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THE BIG PICTURE

Covid-19: "We must learn the lessons of this dark death toll"

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This week the number of people in the UK who have died with covid-19 passed 100 000. To mark the awful milestone the BMA projected a message of condolence and commemoration onto its building in Tavistock Square, London.

As the message was displayed, Chaand Nagpaul, the BMA's chair of council, said, "We must not and will not forget this day. Among those who have died are many health and care workers who lost their lives in the course of doing their jobs. We know that some of those staff were not properly protected from the virus and yet felt under pressure to continue to work and do their duty by their patients.

"As the first nation in Europe to have reached this dark death toll, we must learn the lessons of this tragedy.

"Now is the time to express our immense sadness at these deaths, to remember the lives they led and the good they did, and to redouble our commitment to reducing the spread of infection, vaccinating the population, and protecting one another from this deadly disease."