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Training Year: 2nd Year Basic Specialist Training

Institute/Organisation: Connolly Hospital Dublin/RCSI Hospitals Group

Why did you want to attend the Congress? I wanted to further advance my knowledge of histopathology, especially in light of my hope to sit the FrcPath Part 1 early next year. I hoped the conference would expose me to new developments and areas of advancement within the histopathology field. Furthermore, all of the conferences I have attended to date have been Irish or UK-based so it was an exciting opportunity to experience an international conference (albeit virtually) and to be exposed to different pathology approaches from around the world.

Do you feel more confident in your knowledge / understanding of pathology following attendance at the Congress? I do feel I learned a great deal, and it highlighted how much more there is to learn as I progress my career. The ability to review the presentations online over the coming months will help to further my understanding of the topics discussed.

Highlight aspects of pathology that you have learnt from the Congress which you were not aware of prior to the event. There were fantastic presentations on aspects of forensic pathology which are not often covered in my daily work. I greatly enjoyed these presentations as they were easily accessible to junior trainees and applicable for the CHAT and post-mortem practice. Another highlight for me was regarding transmissible cancers, which primarily focused on veterinary pathology but raised some really interesting concepts. There were also great presentations on renal pathology which is an area I have not received much exposure to.

Are there any aspects of what you have learnt during the Congress that you would consider incorporating into your own practice? I will definitely incorporate some of the forensic pathology concepts going forward in my post-mortem practice.

Did the Congress meet your expectations? Yes

Finally, would you recommend the Congress to your colleagues? I would, however I think I would preferentially recommend it to more senior colleagues as I feel they would be better able to engage with and benefit from some of the congress topics. I also did not take into account the time difference prior to the congress which is something I will definitely be aware of when signing up to conferences in the future.