

Report on the Pathology Course Experience in Bordeaux – 3-5th July 2025/ Bordeaux

In July, I had the attend a 3-day international pathology course held in Bordeaux, France. I was invited to this course on a fully funded scholarship. This experience proved to be highly valuable for me, both academically and personally.

The sessions were comprehensive, each lasting over an hour, and focused on clinically relevant, high-yield topics particularly useful during pathology residency.

The lectures themselves were highly engaging and interactive. We were encouraged to ask questions each was followed by discussions, which enhanced the context of the lectures.

The lecture *Gynecological Soft Tissue Tumors* by Sabrina Croce was very useful for me. The speaker started with the most common and relatively easy-to-diagnose tumors and concluded with newly defined entities, which we discussed along with their molecular alterations. It was a comprehensive and detailed lecture that summarized this difficult topic and its entities extremely well. I believe it will serve as a valuable reference for this topic my future practice.

The lecture *New Strategies to Understand Lymphomas* by Martin-Leo Hansmann was particularly eye-opening for me. The lymphoma models presented in the lecture approached the topic in a way I had never seen before. It introduced me to a new methodology and perspective, which I found highly enlightening. I also found it very beneficial that such a topic was included in the course.

The lecture *B3 Lesions of the Breast* by Gaetan McGrogan was also highly detailed and served as a reference, especially concerning the diagnosis, significance, and clinical follow-up of B3 lesions, which we frequently encounter in routine practice.

The lecture *Lung Nodules: Get Ready for Screening Programs!* by Sabina Berezowska was another comprehensive session that thoroughly addressed the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of lung nodules. As with all of Professor Sabina's presentations, it was very engaging and enjoyable.

The lecture *Differential Diagnoses of Colitis* by Rupert Langer was particularly valuable for me because this is a challenging topic for me and one we frequently encounter in daily practice. The subject was covered in a thorough yet easy-to-understand manner. Like the other lectures, it was dense in content and served as an excellent reference.

I found the lecture *Lab Automation and Digital Pathology* by Philipp Ströbel to be very very impactful and beneficial. In the department where I currently work, we have not yet implemented a digital pathology system. Learning about this system from someone working in a department that has used it for years provided me with many new insights. I gained a better understanding of the technical infrastructure, requirements, potential limitations, and important considerations related to digital pathology. After returning to my department, I realized there are several aspects we can potentially improve within our own means.

Finally, the lecture *A Brief Overview of Cut-Up and Reporting of Urological Specimens* by Ashish Chandra was another highly comprehensive and guideline-based session that helped refresh my knowledge of macroscopic examination.

At the end of the course, all lecture slides were shared with the participants, which was helpful for me to review and organize my notes.

The case presentations by residents during the final session were both educational and enjoyable, adding a collaborative and memorable touch to the overall experience.

Beyond its academic value, the course also offered a very rich social program. We had the opportunity to explore the city with guided tour, visit a local vineyard- Château Carbonnieux, and participate in wine tasting, all of them were unique cultural experiences to me. These activities allowed me to get to know the city. I had the opportunity to meet, connect, and have long conversations with colleagues from many different parts of the world. Thanks to them, I discovered many similarities and differences in our training. We also had plenty of discussions about our future plans. It was a great pleasure.

The logistical information and support provided before the course were adequate. We encountered no difficulties in transportation, accommodation, or the course schedule, which made the entire experience smooth and well-organized.

The hotel accommodation was very comfortable and the fact that the lectures were held at the same place was a significant advantage in terms of time efficiency. Given the intensity of the daily program, this was particularly helpful.

In conclusion, Summer School in Bordeaux was a great experience for me, not only in terms of professional development but also for personal growth. With its intensive academic program, global network opportunities, and immersive cultural exposure, it has provided me with lasting knowledge and meaningful connections that will continue to support me throughout my residency training.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the organizing committee for offering me this opportunity.

Ekin SAYIN MERCADIER/ Turkiye