

*Correspondence sent out by Health Education and Improvement Wales to all GPs in Wales via MARS on 1 April 2020*

Dear All

We hope that you and your families are all well.

Following the email sent last week, we are writing to further update you on the appraisal and revalidation position in Wales.

### **Medical Appraisal**

The Chief Medical Officer has recently written to all Responsible Officers in Wales strongly recommending that **appraisals should be suspended from 27<sup>th</sup> March until further notice**, unless there are exceptional circumstances agreed by both the appraisee and Appraiser. This will free up time for you and your Appraiser to concentrate on clinical work and minimise the spread of infection.

The Revalidation Support Unit (RSU) has asked all GP Appraisers to contact any doctors, with whom they have an appraisal arranged up until the end of July, to cancel the meeting. These cancelled meetings will be recorded as an 'approved missed' appraisal. For clarity, affected appraisals will be regarded as cancelled, not postponed.

Doctors with an allocated quarter (AQ) on MARS of January-March 2020 or April-June 2020 will have their AQ moved forward to the same quarter in 2021. Those affected will not need a 'catch-up' appraisal when appraisals restart.

It is unlikely that Appraiser requests you send via MARS will be actioned from now until the end of July, therefore, please send any appraisal arrangement queries to [heiw.appraisalofficer@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:heiw.appraisalofficer@wales.nhs.uk).

### **Revalidation**

As previously communicated the GMC have confirmed that from **17 March 2020**, doctors who are due to revalidate before the end of September will have their revalidation date **deferred for one year**. They have made this decision to give Responsible Officers (ROs) and doctors more time to reschedule and complete appraisals. It has also been made to avoid the need for ROs to make revalidation recommendations during this time.

The GMC will be keeping this under review and will make further deferrals as necessary. For further information please go to the GMC's website – <https://www.gmc-uk.org/registration-and-licensing/managing-your-registration/revalidation>

HEIW continues to liaise with Welsh Government, Health Boards and the GMC regarding the regulatory requirements of all doctors.

We will keep you informed of any further changes.

Our best wishes to you all,

Dr Christopher Price  
Head of Revalidation Support Unit, HEIW