



**ARTP Annual Report 2021/22**

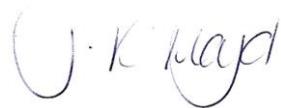
*It is my pleasure to bring you the ARTP annual report for 2021/22. Despite the challenges and difficulties that the NHS and Respiratory and Sleep Science has faced over the last 2 years, a huge amount of work has been successfully completed. This document summarises the incredible achievements that each of the Committees of the ARTP Board have delivered over the last 12 months. As ever, not content to rest on their laurels, each Committee have also outlined an ambitious program of objectives for the coming 12 months.*

*ARTP have taken measures over the previous 12 months to consolidate our financial position to ensure the organisation is well placed for new developments over the coming months. We have maintained our links with a range of professional organisations including BTS and the ERS and have recently held our first joint strategy meeting with the British Sleep Society. ARTP have continued to work closely with the NHS National Specialty Adviser for physiological measurements, Dr Martin Allen MBE, on a number of national work streams associated with respiratory diagnostics. These important relationships will continue to promote ARTP in to the future.*

*The introduction of mass vaccination and changes to the national guidelines on social distancing and gatherings has meant that as well as delivering our hybrid educational courses, ARTP have recommenced delivery of face to face courses. The first of these was the ever popular Cardiopulmonary Exercise course and many more are planned over the coming months. The Education Committee have continued to work closely with the national school to ensure that the educational standards in respiratory and sleep science remain at the highest level.*

*The achievements and plans outlined in this report are due entirely to the continued hard work and dedication of each of the ARTP Board members and the sub-committee leads that feed in to them. Their contribution to the continued success of ARTP cannot be overstated and it remains a privilege to work with each and every one of them. Over the next 12 months there will be some changes in membership of the Board, as current post holders come to the end of their terms of office. Full details of these changes will be announced at the ARTP Annual General Meeting at the upcoming Annual Conference in Hinckley. I have every confidence that the incoming Board members will continue the excellent work of their predecessors. ARTP continue to be supported by the team at Executive Business Support and I am sure I speak on behalf of all our Committee members when I say 'thank you - we could not do this job without your support'.*

*I look forward to seeing many of you at the ARTP Annual Conference and thank you for your continued support of ARTP.*



Julie Lloyd  
Honorary Chair, ARTP

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## 1 About the ARTP

The Association for Respiratory Technology & Physiology (ARTP), through standards of training and quality assurance, are the professional guardians of physiological measurement in respiratory and sleep medicine in the UK. With over 40 years of experience in the design and delivery of respiratory physiology services, ARTP provides the only national, professionally recognised, qualifications in Respiratory Function Testing and Spirometry in the UK.

ARTP also recommends standards for the design and delivery of respiratory physiology services through position papers from ARTP Working Groups on the structure, function and content of respiratory physiology and sleep facilities and services in the UK.

An important function of the ARTP is the provision of opportunities for Continuing Professional Development. The ARTP organises an annual Conference, meetings and other educational courses on many respiratory and sleep physiology topics.

Nationally ARTP informs and influences major organisations about the delivery of respiratory physiology services. Furthermore, ARTP links with equivalent national organisations around the world to deliver global standards in respiratory healthcare involving respiratory technology and physiology.

The Association works in conjunction with the British Thoracic Society to produce national guidelines and standards for good practice in the performance of respiratory measurement. It works closely with the Department of Health and Academy for Healthcare Science in formulating policy and in the strategic direction of the profession.

The ARTP hosts the multi-disciplinary Sleep Apnoea Consortium and ARTP now has a membership section for sleep practitioners.

### 1.1 ARTP Aims & Objectives

To advance for the public benefit the service and practice of Respiratory and Sleep Physiology and allied subjects by:

- a) Delivering and promoting education and training programmes to ensure competence to practice
- b) Establishing relevant standards of practice
- c) Promoting audit and research
- d) Promoting advances in diagnosis, treatment and care of patients with respiratory and sleep diseases
- e) Communicating with all stakeholders
- f) Representing the interests of practitioners at all levels

## 1.2 ARTP Council

Role	
President/Medical NED	Dr James Hull
Chair	Julie Lloyd
Vice Chair	Joanna Shakespeare
Honorary Secretary	Cara Roberts
Honorary Treasurer	Mike Lang
Human Resources/Workforce	Ken Hutchinson
Financial	Mark Hubbocks
Patient NED	VACANT

## 1.3 ARTP Executive Board

Committee	Chair
ARTP Chair	Julie Lloyd
ARTP Vice Chair	Joanna Shakespeare
ARTP Past Chair	Dr Karl Sylvester
Honorary Secretary	Cara Roberts
Honorary Treasurer	Mike Lang
Communications	Emma Ince
Workforce	Sara McArthur
Standards	Peter Moxon
Paediatrics	Dr Jane Kirkby
Education & Training	Dr Vicky Moore
Events	Kelly Pauley
Sleep	Sara Parsons

ARTP Patron	Professor Greg Whyte
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The following posts are due to be renewed at the 2022 Annual Conference and the membership will be asked to vote on and endorse the following appointments:

**ARTP President**

**ARTP Honorary Secretary**

## 2 Finance

Targets 2021-22	Outcome
Maintain financial viability, including reserves as per policy	Completed for viability: Reduced reserves.
Manage budget setting for ARTP Committees	Completed and on-going
Utilise independent financial advice to ensure that financial management & reporting is robust	Completed and on-going
e-merchandising and payments	Completed
Invest any surplus in to research projects, education & training	No surplus this year

### 2.1 Statement of financial activity

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
Donations and Legacies	48,593	-	48,593	263,676
<b>Charitable Activities</b>				
Conference and education	31,113	-	31,113	285,501
Investment Income	6,866	-	6,866	783
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>86,572</b>	-	<b>86,572</b>	<b>549,960</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
<b>Charitable Activities</b>	-	-	-	-
Conference and education	190,383	-	190,383	554,281
Other	3134	-	3134	2684
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>193,517</b>	-	<b>193,517</b>	<b>556965</b>
<b>Net Income/Expenditure</b>	<b>(106,945)</b>		<b>(106,945)</b>	<b>(7,005)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	433,896	5183	439,079	446,084
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>326,951</b>	<b>5,183</b>	<b>332,134</b>	<b>439,079</b>

