Dear All,

I write to you today with cautious optimism and a deep sense of gratitude. While the COVID-19 pandemic is far from over, there are reasons to believe mitigation strategies are having an effect in LA County, in California, and even in some harder-hit regions. Thank you for supporting each other and working together to care for patients and to make suggestions and improvements. Each day I see that we have become better for each other, and I am humbled and grateful to witness this.

We are always interested in your questions and concerns. If you have a question that you would like us to address, please click here to submit it. We will do our best to provide answers using the appropriate channels.

Please note that we will be conducting GME Town Halls every 2 weeks going forward, although we are always happy to resurrect weekly calls should the need arise.

UPDATES 4.14.20

Safety – Issues related to your personal safety and the safety of our patients.

- **Universal COVID-19 testing** is now in place for all ED admissions and for all pre-operative and pre-procedure elective cases.
- **PPE**: To stay up to date with the latest UCLA Health policies, visit the Information for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) page.

Support Resources – Information about well-being, access to care, resources, child care, housing, and more.

- **The Early Childhood Education Center** is now open as a referral site.
- **Bright Horizons Contract for House staff**: Access to SitterCity is available now at no cost.
  - Backup care available (effective 4/15)
  - Limited-time access to “crisis care” (4/15 through 4/30)
    - Minimum of up to $100/day reimbursed for cost of care up to 10 uses

*Account information for the Backup Care and Crisis Care features will be provided in a separate email to housestaff on 4/15/2020.*

COVID Exposure Concerns – What to do if you have been, or believe you have been, exposed to COVID-19.

- No new updates today.

Affiliate sites – Status and safety updates about our affiliate sites.

- **Surge Planning**: As previously stated, at this point we have no plans to redeploy residents to services which are not currently part of the program’s curriculum. Guiding principles for surge planning include:
  - All decisions must be approved by the Program Director and UCLA GME
  - All decisions must consider the needs of the patients and the health care team, as well as the range of clinical care services being provided
  - Resident and fellow safety, adequate supervision, and compliance with work-hour requirements must be ensured.

- **Affiliate-specific issues**: 
Your Education – How the COVID-19 pandemic will impact you as learners.

- **ACGME/ABMS Joint Principles statement**: “The ABMS and the ACGME endorse and rely upon the authority and judgement of Clinical Competency Committees (CCCs) and training program directors (PDs) to determine readiness for unsupervised practice and to inform specialty board decisions regarding eligibility for initial board certification. This authority and judgement are especially important during times of crises when traditional time- and volume-based educational standards may be challenged.”
- Read more [here](#).

My best,

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