**Quotes from some candidates’ reports who received a BSG Education and Research travel bursary to attend the BSG LIVE’24 conference**

As an advanced practitioner, it was great to network with peers through the UK, understanding developments in IBD specialist nursing. Clinically, it was great to get updates in IBD, liver disease, small bowel, and nutrition. My favourite was the NET’s session; this is something that is rarely presented so it was good to get an update. I feel this opportunity has been great to support my fellowship, update me clinically whilst networking with colleagues. Thank you. **Nurse**.

BSG Live 2024 was a fantastic conference packed full of new research, updates on therapy and management and of course, an excellent social event. As always, there were many great talks and learning points. As an IBD-minded Gastroenterology registrar, I focused my knowledge on this field. The calibre of talks from abstract submission was also excellent and will change my day-to-day clinical practice. **Trainee**.

It provided a deep dive into the latest advancements and issues in gastroenterology. The hands-on sessions, expert interactions, and comprehensive learning …. also ignited a passion for pursuing a career in this dynamic field. **Undergraduate.**I was extremely grateful to be awarded a travel bursary to attend BSG Live 2024 in Birmingham. This was my first time attending in person. As a trainee doing out of programme research, it can be challenging to maintain up to date knowledge in all areas of gastroenterology outside one’s own area of research. The Masterclass sessions on the first day provided comprehensive, expert overviews of important and challenging topics. Overall, I had an inspiring, informative, and enjoyable week at BSG Live, and I look forward to attending (and hopefully presenting at) future BSG events. **Trainee**.

Clinically, I found, Thursday morning’s sessions on Steatotic Liver Disease, including fantastic talks from Professor MacPherson, Dr Manousou, Dr Rinella, Professor Louvet and Professor Byrne will have direct impact on my day-to-day practice, and they provided important food for thought for my PhD investigations. All in all, I had an excellent (albeit busy!) time at BSG LIVE ‘24. All that remains is for me to say a huge thank you to the BSG Education Committee for awarding me the Travel Bursary, to help support my attendance at this year's conference, and I look forward to BSG Campus ‘24 in December and BSG LIVE ‘25 in Glasgow! **Trainee**.

The conference not only broadened my knowledge but also reignited my passion for the field of gastroenterology…. allowed me to appreciate the different perspectives of healthcare that are on offer. From that of clinicians, to salesmen, and to technicians showing of the latest kit. **Undergraduate.**

As a junior clinician with less experience in gastroenterology, it was exciting to attend sessions where I learnt about diagnostic studies and treatment plans for conditions that I have little knowledge of. Sessions I attended touched on the socio-economic influence on different areas on availability of sufficient diagnostic tools, which translated to other talks that presented data from Middle Eastern countries. Questions raised from peers were thought provoking. **Trainee**.

This was my first attendance at BSG and reaching the end of my ST4 year, I had a great experience. I found the networking opportunities a plenty, great industry stands and a fantastic hands-on experience in Endo Village (I particularly enjoyed playing with the robotic colonoscopy). The talks were brilliant with so many to choose from. I have already made a list of talks I need to watch once the on-demand feature is released. Finally, giving my first oral presentation in front of many of my peers and colleagues was nerve racking but extremely rewarding. I am now looking ahead to Glasgow and am looking forward to meeting up with colleagues to see how the upcoming year was for them, hopefully with some more fro-yo. **ST4 Year Trainee**.

It gave insight into what a career of an academic gastroenterologist involves as well as the diverse expertise of researchers in the field. **Undergraduate**.

The conference was not just about learning; it was a vibrant hub for cultural exchange and networking. I had the opportunity to interact with world-renowned experts in gastroenterology, which allowed me to discuss contemporary challenges and advances in the field, broadening my perspective and reinforcing my research directions. This interaction was not only academically rewarding but also culturally enriching, offering a glimpse into the diverse approaches and practices from various corners of the world. **Trainee**.

The speakers were very engaging, and the quality of the contents delivered was excellent. Another highlight of the conference was “trainee symposiums” where we had a wonderful opportunity to learn about how to deal with tricky in-patient referrals and management of GI bleeds for the trainees. The topics were very educational and highly relevant to my training and also preparation for the SCE exam, and I have gained a lot of confidence in dealing with some tricky referrals after attending the trainee symposium. **Trainee**.

This year, the BSG Live conference improved on several things, including the nursing free papers which were much more interesting this year. I was able to chair again for this session, and I greatly enjoy it. We had 4 nurses, and 2 doctors speak, all of them sharing very important work on which they and their colleagues have been busy. Overall, at the conference, I feel we did a better job for nurses, and I hope next year we can deliver an even better integrated job, so that nurses who aren’t particularly enthused by pathophysiology will feel like their time was well spent. Thanks for this opportunity, and I look forward to continuing to support the BSG. **Nurse.**This was my third year at BSG, but first year as a gastro training reg. I think it’s a very accessible conference as a trainee but still manages to offer something for everyone. I’ve found that there’s a huge amount to gain from BSG, whatever stage you are, and it was great to see the popularity of the undergraduate session this year, to kick off networking within the specialty early and to experience all the possible pathways through gastroenterology training. I was interviewed for the BSG trainee podcast, which is a very exciting new venture that’s come out of the trainee committee in the last few years. I think the best thing for me about BSG is getting to meet all the amazing current and future gastroenterologists, I’ve met inspirational people and made some great friends. Bring on 2025. **Trainee**.

The insights into GI bleeding management and the latest advancements in medications for ulcerative colitis and IBD will enhance my understanding and ability to contribute meaningfully during patient care discussions and decision-making processes. **Undergraduate.**The key learning points which I will apply in daily practice included the updated guidelines and protocols for managing various gastrointestinal disorders. Implementation of these evidence-based practices will enhance the quality of care provided to patients. Attending the BSG also reminded me about the importance of continuing education and collaborations.
In conclusion the BSG conference was a highly valuable experience, providing knowledge, practical skills, and professional networking opportunities. Implementing the new knowledge and strategies learned will lead to improved patient care and professional growth. **Trainee.**

The networking opportunities were invaluable. Interacting with fellow attendees, discussing shared interests, and building professional relationships were some of the highlights of my experience. **Undergraduate**.

I was able to formally meet a prominent leader in my current field of research and discuss the different trials we are running and the future of the work we are doing…. I walked in with no expectations and walked out feeling more hopeful about the future of our specialty. **Trainee**.

One of the most valuable aspects of the conference was the focus on cutting-edge technologies in the screening and management of Barrett’s oesophagus (BO) and oesophageal cancer. I was particularly intrigued by the discussion around sponge capsule technology, a novel device that has shown great promise in screening for BO. This minimally invasive tool has the potential to revolutionise how we detect early-stage oesophageal cancer, making screening more accessible and less burdensome for patients. The data presented at the conference underscored its efficacy and potential for widespread adoption in clinical settings. **Trainee**.