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BAA
HORIZON

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Welcome to the latest edition of Horizon your regular update of news, opportunities 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. The next deadline for submissions is the **12th October 2017**.

BAA Board & Committee News:

- **President's blog.** President Michelle Booth has been blogging on her recent activities representing the BAA. Please follow the link below to get the latest news and views from Michelle in her blog: www.baaudiology.org/about/president/#.WZaN5PiGPs
- **Medicine mechanism Task and Finish group – Message from Jagjit Sethi – Immediate Past President of BAA** So, what would you say if Clinical Scientists in Audiology were allowed to supply and administer audiology specific medications under a patient group direction (PGD)?
Simply put, a PDG is a legislative process which allows non-medical staff to supply and administer specific medications. You may be aware in your organisations where currently some nurses, AHPs and other professionals do this as part of their clinical roles.

I and a groups of fellow clinical scientists (CS) are currently working with the Chief Scientific Officer's Office at NHS England to pull together a case of need for state registered CS to be able to do just that.

But, I need your help for ideas on cases/pathways where you think CS in Audiology administering meds under a PGD would help you to improve patient care, quality and experience.

Currently we have pulled together case studies for Otomize sprays in ear care clinics an anti-emetic such as Buccastem in BPPV/VR pathways.

Are there any other areas you feel, if CS could supply and administer medication, would be beneficial?

At this point I should point out that legislatively PGDs can only apply to state-registered professions such CS under HCPC. We tried to argue for audiologists on other registers but to no avail unfortunately. Having said that I would point out and encourage those who are eligible through equivalency do so accordingly as this would make you eligible to work within the eventual PGD.

Of course, this is all dependent upon a successful submission of our case for need.

Please do contact me if you have any other ideas where specific meds could help your patient care.

I look forward to hearing from you. Contact admin@baaudiology.org

- **Service Quality Committee – Feedback needed.** The SQC invite feedback on '**Guidance on shared care of children and young people using audiology services**'. This document is intended to provide guidance for professionals involved in the care of children or young people who use audiology services from the NHS, independent, private and third sector. The content was previously circulated as part of a document with a broader scope including both children and adults, but has been separated out based on the feedback received.

The document and a feedback form are available on the SQC page of the BAA website: www.baaudiology.org/teams/service-quality/.

Please enter your comments on the form and send it **by Friday 20th October 2017** to the SQC via the BAA email address: BAA@fitwise.com.

Other News:

- **Launching! The Advancing Healthcare Awards 2018**

The 2018 Advancing Healthcare Awards are now launched. These UK-wide awards, now in their twelfth year, are exclusively for allied health professionals, healthcare scientists and those who work alongside them in support roles. Isn't it about time you received the recognition you deserve?

More details here: www.baaudiology.org/index.php/news/news-home/advancing-healthcare-awards-2018/

- **UK Survey on Adult Rehabilitation Outcome Measures**

Outcome measures were introduced into the NHS AR service through MHAS (Modernising Hearing Aid Services) in the early 2000's. However, since then there has been little indication nationally of what outcomes are measured, how, when and why.

This short, 10 minute, survey is asking about what, how, when and why outcomes are measured in your service. This is not about your performance or any underhand tactics. The aim is to benchmark AR service outcomes, with a view to develop an Outcome Toolkit for UK audiologists.

Survey can be found here: www.thebsa.org.uk/uk-survey-adult-rehabilitation-outcome-measures/

- **Cochrane review shows that hearing aids are effective for adults with mild to moderate hearing loss**

A recently published Cochrane review, the highest level of evidence, has provided evidence from generally well-designed randomised controlled trials that shows hearing aids are effective for adults with mild to moderate hearing loss.

Key results show moderate quality of evidence for:

- Listening ability – large beneficial effect
- Hearing-related quality of life (i.e. participation) – large beneficial effect
- Health-related quality of life – small beneficial effect

This is the first systematic review with meta-analysis that shows a significant effect of health-related QoL. Moderate quality of evidence across all the key primary and secondary effectiveness outcomes is not common, as many reviews conclude low or very-low quality evidence. Adverse effects (i.e. pain, noise-induced hearing loss) were not reported (low-quality). The authors conclude that "the evidence is compatible with the widespread provision of hearing aids as the first-line clinical management in those who seek help for hearing difficulties". Further well-conducted trials are needed to establish effects of age, gender, degree of hearing loss and type hearing aids. This review is being widely disseminated to audiology professionals, commissioners and researchers.

