Statement regarding redeployment of dual trainees in ICM/EM/Medical Specialties

During the current Covid 19 pandemic, trainees dual training in Intensive Care Medicine (ICM) and Emergency Medicine (EM) or medical specialties have a valuable skillset available to the NHS during this time.

Guidance from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and General Medical Council recognises the impact the pandemic is having on training and the need for future ARCP panels and assessments to recognise the vital role all trainees have had in delivering patient care and supporting the NHS. It is anticipated that more direct guidance regarding the training and practice implications of the Covid 19 pandemic will follow.

In the interim, redeployment by hospitals/trusts/health boards of dual trainees from one specialty to the other may be appropriate as the pandemic progresses and represents a sensible use of the available trainee skillset to maximise patient care. For example, dual trainees may move from EM or medical specialties to ICM to support ICM provision if the other specialty is not under increased demand. Where this occurs there must be a clear plan for trainees to return to their other specialty, later in the pandemic as required, especially if that specialty is experiencing increased demand. The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine, the Royal College of Emergency Medicine and the Royal College of Physicians are supportive of any such plans developed with dual trainees.

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