

## BIA Monthly Digest – 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### News Items

#### **PHE COVID-19 Literature Digest**

Public Health England's Literature Digest team produce a digest three times a week which summarises a selection of COVID-19 papers potentially relevant to incident stakeholders. The digest contains both peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed papers, alongside a weekly guest editor feature. Papers are categorised into seven themes:

- Immunology and serology
- Diagnostics
- Genomics
- Epidemiology and clinical
- Treatment
- Modelling
- Overviews, comments and editorials

If you would like to sign up to receive the reports (via email) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays please email the team on [COVID.LitDigest@phe.gov.uk](mailto:COVID.LitDigest@phe.gov.uk)

A selection of previous Digests are available [here](#) on the Finding the evidence: Coronavirus page under the 'Keeping up to date' tab, alongside other complementary resources.

#### **COVID-19 Therapeutics Advice & Support Group (CTAG)**

BIA continues to support the work of the COVID-19 Therapeutics Advice & Support Group (CTAG). CTAG has been established by a group of Drugs and Therapeutics Committees, Area Prescribing Committees and specialists to provide advice and support in the management of COVID-19 whilst national guidelines evolve.

Its ongoing work is supported by BIA and the Royal College of Physicians through the Joint Specialist Committee on Infectious Diseases.

Please visit the [CTAG website](#) for more information.

## **LearnInfection**

a learning platform for infection trainees

LearnInfection is an online resource for infection trainees to test, learn and share knowledge on infection topics and best practice. Aimed at BIA trainees, it is available to all BIA members and can be accessed using your BIA login details.

Please take a look at <https://learn.britishinfection.org/>

#### **BAJIR Bone and Joint Infection Registry**

The BAJIR database is the UK Bone and Joint Infection Registry. It is designed to collect data on all patients with bone and joint infections in the UK.

The information will be used to better understand bone and joint infections and how best to treat them. It will also be used to assess and improve the quality of services across the NHS to achieve better outcomes for patients with these conditions.



For further information, or if you would like to join the BAJIR, visit <https://bajir.org/>.

Contact us via [nhc-tr.bajir@nhs.net](mailto:nhc-tr.bajir@nhs.net).

## **Grants**

See [Grants](#) page for full information of all grants available

### **BIA Research Project Grants - [Applications open](#)**

These awards provide consumables costs for trainees undertaking an infection-related research project in an academic centre in the UK or Ireland. It is envisaged funds would be used to support preliminary study in a field with intention of developing the work either through a research fellowship or as an independent investigator.

**Type of Award:** Up to three awards will be made of up to £10,000 per annum for 12 months to cover non-salary costs of research only.

**Closing Date: 31 January 2021**

**Application Process:** Complete the BIA Grant Application Form and return to BIA Scientific & Research Secretary

**Tenure:** 1 year

**Eligibility:** UK or Ireland-based clinically-qualified trainees in infection or infection-related specialities who are not in a Consultant-level post. This includes nurses, pharmacists and other patient-facing careers. All applicants must be supported by a named supervisor(s) at place on intended research.

Click [here](#) to apply

## **Guidelines**

### **Consultations**

See [Consultations](#) page for full information of all consultations

#### **Draft guideline on clostridioides difficile infection: antimicrobial prescribing**

Draft guidance consultation: 21 January 2021 - 17 February 2021

Expected publication: 23 July 2021

The [consultation page](#) will have all the information and documents you need to comment when consultation opens on 21 January 2021.

#### **Anakinra for Haemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH) for adults and children in all ages [1924]**

This is a new policy proposal that has been developed by NHS England and NHS Improvement

A final decision as to whether Anakinra for HLH will be routinely commissioned will be made by NHS England and NHS Improvement following a recommendation from the Clinical Priorities Advisory Group. The proposal is: Anakinra is recommended to be available as a bridging treatment option for adults and children in all ages through routine commissioning for HLH within the criteria set out in the policy document.

Proposed policy and other supporting documents: [Click Here](#)

Submissions should be returned to **Anna Goodman** via [Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk) by **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

### **Published Guidelines**

See [Published Guidelines](#) page for full information of all guidelines published

### **Clinical Infection in Practice (CLIP)**

**CLIP, the online BIA journal is available [here](#)**

The Journal provides a forum for the advancement of knowledge and discussion of clinical infection in practice. It will embrace relevant clinical research and clinical management issues, including case reports and case series demonstrating novel or interesting findings.

The **CLIP Editor in Chief is Professor Martin Wiselka** supported by a distinguished Editorial team.

Currently looking for several further Associate Editors, each expected to review and manage around 4 or 5 papers a year

Please contact [martin.wiselka@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:martin.wiselka@uhl-tr.nhs.uk) for further details.

Visit the [Elsevier website](#) for further information

To submit an article please [click here](#).

### **NITCAR Update**

See [BIA NITCAR](#) page for more information

Regional and supra-regional audit and research collaboratives exist to facilitate larger scale audits, service evaluations and research projects. The aim of the National Infection Trainee Collaborative for Audit and Research (NITCAR) is to facilitate such multi-centre projects within the field of infection.

### **Necrotising otitis externa**

Sites have been fully recruited, and patient enrolment will begin at these sites in January 2021.

Project lead: Susanne Hodgson. Email: [interest@noe.nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:interest@noe.nitcollaborative.org.uk) to get involved

Visit <http://nitcollaborative.org.uk/wp/noe/> for further information.

### **National Audit of the Management of Encephalitis**

University of Liverpool Brain Infections Group is looking for sites to contribute to its National Audit of the Management of Encephalitis. Please get in touch if you/ trainees at your hospital might be interested in supporting this work.





Our hope is to recruit at least 40 sites, please express your interest by emailing [interest@name.nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:interest@name.nitcollaborative.org.uk)

For more information please see: <http://nitcollaborative.org.uk/wp/name/>

If you would like further information about NITCAR, or would like to ask us a question, please go to our website - [www.nitcollaborative.org.uk](http://www.nitcollaborative.org.uk)

### **Infection Events**

See [Infection Events](#) page for full information

#### **BSCA Into Clinical Practice: Pneumonia**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021

Conference Webinar

Registration open! To view the programme and register, please [click here](#)

This exciting one-day conference will explore the current challenges and treatment opportunities for Pneumonia. Delegates will, through plenary lectures and invited papers, learn about resistance mechanisms, clinical presentations of Pneumonia, the latest in research and development and hear about frontier and upcoming treatments.

Clinical lessons will give delegates the opportunity to hear about, share and explore real world experiences, and look at the effective application of the latest evidence-based guidelines.

For enquiries, please contact Esme Carruthers, BSAC Event Manager at [Ecarruthers@bsac.org.uk](mailto:Ecarruthers@bsac.org.uk)

#### **Antimicrobial Chemotherapy Virtual Conference**

2nd - 3rd February 2021

Virtual Event

Held in collaboration with GARDP. For 2021, the conference collaborators are the Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences (HIPS), the German Venter for Infection Control (DZIF) and the International Research Alliance for Antibiotic Discovery and Development (IRAADD) (a JPIAMR funded network).

For details and to register (free of charge), please click [here](#)

#### **RCPE Symposium: The Public's Health after COVID: science and social justice**

14 Apr 2021

Virtual Event

**Topics:** This exciting programme led by eminent scientists and renowned speakers, who will describe how they experienced and sought to overcome Covid-19. Topics include; COVID-19: What do we now know? How did we respond to growing (and at times misleading) evidence? What did we learn? How has COVID-19 affected health inequalities? What opportunities does the 'new normal' offer? What other opportunities does the 'new normal' offer?

**Audience:** This meeting will be of interest to all grades of public health, medical - including general and specialist physicians, general practitioners, doctors in training and medical students, nursing and scientific staff, public health specialists, and allied health professionals



[Website](#)

Contact: [m.allan@rcpe.ac.uk](mailto:m.allan@rcpe.ac.uk)

### **BSAC Spring Conference**

29th - 30th April 2021

2021 marks 50 years of the BSAC. Join us to celebrate! Full details to follow. To register your interest, please contact [Esme Carruthers](#)

### **BIA Spring Trainees' Day 2021**

Wednesday 19th May 2021

Manchester Conference Centre, 78 Sackville Street, Manchester, M1 3BB

### **BIA 23rd Annual Spring Scientific Meeting 2021**

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Manchester Conference Centre, 78 Sackville Street, Manchester, M1 3BB

### **39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society**

7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Ljubljana, Slovenia

The main conference theme is: Joining forces: optimising diagnosis and management of bone and joint infections.

Find more information on the conference website: [Click here](#)

### **Workshops and Courses**

See [Workshops and Courses](#) page for more information

### **Tuberculosis, Postgraduate Certificate (1-year Part-time Distance Learning)**

This new programme will provide a comprehensive overview of Tuberculosis with an emphasis on prevention, diagnosis, and management of drug-susceptible Tuberculosis.

The programme has been developed for trainees and consultants in infection specialities and respiratory medicine; it can also be taken by nurses and public health workers, and practitioners with experience in Tuberculosis.

For further information [click here](#)

### **Advanced courses + scientific conferences**

Welcome Genome Campus Advanced Courses and Scientific Conferences is the only UK-based programme providing open postgraduate courses and conferences focused on biomedicine. We fund, develop and deliver training and conferences that span basic research, cutting-edge biomedicine, and the application of genomics in healthcare.

Please [click here](#) to view upcoming virtual courses and conferences

## Vacancies

See [BIA Jobs](#) page for full information

### **Specialised Commissioning Patient and Public Voice (PPV) roles**

Patient and Public Voice (PPV) partners play a crucial role in specialised services and are represented across the board on our advisory groups and governance structures to ensure that the views of patients, carers and the public are at the heart of all we do.

There are currently PPV partner vacancies across specialised services, which are open to applications, and include roles within the PoCs (Programmes of Care), various CRGs and the independent member roles on PPVAG (Patient & Public Voice Assurance Group). Details are available here:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/participation/get-involved/opportunities/specialised-commissioning-patient-and-public-voice-ppv-roles/>

The application packs and application forms are available on the website, however if you have any other enquiries please contact [england.voice-crg@nhs.net](mailto:england.voice-crg@nhs.net)

The closing date for applications has been extended to **Sunday 24th January, 2021**.

*All monthly digests are available in pdf format on the [Newsletter & Monthly Digests](#) page*