

Clinical Surgery NEWS

Annual Research Report 2019

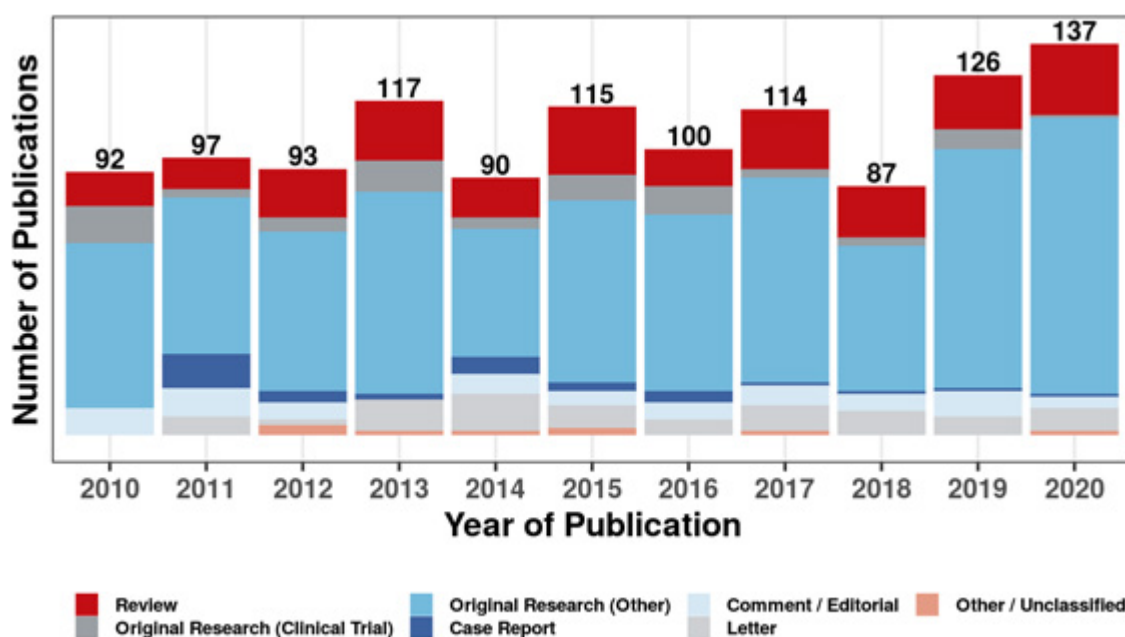
Professor Stephen Wigmore



December is a good time for reflection of the year gone by and what a year 2020 has been.

The Covid pandemic has had multiple different effects on the department of Clinical Surgery. For some people research became more difficult with closure of labs and institutes. For others such as the Surgical Informatics group, the pandemic opened a whole new opportunity to research the impact of the pandemic in real time.

Ewen Harrison's role in curating the UK data for the UK Government SAGE and NVTAG groups put him and his group in a fantastic position to address some of the key surgical and wider public health issues around the pandemic.



Welcome to the
End of Year
2020
Edition of
the Department
of
Clinical Surgery
Newsletter

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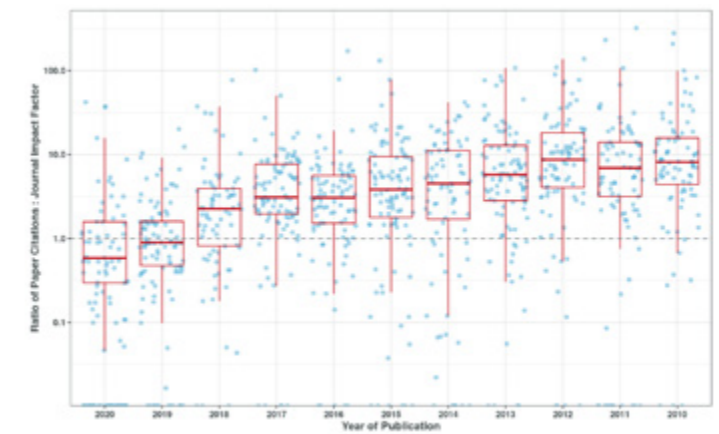
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The surge in number of publications to 137 this year (not including the WGH surgical groups) highlights the success that the data science group have had in Covid publications. Such has been the appetite for quality information that these publications have attracted huge interest with an article published in mid 2020 already attracting over 400 citations and similarly altmetric scores of these papers have been at unprecedented highs.

On the clinical shop floor Covid certainly had a major impact and created all kinds of new dangers and restrictions. Staff have thrown themselves into looking after surgical emergencies in spite of the risk of Covid and equally fought hard to ensure that important cancer surgery could continue but safely.

