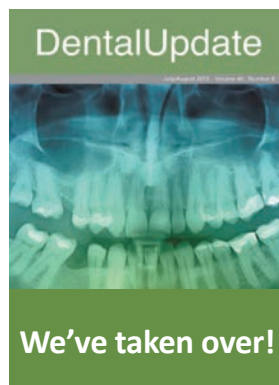


College News

Autumn 2013

Help us shape the
future of medicine



Annual
Symposium



Regional Advisors



ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS AND
SURGEONS OF GLASGOW

Contents

YOUR COLLEGE

From the President's Office	03
Events for all	04
Institute of Remote Healthcare Conference	04
Funding for individuals and organisations	04
Sir Thomas James Thomson	05
£4m funding announcement	05
Announcements	05
Medical Training Initiative	06
International social evening	06
College Scholarship and Awards	06
Dr Alyson Wray:	07
<i>Term as Vice-President coming to an end</i>	
Revalidation update	07
What your College is saying	08
Social snapshot	08
Advancing Excellence in Healthcare 2014	09
Nutrition for the less initiated	10
College Shop	10
Help us shape the future of medicine	11
The cost of glaucoma	12

PHYSICIANS

President supports PACES exams	13
New Chair of MRCP(UK) Examining Board	13
Recruitment	13
Event Calendar	13

SURGEONS

My College	14
Surgical education update	14
Recruitment	14
Event Calendar	14

DENTISTRY

We've taken over!	15
MFDS Trainee Package	15
Elections and AGM	15
TC White Oral Cancer Symposium	15
Event Calendar	15

TRAVEL MEDICINE

Travel Medicine Faculty Membership	16
Elections and AGM	16
Travel Medicine Annual Symposium	16
Event Calendar	16

PODIATRIC MEDICINE

Regional Advisors	17
Foot and ankle ultrasound	17

LIBRARY AND HERITAGE

Your library	18
Social media and the College library	18

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If you are interested in contributing to our next edition of *College News* please email publications@rcpsg.ac.uk – submission deadline 11 October 2013.

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From the President's Office

I recently attended the UK Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Meeting and as always the agenda was daunting. Although much of the discussion was directed to issues within the English NHS there was much of relevance to all four UK nations. I and the other two Scottish Royal College Presidents met with the Chair of the Academy, Professor Terence Stevenson and we emphasised to him the extent of our membership south of the border and also the relevance of many items on the agenda to the Scottish Health Service. Professor Stephenson has accepted our invitation to visit Scotland in the autumn and this we feel will keep the focus of the Academy on Scottish issues as well as those south of the border.

One particular item which attracted discussion was seven day working. There was agreement that this should focus on unscheduled care and ensuring uniformity of care throughout the working week and at weekends and public holidays. It is clearly unacceptable that the outcomes for patients vary depending on which day they are admitted and there are working groups now addressing this whole issue.

There was also discussion about surgical outcome data and general support for the publication of both individual results as well as team/hospital figures. All agreed that the data had to be rigorously assessed, appropriate and tailored to each situation being evaluated.

The Academy also discussed their response to the Robert Francis report and chose to highlight the key issues from the 290 recommendations and how the Academy could ensure the delivery of these issues.

The difficulty among consultants in England in having protected time to contribute to the wider NHS and to College activities has resonance with the 9/1 contracts prevalent in Scotland for several years. In this regard, the Scottish Academy had a most constructive meeting with the Scottish Health Board Chief Executives recently and I do feel there is now support for providing at least two supporting professional activity sessions per week at the time of appointment to consultant grade.

We had an extremely successful day for our diplomats at the Admission Ceremony on 29 May. Over 400 visited the College during the day while a further 140 attended for a celebratory meal after the ceremony. I am sure this a record attendance with both the College Hall and the Alexandra room being filled to capacity. We provided some Scottish entertainment courtesy of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland to end a special evening.

Since the last issue of College News, I have attended two meetings with the Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing. He listened attentively at both meetings, the first with other service leaders and the second on a one to one. He understands our concerns particularly in regard to the whole area of unscheduled care and in recruitment and retention of staff at all levels. In regard to retention of junior staff, this College supports and applauds the StART (Strategy for Attracting and Retraining Trainees) initiative being led by Alistair McLellan. I have sent the Cabinet Secretary a summary of our points of discussion and a follow up meeting is planned in College later this year. I do hope these meetings will result in changes to the benefit of both the NHS and our Fellows and Members.

All our five disciplines continue to thrive. Dentistry is of course well established and there have been a number of important initiatives led by Dr Alyson Wray both in

exams and education. Dr Wray will be completing her term as Vice-President (Dental) and Dean of the Faculty in October and I would like express my sincere thanks and the thanks of the College to her for her many contributions over the past three years.

Dr Mike Jones continues to lead Travel Medicine to excellent effect and our newest Faculty of Podiatric Medicine with Dr Colin Semple at the helm is already making considerable strides both in recruitment and exam development.

5 July was the 65th anniversary of the NHS and this event has rightly been acknowledged throughout the United Kingdom. Despite recent failings, it remains the envy of the world in healthcare delivery. Let us hope that it can adapt to all the challenges which confronts it in 2013 and retain the admirable principles on which it was founded.

7 July 2013 will be remembered for a monumental sporting achievement. Millions of people around the world watched Andy Murray's magnificent win in the Wimbledon final. He made a sunny Scotland even happier on Sunday and into Monday and before anyone asks, no I was not alive to see Fred Perry's win!

Dr Frank Dunn

Events for all

All events listed are being held in the College unless otherwise stated.



12-13 September, 8.15am-5.15pm

Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Education

Weetwood Hall
Conference Centre, Leeds
38 clinical credits

16 September, 2-5pm

The Law Series – Being an Expert Witness

Presented by Andrew Smith QC
3 non-clinical credits

21 October, 2-5pm

The Law Series – Consent Issues, Medicine and the Law

Presented by Andrew Smith QC
3 non-clinical credits

22 October, 6.30pm

The Leadership Lecture

Delivered by Mr Norman Drummond, founder of Drummond International

This is a free event

24 October, 9.30am-4.45pm

Nutrition for the less initiated

6 clinical credits

4 November, 1pm-6.45pm

Why should we extend the working week?

6 December, 4.30pm

College AGM

9-10 December, 8.15am-5.15pm

Advanced Diploma in Clinical Education

38 clinical credits

3 February, 2-5pm

The Law Series – Being an expert witness

Presented by Andrew Smith QC
3 non-clinical credits

24 March, 2-5pm

The Law Series – Consent issues, medicine and the law

Presented by Andrew Smith QC
3 non-clinical credits

Book online:

<http://rcp.sg/events>

Dates may be subject to change.

