BASHH Conference and Communications Secretary

The BASHH Conference and Communications officer post will be out for nomination and election in January 2017. This is a rewarding post: organising the annual BASHH conference, the BASHH-FSRH conference, some ad hoc meetings e.g. RCP sexual health/HIV conferences. The Conference and Communications Officer attends BASHH Officers meetings and Board meetings 4 times a year, sits on the BASHH Education Committee, commissions the BASHH column in STI and writes the letter from the Board to members.

The conferences are planned years/months in advance and there needs to be some overlap between the current Officer and future post holder. If you are interested in this post, please contact daniel.richardson@bsuh.nhs.uk.

Public Panel Update—New panel members

We are always on the look out for interested members of the public and patients. The public engagement pages on the BASHH website include information on how to get involved.

Public and Patient Opinion Survey

BASHH is funding a ComRes-administered poll of public opinion about the future provision of STI care in the UK. The opinions of clinic attendees will need to be captured at the same time, so we shall need your help to direct patients to the survey.

They will be accessible on: www.BASHH.org/guidelines following the conference.

Launch of BASHH Outreach Standards

We are looking forward to the launch of the inaugural outreach standards which have been developed by BASHH with the aim of supporting commissioners and providers in achieving high quality outreach services for the populations they serve.

We will be launching this online following the spring conference and will also be launching a user’s guide aimed at service providers and users.

We will be distributing to all interested organisations and are asking BASHH members to do the same to ensure these standards are widely disseminated.

They will be accessible on: www.BASHH.org/guidelines following the conference.

Dr Catherine Stewart

BASHH note with sadness the untimely death of Dr Catherine Stewart who will be will be fondly remembered by family and friends from around the world.
BASHH News

BASHH welcomes pilot to inform the extension of the HPV vaccination programme to MSMs

BASHH welcomes the announcement from Public Health England (PHE) of a new pilot to evaluate the feasibility of extending the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme to men who have sex with men (MSM) in England.

The pilot is scheduled to commence in June 2016 and will see the HPV vaccine made available to MSM during their routine appointments across a number of selected GUM/HIV clinics to test delivery in these settings.

The announcement of the pilot follows a recommendation from the Joint Committee on Immunisation and Vaccination (JCVI) in November 2015 that a targeted HPV vaccination programme should be delivered for MSM aged up to 45 years, subject to the procurement of the vaccine and delivery of the programme at a cost-effective price.

BASHH Doctors in Training Day 2016
Saturday 9th July 2016
Preceding the BASHH Spring Conference 10th-12th July 2016
Examination Schools, Oxford
Open to SpRs and SAS doctors

Attending a Doctors in Training day is a compulsory part of training so please come and join us in Oxford for a very exciting and free programme of speakers, and the chance to socialise with your colleagues.

Further information is on the Doctors in Training BASHH website pages. If you require accommodation, the link can be found on the BASHH website under the Spring Meeting section.

Deadline for applications is Friday 17th June. Please click here or the programme and application form

MHRA warning about live vaccines and immunocompromised patients

In a recent communication, the MHRA (Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency) highlighted the importance of avoiding live (replicating) vaccines in people who are immunocompromised [1]. Guidance from BHIVA (British HIV Association) is that patients with HIV infection are not necessarily immunocompromised and should not be denied protection where evidence indicates vaccination is safe and effective [2]. The recently updated BHIVA Guidelines on the Use of Vaccines in HIV-Positive Adults (2015) provide evidence-based recommendations to guide the safe use of live vaccines in this patient group. As direction reflective of individual circumstances will be required, the treating HIV clinician is encouraged to liaise closely with primary care and other healthcare providers to promote effective implementation.

