

From: Zehle, Christa H
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 11:07 PM
Subject: Wednesday Wonders - October 14, 2020

Dear Students,

Here are today's Wednesday Wonders, lots to share! 😊

All students

Clinical: (per the most recent communication from UVM Medical Center on Wednesday, October 14, 2020)

- UVMCC: 0 PUI/0 Positive
- CVPH: 1 PUI/ 7 Positives – managing well despite quarantined nursing staff.
- Elizabethtown outbreak from a few weeks ago seems to have stabilized but they remain on cautious grounds.
- Outbreak in Addison County has been actively and very well managed by Porter Hospital and DOH – no significant impact on UVMCC and broader community so far.
- Working on creating more capacity for Telemetry – plans will be in place by end of calendar year 2020.
- New CT Scan will start running in November. Planning to bring a mobile MRI in the coming weeks.
- Welcoming Policy on the inpatient side – moving to allow 2 pre-identified consistent support people - visiting one at a time.
- Testing for Flu: restricted to symptomatic and a) at risk immunosuppressed or b) communal living.
- COVID-19 Report attached for reference

Shared Responsibility

- Thank you for your diligence in adhering to state, university and LCOM expectations. It is this shared responsibility and engagement in preventative behaviors (appropriate face mask use, hand hygiene and physical distancing) that is contributing to our low rates of COVID-19 infection in Vermont. Please remember to wear your masks not only in public settings but also when around people who don't live in your household.
- **Thanksgiving/Winter Vacation:** As mentioned in an earlier email today Thanksgiving holiday travel (and visitors in your home) must follow the rules and regulations of the Vermont Department of Health (VDOH). We have modified the Spring semester calendar to accommodate travel requiring quarantine over the winter vacation.
 - [Cross State Travel Information for Vermont](#)

COVID-19 Testing

- **Excellent Compliance Stats to Date (compliance monitoring began in early-September):**
 - Only 3 Green & Gold Violations confirmed and addressed due to missing a day-seven surveillance test
 - No second offenses have occurred
 - These are incredibly impressive statistics for our entire student community. Thank you so much for your continued dedication to this process and the safety of our community!
- **Health Industry Advisor, LLC COVID-19 Report:** [Issue #179 – Tuesday, October 06, 2020...](#)

Vote!

- The Medical Student Services Team developed this [one pager with information on how to register and vote in Vermont](#). If you are registered in your home state, you can [find state-specific information here](#). The Social Justice Coalition has also assembled very helpful information about voting and voting advocacy. Don't hesitate to reach out to any of the [SJC representatives](#) for more information.

Class of 2021

- **CiM** can help with residency interviews: Careers in Medicine hosted a webinar, "Preparing for Virtual Residency Interviews", which featured two program directors, a resident, and CiM and AAMC resources. View the recording on the [CiM website](#) or directly [here](#).

Class of 2022

- We hear you are enjoying your clinical patient care experiences and the faculty have really enjoyed working with you!
- Please note that due to the impact of COVID-19 your curriculum calendar was adjusted resulting in the clerkship curriculum ending on March 26, 2021 and the Advanced Integration curriculum beginning on April 5, 2021.

Pre-clinical Shadowing

In the past, students have occasionally reached out to clinical faculty to set up clinical shadowing experiences for the purposes of career exploration. Due to COVID, the number of clerkship learners at UVMMC and in local outpatient settings has increased. It has taken a great deal of care to balance our needs for clerkship education with the public health concerns related to numbers of people in clinical settings. There are also restrictions being placed on patients with respect to how many family members they can bring with them to office visits or have visit them in the hospital.

It is in this setting that we are currently suspending clinical shadowing experiences for all learners, including medical students. We cannot jeopardize our ability to have clinical students in the learning environment, and we want to avoid having potential shadowers in high-risk situations. We also want to avoid restricting supportive family members in order to allow students to participate in non-required activities in the clinical environment.

This decision includes shadowing done through the Student Interest Groups (SIG) and any shadowing experience arranged by individual students. It does not have any impact on required curricular DIV or PCR activities in the clinical setting.

This is a difficult decision; we look forward to the time when all our efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 have been successful and more capacity exists in the clinical environment. In the meantime, we will be communicating this information to faculty and to SIG advisors encouraging them to identify creative ways for students to receive meaningful mentorship and alternate opportunities to explore career interests.

Class of 2023

- Please note that due to the impact of COVID-19 your curriculum calendar was adjusted to accommodate the size of clinical student cohorts and to allow for better teacher/learner ratios in the various clinical environments. This situation is constantly evolving and there is an inherent level of uncertainty when we try to plan around this. We will have to reevaluate as things change, although we will try to keep you as up to date as possible throughout this process. Clerkship Level Director, Dr. Elise Everett, will present the preliminary Co2023 Clerkship schedule at the Monday, October 26th Clerkship Informational Meeting (listed in the VIC non-curricular calendar). In the meantime, feel free to schedule a drop in with our Dean for Students to address your questions and concerns.
- Class of 2023 calendar for all students:
 - Foundations Capstone (Step 1 prep course) has been extended by a week
 - March 21, 2021 is the expected USMLE Step 1 Exam deadline
 - Start date Monday 3/22/2021 with 5 days of orientation
 - End date Friday 3/25/2022
 - Start of Advanced Integration for Class of 2023: Monday 4/4/2022
 - The order of the clerkships has been changed to try and place all the primary care clerkships together in a cohort (Internal Medicine, OIM/Neuro/FM/Peds then Psych, Ob/Gyn, Surgery for Flight A as an example)
 - Plan to Continue PCR3 or Clinical PCR for the Class of 2023
 - Hoping to add longitudinal threads through the clerkships related to social determinates of health, opioid/substance use disorder, inter-professional teamwork/collaboration/communication, and patient safety/QI)

- Clerkship Level Calendar for Class of 2023 **VT Campus**
 - Surgery, Peds, and combined OIM/Neuro are all 7 weeks
 - FM, IM, ObGyn, Psych are all 6 weeks
 - There will be 3 bridge weeks (GH, Palliative Care, and Anesthesia/Patient Safety) located at the end of a 6-week clerkship for your flight group
- Clerkship Level Calendar for Class of 2023 **CT Campus** (calendar to be posted in the near future)
 - Clerkship length will be between 6-7 weeks.
 - The bridge curriculum (GH, Palliative Care, Anesthesia/Patient Safety) will be delivered longitudinally.
- Spring semester curriculum information was provided in the Sept, 20th [communication from Dr. Karen Lounsbury and Dr. Jesse Moore](#).
- There was also a [communication from Jacqueline Drouin](#) about your upcoming Clerkship year information sessions and important deadlines.

Class of 2024

- [Thanksgiving and so much more](#). This includes important curriculum updates for your Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 calendars.

I am grateful for who you are and your many contributions to our academic community! Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or if we can support you in any way. Be well.

With appreciation and gratitude,

Christa Zehle and the Office of Medical Student Education team

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