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Molecular pathology is an essential part of a Histopathologist's everyday practice. It is also a quickly expanding discipline bringing new advancements to cancer diagnostics and treatment. For a trainee pathologist it is essential to build good understanding of its main concepts and keep up to date with the new developments that are important more than ever with the implementation of personalised medicine. I believe, that constant exposure to the discipline is substantial for my career progression and quality of care that I provide to the patients as a Histopathologist. These are only a few reasons that have encouraged me to attend the BDIAP Molecular Pathology Study Day.

There were many highlights at the event. Some information was completely new to me - partly due to my limited knowledge at this training stage, and in part due to many recent advancements in molecular pathology. Some topics I found highly relevant to the preparation for FRCPath part 1 examination, especially those that discussed basic classification of lesions, diagnostic approach using immunohistochemistry and main mutations associated with particular cancers. On the other hand, some aspects of every presentation required in-depth knowledge about the subject or at least good understanding of recent developments in the field. This only proves that most of the presentations were well-balanced for an audience with different job experience levels.

I found case presentations, especially Malignancy of Unknown Origin, extremely relevant to every day practice. It has also succeeded in highlighting the importance of NGS and other molecular testing in order to achieve the correct diagnosis and choose a personalised treatment option. I also enjoyed the talk on Gynaecological pathology which has emphasised the importance of BRCA/HRD testing in non-mucinous ovarian cancers and reviewed various available molecular diagnostic methods. Presentation on Breast pathology has reviewed the PIK3CA mutations in ILC and revealed striking molecular heterogeneity of TNBC, while Dermatopathology presentation on the new classification of melanocytic lesions has helped to understand the complexity of the topic and will aid in every day practice. Finally, presentations on Sarcomas, and Soft tissue and Bone tumours once again proved how relevant molecular pathology is for classification of new emerging entities, correct diagnosis and advancements in molecule-targeted treatment development.

Molecular Pathology Study Day has helped me to learn about significant molecular pathology developments in many subspecialties of histopathology. Despite not being able to single-handedly implement changes in my reporting practice at this training stage, I am now more confident in being able to raise this topic in a discussion with a supervising consultant or in the department meetings. Most importantly, I will be able to understand NGS reports better, accumulate further knowledge and catch up with new molecular testing techniques that are being implemented in the local or regional pathology labs quicker.

Molecular Pathology Study Day has met my expectations and has helped me to learn more about core concepts and new significant developments in Molecular Pathology. I would also recommend it to my colleagues, since I feel it would be beneficial to a Histopathologist at any stage of their career.