July 3, 2020

PGME UPDATE

Program Event Organization:
I am receiving a fair number of enquiries with regard to organization of activities and events for trainees. The following guidelines were recently made available by University of Calgary and apply to both on and off campus activities:

All event organizers are required to complete the Ucalgary Event Risk Assessment Tool for any on or off campus university events anticipated between July 1, 2020 up to April 30, 2021. This tool is only for gathering data to assist in mitigating risks and is not an approval to hold an event. Units are advised not to sign any contracts that would bind the university to be required to have any event where costs would be non-refundable.


Also included on the site is the need to consult with Risk Management prior to making any event bookings:

Until further notice all organizers of ‘in person’ university events, defined by one-off gatherings in excess of 15 people (outside of classes and regular business meetings), must consult with Risk Management & Insurance about their intentions prior to making bookings: covid19@ucalgary.ca.

Risk will advise and inform of all requirements to ensure the event can take place safely and in compliance with current provincial regulations.

Virtual Interviews:
A reminder that all interviews must be organized in a virtual format for all programs, including those that do not participate in a CaRMS process. The virtual format will be mandatory for all candidates, including local applicants.

The ARMC Subcommittee on Virtual Interviews and Program Promotion was recently formed to provide direction on best practices. Committee members are aware that timelines are short and I expect there will be some preliminary guidance within the next several weeks. I will update when more information is available and this will also be discussed at next PGME Committee meeting.
Fatigue Risk Management:
PGME Committee recently adopted an Operating Standard for Fatigue Risk Management (FRM). The document is posted to the PGME website under Policies and Operating Standards. I would like to encourage all programs to develop program-specific strategies to mitigate fatigue as part of a broader approach to wellness and patient safety.

Attached to this email is a copy of the Fatigue Risk Management Tool-Kit developed several years ago by a task force including representation from the Royal College, RDoCS, several PG Deans and members of an Advisory Committee. This is a valuable resource as you consider your program’s approach to FRM. I would be pleased to discuss further with specific programs or with a larger group if there is interest.

New Academic Year:
The last several months have been difficult as we navigate our way through the many issues related to the Covid-19 pandemic. I want to thank the Program Directors, Program Administrators and Residents for the tremendous work done to adapt to a virtual/socially distanced environment as we start another academic year.

The pandemic continues to pose challenges for program orientation, scheduling, and the delivery of the academic and curriculum. I am very grateful for the innovative way in which many programs have adapted to the current situation and the flexibility of the entire PGME community in responding to this health care crisis.

I hope everyone is able to take some time away from work this summer to enjoy the (finally!) warm weather.

Regards

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