

Southwest

School of Primary Care



18th December 2020

To GPSTs/Trainers/Faculty,

RE GPST involvement in Covid-19 vaccination programme

We are conscious of the significant logistical challenges around vaccine delivery and recognise the importance of system working to support this where possible. GPSTs, as members of primary health care teams, might make a valuable contribution to the Covid-19 vaccination programme in the community as a vaccinator and gain some unique learning opportunities.

We have therefore taken the view that GPSTs in primary care (not those in trust posts) provided they are progressing satisfactorily in training and where this meets their curriculum needs, may support the vaccination programme. With the agreement of their Educational Supervisor, GPSTs may undertake a couple of sessions out of their training schedule to participate in the programme. This may not be appropriate for all GPSTs, especially those with impending exit exams and those whose progress in training requires them to remain training within the practice.

Trainees, may also contribute to the programme outside of the training schedule by working additional sessions on an employed basis, the commitment to this must not impact on training and is supported subject to the usual stipulations governing additional/locum work or work in other environments. Any such extra work should be declared on the trainee's Form R. Payment being provided by the commissioner of this work. The following link includes a template letter which details additional work requirements and is applicable to working in the vaccination Centre.

<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/gp-trainees>

At all times the Trainee must have access to appropriate supervision and have completed the requirements of being a vaccinator.

These are challenging times and whilst it is important we support the provision of 'core' general practice, it is also important, in the face of a mass vaccination programme, that the trainee contribution can be realized.

Kind regards,

Dr Andrew Eynon-Lewis, Primary Care Dean



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