

**BASHH**



## **British Association for Sexual Health and HIV**

*Established 2003 through the merger of MSSVD (est.1922) and AGUM (est.1992)*

**Charity Number: 1148196**

**Company Number: 07863350**

### **BASHH Annual Review**

**Branches  
Special Interest Groups  
Other Groups of BASHH**

**1 August 2019 - 31 July 2020**

*Approved by the Trustees on*

#### **Address registered with the Charity Commission:**

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Website: [www.bashh.org](http://www.bashh.org)

**Bankers:  
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Invicta House  
108-114 Golden Lane  
London  
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This is a stand-alone review that allows the individual Branches and Groups to highlight their activities over the year.  
It is a public document that is available on the BASHH website [www.bashh.org](http://www.bashh.org)

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## **Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**

[Adolescent Group](#)

[Bacterial Group](#)

[Doctors in Training Group](#)

[Genital Dermatology Group](#)

[HIV & Blood Borne Viruses Group](#)

[Herpes Simplex Virus \(HSV\) Group](#) – *no report submitted*

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**[Regions](#)**

[Cheshire and Mersey](#)

[East Anglia](#)

[Ireland](#)

[Northern](#)

[Oxford](#) – *no report submitted*

[Scotland](#)

[South West](#)

[Thames – North East](#) – *no report submitted*

[Thames – North West](#)

[Thames – South East](#) – *no report submitted*

[Thames – South West](#) – *no report submitted*

[Trent](#)

[Wales](#)

[Wessex](#)

[West Midlands](#)

[Yorkshire](#)

**[Committees with BASHH representation](#)**

[JSC for Genitourinary Medicine](#) – *no report submitted*

[Specialist Advisory Committee](#)

[UEMS Dermatovenereology Committee](#)

**[Journals with BASHH representation](#)**

[International Journal of Sexually Transmitted Diseases & AIDS](#)

[STI Journal](#)

## Prizes and programmes

### BASHH Undergraduate Prize Winners

#### Clinical prize

Hepatitis C prevalence and surveillance in patients taking pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).  
*Beth Bateson, University of Glasgow.*

#### Research Prize

Global prevalence of chlamydia, gonorrhoea and trichomoniasis in men who have sex with men: a systematic review and meta-analysis.  
*Ella Davies, University of Liverpool.*

### Scientific programme

#### 10 January 2020

##### Part 1. GSM Specialist interest Group

**Chair: Dr Kate Nambiar**

##### Ageing and sex with an LGBT focus

13.05-13.25 Aging and care related concerns for the LGBT community: recommendations for practice  
*Dr Katherine Bristowe, KCL*

13.25-13.50 Accessing sexual health services – how does this change with age for LGBT populations?  
*Dr Andy Williams, Barts Health*

13.50-14.15 PrEP, chems, and navigating risk and prevention – a toolkit for older LGBT  
*Mr David Stuart, 56 Dean St*

14.15-14.30 Clinical Experiences of Sexual Health Trainees in the Management of Transgender Including Non-Binary People Within Sexual Health Services  
*Dr Daisy Ogbonmwan, New Croft Centre, Newcastle*

##### Part 2. HIV/BBV Specialist Interest Group

**Chair: Dr Tristan Barber**

##### HIV and Ageing: Longevity, quality, therapy and complexity

16.05-16.15 TakeMyPillsUK.com  
*Dr David White, Birmingham*

16:15-16.35 Life Expectancy for PLWH in the Context of the '4th 90'  
*Dr Jaime Vera, Brighton*

16.35-16.55 ART in older patients – what’s best?

*Dr Ranjababu Kulasegaram, Guy’s and St Thomas’*

16.55-17.15 Frailty Services and coordination of complex care.

*Cheryl Gowar, National AIDS Trust*

**6 March 2020**

### **Public Health England**

13:05-13:35 The epidemiology and testing frequency of syphilis in gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men

[\*Katy Sinka\*](#)

13:35-14:05 Finnish new variant Chlamydia trachomatis: incident response in England

[\*Kate Folkard\*](#)

14:05-14:35 Prevalence of sexually transmissible enteric infections in men who have sex with men (MSM): Findings from a cross-sectional study and Use of whole genome sequencing to identify clusters of Shigella flexneri associated with sexual transmission in men who have sex with men

[\*Holly Mitchell\*](#)

14:35-15:05 Current issues with Mycoplasma genitalium diagnostics and resistance testing

[\*Helen Fifer & Michelle Cole\*](#)

### **BSIG**

15:30-17:30 Panel discussion: Role of empirical antibiotic therapy

Introduction & audience questions

[\*Achyuta Nori\*](#)

Expedited partner therapy

[\*Claudia Estcourt\*](#)

Partner management strategies using newer testing pathways

[\*John White\*](#)

Syndrome management using in-clinic rapid testing

[\*Paddy Horner\*](#)

Testing and antimicrobial resistance

[\*Naomi Fitzgerald\*](#)

Open discussion with panel - *All*

**16 July 2020**

**First Virtual meeting**

**Chair: Sophie Forsyth**

- 2.05-2.25pm Providing a sexual & reproductive health & HIV Prevention service outreach service during COVID-19 – the Glasgow experience -  
*Dr Rebecca Metcalf, Consultant in Sexual Health & HIV, Glasgow*
- 2.25-2.45pm COVID Blood Borne Virus Screening (CBBVs) : testing in people who experience homelessness during the COVID pandemic  
*Dr Binta Sultan, Locum Consultant at Mortimer Market Centre and Find and Treat Homeless Health Service, University College London Hospital*
- 2.45-3pm Breakout rooms with facilitators
- 3-3.20pm Local contact tracing for local people  
*Dr Su Currie, Consultant in HIV & Sexual Health, Cumbria Sexual Health Services.*
- 3.20-3.40pm Domestic Abuse - Routine enquiry and disclosures during COVID19  
*Dr Jane Ashby, Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV, Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust*
- 3.40-4pm Panel Discussion

# Overview

## President's report

It is always a privilege for the President of the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) to submit our annual review each year. It is the opportunity to survey and summarise the Association's many activities and achievements. This year, to end July 2020, was a year like no other within our short history. It was one in which our latent agility, flexibility and responsive organisational framework was called upon in ways we hadn't anticipated, and yet we delivered when asked, and attested to our communal strength. There are lessons learned and yet to be learned, and much more work to do. This we know. First, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to my fellow Officers, Trustees, Chairs and members of the Special Interest Groups, Branch Chairs and all our members who gave their valuable time in supporting the Association's work across the UK. I would especially like to single out our Immediate Past President, Dr Olwen Williams OBE, who successfully stewarded the organisation since 2018 and was instrumental in establishing foundational workstreams during her tenure before it ended in January 2020.

To recap, with our partners, Dr Williams secured the UK Parliamentary Health and Social Care Committee Inquiry into Sexual Health (in England), which reported in Autumn 2019, and which supported BASHH's call for the development of a new Sexual Health Strategy for England. The Inquiry recommended against wholesale changes being made to the current sexual health commissioning process in England, instead calling for strengthening collaboration between the NHS and local government and an improved approach to tendering. Contemporaneously, the UK Government called a General Election, and on the re-election of The Conservative Party led by Mr Johnson with a sizeable majority, in December 2019, the UK Government immediate policy priority became ensuring the exit of the UK from the European Union by end January 2020. This has relevance to our Association on every level, but with special regard to policy and change in England, it meant that energy, attention, and activity within Government was directed elsewhere. The political party structures and arrangements within Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland remained relatively unchanged, although their individual challenges remain and the impact of the end of the UK/EU transition period due December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020 will remain to be seen.

Feedback from the BASHH members' survey during 2019 highlighted issues within our specialty; respondents worried about the future delivery of sexual health care in England and felt that staff morale had decreased within their service in the preceding year. Issues regarding recruitment and retention of staff were also highlighted. In response to this a group was established to develop resources to improve recruitment into Genitourinary Medicine training and improve the perception that others have of the specialty. This work continued throughout 2020. BASHH, working closely with the Royal College of Physicians, is expanding joint work throughout undergraduate and postgraduate medical training to raise the profile of Genitourinary Medicine. BASHH has supported our Nurse, Health Adviser and Pharmacy Leaders and members to expand their activities similarly. I am very proud to see that this is already having an impact as there has been an unbroken chain of continued expansion in the BASHH membership over the past decade especially among our non-medical sexual health specialists. The energy, expertise, vision, and commitment our new members bring to the organisation is marvellous, inspiring and rejuvenating on every level.

However, the challenges cannot be underestimated and it is important to articulate the membership's concerns at every level.

In February 2020, BASHH met with Professor Stephen Powis NHSE/I Medical Director and Amanda Pritchard NHSE/I Chief Operating Officer to convey the concerns of the Membership about the needs of the Specialty for the decade ahead. They were receptive to the issues discussed and particularly concerned to hear and work with us on the medium to long term workforce issues. BASHH was supported in these discussions by the National Leads for the Local Government Association and Association of Directors of Public Health. The key roles we all play in meaningful prevention and holistic support for healthy communities in the widest context is recognised. Sexual health Services have a public health expertise and record of delivery and effective partnership and coalition building that is a continuing strength in the challenging conversations we repeatedly face. We are stronger together.

This particular day in and around the Westminster Estate was an intersection of the many competing stressors we in our lives, and through BASHH, have had to address this year.

It actually began with a morning in clinic then a dash to open and run a Sexual Health Drop-In Clinic for MPs, Members of the House of Lords and their staff, in the Committee Rooms of the House of Commons. Together with our partners, The Terrence Higgins Trust, BASHH launched "The State of the Nation" 2020 Report on STIs and HIV in England, highlighting the unacceptably high rates of STIs in England as in the rest of the UK. Representatives of each of our four nations, elected and unelected, were reached. We ran stations on "Combination Prevention", "Access to Sexual Healthcare" & "Living Well with HIV" using every opportunity to impress too the importance of anti-microbial stewardship, addressing health inequalities, and necessary resourcing of our services and providers.

I would like to thank all of the BASHH members & THT volunteers who came together to create a very successful, semi-intentionally hilarious but always with serious intent, event.

The day was bookended with the first high level meetings on immediate preparations for the impact of (SARS-COV-2) the novel coronavirus that came to dominate our year.

Rapidly our depth and breadth was called upon, as colleagues from across our four nations adopted an open sharing response to the development of emergency, immediate, short, medium and long term responses to COVID-19. With partners in The Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH) and The British HIV Association (BHIVA) we wrote to No. 10 to articulate our largely successful request to Government to implement immediate legislative changes to support the sexual health sector in England, and in the Devolved Nations, including the rapid enablement of digital access to care. Internally BASHH created a UK Sexual Health Service response to COVID-19, "Preservation of Essential Services" document that has been widely influential and effective. The COVID-19 BASHH Website has been a continually updated free resource that has been accessed widely by colleagues and partners inside and outside the UK. The BASHH Officers and Board have been immeasurably helpful and many individual members have contributed extensively. This is especially commendable as many were simultaneously managing their own services and contributing to the wider NHS and societal response to the first wave of COVID-19. I would especially like to thank, however, Dr Shalini Andrews, whose welcome to the Chair of the Clinical Governance Committee, Spring 2020 transpired to be. The power and the value of the CGC, and its network of communication and liaison, she has transformed into a vibrant reactive Team of Teams, reaching out and listening in to every clinic across the country.

Rapid and regular communication and team working has always been our modus operandi.

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This year, it became our lifeline.

BASHH ran Daily open "Officers & Others" Teleconferences through March, alongside the weekly SRH & HIV Sector Teleconferences for England co-led by Public Health England (PHE) & Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC). Here we represented BASHH & BHIVA, and together with FSRH, English Commissioners, Association of Directors of Public Health, NHS England, Local Government Association co-ordinated the National Response for the Sector.

By April, the BASHH Teleconferences morphed into a weekly themed call.

Monday	Service Leads Open Call
Tuesday	BASHH Officers & Board (& Elders)
Wednesday	BASHH Members/BASHH National (Wales, Scotland, NI & Eng Reps) Alternate
Thursday	BASHH Specialist Interest Groups (Vulnerability & Complexity Working Group)
Friday	BASHH Voluntary Sector Update & Support Teleconference Slack Group

BASHH asked and you responded. The first in a sequence of four 2020 BASHH "Service Situation & Clinical Thermometer" Surveys ran in April 2020. This had immediate impact, leading to the creation of the BASHH Vulnerability and Complexity Working Group\* who met within 24 hrs of the first run analysis of that survey. The survey output also informed the immediate responses of the Public Health England (PHE), Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC), Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare (SRH), & HIV Sector Activities.

