

# South West & Wessex Regional Newsletter



Editor Anna Barton

## **ACB SW&W Scientific Meeting, 18<sup>th</sup> November: Don't Forget To Register Soon!**

Our next regional meeting is being held at the **Derriford Health & Leisure Centre, Derriford Hospital on the 18<sup>th</sup> November.**

The theme for the talks is **Metabolic Bone Disease**, with talks presented by-



- ❖ Dr Hutchinson, Royal Cornwall Hospital: Rheumatoid Arthritis and Anti-CCP
- ❖ Dr Endean, Royal Cornwall Hospital: Metabolic bone disease cases
- ❖ Prof Fraser, Norwich Medical School: Vitamin D
- ❖ Dr Viner, Derriford Hospital: Measuring response to treatment in patients with osteoporosis
- ❖ Dr Thomas, Derriford Hospital: Holo TC
- ❖ Trainees' Award: Three speakers on three interesting topics.

Full information on the meeting, payment and registration can be found via the ACB regional meetings page at- [www.acb.org.uk/whatwedo/events/regional\\_meetings.aspx](http://www.acb.org.uk/whatwedo/events/regional_meetings.aspx)

***We would like to extend the invitation for this and all future meetings to BMSs and other laboratory staff. So please do send the meeting information onto other laboratory staff.***

The meeting is being kindly sponsored by Alexion, Immunodiagnostics Systems (IDS), Mast Group and Ortho Clinical Diagnostics.

## **Welcome To Our Two New 2016 STPs**

This year we are pleased to welcome two STPs to our region.

- Daniel Isemede, Clinical Chemistry, Torbay Hospital
- Divya Patel, Clinical Chemistry, Royal Cornwall Hospital.



## **ACB SW&W Regional Committee: New Members**

We are pleased to welcome to the Committee

- ❖ **Committee Secretary-** Joe Bailey, Principal Clinical Biochemist, Torbay Hospital
- ❖ **FCS Rep-** Dr Angela Mallard, Principal Clinical Biochemist, Royal Cornwall Hospital
- ❖ **Ordinary Member-** Dr Mandy Perry, Senior Clinical Biochemist, Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital
- ❖ **Ordinary Member-** Oliver Roberts, STP Trainee, Derriford Hospital.

## **ACB SW&W Regional Committee: Vacant Positions**

We are still looking for someone to take over the **Audit Lead role**. If you are interested please contact Anthea Patterson [antheapatterson@nhs.net](mailto:antheapatterson@nhs.net)



**Calling all Microbiologists & Immunologists:** The ACB is expanding its membership and we are keen to welcome any Microbiologists and Immunologists that would like to represent their field on our committee.

**ACB SW&W Website:** Click on the hyperlink below to access our SW&W.

[www.acb.org.uk/whatweare/structure/what\\_we\\_are\\_regions/South\\_West\\_Wessex\\_region.aspx](http://www.acb.org.uk/whatweare/structure/what_we_are_regions/South_West_Wessex_region.aspx)



## **ACB SW&W Scientific Meetings: What Future Topics Would You like?**

We know it's a long way ahead, but we are starting to think about our Autumn 2017 meeting! We would welcome any suggestions for topics you would like to see covered in the future. Please email [angelacooper5@nhs.net](mailto:angelacooper5@nhs.net) and [anna.barton3@nhs.net](mailto:anna.barton3@nhs.net)

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## ACB SW&W Committee Meeting: 20<sup>th</sup> October, Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital

A summary of the key issues discussed are as follows

### ❖ **ACB Council Report:**

- ❖ The ACB membership is decreasing due to retirements and a shrinking workforce over the last few years. The ACB are keen to welcome Microbiologist & Immunologists.
- ❖ The importance of having FCS representation was highlighted by the recent attempts of government to have the title 'Consultant' only to be used with Band 9 posts, of which there are very few posts. Thanks to the FCS this has been over turned.
- ❖ The ACB Council felt that the 'Back room services' letter (28<sup>th</sup> June) from the CEO and Chairman of NHS Improvement clearly showed a lack of understanding of pathology.
- ❖ An online ACB Calendar has been created by Joe O'Meara showing all ACB activity and other key events. This will be of particular benefit to meeting organisers.
  - Anna and Angie reported that they have been granted full access to the calendar and have provided feedback, as well as adding the future SW&W scientific meeting dates. All regional meetings are in as 'tentative' until open for registration. The calendar will be very useful to stop any clashes with other regional or national meetings. Events so far online are all national ACB/FCS council meetings, ACB regional & national scientific meetings, EFLM, AQMLM and Euromedlab.
- ❖ **Training Report:** 2 new STPs started this year in Torbay and Truro. Currently no trainee days are planned. There appears to be concerns over the last set of OSFAs. Next trainee day likely to be in Taunton or Bristol.
- ❖ **FCS Rep:** Angela attended the national FCS meeting in September.
- ❖ **Audit:** The audit area of the SW&W website is up and running. Local and regional audits can be placed on there and we encourage all members to do so. Your local audit may help and inspire another site to carry out one.
- ❖ **Meeting Secretary/Scientific Meetings:**
  - ❖ The **18<sup>th</sup> Nov meeting** is open for registration & has been sponsored by four companies.
  - ❖ The **6<sup>th</sup> March meeting 2017** itinerary has been organised (see below) & is being sponsored by four companies. Registration will open December/January.
  - ❖ **Autumn 2017 meeting** is proposed to be in Taunton. Thinking about topics!

**The full Committee minutes will be uploaded to the ACB SW&W regional website.**

The dates for the next committee meeting TBC- Jan/Feb 2017.

## ACB SW&W Scientific Meeting, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2017: Save The Date!

The spring meeting will be held on the **6<sup>th</sup> March** at the **Royal Devon & Exeter NHS Foundation Trust, Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Centre (POEC) lecture room**. The theme for the meeting will be "**Pregnancy & Screening**". We have confirmed all our speakers and are pleased to announce that the talks provided will be-



- ❖ Fertility Team, Peninsula Reproductive Centre: *Fertility & Fertility Techniques*
- ❖ Professor Neil Avent, Plymouth University: *Non-invasive Pre-natal Testing*
- ❖ Midwife Bea Knight, RD&E: *Gestational Diabetes*
- ❖ Professor Kevin Spencer, King George Hospital: *Pre-eclampsia & Biochemical Markers*
- ❖ Dr Wayne Thomas, Derriford Hospital: *Rhesus D*
- ❖ Dr Tim McDonald, RD&E: *Neonatal Diabetes Screening*
- ❖ Dr Helena Kemp, Southmead Hospital: *Newborn Screening Update*.

**Also the ACB SW&W AGM will be held in the morning.**