



ARTP Annual Report 2020/21

Welcome to the ARTP annual report for 2020/21. For each and every one of us, the last 12-months will have been some of the most challenging times any of us have experienced professionally and personally. Many of us have been redeployed into roles we would never imagined we would be doing and yet despite this, have demonstrated the highest levels of professionalism and expertise.

During this tumultuous time ARTP has continued to provide support and guidance for our members and other healthcare professionals. The ARTP COVID-19 group has led the way in developing best practice guidance in a number of areas despite there being little evidence available. Sadly, much of our work has taken a 'back-seat' during this difficult time. Educational courses were temporarily paused, although I am pleased to say that plans are underway to deliver a number of hybrid teaching courses over the next few months. ARTP Spirometry has gone from strength to strength and the new ARTP Spirometry Certification program is now open for registration.

The suspension of training courses, along with the reorganisation of our Annual Conference have provided some financial challenges for the organisation, but I'm pleased to say that under the careful stewardship of the ARTP Treasurer, the organisation is in a stable position. ARTP has continued to strengthen our links with other organisations such as British Thoracic Society and European Respiratory Society; our work to shape policy at a national level such as within the Taskforce for Lung Health has continued. In conjunction with the National School for Healthcare Science, ARTP has completed the review of the Scientist Training Programme curriculum to ensure that the clinical scientists of the future are able to meet the challenges that may lie ahead.

None of the achievements described in this report could possibly have been completed without the tireless dedication of the ARTP Board members and all members of the subcommittees that make up ARTP. Their contributions in addition to their busy 'day job' are utterly invaluable in ensuring that ARTP is the respected and professional organisation that it is. It remains only for me to thank each and every one of them for their hard work, passion and dedication over the last 12 months and all that they will continue to do over the coming months.



Julie Lloyd
Honorary Chair, ARTP

Contents

1. About the ARTP	P4
1.1. Aims and Objectives	P4
1.2. ARTP Council	P5
1.3. ARTP Executive Board	P5
2. Finance	P6
2.1. Statement of Financial Activity	
3. Communications	P10
3.1. Website Development	P11
3.2. Data Protection	P11
3.3. Regional Groups	P11
3.4. Implementation of Digital Platform	P11
3.5. Website Activity	P12
3.6. Social Media Activity	P13
4. Education	P14
4.1. Courses 2020	P14
4.2. Courses 2021	P14
4.3. ARTP Professional Examinations	P15
4.4. Spirometry	P15
4.5. National School of Healthcare Science	P16
4.6. Tenures	P16
5. Standards	P17
5.1. Successful Publication of the ARTP 2020 Lung Function Testing Guidelines	P18
5.2. ARTP CPET Guidelines Document and CPET Special Interest Group (SIG)	P19
5.3. Research and Innovation Update	P19
5.4. Manufacturer's Liaison Committee	P20
5.5. Improving Quality in Physiological Services (IQIPS)	P20
5.6. Other	P20
6. Events	P22
6.1. Conference 2020 - Birmingham	P22
6.2. NSD 2020 – Virtual Session	P23
7. Sleep	P25
7.1. New Members	P26
7.2. Education	P26
7.3. ERS	P27
7.4. Standards	P27
7.5. NHS Supplies Framework for Diagnostic, CPAP, NIV and High Flow Oxygen Devices	P27
8. Workforce	P29
9. Paediatrics	P32
9.1 Education and Spirometry	P32
9.2 Education on other ARTP courses	P32
9.3 Other notable activities/achievements	P32
9.4 The Future	P32

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 Social Care 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 2021 Annual Conference and the membership will be asked to vote on and endorse the following appointments:

ARTP President

ARTP Honorary Secretary

Please note the following Committee post changes:

- Peter Moxon has become Chair of the ARTP Standards Committee.
- Emma Ince has become Chair of the ARTP Communications Committee.

2 Finance

Targets 2020-21	Outcome
Maintain financial liquidity including reserves as per policy	Completed and ongoing
Manage budget setting for ARTP Committees	Completed and ongoing
Utilise independent financial advice to ensure that financial management & reporting is robust	Completed and ongoing
e-merchandising and payments	Ongoing
Complete funding of the new ARTP website	Completed
Invest any surplus into research projects, education and training	No surplus this year

2.1 Statement of financial activity

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:				
Conference and education	549,177	-	549,177	514,614
Investments	783		783	694
TOTAL	549,960	-	549,960	515,308
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	500	(-)	500	(-)
Conference and education	(548,773)	(5,778)	(544,551)	(508,377)
Other	(1,914)	(-)	(1,914)	(1,370)
TOTAL	(551,187)	(5,778)	(556,965)	(509,747)
Net Income	(1,227)	(5,778)	(7,005)	5,561
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	435,123	10,961	446,084	440,523
Total funds carried forward	433,896	5,183	439,079	446,084

