About us 2018-19
British Medical Association
bma.org.uk

We are the professional organisation and trade union for doctors, established to look after the professional needs of our members. We currently have over 156,000 members. We are a democratic and open organisation, ensuring that the collective voice of the profession is heard and helping shape the future agenda of health for the nation.

Since our inception, we have been closely involved in social reform and successfully lobbied to bring about legislation to improve the health of the public. Our policies cover public health, medical ethics, science, the design and delivery of healthcare services, medical education, and doctors’ terms and conditions of service.

We offer a wide range of services to members through our national and regional presence, helping doctors through all stages of their careers – from medical school to retirement – and helping them to navigate cultural shifts, technological advancements and economic pressures. Members are at the heart of the association and our elected members, supported by expert staff, play an important part in all our work.

As an elected representative – whether you are a council or committee member, or perform other functions – you play a vital role in representing doctors’ interests and ensuring that their voices are heard, nationally, locally and in the workplace. We aim to ensure that you are effectively supported in the work you do as a representative of your colleagues, peers and the BMA.
Our mission
We look after doctors so they can look after you

In July 2014, council approved our BMA-wide mission, vision and values. All of our activities, projects and initiatives are aligned to achieve this vision

Our vision
Our vision is a profession of valued doctors delivering the highest quality health services where...
– All doctors have strong representation and expert guidance, whenever and wherever they need it
– All doctors have their individual needs responded to, through career-long support and professional development
– All doctors are championed by the BMA and their voices are sought, heard and acted upon
– All doctors can connect with each other as a professional community
– All doctors can influence the advancement of health and the profession
– All elected members and staff are supported by effective business systems and processes

Our values

Expert
We are an indispensable source of credible information, guidance and support throughout doctors’ professional lives.

Committed
We are committed to all doctors and place them at the heart of every decision we make.

Reliable
We are doctors’ first port of call because we are trusted and dependable.

Challenging
We are unafraid to challenge effectively on behalf of all doctors.

Leading
We are an influential leader in supporting the profession and improving the health of our nation.
Our democratic structure
We are a democratic and open organisation. Our policies are determined by doctors in local, regional and national forums. They send motions to the RB (representative body), our main policy-making arm. The RB has nearly 600 members elected geographically and by branch of practice. It meets once a year at the ARM (annual representative meeting) in June or July, in locations around the UK.

ARM
The ARM provides an opportunity for doctors from all parts of the profession to debate issues affecting their working lives and professional practice. Motions for debate come largely from our divisions, regional councils, branch of practice conferences, and national councils. When a motion is passed by the RB it becomes BMA policy. At times we will convene a SRM (special representative meeting) in order to discuss a particular subject or matter.

BMA council
BMA council generally has 34 voting members. Each is directly elected by the membership to give a geographical and crossbranch of practice mix. There are also a number of ex-officio nonvoting members, including some of those who chair committees reporting to council. Council sets the strategic direction of the BMA in line with policy decided by the RB at the ARM. It is also responsible for the formulation and implementation of policy throughout the year between ARMs. Council is the principal executive committee of the trade union. It can appoint members to central boards and committees, and can establish additional committees and working groups.

BMA board of directors
The board is responsible for the management of the finances and general administration of the BMA. They ensure the implementation of the strategic and operational objectives and resolutions made by council, pursuant to the articles of the association.

Northern Ireland council
Northern Ireland council is a standing committee and its remit is ‘to consider all matters especially concerning Northern Ireland, and in conformity with the decisions of the representative body, deal with all such matters’. It normally has 24 directly elected members representative of all branch of practice groups in Northern Ireland and ex-officio members.

Scottish Council
Scottish council is a standing committee and its remit if ‘to consider all matters especially concerning Scotland, and, in conformity with the decisions of the representative body deal with all such matters’. Scottish council normally has 35 directly elected members representative of all branch of practice groups in Scotland, and ex-officio members.

Welsh Council
Welsh council is a standing committee and its remit is to ‘consider matters specially that concern Wales and, in conformity with the decisions of the representative body, deal with all such matters’ Welsh council normally has 15 elected members representative of all branch of practice groups in Wales, and ex-officio members.
Regional councils
Our regional councils operate in England and are open to all BMA members. Their boundaries coincide with those of SHAs (strategic health authorities) so that the councils have a clear local identity. They provide a forum for discussing matters of regional interest and issues affecting the profession across all branches of practice. There are currently ten regional councils.