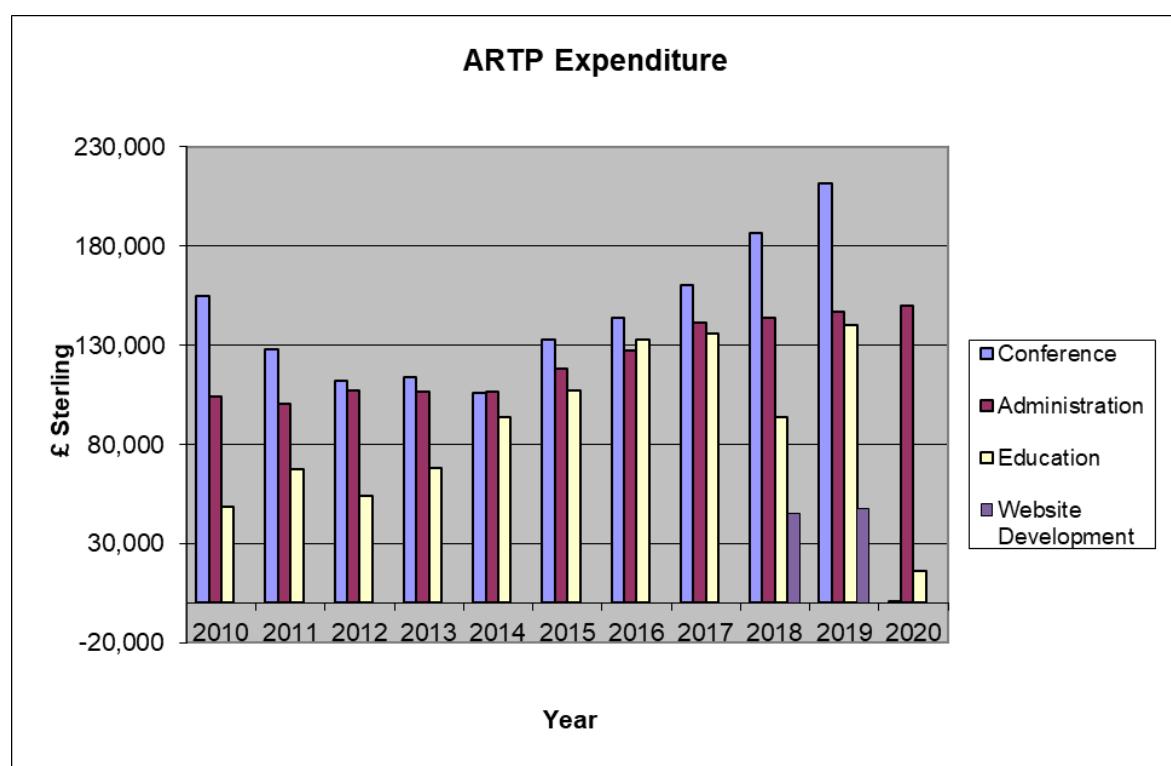
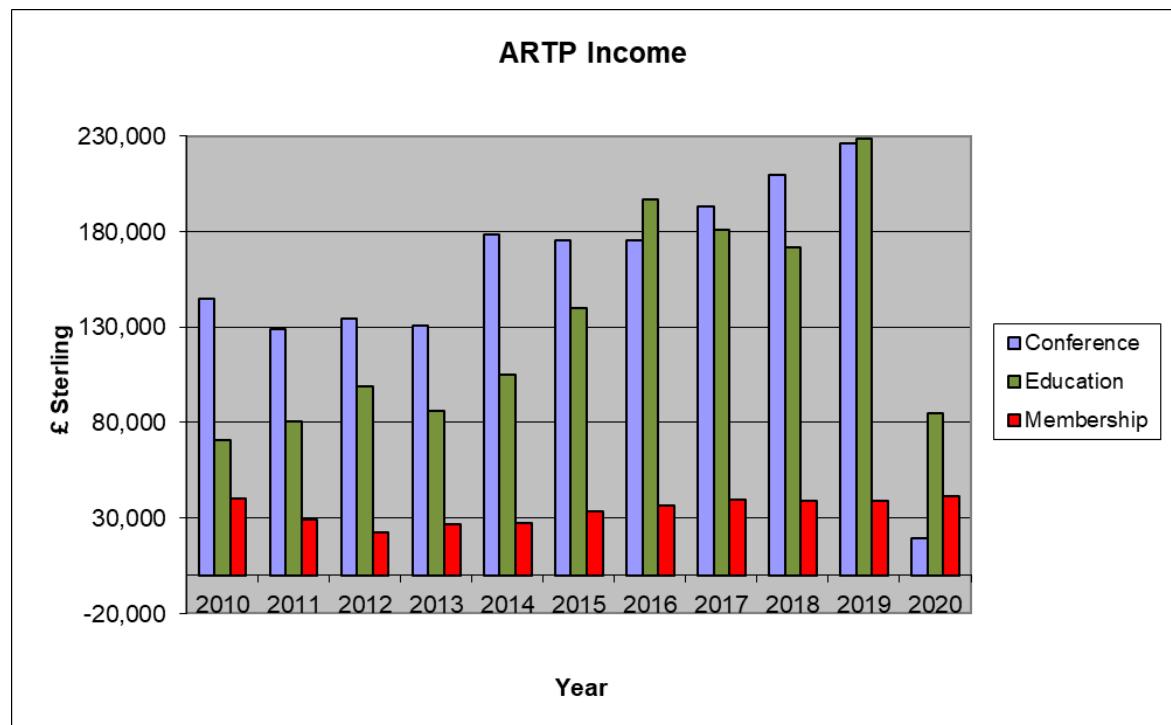
**Total assets of £433,869**

2019/20 Deficit of **£7,005**

2020/21 Deficit of **£106,945**

All accounts on ARTP website

<http://www.artp.org.uk/en/members-area/accounts/index.cfm>



<b>Objectives 2021-22</b>
<b>Deficit reduction by recovery in spirometry &amp; education</b>
<b>Maintain financial viability, including reserves as per policy</b>
<b>Manage budget setting for ARTP Committees</b>
<b>Utilise independent financial advice to ensure that financial management &amp; reporting is robust</b>
<b>Invest any surplus into recovering reserves from COVID-19 impact</b>

As forecast in the previous Finance Report, ARTP have suffered an unprecedented deficit of £106,945 for the financial year 2020-2021, to which this report refers. This net deficit resulted from a significant drop in income from education, in particular, income from spirometry (courses/certification), the latter being in deficit from the previous financial year by £151,469 due to the COVID-19 pandemic preventing the running of all of our educational courses and delaying the transition from spirometry education being delivered by a contracted company (paying ARTP royalties) to in house delivery. At the same time we also continued to have to cover fixed annual costs, offset by a small increase in membership income and net income from the virtual conference.

As a charitable organisation we have a financial reserves policy designed to mitigate exceptional in year financial losses. This policy proved its robustness during 2020-21 enabling ARTP to comfortably survive the financial storm produced by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the deficit, the funds carried forward do not comply with ARTP's Financial Reserves Policy (which should be equivalent to expected annual running costs) and it will therefore be a priority to recover ARTP's reserves within 5 years as we return to surplus (expected by 2022-2023) with the expected recovery of the education & spirometry income streams in particular.

Whilst overall recurring expenditure was reduced due to a stalled education programme and a virtual Annual Conference, our fixed annual costs related to administration increased by 2% in line with contractual obligations.

Despite the exceptional financial impact resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, ARTP finances remain on a strong footing with recovery to pre-pandemic surplus expected by 2022-2023.

