



12 December 2016

Dear Undergraduate,

The British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS) sends you a warm welcome in this, our second undergraduate urology newsletter. As a forward thinking and proactive surgical speciality, we hope our newsletters will continue to increase our engagement with undergraduate trainees. We aim to give you the best resources available so you can thrive in your studies and maybe even inspire you to a career in urology.

During undergraduate training, exposure to urology is relatively minimal, ranging from a few lecturers in some medical schools to several weeks of attachment in others. Clinically, urology does account for up to 5-10% of primary care consultations and 25% of acute general surgery referrals to hospital, so a basic understanding of urology will be useful for all practicing clinicians. In view of that we hope some of our educational initiatives below will be of use to you.

## **Urology Curriculum**

In 2012 BAUS published its undergraduate urology curriculum. This document highlights the important topics to address during your undergraduate training. This document has been distributed to all UK medical schools, and we would envisage your curriculum is based around this. Hopefully you will find this document useful in enabling you to get the most out of your urology placement. Link below:

[BAUS Urology Curriculum](#)

## **Emergency Urology App**

The BAUS Education Committee recently released its first app aimed at education, both for undergraduates and postgraduates. The app, entitled 'Urological Emergencies' is freely available on both Google Play and Apple app store – search 'Urological Emergencies' or click the hyperlinks below. Its 100% free!

This app offers students a simple guide to the acute management of urological emergencies including diagnosis, appropriate investigations, radiological images and advice on the medical/surgical treatment options available. The app contains a mixture of text and images (clinical, radiological and operative) to make the user interface simple to use, yet informative in nature.

[Google Play link](#)

[Apple App store link](#)

## **Medical Student Essay Prize**

For the past five years BAUS has run an annual medical student essay prize competition. This has a 1500-word limit, with previous topics including prostate cancer screening, social media in urology and simulation for training. There is a regional prize of £100 per deanery, with regional winners being put forward for a national prize (Complementary registration for the BAUS annual meeting, as well as an official certificate presented at the meeting). Having a prize on your portfolio is extremely beneficial and we encourage you to apply. The essay title for 2017 is 'Urological Technology. Where will we be in 20 years?' and the submission deadline is Monday 3rd April 2017.

[Essay competition information](#)

## **Website**

We have developed a section on the BAUS website specifically for undergraduates and we hope you find this informative and useful. The current medical student webpage link is below:

[Undergraduate website](#)

## **Medical School 'Local Champions'**

BAUS has appointed Consultant Urological Surgeons in every deanery in the United Kingdom to act as your 'Local Champion'. If you are interested in a career in urology, want any further information regarding training or are keen to meet a urological consultant to discuss anything in urology, including research projects or electives, please feel free to get in touch with your local 'Medical Student Champion' via the link below:

[Medical School Champions](#)

## **Future Developments**

We are currently working on a comprehensive series of undergraduate lectures which we hope to launch in early 2017 on the BAUS website. We believe these will be both informative and easy to follow as an e-learning based activity for your urological studies.

## **New Education Lead**

We hope you have found this newsletter informative and useful. There are lots of excellent resources available to aid your urological education and we hope we have opened some of these. We would be delighted to hear from you if you have any questions or suggestions.

It with some sadness that I have finished my time as the BAUS Education Lead for Medical Students. I have really enjoyed my time and hopefully we have increased our engagement with undergraduates, as well as offering you some great resources. Urology is an exciting, dynamic, technologically driven surgical specialty and we hope that one day you may consider it as a career option. It gives you many opportunities in life and I highly recommend it as a career choice. As I take up my new consultant post in Brisbane, Australia I would like to wish my successor, Toby Page, good luck in the role of Education Lead. Toby will take up post in January 2017 and I'm sure he will find the role dynamic, exciting, enjoyable and fulfilling.

Best wishes and good luck in your medical training.

Nicholas J Rukin  
BAUS Education Lead for Medical Students