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March 25, 2020

Dear Postgraduate Residents,

I write on behalf of the six Ontario postgraduate Deans during this time of increasing stress and anxiety. We understand many of you are impacted by examination disruption, potential of re-assignment to other services, disruption in rotations for various reasons, and the worry of potential training extensions. We would like to acknowledge these stressors and convey that we are working tirelessly with stakeholders on your behalf to alleviate these concerns as best we can given the fluid environment.

In our own PGME offices, PG Deans continue to work with all programs to ensure that training disruptions are kept to a minimum. We are considering taking into account whether a resident has been able to sufficiently achieve competencies in the context of time spent redeployed or reassigned, in quarantine, or self-isolation. The unique experiences gained while providing care in this current pandemic environment should be recognized with the potential to be transferrable for other rotations as applicable. It is our expectation that all of your training experiences will be used to make promotional decisions that are based on competency attainment rather than timeframes.

As always your health and safety is our main focus. Once we have a clearer picture of how to mitigate these exceptional circumstances we will be in contact. Until then, take care of yourselves and please reach out should you need support.

Sincerely,

Rob

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