



JUSTRI Skills Exchange Programme Report 2015

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JUSTRI organizes bilateral Skills Exchanges between UK based healthcare professionals, working with HIV, viral hepatitis and tuberculosis, and those based in the countries of South East Europe (SEE) and Middle East and North Africa (MENA) to improve inter- and cross-country working across these regions with ongoing support to develop and maintain them.

See JUSTRI's full range of projects at www.justri.org.



JUSTRI

- Offers short-term educational exchange programmes for, physicians, nurses and others involved in HIV care between UK and south Eastern Europe (SEE), Middle East and North African (MENA) countries
- Establishes individualised links between the UK host/host institution and the visitor/visiting institution
- Provides travel, accommodation and logistical support
- Identifies hosts teams in the UK who are involved in novel HIV clinics/ integrated approaches to care
- Identifies visitors (usually 2-3) with training needs from an SEE/MENA country
- Organises a UK team 3-day site visit in country to ascertain needs and help formulate the hosting visit; this gives a 'buy in' to hosting helps to develop a targeted educational programme
- Arranges the Overseas team to visit the UK for 5 days for a bespoke, tailored education plan specific to their identified needs

The objectives and timetable is developed between the host and visitors facilitated by JUSTRI and outcomes are evaluated by a semi structured host/volunteer report, which we post on www.justri.org.

To request or suggest an exchange please contact robin@justri.org



Exchanges to date and those planned

From 2013 to the present JUSTRI has organised and supported 32 exchanges involving 43 individuals (doctors, nurses, radiologist, psychologist, patient support worker, pharmacists, and virologists). The participants have come from 13 centres in 11 countries.

The overwhelming experience has been good and successes from the exchanges have been to:

1. Support the development of Bucharest, Romania as the centre of an SEE-wide laboratory research network
2. Introduce a nurse-led patient HIV and hepatitis information programme in Belgrade, Serbia
3. Enable a PhD student to be successful in Skopje, Macedonia and to establish research links
4. Support an HIV pharmacy service to develop in Tel Aviv Israel
5. Provide expert training to undertake AIN screening and FibroScan use in Tirana, Albania
6. Establish links to an HIV unit in Iran
7. Provide expert neuro-HIV training for a radiologist in Zagreb, Croatia
8. Establish links between the only MSM support service in Timisoara, Romania and UK NGOs
9. Provide HIV and viral hepatitis training for medical staff from Izmir, Turkey
10. Help develop an HIV Women's clinic in Targu Mures, Romania
11. Provide the entire HIV team from Sarajevo, Bosnia with an immersive HIV training programme
12. Support the development of an HIV sexual Health service in Zagreb Croatia

We have plans to develop many other exchanges for 2016 and welcome suggestions and support for this exciting project.

A recent exchange trip to support our work in Romania

“ A very successful trip to Timisoara. Met all of the lovely people, also (HIV+ve peer/focus group meeting, sexworkers outreach in the park, infectious disease hospital visit). I had a brief discussion with Mike today about the possibility of establishing an STI clinic in Timisoara to be led by Dr Ovidiu Rosca. He is very keen on establishing this project as is the hospital director. Let's bring this forward (like the one in Zagreb). ”

Louie Pong *Sexual Health Nurse, Royal Free Hospital London*

“ Just to add to Louie's feedback. From a community perspective they need to make much stronger alliances with NGO's. We met with the guys from ARAS who are working underground now as both their charities have NO funding AT ALL.

Street sex workers both MSM and women need access to condoms and lubes. As when we were talking to the guys in the park they said uptake condom had increased but they were desperately short of supplies. There a regular group of around 60 MSM working the park.

I spoke to Dana about running a women's group as she has a large cohort of women. Mike maybe we can discuss the potential for me to go out again? I gave the LGBT volunteers information on websites like David Stuart and Positive UK as resources; Chemsex is happening but not on the scale as in the UK. I'm sending Dana our wellbeing chart to support her in ways of tackling adherence. And will keep in touch with them ongoing by email.

The opportunity to do outreach was fantastic and the hospital visit was both very interesting and alarming. We are so lucky in the UK!”

