

UKCS SECRETARIAT

Department of Urogynaecology
Birmingham Women's Hospital

Metchley Park Road

Birmingham

B15 2TG

E-mail:

HONORARY SECRETARY/TREASURER:

PHILIP.TOOZS-HOBSON@bwhct.nhs.uk

SECRETARY; Elaine.smith@bwhct.nhs.uk

Formerly ICS (UK)

UKCS WEBSITE: www.ukcs.uk.net

UKCS Newsletter November 2011

Dear Colleagues,

I can't believe that we are now heading past autumn and so much time has passed since the excellent meeting arranged by Lucy and her team in Bristol. Well done to the whole team to make that such a fantastic meeting



As you know at that time I suggested an interim committee to oversee the process of developing a constitution (more of which to follow).

I suggested that we have a committee consisting of a treasurer, secretary and chairman supported by the chairs of the committees to see us through and would now like to open the nominations. I would suggest that any nominee should have a proposer and a seconder who are or have been a member of the society (which allows for difficulties we continue to have with membership details). I am now in a position to set a deadline for nominations as the end of November.

Could all applications come to me via email at philip.toozs-hobson@bwhct.nhs.uk Remember this is open to all members and a successful organisation requires representation from all areas represented. The key ingredient is being willing to work!

There are 2 other important matters to discuss in this newsletter. Firstly, the results of the survey, that Malcolm Lucas kindly organised. We had 86 respondents, which represents about a third of the membership. I am grateful James for you keeping the Physicians interest here!

As you can see, the results support the development of a constitution and also a role for UKCS in certification of UDA and a role in setting standards in Quality Assurance. The free text is also enclosed. There is a mention of the QA processes that the DoH are looking at alongside the Modernising Scientific careers programme and many of you may have helped in the development of parts of this. Newcastle University is now developing these courses. Much of this for urodynamics already fits for the trusts requirements for CNST and NHSLA. As many of you may also be aware, BSUG have already developed levels of unit accreditation which will hopefully run alongside urodynamic certification.

As such, given the view expressed by those voting I look forward to receiving more Grandfather applications!! We are now at over 70 and keen to support you with this. An application form is attached right at end of this document. You would be joining an eminent bunch including the likes of Professors Cardozo, Malone-Lee and Abrams! (just showing how multidisciplinary the society is)

