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**TheInstituteof Trichologists®**  
Harley Street  
Founded 1902

## IOT Newsletter 2024

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### A Warm Welcome

FROM EVERYONE AT THE INSTITUTE OF TRICHOLOGISTS

Recent announcements and requirements/recommendations include:

- Applying for a DBS check, and why this is important for trichologists;
- Updates on essential compliance requirements, such as your privacy notice, patient records, and ICO registration;
- Updates to your CPD policy;
- Improved and easier to understand 'code of ethics' (coming very soon).

Once again, we would like to start by saying a huge thank you for your dedication to your patients, the profession of Trichology and the Institute of Trichologists.

## WCHR Dallas 2024

### Additional Input from Zoë Passam MIT



We were very grateful to Chelcey Salinger IAT for providing us with a review of the Trichology presentations at the recent World Congress of Hair Research in Dallas.

In one of the reviews published we referred to a new treatment for Alopecia Areata (AA) as a 'supplement'. Zoë Passam MIT (who was also present at the World Congress) has contacted us to point out that "this was in fact actually a topical solution (called Coacillium), which is to be applied twice daily to the scalp. The developers hope this treatment will be available in 2025, and feel it will likely become first-line treatment for AA in children. What was particularly promising was that the results were reported as being maintained after the participants stopped using the treatment, which as we know is often not the case with AA treatments".

### Of the World Congress as a whole...

Zoë also reported that it "was an excellent event. There was a dedicated session on trichology, which to my knowledge was the first time this has happened at a World Congress. This was chaired by David Kingsley and Gill Westgate, and focused on the current position of trichology worldwide. It was evident that the challenges we face in the UK, such as lack of recognised standards for the profession, and the term 'trichologist' not being a protected title, are common across many other parts of the world. It was also noted that the term trichologist actually means dermatologist in some countries, which is confusing! Unfortunately the trichology session was not very well attended, no doubt partly because it ran concurrently with some other very interesting sessions, and most there were trichologists, but it's a start! Professor Antonella Tosti was also on the panel, and it was great to see her support for trichology, as a well-respected dermatologist in hair".

### One final comment...

"It would have been nice to see other IOT members at the conference. Obviously cost can be prohibitive, especially where long flights are involved, but I cannot overstate how valuable these events are for professional development. Obviously there's the content of the talks themselves, but also the networking opportunities. I think it's also beneficial for our profession if trichologists are seen attending such events. I personally get such a thrill from listening to people talk whose research I have read, as well as hearing about all the latest developments! There are relatively few hair conferences that take place, and I would urge other IOT members to try to attend when they can. Even when treatments are spoken about that we as trichologists cannot offer, I feel it's important that we can offer an informed opinion when patients ask us about these."

**SPECIAL OFFER FOR IOT REGISTRANTS****Aderans (Trendco)****Educational Dates in the Midlands**

# Aderans

T R E N D C O

At the heart of Aderans' mission lies a commitment to cutting-edge research and development, ensuring those who cross paths with them have access to the latest advancements in hair replacement solutions. From bespoke creations, to ready-to-wear items, trichology treatments, scalp micropigmentation and hair systems, Aderans offer the total hair solution to men, women and children via 7 salons nationwide, an online store and more than 800 trade customers. Their commitment to restoring smiles and empowerment stretches beyond those who enjoy their products, providing comprehensive training programs from state-of-the-art facilities within the professional landscape. So, whether you're new or established within the hair loss industry, or simply looking for a hair loss solution yourself, you're in safe hands with Aderans...



Upcoming Educational Dates in the Midlands at Barton Marina, Burton on Trent:

- October 28th Ready to Wear Synthetic (10am – 4pm)
- October 29th Human hair and High Heat Fibre (10am – 4pm)

IOT Registrants are able to attend these educational dates **free of charge**, which has a usual charge of £250 per person. To book, please contact Aderans (Trendco) directly.



## DBS Checks

### Apply for Your Standard DBS Check Today

To maintain the highest standards of safety and trust, it is crucial for all healthcare providers to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

### The Benefits and Necessity of a Standard DBS Check

1. **Ensuring Patient Safety:** The primary concern in healthcare is the safety and well-being of patients. A DBS check helps ensure that those who have access to vulnerable individuals are thoroughly vetted, minimising risks and promoting a secure environment for both patients and staff.
2. **Enhancing Professional Credibility:** Obtaining a DBS check enhances your professional credibility. It demonstrates your commitment to transparency and the highest ethical standards, fostering trust among colleagues, patients, and their families.
3. **Compliance with Regulations:** the great majority of healthcare providers are required by law to undergo regular background checks. Completing your DBS check ensures that you are in-line with these requirements.
4. **Protecting Your Reputation:** By proactively completing a DBS check, you safeguard your professional reputation. It serves as a testament to your integrity and dedication to the healthcare profession, which can be instrumental in career advancement and professional development.
5. **Facilitating Employment Opportunities:** Many healthcare employers prioritise candidates who have a current DBS check. This verification can be a significant advantage when applying for new positions, as it provides employers with confidence in your background and suitability for the role.



