

Presidents Message

It is a great honour to be elected President of YSOA. What made the moment even more special was hearing my name announced by my mentor and role model Dr Amanda Vipond. Amanda has always been a great support and source of encouragement during my initial training days in York, and that deepened my interest in Obstetric Anaesthesia. To this day, I have never regretted choosing this subspecialty, and for that, I am immensely grateful to her. I was handed the role of President by ex-President Dr Sarah Radbourne, who, along with former President Dr Makani Purva, have set high standards and have been guiding YSOA as an organisation in the right direction. While I am excited to take on this role, I also feel the sense of great responsibility that has been entrusted on me. I am committed to doing my utmost best to uphold the standards and carry their legacy forward. With the support of all my fellow YSOA committee members, I am confident that I will perform this role flawlessly and continue to elevate the profile of YSOA not only locally but also in the country.

I am excited to share that this year's ASM 2024 was a great success. The feedback was very encouraging, the venue was liked and we were fortunate that the delegates enjoyed the beautiful, sunny day on April 30th at Hotel Lazzat in Hull. With over 110 delegates representing a diverse mix of anaesthetists, obstetricians and midwives, the meeting was a great success and well received. I thank all YSOA committee members and the supporting staff especially Wayne Sheedy and Jim Innes who were phenomenal in their contribution to make this event a huge success.

We featured a great range of esteemed speakers from local, national, and international levels. Donna Ockenden's talk, in particular, drew significant interest among midwives and they appreciated the opportunity to speak with her in person. The trainee's oral presentations were equally impressive, showcasing in-depth knowledge and sparking great interest among delegates. Our current trainee representative Dr Edward Knights and the newly appointed Dr James Laloo has provided an excellent summary of the day. Their contribution in helping organise this meeting can't be ignored.

Like last year, we have received excellent feedback and for those who missed the fun, podcasts are available on the YSOA website to catch up. We are already preparing for our next event, the Anniversary Evening Meeting at Hinsley Hall on 20th September. We look forward to seeing many of you and your colleagues there. Registration is available directly on the YSOA website.

In my new role, my first initiative is to expand the YSOA committee. I am pleased to announce that we have new members joining us from all over Yorkshire. With the experience of our existing members and the fresh ideas from our new joiners, we aim to make this organisation more inclusive and welcoming. I am confident that we will continue to improve the role this organisation plays in promoting innovation, encouraging new talents and maintaining the standards of obstetric anaesthesia in this region.

Presidents Message (cont)

Finally, I would like to extend a big thank you to Dr Sarah Radbourne our former President, for her support to YSOA. She has given me a thorough handover which has helped me to take on this role with more confidence and clarity. I also want to thank Dr Kay Robins as our editor for our newsletter. Kay has been fantastic in this role and has always strived for excellence and perfection. We all committee members thank Kay for her hard work and dedication

I look forward to receiving your comments on the newsletter and welcome any new ideas for our society. I look forward to seeing you at Hinsley Hall in Leeds. Until then, enjoy the summer!

Best wishes
Anju Raina
Consultant Anaesthetist
President Yorkshire Society of Obstetric Anaesthesia



Dr Anju Raina—President of YSOA



Hinsley Hall, Leeds, Anniversary Meeting, Friday 20th September 2024

Dates for your diary

YSOA Anniversary Meeting

Friday September 20th 2024

Refundable Fee £25, includes Dinner

Contact: Wayne Sheedy at

obstetricday@hotmail.co.uk or
wayne.sheedy@talktalk.net

YSOA Annual Scientific Meeting 2025

Tuesday 29th April 2025 confirmed.

Contact: Wayne Sheedy at

obstetricday@hotmail.co.uk or
wayne.sheedy@talktalk.net

Membership details

Membership is free to all trainees and consultants in the Yorkshire and Humber region. Membership ensures you receive information regarding upcoming events and this amazing newsletter!

