



13 July 2016

Dear Undergraduate,

Firstly, I would like to send you a warm welcome to our first undergraduate urology newsletter. As a forward thinking and proactive surgical specialty we hope our newsletters will continue to increase our engagement with undergraduate trainees. We hope to keep you up to date with urological issues, undergraduate activity, prizes and useful information/resources to aid your training. We aim to give you the best resources available so you can thrive in your undergraduate studies and maybe even inspire you to a career in urology.

We anticipate writing further circular newsletters several times a year. If you, colleagues or surgical/urological societies at medical school would like to receive these newsletters directly or there is any other information you would like adding in the future, please email Harry Heald, BAUS Events Co-ordinator, at hheald@baus.org.uk

During undergraduate training, exposure to urology is relatively minimal, ranging from a few lecturers in some medical schools to several weeks of attachment in others. Clinically urology does account for up to 5-10% of primary care consultations and 25% of acute general surgery referrals to hospital, so a basic understanding of urology will be useful for all practicing clinicians. In view of that we hope some of our educational initiatives below will be of use to you.

Urology Curriculum

In 2012, the British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS) published the BAUS undergraduate urology curriculum. This document highlights what we felt are important topics to learn during your undergraduate training. This document has been distributed to all UK medical schools, and we would envisage your curriculum is based around this. Hopefully you will find this document useful and it will help you get the most out of your urology placement. Link below:

[http://www.baus.org.uk/_userfiles/pages/files/professionals/education/Undergraduate Syllabus.pdf](http://www.baus.org.uk/_userfiles/pages/files/professionals/education/Undergraduate%20Syllabus.pdf)

Emergency Urology App

The BAUS Education Committee has recently released its first app aimed at education, both for undergraduates and postgraduates. The app, entitled 'Urological Emergencies', is freely available on both Google Play and Apple app store – please search 'Urological Emergencies' or click the hyperlinks below.

This free app offers students a simple guide to the acute management of urological emergencies. The app covers common urological emergencies including diagnosis, appropriate investigations and radiological images and offers advice on the medical/surgical treatment options available. The app covers key urological emergencies including scrotal pain, catheter related problems, acute stone management, haematuria and urological trauma, to name a few. The app contains a

mixture of text and images (clinical, radiological and operative) to make the user interface simple to use, yet informative in nature.

We hope the 'BAUS Emergency Urology' app offers the user a novel educational tool to aid their clinical practice. We would be grateful if you could let your colleagues know about the BAUS 'Urological Emergencies' app and we hope you find it easy to navigate and effective for clinical practice. Direct links below:

[Google Play link](#)

[Apple App store link](#)

Undergraduate Urology Exposure Questionnaire

You will hopefully have received an electronic Survey Monkey questionnaire about your undergraduate urology experience. Please could you take the time to fill this in as we are trying to gain an understanding of current UK based urology teaching in order to define best practice. A fellow student, Isobel Morley of Newcastle University Medical School, has led on this and we would appreciate your help with the survey.

Medical Student Essay Prize

For the past five years BAUS has run an annual medical student essay prize competition. This encompasses a 1500-word limit, with previous topics including prostate cancer screening, social media in urology and simulation for training. There is a prize of £100 awarded to the winning entry per medical school, with the winners at medical school level being put forward for a national prize (complimentary registration for the BAUS annual meeting, as well as a Certificate of Merit presented at the meeting). Having a prize on your portfolio is extremely beneficial and we encourage you to apply. The essay topic is usually released in January, with the deadline for submission in March.

Click [link](#) to see information on the competition we ran in 2016.

Basic Urology Courses

Throughout the year there are several urological courses available and we would encourage you to attend. Clinical and academic meetings will help strengthen your portfolio, aid professional development and increase your networking. Please do let us know if you have attended a course or meeting which you feel has been beneficial from a urological point, as we're keen to build a resource list of quality courses.

Website

At present we are aware that the BAUS website offers relatively little information for undergraduates. BAUS will be reviewing the available resources on the website shortly, please let us know if you feel there is anything particularly useful to add. BAUS is also active on Twitter, and we would encourage you to follow us on @BAUSurology. The current medical student webpage link is below:

[Undergraduate website](#)

Medical School 'Local Champions'

BAUS has appointed Consultant Urological Surgeons in every medical school in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland to act as 'Local Champions'. If you are interested in a career in urology, want any further information regarding training or are keen to meet a urological consultant to discuss issues relating to urology, including

research projects or electives, please feel free to get in touch with your local 'Medical Student Champion' via the link below:

[Medical School Champions](#)

We hope you have found our first newsletter useful. There are lots of excellent resources available to aid your urological education and we hope we have opened up some of these. Urology is an exciting, dynamic, technologically driven surgical specialty and we hope that one day you may consider it as a career option. We would be delighted to hear from you if you have any questions or suggestions for us to help you.

Best wishes and good luck in your medical training.

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