



## Partner's update

# Global Anaesthesia, Surgery and Obstetric Collaboration (GASOC)

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The global surgical 'movement' has come on leaps and bounds since it was brought to the forefront following publication of the Lancet Commission in 2015. Despite this, the need to ensure ongoing engagement from the future global anaesthesia workforce persists.

Having received feedback from medical students, it is clear that GASOC serves a 'niche in the market' – a hub for postgraduates to continue their engagement in global surgery.

Over the last few years, GASOC's audience has significantly grown with now over 1,000 subscribed to our mailing list and over 1,500 followers on Twitter. This has been a result of the committee's dedication, advocacy and our willingness to work with key stakeholders such as the royal colleges, international organisations and those working in low-and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Not only has collaboration allowed us to widen our audience and include colleagues abroad, but it has also given GASOC the ability to highlight the lack of recognition of global surgical

experience within the UK training curriculum. The benefits to both the NHS and the volunteering organisations are well documented, however, there is widespread regional variation within the UK with regards to out-of-programme experience. GASOC, as an organisation, aims to normalise and encourage working in low resource settings.

Our events are attended by doctors of all levels – students, trainees, and consultants and non-physician healthcare providers working in LMICs. The [GASOC Global Health Leadership Symposium](#), held in February 2021, was attended by colleagues from over 30 different countries. This is a prime demonstration of our organisation's ethos of ensuring bi-directional involvement with those working in

low resource settings. International representatives have recently been elected to help further these aims and over the last six months, GASOC has highlighted research coming from LMICs at our bi-monthly journal clubs. This is in addition to striving for speaker equity at our events.

Having held the aforementioned symposium and numerous workshops at national and international conferences in the first half of 2021, the second half of 2021 promises to be just as busy. Highlights will include our virtual journal clubs, which will continue throughout the year, and our World Anaesthesia webinar in May. We will also be holding the GASOC Annual Conference on 18 September titled 'The Story of Global Surgery – The Past, Present and Future'.