

Clinical Surgery NEWS

Farhat Din is a Senior Lecturer at Edinburgh University and Honorary consultant colorectal surgeon at the Western General Hospital.

Farhat's translational research portfolio, encompassing both basic laboratory research and clinical studies, centers around understanding and modifying risk factors for colorectal cancer. She was awarded a Cancer Research UK Clinician Scientist Fellowship in 2010 and currently holds a Chief Scientist Office Senior Clinical Fellowship.



Clinician Scientist: Farhat Din

Colorectal cancer is a major cause of cancer death worldwide; understanding the cellular signaling that governs growth of cancer cells holds the key to developing novel drugs that interfere with cancer cell proliferation. Research in Farhat's lab focuses on colorectal cancer prevention by investigating energy and metabolism signaling pathways that are associated with risk factors such as obesity and physical inactivity, and are dysregulated in colorectal cancer. In parallel, research focuses on how known chemopreventive agents such as aspirin and metformin may

realign such aberrant signaling and cancer stem cells in colorectal cancer. The group are working to identify specific biomarkers in patients with particular risk factors, for example, diabetes or obesity, in order to tailor precision prevention strategies based on an individual's risk factors. In addition to her translational laboratory research, Farhat is actively involved in clinical trials, being the local principle investigator on the PREPARE-ABC - an NIHR-funded prehabilitation randomised controlled trial investigating if an exercise intervention prior to curative surgery for colorectal cancer can enhance recovery. She has contributed nationally to the NICE guidance on the use of qFIT in low risk populations and is currently undertaking a Scottish Government funded project to establish its safe use in symptomatic patients.

Alongside her clinical practice and research activities, Farhat also has a keen interest in surgical career development, being an enthusiastic tutor and mentor for both medical student undergraduates and surgical trainees. She is a Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh Regional Surgical Advisor, as well as contributing to multiple grant committees and collaborations including RCSEd, Tenovus, the Scottish

Contd. over

Highlighted Publications

He Y, Theodoratou E, Li X, Din FV, Vaughan-Shaw P, Svinti V, Farrington SM, Campbell H, Dunlop MG, Timofeeva M. **Effects of common genetic variants associated with colorectal cancer risk on survival outcomes after diagnosis: a large population-based cohort study.** *Int J Cancer.* 2019 Jul 4. doi: 10.1002/ijc.32550

He Y, Ong Y, Li X, Din FV, Brown E, Timofeeva M, Wang Z, Farrington SM, Campbell H, Dunlop MG, Theodoratou E. **Performance of prediction models on survival outcomes of colorectal cancer with surgical resection: A systematic review and meta-analysis.** *Surg Oncol.* 2019 Jun;29:196-202. doi: 10.1016/j.suronc.2019.05.014

Vaughan-Shaw PG, Zgaga L, Ooi LY, Theodoratou E, Timofeeva M, Svinti V, Walker M, O'Sullivan F, Ewing A, Johnston S, Din FVN, Campbell H, Farrington SM, Dunlop MG. **Low plasma vitamin D is associated with adverse colorectal cancer survival after surgical resection, independent of systemic inflammatory response.** *Gut.* 2019 Apr 25. pii: gutjnl-2018-317922. doi: 10.1136/gutjnl-2018-317922.

Theodoratou E, Farrington SM, Timofeeva M, Din FV, Svinti V, Tenesa A, Liu T, Lindblom A, Gallinger S, Campbell H, Dunlop MG. **Genome-wide scan of the effect of common nsSNPs on colorectal cancer survival outcome.** *Br J Cancer.* 2018 Oct;119(8):988-993. doi: 10.1038/s41416-018-0117-7

Welcome to the Spring 2019 Edition of the Department of Clinical Surgery Newsletter

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Cancer Foundation, the Melville Trust, and the UK Therapeutic Cancer Prevention Network. She is part of the CRUK Clinical Careers Committee which is responsible for clinician scientist fellowships and clinical bursaries. Her contribution to excellence in translational research and surgical training was recognised by the award of the prestigious Hunter Doig Medal, which is awarded biennially to a female Fellow or Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Recent Grant Awards

Nixon I, Aitman T, & Thomson J

Circulating tumour DNA in head and neck cancer.
ENT Scotland, Guthrie Fund; £3950, 2019

Mole D, Kulkarni K, Serrels A, Mackay L

Defining the mechanistic role of kynurenine-3-monooxygenase in Breast Cancer
Breast Cancer Now
Team pictured below



KMO in breast cancer research team

Chris Johnston has been awarded an AUGIS Travelling Fellowship to visit the Asian Institute of Gastroenterology in Hyderabad, India with a focus on ERCP and hepatobiliary EUS.

