



## Fertility Conference 2017 – Evaluation

### What influenced you to attend this conference?

Total responses: 208

Invited speaker/chair	Attended previously	Poster/oral presenter	Recommended by colleagues	Networking	Location	Funding	Programme
10%	31%	23%	15%	4%	3%	5%	9%

- CPD development x 7

### Exhibition

#### The exhibition on the whole

Total responses: 208

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
48%	48%	4%	

#### Comments:

- Well organised. Plenty of space x 5
- A truly fantastic conference - the joint meeting really works
- My first visit and it was an excellent experience

#### Did you view the exhibition?

Total responses: 209

Yes	No
95%	5%

#### How much time did you spend in the exhibition?

Total responses: 209

Up to 1 hour	1-2 hours	2-4 hours	4-6 hours	More than 6 hours
10%	23%	40%	15%	12%

#### Was there enough time in the exhibition?

Total responses: 204

Yes	No
91%	9%

#### Are there any other companies or organisations you would have liked to have seen?

Total responses: 203

Yes	No
13%	87%

#### If yes which companies:

- Rocket Medical Illumina
- Donor conception
- Beckman Coulter
- NSHCS STP
- Endometriosis UK
- Altrui/ egg donor agency
- HFEA x 2
- Rob Watkins IVF Synergy
- Ultrasound manufacturers present – GE x 2

#### Did you make any purchases at the exhibition?

Total responses: 207

Yes	No
3%	97%

### What did you find most useful at the exhibition?

Total responses: 208

Range of exhibitors	Learning about new products/services	Networking	Meeting new and existing suppliers	Making purchases	Live demonstrations	Educational activities
10%	23%	40%	13%		3%	11%

#### Comments about the exhibition:

- Coffee breaks were too long - hour break then back in lecture for an hour before another hour break
- Live demonstrations would have been useful
- Very good mix of science and clinical
- Virtual racing at Vitrolife - great

#### I am a member of

Total responses: 205

BFS	SRF	ACE	NON-MEMBER	OTHER
46%	14%	22%	14%	4%

- British Society for Immunology
- ESHRE x 3
- Irish Fertility Society x 2
- SBTE (Brazilian society of embryo technology)

## Thursday 7 January

### Plenary

#### Chairs' welcome – Dr Franchesca Houghton

Total responses: 165

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
29%	50%	21%	

- A shame that delegates did not follow her advice during the meeting, about not taking photos of presenter's slides. This advice could have been usefully repeated by the chairs in all sessions. It has become an irritating development in medical meetings and those taking photos are a distraction to other delegates

#### Development of the ovary and rescue after chemotherapy – Prof Blanche Capel

Total responses: 159

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
44%	48%	8%	1%

- Acronyms not explained
- Excellent talk, very engaging x 2
- Interesting but over my head at times x 2
- One of the best talks of the conference
- Totally fascinating for a clinician

#### How the environment affects ovarian function and the oocyte - Dr Roger Sturmey

Total responses: 163

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
53%	41%	6%	

- Excellent insight into environmental factors x 2
- I really enjoyed this talk. I learnt a lot x 2

#### Replenishing the adult ovarian follicular population: Isolation and characterisation of germ line stem cells from adult women - Prof Evelyn Telfer

Total responses: 163

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
42%	48%	10%	

- Could have been more scientific
- Maybe too in-depth for my own level of experience
- This lady was an excellent speaker had me hooked and if my attention wavered brought me straight back

**The Anne McLaren Memorial Lecture – The role of sister germ cells in oocyte differentiation - Dr Allan Spradling**

Total responses: 140

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
30%	60%	8%	2%

- Extremely good and useful lecture x 2
- Not relevant for embryologists
- This was the best talk of the meeting

**SRF AGM**

Total responses: 44

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
30%	60%	8%	2%

- Pity not more attendees but this is nothing new (from an ex meeting secretary)

**Concurrent Stream A**

**A1 Emerging strategies in ART**

Total responses: 63

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>A1.1 Multilocus genetic risk scores for poor ovarian response</b> - Joaquin Ll�acer	9%	57%	29%	2%
<b>A1.2 For women undergoing double embryo transfer on day five, the addition of a poor quality embryo may have a detrimental effect on assisted reproduction outcome</b> - Alison Richardson	12%	61%	19%	5%
<b>A1.3 A second injection of kisspeptin-54 safely improves oocyte maturation during in vitro fertilisation therapy in women at high risk of ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome</b> - Ali Abbara	40%	51%	6%	
<b>A1.4 Progesterone assay concentrations to guide whether to proceed to a fresh embryo transfer or to freeze all suitable embryos are insufficiently reliable</b> - Jennifer Lyon	24%	53%	20%	1%
<b>A1.5 The clinical value of time-lapse as an efficacious embryo selection tool: A systematic literature review and meta-analysis of 45 studies involving 28876 embryos</b> - Stephanie Yip	12%	64%	22%	1%
<b>A1.6 Intralipid infusion does not result in improved live birth rates in women with recurrent implantation failure undergoing IVF treatment and is associated with an increased risk of congenital fetal malformations</b> - Islam Gamaleldi	20%	57%	17%	6%

