HESA Assessment Data – Briefing Note 1

February 2020

Progress to date

1   We discussed the HESA Assessment Data Pilot collection for the academic year 2020/21 at The MSC Assessment Advisory Board 10 January 2020. Please see *MSC Assessment Leads 10 January 2020 - HESA Assessment Data developing a template - 07012020 final.pdf* circulated with this note for details. We agreed to reduce the collection for the academic year 2020/1 to the following:

   a   All students on the first year of study (Year of programme 0 or 1);

   b   All students on the final year (year 4, 5, or 6 depending on the course).

2   This will allow data collection for the UK Medical Applicant Cohort Study (UKMACs, the NIHR study run by Dr Katherine Woolf) and ensure the pilot dataset incorporates clinical skills assessments

3   In 2021/22, the second year of the spreadsheet pilot, we will collect Assessment across all years.

4   We will work with student representatives and HESA to draft an enhanced privacy notice for students which will include information on UKMED. This will be ready for the start of the academic year 2020/21.

5   Schools will be able to comment on the data collection methodology via the MSC Assessment Reference Group who will receive copies of templates and documentation for comment. We are aiming for two rounds of consultation in: March v1 and June v2.

6   We have undertaken to finalise the specification in August 2021 for the start of the academic year.

7   The GMC are recruiting an additional data analyst to work on the project.

Next steps

8   We would like to visit three to four schools for one day for one day during March and April to discuss the feasibility of the GMC using the exam board spreadsheets for the return and developing a template to allow schools to return data directly without GMC staff using exam board spreadsheets. Ideally participating schools would share exam board spreadsheets with real data but using anonymous student identifiers prior to the visit.

9   The output from these visits would be a mapping between the proposed fields listed in the HESA Assessment data return and existing school data sources.

10   Interested schools should contact Daniel.Smith@gmc-uk.org in the first instance. We would suggest that we do not visit the 12 schools working on the CPSA pilot: Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Glasgow, Lancaster, Manchester, Oxford, Queen's University Belfast, Sheffield, St George's and Warwick.