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I am delighted to have taken up the role of Executive Medical Director at NHS education for Scotland and I look forward to the opportunity to continue to supporting teams across Scotland to develop; deliver and sustain excellent education delivery aligned to high quality clinical care.



This week saw delivery of an excellent multi-professional Education Conference delivered wholly online with over 1800 participants.

In this month's brief, we introduce the outputs of our joint working with Scotland's Health Boards to improve support to trainees returning from absence so when the time comes to return the experience is as supportive and positive as possible.

Focussing firstly on planned absences, such as a career break, we have developed new resources to support early conversations between trainers and trainees to ease the return of trainees to the training environment help individuals to adjust. Please have a look at the resources and let us know if they are helpful.

We then take the opportunity to remind you that The General Medical Council's (GMC) 2022 National Training Survey opens for responses from 22 March to 3 May, giving trainees and trainers an opportunity to share their views on postgraduate medical training in Scotland.

Your responses are really important, allowing excellent training to be acknowledged and improvements to be made where standards are not being met.

Hot off the press - the GMC launched a consultation on the 27th April on the updates to Good Medical Practice, I would encourage all of you to have a look and if possible to participate in the process.

[Our consultation on the future of Good medical practice 27042022 - GMC \(gmc-uk.org\)](https://www.gmc-uk.org/our-consultation-on-the-future-of-good-medical-practice-27042022)

Quality improvement is synonymous with safe effective care and the Why Test Study is an exciting opportunity for trainees, GPs and allied health professionals to deliver a quality improvement initiative in their workplace

The study will also provide valuable research experience and we give details on how to apply.

Continued...

01 FOREWORD

We also feature the 2022 Scottish Medical Education Research and Innovation Annual Report that summarises the wealth of excellent research, innovation and evaluation work taking place in Scotland and demonstrates our commitment to improving education to benefit both learners, trainers and patients.

In closing we have a further update from the Support Around Death team with news of their resources and events.

If you have work you would like to highlight in the newsletter [contact us](#).

I hope you are able to take some down time as we come in to the summer months, remember looking after yourself is critical when you are looking after other. I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming months.



Dr Emma Watson
Executive Medical Director
NHS Education for Scotland



Wednesday 27 & Thursday 28 April 2022.

NES virtually held a very successful multi-disciplinary conference in April 2022. Over 1800 delegates attended.



Topics included:

- + NES Medical Education Awards
- + Technology-enhanced Training in Orthopaedics
- + The West of Scotland Renal Simulation Network
- + Recruiting in hard to fill locations
- + Teaching on a Virtual Platform
- + Impact of COVID-19 on clinical training and reported burnout rates in NHS Scotland
- + International Medical Graduates' Bootcamp
- + Sharing Experience to Better Support Training Through Cross-directorate Collaboration

More details and resources from the conference will be available in the next Deanery newsletter.



03 SUPPORTIVE CONVERSATIONS AROUND PLANNED ABSENCES

During 2021 the Deanery has been working closely with NHS Scotland Boards to improve support to doctors in training returning from an absence.



Much of this activity has focused on new principles for supporting trainees returning to clinical practice, and it is hoped that these new principles will be in place from summer 2022.

The Deanery has also begun looking at how we, and our trainers, can best support trainees when they are planning for, or returning from, an absence.

The first initiative from this is our process for supportive conversations around planned absences. Trainees might have a planned absence from their training programme for a variety of reasons; these can include being out of programme, being on leave for the arrival of a child & career breaks.

On all such occasions we want to begin discussing plans for return to clinical practice as early as possible so that when the time to return arrives the experience can be a positive and supportive one.

New resources can be found on the Scotland Deanery website to support trainees and trainers in undertaking these conversations and recording any plans for return.

Of course, we understand that whilst taking time away from training plans can change, and anything discussed will need to be flexible, but we hope that early consideration of how to support a positive return will make the transition seamless and enhance safety for trainees and patients.

If you are a trainee planning an absence from training, or a trainer whose trainee is planning an absence from training, please refer to the further information available [here](#).

04 TAKE PART IN THE 2022 NATIONAL TRAINING SURVEY

The General Medical Council's (GMC) 2022 national training survey is open from 22 March to 3 May.



The survey gives trainees and trainers an opportunity to share their views on postgraduate training in the UK.

The results give the GMC, medical education bodies, and employers the data they need to check that trainees are receiving high-quality training, and that trainers are supported in their roles. This year's survey will also provide vital information about the ongoing impact of the pandemic on doctors' progression, work, and wellbeing.