**A2 - Sperm integrity and function**

Total responses: 63

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>A2.1 SRF/SRB Exchange paper: Cellular samurais and sperm: Katnal2 is an essential regulator of microtubules in haploid male germ cells and sertoli cells</b> - Jessica Dunleavy	75%	25%		
<b>A2.2 Does exposure to cisplatin impair survival and proliferation of spermatogonial stem cells in prepubertal mouse testis?</b> - Frederica Lopes	13%	76%	13%	
<b>A2.3 Effect of Electronic-cigarette flavourings on (I) human sperm motility, chromatin integrity in vitro and (II) mice testicular function in vivo</b> - Helen O'Neill	25%	62%	13%	

<b>A2.4 Sperm DNA quality in Hr6b (Ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme) Knockout Mice: DNA damage study</b> - Sheena Lewis	25%	62%	13%	
<b>A2.5 DNA sequence analysis of the sperm HALO provides evidence for sequence-specific compartmentalisation of chromatin in the mature spermatozoon nucleus</b> - Adel Binhurahem	29%	57%	14%	
<b>A2.6 As defined by sperm chromatin integrity, a complementary relationship exists between sperm affinity for hyaluronic acid and sedimentation properties in density gradients</b> - Forough Torabi	57%	43%		

### A3 - Social challenges of infertility

Total responses: 32

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>A3.1 Kisspeptin modulates sexual and emotional processing in men</b> - Waljit Dhillon	42%	49%	6%	0%
<b>A3.2 Addressing the needs of orthodox Jewish couples seeking fertility treatment</b> - Katie Best	57%	36%	3%	0%
<b>A3.3 Does egg sharing, in which women donate half of their eggs reduce the chances of success compared to women having self-funded IVF/ISCI cycles?</b> - Shabana Bora	29%	52%	16%	0%
<b>A3.4 Fertility preservation for young persons undertaking gender reassignment; management considerations for the clinical embryologist</b> - Charlotte Taylor	40%	47%	9%	1%
<b>A3.5 The role of a clinical nurse specialist in managing a successful donor sperm programme</b> - Denise Kerlake	33%	49%	12%	3%
<b>A3.6 Surrogacy - why, where and how? A study of cycles conducted between 2012 and 2015</b> - Lucy Richardson	39%	52%	6%	0%

### A4 - Predicting embryo growth and development

Total responses: 42

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>A4.1 Blastocyst contraction pattern as a potential predictor of embryo chromosomal content</b> - Xavier Vinals	19%	63%	15%	
<b>A4.2 The developmental potential of mosaic embryos</b> - Samer Alfarawati	9%	69%	19%	
<b>A4.3 Comparing euploidy rates of blastocysts cultured in the embryoscope to conventional incubators</b> - Reena Gupta	20%	46%	29%	2%
<b>A4.4 Impact of double cryopreservation and biopsy on PGD cycle outcome</b> - Yaser Dajani	9%	56%	32%	
<b>A4.5 First clinical application of a novel ultra-rapid comprehensive chromosome screening technique</b> - Katharina Spath	18%	60%	17%	2%
<b>A4.6 Haploid parthenotes and normally fertilised embryos have differential response to ammonia exposure in vitro</b> - Guruprasad Kalthur	5%	56%	32%	4%

### A5 - Hormones in female reproduction

Total responses: 22

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>A5.1 Evidence for TGF<math>\beta</math> regulation of cell cycle genes in granulosa cells of primordial follicles</b> - Sofia Granados-Aparici	41%	53%	6%	

<b>A5.2 Effect of bone morphogenetic protein-15 (BMP15) on gonadotropin-stimulated synthesis of hyaluronan and progesterone in porcine ovarian follicle</b> - Eva Nagyova		53%	47%	
<b>A5.3 British Fertility Society/AFS Exchange paper: Clomiphene, metformin, letrozole, tamoxifen or combined clomiphene-metformin for polycystic ovary syndrome - a systematic review and individual participant data network meta-analysis</b> - Rui Wang	37%	36%	26%	
<b>A5.4 Prostaglandin effects to myometrial and leiomyoma cells in vitro through microRNA profiling</b> - Myoungseok Han		61%	39%	
<b>A5.5 The impact of DHEA on endometrial receptivity</b> - Douglas Gibson	43%	50%	7%	
<b>A5.6 Dynamic changes in gene expression and signalling during early placental development in the horse</b> - Amanda de Mestre	50%	44%	6%	