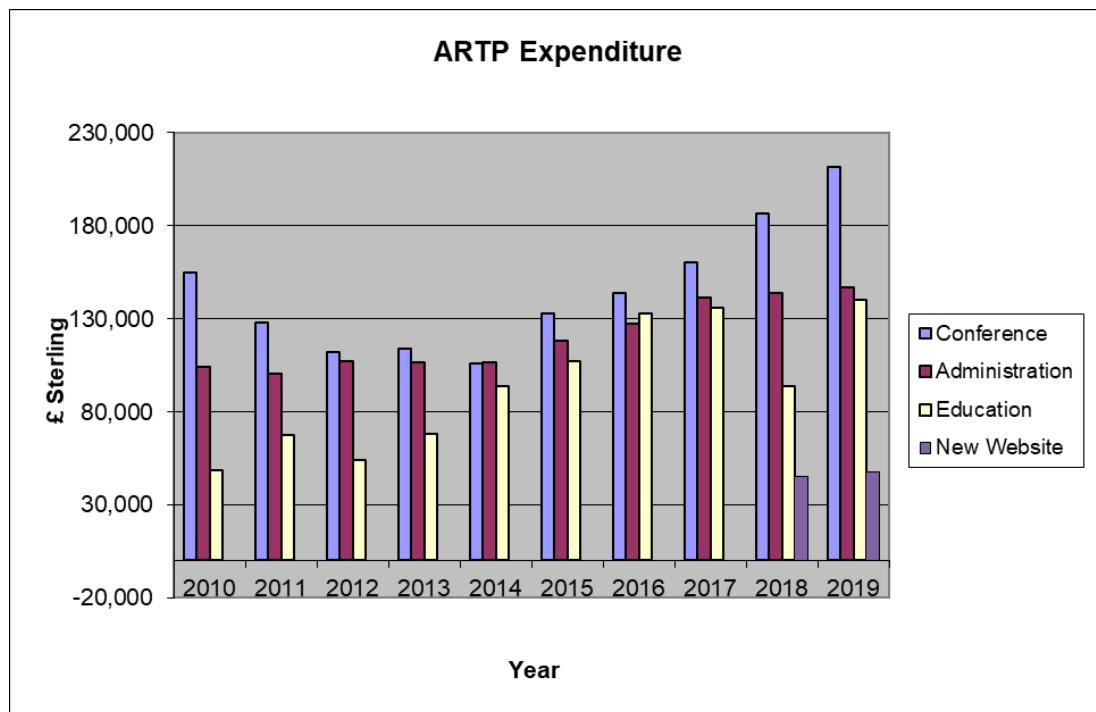
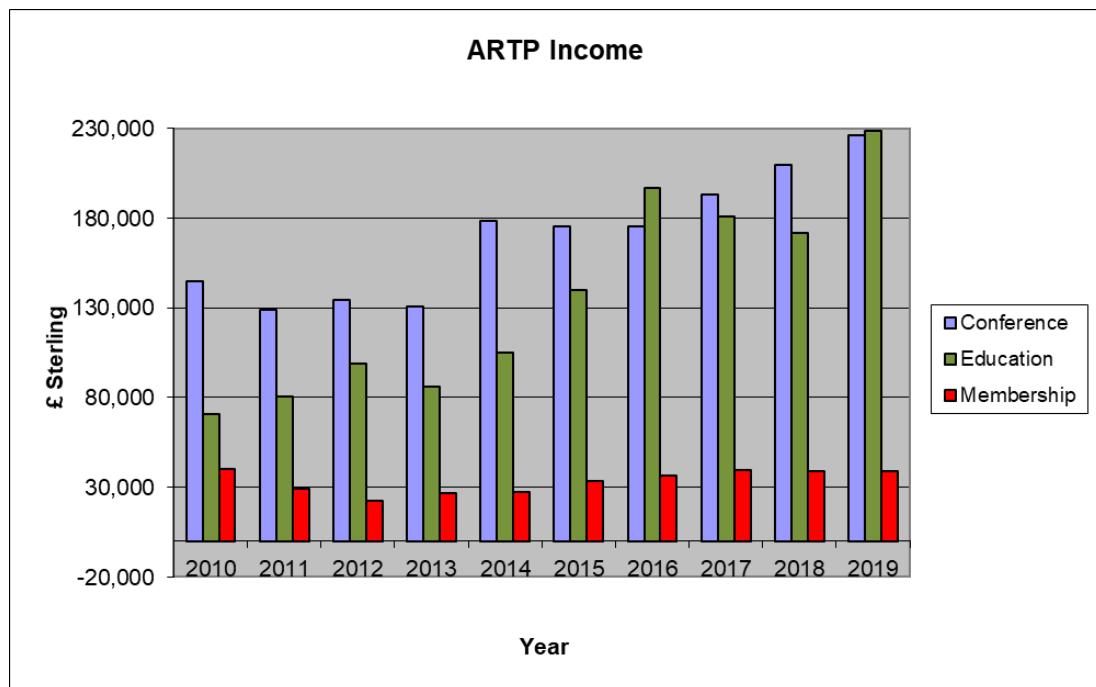
Total assets of £439,079

2018/19 Surplus of £5,561

2019/20 Deficit of £7,005

All accounts on ARTP website

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



Objectives 2020-21 (Finance)

Maintain financial viability, including reserves as per policy

Manage budget setting for ARTP Committees

Utilise independent financial advice to ensure that financial management & reporting is robust

e-merchandising and payments

Invest any surplus in to research projects, education & training

The total assets at the end of the year were £439,079. For the first time in many years I have to report a small deficit for the year of **£7,005**. The two most significant contributing factors for this are the non-recurring expenditure related to the new Website setup (£47,714) and the fact that, due to ARTP's increased turnover in the last few years, we have exceeded the threshold for VAT exemption. As a result of detailed audit of the accounts in the affected years we have a current estimated retrospective VAT liability of £18,000. Whilst this is still to be finalised it is included in this year's accounts. These two items of non-recurring expenditure along with the annual 2% increase in base administration costs, more than offset the increased net income accounting for this small in year deficit. Without the Website & VAT liability, ARTP accounts for the year would have been in surplus.

The relationship between ARTP and ICST was terminated by mutual consent at the end of the financial year 2019-20. Following discussion with ICST via our legal representatives, financial settlement has been achieved. Due to the change in the VAT status of ARTP, there remains an outstanding VAT liability of £30,293.81 on this net settlement of £93,694.05, which we are attempting to recover. I want to thank EBS, in particular Philip Baker, Operations Director and Mark Hubbocks, ARTP Non-Executive Director/financial advisor, for the advice and significant time and effort put into successfully resolving this.

Funds carried forward are in line with ARTP's Financial Reserves Policy, which should be equivalent to expected annual running costs.

