

HRUK/BPEG NEWS

July 2005

A few words from the Hon. Secretary

Our esteemed President is taking a brief but well-earned holiday, but the show goes on. It very nearly didn't, however, as our last Council meeting was scheduled for 7th July in Fitzroy Square; fortunately, it was arranged for the afternoon and none of Council (or indeed any other members that we are aware of) was injured or involved in any of the explosions. We are all determined, however, to continue business as usual, although the holiday period has prevented us from re-scheduling Council so far.

Within Council, Nick Linker has kindly agreed to take on the role of chairing the HRUK Exam Committee, so we can look forward to some new, challenging and up to date questions this year.

For those of you with interventional interests, don't forget Richard Schilling's excellent course on 15/16th September in London.

Finally, I hope all members enjoy a refreshing holiday and we look forward to seeing many of you in Cambridge in September. Please tell colleagues about the course, and continue to encourage anyone eligible to join HRUK and consider taking the exam in December.

Have a good Summer!

Michael Gammage

Logo Competition

We are pleased to announce the winner of the logo competition:

Craig Russell, ICD Nurse working at Leeds General Infirmary, won the competition with the following entry:



Council offers its congratulations to Craig, and thanks to all those other members who submitted their designs. 12 designs were submitted, and the winner chosen from an eventual short list of three. The design was selected partly because of its simplicity and the possible future adaptation by the sub-groups, including the Arrhythmia Nurses who have already used a very similar image.

We hope that once the "Heart Rhythm UK" change of name has been ratified by the Charity Commission, the new logo will also be incorporated into the group.

Annual HRUK Educational Courses

Møller Centre, Cambridge

19 – 22 September, 2005

(1) Basic course

For cardiac physiologists and SpR's with limited knowledge of cardiac devices and electrophysiology
The syllabus will form the basis of the BPEG exam, with an emphasis on cardiac device management.

(2) Advanced course

For experienced cardiac physiologists and cardiologists
Course content will include complex cardiac device management and electrophysiology

The Course will commence on the evening of Monday 19th September, and continue until tea time on Thursday 22nd. Costs are set out below: (fully inclusive of accommodation and meals for delegates attending the whole course. Due to venue restriction, unfortunately accommodation is not available for day delegates)

BPEG members	£380
Non BPEG members	£620
Day attendee	£150

The draft outline programme is set out below, and a registration form is enclosed with this Newsletter.

Once again HRUK wishes to acknowledge the educational grant from Medtronic UK Ltd., towards the Annual Educational Course.

Draft Outline Programme

Monday 19th September	Early evening arrival and buffet dinner
Tuesday 20th September - Pacing Foundation Course	Fundamental aspects of cardiac stimulation Indications for pacing and mode selection Pacemaker implant techniques and complications Running a pacing clinic Pacemaker timing cycles 1 Pacemaker timing cycles 2 Advisories & Recalls for Cardiac Devices Pacing for heart failure Pacemaker Programmer workshop
Advanced Course	Fundamental aspects of cardiac stimulation When and how to pace for carotid sinus hypersensitivity and reflex syncope Developments in pacemaker lead design Lead extraction - indications & techniques Advanced pacemaker troubleshooting RV apical pacing - adverse effects and alternatives Left ventricular lead positioning - tricks and tips Biventricular pacing - the role of echocardiography for patient selection and programming Epicardial Lead placement for CRT LV lead placement training using virtual reality model

**Wednesday 21st September –
ICD's**

Foundation Course

ICD patient assessment and selection - What do the trials tell us
Patient assessment and education - role of the specialist nurse
ICD implant procedure and complications
Follow-up of the ICD patient
ICD programmer workshop
Management of the ICD patient following a shock
ICD case studies
Drug treatment in ICD patients
A rehabilitative approach to ICD patients
Why should we contribute to a national database?
Driving and Arrhythmias

Advanced Course

Primary prevention: Identifying high risk patients
Risk assessment in cardiac ion channel abnormalities
Risk assessment in cardiomyopathies
ICD prescription - single, dual or triple chamber
Dealing with high DFT's
Advanced ICD troubleshooting
Remote patient follow up
Medical management of the ICD patient after a shock
A rehabilitative approach to ICD patients
Why should we contribute to a national database?
Driving and Arrhythmias