## UPDATE SESSIONS

### BFS Update - Controversies in reproductive medicine

Total responses: 56

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Managing unexplained infertility - evidence vs expectations</b> - Prof Siladitya Bhattacharya	68%	28%	4%	
<b>IUI vs IVF</b> - Dr Madelon Van Wely	28%	47%	20%	5%
<b>Why do embryos not implant?</b> – Alpesh Doshi	21%	64%	14%	1%

- Prof Siladitya Bhattacharya - Good thought provoking
- Dr Madelon Van Wely - Very disjointed, very similar to previous lecture, a little unclear at times but interesting talk
- Alpesh Doshi – Excellent speaker

### ACE Update - Advancing our knowledge of embryo selection

Total responses: 48

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Embryo selection: what evidence is required, and do we even need it?</b> - Dr Sebastiaan Mastenbroek	50%	38%	12%	
<b>The zinc spark as a novel marker of oocyte and embryo quality</b> - Dr Nan Zhang	45%	50%	5%	
<b>Embryo biomarkers</b> - Kirstine Kirkegaard	26%	64%	10%	

- Dr Sebastiaan Mastenbroek - Extremely inappropriate to use the image of Prof Simon Fishel without his consent. Very unprofessional, so refreshing to have someone consider the quality of evidence, thought provoking
- Dr Nan Zhang - Not relevant for embryologists. Difficult to follow, An excellent talk with good scientific evidence, fantastic talk and handled the questions well
- Kirstine Kirkegaard - Could have included some more scientific data

### SRF Update - Endometrial and embryo dialogue

Total responses: 19

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Extrinsic and intrinsic regulation of pregnancy establishment in ruminants</b> - Prof Tom Spencer	63%	26%	11%	
<b>Prostaglandin F2<math>\alpha</math> in embryo-maternal interactions in the pig</b> - Dr Agnieszka Waclawik	37%	42%	21%	
<b>Predicting recurrent implantation failure in IVF</b> - Prof Nick Macklon	67%	28%	5%	

- Very good to have cross-discipline presentations

## Nursing Update - Endometrial and embryo dialogue

Total responses: 32

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
Dilemmas for couples considering egg donation treatment - Ruth Wilde	50%	36%	14%	
Prediction and prevention of miscarriage - Prof Arri Coomarasamy	53%	37%	10%	
Screening for viruses and effect of positive results on fertility storage and treatment - Andrew Drakeley	56%	38%	6%	

## Ferring Symposium: Debate: Will personalised medicine contribute significantly to improving success rates in IVF?

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
For: Stuart Lavery	52%	44%	4%	
Against: Prof Charles Kingsland	50%	38%	12%	

- A lively and interesting debate, both made valid points

## Friday 8 January

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### Merck Symposium: Pre-treatment optimisation – uterus and sperm

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
Professor Christopher Barratt	51%	49%		

- A general overview. Nothing specific that I did not know, very informative and done with mild humour

### Plenary

#### Chairs' welcome – Valentine Akande

Total responses: 134

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
31%	57%	12%	

#### Why is aneuploidy so common in oocytes and why does it increase with a woman's age? - Prof Keith Jones

Total responses: 143

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
39%	56%	5%	

- Low key but high quality

#### Meiosis in mammalian oocytes - Dr Christian Ottolini

Total responses: 145

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
28%	63%	8%	1%

- Low key but high quality

#### Can we stop ovarian ageing? - Prof Helen Picton

Total responses: 145

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
51%	42%	7%	

- Really enjoyed this part of the lecture, presented in a clear and very user friendly way

#### Howard Jacob lecture - Ovarian stimulation for infertility treatment: Past, present and future - Bart Fauser

Total responses: 138

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
67%	30%	3%	

- An absolute highlight of the conference
- An excellent speaker x 3
- Very clear and informative x 2

### British Fertility Society Honorary Fellowships

Total responses: 111

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
28%	55%	11%	

- Very happy occasion

### British Fertility Society AGM

Total responses: 54

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
24%	52%	24%	

- Very interesting to hear what is going on in BFS
- Adam and the officers do an excellent job. How Adam copes with the workload is phenomenal

## Concurrent Stream B

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### B1 - Maturing a good egg

