

T piece

October 2017

Contents Inc:

Snippets from the Secretary 2

Liverpool 2018 ASM 3

Election to Council 4

Education and Training 5

Trainee Report 6

2017 Honorary Members 7

Dr Gordon Bush 9

2017 Annual Linkman
Meeting 10

Pre-operative Care 13

Guidelines 14

"SafeguardingPlus" 16



Dr Gordon Jackson Rees
1918-2001
Pioneer in paediatric
anaesthesia

APAGBI
2018
Annual Scientific Meeting

Welcome to the autumn edition of our T piece Newsletter. This is an exciting period in the APA year as we exhale after the success of the Bristol ASM and then take a deep breath as we set off on the journey towards Liverpool 2018, where we will be celebrating the centenary of the birth of one of the doyens of paediatric anaesthesia, Dr Gordon Jackson Rees. The undoubted highlight will be a truly eponymous Jackson Rees lecture delivered by his son, Professor Andrew Rees, on Translational Medicine. An excellent educational and social programme has been put together by Karen Bartholomew, our Meetings Secretary, and the local team led by Colin Dryden. The meeting website will be launched shortly and I encourage you to book early for what promises to be an exceptional meeting.

Also in this issue we celebrate the Honorary APA Memberships awarded to Dr Kathy Wilkinson and to Professor Francis Veyckemans, the former awarded in Bristol and the latter at the ESPA meeting in Glasgow in September.

We also celebrate the life and work of Dr Gordon Bush who sadly passed away during the summer with a reproduction of an article published in Anaesthesia News, an edited version of the oration given by Dr Peter Morris on the occasion of the bestowal of Honorary Membership of the AAGBI. We have commissioned a formal obituary and will publish this on the website very soon.

There are updates from our Trainee Representative, Natasha Woodman together with news from two new members of Council, Phil Arnold on Guidelines, and Mary Lane who now leads Education and Training.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Sumit Das (Oxford) to take over the Webmaster brief from Simon Courtman and Danielle Franklin (Plymouth) who now heads up APA QI activity. And we hope to be able to announce a further appointment to manage our rapidly growing social media platforms in the near future.

Several Council members reach the end of their term of office next May so we are hoping to refresh Council with three new members consequent on elections this autumn. This is a fabulous opportunity for younger members of our Association to get involved in Council activity and I would encourage those who might be interested to speak to me or any other members of Council

and apply before the closing date next week.

We also carry information about the upcoming Linkman meeting in York on 14th November, news from Nadia Ladak on the 2017 Paediatric pre-operative care conference held in Sheffield in September and information on the Paediatric National Tracheostomy Safety project.

And to finish off we have some good news to share from disparate ends of the APA spectrum of activity; from the world of research with confirmation from the NIAA of success in the grant application for the paediatric laparotomy project we have supported (the APA has committed 40K to this grant round) and news of a significant website upgrade planned for completion next year. This upgrade will improve the look and feel of the website, allow greater functionality including improved interactivity. We are also mindful that the website is accessed more and more frequently by mobile and tablet and so the upgrade will allow a better user interface for those accessing the website with mobile devices.

I hope you enjoy the read.

Dr Chris Gildersleve
Honorary Secretary

Conference website launching soon!





St George's Hall, Liverpool, UK
16th – 18th May 2018
marking the centenary of the birth of Dr Gordon Jackson Rees



Dr Gordon Jackson Rees
1918-2001
Pioneer in paediatric anaesthesia

APAGBI
2018
Annual Scientific Meeting

We invite you to join us
16-18 May 2018 and we
look forward to welcoming you
as the APA Annual Scientific
Meeting returns to the
“Pool of Life.”

2018 marks the centenary of the birth of Shropshire lad Dr Gordon Jackson Rees, pioneer of paediatric anaesthesia, bon viveur, and a man whose career showed how excellence in everyday practice can have a worldwide impact. The Jackson Rees Department of Paediatric Anaesthesia at Liverpool's Alder Hey Hospital is proud and honoured to mark this centenary by hosting the 45th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland. Through a programme promising to be stimulating and entertaining, we will both celebrate “Jack’s” achievements and further his legacy as we consider matters relating to best practice and explore how we can develop a sustainable future for our specialty.

www.apaconferences.com

The Liverpool ASM website will be open for viewing at the beginning of November and open for registration and abstract submissions by the end of the month. The scientific programme is carefully composed to offer a variety of topics and items of interest for everybody. The main meeting will be preceded by a half-day update, which is planned as a refresher and includes an interactive session on stabilisation and management of the critically ill child. Workshops on airway management and ultrasound-guided blocks will be on offer by the local organising team. There will be a welcome reception at the Bluecoat contemporary arts centre on Wednesday evening and dinner and dancing at the Town Hall on Thursday evening. Liverpool “LightNight” takes place on Friday evening; over 100 venues and unusual art spaces open their doors for free entry to showcase their arts and culture.