**Thursday 22nd September –
Arrhythmias/EP**

Foundation Course

Arrhythmias for the non-electrophysiologist
ECG diagnosis of tachycardias
Non-invasive assessment of arrhythmias
Mechanisms of arrhythmias
Drug treatment of arrhythmias
Who should be referred for EP studies
Strategies for atrial fibrillation - rate versus rhythm control
Case studies - narrow and broad complex tachy
HRUK - the future

Advanced Course

Equipment and signals
How to perform a diagnostic EP study
Complex SVT - diagnostic challenges
Introduction to advanced mapping systems
Ablation of atrial tachycardia & a flutter
AF ablation - patient selection, technique and results
HRUK - the future

The Course will finish at lunchtime on the Thursday. Lunch is provided, prior to departure.

These courses are usually oversubscribed so early registration is recommended

The HRUK Interventional EP meeting

Interventional electrophysiology has changed dramatically over the last 10 years in the UK. Thanks to the pioneering efforts of the senior UK electrophysiologists we now have more EP labs and more interventional heart rhythm specialists than ever, with hopefully more to come. We have for some years looked at the organisation and drive demonstrated by cardiologists involved in coronary intervention with admiration and envy and bemoaned the image that electrophysiology seems to have. Now is the time for us to change this. With the formation of a new society we have the opportunity to completely reinvigorate electrophysiology. The intervention arm of HRUK is launching an ambitious two day meeting which covers every aspect of interventional electrophysiology in the UK from science to politics. Speakers are almost all confirmed now and as soon as this is finalised a program will be sent to you all and available on the HRUK intervention web site (www.ukices.org.uk). I would urge you to attend and encourage your colleagues and fellows to do so as well.

Submissions for the young investigator prize are also very important.

Interventional electrophysiology has dominated the BCS young investigator award for the last few years so there is clearly considerable EP research going on but some of the more complex and basic science electrophysiology may never make it to BCS so here is a chance to showcase your work. The young investigator submission should be a 6 side (3 page), double spaced, 12pt paper submitted to myself (r.schilling@qmul.ac.uk).

The deadline for submission is 15th August.

I will then forward the submissions on to our eminent panel of judges who will make selections for the finalists.

HRUK is likely to amalgamate all its meetings into one mega meeting with sections for all interests in EP (pacing, patients, technicians, nurses and intervention) in 2006. In order to convince industry that they should support this it is vital that we have a well attended and successful meeting this year so do please keep talking about it, reminding colleagues about it and of course register and attend.

Registration documents are enclosed with this newsletter.

Richard Schilling
Member of Organising Committee

Positions Sought

HRUK is pleased to offer both a "Positions Sought" and "Positions Available" notice board to its members, via the newsletter. Please send any such requests to Beverley Charters @ bpeg@bcos.demon.co.uk, with details of time lines, to ensure their publication in an appropriate issue of the HRUK Newsletter.

HRUK has received the following request from Dr.Thoranis Chantrarat of Thailand. Please contact him directly if you would like further details of his CV, or are able to consider him for a position:

"My name is Dr. Thoranis Chantrarat from Thailand.I am the cardiologist in the Medical college in Bangkok, Thailand. I write to you because my medical college will sponsor me to study in U.K. in Interventional Cardiology or Electrophysiology for a period of 3 years. I have passed the PLAB test for both part 1 and 2. I have no need to get an NHS post or paid position because all the expenses will be sponsored by my college. Would you please give me any suggestion regarding the process of how to access a hospital where I can train in intervention or EP studies" thoranis@hotmail.com

HRUK/BPEG Examination and Certificate of Accreditation

The BPEG exam was revised in 2004, partly in response to requests to provide accreditation in device-based management of arrhythmias for doctors and physiologists who do not have direct experience of diagnostic and interventional electrophysiology.

Multiple sites were arranged, in Belfast, Glasgow, London and Manchester, and this successful format will once again be repeated this year. The new syllabus is set out below, and a registration form enclosed.

SYLLABUS FOR HRUK/BPEG EXAM

1. **Anatomy of the heart.**

Structure, blood supply, conduction system, cardiac cycle, action potential, automatism of cardiac muscle. Cellular physiology.

2. **Haemodynamics.**

Normal physiology, the vascular system, autonomic regulation, cardiac output - exercise, Cardiac failure, A-V synchrony.

