

June 1982

BTS is incorporated

Inaugural BTS Summer Meeting.
Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick becomes the BTS first president.
BTS starts with 500 members.

Dec 1983

First BTS Winter Meeting.

1990

BTS publishes the first Asthma Guideline in collaboration with RCP/King's Fund and National Asthma Campaign. This will become the Society's most prolific series of guidelines.

1996

The BTS medal is established.

2001

BTS publishes the landmark study The Burden of Lung Disease, which will then be repeated in 2006.
17 Doughty Street becomes the Society's official headquarters.
BTS membership passes the 2000 mark.

2008

The Society introduces the BTS Meritorious Service Award.

2010

BTS guidelines receive accreditation from the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE).

2012

BTS publishes the Quality Standard for Bronchiectasis, the first of this series of documents which will become an integral part of the Society Quality Improvement work.

2014

The Society launches the Respiratory Futures website.

2015

BTS and the European Respiratory Society sign a landmark membership agreement. BTS members can now join ERS for a significantly reduced fee.

2017

BTS becomes a partner in NACAP, the National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme.

2020

BTS is a founding member of the RCP-led Inequalities in Health Alliance.
BTS produces over 30 rapid clinical guidance documents on COVID downloaded over 200,000 times.

2022

BTS marks its 40th anniversary with a return to face-to-face meetings.

1982

Thorax (formerly journal of the Thoracic Association since 1946) becomes the journal of the British Thoracic Society.

1983

BTS starts publishing studies and guidance.
First BTS Guideline: Control and prevention of tuberculosis: a code of practice.
Study on smoking cessation in people with lung disease.
Study on Community acquired pneumonia in adults in British Hospitals in 1982-83.

1987

BTS publishes the first respiratory workforce assessments: Thoracic Medicine in Great Britain.

1998

BTS appoints its first Chief Executive, Sheila Edwards, who leads the Society until her retirement in 2021.

2003

BTS collaborates with the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network and produces the first joint BTS/SIGN Asthma Guideline.

2009

BTS launches its national clinical audit programme.

2011

BTS wins the Patient Safety Awards for its Emergency Oxygen guideline.

2013

BMJ Open Respiratory Research launches as the second journal of the British Thoracic Society.
The BTS Interstitial Lung Disease Registry opens for data collection.
BTS partners with the Royal College of Physicians for the first national COPD audit.

2016

BTS publishes its first Clinical Statement, covering Multi-drug Resistant TB, a new addition to the Society's Quality Improvement work.
BTS membership passes 3000.

2018

BTS relaunches the Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis Clinical Advice Service.
The Society joins the Taskforce for Lung Health as a founding member.

2021

The Society elects its first non-medical President, Rachael Moses.
BTS joins the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change.
BTS membership passes 4000.