We will email an announcement when the meeting website opens.

Karen Bartholomew

APAGBI Meetings Secretary



The Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland

Notice of forthcoming election to APA Council

3 Home Members

Nominations are sought for **three vacancies** on APA Council with effect from May 2018.

The election will be held during November and December 2017 and will be conducted by the Electoral Reform Service. Home Members are appointed for four years. The successful candidates 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 or Honorary 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 2nd 2017.

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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This is my first report as chair of this committee and I am pleased to announce the appointment of three new members to our team. Judith Nolan (Bristol), Joanne Norman (St George's) and Marina George (GOS) have joined and I am sure that their expertise will help our committee continue to develop. I must also thank two members who have moved on, Andy Blevin and Teresa Dorman, for their contributions to the committee during their terms.

Podcasts and Videos

Following the success of the podcasts from the Belfast ASM, we have put together podcasts from the Bristol ASM in May. Many thanks again to Sumit Das for his work in putting these together. They are available at: <http://www.buzzsprout.com/80241>

The videos of talks from the Belfast ASM were very popular with many hits recorded on the site. Videos and speaker slide sets from the ASM Bristol 2017 are now also available to view. These provide an opportunity for personal CPD as well as the option of watching them at teaching sessions or departmental meetings to generate discussion and interactive learning. Why not tweet a picture from your teaching session when watching?

The videos are available at: <http://apa.isi-science.com/conference/index/2>

Hot topics

We continue work hard on the hot topics, which are proving popular, over 100 responses per topic. We aim to post a new one every 2-3 months but rely on our members to send suggestions for new topics or controversies for us to take forward. The committee is meeting in November and we will be discussing hot topics for the next year. Please send suggestions to your local E&T committee member or email suggestions to me, m.lane@rbht.nhs.uk.

Moving forward...

We are very excited to announce that there will be a new prize at the ASM 2018 in Liverpool for submissions related to education and training. More details will be released closer to the time.

In addition, we have several exciting new developments and projects planned which we will be finalising at our next meeting in November. A sneak peak of these include considering ideas to enhance interaction with members using our new website and social media, looking at regional variation in training caseloads and identifying ways to share resources more effectively.

We are always grateful for ideas and suggestions that are of benefit to our members with regards to education and training. Please tweet @APAGBI or email myself, or one of the committee members.

Mary Lane
Chair APA Education and Training Committee

Trainee Report

Natasha Woodman



PATRN

With our trainee network into it's third year it is time to say goodbye to one of the founding members, Zoe Harclerode. Zoe will complete PAPAYA whilst taking up a consultant post at Sheffield Children's Hospital. Thank you for all your hard work and congratulations on your consultant post. We welcome Andrew Selman taking over from Zoe as the new co-Chair of PATRN, a London trainee currently completing a fellowship in perioperative medicine. Andrew moves from the role of Communication lead for PATRN.

We are currently going through the selection process for our next project to follow PAPAYA. 5 proposals are being finalised before peer review by the APA Scientific Committee.

Our 'Swift' survey on drug errors in paediatric anaesthesia at the Bristol APA ASM was successful, with an oral presentation by our Treasurer, Zoe Burton at the ESPA conference recently.

PAPAYA is in full swing, part way through our 6-week data collection period. Thank you to everyone that has enthusiastically engaged with this project. 90 centres across Great Britain and Ireland are currently meticulously collecting data. It has been a huge learning curve for PATRN managing a project of this scale, and we hope you have all found us approachable and prompt with answering your queries.

Article Watch

September Article watch covering July-September has just been published on the APA website. Please read the summaries of recent interesting articles in your field. We are in discussion to collaborate with SPANZA in Australasia, and are excited to publish to a wider audience in the future. If you are interested in writing for us please get in touch.

