

## **SAS Newsletter March 2011**

### **BAD SAS sub-committee**

The role of the Specialty Doctor, Staff Grade and Associate Specialists' subcommittee of the British Association of Dermatologists is:

- to support all doctors working in secondary care dermatology departments in a nationally recognised SAS grade (Associate Specialists, Staff Grades, Specialty Doctors, Trust Grades, non-GP Hospital Practitioners and non-GP Clinical Assistants)
- to offer career advice.
- to liaise with the RCP, BMA and other organisations, working to improve service conditions and training opportunities for this grade of SAS doctors.

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Dr Glenda Hill – Co-opted (CDU and Pre-Conference SAS Session) (SAS)

[Glenda.Hill@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Glenda.Hill@wales.nhs.uk)

Dr Susan Welsh – Postgraduate career development funding Representative (SAS)

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Dr Simon Tilston - BMA/RCP SAS's Liaison Officer (SAS)

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Ms Monica Parrondo – BAD Committee Administrator [monica@bad.org.uk](mailto:monica@bad.org.uk)

Please email Monica ([monica@bad.org.uk](mailto:monica@bad.org.uk)) if you have any SAS queries and she will forward your email to the BAD SAS Committee member who is most likely to help you. Also let Monica know if you have any news that you think will be of interest to other SASs and the sub-committee.

### **SAS Representatives on other BAD Committees:**

#### **Historical**

Dr Caroline Love

[drcalove@hotmail.com](mailto:drcalove@hotmail.com)

Dr Sid Orpin

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### **Therapy and Guidelines Committee**

Dr Sangeeta Punjabi [sangeeta.punjabi@imperial.nhs.uk](mailto:sangeeta.punjabi@imperial.nhs.uk)

### **Education**

Dr Liz Ogden [lizogden@doctors.org.uk](mailto:lizogden@doctors.org.uk)

### **Conference and Events Committee**

Dr Glenda Hill [Glenda.Hill@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Glenda.Hill@wales.nhs.uk)

### **NHSE England pay increment freeze proposal**

The SASC Chair wrote to all SAS grade doctors in December 2010, ([http://www.bma.org.uk/representation/branch\\_committees/staff\\_associate\\_specialists/etternhswhitepapersasdec10.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/representation/branch_committees/staff_associate_specialists/etternhswhitepapersasdec10.jsp)) informing them that NHS Employers (NHSE) had written to the BMA with a proposal to freeze pay increments for all NHS staff in England for 2 years from 1 April 2011. The letter and subsequent robust rejections of the proposals can be found on the BMA website along with FAQs on the issue.

### **Staff and Associate Specialist development fund/ Career development funding for SASs**

The SASC has received a number of queries regarding the use and eligibility for the 12 million pounds development funding and has created some FAQs including how to access the funds and the future of funding. Whilst much of this information may be old the following link

([http://www.bma.org.uk/careers/medical\\_education/professional\\_development/sasdevfund.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/careers/medical_education/professional_development/sasdevfund.jsp)) will take you to an overview to date as well as a more comprehensive FAQs from January 2011.

If you are thinking of applying please contact your local SAS clinical tutor/lead – you should be able to locate who represents your area via your deanery website. Dr Sue Welsh is in the process of compiling a list of contact names to ease the process – these details are available on the SAS section of the BAD website –

<http://www.bad.org.uk/site/1242/default.aspx>

If you have details for a contact name in your area please email it to Dr Welsh [welsh702@btinternet.com](mailto:welsh702@btinternet.com) so this list can be added to/completed.

### **e-learning**

Please do take time to visit the e-learning sections of the BAD website <http://www.e-lfh.org.uk/projects/dermatology/index.html> Registration is quick but you will need your GMC number. Please direct any feedback to Dr Jane Sterling [jcs12@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jcs12@cam.ac.uk)

### **Joint Negotiating Committee (SAS) meeting updates**

This forum discusses contractual issues for the SAS doctors. They last met in November 2010 and a summary is available via the following link.

[http://www.bma.org.uk/representation/branch\\_committees/staff\\_associate\\_specialists/jn](http://www.bma.org.uk/representation/branch_committees/staff_associate_specialists/jn)

[csas2009.jsp](#) It is thought that implementation of the new contract is, as of July 2010, 65% complete in England with an increase in new contracts since that time. Implementation is “substantially complete” in Wales. In Scotland 88%, at September 2010, who expressed an interest have job plans with 78% on the new contract and 77% having received back pay. Unfortunately problems persist in Northern Ireland and it is likely that a number of months are still needed to overcome these. The BMA will check your contract and an advisor may be contacted on 0300 123 1233 or via email to [support@bma.org.uk](mailto:support@bma.org.uk) You may have to be a BMA member to use this facility – please check.

