

**D**ear Santa,  
I work for a profession that is populated with dedicated, hardworking people who are generally not having an easy time and who would really benefit from a chance to pause and draw breath and to know they are appreciated for what they do. I've been privileged to share 2018 with some pretty amazing travelling companions and for this reason please can I ask you bring them some very special gifts?

I would like the politicians and service planners to have the wisdom to see the importance of biomedical scientists in healthcare and to see that people would be so much poorer in health without them and for the truth of what happens when a workforce is cut to the minimum to be recognised.

I want our scientists to never doubt the goodness that they do every day they step into a laboratory and I want them to have the strength to carry on doing it, even though it can be tough and often thankless. Please can work be fulfilling, not frustrating and can they have the chance to achieve their aspirations, whatever they may be?

On a more personal level, please can we have the stamina to last the round of seasonal festivities and the grace to know that not all of us can look cool when trying to do "the Floss" on the dance floor. For those brave souls who are still determined, please direct them to the

# A WISH FOR CHRISTMAS



This year, Sarah May, IBMS Deputy Chief Executive, is asking Santa for recognition for biomedical scientists.

nice YouTube instructional video and remind them to note the age of the very bendy, flexible girl – she's about 15.

For those of us who are planning to cook a turkey on 25 December, please let us have the confidence to believe there is nothing mystical about a large breed of poultry, it just needs a bit longer in the oven, and it doesn't need the wisdom of a celebrity chef to tell us how to make perfect roast potatoes – it's the same as for any other day of the year.

Finally, please can we all have a limitless supply of sense of humour to enable us to appreciate that sequins, inflatable snowmen and Kevin the Carrot are all obligatory parts of December and

that come January they will all be safely tucked away for another year.

Thank you Santa, and please don't worry if you feel unwell after all your exertions. There will be plenty of biomedical scientists at work, regardless of the date or time, to ensure that everyone who needs their services will be cared for.

Happy 2019 everybody.

**Sarah May**  
Deputy Chief Executive



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