

care, she commented, "Initially I did have reservations about what I would come in contact with, with worries about catching the virus and about not being up to speed after being away from the NHS for so long. However, since I have had my refresher training, I am confident that I can do the job. The ICU unit is incredibly well managed, and infection control is ingrained in every element of the ward so I feel very well protected. The systems in place mean that I don't fear that I will bring the virus home to my family. For example, the clothes I wear on the ward never leave the hospital. This particular ICU unit is incredibly well prepared for what is to come."



Miss Jennifer Doyle

Miss Jennifer Doyle has also returned to working in ICU. On her transition, she states, "Whilst working in an intensive care unit couldn't be more different from my normal role as an ophthalmic surgeon and aesthetic practitioner, as doctors we all have transferable skills that we can

put to good use and help during this crisis. I am learning a lot and feel that I will be a better doctor when we come out the other side of all this. Whilst I have had the occasional patient try to convince me that their lack of botulinum toxin is genuinely a medical emergency, I have found that it has been a great opportunity to encourage my aesthetic patients to concentrate on their home skincare regimes. This is a habit I hope they continue when we come out of lockdown."



Dr Victoria Manning and Dr Charlotte Woodward

Owners of River Aesthetics clinic, Dr Victoria Manning and Dr Charlotte Woodward have closed their three aesthetics practices and have offered their services to help with the pandemic by working in GP roles, answering 111 calls and triaging patients on the phone. They commented, "We are delighted that have been able to offer our skills and experience to help the NHS during this unprecedented time. Our original calling was as GPs and to be able to offer our services to triage patients for 111 to help with the deluge of additional calls was a no brainer." On how this may affect their aesthetic practice in the future, they stated, "Demand and



interest in aesthetic treatments from our patients remains high and though our practices are closed, our admin team have continued to receive calls. Throughout lockdown we continue to offer support to our patients through Skype consultations, offering help and practical advice, and we are also assessing potential new patients who are interested in exploring treatment. We have recently opened a waiting list to ensure we are able to prioritise patients who we unfortunately had to postpone at the start of lockdown. Current indications are that there will be high demand for facial aesthetics as soon as we are able to resume treatments."



Mr Daniel Ezra

Consultant oculoplastic surgeon Mr Daniel Ezra has cancelled all non-urgent and routine appointments and treatments to focus on COVID-19 full time. He states, "It's been amazing to see the NHS restructure their services in a record amount of time, such as changes in ways of working that would normally have taken years to integrate within

the NHS. This crisis has shown that these changes can be carried out quickly and without the usual bureaucracy and I would hope that moving forward, this will become the norm. It's as though the NHS has had to evolve and it's starting a healthcare revolution that can only affect the public positively."



Uniting the community

While we are facing challenging times and uncertain futures, it is an inspiration to see the aesthetic community unite together, supporting one another and their community and, importantly, staying positive. Of course, these are only a few examples of the many amazing things that people in the industry have been doing, and there are lots others taking place across the country. If you have recently returned to working in healthcare, or are doing anything to support the UK community, please **continue to send photos and positive messages to editorial@aestheticsjournal.com**, so *Aesthetics* can keep sharing and supporting everyone involved.