Divisions
Policy
*Committees:
Consultants
General practitioners
Junior doctors
Medical academic staff
Medical students
Public health medicine
Staff, associate, specialists and specialty doctors
Armed forces
Occupational medicine
Civil and public service
Forensic and secure environments committee
Medico-legal
Pensions
Private practice
Professional fees
Committee on community care
Committee of medical managers
International
Medical ethics
BMA charitable trust
Board of science
Patient liaison group

†Regional councils:
Eastern
East midlands
London
North east
North west
South east coast
South west
South central
West midlands
Yorkshire and Humberside
Governance

Divisions
Our divisions represent members in all disciplines and branches of practice geographically. Every UK member belongs to one of the 180 divisions. Each has a secretary, chair or president, and an executive committee including local representatives for each branch of practice. Divisions can submit motions for debate at the ARM.

LMCs (local medical committees)
LMCs are local representative committees of NHS GPs and represent the interests of all NHS GPs in their localities to the NHS health authorities. They interact and work with – and through – BMA GPC, as well as other branch of practice committees and local specialist medical committees in various ways, including conferences.

LNCs (local negotiating committees)
LNCs are made up of elected local representatives who negotiate – and have the authority to make collective agreements – with local management on behalf of medical and dental staff of all grades.

Chief executive
Our staff team is led by the interim chief executive, Belinda Phipps.

Chief executive
Belinda Phipps

Belinda Phipps is the interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the BMA.

Belinda joined the BMA in July 2018 as interim CEO for a nine month period.

Prior to her time at the BMA, Belinda held a number of senior leadership roles, including at the South Thames Blood Transfusion Service, the London Ambulance Service, and a NHS Trust in Berkshire. Belinda also has a background in the charity sector and was CEO of the National Childbirth Trust, the UK’s largest charity for parents, for over fifteen years and Chair of the gender equality charity the Fawcett Society.

She is also currently a non-executive director of Dorset Healthcare NHS Trust, chair of the Appointments Board at the Nursing and Midwifery Council, and a trustee at Pro Bono Economics.

To find out more please see our website:
www.bma.org.uk/about-us
Chief officers

Council chair

Dr Chaand Nagpaul
Dr Chaand Nagpaul is a GP and senior partner in his practice in Stanmore, North London where he has practised for 28 years. He was elected as Chair of the British Medical Association Council in July 2017, and has been a BMA Council member since 2008. He is past chair of the British Medical Association GPs committee (GPC) from 2013 - 2017, having been a member of the GPC since 1996, and was a GPC negotiator between 2007 and 2013. He has been a Local Medical Committee (LMC) member for over 20 years and vice-chairman for the past 14. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners. Chaand was awarded a CBE in 2015 for his services to primary care.

President

Dinesh Bhugra
Professor Dinesh Bhugra CBE is the current President of the BMA Council.

He is Emeritus Professor of Mental Health and Cultural Diversity at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience at King’s College London and honorary consultant at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.

He was President of the World Psychiatric Association from 2014-2017 and in 2017 became President-Elect of the British Medical Association.

Dinesh Bhugra’s research interests are in cultural psychiatry, sexual dysfunction and service development. He is the recipient of over 10 honorary degrees. He has authored/co-authored over 400 scientific papers and 32 books two of which have been translated into Chinese and Japanese. He is also the Editor of three journals (International Journal of Social Psychiatry, International Review of Psychiatry and International Journal of Culture and Mental Health).

Previously he was the Dean (2003-2008) and then President (2008-2011) of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the UK, where he led on major policy initiatives on psychiatry’s contract with society, public mental health and the role of the psychiatrist.

He has led on major international surveys on discrimination against people with mental illness and medical students’ interest in psychiatry.

Treasurer

Dr Andrew Dearden
Andrew Dearden is the BMA treasurer and a member of BMA council. He has previously served as chair of both the BMA’s pensions committee and BMA Wales council. As chair of the pensions committee, he led the BMA in our NHS pension negotiations from 2006-2009. In the past he has chaired the BMA Wales GP trainee committee, the GPC (Wales) and the BMA’s community care committee. He was also involved in the GMS (general medical services) negotiations between 2003 and 2006. Andrew is currently a GP based in Cardiff and a fellow of the BMA and Royal College of GPs.
Representative body chair

Dr Anthea Mowat
Anthea Mowat is the elected BMA Representative Body chair and is an associate specialist in anaesthesia and chronic pain management at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston which is part of United Lincolnshire Hospitals Trust (ULHT).

