Musicians' Union

Guidance document Focal Dystonia







The 5 Distinct Guidance Areas

- 1. Opening statements
- 2. Musicians
- 3. Orchestra managements
- 4. Conductors and Visiting Artists
- 5. Contacts and referrals



1. Opening Statements

- What is Focal Dystonia?
- ☐ How do you know if you suffer/Diagnosis?
- □ What can you do if you suspect you might be affected?



2. Musicians - Guidance

- ☐ Warm up routines
- ☐ Practice regimes
- ☐ Disclosure and job security
 - **Stress**
- ☐ Who to turn to
- □ Positive message rehab programmes, help with finances



3. Orchestra Managements – Guidance

- ☐ Building in time for warm ups into the scheduling
- Rehearsal regimes and scheduling –Stress
- ☐ Reassurance and confidentiality
- Support and referral financial and pastoral



4. Conductors and Visiting Artists

- Awareness of the recommendations in the joint guidance.
- ☐ Rehearsal regime **Stress**
- □ Warm up routines
- Sensitivity to workload



5. Contacts and Referrals

- ☐ Reinforce the positive message re diagnosis and rehabilitation
- □Contacts lists
- □Support bodies such as Royal Society of Musicians and help Musicians UK, BAPAM



Who is Involved?



- □ Dr Mark Edwards Neurologist
- ☐ Katherine Butler Hand Therapist
- □ Dr David Fielding GP with specialisms in musculoskeletal conditions (expert in strings)
- □ Dr Rebecca Whiticar BAPAM Associate Medical Director
- ☐ Dr John White Hand Surgeon

Musicians' Union MUSICIANS Union

NEXT STEPS



- ☐ British Association of Performing Arts Medicine (BAPAM) to consider Briefing paper
- ☐ Present comprehensive document to SSCD

December 2015

Thank You