Sophie Strachan *Positively UK*

Exchanges completed

Laboratory	Dan Otelea team – Dan Webster team	<i>Bucharest Romania (Matei Bals) – London (RFH)</i>
Laboratory	Dan Webster team – Dan Otelea team	<i>London (RFH) – Bucharest Romania (Matei Bals)</i>
Nurse	Pat Byrne – Snezana Stevanovic	<i>London (RFH) – Belgrade Serbia</i>
Nurse	Snezana Stevanovic – Pat Byrne	<i>Belgrade Serbia – London (RFH)</i>
Laboratory	Dan Webster team – Milena Stevanovic	<i>London (RFH) – Skopje Macedonia</i>
Laboratory	Milena Stevanovic – Dan Webster team	<i>Skopje Macedonia – London (RFH)</i>
Doctor	Arjan Harxhi – Stuart Flanagan	<i>Tirana Albania - London (Homerton)</i>
Doctor	Stuart Flanagan – Arjan Harxhi	<i>London (Homerton) – Tirana Albania</i>
Pharmacy	Leonie Swaden – Nadine Khatib	<i>London (RFH) – Tel Aviv Israel</i>
Pharmacy	Nadine Khatib – Leonie Swaden	<i>Tel Aviv Israel – London (RFH)</i>
Doctor	Arzu Nazli – Alison Barbour	<i>Izmir Turkey (Ege) – London (St George's)</i>
Doctor	Alison Barbour – Arzu Nazli	<i>London (St George's) – Izmir Turkey (Ege)</i>
Obstetric	Iringo Kedzi – Alison Wright	<i>Tirgu-Mures – Romania London (RFH)</i>
Obstetric	Alison Wright – Iringo Kedzi	<i>London (RFH) – Tirgu-Mures Romania</i>
Psychology	Debbie Levitt – Dana Biris	<i>London (RFH) – Timisoara Romania</i>
Doctor	Charles Azzopardi – Mike Youle/Robin Langley	<i>Valetta Malta – London (RFH)</i>
Psychology	Dana Biris – Debbie Levitt	<i>Timisoara Romania – London (RFH)</i>
Doctor	Mike Youle/Robin Langley – Charles Azzopardi	<i>London (RFH) – Valetta Malta</i>
Doctor	Ehsan Malekianzadeh – Nadia Ahmed	<i>Iran – London</i>

Doctor	Nadia Ahmed – Ehsan Malekianzadeh	<i>London – Iran</i>
Nurse	Vesna Hadziosmanovic team – Thembi Moyo	<i>Bosnia- London (RFH)</i>
Nurse	Thembi Moyo – Vesna Hadziosmanovic team	<i>London (RFH) – Bosnia</i>
Doctor	Lumi Ene- Mike Youle	<i>Bucharest Romania – London (RFH)</i>
Doctor	Mike Youle – Lumi Ene	<i>London (RFH) – Bucharest Romania</i>
Pharmacy	Felicia Petrium – Leonie Swaden	<i>Bucharest Romania – London (RFH)</i>
Pharmacy	Leonie Swaden – Felicia Petrium	<i>London (RFH) – Bucharest Romania</i>
Virology	Snjezana Zidovec – Daniel Bradshaw	<i>Zagreb Croatia – London</i>
Virology	Daniel Bradshaw – Snjezana Zidovec	<i>London – Zagreb Croatia</i>
Radiologist	Curtis Offiah – Klaudija Viskovic	<i>London (Barts) – Croatia</i>
Radiologist	Klaudija Viskovic – Curtis Offiah	<i>Croatia – London (Barts)</i>
Doctor	Mike Youle – Sime Zekan	<i>London (RFH) – Zagreb Croatia</i>
Doctor	Sime Zekan – Louie Pong	<i>Zagreb Croatia – London (RFH)</i>
Sexual Health	Louie Pong – Sime Zekan	<i>London (RFH) – Zagreb Croatia</i>
Sexual Health	Sime Zekan – Louie Pong	<i>Zagreb Croatia – London</i>
Sexual health	Sophie Strachan/Louie Pong – Dana Biris /Ovidio Rosca	<i>London (RFH) – Timisoara Romania</i>
Sexual Health	Dana Biris /Ovidio Rosca – Sophie Strachan/Louie Pong	<i>Timisoara Romania – London (RFH)</i>
2016 – confirmed		
Doctor	Sema Tekin Sahin – TBC	<i>London – Turkey</i>
Doctor	Salih Akakan Nemli – TBC	<i>London – Turkey</i>
Nurse	Alice Dinca – TBC	<i>London – Romania</i>

With thanks to the following who have supported the JUSTRI Skills Exchange Project:

