

British Geriatrics Society North Thames Section Newsletter Autumn 2022

February 2023: Issue 2

The logo for the British Geriatrics Society (BGS) is displayed in a large, white, serif font against a dark purple background.

British Geriatrics Society
Improving healthcare
for older people

Welcome to the second British Geriatric Society North Thames Regional Committee newsletter!

With winter well and truly here, the cold snap is exacerbating an already difficult time in the NHS. A surge in influenza and COVID cases in addition to seasonal injuries such as NOF fractures is seeing pressures from all directions in both the community and hospital settings.

Care of the elderly teams have always been known to be supportive departments across the country and we hope you are supported during this time.

National News: *How can BGS support you?*

Did you know that you can be a member of BGS for FREE?

Free membership is available to all undergraduate medical students, student nurses and AHP in UK medical schools. Foundation years 1-2 and all Nurses and AHPs in their preceptorship year are also free! Follow this link to sign up <https://www.bgs.org.uk/about-bgs/become-a-member-of-the-bgs>

British Geriatric Society Annual Conference 2022

It was fantastic to be back to in person learning and networking and socialising at the Excel centre.

There was a diverse range of teaching and medical updates from sustainability in healthcare to managing virtual wards and future research and development in sarcopenia to name just a few of the topics covered.

These conferences (hybrid format with both virtual and in-person attendance available) are a brilliant way to network, get some great careers advice and some up-to-date teaching within the remit of geriatrics. It is also available to watch on demand until November 2023.

Next conference: 17-19th May 2022 Edinburgh

BGS Event Grant Scheme: Free places available to trainees- applications will be available closer to the time- watch this space!


Regional Hospital in Focus: *Turning the spotlight on our local services*

Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust

Built in 1993, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital is a medical DGH with tertiary burns and HIV/GUM services. Once built it combine staff and services from 5 neighbouring hospitals within Chelsea and Westminster, hence the name.

What's happening at Chelsea?

SDEC frailty clinic: Same day emergency frailty clinics/ review are re-starting at ChelWest with ongoing plans to expand the MDT service. As well as assisting with quicker discharges, this



clinic is a great opportunity to optimise patient's management and ensure they are safe and supported in the community environment.

HIV + >50s clinic: An exciting new clinic is evolving where geriatricians are working with the HIV team to provide an MDT approach to caring for older patient's living with HIV. This population cohort experience a high burden of multimorbidity and by introducing a MDT clinic and applying the CGA, we hope to optimise and support patient's medical management.

Film/Book review: Allelujah

Cinema release date: 17/03/2023

Starring Judie Dench, Jennifer Saunders and Russell Tovey, to name a few famous faces, Allelujah is film which I'm sure all healthcare professionals working with older people can relate to. Set in Yorkshire and focusing on the difficulties faced when a DGH is threatened with closure, Allelujah celebrates the spirit of elderly patients but also the difficulties faced by medical staff battling with limited resources and ever-growing demand. Both a comedic and frank take on the realities of the NHS, Allelujah is a sure to be a must-watch for all geriatric AHP.



We are always keen to hear what's going on locally in your hospital/ community so please do get in contact! Additionally, if you think someone would be interested in this newsletter please do share. We are very keen to hear from you,

With best wishes,

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