Important Changes to USMLE Step 3

Dear Residents,

As you know, taking and passing USMLE Step 3 is required for medical licensure in California. For almost all UCSF residents, a license is required by the first day of the PGY3 year of training. To clarify when you are required to have a license, please check with your program coordinator.

The USMLE is making changes to all of its exams that you need to be aware of as you prepare to apply for and obtain your medical license (see attached pdf for detail):

- **Residents who must be licensed by July 1, 2015**: If you have not already taken USMLE Step 3 and passed, you should register for the exam by **July 31, 2014** to ensure you allow enough time to obtain your scores. (This will be for the old/current form of the exam).

  - If you do not register by this date, you will have to take the exam in the new format and you cannot register until November 2014. Scores for exams taken in November or later will not be available until at least April, 2015. **This may make it difficult to be licensed by July 1, 2015.** As you know, if you do not have your license by the required date, you will be unable to work.

- **Residents who must be licensed by July 1, 2016**: If you have not already taken USMLE Step 3 and passed, you should have plenty of time to do so before you are required to be licensed in 2016. Please be aware of how the timeline and delays in the upcoming months will affect your scheduling of the exam. Please take the exam as early as possible.

For more information regarding the changes to the exams and how it affects the timeline for obtaining your medical license, please see the attached document from the USMLE.

Bobby Baron, GME