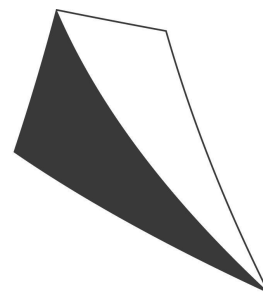


# ACPRC Newsletter

March 2007



ACPRC

## ACPRC Publications Group

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## BTS Secretariat

See page 2 for important news regarding the proposed move to the British Thoracic Society Secretariat.

## New ACPRC Website

The ACPRC is very pleased to announce the launch of its new website. Along with a completely new look the site aims to provide ACPRC members, other health professionals, and members of the public with a powerful source of up to date information.

Members will be able to login to the new site to access ACPRC publications such as the ACPRC Journal and Respiratory Review. To login, you will need your ACPRC membership number alongside your initials, in upper case, which are used as your password. Once you have logged in for the first time you will be able to change your password.

The site also features a resources section, divided into the four ACPRC Champion areas. Each section contains links, references, guidelines and documents that are key to the area of respiratory care. An additional section of the site also contains resources designed to help members promote and justify the services provided by respiratory physiotherapists. Members are encouraged to suggest content to be added to these pages; please contact [websitemanager@acprc.org.uk](mailto:websitemanager@acprc.org.uk).

The new site will allow us to communicate more effectively and efficiently with members and enable us to provide the newsletter in electronic format. To ensure that we are able to keep you updated and informed please make sure we have an up to date e-mail address for you. You can do this by logging on to the new site and selecting 'Your Profile' from the User Menu, or by contacting the Membership Secretary.

Please visit the new site at [www.acprc.org.uk](http://www.acprc.org.uk) and let us know what you think!

Matt Cox  
ACPRC Website Manager

## Chair Report

### British Thoracic Society Secretariat



The ACPRC now has over 750 members, we need to provide professional support and like other CIGs we recognise the difficulty of maintaining all operations in house and provided by members who are already fully employed. In our 2005 Annual General Meeting you agreed to support a move to position the ACPRC membership and secretariat at the offices of the British Thoracic Society.

The present situation is unsustainable:

- § Membership and secretary posts are mainly administrative. These posts are filled on a voluntary basis by enthusiastic committee members, usually in other full time positions. We would prefer that these members were able to fill their time running courses, providing literature and supporting you.
- § There are insurance implications for the membership post in case of fire damaging important documents (like cheques!)
- § The secretary at present houses resources such as banners, videos etc, which leads to insurance implications and storage problems for the individual concerned.
- § Recruiting to these important posts can be very difficult and hand over is often problematic due to materials stored in a variety of places

The move to BTS offices would have many tangible benefits for ACPRC members:

- § Committee members would be in a position to provide more study days and conferences.
- § BTS will provide conference support and facilitate sponsorship, leading to financially viable conferences.
- § Increased recognition of ACPRC in BTS led meetings and study days, leading to greater understanding of our role in the management of respiratory disease.
- § Integrated collaboration with our medical colleagues, with the Association of Respiratory Nurses (ARNS) who are already based at BTS offices, and with the Association of Technological Physiologists (ARTP) who are considering this move too.
- § A bigger, multi-professional lobbying force to improve care for patients with respiratory disease and increase access to services
- § Greater opportunities to develop and publish high quality physiotherapy materials such as guidelines and best practice documents.
- § Involvement in BTS-led peer review developments and strategic developments, with greater involvement in shaping services and research, e.g: critical care and paediatric links
- § Support and administrative expertise for respiratory physiotherapy campaigns.

