

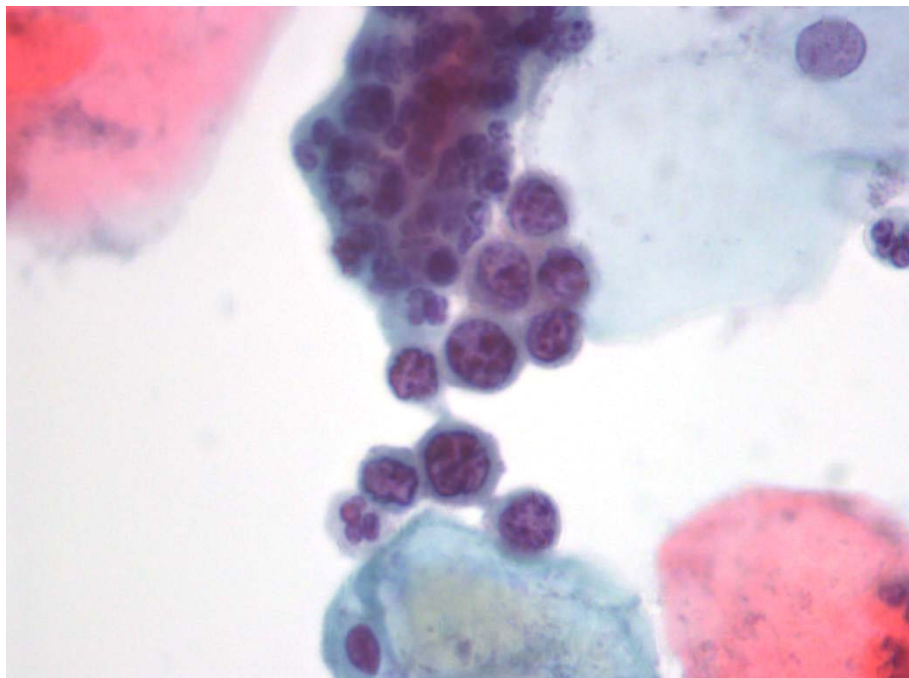


SOUTH WEST REGIONAL CYTOLOGY TRAINING CENTRE

DEPARTMENT OF CELLULAR PATHOLOGY
SOUTHMEAD HOSPITAL, BRISTOL

ANNUAL REPORT

1st April 2010 – 31st March 2011



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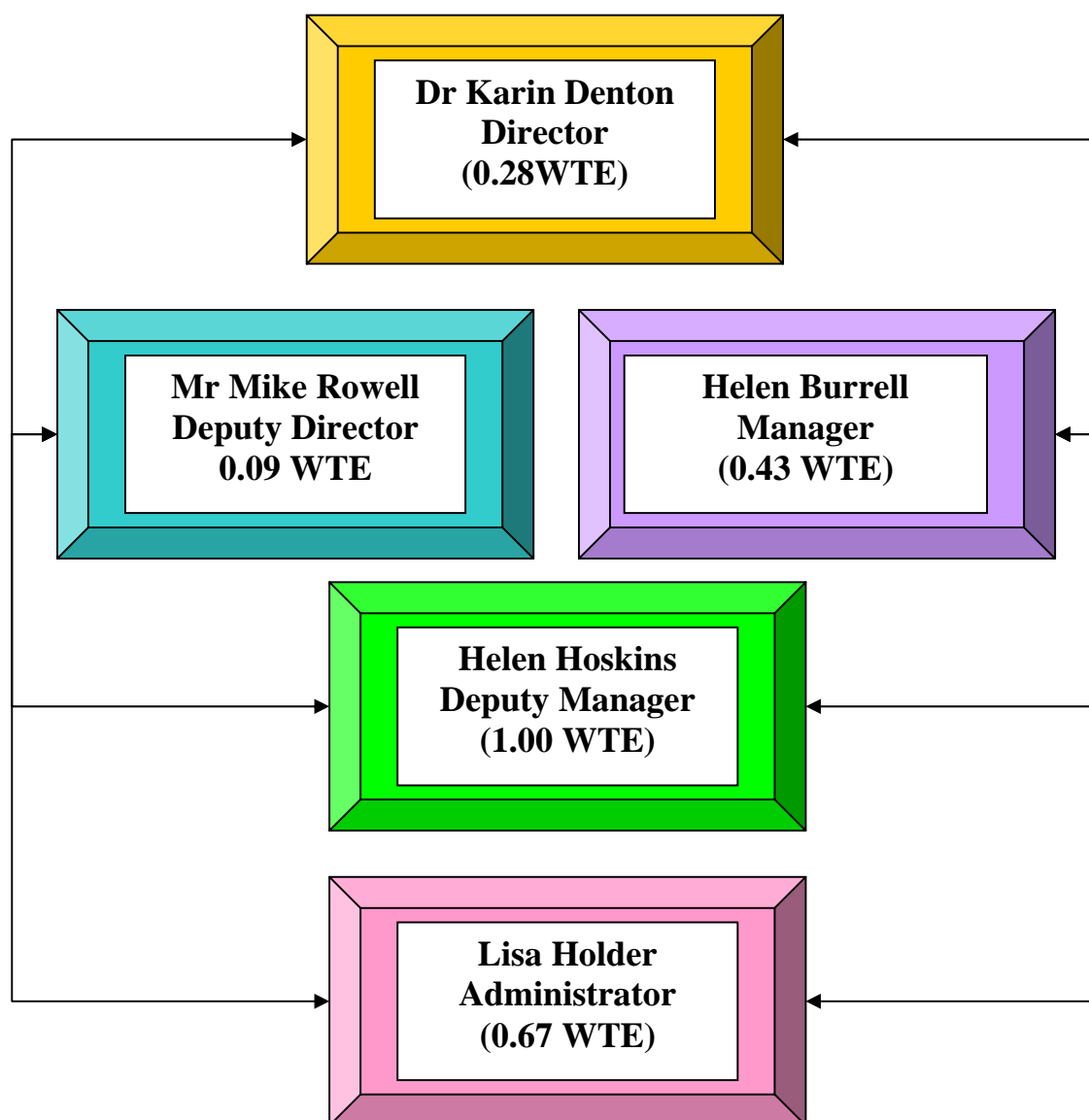
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*The South West Regional Cytology Training Centre is located at Southmead Hospital in the City of Bristol.
The photograph on the front cover shows a cluster of small cells showing severe dyskaryosis.*

The Cytology Training Centre was opened in 1990 at Southmead Hospital, Bristol, primarily to provide training for cervical cytology screeners employed within the old South Western Region. Since then it has flourished, becoming a nationally recognized centre of excellence in the provision of cytology training.

The CTC enjoys both NHSCSP accreditation and EEC recognition for the standard of courses provided. Its reputation is built largely upon the qualifications and experience of the staff providing core training within the region. Initially dedicated to the provision of basic training for cytology screeners, the number of courses provided has grown in frequency and diversity over the last 20 years.

Overview of staffing structure



The Training Centre Team

DR KARIN DENTON

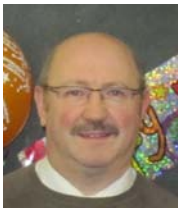
MB ChB, FRCPath



Karin Denton is a consultant pathologist and has been the Director of the Training Centre since 1995. Karin is an advocate of continuing professional development and believes that this is best delivered through quality training and the provision of easily accessible training courses. Dr Denton teaches on the majority of the courses held at the Training Centre, as well as often speaking at a range of National and International Cytology Conferences. Dr Denton is President of the newly formed British Association for Cervical Cytopathology (BAC)
Dr. Denton is also the Director of the South West Regional Quality Assurance Reference Centre.

MIKE ROWELL

MSc in Training (Leicester University)
CSci (Chartered Scientist)
Fellow of the Institute of Biomedical Science
NHSCSP Certificate in Cervical Cytology



Mike Rowell is Deputy Director of the Training Centre, whilst also undertaking the role of manager of the South West Regional Quality Assurance Reference Centre. Mike was also President of the National Association for Cytologists (NAC) during 2010-11 prior to the merger with the British Society for Clinical Cytology (BSCC) to form the new BAC.

