

Action: RMO/AGM (P)
Copies: RGM
Library
HQ/CR files

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
EILEEN HOUSE
80-94 NEWINGTON CAUSEWAY LONDON SE1 6EF
TELEX 883669 TELEPHONE 01-703 6380 Ext.
GTN 2916



A:VK79/SMB

Your reference
Our reference MMP/11/2

File No.	S/11/21

Regional General Managers)
District General Managers) for information
General Managers of the SHAs for the LPTHS)

Copies to Regional SCMs (Medical Staffing)
District Medical Officers
District Medical Staffing Officers

25 November 1988

Dear General Manager

RECRUITMENT OF JUNIOR DOCTORS : POLISH DOCTORS

I enclose a copy of a circular prepared by 'brit-pol healthcare' a charity established to facilitate the placement in junior medical training posts in this country of Polish doctors. Enquiries about the arrangements, or expressions of interest, should be made direct to Mrs E A Cooper at 'bph' at the address shown on the enclosure.

This letter will cease to apply on 31 December 1989.

Yours sincerely

J C Dobson

J C DOBSON
Medical Manpower and Education Division

NORTH ... HEALTH AUTHORITY
LIBRARY
1-12-88

25 NOV 1988

Patrons:
The Rt. Hon. Julian Amery
Andrew Bowden, MBE
Winston S. Churchill
Sir Peter Horden
J. R. Rathbone
The Hon. Nicholas Soames

bph

brit-pol healthcare



Building 99 Room 26
Gatwick Airport
West Sussex RH6 0NP
tel: 0903 506773
telex 878322 T FAXG

To: MEDICAL STAFFING OFFICER

Some of us previously involved in relief aid charities for Poland, have been privileged recipients of goodwill, friendship and caring by the British people for the people of Poland especially during the past few years of voluntary aid work. In the spirit of belief that charity begins at home, we announce the launching of a new charitable structure to assist in the recruitment difficulties within the National Health Service at Registrar and Senior House Officer level.

The National Health Service recruitment difficulties at the medical level indicated above coincide with a substantial reduction in sponsorship available to Polish doctors as a period of postgraduate training here. We have therefore undertaken to expand our charitable work through this separate structure for co-ordinating postgraduate training posts or educationally approved temporary vacancies in British hospitals for Polish doctors with care taken to ensure we do not jeopardise the position of those unemployed here. The Department of Health and Social Services has been consulted and the Secretary of State has endorsed our scheme indicating that - "he is pleased to associate himself with the scheme you have developed, which will bring benefits both for Polish practitioners and for Health Authorities who are still experiencing difficulty in recruiting staff to posts in some specialities."

In addition guidelines have been provided by the Home Office, Employment Secretary, GMC and several Regional Health Authorities in establishing a format which each candidate will have to meet as applicable to overseas doctors. Our preparatory steps have highlighted various individual training schemes arranged between British and Polish medical professionals since 1950's which have faltered as retirement and contact break but more fundamentally because they all retain the need for initial self finance.

Owing to the economic crisis in Poland, as well as the fact that they do not operate a foreign exchange facility, the initial costs for overseas doctors' registration fees and Medical Protection cover amounting to £1,300 per doctor are insurmountable for Polish doctors. (According to Poland's 1987 national wage statistics the table showed Polish doctors wage to be second from bottom). Sponsorship funding for postgraduate training here of Polish doctors has been reduced so that only the privileged few (one or two per year) are able to benefit and we hope within the goodwill extended to the people of Poland in recent years new opportunities for postgraduate training of doctors from Poland may be created.

We are currently establishing a Register of Polish doctors whose qualifications have received primary acceptance by the General Medical Council and will cover (eventually) all fields of medicine. WILL YOU HELP PLEASE?, by examining your forthcoming contracts of between six and twenty four months and indicating whether you would be prepared to offer this to a candidate from Poland. Your help will be of immense educational value for each of our medical candidates. We shall be happy to supply further details or arrange to come and see you.

Elisabeth A. Cooper Mrs

Medical Advisory Board:

British - Mr J. Brice, MB, BS, FRCS
Prof. R. M. Hardesty, MS, FRCP, MRCS
Prof. D. N. Kerr, MB, FRCP, FRCPATH
Prof. K. M. Laurence, MA, MB, FRCPATH
Mr J. E. Trapnell, MA, MD, FRCS

Polish - Prof. R. Gorat
Prof. T. Popiela
Doc. W. Rowinski
Prof. W. Rudowski
Prof. J. Szczerban
Doc. J. Woy-Wojciechowski
Prof. A. Wojtczak