

Dr. Susan Shelmerdine
Winner of the 2017 Guy Sebag Research Award



I was awarded the first Guy Sebag Research Grant in 2017 at the beginning of my research PhD training at University College London (UCL), London. The award was for research assessing the feasibility, accuracy and applicability of paediatric post-mortem ultrasound imaging and ultrasound guided biopsies, as a form of less invasive autopsy investigation. This funding was crucial in helping me collect early pilot data and 'proof of principle' information to refine these ideas into a larger project.

This evidence contributed towards my success in securing a subsequent MRC (Medical Research Council) doctoral fellowship grant, to build upon this work. I have just finished my PhD degree and presented work funded by the Guy Sebag research award at ESPR 2018 and 2019, now accepted for publication in Pediatric Radiology. I have now published over 35 papers specifically on post-mortem imaging (of which 3 are international guidelines), and helped to implement this as a clinical service.

The Guy Sebag Research Crant was a crucial first step in my academic journey and I would strongly recommend that paediatric radiologists with an enthusiasm and motivation for research to apply. I would like to thank the ESPR Research Committee and the generosity of the Sebag family for promoting this award.