

Thank you for giving BMA Scotland the opportunity to comment on this discussion paper. In general we are happy with the paper but would make the following comments:

6.1) We would suggest that refugees and asylum seekers be identified as a target group as they have specific and substantial problems with mental health and mental wellbeing.

9.3) One of the important issues in suicide prevention is early identification, and effective treatment, of depression. There is a need for significant improvements in access to cognitive behavioural therapy. It would be unhelpful to insist on implementation of targets for reduction in prescription of antidepressants.

Kind regards

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