TRAINEE EVENTS

17 September, 5.30-8pm

CV building and specialty applications

01 October, 6-8pm

FYI: All you need to know about core specialty training and how to get there

30 October, 6-8pm

So you want to be a surgeon/medic?

26 November, 6-8pm

Audit Symposium

MONEY MATTERS SEMINAR SERIES

We have teamed up with some expert financial organisations to present a series of free seminars focused on money management.

23 October, 6.30-8pm

Financial Planning including inheritance tax and wills

Presented by Chartermarque and MacLay Murray Spens

13 January, 6.30-8pm

Demystifying Personal Tax

Presented by Chartermarque

16 April, 6.30-8pm

Maximising your income

Presented by Brewin Dolphin

24 June, 6.30-8pm

Retirement planning/pensions

Presented by Chartermarque and LV

About our partners:

Chartermarque Ltd are Pensions Consultants and Chartered Financial Planners

MacLay Murray Spens are Private Client Solicitors

Liverpool Victoria (LV) are Retirement Consultants

Brewin Dolphin are Investment Management Advisors

Institute of Remote Healthcare Conference

Wednesday 11 & Thursday 12 September

Run in collaboration with Robert Gordon University, this event will focus on the practical aspects of redesigning remote healthcare delivery and clinical support from an international perspective.

More information at www.IRHC.org.uk.

Funding now available for individuals and organisations

Our College aims to “engage in charitable activities that will contribute to the improvement of health and the raising of standards in healthcare.” We are delighted to announce that funding is now available to individuals or organisations wishing to bid for charitable support.

Individuals and organisations seeking funding and support for activities that meet our charitable aims are now welcome. The support of the College will be guided by analysis of aims and objectives. Where there are competing bids for funding, priority will be given to any supported by College Fellows and Members.

Further information and an application form are available here: <http://rcp.sg/charity>

Sir Thomas James Thomson (1923-2013)

I regret to inform you of the death of our Past President Sir Thomas James Thomson on 20 July 2013. He was President from 1982-1984 and during his term of office hosted a visit by Her Majesty the Queen as well as overseeing some key developments within the College. He had previously served College as Council Member, Honorary Secretary and Chairman of the Education Committee.

He also had a long and distinguished career as a consultant physician and gastroenterologist at Stobhill Hospital and honorary senior lecturer in the department of Materia Medica. He was postgraduate clinical tutor at Stobhill for a remarkable 20 years and the redeveloped postgraduate centre was appropriately named after him. The Royal College extends its deepest sympathies to Lady Thomson and the family.

Dr Frank Dunn, President



Announcements

Admission Ceremony

The next admission ceremony will be held on Wednesday, 6 November 2013. Online registration is available at <http://rcp.sg/registration>

College closures

The College will be closed on: Monday 30 September

Elections and AGM – College

Nomination papers for the College Council will be issued to all those eligible to nominate on the week commencing 19 August. All nomination forms should be returned by 18 October. The College AGM will be held on 6 December 2013.

JRCPTB and JCST fees tax deductible

HMRC have confirmed that JRCPTB and JCST fees are now tax deductible. These fees can be paid by direct debit to the College along with your subscription, which is also tax deductible.

Congratulations Ian Anderson CBE

Congratulations are extended to our former President, Mr Ian Anderson who was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Thank you to all who donated

Thank you to everyone who donated to the staff charity's fundraising efforts for Yorkhill Children's Charity. £311 was raised by staff running the Edinburgh marathon and £106 was raised by staff who recently completed 18 miles of the West Highland Way. A further £745 was raised during a quiz night held in the College recently.



£4 million of funding to improve patient safety

The Health Foundation has announced funding totalling £4 million to support up to nine projects that will demonstrate improvements in patient safety by tackling known gaps between best practice and delivery of care.

Each project will receive up to £450,000 of funding to support the implementation and evaluation of tested, evidence-based patient safety interventions at scale. Projects are expected to provide a logical link between an identified patient safety hazard or problem and the proposed intervention.

Projects must demonstrate an impact on patient safety within health or social care. Applications are welcome from people working in primary, secondary or tertiary care, or health and social care settings in the UK.

Suggested types of projects include, but are not limited to:

- Approaches to build skills in improving patient safety
- Interventions to improve reliability of clinical care
- Creating the conditions for the delivery of patient care.

Applications are expected to come from groups of organisations working together and should demonstrate a strong track record in designing, delivering and evaluating improvement projects. Projects will also need to include an organisation that can influence wider practice and opinion.

The closing date for applications is 12 noon, 23 September 2013.

More information is available at www.health.org.uk/ctgptsafety

Medical Training Initiative

We continue to be active in forging links with UK and international institutions in promoting the Medical Training Initiative (MTI) and highlighting the potential benefits to trainees, receiving hospitals and the main long-term beneficiaries of the scheme, the health services in participant's home countries.

A recent publicity and marketing drive resulted in the establishment of links with Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust, Barnsley NHS Trust and North Lincolnshire NHS Trust. The presence and work of our regional advisors in these areas, Dr Asif Naqvi and Dr Jean-Pierre Ng Ping Cheung, contributed hugely to this progress and it is anticipated that, following a similar model, further MTI development will take place in England. We are also very active in Weston-super-Mare and currently have six doctors

in this Trust in training positions covering a range of specialties.

At the June meeting of the MTI College leads, the main agenda item was the revision and re-drafting of MTI supporting documentation in order to make the process (often considered too bureaucratic) more streamlined and efficient. This documentation has now been formally approved and will shortly be available to all scheme participants.



International social evening

We recently hosted a very successful international social evening. This was the first of many planned for the coming year.

These events showcase the College to international doctors and trainees working in the UK, and highlight the benefits of membership to professional development. Participants at the event were invited to give feedback on how they think the College can meet their needs in all aspects of their career progression.

PHYSICIANS

SURGEONS

DENTISTS

TRAVEL MEDICINE

PODIATRIC MEDICINE

College Scholarships & Awards

Financial assistance to advance your career

As a member of the College, you are welcome to apply for a number of awards to help you progress your research, improve your knowledge and skills, or widen your experience by visiting other countries and/or specialist centres. The following awards are closing soon. Please check out our website for details of other scholarships and awards on offer.