It influenced the immediate National Communications Strategy, led to the creation of a Community Partnership Cascade, remapping and reconnecting communities to services, the development of Top Tips for Practitioners in Telemedicine and later a series of Joint Webinars with FSRH & PHE in June & July. We influenced the LGA and ADPH National Guidance series for the sector. Additional outputs included PHE creation of a Knowledge HUB (KHUB) and Evaluation Toolkit and the initiation of work within PHE to build on BASHH raised concerns about the ability of the most vulnerable to withstand the challenges of COVID-19. This work on Inclusion Populations and Complexity continued throughout the summer to complete in Autumn 2020.

BASHH also consulted the membership on Recovery Principles for Services, establishing consensus on the future development of our sexual health services. We recognise that irrevocable change has taken place in 2020. We are clear that there is extensive unmet sexual health need, that unmet need is unequally distributed throughout our nations and that digital and telemedicine is part of the solution and needs to be expanded and integrated, but that our focus will always remain on those most in need and that redressing health inequalities is our central task. We are committed to this task.

BASHH worked with PHE & NHSE to seek to re-activate the roll-out of pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV (PrEP) in England which was due to coincide with the end of the IMPACT Trial in July 2020 but was temporarily mothballed along with other vital work due to the initially all-consuming impact of COVID-19. We were pleased to see this work resurrected by June 2020.

Ordinarily we would have all met in person at the Spring Conference. Sadly we could not do so this year. The 2020 Spring Conference has had to be postponed to a virtual meeting in October. Instead we have met virtually through a series of virtual events. Our Virtual Scientific Meeting in June, and the BASHH/FSRH Webinars were well attended, up to 700 on the latter, and all greatly appreciated. The BASHH Meet the Members Q&A was introduced on alternate Wednesdays and has been well attended and has proven to be

a useful forum for real-time communication. I anticipate the future will be a combination of the virtual and face to face. And hopefully we shall be the greener for it.

Professor Anna Maria Gerretti as Editor in Chief of Sexually Transmitted Infections Journal, alongside Dr John White, Editor of International Journal of STD & AIDS have together continued to lead our educational team in the transition to digital as well as spearhead our influence in the specialty inside the UK and abroad. I thank them for their leadership. As I do the Media Team, who have had perhaps their busiest year yet, responding to a record number of enquiries and appearing on almost all leading TV, radio and online outlets in the process. Close collaboration with the BHIVA Media Team, M&F Health and our own Secretariat, KSAM, has enabled both Associations to gain a wider reach and raise the profile of contemporaneous issues in the field of sexual health and HIV. For myself, 2020 is perhaps the year I finally accepted the value of social media and acknowledged the right of Twitter to exist. I note that @BASHH\_UK has added a further 1500 followers this year, and it would be great if you all could join and engage to push us over the 10,000 follower mark before the end of 2020. Let's see.

I would like to reiterate my thanks to all the BASHH Members, Officers and Trustees for their enthusiasm, time, and commitment to the improvement of the sexual health well-being and happiness of the public we serve.



**Dr John McSorley**  
**President**

\* Initial membership of the Vulnerability and Complexity Working Group included the Adolescent SIG, Sexual Violence SIG, Gender & Sexual Minorities SIG, Health Adviser & Nursing BASHH Representatives, National AIDS Trust (NAT), London Metropolitan Police, BASHH Officers and PHE

## Treasurer's report

2020 was a financially challenging year for BASHH. As the result of COVID-19 lockdown, BASHH had to cancel all its training and educational events between February and September 2020. The impact of COVID-19 on BASHH accounts was a mixed one, reducing BASHH income and expenditure; by 31% and by 44% respectively. As the result, BASHH made a surplus of £15,301 in the financial year ending on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

BASHH's main expenses are our educational meetings and secretariat fees. The reduction in BASHH expenses was mainly the result of cancellation of payments for hiring venues for BASHH events because of COVID-19 lockdown; 53% less than that in 2019. BASHH's negotiation of contracts with the publishers of the journals also assisted in this respect; 47% less than that in 2019.

COVID-19 lockdown put significant strain on BASHH's cash flow during the lockdown period. As the result, BASHH's saving accounts depleted by 33% in 2020.

The value of BASHH investments remained stable in 2020 with less than 1% loss compared to the previous year. It is important to note that without the investment income and the growth in investment assets the association's costs currently and during the last couple of years outweigh its income from its normal charitable activities. As we expect a turbulent few years post Brexit for the stock market, it would be important to note that our finances may come under strain in the coming years.

### Principle funding sources

Income for the charity comes from investments, membership subscriptions, and educational events. Because of the charity's stable financial position, the annual membership fee was not increased in 2019.

**Dr Kaveh Manavi**  
Treasurer

## Clinical Governance Committee Review

### Membership

Shalini Andrews	Chair & Branch Chair, Thames (SW)
Mohamed Ghanem	Secretary
Martyn Wood	Branch Chair, Cheshire & Merseyside
Serish Basavaraj	Branch Chair, East Anglia
Oluseyi Hotonu	Branch Chair, Northern Region
Say Quah	Branch Chair, Northern Ireland
Matthew Phillips	Branch Chair, North West
Rona MacDonald	Branch Chair, Scotland
Peter Greenhouse	Branch Chair, South West Region
Selena Singh	Branch Chair, Thames (NE)
Olamide Dosekun	Branch Chair, Thames (NW)
Lucy Garvey	Branch Chair, Thames (NW)
Rajesh Hembrom	Branch Chair, Thames (SE)
Manjula Pammi	Branch Chair, Trent
Rachel Drayton	Branch Chair, Wales

Sangeetha Sundaram	Branch Chair, Wessex
Claire Robertson	Branch Chair, West Midlands
Amy Mammen-Tobin	Branch Chair, Yorkshire
Joe Deering	Health Adviser Representative
Kimberley Dzvova	Nurse Representative
Rosemary Gordon	Nurse Representative
Srinivasulu Narayana	SAS Representative
Hasan Mohammed	Specialist Sexual Health Pharmacist Representative

### **Ex Officio Members**

John McSorley	BASHH President
Alan Tang	BASHH Vice President
Kaveh Manavi	BASHH Treasurer
David Phillips	BASHH General Secretary
Claire Dewsnap	BASHH Conference and Communications Secretary
Sophie Forsyth	BASHH Education Committee Chair
Margaret Kingston	BASHH Clinical Effectiveness Group Representative (CEG)
Vanessa Apea	BASHH National Audit Group Representative (NAG)
David Phillips	BASHH Information Group
Emma Fox	BASHH Mentoring Group
Emily Clarke	BASHH Clinical Standards Unit

This committee consists of regional representatives from all of the branches in England, and a representative from the UK devolved nations: Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. In addition, there are professional group representatives from Nurses, Health Advisers, Pharmacists, Staff & Associate Specialists, and Doctors in Training. Other Groups within BASHH feed into this committee: The Clinical Effectiveness Group, the Clinical Standards Unit (CSU), the National Audit Group (NAG), the BASHH/FSRH Integrated Information Group and the Web Team.

### **Objectives**

- To implement strategies and policies of BASHH as approved by the Governing Board
- To oversee, set and monitor standards and specifications relating to BASHH
- To identify areas of best clinical practice and promote their adoption whilst recognising local variation in capacity, infrastructure and policy
- To identify regional and individual clinic difficulties and support such services to explore solutions to issues, mobilise support and suggest action plans.

### **Meetings**

The Committee holds meetings on the same days as the Scientific Meetings. In the year ended 31st July 2020, one telephone (adobe connect) and two face to face meetings were held at The Royal Society of Medicine. This was followed by a further virtual (Zoom) meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic. Meetings are supported by BASHH administration team and minutes published on the website.

In addition to the quarterly meetings, during the pandemic, a WhatsApp branch chairs group has been set up for timely discussions around service concerns. Virtual meetings were held on alternate weeks to facilitate face to face discussions in April and May 2020.

## Significant activities

Spotlight discussions were held on topics generated by representatives. These were

- Challenges, new ways of working, shape of services during and after COVID-19
- Online STI screening and treatment by non-NHS commissioned providers and implication for anti-microbial resistance
- Health Adviser capacity and commitment to invest in partner notification expertise

During the pandemic, the CGC was an important communication channel between BASHH and its membership. Discussions include deployment, virtual consultations, posting medication, safety concerns around cryotherapy, nuisance callers, safeguarding and comparing level of service provision between services. Standard operating procedures (SOPs) were shared within the Group. The branch chairs contributed to increasing survey participation and dissemination of information within regions. Both WhatsApp and virtual Zoom have been useful platforms to share information about main areas of BASHH work during COVID-19 including the surveys, clinical thermometer, work with vulnerability and complexity and PrEP roll-out.

On-going work streams include resetting services during and after COVID-19, supporting services during PrEP roll-out and contributing to the National Sexual Health Strategy. The CGC along with relevant BASHH Special Interest Groups will also be involved in approval of national patient group directions (PGD) of medication used in sexual health services.

The Branch Chairs also function as the Regional Specialty Representatives (RSA) of the Royal College of Physicians. The College met with the regional speciality representatives in March 2020 GCG for a presentation of their work, and a Q&A session.

## Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- The CGC was an effective channel to disseminate intelligence and information rapidly during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A pharmacist representative was appointed, and work is underway to approve national Patient Group Directions (PGDs).
- Several clinical governance issues were discussed and strategies for management were circulated, after discussion with relevant Special Interest Groups where appropriate. This includes Benzathine Penicillin shortage, Mycoplasma Genitalium testing and management of resistance, syphilis in pregnancy, culture facilities for gonorrhoea, cryotherapy and risk of aerosolisation, handling nuisance caller, telephone and video consultation and providing an inclusive service for patients, especially those excluded by a move to online and telephone based service.
- The four nation engagement in CGC enabled a broader understanding, shared experience and expertise and collaborative management.

## Future plans

- To support BASHH commitment to equitable geographical provision of on-line services that support high standard face to face sexual health services
- To support BASHH to lead on the development of coherent holistic sexual health strategies for all four nations in the UK in the next decade.
- To support development of national PGDs
- To extend involvement of Doctors in Training in CGC, to mentor and assist in career development as well as enthuse newer trainees.

**Dr Shalini Andrews**  
Chair

## Education committee review

The Education Committee is responsible for facilitating the delivery of the BASHH's vision, values and service priorities through education, training and development. The Educational Committee (EC) and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) develop and maintain educational programmes providing high levels of specialist training and skill, whilst embracing a wider, more integrated sexual health remit across a wide geographical area and range of healthcare settings.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought new challenges in delivering education and training which our members have risen to impressively by embracing new technology and going on a steep learning curve to become familiar with new ways of teaching online (when we remembered to "unmute"!)

While we have all missed the pleasure of seeing our colleagues in real life there have undoubtedly been advantages as many more BASHH members have been able to access meetings in the convenience of their homes, work places or other far flung locations.

### **The Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**

The SIGs lead on the development of educational materials and meetings within their specialist areas. They develop and deliver educational programmes and courses. They also contribute to education and training by generating publications and research, developing guidelines and recommendations in collaboration with other BASHH Groups and external organisations, and reviewing and responding to documents on behalf of BASHH. Individual reports detailing specific contributions are available within this document.

This year before COVID-19, the SIGs provided several well-established courses such as the Genital dermatology and Genital dermatology plus courses, Masterclass in Sexual Dysfunction and the Diplomas in GUM and HIV revision courses. There have also been new courses developed including the international High Resolution Anoscopy Course organised by the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) SIG which ran in November 2019. Since March 2020 and due to a number of reasons, many of these courses have transferred to the online platforms successfully including the SAS doctors' conference, STIF courses and HIV Masterclasses.

### **BASHH scientific meetings**

The EC has the responsibility of providing quarterly Scientific meetings, which are free to BASHH Members. SIGs take it in turn to organise these meetings and they often take a two-part structure, organised by two individual SIGs.

This year, the Autumn meeting was replaced by a BASHH symposium at IUSTI in Talinn led by the ASIG. We used the funds set aside for running the September meeting to support BASHH members with discounted IUSTI registration, giving Doctors in Training, SAS and Nurse and Health advisor members preference when applying for these 30 places.

The January meeting was led by the GSM and HIV SIGs and the March meeting was organised by Bacterial SIG and Public Health England. These were both well attended with excellent evaluation. Podcasts/webcasts of the lectures are available on the BASHH website for members to access in their own time if they are unable to attend the meeting.

We held our inaugural virtual Scientific meeting in July with a theme of innovations and best practice in the COVID-19 era which was well attended and the virtual breakout rooms proved to be a good way of stimulating discussion and sharing ideas.

