

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 News:

- **An exciting opportunity to join the BAA Accreditation of Academic Education Committee.**

The remit of this committee is the accreditation of pre-registration audiology programmes (both undergraduate and post graduate) on behalf of the RCCP. This committee consists of members with HEI backgrounds, as well as NHS clinical staff supervising students, to ensure a good balance of clinical and/or higher education experience. We have 2 vacancies for clinical members from the NHS on the committee and we invite applicants with experience of supervising students on undergraduate and postgraduate courses to apply. We would also welcome anyone with experience of successfully completing the BAA Higher Training Scheme.

The committee meets 3-4 times a year at Aston University in Birmingham and the dates are usually set in advance. The next meeting will be on the **27th April 2016**.

An accreditation visit usually involves some time reviewing documents as well as a visit to the prospective course provider. It is typically done by a team of 2 or more members, so there will be support from an experienced team member.

The number of visits per year will depend on the range of requests from the RCCP and/or BAA. Travel expenses for meetings and visits will be reimbursed.

If you are interested in joining this committee please send a short email (no more than 250 words) detailing your interest and any relevant experience to BAA at admin@baaudiology.org.

BAA Meetings

- **South West BAA Regional Study Day**

Registration is now open for the South West Branch regional study day on **Wednesday 9th March 2016** at **Taunton Racecourse** in Somerset. This free study day is open to all audiology professionals, you do not need to be a member of the BAA to attend so please share this information with your colleagues. Sessions on the day include the plum 'em campaign from the British Tinnitus Association, hearing aids and music, Minerva on hearing protection, Ewing Foundation on listening and learning and the changing landscape on audiology from Action on Hearing Loss. For more information and to register visit www.baaudiology.org/events/calendar/baa-south-west-regional-branch-study-day-2016.

- **North East BAA Regional Study Day**

The British Academy of Audiology North East Branch is holding their annual regional study day on **Friday 11th March 2016** at the **Durham County Cricket Club** in Durham. The programme is focused on paediatric audiology. There will also be a selection of companies from the Audiology sector in attendance at the event. For more information and to register your place visit: www.baaudiology.org/events/calendar/baa-north-east-regional-study-day.

- **BAA England Heads of Service Day**

Have you registered for the BAA England Heads of Service Day. This **FREE** study day is aimed at BAA members who are Heads of Service within their field in England. If Heads of Service are not available to attend then it is possible to send a representative in their place. As places are limited we can only accept one representative from each department. Delegates must be members of BAA to attend this day and will be requested for a membership number when registering. To view the full programme and to register please visit: <https://www.eventsforce.net/baahos2016>

- **BAA Student Conference**

The British Academy of Audiology is holding their Fifth Annual Student Conference on Friday 8th April 2016 at Armada House in Bristol. This is a **FREE** conference aimed at students studying in the audiology field. The event is open to all students and you do not need to be a member of the BAA to attend. For more information and to register your place visit: <https://www.eventsforce.net/baastudent2016>

Other News:

- **UK National Screening Committee publishes recommendation on hearing loss in older adults**

Following a review of the evidence against strict criteria, the UK NSC does not recommend introducing a national screening programme for hearing loss in older adults. More details are on the BAA website here: <http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/uk-national-screening-committee-publishes-recommendation-hearing-loss-older-adults/>.

- **Deaf Awareness Week 2016**

Deaf Awareness Week will take place on **2nd - 8th May 2016** and the theme this year is 'Common Purpose'. We will be celebrating the work the sector has done to define a common purpose and highlighting the work of the mission groups. More information about the common purpose initiative is at <http://deafcouncil.org.uk/category/commonpurpose>.

- **Deaf Blind Awareness online training**

Following discussions with Audiologists, Sense has developed a new training package which includes information on:

- Common sight loss conditions and the impact they have
- How to make your services and practice accessible
- Considerations for hearing aid setup and additional technology

The package is accredited with 3 BAA/BSHAA CPD points and more details can be found on the BAA website: <http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/introducing-senses-new-elearning-module-audiologists/>.

- **CSO Award nominations open**

The Chief Scientific Officer's national conference and prestigious awards are the highlight of the year for all healthcare scientists, being held on **29 February and 1 March 2016**.

The CSO is inviting nominations for awards by **17th February 2016**, from any and all healthcare scientists who you feel have made an exceptional contribution over their career to date. Please share widely with your colleagues and networks. For further information, please visit <http://bit.ly/HCSawards16>.

- **Access to work Factsheet**

The factsheet explains how Access to Work can provide practical and financial support to help you overcome barriers to starting or keeping a job if you have a disability or long term physical or mental health condition. It explains:

- who can get help from Access to Work
- what you'll get
- how to claim
- how to ask for your award to be looked at again and how to complain

The factsheet is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/access-to-work-factsheet>.

- **National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Quality Standards Advisory Committee 3**

Public registration facility to observe the committee meeting for older people with multiple long term conditions on **Wednesday 17 February 2016** is now open on the NICE website.

If you would like to register for this committee meeting, please do so via the following web page: [Quality Standards Advisory Committee Meeting \(Committee 3\) | Meetings in Public](#).

Registration for this meeting will close on **Wednesday 3 February 2016**. Please note, we are not able to accept late requests to observe this meeting.

As a public observer, you will be able to listen to the business of the meeting, except where confidential information is being discussed; however, you will not be able to participate in committee discussions, ask questions, take part in voting or put your views to members of the committee.

For further information about meetings in public please refer to the following document: [Common questions and answers about standing advisory committee meetings in public](#).

