

Welcome to Horizon and the latest BAA news. We hope you enjoyed the Easter break and are looking forward to 2015/16. This will be the year that IQIPS accreditation, and accreditation generally, may rise on the agenda and BAA will keep you informed of any developments as soon as we receive information. We are aware that many services have now registered with UKAS for assessment and the number of services accredited is rising all the time. IQIPS accreditation is a marker of service quality and will also map to the CQC key lines of enquiry.

Horizon has been well received and we are getting positive feedback. Please keep sending your news items to admin@baaudiology.org

News:

- **Make or break time for digital skills report:** The House of Lords Digital Skills Committee has released a policy briefing highlighting the impact advancements in technology are having on the labour market. The reports raises concerns the country is not addressing its significant digital skills shortage and makes a number of urgent recommendations on how to address the shortage. Due to the huge amount of digital skills required in audiology this could have a significant impact on the audiology world in the future. View the full article at: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/digital-skills-committee/news/report-published/>
- **Mapping of IQIPS to CQC Key Lines of Enquiry:** Following UKAS submission to the CQC panel three UKAS healthcare accreditation schemes have now been approved for use as part of the CQC hospital inspection programme. These include Clinical Pathology Accreditation (CPA), the Imaging Services Accreditation Scheme (ISAS) and Improving Quality in Physiological Services (IQIPS). For more advice in this area and how this may affect your practice visit: http://www.ukas.com/media-centre/news/news-archive/2015/CQC_Recognition_of_Healthcare_Accreditation.asp
- **Policy e- Briefing:** The Science Council responded to the Chancellor's Budget Statement in March, welcoming new arrangements for financial support for research-based Masters and PhD students. For the full report and how this may affect you visit <http://www.sciencecouncil.org/content/chancellor-unveils-further-plans-support-uk-stem-skills>
- **Save the Date!** British Academy of Audiology 12th Annual Conference 2015 has been titled "Innovate, Integrate, Initiate". This year the conference will be held at Harrogate International Centre, Harrogate on 26th & 27th November 2015. Save the date in the diary and we will keep you updated when more information is available.
- **British Tinnitus Association Conference:** Wednesday 23 September. The only Conference in the UK dedicated solely to tinnitus, the programme includes presentations by leading researchers and clinicians, covering new developments in research and best practice. At this year's BTA Conference all delegates will have the opportunity to submit and present a poster of their work including a small prize for the best poster presentation. For more information please visit: <http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/british-tinnitus-association-conference/>
- **The 4th Annual BAA Student Conference** is to be held at Hugh Aston Building, De Montfort University Leicester on 3rd July 2015. This is a FREE conference aimed at all students studying in the audiology field. The conference will cover many areas of audiology such as, Cochlear Implants Technology, Developments in Tinnitus, Interview Techniques amongst many more. There will also be a selection of companies from the Audiology sector in attendance at the event giving you the opportunity to speak with potential employers and look at some products in the audiology market. To apply you do not have to be a BAA member. To register please visit <http://www.baaudiology.org/events/calendar/baa-fourth-annual-student-conference/>

BAA Board/Committee updates:

- **Publicity and Communications Committee:** This committee still has a vacancy for the position of Chair. Anyone who has experience of chairing meetings and is interested in getting involved with the BAA should get in touch with Michelle Booth, Board director for Pub, Comms and Conference for further details: michellebooth1@hotmail.com
- **BAA Conference 2015:** Conference planning is now well underway and the programme directors, Cherilee and Christine, are busily pulling together an excellent programme based on the theme of "Innovate, Integrate, Initiate". Conference 2015 will be launched on 12th May 2015, so watch this space for further details. The marketing team will also be making full use of social media this year to promote the conference, so keep an eye on the [BAA Facebook](#) page/group and [Twitter](#) account for regular updates.
- **Regional Groups:** The Trent BAA regional group, led by Darren Cordon and Jen Richardson, held another successful meeting in Nottingham on the 15th April. The event was sponsored by GN Otometrics and had the theme of 'Innovation'. Daryl Staley-Jackson from GN Otometrics presented an overview of their new Otoscan technology due to launch in 2016. Other topics discussed were The Advanced Practitioner, The Role of the ATO, Remote Working and Clinical Supervision in Audiology. The presentations will be available to view on the BAA website: www.baaudiology.org Darren and Jen plan to hold the next meeting in September.

Job Adverts:

- **No new adverts - to advertise a job in future editions of Horizon please contact advertising@baaudiology.org**

Upcoming Courses:

- **Hearing Aids:** The Inside Track Course: Wed 1 – Fri 3 July 2015, James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough, Booking deadline: Wed 3 June 2015. To apply for this course please visit <http://www.baaudiology.org/events/calendar/hearing-aids-inside-track-2015/?eID=319#.VTC5hSFViko>
- **Dizziness: Dilemmas, Diagnosis and Developments:** will be running from 23rd-26th June 2015. The course may be of interest to you or your colleagues and you can find details of the programme and register etc. at <http://www.baaudiology.org/events/calendar/queen-square-dizziness-course/?eID=346#.VTC4xiFViko>

Social Media Summary:

- **Brit Acad Audiology @BAAudiology:** Should audiologists expect all their CPD needs to be covered during working hours? #professionalquestion #audpeep
- **Brit Acad Audiology @BAAudiology:** British Tinnitus Association Conference Sept 23rd. Poster submissions now welcomed details on BAA website [http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/british-tinnitus-association-conference/ ...](http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/british-tinnitus-association-conference/)
- **John Waters @ British Academy of Audiology:** After a somewhat winding path, I've been able to commission our favorite toy, the man in the boat...I think you will all agree, this is the biggest thing to happen to audiology since the switch from analog to digital. <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10153354102046980&set=gm.955922127771921&type=1>

