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Training year: ST3

I was delighted to receive the bursary to attend the BDIAP molecular and cut-up study days held at the impressive Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. I sought to attend the study days at my current level of training after gaining a reasonable amount of experience in cut-up and exposure to molecular pathology to deepen my understanding of both disciplines and address any lingering queries.

The Molecular Pathology Study Day featured a series of expert presentations on the molecular pathology of different organ systems. Particularly engaging were the interactive "Case Study: Molecular Pathology for the Generalist" sessions which resonated with me due to their applicability to the everyday experiences of a general pathologist in any district general hospital. The sessions featured a series of case scenarios illustrating diagnostic uncertainty where molecular testing played a pivotal role in confirming or excluding specific diagnoses. I certainly feel a lot more confident in my knowledge of the application of molecular pathology in the diagnosis and prognosis of several conditions.

The Approach to Cut-up study day offered invaluable practical guidance and expert insights into the grossing and cut-up processes of various resection specimens. Of particular interest was the head and neck cut-up session, which proved especially beneficial to me, considering my limited experience in this area. I found the systematic approach proposed in the talk very helpful and I aim to apply this approach in future practice. Attending the BDIAP Cut-Up Study Day has deepened my understanding of the principles and practices of gross pathology and resection specimen orientation and sampling.

I highly recommend both study days to all trainees especially those midway through training to solidify their knowledge in both topics after sufficient exposure through practice.

I am very grateful to the BDIAP for granting me the bursary and I look forward to attending future BDIAP events.