



SPINE MATTERS

UKSSB Triannual eBulletin – July 2018

www.UKSSB.com

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CONCEPT AND PURPOSE OF THIS BULLETIN

This is an attempt to inform and thereby empower the spinal services community. It is designed to:

- Provide an immediate overview of the several work-streams which currently, or in the near future, will directly affect spinal services both within and without the NHS; and which organisations and individuals are contributing to these.
- Share knowledge of the different societies' news and developments that may be of relevance without those societies themselves. (It is not intended to replace or duplicate the content of individual societies' newsletters).
- Provide a précis of the continuing work of advisory bodies which impact on our subject (NICE, Acute Oncology Measures, etc)
- Provide a notice board for:
 - o Spinal and other relevant society events
 - o Non-clinical posts of professional interest (RCS, JCST, BOA Board of Examiners, NICE, GMC, etc)

It is not intended that this eBulletin will be exhaustive, rather a rapid digest to inform and point to more detailed resources (as e-links, where available, or to relevant websites).

Suggestions for improvements are very welcome. Please send these to ukssb@boa.ac.uk

EDITORIAL – CHAIR REPORT

Patrick Statham - UKSSB Chair

It is only a short time since our Britspine meeting, and thanks go to the Leeds organisers, Almas Khan and Pete Milner, and to the outgoing Chairman, Alistair Stirling and Treasurer, Nick Birch, to Julie and Helen from Archer Yates and to all of you who chaired sessions, participated in talks, attended and asked questions. Also, many thanks to the industry participants and sponsors, without whom the meeting would have been a very modest affair. We have looked at the feedback and seen where we can improve for the next meeting.

Arrangements are already being made for Wembley in early April 2020, which will be all the more interesting if England progress well in the FIFA World Cup! It will be the first meeting with the SBPR incorporating it into their National meeting for the year, so once again will reflect a variety of approaches to spinal conditions.

We are celebrating 70 years of the NHS, proud of the access for all on the basis of their medical need rather than ability to pay. However, we are also acutely aware of its shortcomings; for instance the BOA continues with its programme of highlighting winter cancellations for elective surgery ([BOA Statement HERE](#)). NHS England recently put out to consultation the Evidence Based Interventions programme which highlights 17 treatments thought unnecessary, which will may not be funded from 2019. These include spinal injections for non-specific back pain. This has been some time coming and the findings from GIRFT (Getting it right first time) NICE and the Royal Colleges have contributed to this. We need to watch this space; there is a lot of sense in stopping ineffective, and particularly harmful treatments, as long as we fund those that do work, even if it involves training and employing more therapists. Training enough therapists is one of the present rate limiting factors restricting the otherwise very successful Back and radicular pain pathway programme (NBRPP).

Two areas of research emerged from the Britspine meeting; one is more immediate; the other looking for involvement at the planning stages.

The 'Understanding Cauda equina syndrome' (UCES) UK wide audit of patients presenting with cauda equina syndrome has started. It is being run on a shoestring, by trainees across the UK, following the example of a retrospective study (ENTICE) run by trainees and medical students, which is just being finalised for publication. It promises to give a contemporary insight into referral and treatment in a large patient series, which will allow a better understanding than the repeated reanalysis of old publications, in an effort to prove the unprovable. If you wish to get involved, please contact Julie.woodfield@ed.ac.uk.

The second potential trial at the earliest of planning stages is of spinal fusion for back pain. There were many interesting suggestions at Britspine in the session focussing on this, including sham surgery. So, through BASS, we are looking for surgeons who have some academic expertise and an interest who would have sufficient time and enthusiasm to drive this forward, with the interaction of the expertise in clinical trials from the SBPR. Prof Nadine Foster has already put in a lot of careful thought in to

the project and will continue to guide it to funding and fruition if possible. The immediate question is whether the National back and radicular pain pathway (NBRPP) may reduce the number of patients needing to consider surgery, because they have been dealt with earlier and better than previously.

