

BIA Monthly Digest – 20th May 2020

News Items

Update from Council: Spring meeting, AGM and Research funding – a letter from the President

Dear Colleagues,

I'm sorry for the delay getting this message out to you. All of us on council, like all of you, have been completely pre-occupied with COVID-19 related activity in recent weeks.

You will mostly be aware that we have had to take the decision to cancel our Spring meeting in May. Although it has been obvious for some time that we would have to do this, we had to time a formal decision to minimise the financial loss to the Association. After some consideration we have decided against trying to fit a meeting into the Autumn. I hope by then we will all be able to throw our energy in to making this year's FIS a success.

The Spring meeting is of course the event where we usually hold our AGM so this also needs to be postponed. We plan to hold the Association's AGM this year during FIS and have placed the council elections on hold until then. We will be in touch with more information nearer the time as your input is vital to complete the elections and get good input to decision making at the AGM. Council members who were due to demit have kindly agreed to stay in post until the elections can be completed.

You will also be aware that we have been reviewing our research funding commitments and had been planning to announce the funding call for 2020 at the Spring meeting. The Association is very dependent on the value of its investments and the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on global stock markets has taken considerable value out of our investments. Again, we will review the situation over the summer with a view to setting our position on research funding for the year in the Autumn.

Looking forward to next year, we have already reserved the Manchester Conference Centre for 19th & 20th May 2021 for the next Spring meeting.

Wishing you all the best in these challenging times.

With kind regards
Martin Llewellyn
BIA President

COVID-19: access to Elsevier resources and links to UK health services information

The BIA website has links to a wide range of resources and information [here](#)

Association of British Neurologists Surveillance Programme on Neurological/psychiatric manifestations of COVID-19

The Association of British Neurologists (ABN) have initiated a national surveillance study because it is becoming increasingly apparent that neurological/neuropsychiatric complications of COVID-19 are being identified, mostly in small case series. They are asking for clinicians to notify cases via their webportal: <https://www.coronerve.com>

COVID-19 Therapeutics Advice & Support Group (CTAG)

BIA has endorsed the first outputs 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 will be 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.

NITCAR Update

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

The National Infection Trainee Collaborative for Audit and Research (NITCAR) latest project aims to collate a dataset of necrotising otitis externa cases from across the UK. The project has launched and is recruiting interested centres.

Project lead: Susanne Hodgson. Email: interest@noe.nitcollaborative.org.uk to get involved

Visit <http://nitcollaborative.org.uk/wp/noe/> for further information.

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

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/>

BAJIR Bone and Joint Infection Registry

The BAJIR database is the UK Bone and Joint Infection Registry. It is designed to collect data on all patients with bone and joint infections in the UK.

The information will be used to better understand bone and joint infections and



how best to treat them. It will also be used to assess and improve the quality of services across the NHS to achieve better outcomes for patients with these conditions.

For further information, or if you would like to join the BAJIR, visit <https://bajir.org/>.

Contact us via nhc-tr.bajir@nhs.net.

Clinical Infection in Practice (CLIP)

CLIP, a new official journal of the BIA and available online [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](#). BIA will waive the publishing charges for the first 25 accepted papers for BIA trainee and associate members who are currently training and/or working in healthcare in the UK and Ireland.

Grants

See [Grants](#) page for full information of all grants available

Please note: *The BIA grants provision is currently under review. BIA council will review the situation over the summer with a view to setting our position on research funding for the year in the Autumn.*

No calls for applications will be made before this time.

Guidelines

Consultations

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

UK NSC Syphilis Consultation Open

The UK National Screening Committee has started a national consultation on a health economic model assessing whether it is clinically and cost effective to offer all pregnant women screening for syphilis in early pregnancy and again in the third trimester compared with current practice.

To take part in this consultation please visit: <https://legacyscreening.phe.org.uk/syphilis>

We would welcome comments from you on the draft review.

Submissions should be returned to Daniel Pan via daniel.pan@nhs.net by **5pm, Thursday 7th May**.

Please be aware that all responses will be published on the website after the UK NSC makes its final recommendation.

Published Guidelines

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

UK SMI ID 3: identification of *Listeria* species and other non-sporing gram positive rods (except *Corynebacterium*)

The above UK SMI has been issued and can be viewed [here](#)

Comments that have been received as part of the consultation process for the development of the UK SMI can be seen in the associated [Review of Users Comments document](#).

Anyone who does not want their comment(s) to be in the RUC document should let the Standards Unit know.

Your attention is drawn to the [terms of use](#) of this website, which you must read before accessing the documents.

Infection Events

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

BIA Spring Trainees' Day

Cancelled for 2020

BIA 23rd Annual Spring Scientific Meeting 2020

Cancelled for 2020

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust IV Therapy and OPAT Conference 2020

10th September 2020

Molineux Stadium, Wolverhampton

Quick registration available at

<https://fitwise.eventsair.com/2020theroyalwolverhamptonnhstrustivtherapyandopat/>

This **FREE** one-day event will be of interest to all healthcare workers involved in the insertion and care of vascular access devices.

