Disclosure Information

I hereby declare that I have had business or personal interests in the following industrial enterprises since 1 September 2017:

Name of the enterprise / Nature of the interest

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<th>Enterprise</th>
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The British School of Pathology

The History of Pathology

Dr Matthew Clarke
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Institute of Cancer Research (ICR), UK
Ancient and medieval times

- Investigation of disease by Egyptians
- Influence of Hippocrates
- Galen (129-201AD)
- Influence of religion – sin and witchcraft
- Diagnosis was irrelevant
Evolution of pathology

- 2000 years of progress both intellectually and technologically
- Clinical descriptions of diseases and conditions
- Human dissection enabled gross pathological descriptions
- Microscopy – cellular appearances used to describe disease
- Teachers of morbid anatomy – early pathologists
William Harvey (1578-1657)

- *De Motu Cordis et Sanguinis*
- Circulatory system and function of heart
- Pathological observations of the heart:
  - Ventricular rupture
  - Left ventricular hypertrophy
Age of Enlightenment

- Emphasis more on science
- Investigation into mechanical aspects of human physiology
- Advent of the microscope
- Robert Hooke (1636-1703)
- Thomas Willis (1621-1675)
- Richard Lower (1631-1691)
Emergence of the hospital laboratory

- Mid-1800’s first lab set up at Guy’s Hospital
- Medical tests available for infectious disease
- Emergence of post mortem and dissection and valuable educational resource – creation of ‘dead house’
Personalities of the British School - John Hunter

• 1728 - 1793
• Use of primitive microscopes to describe disease
• Comparative anatomy and experimental research
• Hunterian Museum of Royal College of Surgeons
Matthew Baillie (1761-1823)

- Nephew of John Hunter and trained with him
- Continued to expand the museum
- Developed the teaching of morbid anatomy
- “The Morbid Anatomy of Some of the Most Important Parts of the Human Body” (1793)
Matthew Baillie (1761-1823)
Richard Bright (1789-1858)

- Born in Bristol
- Studied at Edinburgh University
- Began medical studies at Guy’s Hospital in 1810
- Appointed assistant physician to Guy’s Hospital
- Correlating biochemical changes & tissue pathology
- Research on urine
- Descriptions of diabetes, cerebral haemorrhage, malaria, peritonitis and whooping cough
Thomas Hodgkin (1798-1866)

- General physician
- Pathological changes in tissues
- On “Some Morbid Appearances of the Absorbent Glands and the Spleen” (1832)
Thomas Addison (1793-1860)

- 1824 Assistant Physician at Guys and founded dermatology department.
- Described xanthoma diabeticorum
- 1837 made a full physician at Guy’s Hospital
- 1838 became a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians
Thomas Addison (1793-1860)

- 1839 wrote volume 1 of “Elements of the Practice of Medicine” - “Inflammation of the caecum and appendix vermiformis”
- 1843 described pathology of bronchial pneumonia
- 1849 lecture to South London Medical Society – Addison’s Anaemia
- 1855 monograph “On the constitutional and local effects of disease of the suprarenal capsule.”
Sir William Osler

- Born in Canada in 1849
- Originally destined for the ministry
- Became interested in medicine and enrolled into the Toronto School of Medicine in 1868
- Graduated in 1872
- Professor at the McGill University Faculty of Medicine 1874
- 1889 Physician-in-chief of John Hopkins Hospital
- Left for Oxford and took up Regius Chair of Medicine
Sir William Osler

- Enthusiasm for pathology described as ‘legendary’
- Held an appointment as a pathologist
- Microbiological and serological investigations
- “To investigate the cause of death, to examine carefully the condition of organs, after such changes have gone on in them as to render existence impossible, and to apply such knowledge to the prevention and treatment of disease is one of the highest objects of the physician.”
Pathology museums and collections in UK
History of the British School

• 19th century – physicians and surgeons undertook the examination of specimens themselves – ‘surgical pathology’
• 1939 – last surgeon to report their own specimens
• Histopathology recognised as own specialism
• 1939 also saw 85 registered pathologists across the UK
• Allied to major hospitals
• Training became a priority
History of the British School

- Rapid increase between 1940 and 1960 – 10 fold increase
- Leadership and guidance was needed
- Resulted in the emergence of the College of Pathologists
Royal College of Pathologists

- College roots in 16th century
- 21st June 1962
- First meeting of the subscribers
- Sir Roy Cameron elected as the first President of the college
- Located at Carlton House Terrace
- In 1963 recognised as a charitable trust
- 1970 granted the Royal Charter
- 1964 saw the first Primary Examination with 81 candidates
Royal College of Pathologists

- Responsibility for education and training
- 1970’s – 1980’s – numbers expanded slowly
- Most training in teaching hospitals
- Most training departments contained academic representation
- Few trainees went abroad
- Consultant vacancies matched numbers of successful candidates
Pathology training

- Until 1970’s, training in a single hospital
- Generalised approach to training
- On-call responsibilities and independent reporting
- PhD, MD, research experience expected
- The importance of pathology societies/organisations:
  - Pathological Society of Great Britain
  - British Division of the International Academy of Pathology
  - Association of Clinical Pathologists
Pathology training

• 1990’s – 30 graduates applying for each DGH vacancy
• Pathology declined in popularity
• Creation of pathology training schools
• Improve poor public profile
Changes of today…

- 17 different pathology specialties
- Era of molecular pathology
- Genomics knowledge and skills gap
- ‘Morphomolecular pathology’ specialty
Summary

• The British School of Pathology is recognised across the world
• Roots are found in some of the eminent physicians of our age
• History has seen major changes to in popularity/training strategies
• Major changes are still to come in an ever changing NHS
References
