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Training year: ST4

Attending Liverpool Pathology 2023 meant I was able to go to my first face to face Pathology conference since beginning Histopathology speciality training in August 2020. Under the mentorship of Consultant Uropathologist Dr Aiman Haider, I successfully submitted an abstract to present a poster at Liverpool Pathology 2023. The BDIAP bursary was invaluable as I was able to attend the conference longer than my Poster round session and was able to get the most out of the experience.

The sessions on offer at the conference were wide-ranging and pertinent to our work as Histopathologists. It was a privilege listening to Professor Dan Berney, a consultant I have been fortunate to work with early on in my training, deliver the BDIAP Kristen Henry Lecture. I am becoming increasingly interested in Gynaecological and Thoracic Pathology and I felt so engaged when I listened to the speakers in these sessions. I learnt about new entities and the growing influence of Molecular Pathology.

The sessions in the Trainee Programme, such as the talks covering Soft Tissue Pathology and Pleural Pathology, were useful and interesting. I would especially like to thank my fellow trainees who organised, put forward and presented cases in the Case Competition and Slide Seminar. Overall, I came away feeling that there were messages to take away from every single speaker and these will definitely go on to influence me in my future practice.

I am so glad that I had the experience of presenting a poster on an interesting case report. During my poster round, it was a great opportunity to have an open discussion with the judges and hear their thoughts and get their feedback. I enjoyed viewing the other posters on display and speaking with colleagues about the work they have been involved in.

Meeting trainees both in person and from beyond my deanery was novel. I really enjoyed speaking to my fellow trainee pathologists and hearing about their experiences. Coincidentally, I met a trainee from another deanery who I attended medical school with and it was a great chance to reconnect! Attending both the welcome reception and conference dinner was wonderful and an opportunity to socialise with colleagues in a relaxed setting. The Tina Turner tribute act was definitely a highlight!

Attending Liverpool Pathology 2023 was a fantastic opportunity and it definitely exceeded my expectations. Having attended meetings virtually since starting speciality training as a result of the Covid pandemic, it really was a different experience meeting trainees and leading experts in person and I cannot recommend it enough. I came away feeling part of a community and that is very important to me on both a professional and personal level. I look forward to attending and participating in future meetings and actively encourage others to take part. I sincerely thank the BDIAP for their support in helping me to attend Liverpool Pathology 2023.