If you're eligible to complete the survey, you'll receive an email from the GMC inviting you to take part. You can fill it in on a mobile phone, tablet, or desktop computer; and you can save and return to your answers at several points.

Complete your survey today by logging in to your GMC Online account or visit www.gmc-uk.org/nts for more information about how your answers drive change.



Save the Date

Your Career / Our Future Annual Medical / Dental Careers Conference

Change; Supporting the future of medical
and dental workforce



Registration opens Friday 1 July 2022

Venue: Intercontinental Edinburgh The
George, George Street, Edinburgh

In partnership with COPMeD / COPDEND
/ MDRS, join us for a day of talks and
workshops exploring:

- + Flexibility in Medical / Dental careers
- + Dealing with burnout in trainers
- + Portfolio careers
- + The 'F3' phenomenon
- + Supporting doctors and dentists in
training throughout their career

[Register for this event](#)



The Primary Care Academic Collaborative (**PACT**) launches the **Why Test** study



The Why Test study is launching **NOW** and offers an exciting opportunity for trainees, GPs and allied health professionals to compete a quality improvement project for their practice whilst also gaining research experience. For more information see our [website](#), [blog](#) or [video](#).

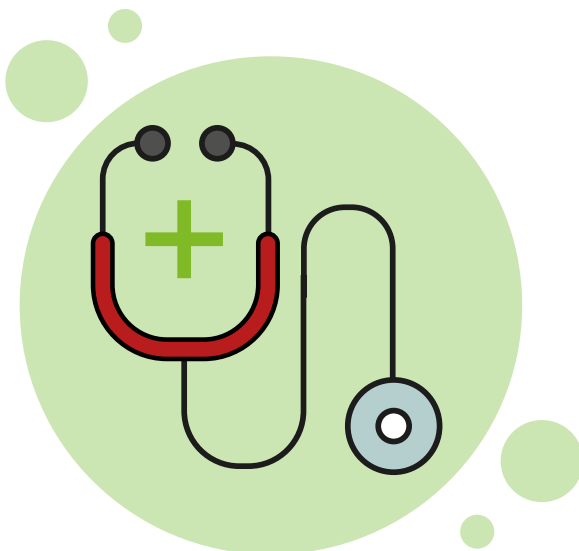
Benefits of participating:

- + Approximately £200 per practice will be provided to cover service support costs
- + No prior research experience is necessary and training materials are provided
- + Complete a quality improvement project which can be used as CPD
- + Improve patient safety around filing and actioning of test results

To express an interest please complete this online form



Scottish Medical Education Research and Innovation Annual Report 2022



In their report for the UK General Medical Council in 2019, Michael West and the late Denise Coia clarified the link between safe and healthy doctors and safe patient care. Our current annual report demonstrates the value of an integrated organisational approach to research and innovation.

On the one hand, we celebrate work looking at how we can improve the health and wellbeing of the workforce, the culture and management of the places we work and learn. On the other, we showcase work on safety, highlighting how safe system design

needs us to understand and take account of the workforce as the central resource of healthcare – always about people, for people, by people.

NES has a record of being on point with work we support and deliver ourselves and with partner organisations. No surprise, then, that this report contains summaries of excellent research, innovation and evaluation.

Please read the report here:
[**MedRIG Annual Report 2022**](#)

08 BEREAVEMENT-RELATED EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND EVENTS

NES Bereavement Conferences

2021 Bereavement Education Conference: Recordings now ready to view

Session recordings from the NES Bereavement Conference held on 24th November 2021 are now available to watch on the [Support Around Death \(SAD\) website's 2021 conference webpage](#) along with presentation slides from each session.



2022 NES Bereavement Education Conference

Thursday 24th November – SAVE THE DATE!

Following the success of the 2021 conference, we have confirmed the date for the 2022 virtual Bereavement Conference which will again be hosted in late November. Further details about the speakers, programme and registration will follow shortly. Keep up to date with developments at [#NESBereavement2022](#) and on the [SAD website's Events webpage](#).



