G3 Circulation Policy

The Vision is to ensure equitable access to optimal care for patients with all thoracic malignancies in the UK and Ireland. The Mission is to support and educate health care professionals, creating a professional community to exchange ideas, information and innovation and to foster the development of research. The overall aim is to represent the needs of patients and improve their outcomes.

BTOG sends regular “BTOG E-News” circulations to BTOG members and BTOG network members via email. Circulations include information on BTOG events, thoracic oncology related news, surveys and non-BTOG events. BTOG often receives requests to circulate information to its members and on the BTOG website. Therefore, this policy sets out the rules regarding non-BTOG related news, information and events for circulation or inclusion on the BTOG website. BTOG must maintain impartiality in its interactions with industry and commercial organisations and therefore as a rule e-circulations will not include information from industry or commercial organisations.

Thoracic Oncology Research
BTOG will circulate surveys or questionnaires relevant to thoracic oncology research provided the research is non-commercial and relevant to thoracic oncology health care professionals.
Approval: The Senior Executive Officer can approve for circulation.

BTOG will circulate information regarding available grants for research funding (e.g. Cancer Research UK) including PhDs, fellowships, scholarships or projects.
Approval: The Senior Executive Officer can approve for circulation provided the available grants are non-commercial and relevant to thoracic oncology researchers. Commercial grant funding will be considered on an individual basis by the Steering Committee Chair.

BTOG will consider circulating information relating to clinical trials relevant to lung cancer or mesothelioma. Any trials must be registered http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Cancer-of-the-lung/Pages/clinical-trial.aspx or http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/mesothelioma/Pages/clinical-trial.aspx - clinical trial information is provided by the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry.
Approval: The Steering Committee Chair will consider information about clinical trials information on an individual basis. BTOG recognises that due to the nature of funding for clinical trials that the primary or secondary sponsors may be commercial organisations.

Thoracic Oncology Events
BTOG will include the details of the event (event name, date, location and website or email link) on e-circulations to members and in the Events listing on the BTOG website.
Approval: Events must be thoracic oncology related and organised by an NHS Trust, private hospital, organisation (e.g. IASLC, NLCFN, NCRI, BTS, Mesothelioma UK), specialist society (e.g. Royal College of Radiologists) or regional group (e.g. Scottish Lung Cancer Forum). Any event sponsorship must be declared. BTOG will not circulate details of events that are commercial organised. The Senior Executive Officer can approve for circulation.

Thoracic Oncology Vacancies
BTOG will include the details of vacancies on e-circulations to members.
Approval: The vacancy must relate to thoracic oncology advisory groups, NICE representation or national audit (e.g. National Lung Cancer Audit). BTOG will not circulate vacancies that are commercially related or job vacancies within an NHS trust or private hospital.

Thoracic Oncology Campaigning or Consultations
BTOG will include the details of campaigns or consultations on e-circulations to members where it relates to improving outcomes for lung cancer or mesothelioma patients (e.g. National Institute for Health Research consultation relating to mesothelioma research or consultations relating to NHS Commissioning and specialist services).
Approval: The Steering Committee Chair will be required to approve circulation on receipt of information.