

# NIHR Global Health Research Group in Surgical Technologies

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## Welcome to the Global Health Research Group

Welcome to the seventh quarterly newsletter from the Global Health Research Group in Surgical Technologies (GHRG-ST). Our newsletters will keep you up to date on the developments of the projects in Sierra Leone and Rural North East India. November has been a very busy month for the team, read all about our trips to Sierra Leone and India below.

### Stakeholder Meeting, Freetown, Sierra Leone - 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual GHRG-ST symposium was held at the Hill Valley Hotel, Freetown, Sierra Leone. We had over 50 participants attend the meeting who were from the local government hospital, our partner NGO and policymakers.

The day consisted of presentations from GHRG-ST researchers on the work carried out by the group to date as well as presentations from local researchers and from our partner NGO, CapaCare. During the afternoon we delivered 3 parallel sessions, the themes were clinical trials, health economics and health systems.



To find out more [click here](#).

### VITAL study - Lower Limb Amputation Course.

At the beginning of November Dr William Bolton and Ciaran Carrick from Medical Realities travelled to Freetown to deliver the VITAL training programme. The programme delivered pre course training materials to 30 participants, half of the participants received standard pre course

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materials and the remainder received a virtual reality module through a mobile phone app and headset. This is given to participants 1 week before the hands on course delivered by surgeons from Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust.

The 1½ day programme covered lower limb amputation, skills learned were for both above knee and below knee amputations. The course was delivered through lectures, discussions and practical hands on training.



To find out more about the programme [click here](#)

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## GHRG-ST at ARSICON 2019

A team from GHRG-ST travelled to Bagalkot, India at the end of November to present at the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference of Association of Rural Surgeons of India and 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference of International Federation of Rural Surgery.

The team delivered 2 workshops on Thursday, the first was for invited faculty and senior members of ARSI to showcase and for attendees to provide feedback on the new RAIS device, BellowScope and lap pack. Feedback was through discussions, practical use of the device and questionnaires. The second session was for delegates from ARSICON to sign up to, they were given demonstrations on the BellowScope, lap pack and the current GILLS device plus the new RAIS equipment.



To find out more [click here](#)

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## Prize Success

Dr William Bolton presented the summer internship project – Ilizarov wire sensing proof of concept study results at the Growing Medtech Translation 2019 conference in Leeds at the beginning of December.

The project won the prize for best summer project 2019.



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## Papers Accepted

### **A Compression Valve for Sanitary Control of Fluid Driven Actuators.**

S Calo, JH Chandler, F Campisano, KL Obstein, P Valdastrì  
IEEE Transactions on Mechatronics, published December 2019, DOI  
10.1109/TMECH.2019.2960308

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## Oral Presentations

### **Introducing Surgical Innovations in Low and Middle-Income Countries – Laparoscopic Surgery**

NK Aruparayil  
National Research Collaborative Meeting, Gateshead, 6th December  
2019

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## Poster Presentations

### **Developing circular frame fixators through frugal innovation for leg fracture patients in developing countries**

BUA Anyamele, E Narwich, J Godfrey, B Saravanan, WS Bolton, P  
Culmer, TD Stewart  
Translate MedTech/GrowMedTech conference, 6th December 2019,  
Leeds

### **An International Usability Study of a Low-cost Laparoscopic simulator (LapPack) – A Comparative Analysis**

R Swahney, C Franco Da Silva, M Chauhan, WS Bolton, J Burke, A  
Mishra, P Valdastrì, DJ Jayne  
National Research Collaborative Meeting, Gateshead, 6th December  
2019

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