

**Bursary Recipient Report**  
**Molecular Pathology Study Day 2020**

Name: Dr Julia Patterson  
Training year: ST2.

**Why did you want to go on this study day?**

*I wanted to attend the study day as molecular pathology is becoming an ever more integral part of histopathology. I anticipate that as I progress through my career, knowledge of molecular mechanisms and specific gene mutations will be required in everyday practice.*

**Do you feel more confident in your knowledge / understanding of molecular pathology following attendance at the study day?**

Yes

**Highlight aspects of molecular pathology that you have learnt from the study day which you were not aware of prior to the day.**

*As well as learning specific syndromes/gene mutations, I found it very useful to hear how practical considerations in tissue handling in the lab (for instance embedding different cores separately to preserve material) can be advantageous in molecular pathology.*

**Are there any aspects of what you have learnt during the molecular pathology study day that you would consider incorporating into your own practice?**

*Consideration of when molecular pathology can be used in specific specimens and ensure I adjust my approach to tissue handling accordingly. The study day also made me more aware of when molecular tests should be ordered as a reflex and to bear this in mind during my training so that ordering and interpreting these tests becomes second nature.*

**Did the study day meet your expectations?**

*Yes - I felt the day was well organised and delivered, especially given the short notice of having to deliver the day virtually. A range of specialties were covered and in general the information provided exceeded my expectations. I do wonder whether, given the virtual platform, it would have been better to separate the two study days more (molecular and cut up) as by the second day I did have some screen fatigue!!*

**Finally, would you recommend this study day to your colleagues?**

*YES! Definitely. I would even consider attending the day again as there was so much information it would be good to consolidate my knowledge.*

**BDIAP Approach to Cut Up Study Day**  
**Bursary Report**

Name: Dr Julia Patterson

Training year: ST2

**Why did you want to go on this study day?**

*Having only started histopathology in the last couple of years I am new to cut up and have not seen some certain fewer common specimens. This gave a clear overview of not only commonly encountered cut up specimens but the less common ones allowing me to build a framework for approaching these when I do see them. Cut up can be daunting for junior trainees so a discussion of the specimens in advance can alleviate some of this anxiety in trainees. The day had also been recommended to me by more senior trainees.*

**Do you feel more confident in your ability to cut up most specimens following attendance at the study day?**

*Yes. The online delivery may have actually aided this as I was able to simultaneously view the presentations and make notes on my laptop which I can access in the workplace prior to cutting up specimens should I need a refresher!*

**Highlight aspects of cut up that you have learnt from the study day which you were not aware of prior to the day.**

*TNM staging in lung cancers and the importance of very accurate measurements for T stage and this impact this can have.*

*Thymectomy section was very useful as I have not encountered these specimens before. I appreciated inclusion of macro in the FRCPath part 2 as I have just passed part 1 so this will be valuable as I start my preparation.*

*The gynae talk was good for giving visual ideas of common specimens and how to approach block taking in these.*

**Are there any aspects of what you have learnt during the cut up study day that you would consider incorporating into your own practice or have already incorporated into practice?**

*Thoughtful use of paints - I think as trainees we are guilty of over-painting certain specimens for fear of losing orientation. The colorectal talk highlighted some of the issues with this (formation of artificial crevasses/margins)*

*Consideration of tissue sampling/block taking for IHC and/or molecular testing - this will become even more important as more molecular markers are discovered so I am grateful it was mentioned in several of the talks.*

**Did the study day meet your expectations?**

*Yes, the study day definitely met my expectations.*

**Finally, would you recommend it to your colleagues?**

*Yes. I would even consider attending again myself as a refresher and also as techniques may alter as more molecular advances are made.*