

 **British Association for Sexual Health and HIV**

*Established 2003 through the merger of MSSVD (est.1922) and AGUM (est.1992)*

**Charity Number: 1148196**

**Company Number: 07863350**

**BASHH Annual Review**

**Branches**

**Special Interest Groups**

**Other Groups of BASHH**

**1 August 2015 - 31 July 2016**

*Approved by the Trustees on*

**Address registered with the Charity Commission:**

**Chester House**

**68 Chestergate**

**Macclesfield**

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 Website: [www.bashh.org](http://www.bashh.org)

 **Bankers: Auditors: Lloyds TSB Farringdon & Co** PO Box 1000 Chartered Certified Accountants Andover 176 Franciscan Road

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This is a stand-alone review that allows the individual Branches and Groups to highlight their activities over the year.

It is a public document that is available on the BASHH website [www.bashh.org](http://www.bashh.org)

**Contents**

[**Prizes & programmes**](#prize_prog)

[BASHH Undergraduate Prizes](#prize_winners)

[Scientific programme](#scientific)

[**Overview**](#overview)

[President’s report](#scientific)

[Treasurer’s review](#treasurer)

[Clinical Governance Committee review](#clin_gov)

[Education Committee review](#education)

[**Named Groups**](#named)

[BASHH/Faculty Integrated Information group](#faculty_int_info)

[Clinical Effectiveness group](#c_e_g)

[Clinical Standards Unit](#CSU)

[Media group](#media)

[National Audit group](#NAG)

[Public health group](#public_health)

[Public panel group](#public_panel)

[Revalidation group](#revalidation)

[Web Team](#web_team)

[**Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**](#SIGS)

[Adolescent and Sexual Violence groups](#adol_sex_violence)

[Bacterial group](#bacterial)

[Doctors in training group](#doctors_in_training)

[Genital dermatology group](#genital_dermatology)

[Health adviser group](#HArep)

[HIV & blood borne viruses group](#HIV_BBV)

[HPV group](#HPV)

[HSV group](#HSV)

[Mentoring group](#MENTORING)

[MSM group](#MSM)

[Nurse group](#nurse)

[SAS group](#SAS)

[Sexual dysfunction group](#sex_dysfunction)

[STIF competency working group](#STIF_comps)

[STI & HIV course group](#STIF_course)

[**Regions**](#regions)

[Ireland](#ireland)

[Northern](#northern)

[North West](#northwest)

[Oxford](#oxford) – no report

[Scotland](#scotland)

[South West](#southwest)

[Thames - North East](#thamesNE)

[Home](#contents)

[Thames – North West](#thamesNW)

[Thames – South East](#ThamesSE)

[Thames – South West](#ThamesSW)

[Trent](#trent) – no report

[Wales](#wales)

[Wessex](#wessex)

[West Midlands](#west_mids)

[Yorkshire](#yorkshire) – No report

[**Committees with BASHH representation**](#committeesBASH)

[JSC for Genitourinary Medicine](#JSC)

[Specialist Advisory Committee](#SAC)

[UEMS Dermatovenereology Committee](#UEMS)

[**Journals with BASHH representation**](#journals)

[International Journal of Sexually Transmitted Diseases & AIDS](#IJSTD)

[STI Journal](#STIJ)

[Home](#contents)

Prizes and programmes

BASHH Undergraduate Prize Winners

**Undergraduate Clinical Prize**

Sanjeev Ramachandran

“How do HIV-negative individuals in sub-Saharan Africa change their sexual risk behaviour upon learning their serostatus? A systematic review”

**Undergraduate Research Prize**

Muhammad Azam Ismail

“Community Viral Load: A new population-based biomarker of HIV disease burden in Scotland”

**Honorary Life Fellowship Lecture**

Professor Cathy Ison

**Cathy Harman Award**

Dr John Sorley

“An HPV vaccination programme in young men who have sex with men”

**Honorary Life Fellowship**

Professor Cathy Ison

**Outstanding Contribution Award**

Professor Martin Fisher

Scientific programme

**8 January 2016**

Organised by MSM and HIV special interest groups

* PrEP efficacy, monitoring & PK
* PrEP/TasP Behavioural aspects
* START Study
* PrEP commissioning/implementation
* Case presentations on difficult cases of PrEP/TasP

**18 March 2016**

Part 1 – organised by bacterial special interest Group

* Sexually Transmitted Infections and the Cervicovaginal Microbiome
* Debate: Bacterial Vaginosis is merely an imbalance in vaginal ecology and not a sexually transmitted infection
* BASHH Honorary Life Fellowship Lecture – BASHH, Bugs and Me!

Part 2 – organised public health special interest group

* The Chlamydia Care Pathway Tool: Improving effective delivery of chlamydia screening
* Black and Minority Ethnic Men Who Have Sex With Men: Project Overview and Findings
* Asymptomatic Lymphogranuloma Venereum in Men Who Have Sex with Men
* Shigella and HIV Co-infection
* Options for Monitoring and Evaluation of Targeted MSM HPV Vaccination Programme

 [Home](#contents)

**June 2016**

Part 1 - organised by HSV special interest Group

* Current controversies in HSV Management- UK survey
* Can you Trust Serology to Guide Management?
* Management of Atypical HSV Presentation in Late Pregnancy
* Psychological interventions in sexual health: Past and future

Part 2 – organised by adolescent special interest group

* Research findings - Young men and CSE
* Survivors Outreach work with young men affected by CSE
* HPE study on associations between STIs and CSE
* Findings from the Spotting the Signs survey
* A series of interactive CSE case presentations with panel discussion

[Home](#contents)

Overview

President’s report

We are pleased to submit the BASHH annual report for the year ended July 2016, which details the Association’s many activities and achievements that continue within a responsive organisational framework.

The implementation of the Health and Social Care Act has continued to exert a major impact on sexual health, reproductive health and HIV services in England with tendering of services, the risk of fragmentation and tight financial constraints posing significant challenges for providers and commissioners alike. In Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland there are also real challenges with funding and staffing issues. Added to this has been the public vote in June 2016 for the United Kingdom to leave the European Union and the future effect of this on health services is unclear.

BASHH has collaborated with a range of national representative bodies, professional and third sector organisations to raise the importance across the country of good sexual health and to maintain high quality services despite the difficult economic climate. BASHH has highlighted these points in their responses to important public consultations and has alerted central government, commissioners and provider organisations where we have identified plans that would put patients and services at risk.

We have successfully championed, in partnership, the retention of the quadrivalent human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine for the girls’ vaccination programme and have highlighted the need for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis to be provided for high risk individuals. BASHH members across England are also participating in an on-going pilot project assessing the acceptability and feasibility of a national vaccination programme for men who have sex with men (MSM).

The process used by BASHH to produce the UK national guidelines has been re-accredited by NICE. Our Clinical Standards Unit has produced Standards for the Management of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) in Outreach Services, which promote good practice. The study evaluating the feasibility of a national STI-HIV audit programme as part of the Health Quality Improvement Programme has been completed by BASHH, the British HIV Association and MEDFASH and we hope that a national audit will be commissioned.

Our media team has worked tirelessly to engage with the public to provide accurate information as well as to promote good sexual health. Importantly, they have consistently raised the issue of inappropriate antibiotic prescribing to treat STIs by online providers, which risks antimicrobial resistance developing, and we have welcomed the guidance from the Department of Heath on good antibiotic stewardship. Other communication developments have been the re-design of the BASHH website to make it easier to navigate with an enhanced public area and the production of a new social media strategy, which will be implemented over the coming year.

Our educational portfolio continues to expand and our training modules, educational and scientific meetings are of high quality with excellent feedback. We held a very successful annual conference in Oxford and many other excellent educational events across the UK throughout the year. We also supported a meeting in Sitges with the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infection (IUSTI) where we delivered a course from our STI Foundation portfolio that was very well received.

In summary, BASHH continues to be a successful and vibrant organisation promoting excellence in sexual health and HIV care, delivering high quality education, seeking to influence national decision makers for the improvement of public health and also most importantly working for the benefit of the public. We acknowledge and thank all of the Members, Officers and Trustees for their time, commitment and enthusiasm without which the work of the Association would not be possible.

**Dr Elizabeth Carlin**

**BASHH President**

[Home](#contents)

Treasurer’s report

**Financial review**

BASHH had a stable financial year. Increasingly our investment portfolio contributed to an overall positive financial balance. The sharp rise in value that stocks have generally had since June has contributed significantly to the maintenance of BASHH’s reserves. During the last year the association has invested in the production of new outreach standards and continues to support our education and conference program through funding both administration and course development. A detailed review of aged debt has taken place over and a significant loss of income is noted to be through BASHH’s web portal for course registration where registrants can register for meetings but abort the payment process part way resulting in considerable work from our secretariat in chasing registration debt. Much of this is for small sums and the costs involved in recovering the amounts is disproportionate to eventual amounts recovered. A new payment system has been introduced such that this will no longer be an issue. In addition BASHH is also looking to remove the option for invoice based registration for its courses.

**Principle funding sources**

Income for the charity comes from three principle sources – membership subscriptions, educational meetings and investment income. In view of the charity’s stable financial position, the annual membership fee was not increased in 2016. Our annual scientific conference was held in Oxford and was financially successful. The surplus generated by the meeting was somewhat smaller than in recent years (despite record sponsorship and maximum delegate capacity) reflecting the high costs of the venues for the meeting. Other educational meetings were run throughout the year led by the association’s special interest groups and these were generally cost neutral or generated a surplus. Over the last 2 years the association has invested in the STIF portfolio to update its offer and to develop a wider range of training products. The coming years should see a return on this investment as all STIF activities move into surplus.

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees reviewed the reserves policy and renewed their intention to maintain the level of reserves at an amount sufficient for the Association to function for at least two years in the event that it does not receive any further income. This will mitigate the financial risk associated with running large conferences and ensure that BASHH’s existing contractual obligations can be met. The Association also wishes to have sufficient reserves available to respond rapidly when required to commission new sexual health guidelines or standards documents, or respond to external consultations.

**Investment policy**

The investment policy was reviewed by the Trustees with agreement that sufficient funds to allow the association to function for at least one year will be retained in accounts which permit access within a maximum of three months. The balance of reserves is invested after taking professional financial advice and adopting a low to medium risk approach. Investments are currently held in funds split equally between Saracens Investment Managers and St. James Management. A decision was made to not alter the current balance of stocks and cash on deposit making up the associations reserves.

**Plans for future periods**

BASHH plans to continue providing high quality education and training as well as leadership for those delivering sexual health and HIV services. BASHH’s output includes national service specifications and the production of high quality independent guidelines across the range of the specialty – both of which require regular review and updating. BASHH remains well placed financially to continue to provide these resources. The annual scientific conference in 2017 will be held in Belfast and planning for this meeting are well advanced.

**Dr Raj Patel**

**Treasurer**

[Home](#contents)

**Clinical Governance Committee Review**

**Membership**

Alan Tang (2016-2018) *Chair*

Sophie Brady *Secretary*

Branch Chairs

Nurse, Health Adviser, SAS and Doctors in Training representatives

Clinical Effectiveness Group Chair

Clinical Standards Unit Chair

National Audit Group Chair

Information Group Chair

Web Team Chair

Mentoring Group Chair

**Objectives:**

* Implement strategies and policies of BASHH as approved by the Governing Board
* Set and monitor standards and specifications
* Identify areas of best clinical practice and promote them for adoption where appropriate whilst recognizing local differences
* Identify regional and individual clinic difficulties
* Explore solutions to issues and suggest action plans
* Co-ordinate a peer review system as required or in response to a member's request

**Significant activities**

* Issues from tendering were reported from all English branches and escalated to the Officers
* First meeting outside London held in Manchester June 2016
* New Quality Improvement and Transformation subgroup formed
* Spotlight discussions were on maintaining quality after disruptive tendering of services; utility, hazards and good practice of social media use
* Requested greater clarity on reporting of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and gaining partial answers
* CGC Terms of Reference were reviewed and approved
* Sharing of intelligence on increase of STI and difficulties in effective Partner Notification related to dating apps

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Allocation of a hardship fund to support travel expenses for members whose attendance is essential
* Agreement with the Royal College of Physicians on a process for approving Regional Specialty Advisers
* Updated BASHH Guidance on the Retention and Disposal of Clinical Records
* The roles of the CGC Chair were discussed and agreed

**Future plans**

* Review regional boundaries, clinical networks, safety and intelligence reporting, and effective member representation
* Standardised template for chairs to provide information on branch officers, main service centres, regular activities, special features and clinical network information

**Dr Alan Tang**

**Chair**

[Home](#contents)

**Education committee review**

**Membership**

Dr Jackie Sherrard *Chair*

Dr Sarah Duncan *EC Secretary*

Dr Elizabeth Carlin *BASHH President*

Dr Jonathan Ross *BASHH Vice President*

Dr Raj Patel *HSV SIG Co-Chair / BASHH Treasurer*

Dr Liz Foley *BASHH Secretary*

Dr Tristan Barber *HIV SIG Chair*

Prof Jackie Cassell *Journal Editor (STI) and Academic Representative*

Dr Emily R Clarke *Doctors in Training Representative*

Dr Dan Clutterbuck *MSM SIG Chair*

Dr Gavin Dabrera *Public Health SIG Co-Chair*

Dr Shamela De Silva *Public Health SIG Co-Chair*

Dr Ngozi Dufty *BASHH STI/HIV Course Director*

Ceri Evans *Health Advisor Representative*

Dr John Evans-Jones *eHIV-STI*

Dr Ashini Fox *STIF Competency Chair*

Dr Richard Gilson *HPV SIG Chair*

Dr David Goldmeier *Sexual Dysfunction SIG Chair*

Dr John Green *HSV SIG Co-Chair*

Prof Cathy Ison *Bacterial SIG Chair*

Dr Carlos Oroz *SAS rep*

Dr Daniel Richardson *BASHH Communication and Conference secretary*

Colin Roberts *Nurse Representative*

Dr Luciana Rubenstein *STIF Course Steering Group Chair*

Dr Parameswaran Sashidharan *Genital Dermatology SIG Chair*

Dr Nick Theobald *STIF Executive*

Dr Dawn Wilkinson *Adolescent SIG Chair*

Dr John White *Journal Editor (Int Journal of STD & AIDS)*

Dr Martyn Wood *Web team Representative*

**Objectives:**

* The *Education Committee* is responsible for facilitating the delivery of the BASHH’s vision, values and service priorities through education, training and development, taking into account the changing context of healthcare and educational developments, and specifically the demands related to provision of high quality integrated sexual health care across a wide geographical area and range of healthcare settings.
* Special interest groups are responsible for leading on development of educational materials, meetings and training needs analyses within their specialist areas.

