

## BIA Monthly Digest – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### News Items

#### **ESCMID invitation to submit topics for clinical practice guidelines – deadline extended**

ESCMID is launching a new survey, after the first one in 2019, to select priority areas where clinical practice guidelines are lacking, in the field of infectious diseases, clinical microbiology and infection control.

BIA is among the ESCMID partners in scientific issues, and we would like to invite you to participate in order to collect your suggestions. We would ask you to suggest clinical topics where, according to your best judgement, ESCMID should develop a clinical guidance document in the next few years.

Topics will need to fall within ESCMID mission to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of infection-related diseases, to have a clearly defined focus, and not to be covered by prior guidance documents in the past 5 years (at least from an international perspective).

Please submit your suggestions to [Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk) by **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September**, for submission of a BIA response.



**FIS 2021**  
Federation of Infection Societies Conference

Friday 5 November | Manchester Central, UK  
Monday 8 - Tuesday 9 November | Online

Hosted by  
**BIA**  
British Infection Association

#### **Meet the speakers...**



**Lowbury Lecture: Tales of the unexpected in antibiotic resistance**

*Professor Marc Bonten, UMC, Utrecht, Netherlands*



**JD Williams Lecture: The slow pandemic: Lessons from 'The captain of all these men of death'**

*Dr Grace Smith, Clinical Lead for National Mycobacterial Reference Service, UK Health Security Agency*

**View the programme**

*Awarded 5 CPD credits by the Royal College of Pathologists*

## 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/>

### **HEE elfh Sexual Health and HIV elearning programme**

- Health Education England elearning for healthcare (HEE elfh) has worked with the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) and the Royal College of Physicians to add new content to the Sexual Health and HIV programme (eHIV-STI).
- A new session, [Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare for Trans, Non-binary and Intersex People](#), is now available as part of the elearning programme. This session aims to aid understanding of the diversity of gender identity and support sexual health professionals to facilitate effective sexual and reproductive healthcare for trans, non-binary, and intersex people.
- The new session can be found in the '[Approach to patient](#)' module. For more information about the elearning programme and to access the full list of available sessions, visit the [Sexual Health and HIV programme page](#).

## Guidelines

### Consultations

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

### **Policy testing: Canakinumab for patients with Still's disease refractory to anakinra and tocilizumab**

We would like to invite your feedback on a Clinical Commissioning Policy Proposition on Canakinumab for patients with Still's disease refractory to anakinra and tocilizumab (adults and children 2 years and over) [2002]. This is a new policy that has been developed by NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI).

The evidence has been carefully reviewed and, based on this, we have concluded that there is enough evidence to make the treatment available at this time. As a key stakeholder, we would like to hear your views on the policy proposition before it is considered further by NHSEI.

### **Review and feedback**

Below is the proposed policy and other supporting documentation:

- [\[2002\] Canakinumab Draft Policy Proposition.pdf](#)
- [\[2002\] AOSD Evidence Review Canakinumab.pdf](#)
- [\[2002\] SJIA Evidence Review Canakinumab.pdf](#)

- [\[2002\] Equality and Health Inequalities Impact Assessment Canakinumab for Still's Disease.pdf](#)
- [\[2002\] Patient Impact Assessment Canakinumab for Still's Disease.pdf](#)
- [\[2002\] Response Form Canakinumab for Still's Disease.docx](#)

### **What is NHSEI asking you to do?**

Please review the proposed policy and give your feedback to the questions in the stakeholder testing response form above to [Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk) by **5pm, Tuesday 21st September**.

If you would like to respond on behalf of BIA please register your interest with [BIA@hartleytaylor.co.uk](mailto:BIA@hartleytaylor.co.uk) and [Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk)

### **UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC) Annual Call for New Topics**

The UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC) is welcoming you to the 6th '[Annual Call for New Topics](#)'. This is an opportunity for you to propose a national screening programme for a condition not yet considered by the UK NSC.

