

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF ENDOCRINE & THYROID SURGEONS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

12 October 2017

4.45pm to 5.45 pm

Main Hall

The Assembly Rooms

2-10 Fisherwick Place

Belfast

BT1 6DW

1 Apologies

None received

2 Minutes of the AGM, Berlin 2016

Available on website, approved by AGM.

3 President's Report – Mr Lansdown

The President thanked the local organiser Fiona Eatock and also thanked two members of Exec who are demitting office (Jeremy Davis and David Smith).

The President also thanked members of BAETS involved with American Society of Head and Neck Surgeons' guidelines on re-operative parathyroid surgery. These are currently in press.

4 Treasurer's Report – Mr J Davis

a) Mr Davis gave a detailed breakdown of the income and expenditure of the Association. Since the AGM was in Berlin, there was no profit from this. Funds are therefore stable for the 2016 financial year. Total funds brought forward were £104,662.

b) financial forecast for the forthcoming financial year, 2017: surplus from Belfast annual meeting, the RCS Masterclass (£2582.79) and £10000 from the profits of the Oxford ESES meeting. AGM thanked Mr Radu Mihai for this generous donation.

c) income from membership numbers is stable.

d) Current balances were shown to be very healthy as of 12 Oct 2017

e) Eurocrine: Mr Davis outlined a potential financial loss to the association due to currency fluctuations following Brexit. This may be compensated for by the Eurocrine board. The maximum loss could total £7000-8000 but can be covered by reserves.

f) Mr Davis finished by thanking the AGM and wishing the Incoming Treasurer luck in their new role.

5 Secretary's Report – Mr M Stechman

a) Results of the 2017 elections for BAETS Executive Officers (Treasurer and Education)

One expression of interest Director of Education – Exec fully endorsed the appointment of Mr Saba Balasubramanian of Sheffield to the role with effect from the AGM (3 years, extendable by 2y).

An election was held during September for the post of Treasurer. Miss Fiona Eatock (Belfast) was elected to this role (3 years, extendable by 2y).

There was 52% voter turn out for this electronic election.

President Elect Mr Greg Sadler will assume office during the Meeting (Oct 2017-Oct 2019) and Mr Mark Lansdown will become Past President and sit on the Exec for 1 further year (until Oct 2018).

Expressions of interest will be sought for the next President Elect in Spring 2018.

b) Single Transferable Vote – approval to be sought from membership

The secretary outlined that BAETS currently uses a first-past-the-post system which can result in unexpected outcomes if multiple candidates run for election. Many other societies have taken on the Single transferable vote system for their officer's elections. The subject has been open to consultation since spring newsletter of 2017. No objections have been raised by the wider membership.

The proposal was put to the AGM to hold STV elections for all posts where 3 or more candidates stand. The motion in favour was carried unanimously.

c) Partnership between BAETS and BJS society

The BJS has reviewed its partnerships with all surgical societies. The new proposed categories were outlined. In order to maintain sponsorship of the BJS lecturer and Prize sessions, BAETS members would be required to OPT OUT of subscription to the BJS. The secretary has written assurances from the secretary of the BJS society that there is no minimum number of subscription required to qualify for the sponsorship, only the opt out. After discussion by the AGM, the proposal (endorsed by Exec) that BAETS should pursue a level 2 Opt out partnership with BJS society was put to a vote.

The AGM voted by large majority (3 votes against) to BAETS agreeing a level 2 partnership with the BJS society.

The secretary has notified BJS Society to this effect

d) BAETS research grant

2017 Recipient of a peer-reviewed £5000 grant was Mr G McKenzie of Hull for his research into Microfluidics in Graves disease and Thyroid cancer.

Deadline for applications 31 December, for decision at the 2018 March Exec meeting

Access to UKRETS data - Current projects (adrenal: Cardiff, FNA: London)
Deadlines 31 Aug and 31 Jan

BAETS travelling fellowships - up to £1000 for trainees or newly appointed consultants

6 Research Update – Mr J England/Mr R Mihai

a) THYVoice

Mr Mihai provided a brief update on the progress of the THYVoice study which is now recruiting patients, www.thyvoice.org.

b) QoL in Graves' disease

Mr James England has taken on the role of Research lead and thanked Mr Mihai for his in this role. He outlined plans for a multi-centre study to examine QoL after surgery for thyrotoxicosis. He outlined a plan to recruit 100 patients vs c.20 controls using ThyPRO-39 and HAD with additional qualitative questionnaire about experience of thyroidectomy. It is planned that 10 centres should be involved. The aim is to gain national adoption with long-term plan to develop an acknowledged template for adoption of further BAETS associated studies. Proposal submitted with approximate costings to regional research director. More accurate costings are currently being calculated.

