

BSACI

Improving Allergy Care
through education, training and research

STRATEGY

2022-2024

British Society for Allergy & Clinical Immunology (BSACI) proposed strategic objectives will set the direction for the British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology for the next three years. This strategy places members at the heart of our mission of managing patients with allergies through education, training and research.

The main strategic priorities have been added under sections related to the proposed new Vice Presidents leadership structure (VPs) which are: Education and Knowledge, Science, Workforce and Services. The other priorities come under 'Internal' and 'Public/Patient Engagement' to improve health.



Education and Knowledge



Science



Workforce



Services



Public/Patient Engagement

BSACI aims and principal activities are:

- To advance and encourage the study of Allergy and Clinical Immunology for the benefit of the public.
- To work towards the recognition of Allergy and Clinical Immunology as specialised branches of medicine.
- To encourage the publication of original contributions to the study of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

Our Vision

For greater improvement in the study and understanding of allergy and immunology for the benefit of patients

Our Mission

To improve the management of allergies and related diseases of the immune system in the United Kingdom, through education, training and research.

Our Organisational Values

Trusted, connected and forward thinking



Education, Training and Knowledge

Our Aim	How we will achieve this
<p>BSACI will provide training and education opportunities for members of all disciplines within the society to ensure they have the most up to date cutting edge knowledge in order to provide the best care for patients (2023-2024)</p>	<p>Through the BSACI Conference Programme</p>
<p>Implementation and develop the themes for the national BSACI Allergy Education Strategy (BSACI Allergy Education Network) (BAEN) (2022-24)</p>	<p>Through resources from BSACI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation – management • Designated website area for education resources including sign posting to existing resources • Education in BSACI Conference • Framework/programme for education • Potential to develop online training programmes
<p>Provide expert training for trainees in allergy & immunology on the new joint curricular by developing and implementing the BSACI three year training programme which can be rolled out to UK centres (Junior Representatives 2022-23)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with BSACI Allergy Education Network (BAEN) • Ensure that future BSACI Conferences has a more joined up approach with British Society for Immunology +/- UKPIN UK (Primary Immunodeficiency Network)
<p>Explore opportunities for a more joined up approach to training for Clinical Immunology Committee (CIC), Allergy CI (Clinical Immunology), Allergy Clinical Laboratory Immunology (ACLI) and provide a support structure for transitioning trainees onto the new curriculum by developing joint training days with BSI/RCPATH and a possible joint Conference with BSI/RCPATH. (British Society of Immunology) (Clinical Immunology Committee 2022) (Junior Representative (2022-23)</p>	<p>Undertake this with BSACI Allergy Education Network (BAEN) Resources and Curricula themes knowledge/support.</p>

Our Aim	How we will achieve this
Increase knowledge of allergy within primary care by engaging with independent providers of primary care education (e.g. Hot Topics/ Red Whale) for allergy based education. (Primary care Committee (PCC) 2022)	To be undertaken with BSACI Allergy Education Network (BAEN) Resources and Curricula themes knowledge/support.
To ensure the continuous development of BSACI trainees we will re-establish case based/teaching sessions with adult allergy trainees to build knowledge and share experiences. (Junior Representatives 2022)	To achieve this, we will link with BSACI Allergy Education Network (BAEN) and British Society of Immunology (BSI) to help implement immunology and to avoid duplication.
Increase engagement of the number of nurses attending the annual conference by having relevant nursing sessions and involving more nurses as speakers. (Nurses Committee 2022-24)	Nurses Committee to develop proposals for Conference meeting planning committee to consider. BSACI will investigate ways in which to develop scheme to support attendance of Allied Health Professionals to the BSACI Conference (reduced fees; bursaries); therefore identifying possible new funding streams (eg British Dietetic Association) and compare registration fees with other societies.
Develop a platform for sharing resources for dieticians (Dieticians Representative 2022-24)	Draft objectives and prioritise resources and invite BSACI Nurse member as a rep. Resources can be placed on BSACI website for educational purposes.
Develop a series of online learning modules for dieticians (Dietician Rep 2022-24) Currently planning one on “Taking an allergy focused diet history” which is supported through Southampton. These will be open to all Health Care Professionals.	BAEN: Dietitians could work on these with BAEN curricula and resources themes. Many of the online learning modules to be developed would be relevant to other Health Care Professionals beyond dietitians, so we should work together to maximise effectiveness and avoid duplication. Dietetic Rep to work with BAEN & Food Allergy Specialist Group



