



Working with children with digestive, nutritional and liver disorders

**British Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition**

# 2024 | Annual Report

Registered as a Charity: Registration Number 299294

[www.bspghan.org.uk](http://www.bspghan.org.uk)

## President's Report

### Dr Keith Lindley

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends

Welcome to Bristol for the 2024 Annual Meeting. Following the success of last year's annual meeting in Windsor which attracted over 300 registrants we are again expecting a bumper turnout for this year's meeting! We are returning to Bristol for the first time since 2016. My thanks to the local organisers, led by Christine, for all their efforts in organising the exciting 3 day program and for sticking within the demanding financial constraints of the meeting since the loss of a substantial amount of funding since the adoption by the Society of the current "code of conduct" with regards to sponsorship from companies who manufacture "breast milk substitute" (BMS) formulae. This is an issue on which the Society, I know, is divided. Since the code of conduct was accepted by the Society there have been two votes regarding continued acceptance of the document and, although the numbers of votes were insufficient for the result to be considered truly democratic, on both occasions the majority of those who voted narrowly continued to ratify the current arrangement. This has meant that the profit margin for the annual meeting has fallen substantially which has implications for finances available for research funding and also for honorariums for speakers at the annual meeting. However thus far the finances of the Society remain healthy.



I am grateful also for the steadfast support of Jennie Mort and Sian from Sovereign for their professionalism and commitment in supporting the organisation of the meeting.

Shortly after last year's Annual Meeting Council published a 2 year strategy document with a commitment to audit progress on an annual basis and feed this back to the membership. I am delighted to report that substantial progress has been made in fulfilling these aspirations to the point that Council is aiming, following appointment of the new President Elect at the Bristol Meeting, to develop a new strategy. Some of the outstanding areas in which progress has been made include the "Green" agenda. For example, this year's meeting is almost paperless as one example although there are other green initiatives within the Society including audit of endoscopy and whether current practice can be greener. This work is ongoing. One further area of the strategy that is worth highlighting is the aspiration to have closer links with adult GI organisations. A massive step forward in this regard has been made with this year's BAPEN annual meeting which is being held in Newcastle in November. For the first time there is a whole Paediatric Day the day before the regular meeting which is not only excellent value but there is an excellent program. Full details should be available on the BAPEN website in the near future. I am grateful to the Nutrition Working Group of the Society for helping this initiative come to fruition and I must recommend this meeting most strongly to the membership. I think most of you already know that BSPGHAN members can become members of BAPEN at no cost. Those of you with an interest in Nutrition are encouraged to join BAPEN.

This spring we have a large number of members of Council stepping down. Andy Barclay is stepping down as Nutritional Chair earlier than anticipated for personal reasons. Marco Gasparetto has come to the end of his term as Research Representative. Marco organised the first BSPGHAN "Research Career" virtual symposium in November last year with a very broad program which was highly successful.

Shveta Chana has also finished her term as chair of PeGHAN (Paediatricians with an interest in Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition) working group. Under her leadership this important part of our membership has enlarged and thrived with regular virtual PeGHAN meetings and some original research / audit of neonatal jaundice in secondary healthcare settings.

Nadeem Afzal is stepping down as Endoscopy WG Chair. I cannot thank Nadeem enough for his commitment and determination to move the EWG initiatives forwards in particular with JAG and finally, after probably the longest pregnancy in history, delivering the pGRS which focusses on the quality of endoscopies rather than the number of endoscopies. I am so grateful to Nadeem for taking this over the line finally!

Kornilia Nikaki is also stepping down as Gastroenterology Chair. This is perhaps the atypical Chair post as her brief has been to support and report the activities of the various GI working groups. This she has done with great competence and I am so grateful to Kornilia for her toils with the various WG Chairs.

Julie Harrington has already stepped down as PPP representative, I would like to thank both Julie and Sarah Sleet who has also stepped down since last year for their collective great insight into this role and contributions to Council.

I do need to spend a few moments discussing the trainees. I have to commend the way the (ever changing) group is moving forwards / developing. I have been to their 2 day autumn meeting the last 2 years (in Liverpool and Southampton) and I have to say that these meetings have both educationally and socially been amazing. I would personally like to thank the Consultant staff who have supported the trainees in running these meetings and to recommend that the membership supports their own trainees in facilitating their attendance at future meetings. I cannot emphasise what an important opportunity this forum is for the trainees and how exciting it is as a faculty member to meet them and to get to know them personally.

There have been a few initiatives in the last 12 months which are worth pointing out to the BSPGHAN membership in case anyone has missed them!

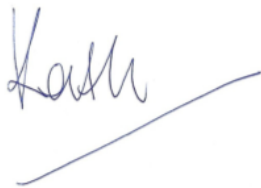
Firstly, the BSPGHAN website is currently running a "Journal Scan" on a monthly basis where interesting papers in the literature are highlighted. This is currently being updated by Fatimah Alqahtani, the Society's non-technical webmaster, each month. Where copyright allows PDFs of the papers are provided and where not then the DOI is available for members to access the manuscript independently. It is hoped that this can be developed to include commentaries in addition, although volunteers are necessary! If anyone comes across an outstanding

manuscript which they feel should be added to this please let Fatimah know (link on website) as we would like this to become a useful resource for all members of the Society.

Secondly following the success of the UK-Joint Intestinal Rehabilitation Meeting (JIRM) a new initiative to share difficult and perplexing Paediatric GI cases was launched last year. I am grateful to Sunita Rajani from Sheffield for hosting the first meeting and to Arun Urs and David Campbell for providing cases. The next meeting is proposed for April 2024 and will be hosted by Fatimah Alqahtani. If anyone has a challenging case (with or without a diagnosis!) please contact her. The first case we have for the April meeting is truly challenging (but we have a diagnosis!). Registration has to be in advance so please look out for the announcement on the BSPGHAN website.

Lastly, I would like to thank all members of Council for their hard work and support for the Society and I am looking forward to working with you all to move the Society “onwards and upwards” in the next 12 months!

With best personal wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Keith', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr Keith Lindley  
[President@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:President@bspghan.org.uk)

## Convenor's Report

### Dr Astor Rodrigues

I am completing my first year as convenor of BSPGHAN, and grateful to Lucy Howarth, my esteemed colleague and past convenor, for her support in inducting and providing ongoing advice.

I have been closely involved in preparing the program for the RCPCH meeting at Birmingham (Monday 25 March 2024, 14:30-17:30) jointly with colleagues from The British Paediatric Allergy, Infection, and Immunity Group (BPAIIG). This promises to be an excellent session with high quality posters, oral presentations and renowned speakers bring us up to date on food immunotherapy, inborn errors of immunity and the microbiome/probiotics. Please do try and make it.

A personal highlight has been my involvement with the National Diagnostic Pathway Group for Lower GI Symptoms – Task and Finish Group. This pathway, aimed at primary care healthcare professionals, is to provide a system that supports early diagnosis, whilst also being an educational resource that signposts to resources to help healthcare professionals better support patients with their GI symptoms during and after diagnosis.

