

BAPS Executive meeting RCS(Eng) 10th March 2008 - Trainee Report

Iain and I braved gale force winds to attend this meeting at the Royal College of Surgeons on your behalf. This report summarises key issues raised and discussed.

1. **Surgical Workforce planning** - England is still a long way from the target of 4 paediatric surgeons per 1,000,000 population. A report from Prof Thomas (Chairman of the SAC) suggests a current shortfall of 76 consultant paediatric surgeons. Scotland and N Ireland have reached their targets.
2. **RCS(Eng) Council** – it has been suggested that the individual specialty reps should be allowed a vote on the college council. After discussion it was agreed not to accept this, pending a discussion at the next BAPS council meeting, due to concerns about maintaining independence and the fact that BAPS represents Paediatric Surgeons from the whole of the UK and Ireland, not just England.
3. **National Surgical fellowships scheme** – there has been no news about implementation of this scheme from the RCS. Potential centres include Liverpool, GOS, Birmingham and Manchester. We expressed our reservations about the timing and planning of the scheme. (Since the meeting the RCS has confirmed that there will be two posts in Paediatric Surgery out of a total of 74 surgical posts).
4. **Commissioning Safe and Sustainable Paediatric Services** – this document (available on the Trips website) was discussed. The major issue for change will be the development of major trauma centres.
5. **Clinical Trials meeting** - The British Association of Perinatal Medicine (BAPM) has proposed a joint clinical trials meeting to discuss trials which are being planned or proposed. The idea would be to facilitate discussion and multidisciplinary involvement. BAPS supports this plan.
6. **NHS 60th Anniversary** – each specialty has been asked by the Royal college of Surgeons to suggest a condition/operation which epitomises the developments in the specialty over the last 60 years. BAPS proposes tracheo-oesophageal fistula which encompasses neonatal medicine, surgery, minimal access surgery and improvements in long term outcomes.
7. **BPSU/BAPS – surveillance of intussusception** for 1 year commences this month. Each centre will be asked to report cases of intussusception to collect national data.
8. **Trainees report** – was presented and accepted. (Available on Trips website).
9. **Upcoming conferences:** 2009 Graz (combined with EUPSA), 2010 Aberdeen, 2011 bid from Belfast was accepted.

Please do not hesitate to [contact us](#) if there is any issue you would like discussed at BAPS council meeting in Salamanca. We will be opening applications to the trainees' meeting very soon – and we hope to see as many trainees as possible in Salamanca (there is a free dinner for all trainee members!).

Clare Rees.