

Important update on the MFDS Part 2 examinations in the UK - February 2021

Due to the current rise in Covid-19 infections, which has led to new lockdown and travel restrictions and increased pressure on the health services in the UK, the MFDS Management Board – comprising the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow - has taken the difficult decision to cancel the MFDS Part 2 OSCE examinations which had been scheduled to take place in February 2021.

We recognise that cancelling the exams will be disruptive and may cause anxiety to candidates, but the health and safety of all candidates, examiners and staff – and the wider public and community we serve - is paramount.

We fully expect to run the next UK diets of the MFDS Part 2 OSCE in May as planned, as face-to-face examinations. We are working to increase capacity within this diet to allow more candidates to progress. In addition, as a contingency we are working closely with a provider to create an online platform which would allow us to deliver the exam remotely if we are unable to conduct the examinations in the conventional manner. A decision on the method of delivery will be made and communicated at least six weeks before the examination date.

Candidates' applications for the February diet will be transferred automatically - free of charge - to the May diets, unless you advise your College to the contrary. Your College will be in touch with you by 15 February 2021 to confirm the status of your application and the relevant examination date.

The Colleges would like to thank candidates for their understanding and patience in these very difficult circumstances.

If you have any questions, please contact your College:

Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh: mfds.exams@rcsed.ac.uk

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow: mfds part2@rcpsg.ac.uk