

University of Glasgow
College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences

Mitigation Plan to reduce the Impact of COVID-19 on the PGR student population

General

- Students will be instructed that they **MUST** discuss with their supervisor a mitigation plan to reduce the impact of COVID-19 lockdown on their research. This should include possible adjustments to their research work plan and maintain a record of any lost time due to, for example, lack of access to an appropriate resource, a period of illness, needing to attend to caring responsibilities, or returning to clinical duties.
- Students and supervisors will be expected to engage with annual review as scheduled in order to review progress over the last year and enable you to raise any issues you have encountered or foresee over the next progression period. The review should be completed remotely using, for example, Zoom or Skype. A record of impacting factors should be recorded within the online progress portal.
- A number of mitigation activities have been approved by the Dean and are suggested below:

Mitigation Activities

1. Chapter of published papers where the student has had input ¹
2. Chapter of reviews. A minimum of 1 large review or 2 mini-reviews where the student has had the main writing role (preferably published but can be unpublished)
3. Chapter of mixture of either of the above activities
4. Chapter where student has undertaken data analysis using various servers and resources such as the online Moodle resources* to interrogate datasets produced from within the lab group** or externally by other groups to undertake the data analysis
5. Access to anonymised clinical or animal datasets (this may include the creation of database of datasets which can be made available for access for secondary analyses purposes)
6. Systematic literature reviews***, meta-analysis, other synthesis of published data, reanalysis of published data (e.g. a methodological paper exploring new statistical techniques), analysis of simulated data, theory development
7. Digital pathology analysis
8. Provision of assistance to supervisors to enable design of dry projects with links to databases
9. Developing modelling studies (new or using pre-existing models with relevant parameters)
10. Online learning opportunities to increase portfolios and credits. Both internal resources as well as external organisation course, seminar offerings****

This list of activities is not exhaustive and it does not preclude other ideas for mitigation to prevent or reduce impact of COVID-19 on the student's project, research. Many other ideas may be developed between the student and supervisor.

¹NOTE: Input in each paper must be defined and papers must not be identical to data described in thesis.

Further Information:

*On-line Moodle resources (Richard Burchmore, John Cole)

Moodle site providing online resources and training, forums for discussion, and useful contacts for both supervisors and students. A defined data analysis pipeline for transcriptomics and proteomics will be supported, enabling new data analysis to be completed on existing datasets. Support for other types of analysis will also be considered by request. Contains: R basics, tutorials on StemFormatics, GO within toppgene, panther and DAVID, cBioportal etc²
<https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=19318>

**Using the Galaxy servers and resources available from Polyomics to interrogate data sets produced from within lab group (salami sliced data sets) and ability to download data sets from deposited literature that can be used for comparative in silico analyses.

***Systematic reviews

<https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=19213>

****Jaxlabs webinars (free of charge) at <https://jackson.jax.org/JAX-Webinar-04302020.html>
And virtual Keystone symposia at: <https://virtual.keystonesymposia.org/ks/>

05/05/2020

²NOTE: While this will offer training and technical support, the responsibility of supervising students and interpreting their results remains exclusively with the supervisors.