Total responses: 13

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>B1.1 Sub-populations of oogonial stem cells can be isolated from the adult human ovary</b> - Dr Yvonne Clarkson	33%	54%	3%	
<b>B1.2 Characterisation of P-body formation during bovine oogenesis</b> - Jianping Lu	20%	60%	30%	
<b>B1.3 Functional analysis of the oocyte specific imprinting regulator KHDC3L in bovine oocytes and embryos</b> - Erika Berenyi	18%	64%	9%	9%
<b>B1.4 Mitochondrial indices of ovine oocyte maturation in-vitro</b> - Keerthi Gnanaprabha	27%	45%	18%	9%
<b>B1.5 Mitochondrial markers associated with maternal age during ovine oocyte maturation in vitro</b> - Chutima Topipat	25%	58%	7%	1%
<b>B1.6 RNA-Seq profiling of bovine cumulus-oocyte transcript abundance after treatment with cAMP modulators</b> - Eduardo Montanari Razza	27%	64%	9%	

- This session had a few too many people from Leeds x 2

### B2 - The ART of sperm

Total responses: 26

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>B2.1 - Novel prognostic factors for sperm retrieval in patients with non-obstructive azoospermia undergoing microdissection testicular extraction (mTESE)</b> - Seraphina Rong	28%	48%	20%	4%
<b>B2.2 - Improving art outcome following unexplained total failed fertilisation</b> - Sarah Martins da Silva	50%	42%	3%	3%
<b>B2.3 - The clinical value in assessing sperm total aneuploidy rate in couples undergoing failed intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) and its correlation with semen parameters</b> - Timothy Bracewell-Milnes	29%	42%	21%	4%
<b>B2.4 - Profiling the intracellular calcium dynamics in single spermatozoa and their association with IVF fertilisation success</b> - Mark Kelly	16%	74%	5%	
<b>B2.5 - Sperm preparation and egg activation for bovine intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI)</b> - Judith Gomez-Martinez	10%	42%	26%	15%

### B3 - Fertility Preservation

Total responses: 29

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
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<b>B3.1 Investigating the role of somatic cells in follicle dysregulation observed in a mouse model of premature ovarian insufficiency using the reaggregated ovary technique - Sairah</b>	19%	66%	15%	
<b>B3.2 Ethanolic extract of Moringa oleifera leaves attenuate cyclophosphamide-induced testicular toxicity by improving endocrine functions - Guruprasad Nayak</b>	15%	65%	15%	
<b>B3.3 Human fetal testis xenografting as a model for developing fertility preservation strategies for prepubertal boys - Marsida Hutka</b>	7%	37%	5%	
<b>B3.4 Can tyrosine kinase signalling protect the ovary from cisplatin-induced damage? - Agnes Stefansdottir</b>	18%	67%	11%	
<b>B3.5 Development of a survey to assess interest in fertility preservation among children and adolescents with cancer: The cancer and reproductive health (CAREh) in kids and teens survey - Nikoletta Panagiotopoulou</b>	21%	61%	14%	
<b>B3.6 A nationwide UK survey on female fertility preservation prior to cancer treatment - Yazan Abdallah</b>	32%	54%	11%	

#### B4 - Predicting embryo growth and development 2

Total responses: 29

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>B4.1 A method to a fully automated evaluation of bovine blastocyst images based on artificial intelligence – Marcelo Nogu</b>	9%	55%	30%	5%
<b>B4.2 Oliana Strings: Useful marker of embryo viability - Ranya Derrick</b>	28%	44%	28%	
<b>B4.3 Healthy baby born after preimplantation genetic diagnosis of mitochondrial DNA disease utilising next-generation sequencing - Katharina Spath</b>	24%	60%	16%	
<b>B4.4 Prostaglandin F2<math>\alpha</math> regulates adhesion of HTR8/SVneo trophoblast cell line - Monika Baryla</b>	13%	52%	30%	4%
<b>B4.5 Hyaluronic acid: An anti-angiogenic shield for the post-implantation embryo - Ron Hadas</b>	20%	52%	20%	8%
<b>B4.6 Does the additional transfer of a poor quality blastocyst affect clinical outcome? - Shreena Tailor</b>	33%	33%	34%	

#### B5 - Optimising health outcomes

Total responses: 60

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>B5.1 An ectopic pregnancy cannot be excluded...Or can it? - Alison Richardson</b>	27%	59%	14%	
<b>B5.2 Live birth rates following the transfer of atypically fertilised embryos in an IVF/ICSI setting - Victoria Berry</b>	32%	58%	9%	
<b>B5.3 Can the transfer of a genetically affected embryo after PGD ever be justified? Questions of autonomy and welfare of the child in a case report of the transfer of an embryo affected by osteogenesis imperfecta - Georgios Christopoulos</b>	64%	34%	1%	
<b>B5.4 Slow release insemination versus conventional IUI: Initial results from a multi-centre trial - Bryan Woodward</b>	39%	33%	22%	5%
<b>B5.5 Multivariate analysis examining the association between infertility, assisted reproduction and pregnancy outcomes in a single centre tertiary referral obstetric unit - Eimer O'Malley</b>	11%	43%	42%	3%



