Dear Program Directors, Fellows and Residents,

I am writing to update you on two key developments related to accommodations and medium-term housing:

1. Attached is the Postgraduate statement on accommodation in the era of COVID-19. This has been approved by the VP Education group of the major TAHSN hospitals. Questions can be directed to the Postgraduate Wellness Office: pgwellness@utoronto.ca.

2. If you need to self-isolate away from your home and family, StayWell (www.staywell.charity) is a charity that will provide subsidized furnished accommodations for health care professionals. They normally provide this service for patients relocating to Toronto for specialized medical care. Given the current situation, they are pivoting temporarily in an effort to support front-line healthcare workers. The units are located in condominium buildings that are walking distance from the downtown hospitals. They are 1- or 2-bedroom and come fully equipped with furniture, a full kitchen and TV/Internet. They are being offered at subsidized rates as a more comfortable and affordable alternative to hotels, and located in the downtown core.

Here are the details:

- Weekly rate is $600 for a one bedroom suite. There are some ancillary charges which will be provided once a request is made. FYI if the rental is greater than 30 days there's no HST.
- 7 day minimum stay with a 3-day notice to vacate

If you need to access this option, please contact StayWell directly at info@staywell.charity with “Healthcare worker” in the subject line.

We are working to identify alternative housing for this interim need that will be more cost-effective. In the interim, PGME has set aside some funding to offset the cost for residents. PGME will cost share and reimburse you up to half the cost of the accommodation if:

- The housing was secured through Staywell

Accommodation for Trainees March 25 2020.pdf
You have received a recommendation to self-isolate
You provide self declaration that your current residence is not appropriate due to the presence of at risk individuals or you are co-habiting with other health care workers.

I trust these two developments will be helpful for you. We continue to work on other strains in the system with our partners.

Stay well and at a distance, everybody!

Sincerely,

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