APAGBI Trainee Handbook

The second edition of this handbook is nearly there, with several new topical articles, including one on quality improvement, burnout, balancing parenting with a career in paediatric anaesthesia and a piece from the 'POEMs For Children' team on communication. This will be a great book for trainees exploring a career in paediatric anaesthesia, highlighting useful websites, courses and other resources in addition to a wealth of information from many paediatric anaesthetists from a range of settings.

Please get in touch if you have any questions or suggestions for trainees in paediatric anaesthesia. Also PATRN is always looking for new members to take our projects wider and further into Great Britain and Ireland.

PATRN.network@gmail.com

Tasha_woodman@hotmail.co.uk

Honorary Members 2017

Dr Kathy Wilkinson

Saying nice things about Kathy Wilkinson – how hard can that be. Well, very hard as it turns out – not finding nice things to say of course, but getting all the nice things there are to be said into 2 minutes!

Where to start? Kathy's professional life began with joint training in anaesthesia and paediatrics. She obtained her Diploma in Child Health, transferred to anaesthesia at GOS and decided she liked PICU. She already had FRCA, so it was off to the Royal London as an SR for 3 years, obtain MRCPCH and then to Melbourne as PICU Fellow for a year.

She came back as the perfect candidate for an anaesthesia/PICU consultant job at GOS (an almost impossible job with a 1:3 rota, at that time). She was there for 3 years and, along with others started changing the face of intensive care at GOS with a much more 'hands on' approach. They also started retrieval for the first time.

She then had a career change and moved to Norwich – some suggested for a quiet life – they could not have been more wrong!

It was now she started to influence the wider sphere of children's service in the UK.

She was elected to APA Council, as the 1st member from a DGH in 2000, just as the strict membership rules were relaxed. She was immediately made

Membership Secretary and removed the need for a job plan from the application process. As a result, the membership increased from 250 to the current level of around 1000. Following this she was Hon Secretary until 2008; always the most difficult job in an organisation. She was then a natural for President and was duly elected in 2011 for 2 years.

In these roles, she added Professional Standards and Education Committees to Council, started a newsletter and an Annual Report, organised regular meetings with the Presidents of RCoA and RCPCH and the National Clinical Director for Children.

Using her influence in the APA and outside she has consistently championed the care of children in the DGH – repeatedly highlighting the evolving crisis in the provision of elective and emergency surgery at local level.

Outside the APA, she was advisor for the 1999 NCEPOD report 'Extremes of Age', has been a clinical advisor for the organisation since 2008, with David Mason, she co-authored the last paediatric NCEPOD report 'Are We There Yet' in 2011, and currently leads the NCEPOD Child Health Review. For the RCoA, she was the lead author for the Paediatric Chapter of GPAS from 2005 – 2016, she leads for safeguarding and has co-edited 2 editions of the National Intercollegiate standards on this subject and is currently lead for Safeguarding PLUS – due next year.

Since everyone else has finally realised there is a big problem, she has just been invited to join the NHS England national review of paediatric surgery and

intensive care, so there is no doubt much more to come but I need to stop talking about her achievements here because I need time to highlight a quality that I found to be very special, her pastoral care – Kathy was always the Council member who noted major events in members lives; she sent Christmas cards, congratulations cards and flowers, get well and condolence messages. She is the 'go to' person to ask about significant events of Members and colleagues.

And finally a bit about her: She likes hill and coast walking but I bet you didn't know she enjoys paddling Canadian Canoes and can plough a field with a horse drawn plough? I certainly didn't.

She calls her family - Arthur, Kim and John - long suffering but I'm not sure they are as she'll certainly put at least as much effort into her care for them as she has into everything else in her life.

So, for all these and many more reasons, it gives me great pleasure to propose Kathy Wilkinson for Honorary Membership of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland.

The citation was given by Dr Bob Bingham, Immediate Past President of the APAGBI at the 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting in Bristol.

