



# Pathology - the science behind the cure

Event title	Pathology – the science behind the cure.
Venue	Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.
Target audience	Students age 16 – 18 years, all members of staff within the Trust and also the public.
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To raise awareness of the central role pathology plays in the diagnosis and treatment of disease.</li><li>• To encourage students to consider pathology as a career.</li></ul>
Age range	16+
How was the event advertised?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local press for the public event.</li><li>• Invitations to all local high schools.</li><li>• E-mail and posters for staff within the Trust.</li></ul>
Number attending	126
Booking required?	Yes.
Length of event	<p>We set aside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 mornings for students.</li><li>• 1 morning for the public and staff.</li></ul> <p>Each morning session lasted about 2 hours.</p> <p>Stands and displays were available all week at the main hospital reception, as was the display stand and LCD screening of the pathology presentation outside the staff canteen.</p> <p>Two talks at Trust Medical Meetings were organised each lasting approximately 45 minutes.</p>
Refreshments provided?	Yes – drinks only (orange squash & water).
Equipment needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Computer.</li><li>• Projection facilities.</li><li>• Display boards.</li></ul>
People needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultants gave powerpoint presentations.</li><li>• BMS staff manned display stands where they gave introductory talks for each discipline.</li><li>• Other staff were involved during the laboratory tour.</li><li>• At the display stand a Consultant Histopathologist discussed the relevance of samples on display.</li><li>• Quality Manager led a tour of the laboratories.</li><li>• Various staff were involved in the production of a DVD which was presented at the event.</li></ul>

<p>Printed material used</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Posters to advertise event.</li> <li>• Invitations and return forms.</li> <li>• Evaluations forms.</li> <li>• Certificate of attendance.</li> <li>• Information packs to take away.</li> <li>• Photography display at main hospital reception.</li> <li>• Script for “a journey through Pathology ” for the lab tour.</li> <li>• Photography and scripts for the various display stands.</li> <li>• Photographs and consent forms for the event.</li> </ul>
<p>Room set up</p>	<p>Main Hospital Reception:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photography display on 2 full height display stands.</li> <li>• Table top display stand for lab photographs, discipline specific information and other career information sheets.</li> </ul> <p>Staff Canteen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 tables with pathology information sheets.</li> <li>• 1 full height display stand with laboratory photographs and pathology information.</li> <li>• Wall mounted LCD scrolling through powerpoint presentations.</li> </ul> <p>Laboratories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New lab area not yet in use was used as reception and display area – 4 bench top display stands.</li> <li>• We have a separate Education and Training Centre which was used as the main event meeting area for the public and students:</li> </ul> <p>Presentation Room:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rows of chairs set out for powerpoint and DVD presentations.</li> <li>• Each group was made up of approximately 15 people.</li> </ul> <p>Display Stand Room:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full height and table top display stands set out along 2 sides of room, with rows of chairs facing them in the middle of the room.</li> <li>• Separate table with lap top to scroll through information and displays.</li> </ul>
<p>Event programme</p>	<p>We had a rolling programme for visitors:</p> <p>We split the visitors into 3 groups and they rotated into each area every 30 – 40 minutes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Powerpoint presentation and DVD. We modified the powerpoint presentations provided by the college into one presentation to give an insight into the work and career opportunities within pathology. The DVD was a virtual tour of the mortuary, which gave insight into the role of the department in relation to pathology and the role it plays at the end of life.</li> <li>2. Display stand area. A brief introductory talk was given for each discipline : Blood Sciences / Microbiology / Cellular Pathology. Visitors were then encouraged to ask questions and then come up to the stands to read the displays more closely and interact with items on display.</li> <li>3. Laboratory tour. We had to walk from the education centre to the laboratory, but this enabled visitors to view other areas of the hospital. A script was given out which followed the journey of a pathology investigation showing how each discipline contributed to the diagnosis and support of the fictitious patient.</li> </ol>
<p>Possible variations</p>	<p>Timing of the tour was difficult as it was separate from the main event – would keep main event nearer to laboratory next time, space allowing.</p>

What did the audience particularly like?	They were very interested in seeing tissue samples and a pathologist explaining the pathology to them e.g. gall bladder, appendix ...etc.
What surprised the audience?	The amount of work, number of steps and time taken to deal with tissue samples and how professional everything is!
What else would the audience have liked?	More time to spend in the laboratory – we told them this could be arranged separately. Several would have liked to watch a full post mortem.
How much preparation was involved?	<p>There was a lot of preparation needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings to format and organise the event.</li> <li>• Advertising and photography.</li> <li>• Writing, performing and production of the DVD.</li> <li>• Scripting the powerpoint presentations.</li> <li>• Preparation of photography and scripts.</li> <li>• Preparation of materials.</li> <li>• Ordering and setting up of display stands, lab coats etc.</li> <li>• Preparation of information packs.</li> <li>• Organising room bookings, refreshments, volunteer staff, and removal of stands.</li> </ul>
Any other comments?	We left it until September, which was rather late to advertise the event, as schools need a lot of time to organise visits off site. Next time we will contact the schools before they finish for the summer.
Images	Photographs were taken by engaging with the Medical photography department.
For more information please contact	<p>Dr Bushra Hamid  Consultant Histopathologist</p> <p>Bushra.hamid@coch.nhs.uk</p>