

BRITISH BURN ASSOCIATION

NEWS: December 2015



Registered Charity No. 260167



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I am happy to report as Chair that the British Burn Association has had an excellent twelve months. This will be my last Chair's report and I am very pleased to give you some detail on the achievements made by the BBA Organisation and Executive over 2014 and 15.

Firstly, a huge thank you to Naiem Moiemem and the Birmingham Local Organising Committee (LOC) for a fantastic Annual Meeting in May this year.

The scientific content was of high quality, the networking events thoroughly enjoyable and the venue very well received. We are now looking forward to what I am sure will be another great meeting in Newcastle with the LOC led by Sarah Pape. The theme "Burns – The Bigger Picture" will enable us to learn from colleagues who work on the periphery of and alongside burns within other specialties, as well as discussing mainstream burn care, with the aim of improving practice for the benefit of patients.

The Emergency Management of the Severe Burns (EMSB) course has had a good year with 10 candidate courses, one instructor and one coordinator course. Rebecca Martin has done a fantastic job over the last 6 years in leading this group. Nadeem Khwaja from Manchester will take over as National Organiser and Senate Chair from May 2016. Nadeem will be co-opted onto the BBA Executive in the same way that Becky has been since May 2015.

The Prevention Sub-Committee has also been moving forward under the leadership of Ken Dunn. On October 21st, Ken coordinated the second National Burn Awareness day. This is an excellent idea that has taken hold throughout burn services in England and Wales for the prevention and awareness of burn injuries. Many thanks to the whole Prevention Sub-Committee.

Peter Drew is the lead for the Outcomes (task and finish) Sub-Committee. The group produced the first national peer-agreed BBA Outcomes Document in 2013 and is currently working on the second version which should be produced in 2016. The group will disband once this is achieved, until version 3 is required.

The Research Special Interest Group now has 88 members and led by myself, has had twice annual meetings that have been enjoyable and well attended by clinicians, nursing staff and scientist BBA members. The Sub-Committee is now linked to the NIHR's Injuries and Emergency Research Group and will become a recognised peer review group for research projects for grant applications.

The Education Sub-Committee is very well led by Jane Leaver. The group undertakes the adjudication of papers and posters at the Annual Conference, organises the Laing Essay Prize and leads on the annual BBA Education Day. This year the theme was: "Safeguarding in Burn Care" and the meeting, held on 19 October in Birmingham, was a great success.

The SIGs are also active (please see below) with a new Microbiology / Infection Prevention SIG led by Dr Ibrahim Hassan and a planned Ethics SIG to be chaired by Bruce Philp. If you are interested in either of these, please contact the chairs through the BBA office.

The BBA provides representation on different national bodies and groups to support collaboration and to bring different perspectives relating to burns to benefit patients. These include the national Clinical Reference Group, the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC), the BBA Section of the Society of Academic and Research Surgery (SARS), ISBI and EBA. The BBA is also a founder member of the Healing Foundation and we are represented on the Board of Trustees and Research Committee. We also offer advice to NICE Medical Technologies Expert Programme when appropriate. We are currently reviewing terms for all these posts and formal reports will be available at the AGM. This work is being completed as part of formalising the BBA governance documentation in order to meet Charity Commission guidelines. A Conflict of Interest statement has been disseminated to Executive, Sub-Committee Members & SIG Chairs and a Risk Register is in the process of being produced. This work has been led by Clare McGrory, ably assisted by Nechama.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Amber Young
Deputy Chair: Jo Myers
Secretary & Treasurer:
Clare McGrory
Committee Members
Peter Drew
Ken Dunn
Jane Leaver
Jorge Leon-Villapalos
Darren Lewis
Bruce Philp

BBA SUBCOMMITTEES

BBA Prevention Subcommittee
Chair: Ken Dunn
BBA Education Subcommittee
Chair: Jane Leaver
EMSB National Organiser
Rebecca Martin
Research Subcommittee
Chair: Amber Young
Outcomes Subcommittee
Chair: Peter Drew

Website:
Darren Lewis

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR (Cont'd)

Darren Lewis who was responsible for the BBA's website design is ably taking the website into its second phase of development to update its look and feel. We anticipate the "new look" website to be launched in 2016 in time for the AGM. Further tweaks and sections are due to be added in due course following the launch.

The BBA Executive work together as a team consisting of the Chair, Officers, Sub-Committee chairs and Executive Members. The work of the Chair would not in any way be possible without the Deputy Chair and Honorary Secretary – both of whom work hugely conscientiously. Thank you very much indeed Clare and Jo. The backbone of the BBA Executive is the lovely and extremely hard working Nechama. Thank you so much Nechama.

I will be leaving the Executive at the Annual Meeting in Newcastle in May next year. I have found my time as Chair hard work but immensely enjoyable and a real privilege. The BBA is an amazing organisation which I am proud to be a member of and even more proud to have chaired. I will miss the Executive team and work, but I know that I am handing the Chairmanship into safe hands. Peter Drew from Swansea will take over as Chair in May 2016 for two years. I wish him very good luck and know the BBA will thrive under his leadership.

Education Sub-Committee

Annual Conference Birmingham, 2015:

The BBA had the pleasure of awarding four prizes this year in Birmingham.

