CME During COVID-19

A pandemic is an unforeseen event, involves a sizeable number of people, and can persist over a long period, potentially even for years. The current COVID-19 pandemic is a perfect example of this. In recent history, pandemics such as SARS in 2003 and MERS in 2012 have demonstrated the potential for such events to cause significant disruption and economic loss. However, the current COVID-19 pandemic is unique in that it has affected nearly every aspect of life, from healthcare to education, and has necessitated a rapid response from governments and organizations worldwide.

In the health care sector, the pandemic has put a strain on resources and highlighted the need for innovative solutions. The Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine has been proactive in addressing these challenges, with a focus on maintaining the delivery of education and CME to physicians and other healthcare providers. The school has adapted its methods to ensure that education and training continue despite the ongoing pandemic.

Dean's Corner

The past several months have been challenging for everyone. The CME Office and other departments have researched and adapted effective formats to maintain operations and CME delivery. It has been essential to stay informed and collaborate to create solutions. The pandemic has also allowed for a learning curve in understanding the potential of technology to support education and enhance performance.

Despite the huge challenges encountered by COVID-19, we experienced only a very short-lived decline in CME before a new robust growth trend. An important goal of Carilion Clinic's CME Program is to provide innovative formats for education and service in order to increase knowledge and competence. These are stressful times for many. Not only the stress of the virus, but mandates in the work environment can change daily. The stress can be overwhelming to many. It is not selfish to take some time for yourself to recharge; it is rational and ultimately good stewardship of the one contribution you can give—your best self.