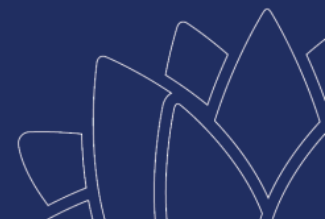


JMO Term Rotation Guidelines



Purpose

This document provides advice about junior medical officer rotations occurring during the current COVID-19 outbreak in NSW.

Term rotations

Five term and four term rotations are continuing as scheduled for 2021.

Five term rotation

Term	Start date	End date
Term 3	28 June 2021	5 September 2021
Term 4	6 September 2021	21 November 2021
Term 5	22 November 2021	6 February 2022

Four term rotation

Term	Start date	End date
Term 3	2 August 2021	31 October 2021
Term 4	1 November 2021	6 February 2022

Please note that the pandemic is rapidly evolving, and this advice may change at short notice in response to unfolding public health advice.

COVID testing requirements for junior doctors undertaking rotations

All junior doctors rotating from Greater Sydney to a rural and regional location and junior doctors rotating from high risk regional areas back to Sydney Metro or other regional areas must obtain a nose/throat PCR COVID test and receive a negative result within three days of starting their rotation, e.g. if starting on a Monday the test is done on the preceding Friday. The facility where the junior doctor is starting their new rotation must receive evidence of the negative test result before the junior doctor commences work.

Junior doctors working in high risk wards/units prior to their next rotation are expected to comply with local testing arrangements. If as part of this testing regime they are tested within three days of starting the next rotation using a saliva test a nose/throat PCR test is not required.

Public Health orders require that a Greater Sydney worker must not enter premises for work that are more than 50 kilometres outside Greater Sydney unless the worker has been tested for COVID-19 in the previous 7 days and has evidence of the test available for inspection by their employer or a police officer.

Junior doctors should be familiar with any restrictions that apply to the LGAs or suburbs in which they live and abide by the relevant testing requirements.

The Public Health Orders may change at short notice. Updates to Public Health orders can be found at www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

Public Health Orders: Vaccination

Public Health (COVID 19 Vaccination of Health Care Workers) Order 2021 commenced on 26 August 2021. Under the Public Health Order mandatory COVID-19 vaccination will now be required for all NSW Health staff with first vaccination required by 30 September 2021 and second vaccination by 30 November 2021 in order to continue to work for NSW Health.

Public Health orders: traveling to work

The Public Health (COVID-19 Temporary Movement and Gathering Restrictions) Order 2021 places certain restrictions on movement. These can differ depending on where an individual resides, particularly if they reside in an “area of concern”.

Currently, this order permits people to be away from their place of residence with a reasonable excuse, including travelling to attend work (where it is not possible to do at home). However, a person who lives in an area of concern cannot leave the area in which they live for the purposes of work, unless they are an **authorised worker**. A registered health practitioner is an authorised worker.

From the 28 August:

- A person cannot enter an area of concern to carry out work unless they have a permit issued by Service NSW
- an authorised worker must not leave the area of concern for work without a permit issued by Service NSW

From the 30 August:

- an authorised worker must not leave the area of concern for work unless:
 - the worker has had one dose of the vaccine, or
 - has a medical certificate indicating a medical contraindication and carries the required evidence, or
 - is tested as part of a COVID-19 rapid antigen testing program at the workplace.

Junior doctors should check whether they reside in an area of concern or work in an area of concern and the rules for permits at www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

Junior doctors should be familiar with any restrictions that apply to the LGAs or suburbs in which they live and abide by the relevant requirements.

The Public Health Orders may change at short notice. Updates to movement restrictions can be found at www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

Rotations between Greater Sydney and rural and regional locations

Public Health orders place certain restrictions on movement. These can differ depending on where an individual resides.

A reasonable excuse is required for travel from Greater Sydney to a rural and regional location. Leaving home to go to work (if you cannot reasonably work from home) is a reasonable excuse.

A permit system to enter regional NSW is in place from 21 August 2021. Permits are available from Service NSW.

A person can only enter Greater Sydney from outside of Greater Sydney with a reasonable excuse. Travelling to attend work (where it is not possible to do at home) is a reasonable excuse.

There may be different restrictions in place between Greater Sydney and regional areas. Junior doctors should be familiar with any restrictions that apply to the location they are traveling to for their rotation.

Junior doctors rotating from Greater Sydney to a rural/regional location must observe the Greater Sydney stay at home rules for 14 days after leaving greater Sydney, even if the regional location does not have stay at home rules. Under stay at home rules going to work is a reasonable excuse.

Public health orders: Carpooling

Carpooling is when you travel in a car with people you do not live with such as friends, family people you work with. You must not carpool with people you do not live with when the stay at home rules are in place. Junior doctors must not carpool when traveling from Greater Sydney to a rural and regional location.