The best **poster prize** went to Dr Yousef Majeed for their poster on "Evaluation of the Management of Feet Burns in a Regional Adult Burns Centre"

The **bell poster prize** session was won by Ms Sarah Bache for "Using Laser Therapy to Modify Burn Scars: A Four Year Review"

There was a tie for the **oral presentation prize**, so both presenters were refunded their conference fee. The winners were Mr Ethan Clough for "Are There Any Differences Between Partial Thickness Burn and Partial Thickness Excisional Wound Healing" and Mr Warwick Dunn, for "A Non-Targeted Metabolomics Analysis of Urine to Study Longitudinal Metabolic Changes Following a Burn Injury in Adults".

Education Day – 19 October 2015:

The theme of the Education Day this year was 'Safeguarding in Burn Care'. The day covered both adult and paediatric safeguarding issues. It was well supported and generated some interesting discussion and food for thought. The suggested theme and date for next year's Education Day is simulation and education in burn care on 3rd November 2016.

Burns Game:

The BBA is supporting an exciting new project, the development of a burn game as an educational tool. Currently a small group of BBA members are working with Focus Active to design this educational game for burn care professionals and for prevention awareness. If you want to know more or become involved in the design and testing, please contact Krissie Stiles Krissie.stiles@nhs.net or Jane Leaver jane.leaver@bcu.ac.uk

Jane Leaver, Education Sub-Committee Chair

BBA Grants

Three different grants are available to BBA Members.

These are: ***The BBA Travel Grant, The Margaret Miller Travel Grant and the BBA Research Grant.***

Applicants need to have been a BBA Member for at least 12 months to be eligible to apply. Grants will not normally exceed £1,000. Further details and application forms for each grant can be found within the 'Education' section of the website, under 'Grants'.

Laing Essay

Laing Essay Prize 2015: 'How Can Outcome Measures Influence the Provision and Practice of Burn Care': Congratulations to winner Mr Joe Hardwicke, University of Birmingham.

Laing Essay Prize 2016 now open to all involved in Burn Care: The Essay, titled 'Education in Burns: Lessons from the Past and Objectives for the Future' should be of a maximum 5,000 words and in the style used by *Burns Journal*. An abstract of up to 150 words should also be provided with your Essay. Three referees, appointed by the BBA, will judge and award the winner £500. The prize-winning Essay will be eligible for publication in *Burns* at the discretion of the Editor. **Closing date for applications: 5pm on 28th February 2016.** The winner will be announced at the BBA Annual Conference, May 2016. For further information, email: info@britishburnassociation.org

Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB)

EMSB Courses continue to be run across the UK centres with ten courses held over the year. Please continue to encourage staff, especially from emergency departments, to attend. An Instructors Course is to be held in East Grinstead in March. The Coordinators Course remains very popular and we are hoping to run another next year. I am very pleased to announce that Nadeem Khwaja has agreed to take on the role of National Organiser for EMSB from May 2016. Many thanks as always to the Course Organisers, Directors and their Faculties and especially Nechama who all work tirelessly behind the scenes to deliver the EMSB course. For details of upcoming courses and to book see www.emsb.org.uk

Rebecca Martin, EMSB National Organiser

Annual Conference 2016: Burns – The Bigger Picture

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the **49th Scientific Meeting of the British Burn Association in Gateshead** from **11-13 May 2016**. We have chosen the Hilton Hotel on the Gateshead quayside just next to the iconic Tyne Bridge for our venue because the views are so much better than from the Newcastle side!

We have a packed timetable planned for you. This year the theme is "Burns - the Bigger Picture". The invited speakers will be experts from without the field of burns who will share with us their expertise in topics where our specialities meet, for example blistering skin disorders and burns of the eyelids and cornea. There will also be plenty of time for the more mainstream topics, which we hope will be of interest to all of our members.

On the evening of the first day, immediately after the last session, we will have a drinks and nibbles reception in the Exhibitors area at the Hilton Hotel. This will give you an opportunity to browse around the exhibitions as well as meeting up with friends and making some new ones! You will then be free to find your own venue for dinner from the many on offer along the historic quayside or in central Newcastle.

The conference dinner will be held at the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts, which is a short walk along the quayside from the Hilton, just the other side of the fabulous Sage Gateshead, our landmark venue for all kinds of musical events. You may wish to take a short cut through the Sage building on your way to the Baltic to admire the interior.

There will be a number of hotels with a range of prices and facilities who will be offering special discounts for attendees, which will include reduced rates for the following weekend. So why not extend your stay to explore the North East? There is so much to offer, whether you enjoy city life, cultural venues, miles and miles of sandy beaches or the spectacular countryside of the North Pennines, Tyne Valley and Northumberland.

Put the dates in your diary now!

Sarah Pape
On behalf of the Newcastle Organising Committee

BBA Annual Conference: Sponsorship of Overseas Delegates

The BBA will sponsor up to two Overseas Delegates from developing countries to attend the BBA Annual Conference at Gateshead, Newcastle on 11 – 13 May 2016. Sponsorship comprises the cost of the conference registration fee and does not include travel and accommodation costs.

Overseas Delegates must be supported by two existing BBA members and must not currently be working in Europe, North America or other developed countries.

To apply please submit a written application to the BBA office by **Monday 1st February 2016**. The application should include reasons for wishing to attend the BBA Conference and how attendance would benefit work in their home country.

