



Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and the British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

Introduction

1. This Memorandum of Understanding is between the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) and the British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN). The Memorandum sets out an agreed framework for co-operation between the parties. It is not legally binding nor is it intended to cover every detailed aspect of their relationship. Rather, it is a statement of principles, which will guide relations between the parties and provide a set of workable ground rules.
2. The Memorandum cannot override the statutory duties and powers of the individual parties.

Organisation Aims and Values

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists

3. We're the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT), the professional body for speech and language therapists in the UK.
Our mission: To enable better lives for people with communication and swallowing needs. How do we do it? By facilitating and promoting research, producing guidance, holding events and influencing government. We promote better education and training for speech and language therapists and provide information to our members and the public about speech and language therapy.

Our vision: A society that is inclusive of all with communication and swallowing needs.

Our values: Accountable, belonging, integrity, professional, compassion and empowerment.

BAPEN

4. BAPEN is a Charitable Association that raises awareness of malnutrition and works to advance the nutritional care of patients and those at risk from malnutrition in the wider community. BAPEN brings together the strengths of its Core Groups to raise awareness and understanding of malnutrition in all settings and provides education, advice and resources to advance the nutritional care of patients and those at risk from malnutrition in the wider community.

The BAPEN Core Groups are:

- BAPEN Medical
- PENG (a speciality group within the BDA)
- British Pharmaceutical Nutrition Group (BPNG)
- National Nurses Nutrition Group (NNNG)
- British Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (BSPGHAN)
- Patients on Intravenous and Nasogastric Nutrition Therapy (PINNT)

Working Relationship

5. This Memorandum of Understanding will:
 - Build upon the good working relationship that already exists between the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and BAPEN by setting out the principles to which both parties will adhere
 - Enhance co-operation and co-ordination between the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and BAPEN.
 - Serve to inform the respective members and stakeholders of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and BAPEN of our relationship and how we will collaborate
6. As a result of the memorandum the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and BAPEN will:
 - Work together to raise awareness of BAPEN amongst the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists membership.
 - Work together to raise the issue of, and impact of, malnutrition and strive for earlier identification and management of malnutrition across all ages, in all nations.
 - Clearly promote the partnership on their websites and through other appropriate channels.
 - Collaborate on projects and campaigns deemed to be of mutual benefit.
 - Work together to produce resources of professional relevance and endorse them according to the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and BAPEN endorsement processes.
 - Provide mutual support, as agreed, for initiatives and events through relevant communication channels including organisational websites, journals and social media.
 - Endeavour to share relevant information, professional advice and resources.

Working Arrangements

7. The day-to-day relationship between BAPEN and the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists will be managed by the Honorary Secretary of BAPEN. The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists Chief Executive and the BAPEN Executive shall be kept updated on a regular basis.
8. There will be meetings as required between the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and the BAPEN Honorary Secretary or their appointed deputies to discuss issues of mutual interest and any collaboration or ongoing projects. The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists Chief Exec and BAPEN President or Executive members, may join these meetings as appropriate.
9. Where relevant there will be contact between the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists Communications Team and the BAPEN Communications Officer. This will allow the two organisations to agree joint communications priorities and any cooperation that may be appropriate.
10. The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists may, at its discretion, support the BAPEN annual conference through the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists established endorsement approval process (e.g., CPD Approval). Endorsement is subject to internal review and formal confirmation.

11. The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and BAPEN may agree a contra arrangement wherein the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists or BAPEN provides support (e.g., promotional or logistical) in return for defined benefits at the conference, such as exhibition space, branding, speaking slots, delegate passes or availability of bursaries and travel awards.
12. Through the course of the co-operation, The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and BAPEN may, from time to time, be sharing commercially confidential information with each other to the extent that this is necessary for the preparation of specified joint projects. All transactions of information must adhere to each organisation's data protection and information governance policies and be considered by each party's executive. All information must be kept confidential and not be shared with any other third party. The parties agree to inform each other on relevant / related work to the co-operation.
13. Any proposed use of the BAPEN or Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists logo or references to the relationship in press releases or publications etc. by the other must be considered by the other's executive. Either party will receive a written response to their enquiry and will be required, if permission is granted, to adhere to the other's corporate identity guidelines.
14. Neither party will be granted any rights over the content of the other's resources or materials.

General Matters

15. Both parties are committed, whenever possible, to solving any disagreements under this Memorandum through normal administrative channels.
16. This Memorandum is effective from 1.06.2026 until 1.6.29, where it will be required to be renewed. Amendments to this Memorandum may be made at any time in the interim by agreement between both parties. In addition, this agreement will be reviewed on yearly basis and updated, as necessary, in light of experience of its operation in practice.
17. An up-to-date version of this Memorandum will be published on the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and BAPEN websites.

Signed by:



Krystine Stanway, Director of Professional Practice and Innovation, RCSLT



Nick Thompson, President, BAPEN