The BASHH election is now open

The BASHH election is now open for on line voting until 3pm on Monday 15th December 2014.

There are 2 contested posts; the Nurse Representative to the Board and the Nurse Representative to the Clinical Governance Committee. All full members are entitled to vote for their chosen candidate for these posts.

To vote, please go to the following website and enter your two-part Security Code which will have been sent to your registered email address

www.votebyinternet.com/BASHH2015

The results will be announced at the Annual General Meeting on Friday 9th January 2015.

APPG on Sexual and Reproductive Health – Accountability Inquiry into Standards in Sexual and reproductive health in the UK

This important inquiry, led by Baroness Gould of Potternewton, is exploring the issues of accountability around the current state of sexual health services (abortion, contraceptive and reproductive health, GU medicine and HIV testing) with particular focus on the new NHS and public health architecture in England. BASHH has been actively involved in the planning and evidence gathering, with Ashish Sukthankar, Colin Roberts, Simon Barton, Jan Clarke and Rak Nandwani all giving oral evidence in various roles for BASHH, RCP, HIV CRG and Networks. The Public Health Minister and her Shadow Minister both gave evidence, as did senior representatives of PHE, local government, general practice, FRSH, HEE, BHIVA and Healthwatch. BASHH’s written submission and the RCP submission can be found here (hyperlink to documents)

The hearings stage finished on 27/11/14 and evidence will be analysed over the New Year, with expected publication towards the end of January. Please visit the APPG Inquiry website link http://www.fpa.org.uk/all-party-groups-sexual-health/appg-uk or follow @APPGSRH on twitter for more details.

For the BASHH Response - Click Here
For the RCCP Response - Click Here

The BASHH President and Trustees wish all BASHH members Seasons Greetings and very best wishes for a successful 2015.
BASHH News

BASHH Strategy - what you said, and what we are doing

Thanks to all those responding to the members' survey, the participants in the strategy day and the lead clinicians' survey. The Board and Officers can use the key themes in our policy development and in representations to College, to health department officials and in discussions with sister organisations.

Full summary documents of the reports can be found here: Members Survey - Lead Clinicians Survey

It is clear we are, and intend to remain, a “physicianly specialty” - delivering complex care in an outpatient setting but with very close links to our inpatient acute medicine/ ID/General internal medicine colleagues. Community outreach and collaboration with our third sector colleagues give an extra dimension to our skills. Our trainees must be equipped to develop our role in a health system where tendering will be integral to most commissioning of services.

Initial actions include plans to:
- Develop an OGM outside London for 2016
- Increase admin support to audit and clinical effectiveness and standards groups
- Increase email communication with members
- Enhance feedback to members on political consultations
- Develop better links with FRSH and other groups.

The President’s message after the next Board will expand on some on these themes.

Jan Clarke, President

Seeking New Education Committee Secretary

The education committee is seeking a new committee secretary from the consultant, associate specialist or specialty doctor grade.

The role will involve assisting the committee chair in shaping and guiding BASHH's future educational strategy. The new post holder will ensure the smooth running of the committee and will assist the specialist interest groups in the organisation of the BASHH scientific meetings (OGMs).

Significant administration support for the role is provided by the BASHH secretariat. Three education committee meetings are held each year on the morning of the BASHH OGMs. A full handover and opportunity to shadow the role will be provided.

For further information and to express an interest in the position please contact the committee chair Dr Jackie Sherrard jackiesherrard@doctors.org.uk For an informal discussion about the secretary role please contact the current committee secretary, Dr Martyn Wood martyn.wood@nhs.net Tel: 01270 612255

The list of BASHH advisers to support commissioners for tendering has now been updated and can be found here

Congratulations to Dr Ann Sullivan and Dr Chloe Orkin

Many congratulations to Dr Ann Sullivan who won a place on the 2014 Health Services Journal Top Innovators in Healthcare List, for her work on HIV testing and club drugs and sexual health.

The list celebrates those working in the NHS and the wider healthcare sector who have taken innovative approaches that make a tangible difference to patients, their colleagues or wider society.

Congratulations also to Dr Chloe Orkin who has been included in the Rainbow List 2014 of 100 top people for her passion and work to make HIV testing a routine procedure.

Consultation on Records Management Code of Practice

Service leads are invited to comment on the records management code of practice. Please paste the link below in your browser. As the deadline is 31/01/15, please collect all the comments by Friday 19 December 2014 and email them to Alan Tang alan.tang@royalberkshire.nhs.uk who will then combine the comments in a CGC response.

NHS Code of Practice - Click Here

HSCIC Guide - Click Here

ISSTDR (Ison) Travel Fellowship 2015

The next biennial ISSTDR meeting will be held as part of the World STI & HIV Congress in Brisbane, Australia between 13 – 16 September 2015.

