



**BRITISH ACADEMY  
OF AUDIOLOGY**



**British  
Cochlear  
Implant  
Group**

# How to get the most out of being a CI champion

Professional Development

Rhian McTaggart



Are you a member of BAA?



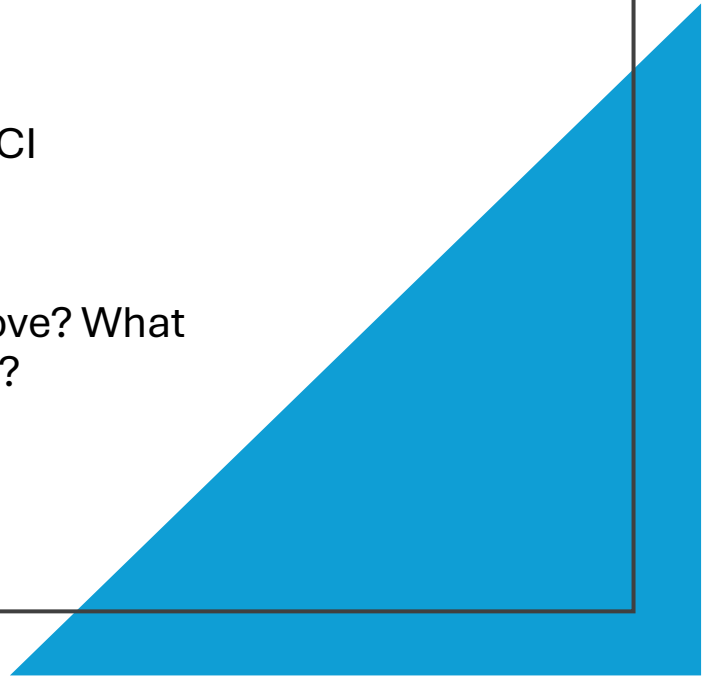
Do you receive your 1 hour a week protected admin time



What is your role within your team?



- Within your role as a CI Champion, what are you least confident in?
- Which aspects of your role as a CI champion are you strongest in?
- How could your mentor(s) improve? What more could they do to support you?



What is a CI  
champion...





• But what  
can we  
get out of  
it?...

# 1. Builds Advanced Clinical Knowledge

- **How & Why:**

- Applying candidacy criteria in real patients
- Understanding referral thresholds
- Exposure to variation in patient journeys

Builds confidence being a subject expert

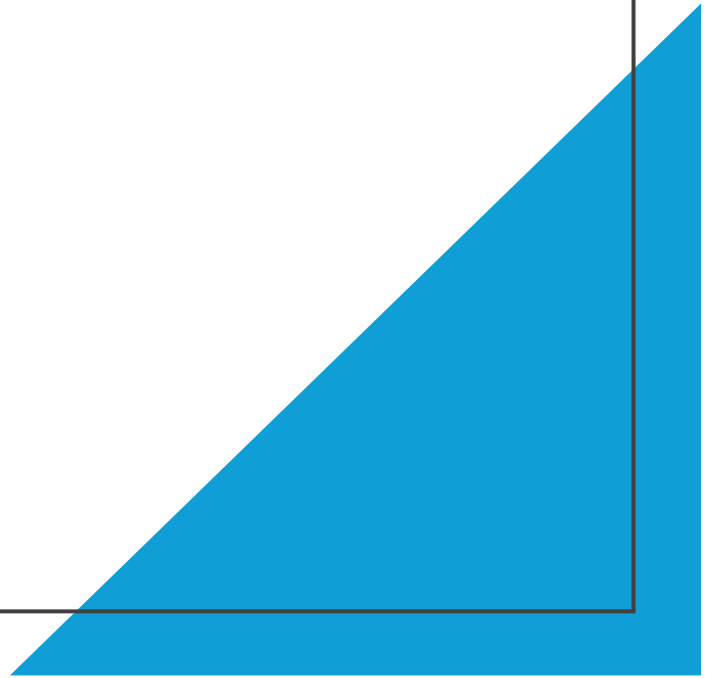
Give you opportunities to be involved in training/  
presentations/ conferences/ research/ observations  
with the CI team.



## 2. Develops Clinical Decision-Making Confidence

- **How & Why:**
- Identifying appropriate referrals
- Managing uncertainty and borderline cases
- Justifying decisions clinically

Demonstration needed for higher grades



### 3. Strengthens Communication Skills

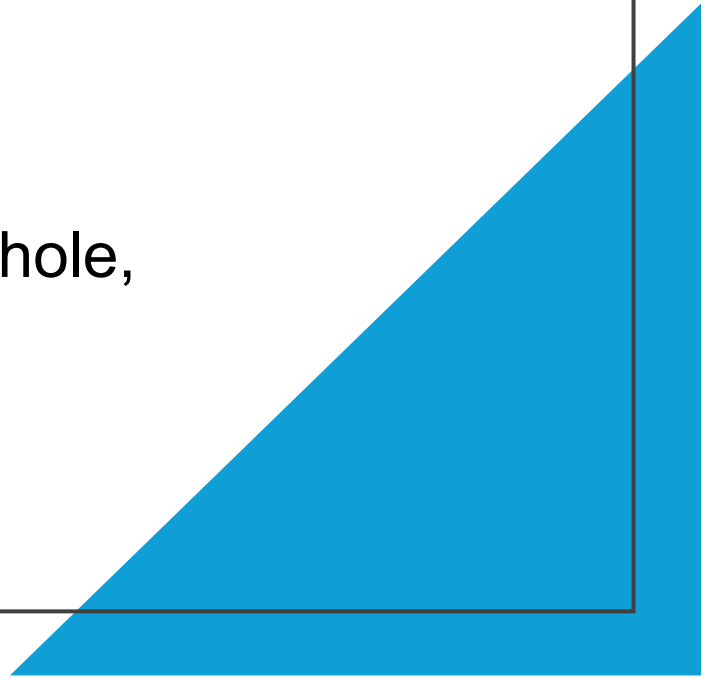
- **How & Why:**

- Introducing CI for the first time
  - Handling hesitation, decline, or misconceptions
  - Adapting explanations to different patients
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- Preparation for interviews
  - If you are already managing team members gives you more experience to improve communication with them & improve their practice



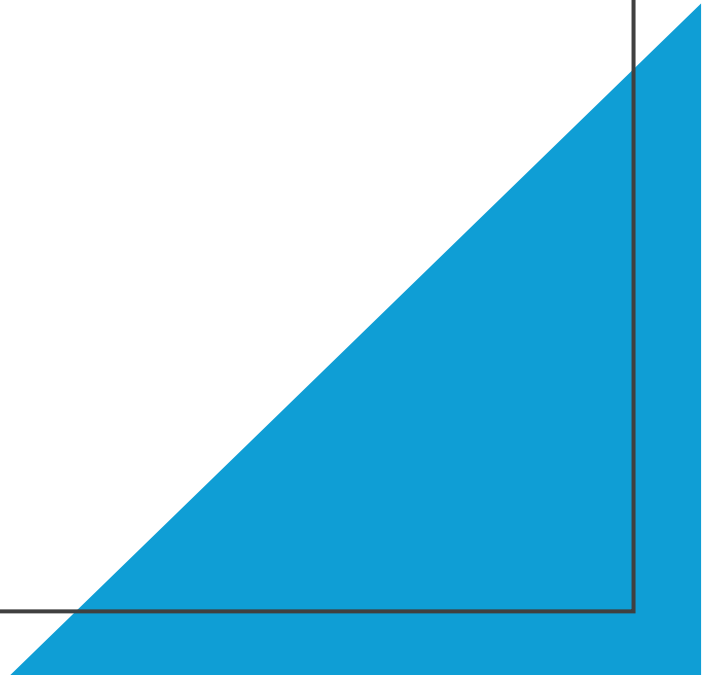
## 4. Leadership & Influence With or Without Authority

- **How & Why:**
- Acting as departmental CI lead/contact
- Influencing referral behaviours
- Challenging practice variation constructively
- Core Band 7+ competency.
- Promoting clinical improvement for the team as a whole, putting your team forward for clinical excellence
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## 5. Teaching & Education Experience