I would urge members to complete the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion survey that was sent to the membership some weeks back. The data from this form will help us better understand our members and help build a more inclusive organisation, which supports and develops its professional membership.

Our incredible society has achieved so much in the past year through high quality education and research, and in engaging with charities and other societies. The BSPGHAN website has been modernised and functional, and we welcome our new non-technical web master who will support and keep it relevant/up to date. The several working groups have accomplished loads, but rather than blowing their trumpet and I will let each working group chair highlight their respective achievements. The Zoom Education Series has proved to be really successful with good participation from both national and international speakers. Following the success of the regular BSPGHAN intestinal failure and rehabilitation meetings, BSPGHAN National Challenging GI Cases Forum has also taken off to a flying start, with its first virtual meeting organised by Sheffield.

I have really enjoyed my first year as the convenor and working closely with the executive. It has been a pleasure to assist Keith Lindley with his succinct and efficient working style, and Dharam with his astute fiscal thinking. Special thanks to Jennie and the Sovereign admin team for their ever prompt support. It has been such a privilege working with all of the diligent Council members and would like to thank everyone on Council, all the working groups, and all BSPGHAN members. Lastly, a big thank you to the conference organising committee at Bristol who have done a superb job putting together such a fantastic academic and social program.

Dr Astor Rodrigues - [convenor@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:convenor@bspghan.org.uk)



## Treasurer's Report

### Dr Dharam Basude

Dear BSPGHAN members, I wish you a happy and colourful springtime! After the memorable Windsor meeting in 2023, I look forward to welcoming you to the beautiful city of Bristol for the 2024 annual meeting. My first 12 months as a treasurer role has been fully supported and guided by Dr Keith Lindley and Dr Astor Rodrigues and I am truly grateful to both. Following footsteps of the immensely meticulous Dr Mansoor Ahmed is no easy act and I can't thank Jennie Mort and Peter Hill enough for their prompt and expert support and efficient guidance, as without them I would have been easily lost.



The strength of the society is through its membership, and I am proud to announce that at the moment we have 301 Full, 20 Overseas, 15 Honorary and 125 associate members. The fees schedule is unchanged from 1st April 2023:

- a. Full members £125
- b. Associate members £25
- c. Overseas members £41
- d. Honorary members £nil
- e. Student members £nil

### Finances

Mansoor provided a thorough report for the 2023 annual report which was well appreciated. I have attempted a similar format and have attempted to provide similar information but please ask if you require any further information.

### Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Approved by the Council on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023, these have been filed with the Charity Commission together with its Charity Annual Return. The accounts will be presented to members at the March 2024 AGM and copies can be obtained from the Charity Commission website <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission> using the Society's charity number 299294.

Summary of last 3 years results.

	2020-21 (£)	2021-22 (£)	2022-23 (£)
<b>Income</b>	33,914	80,764	334,895
<b>Expenditure</b>	30,740	68,317	275,270
<b>Net Income</b>	3,174	12,447	59,625

Total unrestricted funds carried over for the Society as at the Financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 were £375,624 which compares to £315,999 from the previous financial year, reassuring a stable financial position. The Society regularly reviews the level of reserves at which it requires to operate and has determined that at least £50,000 should now be set aside to cover

general uncertainties, reduced income, rising inflation and in the event of unrecovered fixed costs of an Annual Meeting which cannot be held for some reason or another, requiring the refund of registration fees and sponsorship monies.

### **Details of Income and Expenditure**

Income from membership fees totalled £37,303.

There were two Annual Meetings held in 2022 – 2023, and we had a fantastic 37<sup>th</sup> meeting at Windsor with excellent attendance and this generated an Income £150,695, with our generous sponsors and exhibitors contributing £54,700 of this amount. However, the costs were much higher now compared to pre-covid years and amounted to £144,940, leaving a small surplus of £5,755. Normally 25% of the surplus is donated to an NHS Trust or University administered account but the local organisers declined this offer for the March 2023 meeting.

Trainees meetings continue to be fully supported and cost £6,929 in 2023.

### **BSPGHAN Administrator**

Ms Jennie Mort and Sian Hemming (Sovereign Conference, Exhibitions & Travel Incentives Ltd) have continued to provide us with efficient and able administrative support since 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022. Sovereign provide this at £2184/month (£26,208/year). This excludes additional administrative charges such as organisation of BSPGHAN meetings (including annual meeting) and travel expenses.

### **Frontline Gastroenterology**

Free online access to Frontline Gastroenterology remains free for all the BSPGHAN members. This incurs additional expenditure of £20 per member per annum (£9,560 in 2022 – 23).

### **Research Spending**

#### **2022-2023 (£1,000)**

Our society as you may know, has been supporting the Joint grant with Guts UK (50%) and the BSPGHAN Innovation and BIG grants. BSPGHAN Research Prizes were £1,000 in 2023.

#### **2021-2022 (£34,500)**

- BSPGHAN/BSG: £9,000 towards a total of £18,000 - project on JLA PSP for Digital Health Technology for Adolescents with IBD.
- BSPGHAN/GUTS UK Grant: £20,000 towards £40,000 project on translational or proof of concept research.
- BSPGHAN/GUTS UK small Grant: £5,000 towards £10,000 project on pancreatitis/pancreatic diseases.

#### **2023-2024 (£50,000 to be set aside)**

You may be interested in hearing the details of the awards and the process from Dr Marco Gasparetto in the research update at the meeting. I can report that:

- BSPGHAN BIG Award 1 x £10,000 was successfully awarded to an exciting project.
- BSPGHAN/GUTS UK Grants x 2. BSPGHAN's contribution was £29,921 awarded to two excellent teams.

### **Sponsorship Deals**

The following Pharmaceuticals have kindly agreed two/three years sponsorship deals with BSPGHAN:

- Ferring Pharmaceuticals Ltd - £10,000/year Gold Sponsorship for 3 years (Sep 2021-Aug 2024).
- Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd - £6,000/year Silver Sponsorship for 3 years (Sep 2023-Aug 2026).
- Albireo - £10,000/year Gold Sponsorship for 3 years (June 2022-May 2025). Full payment for 3 years has already been received by BSPGHAN.

### **Supporting national educational meetings that are arranged for BSPGHAN members**

BSPGHAN continues to pledge £5,000 per annum (maximum of £2,000 per meeting) to support national educational meetings as per approved SOP.

### **One Drive**

BSPGHAN has access to “One Drive” for safe storage of all its past, present and future data.

### **VAT Registration**

BSPGHAN is a VAT registered society under the partial exemption method which allows the majority of input VAT incurred by the Society to be recovered with the majority of the society's income, other than membership income, liable to 20% output VAT. The Society's major sponsors and exhibitors are able to reclaim this output VAT, but unfortunately individual members are unable to claim VAT charged on registrations at Conferences. VAT registration is compulsory for BSPGHAN.