General guidance on the use of live (replicating) vaccines in HIV-positive adults:

- HIV-positive adults with CD4 counts below 200 cells/μL must not be given replicating vaccines due to a potential risk of vaccine-associated disease; when indicated, vaccination should be postponed until the CD4 cell count has improved on treatment.
- HIV-positive adults with a CD4 count of 200-350 cells/μL have moderate immunodeficiency. Clinical judgment should be used to guide the use of replicating vaccines in these patients. Where exposure is likely, natural infection often carries a greater risk of adverse outcomes than vaccination making the offer of vaccination the preferred option. Plasma HIV-1 RNA (“viral”) load suppression on treatment increases the safety and immunogenicity of vaccination in this group. Guidance should be provided by the HIV specialist.
- With the exception of the MMR vaccine, co-administration of multiple replicating vaccines is not recommended due to uncertainties over safety, immunogenicity and efficacy. An interval of at least 4 weeks between vaccinations is recommended.
- Regardless of the CD4 cell count, contraindications to the use of replicating vaccines that apply to the general population (e.g. in relation to the use of immunosuppressive therapy) also apply to HIV-positive patients. Refer to The Green Book for details [3]

More News

**British HIV Association Guidelines on the Use of Vaccines in HIV-positive Adults (2015)**

We would like to bring to your attention the recently updated BHIVA recommendations on the use of vaccines in HIV-positive adults. The guidance contains several important updates (e.g., on vaccination against human papilloma virus or hepatitis B) that we hope will be of interest to the BASHH membership.

We would like to ask BASHH to help BHIVA disseminate the information and promote education of healthcare professionals. The success of antiretroviral therapy has changed the natural history of HIV infection and protection against vaccine-preventable infections is important to ensure patients enjoy long and healthy lives. Yet, many misconceptions remain about risk of infection, burden of disease, and safety and efficacy of vaccination in this group, which create barriers to successful implementation.

We hope you will find the guidance useful. Feedback will be gratefully received to Geretti@liverpool.ac.uk

**Registration is now open for the BASHH Annual Conference for SAS doctors Working in Sexual Health**

Registration is now open for the 19th BASHH Annual conference for SAS Doctors Working in Sexual Health on the 9th and 10th September 2016 at Warwick University.

This is a popular conference which is aimed at doctors working in sexual health.

Online registration, conference programme and abstract submission are now available on the BASHH website. Early bird registration ends on 22nd July. Book early to get a discount.

Please consider submitting an abstract for consideration as an oral presentation.

**Society of Sexual Health Advisers Annual Conference 2016**

The Society of Sexual Health Advisers are please to announce their Annual conference will take place on Saturday the 10th of September 2016 at Unite the Union, Holborn, London.

Themes for the day are
- Partner Notification New Tools
- Update on PEP/PrEP/TASP – ethical dilemmas
- SHA role in Chem/Sex/Alcohol
- Changing role of SHA
- PN Bureau
- Risk reduction messages in consultations

Cost: SSHA Member £80 Non SSHA Member £90

Further information and booking form can be found at www.ssha.info

**Talk Change – Change Talk in Motivational Interviewing Study Day**

(Advanced communication skills for practitioners in sexual health)

The Society of Sexual Health Advisers are providing a training day on Talk Change – Change Talk in Motivational Interviewing. This will take place on Saturday the 16th of July at the John Hunter Clinic, St Stephens Centre at Chelsea and Westminster.

This will cover
- Pillars of Motivational Interviewing
- Righting Reflex
- OARS
- Engaging
- Identifying Change Talk
- Engagement within your setting

Cost: SSHA Member £70 Non SSHA Member £80

Further information and booking form can be found at www.ssha.info
Events and Training

**STIF Competency Train the Trainer Workshop - BIRMINGHAM**

The next STIF Competency Train the Trainer workshop will take place in Birmingham on 24 November 2016 from 13.30-17.00. It will be held at The Studio, a short walk from Birmingham New Street Station via the Birmingham Christmas market! This workshop is recommended for sexual health medical and nurse consultants, SAS doctors and clinical nurse specialists involved in training and assessing doctors and nurses within their own departments. Attendance at the workshop is also required for registered STIF Competency Trainers who now need to revalidate. Delegate fee: £70.00. Online registration is now open.—[click here](#)

