

## **BIA Monthly Digest – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

### **News Items**

#### **BIA/RCPATH Micro/ID Workforce Survey**

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for robust, appropriately staffed, infection services. In collaboration with RCPATH, the BIA has produced a workforce and workload survey in an attempt to capture the work we do as infection specialists and to identify any gaps in the workforce. Some of you may have seen the recent survey from the Clinical Virology Network, also supported by RCPATH. We support that survey, which has a different focus to our survey.

We would appreciate it if one member of each Trust, Pathology network or other NHS organisation could be nominated to complete and return this survey by 5pm May 28th. Please note that due to the comprehensive nature of this survey, this will likely require communication with and input from multiple colleagues.

The link to the survey is here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YMSB82C>

A pdf copy of the survey can be found [here](#) and may prove useful when seeking input from colleagues.

Please distribute to your regional network, reminding them that only ONE member of each Trust, pathology network or other NHS organisation should be nominated to complete and return this survey.

#### **Affiliated Societies ECCMID Online Grant**

As an ESCMID Affiliated Society, BIA have one place for the full ECCMID conference for a trainee member who is a

- Member of BIA
- Young scientist member of ECCMID

**AND** has an abstract accepted

In order to allocate the place please send us your accepted abstract and completed [application form](#) to [BIA@hartleytaylor.co.uk](mailto:BIA@hartleytaylor.co.uk)

Submissions need to be sent by **4pm on Friday 23rd April**.

We want to let people know before early bird registration for ECCMID closes on Monday 26th April so applicants will be notified of the result 26<sup>th</sup> April am

#### **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 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/>

## **Grants**

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

### **BMA Foundation for Medical Research HC Roscoe Grant**

The BMA Foundation for Medical Research awards research grants each year to encourage and further medical research in a variety of areas. One of these grants, the HC Roscoe, is to promote research into the elimination of the common cold and/or other viral diseases of the human respiratory system.

Applications are invited from UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK, and can be for either research in progress or prospective research.

This grant, and other BMA Foundation grants, is now open for online application via the [BMA Foundation website](#).

The application deadline is **7 May 2021**

If you have any queries, please contact [researchgrants@bma.org.uk](mailto:researchgrants@bma.org.uk)

### **BMA Foundation for Medical Research Kathleen Harper Grant**

The BMA Foundation for Medical Research awards research grants each year to encourage and further medical research in a variety of areas. One of these grants, the Kathleen Harper, is to assist research into antimicrobials. Applications are invited from UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK, and can be for either research in progress or prospective research.

This grant, and other BMA Foundation grants, is now open for online application via the [BMA Foundation website](#).

The application deadline is **7th May 2021**

If you have any queries, please contact [researchgrants@bma.org.uk](mailto:researchgrants@bma.org.uk)

## **Guidelines**

### **Consultations**

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

### **HIV Long-Term Condition Management: a call for evidence – final report**

Thank you to everyone who responded to our call for evidence regarding the long-term condition management for people living with HIV. Submissions have been reviewed and themed into a report.

We recognise the impact the last year has had on many services and organisations and wanted to provide a further opportunity for people to contribute to this work where they may not have been able to in February/March of this year. We're therefore issuing this as a draft report and would very

much welcome any additional contributions from people who feel their services could add to our collective understanding of what services exist and how effective they can be in supporting people living with HIV. We are particularly keen to hear about services operating in lower prevalence areas, rural areas and support for older people e.g. sheltered, residential and nursing care services. The report would also benefit from including any evaluated projects on tackling stigma and discrimination as this is an area where the evidence base for effective interventions remains weak overall.

[Click Here](#) to view the draft report.

Please consider whether your own services, or services you are aware of, could valuably add to this work. Any additional contributions will be most welcome – please send them to [lucy.lynych@phe.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.lynych@phe.gov.uk) by cop Sunday 6th June.

### **UK National Screening Committee Website Research**

The [UK National Screening Committee](#) is offering the opportunity to participate in user research for the new website.

If you have previously submitted a response to UK NSC and you intend to respond to the above on behalf of the BIA, please inform [anna.goodman@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:anna.goodman@gstt.nhs.uk)

If you'd like to participate, please fill out the below questionnaire to register interest – you will then be contacted to confirm a date and time for the session. It's estimated that the session will last 30-45 minutes, and all the data we collect is completely anonymised.

<https://surveys.phe.org.uk/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=72K0376LH>

### **Published Guidelines**

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

### **Neonatal infection: antibiotics for prevention and treatment**

This guideline covers preventing bacterial infection in healthy babies of up to and including 28 days corrected gestational age, treating pregnant women whose unborn baby is at risk of infection, and caring for babies of up to and including 28 days corrected gestational age with a suspected or confirmed bacterial infection. It aims to reduce delays in recognising and treating infection and prevent unnecessary use of antibiotics. The guideline does not cover viral infections.

Read the published guidelines [Here](#)

### **UK guidelines for the treatment of methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) have been updated**

Much has changed since the previous guidance was issued in 2008, in particular, the incidence of MRSA in UK hospitals has fallen markedly as well as new anti-staphylococcal antibiotics becoming available. An update to the national MRSA treatment guideline in light of these changes is therefore required.

Updating these national guidelines was a joint initiative of British Society for Antimicrobial Stewardship (BSAC), British Infection Association (BIA), Healthcare Infection Society (HIS) and

Infection Prevention Society (IPS). However, BSAC and BIA alone were involved in the production of this guideline. A separate guideline updating recommendations for infection prevention and control of MRSA will be developed by HIS and IPS.