### **SAS Workload Surveys**

1. A recent **SAS workload survey** has now been completed and is posted on the BAD website. Please go to the following link to view the results of the survey:

<http://www.bad.org.uk/site/624/default.aspx>

#### **a. SPA's**

Under the terms of the new SAS contract, SAS doctors working either full or part time are entitled to a minimum of 1 supporting professional activity (SPA) per week. In practice, for a full time post, this is not really adequate to achieve the levels of education, audit and appraisal required to meet the demands of revalidation. Job planning, teaching and research are also included within SPAs. When negotiating job plans, it would be appropriate for full time SAS doctors to request 1.5 – 2 SPAs, justifying the request by a diary recording your working day activities during the preceding 6 weeks. The BMA's SASC would suggest that the majority of SAS doctors over threshold 2 of the Speciality Doctor contract and anyone on the 2008 Associate Specialist contract would require a minimum of 2 SPAs but this is not a contractual entitlement. Dr Glenda Hill has informed me that in Wales a minimum of 2 SPAs have been agreed following on from the “Good Practice Guide” negotiations.

#### **b. Patient numbers**

The BADs SAS sub-committee recently agreed that Specialty Doctors above level 2, Staff Grades with optional points and Associate Specialists should have the same clinic templates as Consultants. Numbers should be reduced when teaching or supervising junior doctors, nurses or medical students. More junior SASs should have smaller clinics.

It is difficult to give guidelines for numbers of patients to be seen in clinics. The results of our recent workload survey <http://www.bad.org.uk/site/624/default.aspx> suggest that numbers of patients being seen now by dermatology Associate Specialists are similar to numbers seen by consultants. The most recent BAD recommendation for consultants seeing patients in general dermatology clinics (not specialist or tumour clinics), states:

*“The ratio of new to follow-up patients and time allocated will vary depending on the type/complexity of the cases seen. 12 - 16 patients may be seen in a clinic. In clinics where dermatologists teach undergraduates, train registrars, or supervise doctors and nurses, numbers must be reduced appropriately.”*

The BAD’s SAS sub-committee agreed at their most recent meeting that appointments in a general clinic should not be less than 15 to 20 minutes

**c. Skin surgery guidelines**

The most recent BAD guidelines state:

*“Skin surgery will usually take 20 minutes for a skin biopsy, 30 minutes for a simple excision and 60 – 90 minutes for more complex flaps and graft repairs. Micrographic surgery takes 90 minutes to several hours. These times do not include ‘turn around’ time between cases, which depends on trained nursing support and efficiency.”*

Please try and ensure that you are able to access your own personal workload figures for appraisal and revalidation. This should be possible with input from IT. The information will be required for revalidation

**2.** In October 2010 the **BMA** also published the results of their “SAS doctors’ workload and career progression”

[http://www.bma.org.uk/employmentandcontracts/working\\_arrangements/sasworkcaroct10.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/employmentandcontracts/working_arrangements/sasworkcaroct10.jsp)

**3. The Royal College of Physicians** have sent us the following and we hope you will respond to their survey:

“We annually collect data on consultants and registrars about their jobs and career plans to help in develop the best workforce for patient care. SAS doctors are key to this workforce but our data on the work you and your colleagues do is limited. Such workforce data is vital in the current changing NHS. We would therefore be extremely grateful if you could take the time to fill in the linked questionnaire to help us better understand your post, work issues and career aspirations.

<https://www.rcpworkforce.com/se.ashx?s=253122AC312E2304>

The questionnaire should take about 10 minutes to complete and we hope to have the results on the RCP website by the end of the summer. We will send a copy of the survey results to all those who take part.”

**Annual Clinical Update meeting for SAS Doctors 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011, Manchester**

Glenda Hill and the BAD Conference and Events Department have again organised the next Clinical Update meeting scheduled for **6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011** at the Radisson SAS Hotel at Manchester Airport. Leo has very kindly agreed to be our main sponsors again. If your address has altered, or does alter, please email the BAD Conference

Organiser – Chris Garrett [christopherg@bad.org.uk](mailto:christopherg@bad.org.uk) to make sure you receive your invitation and also [monica@bad.org.uk](mailto:monica@bad.org.uk) so that you continue to receive SAS news. To obtain a copy of the programme please contact [Monica@bad.org.uk](mailto:Monica@bad.org.uk). A copy of the provisional programme is available on the link: <http://www.bad.org.uk/site/1258/default.aspx>

### **Pre BAD SAS Session, ICC London Excel, 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

Glenda Hill has kindly arranged the Pre BAD SAS again this year, which takes place on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July before the main conference starts on 5<sup>th</sup>. This session will also be held at the ICC London, Excel. For more details and to register please contact Chris Garrett at [conference@bad.org](mailto:conference@bad.org). Registration will be 12.15 - 1pm with the meeting starting at 1pm. There will be the option of a sponsored meal afterwards for delegates. The BAD conference and events team will contact those registered for the meeting to clarify if you wish to attend this dinner.