### **Expenses claim forms**

Current expense guidelines and claim forms are available on BSPGHAN website. The whole process is electronic and BACS payments are made swiftly into the claimant's bank account.

### **Website**

John Lister Consulting continue to undertake excellent work in maintain the new BSPGHAN website at a cost of £30 per hour and the total cost of the website and associated IT costs amounted to £2,372 in 2022 – 2023. I hope that you all are now well used to navigating the website.

I hope you find the above information useful. I look forward to any feedback you may have that I could adapt for future reports. I greatly welcome any ideas you may have to continue building stable finances which then enable us to support the strategic development of our beloved specialist society.

Dr Dharam Basude - [Treasurer@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:Treasurer@bspghan.org.uk)

## EDUCATION WORKING GROUP

**Chair:** Dr Jutta Köglmeier

[education@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:education@bspghan.org.uk)

**Members:** Jutta Köglmeier (Chair), Christopher Bakewell (Trainee representative), Kirn Sandhu (Trainee secretary), Tania Badhurie and Sian Copley (Education representatives), Kushila Rupasinghe (CSAC trainee representative), Marco Gasparetto (Research representative), Rachel Wood (AHP representative), Hina Rizvi (ESPGHAN representative), James Fletcher and Kwang Yang Lee (Webmasters), Attah Ocholi, Lee Huey Miin, Huda Attah (Committee members).



### 2023 Key objectives

- **Ongoing successful and smooth running of BSPGHAN education series**
- **Ongoing expansion of website**
  - Addition of more practice guidelines, position papers and other relevant material
  - Appointment of non-technical webmaster
- **Organisation of trainee meeting**
- **Organisation of 2024 BSPGHAN annual meeting**
  - Support of local organising team with development of programme
  - New abstract scoring system Oxford Abstracts to be used 1<sup>st</sup> time
- **Working group meetings**
  - **F2F at BSPGHAN**
  - **2 virtual or F2F**

### 2023 Key outputs

- **Successful organisation of BSPGHAN zoom education series 2023**
  - Zoom education sessions organised by education representatives
  - Working groups have been allocated sessions
  - Participation of international speakers
  - Meeting to start planning sessions for 2024 held on 29/11/2023
  - Proposal to go to monthly meetings for 2024
  - Working groups and respective working groups to commit to one hour education meeting/year +/-half day themed meeting – endorsed by Council
  - Themed meeting – charge for consultants, free for trainees and AHP
  - Further update from Italian society: joint meeting proposal
- **Website**
  - Links to some evidence based clinical practice guidelines and position papers (guidance with limited scientific evidence) established and updated regularly
  - Non-technical webmaster appointed: Fatimah Alqahtani (GOSH trainee) – invited to future council and education working group meetings
- **Trainee meeting held 19/20 October 2023 in Southampton**
  - Programme well received
  - Excellent speakers

- **Organisation of 2024 annual BSPGHAN meeting in progress**
  - Venue: The Bristol Hote, Bristol
  - Programme finalised
  - 20 oral communications, 72 e-Posters
  - Oxford Abstracts scoring programme in place
  - Abstract booklet to be published in Frontline Gastroenterology
  - 5 awards since 2023 meeting:
    - Sean Devane Memorial – Best Gastroenterology presentation
    - Alex Mowat Award – Best Hepatology presentation
    - Dr Falk Pharma Award – Best IBD presentation
    - Peter Sullivan for best nutrition oral communication
    - Hazel Rollins for best AHP oral communication

### 2024 objectives

- **Successful and smooth running of BSPGHAN education series**
- **Ongoing expansion of website**
  - Addition of more practice guidelines, position papers and other relevant material to UK
  - Support of non-technical webmaster appointed: Fatimah Alqahtani
- **BSPGHAN 2025 Newcastle**
  - Support of local organising team with finalising programme
  - Organisation of poster rounds and prizes
- **Organisation of trainee meeting 2024**
  - Dates and venue tbc

### Other comments

- **Coeliac guideline review**
- **BSPGHAN national survey on the feeding practices of UK children with paediatric intestinal pseudo-obstruction (PIPO)**
  - oral presentation at BSPGHAN annual meeting
  - Submission to peer reviewed journal (? Frontline Gastroenterology)
- **Working group meetings**
  - 3 meetings planned
  - 1 x F2F at BSPGHAN
  - 2 x virtual or F2F
  - Education chair to link in with other working groups for support, if needed.

# HEPATOLOGY WORKING GROUP

**Chair: Sanjay Rajwal**

[Hepatology@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:Hepatology@bspghan.org.uk)



## LIVER STEERING GROUP

**Members:** All Paed. Hepatology, Paediatric Hepatobiliary and LT surgeons.

### 2023 Key objectives

- Joint LT assessment work up (LAG)
- PAEDIATRIC LIVER PATHWAY GROUP (NHSBT-LAG)
- CQuIN / Tricentre audit meeting
- Joint clinical meeting between three liver centres

### 2023 Key outputs

- The Liver Steering Group held their virtual annual CQUIN/Tricentre Audit on 07/06/2023. Representatives from all three paediatric liver centres and NHS Commissioning members participated. The Audit this year was titled: *Audit of Surgical recovery and capacity- pre and post covid in liver centres.*
- **PAEDIATRIC LIVER PATHWAY GROUP (NHSBT-LAG)**  
This working group is in place and recommendations on improvement on the various stages from donor recognition to organ transplantation are expected.
- **Ad hoc clinical meetings between the three liver centres for challenging clinical cases.**  
These meetings have been agreed and are taking place on a regular basis as per clinical need.

### 2024 objectives

- **ABO incompatible organ LT**  
Further discussions and data collection and analysis are undertaken.
- **Liver Transplant National Waiting List Development (LAG)**  
There is a work done via NHSE for such an initiative that may be implemented on to paed. liver centres.
- **Tricentre CQUIN audit (June 2024) – will be about PTLD**
- **Update of Liver Tx on the NHSBT**  
The LSG is in discussions with NHSBT re updating their website to become more parent/child orientated (LSG in discussions with NHSBT).

### Other comments

- Currently, there are 2 liver GRID trainees (LGI, BCH).
- Next LSG business meeting during the BSPGHAN annual meeting, 2024.

# PANCREATITIS WORKING GROUP

**Chair:** Tassos Grammatikopoulos

[pancreatitis@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:pancreatitis@bspghan.org.uk)

**Members:** Tassos Grammatikopoulos (Hepatology-Chair), Paul Henderson (Regional Paediatric Gastroenterology), Mark Davenport (Paediatric Hepatobiliary Surgery), Ieuan Davies (Regional Paediatric Gastroenterology), Gillian Geaney (Dietitian-Nutrition), Julie Harrington (GUTS UK).



