A Plenary Session on Mental Health, Neuroscience and the Wellbeing of Society was held at the recent Summer Meeting with participants who are international leaders in the field. The BAP was very fortunate to have not only a group of eminent speakers, but also leaders with vision for important new developments in the field. The audience feedback indicated that the talks were outstanding and there was a very high quality of discussion. As a tribute to the excellence of the speakers, the audience filled the room and there was standing room only. Due to the importance of the participants’ talks and the demand by the members of the BAP we have made these recordings available. These are available on the website http://bap.org.uk/mental_health.php.

We were very grateful to receive donations from both the Medical Research Council and Wellcome Trust towards the BAP bursary scheme.
2011 BAP PRIZE WINNERS

POSTER PRIZES IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SUMMER MEETING

Stephanie Atkinson, Oxford
Redkite: Ketamine as a treatment for depression
(co-author McShane R)

Joanne Wallace, Newcastle
Subchronic flattening of the glucocorticoid rhythm induces performance deficits in the attentional set shifting task
(co-authors McQuade R, Marston HM, Gartside SE)

Alessandro Colasanti, London

Gillian Stenson, Strathclyde
Environment-environment interactions in a schizophrenia-related disease model: Impact of poly IC and THC on the developing brain
(co-authors Pratt J, Brett R)

PRESIDENT’S POSTER PRIZES IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SUMMER MEETING

Emma Mitchell, Bristol
Diazepam attenuates the instrumental successive negative contrast effects in a progressive ratio operant model
(co-authors Marston H, Nutt DJ, Robinson ESJ)

Anke Linssen, Maastricht
Dopaminergic modulation of cognitive function. The influence of methylphenidate on cognitive performance in healthy volunteers
(co-authors Vuurman EFPM, Sambeth A, Nave S, Riedel W)

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

Annabelle Chambers, Leeds
Camilla d’Angelo, Cambridge
Liam Matthews, Beerse
Nicole Norman, Newcastle
BAP PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY AWARDS

Marie-Christine Pardon, Nottingham
Celia Morgan, London
Anne Lingford-Hughes, London

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Timothy Crow, Oxford

Photographs of the Prize Winners, together with others taken at the Summer Meeting in Harrogate, may be found on the website.

BRITISH SCIENCE FESTIVAL, BRADFORD

BAP (Dr Sasha Gartside, Dr Paula Moran and Prof Jo Neill) hosted a very successful educational event as part of the British Science Festival at Bradford University on the 14th and 15th September. The theme of the Festival was “Exploring New Worlds.” The BAP session, “Bark, Berries and Leaves”, was the brainchild of Sasha Gartside. The session included an introduction to the medicinal properties of plants and the wide occurrence of psychoactive agents in nature.

Following a general introduction to the field of Psychopharmacology and the BAP given by Jo Neill, Paula Moran explained how hallucinogenic agents grow all around us, including the fascinating insight that hallucinogenic agents such as psilocybin and mescaline were widely used in religious rituals and for healing by some cultures as far back as 1000 BC, as well as an explanation of how these agents interact with the serotonergic system. Sasha Gartside then went on to explain the occurrence of psychostimulants, such as cocaine and caffeine in plants. Sasha’s historical account was particularly entertaining and enlightening, revealing the medicinal properties of cocaine - we learned that Coca Cola used to contain 9mg of cocaine per glass! Not any more, but on average in the UK we consume a frightening 150 large glasses per person per year.

This was followed by a laboratory session where students (‘A’ level and Level 3 access science students) extracted and measured (using HPLC) caffeine, theobromine and theophylline from various teas, coffees and cocoa beans. People residing in Yorkshire will be delighted to find that Yorkshire tea contains a particularly high level of caffeine! Paula Moran then assessed the reaction times and cognitive function of students following the consumption of caffeine-containing drinks.

Overall this was a very successful and enjoyable educational event for everyone.

Many thanks to Sasha, Paula and Jo for undertaking these sessions on behalf of BAP

2011 ELECTION FOR BAP OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

Results of the election are available to view on the website under Members’ Pages. Dr Paula Moran is now the Preclinical Secretary for External Affairs, Dr Peter Haddad is the Honorary General Secretary, and we are pleased to welcome Dr Elizabeth Tunbridge (Oxford), Dr Mitul Mehta (London) and Dr Hugh Marston (Edinburgh) as new members of Council.
NEW COUNCIL POST -
BAP DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Education about Psychopharmacology is one of the key remits of the British Association for Psychopharmacology. The BAP’s education portfolio continues to grow and now includes 6 Masterclasses each year, 6 Clinical Certificate Modules, 3 Preclinical Certificate Modules and the Online CPD resource.