### **Scholarships, Fellowships and Travel awards**

The Education Committee supported the BASHH/PHE Fellowships and the Education Committee's own BASHH Educational Fellowships which this year were awarded to Dr Hannah Church and Dr Ellie Crook. Hannah is undertaking a project on recruitment to the specialty supervised by Prof Margaret Kingston and Ellie will be looking at the undergraduate curriculum supervised by Dr Ashini Fox and Dr John Evans-Jones.

Future events are expected to be online and the Education Committee has set up a virtual education subgroup led by Dr Luciana Rubinstein with the aim of developing some best practice guidelines on how to run virtual training events.

**Dr Sophie Forsyth  
Chair**

# Named Groups

## BASHH/FSRH Integrated Information Group

### Membership

David Phillips (Co-chair, BASHH)  
Asha Kasliwal (Co-chair, FSRH)  
Anatole Menon-Johansson (BASHH)  
Achyuta Nori (BASHH)  
Evelyn Kerr (BASHH)  
Rona MacDonald (BASHH)  
Jonathan Shaw (BASHH)  
Usha Kumar (FSRH)  
Nathan Acladius (FSRH)  
Susannah Hall (FSRH)  
Parveen Jaydeva (FSRH)  
Cuong Chau (PHE - HARS)  
Hamish Mohammed (PHE- GUMCAD)  
Stephen Duffell (PHE GUMCAD)  
Wendi Slater (PHE)  
Kate Thurland (PHE)  
Nicky Connor (PHE)  
Stephen Duffell (PHE)  
Judith Ellison (HSCIC)  
Sarah Freeman (HSCIC)  
Kate Jervis (Brook)  
Charles Hewitt (Pathway Analytics)

### Observers from software companies

Ed Hulse (Mill Systems)  
Shafeda Mohammed (RIOMED)  
Thiyagarajan Jayaraman (IMS)  
Iain Galloway (IDCapture)  
Andrew Denman (Inform Health)  
Cathy Butler (IDOX)  
Colin Kowlessar (RioMed)  
Liz Lovell (IMS)

### Objectives:

- To recommend strategies for IT implementation, data collection and reporting for the spectrum of Sexual Health services (ranging from non-integrated services to fully integrated services).
- To liaise between DH, HSCIC, PHE and other agencies regarding information issues to achieve best outcomes for both patient and public health.
- To advise on the type, quality and format of information to be collected from Sexual Health services for the purposes of national audit, public health monitoring and monitoring of service performance.



- To respond to relevant consultations affecting service provision, data collection and information governance in Sexual Health.
- To receive and respond to queries and concerns from members relating to IT and Information Governance, including data protection and confidentiality rules.
- To anticipate issues relating to IT and Information Governance from new legislation, commissioning or other changes that affect Sexual Health.
- To disseminate important information to BASHH/Faculty members via organisational websites/newsletters.

### **Significant activities & Outputs in the year 2019-20**

- The Group met on 3 occasions during 2019/20.
- We have considered matters of relevance to GUM Clinics, SRH clinics and Integrated Services in particular in relation to statutory reporting including GUMCAD, SRHAD and HARS.
- We have advised PHE on matters arising including: Data compatibility and mapping of SHHAPT to SNOMED, review of SHRAD structure and Care Activities, development of HARS 1.2 and implementation of GUMCADv3.
- We have responded to numerous questions posed by BASHH members regarding information governance and data security for sexual health services.
- We have reviewed the guidance on retention and destruction of records within sexual health.
- We have established a subsidiary group: Sexual Health – EPR (Electronic Patient Record) working group, to focus on shared best practice for innovations in this realm.
- In the COVID-19 context we have looked at impact on data and information including: Coding to capture in era of telemedicine and compatibilities with current data reporting systems and mandated datasets.

### **Future plans**

- To continue to work closely with members of the Faculty, PHE, DH, NHS Digital, software providers and others to ensure that we meet our objectives. Including the new NIPH as it evolves.
- To ensure the objectives and benefits of this Group incorporate relevant issues for all devolved nations of the UK.
- To be both pro-active and responsive to upcoming matters that affect data handling and Information Governance to produce and disseminate best practice advice to BASHH & FSRH members.
- To support shared working of innovations and developments in EPR systems for the benefit of services and patients.

**Dr David Phillips**  
Co-Chair

## **Clinical Effectiveness Group**

### **Membership**

*From September 2020 the membership of the CEG is:*

Ade Apoola  
Helen Fifer  
Sarah Flew  
Alison Grant  
Deepa Grover

Sarah Hardman (FSRH)  
Margaret Kingston (Chair)  
Nick Medland  
Michael Rayment  
Cara Saxon  
Suneeta Soni  
Ann Sullivan  
Craig Tipple (Secretary)

### **Objectives**

- To produce the BASHH guidelines for the management of sexually transmitted infections & related conditions
- Production of patient information leaflets to support application of the guidelines.
- Liaison with internal and external key stakeholders including the British HIV Association (BHIVA), the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (FSRH), The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, the BASHH Audit Group and the BASHH Public panel.
- Reporting to the BASHH Board via the Clinical Governance Committee

### **Significant activities**

- Ongoing review of the current BASHH guidelines and patient information leaflets, production of updates and of new guidelines. This remains a key output for BASHH and sets acceptable professional standards, facilitates good patient care and supports healthcare professionals to make appropriate and evidence based decisions choices when managing their patients.
- Liaison with key internal and external stakeholders.
- The CEG continues to meet three times per year; meetings and activities were not paused during the first wave COVID-19 response but are now taking place virtually via Microsoft teams.
- There have been significant changes to the membership of the Group this year with several retirements and others moving onto new opportunities. All these colleagues will be missed and have contributed a great deal to the Group, most especially Dr Keith Radcliffe as founder member and chair of the Group for over 20 years – an amazing achievement! New members have joined us and Dr Craig Tipple has been appointed as secretary and Prof Margaret Kingston as chair.
- The production of the guidelines is undertaken largely by BASHH members and their colleagues in the interests of the specialty and is unremunerated. The time taken to do this is increasingly pressured and the CEG have now engaged a researcher to assist with this work.
- BASHH is a NICE accredited guideline producer, which requires interim and full formal re-accreditation regularly. This year we received interim re-accreditation ahead of our application for full formal re-accreditation this coming year.

### **Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-2020**

- Maintenance of the BASHH guideline portfolio including co-produced guidelines with key external stakeholders including BHIVA and FSRH
- Ongoing liaison with stakeholders
- Interim accreditation with NICE as a guideline producing body
- Ongoing input into the BASHH annual conference; guidelines session
- Published guidelines 2019/2020:
- British Association for Sexual Health and HIV national guideline for the management of vulvovaginal candidiasis (2019). Cara Saxon (Lead Author), Anne Edwards, Riina Rautemaa Richardson, Caroline

- Owen, Bavithra Nathan, Bret Palmer, Clare Wood, Humera Ahmed, Sameena Ahmad, Patient Representatives, Mark FitzGerald (CEG Editor)
- United Kingdom BASHH national guideline for the management of epididymo-orchitis, 2019. Dr Mimie Chirwa (co-chair), Dr Olubanke Davies (co-chair), Mrs Sheena Castelino, Dr Mbiye Mpenge, Dr Farai Nyatsanza, Dr Cindy Sethi, Mr Majid Shabbir, Patient representative, recruited from a London clinic, Dr Michael Rayment (CEG Editor)
  - British HIV Association/British Association for Sexual Health and HIV/British Infection Association Adult HIV Testing Guidelines 2020. Dr Adrian Palfreeman (BHIVA Chair), Dr Ann Sullivan (BASHH Chair), Professor Tim Peto (BIA Chair), Dr Anna Buckley Consultant in Emergency Medicine, Dr Fiona Burns Associate Professor in HIV and Sexual Health, Dr Daniel Clutterbuck, Dr Ian Cormack, Ms Sara Croxford, Dr Gillian Dean, Dr Valerie Delpech, Ms Jo Josh, Ms Chamut Kifetew, Dr Nick LARBalestier, Dr Nicola Mackie Consultant, Dr Philippa Matthews, Mr Martin Murchie, Dr Anthony Nardone Consultant, Dr Paul Randell Consultant, Dr Michael Rayment, Dr Hannah Skene, Ms Kat Smithson, Mr Roy Trelvelion, Dr Karen Trewinnard, Dr Laura Waters, Mr Alan White, Dr Emma Young
  - 2019 UK National Guideline for consultations requiring sexual history taking: Clinical Effectiveness Group British Association for Sexual Health and HIV G Brook, H Church, C Evans, N Jenkinson, H McClean, H Mohammed, H Munro, K Nambia, J Saunders, L Walton, A Sullivan

#### **Future plans**

- Ongoing maintenance of the BASHH guideline portfolio including new guidelines and collaborations with stakeholders.
- Regular input from a researcher and dedicated admin support for the CEG and their functions.
- Application for full re-accreditation with NICE in 2021.

**Prof Margaret Kingston  
Chair**

## **Clinical Standards Unit (CSU)**

#### **Membership**

Emily Clarke	Chair
Rebecca Thomson-Glover	Secretary
Andrew Tomkins	Treasurer
Olwen Williams	
Rona MacDonald	
Karla Blee	
Say Quah	
Ann Sullivan	
Ceri Evans	
Martin Murchie	

#### **Objectives**

- To develop and maintain the BASHH standards documents

### **Significant activities**

- Developing new standards for commercial sex workers, being led by Michelle Pearson and Jane Ashby.
- Preparing for update and merger of Management of STIs, Outreach, and Online Standards with formal rewrite process starting late 2020
- Topic expert input on core committee for NICE Public Health Committee for Reducing STIs Guidelines Group to ensure BASHH voice key part of guidelines development

### **Future plans for 2020-21**

- Complete write up, publish and promote BASHH Standards for sex workers
- Complete write up, publish and promote merged BASHH Standards for the management of STIs, outreach and online standards
- Co-ordinate BASHH input to NICE guidelines.

**Dr Emily Clarke**  
Chair

## **Conference & Communications Group**

### **Objectives**

- To deliver Annual national Conference
- To deliver Joint FSRH/BASHH conference annually

### **Significant activities**

- Delivered face to face annual Joint BASHH/FSRH conference
  - 17 January 2020
- Delivered vBASHH – virtual annual conference
  - 19 -21 October 2020 (postponed from June 2020)

### **Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20**

- FSRH/BASHH conference
  - Surplus share from Joint FSRH conference £10,940.87
  - Total attendees 289
  - Evaluation: 98% rated the overall quality of education as Good or Excellent( 68% excellent)
- vBASHH conference
  - Well attended
  - Evaluation and final budget report awaited

### **Future plans**

- Deliver Virtual Joint FSRH/BASHH conference January 2021
- Plan and deliver either face to face or virtual Annual conference in May 2021

**Dr Claire Dewsnap**  
Secretary

## Media Group

### Membership

Peter Greenhouse  
Tristan Barber  
Simon Barton  
Elizabeth Carlin  
Jan Clarke  
Claudia Estcourt  
Stuart Flanagan  
Rak Nandwani  
Colm O'Mahony  
Mark Pakianathan  
Keith Radcliffe  
Angela Robinson  
Karen Rogstad  
Liat Sarner  
Verity Sullivan  
Steve Taylor  
Helen Ward  
Olwen Williams  
Janet Wilson

### Objectives

- To provide suitable information to the public and healthcare professionals in an appropriate and engaging way.
- To establish BASHH as the 'go-to' organisation for media requests relating to sexual health.
- To keep sexual health on the agenda by engaging with traditional and social media, responding to relevant publications and policies, and providing articles and interviews where appropriate.

### Significant activities

The last year has seen a continued flow of media requests. Usual topics including STI rates and antimicrobial resistance been interjected with topical issues including PrEP roll out and more recently COVID-19. We received a significant number of enquiries relating to how COVID-19 and lockdown have affected both services and STI rates. These enquires have been fulfilled by various members of the Media group and have been coordinated with other organisations such as PHE and BHIVA where appropriate.

BASHH continues to be seen as a reliable source of expertise as demonstrated by the significant number of media enquiries we receive including from mainstream organisations such as the BBC and major print media outlets.

### Future plans

- Ongoing media presence from BASHH, supported by Munro & Forster.
- Maintain social media presence.

