



Dr Trevor Smith
BAPEN President

An Update from BAPEN

Looking back over the summer months and the beginning of Autumn, BAPEN has continued to deliver across a multidisciplinary set of activities. I'm pleased to highlight a selection of these activities, alongside upcoming events, drawing attention to the continued exemplary work of our groups and members.

UK COVID-19 Inquiry – CATA witness statement published

BAPEN is a proud member of the COVID-19 Airborne Transmission Alliance (CATA). As I'm sure you know, CATA is an association of professional and scientific bodies in the health sector bringing technical expertise or relevant lived experience of COVID-19 in the healthcare system.

Adding to their long list of achievements, CATA provided a witness statement to the UK COVID-19 Inquiry, which is now available publicly available. The Inquiry, established to examine the UK's response to and impact of the COVID pandemic, heard from Professor Kevin Bampton who comprehensively and effectively presented CATA's case that the country was not prepared for any pandemic, let alone the COVID-19 outbreak. If you haven't already, I encourage you to read the full report: <https://bit.ly/COVID-19-public-enquiry>.

Home Artificial Nutrition (HAN) Week 2023

HAN Week returned in August, aiming to increase understanding about home treatments that provide essential nutrition and hydration. In parallel with these awareness rising activities, BAPEN launched a new resource, developed jointly with PINNT, which aims to support patients in optimising their nutritional care.

Developed by a dedicated Patient Network Development Group, including representatives from PINNT, BAPEN and each of BAPEN's Core Groups, the resource explains nutrition quality standards in a tangible way to support patient understanding around what care they can expect. If you would like to access the new patient resource, visit the BAPEN website (www.bapen.org.uk), or the PINNT website (<https://pinnt.com/>) for more details.

Finally, a huge congratulations to all those who contributed to the overall success of HAN Week. A particular thank you to all those who shared their #ThisIsMe stories, of their experiences of parenteral nutrition, enteral nutrition, or oral nutritional supplements. The campaign brilliantly reinforced that every feeding story matters, and I extend congratulations to PINNT for a very successful campaign.

UK Malnutrition Awareness Week 2023

It's hard to believe that UKMAW is only a month away! BAPEN is proud to be continuing our close working relationship with the Malnutrition Task Force (MTF) for the sixth straight year. As with previous years, each

day of the week has a designated theme, so you'll be pleased to hear about the return of the popular Challenges Tuesday and the weekend's Nutrition Superheroes. This year, instead of asking people to highlight their Superheroes on the weekend, we're inviting people to nominate their heroes via the BAPEN and MTF website earlier in the week so that we can collate all the shout-outs and commend them.

Next month also marks the opening of the Malnutrition Action Group's annual National Screening Survey. We were pleased to receive data from a range of health and social care settings across all four nations last year, and we're eager to do the same again. By screening a large amount of people across the UK, we can build a better picture of the scale of the malnutrition problem and the treatment that people are receiving, and also use trends over the years to inform our future focus. The Screening Survey will be accessible via the BAPEN website from 1st November.

There are also some new and exciting plans in store to complement your favourite parts of UKMAW, so keep your eyes peeled on our social media channels for more details. I urge as many of you as possible to get involved with #UKMAW2023 – it really does help us raise awareness and improve understanding of nutritional needs.

BAPEN Conference 2023

The BAPEN Conference is just around the corner! I hope you're just as excited as I am to arrive in Edinburgh and get stuck into a diverse programme of multidisciplinary topics from a stellar line up of speakers.

We also were delighted to see a wide range of abstract submissions, of which we will be sharing the very best throughout Conference. It is safe to say there is definitely something for everyone, so make sure you don't miss out.

To find out all the information you need to attend Conference, including registration, the pre-Conference Training Day, and the programme, then visit the BAPEN website (www.bapen.org.uk/resources-and-education/meetings/annual-conference).

BAPEN Instagram

BAPEN's new Instagram channel continues to increase our ability to reach new audiences with our key messages. Visit and follow BAPEN's Instagram (www.instagram.com/bapen.uk/) today: [@bapen.uk](https://www.instagram.com/bapen.uk/)

BAPEN's new strategy, 2022-2027: www.bapen.org.uk/pdfs/bapen-strategy-2022-2027.pdf

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