



**British & Irish Association  
of Stroke Physicians**  
*Advancing stroke medicine*

January 2022

## BIASP President's Message



Prof Gillian Mead  
BIASP President

The UK Government has announced that the NHS is now on a war footing. Omicron cases are rising, one in 10 NHS workers are either sick or self-isolating, the army has been called in to assist, and people with acute stroke have been advised to make their own way to hospital because of long ambulance response times. In the Republic of Ireland, around 12.5% of healthcare staff are sick or self-isolating due to Covid 19.

Never before in my 20 years as a stroke consultant have I known a situation like this. Staff who were already exhausted because of the unrelenting pressure of the pandemic, are now being asked to do even more. Many are feeling beleaguered and undervalued. And this is on the background of chronic shortages of stroke consultants. And yet, we continually hear about heroic efforts by healthcare staff to provide high quality, person-centred care, across the entire stroke pathway.

BIASP's immediate priority for 2022 is to support our stroke workforce. We will share examples of compassionate leadership and innovation across our five nations, through close collaboration with our national clinical leads for stroke, stroke charities and other professional organisations. We will continue to advocate for appropriate PPE. We will provide high quality educational opportunities and continue to promote stroke medicine as a career. Equality, diversity and inclusion (ED&I) is at the heart of BIASP, and we will shortly be advertising for an ED&I executive lead.

It is an immense privilege to have been elected to serve as the 2022-2023 President of BIASP. Now, more than ever, we want to hear your views about BIASP can better serve its membership. Please get in touch at [admin@biasp.org](mailto:admin@biasp.org).

## BIASP New Executive Members

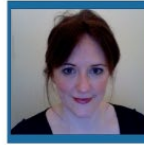
## BIASP New Executive Members



**Prof David Werring**  
President-elect



**Dr Mary Joan MacLeod**  
Honorary Deputy Secretary



**Dr Patricia Fearon**  
Ordinary Member for Northern Ireland



**Prof Sean Murphy**  
Ordinary Member for Republic of Ireland



**Dr Becky Jupp**  
Ordinary Member for England

## BIASP Election - Equality, Diversity & Inclusion



### NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

**Closing date 4 February 2022**

BIASP is pleased to confirm that following ratification at the BIASP AGM on the 2 December 2021, a new post for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is now open for nominations.

BIASP would be looking for an enthusiastic BIASP member to advise BIASP on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, both within their membership and the wider stroke care work force.

In addition to this role, the ED&I Lead would be required to assist the Executive in key decision making for the Association.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the role description

Contact [admin@biasp.org](mailto:admin@biasp.org) to request a nomination form.

**The closing date for applications is midnight Friday 4 February 2022.**

## BIASP Honorary Members

Honorary membership is offered to people who have made an outstanding contribution to stroke medicine. Following nomination by a minimum of 4 Executive Members, approval by the Executive Committee and ratified by our members BIASP are delighted to welcome our Honorary members for 2021.

## Honorary Members 2021



**Juliet Bouverie**  
**OBE**  
CEO The Stroke  
Association



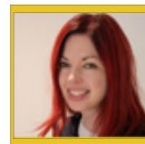
**Austin Willet**  
CEO Different  
Stokes



**Declan Cunnane**  
CEO Northern  
Ireland Chest  
Heart & Stroke



**Chris Macey**  
Head of Advocacy  
Irish Heart  
Foundation



**Jane-Claire  
Judson**  
CEO Chest Heart  
& Stoke Scotland

## BIASP Launch



**British & Irish Association  
of Stroke Physicians**  
*Advancing stroke medicine*

**BASP** (British Association of Stroke Physicians)  
has officially changed to  
**BIASP** (British and Irish Association of Stroke Physicians)

**Email:** [admin@biasp.org](mailto:admin@biasp.org) \*

**Twitter:** @BIASPstroke

**Website** - launches January 2021 - continue to access  
[www.basp.org](http://www.basp.org)

\*We will still be accessing [admin@basp.org](mailto:admin@basp.org) for the foreseeable future

## 2021 Awards

### BASP President's Award

Congratulations to the recipient  
of the 2021 BASP President's  
award, **Dr Deb Lowe**.