<b>B5.6 Development of a universal method for the preimplantation diagnosis of <math>\beta</math>thalassemia and sickle-cell anemia using a novel next generation sequencing approach: A new paradigm for PGD - Nada Kubikova</b>	8%	56%	31%	4%
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## UPDATE SESSIONS

### BFS Update - Emerging evidence and new approaches to management

Total responses: 54

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Premature ovarian insufficiency</b> - Lisa Webber	35%	53%	9%	3%
<b>Infertility, fertility treatment and risk of cancer</b> - Prof Alistair Sutcliffe	44%	52%	4%	
<b>Preparing for gender transition</b> - Dr James Barrett	76%	24%		

- Dr James Barrett - Inspiring clinician obviously patient about his patients, highly entertaining and engaging. Great speaker! **x 4**, this was by far my favourite talk of the whole conference **x 2**, I think this opened my eyes to a whole area of fertility (and medicine in general). Many thanks for including him on the programme.

### ACE Update - Emerging technologies

Total responses: 54

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Is spending the first few days of life in a test tube good for your health? The EpiHealth project</b> - Prof Daniel Brison	58%	40%	2%	
<b>Mechanisms of lineage specification in human embryos and stem cells</b> - Kathy Niakan	38%	49%	13%	
<b>What can we learn from the embryo in its first 14 days?</b> – Sanna Vuoristo	45%	49%	6%	

- Daniel Brison - Riveting talk - and so important - delivered with panache
- Kathy Niakan - very complicated and quite difficult to follow, too much information presented in the time limit
- Sanna Vuoristo - Another super talk - great clarity. A tour de force

### SRF Update - Infectious threats to reproduction

Total responses: 12

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Consequences of bluetongue and schmallenberg on ruminant reproduction</b> - Prof Peter Mertens	50%	50%		
<b>Pathogenesis of enzootic abortion and identification of immune correlates of protection</b> - Prof Gary Entrican	50%	40%	10%	
<b>Role of chlamydial infection in early pregnancy failure</b> - Prof Andrew Horne	75%	17%	8%	

- An excellent session overall with clear and interesting talks

### Nursing Update - Reproductive endocrinology

Total responses: 34

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>New concepts in PCOS</b> - Prof Adam Balen	62%	32%	2%	2%
<b>Thyroid disease and reproductive problems</b> - Dr Ephia Yasmin	47%	44%	4%	2%
<b>Pitfalls of ovarian reserve assessment</b> - Prof Richard Fleming	65%	26%	9%	

- An excellent session overall with clear and interesting talks

### Finox symposium: From science to practice. Challenging myths

Total responses: 34

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Changing the stimulation dose in mid-cycle has no scientific basis</b> - Prof Richard Fleming	61%	32%	7%	
<b>Introduction of the FORWARD grant</b> - Prof Julian Jenkins	18%	70%	12%	
<b>DHEA study, winner of the FORWARD grant</b> - Prof Roy Homburg	43%	50%	7%	

## Saturday 9 January

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### Plenary

**Chairs' welcome** – Stephen Valentine

Total responses: 108

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
3%	59%	8%	

### BOB EDWARDS MEMORIAL LECTURE

**What we know, what we think we know and what we don't know** - Prof Gerald Schatten

Total responses: 121

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
76%	24%		

- Best lecture of the conference! x 9
- Amusing but informative
- Very entertaining speaker, extremely knowledgeable and engaging x 5
- This lecture was the highlight of the conference. We need more speakers like Prof Schatten
- He would make a very good after dinner speaker
- Best speaker of the conference - hope to see him in Liverpool 2018

### Debate: Is it all about the hype? Mild stimulation has better outcomes than controlled ovarian hyperstimulation

Total responses: 119

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>For</b> - Prof Geeta Nargund	30%	39%	26%	5%
<b>Against</b> - Prof Siladitya Bhattacharya	47%	40%	12%	1%

- Thought Geeta Nargund was very enthusiastic and convincing
- Geeta's approach as always was far too aggressive

### An update on NHS funding

 - Susan Seenan

Total responses: 111

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
38%	50%	10%	2%

## UPDATE SESSIONS

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### BFS Update - General update session

Total responses: 42

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Environmental factors and infections that affect sperm quality</b> - Prof Allan Pacey MBE	65%	35%		
<b>Use of SPRMs in fertility and gynaecology</b> - Prof Hilary Critchley	35%	55%	10%	
<b>Better information = better care</b> - Peter Thompson	32%	63%	5%	

### ACE Update - Pre-implantation genetics

Total responses: 35

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Innovations in PGD of single gene disorders: the karyomapping revolution</b> - Prof Alan Handside	55%	40%	5%	