### 3 Communications

#### COMMITTEE

Chair – Emma Ince

Vice-Chair – Natalie Goodwin

##### **Editorial**

Inspire Editor - Aidan Laverty

Inspire Deputy Editor - Christopher Warren

Inspire Deputy Editor – Vicky MacBean

S-NEWS Editor - Trish Matharu

Kimberley Lewis

Prof Brendan Cooper

Martyn Bucknall

Mark Unstead

Natalie Goodwin

Helen Slater

**Regional Groups Co-ordinator** - Geraldine O'Connell-Ramsay

**ARTP Brand Champion** – Helen Slater

**Social Media Lead** – Natalie Goodwin

Core Activities include:

- Promote the service and practice of respiratory and sleep physiology
- Production and promotion of the two ARTP periodical publications – Inspire Journal and S-NEWS newsletter
- Produce monthly newsletters that are emailed to the membership that summarise current relevant news, activities and courses
- Produce and maintain the ARTP Website
- Produce, maintain and moderate the ARTP Forums (currently 15 active)
- Moderate the ARTP social media accounts – primarily Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn
- Assist Education, Spirometry and Events teams with internet-based developments and activities
- Facilitate and support regional ARTP groups
- Liaise between the ARTP and other professional bodies
- Oversee the development of and protect the ARTP brand

Targets from 2020	Lead
<b>Continue to maintain and improve the ARTP website</b>	<b>Emma Ince</b>
<b>Continue to deliver our high-quality publications – Inspire Journal and S-NEWS</b>	<b>Aidan Laverty and Trish Matharu</b>
<b>To deliver the social media plan, incorporating more interactive posts</b>	<b>Natalie Goodwin</b>
<b>To continue to support the growth of the regional groups, offering support to new groups and regions who are struggling to meet</b>	<b>Emma Ince and Geraldine O'Connell-Ramsey</b>

### 3.1 Website Development

In 2018 we signed a contract with Senior Internet ([www.senior.co.uk](http://www.senior.co.uk)) to build and implement a new website for the ARTP which would be based upon up-to-date technology, security and payment systems to keep pace with the modern internet environment. It was anticipated that the new website will go live in April-May 2019. In January 2020 the website finally went live with an announcement of this at the ARTP general meeting. The website is regularly reviewed by all ARTP committees to continually expand and improve upon the user experience, and to ensure that information is frequently updated and kept current.

### 3.2 General Data Protection Act

Another focus for us has been to ensure that the ARTP is compliant with the General Data Protection Act and Data Protection Act 2018. We have created and implemented many of the policies and procedures that we are required to do and in line with best practice we may ask our secretariat (Executive Business Support) to repeat an audit we originally conducted in May 2018 to assess our current position.

### 3.3 Regional Groups

Like ARTP Scotland, ARTP Wales has successfully been established and well done to all of those involved. The development of regional groups encapsulating these countries should enable them to focus on relevant areas specific to its NHS structure as dictated by their devolved status. The existing groups in England have been running as per usual and the feedback received from these groups continues to be valuable to the Board, especially giving voice to the local issues which can be overshadowed by national issues. We are continuing to offer support to regions that do not have an active regional group.

### 3.4 Implementation of Digital Platform

The ARTP committees are successfully using G-Suite by Google and its tools to manage many of the ARTP's core documents and databases. By moving them into a central online storage environment, we aim to improve our resilience to data losses and enable sharing and

editing these documents via secure platforms. The implementation of this has been effective, with all committees using the platform to easily share documents and updates.

In December 2020, the Yahoo Groups facility closed, meaning that all email groups needed to be transferred to a new platform. The ARTP email groups were transferred successfully across to the Google Groups facility, which had previously been explored by ARTP and deemed to be an appropriate alternative.

The ARTP Forum, an email group for ARTP members to communicate with each other using, was also successfully transferred across to Google Groups in December 2020.

### 3.5 Website Activity ([www.artp.org.uk](http://www.artp.org.uk))

Period January 2020 – January 2021

The new website has been launched and with this we have seen some improvements in website traffic. It appears individuals are looking at more pages within the website. This could be due to the change in scalability of the new website allowing individuals to look at the pages on all of their devices.

Ranking	Most Viewed Pages	Page Views
1	ARTP Homepage	26,255
2	ARTP COVID-19 Resource Page	18,926
3	News - ARTP Guidance: Respiratory Function Testing and Sleep Services during endemic COVID-19	8,498
4	COVID-19 Update – 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	7,828
5	ARTP Guidance: Respiratory Function Testing and Sleep Services during endemic COVID-19 – 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	6,771

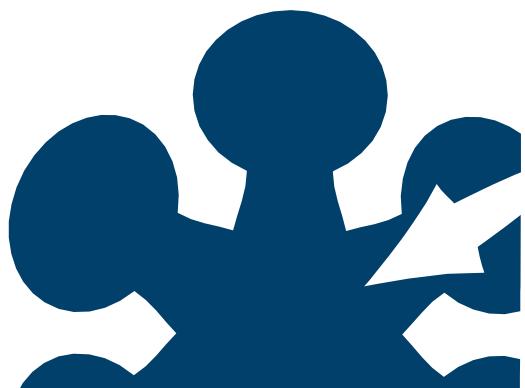
Ranking	Most Popular Source/Medium	Most Popular Country of Origin	Most Popular Search Term
1	Google	United Kingdom (77.4%)	Spirometry
2	Direct	United States (5.6%)	Band 4
3	Bing	India (1.3%)	Membership
4	British Thoracic Society website	Ireland (1.3%)	Inspire
5	Primary Care Respiratory Society website	China (1.0%)	Portfolio

The search term results show that there is still a keen interest in spirometry, despite the challenges faced in workplaces throughout the last couple of years.

### 3.6 Social Media Activity

Social media activity has increased considerably since the appointment of Natalie Goodwin in January 2021 as Social Media Lead. The growth in followers of our Twitter account continues to remain steady, with an average of 50 new followers per quarter. Content is being shared more frequently and total impressions and engagements through Twitter have increased significantly. Our goal in 2022 is to increase ARTP social media following and engagement even further with the introduction of another ARTP social media channel, Instagram.

Objectives 2022 (Communications)	Lead
<b>Continue to adapt and improve the ARTP website</b>	<b>Emma Ince and Natalie Goodwin</b>
<b>Continue to deliver our high-quality publications</b>	<b>Aidan Laverty and</b>
<b>To deliver the Social Media Plan 2022, incorporating interactive posts</b>	<b>Natalie Goodwin</b>
<b>Expanding the number of participating Regional Groups in local meetings and networks</b>	<b>Chair/Vice-Chair/Regional Groups Lead</b>



## 4 Education & Training

### COMMITTEE

Chair – Dr Vicky Moore  
Vice-Chair – Helen Purcell  
Secretary – Madelaine Driskel

#### **Spirometry**

Chair – Joanna Purvis  
Vice-Chair – Richard Glover has stepped (Vacant)

#### **Examinations**

Chair – Marie Belcher  
Vice-Chair – Mark Unstead  
Secretary – Shirley Coelho

Edward Parkes  
Dr Adrian Kendrick  
Trefor Watts  
Emma Munro  
Karen Lewis-Jones  
Emma Fettes  
Emma Davies  
Megan Beacham  
Kay Hughes (Primary Care representative)

### 4.1 Courses 2021

Unfortunately due to the outbreak of COVID-19, ARTP has not been able to run many courses throughout 2021. The CPET course managed to run face- to- face in November with a reduced capacity. The spirometry certificate and professional examinations have continued due to being through virtual platforms. The sleep committee have also successfully run an online course with live Q&A this year. There is a plan to run more courses with this format.

