
Date: 14/09/2018

Dear Colleague & Participant,

Re: The UN KNEQAS ICC & ISH Weekend Conference in November: For the Attention of Scientific and Medical Staff in Histopathology

I am writing to update you on the weekend conference we are holding at the Tower Hotel in London in November. There are two streams of activities on most days, and also a workshop. One stream includes themes appropriate for laboratory staff who are involved in the everyday practice of immunohistochemistry. The other stream provides presentations on current and future companion diagnostics and include the Roche Symposium on the Friday and the Targos Symposium on the Saturday. These will be of interest to consultant pathologists and their trainees as well as senior scientists. I would be grateful if you could circulate to all your medical & biomedical scientist colleagues in your department so that they are aware.

A number of new IHC and ISH companions are now coming into the histopathology setting and include PD-L1 IHC testing in bladder, endometrial and head and neck cancer. These will be discussed in our November meeting and it would be very useful if as many cancer centres as possible will have representation at our conference so that the information provided can help with the planning for the new testing within their own laboratories.

We are hoping to have a lecture on the use of tumour mutation burden as a predictive test and also on tropomyosin receptor kinase proteins related to NTRK gene fusions. It is highly likely that laboratories across the world will be required to carry-out an IHC test for these proteins at some point. On the surface this would just be like any other IHC companion, except it involves testing most solid tumours. An enormous task! The importance of fixing every specimen appropriately comes into view and with this in mind, I cannot emphasize enough how important the role of both the medical and laboratory staff in histopathology is becoming as more and more potentially life-saving therapies associated with tissue-based testing are becoming available. Crucial I would say.

For those who are struggling to get financial support to attend our weekend conference from their employer, I suggest that perhaps the supplier of your IHC platforms and reagents be approached. They may help fund part of the registration fee.

The latest programme can be found at:

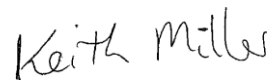
www.ukneqasiccish.org/uk-neqas-icc-ish-autumn-conference-2018/

Which also includes registration and accommodation information.

If you have any questions about the conference, please do not hesitate to contact me via

kmiller@ukneqasiccish.org

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Keith Miller
Scheme Director
UKNEQAS ICC & ISH