

July 14, 2017

Dear British Medical Association:

We write on behalf of Global Doctors for Choice (GDC), an international network of physicians from a range of specialties committed to improving women's reproductive health and rights. GDC is committed to the provision of high-quality medical care grounded in science and to the defense of human rights. We strive to protect and expand access to comprehensive reproductive health care through advocacy for evidence-based policy and medical research.

We write in solidarity and support of your recent vote for complete decriminalization of abortion. As doctors, we agree with the assertion that women should be trusted to make their own decisions regarding pregnancies and that healthcare providers should not risk criminal prosecution for providing medical care. Finally, we stand in agreement with the clarification that, "Decriminalisation does not mean deregulation, or that abortions could be legally performed on women by unqualified individuals: it would simply mean that abortion could be governed in the same robust way as all other clinical procedures are in the UK today, and that doctors could provide woman-centred care according to the highest clinical standards."

Please let us know if an additional letter of support to political leaders would be of help.

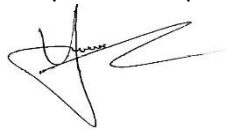
In solidarity,

**ANA CRISTINA GONZALEZ V.**

Dra. Ana Cristina González Vélez  
Grupo Médico por el Derecho a Decidir, Bogotá, Colombia

**Alfonso Carrera RPO**

Dr. Alfonso Carrera  
Grupo Médico por una Libre Elección, México DF



Dr. John Koku Awoonor-Williams  
Global Doctors for Choice, Ghana

**Wendy Chavkin**

Dr. Wendy Chavkin  
Columbia University, New York, USA



Dick Van der Tak  
Executive Director, Global Doctors for Choice