



BRITISH HIP SOCIETY

Affiliated to the BOA

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BRITISH HIP SOCIETY NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2005

HUGH PHILLIPS, P.R.C.S.

The Hip Society notes the death of Hugh Phillips, P.R.C.S., with great sadness. Hugh, with Michael Freeman and Robin Ling, founded the Hip Society in 1989 Hugh was the first Secretary and he put together the original Constitution and arrange the first meetings. In 1998 he became President for two years. He lectured widely on diseases of the hip and their management, and he was responsible for teaching many surgeons. Hugh was involved in the inception of the National Joint Register, the Capital hip enquiry, and of course his lasting contribution will always be the first edition of "The Guide to Best Practice in Hip Surgery", published in 1999.

More comprehensive obituaries are to be found in the RCS bulletin, the BMJ, the Lancet and later this year in BON

Hugh will be sadly missed. His memorial service will take place at St. Clement Dane Church in the Strand on the 8th November 2005 at 11.00 a.m.

He was a great supporter of our Society.

The Hip Society extends its condolences to Trish and their family.

Keith Tucker – Autumn 2005

ELECTIONS

Following the AGM elections at Wrightington Hospital in March 2005 the new executive committee is as follows :-

President - Charles Wynn Jones

Vice-President - Colin Howie

Hon. Sec - John Hodgkinson

Treasurer - Ian Stockley

Editorial Secretary - Peter Howard

Web page Coordinator – Farres Haddad

Member at Large – Dave Sochart

Immediate Past President – Martin Porter

Vice President - Elect:- Keith Tucker

WRIGHTINGTON MEETING

The annual meeting at Wrightington Hospital was attended by a record number of people and was another great success. Martin Porter and his team did a great job and made us all feel very welcome.

There was a parallel meeting, for the first time, with the newly formed Arthroplasty Care Practitioner Association and this proved to be very popular and it is hope that this collaboration will continue.

More than 140 people submitted papers and it was regrettable, as always, that the number of podium presentations had to be limited. The topics in focus were well received and we are grateful to everyone who contributed to the various sessions.

THE PARALLEL MEETING

For quite a time most of us have realised that looking after people with diseases of the hip is a team effort and that to function properly we all need the support of many others.

With the advent of the National Joint Registry, ODEP and our own need for auditing of our work, many hip surgeons have working with many excellent people who make a great contribution.

About a year ago it was decided to invite members of what appeared to be an amorphous group of people, to the Hip Society Meeting at Wrightington. Fortunately, Wrightington have the advantage of having two lecture rooms on site. Therefore, we advertised through the group that Malcolm Binns has been championing (the arthroplasty auditors), NATN, the Surgical Practitioners and, of course, with posters via members of the society in their own hospitals. We did not necessarily expect a great response and we were rather taken aback when we had to put the limit at 100! Nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and others working in extended roles in a huge variety of settings around the country responded, all involved in the care of patients undergoing arthroplasty.

For those of you who were at Wrightington, it was felt that this parallel meeting was a great success. For those of you who were not there, it involved the parallel group having their own lectures some of the time and coming in our topics and focus, the guest presentation and various other subjects by audio visual link. The technicians at Wrightington did a great job and it all went off smoothly.

At the end of the meeting, the parallel group decided that they would like to form their own association. They organised a meeting of a few of them in London at the BOA in the summer and have subsequently formed the Arthroplasty Care Practitioners Association.

In Edinburgh at the next meeting, we are going to have another parallel meeting with the newly formed Arthroplasty Care Practitioners Association. They will be running their

events in the Royal College of Medicine and we will be in our lecture hall. It may well be that this time it is not just a one way telecommunication link and we may listen in on some of their activities.

We do hope that the British Hip Society is supportive of this initiative. The Executive is conscious of the fact that the British Hip Society was originally formed so that surgeons who have a particular interest of hip disease can get together and share experiences. The Executive is conscious of the fact that if meetings get too big the informality and time available just to have a chat with one another, can be limited. The Hip Society would welcome any comments or criticisms about this initiative.

