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Company Number:

07863350

British Association for Sexual Health and HIV Annual Review

1st August 2024- 31st July 2025

Branches
Special Interest Groups
Other Groups of BASHH

Approved by the Trustees on

Address registered with the Charity Commission:

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This is a stand-alone review that allows the individual Branches and Groups to highlight their activities over the year.

This is a public document that is available on the BASHH website
www.bashh.org

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OVERVIEW

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Colleague,

I would like to start by saying a heartfelt thank you for the past twelve months. Every day, BASHH members are busy in clinic, doing research, contributing to standards, writing guidelines and working towards ever improving sexual health. That is the daily work, and it is anything but ordinary- the work we do is transformative for people as they receive non-judgmental expert care on an open access basis. We must never forget that and must continuously advocate for the principles underpinning the care we deliver.

The year has been incredibly busy for BASHH, not least with the significant movement of changing our secretariat to in house support. Many thanks to Kat Smithson, our Chief Executive Officer, who is driving forward our structure for greater effectiveness and value for money. During this transition our STI Foundation (STIF) courses needed some careful shepherding, and I extend a special thanks to Sue Bird who looked after us for many years and who kindly agreed to help us during this move.

The HIV Action Plan has been a significant undertaking with extensive engagement from DHSC. It was published 1st December and I hope you are as pleased as I am to see a commitment to supporting Genitourinary Medicine. The Action Plan overall has substantial funding to build and continue proven interventions in getting to 2030, which is very welcome. The part for us to play in this is clear- our work already aligns with the government's 10-year plan by being in the community, by being digitised where possible and every consultation we perform contributes to prevention whether that is vaccine delivery or assessment of QRisk and FRAX. There's more for us though in BASHH- STIF is explicitly mentioned for roll out in the HIVAP, as well as a workforce census to understand the landscape. We'll be getting to work on that. Furthermore, the Health and Care Select Committee have again supported our call on government for a Sexual Health Strategy. Maybe 2026 will be the year.

The turnaround in recruitment to Specialist training in GU Medicine continues- thank you to STASHH, to LoveGUM and to everyone everyday who is advocating for the specialty and hosting students so they can see how great our specialty is. We have the highest fill rate since 2016- we must continue to push.

The highlight of the year was as ever the Annual Conference, a chance to connect with each other and with the specialty without interruption. We are looking forward to the 2026 conference which we are holding, for the first time in a while, jointly with our friends at BHIVA.

In terms of partnership working, we build on ever stronger links with partners throughout the system in the UK including the RCOG, the IBMS and the RPharmS as well as the RCP and BHIVA. On an international footing, there has been continued work to strengthen relationships with other societies including those of Ireland (SSSTDI), Europe (IUSTI EU) and Sri Lanka (SLCoSHH).

Finally, January sees the handover of the Presidency. It has been a real honour and a joy to be the President; my sadness in that coming to an end is greatly mitigated by my excitement that Dr Cara Saxon will be our next President- I cannot think of anyone better to take us forward into the next phase of growth for BASHH.

Professor Matt Phillips
BASHH President

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was a 0.3% increase in expenditure over the past year, which was planned. BASHH has continued to deliver educational events and guidelines. In addition, BASHH completed a comprehensive EEDI review and has further developed our external relations outputs working with partners M&F health. There has also been investment in staff, with the appointment of a new Head of Education and Development. Activity also started to re-tender BASHH's full finance support function and to bring some of our administrative function in-house. All of these activities serve to further the objectives of the charity and build for the future.

Income increased by 10%, which was higher than expected. The main sources of income were membership subscriptions and registrations and sponsorship for educational and training events (including STI Foundation). There was also income from the investment portfolio. BASHH had an operational deficit in the 24/25 financial year, and it is predicted that this will continue for the next two years, although at a lower level, to facilitate continued investment into the charity with resulting growth in sustainable income streams.

The audited figures are:

Income	
£925,964	(2024, £841,088)
Expenditure	
£1,242,699	(2024, £1,234,331)
Net losses	
-£316,735	(2024, -£393,243)
Net movement in funds	
-£260,190	(2024, -£181,486)

A new annual budgeting cycle has been introduced alongside the implementation new chart of accounts to allow targets to be aligned and performance to be tracked against budget. This has given the Board greater ability to scrutinise performance and assess the feasibility of proposed expenditure.

Risk

Funding is derived through a membership model. The subscription rates increased by 3% in August 2024 which provided a small increase in income. Rates remained static in 2025, and they are set to increase again in 2026 to account for inflation and increased activity, subject to agreement of the board. BASHH also now has HR risks as it is now an organisation with employed staff.

In addition to the BASHH current accounts, BASHH also banks via the Flagstone charity platform, where funds are saved into dedicated charity notice accounts protected by the FSCS. Funds have been moved from the investments to these accounts to help safeguard against significant shifts in the economy, support cashflow and ensure that the charity can benefit from the strongest interest rates while maintaining the security of access to cash in bank.

Due to an impending change in the finance function provider, the process of appointing a new bookkeeper and accountant has been started.

Principal Funding Sources

Income for the charity comes from membership subscriptions, educational events and investments. At 31st July 2025, the charity has total reserves of £1,495,444 (2024: £1,755,634). This comprised of £6,810 restricted reserves (2024: £10,637), £10,000 endowment fund (2024: £10,000) and £1,479,264 unrestricted reserves (2024: £1,734,997). Unrestricted reserves have decreased by £255,733 (decrease of £187,973 in 2024).

RESERVES POLICY AND GOING CONCERN

Investment and Reserves policy

BASHH investments are contained within two investment portfolios, BASHH engages two investment companies to manage these portfolios Sarasin & Partners and St James Place. These are reviewed on an annual basis with the companies to review performance and to ensure that the investments meet BASHH's Charitable, Social and Ethical values.

BASHH investments performance is measured against market average and in the previous financial year the investments performed similar to the market average. The investments are held to provide BASHH with reserves for any unforeseen events, to provide BASHH with addition income to support charitable activities and to provide reserves for future projects. The Trustees aim to invest BASHH reserves within Charity Commission guidelines: Taking financial advice where appropriate, giving due continuous and careful consideration of risk / diversification / protection, and allowing for sufficient access to maintain a contingency for the running of BASHH.

TREASURER'S REPORT CONTINUED...

Guidance Notes:

CC14: Investment of Charitable Funds: Basic Principles (version January 2017)
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/581814/CC14_new.pdf CC19 - Charities' Reserves (version February 2017)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charities-and-reserves-cc19>

Reserves

The Trustees' intention is to maintain the level of reserves at an amount sufficient for the Association to function for at least two years in the event that it does not receive any further income. The trustees consider the investments of £1,401,601 (2024: £1,881,032) to form part of the charity's free reserves as they are able to access the income and/or capital as required.

Free reserves of £1,479,264 (2024: £1,734,997) are in keeping with the reserves policy as committed costs for the next two years can be covered by disinvesting the investments if required.

Going Concern

BASHH is required to submit a narrative as to its status as a going concern. As mentioned above, there are significant reserves and there are now sufficient reserves that if BASHH were to continue its current spending plans and there was no further income, that could be maintained for at least another two years. BASHH is therefore a going concern.

This overview should be used in conjunction with BASHH Risk Management and should highlight any items not contained there.

Dr Anne Oliver
Treasurer

CLINICAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Membership

This committee consists of regional representative from all the branches in England, and a representative from each of the UK devolved nations, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. In addition, there are professional group representatives from Nurses, Health Advisers, Pharmacists, Specialty, associate specialists and specialist (SAS) doctors, and Doctors in Training. Other groups within BASHH feed into this committee: The Clinical Effectiveness Group, the Clinical Standards Unit, the National Audit Group, the Integrated Information Group and the Web Team.

Objectives

- To implement strategies and policies of BASHH as approved by the Governing Board.
- To oversee, set and monitor standards and specifications relating to BASHH.
- To identify areas of best clinical practice and promote their adoption whilst recognising local variation in capacity, infrastructure and policy.
- To identify regional and individual clinic difficulties and support such services to explore solutions to issues, mobilise support and suggest action plans.

Significant activities / Outputs 2024-25

- 3 virtual meetings and 1 face to face meeting during Spring Conference.
- Supported BASHH EGM response and creation of BASHH CGC Working Group: Sexual Health Outcomes Deterioration (SHOD).
- Ongoing input to National PGD.

Future Plans

- To support BASHH in assessing workforce numbers.
- Support BASHH with promoting GU training and recruitment.
- To support BASHH to lead on the development of coherent holistic sexual health strategies for all four nations in the UK.

**Dr Rona MacDonald, Clinical Governance
Committee Chair**
Hu Clarke, Secretary

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee (EC) is responsible for facilitating the delivery of BASHH's vision, values and service priorities through education, training and development. The Special Interest Groups (SIGs), Conference chair, STI Foundation, BASHH HIV/STI course, and International Journal of STD & AIDS and the STI journals either report into or have a presence on the committee. The committee oversees the development and maintenance of educational programmes for nurses, doctors and the wider MDT specifically in HIV, the management of STIs and related conditions.

May 2025 saw the appointment of a Head of Education and Development for BASHH (Daron Oram). Since his appointment the focus of the remainder of year has been mapping and scoping the educational offering and beginning to develop a consistent, strategic approach to education.

STI Foundation

The STI Foundation provides theory and competency training to support career development across Integrated Sexual Health services and Primary Care. 648 people attended STI Foundation theory courses held at 27 training centres across the UK and Ireland. Around 300 people completed or were actively training on one of the STI Foundation Competencies within the past 12 months.

eLearning for Health STI/HIV modules

BASHH's online eLearning can be accessed for free by anyone in the NHS and the modules form the theoretical underpinning for consultant training, the BASHH theory course, and the STI Foundation. In the 2024 calendar year there were 7,472 new enrolments and 72,078 launches of the eLearning. The eLearning contains 144 live modules which are kept up to date by BASHH member volunteers. In 2024, 12 modules were updated, with 27 due to be updated in 2025.

The Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The SIGs lead on the development of guidance documents, educational materials and events within their specialist areas. They run a number of well-known online and in-person study days including the ABC of sexual function and genital dermatology and genital dermatology PLUS study days. The SIGs also generate publications, and in collaboration with other BASHH groups and external organisations make recommendations and review and respond to various documents on behalf of BASHH. Individual reports detailing specific contributions are available within the BASHH Annual Review.

In addition to this, there has been several educational events including the SAS Doctors conference, HIV masterclass, BASHH HIV/STI Theory Course, which also acts as revision preparation for the Dip GUM examination. Another exciting development is planning has also begun for BASHH's first nurse and health advisor conference in autumn 2026, which will be a joint event with the Society of Sexual Health Advisors.

The STASHH (Student and Trainee Association for Sexual Health & HIV) has continued to offer educational opportunities, taster days and other engagement events to those resident doctors interested in pursuing a career in GUM/HIV. These activities have undoubtedly contributed to improved profile of GUM within the medical communities.

BASHH Scientific Meetings

The Education Committee is responsible for facilitating the three BASHH scientific meetings (BSM) per year. Two of these are delivered virtually, and the third (spring) is delivered hybrid. These well received scientific events are free for BASHH members attracting large numbers of delegates. Each scientific meeting is delivered by two SIGs in a two-part structure.

The Autumn BSM was again virtual and hosted by the Sexual Violence and Domestic Abuse SIG and the HPV SIG. The Winter BSM was delivered by Sexual Health Advisors and Nurses SIG, and the second part was delivered by the Prison SIG. The Spring BSM was hybrid and was delivered by the Sexual Function and Wellbeing SIG and Racially Minoritised Communities SIG. It was an honour to have Dr Nick Theobald in person to receive the Honorary Life Fellowship, who inspired the audience with this extensive career in the field.

Scholarships, Fellowships and Travel Awards

Lisa Walton (Advanced Clinical Practitioner) from Derby continued her remunerated BASHH fellowship, and given the importance of this project, a decision was made to extend the fellowship for an additional 6-months. This additional time was granted to survey more services across the UK and have a fuller picture of the nursing and health advising workforce. This work is fundamental in future work for BASHH to better support the nursing and health advisor workforce in career structure and educational offering.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE CONTINUED...

The undergraduate prize winners were Amy Kerrigan (University of Glasgow)- won for her entry 'Posting Sexual Health Testing Kits: Why are tests not performed by the lab?' and Kirsten Holmes (University of Glasgow) won for their entry 'What works better for young people: Bookable or Walk-in clinics?'.

We are excited about 2026 and the education events that will inform and inspire.

Professor Matthew Grundy-Bowers
Education Committee Chair

NAMED GROUPS

BASHH/FSRH INTEGRATED INFORMATION GROUP

Membership

Dr Jack Shaw	Co-chair BASHH
Dr Evelyn Kerr	Co-chair FRSR
Dr David Phillips	BASHH Rep.
Dr Darren Cousins	BASHH Rep. Wales
Mr Howard Gees	BASHH Rep.
Dr Rona MacDonald	BASHH Rep.
Scotland	
Dr Anatole Menon-Johansson	BASHH Rep.
Dr Achyuta Nori	BASHH Rep.
Dr Michael Rayment	BASHH Rep.
Dr Say Quah	BASHH Rep. Northern Ireland
Dr Carol Emerson	BHIVA Rep.
Dr Nathan Acladious	FSRH Rep.
Dr Zara Haider	FSRH Rep.
Dr Asha Kasliwal	FSRH Rep.
Dr Usha Kumar	FSRH Rep.
Mr Cuong Chau	UKHSA HARS
Dr Hamish Mohammed	UKHSA GUMCAD
Mr Stephen Duffell	UKHSA GUMCAD
Mr Alireza Talebi	UKHSA
Ms Mandy Yung	UKHSA
Mrs Helen Leake	DHSC
Ms Olivia De Achaval	OHID
Ms Kate Rogers	Brook
Mr Charles Hewitt	Pathway Analytics

Observers from software companies

Ms Shafeda Mohammed	RIOMED
Mr Andrew Denman	Inform Health
Mr Chris Evans	IDOX
Mrs Joanne Leonard	IDOX
Mr Vinay Neogi	IDOX
Mr Robert Thompson	IDOX
Mr Colin Kowlessar	RIOMED
Mr Ian Stuart	IMS
Mr Sarma Konduru	Excelicare
Mr Anand Viswanathan	Excelicare
Mr Rajesh Jaiswal	Excelicare

Objectives

- To recommend strategies for IT implementation, data collection and reporting for UK Integrated Sexual Health & HIV (ISHH) Services.
- To advise on the type of information to be collected from ISHH services for the purposes of national audit and public health surveillance.
- To respond to relevant consultations affecting service provision and data collection in ISHH.

- To liaise between member organisations represented and other interested parties over information issues to achieve best patient outcomes.
- To maintain overview of issues pertaining to Information Governance in ISHH.
- To receive and respond to queries and concerns from members relating to IT and IG.
- To anticipate problems relating to IT and IG from new legislation or other changes which affect ISHH.
- To work towards optimising effective IT solutions for ISHH Services.
- Support of other clinical services which submit surveillance data – e.g. primary care, infectious disease units.
- To disseminate important information to CoSRH/BASHH/BHIVA members via organisational websites / newsletters.
- To provide oversight and guidance to the ISHH EPR Working Group.

Significant Activities / Outputs in the year 2024-25

- The group met four times during this period.
- The EPR working group met four times during this period.
- The group, and the EPR Working Group, continued to provide support to services affected by the sudden closure of Mill Systems.
- The group, and the EPR Working Group, continued to provide support to services affected by the sudden adjustment to the business overseeing Excelicare.
- The group responded to numerous questions posed by BASHH members regarding data management, information governance and statutory reporting for sexual health services.
- The group advised UKHSA on matters arising including GUMCAD and HARS.
- The Information Group was formally adopted by the British HIV Association who now have formal representation in the membership.
- Draft terms of reference, which will be processed in the next year to report, will update the group's name to "CoSRH/BASHH/BHIVA Integrated Sexual Health & HIV Information Group".
- A representative to the group for Northern Ireland was identified and engaged.
- The co-chairs completed a thorough review and refinement of the working group's membership.

BASHH/FSRH INTEGRATED INFORMATION GROUP CONTINUED...