### **SAS Forum**

Please do take time to visit the SAS forum that has been created on the BAD website. The forum is open to SAS doctors and all BAD members to share news, views, practice and professional tips and matters of concern. The forum can be accessed through the SAS section of the website <http://www.bad.org.uk/site/623/default.aspx> and requires membership login.

### **SAS Database**

Dr Sandeep Kamath has taken over from Helen Horn with respect to updating the SAS Database. Please inform him at [drsandeepkamath@gmail.com](mailto:drsandeepkamath@gmail.com) if you change your address or email. Please let Sandeep know of any SAS colleagues who have moved into your area so he can add them to the database, group email and ensure they get invitations to SAS educational events. The BAD regional representatives have been encouraged by the BAD to help keep the SAS database records up to date. The most recent SAS database survey is available on the BAD website and is accessible by members and non-members.

### **Travel Fellowships:**

#### **BAD/SAS**

Two travel fellowships of £500 each are available each spring specifically for BAD and/or Dowling Club members who hold SAS posts and who wish to visit dermatology centre or attend a dermatology meeting overseas. The **closing date** for applications is **20 May 2011**. An application form and further information can be downloaded from the education site at the BAD member's website. Last year no one applied and unfortunately the 2010 awards were not carried over to this year. Further information may be found at <http://www.bad.org.uk/site/1236/default.aspx>

### **NIHR/BAD research taster & travel bursaries**

The first is a travel bursary to attend a key dermatology scientific meeting such as the BSID or ESDR. The second award is for a research taster bursary to enable someone who is thinking about doing dermatology research or somebody at a relatively early stage of their research to visit a research department to get a taste of research in that department or to initiate further research collaborations. The location of the research centre need not be limited to the UK, and the type of research can range from basic science to health services research. For further details and an application form please contact the BAD research committee administrator [Kasia@bad.org.uk](mailto:Kasia@bad.org.uk). The closing date is yet to be confirmed but is likely to be October 2011.

### **UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network (UK DCTN, [www.ukdctn.org](http://www.ukdctn.org))**

Up to two Awards of up to £1,500 each will be awarded to UK Dermatology SAS grade staff to work with the UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network (UK DCTN). The UK DCTN co-coordinating centre is based within the Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology at The University of Nottingham led by Prof Hywel Williams. The aim of the award is to develop skills in clinical trials and critical appraisal in years one and two and then apply these skills in year three as the successful applicants become increasingly involved in the Network. The closing date is usually **February**. For **2012** please contact Carron Layfield [Carron.Layfield@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Carron.Layfield@nottingham.ac.uk), Tel 0115 846 8625 or Fax 0115 846 8618 or via the following link [http://www.ukdctn.org/uk\\_dctn\\_awards/](http://www.ukdctn.org/uk_dctn_awards/)

Many congratulations to the winner of the 2011 UK DCTN SAS Award Dr Penny Thomson who is an Associate Specialist in dermatology based at Barnet and Chase Farm Hospital NHS Trust.

### **Dowling Club Educational weekend, 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> May 2011, Manchester**

Dr Anja Weidman, Honorary Secretary to the Dowling Club has informed me that this years Dowling Club Educational weekend is kindly sponsored by Basilea and Galderma. As a result of this the weekend events are free of charge. Needless to say places will be limited so early booking is advised. Contact [conference@bad.org.uk](mailto:conference@bad.org.uk) or [http://www.bad.org.uk/site/691/default.aspx#May\\_2011](http://www.bad.org.uk/site/691/default.aspx#May_2011) for more information, registration etc.

### **Specialty Certificate Exam (SCE)**

Discussions continue as to whether the SCE exam will be open to SAS doctors. At the moment SAS doctors can only sit it if they have the MRCP but it is likely to be opened up to non-MRCP SAS doctors as well. The post-nominal "MRCP Derm" will only be awarded to those successful candidates who hold a national training number. This will mean that SASs who pass the exam will not be able to use the post nominal unless they have both MRCP and the post nominal.

**Applications to join the Specialist Register under Article 14 / CESR**

Many congratulations to Dr Truptai Desai (AS and locum consultant) who has just been successful with her CESR application and is now on the Specialist Register. She is happy to be contacted [tdesai@nhs.net](mailto:tdesai@nhs.net) if you would like help and support with your application.

We would like to hear your comments if you have applied for a CESR but have been unsuccessful. Your advice may be even more valuable than advice from a successful applicant! You can post your comments on the discussion forum accessible through the SAS page of the BAD website or contact us via Monica Parrondo.

**Scottish Dermatological Society President's Symposium, 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011, Edinburgh**

This years SDS meeting looks to be very educational and has 6 CPD credits attached to it. For more information please contact Dr Sue Lewis-Jones at [sue.lewis-jones@nhs.net](mailto:sue.lewis-jones@nhs.net)

I hope that the above information is accurate and up to date. If you see any inaccuracies, or if you would like other items included, please let me know.

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