

Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations

23 July 2020

Statement by Mr John McGregor, JCIE Chair

Dear Candidate

First and foremost, all of us at the Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations (JCIE) hope that you and your families have remained well through the trials and tribulations of this year's coronavirus pandemic. If you are someone who falls into the category of having had a Section 2 examination postponed between March and October, I apologise for the inconvenience and for any potential impact on your career pathway, but as you will appreciate the circumstances that necessitated the postponement were not under the JCIE's control.

When I wrote in May, I undertook to provide an update with respect to the staging of the Intercollegiate Specialty Examinations in July. I am delighted now to be able to fulfil that promise and furthermore to state that it is the intention of the JCIE to offer all candidates who have suffered Section 2 cancellations a place in revised examinations that will take place throughout November and early December 2020. Candidates who had already entered examinations planned for November are being similarly accommodated. The only proviso to this is that all arrangements are dependent on there being no further major issues with Covid-19 that necessitate either national or devolved Governments enforcing restrictions that again would be outside our control. For now, however, the JCIE Secretariat and the Specialty Boards are planning large examination diets to accommodate everyone and I for one sincerely hope that it all comes to fruition – along with the entire team I will certainly will do everything in my power to ensure it does.

For operational reasons, we have had to change the examination venues from the original schedule and that includes specialties where the Section 2 examination may still be held on its original November dates. Please therefore disregard the information previously published on the JCIE website and follow your personal instruction from the relevant Specialty Manager which will accompany this communication. I will be in touch again in the near future with respect to other arrangements for your Section 2 examination. Suffice to say, the JCIE takes the safety of everyone very seriously and we are working with key stakeholders on a number of measures to safeguard you as candidates, along with examiners, assessors, JCIE staff and not least of all our volunteer patients. I thought it important, however, to confirm the date and venue of your Section 2 examination at this stage to allow you to plan and prepare for later in the year. Please be assured that the JCIE is not planning any major changes to the format of the Section 2 examinations for November so you should prepare as normal. The modifications that will be notified to you, once finalised, will relate only to methods of delivery in the interests of personal safety.

I will be back in contact as soon as I possibly can.

With best wishes



JOHN R MCGREGOR

CHAIR – JOINT COMMITTEE ON INTERCOLLEGIATE EXAMINATIONS