



Association of Breast Surgery
at The Royal College of Surgeons of England
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www.associationofbreastsurgery.org.uk

Association of Breast Surgery International Forum Terms of Reference

A. Overall purpose

The International Forum will develop and progress the Association's international strategy, particularly in relation to low and middle income countries.

It will focus on empowering and facilitating improvements in training, service delivery and breast awareness in low and middle income countries for the good of the patients. It will also work with international partners in relation to overseas projects, courses and events. It will endeavour to work in partnership with others to further its purposes.

B. Main responsibilities

1. To develop and deliver breast disease courses in low and middle income countries and with other overseas partners.
2. To develop and deliver projects to raise awareness of breast disease, among populations, patients and healthcare workers in low and middle income countries.
3. To improve education for healthcare workers involved in the diagnosis and treatment of breast disease in low and middle income countries.
4. To liaise with other bodies and organisations to improve training for surgeons and healthcare workers internationally.
5. To support the training of overseas members through initiatives such as the provision of fellowships and to facilitate opportunities for all ABS members to involve themselves in international projects.

C. Main duties

1. To collaborate internationally with those providing educational courses and other opportunities as appropriate.
2. To liaise with organisations such as THET to deliver funded projects in low and middle income countries to improve breast awareness and breast services.
3. To generate funding, both through fundraising and grant applications, to support the ABS' projects and courses in low and middle income countries.
4. To promote educational opportunities to members, such as fellowships, University of East Anglia bursaries, Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) Medical Training Initiative (MTI) scheme and Royal College of Surgeons' International

Surgical Training Programme and to provide support for any member wishing to obtain experience abroad.

5. To use the International Network to promote awareness of global issues in the treatment of breast disease and opportunities for ABS members to participate as faculty at overseas courses and events.
6. The committee will meet 4 times a year. Meetings will be mostly held online, but with the possibility of face to face meetings if deemed appropriate and useful.

Membership of the Committee

Committee Member	Term of Office
Chairperson	2 years renewable by 3 years
5 Surgical Members	2 years renewable by 3 years
2 Nursing Members	2 years renewable by 3 years
Overseas member representative	2 years renewable by 3 years
ABS Trustee	For the duration of their Trustee term
Project Leads	To be co-opted to attend meetings as and when required.

Appointment of committee members

Committee members shall be appointed following a call for expressions of interest to the ABS membership

The existing committee members will make a recommendation to the ABS Trustees as to which candidates should be appointed. The ABS Trustees will make all appointments to the committee. The committee chair will be appointed by a separate process to be agreed by the Trustees.

The Committee will have the power to co-opt additional members as appropriate.

The Committee will aim to ensure an even geographical and specialty interest spread of members, as appropriate.

The incoming Chair may be appointed up to 12 months in advance to facilitate a handover with the outgoing Chair.

October 2022