

The Scientific Committee Research Update

Roland Russell FRCS

Chairman of the scientific committee of BOFAS



As chairman of the scientific committee and as the new BOFAS year approaches, it gives me great pleasure in summarising the activity of the scientific committee as part of this research update.

These have been extraordinarily difficult times for us all with our personal as well as our work lives being affected but I can assure you that the scientific committee have continued to work hard on your behalf fulfilling our aim of **promoting high quality research through the society**. This has been achieved by the relentless pursuit of *collaboration with national bodies, collaboration with global foot and ankle centres of excellence* as well as critically *encouraging research amongst BOFAS members*.

Highlights of the ongoing research strategy of the scientific committee of BOFAS include:-

The Virtual BOFAS Annual Meeting (RR, JM, DT, RD, TC, RK, JR)

March 11th 2021



First section organised by the scientific committee
Registrar Free Paper Section/Research Update
Eminent International lecture by Prof Charles Saltzman, MD
National lecture by Prof Sallie Lamb, NIHR representative

The James Lind Alliance Update (JM, RR)



As part of the collaboration with the BOA, excellent progress has been made and it is expected that the final top 10 research questions in foot and ankle surgery will be arrived at by the summer of this year. This will significantly increase the opportunity of a NIHR funded major national research study in foot and ankle surgery.

Global Webinar (RR, JM)

'The International Experience of COVID-19 on Foot and Ankle Surgery'

September 17th 2020

THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF BOFAS PRESENTS THE WORLD'S FIRST GLOBAL WEBINAR ON
**THE INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE OF COVID-19
ON FOOT AND ANKLE SURGERY**
4th Webinar in BOFAS COVID-19 Foot and Ankle Series

EUROPE	Yves Tourne	President EFAS
CANADA	Mark Glazebrook	President COA(2019-2020)
AUSTRALIA	David Lunz	President AUFAS
INDIA	Rajeev Vohra	President IFAS
SOUTH AFRICA	Graham McCollum	President SFAS
USA	James Ficke	AAOS
ISRAEL	Ezequiel Palmonovich	Mein Institute
SINGAPORE	Gowreeson Thevendran	SICOT Chair
UK	Jit Mangwani	BOFAS

Event Organiser: Roland Russell, Chairman BOFAS Scientific committee



A truly unique event I was privileged to be lead organiser and placing BOFAS on the world stage.

Representation from Europe, Canada, USA, Australia, India, Singapore, Israel South Africa and the UK.

5 foot and ankle international presidents participating.

Excellent feedback with all nations wishing to collaborate with BOFAS in the future.

EFAS Virtual Meeting (RR)

October 24th 2020



Following the success of the global webinar, I was invited and delivered a summary of the conclusions and different global strategies of improving the management of foot and ankle patients during the COVID pandemic.

BOFAS International Research Prize (RR, TC)

Following the success of the first international prize that took place at last year's annual BOFAS meeting (Nov 2019) that was represented by podium winners of Australia, South Africa, India and Europe, all nations have expressed a keen interest in attending future BOFAS meetings in the new international research section.

BOFAS Travelling Global Fellowships (RR)

As a result of the significantly strengthened links with foot and ankle societies across the globe, arrangements are being made for a reciprocal relationship where podium winners will attend the international/BOFAS meeting and be offered a short travelling fellowship at a local centre of excellence. This is an exciting project that the scientific committee are keen to pursue.

Collaboration with The Royal College of Surgeons of England (RR)



As part of the drive to collaborate with national institutions of excellence, the scientific committee has forged strong links with the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Discussions have occurred with the head of research of RCS(Eng) , exploring the possibility of offering a joint research grant with BOFAS for the initiation of a major national foot and ankle study.

Update of Research Grants Utilisation (SP,DT,RK,RD,RR)

Following the excellent work by the scientific committee, the society is committed to ensuring that research grants are utilised efficiently. This has resulted in a change in guidelines to ensure that members give regular updates on their research in order to maximise the numbers of presentations and publications.

Publication Finishing Off Service (RR,JM,DT,TC,RD,RK,JR)

The scientific committee continues to offer the review of research manuscripts to members who have been podium winners in order to maximise the number of publications.

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (RR,JM,TC,DT,RD,RK,JR)



The scientific committee remain active in influencing national guidelines for foot and ankle surgery in important matters such as DVT prophylaxis and the management of the diabetic foot.

Falcon Study (JM,RR)



As part of a collaboration between the scientific and outcome committee, excellent work has been done looking at the outcome of patients in the UK undergoing foot and ankle surgery during the COVID crisis.

