

Upcoming Events

LAPA Teaching

[Paediatrics Teach-in – 11th Feb 18:00 – 19:00](#)

[Primary Care Teach-in – 4th March 18:00 – 19:00](#)

[Radiology Teach-in – April, date TBC](#)

Other Events

[Acute Medicine Series – Cardiology – 17th Feb 18:30](#)

[Trainee Series – Haematology – 22nd Feb 18:30](#)

[Specialty Series – Dermatology – 2nd March 18:30](#)

Past LAPA CPD Events

You can now catch up on all our previous events online [here](#).



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Welcome to the February edition of the London Affiliation of Physician Associates (LAPA) newsletter.

We hope you are all keeping well and sane during this (seemingly) never-ending fight against Covid. The vaccine rollout has been a positive step, we are all hesitantly waiting to see the impact on the numbers and counting down the days to book a holiday! Remember to take your breaks and recovery time, even if you've exhausted Netflix!

The FPA had their recent AGM on 22nd January, updating the profession on progress made in 2020 and plans for 2021 – the link to go back and view it is [here](#) and it is only available for 30 days. Highlights included updates on regulation, development of pre- and post- qualification frameworks, and upcoming positions to get involved with the faculty. The Q&A section was excellent and included discussions about indemnity insurance, PANE and ePortfolios. Give it a watch and you can claim 2hrs of Approved CPD.

LAPA has a few exciting things ahead for our monthly CPD Webinars. For February we have Naomi Festa giving a talk on Paediatrics, with a bonus Q&A from her below. Next month Raj Gill will be presenting a case from primary care and in April, Lottie Lewis will be speaking about radiology. Keep an eye out for the dates to put in your diary. Please get in touch if you're interested in being involved in future sessions! Email us: hello@londonphysicianassociate.co.uk

Recent Publications

[Physician Associates and administration of Covid-19 Vaccine](#)

[NICE Managing long-term effects of Covid-19](#)

[RCP and Covid-19](#)

[NICE Covid-19 and Vitamin D](#)

Q & A with Naomi Festa PA in Paediatric Surgery

Tell us about your PA Journey So far?

I qualified as a Physician Associate in 2018 and started working at the Royal London Hospital, rotating between the Neurosurgery and A&E Departments. After a year and a half of adult medicine and surgery, I moved to the Great Ormond Street Hospital General Surgical Department and have been here for 9months. Before qualifying, I did a BSc in Psychology, so there was quite a bit of catch-up to do. This was challenging at times but I would encourage anyone with a non-medical science degree who is considering the PA role to pursue their goal.

How did you find the transition from adults to paediatrics, any tips for anyone considering it?

The striking difference for me was learning the presentations and management of paediatric specific conditions that are not seen in the adult population. Paediatric conditions often arise in the antenatal period, as opposed to adult conditions that are acquired through injury or conditions throughout life. It's also challenging but extremely rewarding to develop paediatric procedures like venepuncture and cannulation that feel like second nature in adults.

Caring for paediatric patients is also much more holistic; it is not just about the medical and psychosocial care of the infant or child. The mother's obstetric history is essential in the care of an unwell neonate and an important part of the paediatric role is caring for the parents who are rightly concerned for their unwell child. Experience in paediatrics is not to be underestimated, especially for PAs working in EM or GP. My top tip for anyone considering paediatrics, is to give yourself plenty of time to learn and grow within the role.

What is your go-to karaoke song?

Go Your Own Way – Fleetwood Mac!