Science (& Research/Resources)

Our aim	How we will achieve this
Support research into Anaphylaxis to better understand the risks and causes. (Anaphylaxis Committee)	
Support research into Immunotherapy to understand the effects immunotherapy has on patient outcomes (BSACI Registry for Immunotherapy [BRIT])	BRIT committee to use the data to deliver outputs to effect change for patient benefit
The develop the following as there is a perceived need – A membership proposal must be sent to council in advance of any proposed documentation development for consideration	
(i) Best practice guidance for paediatric food allergy (Paediatric Allergy Committee) (PAC 2022)	Paediatric Allergy Committee (PAC) to work with Standards of Care Committee (SOCC) & Dietician Rep
(ii) Urticaria Guideline (SOCC)	
(iii) National Paediatric Allergy Standards (on-going) (2022-24)	
(iv) Resources hub for transition from paed to adult services (Paediatric Allergy Committee & Adult Allergy Committee and Transition Group 2022-23)	Paediatric Allergy Committee & Adult Allergy Committee to undertake in conjunction with BSACI Allergy Education Network (BAEN) Resources and Curricula themes knowledge/support. Might be more appropriate to have a specific member of BAEN on membership rather than Chair. BAEN to discuss when appropriate. Transition group to work with BAEN and SOCC
(v) Guidance for managing Palforzia (Paediatric Allergy Committee 2022 (PAC)	Paediatric Allergy Committee to work with the Adult Allergy Committee and Standards of Care Committee to achieve this

Our aim	How we will achieve this
(vi) Earlier introduction of allergens guidance/best practice (PAC 2022-23)	Paediatric Allergy Committee to work with SOCC & Dietetic Representative
(vii) Develop resources (use ones that have already been developed) for psychologists and non-psychologists support for allergy patients and families by signposting them to services and resources. (Psychologists Working Group 2023-24)	Discussed developing resources for HPCs only Psychologists to develop resources for HPCs with BSACI Standards of Care Committee
Recognize, reward and celebrate outstanding achievements and advancements as well as services to allergy (BSACI CEO)	Assess the current awards to consider whether they reflect the BSACI in 2022 – current values and what we want to achieve (education, AHPs) – timeline: within 6-12 months.
Encourage research via abstract submission and support dieticians with planning, delivering projects and writing and reinstate funding for Travel Awards for dieticians (Dietician Representative 2022)	Investigate whether we can develop a scheme to support attendance of Allied Health Professional to the BSACI annual meeting (reduced fees; bursaries); need to look for new funding streams eg: (British Dietetic Association - BDA); dieticians need to encourage colleagues to be active in BSACI. Also look at developing the existing BDA Awards scheme to see if they could offer additional support in future years
Review ‘How to use Nasal douching’ SOP to ensure SOP is up to date with high quality professional images. (Nurses Committee 2022-23)	Nurses Committee to liaise with SOCC & Paediatric Allergy Committee & Adult Allergy Committee
Review ‘How to use Nasal Spray’ SOP to ensure SOP is updated with high quality professional images (Nurses Committee)	Nurses Committee liaise with SOCC & Paediatric Allergy Committee & Adult Allergy Committee
Widen Engagement for UKFAR and UK Anaphylaxis Registers and produce one newsletter which encompasses all registries and include delegates for the BRIT registry who may not necessarily be BSACI members.	Use local champions and draft promotional plan (BSACI Comms)