During Britspine where we had a great session on managing back pain from very different perspectives, the Lancet published (in print in June 2018) their series on back pain; the size of the problem, treatments and strategies that help, using the biopsychosocial model of disease, on a worldwide basis. This is an important series of three well researched and written articles. Some surgeons may consider the role of surgery to be somewhat underplayed, but one of the core concepts of UKSSB is that we all provide better care for patients by combining our expertise, and being open to criticism, to promote treatments that work, and abandon those that harm.

I hope all our readers have a good summer and have a chance to recharge their batteries for the year to come! As Brexit looms closer and closer it will not be without incident.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE UKSSB EXECUTIVE BOARD



Patrick Statham – UKSSB Chair

(Alistair Stirling demitted at end of term in March 2018)



Neil Orpen – UKSSB Treasurer

(Nick Birch demitted at end of term in March 2018)

OFFICE MATTERS

Henry Dodds – UKSSB Executive Assistant

www.britspine.com – Thank you to all who made BritSpine 2018 in Leeds a success, and thank you to all who have provided feedback. Following on from this meeting in March, we have now assigned the BritSpine.com web address so it directs you to information regarding BritSpine 2020 which will be held at Wembley Stadium. This is where updates will be placed in the run-up to the event, and registration will also be via the website address too, nearer the event. You will also be able to find information about how to submit your abstracts and when the abstract window will open.

www.ukssb.com – Feedback is always welcome on how this can be improved to help support the Spinal Community, so if you have any comments, queries or suggestions regarding the site, please send an email to ukssb@boa.ac.uk with subject line **“UKSSB Website Feedback”**

FINANCES – TREASURER REPORT

Neil Orpen – UKSSB Treasurer

No treasurer report this issue

SECRETARY REPORT

Lee Breakwell – UKSSB Secretary

Thanks to all who attended BritSpine in Leeds earlier this year. The feedback from the meeting was generally positive, and in particular for the attempt to make the meeting more inclusive and multi-professional. We have taken on board the comments about venue and will use this to improve future meetings. The most regular, and appropriate criticism was down to timekeeping and chairing of sessions. We had a number of overruns, which caused issues with follow on sessions. We have agreed as an organising committee to change the process of selection and appointment of Chairs for Wembley 2020, and we would be confident of much smoother running as a result.

We are delighted and excited to be going to Wembley for the next BritSpine in 2020. The theme will be around neurological injury and dysfunction, with sections on rehab, and management of sporting injuries. We hope you will all put this into your diaries for 1st-3rd April 2020. With the addition of an iconic venue to our normally popular format, we hope to attract a large audience, and would urge you all to encourage your colleagues to make this their main conference for 2020.

The combined finances of the UKSSB have allowed the employment of our Executive Assistant and this role has dramatically improved the running of the day to day business of societies and meetings. Henry as our current EA has been fantastic and is an excellent resource to us all. Another example of the pooled resource benefit is the appointment of Fellows for research or career development. UKSSB supports several research fellowships each year via the SBPR, and the results are presented at BritSpine. This year's Fellows gave a most enlightening and rejuvenating set of talks in Leeds. We have recently appointed 3 Clinical Leadership Fellows as part of the BOA program. These 3 surgeons will undergo training in Leadership and will undertake a service improvement project to complete their year. Well done to them, and we look forward to hearing them present at BritSpine 2020.

BRITSPINE 2020

Tim Bull and James Allibone – co-organisers of BritSpine 2020



"Britspine 2020 is bringing it home!" Wembley Stadium is booked and is an outstanding venue to hold what we hope is going to be a spectacular BritSpine in 2020. The auditoria and industry spaces are perfect, with the breakout rooms in the VIP boxes overlooking the famous Wembley turf. We are looking to draw the world to London for this exciting conference.

