Starting a New Year is always an uplifting time – it’s an opportunity to reflect on the year that has been and set a vision for the months ahead. At this January’s AGM it was a pleasure for me to highlight some of BASHH’s successes in 2018. BASHH is a small organisation of just over a thousand members but punches well above its weight in several arenas. Our ability to provide educational opportunities to our members is outstanding and we produce gold-standard guidelines that influence management of STIs on a worldwide basis. Our ability to influence was highlighted by the global coverage achieved following the publication of our first guidelines for Mgen, the success of securing HPV vaccination for boys, PrEP trial numbers being doubled and the announcement of an inquiry into Sexual Health being launched by the Health and Social Care Parliamentary Select Committee.

We also celebrate our members and it was a great pleasure to award Dr Angela Robinson an Honorary Life Fellowship and Dr Rachel Challenor, a Lifetime Achievement Award. They have both contributed immensely to the specialty and to BASHH and it is a privilege to call them, and many others, colleagues. Several of our members were also successful in attaining an ACCEA award – we are delighted at their success and would like to remind everyone that we are seeking applications for support for this year’s round. I hope that we can continue to celebrate our member’s achievements through recognising those who go the extra mile on a daily basis, often unrecognised, as #SexualHealthHeros.

Looking ahead, this year will see the publication of two new BASHH Standards – Standards for the Management of STIs and Standards for Online and Remote Providers of Sexual and Reproductive Services (jointly developed with the FSRH). These high-quality standards provide important guidance in a rapidly changing environment and may I extend my thanks to all that have been involved in their production.

We are of course also faced with a number of major challenges. As part of our continuing efforts to highlight the severe pressures faced by services, BASHH have been campaigning to emphasise the threat posed by growing levels of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in sexual health. Unfortunately, AMR is now a reality and we cannot afford to have fractured and disjointed services if we are to do all we can to contain its spread. We need to ensure that our guidelines are disseminated to all providers of sexual health care and that services must have access to GC culture, robust partner
Updated BASHH guidelines for the management of GC have recently been published (available online here) and as President, I am actively meeting with leading Parliamentarians in the area to highlight this issue and attempt to influence funding for sexual health services.

On a final note, we are currently seeking several new regional representatives to advise commissioners on behalf of BASHH, as well as a STIF executive. Lots of opportunities to make your mark, so please do give this serious thought.

BASHH Scientific Meetings

Dates of scientific meetings in 2019 will be:

22 March
07 June
11 October

Please visit the BASHH website for further information.

BASHH routinely record the presentations from Scientific meetings for members to view via the BASHH website. After logging into the BASHH website please visit and select the meeting you wish to view and click recordings.

BASHH Scientific Meeting, Royal Society Medicine, London - Friday 22 March 2019

Please join us for our forthcoming Scientific Meeting hosted by Public Health England and the Dermatology Specialist Interest group on Friday the 22nd of March at 1pm in the Royal Society of Medicine, London.

The programme will include presentations from Dr Anthony Bewley on psychosexual dermatology and vulval pain from Dr Jane Hussey.

More details to follow.

ViiV Healthcare have provided funding towards the venue and catering costs of this meeting and will have a promotional stand. ViiV Healthcare have had no input into or influence over the agenda or content.

Latest News
Update on BREXIT and meds supply

There are understandable concerns about medication supply post-Brexit and in case you have not seen it, here is a link to the updated advice from DH: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-to-the-health-and-care-sector-update-on-preparations-for-a-potential-no-deal-brexit.

The National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) (Amendment) Regulations 2017

The findings of a review into the impact of amendments made to the NHS charging regulations in 2017 have been announced. The review by the department of Health and Social Care examined the impact of new regulations introduced as part of a cost recovery programme identifying chargeable visitors and migrants using the NHS.

In a statement Stephen Hammond, Minister for Health, said ‘the review found no significant evidence that the 2017 Amendment Regulations have led to overseas visitors being deterred from treatment or that the changes have had an impact on public health.’

From the evidence received there were, however, examples where concerns regarding charges or general engagement with ‘the authorities’ were said to have had an impact on whether particular individuals engaged with health services.

