

BIA Monthly Digest – 18th May 2022

News Items

The Royal College of Physicians (RCP) Archive and Museum: Recording Experiences of COVID

As a healthcare professional, do you have experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic that you would like the public to hear? As we learn to live with COVID-19, is there anything you think the public needs to know? Are there things about the pandemic that you think should be recorded for posterity?

The Royal College of Physicians (RCP) Archive and Museum are recording the experiences of healthcare workers and of those close to them during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We can help to get your voice heard.

Those working in healthcare have been at the forefront of protecting society throughout the pandemic; help us to document your experiences by completing the survey linked to below.

Share your experiences here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RZRW96W>

More information here: <https://history.rcplondon.ac.uk/collections/covid19-archive>

Invitation to participate in an e-Delphi Study

Your participation is requested in an e-Delphi survey study to identify the most important outcome measures to assess the impacts of infection prevention and control (IPC) interventions for prevention of transmission of multi-drug resistant gram-negative bacteria (MDRGNB).

Transmission of MDRGNB to patients in healthcare facilities is a major threat to healthcare. IPC is a scientific approach and practical solution designed to prevent harm caused by infection to patients and health workers. We believe you may want to contribute to this study because of your involvement in the research or care of patients requiring IPC interventions.

This study is being conducted as part of a Healthcare Infection Society grant. The results will be used to support a national strategy around prevention of transmission of MDRGNB.

The participant information sheet in the link below provides you with a more detailed overview of the research and what this study involves. Each survey should not take any more than 20 minutes to complete and there will be 3 surveys spaced out of a period of several months.

Please follow the link below to the participant information sheet and consent for the study:
<https://leeds.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/the-costrans-mdrgnb-study-registration-and-consent>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the research team at the University of Leeds:

Dr Razan Saman, Registrar in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology

E: umrsa@leeds.ac.uk

Dr Andrew Kirby, Associate Professor and Microbiology Consultant

E: a.kirby@leeds.ac.uk

We look forward to hearing from you and hope you can contribute your expertise to this important part of the study.

Resources

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/>

Guidelines

Consultations

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

Consultation on BTS Bronchiectasis Quality Standards

The draft BTS Quality Standard for Bronchiectasis is now available for public consultation until 20 June 2022.

The draft statement can be found [here](#).

Please return comments on the form provided [here](#) to miguel.souto@brit-thoracic.org.uk by **5pm on 20 June 2022**

Recruitment to the NICE advisory committee for urinary tract infections (update) 2022 - CLOSING SOON

This is a polite reminder that this recruitment period is due to close in one week. We are looking for experts to join our quality standards advisory committee (QSAC) to develop the urinary tract infections (update). We need people with a professional or practitioner background in the topic in the following roles:

- Community pharmacist with experience in diagnosis and management of UTIs.
- Practice nurse or physician associate experienced in the assessment of people with UTIs.

Information on the posts is available on the NICE website, please follow this link for details:

<https://www.nice.org.uk/get-involved/our-committees/join-a-committee/topic-expert--quality-standards-advisory-committee---urinary-tract-infections--update>

The deadline for applications is **Wednesday 25 May 2022 at 17.00.**

What are NICE quality standards?

NICE quality standards are a concise set of prioritised statements designed to drive measurable quality improvements within a particular area of health or care.

If you have any queries please contact QualityStandards@nice.org.uk

NHSEI Policy testing: Amendments to policies on drugs for PrEP and Tenofovir Alafenamide for HIV 1

We would like to invite your feedback on amendments to two Clinical Commissioning Policies:

- 2112A - Reimbursement for the use of generic and second line drugs for Pre Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for the prevention of HIV
- 2112B - Tenofovir alafenamide for treatment of HIV 1 in adults and adolescents

As a key stakeholder, we would like to hear your views on the changes to these policies before they are considered further by NHSEI.

[2112A] Reimbursement for the use of generic and second line drugs for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for the prevention of HIV

What are the changes?

