

BARS

BRITISH
ASSOCIATION
OF
RETINAL
SCREENING

Conference Brochure

26TH - 27TH
SEPTEMBER

2024

BARS CONFERENCE

The Crowne Plaza Hotel, Liverpool
2 St Nicholas Place, Liverpool, L3 1QW

WELCOME!

A very warm welcome to the 2024 British Association of Retinal Screening (BARS) conference.

This year we are excited to bring you educational workshops and a range of sessions including: Artificial Intelligence (AI), an international perspective of diabetic eye screening, early phase clinical trials in diabetic retinopathy and our keynote speaker Professor Partha Kar will take up boldly where no one has gone before!

We would like to thank all our wonderful trade sponsors for their ongoing support, our fabulous BARS council who spend months behind the scenes making the conference happen and all of our attendees for being part of BARS 2024.

Enjoy!

Richard Bell and Charlotte Wallis
BARS co-chairs



Conference Agenda DAY 1

BARS CONFERENCE 2024
The Crowne Plaza Hotel, Liverpool
2 St Nicholas Place, Liverpool, L3 1QW
26th - 27th September 2024

Thursday 26th September 2024

Workshop registration from 9:30
Conference registration from 10:00



10:00 – 10:45	Surveillance Workshops (Additional Registration Required) :
11:00 – 11:45	Workshop 1 - Slit Lamp Bio Microscopy / Workshop 2 - OCT and Wide-Field Imaging
10:00 – 11:45	NHS England Diabetic Eye Screening Programme – Opportunities, Challenges & Takeaways (Administration Management Meeting) Kim Lovell (National Grading Lead) & Katherine Jordan (Senior Programme Manager)
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch

First Session

Chairs: Richard Bell (Co-Chair & Webmaster) & Charlotte Wallis (Co-Chair)

13:00 – 13:10	Co-Chairs Welcome – Richard Bell & Charlotte Wallis
13:10 – 13:30	Professor David Wong (Honorary Professor, University of Liverpool) How can we trust the answers AI systems give us and our patients?
13:30 – 13:50	Rosamond Gilden (Regional Co-ordinator, DR-NET South Pacific Region) DR-NET Pacific Programme: Challenges and Overview of Screening and Treatment Services in the Islands
13:50 – 14:00	Dr Indu Kumar (Clinical Lead, Central Mersey Diabetic Eye Screening Programme) Are two images enough for Screening?
14:00 – 14:20	Professor Tunde Peto (Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology, Queen's University, Belfast) Diabetes and the eye: Patient centred diabetic eye care (Lifetime BARS Member 2024)
14:20 – 14:40	Natasha Marsland (Senior Clinical Advisor, Diabetes UK) Type 2 Diabetes Remission - Where are we?
14:40 – 15:00	Panel Questions/Mentimeter
15:00 – 15:30	Tea/Coffee and Trade

Second Session

Chairs: Darryl Sealey (Council Member) & Dominique Zamarian (Council Member)

15:30 – 15:50	Dr Philip Burgess (Clinical Senior Lecturer, University of Liverpool & Honorary Consultant Ophthalmologist, St Paul's Eye Unit) and Jonathan Rothwell (Patient) Early Phase Clinical Trials in Diabetic Retinopathy
15:50 – 16:05	Panel Questions/Mentimeter
16:05 – 16:25	Sense Medical Ltd
16:25 – 16:40	Optimize – Celebrating the Silver Anniversary NEC Software Solutions
16:40 – 16:50	Mainline Instruments
16:50 – 17:00	Tools & Technology – How Topcon Systems can support Diabetic Eye Screening Laura Pigula, Clinical Affairs Specialist, Topcon Ltd
19:00 – Late	Drinks Reception & Evening Gala Dinner with Entertainment/Disco

Friday 29th September 2023

Registration for Day Delegates from 08:30



First Session

Chairs: Zoe Tobin (Council Member & BARS Secretary) & Stacey Barbaccia (BARS Newsletter Designer)