**Significant activities**

* The EC EC oversees Annual Spring Conference and has the responsibility of providing 4 scientific meetings annually, which are free to delegates, including invited lectures from BASHH Honorary Life Members and Professorial lectures.

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* In the last 12 months two scientific meetings were held in London, and a pilot of running a scientific meeting out of London took place in Manchester in June 2016. Despite an excellent programme and good location, unfortunately attendance was poor. The board agreed to support members attending

[Home](#contents)

the joint BASHH IUSTI Meeting in Sitges in place of a 4th UK meeting. This was very successful with over 90 UK delegates.

* Six SIGs (Bacterial, Public Health, HIV, MSM, HSV and Adolescent Sexual Health) put together meetings in 2015-16. These were well attended with excellent evaluation. Recent innovations include bar-coded membership cards which enable easier logging of attendance at events for CPD purposes. Podcasts/webcasts of the OGM lectures has continued to facilitate access for those unable to attend in person.
* The EC oversees Annual Spring Conference and the 2016 in Oxford attracting >450 delegates, and excellent evaluation. The annualJoint BASHH /FSRH meeting in January and HIV Masterclass held in Manchester in March were again very successful. Other meetings include the Doctors in training meeting, and the SAS Conference.
* Ngozi Dufty has taken over running the STI & HIV course in 2016 and is undertaking a review of all aspects of the course including structure and content. This runs with Modules 1 & 2 in the Spring and modules 3&4 in the Autumn. This appears to be successful with increased delegate numbers and good feedback. At present the reduction in frequency of running the modules does not appear to disadvantaging delegates wishing to sit the DipGUM but this will be kept under review.

**Future plans**

The role, membership and terms of reference of the EC has been reviewed to ensure it remains fit for purpose with the strategic aims of coordinating the delivery of education within BASHH and supporting clinicians in maintaining knowledge and expertise to deliver high quality services. Next year’s BASHH spring meeting will be held in Belfast and preparations are well underway. Following the successful pilot of STIF integrated this will be fully rolled out in the next year. A review of the contents of the e-learning resource: eHIV-STI is underway to ensure that it remains up-to-date.

**Jackie Sherrard**

**EC Chair**

[Home](#contents)

Named groups

**BASHH/Faculty Integrated Information Group**

**Membership**

David Phillips *Chair, BASHH*

Anatole Menon-Johansson (BASHH)

Huw Price (BASHH)

Andrew Winter (BASHH)

Nathan Acladius (FSRH)

Asha Kasliwal (Co- chair, FSRH)

Usha Kumar (FSRH)

Lynne Gilbert (FSRH)

Paul O’Brien (FSRH)

Kate Jervis (Brook)

Nicky Connor (PHE)

Stephen Duffell (PHE)

Gwenda Hughes (PHE)

Hamish Mohammed (PHE)

Judith Ellison (HSCIC)

**Observers from IT systems:**

Ed Hulse (Mill Systems)

Shafeda Mohammed (RIOMED)

Thiyagarajan Jayaraman (IMS)
Iain Galloway (IDCapture)

**Objectives:**

* To recommend strategies for IT implementation, data collection and reporting for the spectrum of Sexual Health services (ranging from non-integrated services to fully integrated services).
* To advise on the type, quality and format of information to be collected from Sexual Health services for the purposes of national audit, public health monitoring and monitoring of service performance.
* To respond to relevant consultations affecting service provision and data collection in Sexual Health.
* To liaise between DH, HSCIC, PHE and other agencies regarding information issues to achieve best outcomes for both patient and public health.
* To receive and respond to queries and concerns from members relating to IT and Information Governance (IG), including data protection and confidentiality rules.
* To anticipate problems relating to IT and Information Governance from new legislation, commissioning or other changes that affect Sexual Health.
* To disseminate important information to BASHH/Faculty members via organisational websites/newsletters

**Significant activities**

* The Group met on three occasions during 2015/16.
* We have considered matters of relevance to GUM Clinics, SRH clinics and Integrated Services in particular in relation to statutory reporting through SRHAD and SHHAPT coding.
* We have advised PHE on proposed changes to CTAD
* We have engaged with the Sexual Health Tariff review to advise on data and coding implications and worked these through with PHE.

[Home](#contents)

* We have liaised with other groups including the Young Person’s Subgroup to propose a new coding approach to address issues including CSE, FGM and domestic violence.
* We have consulted with PHE regarding the second phase of GUMCADv3 pilot in readiness for planned role out.
* We have deliberated and advised on the IT and IG implications of electronic partner notification tools.

**Future plans**

* To continue to work closely with members of the Faculty, PHE, DH, HSCIC, software providers and others to ensure that we meet our objectives
* To be both pro-active and responsive to upcoming matters that affect data handling and IG to find the best solutions.
* The immediate horizon includes: Sector/region wide commissioning of services, online triage, remote testing and partner notification tools.

**David Phillips**

**Co-Chair**

**Clinical Effectiveness Group**

**Membership**

Keith Radcliffe *Chair*

Darren Cousins

Helen Fifer (PHE)

Mark FitzGerald

Deepa Grover

Sarah Hardman *FSRH representative*

Steve Higgins

Margaret Kingston

Michael Rayment,

Ann Sullivan

Craig Tipple *ex officio member as the chair of the BASHH Public Panel*

**Objectives**

* To update or produce new national evidence-based guidelines in accordance with a methodology accredited by NICE.
* To produce information for patients based on these guidelines.

**Significant activities**

* In the year 2015/16 the Clinical Effectiveness Group met three times at the Royal Society of Medicine in London: in November 2015, and in March and June 2016.

**Performance / outputs**

* A new methodology for guideline production was produced to meet the requirements of NICE. (British Association for Sexual Health and HIV: Framework for guideline development and assessment. M Kingston, K Radcliffe, D Cousins, H Fifer, M FitzGerald, D Grover, S Hardman, S Higgins, M Rayment, A Sullivan*. Int J STD & AIDS* 2016, **27**(3): 165-177.) Reaccreditation by NICE (due to expire in January 2016) valid until 2021 was achieved as a result of superb work by Margaret Kingston who led on this on behalf of the CEG. Two points about this:

[Home](#contents)

* + NICE are very keen on patient involvement in every stage of guideline production. This poses particular problems in sexual health and to assist the CEG in meeting this requirement Craig Tipple (chair, BASHH Public Panel) was invited to join the group.
	+ The revised methodology incorporates a modified version of the GRADE system for grading levels of evidence and strengths of recommendations.
* Mike Rayment has successfully led on the development of an app to facilitate use of the guidelines on mobile devices.
* BASHH had previously agreed a budget to pay for a professional researcher to support writing groups producing guidelines in areas of high publication rates. This is being piloted on two guidelines this year (gonorrhoea and PID).
* A BASHH/PHE position statement on the treatment of gonorrhoea was published as a BASHH column in *Sexually Transmitted Infections* (Fifer H, Hughes G, Radcliffe K. Gonorrhoea treatment position statement. *Sex Transm Infect* 2015; **91**(5): 307.)
* The guideline on vulval conditions was updated and published (2014 UK national guideline on the management of vulval conditions. Edwards SK, Bates CM, Lewis F, Sethi G, Grover D. *Int J STD AIDS*. 2015 Aug;**26**(9):611-24.)
* The guideline on chlamydia was updated and published (2015 UK national guideline for the management of infection with Chlamydia trachomatis. NC Nwokolo, B Dragovic, S Patel, CY William Tong, G Barker, K Radcliffe. *Int J STD&AIDS* 2016, **27**(4) 251-267.)
* The guideline on hepatitis was updated and published (United Kingdom National Guideline on the Management of the viral hepatitides A, B and C 2015. Brook G, Bhagani S, Kulasagaram R, Trkington A, Mutimer D, Hodges E, Hesketh L, Farnworth S, Sullivan A, Gore C, Devitt E, Sullivan AK. *Int J STD & AIDS* 2016; **27**:501-25.)
* The guideline on syphilis was updated and published (M Kingston, P French, S Higgins et al. UK national guidelines on the management of syphilis 2015. *Int J STD AIDS* 2016; **27**: 421-446.)
* The guideline on NGU was updated and published (UK national guideline on the management of non-gonococcal urethritis. P Horner, K Bleer, C O’Mahony, P Muir, C Evans, K Radcliffe*. Int J STD&AIDS* 2016; **27**(2): 85-89.)
* The guideline on molluscum contagiosum was updated and published (UK national guideline for the management of Genital Molluscum in adults, 2014 Clinical Effectiveness Group, British Association for Sexual Health and HIV. Fernando I, Pritchard J, Edwards SK, Grover D. [*Int J STD AIDS.*](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=grover+guideline+on+molluscum) 2015; **26**(10):687-95.
* The guideline on anogenital warts was updated and posted on the BASHH website.
* A BASHH statement on good practice in domestic violence was produced by the BASHH Sexual Violence Special Interest Group and posted on the website.
* The CEG continues to regularly liaise with the following groups:
	+ BNF
	+ BASHH Audit Group
	+ BHIVA Audit Group
	+ NICE
	+ FSRH Clinical Effectiveness Unit
	+ RCP Clinical Effectiveness Forum

**Future plans**

* Work continues on updating the following guidelines: pediculosis pubis; scabies; gonorrhoea; granuloma inguinalae; PID; epididymo-orchitis; candidiasis; SARA; young people; balanitis; sexual health of HIV positive persons; HIV testing (jointly with BHIVA and the British Infection Association).
* New guidelines on the sexual healthcare of MSM and on pre-exposure prophylaxis of HIV (latter jointly with BHIVA) are being developed.

[Home](#contents)

* Steve Higgins continues to do an excellent job of overseeing production of patient information each time that a CEG guideline is produced or updated. These are freely available on the BASHH website.

**Dr Keith Radcliffe**

**Chair CEG**

**Clinical Standards Unit (CSU)**

**Membership**

Dr Raj Patel *Chair*

Dr Alan Tang *Secretary*

Dr Orla McQuillan *Subgroup – STI Outreach Standards, Chair*

The CSU is chaired by a senior clinician appointed by the BASHH President. Members include Fellows appointed by the Board and representatives from health advisers, nurses, clinical effectiveness group, national audit group, faculty of sexual and reproductive health, national Chlamydia screening programme, education committee, clinical governance committee, doctors in training and Scotland. The Chair nominates a Secretary from within the group. The CSU reports to the Clinical Governance Committee as well as the Board.

**Objectives:**

* Firm up the Quality Measures and Quality Standards by providing more evidence to underpin each measure, and not solely base them on expert opinion.
* Align these measures with individual clinician’s performance indicators for Revalidation.
* Align these measures with the National Audit Group programme.
* Include PROMs and PREMs as measures of quality and patient satisfaction.
* Collaborate with the national Health Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) programme.
* Monitor consistency with developments in BASHH clinical guidelines being revised by the Clinical Effectiveness Group (CEG).

