

March 9 GME COVID-19 Update

UCSF-GME <UCSF-GME@ucsf.edu>

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Cc: UCSF-GME <UCSF-GME@ucsf.edu>

Dear GME Community,

We are writing with additional guidance regarding clinical care in the setting of COVID-19. We will continue to communicate via email several times this week. We are coordinating information with the UCSF Campus, School of Medicine, UCSF Health, SFVA, ZSFG and local and national public health departments and will continue to forward information from them directly to the community. We have formed a GME COVID-19 Task Force, chaired by Glenn Rosenbluth, which is part of the COVID-19 Surge Planning group who will continue to address additional GME-specific issues this week.

1. Residents/Fellows and the care of patients with COVID-19 or a suspected case: residents and fellows are expected to be fully part of the planning and care of COVID-19 patient and suspected patients in the context of their specialty programs at each of our clinical sites.

The ACGME recent guidance on this is here: <https://acgme.org/Newsroom/Newsroom-Details/ArticleID/9962/ACGME-Guidance-Statement-on-Coronavirus-COVID-19-and-Resident-Fellow-Education-and-Training-in-the-United-States>

This guidance fully requires the need for adequate resources, facilities, and training for residents and fellows and appropriate supervision for the clinical circumstance and the level of training of the resident/fellow. Supervising faculty members are expected to have been trained in the treatment and infection control protocols and procedures.

In the immediate term, the goal remains to limit the number of providers involved in direct care to reduce transmission risk, optimize infection prevention training, and assure the safest clinical environment. Especially for high risk procedures, the most experienced clinicians should perform them (typically attendings > fellows > residents). In all cases, we will ensure that any resident or fellow who provides care to patients does so under the appropriate supervision for the clinical circumstance and the level of training of the resident/fellow.

If you are immunocompromised, pregnant, or have a chronic medical condition which puts you at high risk, you should not care for suspected or proven COVID-19 patients. If you have any concerns about the care you're being asked to provide, please speak with your Program Director first.

2. Training in Personal Protection Equipment (PPE): Our goal is to train everyone in both updated PPE and PAPR training, and Fit Testing.

a) Each clinical site (UCSF Health, SFVA and ZSFG) is conducting work place training for review of **PPE procedures on the units and PAPR training**. We seek several members of each residency and fellowship program to serve as additional PPE Champions for each service. This entails specific training on PPE and PAPR and skills to train others. We will ask the Chief Residents and their designees to serve as point persons for this. (Please note: this training in PPE and PAPR is different from Fit Testing.) If you cannot identify a local PPE training opportunity on your clinical service (at UCSF Health, SFVA, ZSFG), please contact Brittney E. Augerlavoie Brittney.Augerlavoie@ucsf.edu in the Office of GME.

Please also see UCSF's COVID site (www.ucsf.edu/coronavirus) for additional information. An excellent video on donning and doffing PPE with N95 and eye protection is at <https://infectioncontrol.ucsfmedicalcenter.org/novel->

[coronavirus-covid-19-videos](#) Please watch it!

b) Updated Fit testing is being prioritized for those providers currently working on units that provide care and/or services to patients on airborne or droplet precautions, as well as providers that work in a non-hospital settings that provide care and/or testing for isolated and masked patients with respiratory symptoms which require the removal of the patient's mask (e.g. Urgent Care, SACC, others). Training will continue until everyone has been trained.

Fit Testing is currently scheduled for:

-Parnassus, M1078: March 9th (Monday) and March 11th (Wednesday): 0730-0930 and 1330-1600

-Mission Bay, Adult A5599: March 10th (Tuesday) and March 12th (Thursday): 0730-900 and 1330 – 1600 130pm-4pm

-Mount Zion, B248 Herbst Hall: March 13th (Friday): 0730-0930 and 1330-1600

More dates will be announced as soon as they become available.

3. Working with medical students and other health professional students

At this time, **students will not be assigned patient with a documented case of, or high risk of, COVID-19.**

Students should not round on COVID-19 patients either alone or with their team.

Students will continue to be assigned to our usual clinical settings where other health care providers are caring for patients with acute respiratory illnesses and other medical conditions. The use of recommended infection control procedures by students and other health care providers, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) appropriate for the patient's condition, is required.

Students who believe that they have unique personal circumstances that increase their risk of serious COVID-19 illness should contact Student Health and Counseling Services and Associate Dean John Davis.

4. If you need to be quarantined due to exposure or feel ill: If you need to be quarantined, please coordinate with your program director. Time away from work for quarantine will count as administrative leave (not personal sick or vacation time) and be fully paid.

If you have symptoms please stay home. Please notify your Chief Resident or Program Director as you would normally. In addition, please contact Occupational Health at your current clinical site. For UCSF Health contact 415 885-7580 and for ZSFG contact 628 206-6581

5. GME COVID-19 Task Force

Our GME COVID-19 Task Force, chaired by Glenn Rosenbluth, will meet today and throughout the week. Issues for today include:

- Policies and recommendations related to residents/fellows who may be on quarantine or medical leave, including jeopardy protocol recommendations
- Recommendations for as-needed reassignment of residents/fellows either toward or away from specific patients, clinics, or inpatient services.
- Travel guidelines
- Education and training issues (PPE, Telehealth)
- Communication protocols
- Service-specific clinical issues

Please let us know if you have other issues for our Task Force.

Thanks to all for your continued hard work on this!

Best,

Bobby Baron and Glenn Rosenbluth
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