Statement on Long-term Sick Leave of Supervisors

Health Education England, working across Wessex

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Purpose

It is key that all trainees receive the required supervision for each post. This document sets out the Deanery’s guidance regarding the long term sick leave of supervisors.

Process

Occasionally there are occurrences when a trainee’s named educational supervisor is off sick for a period of time.

When a supervisor is off sick, for any period, temporary arrangements should be put in place by the trust to ensure adequate support for the trainee. We recognise that this may be a challenge for smaller departments where there is not necessarily anyone else to take on this role, albeit on a temporary basis. However, we have a responsibility to ensure that suitable arrangements are in place for trainees in these circumstances.

When a supervisor (clinical or educational) is off sick for more than one month and is unable to provide supervision, the Director of Medical Education will inform the relevant Head of School, Training Programme Director and Programme Manager of this absence by email. The programme team will then liaise with the trust regarding temporary solutions they may have put in place or offer support where these solutions may not be immediate.

Trainees should highlight the absence of their supervisor to their departmental lead educator.

Review

This document will be reviewed in three years’ time or sooner if the need arises.