If you have an idea for a proposal, then please complete the [guidance and template submission form](#) and send to [Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:Anna.Goodman@gstt.nhs.uk)

The deadline for submissions is **5pm, Wednesday 1st December**

UK NSC have published a helpful blog on the Annual Call for topics:

<https://nationalscreening.blog.gov.uk/2021/09/06/uk-nsc-annual-call-for-topics/>

### **Published Guidelines**

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

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

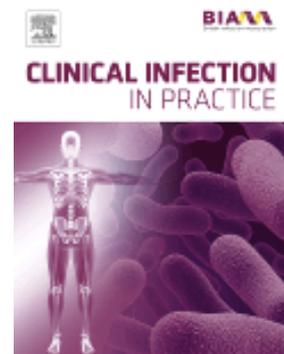
**CLIP, the online BIA journal is available [here](#)**

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.

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/>)



### **Statistical help needed**

NITCAR has a strong track record of performing clinically relevant high-quality audit and research. To facilitate this moving forward, we are looking for adhoc statistical advice for project planning and to guide analysis. We'd appreciate any members with expertise who would be willing to provide support with this could contact the NITCAR Chair at [susanne.hodgson@spc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:susanne.hodgson@spc.ox.ac.uk).

### **CO-GENT**

#### **Clinical Outcomes in Gentamicin Prescribing and Monitoring: National Audit**

A multicentre audit and service evaluation of extended-interval gentamicin prescribing and monitoring (GPM), to assess current practice, audit practice against local policies, and describe clinical outcomes using different strategies in GPM.

Project lead: Dr Raqib Huq Please express your interest by emailing [interest@co-gent.nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:interest@co-gent.nitcollaborative.org.uk)

The Protocol is available [here](#).

Visit <http://nitcollaborative.org.uk/wp/co-gent/> for further information

### **VALUE 4C**

#### **EVALUation of National Implementation of the ISARIC 4C Mortality Score in United Kingdom hospitals**

This is a national project aiming to gain a greater understanding of the use of the 4C mortality score in UK hospitals.

We are recruiting sites NOW

Data collection deadline extended to the end of September 2021- we would welcome expressions of interest ASAP!

Email us at [value4c@nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:value4c@nitcollaborative.org.uk).

Trainee Leads: Dr Andrew Blunsum, Dr Jonathan Perkins. Principal investigator: Dr Antonia Ho

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)

Follow us on Twitter @NITCAR\_UK

## **Infection Events**

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

### **Virus Genomics and Evolution**

15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Virtual Conference

Registration deadline 6<sup>th</sup> September

This meeting will provide a multidisciplinary forum for scientists interested in the genomics and evolutionary analysis of viruses and will address the fundamental questions of viral origins, transmission and pathogenesis. It will bring together evolutionary biologists and bioinformaticians with international participants working in diagnostic and public health.

This year's meeting will focus on virus evolution, epidemics and outbreaks and emerging viral infections and zoonoses. We will also explore new technologies to analyse viruses and large datasets and discuss diagnostic methods to improve public health.

Full details: <https://coursesandconferences.wellcomegenomecampus.org/our-events/virus-genomics-and-evolution-2021/>

### **Infection Prevention 2021**

27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September

ACC, Liverpool, United Kingdom | Online

Microorganisms and healthcare continually evolve, IP2021 is your best opportunity to stay up to date.

The three-day conference, will present the latest scientific evidence from around the globe to enable you to recognise, understand and address current and emerging risks.

We have provisioned for a hybrid element for 2021 to allow those who will be unable to join us physically to still enjoy the conference.

Highlights:

- World class [programme](#) including the legacy and learning from a pandemic from renowned national and international speakers
- Largest UK infection prevention [exhibition](#)
- [Call for abstracts](#) now open, for posters and presentations on the most current and critical IPC themes
- Networking opportunities
- [Opportunity to join virtually](#)

Full details and registration can be found online: <https://www.ips.uk.net/conference/>

### **IV Summit 2021**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Mercure Sheffield St Paul's Hotel

IV Summit 2021 from IVTEAM... **How people, policy, product and process are integrated into practice.**

Join us at the Mercure Sheffield St Paul's Hotel on Tuesday 5th October 2021. Registration is free.

