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St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
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11th September 2018

Dear Jacqueline and Andrew

Suspension of Postgraduate Cardiac Surgery Training in relation to Serious Concerns

As you are aware, the current issues within the Cardiac Surgery Service at St George's University Hospital, have highlighted a number of concerns in relation to learning environment and the quality of education and training. As these concerns pose a significant risk to the postgraduate medical trainees undertaking their training requirements, HEE has decided to temporarily suspend training within the Cardiac Surgery Service.

The decision to temporarily suspend Cardiac Surgery as a training location has been a joint process between HEE and St George's University Hospital and has been made in consultation with NHS England, NHS Improvement, with input from the postgraduate medical trainees themselves. The concerns are:

- Inability of appropriate caseloads and case mix necessary to sustain training and no predictable timeframe for reinstatement;
- The fact that the training environment is not conducive to the teaching and oversight of the trainees;
- The learning environment.

The temporary suspension is envisioned for a six-month period and will take place once we have had the discussion with the trainees and will affect a number of posts. Once we have spoken to the trainees, we will be in touch with regard to the details and the timeframe.

As part of this process, we would like to you to conduct and complete the enclosed Patient Safety Impact Assessment. I would be grateful if this assessment could be completed by 14th September 2018 and sent directly to quality.lase@hee.nhs.uk.

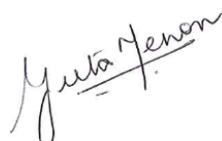
Given that HEE has taken action to temporarily suspend training, the General Medical Council has been informed and NHS England, NHS Improvement and the Care Quality Commission have all been copied into this letter and future correspondence.

HEE remain committed to working with the Trust to improve the Cardiac Surgery learning environment and St George's University Hospital to minimise the length of time this temporary suspension will be in place.

With this in mind we will ensure that we work with you to support the remediation of these concerns, this will include putting an action plan in place to ensure that the relevant improvements and actions take place.

If you or colleagues would like to discuss any element of this letter, please contact me in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Geeta Menon
Postgraduate Dean South London
Health Education England
London



Professor Elizabeth Hughes
Director & Dean of Education and Quality
Health Education England
London

Cc.

Dr Andrew Rhodes – Medical Director – St George's University Hospital
Dr Jonathan Round – Director of Medical Education – St George's University Hospital
Prof Elizabeth Hughes – Dean and Director of Education and Quality – HEE
Prof Lisa Bayliss-Pratt – Regional Director – HEE
Lynda Frost – Head of Quality, Patient Safety and Commissioning – HEE
Anand Mehta -Deputy Dean, SL Local Office HEE
Emma Whicher, Medical Director – NHSI London
Dr Vin Diwakar – Medical Director – NHSE London
Jane McPherson – Quality Assurance Programme Manager – GMC
Helen Rawlings – Head of Hospital Inspection South London & South Central – CQC