Peter Vaughan-Shaw has received a travel award from the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland to visit leading European colorectal centres in Leuven, Belgium and Amsterdam, Netherlands

News Round up

Professor James Garden Received Honorary Membership of Japanese Society of Hepato-biliary and Pancreatic Surgeons at their annual meeting in Takamatsu, June 2019 and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the University of Glasgow, June 2019.

HealthyR Estonia - members of the [Surgical Informatics group](#), **Drs Riinu Ots, Stephen Knight, Cameron Fairfield, Tom Drake & Prof Ewen Harrison**, recently travelled to Estonia to deliver a pilot HealthyR Notebooks course as part of their Wellcome Trust funded grant to increase open access and reproducible data analysis techniques for researchers in low & middle income countries. The pilot was overwhelmingly successful and the team will now travel to Ghana in November to deliver the course and establish a dedicated Data Centre in Tamale, Ghana



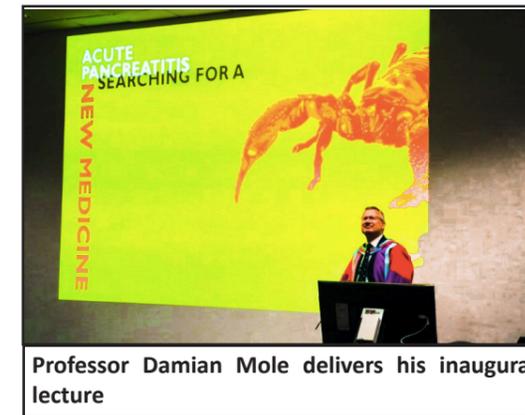
Members of the Surgical Informatics group pictured with the attendees at HealthyR Notebooks in Estonia

Professor James Garden took up the position of Chairman of Melville Trust for the Care and Cure of Cancer, June 2019.

Professors Lorna Marson and Damian Mole recently gave their inaugural lectures having been appointed to personal chairs last year.

Anyone who missed the opportunity to attend the lectures can now catch up online:

Professor Mole's lecture, *Acute Pancreatitis: Searching for a new medicine* can be viewed [here](#)



Professor Damian Mole delivers his inaugural lecture

Professor Marson's Lecture, *Falling upwards, stories from transplant surgery* can be viewed [here](#).



Professor Marson also recently delivered the laureation conferring posthumous medical degree to the Edinburgh Seven.



Professor Lorna Marson is pictured at the recent graduation ceremony along with University Principal Professor Peter Mathieson, Head of CMVM, Professor Moira Whyte and medical graduates presenting the Edinburgh Seven

The Edinburgh Seven were the first group of women to study medicine at any UK university. They were banned from graduating 150 years ago following a vote by academics at the time. On July 6th 2019, the University invited representatives from the current

Medical School to accept Medical degrees on their behalf.

The full stores of the Edinburgh Seven can be read [here](#).

Edinburgh Surgery Online has recently become a member of the NHS Global Citizenship Programme Board. The primary purpose of this Board is to lead, develop and promote the NHS Scotland approach to Global Citizenship and ensure that policies and approaches align and support the needs of developing countries involved with the NHS Scotland Global Citizenship Programme. More information about this new partnership can be found on the [Global Citizenship website](#).

Earlier in the Spring members of ESO staff got together to celebrate the annual ESO tutors dinner at the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh.



Edinburgh Surgery Online staff and tutors gather for the annual tutor dinner at the RCSEd

After celebrating the 10th anniversary of the MSc Surgical Sciences last year, another important milestone was reached for programme over the summer when the 500th graduate was awarded their degree.



Edinburgh Surgery Online graduates 2019

Recent appointments

Professor Ewen Harrison



Professor Ewen Harrison

Congratulations to **Prof Ewen Harrison** who has been appointed Professor of Surgery and Data Science.

Mr **John Casey** and Mr **Ian Nixon** are appointed Honorary Readers.



Mr John Casey



Mr Ian Nixon

Funding Information

For those seeking research funding opportunities, the University Research Support Office has a wealth of resources available, including details of UK, European and international funders, as well as engagement with industry.