Members invited for the guideline: **Tushar Banerjee**  
**Chris Bakewell**

## 2023 Key outputs

- The group has completed writing up a step-by-step investigation & management protocol on nutrition/endoscopy/pain/surgery for children with pancreatitis. The group's management protocol is submitted to council and will be available on the BSPGHAN website and selected work will be submitted to Frontline Gastroenterology.
- Application for a small grant from GUTS UK for primary research/work on the QoL in children with chronic/AR pancreatitis has been successful. The study has been approved by ethics and we are ready for recruitment.

## 2024 objectives

- The group will discuss in a TEAMS meeting during the 2024 BSPGHAN annual conference the future of the Working Group and direction.

## Other comments

- Tassos Grammatikopoulos has notified the BSPGHAN Council and Working Group that he will be stepping down as Chair.
- A new Working Group Chair post has been advertised to BSPGHAN members.
- Julie Harrington will be stepping down as CEO of GUTS UK and a replacement is being sought.

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE

**Chair: Dr Marco Gasparetto**

[Research@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:Research@bspghan.org.uk)

**Members:** **Marco Gasparetto** (paediatric gastroenterologist, Norwich), **Dr David Campbell** (paediatric gastroenterologist, Newcastle), **Prof Morris Gordon** (paediatrician with an interest in paediatric gastroenterology, professor of evidence medicine, UCLan, Preston), **Dr Vasiliki Sinopoulou** (researcher, dietitian, UCLan, Preston), **Ms Joanne Brind** (CNS, Great Ormond Street Hospital, London), **Dr Rohit Gowda** (paediatrician with an interest in paediatric gastroenterology, Maidstone), **Dr Farah Barakat** (paediatric gastroenterologist, Brighton – former BSPGHAN trainee rep), **Dr Zachary Green** (paediatric gastroenterology trainee, Southampton – current BSPGHAN trainee rep).



### 2023 Key objectives

- Assignment of two **joint Guts UK-BSPGHAN Research grants**
- Follow-up of the two joint Guts UK-BSPGHAN Research grants awarded in 2021.
- Assignment of **one BIG (BSPGHAN Innovation Grant) award**
- Launch of a **new BSPGHAN Career Symposium**
- Completion of the **JLA Priority Setting Partnership on Digital Health Technology for Adolescents with IBD (BSPGHAN and BSG)**.
- Launch of **BSPGHAN Systematic Review Fellowship** at UCLan.
- Establishing the **BSPGHAN Research Prize**.
- Regular contribution to the **virtual teaching programme**.
- Contributing to a **BSPGHAN sub-committee** that assesses **international guidelines**, in liaison with the BSPGHAN Education Committee and the relevant Working Group chairs(s).

### 2023 Key outputs

- The **joint Guts UK-BSPGHAN Research grants** awarded in December 2023:
  - Jake Mann (Birmingham) - *Cellular cross-talk between innate and adaptive immune systems in paediatric biliary fibrosis*.
  - Paul Caton (King's College, London) - *Investigating the role of eNAMPT as a biomarker of paediatric MASLD/MASH*
- The successful applicants of the joint Guts UK-BSPGHAN Research grants in 2021 presented their projects and preliminary results on the BSPGHAN Annual Meeting in Windsor in March 2023
- A **BIG (BSPGHAN Innovation) Grant** was assigned in June 2023:
  - Lisa Whyte (Birmingham) - *Interferential therapy (IFT) for the treatment of children with GI dystonia*.

- The **JLA Priority Setting Partnership on Digital Health Technology for Adolescent with IBD** has been completed and published in JPGN@ doi: 10.1002/jpn3.12105.
- The first **BSPGHAN Research Career Symposium** was successfully held virtually on 9th November 2023.
- The **BSPGHAN Research Prize** was awarded to Prof. Konstantinos Gerasimidis (Glasgow) during the BSPGHAN Annual Meeting in Windsor in March 2023.
- Three monthly **research focused teaching sessions** have been offered as part of the BSPGHAN virtual teaching programme.
- Initial meetings (n=3) have been held with a **BSPGHAN sub-committee** willing to assess **international guidelines**, in liaison with the relevant Working Group chair(s) – assessment of the ESPGHAN guidelines on coeliac disease has been discussed.
- **Educational resource literature review project for functional GI disorders** led by Prof. Morris Gordon in collaboration with Dr Rohit Gowda, Dr. Shveta Chana (BSPGHAN PeGHAN representative) – ongoing.

### 2024 objectives

- To agree with Treasurer and Council on the **research budget available for 2024**: there will be no joint Guts UK-BSPGHAN Grants to fund in 2024 (bi-annual), therefore budget could focus on ad-hoc smaller grants (including BIG) or other relevant projects.
- To discuss a **second, face-to-face, edition** of the **BSPGHAN Research Career Symposium**.
- To maintain the **BSPGHAN Research Prize** established and appealing.
- To continue supporting the **BSPGHAN virtual teaching programme** by extending the research sessions to international speakers.
- To progress the work towards a **BSPGHAN sub-committee** (members from the Education Committee, the Research Committee and the relevant Working Group leaders) that assesses **international guidelines** and evaluates how the statements apply to the clinical and research practice in the UK.
- To discuss re-instating the **BSPGHAN Systematic Review Fellowship** led by Prof. Gordon at UCLan

### Other comments

To discuss the **proposal** of a **joint educational event** with the **Italian Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology** (SIGENP) in 2024 (“Young Investigator Forum”) – contact received by the President of SIGENP Prof. Claudio Romano

## Trainee Committee

**Chair:** Dr Chris Bakewell

[trainee@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:trainee@bspghan.org.uk)

**Members:** Dr Chris Bakewell (Chair), Laura Kelly (CSAC co-trainee rep), Philip Robinson (CSAC co-trainee rep), Tania Badhuri (Education) Sian Copley (Education) - outgoing, James Ashton (IBD) - outgoing, Rachel Pybus (EoE), Becca Walker (Motility), Sunitha Vimallesvaran (Hepatology), Jemma Cleminson (BAPEN),)



**Vacancies:** Secretary, Nutrition working group, Endoscopy working group, Research working group

### 2023 Key outputs

- **Communication**

In order to increase communication between trainees and the PGHAN CSAC, a 'Friday at 5' virtual meeting was set up by CSAC to allow trainees to touch base with the CSAC chair, discuss any training difficulties and generally seek advice. This has been helpful to those who have used it and will continue to be run in 2024. CSAC trainee reps, Laura and Phil have actively been advertising this meeting in the BSPGHAN WhatsApp group.

- **Trainee committee/working group roles**

We have made a concerted effort to recruit trainees to the working group committees throughout the year. New trainees have been selected for the motility working group, EoE working group and for the CSAC trainee reps. This will continue in 2024 with recruitment to the nutrition, Endoscopy and Research working groups. We are also recruiting for the position of secretary of the trainee committee (email advert to be sent out soon via BSPGHAN newsletter).