09:00 – 09:05	Co-Chairs Welcome – Charlotte Wallis & Denise McLoughlin
09:05 – 09:25	Samantha Mann (BARS President) Starting Hybrid Closed Loop systems: Will the drop in HbA1c be important?
09:25 – 09:45	Kim Lovell (National Grading Lead) & Katherine Jordan (Senior Programme Manager) Update on National Programme
09:45 – 10:00	Stephen Pearson (Ophthalmic Science Practitioner, Royal Liverpool University Hospital) Revolutionising Our Dynamic World: Harnessing the Potential of Artificial Intelligence
10:00 – 10:20	Annual General Meeting
10:20 – 10:30	Panel Questions/MentiMeter
10:30 – 11:00	Tea/Coffee, Trade & Poster Judging

Second Session

Chairs: Richard Bell (Co-Chair), Charlotte Wallis (Co-Chair) & Denise McLoughlin (Incoming Co-Chair)

11:00 – 11:20	Dr Trystan Macdonald (Clinical Research Fellow/Ophthalmology Specialty Trainee, University of Birmingham) Diabetic Eye Screening using machine learning enabled Automated Retinal Imaging Analysis Software – A Target Product Profile for England (DART)
11:20 – 11:35	Helen Seddon (Medical Photographer, Mersey & West Lancs Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust) Photos of diabetic problems within the human body
11:35 – 11:45	Prize Giving – Photography and Poster Competitions
11:45 – 12:00	Mike Cox (Young Leader Volunteer, Diabetes UK North) My 10 Year Journey
12:00 – 12:45	Keynote Speaker: Professor Partha Kar (Consultant Endocrinologist / Diabetes & National Speciality Advisor in Diabetes, NHS England) To boldly go where no one has gone before!
12:45 – 13:00	Panel Questions/MentiMeter
13:00	Conference Closes

[Click here for our socials!](#)

BARS Speaker Biographies

David Wong

Prof David Wong was a graduate of the University of Liverpool in 1978. He was appointed to St Paul's Eye Unit, Royal Liverpool University Hospital in 1987 as Consultant Ophthalmologist with special focus on vitreoretinal surgery. His research interest was bioengineering and biomaterials.

Prof Wong was the Chairman of the Scientific Committee and Vice-President to the Royal College of Ophthalmologists. He was the founder and the inaugural president of the British and Eire Association in Vitreoretinal Surgeons. In 2006, he was seconded by the Royal Liverpool University Hospital to become a full-time academic in the University of Hong Kong. He established a new eye department and was subsequently appointed to the Albert Young Chair in Ophthalmology.

He retired from ophthalmic surgery in 2018 but continued to carry out research in the University of Liverpool, Eye and Visual Science Department as Honorary Professor developing an artificial intelligence for the automated diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy.



Rosamond Gilden



Rosamond Gilden is a dedicated professional in the eye health sector, known for her diverse skill set and significant contributions to the field. With a background in Biomedical Science, Orthoptics, and Public Health, she leverages her clinical experience to drive system changes for improved patient outcomes.

After graduating from orthoptics, Rosamond worked in both the private and public sectors before transitioning into research. She served as the Clinical Coordinator for Australia's National Eye Health Survey at the Centre for Eye Research Australia. Subsequently, she joined the Indigenous Eye Health Unit at the University of Melbourne, focusing on addressing eye health disparities, particularly among Indigenous communities.

Specialising in diabetic retinopathy, Rosamond has led projects at esteemed institutions such as the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI). Currently, she holds the role of DR-NET South Pacific Regional Coordinator, continuing to make significant strides in the field of eye health.

Indu Kumar

I graduated in 1996 and then completed an MD in Ophthalmology, specialist training, and a fellowship in the Mersey region. I am a member of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and a college tutor for the trainees attending our hospital.

I have been a Consultant Ophthalmologist for the last 11 years, specialising in Medical Retina and cataract surgery. I manage patients with diabetic retinopathy, AMD, and other medical retina conditions. I am the clinical lead for Central Mersey Diabetic Eye Screening.





