Connecting with members

Our impact is maximised when we speak with one strong voice
How to represent the BMA

The media team run a 24/7 on call service for all media related inquiries. Members are expected to call the on-call press officer if they are approached by the media or have any questions.

As an elected member, you represent the organisation as a whole, as well as your committee. It is important that you follow the guidance below:

– Please talk to your committee secretary or staff contact before corresponding with any external bodies or heads of other organisations in your official capacity.

This includes any correspondence with MPs (members of parliament), Peers, MSPs (members of Scottish Parliament), AMs (assembly members; Wales) and MLAs (members of the legislative assembly; Northern Ireland).

For parliamentary work, please speak to the public affairs team first.

– If you are contacted by the media in any way, or wish to be in contact with the media, please contact your local media team first.

– If you plan to send any correspondence to any kind of publication, you must clear it with the media office in advance. The media team will be happy to help you draft material.

Contact the media office:

**England**
0207 383 6448
mediaoffice@bma.org.uk

**Northern Ireland**
028 9026 9673
press.ni@bma.org.uk

**Scotland**
0131 247 3050
press.scotland@bma.org.uk

**Cymru Wales**
029 2047 4646
cmurphy@bma.org.uk
**Social media**
Social media is a great way to build relationships with other doctors, the public, journalists, politicians and stakeholders, and to share your stories, healthcare information and influence debate.

See the *Get started on social media* leaflet in your pack for more information.

**Connecting doctors**
Connecting doctors enable you to talk to other doctors with shared interests, priorities and passions. As a BMA member you already have an account on Connecting doctors – all you have to do is sign in through the Connecting doctors tab.

See the *Connecting doctors* leaflet in your pack for more information.

**Listservers**
Listservers allow members and staff to discuss committee issues between formal meetings. For legal reasons, you will be asked to accept the terms and conditions of the listserver before you are added. We will notify you if there are any changes or updates made to the terms and conditions.

Speak to your committee secretariat or staff contact for more information.

**The Doctor and ‘BMA in The News’**
*The Doctor* on a monthly basis plus BMA News on the website and ‘BMA In The News’ which is the daily roundup of the BMA in the media and sent by email.

**BMJ (British Medical Journal)**
As BMA member you are entitled to a range of benefits from the BMJ including free online access as bmj.com and weekly print editions, as well as access to a range of BMJ learning modules and BMJ careers.

You can find out more here: bma.org.uk/membership/bmj-benefits

**Council chair’s weekly update**
Every week the UK council chair writes a short weekly update letting you know what they have been doing. This is usually circulated to elected members via listservers.

Speak to your committee secretariat or staff contact for more information.