PHASE 3 CURRICULAR CHANGE PROPOSALS FOR CLERKSHIP SECTIONS IMPACTED BY COVID-19

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE
Given the impact that the rapidly COVID-19 pandemic is having on the learning experience of students enrolled in the Clerkships, we offer the below proposals. These proposals are presented after extensive discussion among the clerkship directors and student representatives, review by UUSOM administrative leadership, and consideration of LCME and AAMC guidance.

If approved, implementation of the proposals would be the responsibility of the clerkship directors and clinical curriculum administrative team.

GRADING SCHEME CHANGE PROPOSAL
This proposal applies to the seven Phase 3 clerkships: Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Psychiatry, and Neurology.

Change the clerkship grading from H/HP/P/F to Meet Expectations (ME)/Did Not Meet Expectations (DNME) grading schemes for the clerkship sections impacted by COVID-19; this impact began most significantly on March 16, 2020 with the exclusion of medical students from in-person clinical learning activities. The MSPEs for these students would include explanation of the alternate grading scheme for these sections only.

CURRENT CLERKSHIP SECTIONS WHICH COULD RENDER ME/DNME GRADES WITH NO FURTHER IN-PERSON CLINICAL CARE TEAM PARTICIPATION
Neurology: 2 of 4 weeks completed under pre-COVID learning conditions
Internal Medicine and General Surgery: 6 of 8 weeks completed under pre-COVID learning conditions

For the current Neurology, Internal Medicine, and Surgery clerkships, the course directors, student representatives, and clinical curriculum administrative teams agree that performance on the combination of prior work within the clinical teams, curated distant learning content, NBME subject exams*, OSCEs*, and other assessments and must complete elements or their surrogates are sufficient to make ME/DNME grade decisions about students.

*See additional proposals regarding delayed administration of these assessments.

CURRENT CLERKSHIP SECTIONS WHICH COULD NOT RENDER ME/DNME GRADES WITHOUT FURTHER IN-PERSON CLINICAL CARE TEAM PARTICIPATION
Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Psychiatry: 2 of 6 weeks completed under pre-COVID learning conditions

For the current Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Psychiatry clerkships, the course directors, student representatives, and clinical curriculum administrative teams agree that performance on the combination of prior work within the clinical teams, curated distant learning content, NBME subject exams, OSCEs, and other assessments and must complete elements or their surrogates are insufficient to make ME/DNME grade decisions about students. Two additional weeks of in-person integration within the clinical environment are required in order to adequately assess in-situ clinical performance of students via the existing preceptor rating form mechanisms*.  

*Note that performance on the preceptor rating form is a must pass element of each clerkship. See below for plans to complete this coursework.

Delayed Administration of NBME Subject Exams and OSCEs

NBME Subject Exams
For the current Internal Medicine, General Surgery, and Neurology clerkships, the NBME subject exams* will be administered once remote testing becomes available April 7, 2020 or shortly after.

*Clerkship OSCEs
As the Clerkship OSCEs are NOT must pass elements of the clerkships, as the structure and EPA performance domains assessed are consistent across all clerkships, as some clerkships already include telephone encounter stations on their OSCEs, and as most students have already completed at least half of their Phase 3 clerkships, the clerkship OSCEs for the current Internal Medicine, General Surgery, and Neurology clerkships will be administered in an adapted remote fashion. This will occur in close temporal proximity to administration of the NBME subject exams for these courses.

Interruption of the Phase 3 Clerkship Curriculum
With the support of guidance from the AAMC and LCME, the Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Psychiatry clerkships will be temporarily interrupted effective March 27, 2020 at 5pm. The Internal Medicine, General Surgery, and Neurology clerkships will also discontinue remote learning activities at this time, but the NBME subject exams and OSCEs for these courses will still be administered most likely during the week of April 13-17, 2020.

The Phase 3 curriculum will resume once there is indication that resumption of in-person clinical learning is within 2 weeks of being possible. This will allow students
to begin learning about core clerkship curriculum in an on-line/virtual format prior to resumption of clinical learning experiences in the hospitals and clinics.

During this interruption of the Phase 3 Clerkship Curriculum, the clerkship directors and clinical curriculum administrative team will develop and propose a plan for resumption of the curriculum in a manner that will allow on-time graduation of students who meet the adapted curriculum requirements.

**LIMITED CONTINUATION OF ELECTIVE CURRICULUM**

During the interruption of the Phase 3 clerkship curriculum, a number of electives will continue to be offered that students may choose to pursue. That list is being curated and will be communicated to students by the Offices of Curriculum and Student Affairs.