BSPGHAN speaker biographies

Akshay Batra, Consultant Paediatric gastroenterologist, Southampton Children's Hospital
Dr Batra is a Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist, working as part of the paediatric gastroenterology team in SouthamptonHe has a special interest in intestinal failure and the management of children with complex nutritional needs. Dr Batra has published on this topic in various peer reviewed journals and led multiple trials in his field. He is a co-editor of Oxford Handbook of Paediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition. He is a representative for British Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition on BAPEN council.

David I Campbell, Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterology, Great North Children's Hospital
David is a consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist at The Great North Children's Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne since 2022. Prior to this he was a consultant at Sheffield Children's Hospital for 16 years.

Genomics is becoming an ever more important area of Paediatric Gastroenterology and that momentum is being led by inborn errors of immunity with stem cell therapies. Newcastle is one of the two UK centres for stem cell transplantation for inborn errors of immunity. The genomic approaches to intestinal disease in these groups of patients (autoimmune enteropathy, VEOIBD etc) has much to inform us in intestinal failure for non-immune related conditions.

David is currently the President Elect for BSPGHAN, taking over the office at the Annual BSPGHAN conference in Newcastle in March 2025.

Elena Cernat, Paediatric Gastroenterology Consultant, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Dr. Elena Cernat is a Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist and lead for the Nutrition and Intestinal Failure Service at the Leeds Children´s Hospital NHS Trust, United Kingdom. She graduated from the University of Valencia, Spain before starting her paediatric training. She subspecialised in Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition in Spain (Valencia), United States of America (Chicago) and United Kingdom (London) before being appointed as a permanent consultant in Leeds in 2018.

Dr. Cernat is an active member of several national and international medical societies, currently being the Chair of the Nutrition and Intestinal Failure Working Group of the British Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (BSPGHAN). She is also part of the Education Committee of the European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN). Her interests are short bowel syndrome, rare conditions associated with intestinal failure and ethical dilemmas in home parenteral nutrition.

Melody Chan, Lead Paediatric Parenteral Nutrition Pharmacist, Southampton Children's Hospital
Melody trained and completed her foundation years at University Hospital Southampton. She found her passion for paediatric parenteral nutrition (PN) having rotated through the Children's Hospital in her foundation years. Melody joined Southampton Children's Hospital permanently in 2020 gaining her independent prescribing qualification in paediatric PN and is now embedded in the paediatric intestinal failure (IF) team. Melody regularly attends clinic to review home PN patients and leads the prescribing of PN for inpatients. Melody sits on the committee of the British Pharmaceutical Nutrition Group (BPNG) as professional development officer- paediatrics and has recently become the chair of the Paediatric and Neonatal Gastroenterology (PANG) special interest group of the Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacy Group (NPPG).

Jenny Goldthorpe, Children's Nutrition & IBD nurse specialist team leader, Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust – Leeds Children's Hospital
Jenny is the Children's Nutrition & IBD Clinical Nurse Team Leader at Leeds Children's Hospital. She is a registered children's nurse who trained at The University of Leeds completing an advanced diploma in

nursing – child branch in 2006, she then went onto to gain her degree in Health and community care with second class honours (1st Division) in 2014, and Jenny has recently completed the Excellence in practice programme.

Jenny has managed the clinical nurse specialist team within children's gastroenterology since 2018. She has specialised as a nutrition nurse in enteral and parenteral nutrition since 2013. Supporting the management of guidelines for the Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust within nutrition. She organises and manages local and regional education packages for smaller trusts to support their staff in an ability to provide excellent care for children who require artificial nutrition.

Jenny has attended the ESPGHAN AHP conference in Florence 2023 and gave an oral presentation regarding the management of Microvilli inclusion disease and home PN. She was also a key speaker at the Micrel conference in Abu Dhabi in 2022, providing professionals from around the gulf her experience of managing a service of Home PN.

Richard Hansen, Clinical Reader in Child Health, University of Dundee
Dr Hansen is a Clinical Reader in Child Health at University of Dundee and Honorary Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist at both Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee and Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital. His main research interest is the gastrointestinal mucosal microbiota and its importance in paediatric health and disease, particularly inflammatory bowel disease. He is especially interested in the molecular characterisation of the microbiota and its subsequent modification for the purposes of therapeutic effect via microbial therapeutics. He has helped develop clinical translational studies in this area including novel dietary therapies for Crohn's disease, faecal transplant for ulcerative colitis, and the first-in-humans Phase I study of a novel biotherapeutic for Crohn's disease.