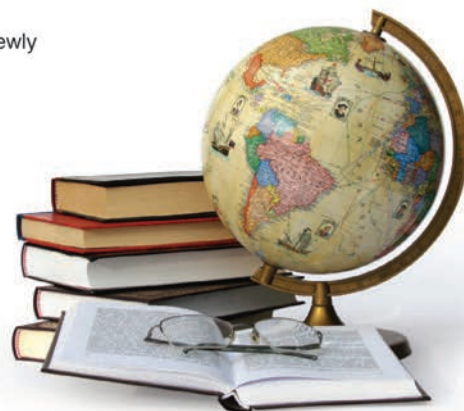


College Travelling Fellowship *Travel to a centre of excellence*

Open to	All Fellows and Members of the College in training grades. Newly qualified consultants may be considered.
Specialty	All specialties
Value	£2,000 maximum per award
Closing date	22 November 2013

Medical Elective Awards *Travel abroad during your elective study*

Open to	Medical students studying at a Scottish university
Specialty	Not applicable
Value	Up to £2,000
Closing date	22 November 2013



More information: +44 (0)141 221 6072 | E: scholarships@rcpsg.ac.uk | <http://rcp.sg/scholarships>

Dr Alyson Wray: term as Vice-President coming to an end

Dr Alyson Wray, Vice-President (Dental) was the first female Vice-President of any UK Royal College. She is also a consultant paediatric dentist and hospital postgraduate tutor for National Education Scotland.

For the past three years Alyson has served as Vice-President (Dental) and Dean of the Faculty of Dental Surgery. In that time, she has overseen a huge amount of progress in the Faculty and our voice in shaping the future of patient care in dentistry has never been stronger.

Among her achievements are helping to drive forward the development of tri-collegiate membership exams in oral surgery, special care dentistry and paediatric dentistry, all of which were launched in the UK last year. The hope now is to take these exams to international centres. Alyson has also been working hard to ensure the highest standards are maintained on the bi-collegiate examinations in orthodontics and restorative dentistry.

Under her guidance, the Faculty of Dental Surgery has pioneered the College's first trainee package, designed to help trainees combine the costs of education,



examination and membership into regular monthly payments. The MFDS examination continues to be internationally recognised as a benchmark qualification for dental professionals and we are currently running the MFDS Part 1 examination in 12 centres, five of which are outside the UK. The MFDS Part 2 examination is run in Glasgow and Manchester.

Everyone at the College wishes Alyson the very best for the future and we thank her

for the huge contribution she has made both to the Faculty of Dental Surgery and the wider College.

Professor Richard Welbury will take over as Vice-President (Dental) and Dean of the Faculty following the Faculty AGM in October.

Revalidation update

Our College continues to contribute to the wider revalidation debate and is represented in a range of Scottish and UK forums. The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Revalidation Steering Group (ARSG) June meeting focussed on two key areas which could impact on Fellows and Members as a result of the new system of appraisal and revalidation:

Remediation

The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) has consulted widely with a range of partners to assess how best to support those doctors who may require support, should performance issues come to light during appraisal. A remediation implementation group has been established with the remit to produce a process map outlining the role played by Colleges and how, in partnership with other key agencies, the necessary support

and resources can be identified to ensure that doctors going through remediation are given every opportunity to return to full practice.

SAS surgeons

Concerns have been raised that specific groups such as SAS surgeons are often faced with significant challenges relating to local organisational systems of appraisal and clinical governance, which make it more difficult for them to access the resources necessary for meeting the full requirements of revalidation.

Future activities

Our College sits on the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) Specialties Guidance Group (SGG), which has been instrumental in the development and drafting of supporting information and guidance frameworks for revalidation.

To assess the usefulness of the range of support tools available to doctors the SGG will conduct a survey of doctors, appraisers and responsible officers in the autumn. Questionnaires will be issued to all doctors who have participated in the first year of the new system and Fellows and Members are asked to respond to ensure your College's views are represented in the survey results and conclusions.

**REVALIDATION
HELP DESK**
revalidation@rcpsg.ac.uk
<http://rcp.sg/revalidation>

What your College is saying

We are frequently asked to comment on issues in the media. There are many different views among our 10,000 plus strong membership and we do our best to put forward logical, informed and appropriate responses to best represent you. Below are some recent issues that we have commented on.

13 May

Nurse to patient ratios

In May, we supported a proposal from the Safe Staffing Alliance to standardise nurse to patient ratios in the NHS. Care of patients deteriorates when both nursing and medical staff numbers are stretched. We believe the drawing up of unequivocal standards of nursing numbers in the different types of wards using benchmarking and the expertise that is available is worthy of consideration. Having these numbers independently monitored would close the door to inappropriate budgetary savings in this area and thereby eliminate the risk to patient safety and care.

24 June

Consultant rotas

For many years consultants have been present in the hospital on a rota system for parts of weekday evenings and at weekends as well as being on call overnight both during week nights and weekends. We believe there is a need to put in place a consistent standard of care which is of the highest quality throughout the working week, at weekends and on public holidays and this issue is currently being addressed by the Royal Colleges in the United Kingdom along with the Scottish Academy. We support the need for consultants in some specialties to be on site both in the evenings and at weekends and believe a move towards extending elective work to evenings and weekends is worthy of considering. However, we recognise this would have substantial resource implications not only for doctors but also for the many other health professionals who work within the NHS. Such a move would have to be balanced against other pressures within the service, bearing in mind financial and other constraints. Ensuring a uniform standard of care for acutely ill patients would seem to be a reasonable initial requirement.

25 June

An opt out system for organ donation

In June, the BMA Scotland launched a campaign to highlight the importance of organ donation and the impact it can have on people's lives. They have proposed introducing an opt-out system for organ donation in Scotland. An opt-out system has already been implemented or is being planned in a number of countries around the world. We support an opt-out system for organ donation and believe it will save many lives.

5 July

NHS 65th birthday celebrations

We were delighted to be involved with the NHS 65th birthday celebrations. Recent events have demonstrated the need to keep the patient central to the service and not to let other considerations divert from that focus. We recognise there are major quality, financial and workforce issues at present, but there is also a strong will among the public, within the Royal Colleges and other medical institutions and the government to maintain this most important of institutions. As a small gesture of appreciation on this special occasion, our chef baked a beautiful birthday cake which we gave to the staff at Yorkhill Children's Hospital in Glasgow in appreciation of the great work they do.



Social snapshot

Our social media pages have had a very busy few months and we are delighted to see a growing number of followers on these pages. We currently have 3,400 followers on facebook and 245 followers on twitter. One of the benefits of social media is the ease of distributing information as soon as it comes available. Below is a snapshot of some recent activity on our twitter page, which will give you a taste of the kind of information you can get on these pages.