## Warlow Prize 2021 Winner

Congratulations to **Will McKeown**, from the Royal Victoria Hospital Belfast, for being awarded the BIASP Warlow Prize at the UK Stroke Forum 2021. Will's winning abstract presentation, "Drip, Ship, Retrieve But Don't Leave: How often do regional thrombectomy repatriation pathways work as intended?", earns him funding to attend the European Stroke Organisation Conference in 2022 utilising more low carbon travel options, ie, to avoid flying!

## Ordinary Member for Scotland



Dr Terry Quinn  
Ordinary Member  
for Scotland

Scottish stroke services remain under huge pressure, but in my report I highlight some reasons for optimism:

- Publication of Scottish Government's Progressive Stroke Pathway.
- Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Stroke.
- Consultant post opportunities

...and more

To read the full report, [CLICK HERE](#)

## Remember to Update your Member Profile



You can now access the new and enhanced BIASP membership system. This allows us to know and understand our membership better to tailor the benefits we can deliver.

We are updating the website members area with relevant and interesting content to help you improve the care of your stroke patients

Please check and update your details, this will only take a few minutes.  
[CLICK HERE](#) to login to the members area.

## Trainees Subcommittee Update

It is my pleasure to be introducing myself as the now BIASP trainee committee chairperson. For our vision to advance stroke medicine and make it more accessible to trainees, we have many ideas that we will hope to implement in 2022.

First of all, I would like to let associate members within BIASP know that in the coming months we will be launching the new **BIASP stroke mentorship programme**.

The scheme will be aimed at those interested in stroke, who are in their early specialty training years as well as IMT3s, within all stroke parent specialties. We want to ensure you are well supported throughout your training and so are keen for you to be connected with a current consultant who will be able to engage with you, offer advice and support you until your CCT. We will be announcing more details soon, so please be on the lookout for this



Dr Isuru Induruwa  
Trainee  
Subcommittee Chair

Furthermore, I would like to invite current trainees to consider applying for the vacant posts within the BIASP trainee committee. This is truly an excellent way to get involved with shaping the future of stroke teaching and training. Current available posts are:

- Training & Education Representatives x 2
- ABN Liaison
- RCP Liaison

More information will follow with regards to nominations for these vacant posts.

To read the full report [CLICK HERE](#)

## Trainees Weekend Update



BIASP trainee meeting registration website is now live and taking bookings.  
The **Trainees Weekend** virtual event is on **24-25 March 2022**

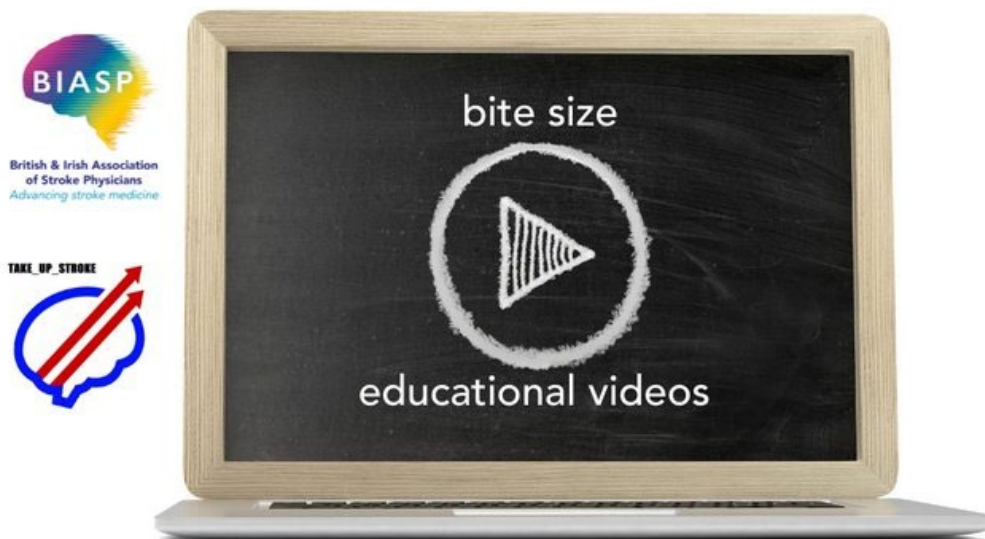
[CLICK HERE](#) to register to attend

Whilst the programme is being finalised here are some of the topics included:

- A practical guide to the hyperacute stroke call
- Managing a patient in a rural setting
- Complex vasculopathies and arterial dissection talks
- Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis and neurosurgery updates

- How to approach the dizzy patient
- Long term management of the stroke patient with spasticity
- There is a session on maximising training opportunities as a stroke fellow / trainee (including a curriculum update)

## Bitesize Education Hub



BIASP are developing a “Take Up Stroke Virtual Learning Hub” under the auspices of the Take Up Stroke Fellows, a committee formed to promote and encourage a career in Stroke Medicine.