Honorary Members 2017

Professor Francis Veyckemans

Francis Veyckemans' life is of upmost interest, and has clearly contributed to his open mindedness and forged his character. Born in Brussels, his father was an accountant and his mother a secretary. He spent all his childhood in Congo, Africa. He graduated from medical school in 1977 and was expected to start in Paediatrics. He declined and instead, with a graduation in tropical medicine, he preferred to go to Burundi with his wife where he was the only doctor in a tiny hospital. He started his anaesthesia training in 1980 and you may wish to know that he did his 3rd year training in 1982 at the "Edinburgh Royal Infirmary". He achieved the Belgium certification in Anaesthesiology in 1985 and for the last 31 years or so, he followed his career at the University Hospitals of Saint Luc in Brussels, where he became a clinical professor in 2000 and was promoted to full professor in 2009. He was deputy chair of the department from 2011 until 2015 and in charge of paediatric anaesthesia and emergency medicine. A new chapter in his life was opened in July 2016 where he faced a new challenge in clinical practice in Lille, France as a senior consultant.

Francis has such a humble but very rich personality that he is impossible to classify. Francis is the most devoted clinician. Francis is a GREAT mentor.

He educated and empowered several generations of anaesthetists who were privileged to do their paediatric anaesthesia training with him. He has this unique way of sharing his knowledge. He is a great inspiration to many, including myself. Very didactic in style, his lectures are outstanding with over 200 lectures worldwide and counting. Additionally, he has always a story about a funny case that challenged him and a complication that he had to face. He has a track record of participating in over 25 humanitarian trips all over the world and has tremendously contributed to local education.

Francis' accomplishments and contributions to our specialty are innumerable. He published over 210 manuscripts, most of them related to anaesthesia management and best clinical practice. He edited a series of books on paediatric anaesthesia and wrote over 40 book chapters. More importantly, he initiated and launched the website on anaesthesia and orphan disease and is handling editor for the EJA in this field. He mentored and supervised more than 20 scientific final dissertations and medical thesis. His scientific achievements are outstanding and he is widely respected for his intellect and his scientific integrity. He also served on the board of numerous Societies and is now president of ESPA.

Francis is the smartest and wisest man I ever met. He rarely reacts with anger but his colleagues told me that he once broke a phone in the OR... Another image that his colleagues will never forget is when he rushed to the OR in the middle of the night in his pyjamas!

Highly dedicated to his family, he continuously refers to his wife, as being the guide on the road of his life. As such, I would like to share with you his reply to my mail while I was preparing his citation:

"Do not worry about my citation: I am not exceptional. Relation wise, I owe a lot to the woman of my life, Françoise. She corrects my attitude or my words when they may upset or distress people... For the remaining, I try at doing better than I did the day before..."

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 honour to propose Prof Francis Veyckemans for Honorary membership of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthesia of Great Britain and Ireland.

Francis was unable to attend our Annual Scientific Meeting in Bristol this year. His award of Honorary Membership was made at the ESPA meeting in Glasgow in September, and the citation was given by Professor Walid Habre.





Dr Gordon Bush

Dr Gordon Bush was honoured at the recent Annual Scientific Meeting in Birmingham and his long-time friend Dr Peter Morris gave an oration, of which the following is an edited version.

Gordon Henry Bush, a native of the environs of the City of Bristol where one of his ancestors had been the bishop in the 16th Century, began his medical studies at Trinity College, Oxford, in 1947, graduating B.M., B.Ch.(Oxon) in 1953. During his time as an undergraduate he distinguished himself as a talented squash player, representing the University at this sport. Following a house officer post at St Bartholomew's Hospital, where he had undertaken his undergraduate clinical training, he entered the RAF medical branch.

His anaesthetic career began in the RAF where he served as a junior anaesthetist in Germany and Halton, from 1955 to 1958. On demobilisation, Gordon Bush travelled to the North West to continue his training in anaesthesia, being attracted to the University Department of Anaesthesia in Liverpool. This department, headed by Professor Cecil Gray, was the only centre at that time offering a formal course of training leading up to the Fellowship examination of the Faculty of Anaesthetists of the Royal College of Surgeons in England. The department was a powerhouse of research into neuromuscular blockade and Gordon Bush actively participated in this research programme, being invited to join the Department as a lecturer after one year.

During his training he was exposed to paediatric anaesthesia and, of course, to Dr Jackson Rees at Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Dr Bush's flair and ability in, and enjoyment of, this branch of anaesthesia was clearly recognised and he was appointed a consultant in paediatric anaesthesia at this hospital in 1964, a post that he held with great distinction until his retirement from clinical anaesthesia in July 1990.