One short article from **Andrew Tambyraja** is worthy of mention not least because it captured the change in dynamics in surgery at the height of the pandemic. Titled “*New order, New Hope*” and published in the New England Journal of Medicine, this letter has received wide acclaim from all who have read it and if you haven’t seen it I would encourage you to take the opportunity for a read.



Number of publications in journals (overall + over time)

	total	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Br J Surg	38	11	9	6	4	5	3
Transplantation	24	5	7	2	5	1	4
BMJ Open	21	0	10	3	3	4	1
HPB (Oxford)	21	1	3	5	5	3	4
World J Surg	17	2	7	1	4	1	2
Hernia	15	5	3	0	3	1	3
Ann Surg	13	7	2	0	1	0	3
Eur J Surg Oncol	12	1	1	1	5	4	0
Sci Rep	12	0	1	0	2	5	4
J Cachexia Sarcopenia Muscle	11	1	2	0	4	1	3

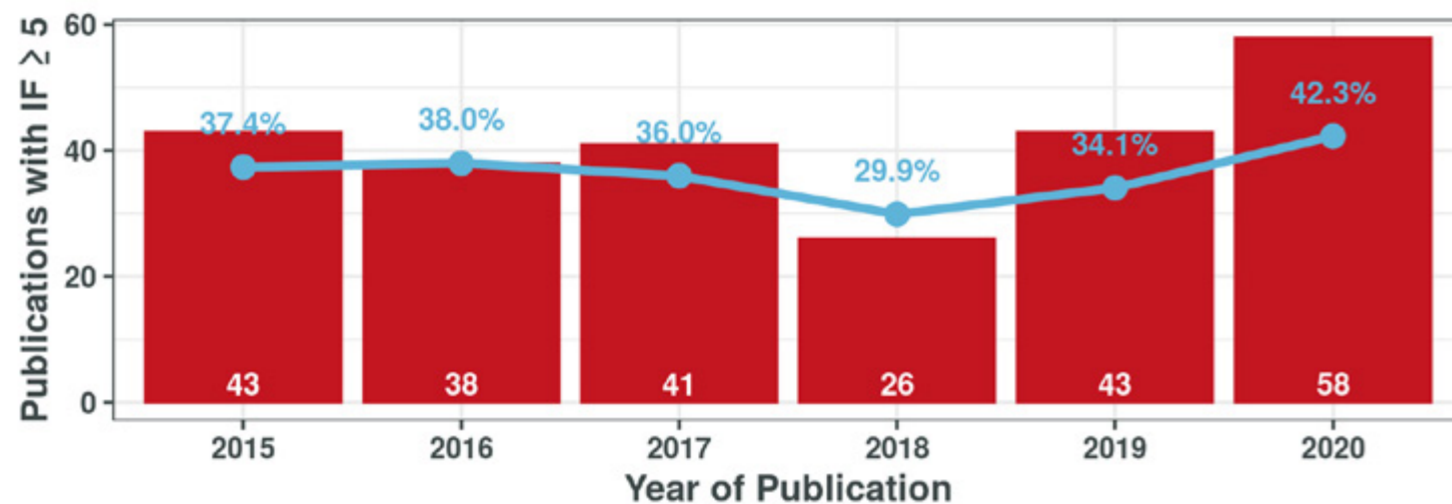
Impact Table

Measure	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total Number of publications	137	126	87	114	100	115
Minimum Impact Factor	1.1	1.1	0.68	0.99	0.31	0.87
Quartile 1 Impact Factor	3.28	2.5	2.44	2.88	2.9	2.81
Median Impact Factor	4.7	4.26	3.53	3.96	4.26	4.02
Mean Impact Factor	8.52	7.44	6.19	5.9	7.33	7.4
Quartile 3 Impact Factor	7.34	5.69	5.57	6.23	7.72	7.61
Maximum Impact Factor	74.7	60.39	32.27	32.62	40.14	44
Interquartile Range of Impact Factors	4.06	3.19	3.13	3.35	4.82	4.8

Overall the metrics for the department remain astonishingly good. I have always espoused the importance of quality in every type of research that we do and so it is particularly gratifying to see that 42% of the department’s publications were in journals with an impact factor greater than 5.

