

**32nd European Congress of Pathology and  
XXXIII International Congress of the IAP  
6 – 8 December 2020**

**BDIAP Trainee Member bursary report**

**Name:** Dr Kezia Gaitskell

**Year bursary awarded:** 2020

**Trust where employed:** Oxford University Hospitals NHS  
Foundation Trust

**Trainee grade:** ST5

On 6-8 December 2020 I attended the joint virtual congress of the European Society of Pathology and International Academy of Pathology. While it was obviously a pity not to be able to gather in Glasgow as originally planned, the virtual conference nevertheless included a packed and varied three-day programme of excellent keynote lectures, sessions summarising important updates in clinical pathology, and presentations of new research.



Some particular highlights from my perspective included an update on developments in breast pathology, a fascinating and entertaining lecture by Professor John Ioannidis on 'Fake news in scientific research', a session on education strategies in pathology for the next decade, and a series on recent developments in gynaecological pathology.

One of the benefits of the virtual format of the conference was that, with most talks being recorded and made available for several weeks afterwards, it was possible to watch sessions scheduled for clashing times. What I missed most about not being able to attend the meeting in Glasgow in person was the opportunity to catch up with other pathologists and researchers informally in the breaks, which I have previously found invaluable for building research collaborations.

Thank you to the conference organisers for managing to put together such an interesting and varied programme, despite the many challenges of the pandemic – and thank you to the BDIAP for my generous bursary which enabled me to attend. I very much hope that in the future we will be able to return to in-person conferences, but whilst this is impossible it has been immensely valuable to be able to meet virtually with the international pathology community.