

North East Area Report– Autumn 2018

The North East group has continued to meet twice per year, in May and November. We have had a mix of external speakers as well as members volunteering to present on topics we feel we would benefit from as a group.

We have had additional POGP members join in the last year and an increase in the attendees in the last two meetings, which has been very positive for the group. The meetings feel like a good opportunity to compare our services and to discuss clinical scenarios. We have started to allocate time at the end of each meeting to share our experience and this has proved valuable.

We have continued to discuss areas that members would like to cover in our meetings and we set the date and topic for the next meeting, allowing at least four months for members to plan their diaries to increase attendance.

We held a meeting in November 2017, where one of our members led a session on sexual medicine based on a course she attended lead by Holly Herman. We were introduced to a wide range of topics covered on the course and many of our members were keen to attend following this session. It was a valuable talk as it covered areas which were new to many of us.

Our last meeting in May 2018 was led by an external speaker on the use of Bulkamid as a treatment option for stress urinary incontinence. It was an interesting talk and allowed us to compare which Trusts within the North East were already using Bulkamid and how this fits within a pathway of care for our patients. The second half of our meeting was based around clinical scenarios, which was very useful as it allowed us to highlight the different treatment methods and approaches we use. At the end of this it allowed us to reflect on our current practice and learn from each other.

Our next meeting is in November 2018 and we have made plans to cover an introduction to the management of bladder pain syndrome. We are looking at arranging a two day course in the North East on this topic due to the high volume of interest in this area.

Anna Mennell
Area representative for the Northeast

