

# ***JASME e-Newsletter***

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Contributors: Dr Paschalis Kapsomenakis, Ourania Varsou  
Reviewers: Lina Fazlanie, Dr Paschalis Kapsomenakis  
Editor: Ourania Varsou  
Design: Mark Pickett

## Editor's note

JASME is a constantly evolving organisation, aiming to provide accessible and comprehensive information in the field of medical education and academic research. We hope that you find our monthly e-Newsletter useful and interesting. All issues are available online at <http://www.asme.org.uk/jasme-publications.html>. If you would like to write for the JASME e-newsletter, please send your ideas and articles to [jasmenewsletter@googlemail.com](mailto:jasmenewsletter@googlemail.com).

## Hot stuff

### Conferences & meeting

- ASME (Association for the Study of Medical Education)
  - ASME Annual Scientific Meeting 2010 – Medical Education: Innovation in a Traditional World
  - 21 to 23 July 2010
  - Robinson College, Cambridge, UK
  - <http://www.asme.org.uk/conferences-a-courses/forthcoming-conferences/asm-2010.html>
- AMEE (Association for Medical Education In Europe)
  - AMEE Conference
  - 4 to 8 September 2010
  - Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC), Glasgow, UK
  - <http://www.amee.org/index.asp?tm=59>

### Useful websites

- BMA (British Medical Association)
  - <http://www.bma.org.uk/>
- GMC (General Medical Council)
  - <http://www.gmc-uk.org/>
- IFMSA (International Federation of Medical Students' Association)
  - <http://www.ifmsa.org/>
- Medical Research Council (MRC)
  - <http://www.mrc.ac.uk/index.htm>
- MedSin
  - <http://www.medsin.org/>
- Money 4 Medical Students
  - <http://www.money4medstudents.org>

### Resources

- Medical Education
  - <http://www.mededuc.com/>
- Understanding Medical Education
  - [http://www.asme.org.uk/pub\\_ume.htm](http://www.asme.org.uk/pub_ume.htm)
- The LancetStudent.com
  - <http://www.thelancetstudent.com/>

### Don't forget to keep an eye on...

- ASME
  - <http://www.asme.org.uk/index.html>
- JASME
  - <http://www.asme.org.uk/jasme/>
- JASME Facebook group
  - <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?sid=0dc9b4672d1ec00b69050706ccc888d5&qid=2222238701>
- Foundation Programme website
  - <http://www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/pages/home>

## Announcement: publication opportunity!!!

Hello everyone!

We are currently looking for enthusiastic medical students and junior doctors, to write articles for our monthly e-newsletter. These can include announcements (maximum 150 words), viewpoints (maximum 200 words), short editorials (maximum 400 words) and interviews (maximum 1,000 words). We will welcome all types of submissions, on any topic that has attracted your interest, especially articles related to medical education and academic or scientific research.

You can submit your work as often as you want, even on a one-off basis. All submitted articles are peer-reviewed by the editor, the reviewers and the committee.

This is an amazing opportunity to get published!

If you want to write for us, please send your ideas or articles to: [jasmenewsletter@googlemail.com](mailto:jasmenewsletter@googlemail.com).



Thank you 😊

## Announcement: joining JASME

Are you interested in medical education and academic/scientific research?

If yes, then join JASME!!!



Who can become a JASME member?

All full-time medical/healthcare students

Why should I join JASME?

Receipt of our monthly e-newsletter

Regular mailing about ASME and JASME activities

Online subscription to Medical Education and The Clinical Teacher

Places on our forthcoming courses and workshops

Access to dedicated and experienced research mentors

How can I become a JASME member?

Join online

Send your application form by post

How much will it cost me?

Only £10.25 per year

I am already a JASME member

This is great!

Invite your friends to join as well

For more information on how to join JASME and our membership benefits, please visit: <http://www.asme.org.uk/membership/individual-membership-application.html> or <http://www.asme.org.uk/join-jasme.html>.

This is a real bargain!!!  
Join JASME today 😊

## **Tips for writing a winning audit report**

By Ourania Varsou, 5th year medical student, University of Aberdeen (o.varsou@googlemail.com) & Dr Paschalis Kapsomenakis, FTSTA in Paediatric Surgery, Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital (kapsomenakis@doctors.net.uk)

Surprisingly, coming up with an audit idea and performing the data collection does not seem to be difficult. Instead, the biggest challenge that most medical students or even qualified doctors face is writing up their results. For this reason, we hope that you find the following information helpful.

The audit report can be structured under the following headings: reason for the study, criteria to be measured, standards, preparation and planning, first data collection, description of change, second data collection and conclusion. The advantage of adopting this layout is that you prevent omission of important details. It is also much easier for the readers to absorb the information. Furthermore, the headings can be easily adjusted depending on the circumstances. For example, the second data collection can be excluded from the report when appropriate (e.g. if this is the first time the topic is being audited). However, it is important to keep in mind that your university or employer may want a different structure. Thus, before you embark on a writing journey, it is vital to check the local guidelines or recommendations.

You should ideally start your report with a clear explanation of the reasons that contributed to your decision in selecting the particular audit topic. This introductory section should contain adequate information, but at the same time be concise. Defining the criteria to be measured and setting your standards can be a tricky task. A criterion defines the outcome that you wish to assess (e.g. all women should have their blood pressure checked and documented before the first prescription of combined oral contraceptives). Whenever possible, it is advisable to extract your criteria from published guidelines (e.g. NICE and SIGN). On the other hand, the standard is usually proposed by the healthcare team and it contains an actual percentage for the outcome you have chosen (e.g. 100% of women should have their blood pressure checked and documented before the first prescription of combined oral contraceptives). From our experience, it is always better to keep your criteria and standards to a maximum number of three. In the section on preparation and planning, it is important to mention how the data were collected, analysed and stored. In addition, do not forget to acknowledge the contribution of other people that were involved in the audit. Present your results clearly on tables or charts and include only relevant information. Finally, describe in detail the change that will be implemented in response to your findings and in the conclusion suggest when this topic should be re-audited.

Structuring your report under the above-mentioned headings can be an efficient method of presenting your data. Most importantly, it is unlikely to omit important details with this systematic approach.

**Good luck with your audit report!**



Association for the Study of Medical Education

Annual  
Scientific  
Meeting  
2010

Robinson College  
Cambridge, UK

## Medical Education: Innovation in a Traditional World

Robinson College, Cambridge, UK

21 - 23 JULY 2010

The programme will include pre and intra-conference workshops; keynote presentations, in particular The Lord Cohen Lecture; parallel/concurrent sessions; posters, policy fora, the award of the Sir John Ellis Student Prize and the Richard Farrow Gold Medal. The 2010 Lord Cohen Lecture will be delivered by Charlotte Ringsted, Professor of Medical Education, Copenhagen University, Denmark.

For more information and call for papers please visit the ASME website:

[www.asme.org.uk](http://www.asme.org.uk)

or contact:

Jennifer Bowser, Administrator,  
ASME, 12 Queen Street,  
Edinburgh, UK, EH2 1JE  
([jenniferb@asme.org.uk](mailto:jenniferb@asme.org.uk))  
+44 (0)131 225 9111

Annual Scientific  
Meeting 2010

