



WEDNESDAY 7 JANUARY 2015

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

In this issue...

- New Year's Honours for members** - for information
- GMC-commissioned report into suicide in doctors** - FOM media response
- HHP core competency training 2015** - registration open
- Chief examiner HAVS** - key appointment vacancy
- 'Fit for Work' guidance** - for information
- Alcohol Health Alliance petition** - join the campaign

[back to top](#)

New Year's Honours for FOM Fellows

We are delighted that two Fellows were appointed OBE in the New Year's Honours List.

Dr David McLoughlin: for services to occupational and aviation medicine.

Dr David Bruce: for contributions to pre-hospital emergency medicine in operations from the Balkans to Afghanistan.

Both awards are richly deserved and it is excellent for the specialty that they have achieved this high profile recognition.

[back to top](#)

FOM response to report into suicide in doctors undergoing 'fitness to practise' investigations

Last month the GMC published an [independent report](#) into doctors who commit suicide while under GMC fitness to practise investigations.

We welcomed the publication of the report but are urging the GMC to consult as widely as possible before implementing any new measures to support vulnerable doctors.

You can read our [response in full](#) on the website.

[back to top](#)

HHP core competency training 2015 - registration

open

Nearly two hundred FOM members have now attended our Health for Health Professionals training programme since it began in 2010. The core competency training days for 2015 are now scheduled to take place on:

Wednesday 11 March - Birmingham (venue TBC)

Wednesday 13 May - FOM office, London

Wednesday 16 September - FOM office, London

Wednesday 14 October - FOM office, London

Booking for all of these days is now open, via the [website](#).

If you have already attended the core competency training and would like to attend one of the advanced skills sessions, the dates for 2015 will be advertised shortly.

There are still a small number of places available for the Advanced Skills day on 29 January, '[Working with employers](#)': HR and Deanery perspectives of good occupational health services.

[back to top](#)

Vacancy for Chief Examiner HAVS

The Faculty is seeking to appoint a Chief Examiner for HAVS to manage the centralised assessment system.

The Chief Examiner will be supported by a Deputy Chief Examiner. The workload will be shared and agreed between the Chief Examiner and Deputy upon appointment.

For more information about the role, please read the [job description](#). Applications should be submitted to [Siobhan Wheeler](#) on the [application form](#).

Deadline for applications: **9 00 am on Monday 9 February**

[back to top](#)

Fit for Work guidance published

The Government's new Fit for Work scheme is being rolled out during 2015. Guidance for employers, employees and GPs has now been published to give information about how the service will operate.

The providers of the service have emphasised that the service will complement, and not replace, existing occupational health services provided by employers.

You can find the guidance on the [Department for Work and Pensions website](#).

[back to top](#)

Alcohol Health Alliance petition

The Alcohol Health Alliance, run by the Royal College of Physicians, is encouraging people to sign a petition calling for health and nutritional information to be mandatory on alcohol packaging.

The campaign follows a UK-wide survey that found that 83% of people support information on how alcohol can impact on health and 87% support a warning that when pregnant, the safest option is to avoid alcohol completely.

Bill Esterson MP is leading a debate on pregnancy and labelling of alcoholic products in the House of Commons today.

To sign the petition or find out more information about the Alcohol Health Alliance, visit their [website](#).

[back to top](#)

With best wishes

Nicky Coates

Nicky Coates
Chief Executive