**Significant activities**

* Formation of new STI Outreach Subgroup
* New STI Management Standards for Outreach Services written and wide consultation completed

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Launch of Outreach Standards at BASHH Annual Conference July 2016
* Appointment of new Chair
* Current members requested to co-opt and train successors

**Future plans**

* Revision of Standards for the management of sexually transmitted (2nd edition) from January 2018 for publication January 2019
* Alignment of standards with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
* Development of new Quality Standard and Measures for Online STI Service
* Transfer of medical records to new providers
* Recruitment of new CSU Secretary and new members

**Dr Alan Tang**

**Interim Chair**

[Home](#contents)

**Media Group**

**Membership**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mark Lawton *Chair* Mags Portman *Secretary*Simon BartonElizabeth CarlinJan Clarke Claudia Estcourt Stuart FlanaganPeter GreenhouseColm O'Mahony Rak Nandwani | Mark Pakianathan Keith RadcliffeAngela Robinson Karen Rogstad Liat Sarner Verity Sullivan Steve Taylor Helen Ward Olwen Williams Janet Wilson  |

**Objectives:**

* To provide suitable information to the public and healthcare professionals in an appropriate and engaging way.
* To establish BASHH as the ‘go-to’ organisation for media requests relating to sexual health.
* To keep sexual health on the agenda by engaging with traditional and social media, responding to relevant publications and policies, and providing articles and interviews where appropriate.

**Significant activities**

* Numerous media reports have been coordinated by BASHH media group regarding Azithromycin resistant Gonorrhoea. Both from the original PHE announcement in September 2015 and the more recent update in April 2016. Various media interviews were conducted ensuring a balanced message. BASHH received multiple media requests around the most recent PHE announcement demonstrating the recognition of BASHH as the specialist organisation.
* Other work has included the continuing lobbying for HPV vaccination roll out. Pushing the quadrivalent vaccine through parliamentary questions and promoting its use in MSM.
* Social media training course jointly with BHIVA for members of media group
* Various other print/tv/radio interviews on sexual health topics and issues on Public Health funding cuts:-
	+ BBC coverage for 2016 STI figures from PHE
	+ Guardian article on STIs and travel advice
	+ Metro article myths about the impacts of not having sex
	+ LBC radio show on Kingston Council sexual health poster
	+ TV production for BBC/Sky TV on HIV stigma
	+ Online article for Refinery29 on condom usage
	+ Vice Magazine article on syphilis prevalence in London
	+ BBC Online article online pharmacy story
	+ Sky TV/Radio story on new NICE condom distribution guidelines

**Future plans**

* Ongoing media presence from BASHH, supported by Munro & Forster.
* Continue to push social media.

**Dr Mark Lawton**

**Chair**

[Home](#contents)

**National Audit Group**

**Membership**

Ann Sullivan *Chair*

Hugo McClean *Vice Chair*

Vanessa Apea *Honorary secretary*

Anatole Menon-Johansson *Director of development*

**Objectives:**

* National audits of clinical practice in sexual health/genitourinary medicine clinics against the BASHH Clinical Effectiveness Group (CEG) National Guidelines
* A forum to discuss national and regional audit programmes
* Response to requests for national audits by the British Association of Sexual Health and HIV
* Specification of key auditable outcomes for the common genitourinary conditions, using the clinical guidelines of the CEG as the standard of care

**Significant activities**

* 2016 audit of STI screening and risk assessment: the audit was completed using online data collection and feedback of individualised reports to participating services. Areas for improvement were found in asking about alcohol and recreational drug use, including chemsex or “club” drugs, and in managing individuals who decline HIV testing, such as recording reasons, ensuring availability of an alternative to venepuncture and considering active follow-up of those at higher risk
* 2015 audit of young people aged 13-15 attending sexual health services: following the audit recommendations were agreed by NAG and fed back to clinics via Branch Audit Chairs, who then collated information from clinics on changes made in response to the recommendations. Improvements were found in appointment of child protection leads and use of proformas for assessment of risk of child sexual exploitation
* Successful completion and submission to HQIP of feasibility study for development of a new STI/HIV audit programme, co-ordinated by Medfash and in collaboration with BHIVA
* Publication of HIV PN standards
* Revision and ongoing improvement of list and audit contact details for level 3 UK sexual health services
* Review of CEG guidelines to highlight key auditable outcomes
* Continued close working with NCSP
* Updating of BASHH NAG web page.

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* BASHH 2016 National Audit: STI screening and risk assessment. S Bhaduri on behalf of BASHH National Audit Group. Presented at BASHH Annual Conference, 10-12 July 2016, Oxford
* Quality improvement achievements following the 2015 national audit on the management of 13-15 year olds attending sexual health services. C Saxon on behalf of BASHH National Audit Group. Presented at BASHH Annual Conference, 10-12 July 2016, Oxford
* An effective strategy to diagnose HIV infection: findings from a national audit of HIV partner notification outcomes in sexual health and infectious disease clinics in the UK. Rayment M, Curtis H, Carne C et al on behalf of the members of the British Society for Sexual Health and HIV National Audit Group, and the BHIVA Audit and Standards Sub-committee. *Sex Transm Infect* 2016;0:1–6. doi:10.1136/sextrans-2015-052532
* HIV partner notification for adults: definitions, outcomes and standards. AK Sullivan, M Rayment, Y Azad et al on behalf of NAT, BASHH, SSHA and BHIVA.

[Home](#contents)

**Future plans**

* Provision of the BASHH 2017 national audit
* Expectation of HQIP’s response to feasibility study for new STI/HIV audit programme and continued work with BHIVA, HQIP and other stakeholders to develop this
* Continued working with NCSP

**Ann Sullivan**

**Chair**

**Public Health Group**

**Membership**

Gavin Dabrera *Co-Chair*

Shamela de Silva *Co-Chair*

Jackie Cassell *Advisory panel*

Gwenda Hughes *Advisory panel*

Helen Ward *Advisory panel*

Shamela de Silva *Secretary*

**Objectives**

* To support BASHH and its members in engaging with the public health agenda, providing leadership, advocacy and advice.
* Work with the Education committee to ensure appropriate delivery of public health training in the specialty, and to make recommendations for the agendas and content of general meetings and conferences.

 **Significant activities**

* + - Symposium at the annual BASHH conference in July 2016

**Outputs in the year 2015/16**

The Royal College of Physicians asked BASHH to produce a chapter for a new online resource to replace the ‘Consultant Physicians Working For Patients’ document. In order to emphasise that sexual health clinicians are key players in health promotion and disease prevention, the BASHH board approached the Public Health Special Interest Group, who contributed to the development of this document.

**Future plans**

* Further development of the webpage as a resource for topical information and signposting to useful web pages and tools ( when administrative support becomes available).
* Plenary session at BASHH 2017 conference.
* Suggestions for future educational meetings and activities would be welcome.

**Shamela de Silva**

**Co-Chair and Secretary**

[Home](#contents)

**Public Panel**

**Membership**

Craig Tipple *Chair*

**Lay/Voluntary Sector Members**:

David Crundwell *Lay*

Georgina Bayliss *Lay*

Callum Ross *Lay*

Gautam Kambhampati *Lay*

Tara Shoham *Lay*

Victoria Olaniyan *Lay*

Melissa MacFarlane *Lay*

Sian Naftal *Lay*

Marian Nicholson *Herpes Viruses Association*

Alex Sparrowhawk *Terence Higgins Trust Rep*

Jennifer Dhingra *Student and Sexpression Rep*

Michelle Ross *CliniQ*

**Professional Members**:

Martyn Wood *BASHH Webmaster*

Sinead O’Neil *Sexual Health Nurse*

Steve Higgins *BASHH Clinical Effectiveness Group Rep*

James Drysdale *Health Advisor*

Hannah Pintilie *co-opted from BASHH web team*

Rebecca Thomson-Glover *co-opted from BASHH web team*

Laura Russell *Senior Policy and Public Affairs Officer, FPA*

Sue Burchill *Head of Nursing, Brook Young People*

Panel membership has increased over the last year and now includes greater lay representation in addition to representation from Brook Young People and the Terrence Higgins Trust. Involving young people, a key STI risk demographic, in BASHH PPI is important and the input of Brook is already proving beneficial with PPI in the latest update to the BASHH young people management guideline.

**Objectives**

The aim of the Public Panel is to promote a positive and proactive approach to Patient and Public Involvement across BASHH and to ensure that Patient and Public Involvement is a key feature within all BASHH’s activities and incorporated into all BASHH strategies.

**Key Activities and Outputs**

* PPI for NICE-accredited BASHH guidelines
* The panel spent considerable time and effort engaging with the BASHH clinical effectiveness group to embed PPI in the guidance for writing BASHH guidelines. This was a key requirement of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) in order to retain their accreditation of BASHH guidelines. Currently, the Gonorrhoea, PID and Young People’s guidelines are all being written according to the new guidance. Additional funding has been obtained from board to support this work.
* Patient Information Production
* A lay member from panel joined the writing group for a multi-organisational booklet detailing how HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) can be taken safely.

[Home](#contents)

* The Syphilis patient information leaflet was reviewed, edited and finalised.
* The Chlamydia patient information leaflet was reviewed, edited and finalised.
* All BASHH leaflets are now to be translated into Welsh with the assistance of the Welsh Health Board Translation Service and back-translated by Olwen Williams
* All panel members have been briefed on the new NHS information standard and Steve Higgins has worked hard to ensure that all leaflets conform to this standard.
* New-look BASHH website
* Panel were instrumental in suggesting and reviewing content for the new-look BASHH website. The PPI work of BASHH is now much clearer to people visiting the site. There is an up to date list of panel members.
* This has resulted in several direct enquiries regarding panel membership and in the recruitment of four new lay members to panel from diverse backgrounds.
* Minutes from future panel meetings are also to be publically available on the BASHH website.
* Public Survey: what do people want from sexual health services?
* The panel worked hard to design and edit this survey, which was to be administered by the national polling organisation, ComRes. Unfortunately, scientific advice provided to panel was that the survey was unlikely to be interpreted correctly by lay public and that the results would not be representative of true public opinion. The decision was taken, therefore, not to conduct the survey.

**Future Plans**

* Greater integration of electronic communications technology to allow panel members to attend meetings remotely. If successful, then a move to a more ‘virtual’ panel may be possible with annual meetings. This aims both to reduce the cost of running meetings and to improve attendance for people who may not be able to travel to London.
* Moving away from paper-only patient information resources and working with the FPA and other key stakeholders to produce information in electronic formats.
* Further integration of PPI within the work of BASHH.

**Dr Craig Tipple**

**Chair**

**Revalidation group**

**Membership**

Dr Immy Ahmed-Jushuf

Dr Janet D Wilson

**Objectives:**

* To provide specialty based advice and support to the RCP revalidation team
* To provide support for BASHH members in matters related to revalidation
* To develop specialty specific guidance to support members wishing to revalidate
* To ensure that the specialty specific advice is kept updated and remains current.

**Significant activities**

* Specialty specific advice developed and uploaded on to the BASHH website and the RCP revalidation section
* Supporting the RCP to develop specialty specific clinical outcomes

[Home](#contents)

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* The RCP is developing proposals for specialty specific outcomes frameworks.
* Dr Janet D Wilson has now replaced Dr Immy Ahmed-Jushuf as the Revalidation Advisor for Genitourinary Medicine.

**Future plans**

* It is expected that a limited number of specialty specific outcomes will be developed for validation during 2017.

**Dr Janet Wilson**

**RCP Revalidation Advisor for Genitourinary Medicine**

Web team

**Membership**

Dr Martyn Wood *Chair*

Dr Nick Theobald

Dr Kaveh Manavi

Dr Alan Tang

Dr Nalin Hettiarachchi

Dr Hannah Pintile *SpR Member – South*

Dr Rebecca Thomson\_Glover *SpR Member – North*

Dr Selina Singh

Dr Ade Apoola,

KSAM web team,

BASHH Secretariat

**Group Aims**

* To improve the ease of access for BASHH members to educational content on the BASHH website.
* Improve and update public areas of the website.
* Increase the use of Branch website areas to increase engagement with local branch activities
* Enhance channels of communication with BASHH members using website members area and social media

**Significant activities**

* New BASHH Website is now live, website includes integrated guidelines and printable patient information leaflets. Feedback so far has been excellent
* New BASHH Guidelines app (found at [www.bashhguidelines.org](http://www.bashhguidelines.org)) has been launched
* Appointment (via a competitive process) of two new junior doctor members of the group
* Online booking and payment for BASHH courses has been rolled out and is now the “norm”
* Electronic registration at BASHH events using membership cards and barcodes through the website has been piloted successfully.

