



Peninsula Pathology
NHS Network

Cellular Pathology Automation – Using the Vistapath Sentinel

Jade Taylor



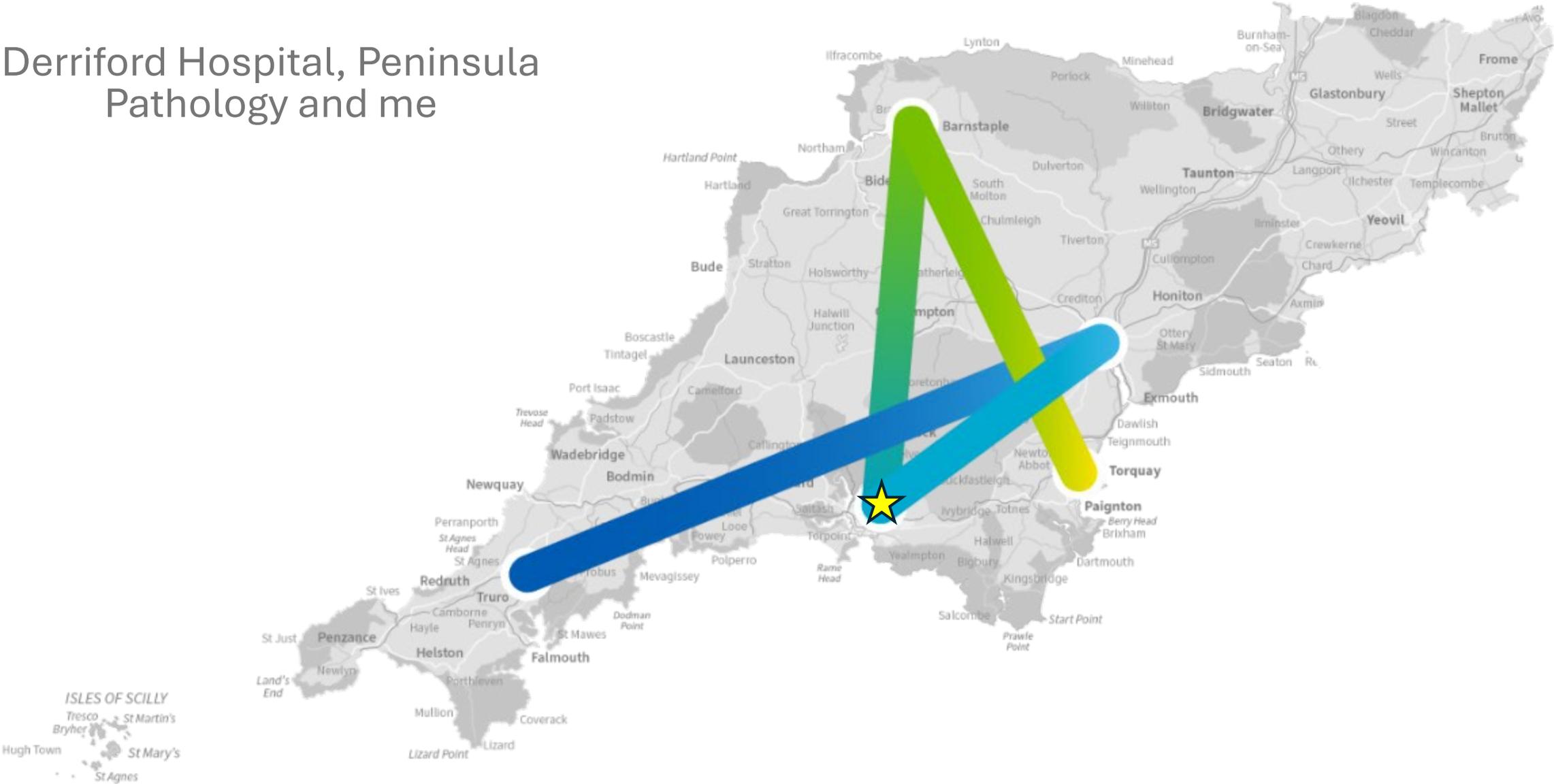
Uniting expertise,
improving diagnosis

PENINSULA PATHOLOGY NETWORK

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust
Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust
Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust



Derriford Hospital, Peninsula Pathology and me



Histology at Derriford Hospital

- Only major trauma centre in the South West

Annually approximately –

36,000 patient requests

111,500 paraffin blocks

167,000 slides

- Automation already seen in other laboratories, this is starting to increase in Histology



Vistapath Sentinel

- First UK laboratory to use the Sentinel
- In use since July 2025
- Only used for biopsy transfer so far
- Objective for further complex samples



