

Medical student clinical rotations suspended effective immediately.

Dear AMS Students,

I am writing to update you with a number of issues regarding the COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to medical students. I have received emails and comments from many of you and I greatly appreciate the thoughtful approach all of you have taken regarding these complex issues during these difficult times. We have worked to re-purpose year 1 for the MD Class of 2023, and will be sending a separate communication out to MD Class of 2022 soon.

With regard to the clinical clerkships and clinical rotations, we have just received guidance from the Association of American Medical Colleges which strongly supports that, effective immediately, medical schools pause all student clinical rotations until at least March 31. We are going to follow that guidance. **Therefore, you should leave your clinical rotations, effective immediately.**

Let me address some other issues and other opportunities for clinical students:

- A number of you have shelf examinations scheduled for Friday, March 20. Administration of these exams are going to take place on the medical school campus at 222 Richmond Street. We have enough rooms that will be utilized for distancing examinees, and facilities will clean these rooms before and after the examination. The building is locked so be sure to have your ID cards for access. More to come from Dr. George and the OME-CQI team.
- The leadership at Lifespan has reached out to me and is looking for year 3 and year 4 medical students who can be trained to field calls on their general COVID-19 hotline. This is critical work with no patient exposure. Please complete the Google sheet if you are interested - this has already been forwarded to MD20 and MD21.
- President Paxson and I spoke last evening and she indicated that the Rhode Island Department of Health may be looking for medical student volunteers to provide assistance in their efforts. She has given them my contact information. Once I hear back, I will let you know about specific opportunities for medical students to be involved.
- Faculty leaders of the Emerging Infectious Disease Scholars (EIDS) program at the Medical School, Drs. Tim Flanigan, Thais Mather, Ian Michelow and the OME-CQI team are looking for students to remotely create educational infographics, images, graphics, postings, and messages of COVID-19 that we will post through AMS social media and websites. The goal is to use these quick-look and simple infographics to supply trusted evidence which can be used by all members of society, providing educational information about the virus, statistics, preventative measures, and links to reference sources. We turn to your creativity for creating the posts and will help provide feedback prior to us disseminating, if any students are interested, please email Mike_Savaria@brown.edu.
- A group of medical students (led by Kristy Blackwood) is coordinating a medical student support of providers who may be without childcare or are in need of other assistance while they provide direct patient care. More to come from Kristy and her team.

Thanks again for your patience and your input. If you have any concerns or questions, reach out to me, Dr. George, or Dr. Vrees.

Allan Tunkel

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