

BMA policy

[Torture and Execution](#)

That the BMA is opposed to the death penalty worldwide.
(2001)

That this Meeting believes that the involvement of doctors, either directly or indirectly, in the implementation of the death penalty is morally wrong and runs counter to the ethics of modern medical practice. We therefore call on the BMA to support medical associations in countries with the death penalty which oppose the involvement of doctors in its implementation, and to put pressure on those medical associations which do not.
(1998)

That this Meeting calls on the BMA to support fully all organisations which campaign for the release of doctors held as political prisoners, especially where imprisonment has been as a direct result of their medical practice.
(1998)

That this Meeting is appalled that some medical practitioners are practising the policy of human torture to help their ruling authorities and asks the BMA to support the doctors who resist getting involved in such practices.
(1998)

That this Meeting deplores the involvement of doctors in torture worldwide.
(1998)

That this Meeting believes that doctors anywhere in the world witnessing torture and other inhuman and degrading treatments should, as far as possible, inform human rights organisations and the professional associations.
(1997)

That this Meeting believes that the manufacture, sales, and supply of any instrument in the UK specifically designed for torture should be prohibited.
(1997)

That the BMA opposes the involvement of doctors in judicial execution.
(1992)

That this Meeting strongly supports the view of the Working Party on Torture that it is important to maintain a proper distance between the medical professions and the apparatus of the state and recommends that:

(a) the BMA should provide support whenever possible both to medical associations and to individual doctors in this country and abroad, who are faced with problems of conscience or believe they have evidence of torture and need help;

(b) the BMA should make provision for professional censure of medical associations which acquiesce in torture.

(1986)