



Association of British Clinical Diabetologists

Chair's Bulletin, June 2014

I am delighted to present my first bulletin as Chair of ABCD.

I have to start by thanking my predecessor Chris Walton for his fantastic contribution to the Association, culminating in the acquisition of the British Journal of Diabetes and Vascular Disease as our own journal. Thankfully Past Chairs do not gallop off into the sunset, but stay around to help the new guy, and Chris joins the new executive team with Patrick Sharp (General Secretary), Tony Robinson (Treasurer) and Russell Drummond (Meetings Secretary).

Forthcoming Meetings: Russell is putting the finishing touches to the programme for the Autumn meeting at RCP London on 6th-7th November. Please consider attending. He is reviewing the format of the regular meetings and would welcome your suggestions to make them even more relevant and appealing.

Committee: We look forward to an exciting and productive term with a blend of youth and experience. There will be a 'time out' for the new committee in London in September to agree the projects we want to do in the coming three years. The executive is already working on this, and we will consult the membership to check that we are in tune with their needs before the committee meets. Andy Macklin will send a Survey Monkey to all members, so please reply, as it is your chance to say how ABCD could help you and your team to provide high quality care for patients with diabetes.

Life-long education and professional development for ABCD members: We have recognised that the needs of our members in this respect change according to their career path and their rate of progression. 'One size fits all' offerings including the King's Fund Leadership Course may not be the best way to spend our money. Dev Singh and Susannah Rowles have been asked to produce a draft paper on this topic in conjunction with YDEF to present to Committee in September.

BJDVD – Call for copy: The contract has been signed and the journal is now owned by ABCD. There will be a quarterly issue with hard copies distributed to all ABCD and YDEF members. The first Editorial Board was held on 23rd May with an excellent turn out, and it is clear there is a huge desire to see the journal succeed as a vehicle for high quality peer-reviewed articles and a journal for ABCD members. Paul Grant is the new Editor and wants you to submit all those original articles, reviews, audits and case reports that have been gathering dust in your filing cabinet. See website (<http://www.bjdvd.co.uk/>) for instructions on style, and submit via email – it couldn't be simpler!

JBDS: More guidance from JBDS is coming very soon. Their latest effort addresses the management of diabetes in patients who are given corticosteroids, a common cause of decompensation of glycaemic control. Members are encouraged to sign up to the National Audit of DKA that will look at adherence to JBDS guidance and the outcomes achieved (see <http://tinyurl.com/mohf9gy>). JBDS is in active dialogue with CQC about the inclusion of diabetes-specific quality indicators in their inspections of not just acute trusts, but also primary care and community providers and care homes. The next meeting that I will attend is on 4th June, which coincidentally is the last date for responses to the

consultation document 'How we regulate, inspect and rate services'. ABCD has contributed to the JBDS response together with DUK.

NDA: I attended the Partnership Board on 9th May. The decision not to run a 2014 NaDIA was partially offset by the launch of the National Diabetes Footcare Audit. If you have not already registered, please do so before the audit goes live in July (see <http://www.hscic.gov.uk/FootCare>). The first National Pregnancy in Diabetes Audit results are due out in August. In the meantime we are considering the best way to respond to the suboptimal findings of the NaDIA 2010-13 and NDA Mortality results. Whatever is decided the help of ABCD members will be crucial.

ABCD Nationwide Audits: The formula developed by Bob Ryder and his team in Birmingham seems to be popular with members and manufacturers of new diabetes treatments alike. I would like to encourage everybody who has used exenatide QW, whether you have large numbers of patients or small numbers, to join this latest audit (see http://www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk/n3/ExenatideQW_Audit.htm). We have signed contracts for two new audits looking at dapagliflozin and insulin degludec. Paper forms on which to collect data for the dapagliflozin audit are already available to download so that you can start collecting data for when the audit goes live (see http://www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk/n3/future_audits.htm). Please contribute your data from routine practice using the new N3 link.

Safe Use of Insulin e-learning: I was disappointed to learn that NHS England has chosen not to provide funding to make the Safe Use of Insulin suite of e-learning modules available free of charge to NHS organisations. In response Virtual College have decided to charge each provider £5000 to use the modules. This is unfortunately a cost pressure on hard pressed budgets and the resource may not be universally available. We are considering how to respond now that the protests have fallen on deaf ears, so suggestions gratefully received.

It's cheaper if we don't have to train people: ABCD is concerned that at least one contract for provider services in England has been placed without including provision for training. Dinesh Nagi attended an extraordinary meeting at the RCP to express our concern and suggest how to address this in the future. The College will be raising the matter on behalf of the specialties. If you are aware of similar cases please let me know.

CEA 2014: The RCP has decided to open the process for those physicians applying for RCPL support for their applications despite uncertainty whether it will eventually go ahead. The deadline for this is 30th June. Details of the ABCD process will be circulated in due course, and I am grateful to Alan Sinclair for agreeing to co-ordinate this for a final year. We urgently need members who have higher awards to volunteer to help Alan, who is prepared to mentor his successor for the 2015 round!

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