Prevention Sub-Committee

The Burn Awareness Day held on 21st October 2015 was a great success.

Hospitals, schools and play groups participated in the day and activities included surveys, cake sales, and park to park “hopping”. There was good coverage by social media and radio and TV played a prominent role with the burn services. A National Burn Awareness Card was released which highlighted the “Three C’s” Burn First Aid Message.



Burns Awareness Information Table at Broomfield Hospital



Group shot with a “hopper” at Leicester. T-shirts by Urgo

The Fire & Rescue Service supported the burn services and offered advice on fancy dress costumes, firework safety and house safety checks. Charities displayed information links on their websites and used social media to raise awareness.

Ken Dunn, the BBA Prevention Sub-Committee Chair together with Sub-Committee Members would like to applaud the efforts of all those involved in making the 2015 Burn Awareness Day a huge success.

A full report on the activities held on the day is available on the Prevention page of the BBA website or at

http://www.britishburnassociation.org/downloads/Prevention_Report_Awareness_Day_2015.pdf

Research Sub-Committee

The Research Sub-Committee together with the Special Interest Group (SIG) held a meeting chaired by Amber Young on 29.10.15 at the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The meeting was well attended with a mixture of clinicians, research nurses, psychology reps, PPV and scientific collaborators. All attendees at the Research SIG have to be BBA Members and all discussions are confidential.

RCSEng Reconstructive Surgical Trials Network (RSTN). RSTN had been established to improve the quality of trials and to support multi-trial centres. A Trials Day had been held on 6.6.15 to educate trainees and people new to research on how to design trials. Guidance was also provided on pilot studies and funding. Four trials were presented and new ideas were sought. The BBA is represented on the RSTN by Isabel Jones (London) as the Consultant Representative. Joe Hardwicke (Birmingham) has recently resigned as the Trainee Representative and Julia Sarginson (Bristol) has been appointed to replace him.

BBA Research Priorities. The production of a lay version of the previously agreed research priorities was planned.

Junior Researchers in-Burns Group (JRBG). Chris Wearn (Birmingham) and Julia Sarginson coordinated a Workshop entitled "An Introduction to Burns Research" on 20.5.15. 27 people attended and feedback had been positive. A further Workshop is planned on a date to be confirmed in January 2016. The morning session would comprise summaries of current and planned research with workshops in the afternoon on research governance and statistics. The Workshop would be open to everyone involved in burn care to include psychologists and scientists. The JRBG has been established as a Sub-Group of the Research Sub-Committee.

BBA Research Database. Plans to establish a database to improve collaboration between centres are underway, led by Chris Wearn. The database would be available in the BBA Members section of the website. Further information to follow...

Burn Wound Infection: A Consensus Statement. The development of a statement to define clinically relevant burn wound infection was agreed. This statement would offer clarification of burn wound infection so that comparisons could be made between surveys, projects and outcomes. Dr Amber Young would lead in establishing a group to review the literature and define the methodology.

Potential Future Research Projects. A confidential discussion took place with constructive criticism on all by the SIG.

Ongoing Burns Portfolio Studies Update. Updates were given on the following:

Birmingham:	SIFTI Multi-trial on Resus Burns in Adults and Children PEGASUS
Bristol:	Morbidity in Small Therapy Injury of Children (MISTIC) Low Friction Sheet & Skin Grafting (SILKIE) Adult PROMS & Possible Trial for Children
East Grinstead:	Commercial Study with Mediound on Nexo Brid & Protocol Guideline Development MRCDPFS Trial

NICE Led Research on Recell. Ruth Poole gave a presentation of CEDAR EAC (Cardiff). The study is in the planning stage.

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Injuries and Emergency Research Group (IERG) and BBA Collaboration. Matt Costa, Chair of IERG discussed the role and remit of IERG and collaboration with the BBA in health and research. IERG was one of 30 Specialty Groups and its portfolio comprised overseeing studies led by injuries and emergencies to include burns and acting as gatekeeper to other specialties' studies (most patients entered the system via the Emergency Department). The BBA Research SIG was identified as a peer review group by IERG and the BBA was listed as a Key Stakeholder of the Group.

Research Sub-Committee. The amalgamation of the Research Sub-Committee and SIG was discussed. It was agreed that future meetings would be of the Sub-Committee and open to all Research SIG Members.

If you would like to join the Research SIG, please contact the BBA office.

Outcomes Sub-Committee

The BBA Outcomes Sub-Committee is comprised of representatives from all disciplines involved in burn care. Its current membership is as follows:

Peter Drew – Chair
Peter Dziejewski – Burns Surgeon Representative
Jacky Edwards – Burns Nurse Representative
Jo Bowes – Burns Anaesthetists / Intensivist Representative
Menna Davies – Physiotherapist Representative
Janine Evans – Occupational Therapist Representative
Sarah Gaskell – Psychologist Representative
Roy Dudley-Southern – Lay Person
Bethan Hughes – Patient Representative

The Outcomes Sub-Committee is in the process of developing Version 2 of the “Outcome Measures for Adult and Paediatric Services” document and plans to restructure the report to mirror the NHS Outcomes Framework. It is anticipated that this new format, together with recommendations for updates in practice, will provide a robust framework to support burn care health professionals at the coalface. It is anticipated that the updated document will be published in 2016.

