BAPS Research Committee Meeting – 24th September 2025

## Attendees:

Miss Clare Rees - CoChair

Prof Simon Eaton – CoChair

Prof Paolo DeCoppi

Prof Nigel Hall

Mr George Bethell – TRIPS Rep

Prof Mark Davenport

Miss AnnaMay Long –Trauma SIG rep

Mr Iain Yardley – ChUGS rep

# Meeting notes

The minutes of the past meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Involvement of Trainees and Committee Members in Abstract Marking:**Clare, George, Mark, Paolo, Simon, and others discussed expanding the pool of abstract markers to include senior trainees and newer consultants, emphasising the need for clear guidance, professional standards, and the inclusion of those with relevant research experience, while also considering the marking of qualitative research and the need for specialist input.

**Educational Sessions at BAPS Congress:**Mark, Paolo, Nigel, George, Simon, and Clare planned educational sessions for the upcoming BAPS conference, including topics on writing and reviewing papers, grant applications, and fellowship applications.

**Research Funding:** discussed the development of a funding application process for research projects. Will be similar to EUPSA application form and housed on BAPS website. Work in progress.

**Committee Expansion and Research Lead Contacts:**Clare, Nigel, Benjamin, Iain, and others discussed expanding the committee by inviting special interest group representatives and establishing a research lead in each centre to improve communication and engagement in multi-centre research, while considering barriers to participation.

**Survey and Questionnaire Review Process:**Clare, Simon, Mark, Benjamin, Anna-May, Nigel, and others reviewed the process for approving external surveys and questionnaires, agreeing to circulate submissions to the full committee for feedback, establish clear criteria for approval, and provide constructive guidance to applicants. Nigel will share EUPSA guidelines.

**BAPS Website Content and Accessibility:**Mark presented information about the current state of the BAPS website, focusing on the research committee section, the need for regular updates, the inclusion of educational resources, and the balance between open access and member-only content.

**Expectations and Barriers to Research Participation in Centres:**Nigel, Mark, Clare, Paolo, Simon, and Iain discussed challenges faced by BAPS members in participating in research within their units, including internal resistance, and considered strategies such as formalising expectations in the BAPS strategy and communicating with leadership to address these issues.

Are these notes useful?

# Follow-up tasks

1. **Lay Member Recruitment:**Follow up with Mark Roberts regarding his willingness to join as lay member and, if unavailable, request suggestions for other suitable lay representatives for the committee. (Clare)
2. **Trainee Abstract Markers Nomination:**Collect nominations from committee members for senior trainees and consultants suitable for abstract marking, including overlap analysis and advance notification to selected individuals. (Clare)
3. **Abstract Marking Guidance Update:**Review and refresh the guidance sent to abstract markers, ensuring clear expectations for professionalism and marking criteria are included. (Clare, Simon, Mark)
4. **Qualitative Abstract Markers Identification:**Request committee members to formally identify themselves if they have expertise in qualitative research for inclusion in the qualitative marking panel. (Clare)
5. **Special Interest Group Representation:**Contact UKPCG to encourage nomination of a research-interested representative for the committee. (Clare)
6. **Educational Sessions at BAPS:**Write to Alex to request space in the BAPS programme for identified educational sessions, including paper writing, reviewing, and funding applications. (Clare, Simon. Nigel, Mark and Paolo offered sessions)
7. **Research Funding Application Form:**Send the draft research funding application form to the BAPS admin team for conversion into an online form and resolve access issues with the BAPS research email. (Clare)
8. **Lead Research Contacts in Centres:**Ask Alex or the President to include a call for volunteers in the next newsletter for lead research contacts in each centre, with a request for them to identify local barriers to research participation. (Clare)