If you wish to become a member please forward the following information to:

obstetricday@hotmail.co.uk

Name:

Grade:

Employing Trust:

Locality if in a training post (East/South/West)

A reliable contact email address:



Yorkshire Society of Obstetric Anaesthetists Evening Anniversary Meeting

**Hinsley Hall, Leeds
Friday 20th September 2024**

Essential Information

To book:

Email wayne.sheedy@talktalk.net

Post a cheque for £25 payable to "Yorkshire Society of Obstetric Anaesthetists" and send to W Sheedy, 112 Westwick Road, Sheffield, S8 7BX

OR

Make a BACS Transfer

Bank Lloyds TSB
Acc No: 60660963
Sort Code: 30-98-97

Hinsley Hall is easily accessible from M1, M62 and free parking is available

62 Headingly Ln, Leeds, LS6 2BX

A refundable £25 will be required to secure a place at this event

Programme

18.30-19.00h	Arrival and Coffee
19:00-19:05h	Welcome <i>Dr Anju Raina, President YSOA, Consultant Anaesthetist, Hull</i>
19:05-19:25h	<i>Case of Suxamethonium apnoea following grade 1 C-Section</i> <i>Dr Elizabeth Horsley/Dr Manohar/Dr Hossenboccus</i>
19:25-19:45h	Case Presentation (title TBC) <i>Dr Chis Hendron/Dr Pernu</i>
19:45-20:05	A near miss of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy in a Category 1 caesarean section <i>Dr Dinesh Soundararajan</i>
20.05-20.40h	Dinner
20:40-21:00h	TBC <i>tbc</i>
21:00-21:20h	TBC <i>tbc</i>
21:20-21:40	TBC <i>tbc</i>
21:40h	Feedback and close

2 CPD points applied for from the Royal College of Anaesthetists

YSOA website and Podcasts

Podcasts from the ASM
19 are available to down-
load from our website
www.ysoa.org.uk

Username:

ysoa@gmail.com

Password:

%\$*ysoahull@\$)



Dates of courses

Obstetric Anaesthetic Emergency Course for CT2s

Hull Clinical Skills Facility tbc

Bradford tbc

For more information please go to the Yorkshire and Humber-side Deanery Website (hyp-tr.clinical.courses@nhs.net)

TOAASTY Advanced Obstetric Course

for senior trainees and consultants

Hull Clinical Skills Facility 15th October 2024

Contact: anju.raina@nhs.net or Emily.clappison@nhs.net

Yorkshire Difficult Airway Course

Hull Clinical Skills Facility 9th December 2024

Contact: Emily.clappison@nhs.net

YSOA 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting

Review

Lazaat Hotel, Cottingham, 20th April 2024

Dr Anne-Mair Hammond Jones delivered a fantastic talk on the high-risk obstetric anaesthetic clinic: challenges and interesting cases. The cases were varied and thought-provoking, including an incidental intradural ependymoma found on MRI following severe post-partum back pain, a case of TAR syndrome, a condition comprising bilateral absent radii and thrombocytopenia, leading to difficulties with IV access and regional analgesia. The importance of multi-disciplinary team input was reinforced with cases including arnold chiari malformation, wolf-parkinson white syndrome and vocal cord dysfunction with spontaneous laryngospasm.

Miss Donna Ockenden gave a fascinating insight into the work she has done as part of the Ockenden Report and the ongoing work she is undertaking currently; focussing on how we can implement the findings from the report in maternity units. It highlighted several of the main challenges facing maternity services currently, including workforce shortage and burnout, underfunding, complex women and particularly the impact of inequalities and deprivation.

Her current work in Nottingham showed the importance of listening to all families and ensuring all voices are heard. By implementing changes in how families were approached and undertaking in person community engagement this led to a much wider response from a much more representative cohort of the population. She has shown that there is evidence of systemic racism and that both staff and patients are more likely to respond to surveys if they are of a white background; something we should all look to address.

Dr Raghuram Laxminarayan provided a valuable update on the developing role of Interventional Radiology in Obstetrics. The key message was that the timing of the procedure was paramount, ideally performed as an elective c-section in the IR angiography suite with prophylactic uterine artery embolization. It offers an effective method for control of PPH, being particularly useful in adherent/invasive placental disorders. Dr Hassan Ahmed presented his excellent work on the use of a proficiency-based programme in labour epidural training in LTHT. This involves having novices get to a standardised ability on simulated manikins prior to being allowed to undertake epidurals on real patients. Previous studies have shown that the use of proficiency based programmes for epidural insertion have reduced failure rate of epidurals from 28.7% to 13.3%. This has been studied in Leeds whereby novices undertake an MCQ, once passed they go through a one-to-one, face-to-face course, practicing on manikins until they are at a set standard. In LTHT, of 8 novices, 7 passed to the clinical phase and there was only a 8.5% failure rate in 47 epidurals.

