

## Education report 2023

### Emma Vernon Education Officer ASCN UK – 2023

This is my first report as the Education Officer for the ASCN UK after becoming a member of the committee in November 2022.

In March this year I presented my first Webinar with my Education officer predecessor Jennie Burch on Low Anterior Resection Syndrome (LARS). We pre-recorded our presentation and had a live Q and A afterwards. There were around 280 delegates who attended. Jennie has written two booklets, entitled “LARS toolkit for clinicians.....” and Bowel changes after rectal cancer treatment.....”. These resources will be uploaded to the website and advertised at ASCN UK stand at this year’s conference.

The community and hospital high output clinical guidelines have also been updated and will be available very soon. The update was completed due to more research becoming available in high output management for an ileostomy such as not suggesting sugary drinks or sweets and the use of Octreotide as a medical treatment. These are now out of date practices due to current evidence.

As well as these guidelines, the granuloma guidelines are currently being reviewed and should be available by the end of the year. A new guideline on bleeding stoma’s is currently being written. This will focus on bleeding from the os (stoma opening), the mucocutaneous junction and peristomal skin. Why these areas might bleed and what the suggested treatment plan is.

All current guidelines are available to ASCN UK members on our website.

The first live ASCN UK conference, since the pandemic, in 2022 was well attended. Almost 350 delegates attended the conference in Harrogate. Based on the feedback from last year’s conference we decided that this year’s conference will focus on paediatric stoma care as well as offer new research and information on improving stoma care practice, emotional wellbeing of the nurse and patient, a political update and service development. We will also be celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ASCN UK.

This year we will presenting a new award, the Pat Black award for publication. We have been working with the Mark Allen Group, who produce the British Journal of Nursing (BJN) and The Gastrointestinal Nursing (GIN) journal. 6 articles which were published between ASCN UK conference last year until now have been shortlisted. The ASCN committee will use robust criteria to recognise a winner.

Plans for the rest of year include another webinar. The winner of the Pat Black award will be asked to present a Webinar on writing an article for publication. This will be a joint webinar with an editor from the Mark Allen Group to talk about what they look for and the process of submitting an article for publication.

The ASCN UK in conjunction with University of East Anglia Stoma Care Specialist Module continues to run virtually. This module run by Dr Gabby Thorpe and is 40 credits at level 7. I completed this course in 2022. It runs from January to September and is an online virtual course so can be completed at home. The ASCN website has details of this course and other level 6 and 7 stoma care courses available currently. **As a member of ASCN UK if wishing to study, you can apply for some funding via the Jean Preston Fund.** Details are on the website. [ADD LINK](#)

We are currently working with WCET to put together a joint conference in Glasgow for 2024. We hope you can all join us for this international meeting of Stoma Care Nurses from all over the world.