It may well be that the Arthroplasty Care Practitioners do not request to join us every year but there has been a suggestion that they might come alternate years with the Knee Society having them alternately as well. That will be up to BASK

The Hip Society would like to pay tribute to Clare Darrah (Norwich) who, with her colleagues : Jill Pope (Liverpool), Justine Greaves (Clydebank), Cathy Jenkins (Oxford), Judith Learmont, & Morag Trayner (Edinburgh), Lindsay Smith (Weston Super Mare), Barbara Selvon (Sheffield), together with Malcolm Binns and Gordon Bannister have worked so hard to get this initiative going. Wrightington and Martin did a great job.

The Executive Committee would welcome your comments – to J K Tucker [Norwich]

K.TUCKER

Keith decided to make the Wrightington meeting his last as Honorary Secretary. Since being elected to this office in 1998 the BHS has gone from strength to strength. This is attributable, in many ways, to Keith's enthusiasm and attention to detail. The Society owes him a great debt and I am pleased to see that his talents will not be lost to the Society as he was unanimously appointed as Vice President Elect.

ODEP

Your representatives, Evert Smith (Bristol), Barrie Parker (Epsom) and I have met regularly with Andy Smallwood (PASA), Jan Van der Meulen from the Royal College of Surgeons, and Martin Pickford (NJR) over the past months. We have developed and tuned the NICE guidelines for hip replacement which were issued some while ago. We met with NICE this summer to confirm the process that we have in place and they were in total agreement with how we have moved the initiative forward.

Thus, all the implants that are presently available in the UK should have a NICE "benchmark". These benchmarks include the pre-entry, 3, 5, 7 and 10 year benchmarks and all the finer details are on the PASA website (ODEP). Essentially the firms promoting individual implants (cups and stems are dealt with separately) have to move through the benchmarks until they have achieved a 10A benchmark. This means that in certain centres records will have to be kept of the progress of individual prostheses, particularly the newer ones. Working with orthopaedic surgeons the companies will have

to generate outcome studies, and the size of the cohorts is described in the briefing documents.

There has been some discussion as to whether other implants including knee and shoulder should be scrutinised in the same sort of way, and suggestions have been made that companies may like to extend the ten year benchmark to fifteen years in due course.

Martin Pickford's contribution to the panel has been considerable. If prostheses are being used which do not have a benchmark he finds out about them through the NJR and notifies us.

I would like to recognise the contribution that Andy Smallwood has made to this process. He has worked tirelessly and with enormous dedication. I am not sure whether the interest that is being shown by several countries is something we can be proud of or not. Time will tell!

Should you have any questions about the activities of ODEP or any comments you would like to make please contact me on ktucker77@aol.com or Andy on Andy.Smallwood@pasa.nhs.uk

HIP OPCS CODES AND PBR

CHWJ reports :-

Charles Wynn Jones, Professor Richardson and Professor Clarke attended a Department of Health BOA Working Party chaired by Jo Dias on Orthopaedic & Trauma Version 4 HRG's (Health Related Groups). The remit was to develop HRG's that reflect complexity and comorbidity. Currently for THR for example they do not.

A number of us felt the current OPCS terminology did not reflect current hip practice and sought agreement to add more OPCS codes. This has only very recently been agreed and spare codes have been utilised to reflect more closely current practice in hip surgery.

The NJR hip terminology has been utilised as far as possible i.e. we suggest the term Hybrid hip be accepted for a new OPCS and Complex THR with more detailed descriptions i.e. complex osteotomy or block graft or support ring and morsellised graft and therapeutic spacers i.e. prostalac – these were missing from previous OPCS lists.

A number of members may have had discussions with the management of their hospitals about current tariffs for hip surgery. CHWJ had to go as far as communicating with his MP to get an answer from the Department of Health on the coding for cases that as derived by PCT "black box" computer programmes give a 150% uplift on orthopaedic tariffs – Members may now know that a special tariff has been agreed for major acetabular fracture surgery, costs in excess of basic hip tariff for CAD/CAM prostheses and importantly for 2nd and subsequent revisions can have the extra costs can be claimed from PCT's.

The new suggested HRG codes are to be implemented in 2008 and thereafter a new hierarchical coding structure based on Read codes called SnOMED CT will be developed and implemented. The BHS website has the links if you want to download the

Department of Health Technical papers on Specialised Services National Definition Sets etc.