- § Input in to BTS strategic developments and greater involvement in shaping service development and research priorities eg: developing critical care and paediatric links
- § Structured support and administrative expertise for respiratory physiotherapy campaigns.
- § The move to secretariat at BTS offices would have many practical benefits:
- § A single site to store resources, membership details and a committed sustainable administrative support service.
- § Improved legal and financial arrangements (support from BTS legal and financial departments)
- § Secretariat services provided to support all meetings and action reminders for committee members

Under this new arrangement the ACPRC would remain independent with its own budget and professional responsibilities dedicated to supporting the needs of respiratory physiotherapists and improving patient care. However, increasing NHS financial pressures, changes in research funding and increasing patient representation mean that in order to improve respiratory care across the board we need to speak as one integrated voice. The BTS is responding flexibly to these pressures and has in mind a “big tent” approach, all professions independently represented within the overarching “tent” that ultimately aims to improve multidisciplinary care for patients with respiratory disease.

This proposal is the culmination of a significant amount of behind the scenes work, Julia Bott, Kelly Redden- Rowley, Sian Goddard, Sheila Edwards of BTS and Dr. Martin Allen have all worked exceedingly hard to make this come about. I personally would like to thank all of them very much (and all the other people who have worked towards this that I perhaps do not know about).

Funding the changes:

For the first year we plan to fund and evaluate this project from accumulated project funds. In the future we will need increased membership to sustain this proposal. Negotiations with the BTS have been fruitful and the BTS will be providing this service (particularly conference co-ordination) at a loss.

Membership fees have remained static for a number of years, rises have not occurred in line with the cost of inflation and fees are no longer sufficient to cover publication costs, travel expenses, study days etc. To cover inflationary costs and in order to provide new BTS support we propose to raise fees by an additional £15. This brings the proposed costs of membership fees to £40.00 per year.

We are providing a three month consultation period on this proposal and look forward to answering your queries and addressing your concerns in full.

Rachel Garrod  
ACPRC Chair

**Please e-mail Rachel Garrod at [chair@acprc.org.uk](mailto:chair@acprc.org.uk) or [rgarrod@hscs.sgul.ac.uk](mailto:rgarrod@hscs.sgul.ac.uk) for further information.**

## **Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Respiratory Care (ACPRC)**

### **Mission Statement**

***“The Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in  
Respiratory Care promotes best practice in respiratory  
physiotherapy for the benefit of patients”.***

Our three main functions are:

1. To facilitate the national and international exchange of information and ideas
2. To provide opportunities for educational development
3. To promote research and it's dissemination

## **Tracheostomy and NIV Competency Booklets Evidence to Support KSF**

Following my response to a discussion point on *interactiveCSP*, I have had several requests for my tracheostomy competency booklet and I was approached to do a piece for the ACPRC Newsletter.

I work at St Mary's NHS Trust in North West London region where we are utilising the Tracheostomy Care Bundle produced at Hillingdon Hospital, based on the work from North West London NHS Trust. We updated our tracheostomy guidelines to reflect the "care bundle" approach and relaunched our trust study days.

In the middle of all that Agenda for Change appeared with the Knowledge and Skills Framework and so I offered to produce a competency booklet to support these initiatives.

We also had an NIV trust study day, but due to time constraints and feedback forms, this was merged with the tracheostomy study day and it seemed prudent to provide a similar competency booklet for NIV.

The booklets are not "evidence-based" as they are merely a tool for recording competency, but the tracheostomy and NIV guidelines they represent are. The booklets use a 5-grade classification for level of competency, based on the old system used by universities and were originally designed with predominately nurses in mind; however they can be adapted to any suitable profession.

In terms of relating this to KSF, there are elements that can relate to several core and additional dimensions. For example competency 2 in the tracheostomy booklet might relate to Core 3 – health and safety, or competency 3 to Core 1 – communication and core 5 – quality. This will depend on how your trust has interpreted the KSF and how it is to be implemented.

I hope these will be a useful tool for others – please feel free to edit the booklets to suit your individual needs and I am happy to receive feedback – positive or otherwise!

*Both can be accessed on the ACPRC website on the resources page, together with their respective guidelines.*

Jo Burtenshaw, Respiratory Physiotherapy Service Lead  
jo.burtenshaw@st-marys.nhs.uk

## **Vice Chair Report**

A little brief feedback from the recent clinical interest group liaison committee (CIGLC) meeting in January.