The local organising committee is in place, with representation from all the major spine centres in London invited bringing with them a host of experience, not just in their fields, but also with conference organisation and teaching. This multi-disciplinary spine meeting also has input from all of the Spine Societies that form the UKSSB, as we look to increase the breadth of knowledge and experience at this biennial meeting. ***“The best is yet to come!”***

For updates on BritSpine 2020, please visit: www.BritSpine.com

BRITSPINE 2018

Almas Khan, Alistair Stirling and Nick Birch – co-organisers of BritSpine 2018



The tenth BritSpine conference at Leeds University, 20th-23rd March 2018, was very well-received by over 500 delegates each day as well as industry colleagues from 40 companies who attended the trade exhibition.

The pre-conference day consisted of a trainees' cadaver lab and the second National Back Pain Clinical Network meeting, as well as a spinal Masterclass.

The theme of the conference 'The Spine - from Cradle to Grave' included days devoted to genetics, inflammatory conditions and oncology/trauma. Contributions came from a diverse range of surgical and non-surgical invited speakers and podium presenters, reflecting the wide variety of professionals involved in spinal care. The organisers were pleased to be able to welcome their overseas guests including Dr Todd Wetzel from the USA and Prof Kenneth Cheung from Hong Kong.

The prize for the best surgical paper went to Paul Thorpe from Taunton for his paper on the consent processes in spinal surgery. The prize for the best non-surgical paper was awarded to Richard Cuthbert from Leeds for 'First description of $\gamma\delta$ T-cells in human spinal enthesis.'

On the first afternoon non-clinical presentations including talks from Tim Briggs and Mike Hutton on GIRFT, Ashley Cole and Elaine Buchanan on the Improving Spinal Care Project and the National Back Pain Pathway and Todd Wetzel, Tim Pigott and Ian Winson discussing spinal care funding.

There was a well-attended conference dinner at the Royal Armouries where £3000 was raised for the Horatio's Garden charity.

The UKSSB extends its thanks to Almas Khan and his colleagues in Leeds and Archer Yates Associates for their hard work and dedication in organising and running the conference so well. The UKSSB also thanks Alistair Stirling and Nick Birch who demitted from the roles of Chair and Treasurer and who are replaced by Patrick Statham and Neil Orpen.

The next BritSpine conference will be held in Wembley early 2020.

UPDATES

SPINAL SERVICES CLINICAL REFERENCE GROUP

Ashley Cole

The Spinal Services CRG has 3 Working Groups:

- Spinal Cord Injuries
- Spinal Surgery
- Improving Spinal Care Board

The CRG meets face-to-face twice a year and the working groups mostly meet by teleconference.

The current work plan includes:

- Revision of the Specialised Spinal Surgery Service Specification. This will be finalised to support the findings of the Spinal GIRFT Report. The Spinal Surgery Dashboard will augment the Service Specification. The new Service Specification is unlikely to change the definition of what is specialised and what is non-specialised surgery but is likely to define which hospitals can be commissioned for specialised spinal surgery. The proposed areas are: paediatric spinal deformity, adult spinal deformity, degenerative spinal deformity, primary bone tumours, metastatic spinal disease, trauma, infection, cervical, thoracic, lumbar, spinal cord injury.
- Developing a Policy for vertebral body tethering in scoliosis – literature review completed. This has been proposed as a research priority to go to NIHR (see below). Working Group being defined.
- Proposal to NICE regarding Interventional Procedures Guidance on new products.
- Need to review Neurosurgical Service Specification.
- The Spinal Cord Injuries Service Specification and dashboard are also being reviewed.
- The Spinal Cord Injuries Review has been accepted by NHSE and the cost of the additional 54 spinal cord injuries beds are accepted although capital money must be approved first. Setting up a Network Board is a priority and Terms of reference are almost agreed.
- SCI developing a shadow tariff for 2019/20 from SCI Registry.
- Spinal Injuries Association FOI request shows use of SCI beds for non-SCI patients in 3 Centres. CRG will write to Chief Executives.

