



Responding to the GPhC statement on the postponed pre-registration assessment

Whilst we understand and appreciate the complexity of reorganising the registration assessments that were due in June and September 2019, we believe that the GPhC needs to do more to support our members. It is becoming increasingly difficult to accept the lack of clarity and information after such a lengthy period, especially as this had a significant detrimental impact on members' mental health and wellbeing.

Some members are becoming increasingly vulnerable due to the significantly delayed registration exam date as a result of a lack of support and continued unemployment. We find this incredibly concerning and ask that appropriate support is provided and/or facilitated.

Trainees need to know further details regarding the exam in order to begin preparing for the new online exam platform, including but not limited to, the provisions for those with alternative exam arrangements such as mental breaks and extra time.

Regular, transparent communication is essential in moving forward. We urge the GPhC to **increase the frequency of updates**, provide **more clarity** regarding the assessment, resit opportunities, and to further encourage employers to support all those awaiting the registration assessment.

We would like to clearly outline our expectations of the GPhC on behalf of our members:

- The exact date of the exam to be provided by the end of November 2020
- The exact date of the resit exam to be provided by the end of November 2020
- The Exam rubric to be published by the end of November 2020
- Clarification on if the exam will count towards one of three sits
- To facilitate a mini-mock online exam to mimic the online exam conditions

We would also like to take this opportunity to urge employers to account for the needs of our members, provide necessary support and agree on practical solutions to allocating time for study. We are becoming increasingly concerned about the workload of our members who are awaiting to sit the registration assessment and fear that amongst the 'second wave' of the pandemic, many members may find themselves unable to study again. We also fear the public health impact of employment suddenly ceasing due to a potentially high percentage of failure, caused by the incoming anticipated seasonal pressures.

Yours Sincerely,

On behalf of the British Pharmaceutical Students' Association

Regan McCahill
President 2019 - 2020