There was no increase in the charge to members for ARTP courses during this year. There remained good support from manufacturers, producing income at Conference and other events. Net income from Conference was £14,611 compared to £23,200 the previous year which remains well within target range. Other income comes from sales of books/manuals and advertising. Income from Membership remains stable and membership fees have again remained unchanged and are significantly subsidised by other income.

Recurring expenditure was in line with expectations with the primary expenditure, as always, being accounted for by Conference, Education and Administration. As highlighted earlier, there was additional non-recurring expenditure within the year of £47,714, necessary to complete procurement and setup a much overdue, modern website that will significantly enhance user experience and accessibility for members, professionals and the public, thereby

further raising ARTP's profile. This website has since gone live. This was the final instalment of the setup costs.

Advanced notice of budgetary challenges for 2020-2021 financial year

In normal circumstances there would have been an expectation that the finances for the current year (2020-2021) would have been in modest surplus;- however, ARTP are not immune from a significant financial impact as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in all courses for the year having to be cancelled/postponed. With education and the postponed Conference being a major net contributor to ARTP's finances, this loss of revenue whilst fixed costs/overheads have still to be met will severely impact on ARTP's finances this year (2020-2021) producing a large deficit. Fortunately the financial reserves policy has set us in good stead to weather this financial hurricane and the Board of ARTP are confident that ARTP finances are on a sound footing going forward as educational courses resume along with the resumption of more stable income from spirometry certification that can be expected through 2021-2022 and beyond, though we will have to replenish the reserves over a number of years.

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 - Alison Butler

Dr Andy Robson

Keith Butterfield

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

Data Protection Officer – Philip Baker

Core Activities include:

- Promote the service and practice of respiratory and sleep physiology
- Produce and promote 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
Deliver the new ARTP website	Emma Ince
Continue to deliver our high-quality publications – Inspire Journal and S-NEWS	Aidan Laverty and Alison Butler
To recruit a Social Media Lead and Campaign lead to ensure ARTP fully partakes in national campaigns	Emma Ince
To facilitate and support the development of the ARTP Regional groups	Emma Ince and Geraldine O'Connell-Ramsey

3.1 Website Development

In 2018 we signed a contract with Senior Internet (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 would go live in April-May 2019. In January 2020 the website finally went live with an announcement of this at the ARTP AGM. 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 Data Protection

Another focus for us has been to ensure that the ARTP is compliant with data protection. We have created and implemented many of the policies and procedures that we are required to do and in line with best practice we will 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, was also successfully transferred across to Google Groups in December 2020.

3.5 Website Activity (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. There has undoubtedly been a huge need for professional advice due to the global pandemic, with COVID-19 resources being the most viewed pages on the website during 2020. This could also be helped 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 th March 2020	7,828
5	ARTP Guidance: Respiratory Function Testing and Sleep Services during endemic COVID-19 – 19 th 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

Understandably, the most visited pages on the ARTP website over the course of the year have been COVID-19 resources and guidance. The search term results show that there is still a keen interest in spirometry, despite the challenges faced in workplaces throughout the year.

3.6 Social Media Activity

In December 2020 we finally reduced the number of social media accounts to just one. We have been successful in recruiting into the social media lead. The chair of communications and social media lead are working to populate a social media communication strategy for 2021. For governance, an agreement has been made that any social media post needs to gain approval from 2 members of the editorial board prior to it being posted up.

Objectives 2021 (Communications)	Lead
Continue to adapt and improve the ARTP website	Emma Ince
Continue to deliver our high-quality publications – Inspire Journal and S-NEWS	Aidan Laverty and Alison Butler
To deliver the Social Media Plan 2021	Natalie Goodwin
Expanding the number of participating Regional Groups in local meetings and networks	Chair/Vice-Chair/Regional Groups Lead



4 Education & Training

COMMITTEE

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

Spirometry

Chair – Joanna Purvis
Vice-Chair – Richard Glover

Examinations

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

Edward Parkes
Dr Adrian Kendrick
Trefor Watts
Jackie Laverty
Emma Fettes
Emma Davies
Megan Beacham
Matt Rutter

4.1 Courses 2020

Unfortunately due to the outbreak of COVID-19, ARTP has not been able to run many courses throughout 2020. The only courses that have continued are in spirometry which has been delivered through e-learning and workshops via virtual platforms. There is a plan to try this with other courses which would be suitable in this format.

4.2 Courses 2021

We were hopeful to begin courses again in 2021 via virtual platforms, but with the second wave of COVID-19, this has been delayed while many were redeployed. With departments resuming back to some normality, we are planning these virtual courses. As some courses are not viable through this format, these will hopefully run face to face later in 2021 and in 2022.

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 were postponed in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and performed virtually in October 2020 instead. A big thank you to all the examiners that helped ensure these ran successfully again.

This year we have had 34 candidates (45% decrease from 2019) register for the professional examinations, but as we were only running one set of examinations, we would expect a large reduction. 16 took the examinations with 10 undertaking the practitioner level, 4 the associate and 2 the clinical. The pass rate for 2020 was 100% (76% in 2019).

The ARTP Professional Qualifications practical examinations ran virtually again over 4 weeks in April/May 2021 and will continue in this format again in November 2021.

The Education/Examination committee are still undertaking a review of the professional examination process. There are plans in place to introduce an OSCE type assessment rather than the current practical and clinical viva. This will enable candidates to all be examined in one central location making it easier for candidates and examiners. The OSCEs will be designed to supplement the IRCP and will ensure that all aspects of the syllabus are covered. Further details will be released when they are available.

4.4 Spirometry

The ARTP Spirometry Certificate moved back to ARTP in November 2020 and the new online portfolio opened in June 2021. ARTP continues to work with stakeholders to develop and improve the process.

As of 1st June 2021, 152 candidates have registered for the ARTP spirometry certificate process.

