



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

SAVE THE DATE

UK Stroke Forum 2026

The UK's largest multidisciplinary
conference for stroke care professionals

When: **2 - 4 December**

Where: **ACC Liverpool**

STROKE FORUM

Hosted by
Stroke
Association

BIASP
British & Irish Association
of Stroke Physicians
Advancing stroke medicine

Registration is **OPEN**

[CLICK HERE](#)

BIASP Member discount code is: **BIASP10**

June 2026

BIASP Exec Message



Prof Mary Joan Macleod
BIASP Honorary Secretary

Welcome to the June BIASP Bulletin.

The Executive Committee had a very productive in-person meeting on 16 June, where there was an opportunity to discuss some of the challenging issues in stroke medicine in greater depth than is possible during an online meeting.

BIASP Strategy

We are pleased to report that the work of the Executive Committee and BIASP sub committees means that we have addressed most of the areas outlined in the BIASP Strategy 2025–2028. We discussed the remaining areas and made plans to address those that have not yet been explicitly covered. An overall update will be provided at the AGM during the UK Stroke Forum.

Workforce Planning

Seventy per cent of English services and 57% of Scottish stroke services have vacant substantive consultant posts. Combined with an ageing consultant workforce, a projected increase in stroke incidence, and targets of 10% thrombectomy and 20% thrombolysis rates, this highlights the need for properly staffed and funded services.

Melanie Blake and Michelle Dharmisiri, together with colleagues from the other nations, have produced a workforce strategy containing valuable data to support discussions with management teams. The strategy will be published and circulated later in the summer.

Discussion also covered how we can make stroke medicine more attractive to trainees, given the intense nature of on-call stroke rotas.

Training and Education

Saugata Das has led the Training and Education Committee in producing a series of Strokecasts, which will be available later this year. An IMT careers webinar will complement these podcasts and showcase careers in stroke medicine to trainees.

Next year's trainee meeting (organised by David McShane and the Trainees' Committee) will be held in Belfast on 11–12 March. The venue and programme will be confirmed in due course. This is always a valuable networking and educational event.

The medical student bursary was very competitive this year, with a good number of high quality applications. This is an excellent opportunity to interest students in stroke medicine at an early stage.

Clinical Academic Research and Training

The limited number of opportunities for academic stroke training poses a threat to the UK and Ireland's reputation for world-leading stroke research. We discussed opportunities to work more closely with funding bodies and UK Research and Innovation.

In addition to the UK Stroke Forum, the NIHR Stroke Research Workshop provides an opportunity for anyone working in stroke medicine—not just trainees—to explore research in greater detail. We encourage you to take a look at this year's [programme](#).

A Reminder

Early-bird rates for UKSF 2026, including a discount for BIASP members, will close on 31 July 2026. We hope to see many of you there for what promises to be an excellent educational and scientific programme.

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BIASP Sustainability Subcommittee

New Members Wanted

The **BIASP Sustainability Subcommittee** is recruiting new members to help drive our work on **environmental sustainability in stroke care and in BIASP's own activities**.

We welcome applications from **full, associate, affiliate, and medical student members** of BIASP.



You do not need to be a senior clinician or a sustainability expert – enthusiasm and willingness to contribute are most important, and the work is well suited to **students, trainees, and allied health professionals**.

Current priorities include:

- Supporting **sustainable BIASP meetings and events** (e.g. travel guidance, plant-based catering, UKSF and the Trainees' Meeting)
- Updating and implementing BIASP's **sustainability policy** and carbon-footprint work
- Developing **educational and promotional materials** (web content, blogs, short videos/slides) on sustainability and stroke

To apply, please email admin@biasp.org with a brief statement (150 - 200 words) on why you are interested and what you would like to work on.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the application form

If you are not yet a BIASP member, you can **join first**; membership is usually approved within a couple of weeks.

[CLICK HERE](#) to join BIASP

BIASP Writing Group Award 2026 - OPEN

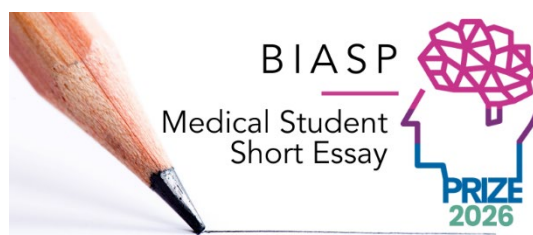
BIASP Writing Group Application Call 2026 Award is OPEN
Closing date, 09:00 Friday 30 October 2026

We are very pleased to announce the British and Irish Association of Stroke Physicians (BIASP) call to doctors, nurses and allied health professionals to establish writing groups to design studies that for the NIHR RDN Stroke portfolio.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information
[CLICK HERE](#) for the application form

BIASP Medical Student Essay Prize 2026

The Training & Education Chair and subcommittee reviewed the **95** entries received this year.
Here are the **Highly Commended** entries:
[Ellis Hodgkinson](#)
[Francesca Santos](#)



Click on the each name to read their essay

BIASP Social Media

BIASP are on BlueSky! We'd love for you to join us there & keep up to date with the latest BIASP & stroke-related news!

The BIASP BlueSky handle is @biasp.org
Here is the link to the profile: <https://bsky.app/profile/biasp.org>

BIASP Careers Page - FAQ's



Considering a career in stroke?

BIASP have produced a response to FAQs to guide you in your career choice.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information on:

Why should I consider career in stroke?

How do I become a stroke physician?

Who can apply for stroke sub-specialty training?

What does a typical training pathway look like for a stroke physician?

Careers for stroke physicians

Specialty and specialist doctors (SAS) career information

In October 2024 BIASP and NANSIG collaborated to run a half day webinar on

Stroke Careers: Shaping the Stroke Clinicians of the Future

[CLICK HERE](#) to view

UK & ROI Acute Stroke Simulation Course



UK and ROI Acute Stroke Simulation Course – 2025 Update

2025 has been another highly successful year for the UK and ROI Acute Stroke Simulation Course. Over the past year, we delivered 12 courses across England, Wales and Ireland, training 125 healthcare professionals. A particular highlight was the delivery of our first Irish stroke simulation course, held in Waterford in May. We are now working closely with colleagues in both Wales and Ireland to develop a strategy that will support the expansion of further courses in both countries.

Feedback from participants continues to be extremely positive. One recent attendee commented:

"I thought this was wonderful. It has been massively helpful to me and improved my perspective and confidence. This kind of multidisciplinary course, with participants at varying levels of seniority, is exactly what's needed to develop emergency and on-call stroke skills. I was very nervous beforehand as I wasn't sure what to expect, but that wasn't necessary at all. The faculty were incredibly welcoming and skilled at facilitating feedback and discussion — you would think they had been delivering this course for years. Thank you to them all."

Dates for our 2026 courses have now been released, with several already fully booked. We are also hopeful that 2026 will see the delivery of our first Scottish Acute Stroke Simulation Course.

2026 course dates, information and registration links are on the website.

[CLICK HERE](#)

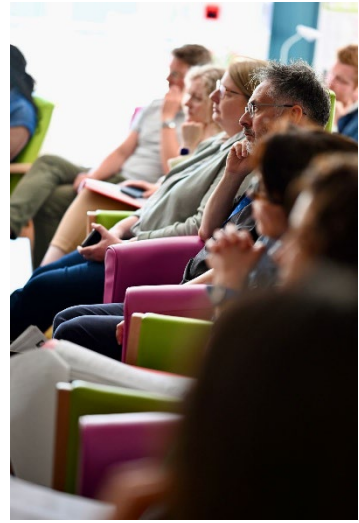
The course is multidisciplinary and open to anyone involved in acute stroke care.

We are also keen to support centres interested in delivering the course locally. If you would like to observe a course or become involved, please contact us at

ukstrokesimulation@gmail.com.

Finally, we are currently seeking regional representatives for the following areas and would welcome expressions of interest:

- East of England
- London
- North West of England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland



Is your member profile up to date?



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.