Should you have any queries regarding observing this meeting, please contact the Meetings in Public coordinator, Lee Berry lee.berry@nice.org.uk.

Social Media

- **Apple Hearables**
Many of the technology companies displayed Hearables and Wearables at the recent Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas in January. These could be disruptive innovations in the hearing industries over the next twelve to eighteen months. One such link is to Apple Hearables: <http://www.cultofmac.com/407128/apple-wireless-earpods-hearing-aids/>
- 2 TV programmes have recently shown pieces regarding tinnitus and the reactions to the advice given were very different. Take a look on the Facebook page about GPs behind closed doors and take a look at BBC iPlayer for their piece on "Trust Me I'm a Doctor": <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06yjk7l> Their information on tinnitus can also be found here <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/1HLQ5kPrKlz6hg2GcWNhcgm/what-can-i-do-about-tinnitus>

Job Adverts

- **NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Band 6 Healthcare Scientist Specialist (Paediatric Audiology)
Royal Hospital for Children
£26302.00 to £35225.00 plus relocation expenses where appropriate
Full time (part time considered) 37.5 hrs and Permanent**

You will be involved in detailed audiometric assessments for all ages of children, including those with additional needs and will be responsible for managing a caseload of hearing aid users and making independent decisions regarding their habilitation/rehabilitation with amplification. You will have a delegated departmental responsibility for a specific area of the service provision and training will be provided. Applications would be considered from qualified audiologists who have an interest in paediatrics and would like to develop further specialist skills in this area of audiology. Previous experience of working in a multidisciplinary team would be advantageous.

For more information call Jim Harrigan, Head of Audiology on 0141 201 9210
To apply visit www.jobs.scot.nhs.uk and search for job reference 0000040975G/SHOW
Closing date **29th January 2016**

- **Assessors for IQIPS**
UKAS, the United Kingdom Accreditation Service, is looking to recruit professionals in hearing and balance to train and work for us as independent technical assessors on the IQIPS, Improving Quality in Physiological Services, accreditation scheme.
Any candidate wishing to be considered for the role must have a minimum 4 years post registration clinical experience. He/she must also be registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) as a Clinical Scientist in Audiology/Hearing Aid Dispenser and/or on the voluntary register of the Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists (RCCP).
Training in assessment skills and techniques is free and involves attendance at a 1-day pre-training workshop followed by a 2-day residential course.

Interested candidates can access further information about the IQIPS scheme from the UKAS website via the following link: <http://www.ukas.com/services/accreditation-services/physiological-services-accreditation-iqips/>.
Assessor application forms can be accessed from the same website via the following link: <http://www.careers.ukas.com/home/independent-technical-assessing-for-ukas/how-to-apply-assessor/>.
Anyone wishing to discuss the role further prior to submitting an application can contact Ethna Glean, Accreditation Manager, on 10974 428 809.

- **Adult Audiologist**
Are you looking for a career development post? We have a band 7 post in adults – with a specific interest in diagnostics and complex rehabilitation. In addition, you will be keen to be part of service development and clinical expertise for junior staff and trainees. If you have experience in all these areas, or are looking to build on your existing knowledge, and want to develop your skills, this is the job for you.
We offer a welcoming team, a 4-day working week, and lots of opportunity for personal and professional development, innovative service delivery and the chance to share the success of a service that is well regarded by service users, a good relationship with commissioning teams and a genuine desire to improve access and quality for the patient.

If you are interested, please contact Dawn Bramham MSc – Head of service 07889 131544 or Ryan O'Shea – Adult Team leader 01268 394732
If you are interested in this opportunity please go via www.jobs.nhs.uk – job reference number 431-SUR-3776.

General Events:

- **Are your patients missing out on cochlear and other hearing implants?
Nottingham Auditory Implant Programme Information Day**
9 March 2016, Nottingham Conference Centre

This event is free to attend, ENT UK and BAA accreditation will be requested, and lunch and refreshments will be provided. For more information visit: http://www.baaudiology.org/files/3214/5345/4717/NUH_new_flyer.pptx.

Register for your free place before **12th February 2016**
Email naip@nuh.nhs.uk or telephone the NAIP office on 0115 948 5549.
- **UCL Masterclass: Advanced Amplification and Aural Rehabilitation, 9th - 11th March 2016**
Course Directors: Dr Guoping Li & Mr Amjad Mahmood

This module takes the form of a 3 day masterclass that will investigate current trends in adult and paediatric amplification. The aim of this module is to enhance clinical practice in the treatment of adults and children with hearing loss.

The 3 day masterclass has 2 days of adult focus, and 1 day paediatric focus. Participants may opt to attend all 3 days, or simply focus on adult or paediatric issues. A combination of live and recorded lectures will be presented along with interactive, seminar style discussions and hands-on workshops.

For more information on what topics are covered and how to book a place, please follow this link: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/ear/courses/shortcourses/index/edit/coursepages/aamc-advancedamplification>
- **UCL Masterclass: Vestibular Rehabilitation, 20th – 22nd April 2016**
Course Director: Mr Paul Radomskij

The course is designed for all those clinicians who have a reasonable knowledge of vestibular assessment and rehabilitation but are looking to build on this foundation. Delegates will be provided with a pre-course reading list, which should maximise their learning opportunities during the course. Course material and refreshments are included in the registration fee (including evening workshop) As with all of the Advanced Audiology Masterclasses, this course also forms part of our MSc in Advanced Audiology.

For more information on what topics are covered and how to book a place, please follow this link: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ear/courses/shortcourses/coursepages/aamc-vestibular>

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