



# MONTHLY UPDATE

[www.thebsa.org.uk](http://www.thebsa.org.uk)



## *Headlines*

### **Chair's message**

Dear Members,

I hope this month's ebulletin finds you well. We have started the year by inviting you to comment on the Recommended Procedure: Pure-tone air-conduction and bone conduction threshold audiometry with and without masking prior to its revision. This is not a step we usually take but given the importance of this document and how frequently we all apply it in practice we want to ensure that the revisions.....



**Read the full Chairs message below.**

*[Read here](#)*

## Headlines

### BSA Trustee Vacancy – Vice-Chair

The British Society of Audiology is looking for an enthusiastic and experienced individual to become our new Vice-Chair.

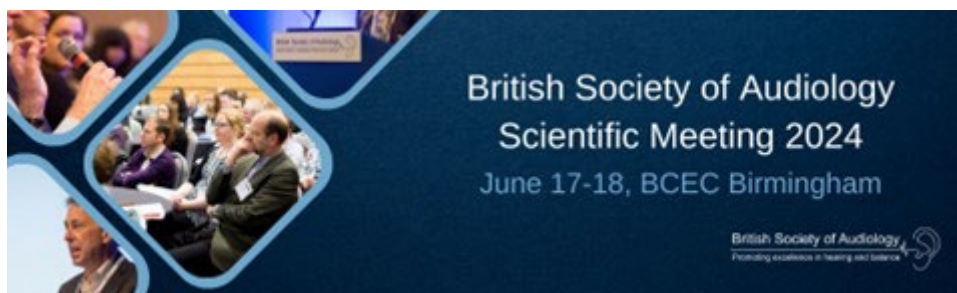
This is an important role within the BSA with the Vice-Chair progressing to the Chair role once the 2-year Vice-Chair term is completed.

If you are interested in shaping the future of the BSA and the wider field of audiology, please consider taking on this important leadership role. We would be extremely happy to speak to anybody interested in the role to discuss things further before application. Please contact the BSA Chair, Donna Corrigan at [chair@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:chair@thebsa.org.uk) or Vice Chair, Siobhan Brennan at [vicechair@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:vicechair@thebsa.org.uk) to arrange an informal discussion before completing the application form [Trustee-Application-form-January 2024](#).

Please complete the application form in full and return to [bsa@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:bsa@thebsa.org.uk) **no later than, midday on Friday 23rd of February 2024**.

Please note the 2-year term will begin formally at the AGM in June 2024

*Read here*



### BSA Scientific Meeting 2024

Early Bird Registration is now open for the BSA Scientific Meeting, taking place on the **17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2024** at the **BCEC in Birmingham**.

The BSA Scientific meeting continues to be the leading UK scientific forum to bring

together clinicians and researchers who have an interest in hearing, tinnitus and balance.

Abstract submissions close on **29<sup>th</sup> March 2024**, [submit yours](#).

Register for the BSA Scientific Meeting 2024 below.

*[Read here](#)*

## BSA Awards

BSA award prizes annually.

This will be your **FINAL** e-update reminder before the nominations close in March, so do take the time to consider nominating someone who you feel is thoroughly deserving of one of the below awards this year.

It is a great honour to be nominated for and to receive a BSA prize so please take time to think about who you know that deserves this recognition.

Nominations are now invited for all the below awards but specifically those highlighted:

- **The Thomas Simm Littler Lecturship Prize in recognition of an academic contribution to the discipline of audiology.**
- **The Ruth Spencer Prize in recognition of outstanding undergraduate Audiology work.**
- \*The George Harris People's Choice Award nominated by a service user or a family member or friend of a service user, this award is in recognition of significant impact to a service user or contribution in the field of adult rehabilitation or paediatric habilitation. Consider advertising this award to your service users and how they can nominate members of your team.
- **The Denzil Books Award in recognition of a significant contribution to the promotion of excellence in audiological practice throughout their career. This could include promotion of excellence through leadership, development of guidance or contributions to clinical education.**
- **David Baguley Mentorship Award in recognition of those offering excellence in mentorship and supporting the development of others.**
- **Honorary Life Membership in recognition of long-standing BSA members who have significantly contributed to the aims of the BSA.**

\*With the notable exception of the George Harris People's Choice award, please note that for other awards both nominee and nominator must be a member of BSA.

Please see the criteria details in the accompanying Awards Guidance document.

Please would you submit your nominations for these prizes to [bsa@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:bsa@thebsa.org.uk) using the accompanying nomination form. If you would like to informally discuss

your nomination with the awards team prior to submission please let us know via the same e mail address.

