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Subject: Covid-19 Update from Chad's #11
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Dear Chadsians,

A little later in the week than usual (I took some time off over the long weekend) greetings to you all from Durham. I hope you all had a good Easter and were able to enjoy the long weekend with family and/ or friends - whether in person or on-line. It's been lovely to have some good weather in the UK and I hope you've been able to enjoy it.

I know that many of you who are still in Durham have been on your own, but it's been really good to hear that most of you seem to be adjusting well to this unexpected isolation, showing amazing resilience and enjoying new ways of staying connected. For those of you in lock-down with families or housemates - well, that can have its challenges too but I hope that now, as the initial strangeness is wearing off, you are all managing whatever new shape your life is taking.

I know some of you will be worried about vulnerable loved ones and the pain of not being able to see them just at a time when we want to stay close. I'm sure we all have good days and less good days and each of us will be struggling with a variety of challenges and worries. Many of you will be trying to stay focused on your academic work at a time when it's not so easy to concentrate. Later this week the University plans to send out information to all students about plans to update the SAC process in the light of our current circumstances, so if you're thinking of submitting a SAC form, it would be worth waiting to hear more about these updates first.

If there's anything we can do to support you through these difficult times, please let us know via chads.support@durham.ac.uk. As well as e-mail advice, we can offer conversations via Teams or Zoom, and our chaplain, David, is always happy to have a chat, (along with Eddie who's ears always prick up at the sound of a new voice).

Thank you to all of you who have been helping with the Virtual Post Offer Visit Day on-line activities. It's a reminder that Chad's continues and one day (hopefully sooner rather than later), we will get through this.

Meantime, all the very best to you and your loved ones.

Dr Masson

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