



# Joint ACE/BFS Meeting



5-6 January 2004

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL  
LIVERPOOL • UK



## Preliminary Programme and Call for Abstracts

[www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/acebfs04/](http://www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/acebfs04/)

**Abstract deadline:  
19 October 2003**

This event, activity code number 20717 has been approved for external credit for the CPD scheme of the Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the UK.

Valid for RCOG credit

# Welcome

Joint ACE/BFS Meeting

5-6 JANUARY 2004

Welcome to Liverpool, European Capital of Culture 2008, for the 4th Joint meeting of the ACE and BFS, incorporating the ACE Annual Conference and the BFS Winter Meeting.

Liverpool, famous around the world as a city with a passion for music, art, culture and sport, is used to welcoming people, with more museums and art galleries than any other UK city outside London, including the Merseyside Maritime Museum, Walker Art and Tate Galleries. Striking architectural landmarks and a cosmopolitan nightlife featuring a range of live music and entertainment you may expect from the birthplace of The Beatles, combine to give Liverpool's emerging fashionable quarters and the world famous pier head waterfront a flavour of the city's rich heritage.

This year's meeting is being held in the luxurious Liverpool Crowne Plaza hotel, conveniently situated on the city centre waterfront and providing the latest hi-tech conference facilities and support services. The hotel is next to the Royal Liver Building and within easy walking distance of many local attractions and other hotels. It is also only a short walk to Liverpool's Town Hall, one of the city's oldest historic buildings, built in 1754 and featuring a 10-foot high gold-plated statue of Minerva, the goddess of wisdom! The Town Hall provides a suitably grand setting for the Conference Dinner.

Once again we have a unique opportunity to interact in a truly multidisciplinary manner. The plenary sessions address topical issues including single embryo transfer, NICE guidelines and the creation of lives to save lives. We will also be debating the openness of the HFEA's clinical incident reporting scheme. Dedicated sessions for each discipline allow more specific issues to be discussed less formally and poster presentations are invited.

The now customary (legendary!) five-a-side football tournament will be held on the Sunday afternoon followed by a welcome reception for all at the Pan-American Bar in the Albert Dock.

We look forward to welcoming you to Liverpool in January.

With best wishes



**Stephen Troup**

*Local Organising Chair*

## Sunday 4 January 2004

Morning and

Afternoon

### Pre-Conference BFS Training Workshops

19.00 **Welcome Reception** at the Pan American Bar  
*GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY WALLACE*

## Monday 5 January 2004

09.00 REGISTRATION

10.30 - 11.30 **Serono Satellite Symposium**

11.30 - 13.00 **Workshop for Clinicians - 'Clinical Lessons to be Learned'**

*Chair: Rafet Gazvani (Liverpool)*

The HFEA's Incident Alert Scheme

*Iain Cameron (Southampton)*

Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts (CNST)

*Jane Downey (Liverpool)*

11.30 - 13.00 **Workshop for Fertility Nurses - 'New Developments'**

*Chair: Chris Malone (Liverpool)*

Agenda for Change - Implications for Fertility Nurses

*Debbie Barber (Oxford)*

HFEA Inspections - 'The Nurses' Role'

*Jane Denton (London)*

NICE Scottish Version

*Alison McTavish (Aberdeen)*

11.30 - 13.00 **ACE Annual General Meeting**

12.00 - 14.00 LUNCH

14.00 - 14.10 **Introduction and Welcome - 'In Memoriam Jon Hewitt'**

*Charles Kingsland (Liverpool)*

14.10 - 17.15 **Plenary Session - 'Towards Single Embryo Transfer'**

*Chairs: Sue Avery (Birmingham) & Charles Kingsland (Liverpool)*

Single Embryo Transfer (SET)

*Christel Hyden-Granskog (Helsinki)*

Multiple Pregnancy – an Obstetric View

*Jim Neilson (Liverpool)*

Fetal Reduction as an Approach

*Norman Davies (Sheffield)*

The Health Economist's Perspective

*Siladitya Bhattacharya (Aberdeen)*

Panel Discussion

16.00 - 16.30 TEA

16.30 - 17.15 **Debate:** It is in the public's best interest to have full and open access to adverse clinical events reported to the HFEA