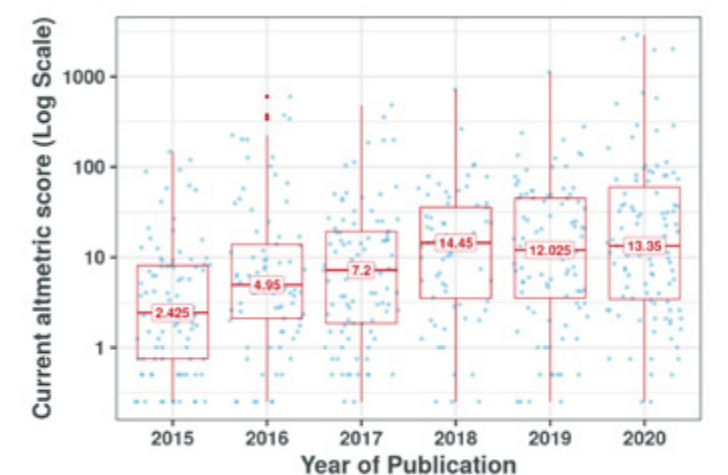
I am grateful this year to **Kenny McLean** and **Katie Shaw** for looking at some of our data in new ways. Including Journal Citation to impact factor ratios and Altmetric scores.

Altmetrics measures nontraditional variables about publications and datasets including social media news articles and other platforms. Many journals are interested in altmetrics because in some ways they represent a measure of societal impact which can be very different from traditional measures such as impact factor. No one knows what a good altmetric score is but 20 is widely considered an indicator that an article has received a substantial amount of publicity compared with contemporaries. Many of our articles score well over 20 in this logarithmic scale in the figure.



The CIF ratio represents the ratio of the number of citations an article receives over the impact factor of the journal in which it is published. A CIF ratio of greater than 1 is considered good but because of the time lag between publication and citations it often takes a couple of years to surpass 1.

What the CIF ratio figure shows is that our publications are on the whole well cited and rapidly cited with the majority adding value to journals.



It is also reassuring to see that in spite of all of the financial concerns over charity funding and research council funding related to the Covid associated financial crisis we have maintained our grant income to the department.

Particular mention should go to **Rachel Guest** who has been awarded a Career Development Grant (Intermediate Fellowship) by the Wellcome Trust. This award is for 4 years with the opportunity to extend for a further 4 years and will enable her to study in depth the molecular drivers of bile duct cancer alongside her practice as an HPB Surgeon.

As this year draws to a close and the new one starts we hope that mass vaccination and better weather will allow some semblance of normality to return.

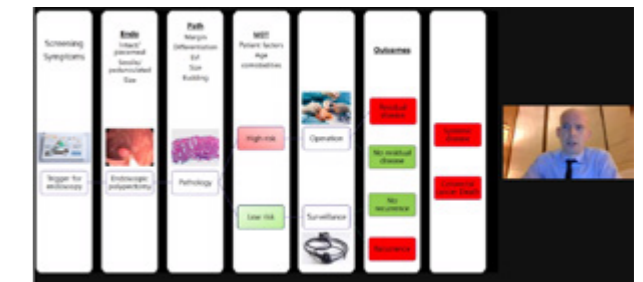
Our new appointments **Steve Yule** and **Tom Weiser** have spent much of their first years in lock down and I am sure they like everyone else are raring to get going.

In the mean time stay safe, enjoy some time off over the festive period and keep being amazing.

The Edinburgh School of Surgery Day 2020

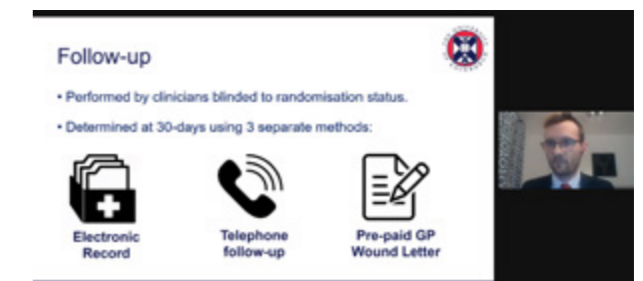


Macleod Medal - Mr Nicholas Ventham
Genome-wide methylation association study of crohn's disease: epigenetic analysis of the topic randomised controlled trial.



Macleod Medal (Runner-up) - Mr Kenneth McLean

Tracking wound with smartphone technology (TWIST): a randomised controlled trial in emergency surgery patients.



Professor KCH Fearon Memorial Medal - Mr Peter Vaughan-Shaw

Low plasma vitamin D is associated with adverse colorectal cancer survival after surgical resection, independent of systemic inflammatory response.

