

Update for trainee doctors regarding COVID-19

A statement from the Academy Trainee Doctors' Group

As the COVID-19 situation develops and the implementation of emergency measures becomes increasingly likely, the importance of having provisions in place to allow doctors to work to the best of their ability without having to worry about longer term issues is paramount.

For trainees we appreciate that these issues are far reaching and encompass numerous considerations including training opportunities, progression, exams and the possibility of working in new or unfamiliar departments / areas to name but a few. These issues have been an area of focus for many organisations alongside the Academy and the ATDG, including the four UK Statutory Education Bodies (Health Education England [HEE], NHS Education for Scotland [NES], Health Education and Improvement Wales [HEIW] and Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency [NIMDTA]), Public Health England [PHE], NHS Employers, Medical Schools Council [MSC], the General Medical Council [GMC] and the British Medical Association [BMA]. We have been working alongside these organisations to ensure plans are in place to allow concerns to be answered as fully as possible. Clearly this is an ever-evolving situation and we will endeavour to keep updating you as things progress.

The four UK Statutory Education Bodies have produced a letter of recommendation focused particularly on trainee issues. Health Education England has also sent a letter expanding upon issues that are particularly pertinent to trainees, which has been sent to all the Trusts and GP Trainers in England. Additionally, the Chief Executives of statutory regulators of health and care professionals (including the GMC) have released a joint statement regarding regulation in the event of an emergency situation secondary to coronavirus.

The links below relate to the documents mentioned above and other relevant documents and resources.

4 CMO's letter. [Supporting the COVID-19 response: Guidance regarding medical education and training](#)

4 CMO's letter. [Supporting doctors in the event of a COVID-19 epidemic](#)

HEE Letter. [COVID-19 and plans for management of medical and dental training programmes](#)

HEE. [Pandemic and major infectious diseases management plan](#)

PHE. [COVID-19: infection prevention and control guidance](#)

PHE. [Guidance for healthcare providers: healthcare workers with relevant travel, healthcare or household contact history](#)

Health Protection Scotland. [Information for Scotland regarding COVID-19](#)

GMC and joint regulators statement. [How we will continue to regulate in light of novel coronavirus \(Covid-19\)](#)

NHS. [Coronavirus guidance for clinicians](#)

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection and pregnancy guidelines](#)

Diabetes UK. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – advice for people living with diabetes](#)

The Academy Trainee Doctors' Group (ATDG) is a forum for trainee representatives of all Medical Royal Colleges and Faculties to come together and be a cohesive voice for training doctors.