



Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

March 10, 2020

Dear CMSRU Students, Faculty and Staff:

Our emergency management committee, faculty, and staff have been working to ensure the continuity of our educational programming **in the event of mandated closure** by Rowan University or by the State of New Jersey. The following bullets outline the methods CMSRU will take to minimize the disruption of our curriculum. Over the next couple of weeks, we will test these methods to ensure our plans are truly workable.

- M1 and M2 educational materials such as lectures will be posted on Blackboard.
- The Cooper Rowan ambulatory clinic serves as an important access to care for uninsured patients and will continue. The clinic will temporarily cease seeing "walk-in" patients.
- Service learning activities will be temporarily halted until further notice.
- Small group activities such as active learning groups and scholars workshop groups will either be facilitated online or will have alternative assignments to address the learning objectives.
- Plans for FMP will be announced when they are finalized.
- M3 and M4 students will continue with their educational program in the hospital and in ambulatory venues except that they will not be involved in the direct care of persons with suspected (Influenza - like illness) or documented COVID-19. This is to preserve the supply of PPE and to avoid breaches in infection prevention.
- Rowan University will be announcing a work from home policy that will allow us to have continuity of our business operation.

Beginning immediately, CMSRU -- as part of Rowan University -- will be limiting external groups entering our facility. Other colleges, medical schools, and universities worldwide have taken similar steps. This will affect several events in the building, and our Event Coordinator will be reaching out individually to event organizers.

CMSRU still plans to hold **Match Day** at this time, but I am sorry to announce that we will not allow outside visitors into our building to participate. We plan to still have a student-only celebratory event and will have live streaming of it. The **AOA and Gold Humanism banquets** planned for next week will be postponed until Commencement week in May. The Office of Student Affairs will communicate directly with M4 students about other events for that week.

CMSRU remains open, and all faculty and staff should continue their regular work schedules unless otherwise notified. Similarly, students should continue with their current educational activities except as outlined above. Our attendance policy remains in place and should be followed for any absences.

Thank you for your patience during this public health emergency. In the coming days, I will share additional information as needed. Please pay vigilant attention to email communications from CMSRU.

Sincerely,

Annette C. Reboli, M.D.

Annette C. Reboli, MD
Dean and Professor of Medicine