



SAM Newsletter October 2015

Including.....

- SAM press release on trainee contracts
- SAM Conferences
- Trainees
 - Win a place at EFIM (European Federation of Internal Medicine)
 - Royal College of Physicians Graham Bull Prize
- Research Committee
- SAM Honorary Fellowship
- Spread the word about Acute Medicine
 - **Acute Medicine Awareness Day Thursday 19th November 2015**

One of the things I am hoping to achieve during my tenure as SAM President is regular communication with all our members. Over the next two years I intend to send out regular newsletters to keep you informed of all things SAM but also encourage you to tell us your news and participate as much as possible.

So, if you have anything you wish to share with members please let me know by e-mailing administrator@acutemedicine.org.uk, especially with your plans in the lead up to our next Acute Medicine Awareness day on Thursday 19th November 2015.

Press Release on trainee contracts

With the help of our communications officer, Matt Watt, SAM Council drafted a statement which strongly supports trainee doctors in their contract negotiations. Our statement is available on the website <http://www.acutemedicine.org.uk/news/sam-statement-on-junior-doctor-contracts/>. The statement has been picked-up by the media and quoted in the [Guardian](#) and the [Manchester Evening News](#). SAM and its members are amongst those people most committed to an acute medicine 7-day service because we want to provide patients with the best possible care. To achieve this goal we need a workforce which is properly recognised for its dedication.

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SAM Conferences

SAM Manchester – September 10th-11th 2015

Our recent 9th International Scientific Meeting was a great success, although as a co-organiser my opinion is biased. The initial feedback is very encouraging. It would be wrong to single out an individual speaker, however our inspirational speaker Jamie Andrew apparently reduced many people in the auditorium to tears with his wonderfully crafted and uplifting speech.

Under the leadership of SAM's nurse representative and local host for Manchester, Jan Christian, the multidisciplinary programme was the most comprehensive ever seen at a SAM conference. Jan and Ian Setchfield are looking to build on this success and carry the momentum forward to future meetings. In collaboration with our pharmacy rep Henrietta Cresswell and our AHP rep Jennifer Willis, the team are looking for contributions from as many colleagues as possible to support future multidisciplinary sessions. Jan has created a platform for people to showcase their skills and services, so please grab the opportunity. For those of you working in units where there are no multidisciplinary SAM members I encourage you to spread the word.

SAM Belfast 2016 – May 5th-6th 2016

In May 2016 we are returning to the island of Ireland, having visited Dublin in 2012. Our local organiser is Dr Michael Trimble, supported by our Immediate Past President Dr Alistair Douglas, as well as Jan and her team. It is vitally important that we support acute medicine and its ongoing development in Northern Ireland. The provisional programme looks very good and for those of you who have never been across the Irish Sea, the legendary hospitality and warmth of our hosts is simply that, legendary.

SAM Edinburgh 2016 – September 12th-13th 2016

For our 10th International Scientific Meeting we are joining forces with the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. The theme of the meeting will be 'Past, Present and Future'. All of the usual SAM features from the autumn conference will be represented such as the perennially brilliant masterclasses and 'Cases that Changed my Practice'. For the main sessions delegates will be able to move around as if it were a normal SAM conference. However, the reputation of the Edinburgh College is attracting a range of international speakers that is literally breath-taking. This will afford SAM an opportunity to let the world see the majesty of acute medicine. Edinburgh 2016 is a unique opportunity and so I would encourage people to save the dates now.

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SAM 2017

We already have a booking for Birmingham in the autumn of 2017. In the spring of 2017 we are planning to visit Cardiff. Since my first SAM conference in 2004 we have not been to Wales, although shortly after SAM was founded there was a small Welsh gathering. However, in terms of recent SAM meetings a visit to Wales is long overdue.

