

Association of Breast Surgery – Nursing Committee Terms of Reference

A. Aim

To strengthen and consolidate the nursing role within the management of breast disease for the benefit of patients.

B. Main responsibilities

1. Committee to meet four times per year (twice in person and twice virtually)
2. To represent the nurse membership and their unique needs on other ABS Committees as required. To identify any specific and varying needs of the many diverse nursing roles being performed by ABS nurse members.
3. To engage nurse members with the work being undertaken by the ABS on their behalf
4. To define the competencies and educational needs of the ABS' nurse members
5. To work collaboratively with other professional bodies and external organisations in ensuring that standards, guidelines and educational needs of the nurse members (e.g. Royal College of Nursing (RCN), Macmillan etc)
6. To input to and provide educational content as required for:
 - ABS Conference
 - ABS Nursing Conference
 - ABS Courses and other events
 - ABS Webinars
7. To report regularly to the Executive Board and ABS committees as required.
8. To work with the Academic and Research Committee to identify ways to support nursing research and to ensure nursing input to ABS badged and endorses trials.
9. To produce, as required, guidance for nurses and to input to other ABS guidance in relation to nursing roles.
10. To produce patient information for the use of nurse members in supporting and informing their patients.
11. To provide relevant information for the support of nurse members for dissemination via the ABS website, bulletin emails and social media.

C. Membership of the Committee

The Committee should be composed of:

- Chair (Trustee)
- 14 regional representatives
- 2 representatives on the Academic & Research Committee
- 2 representatives on the Education & Training Committee
- 2 representatives on the International Forum

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

Committee members will be recruited by a call for expressions of interest within the ABS membership and then the current committee will decide the appointments. All appointments will be approved by the Trustees.

Committee members will sit on the committee for a period of 2 years, with an extension of 3 years if approved by the committee and Trustees.

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

October 2022