



## Newsletter - March 2020

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### Match Day 2020

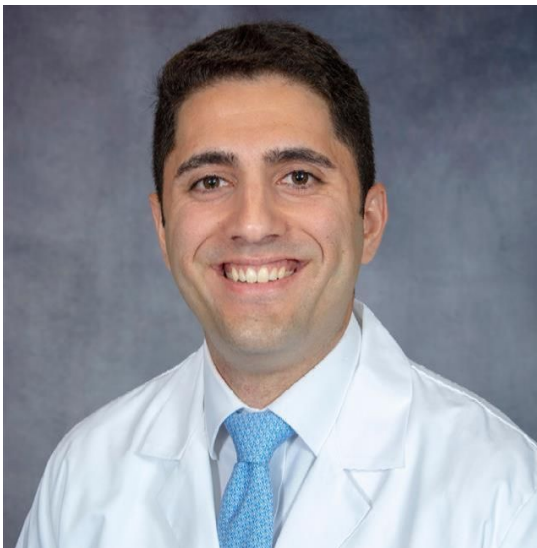


Congratulations to all of our graduates who earned their residency during the 2020 NRMP Residency Match. We are proud of the incredible hard work and accomplishments of our graduates.

Our 2020 Residency Match List can be found at <https://www.sjsm.org/students-success/>

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### Alumni at the SJSM Open House



We welcomed one of our graduates, Dr. Cinna Attar, at the SJSM open house held in Atlanta on March 7, 2020. Dr. Attar is a first year Internal Medicine resident at Wellstar Atlanta Medical Center, and he spoke to our prospective students to share his experience as a student of SJSM.

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### Covid-19



The health, safety, and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and the communities in which we serve are of utmost importance to us. As we continue to monitor the rapidly evolving public health situation, please know that we are taking the necessary precautions to lower the risk of exposure and do our part to curb the spread of the virus. We have implemented various measures to ensure the continuity of the students' education while keeping their safety in mind. These measures are:

- In the current semester we have given students the option to stay on the island or leave for home depending on what they deem fit considering their own personal circumstances.
- We have moved all lectures to an online format so students may remotely access the classes.
- We cancelled our Block III exams to allow students to travel back home and created a combined Block IV exam which shall continue as per schedule
- We are using internal exams for this semester until Prometric and NBME can get their testing sites and capabilities up and running.
- The campus is open and all of our faculty members are conducting live lectures for the students on site. As far as the campuses are concerned, it is business (more or less) as usual.
- If there is an order for lockdown on our island, we have made arrangements for our faculty to provide lectures from home.
- For the Summer semester, students will have the option of attending classes online if they deem it unsafe to travel to the islands. As mentioned above, the campus shall remain open (unless mandated by the local governments)
- We will make accommodations for various make-up lab sessions once students are on the campus.

- For clinical students, we have advised them to follow the hospital protocols. All of our partner hospitals have ceased student inpatient rotations
- Students who have completed more than 50% of their rotations are requested to do online coursework as guided by the Clinical Department. Students who have completed less than 50% will be asked to resume the same rotation at a later date.
- In order to avoid any pauses in their education, students have the choice of doing a research elective.
- However, at this time, a lot of our preceptors are continuing limited outpatient rotations (for core subjects) as needed and available.

Please visit <https://www.sjsm.org/coronavirus/> for further updates. If you have any questions, please feel free to send an email to [coronaupdate@mail.sjsm.org](mailto:coronaupdate@mail.sjsm.org)

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### **Summer 2020 Semester Billing**

The due date for these invoices is April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Please submit a finance ticket (<https://www.sjsm.org/resources/helpdesk/>) to request a payment plan before this date. If you already know that you will be requiring a payment plan, please do not wait until the tuition due date to request your payment plan. If you are making a full payment, please use the online portal to make the payment.

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### **Research Elective**

In response to the pandemic, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students who had to pause their rotations can choose to enter an SJSM Research Elective that will be evaluated by the Office of the Dean of Clinical Science (ODCS). This elective will allow students to be assigned a topic related to a specialty that they have rotated in, or plan to do for residency. Students must email the Clinical Department in order to enroll in this elective. Subsequently, students will be in communication with the Head of Research in order to garner an assignment. Regardless of how much time is taken to complete this assignment, all students will be awarded 4 weeks of elective credit. Please note that completion of this elective will not count in any way towards the required Graduation Paper, and vice-versa, any previously approved Graduation Paper will not garner credit for this or any other elective.