- The Information Group engaged with colleagues at NHSE to establish knowledge on the transfer and management of data from sexual health services and secondary care providers – focusing on the appropriate use of contraception, STI, and HIV data.
- The Information Group supported colleagues from IFAS to draft a suggested national coding structure for the reporting of non-fatal strangulation by patients attending sexual health services.
- The Information Group began fostering collaborative work between national surveillance systems, EPR providers, clinicians, and updated tariff work in London, to begin considering how complex care can be better coded in sexual health services.
- The Information Group supported collaboration between UKHSA and EPR providers to update ART coding to include novel treatment strategies.
- The EPR working group drafted specifications to support electronic transfers of HIV and PrEP care between providers using the same EPR.
- The EPR working group completed and presented (at conference) the second iteration of the national EHR usability survey – findings were fed back to providers to inform evidence-based product development.
- The EPR working group successfully engaged the leading UK ISH EHR providers in attendance at working group meetings, encouraging current and future collaboration.

Future plans

- Continue to work closely with members of the CoSRH, BHIVA, National Institute for Health Protection, UKHSA, DHSC, NHS Digital, software providers and others to ensure that we meet our objectives.
- Continue to respond to requests for expertise on relevant subjects to the group.
- Ensure the objectives and benefits of this group incorporate relevant issues for all devolved nations of the UK.
- Consideration to be given to an update in / modernisation of SRHAD coding guidance.
- Continued development and planned SNOMED adoption of codes for reported non-fatal strangulation.
- Continue discussions on improving coding for complexity in services.
- Continue to foster collaboration with the ISH EPR industry.
- Continue to develop draft specifications to support digital transfers of HIV and PrEP care.
- The EPR Working Group will continue to drive for standardisation between services, and across providers, to support expected future developments in auto-coding and ambient AI transcription.

Dr Jack Shaw

Co-Chair of the CoSRH/BASHH/BHIVA Integrated Sexual Health & HIV Information Group

CLINICAL EFFECTIVENESS GROUP

The present CEG membership is:

Professor Margaret Kingston (Chair)
Dr Ade Apoola
Dr Johnny Boylan
Dr Amy Evans
Dr Helen Fifer
Dr Sarah Flew
Ms Alison Grant
Dr Deepa Grover
Dr Lewis Haddow
Dr Michael Rayment
Dr Cara Saxon
Dr Suneeta Soni

Objectives

- To produce the BASHH guidelines for the management of sexually transmitted infections & related conditions.
- Production of patient information leaflets to support application of the guidelines.
- Liaison with internal and external key stakeholders including the British HIV Association (BHIVA), the College of Sexual and Reproductive Health (CoSRH), The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, the BASHH Audit Group and the BASHH Public panel.
- Reporting to the BASHH Board via the Clinical Governance Committee.

Significant activities

- Ongoing review of the current BASHH guidelines and patient information leaflets, production of updates and of new guidelines. This remains a key output for BASHH and sets acceptable professional standards of care, facilitates good patient care and supports healthcare professionals to make appropriate and evidence-based decisions choices when managing their patients.
- Liaison with key internal and external stakeholders. This year members have participated in additional meetings with UKHSA and the Infectious Disease Screening in Pregnancy teams.
- The CEG continues to meet three times per year with one a blended face to face and two virtual meetings.
- The production of the guidelines is undertaken largely by BASHH members and their colleagues in the interests of the specialty and is unremunerated.

We have been working with a professional researcher to undertake literature reviews in recent years, and we have now established a working relationship with a medical writing company to support their work.

- We lead the guidelines session at the BASHH annual scientific conference.
- We were devastated by the death of our dear friend and colleague Professor Nick Medland earlier this year. Nick's wisdom and humour is missed dreadfully. The DoxyPEP, HIV PrEP and gonorrhoea guidelines he was working on at the time are dedicated to him.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-2025

- Maintenance of the BASHH guideline portfolio including co-produced guidelines with key external stakeholders including BHIVA and CoSRH.
- Ongoing liaison with stakeholders.
- Ongoing input into the BASHH annual conference; guidelines session.
- BASHH management guidelines updated this year:
 - *Mycoplasma genitalium*
 - Gonorrhoea
 - Scabies
 - Herpes
 - Herpes in pregnancy
 - Syphilis
 - Genital warts
 - Vulval conditions
- BASHH & BHIVA HIV Pre-exposure prophylaxis.
- New BASHH guidelines completed since last report:
 - Doxycycline post exposure prophylaxis to prevent syphilis (DoxyPEP).
 - Management of syphilis in pregnancy & neonates.

Future plans

- Ongoing maintenance of the BASHH guideline portfolio including new guidelines and collaborations with stakeholders, updating guidelines in a prompt manner.
- New guidelines currently in production include a guideline asynchronous on-line consultation.
- Please direct all enquiries offering help with producing the BASHH guidelines or feedback to Margaret.kingston@mft.nhs.uk

Professor Margaret Kingston
Clinical Effectiveness Group Chair

CLINICAL STANDARDS UNIT

Membership:

Dr Dawn Wilkinson (Chair)
Dr Karla Blee (Wales representative)
Ms Ceri Evans (Health Advisor Representative)
Dr Bridie Howe (Scotland Representative)
Mr Martin Murchie (Nursing representative)
Dr Say Quah (Northern Ireland Representative)
Dr Olwen Williams (Lay representative)
Dr Rebecca Thomson-Glover

Objectives:

The Clinical Standards Unit (CSU) consists of representatives from the UK nations and includes professional group representatives from Nursing and Health Advisers. The objectives of the CSU are to develop and promote new and updated national standards for UK specialists working within the field of Sexual Health. These standards support commissioners and providers in delivering high-quality sexual health services and set expectations for the public accessing these services. The standards reflect current best practices in sexual health management and are intended for use across all services commissioned by Local Authorities or the NHS and are also strongly recommended for use in independent services, not commissioned by the public sector.

Significant activities 2024-25:

- Ongoing project work to update BASHH Standards for the Management of STIs [2019]: Writing group Leads and Members co-opted. Chair Dr Dawn Wilkinson.
- BASHH registered as stakeholder for NICE guidelines and CSU collates BASHH feedback.
- Hosting virtual CSU meetings – 13th Nov 2025, 9th July 2025 and 12th March 2025.

Performance / Outputs 2024-25:

Future plans

- To support BASHH to develop Sexual Health strategies and policies across the UK four nations underpinned by up-to-date BASHH clinical standards.
- To deliver timely standard output in conjunction with the medical writing company, Veristat and engage collaboratively with stakeholders.
- Please direct all enquiries offering help with producing the BASHH standards or feedback to admin@bashh.org

Dr Dawn Wilkinson
Clinical Standards Unit Chair

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PANEL

Chair/Secretary

Michael Ewens
Jennifer Dhingra

Professional Members

Lewis Haddow
Verity Sullivan
Kat Smithson
Lisa Walton

Members

Marian Nicholson
Cameron at HVA
Aydin Djemal
Lorraine Stanley
Parminder Sekhon
LeaSuwanna Khadijah Griffith
Mark Santos
Sexpression: UK Externals
externals@sexpression.org.uk
Sexpression: UK National Director
DIRECTOR@sexpression.org.uk
Bekki Burbidge
Christian Neckles
Gavin Brown
Gareth Jones (Lay)
Jeni Hirst
Jennie Williams
Laura Scott (Research Panel)
Louisa Abbey
Mel Gadd
Nicola Jones
Seonaid More
David Ormiston
Denis Onyango
Louis Velati

Outgoing members: Cara Saxon

Objectives:

The aim of the Public Panel is to promote a positive and proactive approach to Patient and Public Involvement across BASHH, and to ensure that Patient and Public Involvement is a key feature within all BASHH's activities and incorporated into all BASHH strategies.

Terms of reference for the panel are currently being reviewed for 2025.

Significant activities & outputs 2024-25:

- An increase of 2 in Community members in 2024-25, with more representation from Scotland.

- Work ongoing to support people with disability accessing sexual health services.
- Laura Waters supported a review of PILs and reading age, presenting at BASHH conference.
- BASHH conference 2025 session: Unheard voices: how YOU can provide better healthcare for the largest single minority group in the UK. Lorraine Stanley, Laura Waters, Jennifer Dhingra & Chloe Stone.
- 2 community members supporting the BASHH recommendations for the design and content of inclusive asynchronous online consultations within sexual health care.

Panel review of the following BASHH endorsed guidance / PILs:

1. Non-fatal strangulation guidance
2. PrEP – Guideline
3. Scabies – Guideline
4. Gonorrhoea – Guideline & PIL
5. DoxyPEP – Guideline & PIL
6. HSV – PIL
7. Mycoplasma genitalium – PIL

Future plans:

1. Update Terms of Reference of panel to be reflective of Community involvement in 2025; and bring in line with NHS England's policy: [NHS England » Policy on working in partnership with people and communities](#).
2. Consider rebranding the group to the Community Engagement Panel; to ensure the membership is reflective of the communities we serve and engage with.
3. To ensure community involvement is a key feature within all BASHH's activities, with a re-launch of the group to all SIGs, the CEG and the Board after the Terms of Reference are ratified and agreed.
4. To ensure the panel has representation from all 4 nations.
5. To create a Vice-Chair (Professional) and Co-Chair (Community member), with more secretarial roles being supported by BASHH admin.
6. Support writing groups not only with review of PILs, but help supporting the creation of 'Easy read' leaflets +/- BSL resources that can be utilised across the 4 nations.
7. Create a community resource panel on our website, to signpost to community organisations and resources.
8. BASHH supporting members to attend/collaborate with NAIDEX.

Dr Michael Ewens
Community Engagement Panel Chair

CONFERENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Title Name	Role	Joint FSRH/BASHH conference
Dr Chris Ward	Conference and communication Chair	- Over 400 virtual attendees. - Split BASHH/FSRH program. 4.7/5 average weighting for event, 4.5/5 average weighting for education. - Feedback collated by FSRH - 55% Excellent, 39% Good, 6% Average. - Good verbal feedback from delegates on the day.
Dr Fiona Windebank	Doctor in training Rep	
Ms Ceri Evans	HA Rep	
Ms Jodie Crossman	Nurse Rep	
Mr Dee Hunt	Nurse Rep	
Objectives		IUSTI Europe conference Athens
- To deliver annual national conference. - To deliver joint FSRH/BASHH conference annually. - To support other conferences significant to BASHH e.g. SAS conference. - To support other webinars and educational meetings e.g. IUSTI webinars. - To provide conference symposiums and scholarships at other conferences e.g. IUSTI/ISSTD.		- To be held October 2025. - GM SIG Symposium with trans focus, and workshop lead by BASHH on language. - Formal feedback to follow (not released by IUSTI yet). 4 scholarships awarded plus 1 Raj Patel scholarship, will present feedback to members at Bitesize in October/November.
Significant activities		IUSTI/ISSTD World congress Montreal
- Delivered annual face to face conference in Edinburgh. 8-11th June - Delivered virtual annual Joint BASHH/FSRH conference. 26th March - Supported IUSTI with BASHH led symposium and scholarships on behalf of the GM SIG. 11th October - Supported ISSTD attendance with scholarships and Bitesize feedback sessions. 27-30th July		60 UK delegates attended, of which at least 40 BASHH members. 3 BASHH scholars supported to attend. - Feedback given in Bitesize webinars on 23/09/25 and 01/10/25. - Good networking opportunities and links made with ASHUM and ASHA.
Performance/Outputs in the year 2025-26		Future plans
BASHH conference		- Deliver Joint CoSRH/BASHH conference March 25th, 2026. CoSRH keen to continue virtual conference and format works well. - Plan and deliver face to face 6th joint BASHH/BHIVA conference 27-29th April 2026 in Liverpool. - Continue to support partners in IUSTI, RCP and RCGP with webinars at their national conferences, request for symposium at RCOG and RCP.
- Total attendees: 582, of which 508 were delegates. 35 sessions with 88 speakers, 220 posters, 20 moderated posters and 43 oral presentations including nurses/HA/undergrads. £146,262 sponsorship income. - Surplus share from sponsorship/registration: £43,619. - Evaluation: 33/34 sessions scored an average mark >4/5, with total range for average mark 3.96-4.81/5.		Dr Chris Ward Conference and Communications Group Chair

DOCTORS IN TRAINING

Membership

Dr Fiona Windebank,
Doctors in Training Representative to BASHH Board

Objectives

- To represent the professional interests of Doctors in Training (DiT) working in Genitourinary and HIV medicine.
- To promote Genitourinary Medicine as a career option for medical students and pre-specialty doctors.
- To provide quality educational opportunities for DiTs and facilitate communication about professional and training events.
- To arrange networking and socialising events for DiTs.
- To ensure DiTs representation on BASHH Committees.
- To sit on the JRCPTB Genito-urinary Medicine Specialist Advisory Committee (GUMSAC) to represent trainees.

Significant Activities

- Quarterly National Training Day for all GUM trainees in a concerted effort to improve access to quality teaching from nationwide speakers.
- Contribution to organising the annual BASHH conference.
- Attending the BASHH board meeting and the GUM SAC meetings to feedback about training issues which have been raised, as well as update on the recent trainee activities/events. In turn, feeding back important updates and information from BASHH and the SAC to trainees.

DiT Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-2025

- Teaching days remain virtual on Teams and were held in September 2024, February 2025 and May 2025.
- The February 2025 teaching was run by the SAC for curriculum updates for both trainees and Educational Supervisors. There was also a session on microscopy teaching.
- A teaching timetable for 2026-2027 has been arranged and communicated to the regions who will be hosting. The next training day is on the 25th of February 2026 hosted by King's and the HAVENS SARC.

- BASHH DiT Networking event was held in Edinburgh in June 2025 and attended by GUM trainees, STASHH members and clinical fellows with an interest in GU medicine. This will hopefully continue as an annual opportunity to network, particularly considering the now virtual nature of training days.
- Following a meeting with the BASHH education committee, a survey was held to establish an appetite amongst DiTs for mentorship and how this would best be implemented. Of 27 respondents, 90% were keen for mentorship with the majority requiring support with consultant job planning, CCT preparation and support managing portfolio requirements from someone who has recently been in the same position. Largely trainees would like to be mentored by a junior consultant out-with their own department.
 - This report has been sent to the head of the education committee to inform plans for a mentorship scheme going forwards.

Future plans

- Ongoing virtual teaching days dispersed throughout the year.
- Annual face-to-face pre-conference DiT socialising/networking event. The next one will be held in April 2026 ahead of the joint BASHH/BHIVA conference
- Liaison with newer trainees to gather an understanding of their influencers in choosing GUM as a specialty. This will help BASHH understand which campaigns have had recruitment success.
- Support development of a trainee mentorship scheme.

Dr Fiona Windebank
BASHH Doctors in Training Representative

M+F HEALTH

Public, Media and Website Activities

Objectives

To provide an effective and expert-driven press office to support high quality and informed coverage of sexual health across the public discourse, and to ensure BASHH is seen as the 'go to' organisation for sexual health expertise.

Significant activities

The BASHH press office – which continues to be managed by M+F Health - has successfully ensured BASHH's voice is represented across a wide range of broadcast and traditional media outlets in the last twelve months, supporting widespread national coverage on a range of priority interest areas. Activity has helped to ensure that BASHH continues to represent a key source of trusted commentary on sexual health topics, with coverage including key media stories around rates of sexual infection and bringing attention to the growing challenges faced by sexual health services across the UK, and the publication of the UK-first guidelines on DoxyPEP for the prevention of syphilis.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

Regular updates have also been published on the news section of the BASHH website, helping to showcase the release of relevant educational and training resources, as well as to highlight various BASHH statements on policy and service developments.

Future plans

It continues to be important to strengthen BASHH's influence within evolving political and policy discussions, ensuring the organisation's voice continues to cut through in support of its core priorities.

Over the coming year, this will involve close collaboration with BASHH's public affairs team to coordinate messaging and advocacy efforts, while further enhancing BASHH's visibility across national, regional, and sector media. The press office will prioritise timely, evidence-based responses to media enquiries, alongside proactive engagement on emerging sexual health issues where BASHH can provide authoritative leadership and shape the agenda.

