**UK Cardiac Pathology Network – Annual Education Meeting:**

**“Sudden Cardiac Death”. Report from Dr Helen Doran.**

The UK Cardiac Pathology Network had its Annual Education Day on Friday 14th June 2013 in the Nowgen Centre at the Manchester Royal Infirmary in Central Manchester. The theme of “Sudden Cardiac Death” was aimed at non-specialist consultants and specialist registrars in histopathology. The Cardiomyopathy Association provided educational material for the delegates in the refreshment and registration area.

The key-note “Pathological Society” lecture entitled “Recent Developments in Genetic Aspects of Sudden Death” was given by Dr Bill Newman, from Manchester Royal Infirmary. Dr Newman used a clinical example of a family under investigation for episodes of sudden cardiac death over several years to illustrate the rapid evolution of the technology in genetics which enabled him finally to pin down the genetic association. Local cardiologists Dr. Matthias Schmitt and Professor Garrett provided updates on clinical and radiological diagnosis of inherited cardiac conditions, particularly the uses and disadvantages of implanted cardiac defibrillators, and Dr Mary Shepherd shared some of her experience of arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy as the Director of the Imperial Unit of Cardiovascular Pathology.

A symposium on the pathological investigation of sudden death chaired by Professor Sebastian Lucas included talks by Professor Gallagher about the classification of sudden cardiac death and the need for autopsy and from Dr Brett Lockyer on the warning signs in the history and external examination of cases of sudden cardiac death from a forensic viewpoint.

Dr Patrick Shenjere spoke on recent developments in vascular tumours, concentrating on alterations in the classification and common pitfalls in the diagnosis of tumours of intermediate malignancy.

Dr Benbow described the best approach to the new final RCPath Autopsy OSPE, of particular interest to the trainees in the audience. A clinicopathological session including unusual and paediatric cardiac conditions was very highly rated by delegates.

The meeting was well attended with 70 delegates, approximately equal numbers of consultant and trainee pathologists and feedback from delegates was almost uniformly positive. Next year’s meeting is again planned for mid June, in Cardiff.