

Newsletter March 2025

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ASPC Dermatological and Skin Surgery Study Day 2025

This exciting event will take place on Saturday, 12th April 2025 at the Hotel La Tour, Milton Keynes (MK9 3FP) and is a must-attend event for anyone passionate about skin health.



ASPC
ASSOCIATION OF SURGEONS IN PRIMARY CARE

2025 Dermatological and Skin Surgery Study Day
Saturday 12th April 2025

Hotel La Tour
400 Marlborough Gate
Milton Keynes MK9 3FP

- Variety of ticket options available to purchase via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk), or contact admin@aspc-uk.net
- Tickets include access to a range of lectures and workshops designed to accommodate and educate individuals of all skill levels.
- Refreshments & lunch provided
- 8.00am Registration
- 5pm Finish

*Topics subject to change

Identifying skin lesions
Networking
The Medicine of Aesthetics
Seminars
Dermoscopy presentation and practical sessions
Trainers, Tutoring & Mentoring
Biopsies/Shaving/Cryotherapy
Basic Suturing workshop
Finessing skin closure. Presentation & practical sessions
Hands On Workshops

The day will offer invaluable insights and learning opportunities and practical sessions in dermatology, skin surgery and dermoscopy, making it an excellent experience for novices, enthusiasts and professionals alike.

The venue is in a fantastic location, just off the motorway, with parking conveniently available next to the hotel, whilst the train station is just 10 minutes taxi away.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to enhance your expertise, connect with colleagues from across the UK, and share valuable insights. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information visit our **NEWS** page on the Website

We are still seeking **SPONSORS** (doesn't have to be medical) – if you know any please inform us!

To book tickets please **CLICK HERE**.

ASPC Annual Conference 2025

Come and join us at our conference at the plush Leicester Marriot, 6th/7th June 2025, our most stunning premises yet!

We are packing the days with engaging sessions including innovative Carpal tunnel decompression, setting up community clinics, recent ASPC published papers, Cryosurgery & Cryotherapy, what presents at a 2ww skin clinic plus practical sessions on Hand surgery, skin surgery, Vas techniques (learn Fascial interposition), PoCUS, and much much more. Don't worry though, we're still retaining enough time to chat, interact, network and have fun with your fellow peers. Expand your skills, gain fresh perspectives, and be part of an inspiring professional community.



ASPC
ASSOCIATION OF SURGEONS IN PRIMARY CARE

2025 Annual Conference
Friday 6th & Saturday 7th June 2025

Leicester Marriott Hotel
Grove Park, Smith Way,
Leicester LE19 1SW

- Variety of ticket options available to purchase via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk), or contact admin@aspc-uk.net
- Tickets include access to seminars, numerous workshops, practical sessions and guest speakers.
- Refreshments & lunch provided
- Indian banquet conference dinner is available
- Accommodation available upon request

*Agenda subject to change

Vasectomy missions in Africa
Non-Surgical Aesthetics
Vasectomy Workshops x 3
Ultra-sound
ASPC Publications
IGTN - practical
2ww Skin cases
Carpal Tunnel Surgery - Basic to cutting edge
Setting up community clinics
Treatment of Keloids
Cryotherapy & Cryosurgery
Vasectomy & Carpal tunnel ASPC training pathways

For more information, especially regarding accommodation deals, visit our **NEWS** page on the Website

To book tickets please **CLICK HERE**.

Members get 20% off - discount code can be found in our membership directory section

Present your Poster at the 2025 ASPC Conference!

The ASPC poster competition is open to anyone with an interest in Community surgery and is your opportunity to showcase, celebrate, and exchange ideas on surgical practice in the community.

First prize £100.

Please email Admin@ASPC-uk.net for more details.

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ASPC Conference Golf Competition

Our sophomore Conference golf day will be held at Longcliffe Golf Club from 13:30 on Thursday 5th June (the day before the conference) where we've secured a fantastic Green fee deal at just £57 on a superb golf course. All abilities welcomed – so if you want to sign up to win the ASPC Cup please email **Prasun** on pkumar@nhs.net

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Hi all,

Lots has been going on since the last newsletter.

The ASPC has advised both Northampton and Lincoln ICB's regarding surgical services, forged increased relationship with the FSRH, reached out to the Wes Streeting and the Kings fund, whilst also starting discussions on a collaboration with the RCGP.

Our new revised vasectomy training pathway is now up and running, whilst very soon we will have our first ASPC Community Carpal Tunnel trainer, and hopefully another by the end of the year. A standardised vasectomy Contract is close to being finalised for general release.

The website continues to expand and evolve, with numerous articles and information added regularly, please continue to check it out: www.ASPC-uk.net

Our member's map is close to being added to the website, and we hope we can show you all the benefits at our Annual Conference, without doubt the event of the year, held 6th/7th June in Leicester!

Plus, don't forget our Dermatology and Skin Surgery Study Day on 12th April in Milton Keynes. More details, including how to book, can be found below

We look forward to seeing and engaging with you all again at both forthcoming events, whilst welcoming a host of newbies!

Best wishes

Gareth James

President and Audit lead

President@ASPC-uk.net

ASPC COUNCIL NEWS

New Vasectomy lead

After a competitive selection process, **Dr Hanna Robbins** has become our new ASPC vasectomy lead, sharing the role with Tony until he retires. Hanna has also seamlessly slipped into the roles of as our medicolegal expert, and PoCUS lead, and has already been involved with our numerous discussions with FSRH, FPA, and provider services.

