

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

General News:

- **Health Education England's Lay Member Recruitment**
Health Education England's Healthcare Science Implementation Network Group is seeking to appoint a lay member. Further information is available on the National School of Healthcare Science website <http://www.nshcs.org.uk/lay-member-recruitment>
- **Nice release guidance on transition services for young people**
Latest social care guidance released aims to improve and standardise the support for young people who are receiving health or social care as they become adults by ensuring care is more person-centred. More details and links on the BAA website: <http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/nice-release-guidance-transition-services-young-people/>
- **Nominations required for the Queen's Birthday Honours List**
The honours system recognises the achievements of ordinary people who do extraordinary things. There are hundreds of people who go above and beyond the call of duty every day and we really need your help to ensure that these people are nominated and hopefully rewarded and recognised. We are looking for nominations for people who work for, volunteer or have made an outstanding contribution at any level within healthcare science. See the BAA Website for details: <http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/nominations-queens-birthday-honours-list/>
- **BTA Release the Album "I am the One in 10"**
Available from iTunes and all good digital stores from 4 March, "I Am The One In Ten" is a compilation album produced by the British Tinnitus Association under the guidance of DJ, Producer and BTA Ambassador Eddy Temple Morris. All eighteen tracks on the album feature cuts and remixes from number one artists including Black Eyed Peas and Embrace, a previously unreleased Coldplay remix, personally approved for this album by Chris Martin. An accompanying promotional video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/r1y84piHGU>
Proceeds raised by "I Am The One In Ten" will go to the British Tinnitus Association in order to help the association continue its vital work. More details are on the BAA website at: <http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/bta-release-album/>
- **Healthcare Science week starts 11th March**
Healthcare Science Week 2016 is just days away now and we want to hear about what you are planning to do so get in touch with NHS Employers HCS@nhsemployers.org and add your activities to their HCS Week Diary AND don't forget to tweet about it using #hcsweek. For more details look at the website at: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/news/healthcare-science-week-guide-2016>
- **Early Day Motion in Parliament**
Norman Lamb MP (Lib Dem, North Norfolk) has tabled an Early Day Motion (EDM) which expresses concerns about the decommissioning of hearing aids and calls on all Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to 'maintain hearing aids services'.
Norman Lamb is the Lib Dem Health Spokesman and prior to the election he served as the Minister of State for Care and Support, at which time he had ministerial responsibility for audiology and the publication of the Government's Action Plan on Hearing Loss.
The motion notes that measures to reduce access to hearing aids for patients with a mild or moderate hearing loss "could have a serious effect on the lives of those who rely on hearing aids, potentially making it harder for thousands of hard-of-hearing people to communicate and participate in social activities; notes evidence that delaying the use of hearing aids until the onset of severe hearing loss can lead to poorer outcomes and difficulty adapting to the use of hearing aids; further notes studies linking hearing loss with depression if left untreated; welcomes recent public consultations which show strong opposition to the proposed cuts, and subsequent decisions by a number of CCGs to delay the plans pending the publication of the national report of the Hearing Loss Commissioning Guidance Advisory Group in April 2016; and urges all CCGs to maintain hearing aid services and explore alternative cost-saving options."
You can ask your local MP to support the Early Day Motion by contacting them through <http://www.parliament.uk/get-involved/contact-your-mp/>
- **Ida Institute Research Committee is accepting Applications for Grants.**
For 2016, all applications should address one of the following topic areas:
 1. Measuring outcomes of Person-Centered Care
 2. Engaging communication partners in hearing rehabilitation

If you are interested in applying for funding, this is what you need to do:

1. Complete the application form at www.idainstitute.com/about_ida/research_committee
2. Submit your application by 5pm Central European Time on 31 March 2016, by email to: contact@idainstitute.com

Follow live Research Updates on social media.

- **Manchester University researchers are starting a study on Improving Clinical Practice for Babies with Hearing Loss**
This study aims to investigate whether Cortical Evoked Potentials (CAEPs) can provide useful information about audibility of speech in infants wearing hearing aids and how the test could be applied clinically. The study will have approximately 200 eligible participants of which we hope that at least 125 will complete the full study. CAEP will be obtained around 13-6 months of age (corrected) and a retest within 1 week. VRA will be performed around 7-9 months of age, again with a retest within 1 week. Specially designed stimuli will be used, representing /m/, /t/, /g/ speech sounds @55,65 and 75dB SPL for CAEP and minimal response levels recorded for VRA. This will be carried out by the research team

from Manchester University in our Mobile Hearing Unit, which will be taken to participating families, all over England and Wales. Parents will be asked the 'Little Ears' auditory behaviour questionnaire on sessions 1&3 and also a hearing aid experience questionnaire on completion of their participation in the study.