Peter Drew, Chair, BBA Outcomes Sub-Committee

Nurses Special Interest Group

A Nurse SIG meeting was held at the BBA Annual Conference in May. It was well attended and those present discussed research updates from around the country, sepsis six, wound care products, the need for a blister management statement that LSEBN are working on and the EBA website. It was agreed that there was a need for a Nurses SIG to share good practice and ideas around sepsis and infection control were put forward as topics for the next meeting. Disappointingly the planned meetings outside of the conference this year have had to be cancelled due to lack of registered attendees.

As a way of disseminating information and asking about burn care from other units it was suggested that a list of link people in each burn service should be set up. In order to do this we are requesting that each burns service nominate a BBA link person and let either Nechama Lewis, Vicky Galsworthy or myself know.

I have great pleasure in announcing that Vicky Galsworthy (Victoria.Galsworthy@uhl-tr.nhs.uk) will be taking over as the BBA Nurses SIG Chair. Vicky is one of the Burns Clinical Nurse Specialists at Leicester Royal Infirmary.

Jane Leaver, Chair, Nurses SIG

Burns Therapy Interest Group

The Burns Therapy Interest Group (BTIG) continues to meet regularly to share ideas regarding clinical practice, update each other on network activities and discuss current issues.

Over the last few months, there has been discussion around outcome measures, IBID and updating the Burns Therapy Standards. All members have been given opportunities to feedback to therapists representing on the Outcomes Sub-Committee. Members also decided they wished to revisit and update the Therapy Standards. A small working group met in September to collate the feedback from BTIG members regarding how the Standards could be updated. Suggestions included making them more evidence based. The most recent BTIG meeting was held in Birmingham at the end of November. The working group fed back the ideas from members regarding the Standards with the aim of deciding how they should be updated. There were also opportunities for the sharing of ideas, clinical discussion and updates from each network. For further information, please contact Amanda.Dufley@nbt.nhs.uk

Amanda Dufley, Chair, BTIG

Burns Camp Special Interest Group



The past year has been a very busy one for burns clubs all over the UK. Each club has been busy fundraising, which has enabled them to provide activities for the young burns survivors associated to their club.

Nationally we have three major events that every club is invited to.

The first was our National Summer Burns Camp which was held at Grafham Water Activity Centre, near Huntingdon, back in August. This was a week-long camp and six clubs attended bringing along 58 young burns survivors and their chaperones. It was a very busy week, but a great time was had by all. Throughout the week the campers took part in various daytime activities, including sailing, climbing, high ropes, canoeing and stand up paddle boarding to name but a few. There were also activities laid on every evening, these included outdoor cinema, go karting, laser-tag, swimming and driving. We also had a day at Woburn Safari Park. Camp concluded with us having a formal dinner on our last evening. All the campers put on their best clothes and all the chaperones became waiters & waitresses for the evening to serve the campers dinner, making it a very memorable evening. The evening finished with a disco and photo booth.

At the end of this month we will be holding our National Jamboree for campers aged 8-13. We are expecting four clubs to attend with 35 children.

We also held our First National Day Trip in September to Alton Towers, This was a truly amazing day which was a huge success and we had over 150 young burns survivors attend. Our base for the day was in their conference room, which had been decorated with balloons and sweets for everyone to help themselves, and somewhere we could hide from the rain if needed, but it didn't put anyone off, we just got wet!! Lunch was a buffet that catered for everyone's taste and the chocolate fountain was extremely popular. Everyone had a fantastic day and many went on all the rides they could in a few hours.

For more information please visit the Burn Camps website www.burnscamp.org or contact Dave Webster (Chairperson for BBA SIG and Burn Camps charity) webbofire@hotmail.co.uk



Psychosocial Special Interest Group

The Psychosocial SIG continues to meet twice a year for a day and at the BBA conference for a couple of hours. Burn care services from England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland are represented.

Over the past year the Psychology SIG has discussed the Burns Quality Dashboard and the recommended set of KPIs based on the domains in the NHS Outcomes Framework:

- Screening during the inpatient phase
- Measuring outcomes during the outpatient phase of care
- Adoption of quality of life measures at point of scar maturation and/or discharge from scar management

The Healing Foundation Burns Research Centre, UWE and Restore are funding the development of burn specific psychosocial outcome measures for parents, children and adults led by Research Psychologist, Catrin Griffiths (Centre for Appearance Research) until 2016. The NBCN (Sarah Gaskell) and colleagues have produced a set of detailed psychosocial standards which map onto the National Burn Care Standards. After discussion and collaboration with the rest of the Psychosocial SIG it has been decided that, whilst allowing for local operational policies, this document will be employed by the members, with a review date in 2016/2017.

The SIG is addressing the paucity of data regarding acts of deliberate self-injurious behaviour in children and adults involving heat sources. A small working party from Chelsea and Westminster, Bristol and Liverpool will be guiding this process. The aspiration is to support the national recording of this information, increase our understanding and awareness of these behaviours and address the ways in which the needs of these individuals are addressed.

