

BIA Monthly Digest – 21st July 2021

News Items

Best Practice Standards for the delivery of NHS Infection Services in the United Kingdom (version 2) published

The [Best Practice Standards for the delivery of NHS Infection Services in the United Kingdom \(version 2\)](#) has been developed in collaboration with, and endorsed by, RCP and RCPATH. It is envisaged that this document will form a blueprint for infection services. As such, it is a document that is likely to evolve as further evidence comes to light.

Launch of the NHS England and NHS Improvement and UKHSA collaborative TB Action Plan 2021-2026

We are very pleased to be able to inform you that the TB Action Plan was launched 1st July 2021. The priorities and actions outlined in the Action Plan will provide our stakeholders and partners with the tools to reduce TB incidence in all our communities, enabling the UK to meet its commitment to the World Health Organisation (WHO) and eliminate TB in England by 2035. Multi-stakeholder collaboration will be essential to implementation of the Action Plan, including support for staff and a focus on inequalities.

The TB Action Plan for England, 2021 to 2026, will improve prevention, detection and control of TB. The 5 key priorities of the TB Action Plan are:

- Priority 1 – Recovery from COVID-19
- Priority 2 – Prevent TB
- Priority 3 – Detect TB
- Priority 4 – Control TB disease
- Priority 5 – Workforce

The Action Plan can be accessed in full via the PHE

website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-tb-action-plan-for-england> and the **NHSE/I website:** [NHS England » Tuberculosis programme](#)

Resource for TB in low incidence areas

The joint UKHSA and NHSE TB Action Plan will build on the improvements in the prevention, detection and control of TB in England achieved during the last 10 years. An important piece of legacy work that was produced under the previous strategy and which will be of interest to the TB Control Boards and some TB stakeholders, is the Resource for TB in low incidence areas. This was recently published and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-tb-a-resource-to-support-tb-in-low-incidence-areas>

COVID-19 Therapeutics Advice & Support Group (CTAG)

BIA continues to support the work of the COVID-19 Therapeutics Advice & Support Group (CTAG). CTAG has been established by a group of Drugs and Therapeutics Committees, Area Prescribing Committees and specialists to provide advice and support in the management of COVID-19 whilst national guidelines evolve.

Its ongoing work is supported by BIA and the Royal College of Physicians through the Joint Specialist Committee on Infectious Diseases.

Please visit the [CTAG website](#) for more information.

LearnInfection

a learning platform for infection trainees

LearnInfection is an online resource for infection trainees to test, learn and share knowledge on infection topics and best practice. Aimed at BIA trainees, it is available to all BIA members and can be accessed using your BIA login details.

Please take a look at <https://learn.britishinfection.org/>

Guidelines

Consultations

See [Consultations](#) page for full information of all open consultations

ESCMID invitation to submit topics for clinical practice guidelines

The European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) is highly committed to develop rigorous and trustworthy guidance documents with a global perspective on priority topics, ensuring that resources and attention are devoted to those areas in which clinical recommendations will provide the greatest benefit to patients, clinicians, and policy makers.

In this view, ESCMID is launching a new survey, after the first one in 2019, to select priority areas where clinical practice guidelines are lacking, in the field of infectious diseases, clinical microbiology and infection control. In these two years, the world has changed, and SARS-CoV-2 has absorbed most scientific endeavours, but those operating in the infectious diseases field know that other infections are here to stay, and our field of medicine has many challenges to address.

BIA is among the ESCMID partners in scientific issues, and we would like to invite you to participate in order to collect your suggestions.

We would ask you to suggest clinical topics where, according to your best judgement, ESCMID should develop a clinical guidance document in the next few years.

Topics will need to fall within ESCMID mission to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of infection-related diseases, to have a clearly defined focus, and not to be covered by prior guidance documents in the past 5 years (at least from an international perspective).

Multidisciplinary topics and those where involvement of other Societies can be envisaged are most welcome.

Please submit your suggestions to Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk by **Wednesday 1st September**, for submission of a BIA response.

BTS Clinical Statement for the diagnosis and management of Ocular Tuberculosis consultation

The BTS Clinical Statement for the diagnosis and management of Ocular Tuberculosis is now available for public consultation.

[BTS Clinical Statement for the diagnosis and management of Ocular Tuberculosis](#)

[BTS Clinical Statement - Ocular Tuberculosis comment form](#)

Please return comments on the form provided to Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk by **5pm, Thursday 22nd July 2021**

Published Guidelines

See [Published Guidelines](#) page for full information of all guidelines published

Clinical Infection in Practice (CLIP)

CLIP, the online BIA journal is available [here](#)

The Journal provides a forum for the advancement of knowledge and discussion of clinical infection in practice. It will embrace relevant clinical research and clinical management issues, including case reports and case series demonstrating novel or interesting findings.

The CLIP Editor in Chief is Professor Martin Wiselka supported by a distinguished Editorial team.

Visit the [Elsevier website](#) for further information

To submit an article please [click here](#).