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/research-support-office/funders-and-funding>

All members of the University also have access to the **Research Professional** platform which details funding opportunities across multiple disciplines. You will require your EASE log in to access the platform. Once you have set up your account, you will be able to set up notifications and alerts based on your area of research interest and a tailored calendar detailing deadlines for specific calls.

<https://www.researchprofessional.com/0/rr/home>

Research Professional runs live training sessions on the second Tuesday of every month, 10 - 11am. These sessions, joined from your computer, demonstrate how to locate funding opportunities to match your interests and describe how to set up the email alerts to keep you informed of new developments.

Open calls from the MRC can be viewed ordered by closing date via this link: <https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/browse/>

Notable deadlines before the end of 2019 include:

Academy of Medical Sciences, starter grants for clinical lecturers: 5pm 02/09/19; max award £30,000

MRC, Clinician Scientist Fellowships: 4pm 04/09/19. Open again 04/11/19 - 09/01/2020

MRC, Population and systems medicine: 4pm 25/09/19. Max award £1,000,000

Cancer Research UK, Early Detection Innovation Sandpit Award. 30/09/2019. Max award £100,000

CSO, Clinical Academic Fellowships. 07/10/2019 (for August 2020 Fellowship start)

Pancreatic Cancer UK, 11/10/19 (forecast), max award £100,000

MRC, Confidence in Concept Scheme: 01/11/19 (forecast). Max award £1,000,000

Recent Publications

Primrose JN, Fox RP, Palmer DH, Malik HZ, Prasad R, Mirza D, Anthony A, Corrie P, Falk S, Finch-Jones M, Wasan H, Ross P, Wall L, Wadsley J, Evans JTR, Stocken D, Praseedom R, Ma YT, Davidson B, Neoptolemos JP, Iveson T, Rafferty J, Zhu S, Cunningham D, Garden OJ, Stubbs C, Valle JW, Bridgewater J; BILCAP study group. **Capecitabine compared with observation in resected biliary tract cancer (BILCAP): a randomised, controlled, multicentre, phase 3 study.** *Lancet Oncol.* 2019 May;20(5):663-673. doi: 10.1016/S1473-2045(18)30915-X. Epub ahead of print

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Cader Z, Graf M, Burcin M, Mandenius CF, Ross JA. **Cell-Based Assays Using Differentiated Human Induced Pluripotent Cells.** *Methods Mol Biol.* 2019;1994:1-14. doi: 10.1007/978-1-4939-9477-9_1

Husi H, Fernandes M, Skipworth RJ, Miller J, Cronshaw AD, Fearon KCH, Ross JA **Identification of diagnostic upper gastrointestinal cancer tissue type-specific urinary biomarkers.** *Biomed Rep.* 2019 Mar;10(3):165-174. doi: 10.3892/br.2019.1190. Epub ahead of print

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PURE & Open Access Publishing

In order to increase the accessibility of Edinburgh University research, all manuscripts must now be deposited in PURE within **3 months of acceptance.**

Any publications not deposited in PURE within 3 months of acceptance will not be eligible for Ref 2021

Below are some frequently asked questions about PURE and open access publishing

PURE FAQs

What is PURE?

Pure is Edinburgh University's Current Research Information System (CRIS). It is a repository for information relating to research staff, publications, projects and activities.

Where is the information in PURE visible?

Information deposited in PURE is used to populate the [Edinburgh Research Explorer](#), which provides a public view on the University's research activities.

Why do I need to deposit my manuscripts in PURE?

The University is committed to increasing the accessibility of the research conducted by its staff and students. As part of Plan S the University is striving to ensure that no scholarly publications remain locked behind a paywall - you can read more about [Plan S here](#).

Depositing your manuscript in PURE ensures that the author accepted version becomes openly accessible via the Research Explorer as soon as any relevant embargo set by the journal expires - this is known as 'Green Open Access'.

How do I deposit my manuscripts?

You can self archive manuscripts in PURE ([see here for instructions](#)). Alternatively, the Clinical Surgery Research Manager, Dr Katie Shaw, will deposit manuscripts in PURE on your behalf.

What information do I need to supply

In order to deposit manuscripts on your behalf, please supply

1. The full journal name
 2. The date of acceptance
- The easiest way to supply 1 & 2 is to simply forward the acceptance email when you receive it from the journal or your co-authors.
3. The author accepted manuscript (also referred to as the finally accepted manuscript)

What is the Author Accepted Manuscript?