BASHH will continue to work closely with government departments, sector partners, and journalists across the UK to ensure that expert voices remain central to public and political conversations on sexual health and the delivery of high-quality services.

Social and Digital Media

Objectives

To ensure BASHH is fully supported with ongoing social media communications and high-quality delivery outputs reaching key stakeholders, including BASHH members, policymakers, other healthcare professionals (including pre-speciality through LoveGUM) and service users/the wider public. BASHH's core social media channels are X (formerly Twitter), Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Social and Digital Team KPIs

1. *Awareness/reach: Extend BASHH's presence as the lead professional representative body for specialist physicians in genitourinary medicine in the UK.*
 - o To achieve 100 views and an 8% engagement rate on LinkedIn articles averaging at 1 x article per quarter (authored by stakeholders e.g. members, SIGs, partner orgs, etc.)
2. *Engagement: Capture the attention of BASHH's audience with content which inspires action.*
 - o Maintain engagement rate on X of 2-3%.
 - o Achieve over 200 Instagram engagements per month.
 - o Maintain average of one video per month.
3. *Website traffic: Attract and direct audiences to the BASHH website.*
 - o Maintain average of 175 link clicks across all channels to BASHH website/month (to discuss access to BASHH analytics and UTM links with EBS) – up from baseline clicks of ~130/ month.
4. *Conversions: Guide users from engagement to the successful completion of desired actions.*
 - o Support uplift in BASHH memberships (% increase to be agreed following BASHH admin/EBS providing membership data).

M+F HEALTH CONTINUED...

Significant activities and performance/outputs in the year 2024-25

BASHH's social media channels, including X, Bluesky, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, continue to deliver timely, reliable, and informative content. The strategy combines proactive content creation with rapid responses to breaking news and sector developments, ensuring BASHH remains a trusted source for GUM and sexual health professionals while extending reach to political stakeholders and the wider public.

Since September 2024, BASHH's X account has consistently performed above industry benchmarks, achieving an average monthly engagement rate of 4%, compared with the industry benchmark of 2 -3%. Engagement peaked at 5.27% in June 2025 before stabilising around 4%. Instagram followers grew 27% over the year, from 2,385 to 2,998.

BASHH launched its Bluesky account in November 2024, and it has grown steadily into a trusted platform for professional and accurate sexual health updates. Nearly 200 updates have been posted to date, with engagement rising alongside output. Engagement has risen alongside output, amplified by influential voices like Parliamentarians and leading GUM professionals, helping to amplify BASHH's reach and credibility within both professional and policy circles. Bluesky followers have grown to 412, and the platform continues to be an important space for BASHH to expand its presence and tailor content for a growing audience.

Key content highlights from the last year include promotion of the BASHH SAS Doctors' Conference, with pre-event posts, dynamic quote cards during events, and reflective pieces afterwards. BASHH also supported the launch of LUSTRUM films and shared responses to major sector developments, such as the NHS 10 Year Health Plan and national clinical guidelines on DoxyPEP. Multiple LinkedIn blogs were developed including one exploring the role of GUM professionals in LGBTQ+ healthcare and another providing guidance on greener sexual health clinics, both achieving strong engagement.

Finally, BASHH's physical presence at events has been carefully supported by the M+F team.

This included designing and creating promotional banners for the BASHH 2025 conference, facilitating audio equipment for the STI & HIV World Congress, and ensuring timely delivery of BASHH-branded merchandise such as pens and business cards. The team also provided on-the-ground support at the RCOG conference, representing BASHH as a reputable organisation.

Future plans

- Sustain the current level of activity, and identify ways to maximise natural, and created peaks of activity.
- Promote BASHH owned initiatives, awareness days and collaboration opportunities through increased working with sector partners.
- Support the promotion of the BASHH x BHIVA Joint Conference in 2026.
- Further explore BASHH's potential presence on new platforms i.e. TikTok as a means of promoting BASHH activities and messages to a wider audience, including monitoring for other sector organisations joining the platform.
- Support closer integration with other core BASHH external suppliers, to support an increasingly cohesive communications approach to BASHH members and the wider public.

LoveGUM Campaign

Objectives

- Raise awareness of what a career in GUM involves, its unique benefits, and dispel myths about the profession— e.g., that the specialty is oversubscribed.
- Showcase that careers in GUM are rewarding (you can make a real difference to peoples' lives); varied (fields of work/ work places can include forensic medicine, refugee/ asylum centres and prisons); challenging (there are a variety of acute elements in treating GUM and HIV); flexible (GUM has one of the highest proportions of medics working less than full time) and worldly (there is scope to travel whilst training and whilst on the job).
- Showcase the broad, interesting, and rewarding range of paths that careers in GUM can take.
- Signpost a clear call to action; considering GUM as a viable career choice.

M+F HEALTH CONTINUED...

Significant activities and performance/outputs in the year 2024-25

Phase 3 of the LoveGUM campaign (July–December 2024) successfully built on the launch phase by combining influencer activity, paid social media, and strategic banner placements to drive reach, engagement, and awareness.

Five influencers, Dr Sesay, Dr Wannie, Dr Devify, Lydia Martin, and Natasha Binnie, shared tailored content, exceeding the initial target and generating strong engagement, including thousands of views, likes, quiz responses, and positive audience feedback.

The paid social campaign delivered impressive results across LinkedIn (135k impressions, 915 clicks, video CTR 3.84%), Meta (141k impressions, 7,701 clicks, CTR 5.43%), and X (434k impressions, 625 clicks), while ongoing integration into BASHH's regular social posts ensured sustained visibility.

Banner ads on BMJ Careers achieved 31,004 impressions and continue on BMJ Student, successfully driving targeted traffic to the LoveGUM microsite. Overall, Phase 3 expanded campaign visibility, deepened engagement with key audiences, and exceeded expectations across multiple channels.

Future plans

With Phase 3 complete, we provided a comprehensive evaluation report in January 2025, reviewing outcomes, key learnings, and reflections with stakeholders. Ongoing maintenance has continued through BASHH's social channels, leveraging the extensive content library developed across all three phases, with the LoveGUM microsite remaining a central resource for those interested in a career in genitourinary medicine.

Looking ahead, we presented a range of ideas to the Board in September 2025 to build on the campaign's success, including: refreshing the LoveGUM website with new and updated videos, blogs, and resources; leveraging Naomi Sutton as a campaign ambassador to maximise reach; launching an influencer campaign 2.0 to engage new voices beyond junior doctors; and re-engaging existing campaign endorers to reaffirm BASHH's commitment to GUM.

We also proposed exploring further opportunities to capture perceptions of GUM, co-create content with trainees, and extend advocacy through media, ambassadors, and conferences.

Beneficiaries of Our Services

BASHH beneficiaries are members of the association and any members of the public or medical profession who access our freely available web resources. BASHH does not operate fundraising activities [from the public or calling for donations] this is very clear in our Charity Commission declaration. BASHH's primary income streams are from membership fees and income from conferences and other delegate fees from teaching and training activities.

Investment Review

BASHH investments are contained within two investment portfolios, BASHH engages two investment companies to manage these portfolios Sarasin & Partners and St James Place. These are reviewed on an annual basis with the companies to review performance and to ensure that the investments meet BASHH's Charitable, Social and Ethical values.

BASHH investments performance is measured against market average and in the previous financial year the investments performed similar to the market average. The investments are held to provide BASHH with reserves for any unforeseen events, to provide BASHH with addition income to support charitable activities and to provide reserves for future projects.

Simon Whalley
Senior Director at M+F Health

NATIONAL AUDIT GROUP

Membership

Dr Natasha Astill, Chair
Dr Vanessa Apea, Vice Chair
Dr Helen Pollitt
Dr Kirsten Michie
Dr Malaki Ramogi
Dr Rachael Viney
Dr Emma Mccarty
Dr Nisha Pal
Dr Sally Wielding
Dr Soe Aung
Dr Sophia Davies
Dr Ceri Slater
Dr Rasha Omer
Dr Sian Warren
Dr Alison Blume
Dr Lisa Goodall
Merle Symonds
Dr Helen Wiggins
Erna Buitendam, UKHSA rep
Dr Manori Bandara, SAS group rep
Dr Millicent Richardson, STASHH rep
Ms Lucie Stuart, Audit Coordinator

Objectives

- National audits of clinical practice in sexual health/genitourinary medicine clinics against the BASHH Clinical Effectiveness Group (CEG) National Guidelines.
- A forum to discuss national and regional audit programmes.
- Response to requests for national audits by the British Association of Sexual Health and HIV.
- Specification of key auditable outcomes for the common genitourinary conditions, using the clinical guidelines of the CEG as the standard of care.

Significant Activities

- The analysis and reports completed for the postponed National audit of HIV testing in sexual health services (clinic attenders not tested for HIV).
- Planning commenced for the joint BHIVA-BASHH 2025 National audit of Partner Notification.
- Following Dr Vanessa Apea's departure as Chair, Dr Natasha Astill was successfully appointed to succeed her in the role.
- Liaison with Clinical Effectiveness Group and reviewing and advising on auditable outcomes for the Neisseria gonorrhoeae, DoxyPEP, and Mgen guidelines.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

- Presentation of the 2024 National HIV Testing Audit via BASHH webinar.
- Dissemination of individualised reports from 2024 National HIV Testing Audit.

Future plans

- A journal article based on the findings of the 2024 National HIV Testing Audit will be developed and submitted for publication.
- Presentation of the BHIVA-BASHH 2025 National audit of Partner Notification and dissemination of individualised reports to participating services.
- Undertake revisions of both Terms of Reference and Roles & Responsibilities of the Regional Audit Chairs in response to changes in service delivery post Covid.
- Ongoing work to map of key topics for audit based on the HIV Action Plan, BASHH standards, Sexual Health Strategy and PrEP Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, as well as BASHH guidelines.

Dr Natasha Astill
National Audit Group Chair

REVALIDATION GROUP

Membership

Dr Janet Wilson (RCP Revalidation Advisor for Genitourinary Medicine)

Objectives

- To provide support for BASHH members in matters related to revalidation.
- To provide specialty specific guidance to support members wishing to revalidate.
- To ensure that the specialty specific advice is kept updated and remains current.

Significant activities

- Supporting the RCP to develop specialty specific clinical outcomes.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

The GMC has information about revalidation which is very clear.

This is available on <https://www.gmc-uk.org/registration-and-licensing/managing-your-registration/revalidation>.

The resources include:

- Introduction to revalidation and the roles and processes involved.
- Core guides to help you understand revalidation.
- Tools to aid you in the process of revalidating.

Also, revalidation and restoring your license FAQs for doctors who are:

- Retiring or taking a break from UK practice.
- Working overseas.
- New to UK practice.

Dr Janet Wilson
RCP Revalidation Advisor for Genitourinary Medicine

SAS DOCTORS GROUP

Membership

Dr Manori Bandara (National Audit Group Representative)
Dr Sanjiva Dhamaratne
Dr Georgina Forbes
Dr Karl Hollows (Chair)
Dr Lewis Lau (Education Committee Representative & Conference Committee)
Dr Hannah Mair
Dr Srinivasulu Narayana (Financial Officer & Conference Committee)
Dr Fahad Naser (Clinical Governance Committee Representative)
Dr Anne Oliver (Conference Committee Chair)
Dr Carlos Oroz (Conference Committee)
Dr PN Sashidharan
Dr Rizwaan Sheriff
Dr Helen Sherrey
Dr Kajal Verma (Secretary, Conference Committee & BASHH Board Representative)

Objectives

- To represent the professional interests of SAS doctors working in Sexual Health & HIV.
- To provide educational opportunities for SAS doctors.
- To ensure the group is represented on the various BASHH Committees.

Significant activities

- The BASHH SAS Doctors' 27th Annual Conference was delivered in person at the Manchester.
- Conference Centre on 6th and 7th September 2024.
- 97% of delegates rated the educational elements as good or excellent.
- Presented findings of the group's UK wide survey on specialist posts in sexual health at the national BASHH SAS conference.
- Continue to provide guidance and support to BASHH members on specialist grade positions in sexual health.

Future Plans

- BASHH SAS Doctors' 28th Annual Conference in 2025 is planned for 12th and 13th September again at Manchester Conference Centre.
- Liaison with Audit Group regarding BASHH SAS National Audit on the Management of Individuals Subject to Sexual Violence (due to launch late 2025).
- Further development of supporting resources regarding specialist positions in sexual health.

Dr Karl Hollows
SAS Group Chair

STASHH

Student and Trainee Association of Sexual Health and HIV (STASHH)

Membership

Dr. Liberty- Isabelle Todd *Chair*
Dr. Toni Masters *Deputy Chair*
Dr. Ellie Cochrane *Projects Lead, Co-Founder*
Dr. Alice Parsloe *Education & Recruitment Lead*
Dr. Millie Richardson *Education & Recruitment Lead*
Dr. Ella Heath *Mentoring Lead*
Dr. Lily Edwards *Mentoring Lead*
Dr. Nathan Dean *Podcast Lead*
Ms. Maeve Mulchrone *Podcast Lead*
Dr. Emma Cartner *Operations Coordinator*
Mx. Cate Goldwater Breheny *Secretary*
Ms. Grace Currie *Medical Student Local Ambassador Coordinator*
Dr. Adhishree Sunilkumar *Medical Student Local Ambassador Coordinator*
Dr. Catrin Thomas *Pre-Specialty Doctor Local Ambassador Coordinator*
Dr. Amy Lyons *Pre-Specialty Doctor Local Ambassador Coordinator*

The above members make up our steering committee; all medical students and pre-specialty doctors involved with STASHH, including our local ambassadors, can also be understood as part of the STASHH membership.

Objectives

- **EDUCATION:** STASHH aims to provide educational opportunities for medical students and pre-specialty trainees relating to Sexual Health and HIV medicine. This includes educational webinars, teaching days and a podcast.
- **RECRUITMENT:** It also aims to increase visibility and awareness of the specialty amongst undergraduates and pre-specialty trainees through recruitment events, promotion of national recruitment resources and engagement with training programme directors. This is delivered primarily through the work of the local ambassador network.
- **MENTORING:** STASHH aim to deliver a collaborative approach to mentoring where interested parties are matched with appropriately trained mentors within GUM.

Significant Activities

- Delivered STASHH conference online on 24th Nov 2024: 91 attendees, 11 posters, 6 oral presentations, 4 symposia.
- 6 webinars with 211 live attendees.
- Podcast season 3 with 9 episodes: approximately 1700 streams between October 2024 and October 2025. 284 Spotify subscribers, an increase of 93 on last year.
- Presented at National GUM Taster Day.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

- 29 steering committee applications & 123 local ambassador applications.
- 24 mentors and 76 Mentees on STASHH mentoring program.
- 30 medical student and 25 pre-specialty doctor local ambassadors (total 55).
- SIG reps appointed to majority of BASHH SIGs.
- 2025 BASHH oral presentation "Investigating the barriers faced by prospective GUM trainees to entering Internal Medicine Training".
- 2025 BASHH poster "Sexy Health': Exploring the Effectiveness of a Podcast as an Educational GUM Resource Aimed at Medical Students and Pre-Specialty Doctors".
- Post GUM HST Interview 2024/25 cycle survey data shows 11/12 had heard of STASHH and reported positive engagement.
- Jointly delivered new introduction materials for HIV-STI eLearning to provide context and careers guidance for undergraduates.

Future plans

- Continuing our regular work: majority of 2025-26 webinars organised, podcast episodes for season 4 in production, 2025-26 local ambassador recruitment round 2 in progress, 2025-26 mentor and mentee recruitment in process, SIG reps now in post.
- We have recently launched new STASHH IMT application guide and continue to support IMT applications e.g. with new interview preparation event.
- Deliver STASHH conference in summer 2026.
- Deliver close collaboration with BASHH and deepen our involvement in strategy work around recruitment.