Twitter

NaTHNaCJul 18, 10:24am via Web
Health professionals: Faculty of Travel Medicine Symposium 10 October in Glasgow. View programme and book online tinyurl.com/pko97fc

Retweeted by [rcpsglasgow](#)

rcpsglibraryJul 19, 2:47pm via Web
New blog post - "The Magnet", a literary magazine from Victorian Glasgow rcp.sg/magnet

Retweeted by [rcpsglasgow](#)

rcpsglasgowJul 18, 11:29am via HootSuite
Want to get noticed? Sponsorship opportunities are now available #AEH2014 @InConferenceLtd@rcpsglasgow aeh2014.rcp.sg

1 retweets

rcpsglasgowJul 17, 10:12am via HootSuite
MRCP(UK) are seeking to appoint a medical director for examinations. More information atrcp.sg/mrcpvacancy



www.facebook.com/rcpsg



[@rcpsglasgow](http://www.twitter.com/rcpsglasgow)



ADVANCING EXCELLENCE IN HEALTHCARE 2014

*The Third International Triennial Conference
of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow*

19-20 June 2014

Our international interdisciplinary triennial conference will take place in 2014. The conference has been revamped with a new title and branding to reflect the prestigious nature of this flagship event.

Advancing Excellence in Healthcare will take place at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow on 19-20 June 2014. More than 700 delegates, speakers and visitors are expected to attend the event.

The conference incorporates a series of symposia running in parallel over the two days including:

- **Medicine**
- **Surgery**
- **Dentistry**
- **Travel medicine**
- **Podiatric medicine**
- **Junior doctors and trainees**
- **Glasgow Lung Conference**
- **History of medicine**

Conference delegates will have the flexibility to move between symposia and are empowered to create a personalised conference programme specifically tailored to their needs.

A sports medicine theme will run through the conference which has been timed to take place ahead of the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

An excellent social programme including a 5k run, conference social evening and triennial ball will run in parallel with the conference.

Registration will open in September 2013, but you are welcome to register your interest now. We will be posting new information on the conference website as soon as it comes available. In the meantime, we look forward to welcoming you to Advancing Excellence in Healthcare in 2014.

<http://aeh2014.rcp.sg>



Sponsorship opportunities now available

Advancing Excellence in Healthcare 2014 represents an excellent opportunity for organisations to broaden their reach, expand their brand, and improve their visibility. Lots of different sponsorship opportunities are now available ranging from sponsoring the health zone to distributing flyers and promotional material. The packages have been designed to be as flexible as possible to reflect the different requirements of different organisations.

Detailed information on how to sponsor, including a downloadable sponsorship brochure, are available on the conference website.



Nutrition for the less initiated

On a day to day basis, most of us are interested in nutrition – we choose the restaurants we eat in and select our food with care. We intuitively agree that nutrition is important.

In the past twenty years there have been times when nutrition in hospitals was relegated to a “hotel service” of no interest to the medical and nursing staff. However, there has recently been a renaissance of interest in our patients’ nutritional status. The stimulus to this has varied from the intriguing physiology of nutrition - carbohydrate loading dampening the metabolic response to surgery or the cure of diabetes by obesity surgery – to the ability to support patients through critical illness and major surgery with artificial nutrition either enteral or parenteral.

Our nursing and dietetic colleagues have developed screening protocols for malnutrition which are now routine. This has led to an increasing demand for gastroenterologists and GI surgeons who understand the physiology of the metabolic response and who are capable of delivering safe nutritional care.

The day has now come where the training syllabi for both specialties makes nutrition a specific topic to be covered.

Our College has developed a new one day course aimed principally at gastroenterology and GI surgery senior trainees and consultants which covers nutrition for those interested in, but less familiar with, its practice in medicine. The day starts with a plenary session addressing the metabolic response to starvation and disease which is followed by a workshop on identifying malnutrition. Delegates will be able to choose two of three themes during the middle part of the day – enteral or parenteral nutritional support and obesity. There will also be interactive small group workshops addressing practical aspects of how this care is provided. The day finishes with the challenge of goal setting and monitoring in nutrition.



