Annual review 2017
Championing sexual and reproductive healthcare for all
We are the largest UK professional membership organisation working at the heart of sexual and reproductive health, supporting healthcare professionals to deliver high quality care.

We believe that access to quality sexual and reproductive healthcare is a fundamental right. This is why we are working together with our members and partners to shape better sexual and reproductive health for all.

We offer our 15,000 doctor and nurse members high quality evidence based guidance, clinical and service standards; training and research; a range of qualifications in sexual and reproductive health alongside our Journal; webinars and events.

We provide an important voice for sexual and reproductive health professionals. To help to achieve this we also work to influence policy and public opinion working with national and local governments, politicians, commissioners, policy makers, the media and patient groups.
"I am delighted that the Faculty is playing an increasingly important role in highlighting the importance of access to contraception and sexual and reproductive health for all."

This has been my first full year as President of the FSRH and it remains an enormous privilege to lead the largest professional membership body working in such an important area of health.

When I chose to move into the field of sexual and reproductive health from obstetrics and gynaecology, many people advised me against it – it was seen as low status with few jobs. But I could see how important it was – and is – from my experience of treating women.

In so many ways it demonstrates what the future of healthcare should be – community based, services built around the patient, interventions based on prevention not just treatment. Our health and social care systems do, however, need to catch up.

I am delighted that the Faculty is playing an increasingly important role in highlighting the importance of access to contraception and sexual and reproductive health for all. We will not see instant results to this work, not least because of the lack of investment in health and social care. But we are increasingly hearing policy makers and commissioners talking about the importance of safe and accessible access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, including abortion care.

Of course, influencing is only one part of what the Faculty does. The majority of our resources are spent on developing guidance and standards along with running and updating our education and training programmes.

We are working hard to ensure our qualifications and training can keep up with the needs of the workforce, while retaining the core principles of our 'vision' that women and men need to be seen by health care professionals who promote choice and safe care based on recognised national standards.

We are proud that this last year also saw the development of our relationship with the BMJ – our Journal publishers – who are now co-owners with us of the newly launched ‘BMJ Sexual and Reproductive Health’. We have also introduced free webinars for our members based on the application of our excellent FSRH CEU clinical guidance.

This last year has also seen the implementation of a new governance structure. We now have an excellent new Board of Trustees made up of both FSRH members and externally appointed trustees. I very much look forward to working with them, together with the excellent staff team, to take forward our plans in the coming year.

I hope this report enables you to see the work we have done and what we have achieved this year. We will be 25 years old in 2018. Lots to celebrate and a great deal more to do.

I hope you will join in the conversation.
2017 highlights

Trained over 2,400 doctor and nurse members in 2017 to deliver effective sexual and reproductive healthcare

We offered a range of qualifications, training and courses to support members and improve patient care, including our MFSRH, Diploma and our Letters of Competence.

Grew our reputation as an authoritative voice in sexual and reproductive healthcare

We represented our members’ views on the decriminalisation of abortion, influenced policy makers and commissioners with a number of outputs and widened our media presence.

Re-launched our SRH Essentials training aimed at nurses in primary care

346 nurses attended in 2017 enabling them to develop their understanding of sexual and reproductive healthcare.

Re-launched our jointly owned BMJ/FSRH Journal as ‘BMJ Sexual and Reproductive Health’

Our newly branded Journal offers members the latest research on sexual and reproductive health and contraception worldwide.

Introduced 6 free webinars across the year with 3,141 views

We launched our webinar series to showcase our Clinical Effectiveness Unit guidance to high interest – 937 members watched our Emergency Contraception webinar.

Generated a wider range of relevant and useful content for members

This, along with our website re-design, generated a 59% increase in website visits overall. We developed our standards and guidance pages based on member feedback, which led to a 40% increase in site visits.
A new governance structure

We implemented a new governance structure for the FSRH in 2017 with the appointment of a Board of Trustees. Responsible for our overall strategy, performance and direction, the Trustees ensure our charitable aims are being delivered effectively and sustainably.

The Board is a mix of clinically trained, faculty members and external trustees with business skills. They work closely with our Council, who now focus on overseeing our education, clinical, standards and influencing work.
Clinical guidance and standards

Improving standards in sexual and reproductive health.

The FSRH Clinical Effectiveness Unit (CEU) supports members by providing a scientific evidence base to support high quality clinical practice in the UK.

2017 achievements:

CEU clinical guidance

- Five clinical guidance documents and related webinars were produced including Contraception after Pregnancy; Emergency Contraception; and Contraception for Women over 40 Years.

