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Autumn 2016



2016 Jackson Rees Lecturer Professor Brian Kavanagh

In this, the first Newsletter since the sad passing of Dr Peter Morris, a founder member and former President of the APA we commemorate his life and work with an obituary written by George Meakin, a colleague and friend of Peter and his family.

Also in this issue are details of important initiatives from Council including a national paediatric emergency laparotomy audit, planned changes to the organisation of our Annual Scientific Meeting, together with pictures from Belfast, citations for the 2016 Honorary Members and much more. Not forgetting of course details of how to apply for the Home Member vacancy on APA Council. Enjoy the read!

Chris Gildersleve, APA Honorary Secretary

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President's report

Welcome to the Autumn newsletter which I hope will keep you abreast of what's happening within the APA but also give an account of current events and initiatives that Council are engaged in in the wider aspects of paediatric anaesthesia and provision of integrated paediatric services.

Dr Peter Morris

I should start with expressing sadness at the recent passing of Dr Peter Morris after a short illness. He was a much loved and respected founding member of the APA and I should like to take the opportunity to celebrate a life that made a major impact on the development of paediatric anaesthesia as a specialty. Peter was also a good friend and colleague to trainees and consultants alike and continued to offer his support, opinion and wit at the Annual Scientific Meeting until very recently. His funeral was attended by Dr George Meakin, and other senior figures within the APA. An obituary written by George can be found on page 6 of this Newsletter and will be published on the website in due course.

Changes on Council

There have been several changes and additions to Council as we move into a new APA Council year.

Elin Jones is leaving Council as the trainee representative and is replaced by Natasha Woodman. Elin has been very active within Council and been pivotal in setting up the paediatric anaesthesia trainee research network

(PATRN) and working with the team on initiating relevant projects. We also welcome Nirmala Soundararajan who is our new Linkman Coordinator to replace Karen Bartholomew who has moved from from Linkman Coordinator to elected home member. Karen has been co-opted by PICS to represent the APA link to PICS and as a reciprocal arrangement Yamuna Thiru has been Co-opted from PICS Council to represent paediatric intensive care interests on APA Council.

2016/7 will see handover of chairs of the Science committee and also the Meetings Committee. Tom Engelhardt will be taking over the science chair from Suellen Walker and Karen Bartholomew will take over the role of meetings chair from Jon Smith. These are transitional changes and both Suellen and Jon will continue in their roles through into 2017.

(continued)

Belfast Annual Scientific Meeting

The recent Annual Scientific meeting in Belfast was well attended with a very successful additional trainee day judging by the positive feedback. In Belfast, we were able to trial a number of enhanced educational tools that reflected the recent feedback from the membership for an increased emphasis on educational materials. This has included audiovisual recordings of all lectures: it is planned that all these will be made available to APA members with password protection. In addition, a few selected lectures including the Jackson Rees Lecture and the trainee day material will be made freely available to a wider audience as part of our support for the practice of paediatric anaesthesia around the world. In Belfast, we took the opportunity of having our own professional AV team in-house, to record several podcasts on key issues and these will be available on our website in the near future. I should like to thank Mark Thomas and the Education Committee for rising to the Challenge of organizing and delivering this enhanced educational output from the meeting. We will be undertaking a similar recording exercise in Bristol 2017 and beyond if this proves popular. There were many individuals who put a lot of effort into this meeting to make it successful, but special thanks should go to Keith Bailie who had the difficult task of collaborating with multiple groups to deliver a financially stable event, in a year when there was significant competition from other National and International meetings.