Professor Tunde Peto

Tunde Peto is Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at Queen's University Belfast and is also the clinical lead for Diabetic Eye Screening Programme in Northern Ireland and the clinical lead for diabetic eye treatment pathway at the Belfast Trust. As a Consultant Ophthalmologist with special interest in Medical Retina and diabetic eye, Prof Peto has over 30 years experience in clinical care and research in diabetic eye disease. She trained in Italy, Hungary and did her PhD in Australia before being recruited by Moorfields Eye Hospital where she worked for 16 years before taking up her current post. She has been working with establishing diabetic eye care in different parts of the Commonwealth and is working with the WHO. Professor Peto has been very involved with diabetic eye screening since 2002 and have served the screening community as President of BARS in the past.

Natasha Marsland

Natasha Marsland MSc RD, specialist Diabetes Dietitian with over 25 years' experience including in NHS acute and community settings with a postgraduate certificate in Diabetes Care. Currently working as a senior clinical advisor within the care team at Diabetes UK and was a member of Diabetes UK nutrition guidelines working group producing the latest evidence-based nutritional guidelines for adults with diabetes and those at risk of type 2 diabetes. She has recently received a MSc in disability studies from the University of Bristol and explored the hospital experience of adults with learning disabilities and diabetes during the pandemic. A professional member of the British Dietetic Association (BDA), and member of BDA's Diabetes Specialist and Mental Health groups.



Philip Burgess



I am a Clinical Senior Lecturer at the University of Liverpool and Honorary Consultant Ophthalmologist at St Pauls Eye Unit. I have established an independent, translational research programme focused on complex interventions for retinal disease. In Liverpool I am working with biostatisticians, medical imaging experts, diabetologists and industry partners to study the epidemiology and treatment outcomes for people with diabetic retinopathy. In partnership with Malawian Ophthalmologists, I undertook the first prospective cohort study of diabetic retinopathy in Sub-Saharan Africa. Ongoing research in Malawi focuses on strategies for case detection and management in a low-resource environment whilst building capacity for service delivery and research in the region.

Samantha Mann

Samantha Mann has been a Consultant Ophthalmologist at Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital since 2009. Over the past thirteen years, Samantha has developed a special interest in Diabetic Eye Screening and is the Clinical Lead for the Southeast London Programme covering 120,000 patients living with diabetes. The Programme covers patients with high levels of ethnic diversity and deprivation and regularly sees advanced levels of pathology, especially since the Covid-19 pandemic. She is constantly striving to improve the quality of the service further and has been actively involved in compiling the London OCT scanning protocol for use within diabetic eye screening surveillance pathways. Additionally, she is a peer reviewer for the National Screening Programme and sits on the London board for Adult Screening for Diabetic Eye. Additionally, she has helped to set up the semi-virtual diabetic clinic at St Thomas' to reduce the backlog of patients waiting to be seen for their diabetes eye check.

She has also published a range of articles on age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and eye screening and helped to produce a video called "Danny's Story" which tells the story of a young male with diabetes blinded through failure to attend his diabetic screening appointments. Furthermore, she has co-organised laser courses for ophthalmic trainees and a workshop teaching specialist midwives on the risks of diabetic retinopathy in pregnancy. She has also presented at several conferences including EURETINA, BARS and EASDEC and is due to speak at the National Diabetic Eye Screening conference later this year.



Kim Lovell



Kim has worked for the NHS for 20 years and 18 of those have been within Diabetic Eye Screening. Starting as a trainee Screener Grader she has carried out a variety of different roles within the screening programme. She currently holds two roles splitting her time between both. Kim became National Grading Lead in January 2021 and in the same year took on the role of Programme Manager for the Somerset Diabetic Eye Screening Programme.

Recently Kim has been working with the Vaccinations and Screening Directorate in NHSE on the projects to implement 24-month screening and OCT into the English National screening programme and is leading on the R2 Review and Refine project.

