



March 17, 2020



Dear Colleagues,

I know you are working exceptionally hard to care for patients and each other during the COVID-19 pandemic. As always, our department members have really stepped up. Our hospital Chiefs and others are collaborating with hospital, provincial and national leaders to develop best practices and protocols to manage patients, learners and faculty.

Provided below are several notable updates and links:

- To provide rapid access to clinical management protocols and relevant publications, our department is creating a COVID-19 webpage. TWO FACULTY OR RESIDENT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help curate and edit the material on the website. This website will make information easily available to you and others around the world. To volunteer, please contact anesthesia@utoronto.ca
- Department administrative staff are working from home but will be accessible by via email and/or phone.
- Meetings will be teleconferenced via ZOOM or Skype. The department's ZOOM accounts are available but will be preferentially used for large groups and departmental meetings. Login and participation information will provided for each meeting.

- The Merit Awards application process has been suspended until further notice.
- The <u>Royal College</u> has postponed all written exams.
- Accreditation of the Faculty of Medicine MD Program has been postponed.
- The timeline for accreditation of the residency programs is uncertain. Accreditation questionnaires do not need to be completed at this time.
- Foreign fellows may be unable to enter Canada because of travel restrictions. Please plan accordingly.
- To offer a lighter moment, send a quote, meme or anecdote to the <u>communication portal</u>.
 TWO STUDENT, RESIDENT OR FACULTY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to manage Anesthesia Anecdotes. To volunteer, please contact <u>anesthesia@utoronto.ca</u>
- Please follows all guidelines and instructions from the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care and hospital directives. Please stay home unless you are working.

We will provide updates as information becomes available. Please stay informed regarding best practice protocols and keep well.

Best wishes,

Bev

Beverley A. Orser MD, PhD, FRCPC, FCAHS, FRSC Professor and Chair Department of Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine University of Toronto