



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



President's e-newsletter – October 2019

President's Messages of the Month

Workforce

In the next *Bulletin* you will hopefully read about the massive amount of work going on at the College to try to help the pressures on you all. Do take a moment to go through this, just to get some appreciation of the huge range of activity! As well as getting support for existing and future workforce, we have also been promoting the skills of our current clinical scientists, and advocating strongly for prescribing rights for these skilled College Fellows, rights already in place for therapists and nursing colleagues.

In the meantime, we have seen some options, albeit not complete solutions, around the pensions issues, and are reassured that Simon Stevens and the Secretary of State for Health and Social care are also with us on trying to resolve this problem as soon as possible. Our advocacy continues for investment in our pathology workforce, with parliamentarians and governments across many nations!

Cast your vote for the next College President

In just over a year I will complete my term as President.

The application window for nominations for the next President of the College closed on 5 September. Three nominations were received and a ballot to elect the next President has opened which will close at 12 noon on Friday 18 October. The result of the ballot will be reported to the College Trustee Board and we expect to announce it on the College website in November.

The successful candidate will take up a one year term of office as President elect from the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November. Their presidency will then start after the AGM in November 2020.

Members eligible to vote will receive a ballot email directly from [Electoral Reform Services](#) so do look out for it in your inbox. Please ensure you make your voice count by casting your vote.

It's been a great privilege to represent members in this role. I've especially enjoyed meeting and working with pathologists across all specialties. I still have lots to do over the next year before I step down and I look forward to working with the new President Elect.

National Pathology Week - 4 - 10 November

There's just under a month to go until [National Pathology Week \(NPW\)](#). NPW is our fantastic annual celebration of pathology; highlighting the vital, amazing contribution pathologists make to healthcare through a programme of events and activities aimed at people of all ages.

This year we're inviting members to consider exploring innovations big and small with their events, activities and social media posts. Find out how you can get involved in our Public Engagement section below.

Welcome!

- It is always such a pleasure to welcome new members and Fellows of the College, and October is a great pleasure in this respect. No doubt those of you on Twitter (do try it! Follow [@RCPath](#)) will see many of the images from this event as they are shared with friends, relatives and colleagues. To our new College colleagues, you are very warmly welcome!
- It was also fantastic to be able to welcome new trainees and the next generation of pathologists to the College last month at our first New Trainee Welcome Day in our new building. It was great to meet the trainees and to hear from the speakers who gave such inspiring talks on the day.

The Furness Prize for Science Communication

Do you know any pathology trainees or undergraduates who have shown excellence in their science communication activities this year? If you do, please encourage them to enter [The Furness Prize for Science Communication](#).

Nominations close on 28 October and applicants can nominate themselves. A £200 prize will be awarded to the winner at the College's New Fellow's Ceremony in London in February 2020.

World Patient Safety Day

In last month's e-newsletter I mentioned the first [World Patient Safety Day](#) held on 17 September by the [World Health Organisation](#).

We marked the day by launching our [Patient Safety and Quality Strategy](#), an updated [Pathology Undergraduate Curriculum](#) and a new [patient safety bulletin](#). Professor Tim Littlewood Vice President for Professionalism and Dr Berenice Lopez, Clinical Director for Quality and Safety, also wrote [a blog](#) to highlight the College resources that support members to improve patient safety. These include safety bulletins, clinical guidelines and best practice recommendations.

Round-up

- With the Brexit deadline approaching I signed [a letter from the Faculty of Public Health and 28 other health organisations](#) calling on the government to give clear

commitments on public health protection. I also signed [a letter to the Prime Minister](#), along with 16 other leading health organisations, calling for the NHS and wider health and care system to be considered at the highest levels of Brexit negotiations. The [Academy of Medical Royal Colleges](#) has also issued a statement about Brexit.

- I was really pleased to talk about investment in health and social care with Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock MP, Bim Afolami MP and Russell Viner, President of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health at an evening event, again with workforce, IT, and public health at the forefront of discussion.
- Tim Littlewood, College Vice President, and I had an excellent day discussing genomics at the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges with Professor Dame Sue Hill, Chief Scientific Officer and [Genomics England](#). There was a very good debate on polygenic risk scores. My view is that there is still a huge amount of work to be done for familial hypercholesterolemia and familial cancer high risk genes, and we have urged NHSE to be more ambitious with prevention in these groups where we know we can make a difference.
- We were delighted to open the doors to our award nominated building and fantastic event spaces as part of [Open House London](#). Visitors were able to explore the College building and find out more about the history of the College.

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COLLEGE NEWS

Research publishing gateway

Did you know that the College has an online research publishing gateway – F1000? Articles, posters, slides and clinical audit reports can all be submitted for publication and there are introductory subsidies for pathology trainees and Fellows. Find out more about F1000 on the College [website](#).

Realistic Medicine and shared decision making

According to [Realistic Medicine](#), NHS surveys show that people want to be more involved in decisions about their care. College Fellow, Chris Tiplady, has written [an excellent blog on shared decision making](#) and patient-centred care, packed full of advice, easy-to-remember questions to ask patients and practical resources.

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.