The CRG has written its objection to new proposals for surgeon level data as part of a National Clinical Improvement Programme led by Sir Norman Williams but has had no reply.

In a recent cross-CRG research prioritisation exercise, proposals were ranked by priority from 41 CRGs. Of the 25 classed as 'high priority', 3 were spinal projects:

- Stand-alone anterior cervical cage vs cage and plate vs cervical total disc replacement
- Lumbar fusion for low back pain
- Vertebral body tethering (VBT) in idiopathic scoliosis

IMPROVING SPINAL CARE PROJECT

Ashley Cole

Currently NHSE refuse to mandate Regional Spinal Network (RSN) or fund them. Michael Marsh, the NHSE Regional Medical Director for London has agreed to consider a proposal to replicate the SE London and Kent model in the other 3 Network Regions in London. This would mean funding for a Spinal Project Manager and Clinical Lead. The aim would be to revamp spinal services from GP referral through all subsequent management for all elective and emergency work.

NATIONAL TARIFF

Ashley Cole

The new National Tariff is due to start in April 2019 and is likely to be a 2-year tariff. Awaiting Tariff Engagement Document – due before the end of May. Reductions likely to be acceptable. Best Practice Tariff for BSR has been accepted.

Niall Eames

STIG

The STIG project continues to move ahead. At the moment we are awaiting GMC approval of the curriculum before we can advertise for applications. All medical specialties are rewriting their curricula at this time due to new GMC requirements, and we are in this cue awaiting approval.

The response to an expressions of interest from centres wishing to host the STIG fellowships has been fantastic, from across the UK and Ireland. If your centre would like to consider hosting a STIG, please do get in touch via the [JCST site](#) to discuss further. Once we get GMC approval, an advertisement for formal applications will be issued.

At this time, we are envisaging the first fellows being in post in June 2020. As a reminder, the fellowships are:

- Pre-CCT
- Appointed centrally (administered by the Severn deanery),
- Combine neurosurgical and orthopaedic training around a modular based curriculum,
- At this time, they will be for 1 year.

Remember, the fellowships don't come with any money, so centres will have to either:

- Use already allocated national training money (with the agreement of the local deanery),
- Use pre-existing fellowship funds

Examples of the application forms that will be used are in the [UKSSB Website STIG Page: http://www.ukssb.com/stig](http://www.ukssb.com/stig)

We will continue to advertise all stages as widely as possible through SBNS, BASS, UKSSB, BOA and JCST web sites. Seminars/updates are being planned at both Orthopaedic and Neurosurgical trainees annual conference this year.

Me and My Spine

This exciting project is coming together looking at how we educate a wider population on how to care for and manage spinal problems. Aprajay Golash is leading on this and moving it forwards.

BOA 2018

Following on from the success of last year's programme, this year will continue with a series of talks from recognised experts. Sessions will include spinal updates, revalidation and promises to be an excellent series of short talks, from recognised experts, on a combination of critical conditions and common spinal problems.

These sessions will appeal to anyone involved in the care of spinal patients, trainees preparing for their exam, established orthopaedic consultants preparing for revalidation and others looking for a state of the art series of talks on the important areas within spinal surgery at the moment.

SOCIETY/REGISTRY REPORTS

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF SPINE SURGEONS (BASS)



www.spinesurgeons.ac.uk

Stuart Blagg and David Cumming

The planning for the BASS 2019 meeting in Brighton is well under way. The theme of the meeting will be on advancements and technology in spinal surgery. At present we have confirmation of keynote lectures from Nick Theodore on robotics, Professor Marios Papadopolous on the ISCOPE trial and Michael Mayer on lessons learnt in MIS surgery over 35 years.

Education within BASS remains an important development area. BASS will be running a [Boot Camp](#) in September 2018 in Birmingham. This will be run by several experienced spinal surgeons including Stuart Blagg, Rohit Shetty, Aprajay Golash, Sashin Ahuja and Mel Grainger.

