



BAA
HORIZON

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Welcome to this week's edition of BAA Horizon, bringing you updates, opportunities, news, and information from across the field of audiology.

If you have any information that you would like to be included in a future edition of Horizon, please contact admin@baaudiology.org

BAA Board & Committee News:

- **Commissioning Framework - Tuesday 19th July saw the Parliamentary Launch** of an important document for hearing services in England.

Commissioning Services for People with Hearing Loss: A Framework for Clinical Commissioning Groups is an online document that aims to offer CCGs clear guidance and evidence to aid informed commissioning decision making, with illustrations of what high quality cost-effective integrated care can do for local populations. Whilst responsibility for commissioning is at a local level this Framework also sends out a clear message about the importance of jointly tackling hearing loss to ensure that people can live independent lives with reduced risk from dementia and mental health problems related to communication difficulties.

This Framework was one of the many objectives identified in the Action Plan on Hearing Loss 2015 and has been designed to evolve over time **so should be accessed online at:**

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/HLCF.pdf>

BAA along with its partners in the Hearing Loss and Deafness Alliance co-produced these documents with NHS England and other health system stakeholders. Going forward we look towards continuing to work with NHS England on the next stages to not only ensure this document has impact across the whole hearing care system, but also to develop strategies to address all objectives identified in the Action Plan on Hearing Loss.

- **Vacancies on the BAA Service Quality Committee** - The SQC are looking for new recruits. Are you interested in service developments and quality issues? Are you interested in making a difference through a BAA committee? You do not have to be in a senior position to be part of the work of the BAA. We are interested in all applications but would like to consider people from Scotland, or with a professional interest in vestibular work or complex adults. For more information or **to apply please contact:** sqc@baaudiology.org
- **Vacancy for a BAA Press Officer** - Could you be a public face for BAA as our volunteer press officer? Press officer is a vital but fast moving responsibility in times of social media, requiring timely responses to articles in news media to put across BAA members views or inform members about articles that may interest them. We are looking for someone who is enthusiastic with great writing and research skills to develop this role within the organisation. With the full support of BAA Board you would make great connections within BAA and externally within the wider community. If you are interested in adding this opportunity to your C.V. **please email:** admin@baaudiology.org **to express your interest.**
- **BAA Magazine** - We hope that you have now received the most recent copy of the BAA Magazine Summer Edition. Unfortunately, it has been brought to our attention that one of the images were printed twice on the feature entitled "Optimising the Caloric Test: The Effect of Stimulus Parameters in the Assessment of Horizontal Semi-Circular Canal Function" by Trisha Halai. We would like to apologise to Trisha and the members of the BAA for this error.

To view the correct version of the magazine, please visit

http://www.baaudiology.org/files/3014/6910/9791/A40392_BAA_Summer_Magazine_PRINT_VERSION.pdf

Other News:

- **Debate on the Action Plan on Hearing Loss - Jim Fitzpatrick MP** (Lab, Poplar and Canning Town) has led a Westminster Hall debate on NHS England's Action Plan on Hearing Loss and the forthcoming publication of the Commissioning Framework for Hearing Loss Services. Jim Fitzpatrick, who Chairs the All Party Parliamentary Group on Deafness, used his speech to set out the evidence on the prevalence and impact of hearing loss. He also noted research from Action on Hearing Loss which found that people wait an average of ten years to seek help after noticing the first symptoms of hearing loss.
A summary of the debate can be viewed on the BAA website, including a Government Minister Response.
<http://www.baaudiology.org/index.php/news/news-home/westminster-debate-deafness/>
- **Science Council Bulletin** - The long-awaited Sainsbury Panel Report on Technical Education has been published and provides positive reading for professional bodies in science and the wider science community. With this report, there is a genuine recognition that a direct route to skilled employment is needed to address the UK's productivity problem, and that reform of the qualification market is needed to achieve this. Read the report [here](#):
- **Applications for the BSA Applied Research Grants - Deadline 30th September** - In honour of Professor Stuart Gatehouse, the BSA has available an annual fund for small research projects involving BSA members. This year there is a further opportunity to apply for grants of up to £5,000 for projects to be completed within two years.
For more information and to obtain an application form, please visit: www.thebsa.org.uk/bsa-applied-research-grant/

Job Adverts:

- To advertise a job in future editions of Horizon please contact advertising@baaudiology.org

Upcoming Courses / Events:

- **Conference Update – The closing date for submitting an abstract at this year's conference is today!** If you have a project or piece of work that you have been working on, then why not consider submitting an abstract as either a free paper or oral presentation and share your findings with your colleagues. We are calling for abstracts in the following categories: Implantable Technologies, Ageing & Cognition, Diagnostic and Medical Audiology, Rehabilitation, Paediatrics, Tinnitus, Vestibular Science, Education, Supervision and Preceptorship and Innovation and Service Development. For full details and to submit, please visit www.baaudiology.org/conference/abstracts
- **Implantable Devices 2016: Making Decisions Together - 4 November 2016**
<http://www.earfoundation.org.uk/education/articles/836>

This State of the Art conference will provide opportunities to develop our skills as practitioners in facilitating decision making processes which help to address issues faced in relation to early uptake of hearing technology and non-compliance in children and adults. Topics will include specialists in their field exploring streamlining the audiological assessment process, data logging techniques, rehabilitation resources for bimodal recipients, rehab materials to use both in and out of audiology clinics, sensory integration impacts and audiological counselling tools.

- **Anglia Ruskin University** - Unique skills development opportunity for Hearing Care Assistants: The Vision and Hearing Sciences Department at Anglia Ruskin University has updated their unique short course for NHS Band 2/3 Healthcare Assistants and for Hearing Assistants working in private practice. The flexible 9-month course approved by the British Society of Hearing Aid Audiologists starts in September 2016 and is delivered online with an on-campus final assessment. The course is designed to develop the Hearing Care Assistant's confidence in dealing with patients and their hearing issues, and with colleagues for onward referral. In addition, under the supervision of an RHAD, they will be able to carry out aftercare services and hearing aid repairs, safely perform otoscopy, take impressions and complete screening audiometry. **For more information visit www.anglia.ac.uk/ears or contact Degrees at Work on 01245 686707.**

- **Audiology Planet - Paediatric Assessment in Audiology Clinics: 13th October to 14th October 2016 in London, UK** - CONFIRMED SPEAKERS: **Dr Josephine Marriage, Ph.D.; Dr Jay Jindal Au.D.** CONTACT INFORMATION: E: info@audiologyplanet.com P: 0330 2233 453 **BOOKING FORM AND DETAILS:** <http://goo.gl/YYbCRM>

This course has been granted 14 CPD points by BAA and 12 CPD points by BSHAA

This is a beginner to intermediate level paediatric assessment course for audiologists who are planning to do hearing assessment on children under 5 years of age. Course will cover topics in physiological and behavioural assessment (including VRA) with theory and practical workshop via video demonstration.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.audiologyplanet.com/training-and-education/>

Early bird registration ends on 26.08.2016. Please note seats are limited and are only available on first come first serve basis.

- **Paediatric Assessment: A Refresher Course - Tue 1st - Thu 3rd November 2016**

NEW VENUE: Phonak UK Ltd, Sonova House, Warrington

<http://www.phonakacademy.com/event/paediatric-assessment-a-refresher-course/>

This is an introductory course to Paediatric Assessment (Behavioural Testing). The course is for Audiologists who are beginning to work in Paediatric Testing, or those who would like an update on current test protocols.

The course was set up and run by South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, from 2009 to 2015.

The course is now a collaboration between Anne Davies and the Phonak Academy, with a new speaker team. The faculty includes Greg Nassar, George Parry, Kath Lewis, Kath Woolley and Georgie Hill.

Course Flyer:

<http://www.phonakacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/FLYER-Paediatric-Course-Nov-2016.pdf>

Course Programme:

<http://www.phonakacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/PROGRAMME-Paediatric-Course-Nov-20161.pdf>

- For the above event information together with details of other Audiology events taking place please visit www.baaudiology.org/events

Social Media:

- **Facebook**

Professor Kevin Munro from Manchester University offers advice in the Facebook group on obtaining research experience whilst working as a clinician.

A post regarding funding for retired patients to get help with assistive listening devices attracted attention.

A link to the Canadian Academy of Audiology Journal is posted for those interested in further reading.

A couple of articles regarding the interest in Hearable/Wearable technology are linked on the Facebook Group

- **On Twitter**

Action on Hearing loss Comment that The new commissioning guidance provides viable alternative to cuts in service

Articles from the new edition of the Hearing Journal are tweeted from the account [@HearingJournal](#)

[@hearingmatters](#) links to an article on a new wave of bone conduction headsets for personal stereo use <https://twitter.com/hearingmatters/status/755473575553957888>

BritishSocAudiology [@BSAudiology1](#)

Update on NICE guidance on 'Hearing loss (adult): assessment and management'. buff.ly/29CtIsz

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Contact us

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