HELEN BURRELL

BSc (Hons) in Applied Biological Sciences
Post Graduate Certificate in Education
MSc in Cellular Pathology
CSci (Chartered Scientist)
Fellow of the Institute of Biomedical Science
NHSCSP Certificate in Cervical Cytology
Advanced Specialist Diploma in Cervical Cytology



Helen Burrell has been manager of the Training Centre since 2001, and she is responsible for the day to day running of the Centre, organising courses and speakers. Helen delivers a proportion of the training during the cervical cytology courses for trainee and qualified primary screeners, checker staff, trainee pathologists, sample takers and colposcopists.

Helen has been the Honorary Secretary for the Cytology Society for South West and South Wales since October 2008.

HELEN HOSKINS

BSc (Hons) in Biomedical Science
MSc in Cellular Pathology
CSci (Chartered Scientist)
Fellow of the Institute of Biomedical Science
NHSCSP Certificate in Cervical Cytology



Helen Hoskins has been Deputy Manager of the Training Centre since 2003. Helen delivers a proportion of training in cervical cytology to trainees and qualified primary screeners, sample takers and colposcopists. Helen also acts as practice nurse liaison officer, monitoring sample quality and ensuring timely feedback and advice for sample takers in training.

Helen has been the Honorary Treasurer for the Cytology Society for South West and South Wales since March 2009.

LISA HOLDER
Administrator



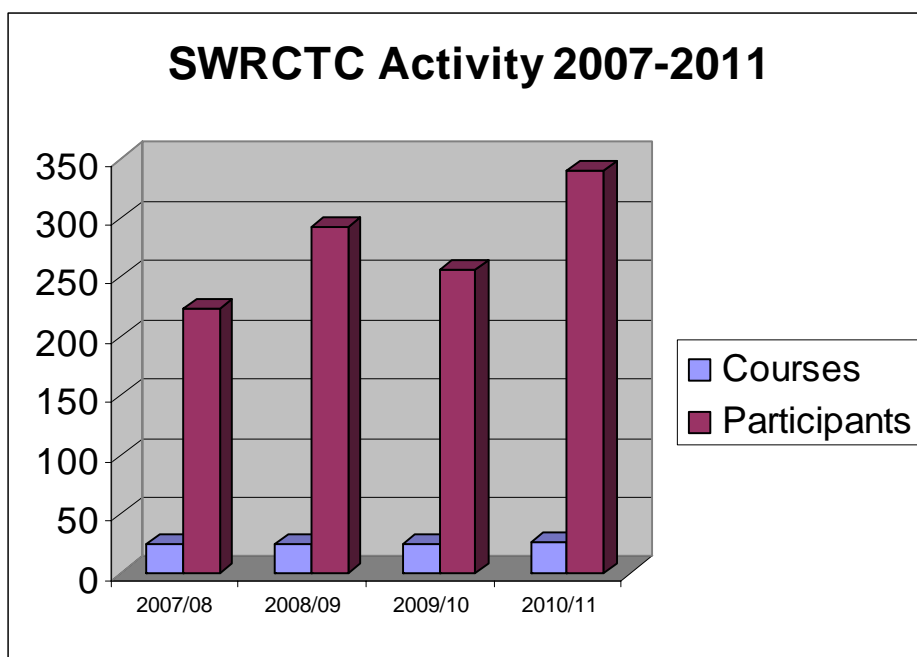
Lisa has been administrator for the Training Centre since March 2011. Lisa helps to co-ordinate the day to day running of the Training Centre, and is the first point of contact for enquiries.

3. Activity Report

The Centre Training Team offers a warm welcome to all visitors. We aim to make our courses both educational and enjoyable. Course programmes are designed carefully to provide education appropriate to the individuals needs. We offer a diverse range of courses as we provide cervical cytology training for staff groups from various aspects of the NHS Cervical Screening Programme, from cytology laboratories, primary care and colposcopy. In addition we also offer training in diagnostic cytology and gynaecological histopathology.