### 4.2 Courses 2022

We are running face-to-face courses again in 2022 with CPET and muscle function running in June 2022. Departments are still fighting their backlogs so there are slightly less courses running compared to pre-COVID, but we hope to be back to full capacity in 2023. The course flyer and booklet are available detailing the list of courses. For more information on upcoming courses please visit the ARTP website: <http://www.artp.org.uk/en/courses/>

## 4.3 ARTP Professional Examinations

Examinations ran in both April 2021 and October 2021 and were held virtually. A big thank you to all the examiners that helped ensure these ran successfully again.

This year we have had 49 candidates (44% increase from 2020) register for the professional examinations. 45 took the examinations with 26 undertaking the practitioner level, 16 the associate and 3 the clinical. The pass rate for 2021 was 62% (100% in 2020).

We will be running examinations virtually again over 4 weeks in April/May 2022 and October/November 2022. We have developed online MCQ replacing the technical viva and an online calculations paper. The clinical viva is performed virtually.

Due to the success of virtual examinations, the Education/Examination committee are postponing the plans to introduce an OSCE type assessment. This will be reviewed in 2023 taking into account the current COVID-19 situation and feedback from examinations in 2021/2022. Instead, we will be concentrating on making the IRCP electronic using Pebblepad.

## 4.4 Spirometry

The ARTP Spirometry Certificate moved to the new ARTP online portfolio and OSCE system in November 2020, ARTP continues to work with stakeholders to develop and improve the process.

As of March 2022, 544 candidates have registered for the ARTP spirometry certificate process. 1205 candidates renewed their certificate between March 2021 and March 2022.

### **OSCE Assessments**

ARTP no longer run workshops (training) for spirometry as we are the guardians of the Spirometry Certificate and therefore this may be perceived as a conflict of interest. We have successfully run spirometry OSCEs virtually throughout the pandemic, which we plan to continue.

### **National Spirometry Register**

Our register now resides with the Academy for Healthcare Science. As of 22nd February 2022, there are 2994 individuals on the ARTP Spirometry Register. 2227 have the Full certificate, 552 the foundation certificate and 204 interpretation only. There are 11 registered with the full paediatric certificate. Numbers have decreased since early 2020 probably due to many practices being unable to continue spirometry services and stay or join the register.

## 4.5 National School of Healthcare Science

In 2021 there were 8 successful STP graduates in Respiratory and Sleep. The pass rate for the OSFA's was 100%. We hope that all of the STP graduates are able to join us at conference where they will receive an ARTP certificate for completion of their OSFAs.

The intake for STP students has risen from 18 in 2020 to 20 in 2021. Thank you to all those departments training and developing the future Respiratory and Sleep Clinical Scientists. Due to the on-going COVID situation, there are no mock or live OSFA's scheduled for 2022.

## 4.6 Tenures

Tenures for Chair, Vice Chair and Chair of Examinations are on-going for another 1-2 years. Those in the roles continue to remain dedicated to improving education. The objectives have only slightly changed since 2020 as implementing any developments other than those mentioned above have been on hold during the pandemic.

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Dr. Vicky Moore</b>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Helen Purcell</b>
<b>Chair of Examinations</b>	<b>Marie Belcher</b>

### Objectives 2022 (Education & Training)

- To continue to support the implementation of the quality assured spirometry programme**
- To review the virtual professional examinations and improve it**
- To publish a handbook to support the professional examinations**
- To bring back a full compliment of courses either face-to-face or virtually**

## 5 Standards

### COMMITTEE

Chair – Peter Moxon  
Vice Chair – Matthew Rutter  
Dr Karl Sylvester  
Dr James Stockley  
Ian Cliff  
Andrew Pritchard  
Dr Jane Kirkby  
Rasheda Choudhury  
Joanna Purvis  
Melanie Bryce  
Maximillian Thomas  
Tracey Fleming  
Jessica Swann

### Research & Innovation Sub-Committee

Chair – Dr James Stockley  
Vice Chair – Dr Samantha Irving  
Liesl Carr  
Dr Chris Earing  
Dr Adrian Kendrick  
Dr Jane Kirkby  
Peter Moxon  
Liam O'Reilly  
Suhani Patel  
Danny Pender  
Dr Karl Sylvester  
Maximillian Thomas  
Ian Waller

### Manufactures Liaison Sub-Committee

Chair - Matthew Rutter  
Prof Brendan Cooper  
Julie Lloyd  
Ian Cliff  
Peter Moxon

### CPET Competency Framework Working Group

Andrew Pritchard  
Dr Karl Sylvester  
Shirley Coelho  
Paul Burns  
Alex Perkins  
Maximillian Thomas  
David Gough

## 5.1 Successful Publication of ARTP Guides

The committee is also in the process of reviewing its online downloadable “how to” guides as a number of these may need updating. We are also keen to provide an online resource that promotes all published research by ARTP members by providing an archive of web links to their work. Certain aspects of our work have not progressed due to the previous pandemic, including the development of podcasts but this is still planned. As always, we are committed to providing support to all ARTP members for any aspect of research (including the ethical approval process, grant applications, and research methodology) or, indeed, career progression towards becoming a clinical scientist and beyond.

## 5.2 CPET Working Group Sub-Committee

Following peer review by an expert panel, the CPET working group submitted the ARTP statement on cardiopulmonary exercise testing 2021 to BMJ Open Respiratory Research on October 12th, 2021. The document was accepted and then published on November 15th, 2021. We have received very positive feedback to date and the document was well received at launch on social media. The document outlines how to deliver a quality assured CPET service in both adults and paediatrics with guidance on equipment requirements and the expected standards of individuals delivering the service.

The document has been the topic for discussion on a recent ARTP Sessions recording. The practice points in the document have been incorporated into the ARTP CPET course, where appropriate, and the recommendations around competency will form a foundation for a new ARTP CPET competency framework. Work has commenced by the above group on the ARTP CPET competency certification framework. This framework will allow individuals to demonstrate their competency to deliver a CPET service and the likely requirements will be a portfolio of evidence with a practical examination. It is early days, but broadly, the certification process will enable accreditation certification at either a ‘CPET practitioner’, ‘CPET reporter’ or ‘combined’ (CPET practitioner and reporter) level. More information will be released as this exciting project is further developed during 2022.

The CPET faculty are keen to provide further dates for CPET special interest group meetings as we move further away from COVID restrictions. These dates will be publicised as soon as they are available.