Dr Hansen is currently the Chair of the British Society of Gastroenterology Gut Microbiota for Health expert panel and is one of the co-leads on the upcoming European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation first consensus on diet and nutrition in IBD. Since moving to University of Dundee in March 2023, he has initiated a partnership with the local charity The Archie Foundation and is in the process of setting up a dedicated laboratory to support paediatric research in the North of Scotland, named "The Archie Foundation Child Health Research Laboratory".

Jonathan Hind, Consultant Paediatric Hepatology, Queensland Children's Hospital & King's College Hospital
Jonathan is a paediatric hepatologist at Queensland Children's Hospital, Brisbane and King's College Hospital, London.

He developed the intestinal rehabilitation and transplant service at King's, having gained experience in Birmingham, UK and Pittsburgh; and linking with Great Ormond Street Hospital, London. He was also clinical director of the Children's Hospital at King's. Developing further, Jonathan has recently taken on a hepatology and intestinal rehabilitation role in Queensland Children's Hospital.

Interest in technology and new ways of working led Jonathan to develop a remote monitoring solution in conjunction with his intestinal failure and transplant patients, many of whom live far from their tertiary health centre. This technology is now used in community health research.

Jonathan has a leadership role internationally as the President of the International Intestinal Rehabilitation and Transplant Association. Together with others in the society he worked on development of the association's journal Intestinal Failure. As IIRTA President, Jonathan leads physicians, surgeons and allied health professionals working in the field and advocates for equitable access to knowledge and services for patients with intestinal failure around the world.

Palle Bekker Jeppesen, Clinical Professor, Rigshospitalet & University of Copenhagen
Palle Bekker Jeppesen, is Associate and Clinical Professor, MD, Dr.med/Sci., phd., dls., at the Department

of Transplantation and Digestive Diseases, Section of Intestinal Failure 3-16-3, Rigshospitalet, and Department of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

His major research interests include patients with short bowel syndrome and intestinal failure with a recent focus on novel therapies for their management, rehabilitation and care.

Professor Jeppesen graduated in medicine from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1989 and completed his residency in medical gastroenterology at the Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen. He completed his PhD thesis, entitled; *The significance of the fatty acid chain-length for the clinical effect in the enteral and parenteral nutrition in patients with malabsorption* in 1998 and his Doctor's Degree, entitled; *Intestinal insufficiency and failure*, in 2003.

PBJ has published more than 150 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters within this field, has more than 6000 citations and an H index of above 45.

Rachel Russell, Senior Safeguarding Specialist Nurse for Children, University Hospitals Southampton NHS Trust

Rachel Russell is a registered nurse with over 20 years of experience in paediatric care, specialising in nutrition and children's safeguarding. Throughout her career, Rachel has worked across various healthcare settings, including hospitals, community health services, and industry, where she has been a strong advocate for children's health and welfare, particularly children with complex health needs.

In addition to her work in nutrition, Rachel is highly regarded for her commitment to children's safeguarding. She has played a pivotal role in developing safeguarding policies that ensure the protection of vulnerable children within healthcare environments. Rachel is known for her hands-on training sessions for healthcare professionals, ensuring they are well-equipped to identify and respond to safeguarding concerns.

A passionate educator and speaker, Rachel regularly presents at conferences and workshops, sharing her insights on the intersection of healthcare, nutrition, and child protection from a nursing perspective.

Christopher Stewart, Chair of Human Microbiome Research, Newcastle University

Professor Christopher Stewart gained PhD in Microbial Ecology at Northumbria University (UK), followed by postdoctoral training at Baylor College of Medicine (Houston, Texas). He has received numerous awards including the Microbiology Society Fleming Prize, NOSTER & Science Microbiome Finalist Prize, the Applied Microbiology International WH Pierce Prize, and the Neonatal Society Rising Star Award. He has also been elected to the Royal Soceity UK Young Academy. His lab is focused on microbial-host interaction in the gut of infants born premature (<32 weeks gestation), utilising multi-omic analysis of clinical samples in combination with basic microbiology and an experimental organoid co-culture system. He is also supporting a new UK-wide programme of work aimed at investigating how the gut microbiome predicts response to biological therapy in adult inflammatory bowel disease. He has published over 100 peer-reviewed publications in leading journals that has wide implications for better understanding diet-microbe-host interaction, with potential to develop novel disease biomarkers and targeted therapeutic interventions to promote health.