Kim is qualified to grade at all levels in the English programme and has the necessary Health Screeners Diploma as well as a Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement. In addition, in 2020 Kim attained the Foundation Degree in Optical Coherence Tomography Interpretation and is skilled in both obtaining and interpreting fundus images and scans.

Passionate about Diabetic Eye Screening and improving the service in delivery and accessibility.

Katherine Jordan

Kate has worked within the public and healthcare sector for over 20 years starting in sexual health services in the NHS, before moving to a Local Authority public health commissioning role. In 2016 Kate joined Public Health England where she worked across health protection, screening and immunisation and workforce development portfolios. Most recently Kate has worked in NHS England as Head of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) and Diabetic Eye Screening (DES) Operations, leading the 24-month screening interval and OCT implementation within Diabetic Eye Screening.



Stephen Pearson



After starting his career in commercial and advertising photography, Stephen has worked in Ophthalmic Imaging at St Paul's Eye Unit in Liverpool for almost 30 years.

During this period, he worked within the Liverpool Diabetic Eye Screening Service for several years alongside the work within the Hospital Eye Service and has also spent time on secondments to both the NHS diabetic eye screening (DES) programme prior to it's go-live together with aiding the implementation across the (initial) five programmes within Cheshire and Merseyside Region.

Stephen has won multiple prizes in Ophthalmic Imaging and has also passed the Royal Photographic Societies award of 'Accredited Senior Imaging Scientist' (ASIS) which subsequently led to him being awarded the status of a Fellow of the Society (FRPS).

With an interest in role artificial intelligence may take in our roles, Stephen's research saw him 'accidentally' writing the book "Revolutionising Our Dynamic World: Harnessing the Potential of Artificial Intelligence" which he self-published in spring 2024.

Dr Trystan Macdonald

Trystan is an ophthalmic specialty trainee in the West Midlands and in the final year of a PhD at the University of Birmingham. His research focuses on how artificial intelligence can be developed, evaluated and used in the NHS in a way that is safe, effective and equitable.



Helen Seddon

I have been a medical photographer at the newly merged Mersey and West Lancs Teaching Trust for over 10 years. Having always had an interest in the arts and photography, combined with a keen interest in all things scientific medical photography became a career goal when I was in my last year of university. Throughout my years as a medical photographer, I have developed my practice and standards and developed my skills as a leader, and recently gained my CMI accreditation.

As a medical photographer, I come under the hospitals burns and plastics directorate and I photograph anything from burns victims to skin cancers, to reconstructive patients to dermatology patients. I work my hospital's eye clinic performing, OCTs, anterior segment imaging and FFAs and ICGs.

Over the last years my interest within ophthalmic imaging has been peaked and I am looking forward to developing my career around ophthalmic imaging.



Mike Cox

My name is Michael, I am 24 years old. I am Type 1 Diabetic and have been for 10 years now, so for everyone who has followed my journey over the last year you will have seen that I have been training to Summit Mount Kilimanjaro which I completed!

After achieving this dream back in February this year I have now decided to take on my next big dream & adventure in November this year.

My next huge adventure will be travelling all the way to Nepal to take on Mount Everest Base Camp which is 5364 metres above sea level!

Outside of my love for the mountains and raising awareness for Diabetes UK I am a full time Football Coach which is another huge passion of mine. My goal is to make all Diabetics realise, anything you can do, I can do with Type 1 Diabetes!



Professor Partha Kar



Professor Partha Kar is the Type 1 Diabetes & Technology lead for NHS England and co-lead of the Getting it Right First Time (Diabetes) and Consultant, Diabetes & Endocrinology in Portsmouth. In his role with NHS England-He has helped to expand use of technology in Type 1 Diabetes- namely use of Flash Glucose/CGM & implementation of use of CGM in T1D pregnancy along with use of online digital self-management platforms- while recently leading on real world data collection on Closed Loops for subsequent NICE review.