The Author Accepted Manuscript is the finally accepted version of the manuscript after peer reviewing, but before any copy editing or type setting by the journal.

Proofs can not be used for this purpose.

The individual most likely to have this version is the corresponding author.

It is very important that the correct version of the manuscript is deposited in order to avoid any journal copyright infringement.

I am not the first author and my co-authors are not at Edinburgh University - do I still need to deposit the manuscript?

Yes, regardless of your position in the authorship list, you should still ensure the manuscript is deposited

in PURE. Please contact the corresponding author and request the author accepted manuscript. Most UK universities are now depositing manuscripts in similar repositories so will likely be used to having to supply this version.

If your co-authors are at overseas institutes this may not be the case but you should still contact them and request this version.

If you have attempted to obtain the correct version from your co-authors within 3 months of acceptance but have been unable to do so, please contact Katie Shaw who may be able to arrange a REF2021 exception - please note that you must be able to supply evidence that the correct version was requested within 3 months, for example a dated copy of your email request.

When should I deposit my manuscript? When it is published and available via PubMed?

No, in order to comply with the University's current Open Access policy, all manuscripts must be deposited within **3 months of acceptance; not within 3 months of publication.**

Publications that do not comply with this policy will not be eligible for submission to Ref2021.

I have paid the Article Processing Charge (APC) to make my manuscript fully open access - do I still need to deposit it in PURE?

Yes, this is known as 'Gold Open Access' - your manuscript should still be deposited in PURE but if you have paid the APC the journal generated published PDF can usually be deposited and the publication made immediately available.

Do I need to pay the Article Process Charge in order to comply with the University's Open Access Policy?

No, there is no obligation to pay the APC. Depositing the Author Accepted Manuscript in PURE within 3 months of acceptance ensures 'Green Open Access' and compliance with the Open Access policy.

I would like to publish my manuscript as Gold Open Access - is there any financial support available to pay the APC?

As part of Plan S the university is attempting to move away from this hybrid model of publishing - where an additional fee is paid to subscription only journals. However, whilst this models remains, some funding bodies will pay the fees for Gold Open Access and the

University library administers block grants on behalf of Research Councils UK and several charities. They can also offer advice on publisher discount schemes. For more information, including how to apply for support with funding for open access publishing, please [click here](#)

If you have any questions about PURE, or need help identifying the correct version to deposit, please contact Clinical Surgery Research Manger, Dr Katie Shaw (catherine.shaw@ed.ac.uk)

Future Events



*****Bookings Now Open*****

HealthyR+: Practical Logistic regression

A 1-day training course teaching use of R to perform logistic regression analyses and present the results. Suitable for those with some previous experience of R

September 13th 2019, Chancellor's Building

For further information, including the booking link, please see the course website

www.healthy.r.surgicalinformatics.org

The next HealthyR quick start course suitable for beginners will be in January 2020. Final dates will be confirmed shortly.

Edinburgh School of Surgery Day 2019

Friday November 22nd



Save the date for the 2019 School of Surgery day. Further details including the full programme and how to submit abstracts will be available in the autumn.

Clinical Trials Update

Newly Open for Recruitment

The HOT-2 Trial

HOT-2 is a blinded randomized controlled investigation into the efficacy of heme arginate in improving primary graft function in deceased donor kidney transplantation. Professor Lorna Marson is the Chief Investigator and Edinburgh will be the lead centre for this multicentre trial

It is anticipated that Edinburgh will open as the first trial site and begin recruitment late in 2018.

For more information about HOT-2 please contact

Chief Investigator, **Professor Lorna Marson.**

Currently Recruiting

The OPTIMISE II Trial

A large-scale, pragmatic, international, multi-centre study aiming to recruit >2500 patients globally, and seeking to provide definitive evidence on the value of a cardiac-output guided fluid and inotrope protocol in preventing infectious complications for patients >65 years of age.

This NIHR Portfolio study is sponsored by Queen Mary University of London, and the local PI is Dr Mort Kelleher (Consultant Anaesthetist). We are particularly targeting patients undergoing Whipple's procedure and gastrectomy at RIE, although patients undergoing other procedures involving the luminal GI tract may also be eligible.

For more information, please contact Dr Kelleher (mortimer.kelleher@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk) or

Rachael Campbell, Perioperative Research coordinator (rachael.campbell@nhslothian).