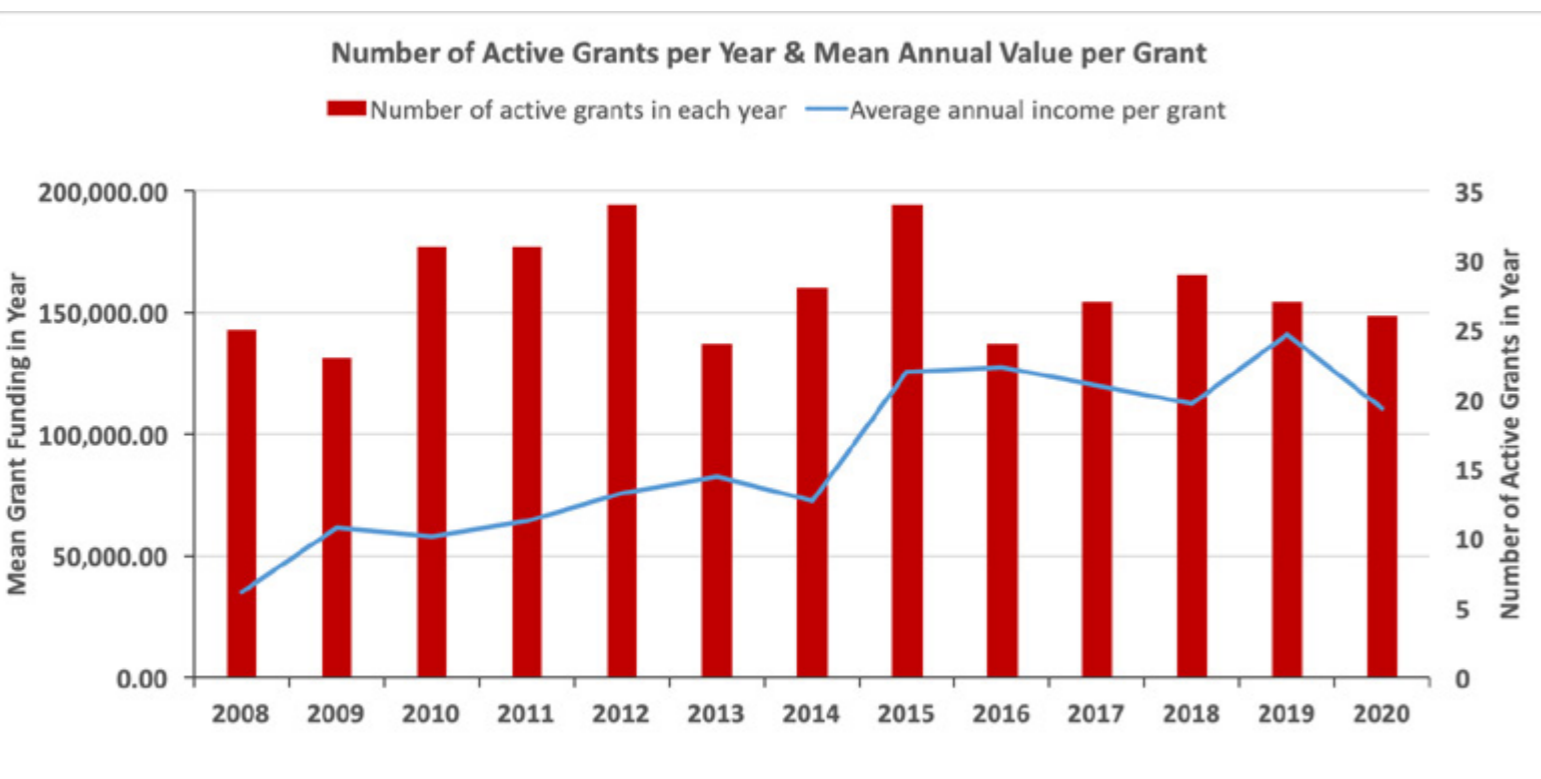
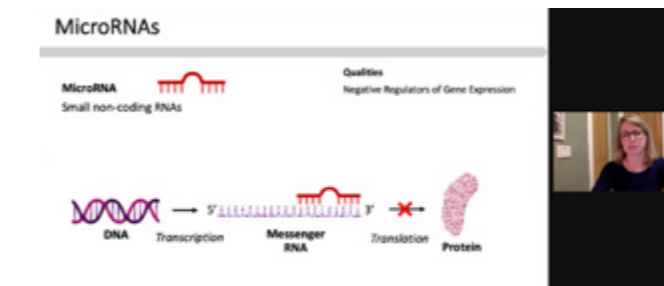


Due to the Covid19 pandemic, this year's Edinburgh School of Surgery day was held online.

