UK NEQAS was well represented at the European Congress of Pathology conference at ExCeL, London held 30th August to 3rd September, 2014. For the first time the event was organised as a joint venture between the European Society of Pathology and the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland. This annual conference attracted many delegates from laboratories across the globe with the focus to have a better understanding of diseases for improving the quality of diagnosis and treatment of patients. So what better place for UK NEQAS to promote our activities?

There are many competitors in the field of Pathology EQA but UK NEQAS has a unique selling point of being able to deliver EQA for the whole pathology testing pathway. UK NEQAS for Cellular Pathology Techniques provides assessment for cellular pathology in both general and specific areas, UK NEQAS for Immunocytochemistry and In situ Hybridisation offers assessments for a large number of antibody markers covering a wide range of diseases, and UK NEQAS for Molecular Genetics delivers EQA for the fast developing field of molecular testing of solid tumours.

All three schemes jointly promoted UK NEQAS activities on a large stand situated centrally in the exhibition hall and were overwhelmed by the large number of enquiries from current and new participants. Dr Sandi Deans (UK NEQAS for Molecular Genetics Scheme Director) was an invited speaker and Dr Merdol Ibrahim (UK NEQAS for ICC & ISH Scheme Manager) gave an oral presentation of his poster. In addition there were five posters presented from the UK NEQAS schemes.

The schemes took the opportunity to provide a tissue diagnostics symposium for delegates during an evening session. We were delighted to have presentations from Prof Manuel Salto-Tellez, Mr Scott Gable, Dr Merdol Ibrahim and Mrs Rachel Butler followed by a panel discussion, all chaired by Prof Ian Cree. A good time was had by all!