The ROMIO Trial

A multicentre randomised controlled trial comparing minimally invasive verses open esophagectomy for esophageal cancer.

This trial is being run by the University of Bristol. NHS Lothian is open as a trial site and recruitment has begun.

For more information please contact **Mr Peter Lamb** or **Mr Richard Skipworth**

OCCAMS—Oesophageal Cancer Clinical and Molecular Stratification.

A Multicentre Study to Determine Predictive and Prognostic Biomarkers and Therapeutic Targets for Oesophageal and Junctional Adenocarcinoma including Whole Genome Sequencing

This study, part of the International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC2), has been refunded by CRUK for 5 years and recruitment is ongoing

For more information please contact **Mr Rob O'Neil** or **Mr Richard Skipworth**

The NeoAegis Trial

A phase III, open-labelled RCT comparing the MAGIC neoadjuvant/adjuvant chemotherapy regimen with the CROSS neoadjuvant chemoradiation protocol in patients with cT2-3 N0-3 M0 adenocarcinoma of the oesophagus or junction. The primary objective is to evaluate 1, 2 and 3-year survival.

This trial is currently recruiting. For more information contact **Mr Richard Skipworth.**

TWIST—Tracking Wound Infection with Smart Phone Technology

A randomised controlled trial to investigate if a smartphone tool can shorten time to diagnosis of surgical site infections.

All patients (>16) undergoing abdominal surgery who own a smartphone are eligible to enter the study. Visually impaired patients are excluded.

Patients will be randomised to receive either standard post-operative care or standard post-operative care plus use of the smartphone tool.

Those in the smartphone group will receive a series of questions via text message and have the facility to upload a photograph of their surgical wound.

Primary outcome measure is time to diagnosis of an SSI and secondary outcome measures will consider use of A&E and GP services

RIE and WGH sites are both recruiting patients to this study.

For more information please contact Principle Investigator, **Mr Ewen Harrison**

Future Conference Submission Deadlines

Conference	Date	Location	Abstract Submission & Registration
Association for Medical Education (AMEE) https://amee.org/home	24-28th Aug 2019	Vienna, Austria	Registration now open
Association of Upper GI Surgeons of Great Britain & Ireland (AUGIS) https://www.augis.org/2019conference/	25th -27th Sept 2020	Liverpool, UK	Abstract deadline extended to 9am Thursday July 25th
The International Surgical Group (ISG) https://www.internationalsurgicalgroup.org	22nd - 25th Oct 2019	Los Angeles, USA	Registration now open
American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress https://www.facs.org/education/clincon/future-clinical-congresses	27-31st Oct 2019	San Francisco, USA	Registration now open Late breaking abstract deadline Aug 1st 2019
European Hernia Society http://www.britishherniasociety.org	11th - 14th Sept 2019	Hamburg, Germany	Registration now open
Society on Sarcopenia, Cachexia & wasting disorders http://society-scwd	6th - 8th Dec 2019	Berlin, Germany	Registration now open
American Surgical Association (ASA) http://meeting.americansurgical.org	16th - 18th April 2020	Washington DC, USA	Save the Date
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Annual Scientific Congress https://asc.surgeons.org	11-15th May 2020	Melbourne, Australia	Save the Date
Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI) http://www.asgbi.org.uk	10th- 12th June* 2020 *note change of date	Glasgow, UK	Save the Date
Society of Academic and Research Surgery (SARS) http://surgicalresearch.org.uk	19th - 20th Mar 2020	Dublin, Ireland	15th Aug - 15th Nov 2019
14th Annual Academic Surgical Conference https://academicsurgicalcongress.org	4th - 6th Feb 2020	Orlando, USA	August 23rd 2019 23:59 EST
British Transplant Society (BTS) https://bts.org.uk	4th -6th March 2020	Dublin, UK	Save the Date
International Association of Medical Science Educators http://www.iamse.org/	13th -16th June 2020	Denver, USA	1st September 2019
European Surgical Association (ESA) https://www.europeansurgicalassociation.org	21st - 23rd May 2020	Cologne, Germany	25th October 2019
Behune Round Table https://bethuneroundtable.com	TBC 2020		
International Hepato Pancreato Biliary Association (IHPBA) World Congress https://www.ihpba.org	21st -24th September 2020	Melbourne, Australia	Save the Date