

March 13, 2020

Med 3 Students

Dear Students,

As you are aware, due to COVID-19, the government has closed schools, CEGEPS and universities for the next two weeks. As a result, McGill has cancelled all in-person classes until **March 29, inclusively**. Our healthcare institutions are reducing certain aspects of clinical care to concentrate on essential services. Therefore, clerkship clinical courses will end on Monday, March 16, 2020, at 8h00. Medical students are expected to report for duty at their clinical sites until Monday, March 16, 2020, at 8h00. Students scheduled for a night shift from Sunday night to Monday morning are expected to participate in the handover that morning. All clerks are then released from clinical duties until further notice. Students are not allowed to participate in clinical electives at McGill or at other Canadian sites starting Monday, March 16, 2020.

To make sure you don't fall behind, we will move all learning activities for which an online activity is educationally sounded to an online activity whenever possible and as soon as possible. **Online lectures may begin as early as next week.** As well, there will likely be some changes to curriculum delivery and course requirements and assessments over the next two weeks. For example, large group lectures may occur online, or an assignment may replace a small group session. As well, courses may occur on campus rather than in hospital. The MDCM Program Committee will meet via Zoom, an online conference platform, to review the proposed course changes for this academic year.

Due to COVID-19, some Canadian medical schools have taken the difficult decision to cancel all incoming visiting electives for both Canadian and international medical students. Some schools have also cancelled clerkship rotations as of today.

Self-isolation

This week, the government **obliged** all health care professionals, including medical students, returning to Canada from abroad (including the United States) to self-isolate for 14 days to help slow the spread in the virus. If you have been travelling and returned to Canada on or after March 12, this directive applies to you. **If you do need to self-isolate, please contact your clinical supervisor and undergrad.med@mcgill.ca to inform the UGME Office.**

IMPORTANT: *The health care institution in which you are learning will make the final determination of how directives are applied in their facilities, including whether self-isolation is necessary for those returning before March 12. If you have questions, make sure to consult your supervisor in your institution.*

If, for any reason, you are feeling unwell or sick, you should stay home and request a sick day. It is your professional duty to protect patients, many of whom are very vulnerable. There are measures available for you to have additional sick days should you need to more than five-days off. If you are in this situation, please contact the WELL Office.

The COVID-19 situation is rapidly evolving. We expect to send updates to you via e-Digest or e-mail as soon as new information becomes available and decisions are made. We encourage you to consult the websites below daily.

Stay informed:

- [McGill Faculty of Medicine COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [McGill Coronavirus Updates](#)
- [Santé Québec](#)
- [Info-Santé](#)
- [Public Health Agency of Canada \(PHAC\)](#)
- [Public Health Agency of Canada \(PHAC\) – COVID-10 for Health Professionals](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)