Please check and update your details, ticking all options which are relevant to you, particularly any other organisations you may also be a member of.

With regards to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion please do complete these fields within your profile.

This will only take a few minutes.

[CLICK HERE](#) to login to the members area.

Member Benefits & Discounts

Benefit for Associate members moving to Full membership

We value your support as a member of BIASP and would like to offer **20% discount** for the first year of Full membership.

Benefit for Current and New Members - LTFT 20% Discount

This benefit is for members who work less than full time, if you work 8 PAs or less, when membership is due for renewal or when a new member joins.



Current members should send in their job plan to admin@biasp.org at least one month before their renewal date.

The 20% discount will be applied upon review of the job plan.

Other Association discounts available for BIASP Members
[CLICK HERE](#) for more information



ASSOCIATION
OF BRITISH
NEUROLOGISTS

NEW Reciprocal 20% Membership
Discount from 1 Feb 2025

Use code **BIASP20**
[CLICK HERE](#) for information, fees and to
join

Types of membership applicable to BIASP members are:

- Affiliate members (if a consultant or GP)
- Junior member (if a junior hospital doctor)
- Allied Health Professional membership (if a nurse, physician associate or other allied health professional)
- Ordinary and Associate membership are for Neurologists only

BIASP Mentorship Programme



**We are now going live with the new BIASP mentorship scheme.
CPD approved, 3 points**

Many of you have volunteered to become mentors, or have requested to become a Mentee.

As part of this scheme we have developed online training materials which may be of interest also to those of you who have not yet volunteered to Mentor, and are free of charge for all members to complete. CPD points on completion of mentor training.

If you already have experience of being a mentor and/or have completed an equivalent course, and wish to become a BIASP mentor, then please email admin@biasp.org to register your interest

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer
[CLICK HERE](#) to access the training materials

Are you interested in being mentored?

We are also looking for mentees to participate in this programme. This opportunity is open to those enrolled in early specialty training, including IMT3, in a stroke parent specialty.

Register your interest by completing the form via the link [HERE](#)

Research Updates & Opportunities



If you have any research opportunities you would like us to promote please email admin@biasp.org

Updates

Research

OCEANIC-STROKE

In this month's bulletin we discuss the OCEANIC-STROKE trial, which was recently published in the New England Journal of Medicine in April of this year.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the report from Dr Joseph Pybus

EASE - Evaluating Antidepressants for Emotionalism after Stroke

EASE is a national clinical trial, evaluating the safety, effectiveness and cost effectiveness of sertraline to treat post stroke emotionalism in the UK NHS.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer
[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

NIHR's flagship '[Be Part of Research](#)' campaign

Share your study with thousands of research-ready volunteers

The NIHR Be Part of Research service has over 600,000 research-ready volunteers waiting to take part in research studies. Our free online service matches volunteers to health and care studies taking place across the UK.

The service supports a broad range of research - from lifestyle questionnaires to clinical trials - taking place at local hospitals, GP surgeries, in care or community settings or at home.

Be Part of Research can identify suitable volunteers for your study through a wide range of data including age, ethnic group, sex, location and condition. We can help you find potential participants quickly and effectively - accelerating study recruitment.

Take the hard work out of your recruitment and [add your study to the Be Part of Research service](#)

Surveys

Multinational Survey on Diagnostic and Treatment Challenges in CAA

This survey is being conducted with the support of the European Stroke Organisation, as part of the Emerging Stroke Leader Programme. The survey aims to identify common challenges and barriers that healthcare professionals encounter in diagnosing cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA).

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete the survey

An Exploration of the Extent and Scope of Advanced Clinical Practice in Stroke

A research study is being conducted at Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) by Helen Cooke.

As a trainee Advanced Clinical Practitioner in Stroke, I am completing research as part of my MSc in Advanced Clinical Practice into how widespread Advanced Clinical Practitioners (ACPs) and/or trainee Advanced Clinical Practitioners (tACPs) are in acute stroke units in England, their current scope of practice and areas being considered for development of Advanced Clinical Practice in acute stroke.

