

Biographies

Plenary speakers

Prof David Beard

David Beard is Professor of Musculoskeletal Sciences at the Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS) in the University of Oxford. He is also Co-Director of the Royal College of Surgeons (RCS) Surgical Intervention Trials Unit (SITU-Oxford).

His academic qualifications include an MSc in Biomedical Science (Research Methodology) from Kings College (London) in 1992, an MA by Resolution (Kellogg College, Oxford) in 2012, and a Doctorate in Medicine (Oxford) in 1996 awarded for studies on knee joint proprioception and compensatory mechanisms after anterior cruciate injury.

Previous clinical work includes posts in Bath, Jersey, and Canada. He has previously held senior academic posts at Oxford and Australia, and held honorary academic positions in Cardiff and Bristol. Initially qualified a chartered physiotherapist (GDPhys) in Nottingham, he maintains an active clinical role as Specialist Practitioner (Complex Knee) for a West Wales NHS Trust (Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board). He is also a Professorial Fellow of Kellogg College and Member of Wolfson College.

Research interests include surgical clinical trials methodology, including placebo control designs, outcome measurement in health and a variety of musculoskeletal intervention studies.

Mr Thomas Pinkney

Thomas Pinkney is a Senior Lecturer in the Academic Department of Surgery, University of Birmingham and an Honorary Consultant Colorectal Surgeon at University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust. He has a specialist clinical interest in laparoscopic inflammatory bowel disease surgery, and his academic time is almost exclusively dedicated to clinical surgical trials

Whilst in surgical training in 2008 he was involved in the formation of the West Midlands Research Collaborative (WMRC), a trainee-led research group. He led the ROSSINI trial via the WMRC (2009-2012) which recruited 760 patients from 21 sites across the UK ahead of predicted times, before being published in the BMJ in 2013. He remains involved in the WMRC at a senior level.

He is currently CI of the ACCURE-UK study, an NIHR-funded external pilot study exploring therapeutic appendicectomy in ulcerative colitis, and PI of 4 other portfolio studies. Other research roles include Clinical Director of the Birmingham Surgical Trials Consortium; Speciality lead for General Surgery, West Midlands NIHR LCRN; Chair of the cohort studies committee of the European Society of Coloproctology.