Although this may seem a little dry at times, I hope that by keeping you all up to date with the CSP activities, you may have more of an idea of what the CSP is up to and how we as your clinical interest group are working with them to improve the profile and impact of respiratory physiotherapy.

The CSP really do recognise the importance of a respiratory interest group and value our input on many issues. If you have any practice or professional issues that you experience which you feel the CSP should be aware of, or should be acting upon, please do contact me and I'll pass things on.

### **Congress 2008**

There will be no CSP Congress in 2007 as the Society are keen to evaluate and improve things following two years of low attendance. Congress will be moving to Manchester and the CSP are keen to create a really useful, challenging format, in which the ACPRC are involved as they feel a CSP Congress could not be held without respiratory input.

More to follow in future newsletters.

### **Annual Representatives Conference (ARC)**

ARC was cancelled last year to save money. This year it will be in Oxford in March and the ACPRC have had a motion accepted for debate. The CSP and CIGLC were very keen that the various CIG groups put forward motions for debate at ARC in order to ensure that ARC was used to direct clinical and professional issues, rather than more global issues.

The ACPRC motion is about encouraging weekend working opportunities for presently unemployed graduates. Obviously we are not encouraging the use of untrained staff grade physiotherapists who have not had sufficient training (which is one criticism we have had regarding the motion). We felt the issue of different opportunities for staff grade jobs needed to be debated and brought to the forefront of members awareness.

Again, updates will follow in future newsletters.

### **Practice and Development Function**

The new function which will be fully up and running in from May, will be concentrating on "making the case for Physiotherapy" and defining Physiotherapy scope of practice. The new function has many different roles but is hoping to concentrate on issues that will be most useful to members in justifying, improving and maintaining quality physiotherapy services in all areas.

Well, that's the big issues from CIGLC. The rest of my vice chair role at the moment is focused on helping out the other committee members in their various tasks so I'll not repeat their reports. As always if you have any ideas for future projects or developments for the ACPRC to consider, please email me via: [vicechair@acprc.org.uk](mailto:vicechair@acprc.org.uk)

Please visit the new website and keep an eye open for new material which Matt is adding all the time.

### **ACPRC Core Committee**

#### **Chair**

Rachel Garrod  
chair@acprc.org.uk

#### **Vice Chair & CIGLO**

Sian Goddard  
vicechair@acprc.org.uk

#### **Membership Secretary & Diversity Officer**

Charlotte Church  
membershipsecretary@acprc.org.uk

#### **Committee Secretary**

Cathy Sandsund  
secretary@acprc.org.uk

#### **Treasurer**

Catherine Thompson  
treasurer@acprc.org.uk

#### **PRO**

Sue Pieri-Davies  
publicrelations@acprc.org.uk

#### **Research Officer**

Anne Bruton  
researchofficer@acprc.org.uk

### **Help us to stay in contact!**

Please make sure that we have your current e-mail address. You can do this by logging on to the website and editing 'Your Profile' or by contacting the membership secretary.

### **Membership**

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new membership secretary. I have officially taken over from Sian Goddard as of the beginning of January 2007. As I embark on this new role I would like to thank the existing ACPRC committee members for making me feel so welcome!

So, a little about my background. I am currently working in the South West within Taunton and Somerset NHS Trust as a Senior I (or should I say Band 6?!). I have been qualified for about eight years, specialising early on in respiratory care. I decided I wanted to be a part of the ACPRC in order to broaden my respiratory horizons, feel more involved in the respiratory physiotherapy network and extend the scope of my own CPD. It is always interesting and enlightening to see things behind the scenes of a committee rather than just as a member!

My position has started just at the time of membership renewal so I have received an influx of forms. I am steadily processing them but being new to the role I ask for your patience in receiving any correspondence from me confirming receipt of your details and payment. Rest assured the wheels are in motion. Similarly, following the transition from Sian to me, direct debit forms and other related downloadable documents will not bear my name but please do send them to myself as very soon they will do. This is a perfect time to remind those of you who have not yet renewed your membership to do so!