If you are:

- A Service Manager, Consultant, ACP or tACP for Stroke
- And based on an Acute and/or Hyper-acute stroke unit in England

Then please consider participating in this research, [CLICK HERE](#) and complete the anonymous electronic survey.

Closing date 30 June 2026

Anosognosia After Stroke - Study Recruitment Support

 Calling all stroke clinicians and researchers!

I am now recruiting participants for my thesis research as part of my Doctorate in Clinical Psychology with The University of Exeter.

The study will explore how anosognosia after stroke is conceptualised and assessed in clinical practice and research.

If you have experience working with stroke patients or have published stroke-related research, I'd love to hear from you!

- 🖥️ Participate in 3 short online questionnaire rounds (20–30 mins each)
- 💙 £5 will be donated to The Stroke Association for each person who completes all 3 rounds

Your expertise will help shape future clinical assessment and intervention in the field long-term.

Scan the QR code on the poster, [CLICK HERE](#)

Or for the link [CLICK HERE](#)

Georgia Williams

Trainee Clinical Psychologist

University of Exeter | Somerset Foundation Trust

Opportunities

UK Stroke Research Workshop 2026 Medical & Non-medical Student Bursaries

Are you a medical or non-medical research student with original research to share about stroke, TIA or related vascular brain conditions?

[CLICK HERE](#) for information

Funding

**The Stroke Association - Research
Funding Opportunities**

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

Stroke
Association



NIHR Local Authority Academic Fellowship Programme and Associated Opportunities

New opportunities from NIHR for people working in local authorities, social care setting and 3rd sector. There are a range of funding opportunities from short placement up to PhD and advanced.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information

NICE: backing the healthtech that changes lives

[“Fear of a second stroke does not dictate my life anymore. This technology got me back on my feet again.” Peter Hooper, stroke survivor who benefitted from a NICE-recommended implantable cardiac monitor to detect atrial fibrillation as the cause of his stroke.](#)

When the right technology reaches the right patient, lives change. The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) is sharing stories like Peter's to raise awareness of how their healthtech guidance can support NHS teams who are commissioning, procuring or implementing digital tools, diagnostics and medical devices.

Learn how NICE guidance can support you to make confident healthtech commissioning decisions.

[Explore support](#)

Neurological Alliance



THE NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE

The Neurological Alliance, of which BIASP is a member, has recently done a survey of the needs of people with a range of neurological diagnoses. There were over 200 people with either TIA or stroke who responded. Pain, problems with movement, fatigue, mood problems, sleep, memory, sexual function and vision were all common. These responses are consistent with other studies that have reported the long-term needs of people after stroke, and demonstrates the importance of life after stroke as an area for service development and research.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the findings of the **My Neuro Survey** for adults and carers (including people caring for children) in England in a policy report

BIASP are a member of the Neurological alliance, which has been very busy campaigning for patients with neurological problems including stroke.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the website

The UK Neuro Forum is being established following the #BackThe1in6 campaign, which was supported by 19,000 people and 100 organisations, including BIASP. The forum is proof that when we work together, we can achieve real change.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about this landmark initiative

Together with over 30 leading organisations, we're calling for urgent action to fix the neuro workforce crisis and make it fit for the future.

Ahead of the **10-Year Workforce Plan**, we have endorsed The Neurological Alliance's consensus statement.

The statement brings together professional bodies and national health charities with a united call to strengthen the clinical neuroscience workforce. It sets out solutions to today's challenges and actions needed to secure a workforce fit for the future. Crucially,

expanding the workforce is essential to improve services, care and outcomes for people with neurological conditions.

Learn more here: www.neural.org.uk/workforce

Different Strokes



Different Strokes have new services and events coming up in the next few weeks

NEW service - Carers support virtual meetings, [CLICK HERE](#) for information and dates

Recently redesigned and developed children's resources FREE to order for survivors and healthcare professionals, [CLICK HERE](#)

Different Strokes Charity for younger stroke survivors have a series of webinars every fortnight to engage with beneficiaries and health care professionals.