### How to Apply for Your Standard DBS Check

Obtaining a basic level check is easy and inexpensive - they currently cost £18 p/a, and will need to be renewed each year. You may then choose to include in your small print on your website and communications (emails etc) that you are 'DBS certified'.

Further information on how to obtain a Basic level check can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/basic-dbs-checks-guidance>

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your ongoing commitment to excellence in healthcare.

## Important Compliance Requirements

### Privacy Notice, Patient Records, and ICO Registration

We are writing to advise you of your **legal obligation** to comply to the guidelines set forth by the Information Commissioners Office (ICO); Which is that you display a clear and comprehensive 'privacy notice' on your websites. This notice should inform patients about how their data is collected, used, and protected.



### How to Implement your Privacy Notice

1. **Website Display:** Ensure your privacy notice is easily accessible on your website. It should be displayed on the homepage or linked clearly in the footer. A privacy notice template from the ICO can be found here: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/advice-for-small-organisations/create-your-own-privacy-notice/>. The IOT have also created a privacy policy template for registrants to adapt and use, which can be found [here](#).
2. **Patient Communication:** Highlight the privacy notice in your communications with patients.

### Annual registration with the ICO is also necessary for the following reasons:

1. **Legal Compliance:** The ICO oversees data protection laws in the UK. Registering with the ICO ensures that your clinic is compliant with these laws, avoiding potential fines and legal issues.
2. **Trust and Transparency:** Annual registration with the ICO builds trust with your patients, showing that you prioritise their privacy and data security.
3. **Professional Responsibility:** As trichologists, it is our professional responsibility to adhere to the highest standards of data protection and patient care.

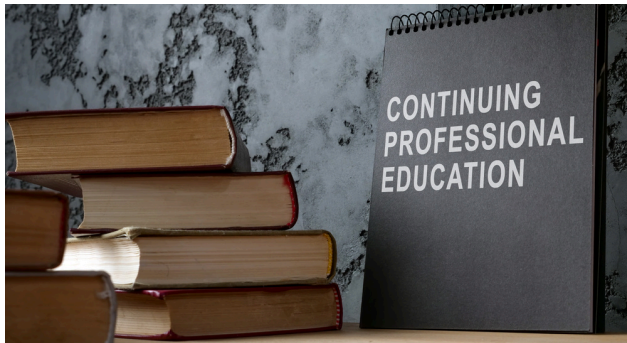
### Next Steps:

1. **Review and Update:** Ensure your privacy notice is up-to-date and prominently displayed on your website.
2. **Communicate:** Include links to your privacy notice in all patient communications.
3. **Register:** Complete your annual registration with the ICO. This can be done easily through the ICO website.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters. By complying with these regulations and guidelines, you are contributing to the integrity and trustworthiness of the trichology profession

## Continuing Professional Development

### Increase in CPD Points Requirement



**Starting this year, we will be increasing the CPD points requirement from 5 points to 10 points per annum. This is part of a gradual phased increase, with the aim of reaching 15 CPD points per annum.**

### The Importance of CPD for Trichologists

As healthcare professionals, it is crucial for us to continually update and expand our knowledge and skills. Trichology is dynamic and ever-evolving, with new research findings, technologies, and best practices emerging regularly. By engaging in CPD we ensure that we remain at the forefront of these advancements, providing the highest standard of care to our patients.

### Ease and Convenience of Achieving CPD Points

We understand that balancing CPD with other responsibilities can be challenging. However, the advent of online learning platforms means achieving CPD points has never been more accessible, inexpensive, or convenient. Many high-quality webinars and online courses are available, allowing you to earn CPD points from the comfort of your home or office, at times that suit your schedule. Other opportunities are available through 'face to face' learning, seminars and conferences. To put our new CPD requirement into perspective, at present doctors are currently required to achieve 50 CPD points and nurses 30 CPD points annually.

