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Re: BDIAP bursary report Joint BDIAP/PathSoc meeting Liverpool 2023

I am Rawda Ahmed Elshennawy, histo/cyto-pathology specialist from Egypt. Currently, I am a final year PhD student at the University of Birmingham and honorary specialist registrar at the Birmingham Women's hospital.

I wanted to attend the Liverpool Pathology meeting to get a chance to present and share part of my PhD research with some of the most eminent Gynecological Pathologists in the field. I also wanted to keep up to date with most recent advances in Gynecological pathology. Attending the conference gave me a chance to engage, discuss and learn from experts in my area of research interest and allowed me to explore new avenues for future work.

To me, the highlights of the meeting were Professor Malpica's talk on serous ovarian cancer, Professor Xavier-Matias's talk on endometrial cancer and Professor Simon Herrington updates on the molecular classification of ovarian cancer which opened my eyes to new research prospects and added to my background knowledge on the molecular biology of tumours of the female genital tract.

I was very happy to discuss my posters with Professor Nafisa Wilkinson and Professor Simon Herrington who judged my work. We also had a lovely discussion on how to take it to the next level. The conference dinner was an excellent place to network with people and this is where I was awarded BDIAP 1st poster prize. This was very rewarding to me and gave me all the energy to pursue more research and advance my career in Pathology.

The talks on incorporating AI in pathology were particularly inspiring and this is something I would certainly apply in my research work and future practice. I also found the WHO updates on uropathology helpful as well as RCPATH datasets on prostatic carcinoma. I also attended the Thoracic pathology trainee session and trainee competition which was very interesting and engaging. I found slides viewing and discussion in the meeting very helpful from a practical point of view.

Overall, the research in progress sessions as well as the gynecological pathology, uropathology and trainee lectures were fantastic, engaging, and inspiring. I got the chance to interact firsthand and socialize with leaders in the fields and got to know lots of likeminded colleagues and professionals.

This is a must attend meeting to any Pathologist who is interested in developing their career, sharing their research, and learning from the experts!