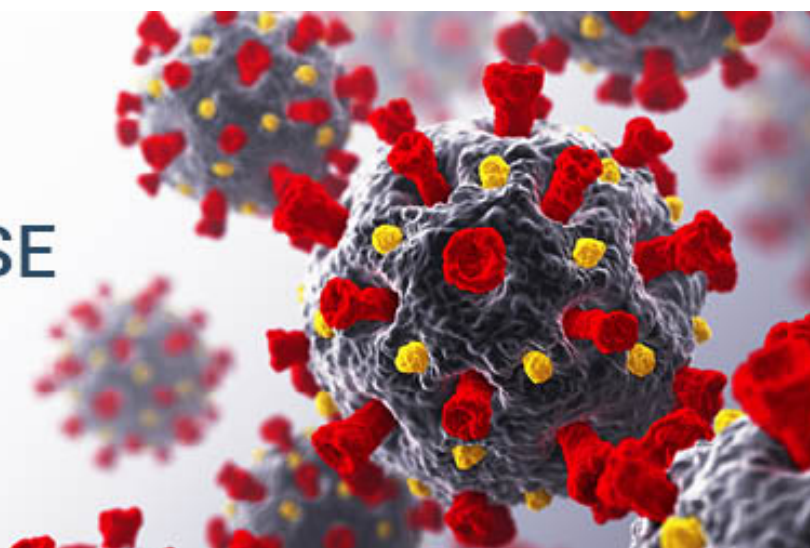


UPDATE

RACP COVID-19 RESPONSE



12 June 2020

Advocacy

- A report analysing findings from the recent survey of Australian Fellows on the use of telehealth has been approved by the CPAC Executive Committee. The report will be released to members by the end of this week and to relevant external stakeholders, including the Minister and Australian Government Department of Health. A similar study will be undertaken involving Aotearoa New Zealand members.

Advisory Groups – Education Learning and Assessment (ELA)

- A template has been received from all Australian Health Departments regarding notification of changes to their 2020 term rotations and 2021 recruitment. The Health Departments have requested that questions from the College about when hospital sites will be ready to undertake clinical exams be directed to their Chief Medical Officers for feedback. Details regarding Divisional Clinical Exam (DCE) dates will be made available as they come to hand.
- A detailed approach for provisional Advanced Training (pAT) was published on 28 May 2020. As part of a new pAT webpage, there is guidance for trainees and their DPEs/supervisors on how to apply for pAT. pAT fee guidance structures have been approved by the CEO.
- A webinar for DPEs has been scheduled for Friday, 19 June 2020 – one for Adult Medicine (Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand) and one for Paediatrics & Child Health (Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand). An update will be provided on the postponed Divisional Clinical Exam (DCE) and pAT, with an opportunity for DPEs to provide feedback on the proposed DCE approach, as well as ask questions on any of the COVID-19 interim program arrangements. The Chairs from the Basic Training Committee, Clinical Examination Committee and the New Zealand Education Committee will be in attendance.
- Many queries have been received regarding the changes in assessment arising from COVID-19 interruptions. The June College Education Committee meeting will address key themes arising from the correspondence received to date.

Professional Practice

Trainees

- A webinar for trainees to discuss recent COVID-19 changes, including DCE and pAT, is in the process of being organised for mid-July.

Meetings

- Aotearoa New Zealand has moved to Alert Level 1 as of midnight 8 June 2020, meaning that domestic restrictions regarding COVID-19 have been lifted. However, international border restrictions remain in place. Whilst this opens up the return of face-to-face member meetings within Aotearoa New Zealand, meetings involving Trans-Tasman travel remain restricted.

RACP Facilities and staff

- The New Zealand Government relaxation of restrictions will shortly allow staff to commence returning to the office. This has removed all domestic restrictions, including the requirement for physical distancing and size limits on gatherings. Borders remain closed at this stage.
- The Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington Office will re-open to staff from Monday, 15 June 2020, although it will be open to members and other visitors on an appointment-basis only. Attendance at the office of both staff and non-staff will be logged to ensure that if there are any future outbreaks of COVID-19, contact tracing can be managed. In addition to the standard night clean, additional daily cleaning of high contact areas will be undertaken and staff will be reminded of the New Zealand Government's [golden rules for everyone at Alert Level 1](#).

RACP Resources

- [College COVID-19 webpage](#)
- [National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce – evidence-based clinical guidelines](#)