

Response from BMA UK Junior Doctors Committee to report 'What should we call Junior Doctors?' 3.4.2022

*The BMA UK Junior Doctors Committee was a stakeholder during the production of this report by Mrs McNally. There has long been disquiet with the terminology of 'junior doctor', this report as independently published by Mrs McNally details the complexities of this and the difficulties of finding a suitable alternative. Unfortunately, there is not a unifying consensus behind new terminology to replace the 'junior doctor' moniker.*

*Health Education England has reflected upon the report and taken the step of redefining their relationship with those in training programmes as 'postgraduate doctors in training' as a descriptive term to better reflect the relationship between HEE and the doctor, but they have not gone so far as to suggest that this is adopted uniformly in all settings.*

*We the UKJDC have not adopted a position on new terminology and will be continuing to use the terms 'junior doctor' and 'doctor in training' where applicable for the time being as they best describe the members who we represent in terms of us covering both doctors in training programmes as well as locally employed doctors in grades that are traditionally considered 'junior doctors'.*

*'Junior doctors' however are highly trained professionals with a wealth of experience who contribute a vast amount to our health service and without which the system would fail, and we should take every opportunity to ensure they are shown the due respect they deserve for their contribution, this report sought to look at how this could potentially be better achieved, the lack of a final consensus does not diminish that.*