

## Upcoming Events

### LAPA Teaching

[Acute & Oncological  
Emergencies: 4<sup>th</sup>  
November -18:00-19:00](#)

### Other Events

[Acute & General  
Medicine Conference –  
9-10 November \(Excel,  
London\)](#)

[Faculty of Physician  
Associate conference  
25/26 November](#)

[RCP Player On-  
demand events – catch  
up on webinars you've  
missed](#)

## Past LAPA CPD Events

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



@PASofLondon



@londonphysicianassociate

Welcome to the October edition of the London Affiliation of Physician Associates (LAPA) newsletter. This month we celebrated PA week, it was amazing to see so many champions of the PA role on social media.

Are you committed to understanding and improving existing approaches to medical education? Take part in an exciting research project exploring the use of electronic clinical reasoning education simulation tool (eCREST). Not only will you get the opportunity to access the eCREST Software free of any cost – you will also receive a certificate as evidence for your portfolio –which is an excellent way of demonstrating continuing professional development! If you would be interested in participating in a focus group, or have any questions, please email [angelos.kassianos@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:angelos.kassianos@ucl.ac.uk) or [aneeza.pervez.18@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:aneeza.pervez.18@ucl.ac.uk)

Likewise, if you're a PA working in Emergency Medicine and would like to participate in a simultaneous study looking at managing uncertainty in decision making, please contact Emily Parker via email or telephone: [ll14eep@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:ll14eep@leeds.ac.uk) or 07882326446. You get a £20 Amazon voucher and free access to eCREST – we've attached an info sheet with the newsletter for more information!

We are also pleased to announce a new quarterly CPD event: PA Core Knowledge Lecture Series (PACKLS), the first session will be cardiology focused, hosted by GSTT, on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 12-5pm, sign up [here](#).

If you are interested in being an PA OSCE examiner for St Georges University of London, the link is provided [here](#)

Below we have a Q&A from Kate Mayo, who will be speaking at this year's Winter Conference on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December, you can buy tickets for in-person or online attendance [here](#)

### Q & A with Kate Mayo

#### 1) Why did you choose to become a PA?

Upon completion of my undergraduate Biomedical Science degree I completed a research Master's and subsequently began working in a research lab. As much as I enjoyed the role I missed working closely with people, as I found the role relatively isolating. I knew that I wanted to apply my knowledge to a more clinical based role and learnt about the PA role through my other half who was studying to be a PA at the time we met. I was attracted to the flexibility of the role and the option to rotate through specialties as per my interests. It the best decision I ever made!

#### 2) What is your day to day like?

I am attached to the Upper GI team and on a day-to-day basis I attend morning handover, participate in the ward round and subsequently discuss patients at board round where we collectively form management plans. I will then spend my day liaising with the team of juniors to put these management plans into action, for example, discussing with specialties, organising investigations, responding to bleeps and managing acutely unwell ward patients. I will also review ambulatory patients who attend the surgical assessment unit for review.

#### 3) What would you say to somebody considering your specialty?

Surgery is a great specialty to work in; wide variety of patients with a range of different backgrounds and needs, fast patient turnover to keep you on your feet and a range of complexity in presentations. It's been a fantastic first job for me because of this and is a great specialty to consolidate your PA training in terms of knowledge and procedures.

#### 4) What's the best part about working in surgery?

As a PA it is great to be able to take ownership in providing general medical input to surgical patients. I meet such a wide range of people with such a variety of conditions that I am always learning something new. I have become a central member of the team over the past year which has made me feel more and more confident in my role.