

## **Statement concerning candidates planning to travel to the UK to attempt the FRCPATH Part 2 in January**

The College has completed the majority of the autumn examinations. We are still planning to go ahead with the additional FRCPATH Part 2 examinations for Haematology and Histopathology in January 2021. A number of candidates will need to travel to the UK in order to attempt these examinations.

We have considered the situation with regard to Covid-19 in the UK. These include but are not limited to the following:

- The UK is currently in various levels of lockdown with no confirmed information about when these may end, along with uncertainty about the situation in January after the Christmas period (although it is already confirmed that varying levels of restriction will remain across the UK).
- There may be requirements for candidates to self-isolate in the UK for 14 days prior to the start of the examination and/or have possible restrictions imposed on them upon their return to their home country.

Our primary concern remains the safety of our candidates and we are advising that any candidate who needs to travel to the UK in order to attempt their examination in January must defer their examination for the time being.

Discussions are starting to take place about the possibility of delivering at least the Histopathology FRCPATH Part 2 examination at an overseas centre in Autumn 2021. We will try and accommodate as many international candidates as possible in the Autumn but priority will be given to the candidates entered for the January sitting. International candidates entered for the January examination can either defer their examination to Autumn 2021 or seek a refund for their examination and re-apply at a later stage.

We are planning to hold FRCPATH Part 2 examinations in the UK only for the Spring session and would advise international candidates that they should not plan to travel to the UK for these examinations either due to the reasons given above. The application period closes at the beginning of January and we do not expect that the situation can be clarified by then for the examinations in April.

We fully appreciate that this will be disappointing to our international candidates but please be assured that we are doing everything possible to ensure the safe delivery of the examinations as quickly as we can. We thank you for your continued patience in these challenging times.