MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

Our commitment to you
WHY BE PART OF THE RCGP?

Our 53,000 members are the College – working for you and with you is at the heart of everything we do. RCGP membership benefits you, your team and general practice – now and in the future.

As the professional membership body for GPs since 1952, we’re here to maintain the highest standards in general practice and to support family doctors throughout their career.

For you...

Your College is here for you at every stage of your career. Our aim is that, as a member of the RCGP you are:

- ALWAYS LEARNING
- PART OF A COMMUNITY
- TAKING CARE OF YOUR WELLBEING
- LEADING THE CONVERSATION
- SHAPING THE FUTURE

...and for general practice

Membership benefits you not only as an individual, but as a profession.

Your participation puts us in a position of real influence, able to challenge policymakers on the issues we know really matter to you.

We’re campaigning on your behalf for more investment, more GPs and support staff, and for the resources you need to provide the best possible care for patients.
No two members are the same, and so our membership isn’t one-size-fits-all. We’ve developed a range of tailored support and services to suit you – whether you’re a student, a GP trainee, a locum, GP partner, based in an urban or rural location, or internationally.

We want to make sure membership continues to provide you with the right support.

That’s why, over the next three years, we’ll be implementing our Membership Strategy 2021. This will see us focus on three areas:

1. Improving our support and services
2. Celebrating the profession
3. Extending our reach

By working together, we can make general practice and being a GP the best it can be, now and in the future.
IMPROVING OUR SUPPORT AND SERVICES

We’re here to steer you through your professional development and ensure you’re supported in your learning so that you can deliver the best possible care to your patients.

We already provide you with a wide range of benefits, from CPD, training and resource libraries to networking and mentoring opportunities, and access to clinical innovation research.

As busy professionals, we know your time is in short supply. So, we want to make it easier and more convenient for you to get what you need from your College.

That’s why we will:

- Improve professional development platforms to provide a one-stop shop for training and certification that you can access on-the-go
- Provide more CPD opportunities locally and increase the availability of online ‘bite-size’ learning modules to make keeping your skills up to date easy and convenient
- Increase access to events via live streaming and downloadable video content
- Work with our faculties to help them connect more effectively with local members
- Help you take care of your wellbeing by signposting to high-quality resources
- Provide you with an annual member benefit statement so you understand exactly what’s available to you via your membership
- Personalise communications so you can choose what information you’d like to receive from us, when and how
- Increase our focus on attracting medical students into general practice, helping to ensure a healthy pipeline into the profession and a strong GP workforce of the future.

31 student-led GP Societies affiliated via our Society Partnership Scheme

Tens of thousands of RCGP courses, online learning programmes, seminars, conferences and resources now carry our Accreditation Quality mark

100,000 GPs now registered withRGCP eLearning – which won ‘Best Learning Technologies Project, UK Public and Non Profit Sector’ at the Learning Technology Awards 2017
The Foundation Year Two Doctor

“I’m in the process of applying for General Practice ST1 recruitment and the guidance provided by the RCGP has been invaluable in helping me make career decisions, and in guiding me through each step in the process. While working in hospital medicine the RCGP has been a link to primary care and has allowed me to keep up to date with news and developments.”

Dr James Curtis is an FY2 in the East of England currently rotating in Public Health Medicine at Suffolk County Council. He is a vice-chair (Foundation Doctor) of the RCGP Medical Student and Foundation Doctor committee.

James has been a member since medical school.
As a GP you are part of the bedrock of the NHS. You have a profound impact not just on your patients, but on families, communities and the economy.

We are proud to represent family doctors, and we want you to be proud to be part of the RCGP. We will continue to promote the excellent work that you are doing around the country, demonstrating the fundamental importance of Primary Care in the NHS.

Our 67-year heritage gives us the gravitas we need to influence the future of primary care, but we recognise the importance of moving with the times as well as staying true to our roots. Our College motto, Cum Scienta Caritas: compassion underpinned by scientific knowledge, is as true today as it was in 1952.

The work showcased in our Clinical Innovation and Research Centre and Bright Ideas portal demonstrate your commitment to always improving and innovating to support and care for your patients. As well as promoting this excellent work externally, we’ll give you better platforms to share information, promote best practice and seek advice, making it easier for good ideas to be shared and adopted.

20+ grants, awards and bursaries awarded

Our Impact from Research programme directly supports proposals with the potential to positively impact primary care

OVER 1,700 members have embedded QI methodologies in their practice thanks to QI Ready, our free online QI tool

GP practices are Research Ready accredited have gained advanced accreditation
"I got involved with the AiT Committee as a trainee because I had some strong views on training, exams and eportfolio! I figured the best way to improve the lot of the trainees was to be involved in the RCGP and have continued advocating for my peers ever since."

Dr Jodie Blackadder-Weinstein is an RAF GP working in civilian and military practice. She is Lecturer in General Practice at the Academic Department of Military General Practice in Birmingham, which involves both research and teaching. Jodie is currently the Chair of the RCGP National First5 Committee.

Jodie has been a member since starting her GP training in 2012.
3. **EXTENDING OUR REACH**

We have worked internationally for more than 60 years, promoting family medicine and primary healthcare as a foundation for healthcare systems across the world.

As a globally-connected organisation our reputation goes before us. Our expertise and experience are well-respected and sought after. We have over 4,000 international members.

Other countries are looking to us to help them as they develop and deliver their own emerging systems of primary care, and our immediate focus is on South Africa, China and India, countries with large populations where we can have the biggest impact.

We will also expand our offer in terms of qualifications, training and professional development for all RCGP members globally. We have over 160+ international delegates from 138 countries attended our 2017 Annual Conference.
Membership has made a difference to me because it allows me to keep up-to-date with the development of primary care service in a global perspective, stay connected with like-minded colleagues, and help improve myself to be a better GP. Also, it means I have a comfortable and convenient place to stay while visiting London.

Dr Howard Kwong is a Senior Medical Officer in the University Health Service at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He is also an Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor in Family Medicine at the University of Hong Kong, as well as a founding member of the International and Overseas Network of the RCGP.

Howard has been a member since 2009.
To get the most from your membership, we encourage you to take advantage of the support and services available to you.

But why not get even more involved with your College? Whether you’re a trainee, First5, AiT, MRCGP or FRCGP, you can play an active role as part of the College community, helping your colleagues and peers at all levels.

- **Become a GP mentor** and help support students, trainees and newly-qualified GPs as they take the first steps on a career in general practice.
- **Volunteer for the RCGP** as a school speaker to encourage young people to consider a career in primary healthcare.
- **Be an advocate for general practice** through our policy and campaigning work.
- **Support your colleagues** as a local board or committee member.

Join us [rcgp.org.uk/volunteering](http://rcgp.org.uk/volunteering)

Stay in touch [rcgp.org.uk/contact-us](http://rcgp.org.uk/contact-us)
“My time as chair of the First5 committee was a privilege – working with such an innovative and inspiring group of GPs, along with the membership team, has certainly been one of the highlights of my time as a member. On a whole I have been amazed by the hard work that goes on behind the scenes, with people really trying to make a difference in what can only be described as very austere circumstances. Keeping positive can be a challenge, but it helps to be surrounded by positive energy and to keep pushing for change.”

Dr Shamila Wanninayake is a salaried GP at The Manor Surgery in Oxford. NIHR research lead for her practice and GP Tutor for Oxford University Medical School, Shamila was formerly chair of the College’s First5 Committee and is now Council rep for Thames Valley Faculty. She is also a member of the GP Partnership Review working group.

Shamila has been a member since 2011.
And finally

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE ALLOWED US TO...

