

## **Update regarding SAMBA26 due to planned industrial action – new date (25<sup>th</sup> June)**

Thank you for registering for SAMBA26,

SAMBA26 was originally planned to take place on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2026, but will now take place on **25<sup>th</sup> June 2026**.

Due to planned industrial action from resident doctors in England, taking place on the originally planned SAMBA day of 18<sup>th</sup> June, we have decided to move the date of SAMBA. As the industrial action may affect the functioning of acute medicine services, keeping the originally planned date would make comparison of performance between years and between units (key aims of SAMBA) very difficult.

### Why have we changed the date

We have chosen to move the date to try to ensure that participating units can compare their results to previous years. Also, participating units put considerable work into taking part in SAMBA, including data collection and upload; moving the date to after the planned industrial action will mean this work does not need to be completed while services may not have their usual staffing due to the industrial action. We also recognise that many resident doctors contribute to SAMBA data collection each year.

Although the industrial action is only for resident doctors in England, we are asking all sites to move the day of data collection, as SAMBA requires data to relate to the same day at all participating sites. We really appreciate the support of the participating sites in the devolved nations in this, to help us ensure we can deliver comparisons between all the units that take part.

### What do participating units need to do

Participating units have previously informed us that data collection and upload can be more difficult around times of industrial action, as there may be less time available for staff to take part. We have extended the final data upload deadline by an additional week, as well as shifting all previous dates by a week (i.e. the final data upload deadline is now two weeks later than originally planned). We would also like to remind units that they may be able to collect some data items retrospectively, during the weeks between SAMBA day and the upload deadline, to spread the work more evenly. Please see the SAMBA 'How to' guide on the SAM website for details regarding all the updated dates.

All updated paperwork required is attached to this email, and will be available on the SAM website soon (<https://www.acutemedicine.org.uk/samba-new/>). The Caldicott guardian approval form we previously provided does not need to be updated, but we would advise that you inform your local audit/quality improvement department of the planned date change.

We appreciate your support with these changes. Any queries or concerns can be directed to [samba@acutemedicine.org.uk](mailto:samba@acutemedicine.org.uk)