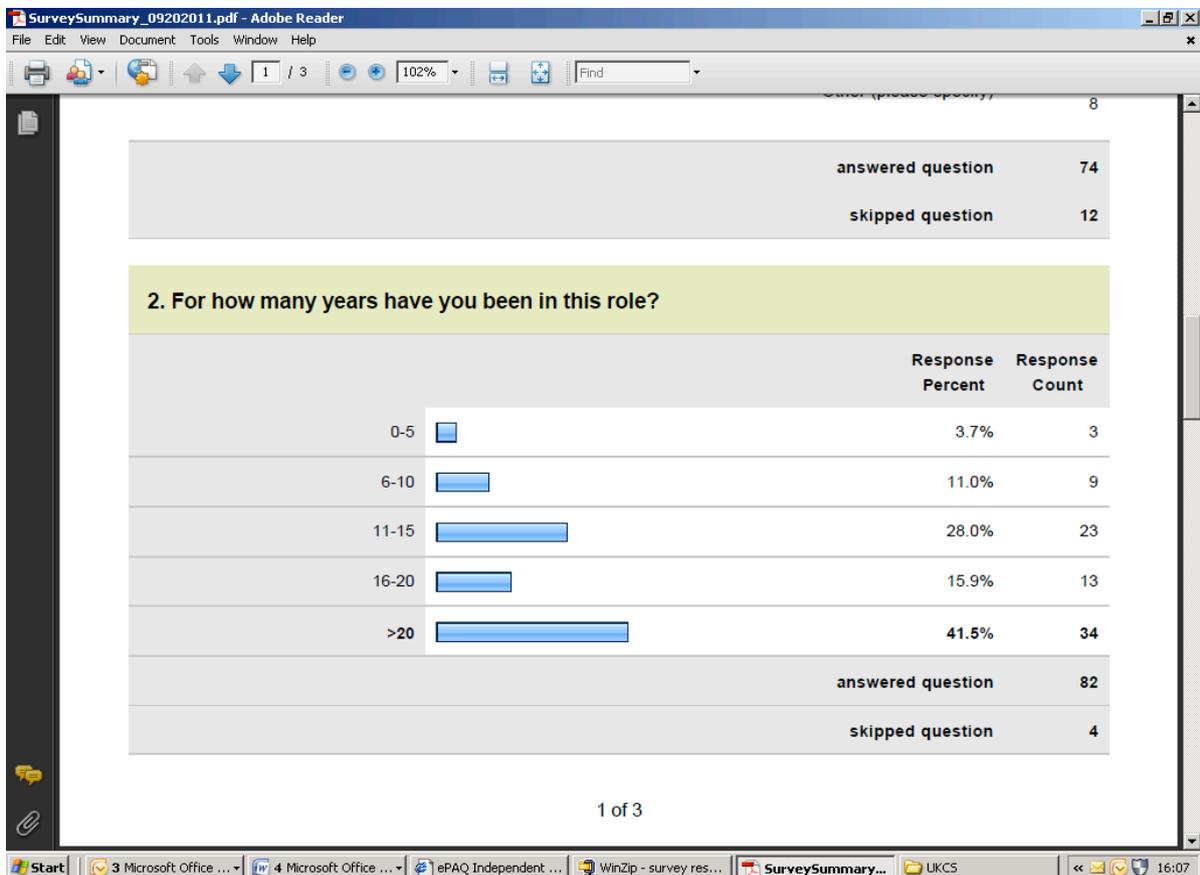
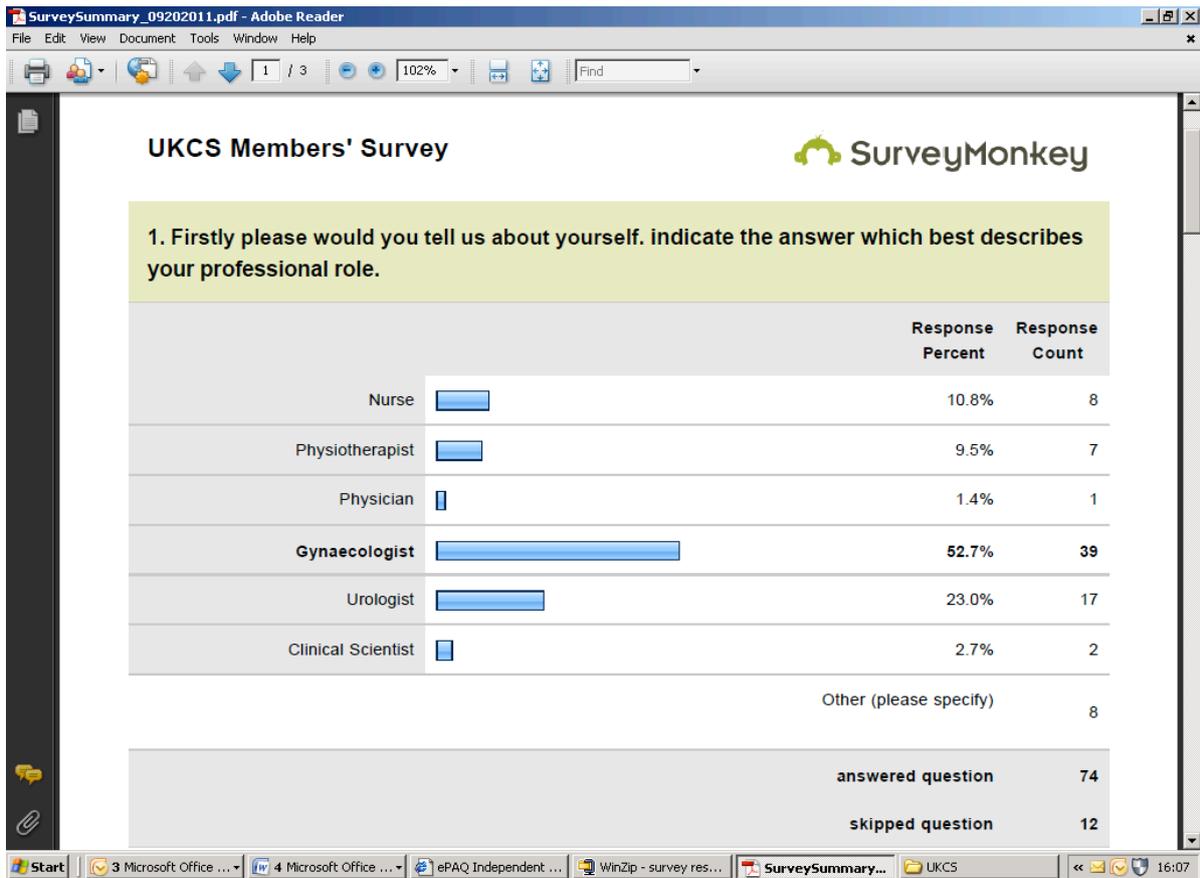
Finally, Carmel Ramage and I attended the ICS meeting discussing affiliation of the UKCS with ICS. I enclose the letter of invitation after the survey results. The potential advantages are that the costs of ICS membership may come down slightly, but the drawback is that greater than 75% of the membership would want to be a member of ICS. I think this is of such importance that it is something that again we would need to vote on at the AGM and I think that postal votes or expressions would need to be taken into consideration. Views as always can be forwarded to me prior to this.