Workshops and OSCE Assessments

There have been very few workshops and Objective Structured Clinical Exams (OSCEs) over the last year due to COVID-19, however, we developed virtual workshops and OSCEs (via the ICST process) which have been working well. Now we have moved back to being solely an ARTP process, we will no longer provide workshops, but we plan to continue with virtual OSCEs for the foreseeable future.

Register

As of 9th February 2020, there are 3701 individuals on the ARTP Spirometry Register. There are 508 individuals whose registration status is due to expire in the next 6 months. There are a further 781 who expired between March 2019 and Jan 2021 who have been given extra time to re-register.

4.5 National School of Healthcare Science

In 2020 there were 5 successful STP graduates in Respiratory and Sleep. The pass rate for the Objective Structured Final Assessments (OSFAs) 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 15 in 2019 to 18 in 2020. Thank you to all those departments training and developing the future Respiratory and Sleep Clinical Scientists. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, there are no mock or live OSFA's scheduled for 2021.

4.6 Tenures

Tenures for Chair, Vice Chair and Chair of Examinations are ongoing for another 1-2 years. Those in the roles remain dedicated to improving education. The objectives remain similar to 2020 because implementing any developments has been on hold during the pandemic.

Chair	Dr. Vicky Moore
Vice Chair	Helen Purcell
Chair of Examinations	Marie Belcher

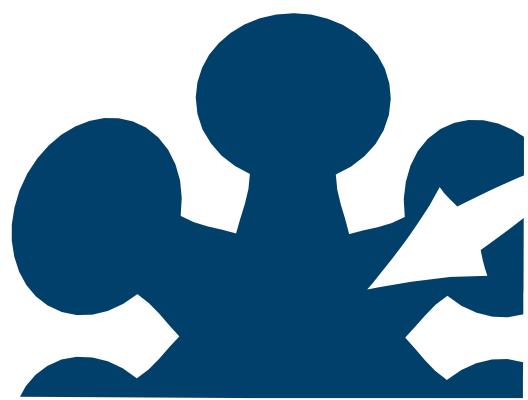
Objectives 2021 (Education & Training)

To continue to support the implementation of the quality assured spirometry programme

To review the professional examinations and develop an OSCE style examination

To develop a handbook to support the professional examinations

To change to an online platform for the IRCP portfolio



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
Max Thomas
Tracey Fleming

Research & Innovation Sub-Committee

Chair – Dr James Stockley
Vice Chair – Dr Samantha Irving
Liesl Carr
Gavin Comber
Dr Chris Earing
Dr Adrian Kendrick
Dr Jane Kirkby
Peter Moxon
Liam O'Reilly
Dr Karl Sylvester
Max Thomas
Ian Waller

Manufactures Liaison Sub-Committee

Chair - Matthew Rutter
Prof Brendan Cooper
Alan Moore

CPET Working Group Sub-Committee

Andrew Pritchard
Dr Karl Sylvester
Joanna Purvis

As the new chair of the Standards committee I wanted to firstly thank on behalf of the ARTP the out-going Standards committee chair, Ian Cliff for his leadership and development of this group which he has driven for the last 10+ years. Thankfully Ian will continue to be an active member of the Standards committee leading on consultations and I'm sure all members would want to join me in thanking Ian for successfully steering this committee and the fantastic work it has achieved during his tenure.

5.1 Successful Publication of the ARTP 2020 Lung Function Testing Guidelines

The ARTP 2020 Lung Function Testing Guidelines document was accepted by BMJ Open Respiratory Research and published in July 2020.

The ARTP last produced a guidelines document on Lung Function Testing back in 1994, some 26 years ago. It has also been over 10 years since the comprehensive series of joint American Thoracic Society/European Respiratory Society (ATS/ERS) statements on lung function testing. Many advances have been made since then both technological and to best practices. The Standards committee on behalf of the ARTP developed and published an updated guidance document in 2020. This document focussed on the most up to date evidence-based best practice recommendations for the most common lung function investigations. Each section of this comprehensive guidance document outlines the common parameters for each investigation, brief principles as well as acceptability and reproducibility criteria. It also readdresses the view that patients either pass or fail the criteria set down in those statements. The ARTP have been clear that the reason for setting out the ARTP view on lung function testing is to help ensure that each individual patient has the greatest chance of achieving their best result on the day of their tests.

The ARTP have always proudly been at the forefront of producing lung function testing guidelines;- this revised and expanded update is a fantastic resource and reference document for ARTP members.

On behalf of the Standards committee and the ARTP membership I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to all those ARTP members and experts involved with the successful publication of this document.

A link to the Guidelines document can be found within the ARTP website (see below).

<https://www.artp.org.uk/Resources/c7b59720-78cd-4fd6-bc90-b31701b1d11b>

5.2 ARTP CPET Guidelines Document and CPET Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings

The CPET working group started work again on the CPET guidelines document following a hiatus. Andrew Pritchard, Dr Karl Sylvester and Jo Purvis have created a group to drive the document to completion. The document is built on the previous version. The current content has been edited and restructured to fit stylistically with the ARTP Pulmonary Function Testing Statement 2020, following closely with similar headings and layout. It is now titled 'ARTP Statement on Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing 2021'. The first draft of the document is now complete, and is currently being reviewed by an expert panel.

There have been two ARTP CPET Specialist Interest Group (SIG) meetings to date, one at George Elliot Hospital, Nuneaton and another held at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. Each meeting ran successfully with 10-15 participants at each session. Demand for places has been good. Feedback from attendees has been very favourable. The day involved a plenary session from keynote speaker followed by presentation and discussion of CPET cases which the attendees bring to the meeting and present to the group. Each attendee is required to contribute 1-2 cases to the meeting. The first two plenary sessions included a session on CPET QC and Pre surgical CPET from the anaesthetic perspective. A third meeting has not occurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some discussion has started regarding feasibility of delivering future meetings online; so far nothing further has been arranged.

