



# Annual Academic Meeting

*Incorporating the Annual Blair Bell Research Society Competition*

Joint RCOG/Blair Bell Research Society

2 – 3 March 2017

**CPD** 11 credits

 2 days

 RCOG, London

## Overview

The Annual Academic Meeting aims to showcase the entire spectrum of academic research in O&G. The exciting programme features a wide range of speakers from new scientists to well renowned researchers. The programme is designed to cover all aspects of research both from NHS and academia and provide a forum for all undertaking research in O&G.

## Programme highlights:

- **Workshops** on research methodology
- **Lectures** on Hot Topics
- The latest **post-doctoral research** from around the country
- **Oral and platform poster presentations** from the top scoring abstracts in Blair Bell Research Competition

## Who should attend?

- Practising clinicians, midwives and allied healthcare professionals with an interest in research and education
- Senior academics in O&G
- Clinicians in training (an ideal venue for ACFs, ACLs, and CRFs)
- Undergraduates interested in research in Women's Health
- Non-clinical scientists from PhDs, research midwives to professors
- Anyone interested in a career in academic research in O&G



# Annual Academic Meeting

2 – 3 March 2017

## After attending this meeting you will:

- Have an overview of the latest achievements in O&G research
- Understand the process of research prioritization and funding
- Understand the national research infrastructure and opportunities it provides
- Be able to claim a maximum of 11 CPD credits for attendance

## Course Organisers

- Professor Zarko Alfirevic, Chair of Academic Committee
- Dr Jenny Myers, Secretary of Blair Bell Research Society
- Professor Donald Peebles, President of Blair Bell Research Society
- Professor Lucilla Poston, Chair of Research Committee

## Honorary Director of Conferences:

- Mr Nick Panay MRCOG, London

## Honorary Deputy Director of Conferences:

- Mr Phillip Tooz-Hobson FRCOG, Birmingham

## Sponsorship and Exhibition:

Whether you decide to promote your business by sponsoring the event, manning an exhibition stand or producing delegate pack materials, the Annual Academic Meeting has much to offer. With clinicians from all over the UK attending, as well as speakers who are leaders in their area, this is a unique opportunity to raise your profile, build your brand, reinforce existing relationships and generate new business. For more information and to discuss your options, please contact:

Robert Jackman on: **+44 20 7772 6460** or **rjackman@rcog.org.uk**

### Full conference

 11 credits

 2 days

 RCOG, London

- Consultants, SAS Doctors, Professors and Senior Lecturers  
**£230.00**
- Trainees, PhD Students, Foundation Year Doctors, Allied Healthcare Professionals  
**£175.00**
- Undergraduate Medical Students  
**£145.00**
- One day ONLY  
**£140.00**

# Programme

Wednesday 1 March

1.30pm REGISTRATION and REFRESHMENTS

3.00pm BJOG Author Workshop  
*Please register separately for this free workshop. See the RCOG website for more information and to book.*

5.00pm CLOSE

“I felt the programme had a great balance of submitted and invited work from a good range of levels - I was really interested in all of it!”

Delegate 2016

“All the most recent research and updates”

Delegate 2016

Thursday 2 March

9.30am REGISTRATION and REFRESHMENTS

## Session I

*Chairs: Professor Donald Peebles, President of Blair Bell Research Society; Head of the Research Department of Maternal Fetal Medicine, University College London  
Dr Emma Crosbie, NIHR Clinician Scientist, Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Gynaecological Oncology, University of Manchester*

10.00am Welcome

Professor Zarko Alfirevic, Chair, RCOG Academic Committee; Professor of Fetal and Maternal Medicine, Liverpool Women's Hospital; Head of Department of Women's and Children's Health, University of Liverpool

## Free communications

*Four oral presentations from selected abstracts*

10.15am **A novel disease-specific biomarker for pelvic non-uterine high grade serous carcinoma**  
Dr James P Beirne, Academic Clinical Lecturer; Sub-Specialty Trainee (Gynaecological Oncology), Ovarian Cancer Research Programme, Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology, Queen's University, Belfast

10.30am **Ectopic pregnancy is associated with increased vaginal bacterial diversity and reduced Lactobacillus species dominance**  
Dr Shabnam Bobdiwala

10.45am **Potentially P-hacked trials leading to data driven systematic reviews; the example of progestogens to prevent pregnancy loss: a systematic review and meta-analysis**  
Dr Matthew Prior, Clinical Research Fellow, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

11.00am **A fetal genetic risk score for birth weight independently affects macrosomia rates but through different mechanisms to maternal hyperglycaemia**  
Dr Alice Hughes, Academic Foundation Year 2, Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital; University of Exeter Medical School

11.15am **HPV target for prevention and screening**  
Professor Henry Kitchener, Institute of Cancer Sciences, The University of Manchester

11.45am **REFRESHMENTS and POSTER VIEWING**

12.00pm **Research workshops**

**A. Delivering quality in qualitative research**

Professor Julia Lawton, Professor of Health and Social Science, Usher Institute of Population Health Sciences and Informatics, University of Edinburgh

