Participation in research and related roles

Views from across the profession
Understanding participation in research

– The BMA operates an online panel of member doctors so that they can give us their views about place of work and health policy issues

– The panel includes doctors from across professional backgrounds

– We asked panel members in 2018 about their experience of research and whether they had access to career enhancing pastoral care/mentoring and clinical excellence awards (CEAs)
Key findings

– Many doctors participate in research, education and training – in addition to those for whom this is their main role

– Respondents spent on average 20% of their weekly time on research activities

– There were notable differences between genders – males were more likely to have time allocated for research, teaching, pastoral care/mentoring and management than female respondents

– Female respondents were more likely to say they undertook these activities in their own time

– The findings informed a large-scale 2019 survey on gender and progression in research-related careers to be published in 2020
Does your work involve any of the following activities?*

3 in 10 respondents (31%) said their role involved research.

However, three-quarters (75%) were involved in the teaching of medical or other students.

* Multiple response – answers total more than 100%
Do you have time in your contract for research activities?

Males were more likely to have allocated time for research.

Male and female respondents were as likely to do research in their own time.

Average percentage allocated time for research per week: Males 22%, females 18%.
Do you have time in your contract for teaching activities?

Males were more likely to have time allocated for teaching activities.

Females were more likely to say they did teaching in their own time.

Respondents had a similar average allocated percentage of time for teaching: males 12%, females 13%
Do you have time in your contract for management activities?

Male respondents were more likely to have allocated time for management activities.

But females were more likely to say they did this in their own time.

Female respondents also spent more of their allocated time on management activities: Females 21%, males 16%.
Do you have time in your contract for pastoral care/mentoring?

Males were more likely to have allocated time for pastoral care/mentoring

Females were more likely to have to do this in their own time.

Male and female respondents spent an equal percentage of allocated time on pastoral care/mentoring, 8%.
Do you consider yourself to be a clinical academic?

Around one in 10 respondents self-identified as a clinical academic, with males slightly more likely to do so.

Figures do not total 100% due to decimal rounding.
Are you eligible for clinical excellence awards?

Males were more likely to say they were eligible for CEAs (clinical excellence awards).

Female respondents were more likely to be unsure of their eligibility.