

**Wednesday 16 February 2022, 09:00-10.00**

Pathology Grand Rounds: (CPD Accredited)

**\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*\***

Sponsored by the Jean Shanks Foundation and the  
Pathological Society

**Virtual Presentation (Joining Details below)**

*“Exploring epidermal stem cell fate at single cell resolution”*

Professor Fiona Watt



**Professor Fiona Watt**

Fiona Watt obtained her first degree from Cambridge University and her DPhil, in cell biology, from the University of Oxford. She was a postdoc at MIT, where she first began studying differentiation and tissue organisation in mammalian epidermis. She established her first research group at the Kennedy Institute for Rheumatology in London and then spent 20 years at the CRUK London Research Institute. She helped to establish the CRUK Cambridge Research Institute and the Wellcome Trust Centre for Stem Cell Research and in 2012 she moved to King's College London to found the Centre for Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine. From 2018 to 2022 she was Executive Chair of the Medical Research Council. In 2022 she becomes director of EMBO.

**ABSTRACT:**

The interfollicular epidermis is the multilayered epithelium that forms the outer covering of the skin. It is maintained by stem cells that are attached to a basement membrane. Cells undergo terminal differentiation as they detach from the basement membrane and move towards the tissue surface. Over the years many of the molecular regulators of this process have been identified. However, it is now clear that these pathways receive critical input from the physical properties of the tissue. In this presentation I will describe how new experimental approaches allow us to explore the interplay between intrinsic and extrinsic factors that regulate differentiation and how new insights from the Human Cell Atlas provide validation or challenge to existing experimental models.



**Joining Details for all Participants (Path Soc Members and Non-Members):**  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_qRz7pGFwQY60rk\\_yVffYoA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qRz7pGFwQY60rk_yVffYoA)

Will also available on You Tube: [https://youtu.be/\\_OVocfOgDVU](https://youtu.be/_OVocfOgDVU)

**Recording:** This lecture will be recorded subject to permission of the speaker.