



President's News

Lorna Marson

I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer, and you are now refreshed!

Work within the Society has continued over the summer: we are making great progress with the organisation of congress for 2019, under the excellent chairmanship of our VP.

We are delighted that, following on from the success of the last year's joint session with ODT, we will be running a joint congress, the BTS/ NHSBT congress. You will hear more from Steve about the plans, and we are confident that we will deliver an excellent congress, working alongside our organ donation colleagues.

Other News

Communicating risk and consent work

We are continuing work on this venture with ODT, which explores the provision of information to patients prior to listing for transplant, and how we express risk to them. We are looking at examples of good practice across the UK and have set up organ specific working groups that are working to define the 'minimum dataset' and how we communicate some of the more complex aspects of transplant risk.

We are excited to be working with the Winton Centre for Risk and Evidence Communication in the maths department at University of Cambridge, who are working with the statisticians at ODT to develop tools that will help us to personalise risk for our patients.

Sustainability Summit

It was excellent to have representation from nearly all units at the Sustainability and Resilience summit in June. [A summary of the meeting is on the website](#), and we are working to take the discussions forward from that day; specifically, to explore the development of transplant collaboratives between neighbouring units, and to define career pathways within transplantation, across the MDT.

As always, thanks to everyone who has worked hard to take these initiatives forward, especially the secretariat and the executive team.

ESOT has just launched its new Grants Programme for 2019

The applications for the Grants Programme are available from September 1st to October 31st 2018.

	Educational Scholarship EUR 1.000	Study Scholarship EUR 2.000	Transplant Fellowship EUR 55.000
Age Limit	40	40	45
ESOT membership in good standing at the time of the application			
> Curriculum Vitae			
> Letters from the Head of the Dpt.			
> Statement by the applicant			
> Basic budget allocation of funds			
> Follow up report			
> ESOT Congress participation			

3 types of Grants are now available:

ESOT Educational Scholarship - 20 scholarships of EUR 1.000 each

ESOT Study Scholarship - 10 scholarships of EUR 2.000 each

ESOT Transplant Fellowship - 2 grants of EUR 55.000 each





Vice President's News

Planning is well advanced for BTS2019 Congress, which will be a different format to previous years. This time we are holding a joint conference with the Organ Donation community of ODT.

We have a joint programme on the Wednesday with Organ Donation and they will also join us for the Gala Dinner, which this year will be on the Wednesday.

Thursday will allow separate programmes to run for each group and Friday will be a long half-day as usual for BTS. The theme of this year's conference is "Communication" and we are delighted to announce that Dame Fiona Caldicott, who is the National Data Guardian and also Chair of the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has agreed to give our opening plenary lecture exploring some of the challenges in maintaining confidentiality and sharing large amounts of patient information in the context of organ donation and transplantation.

In addition to Dame Fiona we have some distinguished transatlantic visitors Dr Lori West and Dr Bethany Foster coming as well as a number of expert speakers from Europe. Further details of the academic and social programme will be advertised as they become available. Harrogate is a fantastic venue for the Congress and we hope that you will support this meeting.





Treasurer's News

Still trying very hard to balance the books! There will therefore be a further small increase in the membership fee again, although we are still very good value in comparison with other professional societies. We remain grateful to our corporate sponsors, and in particular to Chiesi and to Sandoz who have generously supported the Living Donor Forum and Winter Ethics Symposium this year.



Speaking of which, I hope the latter is in your diaries for Thursday November 15th in York? We are holding a one-day meeting on the theme of Directed Altruistic Donation where we will hear from donors, recipients and clinicians and also some stories from and about some of the “middle-men” (e.g. MatchingDonors.com and Matnat Chaim).

The day ends with the Hoffenberg Lecture which this year will be delivered by Miran Epstein, Reader in Medical Ethics at Queen Mary University of London. He has published extensively on a wide spectrum of issues in medical ethics and is a UK Emissary on behalf of the Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism Custodian Group. Should be a great day for debate and discussion!

The remainder of our time has been spent in planning Congress which is shaping up to be a cracking week! We are joining forces with ODT for the first time ever, which is very exciting! I will leave it to the VP to give you all the details, but I can assure you that we have a brilliant gala dinner planned, with a fabulous band called “The Funtime Frankies”. The theme is “Red and Black” so you better start researching your outfit and polishing your dancing shoes NOW!





The Secretary's Corner

Many congratulations to two stalwarts of the society who have received very well-deserved recognition for their research endeavours. Lorna has been awarded a personal Chair in the Edinburgh Centre for Inflammation Research, and Menna Clatworthy has been awarded an NIHR Research Professorship.

The Chairs of the subcommittees and Chapters have all developed plans for the forthcoming year and after a balmy summer the calendar is filling up with a wide range of meetings and educational opportunities, organised both by the BTS and related groups.

Coming up imminently, the Clinical Trials and Research committee will be holding joint meeting with the UK Kidney Research Consortium Transplant Clinical Study Group at Imperial on September 11th (<https://www.kidneyresearchuk.org/research/transplantation-clinical-study-group>). In addition to reviewing the forthcoming trial of treatment for active antibody mediated rejection, the meeting will also explore opportunities for collaborative working and single centre studies ready to transition to multi-centre trials.

The close working relationship between the BTS and ODT was apparent during the sustainability summit and next year's joint Congress in Harrogate looks to build on this, with the interconnectedness of the two organisations reflected in the programme.

We're looking forward to receiving your abstracts shortly!



Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) Programme funding available for 18/127 Transplantation

The EME Programme invites proposals for research into the efficacy of new or repurposed interventions used in transplantation, whether of cells, tissues or organs.

Areas of particular interest include:

- Tests for the assessment of donor organs, matching of recipients and for post-transplant monitoring.
- Interventions to improve the quality of donor organs or encourage tolerance to transplant.
- Novel approaches to post-transplantation treatment.

Applications into the treatment of Graft-versus-host Disease (GvHD) are not included under this call, but may be submitted to the EME Researcher-Led call.

To find out tips for making a successful application to the EME Programme, and the opportunity to discuss your proposed research, please sign up to a webinar on either of the following dates:

Monday 01 October 2018

11:00am - 12:00pm

Monday 08 October 2018

11:00am - 12:00pm

The call close date is 1pm, 20 November 2018.

[Click here for more information](#)



Upcoming Events



Living Donor Forum & Winter Ethics Symposium 2018

15th November, 2018
Park Inn by Radisson, York

[Click here to register for the Living Donor & Ethics Forum](#)



Diary Dates



Joint Annual Congress 2019

6th - 8th March
HCC Harrogate Convention Centre


Blood and Transplant



18th September

Call for abstracts
Congress registration to open

22nd November

Close abstract submissions