

**From:** Frey, Audree <[audree.frey@med.uvm.edu](mailto:audree.frey@med.uvm.edu)>

**Sent:** Friday, November 20, 2020 5:46 PM

**Subject:** MESSAGE TO CLINICAL LEVEL MEDICAL STUDENTS

Dear Class of 2021 and Class of 2022,

With a recent increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in Vermont, we recognize that there may be some anxiety and uncertainty about continuing in the clinical environment and curriculum. As we announced this morning, the Class of 2023 and 2024 are pivoting to remote learning in Foundations on Monday, November 23, 2020 and we are committed to continuing medical education without interruption to the best of our abilities, taking national and state guidelines into account and collaborating with our clinical affiliate partners

For you as students in the clinical curriculum, this means keeping you in the clinical environment. We are following several metrics to help us make informed and safe decisions that are consistent with local and national public health guidelines. We are following the AAMC guidelines which include available PPE, adequate faculty supervision, adequate patient volume to meet clinical goals and objectives to name a few.

For the Class of 2022 in Clerkship the plan is as follows:

Rotation 4 ends on Wednesday 11/25 and we are planning to complete this rotation as scheduled including the in-person CSE next week. You may begin to see some changes in clerkships such as orientations becoming either full remote, or hybrid part remote, part in person. Similarly, you may also see this change with the CSEs. Portions of the CSEs that need to be done in person may be moved to later in the year when they can be done in person. You may also be asked to do more telehealth and may be asked to use technology to do virtual rounds or have virtual conversations in order to comply with increasing restrictions.

For the Class of 2021 in the Advanced Integration year, the plan is as follows:

We remain committed to supporting you through a successful interview process and match, degree completion and starting residency ready on day one! Similar to the Class of 2023 you may start to do more clinical care via telehealth and be asked to use technology to do virtual rounds or have virtual conversations in order to comply with increasing restrictions.

As we continue to navigate the uncertainties and challenges of the pandemic (and a cyberattack!) we appreciate your engagement in your clinical education, your adaptability and your resilience. If you have questions or concerns about remaining in the clinical environment please give them to your SEG rep or to the Wellness Committee as we are asking those groups to collate a list of FAQs and then we will answer them and distribute to the group on Wednesday 11/25/2020 prior to the Thanksgiving break.

Please remember to engage in self-care while providing such wonderful care to others and do not hesitate to let us know if we can be of support to you during this time.

Elise Everett, MD, MS  
Level Director of Clinical Clerkship

Lee Rosen, PhD  
Interim Associate Dean for Students  
Director of Student Wellbeing

Christa Zehle, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education