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Professor Sir Bruce Keogh National Medical Director Skipton House 80 London Road SE1 6LH

Dr Sarah C Clark President British Cardiovascular Society 9 Fitzroy Square London W1T 5HW

Letter sent by email: clarkes@bcs.com

4 July 2016

Re: Cardiac Physiology Workforce

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your letter raising concerns about the current and anticipated shortfall in the cardiac physiology workforce. As a commissioning organisation we are committed to commissioning services of the highest quality standards and ensuring those services are delivered by an appropriately skilled workforce, improving outcomes for our patients.

As you are aware we have been reviewing the recommendations within The Strategic Review of Cardiac Physiology Services Report and considering how we might support the implementation of the some of the key recommendations within the existing service models. It will be essential to ensure that the requirements to support future service models is securely embedded within locality wide Sustainable Improvement Plans (STPs). Delivery of the key recommendations is inevitably contingent on having an appropriately skilled workforce, in the right numbers to deliver the changes required. Health Education England (HEE) has responsibility for planning and investing in the appropriate workforce. Planning is reliant on receiving the correct information from frontline services and education providers about demand and the capacity to provide placements.

We are, therefore, currently in discussion with our HEE colleagues on how we can work in partnership to address some of the concerns that you raise. So, with HEE we propose to hold an early meeting with you to agree a way forward.

Many thanks for raising this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Sir Bruce Keogh KBE, MD, DSc, FRCS, FRCP

National Medical Director

NHS England