

My name is Ciara Guerin, I am a second year histopathology trainee working in Dublin, Ireland.

As I am early in my training, my aim for attending the BDIAP Molecular Pathology study day was to develop a foundational understanding of molecular pathology. I am working in a department with on-site molecular pathology testing until July 2025 and I wished to enhance my understanding of molecular pathology basics so that I can utilise the learning opportunities available at this hospital. One of my subspecialty interests is haematopathology and an understanding of molecular pathology would help me to pursue this further with a greater understanding of the diagnostic and therapeutic application of molecular test results.

The study day exceeded my expectations. I thought it was well suited to my stage of training. The lectures were a mixture of general application and pitfalls of molecular pathology as well as specific updates within particular subspecialties. This made the day very engaging. The concepts underpinning tests such as FISH, NGS and methylation profiling were explained very well and I learned how they are applied within a variety of contexts. I now have a greater understanding of the molecular pathology testing that is taking place in my laboratory and I believe this will be of continued value to my learning in the future.

An additional benefit of the course was the opportunity for professional networking. I took advantage of the regular breaks throughout the day to meet and discuss with colleagues from other countries.

I would highly recommend this course to my colleagues.