The BMA Refugee Doctor Initiative

A special package of benefits FREE from the British Medical Association to help refugee doctors establish their careers in the UK.
The British Medical Association (BMA) is the trade union and professional organisation for UK doctors. We recognise the valuable contribution refugee doctors make to the delivery of health care services in the UK, and we have been involved in many initiatives – working with a broad coalition of other organisations – to help you pursue your career in the UK.

The BMA Refugee Doctor Initiative is a special package of free benefits, available to refugee and asylum seeking doctors as they seek to establish their careers in the UK.

Benefits include:

- **Free weekly subscription to BMJ** (including the BMJ Careers supplement), giving details of hundreds of NHS jobs.
- **Free weekly subscription to BMA News** and access to the news, views and analysis on the BMA website which covers a wide range of issues including medico-political and health stories.
- **Use of the BMA Library** – including access to the Medline Plus search facility via the internet or on computers at the library. The ebook collection is also a popular resource with over 1000 texts that can be accessed online.
- **Guidance notes and reports** on a wide range of subjects available online
- **Local BMA support** – staff within the BMA's local and national offices can advise you on contracts of employment and help you make contact with relevant education organisations. Your name can also be added to invitation lists for local BMA meetings.
- **Information and advice** from the BMA International Department. Under UK immigration legislation we cannot advise on asylum cases, but we can give general advice for international medical graduates wanting to work in the UK. This department also coordinates BMA activities and provides information on other projects to help refugee doctors: contact internationalinfo@bma.org.uk for more information.
- A confidential 24-hour telephone counselling service is available to refugee doctors and their families for personal, emotional, work or study related problems. Telephone 08459 200 169. Further information available at bma.org.uk/doctorsfordoctors

The BMA collects information on refugee doctors in the UK, and uses this to help ensure that appropriate help is offered in the right areas. All your details will be held in strict confidence, and not given to anyone without your permission. If you give your consent the BMA will share your anonymised information with organisations who have an interest in refugee issues in order to assist in the development of refugee services across the UK.

**Am I eligible to join the initiative?**

You are eligible to apply for BMA refugee membership if the following apply:

- You are applying for asylum in the UK and are awaiting a decision or,
- The UK has recognised you as a refugee, or
- You are a UK citizen but previously held refugee status in the UK

AND

- You have not registered with the General Medical Council but are seeking to do so
BMA Refugee Doctor Initiative application form

PLEASE COMPLETE IN CAPITALS

1. Personal details

Dr  Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other (please specify)  
Male  Female  Date of Birth  /  /  
Family name  
Full forenames  
Postal address  
Postcode  
Email address  
Telephone number  
Mobile telephone number  
Country of Origin  
Date of arrival in the UK  /  /  

What is the language you speak best?  
Other languages spoken  

Immigration status in the UK

☐ Asylum Seeker  ☐ Refugee Status  ☐ Exceptional Leave to Remain  ☐ Discretionary Leave  
☐ Humanitarian Protection Status  ☐ Indefinite Leave to Remain  
Other (Please specify)  

In order to register for the BMA Refugee Doctor Initiative you must supply a copy of a letter from the Home Office confirming your refugee status or exceptional leave to remain or indefinite leave to remain or copy of your Standard Acknowledgement Letter (SAL) confirming that you have applied for asylum in the UK.

2. Qualifications and work experience details

Title of basic medical qualification (degree)  
Place of basic medical qualification: Institution  
Country  
Date of basic medical qualification  /  /  
Area of specialisation  
Title of specialist medical qualification  
Numbers of years worked in this specialty  
Country of specialist medical qualification  
Date of specialist medical qualification  /  /  

For office use only: Qualification recognised by WHO?  YES  NO  

3. Route to employment in UK

IELTS test taken  YES  NO  Date  /  /  
Overall score on IELTS test  
Exempt from PLAB test  YES  NO  Application in progress  ☐ Don't know  
Date exempted  
PLAB test Part 1 passed  YES  NO  Date  /  /  
PLAB test Part 2 passed  YES  NO  Date  /  /  
Registered with GMC  YES  NO  Date  /  /  
GMC Reference/Registration Number  
Employed in the NHS  YES  NO  
Any other information?  

Declaration

I hereby apply to join the British Medical Association Refugee Doctor Initiative. I understand that I will be required to inform the BMA when I gain registration with General Medical Council. I will then be eligible to apply for full membership of the British Medical Association. I understand that my place on the initiative will be reviewed after 5 years. I also declare that I am medically qualified and that my qualifications will enable me to register with the GMC once I have met the necessary requirements.

Signature:  
Date  /  /  

PLEASE MOISTEN THIS GLUE STRIP THEN FOLD WHERE INDICATED AND SEAL.
Data Protection Notice

By providing us with your contact details you are consenting to the BMA Group of Companies ("BMA") using your personal data (including sensitive personal data) for the administration of BMA and its partners' products/services, as well as for sending you marketing information about BMA and its partners' products and services by letter, SMS, telephone and/or email. If you would prefer not to receive marketing information regarding BMA or its partners' products and services please tick the relevant boxes. Our privacy policy (bma.org.uk/privacypolicy) is available for you to read, we would like to draw your attention to it if this is your first contact with the BMA and the BMA website. The BMA is committed to representing a membership that is reflective of the diverse medical workforce in which our members work. Please complete the questions, and if there is any information you do not wish to share with the BMA please select 'prefer not to say' where indicated. For further information on the BMA's monitoring practices please see bma.org.uk/equalopportunitiespolicy

Signature: ___________________________ Date __________/_________/________

Ethnicity – How would you describe yourself?

Please choose one of the following five headings and tick the appropriate box to indicate your cultural background.

- White
  - English
  - Northern Irish
  - Scottish
  - Welsh
  - Other white background

- Mixed ethnicity
  - White and Asian
  - White and Black African
  - White and Black Caribbean
  - Other mixed background

- Asian or Asian British
  - Bangladeshi
  - Chinese
  - Indian
  - Pakistani
  - Other Asian background

- Black or Black British
  - African
  - Caribbean
  - Other Black background

- Other
  - Arab
  - Any other ethnic background
  - Prefer not to say

Disability – Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person?*

*The Equality Act 2010 considers a person disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment, and the impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Nature of disability

- Learning disability
- Mental health condition
- Physical
- Sensory
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Sexual Orientation – What is your sexual orientation?

- Bisexual
- Gay man
- Gay woman/lesbian
- Heterosexual/straight
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Once you have completed the application form and Direct Debit mandate please separate it from the rest of the leaflet, fold at the line indicated overleaf, moisten the gum strip at the bottom of the Direct Debit mandate and seal, so that the return address above is visible, before posting.

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