

**PGME COVID-19 Update 14****May 13, 2020****2:00pm**

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to postgraduate medical education during these unprecedented times. Regularly review our [COVID-19 google site](#) for updated communications and answers to frequently asked questions. If your question has not been answered, please submit it to our office using the linked [google form](#).

**English Language Proficiency (ELP)**

The IELTS ACADEMIC ELP exam is currently not available as it has in-person components. In its place IELTS is offering an online examination called IELTS INDICATOR. In discussion with the CPSA we have agreed that this examination will suffice for ELP while IELTS ACADEMIC is unavailable. Candidates who complete the IELTS INDICATOR will also be required to have a clinical performance assessment of verbal and written communication skills. This assessment is conducted by the residency or fellowship program and must occur within the first 3 months of training. The assessment tools are available from the PGME office and have been used when scores on IELTS ACADEMIC have been less than 7.0 on each component. We believe most trainees accepted for 2020 have already completed IELTS ACADEMIC.

**Meeting Training Requirements - RCPSC**

The Royal College provided guidelines for program directors last week to aid programs in determining whether training requirements are met or whether training extension is required. Guidelines are available for time-based programs, CBD programs and AFC programs. All requests for extension of training must be approved by the PGME office.

<http://www.royalcollege.ca/rcsite/documents/about/covid-19-impact-residency-education-e>

**CBD 2020 launch**

The RCPSC corresponded with programs this week regarding launching of the 2020 CBD cohort disciplines. A decision regarding many but not all programs has been made. Not all planned programs will launch July 1. The RCPSC will formally announce the final decision within the next week. Flexibility in proposed launches is being discussed.

**CaRMS matches**

**Interviews:** A decision has been made that all interviews for all 2021 CaRMS matches will be virtual.

**Match timelines:** The timelines for the CaRMS R1 match only are affected. The timelines for the MSM, PSM and ES matches remain unchanged.

**Process:** Three subcommittees of the AFMC Resident Match Committee (ARMC) are being formed to make recommendations in the following areas: applications and file review, technical issues and timeline, virtual interviews and recruitment.

## **Examinations: Attestation of Competence for RCPSC and CFPC**

The RCPSC document "Reaffirmation of clinical experiences and Competencies for Royal College Certification" has been provided to all Program Directors. The relevant document for CFPC Program Directors was provided earlier. In completing these documents for each of your residents, please contact our office if you:

- are concerned about how to respond
- wish to change a decision regarding eligibility for the exams

## **Knowledge Bites**

The in-person faculty development session for Residency Program Directors scheduled for May 26 is now planned as a virtual session. If you previously replied that you would attend this session, we realize that plans may have changed. If you still plan to attend, or are now interested in attending, please respond to our invitation that will go out to you in the next few days.

Best regards,



Dr. Ramona Kearney  
Associate Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education