



 Follow us on Facebook

 @BAAudiology

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 **6th July, 2017**.

BAA Board & Committee News:

- **President's blog.** President Michelle Booth has been reporting on her recent activities representing the BAA. Please follow the link below to get the latest news and views from Michelle in her blog: <http://www.baaudiology.org/about/president/#.WQGtcfkrLIU>
- **Message from the BAA regional groups. Attention ALL** – just in case you've missed this email in your inbox or haven't had time yet to complete – **please read below and spare a few minutes to have your say.**

Your opinion is critical - In this climate when time is precious and funding challenged we want to make sure that we can keep members informed, current, engaged and motivated. We are aware that the audiology landscape and associated services are changing and to that end we are seeking your views on how better to meet your needs.

Your opinion is critical - As we shape our future events, please spare a couple of minutes (*seriously that is all it will take*) to complete this very short but insightful survey. Your BAA Regional Reps would be delighted to receive your responses by the end of the month.

Thank you. Please Click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NNJZGRR>
– if you have already received an invite from BSA or BSHAA to complete the survey then you can only complete once so don't worry if the link only takes you to a generic Survey Monkey page, it will tell you at the top of this screen that you have already completed the survey.

Other News:

- **Action in Hearing Loss Audiology survey for strategy – An opportunity to contribute** Action on Hearing Loss are looking for input from as many audiologists as possible in order to develop their next 'five year strategy'. Their current strategy, '**Taking Action**' has looked at '**Support and care**', '**Technology and Treatments**', and a '**Campaign for Equality**', and is **outlined here**. Any new ideas? What do you think their new strategy should focus on? Please take some time (*no more than 10 minutes*) to **complete the survey before the 10th July 2017**. To access the survey **please follow the link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AHLstrategyprofessionals2017>
- **World Health Organisation (WHO)** - The theme for World Hearing Day 2017 was '**Action for hearing loss: make a sound investment**'. The aim of the day was to raise awareness of the economic impact of hearing loss and how to more effectively use available interventions to mitigate hearing loss and its consequences. **Here you can see** how people got involved from all over the globe: <http://www.who.int/pbd/deafness/world-hearing-day/WorldHearingDay2017ActivityReport.pdf?ua=1>

The theme for World Hearing Day 2018 is 'Hear the Future' which will discuss the projected rise in the prevalence of hearing loss in the coming years. WHO are also looking for people to complete this survey so they may gain insight on their yearly campaign and make improvements to future campaigns. Responses to the survey are anonymous and should be submitted by the 27th June 2017. Survey available here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfK3hd7-ITU1M4CCbVI5g1jC4cr8VRaKY-XhGwtmaYZduLpw/viewform?c=0&w=1>

- **Service Review by West Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group**
Included in the review was a proposal to stop funding of ear microsuction beyond those provided within primary care. The BAA responded and advised that this service should be provided as self-management of ear wax is not always successful or safe. The final recommendation following the report was that a threshold for wax removal in secondary care should be introduced. For example, those with outer and middle ear pathology should have access to the service.
- **Dear RCCP registrant,**
On Tuesday we advised you that the RCCP Council had recently agreed to continue discussions with AHCS, while at the same time applying to the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) for accreditation of our register.

RCCP and AHCS have been talking for two years about how we can work together to make life safer for patients and better for Clinical Physiologists. The talks started with the idea that the activities of both organisations be merged into one, new organisation. The rationale behind this is that there would be;

- less confusion for patients about where to check out practitioners and where to raise a concern
- less confusion amongst practitioners about who to register with
- less confusion amongst education establishments about where to get course accreditation
- less potential for problem practitioners to slip through the cracks between the two organisations
- the potential for costs savings if duplication of activities carried out by two organisations was carried out by one organisation

Throughout our talks with AHCS, the fact that AHCS run a PSA accredited register when the RCCP register does not have this accreditation, has been identified by AHCS as problematic in any of the options that we have explored. Initially our talks centred on the creation of a brand new organisation that would take over all of the activities of both organisations. However this was rejected by AHCS. The discussions then moved on to the idea of combining the two registers into one while both organisations continued their other activities. This would create a third organisation and was not supported by either organisation as it would likely fail to meet many of the objectives outlined above.