In the past she has been the chair of the ULHT medical staff local negotiating committee for 9 years. She was also SAS tutor for ULHT for 6 years, until June 2016. Her previous national roles in the BMA have included being deputy chair Representative Body, ARM Agenda Committee, SASC conference chair, deputy chair of the SAS committee, and SASC Strategy Policy and Procedure committee chair. She was involved in negotiations for the SAS contract between 2003 and 2008. She is a member of the NHS Staff Council.

She has been Chair and Honorary Secretary of Holland Division, and Deputy Chair of East Midlands Regional Council. She also chaired the Conference of Honorary Secretaries of Divisions. In addition to her work at the BMA, Anthea is a member of the SAS committee of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (AAGBI). She is honoured to have been awarded the BMA Association medal in 2010, and the AAGBI Pask Certificate of Honour in 2009.

Details
Council deputy chair: Dr David Wrigley
Representative body deputy chair: Dr Helena McKeown

For more information about BMA council, contact

Nick Harrison, nharrison@bma.org.uk, 020 7383 6062.

Contact
Sarah Connolly for information about our leadership team, sconnolly@bma.org.uk, 020 7383 6101.
Read more about our leadership here: www.bma.org.uk/about-us/leadership
Details of chairs and secretaries for national councils

Dr John Woods
Northern Ireland council
Emmet Doyle
bmanorthernireland@bma.org.uk
028 9026 9666

Dr Lewis Morrison
Scottish council
Dominique Maske
DMaske@bma.org.uk
0131 247 3035

Dr Philip Banfield
Welsh council
Sarah Miller
BMAWales@bma.org.uk
029 2047 4646

To find out more about our committees visit the website: www.bma.org.uk/about-us
National offices in Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast provide a focus for members in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and represent the profession in these countries. The staff teams are led by national director.

**How to represent the BMA**

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)

– If you receive any requests for media interviews please direct them to your national media team

– If you plan to send any correspondence to national publications for printing, you must clear it with the media office in advance. The media team is happy to assist with the drafting of letters for publications

**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
cmahoney@bma.org.uk
BMA House and national offices

BMA head office
BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP

General switchboard number
Tel: 020 7387 4499

BMA House meeting and event hire
BMA House offers a wide range of flexible spaces to cater for all kinds of events. To find out more about room hire details, please contact:
Tel: 020 7874 7020
www.bmahouse.org.uk

Media office London
Tel: 020 7383 6448
Email: mediaoffice@bma.org.uk

Public affairs London
Email: publicaffairs@bma.org.uk

BMA Library
Available for all BMA members.
Tel: 020 7383 6625
Email: bma-library@bma.org.uk

National BMA offices

Scotland
14 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1LL
Tel: 0131 247 3000
Fax: 0131 247 3001
Email: BMAScotland@bma.org.uk

Press office Scotland
Tel: 0131 247 3050 or 0131 2473051
Email: press.scotland@bma.org.uk

Public affairs office Scotland
Tel: 0131 247 3052
Fax: 0131 247 3051
Email: ndunsire@bma.org.uk

Wales
5th Floor, 2 Caspian Point, Caspian Way, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF10 4DQ
Tel: 029 2047 4646
Fax: 029 2047 4600
Email: BMAWales@bma.org.uk

Press office Wales
Tel: 029 2047 4646 or 029 2047 4621
Email: cmahoney@bma.org.uk

Public affairs office Wales
Tel: 029 2047 4611
Fax: 029 2047 4621
Email: cmahoney@bma.org.uk
Northern Ireland
16 Cromac Place, Cromac Wood, Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 2JB
Tel: 028 9026 9666
Fax: 028 9026 9665
Email: BMANorthernIreland@bma.org.uk

Press office Northern Ireland
Tel: 028 9026 9673 or 028 9026 9666
Email: press.ni@bma.org.uk

Political liaison Northern Ireland
Tel: 028 9026 9678 Fax: 028 9026 9659
Email: bmaginnis@bma.org.uk

BMA Brussels Office
BMA European Office, Rue du Luxembourg 3, Brussels 1000, Belgium
Tel: 0032 2 502 8501

BMA Centres
Members can login on our website for a full list of BMA Centres and their email addresses.

