

## Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations

### JCIE News Update – 17 November 2020

This statement is relevant all candidates and examiners scheduled to attend Section 2 Intercollegiate Specialty Examinations between now and Wednesday 9 December 2020.

This afternoon, the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, announced that the local COVID protection level applicable to Glasgow and several other local authority areas in the West of Scotland will change from Tier 3 to Tier 4 status as of Friday 20 November. The JCIE wishes to inform everyone that this has no direct impact on the staging of the Section 2 examinations in Otolaryngology, Neurosurgery and Cardiothoracic Surgery that are due to take place in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Glasgow. The Crowne Plaza gym and leisure complex will need to close but otherwise there will be no alteration to services provided by the hotel to resident guests and other attendees at the examinations. Other hotels will similarly be permitted to remain open for essential customers but the JCIE recommends that candidates booked in to accommodation other than the Crowne Plaza call in advance to confirm that their reservations will be honoured and that dining facilities will be available. The Crowne Plaza has confirmed that it can accept further bookings should any candidate require to make alternative arrangements. Travel that is essential for work or education is exempt from the travel restrictions that, as of Friday 20 November, become law but all participants are advised to re-confirm any booked travel arrangements.

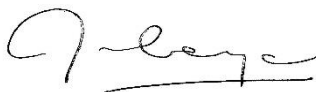
The Tier status of Edinburgh is unchanged by the First Minister's announcement and this is relevant to the Urology and Paediatric Surgery examinations.

Statements have already been sent out to candidates on 19 and 22 October which can be used to confirm the necessity to travel in November/December 2020 for the Intercollegiate Specialty Examinations and these are available on the JCIE website News page. Examiners have also been sent a statement and this is available if required from the Secretariat.

The JCIE wishes to reassure all examination attendees that it remains in close contact with the office of the National Clinical Director in Scotland and that it is committed to the safety of everyone attending the Section 2 examinations. It is important that everyone is aware of the latest guidance published by the Scottish Government. This can be accessed via the following link.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-protection-levels/>

With best wishes



**JOHN R MCGREGOR**

CHAIR – JOINT COMMITTEE ON INTERCOLLEGIATE EXAMINATIONS