Positives

- Minimal space required for setup
- Easy to use system, easy to train
- Detection of errors/mismatching– 1 sample error so far (and it was our fault)
- Automation of measurements and reporting
- Photographs of pot and sample
- Report structure set up to our specifications
- Response by sentinel team to errors/bugs



Time Saving

- Automated measurements
- Automated reporting
- Removal of assistant
- Increased number of samples processed



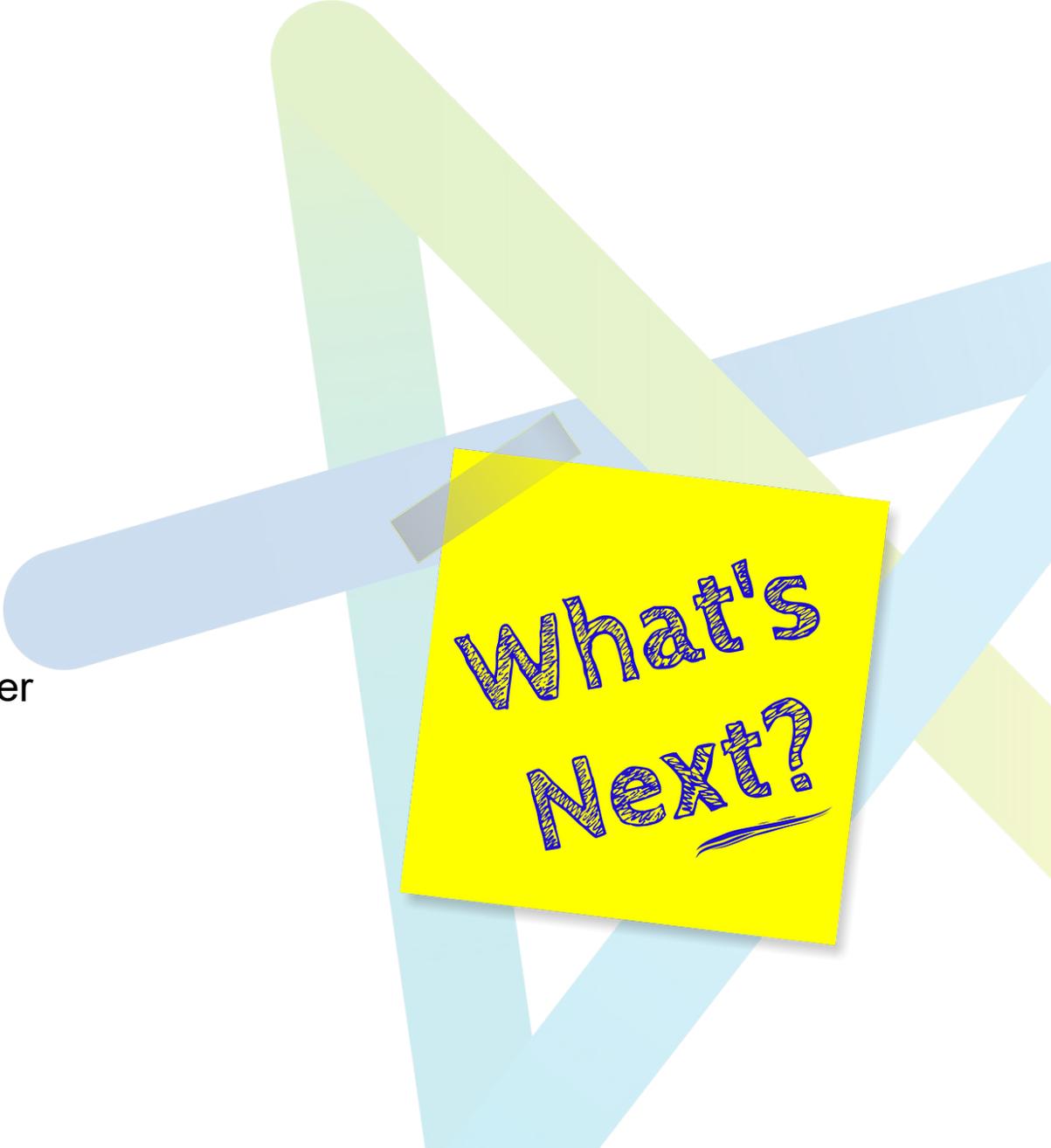
Teething Issues

- Poor current laboratory space
- Detection of different coloured cassettes
- Machine training of sample detection
- LIMS supplier difficulty with report structure



Future prospects

- Incorporation into main dissection room
- Used for advanced dissection
- Assistance with dissection training
- Monitoring of advanced dissection with photographs
- Potential for use by lower staffing bands for biopsy transfer



What's
Next?

Thank you

