

About Enteric

Enteric, The Bowel Function Healthcare Technology Cooperative, is one of two pilot HTC's jointly funded by the Department of Health and the Technology Strategy Board with support from the Research Councils and the ABHI. We aim to become the national centre for facilitating innovative technology in the field of disorders of bowel function for the NHS and beyond.

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APPEAR Procedure and staplers used in China



Professor Norman Williams addresses delegates at a multinational conference in Suzhou.



During a recent visit to China, Professor Norman Williams publicised the APPEAR procedure and the specialist staplers developed through an Enteric partnership for sphincter-saving during low rectal excisions. This generated considerable interest in UK surgical innovation and medical technology expertise. At a meeting in Suzhou involving over 70 leading surgeons from Korea, Indonesia and Hong Kong as well as China itself, Professor Williams' presentation, delivered with simultaneous translation and videos, focussed on sphincter-saving surgery, and was well received by the delegates.

A surgeon from Shanghai spoke about his experience with the APPEAR procedure, an encouraging example of a British innovation in use in China. Further networking opportunities arose from the presence of delegates from the China Surgical Society and the China Colorectal Association.

Commercial interests were represented by Frankenman International, who have a permanent office in Hong Kong and who are one of Enteric's partners in the development of stapling devices for the APPEAR procedure. The company is looking to develop its home markets in Asia and further promoting British expertise in China.



Enteric Core Team

Clinical Director:
Professor Norman
Williams

*Deputy Clinical
Director:*
Mr Charles Knowles

*Director of
Operations:*
Dr Michael Grahn

*Administrative
Assistant:*
Ms Sue Taylor

Hosted by Barts &
The London NHS
Trust, Enteric is part
of the NIHR i4i
programme and is
supported by the
Technology Strategy
Board, EPSRC, MRC
and the ABHI

Programme Board gives Enteric the 'Green Light'

We are pleased to report that Enteric received favourable feedback together with some useful suggestions from the Healthcare Technology Co-operative Programme Board, following our 18-month Review in July. The outcome is that the HTC funders have confirmed our funding for a further three years.



New Business Development Manager post

In order to better manage our increasing activity with industrial and other external partners, we are to appoint a full-time Business Manager to oversee the management and development of contacts with industry, innovators and other partners, as well as undertaking marketing and publicity responsibilities and representing Enteric at events and meetings. The post will be advertised on Enteric's website as well as on www.jobs.ac.uk and it is anticipated that the appointee will start in January 2010.

Message from the Chairman

I am really impressed by what colleagues in Enteric are achieving. This pioneering work will most definitely improve outcomes for patients who need bowel surgery. We are creating new and exciting ways of involving patients in these developments. Our clinical networks are expanding and strengthening all the time. I personally hope to help further increase our managerial and organisational links.

Richard Coleman

Stoma Appliance Project launch

Further to our report in the last newsletter regarding TSB funding, the Stoma Appliance Project was officially launched in October 2009. A three-year development plan was agreed and finalised by all partners, including Welland Medical, the University of Brighton and the National Physical Laboratory, as well as Enteric.

NIHR to gain new office for Clinical Research Infrastructure

NOCRI, as the office will be known, will be tasked with drawing together stakeholders for clinical research, both external to and from within the National Institute for Health Research. Enteric will be working closely with NOCRI to improve and extend NIHR interaction with industry.