The evidence for tenofovir alafenamide (TAF) and emtricitabine (see 2112B) has been added to the policy, alongside the inclusion criteria for use. It is proposed to be an alternative for a sub selection of patients for whom other options are not suitable or appropriate.

- [\[2112A\] Draft policy update Reimbursement for generic and second line drugs for PrEP.pdf](#)
- [\[2112A\] Equality and Health Inequalities Assessment Reimbursement for drugs for PrEP.pdf](#)
- [\[2112A\] Stakeholder Response Form Reimbursement for drugs for PrEP.docx](#)

The main changes can be seen on pages 3 and 4 of the draft and can be compared against the [current version of the policy](#).

[2112B] Tenofovir alafenamide for treatment of HIV-1 in adults and adolescents

What are the changes?

Tenofovir alafenamide (TAF) (in combination with emtricitabine) has been identified as an alternative in pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and added to the PrEP policy (see 2112A). The inclusion criteria has been amended and simplified.

- [\[2112B\] Draft policy update Tenofovir Alafenamide \(TAF\) for HIV 1.pdf](#)
- [\[2112B\] Equality and Health Inequalities Assessment TAF for HIV.pdf](#)
- [\[2112B\] Stakeholder Response Form TAF for HIV 1.docx](#)

The main changes can be seen on pages 5 and 6 of the draft and compared against the [current version of the policy](#).

What is NHSEI asking you to do?

Please review the changes to one or both of the policies and give your feedback to the questions in the corresponding stakeholder testing response forms above.

The stakeholder testing is open for 14 days and the last day for feedback is **26 May 2022**. Please return your completed stakeholder response forms to england.ncpt@nhs.net. In order for your response to be processed we can only consider responses that are submitted using the attached stakeholder response forms. Please use the unique reference number "2112" in the subject line of your email so that your response reaches the appropriate mailbox.

Published Guidelines

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

Grants

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

BIA Travel Awards - Next deadline 30th May 2022

These awards support registration and travel (if appropriate) to major national or international meetings (either in person or on-line), in particular, ASM, ICAAC, IDSA, and ECCMID to present original research, where the abstract is already accepted. Accommodation costs may also be included, up to the £1000 grant limit.

There are three rounds of travel awards per year, with two prizes being awarded per round. Deadlines each year are 31st January, 30th May and 31st October.

Travel grants are assessed by the Scientific and Research Committee and awarded according to pre-determined criteria that include:

- 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.
- Acceptance of an abstract for an oral or poster presentation at the conference
- Potential benefit to the applicant from attending the conference

To apply, please forward by e-mail to [Dr Chris Chiu, BIA Scientific & Research Secretary](#):

- A cover letter/email summarising the potential impact and case for support
- Name of conference
- Accepted abstract
- Letter of acceptance
- 2-page C.V.

Applications are now open for the second round, **closing date Monday 30th May 2022**

Federation of Infection Societies (FIS) Conference Bursaries – advanced notice

The BIA is providing up to 8 bursaries to support registration and travel to the FIS Conference 2022 to eligible applicants whose abstract is already accepted. Accommodation costs may also be included, up to the £1000 grant limit.

FIS Bursaries will be assessed by the Scientific and Research Committee and awarded according to pre-determined criteria that include:

- 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.
- Acceptance of an abstract for an oral or poster presentation at the conference
- Potential benefit to the applicant from attending the conference

As acceptance of an abstract is one of the criteria, **applications open Tuesday 19th July and close 5pm Tuesday 9th August 2022**

FIS / HIS 2022 early bird registration closes 1st September 2022

To apply, please forward by e-mail to [Dr Chris Chiu, BIA Scientific & Research Secretary](#):

- A cover letter/email summarising the potential impact and case for support
- Name of conference
- Accepted abstract
- Letter of acceptance
- 2-page C.V.

