

SOUTH EAST THAMES CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF COLOPROCTOLOGY OF GREAT BRITAIN &  
IRELAND

Chapter Meeting on Monday 24 April 2017 at 6 pm at Maidstone

The meeting was held at the Academic Centre, Maidstone Hospital. 39 people attended and I enclose a copy of the Attendance Registrar as well as the Programme for the meeting, three CPD points were awarded by the Association of Coloproctology for the meeting.

The meeting was opened by Charles Bailey and Richard Dickson-Lowe (Dukes Club representative). The information from the ACPGBI council meeting of the 20 February was communicated to members and notice given of the forthcoming annual meeting of the Association in Bournemouth in July. Mr Richard Dickson-Lowe informed the trainees of changes to the Membership of the Dukes Club, incorporating it into the Association, requiring a subscription of £90. He explained the reasoning behind this change and the benefits for members.

The first talk was given by Mr Liam Poynter, Surgical Trainee and Research Fellow of Imperial College London and Liam gave us a talk on the latest developments in pelvic floor assessment and treatment, he reviewed the latest meta-analysis and randomised control trials and set out a proposed treatment algorithm separating patients according to age group and sex. It was well received with a number of questions afterwards.

The next session was case discussions which was greatly enjoyed by the members. This took the form of three cases and an expert panel consisting of Mr Michael Saunders, Mr Bijou Avarind and a surgical trainee and contributions were forthcoming from the audience. The first case was presented by William McAleer, Surgical FY1, the second by Mr Umesh Parampareli, Surgical Trainee and the third by Mr Chris Wright, Consultant Surgeon. The histology was provided by Dr Mike Thomas, Consultant Histopathologist. The cases generated good discussion as well as a number of differential diagnoses, some of which were correct, and everyone enjoyed analysing the cases and trying to work out what they would do next.

This was followed by a presentation by Mr Charles Bailey of his three months spent working in Mandritsara Hospital, a rural district hospital in northeast Madagascar. This was well received and gave a good insight into undertaking colorectal surgery in an area of considerable need in a developing country. It was interesting to hear about how efficiently they work and the excellent continuity of care and everyone enjoyed the discussion about the different types of pathology seen, including typhoid, sigmoid volvulus and certain traumatic injuries and how these are treated.

The final talk was a session which was done jointly with Mr Mike Johnson, Countess of Chester NHS Trust. This was a session which concentrated on achieving excellence in colorectal surgery, as the Countess of Chester has the best 90 day mortality of any Trust for elective colorectal surgery in the country. Mike very kindly answered a number of questions by Email prior to the meeting and the questions and his answers were read out at the meeting. This included his particular emphasis on team work and training, the management of patients on the ward, the management of any complications and how these are identified early and the strategy for two consultants taking back any patient with a major complication.

We questioned him about the anaesthetic arrangements and they have an anaesthetic lead for colorectal surgery. They have a dedicated colorectal ward which all patients are admitted to after a surgery and they have a well established ERAS programme.

Emphasis was placed on the need to get on well with colleagues and to work together to ensure the best outcome for patients. We were very grateful for the time taken by Mike to answer these questions so that we could present this at our meeting.

Following the meeting we had dinner together in the Academic Centre at Maidstone Hospital.