## 5.3 Research and Innovation Update

The 2021-2022 period has seen a return to normal activity for the Research and Innovation Committee. Our committee currently comprises 13 members, with two stepping down and three new members joining.

Our on-going duties have continued as usual with a strong focus on our national conference, which was virtual in 2021. Once again, our committee helped facilitate the research aspects of the conference, including promoting and advising abstract submission, scoring abstracts, and planning and chairing the oral and poster research sessions. We are currently part way through this process for the 2022 Conference which, thankfully, will be a live event. We are planning on having a small stand again in the exhibition hall, where members of our committee will be available to provide advice on many areas of research. We are developing a questionnaire for ARTP members to complete at our stand to give feedback on their experiences with IRAS and their own Trust R&D departments.

## 5.4 Manufacturer's Liaison Committee

The committee has had to navigate a few issues with manufacturers, most recently the response to the Philips global CPAP recall. The manufacturers have welcomed the move back to the normal face to face conference this year; unfortunately it was felt that the virtual platform was not ideal for them.

After discussions with the manufacturers, it has also been decided not to make awards or the complete the survey this year.

And finally, Alan Moore has taken the decision to step down from the committee; on behalf of the ARTP we would like to personally thank Alan for all his hard work and continual support as manufacturers' liaison. His experience and knowledge will be sorely missed.

## 5.5 Improving Quality in Physiological Services (IQIPS)

The Standards committee is in full support of this nationally recognised accreditation scheme. There are currently five services that have IQIPS accreditation, representing an increase of two services since last year.

Congratulations to the following who have achieved or maintained their accreditation:

- University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust
- Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust
- University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust
- Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
- Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust

The Standards section of the website contains documents that are available to the membership for adaption and implementation into their service which can be linked to the specific IQIPS domains. Additional useful information can be found at Improving Quality in Physiological Services (IQIPS)

<https://www.ukas.com/accreditation/standards/iqips/>

## 5.6 Other

Rasheda Choudhury (Standards) has represented the ARTP along with the Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC), NHSE and NHS Improvement to enhance the access and uptake of FeNO, as recommended by NICE. Rasheda has been instrumental in developing an education and training package to support the measurement of FeNO.

The training package can be accessed via the Health Education England e-learning for healthcare hub:

<https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/feno-in-asthma/>

<b>Objectives 2022 (Standards)</b>
<b>ARTP CPET competency framework</b>
<b>To continue to support the implementation of IQIPS</b>
<b>Provision of additional CPET Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings</b>
<b>Continue to develop standard operating protocols for use by the membership</b>
<b>Provide feedback for any applicable consultation documents on behalf of the ARTP</b>
<b>Continue to have a significant profile within the ARTP website</b>
<b>Support on-going research and innovation</b>
<b>Continue to provide a link between members and manufacturers via the Manufacturers Liaison Committee (MLC)</b>
<b>Revise and update the manufacturers/industry survey</b>

## 6 Events

### COMMITTEE

Chair – Kelly Pauley  
Vice-Chair – Laura Jess  
Dr Karl Sylvester  
Julie Lloyd  
Joanna Shakespeare  
Alan Moore  
Joanne Purvis  
Karen Lewis-Jones  
Tracy Herod  
Matt Rutter  
Sara Parsons  
Mike Lang  
James Stockley

#### 6.1 Conference 2021 – Virtual

The 45<sup>th</sup> ARTP Conference took place virtually on the 1st – 2nd July 2021, due to the on-going difficulties associated with the COVID pandemic. The programme consisted of 33 talks, 4 Oral presentations, 9 sponsored workshops and a virtual exhibition and poster area.

A total number of 254 registered delegates attended, including 85 exhibitor personnel. The conference was supported by 18 companies proving a virtual exhibition or sponsorship. This support was gratefully received as the platform was virtual and therefore the exhibitors struggled to interact with delegates in the same way as face to face.

Delivered by some of the leading and influential experts in their respective fields, the conference sessions were aimed at providing education, an opportunity to present scientific research.

This year's keynote sessions included the PK Memorial Lecture, "Can you actually image how the lung is functioning?" delivered by Professor Bruce Thompson, and the Sleep Keynote, "Adaptations of NIV in the Acute Setting" by Dr Michelle Ramsay. We also had a COVID 19 session presented by our ARTP Special Award winner for this year Stefano Nava.

In addition we had 2 excellent extreme physiology sessions featuring Dr Jeroen Swart speaking about lessons learned from testing elite athletes with CPET and Professor Chris Imray speaking on the impact on our physiology from Polar Environments.

This year's programme was jam packed with multiple sessions on CPET, introducing diagnostic hubs across the 4 nations, Interventional Pulmonology, paediatric sessions to name but a few.

Award	Winner
<b>ARTP Award for Services to Respiratory Medicine 2021</b>	<b>Professor Stefano Navo</b>
<b>ARTP Award for Services to Respiratory and Sleep Science 2021</b>	<b>Sandra Davies</b>

## 6.2 NSD 2021 – Virtual Session

Due to the global pandemic, this year's National Strategy Day took place using a virtual platform again on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021. The event was free to attend for all heads of departments or their nominated deputies.

The day allowed delegates to keep up-to-date with professional issues and developments in respiratory and sleep physiology, and provided an opportunity to discuss important matters and share best practice with members of ARTP. The programme included updates from key areas affecting respiratory and sleep physiology services, and issues surrounding COVID-19.

There was a virtual exhibition, and eight exhibitors attended. A total number of 148 registered delegates attended, including 25 exhibitor personnel. The conference was supported by eight companies proving a virtual exhibition or sponsorship. The exhibitors continued to struggle with interaction with the delegates and more emphasis was put on sponsorship opportunities with on demand videos, pop up videos and banner adverts.

Based on this interim report, overall this year's National Strategy Day was a great success, with positive feedback received. Sessions and speakers received high scores overall.

The relationship with industry is essential to ARTP and we have worked closely with the industry partners in planning the virtual 2021 conference. This has been well received and appreciated by our industry partners to work collaboratively to ensure an excellent virtual ARTP conference. We have had further updates on the platform with additions of a poster hall with viewing, and ability to connect with author to send direct questions/feedback, parallel sessions, various structures of meetings – breakouts, workshops, discussions etc. Sessions can be recorded, and then uploaded back to the platform to allow sessions to be viewed 'on demand', which is proving extremely popular.

