Jewish Medical Association UK

Position re antisemitism awareness and staff training

Background

During the past year or more, several health care organisations and individuals have asked JMA for guidance concerning training or raising awareness for themselves or others, about antisemitism - or Jew hate. Whilst antisemitism is one form of racism, commonly it is omitted from mandatory training for health system staff on equality, diversity and inclusion [EDI]. In anticipation of this omission being addressed, in the meantime some signposting to reliable sources of information and guidance may be helpful.

As a result, we have drawn together the resources listed below, which we think are suitable for people of all faiths and none, working at any level in healthcare in the UK. Please note that the resources included here are those of which we have direct experience as at the date of publication and they represent a small fraction of what is available, selected for inclusion because of their ease of access and appropriateness of content. As other resources come to our notice, that we believe are particularly suitable for people working in or associated with the UK healthcare system, this document may be updated.

A. For (i) **antisemitism training** via webinar or in person, for which a charge may be made and also (ii) good sources of free **general information about antisemitism** and further resources, such as short awareness-raising videos:

a) Antisemitism Policy Trust:

We educate and empower parliamentarians and policy makers to address antisemitism - Antisemitism Policy Trust

Resources - Antisemitism Policy Trust

Note: Antisemitism Policy Trust has been commissioned to provide a series of virtual training sessions by NHSE for NHS staff

b) Community Security Trust:

https://cst.org.uk/

https://cst.org.uk/antisemitism/educational-resources

Note: The BMA commissioned a training session from CST for its Council in 2024.

B. Other readily accessible free resources:

a) The late UK Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks' speech about contemporary antisemitism in highly accessible animation format:

Rabbi Sacks on The Mutation of Antisemitism | Animation | Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

♦ www.jewishmedicalassociationuk.org ≥ info@jewishmedicalassociationuk.org

b) Article about meaning of Zionism by the present UK Chief Rabbi, in New Statesman October 2024:

https://www.newstatesman.com/politics/religion/2024/10/what-is-zionism

C. For a deeper understanding of contemporary antisemitism

a) Opportunity for further study for those interested or whose job role demands deeper knowledge of contemporary antisemitism – free online course accessible any time: https://www.coursera.org/learn/antisemitism

b)For further reading about historical context of Jew hate and relevance to all medical education today - The Lancet Commission on medicine, Nazism and the Holocaust, published November 2024:

https://www.medicineandtheholocaust.com/ https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(23)01845-7/abstract

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