

Medicine Insight Day Timetable

9.30am: Arrival and introductory lecture

We will collect email addresses for each student and provide them with their pack for the morning. We will keep the students up to date following the event with weekly emails of papers they may find interesting or news articles. A short introductory talk will explain what is covered throughout the day, with clear learning objectives and highlight the opportunity for specific application Q&A later on in the morning.

9.45-10.00: Expanding from Biology

This talk will expand upon the GCSE/A2/IB Biology specification areas covering basic cancer biology - progressing from cell division to abnormal growth and tumour development. The talk will also touch on treatments expanding upon the lock and key model of enzymes to link into targeted therapies. We will go into detail about a few interesting research cases of new molecular therapies for cancers.

10.00-10.15: Expanding from Chemistry

This talk will expand upon the A2/IB Chemistry specification areas covering the basic treatment of cancers with chemotherapy - expanding upon organic chemistry to include cisplatin and basic chemotherapy drugs. This will also expand to discuss side effects of treatment.

10.15-10.30: Expanding from Physics

This talk will expand upon the GCSE/A2/IB Physics specification areas covering the basic treatment of cancers with radiotherapy - expanding upon the physics of the treatment out to more clinical details about radiotherapy mapping, side effects and differences in targeted treatments and total body irradiation prior to bone marrow transplants.

10.30-11.15: Current medical research: Ovarian Tissue Cryopreservation

This will be the main talk of the day covering the research topic of ovarian tissue cryopreservation. This will link specifically from the learning objectives/summary points of the previous subject-specific talks and will explain infertility as a side effect of cancer treatment and how ovarian cryopreservation overcomes it. The talk will include a couple of key research papers and will talk more specifically about the work ongoing in Oxford. This will link specifically to patient care and clinical practice, including the logistics of setting up a new service within the NHS. Therefore highlighting how research is not just lab based but has huge clinical and management components.

11.15-11.45: Break and poster walk

This will be a break with refreshments and biscuits along with a poster walk with a range of specifically selected posters to demonstrate to a student how to expand their knowledge in areas that specifically interest them from their school subjects. We have lined up posters that link to specific areas of science specifications at GCSE/A2 level. This will allow students to begin to gain inspiration as to how to begin to 'read around their subject' and develop genuine areas of interest that they can continue to expand.

11.45-12.15: Relating this to your application and ongoing development of your knowledge

This talk will be specifically linked to personal statement creation and will give students advice as to how to include their areas of interest and reading in their personal statement. The talk will also touch on how finding areas you are interested in can often require exposure to clinical situations - through work experience or volunteering with charities or organisations. Often raising money or volunteering and investing time in a cause allows you to find specific areas you are more interested in and can continue to develop. This will also touch upon how small amounts of fundraising can link specifically to particular projects and can allow students to feel more part of an ongoing research project stream. This will touch on our newly established fundraising scheme as part of the Future Fertility Trust and give examples of how it can help raise awareness and directly relate to patient care.

12.15-12.45pm: Applying to medicine at Oxford University

This will be a short talk on the medical course at Oxford University particularly looking at what the course includes, how it differs from other courses and the specific research opportunities within the course through the intercalated degree. This will also focus on how research is biomedical through to clinical research and how matching interests with your research projects is essential. This will also discuss the admission and selection processes for Oxford medical school, the College system and how best to prepare for the interview selection processes.

12.45-1.15pm: Panel Q&A Session on the application and selection processes for UK medical school

This will be a panel Q&A discussion where questions are opened up to the floor and discussed. Students will be encouraged to prepare questions in advance and there will be a variety of medical students/doctors to provide guidance on the areas the students are most interested in.