

To: Directors of Medical Education  
Via email

## Medical Education Reform Programme

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Dear Colleague

### **Career Refresh for Medicine (CaReforMe) – Medical Return to Practice**

As part of the response to the COVID pandemic and to help address ongoing medical workforce challenges, HEE has worked to develop a medical Return to Practice programme called Career Refresh for Medicine (CareforMe). It is aimed at doctors who have had a break in practice, including those new to the NHS (e.g. overseas doctors).

CareforMe is a facilitative programme that allows access to relevant training opportunities provided by the SuppoRTT (Supported Return to Training) programme and three HEE-funded mandatory supernumerary orientation days on commencement of post, for those applicants who have been out of practice for more than 6 months. These doctors will be supported by your HEE local office. A full briefing on the programme, which will help you to quickly employ eligible doctors, is attached.

The first application period has now closed and we are pleased to tell you that there are successful applicants within your region.

It remains the responsibility of the individual doctor and the employing trust to arrange an appropriate post and undertake all necessary HR and employment procedures.

Doctors are being supported by HEE local offices who will provide supportive resources and information to help doctors to be equipped to return to practice and deliver high quality patient care at this very challenging time. We would like to ask for your help in ensuring that these doctors are accessing these resources.

We are asking that, if a doctor wishes to try to arrange a post in your trust, you act as, identify or signpost a point of contact, who can direct them to local resources that may be available, such as colleagues specifically tasked with supporting returning doctors (e.g. Trust SupportTT Champion). Indeed, we would encourage you to actively engage your SupportTT Champion and share this information with them.

As explained in the briefing, some of our returners may require further support from Trusts they are applying to before they are fully equipped to return. HEE is not providing personalised training specific to the posts that individual doctors are applying for, so it is important that you discuss and check any training requirements with applicants.

Other doctors who are not part of the CaReforMe programme may approach you about opportunities to return to clinical practice. We will be running additional rounds of recruitment for the programme in future, and some of the resources provided under CaReforMe are available to all, so we encourage you to recommend [our website](#) to them, where they can also make an applications for the next round of recruitment.

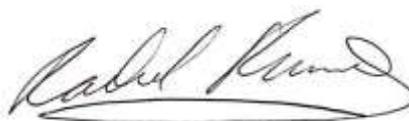
We hope that this supportive offer from HEE will help you to employ more experienced doctors, ready to return to practice and that you will work with your colleagues to consider them favourably in your Trust's recruitment.

Should you have any queries, please contact your HEE local office.

Yours faithfully



Dr Paul Sadler  
Postgraduate Dean



Dr Rachel Rummery  
Clinical Lead for Return to Practice