Scientific Committee Representation BOFAS Website (RR,RC)

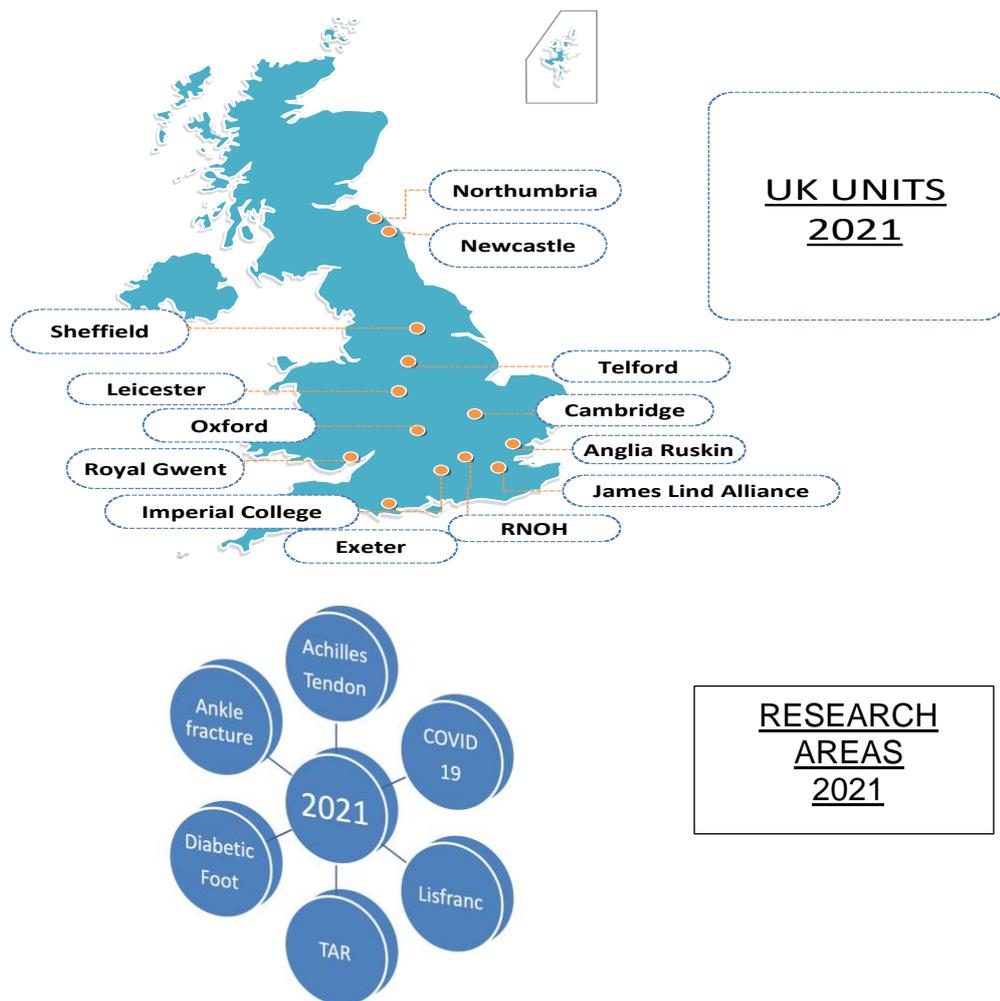
The scientific committee have been working with Robert Clayton to develop the research pages on the magnificent brand new BOFAS website which outlines the research strategy of the society as well as details of grants and podiums awarded.

Senior Journal Club (JM, RR)

As part of a collaboration with the education committee, the scientific committee will take part in this new project reviewing the current research in key foot and ankle research topics.

Research Grants (RR,JM,TC,DT,RD,JR,RK)

As a drive to encourage research amongst members, the maximum grant available was increased to £15000 at the beginning of my term as chairman. Despite a temporary pause in grant allocation to protect the society finances during the COVID crisis, the scientific committee continues to support a large number of excellent BOFAS members research projects. Over the past 3 years, £125,000 has been awarded to BOFAS members for important scientific research with 14 studies that are ongoing. As a result of the grant utilisation project, there has been a greater efficiency and scrutiny of funds allocated in order to further promote high quality research through the society.



Change in the Guard

Finally, as I come to the end of my 3 years as chairman, I would like to thank all members of the committee for their hard work. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time and very much hope to serve the society in the near future. Jit Mangwani will be taking over from me and I am delighted that he will continue with collaboration between BOFAS committees and the aim of promoting high quality research through the society.

Roland Russell FRCS, Chairman of the Scientific Committee.