

BDIAP Annual Symposium on Urological Pathology

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I would first like to express my sincere gratitude to the BDIAP for the bursary and the opportunity to attend this year's symposium. As a trainee with a strong interest in uropathology, this event was an excellent opportunity to deepen my knowledge, learn about current developments, and understand how pathology integrates into the wider urology clinical pathway.

The programme was very well organised and delivered a broad range of teaching across prostate, bladder, renal, and testicular pathology. The entire experience surpassed my expectations, both in terms of educational value and the insights it provided into the realities of modern uropathology practice.

Day one began with a memorable and humorous introduction comparing histopathologists to ancient Egyptians, “embalming tissues never to be seen again,” which set a warm tone for the following two days. The first scientific session focused on reporting prostate biopsies, metrics, and grading. It was enlightening to learn about the different methods used to quantify tumour content in biopsies and the extent of variation in current practice. The discussion regarding ISUP Grade 1 and whether it should still be regarded as “cancer” in 2025 was particularly thought-provoking. The updates on Gleason grading, intraductal carcinoma, and cribriform lesions were extremely helpful for me as a trainee and clarified several areas I had found challenging during training.

The talks on radical prostatectomy reporting were also very informative. The explanation of intraoperative frozen sections and the NeuroSAFE approach added important clinical context. The presentation on the “Bonn Protocol,” demonstrating a significant reduction in block numbers with minimal diagnostic loss, was a highlight and raised interesting questions about efficiency, sustainability, and maintaining diagnostic standards.

Molecular pathology updates across bladder, renal, and testicular tumours provided a clear overview of how classifications are evolving. The sessions on digital pathology and artificial intelligence, including discussions of the ARTICULATE PRO trial, offered valuable insights into how these technologies are beginning to influence uropathology reporting and workflow.

Hearing from clinicians throughout the meeting, including updates on the TRANSFORM trial, prostate cancer screening, active surveillance, and the NeuroSAFE study, helped

me appreciate how pathological findings directly translate into clinical decisions. This multidisciplinary aspect was especially beneficial, reinforcing the importance of clear, consistent reporting.

Day two focused on clinical cases, covering kidney, bladder, testicular, and prostate pathology. I found this day extremely valuable for consolidating my learning. The “Spotlight on Interesting Cases” session was a particular highlight. The case series presented by Dr Rohit Mehra was outstanding, engaging, and practical.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed attending the BDIAP Annual Symposium on Urological Pathology. My confidence in uropathology has increased considerably, and the meeting has strengthened my interest in gaining further experience in this subspecialty. I am very grateful to the BDIAP for providing the funding that enabled me to attend, and I would strongly recommend both the symposium and the bursary scheme to other trainees.