

# COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF MEDICAL COLLEGES

## STATEMENT ON BAWA GARBA CASE

The Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges has reviewed the case of Dr Hadiza Bawa-Garba, the UK paediatric registrar who was convicted of manslaughter and deregistered for life. It has been extensively publicised. A useful summary is available at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/health/2018-02-15/dr-bawa-garba-who-is-to-blame-when-a-medical-tragedy-occurs/9417166>.

Dr Philip Truskett, Chair of the Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges said:

“The case has caused concern and anxiety across the world, not solely because of the harm done to Dr Bawa-Garba, but for what it means for doctors in training, and doctors who are working in conditions which are potentially unsafe for patients and staff.”

Public safety is the priority of medical regulators. However, most adverse events in healthcare settings are result of system failures.

Dr Truskett said:

“We are all committed to safety and quality. It is the responsibility of all of us, trainees and fellows to speak out when systems are not working”.

There are many legal complexities in this case, and it is not appropriate to comment on the specifics of the tragic case of the death of a child. A review has been ordered but the UK Secretary for Health.

**END**

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