The new BASS website (www.spinesurgeons.ac.uk) is up and running with access to information leaflets and consent forms for most procedures. There have been some initial teething problems, but we hope to resolve these over the coming weeks. If BASS members or others have any issues or comments, then please send these through to webmaster@spinesurgeons.ac.uk

BRITISH SCOLIOSIS SOCIETY (BSS)



www.britscoliosissoc.org.uk

Peter Millner and ElNasri Ahmed



The 42nd British Scoliosis Society annual meeting will be held at the Europa Hotel, Belfast, Northern Ireland on Thursday 29 November to Friday 30 November 2018.

On behalf of the local committee, we would like to welcome you to the combined British Scoliosis Society and Irish Spine Society Meeting 2018. The meeting will be held in Belfast and we hope will attract a large number of delegates from across the U.K. and Ireland.

Registration now open - please visit our dedicated events page: <http://www.cvent.com/d/3gq8qb>

Educational Day - 28 November - Europa Hotel, Belfast, Northern Ireland

We invite you to attend this exciting day before the main BSS meeting. It promises to be an excellent educational day for all - book here: <http://www.cvent.com/d/3gq8qb>

Abstract submission for British Scoliosis Society 2018 is now open!

In order to submit abstract(s) please follow the below link:

<https://flame.firebird.systems/archer-yates/BSS2018/MySubmissions>

All abstract submissions to be received no later than **23:59 on Monday 27th August 2018**

SOCIETY FOR BACK PAIN RESEARCH (SPBR)



www.sbpr.info

Nadine Foster and Steve Vogel



SBPR 2018

UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTRE GRONINGEN THE NETHERLANDS

15th and 16th NOVEMBER 2018

'Understanding The Mechanisms Of Back Pain: Work, Rest And Play'



For more information, please visit the [SBPR Website](http://www.sbpr.info)

BASCIS

British Association of Spinal Cord Injury Specialists

www.bascis.org.uk

Ali Jamous – President

Nigel Henderson –UKSSB BASCIS representative

1. The Spinal Cord Injury Working Group of the Spinal Services CRG is meeting regularly. The agenda includes updating of the Service Specification, the dashboard and the new currency and tariff. Work in underway preparing the 17/18 Annual Statement.
2. NHSE SCI Service Review progress: the business case for the agreed additional beds has been passed by the Specialised Commissioning Oversight Group (SCOG) but the allocation of revenue budgets depends on securing capital money following a tender process yet to be specified.

Negotiation continues for a National SCI Network Board which will sit within the Spinal Services CRG. This important initiative will drive service development.

3. The National Report of the Peer Review of spinal cord injury centres a year ago (NHS England Quality Surveillance Team) has not been forthcoming. The centres received individual reports to form their own action plans but have no clear information with which to make peer comparisons, and seek out best practice. A second round of self-assessment review is underway.
4. The SCI Currencies and Tariff development is under active discussion with NHSE. The intention is to start a new shadow tariff in 2019/2020
5. The 35th Annual Guttman conference will take place on 6th July at Sheffield Hallam University. There will be a face to face meeting of the SCI Working Group in Sheffield on the 5th July.
6. The spinal cord injury referral portal, which includes a useful and informative document resource, is available on www.spinalcordinjury.nhs.uk.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS (SBNS)



www.sbns.org.uk

SBNS Vice-President – Mr Tom Cadoux-Hudson

SBNS lead for Spine Surgery – Mr Aprajay Golash

A closer the working relationship between SBNS and BASS has been formalised. This will lead to reciprocal attendance in council meetings. This will also lead to publication of joint guidelines.