If you have queries regarding your membership please do not hesitate to contact me.

#### **Treasurer**

I am really pleased to have joined the ACPRC committee after many years of reading the newsletters and taking for granted all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes. I feel that it is about time I gave a little back to the ACPRC.

For those of you who were unable to attend conference I will tell you a little bit about myself. I qualified in 1996 from what was then the Manchester School of Physiotherapy. At Senior II level I chose to specialise in Respiratory Care and have been working in this field ever since. Two years ago I made the leap into higher education but keen to maintain my clinical skills and currency have carried on working one day per week in clinical practice at my local district general hospital.

Now that I'm a couple of months into the 'job' of treasurer I'm finally to feel that I'm getting to grips with what the role involves. I would like to express my thanks to Bianca, the outgoing treasurer for her help and support in the handover process, and for continuing to provide me with the answers to new questions that arise. The coming year will bring a review of the ACPRC's finances to ensure that we continue to manage your membership fees in the most efficient way. By doing this we are able to achieve value for money and a high level of service to the membership.

## **ACPRC Champions**

Cardiothoracic Champion  
Angela Martin  
cardiothoraciclead@acprc.org.uk

Chronic Disease Champion  
Amy Russell  
chronicdiseaselead@acprc.org.uk

Critical Care Champion  
Sara Bolton  
criticalcarelead@acprc.org.uk

Paediatric Champion  
Paul Ritson  
paediatriclead@acprc.org.uk

## **Champions Reports**

### **Chronic Disease Champion Report**

Hello!! As you are hopefully aware I have taken over from Mandy Dryer as Chronic Disease Champion. I just want to say thanks to Mandy for doing such a good job and for easing me in so gently.

This report is just to keep you all up to date with what is happening in the world of Chronic Lung Disease this year. Excitingly we have the COPD NSF in the making this year, which should help to back up physiotherapists who want to improve their COPD services. There are 6 subgroups under the main committee looking at different elements of the NSF and there will be a physiotherapist on each sub group. I am on the patient focused outcomes group, Rachel Garrod is on the prevention and diagnosis group and

Julia Bott is on the External Reference Group. There are obviously other physios on other sub-groups and I apologise to them for not putting them in this report. If you are working on any of the NSF committees I would be really grateful if you could let me know so that I can keep in touch with you all as to what is going on in each area. Thanks

Rachel and I are also working on setting up a Pulmonary Rehabilitation network in conjunction with Rupert Jones to enable PR physios to communicate more easily, share resources and even data to create large numbers for evaluation of PR across the country.

The BTS / ACPRC physiotherapy guidelines for the management of spontaneously breathing medical patient are ongoing and successful and will be on the website as soon as they are complete.

I will make sure that there is a continuous supply of interesting links and articles on the chronic disease page of the new website so please make sure you go and have a look. If there are any areas that you feel I am not covering please let me know and I will try my hardest to dig something up!

## **Critical Care Champion Report**

### **SOS (save our services)**

I'd like to hear from members who are having trouble justifying their services under the current NHS climate and in particular on-call. I have been monitoring some of the discussions on iCSP and feel that many of us across the country are being asked to provide the evidence for the viability of our service or face cuts. With this in mind I think it would be useful to compile an evidence database or a document for use by members faced with such requests. I have already spent some time reviewing the DOH documents and highlighting the sections that support our skills but other work, evidence or examples of good practice would be welcomed. If you have been successful in a similar situation and would be happy to share your success then I'd like to hear from you too. If there is sufficient interest and some like minded people I'd like to organise a session in the new year to consolidate the evidence and create some expert opinion. If you are interested please email me and I'll get the ball rolling.

