

## Health Education England

Stewart House  
32 Russell Square  
London  
WC1B 5DN

E. [patrick.mitchell@hee.nhs.uk](mailto:patrick.mitchell@hee.nhs.uk)

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To: All Healthcare Simulation Technicians

This open letter from Health Education England is written in recognition of the significant contribution made by you as simulation technicians during the covid-19 pandemic. The role of the simulation technician is critical to the functioning of healthcare simulation for student nurses, medical students, doctors in training, trainee allied health professionals as well as for established healthcare workers as part of their continuing professional development. Settings include both Higher Education Institutions in addition to NHS Institutions. The support you have provided to all healthcare staff faced with upskilling requirements to help deal with pandemic-related challenges has been crucial. Additionally, many students and trainees have faced real difficulties in gaining the experience and competencies required to progress. Simulation-based education has provided some mitigation which has only been possible with the expert support you as a group have been able to offer.

Over the past 18 months, there are many examples of the simulation technician community re-inventing themselves and innovating to help however and wherever needed. This has included:

- Ensuring simulation labs and medical education centres are covid-compliant
- Providing face-to-face mandatory training for students at HEIs
- Supporting in-situ simulation sessions in Emergency Departments
- Writing guidelines to ensure essential face-to-face training within the NHS can continue safely
- Being part of vaccination teams
- Designing and printing PPE for areas struggling with supply
- Providing enhanced cleaning to minimise infection risk during training sessions.

Health Education England is very grateful for all you have done and continue to do and looks forward to maintaining a close relationship. Additionally, Health Education England were interested to hear of the launch of your inaugural UK National Sim Tech Day on 15 September 2021. This celebrated all that the simulation technician community do, recognising the impressive work done by you during the pandemic.

Once again, many thanks to you all.

Sincerely,



**Patrick Mitchell**

Director of Innovation, Digital and Transformation  
Health Education England