



NEWSLETTER

Postgraduate Medical Council of WA



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Chairs Welcome



PMCWA has had a busy start to 2021 with many highlights in a short period of time.

COVID-19 had a large impact on our junior doctor workforce numbers by restricting the usual influx of overseas doctors to Western Australia (WA). One innovative solution to address this shortfall was allowing a small group of WA's 2020 graduating class to commence their Internship in November 2020.

There were 23 who opted for the early start for various reasons including needing the money, helping out the current junior medical officers (JMOs) and their own travel plans being thwarted. The evaluation was very positive with most stakeholders, including the Interns, agreeing that it could be repeated again next year if required.

Congratulations to Fiona Stanley Hospital's Dr Greg Sweetman and Ms Marani Hutton and their teams who liaised with PMCWA, Ahpra, University of WA and Notre Dame medical schools to make this happen.

A big event on PMCWA's annual calendar is the annual Medical Careers Expo. With the 2020 event cancelled due to COVID-19 we decided to deliver it as a virtual event for 2021. Our panelists congregated in our makeshift

studio and our audience members dialed in from home with a live chat. Feedback from the panelists and audience was very positive and we may very well have found the new normal for our annual Medical Careers Expo.

PMCWA has been supporting the Office of the Chief Medical Officer's (OCMO) Medical Workforce team with some great recruitment initiatives to support our junior doctors. Over the last 18 months the combined centralised Resident Medical Officer (RMO) and Service Medical Registrar (SMR) recruitment process has been progressing with further improvements for the 2022 application process. This has been a great collaborative initiative between the sites' medical workforce teams, OCMO's Medical Workforce team and PMCWA.

In January we welcomed Dr Greg Sweetman as Acting Chair of the Accreditation and Standards Committee. Greg was the 2020 winner of the WA Medical Educator of the Year award. In November 2020, Greg was announced by the CPMEC as the winner of the National Award at a Virtual ceremony. PMCWA feel very honored to have him join us.

This newsletter wouldn't be complete without mentioning the extensive work on the Curtin Business Case confirming budget allocations to our health services to prepare for 60 extra intern positions for 2022. We will continue to work with these primary employing health services (PEHS) as they prepare for the commencement of these Interns in January 2022.

Dr Marg Sturdy

Accreditation and Standards Committee



I feel privileged to have been asked to hold this position as Acting Chair of the Accreditation and Standards Committee (the Committee) for 2021. I come with broad experience in the training and supervision of prevocational doctors through my former role as Director of Medical Education at FSH and long-term Lead Surveyor in the Accreditation program.

This year, the Committee has continued to meet during the pandemic in February, March and May. During this time, reports and surveyor recommendations from the health service wide site survey at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Bunbury Hospital and Albany Health Campus were discussed.

In addition, securing additional intern placements for 2022 has been one of the primary focus's this year. As many are aware, Curtin Medical School will have their first graduating class of new doctors this year, and this has required additional assessments of suitable intern clinical rotations. To accommodate this expanded intern cohort, Joondalup Health Campus has undergone a formal assessment as a PEHS.

The Committee has also seen the introduction of a Medical Education Register (MER) representative.

Dr Greg Sweetman

Accreditation reviews

Several site surveys postponed from 2020 due to COVID-19 were added to the 2021 schedule, including a five day survey in the Kimberley. The following site surveys were conducted between January and June 2021:

- Albany Health Campus
- Pioneer Health Practice
- Bunbury Hospital
- Fiona Stanley Hospital
- Graylands Hospital
- Glengarry Private Hospital
- St John of God Midland Hospital
- Older Adult Mental Health Service Osborne Park

- Fremantle Hospital
- Kununurra Hospital
- Fitzroy Crossing Hospital
- Halls Creek Hospital
- Derby Hospital
- Broome Regional Hospital
- Next Step Drug and Alcohol Service

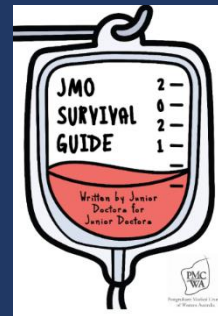
In addition, with the anticipated Curtin University medical graduates, a number of submissions for additional intern posts have been reviewed for various hospitals to ensure adequate and appropriate positions are prepped for the new JMO year.