**Future plans**

* Integrate online conferencing into the website to assist the membership with engaging in BASHH (without having to travel significant distances for business meetings)
* Increase the content of the public area of the website with the aim of providing a useful reference for clinicians sitting in clinic with patients

**Dr Martyn Wood**

**Chair**

[Home](#contents)

Special interest groups (SIGs)

**Adolescent and sexual violence groups**

**Membership**

Dr Dawn Wilkinson *Chair*

Dr Sophie Forsyth *Secretary*

Dr Kimberley Forbes *Co-ordinator for external consultations*

Dr Jane Ashby *Web co-ordinator*

Dr Ellen Dwyer *Trainee representative*

**Members:**

Dr Alan Tang

Dr Angela Robinson

Dr Ceri Slater

Effi Stergiopoulou

Dr Elizabeth Hamlyn

Dr Fiona Fargie

Dr Karen Rogstad

Dr Katia Prime

Dr Rita Browne

Dr Sarah Edwards

Dr Selena Singh

Dr Sophie Herbert

**Sexual violence Subgroup**

Dr Deborah Wardle *Chair*

Dr Rachel Caswell *Secretary*

Dr Fionnuala Finnerty *Trainee representative*

Dr Michelle Carroll *FFLM representative*

**Members**

Dr Ali Mears

Dr Carol Emerson

Dr Charlotte Cohen

Christine Donohue

Dr Daniela Brawley

Dr Emma McCarty

Dr Kate Shardlow

Dr Katherine Coyne

Lydia Hodson

Dr Praveen Jayadeva,

Dr Rachel Sacks

Dr Rageshri Dhairyawan

Dr Rimi Shah

**Objectives**

The Adolescent special interest group consists of clinicians working in sexual health and with an interest in issues related to the sexual health of young people.

[Home](#contents)

The Sexual Violence subgroup consists of clinicians working in GUM, HIV, SRH, GP practices and an FFLM representative, with interests in issues related to sexual violence.

We meet quarterly for our separate and joint meetings, and plan training and educational meetings; respond to related national consultations and develop and contribute to guideline / guidance development in related fields of young people’s sexual health and sexual violence through clinical service evaluations.

**Significant activities**

* Joint ASIG / HSV SIG scientific meeting [June 2016]
* Joint SV/ Sexual Function SIG Scientific meeting [October 2016]

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* BASHH consultation: Government's proposals for mandatory reporting of child abuse [Oct 2016]
* NICE draft guideline consultation – Sexually transmitted infections: condom distribution schemes [Sept 2016]
* BASHH / RCP response DH Northern Ireland – Equality and Human Rights Consultation, NICE PH 51 Contraceptive services for under 25s [June 2016]
* Presentation of National survey on the Use of the Spotting the Signs proforma at Joint ASIG / HSV SIG scientific meeting [June 2016]
* BASHH / RCP ASIG response - NICE consultation on Harmful sexual behaviour among children and young people [April 2016]
* RCP Review of Local Safeguarding Children Boards' role and functions consultation response
* Child Sexual Exploitation – A primary care perspective. Clinical Focus Primary care Q1, Jan/Feb 2016
* SV subgroup – Responding to Domestic Abuse enquiry in Sexual Health Settings, approved by the CEG March 2016
* SV Subgroup – STI Journal editorial on Domestic abuse [September 2016]
* SV Subgroup – STIF course material on Sexual Violence review and update
* SV subgroup – IJSA National survey of facilities for complainants of Sexual Assault

**Attendance at Events**

* ASIG / SV group health representation at quarterly CPAI Working Group meetings
* Representation at RCP Young adults and Adolescent Steering group meetings

**Future plans**

* ASIG group working BASHH Emerging Themes in safeguarding young people 17 November 2016
* Publication of National survey on the Use of the Spotting the Signs proforma and development of a shortened version of StS [for screening or follow-up
* ASIG - in progress updating BASHH guidance on the Management of STIs in children and young people 2010 – supported by BASHH CEG
* ASIG/SV group collaborative project on FGM survey in sexual health clinics
* SV subgroup - in progress update of BASHH guidelines Management of adult and adolescent complainants following sexual assault guidance
* SV subgroup - Breaching confidentiality / extending information sharing following Domestic abuse disclosure in competent adults in the absence of child protection concerns. 2016/2017 collaborative work planned to produce guidance in this area
* SV subgroup - Domestic abuse e-learning module – future work planned to produce a module for use in e-LFH and that would support the recently published document, Responding to Domestic Abuse enquiry in Sexual Health Settings

**Dr Dawn Wilkinson and Dr Deborah Wardle**

**Chair of ASIG and SV Groups**

[Home](#contents)

**Bacterial group**

**Membership**

**Core Group**

Cathy Ison *London, Chair*

Frances Keane *Truro, Secretary*

S. Uthayakumar *London, Microscopy course coordinator*

Sarah Alexander *London, Joint webmaster*

Suneeta Soni *Brighton, Joint webmaster*

Michael Perry *Cardiff, OGM organiser*

Treasurer post is vacant

**General Membership**

Elizabeth Claydon Barnstaple

Rachel Drayton Cardiff

Kirstine Eastick Hull

Helen Fifer London

Justin Gaffney London

Emma Harding-Esch London

Phil Hay London

Paddy Horner Bristol

Bavithra Nathan London

Achyuta Nori Edinburgh

Nigel O’ Farrell London

Sheel Patel London

Tariq Sadiq London

Amanda Samarawickrama London

John Saunders London

**Objectives**

* To promote communication between microbiologists and clinicians involved in the diagnosis and treatment of bacterial sexually transmitted infections by: offering courses in specialist areas e.g. microscopy course, production of educational material and organisation of symposia on new areas of interest.

**Significant activities**

* Dr John Saunders, Clinical Champion of the National Chlamydia Screening Programme, Public Health England and Dr Emma Harding-Esch, Principal Scientist at PHE/ADREU Epidemiology Lead & Programme Manager (St. George’s) joined the group.
* The BSIG organised its annual scientific meeting on Friday 18 March 2016 which was held at the King’s Fund.
* The BSIG organised two microscopy courses on 24 October (28 attendees) and 14May 2016 (32 attendees).
* Initiation of project to convert the Microscopy of STIs DVD to a Responsive website and App.
* Sales of the DVD on Microscopy of STIs.
* Update of gonorrhoea guidelines
* Completion of testing and presentation of data for the Feasibility study to determine the time taken for NAATs tests to become negative following treatment for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* in men and women.
* Response to requests for comments Standard Microbiology Investigations (SMI)
* Updating of the BSIG webpage.

[Home](#contents)

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* In the new shorter format of the scientific meetings, the March meeting included a talk on the Vaginal microbiome given by Suzanna Francis. This was followed by a debate on ‘Bacterial vaginosis is merely an imbalance in vaginal ecology and not a sexually transmitted infection’. Dr Phillip Hay (London) spoke for the motion and Dr Janet Wilson (Leeds) spoke against. The session concluded with an Honorary Life Lecture given by Professor by Cathy Ison, who is the founder and current chair of the Bacterial Special Interest Group. Michael Perry has organised these meetings for the last 3 years with considerable success and stood down following this meeting.
* The microscopy courses continue to be led by Dr S. Uthayakumar and Dr Libby Claydon assisted by Drs John Saunders, Amanda Samarawickrama and Bavithra Nathan for the Bacterial SIG and others from Imperial College London. The course evaluation remains excellent and spaces are over-subscribed.
* The development of the responsive website was initiated early in 2016. A sample website was delivered in April 2016 and the structure and content are under detailed review. A report was sent to the BASHH board meeting in June2016.
* The DVD on Microscopy of STIs continues to sell with over 750 copies sold to date.
* The gonorrhoea guidelines are being updated by a group led by Dr Tariq Sadiq and Dr Helen Fifer and including Dr John Saunders and Dr Suneeta Soni. The work is ongoing.
* Data collected from the Feasibility study has been analysed to inform an appropriate time to test of cure for both gonorrhoea and chlamydial infections. Two oral presentations, given by Dr Binta Sultan (University College London) and Hemanti Patel (Public Health England, Colindale) were given at the BASHH annual conference in Oxford, of which one won a prize for the best poster. The manuscript is in draft and awaiting final analyses and review.
* Two reviews of UK Standards for Microbiology (SMI) were undertaken and responses submitted; SMI V 11: HIV screening and confirmation - completed mid-May. SMI V 37: *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection - testing by Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAAT) - completed end of May
* The content of the Bacterial SIG website was reviewed and updated by Dr Suneeta Soni.

**Future plans**

* Plans for the 2017 scientific meeting organised by the Bacterial SIG are underway and will be led by Dr Achyuta Nori.
* Microscopy courses will continue and are planned for October 2016 and May 2017.
* Completion and launch of the Website and App to replace the DVD on Microscopy of STIs.
* Gonorrhoea guidelines will be sent for review by the Bacterial SIG and then submitted into the consultation process.
* Submission of manuscript for peer review on Feasibility study to determine the time taken for NAATs tests to become negative following treatment for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* in men and women.
* Continual review and updating of the Bacterial SIG webpage.

**Catherine Ison**

**Chair**

[Home](#contents)

**Doctors in Training**

**Membership**

Anna Hartley Doctors in Training representative on the BASHH Board

Emily Clarke Doctors in Training representative on the Education Committee

Sarah Mensforth Doctors in Training representative on the Clinical Governance Committee (CGC)

Helen Wiggins Chair, BASHH T-CARQ

**Objectives**

* To represent GUM junior doctors within BASHH, with representatives on the Board, Education Committee, CGC and other special interest groups
* To deliver additional education and training resources to GUM trainees
* To facilitate communication of training issues to GUM trainees around the UK and feedback their veiws
* To promote GU Medicine to prospective trainees

**Significant activities**

* **Doctors in Training Workshop**
	+ This one day workshop was held in Oxford prior to the BASHH spring conference and was attended by 43 GUM specialist registrars and SAS doctors
	+ There was a variety of talks delivered by experts in the fields of HIV and GUM as well as a training update, with a networking dinner held in the evening
	+ The day received excellent feedback from trainees and SAS doctors
	+ Providing a training day for both trainees and SAS doctors was well received
* **BASHH Trainees’ Collaborative for Audit, Research & Quality Improvement (T-CARQ)**
	+ The idea for this collaborative was proposed to the BASHH Doctors in Training Group by Helen Wiggins, East of England trainee, and has since been launched as a subgroup of the Doctors in Training Group in 2015. The aim is to provide a portal where GUM trainees can work together to design, lead and complete multi-centre research, audit and quality improvement projects.
	+ The first project, a study of how the tendering of sexual health services has affected GUM trainees, has been completed. Results have been fed back to the BASHH Board, GUM Specialist Advisory Committee and presented as a poster at the BASHH Spring Conference 2016. The full report has now been submitted for publication.
	+ A project on ChemSex is currently in progress.
* **Shape of Training**
	+ The Doctors in Training Group has continued to facilitate communicating the upcoming changes to GUM higher specialist training to trainees as well as feeding back views of current trainees to the BASHH Board and GUM Specialist Advisory Committee.
* **Health Select Committee inquiry into public health post-2013**
	+ Anna Hartley attended a Health Select Committee call for evidence with Elizabeth Carlin for the Health Select Committee inquiry into public health post-2013
* **Royal College of Physicians’ Speciality of the Month-Spotlight**
* Anna Hartley filmed a video with Elizabeth Carlin promoting GUM higher specialist training for the Royal College of Physicians’ Speciality of the Month in April (Spotlight). This was shared widely through social media.