### Objectives 2022 (Events)

<b>Deliver a successful face to face annual conference for 2022</b>
<b>Source appropriate venue for the 2021 National Strategy Day</b>
<b>Deliver a successful National Strategy Day</b>
<b>Source and book an appropriate venue for the ARTP conference 2023</b>

## 7 Sleep

### COMMITTEE

Chair – Sara Parsons  
Vice Chair - Alan Moore  
Prof. Brendan Cooper  
Dr Vicky Cooper  
Dr Aditi Desai  
Dr Adrian Kendrick  
Trish Matharu  
Andrew Morley  
Alex Perkins  
Jordan Ulmer  
Megan Beacham  
Laura Jess  
Richard Glover  
Matthew Davies

### SLEEP APNOEA CONSORTIUM

#### **Chair**

Prof. Brendan Cooper

#### **Vice-Chair**

Alan Moore

#### **Clinical Members**

Dr Martin Allen, British Thoracic Society  
Sara Parsons, ARTP Sleep Chair  
Julie Lloyd, ARTP Chair  
Dr Vicky Cooper, ARTP  
Dr Adrian Kendrick, ARTP  
Dr Aditi Desai, British Society of Dental Sleep Medicine  
Dr Joerg Steier, British Sleep Society  
Iain Wheatley, ARNS  
Dr Ian Smith

#### **Company Representatives**

Drive DeVilbiss Healthcare Ltd  
Fisher and Paykel Healthcare UK Ltd  
Philips Home Health Care Solutions  
ResMed (UK) Ltd  
S-Med Ltd  
Itamar Medical  
Dolby Vivisol  
Löwenstein Medical

## 7.1 New Members

We are pleased to have welcomed three new members to the Sleep Committee during 2021-2022.

## 7.2 Education

### Courses

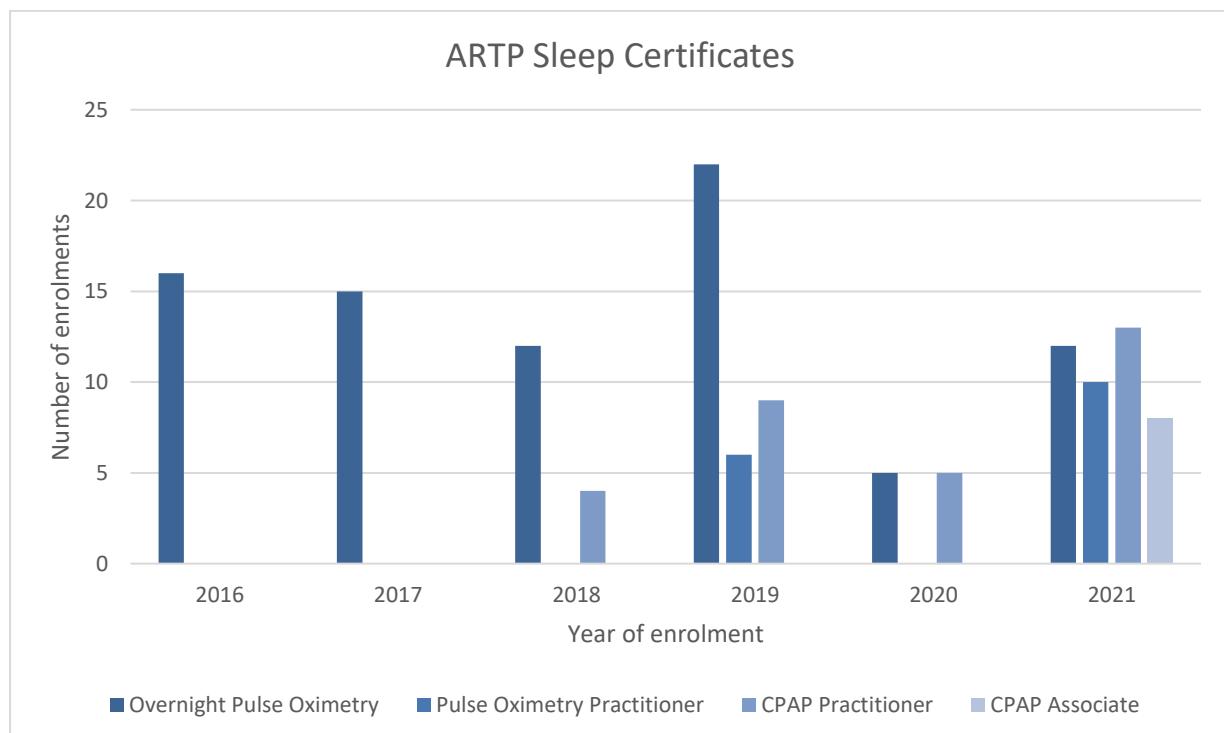
The sleep committee developed the first online snippet sessions with dedicated 30-minute lunchtime Q&A sessions for the basic sleep course. More delegates were able to access the course with 86 registered. The course was highly rated with average feedback from attendees for the various sessions being 4.6/5. Further adaptations are planned to refine the course.

The same format will also be used for the advanced sleep course due to run in June.

### Certificates

Certificate uptake has increased again as we enter a new phase of Covid allowing professionals the opportunity to complete professional development.

The diagnostic certificates were due to be reviewed in 2021 to fit in line with the new CPAP certificates; due to on-going pressures this has not been completed. This will be part of the objectives for this next year.



*Figure 1: Enrolment numbers for ARTP Sleep certificates*

## 7.3 ERS

The Sleep Committee worked with European Respiratory Society (ERS) developing sleep physiology modules. Six out of the 8 were finished and available on the ERS website to access prior to the Covid pandemic. Unfortunately, the uptake for the modules was lower than anticipated and so this has been paused.

## 7.4 SNews

The Sleep Committee would like to say thank you to Alison Butler for her commitment and dedication as SNews Editor, Alison stepped down after 5 years in the role.

Trish Matharu has been appointed the new Editor for SNews and will be releasing 2 newsletters per year. There are plans to revamp the format and structure for the autumn edition.

## 7.5 Standards

The on-going effects of COVID-19 continue to impact service delivery. Coupled with the well documented impact on supply chains caused by the pandemic and the massive impact of the Philips CPAP/NIV crisis, the Sleep Committee and the Sleep Apnoea Consortium have both done extremely well to make any progress over the past year. All existing sleep standards of care documents were due for revision during 2021 but that proved impossible given service needs and the demands on committee members. Significant progress is now being made and complete revision of at least 3 of the 4 standards documents is expected during 2022.

## 7.6 Mandibular Repositioning Devices (MRDS)

A complete and radical revision of this document is under way. The work is being led by Dr Aditi Desai who is President of the British Society of Dental Sleep Medicine, the British Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine and President: Odontology, Royal Society of Medicine. The revision will fully consider the recommendations on the use of MRDs in the NICE guideline 'Obstructive sleep apnoea/hypopnoea syndrome and obesity hypoventilation syndrome in over 16s' published in August 2021.

## 7.7 CPAP Devices (Technical & Performance)

Draft Version 5 of the standards is being shared with industry partners through the Sleep Apnoea Consortium at this conference. In the 2021 Annual report we reported that EN ISO 80601-2-70 (Sleep apnoea breathing therapy), for which we had submitted a significant number of technical amendments along with our colleague in Hamburg, Professor Thomas Netzel, was approved without any amendment on the grounds that only editorial changes were permitted. EN ISO 80601-2-70:2020 does not legally compel manufacturers of CPAP devices to commit to produce devices which are guaranteed to 100% comply with that

standard. EN ISO 80601-2-70:2020, as with all ISO protocols, also allows considerable leeway for manufacturers to deviate from what is prescribed in the ISO.