Save the Date

Bereavement Education Conference Thursday 24th November 2022

Free, one-day virtual event for health and social care professionals



 [#NESBereavement2022](#)

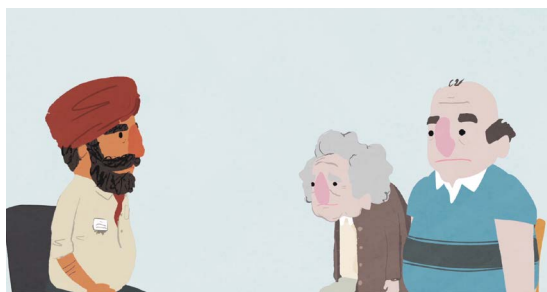
[@NES_Bereavement](#)

08 BEREAVEMENT-RELATED EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND EVENTS

Webinars

'Supporting those who are bereaved in Primary Care'

Thursday 26th May, 12:30-13:30



Speakers: Katrina Blackwood, Senior Healthcare Chaplain, NHS Grampian & Dr Sarah Luty, Associate Adviser – GP, NHS Education for Scotland

[Click here to register](#)

The next session in the Bereavement webinar series for health and social care professionals will discuss how to support people who are bereaved, including exploring the role that Community Chaplaincy Listening offers, delivering a skilled listening service within a variety of health and social care settings.

'The Value of Listening'



A recording of our most recently hosted webinar held on Wednesday 20th April will soon be available to view on our website.

“The speaker was excellent and spoke from the heart with deep experience and authentic voice”

This will sit alongside [recordings and resources from other previous NES Bereavement webinars.](#)

Bereavement Quarterly e-Newsletter



To be kept updated about future conferences and webinars in addition to new educational resources, please sign up [here.](#)



09 TRAINEE INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

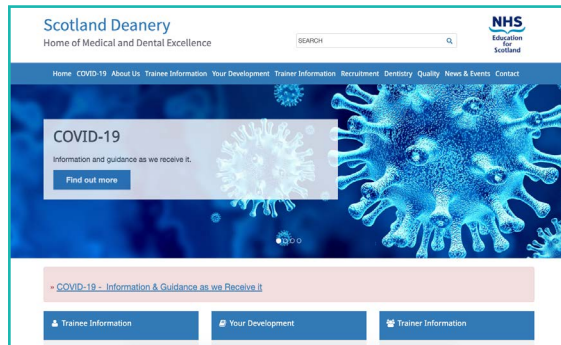
Please [Contact Us](#) with information on any initiatives and projects you are involved in that you would like to share with your colleagues across Scotland.

Also please [Contact Us](#) with any feedback on the Deanery Newsletter or Deanery Website.



10 NES MEDICAL WEBSITES

Created specifically for the needs of Scotland's Medical trainees and trainers, are the following resources:



The Scotland Deanery Website

The Scotland Deanery, along with our Local Education Providers, is responsible for managing Medical Training and Training Programmes across the four Scottish regions. Here you'll also find details of the Deanery's Quality Management activities, its key staff and locations plus information on Professional Development for doctors.

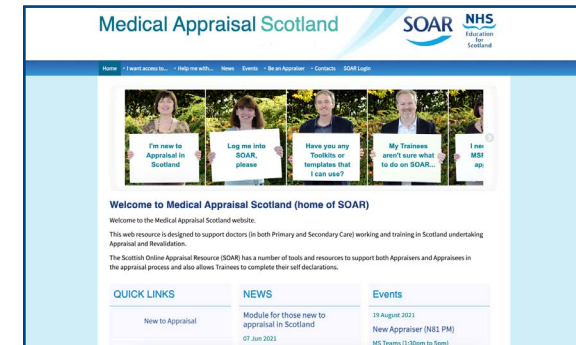
www.scotlanddeanery.nhs.scot



Scottish Medical Training

This site is the principal resource to learn more about how to apply for Foundation, Core and Specialty Medical Training in Scotland. Here you'll find regularly updated information about application windows (how and when to apply), a directory of 50+ GMC-approved medical specialty programmes and first-hand accounts about training from trainees and trainers. There are also useful insights on career direction and what it's like training and working in Scotland.

www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk



SOAR

Designed for doctors (in both Primary and Secondary Care) working and training in Scotland, for their Appraisal and Revalidation needs. SOAR is used by Appraisers and Appraisees to aid the appraisal process, and for Trainees to complete their self-declarations. Here you'll also find a SOAR user guide, handy FAQ's and examples of Quality Improvement Activities.

www.appraisal.nes.scot.nhs.uk

Please contact us with newsletter feedback and ideas for articles at:
www.scotlanddeanery.nhs.scot/contact

Social

Join the conversation



This resource may be made available, in full or summary form, in alternative formats and community languages. Please contact us on **0131 656 3200** or email altformats@nes.scot.nhs.uk to discuss how we can best meet your requirements.