

Covid-19 Pandemic – GP Trainees Voluntarily Undertaking Additional Shifts for the NHS 111 Service, OOH Provider or Acute Trust

Advice for GP Educators

March 26th 2020

In responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, GPSTs may volunteer to undertake additional work in an out of hours provider or the NHS 111 service or at their local acute hospital trust

- Prior to undertaking such additional work, GPSTs require the support and agreement of their current named clinical supervisor and, depending upon the numbers of hours worked, their lead employer
- This would generally apply to ST3 GPSTs who were progressing satisfactorily at their last ESR/ARCP although ST1 and ST2 trainees in a GP placement could also be considered for this work
- With OOH provider shifts, the GP trainee should be capable of undertaking remote shifts
- All activities should be subject to the usual risk assessments of the service host, including the provision of all necessary equipment, induction, training and supervisory arrangements
- As these are not training posts, supervision of the work undertaken will be provided by the line management/escalation process within the service in which they are working. The usual clinical supervision requirements attached to a training post will not apply and, as such, this work would not count towards the training requirements for Urgent and Unscheduled Care
- This work would be in addition to a trainee's normal working hours and therefore the trainee should think carefully about how much additional time they can offer, in order to avoid personal fatigue and burnout, and to ensure that it does not affect their substantive post as a GP trainee.
- Trainees can work up to 48 hours in a week. Any hours worked in addition to 48 hours would require them to opt out of the working time directive via the lead employer.
- The MDU has provided assurance that this work will be covered as part of your usual indemnity arrangements
- Any additional pay will be the responsibility of the organization which the trainee is working at