<b>PGS using next-generation methodologies: A review of the clinical evidence - Dr Tony Gordon</b>	45%	52%	3%	
<b>Should all IVF patients undergo preconception 'carrier' screening? - Alexander Bisignano</b>	47%	50%	3%	

#### SRF Update - Influence of reproduction on lifetime health

Total responses: 23

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>One carbon metabolism: Linking nutritional biochemistry to epigenetic programming of long-term development - Prof Kevin Sinclair</b>	65%	30%	5%	
<b>Testosterone and health in ageing men - Prof Ilpo Huhtaniemi</b>	48%	38%	14%	
<b>Prenatal steroids programme metabolic dysfunction in sheep - Dr Mick Rae</b>	26%	52%	9%	

#### Nursing Update - Female reproductive organs

Total responses: 33

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Management of ovarian cysts in fertility patients - David Ogutu</b>	45%	45%	3%	5%
<b>Ultrasound screening prior to fertility treatment - Prof Nick Raine-Fenning</b>	70%	27%	3%	
<b>The uterus and the window of implantation - Prof Siobhan Quenby</b>	67%	27%	6%	

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- Siobhan Quenby - Very engaging, excellent, inspiring speaker

#### ACE AGM

Total responses: 33

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
18%	52%	28%	2%

Dreadful attendance. Registered to attend the meeting to go to the ACE AGM, therefore very disappointed.

#### Chairs' welcome – Adam Balen

Total responses: 75

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
33%	55%	12%	

#### Predicting the menopause through genetics - Dr Anna Murray

Total responses: 75

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
35%	60%	15%	

#### What can we learn about the oocyte from cumulus cell gene expression? - Tom Adriaenssens

Total responses: 75

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
25%	57%	12%	6%

#### Latest understanding in the control of GNRH secretion - Prof Richard Anderson

Total responses: 69

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
43%	50%	7%	

## Networking social events

### Ten Pin Bowling, Fountain Park - Wednesday 4 January

Total responses: 10

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
20%	50%	30%	

- Some people did not turn up and pre-allocation in to teams would have allowed smoother start

### Akva - Wednesday 4 January

Total responses: 17

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
11%	65%		24%

- Tables very dispersed, food not great and in insufficient bar area; nice try but the curry nights have worked better in the past!

### The Caves - Thursday 5 January

Total responses: 45

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
Catering	31%	24%	28%	17%
Entertainment	19%	46%	35%	
Tours	37%	47%	13%	3%

- *Catering* - A little limited in choice and amount, not many vegetarian options available and waiting up to 30 mins between portions. Bagpipes were not well suited to the small interior of the venue
- *Entertainment* - a little too loud for the space and acoustics of the area, great ambiance
- *Tours* - Interesting and amusing, thoroughly enjoyable, friendly tour guide **x 2**

### Conference Dinner and ceilidh, EICC - Friday 6 January

Total responses: 98

Answer Options	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
Catering	55%	37%	7%	1%
Ceilidh	49%	37%	11%	3%
Piper	59%	37%	4%	

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After dinner speaker too long and not necessary</li> <li>• Some comments from chair were inappropriate</li> <li>• Awards and speakers all took too long, need to have a better way of doing this</li> <li>• Ceilidh should have started earlier in the evening and dance floor was too small <b>x 8</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food was great, especially considering it was mass catering!</li> <li>• Great evening loved Charles speech</li> <li>• Lemon posset too big and heavy <b>x 3</b></li> <li>• Should have continued with disco/dancing till end of evening</li> <li>• Speeches could have been shorter <b>x 3</b></li> <li>• The best gala dinner by far at any meeting I've ever attended</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

### Conference awards session - Friday 6 January

Total responses: 93

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
24%	51%	24%	1%

- Could not hear very well & many people chatting
- Perhaps some awards could be presented at society-specific events
- Sexist jokes in poor taste by one of the award presenters **x 2**
- Talks were too long **x 16**

## Conference

### App

Answer Options	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Total responses: 173					
I did not know there was a mobile app	5%	6%	8%	30%	51%
I knew about the mobile app but didn't use it	20%	22%	5%	20%	33%
I used the mobile app	36%	24%	7%	17%	16%
I found the mobile app useful	34%	26%	31%	6%	3%
I was sufficiently informed about the mobile app and how to use it	28%	37%	23%	9%	3%
I would prefer to use the mobile app instead of the printed conference handbook	17%	12%	21%	29%	21%
I did not know there was a mobile app	5%	6%	8%	30%	51%

- The App wasn't straightforward to use, could be better
- Could not get the app to work on my windows phone x 3
- You still need a printed book to read stuff!
- It would be great to have a note taking facility in the app