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Genital Dermatology PLUS Course FINAL NOTICE**

BASHH Genital Dermatology PLUS Course

Date: Friday 24 June 2016
Venue: The Education Centre, Homerton University Hospital, Homerton Row, London E9 6SR.
This is a New Course aimed at those who have attended BASHH Genital Dermatology Course held in October each year.
For further information and details of Registration, please visit [BASHH website](#)
Few places are still available and those who wish to attend the Course are requested to book their places at the earliest.
Dr P N Sashidharan-Chair & Dr Christine Bates-Secretary
BASHH Genital Dermatology SIG

**Joint BHIVA/BASHH One-day Revision Course for the Diploma in HIV Medicine**

Thursday 1 September 2016, South Wing Lecture Theatre, St Thomas' Hospital, London


**SAVE THE DATE - Mentoring skills training for Sexual Health / Reproductive Health / HIV Consultants and SAS doctors**

The BASHH/ BHIVA Mentoring Group are running a one-day workshop in central London on Friday 9th December to equip doctors with the knowledge and skills to take on a mentoring role to other doctors. It will also be a useful update for doctors already in mentoring roles wishing to refresh their knowledge and skills.
There will be an opportunity to explore the roles of both mentors and mentees and to discuss ideas and models that you will be able to put into immediate practice.
Time: 10:00 - 16:00
Registration will be through Mediscript / BHIVA and will open shortly. For further information contact Dr Emma Fox at emma.fox@kentcht.nhs.uk

**Mentor support and Supervision**

The Mentoring Group are running supervision sessions for mentors. This provides a confidential but informal space to support one another in the subtle art of mentoring. All sessions are facilitated by a consultant psychiatrist and are free of charge.

- Oxford, 12th July - Examination Schools, from 12:30 to 14:30, during the BASHH conference
  - London, 23rd September at MRC building One Kemble Street, WC2 B4AN from 10:30 to 12:30
To register, contact Luciana Rubinstein at l.rubinstein@nhs.net

-Edinburgh, at the Chalmers Sexual Health Centre on 4th Oct at 9 AM.
To register, contact Imali Fernando at imali.Fernando@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk
DIARY DATES

12th International Workshop on HIV and Hepatitis Co-infection—2-3 June 2016 in Berlin, Germany

BASHH Scientific meeting - 17th June 2016 - Manchester Conference Centre—please note change of venue

PCS Global Obstetrics and Gynecology Congress - 18 June-19 June 2016

Prague, Czech Public

BASHH Genital Dermatology PLUS Course - 24 June 2016 in London

BASHH Doctors in Training Day 2016—Saturday 9th July 2016 in Oxford click here

BASHH Annual Conference 2016, Examination Schools, Oxford 10-12th July 2016

Talk Change – Change Talk in Motivational Interviewing Study Day—16 July 2016 in London

Joint BHIVA/BASHH One-day Revision Course for the Diploma in HIV Medicine - 1 September in London

8th Meeting of the European Society for Chlamydia Research , Oxford 6-9th September 2016

19th BASHH Annual conference for SAS Doctors - 9th and 10th September 2016 at Warwick University

Chlamydia update day— 9 September 2016 in Oxford

Society of Sexual Health Advisers Annual Conference 2016— 10 September 2016 in London

UCL Research Methods Course; 12th-16th September 2016 in London

30th IUSTI-Europe Conference -September 15-17, 2016 in Budapest, Hungary-

11th Congress of the European College for the Study of Vulval Disease

15th-17th September 2016 in Turin, Italy

Topics and Discussion in Sexual health and HIV –26 September 2016 at RCP, London

South West BASHH Educational Meeting—18 November at Exeter Flybe Centre

6th BASHH Genital Dermatology Course—7 October 2016

The deadlines for newsletters in 2016, please make a note in your calendar to ensure that news items are received promptly

27 July
28 September
23 November