**Dr Mark Lawton**  
Chair  
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## National Audit Group

### Membership

Vanessa Apea	Chair
Ann Sullivan	Vice-chair
Helen Iveson	Honorary secretary
Hilary Curtis	Audit co-ordinator
Regional Audit Chairs	<a href="#">See website page for list.</a>

### Objectives

- National audits of clinical practice in sexual health/genitourinary medicine clinics against the BASHH Clinical Effectiveness Group (CEG) National Guidelines
- A forum to discuss national and regional audit programmes
- Response to requests for national audits by the British Association of Sexual Health and HIV
- Specification of key auditable outcomes for the common genitourinary conditions, using the clinical guidelines of the CEG as the standard of care

### Significant activities

- 2020 national audit: 141 clinical services completed a survey about management of gonorrhoea and 156 services submitted case-note reviews for 5133 individuals with gonorrhoea. Data were collected in January-March 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic prevented some services from participating fully. Key findings included: transport times to the laboratory regularly exceeded six hours from some or all clinic sites for 24.8% of services, and occasionally for a further 30.5% of services; 84.4% of services usually conducted test of cure (TOC) for gonorrhoea at two weeks after treatment; 85.5% of individuals who were NAAT positive for gonorrhoea at at least one site had samples taken for culture (97% standard not met); 95.8% of individuals with gonorrhoea received first-line treatment or had documented reasons for not doing so (97% standard narrowly missed); 68.5% of individuals treated for gonorrhoea had a TOC; among individuals with gonorrhoea, 98.6% were tested for chlamydia, 82.4% were tested for syphilis, and 81.9% were tested for HIV after excluding those already known positive (97% standard not met); partner notification was discussed with 93.1% of individuals (97% standard not met) but 0.605 partners per index case attended a sexual health service within four weeks (standard met: 0.4 in major cities/0.6 elsewhere); 48.9% of individuals were offered written or digital information about their diagnosis and management (97% standard not met). Individual reports were distributed to participating services with recommendations including: reviewing results carefully to identify areas for improvement in performance or documentation of key outcomes; adhering carefully to guidelines to maximise treatment effectiveness and antibiotic stewardship; maximising uptake of test of cure, and investigating possible treatment failures; liaising with laboratories to ensure optimally effective methods of culture; encouraging all individuals with gonorrhoea to accept testing for syphilis and HIV, as well as chlamydia, and to engage in partner notification.
- Preparation of a short paper *Defining auditable measures and standards: briefing note* to aid those drafting guidelines and standards.
- Discussion of results of 2018 and 2019 national audits at regional meetings, with encouragement for clinical services to provide feedback to Regional Audit Chairs on changes and improvements made, for possible national collation.
- Liaison with Clinical Effectiveness Group regarding measurable outcomes for draft BASHH guidelines on children and young people, on epididymo-orchitis and on sexually acquired arthritis.

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- Liaison with the National Chlamydia Screening Programme, Impact PrEP and LUSTRUM studies, BASHH TCARQ and SAS Doctors' Groups, and BHIVA Audit and Standards Sub-Committee.
- Revision of the Group's Terms of Reference.

### **Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20**

- Dissemination of individual reports and certificates of participation via Regional Audit Chairs to sites which submitted data for 2020 national audit of gonorrhoea
- Publication of results of the 2017 national audit of early syphilis management in the *International Journal of STD & AIDS*
- Publication of *Defining auditable measures and standards: briefing note*.
- Revised Terms of Reference.

### **Future plans**

- 2021 national audit of *Mycoplasma genitalium* infection, including access to and use of testing
- Presentation of results of national audit of gonorrhoea at BASHH autumn conference 2020 and submission for peer-reviewed publication
- Continued working with relevant organisations
- Continued review of CEG draft guidelines and proposal of auditable outcomes.

**Dr Vanessa Apea  
Chair**

## **Public Health Group**

*No report*

## **Public Panel**

### **Membership**

#### ***Third Sector Organisation Representative:***

The African Advocacy Foundation  
 Trade Sexual Health (Leicester)  
 Terrence Higgins Trust  
 National AIDS Trust  
 Brook  
 Family Planning Association (FPA)  
 The Herpes Viruses Association  
 Sexpressions  
 BHA for Equality / BHA Skyline  
 Sex with a Difference  
 Positive East  
 Association for Lichen Sclerosus and Vulval Health.

#### ***Six lay members***

#### ***Professional members:***

BASHH Clinical Effectiveness Group (CEG)  
 Sexual Health Advisers  
 Sexual Health Nurses.

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## Objectives

To offer a lay opinion on clinical guidelines, audit proposals, and related public materials and leaflets developed by BASHH. In addition to this, the joint THT / BASHH Research Panel offers lay advice to researchers.

## Significant activities

The panel has met four times in the past year. It has increased and diversified its membership to include more BAME and young members.

## Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

The panel has provided valuable feedback on six clinical guidelines, two patient information leaflets and the strategy document on re-establishing sexual health services produced by BASHH. It has given a lay perspective on the new GUM / HIV training curriculum and its members have joined several study planning groups as lay representatives. The panel has helped to shape the sexual health VLOGs (see below) and the Research Panel has commented on three studies (sexual health research activity was severely curtailed by COVID.)

## Future plans

It is likely that the process of producing and updating guidelines and patient information at BASHH will restart soon and the panel will play a crucial role in this work. The panel will also be important in the completion of the four BASHH VLOGs. These will be launched towards the end of 2020 and will be: MSM Health; Emergency Contraception; Chlamydia; Getting Tested.

**Dr Patrick French**  
Chair

## Revalidation Group

### Membership

Dr Janet Wilson

### Objectives

- To provide specialty based advice and support to the RCP revalidation team
- To provide support for BASHH members in matters related to revalidation
- To develop specialty specific guidance to support members wishing to revalidate
- To ensure that the specialty specific advice is kept updated and remains current

### Significant activities

- Specialty specific advice available on to the BASHH website and the RCP revalidation section
- Supporting the RCP to develop specialty specific clinical outcomes

## Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

### Medical Revalidation date reset for those due between March 2020 and 2021

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the GMC has decided that those doctors with revalidation dates between 17 March 2020 and 16 March 2021 can have their dates moved back by one year as deferring revalidation dates will help free up more time, allowing them to provide the best possible

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care to patients. See <https://www.gmc-uk.org/news/news-archive/coronavirus---gmc-confirms-revalidation-date-changes>

- The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges website provided useful information (<https://www.aomrc.org.uk/revalidation-cpd/appraisal-revalidation-during-COVID-19/>)
- To accommodate flexibility, Responsible Officers can make a revalidation recommendation at any point from now up to a doctor's new revalidation date.
- The GMC has also confirmed that a missed appraisal as a result of the pandemic should not prevent a recommendation being made about a doctor's revalidation. This means Responsible Officers can make a revalidation recommendation for a doctor with less than five annual appraisals, providing there is a legitimate reason for the missed appraisal and that other necessary supporting information has been collated.
- Dr Janet Wilson remains the Revalidation Advisor for Genitourinary Medicine

### **Future plans**

- A limited number of specialty specific outcomes may be developed for revalidation in the future.

**Dr Janet Wilson**

**RCP Revalidation Advisor for Genitourinary Medicine**

### **Web Team**

The BASHH website remains a well-used repository of information for its members and the public. In addition to the frequently accessed national guidelines it has been a source of COVID-19 resources for clinicians during this challenging time.

Social media activity remains important with a further increase in Twitter followers, now sitting at over 9000.

**Dr Mark Lawton**

# Special interest Groups (SIGs)

## Adolescent Group

### Membership

Jane Ashby

Chair

Sophie Herbert

Secretary

### Objectives

- To promote and improve the sexual health of adolescents and young people by providing guidance and working with those in other sectors to deliver this aim
- The Adolescent Special Interest Group consists of clinicians working in sexual health and with an interest in issues related to the sexual health of young people.
- We meet three times a year and plan research studies, training and educational meetings; respond to related national consultations and develop and contribute to guideline development in related fields of young people's sexual health.

### Significant activities

Much of the planned activity for this year was limited due to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and planned meetings have been postponed and/or moved to a virtual format

- ASIG symposium at BASHH-IUSTI joint meeting Tallinn 7 September 2019
- CSE and CCE presenting to sexual health and acute health care settings – audit done in St Helen's and London led by Rebecca Thomson-Glover and presented at BASHH virtual Autumn 2020
- Collaboration with other BASHH members representing marginalised and vulnerable groups as part of a working group through COVID
- Participation in BMA careers fair with others from BASHH Groups to raise awareness of specialty and encourage trainees

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- BASHH Guidelines for STIs in Children and Young People updated 2020 –published 2020 – led by Dawn Wilkinson
- Continued representation at the national CPAI meetings – 3 times a year, currently in virtual format
- Recruited a new member with an interest in social media and technology to support further work of the ASIG
- Updated modules in e-LFH relevant to ASIG (this work is ongoing)

### Future plans

- Collaboration to update the HYPNET/CHIVA/BASHH/BHIVA guidance on the management of sexual and reproductive health for adolescents living with HIV –led by Elizabeth Hamlyn
- To run an educational half day X 2 virtually which has had to be postponed due to COVID –planned now for Spring 2020
- To run the ASIG session at the BASHH Scientific meeting 2021 – was due to be January 2021 now postponed
- Further work on CCE/CSE presenting to acute settings planned as a collaboration with other centres across UK to expand reach, knowledge and awareness

- Continue to develop consensus ASIG statement on information sharing in the context of young people and safeguarding – led by Jane Ashby
- To continue to contribute to the e-LFH modules relevant to ASIG
- Collaborative work with Brook planned to update the 'spotting the signs' document – funding awaited
- Recruitment of a young person on to the Group – advert out currently October 2020

**Dr Sophie Herbert**  
**Secretary**

## Bacterial Group

### Membership

#### **Core Group**

Catherine Ison	London, Chair
Frances Keane	Truro, Secretary
S. Uthayakumar	London, Microscopy course coordinator
Suneeta Soni	Brighton, Webmaster
Achyuta Nori	London, OGM organiser
Sheel Patel	London, Treasurer

#### **General Membership**

Elizabeth Claydon	Barnstaple
Michelle Cole	London
Rachel Drayton	Cardiff
Helen Fifer	London
Emma Harding-Esch	London
Paddy Horner	Bristol
Sunhil Maharjan	London
Victoria Miari	London
Nigel O' Farrell	London
Alice Pickering	Brighton
Tariq Sadiq	London
Amanda Samarawickrama	London
John Saunders	London

### Objectives

- To promote communication between microbiologists and clinicians involved in the diagnosis and treatment of bacterial sexually transmitted infections by: offering courses in specialist areas e.g. microscopy course, production of educational material and organisation of symposia on new areas of interest.

### Significant activities

- Sarah Alexander stood down from the group after a number of years contributing to the Group.
- Sunhil Maharjan, a Post-doctoral Research Scientist at the National Institute of Biological Standards and Control in Hertfordshire joined the Group.
- Two full meetings of the Bacterial SIG took place on 11 October 2019 and 6 March 2020 at the Royal Society of Medicine.

- One microscopy course was held on 26 September 2019 but the course planned for 18 April 2020 was cancelled due to lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Review and editing of the responsive website and App on Microscopy of STIs continued.
- Response to requests from BASHH to review various documents.
- Sales of the DVD on Microscopy of STIs.
- Updating of BSIG website

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- The BSIG, jointly with PHE, organised the scientific meeting on 6 March 2020 with the following programme.

Introduction	
The epidemiology and testing frequency of syphilis in gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men	Hamish Mohammed
Finnish new variant <i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> : incident response in England	Kate Folkard
<i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> AMR surveillance	Helen Fifer
Panel discussion: National Infection Service issues with <i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i>	Helen Fifer & Michelle Cole
Panel discussion: Role of empirical antibiotic therapy	
• Introduction & audience questions	Achyuta Nori
• Expedited partner therapy	Claudia Estcourt
• Partner management strategies using newer testing pathways	John White
• Syndrome management using in-clinic rapid testing	Paddy Horner
• Testing and antimicrobial resistance	Naomi Fitzgerald
• Open discussion with panel	All

- The microscopy course continues to be led by Dr S. Uthayakumar and Dr Libby Claydon assisted by Drs John Saunders, Amanda Samarawickrama for the Bacterial SIG, Drew Clark and others from Imperial College London. The course held on 26 September 2019 was attended by 28 individuals (8 were BASHH members). As always the course had excellent feedback. The course planned for 18 April was fully booked but had to be cancelled. Plans to pilot a dark-field microscopy course have been postponed.
- Both meetings of the BSIG have been well attended with the main agenda item being discussion and review of the current status of the Microscopy website/App project. Individual members of the Group have reviewed specific sections of the responsive website for the Microscopy of STIs and checked the App for accuracy and ease of use.
- The BSIG have discussed extensively the use of multiplex testing for organisms that are not required, in addition to the use of poorly performing tests and of inappropriate specimens. Discussion of the provision of suboptimal treatment by online providers and its potential effect on antimicrobial resistance is also a concern. The BSIG undertook to produce a position statement for BASHH and information resources for patients.

