BASHH statement on the NHSE update on commissioning and provision of PrEP for HIV prevention

The British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) expresses concern and deep disappointment at NHS England’s decision not to put pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) forward for commissioning, despite it being a safe and effective treatment intervention, which has been shown to prevent HIV acquisition amongst at-risk groups in the UK.

NHS England made a surprise announcement on 21 March 2016 that instead it would provide up to £2 million over the next two years to run a number of early implementer test sites. This would allow only a restricted number of 500 more men, at high risk of HIV infection, to receive treatment.

Commenting on NHS England’s announcement, BASHH President, Dr Elizabeth Carlin said:

NHS England’s decision not to commission PrEP is extremely worrying, particularly at this late stage in the process, and especially considering the unacceptably high rates of newly acquired HIV infections in men who have sex with men (MSM) in the UK.

The UK PROUD study showed PrEP to be highly effective in reducing onward transmission of HIV in MSM. However, the decision to provide funding for only a restricted number of ‘at-high-risk’ men is likely to have little long-term impact on the UK HIV epidemic and will introduce a post code lottery for those accessing this important intervention.

It is vital that the government invests in public health and HIV prevention by establishing a long-term commitment to fund and deliver PrEP to all those who need it.
**BASHH News**

**New PHE guidance**

1. ‘Guidance to assist staff involved with the collection, recording, analysis or interpretation of data from CTAD and GUM-CADv2’ an online version of which is available [here](#).

2. An ‘update on HIV and STIs in men who have sex with men in London’, available online [here](#):

   The report provides an overview of the inequalities in sexual health outcomes facing MSM in the capital and also data on the percentage change in STI, HIV and Shigella diagnoses in MSM from 2010 and 2013 to 2014. The report highlights that improving sexual health in MSM should be made the highest sexual health priority in London.

**BASHH PHE Fellowship Survey: Evaluation of the current and prospective role of pooled sampling for Sexually Transmitted Infection testing**

BASHH PHE Fellowship Survey: Evaluation of the current and prospective role of pooled sampling for Sexually Transmitted Infection testing

As part of a PHE fellowship project exploring current and planned activity of pooling of Chlamydia trachomatis (CT) / Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG) nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) samples we wish to review current opinion across England via an online survey. This survey is designed specifically for the attention of departmental clinical leads at GU services in England, and should be completed by services who are not pooling samples as well as those who are. The survey will take between 2-10 minutes to complete, with the length varying based on your experience with pooling.

To complete the survey, please [click here](#).

The survey need only be completed once by each individual service. All responses will be anonymised and confidential.

Jonathan Shaw, John Saunders, Gwenda Hughes Public Health England

**Freedom of Information request for clinic level data on STIs in children**

BASHH has been made aware that there have been a number of FOI requests to trusts in England requesting data about children and young people under 16 years attending sexual health services. The disclosure of clinic level data in this age group is of particular concern and may be problematic for several reasons:

- Risk of deductive disclosure is high as the number of such patients in each centre is likely to be low;
- Sensitivity of the information for the individual is high;
- There is the expectation of confidentiality for individuals using the service;
- Some cases may be part of active social service or police investigations of sexual abuse or assault;

PHE have prepared a national level response with anonymised data. Should you receive a request for this type of information please liaise with your Trust FOI office regarding local policy. If you elect to say that you are unable to provide clinic level data you can ask the requester to contact the PHE FOI office directly for the PHE national level data.

PHE can only respond to FOI requests which are sent directly to them.

Please direct any BASHH related enquiries to [Elizabeth.foley@solent.nhs.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.foley@solent.nhs.uk)

**HIV testing guidelines**

The 2008 BHIVA/BASHH/BIS HIV testing guidelines are being revised and the writing group are looking for someone to represent BASHH general membership. All members are eligible to apply. To apply please send a brief resume and describe your expertise in relation to the guideline. It should be no more than one sheet of A4, only those applications adhering to the size restriction will be considered. Send to [Ann.Sullivan@Chelwest.nhs.uk](mailto:Ann.Sullivan@Chelwest.nhs.uk) before 13th May 2016.
Sexually Transmitted Infections seeks new Editor-in-Chief

Sexually Transmitted Infections seeks a new Editor-in-Chief for 2017 onwards. This individual should have stature in the field of sexual health, a distinguished publication record, and editorial experience. They will have responsibility for editorial content and strategy, with support from their appointed editorial team and the BMJ publishing team.

Editorial support and training will be provided, as well as an annual honorarium. Joint applications will be considered and applicants need not be based in the UK.

The closing date for applications is 11 April 2016. Further information about the role and how to apply can be found at sti.bmj.com.

