

British Association of Perinatal Medicine

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NEWSLETTER – July 2001

Meetings

Annual General Meeting and Scientific Meeting, Thursday 6th and Friday 7th September 2001 Middlesbrough

This meeting promises to be an excellent opportunity to debate topics of joint interest with the obstetric anaesthetists. The Founder's lecture will be given by Dr Elizabeth Bryan on the Fascination of Twins. After the Founder's lecture after the AGM on Thursday there will be the annual dinner, with a joint scientific session on Friday.

Book now by contacting the office for a booking form or download from:

<http://www.oaa-anaes.ac.uk/>

Send any items for the agenda to the Hon Sec as soon as possible.

Annual General Meeting and Scientific Meeting, September 2002 (Reading, 19th and 20th September)

The Scientific meeting in 2002 will be a joint meeting with the British Maternal and Fetal Medicine Society. It is not too soon to put the date in your diary.

Other Meetings of Interest:

Neonatal Society Meetings

Thursday 29th November R.S.M. London

Further information from Professor Terrence Stephenson, Nottingham

Tel: 0115 970 9255.

E-mail: MIZGW@mgn2.obs.nottingham.ac.uk

Newborn Life Support Course

Saturday 8th September, Middlesbrough – after the BAPM Meeting. Numbers limited to 25 so apply early. Contact Dr Jonathon Wyllie

Jonathon.wyllie@lineone.net

Tel: 01642 854719 Fax 01642 854874

The Theory of Obstetric Medicine

Organised by the Imperial College School of Medicine
Tuesday 9th -Thursday 11th October, RCP, London

Details from www.symposia.org.uk

The Infected and Immunocompromised Child

Organised by the Imperial College School of Medicine
Thursday 22nd November 2001, London

Details from www.symposia.org.uk

Neonatal Course for Senior Paediatricians and Senior Nurses

Organised by the Imperial College School of Medicine
Monday 26th -Friday 30th November, London

Details from www.symposia.org.uk

The State of the World's Newborn – Perinatal Care in Disadvantaged Countries

Friday 9th November 2001, Birmingham

Organised by the International Child Health Group

Further information from Dr. Robert Moy

Tel: 0121 333 8725

E-mail: r.j.d.moy@bham.ac.uk

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS -

After a hotly contested election the committee has some welcome new blood. Your representatives are:

Ian Laing – Scotland

Angela Bell - Ireland

Sunhil Sinha – North of England & Wales

Kate Costeloe – South of England

Mark Kilby – Obstetrics I

Peter Danielian – Obstetrics II

Their deputies are:

Layla Al Roomi – Scotland

Tom Matthews – Ireland

Ben Shaw – North of England & Wales

Jag Ahluwalia – South of England

Donald Peebles – Obstetrics I

Rhona Hughes – Obstetrics II

Do make use of your representatives by contacting them about issues which you want them to raise at the Executive meetings. The next Executive meeting will be held on the 5th September 2001.

David Field is the Hon Sec Elect and will take over in September 2001 after the AGM. David will serve until 2004. The next Hon Sec elect will be elected in 2003, to shadow David until he or she takes over at the AGM in 2004. It is not too soon to think about taking over this important role.

PRESIDENT 2002-2005

Professor Malcolm Chiswick, Professor of Child Health and Paediatrics, St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, has been nominated to be President of BAPM when Andrew Wilkinson steps down in 2002. As he is unopposed this will be ratified at the AGM in Middlesbrough. He will join the Executive as President-elect for the year 2001-2002.

Malcolm organised the 5th Annual Meeting of BAPM in Manchester in 1980 and was a Representative on EC 1984-1986, he was then Honorary Secretary 1986-1989.

OFFICE NEWS

Alison Saunders has done a great job for BAPM, particularly in the last few months following her appointment to be the administrative assistant to BACCH – a full time job. BAPM urgently needs a new part-time administrator and so far it has not been possible to appoint a suitable candidate. Any interested applicants please contact the office.

NEW HANDBOOK 2002

A new edition will be in preparation soon, so please send changes of address and e-mail addresses to the office. We are very keen to collect e-mail addresses so that in future members can be contacted quickly this way.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Trainees Day: We plan to run a study day for neonatal trainees in the winter of 2001; more details soon.

GUIDELINES

Group B Streptococcus. The GBS guidelines have now been ratified by the RCPCH Guideline Committee, they await ratification from the RCOG. The guidelines are still available from the Website.

WORKING PARTIES

The Department of Health has convened a Working Party advising the Government about neonatal services, feeding into the National Framework for Children. This group has met three times in the Bliss offices, and BAPM has been well represented by Andrew Wilkinson, Kate Costeloe, Janet Rennie, David Field, and Richard Miles. We will keep you in touch with any developments arising from this group.

European Standard for Transport Incubators.

Via my representation at BSI I have been attending meetings regarding a European Standard for Transport Incubators. This process is now in the final stages (after 5 years) and will be voted on finally by the member countries in the next 12 months. If passed fixation, weight, loading arrangements and electrical supplies (and many other aspects) will all be standardised. Ad hoc systems will be essentially outlawed. (David Field)

NHS number for babies

I represent BAPM on the NHS number for babies project and this project is also going well. It should reach a conclusion next year with all babies in the UK getting an NHS number from birth. More details can be obtained from

the NHS Information Authority website
www.nhsia.nhs.uk/nn4b (David Field)

CLINICAL TRIALS GROUP

Professor Steve Walkinshaw has stepped down as Convenor of this group and Peter Brocklehurst has taken over. This committee has also had an influx of enthusiastic new members, and continues to pursue its aims of encouraging and facilitating excellence in clinical trials. The follow up Network is still under consideration.