Webinars are accessible for all to see, [CLICK HERE](#)

Bursary fund for private physiotherapy and rehabilitation, [CLICK HERE](#)

'Rehab Reset'

Exercise sessions are now all online; here are over 100 stroke-specific exercise videos designed to help stroke survivors at every stage of recovery.

They are suitable for all ability levels, from seated exercises to advanced strength training, and have been developed by stroke professionals and survivors.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

The Stroke Association -

New Stroke Support Pack for Hospitals



New Stroke Support Pack for hospitals

Created with stroke survivors and health professionals, the new pack consists of a 'hello' folder, handy wallet sized card, and two health information guides - one for people who have had a stroke, and one for the people supporting them. The Stroke Association is encouraging those working in hospitals in the UK to [order the packs](#) (free of charge) and give them out before discharge.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full order link

Stroke Association, Saving Brains Campaign



Thrombectomy saves brains, saves money and changes lives. It's one of the most effective medical interventions ever discovered. But most people who need this treatment don't get it. It's subject to availability.

Find out about the Stroke Association's campaign across the UK nations by clicking on the report for each nation:

Saving Brains in [England](#)

Saving Brains in [Northern Ireland](#)

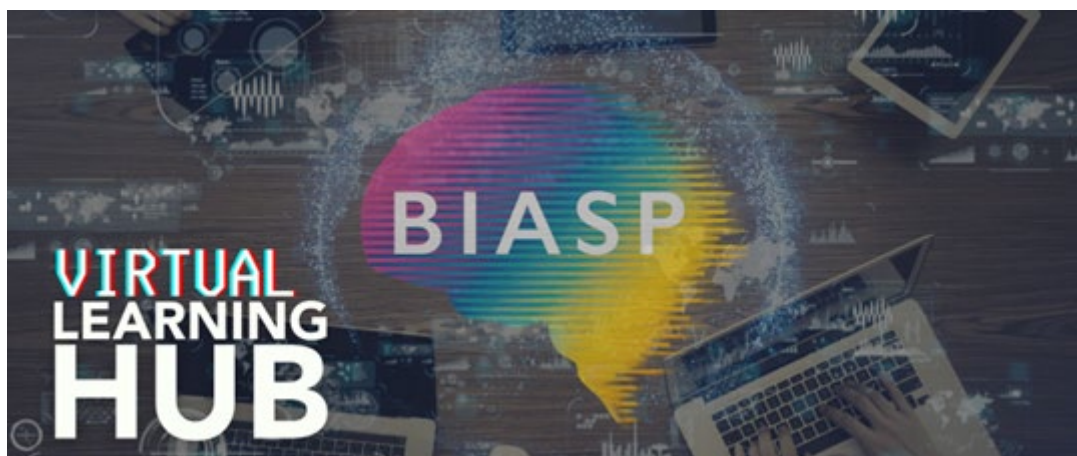
Saving Brains in [Scotland](#)

Saving Brains in [Wales](#), [Welsh version](#)

Thrombectomy in Republic of Ireland:

[Republic of Ireland](#)--the National Stroke Strategy 2020-2025 Endovascular thrombectomy p.27

Virtual Learning Hub



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.

Dates for your diary, further details will follow:

Upcoming Webinars
Summer Break July & August

Webinar 49: 23/09/2026, CAA-ri - diagnostic pointers, differentials and approach to management, Gargi Banerjee

Webinar 50: 14/10/2026, Migraine for the stroke physician - a mimic at the front door and TIA clinic - challenges in diagnosis, management strategies and update, Dheeraj Kalladka

Webinar 51: 25/11/2026, Addressing the Post-Stroke painful shoulder, Celine Lakra (BSPRM)

Webinar 52: 27/01/2027, Stroke Medicine: Service Delivery and Quality Improvement – the Essentials, Martin James

Education

Stroke MSc Programme at UCL

We are excited to be looking for applicants from all disciplines (nursing, medicine, therapies) for the **2026 Stroke Medicine MSc programme at UCL**.

There is a fees only bursary of £5000 available which will be competitively allocated. The course can be taken full or part time (over two years).