Fortunately we are all now getting used to this format and the meeting was a fantastic success. Thank you to all our speakers who gave excellent talks and to everyone who joined the meeting remotely.

Congratulations to this year's medal winners:

Chiene Medal - Miss Katie Connor
Identifying cell enriched micrnas in kidney injury and repair.



Teacher of Year Award 2020

The Teacher of Year Award, presented by Professor Rowan Parks, is voted annually by the East of Scotland surgical trainees to recognise excellence in surgical training.

The nominees for 2020 were:

- Breast Unit (WGH) - Mathew Barber
- Colorectal Unit (WGH) – Sarah Goodbrand
- HPB Unit (RIE) – Stephen Wigmore
- Upper GI Unit (RIE) – Peter Lamb
- Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy - Geert Koffman

Congratulations to overall winner, **Phillipa Burns**, from the Vascular Unit at RIE!

Thank you to the judging panels:

Chiene and Macleod Judges

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Steve Wigmore | Rowan Parks |
| Lorna Marson | Damien Mole |
| Ewen Harrison | Steve Yule |
| Malcolm Dunlop | Farhat Din |
| Andrew Duckworth | Alex Laird |

KCH Feron Memorial Medal shortlisting panel

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Richard Skipworth | Hugh Patterson |
| Tom Weiser | Chloe Smith |

Sadly, the social distancing restrictions prevented our annual dinner in the College of Surgeons; we hope to be able to meet friends and colleagues in person again in 2021!

Thank you to organisers and technical support during the meeting, Mrs Susan Keggie and Mr Murray Brittan. Recordings of the meeting are available for anyone not able to attend - please contact s.keggie@ed.ac.uk for the meeting link and password.



News Round Up

Miss Mhairi Collie: Scottish Health Awards winner of the Global Citizen Award 2020

Congratulations to **Miss Mhairi Collie**, consultant colorectal surgeon at the WGH, who won the Scottish Health Awards Global Citizen Award 2020 for her years of dedication to the Uganda Child Birth Injury Charity.



For the past 15 years Mhairi has been dedicating her time and skills to the Uganda Childbirth Injury fund which she helped set up in 2001 and took over as chairperson of in 2018. Travelling to Uganda several times a year, Mhairi spends 1-2 weeks operating and running surgical camps to treat women who have sustained obstetric fistulas during childbirth.

Often these are women that lack access to safe obstetric care and their resulting injuries can leave them socially isolated as they become ostracised by both their families and their community.



During each mission, Mhairi will treat 40-50 women, operating on complex cases as



well as training local surgeons to undertake these procedures. From a base of a few local surgeons

now skilled to operate independently and lead teaching camps around Uganda, the charity is now building a dedicated training programme to build local capacity in multidisciplinary teams who are able to run surgical fistula camps independently.

Mhairi has also now established a second charity; Kamuli School Lunches. This charity supports a girls' school next to the hospital, allowing girls to complete their education.



Over the last 15 years Mhairi has worked tirelessly organising charity funding raising events and securing grant funding to support the work of the Uganda Childbirth Injury Fund.

To find out more about the charity, please visit: <https://www.ucif.co.uk>.

To watch Mhairi receive the Global Citizen Award during the online Scottish Health Awards ceremony visit:

<https://www.scottishhealthawards.com/>

Cuthbertson Award

Mr Richard Skipworth has been awarded The Nutrition Society Cuthbertson Award. The award is a tribute to Sir David Cuthbertson and recognises excellence in clinical nutrition and/or metabolism research providing an evidence base for clinical practice.



Long Service Award



Congratulations to Susan Keggie who recently celebrated 30 years of working in the Department of Clinical Surgery!

Appointments

Mr Gabriel Oniscu has been appointed as Transplant Specialty Advisor to the Chief Medical Officer in Scotland

Mr Benoy Babu and Mr Chris Johnston were appointed as locum consultant surgeons in Liver Transplant and Organ Retrieval Mr Aaron Hui was appointed as locum consultant surgeons in Kidney/Pancreas Transplant and Organ Retrieval.

Professor Stephen Wigmore has been appointed Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Melville Trust for the Care and Cure of Cancer.

Professor Stephen Wigmore has been appointed Chair of the RI Stirling Bequest Fund.

Recent Grant Awards

Harrison EM, McLean KA, Bouamrane M, Tsaftaris S.

