



## Postgraduate Medical Education Update August 13, 2020

Just a few items to bring to attention:

### **Virtual Orientation:**

This year, orientation for new residents was delivered using a virtual platform in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. A series of modules using PowerPoint with voiceover was prepared by PGME and AHS. The presentations covered a broad range of topics and was hosted on the D2L ucalgary website.

The presentations will remain accessible to trainees throughout the year. Information will be updated as required. You may find answers to some of your questions on this platform so feel free to refer back to it as needed.

Many thanks to the residents and fellows who completed the orientation feedback survey. Your comments will certainly be considered when planning for 2021.

### **Volunteer Leadership Opportunities:**

There are vacancies on two committees that require resident representation:

- *PGME Allocations Committee* meets twice yearly –December and April/May of each year. The committee is responsible for decision-making with regard to allocation of funding for residency seats, re-entry positions, and new program applications.
- *PGME Strategic Advisory Committee* meets quarterly. Each meeting is typically 3-4 hours (now shortened to 90 minutes since Covid-19 and moving to a virtual format). The committee addresses broad concepts in postgraduate medical education and is advisory to the Associate Dean and PGME Committee.

The Terms of Reference for these committees, and several others, are accessible on the PGME website as well: <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/pgme/faculty-and-staff/faculty-and-staff-resources/tor>

Resident participation in any of these committees must be supported by the home Program Director. Please send expressions of interest to [crystal.boisselle@ucalgary.ca](mailto:crystal.boisselle@ucalgary.ca)

### **Important Resources:**

A reminder to all residents to check the PGME website for information. The site is updated on a regular basis. <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/pgme/current-trainees/residents/during-residency-training>

The areas of particular interest to trainees include:

- A dedicated Covid section that includes links to important AHS and University of Calgary sites as well as an FAQ in response to the many enquiries we received from residents and program directors.
- Opportunities for Resident Travel Grant and Resident Leadership Awards
- A list of program ombudsman
- Information and contact details for the Office of Resident Affairs and Physician Wellness. <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/pgme/wellness/residents>
- All PGME policies and operating standards including a new Policy on Resident Accommodations, Fatigue Risk Management, and Role of Learners in Large-Scale

Communicable Disease Outbreaks. We will also circulate updated versions as PGME Committee revises and approves policies.

### **Mock External Review:**

PGME at the Cumming School of Medicine is scheduled for an on-site survey in the spring of 2022. All residency programs will be reviewed during that visit.

In preparation for this event, a mock review is planned for Nov 12 and 13, 2020. This will be carried out in a virtual format with external surveyors from UBC and McGill University. Many meetings will be organized for the survey team, including one with a representative group of residents. Ms. Erika Schulz, PGME Accreditation Manager will be reaching out to the resident community in the fall to recruit volunteers to participate in this important exercise.

### **Chief Resident Meetings:**

Most of you are aware that the Chief Residents meet with me on a monthly basis. This is an opportunity to bring forward questions/concerns specific to your program, or that impact the resident community as a whole. Please inform your Chief(s) of any items you would like to add to the agenda for discussion.

### **A Few Additional Comments:**

The last several months have been especially challenging because of the pandemic. Starting a residency is stressful, but more so in the context of Covid-19. A reminder of important resources to help residents navigate this difficult situation:

- Physician and Family Support Program (PFSP 1.877.SOS.4MDS (767.4637)
- Office of Resident Affairs & Physician Wellness  
(403-210-6525 E: [residentwellness@ucalgary.ca](mailto:residentwellness@ucalgary.ca))

I want to thank residents, fellows, faculty and administrators for continuing to deliver clinical care, reorganizing academic and teaching activities, and attending to wellness during this very difficult time. We are all continuing to adjust to the new reality in which we find ourselves.

I hope everyone has some time away to relax and refresh. I am looking forward to working with you all in the coming academic year.



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