Specific spinal sessions assisted by BASS are being proposed for the SBNS meeting autumn 2020.



www.boa.ac.uk

Lee Breakwell – BOA Representative



I would encourage you all to attend the Centenary celebration Congress in Birmingham this September. The spinal sessions will be geared towards revalidation for generalists, and rapid update topics for the spine surgeon. The free paper sessions always attract good quality work.

We in the BOA are working closely with PHIN (Private Healthcare Information Network) on their planned data release. The Competitions and Markets Authority (CMA) ruling on the Private Sector included a requirement to publish outcomes data. PHIN has been tasked with undertaking this. The publication of Surgeon level data has been a long fought bone of contention, and has virtually no value in scientific terms. The BOA along with the Colleges and the specialist societies have fought this on the basis of sound argument. Nevertheless it will happen one way or another. To be fair to PHIN they are trying to work with the professions to make sense of the data available to them, and to only publish accurate data. We would urge you therefore to review your data via the portal once you are contacted to do so. Spinal surgery is not in the first phase of release, this will be based upon arthroplasty, but it is coming. We have reviewed the procedure groupings to ensure the data will make sense to patients, but is also fair to the surgeon. It is likely that the only data for some time will be volumes and length of stay. They have access to both NHS and Private sector data, and can and will publish both. We have a current agreement that they will not publish anything without your specific consent.

Many will be aware of the increased scrutiny of the modern NHS. One of the processes for aiding in returning to work after a period out is via the NCAS system. NCAS have approached the BOA for coaches and mentors to supervise Consultant surgeons in their return. This is recognised as a vital role in helping a colleague after a very difficult period, but that it does come at a risk to the individual and puts pressure on the local system. A process for training is being devised, and the knock-on effect to local trainees is being monitored. We would ask if anyone feels they would be able to offer this level of remedial support, with a background of training and supervision, that they contact BASS/BSS who will collate the spinal specialists on behalf of the BOA.



www.britishspineregistry.com

Mike Hutton

BASS and BSS Members – you would have been emailed recently on this topic of the BSR and Patient Consent. A copy of this detail can be found by visiting the BASS Website (*page only accessible to active BASS members*):

<http://www.spinesurgeons.ac.uk/dashboard/british-spine-registry/>

NATIONAL BACKPAIN PATHWAY CLINICAL NETWORK (NBP-CN)

Elaine Buchanan

Second Meeting of NBP-CN – BritSpine 2018 - Leeds - 20th March

87 delegates from a range of professions attended the NBP-CN meeting which was held as one of the BritSpine pre-meeting events. The 26 faculty delivered a range of topics including Spondyloarthritis, NBRP implementation, Spinal Triage Competencies, First Point of Contact Practitioners, Patient Focus, Data, and automated MRI reporting. Summaries of the sessions and links to the presentations can be found [HERE: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1m1cRE-M5I2J884Fjmb1ffM2dglUCdQIM](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1m1cRE-M5I2J884Fjmb1ffM2dglUCdQIM)

Thank you, to all those who contributed to the success of the day. Post meeting feedback has been positive and will inform future NBP-CN meetings.

Next Meeting:

The next NBP-CN meeting will be held in association with BASS in Brighton 2-5 April 2019. Please send suggestions for the programme to elaine.buchanan@ouh.nhs.uk.

Important reminder - Membership Renewal:

At the NBP-CN meeting 2017 the membership voted to pay a small annual subscription and a reduced meeting fee. To date we are very grateful for the financial start-up support of the UKSSB. It is now time for the NBP-CN to move towards financial independence. The first call for the NBP-CN membership payment of £35 will be made in July 2018. This is due for payment in September each year. Details for payment will be circulated in due course.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

BASS Boot Camp – Birmingham, UK

14-15 September 2018

<http://www.spinesurgeons.ac.uk/event/bass-boot-camp-2018/> – register your interest by emailing ukssb@boa.ac.uk