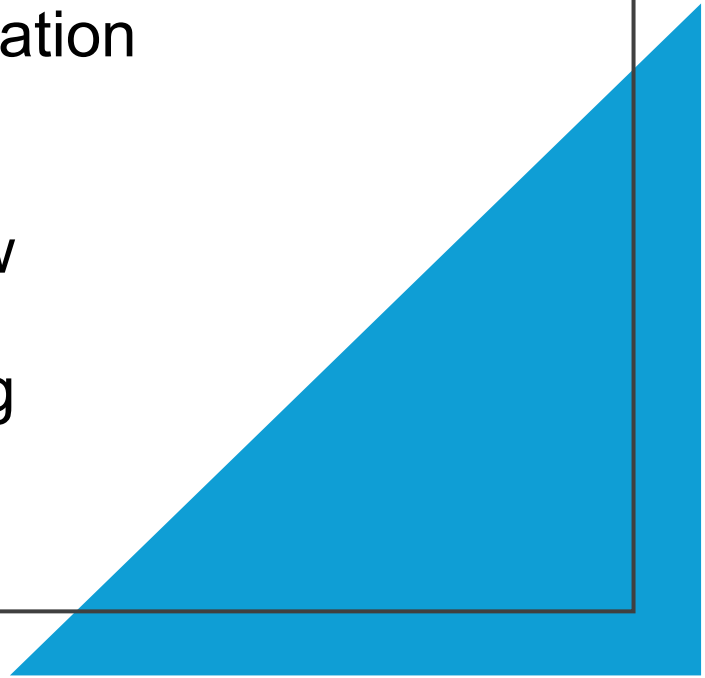
- **How & Why:**
- Delivering teaching to peers/students
- Sharing updates from British Academy of Audiology / British Cochlear Implant Group
- Supporting junior staff development
- Strong interview and portfolio evidence.
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## 6. Audit & Quality Improvement Experience

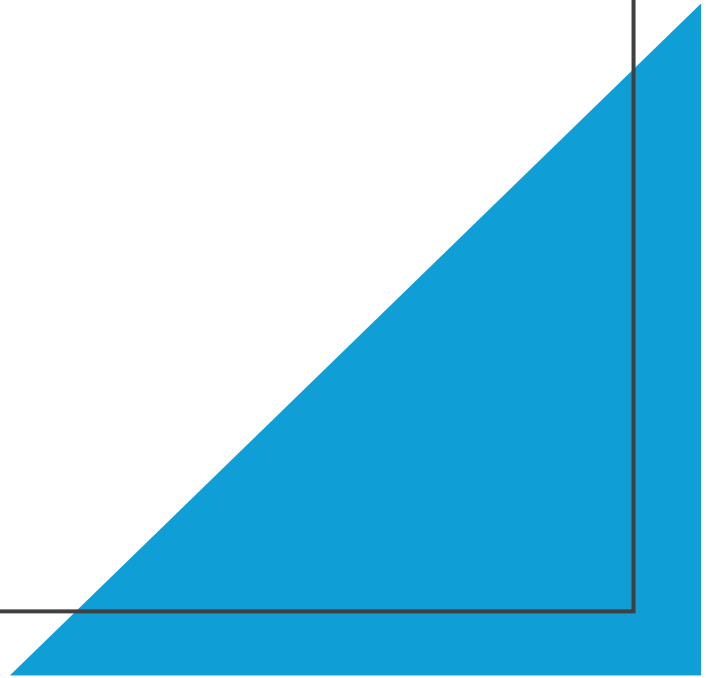
- **How & Why:**

- Auditing referral rates or missed candidates
  - Identifying service gaps
  - Implementing and re-auditing change
  - Contributing to wider projects (e.g. pathway optimisation work)
- 
- Directly maps to NHS job descriptions and interview scoring.
  - Improves clinical excellence of your service, making sure your team works to high levels



## 7. Expands Professional Network

- **How & Why:**
- Linking with implant centres and MDTs
- Connecting with other CI Champions
- Sharing best practice across regions
- Creates opportunities and shared learning



## 8. Increases Visibility & Career Opportunities

- **How & Why:**
  - Being known as the CI lead locally
  - Opportunities to present or contribute to projects
  - Building a clear specialist interest
- Differentiates you from peers
- For those mentoring other: is this an opportunity to allow them to develop that you can then support them with?

