**Nomination - Mr Shakeel Akhtar**

It is a honour as OMFS higher surgical trainees from the Northwest deanery to nominate Mr Shakeel Akhtar for the prestigious BAOMS trainer of the year award for 2016. He is an educational supervisor and trainer who has a passion for training and supporting trainees transform into successful well-rounded surgeons and leaders of the future.

**Trainee Development and Professionalism**

 Mr Akhtar takes a special interest in training taking into account the strengths and weaknesses of a particular trainee, is very approachable, his style of mentoring inspires confidence in the trainees. He spends considerable amount of time discussing and planning cases with the trainees and gives appropriate autonomy with supervision as appropriate in all training environments. He makes it a point to encourage trainees to work under the microscope in the simulation lab to train and refine microvascular surgical skills. He has an excellent knowledge base and is an asset for trainees preparing for the FRCS exit exam. He has also been instrumental in encouraging trainees to attend business meetings and working with hospital senior management to equip trainees to be effective and excel in the current managerial structure of the NHS.

**Communication**

Mr Akhtar is a very passionate, caring and empathetic individual. He is well liked by his patients who find his way of information sharing easy to follow and enables them to make an informed decision. He has been instrumental in all trainees within the department to be funded on the communication skills course organized by the National cancer action team.

**Resourcefulness**

Mr Akhtar in his role as educational supervisor and clinical director of OMFS has catered hugely for the needs of trainees in the deanery and has pro actively sourced and provided training equipment (table mounted microscopes and microvascular instruments) and reading resources for trainees which are of an international calibre. He spends a lot of time in simulated training in Oral and maxillofacial surgery and takes an interest in human factors training for the regional trainees. He is also an excellent source of academic and clinical support to trainees at the time of their preparation for the FRCS exit exam.

Mr Akhtar as a trainer caters towards the individual surgical and academic needs of each trainee in a neutral environment, which is tailored towards the specific needs of each trainee. All this he does while allowing the trainee the latitude to develop into well rounded surgeon. Above all else he has created an environment where mutual respect exists among trainers and trainee.