Applications for the BASHH/ISSTDR Travel Fellowship for 2015 to this major international meeting will be open to microbiologists or to clinical trainees with an abstract with strong microbiology content. Full details will be available on the BASHH website in January 2015.
**Sexual Dysfunction Special Interest Group – Training Doctor Representative**

The Sexual Dysfunction SIG is looking to recruit a dynamic training doctor to join us! The current representative will reach the end of their tenure early in 2015. The group meets once per year (currently at a Manchester venue) to plan the following year’s events. We host a biennial ‘ABC of Sexual Dysfunction’ study day which is increasingly popular. We also undertake regular national surveys and contribute to national guidelines. Further, we liaise with other national bodies involved in the care with those affected by sexual function problems.

We would like to welcome a new training doctor group member. You should be enthusiastic about the field and ideally have some clinical experience. You should be willing to take an active role in the group’s activities and be a BASHH member.

Please apply by sending a brief CV and a covering letter to Dr David Goldmeier, explaining why you would like to join the group and any skills you think would be useful. For an informal discussion or enquiries, please contact either Dr David Goldmeier (Chair) - David.Goldmeier@imperial.nhs.uk or Dr Karl Hollows (Vice Chair) - Karl.Hollows@ssotp.nhs.uk

Closing date for applications is: 13 February 2015

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**Recruiting new members to the BASHH Genital Dermatology SIG**

The BASHH Genital Dermatology SIG is looking to recruit 2 new members. The SIG is an active one committed to helping GUM/Sexual Health physicians in improving knowledge and skills in Genital Dermatology. This includes writing guidelines, organising courses, presenting at OGMs, liaising with other SIGS/Associations, conducting surveys, producing educational material etc.

We are looking for motivated volunteers who would have sufficient time at their disposal to carry out the tasks allotted. They will also be required to attend SIG Meetings. BASHH members who have special interest in Genital Dermatology are requested to send a short CV to Dr PN Sashidharan (parameswaran.sashidharan@homerton.nhs.uk) and Dr Christine Bates (Christine.Bates@rlbuht.nhs.uk). CV should include details of qualifications/experience in Dermatology/Genital Dermatology. Please indicate how you could help in carrying out the various activities of the SIG.

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**National guideline on the treatment of gonorrhoea**

The Clinical Effectiveness Group has been asked to clarify the recommendation in the national guideline on gonorrhoea that first-line treatment should be with 500 mgs of Ceftriaxone IM and Azithromycin 1 g orally, stat. The reason for including Azithromycin is as part of the treatment for gonorrhoea in order to try to forestall the development of resistance to Ceftriaxone. The Azithromycin is not recommended for the purpose of providing cover for concurrent chlamydial infection, although of course it would do that. So it is not appropriate to replace the Azithromycin by Doxycycline as part of the treatment for gonorrhoea given the very high rates of tetracycline resistance found in Neisseria gonorrhoeae in the most recent GRASP data.

Dr Keith Radcliffe, Chair, CEG

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**Revised edition of toolkit on Commissioning HIV Testing Services in England**

NAT have produced a revised edition of their practical guide on ‘Commissioning HIV Testing Services in England.’ The new edition includes further guidance and information to support the commissioning of HIV testing services. For more information on the guide please get in touch with sally.thomas@nat.org.uk.

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**Applications sought for MSFRH examinations questions writers**

The FSRH Examination Committee invites applications for question writers for the FSRH Membership exam. Specialists from outside of the SRH specialty are particularly welcome. Questions are in the single best answer (SBA) format and are intended for the Part 1 exam held twice yearly to encompass SRH specialty. Applicants should have a CCT in Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Genito-urinary Medicine, or non-training grade doctors possessing the MFSRH qualification. The closing date for applications is 21st December. Further information can be found on the FSRH homepage.

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**NAT HIV training resource for health and social care workers**

NAT have developed an e-learning training resource for health and social care workers, in partnership with BHIVA (British HIV Association). The resource gives key information and advice for how to treat and care for someone living with HIV and includes information on the routes of HIV transmission and levels of HIV risk in a health and social care setting. If you have any questions about the resource please contact sally.thomas@nat.org.uk.
More News

Draft NGU PIL for consultation
New Non-gonococcal Urethritis Patient Information Leaflet
The draft patient information leaflet (PIL) for Non-gonococcal Urethritis (NGU) is now available for consultation.
If you have any comments please send these to the editor of BASHH patient information leaflets Dr Stephen Higgins
Steve.Higgins@pat.nhs.uk
Please put ‘NGU PIL feedback’ as the subject of your e-mail.

