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Attending the International Junior Academy Summer School 2025 in Bordeaux was a rewarding and enriching experience. I was eager to attend the Summer School to expand my diagnostic knowledge, engage with colleagues from across Europe, and learn directly from leading experts in pathology. The program was thoughtfully designed, addressing a broad spectrum of complex diagnostic challenges, making it a unique opportunity to further both my clinical and academic development.

The sessions were filled with practical, case-based insights that directly addressed real-world diagnostic dilemmas. In particular, I gained clarity on challenging topics such as gynaecological soft tissue tumours and pulmonary nodules, thanks to the expertise of speakers who were both approachable and thorough in their presentations. The opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussion helped consolidate my understanding of these nuanced areas. The lecture on colitis was particularly helpful and I now feel more confident in structuring differential diagnoses for colitis and in recognizing key histological patterns. I'm also more mindful of the evolving terminology and classification used in B3 lesions in the breast, which I plan to incorporate into my diagnostic reporting to reflect current best practices.

The Summer School not only met my expectations—it surpassed them. The combination of high-quality academic content, international networking, and thoughtfully organised cultural activities (such as the Bordeaux city tour and the visit to Château Carbonnieux) created a holistic learning environment. It was both intellectually stimulating and personally enjoyable.

Finally, I would wholeheartedly recommend the International Junior Academy Summer School to colleagues. It offers a rare chance to learn, grow, and connect within a supportive, expert-led setting. Presenting a case from my own institution during the oral presentation session was a particular highlight, giving me the opportunity to share my work, receive feedback, and grow in confidence as a junior pathologist. I am sincerely grateful for the bursary that made my attendance possible—thank you for supporting my professional development through this invaluable experience.