New MTI Doctors and self-isolation

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and NHS Employers statement

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Employers will be aware that as of 1 August all registered healthcare professionals are required to self-isolate on entering the UK (unless coming from an exempt travel corridor country). Therefore, most new Medical Training Initiative (MTI) doctors will be required to quarantine for 14 days on entering the UK.

For overseas doctors coming to work in the UK and the NHS for the first time, having to isolate on arrival will be particularly daunting and will add additional anxiety to the existing challenges of starting a new job in a new country.

It is for employers to agree with individual MTI doctors what the official employment start date and all employment arrangements should be, but we would urge employers to give all the support they can to newly joining doctors in terms of employment, access to accommodation, if provided, and information on local services, to help MTI doctors through any COVID-19 quarantine periods.

The NHS Staff Council has published guidance which covers leave and pay measures. NHS Employers has also published a suite of restarting international recruitment guidance which covers some of the practicalities of quarantine and supportive employer approaches.