



**British Society of
Gastrointestinal and
Abdominal Radiology**
*Imaging and Intervention in
the care of Abdominal Disease*

BSGAR Annual General Meeting
At 1700hrs on Thursday 4th February 2021,
Virtual via Zoom

The President Professor Stuart Taylor welcomed members to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** There were no apologies.

2. **Minutes of last Annual General Meeting Thursday 6th February 2020 at the Assembly Rooms, Bath.** The minutes of the meeting held in Bath on 6th February 2020 were accepted as a true record. The draft minutes had been circulated to all members in advance of the meeting via the members' forum on the BSGAR website. The approved minutes are available on the BSGAR website Society section <http://www.bsgar.org/society/agm-minutes>.

BSGAR Committee. The committee for 2020/211 was: -

- President – Prof Stuart Taylor
- Secretary – Dr Raneem Albazaz
- Treasurer – Dr Chris Clarke
- Liaison Officer – Dr Emma Helbren
- Standards Officer – Dr Cindy Chew
- Education Officer – Dr Jamie Franklin
- Research Officer – Dr Andrew Plumb/Dr Kieran Foley
- Audit Officer – Dr James Stephenson
- Junior Rep –Dr Katy Hickman

3. **Secretary's Report.** The Secretary, Dr Raneem Albazaz presented her report as follows:

Membership. The membership is in a strong position. There are currently 295 BSGAR members in good standing; 7 honorary, 228 full, 46 junior, 6 associate members and 8 Overseas members. There were 63 new members in the period 1st February 2020- 31st January 2021, of this 63; 28 are Full Members, 27 Junior Members, 3 Associate Member and 5 Overseas members.

The Secretary urged members to update their membership accounts when any relevant details change and to renew when prompted. Updating membership account details can be done either online or by contacting the BSGAR Administrator.

Committee Update. The Secretary provided a Committee personnel update since the last AGM:

President Elect. Dr Damian Tolan will start his one-year President Elect role at the end of the meeting.

Research Officer. Dr Kieran Foley will start his 2-year term of Research Officer in July 2020.

Audit Officer. Dr Ravivarma Balasubramaniam will start his 2-year term of Audit Officer at the end of this meeting.

Junior Representative. Dr Katie Devlin will start her 1-year term as Junior Rep at the end of the meeting.

Secretary. Dr Raneem Albazaz will start her 2nd term as Secretary at the end of the meeting.

Liaison Officer. Dr Emma Helbren will start her 2nd term as Liaison Officer at the end of the meeting.

3.1 Constitutional Changes. The Secretary presented a proposal for two small changes to the constitution. Both proposals had been distributed to the membership 2 weeks prior to the AGM.

The first proposal was an amendment to the qualification for junior BSGAR membership to include medical students. **The membership approved the change as outlined below:**

Current wording: “3.2.1 Junior membership will be open to specialist Registrars (SpR’s) in radiology who have a professed interest in practising abdominal or GI radiology when they achieve consultant status”

Suggested and approved changing to: “3.2.1 Junior membership will be open to junior doctors and undergraduate medical students who have an interest in practising abdominal or GI radiology”

The second proposal was an amendment to the roles and duties of the Standards officer to include the responsibility of Diversity Champion and to conduct a diversity survey every 4 years. Dr Elford questioned whether every 4 years was enough, and this was discussed further in the Standards officer report during the diversity discussion. **The membership approved the change as outlined below:**

10.4 The Standards Officer will promote the development of standards in GI and abdominal radiology. The Standards Officer will liaise with the standards committee of the RCR and with other National Committees responsible for standards and guideline development. Suggested Addition... “The Standards Officer will act as the Society Diversity Champion and will conduct a survey of BSGAR diversity every 4 years, reporting results to the AGM.”

ACCEA. The Secretary outlined the ACCEA timeframe and that all relevant dates for submission were on the BSGAR website. Active BSGAR members who wish to be considered for a citation must submit their application by 5pm 11th February 2021.

