



British Society of  
Interventional  
Radiology



## Paediatric IR Special Interest Group Summer Newsletter 2020

Welcome to our summer newsletter! It has been a while since we have been in touch. Everyone's time and attention has been focused elsewhere during the pandemic and now, of course, work is difficult in other ways as we try to get our routine services back up and running. But the SIG has been busy behind the scenes, pushing PIR forward onto various agendas and growing in other ways. We hope you enjoy this update on our activities and the mini PIR quiz we have set for you.

Please forward this to any colleagues who may be interested in the world of paediatric IR and encourage them to join the SIG. Any feedback or comments on this newsletter and/or the work of the SIG are always gratefully received, and if you have anything you'd like to contribute to future newsletters, or questions about PIR, please let us know.

### Meetings update

The Society for Pediatric IR (SPIR) has enthusiastically embraced the world's new ways of working and is holding their first online annual scientific meeting in October. Registration for this meeting is free. It is a unique opportunity to share the world of PIR with teams around the globe. Make the most of this by actively encouraging your colleagues, trainees, nurses and radiographers to sign up and learn more about what we do. Abstract submission is open till 26<sup>th</sup> August, in three categories: scientific papers, M&M and challenging cases. Details of registration and abstract submission can be found [here](#).



After a really strong PIR presence at BSIR and BSPR last year, PIR content is planned at both

meetings again this year. The CIRSE scientific program committee have risen to the challenge to have more PIR in their annual program, with several sessions planned this year and a dedicated PIR program stream throughout the 5 days of the meeting from 2021.

We were hugely disappointed to have to postpone this year's Paeds IR UK meeting due to the COVID restrictions. But everything is in place for us to get together for a great meeting in June 2021, with the same diverse program, at the stunning Inside Melia Hotel in Manchester. We promise to keep you updated, so watch this space.

## Meeting the need for wider PIR delivery - PIR upskilling for adult IRs

Several of you have told us you'd be interested in learning some PIR skills and we are very keen to pursue ways to offer some paediatric interventions to more children who need it most. There are many ways we can do this. Together with the RCR, we will be bringing out a national PIR policy review this autumn, which should help us to lobby NHSE and other organisations for better resources and recognition. We are also working closely with the NHSE trauma leads and paediatric surgical operational delivery networks to ensure PIR is a key part of their agendas and standards of care. To deliver on this, we need some willing IRs. This may mean a local adult IR who is simply in touch with regional PIRs and knows where to direct onward referrals. But it may also mean one or two adult IRs in tertiary centres who have chosen to upskill in a couple of PIR areas so that they can handle some basic cases when push comes to shove. We recognise that there are many among you who would like to have a basic grounding in PIR so that when that 7yo trauma case comes in or a child needs an image-guided biopsy, you have the confidence and the skills to step up, as well as the support of your Trust. We are working on a course that could do just this. This month we will be sending out a survey through the BSIR, asking for your feedback on this idea. Please take time to complete it, so that we make sure we design something useful and practical, that can help us to change the PIR landscape in the UK together.



## More PIR posts announced

Health Education England approved a new Interventional Radiology training post at Birmingham Children's Hospital. This is only the second national PIR training post in the UK. The post will provide comprehensive training in paediatric IR. In addition, the post will give trainees adult IR experience and on-call at the University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire.

Leeds Children's Hospital currently have two paediatric IRs and perform some 1000

procedures annually. We are excited to announce the approval of a new post which will support both the paediatric interventional and diagnostic service. The post is likely to be advertised towards the end of the year.

## First paediatric IR cryoablation registry goes live: ICECAP



We have been working hard on developing the ICECAP (Infant and Child European Cryoablation) Registry and the end is in sight. We have done a round of testing and are aiming to go-live in September. We hope to capture all paediatric cryoablation procedures from across Europe. The data set required to be entered is small so, if you are doing any paediatric cryoablation, please consider contributing to the registry. If you are interested, please contact Prem Patel ([premal.patel@gosh.nhs.uk](mailto:premal.patel@gosh.nhs.uk)) and Alex Barnacle ([alex.barnacle@gosh.nhs.uk](mailto:alex.barnacle@gosh.nhs.uk)) to sign up.

In the meantime, we hope that you and your families stay safe and well, and that you manage to take some well-deserved time off over the summer.

The PIR special interest group committee