Best Wishes

Philip Toozs-Hobson

Secretary-treasurer UKCS

Philip.toozs-hobson@bwhct.nhs.uk



3. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	undecided	Agree	Strongly agree	Rating Average	Response Count
UKCS needs a legally binding constitution	5.9% (5)	16.5% (14)	28.2% (24)	37.6% (32)	11.8% (10)	0.33	85
UKCS should be non profit making	2.4% (2)	5.9% (5)	14.1% (12)	47.1% (40)	30.6% (26)	0.98	85
UKCS should continue to provide small grant/start up funding for proposed research projects	6.0% (5)	2.4% (2)	6.0% (5)	56.6% (47)	28.9% (24)	1.00	83
						Comments	12
						answered question	85
						skipped question	1

4. We want to know how you feel about the initiative to develop a common certification for Urodynamics practice in the UK. The details of this are explained in the National Minimum Standards for Urodynamics Practice in the UK which can be found on the UKCS website. This was circulated to every trust Chief executive and clinical urodynamics department in April 2009. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly agree	Rating Average	Response Count
UKCS should develop a process of certification for urodynamics practice in line with the National Minimum Standards	9.4% (8)	4.7% (4)	5.9% (5)	44.7% (38)	35.3% (30)	0.92	85
"Grandfather" certification should be offered to senior and experienced urodynamicists	8.2% (7)	2.4% (2)	9.4% (8)	34.1% (29)	45.9% (39)	1.07	85
UKCS should also develop a process for quality assurance so that staff can regularly revalidate their own practice or their department	8.3% (7)	4.8% (4)	8.3% (7)	51.2% (43)	27.4% (23)	0.85	84
						Comments	21

Comments from Survey Monkey

Despite the majority being positive there were individual comments made below:

still not sure of the role of ukcs , bsug, ics and iuga !

Revalidation - this has become quite a rod on the back of colposcopists! I do not think it is required. Perhaps a recommendation each 5 years, but not compulsory.

no opinion on this

to much QA in place and just becomes more work for the jobbing consultant and a stick to beat them with, and never has an end point

Should be left to BAUS

Certification / regulation is the domain of a chartered society to which practitioners of one sort or another are required to belong, e.g. RCS. QA is being done within DoH accreditation process. However, UKCS will naturally be involved as consultant to these two, as the forum in which urodynamics professionals meet.

Whilst I feel a joint certification may be useful - I'm not sure why UKCS should be doing it.

We can publish recommendations - surely it's down to clinical governance to enforce it.

This will need a separate committee (and debatable who should be on this) which will need funds.

This should not come out of UKCS funds - money should be used elsewhere

What presently passes for UDS is poor. Certainly agreed standards are required.

I applaud your attempts to start this process.

UKCS should support the development of a "badge of good practice".

An attempt to "certify" practitioners will have no legal standing. BAUS had that advice some time ago.

The badge of good practice should be offered with a suggested process for revalidation,

but that ultimately is between the practitioner and their Trust/employer.

Have no direct role in urodynamics, so no strong opinion

The certification process is very helpful for staff who wish to demonstrate competence/conformity with standards given certificates with no quality assurance.

Isn't this the role of BSUG?

Some professionals are required to reappraise their practice anyway as part of their CPD.

Who will 'police' this revalidation process?

Should be left to BAUS section

I think it is right that UKCS has taken on this role and in doing so needs to see it through and do it well and thoroughly

I don't agree with UKCS policing urodynamics etc. as such the question re grandfather status is irrelevant. UKCS was initially set up to provide a forum for discussion and presentation of research in progress. But only in the context of agreement with the other national societies. There are plenty of other joint certificates between royal colleges which do not involve third parties so I don't see the UKCS's role as essential. This is not my field, so I don't think I can make useful comment here.

We need to have national standards and UKCS is the only national multidiscipline forum through which this can be achieved

There is huge variation between practices which is unacceptable, and training in urodynamics is often quite poor and variable.