Professor Pankaj Kundra shared his interesting talk on challenges in obstetric anaesthesia from the perspective of the developing world. Rates of LSCS have seen a steep rise in less developed countries over recent years bringing its own challenges including an increase in ICU admissions.

Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at
www.ysoa.org.uk

Please email any comments or feedback regarding this newsletter to W Sheedy as above.

Please forward this newsletter to your obstetric anaesthetic colleagues and trainees to let them all know all the news – thank you.

Kay Robins , Editor
(York)

The talk also offered a reminder that general anaesthesia not only poses increased risks to the mother but poorer documented Apgar scores and cord gases for baby.

We had three intriguing and insightful presentations from current trainees demonstrating their latest work.

Dr Rob Burdon spoke regarding the implementation of an obstetric Emergency GA checklist in PGH, with the goal of avoiding problems including human error in a stressful scenario. He used current existing checklists to form the basis of a call/response checklist to be used in theatres. Whilst there were some drawbacks including difficulty of gathering feedback and appreciating that changing culture is hard, overall, it was promising work which aided communication and increased confidence of those undertaking the general anaesthetics.

Dr Jonny Pyatt presented a fascinating case of a 28F who initially presented with a headache, deformed face and blurred vision and was managed as a Bells Palsy. She subsequently went through labour and suffered a dural puncture which required a post partum epidural blood patch. Despite this initially having a good effect and subsequently having a repeat blood patch with good effect, she had ongoing headaches and an MRI showed a dural venous sinus thrombosis. This case highlighted the importance of ensuring you consider all diagnoses during your assessment and not just the most obvious one.

Dr Kelly Sugden presented her work on undertaking a perinatal analgesia week in BRI, having highlighted issues with different ethnicities having worse pain experiences in labour, labour ward analgesia prescriptions not complying with guidelines and that midwives did not receive any pain teaching. This week involved MDT teaching with doctors delivering 15 minute presentations on pain management to midwives which was attended by 30 members of staff increasing their confidence in pain assessment. In addition, a stand was set up for patients with 59 ladies visiting of which 88% wanted more information on analgesia and 70% wanted more information on epidurals. There are plans to make this into an annual event and there was interest from the audience in making this widespread in the region.

“We should ALWAYS take written consent before siting an epidural in labour” was the debate topic bravely fought out by Dr John Osakue for Pro and Dr James Turnbull against. Excellent points were made on both sides ranging from consent being a process not merely a signature, to the fact that an epidural for an uncomplicated labour is a standalone procedure and therefore by GMC/AAGBI guidance requires written consent. In the end Dr Turnbull prevailed, but more than a few people changed their minds thanks to Dr Osakue’s arguments.

Dr Ifitkhar Ahmed spoke regarding his medico-legal work in his talk chillingly titled “An Obstetric Anaesthetists Worst Nightmare”. He spoke regarding events ranging from patient complaints to GMC referrals and how we should manage if we find ourselves in these

situations. His comments regarding clinical negligence highlighted that 13% of all anaesthetics complaints are in obstetric anaesthesia and normally related to pain during section, accidental awareness, inadequate analgesia or multiple attempts at regional. He did an extremely interesting walkthrough of the stages of a GMC referral and demonstrated those who are more at risk.

Dr Rebecca Lathey provided an excellent presentation on the management of maternal sepsis in critical care. A key point was that maternal sepsis is its own condition. This is partly due to the combination of the immunosuppressive effect of pregnancy and the physiology of pregnancy making it harder to compensate for a metabolic acidosis.

Adapted scoring systems are available to help detect this condition and escalate patients quickly on to broad-spectrum antibiotics.

Overall the meeting was a fantastic day with interesting talks throughout. The trainee posters and presentations were of excellent quality and we look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting.