

27 March 2020

UPDATE FOR TRAINEES FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dear Trainees,

We understand that interruptions and changes have and most likely will continue to occur in your workplace and training due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We can assure you that the decisions being made are done so with the best intentions and with the most up to date information that is available to us at the time of posting.

We will continue to support our trainees during this time and offer solutions that we believe are in the best interest of all. We recognise that the changes below may not suit every individual, and if needed can be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

The board of education has discussed the major impacts on our trainees and are offering the following solutions.

Training Period

Basic and Fellowship trainees studying full-time may choose to change their study to part-time if they believe they will not have adequate time to prepare for the clinical examinations which will be held in November. This will allow you to split your training over two years and sit your examinations in late 2021.

There is also the option to continue as a full-time trainee, provided the trainee believes they can complete the supervised clinical requirements prior to the clinical examinations. Trainees will be given an extension to submit the logbook requirements and all other training requirements until 30 April 2021 in order to graduate at the ceremony to be held on 10 May 2021.

Advanced trainees who have commenced their training this year will have adequate time to make up their clinical supervision next year so we believe will not be impacted at this stage.

Examinations

At this stage, it is expected that the examinations will continue as planned. The written examinations will be held on the 10 October 2020 and are held online. The clinical examinations will be held from the 13-14 November at the Miami Day Hospital, QLD. The examination schedule will not be released until after the written examinations.

Standards expected for a pass at these examinations will be the same as for previous years.

Training Fees

For those trainees that decide to go part-time the second training fee instalment has already been covered by the first instalment so will not be deducted on the 1 April 2020. Please notify the college if you do wish to go part-time prior to the 1 April so the next payment can be stopped. All subsequent payments will be deducted at the part-time rate of training over the two years. If you are continuing full-time you can request a hold on your training fees for the next deduction however any subsequent instalments will be higher to cover the cost of the deferred payment.

2020 Graduating Trainees

For those of you who were due to graduate at this year's ceremony, you will be sent your formal certificate via mail in the coming months. Those that were planning to meet their presentation or attendance requirement at the conference in order to graduate will also receive their certificate provided their abstract was already accepted by the organising committee. Such presentations will be expected to be presented at the conference to be held next year from 8-11 May. All 2020 graduates will be invited to attend the ceremony next year to get recognised on stage should they choose to.

Online Training Modules

Now would be the time to take advantage of the online training modules. All instructors are being followed up to ensure they add their content asap. Where there is no content you can guide your studies by using the module outline and learning outcomes that are listed in each module. You can also access the supplementary resources section which includes presentations from previous conferences. You also have access to other resources such as the Phlebology Journal and the Royal Society of Medicine online library which will supplement your learning.

Kind regards,



Dr Simon Thibault
Dean of Education
The Australasian College of Phlebology