### Conference management

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
<b>Pre-conference administrative arrangements</b> Total responses: 360	55%	38%	7%	
<b>Conference management onsite</b> Total responses: 362	57%	36%	6%	1%
<b>Venue</b> Total responses: 368	59%	34%	9%	1%
<b>Catering</b> Total responses: 343	18%	34%	30%	18%
<b>Reservation Highway</b> Total responses: 127	41%	42%	15%	2%

- A difficult venue to get
- Another excellent conference - Well Done! x 7
- Could have more seating in the lunch area x 9
- Easy to get to
- Excellent information and support from team
- Food available to buy not good value for money x 19
- Food selection could have been better x 2
- Found the prayer room excellent and I used it twice on each day
- Great venue x 2
- I thought the venue was too big and distance between lectures was too great x 4
- Not enough announcements particularly on the first day
- Onsite staff were all very helpful x 3
- Recyclable bins
- Reservation Highway was invaluable x 2
- The building was very cold x 3
- The catering queues were very long x 3
- The schedule was too packed
- The venue was slightly confusing with not enough signage but the marshals were very helpful x 3
- Venue in the South

### Will you be interested in attending next year?

Total responses: 175

Yes	No	Maybe
75%	4%	21%

### Do you think the conference offers value for money?

Total responses: 175

Yes	No
89%	11%

### You were issued with a conference bag at the conference, do you think this was valuable?

Total responses: 173

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
58%	42%

**If no, would you like one of the below?**

Total responses: 85

<b>Canvas bag</b>	<b>Reusable foldable bag</b>	<b>Zipped folder</b>
28%	20%	22%

- Back pack
- No need for a bag at all x 17
- Thought this was better than most
- One with no logos on it

**We hope you enjoyed the conference, please can you kindly provide a short statement (max. 50 words) detailing the highlights and key benefits of the conference which can be published. Please state your name unless you wish to remain anonymous.**

- The broad range of topics covered that comes from the 3 societies joining together leads to a great conference
- It was great experience - my first big conference!
- Some very interesting talks, and the conference always provide an excellent networking opportunity. Would have enjoyed even more if I had been able to attend the whole conference
- I don't read scientific articles as often as I should as I feel I won't understand them. The speakers were excellent and spoke very clearly so really enjoyed meeting
- The talk for the Bob Edwards Memorial Lecture was wonderful. Prof Schatten should be re-invited
- The conference is a great event as it allows professionals in the field to learn more about what other clinics do and other research that is taking place which may be important in a clinical setting in the future. It's also very good for networking
- Scientific content was good and invited speakers (self excepted) were very informative. I like the time that was given to discussion/presentation of contentious issues
- Important to meet fellow colleagues, lectures valuable in providing new information, treatments etc. Topics varied and interesting
- Edinburgh is a fantastic venue for a meeting of this size. The conference Centre staff were excellent in keeping the delegates moving to get to where they needed to be. The plenary sessions had amazing speakers, especially the Howard Jacobs lecture and the Bob Edwards Memorial lecture. Good mix of topics at levels to meet the multidisciplinary delegates - Alison McTavish
- I will definitely come again to the conference as it covered range of subjects
- Best conference I have attended to date - Dr Pallavi Dhange
- A great meeting and venue, very interactive conference with great talks
- There was a good variety of scientific and clinical topics covered
- The Fertility conference provides a unique opportunity to review, discuss and debate topics within the field with colleagues from all disciplines. It is a valuable tool for receiving feedback and keeping up to date with current innovations in order to practice IVF at the highest level
- Good conference! Great opportunity to network and meet those up and coming in the field
- A great opportunity to meet people and learn some really basic science (which we as clinicians aren't exposed to) - Marco Gaudoin
- The highlight of the conference for me was the Bob Edwards Memorial Lecture
- Overall it has been beneficial for updating of knowledge and confirmation of my current practice
- The highlight was meeting up with colleagues who I worked with prior to my current clinic and being able to attend lectures perhaps not always directly related to embryology. The benefit of such a conference is that it does make you think about what we do in our own clinics and perhaps re-evaluate our own thinking on subjects - Chris Adam
- Nice and update topics and relevant to the subject
- The venue was really good and conference itself was greatly organised. I would however have preferred more talks that are Embryology-related
- The key note lectures were excellent as were most of the update sessions. Some really good short communications and posters too
- The key highlights for me was networking with colleagues - it is the most important element of the conference. The educational content was mostly outstanding and I feel very proud to part of such an evolving area of medicine