The validation of urodynamic practice achieves several aims - it provides recognition for those undertaking the test and support for some who feel unsupported; it enables staff to insist on courses and meetings to allow their continuing professional development in this area of practice. If taken to its ultimate aim of quality assurance it provides guarantees to patients and commissioners that the standards recommended in Good Urodynamic Practice are being adhered to

The International Continence Society (ICS) Guidelines for Affiliate Society Applications

Any international, national or regional organisation who has a focus or interest in the field of incontinence may apply by application (attached) for affiliation with ICS. As the only international multi-disciplinary society that focuses on incontinence, the ICS is seeking affiliation with other organisations in order to enhance management of incontinence care.

Depending on the chosen payment option (see below) benefits of affiliation include the following:

- Six issues of the Journal Neurourology and Urodynamics (NU)
- Two issues of ICS Newsletter
- Substantial reduction in registration for our annual meeting..... plus much more.

In addition the affiliate society logo will be placed on the ICS website with links. Plus there will be opportunity to publicise activities and events in the ICS News and E-news.

Applications will be reviewed by the ICS Executive Committee, and a response will be given within 30 days. A minimum of 30 paying members are required. A society representing a small nation/interest group may apply for exception to this minimal number requirement.

The ICS membership year runs from January to December but the actual open subscription time may vary as the annual membership is closed one week before the annual meeting.

A list of prospective member names and details must be provided to the ICS office in the agreed format via an excel spreadsheet. Upon receipt the ICS office will identify any duplication and arrange for a personal refund to that member. Once the database has been compiled an invoice will be issued by the ICS office directly to the society which must be payable within 30 days. The society may wish to split the member subscription depending on when their membership deadline falls and this can be agreed directly with the ICS office. However once the ICS membership closes for that year no further affiliate members can join.

Available payment schedule options include:

- £40- ICS Membership plus access to NU hard copy and online access. This is a reduced rate compared to standard ICS membership of £50.
- £25- ICS Membership with no access to NU

ICS membership is defined with the ICS Bylaws. An affiliate society must ensure that all its members are aware of the ICS Bylaws and Code of Conduct.

If an Affiliate Society would like to make the NU its official journal, the following policies will apply:

- 80% of membership needs to agree to sign up to full access to the Journal.
- The NU will include the logo of the Affiliate Society in the journal

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the ICS office at info@icsoffice.org

Grandfathering in Urodynamics

Following on from the launch of the “Joint statement on minimum standards for urodynamic practice in the UK”, future trainees will go through a standardized training programme and will gain certification in Urodynamics on successful completion of that training.

It is also necessary for those who currently perform Urodynamics and have significant experience and expertise in this area to gain certification. This process of “Grandfathering” is intended to be inclusive, allowing the vast majority of practitioners to accredit without difficulty.

Some of these practitioners will have undertaken a formal training programme, such as the RCOG Special Skills Module in Urodynamics, but it is acknowledged that many people who currently perform Urodynamic studies have not been through such a system. They will need to seek recognition of their experience in order to gain certification in Urodynamics.

Applications for certification through the Grandfather Clause will run from May 2010 for a period of two years. This certification will last for three years, following which application for re-certification will be necessary. The conditions required for re-accreditation will be circulated well in advance of the need to re-certify.

All applications will be looked at and agreed on by the committee. It may be advisable for the applications to be divided into the appropriate branch eg. Nursing / Urology / Gynaecology; any applications from specialties not represented on the committee will be divided between the groups and appropriate advice sought from experts in that field if any disagreement arises between those viewing the applications.

There is a small charge of £20 for certification; cheques should be made payable to UKCS and sent with your application. (In the event of your application being unsuccessful this will be returned).

Please send completed forms to:

Dr Carmel Ramage

Consultant Obstetrician and Urogynaecologist

Bradford Royal Infirmary

Duckworth Lane

Bradford BD9 6RJ

Name

Address.....

.....e-mail.....

.....tel.....

I claim accreditation in Urodynamics on the following basis:

- I have been doing Urodynamics for more that 5 years
- I have a lifetime experience of >500 cases
- I was trained by

Supporting evidence should include a job plan with specific urodynamic sessions at least fortnightly or a letter signed by your Clinical Director, Chief Executive or Head of Department and your curriculum vitae

OR

I have been performing Urodynamics for less than 5 years and/or have a lifetime experience of less than 500 cases:

AND

- I have completed the RCOG Urodynamic Special Skills module
- I have completed a recognized course with a final assessment

Certificates of completion of the relevant course should be included as evidence

OR

- I cannot claim accreditation under the above criteria but enclose the following evidence for consideration:

.....

I wish to apply for certification in the following modules:

- A1 female laboratory urodynamics
- A2 male laboratory urodynamics
- B1 female video-urodynamics
- B2 male video-urodynamics
- C urodynamics in neuropathic patients

- D ambulatory urodynamics
- E urodynamics in children