- 667 CPD events delivered attended by over 19,000 delegates across the UK
- 162 free conferences delivered nationally, training over 2,100 GPs
- 85 RCGP trainers and advisers are now available to provide tailored support and training for practices through the Primary Care Development Programme
- 3,982 doctors started GP training in 2018, a 7% increase from 2017
- Our eLearning platform won ‘Best learning technologies project – UK public and non-profit sector award’ at the Learning Technologies Awards 2017
- RCGP trainers and advisers are now available to provide tailored support and training for practices through the Primary Care Development Programme
- We launched our Impact from Research Programme to directly support proposals that aim to positively impact primary care
- Our lobbying helped boost crucial GP recruitment from abroad, leading to the removal of the Tier 2 visa cap for doctors and nurses
- We connected, inspired and mobilised members through 300 different types of volunteering roles to support our mission
- 90 Bright Ideas submissions received with award winners selected for England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales
- 600 students attended Discover GP Conferences and 89% said that the event had a positive influence on them becoming a GP
- A new framework developed with NHS England to support the governance of GPs with extended roles
- Our eLearning platform won ‘Best learning technologies project – UK public and non-profit sector award’ at the Learning Technologies Awards 2017
We developed and delivered clinical conferences working with expert partners such as RCOG, FSRH, EMHF, BPS, SMMGP, National School of Occupational Health and PCNS.

7 RCGP advocates appointed in Wales, 5 in NI and 3 in Scotland to support strategic healthcare planning and identify service development opportunities.

Our work experience pilot programme delivered 400+ placements across the UK.

600 students attended Discover GP Conferences 89% said that the event had a positive influence on them becoming a GP.

2,200 views of our clinical toolkits for primary healthcare professionals, patients and carers in 2017.

20+ grants, awards and bursaries awarded.

We helped secure commitment to introduce a state-backed indemnity scheme, lowering insurance costs for GPs, from the Welsh Government, alongside continuing to influence implementation in England.

£17,674 in international scholarships awarded.

A new framework developed with NHS England to support the governance of GPs with extended roles.

We launched our new CPD strategy with free access to GP SelfTest, resource libraries and more to follow for members.

We launched our Impact from Research Programme.

We connected, inspired and mobilised members through different types of volunteering roles to support our mission.

701 GP practices are now Research Ready® accredited and 40 have reached Research Ready® advanced accreditation. Research Ready® offers training, support and resources for practices to take part in research.

32 faculty chairs brought together to share innovation and best practice and focus on our incredible volunteer-led local leadership.

31 student-led GP Societies affiliated via our Society Partnership Scheme.

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Thank you

South Yorkshire, North Trent Faculty appointed a **dedicated GP Climate Change Champion** to advise and represent members locally.

- 200 clinical advisers responded to 150+ consultations relevant to primary care as part of our Clinical Adviser Network.
- 91 practices accredited as Veteran Friendly with 41 more being assessed.
- 600+ parkrun practices since June 2018.
- 3000+ members, patients and health professionals shared their vision for the future of General Practice.
- 100,000 GPs now registered with RCGP eLearning.
- Growing and **supporting our GParent, LGBT+ and Innovators communities**.
- #backGP campaign secures £4.5bn for primary and community care in the NHS Long Term Plan.
- Loneliness Manifesto’s recommendations became part of the Government strategy to tackle loneliness.
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“The College gives me a ‘bigger picture’ to the day-to-day job along with vision, leadership and a voice for the profession.”

“I cannot recommend RCGP membership enough to fellow students. It includes career information, educational resources, opens doors to networking and gives you access to fantastic events, as well as opportunities for leadership. Most of all it makes you feel valued as the potential future of the profession.”

“The RCGP has made me feel included in what some would describe as a family. In general practice you can feel isolated, but membership of the RCGP has enabled me to feel supported, part of a bigger network of like-minded students, trainees and GPs.”

“It is great to feel a part of an organisation that welcomes all GPs.”

“We can only be effective if we get involved and support the College!”

“By working with the College, I am trying to improve the support available to trainees, from mentorship to local small group learning.”