

Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine is dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff. During this unprecedented time of COVID-19, the following policies will be implemented to ensure that we all do our part to maintain a healthy environment for all members of our KSUCPM family. In general terms, KSU College of Podiatric Medicine will follow CDC and ODH guidelines, Kent State University COVID-19 policies and practices, as well as local health official recommendations and guidance in preventing and mitigating transmission and exposure of the virus that causes COVID-19. The Dean of the campus, in compliance with local health officials and under the guidance of the Kent State Communicable Disease Response plan, will make the decisions regarding proper disinfection practices, timely response informing the COVID Response Team of patient-disclosed COVID illnesses, and campus closure and/or adjustments deemed necessary due to COVID-19-related issues. The Campus ERT will oversee the local response to COVID-19-related issues. Carla Ronnebaum (216-406-3274 or [cronneba@kent.edu](mailto:cronneba@kent.edu)) will serve as the ERT liaison to the COVID Response Team.

- 1.) We will adhere to the Kent State University *Flashes Safe Seven* policy. The Flashes Safe Seven includes a commitment to:
  - Always wear your face covering, which may include a face shield for labs and clinical experiences
  - Wash your hands frequently
  - Clean and sanitize areas
  - Stay 6 feet apart from others
  - Monitor your health every day
  - Understand your role in the health and safety of others; Flashes take care of Flashes
  - Reach out with questions to the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525**
  
- 2.) We will each take responsibility for our own health. Each day before you leave home to come to campus or participate in any clinical rotation, you must screen yourself for symptoms. Screening includes taking your temperature daily. Do you have any of the symptoms as defined by the CDC?

• Fever or chills	• Muscle or body aches
• Cough	• Headache
• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	• Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
• New loss of taste or smell	• Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
• Fatigue	

Please answer the following questions:

- Within the last 14 days, have you been in close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has been placed in isolation for COVID-19?
- Have you had a COVID-19 test prescribed by a medical professional because you have recently had symptoms and you are currently waiting for the results?
- Have you been asked to self-isolate or quarantine by a medical professional or a local public health official?

If you experience ANY of the above symptoms or answered “yes” to ANY of the above questions, begin start self-isolation and remote instruction. Immediately e-mail [CPMCovid@kent.edu](mailto:CPMCovid@kent.edu) and call the COVID Response Team at **330-672-2525** to discuss how the University will guide you in navigating testing, tracking and returning to campus. Please note that there may be differences in guidance based upon a students’ academic or clinical commitments and whether the student is regarded as a healthcare worker.

- 3.) Any student who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 should immediately report the diagnosis to college at [CPMCovid@kent.edu](mailto:CPMCovid@kent.edu). Staff and faculty diagnosed with COVID-19 should contact their supervisor and the Director of HR.

The College will respond back with additional information regarding the Kent COVID Response Team and may ask questions that can be provided to the Cuyahoga County Board of Health so that they can begin contact tracing. The Cuyahoga County Board of Health will advise about isolation measures and reach out to those who may have been exposed to advise about testing and any necessary isolation measures.

- 4.) Students on rotations at outside facilities should always follow the COVID-19 guidelines that have been instituted for that facility.
- 5.) Students and Clinicians should be thoroughly familiar with donning and doffing of PPE and its appropriate use. Please refer to the following links for CDC sequencing for [Donning PPE](#) and [Doffing PPE](#).
- 6.) Students accept responsibility for his or her health, including contracting COVID-19. This includes assurance that the student maintains adequate health insurance.
- 7.) Students who test positive for COVID may return to campus or clinical rotations after:
- a. 10 days have passed from the start of your symptoms AND
  - b. At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed since your last fever (without use of fever reducing medication) AND
  - c. Symptoms have improved

The above guidelines are based on protocols from the CDC and the Ohio Department of Health. The College may change these guidelines at any time to remain in accordance with best public health and safety recommendations.

*Please note that students on external rotations at hospitals must follow the protocol for that facility (Reference: Policy #4.).*

Please see the [University Coronavirus](#) website for additional information about screening, Flashes Safe Seven, testing sites, and more.