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### **Step 2 CS Review**

April 1, 2020 was originally the start date for the implementation of the new Step 2 CS review requirement before being allowed to take the exam. Due to the Covid-19 situation and the fact that the Step 2 CS is not being administered at this time, this requirement is being postponed until further notice.

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## Clinical Focus Anguilla



Clinical Focus Anguilla hosted a Chest Tube Thoracostomy and Emergency Code Skills Workshop on March 6, 2020. The emergency procedure of Chest Tube Thoracostomy in attempts to help drain air, blood or fluid from the pleural space were taught to students providing them with a basic understanding of its clinical importance. After practicing their respiratory clinical examination skills, adapted from the MD4 Physical Diagnosis and Clinical Medicine (PDCM) Course, students put to practice their knowledge and attempted chest tube insertions many times on mannequins.

The event had a surprise Emergency Code Simulation performed where Clinical Focus members had to rise to leadership and act to save patients as in a real life setting. The

students performed CPR, and took the necessary steps as a team. Overall, the simulation was a success and many students reported it being the best event yet.

Clinical Focus (CF), the newest club on campus, attempts to engage students and provide them with the clinical experience often missing in the basic sciences. The session was led by James Smith and Liam Watkinson, Lead Board Instructors of the club with the responsibility of educating CF Members. The opportunity to learn is infectious, and to all who want to be part of a greater clinical experience on campus, CF Anguilla welcomes you. This event was made possible by the Course Director, Karina Alba, the Associate Director, Leah Sarah Peer, MD4, and MD5 students who have worked their heart and soul for the club. They want to create a positive impact for present as well as future students and hope CF caters to all their clinical interests during the basic sciences.

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### **Weekly Webinar**

Our USMLE counselors, Dr. Erblin Qosaj and Dr. Alison Zheng, have started a weekly 1-hour webinar to discuss high yield cases that are likely to be asked on the NBME CBSE and USMLE Step 1 examination. These webinars are usually held every Friday at 4:00 PM (Central Time). The counselors select topics that students are collectively struggling with and set up a few cases and a presentation pertaining to the topic. The goal of these sessions is to generate a better understanding of the topic being covered, how to apply the knowledge gained from studies, and how to use it to tackle questions.

This is an interactive experience where students join confidentially and are able to participate in answering questions along with asking their own questions throughout the session. The counselors have created a comfortable learning environment and students who have attended have given overwhelmingly positive reviews. We welcome all students, in basic and clinical science to benefit from these webinars. Please email [usmle@mail.sjsm.org](mailto:usmle@mail.sjsm.org) to register for the webinar.

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### **SJSM Library and Other Resources**

Please note that all of the required resources for students, in all levels and courses, are available online through the library ([www.sjsm.org/library](http://www.sjsm.org/library)).

Our library provides two excellent resources to look up medical information, DynaMed and AccessMedicine. Apps are available for both of these. Accessmedicine provides many eBooks and medical cases in the basic and clinical science category. ExamMaster provides thousands of exam practice questions and DynaMed provides full evidenced based articles on all major topics.

Students can also get full text of any medical research articles by sending an email request to [oscar@mail.sjsm.org](mailto:oscar@mail.sjsm.org).

Student username to the library resource is the student first name and the password is your student ID number. Please take advantage of this lock down period by reading and

studying as much as possible using our online library resources.

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### **Phi Chi Medical Fraternity – SVG**



The Phi Chi Alpha Tau (SJSM) organized a dinner/networking session in observance of Founders Day on Mar 2, 2020. Phi Chi was found on March 3, 1889, but the first Grand Chapter meeting was held on February 26, 1897. This date later became the official Founders Day.

Dr. Mirjana Milutinovic, Dean of Student Affairs, was invited to the event and was thanked by the students for being a great inspiration and providing guidance and advice on various projects to the medical fraternity.

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 BENCHMARK

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