3. **Pathology.**

Sinus node disorders, aetiology, clinical findings. Related syndromes, Brady/tachy syndrome, Chronotropic incompetence, Carotid sinus syndrome, Conduction system disorders. Cardiac arrhythmias. Indications for pacing. Cardiomyopathy. Sudden Cardiac Death. Heart failure.

4. **Pacemakers defibrillator, atrial tachycardia devices and Biventricular devices.**

Device circuitry, Sensing technology, battery technology. Capacitors. Conductors and impedance. Lead technology, unipolar bipolar, connectors, high impedance / low impedance leads. Steroid eluding, Strength duration curves. Defibrillator testing. Shock polarity. Sensor technology. Rate adaptive pacing. Mode switching. Pacemaker / defibrillator and lead codes. Implant indications. Battery depletion. Device headers. Lead adaptability. Lead and device extraction. Defibrillator / pacemaker box change. EMI.

5. **Clinical concepts.**

Implantation - transvenous, epicardial techniques. Lead positioning. Generator change. Radiography of implanted devices. Complications of implantation. Antibiotic cover and devices. All aspects of infection. Pacemaker syndrome. Implant complications. Management of infected implanted devices. Wound evaluation. Metabolic stress testing.

6. **Pacemaker, defibrillator, atrial tachycardia and cardiac resynchronisation electrocardiography.**

Timing cycle and parameter characteristics. Diagnostic and evaluation of device programming, malfunction, optimisation. Atrial fibrillation \ Defibrillation detection algorithms.

7. **Follow up of the paced patient.**

8. **Follow up of the patient with a cardiac resynchronisation device.**

9.

10. **Follow up of the patient with an implanted defibrillator.**

11. **EMI and implanted devices.**

12. **Lead extraction.**

13. **Drugs.**

Antiarrhythmic drugs and effect on defibrillators / pacemakers. Heart failure drugs. Anaesthetic drugs used at implant.

14. **Driving regulations.**

15. **Clinical Trials.**

Dates for your Diary – Autumn 2005

September

Saturday 3 September – Wednesday 7 September 2005

Stockholm, Sweden

Further information from www.escardio.org

Thursday 15 September - Friday 16 September

1st HRUK Intervention Meeting

The Law Society, Chancery Lane, London

See enclosed article by Richard Schilling and registration form for further details, or refer to www.ukices.org

Monday 19 September (evening) – Thursday 22 September (lunchtime)

BPEG Foundation and Advanced Courses, Møller Centre, Cambridge

See outline programme and enclosed flyer for full details

December

Friday 9 December 13.00 – 15.00

BPEG Certificate of Competence Examination

Sites will be located in Belfast, Glasgow, London and Manchester

Please refer to enclosed syllabus outline and registration form for further details.

Membership Drive

A membership application form and standing order mandate are enclosed with this newsletter. Please pass them to any of your colleagues who wish to join HRUK/BPEG, and photocopy as necessary.

Once completed, the forms should both be sent to the HRUK/BPEG office and will be submitted to the next Council meeting for approval. All applications will then be confirmed in writing.

Future editions of HRUK/BPEG News

We are keen to hear from our members!

Please share your anecdotes, regional and subgroup meeting information, situations vacant, historical articles, etc by publication in future editions of HRUK/BPEG News.

Send them to Dr. Michael Gammage, HRUK/BPEG Hon. Secretary, preferably in electronic format, to HRUK/BPEG, 9 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 5HW

Email: bpeg@bcos.demon.co.uk Tel: 0208 980 0654 Fax: 0208 980 0725

As mentioned previously by Prof. Clifford Garratt, HRUK/BPEG Hon. Treasurer, we will, in the not too distant future, change to electronic distribution of the newsletter. However, we still do not have a complete email register of our members. If you have not already done so please send us your email address, to ensure that you continue to receive your copy. Email to: bpeg@bcos.demon.co.uk

HRUK/BPEG Certificate of Accreditation Examination 2005

Registration Form Pre-registration for the Examination is required

When registering for the accreditation process the delegate will pay a one-off payment of £120. This covers the cost of both the examination, and eventual submission of the logbook. So, although the accreditation process is in two stages, the payment is only made once, and prior to sitting the exam.