*Chair: Richard Kennedy (Walsgrave)*

For: *Speaker from the HFEA (TBC)*

Against: *Patrick Field QC (Manchester)*

17.15 - 18.15 POSTER SESSION

19.15 **Reception and Conference Dinner at Liverpool Town Hall**

## Tuesday 6 January 2004

- 08.30 - 09.30 REGISTRATION
- 09.30 - 11.30 **Embryology Workshop - 'Clinical Embryology in the UK - the Way Forward'**  
*Chair: Stephen Troup (Liverpool)*  
National Occupational Standards  
*Vicki Lamb (Newcastle)*  
Code of Practice for Tissue Banking and Implications of EU Directive  
*Peter Doyle (DoH)*  
Embryo Culture Technologies in the 21st Century  
*Daniel Brison (Manchester)*
- 09.30 - 11.30 **Clinical Workshop - 'Embryo-endometrial Dialogue'**  
*Chair: (TBC)*  
Understanding Implantation  
*Kevin Thomas (Southport)*  
Can Trophoblast Invasion be Improved?  
*Siobhan Quenby (Liverpool)*
- 09.30 - 11.30 **Nursing Workshop - 'Relevant Issues'**  
*Chair: Karen Woodcock (Chester)*  
PGD - The Nurse's Role  
*Jenny Caller (Guy's and St Thomas')*  
Chlamydia and Male Fertility  
*Allan Pacey (Sheffield)*  
Support and Advice Following ET  
*Chris Malone (Liverpool)*
- 09.30 - 11.30 **Counselling Workshop - 'The Impact of Fetal Reduction on the Patients and the Team'**  
*Chair: Sheila Pike*  
A Structured Discussion  
*Lorrie Hudson & Viv Beanland (Liverpool)*
- 11.30 - 11.45 COFFEE
- 11.45 - 12.45 **Plenary Session - 'Lives to Save Lives'**  
*Chair: Iwan Lewis-Jones (Liverpool)*  
The Ethical Issues  
*The Rt Rev James Jones (Bishop of Liverpool)*  
& *the Rev Stephen Bellamy (Vicar of St James, Birkdale)*  
Public Consultation and Legislation in Bioethics  
*Dr Ian Gibson, MP*
- 12.45 - 14.00 LUNCH
- 14.00 - 15.30 **Plenary Session - NICE Guidelines**  
*Chair: Alison Murdoch (Newcastle)*  
An Overview and the Purchaser's View  
*David Barlow (Oxford)*  
The Provider's View  
*Charles Kingsland (Liverpool)*  
The Patient's View  
*Clare Brown (CHILD)*
- 15.30 **Chairman's Closing Remarks & Tea**  
*Chair: Charles Kingsland (Liverpool)*

## Registration

On-line registration is available on the conference website at: [www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/acebfs04/](http://www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/acebfs04/) as well as via the enclosed registration form.

The registration desk will be open on Sunday 4th January 2004 from 08.00 for registration for the associated pre-meeting workshops and then throughout the meeting from 08.00 until 18.00 on Monday 5 January and from 08.00 until 14.00 on Tuesday 6 January 2004.

Reduced registration fees and discounted tickets to social events are available for postgraduate students who will be able to register at the student rate if evidence of student status is countersigned by the applicant's head of department. Please refer to the enclosed registration form for further information.

## Abstract submission

The deadline for abstract submission is **Sunday 19 October 2003**. Online abstract submission is available at: [www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/acebfs04/](http://www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/acebfs04/). Full details for submission of abstracts are enclosed. Please ensure that you read these carefully before submitting your abstract. Please note that abstracts should be submitted online where possible. If this is not possible, please contact Lisa Tandey on +44 (0)1454 642 217 to discuss your submission.

## Accommodation

There is a wide variety of 2, 3 and 4 star hotel accommodation available in Liverpool, as well as cosy B&Bs. Information about the hotel options can be found on the accommodation booking form and on the conference website at [www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/acebfs04/](http://www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/acebfs04/). Please note that payment for accommodation must be provided when you book.

## Pre-Conference Workshops

Two pre-conference training workshops on Transvaginal Ultrasound and Embryo Transfer will be held in association with the joint meeting on Sunday 4 January 2004 in the same venue as the main meeting. These workshops will be associated with the main meeting, but registration for these must be made on a separate registration form at [www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/ultrasoundtraining/](http://www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/ultrasoundtraining/) and [www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/embryotransfer/](http://www.fertility.org.uk/meetings/embryotransfer/)

## Deadlines

Submission of abstracts: **Sunday 19 October 2003**

Early Bird Registration Fee: **Sunday 16 November 2003**

There is no deadline for receipt of registration forms, but please note that **registration fees will increase after 16 November 2003**.

## Venue

The conference will take place in the unique facilities of the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Liverpool, which is only a 10-minute walk from the city centre. This hotel offers excellent conference facilities and all bedrooms are fully appointed with air conditioning with many rooms having views over the waterfront. The spectacular Harbour Leisure Club includes an 18-metre indoor heated swimming pool, whirlpool, sauna, steam room, solarium, aerobics studio, and gymnasium with over 40 pieces of equipment.

## Liverpool

Liverpool is a world city of international renown, with its instantly recognisable waterfront, unique accent and famous sons & daughters. Based in the heart of North-West England, Liverpool is also Britain's favourite day trip destination according to the National Tourist Board.

The waterfront area attracts millions of visitors each year to admire the rejuvenated Albert Dock. The city centre is packed with magnificent buildings and splendid architecture. A range of theatres offer first-class productions to rival London's West End and many tourists just come to Liverpool for its exciting nightlife.