## Future plans

- Two virtual meetings of the full Bacterial SIG are planned for October 2020 and March 2021.
- Microscopy course for April 2021 has been cancelled due to restrictions during the pandemic. The BSIG have undertaken to consider alternative ways to provide microscopy training including the options of a hybrid course (mixture of virtual and face to face teaching), an on-line course and options to include the use of the BSIG micro website/App.
- Completion of the transfer of the BSIG micro website to the BASHH website. Planning for beta-testing and launch of the Website and App to replace the DVD on Microscopy of STIs at a BASHH conference.
- Planning and preparation of a demonstration/commercial and an electronic flyer for the BSIG micro website/App to optimise usage and for marketing purposes.
- Preparation of a position statement on inappropriate use of multiplex testing platforms and suboptimal use of antibiotic treatment regimens to be posted initially on the BASHH website.
- Consideration of producing a statement on the importance of maintaining microscopy in clinics following the extensive use of telephone consultations during the pandemic.
- Continual review and updating of the Bacterial SIG webpage.
- Planning for the content and manner of delivery of joint scientific meeting with Public Health England in January 2022.

**Professor Catherine Ison**  
**Chair Bacterial Special Interest Group**

## Doctors in Training

### Membership

Membership to the DIT Group fluctuates. All DIT are invited to join either via the regional BASHH trainee representatives or via the Training Program Director for their deanery.

### Objectives

- To represent the professional interests of DIT working in Sexual Health and HIV.
- To provide educational opportunities for DIT and facilitate communication about appropriate events.
- To ensure DIT representation on BASHH Committees.
- To sit on the Royal College of Physicians Specialist Advisory Committee to represent trainees.

### Significant activities

- The annual DIT BASHH training day was held virtually on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and received excellent feedback. This was rearranged due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next planned training day is in Spring/Summer 2021 and is yet to be confirmed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A Twitter account is maintained to develop a social media profile. The BASHH DIT representative works within the BASHH Social Media Group to help maintain this profile.
- Supporting development of a future recruitment plan for Sexual Health and HIV medicine through support of careers events.
- Supporting the new GUM curriculum development and enabling current trainees to voice their opinion on this.
- Increasing collaboration with HIV Trainees Club (HIVTC).
- Working with Sexpression to develop working relationships with medical students and increase the profile of sexual health and HIV medicine.

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## Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- Annual BASHH DIT training day was held virtually on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020.
- Followers on the BASHH\_trainees Twitter account have increased throughout the year.
- The BASHH DIT representative has responded to concerns from trainees that regional teaching provision is not equitable between deaneries with formal survey. The result of this has been used to develop a national regular teaching program with virtual platform delivery.
- The BASHH DIT representative has conducted a review of the experience of GUM trainees during the COVID-19 pandemic and this will be published formally.
- The trainees have engaged with the development of the new GUM curriculum and have developed a guide for current trainees who wish to achieve a CESR in General Internal Medicine.
- Trainees are working with Sexpression to develop better links with medical students who are interested in sexual health and HIV, with a hope of increasing the profile of the specialty and recruitment in the future.

## Future plans

- To increase membership to the BASHH DIT Group. There are currently 98 GUM trainees nationally and this number is not reflected in the number of members. The introduction of a national platform for teaching hopes to address this. To use this to help support formal BASHH membership.
- To work towards BASHH 2021 national training day.
- To support the development of national projects, for example the national teaching program.
- To be a voice for DIT nationally, as the future of the specialty, and to represent views to the board.
- To continue to support recruitment to our specialty, partly through encouraging medical students, and to work with the Undergraduate BASHH Fellowship and Recruitment BASHH fellowship holders.

**Dr Hannah Church**  
**BASHH DIT representative**

## Genital Dermatology Group

### Membership

Christine Bates	Outgoing chair
Georgina Morris	Incoming chair
Sarah Edwards	Secretary
Serish Basvaraj	Outgoing Treasurer
Imali Fernando	Incoming Treasurer/Outgoing Web master
Parameswaran Sashidharan	Incoming Web master
Hannah Yeend-Curd Trimble	Trainee Rep (appointed June 2020)
Komal Plaha	
Jill Pritchard	
Ben Goorney	
Lisa Haddon	(Joined June 2020)

### Objectives

- To promote genital dermatology as a subspecialty within genitourinary medicine and sexual health
- To lead on development of educational materials, meetings and training in Genital Dermatology
- To provide basic knowledge and skills for the effective management of genital skin conditions

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### Significant activities

- Continued representation on Vulval Disease work stream with dermatology and gynaecology to harmonise training across specialities

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- 9th BASHH Genital Dermatology Course, London 18 October 2019
- Unfortunately planned 5<sup>th</sup> BASHH Genital Dermatology Plus Course in June 2020 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Review Guidelines for 2019-2020

- Balanoposthitis – completed
- Pediculosis pubis – in progress

### Future plans

- Virtual 10<sup>th</sup> BASHH Genital Dermatology Course planned for 27 November 2020 on Zoom Pro
- Plan to also run Virtual Genital Dermatology Plus Course in June 2021
- To continue to review genital dermatology service delivery and training in the current commissioning climate.
- Continued Input into Vulval Disease work stream re training e.g. Post CCT Fellowship in Genital Dermatology, and harmonisation between specialties (Dermatology/Gynaecology/GUM).

**Dr Georgina Morris**  
**Chair**

## HIV & Blood Borne Virus (BBV) Group

### Membership

Monique Andersson	
Tristan Barber	Chair
Julia Bilinska	Trainee Rep HIV
Fiona Burns	
Susan Cole	Community Rep
Noel Connolly	
Gail Crowe	
Stuart Flanagan	
Emma Hathorn	SAS Rep
Charlotte Hopkins	
Babu Kulasegaram	
Nicky Mackie	
Kaveh Manavi	
Bronagh McBrien	HIV PA Rep
Justine Mellor	Nurse Rep
Rebecca Metcalfe	
Mark Nelson	
Elizabeth Okecha	Secretary
Emma Page	Hepatitis Lead
Mary Poulton	
Huw Price	
Kyle Ring	Trainee Rep BBV

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## Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Group

### Membership

Richard Gilson	Chair
Jaime Vera	Secretary and Treasurer
Jake Bayley	
Kate Cuschieri	
Cindy Gilmour	Specialist Nurse
Charles Lacey	
Mark Lawton	
Jay McBain	Specialist Nurse – from December 2019
Diarmuid Nugent	
Nicola Steedman	
Kate Soldan	
Gary Whitlock	
Matthew Grundy-Bowers	Nurse Consultant – until September 2019

### Objectives

- To define standards of care for patients with genital warts and to produce management guidelines
- To support research related to HPV infection including randomised controlled trials
- To provide a forum for education and advice on HPV related issues for all members of BASHH

### Significant activities

- The HPV SIG met 3 times (September 2019; December 2019; March 2020) either in person or by teleconference, however exclusively by teleconference in March 2020. The meeting scheduled for June 2020 was cancelled owing to pressures from other work related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The European High-Resolution Anoscopy (HRA) course was held jointly with the International Anal Neoplasia Society in November 2019 in London.
- Members of the SIG continued to provide advice to the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation on aspects of the national HPV vaccine programmes
- The HPV SIG continued to support research projects in HPV, including work on screening for HPV-related anal pre-cancer led by University College London, and proposals for treatment trials.

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- BASHH agreed to support the 5th European High-Resolution Anoscopy Course, in collaboration with the International Anal Neoplasia Society from 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The course organisers were Dr Gary Whitlock (BASHH) and Ms Tamzin Cuming (IANS) and it was held at the Homerton Hospital. The course faculty included a number of international experts, facilitated by linking the course to the Annual Scientific Meeting of IANS in Amsterdam the week before. There were 60 registered attendees, the largest number attending to date.
- Members of the HPV SIG have continued to work with PHE developing the methods to evaluate the impact of the HPV vaccination programme targeted to MSM.
- The HPV SIG continued to support research projects in HPV. The results of the HIPvac clinical trial of topical treatment with or without vaccine were accepted for publication with NIHR Journals. An evaluation of the sensitivity of HPV testing of residual STI screening samples was completed.

- Members of the SIG are collaborating on a study of screening for HPV-related anal pre-cancer, and a study of the distribution of sub-lineages of HPV found in cancer samples.
- The HPV SIG produced a list of 'frequently asked questions' on HPV for use by healthcare workers responding to questions from members of the public.
- The HPV SIG continues to provide a GUM representative on the Board of the British Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (Dr Richard Gilson)
- Members of the SIG continue to teach on the BASHH STI/HIV Course.
- Members of the SIG led the publication of an updated IUSTI-Europe guideline on HPV.
- In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the SIG provided advice to services on the use of cryotherapy, and provided reassurance that this procedure would not result in an increased risk of SARS-CoV-2 virus transmission.

### Future plans

- Members of the SIG will continue to support the evaluation of vaccination against HPV in MSM attending sexual health services.
- The SIG will seek to enter into a partnership agreement with the International Anal Neoplasia Society to further develop the European HRA training course, including development of an on-line version.
- The SIG will work towards developing a scheme to support access to practical training in HRA.
- Members of the SIG will update the BASHH guidelines on the management of anogenital warts.

**Dr Richard Gilson**  
Chair

## Mentoring Group

### Membership

Emma Fox	BASHH co-chair, Health Education Kent, Sussex, Surrey and South London and Health Education Thames Valley, Wessex and South West
Adrian Palfreeman	BHIVA co-chair, Health Education North East, North West and Yorkshire and the Humber and Health Education East Midlands, West Midlands and East of England
Vinet Campbell	FSRH co-chair
Humphrey Birley	FSRH BASHH, Wales Deanery
Imali Fernando	BASHH, Northern Ireland and Scotland
Vacant	Doctor in Training Rep
Vacant	FSRH Rep
Sophie Flavell	New Consultant Rep
Luciana Rubinstein	BHIVA, Health Education North Central, East and North West London
Lorna Sands	SAS Doctors representative

### Objectives

- To provide a mentoring service for new consultants working in GU medicine, SRH or HIV medicine to help them transition into their new role
- To provide a mentoring service for SAS doctors at any time during their career
- To provide a mentoring service to support established consultants who feel they would benefit from mentoring at any time in their career

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### Significant activities

- We have now formally incorporated the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (FSRH) into our joint BASHH and British HIV Association (BHIVA) scheme to include doctors working in community sexual and reproductive health (SRH)
- We ran our fifth independent Mentoring Skills Course in December 2019

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019/20

- Current pool of 30 mentors across the UK
- Excellent feedback from the Mentoring Skills Course in December 2019

### Future plans

- To run an annual training course for new mentors
- To continue to run refresher / supervision sessions for existing mentors

**Dr Emma Fox**  
Co-Chair

## Prison Group

### Membership

Susanna Currie	Chair, Consultant in genitourinary medicine
Katia Prime	Consultant in genitourinary medicine
Felicity Young	Nurse Consultant
Jodi Aldridge	Specialist nurse
Jenny Murira	Clinical Infection Research Fellow
Huda Fadzillah	Consultant in genitourinary medicine
Dave Mansley	Matron in GU medicine
Michael Rayment	Consultant in genitourinary medicine
Rebecca Marchant	Trainee Rep
S Shivasankar	Consultant in genitourinary medicine
Lesley Navaratne	Consultant in genitourinary medicine
Jon Dunn	PHE, Sexual Health Facilitator for the North West
Kathy Jones	Health Advisor

### Objectives

- To define standards of care for sexual health provision in prisons in the UK
- To provide support to those facilitating sexual healthcare provision in prisons in the UK
- To enable standardisation of practice across prisons

### Significant activities

- The Group was reformed in February 2020
- SIG established and advertised on BASHH website
- March 2020, 1<sup>st</sup> meeting following re-launch (minutes available upon request)
- All other meetings have been postponed due to COVID-19
- Constitution and Terms of Reference drafted (awaiting approval)
- Chair invited to present new guidance at Health & Justice Conference, November 2020 – postponed until 2021

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## Future plans

- To establish secretary and treasurer for Group (November 2020)
- To agree the constitution and terms of reference (November 2020)
- Three virtual meetings to be arranged
- Review and update national guidance for sexual health care in prisons in the UK (deadline October 2021)

**Dr Susanna Currie**  
Chair

## SAS Doctors Group

### Membership

Helen Mullan	Chair
Kajal Verma	Secretary & Conference Committee
Karl Hollows	Financial Officer
Annette de la Court	Conference Committee (Chair)
Lewis Lau	Conference Committee / Education Committee
Mervyn Lee	Conference Committee
Srinivasulu Narayana	Conference Committee / Clinical Governance Committee
Anne Oliver	Conference Committee
Carlos Oroz	Conference Committee
Syed Ali Akbar	
Farhad Cooper	
Georgina Forbes	
Neil Lazaro	
Hannah Leng	
Soosan Romel	FSRH Representative
Rachel Sacks	
Lorna Sands	
PN Sashidharan	BASHH Board
Rizwaan Sheriff	
Helen Sherrey	
Catherine Shire	

### Objectives

- To represent the professional interests of SAS doctors working in Sexual Health & HIV
- To provide educational opportunities for SAS doctors
- To ensure the Group is represented on the various BASHH Committees

### Significant activities

- The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference was held at Leicester University in September 2019, attracting 138 delegates; 9 hours CPD; rated Good or Excellent by over 95% delegates

### Future plans

- Planning ongoing for **BASHH SAS Doctors Live!** to be held in September 2020.
- National Audit on Management of Syphilis planned
- Review of SAS membership categories within BASHH, once new SAS contract in place.