Applications are now open for 2026.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access this link

Neurotorium, Neurobehavioral Consequences of Stroke (NBCS) is now online

Five educational slide decks have been published (the 6th deck, stroke syndromes, is being developed at the moment), illustrations, an article on post-stroke language impairments, and the educational expert videos are available, [CLICK HERE](#)

These educational materials are free

Events

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



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

UK Stroke Research Workshop 2026

Date(s): 9-10 September 2026

Location: University of Manchester, Roscoe Building, Brunswick Street, Manchester

The British and Irish Association of Stroke Physicians, the Stroke Association and NIHR RDN Stroke National Specialty Group are delighted to support the 2026 UK Stroke Research Workshop at the University of Manchester. This follows highly successful workshops held in Cambridge, Manchester, Leicester, Sheffield, UCL London, Keele and Newcastle.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information and the programme

[CLICK HERE](#) to register

Abstract Submission - **closed**

Medical & Non-medical Student Bursaries

Are you a medical or non-medical research student with original research to share about stroke, TIA or related vascular brain conditions?

[CLICK HERE](#) for information

British Geriatrics Society (BGS)
Cardiovascular Health in Older People
Date(s): 24 September 2026
Location: Hybrid - NHS Horizon, Leeds and online
Abstracts: Abstract submissions are open until 5pm on 10 July 2026 - [CLICK HERE](#)



Registration is now open for the BGS Cardiovascular Health in Older People conference. The event will be of interest to professionals working in older people's healthcare, with a particular focus on cardiovascular health, conditions and treatments.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register

CPD: 6 CPD credits are available

SBNS100 Anniversary Meeting

Date(s): 16 - 18 October 2026

Location: QEII Conference Centre, London

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer



18th World Stroke Congress

Date(s): 21-23 October 2026

Location: Seoul, Korea

[CLICK HERE](#) for information

Stroke Emergency Essentials Educational Event 2026

Date(s): 5 November 2026

Location: Newcastle University Catalyst Innovation Centre

[CLICK HERE](#) for the programme

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete the form to register your place



UKSF 2026

Date(s): 2-4 December 2026

Location: Convention Centre, Liverpool

Registration is OPEN

[CLICK HERE](#)

BIASP Member discount code is: **BIASP10**

European Life After Stroke Forum

Date(s): 8-9 March 2027

Location: Krakow

Information to follow

ESOC 2027

Date(s): 19 -21 May 2027

Location: Vienna, Austria

Registration opens 2 November 2026
Abstract Submission Autumn 2026

[CLICK HERE](#)

Career Opportunities

BIASP lists NHS jobs on their website free of charge, to list your advert contact admin@biasp.org

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

[Consultant in Stroke Medicine](#), Carlisle, closes 7 July

[Locum Consultant in Stroke Medicine](#), Carlisle, closes 7 July

[Consultant in Stroke Medicine](#), Kingston-upon-Hull, closes 16 July

[Consultant \(Stroke\) Physician](#), Lancaster, closes 8 August

HEE Podcast

New podcast - Health Education England (HEE) releases podcast discussing stroke careers

The HEE Stroke Careers Podcast series takes an in depth look into stroke medicine careers including real life experiences, the career pathway and how we deliver care across the country.

This episode is jointly hosted by Dr Deborah Lowe, National Clinical Director for Stroke Medicine at NHS England and Dr Jon Cooper, Stroke Consultant in Yorkshire and the Humber and Postgraduate Dean at Health Education England. They discuss their career pathways, the benefits of a career in stroke, and opportunities for the future workforce.

[CLICK HERE](#) to listen to this podcast.

If you would like to learn more about Health Education England's work around stroke you can email: ltcp@hee.nhs.uk or visit the [stroke page on the HEE website](#).

Training Opportunities

To find information on training resources [CLICK HERE](#)

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

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.

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

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

[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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Email: admin@biasp.org

Website: www.biasp.org

Registered charity number: 1134589

To update your details or change your subscription preferences, please click [here](#)