

ASCN UK Clinical Development Officer's Report 2026

Maddie White



This has been a busy few months since our last conference in Wales 2025. Sue and I attended the Nursing Times awards in March to present the Stoma Care of the Year award – our winner was Anna Brewer – many congratulations go to her.

Other conferences have been attended by ASCN UK committee members to promote the association and ongoing important projects (see below).

Many suggestions and ideas were generated after the last conference and has resulted in more challenging projects to be addressed!

My thanks go to everyone who has contributed to these – the collaborative nature of these discussions make them both robust and comprehensive, allowing nurses to have confidence in the materials produced. Firstly the update on the convexity project;

- We have established after much discussion that a guideline should encompass all categories of baseplate including flat, convex and concave.
- The guideline currently being compiled now allows for a comprehensive assessment based upon the current evidence in the literature to assess a patient with a stoma for an appropriate baseplate. This will be launched at conference in Birmingham this year.
- Appropriate assessment tools are suggested for use to ensure safe and effective support in clinical decision making.
- Descriptions are provided of the 5 characteristics of convexity to aid with understanding of the importance of robust scientific evidence to support decision making
- Out of this project has emerged a new guideline – pre op assessment of a patient undergoing stoma surgery. This is now available on the website.

EXPASS – the project has developed further with dissemination of the information at WCET /NSWOCC and BJN Annual conference and Stoma Care Conferences this year. Further work is ongoing to develop an easy to use assessment tool for SSCNs and other HCPs involved in the care of our patients.

PLACED – the original PLACED assessment tool for assessing peristomal skin issues has been reviewed and a decision made to update this. A questionnaire has been developed and sent to all ASCN UK members to ascertain their views on it's useability. We will then update the tool as required.

The roles of Clinical Development Officer and Education Officer are closely allied and work collaboratively to ensure the programme for conference is effective and interesting and I extend my thanks to Paul Russell Roberts for his support in this and all ongoing projects. Here's to another successful annual meeting!! See you in Birmingham.

Maddie White
Clinical Development Officer