

3/17/2020 – Update on Clinical Rotations

The AAMC and LCME have just released a joint statement with new guidance for all medical schools this afternoon (attached). This states "starting immediately, the AAMC strongly supports our member medical schools in placing, at minimum, a two-week suspension on their medical students' participation in any activities that involve patient contact."

Effective immediately, all Upstate medical students at all campuses/sites will be excused from participation in any activities that involve patient contact through March 31, 2020, with reevaluation of the situation in the interim and possible return to patient care activities as early as April 1, 2020. Clerkship and site directors and coordinators are being informed of this change now. All of you are excused from any patient care activities as soon as you feel that you can safely conclude what you are doing.

We know that a majority of the MS3 class expressed an interest in continuing in your clerkships in some form or other. We are going to work with all clerkships to try to get everyone to complete their final clerkship as efficiently as possible with as minimal disruption of fourth year time as possible. Third year students should use this time to study the clerkship relevant content for the NBME subject (shelf) exam, and your clerkship will be contacting you regarding alternative learning experiences such as simulation exercises (in small groups), virtual cases, online lectures, and video/teleconferences. These will vary from clerkship to clerkship.

For fourth year students who have clinical electives planned in period 11 (starting on 3/30/2020), we will be in touch with you about how we can help you adjust your plans.

Please give us a few days to sort all of this out and make plans for educational experiences, and we ask that you not leave the area until you hear further from your clerkship, as there could be educational experiences like simulations that occur in Syracuse or Binghamton.

We know that there have been many changes every day lately. This is a new and unpredictable situation for all of us as a university, medical profession, country, and world. Take care of yourselves and each other (from 6 feet away whenever possible), stay healthy, and stay motivated. We will be in touch.

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