Nutrition for the less initiated

24 October 2013, 9.30am – 4.45pm

Book online: <http://rcp.sg/events>

CPD: 6 clinical credits



The College Shop

New items now available in the College Shop

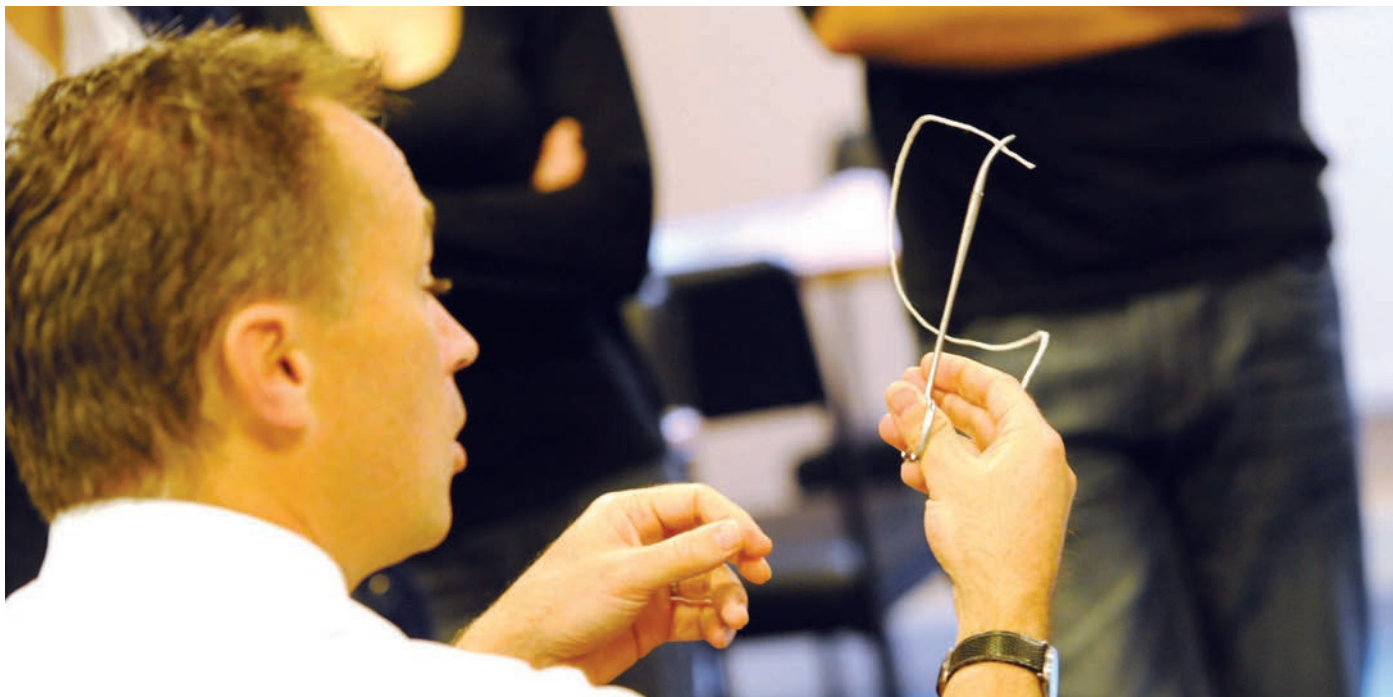


100% Silk Tie. This new College tie is the first to feature all five faculty colours with the College Coat of Arms embroidered.

100% Silk Ladies scarf based on original drawings taken from John James Audubon's 'The Birds of America'. The design was created by a new, Glasgow based, company Bespoke Atelier. Featuring all five College faculty colours, this scarf comes with an informative insert in a presentation box.



<http://rcp.sg/shop>



Help us shape the future of medicine

*Do you enjoy sharing your interest in medicine with your peers and colleagues? Would you like to help shape the future of medical and surgical education and training? If the answer is yes, we would like to hear from you. **Mandy Watt, Head of Education, Training and Professional Development** explains the important role our Fellows and Members play in delivering high quality education and the possibilities available to those wanting to get involved.*

The aim of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow is to support and represent our members while setting the highest possible standards of health care. One of the ways in which we are able to do this is by providing ongoing career support to our membership through a wide range of high quality and relevant training, professional development, examinations and educational events.

As a charity we work with our clinicians to produce events that are both relevant and current to the medical community. Clinicians involved in delivering events are referred to as Education Faculty. The College prides itself on being open and friendly, yet modern and efficient while helping our growing membership of physicians, surgeons, dental professionals, specialists in travel medicine and podiatric medicine to become rounded, open-minded and skilled professionals.

The focus on ensuring we support our membership, while setting the highest

possible standards is one that the Education, Training and Professional Development Unit take to heart. By working with clinicians, such as yourself, we are able to create courses, training events, seminars and symposia that are not only relevant, but also up-to-date, and address current needs within the medical community.

The key to the success of our Education Unit is the participation of Education Faculty. We currently work with Faculty from all medical and surgical disciplines and it is through these committed individuals who give their time, effort and knowledge in various capacities that the College is able to continue to ensure that the best quality events are available for our members and the wider medical community.

There are three ways in which you can become more involved in shaping our future offerings:

- **Become an Education Faculty Event Lead.** This allows you to develop and shape the content of events and courses, creating content that is relevant and current while ensuring that the quality is of the highest standard
- **Participate as Education Faculty** during a College Event e.g. teaching a skill or presenting at a symposium
- **Write or develop some e-learning content**

Our Education Faculty tell us that they find being involved in education beneficial and many of them are viewed as role models and experts within their own medical community. Although the rewards differ for each individual, the opportunity to give something back to the profession is satisfying as are the opportunities to meet and work with senior clinicians and grow professional networks by meeting fellow faculty experts and delegates.

The opportunity to work with our College is one that is highly rewarding and many Education Faculty stay with us and go on to take up senior roles in the College, which can help raise their profile and aids in career progression through enhancing their CV.

If you are interested in joining our Education Faculty, please send your full CV to Mandy at mandy.watt@rcpsg.ac.uk for consideration. If you want to know more about the opportunities available or have some ideas of your own, you are welcome to arrange an informal chat with Mandy.

We express thanks to all of the Education Faculty who have supported, and continue to support, the delivery of courses and events over the years. You are important partners in fulfilling our mission to provide career support through education, training and development of medical professionals while setting the highest possible standards of health care.



The cost of glaucoma

*As we approach eye health week in the UK (16-22 September), **Donald Montgomery FRCP(Glasg) FRCS(Glasg) FRCOphth** reports on new research that looks at the economic burden of glaucoma management.*

Glaucoma is a leading cause of blindness estimated to affect more than 70 million people around the world. In the UK, the prevalence of glaucoma has been estimated to be as high as 3.3% in people over the age of 40 and up to 5% in those over 80.

The treatment of glaucoma has significantly improved in recent years with the introduction of better drugs yielding fewer side effects. Surgical treatments have also developed and are contributing to the retention of sight for people affected by the condition.

As a major health problem with a continuous demand for treatment that may be medical or surgical, the management of glaucoma has considerable economic consequences. However, until recently, no studies had looked directly at the lifetime costs associated with managing the condition.

We have now published the first report to evaluate both the drug and non-drug costs (hospital visits, surgical procedures, etc) of glaucoma over a patient's lifetime.

With the benefit of access to the Glasgow Glaucoma Database, which currently holds complete treatment histories on 1136 patients spanning 27 years, we were able to identify more than 100 patients who had initiated treatment for glaucoma at Glasgow Royal Infirmary and have subsequently died of natural causes. This provided us with data on a cohort of patients who attended the clinic with glaucoma and who had lifetime healthcare resource use data.

We found that on average patients with glaucoma attended the clinic for about seven years, ranging in total from one year to 22 years. The average cost of treatment was £475 per year, or £3001 per lifetime. The non-drug costs were almost double the drugs costs and the need for surgical procedure clearly had an impact on higher costs.

We further investigated the costs associated with different types of glaucoma and with ocular hypertension.

Primary open angle glaucoma (POAG) was much more prevalent than normal tension glaucoma (NTG) of ocular hypertension (OHT), accounting for almost three quarters of all the patients included in the study.

Patients with a diagnosis of POAG had an average of 1.9 surgical procedures during their lifetime, accounting for 88% of all

surgeries reported. This also led to higher average costs associated with POAG when compared to the other diagnoses. The average lifetime cost for patients with POAG was close to £4000, compared to approximately £2000 for patients with NTG or OHT.

Awareness of the economic impact of glaucoma is important in these financial hard times, as governments choose to tighten health budgets. We hope that understanding of the financial cost of the condition will help to inform clinicians and policy makers on the economics of managing glaucoma.

