



# Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

July 27, 2020

Dear M3 Students:

Welcome back! I had the opportunity to speak with many of you on the phone, and was impressed by the enthusiasm for returning to the learning environment expressed by so many of you.

Today marks an important milestone in your medical school education - the beginning of your clinical training. The foundational knowledge that you've acquired over the past two years, along with your experience working in the Cooper Rowan Clinic and volunteering in the community, will serve you well as you navigate this important transition. I have every confidence in your ability to be successful, and look forward to watching you blossom into competent, compassionate student-doctors over the next two years.

Your health, safety and well-being remain our top priority. Please continue to be vigilant in following infection prevention measures, both while working in the clinical environment and during your free time. So far, New Jersey has been effective in reducing the rate of transmission of COVID-19, but that did not happen without tremendous focus and hard work.

As a CMSRU student, we ask that you continue following the State of New Jersey's directive regarding out-of-state travel, which states that people entering New Jersey from states where the COVID-19 positive test rate is higher than 10 per 100,000 residents, or a state with a 10% or higher positivity rate over a 7-day rolling average, must self-quarantine for 14 days. As of today, the following 31 states are on the list: *Alabama; Alaska; Arkansas; Arizona; California; Delaware; Florida; Georgia; Iowa; Idaho; Indiana; Kansas; Louisiana; Maryland; Mississippi; Missouri; Montana; Nebraska; Nevada; New Mexico; North Carolina; North Dakota; Ohio; Oklahoma; South Carolina; Tennessee; Texas; Utah; Virginia; Washington; and Wisconsin*. The list changes regularly, [so please check the website here if you are considering traveling outside of New Jersey](#). Students must contact the Office of Student Affairs to report any out-of-state travel.

While this is certainly a challenging time to be learning medicine, I encourage you to embrace this experience. You will have unique opportunities to learn real life lessons in humility, compassion and empathy that surface during a pandemic. And you will be part of delivering improved therapies for COVID-19 treatment and, hopefully, the distribution of an effective vaccine.

Best of wishes to all of you for a successful academic year. Stay well.

Sincerely,

*Annette C. Reboli, M.D.*

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Dean and Professor of Medicine