### Looking Ahead, Why This is Good for Trichology

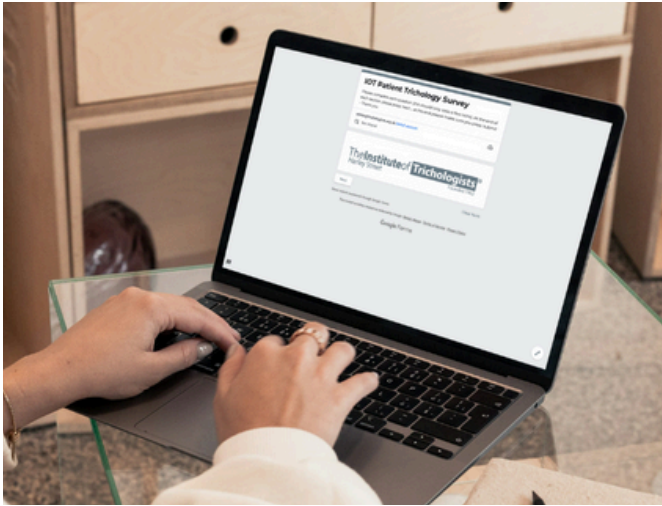
Raising the CPD points requirement is a positive step for Trichology. It ensures that we are consistently advancing our knowledge and skills, which in turn improves the quality of care we provide, and the value other health care providers (Drs, nurses, dermatologists etc) place on our profession. Please note, achieving the new standard will be necessary for re-registering and remaining on the IOT register.

Thank you for your understanding and commitment to excellence in healthcare. Please look out for all CPD accredited opportunities in trichology related health-care, and forward your certificates to us at [admin@trichologists.org.uk](mailto:admin@trichologists.org.uk). Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## IOT Patient Survey

**Designed to measure and record the benefits of Trichology**

As in any area of the private health care sector, patient satisfaction and feedback is a crucial to help measure the value of our service, and provide indicators for areas of improvement. This survey will be available for participation for 12 months, and it is important that we have as many participants as possible.



We encourage you all to become actively involved, please copy and paste the email on the following page, and forward to your patients. All participants, patients, trichologists and clinics will be **completely anonymous**.

We look forward to sharing the results with you.

*Please note, this is a 'patient opinion based survey' - and is not considered any form of research, clinical or other.*

**Please copy and paste the email below, and forward to your patients:**

### **The Institute of Trichologists Patient Survey**

*As a valued patient we would welcome your feedback. Please find below a link to a short survey by The Institute of Trichologists (the body that governs my work).*

*Your feedback is essential in helping to shape, inform and improve the services we offer. Participation in the survey is voluntary and completely anonymous. At the end of each section click 'Next' to progress and please ensure you click 'Submit' at the end of the survey.*

*Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate and share your insights. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.*

*Please find the form here: <https://forms.gle/fp7NGH3x7BTnW7Cy8>*

## The IOT Team

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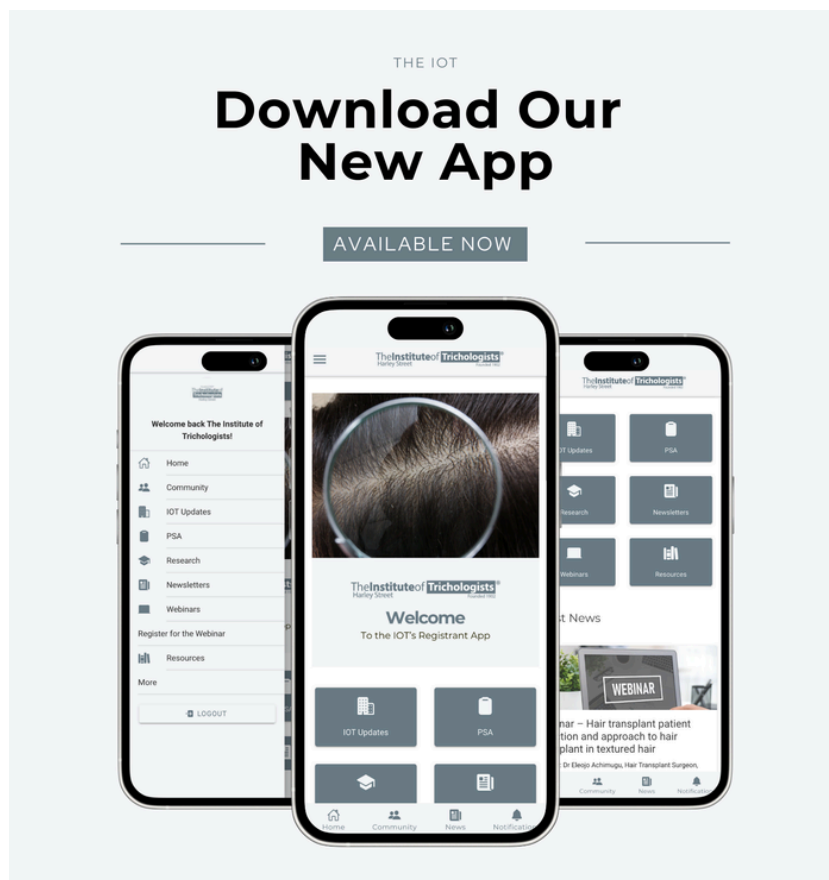
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Lucy Johns; Registrar and Communications Manager

We welcome all suggestions and queries. Any Board member can be contacted here [admin@trichologists.org.uk](mailto:admin@trichologists.org.uk), or for the education team [educationmanager@trichologists.org.uk](mailto:educationmanager@trichologists.org.uk)



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