



Kent Local Medical Committee

Supporting list based personalised care, the partnership model and meaningful collaboration

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Cc Mr Charlie Massey
Chief Executive and Registrar
General Medical Council
Regent's Place, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3JN
gmc@gmc-uk.org

Cc Dame Carrie MacEwen
Chair GMC
General Medical Council
Regent's Place, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3JN
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27.05.2022

Dear Mr Clamp,

RE: Dr Manjula Arora – Concerns around General Medical Council (GMC) handling of her case and its general screening of cases referred to it for Fitness to Practise (FTP) of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic doctors

We are writing, on behalf of the representatives of Kent Local Medical Committee (LMC), to express our dismay at the handling of the GMC case of Dr Arora.

Dr Arora was taken to the MPTS by the GMC and subsequently suspended for a month. Reading the case suggests that local resolution of the matter should have occurred and that this should never have been escalated as happened. These concerns have been well documented, and brought to your attention, in a joint letter from DAUK (The Doctors Association) and BAPIO (British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin) below.

[Letter to Professional Standards Association from DAUK \(The Doctors' Association\) & BAPIO \(British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin\) \(google.com\)](#)

A statement from the BMA Council Chair, Dr Chaand Nagpaul, also condemns the decision and highlights the need for an independent evaluation of the GMC's fitness-to-practise decision-making procedures starting from the referral process itself:

[Arora ruling reinforces need for an independent evaluation of the GMC's fitness-to-practise decision-making procedures - BMA media centre - BMA](#)

We at Kent LMC add our voices to the grave concerns at the handling of Dr Arora's case. The GMC stated lessons had been learnt after the Dr Bawa-Garba case, matters were supposed to change with your new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) Strategy 2018-2020. The handling of this most recent example suggests no such lessons have been learnt.

We strongly request your organisation undertakes an urgent review of GMC screening processes which have manifestly failed in this case especially, and also ensure that there are no other cases. The reasons for the disproportionate referral of BME doctors by employers now also warrants urgent re-review by the Professional Standards Authority.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Parkin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Andy Parkin
Medical Director
Kent Local Medical Committee