopsy Examination: Guidance for Non-Forensic Pathologists**

**Thursday 7 November 2019**

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

**CPD credits: 6**

This one-day course will show you how to approach selected topics often seen in forensic scenarios, but which may be encountered in coronial cases referred for routine examination. The course aims to develop the skills and confidence of the attendees in conducting these autopsy examinations, as well as in the interpretation of the findings.

Who should attend? Though aimed primarily at trainees and consultants in their early years of practice, the course will act as a refresher for all histopathologists engaged in autopsy practice

### **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 College's best practice recommendations for digital pathology and explain digital pathology validation for primary diagnosis.

### **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 18-20 November, hosted by the College, will focus on the application of artificial intelligence and related technologies to digital pathology. Applications to participate are now open with a deadline of 30 September. Selected participants will be notified by the w/c 14 October.

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](mailto: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.

Trainee pathologists and BMS are encouraged to present interesting cases or audits to cover a wide range of topics in the afternoon session (20 min per presentation). Please check the website for more details.

### [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. Bookings open soon. Contact [meetings@rcpath.org](mailto:meetings@rcpath.org) for more detail.

### **Medical Examiners- face-to-face training**

Event dates below.

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 11 February 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](#)

**Thursday 2 April 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](#)

Tuesday 23 June 2020

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

CPD Credits: 6

### **OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST**

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

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- [UK Biobanking Showcase 2019](#)
- [BSG Winter Pathology Meeting](#)
- [2nd King's College London Bone Marrow Failure/Aplastic Anaemia Meeting](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(Newcastle upon Tyne\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(Salisbury\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(Birmingham\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(Cardiff\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(Edinburgh\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(Liverpool\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(London, November\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(Belfast\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(Leeds\)](#)
- [Educational Workshops 2019: The partnership of AMS & IPC \(London, December\)](#)

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