NON-BIA Awards

Gilead UK & Ireland Fellowship Programme

The Fellowship Programme is a **medical grants funding stream** that helps drive innovation and supports best practice sharing initiatives amongst healthcare professionals. Its ultimate aim is to help improve the lives of patients, specifically within the field of Invasive Fungal Disease (IFD). Overall, the Programme has funded more than 300 projects since 2008.

The 2022 IFD Fellowship Programme is now open, and will be accepting applications from all healthcare or allied professionals for new and ongoing projects including audits or registry reviews, new infrastructure, new protocols, quality of life frameworks and more.

Although the Programme cannot accept any applications which generate specific patient clinical outcomes (e.g. a clinical trial), projects which will add clinical value or which investigate an area of unmet need within IFD may still apply.

More information including the closing date and eligibility criteria for submissions is available [here](#).

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.

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.

All trainees and associate members of BIA are invited to participate in NITCAR studies and are encouraged to sign up to the NITCAR mailing list to keep up to date with new projects and updates (<http://nitcollaborative.org.uk/wp/contact/>)

The **NITCAR 2022 AGM** will take place at the Spring Trainees' Day, Wednesday 25th May, at the Double Tree Hilton, Bristol. We look forward to seeing you there, for a look back at the past year and to share our future plans.



SINKBUG - CALL FOR PARTICIPATING SITES AND CO-INVESTIGATORS!

Antimicrobial resistance gene and pathogen burden in sinks in UK hospitals and associations with healthcare-associated infections, sink design and sink usage: a multi-centre prospective sampling study (The "SinkBug" Project).

We are seeking expressions for interest for participation in this study with a plan to finalise the network of participating sites and provide training for the study in the final quarter of 2022. The sink sampling period is planned for early 2023.

Please express your interest by emailing nicole.stoesser@ndm.ox.ac.uk

Ongoing projects

Check out our [website](#) for updates on all other projects

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

Follow us on Twitter @NITCAR_UK

Infection Events

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

BIA Spring Trainees Day

Wednesday 25th May 2022

Hybrid Meeting

DoubleTree by Hilton Bristol City Centre

Please join us in Bristol for the Spring Trainees' Day, providing trainees with the opportunity to hear lectures on topical issues given by a range of experts, as well as providing a chance to network and contribute to debate.

Talks include:

Viral infection in the immunocompromised - Dr Lance Turtle, Consultant Infectious Diseases, *Royal Liverpool University Hospital*

Understanding and managing fungal infections as a trainee - Dr David Partridge, Consultant Microbiologist, *Sheffield Teaching Hospitals*

Q Fever Col - (Prof) Mark Bailey, Consultant Physician in Infectious Diseases & Tropical Medicine, *Birmingham Heartlands Hospital*

Trainee Presentations “My most interesting case to date”

[View the full programme](#)

Registration Fees:

One day registration: £60

Two days registration: £90

(prices inclusive of VAT)

Click for [further information](#) and to [register](#)

24th BIA Annual Clinical and Scientific Meeting

Thursday 26th May 2022

Hybrid meeting

DoubleTree by Hilton Bristol City Centre

Please join us in Bristol for the 24th Annual Spring Scientific Meeting. This meeting represents a superb opportunity to communicate with and to learn from colleagues working in the full range of infection-related disciplines.

This will be our first hybrid meeting with both an in person and virtual component, allowing for both in-person networking and increased accessibility and flexibility provided by the virtual day.

We are very fortunate that the programme includes three distinguished invited speakers as well as an Associate members symposium, we look forward to welcoming you in Bristol.

[View the final programme](#)

Registration Fees:

One day registration: £60

Two days registration: £90

(prices inclusive of VAT)

Click for [further information](#) and to [register](#)

RSTMH 47th Annual Topics in Infection

17th June 2022

London + Virtual

Save the date for this annual meeting, now in its forty-seventh year in partnership with Barts Health and UKHSA. Following feedback, we can confirm the next event will be on 17 June 2022. Attendees will have the opportunity to join in person and online.