The eighth examination for the HRUK/BPEG Certificate of Accreditation will be held on **Friday 9th December, 2005**. This examination will be set using the syllabus launched by BPEG in 2004. The examination will once again be held at more than one site: Belfast, Glasgow, London and Manchester. Please specify below in which of the sites you prefer to take the examination. Priority will be given to first applicants, and in the event of one site becoming full, HRUK/BPEG reserves the right to offer a replacement.

Registration will commence at 13.00, and the examination will start at 14.00. It will last for one hour.
Please note that registration closes on Friday 18th November.

The examination will take the form of a Multiple Choice paper, with 45 questions to be answered within the one hour designated. The proposed syllabus is attached.

To register for the Examination please complete and return this form to:
HRUK/BPEG, 9 Fitzroy Square, London W1P 5AH
Email: bpeg@bcos.demon.co.uk
Tel: 020 8980 0654 Fax: 020 8980 0725

I wish to sit the HRUK/BPEG Certificate of Accreditation Examination
to be held on 9th December, 2005

My preferred site is: **Belfast** **Glasgow** **London** **Manchester**

I enclose registration fee of £120 (payable to BPEG) £.....

I wish to sit the HRUK/BPEG Certificate of Competence Examination
at a future date, but would like to receive the logbook now

Name:

Position:

Address:

.....

Tel: Fax:

E-mail:

HEART RHYTHM UK / BPEG

Membership Application Form

Please return this form to: **Hon. Secretary, HRUK/BPEG, 9 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 5HW**
Your application will be processed and considered at the next meeting of Council, after which you will be notified by post.

Name:	
Position:	
Organisation:	
Address:	
Mailing Address: (if different from above)	
Email Address: (essential information)	
Name of Sponsoring HRUK/BPEG Member:	
Sponsor's Signature:	
Date:	

Payment is by standing order only. Please send a copy of completed standing order form with the application, and the original form directly to your bank.

Consultant/Industry:	£60.00
Technical/Nursing/Junior Medical:	£30.00
Surcharge for overseas mailing:	£ 5.00

**Heart Rhythm UK/BPEG
STANDING ORDER MANDATE - BPEG Ref. Level 1 –
Consultant and Industry Members**

To: Bank

Postal Address:

	Bank	Branch Title	Sort Code
<i>Please pay</i>	Bank of Scotland	West End Office	12-11-03
	Beneficiary's name		Account Number
<i>for the credit of</i>	British Pacing & Electrophysiology Group (BPEG)		00928208
<i>quoting reference</i>	Annual Subscription Level 1		
<i>the sum of</i>	Amount in words		Amount
	Sixty Pounds Only		£60.00
<i>Date of first payment</i>	Immediately for 2005/2006 subscription		
<i>and thereafter every</i>	1st July (annual payment)		
<i>until further notice in writing or</i>		<i>Date of last payment</i>	and debit my account accordingly

Please cancel all previous standing orders in favour of: British Pacing and Electrophysiology Group (BPEG)

Account to be debited	Account Number	Reference:

Signature(s)/..... Date:

Banks may decline to accept instructions to charge Standing Orders to certain types of account other than Current Accounts

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**Heart Rhythm UK/BPEG
STANDING ORDER MANDATE - BPEG Ref. Level 2 –
Junior Medical, Nursing and Physiologist Members**

To: Bank

Postal Address:

	Bank	Branch Title	Sort Code
<i>Please pay</i>	Bank of Scotland	West End Office	12-11-03
	Beneficiary's name		Account Number
<i>for the credit of</i>	British Pacing & Electrophysiology Group (BPEG)		00928208
<i>quoting reference</i>	Annual Subscription Level 2		
<i>the sum of</i>	Amount in words		Amount
	Thirty Pounds Only		£30.00
<i>Date of first payment</i>	Immediately for 2005/2006 subscription		
<i>and thereafter every</i>	1st July (annual payment)		
<i>until further notice in writing or</i>		<i>Date of last payment</i>	and debit my account accordingly

Please cancel all previous standing orders in favour of: British Pacing and Electrophysiology Group (BPEG)

Account to be debited	Account Number	Reference:

Signature(s)/..... Date:

Banks may decline to accept instructions to charge Standing Orders to certain types of account other than Current Accounts