Would you like to inspire medical students or junior doctors to take up stroke medicine by filming a short video yourself?

Here are just some of the ideas for your videos:

- Thrombolysis in action – perhaps a virtual simulation or role play?
- Thrombectomy in action – similar to the above, or a neuro-radiologist demonstrating the devices etc.
- The diversity of stroke medicine
- Career as a stroke clinical academic - the highs and lows of research
- Why I chose stroke medicine
- A Stroke Patient’s Journey

For further information and to confirm your topic choice email [admin@biasp.org](mailto:admin@biasp.org)

## Medical Student Essay Competition



## 2021 Award

We are glad to have received many enthusiastic responses to this award last year, demonstrating the passion for stroke medicine within this next generation of medical practitioners. We have now shared all of the 2021 highly commended entries in the newsletter over the last year.

This month's highly commended 2021 entries are [Catrin Sohrabi](#) and [George Woods](#)

## 2022 Award

**Have you personally seen or been involved with a patient who has suffered a stroke that has an inspirational story or important message about stroke for all?**

If so, please consider writing it up as a case with discussion. We need 250 words or less before **1 February 2022**.

The prize for the winner is free attendance at the BIASP Trainees' meeting with the opportunity to present their case. The date of the meeting to be confirmed.

The competition is open to all medical students attending UK and ROI medical schools in any year.

For the Flyer [CLICK HERE](#)

For the submission form [CLICK HERE](#)



## Member's Benefit

Thinking of joining WSO?

BIASP members can receive a reduced rate for the membership fee,

2022 promocode: **22BASP**

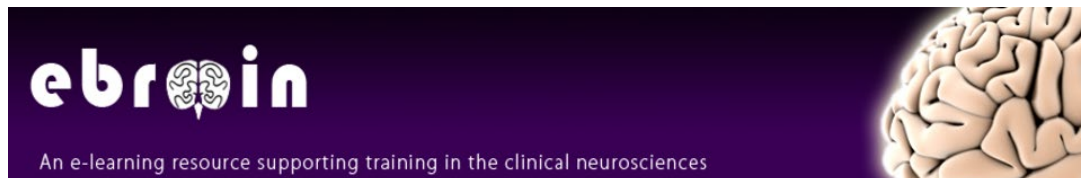
All WSO members get discounted registrations rate for the congress.

[CLICK HERE](#) to join





Reduced membership for BIASP members. Receive a discount of 50 EUR on the membership rate. Just select you are a BIASP member when applying and the fee will be reduced. [CLICK HERE](#) to join



All members of BIASP have free access to ebrain, at [www.ebrain.net](http://www.ebrain.net). ebrain has over 500 elearning sessions approved to provide CPD by the Royal College of Physicians, including practice MCQs, virtual patients, and some webinars.

- To access ebrain, please go to [www.ebrain.net](http://www.ebrain.net) or [learning.ebrain.net](http://learning.ebrain.net)
- If you do not know your password [CLICK HERE](#)
- If you are still struggling please email [admin@ebrain.net](mailto:admin@ebrain.net) stating that you are a member of BIASP

## Virtual Learning Hub



The BIASP Virtual Learning Hub is delighted to be hosting monthly live webinars from invited stroke experts to speak on a broad range of topics from across the stroke care pathway.

BIASP are hosting monthly 1-hour webinar sessions with the opportunity to ask the presenters questions at the end of each session. The live webinars will also be uploaded to the Virtual Learning Hub in the BIASP Members-only section for you to watch any time afterwards.



Each webinar is **free** to attend, you must register in advance for each live session. A certificate will be issued for those who attend more than 75% of the session, and complete a short evaluation that appears on the screen directly after the session.

Click [HERE](#) to view past webinars on the BIASP Virtual Learning Hub.



**Date for your diary:**

Look out for future dates added online and in the newsletters.

