

The voice of frontline doctors

Doctors' Association UK
1-3-8 The Barracks
Lancashire, LA1 4XQ
press@dauk.org
www.dauk.org

2nd February 2022

Dear Head of Communications

4th March 2021 marks the date for the Second Overseas NHS Workers Day. It presents an opportunity for celebrating the marvellous contributions of our international staff, on which the NHS relies and will continue to rely as it continues to face the immense difficulties in the wake of the pandemic. The pandemic is far from over, yet the NHS continues to face its greatest crisis.

Internationally trained doctors, nurses and countless other professions stood up for the NHS in its moment of greatest need and will continue to do so. The NHS has always needed people from overseas. They are here to help; yet many face a barrage of difficulties while they help save lives. This Day gives hope. A chance to give back and celebrate the true value and uniqueness that overseas workers bring to our NHS. An opportunity to lift morale with the simple message: we're glad you're here and the NHS needs you. But we can only do that with your help.

Your Trust is in a unique position to lift the spirits of international staff within your organisation by passing on the message to them, and by reaching out to your local communities, media and businesses which you will know better than anyone. There are countless ways to contribute; to show how much we value our overseas workers. We've made the following suggestions for Overseas NHS Workers Day celebrations but you know your organisation and will no doubt have further ideas that will work for your Trust:

- Publicise that staff should aim blue and green for 5th March 2021 (colours of the globe) – e.g. (blue scrubs and green lanyard/mask/arm band/wrist band/ribbon/bandana/tie). Mention in your trust-wide newsletter that you are celebrating 'Overseas NHS Staff Day' in order to appreciate their contributions to the NHS. We can provide copy/images from a national perspective.
- Contact your local and regional media and let them know how you will be celebrating Overseas NHS Workers Day. We can provide quotes.
- Observe 1 minute of silence for all the BAME/Foreign NHS workers that lost their lives to COVID.
- Arrange for a trust-wide Zoom/Teams call for staff to appreciate the efforts of overseas workers.
 - Publicise the event by printing our poster (attached) and putting these up in the common areas e.g. staff rooms and doctors' mess. We have left space to add your own details.
- Organising for free tea + coffee/breakfast/lunch for the day.

- Print out and put A3 size flag print outs of the nationalities employed in their workforce and display these on their walls of staircases. Alternatively place these in common areas.
- Post pictures/videos of overseas staff on your trust-wide social media platforms, using the hashtags #OverseasNHSWorkersDay or #HomeForHeroes, and tagging @WorkersNHS on Twitter. We can provide suggested short scripts but of course you will have detailed local knowledge and will know best what will work for your people.

We hope you'll join us on the Day and show our invaluable overseas workers what they mean to the world and to the NHS. We couldn't do this without them. Lets' say so. Loudly and with joy.

Thank you for your time.

Yours Faithfully



*Dr Jenny Vaughan
Chair
Doctors' Association UK*

Contact for resource requests or enquiries:

Lucy Stratton
contact@dauk.org

Contact for media enquiries (please let us know if you get any coverage and we can provide quotes):

Alan Taman, Communications Lead, DAUK
press@dauk.org
07870 757309