



The ROYAL
COLLEGE *of*
SURGEONS *of*
EDINBURGH

Hunter Doig Women in Surgery Group

Hunter Doig Women in Surgery Group - Welcome

The number of women entering medicine and dentistry continues to grow, indeed there are now more women entering medical school than men. Surgery however remains disproportionately male-dominated, both within certain specialities and at senior leadership level. Both within certain specialities and at senior leadership levels.

Through advocacy, mentorship and policy engagement, the Hunter-Doig Women in surgery group is championing cultural change, supporting career progression, and working to ensure that talent defines success within our professions. Today, we reaffirm our commitment to equity, opportunity and empowerment for women across surgery and dentistry.



Miss Helene L Stevenson

HDWiS Chair

**Consultant Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgeon
Liverpool University Hospitals Foundation Trust**

Since attending the University of Liverpool, I have been driven by a strong commitment to pursuing a career in surgery. Following completion of the Mersey Basic Surgical Rotation and attainment of my MRCS, I undertook a Research Fellowship in Orthopaedics. This experience consolidated my academic and clinical interests and led to Higher Surgical Training within the Mersey Deanery, where I subsequently developed a focused subspecialty interest in upper limb surgery.

After gaining my FRCS in 2010, I was appointed as a Consultant in 2012. My clinical practice centres on upper limb surgery, with particular interests in arthroscopic and arthroplasty procedures. I play an active role in the management of complex trauma cases within the Merseyside and Cheshire Major Trauma Centre, contributing to multidisciplinary decision-making and high-quality patient care.

Objective

We will:

1 Increase female representation within College Council and Committees

Conduct a comprehensive audit of the current position, nationally and locally in the College

Develop and run a campaign encouraging women to stand for leadership roles, and create a culture that welcomes women and encourages them participate

2 Develop a Support and Resource Hub for women in Surgery

Draft and keep content up to date for the SupportED Hub, including a comprehensive package of resources that are relevant to the community

Develop a community of support through discussion networks or the College formal mentorship schemes

3 Develop a programme aimed at inspiring the next generation of surgeons

Develop initiatives to support and nurture engagement with future doctors and surgeons, at various stages of their training and career

Promote role models/positive stories using the wealth of contents from the Heritage campaign, and more

Identify and promote existing grants and awards to women, aim to create new specific awards

4 Promote and publicise the activities of the Group and the messages it formulates

Formulate College positions on relevant matters such as flexible training, parental leave, anti-bullying, sexual harassment, and advocate on behalf of College members on these topics

Run Women in Surgery conference aimed at reflecting on the achievements of the group and highlighting ongoing challenges, and progress