[Home](#contents)

* **Royal College of Physicians’ Medical Careers Day**
	+ GU Medicine had a stand at the Royal College of Physicians’ Medical Careers Day in February 2016, organised by Doctors in Training with support from Daniel Richardson.
	+ Material promoting GU Medicine was produced for this day which can be used more widely for promotion of the speciality
	+ A survey amongst delegates attending the conference was performed to assess the factors that attract or deter them from a career in GU Medicine. This was presented to the BASHH Board and also as a poster at the BASHH Spring Conference 2016.
* **Communication**
	+ Doctors in Training communication and promotion has been significantly improved through use of the Doctors in Training pages of the BASHH website as well as use of twitter @bashh\_trainees
	+ Through this communication, several junior doctors interested in a career in GU Medicine have contacted Doctors in Training to further discuss the specialty.
	+ An article on the role of BASHH Doctors in training has been published in STTI

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Doctors in Training workshop July 2016
* Output from BASHH T-CARQ
* Communication to current trainees of relevant training issues
* Promotion of the speciality through social media, attendance at Careers Day, as well as Royal College of Physicians’ Spotlight
* Publication of BASHH Doctors in Training article in STI

**Future plans**

* To organise a Doctors in Training workshop in Belfast 2017, prior to the BASHH spring conference
* To improve the communication between the Doctors in Training Group and trainees, via social media (use of blogs) and the BASHH website
* To further develop BASHH T-CARQ
* To improve the awareness of GU Medicine as an excellent training option for junior doctors via various means eg. Royal College of Physicians careers day, increased use of social media
* To ensure trainees and training issues continue to be well-represented within BASHH

**Anna Hartley**

**BASHH Board Doctors in Training representative**

**Genital dermatology group**

**Membership**

Dr P N Sashidharan *Chair*

Dr Christine Bates *Secretary*

Dr Serish Basvaraj *Treasurer*

Dr Imali Fernando *Web rep*

Dr Sarah Edwards

Dr Gill Pritchard

Dr Deepa Bansal

Dr Anna Hartley *Trainee Representative*

**NB:** Dr Martina Toby left the Group: vacancy for a SIG Member advertised in the BASHH October Newsletter

[Home](#contents)

**Activities in Current Year**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Educational event** | **Date/Venue** | **Target audience** | **Evaluation / feedback** |
| **First BASHH Genital Dermatology PLUS Course**No of delegates: 45No of Sponsors= 3 | 24 June 2016Costelloe Lecture Theatre, Education Centre, Homeron University Hospital, London | Consultants, specialty registrars, SAS doctors and clinical nurse’s specialists in Genitourinary Medicine /Sexual & Reproductive Health, Dermatology & Gynaecology and General Practice | Feedback for the last course was excellent with an overall score of **4.09 / 5**The vast majority gave a maximum **4/4** score on the RCP CPD feedback pathwayNB: Course Income **£3779** |
| **Genital Dermatology Symposium- BASHH Annual Conference 2016, Oxford** | 11 July 2016Examinations Hall, Oxford | Attendees at the BASHH Annual Conference 2016 | Both speakers (Dr Fional Lewis & Dr Tang Shim) received high feedback scores with Dr Lewis getting the 5th highest score at the Conference |
| **6th BASHH Genital Dermatology Course**No of Delegates: **64**No of sponsors : 7**Quiz Prize winners**1. Evdoxia Panaou

Speciality trainee in GUM&HIV In Mortimer Market Clinic, CNWL NHS trust1. Sarah Mehrtens Dermatology ST4 Medway NHS Trust
2. Dr P H Manori Priyangika Bandara

Clinical Fellow Infection and Immunity/ GUM Ambrose King Centre, Royal London Hospital, Barts Health                      **Genital Dermatology Symposium a**t the at the **Annual BASHH Conference 2016** in Oxford. | 07 October 2016Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London | Consultants, specialty registrars, SAS doctors and clinical nurse’s specialists in Genitourinary Medicine /Sexual & Reproductive Health, Dermatology & Gynaecology and General Practice | Feedback awaitedIncome-TBA |

[Home](#contents)

**Other Activities**

* Article published in BASHH Column - Journal Sexually Transmitted Infections entitled ‘Genital dermatology special interest group’- Sashidharan P N, Bates C, Edwards S. (Sex Transm Infect 2016;92:404 doi:10.1136/sextrans-2016-052706)
* Guidelines on Scabies submitted to BASHH (Dr Sashidharan, Dr Serish Basavaraj; Dr.Christine Bates). It is up for consultation
* Annual General Body Meeting 20 November 2015

**Planned activity for 2016-2017**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Educational event** | **Date** | **Target audience** | **Learning Objectives** |
| BASHH Scientific Session  | 24 March 2017 | Attendees at the BASHH Scientific session | Themed Programme (TBA) |
| 2nd BASHH Genital Dermatology **PLUS** Course | June 2017  | Consultants, specialty registrars, SAS doctors and clinical nurse’s specialists in Genitourinary Medicine /Sexual & Reproductive Health, Dermatology & Gynaecology and GP’s | To cover important topics in Genital Dermatology that were not covered by the basic Course |
| 7th BASHH Genital Dermatology Course  | October 2017 | Consultants, specialty registrars, SAS doctors and clinical nurse’s specialists in Genitourinary Medicine /Sexual & Reproductive Health, Dermatology & Gynaecology and General Practice | * understand the basic pathophysiology of the skin
* have knowledge of common genital skin conditions and challenging cases
* be aware of the principles of topical therapy
* understand the principles of genital skin biopsy
* Skills
* be competent and feel comfortable performing a genital dermatological examination
* develop the skills necessary to perform a genital skin biopsy
* optimise care pathways for patients through improved links with local dermatology services
 |

**Annual General-Body meeting**

**Date:** 11 November 2016

**Venue:** Seminar room, The Lloyd Clinic, Guy’s Hospital, London

[Home](#contents)

**Future plans**

* To continue to deliver the Genital Dermatology Course and identify potential for further complementary educational events
* To review genital dermatology service delivery and training in the current commissioning climate
* Proposed Guidelines for 2016-17
	+ Pediculosis Pubis
	+ Balanitis
* Organise the 7th BASHH Genital Dermatology Course in Oct 2017
* Organise the 2nd BASHH Genital Dermatology Plus Course (for those who have attended the primary Course)
* To conduct a survey on :
* Genital dermatology Service in Sexual & Reproductive Health clinics
* Management of Genital Dermatology problems in UK
* To create a database of those who attended G Derm courses+/ Plus Course
* To consider the Proposal for Practical Techniques Course to be held jointly by Genital Dermatolgy SIG & HPV SIG
* Update the SIG Web site

**Dr P N Sashidharan**

**Chair**

**Health Advisor Representative**

**Objectives**

* To promote the benefits of membership to all Sexual Health Advisors and those undertaking aspects of this role within sexual health services.

**Significant activities**

* Attendance at all Board meetings since appointment
* Continued liaison with the Society of Sexual Health Advisors to create strong links between SSHA and BASHH.
* Representation on the STIf competencies group regarding SHA competencies pilot.

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Clearer understanding of sexual health advising representation within BASHH
* Supported HA/ Nurse specific meeting at BASHH conference in 2016

**Future plans**

* To continue to respond to requests from people who access BASHH/ STIf websites about Sexual Health Advising training issues.
* To continue to represent the interests of Sexual Health Advisors within BASHHH

 **Jonathan Roberts**

**HIV & Blood Borne Virus Group**

**Membership (as of 12 October 2016):**

Tristan Barber Chair

Gary Brook

Fiona Burns

[Home](#contents)

Simon Edwards

Stuart Flanagan Trainee Rep (BBV)

Anna Maria Geretti

Charlotte Hopkins

Cary James Patient Rep (THT)

Babu Kulasegaram

Vincent Lee

Nicky Mackie

Kaveh Manavi

Bronagh McBrien HIV PA Rep

Rob Miller

Mark Nelson

Elizabeth Okecha Trainee Rep (HIV)

Adrian Palfreeman

Mary Poulton

Christopher Ward Treasurer, Dip HIV Lead

Laura Waters

Andy Winter

**HIV SIG**

The HIV special interest group and its hepatitis subgroup have been active on behalf of BASHH at a UK policy and strategy level, and looks forward to greater co-ordination with the British HIV Association in the future. The SIG will also work to ensure that BASHH meets its commitment to aim that a third of the educational activities are HIV-related.

**Previous Publications**

* [Summary of clinical standards for acquired syphilis in HIV-positive patients](https://www.bashh.org/documents/1316/1316.pdf)
* [Clinical standards & management of acquired syphilis in HIV-positive patients](https://www.bashh.org/documents/1314/1314.pdf)

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* BASHH Scientific Meeting first Friday in January
* HIV Masterclass at Manchester University held in March over 2 days
* BASHH/BHIVA DIP HIV revision course for exam candidates only, prior to the Dip HIV exam
* Dr Tristan Barber from Chelsea and Westminster took over as Chair of the SIG from Dr Laura Waters in July 2016, many thanks for everyone for all of Laura’s hard work in this role
* Dr Christopher Ward from Stockport and Central Manchester has taken over from Dr Fiona Burns as Treasurer, many thanks also to Fiona for her work as Treasurer of the SIG
* In July the SIG was asked to comment on the Scottish ‘National Involvement Standards (HIV) 2016), the draft guideline on ‘Sexually transmitted infections: condom distribution schemes’, and the NHS Consultation for PrEP
* The SIG ran a successful joint OGM in January with the MSM SIG
* The SIG ran the popular BASHH HIV Masterclass in Manchester in March 2016 and received good feedback

**Future plans**

* We are working in conjunction with the MSM SIG to deliver the BASHH Scientific Meeting in January 2017
* We are securing funding and confirming speakers for the BASHH HIV Masterclass in Manchester in March 2017.

[Home](#contents)

* Since July the SIG has undertaken a review of its membership with a call for a trainee rep (successful candidate(s) soon to be announced) and an ongoing call for new members from smaller centres, across the country, and from across the MDT, including pharmacists, nurses, health advisors and SAS doctors

**Tristan Barber**

**Chair**

**Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Group**

**Membership**

Richard Gilson *Chair*

Gary Whitlock *Secretary and Treasurer*

Sylvia Bates

Kate Cushieri

Paul Fox

Cindy Gilmour *Nursing member*

Peter Goon

Charles Lacey

Zana Ladipo *Trainee member, now consultant*

Mayura Nathan

Colm O’Mahony

Chris Sonnex

Nicola Steedman

Katie Sinka (until April 2016)

Dave Mesher (until April 2016, but remains deputy for Kate Soldan)

Kate Soldan (from April 2016)

**Objectives:**

* To define standards of care for patients with genital warts and to produce management guidelines,
* To devise and coordinate studies related to HPV infection including randomised controlled trials of therapies for genital warts,
* To provide a forum for education on HPV related issues for all members of BASHH

**Report of activities:**

* HPV SIG met 4 times with over half of members attending each meeting in person or by teleconference
* Second European HRA (High-resolution anoscopy) course held in October 2015
* Provided advice to the project board for the implementation of the HPV vaccine pilot in MSM
* Reviewed courses to support best practice in HPV management
* Continued support to research projects in HPV

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2014/15:**

* The second European HRA course was organized by Drs Mayura Nathan and Gary Whitlock and held in October 2015 at the Homerton Hospital. Delegates attended from the UK and Europe, although the number was down slightly at 13.
* Members of the HPV SIG worked with the MSM & HIV SIG to provide advice to the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation on the issue of HPV vaccination of MSM. Following the ministerial decision to initiate a pilot implementation of vaccination, the chair and other members of HPV SIG have been involved with the planning through membership of the Joint PHE/DH/NHSE Project Board.

[Home](#contents)

* Competencies for HRA training have been developed in consultation with the International Anal Neoplasia Society, and will be published in the autumn of 2016. They will form the basis for a system of accreditation in HRA.

**Future plans:**

* A proposal to link the Surgical Techniques Workshop with the Dermatology Course run by the Dermatology SIG will be developed for implementation in 2017.
* Members of the SIG will continue to support the implementation and evaluation of the pilot targeted vaccination of MSM in sexual health services.
* The SIG will organise a Scientific Meeting in conjunction with the Dermatology SIG during 2016/2017.
* The HRA course will be held in Europe in October 2016, and the SIG will develop plans to bring the course back to the UK in 2017 and to run one course in Europe and one in the UK annually subject to sufficient demand being demonstrated.

**Dr Richard Gilson**

**Chair**

**HSV (herpes simplex virus) group**

**Membership**

Raj Patel / John Green *Chair*

Simon Barton

Emily Clarke

Ceri Evans

Elizabeth Foley

Marion Nicholson *HVA Representative*

Nigel O’Farrell

**Objectives:**

* To define standards of care for patients with genital herpes and to produce management guidelines,
* To perform service evaluations, audits and studies related to HSV infection.
* To provide a forum for education on HSV related issues for all members of BASHH
* To respond t HSV related consultations and requests for information to BASHH

**Significant activities**

* The SIG only meets when necessary.
* Members of the SIG support the Annual Scientific Meeting, BASHH Ordinary Scientific meetings and Joint meetings with BASHH’s external partners both within and outside the UK

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Members organised the Ordinary Scientific meeting in Manchester
* Members contributed to BASHH course in November 2015
* Gave evidence to Public Health Enquiry on HSV (PHE)
* Supported National Questionnaire based Survey of practice across UK
* Supported the piloting and development of a national service evaluation of education and counselling for HSV-2 infections in GUM
* Support the updating of the 2016/2017 European (IUSTI/ECDC/WHO) Guideline for the Management of HSV

[Home](#contents)

**Future plans**

* Members will be contributing to the 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting.
* Continue to support the BASHH Course in November 2016.
* Members are updating the e-LfH modules on genital ulceration.