Cate Goldwater Breheny
STASHH Chair

STI FOUNDATION & COMPETENCY GROUP

Membership

Nick Theobald, STIF Executive
Dr Matthew Grundy-Bowers, Education Committee Chair, ACP Lead
Dr Sarah Edwards, Co-Chair
Jodie Crossman, Co-Chair
Kat Smithson, BASHH CEO
Daron Oram, BASHH Education
Dr Ramona (Mona) Malek, Consultant Course Director/E-portfolio Lead
Dr Ushan Andrady, Course Director
Kerry Street, Pharmacist representative
Dr Rita Browne, Course Director
Ceri Evans, SHA Lead
Dr Richard Ma, GP Representative
Cheryl Marfo, Advanced Nurse Practitioner
Mary McNicol, Advanced Lead
Michael Spall-Hancy, Intermediate Lead
Dr Rona McDonald, Integrated Lead
Eleni Kousti, Gateway Lead
Helen Sherrey, SAS Doctor Representative
Jen Kendrick, NHIVNA Lead
Lisa Walton, Revalidation Lead
Vacant post, Fundamental Lead

Objectives

- The STI Foundation committee will be responsible for promoting best clinical practice.
- The STI Foundation members will be responsible for reviewing and/or producing STIF theory and STIF competencies content under the guidance of the STI Foundation committee.
- At the request of Education Committee or its officers, the STI Foundation committee should provide advice on, or development of, educational materials for target groups such as undergraduates, postgraduates, other health professionals and the public.
- The STI Foundation should hold educational events as relevant to its product development and in discussion with the members of the education committee.

Significant activities

- Comprehensive review of STI Foundation Course material following review of feedback from participants and course directors and faculty –Parts 1+ 2 have been launched and evaluated. Part 3 in progress.
- Update/revision of STIF Intermediate/Advanced/Sexual Health Adviser Competency curricula.

- Monthly online 'drop-in' sessions for STIF Competency trainees and trainers to access support around e-portfolio – well attended and positive feedback.
- Transition to new admin team.
- STI Foundation Train the trainer: Theory. Delivered online In January and at BASHH conference June 2025.
- Testimonials recorded for the website.
- STI Foundation newsletter.
- Theory course for prisons successfully delivered – appetite for further delivery to other prisons.
- Accreditation of Prior experience and learning for entry to STIF advanced competencies – pilot portfolios being reviewed.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-2025

- Income has continued to increase.
- 27 Theory Courses were held, for 648 individual trainees attending Foundation 1,2 and/or 3 (24 average trainees per course).
- Competencies – New Registrations Received August 2024 > July 2025: Intermediate 83, Integrated 1, Advanced 12, Sexual Health Advising 7, Combined 14, Complete 8, NHIVNA Intermediate 5, NHIVNA Advanced 3, NHIVNA Complete 0, Gateway 13, Gateway Plus 9, Fundamental 2, Total 157 – an increase of 19% from last year.

Future plans

- The continued promotion of e-portfolio and of the STIF Programme with the support of M&F Health.
- Rewriting the theory course part 3.
- Delivery of a national theory course online.
- Implementation and evaluation of the new APEL route.
- Implementation and evaluation of Revalidation online.

Dr Sarah Edwards and Ms Jodie Crossman
STI Foundation Co-Chairs

STI & HIV COURSE REPORT 2025

Course Day Leads

Modules 1 & 2

Day 1 - Michael Brady
Day 2 - Sarah Mensforth
Day 3 Megan Croft
Day 4 Andy Williams
Day 5 Selena Singh

Module 3 & 4

Day 1 Jake Bayley
Day 2 Emily Clarke
Day 3 Tristan Barber
Day 4 Maggie Bracchi
Day 5 Toni Masters

Objectives

The BASHH STI & HIV Course consists of 4 modules that run once a year covering:

- Module 1: Epidemiology of STIs and Bacterial Infections.
- Module 2: Sexual health and sexuality.
- Module 3: Viral Infections other than HIV.
- Module 4: HIV infections.

It aims to improve in depth knowledge and management of STIs and HIV to current national standards and to aid those sitting the Diploma in GUM and Diploma in HIV exams. It has, however, been mapped to the wider GU SpR curriculum; therefore, other clinicians such as SRH trainees and other senior healthcare professionals within the MDT (with their own patient cohorts) are also able to benefit.

Significant activities

- Feedback- The course has continued to run successfully online with lead clinicians for each day. Evaluation of the feedback and module programmes has continued throughout this reporting year. Feedback has continued to be excellent.
- Course Lead- There has been temporary cover of the course lead role by Laura Waters and Claire Dewsnap. The role has been advertised, and Rita Brown will take over the role from Jan 2026.
- E-learning- All 4 modules of the course programme have been fully mapped to both the curriculum and the elfh modules. Candidates can complete modules prior to attendance.

Future plans

- Handover of Lead role to Rita Brown
- The course content and elfh eLearning will be mapped against the most recent curriculum.
- Longer term, accreditation for the course is still being considered.

Daron Oram

Head of Training and Development at BASHH

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

ADOLESCENT GROUP

Membership

Dr Rebecca Thomson-Glover *Chair*
Dr Harriet Le Voir *Secretary*
Jane Ashby
Dr Najette Adayi O'Donnell *Paediatrician representative*
Sgt Ben Collier *SpN representative*
Dr Lauren Bull
Ella Buluwela *YP representative*
Tara Casey *SpN representative*
Susan Dyer *HA representative*
Cate Goldwater Breheny *STASHH representative*
Anya Goodhand *YP representative*
Dr Jessica Doctor
Dr Nell Freeman Romilly
Dr Sophie Herbert
Jacob Husband
Jarlath Swail *YP representative*
Jo Bergin *SpN representative*
Dr Almida Lynam
Sarah McCarthy *SpN representative*
Dr Chantal Oxenham
Dr Sophie Ramsden
Dr Malini Raychaudhuri
Simone Last *Brook representative*
Dr Sophie Flavell
Effi Stergiopoulou *HA representative*
Darren Tippetts *HA representative*
Dr Verity Sullivan
Dr Dawn Wilkinson

Objectives

The Adolescent Sexual Health Special Interest Group [ASIG] will consider all topics related to the sexual health of children and adolescents. The adolescent Special interested group will consider all topics related to wider integrated safeguarding issues including supervision, training and best practice models within sexual health. The ASIG will provide education and advice. Members who represent the group on other committees associated with adolescent or child health will feed back to the chair and thus to BASHH Education Subcommittee and as necessary direct to BASHH Board on relevant topics. We meet three time a year for and plan research studies, training and educational meetings; respond to related national consultations and develop and contribute to guideline development in related fields of young people's sexual health.

Significant Activities

- The committee met 3 times between August 2024 and July 2025 (Sept, Jan and May virtually).
- Work for STI journal, BASHH column: Updated spotting the signs proforma.
- Data collection and amalgamation on partner age for YP (aged 16 and under).
- Organised Spotting the signs toolkit training for key BASHH educational stakeholders and facilitation of its incorporation into national sexual health training tools.
- BASHH survey and patient information leaflets in relation to Non-Fatal Strangulation.
- Plan Adolescent Sexual Health educational event.
- CHIVA YP guidelines update.
- Continued representation at the national child safeguarding stakeholder meetings – 3 times a year.
- Answering member and external queries.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

- Publications
 - BASHH Column: Context, clarity and conversation: Spotting the Signs updated toolkit; Nov 2024.
 - Letter to BMJ: Tools to assist identification of child abuse, neglect, and exploitation; Jan 2025.
- Spotting the Signs training with Brook (BASHH stakeholder group).
- Updated e learning modules for STIs in neonatal and children.
- Speaker Paediatric Complex Cases in Child Sexual Abuse course –Nov 2024.
- Dissemination of the Update of the Purple book- STI chapter contribution by ASIG.
- Integrated Safeguarding Supervision training day for sexual health safeguarding leads October 2024.
- ASIG stand at CHIVA conference April 2025.
- Speaker contribution to the hard-to-reach commissioner workshop -May 2025.
- Poster at BASHH conference re data on partner age June 2025.
- BASHH survey and patient information leaflets in relation to Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS).
- Joint response with FFLM on 'Self-Swabbing Kits' for victims/survivors of sexual assault or rape - Sept 2024.
- Stakeholder input into Mandatory reporting of SA in under 18s – Crime and Policing Bill.

ADOLESCENT GROUP CONTINUED...

Future plans

- Adolescent Sexual health educational event (sept 2025).
- Safeguarding supervision education day for BASHH members – increased to two days due to demand (October 2025).
- Update of the BASHH national guidelines on the Management of Sexually Transmitted Infections and Related Conditions in Children and Young People (2021).

Dr Rebecca Thomson-Glover
Chair of Adolescent SIG

BACTERIAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (BSIG)

Membership

Dr Suneeta Soni (Co-Chair, Genitourinary Medicine Consultant)
Dr John Saunders (Co-Chair, Genitourinary Medicine Consultant)
Dr Sarah Alexander (Head of UK Health Security Agency STI Reference Laboratory)
Dr Michelle Cole (Principal Scientist, UK Health Security Agency)
Dr Elizabeth Dale (STASHH representative/ Trainee)
Dr Clare Dewsnap (Genitourinary Medicine Consultant)
Dr Helen Fifer (Microbiology Consultant)
Ms Clare Fowler (Nurse Representative)
Dr Emma Harding-Esch (Academic)
Dr Azam Ismail (Specialist Trainee)
Dr Himani Jayasinghe (STASHH representative/ Trainee)
Dr Rachel Kendal-Pitt (Reference Section Head and Lead Scientist, UKHSA)
Dr Kevin Martin (Specialist Trainee)
Dr Achyuta Nori (Genitourinary Medicine Consultant)
Dr Soonita Oomeer (Genitourinary Medicine Consultant)
Dr Samindra Ranasinghe (Locum Consultant & Specialty Doctor)
Dr Amanda Samarawickrama (Genitourinary Medicine Consultant)
Dr Charlotte-Eve Short (Genitourinary Medicine Consultant)

Dr Taiana Silva Carvalho (Specialty Doctor)
Dr Selena Singh (Genitourinary Medicine Consultant)
Ms Sara Strodtbeck (Nurse Consultant)

Objectives

- To advocate for better antimicrobial and diagnostic stewardship by addressing current issues in testing and treatment of bacterial STI.
- To deliver quality teaching to a broad medical and non-medical audience using a range of methods and in different settings.
- To prioritise evidence-based practice through contributions to national and international guidelines.
- To promote engagement between microbiologists and clinicians for the management of bacterial STI.

Significant Activities

- The committee met twice between August 2024 and July 2025.
- The membership details and documentation on the website have been updated – 5 new members within the last year including representation from nursing, specialist doctors and trainees.
- Representation of working groups for updated BASHH standards.

BACTERIAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (BSIG) CONTINUED...

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

Education and training:

- Organised and delivered BASHH symposium at the Federation of Infection Societies (FIS) annual meeting (November 2024).
- Organised and delivered opening symposium at the BASHH annual conference (June 2025). The symposium received excellent feedback and was one of the top 5 scoring sessions of the conference.
- Microscopy website: There were 147 new paid registrations for the website (138 UK, 9 International) producing an income of £2,880
- Development of standardised competencies for microscopy and accompanying Logbook published on BASHH website.
- BSIG survey and qualitative interviews with clinicians about private sector testing – won best oral prize at BASHH annual conference (June 2025).

Quality improvement & Evidence-based Practice:

- Development of a patient information leaflet on inappropriate testing within the private sector *"Less is more: the tests you don't need in an STI screen"*.
- Committee members have led and contributed to the following BASHH guidelines: Syphilis (August 2024); Gonorrhea (April 2025); DoxyPEP (June 2025); *Mycoplasma genitalium* (July 2025); HIV PrEP (July 2025).

Future plans

- Currently planning new Management of Complex Bacterial STI course for Autumn 2026.
- Work with Clinical Effectiveness Group to review evidence on the benefits and harms of routine screening for asymptomatic chlamydia and gonorrhoea in GBMSM.
- Inappropriate STI testing in the private sector: Draft paper summarising roundtable discussion with Institute of Biomedical Science, proposes collaboration with Industry to encourage less inappropriate testing and alignment with national guidance.
- Review and update of learning content on the BSIG microscopy website.

Dr Suneeta Soni and Dr John Saunders
BSIG Co-Chairs

GENDER AND SEXUAL MINORITIES GROUP (GSM SIG)

Membership

Dr Sally Jewsbury (Chair)
Dr Laura Mitchell
Richard Desmond
Dr Stuart Gibson
Dr Carol Emerson
Dr Tristan Barber
Nathan Dean (STASHH Representative)
Daniel Trotman
Dr Jo Smith (Enquiries Correspondent)
Dr Michael Edwards Secretary (*stepping down*)
Dr Richard Vytiniorgu
Dr Sophie Ross Deputy (Chair – *currently on maternity leave*)
Dr Martyn Wood
Dr Daniel Clutterbuck
Dr Emma Devit
Anna Milestone
Maddy Crowe
Rudy Graves
Jordan Bell
Emily Walker
Betty Swindles
Dr Kyle Ring
Dr Sonny (Santino) Coduri-Fulford

Objectives

- Promote the sexual health of GSM within BASHH and at a wider strategic/policy level.
- Prioritise prevention of STI/HIV and other related adverse health outcomes in GSM.
- Collaborate with community organisations to promote sexual health of GSM.
- Contribute to the surveillance of STIs relating to GSM.
- Assist the monitoring and evaluation of prevention initiatives/interventions for GSM.
- Promote best practice in the prevention, diagnosis, management including partner notification of STI/HIV through development of and contribution to guidelines and standards.
- Identify gaps and define research priorities for the sexual health of GSM.
- Provide education through meetings and via other media.
- Promote access to information, advice, prevention, treatment, and care relating to sexual health for GSM.
- Contribute to undergraduate and post-graduate curricula development.

SIG membership

- The SIG will aim to meet three times per year as a minimum.
- Members are expected to be members of BASHH or be invited by the SIG for their contribution to the field.
- Members must attend a steering meeting at least once per year.
- Members should contribute to the educational programme of the SIG.
- The individual tenure of a member of the GSM SIG Steering Committee should initially be for three years, renewable on a yearly basis.
- Turnover of members of the Steering Committee should be staggered.
- Membership to include a multidisciplinary team with service user representation and to include the 4 nations.

Significant Activities

- Did BASHH member survey on what members want from SIG and future education event topics.
- Fed into GC guidelines around language related to trans and non-binary people (will be used for future clinical guidance).

Performance/Outputs in the year 2023-24

- Delivered Gender Medicine study Day information for general internal medical trainees.
- SIG study day 7th November 2025 – Leeds.
- Delivered symposium at IUSTI on behalf of BASHH – SIG STASHH rep received scholarship to attend.
- Delivered session at BASHH Annual conference 2025 BASHH “Supporting gender questioning, transgender and non-binary people attending sexual health services”.

Future plans

- Completion of vaginitis best practice document.
- Ongoing work creating educational content on emergency hormonal contraception for trans masc people for pharmacists.
- Chair has been asked to deliver session at IUSTI world in 2026.
- Doing BASHH Scientific Meeting Jan 2026
- Need to recruit secretary.

Dr Sally Jewsbury
Chair of GSM SIG

HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS (HSV) GROUP

Membership

Dr Roberta Brum (Consultant in GUM)
Dr Emily Clarke (Consultant in GUM and Chair)
Dr Liz Foley (Consultant in GUM)
Dr Wai Lin Htun (Consultant in GUM)
Ms Marian Nicholson (Patient Group Representative)
Dr Raj Patel (Consultant in GUM)
Dr Emmanuela Pelosi (Consultant in virology)
Ms Felicity Young (Consultant nurse)

Objectives

To provide expert input into HSV management guidelines, education programs and educational materials.

Significant activities

Over the past 12 months, the BASHH HSV SIG has published in the peer reviewed literature two sets of BASHH guidelines and contributed significantly to the publication of the IUSTI Europe HSV guidelines.

The SIG organised a successful session at the annual BASHH conference on HSV in pregnancy and has also provided speakers to a number of other national and international conferences in addition to supporting members with a significant number of clinical queries.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25 (Aug 24 to Jul 25)

Conferences

- Provided a speaker on HSV for the Sri Lanka College of Sexual Health and HIV annual conference in Colombo in October 2024.
- Organised and chaired a session on herpes and the law at the annual BASHH conference in Edinburgh in June 2025.
- Contributed to organisation committee of the annual conference for the British Society for the Study of Vulval Disease in Liverpool in June 2025, including sourcing speakers on genital ulceration.
- Provided a speaker on HSV for the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists World Congress in London in June 2025.