**Dr Helen Mullan**  
Chair  
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## Sexual Dysfunction Group

### Membership

David Goldmeier	Chair
Karl Hollows	Secretary
Shalini Andrews	
Jane Ashby	
Joanne Bassett	DIT Representative
Wallace Dinsmore	
John Ewan	
Penny Goold	
Karen Gurney	
Uday Joshi	
Emma McCarty	
Ali Mears	
Kirstin Mitchell	
Agnes Mosobela	Nurse Representative
Sean Perrera	
Sarah Wolujewicz	Physiotherapy Representative

### Objectives

- To provide education and develop training standards with respect to sexual dysfunction
- To act as a forum to provide advice and support for clinical sexual dysfunction services
- To help maintain clinical standards in local services.
- To promote the recognition that provision of psychological support for people living with sexual dysfunction is of vital importance
- To act as a professional body to unite sexual dysfunction services and encourage closer networking

### Significant activities

- ABC of Sexual Dysfunction conference November 2019 – rated an educational success
- Annual Group steering meeting November 2019

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- Contributions to Dip.GUM examination question bank and SIG representation on Dip.GUM examiner panel

### Future plans

- Next ABC of Sexual Dysfunction planned October 2021
- Sexual Dysfunction masterclass 2022

**Dr Karl Hollows**  
**Secretary**

## Sexual violence Group

### Membership

Deborah Wardle

Lisa Walton

Michelle Carroll

Amy Bennett

Rachel Caswell

Charlotte Cohen

Katherine Coyne

Fionnuala Finnerty

Ali Mears

Sarah Mensforth

Chair

Nursing representative & Secretary

FFLM Rep

Trainee Rep

### Objectives

The Sexual Violence (SV) Group, recognizing that sexual violence is part of sexual health, will consider all aspects of female and male sexual violence, including sexual assault, domestic violence, sexual trafficking, all forms of sexual exploitation, sex work and female genital mutilation.

The Group's aims are:

- To review services, training and standards within genitourinary medicine clinics, with reference to the associated aims, and in liaison with other agencies and institutions
- To promote and improve education and training of healthcare professionals in all areas related to sexual violence
- To raise the profile of sexual violence by carrying out research, submitting work for publication and organising training
- To raise public awareness and improve the care of patients disclosing sexual violence with an interest in issues related to the sexual health of young people.

### Significant activities

- Work ongoing to update guidelines in sexual assault management in sexual health setting document in draft format and to be submitted to the Clinical Effectiveness Group July 2019 in preparation for public consultation.
- Updated elements include a statement on information sharing with police following disclosure and the potential forensic significance of positive STI results.
- This includes a Patient Information Leaflet developed for UK Sexual Health Clinic attendees for support after sexual assault reviewed by NICE.
- Presentation at BASHH virtual Conference in October 20 on imminent guidance.

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019/20

- A summarised resource; "SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE (DA) GOING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC" has been posted on BASHH website to support staff in sexual health in considering safety planning options when enquiring and identifying domestic abuse via remote enquiry.

- Involvement in developing the new **BASHH Sexual Health Standards for People Who Work in the Sex Industry (SHSPWSI)** via collaboration in early draft of content outline and development of Standard 3 pertaining to assessment.
- Inter-Collegiate & Agency National Domestic Violence/Abuse (INCADVA) Forum – SV SIG for BASHH are represented on this national forum. A SV SIG member (Charlotte Cohen) presented at the INCADVA forum in 2019 and there are ongoing plans to work with them regarding GMC confidentiality guidelines.

#### **Submissions by Group members supporting work of the Group:**

- **How, why, for whom and in what context, do sexual health clinics provide an environment for safe and supported disclosure of sexual violence: protocol for a realist review.** *Caswell RJ, Maidment I, Ross JDC, et al BMJ Open 2020;10:e037599. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2020-037599*
- **Impact of a Dedicated Domestic Abuse (DA) Training Coordinator in an Acute Trust.** *E Hepworth\*, S Jackson\*, N Douglas\*, V Sloane^, C E Cohen^ poster presentation at BASHH October 2020*
- **Standing Together Against Domestic Violence.** *Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.*

#### **Future plans**

- Any updates to support staff in managing disclosures of domestic abuse through remote routine enquiry will be included in the information posted on the BASHH website. Any updates to advise during 2<sup>nd</sup> COVID-19 lockdown will also be included.
- Continued liaison on associated e-learning for health modules and sexually transmitted foundation training content as and when requested.
- Continued involvement in development of Standard 3 (pertaining to assessment) of the new **BASHH Sexual Health Standards for People Who Work in the Sex Industry (SHSPWSI)** .
- Charlotte Cohen is on the NHSE London DVA Clinical Reference Group and will communicate relevant information to SV SIG Group. First meeting was in October 2020.

#### **Three key priorities set out**

1. Policy around NHS staff DVA
2. Standardisation of documentation around DV within health records
3. Implementing health recommendations from DHRs

As it is now 4 years since the publication of the Domestic Abuse Toolkit and in response to the reported increase in domestic abuse during COVID-19 restrictions, an audit on the percentage of UK services undertaking routine enquiry of domestic abuse is planned.

#### **Submission on behalf of the Group:**

- **Teens, Sexual Assault and Ethical Research: the need for inclusivity of the teen experience.** *T. Shibolet, A. Anastassiou & R.J. Caswell on behalf of the BASHH Sexual Violence Special Interest Group*

**Dr Deb Wardle  
Chair**

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## Sexual Health Adviser and Nurse Group

### Membership

#### **Officers:**

Jodie Crossman	South east	<i>Chair</i>
Mr Jodie Walker-Haywood	Midlands	<i>Secretary</i>
Belinda Loftus	North east	<i>Treasurer</i>
Tristan Griffiths	London	<i>Webmaster</i>

#### **National representatives:**

Laura Ellis	Scotland
Kelly Walsh	North West
Zac Dolan	North East
Helen Jackson	North East
Suzanne Williams	Wales
Paul Teale	Midlands
Mike Passfield	East of England
Matthew Grundy-Bowers	London
Holly Royston-Ward	London
Michelle Jenkins	London
Ceri Evans	London
Cindy Gilmour	London
Emma Collins	South West
Sarah Smith	South East
Ruth Bailey	South East
Felicity Young	Isle of Wight
Regina Sliw	London

### Objectives

The SHAN SIG was formed in March 2018 and seeks to be an active Group of the organisation. Our role is:

- To represent the professional interests of Health advisers and nurses working in integrated sexual health (GUM and contraception) and/or HIV services, including those in research and community charitable sexual health focus organisations.
- To promote health advisers and nurses to join BASHH and engage at all levels within the organisation.
- To advise on, and offer support and advice on BASHH approved training and education to members.
- To influence the sexual health care agenda as a whole, and the agenda of BASHH.
- To be a body for health advisers and nurses on other BASHH committees to report and seek support from.

### Significant activities

- Working with other SIGs, working Groups, members, BASHH secretariat and outside organisations and individuals on queries, requests and input upon areas needed.
  1. Organisation and facilitation of the Multi-disciplinary Team (MDT), innovation award 2020 (Cathy Harman). This year awarded to Rosie Jennings (Specialist Health Adviser for reproductive health and wellbeing / midwife) for their submission 'Provision of free formula milk for women living with HIV' at the Sunflower Clinic, Lawson Unit, Brighton.
  2. Creation of national SH PGDs alongside SPS and FSRH.

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3. Promotion of BASHH membership to the Sexual Health Adviser (SHA) and Nurses across the UK.
4. SHA and nurse conference symposium for BASHH 2020.
5. Collaboration with Royal College of Nursing (RCN) to support and promote the profession and Society of Sexual Health Advisers (SSHA) to support their work on partner notification and the specialty.
6. Develop the emerging 'nurse associate' role in sexual health.
7. Facebook 'Sexual Health Adviser and Nurse support' Group established.
8. Fellow of the RCN awarded to SHAN member, Dr Matthew Grundy Bowers.

### Future plans

- Arranging SHAN BASHH scientific meeting, now planned for January 2021 with a theme 'Hard to reach or seldom heard?'
- Continue to promote BASHH membership to SHA and nurses across the UK.
- National SSH PGDs – currently working on PrEP, aciclovir, imiquimod and podophyllotoxin.
- Establish nurse and HA members within all BASHH SIGs.
- Planning for nurse / HA symposium for the 2021 conference.

**Jodie Crossman  
Chair**

## STIF Foundation & Competency Group

Matthew Grundy-Bowers	STIF Committee Co-Chair
Luciana Rubinstein	STIF Committee Co-Chair
Sue Bird	STIF Secretariat
Nick Theobald	STIF Executive Post
Ramona Malek	Web Master
Naomi Goodhand	STIF intermediate competency lead
Emma Collins	STIF advanced competency lead
Jonathan Roberts	NHIVNA core and NHIVNA advanced competency lead
Ceri Evans	STIF health advising competency lead
Rona McDonald	STIF integrated competency lead
Marie Fuller	STIF fundamental competency lead
Jenny Heathcote	FSRH representative

### Significant activities

- Review and update of STIF intermediate competencies with new assessments added to ensure aligns with expectations of staff working at this level
- Review and update of STIF Advanced competencies to ensure it aligns with the ACP curriculum. This includes the development of new assessments including dermatology, gynaecology, and complex STIs
- The BASHH STIF fellow has successfully submitted an abstract for the BASHH conference presenting the evaluation of STIF intermediate
- Development of new electronic surveys for trainees and trainers

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### Future plans

- The creation of STIF Diplomas for those who complete STIF Advanced or Nurses HIV Association (NHIVNA) Advanced competencies. The creation of STIF certificates for STIF intermediate, STIF Health Advising and NHIVNA Core. Final title of these to be decided.

- The ACP credentialing pilot has been on hold because of COVID-19, however it will start in the New Year.
- The first online train-the-trainer will happen in November 2020
- STIF health advising, STIF integrated, NHIVNA core, and NHIVNA Advanced competencies being reviewed and updated
- Development of an entry level competency product aimed at HCAs / Nursing Associates / band 5 nurses
- Revision of STIF Fundamental to make it a clinic base competency assessment (rather than an OSCE)
- The introduction of an e-portfolio for the STIF competencies.

**Dr Matthew Grundy-Bowers**  
Co-Chair, STIF steering Group

## STI & HIV Course

### Objectives

- The BASHH STI & HIV Course consists of 4 modules that run once a year covering:
  - **Module 1:** Epidemiology of STIs and Bacterial Infections
  - **Module 2:** Sexual health and sexuality
  - **Module 3:** Viral Infections other than HIV
  - **Module 4:** HIV infections
- It aims to improve in depth knowledge and management of STIs and HIV to current national standards and to aid those sitting the Diploma in GUM and Diploma in HIV exams. It has, however, been mapped to the wider GU SpR curriculum; therefore other clinicians such as RSH trainees and other senior healthcare professionals within the MDT (with their own patient cohorts) are also able to benefit.

### Significant activities

- **Education Grant.** An Education grant of £15,250 was awarded in 2020 to allow funded places for the HIV Module, specifically for other specialists in the MDT e.g. Clinical Nurse Specialists and Specialist Pharmacists with their own patient cohorts. This is the fourth successful education grant awarded.
- **2020 courses.** Unfortunately the May course (Modules 1 and 2) was cancelled at short notice due to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, cancellation of all study leave and cessation of face to face courses. There are current plans in place to run the November course (Modules 3 and 4) remotely via Zoom Pro course with specific online learning materials stored on the Bashh portal.
- **E-learning.** Alongside the mapped e-Ifh learning material, more work has been put into compiling online resources to aid the virtual course in Nov 20. This will be accessible for all course attendees prior to the course.

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2020

- Nil so far as May 20 course cancelled, Nov 20 course output awaited
- Education grant of £15,250 awarded for Module 4 (in Nov 20), which can still be utilised for course places

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### Future plans

- In the short term, ensuring the Nov 20 modules can run remotely
- Longer term, accreditation for the course is being worked on with a view to using the course towards credits for a MSc Sexual Health (draft proposal in process).