The review also found that in some cases, providers may not have properly applied the regulations when determining whether treatment should be subject to upfront charging.

The review highlighted that the impact of the new regulations would need to be kept under review as some healthcare providers have not begun implementing the regulations in relation to services which have been made chargeable by the 2017 regulations.

The British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) would like to thank all members who contributed case studies as part of the joint BASHH and BHIVA submission to the review.

A statement on the review is available to read in full online here.

Publication of updated guideline for the management of infection with Neisseria gonorrhoeae (2019)

The updated guideline for the management of infection with Neisseria gonorrhoeae is available at https://www.bashh.org/guidelines

Changes since the 2011 guideline include:

- First line empirical treatment is now monotherapy with ceftriaxone 1g
If antimicrobial susceptibility test results from all sites of infection are available prior to treatment and the isolate is sensitive to ciprofloxacin, then this should be used for treatment in preference to ceftriaxone.

Recommendations for extra-genital testing in those with suspected or confirmed antimicrobial resistance.

Epidemiological treatment is recommended only for those presenting within 14 days of exposure. For those presenting after 14 days of exposure we recommend treatment based on the results of testing.

BASHH Education Fellowship

BASHH would like to invite physicians in higher specialist training in genitourinary medicine with interest in Medical Education to apply for our Educational Fellowship.

In 2019, the fellowship project will involve working with the STIF group to evaluate STIF courses, half a day a week for 12 months. For details about the project, please contact Dr. Luciana Rubinstein, co-Chair of the STIF group on l.rubinstein@nhs.net.

There is no specific funding for trainee time or to provide backfill for clinical work. Thus the trainee needs to be confident that she or he has sufficient capacity to undertake the project prior to application. A letter of support from both the trainee’s Specialty Training Programme Director and Head of Service will be required at the time of application.

The successful trainee will receive free attendance at the BASHH annual conference if their abstract submission is successful in the peer review process.

How to apply?
Candidates should submit the application to the Education Committee Secretary Dr Sarah Duncan (sarah.duncan7@nhs.net) copied to the Chair, Dr Ashini Fox: Ashini.fox@nuh.nhs.uk.

The application should include:
• Concise CV (2-3 sides)
• A personal statement (not more than 1 side of A4) entitled ‘Importance of this Educational Fellowship to my training and future career’.
• Written approval from the trainee’s Head of service and Regional Specialty Training programme director.

N.B. Applications missing any of the above items will not be considered.

Applications should be received by 5pm on the 31st May 2019. Successful candidates will be informed by 14th June 2019 with a view to starting in July 2019.

ACCEA 2018 results
Successful candidates have now been informed and the lists for new awards and renewals are available on the GOV.UK website.

BASHH supported candidates who are successful for new awards are Prof Jonathan Ross who got a Gold, Ann Sullivan a silver, and Laura Waters a Bronze. Successful Bronze renewals are Jackie Sherrard, Paddy Horner and Adrian Palfreeman. Congratulations also to Duncan Churchill on getting a Bronze and Mark Nelson for renewal of his Bronze.

The competition for renewals is increasing and with only 300+ awards, new awards hard to get. However one way to not be successful is not to apply! It is likely at some point soon the National Award Scheme will change and as it is self nomination for
those making a significant contribution at National Level it is worth considering. But also be aware of potential tax implications if successful on Annual Allowance and LTA.

Dr Angela Robinson (Past Secretary BASHH ACCEA awards committee)

National Clinical Excellence Awards 2019 Round
Clinical Excellence Awards recognise and reward NHS consultants and academic GPs who perform ‘over and above’ the standard expected of their role. The Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards gives awards for quality and excellence, acknowledging personal contributions.

BASHH are a nominating body and want to assist as many members as possible with their applications. The 2019 Clinical Excellence Awards opens on Thursday 7th February 2019 and will close at 5:00pm on Thursday 4 April 2019. For those who are thinking of applying for new awards and/or renewals we suggest start working on your application.

As the 2019 awards round is not open yet, the guidelines for this year’s round will be published ahead of the opening of the round. In order to familiarise yourself with the guidelines prior to the publishing of the 2019 guides, please click on the link to the 2018 ACCEA guides which is found here. In addition, please find a link to download the ACCEA application forms here.