Reference

Rahman MQ et al. Br J Ophthalmol 2013, 97:720-724

Note: Dr Montgomery is featured in the My College piece on page 14.

The image above depicts a retina with optical disc.

PHYSICIANS

President supports PACES exams

Examiners were pleased to welcome Dr Frank Dunn as an examiner at our PACES centre in Dumfries and at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital, Clydebank. While

in Dumfries, he presented a Certificate of Appreciation to one of our patients who has supported the examination over a period of 10 years.

New Chair of MRCP(UK) Examining Board

We are pleased to announce that Dr Kenneth Dagg has been appointed as Chair of the MRCP(UK) Clinical Examining Board, having served as a member for three years. Dr Dagg is currently Director of Medical Examinations for the College and works as a consultant respiratory physician in NHS Lanarkshire.

In his role as Director, he has made a major contribution to our work, in particular in launching the Golden Jubilee National Hospital as a PACES exam centre.

We congratulate Dr Dagg on his appointment.

Recruitment

MRCPUK

Medical Secretary to the MRCP(UK) Part 1 Examining Board

Job description: Support the Chair of the Examining Board in running the Part 1 Examination and managing the work of the Examining Board, also responsible for the production and accuracy of all documentary and regulatory matters relating to the examination.

Closing: 2 September 2013.

Medical Secretary to the MRCP(UK) Part 2 Written Examining Board

Job description: Support the Chair of the Examining Board in running the Part 2 Written Examination and managing the work of the Examining Board, also responsible for the production and accuracy of all documentary and regulatory matters relating to the examination.

Closing: 2 September 2013.

Specialty Certificate Examination (SCE) in Geriatric Medicine: Examining Board Member

Job description: Assist the Chair and Medical Secretary in running the SCE to ensure that all academic objectives and standards set by the General Medical Council are met. This involves attending annual meetings of the Board; reviewing candidate performance; assisting with the development of the SCE; acting on the advice of the MRCP(UK) Management Board and Examining Boards on policy and academic matters relating to the examinations; and supporting MRCP(UK) Central Office on the delivery of the examinations.

Closing: 10 September 2013.

MRCP(UK) Examinations – Medical Director

Job description: Overall responsibility for the clinical and academic leadership of the MRCP(UK) Diploma and Specialty Certificate Examinations, ensuring that the aims and objectives agreed through the Federation of Royal Colleges of Physicians of the UK are met.

Closing: 27 September 2013.

Further information on all positions listed above is available at:
<http://www.mrcpuk.org/Examiners/Pages/Get-involved.aspx>



Event Calendar

All events listed are being held in the College unless otherwise indicated.

Events and examinations

August:

30 August – 25 September

MRCP PACES Training Evenings

September:

5 September

Vulnerability and Neglect – a joint paediatric and dental symposium

13 September

Rheumatology and Obstetrics – the mother, the baby and the disease

14 September

Respiratory Failure for the Non Respiratory Consultant

16 September

Closing date for Diploma in Dermatology exam (Glasgow).
Exam to be held on 13-14 November.

18 September

IMPACT

23 September

Stroke 2013

October:

11 October

Closing date for MRCP Part 2 exam (Glasgow, Belfast).
Exam to be held on 11-12 December.

November:

1 November

State of the art medicine 2013

7 November

Respiratory conference 2013

08 November

Cardiology for non cardiologists

6 November

Glasgow Undergraduate Neuro Group
Neurosurgery seminar

18-19 November

IMPACT

21 November

Case Reports

Event information and booking
<http://rcp.sg/physicians>

Forthcoming examinations
<http://rcp.sg/physicianexams>

My College

Donald Montgomery FRCP(Glasg) FRCS(Glasg) FRCOphth



Although I was an undergraduate at the University of Glasgow, qualifying in 1982, it was not until the following year that I first set foot inside the College. I remember distinctly the feeling of apprehension as I sat outside the doors of College Hall, waiting my turn to face the examiners in the Primary FRCS orals. This was at a time when even budding ophthalmologists were expected to have a detailed knowledge of the anatomy of the foot. Fortunately the examiners were sympathetic and allowed me to pass on my first attempt.

As a trainee I benefited greatly from the ophthalmology symposia held each Spring and Autumn in the College. In 1990 I was privileged to share the podium with Harry Quigley as he delivered the William Mackenzie Lecture. That meeting led to an observership with Harry at the Wilmer Institute at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. This was a formative experience that confirmed my interest in glaucoma as a subspecialty and three years later I was appointed consultant at Glasgow Royal Infirmary to run the glaucoma service there.

Shortly afterwards I was asked to join the panel of examiners for the ophthalmology

FRCS examination and I found it quite a different experience to sit in College Hall on the opposite side of the desk!

Later I was invited onto the Advisory Committee tasked with overseeing the examination, as well as organising the ophthalmology and optometry symposia.

Several years as secretary to the Committee were followed by a period of chairmanship. This was a particularly interesting time as examinations were being redesigned to satisfy the more stringent requirements of Post Graduate Medical Education Training Board (PMETB). New responsibilities, including chairmanship of the West of Scotland Specialty Training Committee for Ophthalmology, meant that I had to eventually relinquish my role on the Advisory Committee.

However I remain committed as an examiner and I am pleased to see the ophthalmology FRCS going from strength to strength with demand from candidates, especially from the Middle East, continuing to rise.

Surgical education update

Graham J MacKay, Director of Surgical Education and Surgical Lead for CASC.

With the opening of the new Clinical Anatomy Skills Centre (CASC) and new events and courses on the horizon I am keen to take the opportunity to update members on what is happening in education on the surgical side of the College. It has been a busy year with educational events such as the Foundation Skills and Basic Surgical Skills, the Diploma

in Medical Education and IMRCS OSCE preparation courses. As we head into a new academic year there will be more exciting developments to look forward to here at the College.

To read the rest of this article visit <https://rcp.sg/cnaug13mackay>

Recruitment: Lay examiners

Recruitment of Lay examiners is currently taking place. Their role is to assess exam candidates' performance in the communications skills station of the MRCS Part B OSCE exam. Please share this opportunity with anyone who you think may be interested in working with

us. Application details, including eligibility criteria, are available at <http://rcp.sg/vacancies>

Closing date for applications:
20 September 2013



Event Calendar

All events listed are being held in the College unless otherwise indicated.

September:

6-8 September

MRCS Part B OSCE Preparation Course

6 September

Closing date for IMRCS Part B OSCE (Glasgow).

Exam to be held on 10-11 October

11-12 September

Basic Surgical Skills Course

16 September

Foundations in Critical Care in Surgery Course

25-26 September

Advanced Diploma in Clinical Education

October:

10-11 October

Basic Surgical Skills Course

12 October

Foundation Skills in Surgery Course

23 October

Surgical Anastomosis Techniques

31 October

Closing date for IMRCS Part A (Glasgow).

Exam to be held on 7 January

November:

2 November

Glasgow University Surgical Society

7 November

Closing date for DOHNS Part 1 MCQ (Glasgow). Exam to be held on 6 January

13 November

Introductory Course in Microsurgery

27-28 November

Basic Surgical Skills Course

Event information and booking

<http://rcp.sg/surgeons>

Forthcoming examinations

<http://rcp.sg/surgeonexams>

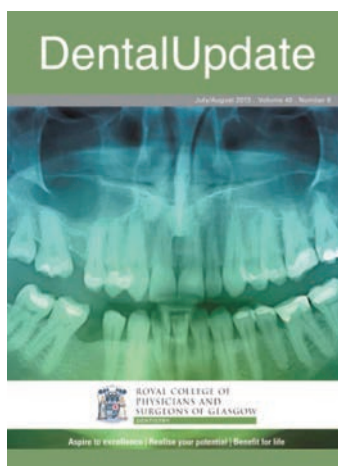
DENTISTRY

We've taken over!

Please look out for the July/August issue of Dental Update, which has been taken over by our Faculty of Dental Surgery!

All of the articles in this issue have been contributed by Fellows and Members of our Faculty, including the editorial, which was written by our Dean, Dr Alyson Wray. Even the front cover looks suspiciously like our Faculty brochure!

Free subscription to Dental Update is an exclusive membership benefit for all our Fellows and Members of the Dental Faculty.



MFDS Trainee Package

New dental graduates embarking on their foundation training can benefit from our tailor-made MFDS package. The package combines the cost of the MFDS Part 1 and Part 2 examinations, revision courses and membership in a single monthly payment. Twelve, 18 and 24 month payment options are available.

A very useful guide to the MFDS package is available to download at <http://rcp.sg/mfds> along with an application form and other useful information.



Elections and AGM

Nominations for the Dental Council **close on 23 August**. If necessary, voting papers will be issued on the week commencing 2 September. The Faculty of Dental Surgery AGM will be held in College on 11 October during the Fellows and Members day which also includes an educational symposium and annual dinner. All those eligible to nominate should have received nomination papers.

TC White Oral Cancer Symposium

29 November 2013

Providing an update on the aetiology, early detection, investigation and management of oral cancer following continuing professional development recommendations by the General Dental Council.

Approved for CPD – 5 hours 40 minutes

Approved for CPDA – 5 ½ hours 2 sessions

More information and booking: <http://rcp.sg/events>



Event Calendar

All events listed are being held in the College unless otherwise indicated.

September:**5 September**

Vulnerability and neglect – a joint paediatric and dental symposium

6 September

Closing date for MFDS Part 2 (Glasgow, Manchester).

Exam to be held on 21-22 November

13-15 September

MFDS Part 1 revision course

October:**11 October**

Dental Fellows and Members day including AGM, symposium and dinner

22-23 October

MFDS Part 2 revision course

November:**15 November**

Closing date for ISFE Oral Medicine (Glasgow). Exam to be held on 6-7 March

29 November

TC White Oral Cancer Symposium

29 November

Closing date for ISFE Orthodontics (London). Exam to be held on 27-28 March

December:**6 December**

Closing date for ISFE Paediatric Dentistry (Dublin).

Exam to be held on 3-4 April

6 December

Closing date for ISFE Restorative Dentistry (London).

Exam to be held on 31 March – 1 April

Event information and booking
<http://rcp.sg/dentists>

Forthcoming examinations
<http://rcp.sg/dentalexams>

Membership of the Faculty of Travel Medicine

MFTM Examination

Applications are now open for the MFTM Part 2 OSCE examination.

The exam will take place in the College on 12 November 2013. The closing date for applications is 23 August 2013.

Please note: Holders of the Diploma in Travel Medicine awarded by this College

or the Certificate in Travel Health™ awarded by ISTM are eligible for exemption from Part 1.

Apply today at <http://rcp.sg/mftm>

Elections and AGM

Nominations for the Faculty of Travel Medicine Executive Board close on 23 August. If necessary, voting papers will be issued on the week commencing 9

September. The Faculty AGM will be held in College on 10 October during the symposium. All those eligible to nominate should have received nomination papers.

Faculty of Travel Medicine Annual Symposium

10 October 2013

This year's annual symposium incorporates a comprehensive programme covering issues encountered before, during and after travel. The symposium is open to anyone with an interest in travel medicine and discounts are available for Faculty members.



Programme

09.00-09.15 Welcome and Introduction

Session 1 Pre Travel Issues

09.15 Undertaking Clinical Research in Travel Medicine
09.45 Occupational fitness to travel - what is our role?
10.15 Malaria preventive advice - evaluating the evidence
10.45 Coffee break/Sponsors' Exhibition

Session 2 Issues During Travel

11.15 Creating a culture of responsible travel
11.45 Helping the traveller to cope with culture shock
12.15 Assistance medicine - helping our travellers to access medical care abroad

12.45 Lunch break, followed by AGM for Faculty Membership

Session 3 Post Travel Issues

14.15 Non-specific symptoms in returned travellers – what not to miss
14.45 Management of imported tropical infectious disease – when to refer to the specialist
15.15 Outbreak alerts and disease surveillance
15.45 Coffee break/sponsors exhibition
15.45 The Livingstone Lecture – The evolution of the medical expedition – it's not what it used to be!

More information and booking details at <http://rcp.sg/events>



Event Calendar

All events listed are being held in the College unless otherwise indicated.

August:

23 August
Closing date for MFTM Part 2 OSCE (Glasgow). Exam to be held on 12 November

September:

9-13 September
Diploma in Travel Medicine – residential week and OSCE exam

October:

10 October
Travel Medicine AGM and Annual Symposium

November:

25-26 November
Foundation in Travel Medicine Introductory Days

February:

10 February
Diploma in Travel Medicine – final written exam

Event information and booking
<http://rcp.sg/travelmedicine>

Forthcoming examinations
<http://rcp.sg/tmexams>

Regional Advisors

Would you like to be a regional advisor for the Faculty of Podiatric Medicine? We are currently recruiting 14 new advisors to be based throughout the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

The main role of the Faculty Regional Advisors are to:

- identify and recruit new members to the Faculty encouraging those eligible to apply for Fellowship and acting as sponsor where appropriate
- develop, promote and facilitate College/Faculty educational activities locally
- promote and publicise the range of examinations offered by the College, encouraging local clinicians to apply through the College to sit these examinations
- provide postgraduate support to podiatrists early in their careers
- liaise with undergraduate programme leaders
- provide advice, guidance, support and networking opportunities to Fellows and Members locally

This is a voluntary position for which all reasonable travel and accommodation expenses in connection with this role will be paid for by the College. You will receive a range of promotional materials to support you



and will benefit from networking opportunities with other Faculty and College Regional Advisors across the UK and Ireland. You will also be invited to attend an annual workshop of all UK Regional Advisors in Glasgow.