For full review please visit list below:

onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD012023.pub2/full

Ferguson MA, Kitterick PT, Chong LY, Edmondson-Jones AM, Barker F, Hoare D (2017). Hearing aids for mild to moderate hearing loss in adults. Cochrane Database of Systematic

Reviews. Issue 9.

- **REMINDER – FREE MEETING - Invitation to the NIHR Manchester BRC Hearing Health Research Theme Showcase**

On Wednesday 11 October 2017, the Hearing Health Research Theme of the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre <https://www.manchesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk/> will be launched at a showcase at the Manchester Museum, the University of Manchester and will include presentations from a variety of audiology and hearing research staff in the north-west including Professor Harvey Dillon (former director of NAL), Professor David Moore (former director of the MRC Institute of Hearing Research), Professor Cynthia Morton (auditory geneticist, Harvard University) and Dr Michael Stone (formerly at University of Cambridge). Professor Kevin J Munro will provide information on the hearing research that will be funded by the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre and how this will link to clinical practice in the NW. It is expected that hearing charities and industry will also be present and involved in the day.

A full programme and registration page is available at the link below.

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nihr-manchester-brc-hearing-health-research-theme-showcase-tickets-36220884641?aff=es2

- **The Scottish Stroke, Vision and Hearing Network – FREE EVENT**

Stroke and Hearing Loss Best Practice Event – Tuesday 24th October 2017, Forth Valley Sensory Centre, Redbrae Rd, Camelon, Falkirk, FK1 4DD

The event, which is kindly sponsored by Action on Hearing Loss, is directed towards Audiologists and other clinicians that want to know more about Hearing Loss and Stroke and how to deal with it.

This is a free event but spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If you are interested in attending please book a space by emailing the email address: ScotlandEvents.Mailbox@rnib.org.uk

- **Are hearing loss and dementia linked? – A review on latest research by Action on Hearing Loss**

Due to increased interest and concerns from blog readers, Action on Hearing Loss have summarised some of the research being done in this area. The review can be found in the link [here](#).

- **Watch the Hype – All Ears Campaign | #AllEars**

Alpine Hearing Protection and Watch The Hype are running a tinnitus prevention campaign within the UK clubbing scene. Together they will shed light on the risks involved with prolonged exposure to loud music and provide people with solutions to avoid irreversible damage.

They are partnering with 10 of the UK's most prominent electronic music venues to distribute Alpine PartyPlug earplugs to their patrons at a number of high-profile events. PartyPlug earplugs have special music filters with which you can still hear and enjoy the music. The earplugs will be available for purchase as part of the advance online ticket as well as during the nights. Watch The Hype and Alpine representatives will be within the venues to educate attendees about tinnitus and give advice about the benefits of wearing hearing protection.

This physical presence will be combined with an extensive online campaign consisting of a dedicated [#AllEars](#) website and support from the British Tinnitus Association, artists and industry professionals and other hearing loss charities.

Launch date: 11th September 2017

Website: www.allearscampaign.com

Twitter: [@AllEarsCampaign](https://twitter.com/AllEarsCampaign)

Job Adverts:

- **Sidra Medical and Research Center**

Sidra Medical and Research Center is an ultra-modern facility which will set new standards in patient care for women and children in Qatar, the Gulf region, and internationally.

Sidra is therefore looking for the following exceptionally skilled professionals to join its Audiology department:

- **Audiologists**
- **Supervisor – Audiology**

Audiologists:

The Audiologist will provide highly specialized autonomous patient care and will be involved in the prevention, identification, assessment, and rehabilitation of auditory function, balance, and related systems incorporating the principles of family centered care. The overall goal of the audiology service is to optimize and enhance the ability of an individual to hear, as well as to communicate in his/her everyday or natural environment.