- I arrived later on Thursday. The venue is excellent the staff very helpful, and the meeting well laid out. Only comment is that they made the change of direction on the elevators a little too soon. Climbing five flights of stairs a little harder than walking down 5 flights!
- Fertility 2017 was a resounding hit once again and built on the fabulous conference in Birmingham. It has become an event that anyone who is in fertility must attend to ensure they are up to date with practice and politics. The networking is just as important as the lectures and there is nowhere better to mix and mingle, to meet new people, and to develop your links with industry. I look forward to 2018 as do my team at Nurture - Nick Raine-Fenning
- As an O&G trainee I found the conference to be a useful portal into the wider world of fertility. It has helped my understanding of various areas for my ATSM and allowed for networking in preparation for consultant life.
- Good mix of updates and emerging technologies in field of fertility and ART
- "The conference was enormous beneficial for the wide various range of reproductive aspects, I am delighted to be participant, thanks a lot for this opportunity - Maha
- Great learning and networking opportunity - big enough to have a buzz but still manages to be intimate and relaxed - Raj Mathur
- The lectures and speakers were the highlight and the networking but the catering for me let it down having suffered from lactose intolerance there wasn't much option in terms of what I could have.
- Outstanding opportunity to network with many of the most outstanding professionals in the field of fertility treatment, medicine and science, the wide range of practitioners gives the conference a very holistic feel -Jacqueline Hurst

#### What was the highlight of the conference for you?

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| • Conference dinner x 2         | • Prof Bhati's lecture                     |
| • Daniel Brison                 | • Prof Gerald Schatten x 10                |
| • Dr James Barrett x 2          | • Prof Richard Anderson                    |
| • Networking x 12               | • Scientific development and knowledge x 6 |
| • Nursing updates x 3           | • The caves                                |
| • Organisation and speakers x 3 | • Transgender talk                         |
| • Plenary sessions x 8          | • Venue and the catering                   |
| • Prof Bart Fauser x 7          |  |

#### What was the least useful part of the conference?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • After dinner speech   | • Not enough time in Exhibition and difficult for less senior staff to network   |
| • AGMs x 2  | • Putting the Bob Edwards memorial lecture at 9.15. Always think prestigious lectures should have space in the middle of the day |
| • Awards ceremony x 2   | • The chairman's distasteful jokes at the dinner   |
| • Business stalls   |  |
| • Catering x 5  |  |
| • Exhibition  |  |
| • Genetics  |  |
| • Heavy academic research talks - not aimed at embryologists        |  |
| • It was quite oocyte/female orientated                             |  |
| • Much walking between conference centre, hotels and various events |  |

#### How would you like to see the Annual Conference develop in the future?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • A separate social event for each society, with all societies coming together for the conference dinner | • Delighted that it is going to be an annual joint meeting   |
| • Continue to hold the joint conferences with all the societies x 11                                     | • I think it should be at the end of January, not at the beginning when one is trying to restart after Christmas closure |

- If concurrent sessions could be arranged as clinical and non clinical **x 4**
- Include even more variety of topics (a lot of focus on the ovary this year)
- More encouragement of trainee involvement.
- More focus on trainees in Reproductive Medicine, ATSMs and Clinical Fellows
- More international speakers
- More of the same **x 8**
- More opportunities for students to attend cheaply **x 2**
- More space for poster exhibition **x 3**
- Running the meeting every 2 years as opposed to the new proposal of a joint meeting every year
- There were many choices of sessions please could a live recording of each session be available to watch online
- Twitter questions for shy speakers

#### **What topics/speakers would you like to see covered?**

- Andrology
- Consideration of controversial areas e.g. IVF add ons
- Corpus luteum
- Directly related to the embryology lab, case studies, experiences
- Dr Schatten again
- Endometriosis and infertility
- Epigenetics modifications in embryo development
- Fertility surgery
- Future of IVF generation
- Leave space for hot topics. Just before the conference IVF add-ons were in the news
- Lifestyle and fertility
- Management of poor endometrial thickness in fresh and frozen treatment cycles
- Management of poor responders
- More clinical topics - a balance between clinical and basic science topics
- More controversial areas e.g. difficult clinical scenarios or challenges
- More embryology related research
- More on male factor
- More practical sessions
- Ovulation induction and ovarian stimulation
- PGS/PGD
- Prof Balen on PCO's
- Psychological impact of fertility treatment
- Sperm research **x 2**
- Stem cells and newer laboratory technique.
- Ultrasound in fertility

#### **Please list any additional comments or suggestions**

- Abstracts should be in human fertility supplement
- Excellent, well done
- Generally great, only improvement could be slightly less/shorter after dinner speakers/awards
- Have a networking event and talks for students only
- Information on careers
- It was wonderful
- January is not a good time - we were very lucky with the weather. It could have been snowed off
- Overall good and well organised meeting
- Programme was pretty biased towards female factor/ovary this year
- Provide paper in the conference bag
- The venue was excellent seating the most luxurious we have had at any conference so far
- There was a lot of basic science which was interesting but it would be more useful to have an emphasis on the translational benefit of the research for the clinical workplace