

Sent by email

29 April 2020

Dear Colleague,

We write to update you on our efforts to address the current issues for trainees in their final year of GP specialty training. Cancellation of the remaining sittings of the AKT and CSA, along with the changes in working patterns as a result of the pandemic has limited both time for Workplace Based Assessments and ongoing learning. We are aware that these developments have created additional uncertainty for you at a time of generally heightened concern. We have been working hard with the RCGP, the GMC, the BMA, NHS England, DHSC to determine a way forward. We have also been working with GP trainees' elected representatives and trainee concerns have been heard across all organisations.

There have been many different solutions proposed to the current problems. Some of these relate to the award of a CCT by the GMC, which is governed by the Medical Act and European Directive requirements. The GMC have clarified that there is no mechanism to award a temporary or provisional CCT and emergency powers under the Medical Act do not allow the GMC to grant temporary specialist or GP registration to doctors who have not previously held this type of registration. The national emergency temporary registration allowed only those previously on the specialist or generalist register to be reinstated.

To be awarded a CCT, doctors must demonstrate learning outcomes as outlined in the RCGP curriculum approved by the GMC. The MRCGP examination consists of Workplace Based Assessments, the AKT and CSA which are all mapped to the curriculum. If one component of the MRCGP examination cannot be held, the RCGP needs to demonstrate to the GMC that any alternative that it puts in place covers the same elements of the curriculum.

The RCGP is taking a flexible approach and exploring alternative options for delivering the curricular assessments covered by the CSA and the AKT.

Our Primary Care Deans and GP Directors and their teams are working on plans for the recovery phase of GP Specialty Training, specifically including training to support delivery of the curriculum and preparation for whatever curricular assessments are put in place.

We realise how stressful this is and have heard your concerns around this. All those involved have committed to finding a solution as quickly as possible which is fair to you and enables you to move forward with your careers.

We will communicate further as soon as a solution is found that provides the best opportunity to facilitate you in gaining your CCT.

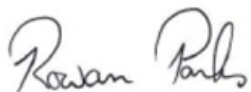
Yours faithfully,



Professor Sheona MacLeod
Acting Director of Education and Quality &
Executive Medical Director
Health Education England



Professor Keith Gardiner
Chief Executive/Postgraduate Dean
Northern Ireland Medical & Dental Training Agency



Professor Rowan Parks
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