For employment queries, members should call a BMA adviser on 0300 123 1233

For further details about your nearest BMA office or centre see please see the In your area section in this pack.

For more contact information: www.bma.org.uk/contact-bma
Commonly used abbreviations

AFC Armies forces committee (BMA)
AoMRC Academy of Medical Royal Colleges
ARM Annual representative meeting (BMA) (also known as RB — representative body)
ASME Association for the Study of Medical Education
BAPIO British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin
BDA British Dental Association
BIDA British International Doctors Association
BMAS BMA services limited
BoP Branch of practice (BMA)
BoS Board of science (BMA)
BPA Board of professional activities (BMA)
CC Consultants committee (BMA)
CCC Community care committee (BMA)
CoC Chair of council (BMA)
CCG Clinical commissioning group (NHS)
CCST Certificate of completion of specialist training (NHS)
CDSIMS Career doctors, students and independent medical practitioners (BMA)
CESR Certificate of eligibility for specialist registration (previously Article 14)
CMC Commonwealth Medical Association
CMF Christian Medical Fellowship
CMM Committee of medical managers (BMA)
CMO Chief Medical Officer
COG Chief officers group/Contracts oversight group (BMA)
COPMeD Conference of Postgraduate Medical Deans
CS Committee secretariat (BMA)
CSER Corporate, social and environmental responsible sourcing
CSM Committee services manager (BMA)
CSO Committee services officer (BMA)
D4D Doctors for doctors (BMA)
DCSF Department for Children, Schools, and Families
DDRB Doctors’ and Dentists’ Review Body
DfES Department for Education and Skills
DH or DoH Department of Health
EA Employment advisor (BMA)
E&I Com Equality and inclusion committee (BMA)
EO Employment officer (BMA national offices)
EMS European Medical Students Association
ET Education and training (BMA subcommittees)
EWTD European working time directive
FMC Forensic medical committee (BMA)
FMLM Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management
FP Foundation programme
GMC General Medical Council
GPC General practitioners committee (BMA)
GWC General Whitley Council
HEE Higher Education England
HEFC Higher Education Funding Council
HoD Head of division (BMA)
HPERU Health policy and economic research unit (BMA)
HSMP Highly skilled migrants programme
HTWG Health technology working group
IC International committee (BMA)
ICATS Integrated clinical assessment and treatment services
IFMSA International Federation of Medical Students Association
IMGS International medical graduate
IMS International medical student
IM&T Information management and technology (BMA)
IRO Industrial relations officer (BMA)
ISC Intra-school committee (BMA)
JASME Junior Association for the Study of Medical Education
JDC Junior doctors committee (BMA)
JMCC Joint Medical Consultative Council
JMF Junior members forum (BMA)
JNC(J) Joint negotiating committee (Juniors) BMA and NHSE
JNC(S) Joint negotiating committee (Seniors) BMA and NHSE
LMC Local medical committee (BMA GPs)
LNC Local negotiating committee (BMA)
MADEL Medical and Dental Education Levy
MASC Medical academic staff committee (BMA)
MDAP Multi-Deanery Application Process
MDU Medical Defence Union
MEC Medical ethics committee (BMA)
MEDFASH Medical Foundation for AIDS and Sexual Health
Medin Medical Students International
MLC Medico-legal committee (BMA)
MMC Modernising Medical Careers
MPET Multi-professional education and training levy
MPU Medical Practitioners Union
MSC Medical Schools Council (formerly Council of Heads of Medical Schools)
MSC Medical students committee (BMA)
MWF Medical Women’s Federation
NHSE NHS Employers
NHSPC NHS primary care division (BMA)
NHSSC NHS secondary care division (BMA)
NHSS National Health Services University
OC Office co-ordinator (BMA)
OGF Oversight and finance committee (BMA)
OGC Ophthalmic group committee (BMA)
OMC Occupational medical committee (BMA)
PB Political board (BMA)
PHE Public Health England
PHMC Public health medicine committee (BMA)
PLG Patient liaison group (BMA)
PMETB Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board