A new CCSD (Clinical Classification and Schedule Development) for Independent Sector hip procedures is shortly to be implemented. The codes here do not exactly correlate with NHS utilisation of OPCS codes although many do. It is interesting to see that the independent sector can cope with an extra digit on an OPCS code and newer techniques but the NHS cannot – It will be interesting for those in Independent practice to see if the insurer remuneration for the hip codes will bring any fee uplifts (and any downlifts!!! for arthroscopy!!? not the hip of course).

A practical point – If your hospital is implementing an EPR (Electronic patient record) system and you are to be involved in electronically compiling a KMR (the statutory discharge summary to GP) insist on the “plain English” text (not OPCS translations) of your entries (with your patient unit no’s) being returnable to you every few months for the purposes of appraisal. Spell out to your management “the carrot works better than the stick”!!

WEB SITE UPDATE

The British Hip society website has moved to a new server and domain. We have registered the domain name www.britishhipsociety.com for 2 years at the outset and have secured web hosting with LCN UK Webhosting for 1 year.

The website itself has taken on a new, and hopefully, more professional look. Navigation should now be more intuitive. The BHS logo is prominent in the new design. It has been authored using professional software with powerful CSS (cascading style sheet) functionality making subsequent updates easier.

Content at present is essentially the same as the old site, with a few revisions to Officer details, constitution and History along with more comprehensive professional links.

There is a new addition to the site, that is yet to be implemented, of a members area. It is proposed that this area will contain the BHS newsletter and minutes of the AGM, with other content for members only being added as needed. Suggestions for this are most welcome, but ideas already proposed include a member directory and contact details (available as per member’s preferences). The area will only be accessible to registered members – who will be issued with a username and password

THE McMINN BURSARY:

As reported in the previous Newsletter, Derek McMinn has funded a bursary through the British Orthopaedic Association to support orthopaedic trainees who wish to study for an MD. The basis of the study should involve the aetiology or treatment of diseases of the hip.

Anyone interested should submit their CV to the BHS at the BOA. with details of their proposed study. The name of the proposed supervisor and the institution where the study is to take place plus an outline of the costs involved, the name of three referees, together with the proposed date on which the study is to start should be enclosed.

For an informal chat please telephone Keith Tucker or the President of the British Hip Society.

BRITISH TRAVELLING FELLOWS

The BHS has decided to offer 2 trainees a £1500 each travelling scholarship to visit a European Centre of Excellence of their choice for a period of 1 – 2 weeks. Applicants are invited to submit their CV and proposed itinerary which should include a rationale for their choice of Centre to John Hodgkinson, Hon Sec BHS, The Hip Centre, Wrightington Hospital, Appley Bridge, Wigan by the 31st December 2005 for consideration by the Executive Committee. Travel must take place within 12 months of the closing date.

EDINBURGH MEETING – 2006 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING – MARCH 2nd and 3rd

Our annual meeting next year will take place in Edinburgh. Charles Wynn Jones and Colin Howie are putting together the programme. The following topics are to be considered :-

1. Imagine guided and minimally invasive surgery
2. Consent
3. Management of acetabular fractures

Dana Meers [Pittsburg,USA] has agreed to present the guest lecture.

The Emerging Hip Surgeons forum will take place on the Thursday morning and will be chaired by Dominic Meek [Edinburgh]. All SPRs and consultants with less than 5 years experience are very welcome at this session and if you have any ideas for discussion or content of the programme please forward to Dominic.

There will be a parallel meeting, as mentioned above, with the Arthroplasty Care Practitioners and they will probably join us for the guest lecture and the session on 'Consent'.

IMPORTANT DATES

BHS 2006 Meeting 2nd & 3rd March, Edinburgh

Call for papers - deadline **30th November 2005** details for submission on the BHS website www.britishhipsociety.com

BOA 2006 Meeting 27th to 29th September, Glasgow

Call for papers - deadline **31st January 2006** details for submission will be available on the BOA website.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Hazel Choules, the Specialist Secretary, at the BOA is trying to compile an up to date list of members email addresses. Could you **PLEASE** contact her and let her know your up to date email and should you have 2 which one you prefer to use! – many thanks.