

Trainees Unite: The First National Interventional Radiology Trainee Research Collaborative

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Purpose

- **Interventional Radiology (IR) has developed to be one of the most rapidly growing fields in medicine.**
- **As growth continues, we need to ensure that our practice is evidence-based. Academic IR is still in its infancy.**
- **IR trainees are less likely than surgical trainees to undertake higher research degrees¹**
- **In the UK, trainee-led research collaboratives have shown to be a successful model to produce high quality research in many specialties²**
- **The Radiology trainee collaborative - RADIANT - was launched in 2019³. No existing trainee-led research collaboratives in IR**

Methods

A new interventional radiology trainee collaborative was formed in January 2021, with two aims:

- **Conduct multi-center quality improvement & research projects**
- **Increase medical students & trainees interest in an academic career in IR**

Formed from to a collaboration between the British Society of Interventional Radiology (BSIR) trainee committee and IR Juniors groups.

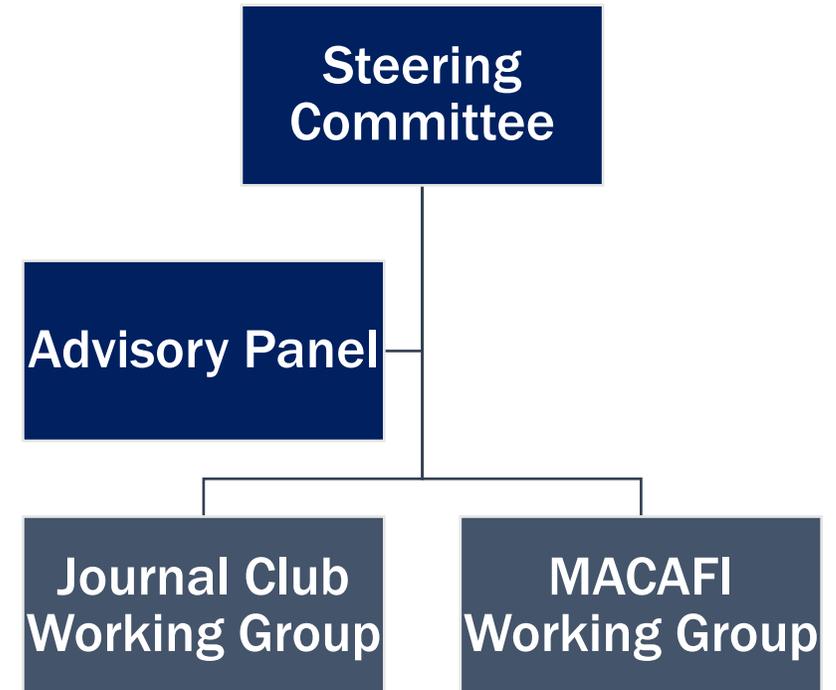
Structure & Formation of the Collaborative

The collaborative was organized as follows:

- **Steering committee** - from BSIR Trainee & IR Juniors groups.
- **Advisory panel** of IR consultants with academic interests.
- **Working groups** created for each project

Project types split into:

- **Multi-center research/QI projects**
- **Educational initiatives** e.g. journal club
- **Social Media**



Results: Multi-Centre Studies

Two completed projects:

- **Systematic review COVID19 impact on IR services and training. Published within 4 months of launch.**
- **Multi-center audit of cholecystostomy and further intervention (MACAFI) recruited 36 centers with a dataset of 1200 patients. Manuscript in preparation.**

Further two multi-center studies in development

Results: Educational Initiatives

Journal Club

- Total of 8 sessions run. Feedback from 107 out of 430 attendees (RR = 25%)
- 93% (n=100) agreed or strongly agreed that the sessions were a good way to keep up with the latest evidence
- 80% (n=86) agreed or strongly agreed that they were more likely to consider a career in academic IR following the sessions

National IR Research Conference

- First national IR research conference – 65 attendees
- Feedback obtained by 49 (RR=75%)
- 100% would recommend the event



Future Directions & Collaborations

Aortic Dissection Project

- Collaboration with other specialty research collaboratives (vascular surgery, emergency medicine)
- Public patient involvement – working with a charity

Further IR-specific multi-center projects

Online Learning Materials



Conclusions

- **The UNITE Collaborative is the first interventional radiology trainee research collaborative in the UK**
- **Establishing the network has resulted in early successful multi-center studies & educational initiatives**
- **Similar collaboratives should be considered in other countries across the world**

References

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