



December 19, 2020

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to present challenges in postgraduate medical education. Over the last several weeks discussions have taken place regarding suspension of elective experiences for resident physicians. As you are aware, several universities have already taken steps to halt electives in the context of rising Covid case numbers.

After careful consideration and consultation with multiple stakeholders we have made the difficult decision to pause all incoming and outgoing electives. This is a fluid situation and the suspension will be reviewed again prior to the end of Block 10.

At this time, residents who are currently here on an elective may remain until the elective experience is complete but no later than end of Block 8. Residents who are currently away on an elective may complete it or return by February 7, 2021 (whichever is sooner) providing the institution they are at is permitting visiting electives to continue.

We appreciate that residents affected by this decision will be understandably disappointed. The decision was guided by concern for the safety and well-being of our residents, and our obligation to consider potential impact on receiving jurisdictions.

Trainees are encouraged to communicate with home program directors as soon as possible to reschedule educational experiences. Additional information will be forthcoming from each individual PGME office in the next several days.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L Welikovich".

Lisa Welikovich, MD FRCP
Associate Dean, PGME
University of Calgary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ramona Kearney".

Ramona A. Kearney, MD, MMed, FRCPC
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