



Dr Nick Thompson
BAPEN President

An Update from BAPEN

As we move into the heart of summer, there's plenty happening across both BAPEN and the wider clinical nutrition space – from new opportunities for education and training to upcoming events and ways to get involved.

BAPEN's Edgbaston Course

We were excited to introduce the Edgbaston Course this year as a new addition to BAPEN's educational offering. Bringing together multidisciplinary nutrition teams from across the UK, the course created a valuable space for learning, collaboration and team development.

The interactive programme offered a unique opportunity to strengthen teamworking, deepen clinical knowledge, and share best practice in a supportive environment. We were delighted to welcome seven teams from across the country and are grateful for the energy and enthusiasm everyone brought to the event. Thank you to all who took part – we look forward to hearing your reflections and the impact this experience has had on your practice.

BAPEN Connect

I'm delighted that the BAPEN Clinical Nutrition webinars are off to such a strong start. This represents a new educational offering from BAPEN, sharing timely and practical insights into clinical nutrition and the importance of specialist care via topic-based bitesize webinars. These are free for everyone to join, and available to BAPEN members to watch on-demand afterwards. Previous topics have included Nutrition & IBD, GLP1 Injections, and Ethics & Nutrition. This webinar series fits within the BAPEN Connect – highlighting the many ways BAPEN connects with its members.

Our next webinar will be focused on Screening and Assessment, taking place at lunchtime on 16th July.

BAPEN Scotland Annual Conference

I'm also pleased to share details of the upcoming BAPEN Scotland Annual Conference. This event brings together healthcare professionals from across the country for a day focused on advancing clinical nutrition through shared learning and practical insight.

With a diverse programme covering current challenges, future directions and hands-on approaches to nutritional care, the Conference is a great opportunity to connect with colleagues and strengthen best practice across Scotland. I hope you'll join us on 26th August at the Stirling Court Hotel for what promises to be an engaging day. Find out more here: www.bapen.org.uk/education/bapen-scotland-annual-conference/

BAPEN Annual Conference 2025

The countdown is on until BAPEN Conference!

Taking place in Newport, Wales, momentum is building, the programme is filling up, and registrations are beginning as we approach another multidisciplinary event. It's worth noting that early bird registration is still open – I encourage you to make the most of the significantly reduced rates for BAPEN members, ending on 29th August. Registration details can be found: <https://medivents.eventsair.com/bapen-annual-conference-2025/bapen25/Site/Register>.

Please do consider submitting an abstract – it's a great opportunity to have your work showcased to an expert, multidisciplinary audience. There's also awards and honours to be won, for instance the prestigious Powell-Tuck prize, awarded for the best abstract submitted by a doctor in training. All the Core groups have their own awards. Don't miss out – complete your submission by 7th July to be in with a chance.

This year, we're also pleased to introduce a limited number of attendance grants of up to £250 to support students and first-time abstract submitters in joining us at Conference. We hope this helps make the event even more accessible and encourages even more of you to get involved. To find out more about eligibility, visit: www.bapen.org.uk/bapen-news/new-for-2025-bapen-travel-grants-for-students-and-first-time-abstract-submitters/.

British Enteral Therapy Alliance (BETA) Specialist Interest Group

I'd also like to extend a big thank you to everyone who submitted an application to join the newly established BAPEN British Enteral Therapy Alliance (BETA) Specialist Interest Group. Following the appointment of the BETA co-chairs, we've been encouraged by the enthusiasm and expertise shown by applicants from across the multidisciplinary community.

BETA is set to play an important role within BAPEN, bringing together healthcare professionals with a shared interest in all aspects of enteral nutrition for both adults and children. Your interest and engagement mark a strong start for this new group, and we look forward to seeing how BETA will grow and support excellence in practice, education, and collaboration across the UK.

Vacancy: BAPEN President Elect

I'm excited to share that we're currently inviting applications for the role of BAPEN President Elect. I know first-hand that this is a great opportunity to shape the future of our organisation and help lead our work in improving nutritional care across the UK.

This honorary post will work closely with me over the coming year before taking up the role of President following our Annual Conference in November 2026. As President, you'll have the opportunity to represent BAPEN, lead our strategic direction, and strengthen our relationships with partners and stakeholders. The President Elect year is a valuable time to build connections and prepare for the role.

If you're a BAPEN member and healthcare professional with some leadership experience, I'd strongly encourage you to consider applying. Please feel free to get in touch with me directly at: Nick.Thompson@nhs.net or contact the BAPEN Office at: bapen@bapen.org.uk. Applications should be submitted to the BAPEN Office by 5pm on Monday 29th August 2025.

Fundraising Walk

Finally, I'm delighted to share that I've completed my fundraising walk along the Via Francigena – all 2,276km from Canterbury to Rome! Our final day took us through busy roads and overgrown parks before reaching the city, where we were warmly welcomed by Carolyn Wheatley, Chair of PINNT, who joined us for the last stretch of our journey.

Along the way, we've worn through eight pairs of boots, discovered the unpredictability of French cafés, and confirmed that Italian hill towns really are at the top of hills! But, more importantly, we've had a brilliant time, raising funds for two fantastic causes – PINNT and clinical nutrition research at Newcastle Hospitals & University. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has donated, followed our journey, or supported us. Your support has helped us raise over £12,000!