Gordon Bush has been the author of numerous high quality publications and book chapters on many topics in paediatric anaesthesia and intensive care. He was an editorial assistant and assistant editor of the British Journal of Anaesthesia, from 1966 to 1971.

A gifted and lucid lecturer, his talents have been in great demand, both in this country and overseas. Gordon Bush has been a visiting professor at many of the major world centres of paediatric anaesthesia and has been an invited speaker at many national and international meetings on most of the continents, delivering inaugural eponymous lectures at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto and the Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam.

In 1973, Gordon Bush was a founder member of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland, serving as the Association's first honorary secretary and treas-



Gordon Bush receiving Honorary Membership from Dr Mal Morgan (then President of the AAGBI)

urer and, latterly, as its President, from 1987 to 1989. The success of this, the first association in the world to be solely devoted to paediatric anaesthesia, owes much to the sound basis that Gordon Bush helped to put in place in its early years.

Always active in the promotion of paediatric anaesthesia, Gordon Bush, along with others, identified the need to support paediatric anaesthesia in continental Europe, especially in those countries where this was not well developed. In the late 1980s, he was one of the founding fathers of the Federation of European Associations of Paediatric Anaesthesia and served as the second President of the Federation, from 1989 to 1993. During his term in this office, he masterminded several mini-symposia which were very successful and have resulted in the setting up of several national associations of paediatric anaesthesia and an increased awareness of the special needs of children among 'adult' anaesthetists in Europe.

In 1991, a new international specialist journal, Paediatric Anaesthesia, was launched. It is a measure of Gordon Bush's eminence in paediatric anaesthesia and the high respect that he is held in by the world fraternity of paediatric anaesthetists that he was invited to be the founding editor.

Gordon Bush is a true gentleman and an ambassador of the highest order for British anaesthesia worldwide. Throughout his remarkable career he has enjoyed the steadfast support of his family and his wife Kaye. Now in his second, or is it his third retirement, I am reliably informed that Gordon relishes looking after his many grandchildren. Without doubt, he must be the best qualified baby sitter in the country!

It is a privilege and a great personal pleasure to present to you Gordon Henry Bush for election to Honorary Membership of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland.

2017 Annual Linkman Meeting

York

14th November

Nirmala Soundararajan

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.

Terms of reference for the Trust Linkman:

- The linkman will be the liaison between the APA and the personnel delivering anaesthesia for children. They will take responsibility for two-way communication with the APA while actively participating in their regional network.
- The linkman will demonstrate a passion for learning, for personal, professional and team development and will connect with other specialities and professions involved in the delivery of care for children.

Any 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 ethos is '**Link, learn, connect and collaborate**'.

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.

Please check out the program by [clicking here](#)

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 apalinkman17@gmail.com or nimrajan@gmail.com to share your views and ideas.



APA
Association of Paediatric
Anaesthetists of Great Britain
& Ireland

National Railway Museum, York, UK
14th November
11th APA Linkman conference



Link
Learn
Connect
Collaborate

Highlights
Panel Discussion on
'Enhancing Patient/Parent Experience'
Talks focussed on collaboration for Quality improvement
Linkman Prize presentation

For further details contact
apalinkman17@gmail.com
Delegate Fee = £80



#APAL17



Revalidation
FOR ANAESTHETISTS

To register go to
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/apa-linkman-conference-2017-tickets-37366681751>

APA Linkman Conference

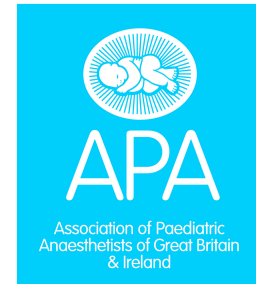


#APAL17

Tuesday 14th November 2017

National Railway Museum, Leeman Road, York YO26 4XJ

Organiser: Dr Nirmala Soundararajan



Programme

09:00 Registration and Pre-meeting questionnaire

10:00 Welcome and overview
Dr Nirmala Soundararajan, Hull

Session One Paediatric Anaesthesia – Patient and public involvement

10:10 – 11:15 Chair: Dr Stephanie Bew, Leeds

10:00 Recommendations for Assessment of VTE (Venous Thrombo Embolism) risk in Children
CPD matrix 1F01, 1F05, 1E05, 2D02
Dr Judith Morgan, Sheffield