Supervisor – Audiology:

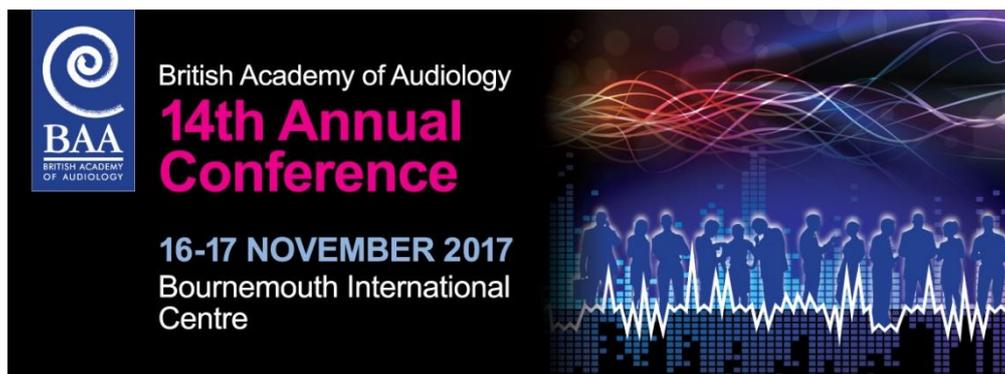
The Supervisor – Audiology will be responsible for leading and demonstrating the provision of safe, patient and family focused quality care. The incumbent will be a key member of the inter-professional team and that will ensure that standards for Audiologist care are adhered to at service level. The incumbent will work collaboratively with the Manager - Audiology to ensure that commissioning, recruitment, onboarding, orientation and service activation responsibilities are carried out in accordance with Sidra's plans and timelines.

To apply please register your interest with us at the following email address: tfula@sidra.org

For informal discussion please contact Nel Govender at the following email address: ngovender@sidra.org

- **To advertise a job in future editions of Horizon please contact advertising@baaudiology.org**
- **For more information** on the above job descriptions please visit www.baaudiology.org/careers

Upcoming Courses / Events:



- **BAA Annual Conference 2017** – if you are attending conference this year and will be in Bournemouth on the Tuesday, please come and say hello to our small team that will be taking to the streets of Bournemouth to talk to the public about all things Audiology. With the generous support of Starkey and their hearing van, we will be offering to screen people's hearing. This public engagement event worked really well in Glasgow last year and we expect the same in Bournemouth this November. If you haven't registered your place yet, please visit www.baaudiology.org/conference
- **UCL Ear Institute Masterclass in Rehabilitation for Adults Acquired Hearing Loss**
Dates 6-8 December 2017

Course Organiser: Ms Lucy Handscomb

This course aims to explore in depth the experience of deafness, and to examine a range of approaches to adult audiological rehabilitation. Attending the course should equip participants to work with people with hearing loss more effectively, both individually and in groups. As well as hearing from experts in the field, we will take a holistic view and draw on expertise from beyond the boundaries of audiology to consider the wider needs of the patients we work with. Participants will learn about recent evidence from a variety of sources which is clinically relevant. This is a very interactive course which includes evaluation of journal articles, video clips and discussion forums involving service users, group activities and role play. You will be expected to do some reading in advance.

To book this course or for more information, please visit:

<http://onlinestore.ucl.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/faculty-of-brain-sciences-c07/ucl-ear-institute-d06/d06-rehabilitation-for-adults-with-acquired-hearing-loss-masterclass-2017>

- **Counselling for Hearing Healthcare Professionals**

Dates: January 8 – March 12, 2018

Course Director: Ms Lucy Handscomb

This 10 week, highly interactive course aims to enable practitioners at all levels to improve the quality of their day-to-day interaction with patients/ clients and their families through the use of good counselling skills. Participants will learn about and practice key counselling skills such as active listening, reflection and effective use of questioning and challenging and there will be ample opportunity to discuss tricky situations. Some basic training in cognitive behavioural therapy will also be provided.

To book this course or for more information, please visit:

<http://onlinestore.ucl.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/faculty-of-brain-sciences-c07/ucl-ear-institute-d06/d06-counselling-for-hearing-healthcare-professionals-2018>

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

Social Media:

- **The Facebook Group has discussed**
 - Handmade men in a boat!
 - Hearing aids for mild to moderate losses

Contact us

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