

Kent and Medway Pathology Network Virtual Conference

The Kent and Medway Pathology Network hosted its first Virtual Conference on Thursday 28th April 2022. All staff across the network were invited to attend this interactive network and personal development event. The conference was spilt into a morning and afternoon session, with a break for lunch. There was also allocated time for questions following each speaker. The conference was recorded in two parts and this along with the presentation slides and evaluation form will be made available.

The sessions before the break included a variety of presentations ranging from our Kent and Medway Pathology Network vision and direction, to hearing from more established neighbouring networks about their journey to maturity and roadmaps to digital pathology.

Following the break, there was a fantastic opportunity to hear first-hand from colleagues and showcase some of the great innovations, new ways of working, training and development taking place across the Pathology network. This session ended with topic-based presentations from trainee Biomedical Scientists including Anthrax to Graves disease and Polio eradication.

We were pleased to have a good network representation at this inaugural conference and will be looking to develop the content and accessibility for any future events. It was great to see fantastic feedback and words of encouragement throughout in the meeting verbally and within the meeting chat function.

Programme

Our Network vision and strategy direction
Supriya Joshi

Focus on Digital Pathology
Bethany Williams

Our Network Journey
Denise Cook

4Our Own Digital Pathology Plans
Dominic Chambers

BREAK

Career Journey to consultant Clinical Scientist
Sally Stock

NPeX in Immunology
Lorna Miller

Trialling Artificial intelligence based culture interpretation within diagnostic Microbiology
Ben Sloan

Graves Disease
Max Justice

Overview of anthrax
Luke Coomber

Amerithrax
Stacy Hough

Anthrax Island
Liam Spooner

MRSA screening
Kayla Geohagen

Clue cells and the role of Bacterial Vaginosis
Emmanuel Antwi

Summary of C.difficile infection
Jonathan Farmer

Eradication of Polio
Dee Fasubba

Dr Supriya Joshi, MTW Clinical Director and Chair of the Pathology Network Clinical and Operational Committee

Supriya, originally trained in Bangalore and came to England in 2002 when she undertook post graduate studies in Medicine. She later went on to taking on a role as a Consultant Chemical Pathologist, Clinical Director for pathology at MTW, and the chair of the Pathology Network Clinical and Operational Committee.

Supriya presentation began by highlighting the purpose of Pathology and its contribution in patient care, followed by the vision for the Kent and Medway Pathology Network, its the challenges, risks and gaps but how we plan to tackle these within the network strategy.



Dr Bethany Williams, Leeds Teaching Hospital

Dr Bethany Williams is a Specialty Doctor at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and the University of Leeds, and the Lead for Training, Validation and PPI at the National Pathology Imaging Co-Operative in the United Kingdom.

Bethany gave her insight to the Digital Pathology journey within Leeds Teaching Hospitals and her involvement in leading full digitalization of 3 NHSI pathology networks within the north of England. She also touched upon the process behind digitalizing histology slides for its clinical, teaching and training applications.

Denise Cook, Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Services

Denise is the Deputy Managing Director and Executive Head of Clinical Governance, Quality and Service Improvement for the Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Network.

BSPS is regarded as an exemplar network collaborative by NHSEI and have been working as a collaborative for over 20 years in a number of configurations. Denise took us on the BSPS network journey, its vision, service configuration, the highs and lows, and the future. She was able to share the networks lessons learnt, and key messages addressing change management.



Dominic Chambers

Dominic is a consultant Histopathologist, lead medical examiner and clinical lead for cellular pathology at MTW. Dominic delivered a summary of the key objectives and deliverables with Kent and Medway and the progress made to date on our road to Digitalisation.

Dr Sally Stock, Consultant Clinical Scientist at East Kent Hospitals.

Sally has worked at East Kent Hospitals since 2009, initially as a principal clinical scientist, and then was appointed to a consultant post in 2016. She is currently head of service for clinical biochemistry and immunology.

Sally detailed her own personal career development and pathway, her responsibilities as a Consultant Clinical Scientist and how her integrated scientific and clinical role.

Sally shared some of her many achievements and proud moments in Pathology along her journey so far.



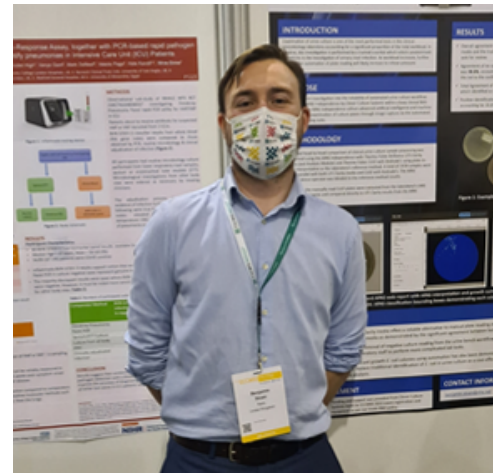
Lorna Miller - Chief BMS and Clinical Scientist Immunology, East Kent Hospitals.

Lorna has been developing the immunology laboratory service in Kent since 2000. Lorna also maintains dual HCPC registration as both a Clinical and Biomedical Scientist. Lorna discussed the National Pathology Exchange (NPEX) Project in Kent and Medway which connects laboratories using a single exchange hub aiding in sample receipt and automated digital result reporting. Lorna was able to demonstrate marked improvement in TATs for samples received from MTW and NKPS for Immunological testing at EKHUFT.

Ben Sloan, Specialist Biomedical Scientist, East Kent Hospitals.

Ben works in the Microbiology Department and is primarily interested in Bacteriology. Ben is also a STEM ambassador and currently undertaking an MSc.

Ben presented an innovative concept of the APAS system where artificial intelligence is used in bacterial culture interpretation. He was trialing this on two of the highest workload processes in the laboratory. The key benefits being incorporation of a level of standardisation and slight improved TATs, though there was also an increase in workflow cost to current practice.



Max Justie, Student Biomedical Scientist, North Kent Pathology Services

Max shares his great case study on hyperthyroidism in Graves' disease including patient presentation, diagnostic testing and treatment.

Luke Coomber, Stacy Hough, Liam Spooner

Kayla Geohagen, Emmanuel Antwi, Jonathan Farmer, Dee Fasubba

Trainee Biomedical Scientists, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospitals

Sharing case studies and presentations on a variety of Microbiology topics. The presentations were highly engaging and some even shocking facts were revealed. Topics ranged from Anthrax to the eradication of Polio.