He has worked subsequently with NICE on updating relevant guidelines in non-invasive glucose monitoring access in Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes. His other work has involved introduction of frailty into Quality Of Framework (QoF) treatment targets, Diabulimia pilot projects in the NHS; championing “Language Matters” and helping to create an overview of Diabetes care in Primary Care Networks.

Recent work has included principles of Peer support for Type 1 Diabetes as well as a Decision Support Tool for those with Type 1 Diabetes. He is one of the leading users of social media in diabetes care- and writes a monthly blog for the British Medical Journal. He has been: *Co-creator of TAD (Talking About Diabetes) – TED talks from those with T1Diabetes *Co- creator of Type 1 Diabetes comic (Volume 1 to 5) *Co-creator of DEVICES (Virtual Reality educational modules in diabetes) He has also been recognised as one of the most influential figures from the ethnic minority population across healthcare in the UK by the Healthcare Service Journal in 2020,2021, 2022 & 2023.

He received an OBE for services to Diabetes care in 2021 and has worked with NICE with regards to opening up access to "Artificial Pancreas" to those with Type 1 Diabetes- and leading on the 5 year implementation plan.

Thank you

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Delegate List 2024

Marija	Abramaityte	NCL DESP Failsafe Admin Team Leader
Christopher	Appiah	NCL DEP Failsafe Admin and Data Manager
Ali	Askari	NCL DESP Programme Manager
Hannah	Bailey	DRS
Kate	Bennett	Senior Screener Grader
Jennie	Birkin	DESP Deputy Programme Manager
Chris	Black	Screener
Moira	Black	Clerical Officer
Leanne	Bland	Failsafe and Admin Officer
Anthony	Bostock	Team Leader
Nikki	Boult	Screener Grader Manager
Nicole	Bradshaw	Medical Photographer
Roger	Brint	Programme Manager
Laura	Britton	Screener
Amanda	Brooks	Engagement Officer
Linda	Brown	Screener/Grader
Claire	Bryers	Senior Grader/Screener
Laura	Bryning	Clerical Officer
Katie	Carmichael	Optometrist
Howard	Charlton	Senior Diabetic Retinopathy Screener/Grader
Hannah	Connolly	Retinal Screener Grader
Bronagh	Cooke	Optometrist
Phil	Cooke	Specialist Optometrist
Lisa	Creed	Screener Grader
Ticiana	Criddle	Clinical Lead
Katherine	Davies	Screener Grader
Andrew	Disley	Screener Grader
Matthew	Dowbekin	Screener Grader
Angela	Ellis	Programme Manager
Bartholomew	Entire	Screener
John	Everett	Ophthalmic Imager
Samia	Fatim	Ophthalmologist
Deanna	Fitzpatrick	Failsafe and Team Leader
Charlotte	Foweraker	DESP Regional Manager - North
Glyn Fowler	Fowler	Screener/Grader
John	Fox	DRS
Pamela	Francis	Screener/Grader
Amir Gaas	Gaas	Specialist Surveillance Practitioner
Julia	Gabriel	Optometry Lead
David	Gadsby	DESP Programme Manager

Delegate List 2024 Continued...

