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## Medical Innovation Bill – risk to responsible innovation

Today, Lord Saatchi's Medical Innovation Bill will go for its final reading in the House of Lords. MPS believes this Bill is unnecessary, and is risk to responsible innovation and patient safety.

### **Dr Pallavi Bradshaw, medicolegal adviser at the Medical Protection Society said:**

"We remain opposed to Lord Saatchi's Medical Innovation Bill for many reasons. It would give false reassurances to doctors, confuse and hinder current responsible innovation and erode safeguards which protect vulnerable patients. It may also lead to unmet patient expectations thereby damaging the doctor-patient relationship.

"Not only is it unnecessary but it will create confusion. As current law stands, doctors acting responsibly can innovate. Rather than confusing the law through a new piece of legislation, MPS calls for greater education around the present law.

"This Bill remains flawed and possesses the potential to create a number of adverse unintended consequences. We strongly urge Peers to reject it."

Ends

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## About MPS

MPS is the world's leading protection organisation for doctors, dentists and healthcare professionals. We protect and support the professional interests of more than 290,000 members around the world. Our benefits include access to indemnity, expert advice and peace of mind. Highly qualified advisers are on hand to talk through a question or concern at any time.

Our in-house experts assist with the wide range of legal and ethical problems that arise from professional practice. This includes clinical negligence claims, complaints, medical and dental council inquiries, legal and ethical dilemmas, disciplinary procedures, inquests and fatal accident inquiries.

Our philosophy is to support safe practice in medicine and dentistry by helping to avert problems in the first place. We do this by promoting risk management through our workshops, E-learning, clinical risk assessments, publications, conferences, lectures and presentations.

MPS is not an insurance company. All the benefits of membership of MPS are discretionary as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association.