

BAOIA ANAESTHETIST SUPPORT SERVICE (BASS)

Why BASS?

As has been evident for many years, overseas doctors including Indian doctors face GMC referrals in greater proportion. As compared to 0.5% of local white population 1.1% of BME were referred to GMC by the employees (https://www.gmc-uk.org/-/media/documents/fair-to-refer-report_pdf-79011677.pdf). Many of these doctors feel isolated, as they are instructed not to speak to others or feel ashamed to seek help. In some cases, where there may be no reason for referral (false allegation), the individuals may feel trapped or helpless and may take drastic step (<https://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/news/regulation/five-doctors-died-by-suicide-under-gmc-investigation-between-2018-and-2020/>).

What will BASS offer?

1. Informal advice from senior BAOIA, pastoral service. Someone who is ready to listen to you without being judgemental.
2. Formal Advice, if you are facing any work related clinical / non-clinical issues including one (one hour appointment) with a solicitor who is experienced with such cases

How Will BASS do that?

BAOIA working committee and members have been in the UK for a long time. These people have worked as consultant anaesthetists, clinical leads, clinical tutors, members of the investigating committees, senior managers, representatives in the AAGBI, RCOA. They themselves have faced these issues and assisted a number of their friends in their stretches / feuds that they have had either within their own department, higher management in the hospital or the GMC.

The issues that we face as BME, our understanding of the situation is usually one sided. The group can provide you a wholesome 360-degree picture, look at alternative views and provide you a sound approach/foundation to deal with the issue/management or GMC.

This is how the process will work.

1. Members can call the number **0044 7438944301** and you can provide an over view of the issue and get some initial advice. You can also contact through the email provided.
2. Provide further details through the link below.

[Link to the Facts Establishing Form](#)

3. We will discuss the matter within a select group and with the advice of the advocate (if required) to work out the best approach/solution to you within 24 hours (urgent issues) and up to a week (non -urgent issues). One of our team members will return your call as appropriate. If you are satisfied with our response, the process halts here. If you want to take this further, then BAOIA will pay for one-hour consultation with our advocate. You can then decide how to proceed further.
4. After the above, we hope you will get an insight into the issues and how to deal with the issue and our membership commitment will cease here for this issue. You would be expected to proceed independently after this.

- a. We strongly advise our members to be a part of a professional indemnity organisation as they may be able to provide a prolonged legal support is required.
- 5. Given the fact that the service is voluntary and is provided by the senior members working in the organisation within their busy schedules and complexity of the issue or unforeseen issues there may be delay beyond the committed timelines above.

This support is limited to two times in any year of membership for any member.