DATE: February 5, 2019

TO: Class of 2020

FROM: Erica Nelson, MD, Chair
Mary Aiello, MA, Assessment Program Coordinator
Clinical Competency Examination (CCX) Committee

RE: **Summative Clinical Competency Examination for Class of 2020**

The Summative Clinical Competency Examination (SCCX) is a comprehensive 14-patient multidisciplinary clinical practice examination. Its purpose is to provide faculty and students with a standardized measure of student competence and readiness for graduate medical education as well as to provide feedback about the effectiveness of the SIU SOM curriculum.

The CCX Committee, composed primarily of faculty from clinical departments, selects all SCCX case problems from Appendix A *(Must See* objectives) of the SIU School of Medicine Graduation Objectives. The SIUSOM Objectives, along with the Honor Code and other information, can be found on the CCX Assessment website at

 http://www.siumed.edu/oec/CCX_ASSESSMENTS/html/sccx.html

SCCX cases are selected to cover the range of patients, experiences and expectations to which you have been exposed during the first three years of medical school. Each SCCX case is based on a real patient, developed by faculty, and approved by the CCX Committee before it is used.

The SCCX will take two full days to complete and will include seven cases each day, each beginning with a standardized patient (SP) encounter. The SPs will complete H&P checklists and Patient Satisfaction rating scales, and will write comments about your interpersonal and communication skills.

- In the first ten cases, a *20-minute* SP encounter will be followed a *45 minute* CCX computer examination during which you will list findings, hypotheses, preliminary diagnosis justification, labs/interpretation, diagnosis, diagnosis justification, problem list, and management for the patient. When case CCXs differ from this format you will be advised in the CCX instructions for that case. Diagnosis Justification instructions are the same as in prior years (*Please explain your thought processes in getting to the final diagnosis: i.e, how you used the data you collected from the patient (history and physical) and from laboratory work to move from your initial differential diagnoses to your final diagnosis. Please include both positive and negative findings in this discussion. Please be thorough.)* and the scoring form used is on the CCX Assessments website given above.

- The last four cases will be administered like the USMLE, Step 2 Clinical Skills exam with *15-minute* SP encounters followed by *10-minutes* for writing patient notes. The patient notes will include history findings, physical exam findings, differential diagnoses (with supporting

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findings) and diagnostic work-up. (The new form will be posted on the *CCX_Assessments* website.)

Our curriculum is designed to prepare you for the SCCX, however, it is recommended you invest additional preparation time as needed to ensure you are competent in the following areas:
- You should be able to perform **all components of the *Head to Toe* Physical Exam.**
- You should know **what questions and what physical exams are needed for all complaints** listed in the Objectives for Graduation, Appendix A.
- You should be able **to generate a thorough differential diagnosis and write basic management orders for all complaints** listed in Appendix A.
- You should be able to **justify your final diagnosis** clearly and thoroughly using your findings and lab results and explain why *other* hypotheses on your differential were ruled out.

Since we are attempting to evaluate your preparedness for residency, the best approach for a successful SCCX is to work up the SPs as if they were your actual patients. If you want extra practice using the CCX program, the J_Keller CCX case is available at the following link: https://siumed.dxrccx.com/ Select the following directory siusom_s_ccx_y3clerkships. Type in a random user name and password each time you access the practice case. No data/records are kept.

The SCCX will be administered six times over a three-week period (**March 5 – March 22**), with 13-14 students in each group. The school expects you to maintain strict confidentiality about the exam cases. The SCCX is a **secure examination** and is protected by the **SIU School of Medicine Secure Examination Policy**. Sharing information about or having unauthorized knowledge about the exam (or its cases) constitutes a violation of the policy and will be considered a serious breach of professional conduct that will be immediately dealt with in accordance with school policies. You will sign an oath of confidentiality before you begin the SCCX.

SCCX results are reported to the Student Progress Committee (SPC) in April with the following recommendations:
- **Students who fail the SCCX** will be recommended to take the 3-week *Clinical Reasoning* elective course. It will be given only once: ***June 10-28, 2019***.
- **Students who fail Patient Satisfaction** will be recommended to take the 1-week *Enhancing Communication in the Physician/Patient Relationship* elective course, to be scheduled individually with the Year 3 and Year 4 Registrar.

A **SCCX Orientation** session will be held on Thursday, **February 21** to discuss SCCX expectations and plans in more detail. **It is planned for 5:00 PM in the West Auditorium**. The session PowerPoint slides will be posted on the CCX Assessments website (along with other pertinent information about the exam) for those unable to attend. ***Review the SCCX instructions posted on the website before taking the examination.***

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Your daily schedules will be available on the CCX Assessments website on February 22. Please arrive at the PDL ten minutes before you are scheduled to begin. If you have questions, contact:

- Dr. Nelson at enelson@siumed.edu
- Mary Aiello at maiello@siumed.edu or at 545-7126

C: Erik Constance, MD, Associate Dean for Student Affairs
Cherie Forsyth, Year 3 and Year 4 Registrar
Debra Klamen, MD, MPH, Associate Dean for Education and Curriculum
Emily Lane, LCSW, MSW, Interim Year 4 Director
Christopher Reavis, Year 4 Coordinator

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