



BGMA Appoints Mark Samuels as New CEO

(Thursday, February 18th) The British Generic Manufacturers Association, representing 4 out of 5 medicines used in the NHS, has appointed Mark Samuels as its new Chief Executive. He will also oversee the British Biosimilars Association.

Mark replaces Warwick Smith, who retires from the role after 25 years leading the organisation.

Bringing diverse experience from across the life sciences sector, Mark is a former executive at Roche and co-founded the Medicines Discovery Catapult Ltd. He was the founding Managing Director of the government's Office for Clinical Research Infrastructure – instrumental in managing the Department of Health's £0.6 billion/year investment in research centres across the NHS. Mark served for seven years on the Chief Medical Officer for England's strategy board for health research, and he has worked with Number 10 to contribute to the Prime Minister's strategy for life sciences.

He said: "I am excited to represent the generics and biosimilars sectors, which account for 80% of medicines needed by patients in the NHS.

"Generics and biosimilars save the NHS £15 billion each year, and the NHS would not be sustainable without them. And these medicines have proven crucial during the pandemic – people in our industry are working strenuously but successfully to provide the medicines for Intensive Care which let patients with Covid-19 to be treated on a ventilator for example. Looking ahead, the UK must learn Covid lessons – ensuring that the supply chain for generic medicines is resilient for a healthy future NHS.

"I would also like to pay tribute to Warwick's immense contribution and industry leadership of many, many years. He leaves with the utmost gratitude for his efforts and with everyone's best wishes for the future."

Warwick Smith, retiring Director-General of the BGMA, said: "I am delighted that the BGMA has secured such an experienced and able new CEO for the association in Mark. The generics, and latterly biosimilars, industry has developed immeasurably during my time working within it. But the core ethos of making sure the right medicine, reaches the right patient at the right time has remained out foremost objective.

"This aim has never been more tested than in the past year, but it has been a testament to all participants in the supply chain that medicines have reached patients despite the pandemic and the uncertainty surrounding Brexit."

Peter Ballard, BGMA Chairman, said: "We are delighted to welcome Mark to the association. He brings significant experience from his time both within industry and working closely with Government. He is passionate about serving patients and the NHS which are our principal priorities as an organisation. I would also like to

place on the record my enormous thanks and gratitude to Warwick. His tenure leading the association has been extraordinary and we will greatly miss his experience, skill-set and wisdom. We wish him every success in his future endeavours.”

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About the British Generic Manufacturers Association (BGMA)

The BGMA is made up of members of the generic manufacturing supply industry, who between them account for approximately 85% of the total UK generic market by volume. A key feature of the strong generics industry in the UK is that it introduces competition to the supply of prescription medicines making them more affordable to the NHS and enhancing their availability to patients.

According to NHS figures (NHS Digital), more than a billion items are prescribed generically every year. The competition provided by generic medicines saves the NHS around £13.5 billion annually.

About the British Biosimilars Association (BBA)

The BBA is an expert sector group of the British Generic Manufacturers Association (BGMA). It works together with patient groups, healthcare professionals, regulators, and policy makers to increase understanding of biosimilars and to drive a sustainable environment for the development, production, and continuing use of these critical medicines across the UK.