**BIASP Webinar 13 – Vision and stroke  
23 February 2022, 17:30 – 18:30**

Dr Arani Nitkunan, Consultant Neurologist, Croydon University Hospital and St George's University Hospital, London, UK

[CLICK HERE](#) to register

(1 CPD point awarded by RCPUK)

## British Geriatrics Society Fellowship

BGS wish to announce their extended Doctoral Fellowship scheme with Dunhill Medical Trust.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information



## Complete the census of higher specialty trainees 2021/22

At this crucial time for the NHS, we are asking for your input to help us influence health and social care policy and improve the experience of training by completing this year's census of higher specialist trainees. It only takes 10 minutes to fill in and you have until Friday 28 January 2022 to respond.

[CLICK HERE](#) for additional information

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the webpage for guidance

## Research Update & Opportunities



BASP are promoting a number of research opportunities  
Full details can be viewed by clicking on 'view research opportunities'.

If you have any research opportunities you would like us to promote please email [admin@biasp.org](mailto:admin@biasp.org)

## Research Update

**The Metoclopramide for Avoiding Pneumonia after Stroke (MAPS-2) Trial:** a single-blind RCT of metoclopramide for the prevention of pneumonia in patients with dysphagia after an acute stroke

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

## Research Surveys

### Basilar Artery Occlusion Expert Opinion Survey

In the wake of the BASICS and BEST randomized trial data, we are interested in understanding current physician opinion and practices regarding optimal management of basilar artery occlusion. ABBA (After the BEST of BASICS) study group would like to invite you to complete this survey on basilar artery occlusion (BAO) mechanical thrombectomy. We estimate this survey will take 5 to 10 minutes to complete.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the survey

### Childhood Neurological Conditions

The British Paediatric Neurology Association and James Lind Alliance have just launched their prioritisation survey to help define the Top 10 unanswered questions about the treatment of Childhood Neurological Conditions. We contacted you last year to support us in our first Priority Setting Partnership survey. More can be found on our web page [here](#).

We have refined those questions and are now launching our second survey. From a list of 44 questions, please choose the top 10 most important to you. We would like to invite you to help us ensure that the survey and workshops we carry out following the outcomes involve those whose lives are affected by these conditions and the clinicians who treat them. We would be grateful if you could complete the survey by 31st January.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the second survey

### **Quality Improvement Project Regarding Analgesia Prescribing in Patients with Spontaneous ICH.**

Having recently worked on a stroke rotation as part of IMT2 Training, and with a particular interest in stroke medicine, Dr Jennifer Tucker and Dr Dinesh Chadha (Doncaster Royal Infirmary) are currently undertaking a quality improvement project regarding analgesia prescribing in patients with spontaneous ICH. They would be extremely grateful if you could spare a few minutes to fill in an online survey to help them capture a wide range of responses from those working in this field across the UK. An anonymous survey to investigate current approaches to analgesia prescribing of stroke clinicians in the UK, for patients with acute spontaneous intracranial haemorrhages has been designed.

The survey is comprised of ten questions and should take approximately 5 minutes or less, and the link is provided for your completion: [CLICK HERE](#)

### **Invitation to participate in a short survey on early rhythm control for acute stroke patients with atrial fibrillation**

We are conducting a survey on clinical practice of early rhythm control (i.e., treatment to restore sinus rhythm) for patients with acute ischaemic stroke and atrial fibrillation. We would like to invite you to share your views on this topic by participating in the short survey which will take no more than five minutes to complete.

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete the survey

### **Support Mental Wellbeing after Acquired Brain Injury - Is it important and why?**

Physicians are currently underrepresented amongst our responses, and we would value the input from this profession. The survey by Kings College can be completed online via access to a link, and we anticipate it to take no longer than 10 minutes for participants to complete. By taking part, participants will be helping us to work out what is the most important research that may benefit other people who have experienced an acquired brain injury in the future. Additionally, participants have the option of entering a prize draw to win one of twenty £30 Amazon vouchers when they participate.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

[CLICK HERE](#) for the survey

### **Management of Covert Brain Infarction Survey.**

We are currently conducting a survey on the management of covert (previously silent)

cerebral infarctions. These are the most common incidental finding in brain imaging, but expert opinions on diagnostic evaluation and preventive management are inconsistent. With the survey we hope to map the current management and clarify research priorities. The survey was developed in cooperation with the Center for Clinical Brain Sciences (Prof. Joanna Wardlaw).

