

Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations

15 October 2020

To Whoever It May Concern

Intercollegiate Specialty Examinations (FRCS) November and December 2020

This is to confirm that the bearer of this letter is a Candidate who is travelling to either Glasgow or Edinburgh to sit their final 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 General Medical Council. Without certification, the individual cannot be appointed to a Consultant post and the examinations are therefore essential for NHS service delivery. The examination that the individual is travelling to sit has been many months in planning and follows the enforced cancellation of previous sittings between March and May 2020.

A Covid-safe environment for the delivery of the examination has been the subject of considerable engagement between all major stakeholders throughout the UK and the plans carry the full support of Public Health and the Scottish Government who in turn have liaised with counterparts in the other home nations. Travel to take these examinations is deemed as essential business for key workers, irrespective of where in the UK 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). The AoMRC recently released a statement to this effect. This can be accessed through the following link.

<https://www.aomrc.org.uk/statements/exams-academy-statement/>

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

Yours faithfully



PROFESSOR S MICHAEL GRIFFIN OBE
CHAIR – JOINT SURGICAL COLLEGES



MR JOHN R MCGREGOR
CHAIR - JCIE