



A WORD FROM DR KATE GEOGHEGAN

APMJ Conference Coordinator

Welcome to this month's juniors' newsletter! My name is Kate and this year I will be coordinating the APMJ's palliative care conference: 'Universal Palliative Care: Compassion for Everyone, Everywhere'. Thank you to everyone for my warm welcome in last month's newsletter!

This virtual conference is set to be a fantastic day looking at how we deliver palliative care across different healthcare settings and within different communities across the UK. Through these sessions we hope to engage in stimulating discussion and provide inspiration for the ways we approach our work and future career. We will have a dedicated careers plenary looking at palliative care specialty applications as well as alternative training routes.

There is also the opportunity to present work related to the concept of 'Universal Palliative Care' which we would encourage you to submit through our abstract competition (submission deadline 21/10/24).

The conference will run from 9am on Sunday the 17th November and we look forward to (virtually) seeing you there!

Tickets are available [here](#)

Certificates will be provided for those able to attend on the day with video access available for 6 months post the event if there are any talks you miss!



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AMP Juniors Conference 2024 - Abstract Competition

'Universal Palliative Care: Compassion for everyone, everywhere'

Abstract submissions are invited from Medical Students and Resident Doctors on original research in Palliative Medicine related to the conference theme.

Selected abstracts will be asked to give an oral presentation at the conference.

Please submit a 250 word abstract to conference.apmj@gmail.com by noon on Monday 21st October

Palliative Care Research Society (PCRS) + European Association of Palliative Care (EAPC) Undergraduate Award

Undergraduates are encouraged to apply now for the PCRS EAPC Undergraduate Award.

All abstracts are welcomed and further guidance on submission can be found [here](#).

The winner of the PCRS EAPC undergraduate prize will receive:

EAPC Conference registration & travel expenses (up to £500) - The conference will take place in Helsinki, Finland in May 2025.

One year's free membership to the PCRS

More information can be found [here](#).



APM Special Resolution Meeting

The APM embarked on a governance and structure review, and a virtual general meeting took place on 19th September. The amended Articles of Association can be found [here](#).

The changes to the Articles of Association have been approved, with 100% of the votes being in favour of the changes.

The rationale for these changes can be found [here](#).

Submissions for the 2024 Undergraduate Essay Prize are now open!

Entries for this year are invited to answer the following question 'Palliative care can be called the "heaven for the few": how can we improve access to good palliative care?'

If you are interested in submitting a piece of work and to be in with a chance of winning the top prize of £250, please visit the links below for more information.

[Undergraduate Essay Prize 2024 Rules](#)

[Undergraduate Essay Prize 2024 Entry Form](#)

The deadline for submissions is the 29th November 2024.

Good Luck!



QUALITY IMPROVEMENT - CORNEAL DONATION

Marianne, the careers and mentorship coordinator is highlighting a recent quality improvement project done whilst working in an inpatient palliative care setting. We welcome reports and reflections on audit and service evaluation work done by our members. Please get in touch if you've got any quality improvement work to share.

Whilst working as an IMT1 on an inpatient palliative care unit, I learned that palliative patients were often eligible to be corneal donors. A 2023 study showed that nearly half of all hospice patients were possibly eligible for corneal donation, yet only 4% are offered this.

I looked at thirty inpatient admissions to see if those who were eligible were correctly identified on admission and whether corneal donation was offered. It was not discussed in 40% admissions and over 25% patients were incorrectly labelled as being unsuitable for corneal donation.

A one-page summary document was produced based on guidance from the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and was distributed amongst the inpatient team. There are a variety of conditions that may make somebody ineligible for corneal donation, for example, dementia or carcinoma of unknown primary. However, perhaps surprisingly people with poor eyesight, e.g. glaucoma or cataracts, and those with brain malignancy or metastasis are potentially eligible.

This work has shown that doctors aren't always confident on who would be a potential corneal donor and that we aren't routinely offering it to patients, likely for a variety of reasons.

References:

- Patel, C., Nicmanis, M., Chur-Hansen, A. et al. Views of admitted palliative care patients and their clinicians on corneal donation discussions: a qualitative content analysis of semi-structured interviews. *BMC Palliat Care* 23, 85 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12904-024-01421-7>
- Long-Sutehall, T., Zatorska, A., Myall, M. et al. Eye donation in hospice and hospital palliative care settings: perceptions, practice, and service development needs - findings from a national survey. *BMC Palliat Care* 22, 173 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12904-023-01300-7>
- Long-Sutehall T, Bracher M, Mollart S & Wale J. Eye donation from palliative and hospice care contexts: the EDiPPPP mixed-methods study. *Health Soc Care Deliv Res* 2023;11(20)
- Madi-Segwagwe BC, Bracher M, Myall M, Long-Sutehall T. Barriers and Facilitators to Eye Donation in Hospice and Palliative Care Settings: A Scoping Review. *Palliat Med Rep*. 2021 Jun 16;2(1):175-187. doi: 10.1089/pmr.2021.0017. PMID: 34223518; PMCID: PMC8244507.



UPCOMING EVENTS

31st October 2024

Annual Conference of APM Undergraduate Education Special Interest Forum

<https://onlinesales.admin.cam.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/public-health-primary-care/association-for-palliative-medicine/annual-conference-of-apm-undergraduate-education-special-interest-forum-31-october-2024>

17th November 2024

APM Juniors Conference 2024 - Universal Palliative Care: Compassion for everyone, everywhere

<https://apmonline.org/events/apm-juniors-conference-2024-universal-palliative-care/>

22nd January 2025

RCPE: Online Symposium: Palliative Medicine

<https://events.rcpe.ac.uk/rcpe-online-symposium-palliative-medicine>

This event is not free



USEFUL RESOURCES

APM/ PCRS Research directory

<https://apmeducationhub.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Palliative-Care-Network-April-2023.pdf>

Palliative Medicine Curriculum

<https://www.jrcptb.org.uk/sites/default/files/Palliative%20Medicine%202022%20curriculum%20FINAL.pdf>

e-ELCA

https://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/myElearning/Index?HierarchyId=0_29&programmId=29

PREVIOUS WEBINARS TO WATCH

Palliative Care for FY1 Doctors

Vimeo Link <https://vimeo.com/apmeducationhub/pallcarefy1?share=copy>

Password ZHU5OOyabHZcdGnz

Palliative Care for FY1 Doctors

Vimeo Link <https://vimeo.com/apmeducationhub/pallcarefy1?share=copy>

Password ZHU5OOyabHZcdGnz