

# Clinical Surgery NEWS

**Hugh Paterson is a Clinical Senior Lecturer at The University of Edinburgh and Consultant Colorectal Surgeon at the Western General Hospital.**



Consultant Colorectal Surgeon Hugh Paterson

After graduating from University of Aberdeen Medical School, Hugh undertook basic surgical training in the West of Scotland before heading to Boston, USA for 2 years of research into injury-induced host immune responses at Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School, completing a MD. He returned to complete higher surgical training in South-east Scotland followed by a post-CCT fellowship in laparoscopic colorectal surgery at Université catholique de Louvain, Brussels.

Hugh returned to Western General Hospital as a Clinical Senior Lecturer in 2008.

Hugh's research interest is clinical trials in perioperative care, and developing local clinical colorectal surgical research. We asked him how he has sought to develop this at WGH:

*"I started with a feasibility RCT at WGH of Targinact®, an analgesic combining oxycodone and oral naloxone, ostensibly to see if it might ameliorate opioid-induced GI side-effects to hasten return of GI function after colectomy, but mainly to evaluate recovery event rates and end-points. At around the same time I took the University of Edinburgh online PG Cert in Clinical Trials. With encouragement and input from the late Ken Fearon I submitted a successful funding application to NIHR-HTA for a £1.3 million UK multicentre RCT of perioperative IV lidocaine in minimally invasive colorectal surgery (ALLEGRO), currently in progress. (For more information regarding ALLEGRO, please click [here](#)).*

Hugh's other goal is to develop the clinical trial infrastructure in the colorectal unit at WGH. NHS Lothian R&D has supported this with a full time Clinical Research Nurse, Marion MacRury, and the ALLEGRO clinical trial manager, Angie Balfour, who are both based in the unit. These roles have been crucial to a huge expansion in local recruitment to a variety of national colorectal clinical trials and studies (CREST-2, Prepare-ABC, PITSTOP, CIPHER, ROSSINI-2). With a view to sustainability of funding, we have also harnessed the high unit throughput to complete commercially sponsored post-marketing surveillance device trials. Pre-COVID we had regular meetings with R&D to

**Welcome to the Autumn 2020 Edition of the Department of Clinical Surgery Newsletter**

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to develop trial proposals, and we hold regular departmental research meetings to review recruitment, evaluate trial proposals and participation invitations.

With colleagues Danielle Collins and Doug Speake, Hugh has pioneered use of robotically assisted colorectal surgery at WGH becoming the first clinical users of the Versius robotic surgery system in Europe. Full



The Edinburgh Colorectal Research Team: Hugh Paterson (left) with Angie Balfour (centre) and Marion MacRury (right)

details of this innovation, including press coverage can be found [here](#). Hugh is also module lead for Year 6 Surgery for the MBChB at Edinburgh University, co-lead of the colorectal module of the Edinburgh Surgery Online ChM General Surgery and co-editor of "Core Topics in General and Emergency Surgery" of the Companion to Specialist Practice series.

## News Round-Up

### News from the Colorectal Group at the WGH

The Annual Meeting of Association of Coloproctology in Great Britain and Ireland was due to be held in Edinburgh this year, but due to the pandemic was moved online as the 'Virtual Edinburgh Fringe' (5th-8th July). It was well represented by the unit, with Mr Peter Vaughan-Shaw, Miss Farhat Din and Miss Yasuko Maeda

all chairing sessions and giving talks. Peter has become the President of Duke's Club which is a trainees' group within ACPGBI. Congratulations, Peter! We had 2 oral presentations and 11 poster presentations at the meeting.

In July, we also launched a new Twitter account as the Colorectal Research group. Please check out @EdinburghColo. Mr Adam Gerrard has started as a clinical research fellow in August and he will work towards his PhD based on projects using quantitative faecal immunochemical testing (qFIT).

At the end of September, the Annual Meeting of European Society of Coloproctology was also held virtually. The unit presented 11 abstracts in total. Mr Mark Potter, Mr Doug Speake and Miss Yasuko Maeda were busy chairing and giving lectures on faecal incontinence and robotic surgery.

We are active and busy in both translational and clinical research, resulting in 20 publications in the last 5 months.

Following a pause due to Covid19, the team at WGH are working to restart recruitment for the following trials:

**ALLEGRO:** a placebo controlled randomised trial of intravenous lidocaine in accelerating gastrointestinal recovery after colorectal surgery.

**PITTSTOP:** pilonidal sinus treatment: studying the options:

**CIPHER:** UK cohort study to investigate the prevention of parastomal hernia

**CREST2:** Uncovered vs covered endoluminal stenting in the acute management of obstructing colorectal cancer in the palliative setting.

**PREPARE ABC:** SupPoRtive Exercise Programmes for Accelerating REcovery after major ABdominal Cancer surgery - this trial

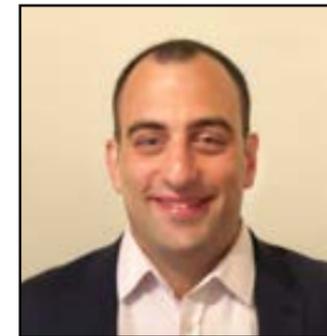
recommence recruitment will begin again shortly.

Visit the colorectal surgery [website](#) for further i

## New Member of Staff

### Fadlo Shaban

Fadlo is a newly appointed colorectal consultant at the WGH having recently completed his post-CCT fellowship there.



