

British Paediatric Respiratory Society

President: Dr Ian Balfour-Lynn
Consultant in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine

Royal Brompton Hospital
Sydney Street
London SW3 6NP
UK

Tel : +44 (0)207 351 8509, Fax: +44 (0)207 349 7754
Email: President@bprs.co.uk or i.balfourlynn@ic.ac.uk



NEWSLETTER MARCH 2008

Dear Colleagues,

This is a short newsletter prior to the Spring meeting in April.

1. Scientific meetings

York Spring meeting

The annual 'BPRS at RCPCH' meeting is on **Tuesday 15th April**. There were two respiratory abstracts chosen for the Plenary sessions – David Spencer on Monday 14th, and Jonathan Grigg on the Tuesday. The respiratory session starts at 9.45am and ends at 3pm in **Room P/L002**. There are 10 abstracts and a guest lecture from Mike Shields on 'BTS guidelines on cough in children'.

During the lunch interval (1230-1330) there is the business meeting, which will be in the same place as the respiratory sessions. Please register for that so you can get the free lunch which is brought to the business meeting.

Prior to the respiratory session, there will be a CSAC meeting from 0800-0830, followed by the BPRS Executive meeting from 0830-0930, again in the same room.

Note also, in the plenary session on Monday 14th from 1730-1800, there will be a keynote lecture from Adnan Custovic 'Should wheezy infants be given steroids?'

BPRS Summer Symposium

The 10th meeting, takes place in Sheffield on July 3rd–4th. The theme is 'Allergy and non-infective immunological problems for the Respiratory Paediatrician'.

Upcoming 2008 UK meetings/courses

Bristol Children's Hospital – Symposium on adolescence and cystic fibrosis May 15th.
Leicester Royal Infirmary – 'A journey through the paediatric airway' course, September 8-10th.
Royal Brompton Hospital – 7th Flexible Bronchoscopy course Nov 6-7th.
Royal Society Medicine cystic fibrosis day – November 11th.
BTS/BPRS – December 3rd to 5th.

2. Executive Committee

Two candidates put themselves forward for election as trainee representative. Result of voting (trainees only) will be announced at York meeting.

3. Clinical excellence Awards for 2009

Despite several late applications, we managed to send in BPRS rankings and citations in time. Results will not be known until some time in October 2008. Please note now that the closing date for receipt of the 2009 application forms will be November 1st 2008. As usual, the forms will be available on the ACCEA web site - <http://www.advisorybodies.doh.gov.uk/accea/index.htm>. Please also note that BPRS is unable to be involved with applications for Platinum level.

4. Guidelines

After the Dec 2007 business meeting, as requested, I wrote to NICE expressing the dissatisfaction and concerns of the BPRS over their processes. As expected, I received a fairly lame reply discussing the chronic asthma / corticosteroid guideline. If anyone wants to read it, please email me and I will send you a copy.

The deluge of guidelines to review at the last minute has slowed down, probably temporarily. We asked for volunteers so we could compile a list of people who are prepared to comment on particular topics. Inevitably the current list has no-one on it, so be prepared to receive requests/demands from me.

5. Home oxygen

Please don't forget to send me copies of HOOFs and parental consent to enter details onto the CHORD database. Details and downloadable forms available on www.bprs.co.uk/oxygen.html.

The BTS home oxygen guideline is now under way and should be completed by end of 2008.

6. National grid trainees

Congratulations to the 8 people offered national grid posts after the February interviews. The standard was very high this year.

7. Lifetime achievement awards

The BPRS executive committee hopes to select the 1st person at the April Exec Committee meeting. So far we have only received 3 nominations, so please email me immediately with your suggestions, , otherwise we will only be voting for our own choices. We hope to present the award at the December 2008 BPRS business meeting.

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