NITCAR Update

See [BIA NITCAR](#) page for more information

Regional and supra-regional audit and research collaboratives exist to facilitate larger scale audits, service evaluations and research projects. The aim of the National Infection Trainee Collaborative for Audit and Research (NITCAR) is to facilitate such multi-centre projects within the field of infection. **All trainees and associate members of BIA are invited to**

participate in NITCAR studies and are encouraged to sign up to the NITCAR mailing list to keep up to date with new projects and updates (<http://nitcollaborative.org.uk/wp/contact/>)



Statistical help needed

NITCAR has a strong track record of performing clinically relevant high-quality audit and research. To facilitate this moving forward, we are looking for adhoc statistical advice for project planning and to guide analysis. We'd appreciate any members with expertise who would be willing to provide support with this could contact the NITCAR Chair at susanne.hodgson@spc.ox.ac.uk.

NITCAR Studies currently recruiting sites

Two studies are currently recruiting sites. We encourage any interested trainees (can be pre-registrar level) or associated members to get involved via the links below.

CO-GENT

Clinical Outcomes in Gentamicin Prescribing and Monitoring: National Audit

A multicentre audit and service evaluation of extended-interval gentamicin prescribing and monitoring (GPM), to assess current practice, audit practice against local policies, and describe clinical outcomes using different strategies in GPM.

Sites will be invited to express interest from April 2021. Project lead: Dr Raqib Huq Please express your interest by emailing interest@co-gent.nitcollaborative.org.uk The Protocol is available [here](#). We are planning to open for data collection in June 2021 and will disseminate the data collection tool to newly recruited centres in due course.

VALUE 4C

EVALUation of National Implementation of the ISARIC 4C Mortality Score in United Kingdom hospitals

This is a national project aiming to gain a greater understanding of the use of the 4C mortality score in UK hospitals.

We are recruiting sites NOW as of **3rd June 2021!**

We aim to have data collection completed by the end of August 2021- we would welcome expressions of interest ASAP!

Email us at value4c@nitcollaborative.org.uk.

Trainee Leads: Dr Andrew Blunsum, Dr Jonathan Perkins. Principal investigator: Dr Antonia Ho

If you would like further information about NITCAR, or would like to ask us a question, please go to our website – www.nitcollaborative.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter @NITCAR_UK

Infection Events

See [Infection Events](#) page for full information

KHP Virtual Preceptorship - Infections of the Immunocompromised 2021

3rd - 4th September

Virtual event

Course highlights

- **Fungal Host Biology: Translational opportunities** - Dr Johnathan Richardson
- **Machine based Learning and Infections: Translating to Clinical Care** - Dr Anand Shah
- **The Future Pandemic of Fungal Resistance** - Prof Matt Fisher
- **Imaging in Infections - new possibilities** - Dr Vincenzo Abbate
- **Nanopore Sequencing and Evolving Novel Microbial Diagnostic Strategies** - Prof Jonathan Edgeworth

Who should attend

Healthcare professionals and clinical scientists interested in the management of Infections in Immunocompromised Hosts.

Benefits

In addition to live expert interaction, access to recorded education materials will be provided to view at your own convenience. A formal CPD Certificate (10 CPDs) will be awarded at end of the course.

Click for [further information and to register](#)

36th BACCN Annual and 2nd Virtual Conference 2021

“Critical Care Across the World: Breaking Down Barriers”

13th – 14th September 2021

Virtual conference

The 2021 BACCN Annual Conference will be returning virtually once again with the theme “Critical Care Across the World: Breaking Down Barriers”. This theme exemplifies what Critical Care is as a speciality, but even more so, what Critical Care Nurses have done across the world over the last year whilst being in the centre of this unprecedented global pandemic.

Click for [full conference details](#) or to [register](#)

Virus Genomics and Evolution

15 - 17 September 2021

Virtual Conference

Registration deadline 06 Sep

This meeting will provide a multidisciplinary forum for scientists interested in the genomics and evolutionary analysis of viruses and will address the fundamental questions of viral origins, transmission and pathogenesis. It will bring together evolutionary biologists and bioinformaticians with international participants working in diagnostic and public health.

This year’s meeting will focus on virus evolution, epidemics and outbreaks and emerging viral infections and zoonoses. We will also explore new technologies to analyse viruses and large datasets and discuss diagnostic methods to improve public health.

Full details: <https://coursesandconferences.wellcomegenomecampus.org/our-events/virus-genomics-and-evolution-2021/>

Infection Prevention 2021

27 – 29 September

ACC, Liverpool, United Kingdom | Online

Microorganisms and healthcare continually evolve, IP2021 is your best opportunity to stay up to date.

The three-day conference, will present the latest scientific evidence from around the globe to enable you to recognise, understand and address current and emerging risks.

We have provisioned for a hybrid element for 2021 to allow those who will be unable to join us physically to still enjoy the conference.