5.3 Research and Innovation Update

Early 2020, the research committee helped facilitate specific research sessions at the ARTP conference, including chairing sessions, scoring presentations, a stand in the exhibition hall, and providing a statistics talk in the early careers session (with associated quiz and prize).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the research committee has been largely inactive due to the cessation of many aspects of respiratory research. However, we have continued to provide 'Fresh Air' articles for Inspire. In the lead up to the virtual conference in July 2021, the committee has provided support to delegates submitting their abstracts and subsequently reviewed/scored all submitted abstracts before allocating them to poster or oral presentations. We will be facilitating and chairing research sessions during the 2021 virtual conference.

The committee has updated their section on the ARTP website, which now includes downloadable guides for many aspects of research. We have also been developing podcasts, which we hope will start recording later in 2021. In addition, our committee has provided support to ARTP members applying for STP and HSST programmes and we remain available to all members for advice on any aspect of research (including ethics, grant application, methodology and dissemination).

5.4 Manufacturer's Liaison Committee

This year, due to COVID-19, has been a particularly quiet year from a manufacturer's liaison perspective. Uncertainty with how the 2021 conference would progress meant that we have not had a formal meeting as part of a site visit.

The national strategy day went virtual, and manufacturers were unhappy with the level of communication and preparation time they had leading up to the event. There was also a predominantly negative response to their experience. With the announcement that the conference was also to be virtual, manufacturers were apprehensive of the situation. Between the events committee and the MLC, we arranged a series of meetings to obtain feedback for improvements, what could work and what they would like to happen. Both sides were positive about the outcome and the opportunity to have those discussions.

As part of the ongoing pandemic the decision was also made to postpone the manufacturer's survey which informs the results of the manufacturer awards, using the time away to re-evaluate the survey. There have been a couple of issues brought to the attention of the watchdog, which have been resolved.

5.5 Improving Quality in Physiological Services (IQIPS)

The Standards committee is in full support of this nationally recognised accreditation scheme. There are currently 3 services that have IQIPS accreditation and others are actively moving towards becoming accredited.

There has been a recent update to the IQIPS standard to include a leadership and management domain. In addition, there is now more of a focus on the services Quality Management System and in particular the need for services to have a quality manual.

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. These documents will be updated over the coming year to reflect the requirements for the updated IQIPS standard.

5.6 Other

Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC) – F_eNO access uptake project. The ARTP have been invited to join a F_eNO working group as part of the development of the NHS Long Term Plan/National Respiratory programme/F_eNO working group (lead by NHSE), which is looking to increase access and uptake of F_eNO as recommended by NICE. The aim is to produce an educational model (design a training package) that is aligned to ARTP spirometry training.

The Standards committee is keen to be involved with this project as collectively we have concerns about the use of F_eNO in primary care due to the lack of understanding of the results and the technical aspects of the equipment. Watch this space for further developments within this project.

Objectives 2021 (Standards)

Publish ARTP CPET guideline document

To continue to support the implementation of IQIPS

Continue to develop standard operating protocols for use by the membership

Provide feedback for any applicable consultation documents on behalf of the ARTP

Continue to have a significant profile within the new ARTP website

Support on-going research and innovation

Review and update all previously published ARTP reports

Continue to provide a link between members and manufacturers via the Manufacturers Liaison Committee (MLC)

Revise and update the manufacturers/industry survey



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 2020- Birmingham

The 44th ARTP Conference took place on 16th-17th January 2020 at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole.

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 and engage in networking with like-minded Healthcare Scientists.

This year's keynote sessions included the PK Memorial Lecture, "Not all wheeze is asthma", which was delivered by Dr James Hull, and the Sleep Keynote, "Acoustic cardiopulmonary monitoring" by Professor Noam Gavriely. In addition, this year's programme highlights included sessions on extreme physiology, challenge testing, nocturnal frontal lobe epilepsy and healthcare scientist-led services to name a few, which were ran concurrently with an excellent industry manufacturers' exhibition.

The programme consisted of 23 speakers in the main plenary room, as well as parallel sessions in the Warwick Suite.

ARTP arranged for a film crew to be on site to create a short film, to provide an overall flavour of the event and to be used as a marketing tool to both future delegates and industry. <https://www.artp.org.uk/ARTP-2020-video>

A total number of 391 people attended the conference, including 117 exhibitors. The exhibition took place in the Sovereign Suite. There were 36 exhibition stands within this area. This area got excellent footfall with all catering being served in this area.

The ARTP Conference once again had a Conference App for delegates to use for a variety of things including accessing the programme, poster and oral presentations and useful logistical information. All exhibitor, sponsor and speaker information was also on the app.

Award	Winner
ARTP Award for Services to Respiratory Medicine 2020 - Medic	Dr Asad Ali
ARTP Award for Services to Respiratory Medicine 2020 - Physiologist	Sanja Stanojevic
ARTP Small Diagnostic Manufacturer of the Year 2020	Medical Graphics
ARTP Sleep Therapy Manufacturer of the Year 2020	Fisher & Paykel
Best Exhibition Stand 2020	Vitalograph
ARTP Sleep Diagnostic Manufacturer of the Year 2020	Resmed
ARTP Lung Function Manufacturer of the Year 2020	nSpire
Sue Hazard Award 2020 (Practitioner)	Hernâni Gonçalves
Suzanne Davis Award 2020 (Associate)	Dominic Kay
ARTP Clinical Award 2020	Sophie Yearsley
ARTP Manufacturer Best Video Award 2020	Intermedical
ARTP Best QIPS Poster	Gavin Comber
ARTP Best Sleep Poster	Rob Peat
ARTP Best Respiratory Poster	Rosie Fillingham
Dame Sue Hill Award – Best Oral Presentation	Edward Parkes
Manufacturer Survey Winner	Charlotte Johnson

6.2 NSD 2020 – Virtual Session

Due to the global pandemic, this year's National Strategy Day took place using a virtual platform on 24th-25th September 2020. 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 eleven exhibitors attended. This was the first time ARTP had held a virtual event.

