

THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SCIENTISTS

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MEMORANDUM

To: Fellowship Candidates in Training

From: Dr Carolyn Guy, Chief Examiner

Subject: Communication to Fellowship Candidates on COVID-19 provisions

The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has disrupted life across the globe and is likely to have impacted on your training programs. The College is empathetic to the impact and stresses that the pandemic has created. The College is aware of many of the issues that have arisen from the travel restrictions, changes in workplace organisation including work patterns and client interactions, cancellation of meetings and general disruption to everyone's normal routines.

While everyone has been impacted, the potential impact is greatest in the candidates who are nearing the end of their training and intend to submit credentials in 2020. The Board of Examiners has discussed a range of potential ways that the effects can be managed to reduce the impact on being able to credential this year. Everyone will have to be considered case-by-case in conjunction with the relevant Chapter Subject Standards Committee (SSC).

The ongoing impact of the pandemic may well flow into 2021 requiring continual review of the situation and determining detrimental effects on training programs. Currently any modifications would apply to candidates credentialing in 2020. The following is a list of the areas that may be impacted:

- 1. Workplace changes in the primary training site**
- 2. Travel restrictions**
- 3. Self-isolation**
- 4. Reduced caseload**
- 5. Decreased ability to visit other workplaces**
- 6. Reduced access to research**
- 7. Meetings/forums cancelled and effects on presentations**
- 8. Publication delays**

We welcome the feedback the Board has received and any further you would like to communicate to the Board, on the challenges you are facing due to the COVID-19 restrictions that are impacting on your training program, particularly those of you who are aiming to credential this year. The Board is collating the questions and will use this to develop approaches for the Chapters to consider.

Please send any feedback to: examinations@anzcvs.org.au