Welcome to medical school!! I’m thrilled to welcome you on behalf of the entire Practice of Medicine staff. The Practice of Medicine (POM) course is a two year experience in which you are given the tools to function in a clinical setting. The course has many components and you will begin this August with Ethical, Legal and Social Issues in Medicine (ELSIM). This portion of the course is directed by Dr. Olick of the Bioethics and Humanities Department. It is designed to expose you to the ethical and legal foundations of medical practice as well as the dilemmas you will face. This course will be run concurrently with Preventive Medicine which is directed by Dr. Wojtowycz. It is designed to reinforce that an ounce of prevention truly is worth a pound of cure.

The third portion of the course is where you will get to know me and focus on Clinical Skills. Clinical Skills will begin in November and run almost continuously until you complete your second year. There will be a brief interlude at the beginning of your second year for Dr. Epling’s Evidence Based Medicine course which will teach you how to interpret rather than just read the medical literature.

In preparation for the clinical component of the course you are expected to purchase some basic diagnostic tools. A supply list is at the bottom of the second page for your reference. These can be purchased at www.steele.com after July 1st.

You are required to complete a Basic Life Support course as part of POM. We will arrange this for you but if you choose to get this done before arrival in school we will accept a BLS certification obtained on your own as long as you can present the certificate. This may free up some time for you to use in other ways during a busy semester.

A large portion of the Practice of Medicine content will be delivered in small group sessions where you will be performing exams on one another as well as standardized patients. If there are specific religious or cultural issues that you feel are important for us to consider in placing you in a particular small group, please feel free to share them with us. For example, let us know if you need to have a small group faculty tutor that is of your gender. You can either contact the Practice of Medicine directly at 315-464-2648 or e-mail us at mccloskm@upstate.edu.
Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Enjoy your summer break. We look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Good Luck and Welcome!

Doc L.

Required Medical Equipment for Upstate Medical University
(all these items will be available at the on campus bookstore and at www.steeles.com for order):

- Stethoscope: 3M Littmann Cardiology III is recommended (available in numerous colors). **Do not purchase an electronic stethoscope or one with three heads.**
- Sphygmomanometer (BP cuff): Any inexpensive non-digital model will suffice.
- A 128 Tuning fork (for vibration testing)
- A 512 tuning fork (for auditory testing)
- Tape measure
- Penlight
- Disposable wooden tongue depressors
- Reflex hammer
- Watch (digital or with a second hand) for assessing pulse and respiratory rates
- Pocket Eye Chart/Ruler

**Recommended** medical equipment for SUNY Upstate Medical students (**Important note** - while the Oto-opthalmoscope Diagnostic set is **recommended** here, it will be **required** in the 3rd year for those students going to the Binghamton campus).

- Oto-opthalmoscope Diagnostic set - to examine the eyes, ears, nose and throat; I recommend any of the Welch Allyn Macroview sets (97200-MC, 97200-MS). The campus bookstore is not stocking the oto-opthalmoscopes. You can purchase through an online vendor like Steele Supply (http://www.steeles.com).
- Medical “doctor’s” bag or suitable substitute.

The following item will be provided to you during orientation:
- Short white coat (will be given to you at orientation for the White Coat ceremony)

All are widely available, best prices are generally online.

Steeles.com Order Closing Dates: September 20th
October 25th

**Note:** To receive the $5.00 Group Shipping rate please enter “SUNY Upstate Group” in the school field.