Changes in Meetings Organisation

For several years now we have had excellent support from the in house team at AAGBI for preparing the ground and organizing the Annual Scientific Meeting. The format has relied heavily on local efforts and the meetings Committee, but as the APA continues to grow and broaden its outlook in providing enhanced variety of content, the work has become a significantly greater task. At Council, we felt that the time had come to look to a stand-alone professional meetings organization. This is something that many societies and associations of specialist societies have considered in recent years. After shortlisting and interviewing two teams that were experienced in the specifics of medical conferences, we chose INDEX COMMUNICATIONS to take us forward over the next few years. "INDEX" are currently the professional organisers for the Paediatric Intensive Care Society Annual meeting and the feedback from PICS was very positive. I think the style and experience of INDEX will release the local team and meetings committee from some of the tasks that were becoming time consuming and difficult. They have also brought fresh cost-effective ideas to our meeting, which we have been impressed with. As a result I hope that Bristol ASM (June 7-9) will have a refreshed feel to both the educational and social programs. As ever feedback from the membership is crucial in future planning, so we will be keen to know what works and what does not.

Annual Scientific Meeting

(continued)

Application for Council Home Member

In the coming year, there is a replacement Council position and this will be advertised and balloted during this autumn. We have agreed to introduce electronic in the hope of encouraging increased participation in the Election. I mentioned in the Presidents Report at the Annual General Meeting in Belfast, that it is important to inject fresh ideas and enthusiasm into the Association and to have increased representation from younger active members on Council. Do please look around your region to get behind potential applicants to Council and encourage them to apply. The average age on the Council is going upwards and even though it continues to be very productive in terms of our core roles, it needs to be representative of all of us. As someone who has been working either as a co-opted member or voting Council member since 2003, I can honestly state that it is both rewarding and fun to work with colleagues and friends from UK and abroad on areas that have direct impact on our profession. Please do consider applying: there is likely to be a further round of appointments in 2017 so that success on the second attempt may be achieved even if not on the first.

Emergency Laparotomy Audit in Children

Recent regional audits of management of the acute abdomen from the South West Peninsular, Manchester and London have raised concerns of significant morbidities associated with this condition that require attention. This comes at a time when formal national funding to support regional Networks has been withdrawn. At a recent informal meeting of the APA, RCPCH and BAPS, we agreed that in order to impact on the quality issues in integrated regional services, hard facts and figures are needed that can be presented to influence planning and regional/national organization. A reasonable place to start is to try to generate some national data on emergency laparotomy/ appendectomy outcomes in similar fashion to the recent National Emergency Laparotomy Audit (NELA) carried out in adults under the auspices of the RCoA, NIAA and Health Services Research Centre (HSRC). Before the summer we met with Dr. Ramani Moonsinghe (Current Head of The Health Services Research Centre) to look at how to move forward with a nationally based project. HSRC have offered their facilities and put one of their current research fellows based at Great Ormond Street to work with the APA on this project. The lead researchers from the southwest and Manchester (Simon Courtman, Janet McNally and Russell Perkins have kindly provided their data which is allowing us to formulate hypotheses and research plans for a far reaching national study. Major stakeholders (RCoA, HSRC, APA, RCPCH and BAPS) are meeting in October to look at the current data and to drive this forward into a national study with appropriate support and funding. Hopefully, this APA project can deliver a successful project to highlight the current issues and drives changes that can improve outcomes. This comes on the back of other successful multicenter collaborative research projects funded by the APA such as the "Pain at Home" project and the collaborative aspects of the European Nectarine study.

Provision of Paediatric Surgical Services in UK

As mentioned above, there are concerns that integration of paediatric surgical services could be better. Currently the organization of services between the smaller non-specialist hospitals and the regional centres is based on a lot of effort from all concerned to make them into functional units. This network approach to paediatric services is reliant on excellent communication and maintenance of skills to maintain routine paediatric practice in the DGH, to undertake some more complex cases in an emergency and keep the regional centre with its specialist facilities functioning efficiently. A recognition that deskilling and lack of confidence to undertake roles in the peripheral hospitals has been understood by NHS England at a time that the limited funding of the Paediatric Surgical Networks has been withdrawn. They have commissioned national reviews on both paediatric surgical services and paediatric Intensive care to take place in 2017. There is also a pending position document produced by the Children's Surgical Forum for a 5-year strategy for improving local delivery of surgery in childhood. APA and RCoA have both put input into the draft document and we await the final published product in the near future.

