

PE1443/G

David Stewart MSP
Convener, Public Petitions Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh EH99 1SP

SCOTLAND

Dear Convener

Petition PE1443

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to offer all women, who have suffered miscarriage, investigations following one loss through miscarriage and to review NHS Scotland's policy on the investigation and treatment of couples who experience miscarriage to help relieve the anxiety and distress to women caused by the current guidelines.

Thank you for contacting the BMA regarding the above petition and I would like to apologise for missing the previous opportunity to provide written evidence to the Committee.

It is clear from the evidence provided by the petitioner, that there is inconsistency in the provision of care for women who suffer recurrent miscarriage in Scotland and it is the BMA's view that best practice be shared between health boards.

The BMA does not issue guidance on clinical matters. By and large, standards applied in Scotland are based on NICE guidance or on guidance produced by the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN which is part of NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland), or by the Medical Royal Colleges themselves.

The BMA would suggest that the Committee may wish to approach the Royal College of GPs (Scotland) and the Scottish division of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, both of whom have a role in the quality and standards of care and who would be in a better position to offer a professional input on the evidence base and effectiveness of this petition.

Yours sincerely

Gail Grant
Senior Public Affairs Officer

Scottish Secretary: Martin Woodrow
Chief Executive/Secretary: Tony Bourne