If you would like your nominee to be considered at the March BSA Council meeting please make your submission by the **1st March 2024**.

For more information and to apply, please click below.

[\*Read here\*](#)



## BSA Fellowship - Final Reminder

Please be advised that the **18th Fellowship cohort** is now open to all to apply until **Friday 1st March 2024**.

## Fellowship Testimonials



**Vicki Kirwin**

**Fellow of the British Society of Audiology**

**Why did you apply for the BSA Fellowship Scheme?**

"I applied for a fellowship as a way to demonstrate, and have recognised, my commitment to personal development, advancing new ways of working, and ensuring that everything we do is continually working towards maximising the impact of our services for the benefit of the families who use them."

To review the Fellowship process in full and to apply, please click below.

[\*Read here\*](#)

## Public Consultation – Recommended Procedure – Pure-tone air-conduction and bone-conduction threshold audiometry with and without masking

Open: **8 January 2024**

Closes: **23:59, 11 March 2024**

The British Society of Audiology's Professional Guidance Group is conducting a thorough review of the current guidance and associated evidence. As pure-tone audiometry is at the heart of audiologists' work, we are seeking comments on the existing document prior to its revision. We wish to encourage comment from as diverse a range of stakeholders as possible, and to understand current practice in relation to the current guidance.

To review and repond to this consultation, please click below.

*Read more*

*BSA Online Learning*



Zara Musker, 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Scientist Training Programme student, deaf awareness advocate and England Deaf futsal player, was one of the recipients of the BSA Roger Thornton Award. She presented her research into Deaf awareness, communication and accessibility within the NHS at the BSA Scientific meeting in June. In this online learning recording <https://bsaonlinelearning.talkingslideshd.com/view?schedule=869> she explains the context of her interest in this research and her findings to help inform improvements in services for Deaf and hard of hearing people.

To find out more about BSA Online Learning, please click below.

*Read more*

## *News*

### **ARIG is recruiting!**

The BSA's Adult Rehabilitation Special Interest Group (ARIG) is a dynamic group of clinicians, researchers, educators and policy makers working actively to progress the field of adult rehabilitation. ARIG plays a crucial role in bringing together like-minded individuals to explore, discuss, and advance specific areas of interest within adult rehabilitation.

They are currently seeking passionate and dedicated individuals to join the SIG as committee members. As a committee member, you will have the opportunity to contribute your expertise, collaborate with fellow professionals, and help shape the direction of adult rehabilitation within Audiology.

As a committee member, they would like you to:

- Actively participate in up to 4 committee meetings per year (usually online), providing insights, and contributing to discussions
- Collaborate with other committee members on initiatives and projects related to the SIG's focus
- Contribute to the development of resources, practice guidance, recommended procedures in the area of adult rehabilitation
- Represent ARIG at events and conferences, promoting our SIG and its initiatives
- They would also welcome applications from someone interested in the secretary role which would involve:
  - Taking minutes at the quarterly meetings
  - Co-ordinating dates and setting up the online meetings
  - Liaising with BSA administration on group membership

By joining the SIG, you will get to benefit from:

- Networking opportunities with professionals in the field
- Professional development and learning experiences
- Recognition within Audiology and the adult rehabilitation field
- The chance to make a meaningful impact on the progression of adult rehabilitation

If you are passionate about adult rehabilitation and eager to contribute to a thriving SIG, they would love to hear from you!

For further information and for an application form, please email

[bsa@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:bsa@thebsa.org.uk) by **22nd March 2024**

## **PGG is recruiting!**

The Professional Guidance Group (PGG) is responsible for coordinating production of BSA documents prior to final sign-off by the BSA Council. This includes Recommended Procedures and Clinical Guidance. Most documents are authorised by the special interest groups (SIGs) and the PGG must work with them to agree the guidance and seek expert peer review. The PGG is also responsible for authorising some documents on general topics such as PTA, tympanometry and acoustics.

It is a the core function of the BSA to produce learned guidance, so its good international reputation is dependent on the documents it publishes. The role of the PGG is therefore crucial in coordinating production of documents and includes: review and commenting on draft guidance, ensuring that it is evidence-based, current, relevant, of high impact and quality. The PGG must ultimately uphold high standards that maintains the BSA's reputation.

PGG are seeking individuals who can give some of their time to this important and influential role. It is critical to the BSA's function and supports the whole of the audiology profession. The PGG meets every quarter but PGG members will review (or occasionally author) documents between meetings as they are produced. Documents cover all areas of audiology, so volunteers may be generalists or specialists in any area. The PGG is responsible to the BSA Council.