Education has in the past mainly been incorporated into the Honorary General Secretary’s role. However in view of recent and probable future expansion to the education portfolio, the BAP Council has agreed that this be removed from the remit of the General Secretary and that a new post of Director of Education be created.

The Director of Education will be an ex-Officio Council member and will be involved in the content and scheduling of the Masterclasses, Clinical Certificate, *Preclinical Certificate and Online CPD Resource, with full support from the BAP Office. The Director of Education would be expected to assist in the maintenance of the quality control and further developments of the education portfolio. The appointee will chair an Education sub-committee and work with partners to promote the portfolio.

The Director of Education post will be created as a rolling post, renewable every 3 years upon review by the Council and post-holder.

Any travel/subsistence costs will be reimbursed; however there is no remuneration for the post itself.

BAP Members are invited to apply for the post by email to Susan Chandler at the BAP Office, by 30 October 2011. The initial 3-year term will begin as soon as a suitable candidate has been identified.

*The Preclinical Certificate will continue to be organised by the Pre-Clinical Working Group who will communicate with the Director of Education via the BAP Office.

Nicol Ferrier

UPDATE ON THE PRESCRIBING OBSERVATORY FOR MENTAL HEALTH (POMH-UK)

This year, 58 UK healthcare organisations (both NHS and private) have taken part in POMH-UK quality improvement programmes (QIPs). At the time of writing (30th June), we are in the final stages of preparing customised, benchmarked reports on the baseline audit of our 11th QIP; prescribing antipsychotics in people with dementia. 54 healthcare organisations submitted data on more than 10,000 patients. Also, data entry has just closed for the third audit in a further QIP, addressing the quality of side effect monitoring in patients prescribed a depot antipsychotic.

Two papers related to our lithium monitoring QIP have been published recently. The first reports on the findings from the baseline audit of biochemical and clinical monitoring (Collins et al 2010) while the second describes prescribing patterns with lithium in a large sample of patients with affective disorders, including the serum levels achieved and other drugs that are co-prescribed (Paton et al 2010). A further paper, reporting on the baseline audit of a QIP addressing the use of antipsychotics in people with a learning disability, has also been published (Paton et al 2011).

As well as providing healthcare organisations and individual clinical teams with benchmarked data about their performance against evidence-based prescribing standards, the data collected for POMH QIPs also tell us a great deal about the way that psychotropic drugs are prescribed in clinical practice.

References


Thomas Barnes
BAP CONSENSUS GUIDELINES - UPDATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Led by</th>
<th>Published</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insomnia</td>
<td>Sue Wilson/David Nutt</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dementia</td>
<td>John O’Brien/Alistair Burns</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addiction</td>
<td>Anne Lingford-Hughes</td>
<td>2004 (update to be published by end of 2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schizophrenia</td>
<td>Thomas Barnes</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>David Baldwin</td>
<td>2005 (update to be published early 2012)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antidepressants</td>
<td>Ian Anderson</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bipolar</td>
<td>Guy Goodwin</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADHD</td>
<td>David Nutt</td>
<td>2006 (update to be published early 2012)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Consensus Guideline documents are available to download at the BAP website.

BAP Perinatal Guidelines

One of the most challenging clinical dilemmas faced both by patients and their clinicians is the use of medication during pregnancy and shortly thereafter. It requires consideration of complex risk benefit balances, both for the mother and for the unborn child. Both general and specific guidance is somewhat sparse at the present time. While there are acknowledgments of some of the issues involved in some of the current BAP guidelines, BAP Council at its summer meeting came to the view that there was a need for an authoritative, systematic review of the evidence base and that a BAP consensus guideline for the use of psychotropics in the perinatal period should be produced to extend the range of BAP guidelines. Dr Hamish McAllister-Williams (Newcastle) was asked to lead on this project together with Dr Carmine Pariante (London) and Dr Ian Jones (Cardiff). It is hoped that the guideline will be produced in collaboration with the Perinatal Section of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. It is anticipated that the consensus meeting will be held in early 2012 with completion of the guideline by the end of the year.

CONFIRMED SYMPOSIA SCHEDULE FOR 2012
SUMMER MEETING, 22-25 JULY, HARROGATE

Monday 23 July
1) Drugs as tools in neuropsychiatry: Ketamine
2) New tricks for old drugs: Opiates, addiction and beyond
3) Advances in understanding brain corticosteroid responses to stress: relevance to depression

Tuesday 24 July
4) Cognitive impairment in depression: A target for treatment?
5) New treatment strategies for targeting drug addictions – A translational perspective
6) Functional imaging markers for monitoring treatment: Mechanisms and efficacy

Wednesday 25 July
7) Schizophrenia Treatment: What’s wrong with it and what might work better
8) Epigenetics and psychiatry - current understanding and therapeutic potential
9) Rethinking the compulsive aspects of addiction: From bench to bedside

We are delighted to announce that the Guest Lecture on Monday 23 July will be presented by Nora Volkow of the National Institute of Mental Health, USA

Stephen Stahl of the Neuroscience Education Institute at University of California San Diego will also present within the programme.

A full list of symposia speakers may be found on the website bap.org.uk.
DAVID GRAHAME-SMITH

BAP was very sorry to learn of David’s death on 17 June, following a short illness. Below is the citation which appeared in the 2002 Summer Meeting programme, when David was presented with the BAP Lifetime Achievement Award.

David Grahame-Smith was born and educated in Leicester and left at the age of 18 to study medicine at St Mary’s Hospital Medical School in Paddington, London. He graduated MBBS in 1956 and gained his MRCP by examination two years later.

He did his house jobs at Paddington General and Battle Hospital (Reading) and was then conscripted as a Captain in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Leaving the army in 1960 he returned to St Mary’s for registrar and senior registrar positions in medicine, winning various scholarships over the next few years. He also held an Honorary Medical Registrar position in the Medical Unit of St Mary’s under Professor (now Sir) Stanley Peart. While at St Mary’s David studied for the degree of Ph.D in the laboratory of Albert Neuberger and it was this research that determined his future career in neuropharmacology. In 1964 he published a paper (1) in which he reported on the absolute identification of tryptophan hydroxylase, the enzyme which converts tryptophan to 5-hydroxytryptophan, thereby ‘beating’ a large number of scientists in the USA (particularly those at NIH) who had been struggling to determine whether tryptophan was, or was not, hydroxylated by an enzyme distinct from tyrosine hydroxylase. Identification of the rate-limiting enzyme of 5-hydroxytryptamine synthesis resulted in a life-long interest in this neurotransmitter, and 69 of David’s 223 publications contain 5-HT, 5-hydroxytryptamine or serotonin in the title.

In 1966 David won a travelling scholarship to Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee to work in the laboratory of Grant Liddell, where he met and worked with Bill Butcher and Earl Sutherland (who won the 1971 Nobel Prize) on the role of cyclic AMP in steroidogenesis. David returned to the UK in 1967, taking the role of Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at St Mary’s. From there he published a seminal paper on the serotonin syndrome (2), which showed that transmitter synthesis and function were not necessarily intimately linked. This observation, that simple behavioural models together with appropriate neurochemistry could be used to examine neurotransmitter function, formed the basis of much of David’s work over the next 30 years.

In 1971 David was appointed the first Rhodes Professor of Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Oxford and Director of the MRC Clinical Pharmacology Unit. Despite the title of the Unit, it always undertook a unique blend of preclinical and clinical research both on drug mechanisms of action, particularly cardiac glycosides, but crucially, for this review, studies on psychotropic compounds and ECT. The clinical psychopharmacology research resulted from a wonderfully symbiotic relationship with Professor Michael Gelder and members of his Department of Psychiatry. The mix of preclinical scientists and clinical psychiatrists working side by side and feeding ideas to each other, together with David’s unfailing insights and enthusiasm, produced an exciting atmosphere for all of us lucky enough to have been there at the time. A significant number of preclinical and clinical psychopharmacologists now holding senior positions in both academia and industry have been “through” David’s department, including a number of BAP Presidents.

