

## What's new this time?

- BMA conference protest

# Newsletter 16 June 2010

## **Protest at the BMA Conference 30 June 2010**

The campaigners against homeopathy are attempting to get the BMA to pass a resolution against homeopathy. In particular there is a call for it to be removed from the NHS, which would almost certainly be a first step towards outlawing it altogether in the UK.

The Faculty will be making representations through its members at the British Medical Association conference in Brighton on June 29th.

### **The Faculty is also planning to stage a demonstration in Brighton on the morning of Wednesday 30 June 2010.**

We need to make sure that this demonstration is as large as possible, to show that doctors are not acting on behalf of their patients, but in opposition to the views of many patients. 10% of people in the UK use homeopathy; their taxes pay for the NHS; it is right that the NHS reflects their choice of medical treatment.

For unelected doctors to attempt to restrict the right of patients to decide what medical treatment the NHS will provide is unacceptable.

### **Support the demonstration if you can**

Let the Faculty know if you are coming, by contacting Cristal Sumner at [csumner@BritishHomeopathic.org](mailto:csumner@BritishHomeopathic.org) so that organisers know what sort of numbers to expect.

### **Write to your MP**

You can find your MP's contact details at:

<http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/>

## **Copy your letter to the BMA at:**

*Dr. Hamish Meldrum*

*Chairman*

*British Medical Association*

*BMA House*

*Tavistock Square*

*London WC1H 9JP*

## **Key points would be:**

- The BMA is proposing resolutions that curtail patient choice and are outside its remit as a trade union.
- The BMA has not consulted homeopathic doctors or patients before proposing such resolutions.
- The NHS spends very little on homeopathy, but it often helps patients who have not been helped by conventional methods and who have chronic health problems. Since homeopathic medicines account for only 0.001% of the NHS drugs budget this is immensely cost effective for NHS.
- Information about your positive personal experience of homeopathy.