**Dr Raj Patel**

**Chair**

**Mentoring group**

**Membership**

Emma Fox *Chair, South Thames*

Adrian Palfreeman *BHIVA co-chair*

Michael Rayment *New consultant rep*

Hellen Mullan *SAS representative*

Luciana Rubinstein *BASHH, North Thames*

Imali Fernando *BASHH, Northern Ireland and Scotland*

Jessica Daniel *BASHH, Wessex and South West*

Jyoti Dhar *BASHH, North West Yorkshire and Trent*

Sris Allen *BASHH West Midlands, Cheshire and Mersey, Wales and East Anglia*

**Objectives:**

* To provide a mentoring service for new consultants to help them transition into their new role
* To provide a mentoring service for SAS doctors at any time during their career
* To provide a mentoring service to support established consultants who feel they would benefit from mentoring

**Significant activities**

* This is now a joint BASHH/BHIVA Mentoring programme
* We are now working with the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (FSRH) and have expanded the scheme to include doctors working in community sexual and reproductive health (SRH)
* We have recruited new mentors to better represent doctors working in HIV
* We have run several mentoring supervision sessions over the past year to support our current mentors in London, Oxford and Scotland
* We have designed and run our first independent mentoring training skills course in November 2015
* We continue to survey of mentor / mentee pairs to quality assure / improve the scheme

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Current pool of 124 mentors and 39 current mentees.
* Excellent feedback from the Mentoring Skills Course in November 15
* Excellent feedback on our survey of attendees at our mentoring supervision sessions

**Future plans**

* To appoint a doctor in training representative
* To develop a mentoring module for the GUM curriculum
* To run an annual training course for new mentors
* To continue to run refresher / supervision sessions for existing mentors in London and Scotland

**Dr Emma Fox**

**Chair**

[Home](#contents)

**MSM Group**

**Membership**

* Dan Clutterbuck *Chair*
* Andy Williams *Secretary*
* Tristan Barber *Treasurer*
* Achyuta Nori (Dr in Training)
* Stuart Gibson (Clinical Psychology)
* Sarah Allstaff (GUM Consultant)
* Gwenda Hughes (Public Health)
* Carol Emerson (GUM Consultant)
* Orla McQuillan(GUM Consultant)
* Ann Sullivan (GUM Consultant)
* David Asboe (GUM Consultant)
* Gary Barker (Nurse representative)
* Emma Devitt (GUM Consultant)
* Carole Emerson (GUM Consultant)
* Lisa McDaid (Social/Sciences Research)
* Syed Ali-Akbar (SAS representative)
* Ewen Stewart (GP representative)
* Jonathan Elford (Social sciences/Research left January 2016)
* Elizabeth Hodges (Health Advisor Rep joined September 2015)
* Richard Desmond (UK CAB Joint Patient Rep joined January 2016)
* Michael Harkin (UK CAB Joint Patient Rep joined January 2016)
* Patrick Cash (Independent Patient Rep joined January 2016)
* Sheena McCormack (GUM Consultant joined July 2016)
* Laura Mitchell (Gender Clinic Representative joined April 2016)

The BASHH MSM SIG is a special interest group of the British Association of Sexual Health and HIV concerned with all aspects of the sexual health of men-who-have-sex-with-men. Men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM) includes all gay, bisexual and all other males who have sex with other males and both CIS and Trans men.

**Objectives:**

* To addresses multiple aspects of the sexual healthcare of MSM and broader issues relating to the health of MSM with the aim of supporting clinicians and commissioners in providing effective services.
* To provide advice and education to BASHH members and others on issues relating to the care of MSM including emerging clinical issues and responses to national clinical and strategic documents.
* To improve the holistic clinical care of MSM through input to and generation of clinical guidelines, standards and strategic documents and through educational activities.

**Significant activities**

The group achieved all of its stated objectives and planned activities for 2015-16.

* The BASHH MSM SIG 2nd Biennial Conference – ‘Sex, Life and MSM’ took place on 30 October 2015. Delegate feedback on the event was very positive. A small financial surplus of £1450 was achieved. Themed sessions were:
* Mental Health and MSM
* Anal sex in MSM: disapproval, douching and disease
* Helpful or unhelpful terminology? - (re)Defining ‘MSM’
* HIV uninfected MSM: HIV Testing and PrEP

[Home](#contents)

* The MSM SIG worked with the HIV SIG to deliver the BASHH Scientific Meeting in January 2016; PrEP and ART: what, when and how?
* In response to the number of requests to join the MSM SIG, a membership document and ToR for the SIG was drafted and agreed
* The representation of Trans individuals in sexual health services and in BASHH was discussed and the MSM recruited a gender clinic representative. The MSM SIG supported and co-badged the Clinic Q Trans\* Health Matters Conference in April 2016
* A proposal for Standards of Care for Trans\* individuals attending sexual health services was discussed and drafted.

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* The MSM SIG agreed to pursue patient representation on the group with the aim of recruiting two representatives in 2015-16. Terms of reference and a person specification for patient representation were drafted and patient representatives were appointed in late 2015 (two representatives from UK CAB and one independent patient rep). Patient representatives have been active in contributing to the groups work.
* The UK National Guideline on the Sexual Healthcare of MSM was drafted by the writing group and reviewed by the MSM SIG. The draft was submitted to the BASHH CEG in April 2016.
* The MSM SIG BASHH Column for the journal STI was published in December 2015
* The MSM SIG worked with NHS Clinics, i-base, iwantPrEPnow and other statutory and voluntary sector partners to develop a comprehensive leaflet to support clinics in providing support for those buying PrEP online. The leaflet was printed in June 2016 with BASHH financial support. It has been well received nationally and internationally and translated into several other languages
* The BASHH MSM Service Questionnaire was distributed to clinics in September-October 2015, with over 150 valid responses. The findings were presented as two posters at the BASHH Annual Meeting 2016

**Future plans**

* Recruit a new chair for the MSM SIG on completion of the term of the current chair in January 2017
* Work in conjunction with the HIV SIG to deliver the BASHH Scientific Meeting in January 2017
* Prepare the programme and content for the BASHH MSM SIG 3rd Biennial Conference in October/November 2017.
* Complete and submit a proposal for Standards of Care for Trans\* individuals attending sexual health services. Contribute to the development of standards if approved.
* We will explore the possibility of further developing the Trans\* work stream, including the possible options of developing a subgroup within the MSM SIG and/or the development of training and information on the care of Trans\* patients attending sexual health services.
* Continue to support the provision of advice and monitoring for privately sourced PrEP through liaison with prescribing clinicians, third sector and advocacy partners and responding to issues relating to service provision, clinical practice and medico-legal and indemnity cover.
* Continue to collate and discuss issues relating to the provision of HPV vaccination for MSM, liaising with clinicians, JCVI and others and respond as required. Share information relating to commissioning issues across the 4 UK nations.
* Contribute to the PrEP guidance, BASHH/BHIVA guidelines and patient information and share information relating to commissioning issues across the 4 UK nations.
* Complete the UK National Guideline on the Sexual Healthcare of MSM on receipt of feedback from the CEG and release a final draft for public consultation.

**Dan Clutterbuck**

**Chair, BASHH MSM SIG**

[Home](#contents)

Nurse group

**Membership**

**Objectives**

To represent Sexual Health Nurses and Non medical members interests at Board level

**Significant activities**

* I have attended all Board meetings since my appointment.
* There has been a call for Nurse members to contact me in most BASHH newsletters this year. I have responded to enquiries from Nurses and others on training/courses for sexual health work.
* The BASHH Conference in Oxford had a morning of presentations for Nurses.

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* I now have an idea how many Nurse members there are in BASHH.
* The presentation morning for Nurses and Health Advisors at Conference was well attended and scored.

**Future plans**

Continue to respond to Nurse requests and to continue to represent their interests.

**Kate Day**

**Nurse Rep to the Board**

**Staff, Associate Specialists and Specialty (SAS) doctors group**

**Executive Committee Membership**

Helen Mullan *(NW Thames)* Chair, BASHH SAS Group

 BASHH Mentoring Committee representative

Karl Hollows *(W. Midlands)* Secretary, BASHH SAS Group

 Conference Committee Chair (to Sept 2015)

 Financial Officer

 SAS Representative on BASHH Board

 Sexual Dysfunction SIG (Vice-Chair)

Syed Ali Akbar *(Scotland)* MSM SIG

Helen Bailey *(Wales)*

Annette de la Court

Lewis LauConference Committee

Neil Lazaro *(Northwest & Merseyside)*

Mervyn Lee   Conference Committee

Vendela McNamara *(Trent & FSRH)* Conference Committee

Pinky Mukherjee *(NE Thames)*

Sri Narayana

Carlos Oroz *(Scotland)*  Conference Committee

 Education Committee representative

Lynn Price *(Northwest & Merseyside)*

Jane Richards *(Northern)* Conference Committee (Chair from Sept 2015)

 STIF representative

Rachel Sacks *(NW Thames)* Sexual Violence SIG

Lorna Sands *(Oxford)*

[Home](#contents)

PN Sashidharan *(NE Thames)* Genital Dermatology SIG

Kajal Verma *(SW Thames)* Clinical Governance Committee representative

**Retired**

John Lee – March 2016 Chair

Gill Wildman – May 2016 BASHH National Audit Group

**Objectives:**

* To provide educational opportunities for SAS doctors working in sexual health & HIV
* To ensure the group is represented on the various BASHH committees

**Significant activities**

* Annual Conference, September 2015: 152 delegates, 9 hours CPD, rated as excellent or good by 98% of delegates in terms of educational content
* SAS National Audit on Management of Gonorrhoea: 3233 cases, individual reports delivered to each participating site, accepted as a poster for BASHH Annual Conference in July 2016. Paper due for submission for publication
* New link developed between Doctors-in-Training and SAS: invitations issued to attend each other’s educational events

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

# BASHH Column: The BASHH Staff, Associate Specialist and Specialty (SAS) Doctors group

*Sex Transm Infect*2016;**92**:171 doi:10.1136/sextrans-2015-052516

**Future plans**

19th Annual BASHH Conference for SAS Doctors Working in Sexual Health – Warwick, September 2016

**Dr Helen M Mullan**

**Chair**

**Sexual dysfunction group**

**Membership**

David Goldmeier *Chair*

Karl Hollows *Vice Chair*

Wallace Dinsmore

Alan Tang

Pippa Green

John Green

Uday Joshi

Ali Mears

John Ewan

Jane Ashby

Jane Nicholls

Shalini Andrews

Farai Nyatsanza *SpR Rep*

Kirsten Mitchell

Agnes Mosobela *Nurse rep*

Karen Gurney

[Home](#contents)

 **Objectives**

* To improve the quality of care given to patients presenting to Genitourinary Medicine and HIV Clinics with Sexual Dysfunction.
* To provide a forum for education, training and research in the area of sexual dysfunction for all.

**Significant activities**

* Very successful “ABC sexual dysfunction” in Manchester October 2015.
* Updated e-LFH modules on sexual dysfunction and added new one on low desire and arousal in women

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/6**

* SIG Chair and vice chair working with other national bodies to construct national outcomes measure for all stakeholders to be used in all sexual dysfunction scenarios.
* SIG presenting ( one international speaker) at OGM on 24 October 2016

**Future plans**

* Steering committee meets Manchester 24 November 2016
* Next “ABC in sexual Dysfunction” booked at Royal College of Nursing for late 2017

**David Goldmeier**

**Chair**

**STIF Competency working party**

**Membership**

Ashini Fox *Chair*

Nick Theobald *STIF Executive*

Penny Goold

Colin Roberts

Cordelia Chapman

Jonathan Roberts

Matthew Grundy-Bowers

Miranda King

Rona McDonald

Michelle Croston (Co-opted, NHIVNA)

Sue Bird

**Objectives**

To design and implement a modular competency-based training and assessment programme in Sexual Health for a multidisciplinary clinical audience.

**Significant activities**

* Reviewed, updated and rolled out further STIF Fundamental assessments (previously called STIF Level 1), STIF Intermediate Competency and STIF Advanced Competency Modules
* Provided training for trainers and quality assurance through provision of ‘Train the Trainer’ educational events and delegate portfolio audit.
* Developed, piloted and launched new educational modules.

[Home](#contents)

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Successful re-accreditation of STIF Intermediate by the University of Greenwich for 15 transferable credits at Level 7 (Masters).
* Delivery of two highly-rated Train the Trainer events (November 2015, Birmingham, March 2016 London,)
* Successful bid to extend STIF Executive role for a further 24 months
* Completion of two new module pilots: STIF-SHA (Health Advising) Competency and STIF Integrated Competency.
* Development of new training module encompassing HIV nursing competencies in collaboration with NHIVNA. The STIF-NHIVNA Core Competency pilot will commence in October 2016

**Future plans**

* + Train the Trainers Event: November 2016 (Birmingham) and March 2017 (London)
	+ Launch of STIF-SHA and STIF Integrated Competency modules (October 2016)
	+ Launch of STIF-NHIVNA Core Competency module Summer 2017

 **Dr Ashini Fox**

 **Chairperson**

**STI & HIV Course**

**Objectives**

* The BASHH STI & HIV Course consists of 4 modules that run once a year covering:
* **Module 1:** Epidemiology of STIs and Bacterial Infections
* **Module 2:** Sexual health and sexuality
* **Module 3:** Viral Infections other than HIV
* **Module 4:** HIV infections
* It aims to improve knowledge and management of STIs and HIV to current national standards and to aid those sitting the Diploma in GUM and Diploma in HIV exams.