The closing date for the receipt of applications for BASHH review is MIDDAY, MONDAY FEBRUARY 18th 2019
Dr Elizabeth Carlin, BASHH ACCEA Committee Secretary will be co-ordinating the process. Please send your applications to Elizabeth.Carlin@BASHH.net and copy in admin@BASHH.org

For the latest news from HIV Prevention England please go to their website

Upcoming Events and Courses
The 2019 BASHH conference will be held at the International Convention Centre (ICC), Birmingham on Sunday 30th June – Tuesday 02 July. Claire Dewsnap, BASHH conference Secretary, the BASHH conference team and local Host Jodie Walker-Haywood have planned a fantastic educational and networking conference.

Please go online to register and submit abstracts [here](#).

Important Dates:
- Abstract Deadline: 8th March 2019
- Early Bird Registration: 29th April 2019
- Conference dates: 30th June – 2nd July 2019

**STIF Competency Train the Trainer workshop - LONDON**

The next half day STIF Competency Train the Trainer workshop will take place on Friday 22 March 2019 at the Royal Society of Medicine starting at 09.30

Registration fee: £75.00

This half day practical workshop is recommended for GUM medical and nurse consultants, SAS doctors and clinical nurse specialists involved in training and assessing doctors and nurses within their own departments. It provides guidance about running the STIF Competency training and assessment programmes and how to use the assessment tools. Attendance at the workshop is a requirement for STIF Competency Trainer registration.

**Save the Date: BASHH Genital Dermatology PLUS course : Friday 21 June 2019**

Venue: National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO)  
Society Building, 8 All Saints Street, London, N1 9RL (Near Kings Cross Station)

Programme: TBC
BASHH HIV Masterclass 2019
Following on from the success of last year's meeting, this Masterclass will include medical updates on topics related to HIV as well as interactive case-based discussions and sessions on ethical and psychosocial aspects of long-term care for PLWH.

In order to avoid disappointment, we recommend registering early.

After careful consideration of feedback in recent years, we have introduced a small charge for the Masterclass this year. We still feel this offers excellent value as it includes 2 days of education, a night of accommodation, all daytime refreshments, breakfast and dinner, so we really hope this won't deter you from signing up and joining us in Manchester. Discounted rates are available for BASHH Members, click here to join BASHH. If you're not already a member, you may be entitled to a reduced subscription fee depending on your job title and level.

Please click here to register and view the programme.

22nd Annual BASHH Conference for SAS Doctors Working in Sexual Health
A note for your diary.

This well-established conference will take place at Leicester Conferences, the University of Leicester in Leicester on the 6th and 7th September 2019.

Programme and registration details will be announced in May 2019.

BASHH STI/HIV Module Course
This course covers the in depth knowledge of STIs, HIV and their management with well renown speakers from all over the UK. It is highly recommended for those who intend to sit the Diploma in GU Medicine and Diploma in HIV Medicine exams and has been designed to cover the wider GU SpR curriculum with mapping of both the programme and e-lfh modules to this full curriculum. It may therefore also be suitable for other trainees such as RSH trainees or other senior healthcare professionals who wish to further their professional development. It is modular, enabling applicants to attend some, or all of the modules.

The dates for 2019 are:
13 - 16 May 2019 Module 1 - Epidemiology of STIs, Bacterial STIs
17 May 2019 Module 2 - Sexual Health and Sexuality
11 - 12 November 2019 Module 3 - Other viral infections
13 - 15 November 2019 Module 4 - HIV

Please email Dr Ngozi Dutty on ngozi.dufty@nhs.net for details.
Sexual Offences Examination Training in Scotland
Interested applicants may now apply to confirmed dates for the foundation training course in sexual offences examination and clinical management in Scotland.

Details for further information and application can be found here

FSRH, BASHH and NHIVA to launch advanced clinical practitioner (ACP) curriculum
This curriculum to be launched in May 2019 has been developed as a joint project between the British Association for Sexual Health & HIV (BASHH), the Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH) and the National HIV Nurses Association (NHIVNA), as a Health Education England (HEE) endorsed project to standardise practice.

