

SPRING 2022 - EDITION 28

# HEALTHCARE SCIENCE

## NOTICE BOARD

Welcome

### Reflection on our Trainees and Supervisors Event 9th - 11th Feb 2022

Over 3 days in February, we ran a series of webinars for Healthcare Science trainees and supervisors. Our one-hour sessions proved popular with good attendance and engagement throughout. Themes covered patients at the heart of training, trainee responsibilities, innovation, higher specialists and communication. We would like to extend our thanks to all our speakers and to the HCS NES Events team who contributed to the success of this event. We intend to repeat this virtual format next year and we welcome any feedback for suggestions towards our future events.

### Poster Winner



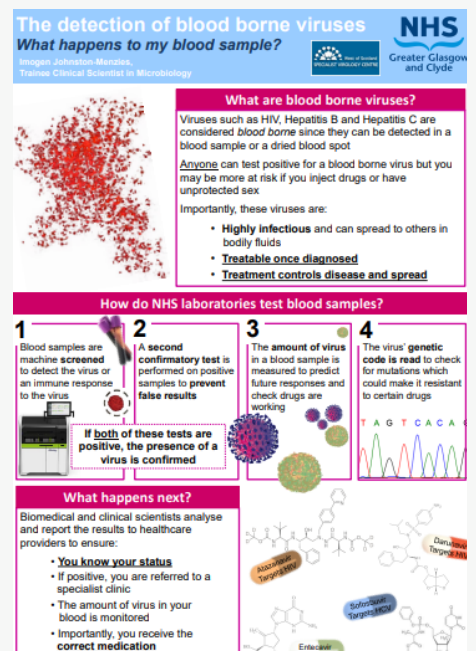
Well done to all 13 entrants for our poster competition at the recent event, the brief for which was to communicate an aspect of science to the public.

Congratulations to our overall winner Imogen Johnson-Menzies with a poster entitled "The detection of blood borne viruses What happens to my blood sample?" Runners up were Christel Garcia-Petit and Jolene Peddie; Abigail Attwell; and Robert Williams.

### OVERVIEW:

This edition contains details of:

- Reflections of our Event
- Poster winner
- Healthcare Science Week
- Scottish Government CHSO Awards 18th March
- TURAS LEARN supporting learning for Healthcare Science
- Postgraduate Bursary
- Our assurance of training
- Spotlight - Bianca Brownlee



**The detection of blood borne viruses**  
**What happens to my blood sample?**  
 Imogen Johnson-Menzies, Trainee Clinical Scientist in Microbiology, Greater Glasgow and Clyde

**What are blood borne viruses?**  
 Viruses such as HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C are considered **blood borne** since they can be detected in a blood sample or a dried blood spot  
**Anyone** can test positive for a blood borne virus but you may be more at risk if you inject drugs or have unprotected sex  
 Importantly, these viruses are:

- **Highly infectious** and can spread to others in bodily fluids
- **Treatable once diagnosed**
- **Treatment controls disease and spread**

**How do NHS laboratories test blood samples?**

- 1 Blood samples are machine screened to detect the virus or an immune response to the virus
- 2 A second confirmatory test is performed on positive samples to prevent false results
- 3 The amount of virus in a blood sample is measured to predict future responses and check drugs are working
- 4 The virus' genetic code is read to check for mutations which could make it resistant to certain drugs

**What happens next?**  
 Biomedical and clinical scientists analyse and report the results to healthcare providers to ensure:

- **You know your status**
- If positive, you are referred to a specialist clinic
- The amount of virus in your blood is monitored
- Importantly, you receive the **correct medication**

# Events and Communications

## Healthcare Science Week 14th - 20th March #HCSWEEKSCOT2022.



Healthcare Science Week is an annual week-long programme designed to promote and celebrate the amazing work of Healthcare Science professionals. The aim is to raise awareness of the wide range of careers and roles within Healthcare Science, highlighting the difference they all make to patients' lives. Details of how to get involved are available on our TURAS Learn HCS Website - [Link](#)

### GET INVOLVED!

- Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram - Retweet and share our posts promoting Healthcare Science Week @hcsnes @Scottishhcs @NHSScotcareers
- Download our Healthcare Science Week 2022 placard ([Link](#))- tell your own story about why you love working in Healthcare Science. Share on social media using **#HCSWEEKSCOT2022**
- Take part in our competition for the best HCS Team Video, Photos and Placard - Share on social media with the **#HCSWEEKSCOT2022** - Competition entries sent via email to [hcs@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:hcs@nes.scot.nhs.uk) by the 20th March.
- Share career podcasts/videos from various Healthcare Scientists - we have lots of these at the NHS Scotland Careers website

## Scottish Governments' CHSO Awards 2022

These new awards celebrate the skills and expertise and recognise innovation and transformation within our services, leadership within our workforce, and high quality education and service delivery. It also provides a platform to share best practice throughout our profession. The link to join will be shared nearer the time.

## NES Events 2022

The NES HCS team have been supporting a series of webinars covering various aspects of our offerings. Our new Webinar event is our "Human Factors in Healthcare Science" date to be confirmed. Follow us on our social media @hcsnes to get updates of our webinars.

