

MINUTES

BHRS Council – Monday 2nd October 2023 @ 9am

Held via Zoom

PRESIDENT:	Eleri Gregory (EG)
SECRETARY:	Vacant
TREASURER:	Vacant
DOCTOR REP:	Paul Foley (PF), Joseph de Bono (JDB), Honey Thomas (HT), Ashley Nisbet (AN) Ross Hunter (RH), Vivienne Ezzat (VE) (in part)
PHYSIOLOGIST REP:	Phil Durkin (PD), Sophie Robinson (SR), Chloe Howard (CH),
NURSE REP:	Catherine Laventure (CL)
OTHER REPS:	Heather Herbert (HH) – SCST Rep Simon Holmes (SH) – MHRA Rep Stuart Allen (SA) – Accreditation Committee Chair (in part) John Paisey (JP) – Education Committee (in part) Dewi Thomas (DT) – Welsh Rep (in part)
ADMIN:	Steve Sadler (SS), Pauline Heery (PH) – (TWeb)

1. Apologies for absence

Amy Dutton, Mark Dayer, Lee Graham, Anya Murray, Pier Lambiase, Francis Murgatroyd, James Cranley, Bridgette Smith.

2. Agree minutes of previous Council meeting

Already complete.

3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

a. GIRFT Cardiology Report

EG to pick up with JDB. A BHRS statement needs to be composed.

ACTION: EG/JDB – pick up offline, compose statement

b. Bullying survey

No update received.

ACTION: VE/BS – pick up offline and ask if require physiologist input

c. Guidance for pregnant women in labour with ICDs

The final position statement has been circulated. Any final comments to be made ASAP.

ACTION: JDB / EG to feedback to group with BHRS comments

d. Review of NHSE PIFU arrhythmia pathway

This is now published and available online. Remove from agenda.

ACTION: TWeb – remove from agenda

e. Device & Ablation standards refresh

Devices – PF has said this will be ready for 2024 and will be asking for Physiologist and HT input.

Ablation – JDB has circulated the document and highlighted that the main change will be the reduction in the portion of time trainees spend in EP. JDB to recirculate.

ACTION: JDB/ALL – recirculate ablation document for comments

ACTION: PF - Physiologist input required. PF to make contact

f. Post Covid ICD deactivation guidance raised by Chris Monkhouse

Chris Monkhouse (Physiologist) has asked if documentation will be updated (post-covid) on ICD deactivation. It was agreed this should be completed and as a result a BHRS working group was formed to facilitate the document including HT and PD. Both HT and HH have useful starting documents which they will share with the group. It was also thought education for other specialties on the 'misconception of magnets' was needed but the group understood the difficulties of reaching the appropriate people.

ACTION: HT/PD/HH – form working group/share documentation.

g. BSDS / BHRS guideline from Andrew Turley

Document previously circulated and comments collated.

ACTION: EG to confirm BHRS comments to HT

4. President's Report

a. BHRS/A-A HRC

No update.

b. BCS Executive Group

BCS Executive Group met last week. BCS invited BHRS to be part of 'The Executive' which is a group involving the larger organisations to discuss professional, policy and strategic matters. EG to attend moving forward. There was discussion about whether there is a need for a Working Group on Women in Cardiology. BHRS confirmed support of this.

ACTION: EG to contact John Greenwood regarding Women in Cardiology working group

c. AF Ablation - NHS England Commissioning Policy. BlueTeq, PROMS etc

AICC had contacted BHRS about the NHS England Policy. This is ongoing. Regarding PROMS PF pointed out we should mention Redcap database which may make data collection easier.

d. Medtronic ICD

Amy Dutton and SA are currently working on a statement which is near completion regarding device data discrepancies.

ACTION: AD / SA to feedback with statement for distribution in upcoming newsletter

e. BCIS LAAO Position Statement

Steve Murray responded with a summary of comments in August. Communications are still ongoing. BHRS also advertised the clinical lead role.

**ACTION: BHRS to readvertise the LAAO / PFOC clinical lead positions.
New deadline for application 05/11/23**

5. Current External Groups with BHRS Representation

a. IQIPS Advisory Board

No update.

b. Academy of Healthcare Science

CH hoping to circulate MP letter soon.

c. RCCP

No update.

d. Resuscitation Council UK

JDB reported they had recently closed research grant applications.

e. SCST

HH reported there was a council meeting Friday and they plan to run a virtual course next spring. They are currently looking for volunteers for sharing good practice.

f. BiCCEP

No update. Meeting planned soon.

g. BCS CPCS

HH to update council moving forward.

ACTION: TWeb – update name on future agendas.

h. Device Working Group

No update.

i. BCS Focused Echo Working Party

No update.

j. NHS OHCA EAG

JDB reported that this group was formed following a BCS meeting where there was a need to establish if a focus echo should be incorporated as normal practice. No decision yet to be made.

k. Out of Hospital

JDB reported they have not yet met.

l. BCIS Structural Intervention Group

No update.

m. LAAO domain group

No update. EG to check if Steve Murray is still happy to represent - otherwise establish another BHRS rep.

ACTION: EG – check rep at LAAO

n. UKMCS / BMFMS / BHRS position statement

No update.

6. Education Committee/Events

Currently working on the hands-on training day in November 2023 and the annual conference in February 2024 in Manchester. Further events for 2024 include simulation training in June and a symposium in November. Millbrook have established long-term sponsorship plans with the main companies.