c) Research Web page

The BAETS website research page requires an update from 2014. Currently paediatric parathyroid study suspended. The plan is to drop the list of latest publications, but if papers with free-to-view access are available please email to RJAEATHOME@aol.com and they can be uploaded. JE will update list of BJS Prize winners. It was also noted that only 1 recent awardee of research grant, 1st in 4 years. He plans to put details of potential sources for grant funding on the webpage.

7 UKRETS (separate session on Friday 13 Oct 2017) – Mr SR Aspinall and Mr D Chadwick

a) Consultant Outcome Publication

The outcome measures published were summarised and the reasons for omission of hypocalcaemia / voice change (incompleteness of data and only 50% entry of thyroid operations) were recapped. Currently there is no justification for action to outliers in view of substantial proportion of thyroid operations nationally not being added to UKRETS. The time required to add cases to UKRETS was also raised and the AGM agreed that this could be a barrier to engagement

Action point: add statement to BAETS website regarding this i.e. 15 mins to add new patient and 5 mins for follow-up information

The possibility of addition of parathyroid outcomes in the future was touched on, but this will depend on funding from HQIP. Lastly the deadline for next round of COP was stated: 30th November 2017.

b) Section 251 Application to the Confidentiality Advisory Group (CAG)

SA outlined the background to this application, the pros and cons of using NHS numbers in the future, reasons to keep recording DOB, gender, date of procedure and date of death. The CAG pre-application group has examined the UKRETS application and Exec are currently addressing their feedback.

action point: need to post patient information sheet for UKRETS on BAETS website

c) HES data

The rationale for acquiring HES data were explained and SA stated that he has applied to get access to this. He plans to start cross-checking HES and UKRETS data to determine regions or hospitals that carry out thyroid surgery and do not contribute to UKRETS.

d) Dashboards

SA summarised the suggestions for information to be displayed in new dashboard for BAETS members. This might allow information on outcomes to be collected more easily for appraisal and revalidation. This will have a significant cost and so Exec will continue to look at this before committing further funds.

e) UKRETS additional fields

A number of new fields will be added to UKRETS, following analysis of data for the last audit report.

1. Age alerts > 90yrs and <5yrs
2. Length of stay >1week
3. Thyroid pathology details
4. Tracheostomy
5. Parathyroid imaging
6. Adrenal imaging
7. Adrenal pathology

f) Research

SA presented the finding of Thyroid surgeon volume outcome (SR Aspinall / J Matthews / D Chadwick). From the data the cut off at which outcomes are affected appears to be around 25 thyroidectomys/year.

g) Access to UKRETS for non-BAETS members

The need to grant access to UKRETS of members of other specialities was discussed. It was agreed that this would be subscription based and is likely to be either full or reduced BAETS membership fee if only adding small number of cases (particularly Urology doing adrenal surgery).

8 Education Update – Mr D Smith

Mr Smith outlined that there had been a very successful BAETS Masterclass at the RCSEng in March 2017. The Ethicon Educational Program continues and there should be confirmation for the next year shortly. He also outlined the various Online resources: Webinars, operative Videos, ISCP Articulate Packages. He will update Literature on Thyroid Ca, PHPT, Adrenal surgery.

Potentially to come over next year: Trainee session in Annual Meeting depending on the feedback from this year's session, further Webinars with RCSEd, online discussions for trainees e.g. Google Classroom and an Adrenal Workshop, along the lines of the Masterclass. The 2018 Masterclass is planned for 5th March 2018 and will take place in the Birmingham offices of RCSEdinburgh.

9 Future BAETS Annual Scientific Meetings

2018	October 11, 12	Glasgow (hopefully joint meeting with Radiologists)
2019	October (TBC)	Barcelona
2020	October	Leeds or Sheffield – An online poll will be held to decide which.

10 Any Other Business

SAC

Alison Waghorn – encouraged members to consider joining the General Surgery SAC

Required experience was outlined. Expressions of interest on being co-opted to SAC should be sent to Richard Bliss/AW. The secretary will email membership about this.
AW would also like to collect a list of sites that host fellowships for training in Endocrine surgery.

11 Date of Next AGM Thursday 11 October, Glasgow

Conclusion and Meeting closed