The APA has also lobbied to get representation on the relevant Clinical reference groups (CRG's) that are being newly formed. We have been reassured that there will be anaesthesia input into these groups either by direct appointment or through affiliate membership. To date Jon Smith has

been successful in appointment to the congenital cardiac CRG and Glyn Williams has been appointed to the Specialised Surgery CRG. Other appointments are still in the pipeline.

The APA as a Specialist Society will need to maintain a presence at the forefront of decision making as much as possible. A recent Children's Surgical forum meeting at RCS on 15th July with BAPS and ourselves present, highlighted the work in front of us. The meeting was attended by both Peter Wilson (co-chair NPoC Board NHS), some of the NHSE planners and Dr. Cornish (National Clinical Director for Children, young people and transition into adulthood). The RCoA are also working closely with us to share consultations and counsel our opinions.



Dr. Peter Morris

1933 - 2016

Peter Morris was born in Skegness on 1st January 1933 and was fond of saying it was the first and only thing of significance that occurred in Skegness that year. He spent his early years in Skegness where his father was an hotelier and businessman. However, the family moved out of the hotel at the outbreak of the Second World War as the building was required for a military hospital, and Peter spent most of his childhood years in St Helens, Lancashire. Here he was to be educated at West Park Grammar School before entering Manchester University to study medicine.

After graduation in 1956, he undertook house officer posts in Manchester and Lancaster and subsequently undertook senior house officer posts in obstetrics, anaesthetics and paediatrics intending a career in general practice. Following a year as an assistant general practitioner in Lancaster, he undertook 18 months training in anaesthesia as a senior house officer at Royal Lancaster Infirmary, passed the Diploma in Anaesthesia examination and continued for several years as a general practitioner and part time clinical assistant with sessions at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary and the School Dental Service. During this period it became clear that Peter had an aptitude for anaesthesia and encouraged by a senior surgical colleague, Mr Granville Freeman, he decided to make anaesthesia his definitive career. He took and passed the Primary FFARCS examination, while still in general

practice, and in September 1964 he joined the Manchester training scheme. He passed the final FFARCS examination in 1965 and was appointed consultant anaesthetist at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital in 1967.

As the first anaesthetist in full time paediatric practice in Manchester, Peter took the lead in developing paediatric anaesthesia services, including anaesthesia for open-heart surgery, which led to the development of the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital. In addition to his clinical work he undertook and collaborated on a number of clinical and non-clinical research projects notably as a visiting fellow and subsequently visiting professor to the University of Salford Department of Aeronautic and Mechanical Engineering from 1971-1995. He was recognised as a gifted lecturer and received numerous national and international invitations.

Peter joined the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (APA) at its foundation in

1973. Six years later he was elected onto Council where he served as Representative for England and Wales from 1979 to 1984, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer from 1984 to 1987 and President from 1991 to 1993. As President he was an early advocate of widening the membership of the APA to include general anaesthetists with an interest in paediatric anaesthesia. In 1997 he was made an honorary member of the APA. Peter excelled as an administrator and in retirement he was co-opted onto the APA Council to advise on administrative and constitutional matters, including changing the APA from a registered charity to a charitable company limited by guarantee.

In addition to his work for the APA, Peter was elected to the council of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland in 1982 where he served as Secretary from 1986 to 1988 and Vice President from 1989 to 1991. He organised several national meetings and oversaw the activities of the Group of Anaesthetists in Training. In 1984 he became an examiner for Part I of the then FFARCS examination and from



Dr. Peter Morris (3rd from the left) is pictured here in an historical gathering of APA Presidents taken at the Cambridge Annual Scientific Meeting

Dr Peter Morris 1933 – 2016 continued

1988 to 1996 he was an elected member of the Board of the Faculty of Anaesthetists during its transition to a College in 1988 and ultimately to the Royal College of Anaesthetists in 1993. From 1991 to 1996 he chaired the Board of Examiners for Part I of the FRCA examination. He held the posts of Secretary of the Joint Committee for Higher Training of Anaesthetists from 1991 to 1994 and Vice President of the College from 1993 to 1995. From 1991-93 he was Treasurer of the Federation of European Associations of Paediatric Anaesthesia.