Publications

- Publication of BASHH guidelines on HSV in the peer reviewed literature: British Association of Sexual Health and HIV UK national guideline for the management of anogenital herpes, 2024. Epub Oct 2024, pub in print Feb 2025 in the International Journal of STD and AIDS.
- Publication of BASHH guidelines on HSV in pregnancy in the peer reviewed literature: Joint British Association for Sexual Health and HIV and Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists national UK guideline for the management of herpes simplex virus (HSV) in pregnancy and the neonate (2024 update). Epub Sept 2024, pub in print Jan 2025 in the International Journal of STD and AIDS.
- Publication of the IUSTI Europe guidelines in the peer reviewed literature. Multiple SIG members contributed to the guidelines: 2024 European guidelines for the management of genital herpes. Epub Dec 2024, pub in print Apr 2025 in the Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology.

Education and support

- Provided the HSV day of the BASHH STI and HIV course in November 2024.
- Updated eLFH modules.
- Answering member and external queries.

Future plans

- Publication of the BASHH patient leaflets on herpes and herpes in pregnancy.
- Expand SIG membership through further advertising and direct approach to include midwifery, obstetric and paediatric representation.
- Support BASHH with the development of a course on STIs in pregnancy for midwives.
- Continue to update eLFH modules.
- Formalise terms of reference for the SIG.

Dr Emily Clarke
Chair of HSV SIG

HIV & BLOOD BORNE VIRUS (BBV) GROUP

Membership

Dr Lisa Hamzah (Co-chair)
Dr Elly Hamlyn (Co-chair)
Dr Shree (Varshini) Vijayakumar (STASHH Representative)
Dr Monique Anderson
Dr Tristan Barber
Dr Julia Bilinska
Dr Melissa Chowdhury (Infectious Disease Trainee Representative)
Susan Cole (Community Representative)
Dr Ian Cormack
Dr Gail Crowe
Dr Stuart Flanagan (Hepatitis Representative)
Dr Deborah Goode (SAS Representative)
Dr Liz Hamlyn
Dr Joseph Heskin
Dr Charlotte Hopkins
Mrs Portia Jackson (HIV Pharmacy Association Representative)
Dr Babu Kulasegaram
Dr Nicky Mackie
Dr Harri Lloyd-Williams
Dr Kaveh Manavi
Mrs Justine Mellor
Dr Anatole Menon-Johannson
Dr Rebecca Metcalfe
Professor Mark Nelson
Dr Elizabeth Okecha
Dr Zoe Ottaway (Treasurer)
Dr Alice Parsloe (Trainee Representative)
Dr Rasha Omer
Dr Hannah Pintilie
Professor Mary Poulton
Dr Killian Quinn
Mr Phil Samba
Professor Nicola Steedman
Dr Ann Sullivan
Dr Christopher Ward

Dr Elizabeth Okecha was chair from March 2024-May 2025 and the role is now covered by Dr Eleanor Hamlyn and Dr Lisa Hamzah. Dr Zoe Ottaway is now Treasurer. New members include Dr Shree (Varshini) Vijayakumar – STASHH Representative.

HIV prevention working group (subset of main SIG)

Hasan Mirza (Chair)
Dr Elizabeth Okecha
Joshua Anderson
Dr Vanessa Apea
Dr Harry Coleman
Dr Darren Cousins
Jodie Crossman
Sarah Duncan
Professor Claudia Estcourt

Portia Jackson
Anna Kafkalia
Sarah Keegan
James Mead
Greg Owen
Dr David Rook
Kerry Street
Marc Tweed
Stephanie Katiyar
Dr Killian Quinn
Dr Sarah Keegan
Will Nutland
Juddy Otti
Dr Eleanor Hamlyn
Tor van Hamel Parsons

Objectives

- Promote best clinical practice within the area of HIV and blood borne viruses hepatitis B and hepatitis C.
- Review evidence-based guidelines and consultations for HIV and BBV on behalf of BASHH.
- Providing education in the form of the following three main events:
 - HIV Masterclass (annual F2F in the spring) & Masterclass Lite (virtual biennial in autumn).
 - Dip HIV revision course (led by us annually; course is biannual and supported by BHIVA annually also).
 - BASHH Scientific Meeting OGM (in conjunction with another SIG).

Significant activities Aug 2024-July 2025

- Provided expert input on end-of-life care patient information leaflet co-produced by Terrence Higgins Trust and Marie Curie.
- PrEP mapping exercise which was presented at BASHH as oral presentation and an invitation to present at HIV Prevention England conference. The report is published on BASHH website.
- Joint position statement on Mohs Micrographic Surgery in patients with HIV and other blood borne viruses published, co-produced the British Society for Dermatological Surgery (BSDS), British HIV association, iBMS and Terence Higgins Trust.
- Input and stakeholder comments for the Single Technology Appraisal for Lenacapavir for preventing HIV-1 in people aged 16 years or older ID6495.
- Input and stakeholder comments for the Technology appraisal guidance for Cabotegravir for preventing HIV-1 in adults and young people TA1106.

HIV & BLOOD BORNE VIRUS (BBV) GROUP CONTINUED...

Performance/outputs 2024-25

- HIV prevention working group delivered a BASHH symposium for IUSTI Europe in September 2024 on the topic "PrEP: What's love got to do with it?"
- BASHH Dip HIV Revision Course 19th May 2025 organised by Dr Lisa Hamzah.
- ASHH Masterclass 27th and 28th March – two-day event at a new venue in Birmingham with sponsorship received from Gilead/MSD/Viiv. The Masterclass Lite did not go ahead in 2025 as it was decided to pool resources for 2026. This will be held in Birmingham but at a different venue following feedback from participants.
- Creation of PrEP resource page for members

Future plans

- Formalising the working relationship between BHIVA and BASHH for educational meetings, to align teaching materials, delivery and delegate costings.
- Develop a support service for healthcare workers living with HIV.
- Develop content for health care provider providing end of life care in conjunction with THT and Marie Curie.
- Input into e-Learning for Health infection control mandatory training.
- Support the PrEP working group and BASHH for Cabotegravir and complex PrEP rollout.
- Create an education representative to oversee the educational outputs of the SIG.

Dr Lisa Hamzah and Dr Eleanor Hamlyn
HIV & BBV SIG Co-chairs

HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV) GROUP

Membership

Dr Jake Bayley (Chair)
Dr Diarmuid Nugent (Secretary)
Dr Mark Lawton
Dr Kate Soldan
Dr Kate Cuschieri
Dr Charles Lacy
Dr Iain Reeves
Dr Richard Gilson
Dr Nicola Steedman
Dr Sian Goddard
Dr Caroline Headley (Trainee Representative)

Objectives

- To promote equity of access to HPV vaccines and monitor the outcome of the vaccination programs.
- To be able to communicate with the BASHH membership group about changes in HPV-related practice and dosing of vaccinations.
- To promote the group via BASHH general meetings and have a presence at national and international conferences.

Significant Activities

Acceptance of proposal for exploring 'anal cancer screening in MSM aged over 40 living with HIV' from UK National Screening Committee. and involvement in any recommendations.

We have involved and coordinated the expertise from the HPV SIG, BHIVA, colorectal surgeons and British Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (BSCCP) to ensure as wide as possible engagement.

Liaison with NHS England Screening Committee on reviewing proposal for cervical screening in women living with HIV. We were asked to review proposals to extend screening intervals for cervical smears in women LWHIV to every three years (after 3 successive negative smears). This would bring the guidance in line with EU and Australian guidelines.

Invited to present data at BASHH National Conference 2025. The HPV SIG used two sessions to discuss the impact on HPV vaccination on cervical disease in the UK with data from all 4 devolved regions; plus, an update of how GUM physicians can manage possible anal cancer patients in clinic.

Trainee rep is looking at writing a paper on alternative, evidence-based treatments for clearance of HPV in cervical and anal disease.

HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV) GROUP CONTINUED...

Two new members joined the SIG (Dr Sian Goddard and Dr Caroline Headley)

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

- Liaison and work with UK National Screening Committee and other stakeholders in trying to facilitate national anal cancer screening program.
- Assessment of current provision of anal cancer screening and HRA services in the UK complete and presented at BASHH National Conference.

- Two 30-minute sessions at BASHH National Conference – 1) impact of HPV vaccination on cervical and anal disease 2) anal cancer update for GUM physicians.

Future plans

- Continued working with UK National Screening Committee to facilitate national anal cancer screening program.
- Cost-effectiveness analysis of HRA and anal cancer screening.
- Continuing to monitor the impact of the HPV vaccination in GBMSM.

Dr Jake Bayley
Chair HPV SIG

PRISON GROUP

Membership

Pank Sethi (Chair)
Ms Jodi Aldridge
Samantha Allan
Melissa Bates
Dr Daniela Brawley
Dr Sum Yee Chan
Dr Laura Cunningham
Jade Coulon
Ms Jillian Doran
Mr Jon Dunn
Natalie Edelman
Dr Huda Fadhillah
Dr Alistair Hallam
Katie Humphries
Mr Harri Lloyd-Williams
Ms Belinda Loftus
Mr Dave Mansley
Dr Shereen Munatsi
Jennifer Murira
Dr Imogen Murray
Dr Lesley Navaratne
Dr Katia Prime
Dr Michael Rayment
Jennifer Savage
Sara Scofield
Dr S Shivasankar
Ms Sophie Strachan
Hayley Wood
Ms Felicity Young

Objectives

- To define standards of care for sexual health provision in prisons in the UK.

- To provide support to those facilitating sexual healthcare provision in prisons in the UK.
- To enable standardization of practice across prisons.

Significant Activities

- X2 Prison SIG meeting 2025.
- Delivery of HIV awareness sessions to Health Champions and the general prison population across the UK (including YOI's, adult prisons). Led by Sophie Strachan & Pank Sethi.
- Scientific Meeting Presentation January 2025.

Performance/ Outputs in the year 2024/25

- Steering Group inclusion for the Gilead Led project HIV and HCV in Prisons Survey creation. Led by Sophie Strachan and Pank Sethi.
- Highlighting HIV in Prisons – Gilead. Led by Pank Sethi.
- HIV Voices for Transformation | HIV in prison. – European Wide Webinar. Led by Pank Sethi.
- Mapping and audit of sexual healthcare in prisons in England. Led by Jon Dunn.

Future plans

- Presenting slot at BASHH/BHIVA conference June 2026.
- Prison SIG meetings and appointing members to vacant roles of Vice Chair and Secretary.
- Representation from Northern Ireland.

Mr. Pank Sethi
Chair of Prison SIG

RACIALLY MINORITISED COMMUNITIES (RMC) GROUP

Membership:

Dr Eduardo Peres (Chair, Steering Group)
Dr Frances Lander (Secretary, Steering Group)
Dr Zoch Nwaosu (Webmaster, Steering Group)
Mr Jose Trueba (Treasurer, Steering Group)
Dr Isioma Igweike (STASH Representative, Steering Group)
Mr Dwayne-Wilson Hunt (Steering Group)
Dr Taslima Rashid (Steering Group)
Dr Rageshri Dhairyawan (Steering Group)
Dr Vanessa Apea (Steering Group)
Aisha Namurach (Steering Group)
Dr Tom Nadarzynski (Steering Group)
Dr Daisy Ogbonmwan (Steering Group)
Dr Kyle Ring (Steering Group)
Dr Annabel Sowemimo (Steering Group)
Simphiwe Sesane (Steering Group)
Glenda Bonde (Steering Group)
Carlos Corredor (Steering Group)
Dr Shema Tariq (Steering Group)
Dr Jesal Gohil (Steering Group)
Dr Yasmin Walters (Steering Group)

Objectives

- Promote best clinical practice in sexual reproductive health for racially minoritised communities at a strategic/policy level including access to information, education, health promotion, prevention, treatment and care.
- Review evidence-based guidelines and comment on local and national consultations in the area of racially minoritised populations on behalf of BASHH.
- Contribute to the development of guidelines and ensure targets and commitments are met through national and local audits.
- Engage and collaborate with BASHH SIGs and related community organisations to prioritise sexual health and recommend approaches for successfully executing this work among racially minoritised communities.
- Support health professionals to deliver culturally sensitive practice including cultural competence and humility in their practice.
- Influence and encourage specific research within certain racially minoritised communities and disseminating to groups who would benefit from findings.

Significant activities

- Past events of 2025
 - BASHH conference 2025.
 - Educational Meeting presentation 2025.

- Future events
 - BASHH Conference 2026 – SIG collaborations.
 - SAS Conference 2026 RMC SIG session.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2025

- Support BASHH EDI audit.
- BASHH 2025 conference – RMC and BBV SIG collaboration on HIV Report on RMC.
- First year of new Chair.
- New STASHH representative elected.
- Re-organisation of Steering Group Membership.
- Support to research: CAB-PrEP, PURPOSE-5, UKHSA LatAm, UKHSA SW, LHPP.
- Support to Outreach projects: CWH, TLT and BARTS.
- Dermatology SIG collaboration: Skin of Colour GUM Database.
- BASHH social media support.

Future plans 2025/26

- New Secretary and potential recruitment for the Steering Group.
- STI BMJ submission for end of 2025.
- BASHH 2026 conference SIG session – TBC.
- STASHH Support: Lecture on relevant topics.
- Update Terms of Reference for RMC SIG.
- Desi Project x eLFH module – TBD.
- LatinX / Spanish demographics identifiers / Office of National Statistics project – TBD.
- Continued BASHH social media support.
- LatinX Project (follow up to Desi Project) - TBD
- Racial health education for BASHH audience.
- Standards of care or guidelines creation – TBD.
- Collaboration with ViiV healthcare on advocating for diverse access to CAB-PrEP.
- RMC SIG educational event preparation, date planned for 2027.
- Database of polyglot service users and language accessibility project: extended project of assessment of language barrier in sexual health services.
- Continuation of Dermatology SIG Collaboration: Skin of Colour GUM Database.
- GSM SIG Collaboration: Transgender Health and Intersections from Global Majority.
- SV & DA SIG Collaboration: Project of intersection of fetishisation, sexual violence and ethnicity.
- SF & W Collaboration: Black and Brown Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health.

Dr Eduardo Peres
Chair of RMC SIG

SEXUAL FUNCTION AND WELLBEING GROUP

Membership:

Dr Shalini Andrews (Chair)
Dr Penny Goold (Secretary)
Mr Hubert Clarke (Health Advisor Representative)
Ms Agnes Mosobela (Nurse Representative)
Dr Emma Mccarty
Dr Karl Hollows
Dr Nadia Ahmed
Dr Jane Ashby
Ms Caroline Wilson (Psychosexual Therapist)
Dr Jessica Gaddie
Dr Karen Gurney (Clinical Psychologist)
Prof Kirstin Mitchell
Dr Alison Mears
Ms Sarah Wolujewicz
Dr Kiersten Simmons
Dr Naomi Sutton
Dr Michael Yates (Clinical Psychologist)
Ms Laura Darbyshire

Objectives

The Sexual Function and Wellbeing Special Interest Group (SIG) exists to support and promote excellence in the understanding, management, and education of sexual function and wellbeing within Sexual Health and HIV services. The group aims to foster collaboration, maintain high clinical standards, and promote a biopsychosocial approach to care.

1. Education & Training: Provide education on sexual function and wellbeing, and support adherence to evidence-based standards for management of sexual dysfunction.
2. Support & Advice: Act as a forum offering support and guidance to services dealing with sexual function concerns.
3. Biopsychosocial Model: Promote a holistic, biopsychosocial approach to the assessment and management of sexual difficulties.
4. Collaboration & Leadership: Serve as a unifying professional body for sexual dysfunction services within the Sexual Health and HIV services, encouraging collaboration and shared learning.

Significant Activities

The SIG organised two in-person educational events.

- ABC of Sexual Function and Well-being, 10 October 2024, London (In-person). This was attended by over 80 delegates, and all rated it as 'relevant to their practice'. The event received a rating of 95–100% as excellent or very good, and participants voiced a preference for face-to-face events in the future.
- BASHH Scientific Meeting, 4 April 2025, London (Hybrid), jointly with the Racially Minoritised Communities SIG. This was another successful, highly rated educational event.

