

Molecular Pathology Study Day

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I am Rawda Ahmed Elshennawy, histo/cyto-pathology specialist from Egypt. Currently, I am a final year PhD student at the University of Birmingham and honorary specialist registrar at the Birmingham Women's hospital.

Attending the Molecular Pathology virtual study day was very valuable for me as a PhD scholar in the field of molecular pathology. It helped me keep up to date with the important progress in molecular tests and techniques, especially in Breast and Gynecological Pathology. I found the talks on interpreting and troubleshooting various molecular tests such as PCR, FISH and flow cytometry most helpful in my day-to-day practice and research. Being a researcher on ovarian cancer, the day shed light on Homologous recombination deficiency testing in ovarian cancer and made me more familiar with UK testing guidelines. This ultimately influenced how I designed my research and opened up new horizons for my project. On the other hand, I found the talks on the molecular classification of colorectal cancer and HPV testing in Head and Neck cancer very helpful for FRCPath part 2 preparation. Last but not least, the notes given by Dr. Mathew Clarke on the basic principles of DNA were quite enlightening to read before the day. In the future, it would be great if other speakers give short notes as well.

Overall, I recommended this study day to my colleagues and study partners. The speakers gave excellent and well compiled talks with easy-to-follow algorithms and concise take home messages.