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 in May 2016. The group meets once per year (at either a London or 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: Friday 20th May 2016

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.

Click here for further information. If you require accommodation, the link can be found on the BASHH website under the Spring Meeting section.

Responding to Domestic Abuse in Sexual Health Settings Feb 2016 BASHH Sexual Violence Group

The BASHH Sexual Violence group are delighted to announce that the document ‘Responding to Domestic Abuse in Sexual Health Settings Feb 2016’ is now available on the BASHH Sexual Violence group’s webpage to download click here.

This is a free resource that the BASHH SV group has produced to support sexual health services who want to introduce domestic abuse enquiry.

Dr Rachel Sacks rachel.sacks@imperial.nhs.uk

STIF COMPETENCY GROUP

The STIF Competency working group would like to thank Dr Cordelia Chapman for her work as the STIF level 1 competency lead. As Cordelia is now stepping down due to clinical commitments, we are looking for someone to take on this role within the group. Please contact the Group Chair, Dr Ashini Fox (Ashini.fox@nuh.nhs.uk), for further information and to express interest in taking on the role. The working group meets 4 times a year, in London.
Events and Training

Research Methods Course 2016, University College London 12-16 September 2016

UCL Research Department of Infection & Population Health is thrilled to announce their popular annual Research Methods Course.

This 5-day course is designed for doctors, nurses, healthcare workers and researchers with an interest in HIV, Infectious Diseases, Sexual Health and other specialties wishing to develop their research skills. Prior experience in research and statistics is an advantage but not essential.

The course will be held at University College London.

Cost: £400
(£300 for individuals from middle/low income countries and full-time students)

For information or registration: UCL Life Learning. For further enquiries email Lydia Clinton

BASHH STI/HIV Modules

This course covers the in depth knowledge of STIs, HIV and their management. It is highly recommended for those who intend to sit the Diploma in GU Medicine and Diploma in HIV Medicine exams. It is modular enabling applicants to attend some or all of the modules.

The dates for 2016 are:
May 9-13 (Module 1/2 – STIs and bacterial infections, sexual health and sexuality)
November 7-11 (Module 3/4 – HIV and other viral infections)

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

This year’s edition will continue to focus on developments in basic science, emerging therapies and clinical management. It will emphasize translational research and best practices in the clinical management of Hepatitis and HIV co-infection.

The informal format of the workshop will include plenary expert presentations, controversy discussion sessions on areas currently lacking consensus, and abstract-driven presentations. Experts in the field will be invited to give state-of-the-art lectures and controversial cases will be discussed by expert panels. The target audience consists of scientists and clinicians caring for co-infected patients or involved in research.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Genital Dermatology PLUS Course—24 June 2016

Venue: The Education Centre, Homerton University Hospital, Homerton Row, London E9 6SR.

This is a New Course organised by the Genital Dermatology SIG and is intended for those who have attended the Genital Dermatology Primary Course. This Course will cover topics that were not included in the Primary Course. Topics include: Cutaneous manifestations of HIV, Genital manifestations of systemic disease, Pigmented lesions of the vulva, Histology of common genital skin disease seen in Sexual Health Clinics, Peri anal dermatoses, Genital Psoriasis, Oral manifestations of genital skin disease, Vulodynia, and Behcet's disease.

Details of registration will be uploaded on the BASHH website shortly.

NB: The number of places on this Course is limited. Hence, please apply as soon as registration goes live

For general queries please contact Ms Daavina Austin-Harvey (davinaaustin@hotmail.co.uk).

Exploring Medical Perceptions and Knowledge of Trans* Patient’s Sexual Health Needs: a need to update the curriculum?

Trans* is used to include all transgender, non-binary, and gender nonconforming identities.

Please help in our research as we explore whether changes are needed in the GUM & CSRH curriculums. We would be very grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete this survey.

Your answers are anonymous and confidential and will not be linked to you in any way. By completing this survey you consent to the information being used for the aforementioned research purposes. Click here to complete the survey.
DIARY DATES

CliniQ Trans Health Matter Conference 2016 - Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre on April 26th

14th Congress/2nd Global Conference of the European Society of Contraception and Reproductive Health Contraception from molecular biology to social science and politics - Basel, Switzerland 4-7 May 2016

Diploma in GU Medicine Revision Course - 7th May 2016 - Manchester Centre for Sexual Health

Microscopy Course for STI's - Saturday 14th May 2016 - Imperial College London

British Infection Association Trainees' Day and 19th Annual Scientific Meeting May 2016—18-19 May in London

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

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

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

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

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

25 May
27 July
28 September
23 November