

# MINUTES

**BHRS Council – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024 @ 09:00**

*Via Zoom*

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Eleri Gregory (EG)
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Vivienne Ezzat (VE)
<b>DOCTOR REP:</b>	Paul Foley (PF), Joseph De Bono (JDB)
<b>PHYSIOLOGIST REP:</b>	Amy Dutton (AD), Phil Durkin (PD)
<b>OTHER REPS:</b>	Stuart Allen (SA) – Accreditation Committee Chair John Paisey (JP) – Education Committee Simon Holmes (SH) – MHRA Rep Steve Murray (SM) – LAOO Domain Group Heather Herbert (HH) - SCST
<b>ADMIN:</b>	Steve Sadler (SS), Pauline Heery (PH) – (TWeb)

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## 1. Apologies for absence

Honey Thomas, Sophie Robinson, Lee Graham, Bridgette Smith, Anya Murray, Chloe Howard, Anish Bhuvu, Ashley Nisbet, Catherine Laventure, Derek Connelly, Dewi Thomas, James Cranley.

## 2. Agree minutes of previous Council meeting

Already complete.

## 3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

- a. Bullying survey

Relabel for future agendas as 'welfare survey'. EG will pick up offline with AD, BS, HH (SCST) and attempt to involve BSE and Bank President Helen Efterkhari.

**ACTION:** TWeb – relabel on agenda  
EG/AD/HH/BS – pick up offline

- b. Radiotherapy Guidance

Document was circulated with the agenda. To be recirculated to BHRS Council with a deadline of 2 weeks for any final comments to HT and Admin.

**ACTION:**        **ALL/TWeb – recirculate to all for final comments with 2 week deadline**

- c.        Workforce toolkit

Chloe Howard was unable to attend but asked for any heads of service that may be available for trying out the workforce toolkit to see if it matches their WTE. Volunteers to make themselves known to CH or TWeb.

**ACTION:**        **ALL – workforce toolkit volunteers to contact CH/TWeb**

- d.        BCS document registrar training

EG distributed this document which Fielder Camm has worked on with BCS. Although supportive of the BJCA statement it was felt there were two clauses that could not be supported including; the section regarding allied health professionals performing advanced procedures and allowing people to become specialists in either devices or ablation without necessarily having the adequate training in both. EG to create a summary of comments.

**ACTION:**        **EG – summarise comments**

- e.        Draft Cardiac Science workforce vision

Combine section with item c moving forward.

**ACTION:**        **TWeb – remove item**

- f.        British Society of Echocardiography triage guidelines

JDB reported he has contributed to the BSE echo triage guidelines on behalf of the BHRS. It was decided the BHRS would endorse the inpatient triage document but the outpatient document was not reflective of the workforce or resources available and was not particularly evidence-based. JDB has fed back comments to the BSE.

- g.        Contracting framework

Remove from agenda.

**ACTION:**        **TWeb – remove from agenda**

- h.        Hidden waiting lists in EP Discussion (*particularly the practice of stopping clocks when starting medication but simultaneously listing for ablation*)

JDB felt this is something the BHRS should review further as there seems to be a trend that the waiting times from referral to ablation is misleading as a result of variations in the interpretation of 'treatment' and subsequent manipulation of data. This results in lack of prioritisation of certain EP procedures and the total wait is not seen on waiting lists. JDB to set up a small working group. VE volunteered. It was suggested Twitter live poll and the App would be good platforms to survey people.

**ACTION: JDB/VE – set up offline working group**

- i. Remote fu guidance volunteer needed (taking into account the 2023 ESC guidance on remote device clinic)

HT was looking for volunteers. PF and PD volunteered to assist. It was suggested a qualifying document on 'how to implement' the ESC guidance may suffice as opposed to recreating a new document altogether.

**ACTION: TWeb – inform HT of volunteer names**

- j. Membership fee structure proposals

VE presented an overview of current membership – numbers and job titles. VE suggested a new membership structure which could collate more data on job roles. It was hoped collating this information could happen via the event registration form via Millbrook i.e. by pre-populating this information and confirming it was correct or asking for information where we didn't have it. VE suggested a 2 tier category system instead of using free text and 5 different price points which would be separated by 'banding'. Some discussion was made on how to categorise trainees. VE to make contact with James Cranley at BJCA for advice. VE will circulate finalised document for council comments when ready.

**ACTION: VE – contact James Cranley for assistance with job titles. Circulate membership structure and price points to council when ready.**

- k. BHRS governance doc

A need has been highlighted for a document to govern and police the document library on the website. e.g. who writes them, how they are approved, length of time valid, how they are updated and polices etc. JDB has drafted a document and will circulate to council when complete. This was particularly needed to ensure each document has clarity around the dates it is/was valid so people know if they have the current document. Disclaimers are also needed for third party documents listed on the site.

**ACTION: JDB – circulate BHRS draft governance document**

#### 4. President's Report

- a. BHRS/A-A HRC Update

EG summarised it has been almost 2 years since the initial statement release regarding BHRS's desegregation from HRC. Industry are pushing for a definitive answer about any future collaboration. EG presented points from the draft memorandum of understanding. Absolute points were: programme chair has to be a BHRS member and recruited as part of a competitive process, sub-specialities invited to propose their own agenda, fewer rooms for less dilution/duplication, organisation and finance to be transparent. It was suggested a lot of the finer details could be removed. EG to finalise and attempt to arrange a face-to-face meeting ideally – or compose a formal email/letter followed by a statement if not possible.

**ACTION: EG – finalise memorandum of understanding and attempt to schedule a face to face meeting with relevant parties**

- b. Medtronic ICD position statement

This has now been circulated to membership. Remove from agenda.

**ACTION: TWeb – remove from future agenda**

- c. Advancing Women's Access to CV Treatment BCS Affiliate Meeting

This has been composed with BHRS input in the arrhythmia care section. The intention is for the document to be published in BMJHeart in time for ESC congress.

## 5. Current External Groups with BHRS Representation

- a. IQIPS Advisory Board

AD attended a meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July. They are currently looking to transition to BSI2000 standards. BHRS have been asked to comment on how standards match. AD to circulate to council for comments.

**ACTION: AD – circulate to council for comments on whether standards match**

- b. Academy of Healthcare Science

No update.

- c. Resuscitation Council UK

JDB reported slow and steady progress. He is currently rewriting chapter 7 (peri-arrest arrhythmia chapter) of the resuscitation guidelines and expects the new guidelines to be ready next year.

- d. SCST

HH reported SCST are holding its Annual Conference in November. SCST is working with Holly Daw on the postgraduate diploma for CRM.

- e. BiCCEP

VE reported the group is going well and meeting quarterly on Teams. VE to work on web visibility and use the BHRS as a host for the information.

**ACTION: VE – provide information for a webpage to TWeb**

- f. BCS CPCS

HH presented some sessions at BCS last month. HH will be stepping down from chair as she will be taking up the role of President at SCST later in the year. EG will contact Andre Ng as keen to engage with all affiliated societies and members.

**ACTION: EG – contact Andre Ng**

- g. Device Working Group

EG to confirm name of rep for this group.

**ACTION: EG – confirm which person is representing this group on BHRS**

- h. NHS OHCA EAG

JDB has been attending the meetings.

- i. BCIS Structural Intervention Group

No update.

- j. LAAO domain group

SM reported that the database has now gone live. Only a few have registered. SM encouraged everyone with a LAAO centre to get their staff to register. Ideas for research and projects are welcomed.

- k. UK Kidney Association consensus guidance on stroke prevention in AF Group

No update.

- l. PLG Working Group (Professional Liaison Group)

EG reported the group met but she was unable to attend and is currently awaiting the minutes. The main feedback is that NICOR, BCS and Simon Ray are going to be discussing ongoing NHS data collection

## 6. Education Committee/Events

- a. June Simulation Sessions feedback

Positive feedback was received from the event. Although attendance was good it was a push so it was felt the market for this model should be scaled back to once a year as a standalone event (rather than 3 times a year). Jonathan Behar will be taking over the simulation events. The EP traces day will remain part of the main meeting. It was noted that the Bristol hotel was an excellent venue and may be used for future 'sessions'.

- b. Event financials

JP presented slides from Millbrook on the event's financials. It was noted that the aim to break even would have been successful; however, due to the doctors' strike and the need for last-minute, expensive live streaming, there was an overspend. It was noted the live streaming was not well attended and was an unnecessary expense moving forward.

There is currently a running total deficit on the events P&L of approximately £10k. It was reported that a total of 486 members have attended across the 3 events with a total of 15 companies

engaging.

c. Future Events

**November 2024 Symposium:** The programme has been released for the November symposium and JP is incredibly pleased with the content. The morning will be devices focused and then EP in the afternoon. This will be followed by the BHRS AGM. The council will meet the day before and have an evening dinner. JP asked if some of the overseas speakers could be invited to the evening dinner.

**ACTION: TWeb – liaise with Millbrook to invite relevant people**

**Sessions:** This will be held the first week of March 2025 in Edinburgh. JP welcomes suggestions and feedback from council.

## 7. Training Update

a. Curriculum

JP reported that the Cardiology Doctors Curriculum is due a mid-term review. The main issue for review is GIM. JP reported that he is also VP elect for training for BCS and the incoming SAC chair.

b. BCS 2024/2025

Andrew Clark has asked for feedback as a society on BCS. JP will collate opinions from council. JP felt it was difficult to gain speakers with the main issue being the lack of reimbursement of travel expenses (BHRS are currently subsidising some BHRS speakers at this event). It was noted BCS was well attended (especially the BHRS sessions). PD felt the multi-disciplinary sections were good with a good choice of topics. He suggested an MDT approach of patient follow-up for future sessions.

**ACTION: ALL/JP – JP to collate any feedback from council regarding the BCS event**

## 8. Nursing Update

No update. EG to make contact with BHRS nurse reps to discuss what can be done to improve nurse membership.

