ABPI NHS Partnership Regional Manager for South appointed

Diana Vegh has been appointed as the Regional Manager for the South. With more than 20 years’ experience in healthcare, undertaking various senior positions in the NHS, market access and academia, Diana began her career with AstraZeneca in regulatory affairs, after her postgraduate research degree at the University of Exeter. Diana is well versed in how the NHS operates with experience working in commissioning and public health in the south west, in PCTs and the SHA, as well as a Foundation Trust. She has specialised in: emergency & unscheduled care; HIV & virology; rheumatology; oncology; end of life care; neurology; CHD; stroke; diabetes and specialised services.

Diana’s industry experience includes successful delivery of access and uptake of a newly licensed payment by results excluded high cost drug with an associated patient access scheme, orphan drugs funded by AGNSS/SCGs and products prescribed in both primary and secondary care.

For more information, please contact Kevin Blakemore, ABPI Regional NHS Partnership Manager (email: kblakemore@abpi.org.uk).

New network on antibiotics and antimicrobial resistance

The ABPI has commissioned JMC Partners to work with us on the issue of antibiotics and antimicrobial resistance. We are establishing an ABPI Antibiotics Network to coordinate a UK industry response to antibiotic

Membership survey – last week

There is still time to take part in our membership survey. Your opinion really does matter to help us focus and direct our work to provide members with the best possible services.

To watch a personal message from our Chief Executive, Stephen Whitehead, about the membership survey, please follow this link.

The survey is available to complete online here.

Upcoming events

Patient Advocacy Forum
11 July

Smaller Companies’ Forum
18 July

Corporate Affairs Network
12 September

Chief Executives’ Forum
13 September

For more information, visit our Events website.

SAVE THE DATE

NICE/ABPI masterclass 25 September 2012

The ABPI is pleased to announce the second event in the NICE/ABPI Masterclass Programme for 2012.

For more information, please contact Helen Barnard, ABPI Events Manager (email: hbarnard@abpi.org.uk).

ABPI pharmacovigilance legislation information day
London 17 October 2012

Join the ABPI for an informative day to discuss the implementation of the new pharmacovigilance legislation.

The seminar will be suitable for individuals directly or indirectly involved in the implementation of the new pharmacovigilance legislation and anyone with a general interest in medicine safety.
resistance and to make the best use of the opportunity presented by the changes taking place in the NHS to influence policy in this area.

Two of the ABPI’s key priorities for 2012 in relation to antibiotics are to contribute to the Department of Health’s (DH) review of its UK Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy and Action Plan, which was published 12 years ago; and to secure a House of Lords Science and Technology Committee inquiry into antimicrobial resistance and the environment for antibiotic development in the UK.

The inaugural meeting of the ABPI Antibiotics Network is taking place on 23 July from 10.00 to 12.30 at the ABPI Offices at Southside. The first meeting of the Network will aim to outline the priorities for the remainder of 2012, agree priority areas for engagement (ie pricing, clinical trials, intellectual property rights, wider societal implications etc) and to develop some initial messages for the Network’s meeting with the DH.

If you or one of your colleagues would be interested in attending, please contact Alice Briceño (email: alice@jmcinform.com).

Homecare review implementation gets off the ground

The Homecare review Strategy Board led by Mark Hackett met for the second time last week to agree terms of reference for itself and for some of the working groups. Three of the working groups have also now held their first meeting: patient engagement; acute trust governance; and standards. The ABPI homecare steering group has either a seat at the table or has held direct meetings with the Chair of the group in each of these cases.

Further meetings are expected to be held after the Olympics, meaning industry participation can be continued after the holiday season. In the meantime, the ABPI is developing policy positions in consultation with members of the ABPI homecare steering group and providing industry representatives with key messages to support them in their roles on the working groups. We are also actively engaging with key stakeholders.

For further information, please contact Audrey Yvernault, Commercial Policy Manager (email: ayvernault@abpi.org.uk).

Endorsement for Joint Working guide at Commissioning Show 2012

Industry was highlighted as a leading example of partnership working at The Commissioning Show 2012. The Joint Working – A quick start reference guide for NHS and pharmaceutical industry partners was endorsed by a number of presenters, in particular as the improving of patient care and service efficiencies through partnership working. For more information, please contact Kevin Blakemore, ABPI Regional NHS Partnership Manager (email: kblakemore@abpi.org.uk).
Department of Health secondment

Two secondment opportunities have arisen in the Department of Health (DH). These are short term opportunities to work in the new External Relations Directorate and the People, Communities and Local Government Division of Social Care, Care Partnerships and Local Government Directorate.

The DH is keen to bring expertise in to bring insight and perspectives from key partners in the health and care system. Both opportunities will offer the successful candidates the opportunity to learn more about the DH and how Government works at a time of significant reform to the health and care system.

Applications can be made by covering letter outlining the applicant's experience against the key competencies together with a CV (two sides maximum). Applications and enquiries should be sent to Margaret Fox (email: margaret.fox@dh.gsi.gov.uk).

Closing date Friday 20 July

ABPI invited to help challenge research and development directors

The ABPI took part in the one-day workshop: Faster easier clinical research: working together to improve performance in which directors and leaders in the field of research and development were challenged on achieving faster, easier clinical research.

A main part of the programme, attended by Russell Hamilton and Dame Sally Davies, involved working in groups to help the directors to understand and internalise the challenge of improving performance and consider how to develop further.

For more information, please contact Emma-Louise Radway-Bright, ABPI Clinical Development Manager (email: elradway-bright@abpi.org.uk).