Workforce

Our aim	How we will achieve this
To ensure equality and diversity and inclusivity is at the heart of the allergy workforce by developing an EDI policy which ensures representation of the allergy community as a whole to attract experts from all backgrounds. (EDI)	Finalise the draft policy that will cover all aspects of BSACI activities
Encourage medical students to consider a career in allergy by offering Medical Scholarships. Now that the scheme has been running a few years evaluate its effectiveness in terms of those who have taken up a career path in allergy (Junior Representative 2022-23)	Consider who these should be aimed at, should it include medical students? Consider the aim of the scheme – was designed to encourage adult trainees into adult allergy, still appropriate? Feedback on career outcomes for previous awardees. Need to cover allergy and clinical immunology
As more clinical activities are being undertaken by Nurses in primary care broaden allergy knowledge within primary care by engaging with AHPs within Primary Care (e.g. pharmacists). (Nurses Committee)	Nurses Committee and Primary Care Committee to work together on this to encourage more engagement with BSACI
Expand the numbers of Allied Health Professionals members (Nurses and Dietitians) by developing educational opportunities such as an annual study day. (Nurses Committee/Dietetic Rep 2022-23) Provide Career support sessions via zoom to retain and support nursing members (Nurses Committee 2022-23)	BSACI to support Allied Health Professionals to deliver this
Review and expand ‘BSACI Allergy Nurse Competencies’ to ensure its up to date with current best practice. (Nurses Committee 2022-23)	BAEN: Nurses are already doing this activity with our Competency theme. This is awesome and must continue to avoid duplication Nurses Committee to work with BAEN

Our aim	How we will achieve this
Develop adult allergy action plan (Nurses Committee 2022)	To complete the work of Kathryn Powrie (who has done a sterling job on these) with Adult Allergy Committee, Transition Group to review and SOCC
There is a huge need to support business planning and service development for Allergy Dietetics by identifying and polling resources to aid in the business planning on posts for allergy dieticians (Dietetic Representative 2022)	Has been discussed within BDA food allergy group. Need some successful example documents that can be shared via BSACI website.
Develop competencies for dieticians working in allergy (Dietetic Representative 2022-24)	BAEN: Dietitians are already doing this activity (Rosan Meyer, Sally-Anne Denton, Karen Wright) with our Competency theme Dietetic Rep to work with BAEN
Increase dietetic input into the society by having financial incentives such as reduced membership fee. (Dietetic Rep 2022-24)	British Dietetic Association (BDA) Food Allergy Specialist Group is large and strong, perhaps dieticians wonder whether they should be BSACI member. Consider how we can encourage dieticians to get involved in BSACI, eg more joined up working with BDA group, joint session at annual meeting, joint grand round, consider dual membership with BDA group?



Services

Our aim	How we will achieve this
<p>Provide networking opportunities and collaboration for adult allergy through the clinical support groups by reviewing existing networks, their activity and function (Adult Allergy Committee)</p>	<p>Assess whether the network system is working post pandemic – is it compliant with the specialist standards (audit?)? (IQAS) Add a list of adult networks to the website. Link with Paediatric Allergy Committee, Primary Care Committee and Clinical Immunology Committee (& UKPIN). Involve other BSACI groups in these networks. Incorporate the education strategy. Note new Integrated Care Systems (ICS) – where members will need to liaise with their local ICSS.</p>
<p>Undertake an options appraisal for expansion of Allergy services to areas of unmet need (Adult Allergy Committee)</p>	<p>Look at devolved nations in the National Allergy Strategy Group (NASG); get more involvement from other nations talking about their local challenges and how BSACI can support. Think about the best model for hubs to support spokes across UK, particularly primary care.</p>
<p>Review access to care within the UK by identifying the numbers of specialists and clinics to identify areas of the highest need. (Adult Allergy Committee) (To inform policy work)</p>	<p>Liaise with Michael Perkin to see if we can (partially) replicate the paediatric survey. Feed into clinic list on the BSACI website.</p>
<p>To grow primary care networks to enable the sharing of resources, provide support and good practice. (Primary Care Committee 2022)</p>	<p>Mapping exercise of current activities. Royal College of GP's (RCGPs) are running their allergy education programme with ThermoFisher (https://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/course/view.php?id=509). BSACI need to liaise with RCGP at a leadership level. Talk to contacts at ThermoFisher re how to best engage with RCGP in respect of endorsing GPWER Competencies document</p>



