



Women in Cardiology (WiC) Committee (Responsible Trustee: Dr Abhishek Joshi, Chair: Dr Rebecca Dobson until June 2023, Chair from June 2023 – up for election)

The Women in Cardiology (WiC) Committee acts as an advisory body to the BCS Executive and Board of Trustees. It can issue recommendations and proposals to the Executive (operational) and Board of Trustees (strategic) in relation to BCS Women in Cardiology activities, initiatives and future plans aligned to key strategic goals.

The Committee is chaired by the elected WiC lead who has a seat on BCS Council. Given the new Vice President role for Professional and Society Ethics and the formation of new committees related to this area of work, it is anticipated that the elected lead for WiC will also sit on a broader Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee as plans evolve.

The WiC Committee leads on and develops initiatives that promote gender equality within cardiology. These initiatives will work towards building equal opportunities for male and female cardiologists and a zero tolerance culture to any form of bullying or discrimination.

It seeks to promote awareness and address issues pertinent to WiC and build a professional network of women cardiologists which enables women working in cardiology to be supported, acknowledged and celebrated in their specialism; developing and maintaining professional resources for all WiC via the BCS website, and advocating for WiC resources in the BJCA handbook and Digital Knowledge Hub; facilitating development and delivery of educational materials pertinent to the needs of women, but relevant to all working in cardiology and in collaboration with the Chair of the BCS Education Committee.

It advocates for equitable representation of WiC at national meetings and increasing the profile of role models at these meetings and engages with medical students of all genders to demonstrate and champion cardiology as a speciality that is accessible, family-friendly and an attainable career for them.

It serves to consider WiC opportunities arising from wider BCS strategies and activities and ensure WiC is appropriately considered and represented within them, and explore opportunities and develop these to grow the WiC network and collaborate with key partners and parties within and out with the UK.

The WiC committee works closely with other key BCS Committees including the Digital, Communications and Marketing Committee, Education Committee and a nominated member of the WiC committee will sit on the BCS's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion committee so that activities are joined up and cohesive.

Elected members are expected to attend committee meetings and actively engage in the work of the committee between meetings, leading on activities and initiatives as directed by the Chair.

The WiC committee meets on a monthly basis (at least 75% attendance is expected for meetings and email work combined) via Teams (with occasional face to face meetings when circumstances permit), and elected members serve a term of three years.

Committee members report to: Chair

Chair reports to: Vice President for Professional and Society Ethics

VP for Professional and Society Ethics reports to: Executive Committee (operational) and Board of Trustees (sets and approves strategy)

Eligibility for standing: In order to stand for Chair of the WiC Committee applicants must be an Ordinary member of the BCS. In order to stand for the elected member post on the BCS Women in Cardiology Committee applicants must be Ordinary or Joint Members of the BCS.