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Newsletter Issue 6, 28 July 2020

Dear Members,

Hope you and your family are well.

We wish to update you with the recent events and proposals.

1. Discussion with Labour Peer, Baroness D Lawrence

Dr Chandra Kanneganti, Chairman of BIDA had a meeting with Baroness Lawrence along with the BMA Chair, Dr Chaand Nagpaul and representatives of other organisations to discuss the Labour party review on “The impact of Covid-19 on the BAME community.” Our Chairman made several proposals on behalf of BIDA (Letter enclosed)

- A. Publication of Covid-19 Guidelines and educational materials in multi-lingual languages.
- B. Specific Health programmes to raise awareness among BAME communities.
- C. Establish mentors & Guardians for BAME HCWs.
- D. Adequate proportional representation of BAME Leads in NHS Trust boards at different levels.

Following the above discussions, I am pleased to inform you that the Leicester City Council has now posted leaflets in 8 different languages to all households in Leicester.

BIDA had earlier written to the DOH to produce these guidelines in different languages in all regions of the country for the benefit of the BAME community.

2. BIDA's campaign to raise awareness among BAME Community

A poster has been prepared now with efforts to translate in different languages. They would be distributed by social media and contacts to the hot spot regions of the country.

Dr Farhana Rahman, GP in London has prepared a booklet, which has been endorsed by 8 different organisations. The BIDA poster has a link for the booklet:

<https://bit.ly/LiftingLockdownGPGuide>

3. BIDA's efforts to assist Doctors in India for "Visa Waiver programme"

BIDA had represented to the British High Commission in New Delhi & Mumbai and various VISA offices in the UK to assist several doctors in India, who had been selected through remote interviews and offered jobs in the UK but could not travel due to visa restrictions. Our office is pleased to inform our members that BIDA's efforts requesting to consider the "Visa waiver programme" for these doctors has been successful in several cases and some of these doctors have already arrived in the UK to commence their jobs.

The BIDA office would like to thank Dr Anirudh Bhandare, Consultant Gastroenterologist at NMGH for taking the lead on this.

4. BIDA/ Quilter contract

BIDA has chosen Quilter Financial Adviser as the preferred provider to deliver expert financial advice for our members. This is an exclusive deal with a special negotiated fee structure. They would be providing specialist advice and will be running a range of webinars on differing topics to support BIDA members and their families.

You would be receiving further details quite soon. The government have recently launched a consultation that could have a significant impact on your NHS Pension and any Annual Allowance charges you've paid since 2015 (even if you've left the scheme or retired).

Please take advantage of this great opportunity to discuss and organise your financial planning.

Stay safe

Amit Sinha

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