

Outstanding achievements in the British Fluoridation Society essay prize



In a showcase of intellect and dedication, the winners of the 2023 British Fluoridation Society (BFS) Essay Prize have been announced, highlighting remarkable contributions from each category: Undergraduate, Postgraduate, and Dental Care Professional.

Participants were challenged to explore the theme, ‘*Water fluoridation is seen as a success in cities such as Birmingham and Newcastle. How would you ensure that such success is replicated throughout the rest of the United Kingdom?*’

BFS chair Barry Cockcroft CBE, led the judging panel and expressed enthusiasm about the competition’s inaugural year, stating: ‘The response exceeded our expectations in both quantity and quality of entries. Witnessing the depth of engagement from entrants reaffirms that the topic of water fluoridation is thriving with promising initiatives on the horizon.’

It’s truly inspiring to see the younger generation invest the time and effort to craft compelling essays of up to 3000 words.’

The three winners and their prizes were *BDJ Student’s* student editor Yaqoub Imran (Undergraduate), Ryan Grocock (Postgraduate) and Lauren Stockham (Dental Care Professional).

BFS secretary and panel member Ray Lowry echoed this sentiment, emphasising the impressive standard of entries, commenting: ‘The deliberation process took considerable time due to the quality displayed in each submission. Our heartfelt congratulations go to the well-deserving winners. This recognition underscores the merit of their contributions. We eagerly anticipate sharing their winning essays and remain optimistic about the potential developments for the issue, the Society, and these gifted colleagues.’

Cardiff School of Dentistry awarded grant to study remote oral health assessment

Cardiff School of Dentistry is one of two recipients of this year’s Eklund Foundation Grants.

The Eklund Foundation for Odontological Research and Education has been supporting research projects in dentistry for eight years. The 2023 Grant recipients will together receive funding amounting to around €275,500.

Since 2016, the Eklund Foundation, set up by the Eklund family (owners of TePe oral hygiene products) has distributed up to €250,000 annually, supporting odontological research worldwide.

The Eklund Foundation will award a grant of €121,742 to the Cardiff School of Dentistry project ‘Evaluating the Validity and Patient Experience of Smartphone Intra-oral Photography for Remote Oral Health Assessment in Children: a Mixed Methods, Comparative Study’ led by Nicola Innes, Head of Cardiff School of Dentistry, Professor and Consultant in Paediatric Dentistry, and co-applicants Waraf Al-yaseen, Lecturer in Dental Hygiene and Therapy and Jennifer Galloway, Senior Lecturer & Consultant in Orthodontics, Cardiff School of Dentistry.

The Cardiff team believe that their study will have the potential to positively influence accessibility to oral health care for many people.

Approximately €153,800 has been awarded to a research team at Karolinska institutet, Unit of Cardiology, Department of Medicine, Sweden led by Anna Norhammar, MD, Professor in cardiology, to investigate ‘Periodontitis and Its Relation to Coronary Artery Disease (PAROKRANK) - a case controls study with mechanistic and prospective analyses.’

Joel Eklund, Chairman of the Board, Eklund Foundation, said, ‘We are delighted to support these highly relevant studies. They have the potential to add valuable knowledge within their respective fields.’