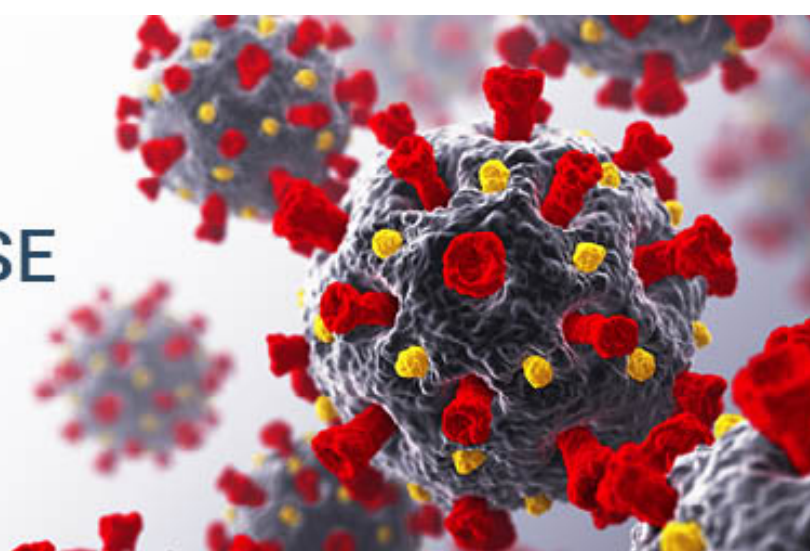


# UPDATE

## RACP COVID-19 RESPONSE



As at 13 May 2020

### Advocacy

- The RACP President has written to the Prime Minister of Australia to state the RACP's support for continuation of the increased access to telehealth that has been rolled out.
- The RACP President's call for the community not to defer specialist appointments for their chronic health conditions ran over 25 times across 2SM's syndicated radio stations.
- The RACP President's [article](#) on COVID-19 and the lungs in *The Guardian* has been opened 7.5 million times online.

### Advisory Groups – Whole of College

- The Expert Clinical Reference Group has established formal Terms of Reference to reflect its increased focus on advocacy and noted that the College Education Committee is overseeing College decisions in relation to exams, training and accreditation.

### Advisory Groups – Education Learning and Assessment

- The Examinations Advisory Meeting held on 8 April 2020 recommended that AFOEM exams also be postponed to 2021. The College Education Committee approved this on 24 April 2020, with Faculty communications sent out on 6 May 2020.
- The Sub-Group of the Training and Accreditation Advisory Group has been established to determine how provisional progression into Advanced Training will work. A high-level approach has been agreed on, with feedback received from members of the Training and Accreditation Advisory Group and approved by the College Education Committee. Communications will be sent out to trainees and supervisors in the week of 11 May 2020, along with the updated guidance on the Advanced Training research project requirements, which the College Education Committee has also approved.
- A detailed approach for managing provisional progression into Advanced Training has been developed with the Sub-Group and presented to the Training and Accreditation Advisory Group on 8 May 2020. There is high-level support and consensus from the Group for the proposed approach. This will now go to the College Education Committee for approval and for further discussion with Australian and New Zealand Health Departments.
- Communication on change to deadline for Supervisor Professional Development workshops has been sent out.
- At the Training and Accreditation Advisory Group on 8 May 2020 there was a discussion regarding online learning resources and what should be priority for development at this time. Group feedback was to focus on the development of new online resources to help Basic Trainees sit the Divisional Written and Clinical Exams, including curation of what existing international resources may be of use.

### Professional Practice

#### Trainees

- Additional ideas are being developed for how the College can further communicate with trainees, including advising them of their trainee representatives on the relevant COVID-19 governance groups.
- A College response letter received from the NSW Trainees' Committee with a number of questions relating to exams and training progression.

#### Members

- After delays due to COVID-19 and resulting uncertainty amongst 2020 participants regarding their 2020 recruitment plans and timing, the 2020 ATSM service is again progressing.

### RACP Facilities and staff

- A sign-in register has been installed in the RACP Sydney offices at 145 Macquarie Street and 70 Phillip Street. The register will capture all contractors completing work on-site and essential staff who support these works. Hand sanitiser stations have also been installed throughout both offices.
- All RACP regional offices are closed until further notice. The RACP Perth office is closed permanently and will relocate to new premises in late July.

- Currently developing systems and process for easing of restrictions and the ability to return to office.
- A RACP COVID-19 Safety Learning Module has been developed in preparation for return to office.
- Return to Office Guidelines have been developed.
- An all RACP staff Zoom meeting was held on 11 May 2020 to address remote working issues and return to office.

## RACP Resources

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