Considering the National Patient Safety Alert: Philips ventilator, CPAP and BiPAP devices: Potential for patient harm due to inhalation of particles and volatile organic compounds (NatPSA /2021 /005 / MHRA) and other factors, the SAC believes that now is the time for more rigorous scrutiny of device construction and performance. This is especially pertinent given the global supply shortage of CPAP devices from reputable sources. That shortfall can only be ameliorated by turning to unknown suppliers, (mostly in the Far East) and it is likely that this will happen as there are few other choices at this present time. Sourcing CPAP devices from unknown companies, (e.g., PPE sourcing by UK Government) raise the potential for supply of substandard devices, faked documentation (e.g., false CE marking) which pose potential significant risks to patient safety. ARTP would like to mitigate this risk by asking suppliers to submit sample devices for the ARTP independent CPAP device testing programme process like other UK devices.

ARTP SAC intends to work closely with its current industry partners to implement wider use of our independent CPAP device testing programme to sift out the good from the bad.

## 7.8 Sleep Apnoea Services (Diagnostics)

Work on a revised document is scheduled to commence in the latter half of 2022.

<b>Objectives 2022 (Sleep)</b>
<b>Provide basic and advanced sleep courses and NIV course</b>
<b>Snippet session format to be adapted</b>
<b>Revamp of SNews</b>
<b>Develop a peripheral arterial tonometry certificate</b>
<b>Review and amend the diagnostic certificates</b>
<b>Continue with supporting all certificates</b>
<b>Finalise relationship with BSS</b>
<b>Support the ARTP Sleep Apnoea Consortium work on standards and accreditation of diagnostic and therapeutic equipment</b>

4

## 8 Workforce

### COMMITTEE

Chair – Sara McArthur  
Vice-Chair – Max Thomas  
Rosemary Fillingham  
Tracey Fleming  
Lauren Lear  
Kelly Pauley  
Andy Stubbington

The main remit of the ARTP workforce committee is to promote the ARTP and to provide our members and stakeholders with up to date information within the respiratory and sleep field at a National level and also with regards to the devolved nations.

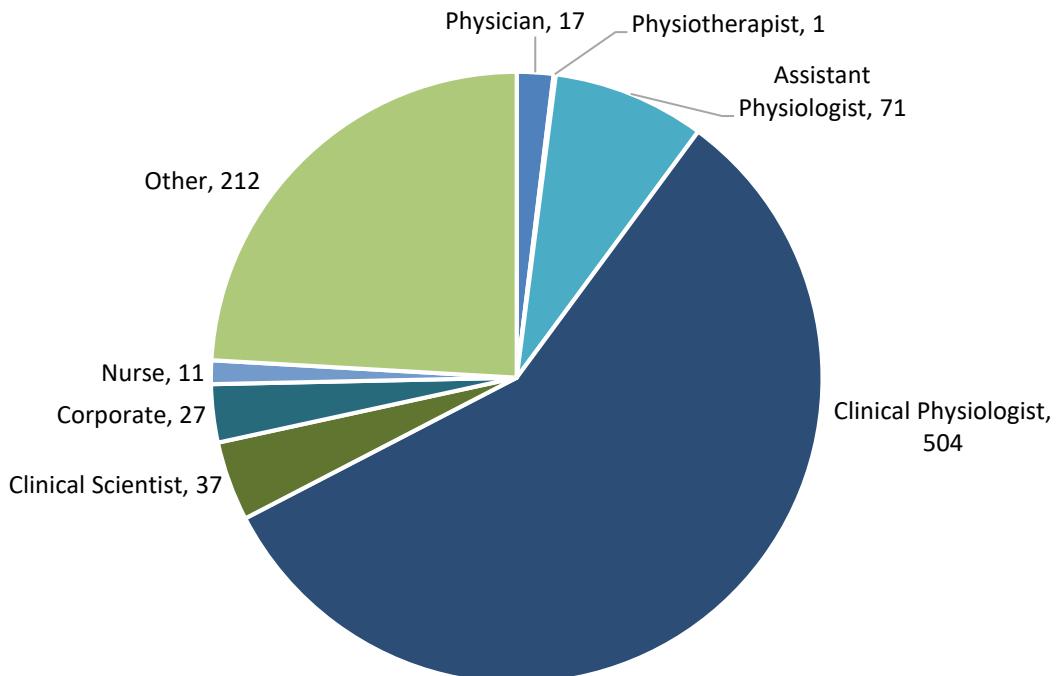
Although the workforce committee has continued to be active throughout 2021/2022 there has been a marked reduction in our ability to have a full presence at the many conferences we usually attend due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. The conferences are usually attended to highlight the great work the ARTP undertakes in both respiratory and non-physiologist disciplines and to promote the educational opportunities that ARTP offer.

Financially again this year it has not been feasible to attend many conferences that have changed to on-line access; as an organisation we have had minimal revenue coming in as our own educational courses have only just restarted. Committee members and other volunteers have not been able to commit to being able to staff a virtual stand for a few days due to their own current work commitments and pressures. We do now hold a registry of volunteers that we can utilise to help cover the conferences moving forward.

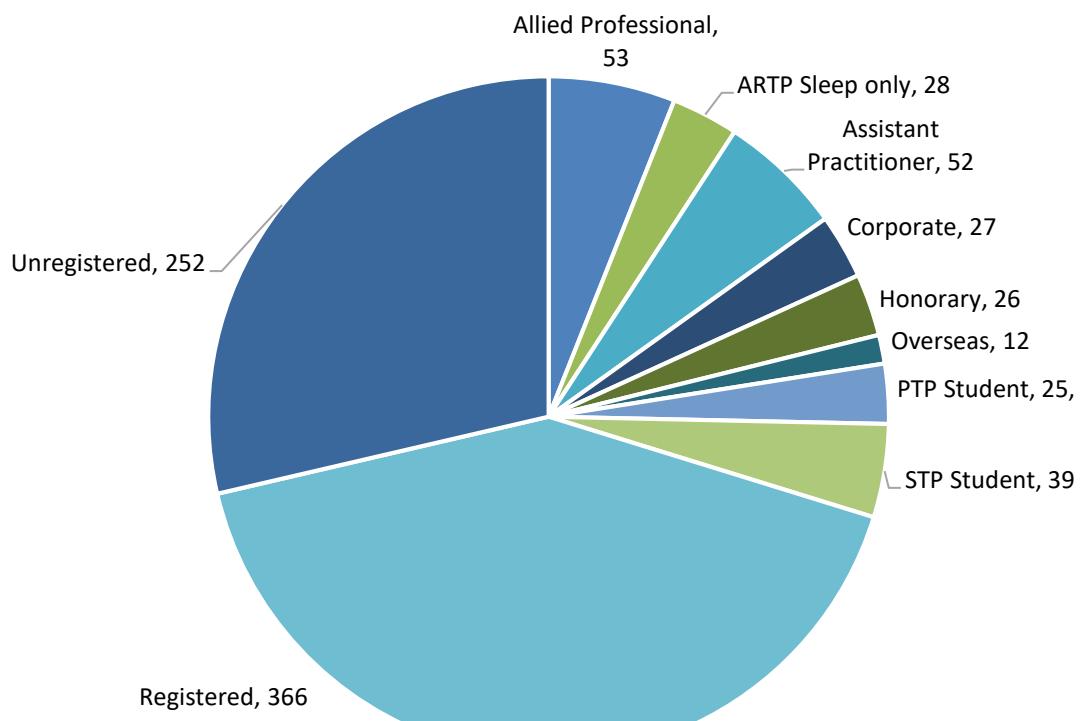
As a committee we try to recruit more physiologist members to join the ARTP and to engage memberships from other healthcare professionals such as nurses, physiotherapists etc. The membership numbers reflect the completion of the renewals period, which was extended until the end of September 2021. There is likely to be an increase in members due to the introduction of the offer of one year's free membership for those who complete the ARTP spirometry certification process. As ARTP courses are starting to be held again and the 2022 conference is coming up an increase in membership numbers is expected as there is a reduction in cost for members. The membership numbers this year have remained relatively stable (880 as of Jan 2022).