- The Contraception After Pregnancy guideline was particularly well received, with formal endorsements from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Royal College of General Practitioners, Royal College of Midwives, Royal College of Nursing and launched at the All Party Parliamentary Group on Sexual and Reproductive Health.

- The FSRH Clinical Effectiveness Unit responded to evidence requests from 473 members – up from 347 enquiries.

- Nine clinical statements were published during 2017.

We reviewed 39 documents from external organisations including:

- One British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) guideline
- Eight National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines
- Four Family Planning Association (FPA) leaflets
- NHS Choices contraception webpages.

Standards

- The Clinical Standards Committee updated and published two service standards: Service Standards for Risk Management in Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare; and Service Standards for Workload in Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare.

Research priorities

- We entered the final stages of the Contraception Priority Setting Partnership (PSP), a participatory research project in collaboration with the James Lind Alliance (JLA) to help understand healthcare professionals’ and users’ priorities in contraception research. The final outcome – a top 10 list of research priorities in contraception – were launched during our Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM).

During 2018–20 we will:

- Continue to produce high-quality, up-to-date standards and guidance to support medical healthcare professionals in their roles.

- Promote the use of the UKMEC and develop tools for members based on it.

- Encourage high quality research based on implementation of the Strategic Partnership.

- Explore the possibility of FSRH becoming an accreditor of training and/or standards in practices and services training.

- Continue to influence funders to support research into the top 10 contraception priorities through the new Clinical Studies Group in 2018.
Quality education and training

Promoting high standards of clinical practice through the provision of quality education and training to healthcare professionals delivering sexual and reproductive healthcare in the UK and internationally.

2017 achievements:

▶ 669 doctors and nurses were awarded the Diploma (DFSRH/NDFSRH) recognising their competence to carry out a contraceptive consultation, amongst other outcomes.

▶ 1,415 doctors and nurses were awarded the Letter of Competence in Subdermal Implants or Intrauterine Contraception, supporting patients in using Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC).

▶ 1,195 candidates passed the e-knowledge assessment, enabling them to take a FSRH qualification.

▶ 346 delegates attended our re-launched SRH Essentials for Practice Nurses course across the UK.

▶ 584 healthcare professionals and others attended FSRH conferences to network and stay up-to-date with the latest sexual and reproductive healthcare research and guidance.

▶ 18 MFSRH candidates passed the Membership part one exam. 12 candidates passed the evidence-based commentary and 7 passed part two.

▶ 69 trainees took our Special Skills Modules (SSM) training covering topics including the menopause, abortion care, vasectomy and ultrasound.

▶ Our FSRH Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care impact factor increased from 1.3 to 1.5 in 2017.

▶ 6 new webinars were held in 2017 with 3,141 views across the year. 937 members watched our Emergency Contraception webinar.

During 2018-20 we will:

▶ Launch a revised Diploma that is educationally sound, accessible and relevant to practice.

▶ Review the Community Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare Specialty curriculum to GMC agreed timescales.

▶ Explore the need to widen access to FSRH qualifications for healthcare professionals beyond doctors and nurses and outside of the UK.

▶ Increase the number of SRH Essentials courses.

▶ Develop a training pathway/curriculum for nurses working in integrated services with the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH).

▶ Review our Special Skills Modules to ensure that content is accessible and relevant.

▶ Position FSRH qualifications as ‘credentials’ in sexual and reproductive healthcare and women’s health.

"Armed with the knowledge from my FSRH Diploma, I was able to competently discuss alternative methods, troubleshoot complications and offer insight that left my patients feeling confident in my expertise. Without a doubt I shall be DFSRH-ing all over again in five years’ time."

Dr Yusuf Ali Lalloo,
GP Trainee in South East Scotland

"Obtaining the FSRH Diploma was the one qualification that I have used to my advantage every day of my working life."

Dr Jan Wake, GP
94% of delegates at our Annual Scientific Meeting would be interested in attending again.

1,195 candidates passed the e-Knowledge Assessment test.

3 new trainees started the Community Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (CSRH) specialty training programme.

669 doctors and nurses were awarded Diplomas in 2017.

1,415 Letters of Competence were awarded in 2017.
66% increase in our overall Twitter following to over 3,000.

20 formal consultation responses to the Department of Health and other statutory bodies.

60% increase in subscribers to our commissioner-focused Sexual Health and HIV Policy e-bulletin.
Advocacy: giving sexual and reproductive healthcare a voice

Increasing recognition among policy makers and commissioners/planners of the importance of sexual and reproductive healthcare to women and men over their life course.

