

ELECTIONS TO THE PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Nominations are sought for the following seats on the Principal Executive Committee (PEC):

UK-wide

Northern Ireland

England:

North

South West

Yorkshire and Humber

The PEC has overall responsibility for the control and direction of the policy and affairs of the BDA, and its members are the directors of the Association.

There are fifteen members on the PEC. Each will have a fair share of overall responsibilities, and typically this will require:

- Attendance at all meetings of the PEC – around five a year, but maybe more when business demands
- Attendance at own country council meetings – usually three a year
- Attendance at UK Council meetings – around two a year
- Sit on 1–2 sub committees/issue specific forums
- Attend general meetings of the Association.

It is anticipated that the approximate time commitment for a member of the PEC will be 20 days per year, with an annual remuneration of £15,000.

Term of office

This shall be until December 2018, with the entitlement to stand for a further full three-year term of office at that point.

Induction, support and training

Membership of the PEC carries significant organisational and legal responsibilities. There is an induction programme for those elected, and ongoing training. Members will also have advice and support from the Chief Executive and the wider BDA Team.

Next meetings of the PEC

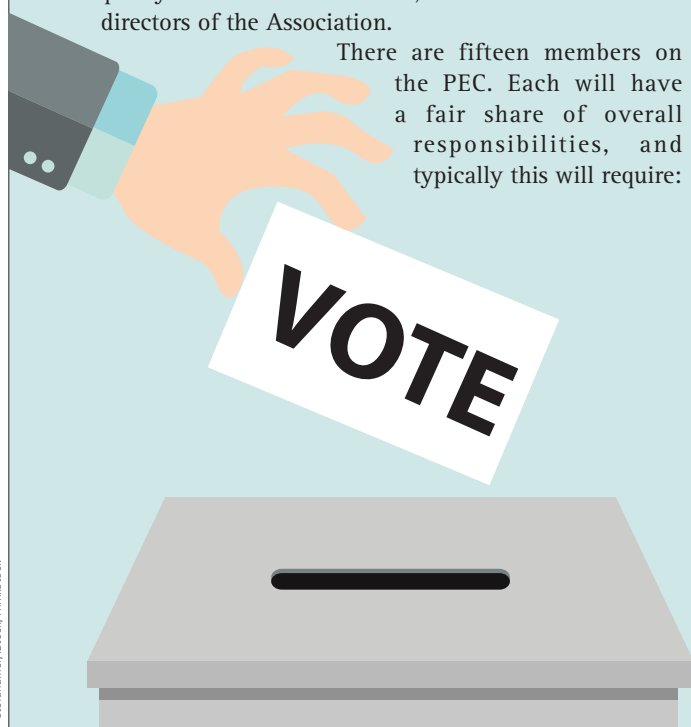
Meetings of the PEC in 2016 are: 24 February, 5 May, 6 July, 28 September and 30 November.

Nomination forms must be returned to the Elections Team at 64 Wimpole Street London W1G 8YS or elections@bda.org by 17.00 Friday 23 October 2015

More information about the elections to the PEC and downloadable nomination forms can be found at: www.bda.org/pecelections

Hard copy election packs can also be obtained by contacting Stephen Skelton on 020 7563 4141 or e-mailing stephen.skelton@bda.org

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STUDY SUGGESTS ALZHEIMER'S 'MAY BE TRANSMISSIBLE BETWEEN HUMANS'

Researchers at UCL have discovered possible evidence that could suggest Alzheimer's disease can be transmitted between humans during a blood transfusion, dental work, and other operations due to contaminated instruments.

Reported in *Nature*, the team of researchers lead by Professor John Collinge have cautiously suggested the results raise the possibility that dental procedures could lead to the transmission, but there is little proof of this at the moment.

Prof. Collinge explained: 'Our findings relate to the specific circumstance of cadaver-derived human growth hormone injections, a treatment that was

discontinued many years ago. It is possible our findings might be relevant to some other medical or surgical procedures, but evaluating what risk, if any, there might be requires much further research.'

In response to the fact that the disease could be transmitted through dental instruments, Prof. Collinge said: 'The seeds will potentially stick to metal surfaces whatever the instrument is. Certainly, there are potential risks with dentistry where it's impacting on nervous tissue, for example root canal treatments.'

Professor Mike Hanna, Director of the UCL Institute of Neurology, said: 'This is potentially very important research from the UCL Institute of Neurology Prion

research Group lead by John Collinge and Sebastian Brandner. It could inform our understanding of the molecular mechanisms leading to Alzheimer's disease and will enable new programmes of world leading research.'



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