in this journal recently of the pressing need 'to shore up and refurbish professional altruism'. Baroness O'Neill argues that trust in the independent judgement of professionals, so badly needed in society, might be restored if some professional organisations accepted the necessary changes. This College has already been active in examining these issues, initially by its support for the Medical Professionalism Project. 9,10 Now it is timely and appropriate that the College will not only present a report on measures to enhance clinical continuity of care, but will also shortly establish a working party to examine ways in which we might restore the values of professionalism in medicine.

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