This section includes an overview of courses, frequency and duration, together with the number of participants.

The graph shows a summary of training centre activity over the last 4-year period. The Cytology Training Centre offered a range of courses during 2010/11. 27 courses were held by the training centre during this period, the additional course covering molecular cytology was hosted due to the increasing importance of this area in cervical cytology.



The number of attendees has increased during the last year reflecting the demand for courses. Numbers were lower last year due to cancellation of a cervical sample takers update due to the predicted swine flu outbreak.

South West Regional Cytology Training Centre Activity Report

1st April 2010 – 31st March 2011

Course Title	Number of courses	Number of participants
4-week Introductory Course In Gynaecological Cytology	0	0
5-day Follow-up Course In Gynaecological Cytology	1	1
3-day Preparatory Course Diploma In Cervical Cytology	2	10
3-day Update Course in Gynaecological Cytology	4	45
1-day Update in Cervical Cytology for Pathologists & Consultant BMS's	1	7
1-day Gynaecological Histology for Technical Staff	1	7
1-day Respiratory Cytology for Technical Staff	1	7
1-day FNA Cytology for Technical Staff	1	9
1-day Update in Cervical Cytology for Checkers	1	10
Cervical Cytology – A Molecular Future	1	7
Serous Fluid Cytology for Technical Staff	1	6
Urine Cytology for Technical Staff	1	9
2-day Gynaecological Pathology for Colposcopy Trainees	1	10
4-day Non-gynaecological Cytology for Trainee Pathologists	2	14
3-day Gynaecological Cytology for Trainee Pathologists	2	3
5-day Cytology Training for Year 1 Trainee Pathologists	1	5
2-day Cervical Sample Taker Training	4	35
Half-day Update for Cervical Sample Takers	2	160
<u>TOTALS</u>	27	345

Courses & Descriptions

Gynaecological Cytology

The following courses are offered each year to laboratory staff:

Basic Courses in Gynaecological Cytology

- Introductory Course
- Follow-up course
- Prep Course for the Diploma in Cervical Cytology

Update Courses in Gynaecological Cytology

- 3-day Update for cytoscreeners and BMS staff
- 1-day update for checker staff
- 1-day update for Consultant staff
- 3-day Gynaecological Cytology for Trainee Pathologists
- Cytology – a molecular future?

The following courses are offered subject to demand

- LBC System Conversion Courses
- One-day refresher courses
- 1-week course for Year 1 trainee pathologists
- Gynaecological Pathology for Colposcopists in Training
- Gynaecological Histology for cytology staff

Non - Gynaecological Courses

The following one-day courses were offered to laboratory technical staff:

- FNA Cytology
- Urine Cytology
- Serous Fluid Cytology
- Respiratory Cytology

The following course was offered on two occasions to trainee pathologists

- 4-day non-gynae course

Course Descriptions

Introductory Course in Gynaecological Cytology

This twenty-day course is mandatory for trainees who are taking the City & Guilds Diploma in Cervical Cytology. The syllabus follows that approved by the NHSCSP and contains a minimum of 80 hours microscopy time.

Some examples of topics covered during the course include the normal cervical sample and commonly encountered infections, the concept and pathology of squamous cervical abnormalities, adenocarcinoma of the female genital tract and quality issues within the NHSCSP.

Follow up to Introductory Course

This is a five-day course provided approximately one year following attendance at the introductory course. This course is designed to monitor the individual's progress and provide suggestions to the laboratory regarding in-house training.

Prep Course for the Diploma in Cervical Cytology

This three-day course is exclusively designed for individuals preparing to undertake the NHSCSP Certificate in Cervical Cytology. The course contains lectures, microscopy sessions, question & answer sessions and a mock examination, designed to demonstrate both the format of the examination and the skills and attributes required for its successful completion. The course covers specific topics selected from the NHSCSP Training Log and includes discussion and feedback on examination technique and performance.