College Specialist Advisory Committee for Neonatal Medicine.

This committee has also had a welcome expansion recently, and the workload continues to grow. Neil Marlow is the Chair, with Janet Rennie as Chairman-elect. Other members are: Andrew Wilkinson Bryan Gill, Brendan Harrington, John Jenkins and Mike Harrison (trainees rep). The group has now completed its requirements for subspecialty training in Neonatal Medicine and the documents specifying how this will be organized are available from the RCPCH Website

www.rcpch.ac.uk/library/wonload.htm or from the HST office from Leonie Jacobs (Leonie.Jacobs@rcpch.ac.uk). 22 training prospectuses have been received and are under review, with plans to commence a National Training Grid in September 2002. Inspection visits will begin in the winter of 2001, with visits planned to all sites who wish to train neonatal specialists. The plan is for about 17 such individuals to be enrolled on the programme each year. The Syllabus has also undergone extensive revision and now includes proposed "core competencies". The Syllabus is also available from the RCPCH Website.

Second Edition of Standards for Hospitals Providing Neonatal Intensive and High Dependency Care

This document is now complete and will be available from the BAPM website very soon. A hard copy will be available from the office for those who do not have access to the Web. Copies for non-members will cost £10.

WEBSITE

The discussion board in the Members area is now active. If you have any topic you want to discuss with BAPM members, please do so. Login and password available from the office.

PROPOSED BPSU STUDY ON KERNICTERUS

Many of us have seen a recent resurgence in kernicterus similar to that reported in the US and Europe. Dr Donal Manning and Peter Todd in the Wirral propose to study this via the Orange Card BPSU mechanism, but would like some prior idea of the possible numbers. No identifiable information is requested at this stage. Their case definition is as follows:

Clinical features of encephalopathy with an unconjugated serum bilirubin of 400 micromols/l or greater, other causes of encephalopathy having been excluded. Some cases may be supported by typical MRI brain scan changes. Only babies of more than 36 weeks gestation are being considered.

Please let Donal know if you have seen a case meeting this definition in the last two years (April 99- March 01). You can contact him on Donal.Manning@ccmail.wirralh-tr.nwest.nhs.uk Or at Arrow Park Hospital in the Wirral.

This proposal will be discussed at the AGM, and any other proposals for neonatal subjects collected via the BPSU system are welcome.

Recruitment

Neonatal Senior Medical Resident posts at Westmead Hospital, Sydney, Australia. Active postgraduate programme, on-site accommodation, 6 or 12 months, 3rd year SHO + previous neonatal, paediatric or anaesthetic experience.

Contact Prof. William Tarnow-Mordi, Tel 00612 9845 8911, Fax 00612 9845 7490, williamt@westgate.wh.usyd.edu.au or Ms Judy Muller 00612 9845 7882, judy_muller@wsahs.nsw.gov.au.

CSAC

The CSAC has now completed its training review, which has been submitted to the Specialist Training Authority for approval.

We have identified hospitals that will contribute to training programmes and programme directors. All of these hospitals now have provisional accreditation for sub-speciality training and will be visited over the next 18 months or so.

We have also produced a framework for a Sub-Specialty Logbook which contains a series of 13 key competencies, which we anticipate will evolve over the next few years.

The National Grid system is not ready to implement in 2001 and we have therefore put it back to start for people who enter year 3 of training in September 2002. Trainees would be advised to start developing a portfolio and logbook from the Autumn of this year.

All these documents will be on the RCPCH website in the next few months in DRAFT form, waiting for the STA to approve (or disapprove!)

Could we remind trainees that Professor Andrew Wilkinson is the Specialty Training Adviser and Dr Bryan Gill (Leeds General Infirmary (alang@ulth.northy.nhs.uk)) is now the Deputy Adviser. Matters relating to training should be directed to these two.

The membership of the CSAC is:

Professor Neil Marlow [Neil.Marlow@nottingham.ac.uk]

Professor Andrew Wilkinson

[andrew.wilkinson@paediatrics.oxford.ac.uk]

Dr Janet Rennie [janet.rennie@kcl.ac.uk]

Dr Bryan Gill [alang@ulth.northy.nhs.uk]

Dr John Jenkins [jgjenkins@altavista.co.uk]

Dr Brendan Harrington [brendan.harrington@new-tr.wales.nhs.uk]

Dr Mike Harrison [michaelcharrison@hotmail.com]

OAA GUIDELINES

The Obstetric Anaesthetist Association has published guidelines in order to assist those considering research in obstetric analgesia and anaesthesia. This document should be available on the OAA website www.oaa-anaes.ac.uk.

MEMBERSHIP – now at 566 members

We continue to grow by over 70 new members each year - don't forget that nominations for full membership by a current BAPM member can be made at any time during the year.

Please encourage your colleagues involved in Perinatal Medicine to join!

Nomination forms and further details from

BAPM Administration Office
50 Hallam Street
LONDON W1W 6DE

Telephone: 020 7307 5640

Fax: 020 7307 5601

And on the website at
www.bapm-london.org