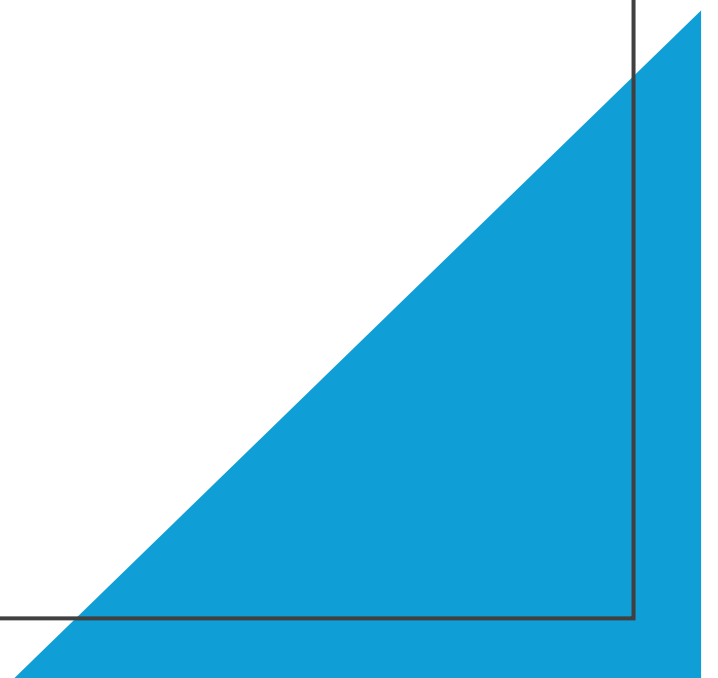


# 10. Prepares You for Future Roles (CI and Non-CI)

- **How & Why:**
  - Strong foundation for implant centre posts
  - Understanding of pathways, candidacy, and MDT working

## **But also**

- Leadership, audit, and service improvement skills
- Confidence in complex clinical discussions
- Experience influencing practice at a system level

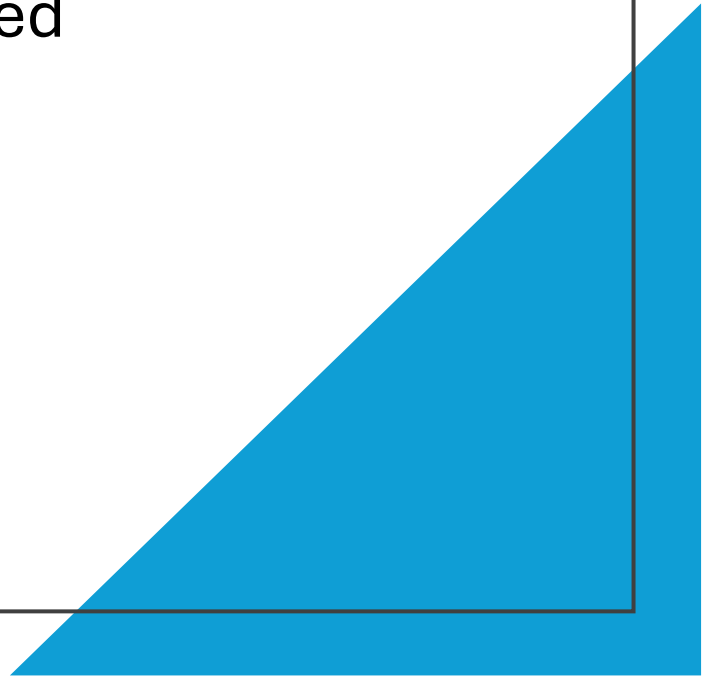


## **11. Enhances Patient Impact & Professional Satisfaction**

**Why it matters:**

**How & Why:**

- Identifying patients who would otherwise be missed
- Enabling earlier access to CI
- Seeing tangible life-changing outcomes
- Giving you or a team member opportunities to recognise development
- Maintains motivation and purpose.





- For the last 5 minutes we just want you to have some discussions on your table about what you feel you have already achieved professionally by being a Champion and what you would like to develop more going forward?
- Are there any specific ideas of how to achieve these?