



PGME COVID 19 UPDATE

March 22, 2020

ROYAL COLLEGE CERTIFICATION EXAMS

Many of you are already aware that the RCPS made a decision to postpone the written exams until September 2020 at the earliest. It was felt that there was still too much uncertainty to consider the April date that was circulated earlier by RCPS. There are many logistical issues that will need to be addressed in order to deliver this exam and it would not be feasible to make firm plans in the midst of this pandemic.

The RCPS is still working on a time frame and plan to deliver the Applied/OSCE examinations. There are weekly Teleconferences planned for the PG Deans with both Colleges, MCC and FMRAQ. I expect to provide updates as they become available.

CFPC EXAMINATIONS

Information from CFPC is unchanged from previous. The intention is still to deliver the simulated office oral (SOO) component of the exam **October 16 to 18, 2020**. Timing for the Short Answer Management Problem (SAMP) is still under discussion.

PROVISIONAL LICENSURE

I am receiving a fair number of enquiries with regard to the status of graduating physicians whose exams have been postponed.

The Medical Regulatory Authorities are working on a process to facilitate provisional licensing for exam eligible physicians. CPSA is developing a local process in consultation with the PG Deans at both universities in Alberta. My understanding is that this information will become available on the CPSA website in the coming week. I will follow up with additional detail as to how this process will be rolled out here at the University of Calgary.

NEW SCREENING MEASURES

I was advised this afternoon that new screening measures are being instituted by Calgary ZEOC (Zone Emergency Operations Center). This process will take place as employees/physicians enter any of the Calgary area “clinical sites” and hospitals. The purpose of this new procedure is really to ensure that the work environment is safe for all.

My understanding is that screening will include a temperature check and completion of a standard questionnaire. A clinician at the screening area will decide whether employees and physicians may proceed to their assigned work areas. If a decision is made to deny entry to the workplace advice will be provided in terms of next steps for the affected employee or physician.

For Residents and Fellows I would recommend the following:

- **Ensure you have your AHS photo ID with you at all times**
- In the event that you are denied entry based on this screening please contact your rotation supervisor and Program Director immediately

Many thanks to all for your dedication in this very challenging situation.

Lisa Welikovitch MD FRCP
Associate Dean, PGME