Dr Jenny Myers, Secretary, Blair Bell Research Society; NIHR Clinician Scientist; Clinical Senior Lecturer, University of Manchester

Dr Fiona Denison, Reader; Honorary Consultant in Maternal and Fetal Medicine, University of Edinburgh

**B. Clinical trial design – including CROWN**

Professor Louise Kenny, Director of Irish Centre for Fetal and Neonatal Translational Research; Professor of Obstetrics, University College Cork; Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Cork University Maternity Hospital, Ireland  
Professor Zarko Alfirevic

**C. How to write grants**

Professor Andrew Horne, Professor of Gynaecology and Reproductive Sciences, University of Edinburgh

Professor Lucilla Poston, Head of the Division of Women's Health, King's College London

**D. What does Athena SWAN mean for you?**

Professor Jane Norman, Professor of Maternal and Fetal Health, University of Edinburgh MRC Centre for Reproductive Health; Director; Tommy's Centre for Maternal and Fetal Health  
Professor Donald Peebles

Professor Lucy Chappell, NIHR Research Professor; Honorary Consultant in Obstetrics, King's College London

1.00pm **POSTER VIEWING/JUDGING AND LUNCH**

**Session II**

*Chairs: Professor Louise Kenny*

*Professor Andrew Horne*

2.00pm **Selective progesterone receptor modulators: therapeutic opportunities in gynaecology**  
Professor Hilary Critchley, Professor of Reproductive Medicine; Deputy Director Centre for Reproductive Health, The Queens Medical Research Institute, University of Edinburgh

**Post-doctoral research**

2.50pm **The importance of placental amino acid transfer for appropriate growth of the fetus**  
Dr Mark Dilworth, Research Fellow, Division of Developmental Biology & Medicine, University of Manchester

3.10pm **Discussion**

3.15pm **Population based testing for targeted ovarian cancer prevention**  
Dr Ranjit Manchanda, Clinical Senior Lecturer & Consultant Gynaecological Oncologist, Barts Cancer Institute, Queen Mary University of London

3.35pm **Discussion**

3.40pm **REFRESHMENTS and POSTER VIEWING**

**Session III**

*Chairs: Professor Doug Tincello, Professor of Urogynaecology; Honorary Consultant Gynaecologist, University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust*

*Mr Nigel Simpson, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist; NIHR-CRN National Lead, Reproductive Health and Childbirth, Leeds Teaching Hospitals*

**Free communications**

*Four oral presentations from selected abstracts*

4.00pm **Exploiting tumour infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) as a therapeutic strategy in ovarian cancer**  
Dr Gemma Owens, Clinical Research Fellow, University of Manchester

# Programme

Friday 3 March

**4.15pm** The alteration of structural organization, nano-mechanical property and glycation content of prolapsed vaginal tissues  
Dr Homayemem Weli, PhD Research Student, University Hospital of North Midlands; Keele University

**4.30pm** Reduced cortisol pulsatility and cortisol placental metabolism may underlie decreased hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal-axis activity in obese pregnancy  
Dr Laura Stirrat, Clinical Research Fellow; Specialist Trainee in Obstetrics & Gynaecology, University of Edinburgh

**4.45pm** Fetal growth trajectory in pregnancies complicated by diabetes is primarily dependent on second trimester glycaemic control  
Ms Emma Formoy, Medical Student, University of Manchester

## Session IV: Academic prize giving ceremony

**5.00pm** RCOG Academic Awards

**5.30pm** Presentation and talk by winner of RCOG Academic Award 2016  
Screening for adverse pregnancy outcome: the future  
Professor Gordon Smith, University of Cambridge

**6.00pm** DRINKS RECEPTION

Career Mentoring/Networking  
*Informal networking areas will be available during the drinks reception to offer an opportunity to speak with senior academics. Signposted areas will be available for:*

- Medical Students
- Pre-PhD/Early PhD
- Late PhD/Post-PhD
- Scientists

**7.30pm** CLOSE

**8.30am** Blair Bell Research Society Annual General Meeting

**9.00am** REGISTRATION and REFRESHMENTS

## Session V

*Chairs: Professor Lucy Chappell*

*Dr Fiona Denison*

### Free communications

*Four oral presentations from selected abstracts*

**9.15am** Human endometrium expresses dyskerin (DKC1) that is regulated by ovarian hormones and dyskerin plays a role in endometrial function and in carcinogenesis  
Dr Rafah Al-nafakh, PhD student, Department of Women's and Children's Health, Institute of Translational Medicine, University of Liverpool

**9.30am** Mid-trimester cervico-vaginal fluid elafin concentrations are related to a genetic polymorphism of peptidase inhibitor (Elafin)  
Dr Natasha Hezelgrave, NIHR Doctoral Research Fellow, Women's Health Academic Centre, Kings College London

**9.45am** Cervical gene delivery of human beta-defensin-3 (HBD-3) prevents ascending bacterial infection in pregnant mice  
Dr Natalie Suff

