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Dear SAM colleague

Thank you for your patience with us as we have discussed the right way to proceed with SAM Manchester, which as you know coincides with the Queen's funeral following her recent sad death. Can I also thank all the members and delegates who emailed me. I can assure you we used those to help form our discussions and plans.

In order to reach our decision we needed to consider many factors including:-

- The wishes of speakers, delegates and SAM members
- The importance of the conference to the education, networking and forwarding key acute medical themes and projects
- The financial and logistics challenges any changes would have for delegates
- Respect and honour for the Queen in accordance with the best traditions of medicine
- Impact on staff working at the conference centre and the availability of the conference centre

After considering all of these factors and others, we came to the conclusion that the best approach was to postpone the conference until the 28th and 29th November. Manchester Central have been extremely accommodating in facilitating this for us and we are grateful to them for this.

I know that many delegates will be disappointed with this decision and for that I am truly sorry. On balance, we felt that this was the best way to proceed given these sad and unique circumstances.

We hope that the vast majority of people will still be able to attend in November. We expect our fantastic program to be similar and the accepted oral/poster presentations will be unchanged. The conference team will also be emailing everyone individually. I apologise for the inconvenience this will cause for those who had already arranged transport and accommodation. We will be writing an open letter to Trusts and Deaneries asking for them to be obliging in granting study leave given the circumstances.

I need to thank our conference team for all their fantastic work as always. As always, I am extremely grateful to all SAM members for their hard work and support. I am excited to see everyone in Manchester in November. If anyone has any concerns or issues in the meantime, I am always pleased to receive emails from members (president@acutemedicine.org.uk).

With kind regards,

Tim

Dr Tim Cooksley FRCP

President, Society for Acute Medicine

Secretary Dr V Price Treasurer Dr M Wheble Administrator L McLoughlin