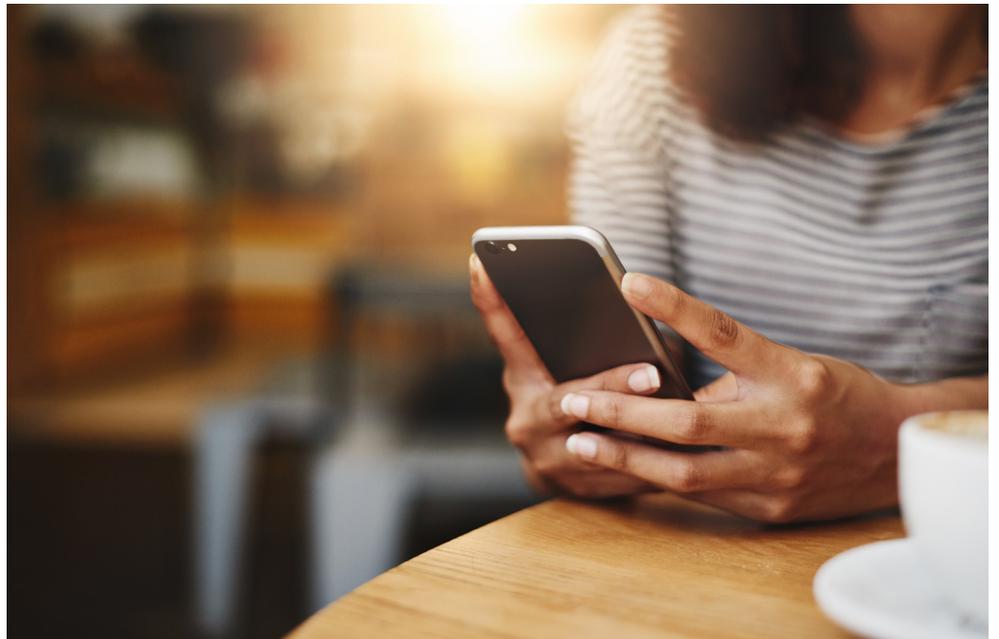




General
Medical
Council

Doctor Support Service

Independent and confidential emotional support for doctors undergoing fitness to practise or licence withdrawal procedures



Are you going through a GMC investigation or at risk of losing your licence? Do you feel you would benefit from emotional support?

Having your fitness to practise investigated or learning that your licence is at risk can be a very stressful experience.

The General Medical Council (GMC) has commissioned the BMA (British Medical Association) to provide dedicated confidential emotional support to any doctor currently subject to a fitness to practise process, or at risk of losing their licence due to non-engagement with revalidation, whether or not you are a BMA member.

Emotional support in confidence

- Emotional support is available once you are notified by the GMC that a provisional enquiry or fitness to practise investigation is taking place, or that your licence to practise is at risk.
- This support is provided by phone or video call by a fellow doctor who is completely independent of the GMC.
- With sufficient notice, your supporter can also accompany you if you are invited to a meeting with the GMC or if your case ends up at a hearing (for up to two days of the hearing).
- After a case has closed, you can talk to your supporter about how you feel about the outcome.
- The dedicated telephone line is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays), but calls with your allocated supporter may take place at mutually convenient times outside of these hours.
- The support service is completely independent of the GMC.

Medical advice

Although support is delivered by doctors, they can't offer you medical advice. You should see your treating medical practitioner about medical issues.

Legal advice

The service can't offer you legal advice, advocacy or guidance. You should speak to your medical defence organisation or a solicitor for this.

Call on **020 7383 6707** or email **doctorsupportservice@bma.org.uk**

Find out more at **www.gmc-uk.org/doctorsupportservice** or **bma.org.uk/doctorsupportservice**