

# NEWS & VIEWS

The Yorkshire Society of Obstetric Anaesthetists newsletter

Issue 8/ June 2015

## Editorial

We hope you enjoyed the recent YSOA Annual Scientific Meeting organised by Sarah Radbourne and Nicholas Akerman – you'll find a review of this highly interesting and successful meeting below, along with other news from the society including information on Enhanced Recovery in Obstetrics.

Please can you forward this newsletter to your obstetric anaesthetic colleagues and trainees to let them all know all the news – thank you! Please also encourage them to become members of the YSOA by filling in the application form accompanying this newsletter – it's free and helps us to keep in touch with the right people!

Sue Smith and Amanda Vipond (York)

## President's Message

I am delighted to be writing the President's report on this bright morning. Winter is behind us and despite the prediction of a wet summer, I am hopeful that we will have some sunshine. My logic is that, anything must be brighter than the winter gloom! Elections are finally over! Despite the predictions of a hung parliament we had a clear majority! Every party forecast that if the other party was elected, would produce doom for the NHS. My own cynical view is that fundamentally all parties will increase the financial squeeze over the next few years. Therefore, I think we should be prepared to see significant changes and challenge them if they are likely to harm our patients.

There is increasing pressure to drop the standards of care that we are accustomed to providing. I have heard several stories of clinical directors arguing about the need to have dedicated consultant presence at elective lists and attempting to run labour wards with a bare minimum number of staff to save money and divert resources to other theatres or areas of the hospital. In addition, a continued shortage of obstetricians and midwives across the board makes the future unpredictable and worrying. Some of us may be lucky and not yet touched by these changes, but it is important to be prepared to protect our patients and ensure that good care continues to be delivered. The Society can be a forum to discuss such issues and provide solutions, for colleagues facing management pressures.

It is not all gloom though. We have a lot to celebrate. The Society had a very successful spring meeting at the Thorpe Park Hotel a few weeks ago. The number of delegates attending our event has almost doubled. The feedback has been extremely positive and we have more people joining the Society. All signs of a healthy and thriving Society!

Our next meeting is a special event, organised to welcome Dr Lawrence Tsen to Yorkshire. Lawrence will be at Hull speaking on work he and his team have delivered around improving professionalism and culture at Brigham and Women's hospital on 26th June in the morning and in the evening he will be addressing a select audience from our Society on the latest advances in obstetric anaesthesia. So do come and meet him and other colleagues in June at the Hull.

I look forward to seeing you in June or if not at our regular evening meeting on the last Friday in September. In the meantime enjoy and have a great summer

Makani Purva  
PRESIDENT  
Yorkshire Society of Obstetric Anaesthetists

## **Dates for your Diary**

### **Transatlantic Network meeting A SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL EVENT**

**Friday 26th June 2015**

Hallmark Hotel, North Ferriby, Hull HU14 3LG  
Dr Lawrence Tsen (Boston USA) and Dr Ian Russell (Hull)  
Contact: [jane.backhouse@ysoa.org.uk](mailto:jane.backhouse@ysoa.org.uk)

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### **YSOA Anniversary evening meeting**

**Friday September 25<sup>th</sup>**

Hinsley Hall, Leeds  
6.30-10pm (provisional times)

Contact: Nette Heaven –Terry - [nette.ht@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nette.ht@hotmail.co.uk)

Add this to your diary – interesting, social and educational  
Programme to be announced soon

## **YSOA Annual Scientific Meeting report**

This year the YSOA ASM was held at Thorpe Park Hotel and Spa near Leeds. It was an excellent venue for the event, the weather was kind and the facilities, catering and organisation of the day all made for a very enjoyable and informative meeting. One of the great things about our ASM is the multi-disciplinary audience and range of topics. I'm sure all of the 120 delegates would agree that it was a great success.

We heard from Dr Matt Wilson, from Sheffield, who gave us an in depth presentation on research funding. Dr Anu Sharma, from Mid Yorks, shared her experience of

introducing the routine use of ultrasound for epidural and spinal placement and followed this by two mini workshops / demonstrations with Dr Vinay Santhi during the morning coffee break. Get your ultrasound machines up and running – an easy procedure for invaluable information especially for our high BMI ladies!

Dr Jenny Myers, Consultant Obstetrician from Manchester gave us a very interesting update on pre-eclampsia with some promising research for disease identification in the pipeline. We heard the other perspective from a patient sharing her experience of the disease and how it is always different from 'the other side'. Mrs Ann Marie Barnard, CEO of APEC (Action on Pre-Eclampsia Charity) then gave us an overview of the work the charity does funding research and education and supporting families affected by pre-eclampsia.

