

Students, faculty and staff,

Over the past week, we've seen a dramatic change in the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) situation. I recognize what a challenging time this is for you all, and thank you for your patience as we make significant changes to the way we teach, conduct research and work.

As we continue to help lower the risk of exposure and "flatten the curve," I'm pleased to hear how many of you have consulted with your supervisor and have made plans to work from home. We want to encourage you to continue to explore that option where possible.

In addition to the updates from the University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services (AHS), I'll provide any specific information related to the Cumming School of Medicine (CSM). Between these updates, you can always find the most current information on:

- [UCalgary's COVID-19 website](#)
 - UCalgary's social media channels — [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)
- [CSM's COVID-19 web page](#) (education updates added today)
- CSM's social media channels — [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)
- [Alberta Health Services website](#)
 - AHS social media channels — [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

Here are the CSM specific updates I have at this time.

- Remote learning for Undergraduate Medical Education and Bachelor of Health Sciences classes will begin tomorrow, Tuesday, Mar. 17, 2020.
- Clinical clerks have been pulled from hospital rotations and will help in other ways, such as within 811 call centres.
- A joint statement regarding Postgraduate Medical Education will be distributed tomorrow, Tuesday, Mar. 17, from UCalgary and the University of Alberta.
- CSM clinical research facilities are open and principal investigators are encouraged to convert to remote visits where possible.
- During this period of clinical need, a clinician's first responsibility is to help within their departments and divisions. It's recognized that academic work will slow down. If you have questions about how this may impact you, please contact esmdean@ucalgary.ca.

If you need assistance during this time, all UCalgary services, including 24/7 crisis support and other wellness services for [students](#), [faculty and staff](#) remain accessible.

Please continue to take precautions — wash your hands, distance yourself (2 metres) from others and cover your cough or sneeze. Also, please connect with the CSM leadership team at csmdean@ucalgary.ca if you have any questions. We're always available to help.

I thank you for the extraordinary effort and sense of community shown during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Jon Meddings, MD
Dean, Cumming School of Medicine
University of Calgary