AN offered to volunteer for the Manchester event. JP/TWeb to put in touch with Millbrook

ACTION: JP/TWeb – put in touch Millbrook with AN

7. Training Update

a. Curriculum

It was reported the new curriculum was causing some challenges to trainees.

b. BCS 2023/24

JP is currently putting together a simpler and more general programme for BCS. An initial programme committee meeting is being held on Thursday.

8. Nursing Update

CL has been working with the accreditation and education team. This includes developing a Nurse Education day at the BHRS February event. This will include exam prep and course knowledge.

The original author is currently attempting to get the nurses competency document accredited by RCN. Discussions will then take place on how BHRS will host the document. CL is revisiting how to build a regional network of nurses.

9. Accreditation Update

HT presented the plans and syllabus for the new Physician exam which will now launch in May next year. The exam will be managed by HT and DT using existing overlapping questions. Indicative procedure numbers that trainees would be required to demonstrate were also presented. Documents and wording are currently being finalised.

It was noted a generalised statement was needed urgently for candidates due to reaccredit by the end of the year.

ACTION: SA/TWeb – SA to compose and TWeb to circulate

10. NICOR/Audit Report

In MD's absence EG reported there are ongoing discussions regarding sharing data with MDOR, MHRA, NCIP and EuroHeart and about receiving data from ICD-10 discharge data and ONS mortality data. MD is also working with MINAP and Heart Failure national audit to combine data.

Current proposals are for NICOR to put together a portal to allow data entry of the QoL measures and for real-time data entry of device and ablation procedures into the NICOR website. There is a target to produce the new NICOR report by December which is likely to be based around Power BI charts.

11. Research

Ross Hunter (RH) reported the BHRS Multi-Centre Research group was established to review and support studies. He gave an update on the larger ongoing trials which included: CRAFT HF headed by Pier Lambiase, PROTECT HF headed by Zach Whinnett and EPIC AF headed up by John Silberbauer.

12. BJCA/Trainee Update

No update. EG to make contact.

ACTION: EG – make contact.

13. Admin Update

- 9 newsletters sent out
- 41 social media posts
- Tickets 117
 - 42 exam, 16 logbook, 25 membership, 26 general, 8 symposium

British Heart Rhythm Society

Registered Address: 24A Market Street, Disley, Cheshire SK12 2AA UK

Email: admin@bhrrs.com | Web: www.bhrrs.com

Registered Charity Number: 273307

- Attended and supported York Accreditation Meeting & exam build
- Accreditation work & exam database
- Supported elections
- Supported Education Committee, Programme Committee and Millbrook

14. Website Update

PD gave the following website highlights since the last meeting:

- New ECG/EGM challenge
- Ran the elections online (nominations, candidate info & voting)
- Launched accreditation event submissions for companies
- Drafted new accreditation pages
- Drafted new logbook pages

The web stats, as usual, indicate the most traffic comes from new challenges. If anyone has a new challenge please send across to admin@bhers.com

15. BHRS App

SS reported ongoing issues with Apple regarding logins for the App. The app is available for trialling to council members for comments. In the November release there will be a new look and feel, an additional chat function with push notifications and a poll function.

16. Treasurer's Report

In the absence of a Treasurer EG reported a static balance of £217,024. The biggest investment is currently the exam with events remaining cost neutral due to the support of sponsors.

Steve Murray had drafted a responsible expenses policy. EG/TWeb to circulate to council for comments/approval.

ACTION: EG/TWeb – circulate expenses policy.

17. Secretaries Report

a. Election Results

EG summarised the election results as follows:

- Welcome to: Sophie Robinson (Physiologist Rep), Honey Thomas (Doctor Rep)
- Welcome back: Vivienne Ezzat (Doctor Rep) and Catherine Laventure (Nurse Rep) who were re-elected for a second term
- Eleri Gregory takes the role of BHRS President
- Thank you to the following members who have come end of term: Alistair Slade, John Paisey, Pier Lambiase, Steve Murray.

b. Appointment of Treasurer & Secretary

HT volunteered for the Secretary role. Due to the absence of a number of elected members it was also decided to email around for expressions of interest for the roles.

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ACTION: TWeb/EG – email elected council for expressions of interest.

c. Constitution

The following was passed at the recent AGM where clarification was needed on whether council members could reapply after breaks. The current wording to be amended to: “These terms can be consecutive or non-consecutive with no officer serving as an elected council member for more than 2 terms”.

d. Member update

Current membership: 1,345. 225 additional members since last year.

18. AOB

a. Patient Transfer Contacts

CH raised a need for a national contact list when you wish to transfer a patient. HT will provide an existing Northern list.

**ACTION: CH – to manage and build with assistance from TWeb.
HT – provide northern data**

b. BHF

EG reported that AKBS agreed to support Maria Paton and the BHF remote monitoring project which will involve a consensus questionnaire. Council agreed to offer assistance with communication to its members.

ACTION: TWeb to distribute comms as required

c. NICE conduction system pacing

EG is currently establishing if BHRS are a stakeholder as this may need BHRS input. Will communicate findings with council.

ACTION: EG – establish stakeholder/comms status.

19. Date of Next Meeting & AGM

- Tuesday 12th December at 9am, Zoom