- **Annual PGHAN trainees meeting**

This year's meeting was held in Southampton on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October. It was attended by over 40 current PGHAN trainees, PeGHAN consultants and future PGHAN trainees/SPIN trainees. We have received excellent feedback on the content and overall experience of the meeting from attendees and speakers. It was lovely opportunity to catch up with fellow trainees and see new faces. As always, the event is a chance to demonstrate to general paediatric trainees that a career in PGHAN is an excellent option and many of these trainees have gone on to interview for GRID rotations. Learning points from the meeting were tweeted on the BSPGHAN twitter account by Joseph Machta to share education on key topics. From a financial point of view, the meeting attracted good amounts of sponsorship, making it excellent value for money for BSPGHAN and facilitating heavy subsidy for trainees.

- **PGHAN grid practice interviews**

This event has now become an annual tradition and is developing into an excellent resource for prospective trainees interviewing for PGHAN. We had a record attendance

this year, including three trainees hoping to apply in future years who attended as observers. Feedback has been excellent, and we would like to thank all of the trainees and consultants who kindly gave up their time to interview. Events such as this demonstrate the inclusiveness and positivity within PGHAN as a speciality and are helpful for future trainee recruitment.

- **Web education series**

Lizzie Griffiths has done an excellent job this year catching up with the backlog of videos from the web education series and uploading them to the BSPGHAN website. As of last year's meeting, we were around 8-10 months behind on this. Her work has significantly increased the value of this resource and trainees are strongly encouraged to make the most of these recorded sessions. They can be found in the members area of the BSPGHAN website.

## 2024 Objectives

- **Annual trainees meeting**

This year's trainees meeting will be held in Leeds on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October. This is almost identical timing to 2023 which seemed to work well, avoiding the half-term. The meeting will again be over 2-days and will hopefully be our biggest yet in terms of attendance. We will be seeking sponsorship soon to facilitate similar costings as our 2023 meeting.

- **Induction pack for new PGHAN trainees**

Phil and Laura (CSAC trainee reps) are creating an information pack/resource for trainees starting in PGHAN grid training. This follows earlier work by trainees (James Church and Kushila Rupasinghe) to develop a resource for those thinking about a career in PGHAN. This pack will help trainees understand some of the structure and nuance of PGHAN training to help trainees settle quickly into the speciality. It may then become available for BSPGHAN members in the trainees area on the BSPGHAN website as a useful resource for all trainee members.

- **Trainee area of BSPGHAN website**

Over the last year it has become apparent that information for trainees is hard to find on the current revamped BSPGHAN website. There is concern that this resource is not being used to its full potential as an information and education resource. Efforts made this year (2023) to recruit a trainee to take overall responsibility of this project have not been successful however we are hopeful that this will change in 2024. A significant part of this will be the visibility of the members area on the homepage and developing some contemporary resources for the trainee area.

- **Endoscopy training**

In our last trainees meeting, in October 2023, many trainees were concerned about the implementation of increased colonoscopy numbers as part JAG accreditation. The proposed total number of colonoscopies is 150 (increased from 100), subdivided to allow trainees to demonstrate progression. I.e. 1<sup>st</sup> 50 procedures then 5 DOPs, next 50 then 5 DOPs, final 30 then 10 DOPS before competency has been achieved. We can understand the anxiety around this process and it is clear that trainees will need to be supported through the transition from 100 to 150. The decision to move to 150 is somewhat evidenced based and comes from JAG with the overall aim of improving training in the

procedure. In reality, many trainees will reach CCT without full competency in colonoscopy. We will keep trainees up to date with any progression on this topic and help to raise issues with colonoscopy opportunities in specific training centres to CSAC.

- **Recruitment to the trainee committee**

As mentioned above, adverts will be sent through the BSPGHAN newsletter for upcoming positions on the committee, including secretary and membership of working groups. I encourage all trainees to consider taking one of these posts as there are an excellent way to become involved in guideline development, research and obtain management experience at a national level.

# GASTROENTEROLOGY WORKING GROUP

**Chair: Kornilia Nikaki**

[gastroenterology@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:gastroenterology@bspghan.org.uk)



## MOTILITY WORKING GROUP

**Chair: Michalis Papadopoulos** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist – Evelina LCH)

**Members:** **Eleni Athanasakos** (Director and Lead Paediatric Clinical Scientist – Royal London), **Keith Lindley** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist – GOSH), **Emma Jones** (Clinical Scientist), **Eleni Volonaki** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist - Bristol), **Stewart Cleeve** (Consultant Paediatric Surgeon – Royal London), **Nikhil Thapar** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist- Queensland), **Anna Rybak** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist - GOSH), **Daniel Crespi** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist – Royal Free), **Oswaldo Borrelli** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist - GOSH), **Mohamed Mutalib** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist – Evelina LCH), **Arindam DAS** (Consultant Paediatrician - Broomfield), **Carly Bingham** (Paediatric Clinical Physiologist – Evelina LCH), **Lucy Jackman** (Specialist Paediatric Dietitian – GOSH), **Sona Matthai** (Consultant Paediatrician – Sheffield), **Davina Richardson** (Children’s Specialist Nurse, Bladder and Bowel UK), **Kat Ford** (SpR Paediatric Surgery – GOSH), **David Rawat** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist – Royal London), **Billie Dean** (Clinical Nurse Specialist – Norwich), **Rebecca Walker** (SpR Paediatric Gastroenterology – St George’s)

**Honorary member: Kornilia Nikaki** (Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist - GOSH).

### 2023 Key objectives

- Team worked mainly on the consensus regarding Radiopaque Markers Study. Paper has been accepted for Publication at “Neurogastroenterology and Motility”.

### 2023 Key outputs

- Paper on Radiopaque Markers has been submitted for publication to the Journal of Neurogastroenterology and Motility - <http://doi.org/10.1111/nmo.14776>

### 2024 objectives

- Awaiting Publication of our position paper on Colonic Transit WG consensus at NGM
- To work on creating a national database for Achalasia
- Start updating management guidelines of common GI motility disorders, e.g. constipation NICE guidelines
- Continue to work on increasing awareness of GI motility disorders mainly within the trainees and also the society. That can be achieved by members of the working group contributing to BSPGHAN lecture schedule, continue providing motility workshops at BSPGHAN annual meeting, etc.

- The group to hold at least 3 Working Group meetings (1 face to face at BSPGHAN and 2 virtual)
- Appoint and welcome new members to the group!

### Other comments

A big thank you to Eleni, who stepped down from Chair in November. Eleni did a great job despite the fact her chair position started during the pandemic.

## COELIAC WORKING GROUP

**Chair:** Siba Paul

*Report not available.*

## EOE WORKING GROUP

**Chair:** Marcus Auth

**Members:** Marcus Auth (MA), Joseph Chan (JC), Jenny Epstein (JE), Diana Flynn (DF), Mark Furman (MF), Lucy Jackman (LJ), Kerry Moolenschot (KM), Ed Gaynor (EG), Raj Parmar (RP), Hema Kannappan (HK). **Outgoing members:** Trainee (previously Joseph Chan), KM (Sep 2023). Coming to the end of their first term are MA, JC, JE, DF, MF, LJ, KM. **Incoming members:** Rachel Pybus (RP) (from March 2024). An application for new members to apply and old members to reapply will be sent out in February 2024. **PPI representatives:** Amanda Cordell (AC), Julie Thompson (JT). **Allergy representative:** Leanne Goh (LG). **Research representatives:** Morris Gordon (MoG), Marco Gasparetto (MaG). **Survey representatives:** Constantinos Regas (CG), Nadeem Afzal (NA), Georgia May (GM). **BSPGHAN Gastroenterology Chair:** Kornilia Nikaki (outgoing as gastroenterology chair).

