



COVID-19: Family Practice Residency Program Update

Operational Updates / FAQs

(March 19, 3:30pm)

1. Vacation

- Residents are encouraged take their vacation as currently scheduled
- See [PGME website](#) for update:
 - R1s: Effective March 13 - those who wish to cancel pre-approved leaves (vacation) in the next 60 days can do so and carry it over to the next academic year.
 - R2s: Residents will receive their holiday pay regardless if it is taken; those who wish to defer their vacation may not have the opportunity to take it at a later time and may lose the time off if it cannot be coordinated before graduation. PGME is discussing this with HEABC

2. Scheduling - Electives & Mandatory Rotations

- Residents to contact their preceptor for currently scheduled electives to confirm that they are still happening. If so, proceed as per normal for local rotations
- Report any cancelled clinical experiences to Site Director (SD) and Site Coordinator (SC)
- If the resident and/(OR) the SD is able to secure an alternative rotation, this can proceed with the approval of the SD
- No new electives should be booked; the Program will re-assess April 15 if new elective scheduling should proceed
- Should alternative rotations be unavailable, residents will have paid leave to participate in scholarly activity or telemedicine
- Residents should be tracking their activity and reporting to the SC
- Risk stratification and re-deployment of residents will be developed by PGME and the Program, *if* the outbreak shifts into another phase
- Call Schedules: Carry on as scheduled, unless advised by rotation coordinator otherwise
- [See also: March 16 PGME Memo](#)

3. Self-Isolation / Quarantine / Residents with Symptoms

- Self-Isolation & Travel: see [FP website](#) – March 15 Self-Isolation Required
- Two week self-Isolation begins when you have arrived back at your home site area
- Residents who have *mild* cold/flu symptoms should not be in any clinical setting, but can work from home if they wish.
 - This will be paid general leave
 - Residents can engage in telemedicine/scholarly work as stated above
 - All absences need to be reported to SC

- Residents do not need to feel pressured to remain on clinical duty if they have mild seasonal symptoms or if the service is unable to follow the public health guidelines; contact SD if there are concerns with preceptors supporting resident absence
- Residents who are sick and *unable* to work should be on paid sick leave as per standard procedures
- Residents can use their self-isolation time as vacation (i.e. if they do not wish to work); this should be discussed with SD + SC
- See also [PGME website – ‘residents with symptoms’](#)

4. Pregnant Residents and Residents at Risk

- See [Family Practice website memo, March 18](#)

5. Graduation, Licensure, Program Completion and Incoming R1s

- We want to support residents in ensuring they complete their program as originally scheduled
- Residents working from home should be recording their self-study, telemedicine, scholarly, academic sessions – this will count towards training time
- The CPSBC intending on approving provisional licensure for July 1 for eligible residents prior to writing the MCCQE2 for those who have completion letters recommending graduation.
- If the College has not been in touch with you by April 1, 2020, email (registration@cpsbc.ca) or call (604-733-7758).
- The CPSBC is prioritizing graduating R2s but we suspect they will also send a letter to incoming R1s with intent of also providing their provisional licensures
- Presently, there is no plan in place to defer the start of the R1 2020 year; see message on website (email was also sent to incoming R1s from Central Program)

6. Exam Study Time

- The April self-study time connected with the CFPC exam is cancelled and hopefully that time can be re-allocated clinically
- Residents can use time off now as self-study time if their rotations are being terminated unexpectedly.
- The program will provide alternative time off adjacent to the new exam dates

7. Academic Sessions & Scholar Day(s)

- Work is being done to move these to virtual platforms
- Some sessions may be rescheduled
- Pre-recorded sessions will be shared on Entrada for residents to access during leave
- Some sites will join existing site sessions
- SC's will communicate updates locally
- Scholarship Directors and Committee will be working on a plan to move scholar days to a virtual platform (information to follow week of March 23)

8. Communication

- Site Directors and Administrators are holding joint weekly meetings
- Chief Residents are meeting weekly with Program Director and Manager
- Portfolio Directors are meeting weekly with Program Director and Manager
- Central Program will send email alerts when there is an update and direct stakeholders to the website
- We are asking everyone to do their best to review the information provided and then reach out to their site should they have queries.