Please consider joining the PGG. All applicants must be a member of BSA, and PGG will consider members with all levels of experience. For further information and for an application form, please email [bsa@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:bsa@thebsa.org.uk).

## **The BSA Accreditation Group are recruiting!**

The Accreditation Group plays a key role in defining the standards for audiology courses and accrediting courses that meet the requirements, providing BSA certificates for a range of audiological procedures. This is a crucial aspect of the BSA's role in supporting audiology services in the UK and depends on the commitment of our members.

If you would like to have an influence on audiology training in the UK, and are able to give us some of your time, then please contact [bsa@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:bsa@thebsa.org.uk) for more information.

## **Survey – Aston University “Exploring the future of remote care for adults with hearing aids within the UK**

Aston University Student and BSA member, Charlotte White, is currently recruiting audiologists for a masters project as part of the Scientist Training Programme. The title is 'Exploring the future of remote care for adults with hearing aids within the UK'.

The aim of the study to gather a range of audiology clinicians' perspectives and views on remote fine tuning of hearing aids.

To this end, as an audiologist who has experience fitting hearing aids to adults within the NHS, Charlotte would like to invite you to an online semi-structured interview lasting approximately 45 minutes in order to gather a range of perspectives.

The closing date for any interest is **23rd February 2024**.

To complete this survey, please click below.

*[Read more](#)*

**2024 BMA Foundation grants now open**



The BMA Foundation awards research grants each year (totalling approximately £910,000) to encourage and further medical research in a variety of areas.

One of these grants, the Philip Baker grant, is to assist research into Ménière's disease. Applications are invited from registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK and the project must relate to the UK only. They can be for either research in progress or prospective research.

This grant, and other BMA Foundation grants are now **open** for online application via the BMA Foundation.

The application deadline is **1st March 2024**.

For more information and to apply for the BMA Foundation grants, please click below.

[\*Read more\*](#)

## **RNID – Ear Wax Report**

RNID (The Royal National Institute of Deaf People) submitted FOIs to all ICBs in England last year.

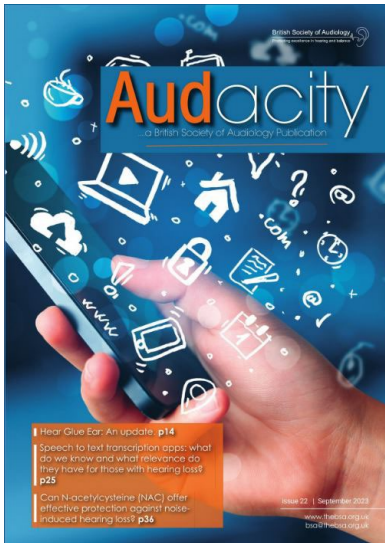
Following this they have found that less than half of ICB's commission a wax removal service in line with NICE guidelines.

Please click below to review a copy of they're full ear wax report to help them improve access to NHS ear wax removal services.

[\*Read more\*](#)

*Audacity*

**The Autumn 2023 Audacity edition is now out!**



**Issue 23** of Audacity should be on your screen during the first week in March, thanks to our wonderful contributors and editors! If you have any feedback, comments, or would like to contribute in the future, please email

[audacity@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:audacity@thebsa.org.uk). You can find previous editions by following this link:

<https://www.thebsa.org.uk/news-and-publications/audacity-magazine/editions/>.

## *Spotlight*

### **February 2024 BSA Balance Special Interest Group (BIG)**

We have welcomed two new members to the group, Connor McCarthy, Clinical lead for diagnostic audiology, University Hospitals Nottingham and Zafeer Abdul, Paediatric Audiologist Sheffield Children's Hospital. The appointment of new members makes the total number of the steering group to 10 with Dr Diego Kaski (Consultant Neurologist) residing in our reference member group.

We have been working hard on our recommended procedures and practice guidance, we hope that the combined C and O VEMP recommended procedure will be reaching you very soon.

Please click below to read this months spotlight in full....

*Read more*

*Global Outreach*

# Global Outreach



## Volunteer role for literature search project

An opportunity has arisen to shape how journal articles are systematically identified on the topic of audiology in low-resource settings internationally.

Full guidance provided and minimal prior experience needed; just an interest in further developing related skills or interest in the topic.

The role can be tailored as preferred - from a simple short literature search taking a couple of hours, through to leading related guidance with possible liaison with a university.