On invitation: specialists from allergy, immunology, PeGHAN, psychology, histopathology, adult, as required.

**Meetings held** 10.3.23 (F2F), 8.8.23, 21.11.22, 13.3.24 (F2F)

In 2023/24 the WG held 4 meetings. The major accomplishment was the submission of the topical steroid guidance to BMJOpen for open access, and preparation of the manuscript of the first national EoE survey for submission to Frontline Gastroenterology. The WG has also completed the first transition survey on EoE. These important surveys and guidances are accepted for oral presentation at BSPGHAN and submitted to ESPGHAN. Notably the GutsUK/BSPGHAN research trial has started, initially by the lead site in Liverpool, to be rolled out to 4 other sites in 2024.

### Thanks and invited professionals:

The chair and WG are grateful to the secretaries RP and HK for keeping accurate minutes from the meetings and to AC for providing a wide range of logistic, professional and administrative support throughout the year. The group is indebted to MoG and MaG their scientific guidance and contribution to the guidance on topical steroids, and to CR, NA and GM for completing

the analysis of the EoE survey and preparing the manuscript with NA and MA and is indebted to all colleagues from the leading site Southampton, and all participating colleagues from the society for completing the survey.

The WG is grateful to L Goh, EG and JE for the synergistic clinical GAP network / discussion forum for clinical presentations with EoE and EGID, with which the EoE WG interacts with mutual representation. Presentations from RP (training survey), DF and JC (steroid algorithm), MA (BioEvocs study) were well received and MA presented the summary of a publication on the 2024 ESPGHAN guidelines on EoE and EGID. Many thanks to Sian for invitation and logistic support to teaching and to KN for supporting the WG activities as gastroenterology chair.

The WG is grateful to LG and EG for hosting the first national joined BSACI/BSPGHAN/Royal Society of Medicine training day on EoE which was a major success. This took place in January 2024, and had over 100 registered delegates. We hope that this will become a regularly fixture for the Royal Society of Medicine.

### **Outcomes:**

The group has completed an evidence based steroid algorithm for treatment of EoE (DF, JC and MA) which has been submitted for publication in to BMJopen including cross reference to the published Cochrane review from MoG in 2023 and provision of open access for professionals. Our first national survey has been accepted for oral presentation at BSPGHAN 2024 and a manuscript has been prepared by (CR, NA, MA with major support from GM). The group has produced video clips for patients and professionals for the national eosinophil awareness week in May and videos for review on the Eosnetwork website (AC). Teaching and training sessions were provided by JE, EG, MA, RP.

### **Publications:**

In addition to the manuscripts completed and submitted (Topical steroids in EoE and EoE national survey), the manuscript for the second ESPGHAN guidelines for EoE has been written by the ESPGHAN EGID working group, in which MA is a steering group member and MF working group member (JA Dias et al, ahead of print in JPGN and in preparation for publication in the January 2024 issue).

MA has also contributed as steering group lead to to the first ESPGHAN/NASPGHAN EGID clinical guidelines) (A Papadoloulou, G Furuta et al, ahead of print in JPGN and in preparation for publication in the January 2024 issue)

EG, MA are co-author in ESPGHAN EGID WG abstracts on the outcome of combination therapies and Dupilumab treatment in the prospective ESPGHAN registry (S Oliva et al, JPGN 2024).

### **Research:**

Paediatric patients from the UK have been recruited in Liverpool to a prospective, placebo-controlled, double-blind clinical trial to assess the efficacy of oral viscous budesonide in EoE (MA CI for the UK), these data will be presented at UEGW, AGA, ESPGHAN). MA and P Turner have submitted grant applications to evaluate biomarkers in EoE. MA has received a GutsUK / BSPGHAN grant for the study of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCS) in EoE (BioEvocs-testing the 'poo sniffer' in children and young people with EoE). The study has started recruiting patients in Liverpool in December 2023, and four further centres have agreed to participate (GOSH and Chelsea Westminster, Newcastle led by EG, JE, David Campbell, Shishu Sharma).

### **Teaching:**

A national training day on EoE has been organised and held by EG, LG, JE, LJ, KM and endorsement from the education chair JK has been obtained for the BSACI/BSPGHAN training day on 16.1.24, organised by LG, EG, LJ, JE which was a major success.

Regular teaching has been provided in the national eosinophilic awareness week, national trainees day BSPGHAN webinars by various WG members in rotation (RP, MA, JE, EG), and at the ESPGHAN EGID meeting in Madrid in December 2024 (EG, MA F2F and MF online), which was well attended and links the BSPGHAN WG firmly with ESPGHAN.

An evidence based steroid algorithm was completed, ratified by the council/research committee and submitted for publication.

MA has presented on invitation at the BSG symposium on EoE in Liverpool on 6.3.23, EG has presented at BSG Campus, and JE at BSPGHAN PeGHAN in Southampton in October.

MA is an invited speaker at the BSPGHAN meeting in Liverpool 20.3.24, in Essen/Germany on 13.3.24 and chair for the ESPGHAN EGID session in Milan on 15.5.24.

### **Snomed CT:**

The diagnostic codes and key words for EoE have been prepared by MF, JC and EG are on hold from RCPCH.

### **Future plans:**

Training: The WG intends to get EoE incorporated into the next training syllabus for RCPCH.

Clinical: The WG will formalise further collaboration and mutual benefits between BSPGHAN EoE WG, BSACI and GAP network via its members, steering group and chairs.

Survey: The WG will analyse the national EoE transition survey and RP will prepare a manuscript.

Research: MA and RP will invite 4 national sites (Chelsea and Westminster, Great Ormond street, Newcastle, Sheffield) which have expressed their interest to participate in the BioEvocs study (Assessment of potential biomarkers in EoE). The WG aims and continues to endorse, facilitate and coordinate all kinds of research opportunities and projects with the Research Chair and other societies including registries, surveys, novel therapies, epidemiology, quality of life, transition, etc.

Invitations: The WG intends to open opportunities for contribution to the WG by regular invitations to the GAP Chair LG and establish collaboration with BSACI, the BSG, for further training in EoE.

Further invitations are planned for the coming year for psychologist (HRQoL), ENT and adult gastroenterology (food impaction, transition), immunology (novel biologic therapies, comorbidities).

The chair of the WG and six further positions in the WG are open for election by March 2024.