4. Treasurer’s Report. The Treasurer, Dr Chris Clarke presented the Treasurer’s report as follows:

Total Funds. As at 1st Jan 2021, BSGAR’s total funds were **£194,328.**

Income and Expenditure. Dr Clarke summarised the income and expenditure accounts for the year from 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020 showing a total income of £65,675 and expenditure of £32,047. Some areas to note were a significant profit from BSGAR 2020 in Bath, negligible committee expenses due to nil travel since covid-19 restrictions, low expenses from the registrar study day due

to the event being virtual and increased expenditure on the website due to the redevelopment of a new site (launch imminent).

Conference (now travel) bursaries from 2020 have not been claimed due to events being virtual but the awards are extent until the end of 2021 for those who received an award in 2020. Similarly, the John Spencer prize of £500 awarded in 2019 (and still not claimed) has been extended to Dec 2022. Some awards for Education bursaries awarded in 2020 are still pending but are expected in 2021. The new Annual Conference organisers (Maximillion) account for the meeting differently to Creative Conferences. Subsequently, BSGAR has paid a sum to Maximillion prior to the event to purchase initial services hence the current expenditure presented on the slide. The 2020 surplus is £33,628.

BSGAR website re-design. The BSGAR website has been updated with new functionality, it is responsive to different devices and an abstract upload functionality has been added. It will go live next week, and Dr Clarke sought any feedback from the membership once this happens.

Thank you. Dr Clarke formally thanked Dr Andy Lowe and Dr Andrew Thrower for their help in reviewing the 2020 finances.

5. Education Officer's Report. The Education Officer, Dr Jamie Franklin presented his report as follows:

Educational events/outputs. The educational events/outputs over the year were outlined, including:

- RCR Digital Learning Platform. BSGAR provided representation on the RCR Digital learning platform. Dr Helen Bungay organised a session on Pancreatic imaging which Drs Franklin and Alabazaz from the Committee contributed to.
- Acute Abdominal Imaging Workshop. Due to covid-19 restrictions, the acute abdominal imaging workshop was postponed this year, but the faculty used the material to deliver a successful virtual BSGAR registrar study day.
- BSGAR 2021 Scientific Session. Dr Franklin highlighted excellent engagement with the case and poster submissions for BSGAR 2021 and thanked everyone who had contributed. There were 36 case submissions (x10 accepted for oral and x10 accepted for ePoster), and x20 eposter submissions. There are x3 prizes; best educational exhibit, best scientific report and best interesting case which will be presented at the Scientific Session on Friday morning. Due to the nature of the virtual platform, it is possible to accommodate more exhibits and Dr Franklin encouraged members to look at these.
- BSGAR 2021 Case of the Day. Dr Franklin has introduced a Case of the Day for the meeting and would appreciate feedback on whether these should be continued in future years.
- Digital Education Content Policy. With the increased output of digital education, Dr Franklin and Dr Clarke have worked on a BSGAR Digital education content policy to give speaker and delegates clarity on what material will be made available and how.

BSGAR/RCR Travelling Professorship (TP). Dr Higginson and Dr Grunshaw are currently in post as the BSGAR/RCR Travelling professors with a remit to deliver workshops in Gastrointestinal US. Due to covid-19 restrictions and the subsequent impact on their face-to-face programme the TP has been

extended by 12 months to August 2022 with visits to recommence when possible. It is anticipated that BSGAR will be advertising for successors in early 2022.

Online Education Programme Pilot. An education bursary has been awarded to Drs Godfrey, Franklin, Stephenson and Hickman to develop an online teaching programme aimed at SpRs/Fellows. BSGAR Committee are considering establishing a teaching and education subcommittee to support an expansion of the educational output. Dr Franklin asked that if anyone was interested in getting involved with delivering education for the online pilot then to contact Dr Godfrey or Dr Franklin.