While all psychopharmacologists reading this are doubtless aware of David’s enormous contribution to both preclinical and clinical psychopharmacology, some are perhaps unaware of the substantial contributions he also made to clinical pharmacology and medicine. He was a physician in the Nuffield Department of Medicine, Oxford until his retirement in 1999, a member of the Committee on Safety of Medicines for many years (and chairman of the Safety, Efficacy and Adverse Reaction sub-committee for 7 of them), and Chairman of the UK Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. He also held many other national and international appointments, including a visiting professorship at the Union Medical College, Beijing. He won the 2nd Prize of the Anna Monica Foundation in 1977, jointly with Richard Green, for studies on the role of serotonin in depression, the Paul-Martini Prize in Clinical Pharmacology (with JK Aronson and AR Ford) for research on cardiac glycosides and the Lilly Prize of the British Pharmacological Society for distinguished contributions to the field of clinical pharmacology. His Lilly Lecture on the adaptations of biological systems to drugs accurately reflected the science of the man, reviewing as it did the adaptations of patients...
InVivoStat Update!

It is now nearly two years since the release of InVivoStat to coincide with the BAP Pre-clinical certificate on Statistics and Experimental Design. Since then there has been nearly five hundred registered downloads, from over 35 countries around the world and at least two companies IT departments have been in touch about installing on their systems. User affiliations include academia, industry, governmental departments and charitable bodies. It really is a wide spectrum that appears to be not limited to life scientists.

Feedback on the package has been very favourable – please keep it coming, we are keen to hear any thoughts / suggestions! There have been several updates to the package since the original release following user feedback. These include extra functionality such as allowing variable level names to include symbols such as ‘/’ (to allow KO/KO variable names) and the ability to include the dataset in the output file.

InVivoStat was employed in several posters at the BAP session and has been used to analyse several published datasets. Please remember to reference InVivoStat if you use it. We also have a paper (Clark et al. 2011) accepted which will appear in Journal of Psychopharmacology that compares InVivoStat to other well-known packages such as SPSS, Prism and Statistica.

The next outing of InVivoStat will be the BAP pre-clinical certificate course next February, so come along if you want to get advice on how to use InVivoStat to analyse your data!


Simon Bate and Mohammed Shoaib
ONLINE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE

The BAP Online CPD Resource has been produced for psychiatrists, GPs with a special interest in psychiatry, mental health pharmacists, psychiatric nurses and any other practitioner with responsibility for prescribing psychotropic medication.

The resource builds upon the excellent reputation the BAP has for provision of high quality education in Psychopharmacology. The material is presented by acknowledged experts and opinion leaders in their respective fields. Many have been involved in the development of national clinical guidelines. While all presenters work in the UK, the material will also be relevant to prescribing of psychotropic medication in most other countries. At the BAP we believe that sound clinical psychopharmacology is based upon a sound knowledge of the underlying pharmacology and physiology. As a result most modules commence with a presentation related to basic pharmacology.

The resource comprises modules covering many areas of psychiatry, with video introductions, in-depth presentations, MCQs and printable certificates.

For more details go to www.bap.org.uk/onlinecpd

To find out more: Call the BAP Office (0)1223 358 395
or go to http://www.bap.org.uk

BAP Office: 36 Cambridge Place, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1NS
Private Company No 5866899 / Registered Charity No 277825

FORTHCOMING BAP ACTIVITIES

2011

20-21 Oct  Clinical Certificate: Old Age Psychiatry, Manchester

            Full details http://bap.org.uk/educationevent.php?trainingTypeID=3

2012

26-27 Jan  Clinical Certificate: Anxiety Disorders, Bristol
            Full details http://bap.org.uk/educationmodule.php?moduleID=1

Feb (date tbc) Preclinical Certificate: Experimental Design 1; Statistics and Experimental Design

22-23 Mar  Clinical Certificate: Child and Adolescent, Nottingham

25-27 Apr  Masterclasses in Clinical Psychopharmacology, London
            Full details http://bap.org.uk/educationevent.php?trainingTypeID=3

3-4 May    Clinical Certificate: Schizophrenia, Manchester

14-15 Jun  Clinical Certificate: Substance Misuse, Manchester
            Full details http://bap.org.uk/educationmodule.php?moduleID=4

22-25 Jul  Summer Meeting, Harrogate
            Details http://bap.org.uk/meetingotherinfo.php?infoID=63