After a delicious sit-down lunch and a further opportunity to take a look at the trainees' posters and our sponsors' stands, the first of the afternoon sessions kicked off with our infamous debate between Dr Aamir Nazir, (for) and Dr Hamish McLure, (against) the motion "Advanced training in Obstetric Anaesthesia is a pre-requisite for a Consultant Obstetric Anaesthetic post". It was a lively affair with Hamish just piping Aamir to defeat the motion.

Dr Katie Newell-Jones from 'Feed the Mind' charity gave us an interesting and thought provoking overview of her work in Kenya working with communities to reduce the incidence of female genital mutilation.

After the final coffee break Dr Kate English, Consultant Cardiologist from Leeds gave us a great talk about grown up congenital heart disease (GUCH) and pregnancy. We heard about mind boggling anatomical heart abnormalities in patients who have delivered safely thanks to their multi-disciplinary approach. Dr Alison Lansbury gave us the statistics from the anaesthetic perspective.

Finally, Mr Paul Taylor, a senior ODP from York gave us an entertaining romp through over 30 years of his experience as an obstetric ODP – how things have changed!

We had 14 abstracts submitted this year by trainees for poster presentation (a record!) of which three were selected for oral presentation at the meeting. The oral presentation winner was Dr Andy Horne whose work showed that the chosen space for epidural insertion is related to the age and experience of the anaesthetist - the older the doctor the higher the space! The poster competition was won by Dr Harish Lad for his work redesigning the WHO checklist for obstetrics.

A huge thank you to the YSOA organising committee, especially Sarah Radbourne, Nik Akerman and Jane Backhouse who did an amazing job organising this very enjoyable, informative and educational meeting.

We have received very positive feedback from this year's event with a few suggestions for improvements which we will, of course, take on board.

Next year's event will be organised by the team from the East – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in York – watch this space!

Sue Smith, York

# Enhanced Recovery in Yorkshire and the Humber – A Regional Approach

Enhanced recovery (ER) aims to optimise multiple aspects of patient care, improve recovery and facilitate earlier discharge without reducing patient satisfaction or quality of care. Although initially described for colorectal surgery, there is mounting evidence that ER may be used effectively for women undergoing elective caesarean section (LSCS).

There are a few units in the region that have already successfully introduced ER for LSCS, including Bradford and Sheffield. However, there are many more units who have expressed a desire to implement ER but have yet to do so.

To address this, we organised a multidisciplinary regional meeting run in conjunction with the Yorkshire and Humber Academic Health Science Network's Improvement Academy. The enhanced recovery experiences in Bradford and Sheffield were presented and roundtable discussion allowed clinicians with experience of ER to share knowledge and answer questions. The meeting was well attended by midwives, obstetricians and anaesthetists from nearly all Trusts in the region.

Information from the afternoon including presentations and tools for implementation (protocols, audit forms, patient information etc) will shortly be made freely available on the Improvement Academy website: [www.improvementacademy.org](http://www.improvementacademy.org)

It is hoped that by sharing our experiences, other units will be able to introduce ER more quickly with the benefit of the protocols and other literature already available. There will also be a discussion forum accessible via the website.

Dr Sarah Cooper  
ST7 Anaesthesia

Dr Deborah Horner  
Consultant Anaesthetist  
Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

## Simulation Dates

### Obstetric Anaesthetic Emergency Course for CT2s

Hull Clinical Skills Facility  
Contact [daniel.websdale@hey.nhs.uk](mailto:daniel.websdale@hey.nhs.uk)

Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015

York Simulation suite  
Contact [emma.deans@york.nhs.uk](mailto:emma.deans@york.nhs.uk)

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2015

Bradford dates tba

### TOASTY Advanced Obstetric Course

for senior trainees and consultants

Hull Clinical Skills Facility  
Contact [daniel.websdale@hey.nhs.uk](mailto:daniel.websdale@hey.nhs.uk)

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015

**MOSES courses** – multidisciplinary obstetric simulated emergency scenarios  
Run by the Montagu Simulation Centre in Mexborough.  
For senior trainees in obstetric anaesthesia

18/09/2015  
02/10/2015  
30/10/2015  
04/12/2015  
18/12/2015

Senior trainees to attend the MOSES course contact: [Martin.Feast@sth.nhs.uk](mailto:Martin.Feast@sth.nhs.uk)  
Or the Montagu Centre Administrator [Kathryn.Maloney@dbh.nhs.uk](mailto:Kathryn.Maloney@dbh.nhs.uk)

(There is a call for more midwives to be involved in these fantastic courses so please tell your midwives and encourage them to contact [Zipporah.Baines@sth.nhs.uk](mailto:Zipporah.Baines@sth.nhs.uk) who co-ordinates their attendance)



## Members Application form

Surname (*block capitals*): \_\_\_\_\_

Forenames: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to, Nette Heaven-Terry email address: [nette.ht@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nette.ht@hotmail.co.uk)