Highlights:

- World class [programme](#) including the legacy and learning from a pandemic from renowned national and international speakers
- Largest UK infection prevention [exhibition](#)

- [Call for abstracts](#) now open, for posters and presentations on the most current and critical IPC themes
- Networking opportunities
- [Opportunity to join virtually](#)

Full details and registration can be found online: <https://www.ips.uk.net/conference/>

39th Annual Meeting of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society

7th – 9th October 2021

Ljubljana, Slovenia

The main conference theme is: Joining forces: optimising diagnosis and management of bone and joint infections.

Click to [view the programme](#)

Find more information on the conference website: [Click here](#)

6th International Conference on Clinical Metagenomics (ICCMg)

21-22 October 2021

Virtual Event

The Swiss Society for Microbiology is hosting the 6th International Conference on Clinical Metagenomics (ICCMg) as a virtual event on 21-22 October 2021.

ICCMg aims at being the leading conference specifically dedicated to clinical metagenomics.

Note that the organization committee offers a free meeting (via a FEMS sponsorship) to the young scientists (<40 years old), with a simple CV and motivation letter, on a first serve basis.

Abstracts

Click here for [abstract submission](#) (deadline 6th September 2021)

For further details visit www.clinicalmetagenomics.org

ISSI 2022

Perth, Australia

28th - 31st August 2022

It is a pleasure to invite you to participate in the 19th International Symposium on Staphylococci and Staphylococcal Infections, which will be held on 28 – 31 August 2022 at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre in Perth, Australia.

ISSI 2022 will cover many interdisciplinary subjects regarding staphylococci and staphylococcal infections. Sessions will be presented by the world's leading experts in each of the research fields. Oral and poster sessions will be an integral part of the program as well, and all delegates are invited to submit abstracts.

Click to [register your interest](#)



FIS 2021: Federation of Infection Societies Conference 2021

The Federation of Infection Societies Conference 2021 is the largest UK infection conference that brings together delegates involved in all aspects of infection from basic science, infection prevention, antimicrobial stewardship and clinical practice.

The FIS 2021 programme is now available:

5 November | Manchester (Limited places)

The face-to-face day of conference will feature the; FIS plenary lectures (Lowbury Lecture: Professor Marc Bonten, JD Williams Lecture: Professor Grace Smith, Barnett Christie Lecture, and Clinical Grand Round), networking opportunities, oral paper sessions, industry symposium, and exhibition.

8 - 9 November | Online (Unlimited places)

The two-day, three-stream programme has been designed to provide delegates with an engaging and interactive online experience and includes; 25+ sessions hosted by a broad selection of the infection community with live Q&A, internationally renowned speakers, virtual posters, sponsors' area, and industry symposia. Presentations will be available to view on catch-up for one year.

View programmes [CLICK HERE](#)

Call for abstracts now open: submission deadline **Friday 27 August**

[Submit now](#)

Programme, abstract submission and registration available: <https://fitwise.eventsair.com/fis-2021/>

ICC 2022

Perth, Australia

27th - 30th November 2022

32nd International Congress of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, Perth Western Australia.

Further details to follow at [32nd ICC 2022 - 32nd ICC 2022 \(32icc.org\)](https://32icc.org)

Click to [register your interest](#)

Workshops and Courses

See [Workshops and Courses](#) page for more information

Tuberculosis, Postgraduate Certificate (1-year Part-time Distance Learning)

This new programme will provide a comprehensive overview of Tuberculosis with an emphasis on prevention, diagnosis, and management of drug-susceptible Tuberculosis.

The programme has been developed for trainees and consultants in infection specialities and respiratory medicine; it can also be taken by nurses and public health workers, and practitioners with experience in Tuberculosis.

Next course starting in **September 2021**.

For further information [click here](#)

Advanced courses + scientific conferences

Wellcome Genome Campus Advanced Courses and Scientific Conferences is the only UK-based programme providing open postgraduate courses and conferences focused on biomedicine. We fund, develop and deliver training and conferences that span basic research, cutting-edge biomedicine, and the application of genomics in healthcare.

Please [click here](#) to view upcoming virtual courses and conferences

Vacancies

See [BIA Jobs](#) page for full information

Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) - Recruitment to the Infections Expert Advisory Group

The [Commission on Human Medicines](#) is looking to appoint three experts to the [Infections Expert Advisory Group](#) in the following areas:

- Infectious Diseases Physician
- Medical Microbiologist
- Medical Microbiologist; with an interest in antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

The IEAG is an independent advisory committee of the CHM that provide impartial advice to the Licensing Authority (Health Ministers) on the safety, quality and efficacy of medicines for use in infections and in the treatment of malignant disease or blood disorders.

The [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency](#) values and promotes diversity and is committed to equality of opportunity for all.

Further details with how to apply are available via the [GOV.UK website](#). Please do not hesitate to contact ECSRecruitment@mhra.gov.uk if you have any questions about the post.

The closing date for applications is midday **06 August 2021**.

All monthly digests are available in pdf format on the [Newsletter & Monthly Digests](#) page