Members of the SIG and those in the psychosocial stream of the Healing Foundation Burn Care Research Centre, continue to be actively engaged in research. Projects include the evaluation of digital distraction tools in a paediatric service, a survey of psychosocial support in the UK and USA (Diana Harcourt, CAR) and the feasibility of using an on-line therapy programme (YP Face It, Laura Armstrong-James) for young people with burns.

Dr Julia Cadogan, Chair, Psychosocial SIG

Microbiology & Infection Prevention Special Interest Group

The **Healthcare Infection Society (HIS)/BBA** Working Group is producing a national guideline for burns services in the UK. This includes clinical aspects of the management of infections, infection prevention & Control (IPC) & the design of burns units including ventilation/theatres. The HIS/BBA Group is expected to complete a draft of its work by the end of 2015 which will be sent for consultation in 2016. The chair of the group is Pauline Jumaa (University Hospitals Birmingham NHS FT QE Hospital).

The BBA Infection SIG will contribute to the consultation process once the draft is out.

The Infection SIG intends to commission work on other areas not specifically covered by the HIS/BBA group.

I am now calling on the membership of the Microbiology & infection Prevention SIG to help generate a database of ideas (**questions/scenarios/audit/research topics** etc) that we can look forward to addressing in our group. Members can also use these ideas at their centres if they so wish (-/+ collaboratively with others). We would also like to know of any piece of work that is currently being done by members or any work that has been presented/published at recent meetings/conferences. We will include all these in the database as well. The idea is to pool this together & share with members across the network so as to help improve our services.

Any ideas/topics should be forwarded asap to Nechama for dissemination to the SIG.

Ibrahim Hassan, Chair, Microbiology & Infection Prevention SIG

Burn Dietetics Group

The Dietetic Specialist Interest Group was re-launched at the end of last year. This year our focus has been on establishing the group and beginning to represent the profession within the burns community. It has not been possible to hold a face to face meeting for members yet. It was hoped that this could occur at the BBA Annual Conference in Birmingham this year but with only two dietitians in attendance it was not possible. Communication has been maintained amongst group members via email, the online forum, and our first newsletter which was released in August.

The Dietetic SIG Committee has had the opportunity to review the draft Guidelines for Provision of Intensive Care Services. The suggested changes were readily accepted and incorporated into the final guidelines. We have also had the opportunity to respond as a group to the consultation for supplementary prescribing rights for dietitians. The consultation period has now finished and we as a profession are awaiting the outcome.

Tig Howells, our Vice Chair of the group and Burns Dietitian at Nottingham University Hospital, has jetted off for 3 months starting this September to America and Canada as part of a working scholarship examining nutritional management of patients with burns. She will be keeping in regular contact with the SIG, blogging and Tweeting about her experiences so that fellow Burns Dietitians and SIG members can share in her learning and send questions via her to their American counterparts about dietetic practice. Tig can be followed on **Twitter (@tig_howellsRD)** or **Travelpod (tig.howells)**.

Natasha Kershaw (formally Wase), Chair, Dietetics SIG

Proposal for a Burns Ethics Special Interest Group

Philosophy is “thinking about thinking: asking important questions to achieve clarity and wisdom”. Ethics is “thinking about how to live a good life, our relationships with others, justice and moral behaviour”.

Clinical, applied, ethics relevant to burns management includes ethical decision making, consent, resource allocation, experimentation and innovation, end-of-life care, education and evidence based burns management.

The important four moral principles are autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, and distributive justice. All are highly relevant to burns management.

I think that an Ethics SIG would be an interesting and important addition to the work of the BBA and compliment all the other existing SIGs. I hope I can have your support in this venture.

Bruce M Philp, Executive Committee Member & Consultant in Burns, Laser & Plastic Surgery, Broomfield Hospital

Clinical Reference Group (CRG) Burns

Update following meeting held on September 5th 2015:

Paediatric Burns Review

NHS England are still considering which service review areas would go onto the 2015/16 work plan, so as yet there is no update on the next stage of the review.

It was emphasised how important adequate resourcing of this review would be and this will be highlighted to NHS England.

Management of Surge & Escalation SOP

The SOP had been finalised and is now on NHSE website. Concern expressed around key areas including accuracy regarding centres and units, the clinical contact out of hours, matters of accuracy of the SOP and questioned why it had not been brought back to the CRG for final sign off.

CRG members were invited to feedback on specific areas of concern and offer alternative solutions by early October.

Quality Dashboards and IBID

The Quality Surveillance Team from NHSE will be leading on the dashboards from now and the contract with Methods, and they were keen to get feedback from CRGs on whether indicators needed changing for next year. A small sub group of the CRG had recently met to discuss measures and gave feedback.

Methods to make agreed changes to Dashboard and take back to December CRG meeting for discussion and sign off. These would then be implemented from April 2016 onwards.

The quality surveillance team also asked the CRG to discuss and agree compliance measures at the December meeting.

Co-dependencies Work

It was noted that an initial submission had been made to NHSE when requested but that this was an interim position and much further work would need to be done on this when looking at the service review and other aspects. NHSE has not asked for this information again, nor is it yet clear what this work was intended for, other than the initial discussions around testing out service specifications across RGs and mapping out bundles of specialised care to inform future strategic planning.

PPV

Feedback from Burns PPV members was that they had always felt involved and engaged.

Members flagged the need for better integrated services and patient pathways.