It aims to provide a clear and comprehensive framework to the expected knowledge, skills, behaviours, level and breadth of practice for ACPs working in specialty. It has been designed to support practitioners, managers, employers, Higher Education Institutions and commissioners and has three pathways:

- Integrated Sexual Health
- HIV
- Integrated sexual health/HIV

For further information please contact the project lead, Dr Matthew Grundy-Bowers matthew.grundybowers@nhs.net

Meet the Keynote Speakers at the STI & HIV 2019 World Congress
We are pleased to introduce the confirmed keynote speakers at the STI & HIV 2019 World Congress (joint meeting of the 23rd ISSTDR & 20th IUST World), to be held July 14 – 17, 2019 in Vancouver, Canada.

Keynote Speakers:
Opening Keynote Lecture - Bacterial STI Vaccines - Eternal Dream or Future Reality?
• Dr. Rino Rappuoli, Chief Scientist and Head of External R&D at GSK Vaccines, Siena, Italy

Closing Keynote Lecture - Making Science Work to Deliver Effective Programmes at Scale
• Dr. Charlotte Watts, Department for Global Health and Development, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London, UK

Full scientific program: http://stihiv2019vancouver.com/yqef

## Consultations & Guidelines

The draft BASHH Standards for the Management of STIs (2019) are now available for consultation.

Please [click here](http://stihiv2019vancouver.com/wzyd) to access the draft standards.

**BASHH Standards for the Management of STIs – consultation open**

The draft BASHH Standards for the Management of STIs (2019) are now available for consultation. They are a key tool for commissioners and providers, and are also used by healthcare professionals and workers and by people accessing services. The revised version is out for public consultation for 3 weeks from 23/01/19 to 12/02/19, and we would be very grateful for your feedback.

In order to provide feedback on the Standards, please access them and the feedback form via the BASHH [website link as follows](http://stihiv2019vancouver.com/wzyd):

## Help Wanted/Job Vacancies

**BASHH INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION**

BASHH is establishing an International Foundation for Sexual Health Education (IFSHE) with the aim of facilitating access to its educational materials. We are looking for BASHH members to join a steering committee and will consider applicants for the posts of secretary, webmaster, head of fund raising, international liaison officer, and faculty members. If you would like more information or to apply, please contact Dr. Luciana Rubinstein, chair of IFSHE on [l.rubinstein@nhs.net](mailto:l.rubinstein@nhs.net). Send a summary of your CV highlighting any teaching experience with a cover letter explaining how you would contribute to the group.

**Sexual Dysfunction Special Interest Group – Training Doctor Representative**

The Sexual Dysfunction SIG is looking to recruit a dynamic training doctor to join us with immediate effect! The group meets once per year (usually at a London venue) to plan the following year’s events. We host annual educational days – alternating the ‘ABC of Sexual Dysfunction’ with the ‘Sexual Dysfunction Masterclass’ both of which are popular and receive excellent educational feedback.

We also undertake regular projects and work collaboratively 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 Dr David Goldmeier (Chair) - d.goldmeier@nhs.net.

Closing date for applications is: Friday 22nd March 2019

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**Call for new members for Bacterial SIG**

The Bacterial Special Interest Group are inviting applications for membership from those with an interest in STIs. We wish to recruit particularly microbiologists and nurses. Applications should include a short CV (2 pages) accompanied by a letter expressing your reasons for applying and skills you feel you will bring to the group and should be submitted to admin@bashh.org by Monday 11th March 2019.

**Vicarious Trauma Survey**

Jodie Crossman and her colleagues from Brighton Sexual Health (SHAC) are undertaking a survey looking at Vicarious Trauma and its impact on sexual health professionals.

We would be really grateful if you would take time to complete this survey, and circulate it to your teams. It should take no more than 5 minutes.

The survey can be found [here](#).

**Doxycycline as treatment of neurological syphilis**

What is your experience of using non-penicillins to treat neurological syphilis?

Doxycycline is an alternative therapy for the treatment of neurosyphilis in BASHH guidelines. However this recommendation is based on very limited evidence and is not replicated in other international syphilis treatment guidelines.