Looking further ahead, we need to continue to evolve and innovate. There are only a limited number of venues that can hold a large SAM meeting, based on size and affordability. Manchester Central for example is an excellent venue. However, we were acutely aware at SAM Manchester that local influences were very strong. For the future we need to make the meetings more inclusive so that everyone can join in. Please see this last statement as an invitation to pitch your ideas. Again, we really want our multidisciplinary colleagues to step forward.

MEMC 2015

There is increasing interest in acute medicine across Europe. At the recent Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Conference (MEMC) in Rome, a whole symposium was held on 'Is Acute Medicine the Future for Healthcare Management, Education and Research'. Representatives from SAM, the Dutch Society for Acute Medicine and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians presented the evidence for acute medicine to an international audience, who were impressed by the improvements that acute medicine can make for patients and hospitals. At the end of the session, Professor Salvatore Di Somma announced the formation of the Italian Society of Europe. Dr Mark Holland will continue his mission to spread the Acute Medicine message in Berlin in November.

Research Committee

PE Survey

Earlier this year the Research Committee asked members to complete an on-line survey looking at the care provided to patients with a suspected pulmonary embolus. To encourage people to participate the prize of an Apple Watch was offered. The Research Committee lead, Louella Vaughan, is pleased to announce that the winner is Dr Bill Lusty of the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

Dr David Ward presented the preliminary results of the PE survey in the Research Session at SAMManchester. The results show that Acute Physicians are stepping up and taking responsibility for the acute care of PE patients through the development of clear pathways

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for investigation and management. However, there looks like there is still more to done – access to scanning in many places falls short of national recommendations and after care for these patients is inconsistent. Watch for the full publication of the results to see how to improve the care of patients with suspected PE in your organisation.

More on Surveys:

We regularly ask members to complete on-line research surveys. To reassure you, these surveys are vetted prior to distribution and we only select the best ones, to avoid swamping you. For the surveys we do send you please take some time to try and answer them. They are pertinent to the development of Acute Medicine and usually support a young researcher. Requests to assist with surveys also come from other specialist societies, who are keen to work with acute physicians to improve the care for acutely unwell patients. Research in Acute Medicine needs to expand and your support is always gratefully received.

Getting Started with Research in Your AMU

Richard Body and Matthew de Costa's talk at the Research Session on how to embed research in AMUs was rated as one of the best at SAManchester. This supports the findings of the RCP's recent survey on research (published in *RCP Commentary*, October 2015), which found that many doctors want to be involved in research, but do not have the time or funding. Richard and Matt, who lead the NIHR's Injuries and Emergency Research Network, underlined how becoming a recruitment site for CLRN portfolio studies can be the first crucial step is gaining funding and support for research. A full list of the relevant studies can be found at: <http://public.ukcrn.org.uk/search/Portfolio.aspx?Level1=20&Status=34>.

Richard Body has agreed to come to Edinburgh Conference and run a workshop based on his experiences of building a successful research department from scratch.

Getting Published

The abstract and poster adjudicators are always struck by the high quality of work presented at SAM conferences. Although eminently publishable, very few articles find their way to peer review and publication, especially in Acute Medicine, SAM's journal. We are keen to work with members who may need some support or advice to take their poster to the next level. Please contact us if you feel we can help.

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Safe@Home

This month we are asking colleagues to help with an international project called Safer@home. In the UK the work is being led by Dr Chris Subbe and Dr Tim Cooksley. The survey can be accessed at <https://nl.surveymonkey.com/r/ZHK2Y2D>. Our research committee have forged strong links with colleagues across Europe so please support them.

EFIM – European Federation of Internal Medicine

For many years SAM has been a member of the European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM). Each year EFIM hold two pan-European meetings for trainees, their Winter and Summer Schools. Each year SAM sponsors two trainees to attend the meetings, one for each school. One of the problems we have faced is a robust selection process. In recent years the process has been competitive. For example in 2014 a place was awarded to a trainee who ran the best programme during the Acute Medicine Awareness Week and the best CV. This year we were going to award the place to the trainee with the best poster or best oral presentation at SAM Manchester. However, the top spots were taken by Foundation or Core Medical Trainees, as well as colleagues from the multidisciplinary team.

