

CM-Path: Cellular Molecular Pathology Initiative

Cellular molecular pathology is the science of understanding diseases at the level of cells, genes and molecular pathways.

Over the past 15 years, research in pathology in the UK has **severely declined**. This is best illustrated by the substantial decrease in the academic pathology workforce affecting all grades, from Lecturers to Professors (Figure 1).

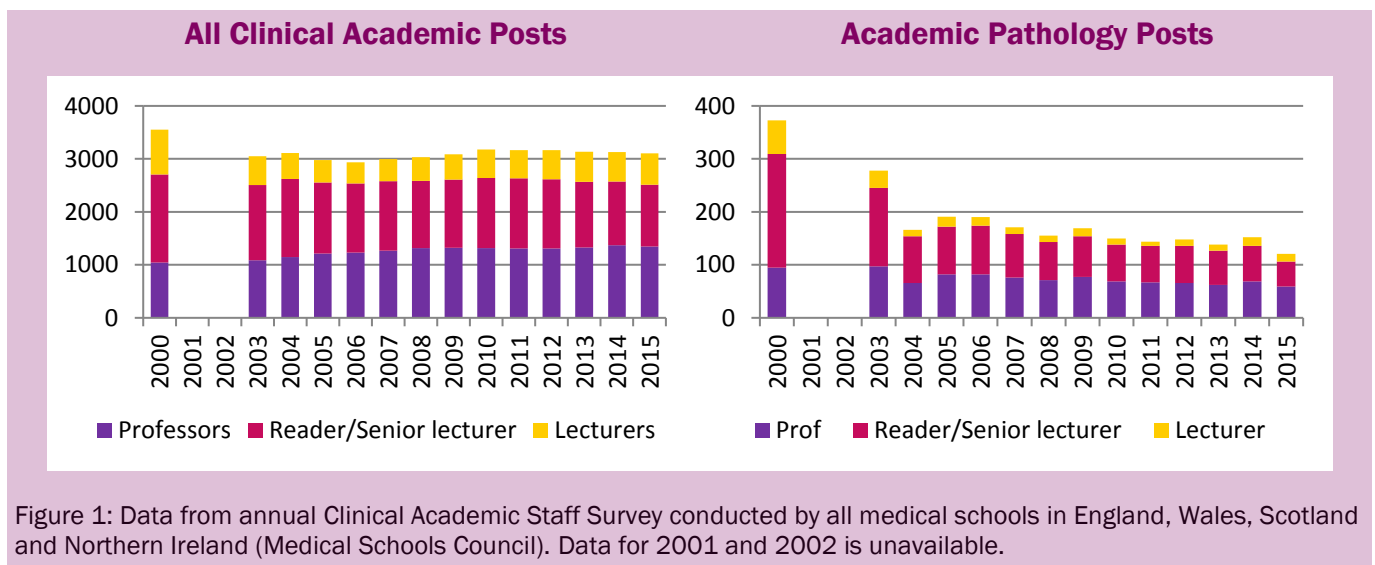


Figure 1: Data from annual Clinical Academic Staff Survey conducted by all medical schools in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland (Medical Schools Council). Data for 2001 and 2002 is unavailable.

Precision medicine is founded on the diagnostic, prognostic and predictive information provided by cellular and molecular pathology. There is an **escalating need to reinvigorate academic pathology** and research in this specialty so that it continues to support the rapidly developing precision medicine approaches.

The **CM-Path** initiative is a new **National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI)** programme, which aims to achieve the change needed to support academic cellular molecular pathology in the UK and make the resulting benefits available to the wider research community.



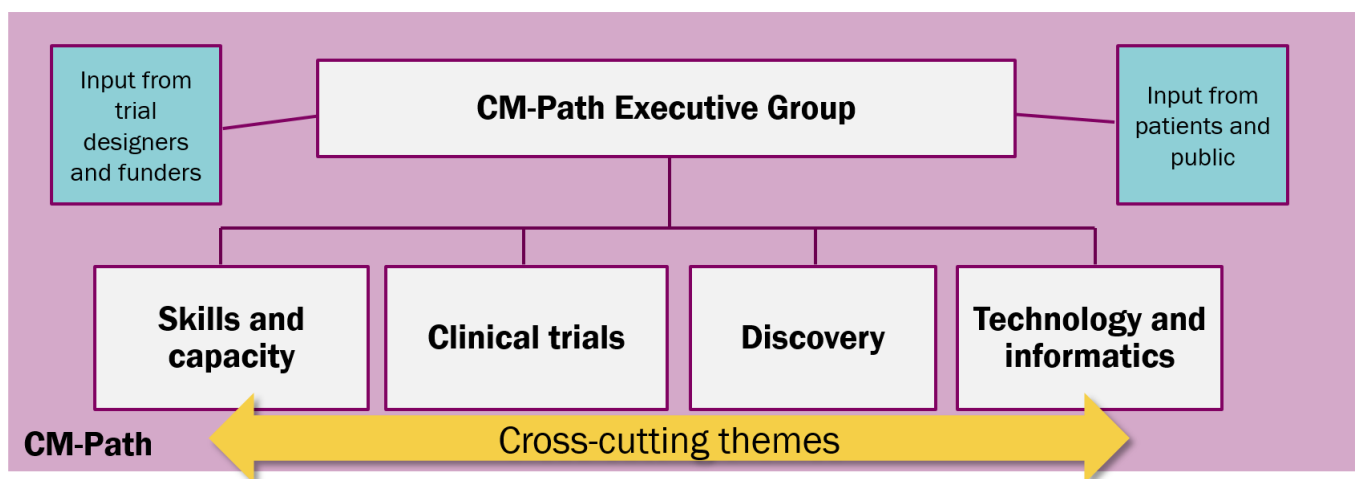
The initiative is chaired by **Dr Karin Oien**. Karin is a Clinical Reader and Honorary Consultant in Pathology in the Institute of Cancer Sciences at the University of Glasgow. Karin is also an Honorary Consultant in Liver and Gastro-intestinal Pathology, based in the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital.

Karin speaks about CM-Path: “I’m thrilled to be part of NCRI’s CM-Path initiative, which brings **inspiring** colleagues, funders and partner organisations together to make a real difference in pathology research. Together, we’ll work to **reinvigorate** UK academic pathology by building back capacity and expertise, to drive and support **innovation**.”

Key Facts

- The CM-Path initiative launched in June 2016
- CM-Path has 61 members, including 2 consumer representatives
- CM-Path is funded by 10 of the NCRI Partners (see logos below)

The CM-Path Programme



Skills and Capacity Leads: Professor Louise Jones & Professor Manuel Salto-Tellez

What training does a modern molecular pathologist need and how do we ensure they get this training?

Clinical Trials Lead: Dr Alex Freeman

How do we encourage profession-wide engagement of pathologists in clinical trials, thereby embedding pathology requirements into clinical trial design?

Discovery Lead: Professor Gareth Thomas

How do we reinvigorate academic pathology?

Technology and Informatics Lead: Dr Stefan Dojcinov

How do we help to introduce new technologies and informatics into academia and the NHS?

For more information, visit the CM-Path website www.ncri.org.uk/initiatives/pathology or contact the CM-Path Programme Manager at jessica.lee@ncri.org.uk

With thanks to the CM-Path Funders:

