

BIA Monthly Digest – 18th March 2020

News Items

New European Diploma in Medical Microbiology

The Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes (UEMS) Medical Microbiology Section is developing a European exit examination in Medical Microbiology. This is being undertaken in partnership with ESCMID. This will lead to award of a European Specialist Diploma in Medical Microbiology and will facilitate professional mobility within the EU and EEA.

A pilot exam is being held in Paris on 17th April, the day before ECCMID. There is NO charge for entry to this pilot examination. The pilot will NOT lead to the award of diploma, but candidates will be entitled to a 50% reduction to the entry fee to a future examination, anticipated to be held at ECCMID in 2021.

In Europe, there is no formal distinction in training pathways between microbiology and virology, so entries would be welcome from either specialist track.

Why not have a go? What do you have to lose?

See: <https://uems-smm.eu/european-exam/>

NITCAR Update

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

The National Infection Trainee Collaborative for Audit and Research (NITCAR) latest project aims to collate a dataset of necrotising otitis externa cases from across the UK. The project has launched and is recruiting interested centres.

Project lead: Susanne Hodgson. Email: interest@noe.nitcollaborative.org.uk to get involved

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

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

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.



Clinical Infection in Practice (CLIP)

CLIP, a new official journal of the BIA and available online [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.

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

To submit an article please [click here](#). BIA will waive the publishing charges for the first 25 accepted papers for BIA trainee and associate members who are currently training and/or working in healthcare in the UK and Ireland.

Grants

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

Please note: *The BIA grants provision is currently under review. No calls for applications will be made before the BIA Spring Meeting in May 2020.*

BMA Foundation for Medical Research Grants

The BMA Foundation for Medical Research awards research grants each year to encourage and further medical research in a variety of areas.

HC Roscoe, is to promote research into the elimination of the common cold and/or other viral diseases of the human respiratory system.

Kathleen Harper is to assist research into antimicrobials

In 2020, these grants will be awarded for an amount up to **£65,000**.

Applications are invited from UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK and can be for either research in progress or prospective research.

Online application is now open. To apply, please see: www.bmafoundationmr.org.uk

Deadline is **6th March 2020**.

If you have any queries please contact researchgrants@bma.org.uk or telephone 020 7383 6341.

Guidelines

Consultations

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

No current guidelines out for consultation

Published Guidelines

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

NICE Flu vaccination: increasing uptake (QS190)

The NICE [flu vaccination: increasing uptake quality standard](#) has been published on the NICE website.

Please accept our thanks if you submitted comments during consultation on this quality standard. All consultation comments were considered by the quality standards advisory committee (QSAC) and are documented in the [minutes](#) of this meeting.

Also available on the website is a [summary of the consultation comments](#) prepared by the NICE quality standards team and the full set of consultation comments.

Infection Events

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

9th Annual Oxford Bone Infection Conference (OBIC)

Now 7-8 December

Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG

Audience:

The underlying principle of OBIC is multi-disciplinary working. We invite all grades of orthopaedic and trauma surgeons, plastic surgeons, infection specialists, nursing and therapy staff and researchers to attend.

Programme:

Internationally renowned speakers will deliver state-of-the-art talks, including the prestigious Cierny-Mader lecture which is invited each year to honour 'excellence and innovation in the multidisciplinary management of bone and joint infection'.

The programme will include lectures, workshops and interactive sessions including:

- **Do's and don'ts - An (evidence based) approach to...** Diagnosis of bone and joint infection / Surgical management of prosthetic joint infection / Wound closure
- **Something understood:** Biofilm / Local antibiotics / Biomaterials and bugs
 - How I treat long bone infection
 - Rehabilitation – managing expectations
 - Engaging the research agenda

- Trials and big data
- **Making the most of what we know:** Why bother with a BIU? / How are we GIRFTING? / Update on diagnostic criteria and standards
- **New horizons:** Bacterial metabolism and nanobubbles / Update on bacteriophages / Direct from tissue diagnostics

[Click here to view the full programme](#)

Call for abstracts:

We need you to share your ideas, research and clinical findings with your peers either as a selected oral presentation or selected poster. These can be any projects related to the field of bone and joint infection whether lab based or clinical.

We are also asking for challenging cases to be submitted for interactive audience discussion during the conference. These should be submitted in abstract form with a view to providing slides later.

Please submit the best and most thought-provoking abstracts you can muster – the team at OBIC will be very pleased to receive them.

There will be prizes for the best poster and oral presentations. To submit an abstract please click here: <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/1599/submissions/new>

Submission Deadline: Monday 10th February 2020 (12 noon)

For registration information please [click here](#)

BSAC Spring Conference: 2020 – Cancelled

Into Clinical Practice – Bridging the gap between science, policy and effective antimicrobial use. A global overview of drug development and effective use through diagnostics, stewardship and shared learning

16th – 17th March 2020, Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, Westminster, London

www.bsac-conference.com

Globally focused and locally relevant, the conference brings together key opinion leaders, researchers and clinicians from across Europe and further afield.

To view the programme and register, please [click here](#) or download the [registration form](#).

For sponsorship opportunities please contact Debbie Cockayne at Debbie@pagemedical.co.uk or Tracey Guise at tguise@bsac.org.uk

For general enquiries, please contact Esme Carruthers, BSAC Event Manager at Ecarruthers@bsac.org.uk

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust IV Therapy and OPAT Conference 2020

10th September 2020

Molineux Stadium, Wolverhampton

Quick registration available at

<https://fitwise.eventsair.com/2020theroyalwolverhamptonnhstrustivtherapyandopat/>

This **FREE** one-day event will be of interest to all healthcare workers involved in the insertion and care of vascular access devices.

This conference promises to offer delegates the latest in IV AND OPAT education and expertise, with inspiring speakers and informative sessions.

The Programme will include the following sessions:

- Welcoming and Housekeeping
- "Intravenous therapy – meeting patient needs in Complex Gastrointestinal Surgery"
- Parenteral nutrition and associated challenges
- Antimicrobial therapy administration – a complex situation
- Clinical Collaboration in the Reduction of IV Associated Risk for Critical Care Patients
- "Triple A's : How not to bypass a vein? Successful Approaches to Vascular Access in Challenging Situations"
- Vascular Access in the Community - Maintaining Safety Following Discharge

Registration will open at 8:45am with access to the exhibition and refreshments will be available.

The first session will begin at 9:30am and the day will close at 3:30pm.

To register for this free event, please visit:

<https://fitwise.eventsair.com/2020theroyalwolverhamptonnhstrustivtherapyandopat/>

BIA Spring Trainees' Day

Wednesday 20th May 2020 - **Under Review (Unlikely to go forward on this date)**

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

Click to view the [provisional programme](#)

Trainee call for abstracts:

BIA invites trainees to submit abstracts of informative infection cases/case series, particularly those which demonstrate effective multidisciplinary collaboration.

Abstracts should be no more than **250 words**, and ideally include a summary of several key learning points.

Please submit abstracts by **5pm Monday 20th April, 2020** via email to Farnaz.Dave@nhs.net.

Please include a title for your abstract and your place of work. Trainees invited to give either oral presentations or prepare posters will be informed by the end of Thursday 23rd April, 2020.

There will be a prize of £100 for the best oral presentation and a £50 prize for the best poster.

Registration Fees:

One day registration: £60

Two days registration: £90

[Register](#)

BIA 23rd Annual Spring Scientific Meeting 2020

Thursday 21st May 2020 - **Under Review (Unlikely to go forward on this date)**
Manchester Conference Centre, 78 Sackville Street, Manchester, M1 3BB

Confirmed topics and speakers:

- Current infections of global importance from SE Asia
Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman, *University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*
- Molecular epidemiology of HIV-1 in South countries: place of culture and diplomacy
Professor Herve Fleury, *Bordeaux University Hospital, France*

Click to view the [provisional programme](#)

Call for abstracts is now open. To submit an abstract for the BIA Annual Meeting [click here](#)
Closing date: **Friday 13th March 2020**

Registration Fees:

One day registration: £60

Two days registration: £90

[Register](#)

Media training course

21 May 2020, Montagu House London

This media training course will equip those in senior IPC roles with the skills needed to get their message across confidently, simply, and honestly, with a particular focus on TV and radio interview techniques. [View the programme and register.](#)

Engineering aspects of infection of infection control

18 May – 22 May 2020 | Eastwood Park Training Centre, Gloucestershire

This course thoroughly explores those aspects of infection prevention and control where engineering criteria are a vital component. It includes sessions on specialist ventilation such as that of operating theatres, thermal (surgical instrument) and chemical (endoscope) washer disinfectors, steam sterilisers, healthcare laundry and other aspects of hospital hygiene and decontamination. These are supplemented by discussion sessions, which put the engineering concepts into the context of practical infection control. [Find out more and register.](#)

UK Clinical Vaccine Network Conference 2020

Friday 12th June, 2020

Wolfson College, Linton Road, Oxford OX2 6UD

Bringing together and showcasing the work of the UK clinical vaccine community, to facilitate co-operation and collaborate on future challenges.

Posters & abstracts

Abstract submissions for the 2020 conference are now open and will close on **Sunday 31st May**

[Click here to register](#)

***Don't Panic!* 2020**

23 June 2020 | Hilton Manchester Deansgate

Organised by the Healthcare Infection Society in association with the Infection Prevention Society

The annual *Don't panic!* conference takes a practical approach to current infection control issues and will be of interest to microbiologists, infection control practitioners, public health staff and biomedical scientists working in this area. [View the programme and register.](#)

39th Annual Meeting of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society

10th – 12th September 2020

Ljubljana, Slovenia

The main conference theme is:

Joining forces: optimising diagnosis and management of bone and joint infections

The programme topics are:

- Optimising antibiotic treatment of bone & joint infections
- Optimal bone infection sampling and microbiological processing
- Low-grade PJI – what is the best approach?
- Musculoskeletal infections in children
- Infections of arthroscopic implants, osteotomies and tendon reconstructions
- Chronic osteomyelitis with good function. To treat or to live with?
- Spinal infections
- Fracture-related infections

Important dates:

Abstract Submission Deadline: **10th April 2020**

Early Registration Deadline: **Before 1st July 2020**

The registration and abstract submission will open in January 2020. Find more information on the conference website: [Click here](#)

Autumn Trainees Day

Thursday 15th October 2020

DoubleTree by Hilton Bristol City Centre, Redcliffe Way, Bristol, BS1 6NJ

More details to follow

HIS/PHE Foundation course in infection prevention and control

17 – 20 November 2020, PHE Colindale

This four-day non-residential course, organised by HIS and Public Health England is a stand-alone course, with the opportunity to learn from the leading UK experts in the field. The course will allow medical trainees, newly appointed consultants and other practitioners such as nurses and clinical scientists to gain a firm grounding in infection prevention and control. [Find out more and register.](#)

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.

Further information visit the [QMUL website](#)

Advanced courses + scientific conferences

Wellcome 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 courses and conference

Vacancies

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

Infectious Diseases (Funded), King's Sierra Leone Partnership

The King's Sierra Leone Partnership (KSLP) is a long-term capacity building partnership between King's Health Partners in London and key partner institutions in Sierra Leone. KSLP aims to help strengthen Sierra Leone's health system by improving training, clinical services, policy and research.

KSLP is looking to recruit an Infectious Diseases doctor for its in-country team as soon as possible. This person will be based at Connaught Hospital in Freetown and will have a critical role in:

- Mentorship of junior and trainee clinicians in the assessment and management of medical patients, with a focus on those presenting with fever
- Help partners to improve the protocols and systems around diagnosis and management of infectious diseases
- Supporting partners on teaching and training around Infectious Diseases and related topics
- Work closely with other KSLP team members and partners who work in the clinical space to deliver on a shared goal of improved patient care and supporting the process of developing skilled healthcare professionals
- Work with partners on support to provision of sustainable quality patient care in the chest (TB) clinic and the infectious diseases unit

Click to view the full job description

Start Date: Rolling applications for start as soon as possible. **Placement Duration:** Post ending 31 July 2020

To Apply: Submit a cover letter (maximum 2 pages) and CV (maximum 4 pages) to volunteer@kslp.org.uk. Please include the role title in the subject line of the email. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

NIHR CRN National Specialty Lead for Infectious Diseases

The NIHR Clinical Research Network (CRN) provides the infrastructure that allows high-quality clinical research to take place in the NHS and wider social care environment in England.

The CRN is a managed network consisting of a broad alliance including Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, five Russell Group Universities, and PA Consulting. It is supported by a national CRN Coordinating Centre (CC) and funded by the Department of Health until March 2022.

National Specialty Lead - Infectious Diseases

Reporting to a Cluster Lead, you will provide leadership of the specialty at a national level and promote the engagement, placement and delivery of studies. You will understand NHS research priorities, the needs of your specialty area and have good links to the evolving NHS strategic clinical leadership.

Commitment: 1 PA reimbursed to employing organisation

Closing date: 19th March 2020

Interviews: 7th April 2020 in London

Further information can be found at <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/medicine/nihr-crn/Infection-NSL-Job-Pack.docx>

To apply please send a CV and a (one page max) statement setting out your vision and suitability for the role via email to tracy.harman@nihr.ac.uk. Confirmation from your employer that they are willing to put in place arrangements to allow you to take on this role would also be useful at this stage.

The deadline for applications is **12 noon on 19th of March**.

Informal enquiries should be made to Tracy Harman on 020 7594 7932 email:
t.higgins@imperial.ac.uk

We welcome applications from all sections of the community. Information can be made available in alternative formats.

NIHR RCT Microbiologist

We are putting together the governance for a NIHR RCT involving long-term urinary catheter use and CAUTI. We need to nominate a clinical microbiologist with knowledge and interest in CAUTI, who preferably has some trial experience, to join the Trial Steering Committee.

They have to be independent, ie not associated with any of our trial centres. The TSC meets annually and has responsibility to oversee the project on behalf of the Project Sponsor and Project Funder (NIHR) and to ensure that the DoH Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care is adhered to. Day to day running of the project is not the responsibility of the TSC. Nominees have to be approved by NIHR.

The main features of the TSC/SSC are as follows:

- To provide advice, through its Chair, to the Trial/Project Funder, the Trial/Project Sponsor, the Chief Investigator, the Host Institution and the Contractor on all appropriate aspects of the project
- To concentrate on progress of the trial/project, adherence to the protocol, patient safety (where appropriate) and the consideration of new information of relevance to the research question
- The rights, safety and well-being of the participants are the most important considerations and should prevail over the interests of science and society
- To ensure appropriate ethical and other approvals are obtained in line with the project plan
- To agree proposals for substantial protocol amendments and provide advice to the sponsor and funder regarding approvals of such amendments
- To provide advice to the investigators on all aspects of the trial/project.

If anyone is interested in this, please would they contact me to discuss
roger.bayston@nottingham.ac.uk

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