

17 September 2021

Dear Colleagues,

You will be aware of the increasing pressure on our system from the rising prevalence of Covid-19 and I hope you have all received the latest letter from NES detailing the framework for redeployment (<https://www.scotlanddeanery.nhs.scot/media/399341/redeployment-consensus-v3.pdf>)

This current spike has a 3-week course to run to the peak (according to the models) and we are aware that the uncertainty around options for staffing our wards will be causing anxiety. I want to reassure you that all actions we take to support our services and medical staff in crisis will be designed to minimise further disruption to you and your training. Although, it is important to recognise that as we modify our service model, including standing down services to manage demand elsewhere in the system, training opportunities may be temporarily reduced. We have already deployed some of our Clinical fellows into Red zones in the RIE and I am truly grateful to those Drs who are being flexible to support their colleagues. If we continue to be agile and flexible in the planned moves, then I do not think any one individual will have to spend more than a week or two away from their base specialty if required.

With that in mind, should we require you to redeploy, the move will be discussed with you directly by your Clinical Director or one of their team; you will be connected to your new host team and ensured an induction to the clinical unit (and hospital should that be necessary); you will have named supervision for the duration and your FPD or TPD will be aware of your move. You will not be asked to undertake tasks or care beyond your level of competence, and you will have direct access to support at all times.

We would be grateful if you could let your current Clinical Director and FPD/TPD know if there are any circumstances that would make a move difficult for you and those can be discussed, or indeed if you feel that you are currently under-utilised in your clinical area and you would like to volunteer for temporary redeployment; we will be in constant communication with your supervisors during this time.

As support for this current spike whether or not you end up working in another unit, can I highlight the excellent resources available on the Lothian Medical Education website <https://www.med.scot.nhs.uk/resources/covid-19> in particular:

- [Reskilling for COVID](#)
- [Managing symptoms in patients dying from COVID-19](#)
- [Treatment escalation plans](#)
- [Well-being and support](#)

If you do not have a login for the MED website then please email med.website@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk from your NHS email address and one will be provided.

Thank you for your hard work, patience and understanding during this time; if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in contact with your own Clinical Director, named supervisor or one of my team <https://www.med.scot.nhs.uk/about-us/the-med-team>

Thank you
Simon

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Edgar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Simon" and the last name "Edgar" clearly distinguishable.

Simon Edgar

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