Doxycycline represents an inexpensive, convenient and potentially attractive treatment for neurological syphilis but comparative clinical trial data are lacking. As a first step towards developing an evidence base before further investigating the potential efficacy of doxycycline in clinical trials we are seeking to gather information from BASHH members about their experience.

Please consider completing the [short survey](#) on this topic.

The results will be communicated in a future newsletter.

Dr. Matthew Hamill PhD, FRCP
Dr. Frances Keane MD, FRCP
Professor Cathy Ison PhD, FRCPPath

On behalf of BSIG
Would you be willing to participate in a study exploring how higher specialist training prepares doctors for the consultant role?

Did you CCT in GUM after 1st January 2016?

Are you currently in or have previously been in a consultant post within the UK?

Participation is voluntary and greatly appreciated. It will consist of 2 parts (you may volunteer for both or only one part):
1. One telephone interview lasting approximately 20 minutes at a time of your convenience.
2. A short online survey (5-10 mins)

Your responses will be anonymous. The results will inform future training needs.

If you would be willing to consider taking part please contact Dr Sophie Flavell, email: sophie.flavell@doctors.org.uk

Gibraltar Health Authority - Vacancy for a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Sexual Health

The Gibraltar Health Authority invites applications from suitably qualified Clinical Nurse Specialist in Sexual Health, who by virtue of their citizenship are entitled to take up employment and residence in Gibraltar. The successful candidate will be dual trained in both GU Medicine and Contraception.

We require the successful candidate to possess a minimum of two years specialist experience in sexual health, contraception, treatment of sexually transmitted infections including education and counselling sessions.

The post holder will be required to work as an autonomous practitioner giving advice on all sexual health issues including performing microscopy, disease management, symptom control, outreach and education. The candidate must be in possession of post registration qualifications in Sexual Health and a non-medical prescribing qualification.

Please reply to: Suzanne Romero Suzanne.romero@gha.gi

Consultant/Associate Professor in Dermatovenereology/GUM post available in exotic Oslo!

Olafiaklinikken is the largest venereology clinic in the Nordic countries. We have now a vacancy for a consultant/associate professor which combines clinical work with a 20 % post affiliated to the University of Oslo for teaching of medical students and research. Candidates must have experience in genitourinary medicine and have documentable research experience. Candidates will be expected to learn Norwegian. From personal experience, this is entirely possible, even as an adult! Attached is a link to the job advert.

Senior Consultant combined with Adjunct Professor/Associate Professor. See position here.

Please do not hesitate to contact Usha Hartgill (Consultant GUM and Dermatology, Olafiaklinikken) if this post is of interest to you.

CLINIC FINDER

In times of fast changing services BASHH rely on members reviewing and updating their clinic details on the BASHH website, please can you take the time to check your clinic’s entry at http://www.bashh.org/clinics and if any changes are needed, please complete the form by using this link or contact admin@bashh.org with the new details.

Diary Dates
2019
BASHH HIV Masterclass 2019 14-15 March in London

BASHH Scientific meeting 22 March 2019 at RSM, London

Royal College of Physicians’ Annual Conference 25-26 April 2019 in Manchester

STIF Competency Train the Trainer workshops 22 March at RSM, London 2nd Annual NHS Productivity Congress 1 May 2019 at ETC Venues, London.

Supervising to Safeguard in Health Organisations training 9 May 2019 in London

PCS 4th Annual Global Obstetrics and Gynaecology Congress (GOGC 2019 22-23 June 2019 - Prague, Czech Republic

RCOG World Congress 2019 17-19 June 2019 in London

BASHH Genital Dermatology PLUS course 21 June 2019 in London

BASHH 2019 Annual Conference 30 June -2 July, at ICC, Birmingham

ISSTDR/IUSTI joint meeting 14—17 July 2019 in Vancouver

IUSTI European Conference, 5-7 September Tallinn

22nd Annual BASHH Conference for SAS Doctors Working in Sexual Health 7-9 September

2019 Australasian Sexual Health Conference 16-18 September in Perth, Australia

Australasian HIV&AIDS Conference, 17 - 19 September in Perth, Australia

The deadlines for newsletters in 2019, please make a note in your calendar to ensure that news items are received promptly

27 March
22 May
24 July
25 September
27 November

Twitter  Website
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