

3 April 2020

COUNCIL

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Dear Trainees,

Temporary measures in support of rotation to other specialties owing to COVID-19

First of all, we would like to express our appreciation for your commitment and professionalism in serving the community in this unprecedented time of COVID-19 outbreak. This, at the same time, is also an invaluable opportunity in your training.

Some of you may have been, or would volunteer to be, rotated to work in isolation wards or perform other duties related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since such activities may not fall within the scope of your own specialty training, you may be concerned if your training would be affected (e.g. remedial / prolonged training required) should you opt to help other departments or colleagues.

With support from our constituent Colleges, the Academy will implement the following across-the-board policy applicable to all specialist trainees of different Academy Colleges:

If you volunteer or are required to be rotated to perform duties for other specialties owing to the COVID-19 for a designated period (capped at 4 weeks), the period would be regarded as recognised training or leave of absence according to your College's prevailing policy. As a result, your original training schedule will not be considered interrupted.

Please also refer to any applicable special arrangements of your respective College for recognised training during this very special pandemic situation since some Colleges are prepared to facilitate and go beyond the 4-week period as mentioned on a case-by-case basis, with the aim to minimise possible impacts to your training.

The Academy strongly encourages trainees and Fellows to stand by and support each other in this difficult time. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any clarification.

We shall always stand by you. Let's work together to combat and we will win the battle!

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Yours sincerely,

Professor LAU Chak-sing President

Hong Kong Academy of Medicine

Professor Gilberto KK LEUNG

Vice-President (Education and Examinations)

Hong Kong Academy of Medicine