We will be looking at the overall sensitivity and specificity of CAEP and secondary analyses will examine the relationships of test fidelity with stimulus level and assess inter and intra visit repeatability. Clinical feasibility and Caregiver acceptability will also be assessed.

The results of the study will be disseminated via peer reviewed scientific journals, conference presentations and publications on websites.

To keep in touch with the research as it progresses you can follow us on Facebook, **Ladies in the Van**, and Twitter **#ladiesinthevan**

BAA Meetings:

- **BAA Meetings – all meetings can be found on the events pages of the BAA website:**

<http://www.baaudiology.org/events>

[South West Regional Study Day](#), 9th March 2016

[North East Regional Study Day](#), 11th March 2016

[BAA England Heads of Service Day](#), 16th March 2016

[North West Regional Study Day](#), 23rd March 2016

[BAA Student Conference](#), 8th April 2016

[Yorkshire Regional Study Day](#), 20th April 2016

Surveys:

- **Service provision for children with Down syndrome and hearing loss: a survey of practice**
We are conducting a short survey to investigate the range of audiology service models and treatments offered and provided to children with down syndrome and hearing loss.

We are asking Audiology Heads of Service or Clinical Leads to take part in an initial short online survey about their services for children with down syndrome. We would be grateful if you could either complete the online survey or pass on the details about the survey to the relevant person within your service.

The link to the survey is below, and it should take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

<https://hearing.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/hearing-services-children-with-ds>

If you have any queries about this project or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above. We would like to thank you for your time and assistance and we can assure you that all results will be treated with confidence.

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Clinical Scientist (Audiology)
Children's Hearing Centre
St Michael's Hospital
Bristol BS2 8EG
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Email: amanda.hall@bristol.ac.uk

General Events:

- **The East Midlands Conference Centre is the venue for the 2016 BSHAA Annual Congress** - a packed two day programme which features a wide range of diverse and inspirational speakers on topics such as ageing, hearing loss and dementia, risk management, hearing and music perception, referable conditions and tinnitus. For more information please [CLICK HERE](#).
- **BSA Annual Conference, 25 – 27 April 2016, Coventry:** Day 1 will focus on basic science, with a morning of dedicated poster time – something that has been highly valued by many of the basic scientists over the years. The basic science day then leads into days 2 and 3 that cover translational and clinical science. We are delighted to announce that the programme has been awarded the following CPD credits from BSHAA: Day 1 = 7, Day 2 = 6, Day 3 = 6, from BAA: 12. The programme has been updated and is available on the conference webpages: www.eventsforce.net/bsa2016

Social Media News:

- **National Cochlear Implant day 25th February 2016** – raised awareness of the technology available – their tweets can be seen by using **#cochlearimplantday**
- **World Health Organisation held the World Hearing Awareness day on 3rd March** – their tweets can be found by searching **#worldhearingday**

Job Adverts:

- **Regional Sales Manager (North England)**
Interacoustics
Interacoustics is seeking a qualified audiologist interested in using their clinical knowledge to promote and sell Interacoustics equipment into primarily NHS audiology and vestibular customers. Your main role will be by identifying and following up sales opportunities and influencing potential customers in favour of Interacoustics products. This is a field-based role working from home and requiring daily travel throughout the North of England and occasionally into Scotland, including some overnight stays. Applicants will need to demonstrate an interest in a career in sales and a good understanding of the demands of a sales position. A comprehensive sales training programme will be provided, as well as full product training on all aspects of Interacoustics equipment. To be successful you will need to be a qualified audiologist who has effective communication skills and is self-motivated to work on their own initiative as well as in a team environment. You must possess a full UK driving licence and be comfortable with travelling daily throughout your territory and occasionally UK-wide. In return we'll offer you an attractive benefits package, including company pension scheme, fully expensed company car and a basic salary commensurate with your experience, with On Target Earnings of £40,000 in your first year. If you are interested in joining the UK's fastest growing full-service provider of audiology and balance equipment to the NHS, please send your CV together with details of your current salary to Ben Colman, Sales Director - Interacoustics UK. Email: beco@interacoustics.com / **07717 130396**. We are looking to interview and appoint to this position before the end of March 2016.
- **Clinical Audiologist**
Full Time 37.5hrs/week Permanent Position
Are you looking for a new opportunity in the private sector with a fast growing independent Hearing Care provider?
An exciting opportunity has arisen for a well motivated Audiologist to work providing Audiology Services

at two independent branches within close proximity in the North West.

You will be providing clinical services to include paediatric assessment and re-habilitation, as well as adult assessment and re-habilitation. You will also have expertise with Tinnitus counselling and rehabilitation.

