CM-Path Session – PathSoc July 2019

Thursday 4 July
Queens suite 3

CM-Path session
Chairs: Dr Karin Oien and Dr Owen Driskell

08:30 08:55
08:55 09:20 Karin Oien (20+5) CM-Path update; Hear about our activities to date, our future and the CM-Path Network
09:20 09:45 Abeer Shaaban (20+5) Pathology Contribution to clinical trials

09:45 10:55 Coffee break and official poster rounds

10:55 11:20 Owen Driskell (20+5) Improving cellular pathology research - have your say!
11:20 11:30 Workshop discussion - are correct activities for HRA and NIHR templates captured?
11:30 11:40 Workshop discussion – Are their other roles or settings we should work on capturing?
11:40 11:50 Workshop discussion - Next steps…

CM-Path Session
Dr Karin Oien & Dr Abeer Shaaban
The NCRI Cellular Molecular Pathology (CM-Path) initiative aims to improve diagnosis and treatment of cancer patients by breathing new life into academic cell and tissue-based pathology. It aims to provide strategic co-ordination of research training, basic and translational research opportunities and implementation of new approaches in pathology for faster innovation in cancer care. CM-Path was originally funded for five years in 2016.

In this session our Chairperson, Dr Karin Oien, will aim to provide an update on the activity to date showing where we have made an impact on academic pathology to date as well as share our new strategic vision which is driving our activity for our final two years of funding to ensure transformative change in pathology research. CM-Path WS2 lead, Dr Abeer Shaaban will also provide an update on the work we have been doing for pathologists in clinical trials over the last three years.

We will also introduce the CM-Path Network which we are encouraging institutes/pathology labs to join. CM-Path has a vision of creating a UK wide network of pathology labs to support pathologists. In this session you will hear about our proposal for a pathology network, how to join, the benefits of joining and have your chance on what the network can provide. You can find more information on the Network here: https://cmpath.ncri.org.uk/cm-path-network/

We would also welcome input on our proposed activity for year four and five of CM-Path. Do you have any ideas for what you would like CM-Path to prioritise?

If you have any questions about these sessions please contact Miss Helen Pitman, CM-Path Programme Manager, helen.pitman@ncri.org.uk

Improving pathology research: have your say on how things should be done.
Dr Owen Driskell

As well as the increase in the overall workload of cellular pathology departments, there have been increases in clinical trials requiring pathology input. This research benefits from early contact with pathology departments to discuss the aspects of research delivery that will be carried out within the pathology department.

To better inform these discussions, pathology would benefit from informed recognition in the tools the Health Research Authority and NHS R&D departments use to approve and set up research studies (visit: https://www.hra.nhs.uk/planning-and-improving-research/research-planning/prepare-study-documentation/)

The Statement of Activities and Schedule of Events are used to provide information on participating NHS organisations in England and Wales. A Statement of Activities for each site type should be completed and accompanied by a completed Schedule of Events as part of a submission to the HRA. The two documents allow the sponsor to make clear what activities will be undertaken locally and the cost type for each activity.

A further document that informs the process for commercial studies is the NIHR Industry costing template. The Industry Costing Templates provides a framework for transparent cost display and calculation to support swift local site budget negotiations when performing commercial trials in the NHS.

CM-Path has run a program of work to better define what roles pathologists play in research, mapping and describing pathologist activities in a format compatible with and so informative of the documents and templates described above. This will allow better articulation of the contribution pathology departments make in research and facilitate appropriate consideration of pathology aspects of trial delivery by the R&D departments responsible for setting up studies.

CM-Path will take the outputs of this work and present them to the PathSoc Audience for consultation.

The Key Questions are:

What do pathologist do to support research?
Are the roles described a suitable account of pathologist roles?
How to seek remuneration for contributing to clinical trials?
Have we recognised all the possible settings this work can be carried out in?

If you have any questions about these sessions please contact Miss Helen Pitman, CM-Path Programme Manager, helen.pitman@ncri.org.uk