The city centre has a wide choice of cafés, bars, pubs and clubs. Mathew Street, the home of the Cavern Club, still attracts thousands of Beatles fans from all over the world. The city is alive with musicians, poets, writers, artists, painters, sculptors, designers and architects - further enhancing its image as a European city of culture.

Liverpool is also a serious sporting city. Liverpool and Everton football clubs are renowned the world over. Liverpool is also home to the world's most famous horse race, the Grand National at Aintree.

## **General Information**

The ACE AGM will take place on Monday 5 January 2004 from 11.30-13.00

## **Catering**

Tea and coffee will be available during scheduled breaks throughout the meeting. Lunches are included in the cost of registration for each day. Please indicate your lunch requirements in advance using the online or paper registration form.

## **Commercial Exhibition**

The exhibition will be open from 09.00 until 18.00 on Monday 5 January 2004, and on Tuesday 6 January 2004 until 14.00.

## **Climate**

The weather in Liverpool during January can be very cold and the average temperature can range from 5-7 °C although this is subject to considerable variation. The chance of snow or rain is a possibility at any time, hence a coat or jacket and an umbrella are advised. Dress for the conference will be informal.

## **Posters**

Posters will be on display during the entire meeting. There will be poster-viewing sessions during the coffee and lunch breaks.

## **Programme Books**

Programme books will be available to all registered delegates and members throughout the conference.

## **BFS Travel Bursary Scheme**

The purpose of this scheme is to provide opportunities for members of the British Fertility Society to attend scientific meetings and workshops that they might not otherwise be able to through lack of financial support. Fifteen bursaries will be awarded each year. Applications will be considered at any time between 1 June and 31 January each year. In the event of all bursaries being awarded before 31 January applicants will be contacted and asked to resubmit after May. Closing date for applications for bursaries to be awarded before end May will be the last day in January. Late applications will not be considered. See <http://www.fertility.org.uk/> for details.

## **Wheel Chair Access**

The Crowne Plaza Hotel has wheel chair access into the main plenary room, breakout rooms and exhibition area.

## **Travel to Liverpool**

Located in England's North West, Liverpool is easy to get to and is well served by rail, road, air and sea. At the heart of Merseyside, Liverpool is further enhanced by its neighbours Halton, Knowsley, Southport, St Helens and Wirral.

### **CAR**

From the M6 the city is easily reached via the M58, M56 & M62 motorways. Liverpool city centre is approximately 45 minutes drive from Chester, Manchester and North Wales; just over 1 hour from Blackpool, the Lake District, Yorkshire Moors and the Peak District National Parks; just over 4 hours from London.

### **TRAIN**

Intercity services run from major towns and cities into Liverpool Lime Street Station. Journey time from London to Liverpool is just over 2.5 hours. Links are also available to other parts of Merseyside.

### **COACH**

There are good express connections to Liverpool from most towns and cities in Britain (to Liverpool there are half hourly services from Manchester, hourly services to York and every two hours to London and Birmingham). The National Express coach station is located in Norton Street, Liverpool City Centre ([www.nationalexpress.co.uk](http://www.nationalexpress.co.uk)).

### **AIR**

Liverpool John Lennon Airport is just 8 miles from the city centre and has regular scheduled flights from Belfast and Dublin and Cork, Isle of Man, Alicante, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Brussels, Geneva, Madrid, Nice, Paris, Palma, and Malaga. Manchester Airport offers an International gateway from all parts of the world. There is a rail link from Manchester Airport directly into Liverpool City Centre (journey time 1½ hours). There are regular shuttle flights into Manchester from Britain's other major airports including Gatwick and Heathrow. Useful websites are:

[www.liverpooljohnlennonairport.com](http://www.liverpooljohnlennonairport.com)

[www.easyjet.com](http://www.easyjet.com)

## **Parking**

There is limited parking within the grounds of the Crowne Plaza Hotel. If you do park in this hotel, please inform the concierge on departure that you attended the conference and you will be provided with a ticket to exit the premises.

## **Social Programme**

### **Sunday 4 January 2004 Welcome Reception**

The meeting will be opened formally on the evening of Sunday 4 January 2004 with a welcome reception held in the Pan American Bar. This evening is an opportunity to meet old (and new) friends amongst the exhibition and scientific posters prior to drinks and nibbles at the welcome reception.

### **Monday 5 January 2004 Conference Dinner with dancing 'till midnight!**

To close the joint ACE/BFS 2004 meeting, all delegates are invited to dinner at the beautiful Liverpool Town Hall. The Town Hall is located in the heart of the city centre.

Tickets will be required. You can book these when you register for the meeting as there will be a very limited number available at the meeting. Your ticket includes a welcome drink, drinks during dinner, a delicious three course dinner as well as entertainment and dancing. Transport will be provided to and from the Crowne Plaza and selected hotels – last bus returning will leave at midnight. Dress smart, not black tie.

