

British Division of the International Academy of Pathology (BDIAP)

Molecular Pathology and Approach to Cut-Up Study Days

3-4 March 2025

London, UK

Bursary Report



Name: Leya Motala

Job role and training year: First year histopathology non-consultant hospital doctor

I am delighted to have been awarded a bursary to attend the BDIAP's *Molecular Pathology and Approach to Cut-Up* study days. Both days were extremely relevant to my current role, having recently commenced a career in Histopathology.

Becoming proficient at cut-up is a critical goal at present. The timing of the *Approach to Cut-Up* course was ideal for my current stage of training: attending the course after gaining a few months' first-hand experience of macroscopic dissection allowed me to reflect on specific aspects of my current practice and broadened my understanding of the approach to various specimens. We were alerted to the latest guideline updates, given practical tips on key aspects of dissection, and taught useful approaches to uncommon specimens.

With molecular testing being performed on an increasing number of cases at my institution, the *Molecular Pathology* study day provided much needed insights on the indications for and significance of molecular testing. The *Introduction to Molecular Pathology* pre-work video provided a particularly useful overview of molecular pathology for a beginner in the field. The case studies explored throughout the study day were especially beneficial as they highlighted practical challenges and specific tips relevant to everyday practice.

Across both days, the in-person teaching provided by high-profile, expert speakers enriched and diversified my learning. An added benefit of attending the on-site sessions was meeting colleagues at various stages of training and forming connections with peers. The networking opportunities alerted me to other useful BDIAP events as well as the value of regularly attending the *Molecular Pathology* and *Approach to Cut-Up* study days themselves as the presentations vary each year.

The study days were well-organised, respecting the planned schedule, and facilitated by an engaged moderator. The venue in London was ideal — not only was it well-connected to major transport routes, but it also served as a central location from which to explore the sights of London over the weekend prior (as evidenced by the photographs above).

I would highly recommend both study days, especially to trainees who have gained some initial experience in the field to reflect and expand upon. I am very grateful to have been granted this bursary and look forward to attending future BDIAP events.