

MEMORANDUM

Date: 24 April 2019

To: Year 4-6 medical students

From: Associate Professor Andy Wearn (Head
of the Medical Programme), Professor
Phillippa Poole (Head of School of Medicine)

Subject: **Further strike action by RMOs**

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As you will be aware, NZRDA members are continuing their strike action with a 5 day strike from 29 April 2019. This memo has been updated since the last strike action and provides advice for students in Years 4-6.

Year 6 (Trainee Interns)

1. Trainee Interns must gain clinical experience to complete their academic requirements. You are therefore expected to continue to attend your clinical placements for learning activities, including practical experience, during any strike period. Absence from an attachment on the grounds of RMO strike action is not acceptable.
2. No Trainee Intern should be expected to work at any greater level of responsibility than is usual.
3. Should a Trainee Intern have the opportunity to extend their duties then the following conditions must be met:
 - a) The Trainee Intern must willingly express a desire to extend their duties; and
 - b) A registrar or consultant must be present at all times to provide immediate and direct supervision.
4. No Trainee Intern should be designated as an acting house surgeon during the strike period unless:
 - a) The arrangement to act as a house surgeon for the period was in place before the threat of strike; and
 - b) A registrar or consultant is present at all times to provide immediate and direct supervision.

5. You are reminded that Trainee Interns are not registered medical practitioners and should not sign anything, for example: prescriptions, certificates or other legal documents, that require the signature of a registered medical practitioner, even if you are acting as a house officer.
6. Any Trainee Intern who is in doubt about tasks he or she is being asked to undertake should seek advice from a member of the academic staff.
7. No Trainee Intern is to work on a ward or in any clinical service situation e.g. admitting units, outpatient or ambulatory services, where there is not adequate senior doctor cover.
8. Supervisors are aware that your normal leaning may be disrupted and will take this into account when making assessment decisions.

If you have any queries about the above guidelines please do not hesitate to contact Andy Wearn or Briar Peat, Phase 3 Director (briar.peat@middlemore.co.nz).

Year 4 and 5 Students

Given the longer duration of the strike, some variation of normal programmes is unavoidable. Heads of Department and Attachment Coordinators will make necessary arrangements.

For short attachments, it may be necessary for students to make up time. In particular, it may not be possible for students to complete the required number of ED shifts. Each clinical sites will consider what is possible and liaise with students.

Supervisors are aware that your normal leaning may be disrupted and will take this into account when making assessment decisions.

Year 4 and 5 students must not extend their role in the manner that is provided for with Year 6 students.

End of memo