6. Standards and Liaison Officer's Report. The Standards Officer, Dr Cindy Chew summarised the 'Standards' work completed in 2020 by members, these included; BSGAR/BCSP CTC guideline review, Academy of Medical Royal Colleges/NHS Evidence Based interventions programme (CT in acute appendicitis), RCR recommendation for cross sectional imaging in cancer management (colon, rectum & anal canal, oesophagus & stomach, pancreas & liver), feedback on NICE: Barrett's Oesophagus ablation draft scope consultation, Covid-19 related work (guidance on use of endoscopy and CTC during the pandemic, Covid-19 decision tool for chest imaging in patients undergoing CT for acute surgical abdomen, BSGAR&SCoR joint guidance on performing CTC in early recovery phase of the pandemic and BSGAR interim guidance on FIT pathways in those with lower GI symptoms in the peri& post Covid-19 pandemic using a RAND panel.

Dr Chew outlined ongoing projects including - NICE guidelines (ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease management), RCR/BSGAR/NELA CTs for NELA, BSGAR/BSUR observational study on mesenteric panniculitis, RCR/RCS/BSGAR/PCUK standardised report for pancreatic cancer, NCEPOD study into Crohn's patients admitted to hospital for surgery, NICE colorectal cancer QS update, NICE Qfit to guide referral for CRC in primary care and RCR iRefer. Dr Chew confirmed that the RCR is looking for a continuous update process and requests for interest/involvement will be circulated via the BSGAR membership forum.

BSGAR Diversity and Inclusion. Dr Chew highlighted that BSGAR welcomes and believes in the inclusion of people across gender, ethnicity, abilities, geography, and other social categories. The Standards Officer position has been assigned the role of Diversity Champion to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion at all levels of the Society. A BSGAR diversity statement has been written, circulated, and published on the BSGAR website. The Standards officer conducted a diversity membership survey in 2020 and will continue to do this every 4 years, reporting on the surveys and BSGAR's performance on meeting its diversity and inclusion standards at the AGM.

Dr Chew summarised the results of the survey and highlighted that the full results will be published on the BSGAR website post meeting. BSGAR's membership diversity sits comfortably when compared to the NHS, RCR and UK population. Most of BSGAR membership agree that BSGAR is an inclusive and equal society but there is room for improvement.

Dr Chew outlined BSGAR's commitment to diversity and inclusion by developing a set of standards which will be continually reviewed. These standards include aim towards at least 1 of the 3 key committee roles to be a female or person from underrepresented minority (URM) and to encourage applicants, aiming for a 1/3 of the committee to be female or from URM groups. The Committee will

aspire to gender parity when inviting session chairs and aim towards 1/3 of female speakers whilst aiming to include a good representation from URM groups. BSGAR is seeking to create a new mentoring programme to support and sponsor young BSGAR members to help with career progression. Whilst open to all junior members and young consultants, females and URM groups will be strongly encouraged to apply. Dr Chew urged members to contact her with any ideas on how the society can improve further.

Prof Taylor thanked Dr Chew for this important work and invited questions/comments from the floor. Dr Julian Elford informed the membership that he had been tasked by the RCR for coordinating the RCR's response to equality, diversity, and inclusion. Dr Elford noted that the work that Dr Chew had conducted dovetailed well with the ideas and aspirations at RCR. A talk by Dr Anu Obaro, from St Mark's was highlighted as useful work in this field and Dr Elford noted that he would be speaking to Dr Obaro, amongst others, whilst working on RCR's future plans.

<https://www.stmarksacademicinstitute.org.uk/resources/grand-round-special-anu-obaro-why-i-want-to-talk-about-racism-25-06-2020/>

Many comments in the zoom chat box recognised the importance of this work and thanked Dr Chew.

In the same vein, Dr Godfrey asked the membership to self-nominate/nominate for the online SpR education project to develop as diverse a faculty as possible to help deliver the programme.

Prof Laasch enquired about the distribution of applicants for the Committee posts that BSGAR advertises for. Dr Chew stated that there had been an uptake in females and people from URM groups applying but BSGAR Committee and members should be actively encouraging people to apply.

7. Liaison Officer Report. Dr Emma Helbren updated the meeting on liaison work. She highlighted the utility of the BSGAR twitter account @BSGAR_UK and encouraged members to use this to promote research and relevant events. Overseas membership was low at 8 members. Dr Helbren outlined the current BSGAR reps to affiliated societies with Dr Sara Upponi at ACPGBI, Dr Sharan Wadhvani at JAG and the Liaison Officer attending the BCSP CPG and the Endoscopy Stakeholders group. Dr Helbren asked members to contact her if anyone worked closely with an affiliated society and could incorporate updates/involvement with BSGAR into the role. There is a current collaboration with ACPGBI on exenteration services and Dr Helbren asked members to contact her if anyone wanted to join the BSGAR Exent group. There is also a call out for a new BSGAR Gastrointestinal FRCR 2A question panel coordinator to take over from Dr Ravi Balasubramaniam.

8. Research Officer Report. The Research Officer, Dr Kieran Foley, had presented a research and trials update earlier in the day as part of the annual meeting programme. In addition to this, he briefed the AGM on work that has been conducted on exploring options for a central infrastructure for research and audit projects. He highlighted the current difficulties when conducting trial and audit work between multiple centres. On behalf of BSGAR he has been investigating different software which could help to overcome these problems. REDCap has been recommended and highlighted as a workable option; it is noted that a host institution is required to hold the license. Work is ongoing and Dr Foley will keep the membership abreast of progress.

9. Audit Officer Report. The Audit Officer, Dr James Stephenson had presented an audit update earlier in the day as part of the annual meeting programme. In addition, he highlighted the current CTC audit and emphasised it was not too late to register and to contact him if you wished to be involved. There is also a liver biopsy survey which is currently being promoted and completion of this would be appreciated. He also highlighted NELA and that current radiology audit leads were not as well represented and encouraged involvement. Dr Stephenson thanked the membership and welcomed Dr Ravi Balasubramaniam as the new BSGAR Audit officer.

10. Junior Rep Report. The Junior Rep, Dr Katy Hickman summarised the success of the 6th BSGAR Trainee Study Day (Acute Abdominal CT: A primer for the Registrar on call) which was delivered virtually using Zoom and the DICOM viewer Collective Minds. She thanked Dr Clarke, Dr Stephenson, Dr Plumb, Dr Greenhalgh and Dr Franklin for their participation. The virtual event attracted good attendance with 82 delegates and received positive feedback. Dr Hickman thanked the Committee for their support during her time on the committee and welcomed the new Junior Rep, Dr Katie Devlin.

11. President's Report. The President, Prof Stuart Taylor highlighted the difficulties experienced by the whole community over the past year. He thanked the Committee and BSGAR Administrator for their work during this period and explained that over the past year a new conference organiser had been appointed and the face-to-face meeting planned for Nottingham had been adapted for an online meeting. He welcomed new Committee members Dr Damian Tolan, Dr Ravi Balasubramaniam and Dr Katie Devlin and he expressly thanked Dr James Stephenson, Dr Andrew Plumb and Dr Katy Hickman for their hard work in their respective committee areas.

Conference Organiser. Prof Taylor thanked Nikki Lee from Creative Conferences who had retired after 22 years of service to BSGAR. There is a plan to make a formal, face-to-face presentation to Nikki at the BSGAR 2022 meeting in Nottingham (Covid-19 restrictions allowing) to recognise all the hard work Nikki and her team have given to BSGAR. Prof Taylor welcomed Sarah from Maximillion and congratulated Sarah and her team on adapting the face-to-face meeting to an online meeting in a short period of time and for a very successful first day.

Maria Sheridan Prize. Prof Taylor explained that it was a great privilege to name the Educational Exhibit prize after Maria Sheridan. Dr Sheridan was one of the inaugural members of BSGAR and was integral to the planning and organisation of the first BSGAR meetings. She has been a keen supporter of BSGAR over the years giving many talks and Chairing sessions and is passionate about education.

Covid-19 1st wave. Prof Taylor highlighted the difficulty and slightly chaotic activities of the first covid-19 wave and how many guidelines (sometimes competing) were generated from various national bodies. BSGAR led CTC guidelines on CTC, use of CT (with BSTI) and continuation of CTC services (with SCoR).