Lately an option of AHCS taking over the administration of the RCCP register was proposed by AHCS. Having taken guidance from the professional bodies who support RCCP (SCST in Cardio Physiology, BAA in Audiology, AGIP in Gastro-intestinal physiology, BSS in Sleep Physiology, ANS in Neurophysiology, ARTP in Respiratory Physiology) this proposal was rejected by the RCCP Council. However it was agreed by the RCCP Council that we still needed to talk to AHCS to achieve a goal of a single register and it was agreed that in order to remove a potential problem to this (the lack of PSA accreditation of its register), that RCCP would apply for PSA accreditation of its register. This information was transmitted to AHCS at 10.30am on Tuesday. So it was somewhat surprising that within 2 hours of this, AHCS had announced that they had already submitted an application to the PSA for the accreditation of a new, separate register for Clinical Physiology and that they were inviting applications from Clinical Physiologists. AHCS are, of course, free to conduct their business however they choose.

In the interests of patient safety, until and unless a workable solution to the four issues outlined above can be found, RCCP with the support of six professional bodies in Clinical Physiology, will continue to;

- Campaign for statutory regulation of all of the activities conducted by the 6,000 professionals who appear on the RCCP register and;
- Operate a register that sets high standards for those practitioners who are registered with RCCP. This means necessary minimum standards of initial education, necessary minimum

standards of ongoing training (CPD) and a robust disciplinary process to deal with the rare instances when things go wrong. To ensure that these activities are carried out to the highest standards, RCCP will pursue an application for accreditation of its register with the Professional Standards Authority.

RCCP is a well-resourced and financially stable organisation and we will continue to deliver our aims at an affordable cost to registrants, currently less than £1 per week. We look forward to your continued support.

Kind regards.

Trefor Watts
RCCP Chairman

- **Good news from Milton Keynes: Public consultation helps CCG decide on health service proposals.** Following eight weeks of consultation with patients, members of the public, providers and stakeholders, the CCG's Board has carefully considered all the responses and has decided not to pursue the original proposal to limit service provision and exclude patients with mild hearing loss.
Please read about the outcome here: <http://www.miltonkeynesccg.nhs.uk/news/2017/public-consultation-helps-ccg-decide-on-health-service-proposals/>
- **Webinar - Commissioning Services for People with Hearing Loss: A Framework for Clinical Commissioning Groups.** Calling all commissioners for hearing loss services and other multi-disciplinary models of care; **join Fiona Carragher, Deputy Chief Scientific Officer, and commissioners from Coventry Rugby CCG and West Hampshire CCG** to learn how to implement the [Commissioning Services for People with Hearing Loss – a Framework for Clinical Commissioning Groups](#). The webinars offer examples of best practice and innovative approaches to commissioning services in order to make sustainable savings and reduce the pressure on services across the system. There will be opportunity for Q&A. The webinars will be held between 15:30 and 17:00 on the following dates. [Register for 10 July](#) [Register for 17 July](#) [Register for 18 July](#)

Job Adverts:

- **Audiology South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust invites applications for the following vacancy - Hospital Services Directorate:** Audiologist Band 5 (£21,693 - £28,180) per annum. (Full time permanent post). Location: Trust wide initially based at Ulster Hospital, Dundonald. **Closing date for Applications: 4 pm on 10th July 2017.** For further information regarding this post and to **apply online, please visit** the website www.hscrecruit.com A Waiting List will be compiled for other part-time/full-time, permanent/temporary posts that arise throughout the Trust over a 12 month period. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.
- **To advertise a job in future editions of Horizon please contact** advertising@baaudiology.org

Upcoming Courses / Events:

- **BAA Annual Conference 2017** – have you seen our exciting programme yet? After listening to the delegate feedback from last year, we are aiming to balance the content to include basic science, research, and clinical presentations. We feel it is important to include presentations on wider topics such as leadership and career development. We are also bringing back the 'all you need to know' series of talks which will include topics submitted by delegates. These talks aim to be practically based with online resources available immediately to delegates. In addition to the free papers to discuss projects, new developments and research, we are inviting delegates to submit clinical case studies for discussion. **To find out more and to get**

involved, please visit: www.baaudiology.org/conference

- **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:

- Webinars for commissioners of hearing services
- Public power in Milton Keynes
- Disney sign-language video

Contact us

British Academy of Audiology, Blackburn House, Redhouse Road, Seafield, Bathgate, West Lothian, EH47 7AQ
Tel 01625 290046 Website: <http://www.baaudiology.org>
Registered in England and Wales.
Company registration number: 04950685

To unsubscribe, click [here](#)