



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ACRRM TRAINING PROGRAM ADVICE

RE: COVID-19 IMPACTS ON EDUCATION & TRAINING

ACRRM acknowledges the COVID-19 pandemic will impact education and training delivery for accredited training organisations, registrars, supervisors, medical educators and training posts. FAQs will be updated as the situation continues to evolve.

1. How do I know when I need to self-isolate?

It is particularly important to be aware of the guidelines on who needs to isolate and what to do if you get sick. ACRRM is adopting the Department of Health's isolation guidelines on COVID-19, which can be found [here](#). They cover advice on travel, symptoms and who to contact.

2. What leave provisions apply to self-isolation?

Self-isolation for COVID-19 reasons qualifies for sick leave.

AGPT registrars should refer to their employment contract or [NTCER](#) provisions. Sick leave taken that is over the NTCER provision is classified as Category 1 leave. Category 1 leave does not contribute to training time on AGPT ([AGPT Program Leave Policy](#)).

Please liaise with your training post and Regional Training Organisation to complete any leave forms.

3. How will training time be affected if I am required to take leave?

Up to six weeks statutory leave per annum may count towards the minimum Training Time requirements (refer [ACRRM Training Time policy](#)). Special consideration can also be provided on a case-by-case basis.

4. Can I still work by teleconsulting while in self-isolation?

In cases where you are medically well, but forced to self-isolate, you should discuss teleconsulting with your employer. Many rural health facilities accredited by the College for training routinely provide telehealth services.

To find out more, visit us online at acrrm.org.au or call 1800 223 226

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5. If registrars are required to provide consultations via telehealth, can this count towards training time?

Yes, telehealth competencies are a component of the College Curriculum. Registrars can undertake telehealth consultations associated with their accredited training post. Teleconsultations by registrars continue to require supervision that is commensurate with normal supervision requirements. All other Standards for Training Posts also continue to apply, including record management, Workplace Health and Safety and fatigue management.

6. What affect will COVID 19 have on Regional Training Organisation and College training activities?

Offsite supervision can be accredited by the College where registrars are willing and competent to have this type of supervision. Contact your RTO to discuss accreditation. You can also refer to the [College Standards for Supervisors in Training Posts](#).

7. What happens if a registrar misses a compulsory training program requirement?

It is expected that there will be flexibility around timing and provision of alternative activities. This is at the discretion of the training organisation responsible for delivering the training activity.

8. What affect will COVID 19 have on Regional Training Organisation and College training activities?

It is expected that some educational and assessment activities will be impacted, especially those involving face-to-face instruction. Where it is feasible and safe to do so, the College will aim to provide options including remote delivery of activities, to ensure the learning needs of registrars continue to be met. The College encourages Regional Training Organisations to also consider alternative modes of delivery. The College will continue to monitor the situation and provide regular communication to stakeholders.

COVID-19: WHERE TO GO FOR MORE INFORMATION

Daily updates are provided by the [Department of Health](#), with reliable information and resources on COVID-19 specifically available on the Australian Government's COVID-19 resources website.

For those travelling, or know someone who is traveling, [the Smart Traveller](#) website has up to date content you can access further information and guidance on the [World Health Organization's \(WHO\) website](#) and the [Centres for Disease Control \(CDC\) website](#).

