

## **Memorandum of understanding between the British Dietetic Association and the Motor Neurone Disease Association**

### **Introduction**

1. This Memorandum of Understanding is between the BDA and MND Association. The Memorandum sets out an agreed framework for co-operation between the parties. It is not legally binding nor is it intended to cover every detailed aspect of their relationship. Rather, it is a statement of principles, which will guide relations between the parties and provide a set of workable ground rules.
2. The Memorandum cannot over-ride the statutory duties and powers of the individual parties.

### **Organisation Aims and Values**

#### **The British Dietetic Association**

3. The BDA is the Professional Association for dietitians. Its vision is to;

“Improve the health of the UK population; by protecting and improving health and care services; developing health and social care nutrition policy; improving the impact of dietetics; and, promoting positive discussion on food, nutrition, wellbeing, and health.”

Its aims are to:

- advance the science and practice of dietetics and associated subjects;
- promote training and education in the science and practice of dietetics and associated subjects;
- regulate the relations between dietitians and their employer through the BDA Trade Union

#### **The Motor Neurone Disease Association**

4. The Motor Neurone Disease Association is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, and a registered Charity (registration number 294354), whose registered office is Francis Crick House, 6 Summerhouse Road, Moulton Park, Northampton NN3 6BJ.

The MND Association is the only national charity in England, Wales and Northern Ireland that funds and promotes global research into the disease. It is a membership organisation with over 8,000 members forming a powerful national and local network that provides information and support alongside fighting for improved services.

The Association’s vision is a world free of MND. Until then the Association will do all it can to enable everyone with MND to receive the best care, achieve the highest quality of life possible and die with dignity. Our Charter lays out the essential rights people with MND as:

- People with MND have the right to an early diagnosis and information
- People with MND have the right to access quality care and treatments
- People with MND have the right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect
- People with MND have the right to maximise their quality of life
- Carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well-supported

## **Working Relationship**

5. This Memorandum of Understanding will:
  - Build upon the good working relationship that already exists between the BDA and MND Association by setting out the principles to which both parties will adhere.
  - Enhance co-operation and co-ordination between the BDA and MND Association.
  - Serve to inform the respective members and stakeholders of the BDA and MND Association of our relationship and how we will collaborate.
6. As a result of the memorandum the BDA and MND Association will:
  - Work together to raise awareness of Motor Neurone Disease amongst the BDA membership.
  - Clearly promote the partnership on their websites and through other appropriate channels.
  - Collaborate on projects and campaigns deemed to be of mutual benefit.
  - Work together to produce Motor Neurone Disease Association resources of professional relevance and endorse them according to the BDA endorsement process.
  - Provide mutual support for initiatives through communication channels including organisational websites, journals and social media.
  - Endeavour to share all information, professional advice and resources that are relevant.

## **Working Arrangements**

7. The day to day relationship between the MND Association will be between the Head of Partnerships, Education and Information of the MND Association and the Chair of the BDA Neurosciences Specialist Group. The BDA head office team shall be kept updated on a regular basis, and further support provided as necessary.
8. If needed, there shall be twice yearly contact meetings or calls between the MND Association and BDA Neurosciences Specialist Group to provide updates and facilitate future planning. BDA Head Office staff shall support these meetings or calls.
9. Through the course of the co-operation, The BDA and The MND Association may, from time to time, be sharing commercially confidential information with each other to the extent that this is necessary for the preparation of specified joint projects. All transactions of information must adhere to each organisation's data protection and information governance policies and be considered by each party's executive. All information must be kept confidential and not be shared with any other third party. The parties agree to inform each other on relevant / related work to the co-operation.
10. Any proposed use of the MND Association or BDA logo or references to the project in press releases or publications etc. by the other must be considered by the other's executive. Either party will receive a written response to their enquiry and will be required, if permission is granted, to adhere to the other's corporate identity guidelines.
11. Neither party will be granted any rights over the content of the other's resources or materials.
12. The BDA and MND Association may make such arrangements to financially support one another at events or with specific projects through separate agreements as appropriate. Any such agreements will be developed between the BDA's Partnerships Manager and the Head of Partnership, Education and Information of the MND Association.

## **General Matters**

13. Both parties are committed, whenever possible, to solving any disagreements under this Memorandum through normal administrative channels.
14. This Memorandum is effective from September 2020 until September 2023, where it will be required to be renewed. Amendments to this Memorandum may be made at any time in the interim by agreement between both parties. In addition, this agreement will be reviewed on yearly basis and updated, as necessary, in light of experience of its operation in practice.

## **Signed by**

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Andy Burman  
Chief Executive, BDA

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Jennifer Bedford  
Head of Partnerships, Education and  
Information, MND Association