Appointments are normally made for a term of 4 years, but may be extended to one further term of 4 years.

The full specification for the Regional Advisor positions is at:

<http://rcp.sg/raspec>

If you are a Member or Fellow of the Faculty in good standing and would like apply for one of these vacancies, please send your CV and a covering letter to: podiatricmedicine@rcpsg.ac.uk.

The closing date for applications is 31 August 2013.

Foot and ankle ultrasound

8 November 2013

Musculoskeletal ultrasound (MSUS) has been described as the stethoscope of modern imaging. MSUS has been used to aid diagnosis, assess disease activity and treatment, and guide invasive procedures such as injections, aspirations and biopsies.

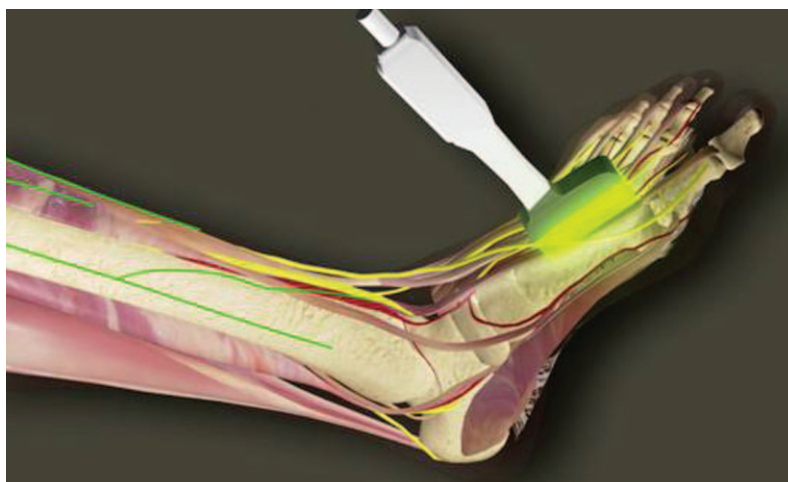
Ultrasound has been shown to be particularly beneficial in the foot and ankle where complex anatomy, small joint spaces and close lying structures may hamper accurate clinical assessment.

A practical study day on ultrasound examination of the foot and ankle will be held by the College in partnership with colleagues from the Scottish Rheumatology Ultrasound Group and Glasgow Caledonian University.

This one-day intensive practical study day within our clinical skills study laboratory will be blended with a series of educational resources delivered via a virtual learning environment. The course is intended to provide a basic introduction to ultrasound techniques in the foot and ankle and is aimed at those with little or no experience of ultrasound scanning.

Due to the practical nature of the course, **places will be strictly limited** to ensure all delegates get to work in small group sizes with a Faculty member and have plenty of opportunity to gain hands on experience. As such, early booking is essential.

Book online at <http://rcp.sg/events>



Your library

If you've been up to the library recently you may have noticed that we have had a wee change around – we've created a lovely new space which we hope is a bit more private for members to have a coffee, relax, meet colleagues or read the newspapers.

All our usual great facilities are still available– we have two large study areas, a suite of PCs with free internet access, printing, photocopying and scanning facilities, and free wi-fi. Library staff are always on hand if you require any assistance with IT and one-to-one training sessions can be booked for those who would like to improve their information skills or learn more about our online resources.

The library has a diverse selection of the latest medical texts, current journals, a reference section and a history of medicine collection and we can help you to source any books or articles not available in the library through our document supply service.

Members who are unable to make it along to the library in person can access many of our resources online (more information on the college website at <http://rcpsg.org/library>) and you can contact us with any queries by email at library@rcpsg.ac.uk or phone on +44 (0)141 221 6072.

We're open 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

For details of how to join the library please visit <http://rcpsg.org/joinlibrary>



Social media and the College library

Following the library on twitter and reading the library blog are two new ways for you to keep up-to-date with what is going on in the College library. Tweets from the library have been running since December 2012 and have not only covered a wide range of subjects but have also included many images of items from the collections.

The library blog at <http://libraryblog.rcpsg.ac.uk/> was launched in June informing readers of library events, highlights from the collections, new acquisitions and resources. Subjects to date include a report on the recent Goodall Symposium on transplantation (including a link to Professor Stephen Wigmore's Prezi presentation on the ethics of transplantation), information about our digitisation programme including items now up on the College website – 19th century vaccination registers and the case books of Robert Cleghorn and

details on the great Glasgow surgeon Sir William Macewen who was slicing brains way in advance of more recent electronic methods. There is no need to keep checking the blog to see if there is anything new – if you are a follower of the library on twitter @rcpsglibrary you will receive a tweet every time a new blog is posted. If, however, all this social media just seems too much for you, don't worry, a quick email library@rcpsg.ac.uk or telephone call 0141 221 6072 to the Library will get you up-to-speed in no time!



The library has joined Twitter!
Follow us @rcpsglibrary

Faculty of Dental Surgery

Fellows and Members Day

11 October 2013



Join us for the annual Dental Fellows and Members Day in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. This event is an excellent opportunity to get involved with the Faculty and network with dental professionals across a range of specialties.

11.00 - 12.00

Annual General Meeting

Followed by a complimentary light lunch and networking

14.00 - 16.30

Symposium

Implants as a minimum standard of care - or just minimal care?

Professor Mark Thomason

Registration: Fellows/Members £40 | Non-Members £85

20.00 - late

Faculty of Dental Surgery Annual Dinner

All Fellows and Members of the Faculty, and their guests, are welcome to attend our Annual Dinner. This is a wonderful social event that provides an opportunity for everyone to mingle, relax and enjoy fine food, music and hospitality.

Formal dress | Tickets £40 | 10% discount for booking a table of 10

Book online at <http://rcp.sg/events>

More information: email dental@rcpsg.ac.uk | call +44 (0)141 227 3220



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