

Lawrence R. John, MD President

Michael A. DellaVecchia, MD, PhD, FAAO, FACS, FICS, FASLMS, FCPP President Elect

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John P. Gallagher, MD Chair

Amelia A. Paré, MD, FACS Secretary

Martin P. Raniowski, MA Executive Vice President

777 East Park Drive PO Box 8820 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8820

Membership Inquiries 855-PAMED4U

(855-726-3348)

Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org June 1, 2020

David J. Skorton, MD President and Chief Executive Officer

Association of American Medical Colleges 655 K Street NW, Suite 100 Washington, DC, 20001-2399 dskorton@aamc.org

#### Dear Dr. Skorton

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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Sincerely, Lawrence RJohn, H.D

Lawrence John, MD President



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Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org June 1, 2020

Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP President and Chief Executive Officer

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education 401 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2000 Chicago, IL 60611 tnasca@acgme.org

#### Dear Dr. Nasca

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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Lawrence John, MD President



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Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA President

American Medical Association AMA Plaza 330 N. Wabash Ave., Suite 39300 Chicago, IL 60611-5885 patrice.harris@ama-assn.org

#### Dear Dr. Harris

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org Kevin Klauer, DO, EJD, FACEP Chief Executive Officer

American Osteopathic Association 142 E. Ontario St. Chicago, IL 60611-2864 kklauer@aol.com

#### Dear Dr. Klaur

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org David A. Forstein, DO, FACOOG Chair, Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation

American Osteopathic Association 142 E. Ontario St. Chicago, IL 60611-2864 david.forstein@touro.edu

#### Dear Dr. Forstein

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org William W. Pinsky President and Chief Executive Officer

Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) 3624 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19104-2685 USA wpinsky@ecfmg.org

Dear Mr. Pinsky

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org June 1, 2020

Humayun Chaudhry, DO President and Chief Executive Officer

Federation of State Medical Boards FSMB 2101 L. Street NW Suite 404 Washington, DC 20037 hchaudhry@fsmb.org

Dear Dr. Chaudhry

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Peter J. Katsufrakis, MD, MBA President and Chief Executive Officer

National Board of Medical Examiners NBME 3750 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19104-3102 pjk@nbme.org

Dear Dr. Katsufrakis

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Lawrence John, MD President



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Roy Simrell President and Chief Executive Officer

Michael A. DellaVecchia, MD, PhD, FAAO, FACS, FICS, FASLMS, FCPP President Elect

David A. Talenti, MD Vice President

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Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org Prometric LLC Corporate Headquarters 1501 South Clinton St Baltimore, MD 21224 United States roy.simrell@prometric.com

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Veronica M. Catanese, MD, MBA LCME Co-Secretary and Senior Director, Accreditation Services

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#### Dear Dr. Catanese

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Donna M. Waechter, PhD Assistant LCME Secretary and Senior Director, LCME Surveys and Team Training

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Dear Ms. Waechter

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I obviously don't have to remind you about the high stakes of these exams, and the level of stress that comes along with them under ordinary circumstances. When you factor in the uncertainty of exam dates, exam location closings, cancellation of exam dates, uncertainty of when exam locations will reopen and whether exams can be rescheduled, etc. due to the pandemic, our medical students are facing an unfathomable situation that may impact their professional future within medicine. Despite all of this, many students still prefer to move forward with taking these exams.

As such, PAMED agrees with other state medical societies that consideration must be given for actions to address the current issues surrounding the administration of the USMLE and COMLEX exams. Specifically, PAMED recommends that medical schools be permitted to collaborate with Prometric, the National Board of Medical Examiners, and the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners to administer and proctor USMLE Step or COMLEX-USA exams on medical school campuses. Allowing students to take exams at their home institution or another that works best for them will enable adherence to social distancing and reduce the level of risk for everyone involved.



- Waive USMLE and COMLEX-USA test deadlines and individual school test requirements for the USMLE and COMLEX-USA examinations.
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- made pass/fail for the Class of 2021 and USMLE Step 1 and COMLEX-USA Level 1 be made pass/fail for the Class of 2022.

We would be happy to discuss this matter in greater detail or answer any questions you may have. Feel free to contact Martin Raniowski at Mraniowski@pamedsoc.org.

Sincerely, Lawrence RJohn, H.D

Lawrence John, MD President



June 1, 2020

Lawrence R. John, MD President

Barbara Barzansky, PhD, MHPE LCME Co-Secretary and Director, Undergraduate Medical Education

Michael A. DellaVecchia, MD, PhD, FAAO, FACS, FICS, FASLMS, FCPP President Elect

David A. Talenti, MD Vice President

John P. Gallagher, MD Chair

Amelia A. Paré, MD, FACS Secretary

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Membership Inquiries

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Tel: (717) 558-7750 Fax: (717-558-7840 Email: KnowledgeCenter@pamedsoc.org www.pamedsoc.org American Medical Association 330 North Wabash Avenue Suite 39300 Chicago, IL 60611-5885 Phone: 312-464-4933 Barbara.Barzansky@ama-assn.org

#### Dear Ms. Barzansky

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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Sincerely, Lawrence RJohn, H.D

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John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd, FACOFP, FAAFP President and Chief Executive Officer

National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners NBOME 101 West Elm Street, Suite 150 Conshohocken, PA 19428 jgimpel@nbome.org

#### Dear Dr. Gimpel

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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Sincerely, Lawrence RJohn, H.D

Lawrence John, MD President



June 1, 2020

Lawrence R. John, MD President

Robert B. Hash, MD, MBA Assistant LCME Secretary and Associate Director, Undergraduate Medical Education

Michael A. DellaVecchia, MD, PhD, FAAO, FACS, FICS, FASLMS, FCPP President Elect

David A. Talenti, MD Vice President

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#### Dear Dr. Hash

On behalf of more than 20,000 physicians, residents, and medical student members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) thank you for the work you have been doing to adapt to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and your commitment to medical students. In addition to the stress brought about by the pandemic itself, the anxiety experienced by our medical students has been even further amplified. The focal point of this stress is the issues with Prometric's administration of the USMLE and COMLEX-USA exams.

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