

BASHH



BASHH Scientific Meeting

Organised by BSIG & HPV SIG

9th October 2026

Online Event | Zoom

'BASHH Scientific Meeting - October 2026' has been approved by the Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom for 3 category 1 (external) CPD credit(s). Full conditions of approval are listed in our [guidelines](#).

Programme

Time	Session	Speaker
12:30	Registration Opens	
13:00	Welcome Address	Matthew Grundy-Bowers
13:05 – 14:35	Session 1: Bacterial Special Interest Group	
13:05 – 13:35	Emerging STIs	Elisha Peters
13:35 – 14:05	Multiplex Testing	Suneeta Soni & Sophie Nash
14:05 – 14:20	Feasibility and acceptability of using near real-time whole genome sequencing of <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> to guide clinical decision-making and individualised patient interventions	Roeann Osman
14:20 – 14:35	An independent laboratory-based evaluation of a novel dual treponemal and non-treponemal rapid test for syphilis.	Anisa Hasan-Granier
14:35	Refreshment Break	
14:45 – 16:15	Session 2: HPV SIG <i>Session Chairs: Jake Bayley & Diarmuid Nugent</i>	
14:45	HPV vaccination in sexual health services: activity reporting, seroprevalence and survey data	Marta Checchi
15:05	NHS England changes to cervical screening program in women LWHIV	Elizabeth Noble
15:25	Screening for anal cancer in high risks groups – experiences from France	Valentine Ferrie

15:50	Update on SEPAC trial	Richard Gilson
16:05	Questions & Discussions	All
16:15	Event Close	

Speakers

Marta Checchi

Marta Checchi is a Principal Scientist and epidemiologist at UKHSA's Blood Safety, Hepatitis, STI and HIV Division. With over 10 years' experience in infectious disease surveillance, she specialises in vaccine programme evaluation. Since 2017, she has led UKHSA's HPV surveillance and vaccine evaluation, focusing on GBMSM and adolescent females.

Valentine Ferrie

Associate Professor, Hôpitaux de Paris

Helen Fifer

Dr Helen Fifer is a Consultant Medical Microbiologist at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA). She has a particular focus on antimicrobial resistance in bacterial STIs, including *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and *Mycoplasma genitalium*, and provides specialist laboratory and epidemiological expertise for outbreak investigations and public health responses. She also leads the UKHSA Syphilis Task Force and advises the NHS Infectious Diseases in Pregnancy Screening Programme. She contributes to several BASHH STI management guidelines. Internationally, she has contributed to WHO and US CDC guideline development and serves as an Editor of the Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy.

Richard Gilson

Richard Gilson is Professor of Sexual Health and HIV at UCL and the Mortimer Market Centre. His research focuses on the prevention and treatment of HIV and other STIs. He has led clinical trials of wart treatment, HPV epidemiology in MSM and the SEPAC study of anal precancer in MSM.

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Anisa Hasan-Granier

Anisa Hasan-Granier is a PhD candidate at UCL's Institute for Global Health, supported by the NIHR HPRU in Blood Borne and Sexually Transmitted Infections. Her doctoral research focuses on understanding how point-of-care tests for syphilis can be integrated into health systems in England to improve access, equity and sexual health outcomes. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Health and Societies from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master's Degree in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).

Sophie Nash

Sophie is a public health registrar and is working for the London Sexual Health Programme as part of her training. Before joining the Public Health training scheme, she worked as an epidemiologist in the civil service where her work focused on infectious diseases, primarily sexually transmitted infections. Since joining the training scheme Sophie has worked across local government, academia, and the NHS. Sophie is extremely passionate about sexual and reproductive health and has been working with BASHH to understand the impact of Private STI testing on the NHS.

Elizabeth Noble

Elizabeth Noble is a Screening Implementation and Change Senior Manager at NHS England, leading work to support the implementation of national screening programme improvements and service change. Elizabeth has a particular focus on cervical screening policy and programme development, including initiatives to improve access, uptake and equity. Elizabeth works closely with partners across the NHS, public health and academic sectors to support evidence-based approaches that improve population health outcomes.

Roeann Osman

Roeann Osman is a Senior Scientist in the Blood Safety, Hepatitis, STI and HIV Division at UKHSA. She is an epidemiologist with an interest in sexual health, HIV prevention and infectious disease surveillance. Roeann completed a PhD in Epidemiology and Public Health at University College London, where her research combined *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* whole genome sequencing, epidemiological and clinical data to inform public health and clinical decision-making.

Elisha Peter

Elisha is a former London GP and current Specialty Doctor in GUM and HIV at 10 Hammersmith Broadway, part of Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust. She is passionate about teaching and is a College Registered Trainer for the College of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (CoSRH) and a member of the BASHH SAS committee.

Suneeta Soni

Dr. Suneeta Soni is a Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV in Brighton, and an Honorary Associate Professor at Brighton and Sussex Medical School. For BASHH, she is co-Chair of the Bacterial Special

Interest Group and is a member of the Clinical Effectiveness Group. Her interests are antimicrobial and diagnostic stewardship and she has authored national guidelines including N. gonorrhoeae and M. genitalium.