

3-27-20

To: UCF COM Curriculum Committee

From: Martin Klapheke MD

Recommendations of the M3/M4 Curriculum Subcommittee on Curriculum Changes due to COVID-19.

NOTE: THESE M3/M4 Subcommittee recommendations are now being forwarded for consideration by the UCF COM Curriculum Committee. Thus, at present they only represent M3/M4 recommendations and are NOT YET FINAL decisions.

1. **CONSENSUS REACHED:** Blocks 8 and 7/8 will be graded Pass/Fail. Criteria for “Pass” should include satisfactory completion of any required assignments and a passing grade on any quizzes. Clerkship directors should consider extra diligence in completing the narrative sections of the grade in order to help these students maintain their competitiveness for residencies. Dr. Klapheke can help draft a sample narrative statement to add to the student’s clerkship evaluation explaining the curriculum changes necessitated by COVID-19.

Online Resources and technology available through Ed Tech: update provided verbally during the M3/M4 meeting by Ken Staack.

2. NBME Shelf Exams for Blocks 7, 8, and 7/8:
 - **CONSENSUS REACHED: Block 7** NBME Shelf Exam is tentatively scheduled to be held online on Thursday, April 9, 2020. Proposal: move the due date for final Clerkship grades back 2 weeks to May 8, 2020.
 - **PROPOSAL: For Blocks 7/8 and 8:**
 - **Option #1: Keep the NBME Shelf Exams as mandatory, as this fulfills the 3-20-20 LCME mandate that Clerkship Assessments must remain comparable during any curriculum changes due to COVID-19.** Give students in these blocks the option of taking the NBME Shelf Exam on (a) Thursday, May 7, 2020 (the originally scheduled date for these blocks), or (b) on one of several dates we will pick during the M4 year, but this should be after they have completed their 4-week make-up from the M3 year. To compensate for the fact these students, through no fault of their own, were not able to complete the original full core clerkship uninterrupted, the cutoff for Passing the NBME Shelf Exam will be lowered to the 3rd percentile. (The NBME cutoff for an “A” will be irrelevant since the rotations will be Pass/Fail).
 - **Option #2:** Drop the NBME Shelf Exam for these blocks but substitute something comparable that tests whether the student has met the clerkship objectives.
- CONSENSUS REACHED: Clerkship Directors for blocks 8 and 7/8 face different scenarios and therefore feel that NBME Shelf Exams for each clerkship should be allowed to differ, e.g., some students in Surgery will have had NO clinical exposure by the end of block 7/8.**

Each Clerkship Director will draw up a proposal for their clerkship and submit this to Dr. Klapheke.

3. **CONSENSUS REACHED**: **Required Clinical Conditions/Skills for Blocks 8 and 7/8**: at the completion of these blocks, with the assistance of the Clerkship Administrators, the Clerkship Director will document in the final grade in Oasis any required clinical conditions/skills that are left outstanding and that will need to be completed during the make-up 4-week rotation in M4. A copy of these lists must be emailed to Dr. Klapheke so that he and M4 staff can follow-up in the next academic year to ensure that all students have fulfilled the required clinical conditions/skills.
4. **CONSENSUS REACHED**: **The M3 Capstone Week (scheduled to begin May 11, 2020)** is, at present, still scheduled, though many of the events will be moved online. Assuming the in-person sessions are still held, we can consider holding it at the UCF COM Cancer Center, as there will be many M2 examinations that week needing classroom space at COM.
5. **CONSENSUS REACHED**: **The M4 Capstone Week (scheduled to begin April 27, 2020) including Boot Camps** will be converted to all online presentations. Some M4 students have already returned to their home states and understandably fear their safety will be compromised if travel back to Orlando is mandated for the M4 Capstone Week.
6. **CONSENSUS REACHED**: Early next week we will be sending out to all M3 students a list of options for the final 4 weeks of this M3 year (April 11-May 8, 2020); these consists of nonclinical M4 electives.
7. **CONSENSUS REACHED**: We are also generating a **list of rotations during M4 that can serve as the 4-week make-up** for the displaced 4 weeks of M3. Dr. Klapheke will consult with each Clerkship Director before this list is finalized for the students. The list will include the number of available slots per block.

Issues for Surgery and for IM/FM Clerkship Directors:

- For students in Block 7/8, how many weeks of make-up time in M4 will compensate for the weeks of lost clinical time in M3?
 - Drs. Daroowalla and Pasarica propose that for IM/FM, 4 weeks of IM/FM clinical time in M3, plus 4 weeks of IM/FM clinical time in M4, will be sufficient.
 - Dr. Taitano proposes for Surgery that students who have already completed at least 4 weeks of clinical time in a *General Surgery core rotation* will not need to make up further time in Surgery in M4. Students without at least 4 weeks of clinical time in M3 Surgery will need to have a 4-week make-up rotation in a General Surgery rotation during M4.

8. **CONSENSUS REACHED**: **the 4-week make-up rotation in M4 can be taken at an away location.**
Due to limitations in site availability locally, away rotations can fill this requirement as long as the away rotation has goals and objectives that are comparable to those at COM; Dr. Klapheke can help vet these.

9. **CONSENSUS REACHED**: **Completion of 4-week make-up rotation during M4 year is now considered a graduation requirement; otherwise, there is no other deadline for its completion.**

10. **ANNOUNCEMENT**: The M2 to M3 transition this year mandates that certain M2 exams be completed during the **M3 Orientation Week** (beginning May 11, 2020), thereby forcing some cancelations of events usually scheduled during M3 Orientation. Many thanks to Dr. Colleen Moran-Bano for her extra work and flexibility on this!