This will feed into the new Global Outreach Resource Hub at

<https://www.thebsa.org.uk/international-links/global-outreach-resources-hub/>

To find out more or express interest, contact [outreach@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:outreach@thebsa.org.uk)

*International Journal  
of Audiology*



**International Journal of Audiology (IJA) Volume 63 2024,  
Issue 1**

(members only) click on the link below

*Read here*

*Events*

**BSA Accredited Courses**

To view all current BSA Accredited Courses, please click below.

*Read more*



## Advance your career with the UCL Ear Institute

Are you thinking about improving your knowledge and skills? At the UCL Ear Institute they provide world leading teaching in audiology, and their courses are delivered by some of the most influential researchers and clinicians in the field of audiology, hearing and deafness.

Their programmes draw on the expertise of senior clinicians from the NHS and private sector, including the associated Royal National Ear Nose & Throat and Eastman Dental Hospital.

They have a variety of courses depending on your experience and qualifications:

- If you have a BSc in Audiology or equivalent and would like to study for a postgraduate qualification, then **Advanced Audiology MSc** is for you. They have a variety of specialist modules for you to choose from and part time and flexible options mean you can study while working.
- If you are an ATO or Associate Audiologist and would like to qualify as an audiologist our **MSc Audiological Science with Clinical Practice** is for you if you have an undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline.

### UCL Ear Institute Excellence Scholarships

Four scholarships, worth £3,000 each, are available to exceptional postgraduate students applying for 2024 entry.

For more information and to apply, please click below

*[Read more](#)*



## Clinical Scientist (Audiology) / Audiologist

**Location: Highfield Campus**

**Salary: £34,980 to £56,021, Full Time, Fixed Term (2 Years)**

**Closing Date: Friday 23 February 2024**

**Interview Date: Wednesday 13 March 2024**

**Reference: 2581824DA**

By joining their inclusive, multi-disciplinary team, you will have a unique opportunity to further your career by utilising your clinical skills within a University setting, allowing you to access up-to-date research in this field.

They offer a range of great benefits that includes a contributory pension scheme; holiday entitlement of 30 days plus 8 bank holidays and 6 additional holidays (closure days); subsidised health and fitness facilities on-site; cycle to work scheme; a range of discounts which include restaurants, retail outlets and entertainment.

To be successful in your new role within the University of Southampton Auditory Implant Service (USAIS), you will be experienced in a wide range of audiology procedures, but training will be given in relation to auditory implants. You will need to be registered with the HCPC or RCCP or be working towards registration and ideally, you will hold a Certificate of Audiological Competence or equivalent.

Working as part of a multi-disciplinary team, you will assess and manage a caseload of hearing-impaired/deaf patients of all ages. The programming of sound processors for cochlear implants (CI) or bone conduction hearing implants (BCHI) will be a key part of the role.

For more information and to apply, please click below.

[Read more](#)



# University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire

NHS Trust

## Paediatric Audiologist/Clinical Scientist

**Salary: Band 6 or 7 – Dependent on experience**

**Contract: Fixed term: 15 months**

**Hours: Full time – 37.5 hours per week (9 day fortnight working pattern)**

**Closing Date: 4th March 2024**

**Reference: 218-AHP-B6-6020644**

As Paediatric Audiologist you will be responsible for neonate and paediatric hearing assessment and rehabilitation for both routine and complex caseloads.

This role offers multidisciplinary working with a range of seasoned professionals including Education teams, Speech and Language therapists and medical consultants.

The role may include line management responsibilities and there may be opportunities to develop and lead research and innovative projects within the team.

The role will also offer the opportunity to become part of a team that strives to continually improve.

The post-holder will have specialist knowledge of a wide range of procedures and practices, underpinned by practical experience and knowledge maintained through professional registration and CPD activity. You must have NHS experience and



HCPC or RCCP registration to apply for this role. For the band 7 role you must have a Masters level qualification (or equivalent) in Audiology.

For more information and to apply, please click below.

*[Read more](#)*

British Society of Audiology | T: +44 (0) 1189 660622 | E: [bsa@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:bsa@thebsa.org.uk)

Full details of upcoming events can be found at: <https://www.thebsa.org.uk/events-and-online-learning/>

If you have any problems logging on to the website or changed any of your details, please update BSA Admin Office by email at [bsa@thebsa.org.uk](mailto:bsa@thebsa.org.uk)

Membership Fees: You can renew/pay your membership online <https://www.thebsa.org.uk/>

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