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PRESS RELEASE

Today more than ever, bright but socially disadvantaged young people are being discouraged from applying to medicine. This is for two reasons principally:

- (1) The rising costs of a medical degree combined with the falling take-home pay of junior doctors who are currently losing both banding payment and subsidised hospital accommodation. Many medical students are currently leaving medical school with debts in excess of £40,000 and no immediate prospect of paying them off.
- (2) The increasing demands and complexity of the medical schools application process. Prospective medical students are not only required to submit their UCAS form early, but are also expected to sit extra exams and gain substantial experience in the healthcare sector. The impetus behind the increasing demands and complexity of the application process is a desire for greater fairness but the net effect is paradoxically to discourage bright but socially disadvantaged young people from applying in the first place.

One of the principal aims of Get into Medical School Ltd is to encourage such non-traditional applicants by providing them with some of the knowledge and skills that they need to tackle the application process. To support this aim the company offers a limited number of bursaries to students in genuine financial need. The directors, Drs Neel Burton and Chris Chopdar, are keen to develop these bursaries further, and call upon businesses, charitable groups, and private individuals for their support. Expressions of interest can be made to

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