Update Course in Gynaecological Cytology

This three-day course is designed to inform and update qualified staff working in cytology about developments in cervical cytology and the NHSCSP, and to re-evaluate the morphology and criteria for evaluating the more difficult smears. Attendance at an update course once every three years enables staff to meet their professional requirements for continuing professional development.

Checkers Update Course in Gynaecological Cytology

This one-day update provides a lecture and workshops dedicated to challenging and difficult cervical samples, intended for staff that undertake checking in cervical cytology.

One-Day Update in Cervical Cytology for Pathologists Consultant BMS's

This one-day update provides a lecture and workshops dedicated to challenging and difficult cervical samples, intended for staff that report cervical cytology.

Gynaecological Cytology for Trainee Pathologists

This three-day course is designed for trainee pathologists preparing to take the MRCPPath examination. The course combines lectures and workshops covering various aspects of gynaecological cytology. This course is now being held twice per year to fit in with MRCPPath examinations. We will review this for next year depending on uptake.

One-Week Cytology Course for Year 1 Trainee Pathologists

This one-week course was designed to accommodate the cytology training needs of Year 1 trainee pathologists within the South West Region. It covers both Gynaecological and non-gynaecological cytology.

Gynaecological Histology for Technical Staff

This one-day course is designed to give a basic introduction to gynaecological histology. It includes normal and abnormal histology covered by lectures and workshops.

Gynaecological Pathology for Colposcopists in Training

This two-day course is designed for specialist registrars in Gynaecology, and trainee nurse Colposcopists wishing to become accredited as colposcopists. The course is composed of lectures and workshops covering all main aspects of gynaecological cytology and histology.

One-day gynae refresher course

At the training centre we aim to provide training and support to labs, and we do our best to accommodate their needs. During this period we ran a one-off refresher course to accommodate the needs of an individual who had been identified as requiring extra support and training.

LBC System Conversion Course

This is a one-day course designed for individuals who are already trained in Surepath LBC system, but need to convert to screen Thin Prep samples. During the day, individuals are introduced to the main differences between the 2 systems, both in preparation and morphology. Attendees are given a 100-slide test set to take back to their laboratories for completion following this course. This course is scheduled upon demand and there was no demand for a conversion course during this period.

Non-Gynaecological Courses

FNA Cytology for Technical Staff

Urine Cytology for Technical Staff

Serous Fluid Cytology for Technical Staff

Respiratory Cytology for Technical Staff

This series of one-day course is designed to give a basic introduction and background to the cytology of the various sites. The courses consist of a series of lectures, workshops and multi-header sessions.

Non-Gynaecological Cytology for Trainee Pathologists

This four-day course is designed for trainee pathologists preparing to take the MRCPPath examination. The course combines lectures and workshops covering various aspects of non-gynaecological cytology. This course is now being held twice per year to fit in with MRCPPath examinations. We will review this for next year depending on uptake.

Staff can book places for the gynae and non-gynae courses listed by visiting the Training Centre website (www.cytology-training.co.uk) or by contacting the Training Centre administrator directly.

Cervical Sample Taker Training

As part of ongoing quality measures within the cervical screening programme, the Cytology Training Centre offers training and update course for cervical sample takers working within the Avon Cervical Screening Programme.

Sample Takers Initial 2 day course

This 2-day course is designed for sample takers in training and is suitable for both nurses and doctors. The course delivers information as specified in NHSCSP document 23.

Cervical Sample Takers Half-day Update course

Cervical sample takers are required to attend a half-day update once every three years. The training centre offers two courses each year.

Please note that places on sample taker courses must be booked via the Avon Local Medical Committee (Avon LMC) and cannot be booked directly through the Training Centre.

Staff working within the Avon CSP can book places on these courses by contacting the Avon LMC at practicestafftraining@almc.co.uk

4. Summary of participant feedback

As a quality measure course evaluation sheets are given to all course participants. During the regular Training Centre team meetings the course feedback is collated and reviewed. Changes can then be made as deemed appropriate.

The feedback from course participants has been very welcome and suggests that the standard of teaching, training and updating has been excellent and very well received. A summary of participant feedback is listed below.

