



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure

President's E-newsletter – April 2016



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President's Message of the Month

Welcome to the April newsletter. This month has been dominated by the on-going dispute about the junior doctors' contract, following the announcement in February that the contract will be imposed from August. I co-authored a [letter](#) from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges in which we called for both sides to 'step back from the brink' and resume negotiations. Unfortunately this has not yet happened.

Last week the DH published an [Equality Analysis](#) of the contract, in which it acknowledged that some trainees, particularly women, may be disadvantaged. The document concluded that these disadvantages could be 'comfortably justified' as they were 'a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim'. 67% of the College's trainees are female, so I am concerned that the disadvantages in the new contract will be particularly felt by those training in pathology. I issued a [statement](#) in which I raised my concerns. I will continue to take every opportunity to support our trainees and encourage a negotiated contract.

Please let me know if you are aware of examples of how anyone in your specialty is likely to be disadvantaged by the new contract. As always, please feel free to contact me about anything related to College business.

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COLLEGE NEWS

Joint Audit between British Association of Dermatologists (BAD) and RCPATH into non melanoma skin cancer

Colleagues in BAD are undertaking an audit to examine the surgical management of non-melanoma skin cancers (NMSC). The College is supporting clinical colleagues in this audit by reviewing and critically analysing the resulting anonymised pathology reports. Dermatologists are being asked to submit 15 cases using an Excel template by 10 April. This template and the audit protocol are available at [BAD clinical audits](#). The template has been developed to receive anonymised reports in most common image formats. Pathologists who are members of BAD are not required to submit reports. You may be asked by your dermatologist to help upload information to the template and the above guidance should cover this. Alternatively hard copy reports can be sent, properly identified by the submitter, to the BAD audit team.

The audit collaborators wish to understand how well the core data items are being reported in England as this forms the basis of the mandated Cancer Outcomes and Services Dataset. They are required for accurately staging NMSC and for multidisciplinary teams.

Clinical Excellence Awards

Fellows applying for College support for their Clinical Excellence Awards are reminded to submit their applications to mary.kehoe@rcpath.org by noon on 19 April. 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](#).

Research Medal Awards for 2016 now open

The College's [Research Committee](#) has launched the 2016 Research Medal Awards for trainees. This award is open to trainees who are registered with a UK Regulatory Council and who are first author or first joint author on a single

original published research paper. The deadline for applications is 5.00 pm on Monday 4 July.

Full details of the submission process and eligibility criteria are available on the [College website](#). Please don't forget to send both electronic and hard copy information when applying.

Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP)

Trainees are reminded to keep their ePortfolio up to date with the required number of workplace-based assessments as stipulated in the curricula and ensure that a Year 3/5 MSF assessment (where appropriate) is carried out so that it coincides with any forthcoming ARCPs. Please see [Trainees Assessment](#) for further information. Any ePortfolio questions should be directed to Sandra Dewar, Assessment Manager at sandra.dewar@rcpath.org

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Public Engagement Innovation Grant Scheme 2016

Applications are invited for the Public Engagement Innovation Grant Scheme 2016. The College is offering grants of up to £1000 for interactive and engaging projects that promote the importance of pathology to various audiences. The deadline for applications is Monday 13 June. For more information, visit [Public Engagement Innovation Grant Scheme](#) or contact the Public Engagement team at PEG@rcpath.org.

Free Science Communication Training

Thursday 16 June 2016, Centre for Life, Newcastle

Places are available for the Science Communication Training session taking place in Newcastle. 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. Visit [Science Communication Training](#). To book your place or for more information please contact: 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/summer. We currently require volunteers from any speciality for the following sessions:

- Friday 29 April – Lainesmead Primary School, Swindon
- Friday 6 May – Thameside Primary School, Reading
- Wednesday 18 May – Abbeywood Community School, Bristol
- Tuesday 7 June – Orchard Meadow Primary School, Oxford
- Friday 17 June – University Technical College, Didcot

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

The College is running a workshop which will feature activities on cancer diagnosis, antibiotic resistance and virtual pathology. We are looking for volunteers to deliver hands-on, interactive activities, ideally histopathologists and microbiologists but volunteers from any speciality are also welcome.

Colourful Pathology at Oxfordshire Science Festival**25-26 June 2016, Cornmarket Street, Oxford**

The College is running a stand as part of the 'Street Science' section of the festival. [Dr Lizzie Burns](#) has designed the stand to explore pathology through art. Volunteers will be required to interact with the public on the stand explaining the role of pathologists in healthcare and diagnosing disease. No preparation necessary.

Meet the expert workshops**April-July 2016, London**

The educational charity, [Inspire](#) is organising various 'meet the expert' events around London. They are looking for volunteers to engage with small groups of secondary students on rotation for 10-15 minutes. All pathology specialities welcome. Resources will be provided.

Early years (age 3-5) forensic pathology events**12 April, 24 May and 21 June, London**

The educational charity [Inspire](#) is looking for volunteers to help deliver activities exploring how forensic pathologists solve crimes. Resources will be provided.

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

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

NEW CONSULTATIONS

Visit [Documents in development](#)

- Tissue pathways for bone and soft tissue pathology (3rd edition)
- Guidelines for non-operative diagnostic procedures and reporting in breast cancer screening

- Royal College of Radiologists/RCPATH statement on standards for medico-legal post-mortem cross-sectional imaging in adults (2nd edition)

COLLEGE CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

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.

Hand-held voting pads are available 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.

Uropathology 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 uropathology 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

Lab Tests Online-UK promotion and marketing opportunities

[Lab Tests Online-UK](#) is looking for volunteers to join the Marketing and Promotions team to help with the following:

- Attend a stand to promote Lab Tests Online-UK at FOCUS 2016, Warwick, 19–21 April 2016
- Attend a stand to promote Lab Tests Online-UK at the National Association of Patient Participation (NAPP) annual conference, Warrington, 11 June 2016
- Write short articles for the news feed on the homepage of the Lab Test Online-UK website
- Help to organise a re-launch event at the end of 2016
- Take part in the @LabTestsUK twitter account rota.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities please email Rebecca Powney - rebecca.powney@ldh.nhs.uk

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Diagnostic Evidence Co-operative (DEC)

The [NIHR Diagnostic Evidence Co-operative \(DEC\) London](#) would like help to evaluate and develop the following tests.

- [Cytarabine-sensitivity test survey](#)
- [TEG-like point of care device survey](#)

These tests aim to improve health outcomes within clinical pathways.
Please complete the above survey(s) by Friday 15 April 2016.

The Royal Medical Benevolent Fund (RMBF)

The RMBF have developed a free downloadable on-line guide for doctors and their families called '[The Vital Signs](#)'. Authored by Dr Richard Stevens, the guide highlights common stressful trigger points for doctors, as well as signposting help and advice.

Comparative Pathology Clinical Academic Group (CAG) Digital Pathology Seminar

Friday 29 April 2016, School of Veterinary Medicine (VSM) Guildford, Surrey

This seminar will focus on the application of Digital Pathology in both the medical and veterinary professions and the benefits it will provide including, enhanced image quality, more efficient use of data, and improvements in service delivery. Register for free by emailing CAG Administrator, Rachael Cooke: r.cooke@surrey.ac.uk

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

For a list of external conferences see:

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