His interests include minimally invasive surgery, IBD and early rectal cancer. He is keen on all aspects of teaching and training and is currently a tutor on the General Surgery ChM programme.

## Recent Grant Awards

### Weiser TG (Lifebox)

*Clean Cut: A program to improve the safety of c-section.*

Gates/UBS Optimus Foundation Grand Challenges Grant: \$300,000  
Oct 2020 - Sept 2022

## Prizes & Appointments

**Janice Miller** won the RCSEd Syme Medal in October and was awarded her MD in August for her project, '*Characterisation and mechanisms of altered body composition and tissue wasting*

*in cancer cachexia*', supervised by Professor Stephen Wigmore and Mr Richard Skipworth

**Rachel Guest** has been awarded a highly prestigious intermediate Fellowship from The Wellcome Trust.

**Mr John Casey** has been appointed Vice Chair of the European Pancreas and Islet Registry

**Hugh Paterson** was awarded the annual prize for best publication by the Swiss Visceral Surgery Society for the paper, *High rates of interval resection after conservative management of complicated diverticulitis do not reduce emergency surgery or unfavorable outcomes: A comparative population-based analysis from Scotland and Switzerland* (von Strauss M, Moffa TG, Kaech M, Haak F, Riss S, Deutschmann E, Bucher H, Kettelhack C, Paterson, H).

**Katie Connor** won the Burnand and Translational Research Prize at the Society of Academic & Research Surgery (SARS) for her oral presentation *Defining Cell-Enriched Micromas To Support Rational Biomarker Selection In Human Renal Transplantation*. (Katie Connor, Ollie Teenan, Rachel Thomas, Vicky Banwell, Sarah Finnie, Marie-Louise Monaghan, Carolyn Cairns, Gillian Tannahil, Ewen Harrison, Bryan Conway, Lorna Marson, Laura Denby, Stephen Wigmore)

Also at SARS, **William Cambridge** was awarded best systematic review oral presentation and best oral presentation by a medical student for his project on liver transplantation in hilar cholangiocarcinoma supervised by Rachel Guest.

**Louise Buckley** was awarded the best scientific poster at the BVNA This Is Us 2020 - a celebration of veterinary nursing (Research Bites) virtual congress for her poster, *From handling fails, to waggy tails! Communication between canine owners and veterinary staff on canine handling intolerances in practice*. (Campbell, E., Connor, M., Buckley, L. A. 2020)

## PURE Publication Deposits In Clinical Surgery

The Research Excellence Framework planned for 2021 has been delayed. The full announcement on the impact of Covid19 on the REF2021 is available [here](#)

**However, publications should still continue to be deposited in PURE within 3 months of acceptance.**

### PURE arrangements in Clinical Surgery

Susan Keggie and Murray Brittan are now handling publication deposits in PURE.

As soon as you receive notification of a manuscript being accepted for publication, please forward the acceptance email together with the finally accepted author version to our the PURE email address

**Pure.clinsurg@ed.ac.uk**

All manuscripts must 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 the REF.**

A full set of FAQs on PURE can be found in the July 2019 edition of this newsletter which can be accessed [here](#).

## Funding Opportunities



The [University Research Support Office](#) (ERO) has a wealth of resources available for those seeking funding. There are some funding calls highlighted below, but for full and regular updates, subscribe to their blog to receive all the latest information and funding round deadlines.

They have also put together dedicated information relating to funding for Covid19 research which is available [here](#).

### Research Professional

Research Professional is a web service available to all University staff and Honorary staff via your EASE log in. The site provides research funding news and a comprehensive database of research funding opportunities, searchable by criteria including sponsor, discipline, closing date. You can also search previous successful applications from major research funders and set up individually tailored email alerts. Full details of Research Professional, including tutorials on getting started using the site, can be found [here](#)

### UKRI Responsive-mode calls

UKRI Research Councils, including the Medical Research Council (MRC) have a range of open research calls and fellowships (also known as responsive mode), which can be used to fund projects of all sizes, from smaller-scale scoping studies to large programmes and centres.

Further information on the Researcher-led funding opportunities at the MRC can be found [here](#).



As part of their quinquennial review, The MRC Human Genetics Unit currently have opportunities for Programme Leaders. Applicants with interests and expertise in regulatory genomics, molecular mechanisms of genome function and disease, and statistical genetics are invited to apply for Programme Leader-track scheme with positions open to clinician scientist.

Full details of the Programme Leader scheme, including how to apply can be found [here](#). Deadline for applications: December 18th 2020

## Recent Publications

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## Future Events

### Edinburgh School of Surgery Day 2020

Friday November 20th

This year's School of Surgery Day will be a virtual event due to the Covid19 restrictions. Mrs Susan Keggie will circulate full details, including how to join the event shortly



## HealthyR January 2021



The next HealthyR: R for Health Data Analysis course suitable for beginners will be held as an online course January 11th - 13th 2021.

For more information or to be added to the HealthyR mailing list please email [lisa.norman@ed.ac.uk](mailto:lisa.norman@ed.ac.uk). Bookings for the January course will open soon.

### Save the Date for the 8<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of the World Society of Emergency Medicine - October 2021



It is our great pleasure to announce that the Department of Clinical Surgery of the University of Edinburgh is hosting the 8th International Meeting of the World Society of Emergency Surgery (WSES), at the McEwan Hall , for the 28th of September to the 1st of October 2021. We look forward to welcoming emergency/trauma/general surgeons from around the world and the UK