



About the British Pain Society

The British Pain Society is the largest multidisciplinary professional organisation in the field of pain within the UK. Our membership comprises medical pain specialists, nurses, physiotherapists, scientists, psychologists, occupational therapists and other healthcare professionals actively engaged in the diagnosis and treatment of pain and in pain research for the benefit of patients. Our multidisciplinary nature is pivotal in making our society a uniquely relevant representative body on all matters relating to pain.

The British Pain Society is the British Chapter of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) and is part of the European Pain Federation (EFIC).

VISION

Together, we will do more for pain.

MISSION

Developing interdisciplinary partnerships between researchers, health and social care professionals, and people experiencing pain to promote the safest and most effective pain management throughout the United Kingdom.

AIMS

The Society promotes education, training, research and development in all fields of pain. It endeavours to increase both professional and public awareness of the prevalence of pain and the facilities that are available for its management. The Society is involved in all aspects of pain and its management through the work of the Council, various Committees, Special Interest Groups and Working Parties and via its Annual Scientific Meeting, and Publications.

VALUES

Best Care: To enable people experiencing pain to live full lives and to support their carers, families and friends.

Collaborative Working: To build effective partnerships with professional organisations, charities, advocacy organisations and government to ensure the best pain management.

Making Pain Visible: To raise awareness of pain and its many impacts with health and social care professionals, policy makers and the public.

Professional Excellence: To develop excellence through education for health and social care professionals to provide the best patient outcomes through education and safe and high-quality evidence-based care.

Applying Research to Individualise Care: To support research on the causes of pain and its treatment, translating advances to promote personalised and timely care for people with pain.

COUNCIL

The members of the current elected Council of the Society are:

Officers :	President:	Prof. Roger Knaggs
	Past President:	Dr Arun Bhaskar
	Vicepresident:	Dr Catherine Price
	Vicepresident:	Dr Rajesh Munglani
	Honorary Secretary (Interim):	Mr Martin Hey
	Honorary Treasurer (Interim):	Dr Neil Collighan

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Elected Council Members:

Dr Sumit Gulati	Dr Ramanarayanan
Ms Celia Manson	Krishnamoorthy
Dr Manojit Sinha	David Pang
Dr Mahindra Chincholkar	

Co-opted Members: Ms Victoria Abbott-Fleming, Ms Felicia Cox, Dr Lorraine de Gray, Dr Andreas Goebel, Dr Patrick Hill, Dr Martin Johnson, Edmund Keogh, Elsjé de Villiers, Mrs Karin Cannons, Mrs Kate Thompson, Dr Alan Fayaz and Prof Christina Liossu.

COMMITTEES

Ongoing work of the Society is divided between several Committees formed by members of Council and Co-opted Members of the Society. Current Committees include:

Science and Research – responsible for implementing the Society’s scientific and research strategies. Work of the Committee has ranged from advising the NHS and private health care organisations to supporting individual research projects of Society members. The Committee also makes decisions on the allocation of bursaries and awards to members of the Society.

Communications – responsible for ensuring that information and publications produced by the Society are made accessible to the relevant audience in an appropriate format. The Communications Committee oversees the development of the Society website, and publications.

Scientific Programme Committee – this committee’s main responsibility is to put together the scientific programme for the Society’s Annual Scientific Meeting and to ensure that the content is of the highest possible standard and that it reflects current theory and practice in all aspects of pain management.

Education – this committee’s main responsibility is to develop and implement educational programs and activities including webinars, one-day courses and other events.

The Patient Voice Committee – this committee is made up of up to eight members with lived experience and four professional members and is responsible for ensuring that the views of patients and carers with lived experience are represented within the Society.

SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat coordinate the work of the Society, manage press queries and provide support for the Officers, Council Members and Committees. They organise webinars, smaller events and educational activities.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGS):

The British Pain Society has developed a mechanism by which members of the Society who have a specific interest are given a forum to discuss their interest in more depth. The Society actively encourages and supports the development of such Special Interest Groups, as they are an important element of the multidisciplinary Society. There are currently twelve Society SIGs; Acute Pain, Headache, Interventional Pain Medicine, Medicolegal, Neuropathic Pain, Pain in Children, Pain in Developing Countries, Pain Education, Pain Management Programmes, Pain in Older People, Philosophy & Ethics and Primary & Community Care.

BURSARIES AND AWARDS

To encourage and promote the study and research into aspects of pain, the Society has established several bursaries and awards that are available to its members. Current bursaries and awards offered by the Society include the Patrick Wall Travel Bursary, for the presentation of research overseas; the Clulow Research Award, to fund research into the causes and cure of pain.

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ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

The highlight of the British Pain Society calendar is the Annual Scientific Meeting. The Meeting is held over three days and each year takes place at a different location in the UK. There have been 56 Scientific Meetings to date with the 57th taking place in Nottingham in 2024. The Meeting includes a comprehensive scientific programme, a poster exhibition, a technical exhibition and satellite meetings.

The aim of the Meeting is to encourage professionals from all disciplines involved in the management of pain to exchange ideas and increase understanding in all aspects of pain and pain management. Responses from delegates over recent years have shown the meeting to be a highly effective medium for continuing education and professional development.

PUBLICATIONS

The Society has a number of patient publications which are available to download free of charge from our website at www.britishpainsociety.org/british-pain-society-publications/

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