It was agreed that the PPV members would agree a brief report to be presented at the start of a CRG meeting and that this would feed into all other agenda items.

PPV were particularly interested in other ways of capturing patient experience and feedback. It was felt that the Family and Friends test would be an ideal way of capturing this type of information if it is in enough detail and granularity.

NHS England Updates

New establishment of the Trauma Board with a new Chair Alison Tonge, alongside the current clinical Chair Paul May.

QIPP – members were asked to forward any ideas for savings and improving value.

It was noted that there were no policies on the Burns work programme for this year although the hypermetabolic policy was still in progress.

Accountable Commissioner – the new post holder Katherine Young joined the team from November.

Jo Myers, BBA Representative

The Healing Foundation

The Healing Foundation is a national charity set up in 1999 to fund research into pioneering surgical and psychological healing techniques, with a focus on research in the areas of burns care, tissue regeneration and cleft lip and palate.

In 2012 the Healing Foundation launched The Burns Collective, a £3m, 5 year programme of research representing the largest investment in burns research in Europe. This is funding two Research Centres, The Healing Foundation Centre for Burns Research based at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham and The Healing Foundation Centre for Children's Burns Research at The Bristol Royal Hospital for Children. Work underway is revitalising the UK burns research landscape and positioning the UK at the forefront of worldwide burns research. In collaboration with burns units from around the country, The Burns Collective is enabling clinicians, scientists and academics to build multi-centre studies of scale which will have a real impact on clinical practice and drive improvements for patients.

The British Burn Association has taken an active role in the development of the Healing Foundation research strategy. As a Principal Member Organisation of The Healing Foundation, the BBA has been crucial in identifying research priorities within burns care and BBA President, Dr Amber Young, sits on the Healing Foundation Research Council. The Healing Foundation is committed to delivering improvements for patients, and the next exciting phase of the Foundation's work will see a bold research agenda focused on the pursuit of scar-free wound healing. Scarring is a key issue for burns survivors and research into scarless wound healing will impact the lives of future generations around the world. For more information about the Healing Foundation please visit www.thehealingfoundation.org.uk

Naiem Moiemem, BBA nominated Trustee of the Healing Foundation

The Healing Foundation Student Electives in association with the British Burn Association

Healing Foundation Student Electives fund medical, paramedic, nursing and psychology students wishing to undertake a small-scale Elective research project focused in the areas of burn medicine and care either in the UK or abroad. All applications are externally reviewed and the funding available per student is £1,200 to support projects of 6-8 weeks.

This year, for the first time, the Foundation is offering students the opportunity to apply to undertake a project supervised by a Healing Foundation Supervisor. To find out more, go to <http://www.thehealingfoundation.org.uk/student-electives-2015/>
The deadline for applications is the **15th of January 2016**

Secretary/Treasurer Update

Membership Fees 2016:

I am pleased to confirm that there will be no increase to membership fees for 2016 and fees will remain as follows:

Doctors and Consultant Nurses/AHPs	£75pa
All other staff	£50pa
Students studying for primary degrees and retired members	£30pa

Please note that online access to Burns Journal is included in the Membership fee for 2016. Members have access to current issues of the Burns Journal as well as four years' back issues.

Income Tax Relief in Respect of Annual Membership Fees:

The British Burn Association has been approved by the Commissioners for HM Revenue and Customs under Section 344 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 with effect from 6th April 2014. The Association's name will therefore appear in the list of approved bodies.

Discussion Forums:

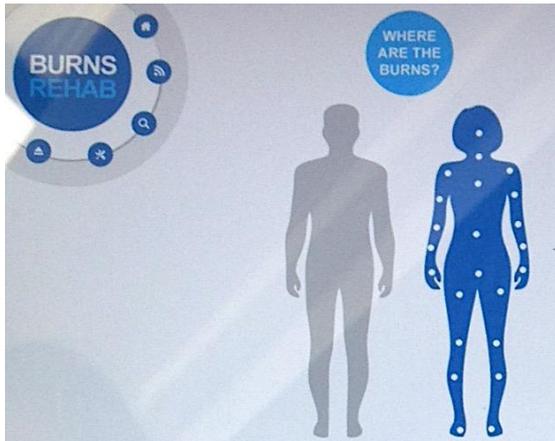
Please note that a discussion forum is available within the members' only area of the BBA website for members to share ideas and discuss current issues. Please log into the Members' area with your Username and Password and click on 'Members Forum'. Click on the Forum Name to which you wish to add a comment / question and click on 'Create New Topic' to start a conversation or click on 'Post Reply' to respond to a posting.

Articles from the Burn Community

Opinions expressed in the articles below do not necessarily reflect the views of the BBA

A Pilot App for Burns Rehabilitation

Many burns patients suffer debilitating injuries and require prolonged physiotherapy and scar massage to avoid contractures. They undergo a traumatic injury and often a prolonged stay in hospital. They have numerous repeat appointments to monitor their recovery.



Our research team aims to provide an easily accessible and interactive app for use on iPhone and android, so that patients can change their dressings and do their physiotherapy exercises in their home environment. We are covering the following areas of recovery: Dressings, Physiotherapy and Nutrition.

The main way of achieving this is with narrated videos and labelled images for patients to access on their own smart devices.