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete the survey.

### **Online survey exploring what apps stroke healthcare professionals use to rehabilitate post-stroke vision and attention problems.**

Researchers at the University of East Anglia are looking for stroke healthcare professionals to take part in a short online survey. The survey is looking at what apps healthcare professionals use to help with problems with vision and attention after stroke. The survey takes around 15 minutes and all answers are anonymous. The survey is available in English and French.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer

[CLICK HERE](#) for the survey link

You can find other research surveys to participate in on the BASP website, [CLICK HERE](#)

- 1) Distress after acquired brain injury (Glasgow)
- 2) What matters to people and families living with small vessel disease (Edinburgh)
- 3) Memory after Stroke survey (Nottingham)
- 4) How your NHS organisation provides TIA services (Central Lancashire)
- 5) National survey on the use of pharmacogenomics in cardiovascular disease (RCP & BPS)
- 6) Understanding cognition in aphasia (Newcastle)
- 7) Questionnaire on Antithrombotic Practice in TIA/minor stroke
- 8) Online Stroke Research Survey

## **Research Opportunities**

### **PREPARE: imPROving End of life care Practice in stroke cARE**

The Stroke Research Team at UCLan (University of Central Lancashire) are about to undertake a national survey funded by NIHR into end-of-life care following a stroke to refine our understanding of patients' and families' EoLC needs. We are looking to identify a named contact in stroke units across the UK in relation to this study. The contact will be asked to share a survey with three members of the MDT to help us understand the end-of-life care and support that is provided to acute stroke patients.

If you would be interested in being involved please email [PREPARE@uclan.ac.uk](mailto:PREPARE@uclan.ac.uk) for more information.

## **NIHR HTA commissioned call - Antidepressants for post-stroke emotionalism**

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this primary research topic.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information on how to apply, and [CLICK HERE](#) to read the JLA Top 10 priorities

## **Studies recruiting/ welcoming new sites by BIASP members**

### **Database of UK patients with iatrogenic cerebral amyloid angiopathy**

Cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA) is an age-related cerebral small vessel disease that causes brain haemorrhage and cognitive impairment. It is often diagnosed using MRI and associated with imaging features including cerebral microbleeds and cortical superficial siderosis.

We are creating a research database of people in the UK with a newly described form of CAA, called iatrogenic CAA.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

If you have a patient who you suspect has iatrogenic CAA, or would like more information on this condition, please contact Dr Gargi Banerjee ([gargi.banerjee@nhs.net](mailto:gargi.banerjee@nhs.net)) for further details.

## **Save the Date**

BIASP are pleased to announce that the next **NIHR Stroke Research Workshop** will take place on the **27th and 28th of September 2022** in Sheffield.

More details will follow soon but in the meantime please save the date in your diaries!

## **Event Listings**

Upcoming events will be listed here in future, if you have an event you wish to promote please contact [admin@biasp.org](mailto:admin@biasp.org)





[REGISTRATION NOW OPEN](#)



### ESO Guideline Webinar

Guidelines on Mobile Stroke Unit care in acute stroke management

**Thursday 3rd February 2022**

17:00 - 18:30 (CET)

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer



### BHF DATA SCIENCE CENTRE RESEARCH SHOWCASE: WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH 2022

The BHF Data Science Centre is a partnership between the British Heart Foundation and Health Data Research UK which enables researchers to access and use health data from across the UK in the best ways possible to improve the public's cardiovascular health.

Join the first BHF Data Science Centre Research Showcase on Wednesday 16 March 2022 to learn more about the centre's trailblazing activities, progress and exciting future plans to improve UK-wide data-driven research into all heart and circulatory diseases.

This virtual free event will showcase the breadth and variety of vital work happening at the BHF Data Science Centre, including enabling research using national linked health data across the UK, large-scale cardiovascular imaging, and streamlined data-enabled clinical trials. The showcase is aimed particularly at the broad research, cardiovascular and health data science communities, with a focus on scientific presentations and discussions.

This is your chance to hear more from the centre's team and leading experts involved in the work of the centre. Find out more about the potential opportunities for working with the BHF

Data Science Centre to enable research that will drive faster breakthroughs in our understanding of cardiovascular diseases using health data.

