



**The British Association of Dermatologists response to
[Shape of Training Final Report](#)**

October 29th 2013

The British Association of Dermatologists welcomes the Shape of Training review. It creates a vital opportunity to look critically at the shape of Dermatology training.

There is a crisis in Dermatology and the care of patients with skin problems, including a crisis in training. The abiding concern of the BAD is the recruitment, training and accreditation of the best possible dermatological workforce in the right numbers. This is our mission for patients and the public, as befits a developed economy in the 21st century that is spending upwards of £100Bn on health.

Evidence shows better patients outcomes from specialist care and many patients now expect to be treated by a specialist. It would be a retrograde step to institute changes to the detriment of specialist training and cause destabilisation of specialist patient care. In many specialties, trainees provide a large part of the service. Many specialties feel that their training is already suboptimal and requires radical revision to deal with increasing and changing morbidity in the ageing population. This is particularly critical to Dermatology where there are already too few Consultant Dermatologists and little scope or leeway within departments to take on extra work.

The BAD believes that in light of the Shape of Training recommendations, the way forward should be a model that allows for specialty-specific negotiated solutions, especially for those specialties where acute general medicine has become a much smaller component (if at all) of routine day to day work in the clinical care of patients. We look forward to working with the relevant groups, to deliver the best possible training for the benefit of doctors and patients alike.