Scaling a smartphone-delivered surgical wound assessment software to clinical implementation Medical Research Council (MRC) / Data Driven Innovation programme (DDI) Confidence in Concept (CiC) Award
£70,000 (Feb 2021 - Feb 2022)

Funding Opportunities

Edinburgh Innovations



The [Edinburgh Innovations](https://edinburgh-innovations.ed.ac.uk) are the University's commercialisation service. Their aim is to help researchers, students and industry drive innovation. They can help identify translational and commercialisation opportunities and develop these into projects with support, training, personal development and funding. For full details of the services, workshops and events available please see the Edinburgh Innovations website: <https://edinburgh-innovations.ed.ac.uk>

Edinburgh Clinical Academic Track (ECAT)



Applications for ECAT Clinical Lectureships and PhD Fellowships are now open. These awards support doctoral (PhD) training and mentorship for highly ambitious individuals who aspire to become the next generation of clinical academic leaders. Applications are welcome from trainees in ALL medical and surgical specialties (with the exception of GP trainees).

The closing date for applications is 13/01/21 with interviews held on 27/01/21 for positions commencing in August 2021.

For full details of the ECAT programme, please see the [ECAT website](#).

Vacancy details including how to apply can be found [here](#).

Edinburgh Research Support Office



The [University Research Support Office](#) (ERO) has a wealth of resources available for those seeking funding. They have a searchable funding calendar which can help you identify specialty-specific funding calls, as well as up to date information relating to both Covid-19 research and the implications of Brexit for researchers.

PURE Publication Deposits In Clinical Surgery

The Research Excellence Framework planned for 2021 has been delayed. The full announcement on the impact of Covid19 on the REF2021 is available [here](#)

However, publications should still continue to be deposited in PURE within 3 months of acceptance.

PURE arrangements in Clinical Surgery

Susan Keggie and Murray Brittan are now handling publication deposits in PURE.

As soon as you receive notification of a manuscript being accepted for publication, please forward the acceptance email together with the finally accepted author version to our the PURE email address

Pure.clinsurg@ed.ac.uk

All manuscripts must be deposited in PURE within **3 months of acceptance**.

Any publications not deposited in PURE within 3 months of acceptance will not be eligible for the REF.

A full set of FAQs on PURE can be found in the July 2019 edition of this newsletter which can be accessed [here](#).

Recent Publications

Dwyer BJ, Jarman EJ, Gogoi-Tiwari J, Ferreira-Gonzalez S, Boulter L, Guest RV, Kendall TJ, Kurian D, Kilpatrick AM, Robson AJ, O'Duibhir E, Man TY, Campana L, Starkey Lewis PJ, Wigmore SJ, Olynyk JK, Ramm GA, Tirmitz-Parker JEE, Forbes SJ. **TWEAK/Fn14 signalling promotes cholangiocarcinoma niche formation and progression.** *J Hepatol.* 2020 Nov 19:S0168-8278(20)33771-5. doi: 10.1016/j.jhep.2020.11.018

Volz E, Hill V, McCrone JT, Price A, Jorgensen D, O'Toole A, Southgate J, Johnson R, Jackson B, Nascimento FF, Rey SM, Nicholls SM, Colquhoun RM, da Silva Filipe A, Shepherd J, Pascall DJ, Shah R, Jesudason N, Li K, Jarrett R, Pacchiarini N, Bull M, Geidelberg L, Siveroni I; COG-UK Consortium, Goodfellow I, Loman NJ, Pybus OG, Robertson DL, Thomson EC, Rambaut A, Connor TR. **Evaluating the Effects of SARS-CoV-2 Spike Mutation D614G on Transmissibility and Pathogenicity.** *Cell.* 2020 Nov 19:S0092-8674(20)31537-3. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2020.11.020

Helliwell JA, Shelton B, Mahmood H, Blanco-Colino R, Fitzgerald JE, Harrison EM, Bhangu A, Chapman SJ. **Transparency in surgical randomized clinical trials: cross-sectional observational study.** *BJS Open.* 2020 Oct;4(5):977-984. doi: 10.1002/bjs5.50333.