For more information, a list of confirmed speakers and to register [CLICK HERE](#)



### **16th World Congress on Controversies in Neurology (CONy) London March 24-27, 2022.**

The CONy Congresses serve as an exclusive platform for international experts to discuss and compare experiences which focus on unresolved issues in neurology. The congress will feature a first-class educational program with leading experts across all neurology specialties, such as Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia, Epilepsy, Headache, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, Stroke and more.

For more information [CLICK HERE](#)

## **Career Opportunities**

BASP lists NHS jobs on their website free of charge, to list your advert contact [admin@basp.org](mailto:admin@basp.org)

**Here are the latest adverts for NHS stroke jobs. Click below for further information.**

[Consultant in Neurological & Stroke Rehabilitation](#), Edinburgh, closes 26th January

[Consultant in Stroke Medicine](#), Stevenage, closes 30th January

[Consultant in Stroke Medicine](#), Swindon, closes 3rd February

[Consultant Stroke Physician](#), Herefordshire & Worcestershire, closes 7th February

[Consultant in Stroke Medicine](#) (3 x Posts), Wakefield, closes 11th February

### **Interested in providing clinical advice for the Ombudsman's office as an External Professional Adviser?**

The Office of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman deal with complaints about NHS services in England. They are currently looking to increase their pool of stroke

physician advisers to meet the demand for clinical advice requests they receive. The rate of pay is £52.50 per hour (band 1).

If you are interested or would like more information  
email [saima.nasim@ombudsman.org.uk](mailto:saima.nasim@ombudsman.org.uk)

## Training Opportunities



### Save the Date – 28 February 2022

King's College Hospital, Neuroscience department will be running a Stroke Masterclass which has received approval from the Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of England for 10 CPD (e-Platform) points for this course.

For registration and further information please contact [hanson.raju@nhs.net](mailto:hanson.raju@nhs.net)

## British Association of Stroke Physicians (BASP) CT training lecture

The BASP CT Training lecture teaches about how to read acute stroke CT scans. It is useful to review in advance of participation in the Acute Cerebral CT Evaluation of Stroke Study (ACCESS).

### REGISTER FOR BASP CT Training

- We will send you a password with which to login

### LOGIN TO BASP CT Training

- The BASP CT Training lecture was originally launched on 18 Dec 2003
- The BASP CT Training lecture was re-launched on 21 Nov 2018
- There are about 180 slides so expect to spend about 90 minutes / 1.5 hours working through the materials

### Quick links

- Participate in & train using BASP CT Training slides [here](#)
- Follow on & test yourself against experts, with the ACCESS series of 63 acute stroke CT scans
- Integrate imaging training with STARS Thrombolysis Masterclass



Excellent and **free online stroke brain imaging training resources** at the University of Edinburgh:

- Acute cerebral CT evaluation of Stroke Study (ACCESS)

- BASP CT training lecture
- Acute CTA for thrombectomy in Stroke (ACTATS)

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the training



### Free Neurology/Stroke Learning Resource

Improve your understanding and knowledge of clinical neurology and stroke! Gain confidence in diagnosing stroke mimics! Listen to Neuropodcases! Neuropodcases is a free, podcast learning resource on clinical neurology and stroke, suitable for students, trainees, consultants and allied health professionals. These have been created by a team of Neurology trainees and consultants. We have a number of case-based Stroke/Vascular neurology, neuroradiology and clinico-anatomical localisation topics, all free to access and download.

Podcasts are available to download on Apple/Spotify or via the website

<https://www.neuropodcases.co.uk/>

@NPodcases

If you have any suggestions please get in touch with us [contact@neuropodcases.co.uk](mailto:contact@neuropodcases.co.uk)

### Online NIHSS Training

To access the **free version** of the training individuals need to register and login [HERE](#)

### Online training 'Hyperacute Stroke Treatments Including Thrombolysis & Thrombectomy' - STARS Advancing Module

The latest module 'Hyperacute stroke treatments including thrombolysis & thrombectomy' is an online training resource aimed at all healthcare staff who are, or will be in the future, involved in the management of hyperacute stroke.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access this resource for free. A certificate is awarded on successful completion of both the module and the module test.

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Registered charity number: 1134589