### **INFLUENZA PANDEMIC**

I recently attended the DOH Critical care Contingency Planning day on preparing for an Influenza Pandemic and was shocked to discover how unprepared we (our Physio department) would be when the pandemic arrives. This slightly controversial topic was well addressed by the DOH representatives but remains an enigma for many (no I cannot provide the answer either) but what I can suggest is that if your physiotherapy department has not started to make plans for the pandemic then get involved now. Leigh Mansfield (Newcastle) delivered the Physio session on this day and she stressed the importance of communication and planning. I feel there may be scope to compile some ACPRC guidance on this and again I would be delighted to hear from members who have plans in place or would like to share ideas. Please email me. (if you are interested the presentations from this day they are available from the organisers website <http://www.rockfaceeducation.com/cccp/downloads.htm> )

### **Other news**

Sheric and I provided comment on behalf of the ACPRC on the Advanced Critical Care Practitioner Competency document currently under development at the DOH, search for *advanced critical care practitioner* on the DOH website if you would like to know more.

And look out for the NICE short guidelines under development on the Management of the Acutely Ill Adult in Hospital, mostly related to outreach services but still relevant to physiotherapy. If anyone knows anyone involved in this please let me know I am interested to see if there is AHP representation on this guidelines group. Search for *acutely ill adults* on the NICE website to find out more.

## **HOSPITAL AT NIGHT/FRONTLINE**

Thanks to all those that responded to my call on iCSP for those involved in H@N, the CSP have written an article and it will be in Frontline shortly. Frontline would also like to write a piece on Critical Care Contingency planning so if there are members involved directly with this or have previous experience please contact me if you would be happy to talk to Frontline. There may be some overlap with the Flu pandemic.

There is other stuff in the pipeline but please let us know what you would like us to work on/develop in 2007. If anyone is interested in becoming a champion for critical care please get in touch as my juggling skills are starting to fail me!

Sara

[Sara.bolton@orh.nhs.uk](mailto:Sara.bolton@orh.nhs.uk) or [criticalcarelead@acprc.org](mailto:criticalcarelead@acprc.org)

## **Paediatric Champion**

Paul Ritson has unfortunately had to resign from the position of Paediatric Champion. The ACPRC would like to thank Paul for all of his hard work establishing the role of the Paediatric Champion. The committee wish Paul good luck for the future.



The ACPRC are looking for a new Paediatric Champion. If you are interested in filling this position please contact Cathy Sandsund at [secretary@acprc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@acprc.org.uk).

The job description for this post can be found on the website.

## **Publications sub-group report**

As you will have seen from the front page, the most exciting news from Publications is the re-launch of the ACPRC website. We are really pleased with its new look and hopefully it will enable us to keep you up to date much more readily.

In keeping with this work towards keeping the members better informed we have had a rethink on how the Newsletter functions. You may remember from the AGM and the last edition of the Newsletter that we were aiming to “go electronic” and the plans for this have just been finalised at our recent Committee Away Day meeting. Our plans are to have one paper Newsletter early on in the year following our annual Away Day meeting that will include summaries of the previous year’s ACPRC achievements, our New Year annual objectives and all the reports from the meeting. After this bumper edition we will send out monthly email Newsletters to all members. This should ensure that you hear about courses, conferences and other events in good time. So, as Matt has already said.....update you e-mail address online, or make sure you inform the Membership Secretary of your email address ASAP.

The other exciting development for Publications is the introduction of peer review to our Journal, which Judy Bradley and Brenda O’Neill are working hard towards at the moment. This will ensure we safeguard the current high standards of contributions whilst encouraging varied subject matter and authors from all areas of respiratory care, including students.

Finally, the Respiratory Review has been taken over by Alex Hough this year. If you are a reviewer then expect an email from her soon reminding you that your review should be in by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you have any queries regarding publications please email me at [publicationschair@acprc.org.uk](mailto:publicationschair@acprc.org.uk)

Thanks,

Nicki Garner

## **Research Officer**

Ann Bruton has unfortunately had to resign from the position of Research Officer due to pressures in her academic post. The ACPRC would like to thank Ann for all of her hard work and wish her good luck for the future. Ann has generously agreed to baby-sit this role until a replacement is found!



The ACPRC are looking for a new Research Officer. If you are interested in filling this position please contact Cathy Sandsund at [secretary@acprc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@acprc.org.uk).

The job description for this post can be found on the website.