

Dear Colleagues,

17 February 2020

We are fast approaching the 2020 ARM and many of you will shortly be considering motions for submission on behalf of your constituents.

With increasing concern and worry around Covid-19, we are all aware of the potential of this to impact on our already overstretched working days, departments and practices. We can assure you that our advice is being sought by relevant public bodies and we are feeding in your real concerns to be appropriately addressed.

Our webpage is being updated at least daily and with guidance as well as links to official information from Public Health England, Health Protection Scotland, Public Health Wales and Public Health Agency (Northern Ireland) and the Department of Health and Social Care (four nations). Our First Point of Contact advisors are also being briefed to respond to members' queries and are available on 0300 123 1233 and support@bma.org.uk

As with last year's ARM, we are continuing with our approach of using in-house expertise to highlight topical areas of interest emerging on the health-policy horizon, as well as identifying any gaps in policy, or policy ambiguity.

I am pleased to announce that a series of in-depth and informative Pre-ARM briefing papers have been completed on the following topics and are enclosed for your consideration.

1. **Doctors working in MDTs and New Clinical Roles**
2. **AI and new technologies**
3. **Assisted dying poll**
4. **The impact of trade deals on health and health services in the UK**
5. **Sustainable development goals**

One of the BMA's strengths is that we receive motions on any subject our members feel should be raised. To that end, these briefings have been designed to help inform your debate with colleagues and aid your decisions at ARM 2020. Just to reassure you, your division or committee will of course be able to generate motions outside of these briefing areas - this approach is not designed to limit the scope of your motions, but to act as a helpful tool.

You will also have the opportunity to request personal and tailored motion drafting advice by emailing Info.motions@bma.org.uk where members of BMA policy staff can provide you with information and factual advice, up until the deadline for receipt of motions (**Friday 3 April 2020, 09.00am**). More information can be found at: www.bma.org.uk/writingmotions

Electronic versions of each briefing can be found on the main ARM webpage: www.bma.org.uk/arm. Should you have any questions, please contact the team at info.motions@bma.org.uk.

I look forward to seeing you in Edinburgh.

Yours sincerely



Dr Helena McKeown
BMA Representative Body Chair