The virtual event received a 67% increase in attendees with a total of 173, an increase from the previous year of 104 attendees.

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.

Although the NSD was a great success as far as Heads of Departments were concerned, there has been some negative feedback from industry partners. There were issues with the platform used and therefore this impacted negatively from an industry perspective.

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 working collaboratively has been appreciated by our industry partners in order 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 the 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.

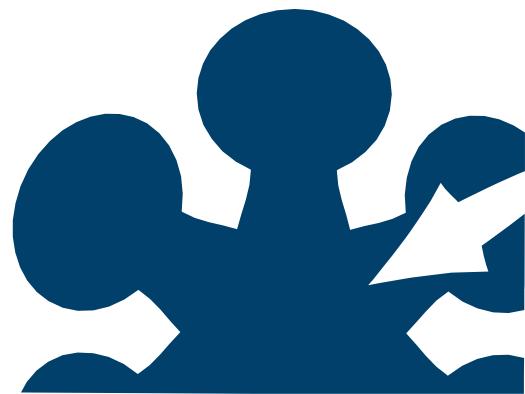
Objectives 2021 (Events)

Deliver a successful annual conference

Source appropriate venue for the 2022 National Strategy Day

Deliver a successful online National Strategy Day in 2021

Source and book an appropriate venue for the ARTP Conference 2022



7 Sleep

COMMITTEE

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

SLEEP APNOEA CONSORTIUM

Chair

Prof. Brendan Cooper

Vice-Chair & Medical Representative

Dr Ian Smith

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
Alan Moore, ARTP Manufacturers Liaison Committee
Chris Rogers, Sleep Apnoea Trust
Iain Wheatley, ARNS

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
Stowood Scientific Instruments Ltd

7.1 New Members

We are pleased to have welcomed four new members to the Sleep Committee during 2020.

7.2 Education

Courses

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic no sleep courses were held in 2020. This has highlighted the need to move to virtual courses, with virtual follow up sessions for open discussion. All future sleep courses are to be reviewed and made available online.

Certificates

The CPAP associate, progression and practitioner certificates have been released on the ARTP website. On-going promotional work is taking place to advertise the new versions.

Understandably, enrolment and completion numbers were significantly reduced in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Figure 1). We are hopeful to regain traction towards the end of 2021.

The diagnostic certificates are to be reviewed in 2021 to fit in line with the new CPAP certificates.

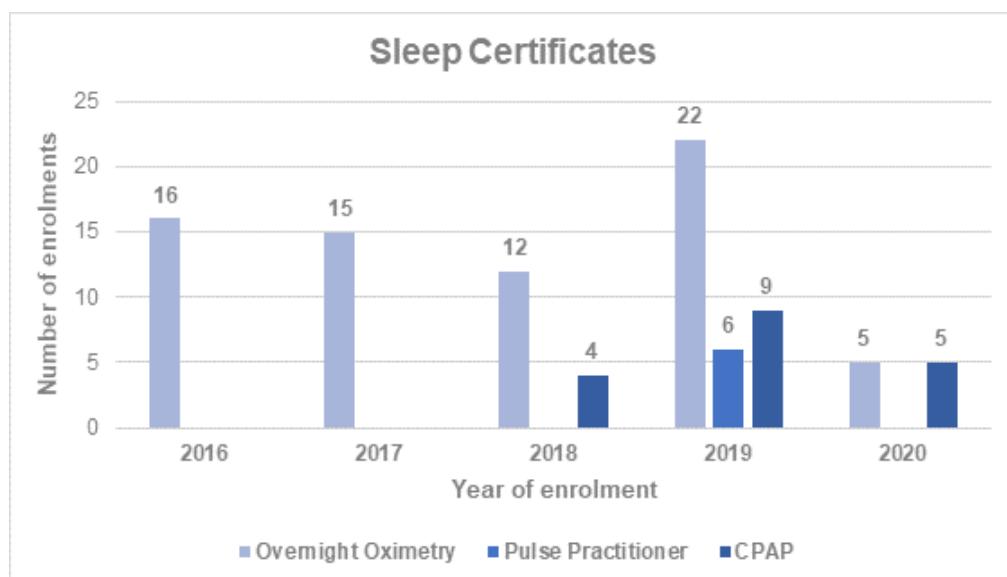


Figure 1: Enrolment numbers for ARTP Sleep certificates

7.3 ERS

The Sleep Committee has continued to work with European Respiratory Society (ERS) developing sleep physiology modules. This has taken longer due to the COVID-19 pandemic pausing much of this work throughout 2020. However, the majority of the modules have been completed and the project is almost finished.

These modules are to support and compliment the Basic and Advanced Sleep Courses and to allow the delegates to attain appropriate CPD and certificates demonstrating on-going learning and understanding. The ERS sleep programmes were designed to be modular so that healthcare scientists, AHPs and nurses could access them as well as medical doctors.

7.4 Standards

CPAP Certification Scheme

COVID-19 has, understandably, paused much of the work on furthering CPAP standards under the scheme. It is, however, encouraging to report that two companies are working with us to enable refinement of our draft Auto-CPAP testing protocols. For companies to share commercially sensitive information is a decision not taken lightly. This shows the commitment from both ARTP and our industry partners to ensure that this valuable work continues.

At the time of writing this section of the report, 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. The submissions made by Professor Netzel on our joint behalf have been deferred until the next revision whenever that is. ARTP SAC and Professor Netzel will continue to set and maintain standards in pursuit of the goal.

7.5 NHS Supplies Framework Document for Diagnostic, CPAP, NIV and High Flow O₂ Devices

In November 2019, due to the quick thinking of an Executive Board Member, ARTP was able to make a major input into a new framework document from NHS Supplies. Framework documents are used to set out minimum specifications for products. The original draft received was, frankly, very poor. Thanks to ARTP being given the opportunity to contribute, with the agreement of NHS Supplies, a substantially revised framework document was produced leading to the basic specification for the above devices now being, to all intents and purpose, that which is set out in our ARTP Sleep Standards of Care.