O'Reilly-Shah VN, Van Cleve W, Long DR, Moll V, Evans FM, Sunshine JE, Kassebaum NJ, Harrison EM, Jabaley CS. **Impact of COVID-19 response on global surgical volumes: an ongoing observational study.** *Bull World Health Organ.* 2020 Oct 1;98(10):671-682. doi: 10.2471/BLT.20.264044

Drake TM, Docherty AB, Harrison EM, Quint JK, Adamali H, Agnew S, Babu S, Barber CM, Barratt S, Bendstrup E, Bianchi S, Castillo Villegas D, Chaudhuri N, Chua F, Coker R, Chang W, Crawshaw A, Crowley LE, Dosanjh D, Fiddler CA, Forrest IA, George PM, Gibbons MA, Groom K, Haney S, Hart SP, Heiden E, Henry M, Ho LP, Hoyles RK, Hutchinson J, Hurley K, Jones MG, Jones S, Kokosi M, Kreuter M, Mackay LS, Mahendran S, Margaritopoulos G, Molina-Molina M, Molyneaux PL, O'Brien A, O'Reilly K, Packham A, Parfrey H, Poletti V, Porter JC, Renzoni E, Rivera-Ortega P, Russell AM, Saini G, Spencer LG, Stella GM, Stone H, Sturney S, Thickett D, Thillai M, Wallis T, Ward K, Wells AU, West A, Wickremasinghe M, Woodhead F, Hearson G, Howard L, Baillie JK, Openshaw PJM, Semple MG, Stewart I, Jenkins RG; ISARIC4C Investigators. **Outcome of Hospitalization for COVID-19 in Patients with Interstitial**

Lung Disease: An International Multicenter Study. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med.* 2020 Oct 2. doi: 10.1164/rccm.202007-2794OC

Mole DJ, Fallowfield JA, Sherif AE, Kendall T, Semple S, Kelly M, Ridgway G, Connell JJ, McGonigle J, Banerjee R, Brady JM, Zheng X, Hughes M, Neyton L, McClin-tock J, Tucker G, Nailon H, Patel D, Wackett A, Steven M, Welsh F, Rees M; HepaT1ca Study Group. **Quantitative magnetic resonance imaging predicts individual future liver performance after liver resection for cancer.** *PLoS One.* 2020 Dec 2;15(12):e0238568. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0238568

Asimakopoulos P, Shaha AR, Nixon IJ, Shah JP, Randolph GW, Angelos P, Zafereo ME, Kowalski LP, Hartl DM, Olsen KD, Rodrigo JP, Vander Poorten V, Mäkitie AA, Sanabria A, Suárez C, Quer M, Civantos FJ, Robbins KT, Guntinas-Lichius O, Hamoir M, Rinaldo A, Ferlito A. **Management of the Neck in Well-Differentiated Thyroid Cancer.** *Curr Oncol Rep.* 2020 Nov 14;23(1):1. doi: 10.1007/s11912-020-00997-6

COVIDSurg Collaborative. **Outcomes from elective colorectal cancer surgery during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.** *Colorectal Dis.* 2020 Nov 15. doi: 10.1111/codi.15431

Kobayashi L, Coimbra R, Goes AMO Jr, Reva V, Santorelli J, Moore EE, Galante JM, Abu-Zidan F, Peitzman AB, Ordonez CA, Maier RV, Di Saverio S, Ivatury R, De Angelis N, Scalea T, Catena F, Kirkpatrick A, Khokha V, Parry N, Civil I, Leppaniemi A, Chirica M, Pikoulis E, Fraga GP, Chiarugi M, Damaskos D, Cicuttin E, Ceresoli M, De Simone B, Vega-Rivera F, Sartelli M, Biffi W, Ansaloni L, Weber DG, Coccolini F. **American Association for the Surgery of Trauma-World Society of Emergency Surgery guidelines on diagnosis and management of abdominal vascular injuries.** *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2020 Dec;89(6):1197-1211. doi: 10.1097/TA.0000000000002968

Kobayashi L, Coimbra R, Goes AMO Jr, Reva V, Santorelli J, Moore EE, Galante J, Abu-Zidan F, Peitzman AB, Ordonez C, Maier RV, Di Saverio S, Ivatury R, De Angelis N, Scalea T, Catena F, Kirkpatrick A, Khokha V, Parry N, Civil I, Leppaniemi A, Chirica M, Pikoulis E, Fraga GP, Chiarugi M, Damaskos D, Cicuttin E, Ceresoli M, De Simone B, Vega-Rivera F, Sartelli M, Biffi W, Ansaloni L, Weber DG, Coccolini F. **American Association for the Surgery of Trauma-World Society of Emergency Surgery guidelines on diagnosis and management of peripheral vascular injuries.** *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2020 Dec;89(6):1183-1196. doi: 10.1097/TA.0000000000002967.

Wong KHF, Bosanquet DC, Ambler GK, Qureshi MI, Hinchliffe RJ, Twine CP; CLEAR survey collaborators. **Correction to: The CLEAR (Considering Leading Experts' Antithrombotic Regimes around peripheral angioplasty) survey: an international perspective on antiplatelet and anticoagulant practice for peripheral arterial endovascular intervention.** *CVIR Endovasc.* 2020 Nov 27;3(1):87. doi: 10.1186/s42155-020-00173-8.