EUROSPINE Meeting – Barcelona, Spain

19-21 September 2018

www.eurospinemeeting.org/f130000847.html

BOA Annual Congress – Birmingham, UK

25-28 September 2018

congress.boa.ac.uk

North American Spine Society (NASS) Annual Meeting – Los Angeles, USA

26-29 September 2018

www.spine.org/am

Society for Back Pain Research (SBPR) 2018 – Groningen, Netherlands

15-16 November 2018

www.sbpr.info/meetings

British Scoliosis Society (BSS) 2018 – Belfast, Northern Ireland

28-30 November 2018

<http://www.britscoliosissoc.org.uk/events/bss-annual-meeting> and <http://www.cvent.com/d/3gg8qb>

British Association of Spine Surgeons (BASS) 2019 – Brighton, UK

2-5 April 2019

www.spinesurgeons.ac.uk

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

British Scoliosis Society (BSS) 2018 – Belfast, Northern Ireland

Closing date for submissions – Monday 28th August 2018

<https://flame.firebird.systems/archer-yates/BSS2018/mysubmissions>

British Association of Spine Surgeons (BASS) 2019 – Brighton, UK

Closing date for submissions – Monday 19 November 2018

<https://flame.firebird.systems/archer-yates/BASS2019/mysubmissions>

COURSES

BASS BOOT CAMP

Please note that this event was moved from May to September

[Programme Leaflet \(.pdf\)](#)

This year BASS boot camp will be held on 14th-15th September in Birmingham. The faculty would be sharing their experience and talking about topics which are difficult to find in the books. The final programme will be advertised shortly.

There will be limited numbers, and spaces are filling up. Registration is open for this event so please send to ukssb@boa.ac.uk with the subject line - **BASS Boot Camp registration** and the UKSSB will provide instructions on how to confirm your place.

www.spinesurgeons.ac.uk and www.ukssb.com

ARTICLES AND NEWSLETTERS

STABLE THORACOLUMBAR FRACTURE TREATMENT

There is a lack of consensus in the literature on whether patients with a stable thoracolumbar fracture should be treated operatively or non-operatively. As part of an NIHR funded feasibility study to see if a trial is viable, the PRESTO Trial Team are undertaking a survey of surgeons regularly treating thoracolumbar fractures.

The survey, launched at BritSpine, takes between 10-15 minutes to complete and responses are anonymous, however you can opt to provide your name separately to be acknowledged for your contribution. Please complete the survey at <http://bit.ly/PRESTOsurvey> and make sure you have your say on shaping any future trial. **(If you completed the survey while attending the BritSpine conference in March, please do not complete it a second time)**

For further information about PRESTO, go to www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/research/trials/research/trials/presto/

PRESTO Trial Team



EUROSPINE NEWSLETTER AND EVENTS

Link to recent EuroSpine Newsletter: <http://newsletter.eurospine.org/m/12521759/>



VACANCIES

There are no current vacancies on the UKSSB Board

NOTICES

For more information on many of the topics detailed in this eBulletin, please visit the [UKSSB](#) website, along with each of the constituent society websites. [BASS](#), [BSS](#), [SBPR](#) and [BASCIS](#).

LINKS

Useful Spine Society Website Links

- [UK Spines Societies Board \(UKSSB\) Website](#)
- [BritSpine Event Website](#)
- [British Association of Spine Surgeons \(BASS\) Website](#)
- [British Scoliosis Society \(BSS\) Website](#)
- [Society for Back Pain Research \(SBPR\) Website](#)
- [British Association of Spinal Cord Injury Specialists \(BASCIS\) Website](#)
- [The Society of British Neurological Surgeons \(SBNS\) Website](#)
- [British Orthopaedic Association \(BOA\) Website](#)
- [Spine Societies of Europe \(SSE\) Website](#)
- [North American Spine Society \(NASS\) Website](#)
- [Scoliosis Research Society \(SRS\) Website](#)

Links to external websites are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by the UK Spine Societies Board (UKSSB) of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organization or individual. The UKSSB bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.