Follow up course

- *I have really enjoyed my follow up course. It has been valuable in reaffirming how much I have learnt in the last year. This was a challenging, informative and useful course*

Prep course for the C & G Diploma in Cervical Cytology

- *Really enjoyed the course*
- *I have gained confidence that I do actually retain some information!*
- *I feel more prepared for the exam*

3-Day Update in Gynaecological Cytology

- *Much more mentally stimulating, challenging and interesting than the one I attended 3 years ago*
- *I thoroughly enjoyed this interesting and well organised course*
- *Enjoyed the course, very interesting*
- *A very useful and enjoyable course, thank you*
- *Really liked the variation of slides, a few slides did not have nice staining but great programme*
- *All good as usual!*
- *Really enjoyed it*
- *Very helpful, feel I've learned a lot. Lovely and informal, didn't feel as if I was 'put on the spot' during multi-header sessions*
- *Excellent update, thoroughly enjoyed topics*
- *As usual a very informative and well run course. Very helpful and friendly staff*
- *Probably the best update course I've been on!*
- *Well presented course, high professional standards*
- *Some ergonomic issues need to be addressed*

One-Day Update in Cervical Cytology for Checkers

- *I will definitely recommend the checkers course to my colleague who will benefit from these lectures*
- *Excellent day*
- *Very good course, thank you*
- *Very helpful*
- *Very useful to increase confidence as checkers*
- *Good to look at things from checker perspective*
- *Found multi-header set up uncomfortable*

One-day Update in Cervical Cytology for Consultant Staff

- *Two difficult areas covered well with good balance between lectures and microscopy*

Cervical Cytology – a molecular future?

- *Gained more insight into future changes to NHSCSP*
- *I would recommend to others*
- *Gained information on HPV testing and better understanding of HPV carcinogenesis*
- *Gained a lot of information to take back, thank you*
- *Helped refresh my molecular biology, great day thank you*

Gynaecological Histology for Technical Staff

- *Excellent course, thanks*
- *Thoroughly enjoyed this course, thank you*
- *Excellent. Would have liked to have seen a few LBC slides alongside the histology*
- *Screening room very warm*

FNA Cytology for Technical Staff

- *The training centre provided a friendly learning atmosphere, thank you for making us feel welcome*
- *I really enjoyed the course, thank you*
- *I think the Institute should encourage cytology staff in the UK to attend this very informative workshop*
- *The best administrative information and organisation I have encountered, thank you*

Urine Cytology for Technical Staff

- *Very interesting and easy to understand. Dr Denton has a nice relaxed manner which makes understanding very easy*
- *Another very good course, well presented and set at the right level*
- *Very good course, thanks*

Serous Fluid Cytology for Technical Staff

- *Please continue with the one day courses as easier to be away from the lab for one day*
- *A good refresher in serous fluid cytology*
- *Very enjoyable, and single day courses are very good*
- *The one-day courses allow people to take on board the information for each sample type*

Respiratory Cytology for Technical Staff

- *Very good course*
- *I have gained useful information on interpretation of respiratory samples*
- *Good overview, useful clinical insights, good introduction to adequacy assessment*

3-Day Gynaecological Cytology for Trainee Pathologists

- *Well organised course, very good*
- *All lectures I attended have been appropriately pitched and workshop cases excellent*
- *Provided me with useful tips for exam and consultant life*
- *Very good, I have a better understanding of what's required for exam and a practical way of dealing with problem areas in day to day practice*

4-Day Non-Gynaecological Cytology for Trainee Pathologists

- *Thoroughly enjoyed the course, found it well organised, well presented and very educational*
- *Great course, most sessions hit target very well, recommend*
- *Excellent course, very much like the layout of the lecture, workshop and own time with slides*
- *Feel confident after the workshops but probably not so after the mock exam!*
- *Would rather have the Head & Neck session earlier in the week as this is a difficult area*

2-Day Gynaecological Pathology for Colposcopists in Training

- *Very enjoyable, everyone helpful*
- *Quiz was very informative*
- *Excellent 2 days*
- *Generally very good and well organised course*
- *Will recommend it to other trainees*
- *Well done, really enjoyed the 2 days, thank you*