**Significant activities**

* An Education grant of £13,000 was awarded in 2016 to allow funded places for the HIV Module, specifically for other specialists in the MDT e.g. Clinical Nurse Specialists and Specialist Pharmacists with their own patient cohorts. This new approach will be evaluated further.
* Despite the decreasing number of registrars, the course has continued to run successfully.
* Evaluation of the feedback and module programmes has continued throughout this reporting year. Feedback has continued to be excellent.

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Numbers of attendees for the four modules of the course:
* Module 1: 22
* Module 2: 20
* Module 3: 25
* Module 4: 47

**Future plans**

* A full review of the course content and mapping to the current GUM higher specialist training curriculum
* Mapping of course content to the Diploma in GUM assessment
* Assessment of the Education grant and evaluation of opening the course out to other specialist clinicians of the multidisciplinary team.

**Dr Ngozi Dufty**

**Lead, STI &HIV Course**

[Home](#contents)

Regions

**Ireland branch**

**Membership**

Dr Emma McCarty *Chair*
Dr Say Quah *Audit Lead*

**Objectives**

* To enable continued regional medical education and audit activity
* To provide feedback from national CGC meetings
* To escalate any regional issues to CGC for discussion and support
* Co-ordinate participation in regional and national audit, in addition to lead clinician surveys

**Significant activities**

* Annual regional education and audit meeting – 5 April 2016
* STIF course May 2016
* STIF level 1 competency assessment – 28June 2016

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* STIF Level 1 competency assessment – 7 participants
* Local audits including HBV vaccination uptake & completion, syphilis follow-up & monitoring, GC TOC rates
* National BASHH STI/HIV screening & risk assessment audit
* Regional HIV M&M meetings 4 February & 1 September
* Update of regional clinical protocols 2015-16

**Future plans**

* Local host of joint BASHH/SSSTDI Spring Meeting 18-20 June 2017
* Regional education and audit meeting
* Quarterly business meeting amongst regional Clinical Leads
* Patient satisfaction survey
* Regional HIV morbidity and mortality meeting

**Dr Emma McCarty**

**Branch Chair**

**Northern branch**

**Objectives:**

* To identify areas of excellent clinical practice within clinics in the Region and promote them within Region whilst recognising local differences relating to populations and levels of workforce.
* To form a regional clinical network to aid the HIV commissioning process and standards of care.
* To provide peer support.
* To feedback from national CGC meetings.
* Continuing medical education and audit.

**Significant activities**

* Quarterly education and business meetings
* HIV clinical network group set up with GUM, Infectious Diseases Units and Public health England
* Close working with PHE looking at enhanced HIV surveillance

[Home](#contents)

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Education on ChemSex, transgender issues, PrEP, sexual assault, HIV and the kidney and HIV drug interactions.
* Feedback from National conferences.
* National guidelines updates
* Audit on antiretroviral prescribing along with ID members of regional HIV network.

**Future plans**

* Regional survey of care of women and HIV
* Possibly introducing enhanced HIV surveillance to allow early identification of clusters of new infection in the region.
* Continue quarterly education and business meetings.

**Dr Alison Wardropper**

**Northern regional chair**

**North West Branch**

**Membership**

Dr Ashish Sukthankar *Chair*

Dr Matthew Phillips *Secretary*

Dr Sameena Ahmad *Treasurer*

**Significant activities**

Successful Joint educational events twice in the year along with Merseyside branch

**Future plans**

We hope to continue with holding Joint Educational events along with colleagues from the Merseyside BASHH branch. We also hope to update our Branch page on the BASHH website and use it to communicate with branch members.

**Dr Ashish Sukthankar**

**Chair, North West BASHH Branch**

**Oxford branch**

No report

**Scotland branch**

**Membership**

Daniela Brawley (co-opted) *Chair*

Deborah Wardle *Secretary*

Gordon McKenna *Treasurer*

Ciara Cunningham *Audit officer*

Vickie Stewart *Nurse rep*

Sarah Cowper *SHA rep*

Syed AliAkbar *SAS rep*

[Home](#contents)

**Objectives**

* To hold 2 business and educational meeting each year

**Significant activities**

* Business and educational meeting in May 2016 in NHS Highland, content as follows for educational meeting,
	+ Cancer and HIV: Prof Mark Bower
	+ Hep C /HIV coinfection in Scotland: Dr Emma Thomson
	+ Chlamydia treatment audit of sexual partners-time to change practice?: Gordon MacKenna
	+ The challenges of local outreach to MSM: Waverley care
	+ Treating HIV in an aging population: Prof Mark Nelson
* Further business and educational meeting planned for November 2016 in NHS Lothian, content as for educational meeting,
	+ FGM: Dr Alison Scott
	+ Results of PrEP Survey in Chalmers Centre: Dr Rebecca Gilson
	+ MSM Behaviour Change Clinic: Dr Ellie Caldwell and Marianne Shopland, Clinical Psychologist and Health Advisor, Chalmers Centre, Edinburgh
	+ HPV vaccine uptake and monitoring of impact-Update: Dr Kevin Pollock, MPH, Senior Epidemiologist, Health Protection Scotland
	+ ‘How to Keep Up-to-Date’: Dr Andy Winter
	+ PrEP - Advice and Monitoring: Dr Dan Clutterbuck

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/6**

* HIV testing audit in progress

**Future plans**

* Completion of audit and continuation of bi-annual meetings
* Trainee rep to be instated

**Daniela Brawley**

**Chair (co-opted)**

**South West branch**

**Membership**

Dr Indrajith Karunaratne *Chair*

Dr Sophie Forsyth  *Secretary*

Dr Andrew de Burgh-Thomas *Audit lead*

**Objectives**

* To act as a focus group for BASHH members in the South West to facilitate communication in the region and to organise educational events for BASHH members and their multidisciplinary teams.

**Significant activities**

* The biannual Regional South West Clinical Network/Service Improvement and Audit meetings were held on Tuesday the 13 of October 2015 followed by an educational meeting on Wednesday the 20 October 2015 in Bristol and Tuesday the 17 of May followed by the educational meeting on 18 May 2016. These meetings were well attended and received good feedback from attendees from all disciplines.

[Home](#contents)

* The South West continues to have a regional office for Sexual Health. This is a South West Directors of Public Health-led Network. The workings of the office are facilitated and disseminated by a regional board. Several BASHH members participate on this board and are involved in current work aiming to achieve reductions in; sexually transmitted infections, unintended/teenage pregnancies, stigma and discrimination, health and/or social care complications associated with the above. The board provides regular information and updates for the members of BASHH South West.
* As in the preceding four years the South West BASHH branch ran a patient satisfaction survey throughout the region using the PSQ validated for use in sexual health clinics. All the clinics in the South West participated and were able to look at their comparative performance both from year to year and between clinics. Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16

**Future plans**

* The autumn Regional South West Clinical Network/Service Improvement and Audit meeting will take place in Exeter on 17 & 18 of November 2016.
* 6th Annual regional Patient Satisfaction Survey will be starting in January 2016

**Dr Indrajith Karunaratne**

**Branch Chair**

**Thames (NE) Region**

**Membership**

Sharmin Obeyesekera *Co-opt representative*

**Objectives**

* To disseminate and share information from BASHH CGC
* To inform BASHH CGC of any clinical governance concerns raised by members
* To assist the RCP in approving new consultant posts

**Significant activities**

* Pan London activities re tendering of sexual health services

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Participation in national and regional audits
* Communication with NE Thames membership and feedback from CGC meetings

**Future plans**

* Joint educational event with NW Thames CGC and North Thames CAG, provisionally for early 2017

**Dr Sharmin Obeyesekera**

**Co-opt Representative**

**Thames (NW) Region**

**Membership**

Sara Day *Chair*

[Home](#contents)

**Objectives**

* To share information about National BASHH activities
* Provide the Clinical governance committee with regional governance activity or concerns
* Provide regional sexual health service providers with support around clinical governance or tendering concerns, and where needed seeking guidance from BASHH CGC committee and escalation to BASHH board as required
* Approve new Consultant and AS grade posts in the region for the RCP.
* Coordinate regional participation of regional/national audits and lead clinician surveys
* Hold educational joint meeting with NE Thames

**Significant regional activities**

* Supported units anticipating tendering or facing problems after transition to new provider.
* NWL providers have completed an audit to inform introduction of the integrated tariff.
* Move of West London Centre Sexual Health from Charing Cross Hospital to 10 Hammersmith Broadway April 2016.
* CWFT awarded tender Surrey: Epsom and St Helier GUM / Marsden CASH services 1st April 2016
* North Central London Tender (Islington Barnet Hackney City London Haringey Camden) announced in August 2016.
* Sexual Health Services for Brent Harrow and Ealing currently out for tender.
* Intelligence gathering exercise on tenders arising in region to inform BASHH guidance for service providers anticipating their own services to go out to tender
* Dissemination of advice on range CG issues eg Hepatitis vaccine shortages.
* Collaborative meetings between sexual health providers in response to London Sexual Health Transformation Programme progression including market engagement meetings for Pan London On Line service (E booking, partner notification and postal testing)

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16:**

* Collaborative meetings between providers following tender announcements for CASH and sexual health service in LA Hammersmith and Fulham, Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea.
* Bi annual half day Governance meetings between Sutton, Hertfordshire, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
* Regional participation of National audits eg BASHH (alcohol and substance use, HIV non testers)
* Coordinated multiple surveys for completion by regional leads
* Roll out pilot offering HPV vaccination to MSM <46yoa has commenced in selective sites in NW Thames

**Future Plan**

* Joint NEL NWL Audit and Governance meeting scheduled March 2017

**Sara Day**

**Chair**

**Thames (SE) branch**

**Membership**

Dr Kazeem Aderogba

**Objectives**

Annual educational meeting – not achieved – failure to confirm speakers, difficulty generating interest from members and no appointed branch secretary for support.

[Home](#contents)

**Significant activities**

Nil

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

Nil

**Future plans**

Change of chair – with additional support required from a branch secretary to assist in achieving annual goals.

**Dr Kazeem Aderogba**

**SE Thames Branch Chair**

**Thames (SW) branch**

**Membership**

Guildford GUM

Leatherhead GUM

Blanche Heriot, St Peters (Chertsey) GUM

Frimley Park GUM

Crawley GUM

Worthing GUM

Chichester GUM

St Georges’ (Tooting) GUM

**Objectives**

To represent the region in the CGC and to feedback to the region important discussions from the BASHH Clinical Governance Meetings.

**Significant Activities**

* Fed back in the Surrey Network Meetings and local clinical governance meetings in Virgin Care from the BASHH clinical governance.
* Succession planning sessions to take on Network Meetings and Regional representations in BASHH.
* Meetings to plan working together in the face of new challenges especially with new provider from April 2017.

**Trent Branch**

No report

**Wales Branch**

**Membership**

Dr Carys Knapper *Chair* (Dr Rachel Drayton - from January 2017)

Dr Meena Sethupathi *Audit Chair* (Dr Laura Cunningham - from October 2016)

Dr Lucy Jones *Secretary*

 [Home](#contents)

**Objectives:**

* Continue to engage with Welsh members of BASHH and provide a forum to discuss key regional issues
* To raise awareness of the differences between NHS Wales and NHS England and the impact this has on sexual health services in Wales

**Significant activities**

* Scientific meeting held in Cardiff in July, including external speakers who discussed electronic PN , online testing , newer methods of contraception
* Spring and autumn regional audit and business meetings held, where results of national audits discussed, along with presentation of recent local audits on topics including TV, HIV care**.**

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2016**

* Draft Sexual Health Strategy for Wales has been populated by BASHH members with assistance from Munro and Forster. This has been submitted to PHW who are going to work with other stakeholders to complete the document and submit to WG. Unfortunately this has now been delayed by the decision not to proceed with new strategy until 2017.
* PHW have set up a T&F Group – action plan for tackling the increase in STIs and HIV in Wales. Multiple Welsh BASHH members participating. We participated in two T and F group meetings and many of the points under discussion were very encouraging. However there is still no date for the planned Autumn meeting of the T and F group and recent communication with PHW suggests that WG are now looking at a further overarching review of this whole process (including both Strategy and T and F group before further meetings are arranged). We have written to Dr Carlin and central BASHH requesting further assistance in raising the profile of Sexual Health in Wales.
* Welsh BASHH have participated in consultation by PHW on behalf WG on delivery HPV vaccination programme for MSM across Wales. Final decision still pending however we have been informed it is likely that HPV vaccine will be offered to MSM routinely from 1st April 2017 with delivery through sexual health clinics.
* Welsh BASHH members have been asked to participate in a consultation on PreP being held by PHW and WG in late 2016.

