

Dear College of Medicine Students,

As you may be aware, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Florida Department of Health have been updating the public on the current status of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Given how quickly the global situation is evolving, we are monitoring all new developments and will continue to reevaluate our steps and actions daily.

The idea of a widespread virus is understandably unsettling for every school, in every location. We would like to take this opportunity to share some information and steps that we are taking as you consider your own next steps as we approach Spring Break and other potential travel plans you may have.

- **Level 3 Travel Health Notice** - At this time, the College of Medicine is requiring all students who have traveled or plan to travel to a country designated with a Level 3 Travel Health Notice, which currently includes China, South Korea, Italy, and Iran to self-monitor, self-isolate for 14 days away from school and clinical affiliate sites, and self-report your travel to the COM Office of Student Affairs. ***All medical students must complete the electronic travel attestation form through the following link [https://fau.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_b7xG9eTkmD7oICd](https://fau.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b7xG9eTkmD7oICd) by this Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. If you have traveled to a country with a Level 3 Travel Health Notice, you must have a medical evaluation by a healthcare provider after the 14 day isolation and obtain a letter from the healthcare provider stating that you are medically safe to return to the medical school curriculum and submit it to the Office of Student Affairs. This is important to ensure patient safety given the clinical roles of a medical student.***
- **Level 2 Travel Health Notice** - With an evolving global landscape, travelers from a country designated with a Level 2 Travel Health Notice, which currently includes Japan, need to be aware that a country designated with a Level 2 Travel Health Notice may be escalated to a Level 3 Travel Health Notice at any point. If this occurs at any point while school is in session or break (e.g., spring break or any long weekends), the Level 3 guideline above will apply immediately to all students.
- **Procedures and Planning** - Our school administration is prepared to alter our procedures and planning (including strategies like distance learning programs) should this fluid situation change. We will communicate any changes affirmatively when the time is appropriate.

In the meantime, the most effective way to stay healthy and minimize the spread of any infectious disease like COVID-19 is to follow basic health best practices like:

- **Respiratory Etiquette** - cover up coughs/sneezes with a tissue or elbow followed by hand-washing.
- **Hand-Hygiene** - wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If water or soap are not available, please utilize an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

- **Sickness Prevention** - All students who are feeling ill must stay home until they recover AND are fever free (less than 100 degrees Fahrenheit) for a minimum of 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.

During times like this, we are particularly grateful for the strength and cohesiveness of our community.

Please continue to look for further communications from us on this evolving matter.

You are also encouraged to stay up to date concerning this evolving and fluid situation by going to the [CDC website for the latest information being released.](#)

If you have any clinical questions or concerns, please contact the Student Health Services at FAU at (561) 297-3512.

Sincerely,  
*Offices of Student Affairs and Medical Education*