



LETTERS

ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAMME

Holistic view is needed to tackle bullying in the healthcare profession

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Although the British Orthopaedic Trainees Association should be applauded for investigating concerns about bullying and trying to “create a positive workforce culture,” their approach seems somewhat shortsighted.¹

Trainees are not the only victims: consultants and specialty doctors may often be on the receiving end of such behaviours from more senior colleagues, managers, or trainees themselves. This issue has been recognised and reported in other surgical specialties.² Unless a more holistic view is taken, this programme seems destined to be empty rhetoric rather than a genuine attempt to “get our house in order.”¹

Competing interests: None declared.

- 1 Rimmer A. Orthopaedic trainees launch anti-bullying programme. *BMJ* 2017;356:j398. doi:10.1136/bmj.j39828126834
- 2 Shabazz T, Parry-Smith W, Oates S, Henderson S, Mountfield J. Consultants as victims of bullying and undermining: a survey of Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists consultant experiences. *BMJ Open* 2016;6:e011462. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2016-011462.27324715

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