Public/patient engagement to improve health

Strategically how involved should the BSACI be involved in patient facing activities. BSACI aims are professional facing but we are increasingly undertaking patient facing activities which are traditionally the patient charities focus. All present at the strategy meeting felt that BSACI should be professional facing and should work with charities on patient facing work but not directly develop patient facing information ourselves. Charities feel that they should be generating patient information leaflets. This was discussed further at council in May 2022 and agreed to:

1. Support charities to generate patient facing information & translations
2. Restrict BSACI lead activities to development of specific patient documents where they are integral to the workings of an allergy service, eg allergy action plans
3. Complete activities that are currently ongoing ensuring that charities are involved

Our aim	How we plan to achieve this
Animated and narrative podcasts for patients from diverse backgrounds where English is not their first language on treatments (Equality, Diversity, Inclusivity Working Group 2022)	Currently being developed and supported by Novartis and ALK
Production of a series of Patient Leaflets developed by BSACI trainees (SOCC)	Will finalize only those that have already been started. BSACI will not commission further Patient Information Leaflets (Liz Powell)
Translation, dissemination and audit of Anaphylaxis PIL (Equality, Diversity, Inclusivity Working Group (EDI)	Anaphylaxis Leaflet – being translated into four languages.

Internal

Sustainability

Our aim	How we will achieve this
Strengthen the leadership structure to ensure that the Society can effectively deliver strategy across all its priority areas (Trustees)	Discuss with BSACI council on how best to achieve this
With the challenges in scholarly publishing we need to deliver an income diversification strategy to reduce our reliance on journal income. We need to research other income streams to be able to continue building and advancing the specialty. (FR)	BSACI CEO to devise a strategy for sustainable funding with BSACI Treasurer
Obtain long-term funding for UKFAR – food retailers/FSA to align with food retailers objectives	By working with the FSA and industry

Policy and influencing

Our aim	How we will achieve this
Build our collaboration with the patient organisations	Support the Chair of the National Allergy Strategy Group
Increase engagement in primary care	Recruit a pharmacist onto the Primary Care Committee (Primary Care Committee 2022-2023)

Inclusive and responsive

Our aim	How we will achieve this
Incorporate the Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity policy into all aspects of BSACI activities eg: guideline development, policies, membership, staff, communication, awards and achievements etc. (Equality, Diversity, Inclusivity Working Group)	This will be undertaken by the equality, diversity and inclusivity Working Group

Standards/Guidance

Our aim	How we will achieve this
To reflect the changing climate in which guidelines are developed and published review and adapt the BSACI guideline manual. (SOCC)	Ensure the Standards of Care Guideline Manual is currently compliant in the future of BSACI guideline development
BSACI develops a range of information/clinical documentation through its groups and committees. To ensure quality control and compliance BSACI requires more didactic guidance to help members in the development process of these. (SOCC)	BSACI Standards of Care Committee to update the development process
To ensure BSACI's work is published in a format acceptable to Clinical & Experimental Allergy, develop clearer guidance on the requirements and format needed with Editors (SOCC)	Generate guidance in conjunction with SOCC and editors agree with (eg ask editors to review the plan and an early draft)
To ensure BSACI guideline topics are commissioned and prioritized based on the on-going requirements and needs of the specialty and patients by engagement of the membership and developing a process for how this can be achieved (SOCC)	Open call to the membership

Awareness

Our aim	How we will achieve this
Promote awareness of the Psychology Working Group (PWG) and the psychological impact of allergy and effective interventions.	BSACI to allocate a stand to the PWG at the BSACI Conference.
PWG to run a training event for health care professionals.	PWG to secure sponsorship for training event and use social media to promote activities and holding a BSACI Grand Round.
Highlight committee/working groups at BSACI conference	PWG to meet and brainstorm ideas around how to highlight BSACI committees/working group
Increase social media presence to increase awareness of nurses in allergy (Nurses Committee 2022-24)	Groups to suggest tweet / other social media content to Louise – need to let members know what information needs to be covered for this (eg note at the bottom of the weekly BSACI email)
Develop social media awareness amongst dieticians by producing BLOGS on the British Dietetic Association (BDA) website to promote allergy dieticians and promote evidence-based messaging. (Dietetic Rep 2022-23)	Promote evidence based information to counter the misinformation; also link to BSACI website; Isabel Skypala to liaise with the committee

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