New BASHH chancroid patient information leaflet
The new patient information leaflet (PIL) for chancroid is now available on the BASHH website.
If you have any comments please send these to the editor of BASHH patient information leaflets Dr Stephen Higgins
Steve.Higgins@pat.nhs.uk
Please put ‘Chancroid PIL feedback’ as the subject of your e-mail.
Closing date for comments: 14th January 2015

STIF Competency Train the Trainer Workshop : 13 March 2015
The next STIF Competency Train the Trainer event will take place on the 13th March 2015 (preceding the BASHH OGM) at the Royal Society of Medicine, in London. Please note that all STIF Competency trainers must attend the STIF Competency Train the Trainer (TTT) event every five years to maintain registration as a registered STIF Competency Trainer. Registration fee: £65.00. To register for the Workshop please click here.

STIF Foundation Appointment of Chair
We are delighted to announce that Dr Luciana Rubinstein has been appointed as Chair of the STIF Foundation Steering Group.

Revised statement on HIV window period
Guidance on the window period for HIV infection using fourth-generation tests in the laboratory has been jointly produced by the Department of Health’s Expert Advisory Group on AIDS (EAGA) and the HIV Special Interest Group and the Clinical Effectiveness Group of BASHH. The new statement can be accessed at the BASHH guidelines webpage.
Dr Keith Radcliffe, Chair, CEG, Member, EAGA

Course for practitioners: Mindfulness for Sex & Intimacy; 12-13th March 2015
A 2 day Course for practitioners: Mindfulness for Sex & Intimacy; 12-13th March 2015; Somerset.
Contact John Helps for further details:
john.helps@imperial.nhs.uk - For more information Click Here

The end of AIDS? Science Museum display developed with NCB
The Science Museum and the National Children’s Bureau have involved young people living with HIV in developing content for an exciting new display case. The end of AIDS? will be on show until late February 2015 and will be seen by thousands of visitors to the museum’s popular Who Am I? gallery. Young people’s contributions to the display include an animation created by young people, explaining aspects of HIV science through the story of a young person growing up with HIV. The case is funded by the Wellcome Trust. Further information can be found in this NCB article and Science Museum blog post, or you can contact Emily at NCB’s Children and Young People HIV Network: ehamblin@ncb.org.uk.

BASHH Lead for Public and Patient engagement/ Chair of Public Panel
An experienced clinician with an interest in Public and Patient engagement is sought to lead BASHH’s activities in this area.
The PPE Lead sits on BASHH Board, chairs our Public Panel and is a member of the Clinical Standards Group.
The Public Panel meets three times a year and offers essential oversight of patient level information and clinical guidelines produced by CEG and other groups. The Chair is responsible for recruitment of lay members and for organising meetings, held on Saturdays at the RSM. Activity is reported back to Board meetings.
The PPE Lead may be asked to liaise with other charities and groups on behalf of BASHH, advise other BASHH groups such as the Clinical Development group and to develop other similar activities as discussed with Board.
Interested members please email Jan Clarke at President@bashh.net for more details.
DIARY DATES

RCP/BASHH Cases and Topics in HIV and STIs at RCP on 8th December 2014
http://events.rcplondon.ac.uk/details.aspx?e=3148

BHIVA ‘Five Nations’ Conference on HIV and Hepatitis - 8-9 December - Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London

BASHH OGM - 9 January 2015 - RSM, London from 1.00pm

Joint BASHH and Faculty Meeting - 30 January 2015 - RSM, London

8th HIV Dilemmas - Workshop in Infectious Diseases - Friday 30th January 2015—Manchester—more information from Hannah@hartleytaylor.co.uk

EADV meeting - Valencia 5th to 8th March 2015

BASHH OGM - 13 March 2015 - Kings Fund, London from 1.00pm

STIF COMPETENCY TRAIN THE TRAINER WORKSHOP - 13 March 2015 at RSM, London

HIV Drug Therapy in the Americas 2015 - 16-18 April 2015, Mexico City, Mexico Website: www.hivamericas.org

Spring Conference 2015 - Glasgow 1-3 June 2015
ABSTRACT DEADLINE 6th February

BASHH OGM - 12 June 2015 - RSM, London from 1.00pm

5th EAAD Congress Riga, September 18-20, 2015

IUSTI Sitges 2015 - 24th – 26th September 2015 - Click Here for further details

BASHH OGM - 2 October 2015 - RSM, London from 1.00pm

EADV meeting - Copenhagen 7th to 9th October 2015

The deadlines for newsletters in 2015
28 January; 25 March; 27 May
22 July; 23 September; 25 November