

NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the BSSVD Newsletter for Spring 2024. It aims to keep you up to date with the various projects being undertaken at the moment. We hope you find it informative!

BSSVD ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2024

The next BSSVD Annual Scientific Meeting is being held on 17th May 2024 and will be a one day virtual meeting. The meeting will cover a wide variety of topics relevant to specialists treating patients with vulval disease.

For further information or to register, please click on the link below:

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

Save the Date

The next BSSVD Annual Scientific Meeting 2024 will be held virtually on...



PRESIDENT'S ESSAY

Congratulations to Sophie Warner, a 5th year medical student from the University of Bristol for winning the years President's Essay "Menopause and the Vulva".

Please read the Essay on the website.

The title for the President's Essay 2024 is:
"The Challenges of Managing Vulval Disease in the Post Covid NHS"

Please visit the BSSVD website for further information on how to enter:

ESSAY

BSSVD TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP AWARD

The BSSVD Travelling Fellowship has been developed to enable health care staff dealing with patients with vulval disease to travel to another institution to develop their own professional understanding and expertise.

This year, the BSSVD has provided funding for Rebecca Newhouse, an Obstetrics & Gynaecology ST6. We look forward to receiving a report on her experience once the trips are completed - Good luck Rebecca!

To find out further information on this award, please visit the BSSVD website:

FELLOWSHIP AWARD

VULVAL TRAINEE AWARD

The BSSVD invites 2024/2025 Trainee Award applications with a closing date of **25th November 2024**.

The aim of this award is to facilitate an individualised programme of vulval training.

Each award will be funded up to a maximum of £2,500.

For further information and to apply, please visit the BSSVD website:

VULVAL TRAINEE AWARD



UPCOMING VULVAL STUDIES

Please find below a list of upcoming vulval studies...



PEARLS STUDY - PROACTIVE AGAINST REACTIVE THERAPY FOR THE PREVENTION OF LICHEN SCLEROSUS EXACERBATION AND PROGRESSION OF DISEASE

The PEARLS trial is pleased to share that it has now received REC and MHRA approvals and is currently in the process of setting up research sites. 15 sites are involved in this research so far, and PEARLS aims to start recruiting participants in the coming weeks.

PEARLS is NIHR funded and led by Dr Rosalind Simpson at the Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology.

More information about the trial can be found here:

<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/pearls>



@pearls_trial



SHELLS STUDY - ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA FOR LICHEN SCLEROSUS

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A RECRUITING SITE?

The SHELLS study is currently in set up and is aiming to gain sponsor and ethics approvals in the coming weeks.

So far, 9 research sites across the UK have agreed to take part, and SHELLS is encouraging more sites to be involved. Any sites who are interested, please contact shells@nottingham.ac.uk.

SHELLS is NIHR funded and led by Dr Rosalind Simpson at the Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology.

More information about the trial can be found here: [nottingham.ac.uk/go/shells](https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/shells)



@shells_study

BAD VULVAL WORKSTREAM UPDATE



The BAD vulval workstream continues to be multi-disciplinary with representation from gynaecology, genitourinary medicine, general practice and dermatology.

The aims of the workstream are:

- To provide high quality, reliable, educational resources to all healthcare practitioners working in the field of vulval disease to improve patient care.
- To promote and facilitate multi-disciplinary working in the field of vulval disease to support best practice/improve patient care.
- To work with all stakeholders to raise awareness of vulval disease and ensure that appropriate services are commissioned and supported.
- To support and promote research into the diagnosis and management of vulval disease.

Current Projects Include...

Educational package for patients

In collaboration with colleagues from the University of Bristol and the University of Nottingham and patient representatives we are developing an educational resource for patients with vulval lichen sclerosus. The aim is to design a comprehensive, reliable, evidence-based information package to support patients with this diagnosis. The project group has been successful in their applications for funding of this project with £15,000 from the British Society for the Study of Vulval Disease, £15,000 from the charity Wellbeing of Women and £10,000 from the BAD Special Interest Group.

Education for healthcare professionals

Save the date! 11th November 2024.

We are planning a vulval disease education day

The title is 'Vulval Disease – Essentials for Everyone' and the aim is to appeal to a broad range of healthcare professionals including GPs, specialist nurses, advanced nurse practitioners, menopause specialists and trainees in gynaecology, genitourinary medicine and dermatology. This will be delivered virtually in collaboration with the BAD.

Women's Health Strategy/Women's Health Hubs

We have had meetings with the head of policy at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) and the lead for Women's Health at the Department of Health and Social Care. We are advocating for vulval disease to be included in the commissioning of services for Women's Health Hubs as vulval disease overlaps with many of the stated priority areas of the Women's Health Strategy. Please see if you can get involved with your local Women's Health Champions to spread the word about the importance of vulval disease.

PREMENARCHAL LICHEN SCLEROSUS: A MULTICENTRE EXAMINATION OF THE NOVEL DIAGNOSTIC TOOL, THE SWIFT MODEL

Lawson, A., Wininger, M., Wang, M., Steger, M., Peccerillo, K., Vash-Margita, A.

Objectives: Wang et al. set out to develop a model to predict the likelihood of LS in a premenarchal patient with vulvar complaints. This model optimised clinical factors that most accurately classified patients as having LS or not.

[RESEARCH PAPER](#)

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VULVAR DERMATOSES AND DEPRESSION: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF VULVAR LICHEN SCLEROSUS, LICHEN PLANUS AND LICHEN SIMPLEX CHRONICUS

Feben Messele, Kathryn Hinchee-Rodriguez and Christina N. Kraus

Objectives: The aim of the study was to perform a systematic review on depression in VID to evaluate prevalence and identify instruments utilized to assess depression.

[RESEARCH PAPER](#)

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THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF VULVAL INTRAEPITHELIAL NEOPLASIA

Henderson, I., Lewis, F., Williams, A., Yap, J., Krishna, A.

Objectives: Wang et al. set out to develop a model to predict the likelihood of LS in a premenarchal patient with vulvar complaints. This model optimised clinical factors that most accurately classified patients as having LS or not.

[RESEARCH PAPER](#)

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BSSVD COUNCIL - WEBMASTER POSITION

The BSSVD are currently recruiting for a Webmaster to work alongside the admin to maintain and manage the BSSVD website. No prior web design skills are required, it is more for content creation to ensure the site stays as up to date as possible.

If this is something you would be interested in, please apply below by sending your expression of interest to admin@bssvd.org.

Applications are now open and will close on **Friday 3rd May 2024**.

[APPLY](#)



CLINICAL IMAGES

The BSSVD website has a host of clinical images which are designed to be used by members for educational and teaching purposes.

If you or your patients would like to donate to our Members library, please visit the website for further information on how to do this.

[CLINICAL IMAGES](#)

MDT & CLINIC MAP UPDATE

Do you currently run an MDT or vulval clinic and would like to advertise it on the BSSVD website? We are always looking to keep our clinic map up to date and would love it if you could complete the below form and email admin@bssvd.org with your details.

[CLINIC MAP FORM](#)



CONTACT US...

If you require any assistance, the BSSVD admin team are always available to help.

Please contact them via email:

admin@bssvd.org

