I. PURPOSE

The Doctor of Medicine Program (the Program) or Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University supports a learning environment that prepares students for adopting continual professional development throughout their professional lives.

Self-study is a core professional value that allows each physician to advance his or her knowledge base and competency through active learning. The Program will allocate time for, relay the reason for and monitor the outcomes of independent student learning throughout all years of medical school education.

II. STATEMENT

Self-study includes curricular content and additional independent or active learning necessary to grow student awareness of their own professional needs and interests.

To support this, the Program will adopt the following:

a. During Years 1 and 2 of curriculum, the number of scheduled course large lecture hours in a week of is not to exceed fifteen (15) hours in total.

b. Video Conferencing (VC) Lectures between London and Windsor campus shall not exceed 3 hours per day in duration.
   i. Exceptions to this cap may be granted by the Associate Dean UME.
   ii. The remaining hour each day is used for independent study or laboratory sessions.

c. To optimize learning physical space:
   i. Year 1 students will attend large lecture learning from 0830 to 1130 hours.
   ii. Year 2 students will attend large lecture learning from 0130 to 1630 hours.
   iii. The remaining curricular content (PCCIA and PCCM) will be scheduled the other half day for each year class.

d. The daily lunch hour (1130 to 0130 hours) is not included in this unscheduled time.

e. Year 1 students will have two afternoons per week dedicated to self-study.

f. Year 2 students have two mornings per week dedicated to self-study.

g. The total teaching hours per week for pre-clerkship curriculum is 24 hours. The total rest/lunch hours per week for pre-clerkship is 10 hours. The total small group learning hours per week for pre-clerkship is 9 hours. The total independent study hours per week for pre-clerkship (in the traditional 8:30 to 4:30 framework) is 6 hours.
Additional:

i. While Year 1 and Year 2 students have two half-days protected for self-study, some courses within the curriculum also provide additional self-study time for preparation of projects, independent learning, active learning, and laboratory sessions.

ii. Students may choose to participate in additional learning experiences including Observerships during their designated half-days.

iii. Exceptions can be made for unusual circumstances (i.e. to recover a session cancelled on short notice due to University closure, etc.)

iv. Strict adherence to these teaching hours is otherwise expected.

v. Course Chairs and Committees are responsible for designing and implementing their courses to ensure compliance with these standards.

vi. Course Chairs are encouraged to be mindful of students’ need for self-study prior to examinations and are encouraged to arrange the schedule of sessions in their courses accordingly.