Antje Teubner, Associate Specialist Intestinal Failure, Salford Hospital, Northern Care Alliance

Ms Teubner, originally from Germany, graduated in 1994. She undertook her postgraduate training in the UK in surgery and surgical specialties gaining operative and medical experience in the management of critically ill patients.

Ms Teubner worked since 2001 in the Intestinal Failure Unit - and since 2007 in the capacity of an Associate Specialist. She is a key member of the team and directly responsible for the day-to-day running of the unit. She oversees and coordinates the care of all medical and surgical patients on the Unit and is also practitioner in venous access management.

Ms Teubner has gained extensive experience in the management of patients with acute intestinal failure, as well as patients requiring long term intestinal rehabilitation (including vascular access management, management of high-output fistulae, short bowel and long term HPN complications).
In her role she leads the teaching and supervision of the junior doctors/clinical fellows on the unit and has expanded this remit by regularly presenting on national conferences, study days

Arun Urs, Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterology, Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust
Dr. Arun Urs is a Consultant Paediatric Gastroenterologist at Sheffield Children's Hospital, where he has dedicated over a decade to providing exceptional care to young patients. Dr Urs is an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Sheffield University.

As the clinical lead for nutrition services at Sheffield Children's Hospital, Dr. Urs has played a pivotal role in establishing an intestinal rehabilitation centre for children with intestinal failure. His innovative approach and expertise have also streamlined the care of children receiving parenteral nutrition, ensuring they receive the best possible treatment.

Dr. Urs' commitment to collaboration is evident in his close working relationships with various healthcare professionals and transplant centres across the United Kingdom. His extensive experience allows him to perform a wide range of diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopic procedures, providing comprehensive care to his young patients.

A dedicated educator, Dr. Urs is a regular faculty member at national and international training courses on pediatric colonoscopy, wireless capsule endoscopy, and therapeutic endoscopy. His passion for sharing knowledge is reflected in his numerous presentations and publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Rachel Wood, Team Lead and Specialist Paediatric Dietitian in Intestinal Failure, Royal Manchester Children's hospital
Rachel qualified from Leeds Metropolitan University in 2006 with BSc (Hons) degree in Dietetics.

Rachel is now a Team lead and Specialist Paediatric dietitian at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital leading the intestinal Failure Home PN and Gastroenterology service.

Rachel is on the Education Committee at BSPGHAN as well as the Intestinal Failure Nutrition working group and has been a valued member of BSPGHAN for many years.

Rachel is the Paediatric dietitian on the NHS England Clinical Advisory Group, where they review and manage the Home PN compounding slots across England.

In 2020, Rachel set up her own Dietitian business and is director of the business RW Dietetics, to provide support and advice for parents, families and Health professionals on nutrition and dietetics in Paediatrics.

Sarah Zeraschi, Consultant Pharmacist for Nutrition and Intestinal Failure, Leeds Teaching Hospitals
Sarah is the Consultant Pharmacist for Nutrition and Intestinal Failure in Leeds. She works with both adult and paediatric nutrition teams, and with primary care, and as BAPEN Regional Representative, helped to establish the Yorkshire and Humber Nutrition Network. In addition to seeing patients, much of her time is focussed on standardisation of prescribing practice and processes to ensure safe, patient-centred care. Sarah has had a number of roles in clinical pharmacy and as aseptic service manager, and is immediate past Chair and past Secretary of the British Pharmaceutical Nutrition Group, currently holding the position of Professional Development Officer. During her time as BPNG Chair she sat on BAPEN Council, and has been a BPNG and BAPEN member for 20 years.
She is a member of the Home Parenteral Nutrition (HPN) Clinical Advice and Management Group, and the HPN Stakeholders Group, and was involved with setting the specifications for Specialised Intestinal Failure and HPN services. She co-authored the BIFA guidelines on managing micronutrient provision during shortages and liaises with NHS England during shortages relating nutritional products.