



ALMA MATA GLOBAL HEALTH NETWORK NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2009

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news

Refused asylum seekers access to NHS care prior to deportation.

Refused asylum seekers are currently (March 09) entitled to access NHS services. An important amendment has been tabled to the Health Bill which would mean, whatever the outcome of the judicial review appeal, refused asylum seekers will still be able to access NHS hospital care whilst they await removal.

There is a briefing about this amendment from the **Still Human Still Here** campaign which can be downloaded [here](#). You can support amendment 130 by writing to your MP, using the template letter which you can download from [Medsin's website](#). Find out who your MP is at www.theyworkforyou.com.

Physicians for Human Rights-Israel need our support as they oppose and try to counter the effects on the civilian population of violence by Israel, Hamas and other armed Palestinian groups. For a good, UK-based blog with the latest news and information, visit <http://friendsofphri.blogspot.com/>

Put public healthcare first. Oxfam's new policy paper focuses on the arguments for supporting free public health care over private provision in health systems. "**Blind Optimism – Challenging the myths of privatisation of health care in developing countries**" is about to be presented in Washington to the IMF, World Bank and other key players in health policy in the developing world. Read the report: www.oxfam.org.uk/publicfirst and [sign the online petition to Douglas Alexander](#).

events

Annual Conference of Public Health Medicine, Friday 20 March 2009, BMA, London

There will be three themes to this year's conference; public health and the workplace; public health and the media and public health training. Speakers will include Professor Dame Carol Black and Dr Tammy Boyce from the King's Fund. There will also be an opportunity to debate motions which will be forwarded to the Annual Representative Meeting. Fee: free to BMA members, non members £25. Contact: Will Frost, PHMC Secretariat on wfrost@bma.org.uk or on 020 7383 6158.

Medecins du Monde Conference: Mobilizing Healthcare Professionals and Activists, 10am to 6pm, Saturday 21st March 2009, 65 Fleet Street, London.

Programme to include Jon Snow, Broadcaster, chairing a debate on whether the UK should deport terminally ill patients. See www.medecinsdumonde.org.uk or call 020 7515 7534 for details.

Broadening your horizons: taking time out to work and train in developing countries, 1pm to 4pm, Monday 23rd March, BMA House London. Free. Only open to BMA Junior Doctors.

This conference will feature presentations from key stakeholders from medical education and employment, followed by a series of workshops to inform and advise doctors in training. Copies of the BMA guidance on time out of programme will also be available at the event. For further information or to book your place on-line please click [here](#).

THET National Conference for NHS Health Links, Thursday 2nd April 2009 from 10.30 to 17.00 at Cardiff University, Wales.

To fill a booking form and for all enquiries please contact [Sharon Horder](#), Charity Administrator. Registration fee £20, including lunch.

Medicine Overseas, Friday 17 April 2009, Royal Society of Medicine, London
The RSM Catastrophes & Conflict Forum presents this one day conference for all doctors and medical students who have or hope to work overseas. Speakers include Jonathan Kaplam, war surgeon and author of 'The Dressing Station', Alexander and Chris Van Tulleken, Stars of Channel 4 TV series 'Medicine men go wild' and others from ICRC, Merlin, MSF etc. Fee £75 for non-members including lunch and refreshments. Book online [here](#).

Peace History- Lessons from the past, hope for the future, 24th and 25th April 2009, Imperial War Museum, London.

A programme organized by the International Peace Bureau and the Movement for the Abolition of War in association with the Imperial War Museum. Registration fees: two days £30- one day £25. For details and booking visit www.abolishwar.org.uk

The Human Right to Health Conference, 14th and 15th May 2009, UCL

The human right to health brings together three distinct groups with a common interest: health care professionals and health activists, who use the idea of a human right to health in their work; human rights lawyers and political scientists, who have an understanding of human rights law and institutions; and political philosophers who can consider the conceptual and foundational aspects of human rights.

Speakers include Peter Hall (Doctors for Human Rights), Richard Horton (The Lancet) and Paul Hunt (UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health 2002-8). For more information, and to register, [visit this site](#).

jobs

MSF UK Programmes advisor on Health Policy and Practice

24 month position available working for MSF in London. See attachment for details. Closing date: Monday 13th April 2009.

Africa Health Placements (AHP) is a not-for-profit project that aims to support the recruitment and retention of public sector health professionals in Africa. If you're a medical doctor and would like to investigate the possibility of working in a rural area in South Africa for at least 12 months (e.g. between F2 and ST1), visit the site.

<http://www.rhi.org.za/>

People, politics and Global Health; Actions to change the approach', a six day short course for health activists, scheduled for London, 30th March to 4th April, 2009. The programme is based on the People's Charter for Health (PCH). The course will explore the meaning of the PCH; analyse the challenges it presents and develop resources and strategies for the struggle for Health For All. Find out more at <http://www.phmovement.org/iphu/en/london>