This one-day meeting brings together microbiologists, consultants in infectious disease, infection control nurses and biomedical and clinical scientists to hear updates on recent “hot topics” in all aspects of infectious disease.

Registration will open in February 2022, speaker announcements will be posted [here](#).

Don't panic! 2022

23rd June 2022

Manchester

Registration is now open for the [HIS Don't panic! conference](#). This event takes a practical approach to current infection control issues.

[This year's programme](#) includes sessions on

- The old foes haven't disappeared...
- Lessons for IPC in communicating risk
- New/updated guidelines review
- A short paper session
- Lessons from the pandemic

This event is of interest to microbiologists, infection control practitioners, public health staff and biomedical scientists. The deadline for [abstract submission](#), either as a short oral communication or poster, is 9 May 2022.

[Register now!](#)

UK Clinical Vaccine Network Annual Conference

Thursday 30th June 2022

Royal College of Physicians, London

It is with great excitement that we can announce this year's Clinical Vaccine Network Conference will be held in person at the Royal College of Physicians, London.

Hosted on the 30th June, this event will cover a wide spectrum of issues in vaccine development, presentations on the latest research, and the future of vaccines.

Whilst this conference will be made available to join virtually we thoroughly recommend attending in person to not miss out on this excellent networking opportunity. There will be an array of UK healthcare professionals, and other relevant decision makers who have a specific interest in vaccine intervention in the patient pathway.

UK CVN Organisers:

- Dr Claire Waddington, Cambridge
- Dr Rajeka Lazarus, Bristol
- Dr Susanne Hodgson, Oxford

Programme highlights:

- Reflections on the COVID-19 vaccine roll out - Dame Emily Lawson DBE, Chief Commercial Officer, NHSE
- Barriers to uptake of vaccination in pregnancy – Dr Heather Bailey, Lecturer in Infectious Disease Epidemiology, UCL
- Group B strep vaccine development and plans for challenge model – Professor Kirsty Le Doare, St Georges Hospital, London
- What's new for vaccines in... E. coli, RSV, Herpes Zoster
- Clinical cases... and lots more

Abstract submission open for acceptance as virtual and onsite posters. Closing date is 20th May 2022.

If you have any queries, or would like to enquire about sponsorship of this event, please contact: hayley@pagemedical.co.uk

[Click here to register now](#)

ISSSI 2022

Perth, Australia

28th - 31st August 2022

It is a pleasure to invite you to participate in the 19th International Symposium on Staphylococci and Staphylococcal Infections, which will be held on 28 – 31 August 2022 at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre in Perth, Australia.

ISSSI 2022 will cover many interdisciplinary subjects regarding staphylococci and staphylococcal infections. Sessions will be presented by the world's leading experts in each of the research fields. Oral and poster sessions will be an integral part of the program as well, and all delegates are invited to submit abstracts.

Click to [register your interest](#)

40th Annual Meeting of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society

8 Sep 2022 – 10 Sep 2022

Graz, Austria

We are pleased to announce the 40th Annual Meeting of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society, which will take place in Graz, Austria, 8-10 September 2022.

The main conference theme is: *Walking along the razor's edge... Challenges and limits in treatment of bone and joint infection*

The programme topics are:

- Bacteriophage therapy
- Definition and diagnostic criteria for PJI
- Fracture-related infection: management strategies
- Native Osteomyelitis
- Optimising post-operative antibiotic therapy
- Periprosthetic joint infection of the upper extremity
- Polymicrobial BJI
- Spinal implanted related infections
- Treatment strategies for hip PJI

Early Registration Deadline: Before 1 July 2022

Find more information on the conference website: <https://ebjis2022.org/>

We hope the scientific programme will be of value to increase your knowledge, improve your future clinical work and build your friendships in the Society.