The outcome of the tendering process for inclusion into the Framework process was communicated to ARTP by NHS Supplies on 11th January 2021, somewhat delayed due to COVID-19, etc. The outcome is not good as no technical benchmarks have been used to validate any of the bids from companies across the globe. Instead, the word of each company submitting bids has been taken as truthful with not even basic checking. Paraphrasing the words of NHS Supplies, "This is a commercial tendering process and not one to adjudicate

quality". To put this into context, NHS Supplies has a target of achieving 80% of all procurement for the above device categories, which also includes service delivery via the independent sector, rather than their current market share of 35%. All suppliers through the framework have to pay a "commission" to NHS Supplies for the privilege of being included in the Framework agreement.

The rationale of the NHS Supplies system is that it saves on procurement costs. The cost of devices in the NHS catalogue, are usually much greater than the purchase price for the same goods directly. However, companies within the framework are not supposed to sell directly to NHS customers outside the framework.

Currently ARTP is awaiting requested information from NHS Supplies about the prices and those companies succeeding in being included in the Framework agreement. That information was promised to us on 11th January but it has not yet been received.

ARTP will continue in the pursuance of quality standards being enforced in UK procurement processes.

Objectives 2021 (Sleep)

Basic sleep course to be re-evaluated and developed for online access

Advanced sleep course to be re-evaluated and developed for online access

Liaise with BSS for the development of a joint sleep event

Review and amend the diagnostic certificates

Continue with supporting all certificates

Complete the development of the ERS sleep physiology module

Support the ARTP Sleep Apnoea Consortium work on standards and accreditation of diagnostic and therapeutic equipment

8 Workforce

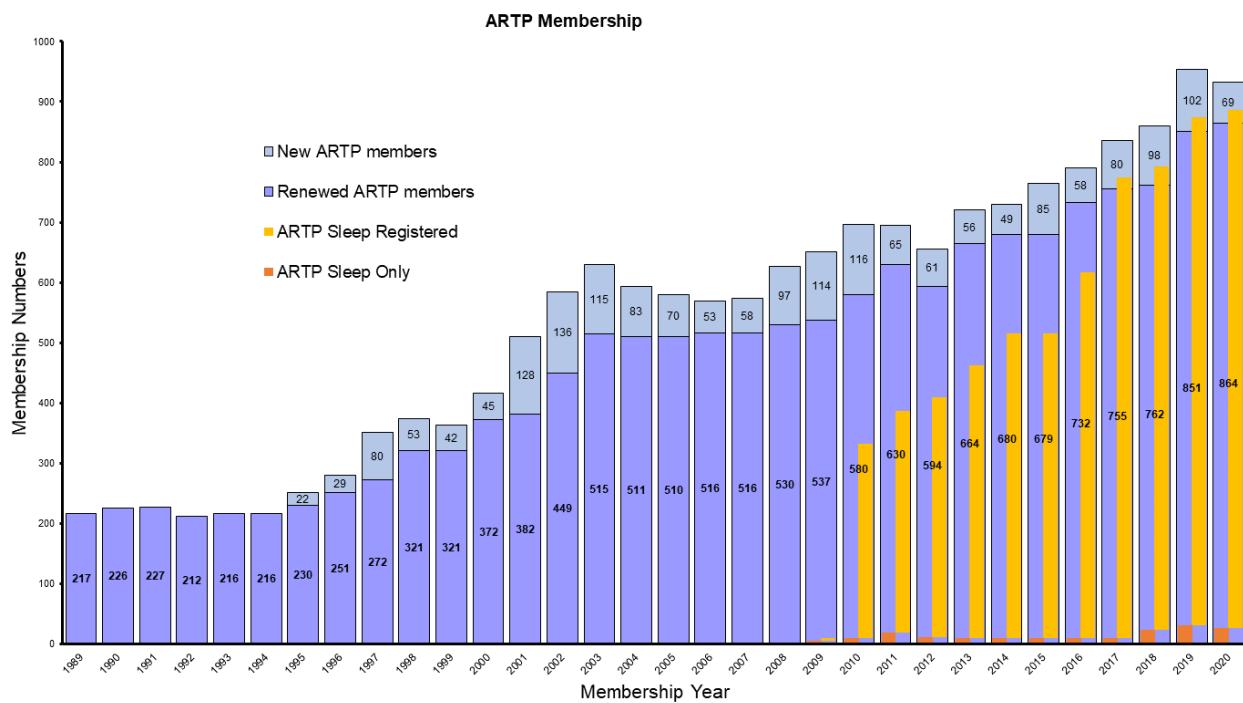
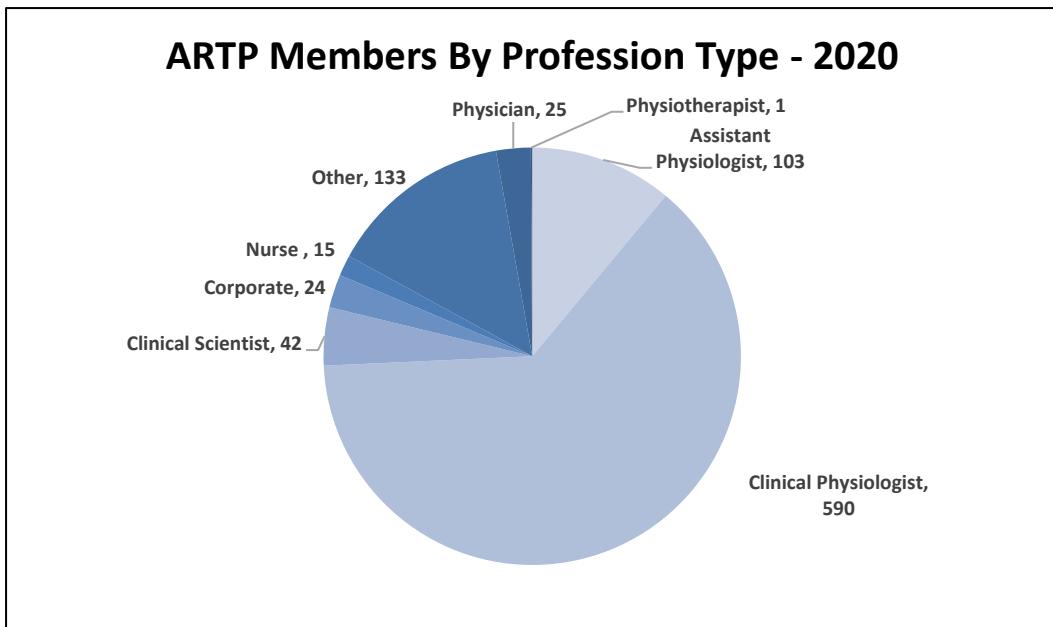
COMMITTEE