Kremel D, Tambyraja A. **Transient Perivascular Inflammation of the Carotid Artery.** *Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg.* 2020 Nov;60(5):729. doi: 10.1016/j.ejvs.2020.06.041.

Future Events

SOLD OUT: HealthyR January 2021



The next HealthyR Notebooks course, suitable for beginners will be held online January 11-13th.

This course is now sold out. To receive updates on all HealthyR courses, join our mailing list by emailing Lisa.Norman@ed.ac.uk.

Further information, including free access to all HealthyR resources, can be found on the course website

www.healthy.surgicalinformatics.org

New date for the 8th International Meeting of the World Society of Emergency Medicine - September 2021



It is our great pleasure to announce that the Department of Clinical Surgery of the University of Edinburgh is hosting the 8th International Meeting of the World Society of Emergency Surgery (WSES), at the McEwan Hall.

Please note the change of date for this meeting which will now be held **7-10th September 2021**. We look forward to welcoming emergency/trauma/general surgeons from around the world and the UK

Items of News to Share?

If you have any items of news you would like to feature in this newsletter or events you'd like to promote please contact, Dr Katie Shaw (catherine.shaw@ed.ac.uk). The next edition will be published in March 2021

Future Conference Submission Deadlines

Conference	Date	Location	Abstract Submission & Registration
14th Annual Academic Surgical Conference https://academicsurgicalcongress.org	2nd - 4th Feb 2021	Virtual meeting	Abstract submission closed; registration now open
ALPS HBP meeting http://www.alpshpbmeeting.org	4th - 5th Feb 2021	Virtual meeting	Registration open
Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary-Association (AHPBA) https://www.ahpba.org/	2nd-5th August 2021	Miami beach, Florida, USA	Save the date
British Transplant Society (BTS) https://bts.org.uk	24th - 25th Feb 2021	Virtual meeting	Abstract submission closed; registration open
Society of Academic and Research Surgery (SARS) http://surgicalresearch.org.uk	Mar 2021	Virtual meeting	Abstract deadline 23:59 10th January 2021
American Surgical Association (ASA) http://meeting.americansurgical.org	15th - 17th April 2021	Washington DC, USA	Save date
European Society for Trauma & Emergency Surgery (ESTES) https://www.estes-congress.org	25th - 10th April 2021	Virtual Meeting	Registration now open
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Annual Scientific Congress https://asc.surgeons.org	10th-14th May 2021	Hybrid meeting: virtual-ly/Melbourne, Australia	Abstract deadline January 27th 2021
Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI) http://www.asgbi.org.uk	4th- 8th May 2021	Virtual meeting	Abstract deadline January 31st 2020
Joint International Congress of ILTS, LICAGE & ELITA https://2021.iltis.org	5th - 8th May 2021	Virtual Meeting	Abstract submission closed: Registration opens Jan 2021
International Association of Medical Science Educators http://www.iamse.org/	12th -17th June 2021	Virtual Meeting	Abstract submission closed Registration opens January 2021
European Surgical Association (ESA) https://www.europeansurgicalassociation.org	13th - 15th May 2021	Cologne, Germany	Abstract submission closed; registration open
American Society of Transplane Surgeons (ASTS) http://atcmeeting.org	5th - 9th June 2021	Virtual meeting	Abstract submission closed; registration open
Behune Round Table https://bethuneroundtable.com	TBC	TBC	TBC
Association for Medical Education (AMEE) https://amee.org/conferences/amee-2021	27th-30th August 2021	Hybrid meeting: Virtually/Glasgow, UK	Posters: 5th February 2020
European Society of Transplantation (ESOT) https://www.esotcongress.org	29th Aug - 1st Spet 2021	Milan, Italy	TBC
European-African Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (E-AHPBA)	15h - 17th September 2021	Bilbao, Spain	16th February 2021
Association of Upper GI Surgeons of Great Britain & Ireland (AUGIS) http://www.augis.org	13th-15th October 2021	Belfast, UK	Save the Date. Details available Spring 2021
American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress https://www.facs.org/education/clincon/future-clinical-congresses	24th - 28th Oct 2021	Washington, DC, USA	Save the Date. Details available Spring 2020
British Hernia Society https://hernia2021.org	13th - 16th Oct 2021	Copenhagen, Denmark	Abstracts & registration open March 2021
Society on Sarcopenia, Cachexia & wasting disorders http://society-scwd.org	Dec 2021	TBC	TBC