

BPNG Continues to Deliver a Strong Education Agenda



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During the summer, the BPNG had their Annual General Meeting (AGM), and with that elected a new executive committee. I am pleased to announce we have several new faces in our lead committee positions. Full details are available on our website: www.bpng.co.uk/about-us/committee. At the AGM we also approved the addition of the BPNG Faculty in our constitution, which will enable our committee to benefit from the wealth of experience and knowledge of previous very experienced committee members. We are very lucky to have Professor Gil Hardy, Tim Sizer and Anthony Murphy as our very first BPNG Faculty.

Our July webinar focused on refeeding syndrome and managing supply issues related to Pabrinex® shortages, which was a big success with wide global reach. This webinar was in support of the guideline on managing these shortages, which we published on our website in July (www.bpng.co.uk/resources/pabrinex-shortage-guidelines).

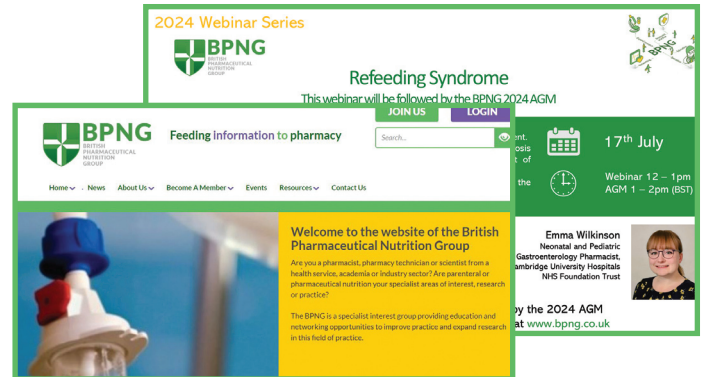
In October, we held a webinar on the importance of filters for the administration of parenteral nutrition (PN). During PN administration filters can remove particulate matter, and some micro-organisms; the extent of which will depend on pore size and nature of the infusion. Filters are a special porous device used to prevent the passage of air or particulate matter. Filters vary in pore size and presentation, and it is vital that the nature of the solution is considered with filter diameter choice. Filters can be an integral part of the administration set (integrated) or can be added as a separate device to an administration set (add-on filter). Administration sets with an integrated filter do not require additional manipulation (e.g. adding a filter to the set). **Table 1** demonstrates the typical differences in pore size between a range of commonly used administration sets and filters size.

Table 1: Common filters in healthcare

Filterate	Filter size
Clear fluids e.g. crystalloid	15 µm
Blood component	170-200 µm
Lipid infusions	1.2 µm

The BPNG team have recently produced a position statement recommending that filters that are no greater than 1.2 µm (micron) are used for all PN admixtures. The full position statement is available on our website: www.bpng.co.uk/resources/home. With winter ahead of us please also check out our resources on PN storage during temperature excursions and power outages.

During the winter months we are planning a further webinar to support home PN centres on how to apply for a compounding slot/hybrid application.



Please look out for registration details on our website. If you missed any of our live webinars, BPNG members can access a recording on our website for free: www.bpng.co.uk/resources/bpng-webinars.

The BPNG have organised a speaker for the Clinical Pharmacy Congress North in Manchester, taking place this month. Clara Silcock, Advanced Clinical Pharmacist Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Trust will present on the management of patients requiring PN. These events are an excellent opportunity to reach the wider clinical pharmacy community and share knowledge in a non-specialist forum. We also plan to be back in London for Clinical Pharmacy Congress South in May 2025.

The BPNG Symposium at this year's BAPEN Annual Conference in Gateshead has a great line up on the topic of Sustainability and Nutrition Support. We are pleased to have 3 great talks: Sustainability in Nutrition Support – Carbon footprint and beyond from Dr Ashley Bond; Sustainability in Nutrition and Beyond – a pharmacy focus from Laura Stevenson; and Incorporating Sustainability into Clinical Practice from Nina Taherzadeh. We hope to see you there and do come and visit our stand.

Our team continue to plan for events for 2025. Fundamentals in Parenteral Nutrition is planned for February 2025 in Leeds. Registration opens soon. Our Advanced course is planned for May 2025 in Birmingham. We hope to bring an exciting new agenda for this event aimed at the more advanced practitioner. Please check our events page for details on how to register: www.bpng.co.uk/events.

The BPNG team continue to promote the role of the pharmacist in nutrition support. We are keen to support pharmacists, pharmacy staff and other healthcare professionals in specialist roles related to nutrition support. Membership is open to all levels of experience and provides free access to member resources and webinar recordings. As a Core Group of BAPEN, you are also able to sign up for free BAPEN membership. Please do join our group to access these benefits. Membership details available at: www.bpng.co.uk/ or contact us via: www.bpng.co.uk/contact if you have any questions.