10:30 ‘Pregnancy testing in Under 16s – How, when, why and Safeguarding Plus...’
CPD matrix 1F01, 1F05, 1E02
Dr Alistair Cranston, Birmingham

11:00 Questions & Discussion

11:15 Refreshments and networking

Session Two The challenge of children’s services in DGHs

11:30 – 13:00 Chair: Alistair Cranston, Birmingham

11:30 APA Linkman Survey on Infant Intubation in DGHs
CPD matrix 2D01, 2D07, 2A01, 1B04
Dr Ian Clegg, Blackburn

11:55 Standardising Paediatric Equipment in ED and theatres
CPD matrix 2D02, 2D05, 2D07, 2A01
Dr Amaia Arana, Leeds

12:20 Paediatric Day surgery – Sharing good practice
CPD matrix 2D02, 2D07
Dr. Steve Roberts, Liverpool

12:45 Questions & Discussion

13:00 Lunch and networking

Session Three Quality Improvement in Paediatric Anaesthesia

14:00 – 16:00 Chair: Robert Bingham, London

- 14:00 Collaborating to deliver quality - Multidisciplinary approach to management of Stridor in children**
CPD matrix 2D01, 2D07
Dr Stephanie Bew, Leeds
- 14:30 Collaborating to Improve Quality – Paediatric Anaesthesia Trainee Research Network (PATRN)**
CPD matrix 1G02, 1I02, 1I05
Dr Peter Brooks, London
- 14:50 APA Updates**
- 15:00 Panel Discussion: ‘Enhancing patient/parent experience’ preceded by a presentation by Linkman Prize winner and a five minute QI pitch by each of the panel members**
Drs Mark Thomas, Steve Roberts, Karen Bartholomew, Simon Courtman, Peter Brooks
CPD matrix 1I02, 1I03, 1I05
- 15:45 Questions & Discussion**
- 16:00 Close**

Event is approved by the Royal College of Anaesthetists for 5 CPD credits



To register go to

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/apa-linkman-conference-2017-tickets-37366681751>

Paediatric pre-operative care conference 2017

Nadia Ladak

Sheffield

Over twenty paediatric pre-operative care teams, tertiary and district general hospitals, from around the UK, came together at Sheffield's Town Hall on the 15th September to compare children's pre-operative pathways, share best practice, develop guidelines and further their understanding of paediatric pre-operative care. The Medical Protection Society talk on "Shared Decision Making" gave clinicians a framework through which they can support patients to make informed decisions about their own care. During this talk the paediatric pre-operative nurses, play specialists and managers explored the different pre-operative pathways, the benefits and challenges with each model. Other subjects covered included information provision, pre-operative management of obesity, diabetes, clotting disorders, electronic screening, clinical coding, and the very popular seamless surgery board game, which illustrated the various bumps in the surgical pathway and potential improvements to avoid these.

The feedback received from delegates showed the day's success, with over 98% rating the event as excellent, very good or good:

"Networking, good mix of disciplines and the right level of knowledge in the room....different activities planned depending on discipline. Also, made to feel very welcome, the atmosphere created was a friendly and open one, I felt able to talk freely." A paediatric pre-assessment nurse

The information gained from this conference and involvement in the national Paediatric Pre-Operative Care network will benefit the individual hospitals and the development of a paediatric pre-operative care nationally.

To join the network please email nadia.ladak@sch.nhs.uk and/or contact the Royal College of Anaesthetists perioperative medicine programme perioperativemedicine@rcoa.ac.uk to become a local paediatric lead.



I have only recently taken over the brief, which includes both guidelines and patient/ parent information.

Firstly, the good news. The Prevention of Thromboembolism Guidelines are now available on the website. Well done to everyone involved.

The APA is currently looking at the way it provides guidelines. I thought it worth stating the principles I feel we should be following in this review.

- It is a right and proper thing for an organisation such as the APA to be involved in guideline writing and promotion. The objective is to provide advice to members based, as far as possible, on the best available evidence.
- APA Guidelines are not standards. The objective is not to promote a uniform approach to paediatric anaesthesia but to point to 'best practise'. We need to be mindful that, in an era of increased regulatory oversight of clinical practice, our guidance is not taken out of context and should not stifle reasonable innovation.
- Formal evidence based guidelines take a considerable amount of time and effort to produce. This may mean that they are unresponsive to areas of practice, which change rapidly. There is a need to look at alternative ways to get important messages out in a shorter timeframe without 'dumbing down' the content. It should be absolutely clear which guidance is current and which is now out of date or superseded by other guidance produced by others or ourselves.
- We should make use, and provide links to, guidance produced by other organisations. It should be clear how the APA has been involved in their production and what our view is as to the validity of the guidance to paediatric anaesthesia.