We are seeking to appoint an experienced audiologist, who is registered both with RCCP and HCPC as a hearing aid dispenser.

We require the successful applicant to have previous NHS experience as clinical acumen is paramount with looking after our patients.

We are offering a basic salary and commission.

Please apply in writing only with your full CV to audiologynorthwest@gmail.com

- **Chief Executive, The Ear Foundation**

Our Chief Executive, Sue Archbold, has decided that it is time to retire from The Ear Foundation at the end of October 2016. We are determined to appoint an outstanding candidate to lead the charity forward in its vision and strategy at this very exciting time in its growth.

The Ear Foundation is a unique charity that provides a bridge between the clinical services where hearing technologies are fitted, and home, school and work where they are used in everyday life, to the full benefit of deaf individuals. It has developed a world-renowned centre for family support, education and family-centred research, initially focussing its work on profoundly deaf children with cochlear implants. Its programme now includes adults and all hearing technologies.

We work with user groups, professional groups and industry partners nationally and internationally and have a growing reputation for our work in transforming the lives of deaf children, young people and adults. We have strong links locally with the University of Nottingham, the Nottingham Biomedical Research Unit in Hearing, the Institute of Hearing Research, Nottingham Auditory Implant Programme, Nottingham Audiology Services, Medilink, Biocity and the Chamber of Commerce.

Our partners are key to our success and future development, and we are committed to working together for the future support of all those with hearing loss, as the need is as great as ever.

We are now looking for an exceptional person to take over from Sue to continue to lead the delivery of high performance and the further development of The Ear Foundation in ensuring that deaf people and their families are able to make the best use of technology to improve hearing, communication and spoken language.

Applicants must have a record of the highest achievement in management and leadership and have a clear understanding of what The Ear Foundation seeks to achieve, what it stands for, the context within which it works, its influence and its partnership approach to working.

Click here for full details: <http://www.earfoundation.org.uk/news/articles/516>

Closing date for receipt of applications is **Wednesday 30 March 2016**

For information, interviews will be held over two days, with a reception on the evening of **Monday 25 April** and interviews on **Tuesday 26 April**.

- **Regional Support Audiologist**

Otometrics are the leading manufacturer of audiological assessment and rehabilitation solutions, with a special focus on clinical excellence and technological innovation.

An exciting opportunity has arisen within our UK team for a qualified audiologist. We seek an exceptional person based in the South of England, with strong communication skills and a passion for clinical excellence. You will primarily be responsible for the delivery of training and support to new and existing customers, throughout the South of the UK and Republic of Ireland, along with supporting sales and representing the company at events.

We seek a highly motivated audiologist with post-qualification clinical experience and effective communication skills. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate understanding of all fields of audiology, as well as an ability to clearly communicate this knowledge to others. Previous presentation or training experience would be desirable. A good understanding of IT systems and an ability to grasp technical concepts, as well as a strong organisational and problem-solving skills, are essential.

Candidates should hold a graduate level qualification, and UK registration or eligibility for registration with a professional body. Whilst not essential, previous clinical experience with complex, vestibular or paediatric patients would be an advantage.

The role is field-based, involving daily travel throughout your territory and including some overnight stays. You must possess a full UK driving license.

In return, Otometrics offer a competitive salary commensurate with experience and qualifications, along with a fully expensed company car, a company pension scheme and an ongoing commitment to continuing professional development.

If you are interested in applying for this role, or for further information, please send a CV and covering letter to jparker-george@gotometrics.com by **18th March 2016**.

- **We are looking to recruit both newly qualified and experienced Audiologists/Clinical Scientists (Audiology)**

Applicants should have BSc Audiology & Certificate of Clinical Competence (or equivalent) or MSc Audiology & Certificate of Audiological Competence (or equivalent). Applicants should be registered [or working towards registration] with either RCCP or HCPC. Applicants with dual HCPC (Hearing Aid Audiologist) registration should identify this clearly in their application

In the first instance, please apply with a CV, covering letter and personal statement outlining your qualifications, your experience to date and a description of what you feel you can bring to our service. Please state whether you would be interested in a part-time or full time position. Your CV should include 2 referees [one of which should be your current employer/supervisor], who may be contacted should you be invited to interview

Salary will be dependent on the experience and qualifications of the successful candidates

Please apply to:

Philip & Marianne Holt, Consultant Clinical Scientists (Audiology), Holt Hearing and Balance Services Ltd, Basford Consulting Rooms, 540 Etruria Road, Basford, Staffordshire, ST5 0SX

Tel: **01270 211009**

Email: jeanette@holtheatingandbalance.co.uk

Closing date: **Friday 25th March 2016**

Contact us

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