## IBD WORKING GROUP

**Chair:** Jochen Krammermeier

**Members remaining:** Gemma Lee (CNS), Natasha Burgess (CNS), Anthi Thangarajah, Kelsey Jones, Astor Rodrigues, Kwang Yang Lee

**Outgoing members:** Jochen Kammermeier (Chair,) Marcus Auth, James Ashton (Trainee Rep), Mashhood Ayaz (PeGHAN Rep), David Devadason (Secretary), one vacant position

**Available positions** (to be advertised): 4 PGE consultants, 1 Trainee Rep, 1 PeGHAN Rep

### 2023 Key objectives

#### Research

- IBD Working Group members were part of a steering group establishing the top 10 research priorities for digital technology for adolescents and young persons with inflammatory bowel disease (James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnership)

*Narula et al. JPGN, Dec 2023*

- With the support from PIBD centres across the UK, we completed and published a survey on: Variation in access and prescription of vedolizumab and ustekinumab in paediatric patients with inflammatory bowel disease: a UK-wide study.

*Auth et al. Arch Dis Child, Dec 2023*

- Members of the BSPGHAN IBD Working Gr were actively involved in creating the first monogenic IBD guideline (BSG/BSPGHAN).

*Kammermeier et al. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol, Mar 2023*

#### UK PIBD Service Assessment/Improvement

- Our group was an integral part in defining PIBD specific IBDUK IBD survey questions to ensure the latest survey provided valuable information on the status of PIBD units in the UK.

*IBDUK Survey 2023 completed – results pending.*

#### PIBD Training

- The PIBD Fellow Training Framework aims to provide guidance on structured PIBD training to enhance the quality and competitiveness of stand-alone paediatric gastroenterology middle grade posts. The draft has been completed.

*Currently reviewed by BSPGHAN president and council*

- PIBD CNS Study Day with funding from DR. FALK PHARMA organised by the RCN PIBD group and BSPGHAN IBD Working Group members.

*Very positive feedback from all participating nurses*

### **UK-Wide Networking**

- NENetwork of Paediatric IBD Centres (NEPIC): ongoing curation of centre details/contact information. Now published in the BSPGHAN members' area. First survey in process and further circulation of PIBD specific educational events.

### **2024 objectives**

Develop NEPIC as a platform to facilitate UK-wide distribution of research initiatives, training opportunities and PIBD specific educational events and information.

Further objectives will be developed by the new Chair of the Working Group from March 2024 onwards.

### **Other comments**

The PIBD Working Group will undergo significant change with 6 current members coming to the end of their terms including myself. It was a pleasure to chair the Working Group for the last four years starting during the first phase of the COVID pandemic. During these uncertain times our group, together with many others, was proactively supporting children with IBD.

Over the years we have been part of and leading many exciting and successful research initiatives, participating in RAND panels, JLA PSP's and PIBD surveys on biologic use and IBD transition services. We also co-developed the first joint BSG/BSPGHAN guideline on diagnosis and care co-ordination of monogenic IBD.

With the remaining group of excellent and enthusiastic nurses and doctors, as well as a 'new generation' of Working Group members, I have no doubt that the PIBD Working Group will provide an amazing platform for IBD research and training. Most importantly, the group will continue to be a hub for PIBD service development to ensure ongoing improvement of care for our children with IBD.

## PeGHAN GROUP

**Chair:** Dr Shveta Chana

[pegghan@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:pegghan@bspghan.org.uk)

**Members:** Shveta Chana (Chair), Hema Kannappan (EoE) Rohith Gowda (Research), Siba Paul (Coeliac), Baneera Shreshtha (Nutrition), Dr. Mashhood (IBD), Himadri Chakraborty (CSAC), Sona Matthai (pending formal approval from motility WG)



Key points as submitted to BSPGHAN Council at regular intervals:

Themes	Future actions to consider:
Zoom education series – previously sessions delivered by PeGHANs	Needs to be re-discussed with the current Education WG.
PeGHAN Virtual sessions – Initially 2/yr but later consensus to 1 in addition to a session in Annual meeting	To continue to liaise with the organising teams for Annual Meeting session and Admin team for Virtual sessions. Last 2 study days have been set a fee of £20pp (free for Associates and trainees) – this has helped to give honorarium to speakers.
PeGHAN projects: a. PA scoping exercise amongst PeGHANs. b. Trainee choices for SPIN Gastro c. Prolonged jaundice audit d. Educational resources for FAP	Continue to liaise with PeGHANs for further topics.
What's App Group	Keep updated and moderate, use it to share key information.
Networking	With other WG members.
CSAC role (Nov'23 - )	Liaise with CSAC committee

### PeGHAN projects undertaken:

- **Jan'22 - Survey of Scope of Services provided by Paediatricians with Interest in Paediatric Gastroenterology across England following National Census PeGHAN audit.** - Presented as Poster presentation at RCPCH Annual meeting.
- **Mar'23 – A Trainee Survey exploring strategies to enhance interest in Paediatric gastroenterology as a Subspecialty** – Presented as Poster presentation at BSPGHAN Annual meeting

- **Mar'23 – Prolonged jaundice national audit** – Led and Presented by Dr. Nagendra Rao as oral presentation in BSPGHAN Annual Meeting. Following this,
  - Dr. Rao has proposed a flowchart/pathway to guide investigations for babies presented with prolonged jaundice. This has been approved by Liver Consortium WG and sent to be uploaded to BSPGHAN website.
  - We approached NICE via RCPCH, as a result of which the NICE guidance on Prolonged Jaundice has been updated to suggest urine culture is only needed if clinically indicated.
  
- **Sep'23 – Educational resources for parents of children with functional abdominal pain** – Led and steered by Prof. Morris Gordon and Dr. Rohit Gowda

**Virtual Study Days held:**

Mar'22 – Eating disorders/Functional GI/Enteral Nutrition/Constipation

Oct'22 – Allergy/PEACE project – eating disorders/Case presentations/CEW project – obesity

April'23 – Liver study day

Oct'23 – Coeliac disease

Mar'24 – Dr Lee Hudson presenting on behalf of PeGHAN on ARFID in Annual meeting.

# RCPCH College Speciality Advisory Committee (CSAC)

## (Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition)

**Co-Chairs:** Lucy Howarth & Nkem Onyeador

[csac@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:csac@bspghan.org.uk)



**Members:** Dr Lucy Howarth (Co-Chair), Dr Nkem Onyeador (Co-Chair), Dr Shya Kishore (Gastroenterology), Dr Vandana Jain (Hepatology), Dr Marueen Lawson (Training and Assessment advisor), Dr Shveta Chana (SPIN advisor), Dr David Devadason (Quality Standards), Dr Anthony Wiskin (Nutrition), Dr Philip Robinson (Trainee representative), Dr Laura Kelly (Trainee representative).

