

## **PMETB principle in relation to trainees and training during times of national emergency**

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Doctors will play a vital role in helping the country during a time of national emergency, such as an influenza pandemic.

PMETB supports trainees contributing appropriately to health services delivery in these exceptional circumstances, and appreciates that this may, for a limited period, take precedence over training. Notwithstanding, trainees must always work within their competence, and supported by appropriate supervision.

PMETB maintains that the approved curriculum and programme must be appropriately delivered and that should anything impede this then the length of training may be extended. PMETB expects postgraduate deans and their organisations to manage this issue locally on an individual trainee basis, in conjunction with the Colleges. PMETB does accept that some, or all, experience gained during a time of national emergency may constitute training. This will depend upon the specialty, the supervision arrangements, and the requirements of the curriculum and assessments.

The ARCP/RITA processes will help ensure that the relevance and appropriateness of the experiences can be considered in relation to training. It should also mean that trainees are clear about the implications of their training, including potential extension.

Trainees are advised to consult the GMC's *Good Medical Practice – Responsibilities of doctors in a national pandemic*

([http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/news\\_consultation/medical\\_pandemic.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/news_consultation/medical_pandemic.asp)).