With his death, paediatric anaesthesia has lost a potent advocate and ambassador who will be remembered by his friends for his wisdom, loyalty,

generosity and mischievous good humour. Peter is survived by his partner Barbara, daughter Helen, son Alistair and grandchildren, Ben and Daniel.

George Meakin

Trainee report

Firstly thank you to Elin Jones, the outgoing trainee representative. I hope I can match her efforts and start some exciting projects with trainees across Great Britain and Ireland.

Hopefully many of you are familiar with PATRN, the trainee research network. The aim is to have a PATRN trainee representative in every hospital that anaesthetises children so we may collect full data sets for each project. As many trainees have rotated to new hospitals now, please come forward if you are interested in being the link person for your hospital or confirm that you are still able to represent the hospital we have listed if you have not done so already. The email address is patrn.network@gmail.com

‘Article watch’ on the APAGBI website has a new team of authors kicking off with 10 new papers in the latest edition. Please use this resource to keep up to date with interesting paediatric developments. The link is found at the bottom left of the Education and Training webpage.

The 2016 APA meeting may not be far behind us, but plans are already underway for the 2017 meeting 7-9th June Bristol. The social events particularly are being revamped to attract the younger attendee. Gone is the formal dinner and speeches, enter canapés, bowl food and cheap tickets! Please put it in your diary and start your projects for posters now.

Please email me at tasha_woodman@hotmail.co.uk if you have any questions or ideas and I will do my best to help.

Dr Natasha Woodman

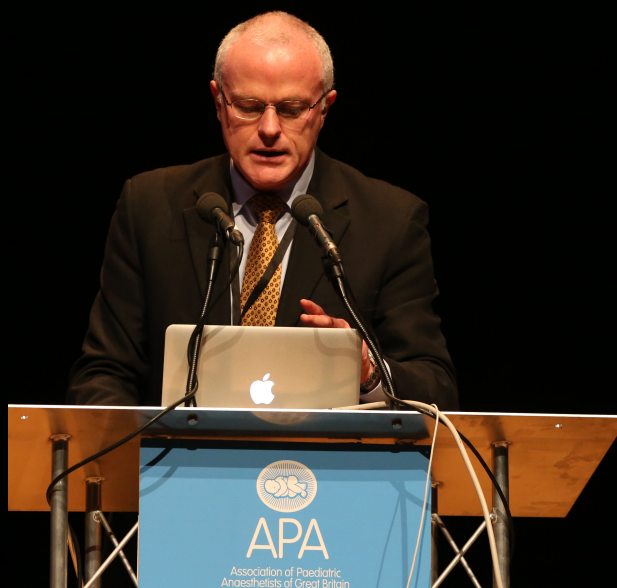
APAGBI Trainee Representative

Annual Scientific Meeting

Belfast



2016



Professor Per-Arne Lönnqvist,

Professor Per-Arne Lönnqvist, is a senior consultant in Paediatric anaesthesia and Intensive care and has been working in the field of our specialty for almost 30 years in the same city where he was born, Stockholm. He graduated from medical school in 1982 and achieved the Swedish certification in Anaesthesiology in 1988 and obtained the European Board certification in 1991. His PhD defence took place in 1996 and his Privat Docent in 1997 when he became associate professor and 10 years later in 2007, was promoted to full professor.