2017 achievements:

▶ Promotion of our FSRH Vision for Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare through meetings with the Minister for Public Health; Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Health; Minister for Public Health; Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Health; Minister for Health (Workforce); Shadow Minister for Public Health; Shadow Women and Equalities Minister; Chairs of the All Party Parliamentary Groups on SRH and Women’s Health; Chair of the Women’s Parliamentary Labour Party and Convener of the Scottish Cross Party Group on Sexual Health.

▶ A range of influencing outputs including a joint pre-general election manifesto with the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, an impactful letter to the Prime Minister regarding abortion policy and the DUP alliance, informing and endorsing RCGP’s Time to Act report on SRH, and formalising FSRH’s position on the decriminalisation of abortion.

▶ Worked closely with the public health leadership and commissioners, briefing the English and South West Commissioners Groups on key issues. We worked with Public Health England, influencing the Sexual Health Action Plan, Reproductive Health Consensus and State of the Nation processes.

▶ A 60% increase in subscribers to readership of our bi-monthly commissioner-focussed Sexual Health and HIV Policy e-bulletin. We now have over 1,000 subscribers.

▶ 20 formal consultation responses were submitted including the Department of Health’s consultations on the Public Health Ringfence/ Business Rates Retention, and submissions to the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) concerning their draft guidance on topics including Termination of Pregnancy and LARC (Long Acting Reversible Contraception).

▶ Widened our media presence in the UK, reflecting the Faculty’s growing reputation as an authoritative voice:

    ▶ Exclusive coverage by The Times on FSRH’s new position on the decriminalisation of abortion.

    ▶ Clinicians featured in national and local print, radio and television including The Independent; Guardian; BBC’s Victoria Derbyshire; Radio 4 Woman’s Hour; Radio 5 Live with Phil Williams; Vogue; Cosmopolitan; and BuzzFeed.

▶ 66% increase in our FSRH UK Twitter followers to almost 3,000. Social media engagement also grew in 2017, with MPs, two Health Ministers and other key SRH organisations sharing our content. We also launched a new Scottish Twitter account to increase awareness among policy makers, members and the public about the main sexual and reproductive healthcare challenges in Scotland.

During 2018–20 we will:

▶ Communicate the breadth and depth of sexual and reproductive healthcare to commissioners, policy makers, planners and other healthcare professionals through the promotion of our FSRH Vision ‘Better Care, a Better Future’.

▶ Provide information and support to commissioners/planners to help improve the quality of sexual and reproductive healthcare commissioning/delivery, including the specialty of Community Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare.

▶ Strengthen our approach to influencing in the devolved nations using the country implementation plans based on the FSRH Vision.
Leadership

Strengthen and develop leadership in sexual and reproductive health.

2017 achievements:

▶ Worked closely to help influence and plan around future workforce needs. This included inputting into Health Education England’s Sexual Health Workforce Action Planning Task Group, and pathway around future workforce needs for integrated sexual and reproductive healthcare services.

▶ Initiated a workforce mapping exercise to identify where services are located and their respective leads. This is a crucial step in supporting local leadership in sexual and reproductive health and identifying potential future leadership gaps.

▶ Informed future leadership and workforce needs by responding to several agenda-setting bodies including the Department of Health’s Expansion of Undergraduate Education, and the General Medical Council’s Undergraduate Outcomes consultations.

▶ Three successful Equivalence (CESR) applicants in 2017, increasing the Community Sexual Reproductive Healthcare consultant workforce.

▶ Three new trainees started the Community Sexual Reproductive Healthcare (CSRH) specialty programme in 2017, helping to meet the urgent need for more consultants in SRH.

During 2018-20 we will:

▶ Continue to promote the breadth of sexual and reproductive healthcare and its wider benefits, through our FSRH Vision.

▶ Lobby for an increase in the number of sexual and reproductive healthcare consultants including promoting/processing CESR; an increase in specialty numbers; and Health Education England.

▶ Develop joint working with other specialties in response to Shape of Training to ensure our speciality is fit for purpose.

▶ Work with the British HIV Association (BHIVA) and British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) to support the mentoring of new consultants in CSRH.

▶ Promote the role and impact of sexual and reproductive health medical specialists and improve the way we support these members.

▶ Promote our speciality training programme to policy makers and commissioners.

“The Community Sexual Reproductive Healthcare (CSRH) speciality training programme places a strong emphasis on the development of leadership and management skills. Given the number of existential challenges facing the NHS today, it is now more important than ever to be equipped with these skills in order to provide safe and cost-effective services.”

Dr Savita Brito Mutunayagam
CSRH Trainee; Specialist Registrar in Sexual and Reproductive Health; and Honorary Research Fellow, University of Aberdeen
Modernisation

Strengthen and modernise the FSRH.

