

BDIAP - BAUP Symposium on Urological Pathology 2025

Bursary Report

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I wish to thank the BDIAP for awarding me a bursary to attend the BDIAP/BAUP Symposium on Urological Pathology. I am very grateful for this opportunity, which allowed me to participate in a high-quality educational event and to further develop my professional interests in this field.

I started my fourth-year residency in Belgium in the autumn, and I am currently reflecting on the subspecialty fields in which I would like to further train. Urology has always been particularly appealing to me because of its diagnostic diversity. This symposium represented a unique opportunity to obtain a comprehensive update in urology and to deepen my knowledge in a way that will be directly beneficial to both my current training and my future practice.

The symposium fully met, and even exceeded, my expectations. I was particularly pleased with the strong emphasis placed on the collaboration between clinicians and pathologists, which is essential for high-quality patient care. Over the two days, the speakers addressed their topics with great precision and depth, supported by excellent presentations and stimulating case discussions.

The program was well organized, and the level of discussion was very high, with thoughtful insight and debates on current controversies within the field. I especially appreciated the holistic approach to prostate cancer, integrating pathology, surgical management, and medical treatment, while also considering the patient's quality of life, which is ultimately the most important goal.

Several aspects of the symposium were particularly enlightening for me. I was struck by how prostate biopsy measurements, something that appears so simple, can in fact conceal a wide range of interpretations.

I was also not previously aware of the debate between two-tier and four-tier grading systems in urothelial carcinoma. I found this discussion intellectually stimulating, as it touches on the very definition of what we consider to be cancer.

In addition, receiving an update on the new classification of sex cord tumours was extremely valuable. Another highlight was the presentation on the use of Histog scanners for the assessment of surgical resection margins. It was exciting to see how technological advances can enhance collaboration between pathologists and surgeons and ultimately improve patient care.

Finally, Professor Rohit Mehra's lectures on high-grade renal tumours were particularly engaging and provided me with practical tools to better diagnose and manage these challenging cases.

I definitely learned a great deal from this symposium, which broadened my overall vision of urology. I now feel more confident in my ability to consolidate and further develop my knowledge in this field, thanks to the comprehensive and well-structured overview provided by the symposium.

I would very strongly recommend this symposium to my colleagues, and particularly to fellow residents, given its accessibility and the richness of its content.

The bursary opportunity given by the BDIAP to junior pathologists to attend a wide range of educational events is highly commendable. The bursary application process is quite easy, and I strongly encourage my peers to take advantage of these opportunities.