Seagnait	Gallagher	Admin Team Leader
Kimberly	Gallienne	Programme Manager
Phil	Gardner	UK NSC Lead for Screening Data
Leon	Gardner-Collins	Programme Manager
Simon	Gent	Screeener
Kerry	Gilsenan	Screeener Grader
Helen	Glass	Screeener Grader
Fiona	Gordon	Screeener Grader Manager
Joe	Gorman	Screeener Grader
Amanda	Griffin	Programme Manager
Haslina	Hamzah	Deputy Director
Rob	Hancock	Ophthalmic Photographer
Richard	Hancock	DRS
Paula	Haughton	Screeener
Nicola	Hawkins	Senior Screeener/Grader
Gary	Henderson	Diabetic Retinal Specialist Screeener
Asia	Henshaw	Screeener Grader
Herlinde	Herlinde	Failsafe Manager
Tegan	Hewitt	Screening Team Leader
Corrina	Hill	DES Assistant Programme Manager
Daniel	Horner	Screeener/Grader
Daniel	Horner	Diabetic eye screeener/Grader
Hormoz	Houshmand	NCL DESP Screeener/Grader
Carrie	Howard	Screeener/Grader
Marta	Hudson	diabetic eye screeener
Carmel	Japel	Failsafe Officer
Amy	Jones	Programme Manager
Emma	Jones	Patient Liaison Officer/Screeener
Donna	Jopson	Failsafe Officer / Admin Manager
Ameer	Khan	Doctor
Heidi	King	Screeener
Laura	Kirkby	Senior Screeener/Grader
Susanna	Kirkham	Diabetic Eye Screeener
Mary	Knight	Screeener/Grader
Maleeha	Koreshi	Specialist Optometrist
Sarah	Lake (Billington)	Senior Optometrist
Sam	Lawson	DRS
Jennifer	Lawton	Team Leader
Yasmin	Lee	Screeener
Soma	Lengyel	medical student
Marc	Lewis	Central Grader / SLE
Helen	Lipinski	Programme Manager
Lauren	Lloyd	Optometrist
Ana	Lopes	Administration Supervisor
Jasmine	Lyall	Specialist Surveillance Practitioner
James	Macdonald	Screeener/Grader
Nishal Banu	Makdoom	Ophthalmic Grading Specialist III
Denise	Marsh	Failsafe and Office Manager
Jade	Martin	Screeener

Delegate List 2024 Continued...

Diane	Mathews	Strategic Screening Lead - Public Health
Sally-Ann	Matthews	Failsafe Officer
Irena	Mayne	Senior Clerical Officer
Joanne	McCann	Senior Clerical Officer
Eamon	McLarnon	Screeener/Grader
Luke	Middleton	DES Programme Manager
Cheryl	Moore	Ophthalmic Nurse Consultant
Natasha	Moore	SFP F2 Doctor
Carol	Nevison	Retinal Screener/Grader
Dale	Newman	Communication and Engagement Officer
Allison	Newport	Administration Manager
Peter	O'Hare	Clinic Coordinator
Ben	O'Neill	Retinal Eye SCreeener
David	Owens	Clinical Director
Gemma	Parkinson	Retinal Screener / Grader
Jade	Pepper	Screener
Tariq	Perkins	Communication and Engagement Officer
Scott	Pickles	Programme Manager
Lynsey	Pickup	Retinal Screener / Grader
Anna	Pinch	Retinal Screener / Grader
Oliver	Portman	Screener
Vicki	Prior	Operational Head of Grading
Eleanor	Relf	Screener
Karen	Rigby	Retinal Screener/Grader
Angel	Rivera	Screener
Guy	Roberts	Programme Manager
Leanne	Roberts Singh	NCL DESP Team Leader
Sally	Robinson	DESP Programme Manager
Roberto	Romero	Retinal screener
Phil	Rooney	Service Delivery Manager
Sulsan	Rose	Screener Grader
Marko	Sambol	Screener
Tracy	Sayle	Assistant Failsafe Officer
Anish	Shah	Consultant & Clinical Lead
Zoe	Shipman	Deputy Service Manager - Ophthalmology
Lyn	Stafford	Grading Quality Assurance Manager
Amanda	Stallard	Specialist Nurse/Joint Programme Manager
Michelle	Stevens	Retinal Screener Grader
Conor	Stewart	Senior Ophthalmic Science Practitioner
Tania	Stewart-Davies	Specialist Optometrist
Hannah	Stubbs	Screener/Grader
Miu	Tang	DRS
Mark	Taylor	SLB Technician
Laura	Tinsley	DRS
Simon Daniel	Tong	NCL DSP SLB Examiner/Training Manager
Lorraine	Turnbridge	Quality Assurance Advisor
Donna	Varghese	Administration Manager
Matthew	Wilcock	Screener
Savanna	Williamson	Screener Grader
Farhan Zaidi	Zaidi	Clinical Lead