



December 2020

RAFT Christmas Newsletter

*Merry Christmas & all
the best for 2021!*

Well 2020 has not quite turned out as we expected! Let's hope 2021 is an improvement.

In this newsletter, we've included some information on RAFT projects, past & present, details on projects that are endorsed by RAFT and also those which although we are not involved with, we would like to share information on.

Also a update on plans for the RAFT WSM 2021.

RAFT Projects

RAFT Equality, Diversity and Bias in Anaesthesia Training Survey:

Survey link: <https://forms.gle/i7GgXhJ6uasrkfT48>

Many thanks to all of you who have completed and shared this survey so far, we have had a tremendous response!

If you are not aware of it, this is a National RAFT survey, supported by the RCoA looking at equality, diversity and the impact of protected characteristics on individuals' personal anaesthetic training. The aim is to identify whether prejudice and discrimination is a common experience or not. We have also included a section on experience through the COVID-19 pandemic.

RAFT 4:

The process of project pitches and selection of the 4th national RAFT project was originally planned for early 2020, but with the onset of the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic this was put on hold. We had hoped to relaunch this Autumn but with the second wave in full swing, and reduced grant availability, we decided that we would aim to relaunch RAFT 4 in Spring next year!

Bearing in mind how quick time flies, it would be good to start thinking about any projects that you feel could work as a RAFT national project in anticipation of the Spring relaunch, we have changed the requirements for project ideas, and it is not necessary for projects to have been piloted first!

CERA:

Many thanks to everyone who has been involved with the CERA study. The protocol has been published in the BMJ and the first set of results should follow.

Airways 3:

This has been shortlisted for funding! This is looking promising!

NAP 7:

The 7th National Audit Project (NAP7) will focus on perioperative cardiac arrest.

The NAP7 team are committed to trainee involvement and are keen for a trainee Associate PI at every site!

This has also been adapted to take into account the impact of COVID-19, local activity surveys will be used to assess the impact of COVID-19 on current work.

DALES & iHYPE:

Hopefully you will have all seen the first publication from the DALES project, and we have been informed a second publication is in process.

Regarding iHYPE, a paper has been accepted for publication and is due out soon.

As soon as we have more details on these papers, we will send them out to you!

RAFT endorsed projects.**PATRN – SWIFT survey:**

Message from PATRN:

This year's SWIFT survey will examine the impact of Covid-19 on training in paediatric anaesthesia. The survey is undertaken annually and aims to take a snapshot of opinions on a particular topic relating to paediatric anaesthesia. As it has been an extraordinary year, and everyone will have unique experiences of the pandemic we felt it was only appropriate to let trainees have their say on how Covid-19 has affected their paediatric anaesthesia training.

We appreciate you have probably been inundated with requests for survey responses but this one is particularly short and is solely focused on you as trainees. We would really appreciate your time and input and will of course be sharing the results with you all.

Please find the link to the survey below (should only take a few minutes):

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Aa2sg9tOekC6hpXLW-PvEU57kTIVGPPDg1tW1z79xjdUREIjMEc5Mkg2Q1AxT0ITSEhCSFNSVINSUC4u>

These are not RAFT endorsed but projects which we would like to share information on to the TRNs for your own consideration!

Projects to look out for:

RECOVERY RS:

Website: <https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/med/research/ctu/trials/recovery-rs>

This is a public health national clinical trial aiming to identify treatments that may be beneficial for adults hospitalized with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

In many hospitals' anaesthetic and ITU trainees may not have access to this trial, therefore RAFT are not formerly involved in this study.

PERCEIVE – Prediction of risk and communication of outcome following major lower limb amputation:

Website: <https://vascular-research.net/perceive-prediction-of-risk-and-communication-of-outcome-following-major-lower-limb-amputation-a-collaborative-study/>

This is a project focused on limb amputations, looking at risk prediction and functional outcomes. It is an International study and has embraced the Associate PI scheme. As this is a project which is not accessible to all trainees as the work is only undertaken in tertiary vascular centres it is not a project which is fully endorsed by RAFT.

SQUEEZE:

Website: <https://www.esaic.org/research/clinical-trial-network/squeeze/>

Message from the Squeeze team:

The European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (ESAIC) is sponsoring a prospective international observational study called SQUEEZE, looking at the use of postoperative vasopressor infusions. The study aims to assess the proportion of patients who receive post-operative vasopressor infusions; identify what factors are associated with their use; and investigate associated clinical outcomes. In SQUEEZE-UK we will also be assessing the incidence and management of peri-operative new onset atrial fibrillation. Around Easter in 2021, we will be doing a seven day period of data collection for *all* patients aged 18 years and older having non-cardiac surgery. Data will also be collected on 30 patients who receive an infusion of vasopressors post operatively. We are keen to involve anaesthetic trainees in this study! There is a position available for a trainee principal investigator at each site, who will be listed as a collaborator. And any trainees who help with data collection will be given a certificate acknowledging their contribution. If you would like more information, or if you want to know if SQUEEZE-UK will be running at your site, contact us at squeezeUK@esaic.org.

RAFT Admin:

RAFT Charter & Authorship:

We aim to have these completed in time for RAFT4.

RAFT bank account:

RAFT have been in the process of setting up a bank account, which is a lot more complex than it sounds. The process is now complete!

Update on Basecamp:

If you use Basecamp, we will be closing our account in approximately 5 month's time. This was funded by the prior RAFT committee Chair and the new committee have decided not to continue with Basecamp at this time.

TRN Chair zoom meeting:

We are aware that we had planned on a zoom/Teams meeting with the RAFT committee and TRN Chairs. We aim to incorporate this as a formal session in the next RAFT WSM.

RAFT Winter Scientific Meeting (WSM):

Normally the RAFT WSM is held at the end of February at the RCoA and we know that many of you have been asking about the date for next year in order to plan study leave.

We have decided that we will hold this meeting virtually, this will help enable more TRN members to attend, and keeps us all safe. In addition to invited speakers, we would like to incorporate into this meeting the pitches for RAFT4! As a result, we will push the date of this meeting into Spring, to fit into the timeline for the development of the RAFT4 project. We are looking into what platform to use for this virtual meeting, once this is arranged, we will finalise a date for the RAFT Winter/Spring Scientific meeting, likely to be in May, and inform you all as soon as we can.

RAFT

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