Faithful to his roots, he has accomplished almost all his career at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. Because of his natural charisma and evident talent as a leader, he was appointed very early in his career as the Clinical Director of the Surgical Unit a post he held until 1996. Then in 2001, he took up the Chairman of the Anaesthesia & Surgical Unit. One may think that he never left Stockholm. On the contrary, his enthusiastic curiosity and his spirit of discovery led him to several trips around the world starting as a visiting assistant Professor at the Oregon Health Sciences University for almost a year; but his hunger for the discovery of various anaesthesia cultures (I may say) guided him through various visiting professor tours across Duke, Glasgow, Alder Hay, Seattle and Texas Children's.



Enthusiastic clinical scientist as he is, he devoted his main research on paediatric regional analgesia and has made immeasurable contributions to our specialty focusing on pain management and the development of regional analgesia techniques in children. He was the first to publish and teach the paravertebral blockade in kids. He is a truly enthusiastic promoter of science; Per-Arne has always been a dedicated mentor and teacher, an outstanding researcher and editor (15 years for Pediatric Anesthesia and 12 years for the British Journal of Anaesthesia). He supervised more than 10 PhD students, has over 135 publications and wrote 25 book chapters. His scientific achievements are widely recognized and he is widely respected for his accomplishments, his intellect, and his scientific integrity.

Prof Lönnqvist has a strong international reputation not only in science and anaesthesia, but also in other fields or I would say on various fields. He has this unique way of swinging!! You may guess which of the

2 pictures is the right one. Highly dedicated to his family, his other interests are driven by his great intellectual curiosity regarding wine and cheese, jazz, travelling and discovering other cultures and meeting with colleagues and friends from all over the world who gather around him and affirming that he is the smartest Scandinavian paediatric anaesthesiologist.

In recognition of his many achievements in the field of Paediatric Anaesthesia, and on behalf of the APA Council and as overseas representative, it gives me great pleasure to propose Prof Per-Arne Lönnqvist for Honorary membership of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthesia of Great Britain and Ireland.

Professor Walid Habre

Dr Neil Morton

It is a privilege and honour for me to give the citation for my friend Dr Neil Morton.

Neil graduated from Aberdeen University in 1978 and started his anaesthetic career 2 years later. After a period abroad in Montreal Children's Hospital he took up his consultant post in paediatric anaesthesia, intensive care and pain management at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow in 1989. Neil also has had a long and productive relationship with the University Department of Anaesthesia in Glasgow and was appointed Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in 1998 and Reader and Honorary Consultant in 2010, with both of these University appointments being based at the Children's Hospital.

Neil has an outstanding research record and has published widely. He was awarded an MD in 2009 for his thesis "Improving Pain Management in Children", and this summarised 20 years of his published work in this field. His research interests and abilities led to his editorial involvement in many journals and, in 2008, he was appointed Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Pediatric Anaesthesia*.



Neil's association with the APA has been long and fruitful. He was elected to Council as the member for Scotland in 2000. Subsequently he became Treasurer in 2002 and was elected President in 2009. He initiated and led the "Guidelines and Standards Committee" within the APA and was pivotal in producing guidelines that have been widely adopted, both nationally and internationally. As well as chairing the "Professional Standards Committee" Neil was also closely involved with the "Scientific Committee" and assisted in the development the APA Website.

Within Europe Neil was appointed Chairman of Scientific Committee of the European Society for Paediatric Anaesthesiology in 2010 and was elected President of this Society in 2013.

Neil has always pursued the quality agenda and has been involved in setting standards of care for children through his association with many different organisations and professional bodies.

In particular, I would like to highlight his work with SIGN, NICE and more recently the Academy of Royal Colleges in developing safer sedation practices for children

Each generation produces a number of people of outstanding ability and, in my generation, Neil is one of these individuals. Not only has he made a huge contribution to the APA, but also to our specialty of paediatric anaesthesia. This was highlighted in 2008 when he was awarded the "Featherstone Award" by the Association of Anaesthetists for, and I quote "A substantial contribution to the practice of anaesthesia".

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to present Dr Neil Morton for Honorary Membership of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland.

Dr Peter Crean

Dr David Fell

Ladies and Gentlemen it gives me great pleasure to give the citation for my good friend and colleague Dr David Fell.

David was born in Northumberland, which might explain why I could never really work out if he was Scots or English, but it does mean he has a choice of good Rugby teams to support, and Scotland.

David was an undergraduate in Edinburgh graduating in 1974, and his early training was in this beautiful but windy city.

His Anaesthesia career began at The Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh where he was supervised by among others APA founding member Dr Douglas Shannon. After registrar training, David travelled further north, to Newfoundland at the Charles Janeway Child Health Centre.

He finally moved to Balmy Leicester (did we mention they are premier league Champions) as a Senior Registrar. There he stayed becoming a Senior Lecturer, and later College Tutor, Regional Advisor and Head of service for Anaesthesia.

He had numerous roles within the college, including assistant editor of the BJA and was a FRCA examiner for thirteen years.



When I first met David in the early 90's, he was one of three Paediatric Anaesthetists. Children were cared for by a mixture of adult and paediatric surgeons, nurses and anaesthetists. The Wards, Recovery and Intensive care were populated by a mixture of children and adults and there was a paucity of paediatric equipment.

Now in Leicester under David's care we have a child-focused service, twelve consultants, dedicated twenty-four hour emergency care, a paediatric pain service a paediatric recovery and proper CICU.

David has always been generous with his time and effort almost to a fault. But there are two things I admire in David, his calmness and decisiveness. In a crisis or if a difficult decision needs to be made David would pause and think (count to ten, metaphorically), long before 'Non Technical Skills', he could assess a situation quickly and accurately.

We miss him a lot!

He is not infallible however: his advice on how to pass the FRCA, don't move or buy a house, get married or have children was ignored by me a several others in this room.

David enjoys Sailing, watching the rugby and learning Italian, all things I'm sure he will continue with his lovely wife Sue.

E il mio grande piacere di presentare il Dr David Fell di adesione onorario dell'Associazione dei pediatri Anestesisti di Gran Bretagne e Irlanda.

It is my great pleasure to present Dr David Fell for honorary Membership of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland.

Dr Will Russell



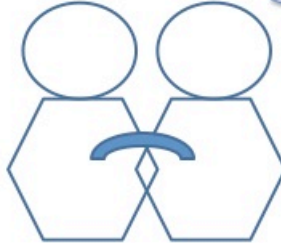
10th APA Linkman Conference 7th November 2016 Birmingham

CPD sessions

Consent and Candour in Paediatrics

Is inhalational induction justifiable in paediatric emergencies?

Panel Discussion



Registration
Fee £75

Networking

Peer Review

APA Updates

Ten years from Tanner: Quality of care for children in DGHs

Linking for Quality

The APA's linkman scheme was instituted with the aim of maintaining links with all anaesthetists delivering services for children, particularly in non-specialist hospitals. Any paediatric anaesthetist, who is passionate about delivering high quality care and values links with the APAGBI, can register as a link person and take responsibility for disseminating APA updates.

The linkman conference is an inclusive educational event that is open for all and supports revalidation of the paediatric component of the RCOA cpd matrix.

The APA's linkman conference 2016 is scheduled for Monday, 7th November 2016 at Birmingham. This year, we are instituting the Linkman prize, an incentive to showcase your passion for children while providing an incentive for your trainees.

The event can be booked online by [clicking here](#)

The registration fee is a modest seventy-five pounds for an event approved for 5 external CPD points by the RCOA.

If you share a passion for paediatric services and value links with the APA, please register as a link person. Please get in touch by contacting me on linkman@apagbi.org.uk or nimrajan@gmail.com to share your views and ideas.

Details of Linkman Prize

This year's theme for the Linkman Prize is 'Maintaining Team Competencies for the stabilization of sick and injured children'. Please share details of any educational activity that helps to enhance team working for the delivery of high quality care for children.

Word limit: Three hundred words.

Anyone can make a submission/presentation. However, the prize is only for trainees.

The prize is:

One-day registration (day of choice) at the APAGBI ASM 2017 at Bristol.

Nirmala Soundararajan

APAGBI Linkman Scheme Coordinator

Safeguarding children in theatre – a new resource for anaesthetists

All healthcare professionals have a responsibility to ensure the safety of children under their care and to act if they have any safeguarding (child protection) concerns. Safeguarding children is a complex area of practice and one that those who work outside of paediatrics find particularly challenging. To assist their members, The Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCOA), supported by the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (APAGBI), has developed a short film to provide guidance should safeguarding and child protection concerns arise in the perioperative period. This film is now available to view on the RCoA's website (www.rcoa.ac.uk/safeguardingplus).

The film simulates a parent/carer and child interview after a safeguarding issue has arisen, where a senior paediatrician is not available to attend and assist in person. While it is impossible to predict in advance the exact dialogue, guidance about how to structure a conversation is provided by an anaesthetist as lead safeguarding professional, and two different outcomes are portrayed. The film is supported with joint guidance published by the RCoA¹.

Dr Liam Brennan, President of the Royal College of Anaesthetists and a consultant paediatric anaesthetist, said: *"Safeguarding children is the responsibility of everyone who works in healthcare. The development of this unique resource, giving anaesthetists greater confidence in managing safeguarding concerns, is one that we as a medical royal college are proud to have co-developed. The College hopes that the material presented will help anaesthetists in dealing with these challenging scenarios and provide a useful contribution to safeguarding training². We are particularly grateful for the input of the RCoA multidisciplinary Safeguarding Group who provided the original idea for the development of this resource."*

Dr Kathy Wilkinson, Chair of the Royal College of Anaesthetists' Safeguarding Group said: *"Good communications are a core skill of all anaesthetists. We hope the film will help defuse some of the concerns many will have about getting the basic principles right when talking with a family about a safeguarding issue, particularly when a paediatrician is not immediately available to assist."*

The RCoA will soon launch a new safeguarding and ethics section on its website for anaesthetists working in the perioperative period, in pain medicine and intensive care. This educational resource is being developed and peer reviewed. The new web pages will be dedicated to sharing reliable sources of reference for dealing with possible safeguarding concerns involving children, young people, and adults. It will also address and provide guidance for a range of consent and ethical issues.

References:

1: Child protection and the anaesthetist: safeguarding children in the operating theatre 2014 <http://bit.ly/2cCbWpv>

2: Safeguarding children and young people: roles and competences for health care staff. Intercollegiate Document, 2014 <http://bit.ly/2cZknf6>



Notice of forthcoming election to APA Council

I Home Member

Nominations are sought for one vacancy on the Council of the APA with effect from June 2017

The election to this vacancy will be held during November and December 2016 and will be conducted by the Electoral Reform Service. Home Members are appointed for four years. The successful candidate will be expected to attend the three full meetings of Council each year (most are held in London) and occasional ad hoc meetings, as required. During their term, Elected Officers are expected to assume responsibility for APA projects and activities, which may include one or more of the following positions:

- Meetings secretary
- Webmaster
- Lead for information for patients and families
- Lead for guidelines
- Linkman lead
- Lead for Audits and Surveys
- Non-specialist advisor (If appropriate base hospital)
- Lead for Peer review
- Involvement in Education and Training or Science committees.

The APA will reimburse expenses according to its agreed policies.

Members wishing to stand can nominate themselves by completing a **nomination form** and obtaining support from two Full Members of the APA. Candidates will need to provide a **short supporting statement** (no more than 300 words), which will be circulated with the ballot papers. The nomination and supporting statement forms are available on the APA website: <http://www.apagbi.org.uk/about-us/council/election-council>. Completed forms should be submitted by **e-mail** to the APA Secretariat to arrive no later than 5pm on Thursday November 3rd 2016.