Read the updated guidelines [Here](#)

### **Clinical Infection in Practice (CLIP)**

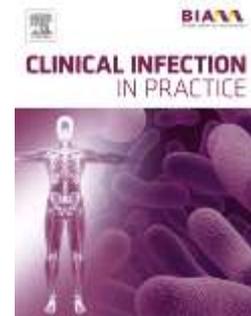
**CLIP, the online BIA journal is available [here](#)**

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.



### **Necrotising otitis externa**

Sites have been fully recruited, and patient enrolment will begin at these sites in January 2021.

Project lead: Susanne Hodgson. Email: [interest@noe.nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:interest@noe.nitcollaborative.org.uk) to get involved

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



### **National Audit of the Management of Encephalitis**

University of Liverpool Brain Infections Group is looking for sites to contribute to its National Audit of the Management of Encephalitis. Please get in touch if you/ trainees at your hospital might be interested in supporting this work.

Our hope is to recruit at least 40 sites, please express your interest by emailing [interest@name.nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:interest@name.nitcollaborative.org.uk)

For more information please see: <http://nitcollaborative.org.uk/wp/name/>

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](http://www.nitcollaborative.org.uk)

### **Infection Events**

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

### **BIA 23rd Annual Spring Scientific Meeting 2021**

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Virtual Meeting

The 23rd Annual Spring Scientific Meeting represents a superb opportunity to communicate with and to learn from colleagues working in the full range of infection-related disciplines.

This year will be different as the meeting is virtual, and we are very fortunate that the programme includes two distinguished invited speakers joining us:

Professor Sharon Peacock, University of Cambridge

Professor Ravindra Gupta, University College London

Click to [view the current meeting programme](#)

Registration Fee: £24.00

For further information and to register please [click here](#)

### **ECCMID 2021**

9th - 12th July 2021

Online meeting

The 31st European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (ECCMID), will take place online 9 – 12 July 2021.

The usual ECCMID scientific symposia, keynote lectures, meet-the-expert sessions and educational workshops will all be present, in addition to exciting new ECCMID formats tailor-made for online delivery. Be sure to join us for the keynote fireplace discussions and online escape room, amongst other new initiatives.

Click for the [programme](#) and to [register](#)

Pre-ECCMID Days

#### **#1: Vaccines (20 April)**

[Pre-ECCMID Day on Vaccines](#)

#### **#2 COVID 1 (5 May)**

[Pre-ECCMID Day on COVID-19 \(Part One\)](#)

#### **#3 Diagnostics (19 May)**

[Pre-ECCMID Day on Diagnostic developments](#)

#### **#4 COVID 2 (16 June)**

[Pre-ECCMID Day on COVID-19 \(Part Two\)](#)

#### **#5 AMR (30 June)**

[Pre-ECCMID Day on Antimicrobial Resistance](#)

## **39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society**

7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

## **Federation of Infection Societies Conference 2021**

Save the Date: Friday 5th November at Manchester Central, UK and Monday 8th - Tuesday 9th November Online

FIS is the largest gathering of the UK infection community that includes societies, groups and individuals who are interested in all aspects of infection from basic science, clinical infection to infection prevention and control.

The conference will be an invaluable source of continuing professional development and an opportunity to network both in person and virtually. All healthcare professionals, scientists and academics with an interest in infection are encouraged to attend to support multidisciplinary discussion of key infection topics.

5 November | Manchester

The face-to-face day of conference will feature the FIS plenary lectures, networking opportunities, oral papers and exhibition

8 - 9 November | Online

The 2-day online days will comprise a 3-stream programme which includes sessions hosted by a broad selection of the infection community, online posters and sponsors area

Sponsorship and exhibition bookings open: Late April 2021

Programme available, delegate registration open, abstract submission open: Late May 2021

## **Workshops and Courses**

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

## **Introduction to Guideline Development**

28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

This introductory-level course is aimed at those seeking a grounding in guideline development processes and methods applicable in UK healthcare settings.

The course will illustrate and explain the NICE-accredited guideline development process used by HIS, including the principles underpinning guideline development and the various stages of the guideline development process.

Participants who have completed this course should be able to:

- Recognise the key stages of guideline development
- Describe the steps involved in undertaking a systematic review of evidence

- Participate in reviewing, synthesising and interpreting evidence as part of guideline development
- Understand how evidence is used in developing guideline recommendations
- Identify learning and development goals to expand knowledge and skills in the above areas

To find out more and register [Click Here](#)

### **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.

For further information [click here](#)

### **Advanced courses + scientific conferences**

Welcome 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

### **Patient Public Voice partners - NHS England**

#### Job Information

NHS England and NHS Improvement is currently recruiting new [Patient Public Voice](#) partners to support the commissioning of specialised services. These roles are for a range of service user voices with specific health experiences to join our Programmes of Care and Clinical Reference Groups. All are strategic roles which attract an involvement payment in line with our PPV Partners policy.

Patient and public voice roles available which may be of particular interest are on:

- [Infectious Diseases CRG](#)
- [Specialised Immunology and Allergy Services CRG](#)

Full details of all the roles available and how to apply [Click Here](#). Please do take a look at the opportunities, and forward onto anyone you think may be keen to apply.

The closing date for applications is midnight on 20th June 2021.

**Associate Professor & Honorary Consultant in Infection, - Ref:1871183**



Specific unit / Sub department Research Department of Infection

Location: University College London and Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust

Salary: £84,258 - £112,845 per annum

[Click Here](#) for further information

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