Image of patient interface for the pilot app



Screenshots from the Flamazine Dressing video

Each stage is clearly narrated and concisely explained. All the equipment is shown to the patient at the start of the video, and the steps are shown at a steady pace, so that patients can easily keep up, and also stop and start easily as they wish. The process of collecting the video and images involved liaising with physiotherapists, dieticians, plastic surgeons and burns nurses at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. We have collected videos and images for four different dressing types and all the physiotherapy movements for the upper limb, as well as advice about nutrition and diet.

Our pilot version of the app is still in development with CW+, and focuses on the upper limb (the most common site of burns injuries). We will test the pilot among the burns patients at Chelsea and Westminster in the coming weeks and months, with the aim of integrating a cognitive element to future versions of the app.

Shahab Shahid, Peter Indoe and Marcela Vizcaychipi, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital

A New Direction for Burn Care

I first treated burns patients at St Andrews Burns Unit, Billericay and joined the BBA in 1984. Having been involved in the era of remarkable advances in early burn care that improved survival and outcomes, it seems to me that there has been very little change within the last decade. Tissue culture has reached a low pinnacle, bio-integrating skin replacements are the same, toxic shock still occurs and patients still get poor scars, disfigurements and die.

However the world of biofilm has entered a new era. The 1980's concept that bacteria in and around non-excised dead burned tissue, initially gram positive then gram negative and mixed colonies with multiresistant strains, simply becoming invasive locally and then released bacterial swarms producing toxin mediated sepsis and multiorgan failure, has changed. Bacterial clumping, in areas of dead tissue that antimicrobials can't possibly work, occasionally releasing planktonic seedlings to other sites resulting in further colony development, is the biggest issue. The control of biofilm bacterial colony development is important in the acute septic phase of burn management including the selection of topical and systemic antimicrobial agents but also in the development and maturation of post burn scar. Antibacterials can't possibly work if they can't penetrate the biofilm and the only outcome is antimicrobial resistance. Deep dermal burns are shaved and grafted to produce better aesthetic outcomes and less scar but with children in particular this and the donor sites are often still a visible long term legacy of injury. Avoiding donor sites and skin grafting would be a major advance in burn care. The chronic inflammatory response seen histologically after deep dermal injury and secondary intention healing is typical of insidious biofilm. The natural body's response to inflammation is to stimulate collagen producing fibroblasts and myofibroblasts until the stimulus is overcome. Biofilm is difficult, if not impossible to detect without genetic markers and antibiotics are ineffective because they can't penetrate the comparatively avascular centre of the biofilm nidus. Topical agents only work to a depth of bioabsorption hence hypertrophic and keloid scars are the usual outcome.

Fourth state Medicine, created by a group of Space Scientists from Surrey University have developed a patented Plasma technology tool that effectively and cheaply kills biofilm, without surrounding tissue death or carcinogenic change, that can also be used to remove dead and necrotic tissue. I think this is the most exciting development for the management of burn victims this century. And if I were running a Burn Unit in the UK I would rush to get involved in the technology.

James Frame. Analia Ruskin University. Chelmsford

Perioperative Research into Memory (PRiMe):

The Use of fMRI to Investigate Neuroinflammation, Cognitive Dysfunction and Quality of Life following a Major Burn Injury and Critical Care Admission

At Chelsea and Westminster Hospital the Perioperative Research into Memory (PRiMe) group has begun a clinical study entitled "The use of fMRI to investigate neuroinflammation, cognitive dysfunction, and quality of life, following a major burn injury and critical care admission" in collaboration with the Neuroradiology Department at Charing Cross Hospital, Imperial College Health Care Trust.

Post-operative cognitive decline (POCD) is an acute deterioration of cognition and memory following surgery which can last for months to years. POCD is a significant issue to patients as not only can it affect their quality of life, but depending on the magnitude of the decline it could impact on their levels of independence and their employability. It is likely multifactorial in origin, thought to be due to neuroinflammation secondary to periods of hypotension, effects of anaesthetic agents and other drugs and the massive inflammatory response from surgical insults.

Patients who suffer a major burns injury are subject to multiple trips to theatres for surgical interventions under general anaesthesia. We hypothesise that critically ill burn patients are uniquely susceptible to long term cognitive dysfunction following their injuries, and that this will impact significantly on their function and quality of life.

We have now entered the recruitment stage of the study and we have begun psychometric tests, cognitive tests and fMRI imaging on patients and control volunteers. We aim to complete this phase by Easter 2016.

If the findings of this study demonstrate the expected neuroinflammatory stigmata then this will allow us to look for patterns between anatomical changes on imaging and psycho-cognitive deficits. This should lead to discovery of new risk factors from MRI and the identification of at risk groups for early and targeted therapy.

*Edward Watson, Intensive Care Clinical Research Fellow, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital
reporting on PRiMe Study run by Marcela Vizcaychipi*

Queen Victoria Hospital Telemedicine System Rolls Out Telemedicine System Means Quicker Specialist Treatment for Burn and Trauma Patients

A Web Based Solution Benefits Patients, Clinicians and Specialists Alike

The Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (QVH) has over 15 years' experience of using telemedicine to help triage, manage and prioritise plastic surgery & burns patients throughout the South East Coast region. The hospital developed its own system after recognising the potential benefits of digital technology in the late 1990's. The first version was a simple, safe and confidential system that allowed Emergency Departments to transfer pictures of patient injuries in a reliable, secure manner for QVH clinicians to assess.