The SIG met virtually on 04 November 2024. Topics discussed include feedback from ABC, Sexual Function service specification, NATSAL and future strategy.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-2025

- Feedback from ABC of Sexual Function and Wellbeing.
- Feedback from Scientific Meeting.

Future plans

The SIG has a strategy meeting planned in September 2025 to decide on future direction. This includes membership, educational events, partnership working within BASHH and with other organisations, and offering educational resources for BASHH members.

Dr Shalini Andrews
Chair Sexual Function and Wellbeing SIG

SEXUAL HEALTH ADVISERS AND NURSE GROUP

Your representatives:

Officers

Chair: Belinda Loftus
Secretary: Lisa Walton
Treasurer: Paul Teale
Webmaster: Lisa Walton

Members

Zac Dolan
Jodie Crossman
Felicity Young
Sarah Smith
Ceri Evans
Michelle Jenkins
Alan Heskell
Penelope Burr
Eleni Kousti
Claire Fowler
Lisa Baker

Membership

The SHAN SIG was formed in 2018 and seeks to be an active group of the organisation.

Membership is open to any BASHH member who identifies as a Health Adviser and/or Nurse working in integrated sexual health (GUM & Contraception) and/or HIV services, including those in Research and community charitable sexual health focused organisations.

Recognition of the diverse roles and responsibilities Health Advisor and Nurses have in the delivery and development of modern, functional, effective and accessible services for local populations, acting as a support to challenge where services fall short of patient's best interests.

Further details about membership can be found in our Terms of Reference, click [here](#) to read.

Objectives

5. To represent the professional interests of Health Advisers and Nurses working in integrated sexual health (GUM & Contraception) and/or HIV services, including those in Research, commercial sector, and community charitable sexual health focus organisations.
6. To promote Sexual Health Advisers and Nurses to join BASHH and engage at all levels within the organisation.
7. To advise on and offer support and advice on BASHH approved training and education to members.
8. To influence the Sexual Healthcare agenda as a whole and the agenda of BASHH.
9. To be a body for Sexual Health Advisers and Nurses on other BASHH committees to report to and seek support from.

1. To be a nursing/Sexual Health Adviser spokesperson/advisor on matters relating to sexual health i.e. in nursing press/PGD production etc.
2. To build a support network across the 4 nations where Health Advisors and Nurses can reach out colleagues for support.
3. To advocate for nurses and health advisors within BASHH.
4. To develop an education programme specifically designed for nurses and HA working in sexual health services across the 4 nations.

We have produced an abstract guide which is intended to guide you through the process of writing an abstract, [please click here to access](#).

Significant Activities

- Creation, organising and marking/awarding of SHA & Nurse Conference Scholarships.
- Organisation and facilitation of MDT Innovation Award (Cathy Harman).
- Participation in the scientific meeting rotation.
- Participation in production and review of National SH PGDs alongside SPS & FSRH
- Promotion of BASHH membership to SHA & Nurses across the UK.
- Organisation of SHA & Nurse Conference Symposium (BASHH Spring Conference).
- Collaboration with Royal College of Nursing (RCN) to support and promote the profession and the Society of Sexual Health Advisers (SSHA) to support their work.
- Develop the emerging roles e.g. (Nursing Associate) within Sexual Health.
- Look at how to support staff in terms of vicarious trauma.
- Supporting and encouraging nurses to submit abstracts and present their work at various events, including the annual conference.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024/25

- Successful conference with Nurse and HA on the Conference Committee.
- Circulation and shared learning on new guidance, learning from experience/supervision etc
Frequent discussion around membership and quoracy – unable to make decisions as meetings are not quorate.
- Reviewed Cathy Harman Award and took a different approach to awarding the prize. To incorporate into the abstract reviews in 25/26.

SEXUAL HEALTH ADVISERS AND NURSE GROUP CONTINUED...

- Issues raised via SHAN SIG/other nurses working in SHS- raised with new CEO.
- Successful Nursing Symposium at BASHH Conference – topics were:
 - N1: HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) use amongst transgender people: a four-year experience. – Sebastian Causton.
 - N2: Will providing a sexual health clinic in an asylum seeker hotel enable the most vulnerable to access sexual health care? – Susan Dyer.
 - N3: Swipe Right for Doxy: Fast-Tracking Chlamydia Treatment One Text at a Time. – Mike Spall-Hancy.
 - N5: Mapping the provision of HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis in the United Kingdom. – Hasan Mirza.
 - N6: The sexual and reproductive health needs of individuals with a diagnosis of personality disorder: A case series from an urban sexual health clinic. – Nicole Alexiuk.
 - Taking sexual health to the streets of Bradford – Zac Dolan
 - Nurses pursuing higher academic study: research opportunities and funding – Matthew Grundy-Bowers.
 - 6 individuals experiencing homelessness in a large metropolitan city – Liz Thomas.
 - Nurses pursuing higher academic study: research opportunities and funding – Matthew Grundy-Bowers.
- Workforce Review - Lisa Walton.
- Successful Scientific Meeting January 2025:
 - Shame and Sexual Health - Kerry Stott.
 - Syphilis in Pregnancy Audit Results - Alan Haskell.
 - BASHH Workforce Review Update - Lisa Walton.
 - Service Provision - Victor Diamante.
- Worked with new CEO to review membership, engage with non-members to elicit what would motivate them to become members, review membership and pricing structure and engage with a wider nursing and health advisor workforce.
- Work with professional partners to ensure relevant documents are badged accordingly by BASHH.

Future Plans

- Encourage Nurse and HA to present/attend BASHH Conference 2025.
- Establishing a Nurse/HA specific conference Autumn 2026.
- Working with RCN on Training Directory
- Workforce Review.
- Establish a Nursing Steering Group.

Belinda Loftus

Chair of Sexual Health Adviser SIG

SEXUAL HEALTH DERMATOLOGY GROUP

Membership

Dr Georgina Morris (Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV Chair)
Dr Soe Nyunt Aung (Consultant in Community SRH & Gynaecology Secretary)
Dr Imali Fernando (Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV Treasurer)
Dr Parameswaran Sashidharan (Associate Specialist in Sexual Health, Web master)
Dr Amber Savary-Trathen (Clinical Fellow, STASHH representative)
Dr Serish Basvaraj (Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV)
Dr Sarah Edwards (Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV)
Dr Komal Plaha (Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV)
Dr Lisa Haddon (Consultant in Sexual Health and Associate Specialist in Dermatology)
Dr Sarah Schoeman (Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV)
Dr Lewis Haddow (Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV)
Dr Sapna Harish (Specialty Doctor in Sexual Health and HIV)

New members for 2024-5

Dr Sanjiva Dharmaratne (Associate Specialist in Sexual Health)
Dr Nadi Gupta (Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV)
Emma Kirkaldie (Lay Representative)
Dr Annabelle Leong (STR in Genitourinary Medicine)
Dr Jason Lim (STR in Genitourinary Medicine)
Esther Okon (Specialist Nurse in Sexual Health)
Dr Jozef Shaw (STR in Genitourinary Medicine)
Jarlath Swail (Medical Student)

Objectives

- To promote genital/sexual health dermatology as a subspecialty within genitourinary medicine and sexual health.
- To lead on development of educational materials, meetings and training in genital & sexual health-related dermatology.
- To provide basic knowledge and skills for the effective management of genital skin conditions.

Significant activities

The whole SIG has met virtually on MS teams on 3 occasions in the past 12 months (approximately every 4 months). Subgroups involved in writing guidelines and organising courses meet separately and liaise via email.

BASHH Guidelines

- Guidelines for management of vulval conditions 2024 - published in IntJSTDAIDS and on BASHH website Sept 2024.
- Guidelines for the Management of Scabies 2025 - published in IntJSTDAIDS and on BASHH website Jan 2025.
- Balanitis –extensively re-written and CEG review in progress.
- Pubic lice – update in progress.

Work stream around inclusivity in Sexual Health Dermatology: *(in conjunction with Racially minoritized communities SIG chair)*

- Ongoing work to improve inclusivity and representation of people with black and brown skin in educational resources and events concerning sexual health related dermatology.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-5

See above, plus:

- **Virtual Genital and Sexual Health Dermatology Basics Workshops Course** (on Zoom) – held on 20th Sept 2024
- Half day course (9am to 1.30 pm) (led by SS, with 10 other SIG members delivering talks or facilitating).
- Workshops covering itch, pigmented lesions, ulcers, lumps and rash.
- Feedback received has been very positive.
- Demand was high (oversubscribed) – kept numbers to n=100 (20 per workshop) to maximise interactivity.
- Plan to revise course to enable attendance for larger numbers and run again on 3rd Oct 2025.
- **Virtual Sexual Health Dermatology Plus Course** - Held on 28th February 2025 (on Zoom).
- Half day course (9am to 1.30 pm) (led by GM and PS, with 10 SIG members facilitating, 5 external expert dermatology speakers – over 200 delegates. Feedback from delegates was highly positive.

SEXUAL HEALTH DERMATOLOGY GROUP CONTINUED...

- **Scabies- related support and education- GM + LH** ongoing attendance at National UKHSA meetings and provision of advice to clinicians regarding increasing case numbers and treatment shortages.
- GM delivered talks to a number of regional BASHH/sexual health meetings.

Future plans

- Genital and Sexual Health Dermatology Basics Workshop Course – 3rd Oct 2025
- Joint 'Plus' course focused on Male genital Dermatology planned with BAD Penoscrotal Dermatology Group – 27th Feb 2026.

Dr Georgina Morris, Chair of Sexual Health Dermatology

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND DOMESTIC ABUSE GROUP

Membership

Dr Deborah Wardle (Chair)
Ruth Dawson (Secretary & Nursing representative)
Dr Michelle Carroll (FFLM Representative)
Dr Rachel Kirby (Trainee Representative)
Dr Fionnuala Finnerty
Dr Sarah Mensforth
Dr Charlotte Cohen
Dr Ali Mears
Dr Daniela Brawley
Dr Charlotte Cohen
Dr Rachel Caswell
Dr Amy Bennett

Objectives

The Sexual Violence and Domestic Abuse (SVDA) group, recognizing that sexual violence is part of sexual health, consider all aspects of female and male sexual violence, including sexual assault, domestic violence, sexual trafficking, all forms of sexual exploitation, sex work and female genital mutilation.

The group's aims are:

- To review services, training and standards within genitourinary medicine clinics, with reference to the associated aims, and in liaison with other agencies and institutions.

- To promote and improve education and training of healthcare professionals in all areas related to sexual violence and domestic abuse.
- To raise the profile of sexual violence and domestic abuse by carrying out research, submitting work for publication and organising training
- To raise public awareness and improve the care of patients disclosing sexual violence with an interest in issues related to the sexual health of young people.

Significant activities (between August 2024 and July 2025)

- Representation at NHS England & Wales Sexual Assault and Abuse (SAAS) services group.
- Representation at Institute for addressing Strangulation (IFAS) guidelines development group.
- Ongoing manuscript preparation relating to UK wide survey on routine enquiry of domestic abuse and sexual violence led by Amy Bennett in collaboration with Dr Jane Meyrick (a Chartered psychologist and public health specialist) at the public research university; University of the West of England, Bristol (UWE Bristol).
- Completion of an update of the eLearning for health module on medicolegal issues.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND DOMESTIC ABUSE GROUP CONTINUED...

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024/25

- Presentation at BASHH Scientific Meeting on 11th October 2024 on supporting enquiry and responding to disclosures of sexual violence and domestic abuse in sexual health settings covering the outcomes of the national survey on routine enquiry in sexual health, supporting disclosure and the outcomes of a pilot on managing disclosures in collaboration with Iris Advise (Identification and Referral to Improve Safety – Assessing for Domestic violence and abuse in sexual health settings).
- Re-submission of quote on behalf of the Sexual Violence SIG, to mark the October 24 as Domestic violence awareness month for use on BASHH's social media channels.
- Input into DoxyPEP guidelines following request from the guideline writing group in May 2025.

Future plans

- Review and update the domestic abuse toolkit; 'Responding to Domestic Abuse in Sexual health settings' developed by the group in 2016 to support continued routine enquiry of domestic abuse in sexual health clinics and suitably equip sexual health staff to navigate information and access training that allows them to safely support those who disclose domestic abuse (+/- sexual violence).

- Invitation sought to support the refresh of BASHH sexual history taking guidance to ensure cognisance of guidelines and recommendations endorsed by BASHH in ensuring patients are suitably informed and potential risks discussed, to support patients having positive sexual experiences.
- Explore the opportunity to have a 'resident researcher' role on the group to enhance liaison with other organisations to support development, undertake and disseminate research that informs future practice and service delivery.
- To highlight emerging significant guidance that impacts members such as ensuring awareness of local policies for management of sexual violence within health settings (staff and patients) or management of non-fatal strangulation (NFS) in non-acute settings.
- Consideration of UK wide survey on recognition of stealthing in sexual health services and consideration of developing recommendations for staff to provide appropriate advice on information sharing options following disclosures of sexual violence and /or domestic abuse.
- Review and update the e learning for health module of the psychological impact of sexual violence.

Dr Deborah Wardle

Chair of Sexual Violence and Domestic Abuse SIG

REGIONS

CYMRU BRANCH

Membership

Dr Darren Cousins (BASHH Wales Chair)
Dr Sian Warren (BASHH Wales Regional Audit Chair)
Polly Zipperlen (BASHH Cymru Treasurer)

Objectives

- To identify and promote best clinical practice both within Wales and elsewhere in the UK.
- To optimise the delivery of good genitourinary medicine and HIV care in Wales by participation in policy and service development.
- To participate in national (UK) clinical governance activity, including national audits, and to facilitate cross-Wales clinical governance activities.

Significant activities

- Ongoing representation to the Welsh Government Sexual Health Programme Board.
- Implementation of the Wales HIV Action Plan published April 2023.
- BASHH chair and service leads included at Welsh Government Mpox meetings including representation at events simulating outbreaks in the community of novel clade pathogens.
- BASHH representation at outbreak management meetings for Mpox and HIV outbreaks in defined geographical areas / online spaces.
- Ensuring Welsh representation in four nation BASHH workstreams including HIV prevention and interpretation and practice of the UKSHA STI Prioritisation Guidelines.
- Chairing the completion of the All Wales Antiretroviral Prescribing Group guidance for treatment of HIV.
- BASHH Cymru chair established on Sexual Health Wales Advisory Board (national online self-sampling programme).
- Represent BASHH at World AIDS Day events at Senedd Cymru in December 2024.
- Ensure Women's Health Plan for Wales includes content relevant to sexual health including PrEP and STI management.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-2025

- BASHH Wales Regional Audit Meetings held online in March and October 2025.
- BASHH Branch meetings held online in March and October 2025.

- BASHH Wales Annual Scientific Meeting – Virtual July 2025 (>100 attendees).
- Acceptance of BASHH authored All Wales HIV Prescribing Guideline by All Wales Prescribing Advisory Group (AWPAG) which ensures it is used in all health boards across Wales without need for individual health board acceptance.
- Evidence submitted to All Wales Medicines Strategy Group on Descovy PrEP – accepted and decision published.

Future plans

- BASHH Cymru chair to sit on newly reformed Sexual Health Strategy Group at Welsh Government chaired by the Chief Medical Officer.
- Influence next strategy for STIs and sexual health in Wales (in collaboration with Welsh Government and Public Health Wales).
- Participate in task and finish groups for the HIV Action Plan 2023.
- To lead development of pan-Wales case management system for HIV and STIs.
- Bi-annual regional audit meetings and branch meetings.
- BASHH Cymru chair to sit on Sexual Health Wales Advisory Board (national online self-sampling programme).

Dr Darren Cousins
Branch Chair

EAST ANGLIA BRANCH

Membership

Dr Helen Politt, Regional Audit Lead
Dr Claudia Krause, Representative to the CGC

Objectives

- To promote high standards of care in integrated sexual and reproductive health and HIV services across the region.
- To raise awareness of the challenges experienced by providers in terms of public funding from local and NHSE commissioners.
- To design services that are sustainable in terms of costs effectiveness and service delivery.
- To share information from BASHH and the CGC with regional members.
- To report back any regional issues or concerns to the BASHH CGC.

