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BAPEN President

# An Update from BAPEN

The past few months have been very busy for BAPEN, and I'm pleased to be able to share an update of some of the highlights of recent activity and what's coming up that you can get involved in.

## BAPEN Patient Network Development Group

I am really pleased that this year we are embarking on developing new resources with PINNT. We have recently set up a dedicated working group with representatives from PINNT, BAPEN and our Core Groups, so that we are able to maximise the full extent of our multidisciplinary expertise, while keeping the patient voice at the heart of our work. These co-created resources will aim to support patients and carers around the nutritional care that they can expect, for instance clarifying expectations, promoting excellent nutritional care, and helping communicate nutrition quality standards in a tangible way.

We have outlined a comprehensive process for the development of these resources, from the multidisciplinary working group to an allocated 'testing' stage, working directly with patients to gather initial feedback. We are hopeful that these resources will enhance nutritional care across the UK and give patients and carers a louder voice in their own personal care.

Watch this space for more updates in the coming months.

## CATA and the COVID-19 Public Inquiry

As some of you may have seen, the COVID-19 Airborne Transmission Alliance (CATA), which comprises a group of leading healthcare professional bodies and experts representing 64,000 healthcare workers, has been granted core participant status in Module 3 of the UK COVID-19 Inquiry. The inquiry's objective is to examine the UK's preparedness and response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and Module 3 looks specifically at the impact of the pandemic on healthcare systems in the four nations of the UK. BAPEN is pleased to have been granted a voice, through its membership in CATA, at the Inquiry where we will be able to directly represent the views of nutrition healthcare professionals which we represent, including dietitians, doctors, nutrition nurses, and pharmacists. As a core participant we will be highlighting our primary concerns around the failure to recognise the airborne route and its proper mitigation across all healthcare settings. Please do visit the CAPA news page of our website: <https://bit.ly/CAPA-News> for more information, including the updates we've shared of our involvement since early 2020.

## Nutrition and Hydration Week 2023

In March, we were proud to support Nutrition and Hydration Week, joining with organisations and individuals from around the world to

highlight the importance of food and drink in maintaining health and wellbeing in health and social care. Now in its 11th year, and as the public and clinical health environment becomes even more challenging, it was brilliant to see so much involvement with the campaign, including a shout-out on BBC Radio 2 breakfast show. Hats off to all those involved in making the campaign a success and helping to drive awareness and provoke important conversations around nutrition and hydration.

## Independent Hospital Food Review Expert Panel

I'd like to take the time to thank all those who contributed to the Independent Hospital Food Review Expert Panel's recent survey on assisted mealtimes. This project group was set up from the dietetic sub-group, and BAPEN is represented within it, to develop and launch assisted mealtimes promotional material, and the survey responses will no doubt help the group to effectively develop new resources that accurately reflect the insights from those working in a hospital environment.

## BAPEN Podcasts

As many of you will have seen, BAPEN launched its first ever podcast series earlier this year, which is an exciting milestone and a new format to share information to our members and beyond. The next podcast has recently been released, which focuses on refeeding syndrome. To find out more and listen, visit our website: [www.bapen.org.uk/bapen-podcasts](http://www.bapen.org.uk/bapen-podcasts), Apple Podcasts: <https://bit.ly/POD-APPLE> or Spotify: <https://bit.ly/POD-SPOTIFY>.

## NNNG Conference 2023, 13th – 14th June in York

Looking at what's coming up, the National Nurses Nutrition Group Conference is back for another year this June! The Conference will cover the diverse and complex world of nutrition and nutrition support, with some brilliantly experienced speakers from across the spectrum of healthcare, including Kathy Whayman, Matt Hill and Sean White. This Conference is not one to miss, with the opportunity to develop best practice with the latest clinical expertise and insight, gain a wider understanding of nutrition support provision, networking with colleagues, and more.

The event is open to all nurses with an interest in nutrition, and registration is now open. Visit: [www.nnngconference.co.uk/](http://www.nnngconference.co.uk/) for more information.

Wishing you all a lovely summer when it comes.