ESCMID Conference: 13th International Meeting on Microbial Epidemiological Markers (IMMEM XIII)

14th Sep 2022 – 17th Sep 2022

Bath

Establishing whole genome sequencing at the core of epidemiological surveillance

- Platforms for genome-based typing and epidemiology
- Incorporating new data types for real-time, genome-based surveillance
- Genome-based nomenclature
- Zoonosis, intensive food production and One Health
- Genomic epidemiology of neglected pathogens
- Genomic sequencing in LMIC
- The promise of long read sequencing
- Plasmid biology 2.0
- Lessons learned from COVID-19
- Metagenomics and Public Health

[View the programme](#)

[Register now](#) for a reduced fee, until 31st May 2022



FIS / HIS International 2022

London 22- 23 September

Virtual 26 September

We are thrilled to invite you to join the Healthcare Infection Society, the British Infection Association, and the Microbiology Society at [FIS/HIS International 2022](#).

FIS (the Federation of Infection Societies) is an annual conference which delivers a programme of infection-focused science sessions. The event is organised in collaboration with >20 learned societies, groups and organisations who are concerned with infection prevention and control (IPC), infectious diseases, clinical microbiology, and biomedical science.

In 2022 the three-day event will deliver four parallel sessions daily and be hosted by the Healthcare Infection Society, and we are delighted to announce the [programme](#).

Call for abstracts

Delegates are encouraged to submit an abstract for presentation at FIS/HIS International 2022 as

either an oral communication (during the free paper sessions on Friday 23 September), as a poster, or both.

Authors can indicate their preferred topic and method of presentation during the online submission process. All abstracts are reviewed by a panel following submission and a decision will be made as to whether to offer an oral or poster communication slot. The presenting author will be notified of the presentation format at the abstract acceptance notification stage. The decision of the panel is final.

Submission procedure

The abstract submission process for FIS/HIS 2022 is via an online submission portal only.

The **deadline for abstract submission is 1 July 2022 at 23:59 BST**. Please note that this is the final deadline date and there will not be a call for late-breaking abstracts.

Guidelines

It is imperative that authors read the [guidelines](#) before online abstract submission as abstracts which do not adhere to the guidelines will not be reviewed.

Full abstract details can be found [here](#)

Registration

The BIA is providing up to 8 bursaries to support registration and travel to the FIS Conference 2022 to eligible applicants whose abstract is already accepted. Accommodation costs may also be included, up to the £1000 grant limit. Full details can be found [here](#)

[Register here](#)

Early bird registration deadline: **1st September 2022**

BIA Autumn Trainees Day

9th November 2022

Please join us in Birmingham for the Autumn Trainees' Day, providing trainees with the opportunity to hear lectures on topical issues given by a range of experts, as well as providing a chance to network and contribute to debate.

Further information to follow.

5th Infection Dilemmas Day - Neurological Infections

Thursday 10th November 2022

The Studio, Birmingham

To register please click here: <https://hartleytaylor.co.uk/biac-home/>

ICC 2022

Perth, Australia

27th - 30th November 2022

32nd International Congress of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, Perth Western Australia.

Further details to follow at [32nd ICC 2022 - 32nd ICC 2022 \(32icc.org\)](https://32icc.org)

Click to [register your interest](#)

Workshops and Courses

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

HTD Centenary Seminars

HTD is sharing learning about clinical management of tropical medicine and imported and emerging infections to celebrate 100 years.

On the fourth Thurs each month 6-7pm in 2022 we'll share learning on:

- Endemic mycoses and cryptococcosis
- Encephalitis and other tropical brain infections
- Infectious & Tropical histopathology
- Complex / Tropical cases: a nursing perspective.

[Register for future meetings and view content from previous meetings.](#)

CPD accreditation requested. Free to health care professionals.

Liverpool Neurological Infectious Diseases Course

We are pleased to announce that registration for this year's face-to-face course on 14th and 15th June 2022 in Liverpool is now open here: [NeuroID - Liverpool Neurological Infectious Diseases Course 2022 | University of Liverpool](#). Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

You will find the [final programme on our website](#) closer to the time.

[Visit the course website for further details](#)

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 virtual courses and conferences

Vacancies

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

No job postings at present

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