



Primary Health Care Specialist Group

Chair's Annual Report 2024

Ian Thompson

This is my first conference as Primary Health Care Specialist Group Chair and I want to start by thanking the committee, particularly those longstanding experienced members for helping and supporting me as I have taken on the role that my predecessor Miriam Lemar left.

I want to say particular thanks to Roz Foads who stepped back out of retirement to fill the secretary's post that was previously vacant, and who is planning to retire again at this AGM. I believe she has given many years' service for PHCSG through thick and thin and on behalf of all the members I would like to thank her for all her support to the group over these years.

It has been a busy year for me with my becoming involved in the Health and Care Executive at BCS, now the Faculty of Health and Care Board, and supporting both the transition of the former Faculty of Clinical Informatics into BCS and more importantly the Inaugural BCS Faculty of Health and Care Conference last month.

BCS HQ continue to provide support:

- Jan Hoogewerf, has continued to provide support to us and other member groups in the BCS Health and Care Faculty.
- Marie Setterfield stepped aside as our member group support and Emma Lane has taken over the role. We thank Marie for her past support and have welcomed Emma's enthusiasm and support in helping us make our Education day and Annual Conference happen.

Activities

Below is a summary of activities from the year

- Attending the BCS Health and Care Executive and subsequently the Faculty of Health and Care Board on behalf of the group, including active role in Inaugural BCS Faculty of Health and Care Conference
- One of our newer members James Roberts (winner of the Julian Costello Travel award last year) has attended the UK Joint GP IT Committee on behalf of the group, as I already have a seat from my role in Scotland. Many of the current GPIT challenges are discussed at the committee and it provides us the opportunity to represent the concerns of those at the front line in primary care.



- Our channel on Digital Health Networks Discourse continues to be available for all to access although it is not very active. We have a discussion space on BCS Discourse <https://community.bcs.org/c/primary-care/74> and are awaiting functional changes to the site that might allow us to disband the traditional mailing list.

Events

Conference, AGM and Education Day Event November 2023

Last year's conference in Chester was a success with good engagement and some interesting international speakers.

Webinar

We only managed one webinar this year with Maggie Lay providing a useful insight into clinical safety and how this impacts frontline GP practices implementing digital tools.

Prizes

John Perry Prize 2023

Dr Ben Noble for his work on Cancer Maps, which clearly summarise the 2015 NICE NG12 Cancer Guidelines in three mind maps.

Hildi Franke Early Career Award 2023

Dr Stephen Bradley for his work on Lung Cancer diagnosis.

Julian Costello Travel awards 2024

The applications for this in 2024 were particularly strong and a decision was made to provide funding an additional applicant beyond the two main winners.

Dr Hartesh Battu

Dr Battu is a general practitioner working in a practice in Kilmarnock and a clinical innovation fellow at the Digital Health Validation Lab (DHVL) within the Living Laboratory for precision medicine programme at the University of Glasgow.

Dr Jung Yin Tsang

Dr Tsang is a general practitioner and academic researcher. He holds an NIHR doctoral research fellowship.

Nunu Abdulla

Ms Abdulla is in her final year of the two-year NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme (GMTS) Health Informatics specialism and was considered to have submitted a



very convincing application to warrant additional support, beyond the main winners.

Conference, AGM and Education Day Event November 2024

As ever, a huge amount of time and commitment has gone into organising the Education Day, AGM and Conference for this year. Many thanks to the conference organising committee for their help with this; I must single out Grizelda Moules for all her hard work as it really would not happen without her unstinting support.

Next year

Next year's programme will start to be developed at the next committee meeting after this AGM; we will aim to continue to deliver our programme of activities and in so doing raise the profile of the BCS PHCSG growing our membership specifically we want to:

- Award prizes and bursaries to encourage both new and existing participation in primary care informatics
- Host webinars to share knowledge and host CLICSIGS to act as discussion forum for key topics in primary health and care informatics
- Run the Education Day and conference during 2025.

Ian Thompson

East Lothian, October 2024