

Executive Committee Meeting Discussions

Today, the new Executive Committee (EC) met for its first meeting and we discussed following issues and this shows the importance of joining the BIDA to make it a strong organisation.

a) Clinical Excellence Awards

The sub-committee of BIDA will be meeting soon to support the applicants who have applied for the national award. Last year Prof. Nirmal Kumar, our Wigan Division member got his Silver Award and BIDA strongly supported Prof Kumar's excellent and well deserving nomination.

b) BIDA's work with the GMC

For quite some time BIDA has been concerned about disproportionate representation of overseas trained doctors in the GMC disciplinary action and BIDA along with BAPIO, IMA and other BME leaders and organisations have been working with the GMC to understand the reasons and to find solutions.

BIDA has been working with the GMC asking for more BME members in its Fitness to Practice Committee and also Employer Liaison Advisors (ELA).

Due to our pressure GMC has now appointed 2/14 ELA from BME background and also it is in the process of appointing more BME members to join its Fitness to Practice Committee. BIDA EC has requested many of our members to put their names forward to join FTP. BIDA will be keeping a very close watch on BME representations in the FTP Panel and also will continue to work with GMC so that all doctors are treated fairly and equally and also to understand the reason as to why overseas trained doctors are six times more likely to be referred to the GMC and how we can prevent tragedies for patients and also get justice to overseas doctors.

c) Medical Leadership Academy

The Royal Colleges have created a Medical Leadership Faculty and sadly all its 46 members are from 'White' background. BIDA has now joined BAPIO, IMA, some of the BMA leaders from BME background and have now challenged the Medical Leadership Faculty made up of all 'White' colleagues when nearly 40% of medical

workforces are from BME background. Due to our pressure we have been invited to have a meeting with the representatives from Medical Leadership Academy.

- d) BIDA will continue to demand more BME leaders in the NHS medical leadership. BIDA is working very closely with BAPIO and other organisations to demand this.

- e) **National Conference** to discuss issues which matter to our members and Mr Ahmed Sadiq, the Chairman of hospital doctors' forum has been appointed today to organise a national event to discuss important issues which matter to our members and following topics will be included;
 - a. Revalidation – How to make revalidation fair for BME doctors
 - b. Revalidation and role of GMC
 - c. Challenges for overseas doctors in the modern NHS
 - d. NHS pension
 - e. Financial challenges and survival in the current NHS
 - f. Revalidation and remediation – cost and its implications for overseas doctors
 - g. How to make BIDA an effective organisation to help and support our trainees – career progression, mentoring, help and support

- f) **Annual cricket match** – BIDA divisional cricket match is the highlight of annual BIDA event and fully supported by the EC and the central office. We had two excellent candidates who wanted to be the Chairman of cricket committee and very soon there will be further information. If you are a cricket fan and wants to join the BIDA, please contact our office.

- g) **White paper, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and GMC consultation document on 'Good Medical Practice'**

There was some excellent discussion on these topics and Dr Kumar, previous BIDA Chairman and President lead excellent discussion on GMC consultation document regarding 'Good Medical Practice' and BIDA's response will be sent soon. Dr Sarkar advised all the members to take active part in the leadership and to work for the benefit of our members and the organisation.

Dr Sarkar our national Chairman and Dr Chandra will be writing a strong letter to the Chairman of the Royal College of GPs requesting an urgent meeting to look at the reasons as to why many IMG GP registrars fail MRCPGP exam and its impact on overseas doctors. It is simply not acceptable to say that 45% of overseas trained GP registrars are failing this exam. We got to find a solution. Some of the EC members suggested BIDA forming mentorship to help these doctors and also suggested organising training programme for these doctors to help them to pass the exam.

Dr Umesh Prabhu

National Vice-Chairman/Web master for BIDA