

Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations

16 December 2021

To Whoever It May Concern

Intercollegiate Specialty Examinations (FRCS) January/February 2022

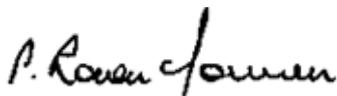
This is to confirm that the bearer of this letter is a Candidate who is travelling to a designated regional examination (Pearson VUE) centre to sit the first part of their Intercollegiate Specialty Examination in Surgery under the auspices of the Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations (JCIE). These examinations are taken towards the very end of surgical training and a pass is a pre-requisite for certification in the relevant surgical specialty by the Medical Council of Ireland and/or General Medical Council of the UK. Without certification, the individual cannot be appointed to a Consultant post and the examinations are therefore essential for the sustainability of surgical services.

The JCIE has worked very closely with its delivery partner, Pearson VUE, to ensure a Covid-safe examination environment. Travel to take these examinations is deemed as essential business for key workers, irrespective of where the bearer of this letter is travelling from. This is endorsed by the four surgical Royal Colleges of Great Britain and Ireland and by the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC). Earlier this year, the AoMRC released a statement to this effect, and this remains as pertinent as ever. The statement can be accessed through the following link.

[Exams - Academy statement \(updated January 2021\) - Academy of Medical Royal Colleges \(aomrc.org.uk\)](https://www.aomrc.org.uk/exams-academy-statement-updated-january-2021)

Thank you for your understanding and we can assure you that all participants in these examinations are aware of their responsibilities.

Yours faithfully



PROFESSOR P RONAN O'CONNELL
CHAIR – JOINT SURGICAL COLLEGES
PRESIDENT – ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND



MR JOHN R MCGREGOR
CHAIR – JCIE