2-Day Cervical Sample taker training

- *I thought the whole course was organised and interesting. I got out of it exactly what I needed and had all my queries answered, very good*
- *Very informative training and clear handouts, lots to take in but well informed, interesting, educational training course, thank you*
- *Excellent preparation, feel like I will be well supported*
- *Excellent course, well presented and lots of good, clear information given*
- *Brilliant 2 days, thank you*
- *A very informative and enjoyable 2-days, many thanks*
- *More practical type sessions would be good*
- *Rushed at times*
- *Very enjoyable 2 days, possibly could have gone into a third day*

Half-day sample takers update

- *Very useful and informative afternoon*
- *Thank you, very informative*
- *A really good informative ½ study day, it acted as a great reminder on new developments in the service*
- *Pictures of normal and abnormal cervix were really helpful*
- *Please could you make the presentations available electronically*

5. Future plans / developments

Update courses will provide the key to ensuring staff remain well trained and informed of any new developments and areas of difficulty.

Uptake for the 3-day gynae updates is still good and we will therefore continue to offer these courses. However the feedback from consultant and checker staff is that many of them prefer to be away from the department for just one-day but attend a course each year.

Following discussions with our regional training officers we have decided to stagger the 5-day follow up course for trainees. Instead of having a 5 day course one year following the introductory course, trainees will come back for a 2-day course approximately 6 months post-introductory course, and for a 3-day course approximately 9-12 months post-introductory course.

Our new one-day course on molecular cytology was well received and we have been requested to offer this course again next year.

Uptake for the gynae course for trainee pathologists courses were low compared to previous years. We changed the format for this course so that it is especially targeted towards examination practice, and the third day is optional for those who wish to see more difficult cases as would be seen in routine practice. Gynaecological cytology will soon be an optional rather than mandatory component of the MRC Path examination, therefore we will continue to monitor this and may reduce the frequency of this course if attendance does not improve.

Once again we hosted a one-week course specifically for Year 1 trainee pathologists from the South West region. This course was very well received.

This year we provided a series of one-day non-gynae courses throughout the year. The feedback with regards the one-day courses has been very positive and staff would like these to continue. Feedback from training officers stated that staff are more likely to be allowed time to attend a course if they wont be out of the department for a significant amount of time.

As usual we will continue to offer a range of other courses for laboratory staff, and are willing to arrange extra courses as required if possible.

Courses for cervical sample takers are well attended and will continue to be provided help ensure well-trained and updated staff.

The Training Centre also hosts the Avon Cervical Sample Taker Register. The register is used to monitor training and update requirements for cervical sample takers working within the Avon CSP. At present 1081 sample takers have registered.

Cervical sample takers are encouraged to register as individual performance statistics are now available to registered sample takers. Details on how to register and personal statistics can be found by accessing the Avon Public Health Website at www.avon.nhs.uk/phnet/cervical.htm

We are still situated in the Lime Walk Building, situated on the Southmead Hospital Site. A new build for Pathology to include the training school has been planned but unfortunately building works have been delayed due to cost pressures within the Trust. As yet we do not have a specific date for building works to commence.

In February this year we said goodbye to our administrator Carol Miles who retired. Carol had been the administrator since the Training Centre was opened in 1990. We wish Carol a long and happy retirement.



Carol Miles

We were fortunate to recruit and welcome our new administrator Lisa Holder, who started work at the Training Centre in March this year.

Changes to our funding streams will be in place from April 2011, which will mean that all staff working in cytology labs in the South West region will be eligible to attend for training courses free of charge.

The next year will see rollout of HPV triage throughout labs in England. The Training Centre looks forward to being involved in staff training within the region and tailoring courses to suit the ever changing needs of staff.

6. Further Information / Contact Details

Please log on to our site to see the latest courses on offer for both cytology staff and sample takers.

If you have any queries or comments regarding this report, or would like any additional information, please visit our website or contact us directly.

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