

Special Paediatric Interest in Nephrology (SPIN) E-news November 2011

1. "BAPN-SPIN" membership

Seventeen paediatricians with special interest have now joined the BAPN. This is for the markedly reduced annual fee of £30 (paediatric nephrologists pay £100). The membership is "full" and is designated "BAPN-SPIN". I would encourage all interested to join, especially as when our numbers are boosted, we will have a greater voice.

Please can those of you who are not already BAPN members and wishing to join, let me know, and I will put your names forward at the next meeting. To emphasize that all paediatricians with any degree of special interest are encouraged to join. Also trainees doing the SPIN module.

2. Paediatric Nephrology Networks

The BAPN, in conjunction with RCPCH and NHS Kidney Care, has prepared a document "**Improving the Standard of Care of Children with Kidney Disease through Paediatric Nephrology Networks**" which has just been published -

<http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/sites/default/files/care%20of%20children%20with%20kidney%20disease.pdf>

This is very much influenced by the network survey which you all participated in recently, so thank you again. From the executive summary:

"The focus of this document has been the patient, exploring how structured, formalised networks of care provision can provide a co-ordinated, high quality pathway of care, providing as much treatment as possible close to home whilst ensuring the best possible outcome for the child, The aim has been to provide guidance for those commissioning, providing and using paediatric nephrology networks.

This has been achieved by studying the current provision of care, researching examples of good practice both within paediatric nephrology and in other specialties, and drawing upon the expertise of the many organisations represented in the Working Group, including input from patient and carer representatives. The result is a set of principles and standards against which those commissioning, providing and using the services may evaluate their own services."

3. Junior doctors Level 3 SPIN Training

The special training module in paediatric nephrology for level 3 trainees has been available for some time now. However, although there is considerable interest from trainees and from some centres, SPIN training remains relatively informal in practice, and it has been difficult to define the relative roles of deaneries, nephrology centres and local paediatric centres. The BAPN/CSAC has recommended that each nephrology centre has a nominated educational lead for SPIN training, and we are in discussion with the college about further formalization of training and assessment. Other special modules (e.g. neonatal) will have much larger numbers, and the smaller subspecialties may need more special attention.

(A complicating factor now is that the RCPCH has taken up the term "SPIN" to cover all subspecialty special interest training - previously SSM)!

4. Patient Information

Patient Advice leaflets are available from the BAPN.

<http://www.bapn.org/PatientAdvice.html>

5. Future of SPIN group

"SPIN" is now well-established for training, as well as for service. I am on the executive committee of the BAPN and on the nephrology CSAC. Lyda Jadresic (Gloucester) is on the clinical standards group of the BAPN. I know there is considerable interest from others, and I hope we will continue to expand our role.

Best wishes
Peter Houtman