Significant activities

- Re-introduction of sit and wait services in multiple clinics throughout the region.
- Continuation of online testing for asymptomatic patients, with daily cap limits applied in some areas due to demand more than budget capacity.
- Continuation of direct orders for online STI testing.
- Routine PrEP delivery (1st line and 2nd line)
- F2F and remote management for HIV, RH and GUM cohorts.
- Local, regional and national audit plan
- Continued clinical and associated teaching programme for staff.
- Clinical Advisory Group meetings
- Postal medication service (Royal Mail)
- HIV ART Home Delivery.
- Continuation of Mgen testing as core clinical service delivery.
- Service representation on committees and special interest groups of national organisations including FSRH, BASHH, BHIVA and HIVPA.
- Participation in GRASP.

Performance/Outputs in the year 24/25

- Participation in national and regional audits.
- Activity and demand levels more than pre-covid levels.
- Express Test profile revision/update, including activity controls.
- Extensive efforts to remodel services to ensure sustainability.
- Introduction of BBV opt out in multiple local hospital with follow up in local GUM services.
- Rationalisation and standardisation of laboratory testing profiles.
- Service remodelling to support sustainability work across GUM, RH and HIV workstreams ongoing, but halted in December 25 due to staff fatigue.
- Introduction of virtual review option for stable patients living with HIV.
- Regional STIF course in Newmarket.
- Access to summary of care records via honorary contracts for select consultants.

Future plans

- Continued service remodelling to ensure sustainability.
- Continued upskilling (more nurse prescribers, more non-registrant health care staff issuing medication and vaccination).
- Improve electronic communication system with primary and tertiary care.
- Introduction of opportunistic supply of Doxi-PEP, Men B vaccine and Mpox vaccine from August/September 25.

Dr Claudia Krause
Branch Chair

NORTH WEST BRANCH

Membership

Dr John Sweeney (Branch Chair)
Dr Wai Lin Htun (Secretary)

Objectives

- To hold 3-4 meetings a year to discuss sexual health and HIV issues.
- To update colleagues about CGC issues
- To disseminate good practice.
- Continuing medical education and audit.

Significant Activities

- Planning regional education update end of 2025.
- Meetings 3-4 times per year on Microsoft teams due to wide geographical area.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

- Branch meeting taken place.
- Discussion of successful roll out of HIV testing across the high-risk areas in our branch.
- Discussion regarding monkeypox and sharing of good practice.
- Discussion of recruitment issues affecting services across the North West.
- Discussion of tender outcomes across services.
- Case based discussion of complex issues.

Future Plans

- To plan local/regional audits.
- Discuss standardisation of practice.

Dr John Sweeney
Branch Chair

OXFORD BRANCH

Membership

Dr Angela Bailey Chair
Dr Nadi Gupta Audit Lead

Objectives

- To share information with BASHH members in the region from the CGC and vice versa.
- To hold one regional educational meeting annually.

Significant Activities

Information disseminated from BASHH to members and from members to CGC.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

Local HIV leads have met twice and made contact with the specialist commissioning lead at the local ICB (no further progress with this due to ICB restructuring at the moment).

Future plans

Currently asking if anyone would like to consider taking over as Branch chair.

Dr Angela Bailey
Branch Chair

SCOTLAND BRANCH

Membership

Dr Graham Leslie (Chair)
Dr Rebecca Gilson (Secretary)
Dr Sally Wielding (Audit Lead)
Dr Syed AliAkbar (NCCG Representative)
Michael Spall-Hancy (Nurse Representative)
Batool Hasan (SHA Representative)
Dr David Brown (Trainee Representative)

Objectives

- Promote High Standards of care for people accessing Sexual and Reproductive Health Care throughout Scotland.
- Disseminate information from BASHH to members.
- To raise issues affecting the Sexual and Reproductive Health Care in the region to the BASHH CGC.
- Hold annual business and education meeting for the area and aim to ease access to this by holding this virtually.

Significant Activities

- Posts of SHA rep and nurse rep have been filled over the last year.
- BASHH Spring Conference 2025 was hosted in Edinburgh by colleagues.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

- BASHH Scotland Spring meeting was held in May 2025 and hosted locally by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.
- This included both business meeting and education sessions.

Future Plans

- BASHH Scotland will be looking to hold annual meeting again next spring.

Dr Graham Leslie
Branch Chair

SOUTH WEST BRANCH

Membership

Dr Fiona Fargie (Branch Chair Representative to the CGC)
Dr Sophia Davies (Branch Audit Lead)

Objectives

- To promote high standards of care in sexual and reproductive health and HIV services across the region.
- To share information from BASHH and the CGC with regional members.
- To report back any regional issues or concerns to the BASHH CGC.
- To give opportunities for networking across the region.
- To conduct at least one audit and educational meetings per year.

Significant Activities

- There have only been brief online meetings in the last year.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

- Multiple services have either been out to tender of going through significant restructuring as a result of the awards of contracts which has left minimal capacity for meetings.
- TAF PrEP provision regional Audit.

Future plans

- Educational meeting is planned for early spring 2026.

Dr Fiona Fargie
Branch Chair

THAMES NORTH EAST BRANCH

Membership

Dr Rita Browne (Chair)

Objectives

- Promote high standards of sexual health and HIV care.
- Consult with regional clinical leads and gather information for discussion at the BASHH CGC meetings.
- Report on any regional issues or concerns to BASHH.
- Feedback output from BASHH CGC meetings to clinic leads.

Significant activities

- Clinics rolled out DoxyPEP, 4CMenB vaccination and TAF-FTC PrEP.
- Participated in CGC meetings and shared local experience and emerging concerns.
- Taster days within services to attract more trainees to applying for specialist training in GUM.

Future plans

- Expand membership of the group and organise a Training / networking day.

Dr Rita Browne
Branch Chair

THAMES NORTH WEST BRANCH

Dr Dawn Friday Branch Chair

Dr Vanessa Apnea Audit Lead

Objectives

- Promote high standards of sexual health and HIV.
- Gather information from regional clinical leads for discussion at the BASHH CGC meetings and provide feedback.
- Give opportunities for networking across the region.
- Conduct at least one audit and educational meetings per year.

Significant activities

- Extension of BBV (HIV/Hepatitis B/Hepatitis C) testing across North-West London Emergency Departments due to overwhelming success.
- Regional Clinical Reference Group feeding into the ICS/ICB.
- Balancing the demand for PrEP in smaller outer North-West London services.
- Increasing number of clinics have access to Descovy PrEP
- Renewed focus on MPOX vaccination across NWL region.
- Focus on Tasters Days to aid recruitment to the specialty which has improved.
- London Sexual Health Provider Group continue to raise concerns around sexual health services in London to tackle rising rates of sexually transmitted infections.

- Concerning changes in commissioning with some services being asked to move screening in PrEP and simple contraception online.
- Threat of service closure avoided with BASHH intervention.
- Slow progression of the specialty doctor to specialist grade across services.
- Successful roll out of DoxyPEP and Men B vaccination.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-2025

- Participation in national audits and BASHH surveys.
- Regional STI Foundation course Feb 2025.
- Regional HIV Meetings.
- Regional GUM Meetings.

Future plans

- More regional collaborations for educational meetings and audits.
- Planning a joint regional meeting end of 2025.

Dr Dawn Friday
Branch Chair

THAMES SOUTH WEST BRANCH

Objectives

- Promote high standards of care in sexual health and HIV care.
- Gather relevant clinical governance concerns and issues from regional colleagues to take to national BASHH CGC.
- Be a point of call for regional colleagues for any relevant support or information they may require.
- Maintain a clinical network with regional colleagues as a forum for discussion and information sharing.
- Promote GUM as an attractive specialty.

Significant activities

- Quarterly clinical governance meetings with regional sexual health Clinical Leads from Wandsworth, Kingston, Croydon and St Helier:
 - Discussed current clinical governance issues affecting each regional services.
 - Shared information about good practice, audits and research, clinical pathways, skills needs and gaps, as well as recruitment and commissioning challenges.
 - Brought attention to specific clinical issues e.g. upticks in certain infections locally, and atypical or interesting cases: for example, we shared learning from cases of syphilis presenting to Urology after being referred as TWW cancer cases; we shared learning from a case of pelvic pain referred to gynaecology where the diagnosis was retained products of conception after illegal surgical termination of pregnancy from >20 years previously.
 - Identified issues to take to the National BASHH CGC meeting for broader discussion.
 - Provided feedback from national BASHH CGC meeting to regional leads.
 - Provided feedback from relevant sexual health meetings to regional leads e.g. BASHH bitesize meetings.
- Supported BASHH in data gathering from regions for temperature checks e.g. MPOX numbers and vaccinations.

- The H-SWELLZ regional education virtual meeting now led by local educational leads is still going strong and happens quarterly, including services in Croydon, St Helier, Kingston, CLCH-Hertfordshire, and CLCH-Wandsworth – this has been very well attended with positive feedback.
- Organised a SWL sexual health clinicians social gathering.
- Organised a clinic site visit by the MP for Wandsworth due November 2025.
- Organised a GP sexual health education afternoon due December 2025 in collaboration with South West London Training Hub.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2024-25

- Activities as above.
- Attended BASHH national CGC meetings including at BASHH 2025 conference.
- Chaired quarterly BASHH regional CGC meetings.
- MP visit to local clinic booked for November 2025.
- Primary care education event for local GPs booked December 2025.

Future plans

- Collaborate on regional audit/s.
- Organise further education events.
- Consolidate the membership and aim to expand to include a secretary role.
- Continue to promote GUM as an attractive specialty.
- Continue to share good practice within the network for areas such as complex GUM, Safeguarding etc.

Dr Malika Mohabeer Hart
South West Thames BASHH CGC Chair

TRENT BRANCH

Membership

Dr. Hayley Wood (Chair)

Objectives

- Promote high standards of care in sexual health and HIV.
- Maintain communication amongst regional clinical leads about key clinical governance issues.
- Give opportunities for networking across the region.
- Conduct at least one audit/ educational meeting per year.

Significant Activities

- Liaised with regional leads to seek information about issues affecting their services to take to national meeting.
- Facilitated communication of/circulated information about relevant clinical issues including gonorrhoea vaccination implementation.

- Feedback from BASHH CGC meeting to region.
- BASHH Trent Regional and Audit Group Meeting - December 2024, attended by over 40 delegates. The event received excellent feedback with delegates enjoying the fantastic case studies, relishing the networking opportunities and finding the range of topics interesting.
- Topics included:
 - Contraception Update
 - Managing a syphilis outbreak in sex workers
 - Clinicopathological case study
 - GU trainees case presentations
 - TV PCR vs culture audit
 - ARV Injectables experience
 - Non - fatal strangulation

Future Plans

Annual Regional Educational /Audit Meeting January 2026.

Dr Hayley Wood
Branch Chair

WESSEX BRANCH

Membership

Dr Sara Scofield (Wessex Chair)
Dr Jenny Murira (Branch secretary)
Dr Alison Blume (Regional Audit Lead)
Dr Olivia Drew (Treasurer)

Objectives

- To promote high standards of care in Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV services across the Wessex region.
- To cascade advice and updates on service provision, commissioning and clinical practice from the BASHH CGC to individual services within the Wessex region.
- To escalate concerns and risks within the Wessex region to the BASHH CGC for advice and support.
- To share best practice including SOPs/pathways/guidelines between the different services to support service development and quality of care for users.

Significant activities

- January 2025 annual regional HIV mortality meeting with all cases across the region discussed and learning points shared.
- Two virtual educational meetings held. May 2025 GU/SRH educational event aimed at whole MDT across the region. November 2025 HIV educational event. Programmes consisted of diverse topics on GU/SRH/HIV, interesting case presentations, audit, and expert talks.
- Regional clinical governance meeting held in November 2025 to review service concerns, tendering outcomes, training and education needs and workforce.
- Successful roll out of MenB & MPox vaccine programmes across the region.
- Successful roll out of dPEP across the region.
- Development of HCA role in individual services to offer microscopy and vaccinations.
- Appointment of a new GU/HIV consultant in the region.
- Further SRH consultant in the region following successful CESR application.
- Development of pharmacy lead PrEP clinics in some services.

WESSEX BRANCH CONTINUED...

- Success of ED opt-out BBV testing in high prevalence areas in the region.
- New GU/HIV trainee in the region, the first one in over 7 years!
- Development of HIV community outreach work in some services.
- Continued development of digital services including 2-way lab links in some services, digital pathways for CT treatment and increased use of on-line booking for appointments.
- Continued support and work with a number of HMPs across the region for both STI and HIV care.

Performance/Outputs in the year 2023-24

- High level of participation in National BASHH audits.
- Active annual regional audit programme. 2024 was the management of primary syphilis and evidence from the audit led to the adoption of dual testing (HSV/TP PCR) across some services. 2025 audit was on preventative healthcare for PLWHIV. Recently presented with actions to be developed.
- Excellent attendance and participation at regional educational events.

- February 2025 - Successful running of the annual STIF course in Solent.
- Continued training in some services with FY doctors, ID specialists and GP integrated training posts.

Future plans

- Continue high quality educational meetings and audit participation.
- Continue to maintain regional communication about service pressures and solutions.
- Further development of digital services including trialling of AI programmes.
- Continue to promote GUM as an attractive specialty.
- Preparation for successful tendering of one of the services in the region.
- Further roll out of ED Opt-out testing in next phases at some services in the region.
- Successful succession planning for pending consultant retirements over the next 12 months against the reality of Trust financial pressures.

Dr Sara Scofield
Branch Chair

WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH

Dr Lisa Goodall (Chair and Audit Lead)

Objectives

- To promote high standards of care in sexual health and HIV services across the region.
- To share information from BASHH and the CGC.
- To report back any regional issues or concerns to the BASHH CGC.
- To participate in national UK clinical governance activity, including national audits, and to facilitate cross-West Midlands clinical governance activities.

Significant activities

- WM BASHH branch meeting merged with WM UKHSA meetings in Autumn 2024 to form WM Sexual Health Provider Network Meetings held virtually on a quarterly basis.
- Regional HIV/ID educational histopathology meeting held November 2024.

Performance/Outputs

- Participation in national BASHH audits and feedback of individual regional results.

Future plans

- Regional HIV/ID educational histopathology meeting planned for November 2025.
- Next WM Sexual Health Provider Network Meeting planned for December 2025.

Dr Lisa Goodall
Branch Chair

YORKSHIRE BRANCH

Membership

Dr Emma Street (Chair)
Dr Natasha Astill (Audit Lead)

Objectives

- To organise an annual regional meeting- to provide educational opportunities for a multidisciplinary audience.
- To identify good practice/ initiatives and challenges in the Yorkshire region and feedback to the national CGC meetings.
- To co-ordinate regional participation in national audit and feedback results.

Significant activities

Regional educational meeting 19th June 2025- hybrid free of charge event with both face to face and virtual attendees- held at with over 30 delegates from over West Yorkshire and Humber- sponsored by pharma.

Performance outputs for 2024/2025

Very high level of participation for the regional educational meeting and excellent feedback.

Future plans

- Annual regional educational meeting in June 2025.
- Forum for alternative sexual health providers.

