



MONTHLY UPDATE

www.thebsa.org.uk



Headlines

Chair's message

Dear Members,

Congratulations to the 2 individuals that have been awarded BSA fellowship this month! Thank you for your positive contributions to the field of audiology and helping to meet the aims of the BSA. We are now open for the latest (19th cohort) of applications which closes on the 17th May 2024 – will you be one our next fellows? We held our first Council meeting of 2024 last month, receiving reports from all our trustees, SIG and group chairs and there is a lot underway.....



Read the full Chairs message below.

[Read here](#)

Headlines



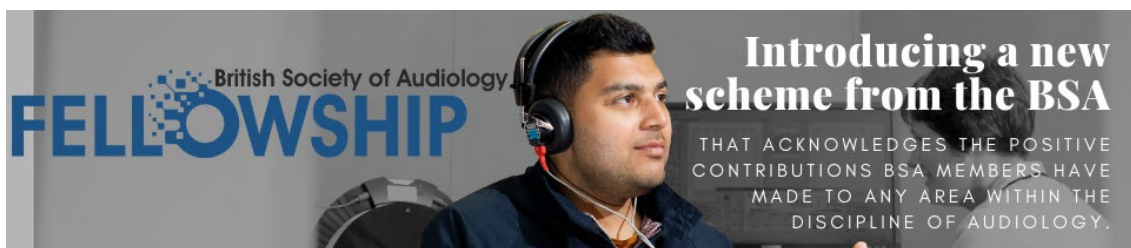
Early Bird Deadline Reminder

The Early Bird Registration for the BSA Scientific Meeting 2024 ends this month on the **26th of April 2024**. Make sure to register before this date to take advantage of the early bird discounted rate.

Join us on the **17th and 18th 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.

To register for the BSA Scientific Meeting 2024, please click the link below.

[*Read here*](#)



BSA Fellowship

- 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 by **1st May 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.

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 for more information.

Save the date: Thursday 11th July, Quality in vestibular practice event at Aston University

The Balance Special Interest Group are working towards hosting a small learning and networking event, free for BSA members with an interest in vestibular assessment.

This will include a combination of interactive lectures and workshops.

Please keep your eyes out [here](#) for further communication from the BSA with information on how to register.

Survey – What are the current recommendations on how to use sound therapy to treat adult patients diagnosed with Hyperacusis?

BSA Member Nighat Kalsoom and University Hospitals of Derby and Burton are inviting you to take part in a research study.

Before you decide to take part, it is important that you know why they are completing this study and what is involved. Please click [here](#) to read the participant Information Sheet.

This research is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and Health Education England (HEE).

Hyperacusis is a condition where sensitivity to normal everyday sound increases to a point of hypersensitivity or reduced sound tolerance and can affect patients in distressing ways (Fackrell et al, 2019, Baguley and Andersson, 2007). Current management interventions include education, signposting to talking therapy/counselling (Stansfeld, 1992) and Sound therapy. Sound therapy may include advice around sound exposure using CDs/Apps, tabletop white noise generators, wearable sound generators or hearing aids. At present there is a lack of clarity for sound therapy such as what type of device to use and how long to use it for. Therefore, this questionnaire will be conducted to explore a consensus on use of sound therapy in adults with Hyperacusis.

For more information and to take part in this survey, please click below.

[Read more](#)

Survey – Is your child sensitive to sound?

Iskra Potgieter a BSA members and PhD student at The University of Nottingham is looking for the parents of children (aged 2-11 years) with a sound sensitivity (hyperacusis) to take part in a 30 min virtual interview to complete an online questionnaire and comment on its ease of use.

To promote the research, Iskra requires clinicians specialising in sound-sensitivity/hyperacusis to hand out flyers to parents in their clinics.

For more information and to take part in this survey, please click below.

[Read more](#)

Survey – Communication strategies for increased social participation

Gemma Perfect a BSA members and Research Audiologist at The University of Manchester is conducting a study to better understand clinical practices around giving advice to hearing aid patients about communication strategies. They are also interested to better understand how effective this is at improving communication in the real world.

They are looking for practicing audiologists who provide adult hearing rehabilitation who are willing to complete a short online survey about their communication strategies counselling in the clinic.

The study will involve you completing an online questionnaire that will take no more than 15 minutes to fill in.

For more information and to take part in this survey, please click below.

[Read more](#)

Spring has officially sprung – and with it, comes ENT's March/April issue!

If April showers are putting a dampener on your day, why not stay dry, curl up on the couch and catch up on the latest from *ENT & Audiology News!*



In this issue, ENT have some helpful tips from Ida Institute on [how to deliver bad news better with the SPIKES protocol](#) as well as a fantastic feature on the [Audible Contrast Threshold – a new test to guide setting help-in-noise features in hearing aids](#), not to mention their Book, Journal and Tech Reviews, International Newsround and much more.

To read this issue, please [click here](#).

Did someone say supplement?

ENT are also pleased to introduce their first supplement, with a focus on Balance and Vestibular Disorders. Guest-edited by [Peter Rea](#), this special resource gathers esteemed authors from various backgrounds to highlight the latest in balance medicine.

[Click here](#) to read this supplement now.

Don't forget to sign up for your free print copy and/or digital content [here](#)!

Balance and vestibular disorders



ENT &
audiology

news

ENT & Audiology News Team

Publication of "Healthcare Science in Scotland: Defining our Strategic Approach Paper"

Chief Scientific Officer – Scottish Government, Professor Catherine Ross CSci CBiol FRSB FESC recently published the first paper in our 'Healthcare Science in Scotland' series.

To view this paper, please click below.

Read more

Audacity

The Spring 2024 Audacity edition is now out!



The Brighton editorial team are hard at work already, editing the autumn 2024 Audacity pieces. Issue 24 will be furnished with exciting articles including basic science projects, translational work, as well as clinical trials. We are thrilled for the Cypriot cochlear implant programme who were appointed winners of the Jos Millar award for authors who submitted informative, transferable, well-structured, and engaging articles to Audacity over the last year.

Follow this link to find out more about their work:

<https://cloud.3dissue.net/30176/30074/30346/107048/index.html>

If you would like to get in touch with the Audacity team, please email audacity@thebsa.org.uk.

Spotlight

April 2024 BSA Paediatric Audiology Special Interest Group (PAIG)

Since our last e-Update PAIG have published the Recommended Procedure for Visual Reinforcement Audiometry (VRA). We have aimed to structure the document to make it easy for clinicians to follow and have added important changes to reinforce good practice and to support peer review processes. Members of PAIG are liaising with the Office of the Chief Scientific Officer to contribute to the Paediatric Hearing Services improvement programme and discussing how we can contribute to workforce training in VRA and supporting clinicians in implementing the recommended procedure.

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

Read more

International Journal of Audiology



International Journal of Audiology (IJA) Volume 63 2024, Issue 4

(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 we provide world leading teaching in audiology, and our courses are delivered by some of the most influential researchers and clinicians in the field of audiology, hearing and deafness.

Our 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.

We 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 our **Advanced Audiology MSc** is for you. We have a variety of specialist modules for you to choose from and our 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.

To find out more and to apply, please click below.

[Read more](#)

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

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

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Please note that if you unsubscribe you will receive no future updates from us for any relevant events etc that may be of interest to you. To unsubscribe, click [here](#)