**Future plans**

* Continue to try and secure and deliver a new Sexual Health Action plan for Wales highlighting the importance of adequate funding for sexual health services in Wales by engagement programme with key stakeholders.
* BASHH All Wales Scientific meeting July 2017
* Spring and Autumn 2017 regional audit and branch meetings

**Dr Carys Knapper**

**Chair**

**Wessex branch**

**Membership**

Dr Alison Blume (Consultant, Portsmouth) *Chair*

Dr Seema Malik (Specialty Trainee, Southampton) *Treasurer*

Dr Olivia Drew (Consultant, Bournemouth) *Secretary*

**Objectives**

* To hold 3 regional education events per year, at least one to be aimed at a multidisciplinary audience
* To coordinate an active regional audit programme
* To hold 3 Branch Clinical Governance Meetings per year
* To produce an annual branch business report

[Home](#contents)

**Significant activities**

* 3 successful educational days held with a wide range of local and national speakers.
* 1 regional audit completed - Audit of HIV inpatient care
* 1 regional audit upcoming – Management of Sexual Assault
* Regional participation in national audits:
	+ HIV testing & risk assessment audit
	+ HIV late diagnosis
* Regional HIV mortality meeting
* 3 Branch Clinical Governance meetings held
* 2 STIF courses annually (Dorset and Hampshire)

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/16**

* Audit against HIV inpatient care
* High level of participation in BASHH and BHIVA national audits.
* Successful regional educational events with both national and local expert speakers. Good turnout and excellent feedback.
* Review of all HIV deaths in the region, with learning points disseminated to all HIV clinicians.

**Future plans**

* 2 planned regional audits.
	+ One STI and one HIV related. Topics TBC.
* 3 regional educational events. One targeted at multidisciplinary audience.
* HIV mortality meeting – 16th January 2016.
* 3 regional clinical governance meetings.

**Dr Alison Blume**

**Chair**

**West Midlands branch**

**Membership**

Kaveh Manavi *Chair*

Lisa Goodall *Secretary*

Lisa Goodall *Audit group*

Keiran Fernando *Audit group*

Kaveh Manavi *HIV group*

John Watson *HIV group*

Sumit Bhaduri *HIV group*

**Objectives**

* To promote high standards in sexual health and HIV services in West Midlands
* To provide training and education opportunities on the topics of sexual health and HIV

**Significant activities**

* Monthly regional HIV viral load meetings: the opportunity for all centres in the region to discuss the management of complex HIV infected patients with colleagues. The meetings also has educational value.

[Home](#contents)

* Annual West Midlands HIV Network report: The report provides a summary on the management of HIV infected patients by each centre in West Midlands.
* Annual HIV patients’ satisfaction survey: survey of over 800 patients attending different HIV centres in West Midlands to measure their experience from the services.
* Mortality review meeting; the first regional mortality review meeting was held in June 2016.

**Kaveh Manavi**

**Chair, West Midlands BASHH**

**Yorkshire branch**

No report – Chair currently on career break.

[Home](#contents)

Committees with BASHH representation

**Joint Specialty Committee for Genitourinary Medicine**

**Membership**

Dr Elizabeth Carlin *Chairman*

Dr Elizabeth Foley  *Honorary Secretary*

Professor Jackie Cassell

Dr Rak Nandwani

Dr Mamatha Oduru

Dr Huw Price

Dr Angela Robinson

Dr Ian Williams

Dr Olwyn Williams

Dr Janet Wilson

Mr John Oldham *Patient and carer representative*

Professor Jane Dacre *President RCP*

Dr Andrew Goddard *Registrar RCP*

**Objectives**

The Joint Specialty Committee for Genitourinary medicine acts as an advisory body to the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) on matters concerning sexual health and HIV. It meets twice a year and has a membership drawn from both the RCP and BASHH, including patient and carer network representation.

**Performance/Outputs in the year 2015/2016**

The group meet twice a year; this year the committee has been involved in workforce planning and training in the specialty, and in particular commissioning and tendering of HIV and sexual health services. The genitourinary medicine section of the Medical care guide which is a guide to planning and providing medical services for patients has been updated by Dr Jackie Sherrard, Dr Alan Tang and Dr Olwen Williams.

**Future plans**

An update on STIs and HIV joint meeting between the RCP and BASHH has been organised by Dr Daniel Richardson which will be held in September 2016.

**Dr Elizabeth Foley**

**Honorary Secretary**

**Specialist Advisory Committee**

**The GUM SAC is a sub-committee of the Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board (JRCPTB)**

**Membership of GUM Specialist Advisory Committee (June 2016)**

Dr Rak Nandwani *SAC Chair*

Dr Katia Prime *SAC Vice-Chair and Health Education South London*

Professor Sheona MacLeod *COPMed and Lead Dean for GUM*

Dr Ann Boyle *Deputy Lead Dean for GUM*

Mr David Crundwell *Lay Representative*

[Home](#contents)

**Training Programme Directors**

Dr Sarah Barrett, Health Education West Midlands

Dr Stephen Bushby, Health Education North East

Dr Andrew De-Burgh Thomas, Severn Deanery

Dr Noreen Desmond, Oxford Deanery

Dr Fiona Fargie, NHE Education Scotland

Dr Ashini Fox, Health Education East Midlands

Dr Lisa Haddon, Peninsula Deanery

Dr Anna Hartley, Trainee representative (England & Wales)

Dr Margaret Kingston, North Western England Deanery

Dr Debashis Mandal, Mersey Deanery

Dr Sheel Patel, Health Education North West London

Dr Say Quah, Northern Ireland Medical & Dental Training Agency

Dr Durba Raha, Trainee Representative (Scotland)

Dr Sasikala Rajamanoharan, Health Education East of England

Dr Sarah Schoeman, Yorkshire & Humber Deanery

Dr Jackie Sherrard, BASHH Representative

Dr Shanmuga Sundaram, Wessex Deanery

Dr Andy Williams, DipGUM External and Health Education North Central & East London & DipGUM External Assessor

Dr Debbie Williams, KSS Deanery

Dr Kathir Yoganathan, Wales Deanery

**Co-opted Members**

Dr Gillian Dilke-Wing, Co-opted (Recruitment Lead)

Dr David Asboe, Co-opted (DipHIV Convenor)

Dr Chloe Orkin, Co-opted (DipHIV External)

Dr Mette Rodgers, Co-opted (DipGUM Convenor)

Dr Angela Robinson, Co-opted (JSC Representative)

Dr Richard Gilson, Co-opted (Academic Lead)

Prof Simon Barton. Co-opted (UEMS Representative)

**New 2016 Curriculum**

The updated curriculum has been approved by the GMC and goes live on 1 December 2016. It is appropriate that this coincides with World AIDS Day as there has been a major review of the HIV sections to reflect changes that had already taken place in HIV prevention, treatment and care. David Asboe led the working group which included regional and trainee representatives as well as from ID. There is less of an emphasis on late stage opportunistic infections and more on support for women, those with pschyo-social issues and multiple non-HIV related illnesses. Competencies are included on hepatitis C therapy, chemsex and PrEP. The number of chapters has been reduced from 13 to 8, which now directly link to national standards and guidelines. There are fewer “tick boxes” for trainees to complete.

The curriculum review also provided an opportunity to clarify the level of competencies expected of trainees relating to sexual problems, and also to make it explicit rather than implicit that history taking and examination competencies includes female, male and transgender/non-binary individuals. There are updated sections on gender-based violence, safeguarding and female genital mutilation, and reflecting current legal and reporting arrangements across the UK.

[Home](#contents)

**Dual accreditation with Internal Medicine**

It is envisaged that the new 3 year (rather than 2 years now) Core Medical Training programme will commence in 2018 (or possibly 2019). This provides an extra year of general internal medicine where trainees will act as medical registrars, prior to entering specialty programmes in 2021 (or 2022). The GUM specialty training programme will lead to dual accreditation with CSTs in GUM plus Internal Medicine at the end of 4 years. The GMC Generic Professional Competencies will be delivered in the parallel Internal Medicine curriculum. Many of these “Competencies in Practice” such as managing out-patients, multidisciplinary team working, quality improvement, research, teaching, ethical/legal issues and management skills, are already being achieved in the current curriculum. Additional competencies linked to the care of acutely unwell patients will be delivered in a way that is relevant to the delivery of the specialist scope of GUM as a specialty. The first dually accredited GUM physicians will complete training in 2025 (or 2026). Transition arrangements for trainees in programme from 2021 are in preparation.

**GUM recruitment**

Fragmented commissioning of sexual health services and the abolition of LAT posts in England, combined with the junior doctors strike, terms & conditions, Brexit, and inadequate medical graduate numbers have all impacted negatively on recruitment. However, there was an increase in the Round 1 GUM NTN fill rate in 2016 which was 57% compared to 45% in 2015. It was noted that all the candidates at interview were high-calibre and appointable. Four medical specialties had lower fill rates than GUM this year, reflecting the wider issues. However, it is important that potential applicants who are considering GUM as a specialty choice continue to be supported with taster days, events and correct advice on how training will change from current GUM physicians.

Finally my thanks once again go to all members of the SAC who do a huge amount of work without a great deal of recognition.

**Dr Rak Nandwani**

**GUM SAC Chair**

[**https://www.jrcptb.org.uk/specialties/genitourinary-medicine**](https://www.jrcptb.org.uk/specialties/genitourinary-medicine)

UEMS in Dermatovenereology

1. It is a clearly a difficult time post referendum to be the UK representative on a European Committee. However it has been clarified by the BMA, that should the British Government choose to leave the European Union, it does not follow that we would not be able to remain as members of European committees such as he UEMS. There are already members of the UEMS who are not full members of the EU and so there is precedent for this, although whether we would be able to retain the same voting rights, hold any roles as Officers or other changes will need to ne worked through in due course.
2. The UEMS training requirements work continues to progress across all medical specialities and the submission from the Specialty of Dermatology and Venereology has highlighted that STI’s should continue to be a separate clinical curriculum item and not only included under the heading of Infectious Diseases.
3. The European Board Examination has now become an electronic exam and was held in Frankfurt in August 2016. 51 candidates took the examination and 44 passed. There has been discussions as to whether or not the UEMS should have a separate curricular exam in STI’s and that these through the electronic selection of questions could be tailored to the country in which the candidate practices. The discussion about this and how this might impact on UK will continue to be reported back to BASHH, to the SAC, the GMC and the BMA.

[Home](#contents)

1. A presentation from the multidisciplinary joint committee in Sexual Medicine that was established some years ago by the UEMS, describes the European exam that they have set up but emphasises that much of their premise is based on improving training for all practitioners across Europe to be competent to take a sexual history and to diagnose problems with sexual health. These laudable aims will be supported hopefully in the future by much better collaboration with the UEMS Dermatology and Venereology committee as well as working more closely with representatives in each country in Europe.

**Professor Simon Barton**

**UEMS Representative for UK Venereology**

[Home](#contents)

Journals with BASHH representation

International Journal of Sexually transmitted diseases & AIDS

IJSA has had another steady year, publishing 14 issues and increasing its Impact Factor in the process. In the last year we handled 581 submissions of which 66% were original research articles. The median time between submission and first decision for original articles is 28 days. We accepted 43% of research manuscripts in 2016 and published in print or online nine BASHH/European guidelines and 13 separate audits from BASHH members.

The journal continues to accept a wide range of papers from all corners of the globe that we hope provide readers with a variety of interesting and clinically useful material. As Editor, I am very grateful to all contributing authors and our esteemed reviewers, as well as to SAGE Publishing for making another successful year possible.

Dr John White

Sexually Transmitted Infections Journal

“Sexually Transmitted Infections” journal maintains its place as the world’s leading journal in this field by impact, internationalism and breadth. With nearly 600 submissions in the year to July 2016 our outstanding team of editors and reviewers has worked hard to support authors to ensure their work reaches the widest possible audience. We have nearly 3600 Twitter followers on @STI\_BMJ where a lively debates take place within and often beyond the health professions.

In early 2016 the post of Editor in Chief was advertised, a role that Professor Jackie Cassell has held since 2007. Professor David Lewis stood down in 2016 after many years as Deputy Editor, in order to give more time to his extensive global role for IUSTI. At the end of the BASHH year no appointment had been made and Jackie is working with Professor Nicola Low and other editors to recruit a refreshed editorial team and a new board, to underpin continued developments for an extended term.

Our service to BASHH members remains a top priority, with the regular Clinical Roundup well received by readers while we continue to publish case reports of educational interest, and the BASHH column. Dr Sarah Edwards leads our educational provision, commissioning and supporting authors through the “How to do it” articles which are highly rated. If you look at our website sti.bmj.com you will also see a growing library of podcasts which are a growing source of educational content, and our blogs cover a wide range of current debate.

For the Centenary of 2017 we are working with BASHH to commission a series of vignettes describing many aspects of sexually transmitted infections over the century – from treatments and diseases through to policies and legislation.

Jackie, her editorial team and BMJ are very grateful to many BASHH for their support as authors, reviewers, advisers and critical friends.

Professor Jackie Cassell