Helpful Resources

Please note that the following resources can be viewed and downloaded from the PMCWA website:

2021 JMO Survival Guide – Written by Junior Doctors for Junior Doctors

2021 JMO Health and Wellbeing Guide



2022 RMO and SMR Recruitment

Application Period

Commences:

Monday, 24 May 2021

Virtual Information Session:

Wednesday, 2 June 2021

the recording is available on the PMCWA website

Application Period Closes:

Tuesday, 22 June 2021 at

4:00pm AWST

JMO Forum Update

Can you believe it's already May? The 2021 JMO Forum has hit the ground running!

We've recently worked together with the Australian Medical Association (AMA) WA to deliver the 2021 Medical Careers Virtual Expo. Over 600 junior doctors and medical students registered to the virtual event and were privileged to hear from key representatives from many of the specialty colleges regarding training opportunities and pathways. In other exciting news, new internship positions have become available for the 2022 Intern cohort. Applications have closed and offers being nationally on Monday 12 July.

The JMO forum has been working closely with representatives from all major hospitals and WA Country Health Service (WACHS) to obtain on-the-ground updates about workforce distribution, wellbeing, support, morale and education. We are aware of ongoing junior doctor shortages in some areas in the hospitals and wish to offer our support to the doctors working at these sites.

PMCWA and the JMO Forum are thankful for the ongoing support from partner organisations including the AMA WA, Australasian Junior Medical Officers' Committee (AJMOC), and the Doctors' Health Advisory Service Western Australia (DHASWA). Together, we continue to work with the hospital executive teams and advocate for the best possible training and workplace conditions for doctors in training. We want to take this opportunity to thank the 2020 JMO Forum Co-Chairs, Dr Anita Smith and Dr James Caudle, for their efforts last year and hope to build on the great work that's been done.

We're looking forward to the rest of 2021. Some of our key priorities include:

- Ensuring junior doctors have adequate education opportunities and feel supported in their workplaces, as we continue to adapt to the dynamic COVID-19 pandemic

- Overseeing the first cohort of Curtin Medical School students to successfully transition to internship in 2022
- Providing feedback on newly created internship positions to accommodate the increase in graduates, especially new positions at Perth Children's Hospital and Osborne Park Hospital
- Supporting the ongoing push for accreditation of service registrar positions, as well as a formalised education training program for service surgical registrars
- Develop exciting new projects through the education and wellbeing committees – stay tuned!

The JMO Forum is passionate about all things that are important to our junior doctors. We want to hear about your experience as a junior doctor – what is working well and what can be done better. We also want to strongly encourage everyone to take part in the upcoming 2021 Medical Training Survey, which is a nation-wide and profession-wide survey organised by the Medical Board of Australia and Ahpra. Last year over 20,000 doctors in training responded to the survey and we hope to see even more in 2021.

In this current climate of uncertainty, we want to highlight the excellent services provided by DHASWA. If you are feeling overwhelmed, anxious, stressed, or need to talk to someone, DHASWA is a 24/7 hotline staffed by experience GPs, who are there to listen and help. Any doctor or medical student can access this service by calling (08) 9321 3098.

We look forward to giving an update later this year and hope to see you at our next JMO Forum meeting!

Your 2021 JMO Forum Co-Chairs,

Dr Dean Choong & Dr Jazmin O'Reilly-Hawes



Important dates

Monday 12 July

Intern offers commence

Friday 19 November

Intern offers close

Monday 29 November

(Late Vacancy Management Process – open)

Friday 25 March 2022

(Late Vacancy Management Process – closed)

Centralised Intern Applications Process

The PMCWA are coordinating the annual centralised intern application process on behalf of the participating health services for the 2022 clinical year. Participating health services include all major public employing hospitals and St John of God Midland Public Hospital and Joondalup Health Campus. As there is an anticipated increase in medical graduates for the end of 2021, there are some exciting new rotations available for 2022 interns including OPH and PCH, which will see interns rotate from Royal Perth and Sir Charles Gairdner Hospitals for the first time in 2022. Interns can also complete a full year at Broome Health Campus through WACHS.

The PMCWA Accreditation and Standards team are busy scheduling site visits to ensure these new rotations meet the standards. We anticipate that these will be sought after rotations.

2021 Medical Careers Virtual Expo



On 10 and 11 May 2021, PCMWA and AMA WA were pleased to present our very first virtual Careers Expo. It was a hybrid approach with our panellists joining us in our makeshift studio at The Boulevard, Floreat, and our attendees being able to dial in from home or work via a computer, tablet or mobile.

The night was a huge success with 192 attendees logging in on the first night and 122 logging in on the second night. The General Practice session was very popular, and included two panel discussions. The first panel comprised of representatives from the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACCRM), Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), Western Australian General Practice Education and Training (WAGPET) and the National Rural General Pathway and the second with doctors in training who shared their decisions on their pathways and their experiences.

There was a Q&A feature on the platform which allowed our at home audience to send through their questions to the panel. Some of the questions included:

- Are there part time opportunities? Can you take time off during the training?
- What are your tips for getting into the training program?

The evaluation has been very positive with our panelists and attendees both agreeing that the virtual expo is definitely worth considering again next year.

We would like to thank our sponsors, St John of God Health Care, WAGPET and JHC.

A special thank you to the junior doctors who agreed to go where no other junior doctor had been before and to be the hosts for the panels. Thanks to Drs Oliver Venetacci, Kate Needham, Dean Choong, Yasmin Soliman, James Caudle, Jazmin O'Reilly-Hawes, Megge Beacroft and Jemma Hogan.



Upcoming Events

MEDCON 2021

When: 18 - 20 June 2021

Hosted by the Australian Medical Association (WA), MEDCON21 will offer a range of clinical and non-clinical workshops and presentations, which will include college specific content and a range of keynote speakers. This conference will allow both doctors and medical students to explore further training and career development opportunities. Please click on the below link to register for this event.

Further details:

<https://www.medcon.edu.au/>



Australia Medical Students Association (AMSA) Global Health Conference

When: 5 – 9 August 2021

The AMSA Global Health Conference is set to be held in Perth this year, and is anticipated to connect hundreds of medical students in discussions and events centered on global health. There is also a range of social activities planned, so register your interest today.

Further details:

<https://www.ghc21.org/>



25th Australian and New Zealand Prevocational Education Medical Forum

When: 18 – 19 October 2021

The ANZPMEF will be held virtually this year. This Forum will bring together medical students and personnel to facilitate the sharing of research and to discuss current prevocational medical education issues. Abstract submissions are now open and will close 30 June 2021.

Further details:

<https://www.prevocationalforum2021.com/>



Junior Doctor and Clinical Educator of the Year Award

When: Watch this space

The Junior Doctor, and the Clinical Educator of the Year Award is run by the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils (CPMEC). Nominees are selected by peers and supervisors, and PMCWA selects the WA winners based upon the nomination details.

Further details:

<http://www.cpmecc.org.au/index.cfm?Do=View.Page&PageID=84> and

<http://www.cpmecc.org.au/index.cfm?Do=View.Page&PageID=136>

Annual Report

The 2020-2021 PMCWA Annual Report outlines the PMCWA's activities over the 2020-2021 financial year and highlights recent developments in the education, training and accreditation of junior doctors. The report will be published on the PMCWA website, so be sure to keep an eye out.

JMO Forum Dates

27 July

14
September

23
November



Postgraduate Medical Council
of Western Australia

2021

Postgraduate Medical Council of Western Australia - Schedule of Council, Committee Meeting and Events

January

| Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
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February

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March

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May

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July

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August

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September

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October

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November

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December

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| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

- Full Council 4.30-6.30pm
- Accreditation & Standards 4.30-6.30pm
- Education Committee 4pm-5.30pm
- MEO Network 9.30-11am

- Surveyors' Workshop
- JMO Forum 6 - 7:30pm
- MER Network 3:00 - 4:00pm
- Term Start Dates (JMOs)

- Medical Careers Expo 5.30-9pm
- 25th National Forum 2021 17-20 Oct
- Drs Welfare Interest Group 4-5.30pm
- Medical Education Symposium

- Public Holidays (WA)
- School Holidays (WA)

Accurate as of May 21

2021 Intern Dates

ORIENTATION WEEK: 4-8 JANUARY 2021



11 January – 21 March (10 weeks)

KEMH: 11 January - 7 March (7 weeks)

PCH & SJOG Midland: 11 January - 18 April (14 weeks)



22 March – 30 May (10 weeks)

KEMH: 8 March - 9 May (9 weeks)

PCH & SJOG Midland: 19 April - 18 July (13 weeks)



31 May – 15 August (11 weeks)

KEMH: 10 May - 11 July (9 weeks)

PCH & SJOG Midland: 19 July - 17 October (13 weeks)



16 August – 24 October (10 weeks)

KEMH: 12 July - 12 September (9 weeks)

PCH & SJOG Midland: 18 October - 16 January 2022 (13 weeks)




25 October – 16 January 2022 (12 weeks)


KEMH: 13 September - 14 November (9 weeks)



KEMH: 15 November - 16 January 2022 (9 weeks)

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