



BSIR Women in IR Ambassadors Programme

Building a specialty where women thrive.

Women remain underrepresented in Interventional Radiology (IR). Increasing the visibility of female interventional radiologists, and providing opportunities for open conversation, can help address misconceptions, support career decisions, and promote diversity within the specialty.

The Women in IR Ambassadors Scheme is part of the BSIR's commitment to improving visibility and support for women in IR. Our ambassadors are practicing female interventional radiologists from across the UK who are keen to share their experiences with others.

The scheme provides an online space to view the profiles of the IR ambassadors and discover allies in the specialty, as well as an opportunity for a one-off, informal conversation with an ambassador, designed to offer advice, encouragement, and practical guidance. No matter where you are on your IR journey – considering the specialty, currently in training, a practicing consultant, or someone supporting women in the field – our ambassadors are here to help and inspire.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Women in IR Ambassadors Scheme?

This scheme aims to improve the visibility of women in IR by providing a platform for practicing female interventional radiologists to support others by sharing their career journeys and personal experiences in an informal, supportive setting. The profile gallery showcases the stories of women working in all areas of IR in the UK, at various stages of the career spectrum; we hope it will inspire others to follow. The scheme also connects applicants with an ambassador to have a one-off, informal conversation with them, designed to offer advice, encouragement, and practical guidance

Who can contact an ambassador?

The scheme is open to individuals at all career stages – from medical students and residents in other specialties, to diagnostic radiology and IR residents, to established consultants and training programme directors. No prior IR experience or formal connection to BSIR is required.





While the programme is primarily targeted at women, we equally welcome enquiries from men who may wish to understand how they can better support female colleagues in IR.

What can I expect from a conversation with an ambassador?

Conversations are intended to be informal and one-off, providing an opportunity for individuals to obtain a general perspective or seek advice on specific issues. Our ambassadors can provide support by sharing their personal experiences of working in IR. They can offer advice on training and career development, work-life balance, and how to navigate the specialty. They may also be able to suggest further resources or networks for ongoing support.

Is this a mentoring programme?

No. This is not a mentoring programme. Some ambassadors may have mentoring experience, but not all are trained mentors. They are volunteering their time for a single, informal interaction to share their personal experiences and offer advice. There is no expectation that they will provide a long-term mentoring relationship. Should you wish to join a mentoring programme, you can view the details of the BSIR mentoring programme [here](#).

If I would like a conversation with an ambassador, how does the process work?

1. Click the 'Apply' button.
2. Complete the short online form.
3. The team will review your request and match you with an appropriate ambassador.
4. The ambassador will contact you directly to arrange a convenient time for an informal online or telephone conversation.

Can I request a specific ambassador?

Yes. If you would like to speak with a specific ambassador, we will try to arrange this. You can indicate your preference for up to three ambassadors on the online form and the team will try to match you with one of your preferences. Please note, if a single ambassador receives many requests, it may not always be possible to match every request, and we may suggest an alternative ambassador to ensure you can still have a timely conversation.

Do I need to prepare anything in advance?

To make the most of your conversation with our ambassadors, we kindly ask you to share up to three topics or questions you wish to discuss. These can be listed as bullet points on the





online form. These could be related to career development, training, work-life balance, or any other areas you're curious about.

Is the conversation confidential?

Yes. All discussions between ambassadors and applicants are informal and confidential. Information shared will not be passed on beyond the matching process.

Is there a cost to take part?

No. The scheme is free and open to all individuals with an interest in IR. Our ambassadors are generously giving up their time on a voluntary basis to provide support and promote the specialty.

