



BASEM & FSEM: What a New Organisation Could Mean for You

General Practitioners

On 31st March, BASEM and FSEM circulated the 'Outcome Report' from our consultation exercise looking at the future of the two organisations **and how we might best work together to further the SEM agenda in the UK**. We particularly considered the potential for dissolving both organisations and re-forming as a College of SEM.

Deciding whether to reform as a new organisation or remain as separate but closely collaborating organisations is an important decision for our members.

We would like to highlight how the Outcome Report specifically relates to you as a GP working in SEM.

While this information specifies GP's, the following paragraphs apply to any doctor working in SEM who has not undertaken SEM specialty training (or equivalent CESR route).

What would be my membership category in a new joint organisation?

It has been vital throughout the process to ensure GPs/non-specialists are recognised and appropriately incorporated into the structure of a new organisation. All current members of BASEM and FSEM will be eligible to join; there are different options depending on your experience.

- **Current FSEM members:** would be eligible to be a member of a new joint organisation.
- **Current BASEM members:** for the first 12 months there will be a legacy clause meaning you would be eligible to be a member of a new joint organisation providing you have:
 - Been a member of BASEM for at least a year.
 - A recognised postgraduate degree related to SEM
 - Proven commitment to the specialty for at least five years
- **Diplomate membership:**
 - This category is open to anyone who has passed the FSEM Diploma in MSK Medicine, or passes the upcoming Diplomas in Exercise Medicine, or Team Care
- **Associate membership:**
 - Open to any qualified individual with an interest in the specialty.

Will I have to do any exams/further qualifications to join a new organisation?

No, all individuals currently in BASEM and FSEM will be eligible to join the new organisation.

- No specific SEM examinations or qualifications are needed to join the Associate Member category.
- GPs may wish to join other membership categories, such as the Diplomate, Membership or Fellowship categories which do require exams/qualifications.
- To join the Diplomate category individuals would need to pass one of the three Diploma examinations (in MSK Medicine, Exercise Medicine or Team Care).
- In future (see above) joining the membership category will require passing all three of the Diploma exams.

What are the benefits to me of being a member of a new joint organisation?

- **A unified College of SEM would have a greater national voice and influence:** The leadership teams of both BASEM and FSEM believe that this is vitally important to influence national stakeholders in government, the NHS, the physical activity sector and sports governing bodies. Our multi-disciplinary roles in our three key agenda, MSK, Physical activity medicine and team care would be better represented through a strong, unified voice.
- You would be represented by an organisation which **values your role** both in caring for patients across our three key agenda.
- **GPwER Accreditation:** FSEM has worked closely with BASEM and the RCGP, and other professional bodies, to develop a pilot scheme for Accrediting GP's working with an Extended role in MSK Medicine. The new organisation will develop accreditation pathways for GP's working in MSK Medicine, Exercise Medicine and Team Care.
- **Education and training:** access to which aligns to your work.
- The organisation would work to ensure healthcare organisations and wider society understand the governance, appraisal, workforce planning, staff and patient welfare, and equality, diversity, and inclusion relevant to your role.
- All current membership advantages for both organisations will remain (e.g. BJSM access, appraisal)

How would my view be represented on the council of a new joint organisation and what would be my voting rights?

In addition to the President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, there will be 21 council members.

- Members – can vote for member council positions (6 council positions)
- Diplomate members – can vote for diplomate member council positions (4 council positions)
- Associate members – can vote for associate member council position (1 council position)

Will I be able to run for election to the Council of a new joint organisation?

Yes. Members will be eligible to run for election in their respective membership categories.

What are the implications to me of both organisations remaining separate?

- The simple answer is that there might be minimal noticeable difference to you on a daily basis if BASEM and FSEM remain separate:

- BASEM has always provided education to the breadth of doctors working in areas related to SEM. This would continue.
 - GP's/non-specialists would still be eligible to apply for the relevant membership categories of the FSEM and to sit the FSEM Diplomas.
- However, we feel the potential for you to increase your recognition and impact and have training and support in your role would be diminished
- **The working groups were unable to identify any material benefit to individuals or strategic advantage to the organisations to remaining as separate.**

[I still have questions...](#)

We hope that this summary provides some useful pointers on how the outcome of the vote might impact you. If you still have questions about this process, please join us for our live members Q&A session on 16th May 2023. More details regarding how to submit questions for this will be circulated shortly.

Thank you for your time considering this important matter.

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