**ACTION: EG – make contact with nurse reps**

## 9. Accreditation Update

a. Exam update

79 people took the exam in May. This included the Physician exam for the first time. 6 candidates took the exam and all passed. It was noted more work has to be done to promote the clinical exam. It was also noted a rise in industry taking the exam. The next exam is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> November with registration opening 17<sup>th</sup> July.

b. Reaccreditation Points System Update

The new points system has now softly launched for reaccreditation. 19 people have now successfully used the system. Industry courses are now available on the website that carry BHRS points. It was noted some minimal further development costs will be needed as well as a budget to cover the new staff member recently taken on to manage the system.

c. Webinars

Fundamentals of EP Part 2 will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Registration is open. Part 1 was well attended with approx. 60 attendees. The recording is now available on the website. These webinars carry 3 BHRS points. The Accreditation Committee were thanked for their hard work.

d. Department Accreditation

Discussion was made as to whether this could be a future possibility. SA will bring back suggestions to the group and will consider workload, cost, infrastructure, and maintenance. PD volunteered to assist. Work to be completed after the points system has been fully established.

**ACTION: SA/PD – later in the year start work on a departmental accreditation document**

## 10. NICOR/Audit Report

The following update was presented in AB's absence:

**AF PROMS:** NICOR has been tasked by NHS England (Simon Ray) to conduct a pilot to test a system to collect AF PROMS which can be linked to other NHS data. The system design is fairly simple and is essentially an online form for clinicians to fill out. AB has raised the concern that this could add work to individual services without resources and so use of the NHS App, or NICOR being allowed to send forms directly to patients, would be better. Simon Ray will explore whether we can create a linkage to the NHS App or link into to other central NHS services. AB is looking for two to three centres to pilot this if anyone wishes to offer their site.

**ACTION: EG – send out comms asking for potential volunteer centres to test system**

**NICOR Data:** There is now a new interactive report page:  
<https://www.nicor.org.uk/interactive-reports> Feedback is welcome.

There are plans for: new analyses (e.g. use of general anesthetic at a regional level for EP cases, mortality for ICD recipients), presenting data to show the quality of training and for trainee logbooks/accreditation. Please let AB know if any risk models are felt to be important (e.g. mortality for VT ablation, risk of device infection), and AB can work through proposals to use the data for this purpose in conjunction with statistical colleagues at NICOR. This will be discussed at the Domain Expert Group next week. AB will circulate the papers with more details soon.

**Quality Standards:** AB is very supportive of creating a policy for defining outlier institutions (either good or bad), and any intervention.

Regarding use of GA it was noted a lot of the data was collated for the GIRFT report. EG to highlight to AB.

**ACTION: EG – highlight the GIRFT report to AB for potential data analysis**

## 11. Research

No update. It was noted BHRS would like to host a summary of UK research projects on the website to ensure there is a platform for this information. RH has been tasked to provide information and brief to TWeb at the last meeting.

## 12. BJCA/Trainee Update

No update.

### 13. Admin Update

- 12 newsletters sent out
- 48 social media posts
- 134 Tickets answered

### 14. Website Update

PD reported the following additions/updates had been made to the website since the last meeting:

- Added Position Statement: Programming of Remote Monitoring Alerts
- Launched registration for Part 2 EP Webinar
- Added recording of Part 1 EP Webinar
- Added recording of EP Cases & Traces Webinar
- Opened registration for the November BHRSymposium
- 2 x case challenges launched
- Added data of events that carry BHRS points (past and future)

After an initial flurry of challenge submissions, we've now run out. PD and TWeb to readvertise.

**ACTION: PD/TWeb – readvertise for challenge submissions.**

### 15. Treasurer's Report

#### a. General update

BHRS has a healthy surplus which is likely to dip a little with all the current ongoing investment happening. VE confirmed the VAT application was submitted last week.

#### b. Expenses review

TWeb to recirculate the expense policy for any final comments with a 2-week deadline.

**ACTION: TWeb – recirculate policy with a 2-week deadline**

### 16. Secretaries Report

#### a. Member update

In HT's absence, EG reported there had been 59 new members since the last meeting (34 x level 1, 25 x level 2).

#### b. Any new declarations/new conflicts of interest

All council members are asked to contact HT and Admin with any new declarations or conflicts of interest to ensure we keep records up to date.

**ACTION: ALL – any new declarations or conflicts of interest to be sent to HT and Admin**

#### c. Elections



Elections will open 5<sup>th</sup> August with 2 doctor rep places being advertised. Please encourage suitable colleagues to attend.

**ACTION: ALL – encourage suitable colleagues to stand for election when opened.**

## 17. AOB

JDB confirmed the consensus statement on the management of cardiac devices around pregnancy has been accepted for publication in the British Journal of Obs & GYN. BHRS has been asked if they would like to pay for this document to have open access. It was decided to offer to 'contribute' in the hope that other associations will share the cost.

**ACTION: EG – to respond by offering to contribute to open access fee**

## 18. Date of Next Meeting

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 3pm. London - venue TBC.