Free registration: <https://fitwise.eventsair.com/iv-summit-2021/>

The IV Summit 2021 from IVTEAM will deliver a modernised conference agenda. With our extensive online presence (which includes thousands of weekly visitors to the IVTEAM website), we have developed a programme based on the most read topics on IVTEAM. Our conference agenda has been influenced by delegates for delegates.

This unique approach has resulted in content that has a direct relationship to clinical practice. Each speaker will demonstrate how people, policy, product and process are integrated into practice.

View the full programme and register for free at <https://fitwise.eventsair.com/iv-summit-2021/>

### **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.

Click to [view the programme](#)

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

### **BIA Trainees' Day Autumn Meeting**

14<sup>th</sup> October 2021

*Virtual Event*

Programme to follow soon

Registration Fee: £24.00

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

### **6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Clinical Metagenomics (ICCMg)**

21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Virtual Event

The Swiss Society for Microbiology is hosting the 6th International Conference on Clinical Metagenomics (ICCMg) as a virtual event on 21-22 October 2021.

ICCMg aims at being the leading conference specifically dedicated to clinical metagenomics.

Note that the organization committee offers a free meeting (via a FEMS sponsorship) to the young scientists (<40 years old), with a simple CV and motivation letter, on a first serve basis.

#### **Abstracts**

Click here for [abstract submission](#) (deadline 6th September 2021)

For further details visit [www.clinicalmetagenomics.org](http://www.clinicalmetagenomics.org)



### **FIS 2021: Federation of Infection Societies Conference 2021**

The Federation of Infection Societies Conference 2021 is the largest UK infection conference that brings together delegates involved in all aspects of infection from basic science, infection prevention, antimicrobial stewardship and clinical practice.

#### **5 November | Manchester (Limited places)**

The face-to-face day of conference will feature the; FIS plenary lectures (Lowbury Lecture: Professor Marc Bonten, JD Williams Lecture: Professor Grace Smith, Barnet Christie Lecture, and Clinical Grand Round), networking opportunities, oral paper sessions, industry symposium, and exhibition.

#### **8 - 9 November | Online (Unlimited places)**

The two-day, three-stream programme has been designed to provide delegates with an engaging and interactive online experience and includes; 25+ sessions hosted by a broad selection of the infection community with live Q&A, internationally renowned speakers, virtual posters, sponsors' area, and industry symposia. Presentations will be available to view on catch-up for one year.

View programmes [CLICK HERE](#)

Programme, abstract submission and registration available: <https://fitwise.eventsair.com/fis-2021/>

### **ISSSI 2022**

Perth, Australia  
28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> 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](#)

## **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

## **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

## **Invitation to apply for the role of chair or health service representative of Technology Appraisal and Highly Specialised Technologies Appeal Panels**

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence is looking to appoint several people with the necessary experience and skills to join the appeal panel membership to fulfil the following roles:

- Chair of the appeal panel – up to 2 people
- Health service representative – up to 2 people

The appeal panel is responsible for hearing appeals against our final recommendations in the technology appraisal (new drugs and other technologies used in the NHS) and highly specialised technologies (the evaluation of technologies for treating patients with very rare diseases and very complex healthcare needs) programmes. When an appeal is submitted an appeal panel comprising five members is drawn from those appointed to hear NICE appeals.

To be appointed to either role, you will need to demonstrate a broad understanding of the NHS and its relationships with the organisations which have the right to lodge an appeal. You will also need to have an ability to draw out and articulate a balanced view on the issues arising from an appeal that are relevant to patients, carers and/or members of the public, and an ability to critique and weigh up competing arguments and make decisions (sometimes difficult ones) in meetings that are open to the public. Appeal panels are established infrequently and appointees may only need to sit on a panel two to three times a year.

The deadline for applications is **5pm on Sunday 26 September**.



We would welcome applicants from all interested parties. For further information on both roles and how to apply, please refer to the NICE website:

<https://www.nice.org.uk/get-involved/our-committees/join-a-committee>.

Alternatively, you can contact Maria Pitan, Project Manager – Corporate Office by email [maria.pitan@nice.org.uk](mailto:maria.pitan@nice.org.uk).

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