

We are sure you are as keen as us to get back together in person. Whilst virtual meetings have been great, there is nothing that beats an in-person event and catching up with a friend or colleague over a cup of coffee.

We want to be as open as possible about how we have planned for the event to take place, taking into account wanting to see friends and network, and offsetting risks.

The BACD Trustees, Executive Committee and Regional Representatives met recently and agreed to be optimistic and forge ahead with the meeting will taking place in-person in Sheffield. We will of course continue to monitor the situation and make the appropriate decisions where necessary.

Running a conference with few in attendance will result in huge financial loss, which is not in BACD interests. Therefore, if not enough have people registered by the Early Bird deadline of Sunday 9 January 2022, or a new national lockdown comes into place before the event, the in-person conference will be replaced by a virtual one. Due to BACD capacity and resources available, the event will not take place as a hybrid meeting; it will be either in-person or virtual.

**We encourage everyone to take advantage of the Early Bird reduced rate delegate fee and register by Sunday 9 January.**

- Registration fees are frozen at 2019 prices
- Should the event revert to a virtual meeting, all registered delegates will have 50% of the fee returned to the credit/debit card they booked with. They will also be able to claim 15% off the booking price at the 2023 conference.
- If the event becomes virtual, all ticket prices will be reduced by 50%.

We have a fantastic programme planned and encourage you to submit an abstract (or two!) – any undergraduate students/foundation doctors selected to present will receive complimentary registration and the best poster presentation wins £250 courtesy of Mac Keith Press.

*Dr Catherine Tuffrey, BACD Academic Convenor*  
*Dr Madhuri Dasarathi, BACD Deputy Academic Convenor*