Dr Emma Street
Branch Chair

COMMITTEES WITH BASHH REPRESENTATION

SPECIALIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Membership

Dr Andy Williams (SAC Co-Chair, Workforce Group, NE Central London TPD)
Dr Sarah Schoeman (SAC Co-Chair, Workforce Group, Y&H Co-TPD)
Dr Ashini Fox (SAC Deputy Chair, Exams Format Group Lead)
Professor Jonathan Corne (Lead Dean)

TPDs

Dr Anna Garner (NWest TPD)
Dr Daniel Richardson (KSS TPD, Certification & CESR Deputy (& UMES Lead from February 2025))
Dr Ellen Dwyer (NWest London TPD, Dip GUM EA)
Dr Eoin Walker (Northern Ireland TPD – took over from Dr Say Quah in November 2024)
Dr Hannah Loftus (Y&H Co-TPD, Recruitment co-lead)
Dr Holly Donson (EoE co-TPD)
Dr Imali Fernando (Scotland TPD, ePortfolio Lead)
Dr Mamantha (Sam) Pockcok (Thames Valley TPD - took over from Dr Huda Fadzillah in June 2025)
Dr Megan Crofts (Severn Deanery TPD)
Dr Nicola Lomax (Wales TPD, SAC rep for STASHH)
Dr Nisha Mody (South London TPD – took over from Dr Katia Prime in February 2025)
Dr Olivia Drew (Wessex TPD – took over from Dr Sangeetha Sundaram in June 2025)
Dr Sarah Barrett (W Midlands TPD)
Dr Sarah Duncan (Northern TPD, Recruitment Co-Lead)
Dr Sarah Edwards (EoE co-TPD, Certification & CESR Lead)
Dr Sophia Davies (Peninsula TPD, Quality Lead)
Dr Sophie Flavell (East Midlands TPD – took over from Dr Ashini Fox in October 2024)

Co-opted Members

Dr Arnold Fernandes (DiP GUM Exam Convener)
Dr Johnny Boylan (Deputy DiP GUM Exam Convener)
Dr Duncan Churchill (DiP HIV Convener)
Dr Deborah Kirkham (DiP HIV EA)
Professor Jaime Vera (Academic Lead)
Dr Martyn Woods (Workforce Group Lead)
Dr Jackie Sherrard (UMES Lead – taken on by Prof. Daniel Richardson in February 2025)
Dr Katia Prime (Curriculum Lead)
Ms Collette O'Conner (Lay Rep)

Trainee Representatives

Dr Elena Un - Academic Trainee Representative – took over from Dr Manik Kholi in November 2024
Dr Miriam Ringshall - BHIVA/HIVTA Trainee Representative
Dr Fiona Windebank – BASHH Trainee Representative – took over from Dr Lindsay Henderson in November 2024

A summary of the work completed this year by the committee is included below:

Curriculum and assessment:

- No significant ARCP sign off issues have arisen since the launch of new 2022 GUM/GIM curriculum.
- National educational webinar on the new GUM/GIM curriculum for trainers and trainees (as part of GUM ST national training day) was held on 26/02/25 AM in response to first evaluation survey results of new curriculum and recording available on the JRCPTB GUM training page: Genitourinary Medicine | The Federation in the 'Latest news and developments' section. Excellent delegate feedback received from this event. Specialty specific FAQs from this event are in development.
- National educational webinar microscopy for trainers and trainees (as part of GUM ST national training day) held on 26/02/25 PM and recording available on the JRCPTB GUM training page: Genitourinary Medicine | The Federation in the 'Latest news and developments' section. Excellent delegate feedback received from this event.
- Guidance on standardisation of light and dark ground microscopy training for GUM trainees being worked up with BSIG. BSIG microscopy e-learning package: BSIG | BASHH has been developed and information re: this has been circulated to trainers and trainees via the SAC. Competency documents & logbook are in development and will be circulated to trainers and trainees in due course.
- Dark Ground microscopy (DGM) - recent SAC survey of training centres has revealed that only 10/32 still use DGM and only 6/32 use DGM as part of routine clinical practice. The SAC is developing a DGM questionnaire for sexual health services which BASHH will then disseminate to its membership as a 'Clinical Thermometer' survey to help inform DGM training recommendations for GUM trainees going forward.

SPECIALIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONTINUED...

- Cervical cytology screening survey to be disseminated to TPDs to help inform the SAC as to whether any curriculum changes are required in relation to this or not.
- 'Rough Guide' to GUM training 2022 and the 2022 Decision Aid both being reviewed and updated. These updated versions will be published on the JRCPTB GUM training page.
- New GUM/GIM eportfolio: new PYR form for GUM/GIM curriculum for trainers and trainees has been developed with JRCTPTB eportfolio team and is now live. Final ARCP checklist is being worked up.
- Three national GUM trainee training days held again this year, organised and co-ordinated by our SAC trainee reps. These were all very well received.
- 2022 curriculum second evaluation survey due to be circulated to trainees and trainers by JRCPTB very soon.
- Study leave budget inconsistencies within England – J Corne (GUM Lead Dean) has agreed to discuss this at Lead Dean's meeting.
- Trans/non-binary sexual health care - credentialing vs inclusion in curriculum being explored.
- Academic trainees, those doing OOPR and PhDs linked in via SAC academic rep and added to specific comms for that group.
- MRCP (UK) results issue announcement Feb 2025 – no GUM trainees affected by this.
- JRCPTB Internal Medicine Quality Criteria launched 18/03/25: Internal Medicine Training quality criteria | The Federation. Development of Quality Criteria for GUM is ongoing.

STASHH:

- The SAC continues to work closely with STASHH with Dr. Nicola Lomax in post as our SAC rep. for STASHH.
- STASHH is performing very well and continues to expand, see STASHH report for full details.
- STASHH are implementing support for FY doctors interested in a career in GUM as they apply for IMT posts in view of the current significant bottleneck at this career progression point.

Dip GUM/HIV:

- Both exams continue to perform well. The exams for 2024/5 took account of curriculum changes introduced in 2022. Two "new look" Bo5 papers planned for 2025 – both now fully on-line.

- Since 2022 there is only one DipGUM exam diet per year. Candidates have the option of sitting the OSCE and Bo5 examination elements separately. Candidates are allowed to keep a pass for an assessment (OSCE or Bo5) and only retake the one that they have failed.
- DipHIV exam – approval received from GMC to remove OSCE component from 2025 onwards. Successful invitation only re-sit OSCE held in April 2025 as part of transition plan agreed with GMC. The DipHIV exam will now run as a Bo5 OSCE only exam with two sittings per year.
- EACS exam in development – need to consider the blend of this with the DipHIV – further discussion planned at March 2026 SAC meeting.

Recruitment:

- R2 for Feb 2025 start: 32 vacancies, 8 longlisted, 7 shortlisted, 7 interviewed, 4 appointable & 3 accepted = 9.3% fill rate vs 3% in previous R2.
- R1 for August 2025 start: 45 vacancies, 46 applicants, 38 longlisted, 30 shortlisted, 27 interviewed, 24 appointable & 19 accepted = 42% fill rate vs 23.5% in previous R1. One ACF also appointed.
- When R1 & R2 are combined this is the best recruitment performance in terms of number of accepted posts since 2020 bearing in mind that the 2025 data is for R1 only. As far as fill rates are concerned this is our best performance since 2017 if the ACF post is included and since 2020 if the ACF post is excluded.
- Recruitment in Northern Ireland is run separately, and all 3 NI NTN's are occupied – full recruitment.
- Continued support to the BASHH LoveGUM recruitment campaign, more details on that elsewhere in the BASHH annual report.

Other recruitment activities:

- Another very successful National GUM Taster Day held on 14/10/24 ~250 people signed up for the day with 134 attendees at its peak and excellent delegate feedback. Further National GUM Taster Day planned for October 2025 which the JRCPTB have agreed to support & host going forward.
- Two podcasts recorded with RCPE training committee published – 'GUM - Career Conversations': Medical Specialties - GUM (6 Nov 2024) & 'GUM Clinic – Clinical Conversations': GUM Clinic (21 Oct 2024).

SPECIALIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONTINUED...

- IMT infiltration – outpatient clinics for IMT trainees to increase exposure to GUM – local arrangements in place and GUM TPDs linked in with their local GIM TPDs.
- First National GUM IMT stage 1 teaching day held on 05/06/25. 89 delegates attended on-line and 12 in person. Second National GUM IMT stage 1 teaching day ~June 2026 being planned.
- ‘Supported Change to Specialty Career pilot’ hopefully launching as part of R2 for February 2026 start.
- Trainee snapshot spreadsheet developed in order to have clearer national view of NTN occupancy and trainee progression – TPDs will complete annually and annual report generated ~November each year.
- LTFT recruitment national pilot i.e. specific posts to be LTFT from the start rather than apply as full time and then request LTFT – no GUM training centres took part in this.

Workforce:

- GUM SAC co-Chairs worked with CSRH training leads on a joint ‘Sexual Health and HIV’ workforce / recruitment paper with recommendations which was submitted to COPMeD in October 2024.
- Emergency recovery plans for GUM NTNs included in above & work ongoing – tailored approach to GUM recruitment, TERS payments, 100% funding of posts by NHSE, supported change to specialty career pilot.

- CCT backlog at JRCPTB CCT admin office level – individual issues to be escalated to JRCPTB specialist registration team & SAC co-chairs.
- See Consultant workforce report for detail re: Consultant posts.

Other:

- SAC co-chairs had a 1:1 meeting with the new Medical Director for Training and Development for the Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the UK – David Marshall in February 2025 and David attended our June 2025 GUM SAC meeting.
- Our thanks are extended to all members of the SAC who all undertake a significant amount of work outside of their job plans and usual working hours.

Dr Andy Williams and Dr Sarah Schoeman
GUM SAC Co-chairs

UEMS IN DERMATOVENEREOLOGY

UEMS (European Union of medical specialists)

[Welcome to UEMS website](#)

Professor Daniel Richardson: Brighton

BASHH provides the UK representation for the dermato-venereology board of The European Union of medical specialists. I took over from the amazing work done by my predecessor, Jackie Sherrard in May 2025. The board meet in person twice a year and I represent the UK and BASHH at these meetings. The board designs and delivers a European examination every year, ratifies clinical guidelines in STIs and dermatology, supports some research networks and provides guidance for other specialities.

Professor Daniel Richardson
UK representative on UEMS

JOURNALS WITH BASHH REPRESENTATION

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF STD & AIDS (IJSA)

Throughout 2024/2025, IJSA continued its work as a vehicle for the dissemination and discussion of clinically focussed STI research and innovation. IJSA continues to publish more papers per year than any other in the STI field, and we remain the journal of choice for publication of BASHH and the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI) clinical guidelines. New article types have showcased work that might fall outside the traditional research paradigm - this has included quality improvement work, patient experience measures, national audit, and organisational development exercises in the field. Much of this interesting and translatable work has come from the membership of BASHH.

We have continued to champion the use of person-first language in clinical science, and we insist on the use of person-first language in all of our manuscripts.

A recent consultation garnered opinion from the BASHH membership about a possible name change of the journal, to better reflect our core objectives and to reflect our person-first approach to publishing. Members overwhelmingly supported a change of name of the journal, and discussions will be taken forward with SAGE Publishing by my successor as Editor-in-Chief, Prof Daniel Richardson.

IJSA accepts a wide range of papers from across the world, and we very much hope that the readership continues to find the journal entertaining and informative. We remain indebted to our authors and fantastic reviewers, and to SAGE Publishing.

Dr Michael Rayment
Editor-in-Chief, International Journal of STD and AIDS

STI JOURNAL

Objectives

- Promote and facilitate the liaison between BASHH and the STI journal, seeking opportunities for reciprocal support.
- Identify opportunities for the journal to support educational activities including conferences and courses organised BASHH.
- Identify opportunities for the BASHH membership to contribute to the activities of the journal, e.g., through the BASHH column and other forms of publication and engagement.
- Identify opportunities for facilitating communication and dissemination of research news within the BASHH membership.

Significant activities and outputs in 2023-2024

- Supported the production of the BASHH Column for the STI journal (8 issues per year).
- Supported the Annual BASHH Conference (2025): awarded the best presentation BMJ STI prize, organised and produced a thematic workshop at the conference, supported publicity activities via the journal and its social media channels.

- Ongoing production of a journal highlights piece that is included in the BASHH emails to the membership.
- Participated in meetings of the BASHH Educational Committee.

Future plans

- Continue to support the production of the journal BASHH column.
- Continue to produce the journal highlights piece.
- Discuss continued support for the annual BASHH conference.

Professor Anna Maria Geretti
Editor-in-Chief, Sexually Transmitted Infections

REPORTS NOT RECEIVED FROM:

Cheshire & Mersey Branch of the CGC
Northern Ireland Branch of the CGC
Northern Branch of the CGC
Thames South East Branch of the CGC

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

APPG	All-Party Parliamentary Groups	IT	Information Technology
ARCP	Annual Review of Competency Progression	IUSTI	International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy	JRCPTB	Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians' Training Board
ASIG	Adolescent Specialist Interest Group	LARC	Long-Acting Reversible Contraception
BAD	British Association of Dermatology	LTFT	Less than Full Time
BAME	Black, Asian and minority ethnic	LGV	Lymphogranuloma venereum
BASHH	British Association for Sexual Health and HIV	LUSTRUM	Limiting undetected sexually transmitted infections to reduce morbidity
BASHH CEG	BASHH Clinical Effectiveness Group	MDR	Medical Devices Regulation
BASHH CGC	BASHH Clinical Governance Committee	MDT	Multidisciplinary Team
BASHH CSU	BASHH Clinical Standards Unit	MGen	Mycoplasma genitalium
BASHH EC	BASHH Educations Committee	MHRA	Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
BASHH NAG	BASHH National Audit Group	MLSO	Medical Laboratory Scientific Officers
BBV	Blood Borne Viruses	MSD	Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp.
BHIVA	British HIV Association	MSM	Men who have sex with men
Bo5	Best of 5 Questions (Exam format)	NAAT	Nucleic acid amplification test
BSIG	Bacterial Special Interest Group	NCSP	National Chlamydia Screening Programme
BV	Bacterial vaginosis	NHIVA	Nurses HIV Association
CCGs	Clinical Commissioning Groups	NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
CCT	Certificate of Completion of Training	NPT	Near patient test
CESR	Certificate of Eligibility for Specialist Registration	OI	Opportunistic Infection
CEV	Clinically Extremely Vulnerable	OSCE	Objective Structured Clinical Examination
CHIVA	Children's HIV Association	PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
CNS	Central Nervous System	PEPSE	Post-exposure prophylaxis after sexual exposure
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019	PGVLE	Postgraduate Virtual Learning Environment
CPD	Continuing Professional Development	PGD	Patient Group Direction
CQC	Care Quality commission	PHE	Public Health England
CSRH	Community Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare	PN	Partner Notification
CTAD	Chlamydia Testing Activity Dataset	POCT	Point of care test
DHSC	Department of Health and Social Care	PPE	Patient and public engagement
DiT	Doctor(s) in Training	PREM	Patient reported experience measure
Dip GUM	Diploma in Genitourinary Medicine	PrEP	Pre-exposure prophylaxis
Dip HIV	Diploma in HIV Medicine	PROM	Patient reported outcome measure
DNA	Did Not Attend (person who)	PYR	Penultimate Year Reviews
DVD	Digital Video Disc	RCGP	Royal College of General Practitioners
e-LFH	Electronic Learning for Health	RCN	Royal College of Nursing
EPR	Electronic Patient Record	RCOG	Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation	RCP	Royal College of Physicians
FSRH	Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare	RSM	Royal Society of Medicine
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation	SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Centre
GiM	General Internal Medicine	SAC	Specialty Advisory Committee
GMC	General Medical Council	SAS	Staff grade, Associate Specialist and Specialty doctors
GP	General Practitioner	SIG	Special Interest Group
GRASP	Gonococcal Resistance to Antimicrobials Surveillance Programme	SOPHID	Survey of Prevalent HIV Infections Diagnosed
GSM	Gay and Sexual Minorities	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare
GU	Genitourinary	SHA	Sexual Health Advisor
GUM	Genitourinary Medicine	SHAN	Sexual Health Advisor and Nurse (group)
GUMCAD	GUM Activity Dataset	SHRAD	Sexual and Reproductive Health Activity Dataset
HARS	HIV and AIDS Reporting System	SSHA	Society of Sexual Health Advisors
HAV	Hepatitis A virus	ST	Specialist Trainee
HBV	Hepatitis B virus	STASHH	Student and Trainee Association for Sexual Health and HIV
HCV	Hepatitis C virus	STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
HEE	Health Education England	STIF	Sexually Transmitted Infections Foundation (courses)
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	TPD	Training Programme Director
HIVTA	HIV Trainees Association		
HPV	Human papilloma virus		
HRA	High-Resolution Anoscopy		
HSCIC	Health and Social Care Information Centre		
HSV	Herpes simplex virus		

HYPNET	HIV Young Persons' Network	TV	Trichomonas Vaginalis
IJSA	International Journal of STD & AIDS	UEMS	European Union of Medical Specialists
IQA	Internal Quality Assurance	UKHSA	United Kingdom Health Security Agency
IQC	Internal Quality Control	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
ISSTD	International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research	VLOG	Video Log