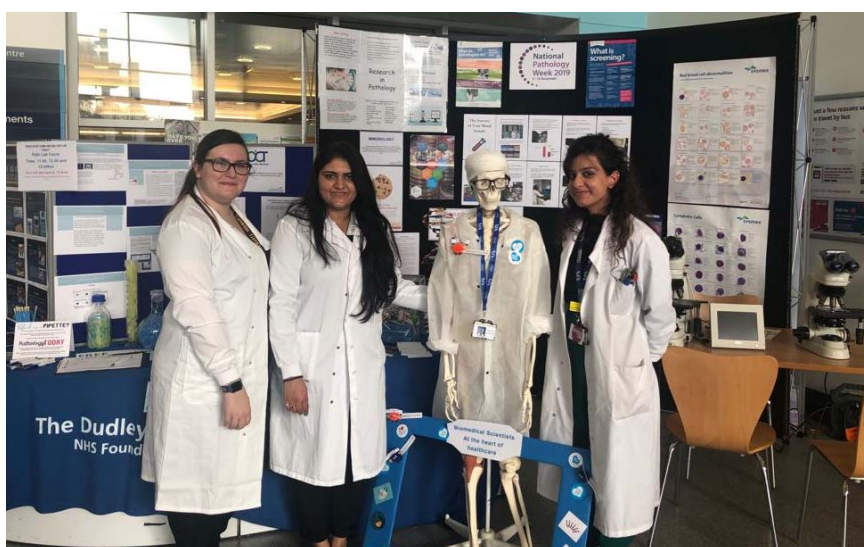


BCPS Newsletter

Staff edition | December 2019

National pathology week...



As part of the national pathology week initiative, the pathology team at Dudley set up a stand with information and activities for people of all ages. The purpose of this event is to raise and improve public awareness on how scientists help in the pathway of disease diagnosis.

New Sickness absence policy

Through a process of collective bargaining with Trade Unions, the Trust has agreed a new Attendance at Work policy which will be effective from 2nd December 2019. This replaces the current Sickness Absence policies effective for all BCPS staff. This is an important milestone for BCPS and will result in a more consistent approach to managing attendance at work.

Managers will be invited to attend launch events and training sessions starting in December.

The new policy will be sent out accordingly and will be displayed on departmental noticeboards. We would encourage you all to familiarise yourself with the contents.

IBMS award



*Nigel Cole, West Mids.
IBMS Council member
Chair with Rochelle Parnell*

Rochelle Parnell a placement student from Aston University completed her 3rd year placement at SWBH Immunology.

Rochelle passed her IBMS certificate of competence portfolio in August and is now completing her 4th year at University.

She recently received recognition at the IBMS awards for the most improved placement student with a certificate recognising her growth over the placement year.

BCPS one year on

These events have now concluded and we would like to thank those of you that attended, your feedback has been extremely useful.

We intend to hold feedback sessions across the sites in the coming months where we want to discuss the key themes with staff and our plans for improving the communication in all matters.

We would welcome attendance at these events once they are setup.

Microbiology CPD event



The Microbiology team held a joint CPD evening at the Walsall Village Hotel. The event was well attended by staff from all sites and was a great way for staff to integrate. Mark Harpur and Dr Tranprit Saluja presented validation of the Flu Point of Care Test and James Elston gave an introduction to Clinisys (the new LIMS system). Another event is planned for February 2020.

Registration portfolio



Congratulations to University placement student Phoebe Worden who has completed her Registration portfolio in Microbiology at Walsall Manor. Phoebe is seen here being congratulated by Sadia Iqbal who completed her portfolio last year.

IT update

Black Country Pathology Service is on track to go live in May 2020. Supplier validation testing is in progress; it started on 2nd December and will be completed by 20th December 2019.

The next phase is user acceptance testing which will start on 6th January 2020. There will be three phases of user acceptance testing, during which end to end testing will be undertaken by the lab staff. For example, requests will be generated from ICE (order comms system), booked into the laboratory system Winpath Enterprise and then results will be transmitted back to result reporting systems like Electronic patient record and other downstream systems.

A huge thank you to all staff for the hard work and continued efforts to keep the LIMS go live project on track.

Retirement wishes



With a combined total of 74 years NHS service in pathology at SWBH. We would like to thank and send good wishes to Carolyn Potter and Julie Evans who both retired at the end of November. Both ladies have passed on invaluable knowledge and skills to many staff along the way. They will be greatly missed.

Looking forward to 2020

Thanks to everybody in pathology for all your hard work over 2019. It has been an exciting year and we have made considerable progress in a number of key areas.

In 2020 we will see further developments as we move closer to services being transferred to the hub.