

Primary Health Care Specialist Group

Chair's Annual Report 2023

Miriam Lemar

Here we are again, it has been a busy year with multiple successful activities discussed below. Thank you to the committee for their support through the year, we have delivered a lot and have more people contributing.

We started the year with some changes in the committee adding Ian Thompson and welcoming Roz Foad back as secretary. Unfortunately, Merlin Dunlop and Robert Treharne-Jones stood down due to pressure of work. They continue to support the group, for which thanks.

BCS HQ continue to provide support:

- Jan Hoogewerf, joined BCS from FCI in May 2023. She has been a great support and extremely helpful promoting the work we do to organisational members (OM). With her help, we have published events to a wider group.
- Our key contact Marie Setterfield has been very helpful and responsive organising webinars, CLICSIG and conference. Thank you Marie.

Activities and events

The following summarises activities from the year and the enclosed table lists the events and prizes that we have awarded during the year:

- Attending the BCS Health and Care Executive on behalf of the group. I supported Mike Anderson in setting up his very successful series of webinars on standards which many of you attended. Latterly, the Vice Chair is attending. The Health and Care Executive (HCE) have filled their Events vacancy; we started discussions about working more closely together on events.
- Attending JGPIT on behalf of the group as do several of the committee in other capacities. Many of the issues of the day are discussed here and it affords us the



opportunity to represent the concerns of those at the front line in primary care.

- I've represented the group on a panel at HETT and post Digital health conference, attended the FEDIP dinner meeting their key representatives.
- FEDIP are providing our CPD accreditation at this year's conference and have helped market events during the year.
- Discourse continues to be available for all to access although it is not very active.
- Thank you to Mary Hawking for her help in sorting out the website and ensuring that it is up to date.

Activities	Additional Comments
1. Conference, AGM and Education Day Event November 2022	Held a very successful conference in Harrogate to encourage members from further afield to attend.
2. John Perry Prize 2022	Dr Jay Verma and his team won for their work using machine learning to identify patients at risk of Asthma exacerbation.
3. Early Career prize 2022. (The ECA awards have been renamed in honour of the late Hildi Franke)	Divyesh Vala won the early career prize for this work on robotic process automation(RPA) in primary care in a hotly fought contest.
4. Webinars – Three webinars were organised this year. Many thanks to our speakers. They were all well attended and available to review on the website.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 28 Feb - Improving the digital journey for patients in general practice. Dr Minal Bakhai and Dominic Vallely 2. 28 June – Delivery plan for recovering access to primary care. Dr Minal Bakhai 3. 30 August – How to get the best out of AI and automation in primary care – Dr Hatim Abdulhussein
5. CLICSIG meeting on 13 th May 2023 looking at the impact of the Federated Data platform.	<p>Thanks to Jennie Johnson and Dr Dai Evans for organising a successful event in London this year despite the challenges of train strikes !</p> <p>The resulting paper has been published on the website and should allow us the opportunity to continue this conversation. Thanks to Jennie and John Robinson for their perseverance in getting the document published.</p>
7. Travel awards. (These have been renamed in honour of the late Julian Costello.)	Drs James Roberts and Michael Claydon won the opportunity to attend MIE in Copenhagen. They both produced feedback on the event which is available on the website. More information will be available at conference.

As ever, a huge amount of time and commitment has gone into organising the Education Day, AGM and Conference for this year. Many thanks to the conference organising committee for their help with this; I must single out Jennie Johnson and Grizelda Moules for all their work as it really would not happen without their unstinting support.

Each of the committee members involved has started to take on more clearly delineated roles e.g. Richard Williams, managing all aspects of the prizes. We wish to explore this

approach and will be looking for volunteers to help us with marketing and managing sponsorship going forward.

My Role

As several of you know, I am standing down this year. My new work commitments are in a different sector so I will not have the time to support the group as I have historically. I have been actively involved for many years and plan to remain in touch.

Before I sign off, I must pay special tribute to John Robinson, who has been a wonderful support to me personally. His passion and commitment for the group and its aims continue to inspire all. Thank you, John, from me and the committee.

Next year

Next year's programme will start to be developed at the next committee meeting; we aim to :

- Continue to deliver our programme of activities and in so doing raise the profile of the BCS PHCSG growing membership; We plan to continue to award prizes, bursaries and host webinars, CLICSIGS, the Education Day and conference during 2024.
- Refine our USP in conjunction with the BCS and H&CE teams so that we can differentiate ourselves from other similar groups; and
- Consider how we reduce the management burden to optimise the time input from our active committee particularly when organising the conference and education day.

All the best for the future.

Miriam Lemar
5th November 2023