



Newsletter - March 2023

BSoT Latest

Nick Boxall (BSoT Chair [@NephrogeNick](#)), Sarika Nalagatla (BSoT Chair-Elect, [@SarikaN05](#))

March is a busy time; many senior trainees will be at the BAUS FRCS revision course this week whilst prospective CT1s and ST3s are going through the process of national selection, and in the middle of this we have experienced the first round of industrial action as doctors in training since 2016 whilst making the final plans for our programme at BAUS 2023!

We do have a large and dedicated committee and always want to make sure trainee voices are heard, please feel free to approach the executive committee ([our contact details are on the BAUS website](#)), or your regional rep. We hope to see many of you at BAUS 2023 where we have an exciting programme, social events and our own stand. Make sure you book your study leave early for 19-21 June 2023!

Cost of surgical training – have your say!

Now more than ever we are enduring the financial burden of training. In 2017, the average cost for mandatory requirements to complete surgical training across all specialties was from £20,000 to £26,000 ¹. ASiT are conducting their latest iteration of the Cost of Surgical Training (COST) survey. The results will be freely shared, including in publications and on the Association's social media platforms. It will also be disseminated to political leaders, the four surgical Royal Colleges, JCST and Specialty Associations. We would be grateful if as many non-consultant grade doctors as possible could fill this in on behalf of the urological community. The survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FGB6TM7> - we are very selective about the surveys that are distributed to our membership and feel this is an incredibly important topic.

BAUS Strategy Council Meeting 2022

BSoT Executive Committee members, Nick Boxall, Sarika Nalagatla and Bushra Abdelqader attended the BAUS Council strategy meeting in the city of York, back in September 2022. BSoT would like to extend a thank you to Miss Jo Creswell for inviting BSoT and leading the way in trainee inclusion. We were able to raise trainee related concerns and voice trainees' views around the themes of Education, Membership and

Provision of Urological Care. Since then, Nick Boxall and Sarika Nalagatla have joined the Digital Strategy Working group lead by Lisa Dodgshon, with the aim of developing a digital tool to enhance communications, in line with BAUS's key strategic objectives.

The Urology Foundation – get involved!

The Urology Foundation (TUF) are the only charity in the UK and Ireland that encompasses all urological conditions and are very much geared to supporting training. There are currently four travelling fellowship bursaries available from TUF in association with UroLink worth £1,500 each in Low or Low-Middle Income Country (LMIC) environments. The deadline for the latest application is 23rd April 2023, please visit their [website](#) for more details.

In addition, we as trainees have the opportunity to get involved in fundraising. We will be doing our now established tradition of the BSoT Fun Run for TUF at BAUS 2023 (details to be announced soon!). There is also the ever-popular Bike-4-TUF which is in its 10th year and, to celebrate this milestone in style, this year's event will see riders leave London on Thursday 1 June 2023 to cross the channel and arrive in the beautiful city of Paris on the afternoon of Saturday 3 June, in time to enjoy a celebratory dinner on the Saturday evening. For anyone interested, please contact benaeddy@yahoo.com.

Urology ST3 National Selection

Bushra Abdelqader (BSoT FY and Core Surgical Training Representative, [@Bushra_aq91](#))

National Urology ST3 Recruitment 2023 has commenced. Changes to the Portfolio check list has seen the removal of "Courses" and the change of the number of WBAs to obtain maximum points. All interviews in 2023 are planned to be held ONLINE (30th & 31st March 2023). This year sees the return of the Skills Station. At present, the interview will consist of four 13-minute stations with 2 minutes of additional reading time per station. Stations will include the following:

- Outpatient Scenario
- Emergency Scenario
- Communication
- Skills

We hope to support our BSoT members during their recruitment and advise them to regularly check [Health Education Yorkshire and Humber](#) for the latest updates. Good luck!

BSoT Survey: Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) within Urology Departments: The Trainee Perspective

Tony Tien (BSoT Vice Chair, [@TonyTien90](#)) and Primit Khetrapal

BSoT are running a **survey** to assess the perceptions of Urology Trainees to Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) within Urology departments. We would like to gather feedback from BSoT members and Urology Trainees on how AHPs have been integrated into Urology departments where they have worked in and trainee perceptions of AHPs. We aim to present the results at BAUS 2023 and we hope the results can help form guidance on how we can all work and train together. We hope this will also aid in creation of a training curriculum for AHPs.

A trip down under to USANZ Trainee Week 2022

Emer Hatem ([@emerhatem](#)) and Nick Simson ([@NickSimson1](#))

Back in the summer, BSoT opened applications for two senior UK Urology trainees to be sponsored to attend the annual USANZ (Urological Society of Australia and New Zealand) Trainee Week, in Melbourne. The week is held in November each year for Australian and New Zealand trainees. As two bona fide COVID-age trainees who started in 2020, the opportunity screamed out to us – an in-person meeting? Travel?! The chance to spend spring in Oz as winter set in on the UK? Where did we sign up!? A couple of weeks later, the good news was confirmed, and we were heading down under.

The week consisted of state-of-the-art lectures from eminent consultants and professors in their field, with a different theme to each session. All topics were covered, from andrology to oncology, functional to radiology and even human factors. The sessions were meticulously well-prepared, and designed to give you the information you needed not only to pass your exam, but for clinical practice. There was interactivity throughout, with trainees delivering short, bite-size knowledge bombs on each topic between the faculty lectures and quizzing of the more senior trainees.

I also cannot emphasise how wonderful the evenings were – a chance to discuss different aspects of training with our peers, to decompress on the difficult parts, laugh at the calamities, compare our experiences and just a chance to unwind. Clear parallels could be seen, but we identified some differences that we were keen to highlight on our return to the UK.



Ultimately, the week was a resounding success! We came back having made new friends, possible fellowship opportunities, gained new knowledge and felt motivation to smash our FRCS. Special mention has to go to Deborah Klein and Kirsten Isaacs, from USANZ, who made the whole experience a logistical dream and were the heart and soul of trainee week. **Final message – APPLY FOR THIS NEXT YEAR!**

BURST: RESECT Study

BURST Committee: Kevin Gallagher and Fortis Gaba (@BURSTurology)



transurethral REsection and Single instillation mitomycin C Evaluation in bladder Cancer Treatment (RESECT)

The largest ever TURBT study - Still time to get it done at your hospital. If your hospital is taking part - then join the team! Search the league table [here](#) to find your hospital:

This is a big opportunity for trainees who have recently rotated to take over and lead the study at their new hospital. In return for your efforts, you will be able to achieve:

- Collaborative PubMed indexed authorship on all papers
- Complete a full cycle closed loop national HQIP audit cycle
- Receive feedback and deconstruct your own clinical practice and compare results with other hospitals around the world.
- Possibility of achieving mainline authorship if you collect enough patients

As always, thank you to our fantastic collaborators for all your work and dedication. The work is paying off and the study is set to make a huge impact and you will benefit. Over 12800 TURBT cases have been entered, over 200 sites actively taking part with almost every urology unit in the UK.

Important Dates:

- *Final case date of surgery: End of February 2023*
- *Final follow up and data entry: End of June 2023*

If you have any further queries/questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via

[**resect@bursturology.com**](mailto:resect@bursturology.com).

1. O'Callaghan J, Mohan HM, Sharrock A on behalf of the Council of the Association of Surgeons in Training, et al Cross-sectional study of the financial cost of training to the surgical trainee in the UK and Ireland *BMJ Open* 2017;7:e018086. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2017-018086