We have continued to answer questions via the website pertaining to working in the field from national and international professionals.

## ARTP Membership by Profession Type January 2022 (n=880)



## Membership Numbers January 2022 (n=880)



The workforce committee has continued to provide representation on the ARTP and Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists (RCCP) committees. For both societies the committee has also continued to vet referrals for new membership applications. The committee has also continued to represent the ARTP on regulatory committees such as the RCCP, Academy of Healthcare Science (AHCS) and Association of Clinical Scientists (ACS). The committee continues to approve all job vacancy advertisements within the profession advertised via the ARTP.

Moving into 2022/2023 our main aims and goals remain the same: promote the ARTP to all in the respiratory and sleep field but also into other disciplines, to work closer with other healthcare science disciplines to promote healthcare science to the wider population and to engage and enthuse early career physiologists and students to become members.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been hard for all in the NHS. Due to the on-going pandemic our members have been redeployed to help in other areas such as the wards (administering NIV etc.) and have utilised innovative working (such as drive through spirometry) which has showcased our profession. The long term effects of COVID-19 are still emerging but what can be gleaned is that the on-going symptoms such as cough, breathlessness and reduction in exercise capacity will be requiring continuing input from our workforce. This is an opportune time to continue to promote our profession and highlight the need for additional funding to increase our workforce.

In Scotland there has been significant input into the Scottish government by the Clinical Physiology Executive Board (CPEB). A Head of Services Strategic Group was commissioned which includes heads of services or their deputies in respiratory and sleep physiology from every Health Board in Scotland. Three representatives from the Head of Services Strategic Group then feed directly to CPEB and ultimately the Scottish government. This allows for all boards to have input regarding training/ education and future workforce planning. The group has also allowed for camaraderie during the current pandemic and acted as a source of support throughout.

At this AGM I (Sara McArthur) will be stepping down as the current workforce committee chair and my vice-chair Max Thomas has kindly accepted this role. The vice-chair role will be vacant and applications from the workforce committee will be invited in the first instance. After nearly 9 years of serving on the committee I have had a great team of support and enjoyed every second. I am sure Max will continue on with the committees' excellent work, as will the whole committee.

A special thank you to Matt Rutter and Pete Moxon for creating the workforce progression planning document on behalf of the ARTP Standards, Sleep and Workforce Committees. This is a great document which will assist departments in planning for the ever changing workforce.

## Objectives 2022 (Workforce)

**Continue to promote the role of respiratory and sleep physiology to a wider audience (patient and public involvement).**

**Add additional information to the ARTP website to help members manage their CPD.**

**Increase registration numbers with a specific focus on trainees and students.**

**Communicate with trainee networks (PTP/STP students) and ensure respiratory and sleep trainees are aware of the ARTP.**

**Liaise with the National School of Healthcare Science to advertise to students.**

**Advise on the required numbers of staff incoming to the workforce to meet the demand for future testing, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Utilise COVID-19 long term symptoms to promote ourselves and our need for additional workforce and funding.**

## 9 Paediatrics

### COMMITTEE

Chair - Dr Jane Kirkby

Vice Chair – Emma Fettes (*Acting Chair 2021-22*)

Paul Burns

Dr Laurie Smith

Stephanie Brotherton

Philip Lawrence (*Acting Vice Chair 2021-22*)

Matthew Davies

Elise Buchan

### 9.1 Key Activities

- The paediatric committee provides member representation on the ARTP committees where needed and paediatric support to other committees as requested. Currently we have Emma Fettes sitting on Education committee, Matthew Davies sitting on Sleep committee and Philip Lawrence sitting on Spirometry committee.
- Paediatric session planning and approaching speaker for ARTP Annual Conference
- Providing response to queries sent via ARTP forum or emails for paediatric physiology issues
- Education links to develop, deliver and promote paediatric respiratory and sleep physiology education
- Sub-committee of Paediatric Spirometry working closely with ARTP Spirometry

### 9.2 Spirometry Education

Working closely with ARTP Spirometry Chair and Administration team, Paediatric Spirometry Certification has been completely updated to the online platform and is available in every aspect of the 'Adult' certificate; Full, Joint Full (with the Adult certification), Foundation, Reporting and Paediatric top-up and as an addition for those holding an adult certificate. The Spirometry Certification Standards Document has been updated with information for paediatric provision. The committee provided paediatric edit for the re-write of 'A Guide to Performing Quality Assured Diagnostic Spirometry'.

### 9.3 Education

Many of the courses we currently provide paediatric input and speakers for were postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions/risk reduction. The 'Applied Practice of Multiple Breath Nitrogen Washout in Adults and Children' Course ran as a blended course in March 2022. The CPET course ran in Brighton in November 2021 which had paediatric committee input.

The committee provided review for paediatric content of the new handbook to support the professional examinations.

#### 9.4 Other notable activities/achievements

ARTP CPET Competency Certificate development, this is on-going and we have a paediatric representative on this group.

Providing ARTP response for the consultation BTS Guideline for diagnosing and monitoring paediatric sleep disordered breathing.

#### Objectives 2022 (Paediatrics)

**To continue to support the Paediatric Spirometry Certification process for quality assured paediatric spirometry**

**To complete the portfolio and examination changes required to introduce 'ARTP professional exam with paediatrics'**

**To develop paediatric elements of the ARTP CPET Competency Certificate**

**To support the re-introduction of F2F ARTP courses**

**To plan paediatric elements for ARTP 2023 Conference Programme**

#### Thank you

ARTP wish to give thanks to all members for their continued support and invite members to attend the Annual General Meeting, taking place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 as part of the virtual ARTP Conference 2022. Further information about joining the online AGM and an agenda for the meeting is available on the ARTP website.