### 2023 Key objectives

- Improve recruitment to Specialty.
- Trainees meeting – face to face to continue.
- Annual progression (and interim meetings) for all grid trainees.
- Recruitment of Gastroenterology and Training and Assessment advisor.
- Separating the Gastroenterology and Hepatology grid application and interview process.
- Implementation of Shape of Training. Progress + launched August 2023.
- National Grid recruitment to commence September 2024
- Improve CSAC – grid trainee engagement.

### 2023 Key outputs

- For September 2024 we advertised 5 Gastroenterology rotations and 1 Hepatology rotation. Highly competitive this year due to fewer available posts (previous year had 13). All posts filled.
- First year of having separate application process for Hepatology and Gastroenterology. Special thanks to Dr Van Jain for successfully leading the Hepatology interview process which had 4 shortlisted candidates for 1 job.
- Trainees' meeting – face to face (Southampton 2023) – well attended with excellent feedback. Thanks to the Chris Bakewell and the organisers, speakers and delegates for a very successful meeting – BSPGHAN organisation and funding much appreciated.
- PGHAN represented at RCPCH online Careers Fair.
- Interim and annual progression meetings for all grid trainees undertaken online.
- PGHAN represented at RCPCH CSAC assemblies and CSAC Chairs forum.
- Changes in committee:
  - Dr Lucy Howarth and Dr Nkem Onyeador taken over as co-chairs for CSAC. We thank Prof Mark Beattie for his excellent stewardship over his tenure.

- CSAC committed to increasing geographic diversity of CSAC committee to reflect UK wide PGHAN grid training. Pleased to welcome Dr Lawson (Manchester) and Dr Kishore (Aberdeen) to the CSAC committee. Their experience and expertise highly valued.
- Improving CSAC -grid trainee engagement. We've set up monthly online grid trainee meeting with CSAC chairs known as 'Friday at 5'. Good feedback. On average 2-5 trainees attending each month.

### 2024 objectives

- Ongoing implementation of Progress+ Curriculum.
- New Grid trainees RCPCH induction pack.
- GMC requesting CSAC to oversee CESR applications.
- Continue Friday at 5 meeting.
- Trainee Meeting September 2024.
- Revamp RCPCH PGHAN CSAC website.
- Continue separate Hepatology and Gastroenterology recruitment.
- Consideration of other ways of training in Hepatology for Gastroenterology grid trainees (if this continues to be a rate limiting step in advertising available Gastroenterology grid posts).

### Other Notes:

#### Ongoing Implementation of Shape of Training through Progress + curriculum

In summary this reduces the specialist training period to 7 years. However, this does maintain the full 3 years for higher specialist training (level 3) and does enable out of programme time between level 2 and level 3 (OOPE/R). The positive for us is that speciality training isn't shortened although the challenge is that training will be overall shorter and potential recruits to the grid will be less experienced.

Progress + went live in August 2023.

#### Endoscopy, clinics and the Curriculum

JAG certification for Gastroscopy is a key competency (for all PGHAN trainees) but not Colonoscopy with the presumption that to be awarded the CCT *reasonable progress* to competency in Colonoscopy is being achieved (for Paediatric Gastroenterology trainees) but ongoing experience/training will occur post CCT. We are not able to mandate the ongoing experience/training although agree that is entirely appropriate and in keeping with good medical practice.

We continue to recommend that GRID trainees have access to at least 25 lists per year and do a reasonable number of procedures on the lists. This is essential to give trainees the enough exposure.

We continue to recommend that GRID trainees have access to at least 25 clinics per year with the opportunity to see a wide case mix of cases (including new patients) and discuss the cases with the wider team. This is essential to give trainees the enough exposure. This should include access to specialist clinics eg Transition clinic, Home PN clinic.

### **Pre-approval of Training Prior to Application to the GRID.**

Any trainee applying to sub-specialty recruitment later than their ST4 year should be allowed to evidence up to 1 year of experience (attained prior to commencement of sub-speciality training), relevant to their sub-specialty application in order to allow them to apply from a later point in their training.

This would be applicable to first-time applicants and also those who have already made an attempt at the sub-specialty recruitment process but were not appointed to a post.

Pre-approval of grid PGMAN training should be prospective and agreed by CSAC committee and clearly stated in the subsequent grid application. This should be in a grid accredited centre with clear evidence of grid equivalent training.

### **Changing workforce and Manpower planning to inform future GRID recruitment.**

This is complex as there are so many factors to consider including staff retention, full versus less than full time working, service development/unit expansion, pending retirements .....all in a very uncertain NHS. The currently 47% of grid trainees are LTFT. This is also balanced against the need across different geographical areas. Notably lack of hepatology slots in the Gastroenterology rotation resulted in not being able to offer a rotation in North West deanery.

PGMAN Grid Trainees Survey 2023 Summary and conclusion (please refer to poster at BSPGMAN Rupasinghe et al)

The survey showed the trend of trainees opting to train LTFT has continued to rise. Changes since the pandemic show an increase in the number of trainees achieving >70% time managing sub-speciality patients, and a vast improvement of the number of trainees feeling that their local department teaching met their needs. Poor attendance in home parenteral nutrition and transition clinics is notable. This could represent the availability of these clinics in some centres, high trainee workload and trainee awareness of this speciality learning objective.

Endoscopy training is often identified as an area of trainee anxiety and the results of the survey show that although acquiring paediatric OGD competence and accreditation is very achievable, the same cannot be said of paediatric colonoscopy. Surveys in both 2021 and 2023 show an aggregate of 97% of trainees are not JAG accredited with the lifetime procedure count requirement at 100. Following review, this is set to rise to 150 lifetime procedures. Trainees will universally be completing PGMAN training without accreditation for paediatric colonoscopy and support systems should be available as new consultants to achieve this competence.

## ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

**Chair: Lindsay Hogg**  
[associates@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:associates@bspghan.org.uk)



**Members:** **Lindsay Hogg** (nurse) due to step down as Chair in 2024, **Amy Phipps** (Pharmacist) - Deputy Chair, **Rachel Wood** (Dietitian) - Education Rep, **Sophie Velleman** (Psychologist) Committee member, **Karen Poulton** (Dietitian) – Committee member, **Emma Wilkinson** (Pharmacist) – Committee member

The AHP group has had a quiet year.

Our aims and objectives for the coming year are to increase our learning and networking opportunities for the AHP members of the society.

We are looking to the AHP's to give us some topics and discussion items for a series of webinars to be launched over the coming months.

Reports not available

## NUTRITION WORKING GROUP

**Chair: Andy Barclay**  
[nutrition@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:nutrition@bspghan.org.uk)



## Endoscopy Working Group

**Chair: Nadeem Afzal**  
[endoscopy@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:endoscopy@bspghan.org.uk)



## QUALITY STANDARDS WORKING GROUP

**Chair: Ed Gaynor**  
[Qualitystandardschair@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:Qualitystandardschair@bspghan.org.uk)



## PATIENT AND PROFESSIONAL PARTNERSHIP

**PPP Representative:**  
**Julie Harrington, Guts UK**  
[ppp@bspghan.org.uk](mailto:ppp@bspghan.org.uk)



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