This system made the referral process easier, ensured that the right patients were transferred at the right time and also allowed QVH clinicians to give useful advice to their colleagues at distant sites. It also provided a permanent record for teaching, patient records and medico-legal issues. The impact of telemedicine was dramatic with considerable reduction in inappropriate referrals and unnecessary out of hours' transfers. Over the last decade QVH has been able to better plan its trauma services through the use of telemedicine. Senior clinical staff are more involved in the process and can remotely access the images to allow better management of patients. The system also allows QVH staff to upload images that help avoid unnecessary dressing changes for patients, chart patient progress and provide more information for the whole team especially on ward rounds or multidisciplinary meetings.

The benefits of this system have now been extended by developing a new web based version that allows any NHS based computer to have access to the system and to be able to securely transfer patient images to plastic surgery and burns unit hubs (hospitals which can receive images). The telemedicine system called Telemedicine Referral Image Portal System (TRIPS) has now been extended to cover the whole of the London and South East Burns Network including QVH, St Andrew's Chelmsford, Chelsea & Westminster, Stoke Mandeville & St George's Hospitals. This means that over 160 Emergency Departments & Minor Injuries Units in this area, covering a population of over 20 million, can refer burns or plastic surgery injuries to these hub hospitals for ongoing management.

Over the last year we have received over 16,500 referrals to the five hubs for advice. This reliable, simple to use system has made a significant impact on the way we manage patient referrals in the South East and we would like to see its use extended to the whole of the country. We are sure it will benefit patients, help reduce costs, reduce CO₂ emissions by reduced journeys and aid staff education as it has done for QVH for over 15 years.

*Baljit Dheansa, Consultant Plastic Surgeon and Gary Taylor, Regional Telemedicine Coordinator
Queen Victoria NHS Foundation Trust, East Grinstead*

Obituary: Dr John Davies DSc

Many members of the BBA will recall with affection John Davies who died on the 18th October. He was an esteemed and respected colleague of both scientific and clinical workers in Burn Care and Study here in the UK and Internationally. His career was mainly spent at the MRC Burns and Industrial Injuries Unit at the old Birmingham Accident Hospital and in later years at Glasgow University.

John worked on a wide range of subjects centred around the physiological response to burn injury with particular interest in fluid dynamics and balance. He published many learned papers and his book 'Physiological Responses to Burning Injury', released in 1982 is still a landmark publication and unrivalled source book for early work in its field. His contributions to the BBA were many and varied but focussed on his period as Treasurer of the Association from 1975 to 1983. He delivered the AB Wallace Memorial Lecture in 1990 on the 'Challenges for the Future in Burn Research and Burn Care', which was later published.

He was also instrumental in the establishment of the Journal 'Burns' for the ISBI. His tenure of the Editorship from 1982 to 1994 laid all the foundations for the Journal as we see it today. No Journal has an easy time in its first years and John's building up of the Editorial Board structure, review procedures and oversight of the transition in publisher from John Wright through Butterworth Heinemann to Elsevier ensured the necessary stability and reputation for success.

Colleagues will remember him as an accomplished and disciplined scientist and a committed worker for the investigation of the scientific basis of burn injury treatment. He is survived by his wife, Mary, also a noted colleague for many involved in burn injury study, and their children, to whom we send our condolences and best wishes.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO
CONTRIBUTE TO THE
NEWSLETTER?**

**If you have a 'hot topic' to address or developments in your centre which you would like to share with colleagues via the BBA Newsletter, please email Nechama Lewis at the BBA Office:
info@britishburnassociation.org**

The Executive Committee and Staff of the BBA wish Members a very happy festive season and all the best for the new year.



Advance Announcement

CPD points applied for

British Burn Association

Annual Meeting - Newcastle: 11-13 May 2016
Hilton Newcastle Gateshead Hotel

Burns - the Bigger Picture

Hosted by: Royal Victoria Hospital, Newcastle

We would like to invite you to register for the BBA Annual Conference 2016 to be held in Newcastle.

The venue will be Hilton Newcastle Gateshead Hotel, which provides an excellent meeting and exhibition space. The meeting will provide an excellent opportunity to network with your colleagues as well as providing:

Challenging Scientific Programme
Distinguished Speakers
Full networking programme
Trade exhibition

Call for Abstracts:

All abstracts are encouraged with specific interest in the following themes being welcomed:

- Blistering skin disorders
- Burns of the eyes and eyelids
- Peer review of burn services

Deadline for submission of abstracts: **Midnight - 3rd January 2016**

Please note: There will be no extension to this deadline

For further details, abstract submission & to Register Online, please visit the website or contact the Conference Secretariat:

www.conventus.com/bba

Member: Earlybird:£275.00 - £310.00 Regular

Non Member: Earlybird:£355.00 - Regular:£390.00

Day Delegate: Member: £120.00 per day attended. Non Member: £170.00 per day attended.

Early Bird registration rate before **29th February 2016**

Free online Hotel Booking Service at guaranteed rates available only from Conference Secretariat

Conference Secretariat: Conventus LLP | 00 44 (0)1722 742603 | bba@conventus.com