The plan to make a major update the APA website provides us with an opportunity to examine this area. Hopefully there will be more news in coming months.



National Tracheostomy Safety Project

The Paediatric arm of the National Tracheostomy Safety Project (NTSP) has gone from strength to strength this year:

<http://www.tracheostomy.org.uk/Templates/NTSP-Paeds.html#>

They have worked hard to increase the use of bed-head signs up and down the country, as well as train health care workers in the care of children with tracheostomies. Their “train the trainers” course has been run successfully with the ALSG in Salford and has trained Consultants through to Support Workers how to teach their own colleagues to care for children with tracheostomies as well as how to manage emergencies.

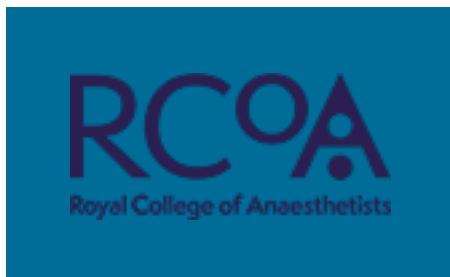
September has seen publication the Journal of Clinical Otolaryngology of a paper demonstrating improved patient safety and outcomes following the implementation of their work in a tertiary children’s hospital.

Further Reading:

Doherty, C., Bowler, M., Monks, S., English, C., Sadadcharam, M., Perkins, R., Bateman, N., Bruce, I. A., Atkinson, D. and McGrath, B. Reduction in harm from tracheostomy related incidents after implementation of the paediatric National Tracheostomy Safety Project resources: a retrospective analysis from a tertiary paediatric centre. Clin Otolaryngol

Paediatric National Tracheostomy
Safety Project

Catherine Doherty and
Russell Perkins



SafeguardingPlus

<https://www.rcoa.ac.uk/safeguardingplus>

“SafeguardingPlus” was launched by the Royal College of Anaesthetists in September 2017. Here is a short summary of the project:

‘SafeguardingPlus’ contains four introductory pages – ‘Safeguarding Children’, ‘Safeguarding Adults’, ‘Consent and Ethics for Children and Young People’, and ‘Consent and Ethics for Adults’.

These in turn link to shorter pieces on specific topic areas, including; Confidentiality, Duty of Candour, Restraint, and DNACPR, with integral signposting to well-developed and up-to-date guidance. These pages can act as a reliable quick reference guide and will prove valuable in patient care as well as for personal and departmental CPD. A team of about 12 clinicians, from different specialty areas has collaborated on the project (with medico-legal expertise being provided by, Janice Barber, Senior Partner at Hempsons), led by Dr Kathy Wilkinson and Natalie Bell.

Both the APA and the RCoA hope the new webpages will provide a one-stop-shop to support anaesthetists with any safeguarding concern, or related consent or ethical issue in the perioperative setting, wherever they work in the UK. They contain key references, bespoke resources (podcasts/film/virtual cases) and links to other useful materials (e.g. open access articles and e-Learning).

This new suite of webpages is signposted from the APA website or may found on the RCoA website at:

<https://www.rcoa.ac.uk/safeguardingplus>

MSc Advanced Clinical Practice - Paediatric Anaesthesia

Study Part time:

PGCert 1yr, PGDip 2 yrs, MSc 3 yrs

Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health, School of Medical Sciences of the University of Manchester have enrolled 4 candidates in their new Master of Science Advanced Clinical Practice – Paediatric Anaesthesia Course commencing in the autumn term of 2017. This is the first course of its type in the UK and is almost certainly a world first too. While this course will not replace the FRCA examination it is aimed to be complimentary for those anaesthetists wishing to specialise in the field of paediatric anaesthesia, either working in a DGH with a special interest or in a tertiary centre.

Further information:

<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/courses/list/11815/msc-advanced-clinical-practice-paediatric-anaesthesia/>