

FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2015

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

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Significant OH announcements from NHS England

Members will be aware that last week NHS England Chief Executive Simon Stevens announced major improvements and investment in NHS wellbeing, occupational health and services for GPs, including:

- New nationally-specified occupational health service for GPs suffering from burnout and stress
- NHS England will therefore develop a national service specification for procurement regionally from 1 April 2016

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/2015/09/02/nhs-workplace/>

The Faculty issued a [press release](#) in response to this and there was additional publicity with Steve Boorman taking part in a 20 minute discussion on Radio 5 Live.

The President's [latest blog](#) refers to this also.

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NHS Occupational Health services – is Simon Stevens getting our message? A call for help on Faculty working group

This year has given the Faculty a golden opportunity to influence the development of good health and wellbeing services for NHS staff. In his strategy document (the Five Year forward View

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/futurenhs/>) Simon Stevens (CEO of NHS England) has turned a spotlight on the importance of a healthy NHS workforce that has not been seen since the Boorman report of 2009. From the outset of his planning phase, Simon Stevens' team have consulted with FOM about the part that Occupational Health could play in his strategy. Our FOM President described for them an ideal picture of delivery of the NHS staff wellbeing agenda by cohesive NHS occupational health services that are multi-disciplinary, high quality, consultant-led and consistently available irrespective of geography. FOM portrayed a regional model that would make best use of scarce OH Physician and nursing manpower and also maximise potential to support education and research in OH.

As positive as we are about NHS England's recent press release around supporting NHS staff wellbeing, we recognise that it did not make much mention of NHS OH services. So have they heard our message? And have we made it clearly enough?

The Faculty would like to articulate more clearly for NHS England how the existing asset of NHS OH services could be enhanced, and provided both consistently and efficiently across England. We think there will be huge gains for patients as well as NHS employees and the taxpayer. But we need to get the message across better, and to provide some solutions to the problems of variable NHS OH service delivery. The Faculty would like to show leadership in developing some proposals for models of national OH service delivery for the NHS, and we are asking for your input.

We will be setting up a small working group to look at potential models of care. We would like to invite expressions of interest from occupational physicians who have experience of providing services for NHS organisations. We expect that the timescale will be short, 3-6 months – aiming to meet face to face or by teleconference 2-3 times with email contact between meetings. The aim is to produce an output early in the new year 2016.

If you are interested in being a member of the working group, please email Julia Smedley, the Faculty NHS Modelling Group lead on registrar@fom.ac.uk by **25 September 2015**.

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Fellowship Committee vacancies - final reminder

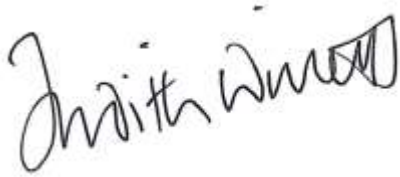
This is the final reminder for applications from Fellows to fill the two vacancies on the Fellowship Committee.

For more information about the Committee and how to apply please see the [background to the role](#).

Deadline for applications: 10 00 am on Friday 18 September 2015

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With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Judith Willetts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'W'.

Judith Willetts
Chief Executive

