



Memo

To: PGME program directors, program administrators

Date: March 25, 2021

Re: PGME Updates

Self-isolating prior to certification exams:

I am writing in follow up to the memo circulated in February, 2021 with regard to self-isolation prior to certification exams. In August 2020 it was agreed that resident physicians would be permitted to combine up to 5 days of exam leave and 5 days of study leave (adding up to 14 consecutive days when weekends are included) to self-isolate in advance of exams. This opportunity is subject to all usual approval processes for leave requests.

The decision to allow resident physicians to combine the exam and study leaves was reviewed at a recent meeting of the Joint Consultation Committee which includes representation from both universities, PARA and AHS. It was agreed that this provision will remain in effect until December 31, 2021, at which point the usual stipulations of the Resident Physician Agreement with regard to exam and study leave will resume effect.

In-person academic activities:

In follow up to discussion at the most recent PGME committee meeting, I confirmed with both University of Calgary and AHS that there has been no change to current guidelines with respect to in-person gatherings. For the moment, academic activities should continue in a virtual format wherever possible.

I recognize that virtual delivery of some aspects of an academic curriculum can be challenging. Recommendations from PGME will be reassessed on a regular basis and updated based on information received from Alberta Health, AHS and U of C.

Thanks once again for your patience and support with the many and complex pandemic-related issues that continue to impact residency education.

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