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. The College is providing an educational update regarding credentialing, Shape of Training, changes to the medical curricula and state of the arts developments. It will be held on Monday, 4 November 2019 from 10am to 4pm. This meeting is relevant to all those involved in the delivery of pathology training – including trainers and assessors in the following specialties:

- chemical pathology/metabolic medicine
- histopathology/neuropathology/forensic pathology/paediatrics and perinatal pathology
- haematology
- immunology
- medical microbiology/medical virology/infectious diseases.

The day is also relevant to senior trainees preparing to become consultants. The day will include keynote talks from the [General Medical Council](#) (GMC) and the UK Shape of Training Steering Group. There will be specialty breakout sessions with a view to discuss and understand the arrangements for the new curricula. There will also be opportunities to share experiences and ask questions. [Bookings can be made online](#).

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 in Room 203, Suttie Centre for Teaching & Learning in Healthcare, Foresterhill Health Campus, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZD

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

Clinical Director of International Activities

Applications are open for the role of Clinical Director of International Activities. This exciting three-year role directs the international activities of the College, including chairing the International Committee, working with the six College International Advisors, overseeing schemes to support international medical graduates attempting the FRCPath examinations and coming to train in the UK, and guiding College participation in international projects. Find out more about the role and [how to apply here](#).

INTERNATIONAL

International Pathology Day: 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 International Pathology Day 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 a celebration of a shared passion for pathology

The theme of this year's event is advances in rapid and point of care diagnostic testing with a series of diverse talks by key-note speakers 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 focussing on a *question of quality* - enabling the opportunity for global participation, creating a truly international pathology day. Delegates attending the day can also attend a sponsored lunchtime workshop centred on artificial intelligence and take part in a poster competition, themed *Bench to Bench: from basic science to clinical care*.

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

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

We are running an exciting and unique pathology careers event at the College on 9 November as part of [National Pathology Week 2019](#). [Discover Pathology Careers](#) will feature interactive talks by consultants from a number of pathology specialties. There are structured networking sessions involving both consultants and trainees from the four largest pathology specialties and from veterinary pathology. Please help us spread the word to medical, biomedical and veterinary undergraduates by forwarding them the [event booking link](#). If you are able to give students at your workplace some promotional flyers about this event, please do [get in touch](#) and we will post some out to you. If you're a trainee and would like to volunteer for your specialty's stand on the day, we would [love to hear from you](#).

#LabTopTips: Announcing this year's social media competition for National Pathology Week (NPW) 4-10 November

For this year's NPW we are inviting members and their teams to share their 'everyday' innovations in our social media competition #LabTopTips. Help us collect ideas for making pathology more efficient in simple, clever, (and, in some cases, light-hearted) ways, and post a video or photo of your lab's top tips for your chance to win a restaurant voucher for your team. The competition will be announced in October and entries will be accepted between 4 and 10 November. Dr Rachael Liebmann and Dr Shubha Allard will judge the entries. Further information will be posted on our website and social media channels soon so [watch this space!](#)

Support for your National Pathology Week events: free materials and help with inviting parliamentarians and councillors

If you're running an event for [National Pathology Week](#) you can order free branded materials and RCPATH literature for your events via a [simple online form](#). Please also [register your event](#) if it is open to the public, so we can highlight events that are going on around the UK and beyond on our social media channels. If you are interested in getting our help with inviting parliamentarians or councillors to your event, please get in touch with the College's Public Affairs Officer, [Janine Aldridge](#)

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 Aline 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

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 for more detail.

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

Join us for a two-day update on endocrine pathology and hear the latest developments in endocrine pathology and oncology from nationally and internationally recognised experts in the field. Who should attend? Consultant pathologists and senior trainees reporting on thyroid pathology.

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.

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](#)

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

Medical Examiner Officer Training

The College is leading on the training of Medical Examiners (MEs) 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 MEs 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](#)

Tuesday 5 November

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

CPD Credits: 6

NEWS FROM EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS AND JOINT WORKING

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) - Recruitment for the 2020 intake of NICE fellows and scholars now open

NICE is offering an opportunity to those working in health and social care to gain insight into the work of NICE, influencing its work and gaining access to a range of career enhancing opportunities.

NICE appoints up to ten fellows and ten scholars per year. NICE scholarships are one year opportunities for individuals working in health and social care to find out about the inner workings of NICE and undertake an improvement project within their local area. Scholars are expected to dedicate approximately one day per week to their scholarship activities

Both roles are unpaid and undertaken alongside successful candidates' existing jobs. Applications close on 28 October. More information can be found at: [NICE Fellows](#) and [NICE Scholars](#).

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 at [Advancing Healthcare Awards](#)

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

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

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- [Diagnostic histopathology of liver tumours](#) – For more information, please email: livertumourconference@outlook.com
- [Power of Process Champion](#)
- [Power of Process Master](#)
- [Breaking the Mould Manchester 2019](#) – For more information, please email: ged.mann@gilead.com
- [Pathological Society & The Royal Society of Medicine: Molecular and Digital Pathology – The Future](#)
- [Association of Clinical Biochemists in Ireland - Annual Conference](#)
- [VTE Masterclass, Bath](#)
- [Association of Breast Pathology second annual conference](#)
- [Practical Aspects of Post Mortem Radiology](#)
- [Advanced Post Mortem Radiology – Adult Unnatural Death 1](#)
- [Advanced Post Mortem Radiology – Adult Unnatural Death 2](#)
- [Advanced Post Mortem Radiology – Adult Natural Death](#)

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