

BDIAP Bursary Recipient Report – Ghent pathology 2025

Dr Anastasiya Kret, ST5 Histopathology, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

I'm incredibly grateful to Ghent Pathology for bringing together a vibrant group of enthusiastic pathologists in one place. It was a fantastic opportunity to network and inspire one another. I especially appreciated the chance to reconnect with friends and acquaintances from both the north and south of the UK. Despite the geographical distances between us, it was comforting to realise that we're united by the shared challenges we face in pathology.

The conference offered an impressive range of high-quality and educational lectures. I found the talk on histological subtyping of colorectal cancer particularly insightful—it gave a glimpse into the new classifications to be introduced in the upcoming edition of the WHO Digestive System Tumours. Equally thought-provoking was the session on the role of lymph nodes in colorectal cancer, which challenged some of my current perceptions. I'm keen to follow how the evidence in this area continues to evolve.

The breakout sessions were a great chance to explore the exhibition stands and engage with companies on their latest developments, including advances in software, antibodies, and PCR techniques.

It was a genuine privilege to contribute to the event myself. I presented a poster on a case of phlegmonous colitis, sharing practical insights into how we worked up this rare diagnosis. The poster presentation also gave me the chance to connect with other experts in the field—making it far less daunting to reach out to them in the future should I come across a particularly challenging case. In addition, I gave a talk at the Association of Clinical Electron Microscopists (ACEM) meeting, discussing the rare entity of podocyte infolding glomerulopathy. (And while preparing for this talk on renal pathology held in Belgium, I couldn't help but learn about the country's three famous peeing statues—one of many unexpected delights!)

I would wholeheartedly encourage my colleagues to attend future meetings. It's a brilliant way to engage with like-minded professionals and share in the excitement of our field. I'm sincerely thankful to the BDIAP for awarding me a bursary to attend—this experience has been both enriching and inspiring!