

## BSSVD Newsletter – January 2020

### Introduction

Welcome to 2020. We hope you find this BSSVD newsletter informative and look forward to seeing you at the Manchester meeting in May. If you would like to join any of the new 'Task – Finish groups' please contact us at [admin@bssvd.org](mailto:admin@bssvd.org)

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### Courses and meetings

The **BSSVD Annual Meeting** will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020 in The Lowry Building, Manchester. It promises to be a varied and educational meeting with speakers on a wide range of subjects including vulval dermatoses, vulval cancer, vulval pain and FGM. The course dinner will be held at the impressive Imperial War Museum. Registration is via the BSSVD website and **registered delegates are invited to** submit scientific abstracts by the deadline of Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020 for consideration by the programme committee.

A link to the registration site and more information can be found [HERE](#).

A **Multidisciplinary Study Day on Vulval & Sexual Difficulties** is being held in Nottingham on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020, more details and registration details can be found [HERE](#).

A **Practical Approach to Vulval Disease**, London 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-practical-approach-to-vulval-disease-tickets-81700960773>

There are other associated meetings and more information can be found [HERE](#).

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**Congratulations to Steph Ogden** who has joined the Dermatology SCE question writers' group. She replaces Caroline Owen. Our thanks go to Caroline who has developed a number of SBAs in vulval disease for post graduate exams both for specialists and for GPs (DRCOG).

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### Awards

The BSSVD supports training and continuous professional development for all staff. In January we begin a new round of applications. Please visit this [LINK](#) for more information on:

- Travelling Fellowship
- Research
- President's Essay
- Trainee Award
- Meeting bursary

## BSSVD Research Awards

The British Society for the Study of Vulval Diseases has established a small grant scheme aimed to encourage healthcare staff to undertake investigative research. This small grant scheme is particularly aimed to support research that is judged and likely to lead to:

- Publication in peer-reviewed journals
- Tangible improvement in vulval disease diagnosis and treatment

The BSSVD includes promotion of excellence in medical research in its goals and invites members to submit a proposal for a research project. Funding may be provided up to £10,000.

**Lisa Kirby**, a trainee from Glasgow, has been awarded a £10,000 British Skin Foundation/BAD Dermatology Trainee Research Small Grant Award, with **Rosalind Simpson** and **Caroline Owen** as co-applicants on the proposal. Lisa will be undertaking research to establish whether urinary incontinence is associated with lichen sclerosus in female patients. Methodology used will be a systematic review and a cross-sectional study using a database collected through routine clinic appointments.

Deadline for submission is 31<sup>st</sup> March annually and the terms and conditions and application form can be found [HERE](#).

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## Core Outcomes for Research in Lichen Sclerosus (CORALS)

Would you like to contribute towards improving the quality of future clinical studies for genital lichen sclerosus?

‘CORALS’ is an international initiative to develop a Core Outcome Set for genital lichen sclerosus. We are looking for people who have genital lichen sclerosus, the people who care for them and the health professionals who treat them, to contribute towards this process.

Please click here for the [Participant Information Sheet in English](#).

1. Online surveys (3 surveys in total to be completed over a 3 month period)
2. 10 minutes to complete each survey

Requirements:

- We are looking for the following people to complete the surveys:
  - Patients with genital lichen sclerosus
  - Parents, caregivers or relatives of people with genital lichen sclerosus
  - Health professionals who treat genital LS
  - Researchers in the field of genital LS
- Can understand written English (only information sheets are available in [different languages](#))

Please complete this short form to express interest in taking part:

[https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CORALS\\_FOI](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CORALS_FOI)

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## Trainee award

We are pleased to announce the 2019 trainee awards have been awarded to **Dr Fiona Tasker** and **Dr Sukhy Sahota**. Please see the Members area of the BSSVD website to review previous Trainee Award reports. The aim of this award is to facilitate an individualised programme of vulval training. Each award will be funded up to a maximum value of £2500. Please see this [LINK](#) for further information.

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### Would you be willing to host a future BSSVD one/two day meeting?

We are looking for volunteers to host meetings in 2021 (one day) or 2022 (two day meeting). Most of the operational and promotional work is carried out by our partner **EMU Events**, who reduce any stress for the organiser by finding and negotiating venues and their contracts, source and arrange sponsors and manage all registrations from sourcing to collecting payments. It is usually the role of the hosts to arrange the scientific programme with support from Council and liaise with the speakers. If you are interested please contact [admin@bssvd.co.uk](mailto:admin@bssvd.co.uk).

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## Task and Finish groups

Council have reviewed the two existing subgroups of the BSSVD ('Education and Training' and 'Quality') and have considered disbanding these groups to move towards Task and Finish groups to focus on specific projects. We would like to thank all of you who have contributed to these groups over the years. Your input into the various resources produced has been much appreciated. Below is a summary of the various Task and Finish Groups we have set up. If you would like to join a group please contact [admin@bssvd.org](mailto:admin@bssvd.org)

	Date group opened	Remit of the group	Clinical lead and members (to add)	Other stakeholders
NICE accreditation for 'Standards of care for women with vulval conditions'	Dec 2019	To lead and deliver on NICE accreditation of the BSSVD document 'Standards of care for women with vulval conditions'	Caroline Owen Eman Toeima David Nunns	British Association of Dermatology (supporting the process)
BAD vulval disease workstream	Jan 2017	To lead on the development of educational resources for health professionals. To support the implementation of the Dermatology post CCT Fellowship in vulval disease.	Caroline Owen Eman Toeima	Education Unit British Association of Dermatology
Nurses curriculum development	March 2019	To lead and deliver a nurse knowledge, skills and competency framework for vulval disease	Julia Wheeler	British Association of Dermatology Nurses Group

RCOG ATSM	Jan 2020	To lead and deliver a programme of educational resources to support the ATSM in vulval disease for trainees and preceptors	Abi Kingston David Nunns Claire Bailey	RCOG preceptors for the ATSM
Paget's disease register	Jan 2020	To lead and define an ongoing BSSVD register of Paget's disease in the UK	TBC	
Multi zonal intraepithelial neoplasia group	October 2019	To lead and develop guidelines and pathways for women with Multi zonal intraepithelial neoplasia	Theresa Freeman-Wang Eman Toeima David Nunns Ursula Winters Claire Bailey	BSCCP, BASSH and coloproctology RCOG (guideline development already in progress)
Lichen planus guideline group (systemic disease)	2019	To lead and develop guidelines on lichen planus	Ros Simpson	British Association of Dermatology (supporting the process)
Research group	Current	Ongoing (not a Task and Finish group)	Ros Simpson	

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## Expression of interest to write book on vulvodynia

Are you interested in a possible new publishing project? Cambridge University Press are investigating the idea of a new book on vulvodynia. They believe that there is a growing market for this type of product as the stigma surrounding the topic decreases and patients are more likely to seek advice. The target readership would be non-specialists including primary care practitioners. The book would be pragmatic and practical, with lots of case-histories and clear evidence-based advice on management. At the moment they are sounding out the potential for such a book. They would be looking at a modern publishing model with print and digital editions. Please contact Nick Dunton, Publisher, Medicine, Cambridge University Press [ndunton@cambridge.org](mailto:ndunton@cambridge.org)

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## Clinic templates for documentation

Accurate and meaningful clinic outcome documentation is a vital aspect of running a vulval service. We would like to collect these templates including vulval images used in clinic so that we can share this with members. We plan to not endorse one template, but to upload them to the practitioner area for colleagues to use. If you have any that you are happy to share please send them to us.

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## Patient representative on Council required

We are looking for new patient representative on Council. The appointee's duties will include

- Attendance at one or two council meetings a year and one scientific meeting a year.
- Participation in council teleconferences.
- Liaising with patient groups and provide feedback to Council.
- Write a short annual report for members at the AGM.
- Provide a voice for patients at Society meetings and on Council.
- To review and assist in the drafting/re-drafting of documents prepared by the BSSVD for use by patients.

Term of duty is for four years.

The patient representative will have Council meeting and conference fees (including travel, delegate and accommodation) paid by the BSSVD.

If you have a suitable patient please let us know [admin@bssvd.org](mailto:admin@bssvd.org)

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## A museum for vaginas and vulvas? Perhaps if you have a spare hour or two in London?

<https://www.vaginamuseum.co.uk>

The Vagina Museum is the world's first bricks-and-mortar museum dedicated to vaginas, vulvas and the gynaecological anatomy. Half the world has one, but myths about the vagina are widespread. A high proportion of young women have a problem with using the words "vagina" or "vulva" and many are too embarrassed to visit the doctor about gynaecological health concerns. The Vagina Museum aims to set the record straight, educating about and celebrating all things vagina and vulva.

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## Membership fee update

From July 2020, the membership fees will be £60 (sixty) pounds for Non Training Doctors, and £20 (twenty) pounds for doctors in training and other healthcare professionals.