

ASSOCIATION OF NORTH OF ENGLAND PHYSICIANS

President
Dr Peter Trewby MBE

Hon Secretary Dr Colin Doig
North Tyneside Hospital
Rake Lane
North Shields
NE29 8NH

www.Anep.co.uk

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Dear Colleagues, members and friends

The Association of North East Physicians (ANEP) has run since 1950 when it was established by Dr Hewan Dewar at the RVI. The tradition has always been to rotate the meetings across all of the Hospitals in the region with three meetings a year which were traditionally held on a Saturday morning. However times are changing and with increasing commitments it has become apparent that many would favour a trial of a different format. Local engagement with Hospitals out of hours has proved increasingly difficult to maintain. Hence we have recently taken a straw poll which has left us with an overwhelmingly positive vote in favour of a trial of combining the ANEP meetings with the registrar training sessions in acute medicine run by the Royal College of Physicians at the Freeman Hospital on a Wednesday afternoon.

This coming year (2017) we will hold the traditional Saturday morning meeting at the RVI on 11th March. However the next two meetings will be held on a Wednesday evening from 6pm at the Freeman Hospital to coincide with registrar training days. The dates will be 5th July and 8th November. The format of the meetings will remain essentially unchanged with nine slots for oral abstracts and six slots for poster presentations. There will be a buffet meal served half way through the meeting to allow posters to be inspected and concentration to be maintained!

We hope these changes will make it easier for our trainees to attend the Association meetings and to contribute toward them. Although numbers of attendees have been healthy of late, we are keen to widen the scope of the meeting to include as many trainees and students as possible at all levels. We will reassess the outcome of this trial late in 2017 to decide whether this new format is deemed to have been successful or not. I would encourage you to put these dates in to your diary at this stage and am happy to try to answer questions on colin.doig@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk. Please remember to submit your abstracts to me for each meeting in good time with the closing date usually some six weeks in advance of the actual meeting date.