

President's Letter JODS 34.1

David Bunting



Figure 1. David Bunting BADS President

Welcome to the first edition of JODS for 2024. I would like to take the opportunity to wish all BADS members a very Happy New Year. This time of year brings an opportunity for us all to reflect on the challenges and successes of the past year.

In June, BADS hosted another very successful annual conference in Glasgow attracting more delegates than ever. Our membership numbers have been steadily increasing to a recent high of over 650 representing a wide range of healthcare groups including trainees, nursing staff, managers, surgeons, anaesthetists, operating department practitioners and other allied health professionals.

BADS continues to work with NHS England and GiRFT in setting benchmarking standards, highlighting variation, and striving to promote excellence in all aspects of healthcare related to day surgery. BADS works with the Model Health System (MHS) to help integrated care boards, trusts, hospitals and individuals understand their data whilst being able to compare their own performance to regional peers and the national median. For the first time since the MHS has been publishing data on the proportion of BADS Directory procedures performed as a day case (since 2019), the rate has reached a new national high of 81%. This is somewhat short of NHS England's target of 85% but this new record is a triumph in itself.

Since the last JODS edition, the GiRFT programme in association with BADS has launched the Best practice day case hysterectomy delivery guide which is available to download free of charge from the GiRFT website. GiRFT have also published a Practical Guide to the Right Procedure Right Place initiative, which promises to outline the key features of this programme aimed at procedures currently performed in theatres under local anaesthetic to see whether they could be undertaken in the outpatient department or enhanced procedure room environment.

BADS together with Health Care Conferences UK (HCUK) runs a regular annual programme of one-day virtual conferences. Forthcoming events include, Day Case Gynaecology Surgery on 19th March, Day Case Endocrine Surgery on 26th March, Day Case Total Hip Replacement on 18th April, Day Case Knee Arthroplasty on 25th April and the Role of the Day Surgery Team, with many more to follow throughout the year. BADS members have a discounted rate for these meetings (£100+VAT) and are eligible for a 20% discount for other HCUK events. Details, including discount codes, can be found in the events section of our website.

Applications are now being taken for the 2024 round of BADS Day Surgery Project Grants, offering you the opportunity to seek up to £1000 to support projects aiming to improve day surgery practice. Abstract submission and early-bird registration for the 2024 BADS Annual Conference are also now open. The conference itself next year will be held in Cardiff on 20th – 21st June.



Please enjoy this edition of JODS and don't forget, we are here as a source of advice and information on all aspects of day case surgery, simply email our administration team at bads@bads.co.uk.