Please note that both nominees and their proposers must be consultants and APA members *but may be drawn from any of the five relevant constituencies*.

Dr Chris Gildersleve, Honorary Secretary

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Craig-Y-Dderwen
Riverside Hotel
Betws – Y – Coed
North Wales

**PAGW ANNUAL
SCIENTIFIC
MEETING:
THURSDAY 10th –
FRIDAY 11th
NOVEMBER 2016**

Including:

- Guest Speaker from Bristol on the role of Xenon in Neonates
- Trainee Presentation Competition
- Annual Dinner & networking opportunities



For prices & to book, please contact
felicity.howard2@wales.nhs.uk

QI News

Improving quality is about making health care safe, effective, patient-centred, timely, efficient and equitable. In the history of the NHS, there has never been a greater focus on improving the quality of health services. Patient safety is core to all aspects of medical profession. This especially applies to anaesthesia. Paediatric anaesthetists find themselves firmly at the centre of quality and safety agenda and they strive to improve things by either changing technical aspects of care such as new drug or a new piece of equipment or clinical aspects of care.

Quality cannot improve something until we really understand it well. The first step to improve a system is to examine it closely, by well-defined boundaries and to understand the defects and successes within the system. It should not threaten evidence-based medicine.

Quality improvement projects should be designed to improve outcomes for which we need clear outcome measures i.e. 30-day mortality to be improved by a 1% reduction in mortality. Guidelines and standards are essential to establish and maintain good and safe anaesthesia practice and a high quality service.

The APA is actively working to develop QI initiatives including a simple “How to do QI” guide for departments to refer to. We will be placing material on the website soon.

Velu Guruswamy APA SciCom

Scottish Update: Autumn -Winter 2016

Notice of forthcoming meetings:

SPAN: Spring meeting 21st April in Crieff Hydro for more information www.span.nhs.net

SAG: Scottish Airway Group – Annual meeting 10th March 2017 for more information www.scottishairwaygroup.co.uk

Simulation courses: MEPA (FC) and MEPA dates for 2017 will be confirmed in November for further information www.scschf.org/courses/anaesthesia/

PPTC: Paediatric Pain Travelling Club - next meeting 21st April 2017 in Glasgow for further information contact PPTC

Patient Safety Conference: Royal College of Physicians Edinburgh 30th November 2016 for further information www.rcoa.ac.uk/salg

Consultation on draft 5-year strategy to improve access to paediatric general surgery: Concerns have been raised by many different groups across the paediatric anaesthetic network regarding the workings of the above document. The issue of continuing provision of paediatric surgical consultant cover in the District General Hospitals was highlighted in a report by Professor George Youngson around 10 years ago, yet nothing has improved during this time frame. Individual responses from many DGHs have been sent to highlight the strength of feeling and concern.

Edinburgh Sick Children's Hospital: The opening date for the new Children's hospital in Edinburgh has been delayed by several months. No firm date has yet been released but it is thought that it will be Spring/Summer 2018.

Carolyn Smith

And finally
Overseas missions, 2nd call

The APA is aware that many anaesthetists consider working overseas as a volunteer during their working lives. There are many websites with information for each individual charity and there is some useful information on both the AAGBI and RCoA websites. However, these do not specifically look at paediatric anaesthetic possibilities abroad.

Therefore, we are trying to set up a database for information for anyone wishing to think about volunteering for an overseas paediatric anaesthetic placement. The aim is to collect a list of those available, a brief description of what the work entails, contact details of the charity website and of anyone who has worked for that charity if they are happy to be contacted by anyone who is interested. I am aware that there are some trainee opportunities but also volunteer ones for consultants.

Please can you either let me know about any that you have been involved in or are aware of and we will put them on the website for others as a resource. You can see how our page “Working with charities” is developing by following this link: <http://www.apagbi.org.uk/node/1306>

Many thanks

Charles Stack

President Elect

c.stack@sheffield.ac.uk