Diversity. As previously highlighted, Diversity will be a crucial part of how the society operates going forward.

National CTC Training and Accreditation Programme Pilot. On behalf of NHS E and HEE, David Burling is leading a National CTC Training and Accreditation programme and has received significant input from BSGAR members.

Guideline for the use of CTC. Linked to the above, NHS E has approached BSGAR to draft a guidelines document for the use of CTC of which Dr Damian Tolan and Dr Andrew Plumb are co-chairing.

IBD Standards. On behalf of BSGAR, Prof Taylor and Dr Gauraang Bhatnagar have been involved in developing an IBD-UK led national standards document.

NG Tube misplacement complications. HSIB have produced a report and tasked RCR, BSGAR, SCoR and NHS E with developing a national standardise competency-based training programme for X-ray interpretation to confirm nasogastric tube placement. A working group, led by Dr Damian Tolan is being set up, and interested parties wanting to be involved should contact office@bsgar.org.uk.

BSGAR Expenditure Projects. BSGAR has accrued significant funds and Prof Taylor sought ideas and thoughts from the membership on ways to productively use some of the funds (whilst retaining reserves to cover a cancelled meeting). Ideas to date include; research fellowship/bursary, project to encourage a more diverse spread of membership, financial incentives to encourage junior memberships (waiving membership fees) and developing a junior network (linked to Radiant?), links to journal affiliation, increase projects and activity for BSGAR training and education, research and audit data collecting platform (e.g. REDCap), bursaries to encourage membership diversity and a mentorship programme. Prof Taylor invited questions/comments. Members used the chat function to particularly support the diversity and mentorship suggestions.

Prof Steve Halligan, highlighted the previously discussed topic of finances being held in reserve for a failed meeting especially in current climate.

Prof Stuart Taylor recognised this point. BSGAR was fortunate in the timing of the BSGAR meetings and the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 as there was nil loss for BSGAR. BSGAR 2020 was delivered shortly prior to the first lockdown and deposits hadn't yet been paid for BSGAR 2021 in Nottingham. In addition to the restrictions composed by covid-19 pandemic, Prof Taylor recognised that a hybrid meeting model was most likely in the future and allows access for more delegates to attend. This was supported in the chat function.

Prof Steve Halligan, following on from comments in the chat box, raised the question of BSGAR and its intentions to reach a wider audience overseas. Prof Taylor clarified that BSGAR focussed on UK GI radiology and was of most interest to UK radiologists. However, he was very aware that UK has some top-class educators, trainers and expertise and that some funding could be used to make some of the BSGAR educational projects and events more widely available outside of the UK. This focus was supported by members both live and in the chat function. It was highlighted that BSGAR would not be competing with other societies but would be providing fellow radiologists additional and worthwhile opportunities.

12. BSGAR 2022 Annual Meeting, Nottingham. Prof Stuart Taylor outlined that BSGAR 2021 was originally intended to be in Nottingham but due to covid-19 restrictions was not possible. The

aspiration is that BSGAR 2022 will be in Nottingham if restrictions allow. Dr Chris Clarke as the Meeting President for BSGAR 2022 briefed the membership on Nottingham and the likely meeting venues. He highlighted that dependent on restrictions and delegate feedback the BSGAR 2022 meeting is likely to be a hybrid meeting which will impact on meeting costs and has additional challenges.

13. BSGAR 2023. Glasgow has been highlighted as a potential location for BSGAR 2023. Dr Cindy Chew has volunteered to be a potential meeting President.

14. Other business. There was no other business.

Suggestion received via email after the AGM. (Dr Rehaan Nensey)

Couple of Ideas.....

1. For increasing membership

- may be association with organisations like BAPIO etc.*
- regional groups to help increase subscriptions*
- email to heads of school to disseminate to registrars*

2. Future meetings

possibly though understandably very difficult - 2 meetings a year! 1 - virtual, the other in person. Or alternate year virtual and in person meetings.