Welcome to the BJA Research Forum newsletter for Spring 2020! This is to update you on the work of the Anaesthetic Research Society and the BJA Research Forum. The last meeting was a joint venture with the National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia (NIAA) and the Peri-operative Medicine Clinical Trials Network (POMCTN), supported by the Royal College of Anaesthetists: *Anaesthesia Research 2019.*

The meeting was really well attended by members of all groups and societies, trainees and interested colleagues from anaesthesia and its related specialties. There was a focus on peri-operative medicine with updates from leaders and researchers of the various groups. There were also the usual ARS abstract presentations from students, trainees and senior investigators, followed by detailed and insightful questioning from the audience. Successful presentations were eligible for publication in the *British Journal of Anaesthesia.*

The meeting saw keynote presentations from health economists, quality improvers and leading trialists in peri-operative medicine, giving the delegates a unique blend of practical updates all aspects of anaesthesia research. The ARS and the BJA Research Forum are committed to supporting research and you can find out more about how we do this below.

**Congratulations** to Dundee’s Dr Amy Sadler (above left) who won the Hughes medal at the meeting for her presentation on learning curves of novice anaesthetists using needle tip tracking technologies. The Mapleson medal was awarded to Dr Sophie Walker (above right) for her presentation on sex influences on cardiac dysfunction in early polymicrobial sepsis. Both speakers submitted abstracts to the meeting that were shortlisted by and then scored on the day by a panel of ARS committee members. Is there someone in your team who could win these prestigious awards at a future meeting?
Next Meeting: BJA Research Forum Spring Scientific Meeting, June 16th and 17th 2020 at the RCoA: The meeting will incorporate a BJA Symposium on trauma with themed sessions and keynote speakers. There will be plenty of opportunity to present and defend abstract presentations on a wide variety of topics in the usual format of 8 minutes presentation and 7 minutes of questioning from the audience. Abstracts are invited that describe work relevant to anaesthesia and the related disciplines of peri-operative medicine, pain medicine and intensive care medicine. Students, clinicians and experienced researchers and research teams are welcome to submit abstracts, which will be competitively screened against the criteria detailed on the website (www.ars.ac.uk) and invited for oral presentation. All successfully presented abstracts are eligible for publication in the British Journal of Anaesthesia, providing they have not been published elsewhere.

We have a number of keynote speakers confirmed, including Professor Ian Roberts, who led the CRASH 3 Tranexamic Acid trial. Ian is an engaging speaker who presents his pioneering research globally. Ian talks about CRASH 3 here. This study represents an enormous effort in studying a difficult clinical problem. Ian will offer a fascinating insight into both the pathophysiology of bleeding and the influence of tranexamic acid and the challenges of running a huge, multi-site, multi-country study.
We are delighted that Professor Anne Rogers from Southampton, Professor of Health Systems Implementation and the Research Director of the NIHR CLAHRC Wessex has agreed to speak at the meeting. Anne is a health sociologist with a long term interest in the sociology of mental health and illness. Anne has agreed to tell us about some of her recent work exploring the impact of companion animals on the mental health of patients.

**Remember to get your abstracts in by 4th May!** Start thinking about what you, your teams, colleagues or students can submit to the forum for Anaesthesia research.

**ARS membership and meeting registration**

Non-members can join the BJA Research Forum / Anaesthetic Research Society at any meeting or online. Membership is £30 per year. Non-members who have paid the full fee for this meeting will have their first year’s membership fee waived, ensuring that you receive the same benefits as current members. There are reduced fees for full time undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Visit the BJA Research Forum website at [www.ars.ac.uk](http://www.ars.ac.uk) to register and for more further information.

Details of abstract submission will be on the ARS website [www.ars.ac.uk](http://www.ars.ac.uk) and detailed via the Twitter and Facebook pages.

**What is the BJA Research Forum?**

This forum is a partnership between the British Journal of Anaesthesia and the Anaesthetic Research Society. The aim of the forum is to facilitate high quality scientific meetings with a focus on current research from anaesthesia and its related disciplines. Meetings will have both themed and open abstract submissions and there is a commitment from university academic departments, journal editorial teams and key academics to attend. The meetings will allow junior and senior presenters to discuss their work and collaborate and will build on international links to key individuals and societies.

Anaesthetic Research Society members will be kept up to date with UK Research highlights and news and receive preferential rates for the national meetings. Updates will be provided by Twitter and Facebook and you can find us on Twitter by clicking the icon at the top of this page.

Details of the committee can be found on the website. If you want to get involved in the ARS and the BJA Research Forum, please contact one of the members via the links on the website or by social media.

We look forward to welcoming you to London!