Therefore, for the next two schools we are inviting specialist registrar trainees in Acute Medicine to apply for a place at ESIM. All trainees are encouraged to apply although we would like the trainee to have at least 12 months of training to complete after they return from ESIM, so they can put their learning into practice.

If you are interested please send your application in the form of a CV and an accompanying letter to support your case. The application is electronic. The letter is your chance to argue your case. The letter must be one side of A4 only, Arial font, size 11 font and must include your contact details. Send your CV and letter to administrator@acutemedicine.org.uk. We are happy to answer any questions you may have. The closing date is midnight on **Saturday 31st October 2015**. Your applications will be judged by members of the SAM Council. Winners will be notified by **Tuesday 10th November 2015** and announced in the December newsletter.

Royal College of Physicians Prize

We have been asked to tell our younger members (under the age of 45 years on 1st April 2016) about the Royal College of Physicians of London '**Graham Bull prize in clinical science**

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and Goulstonian Lectureship'. This is a very prestigious award for a young researcher. I guess that traditionally pure science dominated the research arena but as we all now know how we deliver care is just as important. I am certain there is someone in our ranks who can make a challenge for this award!

Take AIM

Take AIM is an initiative between SAM and HEE to encourage doctors to take-up a career in Acute Internal Medicine. The work is led by six trainee fellows. They have organised a fantastic conference on Saturday 14th November 2015 in Manchester. They have put together an excellent programme to inspire Foundation and Core Medical Trainees to join Acute Internal Medicine. The programme has clinical elements as well as some talks to tell people what we do and what are about. The cost is only £50. Details are on the website <http://www.acutemedicine.org.uk/sam-conferences/takeaim-conference-14-november-2015/>. Please pass this information to your team and encourage them to attend.

Acute Medicine Awareness Day

This year we have decided to run an Acute Medicine Awareness Day, as opposed to a whole week. The date was chosen to coincide with our Take AIM campaign. The idea of the awareness day is to showcase our services locally, possibly raise some money for the unit but above all have some fun, especially with winter just around the corner. In previous years activities have ranged from cake stalls to team walks, and meeting the chief executive to ultra-endurance sport.

If you are planning an event this year or want to share your previous experiences, please let us know administrator@acutemedicine.org.uk

SAM Honorary Fellowship

In 2010 SAM created the Honorary Fellowship in recognition of those people who supported SAM in its very early days. Initially we had a number of influential friends we needed to thank. In the past we have honoured people who are external to SAM or former SAM officers who have left office. Most recently at SAM Manchester Professor Paul Jenkins kindly accepted an honorary fellowship. Professor Jenkins was SAM's second president and moreover, the inspirational leader who persuaded me to join SAM in 2004.

We are now looking for our members to nominate someone whom they feel should be the next SAM Honorary Fellow, to be presented at our 10th International Meeting in September

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2016. Once we have the names, and your reasons for making the nomination, we will convene a panel of senior SAM officers to choose the next Fellow. Of course, what we see as an exceptional or brilliant contribution to Acute Medicine is very subjective, thus I think it is only right we seek nominations from everyone. For each nomination three letters of support from three members must be received. Contact us at administrator@acutemedicine.org.uk with your nominations.

Spread the Word of Acute Medicine

Finally and as I have touched on a number of times already, we need to involve members in everything we do and we need to expand our non-medical membership. Therefore could I please ask for your help with three simple things:

1. Please ensure that your unit's details are uploaded on our website's unit directory. The directory is a resource for all of us to share the way we deliver our service.
2. Please try and develop a SAM noticeboard on your unit. In our unit the noticeboard has a variety of SAM related things, including posters presented at meetings.
3. **Please pass this e-mail to a colleague who is not a SAM member, especially a non-medical colleague**

Mark Holland

President, The Society for Acute Medicine

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