

The British Association of Cosmetic Doctors comments on the new proposed VAT on cosmetic procedures

Submitted by: Flipside PR
Tuesday, 18 October 2011

For Immediate Release
Flipside PR, 020 7631 5180
lynne@flipsidepr.co.uk
BACD: 0800 328 3613
www.cosmeticdoctors.co.uk

The British Association of Cosmetic Doctors (<http://www.cosmeticdoctors.co.uk>) comments on the new proposed VAT on cosmetic procedures

Following the document from HM Revenue & Customs which reports those performing purely cosmetic operations – including tummy tucks and liposuction – should register for VAT and charge patients, The British Association of Cosmetic Doctor (<http://www.cosmeticdoctors.co.uk>) have issued a statement regarding their opinion and position on this subject.

Dr Samantha Gammell, President Elect of the British Association of Cosmetic Doctors, is concerned that the aggressive stance taken by HMRC will discriminate against vulnerable women, certain ethnic groups and those who have been left with disfiguring dermatological conditions such as acne scarring.

'When Patients seek out care from doctors they expect to be treated without judgement or prejudice, putting the maintenance of their health as our primary concern. We are appalled that HMRC inspectors in Wales are demanding to review confidential patient records for proof of their medical needs. It is an obscene invasion of privacy based on a ridiculous premise that a doctor, having taken on a duty of care, could do otherwise than protect the health of their patient'.

'The public should not be put off seeking the help that they need. There is simply no legal basis for the HMRC's approach and we will continue to fight for patients' rights.'

The British Association of Cosmetic Doctors is a not-for-profit organisation, established for the advancement, education and practice of cosmetic medicine in the UK. Members are GMC registered; undergo thorough background screening, training and certification. Information about specific procedures and doctors contact details can be found on www.cosmeticdoctors.co.uk or by contacting the advice line at 0800 328 3216.