2017 achievements:

- Increased our website visits by 40% between 2016–17 to the standards and guidance section of our FSRH website. This was re-built and developed based on member feedback.

- Improved our customer service processes with a new phone triage system to help our members easily find the right staff member to resolve their queries.

- Re-structured our education and training staff team to increase capacity and effectively deliver our portfolio of courses, training and qualifications.

- A new governance structure with the appointment of a Board of Trustees, responsible for our overall strategy, performance and direction.

During 2018–20 we will:

- Develop a strategic plan based on wide consultation with members, trustees, committee members and staff to inform 2019 onwards.

- Continue to deliver excellent customer service to members – measured via times taken to process new qualifications, customer satisfaction and monitoring of complaints/feedback.

- Ensure the new website is continually improved to meet and support all our goals.

- Maximise investment in our CRM system including ensuring effective communication with different parts of the membership.

- Review and strengthen the membership offer including identification and promotion of member benefits both inside and outside the UK, and increase member retention.

- Support the implementation of the new governance structures to maximise the effectiveness of the new Board, Council and committees.

59% increase in website visits overall, with over 22% more page views.

61% increase in page views to our ‘My FSRH’ login with 9,966 new login accounts created.

47% increase in homepage visits.
Our officers, council and trustees in 2017

We would like to thank our officers, elected council members and the FSRH staff team for their support in delivering our strategic objectives in 2017.

Officers

Dr Asha Kasliwal  President
Dr Anne Connolly  Vice President
Dr Diana Mansour  Vice President
Dr Tracey Masters  Vice President
Dr Kate Armitage  Honorary Secretary  (until March 2017)
Dr Anne Lashford  (from March 2017)
Dr Jane Dickson  Honorary Treasurer

Members invited to Council:

Dr Judith Stephenson  Chair, Clinical Studies Group – SRH  (until October 2017)
Dr Rebecca French  Chair, Clinical Studies Group – SRH  (from October 2017)
Dr Janet Barter  Chair, Specialty Advisory Committee
Dr Zara Haider  Chair, Meetings Committee
Dr Diana Mansour  Chair, Clinical Effectiveness Committee
Dr Aisling Baird  Chair, Examinations Committee
Dr Catherine Schunmann  Chair, Curriculum Committee
Dr Helen Munro  Chair, Clinical Standards Committee
Dr Kate Armitage  Chair, General Training Committee  (until March 2017)
Dr Cindy Farmer  Chair, General Training Committee  (from March 2017)
Drs Anne Lashford and Tracey Masters  Chairs, Education Strategy Board
Dr John Eddy  Chair, Equivalence Committee
Dr Pauline McGough  Chair, Scotland Committee
Dr Amanda Davies  Chair, Wales Committee
Dr Roma Caldwell  Chair, Northern Ireland Committee
Dr Paula Baraitser  Chair, International Affairs Committee
Dr Antje Ischebeck  Chair, Special Skills Module Committee
Dr Asha Kasliwal  Co-Chair, Joint FSRH/BASHH Integrated Information Group
Dr Sandy Goldbeck-Wood  Editor-in-Chief, Journal
Ms Linda Pepper  RCOG Consumer forum  (until July 2017)
Ms Maya Lane  RCOG Women’s Network  (from May 2017)

Senior management team

Jane Hatfield  Chief Executive
Jo Lawton  Director of Education
Jane McGowan  Finance Director
Harry Walker  Head of External Affairs and Standards
Abby Wright-Parkes  Head of Membership and Marketing
Our members

- Diplomate DFSRH 87%
- Member MFSRH 2%
- Fellow FFSRH 2%
- Associate 7%
- Affiliates 1%
- Retired 0.5%
- Honorary Fellows 0.5%

At the end of 2017, we had 15,364 paying members.

Financial summary

Total income from our 2017 audited accounts was £2,211,355.

- Fees and subscriptions 76%
- Conferences and events 11%
- Journal 3%
- Exam fees 6%
- E-portfolio fees 2%
- Other income 2%

Total expenditure in 2017 was £2,507,090.

- Conferences and membership 85%
- Journal 10%
- Exams 5%

"Being part of the General Training Committee offers me an amazing insight into training needs and barriers for providing sexual and reproductive health in the UK and further afield. I have had the chance to meet people with huge amounts of experience and understanding about sexual and reproductive health which helps feed into my research and clinical job."

Dr Rebecca Mawson
GP and General Training Committee Member

Our vision – A world where quality sexual and reproductive healthcare is accessible to all.