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**Pathological Society Winter Meeting, 22 - 23 January 2019, London**

**2nd joint meeting with the Royal Society of Medicine**

I would like to begin by thanking the Pathological Society for their support to our research at the Centre for Inflammation Research in Edinburgh where, during last year, we investigated the role of Annexin A1 in influencing tumour-associated macrophage phenotype in lung adenocarcinoma. I would also like to thank the society for awarding me a bursary to participate to the successful Winter meeting 2019 and giving me the opportunity to present our research in the poster session.

Overall, I believe the meeting was well organised and its format was effective for covering a variety of topics. As a first year PhD student, I was really impressed by the high-quality scientific talks that I heard and enjoyed finding out more about how all health-related professionals, nowadays, are trying to tackle the target of “personalised cures” that, ultimately, would be of great impact on patients’ care quality as standardised therapies are often not as effective for each individual. I was also amazed by the high number of participants from all over the world, demonstrating the great value and potential of this kind of meetings, especially for scientific discovery, sharing ideas and networking. Importantly, all speakers were engaging and effective in delivering, sometimes, complicated concepts. Their capacity in this, definitely made the symposium sessions flowing easily. Although all presentations during the plenary session were very interesting, I particularly enjoyed Dr. Waddingham presentation on quantifying gastric cancer expansion *in vivo* and, during the last part of the symposium, Professor Johnson description of the GALAD system for early diagnosis of liver cancer.

I was really glad when my Masters by Research supervisor Dr. David Dorward invited me to submit an abstract to the Pathological Society meeting allowing me the opportunity to present the work I did during my one-year Masters. As this was the first time I have ever presented a poster I learnt how to layout a poster both to clearly present data on the poster but also to the judges. Overall, it was a really positive experience and I enjoyed sharing our findings with different people, from Professors to enthusiastic trainees, and brought home an overall positive feedback as well as inspiration for new research ideas and avenues as I start my PhD in neutrophil function during hypoxia.

Last but not least, I would like to thank all organisers for the great work they did and Professor Coupland for hosting this successful meeting.

Best Wishes,

Simone Arienti