This conference promises to offer delegates the latest in IV AND OPAT education and expertise, with inspiring speakers and informative sessions.

The Programme will include the following sessions:

- Welcoming and Housekeeping
- "Intravenous therapy – meeting patient needs in Complex Gastrointestinal Surgery"
- Parenteral nutrition and associated challenges
- Antimicrobial therapy administration – a complex situation
- Clinical Collaboration in the Reduction of IV Associated Risk for Critical Care Patients
- "Triple A's: How not to bypass a vein? Successful Approaches to Vascular Access in Challenging Situations"
- Vascular Access in the Community - Maintaining Safety Following Discharge

Registration will open at 8:45am with access to the exhibition and refreshments will be available.

The first session will begin at 9:30am and the day will close at 3:30pm.

To register for this free event, please visit:

<https://fitwise.eventsair.com/2020theroyalwolverhamptonnhstrustivtherapyandopat/>

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

Meeting originally planned for 10th – 12th September 2020

New Date: **7-9 October 2021**, Ljubljana, Slovenia

The main conference theme is:

Joining forces: optimising diagnosis and management of bone and joint infections

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

Autumn Trainees Day

Thursday 15th October 2020

DoubleTree by Hilton Bristol City Centre, Redcliffe Way, Bristol, BS1 6NJ

More details to follow

HIS/PHE Foundation course in infection prevention and control

17th – 20th November 2020

PHE Colindale

This four-day non-residential course, organised by HIS and Public Health England is a stand-alone course, with the opportunity to learn from the leading UK experts in the field.

The course will allow medical trainees, newly appointed consultants and other practitioners such as nurses and clinical scientists to gain a firm grounding in infection prevention and control.

[Find out more and register.](#)

UK Clinical Vaccine Network Conference 2020

Friday 27th November, 2020

Wolfson College, Linton Road, Oxford OX2 6UD

Bringing together and showcasing the work of the UK clinical vaccine community, to facilitate co-operation and collaborate on future challenges.

Posters & abstracts

Abstract submissions for the 2020 conference are now open and will close on **Sunday 13th November 2020**

[Click here to register](#)

9th Annual Oxford Bone Infection Conference (OBIC)

Monday 7th – Tuesday 8th December

Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG

Audience:

The underlying principle of OBIC is multi-disciplinary working. We invite all grades of orthopaedic and trauma surgeons, plastic surgeons, infection specialists, nursing and therapy staff and researchers to attend.

Programme:

Internationally renowned speakers will deliver state-of-the-art talks, including the prestigious Cierny-Mader lecture which is invited each year to honour 'excellence and innovation in the multidisciplinary management of bone and joint infection'.

The programme will include lectures, workshops and interactive sessions including:

- **Do's and don'ts - An (evidence based) approach to...** Diagnosis of bone and joint infection / Surgical management of prosthetic joint infection / Wound closure
- **Something understood:** Biofilm / Local antibiotics / Biomaterials and bugs
 - How I treat long bone infection
 - Rehabilitation – managing expectations
 - Engaging the research agenda
 - Trials and big data
- **Making the most of what we know:** Why bother with a BIU? / How are we GIRFTING? / Update on diagnostic criteria and standards
- **New horizons:** Bacterial metabolism and nanobubbles / Update on bacteriophages / Direct from tissue diagnostics

[Click here to view the full programme](#)

Infectious Diseases symposium

Wednesday 9th December 2020

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

The 2020 RCPE ID symposium is intended to provide an update on challenges faced by dedicated infection specialists as well as generalists in the hospital setting and far beyond.

This event is open to all grades of medical, health care and scientific staff and to students.

[Click here](#) for more information

BIA Spring Trainees' Day 2021

Wednesday 19th May 2021

Manchester Conference Centre, 78 Sackville Street, Manchester, M1 3BB

BIA 23rd Annual Spring Scientific Meeting 2021

Thursday 20th May 2021

Manchester Conference Centre, 78 Sackville Street, Manchester, M1 3BB

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.

Further information visit the [QMUL website](#)

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 courses and conference

Vacancies

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

Consultant Microbiology or Microbiology/Infectious Diseases

University Hospital Plymouth NHS Trust is the largest Hospital in the South West peninsular. Due to an imminent retirement we have an exciting opportunity to join the Clinical Microbiology team providing a comprehensive Infection service to the local population and tertiary services across the South West Peninsula. The state of the art Department is based in purpose built laboratories at Derriford Hospital on the edge of Plymouth and we are planning for an exciting future in large purpose-built bespoke laboratories.

Plymouth offers numerous opportunities for outdoor activities and a vibrant urban culture, lying on the beautiful natural harbour that is Plymouth Sound with the rugged moor of Dartmoor to the North, surrounded by the unspoilt beaches of Cornwall and South Devon

[Click here](#) for more information

Location

Derriford Hospital in the beautiful South West of England

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