**Dr Ngozi Dufty**  
Course Director

## STI Theory Group

Luciana Rubinstein	Course Director, STIF Committee Co-Chair
Matthew Grundy-Bowers	STIF Committee Co-Chair
Sue Bird	STIF Secretariat
Nick Theobald	STIF Executive Post
Ramona Malek	Web Master
Andrew de Burgh Thomas	Course Director, Committee member
Ushan Andrady	Course Director, Committee member
Jessica Daniel	Course Director, Committee member
Emile Morgan	Course Director, Committee Member
Rita Browne	Course Director, Committee member
Johnny Boylan	Trainee Representative
Hayley Berry	Pharmacy Representative
Ceri Evans	Health Adviser Representative
Jenny Heathcote	FSRH representative
Richard Ma	GP representative
Cheryl Marfo	Nurse Representative

### Significant activities

- Review and update of STIF course material
- Development of STIF online course
- Webinar to launch the STIF online course to STIF course directors – took place on MS teams on the 29<sup>th</sup> September.
- The STIF evaluation project has been put on hold until the establishment of the new STIF website, with a centralised course participant registration

### Future plans

- Members of the STIF Group have set up and are collaborating on a Virtual Teaching and training Group, sub-group of the BASHH educational committee, which has the aim of sharing experience around teaching using online platforms. This Group also plans to review all the online educational material prepared by BASHH Groups and will feedback into the Education Committee.
- Launch the STIF online course with a National course led by the STIF steering group and directed by the STIF chair, with a promotional campaign to advertise the product
- Development of the STIF website, which will allow for central registration and payment, direct contact with course participants, better control of course material updates.
- Write a paper on the experience of developing the STIF online course and the development of the new website, in collaboration with Dr Mona Malek and 2 trainees.

**Dr. Luciana Rubinstein**  
**Co-Chair, STIF steering Group**  
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# Regions

## Cheshire & Mersey branch

### Membership

Dr Martyn Wood – Branch Chair

### Objectives

- Provide a quarterly forum for local education and networking
- Provide network for rapid dissemination of pertinent new information relating to clinical and policy changes

### Significant activities

- Lead organiser branch for September 2019 Joint Mersey and North West Branch education event – well attended and received
- Regular quarterly branch educational meetings
- Developed online regional meeting format

**Dr Martyn Wood**  
Chair

## East Anglia branch

### Membership

Durba Raha

Regional Audit Lead

Serish Basavaraj

Branch Representative to the CGC (Co – opted)

### Objectives

- To promote high standards of care in sexual health and HIV services across the region
- To share information from BASHH and the CGC with regional members
- To report back any regional issues or concerns to the BASHH CGC

### Significant activities

- Further rollout of Mycoplasma testing across all clinics in the region
- Online testing for asymptomatic and symptomatic patients
- Participation in PREP Trial
- Modifying clinics and working pattern in accordance with national and local COVID-19 guidelines
- Telephone clinics, Remote consultations
- Virtual regional audit and Clinical advisory Group meetings

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- Participation in national and regional audits

### Future plans

- Exploring the option of video consultation
- Roll out of PREP

**Dr Serish Basavaraj**  
Chair (co-opted)  
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## Ireland branch

*No report submitted*

## Northern Branch

### Objectives

- To identify areas of excellent clinical practice within clinics in the region and promote them within region whilst recognising local differences relating to populations and levels of workforce.
- To form a regional clinical network to aid the HIV commissioning process and standards of care.
- To provide peer support.
- To feedback from national CGC meetings.
- Continuing medical education and audit.

### Significant activities

- Quarterly education and business meetings
- Ongoing HIV clinical network group set up with GUM, Infectious Diseases Units and Public health England
- Regional urogenital pain MDT quarterly meetings

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- Extensive adoption of online testing (SH24) throughout the region in response to the pandemic
- Virtual meetings for BASHH and urogenital pain MDT
- Conclusion of PrEP trial

### Future plans

- Congenital Syphilis awareness day
- Continue quarterly education and business meetings
- Development of in house online testing system

**Dr Oluseyi Hotonu**  
Chair

## Oxford branch

*No report submitted*

## Scotland branch

Rona MacDonald

Chair

Bridie Howe

Secretary/ Treasurer

### Objectives

- Hold one education and business meeting a year
- Disseminate information from BASHH to CGC Scotland members
- Advocate for sexual health issues in Scotland to BASHH CGC

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### **Significant activities**

- Branch Chair regularly liaised with Scottish sexual health lead clinicians on COVID-19 response and recovery planning and took part in regular meetings with other BASHH four nations
- Links made with FSRH Scotland and now have representation from branch chair on their committee

### **Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20**

- Educational meeting booked for May 2020 but needed to be cancelled due to COVID-19
- Contributing to national audits

### **Future plans**

- Virtual BASHH meeting December
- Involvement in new Health Improvement Scotland Sexual Health Standards
- Participate in interim framework for Sexual Health and BBV
- Completion of national audit

**Dr Rona MacDonald**  
**Chair**

## **South West branch**

*No report submitted*

## **Thames (NE) Region**

*No report submitted*

## **Thames (NW) Region**

### **Significant activities**

- Impact Trial, PrEP roll out
- COVID impact on GU services; introduction of telemedicine and video
- Managing demand vs workforce
- New pathways and tariffs – MG, HPV, VAX, Sayana press, warts
- Funding of contraception pathways
- Managing shift to online services for STI screening and safeguarding / DA pathways

**Dr Lucy Garvey**  
**Chair**

## **Thames (SE) branch**

*No report submitted*

## **Thames (SW) branch**

### **Membership**

Shalini Andrews  
Ceri Slater

Branch Chair  
Audit Chair

### Objectives

- Share information from BASHH, especially the CGC with its regional membership
- Discuss regional issues in Sexual Health commissioning, provision and service delivery as well as clinical issues in CGC; and report back recommendations and action plan
- Offer regional professional networking opportunity

### Significant activities

- Regional communication of BASHH COVID-19 response within branch

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- Participation in national audit and BASHH surveys

### Future plans

- To hold virtual regional meeting twice a year

**Dr Shalini Andrews**  
chair

## Trent branch

### Membership

Dr Manjula Pammi	Chair
Dr Chit Saing	Regional audit chair
Dr Shingisai Ndoro	Doctors in training representative

### Objectives

- To share information from BASHH and the CGC
- To report back any regional issues or concerns to the BASHH CGC
- To hold at least one educational and audit meeting per year

### Significant activities

- The usual annual regional BASHH conference scheduled for September 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- There were two regional MS teams meeting with all clinical leads in the region, discussing the key issues in the region and learning from each other regarding expanding and contracting services safely. Key topics of discussion:
- Staff deployment, online testing, video-consultations software, genital images, Vulnerability risks during lockdown, PrEP, Cryotherapy and COVID-19 transmission
- Participation in National Audits – BASHH National audit postponed this year due to COVID-19.

### Future plans

- Conduct Doctors in Trainees meeting in January 2021 (virtual)
- Plans for a virtual regional conference in March 2021

**Dr M Pammi**  
Chair  
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## Wales Branch

### Membership

Rachel Drayton	BASHH Wales Chair
Laura Cunningham	BASHH Wales Regional Audit
Lucy Jones	BASHH Wales Secretary

### Objectives

- To identify and promote good clinical practice both within Wales and elsewhere in the UK
- To optimise the delivery of good genitourinary medicine and HIV care in Wales by participation in policy and service development.
- To participate in national (UK) clinical governance activity, including national audits, and to facilitate cross-Wales clinical governance activities.

### Significant activities

- Cardiff has signed up to Fast Track Cities 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020
- Launch of national postal home STI testing by Public Health Wales (PHW) June 2020
- Ongoing input to the national sexual health screening board and more recently to Welsh COVID/Sexual Health Group
- Ongoing input to All Wales Antiretroviral Prescribing Group with production of All-Wales guidance.

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-2020

- BASHH Wales Regional Audit Meetings in Oct 2019 and March 2020
- BASHH Wales ASM cancelled due to COVID
- All Wales Antiretroviral Prescribing Group meetings (facilitated by BASHH Wales) Oct 2019 and March 2020 with production of updated All-Wales guidance

### Future plans

- All Wales Antenatal Syphilis Audit with Public Health Wales
- Ongoing sharing of good practice in relation to COVID
- 2 x BASHH Wales Regional Audit Meetings – remote if necessary
- 1 x BASHH Wales Annual Scientific Meeting – remote – Summer 2021

**Dr Laura Cunningham**  
Chair

## Wessex branch

### Membership

Sangeetha Sundaram Consultant GUM/HIV

### Significant activities

- Since the June CGC meeting, services have slowly started to recover from the COVID-19 crisis by operating more F2F appointments and supporting staff who were shielding to return to work in a phased manner.

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- Service tendering and merging of sexual health services in Dorset and Bournemouth to be delivered by a single provider lead by Dorset healthcare trust- effective from October 2020.

### **Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20**

- The regional clinical governance meetings planned in March and June 2020 had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. Instead, individual clinics have been in touch through emails and sharing of good practice with regard to managing pressures due to COVID.
- [A virtual educational event via MS teams was hosted on 29/7/20](#)), Dr Rageshri Dhairyawan from St Bartholomew's Hospital talked to us on 'Race, Ethnicity and Sexual Health'. – well attended and received!
- Solent STIF course planned for June 2020- cancelled

### **Future plans**

- Plan in place to organise virtual interesting case discussions within network
- Solent STIF course planned for June 2021

**Dr Sangeetha Sundaram**  
Chair

## **West Midlands branch**

### **Membership**

Claire Robertson	Chair
Lisa Goodall	Secretary and Audit Lead

### **Objectives**

- To enhance communication between BASHH and Branch members regarding clinical governance issues
- To co-ordinate activities related to governance including regional audits and regional HIV mortality meetings

### **Significant activities**

- Regional HIV mortality meeting held May 2019
- Branch meetings held biannually – meeting November 2019; March meeting cancelled due to COVID19 surge
- Regional HIV/ID educational histopathology meeting held November 2019

### **Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20**

- Regional audit on HIV late diagnoses, in partnership with PHE, in progress – delayed due to COVID19

### **Future plans**

- Complete above audit
- Re-invigorate regional meetings and education – attendance had dwindled owing to job plans/ time pressures; already started and virtual delivery is proving successful at attracting a wider audience of West Midlands BASHH members

**Claire Robertson**  
Chair  
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## Yorkshire branch

### Membership

Natasha Astill	Chair
Harriet Wallace	Audit Lead

### Objectives

- To promote high standards in sexual health and HIV
- To identify and promote areas of good clinical practice
- To share major initiatives and challenges experienced by different units and provide a forum to discuss key regional and national issues
- To input into and feedback from BASHH CGC meetings
- To co-ordinate regional participation in national audits
- To provide training and educational opportunities in sexual health to a multidisciplinary audience.