**10.00am** Preterm cardiac development: fetal and neonatal echocardiography reveals that differences in cardiac ventricular mass and function develop in early postnatal life  
Dr Christina Aye

### Post-doctoral research

**10.15am** Speaking up and being heard  
Dr Nicola Mackintosh, Research Fellow, Kings' College London

**10.35am** Discussion

# Programme

**10.40am** **Hormonal regulation of endometrial function - new roles, new targets**  
Dr Douglas Gibson, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, MRC Centre for Inflammation Research, The Queens Medical Research Institute, University of Edinburgh

**11.00am** Discussion

**11.05am** REFRESHMENTS and POSTER VIEWING

## **Session VI**

*Chair: Dr Ian Crocker, Senior Lecturer, University of Manchester*

### **Platform poster presentations**

*One slide presentations from the highest scoring posters with questions from the audience*

**11.30am** **A comparison of toll like receptor 1-9 induced cytokine responses in whole blood collected in the first trimester and at term, and matched cord blood**  
Dr Denise Chan, Preterm Birth Clinical Research Fellow, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

**11.35am** **Longitudinal Measures of Placental dR1 and R2\* in Normal and FGR Pregnancies**  
Dr Emma Ingram, Clinical Research Fellow, University of Manchester

**11.40am** **The CEAT Study: cost effective analysis of teaching pelvic examination skills using gynaecology teaching associates (GTAs) compared with manikin models**  
Dr Aisha Janjua, ST6, Birmingham Heartlands Hospital

**11.45am** **Ovarian tissue cryopreservation: optimising thawing protocols to reduce apoptosis**  
Dr Samuel Oxley, ST1, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

**11.50am** **Ursodeoxycholic acid reverses the drug-induced increase in calcium signalling in vitro in a human myometrial model of preterm labour and cholestasis-associated preterm labour**  
Ms Tharni Vasavan, PhD Student, King's College London

**11.55am** **Impact of SPRM administration on sex-steroid receptor expression and cell proliferation in the female reproductive tract**  
Dr Lucy Whitaker, Clinical Research Fellow, MRC Centre for Reproductive Health, University of Edinburgh

**12.00pm** POSTER VIEWING/JUDGING and LUNCH

## **Session VII**

*Chair: Dr Jenny Myers*

*Professor Lucilla Poston, Head of the Division of Women's Health, King's College London*

**1.30pm** **Process and issues involved in doing a trial**  
Professor Peter Brocklehurst

**2.15pm** **Work of global health clinical study group**

**3.00pm** REFRESHMENTS and POSTER VIEWING

## **Session VIII**

*Chair: Professor Donald Peebles*

**3.15pm** **William Blair Bell Memorial Lecture**  
**Preventing endometrial cancer: progress and challenges**  
Dr Emma Crosbie

**4.00pm** **Presentation of winners of Blair Bell Research Society Competition**

**4.30pm** CLOSE



## Venue

**Venue:** RCOG, 27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RG.

**Tel:** 020 7772 6200 **Fax:** 020 7772 6388

**Train:** Marylebone Station - 10 minute walk

**Underground:** Baker Street - 10 minute walk

**Parking:** Regent's Park Outer Circle (pay and display), NCP on corner of Park Road and Rossmore Road,

**Tel:** 0870 242 7144 for further information

## Fee and payment

Fees must be paid in full before or on the morning of the first day of the meeting. The RCOG reserves the right to refuse admission in the event of non-payment. The fee includes refreshments, lunch, admission to the lectures and any technical exhibitions. You are not guaranteed a place until you receive confirmation. If you have not received confirmation of your place before the start of the event, please telephone the Conference Office on **+44 20 7772 6245**.

## Cancellations

All cancellations must be received in writing by the Conference Office a minimum of 2 weeks before the meeting (except Basic Practical Skills Courses, which must be received at least 6 weeks prior to the course). A standard administrative charge of £25 will be made on all cancellations received 2 weeks or more prior to the conference. We regret that refunds cannot be

issued on cancellations received less than two weeks prior to the conference. No refunds will be made for non-attendance on the course. An administrative charge of £50 applies to certain meetings, including Basic Practical Skills Courses, Part 1, 2 and 3 MRCOG Revision Courses. Please check your confirmation letter for clarification. Substitutions are welcome at any time.

In the unlikely event the course is cancelled by the RCOG, we regret we are unable to refund any delegate travel and/or accommodation costs that have already been incurred by the delegate or any administration charges relating to cancellation of travel tickets or accommodation.

## Visa Information

If you are from a country outside the European Union you may be required to have a valid visa to enter Britain. Please check your visa requirements before you book a place on any of our events and before you travel. We are unable to refund course fees outside of our cancellation deadline in the event that your visa is denied or not received in time for you to travel. More information on visa requirements is available from the UK Border Agency.

## RCOG Conference Office

Our team are here to help and advise you in your choice of courses. If you have any further questions, contact the RCOG Conference Office on **events@rcog.org.uk** or call **+44 20 7772 6245**

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