Chair – Sara McArthur
Vice-Chair – Max Thomas
Kelly Pauley
Tracey Fleming
Rosemary Fillingham
Lauren Lear
Claire Haynes
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 2020 there has been a marked reduction in our ability to have a full presence at the many conferences we usually attend due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. The conferences are usually attended to highlight the great work the ARTP undertakes to both respiratory and non-physiologist disciplines and to promote the educational opportunities that ARTP offer. Financially this year it has not been feasible to attend many conferences that have changed to on-line access; as an organisation we have had little revenue coming in as our own educational courses have not been able to be held this year. Committee members and other volunteers have not been able to commit to staffing 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 and physiotherapists. The membership numbers this year have reduced slightly, especially in the student membership group (18 PTP, 34 STP) but we hope moving forward we can bolster the numbers and start to increase membership again. As of January 2021, there are 933 members of the ARTP. We have continued to answer questions via the website pertaining to working in the field from national and international professionals.



The new ARTP website has been up and running for a while now and we recently reviewed the workforce documents available on there. An updated version of the “Short guide to working in the UK” document is now available.

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. The RCCP CPD audit was carried out, which is a bi-annual process

whereby chosen candidates submit evidence of CPD which then must be assessed. Some candidates struggled to fulfil their CPD requirements so moving forward the workforce committee should place a greater emphasis on how to carry out and record evidence of CPD. The committee updated the RCCP standard and graduate guidance documents for RCCP membership.

The role of clinical scientists in the respiratory and sleep field has been highlighted; especially this year and the workforce committee conducted a survey investigating member's views around the clinical scientist role. The data has been collated but is awaiting write-up. Some of the committee members have shared their own personal STP equivalence portfolios to show other members examples of layout etc.

Moving into 2021 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 nature of the acute phase of illness 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 ongoing symptoms such as cough, breathlessness and reduction in exercise capacity will require input from our workforce. This is a prime time to promote our profession and highlight the need for additional funding to increase our workforce.

Objectives 2021 (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.
Promote the professional and emphasise the need for additional workforce and funding in light of the emerging burden of long COVID.

9 Paediatrics

COMMITTEE

Chair - Dr Jane Kirkby
Vice Chair – Emma Fettes
Paul Burns
Laurie Smith
Stephanie Brotherston
Philip Lawrence
Matt Davies
Elise Buchan

9.1 Spirometry Education

The group had to suspend face to face courses during the pandemic and are working on an e-learning course to provide training for those joining the paediatric register.

The group has brought the Paediatric Certificate in line with the Adult certificate for the ARTP National Spirometry register. It will be available as a stand-alone certificate, as a joint certificate with the Adult certification and as a "bolt-on" for any adult certificate. This was presented on 'Train the Trainer' update webinar sessions in September 2020 and included the expected standards and content for spirometry training providers.

9.2 Education on other ARTP courses

Many of the courses we currently provide Paediatric input and speakers for were postponed due to the pandemic.

9.3 Other notable activities/achievements

The Committee performed a Paediatric quality control and standardisation task where we inspected interpretative reporting of Paediatric Lung Function.

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children (GOSH) have become the first Paediatric Lung Function lab to go through the IQIPS accreditation process.

ARTP PFT guidelines were completed with a paediatric chapter.

9.4 The Future

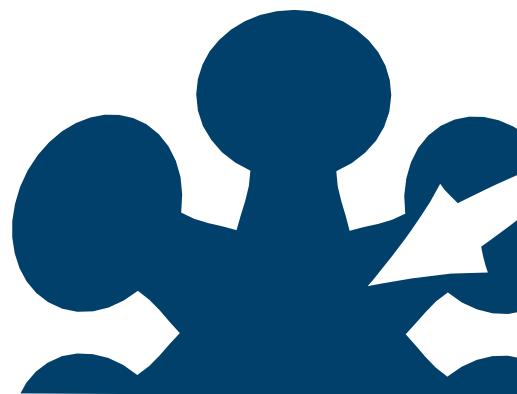
Dr Jane Kirkby replaced Paul Burns as Chair, with Emma Fettes as Vice Chair. Jane is currently on maternity leave and so Emma Fettes is acting Chair for 2021 with much support from Phil Lawrence and the committee.

The Committee shall continue with ongoing educational activities.

The Committee shall also look to get the E-spirometry paediatric course up and running.

Planning excellent topical sessions for the Paediatric sections of the ARTP 2021 conference, including implementing home spirometry and home sleep studies, COVID-19 in children and Paediatric multisystem inflammatory syndrome.

There is a paediatric assessment option within the ARTP Professional Qualifications in development, the examinations will have paediatric questions available for candidates undertaking this option.



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 Friday 2nd July 2021 as part of the virtual ARTP Conference 2021. Further information about joining the online AGM and an agenda for the meeting is available on the ARTP website.