New Council Member

The ASPC council welcomes **Dr Asif Ahmed** is our new CTD co-trainer lead. Asif hopes to become our first official CTD trainer and is passionate about offering training to all those who are keen to learn CTD, whilst continuing training those interested in Vasectomy

Other Council Changes

The ASPC would warmly like to thank Manu Alexander (treasurer), Claire Simpson (Hand consultant liaison) who have stepped down from the Council.

Prasun Kumar, meantime, has taken over the treasurer role.

We also say goodbye to Ross Turer who has been the secretary and then manager to the ASPC for the last 7 years. We wish him success on his new job, and good luck for his upcoming wedding!

The commitment, energy and wisdom from all three will be sorely missed.

OPPORTUNITIES PAGE

We are starting a new page on the website, where you can offer yourself as a freelance community surgeon, or to clinics who are actively seeking surgeons.

The ASPC is also happy to advertise your courses/events on our website, provided they fit with the ASPC ethos. If this sounds something you want to take advantage of then please contact **Paula**: Admin@ASPC-UK.net

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AUDIT UPDATES

ASPC Skin and Carpal Tunnel questionnaires for 2025

Hopefully you've been using these since 1st January, but if not, they can be found in the members area of the website

ASPC Vasectomy Questionnaires 2025-26

The new Vasectomy audit cycle will start 1st April 2025 and will carry on until March 31st, 2026

These results will be collated by April 2027, for presentation at the 2027 ASPC Conference.

The new Vasectomy Questionnaires for 2025-26 can be found in our member's only area of the ASPC website for you to access.

SurveyMonkey

Please note the password used to access the ASPC SM free-for-all account (ASPCSurveyMonkey@proton.me) will change early April 2025.

The new password will be found after that time in the members area of the website in the document:

SurveyMonkey and Protonmail Passwords

Conference Audit Returns

We will be asking for your patient feedback and complication data for Skin and Carpal Tunnel decompressions performed in 2024, and Vasectomies performed from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at the start of May. Lets get a record number of submissions!

Remember, if you've missed a year but have the data, we still want it!

For any questions or issues regarding Audits please contact **Ashleigh** on Audits@ASPC-UK.net

EVENTS OCCURRED SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Vasectomy Study Day 2024. Surgical Wellbeing. Oct 19th. Central Birmingham.

A mix of 75 ASPC members and non-members attended the study day covering topics such as the history of the 11 years of the study day, chronic post vasectomy pain, legal discussions, hand issues in surgeons, haemostasis and blood thinners, plus loads of questions, sharing answers resulting in numerous discussions and debates amongst the delegates!

Primary Care Surgical Association (PCSA) Dublin 1st/2nd November

All ASPC members are also members to our Irish sister association – the PCSA, and Gareth and Vijay attended on behalf of the ASPC. A superbly run 2-day event, focussing mainly on skin surgery, with lots of practical sessions. We would encourage ASPC members to attend next year, not only for the knowledge that would be gained, but also for the wonderful hospitality.

VTS presentation 19th September Sutton Coldfield

Sam, Soon, and Gareth presented the benefits of diversifying as a GP especially relating to surgery to GP training schemes, whilst also educating them on what every GP should know regarding Vasectomy and carpal Tunnel syndrome and Skin Surgery.

Would your local GP VTS scheme want the ASPC to run a half to whole day educational session, which is applicable to ALL GP's and not just those with a surgical bent? If so please email **Sam** at

samantha.chambers1@nhs.net

World Vasectomy Day (WVD) presentation 6th December

For an hour of the near marathon 24-hour WVD broadcast, all eyes and ears were on the UK, where Rebecca Porter (Bluekit), Paul Fourie, Noami Scott, Martin Kittel (live from Jordan!) and Gareth set out the state of Vasectomy services in the UK.

COURSES

To find all the latest courses on minor skin surgery and joint injections please make sure you check out the

COURSES page on the Website

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PUBLICATIONS

Remember Vasectomy – Challenges and Successes; One small snip for mankind

A Personal view of vasectomy series in the UK

Gareth James, Melanie Atkinson.

BMJ Sex Reprod Health 2025;0:1–3. doi:10.1136/bmjsex-2024-202431

This article should be published in the celebratory 50th anniversary edition of the BMJ SRH later in the year.

This personal view, along with the 3 other papers we've had so far published regarding audit data collected from our members, are available to view in the members area of the website under 'ASPC Publications'

Check them out if you haven't already!!

ASPC MENTORS

We are still looking for those ASPC members who would be willing to both mentor and willing to give training (but not certification) to GP and GP VTS who want to learn more about skin surgery in the community. We have only about 10 members signed up as Mentors... come on folks, we can do better than that! In a rapidly changing NHS, we need to preserve this ecosystem in which the ASPC was created so stand up to help build a legacy, aspire to make a difference, and to inspire others.

Please Email **Paula** on Admin@aspc-uk.net if you are interested in securing our future.

Hopefully see you all in either April (**ASPC Dermatology and Skin Surgery Study Day**) or on June at the **ASPC Annual Conference**, or even both!