Dear ,

As a member of the British Neuroscience Association (BNA), I am very disturbed by the disruptive effects that a lack of agreement between the UK and EU in Brexit negotiations would have on the very successful UK clinical and research neuroscience communities.

In particular, there are three areas where a lack of agreement will have major deleterious effects:

**1. Mobility of researchers:**

Continued close association with European research and innovation programmes is required to retain the widest range of funding sources for collaborative research; both the UK and EU immigration systems need to continue to facilitate short-term visits/conferences/collaboration/ exchanges and enable both the UK and EU to attract and retain talented scientists, and enable easy movement of students.

**2. Funding and participation in Horizon Europe:**

The UK Government’s desire for an “ambitious” future relationship with EU research and innovation is to be welcomed. I also welcome the plan that negotiations to secure association with Horizon Europe - the funding mechanism of the European Research Council - will be separate from the Article 50, Brexit negotiations. However, there is a huge risk of being excluded from Horizon Europe discussions, since they have recently been postponed and so may therefore take place following the potential date for the UK’s exit from the EU. Exclusion from Horizon Europe would be a major blow to UK neuroscience.

**3. Harmonised regulation – especially for clinical trials and rare disease research and medicines:**

Continued alignment of UK and EU regulations is essential to enable clinical research and clinical trials, with prioritisation of Clinical Trial Regulation (CTR) harmonisation, harmonised regulation of medical devices, formal agreement with Euratom, and access to EU clinical trials portal. Associate membership of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) is also very important.

I therefore request that you, as my representative in Parliament, will call the Government to account on addressing these issues.

If you wish to further discuss the impact of Brexit on UK neuroscience, please feel free to contact the BNA at:

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Bristol, BS1 3NY

office@bna.org.uk / (0)7584 016279 or (0)777 178 1582

Yours sincerely,