



ST3 O&G recruitment

To all 2020 ST3 Obstetrics & Gynaecology applicants

As you will be aware, face to face specialty recruitment interviews due to take place in April 2020 have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following the cancellation, contingency plans have been reviewed for all medical and surgical specialties by senior clinical representatives from across the four nations, and junior doctor representatives from the BMA JDC and AoMRC trainees' committee, supported by the Medical and Dental Recruitment and Selection (MDRS) Team.

You may have seen the letter to Royal College Presidents outlining general principles for replacing face to face specialty recruitment in most specialties to facilitate August 2020 start dates.

However, we write to inform you of different arrangements that have been put in place for ST3 Obstetrics & Gynaecology. Subject to national measures later in 2020, it is planned that face to face interviews are delayed until the Autumn (likely September or October 2020) with start dates as soon as possible after interviews have taken place. All longlisted applicants who applied to ST3 Obstetrics & Gynaecology in January/February 2020 will be eligible to attend these interviews. As previously, each applicant's self-assessment score will be used to rank applicants for interview. At this stage, we do not know the likely number of posts or interview capacity, so we are unable to confirm how many applicants will be invited. All longlisted applicants will be shortlisted, with some with lower scoring applicants being shortlisted reserves.

ST3 Obstetrics & Gynaecology interviews are being delayed because ST3 is not the standard entry point into Obstetrics & Gynaecology training. This is only the third year of recruitment at this level, and only the second year in which self-assessment has been used. We therefore do not have sufficient validated evidence to show that the self-assessment score alone can be used to appoint applicants into full training programmes.

The Obstetrics & Gynaecology National Recruitment Office will make contact with all longlisted applicants in due course once the new timeline and interview dates have been agreed. Please be aware that this will likely not be until May or June as the new dates will depend on the course of the pandemic and when social distancing measures are relaxed in the UK.

Best wishes,

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