

Dear BDIAP,

**Re: BDIAP Virtual Molecular Pathology Study Day**

My name is Alex Haragan and I was pleased to receive the bursary for attendance to the above meeting. I have recently returned to full-time training as a ST2 in histopathology following a 3 year out-of-programme-for-research (OOPR) period in which I attained my PhD.

My PhD contained extensive molecular pathology, and I have previously attained a PGCert in molecular pathology. However, like all things, without regular exposure it is easy to forget specifics in different areas, so whilst I am confident with most aspects of clinical pulmonary molecular pathology, a reminder of the salient molecular aspects and testing in other organ systems was much appreciated.

On a practical note, it was also very useful to know the breadth and depth of knowledge required in each system in both day-to-day practice and as a guide to preparing for the Part 1 FRCPATH examination.

This was a useful day, and as with the BDIAP cut-up day, something I will undoubtedly recommend to fellow trainees regardless of their stage.

Regards,

Alex Haragan

Dear BDIAP,

**Re: BDIAP Virtual Approach to Cut Up Study Day 2021**

My name is Alex Haragan and I was pleased to receive the bursary for attendance to the above meeting. I have recently returned to full-time training as a ST2 in histopathology following a 3 year out-of-programme-for-research (OOPR) period in which I attained my PhD.

Whilst my PhD was pathology related, it was almost exclusively related to thoracic pathology. Therefore, as an aide to returning to training, and indeed as preparation for my FRCPath part 1 examination, the cut-up day was a big factor in helping to facilitate this.

I attended the in-person meeting in my ST1 year in 2018 and found it to be educational and useful, as indeed was this virtual one.

I think face to face meetings for this sort of event are still favoured, but given the necessary circumstances this event still went very well indeed.

I particularly enjoyed the approach of more common specimens (GI, breast, gyane) as well as those of a slightly more occasional nature and of course the talk on how to utilise this in the exam, whilst more focused on Part 2, was still very useful to attend.

By combining this with the datasets and other sources, I feel more confident in my approach to cutting up both familiar specimens and how to formulate an approach to less common ones. It was enjoyable and useful, and I recommend this to new trainees, returning trainees, and anyone preparing for the exams.

Regards,

Alex Haragan