## NES Annual Virtual Conference

NES Healthcare Science will be delivering a seminar session along with our Medical colleagues entitled "Sharing experience to better support training through cross-directorate collaboration during this event on 27th and 28th April. registration details at [Link](#)

# Our CPD offer

## TURAS LEARN - By you and for you:

### Online training guidance and wider CPD learning material from NES Healthcare Science

#### LASTEST UPDATE

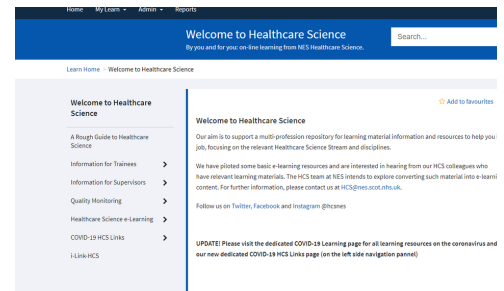
We have completed the migration of all our resources from our Knowledge Network communities to a public area on our Healthcare Science pages within Turas Learn. Turas Learn is a free depository for learning material available to all NHS staff in Scotland. Our Healthcare Science pages are now your one-stop shop whether you are looking for information, CPD resources or e-learning modules.

#### Latest Resources:

- Careers in Healthcare Science has information regarding the different roles available, details of how to promote Healthcare Science and how to get involved in Healthcare Science Week [Link](#)
- Promoting CPD and Reflective Practice contains various resources to support Healthcare Scientists in their CPD activities and reflective practice [Link](#)
- NES Healthcare Science Funding Opportunities details the various opportunities available for funding from NES Healthcare Science [Link](#)

We need your help! We have an area of our Healthcare Science pages dedicated to promoting CPD resources and we have the expertise to develop or signpost various e-learning resources for your speciality. We offer support in terms of developing these resources and hosting them on Turas Learn. We are also currently trying to determine training gaps and identify priority learning needs to help the COVID-19 response. Please get in touch with us at [HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk) if you want to discuss this with us.

See the following link to a variety of resources on Healthcare Science TURAS Learn page - [Link](#)



## Postgraduate Bursary Applications now live



We invite applications for postgraduate course support for registered practitioners undertaking advance practice development. This competitive bursary support is limited to a maximum of £2800 and is for the financial year 2022-23. Previous award holders who would like further support for the new financial year must apply. We have introduced a new application form and prospective applicants must also upload an outline training plan. Details about guidance and the application form are live on Tuesday 8th March on our TURAS HCS Learn website [Link](#) Applications close on 4th April 2022.

# Our assurance of Training

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## Trainer/ Supervisor recognition

The trainer/ supervisor recognition process has been reviewed with updates to the process. All trainers/ supervisors of Healthcare Science trainees with a currently active National Training Number (NTN) will be contacted every three years to complete an online Microsoft Form. This form is used to assess their education, training, skills and experience. This request forms part of our processes to Quality Assurance Healthcare Science training across Scotland.

All NTN holders are recorded on the Turas Training Programme Management (TPM) database. Where possible two trainer/ supervisor contacts are also listed on this system for each trainee to allow communication of QA processes and general training requirements. The trainers are entered into the database as a primary contact (Educational Supervisor) who tends to be the trainer or training officer, and a secondary contact (Clinical Supervisor) who may be a second trainer, line manager, or head of department.

All Educational and Clinical Supervisors who are registered on our TPM system who have not completed the recognition process within the last three years have been contacted to request participation in this process. If anyone who has received an email feels that the request is inappropriate, please respond to the email request with the reasons for this to allow any appropriate updates to our TPM database.

If any trainer/ supervisor who has not been contacted would like to complete this process please use this link to access the Microsoft Form, or contact the HCS Science team on HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk to discuss.

## ARCP/ Training Plan/ Exit Surveys



Thank you to all trainees, supervisors, and departments who have participated in our Quality Assurance processes in recent months. The response to our Annual Review of Competency, Training Plan, and Exit Survey requests have been excellent. A full overview of our QA processes and participation will be available in our Annual Report released later this year. There are very few responses still outstanding, but we would appreciate your continued participation in these processes.

The next request for QA participation will be our request for Higher Specialist Scientists to review their training plans. This request will be sent to them around July, with a request to consider their training plans and costing for the next financial year.



See the following link to a details of our Quality Assurance of training on Healthcare Science TURAS Learn page - [Link](#)

## Spotlight on your HCS colleagues: Meet - Principal Lead Bianca Brownlee



Bianca Brownlee works for NHS GG&C as a Clinical Vascular Scientist, using ultrasound and other non-invasive techniques to image and assess the blood flow. Formally and informally training staff in Vascular ultrasound and more recently supporting STP training as a host and rotation department.

Jointly working flexibly as one of a team of NHS Education for Scotland's Healthcare Science Principal Leads. Supporting the training, quality monitoring and Healthcare science workforce commissioning.



## Useful Resources from NES

- TURAS Learn Healthcare Science Page - [Link](#)
- NES Healthcare Science website - [Link](#)
- To apply for NES Training Centre Recognition - [Link](#)
- Contact the team via email at [HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk)

## Follow us on our new Twitter, Facebook and Instagram

@hcsnes



## NES Healthcare Science Core Team

Dr Robert Farley - Healthcare Science Associate Director  
Claire Cameron - Principal Lead  
Lorna Crawford - Principal Lead  
Andy Dunne - Principal Lead  
Bianca Brownlee - Principal Lead  
Simon Petrie - Business Support  
Charlie Brownlee - Management Accountant

## Join our mailing list

Following the GDPR implementation, we would encourage recent trainees and NHS recruits in healthcare science to join our Mail Chimp mailing list. Or subscribe with [LINK](#)

Please email [HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk) to be included or for comments on what you have read here. Our list is used occasionally for NES Healthcare Science alerts like this HCS Notice Board; it is not shared with third parties.