### Significant activities

- Regular local sexual health network providers meetings for sharing good practice
- Dissemination of advice on a range of CG issues
- High level of participation in BASHH and BHIVA national audits
- Leeds Sexual Health achieved CQC Outstanding in 2019
- Continuation of sexual health services within the regional throughout COVID-19 pandemic

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2019-20

- Regional BASHH Educational meeting November 2019
- Registrar training day held in Leeds with attendees from Leeds, York, Sheffield and Nottingham Jan 2020
- Annual Regional STIF course November 2019
- *Joint BASHH/HIV Network meeting - cancelled due to COVID19 pandemic*

### Future plans

- NHS Prep now available in Leeds from October 2020, and within the region available or soon to be available.
- Regional BASHH educational meeting 5th November 2020
- Regional STIF course planned to be virtual 20/21st November 2020
- Audit meeting and HIV network meeting 24th June 2021

**Dr Natasha Astill**  
Chair

## Committees with BASHH representation

### Joint Specialty Committee for Genitourinary Medicine

*No report submitted*

### Specialist Advisory Committee

#### Membership

Margaret Kingston	SAC co-Chair
Katia Prime	SAC co-Chair and Training Program Director (TPD) South London
Andy Williams	SAC Vice-chair, quality lead and TPD NEC London
Jonathan Corne	Lead Dean for GUM
Ann Boyle	Deputy Lead Dean for GUM
David Crundwell	Lay Representative

#### Training Programme Directors

Sarah Barrett	Health Education West Midlands
Judith Berry	Severn Deanery
Noreen Desmond	Oxford Deanery
Sarah Duncan	Health Education North East and recruitment co-chair
Sarah Edwards	Health Education East of England, e portfolio lead <sup>[SEP]</sup>
Imali Fernando	NHE Education Scotland
Ashini Fox	Health Education East Midlands, deputy workforce lead & BASHH Rep
Anna Garner	Health Education North West
Lisa Haddon	Peninsula Deanery
Hannah Loftus	Yorkshire & Humber Deanery (S Yorks)
Nicola Lomax	Wales Deanery
Sheel Patel	Health Education North West London, Dip GUM External assessor
Say Quah	Northern Ireland Medical & Dental Training Agency
Sarah Schoeman	Yorkshire & Humber Deanery (W. & E. Yorks.), CESR & certification lead
Jackie Sherrard	Workforce Lead
Shanmuga Sundaram	Wessex Deanery
Debbie Williams	Kent Sussex & Surrey Deanery-recruitment co-chair

#### Trainee representatives

Hannah Church	Trainee Rep (England & Wales)
Helen Pollit	Trainee Rep (Scotland) <sup>[SEP]</sup>

## Co-opted Members

Duncan Churchill	Co-opted (Dip.HIV Convenor)
Prof Jackie Cassell	Co-opted (Dip.GUM Convenor)
Cordelia Chapman	Co-opted (Dip.GUM Convenor)
Richard Gilson	Co-opted (Academic Lead)
Orla McQuillan	Co-opted (Dip.HIV External assessor)
Matthew Page	Co-opted (BHIVA trainee rep)
Jackie Sherrard	Co-opted (UEMS Representative)

## Curriculum:

Rewriting of the GUM curriculum, in line with the new physician training model to meet the GMC's revised standards for curriculum and assessment, continues. The first dually accredited GUM physicians will complete training in 2026. Requirements are for 3 years of Genitourinary Medicine training and a year of Internal Medicine Stage 2 (IMS2). Transition arrangements for existing trainees in programme from 2022 continue to be discussed however the GMC have confirmed that those currently in training, who remain in training post August 2022, will not be mandated to switch to the new curriculum. Current trainees wishing to apply for Certificate of eligibility for Specialist Registration (CESR) in General Internal Medicine (GiM) will be supported to do so and there is a mapping document to support this. Once the new IMS2 curriculum goes live on 4/8/2022, the GiM curriculum will be retired and trainees will be required to CESR against this new curriculum. Some trainees in their final year of training in August 2022 may wish to transfer to the new GUM curriculum in order to get dual Certificate of completion of Training (CCT) rather than CCT and CESR. The GMC will consider if there is any legislative barrier to these doctors transferring to the new training structure and being awarded a dual CCT in GUM/IMS2. JRCPTB and the four nations have also been asked to confirm that it would be feasible.

During stage one of the curriculum approval process, the GUM SACs purpose statement was accepted by the GMC's COG on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019. This secured its place as a group 1 specialty, alongside 12 other medical specialties, which will train dually with General Internal Medicine (GiM) from August 2022.

Stage two will be the Curriculum Development and approval process from the GMC's Curriculum Advisory Group (CAG). This has been delayed due to COVID-19 and the curriculum will now need to be ready for final submission by January 2021, in time for the CAG's meeting in March 2021.

The GUM SAC were represented at the RCP curriculum day on 18 December 2019 with a further day planned for 24 November 2020. They also inputted into the proposed new GUM curriculum has already undergone an extensive consultation process with all major stakeholders, including trainees, patients, members of the public, BHIVA, BASHH, TPDs, HEE and NHS employers. This took place in parallel to the GUM SACs equality and diversity impact assessment questionnaire, distributed between 1/2/20-31/3/20. GUM/HIV representatives also contributed to the RCPs equality and diversity stakeholder event held in January 2020.

We continue to keep our trainees and the wider specialty abreast of curriculum developments and have several events planned including a lunchtime workshop on GUM postgraduate specialty training at BASHH in Oct 2020, presentation at the 2020 Doctors in Training day on Curriculum changes, transition & CESR and a slot alongside the BASHH education committee at its OGM in January 2021.

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Our GiM implementation plan has been produced and discussed with the JRCPTB and National Deanery representatives. It will remain as flexible as possible for local implementation by TPDs.

## **GUM recruitment**

Specialty recruitment in 2020 has again proved challenging. Round 1 was due to take place on 23/3/20 the day of the start of the UK lockdown in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and was therefore cancelled. There were 30 applicants for 54 vacancies, an increase from 20 applicants in 2019. The PRSHO ranked applicants on the basis of self-assessment and shortlisting scores and offers were made on this basis. Those who had not completed MRCP were excluded.

As a result 15 offers were made & accepted, 9 for London, 2 for North West, 2 for West Midlands, 1 for Thames Valley and 1 for Wales giving a fill rate of 27%.

In light of the difficulties with this round and the low fill rate it was agreed that GUM could run a Round 2 in 2020. Those not having completed MRCP were allowed to apply and be shortlisted.

This round took place on the 16th September via the new virtual world of Teams. 34 vacancies were declared. There were 28 applicants, 25 were shortlisted. The SAC recruitment leads carried out verification checks the week before, this is the task usually undertaken at station 1. Candidates were interviewed by a single panel of 2 interviewers using an abbreviated format of 1 clinical question, 1 ethical scenario, a short presentation & assessment of commitment to specialty. Unfortunately several candidates pulled out shortly before or on the day of the interview, so 21 were interviewed by 4 panels. 16 were appointable and interviewers had serious concerns about 1 candidate which have been forwarded to the appropriate Dean. Offers were sent out to 15 on the 6/10/20 as one candidate withdrew. So far 8 accepted, 5 held and 2 declined. Final confirmed acceptance numbers are awaited. This gives a provisional fill rate of 38%.

The effects of the commissioning changes and resultant trainee career uncertainty on recruitment to GUM have been raised with HEE via the Sexual Health, Reproductive Health and HIV workforce project. Despite these challenges, career opportunities in GUM are good. In 2019 & so far in 2020, the number of advertised consultant posts exceeded the number of trainees achieving CCT, however this is not widely recognised by other agencies. Avenues for dispelling possible misunderstandings regarding future career opportunities, promoting on-going awareness of the specialty amongst junior doctors, incorporating posts within Foundation and CMT rotations, and making training in the specialty more appealing, continue to be explored. The National London GUM taster day was held on 5th Oct 2020 with 257 applicants. BHIVA and BASHH have also jointly funded a GUM SAC stand at the BMJ careers fair on 16/17 Oct 2020. In addition, in May 2020, the GUM SAC produced and distributed a series of FAQs on GUM curriculum, recruitment & workforce. The possible impact of Shape of Training proposals on GUM recruitment is unclear and remains to be seen.

## **Dip. GUM/Dip. HIV**

Approval has been received by the GMC for the Dip GUM to move to a single diet from 2022. This is planned as a summer sitting, with a view to possible review when the implications of GIM training are fully understood. For Dip GUM in Dec 2019, 11/11 GUM trainees sat and passed the exam. For Dip HIV in Feb 2020 13/15 GUM trainees sat and passed the exam. Due to COVID-19, the Dip GUM in June 2020 and the Dip HIV in September 2020 were cancelled. A socially distanced Dip GUM (both written and Objective Structured Clinical Examination [OSCE]) is planned for December 2020. Six of eight GUM trainees who entered for the cancelled June 2020 sitting

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remain registered for this exam. A virtual Best of 5 exam is being explored for the Dip HIV, with face to face but socially distanced OSCEs planned for February 2021.

## Workforce planning

There were 32 separate substantive jobs advertised in 2019 of which 18 were full time. All were listed as GUM with HIV or SH with HIV. One post was advertised 4 times. 11 of the permanent posts were in Greater London, 1 in Wales and 1 in Scotland. In addition, 20 locum posts have been advertised of which 4 were to cover maternity leave and 3 have subsequently been advertised as permanent posts.

In first 9 months of 2020 there have been 16 permanent consultant posts advertised– all for a mix of GUM or integrated sexual health with an HIV component. 1 was in Northern Ireland with the remainder in England of which 4 were in Greater London. 6 were advertised as full-time posts.

In addition, 17 locum posts (4 full-time) have been advertised of which 2 were to cover maternity leave. 9 were in London.

It is difficult to say how much of the decrease in posts advertised is an effect of COVID-19 where many sexual health services have been running at significantly reduced capacity, as a result of decreased public health budgets and hence reductions in SH budgets, awareness of the reduction in trainees so not advertising vacancies or a combination of some of these.

GUM continues to be represented at the RCP workforce specialties meeting and our last GUM trainee snapshot was produced in Nov 2019. The GUM SAC, jointly with the Joint Specialist Committee (JSC) undertook a National survey of GUM consultants in Dec 2019 to understand 'The changing role of the consultant in GUM'. The results will be published and will be used to support the role of the GUM consultant in providing senior leadership within both integrated SRH and HIV services. There is also widespread support for renaming our specialty to reflect the physicianly nature of GUM, in preparation for dually accredited consultants in 2026.

## Other significant activities

- Contribution to the following consultations:
  - Response to information gathering for HEEs 'Junior doctor indemnity cover task & finish group', Oct 2019
  - BHIVA submission: 'Advisory group evidence submission for HIV commission to end new HIV transmissions in England by 2030: Paper 18 Workforce', Dec 2019
  - JSC response on PHE's 2019 annual report on HIV in England, Jan 2020
  - JSC response to 'National Chlamydia Screening Programme policy update', Jan 2020
  - cSRH draft curriculum comments, March 2020
  - Reproductive health workforce action plan, March 2020
- COVID
  - COVID-19 letter to trainees May 2020
  - Contributed to JRCPTB specialty specific guidance on ARCPs during COVID, May 2020
  - Updated GUM ARCP decision aid for COVID, May 2020
  - Meeting with JRCPTB & Dip GUM & HIV convenors to mitigate & monitor effect of exam cancellation on GUM trainees, May 2020
  - GUM response to 'Enshrining lessons learnt from COVID-19', May 2020
  - National trainee questionnaire on redeployment May 2020 (approx. 50% redeployed)

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- Trainees

- Appointment of trainee rep to GUM recruitment panel, November 2019
- Input into National research training questionnaire for trainees November 2019
- Input into RCP E&D consultation event on move to new curriculum January 2020
- Production of GDPR-compliant National GUM trainee database February 2020
- Appointment of joint GUM SAC & BHIVA trainee to sit on both committees/boards March 2020
- Supporting move to restructure National GUM SpR virtual Training days October 2020

**Katia Prime**  
**GUM SAC co-Chair**

## UEMS in Dermatovenereology

### Membership

Jackie Sherrard

UK UEMS venereology representative

### Objectives

My aim at UEMS is to maintain good communications and collaboration with colleagues in Europe with regard to training, standards and development of our specialty.

### Significant activities

The main 2020 meeting due to be held at the end of March was cancelled. A virtual meeting took place in September. The relationship between Venereology and Dermatology with other specialties such as Infectious Diseases, Urology, and Gynaecology remain the subject of much interest and debate as clinical services evolve in different ways across EU and in particular how services have responded to COVID. The main items of note were the resignation of Michel Janier as the chair of the STI division: his replacement will be appointed in Summer 2021.

The European Board of Dermatovenereology diploma examination due to be held in June was cancelled and is now due to be held as an online in November. Interestingly 65 candidates (all from Europe) withdrew following the change in format. There are 56 candidates, of whom 47 are from out of Europe.

**Dr Jackie Sherrard**  
**UK UEMS venereology representative**

# Journals with BASHH representation

## International Journal of STD & AIDS (IJSA)

After a decade at the helm, John White has hung up his editing hat and moved on to pastures new. I am delighted to have taken over, and I extend my thanks to John for doing a superb job over the years, during which IJSA has increased its Impact Factor and continued to act a faithful vehicle for the dissemination of STI research and innovation. IJSA publishes more papers than any other in the STI field, and remains the journal of choice for publication of BASHH and the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI clinical guidelines. IJSA accepts a wide range of papers from across the world, and we very much hope that the readership continues to find the journal entertaining and informative. We remain indebted to our authors and fantastic reviewers, and to SAGE Publishing, as an extraordinary year comes to a close.

**Dr Michael Rayment**  
**Editor-in-Chief**

## STI Journal

### Objectives

- To promote and facilitate the liaison between BASHH and the Journal, seeking opportunities for reciprocal support

### Significant activities

- Supported that production of the BASHH Column across 8 yearly issues of the journal
- Supported the Annual Conference (2019) via abstract submissions review, selection and awarding of the best presentation BMJ STI prize, chairing session at conference

### Performance/Outputs in the year 2018-19

- As above

### Future plans

- To start a collaborative workflow with the aim of reviewing the scope and format of the journal BASHH column
- To seek involvement of BASHH in journal-based educational activities
- To continue to support the conference and educational programme of the society and seek further opportunities e.g., via the delivery of workshops.

**Professor Anna Maria Geretti**  
**Editor-in-Chief**